HERITAGE

NEWSLETTER OF THE BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS

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ARCHAEOLOGY TEAM SURVEYS MINING CAMP

A historical archaeology team from Sydney University has begun a field survey of the mining camp site in the valley below Scenic World's complex at Katoomba.

The project follows a meeting of the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations committee hosted by Mr Philip Hammon the managing director of Scenic World in its boardroom at Katoomba.

Prior to the meeting, Mr Hammon took the committee on a tour of the complex including the 415 metre descent on the Scenic Railway which passes through a cliff side tunnel, a walk along the 2 kilometre elevated boardwalk past the site of the mining camp and then a climb back to the top in the 545 metre long Cableway transporter.

During the meeting he asked for advice on the best way to catalogue the mining objects retrieved from the site.

Within days, BMACHO secretary, Professor Barrie Reynolds had arranged and attended a meeting with Dr Martin Gibbs of the Historical Archaeology Department at Sydney University and Annie Clark (SU) of Bullaburra and Mr Hammon when it was agreed that students from Sydney University would carry out a field survey for relics and other objects in ashes of camp fires at the site.

The first inspection and site mapping commenced in late November last year.

At right...This 1890s image of the mining village from the top of the cliff around Katoomba Falls shows a number of huts and an unexpectedly large building in the lower part .The image has been provided by Dr Ian Jack (vice president BMACHO) to the university team for part of the project documentation.The photograph taken by Henry King is part of a Mitchell Library album (PXA 61/70) *Cont page 2*

WOODFORD ACADEMY AN 1830S INN

A BRIEF HISTORY see page 7

BLUE MOUNTAINS COUNCIL APPOINTS 2 HERITAGE ADVISERS

Blue Mountains City Council has engaged two consultants on a part time basis as heritage advisers. This program is being funded solely by council.

BMACHO which has been pressing council for several years for the appointment of a heritage adviser and the re-establishment of a community heritage advisory committee welcomed the recent announcement. It is now hoped the advisory committee will be established by the end of 2009.

Mr Christo Aitken is to provide advice to the council and the community in heritage matters such as development applications, policy development and other heritage related projects. Dr Peter Kabaila is to provide advice to council on specific projects.

Appointments with the advisers are to be made through council staff. Advice for development assessment advice is to be provided on a fee basis and appointments are to be made through Deborah d'Avigdor on 47805738. Appointments for other advice are to be made through Christine Jones on 47805609.

Council's manager of city planning, Mr Andy Turner, has indicated the advisers' work will include the computerisation of heritage site records produced some years ago, by Dr Ian Jack and reviewing various models for the establishment of a heritage advisory committee.

Meanwhile, regular meetings are being held between BMACHO secretary, Barrie Reynolds and Andy Turner, which are facilitating a useful exchange on the heritage work currently being undertaken by council and BMACHO.

From the president's pen.....

NEED FOR IMPROVED COMMUNICATIONS

Some time ago, the committee of BMACHO identified as a major issue, the need to improve communications in the local heritage sector.

Across a broad range of issues it was considered that various organisations were not sharing information which could not only make their operations more effective, but would also make life easier and more pleasant in the bid to achieve goals of conserving, researching, recording, preserving and promoting our heritage.

The executive has spent considerable energy and time, with some success in opening up communication with Blue Mountains City Council, the former Federal Member for Macquarie, Kerry Bartlett, the State Member for Blue Mountains and now the Federal Member, the Hon. Bob Debus and the new Member for Blue Mountains, Phil Koperberg.

In discussions with these community leaders they have generally displayed more than a cursory interest and knowledge of the diversity of heritage in the Blue Mountains, Lithgow and Hawkesbury regions. However, what they were not aware of was the large number of individuals, which includes amateur enthusiasts, academics and professionals who are active within the local heritage sector.

Community leaders have accepted the need to improve two-way communication and BMACHO's executive has seen some tangible improvement at government level.

Many of those active in the heritage sector appear to have operated in isolation for many years — sometimes, totally unaware of the importance they play in the fabric of Australian society.

For more than five decades societies in this region have been party to hosting most informative historic talks and presentations and yet there has been very little done in the way of publishing these interesting dissertations.

There have been some excellent books produced by local authors on very well researched material, but little effort in promoting these publications. Even some of the newsletters which have been produced are in their own right worthy of commendation as sound historical documents.

While there is an urgent need to promote publications in print, there is an even greater need to share information between like organisations. It is imperative that organisations, if they are to succeed in maintaining membership, become more proactive in selling their group to the public. One of the best ways of doing this is to communicate and share ideas with like minded bodies.

To participate in the process of improving communications, BMACHO's executive has initiated this newsletter, **HERITAGE** which currently it is proposed to publish every couple of months. The newsletter is designed to reach as many individuals as possible.

Too often communications addressed to busy secretaries do not seem to go any further down the line. It is hoped that secretaries on receipt of **HERITAGE** on their e-mail will simply forward it on to those members who have registered their e-mail.

Hopefully those who do not have e-mail will be provided with hard copies by other members of their organisation.

John K Leary, OAM - President and newsletter editor, Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations.

KATOOMBA MINING CAMP DIG

Continued from page 1

Coal and shale oil mining began in the Blue Mountains during the latter part of the 1800s.

By 1870 kerosene shale had been discovered in Megalong Valley.

John Britty North opened a coal mine at Katoomba in 1881 and kerosene shale was being mined in the Jamieson Valley by 1890 and Megalong by 1891.

According to GH Eardley and EM Stephens in their book *The Shale Railways of NSW,* John Britty North had acquired 640 acres of land forming the high-level water-shed of Katoomba Falls Creek with the intention of exploiting the coal seams which outcropped at the base of the cliff many hundreds of feet below.

The discovery of two payable seams of kerosene shale at the base of the massive sandstone cliffs ranged along the eastern and western sides of the lengthy Narrow Neck Peninsula, embracing the upper regions of the Jamieson Valley, the Ruined Castle dividing ridge and the adjacent valley of Cedar Creek, has been credited to Campbell Mitchell.

However, although he acquired some land under MCP he made no effort to work this new shale deposit area, presumably because of the difficult nature of the terrain.

A close examination of the Ruined Castle area of the Jamieson Valley made by John Britty North's manager, Garbutt, during 1880 revealed two out-crops of kerosene shale and on the strength of this find North was instrumental in forming the Katoomba Coal and Shale Company Limited

A number of cable haulage, aerial ropeways and horse tramways were used to bring the mined minerals eventually to the NSW Government Railway line near Katoomba.

Our place in space -- Under the Southern Cross

As part of the National Trust Heritage Festival, Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations will host an afternoon of heritage lectures on Saturday, April 4.

The National Trust Heritage Festival has been operating very successfully for 29 years and hundreds of historical and like minded heritage groups have staged a wide range of events over 14 days in April.

This year's festival theme is 'Our Place in Space - Under the Southern Cross'.

Two eminent speakers have been engaged, Dr Nick Lomb who is the curator of astronomy at the Power House Museum. Dr Lomb has chosen the title, the "History of Australian Astronomy", in which he will make reference to the observations of the Transit of Venus at Woodford Academy in 1874.

The other speaker is Mr John Sarkissian an Operations Scientist at the CSIRO Parkes Radio Observatory. Mr Sarkissian has chosen as his subject, "Australian Radio Astronomy: From a Brilliant Past to a Bright Future".

Radio astronomy is the only science in which Australia leads the world. From its beginnings at Dover Heights, Sydney, through the development of the Parkes Radio Telescope in the 1960s and to the new generation instruments planned for the next decade, the world has always looked to Australia for leadership in this exciting field.

This talk will detail the establishment of the science in the immediate post-war years, and the reasons which led to Australia taking the lead in this new field. It will bring to light the brilliant advances and discoveries that have shaped its development and why it continues to have a bright future in Australia.

Mr Sarkissian is responsibile for the operation and systems development at the radio telescope, and the support of visiting astronomers with their observations. In addition, he is involved in Pulsar research - an exciting field of radio astronomy.

John is a member of the Parkes Pulsar Timing Array team which is endeavouring to use precision pulsar timing to make the first direct detection of gravitational waves. He is also a member of the small, informal team searching for the missing Apollo 11 slow-scan TV tapes. From 1998-1999, John acted as a technical adviser for the feature film, "The Dish". He came to Parkes in 1996 to support the Galileo Mission to Jupiter. He managed the Galileo spacecraft tracking operations at the observatory and performed 1/3 of the daily tracking duties. From 1988 to 1996, John was a Guide Lecturer and Education Officer at Sydney Observatory.

Each illustrated lecture will be for 45 minutes with 15 minutes being allowed for questions and answers from the audience

The lectures will be accompanied by entertainment by a trio from the Blue Mountains Opera Group, Ron Goldsmith, Maureen Stuart and Tina Banasiak with songs about the sun, moon and stars.

The afternoon will be conducted at the Blue Mountains Grammar College commencing at 2pm and admission will cost $20 per person and include afternoon tea and a glass of wine.

Bookings are essential and can be made by telephoning John Leary on 4758 8584 or e-mail johnnanette@optusnet.com.au

Pictured at the Woodford Academy site is the canvas "tent city" including observatory domes and telescopes set up for the observation of the Transit of Venus on December 9, 1874. The property was then known as Woodford House and owned by Sydney businessman Alfred Fairfax

Lee-Enfield rifle No 1.

Ask a man if he remembers dates of wedding anniversaries and spouse's birthday and most men will have a difficulty. Ask a former soldier his regimental number or his rifle number and most will reel off the number without hesitation.

Imagine however, if your rifle had been No 1. Well, .303 Lee-Enfield rifle number 1 does exist and can be found in the Lithgow Small Arms Factory Museum. **HERITAGE** is indebted to Donna White, president of the museum for the material and picture in this article.

Prior to 1900 practically all defence equipment had been supplied to Australia by the United Kingdom. During the South African Boer War campaign it became apparent that Australia's isolation from its armament source could lead to serious supply problems in future conflicts.

After federation of the states and establishment of the Commonwealth in 1901 the new government faced responsibility for the country's defence.

In 1907 the decision was made to establish a factory for the manufacture of small arms in Australia.

After much deliberation amongst government officials, Lithgow, situated on the western foothills of the Great Dividing Range, was approved as the site for the new factory.

Influencing this choice was the town's steel works, a thriving coal industry; access by rail and road; protection from bombardment afforded by the Blue Mountains; and intense lobbying by the Lithgow Progress Association.

Tenders were invited from England, Europe and America for the supply of a complete plant to manufacture the .303 inch Lee-Enfield rifle (the rifle used by the British Army) at the rate of 250 per week.

Four tenders were received; three from British arms manufacturers for around £150,000, £100,000 and £69,000, and one from an American machine tool company Pratt & Whitney Co. for a bit under £69,000.

In a very controversial decision Pratt & Whitney were chosen because, amongst other things, they guaranteed interchangeability of components straight off the machine whereas the English tenders could not guarantee interchangeability.

They also offered to train six Australian tradesmen at their works in America to return to Lithgow as foremen.

On arrival in America the trainees were located at the Pratt & Whitney Works at Hartford, Connecticut, where they worked on the production of tools, fixtures and gauges and the operation of the various machines.

One hundred test rifles and bayonets were produced to prove the machinery that was destined for the Lithgow Factory, a few of which were sent to England to test for interchangeability with British produced rifles. (The Lithgow Small Arms Factory Museum holds No 2 and No 28 complete with bayonet).

Operation of the Factory commenced early in 1912 with 190 employees. Little was known in Australia about production engineering before the commencement of the Small Arms Factory.

The men who were selected to go to the Pratt & Whitney plant to gain experience, pioneered the manufacture of interchangeable parts in Australia.

Some of the Pratt & Whitney supplied machines were still being used in the 1960s.

There are 170 different component parts in the rifle and its accessories. It required 2,250 separate operations upon these parts before a rifle would be ready for final inspection.

In May 1913, 40 rifles and bayonets from a process-proving batch were delivered to the Australian Army for testing. By December 1913 - 1500 rifles had been produced. Following the outbreak of World War I in 1914 production rose to 1600 rifles per week.

During February 1914, members of a Rifle Qualifying Course at the Army's School of Musketry in Sydney used Lithgow rifles for a month.

The commanding officer reported that accuracy was excellent, calibration of the sights being better than the general run of British-made rifles.

There were a few problems, such as the bolt action becoming stiff after firing a number of rounds, but these were considered easily rectified.

During World War II various experimental and modified versions were manufactured including the No 1 Shortened & Lightened, the No 6, EY grenade launcher, and HT sniper models. The SMLE remained as the Australian and Commonwealth service rifle through both world wars and the Korean War. After facing massed attacks in Korea it became clear that the SMLE had had its day. Production of the SMLE ceased in Lithgow in 1956 with approximately 640,000 in total being produced.

BICENTENNARY OF NATURALIST CHARLES DARWIN'S BIRTH

This year marks the bicentenary of the birth of Charles Darwin. He was born on February 12, 1809 in Shewsbury, England.

Darwin one of the great thinkers of all time was the British naturalist who became famous for his theories of evolution and natural selection.

Like several scientists before him, Darwin believed all the life on earth evolved over millions of years from a few common ancestors.

Darwin developed his interest in natural history while studying medicine at Edinburgh University then theology at Cambridge.

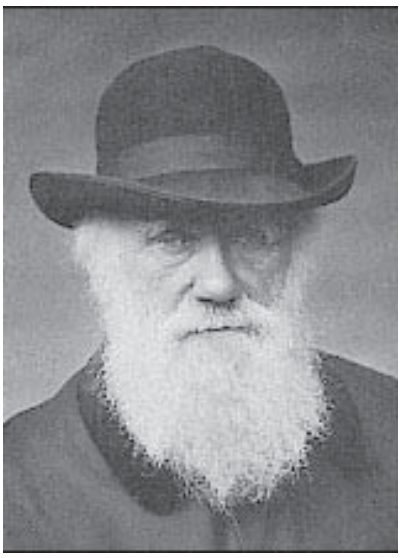
His five year voyage of the Beagle established him as an eminent geologist whose observations and theories supported Charles Lyell's uniformitarian ideas, and publication of his journal of the voyage made him famous as a popular author.

Puzzled by the geographical distribution of wildlife and fossils collected on the voyage, Darwin investigated the transmutation of species and conceived his theory of natural selection in 1838

His 1859 book *On the Origin of Species* established evolution by common descent and the dominant scientific explanation of diversification in nature. He examined human evolution and sexual selection in *The Descent of Man and Selection and Relation to Sex.*

Darwin's theories on evolution are as relevant today as they were when he first published, *Origin of the Species*, 150 years ago.

On the Origin of Species by Means of Natural Selection, or The Preservation of Favoured Races in the Struggle for Life (usually abbreviated to *On the Origin of the Species* proved unexpectedly popular, with the entire stock of 1,250 copies oversubscribed when it went on sale to booksellers on November 22, 1859. In the book, Darwin set out "one long argument" of detailed observations, inferences



Darwin in 1880, still working on his contribution to evolutionary thought that had an enormous effect on many fields of science

and consideration of anticipated objections. His only allusion to human evolution was the understatement that "light will be thrown on the origin of man and his history".

He visited the Blue Mountains of NSW in 1836 while travelling around the world in HMS *Beagle*.

He stopped off at Wentworth Falls (then known as Weatherboard), travelling on to Bathurst, sighting a platypus as he passed through Wallerawang

In Australia, the marsupial rat-kangaroo and the platypus seemed so unusual that Darwin thought it was almost as though two distinct creators had been at work.

He found the Aborigines good-humoured and pleasant", and noted their depletion by European settlement.

Local celebrations

Celebrations to mark the 200th anniversary of Darwin's birthday will be held around the world in 2009.

BMACHO has applied for a federal government grant to conduct local celebrations.

Subject to grant funding, a series of lectures and a guided walk along the Darwin path at Wentworth Falls are planned for later this year.

Already Dr Peter Stanbury who was involved in the planning and construction of the Darwin path has agreed to conduct a guided tour and several eminent speakers are expected to give lectures at Wentworth Falls and Lithgow.

HERITAGE PUBLICATIONS SEMINAR SUCCESS

Local historians, academics and heritage book writers from the Blue Mountains region including Lithgow, late last year participated in a day-long "Heritage Publications" seminar at Everglades, Leura.

The seminar organised by the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations (BMACHO) was designed for participants to improve their knowledge and share experiences in publishing ranging from books to newsletters and promotional material.

Feedback indicated because of the quality of speakers, participants went away from the seminar with many new ideas making them more confident about self publishing as well as promoting their own organisations.

The speakers included Professor Barrie Reynolds who gave the keynote address titled 'Why Publish?' Dr Ian Jack, president of the RAHS who presented a paper titled 'Making Historical Society Newsletters and Journals More Accessible', John Leary who presented a paper titled 'A newsletter -- its editorial content and design', several individuals who had published their own books and Wendy Dollin from Blue Mountains Tourism.

What is the history of these chimneys?

These two chimneys stand on a property in Springwood Road near its intersection with Castlereagh Road, Agnes Banks.John Leary who is writing a book about chimneys took the phorograph and is having difficulty tracing the history of this property.

He would appreciate anyone who has knowledge of these buildings of which the chimneys were part making contact with him on e-mail johnnanette@optusnet.com.au

In the book he will accompany images of chimneys with the structure of which they are a part.

These images range from the stack atop Stephenson's *Rocket,* to chimneys on the unusual architectural structure of Walter Burley Griffins garbage disposal incinerators' chimney, to vents constructed to take the gases from Sydney's early sewerage systems.

In the opening paragraphs of his manuscript John writes - *There is something nostalgic about a brick or sandstone chimney standing like a sentinel on guard in a country paddock where once stood, a fine home long since destroyed by the ravages of bushfire roaring through the parched Australian landscape*.

The lone chimney and fireplace seem to stand forever, perhaps hopeful that the homestead will one day be rebuilt so that generations will again gather around the open fire to swap yarns or stand, hands clasped behind their backs, warming themselves on a cold wintry night.

Many a yarn has been told, sometimes over a glass of wine as young and old sit before the hearth gazing into the enigmatic flames.

When the forest fires and bushfires' ferocious thirst is quenched, there is nothing more poignant than blackened chimneys standing among the ruins of homes which before the fiery holocaust struck were scenes of excitement and happiness.

But continue to stand they do, while all around them lies the clutter of devastation.

GUEST SPEAKER FOR BMACHO ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations will conduct its fourth annual general meeting on Saturday, March 21 in the Blue Mountains Historical Society's meeting room at Tarella, Blaxland Road Wentworth Falls. commencing at 2pm

The meeting will be followed by a guest speaker, Dr Ian Jack, president Royal Australian Historical Society whose subject will be: "From the Hawkesbury and Nepean to the Cudgegong: the Historical and Cultural Character of BMACHO's constituency".

It is important that the incoming committee be balanced with a mix of existing members and new blood and all organisations are asked to consider nominating for any of the following positions: president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, or one of the ordinary committee members.

There is also a need to share the load which has been carried entirely by the management committee for the past three years and it is hoped that volunteers might come forward to take on responsibility for membership (both recruitment and service), overall coordination of projects, planning and coordinating workshops, represesenting BMACHO at political level, grant applications, managements of new books and bibliographies project.

THE OLDEST BUILDING ON THE BLUE MOUNTAINS

Now known as Woodford Academy, this historic property has had a multi-layered use with parts of the building dating back to the 1830s.

It is the oldest collection of buildings on the Blue Mountains, the basic structure being of sandstone.

Among its many uses, it has been The Woodman Inn, The King's Arms, Buss's Inn, a gentleman's residence, school for young gentlemen, day school for local children, guest house, boarding house and private residence.

Thomas Pembroke, some years after release from his sentence completed the first buildings on the site, circa 1834 after he was granted two acres and later a further 48 acres.

He used stone masons and timber splitters to construct a building which may have later become the schoolroom, Fairfax sitting room and the three small adjoining rooms.

Woodford Academy stands close to the place where William and Mary James ran a "sly grog" shop for people travelling through the mountains on their way to Bathurst and further inland to settle on the land.

In the 1850s it became a stopover for people on their way to the goldfields in search of their fortunes.

While Pembroke was the licensee, on October 12, 1835, Mary James was discovered hanging and her husband was charged with her murder.

The case against him was subsequently dismissed and after a second trial he was freed. Thomas Pembroke owned the inn from 1834 to 1839.

In 1839, Thomas Pembroke sold the heavily mortgaged inn to Michael Hogan of Penrith.

The name of the inn was then changed to The King's Arms and a number of other licencees ran the inn for Hogan.

The kitchen at Woodford is an excellent example of a colonial kitchen.

The lath and plaster ceiling is a typical example of colonial architecture.

William Buss acquired the inn in 1855 which then became popularly known as Buss's Inn.

In 1868 Buss's widow sold the inn to Alfred Fairfax and he in turn built further rooms onto the building and turned it into a gentleman's residence.

He added a two story building for housing his guests, a ballroom and altered the taproom by building an entrance hall between it and the sitting room.

Evidence of the use of the taproom can be seen by the markings of the shelves on the northern wall of the room as well as a distinctive cartouche which dates from that time.

In the cartouche are painted grapes, peaches and corn, the fruits of fermentation which were used in the making of spirits.

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Woodford Academy

Continued from page 7

The taproom would be the equivalent of today's hotel bar and the busiest part of the building.

Probably built during the mid 1850s the dairy wing contained a meat room, (used for storing and curing meat with salt which caused much of the stone walls to corrode); a servants room; a dairy where milk, cream and other perishables would have been kept as well as a loft for storing animal fodder.

When John McManamey conducted Woodford Academy from 1907 to 1925 the large room downstairs was used both as a chapel and dining room for the students. Upstairs were the dormitories where the boys slept.

The courtyard surface is stone flagging, in the centre of which is a fine convict-built, barrel-vaulted underground water tank large enough to provide a plentiful water supply for the inn.

In 1979 Woodford Academy was gifted to the National Trust of Australia (NSW) which has renovated and maintained this heritage property. In 2001 the Trust obtained an Australian Government grant of $1 million from the Centenary of Federation fund.

The property is regularly open to public viewing and from time to time the Blue Mountains Branch of the National Trust conducts special functions on the site.

COUNCILLORS BRIEFING

BMACHO's executive has had informal discussions with several Blue Mountains City Council members elected at last September's local government elections who have indicated an interest in having a briefing on heritage issues.

Council's planning manager, Andy Turner has indicated that he will attempt to include formal briefings by BMACHO during general briefings of new councillors scheduled for early in 2009.

Colonial kitchen evokes memories of hardships of 19th century cooking

The colonial kitchen at Woodford Academy evokes images of the hardships of those who had to provide the meals in mid 19th century.

The large fireplace and oven are among the finest surviving in NSW, the segmental stone arch over the fireplace being quite rare.

There is also a carved stone sink with a large plug which when removed allowed the water that had to be carried in from the well outside to be drained out through a hole in the wall.

It would appear that it has been built following the typical plan of an English kitchen circa 1850's. According to *The illustrated history of the housewife, 1650-1950, Robertson, Una A.,New York, St Martin's Press 1997, pp 93-94." "*Well-to-do households would possess a separately fired bread oven in which all the household's baking of breads, pies, cakes and other items would be done on a set day. Most were constructed of brick or stone but some were made in cast iron before the introduction of the kitchen range with its integral oven. The oven was roughly circular or oval in shape, lined with brick or stone, and the entrance was closed with a tight-fitting door of some hardened wood, replaced latterly by one of iron.

When baking day came round, once a week or once a fortnight, a fire was lit inside the oven itself and allowed to burn until all the surfaces were hot. The embers were then raked out, the oven floor swabbed with a damp mop and the door closed until the heat evened itself out, after which the first items were inserted with an oven-peel and the door fitted into place.

As the day progressed, so cooked items were taken out and other items requiring diminishing amounts of heat were put in: "I have known a very large brick oven, heated in the middle of the day with a load of wood, still warm enough at 8 or 9 o'clock in the evening to bake various delicate small cakes such as macaroons and meringues."

Although in later days this kitchen became part of the extensions known as the east wing it would originally have been a separate building.

Extracts from "A brief history of Woodford Academy" by Nanette Leary. Photographs by Stephen Bennetts and John Leary

The Clampett family visit Kurrajong

This article by Valerie Holland which appeared in The Millstone, newsletter is published with the kind permission of the Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc. Photo: Frank Holland.

The hillbilly Clampett family of scarecrows assembled in style in the back of Bryan Wyborn's A Model Ford utility outside the CWA Hall in Kurrajong and greeted and amused visitors of the society's annual display as part of the Kurrajong Scarecrow Festival held over the weekend of Saturday, October 25 and Sunday October 26.

Anne and Les Dollin created these excellent likenesses of the former television and film family and the car was kindly loaned by Bryan Wyborn.

This year our exhibition was entitled 'Uncovering your property's heritage' and was a two day event. Frank Holland had suggested that we involve members and visitors in the process of collecting documentary evidence of early landholdings which members had donated.

Arthur Cooper displayed two large folders of fascinating images of Glossodia, formerly known as Currency Creek, and shared stories of their history, while Garth Smith projected mapping images.

Another highlight was our photographic display. Joy Shepherd delighted visitors by providing the opportunity for them to view and purchase copies of images from the society's archives.

The exhibition has provided us with positive outcomes. We were given historical information from members of the community to include in our collection and have received an invitation to visit historic properties and record related information.

Bryan Wyborn, his A Model Ford ute and the Clampett family drew much interest at the society's annual display

We extend our sincere thanks to North Richmond Community Bank branch Bendigo Bank for providing a community grant which enabled us to purchase the parish maps.

Thanks also to many willing members of the society and wider community who provided their assistance and forwarded their knowledge during the course of the exhibition.

Photos and videos of the Kurrajong Strawbillies – www.scarecrows-in-motion.com.au

Branching out: Stories from the Blue Mountains - an online gallery exhibition

The Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute (BMWHI) has brought together a group of community people to develop a mixed media exhibition for online access.

The exhibition will use the eucalypt as the catalyst for exploring people's stories of people from the Blue Mountains, reflections, and experiences for both historical and contemporary perspectives.

The exhibition will be from a cross cultural perspective combining social history, archival material and contemporary artworks – drawing on private, public and community collections. A section about bushfires will also be incorporated

The project is being undertaken between January and April 2009.

The project has the potential to enhance cultural tourism opportunities through increasing dynamic and new interpretations of the people and environment of this region.

It could also stimulate long term benefits in providing a catalyst for contemporary presentations of Indigenous and non-Indigenous natural and cultural heritage.

The project is seeking permission to photograph or access images for loan of cultural material such as: archival material, drawings, poems, photographs, sculptures, memorabilia, ceramics, textiles, paintings, prints, stories etc.

For more information or to discuss ideas and contributions contact Cheryle Yin-Lo, project co-ordinator at Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute, phone 4782 4657 or c.yin-lo@bmwhi.org.au .

Copyright of cultural material indentified will be negotiated with lenders and acknowledged .

Society's heritage grant

The Blue Mountains Historical Society has been awarded a $4000 federal Community Heritage Grant to fund a Significance Assessment.

The grant was announced at the National Library of Australia, Canberra

In 2008, grants worth $366,800 were distributed to 70 community groups and organisations from around Australia to assist in the identification and preservation of community owned but nationally significant heritage collections.

In addition, Susan Warmbath, curator from Blue Mountains Historical Society, attended a three-day intensive preservation and collection management workshop held in Canberra.

Mrs Warmbath said the grant was important in supporting the effort to preserve the society's collection records and the cottage Tarella at the grassroots level.

CONSERVATION AWARDS

The National Trust of Australia (NSW) is seeking nominations for the 2009 Energy Australia National Trust Heritage Awards.

Individuals, government departments, commercial organisations and community groups who have completed an outstanding conservation project in the last year are encouraged to enter the awards.

Trust executive director, John Neish, said, " the heritage awards are an important way the National Trust can foster and reward conservation efforts at both community and industry level".

Categories include Conservation – Built Heritage and Landscape Conservation projects, Interpretation and Presentation, Tourism and Cultural Heritage.

Energy Australia will once again offer a special Lifetime Achievement Award, to be presented to an individual for his or her outstanding contribution to heritage or environmental conservation.

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

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THE ORGANISATION Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 following a unanimous response to a proposal from Barrie Reynolds at the 2004 Blue Mountains Local History Conference which sought from Blue Mountains City Council the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the city.

BMACHO in its constitution uses the definition: "Cultural heritage is all aspects of life of the peoples of the Blue Mountains which was later changed to cover Lithgow and the villages along the Bell's Line of Roads. It therefore involves the recording, preserving and interpreting of information in whatever form: documents, objects, recorded memories as well as buildings and sites."

The objectives of the organisation are:

i. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage.

ii. To encourage and assist the cultural heritage activities of member organisations.

iii. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations.

One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact, to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

MEMBERSHIP The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains City Library, Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc., Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc., Blue Mountains Tourism Limited, Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute, Cudgegong Museums Group, Friends of Everglades, Friends of Norman Lindsay Gallery, Glenbrook & District Historical Society, Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc, Llilianfels Blue Mountains Resort, Lithgow Mining Museum, Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies, Lithgow Small Arms Factory Museum, Mid Western Regional Council Library, Mt Tomah Botanic Gardens, Mt Victoria and District Historical Society Inc., Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine History Society (including Mt Wilson Turkish Bath House Museum), Mudgee Historical Society, Mudgee Regional Library, National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Blue Mountains Branch (including Woodford Academy), National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Lithgow Branch), Scenic World – Blue Mountains Limited, Springwood & District Historical Society Inc., Springwood Historians, Two Centuries of Elegance, Valley Heights Locomotive Depot and Museum, Zig Zag Railway. The following are individual members: Ms Wendy Carlson, Ray Christison, Ms Pamela Hubert, Associate Professor Ian Jack, John Leary OAM, John Low, Professor Barrie Reynolds, and Dr Peter Stanbury OAM.

COMMITTEE The committee for 2008-9 is: John Leary, (president) Ian Jack (vice president), Barrie Reynolds (secretary and public officer)), Peter Stanbury, (treasurer), Florence Smart, Ray Christison, Pamela Hubert and Dick Morony.

AFFILIATIONS BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society Inc.

HERITAGE is BMACHO's official newsletter.

HERITAGE

NEWSLETTER OF THE BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS

MARCH - APRIL 2009 ISSUE No. 2

TURKISH BATH IN MOUNTAINS SURPRISES MANY

Many people are surprised to find a 19th century Turkish bath on full display in the small village of Mt Wilson.

The building is listed on the Register of the National Estate as 'an unusually fine example of late Victorian boom style architecture with polychrome brickwork and Italianate details.'

Sydney architect Ernest Bonney built the Turkish bath for Richard Wynne, one of the first settlers to buy land in Mt Wilson in 1875. It is sited within the extensive Wynstay Estate, looking out across the Wollangambe wilderness to the Wollemi National Park and beyond.

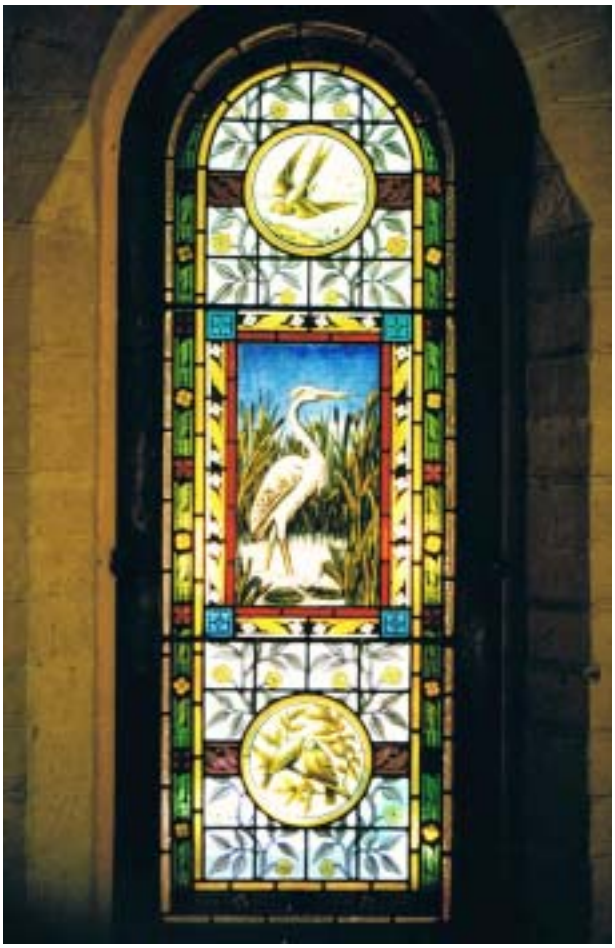
Among the building's many unusual and attractive architectural features, none is more striking than its windows.

Originally nine arched wooden framed ornate windows of stained and hand-painted glass were commissioned by Richard Wynne to be designed and made by Scottish craftsmen in England and transported by ship for installation in this building in the 1880s.

Each window is quite unique in its design, with different patterns on the ornate borders and medallions of stained glass, and each has a central image or scene making a delicate, colourful picture.

Some show large water birds hunting among the rushes, and two are finely detailed scenes of waterfalls. These last two have captions etched in the corners, reading 'Rydall, Westmoreland' and 'Falls of Muick Ballater Scotland'. (The Falls of Muick are located within Balmoral Estate.)

Seven of the windows remain in place in the Turkish bath, in excellent condition. The other two were



replaced by the construction of two doorways when the building was adapted for use as accommodation for stonemasons brought from Scotland to build the present Wynstay house in the early 1920s.

Since 1995 the Turkish bath and its precinct has been leased at a peppercorn rent to the Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine Historical Society who maintain and operate it as a museum of local history.

The museum is open to the public, staffed by volunteer guides, every weekend during April and May.

The building itself, its glorious windows and the exhibitions of local history housed within make a worthwhile destination for visitors to Mt Wilson during the autumn season. ***This article and window image have been kindly contributed by Florence Smart***

From the president's pen.....

FINDING NEW WAYS IS REALLY IMPORTANT

Finding new ways of doing things is really important particularly at a time when our heritage is facing increased environmental, management and financial challenges.

However, looking for new or different ways does not necessarily imply that the way things have been done in the past did not produce good results.

An incredible amount of voluntary work has been devoted over many years by individuals who belong to associations such as those which make up the membership of BMACHO.

Add to this, the work of heritage academics and professionals, we find there has been accumulated, a wealth of material and knowledge of our cultural heritage.

There is no doubt that these heritage enthusiasts are quite adept at interpreting our history.

But to preserve this knowledge and the heritage sites which abound in such a relatively young country as Australia, needs increased government support in the future.

Most arms of government have never been very active in conserving and protecting our cultural, built or natural heritage, particularly when it comes to funding.

In the next decade, government will no doubt blame the current financial melt down for failing to come to terms with the need for Australia's heritage to be adequately funded. If government continues to ignore our heritage then much of our history will be placed at peril for future generations.

It is appropriate at this stage of my report to pay tribute to those volunteers and members of historical societies and other heritage groups for the outstanding work they have done over many decades.

Sure some may say that things could be done better and probably they could be, in some parts, but these efforts have brought many successes.

Many of the people who provide this effort are older people and we tend to forget, that what we do, is for the love of it, not for personal gain.

I even venture to suggest that often what we achieve is far superior to what the bureaucrats in government and those in private enterprise achieve when it comes to heritage.

Although during the past three years we have achieved considerable benchmarks, there has also been some frustration experienced and towards the end of last year the committee has been looking towards future directions of the organisation.

The incoming committee will need to spend some time examining the level of service BAMCHO can provide.

At the suggestion of Barrie Reynolds, the focus of the program for 2009 will be on communication.

This will allow the association to concentrate a public awareness of the cultural heritage in the region and on the work of BMACHO.

To do this successfully the committee must rely on individuals and organisational members to provide increased input.

John Leary, OAM - President, Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations

(This is an extract from the president's report to the annual general meeting held at Wentworth Falls on March 21, 2009. The whole report is available by request by e-mailing: johnnanette@optusnet.com.au or by telephoning 4758 8584)

Money for heritage - huge boost for jobs

The $60 million secured for national heritage by the Greens as part of the Commonwealth's stimulus package has been hailed as a massive boost for jobs, heritage and Australian history by The National Trust of Australia (New South Wales).

The Australian Council of National Trusts (ACNT), with input from each of the National Trusts across the country, was proactive in discussing the need for heritage investment with the Green Party before the final stimulus package was agreed on February 13.

Executive director, John Neish said, "The benefits of this injection of money will be felt across Australia as we work to conserve our heritage. The National Trust in New South Wales has opportunities to begin works across all of our properties from the Blue Mountains and Armidale to Yass, from Dubbo to Hunters Hill.

"This boost will allow us to create local jobs for local people at short notice. We will be working with the Commonwealth to discuss how some of this heritage stimulus can be diverted to employ skilled and unskilled people to conserve our historic properties."

"The Greens must be congratulated on their effort in helping us continue to keep the fabric of Australian history alive and to create employment across the regions. As an independent charity we are mostly reliant on public donation."

"A man who dares to waste one hour of time has not discovered the value of life."
..Charles Darwin

Ancient rain forest saved at Mt Tomah

For the second time in 80 years the same slice of ancient rainforest at Mt Tomah has been saved.

Perched almost 1000 metres high in the Blue Mountains, The Jungle, as it has long been known, is a survivor from 120 million years ago when Australia was part of a super continent called Gondwanaland.

State governor, Marie Bashir recently declared the luxurious forest of sassafras and coachwood trees, and the tangle of pandorea vine, open to the public – 80 years to the day since the last time it was pronounced rescued.

This time The Jungle, now officially part of the neighbouring Mount Tomah Botanic Garden, seems secure.

In the 1920s the farmer who owned the then 280-hectare forest was made an offer by a timber company wanting the trees. Concerned citizens decided to act.

They formed a company, The Jungle Limited, to buy the forest for 5000 pounds half of which would be raised through 25 - 100 pound shares. The rest would be used by using a mortgage to be repaid using revenue from a tea house.

On March 23, 1929 the governor, Sir Dudley de Chair, unveiled a plaque declaring open the Fairfax Walk (the late Sir James Fairfax owner of the *Sydney Morning Herald* had been a major backer of the project). The Fairfax Walk was a track winding from the tea room to what was dubbed "The Temple of Nature."

"It was," said Rob Smith, the head of Mt Tomah Botanic Garden, "a really generous, far sighted conservation investment."

In 1987 the 28 hectare Mount Tomah Garden opened. "When I came here 16 years ago, "Mr Smith said, "I was given instructions to keep an eye on The Jungle in case it came on the market."

Although parts were cleared long ago, for farming, The Jungle still has 10 hectares of pristine warm temperate forest, and several dry sclerophyll.

In the Jungle on the Lady Fairfax Walk: From right: Botanic Gardens Foundation chairman Clive Austin (speaking), executive director of the Botanic Gardens Trust Tim Entwisle (blocked out), donor John B. Fairfax, Governor of New South Wales Professor Marie Bashir, deputy premier and Minister for Climate Change and the Environment Carmel Tebutt MP, and donor Elizabeth Fairfax with staff of Mount Tomah Botanic Garden and members of the community. Photograph courtesy Simone Cottrell RBG.

In 2007, Sir James Fairfax's grand-nephew, John B Fairfax was asked for help. He donated $1 million. With another $250,000 from a government trust, 30 hectares from the Jungle have been bought and added to Mt Tomah.

By 2016 a canopy walkway will be added to The Jungle, allowing visitors to explore tree tops 45 metres high, and watch its wildlife, marsupial gliders and diamond pythons. (This is an extract from a report by Richard Macey published in *The Sydney Morning Herald)*

Experienced team elected at annual general meeting

At the annual general meeting tribute was paid to the many people who had worked on various tasks.

Among these projects was the heritage site review for which a pilot run had been successfully completed. The review at Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine co-ordinated by Florence Smart will lay the foundation for similar reviews across the Blue Mountains local government area once council completes the processing of the 1000 or more site records.

The calendar of events has been ably co-ordinated by Dick Morony while Valerie Holland is co-ordinating the collation of valuable basic administrative financial information on members societies.

The management committee for 2009-10 was announced at the annual general meeting and is: president - John Leary OAM, vice president – Associate Professor Ian Jack, secretary – Professor Barrie Reynolds, committee members – Jean Arthur (Mt Victoria Historical Society), Ray Christison (Lithgow Mining Museum), Lyn Fowler (National Trust of Australia – Lithgow Branch), Doug Knowles (Glenbrook Historical Society), Kathie McMahon (Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society), Dick Morony (Springwood Historical Society) and Dr Peter Stanbury, OAM (individual member).

Museums - Teachers of experience

Museums are a means of expression, not only to the community they serve but also to the individuals that serve in them. Volunteering encourages us to communicate and involves us with places other than home, and people other than family. Museums are a doorway to knowledge about past ways of life. The volunteer experience teaches much about the way people interact . An understanding of other people's needs and drives is one of the factors in a museum's success or stagnation.

Cultural differences make volunteering in museums overseas an interesting challenge and a strong learning experience. Organisations such as Australian Business Volunteers that welcome and assign volunteers stress that the aim of the game is skills exchange and capacity building.

For the volunteer concerned, however, the real gain is the experience of having to work with others to obtain results in a given time. Every nerve is attuned to interpreting phrases and customs to break through misunderstandings and obstacles, especially if the language is not one's own.

This attentive attitude can be a refreshing experience when one has known one's co-workers for months or years and can guess their forthcoming comment; or when one has been used to a permanent job, or an unpaid one in a local museum, in which deadlines are elastic.

The results achieved overseas can often be applied to to one's own museums after returning home.

The examples that follow are experiences learned while volunteering in Peru, Cambodia and Egypt that may be useful in Australia.

How do visitors feel as they approach a museum?

Any strange building, even a small one, can be forebidding to a stranger. Visitors need a plan of the building so they can understand the size and layout of the museum.

Fig 1

Fig 2

This can be on paper or better still on a welcoming board as they approach the museum (Fig 1).

Visitors looking at unfamilar objects (for example, many representations of Buddha or *quipu* – coloured knots in strings that represent Inca accounts, Fig 2) need a who's who of the range of gods, or a simple explanation of the Inca's accounting methods (Fig 3), so readers can appreciate and begin to understand what they are seeing (which is different from just seeing).

There are many objects - a danger to themselves?

It's a bit like going to the shops and buying luscious fruit, but, seduced by the colour and the unusual size, one buys too much. The bags rub against each other as you walk to the car, move around in the boot and one bag falls as you walk into the kitchen. When unwrapped only a few pieces look like they did in the greengrocer's display and are worth putting in the fruit bowl.

The moral is never crowd objects, especially in storage but also in displays.

Fig 3

Fig 4

Fig 5

Fig 6

Continued page 5

Museums Teachers of experience

Continued from page 4

An object on display needs space around it to allow the visitor's eye to concentrate without distraction.

Crowded objects in storage are a disaster, damaging each other, attracting pests or rust or tumbling out on the floor when you are trying to locate a specimen.

Figs 4 – 6 show before and after the reorganisation of the storage of silk hip wrappers (Cambodian skirts) in the National Museum of Cambodia.

Why use complex solutions when simple ones work?

In this technological world we are often unnecessarily tempted into complexity and expense. The walls of Egyptian tombs were decorated to commemorate the achievements of the deceased.

Some of the Theban tombs near Luxor were re-used by early Christians as cave dwellings 1400 - 1600 years ago. The smoke from their fires blackened the wall decorations, covering them with carbon.

Archaeologists were reluctant to excavate these tombs because of the difficulty of removing the carbon without damaging the underlying paintings until it was realised that the best treatment was to repeatedly apply tissues damped with 99.5% distilled water caused the carbon to be transferred to the tissue, leaving the Egyptian paintings intact.

Fig 7 shows how effectively this simple treatment works. The experienced museum volunteer keeps the KISS principle in mind (**K**eep **I**t **S**imple **S**tupid).

Fig. 7

Fig 1 Whether it is an external notice board informing visitors of the layout of the museum or a sign indicating the whereabouts of the toilets the message should attract attention. (Sign at McCrossins Mill Museum, Uralla, NSW.)

Fig 2 Ancient quipu in the Centro Malliqui Museum at Leymebamba in Northern Peru.

Fig 3 Explanation of quipu: the size of the knots indicate numbers and the colours of the objects being counted.

Fig 4 An excessive number (>60)of silk hip wrappers individually wrapped in plastic bags all stored in a large plastic bag. Storage of objects of dissimilar materials in the one space is not recommended because each material usually requires specific, disimilar, storage conditions.

Fig 5 Silk costumes individually wrapped in washed cotton allows air circulation but deters insect attack. Note the specimens are piled no more than three high.

Fig 6 shows damaged silk resulting excess pressure and micro-climates in crowded storage: pressure damage to the fibres along a fold and erosion caused by the changes in the dye in a humid micro-climate.

Fig 7 Volunteer working in the New Kingdom Tomb 147 at Luxor. The simplest, but painstaking, treatment proved to be the most effective for the removal of carbon baked onto the original tomb decoration (difference between foreground and background).

Contributed by Dr Peter Stanbury, OAM a committee member of BMACHO and board member UMAC (International Committee for University Museums)

"At some future period, not very distant as measured by centuries, the civilized races of man will almost certainly exterminate, and replace the savage races throughout the world." ...*Charles Darwin*

MUSEUM DISASTER PLANNING

Natural disasters are very much in all our minds at the present time.

Naturally, we are conscious of what could happen to our own homes and possessions and will have given thought to the precautions we need to take.

But what of the museums and collections for which a number of us are responsible? The risks are mainly fire, flood and theft. What are we doing to prevent or at least minimise these risks?

Besides the obvious precaution of ensuring our buildings are secure, there are a few simple steps that can be taken. These need not be costly nor too time-consuming.

If curators are interested in exploring these in a seminar, please contact Barrie Reynolds at <barrie.r@bigpond.net.au> or on 4757 4727.

KURRAJONG NOTCHES UP 200 YEARS

This piece is an extract from Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Sociey's newsletter, *The Millstone.*

President Frank Holland writes: This year is very significant for the Kurrajong district as it was 200 years ago in 1809 that the first land grants, close to the site of the current village were made. Of course, it is not strictly accurate as no doubt people were living in the area prior to those land grants. In fact settlement closer to the Hawkesbury had occurred much earlier.

An interesting point about the land grants is that they were made by Johnston and Patterson after the deposition of Governor Bligh and as a result were deemed to be illegal.

However, Macquarie did reinstate the grants after his arrival in 1810.

From the Hawkesbury/Nepean to the Cudgegong: the Historical and Heritage Character of BMACHO's Constituency

The text of an illustrated presentation by Dr Ian Jack, president of the Royal Australian Historical Society to the annual general meeting of BMACHO on March 21, 2009.

From the very beginning of European settlement, the Blue Mountains have offered both a challenge and an opportunity. Within months of the First Fleet anchoring in 1788, the colonists were aware that a major barrier lay to the west, just beyond the Hawkesbury-Nepean River. For these first Europeans, the Blue Mountains constituted the west wall of the big detention centre on the Cumberland Plain. The building of the first road across the Mountains in 1814-5 by William Cox's convicts and the unlocking of inland Australia which was its corollary had symbolism as well as practicality. The western road was a necessary step in the transition from penal settlement to free colony. And it was the necessary step towards making this country the biggest sheep-paddock in the English-speaking world. The Mountains held out promise: otherwise Blaxland, Lawson and Wentworth would not have bothered to cross them in 1813. Otherwise Governor Macquarie would not have recalled George William Evans from Tasmania to mark out an appropriate dray-road. But the Mountains still seemed to be primarily an obstacle after Macquarie opened up the Bathurst Plains to settlement.

To see the mountains as a barrier was, however, a very European construct. For Aboriginal people for millennia before 1788 the Blue Mountains, though a self-evident demarcator, were not so much a divider as a meeting-place. As I remarked on a similar occasion two years ago, the very name the Great Dividing Range is profoundly revealing of an exclusively European outlook.

For the folk who had been enjoying the area for many millennia, the Wiradjuri, the Gundungurra and the Darug people, the mountains were not a divide at all, but a natural point of contact. The mountains lay on the periphery of several indigenous language groups and trade routes inevitably led across the plateau. The result was that there was widespread Aboriginal knowledge of how to attain the table-top from the plains and valleys on all sides, north, south, east and west, and there was detailed information about how to cross the climactic landscape of the table-top without abruptly terminating one's journey. For everyone on the mountains, indigenous or European, travel in the region was at bottom a 'negotiation with the perpendicular', in Martin Thomas's memorable phrase.[1]

But for the indigenous people it was country like any other, and the mountains with their abysses had their fair share of Dreamtime stories of ancestral creation. To the Europeans the Mountains were for a long time an infernal nuisance full of 'impassable chasms'[2], with the plateau an arid and unattractive area to hurry across to get to the other side. It was only gradually in the 19th century that the mystique of the sublime gathered force and, as Kate Hartig felicitously observed: the aesthetic appraisal of the mountain landscape was cloaked in a romantic image and was expressed by sentiments of exaltation and delight.[3]

Albert Fullwood, 'Ladies on a Pathway Looking across the Blue Mountains' 1888. H. Speirs, *Landscape Art and the Blue Mountains,* 1981, 23.

Albert Fullwood's painting of 1888 with well-dressed ladies admiring the wilderness which was not a wilderness, showing a little daring but not too much, helps to sum up the ways in which artists had been influencing popular European perceptions over the previous half century.

It is during this central sixty years of the nineteenth century, from the 1820s to the 1880s, that the themes were established which give some homogeneity to the heritage of the expansive area of the BMACHO constituency. This Association of Cultural Organisations now has among its members the Mudgee Historical Society, the Cudgegong Museums Group, the Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society and four of Lithgow's outstanding cultural institutions, the Regional

Continued on page 7

[1] Martin Thomas, *The Artificial Horizon: Imagining the Blue Mountains,* Melbourne University Press, Carlton 2003, 37.
[2] *Historical Records NSW,* V 726
[3] K. Hartig, *Images of the Blue Mountains,* Department of Geography, University of Sydney, Research Monograph 2, 1986, 43.

Continued from page 6

Library, the State Mine Museum, the Small Arms Factory Museum and the local branch of the National Trust. But BMACHO started life within the local government area called the City of the Blue Mountains, and enjoyed from the outset a good relationship with the City Council and its officers, for which we are all most grateful. Institutional membership of the umbrella association was at first restricted to organisations within the city boundaries.

I have had a personally productive relationship with the city administration for more than a decade, but I have always jibbed a little at the term city, though I understand the aspirations of local politicians to outdo a mere shire. The City of the Blue Mountains is, however, the most absurd of names for a straggle of small settlements planted within a World Heritage environment. Those of us who were inaugural members of BMACHO saw from the outset that bureaucratic boundaries did not coincide with historical reality nor with self-evident geographical imperatives.

The lines of communication are not only basic heritage items, but they also by definition break the artificial bounds of local government arrangements. Bells Line of Road, starting from North Richmond, is in Hawkesbury City until after it passes through Bilpin and Berambing, but it is in Blue Mountains City from Mount Tomah to the Darling Causeway and when it descends into Hartley Vale becomes part of Lithgow City's assets.

Of all the heritage assets of this region, the roads, and there are six significant ones, cannot possibly be claimed by one local government area alone.

Coxs Road, the foundation heritage item of the mountains for Europeans, did not stop at Mount York, but went on down into Hartley Valley and on to the Bathurst Plains.

When Thomas Mitchell, the great Surveyor-General, designed and constructed his new western road in the 1830s, he gave scant attention

Auguste Earle, c 1826 View west from Mount York.

to the traverse of the plateau of the mountains: that was the dull and easy part. Evans had already found all the right ridges. What really turned Mitchell on was the challenge of getting up to the plateau from the east and getting off again on the west. As a result, Mitchell's road from Emu Plains to Bathurst has two memorable features, one at each end.

On the way up from the Cumberland Plain there is the elegant stone-arched bridge constructed by David Lennox:

This beautifully proportioned bridge is halfway up Mitchells Pass, and that pass is wholly within the modern City of the Blue Mountains, but Mitchell's comparable bravura achievement at the other side of the plateau, Victoria Pass, is different.

In 1932 the Royal Australian Historical Society put up a plaque to celebrate the centenary of Victoria Pass.This plaque and the larger monument of which it is a part are within the city of the Blue Mountains.

About a third of the way down the escarpment on this route, there was a frightening gap in the descending ridge, which can be seen best from Coxs Road along Mount York.

To bridge this gap, Mitchell's convicts had to build a causeway, with high retaining walls and buttresses reminiscent of Devines Hill on the Great North Road.

There was a nasty accident on the causeway in 1835, captured in a painting, 'Accident on Victoria Pass causeway, 1835' by the surveyor Govett, whose name is enshrined in Govetts Leap: part of the buttressing and parapet had collapsed soon after construction of the causeway in 1832. Mitchell was apoplectic but the problem was not finally fixed until 1838, so what we see today is not what was put up in 1832.

The scene of all this drama is not part of the Blue Mountains City. Almost all of the causeway is in the City of Lithgow. The lower part of Victoria Pass, including the causeway, is in one jurisdiction (Lithgow), while the upper part, including the monuments, is in another (Blue Mountains).

All this is slightly messy, though not as inconvenient as Mitchell's Old Northern Road, where, as it goes towards Wisemans Ferry, one side of the road is controlled by Baulkham Hills Shire and the other side by Hawkesbury City, which does not make for good planning. At least no one, yet, has tried to build a house or develop acreage along Victoria Pass, and, in any case, the road itself is not under the jurisdiction of either Lithgow or Blue Mountains, but is under the Roads and Traffic Authority, which may or may not be a good thing (though the Hartley Highway Action Group, not yet affiliated with BMACHO, has no doubt at all). *Continued page 8*

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I am emphasising the heritage of the roads because they are fundamental. And they all exist not because anyone in Sydney wanted desperately to get to the Blue Mountains, but because every grazier on the Cumberland Plains wanted to get beyond the Mountains. For the first fifty years of the road system, up to the late 1860s, the trip across the mountain plateau was merely something to be endured. Louisa Meredith summed up a general feeling in 1839 that the Mountain scenery was 'wild, monotonous, … dreary, desolate grandeur,… a world of desolation'.[1]

So the descent into Hartley Valley seemed to many early travellers as arrival in 'the promised land … after the wilderness of the Blue Mountains', as Judge Barron Field described it in 1822.[2]

And until the railway in the mid 1860s changed so much on the plateau, the traveller was better served with hostelries once he or she reached the other side. Right at the bottom of Victoria Pass, for example, was the most elegant of Georgian inns, built in 1839, and called, of course, the Victoria Inn.

And if Victoria Inn was not open – it was a private house for a while in mid-century -then there was the Glasgow Arms and its handsome successor, the Royal Hotel, in Old Bowenfels. Both were built in 1838 by a stonemason, one of Mitchell's road inspectors, a fellow Scot, Alexander Binning, but only the Royal survives: it was originally Binning's private house.

The Glasgow Arms, Binning's inn just across the highway from the Royal, has been comprehensively demolished and replaced by a petrol station, another sort of utility. The Glasgow Arms had been praised by Colonel Mundy in 1846 as 'decidedly the best on the line, with active and obliging people, good plain cookery and clean beds'.[1]

And a string of accommodation houses operated along the roads to Bathurst and Mudgee, at small service centres like Rydal, Capertee or Ilford or just beside a convenient creek.

The provision of reliable and more than reliable accommodation on the mountains had to wait for the coming of the railway and with the train came the city tourist and the wealthy seeking cool summer retreats. Before 1865 there were more residents in Hartley Vale than in the entire Blue Mountains City area. After 1870, because of reliable, cheap transport, there was a growing transient population of holiday-makers and honeymooners in the villages which sprang up along the train line from Springwood to Mount Victoria. So the phenomenon of the guesthouse appeared and the architectural character of Katoomba and Leura in particular was indelibly stamped with these Victorian and Edwardian establishments, a fair number still in business today. They range from the modest federation house available for lease, like Cheltondale, 314 Katoomba Street, Katoomba, through respectable guesthouses, like Rubystone, also in Katoomba to fairly grand hotels like the first Coffee Palace on the mountains, opened in Leura in 1892, and ambitiously rechristened The Ritz in 1914. And then, of course, there was the really grand hotel like the Hydro Majestic at Medlow Bath and the Carrington, which still dominates the skyline of Katoomba today.

The other determining feature of the way in which the mountain plateau developed quite separately from the plains beyond was the hill-station or the country retreat, where well-to-do dwellers on the Cumberland Plain could seek out a cooler refuge in the heat of summer. Mount Wilson is, of course the supreme example, but Kurrajong Heights, at the other end of Bells Line of Road was also something of a hill-station, and there were private retreats scattered right along the western railway from Glenbrook to Mount Victoria.

All this happened quite late in Victoria's reign up on the mountains. Relatively little heritage had been generated on the plateau by Europeans in the half century from 1820 to 1870. On the other hand, the purpose of building the successive roads, Cox's, Lawson's, Bell's, Lockyer's, Mitchell's, was to populate the plains beyond with men, women and children, heavily outnumbered by cattle and especially by sheep. So while the mountain top slept, new service centres grew up among the new farming properties during that initial fifty years: Little Hartley, with two or three inns; Hartley with a Mortimer Lewis court-house in honey-coloured stone;Old Bowenfels with

Rosedale today. Photograph Ian Jack, 1997.

Continued page 9

[1] L.A. Meredith, *Notes and Sketches of New South Wales during a Residence, 1839-1844*, Murray. London 1849, chapter 8, 73.

[2] B. Field, 'Journal of an Excursion across the Blue Mountains, October, 1822', reprinted in G. Mackaness, ed., *Fourteen Journeys over the Blue Mountains of New South Wales, 1813-1841*, part 2, 1950, Dubbo 1978, 57.

[1] G.C.Mundy, *Our Antipodes or, Residence and Rambles in the Australasian Colonies with a Glimpse of the Gold Fields*, Bentley, London 2nd ed. 1852, I 187.

Continued from page 8
the earliest National School over the Mountains in 1851.There were Rydal, Capertee, Ilford and Rylstone while, of course, by 1870 Mudgee was a thriving country town, with municipal status in 1860, before the railway over the Mountains was even begun.The graziers modified the landscape over the Mountains long before comparable changes were made to the mountain plateau environment. Despite the distances to the coastal markets over indifferent roads, Hartley, the Bathurst Plain and all the expanse of country out along the Macquarie and Cudgegong Rivers were well settled between 1820 and the 1860s.

There is a wonderful pastoral heritage in the inner Central West, reflecting this first wave of expansion by European animals and European people beyond the Mountains. The earliest surviving homestead over the Mountains was built by John Grant in Kanimbla valley in 1822.Collits' Inn in Hartley Vale gets all the popular interest, but Grant's intensely private farmhouse, which cannot even be glimpsed from any public vantage point, is older and just as significant. Moyne Farm has not only a striking early homestead, but it has outbuildings, archaeological sites and a private cemetery as well, set in a lovely rolling landscape, cleared of most trees for 180 years.

On the Cudgegong, north-west of Mudgee, there are the two Rouse properties, Guntewang and Biraganbil. Although the two-storey homestead at Biraganbil has gone, the Rouses' farm-town of the 1840s survives and the outbuildings are really more important than the demolished homestead.Biraganbil farm-town is certainly far rarer than a decent homestead. I took this photograph in 1985 and I don't know what has changed over the last twenty-four years. But when I was there, the whole square was intact: a wooden store on the front left; in the middle distance shops and huts; in the central foreground the wooden stables and to the left beside the trees the fine brick stables.

The other side of Mudgee is Cox country and George Cox, son of the road-builder, built up his family's holdings, and made a statement with his new homestead of Burrundulla in 1864.The Central West also contains suites of more modest country buildings. There is a great variety and there is no time to do them justice. Just a few quick examples. The original Suttor homestead at Triambil was built of red-box slabs in 1833.

The wooden house was replaced by a stone homestead in 1851, but the old one was retained. A century ago, the slabs were rearranged horizontally instead of vertically, so it gives a misleading impression of early building techniques.

Slab huts do, however, survive intact with the slabs still vertical. They were built conservatively by their owners, using traditional methods, right into the twentieth century. But to find these one usually needs to go to more marginal land.

My favourite slab hut is the one in Kanimbla Valley built by Peter O'Reilly, and immortalized in his son's book, named, like the hut, *Cullenbenbong***.** The beautiful thing about Cullenbenbong today is that the interior is still intact, with tools still hanging on the slab walls and the fireplace waiting for kindling.It is this continuity of purpose and preservation of character which makes some of these special places extra-special.

I have also an extra-specially soft spot for Billy Maxwell's hut in Kedumba Valley. I like this hut because it was built as recently as 1925, but reflects all the techniques learnt by Billy's father, William Maxwell, in the 1850s and we have a wonderful photographic record of the 1890s farm close by. William Maxwell's subsistence holding in the remotest corner of Kedumba is no less complex or extensive than the farm-town at Biraganbil but it represents a different social world.

As well as slab buildings, there are exceptional collections of rammed-earth houses and barns in the area, particularly but not exclusively in Kanimbla and Megalong Valleys. They make an interesting subject for a talk in themselves, but perhaps some other time.

Pastoralism is, of course, only part of the heritage of BMACHO's interest area.

The impact of the train on the land over the Mountains after 1870 enabled access to coastal markets for all heavy goods produced in the west. And as well as sheep and cattle and their by-products, wool and tanned hides, there were minerals over the Mountains: most notoriously gold, of course, but also copper, silver, lead, marble, oil-shale and coal. None of these was exploited in the area which is now the City of the Blue Mountains, except for some coal and oil-shale on both sides of Narrow Neck at Katoomba, as we all know from the enlightened tourism activities of the Hammon family at the Scenic Railway. But I have to omit the rich and vital heritage of the diverse forms of mineral extraction, processing and manufacture just over the mountains.

Continued page 10

Wingebelaley, formerly Cullenbenbong. Photograph Ian Jack 1997.

HERITAGE WEBSITE LAUNCHED

A new Internet website www.bluemountains.heritage for the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations has been launched.

The committee towards the end of last year decided to develop a website and sought quotations for this work.

Thanks to a not insignificant amount of work by Barrie Reynolds and a local resident, Peter Hughes who has demonstrated the IT expertise required for this project, a website is now online.

There is still more work to be done for this to be completed with some member organisations not yet having provided information about their activities and objectives.

The home page is a heritage photograph of Katoomba's main street.

BMACHO affiliated organisations will have direct links to their own website while there will be membership and contact details.

There is a page for a brief history of the Blue Mountains region, west to Lithgow and north to the Hawkesbury area.

An icon will open up past editions of **HERITAGE**, BMACHO's newsletter while the events calendar will also be easily accessible

Character of BMACHO's Constituency

Continued from page 9

That exclusion zone, I'm afraid, includes the industrial towns first of Lithgow, then Portland and finally Kandos, with all their rich panoply of workers' housing as well as their industrial complexes and their industrial archaeology. That is another and different talk, very close to my heart.

The relationship of the heritage of the Blue Mountains plateau to the heritage of the land beyond is intense. The two areas have intertwining and inseparable histories.

But the themes are different or develop differently. The pastoralism of the central west in the Georgian and Victorian period has no parallel on the mountain plateau, but was nonetheless dependent for its existence and its success on the roads across the mountains.

The industrial and extractive activity in the west after the railway came in the 1870s and 1880s has virtually no equivalent on the plateau in this later period.

But the railway had a greater influence on the occupancy and exploitation of the mountains than the earlier roads had had, for it brought tourism and all its attendant services.

And tourism in its turn used the roads in the twentieth century on the mountains alongside the continuing use of the train.

The charabancs went on down Berghofers Pass in the 1920s or down Victoria Pass thereafter and brought tourism to the central west: there is a charming photograph of another charabanc parked outside Hartley court-house in the 1930s. Everywhere one looks, one notices that the mountains are enmeshed with the west, and especially with the inner central west. The heritage of the mountain plateau in one way stands alone. The heritage of the adjacent local government areas to the west, Lithgow, Rylstone, Greater Bathurst, Mudgee, Oberon, bears more similarities one to the other than it does to the mountain plateau. But the heritage of the central west is a reflection of the communication system across the mountains from 1813 onwards. The road and the railway had different impacts on the two areas, so there are different aspects to the heritage strengths of the constituent parts of BMACHO. Common interest, common needs and common threats to heritage give our mini-federation a *raison d'être*. We are stronger together than we can be separately and we have all much to learn from each other. May BMACHO flourish.

WALKS AND TALKS

Glenbrook Historical Society conducts an interesting program of "Walks n Talks" each month.

A copy of the 2009 program is available by contacting Doug Knowles on 4751 3276 (let the phone ring – he's probably in the garden). Doug will provide details for meeting place, time and grade of walk.

The April 22 walk takes in the Glenbrook Lakes precinct, rediscovering early campsites and railway works.

Unique Darwiniana in the Blue Mountains

2009 is the bicentenary of Charles Darwin's birth and the 150th anniversary of the publication of *The Origin of the Species*. And for many years tourists have walked along the banks of Jamison Creek at Wentworth Falls (Weatherboard in Darwin's time) to view the stupendous views of the Falls and Jamison Valley. That story will be retold many times this year in lectures and articles across the world.

Darwin is known mainly for his industrious note taking, his books and for his ill health. He was fond of hydropathic baths to allieviate the latter – a curious relevance for Medlow Bath and other institutions of the Blue Mountains health industry.

It is also known that he married into the Wedgwood family – marrying Emma in 1839. It is perhaps less well known that they had 10 children, 6 boys and 4 girls.

The fifth child, George Howard, was born in 1845. George, like his brothers and indeed, his grandfathers, had scientific enquiry in his blood. He excelled at school, winning a scholarship to Cambridge, obtained a first class degree, became a lawyer for a short time before turning his remarkable brain to astromony. Here's another coincidence – what is 2009 the international year of…….?

But to go back to the time when George was maybe six to ten….. His mother wrote to Catherine, Charles Darwin's younger sister, enclosing a letter from George written in pictogram style (see Fig. 1), a form that has delighted children over the ages and adults such as Lewis Carroll (Charles Lutwidge Dodgson). Can you read it? Here is a start:

Eye (I) ham (am) going to the Crystal Palace (?) next moon

(Mon) day hand (and) the fountains (rain) s r (are) going 2 (to) flowing liquid (pour)…….

Later on he says the baby is vomiting and we have sent for the doctor to give medicine to him……..you can work out the rest yourself!

On the reverse of this original letter there is a note signed E(mma) D(arwin) :

My dear Catherine

Etty or I will write soon

Yours

E. D.'

Etty is Henrietta Emma , who was born two years before George. Etty married Richard Buckley Litchfield in 1871. Richard wrote a biography of Thomas Wedgwood, who was a relatively unknown pioneer of photography. Etty, however, not only wrote a memoir of her husband, but also a privately printed two volume collection of her mother's letters published by Cambridge University Press in 1904.

This and another rare item of Darwiniana held in the Blue Mountains will be discussed in the next issue of *Heritage*

Contributed by Dr Peter Stanbury, OAM a committee member of BMACHO and board member UMAC (International Committee for University Museums)

Zig Zag to launch Footplate Experience project

The Zig Zag Railway is planning to launch a Footplate Experience program at the beginning of 2010.

The Footplate Experience would see you driving and firing a steam train for the day.

You will get to experience lighting up the engine and preparing the engine over the pit, before departing up the steep grades that are the Great Zig Zag Railway.

The cost for this once in a lifetime experience will be approximately $1,000.

The Railway still has a great deal of regulatory and operational work to complete before the Footplate Experience Program can begin.

If you would like to keep informed of the progress of the Footplate Experience to www.zigzagrailway.com.au to register your e-mail address.

Open everyday except ChristmasDay the Zig Zag is a full size, narrow gauge tourist railway located at Clarence, 10 km east of Lithgow.

Built in the 1860s, the line was constructed to transport people and produce from the western plains of NSW to Sydney. It was replaced in 1910 by a 10 tunnel deviation.

The trains, track and rolling stock are maintained and operated by the Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd, a voluntary, "not for profit' co-operative.

Mt Wilson in autumn

To raise funds for the activities of the Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine Historical Society, a market weekend will be held at the Mt Wilson Village Hall during the ANZAC weekend.

The activity will take place between 10am and 4pm on Saturday and Sunday, April 25 and 26.

Books, plants, household items, toys, clothes, china, handmade items, glassware, pottery, old wares, new wares, jams and cakes will be on sale.

Devonshire teas, hot food, cakes and drinks will be available.

For more information, telephone 4756 2063.

'When the Trumpet Calls'-

A new exhibition 'When the Trumpet Calls'- Norman Lindsay and WW1: at the National Trust's Norman Lindsay Gallery at Faulconbridge, open from March to June, 2009 is attracting considerable interest.

Original posters, handbills and recruiting material with a selection of reproductions of cartoons from 'The Bulletin' are displayed.

Norman Lindsay's cartoons and recruiting material of World War 1 were powerful images to encourage enlistment and vilify the enemy.

Image: Australian War Memorial Negative number ARTV00027 Copyright

Scandals, crime and corruption

History Week 2009 which will run from September 5-13 will be a wild journey through the dark shadows of our past. Discover the scandals, crime and corruption that have shocked us over time.

Registrations for History Week 2009 are now open and will close April 9, 2009. Free online registration of local events can be made by e-mail to office@historycouncilnsw.org.au

History Week was initiated by the HistoryCouncil in 1997 to showcase the rich, diverse history being produced by organisations and individuals across the state. With over 200 events across NSW, History Week is about celebrating the best in community and professional history, highlighting its role in our cultural life and inviting people to get involved.

During History Week, community groups, local councils, libraries, archives, museums, universities, cultural institutions, professional and amateur historians across NSW open their doors to present the latest in today's historical research - fascinating stories, artifacts and experiences about both our past and ourselves today.

School Holiday Family Entertainment -

The Acting Factory will be presenting 'Little Red Riding Hood' in the April school holidays at Norman Lindsay Gallery.

Seven performances of The Acting Factory's 'Hansel and Gretel' were held in the grounds of the Norman Lindsay Gallery during January.

Altogether just over 1,000 people attended the shows, which were aimed at families and many enjoyed picnicking under the trees after the show.

Call Norman Lindsay Gallery on 02 4751 1067 for details of performance

HERITAGE SITE MONITORING PROJECT

The Blue Mountains City Council (BMCC) has responsibility for maintaining a register of heritage listed sites within the region. In their *Cultural Strategy 2006 – 2016* council stated their intention to develop a monitoring program for heritage listed sites.

At BMACHO's request, in 2007 Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine Historical Society agreed to undertake a pilot project to develop and trial a mechanism for recording changes to local heritage listed sites as they happen.

It is hoped a simple ongoing record of changes will be useful when a major review is undertaken every 10 years or so to update information on both the BMCC register and the State Heritage Register.

A simple database was established, listing the 44 local sites, using the council's ID number, the name and location of each site and with space for recording any changes.

As a baseline volunteers from Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine Historical Society were able to use the draft report from Dr Ian Jack's review of heritage sites in 2004.

It has become a relatively simple matter to record changes which have been observed. Volunteers have used lay terms, simply noting what has happened and what year. The pilot phase of this project is completed and an ongoing record is being maintained.

In due course when council's information on heritage listed sites is available on line BMACHO will negotiate the transfer of current information onto their database and that of the NSW Heritage Branch so that all lists are up-to-date.

"Once the BMCC list of heritage sites becomes available on line, we will happily share what we have done should other groups be interested in a similar project," said Florence Smart, secretary of Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine Society Inc.

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

REGISTERED OFFICE 40 Hume Avenue, Wentworth Falls 2782
E-mail: bmacho.heritage@gmail.com
Website: www.bluemountains.heritage

THE ORGANISATION Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 following a unanimous response to a proposal from Prof. Barrie Reynolds at the 2004 Blue Mountains Local History Conference which sought from Blue Mountains City Council the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the city.

BMACHO in its constitution uses the definition: "Cultural heritage is all aspects of life of the peoples of the Blue Mountains which was later changed to cover Lithgow and the villages along the Bell's Line of Roads. It therefore involves the recording, preserving and interpreting of information in whatever form: documents, objects, recorded memories as well as buildings and sites."

The objectives of the organisation are

:i. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage.

ii. To encourage and assist the cultural heritage activities of member organisations.

iii. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations.

One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact, to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

MEMBERSHIP The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains City Library, Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc., Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc., Blue Mountains Tourism Limited, Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute, Cudgegong Museums Group, Friends of Everglades, Friends of Norman Lindsay Gallery, Glenbrook & District Historical Society, Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc, Llilianfels Blue Mountains Resort, Lithgow Mining Museum, Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies, Lithgow Small Arms Factory Museum, Mid Western Regional Council Library, Mt Tomah Botanic Gardens, Mt Victoria and District Historical Society Inc., Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine History Society (including Turkish Bath Museum), Mudgee Historical Society, Mudgee Regional Library, National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Blue Mountains Branch (including Woodford Academy), National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Lithgow Branch), Scenic World – Blue Mountains Limited, Springwood & District Historical Society Inc., Springwood Historians, Two Centuries of Elegance, Valley Heights Locomotive Depot and Museum, Zig Zag Railway. The following are individual members: Ms Wendy Carlson, Ray Christison, Ms Pamela Hubert, Associate Professor Ian Jack, John Leary OAM, John Low, Professor Barrie Reynolds, and Dr Peter Stanbury OAM.

COMMITTEE The committee for 2009-10 is: John Leary, (president) Ian Jack (vice president), Barrie Reynolds (secretary), Jean Arthur, Ray Christison, Lyn Fowler, Doug Knowles, Kathie McMahon and Dick Morony (public officer), Peter Stanbury.

AFFILIATIONS BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society Inc.

HERITAGE is BMACHO's official newsletter.

HERITAGE

NEWSLETTER OF THE BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS

MAY - JUNE 2009 ISSUE No. 3

CONVICTS BUILT LENNOX BRIDGE

The earliest arched stone bridge on mainland Australia

by John Low

Work began on Surveyor-General Thomas Mitchell's "Pass at Emu" in August 1832. About half way up the proposed route it was found necessary to take the road across a creek, a plan that required the bridging of a 30 foot deep gully with a span of 20 feet.

Mitchell, who considered well-designed bridges a sign of civilised society, seized the opportunity to experiment with a bridge designed to stand the test of time, unlike the flimsy wooden structures that characterised the colony's roads at the time. For this he needed the services of someone who posssessed both the necessary technical knowledge and the experience of building stone bridges, a difficult request in a land where the art of bridge construction was virtually unknown.

The right man did, however, appear in the person of David Lennox, a recently arrived master mason of 20 years experience who had worked on a number of major bridges in Britain. Legend has it that Mitchell discovered him working as a day labourer constructing a stone wall in Macquarie Street, Sydney.

By November 1832, much of the stone for the bridge had been quarried and cut and, obtaining lime from Windsor, Lennox began the laying process. He selected his work party personally and carefully from the larger road gang working on the Pass.

The party consisted of about 20 convicts, an overseer, a constable and an armed sentry and worked at the site from about 7am until 4pm, when it returned to the stockade at Emu Plains.

Despite the absconding of one convict, which held up the sawing of timber for the arch centering, Lennox's relationship with his convict workers appears to have been a good one. Assistant Surveyor John Abbott described Lennox to Mitchell as "indefatigable in instructing them how to work". Indeed, so effective was he that Governor Bourke let it be known that he would try to prevent the services of these newly skilled workers from being lost to the Department of Roads & Bridges after the Lapstone job was finished.

Lennox's confidence in his men was apparent later when, in May 1833, he was beginning to transfer operations to his next job. He petitioned the Governor to remit the remainder of the iron gang sentences of 8 convicts he wished to take with him. Although some of the sentences were, he said, "for heavy crimes, it appears to me to have been more the effect of a bad system at that time in regard to prisoners than any particular depravity of the prisoners themselves".

The convicts in question were: William Brady; John Carsons; Robert Hyams; John Johnson; Patrick Malowney (or Maloney); Thomas Nelson; James Randall; Daniel Williams (an "American black").

The sentences of Brady, Carsons, Malowney and Nelson were remitted while Randall and Williams were promised remittal of their sentences after a further 6 months good behaviour.

Continued page 2

From the president's pen.....

THE BUILDER WHO MADE AUSTRALIA

The Australia Day 2009 address by the Governor Marie Bashir, nominating Lachlan Macquarie as the founder of modern Australia, has boosted plans to recognise Macquarie next year, the bicentenary of his swearing in.

Macquarie arrived in a primitive, near starving, largely drunken and divided colony and turned it into a community with bright hopes for the future and the making of a nation's economy.

Macquarie was sworn in on January 1, 1810.

Arthur Phillip had left office dispirited and exhausted and William Bligh was overthrown by the military.

Macquarie was also to leave unhappily. Yet, Professor Bashir said, "He stands today as one of the greatest of Australian governors, a true pioneer of the nation, unmatched for vision, magnanimity, compassion and zest for accomplishment."

He was many believe the founder of modern Australia. Certainly, he was the first governor to refer officially to Australia by that name, in 1817, endorsing the name used by Matthew Flinders.

He instituted a period of unprecedented progress. In many ways he set the pattern and defined the priorities of enlightened public administration in the modern era.

He built schools, hospitals, roads on a scale not seen before. He instituted our system of public and private education, introduced currency, the nation's first bank, and public health care.

Macquarie encouraged the establishment of the country's first independent newspaper and libraries.

Before he left in 1821, NSW had its first court houses and first magistrates. There were roads to Parramatta, the Blue Mountains and further west.

There were five planned towns including Richmond, Windsor Castlereagh, Pitt Town, Wilberforce and Windsor. Bathurst was largely his creation as was Liverpool while Campbelltown was named after his wife whose maiden name was Campbell of Airds (the Scottish district now a suburb of Campbelltown).

Today's legacy from Macquarie are the public works and buildings, carried out with the assistance of Francis Greemway, a former convict appointed civil architect

His treatment of convicts, free settlers and the Aboriginals was more than humane. He encouraged well-behaved convicts into the wider community through tickets of leave.

Macquarie encouraged exploration to expand the pastoral land available and so improved the agricultural production and livestock numbers.

In her address Governor Bashir asked, "Can we not see in Macquarie's example of tolerance and humanity the beginning of the great Australian tradition of the 'fair go' play that many regard as our defining characteristic as a people?"

Macquarie, a Scot of energy and vision, ruled from 1810 until 1821 restoring order and bringing stability to a colony whose interests he did much to promote.

It is appropriate that the many activities being planned throughout NSW and the region have the support of the heritage sector and community at large.

John Leary, OAM - President, Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisation

CONVICT OVERSEES FINISHED OFF BRIDGE

Continued from page 1

When Lennox moved his headquarters to the site of his next assignment - construction of a stone bridge over Prospect Creek on the Great Southern Road near Liverpool - he left the completion of the Lapstone Bridge in the hands of his young overseer, George Neilson, to whom he paid periodic visits until the work was finished. Lennox reported the bridge completed in early July 1833.

John Low is the former local history librarian, Blue Mountains City Council and an individual member of BMACHO. Photograph of Lennox Bridge - April 2009 by John Leary, OAM.

Federal funding for cultural centre

The Australian Government will provide $1.98 million towards the construction of the Blue Mountains Cultural Centre in Katoomba, Federal Member for Macquarie has announced.

Mr Debus said the construction of the Blue Mountains Cultural Centre will create an iconic new attraction with regional and national significance.

The project involves construction and fit-out of cultural facilities including the City Art Gallery, World Heritage Interpretive Centre and a viewing platform.

The Blue Mountains City Council, NSW Government and the local community have invested 10 years of planning and consultation to make this happen, said Mr Debus

"I love fools' experiments. I am always making them"...*Charles Darwin*

“Beneath the Southern Cross” - A significant exhibition at the State Mine

A partnership between the City of Greater Lithgow Mining Museum Inc. and Unions NSW has provided the people of Lithgow and surrounding districts with a unique opportunity to experience historic artefacts related to the Trade Union movement in New South Wales.

An exhibition of union banners, badges and other artefacts has been installed at the State Mine Museum, State Mine Gully Road, Lithgow.

This exhibition will be in place until the end of October 2009.

It includes large banners used in street parades that form part of the Sydney Trades Hall collection.

Many of these items have not been accessible to the public before as there has been no space large enough to exhibit them.

It is appropriate that the former State Mine Bath House is the main venue for this exhibition.

This was a place in which the employees of the State Mine gathered to change for work and to shower at the end of their shifts.

A companion exhibition of Lithgow’s union memorabilia was on display at the Lithgow Regional Library from April 4 to May 5, 2009.

The Sydney Trades Hall collection exhibition will be open to the public during museum opening hours between April 4 and October 31 2009.

The museum is open from 10:00am to 4:00pm on Saturday and Sunday, and school and public holidays.

Access to the exhibition is included in the museum’s standard entry fee of $5 per adult, $3 concession, $2 per child or $12 per family.

Booked tours can be arranged at any time by contacting the museum on 6353 1513 or through the website: www.statemine.org.au

Pictured above are two of the trade union banners on display. The banners often made of silk, depicted the tools and processes of the trade. Below are banners on display at the State Mine Museum.

TARELLA, AN 1890s COTTAGE PRESERVED AS AN EXAMPLE OF A BYGONE AGE

Tarella was built in 1890 by John McLaughlin, a Sydney solicitor, on a 50 acre grant of land awarded to him for his service in the Volunteer Reserve.

The house continued to be owned by the McLaughlin family until the estate was left to the Blue Mountains Historical Society on the death of the last member of the family, Beryl McLaughlin the Society's benefactor.

The cottage stands in its original state, and is set up in the period of the early 1900s.

John McLaughlin

John McLaughlin was born in 1850 in Mulligar, Westmeath, Ireland and was one of four boys to Anne and Daniel McLaughlin. Daniel was a tenant farmer and took his family to Australia in 1852 for a better life. They settled in Millers Forest in the Hunter District where four further children were born.

Daniel was insistent on a good education and so John was educated first in Maitland and later at Lyndhurst College in Sydney. At Lyndhurst College he was awarded a prize for French and was school captain. The rest of the family moved to Rockhampton in Queensland after the death of Daniel in 1866.

After college John was articled to the legal firm of WC Curtis and remained there until 1869. On completion of his articles, John became managing clerk for the leading law firm, Allen, Bowden and Allen. He later went into partnership with Frederick Gannon under the name of Gannon and McLaughlin.

During this period John joined the Volunteer Force. After five years' service in this Force every officer and non commissioned officer was entitled to a free grant of 50 acres of land. John was awarded his grant of 50 acres in 1870 and after a surveying trip to the Blue Mountains in 1879, led by GM Pitt a licensed surveyor, John chose 50 acres at Wentworth Falls on a site he considered to be '*the most beautiful in the mountains'.*

Similar to other land owners he did not build until later as there was a proposal to build a large township at Wentworth Falls and land owners hoped they would be able to sell at a later date with great advantage to themselves. The township was later built at Katoomba.

In1880 John entered the NSW parliament as the Member for Upper Hunter and in 1882 he married Ada Amanda Moore. In this year he also subdivided his land holding into 8 plots and sold one.

They had four children, two boys and two girls, the last girl Beryl was born in 1888, who, on her death in 1988 two months short of her 100th birthday, became the benefactor of the Blue Mountains Historical Society.

Over the years John mortgaged his land presumably to finance the schooling of his children all of whom went to private Catholic schools.

John built Tarella around 1890 as a holiday cottage for the family to have relief from the summer heat and to escape the smells that pervaded the air in Sydney.

The cottage stands on Cox's original road on a stretch constructed under the watch of Lt Thomas Hobby which Cox observed on his return, *'at the 29th mile is a very handsome long reach, quite strait, which I call, from the layer of it out, Hobby's Reach'.* (Hobby's Reach is the name used for the Research Centre of the Blue Mountains Historical Society).

The cottage is constructed of weatherboards under a pitched roof with the parents' bedroom, parlour, dining room and spare bedroom down stairs and two small bedrooms upstairs.

The kitchen was a separate building constructed of corrugated iron in which the caretaker and his wife lived, caring for chickens, house cow and fruit trees during the family's absence. Over the years, until 1920, there were alterations which joined the original kitchen to the house

The water supply for the house came from a 60 foot deep storage well that still exists on the property.

Continued page 5

Tarella cottage as it now stands

VALLEY HEIGHTS LOCOMOTIVE DEPOT MUSEUM GETS HERITAGE GRANT

The Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Heritage Museum has received a grant of $20,600 from the NSW Heritage Office to repair the windows at the rear of the Roundhouse.

The depot, completed in 1913, was built to service steam locomotives which provided extra power to enable the trains to climb the steep rise from Valley Heights to Katoomba.

The depot was closed in 1989 and vacated by the then State Rail Authority in 1993. The museum now looks after the site.

Most of the glass panes were broken before the window sashes were removed in the mid 90s because of termite damage to the surrounding jambs and sills.

The grant has enabled the museum to purchase the glass panes, timber and associated incidentals. The museum has to provide $87,000 in labour.

The 95-year old sashes require many hours of patient repair work and cleaning before the panes are fitted and the sashes installed.This volunteer work is being carried out by the Museum's Retirees' Group — these fellows meet for one week every month (the week after the second Saturday), starting at 8am and finishing at 3pm.

This group is a big 'Men's Shed' where the members perform a valuable community service in a good humoured atmosphere.

Members work on tasks that suit their abilities and some come for the full week while others are able to be there for a day or two.

The museum is always looking for extra volunteers to help in the varied track work, machine operation, shops assistants).

For further information visit the website at http://infobluemountains.net.au/locodepot/ or phone 4751 4638.

Article republished courtesy The Blue Mountains Gazette

From left to right) Restored steam tram trailer car 93B (c1879), NSWGR steam locomotive 5461 (c1916) and steam tram motor 103A (c1891) in front of the oldest steam locomotive Roundhouse in NSW (c1913). Photograph courtesy Andrew Tester

TARELLA COTTAGE

Continued from page 4

The family lived in a very imposing house called Yanko in Evans Street, Waverley and on John's death in 1918, Ada, his wife and the two daughters came to live permanently at Tarella. In 1922, Ada died and her elder daughter, Ida married.

Beryl, who was a qualified architect, designed several houses for Ida and her husband, later moving to live in a flat attached to one of these houses.

Tarella was then rented out to visitors who used the Wentworth Falls Golf and Recreation Club opposite Tarella for their meals. The club house was burnt down in the 1957 bushfires.

Beryl and her sister Ida, who was now widowed, were very early members of the Blue Mountains Historical Society formed in 1946 by the Blue Mountains City Council. In 1955 when the society was looking for premises Beryl transferred Tarella to the council.

This arrangement soon proved unsatisfactory and an agreement was made with the council to have the property transferred back to the sisters.

In 1968 Beryl had built at her own expense a building on the property to house a museum for the society. Beryl and Ida continued to live at Tarella for the rest of their independent lives, Ida dying in 1980 and Beryl in 1988.

Before her death, Beryl transferred the cottage and the remaining 3.5 acres of land to the society. To these sisters and especially the benevolence of Beryl, the society owes a great debt of gratitude. The society has been able to preserve an 1890s cottage, an example of a bygone age, for future generations.

This article was contributed by Mrs Susan Warmbath, curator and former president, Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc. Images BMHS archives

EVERGLADES AT LEURA

Modernism, Art Deco and pristine wilderness

By Angela le Sueur

Photography: Christopher Shain

The National Trust-owned property, Everglades, at Leura is one of Australia's foremost cold climate gardens and arboreta. It is also an expression of a special partnership between the wealthy businessman, Henri Van de Velde, and the Danish horticulturalist and landscape designer, Paul Sorensen, whose legendary skills created many gardens of note in Leura and Katoomba.

The creation of Everglades was as much a feat of engineering as a triumph of horticulture. There had been two successive houses, an orchard and a developed garden at Everglades before Van de Velde bought the property from Mrs Stonier.

It was extremely steep and rocky with thin, sandy soil – but Van de Velde saw the potential, and Sorensen knew how to achieve it. Steep slopes were levelled by the creation of a series of flat terraces which were underpinned by massive drystone walls hand hewn from rocks on the site.

Planting beds were hand dug to a depth of 600 to 900mm and filled with soil transported from the grotto pool and other excavations, enriched with humus. The Great Depression was in full swing and there was no shortage of labour; men were glad to be able to work.

Modern Movement and Art Deco influences with a backdrop of pristine wilderness combine to create the magic of the site.

Massive drystone walls underpin the terraces

The studio terrace with its rectilinear planes and cubist squash racquet courts building has been cited as one of the most significant pieces of Australian Modernist garden designs.

At the opposite end however, the eye is drawn to a brick edged 'window' which in spring is purple with cascading wisteria, framing the blue-green and russet hues of the Jamison Valley and escarpments beyond.

Leading off the studio terrace is the garden theatre, carefully concealed behind trees and shrubs so that it becomes a special surprise. This was a technique much favoured by Sorensen, who concealed and revealed vistas and other features to layer the experience of the garden.

At Everglades the special character of each terrace 'room' is enjoyed on its own terms, as are the spectacular vistas beyond.

Flowers were originally planted as bright swathes of colour, but Sorensen also planned for the future – a time when his signature trees and shrubs would grow to overshadow the first mass planting beds.

Brightly coloured bulbs are still a feature of the upper terraces but, as you move down the slope, the emphasis changes – to rhododendrons and azaleas – and on the lower perimeters, to native plants. *Continued page 7*

Everglades House

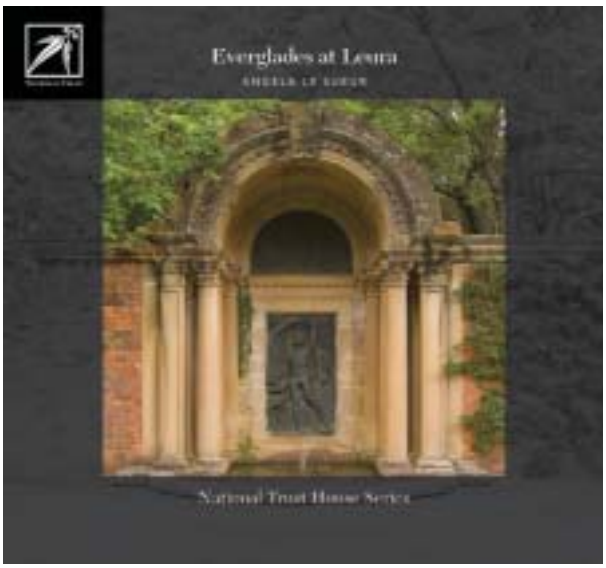
The magic of Everglades

Many of the statues and artefacts which Van de Velde collected to embellish the gardens on his visits to Europe have long gone, however 'The Wrestler', a reproduction of a Roman bronze unearthed at Herculaneum, survives at the top of the steps from the Cherry to the Agapanthus Terrace. Whimsical wrought iron panels in the courtyard tell the story of a bad dog – one of Van de Velde's Sealyhams - and his punishment for chasing an Everglades peacock.

Although it looks hard-edged by today's standards, in the 1930s the house was the epitome of comfort and style with its large windows, sophisticated heating and Hollywood-style bathrooms.

A mix of Functionalism, Modernism, Mediterranean and Art Deco styles, it was a talking point of its time, featured extensively in the April 1938 issue of *The Australian Home Beautiful* and photographed by the legendary Harold Cazneaux.

Today, seventy years on, Everglades is a highlight of any visit to the Blue Mountains; a place for people of all ages to gather and enjoy its special events – or to wander and contemplate alone.



Everglades at Leura by Angela le Sueur. The cover features the garden theatre with its arch, rescued from the demolished London Chartered Bank of Australia in Sydney

For more information on Everglades, purchase the National Trust House Series book, *Everglades at Leura* from the property or from the National Trust direct;
www.nsw.nationaltrust.org.au

SCENIC WORLD'S STAR AWARD

Scenic World has become the first business in the Blue Mountains to be accredited as a STAR workplace.

The award recognises Scenic World's commitment to engaging with its employees to build a sustainable business with high levels of satisfaction.

"We want to share with out visitors what makes Scenic World a special place and to do that we need a team of dedicated people who are continually striving to improve what we do," said human resources manager, Geoff Stodart in accepting the award.

Scenic World is a member of BMACHO.

"It is not the strongest of the species that survives, nor the most intelligent that survives.

It is the one that is most adaptable to change."..... *Charles Darwin.*

DISPLAY SCREENS AVAILABLE TO BMACHO MEMBERS

Blue Mountains City Council has up to five sets of portable screens available for use by organisations such as members of BMACHO.

One set is the museum set and there are four others which council's environmental team has in store.

They are available for use by historical associations and museums in BMCC area (subject to availability).

A number of organisations have already borrowed them for displays.

The panels can checked out on the Toucan website: http://www.toucan.com.au/panels.html

Dimensions are 1800mm high overall made up of 8 panels of approximately 770 x 900 mm.

Each panel will hold a poster of approximately 600 x 800mm. Colour: neutral blues.

Items can be attached to panels by Velcro or pins.

The screens come in a carry bag which fits fairly easily into a car boot or back seat and can be easily set up on site.

Display screens can be booked by contacting Christine Jones on 4780 5609 or cjones@bmcc.nsw.gov.au or Janne Yardy on 4780 5448 jyardy@bmcc.nsw.gov.au

There is no charge for use but they need to be booked in advance and picked up and returned in good condition to the Council HQ building in Katoomba.

WINTER SOLSTICE AT EVERGLADES

Everglades will be holding a spooky story telling for children of all ages on Sunday, June 21.

Those who visit Everglades for the winter solstice are encouraged to dress up in the spookiest outfits.

For further information telephone Nick on 4784 1938 or everglades@bigpond.com

FAMILY HISTORY GROUP FINDS WORLD WAR 1 HERO BURIED AT LAWSON

The article published on this page is an edited version of an interesting article written by Blue Mountains Family History (BMFHS) member, Suzanne Voytas. The discovery came about following work by Suzanne and another member Lyn Tocher who discovered a neglected grave in Lawson Cemetery (pictured below) while working on a BMFHS project

Formed in 1986 BMFHS is a true family history society with interests back to our roots - in England, Scotland, Ireland, Germany, France, in fact anywhere in the world, how and where our ancestral families lived and worked and where they travelled. BMFHS has a close association with the local studies librarians of BMCC - but the main focus is facilitating the family history research needs of the local residents, not local studies.

Members of Blue Mountains Family History Society (BMHS) are helping the descendants of a World War 1 hero to piece together the history of their ancestor buried at Lawson.

In June 2008, Lynne Tocher and Suzanne Voytas were recording and checking information on headstones at the Lawson Cemetery as part of the project to update the Blue Mountains Family History Society's transcripts for all Blue Mountains cemeteries.

During this work they came across a very neglected grave. The headstone stated the person was an ANZAC. The researchers felt that if this claim was correct, then the person should be entitled to the AIF insignia on his headstone.

Firstly they needed to prove the person named was indeed an Anzac, and so began the search for the story of Henry James Hunter, who died at Linden in November 16, 1923.

Using the National Archives of Australia's website, a copy of his enlistment papers, which included his medical and promotions history, was obtained. Together with other details from the AIF and AWM websites it was revealed that: Henry James Hunter voluntarily enlisted September 24, 1914 and stated he was 43 years 9 months. His enlistment number was 1066 assigned to the 1st Battalion, C Company.

He left Australia on board Transport A19 *Afric* on October, 18 1914. Maybe he didn't need basic training as he was a member of the Victorian Rifle Club!

His AIF file revealed he was at Gallipoli on April 25, 1915, was evacuated from Lone Pine on August 16, 1915, and subsequently evacuated to hospital in England. He rejoined his unit in December 1915.

In May 1916 he was serving with the 1st Anzac Entrenching Battalion seeing service at the Somme and battlefields near Ypres.

During his service Hunter was promoted a number of times in the field. In July 1915 he was promoted to corporal, with various other promotions until December 1917 when he was promoted to T/RSM (Temporary Regimental Sergeant Major). This reverted back to corporal on his discharge.

On November 6, 1917 he was recommended for the Meritorious Service Medal, the citation read – *For devotion to duty and disregard of personal safety during intermittent shelling of Bapaume for two months and energetic meritorious service in the organization of a) Brickfields area. b) Bapaume area. c) Blequin area. d) Reinforcement Camps area. His conduct and bearing in A.I.F. since September 1914 has set a fine example.* Signed by E M Waters, 2nd Col, CO 1st Anzac Entrenchment Battalion.

In February 1918 Hunter applied for a discharge for personal reasons.

He was married and had two children – Eileen and Keith. His wife and children were living at Neutral Bay, NSW together with his elderly mother.

He was discharged on June 6, 1918

There is no living memory of Henry James Hunter being discussed within the family.

Having found his history and obtaining the family's permission to proceed, Lyn Tocher and Susanne Voyta thought it would only be a matter of applying to the appropriate department and the insignia would be granted. Not so.

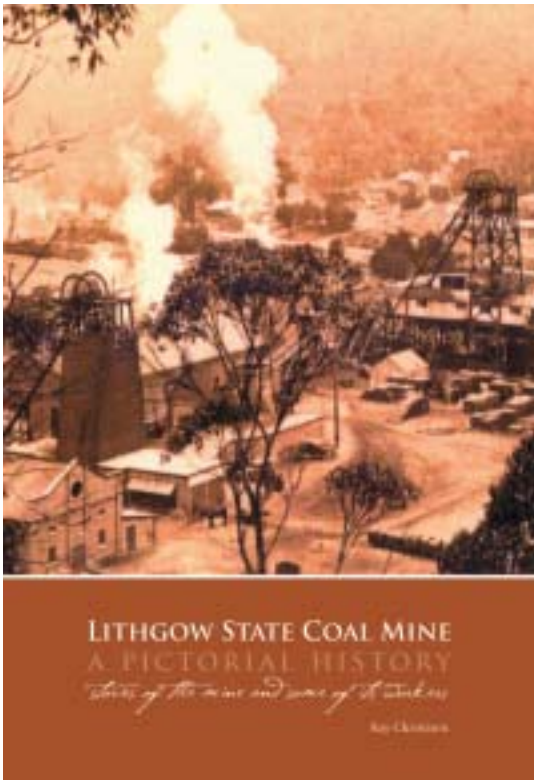
The guidelines for receiving the AIF insignia state that the serviceman must have died from war related causes. Henry James' death certificate states the cause of death was *Cardiac Valvular Degeneration, Atheroma and Aneurysmal Dilatation of the Aorta.*

At present there is no clear cut evidence to link his cause of death to his war service and the medical problems he suffered while on active duty even though he died within 5 years of being discharged.

However, an application has been lodged with Department of Veteran Affairs (DVA), stating the reasons for the request on behalf of the family.

Continued page 9

Lithgow State Coal Mine a pictorial history.....



The book *Lithgow State Coal Mine a pictorial history* was launched at the Lithgow State Mine Heritage Park on Wednesday 6 May 2009 by Neville Castle, Mayor of Lithgow.

In launching the book Neville Castle noted that the Lithgow State Coal Mine operated from 1916 to 1964.

It was the largest coal mine on the Western Coalfield and the first coal mine established by the New South Wales Government. At the height of production in 1930 the mine employed 734 men.

This book was written to provide an overview of the story of the Lithgow State Coal Mine and to support interpretation at the State Mine Museum.

It draws on records held by the museum and memories of former workers to weave stories of the place.

When speaking at the launch the author Ray Christison stated that his intention in writing it was to create a record that was engaging and accessible to the widest possible audience.

He said that: 'As much as possible I have endeavoured to represent the story of the mine through the stories of individuals who worked there."

Ray also recognized the many people who had contributed to the development of the book, including museum volunteers, staff of the Lithgow Library Learning Centre and the many former miners who had contributed photographs and stories. He also gave special thanks to Dick Austen and Joe Butta who most generously sponsored the first print run.

The book was printed by Industrial Printing in Lithgow.

It is available through the Lithgow State Mine Heritage Park at a price of $29.95 per copy.
Resellers may purchase orders of five books or more at the discounted price of $21.00. Order forms can be downloaded from www.statemine.org.au

'.....stories of individuals who worked there.'

An image from the book showing the construction crew posed in front of the No.1 or upcast shaft at the State Mine site in 1917.

HERO BURIED AT LAWSON

Continued from page 8

The one hope is that, as he applied for a war service pension just before he died and if his wife did receive a war widow's pension, it means that his medical condition was recognised as war related.

The Springwood RSL sub-branch president, Mr Joe Elkusck, has indicated that if the insignia is granted, they will be prepared to rededicate the grave, with the Last Post and the Ode being recited with the association's chaplain.

As for the reasons he died in Linden, away from his immediate family and no oral history of him through the generations will possible remain a mystery but the family have decided to try and piece the puzzle together.

However, it is not hard to imagine the horrors of war that the men were subjected to, so returning to civilian life would be difficult.

Many would have physical wounds but just as many would have been broken psychologically.

BLUE MOUNTAINS VINTAGE FASHION COLLECTION WITHOUT EQUAL

One of the more unusual cultural heritage collections in the Blue Mountains comprises 3500 items of Victorian and Edwardian clothing and accessories, known as the Darnell Collection.

In 2003, Blue Mountains resident, Charlotte Smith was bequeathed a vast vintage clothing collection belonging to her godmother, Doris Darnell, a Quaker from Pennsylvania, USA.

For over seventy years, Mrs. Darnell accepted family heirlooms given to her 'in love and in trust' by people wanting to ensure the garment and their story lived on. Her collection grew along with her international reputation as a collector and preserver of fine garments and accessories.

Initially, Charlotte had no immediate plans about what she would do with the collection, but upon opening the 70 boxes she realised she had inherited not only a unique collection recording 200 years of social history, but she also had a fashion resource unequalled in Australia.

"I opened the boxes of exquisite treasures and held in my hands the precious clothing worn by Victorian and Edwardian ladies, Flappers of the 1920s and ladies of the 1950s cocktail set.

Cotton day dress 1865

"There were dresses of silk, wool, printed cotton, linen, velvet and lace by famous and influential designers who helped revolutionise fashion to adapt to the changing role of women in society. Designers like Lucile, Madeline Vionnet, Gabrielle Chanel, Christian Dior, Jean Muir and James Galanos," recalls Charlotte.

She found cocktail and debutante dresses, wedding gowns, swimsuits, hats, handbags, shoes and gloves, undergarments including rare cage crinolines and bustles, outerwear and exquisite fans among an array of wardrobe necessities. Most intriguingly, many of the pieces are well documented with marvellous light hearted anecdotes about the people who wore them and the customs and foibles of their time. (HarperCollins Australia is producing a book about the collection and these wonderful stories. The book will be published in November this year.

In the past five years, The Darnell Collection has grown significantly. It now totals over 5000 items. Added to the long list of designers recently acquired are Hardy Amies, Norman Hartnell, Zandra Rhodes and Vivienne Westwood from England, Christobel Balenciaga from Spain, Ceil Chapman from America and Gianni Versace from Italy. The collection represents 27 different countries, given by 287 donors. A diverse selection of garments and accessories from Australia is an important addition to the collection.

Over the past five years, The Darnell Collection has been displayed at Woodford Academy, the QVB in Sydney, at Bendigo Regional Gallery in Victoria, at the Sydney Royal Easter Show and in Lithgow, Bathurst, Cowra, Armidale, Parkes and Orange. It has also been featured twice on ABC television's program Collectors.

Early last year, ESMOD Australia, a French fashion school founded in Paris in 1841, and The Darnell Collection joined forces. ESMOD is now one of only two schools in the world with their own fashion archive and their own museum. (F.I.T. in NYC is the other). Students, teachers, researchers and historians can access the collection privately while the general public is welcome to view changing exhibitions in The Fashion Gallery, located in the lobby. Five exhibitions a year will showcase the glamour and upheaval of fashion over the past 200 years.

Red silk trousseau dress, 1884

The collection owned by The Darnell Collection Pty Ltd., Blackheath is now permantly displayed at ESMOD Australia, 2 Short Street Surrey Hills 2010

Charlotte Smith beside a 1960s silk Murano glass bead Italian mini dress

Unique Darwiniana in the Blue Mountains

This is the second article in a series marking the bicentennary of Charles Darwin's birth.

Charles Darwin published many books; most people can name one; most biologists can name five or more. The majority of his books were published by John Murray and are instantly recognisable by their green blind stamped boards and gilt decorated spines, to say nothing of their dark, almost black endpapers.

One first edition, however, had covers of plum coloured cloth, an innovation never repeated, but one which sends bibliophiles into raptures. (*Fertilisation of Orchids*, May 15, 1862).

An interesting piece of Darwiniana, scarcely known, is his contribution to *A Manual of Scientific Enquiry, prepared for the Use of Her Majesty's Navy and adapted for Travellers in General,* published by John Murray in 1849 in appropriate sea-green cloth with a gilt anchor on the outer cover (Fig 1).

Contributors included, as well as Darwin: Herschel (Meteorology), Owen (Zoology) and Hooker (Botany) . Herschel was the editor as well as contributor; Owen wrote *Fossil Mammalia* in *The Zoology of the Voyage of HMS Beagle* that Darwin edited in 1838. Hooker later wrote *On the Flora of Australia* in *The Botany of the Antarctic Voyage of HM Discovery Ships Erebus & Terror* which was published in that fateful year 1859.

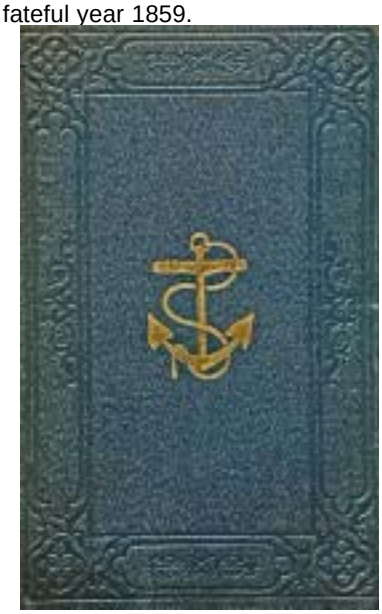


Fig.1

1859 was, of course, the year of publication of *On the Origin of Species* which was far outsold by Samuel Smiles' *Self Help*, that appeared in the same year. 'How to' books were popular even then!

The first issue of the first edition of *A Manual of Scientific Enquiry* has a transposition of Darwin's text caused by the typesetter misplacing some of Darwin's hand written text. Corrected in later issues, the article gives practical advice: number specimens and put a dot after the number if it is 6 or 9 to avoid confusion; collect suites of specimens rather than individual pieces to help elucidate strata; label separately every fossil, wrap it in paper and mark its location on the outside and make accurate sectional diagrams. Darwin ends by writing that by following the advice the reader…. 'will, even if without any previous knowledge, in a short time infallibly become a good geologist, and as certainly will he enjoy the high satisfaction of contributing to the perfection of the history of this wonderful world'.

Charles Darwin's family were writers. Erasmus Darwin, Charles's grandfather had written of Sydney in his *The Botanic Garden (see next column).*

He was inspired by Josiah Wedgwood's medallion that was made from the clay of Sydney Harbour collected by Sir Joseph Banks.

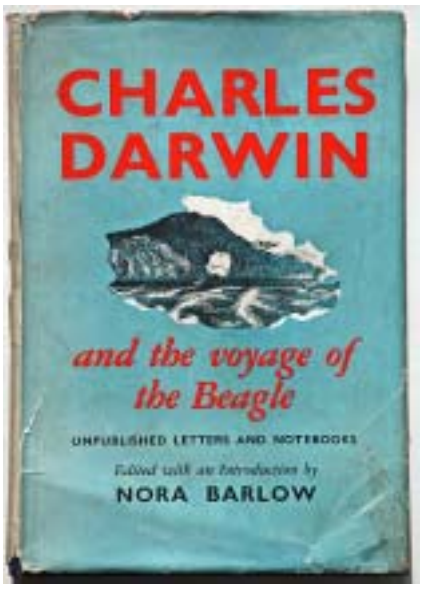


Fig.2

VISIT OF HOPE TO SIDNEY COVE, NEAR BOTANY BAY

Where Sydney Cove her lucid bosom swells,
And with wide arms the indignant storm repels;
High on a rock amid the troubled air
Hope stood sublime, and waved her golden hair;
Calm'd with her rosy smile the tossing deep,
And with sweet accents charm'd the windss to sleep;
To each wild plain she stretch'd her snowy hand,
High-waving wood, and sea-encircled strand.
"Hear me," she cried, "ye rising realms record
Time's opening scenes, and Truth's prophetic word.
There shall broad streets their stately walls extend,
The circus widen, and the crescent bend;
There, ray'd from cities o'er the cultured land,
Shall bright canals, and solid roads expand.
There the proud arch, colossus-like, bestride
Yon glittering streams, and bound the chafing tide;
Embellish'd villas crown the landscape-scene,
Farms wave with gold, and orchards blush between.
There shall tall spires, and dome-capt towers ascend,
And piers and quays their massy structures blend;
While with each breeze approaching vessels glide,
And northern treasures dance on every tide!"
Then ceased the nymph-tumultuous echoes roar,
And Joy's loud voice was heard from shore to shore
Her graceful steps descending press'd the plain,
And Peace, and Art, and Labour, join'd her train.

Editor's note: Spelling and punctuation as written and published in the 19th century.

Continued page 12

Fig. 3

DARWINIANA

Continued from page 11

Coincidentally, Charles' wife, Emma was Wedgwood's granddaughter.

Charles' second son, Francis, assembled five volumes of his father's life and letters.

They were published in 1887-1903. Charles' granddaughter, Nora, wrote an account of the voyage of the *Beagle* (Fig 2). It was published in 1945 and includes letters and some material hitherto unpublished from Darwin's notebooks.

Charles' fourth daughter, Henrietta Emma, wrote a two volume account of her mother which reveals much about the Darwin's day-to-day life. It also includes letters from Charles to his wife. It was printed by Cambridge Press though privately published in blue cloth in 1904 in a run of 250 copies. A few copies were elaborately bound for presentation (Fig 4).

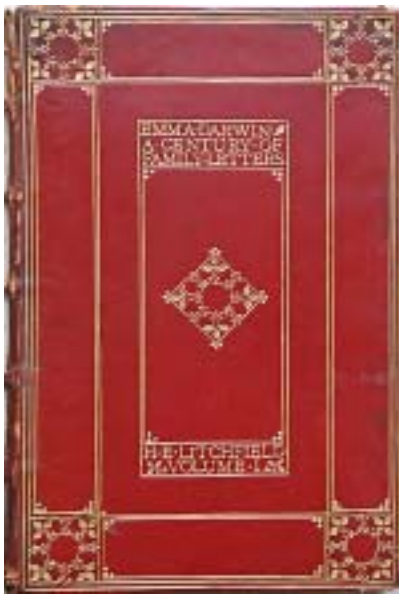


Fig.4

Fig. 1 The outer cover of C*harles Darwin and the voyage of the Beagle* in which Darwin wrote a chapter on geology.
Fig. 2 This book was written by Darwin's granddaughter, Nora Barlow.
Fig.3 Darwin's daughter's (Mrs Litchfield) handwriting donating her book about her mother to an untraced recipient - any suggestions as to the identity gratefully received!
Fig.4 An elaborately bound volume written by Darwin's daughter about his wife Emma.

Contributed by Dr Peter Stanbury, OAM a committee member of BMACHO and board member UMAC (International Committee for University Museums)

Mountains police sent to quell Maori uprising

The first police to be stationed in the Blue Mountains were detachments of the Military Mounted Police Force.

This force, of a semi-military character, was created by Governor Brisbane in 1825 and operated until 1850 for the purposes of apprehending marauding convicts who had escaped to the bush as well as protecting travellers on the roads that radiated from Sydney to the widely scattered settlements.

It was made up of soldiers seconded from the British regiments stationed in New South Wales who served usually only for a few years until their units ended their tour of duty. While the force was controlled by the civil authorities the police remained under military discipline.

In 1846, as a result of Maori uprisings in New Zealand, Earl Grey, Secretary of State for the Colonies issued a directive sending "the whole of the disposable force [in NSW] to Wellington [New Zealand]."

He observed that the colony "may be regarded as being perfectly safe, for the present at least, from any attack from a Foreign enemy; there are no native tribes capable of engaging in serious hostilities with Colonists; and the convict establishment is now reduced so low, while so great an increase has taken place in the numbers of the free population, that there is no longer the necessity which some years ago existed for maintaining a considerable Military Force to guard against the risk of an attempt to rise on the part of the convicts".

He added: "Under these circumstances, there is no part of Her Majesty's Dominions in which there is less occasion for a large body of troops.

Accordingly, I find that, with the exception of those at Sydney, the Troops now serving in New South Wales are broken up into small detachments, and obviously performing duties more analogous to those of a Police Corps than of a part of Her Majesty's regular Army; but these are duties which the heavy demands upon the services of British Army do not admit that it should be called upon any longer to undertake.

Her Majesty's confidential servants will consider it their duty to take care that Her Naval and Military Forces shall afford efficient protection from the attacks of any Foreign enemy to so important a part of Her Dominions as New South Wales; but for the maintenance of internal order and tranquillity, it is only reasonable that the Colonists should themselves be called upon to provide by the formation of an adequate force of Police, or if necessary, of Militia….."[Despatch dated 24 November 1846 vide Historical Records of Australia Vol. XXV p.264]

By this time the only military presence between the Nepean and Cox's Rivers was the detachment at the Blackheath Stockade.

The consequences of Grey's decision was to divert the colonial government's lingering reliance on the military as an arm of law enforcement to enhancing the several civilian police forces already serving the colony.

It was not until 1870 that the British Army units left Australia -- a protracted departure despite Grey's observations, due no doubt to the fears of Russian invasion during the Crimean War of 1854-56 and the requirements from the ongoing Maori Wars through the 1860s.

This article is an extract from Peter Chinn's "The Thin Red and Blue Lines," a history of the military and police presence in the Blue Mountains 1814-2005, published by the Springwood Historical Society Inc.

Peter Chinn is currently the society's president.

Australia's first industrial site

There may be no archaeological relics such as a crumbling brick smoke stack, rusting industrial machinery or even remnants of toxic waste left in the ground, but the river bank on the estuary, a short distance upstream from where the holiday township of Cooktown, Queensland now stands, must surely be the place of Australia's first industrial site.

Captain James Cook as painted by John Webber in 1782

It was here that Cook after running aground on a coral reef, beached the *Endeavour* to repair the damage to his ship.

Professor Geoffrey Blainey in his book *Sea of Dangers* writing about James Cook's voyage along the east coast of Australia in 1770 suggests, 'it was here arose a ship-building yard, along with a timber workshop and blacksmith's forge.'

The *Endeavour* 'was moved to the chosen position by the use of ropes and by sheer physical strength of the men working the capstan.'

'Near the mangrove bushes she lay, her bow on the bank and her stern sloping well into the water.

'Melted iron was converted into iron nails, of which thousands and thousands were needed for repairs. Sailmakers were active, their work spread out in front of them.

'The carpenters were soon at work replacing the damaged timbers, and it was a favourable time to make repairs to the rigging. Seamen were scraping the ship's bottom to remove the marine life that had clung to it.'

The first industrial activity in Australiia by Europeans occurred between June 17 and August 3, 1770. It was during this period that Australia's most well known animal name, the kangaru (kangaroo) was interpreted by Joseph Banks.

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

REGISTERED OFFICE 40 Hume Avenue, Wentworth Falls 2782
E-mail: bmacho.heritage@gmail.com
Website: www.bluemountains.heritage

THE ORGANISATION Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 following a unanimous response to a proposal from Prof. Barrie Reynolds at the 2004 Blue Mountains Local History Conference which sought from Blue Mountains City Council the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the city.

BMACHO in its constitution uses the definition: "Cultural heritage is all aspects of life of the peoples of the Blue Mountains which was later changed to cover Lithgow and the villages along the Bell's Line of Roads. It therefore involves the recording, preserving and interpreting of information in whatever form: documents, objects, recorded memories as well as buildings and sites."

The objectives of the organisation are

:i. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage.

ii. To encourage and assist cultural heritage activities of member organisations.

iii. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations.

One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact, to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

MEMBERSHIP The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains City Library, Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc., Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc., Blue Mountains Tourism Limited, Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute, Cudgegong Museums Group, Friends of Everglades, Friends of Norman Lindsay Gallery, Glenbrook & District Historical Society, Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc, Lilianfels Blue Mountains Resort, Lithgow Mining Museum, Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies, Lithgow Small Arms Factory Museum, Mid Western Regional Council Library, Mt Tomah Botanic Gardens, Mt Victoria and District Historical Society Inc., Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine History Society (including Turkish Bath Museum), Mudgee Historical Society, Mudgee Regional Library, National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Blue Mountains Branch (including Woodford Academy), National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Lithgow Branch), Scenic World – Blue Mountains Limited, Springwood & District Historical Society Inc., Springwood Historians, Two Centuries of Elegance, Valley Heights Locomotive Depot and Museum, Zig Zag Railway. The following are individual members: Ms Wendy Carlson, Ray Christison, Ms Pamela Hubert, Associate Professor Ian Jack, John Leary OAM, John Low, Professor Barrie Reynolds, and Dr Peter Stanbury OAM.

COMMITTEE The committee for 2009-10 is: John Leary, (president) Ian Jack (vice president), Barrie Reynolds (secretary), Jean Arthur, Ray Christison, Lyn Fowler, Doug Knowles, Kathie McMahon and Dick Morony (public officer), Peter Stanbury.

AFFILIATIONS BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society Inc.

HERITAGE is BMACHO's official newsletter.

HERITAGE

NEWSLETTER OF THE BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS

JULY - AUGUST 2009 ISSUE No. 4

HIGHWAY HERITAGE PRESERVED

As motorists well know, oil companies and their petrol prices are popular whipping posts but in the past some have been conscious of our heritage.

The restored Pointsman's Cottage at Glenbrook today, probably owes its preservation to the Australian oil company Ampol.

The Pointsman's Cottage at Glenbrook was built in 1871 and became the station master's house in 1879.

It was built to house the pointsman who changed the points to the siding on the railway's single line.

Thomas Hall was the first stationmaster. He immigrated to Australia on March 29, 1856 at the age of nine with his parents as sponsored immigrants aboard the ship Ben Nevis. He married Katherine (Katie) Davidson. They had a family of ten children.

Although New South Wales' first train line reached Parramatta in 1855 crossing the Blue Mountains proved an engineering challenge.

The outhouses of the 19th century were built to last.

The first railway line across the Blue Mountains was built between 1863 and 1867. Glenbrook was the first railway station on the line.

The engineer, John Whitton, wanted to excavate a tunnel but limited funds meant he had to design a zig zag at Lapstone with a sandstone viaduct over Knapsack Gully.

The line opened to Weatherboard (Wentworth Falls) on July 13, 1867.

After the 1913 deviation of the rail line was complete the stationmaster continued to live in the house.

In 1926 the Main Roads Board built the Western Highway on the old railway bed. In 1927 Charlie Forrester bought the Pointsman's Cottage and opened up the Glenbrook Garage. There were many owners over the years.

Ampol then bought it having many tenants. It was restored in 1996 when the new service station was developed.The property is now owned by Caltex.

The nearby Macquarie Street Store which is now Jim Aitken's Real Estate served refreshments to train travellers. A house on the corner of Euroka Road and Park Street owned by the Hamment family was rented out to railway workers.

Source for text courtesy Pamela Pascoe, Glenbrook Historical Society Inc. Photographs John Leary, OAM

ORDER OF AUSTRALIA AWARD

Well known, Blue Mountains archaeologist, Dr Siobhan Lavelle has been awarded the Order of Australia Medal which was announced in the Queens Birthday Honours list last month.

The award is for service to historic archaeology and heritage conservation, particularly the preservation of colonial roads and cemeteries.

From the president's pen.....

GLOBAL ECONOMIC CRISIS TO BENEFIT OUR HERITAGE

Those interested in our heritage, both professionals and amateur enthusiasts, have long been concerned about the apathy of government at all levels. It is fair to say, has paid only lip service to Australia's heritage.

Funding for the preservation and conservation of the natural, built and cultural heritage has been abysmal when compared with other fields of endeavour in our community.

Recent federal government announcements of grants to benefit heritage projects, however, have been most encouraging, not only in the amount of funding, but in the obvious attempts by bureaucrats to better understand and accommodate the needs of the heritage sector.

The need to maintain employment has been an objective of all political parties, but credit needs to be given to those who have ensured that heritage has been afforded portion of the government's largesse.

It is to be hoped that this direction will continue long past the global economic crisis.

One thing that will help this to occur is that historical societies and others in the heritage sector need to prepare well developed programs so that when grant applications are announced, there is no last minute inadequately prepared proposal going forward.

Unfortunately while the federal government is acknowledging the importance of our heritage by linking funding to grants to keep people in the workforce the state government appears to have given those in the heritage sector a smart slap in the face by watering down of legislation which in the past gave some protection to our heritage.

Significant amendments to the NSW Heritage Act which have now been enacted without effective consultation with the heritage sector tip the balance strongly towards destruction through development rather than preservation and conservation.

Under the amended act, the role of history and archaeology in heritage is threatened and there has been a dilution of statutory protection of heritage in a variety of ways.

For the first time there will be no requirement for a historian to be a member of the State Heritage Council.

'Minister's power to remove items from State Heritage Register'

There will be a shift of balance from the Heritage Council to the Minister for Planning who will have the power to remove items from the State Heritage Register.

Heritage items listed on Local Environmental Plans will be subject to review by assessment panels and regional panels, with powers overriding those of local government areas. There will be a change to definition of archaeological 'relics' under the Act.

Heritage has always been a thorn in the side of property developers and these amendments are very much in favour of the developer albeit some earlier deals might require retrospective legislation to keep them out of the courts.

If ever there was a need for ministerial responsibility for heritage to be separated from planning and/or other functions such as the arts or environment now is the time.

The relevance of having heritage included as the poor relation in a portfolio for planning coherently for future development is beyond comprehension.

As Chris Upton writes in *The Millstone* newsletter of the Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society, "there could be no better example of conflict of interest". There needs to be stand-alone heritage ministry.

BMACHO has decided to develop a strategy for ensuring a better understanding by government at all levels and within the community of the treatment of heritage. As part of this strategy it is proposed to conduct public forums to allow political leaders to outline future policies

In adopting this strategy, BMACHO recognises the outstanding efforts of bodies like the Royal Australian Historical Society and National Trust of Australia over many decades.

John Leary, OAM - president, Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations

BMACHO HAS NEW TREASURER

BMACHO has accepted the offer of Mrs Kathie McMahon to become treasurer. Dr Peter Stanbury has been filling the role after not seeking re-election at this year's annual general meeting, but will be working overseas for the next 3 months.

Kathie a long time member of Kurrajong-Comelroy Historical Society, was elected to BMACHO's management committee earlier this year.

Her family links to Kurrajong go back to the early1800s.

Volunteer groups to receive grants

Five local volunteer heritage and environmental organisations will receive funding under the Grants to Voluntary Environment and Heritage Organisations (GVEO) program.

Federal member for Macquarie, Bob Debus has announced the successful groups which are:

* Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine Historical Society Inc $1500,

* Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc (BMACHO) $2300,

* Zig Zag Railway Cooperative Ltd $3600

* The City of Greater Lithgow Mining Museum Inc $2300,

* Blue Mountains Conservation Society Inc $5000 pa for 3 years.

Mr Debus said volunteer organisations that help protect and conserve Australia's unique environment and heritage have received almost $1.5 million in federal government grants – doubling the amount received in 2007-08 round.

"The funding made available under the program, benefited 184 environmental and 65 heritage organisations nationally.

'The funds are provided for administration costs to ensure that groups can use more of their budget to achieve their aims of conserving and protecting Australia's natural environment and historic heritage.

"In these difficult times we need to support the vital work of volunteer organisations, who are working to protect some of Australia's greatest assets – our unique environment and heritage, and ultimately this is in every Australian's best interest," Mr Debus said.

JENOLAN CAVES MEDAL MYSTERY

Pictured at right is an unusual medallion from Jenolan Caves and was probably a tourist piece.

Scratched into one surface is the date, 1913, and the medallion appears to be made from an Australian or English silver threepence of that period.

The medallion was acquired by its present owner from an Australian coin dealer in the 1990s. Jenolan colleagues have a memory of similar medallions but are unable at present to provide any further information. It would be great to learn whether any other examples are still held in private collections.

Do any of our readers know the history of these Jenolan medallions and why they were produced? Does anybody still have one of them?

BMACHO is most grateful to Peter Lane of Adelaide for bringing this medallion to our notice and particularly for his excellent photographs.

Face side, about twice actual size.

Obverse side

BMACHO TO PRODUCE PUBLICATIONS JOURNAL

Dr Peter Rickwood, president of the Blue Mountains Historical Society has proposed to BMACHO that consideration be given to publishing a journal of referenced articles relating to the Blue Mountains.

These would be articles not sufficiently brief for newsletters or necessarily likely to be published in the RAHS Journal.

At BMACHO's management committee's July meeting it was decided to approve in principle the proposal to develop such a journal to be published electronically to a dedicated website.

The refereed journal will be published annually to include subjects pertaining to cultural heritage of the Greater Blue Mountains and neighbouring areas.

This new service will be available free of charge to all those seriously interested in the history of the region. It is anticipated the first volume will be published in early 2010.

A limited number of hard copies will be printed for deposit in the NSW State, National Library of Austrailia and local libraries.

Dr Rickwood has accepted the position of inaugural editor and an editorial committee to advise and assist the editor has been appointed. Dr Ian Jack, John Leary, Prof Barrie Reynolds, Dr Peter Stanbury and Dr Peter Rickwood have accepted positions on the committee. An invitation is to be extended to Dr Carol Liston of the University of Western Sydney to also be a member of this group.

THE BURNING MISTS OF TIME

"The Burning Mists of Time" is the fascinating story of the establishment of the town of Katoomba in the Blue Mountains of NSW, including the history of the Scenic Railway.

This book launched last month, was written and compiled by Philip Hammon and Dr Philip Pells. Philip Hammon is managing director, Scenic World, Blue Mountains and Dr Philip Pells, CE principal of Pells Consulting, Fellow of the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering and Adjunct Professor of Civil Engineering at UNSW.

The book traces the people who lived here in the late 1800s, the pioneering developers who were drawn by the world's richest oil shale deposits and associated coal seams, and the roles of those people and their works in the rise of Katoomba to touristic fame.

To provide background to the central story, and to help in understanding the motivations and limitations of our central characters, it also describes the society in which this all happened, the aboriginal influences, and the bureaucratic and financial systems within which the developments had to take place.

The technical descriptions of the amazing infrastructure needed to recover the rich oil shale from the vastness of the Jamieson and Megalong Valleys, are written to be understood by the non-technical person; Cecil will be your friend for life.

The research needed to bring this book to publication has been undertaken over many years, both by professional researchers, and amateur dirt scratchers. The latter ask the questions; "why is this here?" and the former try to help answer them.

Envisioning the 19th century engineering solutions from the scant remains of abandoned worn cables, and eroded earthworks, takes a wealth of experience, in wire rope workings, steam haulage, mining practices, underground and surface surveying, and even pony management.

Phillip and Philip have put all this together in a very readable and well illustrated book, with many previously unpublished historic photographs, with sketches and diagrams to clearly explain what was a quite complex operation.

Those purchasing a copy of the book at Scenic World, will receive a presentation box containing a piece of oil shale and a souvenir box of matches, with which you can test the claim that Katoomba's oil shale was the highest quality in the world by setting fire to it in the privacy and safety of your own home.

For the serious researcher, the book has a comprehensive index, and is filled with references to the sources of the information that have been gathered.

For information that has yet to be clarified, or photographs that have yet to be found, or explanations that have yet to be made, there will be a page on Scenic World's website, which will provide updated information to keep this book the living research tool that it is intended to be.

Contributions or corrections from readers are welcomed, and will be applied to the appropriate chapter headings, or if a new strand of investigation emerges, a new chapter can be created for the next edition with appropriate credits to the contributors, of course.

The book is also available from Megalong Books, Leura at $60 r.r.p

Pictured from left is Dr Philip Pells, Professor Ian Jack who launched the book and Philip Hammon. *Photograph courtesy Dr Peter Stanbury, OAM*

Everglades get works funding

With a contribution of $112,000 from the Australian government's Jobs Fund, National Trust of Australia will upgrade the walking paths and carry out repairs to the interior of Everglades at Leura and the Paul Sorensen designed gardens.

Announcing the grant the Member for Macquarie, Bob Debus said, "Everglades includes one of Australia's foremost heritage gardens and this new funding will ensure the visitors will have improved access to its spectacular surroundings".

Constructed in the 1930s by Danish-born landscape gardener Paul Sorensen in conjunction with owner Henri van de Velde, Everglades gardens is Australia's most spectacular inter-war period garden and has received acclaim from garden lovers worldwide.

More Darwiniana in the Blue Mountains

As is well known 2009 is the 200th anniversary of Charles Darwin's birth and the 150th anniversary of the *Origin of the Species*. Rather more obscurely, although maybe not for trivia buffs, 2009 also marks the 278th year since his famous grandfather Erasmus was born.

Erasmus, in his time, was just as significant a thinker. His life is celebrated in the literature and on a memorial tablet in Lichfield Cathedral, Staffordshire.

Of some pride for residents of the Blue Mountains was the 150th anniversary of Charles Darwin's journey through the region.

That event took place 23 years ago; in 1986 in mid January and was not forgotten by locals. It was celebrated by Blackheath Rotary and Edgar Penzig who lead walkers through the hamlet of Blackheath, along Pope's Glen Nature Trail to Horseshoe Falls and on to the lookout at Govett's leap, followed by a celebratory dinner at the local pub.

Darwin noted in his diary on January 18,1836: '*So early in the day the gulf was filled with a thin blue haze, which, although destroying the general effect, added to the apparent depth of the forest below, from the country on which we were standing.'*

The day before, on January 17, Darwin had visited the Wentworth Falls.

He wrote: '…..*walked mile & 1/2 to see Cascade: most magnificent astounding & unique view, small valley not lead to expect such scene……..Certainly most stupendous cliffs I have ever seen.'*

This is the third in a series of articles contributed by Dr Peter Stanbury, OAM a committee member of BMACHO and board member UMAC (International Committee for University Museums)

It is to be hoped that the site of the original inn, the Weatherboard, which gave its name to the area before it was changed to Wentworth Falls, will soon be similarly recognised, upgraded and signposted, for at present it is sadly neglected and unrecognised, even by locals. Darwin lunched at the Weatherboard and left his horse there while visiting the falls.

Preparations for an appropriate way for locals to celebrate were taken in hand by a local artist of renown, a Latvian, Renis Zusters, and a staff member of the Macleay Museum at the University of Sydney, which in 1985 had produced an exhibition and associated publication, *The Blue Mountains; Grand Adventure for All*.

Their contribution was to physically re-open with machetes the path along Jamieson Creek to Wentworth Falls that had become overgrown and impassable.

They invited the then mayor of the Blue Mountains City Council, Peter Quirk, to inspect their work and asked him to officially commemorate the occasion.

He agreed, and a brass plaque was installed bearing the simple inscription: *Charles Darwin passed this way in 1836, remembered by his friends in 1986*. The plaque was situated on a large rock just before the "astounding, stupendous" view that so surprised Darwin. (At the time of writing, some judicious pruning is necessary to preserve this surprise.)

Mayor, Peter Quirk, speaking to the assembled 'friends of Charles Darwin'

The ceremony actually took place a day late, on January 18, which being a Saturday allowed a group of biologists, locals and well wishers to attend.

Charles Darwin (Tim Elliot) suprises the audience

After the plaque had been affixed and the mayor had made a speech, three cheers burst from the audience. Unknown to them this was the signal for a local actor, Tim Elliot, to spring from the bush dressed as Darwin to quote his thoughts on the discoveries of the day.

Among those attending were Frank and Jan Nicholas, whose well researched book, *Charles Darwin in Australia*, was in preparation.

Renis and his wife, Venita, invited the participants to lunch in their home above the walk, after which Frank gave a lecture illustrated by Conrad Marten's paintings of the area.

BOILING FOR OIL - A BLUE MOUNTAINS BUSH INDUSTRY

The Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute (BMWHI) has brought together a group of community people to develop a mixed media exhibition for online access.

The creation of the exhibition now nearing completion has used the eucalypt as the catalyst for exploring people's stories of people from the Blue Mountains, reflections and experiences for both historical and contemporary perspectives.

The exhibition will be from a cross cultural perspective combining social history, archival material and contemporary artworks – drawing on private, public and community collections.

During research by the curatorium, early film footage has been discovered of a little known industry in the region, that of eucalyptus oil extraction.

John and June Deane of Blackheath who loaned the film now on DVD to researchers at BMWHI, are documenting the lives of June's father Colin Ralph who made the film and was involved in the distilling process. June and John accepted HERITAGE's invitation to write this article, 'Boiling for Oil'. The images on this page are taken from a 16mm documenatry made by Colin Ralph.

Oil collected from the leaves of the eucalypt, the ubiquitous tree of the Australian bush, has been used for a very long time.

The first European settlers learned of its medicinal properties from indigenous people and it was one of the first natural raw products exported from Australia.

Extracting the oil did not require masses of equipment or manpower and in the 1940s field stills were built across the continent.

A number of industrial sites existed round Oberon where local workers could fill drums with the crude distillate confident in the knowledge that agents from Sydney refineries would want to buy their product.

Such an industry involved harvesting of relatively young growth from trees, a process that could continue almost indefinitely as after three years the regrowth would supply another harvest.

Harvesting the eucalyptus leaves

The branches were trimmed and the leaves trampled down into a large vat such as an old water tank, a heavy lid swung into place and then sealed with mud worked from any nearby creek and clamped to be steam-tight.

Steam was usually generated in a separate boiler then fed into the vat and as the leaves were cooked, vapour rose to condensing pipes attached to the tank and was led away to be cooled.

Again the local creek proved useful, supplying a handy source of cooling for the pipes.

At the end of the run a tea-coloured liquid of water and oil flowed out into collecting tins where it settled and, because the water was heavier, the oil was left floating on the surface.

Finally this precious product was skimmed off and transferred to drums to be sent to the refiner.

Eucalyptus oil is still a valuable product and its uses are many and varied though its production is no longer carried out by the colourful characters that worked on it in the '40s.

Filling the boiling vats

Water conservation projects

Three National Trust projects have been successful in obtaining $140,000 in federal government funding for water savings initiatives. Woodford Academy, ($41,000) Everglades at Leura ($49,600) and the Norman Lindsay Gallery ($50,000) will benefit from the program.

At Woodford Academy the funding will help recommission the building's original well, dating back to the mid 1800s by directing rainwater from the roof to the underground storage. Historically the well's water is significant for the property. When Woodford was an inn for travellers, people would gather in the courtyard around the well to water themselves and their horses.

The new water tanks at Everglades and Norman Lindsay Gallery will provide for rainwater to be used for gardens and bathrooms. The water supplies at the three properties will provide a reserve for bushfire fighting.

RESTORATION OF NORMAN LINDSAY'S SEAHORSE FOUNTAIN

National Trust of Australia (NSW) is seeking financial support from the public to restore the Seahorse Fountain and garden sculptures in the gardens of Norman Lindsay gallery and museum at Faulconbridge

"Lindsay's legacy is a wonderful cultural asset, a gift to current and future generations," says Norman Lindsay Gallery manager, Amanda Trevillion

"The garden is an outdoor gallery, Lindsay's sculptures and fountains feature satyrs, nymphs, sirens and sphinx, created out of his love of classical mythology and cement.

"Some date from as early as 1913 and are almost 100 years old and very fragile. Our aim is to keep them preserved, with maintenance and conservation work, long into the future."

The Seahorse Fountain, one of 15 garden artworks, is the main feature of the garden and the most photographed view of the gallery.

The continued battle with tree roots and the aging cement of the pool walls and floor necessitates major restoration work should be carried out urgently in order to preserve this important Lindsay creation.

Other garden artworks have been subject to weather, making conservation imperative in the short term to preserve the integrity of these cherished artefacts.

Norman Lindsay and his Seahorse Fountain c 1960

Everybody benefits from the wonderful grounds - artists groups use the grounds for sketching, painting and photography, visitors enjoy picnics in the garden with family and friends.

The garden sculptures are very much part of the overall experience when visiting the Gallery, however visitation fees only cover a portion of the costs involved in maintaining such a substantial gallery, and it is hoped supporters will help with the shortfall.

The Trust is committed to our cultural heritage and to ensuring the fascinating stories of our heritage are alive and well for future generations.

Inside Norman Lindsay Gallery

Chinese in the Blue Mountains

The first Chinese are believed to have crossed the Blue Mountains in 1855 on their way to the New South gold rushes, to places like Hill End.

The first reference to Chinese settlers in the area was an article in the *Blue Mountains Echo* in 1891 about Ah Poy.

They generally established themselves as market gardeners.

Most are believed to have left the area in the 1930s and 1940s when bigger market gardening co-operatives began cornering the market. No Chinese names show up in the Blue Mountains cemeteries.

However, a number of Chinese families are known to have fled Sydney in 1942 because they were concerned about Japanese invasion. These included the Mar family and also the families of CP Ting, SC Ting, CC Chen, D.Chia. The Mar family also had relatives who travelled further west as far as Tinga.

This item was prepared by Sophie Couchman, La Trobe University. Sources used to compile this piece: Colin Slade, *'Investigating the Chinese community', Locality*: *Bulletin of the Community History Program, vol 4 no.2, July-August 2004;* Personal communication with Colin Slade, July 2004.

SECRETARY MEETS CHIEF PLANNER

BMACHO's secretary, Professor Barrie Reynolds, for some time has been regularly meeting with Blue Mountains City Council's head of planning, Andy Turner to exchange information on current heritage activities.

Barrie Reynolds advised a recent meeting of BMACHO's management committee that he was most encouraged by the positive actions now being undertaken by council's planning staff responsible for heritage issues.

Council has appointed two heritage consultants: one is working on development applications matters and the other has just completed a report to Blue Mountains City Council on Aboriginal heritage.

Work is progressing on the computerisation of all heritage sites in the Blue Mountains, but completion is not expected for some time.

Andy Turner said his staff were still examining BMACHO's proposal for the re-establishment of a community advisory heritage committee

Council is also examining the possibility of an application for JobStart funding for heritage site projects which involves council providing 50 percent funding.

FOOTNOTES

Dick Morony, secretary of Springwood Historical Society Inc sent **HERITAGE** this piece which is worth republishing.

"The time has come when we must incite readers to violence against all authors - certainly all historians - who do not provide a decent minimum of footnotes. (A place should also be made in the quicklime for the carcasses of publishers who think that footnotes hurt sales.)" — John Kenneth Galbraith, 1957, in a book review of "How to become an International Swindler", quoted by Frank Partnoy: The Match King. Mr Partnoy took Galbraith's advice - his book has around 220 pages of text and 26 pages of notes.

VOLUNTEER VACANCIES ADVERTISING

Advertising job vacancies is often difficult in small organisations.

BMACHO is now offering member organisations the opportunity to use three of its facilities for this purpose free of charge.

Volunteers are often needed for specific events or regular guiding at museums or properties etc.

Entries for specific event volunteers would be included in BMACHO's monthly calendar of events. Organisations need to add an extra line to the information supplied for promotion of the event. This needs to be sent to Dick Morony at richardmorony@optusnet.com.au .

This would then automatically appear on the website.

For societies attempting to fill job vacancies with specific ongoing responsibilities such as treasurer, secretary or newsletter editor etc., entries in the newsletter and website for member organisations will be accepted.

Member organisations need to provide a single line entry which would only include the designated position, name of society and the phone/e-mail address for further information. For the website these entries should be submitted to Barrie Reynolds at barrie.r@bigpond.net.au and the newsletter entries John Leary at johnnanette@optusnet.com.au .

Respondents to advertisements must contact the organisation seeking the assistance as BMACHO will not take any responsibility for the applicants or their selection.

"Currency Lasses and Beyond" – *Women of Australia's Past*

The Blue Mountains Family History Society is holding a seminar on Saturday, August 8, 2009 at the end of National Family History Week.

It will be held in the Springwood Baptist Church Hall, 313 Macquarie Road, Springwood. A program/registration form can be downloaded from the BMFHS website at http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nswbmfhs/

The subjects will be: Currency Lasses; The convict women of the "Elizabeth" 1828; London Immigration Committee's female immigration of the 1830; The sources available for researching the work and roles of women from early 19th century and beyond; Immigration from late 19th century/early 20th century – the affects on women and how they assimilated; Recital of Australian Bush Poetry; and Women's roles during the wars, since Federation.

Bursaries for the "Working Spaces 3 for Museum Volunteers" Conference

M&G NSW is offering a number of bursaries for the *Working Spaces for Museum Volunteers* Conference, hosted by Museums Australia – Lachlan Chapter. Funded through M&G NSW VIM Grant Program, these bursaries will contribute to registration, meals, accommodation and travel costs for the three-day conference, to be held in Galong from Friday to Sunday October 16-18, 2009.

The conference aims to provide volunteers with "hands-on" practical experience on topics such as storage conservation solutions, oral history, working with the media and conserving old photographs to name a few.

For more information on the conference and venue, or to download a registration form, visit the *Working Spaces 3 for Museum Volunteers* website http://www.lachlanmuseums.com.au/

THE GOLDEN GUMTREE POSTAL RUN

The Blue Mountains National Park this year will celebrate 50 years since it was gazetted as a national park.

The Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute with Blue Mountains City Council, the Blue Mountains National Parks Service and Blue Mountains Conservation Society are planning an event centring on the more than 100 eucalypt species that occur in the World Heritage area.

The celebration hopes to engender in school students a sense of place, a positive connection with the natural environment and cultural landscapes, and to develop knowledge, skills and understanding that will foster responsible stewardship of their local environment and the earth.

The community event "The Golden Gum Tree Postal Run" is to be staged in two parts.

As part of stage 1, "Bush Rooms" have been established at local schools, or in the national park or council reserves where students are observing and monitoring the daily weather and keeping a diary on the natural events occurring in their bush patch.

The diaries will provide the stories and information on plants and animals found in the "Bush Rooms". This information will be used for the creation of postcards to be collected during the "postal run"

"The Golden Gum Tree Postal Run" (stage 2) is a walk in September from Penrith to Lithgow via each school in towns adjoining the Blue Mountains National Park. A group of experienced adult bushwalkers led by Wyn Jones will endeavour to visit each school collecting and delivering postcards made by the children.

*Photograph of Eucalyptus trees in Blue Mountains National P*ark, *Blackheath by John Leary, OAM.*

BMACHO's secretary visits Mt Wilson meeting

"I always enjoy going to Mount Wilson for the general meetings of the historical society. There is always a good turn-out, a friendly atmosphere and interesting people to meet. The meeting on Saturday, June 27 was a good example.

"An audience of about 50 Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine members, together with a sprinkling of people from further afield came to hear the mid-year report of the society and then a fascinating talk on the unlikely subject of 'Trees of History and Romance'. Of this more anon.

"The half-yearly report discussed the various activities (tours, exhibitions, working bees etc.) in which all societies engage.

"It was encouraging to note the success of Mt Wilson in obtaining grants, both to help towards the cost of replacing the roof of the Turkish Bath building, and for general purposes.

"The autumn market held on Anzac Day weekend proved particularly successful and raised over $5,000. A commendable result.

"Many people will recall the excellent and very professional exhibition the society put together a few years ago on the early surveyor, Charles Scrivener. This was most successful at the time and I was always a little disappointed that it did not continue to be shown for the benefit of the public.

"I was therefore especially pleased to learn that there is strong interest from surveyor groups in borrowing the society's exhibition for display at venues in Canberra and Sydney, on the occasion of the centenaries of the ACT-NSW border survey and the early survey of Canberra itself.

"The guest speaker, Michael Pembroke, spoke on his ongoing interest in trees and particularly on his forthcoming book on the subject. Michael not only explained this interest in all aspects of the 21 different species of trees, botanical and cultural, that he had selected but also outlined his experiences as an author in the preparation of the book. The illustrations by Libby Raines are delightful and add greatly to Michael[1]s text.

"The book is due to appear in August and I do hope that other societies, both historical and garden, will invite this accomplished writer to speak at their own meetings. They would not be disappointed.

"On a more mundane level, I spoke about the work of BMACHO and the progress that is being made. This is covered in our own newsletters."

Barrie Reynolds

H.A. MacLeod Morgan and the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations

by Associate Professor Ian Jack, president, Royal Australian Historical Society and vice president, Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations

(This is an abbreviated version of the presidential address to the Royal Australian Historical Society on April 28, 2009)

When I was attending a meeting of the executive of the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations, one of my fellow members, Florence Smart from Mount Wilson, handed me a small box of papers to add to the archives of the Royal Australian Historical Society. This box had been found among the effects of her sister, Wilga Smart, who died in August 2008 at the age of 85. Wilga had kept these papers for 44 years throughout her migrations from Australia to America, then to England and ultimately back to New South Wales. Just as Florence had found them after Wilga's death, so Wilga had found them in 1964 on the death of her fiancé, seven weeks before she was to be married in Mount Wilson.

Wilga was an expert plant propagator, first in the Smart family nursery at Eastwood and after 1946 at Carisbrook on Mount Irvine until her parents died. She then returned to Sydney and propagated first for Cohen's nursery at Turramurra and then for Tomkin's nursery at Enfield. She had already been collecting books, particularly about the Blue Mountains, and she joined the Royal Australian Historical Society.[1]

Her fiancé was president of the RAHS and an outstanding research scholar of the Blue Mountains and the Hawkesbury. His name was MacLeod Morgan. Despite Morgan's distinction, there is no easy way of getting to know this quietly-spoken man who died too soon.[2] When I did get to know him, Harold Arthur MacLeod Morgan has turned out to share my own enthusiasms and priorities in ways which I had not anticipated and, more important, his legacy is lasting and substantial.

He was ahead of his time in writing localized history both from a wide range of contemporary evidence and from an intimate knowledge of the area. His long-term interest in the Putty Road stemmed from his wartime experience as a major at Singleton army base, at the northern end of the old Bulga Road.[3] He had a passion not just for geography but for the evidence of the built environment: he was deeply concerned with the challenges facing Australia's cultural heritage in the 1950s and 1960s.

At the same time, he recognized the critical value of local historical societies and, along with Doug Bowd, the formidable secretary of the Hawkesbury Historical Society, he was responsible for the first major meeting which brought together the societies affiliated to the RAHS.

Although the president was too ill to attend the first conference in July 1961 and the chair was taken by Rae Else-Mitchell,[4] it had been MacLeod Morgan at his first meeting of the council as president, in March 1961, who had declared as his policy priority the organisation of: an initial week-end congress of representatives [from affiliated societies] to 'show' them History House, and to discuss the mutual problems in the operations of our and their societies.[5]

MacLeod Morgan's concern for local historical societies and heritage issues seems first to have taken practical public expression in the mid-1950s. In 1955 he was elected a founding member of the Blue Mountains History House management committee, which managed Tarella at Wentworth Falls, presented to the Blue Mountains Historical Society by Beryl McLaughlin.

From 1957 until 1961 he was a vigorous vice-president of the Blue Mountains society.[6]

He was a foundation member of the Hawkesbury Historical Society when it was founded in 1956. Although he was not present at the inaugural meeting in September 1956, that meeting invited him to be the society's first guest lecturer and he duly delivered the inaugural lecture on October 19, talking about George Meares Countess Bowen.

He figured in Hawkesbury's first full annual programme in 1957, talking on Bells Line of Road, and a MacLeod Morgan lecture was an annual event until 1961. In September 1957, he was elected to the Hawkesbury Society's council and served conscientiously for five years until in 1962 the constitution was altered to eliminate ordinary councillors.[7]

He was one of those who paid for the set of *Historical Records of Australia*, the first major enterprise of the new society, donated by them to the municipal library of Windsor for the greater benefit of the neighbourhood. He was the judge for the inaugural local historical essay competition in 1957 and led his first excursion of many to Kurrajong and Mount Tomah in 1958, followed by one to the Colo Valley in 1959 and one to Lithgow in 1960. He and Doug Bowd between them launched the public appeal in 1960 to restore the remarkable gravestone erected in St Matthew's cemetery in Windsor by Governor Macquarie in memory of Andrew Thompson.[8]

It was in conjunction with Doug Bowd that MacLeod Morgan inaugurated the affiliated societies' conference in the following year.

Hawkesbury's foundation treasurer, who served with MacLeod Morgan both on the Hawkesbury Society's council and on the small committee planning the sesquicentenary of the five Macquarie towns in 1959, recalls him well after fifty years, with his trim person, reticent manner, gentle, dry sense of humour and punctilious regularity.[9]

This all helped to give something of the flavour of the man and his motivation. Although many of his energies were directed towards the Hawkesbury and the Blue Mountains, he was also by 1963 a member of at least three other country societies, Illawarra, Lithgow and Nepean, as well as Hunters Hill, Parramatta and Manly.[10]

MacLeod Morgan did not live in the Mountains nor on the Hawkesbury. A bachelor, he lived with his mother in Cremorne and Neutral Bay until she died in 1961. Mrs Morgan had accompanied him to historical meetings and an eye-witness told me that 'she seemed to be guarding him'. After her death, he moved to a flat in Mosman.[11] So his contributions to history in Wentworth Falls and Windsor, in Wollongong and Emu Plains, involved an indefatigable zeal for travel.

In the box which I was given by Florence Smart, there are his last two diaries, for 1963 and 1964. They show how virtually every weekend was occupied with historical excursions or preparations for excursions. The diaries do not survive before 1963, but they would surely have shown that in the 1950s he was combining this outdoor activity with painstaking research in the Mitchell Library, which at that time contained also the state archives.

The evidence for this impressive documentary research is in the thorough annotation of his eight major articles, all published between 1956 and 1959, as well as four substantial, unpublished but fully footnoted papers which are in the manuscript collection of the RAHS.[12]

The substance of these articles was aired in lectures given to local societies, usually but not always prior to publication,[13] but it is significant that MacLeod Morgan sought out the *JRAHS* and *The Australian Genealogist* as his means of communication with the wider circle of those interested in the nineteenth-century history of Australia.

Alongside his commitments to local historical groups, MacLeod Morgan threw himself energetically into the running of both the Society of Australian Genealogists and the RAHS. He joined SAG as a life member in November 1954. He was elected to the council of SAG at the end of 1956, succeeded Colin Berckelman as director of SAG excursions in 1957 and became joint director of lectures in the following year.[14] At the same time, he was treasurer of the RAHS from 1955 until 1959, and in 1960 he took over the treasurership of SAG, where he also served as assistant treasurer in 1962 and 1963.[15]

Now accepting the position of treasurer was very natural, for MacLeod Morgan was an accountant and a company secretary. His interest in the Illawarra Historical Society came from his position as secretary to coal companies serving Port Kembla steel works and he was flying to Melbourne regularly in 1963 and 1964 to attend the board meetings of Broken Hill Associated Smelters.[16] Like many good historians, he did not have a university degree and was the best sort of dedicated amateur.

But while he freely gave his professional services as an accountant to both SAG and the RAHS, he had wider leadership ambitions.

Figure 1 Macleod Morgan (centre) opening the Hawkesbury Museum. Courtesy of Hawkesbury Historical Society

In 1960 he became vice president of SAG and continued in that role when he was elected to the presidency of the RAHS in 1961.

MacLeod Morgan had a difficult year in 1961. He fell ill in May, had a major operation and was unable to attend the RAHS council meetings for four consecutive months. And just as he was convalescing in August, his mother died.

His father was dead and MacLeod's only sibling, a sister, lived in Canada. A relapse into ill-health in October 1961 is very understandable, but before his doctor restricted his activities, he had signed the letter appointing Alex Chisholm, his predecessor as president, to the part-time salaried position of general secretary of the RAHS, which had been vacant for six years.[17] This far-sighted action led directly to the appointment of Harry Harper on a full-time basis in 1963 and lasting changes to the running of the RAHS. Mari Metzke is an unwitting part of MacLeod Morgan's legacy to the society.

In November 1961 MacLeod Morgan seemed to recover his health and at once took a leading role in brokering useful contacts among historical societies. Under the guise of an excursion organized by the Nepean District Historical Society, an interesting group of local societies, including Blue Mountains, Hawkesbury and Lithgow, met at Glenroy near Hartley. MacLeod Morgan attended, wearing as his principal hat the presidency of the RAHS. When 'proposals were made for some joint association of the represented bodies for advancing historical interests', MacLeod Morgan assured the delegates of the Royal's interest and asked to be kept informed.[18]

Figure 2 The inscription on Macleod Morgan's gravemarker erected by Wilga Smart at St Stephen's Anglican graveyard, Kurrajong. Photograph by Ian Jack April 26, 2009.

This was quite separate from the annual conference, although clearly related to that meeting four months earlier. Although the Glenroy initiative of 1961 did not immediately prosper, it did encourage the same local societies and two others to meet again in Springwood in March 1962. The agenda was now more specific, announcing the aim of sharing speakers, arranging excursions and generally assisting each other.[19]

MacLeod Morgan was certainly aware of this meeting: he signed the minutes of the Hawkesbury Historical Society which recorded it. Although this initiative did not lead anywhere in particular in the 1960s, it bears a strong resemblance to the creation forty-five years later of the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations. And at the Katoomba meeting in 2006 which created BMACHO I played the role which MacLeod Morgan had played at Glenroy on behalf of the RAHS.

Early in 1962 MacLeod Morgan was re-elected unopposed as president of the RAHS, with Rae Else-Mitchell as his vice-president. As president, Morgan had the great pleasure of opening the new Hawkesbury Historical Society's Museum in March 1962 and he was able to resume his successful excursions: those were the days when a drawcard visit to Kurrajong under MacLeod Morgan could bring out 100 members in two buses and numerous cars.

Early in 1963 a recurrence of illness prevented MacLeod Morgan from seeking re-election to the RAHS council in any capacity and he was succeeded as president by Allan Bax, whom he had challenged successfully in 1961.[1] Although his interest in history did not abate, after February 1963 his only executive role in any society was his minor involvement with SAG as its assistant treasurer.

Instead his private life became much more impelling. He had been close to his mother. But she had died in 1961 and was buried in the cemetery of St Stephen's Anglican church outside Kurrajong in a grave which enjoys one of the great views of the Cumberland Plain from the mountain foothills. Her son's diaries of 1963 and 1964 show an equally strong absorption in his relationship with Wilga Smart, who lived and worked in Sydney, and his friendship with her family in Mount Irvine and her associates in Mount Wilson. As on so many weekends, he drove up to Mount Irvine on Friday, February 21; next day he and Wilga sent out wedding invitations; he came back to Manly on the Sunday.[2] When he did not appear for work on the Monday, his fiancée was informed and she found him quietly dead in his favourite armchair. They were to have been married in Mount Wilson seven weeks later.[3]

MacLeod Morgan was buried in a grave adjacent to his mother's at St Stephen's, Kurrajong. I am glad to have been impelled through the tragic story which brought a box of his papers into my hands to have made the acquaintance of Harold Arthur MacLeod Morgan, historian and gentleman, a progenitor of BMACHO. Footnotes for this paper appear on the next page.

OLD MAPS

A workshop is being planned by BMACHO to look at various aspects of old maps. The activity will include advice on how historians extract information from maps, who has old maps, the proper techniques for restoring damaged maps, and methods of storing and cataloguing maps etc. Details of this workshop will be announced late in the year.

HA MacLeod Morgan -- References

[1] Florence Smart, 'Wilga Smart', *Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine Historical Society Newsletter*, 19, February 2009, 15-16; Florence Smart and Michael Smart, eulogy at Wilga Smart's funeral, 11 August 2008; Wilga Smart, 'A Moment not Forgotten', *Mt Wilson Historical Society [Newsletter],* 5, October 1999, 11.

[2] He was born on 20 March 1914 and died on 23 February 1964.[3] Interview with Miss Lorna Campbell in Windsor, 18 April 2009.

[4] Mari Metzke, 'Affiliated Societies of the RAHS', in James, ed., *Much Writing, Many Opinions,* 105.

[5] RAHS Archives, Council Minute-Books, ser.1/14/11, 24 March 1961.

[6] Alan Tierney, *Blue Mountains Historical Society: a Golden Jubilee History, 1946-1996*, Blue Mountains Historical Society, Wentworth Falls 1996, 32, 69.

[7] Hawkesbury Historical Society, Minute-Book 1, 2, 3, 7, 12; Hawkesbury Historical Society , *Annual Report and Balance Sheet*, 1957-8, 1958-9, 1959-60, 1960-1, 1961-2, 1962-3.

[8] *Oxbro: Journal of the Hawkesbury Historical Society*, 2, May 1957, 4; Hawkesbury Historical Society, Minute-Book 1, 32, 34, 48, 64, 88, 92, 99, 100, 120, 144.

[9] Interview with Miss Lorna Campbell in Windsor, 19 April 2009.

[10] H.A. MacLeod Morgan, Diary for 1963.

[11] RAHS, *Newsletter,* no.23, March 1964, 2; Morgan, Diary for 1964; interview with Miss Lorna Campbell in Windsor, 18 April 2009.

[12] RAHS, Manuscripts, Red M 252, 255.

[13] MacLeod Morgan's first lecture to the Hawkesbury Historical Society in October 1956 was described In the minutes (7) as 'published in "The Australian Genealogist", September, 1956.'.

[14] *Australian Genealogist*, 7 ii, February 1955, 151; 8 vi, December 1956, 131, 166; 8 xi, March 1958, 294.

[15] James, ed., *Much Writing, Many Opinions*, 8; *Descent*, 1 i, 1961, 30; 1 iii, 1962, 32; 1 iv, 1963, 32.

[16] RAHS, *Newsletter,* no.23, March 1964, 2; *Sydney Morning Herald*, 24 February 1956, 22; Morgan, Diaries for 1963 and 1964.

[17] RAHS Archives, Council Minute-Books, ser.1/14/11, letter 19 October 1961; James, ed., *Much Writing, Many Opinions*, 9.

[18] RAHS Archives, Council Minute-Books, ser.1/14/11, 24 November 1961.

[19] Hawkesbury Historical Society, Minute-Book 1, 134.

[20] RAHS Archives, Council Minute-Books, ser.1/14/11, 30 January, 27 April, 25 May 1962.

[21] RAHS, *Newsletter,* no.23, March 1964, 3.

[22] Morgan, Diary for 1964.

[23] Florence Smart and Michael Smart, eulogy at Wilga Smart's funeral, 11 August 2008.

GLENBROOK THROUGH THE YEARS

"Having a long time interest in Nepean area history, but moving to Glenbrook to live some years ago, resulted in me trying to learn the history of this area.

"I joined the Glenbrook Historical Society, but found it hard to follow the routes of the roads, rails and ridges in the area. So I turned to an old local newspaper, the Nepean Times, to see if I could find out more about Glenbrook from the correspondent reports in it.

The Nepean Times was published from 1882 to 1962 and contains many items about people, places and events in Glenbrook .

"I have been copying these articles and collating an information index from them for some time now.

Overall they build a picture of Glenbrook through the years, reporting on its natural beauty; its schools and churches; its roads and railways, its social groups; and its residents' lives.

"I hope to make the reports in 'Glenbrook through the years: From the Nepean Times' available to Glenbrook Historical Society, and its index available to any other groups who might like to have it."

Pat Curry, member Glenbrook Historical Society

Old Government House receives government stimulus

Peter Garrett, Federal Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts, has announced $2 million in funding for Old Government House(OGH) at Parramatta.

The grant, coming from the Federal Government's Jobs Fund, will enable important conservation work to be carried out at OGH including the upgrading of visitor facilities and the restoration of Governor Macquarie's study.

This news was welcomed by National Trust NSW executive director, John Neish, who said the government was investing in a 'legacy project' that will bring good economic returns.

"By granting this funding, Minister Garrett is working to ensure that future generations of Australians will be able to experience our rich history, first hand.

"Old Government House has become a major focus for tourism in western Sydney and a great benefit for Parramatta's economy.

"This funding will enable the Trust to further develop Old Government House's historical interpretation and enhance visitors' cultural experience.

"The funding will also provide a boost to local employment enabling the National Trust to establish 26 short term, and 40 longer term new jobs," Mr Neish said.

This $2 million in funding comes on the eve of Governor Lachlan Macquarie's Bicentenary, celebrating his appointment as colonial Governor in January 1810.

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

REGISTERED OFFICE 40 Hume Avenue, Wentworth Falls 2782
E-mail: bmacho.heritage@gmail.com
Website: www.bluemountains.heritage

THE ORGANISATION Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 following a unanimous response to a proposal from Prof. Barrie Reynolds at the 2004 Blue Mountains Local History Conference which sought from Blue Mountains City Council the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the city.

BMACHO in its constitution uses the definition: "Cultural heritage is all aspects of life of the peoples of the Blue Mountains which was later changed to cover Lithgow and the villages along the Bell's Line of Roads. It therefore involves the recording, preserving and interpreting of information in whatever form: documents, objects, recorded memories as well as buildings and sites."

The objectives of the organisation are

i. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage.

ii. To encourage and assist cultural heritage activities of member organisations.

iii. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations.

One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact, to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

MEMBERSHIP The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains City Library, Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc., Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc., Blue Mountains Tourism Limited, Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute, Cudgegong Museums Group, Friends of Everglades, Friends of Norman Lindsay Gallery, Glenbrook & District Historical Society, Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc, Lilianfels Blue Mountains Resort, Lithgow Mining Museum, Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies, Lithgow Small Arms Factory Museum, Mid Western Regional Council Library, Mt Tomah Botanic Gardens, Mt Victoria and District Historical Society Inc., Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine History Society (including Turkish Bath Museum), Mudgee Historical Society, Mudgee Regional Library, National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Blue Mountains Branch (including Woodford Academy), National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Lithgow Branch), Scenic World – Blue Mountains Limited, Springwood & District Historical Society Inc., Springwood Historians, Two Centuries of Elegance, Valley Heights Locomotive Depot and Museum, Zig Zag Railway. The following are individual members: Ms Wendy Carlson, Ray Christison, Ms Pamela Hubert, Associate Professor Ian Jack, John Leary OAM, John Low, Professor Barrie Reynolds, and Dr Peter Stanbury OAM.

COMMITTEE The committee for 2009-10 is: John Leary, (president) Ian Jack (vice president), Barrie Reynolds (secretary), Kathie McMahon (treasurer), Jean Arthur, Ray Christison, Lyn Fowler, Doug Knowles, and Dick Morony (public officer), Peter Stanbury.

AUDITOR: Sue McMahon, B Comm CPA

AFFILIATIONS BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society Inc.

HERITAGE is BMACHO's official newsletter.

HERITAGE

NEWSLETTER OF THE BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2009 ISSUE No. 5

Norman Lindsay and the 'Magic Pudding'

. ***The Magic Pudding characters, Bunyip Bluegum, Bill Barnacle, the Magic Pudding and Sam Sawnoff***

ARTICLE BY HELEN GLAD

Norman Lindsay is the author of one of Australia's best-loved stories, 'The Magic Pudding', however his talent was not limited to writing for children. His early career started at the *Bulletin* where he was principal cartoonist; he also wrote novels and produced a torrent of pen drawings, etchings, watercolours and oil paintings. Lindsay's story is told by his grand daughter, Helen Glad, who was a constant visitor at 'Springwood', the house her grandparents established in the Blue Mountains.

Norman Lindsay wrote his classic Australian children's story *The Magic Pudding* in 1918. Since then generations of Australian children have been reading the adventures of Albert, Bunyip Bluegum, Sam Sawnoff, Bill Barnacle and the Puddin' thieves.

Lindsay had a wager that children were more interested in reading about food than fairies - and it is a bet that Lindsay clearly won. Albert, the gravy-voiced Pudding, has the extraordinary talent of never ending as well as transforming into all sorts of delicious sweet and savoury treats.

Albert's ability to be thoroughly rude as well as escaping at the drop of a basin has made him a hero for many a young boy.

Adventure is as important as food in *The Magic Pudding* with the Puddin' owners wandering the long bush tracks of Australia - either seeking or fleeing from Puddin Thieves. There are archetypal characters, reminiscent of Lawson who inhabit a bush landscape of crackling gum leaves and bright skies. Perhaps we now think of these as stereotypes of the Australian male character, but then they were the norm and the bush somehow seemed a lot closer to the city.

And let us not forget that the Pudding began its long steaming life at a time of the worst devastation the world had known.

Millions of young men were dying in the mud and filth of a war very distant from the sun and blue sky of home. Heroes were genuinely forged in that conflict, and mateship was not an abstract emotion but often a means of survival.

The origin of the Magic Pudding can be traced to Lindsay's childhood.

Continued page 4

From the president's pen.....

GETTYSBURG ADDRESS ETHIC NEEDED FOR AUSTRALIA'S CULTURAL HERITAGE

When Abraham Lincoln delivered his Gettysburg Address which encapsulated the words "government of the people, by the people, for the people", he did so on a battlefield.

While no one wants to emulate the battlefields of the American Civil War, which brought rise to Lincoln's address, there is a need for Australians to go on to a war footing with government at all levels when it comes to our cultural heritage.

For too long successive governments in this country have ignored the Lincoln ethic of those immortal words and instead have pandered to ideology and lobby groups which serve only their own narrow needs often based on making a "big buck".

The heritage sector has in the past achieved some success by its quiet and thoughtful approach, but far more could perhaps have been accomplished had the causes been more widely articulated, bringing on board the community at large.

With some 14 declared world heritage sites in Australia, intent has been declared, without real funding.

Research facilities and museums operate on shoestring budgets. Heritage buildings crumble into dust, priceless artefacts have no suitable accommodation, volumes of archive material disintegrate or fall victim to mites or mould. Funding for our maritime and industrial heritage is a disgrace.

Be it the unique village of Hartley, the little-known farm relic of 'Browntown', the etchings of Norman Lindsay or the surveyor's notes and maps of the surveyor George William Evans which made feasible the route taken by William Cox who constructed the great western road from Emu Plains to Bathurst two centuries ago, all are part of our cultural heritage and deserve to attract better funding for conservation, restoration, housing and management.

Although bodies such as the RAHS and National Trust have been keeping heritage prominently before our politicians, government needs to understand the importance of our cultural heritage and take advice from the heritage sector

The clarion call has come with the NSW government announcement earlier this year giving the minister for planning unfettered power in relation to heritage properties. In so doing it has weakened the influence of heritage organisations.

BMACHO has embarked on a strategy for ensuring a better understanding of the treatment of cultural heritage by government at all levels and within the community at large.

One of the ways of grabbing the attention of decision-makers is by face to face dialogue. But unrepresented opinion has little effect on politicians.

To ensure the best impression on politicians such as the shadow minister who will address a public meeting organised by BMACHO on September 25, the largest possible attendance will help to make at least the alternative government in this state realise that people are concerned about heritage issues. BMACHO will create other opportunities to express community concern to politicians of all persuasions.

Those interested in our heritage are urged to encourage others to attend the meeting at Wentworth Falls, for if we fail to make government better understand the heritage sector's concerns then the war will be lost. A society which ignores its heritage does so at peril to future generations.

John Leary, OAM - president, Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations

KEEPING INFORMATION ON ACTIVITIES BEFORE MEMBERS

BMACHO's committee is concerned that ordinary society members are not being made aware of information regularly passed down to organisations.

BMACHO's secretary regularly communicates information, on decisions and objectives discussed at committee meetings, the newsletter HERITAGE is published every two months, individual members of the executive regularly communicate with contact persons for all association members and visit affiliated societies.

It is now proposed that secretary Barrie Reynolds will e-mail a brief report of the committee's monthly meeting to each society. The report will outline what work has been completed or is in train.

It is requested that this brief report be transmitted to individual society members through newsletters and/or placing it on notice boards.

The committee is also urging individual societies to include in their AGM agendas, space for their appointed BMACHO representative to report on BMACHO activities.

Meantime, the committee has decided to have a mid-year general meeting to give the opportunity for BMACHO committee members to hear a progress report and for members to raise any matters of concern.

The next mid-year meeting will be on Saturday, November 21 at a venue and time to be advised.

SHADOW MINISTER TO DISCUSS HERITAGE ISSUES WITH BMACHO

The NSW coalition spokesman for heritage, the Hon Catherine Cusack, MLC, B Ec has accepted BMACHO's invitation to discuss heritage issues at a meeting later this month.

Representatives from BMACHO affiliated organisation have been invited to participate in the meeting and others interested in heritage will be welcome to attend.

BMACHO has embarked on a program to better inform the community and government about the need for more adequate government funding for the preservation and conservation of our cultural heritage.

As part of this strategy, meetings are to be held with leading politicians from all political parties. The objective of these meetings is to discuss with each political party their heritage policies and hopefully have some input into future policies.

At the first of these meetings the guest speaker will be NSW Shadow Minister for Climate Change and Environmental Sustainability, and Liberal spokesperson for Heritage, The Hon. Catherine Cusack, B Ec, MLC.

Speaking in opposition to the Heritage Amendment Bill 2009, the shadow minister, said: "the bill is part of a long war against our state's heritage. "The independence of the State Heritage Council under a Coalition is offering the people of NSW a renaissance in heritage protection.

"Our policy will establish important structural separation between the Heritage Council and the Minister for Planning."

Catherine Cusack joined the National Trust in 1982 and has been active in heritage campaigns over many years, including the Wintergarden at Rose Bay, the anti-monorail rallies, the Royal Hospital for Women, the Florence Bartley Library in Kings Cross, the "Save White City" campaign to preserve the historic centre courts and the continuing effort to preserve the Yasmar Estate at Haberfield.

Catherine was elected to the NSW Legislative Council in 2003 and immediately appointed to Shadow Cabinet as Shadow Minister for Juvenile Justice and Shadow Minister for Women.

In 2007 she was appointed Shadow Minister for Fair Trading and recently Shadow Minister for Climate Change and Environmental Sustainability and is the Coalition's spokesperson for Heritage

The meeting will to be held at the Grand View Hotel, Wentworth Falls commencing at 10am on Friday, September 25, 2009.

Morning tea will be served from 9.45am and a light buffet lunch (sandwiches, coffee etc) will be available at the conclusion of the meeting expected to be at 12 noon.

To cover the cost of the meeting room, morning tea and luncheon, a charge of $18 per person for members of societies affiliated with BMACHO or $25 for non-members will be charged.

Bookings are essential and cheques payable to BMACHO should be mailed to Prof. Barrie Reynolds at 40 Hume Avenue, Wentworth Falls 2781.

For further information contact John Leary at johnnanette@optusnet.com.au or Barrie Reynolds at barrie.r@bigpond.com.net.au

The making of our nation

National Trust Heritage Festival 2010's theme will be *'The making of our nation',* recognising Lachlan Macquarie's swearing in as the 5th governor of NSW 200 years ago.

Historical societies and community groups can register free of charge, their own events and take advantage of national promotion of the festival now in its 30th year.

The festival runs between April 9 and 24, 2010 and last year included over 400 community hosted events.

To register local events, complete the online form at www.nationaltrust.com.au/events/festival/registration2010 by Friday, November 13 or telephone Natalie Goss on (02) 9258 0181. Suggestions for events include talks/lectures, exhibitions and historical displays, tours, educational competitions, open days etc.

RAHS GRANT FOR BMACHO

The Royal Australian Historical Society has advised BMACHO it has been successful in a bid for a grant towards the cost of producing the Journal of Blue Mountains History. The RAHS has made a grant of $850.

Peter Rickwood has volunteered to be the editor of the Journal.

He will be assisted by an editorial board consisting of John Leary, Ian Jack, Peter Stanbury, Barrie Reynolds and Dr. Carol Liston of the Universityof Western Sydney.

The Webmaster will be Peter Hughes, who created BMACHO's Website.

Publication of the Journal is planned for mid-2010

Lindsay brushed away the ‘wowsers’

Continued from page 1

To a boy growing up in the gold mining town of Creswick, Victoria, the lure of adventures on the high seas in sailing ships must have been appealing. This early fascination with the sea would later translate into paintings of swashbuckling pirates and the ship models made by Lindsay. The roistering and rollicking adventures of the pudding begin when Bill Barnacle and Sam Sawnoff become the Pudding’s owners by stealing Albert and doing away with the cook, Curry n Rice. This action takes place on an iceberg after the *Saltjunk Sarah* is shipwrecked. Once back on dry land the old salts proceed to find adventure after adventure.

In 1918 Angus and Robertson published *The Magic Pudding* at an issue price of 1 guinea - a price Lindsay felt too high for young people. At that time Norman Lindsay was renowned as the pre-eminent black and white artist for *The Bulletin.* He was also the creator of art full of nudes which to many people showed his moral decrepitude.

Lindsay brushed aside any criticism - he was far too busy an artist to be concerned about the ‘wowsers”. That he was also the creator of a book which captured the imagination of children must have raised the eyebrows of many and caused concern in some circles.

Lindsay was an extraordinarily prolific artist, working in diverse mediums. His black and white art included cartoons for *The Bulletin* for over fifty years, completing his last in 1956. His pen and ink drawings were keenly sought by institutions and private collectors.

His etchings were also eagerly sought and his output in this most difficult and taxing of print mediums was prodigious. He entrusted the printing of his plates to his wife Rose, who became a master printer essential to the high quality of his etchings. In all they produced over 370 different etched images. Rose not only printed the etchings but handled their sales throughout the world.

His water-colour and oil paintings remain as popular as they ever were with artlovers. For some Lindsay’s classical themes have little connection with a modern Australia and they find the notion of satyrs pursuing nymphs in a bluegum Arcadia somewhat incongruous.

However, as an advocate for a vigorous Australian artistic culture - so long as it included no modernists - Lindsay’s contribution cannot be ignored. The subject of his art saw him identified with the freeing of attitudes which was still overshadowed by the tight moral corsets of Victorian society.

Lindsay was also the author of thirteen novels, many of which he illustrated. His support of many young writers and poets was crucial to their future successes.

He was a prolific writer of articles and wrote some seven non-fiction books. Books of his art were usually beautifully produced volumes which have become collector’s items.

To consider Lindsay having any spare time after the constant making of art seems impossible.

But he relaxed by building fine ship models and decorating the grounds of his house at Springwood with sculptures of nymphs, fauns and satyrs fashioned from cement. The house and grounds of his home, which are visited annually by thousands of visitors, are now run by the National Trust of Australia (NSW).

Perhaps Lindsay viewed himself a little like Albert – the more he made the more you got. Throughout his long life he remained enthusiastically creating art which still captures our imagination.

The Magic Pudding is now over 90 years old. In that time the recipe has changed little. Occasionally it is published in Spanish, French, Portuguese and even Japanese. Other variations to the recipe include radio adaptations, serialisation in school magazines and marionette and rod puppets.

The Magic Pudding has become part of the Australian vernacular - with everything from the economy to Sydney real estate being described as “a magic pudding”.

Lindsay would have been pleased knowing that he baked an artistic pudding big enough for everyone to enjoy and to inspire others further creations.

BMACHO gratefully acknowledges the efforts of Amanda Llewellyn, manager of the Norman Lindsay Gallery and Museum who arranged for the reproduction of this article by Helen Glad and for approval to reprint the drawings on this and page 1. Norman Lindsay Gallery and Museum is a member of BMACHO

LITHGOW’S CRIMES SCANDALS, & CORRUPTION

The *Scandals, Crime and Corruption* exhibition being staged in the Lithgow Library Learning Centre until September 30 has already attracted considerable interest.

The exhibition features historic photographs, newspaper articles and artefacts of local interest, including convict and Cold War material related to the gaol, migrant hostel and landholdings in Lithgow.

Open Monday to Friday 9am to 6pm and on Saturdays from 9am to 12 noon admission is free. For further details

www.learningcentre.lithgow.com

WIELDING THE WILLOW

An historical reflection by John Low

Recently, in the peaceful late hours of the evening while listening to the ABC coverage of the current Test series between Australia and England, I have found myself thinking about the old house in Springwood in which, for almost all of 20 years, I spent my working life.

'Braemar' is one of Springwood's finest surviving 19th century buildings and an important part of the town's architectural heritage.

Built in 1892 by Scottish immigrant and successful Sydney businessman James Hunter Lawson, it was restored as an Australian Bicentennial project and opened as a public art gallery and local history centre in 1988.

As local studies librarian my office was in the front right-hand room, once a drawing room according to the original plans.

Though I became very familiar with the building over a long period of time, I tried not to take it for granted. It was indeed a pleasant place to work and as I learnt the details of its history I enjoyed a growing familiarity with the people who had occupied its rooms and given them life.

'Braemar' in the 1890s courtesy the Blue Mountains City Library's Local Studies Collection.

Erected initially as a private residence, the Lawson family eventually built several neighbouring homes and James Hunter and his wife Emma moved next door sometime in the mid 1890s.

'Braemar' was then leased and subsequently experienced a variety of uses, including hospital, private home, doctor's surgery and guesthouse.

There was one tenant however who, though residing there only briefly, particularly attracted my attention.

Sometimes when work got a bit tiresome, I would sit at my desk and reflect on the possibility that this man who had participated in events at a crucial moment in our sporting history might have relaxed in this very room, looking out at his garden and beyond the white picket fence to the far less regular and noisy traffic passing along the Western Road.

The man I am referring to was Thomas William Garrett (1858 - 1943), one of our early Test cricketers who had taken part in the metaphorical 'cremation' of English cricket at The Oval in August 1882.

It was about sixteen years later that Garrett, his wife Helen and their family of three girls and four boys arrived in Springwood, probably during the first half of 1898 after his retirement from first-class cricket. In August of that year the *Nepean Times* recorded his election as a vice-president of the Springwood Cricket Club.

Thomas Garrett was born in Wollongong on July 26, 1858, the son of a politician and newspaper proprietor.

In this lovely old photograph of the Australian team, from the collection of the Mitchell Library in Sydney, Garrett is seated fourth from the left in the front row.

WIELDING THE WILLOW

Continued from page 5

Educated at Newington College, he later studied law and was admitted as a solicitor in the Supreme Court, eventually becoming registrar of probates in 1890, curator of intestate estates in 1896 and public trustee in 1914.

It was, however, his talent as a cricketer that brought him to a wider public notice. After showing early ability at school, he went on to play with distinction for both New South Wales and Australia.

In 1877 the 18-year-old Garrett was chosen to play for Australia in Melbourne against James Lillywhite's team of professionals, a match that has come to be considered the first Test against England.

He went on to tour England three times – in 1878, 1882 and 1886 – and represented Australia in seven Test series at home, scoring 339 runs and taking 36 wickets.

On the 1882 tour of England Garrett played in the famous Test at The Oval that saw Australia defeat England for the first time on English soil.

Fellow participants in that match included the legendary W. G. Grace (England) and 'the Demon bowler' F. R. Spofforth (Australia). August company indeed!

During the tense final overs, as the game swung Australia's way, a heart attack claimed one spectator and when the last wicket fell the crowd was stunned. England was seven runs short of victory!

In its next issue the *Sporting Times* reported the death of English cricket. "The body", it declared, "will be cremated and the ashes taken to Australia."

It was during the subsequent English tour of Australia in the southern summer of 1882-83 that the actual 'Ashes' were created from the burning of a wicket bail. The embroidered velvet bag that held the small pottery urn in which they were kept was made by Anne Fletcher whose husband later established a boys' school in Katoomba. But that's another story!

A recent image of 'Braemar' courtesy Marika Low

Bearded, tall and lean, Garrett was primarily recognised as a right-arm, slightly more than medium pace bowler with an ability to swing the ball either way.

But he was no slouch with the bat and also proved a shrewd and successful captain of New South Wales. At the age of 38 in 1897 he scored 131 runs against a South Australian team that included the champion fast bowler Ernest Jones.

Thomas Garrett and his family appear to have resided in Springwood for a period of about ten years.

When they first arrived in 1898 they occupied 'Braemar', on what was then the Western Road east of the town centre. By 1908, they had moved to the western end of the town, to another small but substantial country villa named 'Stanway'.

During their time in Springwood, judging by reports of their activities in the Springwood news columns of the *Nepean Times*, the Garretts were actively involved in the life of the community.

Father and sons were members of both the cricket and rugby football clubs. Thomas served as a vice president of both and also helped to establish a golf club in the town in 1905. In 1909-10, when Springwood Cricket Club won the Nepean District premiership, three of Thomas's sons were in the team, one of them as captain.

Mother and daughters, too, were reported in various capacities at fetes organised by both Christ Church (Anglican) and Springwood Ladies College where the girls attended school.

Thomas Garrett also acted as honorary auditor for a number of local organisations including the Anglican Church, the Progress Association and the School of Arts.

The family left Springwood and returned to Sydney sometime around 1912. Garrett, the last survivor of the 1882 Australian team, died at Warrawee on August 6,1943 at the age of 85.

Springwood's associations with cricket go back to its earliest days, with the first matches being played there probably in the 1870s.

Over the years the town's cricket ground at Lomatia Park has been the focus of some intense and spirited sporting contests.

Nor was Thomas Garrett the last of the town's links with the wider world of cricket for Nathan Bracken, a product of Springwood High School, now plays regularly for Australia in the 'One-Day' and '20-20' versions of the game.

John Low is the former local history librarian, Blue Mountains City Council and an individual member of BMACHO.

A model T Ford gives way to historic steam tram at Valley Heights Loco Depot Museum

Members of the Model T Ford Club posed for a staged level crossing scene under controlled conditions at Valley Heights during a visit earlier in the year. Photograph courtesy Peter Butler

The former Sydney steam tram motor no. 103A, a Baldwin 11676 pictured above is one of a number of restored historic transport relics to be found at the Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Heritage Museum.

It was the last steam tram motor in service on the NSW government tramways when withdrawn from service in 1937.

It then had an extended period in industrial service. It served on the Sydney Ferries Redbank Wharf tramway from 1937 to 1943, then became a shunter at Waddington Limited (later Commonwealth Engineering Ltd) works at Granville from 1943 to 1953.

Sydney steam tram motor 103A, built 1891, operated at the Parramatta Park Steam Tramway until the arson attack at the museum in June 1993.

The fire destroyed most rolling stock, and 103A's wooden cab was incinerated at this time but the remainder of the loco was salvaged for restoration and moved to Valley Heights, where a new cab has been built.

Following the fire, the society was unable to gain approval to re-establish in Parramatta Park. In 1997 the society was invited to move into the Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Heritage Museum and again took the initiative to complete the task of ensuring the steam tram preservation project would continue.

It was a special day for members of the Steam Tram and Railway Preservation Society, on September 16, 2005 when tram motor no 103A was officially returned to service following a 12-year rebuild.

Since 1954 the society has laboured long to ensure the remaining relics of the once extensive NSW steam tram network were saved from neglect. That legacy for future generations will be a genuine operating steam tram.

In 1879, steam operated tramways were introduced in Sydney, under the control of the Railway Commissioner.

Similarly operated systems were later used in Newcastle, Maitland, Broken Hill and between East Maitland-Morpeth, Parramatta-Castle Hill, Campbelltown-Camden and Sutherland-Cronulla.

The Sydney and Newcastle systems were eventually electrified but the others, including three isolated lines in Sydney, Sutherland-Cronulla, Arncliffe-Bexley and Kogarah-Sans Souci, were steam worked until their closure.

The Campbelltown-Camden and East Maitland-Morpeth lines were eventually operated as light railways and used steam tram motors for a period of their existence.

The "motors" as the locomotives are called were of a standard design, introduced by the Baldwin Locomotive Works and 100 came from that firm. The remainder were built locally, either by contractors or in the Tramway Department's workshops.

The Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Heritage Museum is the Blue Mountains Division of the NSW Rail Transport Museum. The museum is located in the former Locomotive Depot at Valley Heights.

Continued page 8

VALLEY HEIGHTS STEAM LOCO DEPOT

Continued from page 7

The museum preserves the depot buildings, the rail heritage of the Blue Mountains, and at the same time providing historical, educational and recreational facilities for the benefit of the Blue Mountains community and visitors to the region.

The society's goal is to operate the Steam Tramway in conjunction with the activities of the Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Heritage Museum, Tusculum Road, Valley Heights.

The society is also custodian of two small steam shunting locomotives and railway carriages. Some of this rolling stock is in various stages of restoration, while some is available for operation.

The museum's open days are the second and fourth Sundays of each month (except Mothers Day and the last Sunday in December) between 10am and 4pm. Information regarding the society can be obtained from our website: www.infobluemountains.net.au/locodepot/tram

Valley Heights steam locomotive depot circa 1950. Black coal smoke from the depot could be seen for miles

According to Valley Heights resident Mr. Clyde Bruce, fledgling pilots in the late 1940s and early 1950s used the depot as a bearing on their flight path as they headed west from Sydney. Smoke from the depot could easily be seen from a height of a few thousand feet and was an ideal location to be used as a sight for their bearings

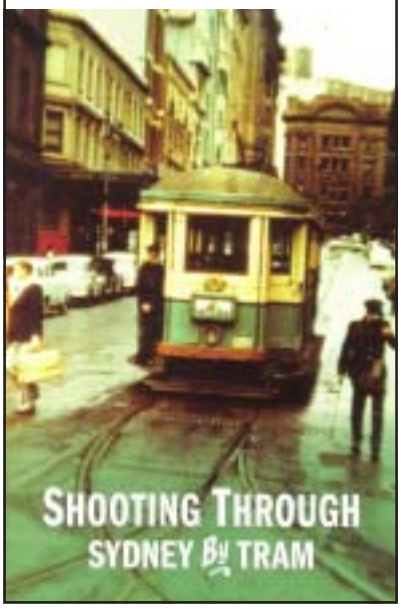
BMACHO gratefully acknowledges the assistance of the Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Heritage Museum, Andrew Tester, Peter Stock, Valley Heights Springwood Historical Society and Steam Tram and Railway Preservation (Co-op) Society Limited in the preparation of this article.

Shooting through Sydney by Tram exhibition

The Sydney Museum located on the corner of Bridge and Phillip Streets, Sydney is staging, "Shooting through Sydney by Tram" an exhibition depicting the 100 year history of Sydney's trams from 1861 to 1961.

The exhibition runs until October 18, 2009.

The museum opens daily from 9.30am to 5pm. Admission costs $10 for adults, $5 for a child or concession and $20 for a family.



EDITOR'S ANECDOTE.....

THE IRON MONSTER….

Probably my oldest memory, was of an "iron monster" – a steam tram motor on a street somewhere in Sydney when I was probably about 4 or 5 years old.

Most of my life, I have had this vivid image in my mind of a scary iron monster, which my father had taken me to see for a Sunday family outing.

Try as I might for many years I had tried to find anyone who could give me an explanation of this iron monster, which I knew ran on rails down the middle of the street, shrouded in steam and as a youngster had scared the' living daylights' out of me

Then all those years later in June 2006, I picked up a copy of the Springwood Historical Society Bulletin in which was published a photograph and story of my "iron monster", exactly like my memory.

The Springwood Historical Society Bulletin recorded that this "monster" was the last steam tram motor in service on the government tramways when withdrawn in 1937.

I recall my fathers words were: "Come on Johnny don't be scared , you'll never see this monster again," and so it was; as apparently it was the last day the service would run. Although not on the last run, the 103A was the last to leave Kogarah before the motors were returned to Randwick workshops.

This grand old survivor, the "iron monster" of my boyhood days has come back into my life in my twilight years. John Leary, OAM.

MULGOA BICENTENARY

This year marks the 200th anniversary of the grant of land at Mulgoa by Lt Governor Paterson to 4 year old Edward Cox on November 1, 1809, confirmed by Governor Macquarie on January1, 1810.

The settlement of the Mulgoa Valley began with the building of *The Cottage* in 1810. William Cox's three sons George, Henry and Edward lived at *The Cottage* before developing their own properties: *Winbourne* (1824), *Glenmore* (1825) and *Fernhill* (1842). With St. Thomas' Church (1836-1838), these buildings reflect the early pioneering phase of prosperity, evolution of architectural styles and the social and religious aspirations of the Cox family.

To celebrate the bicentenary of the first land grants in the Mulgoa Valley, various activities have been planned by Mulgoa Progress Association for Saturday, November 7, commencing at 10 am.

The festivities will be opened by Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir AC CVO, Governor of New South Wales at 11 am in Mulgoa Park.

There will be activities in Mulgoa Park (Mulgoa Road, Mulgoa) including displays of vintage cars, old motor bikes, antique machinery, Sydney Colonial Muzzle Loading Club, Nepean Historical Society and activities by local schools.

The Mulgoa Progress Association will conduct tours to the grounds of *Fernhill, Winbourne, Fairlight* and *Glenleig*h (garden and interior). Buses will leave from the Mulgoa Hall in Mulgoa Park, Littlefields Road, Mulgoa (10 km south of Penrith) at 1 pm. Inspections by bus only. Cost: $25 per person. Bookings: Send cheques, made payable to Mulgoa Progress Association, PO Box 71, Mulgoa 2745, with a stamped addressed return envelope and telephone contact details. For further information contact Kerry Spurrett, kspurrett@internode.on.net

GRANT FOR WORK ON TURKISH BATH

Restoration work on the Turkish Bath at Mt Wilson will be carried out during 2010 as a result of a successful grant application to the NSW Department of Planning, Heritage Branch by Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine Historical Society.

The society will contribute $16,000 towards the project to match the $16,000 grant. The work will involve the replacement of galvanised corrugated roof sheeting; and the painting of four timber louvers on the decorative roof tower located on the eastern side of the Turkish Bath.

The work is scheduled to take place between June and August 2010 and it is planned to close the museum during the period of construction.

Work to install lead moulding flashing at the base of the original entrance doorway has recently been completed.

BOOK REVIEW

The Burning Mists of Time: A Technological and Social History of Mining at Katoomba

by Philip J.Pells & Philip J.Hammon

WriteLight Pty Ltd, Sydney, 2009. $60.

ISBN 978 09775639 6 8

This book covers the geological and technological aspects of early shale mining in the Katoomba region and the history of the people involved. It also provides fascinating information on early life in Katoomba, as well as elsewhere in New South Wales, and an interesting account of the emergence of Scenic World, now the outstanding tourism attraction that occupies the site.

The book will be welcomed as a valuable contribution to the history of the region and is also easy to read.

There are absorbing excursions into byways, such as accounts of cooking recipes and medicine in mid-19th century Katoomba, that add to the work.

An attractively presented book, profusely illustrated with excellent colour and black & white historical and recent photographs as well as careful plans and maps to explain the geology and mining activities. Well worth buying.

Barrie Reynolds
(Also to be published in the newsletter of the Blue Mountains Historical Society)

DESCENDANTS HAVE LIVED ON KURRAJONG SITE FOR 184 YEARS

This article and images have been contributed by Mrs Kathie McMahon-Noff who was born on the same property that she now lives on and which has been owned by her ancestors since 1838.

Kathie and Louise McMahon were founding members of Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society originally formed to document the history of Kurrajong. The society now has a website and nearly 5000 images of the district.

Her "first love" is the history of Australian music. Kathie who is currently BMACHO's treasurer has had a very interesting life including working in leprosy colonies in New Guinea, after completing her training at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital.

Kathie McMahon, a descendant of a convict, Thomas Higgins, lives on land which has been continuously in the ownership of her ancestors for 184 years.

On June 30, 1823,Thomas Hinton, also a convict, was granted 50 acres at Kurrajong known as Portion 161 which he sold to Higgins on May 9, 1825 for twenty pounds.

Born in 1791, Thomas Higgins was convicted of shooting a British soldier and was sentenced to 7 years servitude. He arrived on the "Surry" in November, 1816. He was later proved innocent of the offence.

In about 1831, Higgins donated 2 acres of Portion 161 to the Church of England. This was on the corner of Bells Line of Road and Hermitage Rd. and it became the first denominational church and school in the Kurrajong Brush.

Thomas Higgins also owned several other properties. He willed the farm Portion 161 together with 3 cows in calf, a black horse "Captain" and a cart and harness at Kurrajong to his sister Mary McMahon in 1839. By then the estate was valued at one hundred pounds.

John and Mary McMahon who were free settlers sailed on the "Charles Kerr" from Limerick, Ireland on September 15, 1838 and arrived in Sydney on January 8, 1839.

They originally settled on Portion 161 near the creek close to Mill Road. With the formation of Bells Line of Road they moved up beside the road and built a small slab house called Luckenough

John and Mary McMahon's eldest daughter stayed on at Luckenough. John and Mary's youngest son Thomas moved onto 100 acres at "Dural View" on Comleroy Road. Thomas's third child James Edward moved back to Luckenough when he married Marie Norris. Here they raised 5 children and they built the Bellbird Echo Guest House in the late 1920's during the depression.

The guest house was a place where people enjoyed horse riding, tennis, moonlight hikes and great food. It was noted for its fresh cream, butter and milk all produced on this property.

Throughout the years produce had always been sold at Bellbird Echo. It started in the 1920s when the McMahon's neighbour D'arcy Douglas started selling fruit on the side of Bells Line of Road, Kurrajong Hills.

Mrs Marie McMahon in the 1930s and 1940s always had a stall at the weekends selling the fruit and vegetables from the farm.

Her husband Kevin tells a story of how in 1947, his neighbour, Les Taylor brought him 4 half cases and four full cases of oranges to sell and they were all sold by the end of the day.

This Bellbird Echo Fruit Shop became a landmark for travellers from Sydney to purchase local fruit and vegetables.

In the late 1940s Kevin planted an orchard of oranges, lemons, apricots, peaches, nectarines and plums to supplement the shop. Kevin also purchased produce from local farmers.

Mr McMahon also had a wattle bark business. The black wattles which thrive in the Kurrajong area had a very high tannin content and the bark was much sought after by the leather tanneries. Kevin McMahon with Brian Dunston and dogs took the wattle bark to the tannery every Thursday and stopped at the Parramatta fruit and vegetable markets on the way home to supplement their fruit supply for the shop. ***Continued page 7***

D'arcy Douglas selling fruit on his Kurrajong roadside stall with helpers including Kevin McMahon (the author's father) then aged about 10 years. All the fruit is in old type heavy wooden fruit boxes.

THINKING HERITAGE:

Many members will recall that BMACHO was created in response to concerns expressed at the Local History Conference held in Katoomba in 2005 regarding the parlous state of heritage services within the City of Blue Mountains As a direct result of this concern, the new City Cultural Strategy (2006-2011) included, for the first time ever, a substantial heritage component (30%).

"This was only made possible by BMACHO working in close cooperation with the different historical societies across the city and we are grateful for their help",BMACHO secretary, Prof Barrie Reynolds said this week.

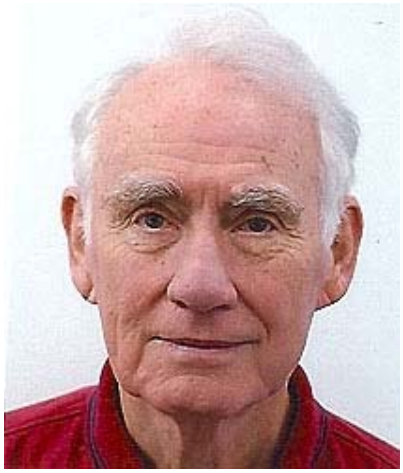
"Understandably, over the past three years BMACHO has devoted much time and effort to pressing council to rebuild and strengthen its heritage services. As a result:

- There is now one council staff member designated to handle any queries on heritage.
- The heritage advisor position has been reinstated (the advisor deals with development applications).
- The placing on-line of the substantial backlog of heritage site records is very close to completion and, we understand, is almost ready to be forwarded to State Heritage; it should then become available to the public. This backlog had built up over many years.

"Two important tasks remain: the formation of a community heritage advisory committee and the creation of the post of heritage officer, Barrie Reynolds said.

"We do not understand why there has been such reluctance on the part of council staff to move on the first issue. There is little cost involved. Action was approved by the general manager two years ago and council staff has even agreed on a planning meeting for the drafting of the terms of reference of the committee.

"Numerous successive 'reasons' have been given us during 2008 and 2009 for postponement of any action on the matter. Indeed, more time has probably been spent on these 'reasons' than would be involved in the planning meeting itself. We have now requested the meeting take place within September.



Barrie Reynolds

BMACHO's view is that the committee should involve the different societies, museums and similar bodies thus enabling them to have a direct input into council heritage matters.

"The other key task is the appointment of a heritage officer. Obviously, this would involve costs. At the same time, it is evident that a qualified and committed heritage officer is essential if council is to have a dynamic heritage unit and provide the Blue Mountains community with effective heritage services.

"Most of the matters mentioned above should be completed by the end of 2009. This would then free us to concentrate on the matter of the heritage officer as our prime concern in dealings with council during 2010."

First school in the Kurrajong Brush built in 1837

In about 1831 Thomas Higgins either sold or donated 2 acres of Portion 161 to the Church of England.

This land was on the corner of Bells Line of Road and Hermitage Road and it became the first denominational church and school in the Kurrajong Brush.

Vivienne Webb describes the history of the Church of England Denominational School[1]:

Application was made to the Government in1831 by Bishop Broughton for a Parochial School for boys and girls in the Curryjong: "In all these cases it will be requisite that some expense *should be incurred in the erection of Huts containing two rooms and a skelling each, to be occupied as places of instruction for the children and as Residences for the Teachers: it will also be reasonable that about 1/2 acre of land to be employed as a garden should be attached to each Dwelling House and fenced with a substantial three rail fence.*

The salary of the Masters according to the present Regulations will be £30 per annum with an allowance of three pence per week for each child actually in attendance and of £10 per annum to each school Mistress for instructing the Girls in Needlework.'[2]

The school was built in 1836 at Hermitage Rd, Kurrajong Heights by E.E. Lord at a cost of £200. The building also served as a church and school until St Stephens Church was built in 1873 at Kurrajong'.[3]

[1] Kathie McMahon McMahon Family.160 years in the Kurrajong Brush

[2] Webb, Vivienne (1980) Kurrajong. An Early History. Published by author.

[3] Reminiscences of Richmond - S Boughton

[4] A photograph of this school may exist in the Mitchell Library.

Surveyors Institute members impressed by Mt Wilson's Scrivener exhibition material

Kathy and Ray Harrington recently found the photograph in the National Library of Australia of Charles Robert Scrivener sitting by the steam engine at the Mt Irvine sawmill.

Material used in the *Charles Robert Scrivener, 1855-1923, Capital Surveyor* exhibition at Mt Wilson is being sought for displays in Canberra and Sydney.

In 2001, the Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine Historical Society mounted a major exhibition on the life and work of CR Scrivener who is best known for his work in surveying numerous sites in NSW for the selection of a site for the Australian Capital Territory and Canberra.

He also surveyed the Mt Irvine area as well as the access road across Bowen's Creek from Bilpin.

Between 2002 and 2004 the exhibition travelled to the RTA headquarters at Parramatta, Mt Tomah Gardens and the Fossil and Mineral Museum in Bathurst.

The material has been in storage at Mt Wilson for some time now as the Society has been negotiating with a number of groups with the aim of having the exhibition on permanent display in Canberra.

Born in Canterbury in south west of Sydney, Scrivener was appointed the first director of Commonwealth Lands and Surveys in 1910 and retired in 1915.

The Scrivener Dam on Lake Burley Griffin is named in his honour.

Reporting to members of Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine Historical Society, president Des Barrett stated that members of the Institution of Surveyors NSW as well as their Seniors Group and the Canberra Division of the Institution were all delighted with what they saw of the exhibition material and expressed their wish to see the material displayed both in Canberra and Sydney.

The display will be used, subject to a number of conditions being met, in a number of important milestones leading up to the centenaries of the ACT-NSW border survey and the survey of Canberra itself.

The above image appeared in the August 2009 Newsletter No 20 of the Mt Historical & Mt IrvineSociety.

WALKS & TALKS

Glenbrook and District Historical Society's Walks and Talks program for Saturday, September 26 is titled *Dunn's Sawmill site, Lennox Bridge*. For further information

pplinden@yahoo.co.au

Welcome to Mid Mountains Historical Society

The Mid Mountains Historical Society is the latest organisation to join the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations. This society has done considerable historical research on the township of Lawson. It has also been involved over a number of years in negotiations with the RTA and Blue Mountains City Council in a bid to save the Lawson's Mechanics Institute threatened by highway widening.

POSITIONS VACANT

Volunteer Required

Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Heritage Museum

Volunteers are required to work in the Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Museum shop.

Some experience with Cash handling, Catering, Food handling or Customer Service experience would be an advantage but is not essential. All training will be provided.

The role involves ticket sales to customers, retail sales of the museum's range of souvenirs and memorabilia, as well as refreshments including coffee/tea and light snacks. We are looking for diligent and reliable people with a friendly, outgoing nature who like dealing with people.

The museum is open on the second and fourth Sundays of each month, as well as additional Sundays during public holidays from 10am to 4pm. Volunteers working in the shop would be expected to be available from 8.30am to approximately 4.30pm on open days. You will be expected to be available to be rostered every 2nd or 3rd open day.

If you feel you could fulfill this voluntary opportunity and would be interested in trying something new, please contact our Retail Manager, Steve Corrigan on 4759 1980 or sjc_alco@pnc.com.au

Wallerawang and Charles Darwin

The visit of Charles Darwin to Wallerawang is thought so important that the Lithgow branch of the National Trust of Australia (NSW) has built a memorial to the acclaimed scientist, Charles Darwin. Darwin was a diligent man who kept extensive diaries and note books. From these it is possible to appreciate much of his journey and the locations that he described.

Within the context of a five year voyage in the *Beagle* , the few days he spent at Wallerawang may seem insignificant. However, they had a profound influence on Darwin's thinking about evolution.

He collected a range of specimens and samples at the location and when Darwin first saw the platypus it prompted one of the most significant entries in his diary. *"Earlier in the evening I had been lying on a sunny bank [of the Cox's River] and was reflecting on the strange character of the animals of this country as compared to the rest of the world. A disbeliever in everything beyond his reason, might exclaim, 'Surely two distinct Creators must have been [at] work; their object however has been the same and certainly in each case the end is complete".*

REFERENCES

Charles Darwin in Australia FW & JM Nicholas, Cambridge University Press 2008 and Charles Darwin: An Australian Selection. National Museum of Australia Press 2008

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

REGISTERED OFFICE 40 Hume Avenue, Wentworth Falls 2782
E-mail: bmacho.heritage@gmail.com
Website: www.bluemountains.heritage

THE ORGANISATION Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 following a unanimous response to a proposal from Prof. Barrie Reynolds at the 2004 Blue Mountains Local History Conference which sought from Blue Mountains City Council the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the city.

BMACHO in its constitution uses the definition: "Cultural heritage is all aspects of life of the peoples of the Blue Mountains which was later changed to cover Lithgow and the villages along the Bell's Line of Roads. It therefore involves the recording, preserving and interpreting of information in whatever form: documents, objects, recorded memories as well as buildings and sites."

The objectives of the organisation are

i. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage.

ii. To encourage and assist cultural heritage activities of member organisations.

iii. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations.

One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact, to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

MEMBERSHIP The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains City Library, Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc., Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc., Blue Mountains Tourism Limited, Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute, Cudgegong Museums Group, Friends of Everglades, Friends of Norman Lindsay Gallery, Glenbrook & District Historical Society, Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc, Lilianfels Blue Mountains Resort, Lithgow Mining Museum, Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies, Lithgow Small Arms Factory Museum, Mid-Mountains Historical Society, Mid Western Regional Council Library, Mt Tomah Botanic Gardens, Mt Victoria and District Historical Society Inc., Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine History Society (including Turkish Bath Museum), Mudgee Historical Society, Mudgee Regional Library, National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Blue Mountains Branch (including Woodford Academy), National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Lithgow Branch), Scenic World – Blue Mountains Limited, Springwood & District Historical Society Inc., Springwood Historians, Two Centuries of Elegance, Valley Heights Locomotive Depot and Museum, Zig Zag Railway. The following are individual members: Ms Wendy Carlson, Ray Christison, Ms Pamela Hubert, Associate Professor Ian Jack, John Leary OAM, John Low, Professor Barrie Reynolds, and Dr Peter Stanbury OAM.

COMMITTEE The committee for 2009-10 is: John Leary, (president) Ian Jack (vice president), Barrie Reynolds (secretary), Kathie McMahon (treasurer), Jean Arthur, Ray Christison, Lyn Fowler, Doug Knowles, and Dick Morony (public officer), Peter Stanbury.

AUDITOR: Sue McMahon, B Comm CPA

AFFILIATIONS BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society Inc.

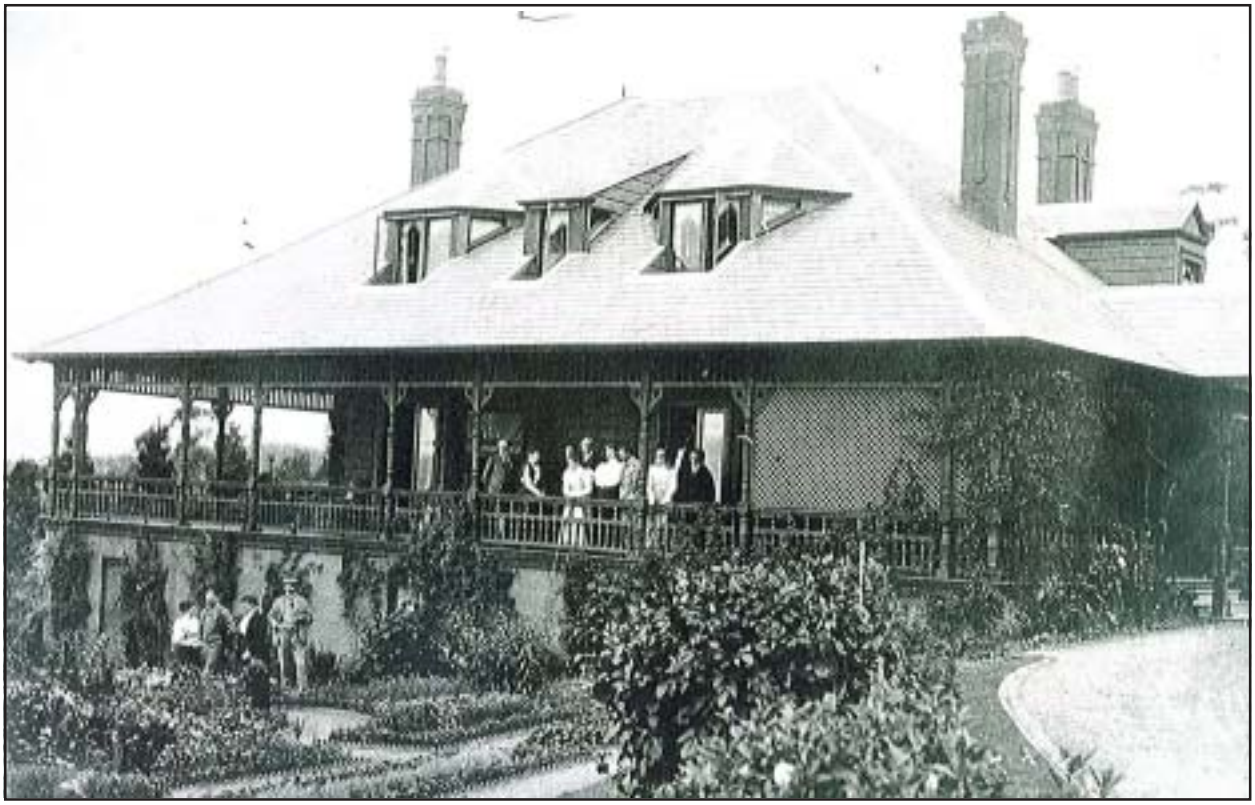
HERITAGE is BMACHO's official newsletter.

HERITAGE

NEWSLETTER OF THE BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2009 ISSUE No. 6

Heritage celebrated at Lilianfels



"Katoomba will in the future be historic from having as a resident one eminent Chief Justice, Sir Frederick Darley and his family at Lilianfels. Sir Frederick has spared no pains in laying the foundation of a fine garden and is said to have trenched a large portion of his property in order to grow fruit successfully." Illustrated Sydney News 1890

From the period in which this article excerpt was published in the *Sydney News* 1890 to the current day, Lilianfels has enjoyed a prestigious and historically important past that today, thankfully, is not lost but protected and moreover, truly celebrated. The original owner, Sir Frederick Darley, it is believed would be more than gratified to learn.

Sir Frederick Matthew Darley was born on September 18, 1830 in Dublin, Ireland. The first child of Henry Darley of Wingfield, Bray County Wicklow and his wife Maria Louise nee West.

At Hunsdon, Hertfordshire on December 13, 1860, Darley married Lucy Forest Brown, from Melbourne, a daughter of Captain Sylvester Brown (master mariner) and his wife Eliza Angell nee Alexander.

The novelist, T A Brown(e) who was to become a well known author in Australia writing the bush ranging classic "Robbery Under Arms" as Rolf Boldrewood, was the eldest brother of Lucy. It was while travelling with her brother to England that she originally met Sir Frederick.

Darley and his wife came to Australia in 1862, on the advice of Sir Alfred Stephen (the Chief Justice of NSW) who convinced him that he would further his career in the colony. Sir Frederick was knighted in 1887 and served five times as the Lieutenant Governor of NSW. The longest and most important being from January 24, 1900 to May 27, 1902, spanning the creation of the Commonwealth of Australia in 1901.

In August 1888, Sir Frederick Darley purchased more than 11 acres of land adjacent to Echo Point in Katoomba and enlisted Varney Parkes, the architect son of close friend, Sir Henry Parkes to design Lilianfels as a summer home.

Pictured above Sir Frederick and Lady Darley, family and friends with NSW State Governor Duff and Lady Duff on the verandah of Lilianfels in 1893.

Continued on page 2

Lilianfels of yesteryear restored

The Darleys had seven children, six daughters and two sons and it was Lilian, who died at age 22 suffering tuberculosis, for whom the Katoomba property was named: the ending 'fels' is German meaning, 'rocky ground'.

During the years in which Sir Frederick and Lady Darley resided near Echo Point, nearly every noted visitor to Australia accepted their hospitality and enjoyed the magnificent outlook.

Royalty, vice-royalty and princes of statesmanship, jurisprudence, science and art came in turn to view the mountains from the magnificent vantage point of Lilianfels.

Dine indoors or on Darley's balcony. Darley's Restaurant, boasts richly appointed fittings, stained glass windows, open fireplaces and magnificent views

Before his death, Sir Frederick sold Lilianfels in October 1908 to George Begg Vickery on a walk out, walk in basis. Vickery was a partner in E. Vickery & Sons, merchants and colliery proprietors who owned warehouses in Sydney, the Coal Cliff and Mount Keira coal mines near Wollongong.

Like the Darleys, the Vickerys maintained Lilianfels as a summer residence. Joyce Vickery, one of George's daughters, became a well known and distinguished botanist attached to the Herbarium of the Sydney Royal Botanic Gardens.

Lilianfels was sold by George Vickery in March 1912 to Mr Albert A Kemp of Sydney. This was to be the first time that Lilianfels was used as a permanent residence, Mr Kemp and his wife Eliza Jane were prominent in the activities of the Presbyterian Church and the Red Cross in Katoomba. They opened the grounds to the public for fetes and charitable fundraising.

Between 1915 and 1920, the Kemps subdivided and sold about 2 acres of the land parcel, and in November 1920 sold the remaining property to the Hon James Joynton Smith Trust.

Again, the land was subdivided into separate lots, sold by auction on January 26, 1921. Lilianfels was retained on approximately 2 acres of land.

A Sydney manufacturer, Samuel George Baker, bought Lilianfels in 1923 and between this time to around 1952, he leased the property to various people as a guest house.

Darley's house balcony circa 1893

Lilianfels quickly became a popular Blue Mountains retreat with many guests returning year after year for their annual holiday.

Baker sold Lilianfels in 1952 to Wladislaw Ujma, a Polish water construction engineer who continued to lease Lilianfels as a guest house.

After his death in 1964, the property was passed to his wife, Zofia who, unfortunately, had little funds for upkeep and both the house and grounds fell into a state of disrepair.

'.....Gwen Silvey, the then research officer of Blue Mountains istorical Society saw the plight of Zofia.....'

Thankfully, Mrs Gwen Silvey, OAM the then research officer of the Blue Mountains Historical Society, saw the plight of Zofia and rallied for the Heritage Section of the Department of Environment and Planning to place a conservation order on the house and grounds under the Heritage Act (Gazetted July 27, 1984), along with a classification by the National Trust.

A grant was made for the restoration of the roof and other stabilising repairs. ***Continue page 3***

Lilianfels today -- a heritage indulgence

Lilianfels was purchased in December 1987 by an Australian company, Derani Pty Ltd, which immediately addressed the security of the house and the restoration of the grounds by hiring caretaker and qualified horticulturist, Colin Slade.

Under his care and expertise, the gardens were restored and with new owners Nara, purchasing Lilianfels in 1992, the plans for a country-style guest house on the adjoining property, was quickly undertaken.

The new complex's architect, Ron Edgar took many features of the old Lilianfels House and incorporated it into the new Country House with both the ceiling structure of many rooms and the roof line echoing the shape and form of the original summer home.

Orient-Express purchased Lilianfels in 2000 and the company, along with the hotel manager, Grant Raubenheimer, are committed to the protection and celebration of Lilianfels' heritage while promoting the property as a premier luxury property within the World Heritage listed Blue Mountains area.

Today, the Country House consists of: 81 guest rooms and 4 suites with a 19th century-styled décor, reading room, billiards room, lobby lounge overlooking the Jamison Valley, Darley's restaurant located within the original summer home, indoor and outdoor swimming pools, tennis court and a spa and health club featuring a herbal bath, which is the original deep sided bath taken from Lilianfels House during the restoration with the words 'Macfarlane Patent, Glasgow' engraved on the side.

From December 1, Lilianfels will host a weekly 'historical high tea' which will offer guests the chance to join a guided tour to learn about the property's history following the old historic Garden Amble route. The tour ends with an indulgent high tea in the lounge of the Country House.

For more information about Lilianfels or the new Historical High Teas, please visit www.lilianfels.com.au

HERITAGE is grateful to Grant Raubenheimer, Hotel Manager at Lilianfels who with Ms Kim Salt, Orient Express' Marketing Communications Manager (Australia) has provided us with material and images for this article. Mr Raubenheimer has been in the hospitality industry for 25 years and is a great believer in the importance of the preservation of past eras, as well as protecting our own current story for our children's children to admire and enjoy as much as we do and have done.

At Lilianfels, Grant has a philosophy of delivering guests with a truly unique experience and the hotel's heritage coupled with the convenience of modern technology and attentive staff make this possible. Lilianfels is a founding member of BMACHO.

Grant Raubenheimer

MINISTERS' COUNCIL CUTS COLLECTION FUNDING

The Cultural Ministers Council has decided funding of the Collections Council of Australia will cease in June 2010.

Established by the Cultural Ministers Council in 2004, the Collections Council has worked to bring the collections sector - archives, galleries, libraries and museums - together.

Last month it released plans to develop and promote a new model for sustainable scientific and cultural collections in Australia.

The Collections Council's chair, Noel Turnbull, said that abolishing the CCA would not help solve significant fundamental problems facing the collections sector.

The Collections Council's operations over four and half years with its four person staff have been supported by the Cultural Ministers' Council and the Australian Government with grants totalling$2.1 million.

Mr Turnbull said: "Australia's Arts Ministers say they won't spend $500,000 on keeping the Collections Council going, yet our equivalent organisation in Norway, a country smaller in area and population than Australia, has 70 employees and an annual budget of 23.5 million Euros."

From the president's pen.....

HERITAGE PHILANTHROPY

The heritage sector is constantly on the alert for threats to Australia's built heritage and hopefully, the "midnight bulldozing tactics" of developers is now something in the past.

But the threat today is lack of funding which if not arrested will see more and more properties fall as they decay and become piles of sandstone rubble or termite eaten timbers turned to dust.

While government in recent years has contributed towards the cost of acquiring, restoring and maintaining some heritage properties, there is still a dearth of funding available from the public purse.

One of the exceptions perhaps is the iconic group of 10 or so historic buildings under the management of the NSW Government funded Historic Houses Trust which has a respectable income from the State Government ($19.3 million in 2007-8) supplemented by limited resources from philanthropists.

By comparison the National Trust of Australia (NSW) with ownership of 38 priceless properties across NSW including three in the Blue Mountains has no ongoing government funding relying mainly on bequests, membership, partnership sponsors and fund raising by an army of volunteers.

Very occasionally, the corporate sector comes along as has happened at Lilianfels now owned by Orient-Express, where vast sums of money have been spent to conserve the historic and original homestead built for the sixth Chief Justice of NSW in 1889.

In nearby Wolgan Valley rich in historical and environmental significance, the $125 million Emirates Resort has through its conservation management plan taken its architectural cue from a nearby homestead built in 1832, which has been restored. Charles Darwin was a visitor to the property in 1836.

It could be argued that both developments although available to the public have limited access because of commercial restraints. But what is undeniable is that without funding from these corporate groups this conservation would have been of a lesser quality.

Some fund raising and donations is tax deductable but this is not sufficient to encourage large scale support from developers and the entrepreneurs.

In other parts of the world, notably Britain and USA there is a different approach to heritage funding. In these countries the community through the corporate sector and philanthropists plays a much bigger part in funding conservation.

But the key to this overseas success seems to be in a better system of tax relief for heritage conservation.

The recently released Productivity Commission's draft report, *Contribution of the Not-for-Profit Sector* claims there has been a considerable growth in corporate philanthropy in Australia in recent years.

It is perhaps time that the heritage sector started to engage the Federal Government in debate as to how government support such as taxation breaks might see an increase of this philanthropic support being dircected to the conservation of Australia's built, natural and cultural heritage.

John Leary, OAM - President, Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations

VISITORS TO MUSEUMS AND HISTORIC VENUES: ARE THEY WORTH IT?

The Journal of the Museums Association in the United Kingdom is a mine of interesting information on what is going on in the museum field.

The February edition was no exception. It contained a summary of a survey of visitors to English museums, broken down by city and region.

I was fascinated to learn that more than half the population of England visit museums at least once each year. The borough of Kensington and Chelsea in London was the top-scorer at 77.8%.

Even the worst, Barking and Dagenham, to the east of London scored 36.6%. The figures for other Western European countries and for North America would I am sure be comparable.

Tourism Australia produces annual figures on our cultural and heritage visitors. These comprise 52% of the total overseas visitors and the top two cultural and heritage activities, for both overseas and domestic Australian visitors, were visiting museums and art galleries and visiting heritage buildings, sites or monuments.

In 2008, these overseas visitors spent $17 billion in the course of their visits.

Obviously, museums and other heritage venues are popular with internationa l visitors and are of substantial financial benefit to Australia.

Perhaps we should be giving more thought to the economic potential of sites and museums.

Barrie Reynolds

DIRECTOR OF HERITAGE TO SPEAK AT BMACHO MEETING THIS MONTH

Director of NSW Heritage Branch, Petula Samios has accepted an invitation to be the guest speaker at a special meeting of BMACHO to be held on Friday, November 20.

The meeting will be held at the Glenbrook Bowling Club commencing at 2pm. A charge of $10 per person will be made to cover the cost of afternoon tea. Bookings are advisable and cheques made payable to BMACHO should be mailed to Barrie Reynolds, 40 Hume Avenue, Wentworth Falls 2782 before November 13.

Ms Samios will speak on the workings of the Heritage Branch and where it fits within the Planning Department. She will also speak on recent changes to the Heritage Act.

Ms Samios has worked for the Department of Planning for nearly 30 years in variety of roles and functions: regional planning, property and development, urban consolidation, heritage, executive support, planning co-ordination, policy and strategic development.

Prior to her joining the Heritage Branch in March 2008, she was the Director of Metropolitan Strategy Development which oversaw the implementation of the Metropolitan Strategy and the production of the ten metropolitan subregional strategies, and implementation of Senior Living SEPP, SEPP 70 and SEPP 10. She also held regional director positions in the Sydney North regional team and the Sydney East r egional team.

Her current focus has been to integrate the former Heritage Office into the Department of Planning ensuring that there is a strong synergy between heritage and planning.

The Branch is also working closely with the regional planning Branches and the assessment teams which are responsible for thePart 3A applications.

A new Thematic Listings program has been initiated with a strong focus for identifying new items on the State Heritage Register which are part of NSW history.

Ms Samios is also responsible for overseeing the recent amendments to the Heritage Act.

This is the second in a series of public lectures on Heritage policies, organised by the BMACHO.

Heritage minister promised by Coalition

A promise to give heritage matters an independent voice in a future Coalition State government was well received by about 30 members of the heritage sector who attended a recent meeting at Wentworth Falls.

The Shadow Minister for Climate Change and Environmental Sustainability, Catherine Cusack, MLC said a Coalition government in NSW would appoint a minister for heritage separate from the minister for planning and the minister for environment and climate change.

“We will also move the Heritage Council out of the Department of Planning where its voice is silenced.

“Our positive, practical plans will empower communities and ensure heritage issues receive the strong advocacy they deserve.”

Ms Cusack was the first of a number of politicians from all parties to be invited by BMACHO to speak about their policies on heritage and hear first-hand about local heritage concerns.

The association has embarked on a program to better inform the community and government at all levels about the need for a more strategic approach to preservation and conservation of Australia’s cultural heritage.

“The Blue Mountains has a beautiful inheritance of natural, built and cultural heritage — we need to make sure the heritage of places like the Blue Mountains has an advocate in cabinet,” Ms Cusack told the meeting.

“Heritage items are today and tomorrow’s links to our community’s yesterday.

“Conserving them and experiencing them connects our community and future communities to our history – and we are culturally and educationally richer for it.

“Currently the cause of heritage conservation lacks an independent advocate within government.”

In 2007, the Heritage Office was relocated into the Department of Planning compounding the conflict of interest faced by the planning minister and adding to the perceived lack of independence surrounding heritage conservation in NSW.

With one exception, every other state and territory ensures heritage has an advocate at the cabinet table by appointing someone other than the minister for planning as the minister responsible for heritage.

In most jurisdictions, including federally, heritage is located within the environment portfolio.

The NSW Liberal Nationals have promised to ensure that heritage conservation will be given a strong voice in government and strength through Independence.

Catherine Cusack, MLC

CUSTOMS IN THE BLUE MOUNTAINS

by Peter Chinn

Mention customs to anyone and they'll automatically connect with the modern image of the organisation so successfully portrayed in the television series "Border Security".

Control of our borders and economic zone to prevent smuggling and entry of illegal immigrants is undoubtedly the principal function of the organisation which is now known as the Australian Customs and Border Protection Service but up until fairly recent times there were many other operational responsibilities away from the traditional customs areas of seaports and airports. One such was excise.

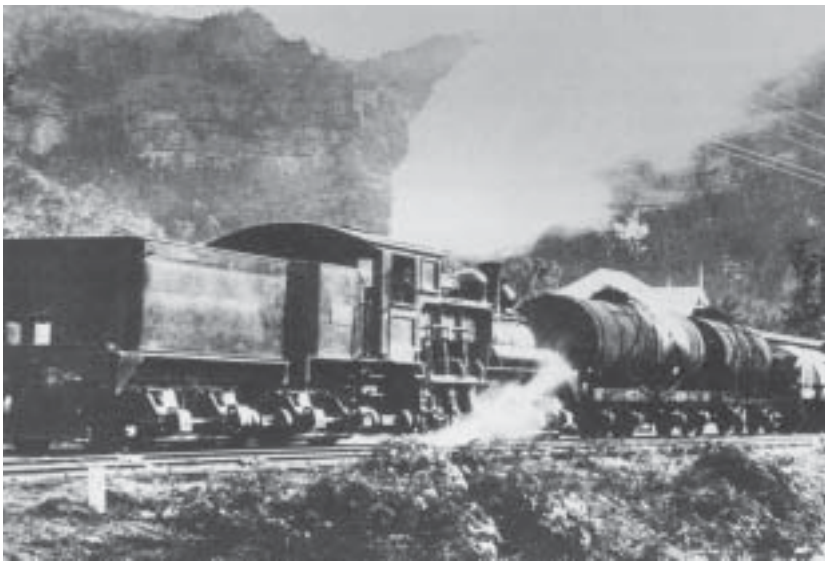
Excise, at least so far as Australia is concerned, has its origins in England when it was introduced as a temporary tax to help fund the Civil War in the 1640s. Samuel Johnson, in his 1755 dictionary described excise as: 'A hateful tax levied upon commodities, and adjudged not by the common judges of property, but by wretches hired by those to whom excise is paid.'

Excise is a duty levied on certain locally-produced goods intended for home consumption. The main sources of this revenue today are petroleum products, beer, spirits and tobacco but in times past it was also payable on coal, playing cards, matches and sugar – to name but a few items – indeed a motley assortment.

The collection of customs and excise duties has commonly been the responsibility of the one government agency in many countries of the world including Australia until 1998 when the excise function was transferred to the Australian Taxation Office.

In the United Kingdom, Australia's sister organisation was Her Majesty's Customs and Excise and in Australia excise was specifically acknowledged in the title from 1956 to 1975: the Department of Customs and Excise.

In Australia, until about forty years ago, goods subject to customs or excise duties were under the physical control of officers of the Customs Department. Premises where customable goods were kept or excisable goods were manufactured were required to be licensed in accordance with the relevant acts and regulations.



A steam engine pulls tankers of fuel oil from Newnes shale oil refinery on the Wolan Valley railway line circa 1910. Photograph courtesy Peter Chinn.

If an importer did not wish to immediately pay customs duty at the time of importation the goods would go into a bonded warehouse where a customs officer, known as "locker" was stationed. This officer kept the keys and controlled all the secured areas of the bond (as these premises are known) and would release the goods when duty was paid.

In establishments producing excisable goods such as breweries, distilleries and oil refineries there was an excise officer, similarly having custody of the keys to all storage places, who would authorise release of goods when duty was paid.

Which is by way of introduction to the reason for the stationing of a customs officer at Newnes Junction, near Bell, in the early 1940s.

In 1938 with war on the horizon the Commonwealth and New South Wales governments saw the need for ensuring local supplies of fuel oil and backed National Oil Pty. Ltd. in their project to establish an oil refinery in the Capertee Valley. Petroleum products were to be extracted from the abundant shale deposits found there, as had been previously been done at the large refinery in the adjacent Wolgan Valley at Newnes which had finally ceased production in 1934.

A town – Glen Davis - was established in the Capertee Valley and the refinery built, commencing operations in 1940.

As Glen Davis was remote from the nearest railhead on the Mudgee line, fuel was pumped 65 kilometres to storage tanks at Newnes Junction via a five centimetre pipeline that ran from the refinery across the mountain range to the site of the abandoned Newnes refinery and then along the route of the long-disused Wolgan Valley railway line.

At Newnes Junction there were two 2,000,000 gallon tanks as well as several smaller tanks where fuel was stored until shipped to Sydney by rail tank wagons. During World War II five armed soldiers guarded this facility.

It appears that the need for the military presence was not dictated by the threat of imminent Japanese invasion of this remote place but because of previous attempts (and some successes) by thieves tapping into the pipeline to steal the precious rationed fuel.

Customs officer at Newnes Junction

However, ultimate control of under bond fuel lay with the Department of Trade and Customs not only to ensure that the correct duties were collected but also in enforcement of the wartime regulations governing the rationing of petroleum products.

For these reasons the bulk storage facility at Newnes Junction was licensed as a warehouse under the Customs Act and a locker had to be stationed there.

Nowadays, Newnes Junction consists of the old railway station, officially abandoned as a station, without any identifying signage but which seems to serve some control function in relation to the nearby heavily-used coal-loading loop line. There are one or two houses in the nearby road and it would seem that the situation has probably not altered much over all the years. It could be scarcely called a settlement.

The early years for the Customs officer stationed at Newnes Junction could only be described as "Spartan" from reports contained in official records. Early in 1942 the officer was impelled to request the Collector of Customs (chief officer of Customs for NSW) for provision of a departmental residence.

The bureaucratic protocol of the time necessitated the Collector's representations to the Comptroller-General of Customs in Canberra for approval.

The Collector reported on the locker's deplorable situation as follows: '...first he had to camp, then he got board for a period and later obtained a furnished house, which he has had to vacate as the owner has returned to Newnes Junction.'

Added to this the locker's wife had been obliged to return to Sydney to live alone as their son had been called up for military service.

Not surprisingly, due to the exigencies of the war effort, no action was taken to improve the locker's accommodation there in 1942 or indeed during the succeeding years of the war.

Subsequently, in a document dated August 2, 1945 relating to Post War Public Works and proposing the provision of accommodation at Newnes Junction the officer in charge of Customs warehouses had this to say: 'The climate of Newnes Junction is one of extremes from exceptionally cold weather in the winter to very hot days in the summer.

'During the summer months blowflies and other flies and mosquitoes are very prevalent and gauze protection to windows is essential.

'The bond [licensed warehouse] is situated at a small siding in the bush about 12 miles from Mt. Victoria and 8 from Lithgow with a very limited train service to either shopping centre… electric light and power are available but as storms are a frequent occurrence during some seasons the power service sometimes breaks down and recourse would have to be made to fuel stoves and fire places for cooking and warmth.

'If slow combustion heaters were provided instead of fire places for warmth provision would have to be made for coke supplies.

'With no fuel merchants in close proximity and firewood scarce and hard to collect an officer would find it difficult but not absolutely impossible to obtain necessary supplies of fuel.'

The file also noted: '...the bond is situated at an altitude of 3500 feet and weather conditions run to extremes. If an officer is to be stationed at such an isolated place, a fair degree of comfort is essential.'

Petrol rationing was abolished when the Menzies Government was elected in 1949 and the need for heavily subsidised local fuel declined in the face of free availability of the imported product.

The government withdrew its assistance to Glen Davis refinery and amid considerable controversy the operation closed in 1952.

Today, Newnes Junction in its splendid isolation and anonymity slumbers on. There are no old local identities around to tell tales of the customs officer unlocking fuel tanks, checking the loaded rail tank wagons or complaining about blowflies and mosquitoes.

Newnes railway station circa 1938, after the line had closed. Photograph courtesy Peter Chinn.

Peter Chinn is President of the Springwood Historical Society Inc and author of "The Thin Blue and Red Line" - A history of the military and police presence in the Blue Mountains between the Nepean and Cox's Rivers 1814-2005.

After a 40 year career with Customs, Peter retired then soon after returned as History Officer for Australian Customs and Border Protection Service where he now works part time.

ANZAC HERO GET NEW HEADSTONE

The Lawson Cemetery grave of Henry James Hunter a World War 1 veteran is to be re-dedicated with the headstone reflecting his war service record service.

Recently members of the Blue Mountains Family History Society, Lynne Tocher and Suzanne Voytas were involved with the project of updating the cemetery records at the Lawson Public Cemetery.

While checking data they came across a badly neglected grave and the inscription on the headstone stated that the person was an ANZAC. There was no official emblem displayed and the researchers felt that if the person was an ANZAC he deserved a better memorial.

When they contacted the Office of the Australian War Graves Commission, they were told that before any work could be done to restore the grave, it was necessary to find any living descendants and obtain their permission.

For family history researchers that was easy.

It was found that Henry James Hunter had three grandchildren. Sadly his descendants were not aware of their grandfather, let alone any knowledge of his World War 1 service record.

Henry James Hunter enlisted on September 24, 1914 at the age of 46 years and his service number was 1066, with a rank of private. His unit 1st Battalion, C Company embarked from Sydney on Transport A19 Afric on October, 18 1914.

Henry James Hunter was at Gallipoli on April 25, 1915 and was evacuated from Lone Pine August 16, 1915 suffering from fever and pulmonary TB.

In December 1915 he was discharged cured from hospital and in May 1916 he joined the 1st ANZAC Entrenching Battalion serving with this unit at the Somme, near Ypres.

While serving with this unit he received the Meritorious Service Medal. The citation read;-

For devotion to duty and disregard of personal safety during intermittent shelling of Bapaume for two months and energetic meritorious service in the organization of a) Brickfields area, b) Bapaume area, c) Blequin area, and d) Reinforcement Camps area. His conduct and bearing in the A.I.F. since September 1914 has set a fine example.

He was promoted several times in the field and was Temporary Regimental Sergeant Major when he applied for discharge. On his return to Australia he was discharged on June 6, 1918 with the rank of corporal.

Henry James Hunter was living at Linden Lodge, Linden when he died on November 16, 1923.

The Office of the Australian War Graves Commission found that he met the criteria to have his grave maintained by the department.

On November 7, 2009, the grave will be rededicated, with his grandchildren and great grandchildren present. One person will be travelling from Alice Springs, NT.

Pictured above is a plaque bearing the AIF Rising Sun badge and the inscription 1066 [his army service No.] Corporal HJ Hunter 1 ANZAC Entrenching Battalion 16 November 1923 Age 53 has been set in the headstone. Pictured at left the original grave. Photographs John Leary, OAM and Lynne Tocher.

Peter Stanbury volunteers for Cambodian museum work

BMACHO committee member, Dr Peter Stanbury, recently spent over two months working in the National Museum of Cambodia in Phnom Penh as a volunteer in the Australian Business Volunteers scheme (see website http://www.abv.org.au/).

One of his tasks was to assess and provide conservation advice about their photographic collections. These consist of about 4000 glass negatives of whole plate size dating from about 1890 - 1920; 5000 21/4 square film negatives dating from 1930 - 50 and many thousands of prints.

The glass in the glass plates appeared to be breaking down. On some of the plates a white powdery substance was being deposited and many other plates appeared damp.

Both manifestations appeared on the glass side; by and large the emulsion side was not affected. The plates had been stored horizontally in boxes containing about 8 - 12 plates.

Pictured is Dr Stanbury stacking the glass plates, cleaned, rewrapped and boxed.

UNESCO Australian *Memory of the World* Register contribution

Congratulations are due to Lois Sabine of Springwood who after beavering away for over a year on a project, on October 16, 2009, saw it added to the UNESCO Australian *Memory of the World* Register where it will accompany just 30 carefully selected items incuding James Cook's *Endeavour* Journal and the Mabo case manuscripts. (http://www.amw.org.au/register/amw_reg06.htm)

Working full-time for the Department of Lands, Lois has indexed the 'Old Register 1-9' which are nine volumes of assorted records of agreements made between 1798 and 1825.

Those agreements range through sales of land, division of property between individuals, powers of attorney, promissory notes, sales of articles including live-stock and crops, hire of ships, building contracts, leases, apprenticeships as well as pre-nuptial and separation agreements.

President of Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc., Dr Peter Rickwood in alerting **HERITAGE** to Ms Sabine's achievement said, "What a variety and all to be found within a single DVD containing pdf files of indexes and images of scanned pages from the original registers.

Image No. 1 is from Book 5, Page 10, Entries 402 to 404 are from 1811 and include a bill of Sale, Bargain and Sale and a Deed of Gift from William Packer to his son William James Packer.

Reproduced with the permission of Land and Property Management Authority.

"What a treasure trove for historians interested in the founding years of the Colony! Moreover, the files can be electronically searched for a particular person – maybe an ancestor!" , said Dr Rickwood

Ms Sabine said, when she was asked by the Department of Lands to create an entirely new and complete index for these most important historical records she was thrilled.

"The original index was misplaced when the Old Register was transferred from the custody of the Supreme Court to the re-established office of the Registrar General in 1857.

"Despite the Registers being thought of as showing land transactions only, I was aware of the wealth of other personal information concerning the lives of our earliest settlers held within them.

"Almost a year later, on completion of my work transcribing and indexing the entries from the original registers, the work was transformed by the Department of Lands into a searchable DVD, covering registration dates which range from 1802 to 1825.

"It is important to note that the dates in the Register are those of document registration only, not necessarily the date on which the agreement took place which could be years earlier."

The DVD is in two parts. Part one is the index to the complete nine volumes. Part two repeats the index, but a click on the entry slowly reveals the image of the original page.

Index columns 'From', 'To' and 'Details' are listed alphabetically. To get an overview of the wealth of information available, a search of the 'Details' column will be found very rewarding. All streets, townships and locations are listed.

Lois Sabine is a member of the Blue Mountains Historical Society, the Society of Australian Genealogists and the NSW Writers Centre.

She has worked weekly for the past 8 years as a volunteer indexing all kinds of records at the City of Sydney Archives. In addition for the past seven years she has volunteered at State Records at Kingswood working on Soldier Settlement Records.

Lois does research for others. Lois has recently concluded the very large index for Jan'Barkley Jack's new book "Hawkesbury Revealed" which has just been launched.

When the City of Sydney Council boundaries were extended Shirley Fitzgerald's book "Sydney's Streets" became out of date.

Lois was invited to research and index all of the additional suburbs.

Lois Sabine

This work is now available on the council website.

It was due to her connection with that publication that the Dept of Lands became aware of her work and asked her to do the index for the Old Registers.

Australian *Memory of the World* Register

Continued from page 9

Slotted in between are Affidavits, Agreements, Arbitrations Bonds, Articles of Agreements, Assignments, Debts, Deeds of Trust, Letters and Powers of Attorney, Gifts, Indenture of Apprenticeships, Marriage and Separation Agreements, Promissory Notes, Sealing, Shipping, with all Public Houses easily found under 'Sign of —'

While many of the entries are connected to land, the following entries are some of the more personal examples**.**

Agreements. William Nash agreed to give Eleanor Logan one half of all that he possessed in this country. Bk 1, P 154, entry 1177.

Bonds. Edward Wills signed a Bond to William Bennett for Wills to keep the peace. Bk 1, P 83, entry 426.

Debt. William Gore, Provost Marshall, sold John Bowman's farm Archerfield to John Reddington for debt. Bk 5, P 230, entry 998.

Gifts. Thomas Rickerby gave to his godson William Gray an allotment of land of 054½ rods, part of Catherine Farm [Windsor]. It was to be held in Trust by William's father John Gray until William's maturity. Bk 8, P 29, entry 39.

John Coffee gave to Ann Kinsela No 4 Cumberland Street, skillion and ground on condition that she did not annoy him. Bk 5, P 248, entry 1047.

Indenture of Apprenticeships. These were given for blacksmiths, cabinet makers, pipe makers, rope makers, seamen, shipwrights, shoemakers, engineers, wheelwrights and navigators.

Marriage Agreements. Thomas Broadhurst acted as Trustee for Sarah Packer, widow, to make arrangements for her to retain her property left to her by her late husband William upon her marriage to Robert Waples. Bk 8, P 161, entry 237.

Marriage Separations. Trustees for Robert Waples and Trustees for Sarah Waples [nee Packer]

Image No 2 is from Book 1, Page 76, entries 358 to 365. They include Agreements, a Will, Power of Attorney and an Assignment to sell a house.

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arranged for her to regain her dwelling house and coach house occupied by Sarah prior to her marriage to Waples. Bk 8, P 294, entry 469.

Power of Attorney. Eber Bunker gave Margaret Bunker and William Broughton Power of Attorney to be used in the case of Eber Bunker's death. Bk 6, P 24, entry 1335.

Shipping. William Freeman was engaged by Henry Kable & Co as a cooper to King Island in the schooner Governor King to cooper for 300 tons of oil. Bk 1. P 63a. entry 289

Wills. Joseph Hatton bequeathed his wife Rosamond Hatton one shilling. His Jones Farm of 30 acres at Kissing Point together with the house, goods & chattels and stock he left to Ann Smith. Bk 9, P 69, entry 113.

Lois Sabine writes, "If my school history lessons had been based on the stories in the Registers, I would not have been numb with boredom.

"The entries reflect everything in an emerging, stratified society containing violence, greed, guilt, matrimonial infidelities, family love and separation, sudden death, oh yes, and land.

"Recognition of the Old Register One to Nine for inclusion for inscription on the UNESCO Australian *Memory of the World* Register shows these records, at last fully revealed, to be of national and international importance.

"A copy of the DVD should be in every local library, historical society, family history society, university library, and school library," Ms Sabine said.

Pictured from left: Lois Sabine, Tony Kelly, NSW Minister for Lands with Madi Maclean and Nicola Forbes, both from the Land and Property Management Authority on the presentation of the inscription of The Old Register One to Nine to the UNESCO Memory of the World Register.

Hawkesbury Settlement Revealed

by Jan Barkley-Jack

Thousands of present-day Australians, including many in the Blue Mountains, trace their forebears to the early farmers on the banks of the Upper Hawkesbury River.

The European settlement there, known initially as the District of Mulgrave Place, began in the eighteenth century.

In my latest book I seek to transport readers to an intimate experience of that first decade.

Hawkesbury Settlement Revealed: a new look at Australia's third mainland settlement, 1793-1802 is a re-evaluation of the early Hawkesbury farms, dismantling the cultural bias evident in most of the contemporary chroniclers.

As I explore the conventional contention that the settlers as a group created and earned their own notoriety, the stereotypical image of them as lazy, lawless drunkards is severely modified.

Exciting new material from witness statements in court cases, from land transaction records and from the settlers' own writings has been used to produce an original and at times startling re-evaluation.

The evidence used comprehensively for the first time allows the people to inhabit the book's pages and to emerge as personalities, a lively and for the most part likeable parade, in which the achievements of high-flying transportees stand alongside those of the ordinary impoverished ex-convicts and free settlers.

Characters can be given, for example, to the eleven, hitherto invisible female landholders. One of their number, Sarah Cooley, was at home both in Sydney and on the Hawkesbury.

She emerges not just as the long-time partner of the military commandant, Neil McKellar, but also as the person who ran McKellar's farm, raised their children and made wide and astute business dealings.

'Saunderson's Farm. Looking down the River', engraving by William Lowry, apparently from original by Thomas Watling, in D. Collins, An Account of the English Colony in New South Wales vol.I, 1798. This is the only picture of 1794 Hawkesbury farms in existence, thought to have been sketched in 1795 or 1796. By courtesy of Royal Australian Historical Society.

Sarah developed the highest profile of all the early Hawkesbury female ex-convicts.

Part of the local significance of Margaret Catchpole (a well-known name) and the less familiar Sarah Cobcroft and Ann Blady comes from their role as midwives, while Mary Archer deserves to be remembered for her bravery in speaking out against the European men who murdered two Aboriginal youths.

The instability and violence which arose from the new European farms impinging on Aboriginal lands and traditional food supplies created threats for the Indigenous people and settlers alike.

The women of both cultures knew fear while also displaying fortitude, and many cases of both Indigenous people and European settlers showing humanity and compassion have been documented.

Recurrent floods created misery. William Aspinall wrote of his family being left 'helpless spectators only of our stacks, barns, houses and stock swimming down the current'. Patrick Hynes had had 'to go in Debt to seed and crop his ground … and before …[he] could Discharge his Debt all … would be sweepted away … his grain, pigs, fowls, his furniture, Beds, Beding and wearing Aperal'.

Careful selection of coloured prints and modern photographs illustrate graphically how these and other farms were periodically almost totally submerged under the flood waters.

Yet despite adversity, 58% of the earliest settler families were still farming on the Hawkesbury as the first decade of the nineteenth century dawned and over 70% were cultivating at least the six acres that constituted John Macarthur's definition of a sustainable family farm.

I have resurrected a forgotten ex-convict, the most successful of all the early Hawkesbury settlers, John Stogdell, rich in his own right, who was the agent for the powerful Commissary General, John Palmer.

Stogdell met an untimely end in the 1801 flood, but he had already established consolidated farms previously thought impossibly grand for the early frontier and had also supervised the completion of Palmer's handsome Sydney estate of 'Woollomooloo'.

One hundred pages of court proceedings have revealed all this in startling detail, which is presented as a separate case study.

Continued page 12

Hawkesbury Settlement Revealed

Continued from page 11

The emancipist John Harris may have escaped floods but he did not escape the wrath of another military commandant, Anthony Fenn Kemp.

Harris set his dogs on trespassing pigs belonging to the irascible commandant and later in court claimed to be a 'free man … and a Citizen of the World', using the terminology of the French Revolution.

Samuel Marsden's evidence is shown to have kept Harris's good character intact, whilst demonstrating that early Hawkesbury politics were more sophisticated than is currently believed.

One of the features of this book is the full and detailed listing, including map locations, of the land promised in 1794 to 1796, tied to appendices which recite every land title granted in the district up to 1802.

To illustrate the localised domain of these first Hawkesburyites, I have ransacked the drawings, paintings and prints surviving from the period before 1820 and especially before 1805.

Detail of 'A View of Part of the Town of Windsor', drawn and engraved by Philip Slager or Slaeger, published by Absalom West, Sydney 4 June 1813. The detail shows retailing activity and delivery of stores in what is now Thompson Square, Windsor, typical of the river trade on the Upper Hawkesbury in the 1790s. The cottage is likely to have been occupied by Andrew Thompson up to 1800. Taken from the author's copy of the original print.

Modern digital technology makes it possible for the first time to make legible enlargements of tiny incidental images of individual farm buildings and ordinary people going about their work in the first two decades of settlement.

The illustrations in the book are unhackneyed and are presented in colour wherever appropriate.

They are an important part of the revelation of the earliest Hawkesbury settlement.

The author - Jan Barkley-Jack, BA (Hons)

Jan Barkley Jack, BA (Hons) is a historian who was educated in Sydney and at the University of New England, obtaining a major in both history and archaeology in her degree.

She co-authored the Hawkesbury City Council's Bicentennial history and has written articles and chapters in publications on a variety of historical topics relating to the Hawkesbury and other areas.

As a resident of Windsor, she has been actively involved there in promoting history through being on Hawkesbury Historical Society, National Trust and Hawkesbury City Council Heritage and celebration committees, and as Hon. Curator of Hawkesbury Museum between the mid-1980s and 2001(unofficially carrying out that role for ten years previously). Jan has presented Community Link courses for the University of Western Sydney and was a recipient of a Commonwealth Centenary Medal in 2003 for 'service to the community through the history and heritage of the Hawkesbury'.

In 2005 she was an advisor to SBS Television on historical content in their Living History series 'The Colony'. For her current PhD, being undertaken with the University of Western Sydney, she is seeking to extend understanding of the dynamics of early farming settlement in New South Wales, especially in frontier districts like the Hawkesbury, in the years that led up to the Macquarie period.

MAP CARE AND CONSERVATION

Plans are now well advanced for a workshop to be held at the Land and Property Management Authority of NSW at Bathurst on Friday, February 19, 2010.

The workshop will look at the techniques for restoring damaged maps, and methods of storing and catologuing maps.

Participants in the workshop will visit the scanning and restoration area, cadastral, topographic and surveying sections.

Time will be spent in the graphic services section which includes bookbinding, digital imagery and pre digital mapping.

Participants will also see the latest technology and glimpse of historical map making.

Railway station home for Mt Victoria Historical Society's museum

Historical societies often are located in heritage buildings and some even end up in railway properties, which is the case for Mt Victoria Historical Society Inc. which has operated a museum in the former railway dining and refreshment rooms part of the Mt Victoria railway station for almost 40 years.

The station building itself is a heritage listed building, and collected railway material is nationally significant

It is one of the few sandstone buildings of State Rail. It was opened in 1868 as a very small station, and significant additions built in 1872, 1884 including the first floor, and 1911.

Numerous photographs and research material are held of staff, and stories documented of their work and social life. At least four people still living in the village, worked when they were young, in the dining rooms.

Early freight was sent to Sydney for supplies and export - livestock, meat, and wool, because the early mountain roads were too steep for trucks so animals were herded up to Mt Victoria.

In 1971 the historical society opened its museum under a lease agreement with State Rail.

More recently the old manager's flat on the first floor and the old ground floor kitchen have been added to the lease. All society activities, monthly meetings etc. are held on these premises.

The society, then named Mt York Historical Society was formed in 1966 by residents of the Blue Mountains villages of Mt Victoria, Blackheath and Hartley.

The collections were initially housed in members' homes, where regular meetings were held, often with a guest speaker.

For a time some were also held in Mr Rienits Private School in Montgomery St, Mt Victoria which may have been called, *Glen Ogie* by then.

Outings to places of local interest were organised. In the late 1960s the name was changed to Mt Victoria Historical Society, following confusion with the Mt York Natural History Museum which operated in the "Kiosk" building at Mt York.

The railway station premises have provided the museum with a range of room sizes. The dining room has mostly glass display cabinets, vertical and horizontal, for smaller items and documents. The large refreshment room has been used for a wide range of medium to large objects from farm machinery, tools, horse buggy, furniture display etc. arranged in subject groups.

There are 11 smaller rooms, most used for displays and most of these have a specific theme; - Mel Ward Natural History; Photographic - items and notable photographers pictures; Gowns; Trains; Mt Victoria; Osborne Ladies College Blackheath - Ron Brasier collection and the Old- time school room.

The collections include; about 2600 artefacts 350 books 700 historic photographs, of which 500 are copied and are organised in folders, 230 framed pictures, 260 research files,160 maps, survey plans, drawings etc.

The old kitchen which has been only recently cleared out by State Rail is currently being set up for research.

Some years ago curators embarked on spread-sheet data entries for much of the accession collection - some 1700 items each under approx 20 headings- donor, origin, details ; and much of the photographic collection - some 500, again under numerous headings.

After a lull in updating the data, this has been re-commenced. Material held relates primarily, but not exclusively to the villages and area between Katoomba and Hartley.

It has been suggested the collection is significant it being possibly, the only collection recording the exploration, surveying and building of the first roads and railway across the Blue Mountains.

It is significant in encompassing the story of convict labour, the development of farms, villages and towns, and the extensive number of

Continued page 14

A phaeton (buggy) circa early 1900s. This carriage is 2-seater, pulled by two horse for light duties in country or town.

The volcanic geology of Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine

Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine Historical Society Inc. will hold its annual general meeting on Saturday, November 14, 2009 at the Mt Wilson Village Hall, The Avenue, Mt Wilson, to which members and friends are invited.

The guest speaker will be Dr Peter Rickwood who arguably knows more than anyone about the geology of the Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine area.

"A connection with Mt Wilson commenced shortly after buying a house at Blackheath in 1979," says Dr Peter Rickwood

"Our neighbour was the daughter of Peter and Johnny Kirk and they were quickly 'adopted' by our children as surrogate grandparents in lieu of the real ones who were resident in England and seldom seen.

"Accordingly visits to Mt Wilson became frequent and Peter verbally directed me to various places to get samples of basalt.

"Revision of the geology courses at UNSW in the late 1970s brought to me the need to find a field area for the Year 4 students who needed to get samples for a geochemistry project.

"What better than to take them to a place that I was starting to know quite well so in 1981 the first group collected from sites ranging from Mt Hay to Mt Tootie.

"Later the groups worked at either Mt Wilson or Mt Irvine and the collecting became an annual event until 1997 when I retired.

"The students worked in small groups of 3 or 4 and each group was accompanied by a qualified geologist; on many occasions Bill Smart alsoaccompanied one of the groups and his guidance to concealed access routes was invaluable.

"While the students were still investigating these rocks it was not possible to write up the outcome of their various projects and since then a book on Blackheath and other topics of historical research have not given me adequate time to mull over this material - until now!

"The talk will dwell on the volcanic geology of the area and the wonderful welcome given to the students by many of the landowners," said Peter.

Dr Rickwood is a visiting senior research fellow at the School of Biological, Earth & Environmental Science at the University of NSW and president of the Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc.

Morning tea will be served at 10.30am, the annual meeting will commence at 11am followed by an address by Dr Rickwood. A light lunch will be served following the presentation.

For catering purposes please advise Mary Reynolds 4756 2006 Florence Smart 4756 2063 or Helen Cardy 9871 3661 or e-mail westring@bigpond.com

Mt Victoria station museum home to bush tools

Continued from page 13

early agricultural implements. Most of these were gifted from the descendents of people who made and used them, and individual accounts have also been recorded.

After the first convict colony was established in Sydney, early farming for food was started on the Sydney basin plains, (often unsuccessful) and travel beyond not encouraged or allowed without permission.

The Blue Mountains were a natural barrier welcomed by authority, especially for the convicts. When food became a problem, farm animals began arriving, broader plains with better soil was needed and explorers, surveyors including Wentworth, Blaxland, Lawson, Evans came to Mt Victoria, and nearby.

Information for this article has been provided by Roy Bennett, curator of the Mt Victoria Historical Society Museum.

Roy moved from Sydney to Mt Victoria about 4 years ago soon after joining the society, its committee and became its voluntary curator 2 or 3 years ago. Most of the information comes from an application he prepared for an application for a National Library Special Significance grant.

Bush saws and other farm tools used in timber getting and land clearing.

Tyldesley the village that disappeared

The spine of the Great Dividing Range leading north from Wallerawang to Mudgee is rich in minerals. Since the late 19th century the region along the "Mudgee Line" has seen gold, coal and oil shale mining, limestone quarrying, and the manufacture of petroleum products and cement. Following the construction of the Wallerawang to Mudgee branch line railway from the early 1880s coal mining commenced at various places including Cullen Bullen.

Between 1888 and 1960 the area around Cullen Bullen hosted six underground coal mines. Two of these mines, Tyldesley and Invincible were major producers and employers in the early to mid 20th century. To alleviate coal shortages experienced immediately after World War II the Joint Coal Board encouraged the development of open cut coal mining in the area. The open cut mines were worked by the army and air force during the 1949 coal strike.

The village of Tyldesley grew around the headworks of the Great Western Colliery and its successor Tyldesley Colliery from 1904.

Like many coal communities the village consisted of shanties built on colliery land using a mixture of traditional building methods such as wattle and daub and found materials including sacking, kerosene tins and explosives boxes.

Tyldesley Colliery ceased operation in 1960 and the village was largely abandoned by the mid 1960s. Little remained of the village by the time a new open cut mine was developed on the site from 2001. The village has all but disappeared from the landscape.

The City of Greater Lithgow Mining Museum Inc is preparing to print Ray Christison's latest book on the history of coalmining in the Western Coalfield. This book will be in a similar format to *Lithgow State Coal Mine a pictorial history* published in May this year.

The book uses a mixture of historical records, newspaper reports and the memories of former residents to present the story of coal mining around Cullen Bullen and Tyldesley. The book is illustrated with 19 maps and plans, and over 70 photographs of the district's mines and the village of Tyldesley.

Pictured is water bailer, Harry McAlpine, colliery engineer, James Wilson and the colliery dog Rex at Tyldesley in the early 1950s. Harry and his wife Annie also ran the post office and general store at Tyldesley.

The new book, focuses on the story of the Great Western/Tyldesley Colliery that operated from 1904 to 1960 and the village that grew around the mine's headworks.

It also includes a brief history of the neighbouring village of Cullen Bullen and the collieries that operated in the Cullen Bullen district, including:

Cullen Bullen Colliery 1888-1900, Shepherd and Massey's Mine1888, Invincible Colliery 1905-1957, Renown Colliery 1921-1929, 1940-1954, Invincible No.2 Colliery 1925-1931, Ben Bullen Colliery 1926-1929, Wattle Mount Colliery 1929, 1949-1950s, Ben Bullen Open Cut 1946-1955,
Red Springs Open Cut 1947-1955, Cullen Main Open Cut 1948-1952 , Beaumaris Open Cut 1949-1953.

It is planned to release the book by November 30, 2009.

The City of Greater Lithgow Mining Museum is offering a pre-publication discount for orders placed before this date.

Pre-publication order form and a reseller order form can be downloaded from the City of Greater Lithgow Mining Museum website www.statemine.org.au

BULL'S CAMP MYTHS DEBUNKED

When Major Thomas Mitchell began his road deviation works a depot was set up in the 1830s at a site known as Twenty-Mile Hollow [now Woodford]. Convicts engaged in road construction were camped here, as well as their military guards.

In 1842 Captain Bull was placed in charge of the camp. Two store rooms were excavated in the soft sandstone; these were not cells, as the popular notion has it.

Nor were parallel grooves in the nearby rock surface cut to give the flagellator a foothold [or to drain away the blood of the convict being flogged]; they were on a path to a nearby kitchen and were most likely put there to prevent slipping on the sloping rock surface. *Source: Places of Historic Interest on the Blue Mountains published by the Springwood Historical Society from data provided the Society's researcher Allan Searle 1977.*

ADVENTURE CHALLENGE

Everglades at Leura and the Norman Lindsay Gallery at Faulconbridge are among National Trust of Australia (NSW) properties participating in the Premier's Adventure Challenge.

The idea of the challenge is to encourage children and their families to visit and enjoy the state's museums and galleries which will provide free entry to primary students participating on weekends, public and school holidays until January 27, 2010.

Their adventure begins when they pick up their free Kid's Adventure Passport from any participating museum or gallery in NSW.

They can then explore the many treasures found within the listed properties.

Once the students have collected three stamps they can apply for an official certificate from the Premier's Department, which recognises their achievement.

For details on where to collect a passport and start the challenge go to www.arts.nsw.gov.au

Historic Mt. York cemetery

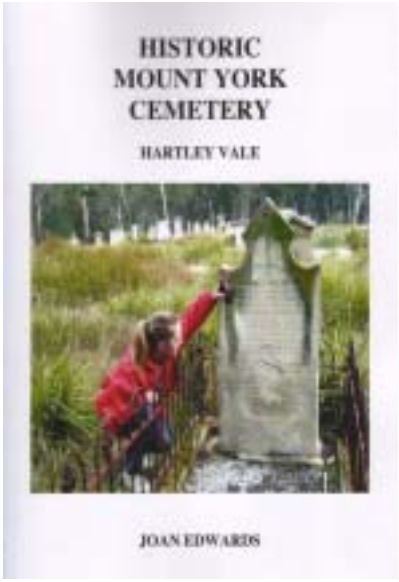
The Blue Mountains Family History Society's latest publication, *Historic Mount York Cemetery, Hartley Vale*, was launched on September 18, 2009 at the annual conference of the NSW & ACT Association of Family History Societies at Wyong. It is not the usual cemetery update, but a compilation from four known lists, no two of which are identical.

The cemetery dates from the early 1830s, on Pierce Collit's land, not far from the base of Lawson's Long Alley, the steep western descent from Mt. York.

President of the Blue Mountains Family History Society, Joan Edwards writes that the closed cemetery has a Lithgow LGA Heritage Order, and is controlled by the Hartley Vale and Mt Blaxland Trust. It is no longer on private land, but accessible on foot in daylight hours.

"Time, vandalism and neglect have played their part in destroying tangible evidence. Many burials were prior to civil registrations and not listed in NSW BDMs," claims Ms Edwards.

"Early burials include Pierce and Mary Collit, family members, local workers and travellers.



Later many were families associated with the local shale oil mine."

One conference delegate provided evidence that one of her family was one of the unknown, unrecorded burials. "Hopefully with this publication, evidence of more of the unrecorded will be added to our knowledge," Ms Edwards stated.

The book of known burials includes inscriptions, some recorded 45 years ago and no longer legible, and illustrated with 50 B & W photos. It is available from the Blue Mountains Family History Society PO Box 97 Springwood 2777 or xploretree@yahoo.com.au. at a cost of $20 plus postage.

All the president's pennies

One day in 1791 George Washington received a bill for 60 pounds, 1 shilling and 7 pence from his friend Dr James Craik.

The invoice ran to two pages: *["Anodyne Pills for Breachy… Laxative pills for Ruth…syphilic Pills for Maria…oz Antiphlogistie Anodyne Tincture… Bleeding Charlotte……oz 4 Powdered Rhubarb… Extracting one of your Negroes tooth… A Mercurial Purge for Cook Jack…"]*

Washington was extraordinarily careful with his accounts detailing every penny in ledgers using double entry bookeeping.

This brief glimpse is contained in what historians say is a vast cache of financial documents from the life of the first US president. Documenting lives of ordinary people – merchants, tradesmen, servants and slaves are scattered around institutions in the US. In most cases they have never been transcribed or published in accessible form.

That archival quandary lured 25 scholars, some of them 'forensic accountants" to Mt Vernon, recently for a workshop to plan how to get records on-line.

Joyce Chaplin, Harvard historian, said the papers offered a picture of "material culture".

Among the papers are chilling passages for the modern reader for example, Washington recorded buying, at public auction *"Ned a girl "Murria"", "Old Abner" "a Wench Dinah" and her four children.*

As Washington aged, he was increasingly repulsed by slavery.
The Washington Times

BMACHO MEETING CO-ORDINATORS

The former secretary of Lithgow Branch National Trust, Lyn Fowler, and Doug Knowles of Glenbrook Historical Society both members of BMACHO's committee have taken on the role of meeting coordinators.

Secretary, Barrie Reynolds said this would spread the work load of the committee.

They will take on the administrative and management of meetings, such as annual general meeting, mid year meetings and various seminars and workshops. The selection of speakers will continue to be a responsibility of the whole committee.

National Trust registers industrial past

In a quiet show of support for the appreciation of Sydney's industrial heritage, the National Trust has added one of Sydney Harbour's mightiest tools to its register – an 85 year old shipyard crane.

The colossal machine spent much of its working life at the now-defunct Mort's Dockyard in Balmain, hauling ferries and World War 2 navy ships from the sea for repair, but was later moved to its present location on Goat Island.

Mort's Dock at Balmain was opened in 1856. Thomas Sutcliffe Mort came to Australia in 1838 as a clerk and soon became involved in a wide range of commerce. Among these ventures was refrigerated transport of produce for which he built one of the earliest chilling works at Bowenfels near Lithgow.

The Trust listing coincides with calls for a return to harbour open spaces including Goat Island, to their pre-colonial state and the demolition of the industrial features.

The industrial heritage officer at the National Trust, Tony Brassil, said that there is always a tendency to see heritage in terms of its beauty.

"These are not necessarily things of classical beauty, but they certainly things of engineering beauty, " Mr Brassil said.

A mighty tool the 85-year old shipyard crane

While a listing on the Trust's register has no legal force, Mr Brassil said he hoped it would underscore the crane's significance.

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

REGISTERED OFFICE 40 Hume Avenue, Wentworth Falls 2782
E-mail: bmacho.heritage@gmail.com
Website: www.bluemountains.heritage

THE ORGANISATION Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 following a unanimous response to a proposal from Prof. Barrie Reynolds at the 2004 Blue Mountains Local History Conference which sought from Blue Mountains City Council the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the city.

BMACHO in its constitution uses the definition: "Cultural heritage is all aspects of life of the peoples of the Blue Mountains which was later changed to cover Lithgow and the villages along the Bell's Line of Roads. It therefore involves the recording, preserving and interpreting of information in whatever form: documents, objects, recorded memories as well as buildings and sites."

The objectives of the organisation are

i. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage.

ii. To encourage and assist cultural heritage activities of member organisations.

iii. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations.

One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact, to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

MEMBERSHIP The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains City Library, Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc., Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc., Blue Mountains Tourism Limited, Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute, Cudgegong Museums Group, Friends of Everglades, Friends of Norman Lindsay Gallery, Glenbrook & District Historical Society, Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc, Lilianfels Blue Mountains Resort, Lithgow Mining Museum, Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies, Lithgow Small Arms Factory Museum, Mid-Mountains Historical Society, Mid Western Regional Council Library, Mt Tomah Botanic Gardens, Mt Victoria and District Historical Society Inc., Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine History Society (including Turkish Bath Museum), Mudgee Historical Society, Mudgee Regional Library, National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Blue Mountains Branch (including Woodford Academy), National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Lithgow Branch), Scenic World – Blue Mountains Limited, Springwood & District Historical Society Inc., Springwood Historians, Two Centuries of Elegance, Valley Heights Locomotive Depot and Museum, Zig Zag Railway. The following are individual members: Wendy Carlson, Ray Christison, Ms Pamela Hubert, Associate Professor Ian Jack, Joan Kent, John Leary OAM, John Low, Professor Barrie Reynolds, and Dr Peter Stanbury OAM.

COMMITTEE The committee for 2009-10 is: John Leary, (president) Ian Jack (vice president), Barrie Reynolds (secretary), Kathie McMahon (treasurer), Jean Arthur, Ray Christison, Lyn Fowler, Doug Knowles, and Dick Morony (public officer), Peter Stanbury.

AUDITOR: Sue McMahon, B Comm CPA

AFFILIATIONS BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society Inc.

HERITAGE is BMACHO's official newsletter.

HERITAGE

NEWSLETTER OF THE BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS

JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2010 ISSUE No. 7

Governor Macquarie 200-years on

Lachlan Macquarie assumed the reins of government in New South Wales on New Year's Day, 1810, and remained responsible for the colony until the end of November 1821.

His achievements in restoring public administration after the unrest which had unseated Governor Bligh, his ambitious programme of public works and his attempts to create an effective society in which most landholders were ex-convicts or the children of convicts will be recognised in a variety of bicentenary events during 2010.

Macquarie's colony consisted primarily of eastern New South Wales and Tasmania, so his bicentenary is less emotive to modern Australians whose affiliations do not lie in these parts. Within New South Wales, interest is keenest in Sydney itself, across the Cumberland Plain (not least in the Hawkesbury towns) and along the Great Western Highway as far as Bathurst.

The aspects of Macquarie's administration which resonate in these separate parts of the state do not, of course, relate solely to 1810.

The town-sites along the Hawkesbury-Nepean, as well as Liverpool, were indeed selected and named before 1810 ended, but an urban reality in Windsor, Richmond, Wilberforce, Pitt Town, Castlereagh and Liverpool was realised only gradually over the twelve years of Macquarie's governorship and beyond.

The first professional survey of a viable route across the Blue Mountains was not undertaken on Macquarie's orders until late in 1813 and William Cox's convicts did not complete the construction of the first road from Emu Plains to the future Bathurst until January 1815.

The public works, like Hyde Park Barracks and St Mathew's Anglican Church in Windsor, which aroused so much criticism at the end of Macquarie's reign, were built over a number of years and some were incomplete when Macquarie returned to Britain in February 1822.

So what will be celebrated in the various functions, symposia, lectures and exhibitions, together with the erection or re-erection of statues and plaques, planned for 2010, will inevitably relate to the totality of Macquarie's governorship and cannot be restricted to the events of 1810 alone.

At the same time, it is clear that over the next few years after 2010 there will be significant efforts in the Blue Mountains to commemorate the exploration, surveying and road-making of 1813 to 1814 and it is likely that Bathurst will seek to celebrate Macquarie's journey over the Mountains culminating in his declaration of the new town in May 1815.

Individual buildings and sites associated with Macquarie are, moreover, being assessed for inclusion on the State Heritage Register during 2010 and over the next decade recognition will no doubt be made on appropriate dates, publicising the significance of each individual place.

So, however crowded the Macquarie calendar for 2010 is becoming, this year will not and should not be the end of the interest in this critically important governor.

The articulate and welcome enthusiasm for Governor Lachlan Macquarie expressed by our present Governor Marie Bashir has helped to ensure that there is potent patronage for the planned events.
Continued page 2.

This article has been written by Associate Professor Ian Jack, president, Royal Australian Historical Society and vice president, Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations.

The age of Macquarie.....

Continued from page 1

It is to be hoped, however, that the commemorative impulse will not simply be adulatory. Macquarie's policies deserve the most serious reappraisal both in their immediate effects and in their long-term results in shaping the colony as it expanded beyond the constraints of the coastal plain. Macquarie was not all white, nor was Commissioner Bigge all black: the facile tag dubbing Macquarie 'Father of Australia' is at best only a suggestive half-truth.

Macquarie's biographers, Malcolm Ellis, Noel McLachlan and John Ritchie, in 1947, 1967 and 1986 respectively, together with Manning Clark in 1962, and James Broadbent, Joy Hughes and the others responsible for the great exhibition called *The Age of Macquarie* mounted at Hyde Park Barracks in 1992, have given a wide public increasingly more ample data on which to reappraise the man and his times.

The plaque which Macquarie erected on the south wall of St Matthew's Anglican church in Windsor in 1820. Photograph taken by Ian Jack on July 18, 2009.

It is hoped that the impetus of the bicentary events of 2010 will lead not just to triumphalism and a few more plaques, but also to an intense historical evaluation which revisits both the rich documentary evidence and the physical testimony of the buildings, the roads and the planned towns. Macquarie, for all his faults, was a great governor who presided over a decade of critical importance to the young colony. I hope that we rise to the challenge of memorialisation.

Macquarie bicentenary commemorations

The 200th anniversary of Macquarie's swearing in as the 5th governor of NSW will be commemorated with a state-wide celebration program to acknowledge the significant contribution and achievements of Governor Macquarie and his wife Elizabeth during their 12 year tenure.

The Macquarie 2010 Bicentenary Commemorations Committee was established to coordinate the NSW State Government's involvement in the bicentenary.

The committee is encouraging state and local government agencies, community organisations, businesses and individuals to be part of the commemorations by organising a new activity or reorganising an existing event under the 'Macquarie' theme and applying for endorsement.

The Endorsement Program provides an opportunity for initiatives to be part of the calendar of events listed on the official website.

Endorsees will also gain permission to use the logo and be given access to on-line resources and opportunities to expand the potential audience for their bicentenary activities.

The official calendar will be an historical record of how the Bicentenary was commemorated - so why not register your initiative and be part of history!

Contact: Community Engagement and Events Division, NSW Department of Premier and Cabinet on 9228 4513 or Macquarie2010@dpc.nsw.gov.au
Further information: www.macquarie2010.nsw.gov.au

DARLEY HOUSE WINS TWO CHEFS HATS' AWARD

The heritage property Darley House now operating as Darley's Restaurant as part of the Lilianfels complex at Katoomba has won a coveted Sydney Morning Herald Food Guide Award 2010.

The property was featured in the November-December 2009 edition of ***HERITAGE.***

The property was originally built for Frederick Darley and his wife who came to Australia in 1862, on the advice of Sir Alfred Stephen (the Chief Justice of NSW) who convinced Darley that he would further his career in the colony. Darley was knighted in 1887, served as the Chief Justice of NSW and five times as the Lieutenant Governor of NSW.

Orient-Express purchased Lilianfels in 2000 and the company, along with the hotel manager, Grant Raubenheimer, are committed to the protection and celebration of Lilianfels' heritage while promoting the property as a premier luxury resort within the World Heritage listed Blue Mountains area.

Lilianfels is a founding member of BMACHO.

From the president's pen.....

Protection for heritage – What protection?

In recent times there has been considerable media coverage expressing concern about the NSW Government's decision to absorb the Heritage Office into the Department of Planning as well as giving the Planning Minister power over both development and heritage protection. (*Global economic crisis to benefit our heritage – HERITAGE July-August 2009).*

This column is indebted to Steve Rawling AM, who is chair of the Hawkesbury Branch of National Trust for detailing just how little protection our heritage has under various existing listings, in his article in the December 2009 edition of Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society's newsletter *The Millstone.*

People often do not realise that even before the changes introduced by the NSW Government, many buildings and other items of real heritage value had virtually no protection. It is useful to look at the various levels of 'heritage listings'.

Listing by the National Trust of Australia. The Trust has done a wonderful job for five decades in identifying items of heritage value, and 'listed by the National Trust' is taken by many to indicate some level of protection.

Unfortunately, this listing affords no legal or statutory protection at all. It simply means that the Trust has established its heritage value and by this listing it is hoped it may influence state and local government decisions about possible developments affecting the item.

Council Local Environment Plans. Local government authorities are required to list in their Local Environment Plans (LEPs) those items of heritage value which they have been able to identify.

Councils have a responsibility to take heritage values into account when assessing development applications and to take steps to ensure that items are maintained in a secure way.

Blue Mountains City Council only last month sent to the Heritage Branch a record of some 800 sites, the list having been compiled by a highly regarded heritage professional consultant way back between 1999 and 2005.

Although there are some notable exceptions, most councils do not have a good record with anecdotal evidence that development has taken precedence over preservation. The worrying aspect of this is that the policy of 'demolition by neglect' is a major limitation to the requirement on local government.

State Heritage Inventory. This is merely a record at state level of what is on a council's LEPs without adding any further protection.

State Heritage Register. Inclusion on the register of items of 'State significance' means that items are protected under the NSW Heritage Act and cannot be demolished or damaged without making an application to the Heritage Branch of the NSW Department of Planning.

Under Frank Sartor, then Minister for Planning, the Heritage Office, an independent government agency became a mere Heritage Branch within the Department of Planning. When the Heritage Amendment Act came into force in 2009, the powers of the Heritage Council were substantially reduced by various legislative changes, so that greater power now resides in the hands of the Minister for Planning.

There is no doubt that most groups concerned with heritage and history, including the Royal Australian Historical Society (RAHS), the History Council of NSW, the National Trust of Australia and Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisation (BMACHO) regard the present situation as unsatisfactory.

National Heritage List. A national heritage system was established in 2004 under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* .

This led to the introduction of the National Heritage List, which is designed to recognise and protect places of outstanding heritage to the nation, and the Commonwealth Heritage List, which includes Commonwealth owned or leased places of significant heritage value.

The establishment of this national system was in line with a 1997 agreement by the Council of Australian Governments that each level of government should be responsible for protecting heritage at the appropriate level.

World Heritage Listing. Australia is party to the UNESCO Convention of 1972 which administers the World Heritage List. There are 890 items world-wide of which 17 are in Australia including the Greater Blue Mountains Area, Sydney Opera House and the Great Barrier Reef.

It is indeed sad that much of what is considered as our heritage has little or no legal protection in the face of development proposals or from demolition by neglect.

Australia's heritage depends on the vigilance of the community and the willingness of federal, state and local government to place a higher priority on heritage values.

John Leary, OAM - President, Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations

Mapping workshop at Bathurst

An outstanding workshop covering a wide range of topics associated with map making, surveying and restoration of maps has been arranged for BMACHO members.

The workshop to be held at the Land and Property Management Authority's complex at Bathurst will be held on Friday, February 19, 2010.

A limited number of 20 can be accommodated by the Authority and this number will be broken into two groups to tour the complex, see the various processes and talk with senior staff.

Arrangements have been made to hire a small bus to take the party to and from Bathurst. The cost including morning tea on arrival and lunch will cost $20

Doug Knowles a member of Glenbrook and District Historical Society Inc. will drive the bus which will reduce the hire cost and allow for a number of stops to be made to pick up and drop off passengers on the way home.

Booking may be made by telephone to Doug Knowles on 4751 3275 (let phone ring a long time). Bookings will require payment within 7 days as it is expected more people will wish to participate in this activity than can be accommodated.

The bus will leave from Macquarie Street opposite Springwood railway station entrance at 7.45am The number of stops will depend on the locations from which participants come, but at this stage it is expected to be Wentworth Falls, Mt Victoria and Lithgow. Exact pick-up locations will be advised when bookings are made.

Participants will arrive at Bathurst at 10am for morning tea before being addressed by Warrick Beacroft, executive manager of the Land and Property Management Authority then touring the complex.

Participants will see the historic surveying equipment, discuss the activities of the Geographical Names Board, inspect imagery and elevation programs, graphic services; conversion and preservation operations.

After lunch at 12.30pm there will be demonstrations of LPMA internet based applications for mapping and surveying.

After a half hour wind-up session, participants will depart Bathurst for the return trip.

Pictured is Sir Thomas Mitchell's theodolite dated 1828 atop a hand drawn map part of the heritage collection at the Land and Property Management Authority at Bathurst and which will be among items to be viewed during the February workshop. Mitchell is believed to have used the theodolite in surveying across the Blue Mountains.

Director provides insight into work of Heritage Branch

BMACHO hosted a general meeting at the Glenbrook Bowls Club on Friday, November 20 which attracted 29 participants. The meeting was organised by Doug Knowles and Barrie Reynolds. In the unavoidable absence of the president, Barrie chaired the meeting.

Mrs Petula Samios, director of the State Heritage Branch, spoke on the work of the branch, outlining its responsibilities and the main aspects of recent changes to the Heritage Act.

The branch provides support to the Heritage Advisory Council and gives practical information to people enquiring about their heritage properties.

The branch also maintains the Register of Sites, is responsible for advising the minister on the heritage implications of development proposals, and has a program of heritage grants.

There were numerous questions from the audience, many focused on individual properties and their protection under the Act.

While the director understandably could not advise off the cuff on these, she offered to do so in response to written enquiry.

Ms Samios also explained how the main thrust of the registration of sites is now theme-based although a number of urgent cases are considered even where they fall outside these themes.

The meeting provided a valuable insight into the way in which heritage matters are dealt with at State level and some of the constraints under which the branch works. ***Barrie Reynolds***

World Heritage Institute launches on-line exhibition

The Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute has launched on-line a mixed media exhibition developed to share the stories, reflections and memories of the Blue Mountains community. The eucalypt is used as a catalyst and symbol of recording and interpreting the community's inspiration and connection to this region from historical and contemporary perspectives drawing from private, community and public collections.

It brings together contemporary artists and community contributions sharing their archival material, social history and contemporary artworks from cross cultural perspectives highlighting the different and changing social, environmental, geographical and cultural landscapes. It highlights the different perspectives through people, places and events that have shaped our attitudes, values and lifestyles of living in a unique World Heritage area and our vision for the future.

"This exhibition provides the opportunity to reflect on the complex relationship between nature and people from a local and global perspective and the impact of fire for both current and future generations," BMWHI's project convenor Cheryl Yin-Lo said.

Ms Yin-Lo brought together a community curatorium of Helen Deane, Graham Davis King, John Leary OAM, Anitra Nelson and Suzann Victor to research and develop the exhibition and involved residents and artists who contributed and loaned their works and cultural material.

Ms Yin-Lo also thanked Roland Hemmert, John Low, Bronwen Maxwell, Judy (nee Ralph) Deane and John Deane for their assistance to the project; and to the Centre for Cultural Research, University of Western Sydney for their support; and to Sarah Terkes for helping create the online gallery. The project was funded by Arts NSW.The exhibition can be viewed on http://bmwhi.org.au/what/projects/BranchingOut/2/

One of my favourite eucalypts in the Blue Mountains is the one which is about 70 years old, growing beside the oldest building on the Blue Mountains - Woodford Academy.

Woodford Academy originally was a wayside inn built by a ticket of leave convict, Thomas Pembroke in the 1830s.

It must have been surrounded by eucalypts such as this specimen. Travellers who stopped off at the sandstone building to quench their thirst with a glass of ale, take a meal or stay overnight must have seen these majestic trees being cut down to make sleepers for the Great Western Railway's dual ribbon of steel as its construction in the 1860s pressed relentlessly on to open up much of the country to the west for rural settlement.

No doubt the Dharug and Gundungurra people who passed through this country sheltered under these eucalyptus trees, for not less than 50 metres from this tree are sandstone engravings believed to be timelines.

Just as the built heritage of European settlement is important, so too is the natural heritage bound up in the eucalypts perhaps for tens of thousands of years.

This image of the eucalypt brings together the natural and built heritage while invoking the country's cultural heritage going back perhaps 40,000 years. *Text and photograph by John Leary, OAM.*

Lithgow hosts Australian Mining History Association conference

Pictured are participants in the 2009 Australian Mining History Association annual conference, the final sessions being hosted by State Mines at Lithgow.

The conference included presentations on the mining history of the region and tours of important mining sites.

A pre-conference tour explored the gold mining heritage of Hill End and a post-conference tour experienced the abandoned oil shale town of Glen Davis.

Conference participants were also given the opportunity to visit Scenic World Katoomba, Lithgow Zig Zag Railway and the Western Mines Rescue Station with its world-leading virtual underground coal mine.

The morning spent at the State Mine was considered by many to be a highlight of the conference.

Participants were amazed at the Unions NSW display of historic trade union banners and entertainment provided by local folk singers Martin Doherty and Leigh Birkett of local group *Roisin*. Martin and Leigh gave the first public performance of Martin's new song about the Lithgow State Coal Mine and its horses.*Photograph courtesy Lithgow Mercury*

The Blue Mountains History Journal launched

Invitations are now being issued seeking contributions of articles to the inaugural issue of *The Blue Mountains History Journal* which is to be published online under the auspices of Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc. (BMACHO).

The aim of this publication is to provide an outlet for fully referenced articles on any aspect of the human history, and related subjects, of the Greater Blue Mountains and neighbouring areas.

It is the intention to publish articles that are 'intermediate' in size between those that can go into newsletters and those that could be chapters in books.

The text should be between 3 and 12 A4 pages, single spaced, 12 point, (c.1,500-6,000 words); illustrations being additional.

All submissions will be refereed.

The journal will be freely available in electronic form via a dedicated website, to which there will be unrestricted access.

Articles may be submitted by anyone.

The Blue Mountains History Journal editor, Dr Peter Rickwood

To ensure that authors get value for their efforts, hard copies of all published articles will be archived in the National Library of Australia, the State Library of NSW, the Royal Australian Historical Society, the Springwood Library, the Lithgow Regional Library and with the Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc.

It is intended to publish the first issue on or about June 1, 2010 and subsequent issues will be up-loaded either annually or bi-annually. 'Author Guidelines' are available on the website http://www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au/journal

Manuscripts for the inaugural issue need to reach the editor Dr PC Rickwood by e-mail to p.rickwood@unsw.ed.au by March 1, 2010.

Mt Wilson stalwarts stand down

Two long standing members the Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine Historical Society did not seek re-election to the committee at its annual general meeting last November.

Mr Des Barrett, president of the society paid tribute to both men, Emeritus Professor Arthur Delbridge and Bruce Wright.

"Arthur was a member of the committee from the time of the formation of the society in 1997, which was then known as The Mount Wilson Historical Society. He became Chairman later in that year. Bruce joined the society in 1997 and early in 1998 became project director.

"Both men were accustomed to the many demands placed upon them through committee work. Our society receives an extraordinary number of requests that eventually come before the management committee. Decisions are required, there are meetings to attend and museum exhibits to produce, ideas and opinions are expressed, and a host of practical matters need to be implemented.

"Arthur and Bruce made a substantial contribution and served the society with distinction through their work on the management committee.

"More broadly, Arthur will be known to all members through his very moving Remembrance Day talks and publications, his obituary for the late Luigi Strano, and his engaging talk at last year's AGM *Our Words: The History of an Enterprise*, which was about the origins and development of the *Macquarie Dictionary*.

Who better to tell us all about the making of the *Dictionary*, than the Foundation Professor of Linguistics at the university?

"I did my first day of museum duty shortly after I joined the society and became its president. It didn't take too long before I became aware that many visitors were puzzled by the notion of a Turkish bath (they were expecting something between a large bath and a sizeable bathing pool!) and how the place would have been heated.

Bruce Wright and Arthur Delbridge AO, pictured after a meeting at Mt Wilson in 2002

"Not knowing the answers to their intriguing questions, I quickly guided them to the basement and told the story of the Turkish bath's 'heating technology' as best I could.

But I knew there remained large gaps in my knowledge. Bruce told me of his interest in this matter and we agreed to collaborate.

"So, over several months we exchanged ideas and compiled rough notes that are to become working notes for others to use when they are on museum duty and facing curly questions about the production and distribution of the heat in the Turkish bath.

"Bruce has produced *The Turkish Bath Design Investigation*: *Preliminary Notes Towards an Investigation of the Original Mechanics and Functioning of the Turkish Bath* (October, 2007). I'm hopeful that the document will see the light of day, but for the present can I simply say, that we're off to a solid start through Bruce's fine work.

"Arthur and Bruce, thank you for a job well done," said Mr Barrett.

Organic garden workshops at Norman Lindsay Gallery

A series of one day gardening workshops will be held at Norman Lindsay Gallery and Museum at Faulconbridge.

Subjects include weed control, mulching, compost making, preparing vegetable and herb gardens, health and safety, organic pest control and tool selection and maintenance.

The workshops will run on Saturdays February 13, 27 and March 6, 2010.

Cost: $50. **Bookings:** essential to 4751 1067.
Pictured is Norman Lindsay Gallery gardener Will Smith, conducting an earlier Organic Gardening Workshop

Indigenous people knew of basalt at Mt Wilson long before Europeans

This article is an abridged version of an address given by Dr Peter Rickwood to the annual general meeting of Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine on November 14, 2009.

Peter is a visiting senior research fellow at the School of Biological, Earth & Environmental Science at the University of NSW and president of the Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc. He is also the inaugural editor of BMACHO's Blue Mountains History Journal, the first edition of which is to be published online in June 2010.

The areas of Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine surveyed over a century ago, roughly delineate the extent of the basalt which gives an excellent soil that provides nutrient for luxuriant botanical growth.

Implements made from basalt have been found in the Grose Valley, and elsewhere in the Blue Mountains, so indigenous occupants undoubtedly knew of the existence of basalt long before the period of recorded history.

But who first wrote of basalt at Mount Wilson?

George Caley was the first European to get a reasonably close view of Mt Wilson when on November 14, 1804 he and his party reached Mt Banks; but although he had passed over much basalt he described the rock using other terms.

It was Surveyor General, TL Mitchell who made the first specific mention of basalt in the Blue Mountains during a visit in November 1827 and he even collected samples! - but not from Mt Wilson.

In 1832 Surveyor WR Govett became the first European known to have stepped on land later called Mt Wilson but he, and many after him, failed to record basalt.

Indeed, it was not until 1875 that the presence of basalt *per se* was recorded on the ridge at Mt Wilson by C.S. Wilkinson, the government geologist .

The present distribution of basalt on the Blue Mountains is unusual for a single flow, yet the surface area (c.115 km^2), and the total volume (roughly estimated at 0.5km^3), are not excessive for a single eruption.

For nearly a century it was thought that the Blue Mountains basalt came from a single fissure located somewhere near Mt Wilson, yet Mt Banks is at a comparable height so presenting an impossible flow situation for that proposal to be true.

A reconnaissance geochemical survey by UNSW students in 1981 revealed a most striking subdivision of basalt samples into a western group (Mt Hay and Mt Wilson) of older (c.18 million years) and more primitive rock and an eastern group (Mt Tootie, Mt Tomah and Mt Irvine) that are younger (c. 15 Ma) and more chemically evolved .

Annually for over a decade, subsequent students undertook closer sampling of the Mt Wilson-Mt Irvine outcrops. Groups of 3 or 4, each group accompanied by a qualified geologist, spent a day swinging sledge hammers so that each student could find 5-6 basalt boulders that were 'fresh' enough for the project - but even the 'best' had some degree of alteration.

A lot of boulders were rejected in the field, and of those taken back to the University about 40% were rejected on the basis of examination of thin sections with a microscope. Each student crushed and analysed their three 'freshest' samples and then reported on their findings.

One outcome was that the basalt on Smiths Hill was found to be layered with the lowest layer having the highest SiO_2 and the highest layer having the least, thus the top of the reservoir was tapped first so progressively the silica and Zr diminished whereas Mg and Ni increased.

In over 400 basalt samples, only one large zircon crystal (c.1 cm diameter) was found and that was seen in a sample collected on the south-western side of Smiths Hill.
Continued page 9.

Pale zircons found in the Mt Wilson area

Zircon Creek gives up its gems

Continued from page 8

The host rock is not unusual in any other way; it did not have the highest Zr content of the samples from Smiths Hill, and a value 88% higher was found in one sample from Mt Irvine! Primary zircons are very rare in basalts, and usually are very small, so it is probable that this large zircon was fortuitously derived from rocks pierced by the magma on its way to the surface.

Panning sediment collected in Zircon Creek confirmed the justification for the name with the recovered zircons being both honey-pink and red-brown in colour and of three basic shapes - rounded, angular fragments and doubly terminated.

But where did they come from?

All of the creeks that drain Smiths Hill go into the Wollangambe River and it is topographically impossible for the basalt at Field Selection to have contributed to sediment in the creek upstream of Mt Irvine Road! So the panned zircons came from the basalt on Farrer Road, or from the underlying sediment, or both.

The Farrer Road basalt is unlikely to be a prime source of sediment into Zircon Creek for it is relatively thin, the remaining boulders are robust, and the soil seems to be well fixed by vegetation.

But between the basalt and the panning site are 65m of sedimentary rocks. The lower sandstones are unlikely to have contributed a great deal to the sediment in the creek for the Burralow formation does not exceed 6m in thickness anywhere, and here the outcrop of the Banks wall sandstone may be even thinner.

The dominant sediment is the Hawkesbury sandstone which has a heavy mineral assemblage with an 8:5 ratio of rounded zircon to angular zircon – about the proportions that were panned from Zircon Creek.

But where were the vents from which the basalt came?

Nowhere in the deeply eroded gorges has there been found a patch of basalt so the vent or vents have to be hidden beneath existing patches of basalt that lie on the ridges.

Only one of these places has been found to have features that may indicate it to have been a source site; it lies within a small valley on Edgeworth David Head that has never been properly explored. So the mystery remains although today it is suspected that eruptions occurred at various times somewhere on the western end of the Mt Wilson ridge, at Smiths Hill, maybe at Field Selection, at Mt Irvine, at Mt Tomah, at Mt Caley, at Mt Banks and possibly elsewhere. At one time this has been a volcanically active area!

ANOTHER GOVT. GRANT FOR BMACHO

BMACHO has been successful in its application for another grant.

The association has received advice from the Member for Macquarie, Bob Debus, that $3127 will be provided from the Federal Government's, Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs Volunteers Grants 2009.

The grant is for BMACHO to purchase computer projection equipment to allow for the use of PowerPoint presentations.

PowerPoint is a presentation program developed by Microsoft .

It is part of the Microsoft Office suite, and runs on Microsoft Windows and Apple's Mac, Apple's Mac OS X computer operating systems.

PowerPoint is widely used by business people, educators, students, and trainers.

PowerPoint presentations consist of a number of individual pages or "slides". The "slide" analogy is a reference to the slide projector that has become obsolete with the use of PowerPoint and other presentation software.

The presentation can be printed, displayed live on a computer, or navigated through at the command of the presenter.

For larger audiences the computer display is often projected using a video projector.

The equipment when purchased will be used for visual presentations at lectures and meetings .

Secretary Barrie Reynolds has advised that a total of $8100 has so far been obtained in grants in recent years.

Family History Society has new committee

The Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc has announced it office bearers for 2009-2010:

They are: president, Joan Edwards; vice president, Jan Koperberg; secretary, John Arnold; treasurer, Ian Kendall committee members; Pat Carruthers, Terry Flowers, Pixie Hallinan, Pauline Hincksman Audrey King, Rosemary Phillips and Alison Tissington.

Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine Historical Society's officers

At recent annual general meeting of Mt Irvine and Mt Wilson Historical Society the following were elected to the management committee for 2009-10:

Des Barrett, Helen Cardy, Darrel Conybeare, Kathy Harrington, Anne Myall, Kathleen Oakes and Florence Smart; with Mary Reynolds as research officer and public officer being ex-officio.

Good, Better, Best -Improving volunteer experience

by Peter Stanbury, OAM, Ph.D.

Dr Peter Stanbury, OAM has been a volunteer in various organisations for many years and has been an executive member of BMACHO since its inception. He has been a volunteer with Australian Business Volunteers (ABV) for a number of years and has worked as a volunteer in many countries including Egypt, Cambodia and Peru. He was formerly the director of Macleay Museum at Sydney University. He was recently awarded the ABV's annual Altruism Award for 2009.

It is rarely enough to advertise for (more) volunteers and expect people to come along and fulfil your expectations, especially if you haven't worked out what it is that you want and how they might fit into your environment.

The principal part of your environment if you already have volunteers (or staff) is those volunteers (or staff). They must understand the need and role of the newcomers and be prepared to make a special effort to assist them to become an integral part of the organisation.

It is not so much the welcome that counts; more importantly, they should understand and feel part of the organisation within the first few days and feel accepted by all members of the volunteer community.

To achieve this needs forethought, planning and a special effort during the first days of the new volunteer's active duty.

Peter Stanbury speaking at the annual Gala function of Australian Business Volunteers (ABV), which is based in Canberra. ABV send approximately 300 volunteers annually to 15 Asia Pacific countries including: Vietnam, Philippines, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Cambodia, Fiji, Indonesia, Laos and Vanuatu. Also pictured from left to right: David Moore, ABV chairman; Suzanna Edwards, volunteer; Robyn Wood, Andrew Jones Travel; and Michael Lynch,ABV chief executive officer. On screen: staff of the National Museum of Cambodia discussing an exhibition display with Peter Stanbury.

Forethought and Planning
Although one cannot predict the talents of the people who will enquire about volunteering, there should at least be a list of skills required, prepared before any advertising for volunteers is commenced.

What jobs need doing? What experience is necessary to carry out those jobs efficiently?

Volunteers do not receive a salary but potential workers should be given a written statement, that covers such matters as workers' insurance, personal, data and building contents security, an outline of any training or experience based learning that may be given, the expected hours or days of work, and some information about the background, passions and skills of the people already working.

It is important that the potential volunteer feels able to relate to those already there and understands that basic working precautions are in place.

While pay is not offered it may be possible in some circumstances to receive reimbursement for necessary train or bus fares, or to partake in an annual excursion free of charge and certainly to expect to have morning and afternoon tea supplied. Tea time and excursions are an important vehicle for discussing improvements and future developments.

A Volunteer's Responsibilities
A volunteer works to benefit the organisation, not to benefit him or herself.

That is not to say there are no rewards (for example: fulfilment, companionship, leadership or exercise of talent) for the volunteer: there are, or few would volunteer. But volunteering must be done willingly, enthusiastically and without obvious hidden agendas.

It is of the utmost importance to be reliable, punctual, show respect to fellow workers, and be understanding of their views. Leave your personal worries behind and be cheerful and optimistic when you are at work.

Volunteers award presentations

Continued from page 10

You should also understand that any activities that you engage in away from work should not bring discredit or reflect poorly on the organisation for which you volunteer.

None of the above should stop you from offering occasional well thought out clearly expressed opinions about current practice or future developments. Do not criticise present practice but explain how things could be done in less time, more cheaply or more efficiently.

Treat people as you would like to be treated, expect to compromise from time to time and never allow a situation to escalate. There is no point scoring points if they are going to escalate bad feelings that linger and corrupt work practice.

Remember time is on your side - if an idea doesn't get up today, there is always next week, next month or next year when you have had more time to think about it and perhaps modify and improve it.

Duty statements

A person who has been doing a certain job for some time will have no difficulty writing down what they do every day. This document will be a great help for anyone who takes over the job and is the simplest way of writing a duty statement.

Such statements build good practice as they are modified from time to time. The "what I do and why" ensures correct procedure in much the same way as writing down the potential significance of an object when it is offered to the collection. If there is nothing to write down - if you can't think of anything to write, then the action or the object is not relevant to the organisation.

Think before you volunteer

There are many opportunities to volunteer. The place nearest home is not necessarily the right choice. Where do your interest lie? What obvious jobs are there within the organisation? What jobs could be developed? Which organisation is actively looking for people? Do you know anyone else who volunteers in a specific organisation? Are you offering a specific skill or common sense, practicality and dedication? What hours or days are you prepared to offer? If things go well can you afford to increase the hours you offer? How will this extra absence affect your family?

Suzanna Edwards and Peter Stanbury shared ABV's annual Altruism Award for 2009. Altruism is defined as the deliberate pursuit of the interests or welfare of others and is one of the key components of successful volunteering.

Privileged Volunteering

Volunteering abroad brings special rewards but requires special arrangements. Who will look after your house, garden and pets? Will you have to learn at least basic words in another language? What are the weather conditions like? Where will you live? Can you enjoy local food, meal after meal? Do you need special funding? What do you know about the local customs and outlook?

The in-organisation culture and rules will be quite different. What is a 'no-no' there and what is acceptable though it may seem curious to you? How do you deal with culture shock both on arrival and on coming home?

The best volunteer organisations will have information about these potential problems and will reassure and train you before you go so fears are minimised. Some such as Australian Business Volunteers (see ABV at www.abv.org.au/) not only have training courses before you go but make special arrangements for your safety while you are abroad. In addition they will provide a return airfare, find you reasonable local accommodation as well as giving you a small daily allowance (enough for local meals). In return you must write some reports, but these are simple and straight forward.

Wherever you volunteer, the rewards can change your life for the better. Organisations seeking volunteers can, by careful preparation and forethought, initiate and quickly effect desired changes toward the future.

HERITAGE SITE RECORDS

Blue Mountains City Council has recently sent to the State Heritage Branch, a record of some 800 heritage sites, the list having been compiled by a highly regarded heritage professional consultant way back between 1999 and 2005.

In due course these records will be available to the public on the Heritage Branch's website.

BMACHO has been pressing for a number of years to have these records available to the public.

This would allow for the development of the monitoring program successfully initiated by Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine Historical Society Inc.

BOOK REVIEWS

Dr William Bell's SETTLERS' GUIDE or Modern Domestic Medicine and Surgery, Windsor NSW 1849

"The Settlers' Guide" was advertised in the Maitland Mercury on the November 28, 1849 as "soon to be published", and contained a request for subscribers.

It is remarkable that it took one hundred and sixty years to the day from the original advertisement appearing, to be finally published and launched recently at the Hawkesbury Regional Museum.

It was discovered accidentally by Lois Sabine in a box of uncatalogued Windsor solicitor's papers in the Mitchell Library some years ago. It had been placed with the solicitor as collateral for a loan, but never retrieved.

The Guide has proved to be a fascinating insight into the medical practices of the period.

It is now believed to be unique as being the very first complete medical book written in laymen's terms for Settlers in the Colony.

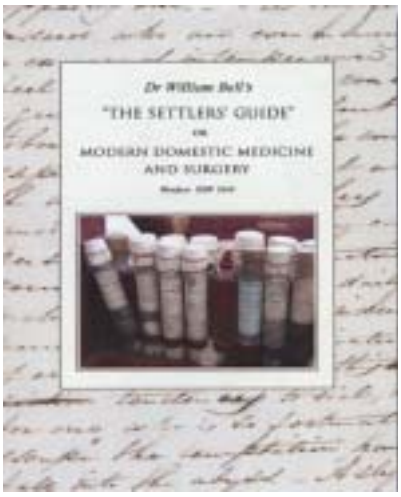
Dr Bell is never boring and uses many examples from his medical practice, some of them quite hair raising.

It is in two parts, the first section devoted to common diseases and their treatment.

This is followed by Forms of Medicine, [please don't try these] and illustrations.

The second part is devoted to ailments of women and children etc.

Now fully transcribed, The "Settlers' Guide", priced at $30 plus postage and can be obtained from Lois Sabine at lsabine@bigpond.com



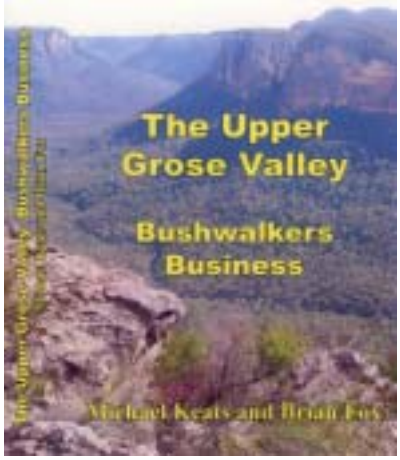
The Upper Grose Valley - Bushwalkers Business

Among the greatest panoramic views in the Blue Mountains National Park is that seen of the Grose Valley east of Blackheath.

As the viewer stands on the cliff edge at Govetts Leap the yawning void of space beneath the feet, and stretching to the eastern horizon is one of the wonders of the natural world.

Most visitors seem content to stop, take in this view and then jump back into their transport and mentally tick off another iconic destination. For those visitors who want to explore the vastness of this valley there is now a comprehensive text available.

Committed bushwalkers and co-authors, Michael Keats and Brian Fox have produced a researched guide to the Upper Grose Valley that will stand the deepest scrutiny.



The text of more than 560 pages includes detailed maps and descriptions of 59 walks; the origin of every place name; European history of the valley since it was first discovered, comprehensive notes on flora and fauna, climate, fires and floods and much more

Illustrated in full colour throughout "The Upper Grose Valley - Bushwalkers Business" is a must have volume for every Blue Mountaineer. A comprehensive index enables rapid retrieval of information about any person or locality connected with the Upper Grose Valley.

Produced in A5 format, the book is compact enough for the backpack but is equally at home on the reference bookshelf as a planning tool. At $44.50 plus postage and handling this is an investment every bushwalker will want to make. Postage and handling costs: Sydney area $9.00, NSW $10.00

Payment by cheque or money order to: Keats Holdings Pty Ltd 33 Livingstone AvenuePymble, NSW 2073 Tel: 9144 2096 for further details: mjmkeats@easy.com.au and/or Brian Fox Tel: 6332 2590 Brian.Fox@lpma.nsw.gov.au

MACQUARIE ERRED

Caley's Repulse a cairn of stones on the north side of the railway line at Linden known as Caley's Repulse for almost 200 years was erroneously named by Lachlan Macquarie.

The original cairns stood beside Cox's Road. It was sighted by Blaxland, Wentworth and Lawson in 1813.

When Macquarie passed by on his way to Bathurst in 1815 he named the area Caley's Repulse in the erroneous belief that the pile of stones had been erected by George Caley the botanist, who made an attempt to cross the Blue Mountains on a route further to the north.

The builder of the original cairn is unknown but it is probably an Aboriginal construction.

The present cairn was made up from scattered stones discovered by members of the Australian Historical Society in 1912 and claimed by them to be the remains of the cairn seen by Blaxland, Wentworth and Lawson.

Source: *Places of Historic Interest on the Lower Blue Mountains* published in 1977 by Springwood Historical Society from data provided by the Society's research officer, Allan Searle

$200,000 grant for Carcoar court house makeover

Carcoar Court House - 1882

The historic Carcoar Court House is undergoing a much needed makeover thanks to a grant of $217,000 from the Federal Government's Jobs Fund.

President of the Carcoar and District Historical Society Inc. John Burke said the village received the funding from the Department of Environment, Water, Heritage and Arts because they were "able to demonstrate Community activity and support for the project".

He said the court house built was a rarity because it has most of the original court house furniture and fittings including the furniture in the judge's room.

The funding will cover extensive internal and external work on the building including repairs to the roof, floor and clock tower. Some funds will be used for furniture restoration. The work is expected to be finished by mid 2010.

It was not Carcoar's first court house when on April 27, 1840, Carcoar was proclaimed as a place for the holding of courts of petty sessions. The first court house was actually the police office.

The local justices or police magistrates presided in presumably what was a timber building but within 9 years the district had grown and it became inadequate for court sittings.

The then colonial architect, Mortimer Lewis, was directed to prepare plans and specifications for a new court house and on March 7, 1849 the plans of a court and watch house were approved by Sir Charles Fitzroy.

Tenders for the erection of a court house to be built of brick with a shingle roof were called and that of John Hunter Kirkpatrick was accepted in April 1849.

The accepted tender did not include a watch house it having been dropped in favour of a court house only.

The building was completed in 1850 under the supervision of Edmund Blacket and survived for 30 years.

However, its days were numbered and a new court house was built in 1882 at a cost of four thousand three hundred and eighty pounds.

The new court house was opened on November 10, 1882.

Its Italianate design is indicative of the interest in revival styles at that time. Internally the building contains a fine intact court room with polished cedar joinery and elaborate painted frieze.

It ceased operating as a court house in the late 1950s and in 1994 the Carcoar and District Historical Society took on the trusteeship of the court house and now has its research and archive room situated within the building.
Source: Carcoar and District Historical Society Inc.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBER

Welcome to new member the Transport Signal & Communications Museum Inc. at Kurrajong.

The museum has been created by John Cooper who was the founding chairman of the Zig Zag Railway Co-op and his wife Carolynne Cooper when they saw the need and desire to show the public, the behind the scenes, items used by the railways.

Items such as signalling equipment, safe working, tickets, clocks, telephones, badges to name a few all played an intricate part of any railway system.

Formed as a small group of collectors the TSCM was first housed in a leased railway electrical sub station at Cabramatta.

Since moving the museum to Kurrajong there has been an effort to establish more complex and complete exhibits of particular applications such as the 'safe working' on the Richmond Line and the miniature lever frame

The charter of the Transport Signal and Communications Museum Inc. has been to collect, restore and exhibit as many of these items as possible.

John and Carolynne can be contacted at signalbox@iprimus.com.au

Further information can also been found on website www.tscm.rha-nsw.org.au

'...for the relief of horses and other dumb animals..'

Horse troughs were a common sight on the roadside in the 19th and early 20th century before motorised transport took over the roads and highway.

They still remain in many towns throughout Australia as a reminder of heritage and times when things were a bit slower and perhaps more peaceful.

Many of the troughs were financed by a trust fund established through the will of George Bills. About 700 troughs were distributed by the trust in Australia and 50 in several other countries.

George and Annis had no children, and following the death of George in 1927, a trust fund was set up, believed to be around 70,000 to 80,000 Australian pounds.

One of the purposes of the trust, as set out in George Bills' will, was to: *"..construct and erect and pay for horse troughs wherever they may be of the opinion that such horse troughs are desirable for the relief of horses and other dumb animals either in Australasia, in the British Islands or in any other part of the world subject to the consent of the proper authorities being obtained."*

Each trough cost 13 Australian pounds ($26) plus transport and installation. The majority of the troughs were installed in Victoria and NSW between 1930 and 1939.

Initially the troughs were individually designed and constructed, however by the early 1930s, J.B. Phillips, a relative of the Bills, became the head contractor. Working to a standard design he produced the troughs in Hawthorn Victoria.

The troughs were pre-cast concrete with a curved pediment with the inscription "Donated by Annis & George Bills Australia".

Manufacture was subsequently handled by Rocla, who produced troughs to the same design in Victoria and later in Junee, NSW.

With the rise of motorised transport, demand for the troughs declined and production had ceased by the end of World War II.

This Bills horse trough located at Glenbrook has a plaque attached which reads: 'This trough was donated in rememberance of those horses that did not return from the First World War 1914-1918

Aside from the horse troughs, the trust was involved with other animal welfare projects. George became a life governor of the RSPCA in 1924.

George Bills was born in Brighton, England in 1859. He migrated with his family to New Zealand and subsequently to Echuca, Victoria in 1873.

In 1882 he opened a bird dealers shop in Brisbane, where he met and married Annis Swann who had emigrated from Sheffield, England.

In 1884 the couple moved to Sydney and George Bills went into business with his brothers, manufacturing innerspring mattresses.

In 1908, George retired to Hawthorn, Victoria and in 1910, Annis died while the couple were visiting England.

Story and photograph by John Leary, OAM. Source: 'History of the George and Annis Bills Horse Troughs 1983 - State Library of NSW.

PROTECTING POSSESSIONS AGAINST BUSHFIRE

The Australian Institute for the Conservation of Cultural Material has released an information sheet *STORING COLLECTIONS IN HIGH BUSHFIRE RISK AREAS*, aimed at assisting individuals and those working with cultural collections to reduce the risks of fire when storing their precious possessions.

It is being distributed to arts and cultural heritage organizations, local councils, emergency service providers and the media.

For more details, the information sheet and press release can be found on AICCM's website at www.aiccm.org.au.

Since Black Saturday, most people recognise that fires of a catastrophic degree can cause damage on a scale previously unimagined. However, stories have emerged that some treasures did survive, even paper items.

While not a guarantee that items will not suffer damage, minimising risk through the storage methods recommended in the information sheet may offer some hope for items that have to be left behind on evacuation.

The AICCM website contains further information about the handling and care of salvaged items, particularly those damaged by fire or water. If you are affected by fires, you should retain damaged keepsakes that are still recognisable, even if damaged and dirty, as they may be salvageable.

Consult a conservator before you throw them away. Conservators can be contacted via the AICCM website or through state and national cultural institutions.

Museums scoured for looted relics

The British Museum has been asked to open its archives to allow Chinese investigators to document 'lost' imperial treasures that China claims were taken from Beijing's Old Summer Palace when it was burned and looted almost 150 years ago.

China has indicated that the intention of the scheme is to document archives, but it is raising fears that Britain and France could be asked to return some treasures.

Researchers are being sent to museums, libraries and private collections in an attempt to build a comprehensive catalogue of artefacts China claims were stolen in 1860 following the Second Opium War.

The pavilion and stone arch are among few of the only remaining buildings in the Old Summer Palace

The Old Summer Palace was sacked by British and French troops as punishment for the torture and execution of 18 emissaries sent by Western powers to Beijing.

The issue remains an emotive subject in China where it is still viewed as one of the nation's great humiliations.

Construction began on the Old Summer Palace in 1707 during the reign of Emperor Kangxi.

It is thought, about 1.5 million relics are housed in more than 2000 museums in 47 countries.

China's sensitivity towards such 'looted' treasures was demonstrated last year when a Chinese collector sabotaged the auctioning of two bronze heads taken from the Old Summer Palace, bidding 13.9 million English pounds then refused to pay.

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

REGISTERED OFFICE 40 Hume Avenue, Wentworth Falls 2782
E-mail: bmacho.heritage@gmail.com
Website: www.bluemountains.heritage

THE ORGANISATION Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 following a unanimous response to a proposal from Prof. Barrie Reynolds at the 2004 Blue Mountains Local History Conference which sought from Blue Mountains City Council the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the city.

BMACHO in its constitution uses the definition: "Cultural heritage is all aspects of life of the peoples of the Blue Mountains which was later changed to cover Lithgow and the villages along the Bell's Line of Roads. It therefore involves the recording, preserving and interpreting of information in whatever form: documents, objects, recorded memories as well as buildings and sites."

The objectives of the organisation are

i. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage.

ii. To encourage and assist cultural heritage activities of member organisations.

iii. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations.

One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact, to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

MEMBERSHIP The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains City Library, Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc, Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc., Blue Mountains Tourism Limited, Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute, Cudgegong Museums Group Inc, Friends of Everglades, Friends of Norman Lindsay Gallery, Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc, Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc, Lilianfels Blue Mountains Resort, Lithgow Mining Museum Inc, Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies, Lithgow Small Arms Factory Museum Inc, Mid-Mountains Historical Society Inc, Mid Western Regional Council Library, Mt Tomah Botanic Gardens, Mt Victoria and District Historical Society Inc, Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine History Society Inc (including Turkish Bath Museum), Mudgee Historical Society Inc, Mudgee Regional Library, National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Blue Mountains Branch (including Woodford Academy), National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Lithgow Branch), Scenic World – Blue Mountains Limited, Springwood & District Historical Society Inc., Springwood Historians inc, Transport Signal and Communication Museum Inc., Two Centuries of Elegance, Valley Heights Locomotive Depot and Museum, Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd. The following are individual members: Wendy Carlson, Ray Christison, Ms Pamela Hubert, Associate Professor Ian Jack, Joan Kent, John Leary OAM, John Low, Professor Barrie Reynolds, and Dr Peter Stanbury OAM.

COMMITTEE The committee for 2009-10 is: John Leary, (president) Ian Jack (vice president), Barrie Reynolds (secretary), Kathie McMahon-Nolf (treasurer), Jean Arthur, Ray Christison, Lyn Fowler, Doug Knowles, and Dick Morony (public officer), Peter Stanbury.
AUDITOR: Sue McMahon, B Comm CPA

AFFILIATIONS BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society Inc.
HERITAGE is BMACHO's official newsletter.

HERITAGE

NEWSLETTER OF THE BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS

MARCH - APRIL 2010 ISSUE No. 8

LINDEN OBSERVATORY ADDED TO STATE HERITAGE REGISTER

By Rev. Robert Evans

The Linden Observatory was last month added to the State Heritage Register and preserves the legacy of amateur astronomer and telescope maker, Ken Beames.

Ken Beames founded what is now known as Linden Observatory soon after the Second World War as a location for his proposed large telescope where there would be good quality conditions for observing the night skies.

After earlier experiences in making smaller telescopes, he had purchased a glass disc blank 24 inches (61cm) in diameter and several inches thick, and, during the war years, had ground the mirror to have a parabolic curve with a focal length of about ten feet.

He wanted to set up the telescope permanently, and have it housed in a dome. But he also needed a good location where he could keep on producing the various artifacts which constituted his method of earning his livelihood, which he had previously done from his home in Fivedock.

The telescope and observatory building were designed and constructed by Beames, and the necessary drawings are still held at Linden, but are now in need of preservation.

When it became operational in the early 1950s, the telescope was the second largest optical telescope in Australia, amateur or professional, and would have been one of the largest amateur telescopes in the world.

The Beames telescope is housed in the Linden Observatory. Photograph courtesy Western Sydney Amateur Asrtronomy Group.

What had in the past been the largest telescope in Australia since the 1880s, the 48 inch Great Melbourne Telescope, had been in storage for many years because its design was such that the slightest wind vibration made it unusable. It had speculum metal mirrors which were very hard to keep shiny and accurate.

The largest telescope in operation in Australia in 1950 was the 30 inch Reynolds telescope on Mount Stromlo. This status of being the second largest telescope continued for about eight years until the 74 inch telescope was built for Mount Stromlo Observatory in the late 1950s.

The Beames' telescope is an equatorial telescope, designed to follow the stars across the sky. Generally speaking, Beames' telescope is a masterpiece of engineering design and machining for the time in which it was built, especially seeing that it was essentially the work of one man.

The primary mirror of the Beames telescope has a focal ratio of five, but the overall design of the telescope gives it a very long operational focus, which provides a fairly small field of vision, and makes it best suited for observing the planets and double stars, and for parallax work.

Optically, the main telescope seems to be very good, although the auxiliary telescopes attached to the main telescope are not currently operational. ***Continued page 2***

Beames had a genius for design

Contued from page 1

It is a visual telescope with filters available.

To make it usable with modern electronic detectors, and modern electrical driving technology, would involve making a number of substantial changes to its present abilities, which, even if this was desirable, would cost a lot of money.

The whole electrical system, and the eyepiece areas would have to be totally reconstructed, and the telescope would have to be married to a computer. In such situations, professional astronomers always say they prefer to build new ones, and it is usually cheaper in the end.

Beames then turned his endless supply of energy, and his genius for design, towards constructing a planetarium projector, following the Zeiss design which was then commonly in use.

He wanted the results of his labour to be used for educational purposes, and a planetarium would succeed at this very substantially. The projector was never finished, even after nearly forty years.

Beames died in March, 1989. Shortly beforehand he had made a new will. This will created a Trust which had the purpose of preserving his telescope and observatory, and using his property for education in astronomy, especially for younger people.

The trustees specified in the will were his solicitor, Mr. Darryl Browne, and the media personality, Dr Karl Kruselnicki. This will was challenged by his daughter, Barbara Beames, and the costs were taken from the estate, leaving not enough money to process the will. It was 1992 before some land could be sold and the will could be finalized. The Reverend Robert Evans became trustee instead of Dr Kruselnicki.

The Trust was faced with the task of preserving what remained of Mr Beams' possessions, using the property as specified in the will, with almost no income.

Inside the dome at Linden Observatory. Photograph courtesy of Western Sydeny Amateur Astronomy Group.

Because the Beames' telescope was based upon electrical technology which had become outdated, and because the public could not be allowed to use the telescope at night for safety reasons, it was decided to purchase another large telescope which would be much easier and safer to use.

A 76cm (30 inches) visual telescope was purchased from manufacturers in the United States of America.

The building of a shelter for this telescope, however, required a development application to the Blue Mountains City Council, and this application proved to be such an excruciatingly slow and expensive exercise that a debt had to be incurred in order to finish the project.

So the main tasks facing the Trust have been the need to preserve, catalogue and display the various artefacts, documents and items of interest which belonged to Mr Beames. Also, the property has to be used for educational purposes, as the will specifies.

Security and threats from bush fires have been continual factors as well. But these needs have all had to be viewed through the spectacles of having almost no financial income, and almost no reserves, a situation that many heritage and cultural places in Australia and around the world, have to face continually.

Lack of income has been the main cause for whatever lack of progress the Trust may have suffered. As friends have often said, there was nothing at Linden Observatory that a million dollars could not have fixed.

William Charles Wentworth's biographer as guest speaker for AGM

Andrew Tink the former NSW Shadow Attorney General who has written the biography of William Charles Wentworth will be guest speaker at BMACHO's annual general meeting to be held at the Grandview Hotel, Wentworth Falls on Saturday, March 13, commencing at 2pm.

Andrew Tink

Recently published by Allen and Unwin, this book is the story of the man Manning Clark described as 'Australia's greatest native son'.

Best known as one of the first Europeans to cross the Blue Mountains, Wentworth led a life full of firsts.

One of the first born Australians of European parents, the first Australian author to be published and co-founder of Australia's first independent newspaper, Wentworth gave the colonists an Australian voice.

One of Australia's first barristers who fought for trial by jury, for the first Parliament in Australia and for self-government in an Act the British called 'a legislative declaration of independence' Wentworth was a physical and intellectual giant.

Ruthless when it suited him, he purchased the South Island of New Zealand for a pittance until a furious governor made him give it back.

With his rough charm, colonial cunning and English education, Wentworth was equally at ease addressing a rowdy meeting of ex-convicts as he was lobbying ministers in the corridors of Whitehall.

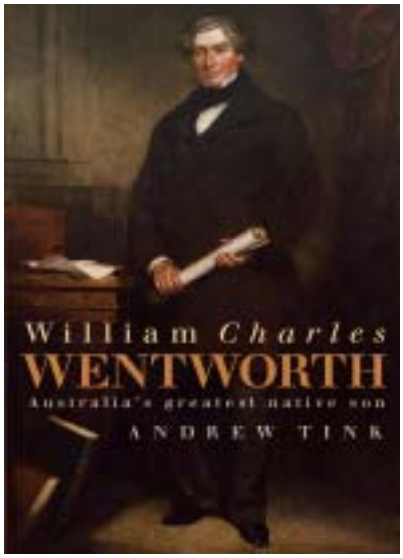
The son of a convict mother and a father who was the black sheep of a family which included a British Prime Minister, Wentworth was the first parliament's undoubted leader.

More than once in his fight for self government, Wentworth threatened to block the governor's budget until the British Government gave in.

Almost half a century before the Commonwealth was created, Wentworth led the fight for an inter-colonial legislature. Indeed Henry Parkes, the 'Father of Federation', later acknowledged Wentworth as his inspiration.

Despite his achievements and his volcanic personality which was capable of deceiving friend and foe alike, this is the first comprehensive biography of Wentworth to be published.

Following eight years at the Bar, Andrew Tink spent nineteen years in the New South Wales Parliament, including eleven as a Shadow Minister and three as Shadow Leader of the House.



The dust cover of Andrew Tink's biographyof William Charles Wentworth is from a portrait hanging in the NSW Parliament

After stepping down in 2007, Andrew became a Visiting Fellow at Macquarie University's Law School,

Most of Mr Tink's political career was spent on the same side of the lower house chamber where a huge portrait of Wentworth - who led the fight for self-government, trial by jury and a free press - hangs.

So when the former barrister decided to quit politics he chose to write about Wentworth's life and times.

BMACHO NEEDS A NEW SECRETARY

With the retirement of Barrie Reynolds from the position of BMACHO's secretary the organisation is searching for someone to take on this challenging role.

Barrie will stay with the committee and provide assistance to the incoming secretary. The secretary is one of the executive officers of the committee and will be required to prepare agendas, take minutes of monthly meetings and deal with a limited amount of correspondence. A computer and an internet connection are essential.

Working with both dedicated enthusiasts, professionals and academics, she or he will be at the cutting edge of the heritage sector in this region.

The committee of 10 has developed a work ethic that sees each member share in the burden of duties associated with the organisation.

For further details call John Leary on 4758 8584 or e-mail: johnnanette@optusnet.com.au

From the president's pen.....

Let's not squander the opportunites of a Blue Mountains crossing bicentenary commemoration

The first European crossing of the Blue Mountains represents an important milestone in the history of Australia and has significance at local, regional, state and federal levels.

A number of organizations including Blue Mountains City Council have rightly considered that there should be a commemoration of the bicentenary of the crossing during 2013.

The Royal Australian Historical Society has offered support in the co-ordination of commemorative activities and has appointed its senior vice president, Emeritus Professor David Carment to liaise with various organisations.

It is important in planning activities that they be developed having in mind that the crossing was only the start of events. George William Evans began his survey of a roadway which went as far as the future Bathurst, in November, 1813; William Cox then supervised the construction of the road from 1814 to 1815; and then Governor Macquarie travelled along the road to select the site of Bathurst, in 1815. All of these events are of cumulative historical significance.

BMACHO and the RAHS strongly believe the commemoration should include projects that are of a long-term benefit. Although, to capture the imagination of the public there will need to be some celebratory activity; care must be taken to ensure that public funding is not frittered away on parades, plaque placements, partying and pyrotechnics.

It is possible because of the significance of the event that an application to the federal and state governments might well attract funding for projects which will remain long after the event.

Possibilities for lasting projects could include walking trails based on parts of the route blazed in 1813-1815; publications including websites, school education kits and provision of interpretive signage.

Blue Mountains City Council is to be congratulated following representation from BMACHO and others for having amended its earlier "terms of reference" for the proposed committee of council, called the Blue Mountains Bi-Centenary of Crossing Committee (BOCOC) which now sees the inclusion of representatives from historical/heritage societies in its membership.

The inclusion of representation from historical socities will allow dedicated community volunteers to have imput which will ultimately benfit the commemoration

It is now hoped council will give serious consideration to adopting objectives which include programs of long-term benefit

It would be a great shame if at the end of the commemoration that the occasion was but a pleasant memory and that a new plaque on a monument was the only tangible evidence with little benefit to the community other than the politician, councillor or official who had unveiled it.

This commemoration could be of wonderful benefit to present and future generations. Let's not squander the opportunity.

THANK YOU BARRIE REYNOLDS

Professor Barrie Reynolds, who since its inception has been BMACHO's honorary secretary, has announced he will not seek re-election as secretary at the coming annual general meeting.

The idea of BMACHO was conceived by Barrie and enthusiastically embraced by those who attended the 2004 Blue Mountains Local History Conference at the Carrington Hotel in Katoomba at which he was stressing the importance of having a cultural heritage strategy for the city.

Barrie had the ability to gather around him individuals, both professional and amateur as well as heritage organisations and it is now history that council's cultural heritage is seen as an important aspect of the city's strategy. There is also a greater awareness of the importance of our cultural heritage.

Although in no way wishing to diminish the value of many individuals who have worked tirelessly for the recognition of cultural heritage, it has been the motivation, contagious enthusiasm, academic expertise and professional acumen displayed by Barrie that has driven much of what has been achieved by BMACHO in its formative years.

Although seldom swayed from his objective, and often frustrated in his effort, he nevertheless has empathised with those with whom he has worked encouraging them to strive for excellence.

Barrie has agreed to accept nomination to the management committee with a view to offering assistance to an incoming secretary and for this I and the committee are indeed grateful.

On behalf of all who have worked with Barrie and benefitted from his expertise, we say thank you to a man who has served the heritage sector and future generations well beyond what anyone could have reasonably expected.

John Leary, OAM - President, Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations

‘TAMBAROORA GOLD’: A FOLK SONG AND ITS LINK WITH THE BLUE MOUNTAINS

By John Low

One of the characteristics of a ‘folk song’, whether or not its origins can be traced, is that it is adopted by the community (‘the folk’) and survives and evolves through the living memory of that community. The story of ‘Tambaroora Gold’ provides an interesting demonstration of this process.

When I arrived at the Blue Mountains City Library in 1982 to establish a local history collection I found, tucked away in a cupboard, a battered manila folder containing copies of an assortment of poems (some typed, some handwritten) and a couple of songs printed as broadsides.

They were the work of an old Katoomba identity, Harry Peckman, known during his lifetime as ‘The Blue Mountains Poet’.

Though many were mediocre, sentimental and conventional, there were some that captured my imagination and others that offered insights into the region’s history that could be important irrespective of literary quality.

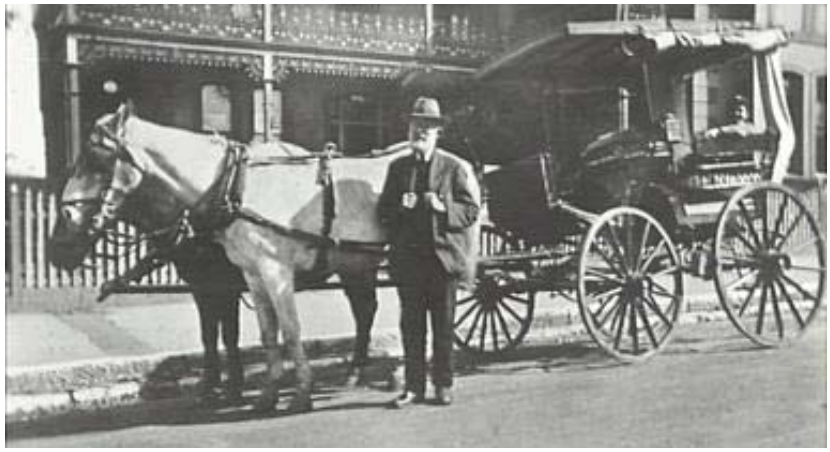
As time went on I gathered more information about him and the texts of further poems and songs.

By 1982 Harry Peckman had been dead for nearly 50 years. Born at Kurrajong in 1846, he lived the whole of his life in the Blue Mountains region and died in Katoomba in 1934.

As a young man, in the days before the western railway line was built, he drove wagons and coaches on the road between Penrith and Hartley. Then, when the Blue Mountains developed its reputation as a tourist destination, he began taking visitors to the local scenic attractions.

In the early 1880s he and his brother, John, established livery stables in Parke Street, Katoomba, at the back of the Carrington Hotel.

Their business flourished. Both men were expert horsemen and knew the Blue Mountains intimately and their patrons soon included a growing number of holidaying dignitaries and their families.



Peckman and his coach and horses (in later life, in the 1920s). Photograph courtesy Local Studies Section, Blue Mountains City Library.

In 1887 Lord and Lady Carrington were taken over the newly opened Six-Foot Track to Jenolan Caves while, in 1893 the Duchess of Buckingham and Chandos was entertained with billy tea and damper, accompanied by song and recitation, at Govetts Leap.[1]

To the many visitors who engaged him Harry became known as ‘the poetical whip’, a coachman who would take them to places off the beaten track and entertain them *en route* with selections from his repertoire of mostly self-penned songs and recitations.

In his verses, performed in the midst of a grand, open landscape, visitors were given a glimpse into the heart of the Mountains that no other driver could offer.

While no one could claim that Peckman was a great poet, his skills as a performer clearly made up for any deficiencies in craft. “No free verse for this poet”, observed cartoonist and journalist Hal Eyre in 1922, “but rhymes tuned to the beat of his horses’ hoofs.”[2]

Like many self-educated bush men, Peckman was a wide reader and his verses are spiced with literary and Biblical allusions.

His subjects ranged from the Blue Mountains itself to dramatic and patriotic war ballads and heart-felt ‘farewells’ to friends who had died.

There were also tributes to popular heroes like the sculler Edward Trickett, the first Australian to win a world sporting title (in 1876), and the popular aviatrix Amy Johnson who visited Katoomba in June 1930.

Though he performed for the gentry his audience was in the main a popular one and his work, when published, appeared almost exclusively on privately printed broadsheets and later, when a newspaper was established in Katoomba, in the local press.

He was also acquainted with a number of Sydney literary figures who sought him out when they visited Katoomba, among these the poets Roderick Quinn and Henry Lawson.

My discovery of one particular broadsheet was especially exciting.

I was visiting the Mount Victoria & District Historical Society’s museum in the old refreshment rooms at Mount Victoria Railway Station, when their research officer brought out an original Peckman broadside to show me.

The ten-verse song with chorus was headed “Tambaroora Gold / By Harry Peckman, Hartley” and that title certainly rang a bell.

Harry recited his poems for the last time on his 88th birthday

Continued from page 5

Several fragments of this song were published in 1961 in the magazine of the Bush Music Club (Sydney)[3], the least fragmentary of these obtained by the historian Russell Ward from a 70 year-old resident of the NSW north coast.

This version was later 'completed' by John Manifold and not surprisingly differed markedly from the Peckman broadsheet. Names of people had changed, for example, and there was no chorus.[4]

The remaining fragments were all collected by the folklorist John Meredith. One, later published by Meredith in his important collection of Australian folk songs[5], came from Muriel Whalan of Katoomba who remembered learning it from her mother during her childhood at Sunny Corner, west of Lithgow.

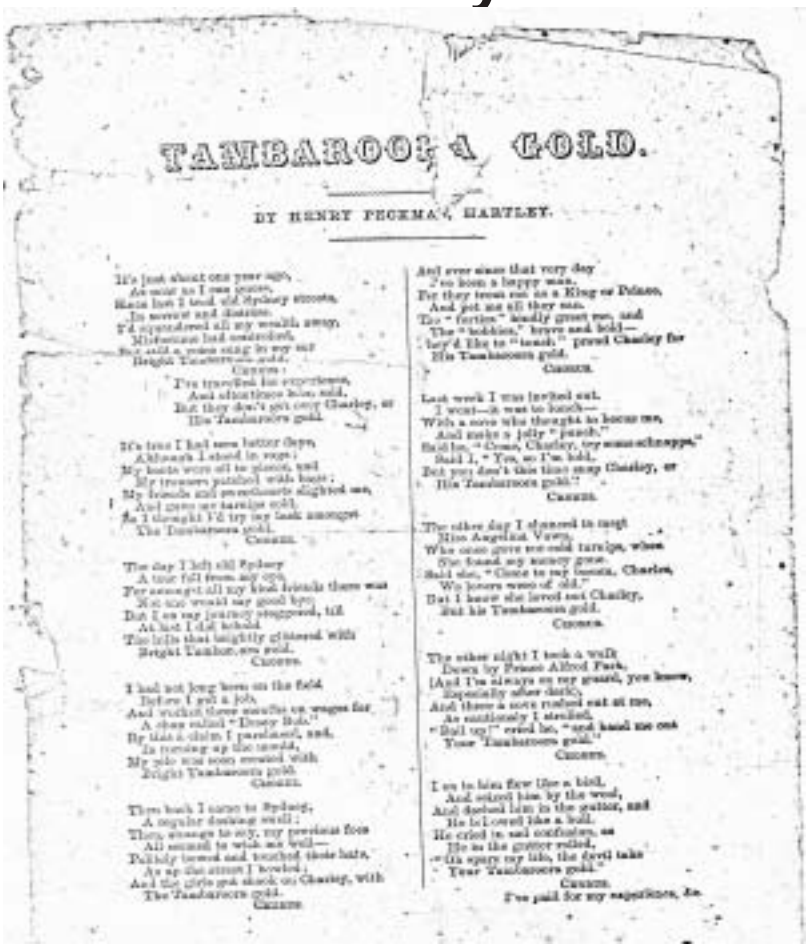
The others came from an informant who had grown up in the Springhill district of NSW and from the famous bush singer H. P. 'Duke' Tritton. It seemed to be the chorus that stuck in their memory.

Was Harry Peckman's broadsheet version the original? Though, of course, one can never be absolutely certain with folk song, even when authorship is claimed, I'm inclined to think it is.

There is no printing date on the broadsheet but Peckman went to Hartley in the early 1860s as a very young man to work for local hotelkeeper John Louis Meads.

He was living in the Hartley - Mount Victoria district when Tambaroora, just north of Bathurst NSW, was still a prosperous gold mining town (along with its better known neighbour Hill End) and news and gossip from the gold fields was travelling regularly down the Western Road.

It would appear that the young bush poet was performing his songs and poems and peddling his broadsheets quite widely during the 1860s and 1870s.



TAMBAROOR A GOLD.

BY HENRY PECKMAN, HARTLEY.

It's just about one year ago,
As near as I can guess,
Since I took old Sydney streets,
In sorrow and distress.
I'd squandered all my wealth away,
Misfortune had overtook,
But still a voice sang in my ear
Bright Tambaroora gold.

Chorus:
I've travelled for experience,
And oftentimes been told,
But they don't get over Charley, or
His Tambaroora gold.

It's true I had some better days,
Although I stood in rags;
My boots were all to pieces, and
My trousers patched with bags;
My friends and sweethearts slighted me,
And even my lassie sold,
As I thought I'd try my luck amongst
The Tambaroora gold.
Chorus.

The day I left old Sydney
A tear fell from my eye,
For amongst all my kind friends there was
Not one would say good bye.
But I on my journey staggered, till
At last I did behold,
The hills that brightly glistened with
Bright Tambaroora gold.
Chorus.

I had not long been on the field
Before I got a job,
And worked three months on wages for
A chap called "Dusty Bob."
By this a claim I purchased, and,
In turning up the mould,
My pile was soon crowned with
Bright Tambaroora gold.
Chorus.

Then back I came to Sydney,
A regular dashing swell;
Then, strange to say, my previous foes
All seemed to wish me well—
Politely bowed and touched their hats,
As up the street I bowled;
And the girls got stuck on Charley, with
The Tambaroora gold.
Chorus.

And ever since that very day
I've been a happy man,
For they treat me as a King or Prince,
And get me all they can.
The "ladies," bravo and bold—
I beg'd like to "tarnal," proud Charley for
His Tambaroora gold.
Chorus.

Last week I was invited out.
I went—it was to lunch—
With a miss who thought to honor me,
And make a jolly "punch."
Said he, "Come, Charley, try some schnapps,"
Said I, "Yes, so I'm told,
But you don't this time stop Charley, or
His Tambaroora gold."
Chorus.

The other day I glanced in regt
Miss Angelina Vane,
Who once gave me cold tarnips, when
She found my money gone.
Said she, "Come to my house, Charles,
We have some of old."
But I knew she loved not Charley,
But his Tambaroora gold.
Chorus.

The other night I took a walk
Down by Prince Alfred Park,
[And I've always an eye ground, you know,
Especially after dark],
And there a note rushed out at me,
As cautiously I strolled,
"Bail up!" cried he, "and hand me out
Your Tambaroora gold."
Chorus.

I ran to him flew like a bird,
And seized him by the wrist,
And fetched him in the gutter, and
He lo'l cursed like a fool.
He cried in sad confusion, as
He in the gutter rolled,
"To spare my life, the devil take
Your Tambaroora gold."
Chorus.
I've paid for my experience, &c.

Pictured is the original broadsheet of Tambaroora Gold by Harry Peck

In some of his reminiscences, recorded later by local journalists, he mentions the lively sessions of song and recitation he participated in during his youth, particularly at 'Kelly's in the Glen' halfway to Jenolan Caves.

It seems that some of his work attained for him what is possibly the highest accolade a popular audience can bestow, a passage into the anonymous oral or 'folk' tradition that carried it to places far removed from the Blue Mountains.

While we have Peckman's complete text for 'Tambaroora Gold' we don't know what tune he used when he originally sang the song in the 1860s. However, two fragmentary tunes collected by Meredith were adapted by Manifold who suggested that both be used, one after the other. The band Franklyn B. Paverty, who recorded the song in 1987, set it to the tune 'Sweets of May'.[6]

Towards the end of his life Harry Peckman experienced hard times and, though visitors still often sought him out even in the late 1920s, he watched as the motor car gradually rendered his coach and pair of aging horses obsolete.

At the time of his death he had become something of an icon, a symbol of a past era. On a slow news day the local journalists would seek him out and trawl his still alert mind for reminiscences of the 'old days'.

For his 88th birthday, in August 1934, his friends organised a party. He performed his poems for the last time and, some seven weeks later, died. His grave in Katoomba Cemetery looks out over the tributaries of the Grose River that flow into what he once described as "the Hawkesb'ry silver Rhine".

Continued page 7

Tambaroora Gold

Continued from page 6

Since 1982 I've come to know him well. I've learnt from him something about the Blue Mountains where I live and something of the way folk songs are created.

In 1993, nearly 60 years after his death, a small biography and collection of his surviving poems and songs was published.[7] Belated and long overdue recognition for the 'Blue Mountains Poet', a man of his place who knew its stories!

End notes

[1] For an account of the Carringtons' trip see Jim Smith, *From Katoomba to JenolanCaves: The Six Foot Track 1884-1984*, Katoomba, NSW: Second Back Row Press, [1985], pp.33-34. The Duchess of Buckingham & Chandos's picnic at Govetts Leap is recorded in her journal *Glimpses of Four Continents*, London: John Murray, 1894.

[2] Hal Eyre wrote of his experiences touring with Peckman in the Sydney *Daily Telegraph* of September 13, 1922 and September 26, 1922. Three caricatures of Harry were also included.

[3]*Singabout*, Vol.4, No.3, 1961

[4] Published in John Manifold, *The Penguin Australian Song Book*, Ringwood, Vic: Penguin, 1964

[5] John Meredith & Hugh Anderson, *Folk Songs of Australia and the Men and Women Who Sang Them* Sydney: Ure Smith, 1967

[6] Franklyn B. Paverty, *Songs From the Australian Goldrush*, LRF 173, 1987

[7] John Low & Jim Smith, *The Prince of Whips: The Life and Works of the Blue Mountains Pioneer Harry Peckman*, Wentworth Falls, NSW: Den Fenella Press, 1993. Copies of this book are still available at the reduced price of $5 plus p & p from the author of this article: (email) grizzlybear3au@yahoo.com or (phone) 0247 823751

BMACHO AGM AT GRANDVIEW HOTEL, WENTWORTH FALLS
Saturday March 13, 2010 at 2pm
For further information johnnanette@optusnet.com.au

BLACK & WHITE IN THE BLUE MOUNTAINS

Historian and ecologist Jim Smith will deliver the Blue Mountains Historical Society's Beryl McLaughlin lecture, which he has titled *Black & White in the Blue Mountains* .

Jim Smith has been travelling through and documenting the country of the Gundungurra speaking people of the southern Blue Mountains for over 20 years.

He will give a presentation of his research at the Wentworth Falls School of Arts on Saturday March 6 commencing at 10.30am. Some of the topics covered will include his mapping of Dreaming Journeys, Aboriginal travel routes and significant landmarks.

He will explain the web of biological and spiritual kinship that developed between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people of the Burragorang Valley and how the memories of black and white people about the shared past have become entangled.

The true spellings, meanings and locations of local Aboriginal place names and the healing practices of Gundungurra people will also be explored.

Previously untold stories of Katoomba's "Gully Aboriginal community will be revealed.

The talk is open to interested members of the public. No booking is required and it is free of charge.

For further information contact: (02) 4782 3751 or (02) 4757 3824 (Tuesdays and Fridays) or e-mail bmhs@email.com

Macquarie named "Spring-Wood"

With William Cox having established a road across the Blue Mountains, Governor Macquarie journeyed across the Blue Mountains to Bathurst in 1815.

Macquarie camped on a site located near what is now Macquarie Road, between Homedale and Short Street, Springwood naming the place "Spring-Wood" on April 26, 1815.

The Royal Australian Historical Society has marked the site by erecting a small monument and plaque.

In 1816 the 1st Military Depot was moved to this site from it original location beside the Glenbrook Lagoon.

The military post was set up to protect travellers from being attacked by the Aborigines.

Source: *Places of Historic Interest on Lower Blue Mountains* published by the Springwood Historical Society from data provided by the Society's research officer , Allan Searle. 1977. Photograph by John Leary, OAM

PRIME MINISTERS CORRIDOR OF OAKS

The Norse legend that Thor sheltered from a thunderstorm under an oak tree has led to the belief that having an acorn on a window sill will prevent a house from being struck by lightning hence the popularity of window blind pulls decorated as acorns.

With most prime ministers at some stage in their career having to weather political thunderstorms, a corridor of oaks from which grows the acorn seems a fitting living memory for a prime minister.

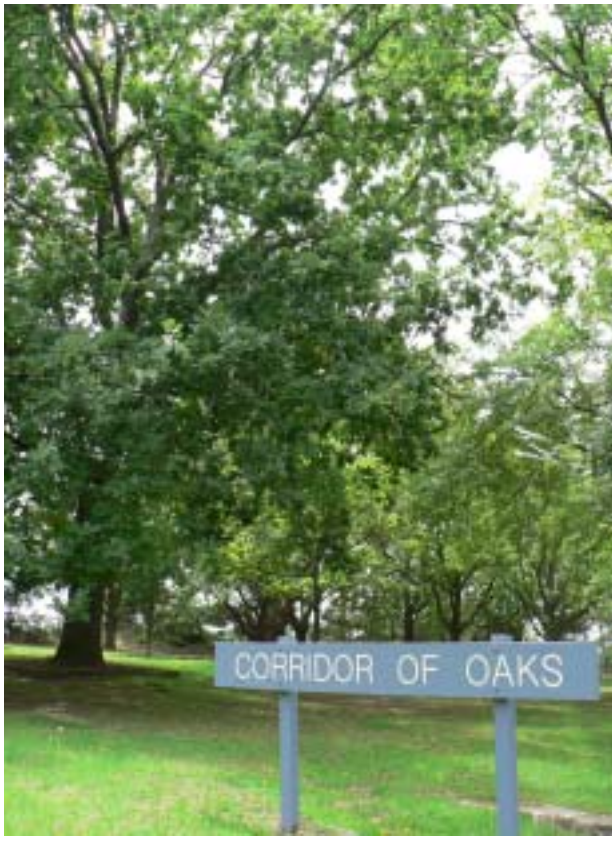
There have been 26 Australian Prime Ministers since Federation and over the years an oak tree for each has been planted in Jackson Park on Sir Henry's Parade, Faulconbridge.

Joseph Jackson (1874-1961) represented the electoral district of Nepean in the NSW Legislative Assembly for 33 years being the Minister for Local Government for 8 months between 1932 and 1933.

He donated the land on which Jackson Park sits to the people of the Blue Mountains in 1933 for use as a public park.

At that time Jackson owned the former home of Sir Henry Parkes and was an ardent admirer of his.

He conceived the idea of an avenue of oak trees to be planted by all the Prime Ministers of Australia or their nearest surviving relative.



There are a number of varieties of oak trees planted in Jackson Park

He hoped that the avenue, growing opposite the Parkes home, would become a national memorial.

It was at Faulconbridge during the 1880s that Sir Henry Parkes, in the company of many of his parliamentary colleagues, was able to come to conclusions about the framework of the Australian Constitution.

Planting of the oak trees commenced in 1934.

Edmund Barton was appointed Prime Minister by the Governor-General, Lord Hopetoun, in December 1900. In what is known as the "Hopetoun Blunder", the Governor-General had originally asked the Premier of NSW, William Lyne to form a ministry. Lyne was unable to garner enough support, mainly because of his previous opposition to Federation.

Mr WM Hughes Prime Minister of Australia (1915-23) planting the 6th tree in the Corridor of Oaks was reported in *The Sydney Morning Herald* of August 19, 1935 which stated: "These trees will live when all whose name they symbolise are gone; and after we are gone will come another generation whose pleasure and duty it will be to serve this great Commonwealth and this great Empire as the men whose names are being written in the hearts and souls of these young oak trees have done.

"Australia will one day make pilgrimage to see these growing oaks and to do honour to the Father of our Federation, Sir Henry Parkes who sleeps almost in the shadows of these trees."

The plantings on the north row from east to west are for Keating, Fraser, McMahon, McEwan, Forde, Fadden, Menzies, Page, Lyons, Scullin, Bruce, Hughes and Howard. On the south row from east to west they are for Hawke, Whitlam, Gorton, Holt, Chifley, Curtin, Barton, Deakin, Watson, Reid, Fisher and Cook.

A plaque in in the park recalls the desires of Joseph Jackson in donating the land.

Acorn cure

In the 17th century, a juice extracted from acorns was administered to habitual drunkards to cure them of their condition or else to give them the strength to resist another bout of drinking.

Article researched and written by John Leary, OAM who also produced the photographs.

The plaque under Australia's first Prime Minister, Edmund Barton's oak tree.

Heritage locomotive's new home at Valley Heights Museum

The heritage 3214 locomotive built in 1892 has been moved to the NSW Rail Transport Heritage Museum at Valley Heights.

The 32 class locomotive with two items of rolling stock have been transferred from Thirlmere as part of the extensive exhibit relocation that has been taking place in conjunction with the redevelopment of the Thirlmere Rail Heritage Centre.

Accompanying the 3214 were carriages RBR 1049 and an EHO Brake Van. The 32 class locomotive and RBR Carriage were originally identified as exhibits which the museum would like to incorporate in the Valley Heights collection, as both have significance for the Blue Mountains.

Built by Beyer Peacock, the 32 class is an early express passenger locomotive.

There were 191 of these locomotives built. Two of this class were permanently based at Valley Heights between 1913 and 1957 to perform shunting and to haul "The Chips" which at the time started from Valley Heights.

Today only four of this locomotive class 32 are preserved. Those being 3203 (RTM Thirlmere), 3214 (RTM – Valley Heights) 3237 (owned and operated by Lachlan Valley Railway at Cowra but currently stored at Eveleigh) and 3265 (recently fully rebuilt and restored, this locomotive is operated by the Powerhouse Museum in Sydney but is stored at Thirlmere)

The RBR 1049 is a first class compartment car with buffet at one end. RBRs could seat 30 passengers and formed part of the composition of "The Fish".
Extract from *The Depot Diary* newsletter of The Valley Heights Locomotive Heritage Museum.
Photograph Andrew Coble.

Museum wins RailCorp's heritage awards

The Office of Rail Heritage has recognised the work of volunteers at the Valley Heights Loco Depot Heritage Museum.

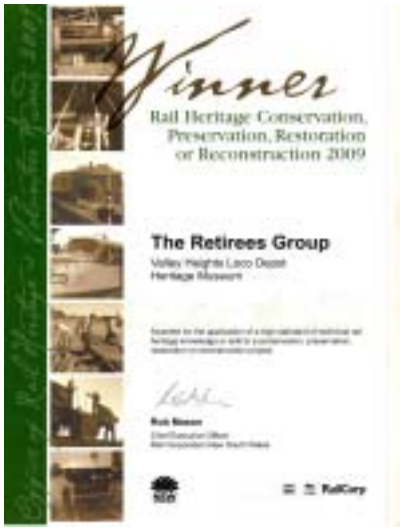
The Retirees Group at Valley Heights has won the award in the category of Rail Heritage Conservation, Preservation, Restoration or Reconstruction for its work restoring the Roundhouse windows.

Col Burne represented the Retirees Group on behalf of the Group's leader Dave Torr at the awards presentation ceremony last year accepting the award from RailCorp chairperson, Elizabeth Crouch.

This is not the first time volunteers at Valley Heights have been recognised by RailCorp, with the Museum's president, Ted Mullett, receiving an award in the category of Leadership, Management or Organisation in the previous year.

Col Burne with Elizabeth Crouch. Photograph courtesy Office of Rail Heritage

Painting the windows in the Roundhouse at the Valley Heights Heritage Loco Museum



The certificate presented to the Retirees Group

Conservation Volunteers Australia take on 2 projects at Valley Heights Museum

The NSW Rail Heritage Museum at Valley Heights last year benefited from the assistance of Conservation Volunteers Australia (CVA) by employing them on two very different projects.

CVA is the same group that provided invaluable service in exterior painting at Woodford Academy early last year, saving the National Trust considerable funding and at the same time providing the volunteers from around Australia and overseas the opportunity of being exposed to heritage projects.

CVA has a strong association with heritage organisations in Victoria and only recently offered its services to community based projects in NSW.

With assistance from the Office of Rail Heritage, the Valley Heights Museum employed volunteers in the preparation and painting of the locomotive turntable while another team was engaged in sorting and cataloguing the Museum's library collection.

The turntable painting entailed working under the platform of the table and rubbing back the old blue paintwork on the table side to remove the loose paint and rust and then repainting.

Because of the size of the table walls the team spread out along the length of the table with each person concentrating on one section.

A spokesman for the Museum said, the team worked for a week and what was achieved saved the Museum resources. The work was undertaken during a week of extreme heat.

Starting in November 2009, CVA is providing six regular volunteers working two days a week for a six month period sorting and cataloguing the Museum's library collection.

A start had been made on the work by two Museum members Nick and Judith Hill, but unfortunately Nick has fallen ill and the work ceased.

Members of the CVA team hard at work on the turnrable painting project. Photograph courtesy Peter Butler.

A database has been prepared by another member, Andrew Tester, and has been downloaded to the library's computer with a series of spreadsheets for each magazine title, books, plans, photographs and videos.

Further information about the work of Conservation Volunteers Australia is available from John Leary, OAM at johnnanette@optusnet.com.au

Crossing of Blue Mountains bicentenary commemoration

Blue Mountains City Council has advertised for expressions of interest from chambers of commerce and local community members to form part of the Blue Mountains Bicentenary of Crossing Organising Committee. Expressions of interest close on March 22.

The committee will be chaired by the mayor or his nominee. Also included in the committee will be 3 representatives from historical and heritage societies, and 1 representative from each of the Gundungurra, Darug and Wirdjuri communities.

The committee will develop and manage a program of events.

Historian Thomas Whitely lecture subject

Lyn Kelly has chosen, *Thomas Whitely a Blue Mountains historian* as the subject for a Blue Mountains Historical Society lecture at Hobby's Reach, on Saturday April 3.

Among Whitely's many collections are 2 volumes of newspaper articles on the exploration of the Blue Moutains for the period 1789-1813 in the State Library.

For more details contact John Low grizzlybear3au@hahoo.com .

Mt Wilson Community Market Weekend

Saturday & Sunday 24- 25 April 2010
10.00am – 4.00pm
Mt Wilson Village Hall, The AvenueMt Wilson
(off Bell's Line of Road)

Multiple vendors, great variety of goods, bric-a-brac, handmade items, books, old and new wares, jams, hot & cold food served all day, Devonshire teas.

Autumn colours at their peak, open gardens, Turkish Bath Museum, Chimney Cottage Heritage café, chestnut farms, rainforest walks, picnic areas.

Free entry, free parking. Enquiries: 4756 2063 or 9871 3661

JOURNEYS

By Shirley Evans

The Local Studies Collection of the Blue Mountains City Library housed in Braemar House, Springwood, has a wide variety of books relating to all things Blue Mountains, including the literature of Blue Mountains writers.

It also has an extensive pamphlet collection (called vertical files), Not included with the main library holdings, but on card systems within Braemar.

Shirley Evans, a one-time indexer of pamphlets for the Blue Mountains City Library Local Studies Collection has contributed this article which describes some of the stories and material to be found in the collection.

A recent acquisition is about to be added to the file titled, “Journeys”.

The material in this file is fascinating

Pictured is the arrival in Katoomba of five young Leeton women who were cycling from their home to Sydney. Also in the photograph are (left to right) Jack Maddock, reporter on *the Blue Mountain Times*, possibly Bill Coventry, Speedwell’s agent in Katoomba, Harry Drake, reporter on the *Blue Mountains Times* and Jim Tyley, linotype operator and part-time reporter for the *Katoomba Daily*. The identity of the young boy is unknown. Image courtesy Blue Mountains Library Local Stdies Collection.

In the early days of the colony, after a way across the Blue Mountains had been discovered by the new settlers and Cox’s Road had been built, our intrepid colonials set out to explore for themselves and often to make a new life in Bathurst and beyond.

Journeys has copies of journals including that of Governor Macquarie kept on his inaugural trip over the Blue Mountains and of Captain Henry Antill one the officials who accompanied him.

There are also journals and reports of naturalists and scientists, letters and memoirs of an artist, an early photographer and some missionaries.

The ladies have their place in the collection too, mostly in the form of letters.

Mrs Sophia Stanger was travelling to Bathurst with her husband, Joseph, in search of work. They had five children including an infant, about three months old.[1] Her letter was addressed to”My Own Beloved Mother”.

The indefatigable Mrs Elizabeth Hawkins whose husband was to work in Bathurst was accompanied by eight children and her mother and she was writing to her sister.

Another of the ladies, Louisa Anne Meredith, writer and botanist, was pregnant and going with her husband to visit his sheep property near Bathurst.

One of my favourites is the journal of Baron Field - his was a wonderful name for a colourful character. He was a judge in the Supreme Court of NSW from 1817 to 1824 and he included what he called *An Excursion Across the Blue Mountains* during his stay in the colony.

He spoke of “the eternal eucalyptus, with its white bark and its scanty tin-like foliage” and “the dark casuarina tall and exocarpus funeral [sic]”, although he did deign to admire the beautiful flowers and shrubs – “the exquisite epacris, the curious grevillea, xanthorrhoea, the sceptre of Flora, Telopea the magnificent and thysanotis [2] the lovely.”

And there are many more – a real treasure house of reading. Fascinating are some early examples of travel writing published in 1890s journals such as *The Illustrated Sydney News* and *Town and Country Journal.*

They not only promote the scenic beauty spots of the Blue Mountains, but give useful advice for accommodation on the journey.

They also provide a vehicle for the advertising of inns, guest houses and boarding schools.

Accommodation by this time, of course, was infinitely more comfortable than the sleazy inns available to the early travellers.

The new addition is a story of more recent origin and concerns five adventurous country girls, Alma and Joyce Eurell, Molly Dunn, Beryl Burns and Daisy Transton, aged about 21 to23, who cycled from Leeton in the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area to Sydney in 1935.

Continued page 12

Journeys - journals from the earliest to 20th century crossings of the Blue Mountains

The previous year they had spent two months planning to cycle to Melbourne for the Centenary Celebrations and remarkably they accomplished this in four days, despite headwinds for part of the way.

Leeton is a pretty town designed by Walter Burley Griffin with a circular design of avenues and streets which were later mostly given names of trees. It is 585 kms from Sydney and in 1933 had a district population of 7,803 and a population of 5,351.

In 1935 the Letona Cannery was the largest industrial undertaking in the Leeton district and the greatest single employer. It became a fruitgrowers co-operative in 1935.

The cannery building covered 17.5 acres which included a building for canning and jam making. In 1932 over 500 women came for the season.

Our adventurous girls all worked at the cannery. They loved cycling, all had Speedwell bicycles and spent their holidays on these excursions. In 1935 they set out on Tuesday, September 17. Their departure was not described in the local newspaper, *The Murrumbidgee Irrigator* but in 1934 it was reported that co-workers lined the railway siding to cheer them on their way to Melbourne and there were also people along the Leeton streets to farewell them. I would think this happened again in 1935.

They made good time to Temora, arriving at tea time, despite Daisy feeling unwell all the way. On Wednesday she had completely recovered but they found the next leg, aiming for Cowra, difficult, plagued by bad roads and Mollie's bicycle suffering five punctures along the way.

The last one occurred at night and they were unable to mend it. They did not have a torch and vowed to bring one on their next journey. They walked in the darkness for three miles to Koorawatha, 10 miles from Cowra.

The next day they really pushed on over one hill after another, sometimes having to walk and reached Bathurst at midnight. Daisy and Alma went straight to bed but Mollie, Joyce and Beryl tucked into steak and eggs.

The next day they found the Great Western Highway "like a speedway with a billiard-table surface' and were able to spend the night in Lithgow, reaching Katoomba on Saturday at 11.30am. The Katoomba Speedwell agent, Bill Coventry, met them at the office of the *Katoomba Daily* and there the photograph on the previous page was taken.

It was said that a Speedwell agent met them at nearly every town on the route although present day family members believe their trip was not sponsored.

We know the five girls had packed their swimming costumes and planned to spend a month in Sydney, looking for a happy time on the surfing beaches. They told Katoomba journalists that the road to Melbourne was better but "the scenery could not be compared with what they had witnessed". We have no further information about their journey but we may yet acquire some and it can easily be added to the vertical file.

FOOTNOTES

[1.] George Mackaness in *Fourteen Journeys Over the Blue Mountains of New South Wales* wrote that Sophia was travelling with triplets. It seems likely that he was misinterpreting something Sophia included in her letter to her mother where she referred to all the advice she received from interested onlookers. Some, she said, "were utterly astonished the young girl should have so many children, and especially three at birth!" John Low and I feel she was writing humorously to her mother. Sophia, at the time of the journey would have been 27 years old, she married Joseph in 1836 and they had a baby each year until 1841. The three youngest were very young for such a journey in the winter and would have been very warmly swaddled against the cold making the casual observer believe they were all tiny babies.

[2] Thysanotis – fringed violet (Family Lilaceae)

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The Descendants of Thomas Stanger circa 1610 http// www.airgale.com.au/stanger-t/ d7.htm

Bowmaker, A.E. *A Brief History of Leeton,* 1968

Eurell family members

Journeys vertical file, Local Studies Collection Blue Mountains City Library

Katoomba Daily, 1935

Mackaness, George, *Fourteen Journeys Over the Blue Mountains of New South Wales,* 1950

Murrumbidgee Irrigator, 1934, 1935

Tiffen, Robin, *Letona, the Whole Story,* 1996

Vries-Evans, Susannah, *Pioneer Women, Pioneer Land: Yesterday's Tall Poppies,* 1987.

THE AUTHOR

Shirley Evans is a retired teacher/ librarian in State Secondary Schools, one-time indexer of pamhlets for the Local Studies Collection of the Blue Mountains City Library, a member of the Blue Mountains Family History Society and foundation member of the Springwood Historians. Publications include *The Influennza Pandemic of 1918-1919 in the Blue Mountains and Lithgow* and *An Early Springwood Family: Elizabeth and William Rayner.* She co-wrote *The Making of a Mountain Community: a Biographical Dictionary of the Springwood District* and *Remembrance: Springwood District Honor Roll 1914-1919.*

An advertisment in *The Illustrated Sydney News* 1889

Lachlan Macquarie's tomb in Scotland cared for by National Trust of Australia

Lachlan Macquarie was born on the Island of Ulva, off the west coast of Mull, Scotland in 1761. He would become one of the most recognisable characters of Colonial Australia and was later described as "The Father of Australia," thanks to his work as Governor of New South Wales from 1810-1821.

The American War of Independence (1775-83) prompted Macquarie, aged 16, to enroll in active military service with his father in 1775. By 1781 he was promoted to Lieutenant. This signaled the beginning of an impressive military career that would span over 30 years and see him achieve the rank of Major General.

His service not only earned him a small fortune but provided him with the opportunity to travel. He visited North America, Jamaica and Egypt before beginning a long period of association with India.

While in Bombay, he met and married Jane Jarvis, the heiress daughter of a former Chief Justice of Antigua. Sadly, three years into their marriage, Jane died of tuberculosis.

Jane's death resulted in Macquarie sinking into a deep depression that led him back to Mull where he met Elizabeth Campbell, who later became his second wife.

Married in 1807, Macquarie was offered the position of Governor of NSW by the British Crown and arrived in the Colony in 1809. In March 1814, Elizabeth gave birth to Lachlan Jr., heir to the Mull estate.

Macquarie took office in 1810 and set about improving the morale and the physical infrastructure of the Colony. The Governor and Elizabeth toured widely, forging strong relationships and establishing a positive, progressive tone that soon saw the creation of a civilised and stable society.

Ill health led Macquarie to tender his resignation three times during his term in office; his third offer was accepted and the family returned to Great Britain in 1822.

A tour of the continent followed and afterwards the family retreated to Mull. In 1824, sensing his death approaching, Lachlan put his affairs in order and chose a burial site on the Gruline Estate in Mull. He died on July 1, 1824.

For many years the mausoleum was sadly neglected. But in 1948, Lady Yarborough, the owner of a nearby estate, gifted the mausoleum site to the people of New South Wales.

Today, the tomb is preserved and protected by both The National Trust of Scotland and The National Trust of Australia (NSW).

In 1851 the Drummond family, a socially prominent family, built a final mausoleum on the site. Set in a grassed area surrounded by a circular stone wall with wrought iron gates, the Macquarie Mausoleum is a plain sandstone structure with two marble panels enclosing the entrance doorways.

It holds the remains of Governor Macquarie, wife Elizabeth, their son Lachlan and their daughter Jane, who passed away in early infancy.

There are two inscriptions on the tomb, the first and oldest is dedicated to Lachlan Macquarie

The epitaph was prepared by Elizabeth Macquarie, with assistance from the Reverend David Bell of Fifeshire. The text is based on a notice published by Lachlan Macquarie's old friend, Sir Charles Forbes, and on a sermon preached by the Reverend William Cowper at a memorial service held at St Philip's Church, Sydney on November 14, 1824. The gravestone was laid over Macquarie's resting place by Elizabeth c.1832. At a later date [c.1851] the mausoleum was erected over the burial site and the memorial stone fixed to the exterior of the south-eastern wall.

The second inscription, records the interment of Lachlan and Elizabeth Macquarie, and their two children Jane and Lachlan. This inscription dates from after 1845 and is mounted on the north-western face of the mausoleum.

This is the third in a series of articles to be published in ***HERITAGE*** this year as part of the commemoration of 200th anniversary of the year of Lachlan Macquarie's swearing in as the 5th governor of NSW

The series will acknowledge the significant contribution and achievements of Governor Macquarie and his wife Elizabeth during their 12 year tenure.

Source: Text for this article is by courtesy National Trust of Australia (NSW) http://www.nsw.nationaltrust.org.au/properties/macquarie/
Photograph courtesy Dr Peter Stanbury, OAM

Transport, Signal & Communications Museum developed at Kurrajong

By John Cooper

For many years the main stream railway enthusiast groups were very single minded in regards to railway preservation. The Australian Railway Historical Society for example was solely dedicated to the preservation of paper records.

Following the dieselisation program which commenced in the late 1950s when steam locomotives started to be withdrawn, poorly performing locomotives were the first to be retired.

When no effort was made to preserve a 58 class or 34 class locomotive, society members became irate, which led to the creation of the Rail Transport Museum. Now at least there was a society in NSW, interested in preserving our railway history.

The Railway Commissioner, Mr Neil McCusker at that time was of the view that locomotives sitting in parks were usually left and neglected and this reflected poorly on the railways.

He decided that the RTM could have almost anything they wanted under 'deed of gift' and all other items were to be destroyed.

Around 1974 I became involved in the proposal to create a steam tourist railway on the old Zig Zag formation east of Lithgow.

I was chairman of the Zig Zag Railway (ZZR) for almost 12 years and in that time a friend and I started collecting items we thought could be used in a museum there.

We believed that passengers needed something to keep them occupied while waiting on the next train.

But that wasn't to be as other the board members at that time considered ZZR was a tourist railway, not a museum!

It was at this time that I became aware of the lack of interest in preserving behind the scene items of the railways, such as the railway

Train control desk

refreshment rooms, signalling and all the ancillary items that made up the history of the working of the rail

Early in1990 with the aid of a few friends who shared my views, we set up the Transport Signal & Communications Museum.

We leased the old railway electrical substation at Cabramatta in the beginning but as time went by, the property being located between two working lines caused too many problems and so I thought I'd start looking for somewhere else.

We had big visions back then; the museum would be housed in the substation with the entrance being the front of the Silver City Comet. Outside would be a typical train set up of the 1950s headed by a 44 class locomotive 4420.

In 1992, I looked for some property to shift the Museum to and found one at Kurrajong, our present site. With the relocation to Kurrajong, we found we lost a number of members who thought the move was not the right way to go.

The next challenge was to convince the Hawkesbury City Council to allow us to bring the carriages on site. We wore them down but we had to house the carriages undercover and that is what we have today.

The museum has a large building, which houses most of the collection and also two carriages.

In the building there are displays of badge crockery, safe working items, such as diagrams, different types of frames out of signal boxes.

Of course clocks are a big part of the display as well as the pocket watches. A room is set aside for telecommunications as well as a ticketing display.

As time goes on it is hoped to set up rooms for each subject.The Christmas Day 2001 bushfires were a very bad time, with the TSCM loosing a good part of its historical collection.

Looking back on what was lost; we realized we had saved the main building and four carriages.

We then made the decision we had to go on, so we concentrated our efforts on building better and more interesting displays in the main building.

Continued page 15

BLUE MOUTAINS HERITAGE SITES LISTED

Some 800 heritage sight records in the Blue Mountains have now been placed online and are accessible to the public through the NSW Heritage Branch's website.

Late last year Blue Mountains City Council completed the task of computerising these records following continued pressure from BMACHO to have the records checked and digitalized using material provided to council by consultants some years ago.

The State Heritage Inventory (SHI) or online database contains more than 20,000 heritage items on statutory lists in NSW.

This information is mainly provided by local councils and most records have basic identification information such as name, address and listings.

The SHI also includes items listed on the State Heritage Register.

Local councils play an important role in heritage management by identifying, assessing and managing heritage places and objects in a local area.

All councils are required to identify items of local heritage significance in a heritage schedule to the local environmental plan. A local environmental plan (LEP) is a planning instrument that councils prepare under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.

To access the complete listing, Google www.heritagensw.gov.au When the NSW Heritage Office site opens the following procedure is suggested:
(1.) click on 'Listings',
(2.) click on 'Heritage Database'
(3.) insert 'Blue Mountains' under local government area, leaving the other rows blank. [If you put in 'LEP', no state-listed item will appear in Section 1.]
4.) click on 'search' on the bottom of the screen
(5.) then view Section 1. (the 26 items which are already State-listed) and Section 2. (the numerous local items identified in the Heritage Review awaiting Blue Mountains City Council listing on the LEP in this revised form: these include a fair number which have been assessed as of State significance, but have not yet been put forward for State Heritage Register listing).

Commenting on the long awaited listing, Dr Ian Jack who with his consultancy team was responsible for most of the research and text of the Blue Mountains City Council heritage listings, said, "the information available on the website includes the full statement of significance, description and history of each item.

Associate Professor Ian Jack

"The photographs, maps and plans which accompanied each item are still not available in this format.

"With the unfortunate exception of the images, the presentation is of outstanding utility and very user friendly, Dr Jack said.

Pictured above is Chimney Cottage at Mt Wilson and Woodford Academy, two of more than 800 listed heritage sites. Pictures by John Leary, OAM

Hands on displays at Kurrajong

Continued from page 14

A lot of displays are hands-on, and what better way to display something, than by demonstrating with a member of the public helping.

The aim for the future is to further develop the displays into working exhibits, with a large amount of history coming from the local Richmond / Kurrajong Branch line. This line was of course the state's first real branch line, and in 2014 will be celebrating its 150th anniversary.

Station master's display

Holy See's secrets revealed in letters from famous faces of history

Mary, Queen of Scots from 1542 to 1567

A 13th century letter from Genghis Khan's grandson demanding homage from Pope Innocent IV is among a collection of documents from the Vatican's Secret Archives that has just been published for the first time.

The Holy See's archives contain scrolls, parchments and leather bound volumes with correspondence dating back more than 1000 years.

High-quality reproductions of 105 documents, 19 of which have never been seen before in public, have been published in a book.

The Vatican Secret Archives features a papal letter to Hitler, an entreaty to Rome written on birch bark by a tribe of North American Indians and a plea from Mary Queen of Scots.

In 1586 Mary, Queen of Scots wrote to Pope Sixtus V, a few months before she was beheaded for plotting against her cousin Queen Elizabeth I, pledging her eternal allegiance to Rome.

In a letter dated 1246 from Grand Khan Guyuk to Pope Innocent IV, Genghis Khan's grandson demands that the pontiff travel to central Asia in person – with all of his "kings" in tow "to pay service to us" as an act of "submission", threatening that otherwise "you shall be our enemy".

Another parchment letter by English peers to Pope Clement VII in 1530, calls for Henry VIII's marriage to Catherine of Aragon to be annulled.

Although scholars have always had access to the archives since1881, they remain closed to the public

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

REGISTERED OFFICE 40 Hume Avenue, Wentworth Falls 2782
E-mail: bmacho.heritage@gmail.com
Website: www.bluemountains.heritage.com

THE ORGANISATION Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 following a unanimous response to a proposal from Prof. Barrie Reynolds at the 2004 Blue Mountains Local History Conference which sought from Blue Mountains City Council the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the city.

BMACHO in its constitution uses the definition: "Cultural heritage is all aspects of life of the peoples of the Blue Mountains which was later changed to cover Lithgow and the villages along the Bell's Line of Roads. It therefore involves the recording, preserving and interpreting of information in whatever form: documents, objects, recorded memories as well as buildings and sites."

The objectives of the organisation are

i. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage.

ii. To encourage and assist cultural heritage activities of member organisations.

iii. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations.

One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact, to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

MEMBERSHIP The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains City Library, Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc, Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc., Blue Mountains Tourism Limited, Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute, Cudgegong Museums Group Inc, Friends of Everglades, Friends of Norman Lindsay Gallery, Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc, Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc, Lilianfels Blue Mountains Resort, Lithgow Mining Museum Inc, Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies, Lithgow Small Arms Factory Museum Inc, Mid-Mountains Historical Society Inc, Mid Western Regional Council Library, Mt Tomah Botanic Gardens, Mt Victoria and District Historical Society Inc, Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine History Society Inc (including Turkish Bath Museum), Mudgee Historical Society Inc, Mudgee Regional Library, National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Blue Mountains Branch (including Woodford Academy), National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Lithgow Branch, Scenic World – Blue Mountains Limited, Springwood & District Historical Society Inc., Springwood Historians inc, Transport Signal and Communication Museum Inc., Two Centuries of Elegance, Valley Heights Locomotive Depot and Museum, Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd. The following are individual members: Wendy Carlson, Ray Christison, Ms Pamela Hubert, Associate Professor Ian Jack, Joan Kent, John Leary OAM, John Low, Professor Barrie Reynolds, and Dr Peter Stanbury OAM.

COMMITTEE The committee for 2009-10 is: John Leary, (president) Ian Jack (vice president), Barrie Reynolds (secretary), Kathie McMahon-Nolf (treasurer), Jean Arthur, Ray Christison, Lyn Fowler, Doug Knowles, and Dick Morony (public officer), Peter Stanbury.
AUDITOR: Sue McMahon, B Comm CPA

AFFILIATIONS BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society Inc.
HERITAGE is BMACHO's official newsletter.

HERITAGE

NEWSLETTER OF THE BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS

MAY - JUNE 2010 ISSUE No. 9

Eskbank House: bringing an 1840s house museum into the 21st century

by Naomi Parry, Cultural Development Officer, Lithgow City Council

Although I have lived in the Blue Mountains for 10 years, I did not know about Eskbank House and Museum, or even where it was, until I was appointed Cultural Development Officer at Lithgow City Council late last year.

The term 'house museum' is rather broad and while I knew Eskbank would not be of the scale of Elizabeth Bay House, I was a little worried that it would be like the folk museums of my Tasmanian childhood, filled with horsehair lounges and fusty mannequins with sewn-in eyelashes and the inevitable 'convict man-trap' attached to their ankles.

Happily, Eskbank House is a beautiful little museum with many stories to tell. As I work through its remarkable collections I now understand that these stories are not only about Lithgow, but about core elements of Australian industrial and social history.

The History of Eskbank House

The house was built in 1842 by Alexander Binning in Georgian-style, with a hipped roof extending over a wrap-around verandah.

Its ashlar cut sandstone walls have remained straight and solid, with barely a crack to show for the 170 years the house has stood on the floor of this valley.

The fortunes of the house however have waxed and waned, according to the rhythms of Lithgow's industries.

Eskbank was built for Thomas Brown, an ambitious young Dumfries Shire man.

Stables and blacksmithing courtyard at Eskbank House

The presence of coal appears to have motivated Brown to acquire the 295 hectare estate, although initially he farmed and served as Hartley Bench Magistrate.

In 1869, with the advent of rail, Brown established the first railway siding in Lithgow and the first of two collieries on his estate.

In 1872 Brown entered the Legislative Assembly as the Member for Hartley and Eskbank Colliery secured lucrative contracts to supply the railways with coal.

At this time Eskbank was the political and social hub of Lithgow, but by 1876 it had become apparent that Brown had interfered with the tendering processes and he was disqualified from the Legislative Assembly. He was widowed in 1878 and retired to St Leonards in 1881.

Eskbank was sold to Bathurst businessman and Cobb and Co manager James Rutherford, and the house became a rental property known as 'The Grange', serving as a girls' school for a time, and as a home for high-ranking employees in local enterprises.

Rutherford subdivided large portions of the estate for residential development and established Eskbank Blast Furnace a few hundred metres northwest from the house.

His blast furnace was not successful and it is rumoured he staged a flamboyant protest against the lack of government support by driving cartloads of explosives into it before selling to William Sandford in 1892.

Continued page 2

A new blast furnace built nearby

Continued from page 1

Sandford established a much more successful blast furnace, on a new site to the east of the house, but over reached and in 1908 was obliged to sell to his friend Charles Hoskins, whose company became Australian Iron and Steel.

In the early 20th century 'The Grange' was, once more, the centre of the estate, serving as the manager's residence for the blast furnace.

In the 1920s William Mortlock, the first Australian-born manager, enclosed the rear of the house, creating a skylit courtyard and a gabled breakfast room.

This action, as it turned out, provided the space Eskbank needed to serve as a museum into the 21st century.

In the 1930s the blast furnace, located too far from both ore and ports, was dismantled.

Eskbank House, now sitting on a remnant hectare of land, was divided into flats to accommodate the manufacturing workers who flooded into Lithgow during World War II.

However, the Lithgow Historical Committee lobbied the Hoskins' family company Australian Iron and Steel, asking that they donate 'The Grange' to Lithgow Council as a 'museum of historical record being in itself probably the most important of all relics which may be housed therein.'

Lithgow retailer Eric Bracey stepped in, purchasing the house in 1948 and deeding it to council, on condition it remained in the control of the Lithgow Historical Society.

The history of the Museum

Bracey then spent 18 years collecting antiques to restore Eskbank House to a state he thought (perhaps erroneously) worthy of a man of Brown's station.

The house, and its substantial collection of antiques, was transferred to the local history society and opened to the public in 1966, although it remained a home to live-in caretakers until 2003, when council assumed responsibility for managing the property.

Thomas Brown's garden houses

In almost 40 years of running Eskbank, the local history society received donations of textiles, china, locomotives, fine furniture from local homes, including a circa 1847 John Broadwood & Sons cottage piano, photographs and artwork, tools for blacksmithing and wheel making, flat irons, bottles, typewriters, washing machines, telephone equipment, butter churns and even the plants in the garden, which date from a 1967 donations drive.

This means the collections are rich. The museum holds mementos of the family of former Prime Minister Joseph Cook, of HMAS Lithgow, the Lithgow Woollen Mills, of friendly societies and trade unions, of the Lithgow Co-operative and local families.

It also holds Lithgow's 'black roses', which are made of steel from the blast furnace; a nationally significant collection of rare Lithgow pottery and the Sutton-Leake family crazy quilt, made in Maryland in 1893 and brought to Lithgow in the 1920s as a wedding gift.

Eskbank House in the 21st century

Eskbank is valuable for its advanced age and architecture; continuous occupation; links with industry and diverse collections. But it can also be read as a museum of what Eric Bracey and the sadly defunct historical society thought a museum should be like. It is a place of memory.

The challenge of Eskbank is finding ways to keep telling its stories to new audiences.

House museums are not renowned for their high visitation, but the enclosed courtyard offers exhibition space that is sorely needed in Lithgow and the Blue Mountains, and an opportunity to link the house and its collections with cultural activity in the region.

This space also means Eskbank can host travelling shows. A major event in 2010 will be the Australian War Memorial travelling exhibition 'A Digger's Best Friend: An A-Z of animals in war', which will be at Eskbank from May 14 to July 25.

Eskbank House also needs people to help tell its stories. We have vacancies for volunteers who are interested in collection management, research, conservation and guiding.

The house is also a rich resource for students of all heritage disciplines.

Teachers interested in hands-on involvement with this lovely site should contact Naomi Parry at Lithgow City Council.

Continued page 3

GREENS STATE MP TO OUTLINE HERITAGE POLICY

As the third in a series of meetings to which the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations (BMACHO) has invited major political parties to outline their heritage policies, Ms Sylvia Hale, MLC will address a meeting at Springwood to outline the Greens Party policy.

At the conclusion of her address, time will be allowed for questions and this will enable participants to have input into future policy.

Members, friends and associates, are invited to attend this meeting to commence at 2pm in the Springwood Sports Club, 83 Macquarie Road, Springwood on Friday, June 18 2010.

Afternoon tea will be served and to cover this cost a charge of $5 per head is being made.

Bookings before June 10 are essential to Doug Knowles

telephone 4751 3275 (please allow phone to ring for some time) with cheques payable to BMACHO to Doug Knowles 2 Sun Valley Road, Sun Valley 2777. For further information: John Leary, OAM johnnanette@optusnet.com.au

Speaking in parliament last year against the Heritage Amendment Bill, Ms Hale said "the bill was an attack on our heritage, an attack on community participation, and the latest step in the ceaseless march by this Government to centralize all planning powers in the hand of the Minister, either directly or through hand-picked panels appointed by and answerable to the Minister for Planning.

Heritage is not just about old buildings. It is about natural, cultural and built treasures that have made and continue to make a unique contribution to defining who we are and where and how we live.

"These unique treasures have been handed to us by previous generations in safekeeping for future generations.

"The preservation and enhancement of our heritage is a central component of the Greens' philosophy because the protection of our natural, cultural and built environments is a central tenet of ecological sustainability," Ms Hale said.

Ms Hale went on to say, "The Greens recognise that heritage protection is a balancing act. Human societies must not only respect and learn from their past, they must also continue to evolve to stay healthy and to thrive in both social and economic terms.

"It is important therefore that heritage assessment is rigorous and that heritage sites meet that general broad definition of having a significant contribution to make to our understanding of ourselves and from where we have come.

"Adaptive re-use is an important part of any heritage system and we must be willing to consider how best to achieve a balance of maintaining heritage values while allowing heritage sites to continue being a living part of society," Ms Hale said.

Eskbank House at Lithgow

Continued from page 2

Eskbank House is situated on Bennett Street, Lithgow near the Workingmen's Club, and an easy walk from the station. It is open Wednesday to Sunday from 10am to 4pm, although if you are making a special trip it is a good idea to call ahead to be sure the house is open.

Group and school tours are available, and the grounds and courtyard gallery are also available for hire, by calling 02 6351 3557 or emailing eskbank@lithgow.nsw.gov.au.

Further reading:
Bob McKillop, *Furnace, Fire and Forge: Lithgow's Iron and Steel Industry 1874 – 1932,* (Melbourne: 2006).

'"Eskbank House" Site Analysis and Landscape Strategies', Rose Deco Planning and Design Pty Ltd., report prepared for Lithgow District Historical Society, 1998.

Website: www.lithgow.nsw.gov.au/eskbank

NEW PRESIDENT

Blue Mountains Historical Society has a new president with Graham Warmbath being elected to the office at last month's annual general meeting.

From the president's pen.....

The ladies of Australian history inspirations oft forgotten

It was a man's world, by the numbers and by tradition, in those early days of the Colony, and women were expected to commit to a domestic life outside of the public view.

But one woman bucked the trend and there are others who would set examples for the inspiration of those who would follow in the next two hundred years as the Colony grew to a nation of 22 million.

Born Caroline Jones and reared in the tradition of Evangelical philanthropy she married an army officer on condition her philanthropic work should continue.

One might wonder the fate of the wife of an army officer who came to the Colony on leave of absence, but who shortly after his arrival was recalled to his regiment when it was ordered to China on active service and was consequently forced to leave her in Sydney or rather Windsor.

From all accounts this lady, Caroline Chisholm was a shy but determined housewife who was so sickened by the pimping and exploitation of boatloads of immigrant girls that she talked her way in to see Governor Gipps to win his support in what was to become her life's work.

The perseverance which she exhibited to ensure that female immigrants were provided with meaningful employment and dignity upon their arrival in the Colony would have disheartened anyone less zealous than her.

She met almost every immigrant ship and became a familiar figure on the wharves, sheltering many of the young girls in her home.

When her husband retired from the army and returned to New South Wales he joined his wife in her work.

By now, Mrs Chisholm had been led away from alleviating immediate distress to expounding reforms and to promoting her own colonisation scheme.

In London her eloquent arguments won the sympathy of Earl Grey and she achieved her objectives of that meeting to gain free passage to New South Wales for emancipists' wives and 75 children. She gave evidence before two House of Lords committees, on the execution of the criminal law and on colonisation from Ireland, a rare tribute to a woman in those days.

Her comments on shipboard conditions ensured the passing of the Passenger Act of 1852

Caroline Chisholm's scorn for material reward and public position contributed to the obscurity of her last years in Australia.

Sweet Caroline, the formidable Mrs Chisholm assisted thousands of female immigrants, but this was only part of her philanthropic work for almost 50 years.

Herself a devoted wife and mother, she helped to give dignity to woman and family in a harsh colonial society. Her achievement was made possible by idealism and courage allied to her ability and personal charm.

Another was Elizabeth Veale who was born and educated in England. In 1788 she married an ambitious young army officer, John Macarthur and a year later sailed with the Second Fleet to New South Wales.

In 1793 John Macarthur was granted 100 acres of prime farming land in Parramatta. The couple settled there and John named it 'Elizabeth Farm' in honour of his wife.

As well as bringing 8 children into the world, Elizabeth took a keen interest in the farm and was to eventually help influence a wool export industry in the colony.

In 1801, John Macarthur found himself in trouble and was back in England, not to return until 1805. In his absence, Elizabeth successfully managed the property, which by that time was the largest of its kind in what was to become Australia.

Elizabeth became an expert in fleeces and set up the infra-structure to export colonial wool.She was the first to breed the world-renowned Merino which became the foundation of the Australian wool industry – significantly increasing the yield of fine wool.

Elizabeth Macarthur pioneered the colonial sheep industry, an industry that was to have a profound effect on the economic growth of Australia.

There were many others such as Eliza Fraser the survivor of a shipwreck off the north east coast of Australia in 1836.

Although accounts of her ordeal vary, there is little doubt as to her courage when within a few days of leaving the wreck she gave birth to a baby who died nor the trauma of witnessing her husband, the ship's captain speared to death by Aboriginals.

Some of these women have been recognised, but far too often history seems to have passed them by in favour of their husbands or other men.

Historians have produced the research material. Perhaps, it might not be too much to ask that contemporary writers consider some of these heroines as fine subjects for research.

John Leary, OAM - President, Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations

The tale of two oak trees

By Cathy McHardy

Two lovely oak trees planted by the Arthur family in the 1920s still stand sentinel on the front boundary of 954 East Kurrajong Road, East Kurrajong.

The focus of my local history research over the last few years has been my own backyard, of East Kurrajong and adjoining localities of Glossodia, Blaxlands Ridge and Wilberforce.

The land surrounding my family home once consisted of 40 acre portions which were made available for conditional purchase from the 1870s.

Tracing the chain of title for the portion next to my own (Portion 152, Parish of Currency, County of Cook), I encountered the surname of Arthur who owned the block from 1920 to 1961.

One of the older residents further along the road, Ken Whalan suggested I might contact Jean Arthur as he believed she was presently living in the Blue Mountains.

Drafting a letter of introduction to this hitherto unknown Jean Arthur I surmised what age might she be, would she be at all interested in my research and who planted the two lovely oak trees standing sentinel at the front boundary of the block?

Sometimes things just happen in the most serendipitous way.

Two lovely oak trees planted by the Arthur family in the 1920s still standing sentinel on the front boundary of 954 East Kurrajong Road, East Kurrajong. Photograph by Cathy McHardy May 2007

Receiving the BMACHO newsletter via the Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society my eyes zoomed in to an article offering a tour of the mapping section of the Department of Land and Property Management Authority at Bathurst.

As one obsessed with maps of all kinds, I felt impelled not to miss out on this opportunity. I telephoned Doug Knowles immediately, took the day off work and did not imagine what a great adventure I was to have.

The tour of the LPMA facility very much increased my understanding and appreciation of the functions and services of the department but that was not the only interesting thing to happen that day.

Parish of Concord, County of Cumberland, 22 January 1915 3rd Edition Department of Land and Property Management Authority

On our way to Bathurst, a fellow member of the Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society, Kathy McMahon, mentioned to me that I must meet Jean Arthur as she had a connection with East Kurrajong and she was, coincidentally, on the same excursion.

The return journey from Bathurst was spent in concentrated and pleasurable conversation with Jean, pen and paper in hand. Her father James, mother Jane (Jean) and sister Francis aged 7 had emigrated from Scotland in early 1920.

Jean was born in Australia several years later. Her father was an engineer in the drawing office of John Brown and Company, Clydebank, Scotland, famous for building the Lusitania and the Queen Mary amongst other ships. In Sydney, James Arthur worked for the engineering firm of Babcock and Wilcox.

The Arthur family settled in Burwood on part of the grounds of a sandstone mansion known as 'Tahlee' which at that time had been recently subdivided into more than fifty suburban blocks.

The curtilage of the house had been very much reduced as may be seen from an aerial photograph taken in 1943

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Seedlings from Burwood to Kurrajong

Continued from page 5

'Tahlee' was constructed (by persons as yet unknown) on part of a thousand acre grant to William Faithful who arrived in the colony as a private in the New South Wales Corps aboard the Pitt in February 1792. The land had been previously granted to Alexander Riley. (As an aside, Faithful also has a Hawkesbury connection being granted land in the Richmond area).

According to Burwood and District Historical Society, it was home to Josiah Mullen for many years, later being occupied by W H Pigott, the MLA for Canterbury (1880-84) and his family. In about 1947 the house and remaining land was resumed by Burwood Council and subsequently demolished.

'Tahlee' was part of a cluster of houses south of the railway line from Croydon Station to Burwood Station. Next door was another large home known as 'Weldon'.

These two houses are remembered in the naming of nearby streets. James Arthur purchased one of these suburban blocks in the early 1920s and built their family home.

A grand avenue of oak trees had once lined the entrance drive from Murray Street, Croydon to 'Tahlee' house property which extended to the Liverpool Road. In the backyard of the Arthur's house at Burwood sprouted several oak tree seedlings from the avenue.

Dreaming of being the gentleman farmer, Arthur purchased the fifty-three acre property at East Kurrajong from Ernest George Hassell in 1920.

The Arthur family spent many happy weekends and school holidays at East Kurrajong and Jean Arthur has a keen and vivid memory of those times.

The farm included bountiful fruit trees and passionfruit vines and her mother kept lots of chooks.

Rabbit traps were set each evening but Jean aimed to let the rabbits get away before her father had time to check the night's catch in the morning.

The curtilage of the house had been very much reduced.Sydney Aerial photograph 1943 Department of Land and Property Management Authority

Two of the seedlings from the backyard at Burwood were transplanted to East Kurrajong in front of the neat cottage.

Jean remembers the home constructed of timber slabs resplendent with whitewashed walls and prettily furnished interior. The old slab home is sadly no longer standing but the oak trees continue to flourish.

THE AUTHOR

A member of several Hawkesbury local history organisations, Cathy McHardy has contributed numerous articles to local journals, newspapers and magazines since moving to the area with a young family in 1976.

Cathy has formal qualifications in Local & Applied History, Library & Information Science and Archives & Records Management and in her professional life holds the position of Information and Lending Services Librarian at Hawkesbury Library.

Having researched and published several histories including Wilberforce Cemetery and Glossodia, Cathy is currently working on republishing *Reminiscences of Richmond* by Sam Boughton originally published in 1903 and a local history of the East Kurrajong area.

Consider joining the Australian Historical Societies Support Group

The online Australian Historical Societies Support Group, through an arrangement between the Federation of Australian Historical Societies (FAHS) and the Royal Historical Society of Victoria, is one of the *My Connected Community* (mc^2)

The Australian Historical Societies Support Group offers participating historical societies, like minded bodies and their members a variety of free, easy to use web-based services which they can use to communicate with each other across the nation and the world on any topic that is of interest or concern to their organisations.

The mc^2 provides easy access to online technologies now available for communicating between member groups. Features of mc^2 include a forum, and events list space for sharing files, space for sharing photographs, a link page and a chat room.

Details on how to join the Group are available at the FAHS website at hhtp://www.history.org.au. Follow the "Support" and "Support Group" links from the home page.

BMACHO members visit Bathurst for mapping seminar

Twenty people from BMACHO organisations at Kurrajong, Glenbrook, Wentworth Falls, Woodford, Mt Victoria and Lithgow travelled to Bathurst for the mapping workshop conducted by the Land and Property Management Authority (L&PMA) earlier this year.

An outstanding workshop covering a wide range of topics associated with map making, surveying and restoration of maps was provided by staff of the Authority.

During the visit participants covered a wide range of L&PMA's operation including the Geographical Names Board, imagery and elevation programs, graphic services and the conversion and preservation of maps and documents.

The latest technology, LiDAR which is Light, Detection and Ranging using the same principle as radar was demonstrated. A beam of light is transmitted from an aircraft to the ground and the time taken for the beam to echo back is measured allowing the height or altitude to be calculated for mapping.

Digital World combines LiDAR, GPS, and INS in an airborne data acquisition system that produces highly accurate post-processed terrain model for a multitude of applications.

Of particular interest was the viewing of Sir Thomas Mitchell's theodolite dated 1828. Mitchell is believed to have used the theodolite in surveying across the Blue Mountains.

The techniques in restoration of early and rare maps and the restoration of certificates of title were also of interest. There were some interesting stories including one which happened in the old Sydney office of the Lands Department when the basement holding early land title records was flooded. Quick thinking saved further damage when refrigerated vans were used to snap freeze the documents.

Kevin Volk explaining the workings of the Geographical Names Board with Brian Fox and Jill Williams, (L&PMA staff), Peter Meir, Roy, Peter Evans, Lyn Fowler,Doug Knowles, Nanette and John Leary (both with back to cameras)

Land & Property Management Authority project manager, Eric Sharpham explaining map conservation techniques, and scanning of survey and certificate of titles operations. Also pictured left to right are Doug Knowles, Roy Bennett, Jean Arthur and Lyn Fowler.

In the graphic service printing area, clockwise from print manager is Peter Rickwood, Joan Smith, Doug Knowles, Jean Arthur and Nanette Leary, both with backs to camera. Photographs courtesy Dr Peter Stanbury, OAM.

In the final session, the group was given a demonstration of how to access the official sources of NSW's geospatial information known as SIX. Although there is a charge for accessing information, there is a wealth of material which could be of interest to historians and researchers including current and historical topographic maps, medium resolution satellite imagery and 1943 historical ariel photography over Sydney suburbs.

The story behind the Springwood Macquarie monument

By Springwood Historians

BMACHO is grateful to the Springwood Historians, three of whom, Pamela Smith, John Low and Shirley Evans are pictured below for this article which follows the photograph of the monument and caption which appeared in the last edition of *HERITAGE.*

In 1937, His Honour Judge Curlewis, the Hon TD Mutch and Mr Surveyor JF Campbell FRHS, at the request of the Springwood Development League, visited Springwood to locate the site of the original Springwood Military Barracks and the spring after which Macquarie named Springwood in 1815.

They decided that the barracks were located adjacent to the residence of Mr WG Gibbs of Railway Parade (now Macquarie Road) Springwood and the spring was in Madeline Gully off Boomerang Road.

A decision was made to mark these important sites with monuments and Mr William Gibbs, retired Gulgong Shire Clerk, agreed to donate a small part of his land (9ft 1in) to the Blue Mountains Shire Council to accommodate the Macquarie monument in Railway Parade.

The deeds for this portion of land were duly forwarded by solicitors Lawson, Waldron, Edwards and Nicholls to the Council.

In March 1939, Blue Mountains Shire Council and the Springwood Development League invited members of the Royal Australian Historical Society to witness the unveiling of the monument by their president Mr KR Cramp.

Also present were Judge Backhouse, Mr Joseph Jackson MLA, Councillor W. Mathews, president of Blue Mountains Shire Council and Councillorrs A Hodgson and B Honeysett.

The party enjoyed afternoon tea at the Royal Hotel and a trip to Hawkesbury Lookout after the unveiling.

There was an immediate challenge to the accuracy of the inscription on the monument's tablet at a Royal Historical Society meeting. Mr WL Havard contended that it was not really known where Macquarie and his party had camped and that the Military Barracks were transferred from Glenbrook to Springwood in 1815 not 1816. Mr Havard also felt it should have stated that Macquarie and not Macquarie and his party "named the place *Spring Wood.*"

Mr Cramp agreed that there were some inaccuracies but felt that they were of a minor nature and stated "we do endeavour to convey to the public something of the historical significance of an event."

Peter Chinn, in his book, *The Thin Red and Blue Lines,* said "the role of the military was to ensure that travellers to the west had the written permission of the governor, to guard government carts and provisions for Bathurst and to forward letters."

Protection of the travelling public was another important responsibility. There had never been any report of problems with the Aborigines but there was a concern that escaped convicts or bushrangers could cause trouble and the barracks provided a safe overnight stopping place for travellers.

The inscription on the tablet reads:

"Governor Macquarie and his party camped here on their way to Bathurst on April 27, 1815,and named the place "Springwood."William Cox erected here a military depot early in 1816. R.A.H.S., 1938."

Continued page 9

Mr T Moroney accepting the coat of arms drawn by Norman Lindsay (photograph from Blue Mountains City Council Image Colelction)

Fifty attend BMACO's AGM

At the annual general meeting of BMACHO attended by about 50 people at the Grandview Hotel, Wentworth Falls in March, office bearers and members of the management committee were elected for the 2010-11 year.

In his annual president, John Leary reported on the past year's activities and made particular mention of the tremendous number of hours served each year by volunteers in the heritage sector.

The report in part stated: 'Until now there has been no reliable measure of this worth. Last month, the Australian Government Productivity Commission published a research report titled *Contribution of the Not-for-Profit Sector* which indicated that from the latest figures available (2006-7) a total of 4.8 million people volunteered for 623 million hours or the equivalent of 317,000 full time positions.

On average, heritage and arts sector volunteers donated 148 hours per year which is similar to that provided by emergency service volunteers. "Of course, there are many including some in this room who contribute almost that amount each month," Mr Leary said..

Recognition and continual reinforcement of the contribution of volunteers is important. Although 80 percent of volunteers in a recent survey reported that 'knowing that my contribution would make a difference' was the most important factor in the decision to volunteer.'

Mr Leary said, "thanks to many hundreds of people in this region who volunteer their valuable time, effort and often finances to ensure our priceless heritage will live on for future generations."

Those elected to office were president, John Leary; vice president, Ian Jack; secretary, Jan Koperberg; treasurer, Kathie McMahon-Nolf; committee members, Jean Arthur, Doug Knowles, Dick Morony, Barrie Reynolds and Peter Stanbury. Joan Kent of Lithgow has since accepted an invitation to fill the vacancy not filled at the meeting.

A presentation was made to the retiring and founding secretary Barrie Reynolds and Mrs Reynolds.

The story behind the Springwood Macquarie monument

Continued from page 8

In May, 1965, the site of the monument was chosen to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the naming of Springwood and the Springwood Historical Society accepted the Springwood coat of arms drawn by Norman Lindsay.

A monument to mark the location of the spring was never erected.

References:
Blue Mountains City Council Image Collection: File 000/000199 – 150th Commemoration & Thomas A. Morony, Thomas Hunter, Bruce Lincoln Jackson & Joseph Jackson MLA.
Chinn, Peter, *The Thin Red and Blue Lines.*
Nepean Times, Various issues.
Royal Australian Historical Society Annual Report, 1939.
Springwood Historians, *The Making of a Mountain Community: A Biographical Dictionary of the Springwood District.*

SPRINGWOOD HISTORIANS are a group of independent history researchers concerned mainly, but not exclusively, with the history of the Springwood district. The group has produced two books – *The Making of a Mountain Community: A Biographical Dictionary of the Springwood District* and *Remembrance: Springwood District Honor Roll 1914-1919.*

They research queries from various sources and their research papers are deposited in the Local Studies Collection of Blue Mountains City Council. They are presently researching the commercial history of Macquarie Road Springwood. Its members are: Shirley Evans, Pamela Smith, Lindsay Paish, John Low, Peter Chinn and Kate Santleben

Christmas Swamp

Today's township of Lawson was in 1817 known as "Christmas Swamp".

The name was shown on John Oxley's elevations above the ocean of points on the road over the Blue Mountains to Bathurst.

The *Sydney Gazette* dated October 14, 1826: 'The following elevations above the level of ocean, of points on the road over the Blue Mountains to Bathurst and to the interior to the westward of the meridian, have been computed by John Oxley, Esquire, Surveyor General, taken simultaneously in Sydney and at the respective stations, in the year 1817 which barometrical measurements have since that period fully verified by others.'

Springwood (Military Post) 12 ½ miles from Emu Ford 1297 feet ; Bridge over ravine17 miles from Emu Ford 1814 feet; Caley's Repulse 18 miles from Emu Ford 2110 feet; Christmas Swamp 24 miles from Emu Ford 2466 feet; King's Tableland 26 ½ miles from Emu Ford 2798 feet.

When first constructed, the Bathurst Road followed the crest of ridges. There were many rises with lower sections between. These lower sections were in a number of places referred to as 'hollows'

In the 1830s to distinguish one from the other, the sites were identified by the number of miles from Emu Ford on the Nepean River, e.g. 17 Mile Hollow (now Linden), 20 mile Hollow (Woodford) and 24 mile Hollow (Lawson)

This was to remain the name of the area until the 1840s when Henry Wilson named his inn "The Blue Mountain", the locality then becoming known as Blue Mountains.

On July 21, 1879 the name was changed to Lawson

Source: SJ Bentley, *Christmas Swamp a History of Lawson* *Sydney Gazette* October 14, 1826.

The streets of Springwood

by Pamela Smith BA (Hons.)
History , Springwood Historians

Have you ever wondered how streets, parks and other landmarks acquire their names?

Fels Avenue, located in the vicinity of Springwood Public School, for example, was named for Frederick Fels who purchased land there in the latter part of the 1890s.

Fels, born in Warsaw Poland in 1858, travelled to England then to America in the 1880s, on the pretext of buying goods for his business.

He left behind a wife, who he subsequently divorced, and several children when he married his second wife, Dora.

Relatives consider the pair had been previously acquainted before Dora left Poland destined for America and marriage.

Frederick wed Dora when her first marriage arrangement did not take place.

The couple arrived in Australia in 1889 where Frederick manufactured butter coolers and canvas bags before moving into the more lucrative market of money lending initially financed by his wife.

Dora, an enterprising lady, set up her own dressmaking business which perhaps gained her the title of Madame Fels.

It seems that Frederick was ever mindful of his debt to the deserted family in Warsaw because he sent money back when he was financially able.

Son Stanley migrated to Australia in 1896, and moved in with Frederick and Dora when they lived at Annandale.

Stanley's arrival - and perhaps the financial position of Dora and Frederick - encouraged the migration of the remaining Fels family.

The Springwood property purchased by Frederick and Dora in 1899 comprised of several acres of land forming the border between Valley Heights and Springwood.

Frederick Somers had been the original owner of a conditional purchase in the 1880s. The property had been put in Dora's name which was common practice for that time because it safeguarded the wife in the event of her husband's bankruptcy or eluded death duties if he died.

In 1900, the Fels moved into their newly built Springwood home. Fels Ridge/ Felsridge, as it was known, was a stunning example of early uncluttered Federation-style architecture. As the photograph below illustrates, several tall chimneys soared high above the tiled roofline of the commodious brick home, while the front veranda and upper storey balcony overlooked a wonderful circular driveway.

The driveway and remnants of what had been a well-attended garden (although greatly reduced in size) were still intact when an inspection of the property was made in 2000, as was part of the original house.

Financially comfortable, the Fels were able to employ Thomas Jones and George Mills as gardeners and to attend to any maintenance of Felsridge. Double gates located on Bathurst (now Macquarie Road) once marked the entrance to the property.

Dora and Frederick continued in their separate businesses and Frederick, who was described as a 'financier,' occupied rooms at 295 Pitt Street, Sydney.

In a move that would prove unfortunate the childless couple adopted Dora's niece and Frederick's granddaughter.

In 1907, Frederick was a trustee of Martins Lookout. He is said to have had a great fondness for the local flora and fauna of the area and - at his own expense - put a man to work clearing a track some two or three miles out from Springwood.

The *Nepean Times* newspaper later regaled the splendour of hidden streams, tumbling clear pristine waterfalls and stalactites, unhindered and undisturbed, which formed from the minerals in the water. Rare ferns grew in great profusion along the track and great stacks of giant logs lay petrified on the wilderness floor.

A public spirited man, Frederick donated a sum of money to the Springwood School of Arts building fund in 1907.

In 1908, he was elected vice president along with Messrs. Charles Rosenthal, Grant and Foster and retained the position the following year.

He was elected to the committee when the first annual general meeting was held in the newly erected Springwood School of Arts building, in 1913.

Continued page 11.

Fels Ridge. Photograph from Blue Mountains City Council Image Collection

Jean Arthur wins Seniors award

Long-time secretary, Mt Victoria and District Historical Society Inc., Jean Arthur was one of a number of local residents to receive the 2010 Seniors Week Recognition Award presented by Blue Mountains deputy mayor, Cr Janet May.

Jean was recognized for her work as a key figure in the community for her work with the Mt Victoria and District Historical Museum.

The citation stated, 'Jean had been over many years a dedicated secretary, volunteer, occasional speaker and hands-on worker for the museum ensuring that museum continued to be operational.

Jean Arthur with Cr Janet May

'Her knowledge of the Blue Mountains history and the manner in which she shares her knowledge and love of history with the residents of the mountains is truly inspiring.'

Jean is definitely a lifelong learner and teacher to admire', the citation concluded.

Jean was recently re-elected for a second term as a member of BMACHO's management committee and having been involved in the 175th anniversary commemoration of the first European crossing of the Blue Mountains hopes to be involved in the bi-centenary event in 2013.

Fels remembered in Springwood street name

Continued from page 10

Fels was also a member of the Springwood Progress Association.

During 1908, Frederick - with the assistance of Mr Maidment, proprietor of the Royal Hotel - installed a Rider-Eriksson hot air engine on the Springwood property to pump water for domestic and irrigation purposes from the gullies below the house.

There is no evidence to suggest if they were successful.

In 1914, Frederick founded the Mortgage and Loan Finance Company of Australia.

Sadly, he died the following year. The years following Frederick's death were troubled and turbulent for Dora and the trouble stemmed from the earlier adoptions.

Frederick's first wife appealed his will because most of his estate had been bequeathed to their mutual granddaughter, Miss Blessing Fels-Stuckgold.

Eventually the Supreme Court overturned the terms of Frederick's will and the estate was divided between Blessing and Frederick's first wife.

The latter died five years later and rests, perhaps somewhat uncomfortably, with Frederick in Rookwood Cemetery.

The name of Miss Blessing Fels-Stuckgold appeared in local newspapers around 1915, along with other young ladies who raised funds for wounded soldiers during the First World War.

Like most of the other large estates in the area the Fels estate was subsequently subdivided and Dora, or Madame Fels, left the mountains around 1920.

Family information suggested she lived in Mosman during the early 1930s, however, the date and place of her death are unknown.

Local myth had the house burnt to the ground in the 1968 fires, however, the inspection in 2000 revealed that the central spine of the house remained intact along with the driveway, a well in the garden and plants from the original garden.

Today the property is known as Blue Gum Lodge and functions as an Anglican Youthworks Outdoor Centre.

References:

Blue Mountains City Council Image Collection.
Nepean Times, Various editions.
New South Wales Births, Deaths and Marriage indexes.
Sands Indexes, Various editions.
Springwood Historians, *The Making of a Mountain Community: A Biographical Dictionary of the Springwood District.*

PowerPoint computer equipment available

BMACHO has now purchased computer projection equipment to allow for the use of PowerPoint presentations. This was funded from the Australian Government's Volunteers Grants 2009.

The equipment which is housed at Woodford is now available to BMACHO member organisations. Bookings for its use can can be made by contacting John Leary johnnanette@optusnet.com.au or 4758 8584

For those not familiar with the equipment, the BMACHO's management committee is considering a workshop. Any person interested in participating in a workshop should contact either John Leary or Jan Koperberg.

PowerPoint is a presentation program developed by Microsoft.

PowerPoint presentations consist of a number of individual pages or "slides". The "slide" analogy is a reference to the slide projector that has become obsolete with the use of PowerPoint and other presentation software.

The presentation can be printed, displayed live on a computer, or navigated through at the command of the presenter.

For larger audiences the computer display is often projected using a video projector.

LITHGOW RESEARCH CENTRE, A LEGACY OF JOHN WRAY

The Research Centre of the Lithgow Small Arms Factory Museum has been dedicated to John Wray, past custodian and a major driving force behind the museum.

John showed deep interest in the factory's heritage and firearms collection.

He impressed upon factory management the significance of the collection.

Without his prompting and behind the scenes work this museum may never have developed and it is unlikely that the firearms would exist as a collection today.

John brought to the museum a level of expertise about firearms, their history and lineage of which many had little understanding.

With his extensive range of contacts among collectors, dealers, museum curators, authors and acquaintances, if volunteers at the museum did not know the answer to a technical question, John would know someone who did.

He took the museum to a whole new height when he negotiated the donation of the Ron Hayes collection of handguns to the museum.

Overnight the size of the collection doubled and the Lithgow Small Arms Factory Museum was thrust into the spotlight as one of the great international firearms collections.

All this was achieved by John Wray in virtually the last decade of his life – while his health was failing him. John's unwavering commitment was that the Small Arms Factory heritage and firearms collection should be preserved, and made available for future generations to see. This was John's legacy to not only Lithgow, but Australia as a whole.

The John Wray Memorial Research Centre will be an invaluable source of information and precision mass production to technical information about items produced at the factory.
Pictured below is the late John Wray working on a gun at the museum.

Welcome to new member

BMACHO welcomes a new individual member Ian Milliss of Wallerawang whose first job was in the pictures section of the Mitchell Library.

Although he became an artist and designer rather than a librarian it was the beginning of a lifetime of active involvement in heritage issues that has included the Green Ban and inner city resident action movement, publishing labour and industrial history and the revival of traditional trade union art forms such as banner making.

In recent years he has been involved in a broad range of heritage and collection management consultancy with an emphasis on IT systems and data management for clients ranging from the RTA and local councils to private and corporate collections such as the Commonwealth Bank.

He is increasingly obsessed with the issues involved in the adaptive reuse of buildings and technologies and will go anywhere to view an interesting building in original condition.

Australian heritage information website launched

The Heritage Chairs and Officials of Australia and New Zealand (HCOANZ) at its February meeting agreed to launch the Australian Heritage Information (AHI) website.

The AHI webpage, a Commonwealth led project under the Cooperative National Heritage Agenda (CNHA), is now online and can be found at http://www.heritageinfo.gov.au/index.html

Hosted on the DEWHA website, this portal has been developed to provide a central point of access to the wealth of useful heritage tools, guidelines, heritage registers, other resources and publications that jurisdictions, including the Commonwealth, have produced individually or collaboratively.

Targeted audiences include heritage place owners and managers, students/teachers, researchers and local governments.

Thieves loot Laos Buddha statue heritage

More than a 10th of the Buddha statues in Luang Prabang, an ancient city in north-central Laos whose urban district is a World Heritage site, have gone missing in the past few years.

Minobusan University in Minobucho, Japan, whose students help restore statues in Luang Prabang, says 120 Buddha statues are missing.

In 2001 the Buddhist university began a survey of the statues, the number of which was unknown, and in 2007 it reported to the Laotian government that it had confirmed the presence of 1174 statues.

However, a survey conducted in 2009 revealed that 100 statues were missing from 35 temples. In 2010, another 20 statues were found to be missing.

Laotian authorities suspect the statues are stolen for resale, and have begun conservation efforts with support from the Japanese university.

Luang Prabang, on the Mekong River about 425 kilometres north of Vientiane, was the capital city of Lan Xang kingdom, which was established in the 14th century.

The statues there are wooden Theravada Buddhism statues made in the 14th century or later, and are of high historical value.

While monks at the temples have begun keeping guard over the statues by sleeping at the temples, Minobusan University students have distributed brochures at the Luang Prabang National Museum to sound the alarm over the property loss and to call for increased security in the city.

Source Norimasa Tahara-McLathcy Newspapers.

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

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E-mail: jank@eftel.com.au or bmacho.heritage@gmail.com
Website: www.bluemountains.heritage.com

THE ORGANISATION Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 following a unanimous response to a proposal from Prof. Barrie Reynolds at the 2004 Blue Mountains Local History Conference which sought from Blue Mountains City Council the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the city.

BMACHO in its constitution uses the definition: "Cultural heritage is all aspects of life of the peoples of the Blue Mountains which was later changed to cover Lithgow and the villages along the Bell's Line of Roads. It therefore involves the recording, preserving and interpreting of information in whatever form: documents, objects, recorded memories as well as buildings and sites."

The objectives of the organisation are:

i. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage.
ii. To encourage and assist cultural heritage activities of member organisations.
iii. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations.

One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact, to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

MEMBERSHIP The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains City Library, Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc, Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc., Blue Mountains Tourism Limited, Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute, Cudgegong Museums Group Inc, Friends of Norman Lindsay Gallery, Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc, Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc, Lilianfels Blue Mountains Resort, Lithgow Mining Museum Inc, Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies, Lithgow Small Arms Factory Museum Inc, Mid-Mountains Historical Society Inc, Mid Western Regional Council Library, Mt Tomah Botanic Gardens, Mt Victoria and District Historical Society Inc, Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine History Society Inc (including Turkish Bath Museum), Mudgee Historical Society Inc, Mudgee Regional Library, National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Blue Mountains Branch (including Woodford Academy), National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Lithgow Branch, Scenic World – Blue Mountains Limited, Springwood & District Historical Society Inc., Springwood Historians inc, Transport Signal and Communication Museum Inc., Two Centuries of Elegance, Valley Heights Locomotive Depot and Museum, Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd. The following are individual members: Ray Christison, Associate Professor Ian Jack, Joan Kent, John Leary OAM, John Low, Ian Milliss, Professor Barrie Reynolds, and Dr Peter Stanbury OAM.

COMMITTEE The committee for 2010-11 is: John Leary, (president), Ian Jack (vice president), Jan Koperberg (secretary), Kathie McMahon-Nolf (treasurer), Jean Arthur, Joan Kent, Doug Knowles, Dick Morony (public officer), Barrie Reynolds and Peter Stanbury. **AUDITOR:** Sue McMahon, B Comm CPA.

AFFILIATIONS BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society Inc.
HERITAGE is BMACHO's official newsletter.

HERITAGE

NEWSLETTER OF THE BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS

JULY - AUGUST 2010 ISSUE No. 10

LIEUT. WILLIAM DAWES

.....First recorded white man on the Blue Mountains

by Lindsay Paish, Springwood Historians

In December 1789, Governor Phillip charged Lieutenant William Dawes with the task of reaching the western mountains.

This was the first recorded exploration of the area, followed by a series of adventurers like Tench, Hacking, Bass, Paterson, Wilson, Barrallier and Caley.

All those explorations failed to cross the mountains, but their knowledge was the real reason that Blaxland, Lawson and Wentworth succeeded.

There is no known journal of Lieutenant Dawes journey, the only record was a map dated 1791, signed by Dawes.

There is no doubt that Dawes, with his superior skill at "compass and pace" could produce a traverse of his journeys with comparative accuracy.

The actual line of Dawes' march, as per his inscribed map, can be located on the modern ordnance maps prepared by the Army Survey Corps.

The details of the creeks on Dawes' traverse favourably compare with the ordnance sheets.

To the "line of march." The first day he headed due west from Emu Ford to the crest of the first ridge, in the vicinity of Mount Riverview, and from here he had a direct view of Round Hill.

Dawes moved his "line of march" to a straight traverse and made a bee line for Round Hill crossing the now line of the highway just near the Sydney side of Warrimoo.

Keeping on, he crossed a series of creeks draining to the south side of Valley Heights, the ridge to the south of Springwood at Farm Road, the next ridge south of Bee Farm Road near the rifle range, into Sassafras Gully, then across the Main Ridge close to Faulconbridge Station.

By now "the line of march" was half way through their total route. The country was rougher on the west side of Faulconbridge. Most of the creeks and gullies they had crossed were precipitous with average grades being close to 1 in 2.

Further on, they encountered a series of deeper gullies – including Linden and Woodford Creeks – about 900ft [275 m] deep. The western flank of Woodford Creek is a long unscaleable cliff, which forced a deviation around the head of the ridge. Back to the ridge top, located north of Linden, they returned to their "line of march."

An extensive view of the scene ahead appeared even rougher than that they had already negotiated. Immediately west was the deep Wentworth Creek, the roughest gully on the mountains and further ahead, the chasm of the Grose River.

Dawes and his party were near exhaustion and short of provisions, and considering the country they had already travelled, the prospect of a further, rougher portage, forced the party homeward.

Continued page 10

Pictured is former Forestry Department cartographer, Lindsay Paish now 85 years of age, looking at the map he drew in 1959 from overlays of Dawes 1789 traverses on to Australian Army Survey Corps maps which lend credibility to the claim Dawes was the first white man on the Blue Mountains. Photograph by John Leary, OAM May 2010

From the president's pen.....

The magnificent Mitchell Library a researcher's dream

The front page piece by Lindsay Paish in this edition of ***HERITAGE*** like so many historical and heritage based stories is in part written as a result of research in Sydney's magnificent Mitchell Library which earlier this year celebrated its centenary.

On following pages, John Low also writes about a Blue Mountains connection among the *One Hundred* treasures on display at the Mitchell.

It is all but impossible to write or read about Australia, the Pacific and the Antarctic without incurring debts of gratitude to the Mitchell.

Libraries are the most personal public institutions. History never forgives those who destroy them and it remembers those who are book donors such as David Scott Mitchell.

The State Library of New South Wales traces its origins to 1826, with the opening of the Australian Subscription Library. In 1869, the New South Wales Government took over responsibility for the Library and created the Sydney Free Public Library. In 1895 it was renamed the Public Library of New South Wales, and in 1975 it became the State Library of New South Wales.

The Australian Subscription Library soon outgrew its premises, and a new wing was built in the mid-1880s. By the turn of the century this too was outgrown, and plans were prepared for a completely new 'national' library building.

The stimulus for this was David Scott Mitchell's offer of his immense and unrivalled collection of Australiana to the people of New South Wales. One condition of his offer was that a new building be erected to house the collection as a separate library.

Mitchell, book collector and national benefactor, became one of the first undergraduates of the University of Sydney (BA, 1856; MA 1859). In December 1858 he was admitted to the Bar but never practised though he is said to have later declined appointment as attorney-general.

Mitchell had been reared in a cultivated household; never robust, he preferred books and intellectual interests to business or politics.

By 1866 he had won some repute for scholarship in English literature and for the next 20 years he collected mainly English literary works, including many fine editions which in 1900 exceeded 10,000 volumes.

From about 1886, he turned almost solely to the record of Australia and its surrounding region.

Book-collecting, which had been an intellectual pastime in youth and a scholarly vocation in maturity, became his all-absorbing purpose.

Perhaps it could be said, Mitchell was favoured: he had wealth, leisure and position, with useful social connections yet was free from outside distractions.

His scholarly knowledge of books, coupled with education, experience and a talent for book-collecting, approached genius.

After 1895 he was aided and encouraged by HCL Anderson, the principal librarian, who had seen Mitchell as the chief rival of the Public Library of New South Wales and set out to combine forces.

Apart from Mitchell, the library had the best Australasian collection and had demonstrated a capacity and will to develop it. Mitchell was aging and in poor health, with no relations of like interests to his own.

In 1898 he offered to bequeath his collection to the library trustees. The offer was immediately accepted and eventually his conditions were met: the trustees were incorporated in 1899 and the Mitchell wing of the new library building was begun in 1906.

Mitchell died in 1907 and bequeathed to the library trustees his entire collection with an endowment of £70,000. Despite his fine memory and erudition he wrote nothing and left as his one main memorial the Mitchell Library.

When opened in March 1910 it had some 60,000 volumes and much other material. It remains unrivalled in its field and is one of the great national collections in the world.

John Leary, OAM
President, Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc.

Pinchgut

Pinchgut Island (now Fort Denison) once boasted Sydney's finest weight loss cure – if you could stomach a week's solitary confinement.

As early as 1788, convicts were put onto Pinchgut for petty crimes such as stealing food. Back then, the place was little more than a desolate rocky outcrop in Sydney Harbour.

The history of the name Pinchgut is a little hazy. It was named Pinchgut by Governor John Hunter, It is both an old nautical term for the point where a stream channel narrows and a word for being hungry.

Greens Party heritage policy to ensure Heritage Council's independence

At a meeting organized by BMACHO in Springwood last month Ms Sylvia Hale, MLC (pictured) outlined the Greens Party policy on heritage which it will take to the next state election.

The meeting was the third in a series organized by BMACHO to learn of heritage policies of the major political parties.

The Greens will

- Ensure the independence of the NSW Heritage Council by guaranteeing its funding and making it directly accountable to the NSW Parliament in a similar fashion to the Ombudsman's Office, rather than to a minister.
- Reconstitute the Heritage Council to ensure the appropriate representation of community and professional organisations.
- Provide adequate resources to permit an increase in the rate of assessment of items for inclusion on the State Heritage Register.
- Facilitate the extension of Interim Heritage Protection Orders to items not on the State Heritage Register.
- Remove economic disadvantage as a reason to delist a heritage item.
- Remove the right of a minister to unilaterally delist a heritage item.
- Require the Heritage Council to approve any recommendation to de-list any item on the State Heritage Register
- Require local councils to notify the Heritage Council of any item that may be of State Heritage significance and to seek the Heritage Council's advice prior to approving demolition or alteration to an item.
- Encourage and fund local councils to revise and extend their local heritage registers.
- Require any application to demolish a heritage item to demonstrate why alternatives such as adaptation of existing structures are not feasible, and forbid the demolition of any heritage item without prior approval of the relevant authority.

Thanking Ms Hale for her address and for answering question from the meeting, BMACHO president, John Leary, OAM said many in the community especially those in the heritage sector would welcome the proposed policies.

Mr Leary said that it was farcical to believe that heritage could be adequately protected with the powers which had been given to the Minister for Planning under Part 3A of the Planning Act 2005.

Professor Ian Jack president of the RAHS who has had a long association with the former Heritage Council also welcomed the proposed policies.

SUPPORT FOR HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

New support has recently come from a number of elected representatives including Blue Mountains City Council's deputy mayor Cr Janet May and Greens Crs Eleanor Gibbs and Howard McCallum

Heritage advisory committees have been established by many NSW local government units and are in fact widely used throughout Australia to allow councillors and staff to avail themselves of local and expert knowledge on a wide range of heritage and historical issues.

Formed under Section 377 of the Local Government Act 1993 these committees usually comprise one councillor and a number of community members, selected by council after newspaper advertisements calling for expression of interest from members of the community.

Those selected often include members of heritage or history societies and people either working in or retired from the heritage sector including academics.

For some time BMACHO has been seeking to have Blue Mountains City Council re-establish a heritage advisory committee and for several years BMACHO's executive has been meeting with council's senior staff.

The suggested objectives of a heritage advisory committee are:
a. To advise council in relation to reviews of local heritage listings;
b. To advise council about increasing the community's awareness of heritage matters;
c. To advise council on heritage matters relating to development applications before council;
d. To advise council about heritage assistance, grant applications, review and recommendations;
e. To advise council on improvements to the care of, public access to and site information for existing historic sites, buildings etc. and how these improvements might be achieved;
f. To advise council in relation to long term planning of significant heritage cemeteries.

There is no shortage of people in this region who are eminently qualified to serve on a local heritage advisory committee.

They comprise long-term enthusiastic and experienced researchers of heritage and history or professionals and academics in the heritage sector including several with local government experience. BMACHO is confident that they would be prepared to serve on such a committee.

‘He fought six rounds with the horse police’ --- the shooting of Bold Jack Donahoe

by John Low, Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc.

In the current exhibition at the State Library of NSW, celebrating the centenary of the Mitchell Library, there are a number of items of interest to Blue Mountains historians among the *One Hundred* treasures on display.

The original journals of Blaxland, Lawson and Wentworth are featured as is a 1930s journal of bushwalker Myles Dunphy.

One item, however, that caught my attention, the relevance of which may not at first be evident, was a lithograph portrait of the dead bushranger Jack Donahoe attributed to Thomas Mitchell.

While Donahoe died at Bringelly, his death has a slight but interesting connection with Wentworth Falls (or The Weatherboard).

In 1902 the *Warren Herald* published a series of reminiscences by Edward Readford whose father, Thomas, had been the licensee of the Weatherboard Inn during the years 1833 to 1837.

At the time, the innkeeper’s only neighbours were a small troop of mounted policemen housed in a ‘Police Military Barrack’ opposite.

Readford makes particular mention of one of these, a quiet young Scotsman named John Muggleston, who was stationed there “nearly the whole time my father kept the hotel” and regularly frequented his father’s establishment.

Fate had given Muggleston a degree of notoriety among his fellows.

John Muggleston (also spelt Mugglestone, Muckelstone, Muccleston, etc.) was born ca. 1804 in the Scottish agricultural and

A lithograph portrait of the dead Jack Donahoe

cotton milling town of Neilston in the Levern Valley south of Glasgow. While nothing is known of his family or early life other than that he had worked as a groom, by the beginning of 1827 he had travelled south into England and had taken the king’s shilling, joining the 39th (Dorsetshire) Regiment at Coventry.

His decision to become a soldier would take him even further from his birthplace for, in June 1827, the 39th Regiment embarked as part of the convict guard on board the ‘Champion’ and arrived in Sydney a little over four months later.

Following a twelve month tour of duty in Norfolk Island, Muggleston joined the mounted police in March 1829.

The mounted police had been established by Governor Brisbane in 1825 in response to a general increase in bushranging activities, a state of affairs that continued to worsen under his successor, Governor Darling.

Its principal role was to combat this and to pursue escaped convicts who contributed mightily to the membership of the bushranging gangs.

In these early years the mounted police had a strong military character, its officers and men being volunteers seconded from the regiments garrisoned in the colony and generally returning when these were transferred elsewhere.

Their uniform also reflected the military connection with ‘full dress’ resembling the 14th Light Dragoons, though their ‘bush uniform’ included a cabbage-tree hat along with the patrol jacket and trousers.

They were armed with a sabre, carbine and horse pistols. By 1830 there were about 100 mounted policemen in the colony.

One of the most troublesome bushrangers operating at the time Muggleston joined the ‘horse police’ was a young Irish convict escapee who, following a conviction for highway robbery on the Sydney-Windsor Road, had dramatically avoided the hangman and fled into to the bush.

This was the “wild colonial boy, Jack Donahoe by name” whose depredations and continued evasion of the authorities in the Hawkesbury-Nepean and other districts around Sydney were notorious.

In the repressive climate of Darling’s administration John Donahoe (sometimes spelt Donohoe) was rapidly becoming something of a folk hero among the ‘lower orders’ of society.

Born in Dublin ca. 1806, details of Donahoe’s early life and family are as vague as those of his Scottish contemporary.

Continued page 5

The shooting of of bushranger, Jack Donahoe

Continued from page 4

A couple of years younger than Muggleston, he was sentenced to transportation for life in 1823 after being found guilty of "intent to commit felonry", a rather vague charge that has been interpreted by some to refer to 'political' crimes.

As the child of a country exploited economically and repressed politically, he had good cause to dislike the English. Donohoe arrived in Australia on board the 'Ann and Amelia' in early 1825, not long before Brisbane's departure and the advent of Governor Darling.

In 1830 Muggleston's commanding officer and fellow Scot, Lieutenant Lachlan McAlister, devised a new strategy for his mounted police unit based at Goulburn.

Instead of the usual reactionary pursuit from place to place, allowing the villains greater options for escape, his troopers now conducted regular and systematic patrols of the known haunts of the Donahoe gang. It was a good plan and on Wednesday, September 1, 1830, it brought results.

As an early spring evening settled on the Bringelly bush, Muggleston and six other troopers unsaddled their horses and prepared to make camp.

In the dusk they spied, some distance away, three men riding slowly through the trees leading a packhorse.

These were soon identified as Donahoe, William Webber and John Walmsley.

At the later inquest Muggleston described the situation: "The bushrangers were in a hollow surrounded by bush, by which means they were prevented from observing our approach.

When Donahoe saw us he took his hat off, and waved it three times, threw it in the air, and bid us defiance ..." Both sides took cover and the bushrangers, with a reckless confidence borne of their earlier successes, began taunting the troopers with insults, obscenities and shooting.

What followed was described in detail in the *Sydney Gazette*: "Muggleston, who is reckoned one of the best shots, kept his eye steadily fixed on Donahoe, and when the latter peeped from behind his tree, shewing (sic) only his head and part of his breast, the wary soldier took aim, fired, and though a hundred yards distant, in less than a minute the vaunting hero was in eternity."

The 'troublesome' Jack Donahoe was dead but his memory would fuel a legend and inspire numerous popular ballads that circulated throughout Australia and overseas in places as diverse as Ireland, England, the USA, Canada, Nova Scotia and Newfoundland.

His nemesis, the young Scottish soldier, on the other hand, slipped quietly into obscurity.

Prior to his transfer to The Weatherboard, there are references to Muggleston's involvement in skirmishes with bushranging gangs in the Oberon area and near the Fish River (Jenolan) Caves in 1831.

He clearly preferred the life of a mounted trooper to that of a foot soldier and twice transferred to other regiments (the 4th in 1832 and the 80th in 1837) in order to remain in Australia.

By the end of the 1830s he was stationed at Newcastle and was probably involved in the pursuit of the 'Jew Boy' Gang (led by Edward Davis, the only Jewish bushranger on record) who were operating throughout the Hunter region between 1839 and the end of 1840.

John Muggleston died in Newcastle Hospital on January 13, 1841 at the early age of 37 and was buried in the Christ Church Cathedral Cemetery. I have not, however, been able to establish the cause of his death.

His colleagues in the mounted police erected a substantial headstone to his memory and, while no longer marking the spot where his body lies, this still exists.

On its face are inscribed the words: "Sacred to the memory of John Muggleston who died January 1841 aged about 40 years. This stone is erected by the officers, non-commissioned officers and troopers of the Mounted Police Force".

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MOUNTAIN MURDERS

Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc. will conduct a walk "The Mountain Murders – Lee Weller's Grave" on Saturday, August 28.
For further details
pplinden@yahoo.com.au

NATIONAL TRUST WALK

The Blue Mountains Branch of National Trust is organising a walk on the lower Blue Mountains eastern escarpment for Saturday, July 24.

The walk will visit Elizabeth's Lookout, Knapsack Gully and railway viaduct built in 1867, then traverse the original Lapstone Zig-Zag, cross the portal of the original Lapstone Hill railway tunnel, the subject of Arthur Streeton's painting 'Fires on'.

Morning tea and lunch will be provided.

For further enquiries Rhona Leach 4757 2424.

Woodford's memorial for those who for king and empire enlisted from this village

In the aftermath of the Great War, communities across Australia built war memorials to perpetuate the memory of those who served their country and who lie buried in foreign soil or beneath the seas. Their memory must not be diminished by the passage of time.

Woodford like so many other towns was to see the creation of a Memorial Park in which was included a war memorial housed in a pavilion.

Often the memorials were built at the instigation of local residents who banded together in organisations such as progress, citizens and/or ratepayers associations.

In his book *Hazelbrook & Woodford –A story of two Blue Mountains towns* local historian Ken Goodlet, records: In February 1917, 'it was unanimously decided to form a local progress association, the object being to formulate plans for the enhancement of the district'.

The committee included such local identities as Gustavus Waterhouse (president), Thomas Thomas, Aubrey Murphy and Herbert Dakin[1].

The local press saw this as marking 'an epoch in the history of this charming town'[2].

The war memorial is described in the State Heritage Inventory as a square pavilion with an intersecting gable roof.

A rock faced stone balustrade with bullneck brick capping spans between the piers.

On the north side a terrazzo stair with stone spandrels provides access to the shelter.

On a monument in the centre of the pavilion is a rockfaced sandstone monument with tapered sides. Marble plaques at the base commemorate those who enlisted from the village in World War 1. Granite plaques commemorate World War II [3].

In 1919 details of Woodford Memorial Park appeared in the Government Gazette and the Woodford War Memorial and pavilion was designed and constructed in 1920 by local stonemason and master builder Thomas Thomas. The memorial and pavilion was built on a sandstone outcrop on the south east portion of the park between the train line and the highway.

Thomas Owen Thomas had built his home in Woodford in 1909 soon after he emigrated from Wales.

At the time of his death in 1973 his contribution to the Blue Mountains community was considered to be one of the most important in the development of this district.

He served as an alderman on Blue Mountains Shire Council, was a long term president of Woodford Progress Association, a chairman of Woodford Sights and Reserves Trust, and a member of the 530A Committee [of council] caring for the Woodford parks and reserves at the time of his death.

In 1921, the Woodford Group of the Blue Mountains Sights Reserves was established, most of the early attention going into Woodford Memorial Park and much of the cost being paid as a loan by Gustav Waterhouse [4].

It was not until 1962 that Memorial Park was transferred to Blue Mountains Council.

In recent times Woodford Memorial Park has been difficult to access from the Great Western Highway or the footbridge over the rail line. However, there is expected to be some enhancement of the park and memorial which will not be affected by construction work to upgrade the Great Western Highway.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
The editor of BMACHO's newsletter ***HERITAGE*** is grateful to Ken Goodlet for permission to use information from his book, *Hazelbrook & Woodford. A story of two Blue Mountains towns.* Compilation and photographs by John Leary, OAM.

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[3] NSW Heritage Branch Heritage Databases,www.heritage.nsw.gov.au accessed June 10 2010.

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ELIZABETH MACQUARIE: ‘so young a campaigner’

by Jan Barkley Jack

As a twenty-six year old, Miss Elizabeth Henrietta Campbell of Airds, had met Lachlan Macquarie in their native Scotland in 1804.

Two years later, Elizabeth and her officer exchanged locks of hair as tokens of their joint affection before Macquarie returned to his military duties in India.

The youngest daughter of Macquarie’s second cousin, Elizabeth had grown up on her father’s estate in Appin, Scotland and attended school near London.

Elizabeth seems to have been a particularly capable, friendly and good-looking young woman who retained a sprightliness and humour, even in trying situations.

Her sensibility and sensibleness attracted Lachlan to his second marriage. The pair wed in November 1807 in Devonshire, as Macquarie took command of the 73rd Regiment.[1]

Late in 1808, whilst the Regiment was at Perth, the Macquaries began re-organising the Gruline estate Macquarie had bought on the island of Mull. It was on the estate, that Macquarie planned his first model township at Salen, to include tradesmen tenants (as with his founding of Liverpool, New South Wales).

Remains of the quay whose construction Lachlan Macquarie supervised at Fishnish on Mull, Scotland, c. 1786. Source: taken by Jan Barkley Jack, 1997

The town was situated west of Fishnish where more than twenty years before he had supervised the building of a stone quay for his uncle.[2]

Elizabeth’s first child, a daughter, died in infancy in December 1808.[3] Elizabeth was to have six miscarriages before their only child who lived, Lachlan jr, was born a little over five years later in Sydney.

Though a sickly child he lived until 1845. Both children are buried in the large family vault at Gruline, as were Lachlan in 1824 and Elizabeth on her death in 1835.

After their return from Australia in 1822, for much of the time Elizabeth lived in the house they had prepared on the Gruline estate beside the tranquil Loch Ba.[4]

The Macquarie vault [pictured at right] is today under the care of the National Trust of Australia (NSW) in tribute to the couple.[5]

It was Elizabeth’s blending of a genteel upbringing with a love of beauty and nature that made her popular and happy in the colony of New South Wales where she was first lady from 1810.[6]

At Airds, Scotland, before her marriage, she had planned and directed construction of a new walkway in the grounds of the estate which Macquarie felt ‘showed the good taste of this young lady for ornamental improvements of this kind’[7]- a skill Elizabeth extended in her well-debated contribution to the design and aesthetics of some colonial buildings and surrounds.[8]

An important but less discussed essence of Elizabeth is how the ruggedness of the landscape of her youth allowed her to embrace travel in the colony.

She was the first wife of a New South Wales governor to brave the colonial frontiers so extensively.

She was prepared to ride happily for long periods, sometimes up to seven hours on horseback in the bush with leeches attacking her ankles, and she felt at home sleeping in a tent. [9]

The Macquarie mausoleum in Scotland maintained by the National Trust of Australia (NSW)

From the frontier Hawkesbury to Van Diemen’s Land and Newcastle,[10] Elizabeth took an acute interest in the scenery and the Indigenous peoples.

When the governor’s forays became too energetic, Elizabeth could be found, with a soldier escort, exploring a closer hill and delighting in ‘the beautiful prospect she had from the top’.[11]

On one official excursion in 1815, as the only woman in a large party of men, Elizabeth accompanied Macquarie on his April-May journey across the Blue Mountains to the newly discovered plains where Bathurst was to be founded.

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Mrs Macquarie on horse-back bush excursions

Continued from page 7

Riding in the carriage gave way to horseback on just the second day until the Nepean was forded, and then resumed on and off.

Accommodation that night at Springwood, as for the next 22 nights, was in tents, the couple sometimes relaxing with a game of cards after dinner.

The pass that William Cox had constructed down Mount York stunned the Macquaries, the road being so steep that Elizabeth and Lachlan had to walk the whole way down on foot, whilst three hours of struggle elapsed before the carriages and baggage came down safely.

A special halt was called by Elizabeth elsewhere, so she could sketch 'Mount Evans' [Evans Crown].[12]

Lachlan was proud of Elizabeth's fortitude and pleased with her companionship:

> Mrs M. I am happy to say, has bore [sic] the fatiguing journey over the Blue Mountains to [Bathurst Plains]… wonderfully well indeed …[13]

An earlier comment, written in the wilds of the Cowpastures, summed up Macquarie's affection and Elizabeth's varied talents succinctly. While needing fires and guards to encircle their camp site from fear of the wild cattle, her husband could note of Elizabeth:

> we sat down eight at table to a most comfortable dinner; Mrs. M. tho' so young a campaigner having provided every requisite to make our tour easy, pleasant and happy…[14]

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[12] Macquarie, pp. 90-110.
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THE AUTHOR. Jan Barkley Jack is a historian, educated at the University of New England, with a BA (Hons.) from the University of Western Sydney.

She co-authored the Hawkesbury City Council's Bicentennial book and has written many articles.

She has promoted history through being on Hawkesbury Historical Society, National Trust and Hawkesbury City Council heritage and celebration committees, and as honorary curator of Hawkesbury Museum for over twenty years.

Jan has presented Community Link courses for the University of Western Sydney and was a recipient of a Commonwealth Centenary Medal in 2003 for 'service to the community through the history and heritage of the Hawkesbury'.

In 2005 she was an advisor to SBS Television on historical content in their Living History series The Colony. Her latest book, *Hawkesbury Settlement Revealed* was published in 2009.

Governor Macquarie exhibition

One of Governor Lachlan Macquarie's most enduring legacies was the setting out of five towns on the Hawkesbury River.

They were named Richmond, Windsor, Wilberforce, Pitt Town and Castlereagh, and, according to Hawkesbury Regional Museum director, Kath von Witt, they guaranteed the survival of the colony of New South Wales.

"Attempts to farm at Sydney and Parramatta had not produced enough food to support the population, and although the Hawkesbury had the rich alluvial soil needed to grow crops and raise livestock, regular flooding had swept much of it away," says Kath.

"With his five towns, Macquarie changed all that — by situating towns above flood level, grain and livestock could be protected from flooding and Sydney's food supply was assured.

"At the same time, Macquarie created settlements that, 200 years later, continue to reflect his town planning ability, his belief in the civilising influence of British institutions, and his willingness to spend public money on infrastructure."

On show throughout 2010 at the award-winning museum in Windsor, itself located on a town allotment granted by Macquarie to John Howe in 1811, is a display about Macquarie's achievements.

It includes information about the time he spent in the area, and the thinking that went into the siting and naming of the towns.

Hawkesbury Regional Museum is at 8 Baker Street Windsor. Open daily 10am - 4pm except Tuesdays (pre-booked groups only) Selected public holidays 10am - 4pm. Closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day and Good Friday.

For further information
Phone 4560 4654 museum@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au
www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au

THE OLD COMMUNITY HALL - THE HEART OF THE LAWSON TOWNSHIP

by Nance Cooper, Mid Mountains Historical Society Inc.

Although the place that was to become the modern Lawson had appeared under its first name of Christmas Swamp on John Oxley's 1817 survey, it was not until 1867 and the arrival of a single-track railway line that the township had its real beginnings.

Up to this time its major function had been to serve the needs of the steadily increasing movement of people and trade both ways across the mountains. The Blue Mountain Inn and an official stock resting area (now Douglass Square) together with a good water supply had made Blue Mountain as it came to be known a major stopping place.

After 1867 a settled community began to appear. The name Lawson appeared in 1879 as part of a government clean-up of place names.

The Blue Mountain Inn was moved from its original site on what is now the public school playground finally ending up where the Blue Mountains Hotel now stands and a flourishing small shopping centre grew up to serve the needs of both the permanent residents and the increasing numbers of holiday makers.

By World War I, Lawson was one of the major holiday resorts of the Blue Mountains. By the end of the 19th century when the story of Lawson's Old Community Hall begins many forces were having an impact even on a quiet mountain township.

The development of the Mechanics Institute movement as a social and educational force was under way throughout NSW and within the Lawson community new needs were being felt.

The result was at first a small venture called the Lawson Literary and Debating Society that was set up in 1896 with eight members and no money.

It met in what had been the second Blue Mountain Inn (on the present school playground).

A small library encouraged more members, so a move was made across the railway line to the Coffee Palace (later Stratford School of which only the tower still remains) in San Jose Avenue.

The purchase of a small billiard table against much opposition encouraged younger members so a permanent home was sought by the Progress Association.

In 1899 the state government came into the picture and set aside Lot 17 Section 1 of the Village of Lawson for a mechanics institute and the society with library and billiard table moved back across the railway line to a home in a temporary wooden building.

A more substantial masonry building was erected on the site in 1903 at the cost of £400 paid for by community subscription.

About 40,000 bricks from the old Lawson railway station were used as well as some from Mount Victoria station, all becoming available as the result of the upgrading of the railway line and the need for new stations.

Once again the community was directly involved in providing the transport for such a major movement of building material.

The new Lawson Mechanics Institute building was officially opened in December 1903.

The needs of current highway widening have had the effect of restoring the old community hall to its original appearance as created by the Lawson community.

The portico that provided a covered front entry to the building was not to appear until at least 30 years after the original building was completed.

A 1905 photograph shows a set of steps from the footpath to the doorway that still faces the highway. Exactly when the portico was added is a matter of question but photographic evidence shows the hall without portico up to the time of World War II.

In all probability its appearance coincided with the use of the building on a regular basis as a cinema up to the advent of television.

The new building was put to immediate use. By 1905 the library, now a circulating library, had reached 1000 volumes and membership continued to grow. A permanent caretaker was needed and the library and billiard room were open all day in the holiday season.

Continued page 10

Lawson Mechanics Institute a venue for university lectures in 1906

Continued from page 9

It became a venue for young men and women for Christian conferences with up to 200 in attendance and was also used in 1906 as the site of university lectures for students from NSW and Victoria.

It provided a venue for the new Blue Mountains Shire Council that took over the building temporarily in 1907 before relocating to San Jose Avenue, first to *Avon* on the corner of Park Street, then into its permanent home in what is now the library building where it stayed until 1947.

A major change occurred in 1911 when the Lawson Mechanics Institute was renamed the Lawson Literary Institute reflecting a changing attitude to the building and its use.

In 1909 its move to becoming Lawson's entertainment centre accelerated. The stage was enlarged and wings were added. Moving pictures were first exhibited in the hall by a travelling show and skating appeared as a hall activity in 1912.

The connection of electricity in 1931 increased its availability for a wide range of social activities. There are newspaper reports of dances, bazaars, lectures, school prize-giving functions and billiard competitions and until the early 1960s it was the local cinema.

In 1991 the building was renamed the Mid Mountains Youth Centre but was vacated in 2004 for its future to be determined.

While at one stage demolition seemed inevitable to meet the needs of highway widening, a realignment of the new line of highway coupled with the removal of the portico has made the retention of the building possible.

Christmas party given by RSL c. 1936 held in Lawson Mechanics Institute Hall. Photograph by A Manning of Katoomba

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The Mid Mountains Historical Society was set up in 2000 at a community meeting to give a voice to the much neglected heritage and history of this forgotten part of the Blue Mountains.

Preservation, recording and publicising of material relating to the area is a paramount object which is reflected in the Society's website and various published documents

Lt William Dawes named Mt Twiss

Continued from page 1

Mount Twiss, named after an officer of the Royal Engineers, and Dawes Ridge are enshrined on the Register of the Geographic Names Board.

There have been numerous attempts to pinpoint their exact location but there is no backing in any journals so their position will slip into the realm of mythology.

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STRANGE DOINGS AT SPRINGWOOD

By Shirley Evans

For more than 400 years, since the first ever newspaper, the *Relation aller Fürnemmen und gedenckwürdigen Historien* was printed in Strassburg, Germany by Johnann Carolus in 1605; newspaper reporting has undergone many changes in literary styles.

From the early 18th century up until recent times it was not uncommon for provincial and even some metropolitan newspapers to supplement crafted writings of journalists with contributions from correspondents or as they were sometimes called 'stringers' who provided news from outlying areas.

The writings of these correspondents varied from the bland to the beguiling, the storyline sometimes quaint, sometimes questionable. The authors were sometimes humble, sometimes hostile while some tried homespun humour to get their story read. Unquestionably for future researchers and historians these correspondents have left a first-hand account sometimes complete with hyperbole of lifestyles of yesteryear.

The *Nepean Times* seems to have employed a 'stringer' in the then outlying township of Springwood. Springwood Historian, Shirley Evans in her ongoing research of old newspapers has contributed this interesting article. It is well worth the space given to it in this edition of ***HERITAGE.*** The editor.

***Nepean Times*, February 1, 1890**
"Petty Thieving. – Petty thieving in and around Springwood seems to be the popular amusement – mean despicable appropriation of other people's goods – one of our hardworking neighbours has to pick his ripening fruit every morning before he goes to work; if not it is sure to go during his absence – another one left a few tools where he had been working some little distance from his house, the next day they were missing – and on Tuesday we met our road maintenance man plodding towards Springwood with a very doleful countenance, his road repairing tools having been left between two days – we believe some people would steal a dog-leg fence if they could get it on their shoulders – O Tempore ! O Moses! "

***Nepean Times*, May 3, 1890**
"More petty thieving and wanton mischief in the back blocks, one poor fellow loses five of his best hens, and another has his wire fence cut in various places and some of the wire stolen – this is beyond a joke. Another had a few (a case or so) late apples on the tree one night – the next morning they had disappeared . We shall have to interview the war office and have a detachment of mounted infantry sent up here. They could make a dear little camp on peach tree flat, and it would be such fun for the girls. We are sure they would be just as useful in the country (even more so) than displaying their roosters' feathers in the neighbourhood of Sydney, and if our liberal government would supply them with a little ammunition, we might get rid of our flying foxes without trying to blow them up with dynamite. Lor! what a scare the wallabies would get."

***Nepean Times*, May 10, 1890**
"The operations of our Springwood thieves are extending and taking a higher tone. A few days back they took advantage of Mrs Hoare's absence and forced an entrance into her house[1], but they were evidently new at this branch of the trade for they decamped without taking anything of much value[2]. Their entrance was effected very clumsily as they had roughly bored holes in the front door and burst a panel in sufficiently wide to get their hands in and undo the fastenings of the door. This is certainly an upward tendency in the style of theft from robbing orchards, making a raid amongst the hen roosts, stealing and cutting wire fences to barefaced robbery. We shall next hear of them sticking up our local bank or stopping the mail train. We are as far too go-ahead in villainy as we are slow in other natures."

***Nepean Times*, June 28, 1890**
"I daresay you have heard of the nefarious proceedings of certain unknown "gentry" in the district of Springwood. Truly, we are in bad case. No one when he retires for the night can say he will have a peaceful time of it. He may examine under his bed with his rushlight to see if anyone is there, and he may perchance keep his revolver loaded too under his pillow; but for all those precautions he may find the next morning that his fowls have been stolen, or his beehives disappeared – the very wires of his fence may have been cut and taken away, or worse still his house may be broken into and many of his favourite articles gone.
If he has goods consigned to him by rail and leaves them or his luggage on the Springwood platform, part or the whole may disappear in the twinkling of an eye without his authority. These are not fanciful cases. These things have happened and that lately. Some no less than last week. You may say the remedy lies in having one policeman stationed here, whose district extends from about Blaxland right away to Lawson and beyond. Well he is no doubt a very worthy constable, but so far has been unable to afford us any relief. He cannot even find one offender, and I fear it is hopeless to expect that he will be able to unless ably assisted by the Inspector General of Police's instructions.

A pair of antique silver cruets, probably not unlike the set stolen from Miss Todd's Springwood home in 1890. Photograph courtesy of John Leary, OAM

Continued page 12

From Springwood burglar to Peak Hill murderer

Continued from page 11

It is plain to me that we want more police here if only as a temporary expedient, then there may be some hope of being able to keep one's goods intact. If no help is afforded, and more burglaries and thefts occur it will have but one ending – somebody will be made a target of; perhaps the wrong man which would be a lamentable result. Revolvers are to be brought into requisition by several of our folk who are determined to use them too if occasion demand it. Perhaps our Progress Committee will make a move in the desired direction, for at present "our" policeman's lot is not a happy one."

***Nepean Times*, July 19, 1890**
"Another petty robbery has occurred in the district. Miss Todd upon returning home, near the railway bridge, after a short absence, found it broken into and some blankets and a cruet stand abstracted. It is a curious thing that in all the late cases of robbery about Springwood, the thieves have appropriated a cruet-stand. It does not seem to matter much whether the stand is electro or silver it is all the same to them, it is taken. We wonder whether he, she or they are going to set up a dining saloon, and are thus commencing to appropriate the necessary stock. It's a risky game; and for our part we would rather buy the articles on terms, and leave before payment was required – with the articles, if not too bulky.

***Nepean Times*, July 26, 1890**
"Theft. – In the midst of life we are in theft, at least we find it so this side of the Zig-Zag, and a consignment of tower muskets will have to be forwarded to the district. Neither our cruet stands or our clothes lines are safe. In fact this system of petty fogging appropriation of other people's underlinen is the meanest type of kleptomania. Last Saturday our two hotels had their clothes lines stripped in a most barefaced manner, and the night before Mr Humphries, a quiet hard working man, had his home broken into and a quantity of wearing apparel and papers taken. We can understand a starving homeless wretch filching from the super-abundance of a rich man's house, the temptation being so great, but for thieves to break in and steal from a hard working tiller of the soil seems the very poorest kind of employment.

We would just as soon work for our living and take our natural rest at night."

***Nepean Times*, August 2,1890**
"No more robberies. – Since the stirring events of the last week have transpired, our village has returned to its usual placid serenity. We carefully take in all our washed clothes at night, lock the back gate with a six inch nail, and shove the cruet stand as far up the chimney as possible. Having made these preparations, we chain the dog up to the grind-stone, and feel easy for the night."

***Nepean Times*, August 16, 1890**
"Mr Parker's house on Single's Ridge was entered the other day in the absence of the owner, but nothing much was appropriated, but there has been an increased demand for shot, caps and powder at Mr Rayner's store. We pity the marauders if the vengeance is carried out that we have heard threatened them. Life will be a burden and death a happy release to them."

***Nepean Times*, October 11, 1890**
"A sensation is now being experienced through some discoveries made this week by Constable Illingworth. It will be recollected that our little community was moved by feelings of alarm and indignation some few months ago in consequence of the numerous burglaries and robberies which took place in our midst, some which 'took the cake' for barefacedness. Well the secret is being unearthed at last, much to our relief of mind, and very much to those who were unfortunately wrongly suspected of being participants in the proceedings. It is an old saying that 'murder will out', and it looks as if it is going to prove in our case. It appears that Mr Larsen[3] had in his employ as caretaker and gardener a man named Lars Peter Hansen. This individual enjoyed the confidence of his employer for over a year and left for 'fresh fields and pastures new"'about a month since. The next news we heard of Hansen was that he had been arrested for supposed complicity in the murder of a man named Charles Duncker in the Peak Hill district. Opinions began to be expressed here that he might have been guilty of some of the crimes in this district. Then did our constable arise to the dignity of his profession. Without further ado he considered it advisable to make a little search for himself[4] in the house and grounds of Mr Larsen, and was well rewarded for his trouble by finding a 'plant'. A waterhole in the grounds was 'fished' with the result that two tin trunks and part of a leather portmanteau were found, minus the contents, the said packages being those which were mysteriously conveyed away from the station here in June last. Heaps of rubbish were overturned, resulting in the discovery of sundry articles, all of which have been already identified as stolen goods belonging to our villagers. In a cooking stove were found some lumps of white metal which had evidently been melted down in the hope of it being silver, but which it is probable is something baser. Much therefore has been done towards clearing up a great mystery. The circumstantial evidence thus afforded points strongly towards Hansen as the perpetrator of at least some of the robberies. As at present he is suspected of the most serious crime of murder, we can afford to wait and see how he gets on with that charge."

A tomahawk like this missing from Springwood crime scene. Photograph by John Leary, OAM

***Nepean Times*, October 25, 1890**
"Since Hansen's departure from our district we have been free from robberies, for which much thanks. The various goods found on Mr Larsen's premises, after Hansen's arrest for the Peak Hill murder, which is believed to have been stolen by Hansen, have all been identified; some as belonging to some ladies at Miss Hooper's school [5] at North Springwood, and others as the property of Mrs Hoare.

Murder of the little German on the Peak Hill road

Continued from page 12

The only article missed by Mr Larsen is a tomahawk which that gentleman states he could identify. It is hoped he may have an opportunity of seeing the tomahawk which is said to have been in Hansen's possession about the time of the murder."

***Nepean Times*, January 24, 1891**

"Murder will out! We note that Hansen has confessed to the murder of the little German on the Peak Hill Road. Who in our little community would have suspected that so quiet a man as Hansen would have been guilty of the several robberies here, much less the serious crime of murder."

****

Lars Peter Hansen, 30 years of age, was born in Denmark and arrived in Australia in about 1889. After leaving Springwood (probably with some of his purloined pieces), he went to Sydney where he stayed in lodgings with a German man, Charles Duncker, aged 23, and a Swedish man called Peter Petersen.

In 1889 gold was discovered in Peak Hill in Central New South Wales between Parkes and Dubbo, hundreds of people rushed there to seek their fortune, and the area rapidly expanded into a thriving town.

Hansen and Duncker decided to try their hand at prospecting but rapidly reached the conclusion that it was not for them – as Hansen put it to several people he met, "the diggings are all duffered out" and "there were too many people". [This was not exactly correct as gold mining is still continuing in Peak Hill] They decided to return to Sydney although Hansen told one man he was going to catch a train to Springwood.

In September, 1890, Hansen and Duncker walked along the road from Peak Hill to Dubbo where they intended to catch a train. Several people remembered seeing the two men, describing Hansen as a tall stout man about 6 feet 7 or 8 inches [200cm] high with a thick accent and carrying a heavy swag with a tomahawk strapped to it. One man said he looked fierce and frightening. Duncker, a short distance behind him and hurrying to catch up, was described as small and slight and carrying a light swag. The next morning some of these witnesses found the body of a man they believed was Duncker, lying on the remains of a fire with a knife nearby.

Hansen was immediately suspected of murdering Duncker and they finally found him working on the docks at Port Kembla.

He was known to be trying to earn enough money for his passage to Germany. He was wearing a cap he claimed to have bought from Duncker and admitted to the possession of a revolver, also bought from Duncker, which was in his box in Market Street. In the box they also found a number of pawn tickets for Duncker's clothes.

When arrested he said, "I no murder the little German". He was taken to Dubbo for the inquest and, on arrival at the railway station, was greeted with booing and hissing from the crowd. Duncker's body was officially identified by the Swede, Peter Petersen.

The knife was also identified as belonging to Hansen. The inquest into the little German's death concluded that "he was murdered by person or persons unknown". However, Hansen was immediately charged with the murder.

At the trial he pleaded not guilty and said in his defence, "I no guilty. I kill him to save myself". Mr Justice Stephen [son of Sir Alfred Stephen] passed sentence of death on him.

On June 2, 1891, Lars Peter Hansen, attended by Archdeacon Wilson, was led to the gallows of Dubbo Gaol[6] showing little anxiety or fear. When asked if he felt safe he replied, "Yes", shook hands and said, "Goodbye". He was asked if he had anything to say and he replied in his broken English, "I am not guilty of this murder. I die an innocent man and a Christian, and trust myself to Jesus Christ." Although death appeared to be instantaneous, the doctor said the heart had continued for some minutes after the drop.

ENDNOTES

[1] Mrs Alice Hoare, a wealthy widow, owned "Homedale", a handsome villa, valued at £5,600.0.0 in 1884, located at the corner of Homedale and Railway Parade. Mrs Hoare was the sister of John Frazer, benefactor of the Frazer Memorial Church. Edward Deane established the Blue Mountains Grammar School in Homedale in 1918. The house was demolished in 1975 to make way for Wingara, an aged persons' complex.

[2] "A cruet stand is a small stand of metal, ceramic or glass which holds condiments. Typically these include salt and pepper shakers, and often cruets or bottles of vinegar and olive oil." Wikipedia

[3] Gustav Larsen and his nephew Axel Bech were tobacconists in Balmain. They had come from Denmark and their country house in Springwood was "Elsinore" situated on the Bathurst Road on 4 acres of land with a frontage of 550ft stretching eastward from the first Public School (now the Springwood northern car park).

[4] Constable Illingworth's decision to search the grounds of "Elsinore" was prompted by Axel Bech's daughter falling in the water hole in the grounds. In retrieving the child Bech found portions of three empty trunks. He immediately reported this to the Constable.

[5] Miss Hooper's school for girls was "Hartlands" (now "Hartfields") on the Hawkesbury Road, Springwood.

[6] Dubbo Gaol 1871-1966 Eight men were hanged at Dubbo Gaol including Jacky Underwood who inspired Thomas Keneally's "Chant of Jimmy Blacksmith.

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My thanks to Pamela Smith and John Merriman for research assistance, S.Evans.

'Australian history is almost always picturesque....It does not read like history, but like the most beautiful lies'

--- Mark Twain, *More Tramps Abroad* (1897)

Blue Mountains Bi-centenary of Crossing Organisation Committee appointed

Blue Mountains City Council has now decided on the composition of the Bicentenary of Crossing Organisation Committee which is as follows:
Aboriginal community - Gai Marheine (Darug Community)

Chambers of Commerce - Graham Reibelt (Lawson), Tom Colless (Katoomba) and Lew Hird (Wentworth Falls)

Historical/Heritage sector - Susan Warmbath (Blue Mountains Historical Society), Robert Clarke (BM Branch National Trust of Australia) and Jean Arthur (Mt Victoria and District Historical Society).

Community representatives - Bruce Ferrier, Dr Siobhan Lavelle, OAM, John O'Sullivan, John Wakefield, OAM and Kerrin O'Grady

Heritage Identification and Protection – Revision of FAHS Heritage Handbook

Originally published in 2002 by the Federation of Australian Historical Societies (FAHS), this guide to heritage identification and protection is intended to provide a practical guide for local historical societies that wish to identify and protect local heritage places, objects and records. The revision is available from the web only: www.history.org.au/Heritage <http://www.history.org.au/Heritage> identification and protection.html

NATIONAL TRUST APPOINTMENT

National Trust of Australia (NSW) has announced the appointment of Maisy Stapleton as a new deputy executive director.

Joan Kent comes on board

Joan Kent of Little Hartley has accepted an offer to fill a vacancy on BMACHO's management committee.

Following an honours degree in history at Macquarie University, Joan spent five years as research assistant to Professor John Ward, then Vice-Chancellor and Challis Professor of History at Sydney University, followed by some years as a consultant historian engaged in the preparation of thematic studies and conservation plans.

An interesting period as the research historian at National Parks and Wildlife Service developed her interest in the conservation of the built environment, industrial archaeology and social history.

While living in the UK in the early 1990s she advanced this interest by completing a masters degree in social science (industrial archaeology) which, in between breeding alpacas is now utilised in assisting residents in the Hartley area in attempting to protect this highly significant region from the ravages of four-laned highways and concrete flyovers.

Joan and husband Tom have been members of the National Trust of Australia (NSW) for 30 years and she has served as secretary of the Lithgow Branch.

2.1 million Torrens Titles online

The system of Torrens Title is named after its creator, Sir Robert Richard Torrens who in the 1850s developed this unique method of registering land ownership.

Robert Torrens' experience in merchant shipping law stood him in good stead when it came to developing a way of replacing the English land law of the time that was complex, inefficient, time consuming and expensive.

Before the Torrens Title was formulated, a rather inaccurate chain of documents existed that meant all land dealings had to be examined and registered, then placed on public record.

With the Torrens Title system title to a property is created simply by registering or recording this ownership in a central government register.

This simple system proved to be so revolutionary that the Registrar General of NSW at the time, Christopher Rolleston, travelled all the way from NSW to South Australia to learn about it.

Although he was shipwrecked on his return trip he managed to survive and on his return formulated the new titling legislation for NSW.

In January 1853 the Real Property Act came in operation introducing the Torrens system of Title to NSW. Today, even though Australia is a federation of sovereign states, each state having a different system of land law, all are based on the same Torrens Title system.

After the first Torrens Title (Volume 1) was issued in 1863, it took 33 years to register the next 250,000 titles made up of 100 volumes. The next 1,875,000 titles (7500 volumes took 65 years to register.

There are 2.1 million records now available online and can be accessed on the SIX portal at: www.six.nsw.gov.au

The Torrens system of title is also one of Australia's most famous legal services exports operating in many overseas countries.

Source: NSW Land and Property Management Authority.

Mt Victoria exhibit recalls eccentric educator at Osborne Ladies' College

A collection of memorabilia, claimed as unique in the world, from Osborne Ladies' College formerly of Blackheath has been curated as an exhibition at the Mt Victoria and District Historical Society's museum.

The college was developed by Miss Gibbins in 1923 on 40 acres at Blackheath overlooking the Kanimbla and Megalong Valleys. It was renowned for being run in the tradition of the Royal Navy.

Miss Gibbins started a school at Bondi in 1910 initially for boys, but the school was later changed to girls. She later moved the school to Epping, changing the name of her school from the Epping Ladies' College to Osborne Ladies' College after the Royal Naval College, Osborne on the Isle of Wight.

The school uniform was in naval blue worn with Royal Navy Buttons.

Junior girls of the school were known as "Middies" from the term midshipman, with prefects being addressed as lieutenant and the head girl as captain.

Military courtesies applied with the senior girls being saluted. Miss Gibbins was known as "the admiral" while her governess, Miss Violet Everingham was known as 'the commander".

The rooms of the school were known by names of Royal Navy ships such as HMS Dreadnought, HMS Nelson, HMS Neptune, HMS Pelican, HMS Rodney, HMS Sirius HMS Sydney and others..

An emphasis was placed on physical fitness, Spartan living (only one room was heated at the school, the library) archery, shooting and dramatic arts.

The school was closed in 1958 following the illness and death of Miss Gibbins. The original building a hotel built in 1883 was destroyed by fire in 1963.

The exhibition curated by Mr Ron Brasier will be officially opened by Dr Peter Rickwood on Saturday, July 10.

The exhibition will be open to the public at the museum Railway Station, Station Street, Mt Victoria every Saturday and Sunday and public holidays and school holidays between 2 and 5 pm

Sources:

Robyn Hanstock 'In the spirit of the Navy': Violet Gibbins and Osborne Ladies' College, Blackheath. Journal of the Royal Australian Historical Society, June 2005.
:www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Osborne
Photograph courtesy Blue Mountains City Council - Local History Studies Collection www.bmcc.nsw.gov.au/

National Family History Week

Blue Mountains Family History Society is planning a display in the Springwood Library for National Family History Week, from Friday, July 31, to Saturday, August 7, 2010. In addition, there will be two volunteers on duty each day to give personal assistance to members of the public wishing to research their family history world- wide.

Family History is not just family trees; the exciting part of family history is finding the stories behind the ancestors or putting "the flesh on the bones".

It is far more interesting finding out about the history and geography of the area/s your family came from, their occupations, anything that can be found to "bring them to life", so that they are not just a name, but a person. Of course, if there is a convict in the family, there is a wealth of information to be found and usually an easy trail to follow.

For further information, please contact Jan Koperberg jank@eftel.com.au or 02 4754 1544.

TAFE students to prepare marketing plan for Blue Mountains Historical Society

Blue Mountains Historical Society has enlisted the aid of students from two TAFE colleges to look at aspects of the future of the society.

Advanced Diploma in Marketing students are working on a marketing plan to grow the society. These mature students have already completed 3 years part-time study and are currently employed in the relevant sphere.

Another group, Diploma and Certificate IV TAFE students are creating a garden master plan for the future development of the Wentworth Falls site previously developed by Colin Slade in 1991.

These works will take a year to complete, under supervision of their tutors and the two master plans are expected to be completed by the end of this year.

To engage private professionals for these plans, the cost would be considerable. And as the society is gaining the enthusiasm of multiple, bright, young students it can be expected that the plans might be better than perhaps those of a single professional.

World War II in the Blue Mountains

In the 1920s and 1930s the Blue Mountains had a relatively small population in the townships along the highway and railway.

There were service centres, many guesthouses and holiday cottages, TB Sanatoria, etc. World War II saw many families and schools, including SCEGGS and Cranbrook evacuating from Sydney and relocating boarders in private homes, guesthouses, hotels, etc.

Workers from the Lithgow Small Arms Factory also occupied guesthouses on the Blue Mountains. Other guest houses were taken over as service hospitals, such as the Hydro Majestic for US servicemen and Sans Souci for the Brits. In Term 1 in 1942, Katoomba school had 350 new enrolments.

Blue Mountains Family History Society is compiling information about the Blue Mountains in this period and is seeking any personal stories, photographs and relevant information that can be used in the book that will be published. Please contact Joan Edwards joan.geofocus@gmail.com or Jan Koperberg jank@eftel.com.au

A Digger's Best Friend arrives at Eskbank House

The Australian War Memorial's travelling exhibition, *A Digger's Best Friend* will be open to the public every day until Sunday, July 25, 2010 at Eskbank House, Lithgow.

Opening hours are 10am to 4pm, Wednesday to Sunday. Group and school bookings are welcome.

"Lithgow City Council is delighted to host this exhibition", Neville Castle, Mayor of Lithgow Council said. "Curators of the exhibition have drawn together a fascinating array of images from the Memorial's National Collection, which have been specially chosen to suit the learning needs of children."

A Digger's Best Friend offers an A to Z of animals in war, from mascots and messengers to creepy-crawlies.

Animals are put to many uses in war. Sometimes they have jobs to do: the horses, camels, mules, and donkeys used to transport soldiers and equipment, as well as carrier pigeons and tracker dogs with their special talents.

While animals are often used as mascots and pets, or as symbols on badges and flags, *A Digger's Best Friend* also looks at those unwelcome animals, such as insects, rats, and wild creatures that make life in the field even more difficult and dangerous.

The exhibition has been developed with a young audience in mind, but visitors of all ages will enjoy its fascinating and moving stories.

The Australian War Memorial's Travelling Exhibitions Program is funded by the Australian Government's Commemorations Program.

For further information contact Naomi Parry, Lithgow City Council's Cultural Development Officer on 6354 9999 or e-mail: naomi.parry@lithgow.nsw.gov.au

Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine Historical Society Inc.

Notice of mid-year general meeting

A warm invitation is extended to all members and friends to the Society's mid-year general meeting with guest speaker, Associate Professor Ian Jack.

Saturday, 31st July 2010 at 10.30am at the Mt Wilson Village Hall, The Avenue, Mt Wilson

11.00am **General meeting** with committee reports and an update on the Society's ongoing projects and activities. We are especially pleased to announce the awarding of Honorary Life Memberships to Arthur Delbridge and Bruce Wright.

12.00noon **Guest speaker** Associate Professor Ian Jack, President of the Royal Australian Historical Society will tell us about his recent research on the history of ***Fernmount*** at Kurrajong. This historic property was created in the 19th Century by William Scott, the very interesting Government Astronomer, Warden of St Paul's College and maverick clergyman. It seems that ***Fernmount*** attracted similarly unusual owners in the twentieth century.

Members and guests are invited to enjoy a warming lunch after the presentation. There will be a gold coin donation at the door to cover costs.

FOR CATERING PURPOSES, PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU ARE COMING MARY REYNOLDS: 4756 2006 / HELEN CARDY: 9871 3661 OR FLORENCE SMART: 4756 2063 EMAIL: westring@bigpond.com

MILITARY MEMORABILIA DISPLAY

Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc. is organising a display of military memorabilia at Tarella, Wentworth Falls for Saturday, September 18.

The society is seeking additional material from members and anyone who may have items of interest is asked to contact Susan Warmbath on 4757 3402.

Dig finds world's oldest leather shoe

It is size six, has lace up design, and was worn more than 1000 years before the pyramids were built in Egypt.

Dated at 5500 years old, it is the world's most ancient leather shoe.

Its owner apparently cared enough about it to stuff it with grass to keep it in shape while in storage.

The well-preserved shoe made from a single piece of cow hide and worn on the right foot was unearthed in a cave in Armenia and studied by a team led by Dr Ron Pinhasi of University College Cork in Ireland.

While the shoe is small, about a woman's size six, it was not known whether it belonged to a woman or man. Dr Pinhasi said. "The shoe could have well fitted a man from that era."

It was discovered along with household goods, including large containers, many of which held wheat, barley and apricots. A bone from a deer, with some meat still attached, two horns of a wild goat and fish bones were also found near the shoe.

The contents of the cave had been covered with a thick layer of sheep dung, which had kept them dried and preserved for thousands of years, said the researchers, whose study is published in the science journal PLoS ONE.

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

REGISTERED OFFICE 14 Bunnal Avenue, Winmalee 2777
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Website: www.bluemountains.heritage.com

THE ORGANISATION Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 following a unanimous response to a proposal from Prof. Barrie Reynolds at the 2004 Blue Mountains Local History Conference which sought from Blue Mountains City Council the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the city.

BMACHO in its constitution uses the definition: "Cultural heritage is all aspects of life of the peoples of the Blue Mountains which was later changed to cover Lithgow and the villages along the Bell's Line of Roads. It therefore involves the recording, preserving and interpreting of information in whatever form: documents, objects, recorded memories as well as buildings and sites."

The objectives of the organisation are:

i. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage.
ii. To encourage and assist cultural heritage activities of member organisations.
iii. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations.

One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact, to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

MEMBERSHIP The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains City Library, Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc, Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc., Blue Mountains Tourism Limited, Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute, Cudgegong Museums Group Inc, Friends of Norman Lindsay Gallery, Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc, Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc, Lilianfels Blue Mountains Resort, Lithgow Mining Museum Inc, Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies, Lithgow Small Arms Factory Museum Inc, Mid-Mountains Historical Society Inc, Mid Western Regional Council Library, Mt Tomah Botanic Gardens, Mt Victoria and District Historical Society Inc, Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine History Society Inc (including Turkish Bath Museum), Mudgee Historical Society Inc, Mudgee Regional Library, National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Blue Mountains Branch (including Woodford Academy), National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Lithgow Branch, Scenic World – Blue Mountains Limited, Springwood & District Historical Society Inc., Springwood Historians inc, Transport Signal and Communication Museum Inc., Two Centuries of Elegance, Valley Heights Locomotive Depot and Museum, Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd. The following are individual members: Ray Christison, Associate Professor Ian Jack, Joan Kent, John Leary OAM, John Low, Ian Milliss, Professor Barrie Reynolds, and Dr Peter Stanbury OAM.

COMMITTEE The committee for 2010-11 is: John Leary, (president), Ian Jack (vice president), Jan Koperberg (secretary), Kathie McMahon-Nolf (treasurer), Jean Arthur, Joan Kent, Doug Knowles, Dick Morony (public officer), Barrie Reynolds and Peter Stanbury. **AUDITOR:** Sue McMahon, B Comm CPA.

AFFILIATIONS BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society Inc.
HERITAGE is BMACHO's official newsletter.

HERITAGE

NEWSLETTER OF THE BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 2010 ISSUE No. 11

Some heritage links of Mount Tomah Botanic Garden

by Rob Smith, Mount Tomah Botanic Garden Director

Situated on a mountain top in the Blue Mountains, Mount Tomah Botanic Garden has many links with the long history of this region. This article will discuss only some of these links.

Mount Tomah has been covered in luxuriant rainforest from earliest times. George Caley, Sir Joseph Banks's collector in Sydney crossed the Devils Wilderness[1] and camped on Mount Tomah in 1804.

He described the tree ferns and rainforest vegetation in his journal and called the massif, Tree Fern Hill.

Tomah is the Darug word for tree fern[2]. The mountain is thought to have special significance to Darug people and there are many signs of occupation around the springs, rainforest and associated sandstone cliffs.

Mount Tomah was also part of the network of trails Aboriginal people used to traverse this rugged country now known as the Blue Mountains.

Pictured is the pencil orchid Dendrobium fairfaxii. Photograph courtesy Tracey Armstrong, Mt Annan Botanic Garden.

On the Bells Line of Road approaching Mt Tomah circa 1920s. Photograph courtesy NSW Government Printing Office.

There are sites in the area recorded with occupation dates of about 9,000[3] years ago.

In 1871, Robert Ftizgerald visited Mount Tomah and collected a new species of orchid. Baron Ferdinand Von Mueller and Robert Fitzgerald named this orchid species in honour of the work of the Fairfax family in supporting science, and the arts. They named the pencil Orchid *Dendrobium fairfaxii*.[4]

This species of orchid is growing in the Jungle today. This type description was published in the *Sydney Mail* of 1871 and the holotype is held in Melbourne Botanic Garden Herbarium.

By the 1920s the farmer who owned the then 280-hectares of warm temperate rainforest, adjacent to what is now the botanic garden, was made an offer by a timber company wanting the trees for timber. Concerned citizens decided to act.

They formed a company, The Jungle Limited[5] to buy the forest for £5000 half of which would be raised through £25 - £100 shares.

The rest would be raised by using a mortgage to be repaid from the expected revenue from a tea house to be built and operated on the site.

In 1929, 91 cars a day traversed the unsealed Bells Line of Road.

The above photograph taken at the now entrance to the botanic garden shows the look of the forested and fairly rough track that Bells Line was then.

Continued page 3

From the president's pen.....

Macquarie's convict sites featured in additions to World Heritage Listing

The recent addition of 11 more Australian sites to UNESCO's World Heritage Listing should be seen by all conservationist and heritage enthusiasts as a welcome and truly aspirational achievement.

Together the sites represent the global phenomenon of convictism - the forced migration of convicts to penal colonies in the 18th and 19th centuries - and global developments in the punishment of crime in modern times.

The *Australian Convict Sites* are the preeminent examples of our rich convict history, with more than 3,000 convict sites remaining around Australia.

This is unique in the world today. In 2007 the importance of the Australian convict memory to all humankind was recognised when some of Australia's convict records were included in *UNESCO's Memory of the World Register*.

Of the 11 sites that make up the World Heritage *Australian Convict Sites*, four are in NSW with several having links to Lachlan Macquarie, so often called the "nation's builder" and whose 200th anniversary of his swearing-in as Governor of NSW is being celebrated this year. The sites are:

*** Old Government House and Domain, Parramatta**
This site is made up of five buildings and extensive archaeological remains set in 55 hectares of parkland (the Domain). Old Government House is a two-storey rendered brick building in Georgian style, restored to represent the Macquarie period. Around 100 convicts lived in huts and worked there during the convict era.

The site is a powerful symbol of the penal colony of NSW and is closely associated with efforts to reform and rehabilitate convicts during the Macquarie era. It had been occupied by governors from Captain Arthur Phillip in 1788 to Governor Denison in 1856.

***Hyde Park Barracks, Sydney**
Hyde Park Barracks is Australia's first government-built convict barracks, and the only remaining barracks building and complex from the Macquarie era of convict administration. It marked a turning point in Australia's management of transported convicts from Britain. It is also significant because it was designed by Australia's first architect Francis Greenway, and is regarded as one of his best works.

***Cockatoo Island convict site, Sydney Harbour**
Cockatoo Island was created as a penal settlement in 1839 for re-offending convicts. It was an ideal location for hard labour - isolated and secure, easy to provision, yet close to the heart of the colony's major population centre.

Convicts and colonial prisoners quarried massive areas of sandstone, excavated and helped to build a dockyard and constructed about 20 underground grain silos. Some were sentenced to solitary confinement in underground cells built into the sheer sandstone cliffs. After the abolition of transportation to NSW in 1840, Cockatoo Island operated as a penal settlement for convicts completing their sentences and for ex-convict and other colonial prisoners.

*** Old Great North Road, near Wiseman's Ferry adjacent to the Hawkesbury River**
The Great North Road was built from Sydney to the Hunter Valley by convicts between 1826 and 1836. It was part of an ambitious road building program to open up fertile farming land for free settlement and improve transport and overland communication in the colony. Convicts worked in gangs on the Great North Road - some in leg irons - quarrying, excavating and building in laborious and tedious work that created a major engineering structure in the rugged landscape.

The Old Great North Road site is made up of a small portion of around seven and a half kilometres of the original 250 kilometre road. The site incorporates the Devine's Hill section (built 1829-32) and the Finch's Line section (built 1828 and subsequently abandoned).

It is an impressive landscape that retains qualities of the physical environment in which the convict road builders laboured. Still visible are the massive retaining walls of large sandstone blocks, quarried cliffs with triangular shaped marks from the hand-driven drill for blasting holes and stretches of chiselled gutters and remains of around 40 stone culverts. Convicts left their mark with graffiti, and some of this can still be seen on sandstone blocks today.

The other sites are: Kingston and Arthur's Vale historic area (Norfolk Island), Port Arthur historic site (on Tasmania's Tasman Peninsula), Cascades Female Factory (Hobart), Darlington Probabation Station (Maria Island –Tasmania), Coal Mines historic site (Premadeyna – Tasmania), Brickendon Woolmers Estates (Longford – Tasmania) and Freemantle Prison (Western Australia).
Source: Heritage Division, Australian Government Department of Environment, Water, Heritage and Arts.

John Leary, OAM
President, Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc.

Botanic Gardens Trust buys Jungle

Continued from page 1

On March 23, 1929 the Governor, Sir Dudley de Chair, unveiled a plaque alongside the Fairfax Walk (the late Sir James Fairfax owner of the Sydney Morning Herald had been a major backer of the project).

The Fairfax Walk was a set of paths winding from the tea room to what was dubbed 'The Temple of Nature'. With the depressed economy of that time the business closed 1934 and the land was resumed.

In 1972 Alfred and Effie Brunet donated 33 hectares of land to Royal Botanic Gardens to make a cool climate botanic garden at Mount Tomah. They had managed the property as a cut flower farm and nursery at Mount Tomah since 1934.

When they donated their property to the Royal Botanic Gardens in 1972, many of the original buildings were demolished or moved.

A large corrugated iron shed was moved to the adjacent property, the Jungle.

In 2009 the Jungle Property was purchased by the Botanic Gardens Trust, funded by a generous donation from John and Libby Fairfax as well as the NSW Environmental Trust.

After much work, a part of the original path system was reinstated and linked to paths from the Botanic Garden.

This was re-opened to the public exactly 80 years to the day by Professor Marie Bashir AC, Governor of NSW, on March 23, 2009 and named the Lady Vincent Fairfax Walk

Effie ad Alfred Brunet with George Townsend in front of their cottage.

This also meant the heritage building the Brunets had owned and used for 34 years as a nursery building was returned to public ownership.

Now visitors to the botanic garden can see this fine example of nursery buildings of the period. It will soon be interpreted for visitors to Mount Tomah Botanic Garden and can be seen when visitors take a stroll on the Lady Vincent Fairfax Walk.

The acquisition of the Jungle, so it is now part of Mount Tomah Botanic Garden through the generosity of John and Libby Fairfax marked the completion of the first Botanic Bicentenary Project for Botanic Gardens Trust at Mount Tomah.

Endnotes

[1]Andrews Alan E.J., 1984. *The Devil's Wilderness, George Caley's Journey to Mount Banks 1804.*

[2] Kenny Suzanne, *Mount Tomah Darug Aboriginal Connections,* 2002. pg 3

[3] Kenny Suzanne, *Mount Tomah Darug Aboriginal Connections,* 2002. pg 4.

[4] Mueller and Fitzgerald 1872, *Sydney Mail, The Garden, Flora of Australia, Dendrobium Fairfaxii* September 21 pg 360

[5] A New National Park. 'The Jungle'. Invitation to life membership by ordinary share subscription. Australian National Library ANL MIC—mcN2225 JAFp HISAT 907.

A plaque commemorating the major support of the then owner of the Sydney Morning Herald, Sir James Fairfax.

State Governor opens Hobby's Reach Research Centre

Her Excellency, Professor Marie Bashir, AC,CVO, Governor of NSW officialy opened the Sadler Wing of the Blue Mountains Historical Society's Hobby's Reach Centre on Saturday, September 11, 2010.

The wing named after the late Geoff Sadler, a local historian and former treasurer of the society was built with the assistance of a grant from Arts NSW, a grant which Geoff had worked hard to obtain.

The late Geoff Sadler left his considerable library to the society which will be housed in the new extension.

A pictorial archive of the Blue Mountains

by Graham Warmbath - President, Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc.

To the historian, a photograph is a story without words.

The Blue Mountains Historical Society has a collection of 7000 photographic images in Hobby's Reach Research Centre at Wentworth Falls. Each one is a historical document - visual evidence to help place people, events and buildings at a moment in time.

While the collection is predominantly a local history archive, it includes photographs of national significance and examples of early photographic techniques. To shed light on the latter, calls for a little historical context:

In Persia around 1000AD, the Father of Optics, Alhazen, described a 'dark chamber' with an aperture through which sunlight can project an image from the outside onto a 'screen' within - the camera obscura.

Moving on, in 1727 a German anatomist, JH Schulze, noticed that light darkened silver salts. Then the French inventor Nicéphore Niépce, used a camera to make a view from his window on a pewter plate.

Centennial Cottage gardener, William Wright (with friend), H Phillips. 1909. - Blue Mountains Historical Society Collection

"Sometime ago, ***HERITAGE*** asked the author of this article,Graham Warmbath how he became interested in history and the following was his reply :

"You ask me how I became interested in heritage? My answer is 'over time'! I learnt from Scottish ghost stories and English antiques.

"On Blaxland Road, a green road sign inscribed 'museum' led me to Hobby's Reach. What did that mean? I had to find out.

"Visit Hobby's Reach Research Centre and more than one new tale unfolds -Lieutenant Hobby's 'long reach, quite straight' road for a start; how Mr Vaniman photographed Katoomba with his immense camera from the top of a twenty five foot pole - and even more from the three-dimensional evidence of 1890s Tarella cottage in the grounds outside.

"Histories and things that have been valued are keys to a proper understanding of today, because they unlock circumstances that have given rise to today.Without understanding this, it is impossible to see a way forward."

It was 1822 and Niépce called his image, a heliograph. In 1839, another Frenchman and a chemist, L-JM Daguerre, also used a camera to expose a silver-coated copper plate which, once developed and fixed, produced a one-off, no negative, lasting image:

'You are aware that iodine is used in Daguerre's process for getting the solar drawing on his silvered plate. Who could have anticipated that the discovery of a violet-coloured gas in the refuse of kelp would lead to such important results?' asked Sir John Franklin in the Tasmanian Journal of Natural Science of 1842.

Finally in 1840, a British inventor, WH Fox Talbot, achieved a negative-to-positive image and produced the first coated-paper photographs - he did not explain how 'coated' - but he used a camera to expose a sensitised paper, developed a negative image and then, by contact printing to another sensitised paper, a positive. This realised the potential of producing multiple positive images, and popular photography was born.

It was 1841 when Captain Lucas of the French barque *Justine* took Australia's first photograph (of Bridge and George Streets, Sydney) using Daguerre's process.

In the following year, George Goodman, Australia's first professional photographer, advertised 'Photographic Portraits taken by the reflection of light'.

The earliest image in the Blue Mountains Historical Society's collection is the portrait of a lady, a daguerreotype, the process favoured by richer people because its image was unique, dated around 1850.

Next is a carte-de-visite print on albumen-coated card, dated around 1853. The pièce de résistance is a portrait of Queen Victoria's second son, Prince Alfred (the royal visitor who was shot at Clontarf on March 12, 1868), on glass. Mitchell Library Curator of Photographs, Alan Davies, has identified this as a unique wet collodion image of around 1864.

The collection's earliest black and white image on paper is of solitary One Tree Hill, taken by an unknown photographer around 1869.

By the way, John William Berghofer - after whom the Pass is named and who initiated the 1913 celebrations of the crossing of the Blue Mountains - reputedly said that the name One Tree Hill 'attracts tourists'.The society holds an elegant portfolio of Joseph Bischoff's large-scale prints of the Grose Valley and surrounds.

Continued page 5

Earliest image dates back to 1869

Continued from page 4
These were taken during Frederick Eccleston Du Faur's 1875 expedition, designed to entice artists and photographers to record Blue Mountains' scenery for display at the Philadelphia Exhibition of 1876.

To get these photographs, the expedition relied on donkeys to carry camping and cumbersome photographic equipment down the Engineer's Track and into the Valley.

HMAS Australia entering Sutherland Dry Dock, Cockatoo Island 1919. - Blue Mountains Historical Society Collection

Also held by the society is an original collection of Mount Victoria photographer Ebenezer Caney's sepia toned albumen prints of Jenolan Caves scenery, dated about 1882; a tintype album of around 1880, containing thirty six postage stamp size individual portraits - the technique was extremely popular in America and not expensive; a photograph of the Explorer's Marked Tree by Charles Kerry, dated 1885 - Kerry made photographs into postcards which are much valued by collectors today; a stereograph by Judge Docker of his daughters Muriel and Rosamund with Mrs Vivian viewing the Three Sisters, dated 1898; and a Frank Hurley montage of Ross and Keith Smith's biplane flight over the Three Sisters, dated 1920.

There is also Melvin Vaniman's two framed, nationally significant panoramic photographs by this American photographer hung at Hobby's Reach Research Centre. *The Mountaineer*'s report of November 27, 1903 follows:

'For some time past a pole 80 feet high has been standing in the high part of the Katoomba Park, and all that was known of it was that it was for taking a photograph of Katoomba.

'It has been standing for some time waiting for an opportune day, and was utilised on Wednesday last.

'We saw the photographer, Mr Melvin Vaniman from San Francisco, USA, who is under special assignment with the New South Wales government and railway commissioners, and had the pleasure of seeing some of his unique work.

'These are panoramic pictures taken on one plate 48 x 16 inches, and embracing a panorama of over 190 degrees.

'Some idea of the vastness of the panorama can be obtained when we explain that a picture was obtained of Katoomba Falls and the surroundings which take in the top Lookout, the Falls, the Three Sisters, the Broken Wall, Mount Solitary and round to the Orphan Rock. This will be the finest view of Katoomba Falls in existence'. But it is the profusion of Harry Phillips' work from 1909 now held by the society which perhaps outweighs that of other photographers of mountains scenery.

Phillips fell in love with the Blue Mountains during convalescence after a hand injury prevented him continuing a printing career.

The society has a prized store of his glass photographic plates, several fine albums and many of the distinctive overwide brochures with which he publicised the mountains.

Phillips was inspired by the seas of mists periodically rising from the valleys, temporarily marooning the ridges, and also by the drama of cloud formations. Even so, his pastoral picture of wildflowers at Mt Wilson, dated 1920, remains one of my favourites.

Here I must pause, knowing that I have not mentioned such magical images as those of the gold prospector at Lithgow, the *Cutty Sark* at Circular Quay, Sydney's ratcatchers, the Pickwick Club on a bushwalk, or the first train over the mountains. While historians evaluate content and photographers process, I have applied but one empirical criterion in selecting images for description here: 'does the image please?'.

Hobby's Reach is open to all on Tuesday and Friday mornings throughout the year.

Acknowledgements: References are available. Information over time is acknowledged from Gwen Silvey, OAM, Alan Tierney, Alan Davies, Gael Newton, Gurd Ewart, Jim Smith, and Joan Smith

H Cummins (photo donor) quizzes Sir John Northcott at Australia's 1951 Federation Jubilee. - Blue Mountains Historical Society Collection

Crossing of the Blue Mountains and opening up the west 1813 - 1815 commemoration

The Royal Australian Historical Society earlier this year offered to co-ordinate activities to commemorate the bicentenary of the first European crossing of the Blue Mountains and appointed its senior vice president Professor David Carment to oversee this role.

At a meeting of BMACHO's management committee in June it was suggested that the RAHS might convene a meeting of interested parties from Penrith through the Blue Mountains and Lithgow to Bathurst so that the commemoration could have lasting benefit.

It was also strongly felt that the commemoration should not only be of the period of the first crossing but should include recognition of the surveying and road construction which opened the way to the west and ultimately Macquarie's visit to Bathurst and his proclamation of that town in 1815

President of the RAHS, Associate Professor Ian Jack convened a meeting in Sydney in late July which was attended by representatives from local government, historical societies, the Land & Property Management Authority (Bathurst) and BMACHO.

A number of representatives at the meeting indicated consideration was being given to various ideas while it was noted that the RTA had been surveying Cox's route as a possible walking trail.

Penrith's mayor, Cr Kevin Crameri and Penrith City Council's local studies librarian, Lorraine Stacker indicated a number of activities were already being planned to commemorate the start of the first crossing from Emu Plains.

The president of Hartley District Progress Association, Ramsay Moodie also indicated a public meeting had recently been held to discuss commemoration activities.

RAHS manager, Mari Metzke commented on the concept of the Great North Walk from Sydney Harbour to the Hunter Valley which could be used for a western walk including the various crossings and descents.

National Trust branches at Lithgow and Blue Mountain have been discussing for some years commemorations of the completion of Cox's Road.

The next meeting of the RAHS group will be held in Penrith later this month and those societies or heritage groups interested in proposing ideas for the commemoration will be invited to this meeting.

For further details contact John Leary on 4758 8584 or johnnanette@optusnet.com.au

Neolithic beer

An American brewery has re-created a 9000-year-old beer after claiming to have analysed Neolithic pottery found in China.

Chateau Jiahu was brewed from wildflower honey, Muscat grapes, barley malt, hawthorn fruit and chrysanthemums.

Dr Patrick McGovern, a biomolecular archaeologist, came across the pottery shards on a trip to China 10 years ago. *Telegraph* London

National Library Australia calling for contributions to Australian newspaper service

The National Library of Australia is now inviting contributions to its Australian newspapers service.

This service provides free online access to digitised Australian newspapers through Trove trove.nla.gov.au, the national resource discovery service.

With 40 million articles from over 100 newspaper titles representing every Australian state and territory scheduled to be in the service by June 2011, Australian newspapers will enable users to explore online an unprecedented quantity and range of Australia's newspaper heritage.

From July 2011, the National Library will be implementing a model which enables other libraries and institutions to fund digitisation of specific newspaper titles.

The Australian newspapers service is part of the Australian Newspaper Plan <http://www.nla.gov.au/anplan>), a cooperative endeavour through which Australian libraries collect, preserve and provide access to Australian newspapers.

For further information about how to contribute to the Australian newspapers service, please see the Contributor Guidelines (http://www.nla.gov.au/ndp/get_involved/documents/ANScontributorguidelines2010final.pdf) and Factsheet (http://www.nla.gov.au/anplan/documents/Benefits_of_ANDP_Model_for_Contributors_000.pdf), or call the National Library on 02 6262 1685.

COUNCIL TO GET HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

There has been considerable discussion in recent years between BMACHO and senior staff at Blue Mountains Ciity Council concerning the establishment of a heritage advisory committee.

Last month following a preliminary report, council resolved that the staff produce a further report on BMACHO's proposal before the end of March 2011.

JOHN ROSS, CONVICT LABOURER ON THE COX'S ROAD IN 1814

By Jan Koperberg

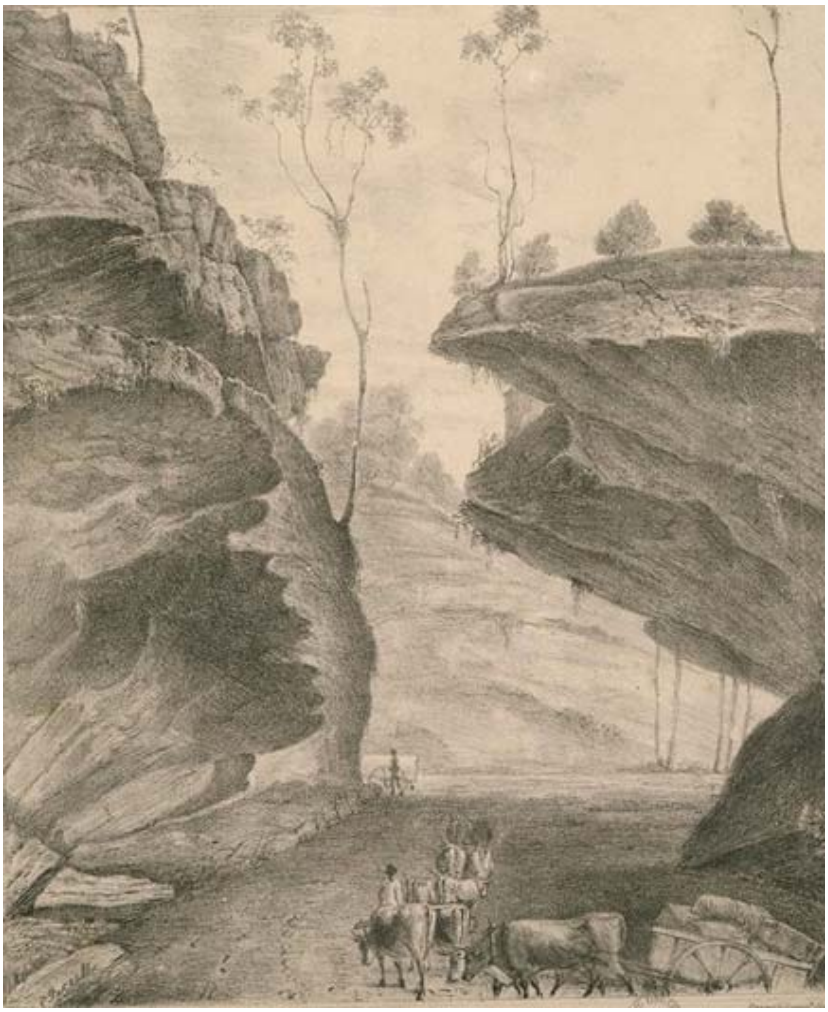
When I first started to research my family history little did I expect to find an ancestor who had been found guilty of highway robbery, sentenced to hang, later to be commuted and transported to the colony of New South Wales finally ending up as a labourer on the first road over the Blue Mountains in 1814.

Searches into my ancestry found that my third great grandfather was John Ross born c.1784, in County Tyrone, Ireland.[1.]

In 1805, he was charged with highway robbery, which led him to be tried at Salop Assizes, Shrewsbury in County Shropshire, England.

John pleaded not guilty, but was found guilty, to be hanged, no goods. No goods meant John had no possessions to confiscate. On March 23, 1805 he was sentenced to death, but this was commuted.[2.] John Ross was sentenced on October 8, 1805 to transportation for the term of his natural life.[3.]

The Shropshire Lent Assize, March 23, 1805, No 112, A Calendar of The Criminal Prisoners, In the Custody of Richard Cartwright, Keeper of his Majesty's Gaol for the County of Salop, Thomas Whitmore, Esquire, Sheriff records: *"No 20. John Ross, aged 22, In his Majesty's Army of Reserve, born in Ireland. Condemned and reprieved."*



Reproduced above with permission of Mitchell Library, State Library of New South Wales is a watercolour by E.Purcell titled -Part of Cox's Pass, New South Wales, 1821 (Ref: SV1B/Blu M/21.)

"Charged upon the oath of John Edwards, of the Parish of Oldbury, in the said County of Salop, labourer, with having in the night between the 12th and 13th days of February, 1805, violently assaulted him the said John Edwards, on the king's highway, in the Parish of St. Mary Magdalen, in the town of Bridgnorth, in the said County of Salop, put him in fear, and taken from his person about thirteen shillings and sixpence in money: committed until the next assizes to beholden in and for the said County of Salop, or until he shall be thence discharged by due course of law, the 13th day of February, 1805, by Thomas Carter, Gentleman, Bailiff."

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR AND RESEARCHER

The author and researcher of this article, Jan Koperberg has lived in the Blue Mountains since 1967, where she raised her family and worked in a medical practice for 30 years.

She retired from full time work at the end of 2005, which is when she started family history research in earnest.

Research into family lines have produced links to England, Ireland, Scotland, Denmark and Sweden, with a distant cousin in Chile.

Jan is the vice president and former secretary of Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc., a committee member NSW & ACT Association of Family History Societies Inc. and is currently secretary of BMACHO.

Convicts praised in 'Memoirs of William Cox'

Continued from page 7

From the Shropshire General Quarter Sessions, October 8, 1805, No 110, A Calendar of the Criminal Prisoners, In the Custody of Richard Cartwright, Keeper of His Majesty's Gaol for the County of Salop, Thomas Whitemore, Esq. Sheriff records:

"Sentenced to be Transsported [sic]: *No 24. John Ross, aged 22, During the term of his natural life."* [4]

The Convict Indent states that John Ross was transported on the *Duke of Portland* and arrived in the colony in 1807.

His native place was given as Co Tyrone, his trade as weaver, his hair colour brown, his eye colour hazel, his height 5ft 5 in tall and his complexion ruddy.[5]

The ship *Duke of Portland* departed London on February 26, 1807 and arrived in Sydney NSW on July 27, 1807. The ship's master was John Clark Spence. The voyage took 189 days.[6]

John Ross was to survive the sea journey and in the General Muster of NSW, Norfolk Island and Van Diemen's Land 1811, John Ross is recorded as being a resident of NSW with the status of 'convict; having arrived on board the *Duke of Portland* after his trial Shrewsbury' where he had been sentenced in February 1805 to 7 years imprisonment, although in fact it had been for life.[7]

On January 24, 1812 a son, William, was born to John Ross and Elizabeth Bennett, in Windsor, NSW.

There is no birth registered with NSW Registry of Births, Death and Marriages. However, St Matthew's Church of England, Windsor records William's birth January 24, 1812 and his baptism August 15, 1813, The minister at the time was Rev Robt Cartwright.[8]

Elizabeth Bennett had been tried at the Devon Assizes, Exeter, County Devonshire. She pleaded not guilty, but was found guilty of grand larceny, to be transported for a term of 7 years.

Cox's Pass site of railing which stretched across the drop to the rock in background. This was in place to keep stock on the road. Photograph by Jan Koperberg, May 2010.

She arrived in the colony on the *Canada* on September 8, 1810. [9]

On July 5, 1813, the marriage of John Ross and Elizabeth Bennett, by Banns, is recorded in the register of St Matthew's Church of England, Windsor.

They were married by the Rev Cartwright and the witnesses to the marriage were James Vincent, Thos Holding and John Holden. Both John and Elizabeth put an X mark, so neither could write.[10]

On July 10, 1814, a daughter, Mary, was born to John and Elizabeth Ross, at Windsor, NSW.[11] Mary married Isaac Perrett, at Christ Church, Newcastle, NSW, on October 11, 1831. [12] Isaac was transported to Australia on the *Hadlow* in 1818.

He was a native of Gloucestershire, England.[13] Isaac was later recorded as a Constable, Bush Constable and Farmer at Patricks Plains. [14]

The General Muster of NSW 1814 records John Ross of Windsor still with the status of convict being 'on stores at the Mountains.[15]

The men who were receiving 'stores at the Mountains', were the men building the first road and Governor Lachlan Macquarie decreed that no one else was to enter the area and interrupt their important work.

John was a labourer on 'The Road', having been selected as being accustomed to field labour and supposed to be accustomed to undergo the fatigue of hard work and sleeping on the ground. The reward – Emancipation.

The following extracts are taken from 'Memoirs of William Cox, J.P., Lieutenant and Paymaster of NSW Corps or 102nd Regiment, Late of Clarendon, Windsor':

"Dec 10 Fine day; wind west. Finished the bridge over the east branch, 22 ft long, 13 ft wide. Carpenters, etc., made a good strong job of it. The working bullocks strayed and not found till sunset. Sick: P Hanragan, J Tindall, H Morton. Ordered six married men to go back to the mountain to finish the road down it to the valley. When done, they are to be discharged – S Parker, J Ross, J Tindall, P Hanragan, P Marman and J Watkins. Also ordered J Wilson to go forward on Monday with nine others road-making.

"Dec 11 (Sunday) At 6am sent six men back to the mountain to complete the road. At 7am sent 10 men forward to encamp at Blaxland's Mountain, under Watson's charge. … …"

Continued page 9

Road work was hard - the prize, emancipation

Continued from page 8

"Dec 15 Loaded the three carts, and sent them forward at 6am At 7am went forward myself and came up with the party at the 10-mile, to which they had completed the road, except turning some rock out of it after you ascend the hill at Blaxland's Mountain. Returned at 10, and sent forward three men with crowbars, pickaxes, etc. to complete the road, and remain with the party ahead. J Allen very ill; ordered him back from Mr Hobby's party to mine. At 1pm one of the party at the mountain came to report they had finished their task. Sent Lewis back to examine it, and found it completed. Gave them their discharge (six men), and sent a cart with them as far as the Nepean, to carry their bedding. A dull, heavy day, with light rain in the afternoon. Men worked well at the bridge and causeway to it." [16.]

There is an overhanging rock on Cox's Pass, where the road builders would have been able to sleep and dry their bedding, which would have been an improvement to sleeping in the open, under all weather conditions.

That part of the rock overhang features in the sketch *Part of Cox's Pass*, by E Purcell held by the National Library of Australia at http://catalogue.nla.gov.au/Record/2034425

John Ross would have been very pleased to return to the Hawkesbury, to his wife Elizabeth and children William and Mary, who was born only 5 months earlier.

Although the work was hard, the hours long and the weather cold and wet for a good part of the time, the men were well fed, clothed and cared for by William Cox.

He knew he would benefit by treating them well and they in turn had the enticement of emancipation as encouragement. William Cox was a kind and caring man, who had great insight and understanding of human nature.

John Ross received a Conditional Pardon from Governor Lachlan Macquarie, on June 5, 1815. All the other information given on his Convict Indent was recorded on his Pardon, No 585. [17.]

On September 16, 1816, John Ross is recorded in the St Matthew's church register, as a witness to the Marriage by Banns of John Foley and Frances Johnson, performed by the Rev Samuel Marsden. Once again he witnessed with his X mark. The bride was the only member of the bridal party able to sign. [18.]

In 1817 a son, John was born to John and Elizabeth Ross and on January 24, 1819, a daughter Jane was born, both at Windsor, NSW.[19.]

The State Records of NSW holds a memorial written for John Ross to Governor Lachlan Macquarie.

Patty Lane of Newcastle and Jan Koperberg, both descendants of John Ross at Cox's Pass. Pick-marks some made by a left-handed man can be seen in the rock carved gutter.

It states: *John Ross per 'Duke of Portland' 1807 of Richmond, 1820 May 26, Memorial*

"To His Excellency Governor Macquarie
The humble memorial of John Ross Most respectfully showethThe Memorialist arrived in the Transport ship 'Duke of Portland' in the year 1807. That he lived several years with Mr G W Evans, Deputy Surveyor, at Hobart Town, then residing at Richmond, that he was emancipated for his services at Bathurst under William Cox Esquire, since which he has endeavoured to support himself and his wife and 4 children, by his honest industry and by renting a few pieces of land, but having suffered very severely by the late floods he is induced to solicit Your Excellency to be graciously pleased to grant him a portion of land, by which he may be enabled to maintain himself and family by his labor. And memorialist will ever pray John Ross

We certify to His Excellency the Governor that we consider petitioner as coming with [sic] the meaning of the General Order of the 20 May last and recommend him accordingly.

Wm Boggs
John Cross Chapn
Richmond 26th May 1820"

(1817 has been crossed out and 1820 written above) Written on left corner is '*50 acres*'. [20.]

A son, George, was born to John and Elizabeth Ross, in Windsor, NSW on July 31, 1822. [21.]

By 1822 the General Muster and Land and Stock Muster of NSW recorded John Ross as a landholder with the following property at Windsor: G L & P (Grant, Lease and Purchase), Resident on Farm. Acres in:
Wheat 2-3/4, Maize 3, Pease/Beans ¼, Pots ¼,
Cleared Ground: 13-1/2, Total held: 46-1/2.
Stock: Horses 4, Horned Cattle 12, Hogs, 10.
Bushels of grain in hand, Maize 14.[22.]

Continued page 10

John Ross, landholder, employs convict labour

Continued from page 9

In the 1823, 1824, 1825 General Muster List of NSW John Ross is recorded with the status of 'landholder' at Richmond, while his wife Elizabeth Bennett had the status of 'free by servitude'. By then the family had increased to include William, Mary, Jane and George.[24]

In the Index & Registers of Land Grants – Leases & Purchases 1820 – 1856 the listing indicates John Ross land grant at Richmond was 1 acre, 1 rood, 1perch in size.[25]

John Ross is not mentioned in the 1828 census of NSW and it is probable he may have been moving his family from the Hawkesbury district to the Hunter Valley district.

He most likely travelled the newly completed Great North Road and was probably on the road when the census was taken.

In 1829, a daughter, Elizabeth was born.

In extracts from the Baptism Register, Parish of St Peters, East Maitland, Hunter Valley, NSW, a baptism is recorded for Elizabeth Ross dated February 10, 1829, father John, mother Elizabeth, abode Darlington, (which is on the northern side of the Hunter River, Singleton), father's occupation was given as farmer. [26]

In the Convicts & Employers (NSW) Index: 1828, 1832-1833, Jan 1838-Jan 1844 by Pastkeys: *ROSS John, an employer, received on 28 August 1833, Assignment Male, at Patricks Plains, a seaman & a farming man* (Government Gazette). [27]

So John was obviously in a position to not only feed and clothe his family, but was able to feed and clothe farm help, in the way of convict labour.

The 1834 and 1837 postal directories list the family as living at Patricks Plains and receiving mail at Darlington Post Office.[28]

John Ross died intestate on March 15, 1834 and administration was granted on November 16, 1842 to Elizabeth Ross, his widow. [29]

He is buried at Whittingham Cemetery, near Singleton NSW. The headstone for John and Elizabeth Ross is engraved with the words:

> *To the memory of*
> *JOHN ROSS*
> *who departed this life*
> *March 15th 1834 50 years.*
> *Also to the memory of*
> *ELIZABETH ROSS*
> *wife of above*
> *who departed this life*
> *August 15th 1864 79 years.*
> *Therefore be ye also ready to for such an hour*
> *as ye think not the son of man cometh*

It is a sandstone headstone and the inscription is very, very worn. It is in front of the grave of Benjamin Singleton and also near the headstones and graves of Perrett relatives.

Elizabeth Ross survived her husband, John, by 30 years and is buried with him at Whittingham Cemetery. She was living at Newington, near Singleton when she died.[30]

I am in awe of the achievement of William Cox and his 30 convict workers who built the first road over the Blue Mountains in six months. John Ross was my third great grandfather in my maternal grandmother's line.

My grandmother was born at Patricks Plains in 1880, the thirteenth child of George Perrett and Amelia Leary. George Perrett was born at Patricks Plains in 1832, the son of Mary Ross and Isaac Perrett.

I am thankful that Lachlan Macquarie was governor at the time and William Cox was the road builder.

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ARCHDUKE FRANZ FERDINAND'S VISIT TO THE MOUNTAINS

Contributed by Peter Chinn

Perusal of the pages of "The Nepean Times", one of our local newspapers from the 1880s to 1962, held in the Local Studies Collection at "Braemar", frequently uncovers gems of local history. One such was this item published on May 20, 1893:

"Distinguished Visitors on the Mountains

His Imperial and Royal Highness Franz Ferdinand D'Este, Archduke of Austria-Hungary, paid a visit to the mountains on Wednesday last. District Superintendent Henson had charge of the special train and he speaks in the highest terms of the treatment the officials received at the hands of the visitors. His Royal Highness expressed himself as highly pleased with the visit. He said he was very pleased that he had brought his vessel on to Sydney if only to visit such wonderful sites as Wentworth Falls, Govettt's Leap and the Zig Zag."

Franz Ferdinand was heir presumptive to the thrones of the twin kingdoms of Austria and Hungary which were ruled at the time by the aged Emperor Franz Josef.

He was undertaking a world tour with his wife, Archduchess Sophie on board *Kaiserin Elisabeth* (Empress Elizabeth) which was described as the most powerful cruiser in the Austro-Hungarian navy. (It should be remembered that unlike the small, land-locked Austria of modern times the Austro-Hungarian Empire up to its dissolution at the end of the Great War had an extensive coastline on the Adriatic Sea and possessed a powerful navy).

The pages of *The Sydney Morning Herald* recorded in great detail the royal couple's arrival and activities while in the colony.

Those of us who remember Queen Elizabeth II's first visit to Australia in 1954 and the extensive coverage of her activities in the media will have some idea of the attention given to Franz Ferdinand and Sophie.

In those days Australia's remoteness from what was then regarded as the centre of the world in Europe meant that Australians were deprived of the presence of world celebrities.

The attempted assassination of Prince Alfred, Duke of Edinburgh at Clontarf in March 1868 was probably a negative for royal visits, notwithstanding the naming of a Sydney hospital by way of assuaging ruffled royal feathers.

Then there was the visit of Queen Victoria's teen age grandsons Prince Albert and Prince George (later King George V) in May 1881. Prince George, as Duke of York, paid a second visit to Australia with his duchess in 1901.

It is therefore not surprising that our forebears treated any royalty with adulation, and as evidenced by reportage no small degree of sycophancy and grovelling.

The Sydney Morning Herald of May 17, 1893 gave a detailed report of the arrival of the *Kaiserin Elisabeth* which arrived the previous day and anchored in Farm Cove after the firing of a 21 gun salute from the Dawes Point Battery.

Many dignitaries visited the ship to pay their respects. The first aboard was the acting Consul for Austria-Hungary followed by the Lieutenant-Governor of New South Wales, Sir Frederick Darley and his entourage. As the latter departed the *Kaiserin Elisabeth* fired a 17 gun salute, which must have been quite startling.

The report mentioned that 'Crowds of persons were assembled at Man-o'-War Steps through the morning, but most of the people left shortly after 12 o'clock.'

They had collected to see the royal visitor land, and had been disappointed.

Archduke Francis Ferdinand

It was anticipated that the landing would be effected at either 11am or 12pm but both these hours went by without the expectations of the crowd being realised. Rumours were then circulated that his Highness would not come ashore until 3pm; but at 1.30pm when not more than 70 persons were present, the Archduke, accompanied by Archduke Leopold Ferdinand of Tuscany and suite, were landed by a launch.

There was no ceremony of any kind, the Archduke having expressed a wish to land incognito. The party, dressed as ordinary tourists, seated in two cabs which had been waiting about, and drove off without as much as a cheer or the waving of a single handkerchief.

At 3 o'clock in the afternoon his Imperial Highness returned the Lieutenant- Governor's visit. His Highness also visited the Australian Museum and in the evening he returned to the *Kaiserin Elisabeth.*

Continued page 12

Archduke's party viewed Wentworth Falls and Govett's Leap

Continued from page 11

Franz Ferdinand was keen on hunting – shooting game – and had indulged in this while visiting India before arriving in Australia.

While here a special train was arranged to take the Archduke and entourage to Narromine to pursue this pastime.

It was reported that the train was stopped on arriving at the top of the Lapstone Zig Zag for the party to take in the panoramic view of the plains.

At Wentworth Falls everyone alighted from the train to be driven to the falls themselves.

The beauty of the falls and the Jamison Valley appeared to make a great impression on the Archduke and suite. His Imperial Highness said it was worthwhile coming to New South Wales if it were only to see that view.

At Blackheath vehicles conveyed the party to Govett's Leap, and the magnificence of the view here also seemed to strike the Archduke.

In the Narromine district the Archduke and party were guests at a couple of properties where they had the opportunity to shoot wildlife.

It was recorded that after breakfast one day the party set off with 20 horsemen to drive the game. A number of kangaroos were shot and others were caught by the dogs.

At the first drive his Imperial Highness 'succeeded in shooting, with great rapidity, five kangaroos, so that he very soon established himself in the estimation of those present as being a first-class marksman'. (He was to find the situation somewhat reversed some years later in Sarajevo!)

The following day 'more kangaroos fell to the Archduke's rifle. Ducks of a number of varieties, as well as pelican, ibis, cranes, eagles and hawks were also secured'.

Franz Ferdinand of Austria-Este (1863-1914) with his wife, Sophie and family

On another day a flock of emus were driven past the Archduke who succeeded with the rifle in killing a very fine specimen and wounding another which was afterwards secured.

At the conclusion of the Narromine adventure the Archduke returned to Sydney in the luxury of a special carriage attached to a mail train.

The Archduke later visited the Southern Highlands for a further slaughter of wildlife, including a platypus on the Wollondilly River.

It has to be said that the Archduke's shooting was not entirely pointless blood sport.

A taxidermist and photographer accompanied his party, and animals, after being shot, were skinned and dissected, the bones numbered for the purpose of being reassembled and inclusion in a museum in his homeland.

The royal party departed Sydney early in June 1893, and with that, their brief encounter with the Blue Mountains passes into history.

On June 28, 1914 Archduke Franz Ferdinand and Archduchess Sophie were assassinated by a young Serbian nationalist while visiting Sarajevo, the capital of Bosnia and Herzegovina, half a world away from the Blue Mountains

This was the spark that precipitated the Great War.

The pages of *The Nepean Times* made no reference at the time to the fate of our erstwhile royal tourists.

However, over the next four years there were to be all too many references to young soldiers from the Blue Mountains who were killed or wounded in action in the Great War.

About the author of this article

Peter Chinn (pictured) historian and researcher, who with his wife, Joyce has lived in Springwood for 46 years, is the president and research officer of Springwood Historical Society Inc.

He retired from the Australian Custom Service in 1996 after 40 years service and was recalled in 1998 to the ideal one-day-a-week job of history officer with ACS which concluded last month.

History has been an abiding passion for Peter since early childhood.

In 2006 Peter researched and wrote for the Springwood Historical Society Inc.*The Thin Red and Blue Lines* a history of the military and police presence in the Blue Mountains between the Nepean and Cox's River 1814-2005.

Frederick Robert D'Arcy colonial surveyor, explorer and artist

a biography by Andy Macqueen

As the bicentenary of the 1813 Blue Mountains crossing approaches, local historian Andy Macqueen has produced a biography of a different explorer—probably the first white man to fully engage with the rugged Colo country, now known as the Wollemi.

A promising young man with an impressive military heritage, Frederick D'Arcy arrived in Sydney in 1828 and embarked on a long surveying career.

He soon proved his mettle in the Colo River country, now known as the Wollemi. According to Macqueen, who is a great-great-grandson of D'Arcy, and who has explored the mountains extensively himself, D'Arcy's expeditions were the most rugged of any undertaken by any early surveyor or explorer on mainland Australia.

From 1849 D'Arcy was back in the Blue Mountains, employed as clerk of court at Hartley, and as a surveyor based at Hartley and Rylstone.

He was also engaged to find a route across the Wollemi, from Mudgee to the Hawkesbury.

Meanwhile, D'Arcy and his long-suffering wives and children lurched from one disaster to another.

He was embroiled in disputes and scandals in NSW, Port Phillip, Van Diemen's Land and Queensland.

This might be blamed on a love of adventure, gambling, drinking and horses—and on his mentor the tyrannical Major Mitchell.

He was not alone. Macqueen reveals the challenges faced by the ordinary surveyor as he battled the bush, recalcitrant convicts and assistants, and enigmatic superiors.

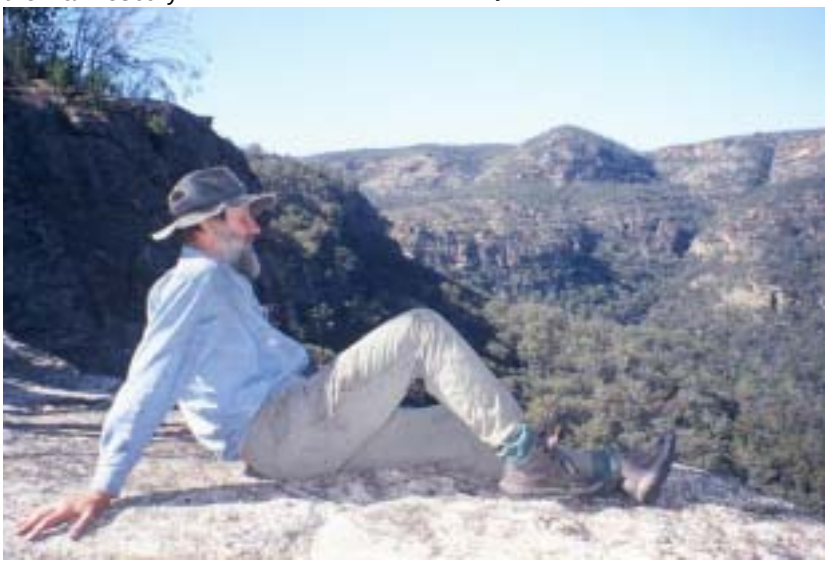
D'Arcy was a prolific artist, though few works survive. One humorously depicts the famous poet and steeplechaser Adam Lindsay Gordon on a hunt, probably with D'Arcy himself. Another is a rare portrait of a Port Phillip Aboriginal man.

The book was launched on July 27 by Surveyor General Warwick Watkins.

This was followed by a local launch by Professor Robert O'Neill at the Hartley Courthouse. This was an appropriate location given D'Arcy's role there—and the mark he made when he had a community-splitting controversy with Thomas Brown, the future 'Father of Lithgow'.

The book retails for $45, and can be obtained direct from the author at andymacqueen@gmail.com.

Hardback; 288 pages; 76 pictures and maps (19 in colour). ISBN 9780646533599. Published by the author.



The author of this biography, Andy Macqueen pictured in the 'bush on the track of his ancestor in the Colo country'. Macqueen of Wentworth Falls is a historian, former TAFE teacher of local history, a renowned bushwalker and conservationist. In 2008 he was was recognised with the NSW Government Heritage Volunteer Award for his outstanding contribution to heritage conservation.

BM HISTORY JOURNAL ONLINE

The inaugural issue of the Blue Mountains History Journal an initiative of BMACHO has been published online.

In his editorial, Journal editor Dr Peter Rickwood stated: "The first issue contains four articles but only one of the authors is a professional historian so hopefully indicating the non-restrictive intent of this publication.

"The subjects range from a large block of land to accounts of the lives of two significant individuals and then to an update on the tools and occupational sites of the indigenous people.

" This eclectic selection embraces the time span of human history from the 20th century to as far back as currently we know c.50,000 years for this part of Australia," Dr Rickwood stated.

This venture has been assisted by a grant from the Royal Australian Historical Society.

The *Blue Mountains History Journal* may be accessed at http://www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au/html/journal.html

National Trust's advocacy role

Many in the community are unaware that advocacy on heritage issues is a major role of the National Trust of Australia and that local branches of the organisation are continually monitoring heritage sites throughout the nation. In this region Blue Mountains, Lithgow, Hawkesbury and Bathurst districts have branches whose members are involved in this aspect of the Trust's work. *HERITAGE* invited David Turner, (pictured) vice chair of Blue Mountains Branch of National Trust Australia (NSW) to comment on this role specifically drawing on examples and results of it's work.

Advocacy has been an inherent part of the National Trust organisation since inception, and that is the same, of course, for the branches.

This role, apart from the internal organisation involved in management of their heritage buildings and collections with the associated community contacts, has become the most important external expression.

This article is written by David Don Turner relating to the assessment of the most important advocacy items during the past 10 years. David is currently involved in handling heritage issues for the Blue Mountains Branch, where these are raised by members, and the branch is asked by the Blue Mountains City Council to comment on development applications for listed heritage buildings.

Branch members also investigate and comment on other notified developments that we know will have effect on heritage areas or buildings. Professional advice and support comes from National Trust's, Sydney office.

Although advocacy has been a continual involvement, I have checked the records for the last 10 years to give some idea of the successes and disappointments in this area. It has to be remembered that these are always dependant on the community views and the actual strength of the local and state laws that support the resolutions. So working back from recent issues, the following give a brief resume of the issues and results of the most important items.

Medlow Bath Hydro-Majestic Hotel The branch's comment to Blue Mountains City Council on the first application, was that there was too much diverse pseudo-historic design in the new work and it should reflect current times. In the recently revised application there was a great improvement in this, so we believe a definite success.

Lawson Community (Memorial) Hall and shops This has been a long saga from when the RTA implemented the Great Western Highway duplication. Initially the hall was to be demolished, but with the objections from the local community groups which the Trust's branch supported, the hall was finally saved with the road being repositioned even though the later portico had to be removed. Branch members also supported the retention of the existing shops, but this was not successful as the council had entered into agreements for new shops before the road was changed.

Lawson Community Hall

The branch is now supporting the council to have the shop frontage on Honour Avenue restored to their original heritage appearance.

Leura Mall Originally the Colless Supermarket in the centre of the mall was to be replaced by a supermarket with flat units over the retail area which would drastically change the scale with the additional height, and car parking problems. The branch, again with the local community protested but to no avail.

However, luck was on our side, as the original developer appeared to have financial problems, so the site was taken over by another which resulted in a new plan. This plan has kept the scale of the shops on the street with a Woolworths and a new underground car park and loading access.

Katoomba Aldi Store This was one example of advocacy not being successful, being another example of fake historic appearance, as well as being poorly placed on the site, our objections were ignored. That said, supermarkets are very difficult to blend successfully into shopping streets, their separate street shops provided will probably stay empty.

Katoomba Renaissance Centre The branch was successful in supporting the local action group in having the building heritage listed, but this has not stopped the deterioration to demolition status. John Leary has also pointed out in a recent public address when he said, *"there is no point in keeping old buildings in a state of permanent vacancy and long-term neglect and decay. Adaptive re-use is an important part of any heritage system and we must be willing to consider how best to achieve a balance of maintaining heritage values while allowing heritage sites to be a living part of society".*

Cox's Road Blue Mountains Branch members have worked with the Bathurst and Lithgow branches over the last four years to produce a submission to the Heritage Commission to include significant portions still remaining of the original road on the State Heritage Register. The submission was lodged in April this year.

To conclude, advocacy on heritage issues will always continue to be an important part of the Blue Mountains Branch activities, particularly as with more than 1100 heritage sites identified in the area, being the largest number of any council in New South Wales.

‘FACES IN THE STREET’ AT LITHGOW

As part of History Week 2010, Lithgow City Library will display ‘Faces in the Street’ during normal library opening hours September 3 to 30.

This exhibition features a collection of portraits of familiar local faces by well known artist and local history author John Barnes.

These portraits are history in the making and will be available for sale by the artist, with half the sale price being donated to the Lithgow Private Hospital.

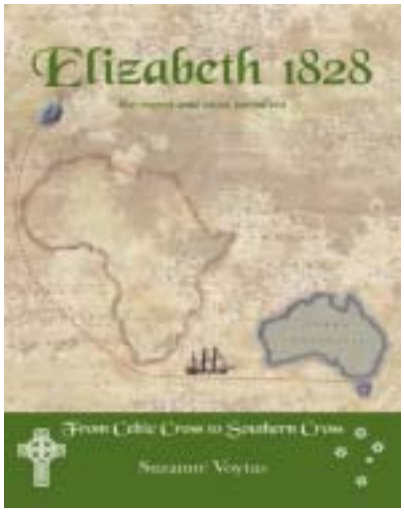
The exhibition will also showcase some of the library’s extensive historical photographic collection.

LOCAL RESEARCHER LAUNCHES LATEST BOOK IN IRELAND

Local historian, author and president of Blue Mountains Family History Society, Suzanne Voytas was in Ireland last month to launch her latest book, *Elizabeth 1828*.

The story of the voyage began before they left Ireland. While confined to the Female Convict Depot, the women became two groups and soon were fighting each other, causing extensive damage to the premises.

For everyone’s safety, the authorities decided to move one group to the Cork City Gaol. However, within weeks both groups were placed on board their transport, a 527 ton sailing ship.



The only free passengers on board were the Reverend John Vincent, his wife, four young daughters and their female servant.

On arrival, Reverend Vincent lodged a tirade of complaints regarding the women, the crew, the theft of and damage to his personal belongings. These complaints were investigated at a Naval Enquiry. During this enquiry the women were labeled, ‘the worst and most turbulent’.

The book *Elizabeth 1828* tells the women’s stories and how most of the women were to prove this so wrong, as their lives moved in many directions and they adapted to life in a strange land. Some lived long enough to know their grandchildren; a few became wealthy while some did succumb to unfortunate circumstances and bad habits.

The book cost is $35 plus postage $10.

HERITAGE ON THE ROCKS

Artists and photographers portrayed Sydney’s early slums in vastly different lights.

In 1902, the art teacher once dubbed one of “the seven greatest living Australians”, Julian Ashton persuaded the government to provide a grant of £250 for an artistic record of the streets and communities around Sydney’s Rocks.

After the lethal outbreak of the bubonic plague in 1900 the NSW government had announced plans to demolish the slums in the Rocks where disease carrying rats had carried the plague.

Ashton came up with the idea of an exhibition dedicated to ‘Old Sydney’ and 145 paintings were exhibited at the Society of Artists’ rooms in Pitt Street in March 1902.

Ashton’s *Argyle Street looking towards the Observatory Hill* was typical of the paintings, 15 of which were chosen for government collections.

Historian Dr Grace Karskens points out the *Old Sydney* artists showed “the world as it once was, a world without machines, factories or clocks, a small intimate world shaped by hand…It was of course a contrived vision.”

But if Ashton and his fellow artists were creating a myth, the official photographer must also be treated with suspicion. For the photographer was specifically commissioned by the government to show the condemned areas in as bleak a light as possible.

About 30 of the original paintings from the 1902 painting now mostly owned by the Art Gallery of NSW, the Mitchell Library or the National Library of Australia form the core of *Painting The Rocks.*

They are supplemented by other paintings, drawings and photographs that tell the story of the Rocks between 1900 and 1932.

Painting the Rocks: The Loss of Old Sydney is at the Museum of Sydney until November 28.

Extract reprinted from an article by Steve Meacham in the *Sydney Morning Herald’s Spectrum*

HERITAGE SITES WORKSHOP

A pilot scheme developed by Florence Smart and members of Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine Historical Society to record changes to heritage sites, will be used at a workshop to be held in Springwood later this month to train members of several historical societies.

Black Diamond – Development of the Western Coalfield 1815 to 1900

Following the publication of two histories of collieries located in the Lithgow region Ray Christison has commenced researching a history of the development of the coal and shale mines of the Western Coalfield from 1815 to 1900.

The year 1900 was chosen as a cut-off as this was a watershed year for the region and saw the demise of a number of significant collieries.

The coal reserves of the Western Coalfield have been identified between the Nepean River in the east and the Goulburn and Talbragar Rivers in the north and west.

In the period covered by Ray's research the principal areas of coalmining activity were centred around Lithgow/Hartley, Katoomba, Wallerawang/Blackmans Flat, Portland/Cullen Bullen and Kandos/ Rylstone and Ballimore near Dubbo.

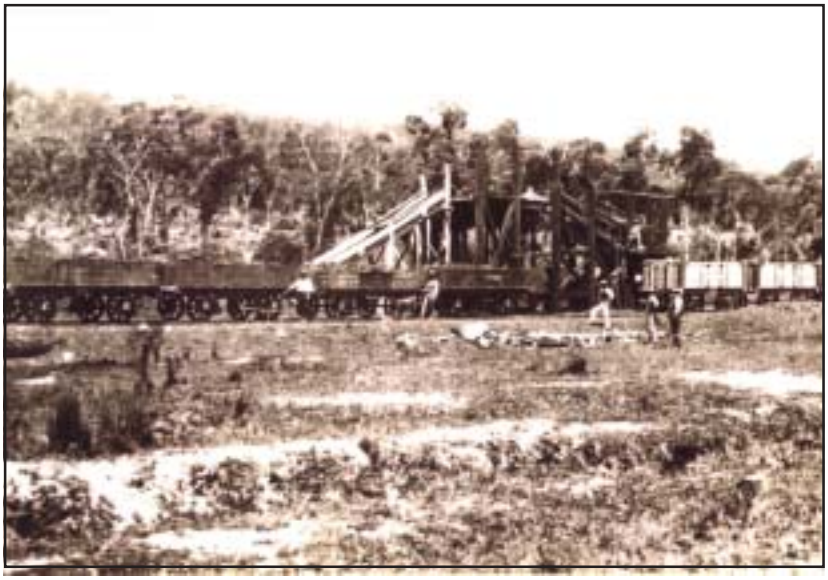
Small ventures were also undertaken in the Grose and Burragorang Valleys, and testing for payable coal undertaken as far east as Sassafras Gully at Springwood.

Ray's intention is to prepare a quality hard cover publication that covers the following areas

- A general description of the coalfield and early exploration.
- Histories of each of the collieries operating between 1838 and 1900.
- Exploration of the relationships between the entrepreneurs who developed the collieries of the region
- Discussion of the development of the mining union in the region and the major industrial disputes that occurred in the region's mines up to 1900.

The book will also contain vignettes of many of the early mine owners, mine managers and union leaders.

In a tribute to those killed in this dangerous occupation Ray also intends to tell the story of each mining death that occurred up to 1900.



Lithgow Valley Colliery c. 1877. Photograph courtesy, The City of Greater Lithgow Mining Museum Inc.

Depending on the success of this work Ray may in future expand his research to develop a second volume covering the early 20th century.

Ray Christison is an archaeologist and heritage consultant operating a heritage consulting business based in Lithgow.

He is president of the City of Greater Lithgow Mining Museum Inc., an individual member of and former member of BMACHO's management committee.

Ray has a particular interest in industrial history and archaeology. and has recently authored two histories of collieries in the Lithgow region.

THE MACQUARIES' PASSION FOR HORSE RACING

Lachlan and Elizabeth Macquarie were passionate about horses and they commissioned convict architect, Francis Greenway, to design the extravagant stables for Government House.

This neo-gothic style building would eventually become the Sydney Conservatorium of Music.

Macquarie introduced horse racing to Sydney in what is now Hyde Park in 1810.

With few social activities available in Sydney, Macquarie began a new era in Australian popular culture when he approved the establishment of an annual racing carnival.

He saw the racecourse as a perfect neutral meeting place for colonists of all classes: military, convict, emancipist and immigrant.

On Monday, October 15, 1810 crowds gathered on the Sydney Racecourse on new public land, which the governor named Hyde Park.

The race program lasted three days and D'Arcy Wentworth's horse, Gig, ridden by his son, William Charles Wentworth, won the three-mile race, marking the beginning of the Wentworth's strong involvement in the Sydney racing scene.

Macquarie letters at State Library

The Governor: Lachlan Macquarie, 1810 to 1821
State Library of NSW Exhibition of Macquarie's letters and more is open until October 10.

WINNERS

Among the winners of the 2010 Blue Mountains, Lithgow, Oberon Tourism awards announced last month was Norman Lindsay Gallery which won the award for heritage cultural tourism.

Meantime, the Hawkesbury Regional Museum has taken out the gold award for cultural and heritage tourism in the Greater Sydney Tourism awards.

The award was accepted by museum curator, Diana Robson, who thanked the many people and organisations who have made the museum such a success, including Hawkesbury Historical Society and Arts NSW, as well as the museum's 54 volunteers.

BMACHO congratulates the Norman Lindsay Gallery & Museum and the Hawkesbury Regional Museum for these well deserved awards

Books launch

The Blue Mountains Historical Society will launch two books: *The Healing Mountains: Tuberculosis in the Blue Mountains*, 1882-1959 by the late Gwen Silvey and *Shoulders of Giants: Achievements in History's War on Tuberculosis* by Brian Craven.

The books are to be launched at History House, Royal Australian Historical Society, 133 Macquarie Street, Sydney, on Wednesday September 22, 5pm for 5.30pm. RSVP by September 10 to 4757 3824 or bmhs@email.com

Gwen and Brian describe a period that contributed to the development of communities in the Blue Mountains: that of the rehabilitation of tuberculosis sufferers in rented cottages, private homes and then sanatoria during the early 1900s. That enterprise attracted professional and trades people, and their families who needed homes, schools and shops.

Gwen's work is a local history, while Brian's is a broad picture of the medical, social and economic strands in the history of TB and its treatments worldwide, which contributed to the tapestry of change in the mountains.

TEN TUNNELS 100-YEAR ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

One of the ten tunnels under construction. Photograph courtesy Lithgow City Library.

The weekend of October 16 -17, 2010 marks 100 years since the opening of the Ten Tunnel rail deviation, a major feat of rail engineering which replaced the Zig Zag Rail system as the main link between Sydney and Central NSW.

A weekend of activities for families and history buffs has been planned, including heritage steam train rides from Lithgow, Katoomba and Wallerawang.

On Saturday, October 16 a heritage diesel locomotive will leave Lithgow and travel to Tarana for dinner at the Tarana Hotel.

The main commemoration of the opening will occur on Sunday October 17, when the NSW Transport Minister, John Robertson MLC, will unveil a plaque at Eskbank House.

Later on that day, Dr Naomi Parry, Lithgow City Council's cultural development officer, will talk about the links between Eskbank House and Eskbank Station, while Mark Langdon, the author of *Conquering the Blue Mountains*, will explain the history and construction of the Ten Tunnels.

Throughout the weekend Eskbank House will display photographs of the engineering works and Lithgow Community Cinema will screen rail documentaries and movies.

The Old Wallerawang Railway Station will host an exhibition of local and regional artists, while the "coffee@thestation" café will serve delicious food and great coffee. For further details contact Lithgow Visitor Information Centre telephone 1300 760 276 or www.tourism.lithgow.com

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBER

BMACHO has a new member -- Everglades Historic House and Gardens at Leura. The former Friends of Everglades was a member until its role changed and the National Trust property has now become the member.

Everglades manager, Scott Pollack is always anxious to encourage new volunteers to work at Everglades on a range of tasks at this heritage property.

Springtime at Everglades

Naval pension for Cook's nanny goat

If James Cook felt slighted by the hero's welcome accorded Sir Joseph Banks, he appears to have left no record of it when the *Endeavour* returned to England after circumnavigating the globe a journey of discovery which took almost 3 years.

When the *Endeavour* dropped anchor on July 13, 1771 and Cook prepared to go ashore to report to his London masters, he, the ship and its crew had been away for more than 1000 days and sailed forty thousand miles.

Cook wrote a one line entry in the ship's log, *At 3 oClock in the PM Anchor'ed in the Downs, & soon after I landed in order to repair to London.*

It was the well connected botanist, Joseph Banks who was the toast of society. Ever deferential and diplomatic towards his social betters, Cook modestly accepted his own share of laurels.

Even the only female aboard, the ship's goat, which survived its second circumnavigation enjoyed modest fame. The goat had sailed with Wallis a British sailor who discovered Tahiti.[2]

Samuel Johnson, (1709 -1784) arguably one of the most distinguished men of letters in English history is said to have composed a piece of Latin doggerel for the animal to wear on its collar.

The verse translates as "The globe twice encircled, this the goat, the second of the nurse of Jove, is thus rewarded for her never-failing milk".

The goat was aboard ship to provide fresh milk for Cook and his officers.

The hardy goat was also given the privileges of a naval pensioner at the Greenwich Hospital and retired to a field near London, where she perished a month after Johnson bestowed his poetry on her.

Cook in a later voyage in Re*solution* while visiting Tonga sought to Anglicise the subtropical landscape by sowing turnip seeds from England and presenting his hosts with a veritable menagerie: goats, a bull and cow, a boar and sows, a buck and doe and rabbits.

Later, climbing a hill, he mused: *"I could not help flattering myself with the idea that some future navigator may from the very same station behold these Medos [sic] stocked with Cattle the English have planted on these islands."*

[1] Captain Cook's Endeavour Journal. www.nla.au/pub/endeavour
[2] Kerl, Nate *Captain James Cook; a life full of adventure triumph and struggle*. www.cptcook.com/cookbio.
Compiled by John Leary, OAM

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

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THE ORGANISATION Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 following a unanimous response to a proposal from Professor Barrie Reynolds at the 2004 Blue Mountains Local History Conference which sought from Blue Mountains City Council the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the city.

BMACHO in its constitution uses the definition: "Cultural heritage is all aspects of life of the peoples of the Blue Mountains which was later changed to cover Lithgow and the villages along the Bell's Line of Roads. It therefore involves the recording, preserving and interpreting of information in whatever form: documents, objects, recorded memories as well as buildings and sites."

The objectives of the organisation are:

i. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage.
ii. To encourage and assist cultural heritage activities of member organisations.
iii. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations.

One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact, to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

HERITAGE is BMACHO's official newsletter.

MEMBERSHIP The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains City Library, Blue Mountains Cultural Heritage Centre, Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc, Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc., Blue Mountains Tourism Limited, Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute, Cudgegong Museums Group Inc, Everglades Historic House & Gardens, Friends of Norman Lindsay Gallery, Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc, Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc, Lilianfels Blue Mountains Resort, Lithgow Mining Museum Inc, Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies, Lithgow Small Arms Factory Museum Inc, Mid-Mountains Historical Society Inc, Mid Western Regional Council Library, Mt Tomah Botanic Gardens, Mt Victoria and District Historical Society Inc, Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine History Society Inc (including Turkish Bath Museum), Mudgee Historical Society Inc, Mudgee Regional Library, National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Blue Mountains Branch (including Woodford Academy), National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Lithgow Branch, Scenic World – Blue Mountains Limited, Springwood & District Historical Society Inc., Springwood Historians Inc, Transport Signal and Communication Museum Inc., The Darnell Collection Pty Ltd, Valley Heights Locomotive Depot and Museum, Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd. The following are individual members: Ray Christison, Associate Professor Ian Jack, Joan Kent, John Leary OAM, John Low, Ian Milliss, Professor Barrie Reynolds, and Dr Peter Stanbury OAM.

COMMITTEE The committee for 2010-11 is: John Leary (president), Ian Jack (vice president), Jan Koperberg (secretary), Kathie McMahon-Nolf (treasurer), Jean Arthur, Joan Kent, Doug Knowles, Dick Morony (public officer), Barrie Reynolds and Peter Stanbury.

HONORARY AUDITOR: Sue McMahon, B Comm CPA.

AFFILIATIONS BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society Inc.

HERITAGE

NEWSLETTER OF THE BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2010 ISSUE No. 12

STATE GOVERNOR OPENS NEW WING AT HOBBY'S REACH

The Governor of NSW, Professor Marie Bashir, AC, CVO recently officially opened the Sadler Wing at Hobby's Reach Centre, the home of Blue Mountains Historical Society.

Building of the new wing was made possible because of a bequest from the late Geoff Sadler, a former treasurer, membership secretary and public officer with the assistance of ArtsNSW.

The new wing contains Geoff's extensive book collection also gifted to the society.

Speaking at the opening, society president, Graham Warmbath, said: "Now we have a lending library as well as a dedicated research collection and interpretation of historical information.

"Hobby's Reach research centre houses local, personal and business histories, books, photographs, maps and provides information for authors, historians, students and community groups.

"It is open to the public every week of the year and is attended by a research officer and librarian, both volunteers," said Mr Warmbath.

Among the new acquisitions for the society's library are three books published as part of the celebration of 150 years of self-government in NSW.

Pictured is Professor Bashir unveiling a commemorative plaque with former Mayor, Cr Adam Searle in the background.

For contents of this edition of HERITAGE see page 2

Council's Heritage Review of LEP 1991

by Felicity Blaxland - Senior Strategic Planner, BMCC

Firstly, I would like to introduce myself as a new team member of the City Planning Branch of Blue Mountains City Council (BMCC) to your organisation and other historical societies in the Blue Mountains who may read this newsletter.

I commenced with council in February this year as a senior strategic planner and have been working in local government for the past 10 years in various positions including both development assessment and strategic planning roles. Since joining BMCC I have become more involved with heritage related projects such as the review of heritage items under LEP 1991 and the investigations into the formation of a heritage advisory committee.

Council staff have been progressing a heritage review to support a proposed Amendment to LEP 1991. A number of items and conservation areas have been recommended to be listed as having local heritage significance through heritage studies undertaken by Associate Professor Ian Jack and Associates.

Further research on other significant areas has been completed this year by Dr Jim Smith. A grant received from the Heritage Office of the Department of Planning has assisted funding of this work. ***Continued page 12***

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From the president's pen.....

We remember those who were slaughtered in battles planned by stupid generals

War is abhorrent to most decent human beings. Down through the ages there has always been and most probably always will be war.

There should never be any future attempts to glorify war.

However, we must honour those who made the supreme sacrifice on the battlefields, often in foreign lands.

We must also respect the wishes of those loved ones left behind and their descendants who may wish to recognise these heroes and ordinary soldiers with Remembrance services, marches, wreath laying ceremonies and other activities on special days.

This edition of ***HERITAGE*** features articles about World War 1.

These articles are not so much about the battlefields, but rather about local men who served – some came back and others now lay buried in foreign fields.

These articles are published near to Remembrance Day observed around the world by those nations who participated in this horrific conflict.

Traditionally these services are conducted on the 11th hour, of the 11th month of the year, the Armistice as it was then known having been signed at that time in 1918.

These well researched stories also touch on the anguish of those left behind – mothers, wives and girl friends; the emotions– the pain of separation, the grief of loss and the great joy of reunion.

They touch on the discovery of the mass grave, pinpointed through the research of a Victorian school teacher, Lambis Englezos.

The work of Englezos an amateur historian, was confirmed in 2008 by a team of archaeologists led by Dr Tony Pollard of Glasgow University.

The excavation would later provide a vivid and startling glimpse into the horror of World War 1 as the bodies had been preserved in the same position they were thrown into the mass grave.

World War 1 was a military conflict centered on Europe that began in the summer of 1914. The fighting ended in late 1918.

More than 70 million military personnel, including 60 million Europeans, were mobilised in one of the largest wars in history.

More than 9 million combatants were killed, due largely to great technological advances in firepower without corresponding ones in mobility**.**

A generation of innocent young men, their heads full of high abstractions like Honour, Glory and Country, went off to war to make the world safe for democracy.

They were slaughtered in stupid battles planned by stupid generals at the behest of egotistical politicians.

Those who survived were shocked, disillusioned and embittered by their war experiences, and saw that their real enemies were not the Germans, but the old men at home who had lied to them.

They rejected the values of the society that had sent them to war, and in doing so separated their own generation from the past and from their cultural inheritance.

Unlike many of its Allies, in World War 1, Australia did not conscript its soldiers to fight in the Great War - all Australian soldiers were volunteers.

It was to be the war to end all wars.

John Leary, OAM
President, Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc.

‘Only in Australia can men read their name on a war memorial’

This article is an extract from a presentation by, Arthur Delbridge at the 2007 Remembrance Day memorial service held at the war memorial in Mt Wilson. Arthur is a former president of Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine Historical Society and early this year was awarded honorary life membership of that organisation.

Professor Delbridge in 1987 was made an Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) in recognition of his service to education particularly in the field of linguistics and as editor-in chief of the Macquarie Dictionary.

The Mt Wilson, Mt Irvine and Bell Soldiers Memorial was erected in Mt Wilson in 1919 and in 2001 two societies the village’s Progress and Historical, began a series of services of remembrance.

Mt Wilson resident, Arthur Delbridge, AO presented the addresses for the first years while Alison Halliday is carrying on in Arthur’s tradition. The following is an extract from Mr Delbridge’s address in 2007.

“I believe it was a response to a feeling shared around the Australian community that war and the other faces of terror were necessarily now bulking larger and more urgently in our consciousness than they had for some time past.

“As a result the national official memorial services in our cities were becoming ever better attended, and the marches more sombre, and overseas the memorial services at ANZAC Cove and many other military cemeteries were attracting more and more visitors, with increasing numbers of young Australians making the long journey to them.

“Possibly also revisitings, especially by old soldiers, to war sites where they had fought and their mates been killed.

“Today I thought I would speak about two of our local soldiers, who did come back when the war was over.

“What effects, if any, did their war experience have on the rest of their lives? Perhaps this is, for them (and for us) an unanswerable question. Maybe no visible effect.

“But I have vivid memories of being taught Latin in high school by a returned soldier, a notable classical scholar who had been gassed in the Great War.

“He had the most cracked voice, the most awful fits of coughing, the worst temper and the sweetest smile at unexpected moments –he was a post-war wreck physically, a returned soldier who never got over his experience of war.

“Fred Mann and George Valder both came back to Mt Wilson. Both of them could have read their own names on our memorial, and possibly did.

“But Professor Inglis, in *Sacred Places* stated quite firmly that ‘Only in Australia could most men, home from the war, read their own names on its memorials’. Elsewhere, especially in Europe memorials were exclusively to the dead and the “missing”.

“And in Australia at first that seemed to be right and fair. But then a strong movement emerged in favour of listing also the names of returned soldiers. Sir John Monash, who commanded the Australian divisions in France, declared ‘We were all men of one nation—and all volunteers!’ That was the key to it.

“Of course not all volunteers were accepted when they had tried to enlist, for either health or occupation reasons. And volunteering didn’t necessarily get you into the front line, where most casualties occur.

“Behind the front lines are many lines of command and support essential to any engagement. For example, in WW1, 1800 graduates and undergrads of Sydney University went on active service and 197 of these were killed in action.

“Comparatively a smallish number. But it reflects the fact that a high proportion of those volunteers came from the faculties of medicine and engineering: they were directed to serve where their special skills were needed.

“When in the early 1920s Sydney University began to plan its memorial it was ‘for those who have given their lives...as well as for those who have voluntarily engaged in active military or naval service’.

“What the university finished up with for its WW1 memorial was a carillon of 47 bells fitted into its clock tower to be played from a rather special sort of keyboard.

“I could speak at length about the various ways, from that day to this, that the carillon has kept alive the memorial function it was intended to achieve from its first appearance.

“It’s enough now to say that its biggest bell weighs 4.2 tons, the smallest bell just a few pounds. A carillonist can play on it virtually any tune or theme, and harmonise it into two or three parts, with bells playing simultaneously. Its principal function is memorial.

“In 1938 I took lessons in playing this great instrument and became a member of the carillon family, a small group of appointed players who between them provided carillon music for occasions in the university year, particularly celebrations of national days of the allied countries of World War 1.

“So there is no limit to the structures that can serve as war memorial, be they hospital, club, park, plaque, pillar or post—or carillon! Inglis says that there are 4000+ war memorials in Australia.

Continued page 4

The Light Horse Interchange

The Australian Light Horse has made a rich and continuing contribution to our sense of national heritage.

Perhaps the latest example of this is the Light Horse Interchange, the point at which the Westlink M7 motorway intersects with the M4, west of Sydney.

Here a great sculpture is revealed to motorists as they flash by at 100 kph: four sets of red steel poles, radiating from a tall central mast, all representing the Australian Light Horse on parade. The red colour of the poles is for sacrifice.

The steel plumage at the top of each pole represents the emu feathers of the troopers' slouch hat.

The symbolism is rich in detail, even to the significant absence of any figure of a horse, reminding us that quarantine regulations prevented the return of any of the troopers' horses.

But why put the sculpture right here? Research has established the significance of the local area in the history and recruitment and training of light horsemen. In World War II they were based at a major training camp at nearby Wallgrove.

A spokesperson for Conybeare Morrison, designers of the sculpture explained that it is designed "to let people know they are approaching a major intersection but also to

spark their interest so they want to find out more about what the sculpture represents.
Source: *Sydney Morning Herald*, May 2, 2006.

MT WILSON WAR MEMORIAL

Continued from page 3

"Ours [at Mt Wilson] is one of the simplest sort, but none the worse for that. Many of them take the form of utilities — a hospital, a community hall, a church, a sports ground, that could be undertaken in the expectation of getting a government grant in terms of subsidies and tax concessions for the donors.

"But no such thing happened here. The local impetus was from generous gifts of land and material, plus determined community effort. The crucial gift was the piece of land cut off from the Dennarque estate, given for just this purpose by Flora Mann, the mother of the Fred Mann whose name is with others, engraved on our memorial."

Mt Wilson, Mt Irvine & Bell Soldiers Memorial with Gregson Memorial Obelisk to the left.

The men who made the last great wartime cavalry charge [Beersheba] were mounted infantry – Australian light horsemen. As "Bushmen" at the Boer War they had won high praise. At Gallipoli, dismounted, they fought gallantly and died tragically… *The Australian Light Horseman by Ian Jones*

Woodford Academy student survived Beersheba charge

A former Woodford Academy student John Lyons was at the Beersheba charge and survived (see story page 5).

The charge at Beersheba on October 31, 1917 is often reported as 'the last cavalary charge in history' although cavalary such as the Polish cavalary continued to exist into the early phases of World War 2 and took place in operations before being rendered obsolete.

The charge at Beersheba took place as part of the Sinai and Palestine campaign during World War 1.

The Australian 4th Light Horse Brigade under Brigadier William Grant charged more than 4 miles at the Turkish trenches, overran them and captured the water wells at Beersheba.

The battle at Beersheba was the critical element of a wider British offensive as the Third Battle of Gaza aimed at breaking the Turkish defences from Gaza on the Mediterranian shore to Beersheba an outpost 30 miles inland.

Earlier in 1917, two previous attempts to breach this line had failed.

Since the earlier failures the British forces in Palestine had undergone a major uphreaval with the replacement of General Murray with the distinguished cavalary commander General Allenby.

The Australian force was led by Lieutenant General Sir Harry Chauvel who went on to be one of Australia's most distinguished soldiers
John Leary, OAM

"The rainy season has begun and the cold cuts us through..."

by Neryl Medcalf

a past volunteer and member of the former Friends of Woodford Academy

The words used in the headlines above were in a letter written on December 12, 1917 from Palestine by Private John Lyons Gray of the 6th Light Horse Regiment to Mrs Edgeworth David of Woodford.[1]

John was a former student of Woodford Academy, a private venture boys' boarding school in the Blue Mountains.

He had just survived the battle of Beersheba at not quite 19 years of age, and was one of 48 students from Woodford Academy identified as servicemen during WWI.

Many of those students' names are on the roll of honour that is still displayed over the door to the schoolrooms.

Headmaster John MacManamey accepted boarders at the school from Sydney or from country areas mainly on the Western rail line, while others were day students living in the Blue Mountains.

Some boys intending to become doctors or lawyers came to Woodford Academy to be assisted with Latin or Greek, necessary at the time for Matriculation. Basil Kennedy, a student in 1907, matriculated, became a doctor, joined the Australian Army Medical Corps, served on *Karoola* the Australian hospital ship, then at a field ambulance hospital and by 1918 was senior medical officer with the rank of lieutenant colonel at Hurdcott Military Hospital in England.[2]

Likewise, Dr George Hay (1907)[3] from Katoomba and Sid Rosenthal (1909) - whose family changed their name to Rosebery in 1915[4] - and medical student William H Ward (1908)[5] of Springwood who with 5th Field Ambulance served as a stretcher bearer in Egypt and France before returning to Australia and completing his medical studies. Dr Ward also served in WWII. Indeed, at least eleven former students on the roll of honour went on to serve again in WW2.

The Woodford Academy World War 1 Honour Roll restored several years ago and returned to its place above the doorway to the schoolrooms.

There is evidence of army cadet training at Woodford Academy and students were quite aware of the war situation. Corporal Reg Lewin of Katoomba, was killed in action at Lone Pine Gallipoli in August 1915.

Schoolboy Bert Tom from Parkes wrote to his father *" We saw by the papers that there had been three boys killed from Parkes and several wounded including Russel Watts. Evidently the Parkes boys must have been in that great push in France or Palestine. My word it is time they brought Conscription in isn't it?"*[6]

Alan Giles[7] (1913) was another boy from Parkes who not only made his mark on the desks of Woodford Academy, but also made his mark as a stretcher bearer on the Western Front at Villers Bretonneux in April 1918 and was awarded a Military Cross for his effort... *"..he dressed and carried wounded continually for four days through extremely heavy shell and machine gun fire,"*

He went on to add a bar to his MC 3 months later at Ville Sur Ancre *"Private Giles volunteered to swim across the river with a dispatch, under an intense artillery and machine gun barrage, returning through the same barrage with an answer..."*

A second Military Cross winner was Fred Brown of Sydney [8] (1907) who was wounded in France, became a lieutenant served as an intelligence officer , was mentioned in dispatches then won his MC at Amiens in August 1918.

The Military Cross awarded for bravery

Not all the Woodford boys won medals, but many were wounded or killed

Fred Brown's brother, Douglas of 18th Battalion had died of wounds the year before.

A third award winner, Second Lieutenant Robert Murray of Wentworth Falls[9] (1907), left a copy of his will in his pay book, in which he bequeathed his microscope and five pounds to Keith Faulkiner Potts, his mate from Woodford.

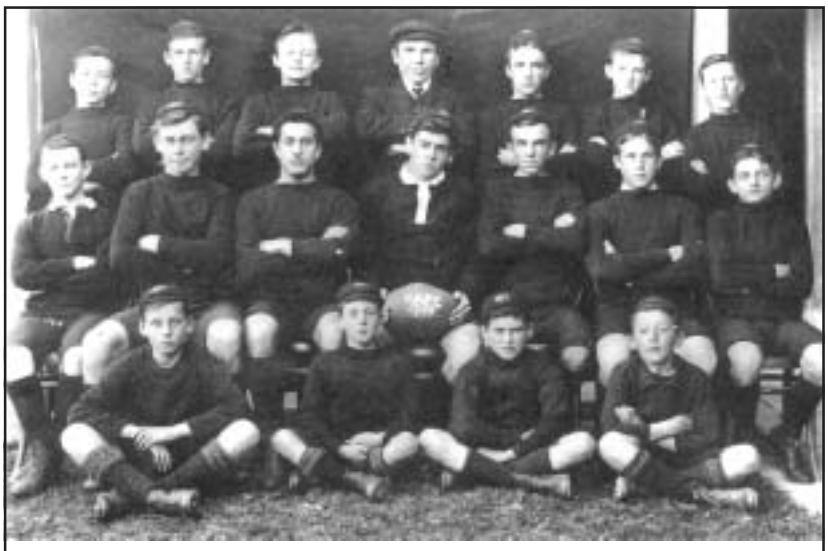
Robert won a Military Cross on the Somme in February 1917, but was killed at Messines in June of that year. Keith returned safely to Australia in January 1918.

Other boys whose names appear on the school roll of honour may not have won special medals, but they volunteered and performed their various duties in the army as bombardiers, gunners, bicycle couriers and sappers.

Many were wounded, sometimes twice, some were gassed, many spent time in hospital, some went AWOL, some caught sexually transmitted diseases, and at war's end were discharged on their return to Australia to take up civilian life once more, after serving their country well.

Only one former student, George Shaw, a radio operator in civilian life, is known to have joined the Australian Flying Corps as an air mechanic.

Walter Carroll from Katoomba, private in the 45th Battalion, was returned to Australia early in 1917, having been so affected by the cold and exposure in the trenches that he was invalided to hospital in England where both of his legs were amputated.[10]



WOODFORD ACADEMY FOOTBALL TEAM 1909
Back: K Potts, D Stuart, D Kilpatrick, Principal J MacManamey, V Hay, R Peacock, GE Botting.
Middle: B Paravacini, R Howard, S Rosenthal, K Mackey, R Lewin, A Hannam, H Hart.
Front: C Storm, K Bowden, A Harkness, W Ward. (Underlined identified as having enlisted in WW1.)

'Old Boys' kept in touch with their headmaster sending him photographs of themselves in uniform.

Frank Berry a student in 1910 from out west at Trundle, became a Sapper in the 10th Field Engineers and was one of six former students still able to attend an Old Boys reunion in 1982 at Woodford Academy with Gertrude MacManamey, daughter of their Headmaster.[11]

John Gray, the letter writer, who survived at Beersheba returned to Australia and joined up once again in WWII - as major, ending his war service in 1947 after a stint in the warmer Pacific waters of Morotai and Balikpapan.[12]

Considering the war experiences of a group of boys who shared some of their schooling in the Blue Mountains in the years before 1914 focuses us on the disruption, adventure, accidents, courage, mateship and the futility and waste of war.

An old boys reunion at Woodford Academy in 1982.

(End notes)

[1]Woodford Academy archives, Woodford NSW.
[2] National Archives of Australia: B2455,7363478.
[3] NAA:B2455,4736559.
[4] WA Archives: Corr.with Mark Maddox, 2005.
[5] AIF project,UNSW@ADFA2003-2005
[6] WA Archives,student file: donated by Mr W Tom of Parkes,2003.
[7] NAA:B2455,5008305
[8] NAA:B2455,1796303.
[9] NAA:B2455,7990599.
[10] NAA:B2455,3210405.
[11] WA Archives.
[12] NAA:B883,6137452.

Their names are on the honour roll at Glenbrook Primary School

In his book *Comrades in Arms* the late Walter J Venn wrote: "When writing the stories of these 1914 -18 soldiers I have been reminded that the exigencies of the service influence the chance of one's survival. One simple decision at a desk in Sydney could, in some circumstances, result in the degree of a soldier's exposure to danger".

WJ Venn's research provides information about those on a World War 1 honour roll at Glenbrook Public School. The following are extracts from his publication:

Private Alexander Dick – He was assigned to the 19th Battalion. In April and June 1916 the battalion took part in the operations in and around Armentieres.

In July they played a central role in the bloody fighting at Pozieres and later that month in the attacks on Pozieres Heights.

The battalion's casualties during this period were 13 officers and 440 other ranks. Alexander Dick was killed on August 1 and is buried at the Sunken Road Cemetery, Contalmaison, France.

Lieutenant Cecil Beaumont Mills – His unit the 23rd Infantry Battalion took part in a joint raid on enemy lines near Armentieres in late June 1916.

Cecil was killed in action. Some of his personal possessions were recovered the next day and placed in a tin in a nearby trench, but were never seen again.

His body, if ever found, was not identified and his name was included on the long list of casualties suffered by his brigade.

Private Howard Keith Macpherson – A draughtsman in the Land Titles Office, NSW he enlisted in the Australian Army Medical Corps served on the hospital ships *Kanowna,* and *Karoola,* then serving in casualty clearing stations in France before transferring to the Air Flying Corps. He arrived back in Australia in August 1920.

Pictured above, courtesy Australian War Memorial is the church at Villers-Bretonneux which was all but destroyed in fighting on the Western Front.

Private Keith Douglas Robinson – Assigned to the 18th Battalion he joined his unit at Gallipoli on August 16, 1915 suffering a gun shot wound to the head six days later in the battalion's very first operation.

Surviving the wound he was sent to the Western Front, where he reported sick with a carbuncle on his neck. On July 22 he died in No. 14 Stationary Hospital at Boulogne of spinal meningitis.

Corporal Edward Hugh Oprey – He had served his apprenticeship as a blacksmith and was with the NSW Railways Commission at Glenbrook when he enlisted and was assigned to the 6th Light Horse Regiment, training in the Middle East.

Hugh ran foul of the authorities for being out of bounds (twice) and for using threatening language to the sergeant of the guard.

In March 1918 he was attached to the Desert Corps as an acting lance corporal only to be reprimanded again for filling a water bottle from a stream. A common enough practice for any Australian boy, but a No! No! in Egypt.

He was discharged in Sydney in October 1919.

Lieutenant Clarence Hansby Read – Born in 1879 he appears to have joined the Royal Australian navy as a boy in 1897 possibly as a midshipman. He was a lieutenant in the RAN Reserve when he served in the Australian Naval and Military Expeditionary Force in 1914-15. In September 1914 he was in command of the naval detachment at Madang in Kaiser-Wilhelmland (German New Guinea).

In January-February 1915 he was executive officer at Herbertshohe, the former German capital of Nu Pommern (Great Britain) on the Bismarck Archipelago.

In March 1916 he embarked on the HMAT *Ballarat* for the voyage to the Suez Canal where his unit the RAN Bridging Train carried out work in several tugs and lighters for bridge building, building of piers and wharves

For some time he was attached to the 29th Battalion, but rejoined the RAN and appears to have survived the war.

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A Springwood soldier laid to rest at Fromelles 94 years later

by Shirley Evans, Springwood Historian

Pamela Smith and I attended the launch of Glenbrook Historical Society's *Comrades in Arms* which was composed of short biographies of Glenbrook men who had served in World War I.

We were inspired to begin researching and writing about the men who were listed on the Springwood District World War I Honor Roll.

This proved to be very much more difficult than we had thought, but in the five years it took to complete the task we became very close to our World War I veterans and mourned those who had died in that dreadful war.

In his introduction to our book, *Remembrance: Springwood District Honor Roll 1914-1919* John Low wrote: "Their research has rescued the men recorded here from the creeping anonymity that would have been their fate and given them back to their community as individuals who lived and breathed their own special human uniqueness."

These men (and they were all men, no women) were certainly to a degree anonymous with the board hung inconspicuously on a side wall in the Springwood Civic Centre, and with many of the men proving quite difficult to identify.

A very few of them bore names we recognised from our research for *The Making of a Mountain Community: a Biographical Dictionary of the Springwood District*, but quite a number we discovered in the *Nepean Time*s reports of Springwood in the war years.

One of these names was Ed Hope (proved to be Edward James Hope), born and reared in Kingswood. He was employed by the railway as a fettler at the time of his enlistment and we found that his name appeared on the St Mary's Roll of Honour in Victoria Park and also on the Blue Mountains District War Memorial Hospital, Katoomba.

The last of the exhumed soldiers being carried to his last resting place at Fromelles.

In October, 1915 the *Nepean Times* reported a farewell to new enlistees, J. Reddall and E. Hope. They were both presented with wristlet watches from the Springwood people.

Part way through our research the National Archives of Australia digitised the World War I servicemen's records making it very much easier and less expensive to access and check as they were now available on the internet.

Prior to that, we sometimes wasted time and money purchasing records for the wrong men. With only an initial for the first name shown on the honour roll it was easy to make a mistake.

Private Edward Hope

Edward was one of 17 railway employees on the Springwood Roll (by far the largest occupation group) and, as a fettler, he must have worked in various parts of the Blue Mountains.

He was born in Kingswood in 1887 and was orphaned in 1898 when his mother, father and infant sister all died within a few months of one another.

A young sister, Florence, and he were presumably cared for by relatives. He named Florence as his next of kin when he enlisted.

Edward was allotted to the 54th Battalion which was predominantly composed of men from NSW. Half of them were Gallipoli veterans .

The new recruits left Australia on the *Aeneas* on December 20, 1915 joining the rest of the battalion at Tel-El-Kebir for training on February 16, 1916.

They embarked on the Caledonian for Marseilles in June, fighting their first major battle on July 19, 1916 at Fromelles. They suffered casualties equivalent to 65 per cent of the battalion's fighting strength. It was here that Edward died either on the 19th or 20th. 1,547 British and 5,533 Australians were either killed, wounded, taken prisoner or reported missing. This was Australia's bloodiest day in military history. ***Continued page 9***

False hope that brother may not have been killed

Continued from page 8

Florence, Edward's sister, was notified that her brother had been taken prisoner. This information came from a Red Cross communication resulting from information provided by the Germans.

Later the Royal Prussian War Office Medical Section corrected this and Florence was informed of Ed's death and probable burial in the neighbourhood of Fromelles. Florence, like many grieving and bereaved relatives wrote to the Army Base Records in Melbourne:

Dear Sir -
My brother No 4188 Private Edward James Hope, 54th Batt. Is Offically reported to have been Killed in Action on July 20th (previously reported missing) – He was my nearest Relative and if you could forward me some details of the manner of his Death I would be grateful.
& Oblige
Miss F.M. Hope
Kingswood
Nr Penrith
N.S.Wales

The Australian Red Cross Society endeavoured to record eye-witness accounts of deaths and woundings and Private J. Freehan, 4775 recorded the following at Etaples on November 4, 1916: "Hope was of my Co.[company] He was seen killed by several of the Co. who reported the fact at roll-call in my hearing."

Early in 1917 the "effects" of Edward Hope were sent to Florence. They consisted of a wrist watch and cover. She wrote the following to the Officer in Charge, Base Records:

Dear Sir –
In connection with the wrist watch forwarded to me as Next-of-Kin to the Late 4188 Pte E.J. Hope 54th Battalion I have to inform you that this watch did not belong to my Brother – He had a Presentation silver wrist watch with his name inscribed on back. The one I received was a gunmetal. I managed to clean some of the rust off the back of watch – it has an inscription not very distinct, but plain enough for me to see that it belongs elsewhere. I will forward this watch to you per post.
I was so disappointed to get the wrong watch and having received nothing at all up to the present time.
Yours faithfully,
F.M. Hope (Miss)
Kingswood
Via Penrith
N. S. Wales

It was very important to the wives, parents and siblings to receive something of their loved ones back from the war – something personal, not just an official medal. We can assume that Edward's "Presentation silver wrist watch" was the one presented to him at Springwood at the time of his enlistment.

Florence was required to confirm that she was Edward's closest living relative before she received his medals and that seemed to be that.

However, in 2009 through the efforts of descendants of Fromelles soldiers lost in the battle, and with the support of the British and Australian governments and the encouragement of the French, a massive initiative began to investigate known burial trenches at Fromelles and exhume the remains of British and Australian troops, identify them by modern scientific methods and rebury them in a special military cemetery.

The Sydney Morning Herald published photographs of the first 85 diggers identified in the Weekend Edition, November 7 - 8, 2009 and Private Edward Hope was one of these. The last of these exhumed soldiers, one who had not been identified, was buried on July 19, 2010.

His remains were transported in a gun carriage drawn by horses and accompanied by military personnel, Australia's Governor General, Quentin Bryce, and Britain's Prince Charles, both of whom delivered moving addresses.

But the most moving were the short addresses given by descendants of those fallen British and Australian soldiers.

They read letters very similar to those written by Florence Hope, expressing the fears and wishes of both the soldiers and those who waited at home.

There has not been universal approval of the reburial of men buried in mass graves at battle sites.

In *The Sydney Morning Herald*, February 5, 2010, Neil McDonald, historian and film critic, stated that "Exhuming and reinterring the war dead in more 'suitable"'sites always risks distorting history". But I feel that still grieving relatives will gain great comfort from knowing that their lost loved ones have been laid reverently to rest in a beautiful place, close to where they can be visited and remembered.

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ONE MAN'S DEDICATION

Determined to honour those who died on that faraway battlefield, 94 years ago, the Melbourne teacher and amateur historian, Lambis Englezos, AM set out to research documents and records of authorities around the world.

But little has been said or written about Lambis Englezos, AM whose tenacity saw him go public with his theory of a missing mass Allied grave. The Fromelles story began to emerge from the fog of history in 2002 when Englezos went public with his theory. Evidence from German archives, documenting such a burial ground, convinced Australian authorities a search was worthwhile.

It is one of the darkest, most heroic days in Australian history. Yet it barely rates a mention in our history books**.** .

... John Leary, OAM

Two Woodford brothers killed

Curiosity has lead Woodford residents of 10 years, Rhonda and Terry Flowers to research details of the four soldiers listed as killed in World War 1 on the Woodford War Memorial and *HERITAGE* thanks them for the following contribution.

“During the past ten years we became aware of a structure marooned between the railway line and the Great Western Highway at Woodford.

“We were curious but never seemed to find the time to inspect the site.

“As the juggernaut of the current highway widening was imminent we were afraid that the structure might disappear forever before we could discover what was its purpose.

“Our motivation to visit the site was curiosity and we were more than surprised to find the structure was a war memorial initially constructed by Thomas Thomas and others of the village of Woodford as a commemoration.’’

On the east face of the memorial we found the following names of those who died IN World War 1: CH Dakin, C Fiddling, J Fiddling and lJ Wheeler.

In *The Sydney Morning Herald* Saturday, August 25, 1916 under the heading MEMORIAL SERVICE AT WOODFORD the following appeared:

The memorial service for the brothers Privates Jack and Charles Fiddling, sons of Mr and Mrs W Fiddling, of Woodford, was held in the grounds of the Woodford Red Cross Convalescent Home recently, about 200 being present.

Every town from Katoomba to

Valley Heights was represented. The service was conducted by the Rev EC Robison, of Wentworth Falls. Captain Chaplain Parker read the lesson, and Captain McKoan, a returned wounded soldier, who has been fighting at ANZAC, Beauchope Hill, Fisherman’s Hut, Suvla Bay, and Hill 60, the farthest point reached by the expedition, performed the ceremony of unveiling the Woodford roll of honour.’

Woodford War Memorial - To those who for King and Empire enlisted from this village for service in the Great War 1914 - 1919.

The Australian War Memorial website reveals that Private John Fiddling (Jack) was killed in action on June 6, 1916 and his brother Private Charles Fiddling died of wounds in France the following month July 19, 1916.

Private John Fiddling is buried in France, 83 Brewery Orchard Cemetery Bois-Grenier.

Private Charles Fiddling is buried France, 768 Estaires Communal Cemetery.

Lieutenant Clarence Herbert was killed in action on April 14, 1917 near Noreuil, France and was buried where he fell. No trace of his gravesite has been found and he is commemorated on the Villers-Bretonneux Memorial, France.

Private John Edward Wheeler was killed in action October 5, 1916 and is buried Belgium 127 Railway Dugouts Burial Ground (Transport Farm) Zillebeke.

Private John Edward Wheeler brothers Stanley and Frederick also served in WW1 but returned.

In *The Sydney Morning Herald* on Thursday, May 3, 1917 the following appeared:

A cablegram has been received stating that Lieutenant Clarence Herbert Dakin has been killed in France.

The deceased was the only son of Captain H. Dakin, secretary of the National Rifle Association of N SW (NRA), who is at present engaged in the Riverina enrolling recruits for the NRA. 150 unit of reinforcements, which he proposed to take to the front.

The young officer, who was 22 years old, enlisted as a private two years ago, saw service at Gallipoli, and won his commission in France.’

“In all there are over twenty names of those who served in WW1 recorded on Woodford War Memorial. They are not just names.

“They were once the living youth of the tiny village of Woodford who worked in dairies and orchards and walked the same streets we walk today.

“In researching each name, on the Woodford War Memorial, through the National Archives of Australia, National Library of Australia online newspapers and the Australian War Memorial we hope to ensure that if one day Woodford War Memorial is destroyed by an ever widening highway the names of the youths of Woodford who served in WW1 are never lost,” Rhonda and Terry said.

More than just an old building

By John Low

Travelling by train, I've always enjoyed charting the progress of my journey to and from the flat lands by the familiar natural and historical landmarks along the way.

In recent times, however, under the relentless 'up-grade' of the Great Western Highway, the familiar has been subjected to serious disturbance. Demolition, removal and erasure have muddied meaning and context, often beyond retrieval, and it has all been very disturbing.

Decisions to alter the historical landscape, no matter what benefits may result, always bring loss. Lawson especially has been affected, losing almost completely its old commercial centre and all the intangible associations these old shops had with the village and people who worked and lived there.

This is not a matter to be taken lightly. Buildings, even largely uncelebrated ones, become part of a place and when they die more than just the bricks and mortar dies with them. I think it was John Ruskin who, speaking of old buildings, said something to the effect 'that we may be able to live without them but we can't remember without them.'

Many of us would probably feel we can live without such an old and outwardly unprepossessing building as that which bore the name of Macbrair and, until recently, accommodated several shops on the highway opposite Lawson Railway Station.

Yet, while its plain, commercially functional design may not be cause for architectural excitement, I do regret its passing and when my train pulls in to Lawson I feel its absence.

As its façade proudly declared, the building was built in 1923 for Lawrence Macbrair, a successful businessman who, following the First World War in which his two younger sons were killed, sold up his interests in North Queensland and came south with his grief.

In Lawson he found solace and a renewed zest for life through

The Macbrair Building a plain, commercially functional design which may not be cause for architectural excitement now a victim of the Great Western Highway road widening.

business and community service, being elected with a large vote to the Blue Mountains Shire Council in 1922 and purchasing that same year the block of vacant land fronting the highway.

Interestingly, when the land came into his possession it appears to have not been completely empty for the council rate books of the day record it as "vacant land and ruin". This "ruin" adds an extra layer of historical meaning that links the site to the earliest days of the town.

The recorded history of the place we know today as Lawson began on Thursday, May 20, 1813 when three gentleman farmers turned explorers – Gregory Blaxland, William Lawson and William Charles Wentworth – accompanied by four assistants, three horses and five dogs, "… encamped at 12 o'clock at the head of a swamp of about three acres covered with rushy coarse grass with water running through the middle of it."

"The horses", wrote Blaxland, "by necessity lived on the coarse swamp grass or rush. Nothing else could be got for them".

It was as a source of water and feed that 'Christmas Swamp' (so named by Surveyor-General John Oxley in 1817, probably because of a local profusion of native Christmas Bells), became one of the principal stopping places for travelers and stock using the road that was constructed across the Blue Mountains in the wake of the 1813 expedition.

As these watering places began to be named according to their distances from the Nepean River, Christmas Swamp became '24 Mile Hollow' and from the late 1820s an illegal 'hut' servicing the needs of weary travelers prospered for a number of years.

When legal inn-keepers, Henry and Sarah Wilson, formerly of the Scotch Thistle Inn at Blackheath and the Welcome Inn at The Valley near Springwood, acquired a 100 acre portion of land at 24 Mile Hollow in 1843 they built a permanent hostelry and were granted a license to operate under the sign of 'Blue Mountain'.

Such early inns became landmarks along the Western Road that measured the progress of a journey and the Blue Mountain Inn became well known to travelers.

Indeed, the location of 24 Mile Hollow was soon being referred to as 'Blue Mountain', a name it retained until the town that later evolved became Lawson in 1879.

Continued page 12

‘The Blue Mountains Parrot’ a popular local identity

Continued from page 11

The building itself survived until 1917 and was located in what is now the playground of the public school.

For a period in the 1850s and 1860s the Wilson family leased their inn at Blue Mountain and lived elsewhere but, astute business people that they were, returned when the Western Railway line arrived in 1867 and a small platform was constructed a short distance away.

Within a few years (1875) they had built another inn closer to the platform, transferring both the license and the ‘Blue Mountain’ name. It was located on the block later purchased by Laurence Macbrair.

Unlike most of the Western Road inns, the Blue Mountain prospered in association with the railway. Trains stopped opposite to take on water and passengers were glad of the opportunity for refreshments while they waited.

The Wilson’s youngest daughter Adelaide would be waiting on the station to welcome them and suggest a walk across the road to the inn or the purchase of coffee, tea and sandwiches from her stall on the platform.

She became a popular local identity, known to all as “the Blue Mountain Parrot”. Whether this related to her verbal facility or colourful dress I’m not sure!

Her brother Affriat, who lived in the de-licensed inn up the road, also attracted attention as a naturalist, being especially skilled in the capture and handling of snakes. His clients included a number of museums.

On Henry Wilson’s death in 1880 the inn’s license passed to Sarah who subsequently transferred it to a new Blue Mountain Hotel built next door by the end of the decade.

The 1875 inn ceased to trade and its condition gradually deteriorated. It was eventually demolished in 1906, though the rate book entry quoted earlier suggests that something at least, perhaps its foundations, still survived when the land was acquired by Macbrair in 1922.

Described by the local newspaper in 1923 as “one of the town’s finest”, the new building sadly was not long in Macbrair’s hands. Aged 74, he passed away in 1925 and was mourned by the town in which, his obituary recorded, “he displayed so much practical faith”.

The plain, business-like architecture of the Macbrair Building spoke of more than just small town commerce and its demolition removes another ‘footprint’ leading back to connect us with our past.

A plaque on a ‘heritage’ sandstone plinth can never be more than a makeshift recognition of what has gone but, done properly, it can preserve the significance of a site and alert passers-by to the layers of community memory that exist there.

While other lost Lawson buildings equally deserve their stories to be told in this way, I hope some such marker will eventually be erected where the Wilsons and Laurence Macbrair (and many others) did business all those years ago.

Note: While no referencing for quotes etc. has been included this can be supplied on request.

Council’s Heritage Review

Continued from page 1

Council staff are currently working with council’s heritage advisor, Christo Aitken, to complete information required to inform this heritage review.

The proposed Draft LEP Amendment will comprise three main elements being the deletion of some items from the LEP Schedule 2 (due to the fact that they are no longer considered to hold heritage significance); insertion of new items into the LEP Schedule 2 as supported by the heritage studies; and consolidation of separate sites into conservation areas in key areas such as Mt York.

The new items proposed to be listed in the Draft LEP Amendment include private residential houses, historic monuments and items of heritage significance located in natural areas such as historic walking tracks. Further details regarding the precise nature of all proposed heritage items will be provided to historical societies by council in due course.

Initially council staff will be consulting with land owners on the information developed to support the proposed listing of sites to seek their support. This includes private land owners (a small number), and state government agencies. A number of council owned and /or managed areas are also proposed for heritage listing.

Council staff will then be consulting with the various historical societies of the Blue Mountains on the proposed heritage items under the review.

A workshop will be scheduled in due course to be held at council to inform all historical societies of the review process and what input the historical societies may wish to contribute to this process. Once a date and time for the workshop are set, invitations will be forwarded to historical societies.

The extent of the review is currently limited to areas identified under LEP 1991 and does not include areas covered under LEP 2005 (main village and town areas). A review of heritage items located in LEP 2005 will be undertaken in the future, after progression of the Review of LEP 1991 items.

The Draft LEP Amendment for heritage is currently being undertaken as part of the new Part 3 ‘Gateway’ process. The city planning team is currently working with the Department of Planning in progressing this LEP through the required planning process.

I look forward to working with the various historical societies on this heritage project. Should you require any further information on the heritage review, I am available on Mon- Wed on (02) 4780 5774 or email fblaxland@bmcc.nsw.gov.au

The Cambodian exhibition

Hurry, Hurry, Hurry, No Time to Lose

By Peter Stanbury, OAM, Phd.

Force of circumstances is a powerful master. It sometimes happens that normal planning is not an option and an exhibition needs to be up and running in an impossibly short time. How to do it?

Faced with such a situation one needs confidence and a list of logical steps. The confidence is necessary to give others confidence and the list of logical steps enables one to delete a step or two without causing undue panic.

I recently undertook five weeks voluntary work at the National Museum of Cambodia. The work was arranged through Australian Business Volunteers, an organisation in Canberra that provides opportunities for Australians to exchange skills in developing Asian countries. The volunteer contributes time and expertise, the organisation contributes the airfare, accommodation and $20 per day for subsistence. For more details please see www.abv.org.au/.)

I was expecting in early July to change some textiles that had been on display for too long, to advise on suitable storage space for some recent donations and to discuss health and safety issues. I had it all worked out - a leisurely, informative month away from the usual routine and winter weather back in Australia

On arrival in Phnom Penh the assignment suddenly changed: please would I set up an exhibition of temple hangings (*pidans*).

But not just yet, because all staff were busy on an international travelling exhibition that was due to open in three weeks – all staff would be busy with that so there would be only a week or so to set up the temple hangings before the exhibition was to open at the end of the month.

And as there was no money left, consequently funds would need to be found. And another thing, staff had been working so hard on the major exhibition, some would be on leave immediately after and only a limited few would be available for the second exhibition.

Advertise your exhibition outside the Museum.

So there were three weeks to plan and find funds (no staff to help) and one week (with some limited help) to refurbish the exhibition space, physically mount the exhibition, arrange publicity and have an opening.

Pidan means ceiling in Khmer. Complex pictorial woven silk textiles, often depicting scenes in the life of the Buddha, are hung or painted above or near the principal Buddha of a temple, hence the ceiling reference.

Pidans are never worn but are designed and woven to demonstrate skill and to acquire merit by the donation.

They require months to weave and were becoming rare even before the Pol Pot regime destroyed much tradition. Very gradually NGOs and others are trying to re-aquaint weavers with the necessary skills to weave and market both wearable silk goods and items of religious or traditional significance.

I was very lucky to find a Japanese group of friends of an NGO that were prepared to invest around $1,000 in the exhibition.

The rest of the preparation time was spent planning.

It is important to plan because without a written plan it is difficult to determine which items can be omitted at a moment's notice because of resource limitations (time, availability, funding).

I hope my list of notes may be of use to others planning in a similar hurry. Don't expect to be able to do everything on the list, but at least recognise that you are skipping some items rather than forgetting them.

Items to be exhibited
Availability
Size and shape
Group compatible items
Hanging or display mechanism
Conservation requirements

Room
Hanging or display context
Security
Does room need repainting?
Lighting

Arrangement of items and scope of story
How best to tell the story
Placement of primary labels
Secondary labels
Take away information leaflets
Brochure or booklet
Posters, handouts, banner
Will you need carpet or arrows to direct visitors?

Continued page 14

The Cambodian exhibition

Continued from page 13

Research
What is the main idea behind the exhibition?
Who has told a similar story and how?
Research and writing
Focus of exhibition (in the room and visitors)
Contact those who may be able to contribute and invite participation

Education
Does the exhibition relate to primary, secondary tertiary studies?
Can the exhibition be related to special interest groups?
Is written program for such groups appropriate?
Advise groups; invite participation

Opening
Who will open – firm commitment?
Who will be invited?
Speeches: MC, director, opener
Refreshments
Gift for opener
Gift for guests (good publicity)
Invitation lists and mail out
Source tables, glasses, plates, cups, napkins for opening

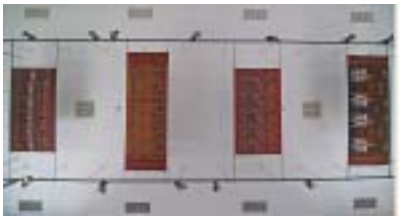
Publicity
Prepare photographs and press release
Local press and radio (photographs/ gift/novelty angle)
National press and electronic media (photographs/gift/novelty angle)
Local inhabitants, similar institutions
Free 'what's on' listings
Posters
Banner outside museum

Actual work
Clean space
Hang or mount objects
Mount and carefully position labels
Sort lighting (remember conservation issues)
Ring or visit journalists
Position / distribute posters
Hang banner
Buy flowers and food for opening

Day before
Arrange microphone
Wrap present for opener
Double check labels
Remind journalists
Ask director and opener if they require anything
Arrange cleaning of area

Two hours before
Check entrance to museum
Check museum
Check director and opener
Check exhibition, flowers, food
Change into appropriate clothes
If raining have umbrellas, towels, receptacles for wet gear handy
Calm others involved in the exhibition and allow them time to get dressed.

Explain how your objects are made or arrived at the museum.



As pidans are often found on the ceiling, we used the ceiling for display as well as the walls.

Explain the exhibition to children and devise activities.

The author

Dr Peter Stanbury, OAM (pictured at right) who last month returned from Cambodia has been a volunteer in various organisations for many years and has been an executive member of BMACHO since its inception. He has been a volunteer with Australian Business Volunteers (ABV) for a number of years and has worked as a volunteer in many countries including Egypt, Cambodia and Peru. He was formerly the director of Macleay Museum at Sydney University. He was awarded the ABV's annual Altruism Award for 2009.

Mediterranean diet for World Heritage List!!!

There is a tendency to only think of heritage buildings, wilderness areas, magnificent landscapes, ancient castles, Greek temples and monoliths such as Egypt's pyramids when one thinks of UNESCO's World Heritage List.

But the World Heritage List includes sites ranging from the birthplace of Buddha to the Tower of London and lesser-known list of "intangible" cultural heritage covering oral traditions, performing arts, social practice, rituals rock art and festivals.

Among other nominations, a submission from the Italians is being considered for listing this year of the Mediterranean diet, with its mix of fresh fruit and vegetables, grilled fish and lashings of olive oil favoured in Greece, Italy and Spain.
Guardian News & Media

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBER SOON TO CELEBRATE 25 YEARS EXISTENCE

The Lithgow and District Family History Society Inc. which will celebrate its 25th anniversary next year is the latest group to join BMACHO.

President of the society, Eleanor Martin said the group was established in 1986 to allow local people and others to research their family lines and to learn their family stories.

The society of volunteers has established a library, now situated at the Corner of Tank and Union Streets to store the extensive resources of local cemetery records, local and family histories, journals from international and national sources, many photographs, copies of Governments Gazettes and local newspapers as well as IGAs and Birth, Death and Marriage records on CDs, Fiche and reels. Convict, shipping, immigration and census records are also held.

Social gatherings and bus trips to cemeteries and archives as well as workshops and seminars are arranged to assist people to research and store their information, source identification and display their family trees.

Some records are available for sale upon request and the society produces a Journal "Lithgow Pioneer Press" three times a year.

Researchers can attend the library during open hours and receive assistance to work through the extensive indexes of much of the resources for a small fee.Open times are every Friday 10am - 4pm. Tuesday 6pm - 9pm and first Saturday 10am - 4pm of each month except January

Contact number is (02) 6353 1089 during open hours e-mail: ldfhs@lisp.com.au website http://www.lisp.com.au/~ldfhs P.O. Box 516 Lithgow NSW. 2790

Vale -- Hugh Manners Bickford (1927-2010)

Sadly, long-time member and public officer of Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc., Hugh Bickford, passed away in Katoomba Hospital September 13, 2010; he was aged 83.

Hugh was cremated at Leura on September 21, 2010 and the Blue Mountains Historical Society was strongly represented at the funeral service.

Condolences were extended to his wife Janet, who is well known to many, and to his sons Mike and Tim and their families.

Hugh had a long and distinguished career working for CSR, latterly as property manager and company valuer, and after retirement in 1986 he was asked to return as a consultant which he did for a further decade.

In 1984, while Hugh and Janet lived in West Pymble, they purchased land at Wentworth Falls – the property adjacent to Hobby's Reach and a home was built which they then used as a weekender.

In 1988 they changed the location of their Sydney residence to Pennant Hills, but in 1996, after Hugh's second retirement, they moved permanently to Wentworth Falls.

In the mountains, Hugh was active in the Wentworth Falls Probus Club becoming president as he also was for the Wentworth Falls Autumn Garden Festival.

But in recent years it has been the restoration of his treasured veteran Austin car that has consumed much of his time, that vehicle having been opportunistically acquired for the second time after a long period in the hands of another motorist.

Of his own accord, from 1986 Hugh kindly started to mow the lower slopes of Hobby's Reach, initially with a hand mower but from 1988 using a ride-on mower which he even drove until he suffered a stroke earlier this year.

However it was not until 2001 that he joined the Blue Mountains Historical Society, becoming a member of the management committee in 2004 and then president for two years between 2005 and 2007.

In 2008 he became the public officer and in August that year he was awarded an honorary life membership of the society.

For many years Hugh informally acted as a caretaker, responding to sudden activations of the security lighting and being available to admit tradesmen.

Hugh was the speaker in July 2001 when his topic was "The Wreck of the *Admella*", an event which occurred in 1859; the gist of his talk was reported in *Hobby's Outreach* (Aug/Sept. 2001, p.4).

Two years later, in June 2003, Hugh addressed the society on the subject of "Cockatoo Island Dockyard Wartime Industrial Role" being a place which he had visited frequently whilst his father was in charge of Cockatoo Island.

Hugh was a softly spoken person with a wealth of knowledge which he willingly shared with others. He was a most delightful gentleman whom all shall miss greatly.

Contributed by Peter Rickwood. Text approved by Mrs Janet Bickford.

Kung fu heritage

Shaolin temple, the Buddhist monastery that is also the birth-place of Chinese kung fu, has been added to the United Nations' list of World Heritage sites

UNESCO has named historical monuments near Dengfeng city including the Shaolin.

Doug Knowles elected to lead Glenbrook Historical Society.....

The new president of Glenbrook and District Historical Society Inc., Doug Knowles can claim that his association with Glenbrook could be said to start back in 1924 more than a decade before he was born.

His grandmother, Vera Dare came to Glenbrook on a holiday in 1924 and later purchased land and a cottage in the town.

However, Doug did not come to Glenbrook until 1946 when his parents built a new house in the mountains village.

He started his schooling at Glenbrook Primary School and went on to finish his secondary education at Hurlstone Agricultural High School, Glenfield before taking up an apprenticeship to Hazelwood's Nursery at Epping.

Completing his apprenticeship he soon found there was plenty of work in landscape construction and green keeping in the Lower Blue Mountains. In his spare time he did general cartage including bags of flour from the Glenbrook Railway Station to McCall's bakery.

Doug recalls, "clearing and lopping trees in the 1950s which provided lots of firewood which he sold for £3/10/- per ton for stove wood [people still cooked on fuel stoves in those days]."

Doug also recalls that in 1957 trees to the north of the Glenbrook Bowling Club (established a few years earlier) were casting shadows on the turf bowling greens.

As a horticulturist, he was contracted to lop the trees and settled his account when insufficient funds were available by accepting debentures in the club. He claims to be possibly the only person to have debentures in the club and not be a member.

In 1976, needing more space for his nursery at Glenbrook he purchased a 5 acre block at Valley Heights, selling his Glenbrook property ending 50 years association with the village of Glenbrook

After being involved in landscape construction for about 30 years, he made a career change accepting a job with TAFE, teaching horticultural skills including plant propagation, plant recognition and botany. Doug says this was probably the most rewarding and interesting 20 years leading up to his retirement.

Doug says he has always been interested in local history and joined the Glenbrook and District Historical Society about 8 years ago.

"I especially enjoy the society's regular 'Walks & Talks' to historic sites in Glenbrook and relating the places and events to the individuals involved; many of the people having children, grandchildren or great grandchildren living in the area.

"The society is currently negotiating with Caltex management to secure community use of the Pointsman's Cottage," Mr Knowles said.

The Pointsman's Cottage - Photograph by John Leary, OAM

Doug Knowles

"The property would be an ideal venue to stage exhibitions such as the display of railway heritage photographs. Many of the society's photographs are from the Nolan family collection and were taken before 1920.

"The society is also currently promoting Whitton Park as the 'village green' and fighting off attempts to have the land fenced for selective group use."

Doug Knowles takes over the presidency of Glenbrook and District Historical Society from Tim Miers who has held the position since the society was formed during the Glenbrook Primary School centenary in 1992.

Doug is also a management committee member of the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc.

HISTORY OF LAWSON HALL SHOULD NOT BE IGNORED

Mid Mountains Historical Society Inc. has written to Blue Mountains City Council expressing the strong opinion that the past history of the Old Community Hall at Lawson must not be ignored when determining its future.

In her letter, society president Nance Cooper stated it becomes evident that for the major part of its history since its opening in 1903, it has been a centre for community activities.

"There had been 98 years of vigorous community life before its function was narrowed for approximately 3 years to that of a youth centre before its regrettable closure in 2004.

"The closure of the hall deprived societies and community groups such as the Mid Mountains Historical Society of an important conference venue.

"It has been impossible, for example, for this society to take a part in the annual History Week conducted by the History Council of NSW," said Nance Cooper.

Honorary life membership for two at Mt Wilson

Pictured are Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine Historical Society president, Des Barrett, honorary life member, Arthur Delbridge, AO and vice president, Darell Conybeare. Pictured below is Bruce Wright who now lives in West Australia and was unable to be at the presentation.

Bruce Wright

Arthur Delbridge, AO and Bruce White were honoured at a recent annual general meeting of the Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine historical Society.

Darrell Conybeare was on hand to present Arthur with his framed certificate.

The citation for Arthur stated: *In recognition and appreciation of his many years and dedicated support for the founding and continued development of the society*

His leadership and direction over several years set the society's standing in the community, ensured the preservation of significant heritage sites and established regular avenues for wide distribution of historical information.

Bruce Wright was not able to be at the meeting to receive his award.

In his absence research officer, Mary Reynolds spoke warmly of Bruce's many contributions to the development of the society and the Turkish Bath Museum over the society's first 10 years.

The citation on Bruce's certificate stated: *In recognition and appreciation of his many years of dedicated support for the restoration and establishment of the Turkish Bath Museum.*

His professional skill and commitment to archaeological research and development at the Turkish Bath building and precinct and to the administration of the society in the early years were invaluable.

Professor Reynolds takes leave

Professor Barrie Reynolds who at the annual general meeting earlier this year stood down from the position of secretary, a position he has held since BMACHO was formed, has taken 6 months leave from the organisation until the end of March 2011.

This follows his hospitalisation last month for emergency surgery. Barrie has asked that he not be contacted concerning BMACHO matters until he returns from leave.

He had accepted an executive role on BMACHO's management committee and was involved in a number of new initiatives at the time of his illness.

The idea of BMACHO was conceived by Barrie and enthusiastically embraced by those who attended the 2004 Blue Mountains Local History Conference at the Carrington Hotel in Katoomba at which he was stressing the importance of having a cultural heritage strategy for the city.

Barrie has had the ability to gather around him individuals, both professional and amateur as well as heritage organisations to provide a voice for cultural heritage and to encourage and assist cultural heritage activities of member organisations.

Barrie has worked tirelessly for the recognition of cultural heritage; it has been the motivation, contagious enthusiasm, academic expertise and professional acumen displayed by Barrie that has driven much of what has been achieved by BMACHO in its formative years.

Members of BMACHO will wish Barrie a speedy recovery and will respect his wish not to be contacted concerning BMACHO matters until he returns from leave.

GLEN DAVIS

The shale oil ghost town of National Oil Pty Ltd. Glen Davis and its people

Renowned mining historian and former Glen Davis resident Leonie Knapman has launched her much awaited history of Glen Davis.

Leonie lived at Glen Davis in the Blue Mountains from 1940 until it was auctioned off and removed by 1954.

Leonie has presented papers on the history of the township to groups and mining conferences around Australia, Tasmania, and in 2010 Greymouth in New Zealand.

After leaving Glen Davis in December 1954 Leonie thought often of the first 14 years of her life spent in the beautiful Capertee Valley and the thousands of people who lived and worked in the town.

Most of the hard times of the town's residents passed over the heads of their children and it was after researching the history of Glen Davis to write a book that Leonie appreciated their frustrations. Families were coming out of the depression into a wartime situation and a life of rationing of petrol, tyres, food and clothing. This was further compounded by drought followed by almost 30 floods.

Leonie looked at what makes people choose the mining life and live in remote areas foregoing the comforts of life in the larger towns or cities.

Men came from all walks of life searching for work and not all were familiar with the physical grind of the mining industry and its drawbacks.

While the Glen Davis works was partly a response to the unemployment of the depression years of the 1930s the works took on a greater significance with the onset of war when the vulnerability of Australia's oil supplies was clearly demonstrated. After the war Glen Davis was living on borrowed time.

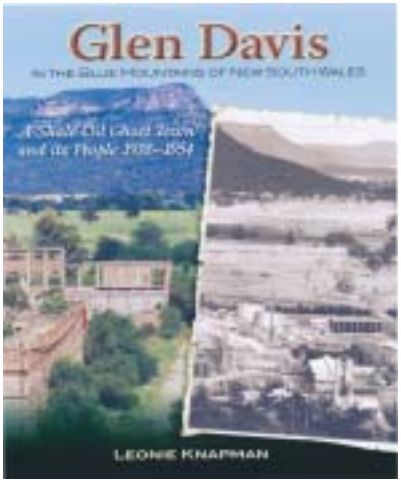
When the government mooted closure of the company it sparked state wide controversy and workers took matters into their own hands. On the night of June 12, 1952 fifty two miners began a stay-down strike lasting 26 days. It was the longest stay in strike in Australian history.

In spite of the efforts of the Commonwealth authorities to shut down the retorts they mysteriously kept working to prevent their dismantling. The authorities removed the power fuses to force the retorts out of action but they were replaced just as quickly and shale for the retorts seemed to appear from nowhere.

The day the strike ended was an emotional one. A large crowd of families and visiting miners waited as the men emerged on electric loco hauled transports. Unfortunately their efforts and discomfort were in vain.

The closure still took place. It was the last straw for the residents who thought their homes and jobs were secure.

Today, over 50 years later, the valley has returned to farming and grazing



as it had been since the 1800s, a far cry from the turbulent fourteen years of National Oil Pty Ltd.

Glen Davis has been stripped of its town status. It is as if the government had tried to wipe it off the face of the earth.

Book launched at Irish gaol

Lord Mayor of Cork, Michael O'Connell, Suzanne Voytas, Christina Henri, Roses from the Heart and Australian Ambassador to Ireland, Bruce Davis at the launch.

Blue Mountains Family History Society president, researcher and author, Suzanne Voytas has recently returned from Ireland, where her book *Elizabeth 1828, the worst and most turbulent* was launched at Cork City Gaol.

The book details the lives of the 194 Irish convict women, who together with 16 of their children were transported on the ship *Elizabeth,* which sailed from Cobb, County Cork on August 28, 1827.

The biographies of the women, detail their achievements, their struggles to live in a foreign land and to be part of a new social structure while raising their colony children.

Copies of the book can be obtained from Suzanne Voytas, details on the website: www.elizabeth1828.com RRP $35 plus $10 postage.

Elevating the emancipist ...

While Macquarie believed in the punishment of convicts he also believed in their reformation.

He saw no reason why emancipists (convicts who had served their time or been pardoned) should not be readmitted to their former rank in society if they were of good character and standing.

In fact he came to the conclusion that some of the most meritorious and public-spirited men in the colony were emancipists.

In adopting this radical policy he appointed emancipists to positions of authority and trust and even invited them to dine with him at Government House.

Although receiving qualified support from Lord Bathurst, the new Secretary of State for the Colonies, he aroused the hostility of a group of influential landholders and military officers.

Known as the exclusives, they believed convicts, even when emancipated, had no place in respectable society and to readmit them would upset the existing social order

The rising number of pardons by the Governor, and his injunction to magistrates to limit flogging as much as possible, increased their alarm.

So scandalised were the officers of the 46th Regiment that they entered a pact not to fraternise with anyone who had arrived in the colony under sentence of transportation.

Macquarie would not back down.

In 1813 he told Lord Bathurst that while most of the free settlers would undoubtedly prefer never to admit emancipists to equality with themselves, it was after all a convict colony and if they were too proud to associate with convicts they should move to another country.[1]

The first to benefit from Macquarie's liberal measures were Simeon Lord and Andrew Thompson whom he made magistrates in 1810.

Others included William Redfern who was made assistant principal surgeon, James Meehan, who became acting surveyor and Isaac Nichols who was appointed superintendent of convicts.

Extract from T*he Governor. Lachlan Macquarie 1810 to 1821*, a State Library of NSW publication. ISBN 0 7313 7203 4.

[1] Macquarie to Bathurst, 28 June 1813, *Historical Records of Australia* 1/7, p.775

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

REGISTERED OFFICE 14 Bunnal Ave, Winmalee 2777
E-mail: jank@eftel.com.au or bmacho.heritage@gmail.com
Website: www.bluemountains.heritage.com

THE ORGANISATION Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 following a unanimous response to a proposal from Professor Barrie Reynolds at the 2004 Blue Mountains Local History Conference which sought from Blue Mountains City Council the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the city.

BMACHO in its constitution uses the definition: "Cultural heritage is all aspects of life of the peoples of the Blue Mountains which was later changed to cover Lithgow and the villages along the Bell's Line of Roads. It therefore involves the recording, preserving and interpreting of information in whatever form: documents, objects, recorded memories as well as buildings and sites."

The objectives of the organisation are:

i. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage.

ii. To encourage and assist cultural heritage activities of member organisations.

iii. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations.

One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact, to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

HERITAGE is BMACHO's official newsletter.

MEMBERSHIP The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains City Library, Blue Mountains Cultural Heritage Centre, Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc., Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc., Blue Mountains Tourism Limited, Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute, Cudgegong Museums Group Inc., Everglades Historic House & Gardens, Friends of Norman Lindsay Gallery, Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc., Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc, Lilianfels Blue Mountains Resort, Lithgow and District Family History Society Inc., Lithgow Mining Museum Inc., Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies, Lithgow Small Arms Factory Museum Inc, Mid-Mountains Historical Society Inc, Mid Western Regional Council Library, Mt Tomah Botanic Gardens, Mt Victoria and District Historical Society Inc., Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine History Society Inc. (including Turkish Bath Museum), Mudgee Historical Society Inc., Mudgee Regional Library, National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Blue Mountains Branch (including Woodford Academy), National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Lithgow Branch, Scenic World – Blue Mountains Limited, Springwood & District Historical Society Inc.., Springwood Historians Inc., Transport Signal and Communication Museum Inc., The Darnell Collection Pty Ltd, Valley Heights Locomotive Depot and Museum, Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd. The following are individual members: Ray Christison, Associate Professor Ian Jack, Joan Kent, John Leary OAM, John Low, Ian Milliss, Professor Barrie Reynolds, and Dr Peter Stanbury OAM.

COMMITTEE The committee for 2010-11 is: John Leary (president), Ian Jack (vice president), Jan Koperberg (secretary), Kathie McMahon-Nolf (treasurer), Jean Arthur, Joan Kent, Doug Knowles, Dick Morony (public officer), Barrie Reynolds and Peter Stanbury.

HONORARY AUDITOR: Sue McMahon, B Comm CPA.

AFFILIATIONS BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society Inc.

HERITAGE

NEWSLETTER OF THE BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

JANUARY - FEBRUARY 2011 ISSUE No. 13

Lithgow's Lidsdale House gardens to be restored

By Ian Milliss

One of Paul Sorensen's most resolved but least seen gardens, surrounding Lidsdale House on the Castlereagh Highway at Lidsdale west of Lithgow, is about to undergo a much needed restoration.

The garden was designed by Sorensen shortly after the end of WWII but has been in decline for several decades until its recent purchase by Centennial Coal who are using it as their central western area offices.

In recognition of its significance to the local community they have begun a long term restoration program covering both the house and the garden.

Planted in the 1940s, the garden has suffered from neglect, over maturity and inappropriate ornamentation after passing through a number of private hands since the 1960s.

On completion of building repairs a long term plan to resuscitate and restore the garden will be implemented. It seems right that a garden that grew out of the passion of a coal mine owner should now be restored by a coal mining company.

Lower garden path at Lidsdale House

Lidsdale House east terrace

For Paul Sorensen, as for so many others, the Second World War was a tragedy in which he lost the elder two of his three sons, both in the RAF.

This was an undoubted low point in his life and a particularly poignant tragedy for a man whose hatred of war had led him to migrate to Australia from his native Denmark in 1915 to avoid the First World War.

Sorensen responded in the early post war period by reducing his expansion plans while working on a number of smaller Blue Mountains gardens but a further blow fell with the death in 1947 of his friend and patron Henri Van De Velde of Everglades.

It was round this time that he was commissioned to design a two acre garden at Lidsdale House by coal mine proprietor Frank Neubeck. Neubeck had also suffered the loss of his eldest son in the RAAF in 1945, a fact which may have drawn two very different personalities closer together. It was to be Sorensen's largest commission until 1950 when post war recovery really set in.

Neubeck was the grandson of Alois Neubeck, a Bavarian immigrant who had arrived in 1855 with his wife Clara. Settling in Wallerawang he was employed as a blacksmith by James Walker, the landowner who had hosted Charles Darwin during his 1836 visit.

The Neubeck family prospered, purchasing property in the nearby Lidsdale and Blackmans Flat area. Francis (Frank) was born in 1889 and in 1910 took a small mining lease with his brother William where he also operated a sawmill.

These enterprises grew until in 1940 he opened the first black coal open cut in Australia, the Commonwealth Colliery No. 2 at Lidsdale.

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From the president's pen.....

Cox's Road the golden way west

The first European crossing of the Blue Mountains in 1813 represents an important milestone in the history of Australia and the 200th anniversary of this event has significance at local, regional, state and federal levels.

There appears to be general acceptance that any celebration of that anniversary needs to embrace the series of inter related events immediately after Lawson, Blaxland and Wentworth crossed the Mountains in May and June 1813.

George William Evans began his survey of a roadway across the Blue Mountains in November 1813 and went as far as the future Bathurst. William Cox then supervised the construction of the road from July 1814 to January 1815. Governor Macquarie travelled along the new road in April and May 1815 and selected the site of Bathurst.

More than a year ago the RAHS offered to provide co-ordination within its limited administrative capacity.

The RAHS appointed its senior vice president, the eminently qualified Professor David Carment AM to oversee this co-ordination and subsequently the council of that body gave authority for the loosely connected group of stakeholders to act as a committee of the Royal Australian Historical Society.

These actions of the RAHS in providing a first class lead to a commemoration to mark events surrounding three of the Colony's explorers' crossing of the Blue Mountains from 1813 - 1815 are indeed commendable and need to be acknowledged by stakeholders.

David Carment has now written to the Premier and Leader of the Opposition of NSW or the appropriate ministers/ shadow ministers seeking a meeting to discuss plans for the commemoration.

It is also pleasing to note that John Aquilina, representing the Macquarie Committee, is preparing a report for the Premier, with a view to re-inventing that committee to cover the period 2013 – 2015.

Already a number of local government units and historical societies are organising celebratory activities and these will be an important part of the anniversary event as they will involve the wider community.

However, there also needs to be a commemoration with a lasting benefit.

Time is fast running out to produce a worthwhile commemoration and it is a harsh reality that without state and perhaps federal funding it will be difficult to achieve a worthwhile outcome. Some might see the present 'close down' of the NSW State Parliament as an impediment. However, it should be seen as a golden opportunity to seek commitments from all sides of parliament, Labor, Liberal and Greens; in the run-up to the March elections.

One of the ideas proposed has been to develop a heritage trail from Emu Plains to Bathurst based on the line of Cox's Road. It was envisaged that at various spots along the route the public might be able to view interpretive signage outlining the events to be commemorated.

As the Cox's Road built in 1814 - 15 passed through the present day LGAs of Penrith, Blue Mountains, Oberon, Lithgow and Bathurst it is logical to consider this a heritage trail project which could well attract federal funding.

It has already attracted the interest of the RTA and Land & Property Management Authority. The National Trust and others in the heritage sector have also done considerable research into the Cox's Road alignment and remnants of this heritage roadway during the past decade.

This is a ready made and very worthwhile project and every endeavour should be made to refine and define this proposal so that it may have a solid and achievable objective.

Let's not squander a great opportunity to have a lasting commemoration.

John Leary, OAM
President, Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc.

Sorenson's influence lightens Lidsdale House gardens

Continued from page 1

The mine was soon resumed as a war time measure but Neubeck had by this time accumulated considerable wealth.

In 1941 he began extending his stone house built in 1920 at the time of his marriage. He continued with a two storey wing on the eastern side above a slope descending to the Cox's River.

Designed by Lithgow architect Arthur Isley it is an eclectic pastiche containing elements from Hollywood Spanish Baroque to Cape Dutch and California Mission yet overall it conveys a rather funereal gloom. Only Sorensen's surrounding garden lightens its ponderousness.

Sorensen constructed a wide platform of lawn along the eastern side of the house.

A row of pin oaks defines the eastern edge above a stone retaining wall that rivals the terrace walls of Everglades in scale and quality although constructed of regular quarried stone.

At the wall's base is a stone path edged with a hedge of golden privet backed by rhododendrons above a sloping lawn. The southern end of this path is terminated with one of Sorensen's finest staircases.

The stone circle at the path level is surmounted by concave steps on the western side leading back up to the terrace and convex steps on the eastern side leading to the sloping lawn and the tennis courts at its base.

Although this detail undoubtedly shows the influence of Lutyens and Jekyll it is carried out with uncontrived elegance.

The path to the tennis courts extends north to a pergola which overlooks a large free form swimming pool where the garden stone was quarried.

At the northern end of the terrace wall path is one of Sorensen's most amazing design features, a cascade and columned bridge topped with a rooftop planting of prostrate conifers. Curving stairs at the side of the cascade return to the terrace while the path continues over the bridge up the slope to the western side of the house where plantings of conifers and an orchard complete the garden.

A stone stairacase pictured above and a bridge (below) connect various levels of the Lidsdale House gardens

About the author

The author of this article, Ian Milliss of Wallerawang, is a partner in Carlson Milliss Art & Heritage Management

His first job was in the pictures section of the Mitchell Library. Although he became an artist and designer rather than a librarian it was the beginning of a lifetime of active involvement in heritage issues that has included the Green Ban and inner city resident action movement, publishing labour and industrial history and the revival of traditional trade union art forms such as banner making.

Loco Museum wins heritage awards

For the third consecutive year the work of volunteers at the Valley Heights Locomotive Heritage Museum has been recognised by the Office of Rail Heritage (ORH).

The 2010 awards recognising the efforts of three men who have contributed significantly to the conservation of Australia's rail heritage were presented in a ceremony at the Powerhouse Museum, Sydney.

Ted Dickson's award in the category of rail heritage conservation, preservation, restoration or reconstruction recalls Ted's efforts in the early days in ensuring that the essential service (electricity and water supplies etc) were restored.

Ted also played a key role in the perway program at the Valley Heights depot particularly with the recent reconstruction of points in the coal storage siding and negotiations with Railcorp which saw the reconstruction of the coal storage siding to the signal box completed.

Andrew Tester received the award for community relationship building for his efforts in raising the community's awareness of the museum through his role with publicity which also identifies ways in which to promote the museum.

Craig Connolly received the first award by a member of the Steam Tram and Railway Preservation Society. Craig received recognition for his service in leading the society over an extended period of time.

Andrew Tester left is presented with his award by the Minister for Transport, John Robertson, MLC and Railcorp CEO Rob Mason. Photograph courtesy Office of Rail Heritage

Will Holmes 'a Court as AGM guest speaker

Will Holmes 'a Court has accepted an invitation to be the guest speaker at the annual general meeting of the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc. to be held on Saturday March 19, 2011 commencing at 2.30pm.

The meeting and afternoon tea will be held at Everglades Historic House and Gardens, 37 Everglades Avenue, Leura.

Mr Holmes 'a Court is the chief executive officer of the National Trust of Australia (New South Wales).

The subject for Mr Holmes 'a Court address is yet to be finalised however some of the provocative titles being considered are *"Will we be able to afford the cost of protecting Australia's heritage in the years ahead?"* or *"The cost of saving our heritage - is it worth preserving for future generations?"* or *"Who cares about saving our heritage?".*

He has over 30 years of business and management experience in software technology, finance and services.

For the past 10 years he has been involved in providing solutions that assist executives to drive additional value from their operations by simplifying process to reduce cost, improve revenue and enhance the performance of their people.

He worked in professional services with Ernst & Young serving in various consulting roles prior to executive roles including director of business systems and planning, finance director, then chief financial officer.

He has had senior finance positions in the insurance and superannuation industries and also with IBM various line roles in banking systems software engineering and in staff roles in pricing and planning.

Mr Holmes 'a Court has a Bachelor of Engineering from Sydney University, a Bachelor of Economics in Accounting and Post Graduate programmes in Computer Science and Professional Accounting at Macquarie University. He is a fellow of the Australian CPAs (FCPA).

He has served on the board of the National Trust since 2000.

As CEO of the National Trust of Australia (NSW) Will is charged with creating a sustainable organisation that assists its members, volunteers, staff and other stakeholders to preserve and conserve Australia's rich natural, built and cultural heritage.

"What fires my passion for the Trust above all is it is a family, formed in 1945 and driven throughout the nation by people and communities who care for their heritage," Mr Holmes 'a Court said.

Those attending the meeting may inspect the Everglades Gardens

Eskbank House at Lithgow recognised in museums awards

The author of this article Dr Naomi Parry is the curator of Lithgow's Eskbank House. Dr Parry writes: 'Radio National's regional museums awards recognise the important contribution regional museums make to local identity and memory.

'I became aware of the awards when ABC Radio Orange interviewed me about Eskbank House, which in turn encouraged me to write an entry. 'Happily, we were rewarded with a highly commended award.

'The entry process was to upload answers to questions about significant artefacts in the collection, and the ways each museum promotes itself and community history. 'This article is an abridged version of Eskbank's article, highlighting a significant artefact in the museum's collection.'

The best provenanced item in the collections of Eskbank House is the Leake-Sutton Quilt, an American crazy quilt made in Pennsylvania in 1893.

This beautiful item was brought to Lithgow by David Leake, whose sister had given it to him as a gift for his daughter Emma Sutton, to celebrate the birth of her baby girl Jean.

The quilt measures 210cm by 203cm, in nine panels of between 60cm and 65 cm. It is composed of hundreds of irregularly shaped pieces of taffeta, velvet, brocade, printed cottons and ribbons, embroidered together with silk thread in herringbone and feather patterns.

Each panel has an embroidered motif as its centrepiece, resembling Central Asian suzanis, mandalas, or baskets and it is stitched with flowers, fish, abstract designs, animals, an anchor and fans.

Bordered with a triangular pattern of mauve and yellow triangles, it has the date 1893 stitched onto the right hand side, and is edged with brown sateen.

The back is broad strips of fabric, striped in black and tan and the quilt is tacked over a checked fabric. It is fragile and faded, and many of the silk and taffeta panels have shattered, but it is still arresting and is one of only 80 crazy quilts in Australia (according to a recent Significance Assessment conducted by Kylie Winkworth).

Jean, who married Tom Hutchinson in 1942, kept the quilt for most of her life, stored in a cupboard in a small house in Hassans Walls Road in Lithgow.

Her daughter, Mrs Larraine Spice, remembers as a child that Jean would lay it on the floor and ask the children to sit on it and tell her what they could see in its fantastic embroidery and shapes.

It is extremely special for Eskbank House because it tells so many stories about Lithgow; the migration history of families like David Leake's; family bonds across oceans and women's history in a man's town. Jean herself was remarkable.

She carefully hoarded family memorabilia but was no homebody; having been the town's first postmistress during World War II, founded the Muzzle Loading Gun Club and been an active sportswoman and a bird watcher.

The Leake-Sutton quilt made in Pennsylvania, 1893

Lithgow's history captured in quilt at Eskbank House

Continued from page 5

Since her death in 2004, Museum staff have been working with Larraine Spice to capture her family memories and assist in the task of preserving Larraine's own extensive collection of letters, photographs, genealogical information and memorabilia from both sides of her family, reaching back to the 1840s, as well as Larraine's own remarkable quilts.

Everything that has happened in Lithgow is represented in the fabric of the Eskbank House, and its collections, in some way - the challenge is getting the story out there!

Participating in awards like this is an important promotional tool for museums.

The Radio National regional museums award website (www.abc.net.au/rn/museums/) contains entries from over 100 museums, in every Australian state and territory.

I particularly commend the entries for the winners! These are Lismore's Richmond River Historical Society, also awarded best volunteer-run museum, and which is notable for the way it incorporates Bundjalung Aboriginal history with pastoralist and maritime history; Bathurst Island's Patakajiyali Museum, best Indigenous Cultural Centre/Keeping Place, and Narryna Heritage Museum, in Battery Point, Tasmania, which was voted best small museum.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Naomi Parry completed her PhD in Australian History, "'Such a Longing': Black and white children in welfare in NSW and Tasmania 1880 - 1940" at UNSW in 2007.

She has lectured in Australian history and heritage and has worked on Aboriginal history in the Blue Mountains.

She is the cultural development officer at Lithgow City Council, and operates Eskbank House and Museum.

Bicentenary forum

A broad group of people in the Lithgow area has been discussing how best to commemorate the Bicentenary of the Crossing of the Blue Mountains.

Dr Naomi Parry has undertaken to organise a history forum, in Lithgow, at which participants might consider the crossing (and all the other crossings between 1813 and 1816) and develop a thematic framework that will guide celebrations.

It is hoped the forum will include a variety of voices and will include oral history and storytelling, about the crossing and its aftermath, as well as its effects on all the communities, Aboriginal and colonial, in the Blue Mountains and central west.

"If there is sufficient interest and enough ideas emerge we would like to continue the forum into 2012 and 2013."

The date for the first forum will be Saturday May 14, 2011, which is the weekend of Ironfest and will guarantee a large audience.

"I will be developing a program for the forum early in the New Year so would be very grateful if interested people can let me know whether they can attend and if individuals would like to present a paper or run a workshop. "It is hoped to attract students to the forum," Dr Parry said

For further information contact Naomi Parry by e-mail at Naomi.Parry@lithgow.nsw.gov.au

Shakespeare Festival returns to Everglades

Following the sold-out success of its inaugural season in 2010, The Leura Shakespeare Festival returns in January 2011 with three productions in repertory.

A brand new promontory performance of Shakespeare's delightful comedy, 'As You Like It', will join Damien Ryan's acclaimed 'Romeo & Juliet' and a re-imagined 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' for a magical month of weekends in the mountains.

The festival will begin in the National Trust's exquisite Everglades Gardens and then journey to the famous Norman Lindsay Gallery, Faulconbridge.

Everglades House and Gardens
As You Like It: January 8, 9, 15, 16, 22, 23 **(1.30pm start)**
Romeo and Juliet: January14, 22 **(7pm start)**
A Midsummer Night's Dream: January 8, 9, 16, 21, 23 **(7pm start) Norman Lindsay Gallery**
A Midsummer Night's Dream: January 29, **(1.30pm start)**
January 28,29 **(7pmstart)**

COST: $30 adult, $25 concession (seniors, students, under 16s and National Trust Members). U/6 free. Discounts for combined purchases.
INFO: www.sportforjove.com.au
TICKETS: www.foxtix.com.au or 1300 356 268. Book early to avoid disappointment.

BLUE MOUNTAINS LITERARY INDEX AND MAP PROJECT

by Kate Santleben, volunteer at Blue Mountains City Council's Springwood Library's Local Studies Section and member of Springwood Historians

The Blue Mountains has long been associated with writers who have either lived in the area or been regular visitors.

Their writing talents include fiction, poetry, screenplays, and non-fiction as well as content for newspapers and magazines, including locally produced publications. An example of the latter is the first issue of *Narrator Magazine* (Spring 2010).[1]

The appeal of the Blue Mountains lies in its proximity to, but distance from, Sydney, accessible public transport, more economic housing, healthier lifestyle and a developed infrastructure enabling ease of day-to-day living.

The natural landscape and distinctive seasons of the Blue Mountains enhance the appeal of the area. In short, 'many writers and artists have lived and worked under the spell of the Blue Mountains'.[2]

Bookshops are located in most of the villages and attract locals and visitors alike. This encouragement of writers adds to a sense of the Blue Mountains as being an environment that actively promotes the activities of writing and publishing.

The Blue Mountains has Australia's only national writers' centre, *Varuna*, located in Katoomba. It was the home of the writer Eleanor Dark and her husband, Dr Eric Dark. Since being given to the NSW government in 1989, *Varuna* has sought to '… identify and develop the best new Australian writing …'.[3]

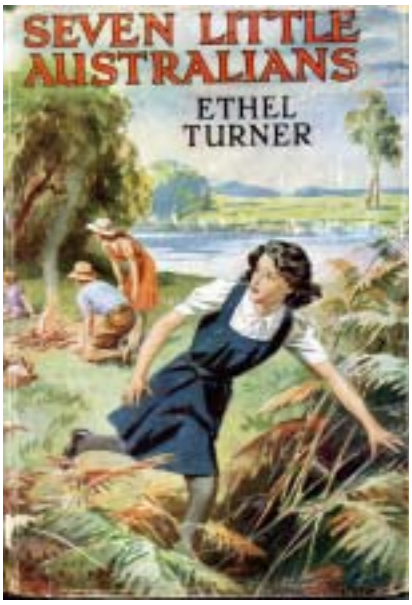
The Fellowship of Australian Writers (FAW) provides members with an opportunity to '… enjoy the friendship, support and encouragement of other writers'.[4] FAW's Blue Mountains Regional was formed in 1973[5] and meets at Springwood. Other writing-based groups meet in the Blue Mountains from time to time.

The Blue Mountains City Council local studies librarians, John Low (now retired) and John Merriman have collected, where possible, literary works of local importance. These are housed at the Springwood Library.

The work 'can reflect and document significant aspects of regional history and character and can sometimes provide an original, even unusual, perspective from which to view that history and character'.[6]

The following indicators are the criteria used for evaluating writers and literary works of local importance and their inclusion or otherwise in the library's local studies collection:

- the 'residential' indicator – is the writer a long-term or permanent part-time resident or a visitor to the region?
- the 'literary' indicator – what level of critical acclaim/ commercial success has the writer/literary work achieved? and
- the 'content' indicator – does the writer or literary work draw upon the local region for location, character, issues, etc.?[7]



In Ethel Turner's *Seven Little Australians*[11], Judy is sent to boarding school in Mt Victoria

About the author of this article

Kate Santleben (pictured with Local Studies literature files) has lived in Blaxland with her husband since 2005. Interested since her teens in writing, she seeks opportunities to learn more about writing as well as entering competitions. As her part-time employment as a membership development officer for a charity is located in Sydney's CBD, train travel provides the opportunity to catch up on reading.

An enthusiasm for history, particularly social history, led to volunteering in the Local Studies area of the Blue Mountains City Council in 2005. In 2007 Kate was invited to be a member of Springwood Historians. She is currently on leave from external studies in the Graduate Diploma in Local, Family and Applied History through University of New England. Resuming studies is a goal for 2011

Writer-in-residence started project in 1990

Continued from page 7

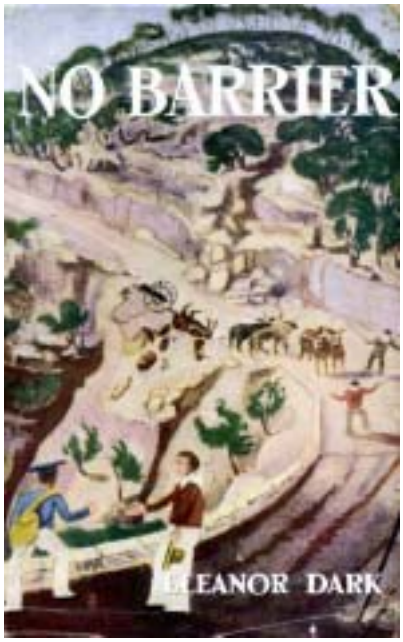
In 1990, the Blue Mountains City Library's writer-in-residence, Dr Michael Sharkey, began a project to '… establish a literary index to the Blue Mountains'. References to writers who have lived in or visited the Blue Mountains, or have written about the Blue Mountains were collected and included in an index held by the library's local studies section.

It was also hoped that with enough information a Blue Mountains Literary Map could be produced to enable locals and visitors 'to pay personal homage to the region's rich literary heritage'.[8] Dr Sharkey's three-month residence quickly passed.

However, the literary index continued to grow from then as time and information came to hand.

In 2005, Kate Santleben attained a long-held goal and moved to the Blue Mountains after being a frequent visitor of local family members.

During one of these visits, she consulted with John Low, one of the then local studies librarians on a work-in-progress that was set in the upper Blue Mountains, and discovered the rich treasure trove of social history in the local studies section.



Part three in the famous timeless land triology... the discovery of a route over the Blue Mountains

After applying to be a volunteer in the Springwood Library and subsequent discussions with John Low as to her interests in writing and social history, Kate was directed to the Blue Mountains Literary Index and Map project.

As a library technician, it was a joy to be back in a library environment and having been long familiar with the work of some of the Blue Mountains writers, e.g., Eleanor Dark, Kylie Tennant, Florence James, Dymphna Cusack and Nancy Phelan, it was a delight to work on the project. In addition, having just returned from a trip to the UK and having followed a literary map whilst there, Kate agreed with the concept being replicated in the Blue Mountains.

However, the project that Kate had initially thought 'wouldn't take long' is, five years later, still a work-in-progress.

What has been achieved so far? Whilst the aforementioned indicators are used in evaluating works to be included in the local studies collection, the literary index also seeks to record all writers who live or have spent time in the Blue Mountains and/or whose work has a Blue Mountains content.

Each writer so far identified has, in alphabetical order, an index card with their name and notes as to what newspaper cuttings, website addresses, catalogue information etc., is available.
A physical file in alphabetical order for each writer stores that information.

Additionally, a spreadsheet has been prepared and currently has 495 names. The spreadsheet summarises the names, dates of birth/death, Blue Mountains village associated with the writer (if known), the genre of their work, and any notes.

Of the recorded Blue Mountains writers, the earliest include Sir Henry Parkes (1815-1896), Henry Lawson (1867-1922) and Norman Lindsay (1879-1969). The most recent addition is Kristel Thornell.

The Blue Mountains villages from Lapstone to Mt Victoria/Mt Wilson have also been cross-referenced with the names of the writers associated with them.

The most 'writerly' village? Katoomba closely followed by Springwood and Winmalee.

The sources of information used to compile the spreadsheet include the local studies' literary index, on-line dictionaries of biography, Blue Mountains City Library catalogue as well as national and state library catalogues, local and state newspapers, local newsletters and journals, as well as writers' websites.

The following lists interesting examples of items held in the local studies collection:

- Graham Alcorn's *Windy Day, Blue Mountains*[9];
- Jennifer Rowe's *Grim Pickings*[10], a murder mystery, is set in a Blue Mountains' apple orchard
- In Ethel Turner's *Seven Little Australians*[11], Judy is sent to boarding school in Mt Victoria;
- Frank Walford, *Mists at Leura*[12] and *Twisted Clay an explosive novel of strange passions*[13]; and
- Deb Westbury's poem *Notices in the Window*[14] features Brian's Bookshop at Katoomba.

What's still to be done in the Blue Mountains Literary Index and Map Project?

Literary Index: complete spreadsheet inputting and cross-checking the spreadsheet data and continue sorting the individual physical files. As long as the Blue Mountains continues to encourage and attract writers, the literary index will continue to develop.

Literary Map: summarise the most well-known Blue Mountains writers and plot the villages associated with them. Investigate the logistics of preparing the map itself and how it is to be distributed.

William Cox's great grandson is engineer named on plaque

When the Blue Mountains Shire Council moved into its new quarters in 1915 it had already been functioning for several years in other buildings in Lawson.

In brief, the Local Government Act of 1906 had created a temporary council known as the Kanimbla Shire to cover the area from Emu Plains to Mount Victoria (excluding Katoomba which had been doing its own thing as a municipality since 1898).

The first council under this Act was elected in 1906 and proceeded to operate from a temporary home in the Mechanics Institute building in Lawson.

In 1907 the name Kanimbla Shire was officially changed by NSW government proclamation to Blue Mountains Shire which it was to remain until the establishment of the current Blue Mountains City Council on October 1, 1947.

By 1908 there was a definite need for more permanent accommodation for the shire council and a move was made across the railway line first to the house called *Avon* on the corner of Park Street and San Jose Avenue and then in May 1915 into the new purpose-built accommodation.

The plaques at the entry to the building reflect a great deal of Blue Mountains history.

The memorial to William Cox is a reminder that the shire engineer in 1915 was Harley Cox a great grandson of William.

The memorial to Percy Wilson (no relative of the equally prominent Blue Mountains Hotel Wilsons) is a reminder of a most redoubtable man, shire president for almost 20 years and responsible for much of the infrastructure that made modern Lawson.

The plaque recording the opening by Mrs JT Wall is a reminder of the tragedy of World War 1 as Douglass Square was named as a memorial to young John Douglass Wall killed in France in 1916.

The library like the council before it had several homes before finally coming to rest in its present building on June 6, 1983.

It had started as a small collection of books owned by Lawson Literary and Debating Society set up in 1896 with eight members.

With the building of the Mechanics Institute in 1903, its growth was rapid becoming in 1905 a circulating library with over 1000 books.

It stayed under the control of institutes committee until taken over by council in 1975.

It was to remain housed at the institute until 1976 then moved to premises at 303 Great Western Highway before finally moved into the original 1915 building now known as the Lawson branch library

This article has been researched and written by Nance Cooper, President, Mid Mountains Historical Society Inc.

Jan Barkley-Jack's book takes a new look at Hawkesbury

Well known and highly respected historian Jan Barkley-Jack will be the Blue Mountain's Historical Society's guest speaker on Saturday, February 5.

Her subject Hawkesbury Settlement Revealed: Australia's Third Mainland Settlement 1793-1802 is the title of one of her recently published books.

Jan's book provides an exciting new look at the history of the Hawkesbury region.

For booking and further details contact John Low on 4782 3751

Call for writers to be added to literary index

Continued from page 8

Kate Santleben would like to take this opportunity to thank the Blue Mountains City Council Library for the opportunity to work on the literary index and map project and for the encouragement and assistance of the staff.

Any suggestions for names to be included in the literary index would be appreciated. Any questions or comments arising from this article should be directed to Mr John Merriman, local studies librarian, Springwood Library, telephone: 4723 5044.

(End notes)

[1] MoshPit Publishing, *Narrator magazine*, Spring 2010, Hazelbrook
[2] Publish! Blue Mountains, *Creative connections Blue Mountains writers & artists*, 2009, Katoomba, back cover
[3] http://www.varuna.com.au/ (accessed 05-Sep-10)
[4] http://www.fawnsw.org.au/default.html (accessed 05-Sep-10)
[5] The Blue Mountains Regional, Fellowship of Australian Writers NSW Inc., *Pens on the move*, 2003, p. 3
[6] John Low, *The Blue Mountains: a writers' paradise*, undated document
[7] *op cit*.
[8] Unknown, *Blue Mountains literary index and map*, undated document
[9] Graham Alcorn, *Windy Day, Blue Mountains* in *The Bird Baths of Umbigumbi*, Three Sisters Productions Pty Ltd, 1987, Winmalee, p. 20
[10] Jennifer Rowe, *Grim Pickings*, Allen & Unwin, 1987, Sydney
[11] Ethel Turner, *Seven Little Australians*, Ward, Lock & Co., Ltd, 1962, London
[12] Frank Walford, *Mists at Leura* in *Starlight & Haze*, The Mountaineer Printing and Publishing Co., Ltd, 1919, Katoomba, unpaginated
[13] Frank Walford, *Twisted Clay an explosive novel of strange passions*, Horwitz Publications Inc. Pty Ltd, 1962, London
[14] Deb Westbury, *Notices in the Window* in *Surface Tension*, Five Islands Press Assoc., 1998, Wollongong, p. 57

Heritage funding for Turkish Bath

The Turkish Bath, built in the 1880s, at Mt Wilson has recently undergone major restoration.

It is a rare example of a purpose built private Turkish bath, still virtually intact and possibly unique in Australia. It is situated within the *Wynstay Estate* at Mt Wilson.

The building is a particularly fine example of late Victorian boom style architecture with polychrome brickwork and Italianate details.

In 1995 the owners offered the Turkish Bath building and precinct to the community to establish a museum of local history. This generous gift prompted formation in 1996 of the Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine Historical Society which holds the 50 year lease at a peppercorn rental of $2 per year, and takes responsibility for restoration, maintenance and operation of the building, grounds and the museum.

For the past 15 years the original corrugated roof sheeting has been treated with preservative and carefully watched as encroaching rust and pinhole perforations developed, until in 2008 the decision was reached that the roof needed to be replaced.

An application to the Heritage Branch, NSW Department of Planning, for 50% funding support

The project starts

Original ridge capping folded back and iron cresting secured

The completed rennovations on the Turkish Bathouse at Mt Wilson

met with success and the roof was replaced in July / August 2010.

At the same time, timber louvres and joinery on the ornate tower were also refurbished.

This project may sound like a straightforward piece of conservation work but it was anything but straightforward!

Original lead hips, ridges and flashing were carefully lifted and folded back so that the old roofing could be removed, while the decorative iron cresting was left in place and protected from damage.

The original galvanised screws and lead washers were removed and re-used where possible. The new 0.6mm Z600 galvanised corrugated steel sheeting was barrel rolled at Fielders in South Australia to match the profile of the original roofing. All timber joinery on the tower was taken back and treated then painted to match the original colour scheme.

Timber joinery on the tower was refurbished

This expert work was carried out by staff of the Sydney Restoration Company, in consultation with heritage Architect Alan Croker from Design 5 Architects. These professionals have been involved with conservation work at *Wynstay* since 1994, and the owners have come to depend on their skills and interest in the ongoing management of this highly significant heritage estate.

“But the project would not have been possible without dollar for dollar funding from the Heritage Branch, NSW Department of Planning. The staff there has been with us throughout, and we are grateful for their ongoing interest and support,” said Ms Florence Smart a former president of Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine Historical Society Inc.

The Turkish Bath Museum houses changing exhibits of earlier times in Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine. It is open from 12.30pm to 3.30pm on the third Sunday each month throughout the year, and every Sunday during the Spring and Autumn months. Group tours are very welcome, by arrangement. Phone 4756 2006 for information.

This article and photographs were contributed by Ms Florence Smart, a fomer president and now secretary, Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine Historical Society Inc.

Dreaming of Chanel

After the stunning success of *Dreaming of Dior*, Charlotte Smith offers another irresistible glimpse inside the wardrobe every woman would love to own.

Inheriting a priceless vintage collection sounds like every woman's dream come true.

But when Charlotte Smith discovered that her American godmother, Doris Darnell, had made her custodian of more than three thousand pieces dating from 1790 to 1995, including originals by Chanel and Dior, she was more than a little daunted.

From the moment Charlotte uncovered her first treasure, an exquisite 1920s evening dress, she was enchanted.

But when she found her godmother's book of stories, the true value of her inheritance hit home.

This wasn't a mere collection of beautiful things, it was a precious collection of women's lives. Tiny glimpses of thei joys and disappointments, their entrances and exits, triumphant and tragic.

In *Dreaming of Dior*, Charlotte shared some of her treasures and the stories of the women who wore them for the first time. Now, in ***Dreaming of Chanel***, with special appearances by Chanel, Vivienne Westwood, Zandra Rhodes, Pucci, Akira and many more, Charlotte offers another unforgettable look inside the magic wardrobe every woman would love to have.

The book cover of Dreaming of Chanel launched at the Carrington Hotel, Katoomba last month

About the author: Charlotte Smith is the custodian of a priceless vintage clothing collection, The Darnell Collection, she inherited from her Quaker godmother, Doris Darnell. Born in Hong Kong and raised in the US, Charlotte has a degree in art history and has lived and worked in the US, England and France.

About the illustrator: After studying fashion design Grant Cowan moved to London to further his career and has worked as a fashion Illustrator, lecturer and commercial Illustrator for magazines including *Harper's Bazaar*, *Elle*, *Glamour*, *Teen Vogue* and *Red Magazine*.

Pictured above is Charlotte Smith of Blackheath, a principal of The Darnell Collection Pty Ltd and inaugral member of BMACHO.

Photograph courtesy of Solitary Photography.

Horse trainer/historian corrects Beersheba claim

HERITAGE is grateful to NSW central coast horse trainer and historian, Bob Pankhurst for drawing attention to an error in the article *The Light Horse Interchange* (*HERITAGE* November-December 2010) in which it was claimed "The men who made the last wartime cavalry charge [Beersheba] were mounted infantry – Australian light horsemen'

Bob Pankhurst writes, "…this is wrong on two counts; firstly the Australian Light Horse were mounted infantry and not armed with cavalry weapons and secondly; the Canadian Cavalry unit Lord Strathconas Horse charged the German lines of trenches at Moreuil Wood in about August 1918. This was a full cavalry charge using swords and lances carried out by about 1200 men and the unit charged twice into the German and Saxon trench lines. They were commanded by a British General who was known as Mad Jack Seeley, and at least one Victoria Cross was won during this charge by a fellow named Flowerdale. This charge was a desperate attempt to break through the German lines so as to cut off their access to the sea and it was successful."

Bob also writes… "The 6th Light Horse were regular campers at Wallgrove Army Camp, the site of the now closed Australia's Wonderland, and I think were the last Light Horse unit camped there when the Light Horse was mechanised in NSW sometime in late 1941 or early 1942 though Light Horse units operated in West Australia until 1944.

"If you look up newspaper records from the 1941 era you will see that there was a stampede of army horses at the Wallgrove camp about Easter time where hundreds of horses stampeded after being frightened by swirling newspaper blown up in the wind. The camp luckily was only occupied by the horse handlers as the rest of the boys were on Easter leave even so one trooper was killed when the toilet block was demolished by the stampeding herd.

Horses were found several days later as far away as Penrith."

BMACHO NEEDS A NEW PRESIDENT

After 5 years as president of the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc, John Leary, OAM has decided because of ill health not to seek re-election at the annual general meeting in March. 2011.

Mr Leary said it has been a privilege to serve as the organisation's inaugural president and work with a very fine group of dedicated amateur enthusiasts, professionals and academics within the heritage sector of this region.

"Much has been achieved in the way of education through various workshops and speakers, while there is no doubt that BMACHO has had some influence on local government during the past 5 years.

"Among these achievements has been input which brought about a far more balanced document produced as Blue Mountains City Council's cultural heritage strategy; the listing of more than 800 sites on the State Heritage Inventory by council; the development of the newsletter *HERITAGE* and the publishing of the first volume of the online *Blue Mountains History Journal* but to mention a few.

"Probably one of the most important achievements has been to have various heritage and historical societies in the region come to understand they are not isolated and that the expertise and resources of other heritage groups may be shared for each others mutual benefit.

"The exchange of ideas and knowledge as well as inter-group promotion of activities and the BMACHO calendar has been the resulting benefit.

"It is difficult to accurately assess how many are involved in the heritage sector throughout the region.

"However, it has been suggested that there are as many as 2500 individuals who have some direct link to heritage interests in this district. BMACHO can and has filled a void in providing a "voice' for these individuals.

BMACHO president John Leary, OAM receiving a heritage award from the Premier, Kristina Keneally recognising his voluntary work in the heritage sector going back to 1975 when he was appointed by the then Premier Tom Lewis to the Berrima Court House Trust through to his work with National Trust and BMACHO over the past decade.

"The existing committee and others over the past years, worked very harmoniously, each member having valuable input based on years of experience in the heritage sector. It is difficult to mention each and every one of the committee members who have contributed to the organisation management, but three must be mentioned.

"Firstly, Professor Barrie Reynolds who conceived the idea of BMACHO and worked tirelessly as its secretary until his recent ill health; Associate Professor Ian Jack who as vice president for the past 5 years has been a tower of strength having a vast knowledge of history and in particular this region and Dr Peter Stanbury who has in his quiet unassuming way been of immense value to the organisation.

"It is now time to find a new leader for this very worthwhile organisation and although nominations for election have not yet opened, it is important that thought be given to the filling of the soon to be vacated office.

"The structure of BMACHO is very sound and many of the existing management committee have expressed an interest in seeking reelection which if these people and some 'new blood' are elected to the committee it will mean a good succession has been achieved."

Anyone interested in seeking election to the office of president is welcome to discuss the role with John Leary on 47588584 or by e-mail: johnnanete@optusnet.com.au

$10,000 GIFT

BMACHO member, Scenic World Katoomba recently celebrated the Scenic Railway turning 65 and instead of having a "normal" birthday bash, the Hammon family decided they would prefer to have a fund raising dinner with all funds raised from the evening going to Blue Mountains Cancer Help.

Guests were entertained on the night with some cool jazz and fine food in the Skyway Restaurant.

Raffles and an auction were held with locals bidding on items such as helicopter flights, a Skyway rooftop experience and other goodies.

The result of the evening saw a cheque for $10,800 presented by Phil and Peta Hammon to Robyn Yates of Blue Mountains Cancer Help.

Two Governors to dinner

Her Excellency the Governor of NSW, Professor Marie Bashir, AC, CVO being escorted to the official table by the President, Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc., Frank Holland

Some 200 years after the fifth Governor of the Colony, Lachlan Macquarie and his vice regal party including Mrs Elizabeth Macquarie crossed the Hawkesbury on December 1, 1810 and then made their way to the summit of the 'Kurry Jung' the 37th Governor of NSW, Professor Marie Bashir sat down to a formal dinner with 120 guests.

The dinner organised by members of the Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc. was held at Loxley on Blue Bird Hill, close to where Macquarie would have passed.

Soon after the governor arrived, guests were entertained by an audio visual presentation, the script having been written by Ron and Margaret Rozzoli.

The audio visual presentation, *Birth of a Nation* told the story of Colonel Macquarie's appointment as the fifth governor and much of Governor and Mrs Macquarie's life in the Colony starting with the sea voyage from England and then focused on the journey the vice regal couple made to the 'Kurry Jong' and then on to the naming of the five Macquarie towns.

The story continued with a brief overview of the period between 1810 and the Macquarie's departure in 1822 concluding with his death in 1824.

The script was based on the Journal of Governor Lachlan Macquarie

The production was enhanced by the appearance of actors from the Richmond Players at key moments in the story.

Later in the evening the governor provided the formal address speaking without notes for more than 40 minutes about the Macquaries. Her in-depth knowledge of the work of Governor Macquarie and his wife Elizabeth with a number of anecdotes which could only have come from her own research amazed many of the historians who listened to Professor Bashir.

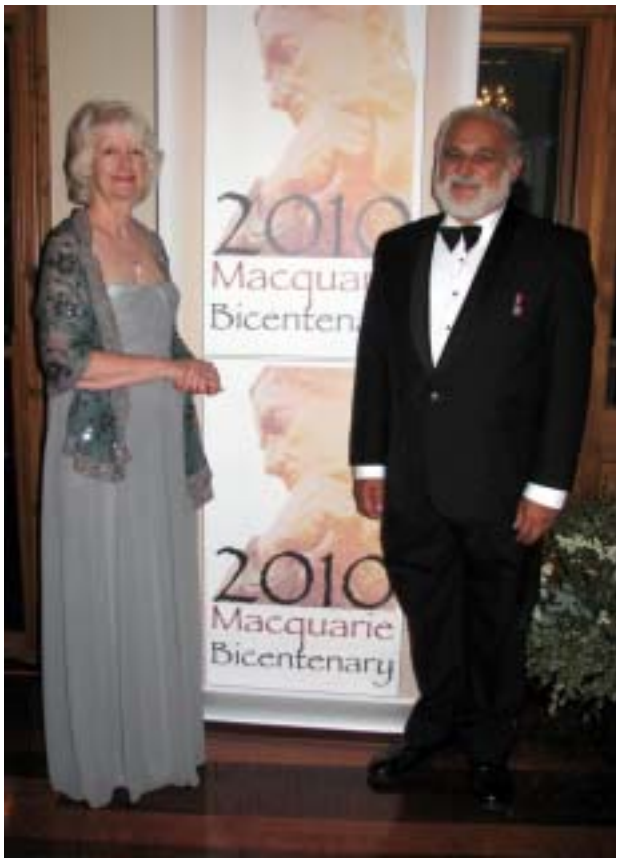
After mingling with the guests, Governor Bashir and Sir Nicholas Shehadie departed with some guests staying on much later while others retired to accommodation at Loxley or found their way home.

(Editor's note: Sincere appreciation is extended to Frank and Val Holland for the many courtesies extended to me as president of BMACHO and my wife Nanette during the formal dinner and for arranging the excellent accommodation at Loxley. BMACHO's management committee was also represented at the dinner by vice president, Dr Ian Jack and Ms Jan Barkley-Jack and secretary, Ms Jan Koperberg. The proprietor of Loxley Paul Maher and his staff are also to be commended for providing excellent service and facilities. John Leary)

The fifth Governor of the Colony Lachlan Macquarie, played for the evening, by Sean Duff.

Pictures on this and the following page are courtesy of Carolynne Cooper of Transportation Signals and Communications Museum Inc.
Continued page 14

Lachlan Macquarie's bicentenary dinner recalls his work as the 'builder of a nation'



Val and Frank Holland whose leadership and dedicated work did much to make the Macquarie bicentenary anniversary dinner such a succes

Most guests were dressed in formal evening wear, however John Cooper of Transportation, Signal and Comunications Museum Inc. chose to dress as Governor Macquarie's faithful servant during his 28 years as governor, Richard Fitzgerald

The Governor chats with some of the Richmond Players who included Sean Duff (Lachlan Macquarie) Anne Duff (Elizabeth Macquarie), Greg Todd (James Meehan). Nathan Zamprogno provided the narration and Tracy Stedman provided Elizabeth's voice and back stage management

'In a few years I have no doubt Sydney will be as fine and Opulent a Town as any one in His Majesty's other foreign Dominions.'

Lachand Macquarie

1815.

Jan Koperberg elected to lead Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc.

Jan Koperberg has been elected as president of the Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc. taking over from Joan Edwards.

Jan retired from full time work at the end of 2005 and joined the Blue Mountains Family History Society in the middle of 2006. At the AGM in November 2006, Jan was nominated and accepted the role of secretary, which she held till the end of 2009, when she became vice president.

Jan was nominated as NSW & ACT Association of Family History Societies' delegate for Blue Mountains in 2009 and was a committee member until September 2010, when she was nominated and accepted the role of secretary, after Kay Radford "called it a day" (Kay's words).

In March 2010, Jan was nominated and accepted the role of secretary to the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations, which she took over from Barrie Reynolds, with 'much trepidation'. Jan had no need to feel nervous however, as the organisation was very welcoming and the management committee members were, and are, very patient and willing to share their knowledge.

The positions on these committees compliment one another and Jan finds the activities of the organisations stimulating and worthwhile and still finds time to spend with family and friends.

The last three years Jan attended NSW & ACT Assoc of FHS's State Conferences, 2008 in Dubbo, 2009 in Wyong and 2010 in Bomaderry and for the first time attended the RAHS State Conference in Richmond, which was an enjoyable and informative weekend.

At all but the RAHS conference, (Jan had a rest), Joan Edwards and Jan held successful trade tables for Blue Mountains Family History Society.

They have also held trade tables and attended the Penrith History Conference for a number of years.

Jan's early years were spent living in Bondi, where she went to school, but most holidays were spent in the Blue Mountains, where the family would travel by steam train and stay in boarding houses or hotels in Lapstone, Leura, Katoomba and Medlow Bath.

Winter holidays in the Mountains were popular and reading by the open fires, bushwalking, horse riding and visiting other Blue Mountain towns were some of the activities that were enjoyed.

Jan has lived in the Mountains since 1967, first on Hawkesbury Road, North Springwood, (as it was), and now in Bunnal Avenue, Winmalee and definitely calls the Blue Mountains home.

Jan believes there is a very real need to preserve our family histories, our history natural and built and our heritage. There is a very real need to do this for our children and grandchildren, the future generations.

BERYL MCLAUGHLIN LECTURE

Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc. will conduct its annual Beryl McLaughlin lecture on Saturday, March 5, 2011 at the Wentworth Falls School of Arts.

The speaker, John Ellison has had a long association with the arts and this will be the focus of his presentation although the exact title of his lecture is still to be confirmed.

John has lived and worked as an artist in the Blue Mountains for many years.

He inspired the Winter Magic Festival and was for a period Blue Mountains City Council's community arts officer.

He has an intimate knowledge of and strong opinions about the arts and his lecture promises to be a challenging and thought provoking one.

For further information contact John Low 4782 3751.

Blue Mountains WW2 Project

Can you help?

Blue Mountains Family History Society's project on local social history during the war years is well underway.

Author, Joan Edwards, is seeking more names, photographs and/or stories of individuals and groups including aircraft spotters, businesses, SAF workers residing in the mountains, schools, evacuees, voluntary organisations and workers, Volunteer Defence Force, and anything else.

One challenge is to compile a list of known locals who joined the services and, therefore, were 'not at home'.

Assistance would be appreciated. Tiny snippets of personal or family experiences are important.

Please contact Blue Mountains WW2 Project at P.O. Box 312 Wentworth Falls 2782 or the dedicated email address jed2782@gmail.com ASAP before you forget, deadline Easter 2011.

Blue Mountains World Heritage Area showcased

An awe inspiring panoramic view of the Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Area is the focus of the World Heritage Exhibition Centre opened last year, at Mount Tomah Botanic Garden by actor and environmentalist Jack Thompson.

The centre celebrates the 10th anniversary of the area's inscription on the UNESCO World Heritage List.

It will give schoolchildren curriculum based lessons about national parks and conservation, as well as showcase the region's natural beauty.

The spellbinding views combined with the intellectual and artistic experiences at the centre deliver a strong message which had solid roots in the local community.

"The first seed of conservation was planted by the Aboriginals who took great care of this natural wonderland," Mr Thompson said.

The Mount Tomah Botanic Garden takes its name from the mountain on which it is located.

The original owners of the land were the Darug Aboriginal people. 'Tomah' is reputedly an Aboriginal word meaning tree fern.

Mount Tomah Botanic Garden director Rob Smith said the new building would provide a space where people could play in a virtual world of canyons without getting their feet wet and, in a full surround sound theatre, experience a journey through the gigantic cliffs of the one million hectares of the World Heritage Area.

Another recent addition at the Mount Tomah Botanic Garden is the Laughing Children's Garden which will become a wonderland in which children and families will take delight.

"The Gwuulya Garri Dilya Garden (Laughing Children's Garden) has soft green lawns for family picnics and shady trees to relax under while kids climb on and explore the sculpture," Mr Smith said.

"Adventures abound for children at the garden. It's a lyrical organic green space that showcases the soft shapes and textures of the Pod Pod.

"The sculpture is embossed with the images of birds, reptiles, insects and plants all to be discovered while climbing and crawling over the pieces which are shaped like acacia pods," Mr Smith said.

A generous donation by Tom Breen, managing director of Breen Holdings Pty Ltd and his family have made possible the three centrepieces called Pod Pod as a feature of the garden.
For more information
www.mounttomahbotanicgarden.com.au
or enquiries to
tomah@rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au

Sunset Jazz at Mount Tomah Botanic Garden

A food, wine and music night on Saturday, February 12

Celebrate local jazz and wines with panoramic views under the setting sun at Restaurant Tomah.

Enjoy a sumptuous 7-course meal and Tara Maher's silky voice from 6pm to 10pm Bookings essential to 4567 3019 $125 pp, places limited.

Pictured at top is a panoramic view of the Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Area while below are images of the World Heritage Exhibition Centre. Photographs by Jamie Plaza - Botanic Gardens Trust

New leader for Mt Victoria and District Historical Society

Robert Cameron has been elected to the position of acting president of the Mount Victoria and District Historical Society Inc. following the death of Peter Evans.

"At the last annual general meeting at Mt Victoria former president Peter Evans was with us, I was elected to the position of vice president," Robert Cameron has said.

"Since Peter's passing, (I shall always remember Peter for his poignant sense of humour. I am sure he has the angels laughing in the aisles.....) a recent meeting of the society elected me as acting president.

"Until the next AGM and in the interim, I will endeavour to further the good work Peter has instigated.

"There are a few of Peter's visions in train, some of which some may already be aware, which we hope to complete next year.

"One is to complete the refurbishment of the former 'Plumbers Room' converting it to a research and meeting room.

"It will house our collection of maps, files on the occupants and the habitation of the district as well as our computer and hard copy research files.

"It is our intention to expand this historical information by the addition of oral history recordings from the districts' inhabitants.

"Another objective is to utilise the space we have in order to establish a more coherent visitor experience, as well as to provide additional space for proposed new exhibitions and to house those items we currently have in storage. Allied with this is a clean-up the curtilage courtyard, currently used for live displays of traditional wood-turning during 'Great Train Weekend' events, which will facilitate and enhance its future usage.

"Since becoming a member of the society some 8 years ago I have realised the uniqueness of the artifacts we have on display and their importance in the second most historical event for New South Wales, the crossing of the Blue Mountains.

Robert Cameron

"I look forward to our continued association with BMACHO and our mutual co-operation and support," said Robert Cameron.

Vale - Heather Mollenhauer

Well known Blue Mountains historian and community worker, Heather McDougal Mollenhauer (nee Ingamells) passed away on December 12, 2010 at the age of 71.

She worked as a volunteer with the Blue Mountains Historical Society, Mid-Mountains Historical Society and Blue Mountains Conservation Society and her much loved Jacktrackers Bushwalking Group.

Born in Hawthorn Victoria, where she grew up, attending the Methodist Ladies College in her senior school years, later training as a triple certified nurse.

After completing her training she began service at the Bombaderry, (NSW) Children's Home. In 1956 she was posted to Mt Margaret Mission Hospital in Western Australia as matron.

While at Mt Margaret she married Sam Mollenhauer on March 30, 1957. Heather and Sam were to have five children Kathryn, Andrew, Elizabeth, James and Brenda.

In 1969 Heather and Sam were posted to Mission Publications at La Perouse, NSW with Heather ministering to Aboriginal ladies of the area.

In 1973 they were transferred to the new Mission Publications Office and Printshop in Cascade Street, Lawson. She retired from her active missionary service in 1989.

As an early member of Lawson Baptist Church, Heather filled various roles including keeping archives right up until her passing.

President of the RAHS, Prof Ian Jack has spoken in glowing terms of Mrs Mollenhauer's knowledge of history in the Mid Mountains region and in particular her very informative walking tours in Lawson.

Terracotta warriors from China in Sydney

Discovered by villagers in 1974, the underground army of the First Emperor of China, Qin Shihuang, is one of the most significant and spectacular archaeological discoveries of modern times, while Qin Shihuang remains one of the most remarkable and intriguing figures in China's long and extraordinary history.

A magnificent exhibition organised by the Art Gallery NSW in partnership with the Shaanxi Provincial Administration for Cultural Relics Bureau and the Shaanxi Heritage Promotion Centre, People's Republic of China will continue to be on display at the Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney until March 13, 2011.

Featuring over 120 rare objects from the First Emperor's burial site and other tombs this exhibition takes one on a journey from the beginnings and rise of the Qin empire to the life and rule of the First Emperor, his quest for immortality, and his death, burial and legacy.

Born in 259BCE, Qin Shihuang became king of the small but ambitious state of Qin at the age of just 13 years and over the next 25 years defeated his neighbouring rival states to unite the realm and form China much as we know it today.

While the dynasty that he established lasted only 15 years, in that brief time he created a new political and cultural order that would endure for over 2000 years.

With brutal determination, Qin implemented a series of reforms and building works that laid the foundations for four centuries of relative peace, stability and expansion under the following Han dynasty and remained evident in the governance of China until the eary 20th century.

The name of his dynasty, Qin (pronounced 'chin'), is widely regarded as the origin of the English word China.

The statues include many of the different military units in the Emperor's army at the time

Now over 35 years after the first accidental discovery, the story of the First Emperor's brief but revolutionary reign and his quest for immortality continues to unfold through the ongoing excavation of his entombed army and burial site.

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

REGISTERED OFFICE 14 Bunnal Ave, Winmalee 2777
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Website: www.bluemountains.heritage.com

THE ORGANISATION Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 following a unanimous response to a proposal from Professor Barrie Reynolds at the 2004 Blue Mountains Local History Conference which sought from Blue Mountains City Council the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the city.

BMACHO in its constitution uses the definition: "Cultural heritage is all aspects of life of the peoples of the Blue Mountains which was later changed to cover Lithgow and the villages along the Bell's Line of Roads. It therefore involves the recording, preserving and interpreting of information in whatever form: documents, objects, recorded memories as well as buildings and sites."

The objectives of the organisation are:

i. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage.

ii. To encourage and assist cultural heritage activities of member organisations.

iii. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations.

One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact, to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

HERITAGE BMACHO's official newsletter is edited by John Leary, OAM.

Blue Mountains History Journal is edited by Dr Peter Rickwood.

MEMBERSHIP The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains City Library, Blue Mountains Cultural Heritage Centre, Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc., Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc., Blue Mountains Tourism Limited, Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute, Cudgegong Museums Group Inc., Everglades Historic House & Gardens, Friends of Norman Lindsay Gallery, Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc., Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc, Lilianfels Blue Mountains Resort, Lithgow and District Family History Society Inc., Lithgow Mining Museum Inc., Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies, Lithgow Small Arms Factory Museum Inc, Mid-Mountains Historical Society Inc, Mid Western Regional Council Library, Mount Tomah Botanic Garden, Mt Victoria and District Historical Society Inc., Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine History Society Inc. (including Turkish Bath Museum), Mudgee Historical Society Inc., Mudgee Regional Library, National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Blue Mountains Branch (including Woodford Academy), National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Lithgow Branch, Scenic World – Blue Mountains Limited, Springwood & District Historical Society Inc.., Springwood Historians Inc., Transport Signal and Communication Museum Inc., The Darnell Collection Pty Ltd, Valley Heights Locomotive Depot and Museum, Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd. The following are individual members: Ray Christison, Associate Professor Ian Jack, Joan Kent, John Leary OAM, John Low, Ian Milliss, Professor Barrie Reynolds, and Dr Peter Stanbury OAM.

COMMITTEE The committee for 2010-11 is: John Leary (president), Ian Jack (vice president), Jan Koperberg (secretary), Kathie McMahon-Nolf (treasurer), Jean Arthur, Joan Kent, Doug Knowles, Dick Morony (public officer), Barrie Reynolds and Peter Stanbury.

HONORARY AUDITOR: Sue McMahon, B Comm CPA.

AFFILIATIONS BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society Inc.

HERITAGE

NEWSLETTER OF THE BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

MARCH - APRIL 2011 ISSUE No. 14

A tower all that remains of San Jose

Standing like the remnants of a medieval European watchtower from which a feudal lord could check his domain or watch for the menace of a Saracan attack, the tower on land off San Jose Avenue, Lawson conjures up many ideas as to what the original owner might have been thinking when it was constructed. *HERITAGE* is grateful to John Merriman, Local Studies Librarian, Blue Mountains City Library for the following article.

The original building with its three floor levels and tower was constructed in 1879 and named "San Jose", by Joseph (Jose) Guillermo Hay, an official in the Lands Department, who had received a grant of 300 acres at Lawson the previous year.

In the 1880s Hay took advantage of the Blue Mountains' new and growing reputation as a health and recreation retreat, and by 1882 the name "San Jose" had the words "The Blue Mountains Sanatorium" added to it and described in a local guidebook as "the best for private families" and "with grounds laid out with romantic paths in all directions".

San Jose tower which when attached to a three storey building became Stratford Girls School. Photograph by John Leary, OAM. February 2010

In 1889 Hay applied for a publican's licence for the property then known as "Hay's Family Hotel", described as having fourteen rooms for public use.

During the 1890s the property was acquired by John Ralston who ran it as a guesthouse known as "The Palace" for the next two decades until, in 1919, it eventually took the name and function for which it is best known.

The original Stratford School was founded in Lawson in 1915 by Miss Edith Townsend Wiles who began classes with six pupils in a rented cottage named Tahlia, on the Bathurst Road as the highway was then known.

By 1919 the old cottage was "bursting at the seams" and a move became imperative. The school made the move across the highway and railway line taking the name "Stratford School for Girls" with it.

Continued page 3

OAM FOR MARY REYNOLDS

On Australia Day 2011 Mary Reynolds was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia.

Mary is a well-known and highly respected researcher and writer of the history of her own communities of Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine, and also maintains a keen interest in the heritage of the wider Blue Mountains region.

When she and her husband Ellis came to live in Mt Wilson in 1986, Mary soon became involved as a volunteer with the Woodford Academy and also with Norman Lindsay Gallery.
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From the president's pen.....

Humbug and delay in way of heritage advisory committee

For almost 5 years BMACHO has been attempting to have Blue Mountains City Council reestablish a heritage advisory committee, something many would think would be a simple task.

The humbug and delay at best could be described as a frustration, while the more conspiracy minded might think council and its staff have something to hide; of which there is no obvious evidence.

Many local government units in NSW and in fact around Australia have established this type of committee which draws upon the expertise of both academics/professionals and that of volunteers in historical societies and heritage groups in the community.

The purpose of such a committee is to advise council on all matters pertaining to the heritage of this city and to promote awareness and understanding of the heritage of the region.

A fairly simple but potentially a very valuable committee to a council; particularly one such as the Blue Mountains City Council with something like 1100 heritage sites in addition to having within its municipal boundaries the UNESCO listed Blue Mountains World Heritage Area.

It is prudent for council staff to examine committee models operating in other local government areas and there is some reason to believe that local staff might have higher priorities, but surely a responsible council must give heritage some status in the community fabric.

And indeed there are many areas in council's administration where it obviously places a high regard on the heritage and history of the people it serves. Further evidence can be found in the actions of former deputy mayor Janet Mays supported by Greens councillors when they successfully moved that the possibility of re-establishing a heritage advisory committee be investigated back in June last year.

Eventually a report must come to council for decision, but it will be a disgrace if as seems likely, this is a watered down version. Other councils can find both the necessary resources to service and also see such a committee as a useful adjunct to its professional services. A committee with no real tasks, meeting as infrequently as four times a year, will not encourage those in the community to share the wealth of knowledge that exists and could be available to Blue Mountains City Council.

BMACHO's proposal is not for the creation of some watchdog that keeps an eye on council and its staff. It is simply to see the utIlisation of the great wealth of knowledge of heritage matters which abounds in the community. Already some in the heritage sector have walked away from the proposal because of the delays and frustration and if there is not some real progress in the future others are likely to do the same. Let's not squander yet another opportunity.

Thanks for the experience

As some will know, I will after 5 years at the helm, step down from the presidency of BMACHO later this month, due to ill health. I take this opportunity to thank so many who have worked with me to achieve the objectives of this organisation.There have been some real achievements and a few frustrations, but what we have done to promote heritage and to bring together like minded bodies to share ideas has been most worthwhile.

I thank everyone for the courtesies they have extended to Nanette and I over these past years – it really has been a wonderful and rewarding experience working for our heritage. The new friendships I have gained in this period will be cherished. Thank you one and all.

John Leary, OAM
President, Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc.

Sanatorium became Stratford Girls School

Continued from page 1

In 1924 Miss Wiles and her sister, who was also a member of staff, purchased the building from the Ralston estate and were then able to make additions and alterations to accommodate the school.

When Miss Wiles died in 1930, the enrolment was 49 girls of which 31 were boarders, five girls sat for the intermediate certificate exam and two girls sat the leaving certificate.

Control then passed to the Stratford School Council and subsequently, in 1936, to the Church of England, and the school entered its heyday as “Stratford Church of England School for Girls”.

“The development of capable Christian gentlewomen in an exceptionally healthy, bracing and invigorating climate” - that was the promise of Stratford School, to prospective students and parents in the 1940s-50s.

According to a 1950s school prospectus, boarders at Stratford enjoyed an atmosphere of individuality and co-operation. Pupils were “fitted for practical business”, whilst encouraged to regard life from the stand-point of high ideals and to further their studies at university.

Stratford’s curriculum, extending from primary to leaving certificate, included scripture, English, history, geography, French, Latin, mathematics, physiology, biology, business principles, book-keeping, art, handicrafts and speech training. Music and singing also featured as an important part of school life and students could choose to sit for Australian Music Examinations Board grade exams.

The girls wore an attractive grey uniform, but jewelry was strictly forbidden, with the gracious exception of the school badge and a wrist watch.

Money was also controlled, with all funds going to a pocket money account. Statements on expenditure for outings, church collections and incidentals were issued to parents.

Stratford ruins after the fire, photographed by Neil Billington(1983) for Blue Mountains City Library.

There were three school terms, each 13 weeks long, though the girls were allowed one weekend mid-term to visit relations or friends. Travel to and from Sydney for vacations and mid-term holidays, was always supervised by a mistress from the school.

During term, visitors were allowed, by arrangement with the headmistress, but no student could accept invitations without written permission from her parents. Non-vacation weekends were devoted to healthy activities and visits to places of interest in the district.

As with most Blue Mountains boarding schools of the era, great emphasis was placed on fresh air, healthy diet and wholesome activities. The dining room menu boasted copious quantities of fresh fruits and vegetables, home-made jams and preserves and plenty of milk. Prospectus photographs showed bright, healthy young ladies, poised with grace and decorum in the dining room, clearly enjoying their healthy, wholesome meal.

Recreation was also high on the list at Stratford with tennis, netball, vigaro and swimming at the nearby Lawson Pool offered to all pupils.

The girls were accommodated in bedrooms for two and four boarders and there is also mention of a fine glassed-in balcony with an eastern aspect which appears to have housed a few beds as well.

During the winter, swimming lessons were abandoned and wood fires were lit in the assembly hall and classrooms.

Stratford girls, unlike their counterparts at Osborne College, Blackheath, were also afforded the privilege of a hot water service.

The prospectus makes no mention of students’ academic records, but in the early 1950s, following a report by the Department of Education; the school was reduced to intermediate certificate level.

The 1957 fees brochure shows that the leaving certificate had been reinstated and announced the launch of a building fund to raise £5,000 for the erection of new and modern classrooms and to “gain help for Stratford to develop along modern lines.”

Two coaches from the Lawn Tennis Association had joined the staff to provide coaching to pupils for which a fee of £2.10.0 per term was charged.

It appears however that all this was unsuccessful, so with the buildings and furniture run down, changing trends in education and competition from public schools and other private schools such as Blue Mountains Grammar at Wentworth Falls - Stratford finally closed in 1961.

Continued page 4

Fire guts 1879 Lawson building

Continued from page 3

In 1966, the building was sold to a Sydney couple, who refurbished the interior to house wedding receptions, dinners and private parties.

The establishment lasted until the late 1970s, when in 1977, the Blue Mountains Community School moved in with 18 students, a new teacher and government grants for a library and mini-bus.

By 1980, the building was owned by brothers Lionel and Vivian Coleman of Sydney, but there would be no more tenants for Stratford.

On June 4, 1980, as the result of an electrical fault, the building was gutted by fire.

Today, the only reminder of Stratford's former glory is a large stenciled sign on the building's tower, the rest has gone.

The remains of the building, except for the tower section, were demolished by a developer in the early 1990s.

No further move has been made, at the time of writing, to develop the site, which is listed on the local heritage register.

Stratford at Tahlia and the Japanese Cherry Tree

In 1915 the first home of the school was the rented cottage Narbethong on Bathurst Road, then until 1919 at a house named Krawaree, later known as Tahlia House, situated near the Lawson Community Hall.

In 2008 Tahlia was threatened by road widening plans for Lawson and was re-sited back from the highway alignment by the RTA. While the school occupied Tahlia, in 1916, Woodford resident Toranosuki Kitamura, manager of Kinematsu (Australia) Ltd, imported a Yedoensis flowering cherry tree which he planted at the school as a token of respect for the high quality of education his three daughters, Jean, Una and Beth had received.

The tree thrived for many years but due to its age and poor health could not be moved to make way for traffic.

However over 100 young trees were successfully propagated from cuttings which are to be incorporated into landscape plans for the new highway and town centre.

In 2002 a farewell ceremony for the old cherry tree was organised by a former Stratford student from the 1940s, Mrs Kathleen Hooke nee Barwick, and attended by the Japanese Consul General, the Mayor and the Member for Blue Mountains, local councillors and the grandchildren of Mr Kitamura.

References

Stratford School Headmistresses', notes by Kathleen Hooke, 2000.

Stratford Prospectus, Anglican Diocese of Sydney, c.1950.

Stratford Girls School – Local Studies clippings file, Blue Mountains City Library.

Note, July 2010: Kathleen Hooke (nee Barwick) died in October 2009 having published her memoirs of Stratford as:
Hooke K.H. (2008) *Blue Mountains Heritage and Nostalgia including Stratford Church of England School for Girls, Lawson and Memoirs*. Self published, Kathleen H Hooke, 2008, Printed by Cliff Lewis Printing, Sydney. 585pp. Thanks to Brian Fox for this reference.

John Merriman, Local Studies Librarian
© Blue Mountains City Library 2009

About the author

John Merriman is a professional librarian who manages the Local Studies Service and its research collection at Blue Mountains City Library.

His role involves acquiring, preserving and making accessible documentary evidence relevant to the Blue Mountains region.

This includes the historical, natural and built environments as well as the social, economic, political and cultural aspects of the community.

John's special area of interest is Blue Mountains pre-history and archaeology, in which he holds a degree from the University of New England.

He also manages the library's online image collection of several thousand photographs and writes a Local Studies blog on which this article is based.

Glenbrook Walks and Talks

March 26 – The Mountains Murders – Lee Weller's grave.

April 23 – Lennox Bridge, Mitchell's Pass and rock falls.

May 28 – The Duck Hole, Glenbrook Creek.

Further information Doug 4751 3275 or Tim 4739 2384.

“Is heritage still relevant to today’s community?”

“Is heritage relevant to today’s community?” is the title of an address to be delivered by Maisy Stapleton at BMACHO’s annual general meeting this month.

The meeting to be held on Saturday, March 19, 2011 will commence at 2.30pm.

The guest speaker Ms Stapleton, who is the deputy director, National Trust of Australia (NSW) will also speak on the grants and assistance program of the Museums and Galleries organisation and also mention the annual regional inspection and advisory program.

The National Trust-owned property Everglades, at Leura, one of Australia’s foremost cold climate gardens and arboreat will be the venue for BMACHO’s 6th annual general meeting.

Maisy Stapleton has over 30 years experience working in cultural organisations.

Those attending the meeting may inspect the Everglades Gardens

Her first job in the sector was curator of Elizabeth Bay House. Previous roles have included heading Regional Arts NSW, tourism, business and community relations development with the City of Sydney.

She has undertaken project management roles at the State Library of NSW, within a corporate exhibitions and museum development organisation and at the Australian Bicentennial Authority.

In 1988 she was the Commissioner of a pavilion at Expo 88 which featured the Captain James Cook collection from the National Maritime Museum in Greenwich, UK. She has also served on the board of the National Trust of Australia (NSW).

Maisy has a first class honours degree in Architecture and a Master of Business with a focus on marketing and maintains her interest in architectural heritage.

Everglades Historic House

Seahorse fountain spouting

Norman Lindsay Sea Horse Fountain is once again spouting water and delighting visitors.

The centrepiece of the garden at the National Trust Norman Lindsay Gallery needed extensive work to repair damage from tree roots.

An appeal raised the money for the work which also involved waterproofing the pond, re-plumbing and the installation of a root barrier to prevent future damage.

The fountain was built by Lindsay in the mid-1940s when he found the town water would finally reach the property.

He constructed the original statuary of mermaids, fish and a plunging ‘sea-horse’ from cement. Lindsay was so enthusiastic about his work that the fountain had water before the house was connected to the supply.

During the 1988 bicentennial celebrations the cement statuary was removed and replaced with the bronze casting seen today. Lindsay’s original is preserved in the gallery.

Since the property opened in 1973 the fountain has become an ‘unofficial’ symbol. *Blue Mountains Gazette*

More talks with BM Council on heritage advisory committee

BMACHO last month had further talks with staff of Blue Mountains City Council (BMCC) continuing negotiations initiated almost 5 years ago by BMACHO to see reestablished a heritage advisory committee of council.

In the latest round of talks council invited historical societies and heritage groups to consult with staff about a review of listed items under Local Environmental Plan 1991 and the investigation of the establishment of a heritage advisory committee.

BMACHO was represented at this meeting by its president John Leary, OAM, vice president Associate Professor Ian Jack, secretary Jan Koperberg, Dr Peter Stanbury and Dick Morony

BMACHO has previously discussed with council staff and individual councillors the objectives of its proposal for a heritage advisory committee and after what was considered to be a long history of unsatisfactory progress, accepted the offer last June, of then deputy mayor Janet Mays and Greens councillors to move in council for a report on the establishment of a heritage advisory committee.

The staff response to this successful motion by Cr Mays was to bring back to council another report that a report would be presented to council by the end of February 2011. The latest round of talks is in response to this undertaking by staff to the elected representatives of council.

Having discussed the staff draft proposal which was released in January 2011, BMACHO‘s management committee concluded that subject to some minor changes and clarification it could accept the staff’s 7 objectives which in principle were not unlike those which have been proposed by BMACHO for many years.

BMACHO’s representatives went away from last month’s meeting with council staff under the impression that the amended 7 objectives would form the basis of the forthcoming report to council.

However, BMACHO ‘s delegation told staff at the recent meeting that BMACHO was concerned that despite staff asking for assistance in reviewing the LEP 1991 it had failed to list as a role of the proposed committee, the BMACHO suggested objective — “to advise council in relation to reviews of local heritage listings”.

BMACHO is also concerned that staff appear opposed to another of BMACHO’s proposed roles – “to advise council on heritage matters relating to development applications” a function which is included in the NSW Planning Department Guidelines and also seen as a committee role by numerous other councils through NSW.

Other matters which are of concern to BMACHO are the proposed frequency of meetings (once every 3 months); the restriction which would preclude committee members other than councillors being elected as chair and deputy chair and the omission of BMACHO’s suggested role of advising council in relation to long term planning of significant heritage cemeteries sites.

ASSISTANCE FOR REVIEW OF LEP 1991

BMACHO went into the meeting with the view that it was at a loss to understand why there is any further need for review of the LEP 1991 particularly in view of the fact that the community at large and particularly most historical societies believe the necessary process has been carried out and any further review delays a plan first initiated some 20 years ago.

BMACHO before supporting BMCC staff proposals needs to be satisfied as to why it is necessary at this stage to seek public involvement, when LEP 1991 has gone on public exhibition from October 16 to November 13, 2002.

Members of the public responded. It is understood that the relevant council officer of the day (Elton Menday) invited the heritage consultant to comment on these responses as this was part of his brief.

It is further understood that these comments were considered, some being welcomed others for which the consultant found powerful arguments against their incorporation in the LEP being rejected.

It appears at least some of the information provided has not been included in LEP 1991.

From these inferences, BMACHO cannot find an arguable reason for revisiting the process in a different form. BMACHO also considers that if there is to be any further review of LEP 1991 it needs to take into account the expertise of heritage professionals under proper contractual arrangements.

BMACHO having been advised by council staff at last month’s meeting of some reasons for the need of another review will discuss this information at its March management committee meeting.

Council’s staff in response to a question at the meeting from BMACHO president, John Leary said it seems likely that 2013 could be an achievable date for Gazettal of LEP 1991.

Interested in looking after money?

Then we have the job for you.
BMACHO is looking for a treasurer.

For more information or nomination form contact either John Leary 4758 8584 or Jan Koperberg 4754 3275

Forests, timber and milling in Mt Irvine

and (later Mt Wilson) in the Northern Blue Mountains or the Carmarthen Hills

by Mary Reynolds, OAM - Research Officer, Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine Historical Society Inc.

This mountain and Mt Wilson along with Mt Tomah, Mt Banks and Mt Hay and others are especially distinguished as they are capped with a basalt rock producing a rich volcanic soil.

From this soil and the climatic conditions grew a rich and temperate rainforest covering these mountains along with magnificent Eucalypts.

European settlement came late to Mt Wilson c. 1875-6 and Mt Irvine c. 1897. These settlers were confronted with 'an impenetrable bush' or Brush as it was called.

The temperate rain forest on Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine contained in its pristine state Doryphora sassasfras, Coachwood, Black wood or Acacia melanoxylon, Quintinia siberia or Possum wood , the Lilly Pilly and many Tree ferns ranging from the Todea barbara or king fern to the Dicksonia antarctica or soft tree fern and beneath them a forest floor of many others.

Above the rain forest on the heights of the mountains were the giant Eucalypts.

There were differences between Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine where the Turpentine and the Angophora grew while in Mt Wilson there were giant Eucalyptus: The Eucalyptus oreades or Blue Mountain ash: Eucalypytus fastigata or brown barrel, a stringy bark; Eucalyptus cypellocarpa a mountain gum or yellow gum and Eucalyptus viminalis ribbon gum, manna gum or white gum to name a few.

In 1868 when ES Wyndham surveyed Mt Wilson he wrote later that he found no sign of human influence or impact.

When Richard Wynne one of the original purchasers of land during 1875 - 6 arrived to establish a small

A glimpse of the forest in Mt Wilson c 1875[1]

Gothic cottage on Portions 36 and 37 he is said to have found some timber cut.

The assumption was made that the construction of the railway which had reached Mt Victoria in 1868 and had now moved across the Darling Causeway to Bowenfels via the Zig Zag in 1869 railway builders and workers had found their way to Mt Wilson via the track created by Wyndham to Mt Wilson.

It is said that Richard Wynne cut notches in the cut timber to prevent its use as sleepers. Today those notched planks are visible in the small Gothic Cottage on Wynstay.

For the birth of a timber industry Mt Irvine is of deeper interest. Timber milling in Mt Wilson did not commence until after World War 1.

Mt Irvine's European history took place in 1897, 20 years after the settlement of Mt Wilson, when three young men from Hawkesbury Agricultural College on the advice of Charles Robert Scrivener, NSW metropolitan staff surveyor and father of one of the young men, Charles Scrivener told them to lay claim to this mountain.

Charles Robert had recently surveyed the mountain and the ridge linking it with Mt Wilson. Deeply impressed by the richness of vegetation and soil C.R.Scrivener had failed to persuade the NSW Government to declare it a National Reserve.[3]

Hence his advice to his son, Charles and his two friends, Harold Morley and Basil Knight Brown.

They were able after incredible energy and privations to gain the land they wanted about 1,000 acres in July, 1897.

Relying on the memories of Harold Morley written in 1950 we can create an outline of how timber played a role in their rugged, harsh early lives in this remote place.[4]

Charles Robert Scrivener had intended starting a saw mill and making a road to transport the timber.

But promotion altered that as he became a district surveyor and later chief of survey to the Commonwealth surveying the site that was to become Canberra.

Continued page 8

Eucalypts rising 200ft in remote areas

Continued from page 7

Already the removal of timber from the land was a mammoth task for all three young men.

"The first clearing we did was grubbing out the trees.

"This was entirely a terrific job, involving cutting up and stacking huge piles of logs."[5]

Harold Morley had giant Eucalypts, Turpentines with Sassafras in between on his clearing."

Some of the trees were 200 feet, requiring holes 24 feet across and 6 feet deep to grub them while the roots were like big logs running out yards from the trunk.

It is little wonder when the sawmill plan did not eventuate that Basil Knight Brown, the other young adventurer advertised the need for a sawmill so that the land could be cleared for orcharding.

Anderson Brothers of Coonamble took up the offer driving their outfit from The Pilliga to Mt Irvine in 1904.[7]

The first mill was established below Basil Knight Brown's clearing known as 'Painui'.

It was described as a big place with a shingle roof".[8]

The saw mill brought some helpful changes to their lives providing cheap timber and the opportunity to sell logs although they were only paid 1 shilling per 100 feet.

They also obtained fruit cases for 5 pennies each when the fruit came along.

Before the fruit trees came into bearing potatoes and onions were grown between the trees and sold to stores in Lithgow, Bathurst and Mudgee.

John Anderson and his wife Amelia lived in a small cabin with their young family close to the mill.

About 1908 a fierce bushfire started and roared across the Knight Brown property showering sparks and burning fragments onto the mill. Amelia Anderson tried desperately to save the mill but her own cabin caught alight and she and her children were saved by Miss Bessie Knight Brown.

A new mill was constructed below 'Taihoa' on the creek [Russell Creek] while John Anderson built another cabin near the gate of 'Taihoa' for the family.

The mill operated it seems quite successfully until the second decade of the 20th century.

In 1911 it appears that John Anderson turned his attention to Bilpin for he purchased Portion 23 there and built a home known as 'Woodleigh'[9] where he and Amelia were to live for the next 30 years.

Nevertheless he maintained some interest in Mt Irvine returning there from time to time.

His daughter Bessie,wrote many years later that her father had decided that 'No more trees should be taken and that the forest left [in Mt Irvine] should be allowed to grow.'[10]

According to 'Mt Irvine A History' Anderson's mill closed in 1914

Harold Morley on the right and CR Scrivener on the left at the base of a large Eucalypt c 1896.[6]

when mill employees enlisted for World War 1. It was probably not quite as simple as that reason suggests for John Anderson, returned to Mt Irvine to work after moving to Bilpin.[11]

Charles Robert Scrivener retired in 1915 from his position in Canberra as Commonwealth Director of Surveying, building the unusual and charming 'Taihoa' at Mt Irvine from local timber.

His younger sons Pedder and Tom had returned from service in World War 1.

To provide them with employment he discusssed with John Anderson the idea of setting up a mill.

" My father told him that the forest needed ten or fifteen more years of growth before milling could be viable."[12]

In 1918 Charles R. Scrivener set up a mill below 'Taihoa' for his sons, Pedder and Tom. John Anderson perhaps reluctantly, entered into a contract to cut and haul logs to the mill. ***Continued page 9***

Tallest tree

The tallest reliably documented tree ever measured was the Thorpdale Tree, a Mountain Ash (*Eucalyptus regnans*) growing at Thorpdale in Victoria.

The tree was measured at 112.8m (370 feet) standing and 114.3m (375 feet) on the ground after it was felled in 1884.

Turpentines used on Sydney wharves

Continued from page 8

Three cottages were built on the road near the mill. Timber for building and for fruit cases was milled.

The Turpentine, a very strong and hardy timber was sent to Sydney for piers for the wharves. A separate shed produced broom handles and pegs from Sassafras logs.[13]

When the new home of Colonel R.O.Wynne and Marianne Wynne was being constructed at Wynstay 1921-1923 much of the timber came from Mt Irvine, particularly the Blackwood.[14]

It was not long after that the mill was burnt down and was not restored.

A sketch of the Scrivener Mill which came originally from the Home Journal.[15]

Endnotes

[f] From Eccleston Du Faur Photo Collection Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine Historical Society Inc Archives.
[2] From Mt Irvine A History by the Mt Irvine Community 1990s
[3] Mt Irvine A History published privately by members of the Mt Irvine community
[4] Irvineholme by Harold Morley unpublished 1950
[5] Ibid
[6] From Helen Morley, daughter of Harold Morley
[7] Mt Irvine A History
[8] Irvineholme by Harold Morley The saw mill
[9] Bilpin, The Apple Country A local History by Meredyth Hungerford
[10] Decline of A Rainforest by Bessie Bramsen in Eco News1992 Newsletter of the Lower Blue Mts Conservation Society
[11] Bilpin, The Apple Country A Local History by Meredyth Hungerford
[12] Decline of A Rainforest Eco News Lower Blue Mts. Conservation Society 1992 Bessie Bramsen
[13] Mt Irvine A History 1990s
[14] Wynne Collection in the archives Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine History. Society Inc.
[15] A copy is in the Mt Irvine Photo Collection Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine Historical Society Inc.

Mary developed a vision for a musem

Continued from page 1

Mary made many friends through these endeavours at Woodford Academy and Norman Lindsay Gallery. By 1993 she was becoming recognised in her local community as a much needed researcher and writer on European settlement in Mt Wilson and the surrounding district.

Through months of discussion with the owners of *Wynstay* Mary developed a vision for a museum of local history to be set up in the Turkish Bath and remained the driving force behind the establishment of the museum and the Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine Historical Society, incorporated in 1996.

It is mainly thanks to Mary's dedication and skills that the local society is active, well supported and recognised as an important source of information and reference material on local heritage.

On hearing of this recent award, many people in the community expressed the view that we are lucky to have her, and we heartily agree!

Pictured above Mary and Ellis Reynolds.
Contributed by Florence Smart for the Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine Historical Society Inc.

Trust award for Norman Lindsay stalwart

Long time hard working chairperson of the Friends of Norman Lindsay Gallery and Museum, Debbie Handley has received the National Trust of Australia (NSW) Commendation award.

Mrs Handley has received the award for her work fundraising and organising events such as the annual Jazz in the Gardens in February and the Jazz and Wine Festival in May.

The award recognises her work as chairperson of the Friends of Norman Lindsay Gallery and Museum and as a member of the NLG Advisory committee.

Pictured is NLG manager Amanda Trevillion presenting on behalf of the Trust the award to Debbie Handley (right of picture).

Photograph by Bronwyn Mansfield

NEW NAME FOR GARDEN

Mount Tomah Botanic Garden since March 1 is now known as the Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mount Tomah.

The Royal Botanic Garden and Domain Trust executive director, Dr Tim Entwisle said the change of name retains the link with Mount Tomah while highlighting the location of the garden and its role in conserving and growing native garden plants of the Blue Mountains

"We recently opened the World Heritage Exhibition Centre and this name change reflects our commitments to this unique and important part of the world," Dr Entwisle said.

During March and April, the Blue Mountains Botanic Garden at Mount Tomah will be part of the first annual *Sydney Morning Herald* Autumn of the Arts festival across all three Sydney region botanic gardens.

To open the two-month celebration of the arts, the garden will stage Garden Grooves, an afternoon jazz concert on Saturday, March 5.

For more information contact 4767 3019 or visit www.autumnofthearts.com.au

COX'S ROAD WALK

The Blue Mountains Branch of National Trust is organising its annual Cox's Road walk for Saturday, April 30.

The walk is from Mt York to Hartley Vale down the road constructed by William Cox and his band of convicts in 1814 – 15.

There are some excellent relics to be seen, the result of hard work and ingenuity which enabled the first settlers to move from the confines of Sydney basin to the western plains of NSW.

The walk being down hill is not particularly difficult but it is steep in parts and walkers need good strong footwear.

There will be a hearty lunch at the bottom and a bus to take walkers back to Mt York. Cost $30 adults, children $15, families $75. Enquiries to Rhona Leach 4757 2424

Lincoln Hall to speak at Norman Lindsay

Famed mountain climber and author, Lincoln Hall will speak about his amazing adventures at an adult literary evening at Norman Lindsay Gallery on Saturday, April 2.

'Cartoon Dave' Hackett will also talk about his life as a cartoonist.

The evening will commence at 7pm with drinks, followed by anecdotes and then questions and answers with the guest speakers and concluding with coffee and canapes.

Cost $30 per person or $25 National Trust members. Bookings essential 4751 1067.

On Sunday, April 3 Norman Lindsay Gallery will host the Festival of Children's Literature with talks by well known children's book authors and illustrators.

The program will include Duncan Bell, David Legge, Frances Watts and 'Cartoon Dave' Hackett. Stalls, book signings, story telling and entertainment and plenty of food.

Enquiries 4751 1067.
Tickets 4784 3832 Gifts n Things.

WALK THROUGH DARK'S COMMON

Blue Mountains Branch of the National Trust is conducting a walk through Dark's Common along the route of the Construction Tramway that was used to transport men and materials to the edge of the Glenbrook Gorge for the duplication of the railway completed in 1912.

This is an easy walk down an interesting bit of Glenbrook history capped off by spectacular views of Glenbrook Gorge.

Included is tea, coffee and bikkies at the end of the walk all for a cost of $5.Those interested should bring walking shoes to Lapstone Public School car park for a 9am start on May 15.

Lithgow Family History Society to celebrate silver anniversary

The Lithgow & District Family History Society Inc would like to invite all members including foundation members and guests to join in the celebration of its 25th Anniversary on Sunday, March 13, 2011 at the Zig Zag Motel, 70 Chifley Road. Lithgow, Cost is $35 per person for a three course meal.

There will be numerous family tree charts and other memorabilia and photographs on display, as well as a photographic slide show.

There will be 2 CD's for sale for $10 each. One is a photographic slide show of members and events spanning the 25 years of the society, and the other is a CD on the society's involvement in the Roses from The Heart - Female Convict Bonnets Project.

Some late bookings will be accepted. Anyone may contact the library on (02) 63531089 on Fridays from 10am - 4pm or Tuesday nights from 6pm - 9pm or Helen Taylor (02 6355 7231 or taygun@bigpond.com

President of the society, Eleanor Martin said the group was established in 1986 to allow local people and others to research their family lines and to learn their family stories.

Yvonne Jenkins founder of the society in 1986

From humble beginnings in 1986. The society's first library which was situated under the City Library and was cold and damp

The society of volunteers has established a library, now situated at the corner of Tank and Union Streets to store the extensive resources of local cemetery records, local and family histories, journals from international and national sources, many photographs, copies of Governments Gazettes and local newspapers as well as IGAs and birth, death and marriage records on CDs, fiche and reels. Convict, shipping, immigration and census records are also held.

Social gatherings and bus trips to cemeteries and archives as well as workshops and seminars are arranged to assist people to research and store their information, source identification and display their family trees.

Some records are available for sale upon request and the society produces a journal *Lithgow Pioneer Press* three times a year.

Researchers can attend the library during open hours and receive assistance to work through the extensive indexes of much of the resources for a small fee. Open times are every Friday 10am - 4pm. Tuesday 6pm - 9pm and first Saturday 10am - 4pm of each month except January

The society's premises corner of Tank and Union Streets, Lithgow

Descendant of pioneers during the Hartley procession - 1988

Contact number is (02) 6353 1089 during open hours e-mail: ldfhs@lisp.com.au website http://www.lisp.com.au/~ldfhs P.O. Box 516 Lithgow NSW. 2790

Christmas in July

Everglades at Leura will hold Christmas in July lunches on Saturdays July 9 and 23.

Come in costume and join the fun of the Roaring 20s…And all that Jazz. $50 per person

For bookings 4784 1938

Mudgee's early links with horse racing

by John Broadley

The author of this article, John Broadley, a teacher by profession, undertook a Masters degree in Cultural Heritage Studies post retirement, and since has worked extensively on conservation management programs for numerous buildings in the Central West region of New South Wales.

Currently President of Mudgee Historical Society Inc and a member of the Gulgong-Mudgee-Rylstone branch of the National Trust of Australia (NSW), his special interests are in the early settlement of the Central West region of New South Wales and Australian colonial architecture. John is soon to publish *Historic Houses of Mudgee*, a study of nineteen significant Mudgee district homes and their owners, gardens and outbuildings. Mudgee Historical Society Inc is an inaugural member of the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations.

Isolation and the relatively late arrival of the railway in 1884, caused the Mudgee district to be long reliant on the horse.

Many of the district's pioneer pastoral families played leading roles in the establishment of the bloodstock industry and in the administration of the turf in the colony of New South Wales.

In the early days of the colony William Hayes, an emancipist who took up large tracts of land which evolved into the property now known as Havilah, was a noted breeder and importer of blood stock to Lucan Park, his property at Eastern Creek, west of Sydney.

His neighbour and son-in-law, Charles Roberts of Wallgrove at Eastern Creek, who took up the homestead portion of Havilah, was also a horse breeder of renown, owning at one stage Gratis, one of the foundation stallions of the Australian bloodstock industry.

Prominent district pioneer William Lawson was a skilled equestrian even in his middle age, winning the Governor's Cup on his own horse Spring Gun at Parramatta at the age of fifty-four.

Lawson's Mudgee properties were supervised by youngest son Nelson Simmons Lawson and managed by Nicholas Paget Bayly, who later established the Havilah merino stud.

The first race meeting in the Mudgee district was held on the flats behind Nelson Simmons Lawson's Putta Bucca homestead in 1842; later meetings were staged successively at Menah and Oakfield, before moving to the old racetrack on the site of the airport in 1861.

The Rouses of Guntawang and Biraganbil were renowned for the quality of their bloodstock, as well as for their carriage and stock horses.

The famous 'crooked R' brand, established by the first Richard Rouse, was immortalised by Banjo Paterson in the poem *A Bushman's Song*:

This old black horse I'm riding –
if you'll notice what's his brand
He wears the crooked R you see
– none better in the land.

Horse racing was one of the earliest forms of entertainment for the district's pioneer settlers; race meetings and amateur picnic races are still popular social occasions today in Mudgee.

Henry Bayly of Beaudesert, Mudgee, a son-in-law of William Lawson, operated a horse stud called Bayly Park at South Creek, and at one stage owned Australian, a noted sire, the legendary Jorrocks.

It is unclear whether Jorrocks was foaled at Bayly Park or Beaudesert, originally and confusingly also called Bayly Park.

Jorrocks later belonged to John Richard Rouse of Guntawang, and began his extensive and distinguished racing career in amateur races in the district.

One of the oldest picnic race clubs in New South Wales, the Bligh Amateur Race Club, is based in Mudgee.

The club ran its first meeting in 1874 and meetings have run regularly since then, with the exception of the war years

Continued page 13

The local gentry at the Bligh picnic races circa 1920s. Photograph courtesy Mudgee Historical Society Inc.

1906 Melbourne Cup winner Poseidon owned by Gulgong man

Continued from page 12

Many Mudgee landowners were excellent amateur riders, among whom were Richard Rouse senior of Guntawang and his cousin Richard Rouse junior of Biraganbil. Richard Rouse senior and Vincent Dowling of the Lue Estate were both experted four-in-hand drivers, a sport which was much popularised in recent years by the involvement of Prince Phillip, the Duke of Edinburgh.

Leslie Rouse and Herbert Rouse, sons of Richard Rouse junior of Biraganbil, were both extensively involved in racing.

For many years Leslie Rouse was a keeper of the Australian Stud Book and a prominent AJC administrator, while Herbert Rouse maintained the Biraganbil horse stud.

Ernest Hume, in his *History of Mudgee* compiled in the 1930s, wrote nostalgically of race meetings, when Mudgee must have been a hive of activity:

"In the early days it was a most pleasing sight to witness the entry into town of many old pioneering Bligh families with their prancing, well-groomed four-in-hand teams with coachmen in livery, and trumpeters in resplendent swing made a triumphant parade of the streets while large strings of sleek, well-groomed horses filled the hotel stables.

Among the foundation members of the club were to be found many representatives of those grand old racing families and the names of the Rouses, Lowes, Whites, Dowlings, McMasters, Watts, Bettingtons, Bowmans, Cox's, Tucklans (sic), Lawsons, Niversons (sic) and Bells are still freely spoken of."

Members of several of these families remain entrenched in the district and maintain their families' traditional association with local district racing.

Horses were also a major concern for the Cox family of Fernhill at Mulgoa and Rawdon at Rylstone. Edward King Cox, also a merino breeder, bred Yattendon, winner of the first Sydney Cup and the sire of Chester and Grand Flaneur, themselves both sires and winners of the Melbourne Cup in 1877 and 1880 respectively.

Mudgee Racecourse circa 1920s Photograph courtesy Mudgee Historical Society Inc. The race course was moved to the current site (above Lawson's Creek and not far from the northern bank of the Cudgegong River). The grandstand which appears in both pictures has been demolished.

Chester was sold in 1876 to James White, eldest brother of Henry Charles White of Havilah.

James White's winnings from bets on Chester allegedly paid for the construction of the elaborate mansion on Kirkham, now called Camelot, his racing stud at Camden.

James White also owned Martini-Henry, winner of the Melbourne Cup in 1883; Martini-Henry had the same sire, Musket, as another Melbourne Cup winner, Carbine.

James White also started the Newmarket stables at Randwick and his racing success as an owner in major racing events is still without equal in Australia.

Henry Charles White of Havilah and his son Henry Hunter White were both heavily involved with racing and the AJC and maintained an extensive horse stud at Havilah.

The Thompson family of Rylstone and Bylong has long associations with horses and remains entrenched at Widden stud in the Widden Valley, north-east of Mudgee.

Lochiel, a winning racehorse owned by James Thompson of Bylong, was commemorated by a house in Mudgee named Lochiel, formerly Annan Lodge, now the site of Mudgee Bowling Club, which was owned briefly by the Thompson family in the early 1900s.

(Sir) Hugh Denison of Guntawang at Gulgong, was a successful racing man, owning the 1906 Melbourne Cup winner, Poseidon.

Poseiden, 1906 Melbourne Cup winner

Continued page 14

Boat People, 1788 – 1922

The Blue Mountains Family History Society will conduct a seminar at the Springwood Baptist Church Hall, 313 Macquarie Road, Springwood on Saturday, April 9.

The seminar will discuss the Boat People 1788 - 1922…Why they came, the passages on the boat and what they did when they arrived in Australia.

The following is the program:
8.45am to 9.15am Registration
9.15am to 9.30am Welcome: Ian Kendall, M.C.
9.30am to10.30am Convicts and Colonists: An overview of the boat people 1788 -1922: Christine Yeats, Manager, Public Access, State Records NSW.
10.30am to 11am Morning tea
11am to 12 noon The sweet, the sour, the seditious …and the swashbuckling: Gay Hendriksen, Curator, Parramatta Heritage Centre.

Pictured is the third class sleeping quarters and third class yard at the notorious Parramatta Female Factory where female convicts were housed after arriving by boat from England. Photograph courtesy Gay Henriksen

From British prison to the shores of NSW convict female factory women met the challenges of transportation.

A glimpse of this unique aspect of Australian history.
12 noon to 1pm Assisted Scottish Passages: Ray Thorburn is a full time family and social historian. He is to talk about the different waves of people who came from Scotland.

1pm to 2pm Lunch
2pm to 2.30pm Entertainment: Jim Lowe, Folk Singer
2.30pm to 3.30pm European Immigrants: Gary Luke is a NSW committee member of the Australian Jewish Historical Society who will talk about European and Jewish immigration in the period 1788 – 1922.
3.30pm to 4.00pm Afternoon tea and finish

For further information, please contact Jan Koperberg Phone: (02) 4754 1544 Email: jank@eftel.com.au

Other Melbourne Cup winners links with Mudgee

Continued from page 13

Born Hugh Dixon, he changed his name to Denison to avoid confusion with his uncle and namesake, Sir Hugh Dixon, a staunch Methodist who disapproved of his nephew's association with racing.

During his period of ownership of Guntawang from 1908 - 1918, the property was renamed Eumaralla.

Local newspapers regularly recorded the successes, progeny and health of the bloodstock of the district's nabobs, intermingled with social jottings:

"After going home to Guntawang Mr Rouse's Dum Dum nearly died from being overheated. The daughter of Projectile is now quite recovered." *Mudgee Guardian*, December 2, 1901.

Two other Melbourne Cup winners have indirect links with the district.

Noted sire the legendary, Jorrocks

Westcourt, the winner of the 1917 Melbourne Cup, was at one stage owned by Daniel Seaton, owner of Eurunderee at Mudgee, adjacent to Westcourt, formerly Frederickburg.

Rodney Rouse Dangar of Baroona, Singleton, a nephew of Richard Rouse senior of Guntawang, was the owner of Peter Pan, winner of the 1932 Melbourne Cup.

The Mudgee district continues its association with the horse into the present day, with large breeding, breaking and spelling establishments at Gooree and Guntawang and Havilah.

John Broadley (Copyright 2006)

BMACHO's

annual general meeting to be held at Everglades, Leura on Saturday March 19 commencing at 2.30pm
Guest speaker: Maisy Stapleton - deputy CEO National Trust of Australia (NSW)
Bookings to Jan Koperberg 4754 3275

Glenbrook's horse trough - a new role in retirement

The Glenbrook horse trough

By John Low

Last year John Leary, the editor of this splendid journal, wrote a piece in *HERITAGE* about George and Annis Bills and their extraordinary horse trough legacy. (Leary, 2010)

To illustrate his article he used a photograph of the horse trough at Glenbrook, one of four Bills troughs in the Blue Mountains and located on the western side of the Glenbrook Theatre (formerly the School of Arts) facing Ross Street near its intersection with the Great Western Highway.

The other Blue Mountains troughs funded through the Bills estate can be found at Warrimoo, Wentworth Falls and Medlow Bath.

Though not in its original position, the Glenbrook trough was installed outside the School of Arts almost certainly in the 1930s.

At some stage (possibly when the building was converted into a theatre) the trough was removed by the Blue Mountains City Council and placed in storage.

It was returned to public life during the Glenbrook Centenary celebrations in 1985 and 'unveiled' by Mayor Peter Quirk on Sunday, November 10 in the presence of residents and a number of local horses. (Anonymous, 1985)

The plaque on the Glenbrook horse trough

It is currently accessible and in good condition, though missing the small dog trough usually attached to Bills funded troughs.

In his article John mentioned a unique feature of this trough that distinguishes it from other Bills troughs, both in the Mountains and elsewhere – the presence of a small brass plaque bearing the words: "This trough was donated in remembrance of those horses that did not return from the First World War 1914-1918".

Is this, however, strictly correct? While the Animal Protection Society, NSW, (of which George Bills was a 'life governor') expressed the hope at the conclusion of the war that "the services rendered by war horses and dogs" would be recognised by the erection of war memorial troughs (APSNSW, 1919) and George Bills would certainly have been in agreement with this, there is no mention in his will, drawn up in 1925, two years before his death, of the war being the reason behind his bequest.

Following legacies to family, friends and employees, the will stipulated that a trust fund be formed from the residue of his estate to fund horse troughs wherever, with the consent of the appropriate authorities, they be deemed "necessary or desirable for the relief of horses or other dumb animals" and to assist the work of societies and organisations established for the purpose of protecting and alleviating cruelty to animals. (Bills, 1925)

The trust (to be administered by his sister Daisy and her husband) was a natural outgrowth of George's long standing concern for animal welfare and ensured that his and his late wife's ideals would continue to find expression after his death.

Indeed, when the demand for horse troughs lessened in the post-war years, the Bills Trust shifted its primary concentration to the wider problems of animal welfare.

It appears that the inscription on the Glenbrook trough was added at the time of its resurrection in 1985 and though conceivably the fate of the war horses could have informed the original application to the Bills estate for funding, the plaque is more likely the result of later misunderstanding.

Though qualified somewhat in her recent publication (Aston, 2009), in her earlier history of Glenbrook, published around the time of the centenary celebrations, local historian Nell Aston certainly cites the memorial aspect as the reason behind the Bills' benefaction, writing that troughs were funded "because they [the Bills] were concerned about the hundreds of Australian horses abandoned overseas after World War I". (Aston 1986)

Continued page 16

Thousands of horses shipped off to WW1 ... one returned alive

Continued from page 15

Despite such issues of accuracy, however, the addition of the plaque has had a serendipitous effect. It has given the Glenbrook trough a new role in its 'retirement', a role not unsympathetic to the ideals behind the Bills bequest.

It has turned the old horse trough into a war memorial and, as far as I'm aware, the only war memorial in the Blue Mountains dedicated to animals and reminding us of their service and suffering through war.

When World War I began horse power was still the primary means of transporting people and goods and the military needed horses.

Thousands were required to move food, supplies and ammunition, evacuate the sick and wounded and the artillery regiments depended on them to transport their heavy guns. And then, of course, there were the mounted chargers so prized by the Light Horse, the tough, sure-footed Australian Walers with a reputation second-to-none.

Of the 135,926 Walers shipped overseas for military purposes during World War I it is generally believed that only one returned. (Yarwood, 1989)

Sandy was repatriated with the body of his rider, Major General Sir William Throsby Bridges, leading the general's funeral cortege and then being pensioned off to spend the rest of his life at the Central Remount Depot, Maribyrnong, Victoria.

Blind and sick he was put down in 1923. As for the rest, if they survived the war, quarantine issues and the cost of shipping them back to Australia saw them left behind.

They were 'humanely' slaughtered, sold locally or handed on to British units.

Despite the efforts of many, especially among the light horsemen, to secure a humane future for the horses, confirmed cases of abuse occurred.

The legendary Australian light horse regiments were the mounted infantry whose men and horses were inseparable in desert warfare.

Many light horsemen were genuinely and emotionally scarred by the enforced separation and attempts during the post-war years to raise money to buy back old war horses reflected a considerable degree of public disquiet.

In the 1920s a memorial trough dedicated to the war horses was erected in St. Kilda Road, Melbourne (relocated in 1986 to the Shrine of Remembrance Reserve) and for many years was the centre piece of an annual remembrance service.

It was funded with money raised by the Purple Cross Service of Victoria, a body formed in 1915 to work on behalf of horses employed at the front.

George Bills, retired from his Sydney business and living in Melbourne at this time and active in the Victorian Society for the Protection of Animals, may well have donated money to this trough and even attended the 'turning on the water' ceremony presided over by General Sir John Monash on May 10, 1926. (Pertzel, 2006)

What an attraction the Glenbrook trough could become as the focus of a distinct and unique memorial service on Anzac Day and/or Remembrance Day each year!

Bringing together such organisations as the RSL, the RSPCA, the historical society, the chamber of commerce and the schools and with a recounting of stories of individual war horses, dogs etc., especially of animals and their handlers associated with the Blue Mountains area, a truly individual experience of community remembrance could be fostered.

There is a recent precedent. In the South Australian town of Barmera, a horse trough erected in 1930 to honour the memory of horses who participated in World War I was rededicated by the local primary school children in 2000.

The children pledged to hold a service there on Remembrance Day each year and to lay colourful, horseshoe-shaped wreaths on the trough.

Continued page 17

Glenbrook horse trough

Continued from page 16

The local council later attached a plaque declaring that the trough had been handed over to the care of the children and featuring a poem composed by the President of the Barmera RSL. (Berri-Barmera Council, 2001)

George and Annis Bills would most certainly have approved.

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'All you Gotta Do is Swing'

'All you gotta do is swing - Some Adventures at the sharp end of Jazz' is the subject chosen by Peter Newton who is the guest speaker at the Blue Mountains Historical Society's anual general meeting to be held commencing at 10am on Saturday, April 2. For further information telephone John Low on 4782 3751.

Royal award for Les and Anne

The Royal Australian Historical Society has recognised the great work of Les and Anne Dollin of the Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society for their researching, recording and conducting historical field trips. Kathie McMahon-Nolf the inaugural president of Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society (at right) presented the award on behalf of the RAHS. Photograph courtesy The Millstone

INDEXES = INFORMATION

Ever spent hours hunting through old journals looking for details you remember reading, but want now? Or did you just give up?

In 2001 Suzanne Voytas, then president of Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc, and I were bemoaning the under utilisation of not only our past copies of *The Explorers' Tree*, but journals of other societies.

They held useful information and represented a considerable outlay of our limited funds. To me indexing was the dreaded chore that marked the completion of one of my textbooks, yet I agreed to start indexing the society's holdings.

To date the society has published indexes to our journal holdings for 2003, 2004-6, 2007-8, 2009-2010 ready now and 2011 is underway.

Combined total is about 18,000 entries from societies from every state and territory, as well as some overseas sources.

Family details are published where we live, not where our ancestors lived so our research interests are worldwide and, of course, local studies provide the setting in which they lived.

So indexes are essential! *BMACHO Heritage* is not included in the journal indexes as it is restricted to hard copies only, but index to 2009-2010 can be accessed on BMFHS website at http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nswbmfhs/res/bmacho.htm

Our copy of NSW edition of *All Australia* WW1 soldiers has been made accessible with an index.

Miscellaneous indexes to Blue Mountains businesses from advertisements add to our local knowledge and help enquirers.

An index to upper mountains references in Lithgow Family History Society's extracts from *The Clarion* newspaper in 1942 enabled us to find the location of an evacuated family as they were mentioned in a gossip column ... and so on.

Where there is a need, I will probably get around to compiling an index but although I admit a degree of efficiency I still do not enjoy indexing. However I do appreciate the speed with which articles can be located.

Joan Edwards
Past President, Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc.

Colonial vineyard's history salvaged

A box of documents containing rare information about the State's oldest exisiting vineyard has been donated to the State Library of NSW.

The box was salvaged by a man scavenging the Cessnock rubbish tip. He in turn gave it to his friend, coal miner Bill Chapman, an avid collector of old papers. Bill recently opened the box to find some 3500 documents dating from the 1840s to 1900 relating to the pioneer wine producers George and John Wyndham. Wyndham Estate manager Stephen Guilbaud-Oulton purchased the documents from Bill and donated the entire archive to the library.

State Library head of Manuscripts, Tracy Bradford, said this was arguably the world's largest single collection relating to the running of a colonial vineyard.

"Interestingly we can see from the collection that Australian wines were gaining international recongnition way back in the 1860s to 1880s, even though most people think the Australian wine industry came of age in the 1970s" she said.

An early image of the Wyndham cooperage

George Wyndham became the father of Australia's shiraz after planting the first commercial shiraz vineyard in 1830. He and John enjoyed great success at international competitions, with a gold award at Bordeaux in 1882 and a Diploma of Honour at the 1883 Amsterdam International Exhibition among their wins.

The box of documents includes fascinating details about the logistics of transporting wine by rail from Branxton, correspondence with clients and a letter signed by Hardy's Wines founder Thomas Hardy calling one of John Wyndham's drops, "the wine of the show." In 1886 John Wyndham commissioned photographer Harrie Ballard to record his vineyard to homestead and celebrate his viticultural achievement. Of 18 pictorial albums produced only a few survive, one in the State Library.

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

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THE ORGANISATION Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 following a unanimous response to a proposal from Professor Barrie Reynolds at the 2004 Blue Mountains Local History Conference which sought from Blue Mountains City Council the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the city.

BMACHO in its constitution uses the definition: "Cultural heritage is all aspects of life of the peoples of the Blue Mountains which was later changed to cover Lithgow and the villages along the Bell's Line of Roads. It therefore involves the recording, preserving and interpreting of information in whatever form: documents, objects, recorded memories as well as buildings and sites."

The objectives of the organisation are:

i. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage.

ii. To encourage and assist cultural heritage activities of member organisations.

iii. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations.

One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact, to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

HERITAGE BMACHO's official newsletter is edited by John Leary, OAM.

Blue Mountains History Journal is edited by Dr Peter Rickwood.

MEMBERSHIP The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mount Tomah, Blue Mountains City Library, Blue Mountains Cultural Heritage Centre, Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc., Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc., Blue Mountains Tourism Limited, Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute, Cudgegong Museums Group Inc., Everglades Historic House & Gardens, Friends of Norman Lindsay Gallery, Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc., Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc, Lilianfels Blue Mountains Resort, Lithgow and District Family History Society Inc., Lithgow Mining Museum Inc., Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies, Lithgow Small Arms Factory Museum Inc, Mid-Mountains Historical Society Inc, Mid Western Regional Council Library, Mt Victoria and District Historical Society Inc., Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine History Society Inc. (including Turkish Bath Museum), Mudgee Historical Society Inc., Mudgee Regional Library, National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Blue Mountains Branch (including Woodford Academy), National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Lithgow Branch, Scenic World – Blue Mountains Limited, Springwood & District Historical Society Inc., Springwood Historians Inc., Transport Signal and Communication Museum Inc., The Darnell Collection Pty Ltd, Valley Heights Locomotive Depot and Museum, Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd. The following are individual members: Ray Christison, Associate Professor Ian Jack, Joan Kent, John Leary OAM, John Low, Ian Milliss, Professor Barrie Reynolds, and Dr Peter Stanbury OAM.

COMMITTEE The committee for 2010-11 is: John Leary (president), Ian Jack (vice president), Jan Koperberg (secretary), Kathie McMahon-Nolf (treasurer), Jean Arthur, Joan Kent, Doug Knowles, Dick Morony (public officer), Barrie Reynolds and Peter Stanbury.

HONORARY AUDITOR: Sue McMahon, B Comm CPA.

AFFILIATIONS BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society Inc.

HERITAGE

NEWSLETTER OF THE BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

MAY - JUNE 2011 ISSUE No. 15

Governor visits heritage grave

A service to celebrate the completed restoration and State Heritage Listing of the 1831 grave of Eliza Rodd on the Glenroy property of Mr and Mrs Barber near Hartley saw Her Excellency, Professor Marie Bashir, AC,CVO accompanied by Sir Nicholas Shehadie once again visit the region.

The following is an extract from an article in the *Lithgow Mercury* written by its editor Len Ainsworth, OAM.

BACK on April 30, 1815 when Governor Lachlan Macquarie traversed Cox's Road and visited Hartley for the first time he wrote in his diary that the vista before him was 'one of the finest landscapes of any country I have yet visited'.

One hundred and ninety six years later the 47th Governor of NSW Dr Marie Bashir, was back at the same site, repeating his words of praise.

The ceremony marked the listing on the State Heritage Register of the relics of the military barracks that existed on the site and the recently restored grave of a child who died there while her father was in charge of the 39th Regiment of Foot [detachment].

The regiment was stationed at Hartley and charged with protecting pioneers as they made their way to the newly opened land beyond the Blue Mountains.

Dr Bashir addressed an invitation-only crowd at a monument at the Glenroy camping reserve that marks the site where Governor Macquarie attended the first Christian church service west of the Blue Mountains in 1815.

The Governor referred to the importance of the Glenroy relics, now on the property of Bradley and Rosemary Barber and family, to the colonial history of NSW.

She said that as the 47th Governor of this State she was proud to walk in the footsteps of Governor Macquarie who had brought enlightened and compassionate leadership to the colony.

He arrived to find a 'wretched and demoralised people' but was able to transform the young colony into what was described as 'the greatest appendage of the British Empire'.

Dr Bashir described how Governor Macquarie's humane treatment of the convicts and his emancipation and welfare programs raised the ire of the British establishment back home who were concerned that the colony was becoming 'too attractive' to the former soldiers and sailors out of work after the end of the Napoleonic Wars.

The Governor Prof Marie Bashir , accompanied by the Chair of Lithgow Reginal Branch of the National Trust of Australia (NSW), Mrs Marcia Osterberg-Olsen, Mr and Mrs Bradley inspect the grave site of Eliza Rodd. ***Photograph courtesy Lithgow Mercury***

She said that upon his visit to Hartley he described 'the finest landscape of any country I have yet visited'.

Dr Bashir said Governor Macquarie's vision was an encouragement to free settlers and had paved the way for the growth of NSW.

Earlier Dr Bashir was welcomed by the National Trust local branch chairperson Marcia Osterberg-Olsen and by Mr Brad and Mrs Rosemary Barber, and took part in a ceremony marking the restoration of the grave of eight month old Eliza Rodd. Descendants of the Rodd family came from Perth for the occasion and read a poignant letter from descendants in France.

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From the editor's pen.....

Premier keeps promise to create heritage ministry

All associated with the heritage sector and those who have an interest in conserving and maintaining our heritage will welcome the early appointment of a minister for heritage by the new Premier of NSW, Barry O'Farrell.

The new government has given heritage a voice in cabinet.

The new Minister for Heritage, Robyn Parker who also has responsibility for the environment ministry has many challenges ahead of her - not the least of which is getting up to speed on the scope and range of heritage and environmental issues in NSW.

By her own admission the learning curve is steep, and we should wish her well, because, frankly, the state of our heritage needs Robyn Parker to succeed.

Prior to the March state election, the Coalition promised that heritage would receive special attention. Much of this was spelt out by the then shadow minister Catherine Cusack when she was guest speaker at a BMACHO initiated public meeting.

The pledge to appoint a heritage minister to protect historical and culturally significant items was only one of the promises made.

Among the other promises was an overhaul of the operations of the Heritage Council and to provide greater certainty and transparency in decision making.

The Coalition undertook to reverse the previous government's decision to move the Heritage Office into the Department of Planning.

The Heritage Amendment Bill 2009 significantly modified the make-up of the Heritage Council, removing representation from groups such as the History Council of NSW.

The Heritage Bill sent a chill up the spine of most in the heritage sector and gave great joy to property developers through a system which was already open to corruption more rife than it already was.

The extraordinary change to the delisting process placed in the then minister and any future minister's sole discretion the ability to delist State Heritage Register listed places.

Australia has a wide variety of heritage assets and it is vital that our natural, built and cultural heritage is conserved for future generations.

Some might wonder why the Premier decided to conjointly appoint Robyn Parker as the Minister for Heritage and the Minister for the Environment then taking on some of the responsibilities himself.

Although responsibility for the environment is an all embracing portfolio, one does not have to go very far to see the connection between the environment and our heritage

It is important to recognise we are custodians of the priceless asset of our World Heritage listed Blue Mountains National Park. An asset which is vulnerable not only because of the probability of a catastrophic fire which would completely destroy its biodiversity; but also by the over incursion of mankind with such ventures as hunting, shooting and other activities which will inevitably if permitted to occur, damage the very ecology which makes National Parks such valuable heritage assets.

The appointment by the NSW Coalition of a minister for heritage within 10 days is commendable, but there is still a long way to go to redress the long history of deficiencies which has been the lot of heritage. The heritage sector will do well to monitor the promises made while the Coalition was in Opposition to ensure that heritage gets a better deal.Given that there is a voice at the cabinet table, the heritage sector now needs to speak with a loud and clear voice.

John Leary, OAM Past President, Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc.

BMACHO HAS A NEW PRESIDENT

Despite torrential rain a well attended annual general meeting in March at Everglades saw the retirement after 5 years in office of the BMACHO's inaugural president John Leary, OAM and the election of the new president, Pamela Smith of the Springwood Historians.

In his annual report the retiring president paid tribute to what he described as 'a quite unique body of people who have led and directed the association over its first five years.'

He paid particular tribute to Ian Jack, Barrie Reynolds and Peter Stanbury, OAM who had been on the committee since it was first formed. Others who had provided real assistance to the committee included Dick Morony, Florence Smart, Joan Kent, Doug Knowles, Jean Arthur, and Kathie McMahon-Nolf. Jan Koperberg was singled out for special praise for her dedication and effectiveness as secretary during the past year.

Mr Leary said, "he was grateful he had had an opportunity to witness first hand the incredible energy and dedication of hundreds, nay thousands of individuals working voluntarily in so many different ways and on so many different projects to protect, conserve and promote the heritage of this country's wide and diverse history."

The full report has been e-mailed to all members and associates.

The election saw only a few changes in the team to lead the organisation in the coming year. Those elected as committee members were; Pamela Smith, president; Ian Jack, vice president; Jan Koperberg, secretary; Joan Kent, treasurer; Jean Arthur, Doug Knowles, John Leary, Kathie McMahon-Nolf, Dick Morony, Barrie Reynolds and Peter Stanbury .

Pictured below are some of the 50 who attend the meeting.

Past president, John Leary, OAM welcomes BMACHO's new president, Pamela Smith (left) with secretary Jan Koperberg (centre) at the annual general meeting held at Everglades, Leura. ***Photgraph courtesy Dr Peter Stanbury, OAM.***

President's profile

The incoming president of BMACHO has been a resident of the Blue Mountains for the best part of 40 years.

She enjoyed a long association with Braemar Gallery, Springwood as both co-director and chair of the management committee.

The first ever Blue Mountains history conference was organised by Pamela in 2001, with the assistance of John Low (then BMCC local studies librarian), as part of the Centenary of Federation celebrations. She received the Centenary of Federation Medal for her efforts.

Several more were held (until the event was handed over to BMCC library) because the initial conference had been so well received.

The initiative was taken up by the local studies section of Penrith City Council who, since 2002, stages an event annually.

Pamela has a BA (Hons) degree in History as well as an Advanced Diploma in Local Family and Applied History.

Her honours thesis focused on private education in the Blue Mountains, while an earlier thesis dealt with the presence of the fascist Old Guard Movement in the Blue Mountains in the 1930s.

For several years she tutored University of the Third Age groups on aspects of the history of the area.

She is a member of Springwood Historians and was a major contributor to *The Making of a Mountain Community: a Biographical Dictionary of the Springwood District,* and collaborated with Shirley Evans on *Remembrance: Springwood District Honor Roll 1914-1919.*

She is currently enrolled in the Master of History degree course at the University of New England, Armidale and has a special interest in non-government private venture schools, local/public history, the Old and New Guard and women's history, especially women involved in politics and local government.

Thank you for Ian Jack

The tremendous assistance over many years, given to historical societies and heritage groups throughout NSW and in particular in the Blue Mountains, Lithgow and Hawkesbury regions by leading Australian historian, Associate Professor Ian Jack has been recognised by the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc. (BMACHO).

Dr Jack has contributed his outstanding knowledge to many voluntary organisations including the Royal Australian Historical Society from which he which he has just retired as president. BMACHO of which he is vice president, the Heritage Council of NSW, and the National Trust of Australia (NSW).

Speaking at the recent annual general meeting BMACHO's retiring president, John Leary, OAM said: "Ian is a consummate scholar. His clarity of mind and communication are recognised and admired widely.

"Ian's enthusiasm and largeness of spirit inspires all who are interested in the heritage cause."

His academic work is never ending while he is regularly called upon to lecture and speak on history and heritage throughout Australia.

Ian is a prolific writer contributing to historical journals and writing many books

He is well known for his work internationally and locally.

Dr Jack has been a long standing member of the History Department at the University of Sydney and was its head for 8 years in the 1990s.

He was also Dean of the Faculty of Arts. He has been associated with St Andrews College of the University since 1980, is a senior fellow and responsible for the College archives.

Dr Peter Stanbury OAM said: "Ian Jack has been an indefatigable advocate of the importance of history and heritage in Australia."

Ian has many interesting anecdotes about history in the Greater Blue Mountains area, and he once said: "Heritage is always willing to talk to us if we are receptive enough to talk to it: handshaking is only the beginning of communication. Here in the Blue Mountains, we have endless opportunities for such discourse."

"I know from these anecdotes that Ian's favourite slab hut is the one in Kanimbla Valley built by Peter O'Reilly, and immortalised in his son's book, named, like the hut, *Cullenbenbong*," Mr Leary said.

Pictured is Associate Professor Ian Jack with Mrs Nanette Leary presenting him with a painting of *Cullenbenbong* which she painted.

Council agrees to establish heritage advisory committee

Blue Mountains City Council (BMCC) at its May meeting has agreed to the establishment of the Blue Mountains Heritage Advisory Committee as a committee of council.

This is indeed a good outcome for BMACHO which has sought to bring BMCC into line with numerous other councils around the country through heritage advisory committees effectively harnessing the wealth of knowledge and expertise in the community to ensure better heritage policies as well as a more informed decision making process in heritage matters at the level of local government.

Although the way is now clear for council to establish this committee with a number of the recommendations made by BMACHO having been included in its charter, there are still some issues raised by BMACHO that are lacking in the terms of reference for the establishment of the committee.

The major issue of which is the infrequency of committee meetings. However, once the committee is established it may be possible to have council increase the frequency.

A more detailed report on the proposed committee with be forwarded to BMACHO members in the near future.

The next stage is for council staff to advertise for people in the community to submit expressions of interest in serving on this committee. It is anticipated that there will be 8 - 12 community members on the committee.

The process of appointing these members from past experience could take 3-4 months.

A LONE GRAVE ON THE HILLSIDE

(M.Osterberg-Olsen, 2010)

Eliza Rodd was the daughter of career soldier James Rodd. He fought with the 39th regiment in Canada during the Anglo-American war. The 39th was transferred to France, arriving shortly before the Battle of Waterloo on June 18, 1815. While in France he married Judith Joseph Baudelet and they had two children.

The Regiment was stationed in Ireland from 1819 and then transferred to NSW in 1826. James and Judith Rodd brought their son to New South Wales, but left their four year old daughter Marie-Anne with her grandparents in Chamblain, France as she was thougth too young to make the journey.

James Rodd was intially stationed at Parramatta before being promoted to colour sergeant in 1827 and sent to Bathurst. By 1829 he was in charge of members of the 39th regiment stationed at Glenroy. Eliza Rodd was born on January 10, 1831 and baptised by the Anglican minister at Bathurst. She was the second child born to James and Judith in NSW She died on September 14, 1831.

James Rodd was transferred back to Sydney with his family at the beginning of 1832 leaving a lone grave on a hillside overlooking an idyllic view and marked lovingly with professionally crafted head and footstones. Judith died at Sydney on April 19, 1832.

The 39th Regiment was then transferred to India, taking its colour sergeant and his young sons far from the lone grave at Glenroy. Colour Sergeant James Rodd died in India in December 1832, leaving 13 year old Ambroise and 6 year old James junior orphaned.

Restoration work and protection of the infant Eliza Rodd's Grave has been an on-going project of the National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Lithgow Regional Branch since 2007. Repairs and restoration were completed in mid 2009. A photograph taken of the site in the early 1900's evidences a wood fence.

A member of the 73rd Regiment of Foot re-enactment group looks pensively at the grave of 8-month old Eliza Rodd. The grave (1831) now listed on the State Heritage Inventory is on the hillside described by Governor Lachlan Macquarie as'one of the finest landscapes of any country I have yet visited'. Photograph courtesy Ian Jack

RAHS has new president

After a record 8 years outstanding service as president of the Royal Australian Historical Society Inc., Professor Ian Jack last month stood down from office.

David Carment (pictured) has been elected to succeed Ian. David also chairs the Royal Australia Historical Society committee that provides a community forum for discussions about commemorating the first crossings of the Blue Mountains.

He is Emeritus Professor of History at Charles Darwin University in the Northern Territory, where he was also Dean of the Faculty of Law, Business and Arts. David was, however, born and brought up in Sydney, where he returned to live in 2006.

He has strong personal links with the Blue Mountains, where he is a frequent visitor. His mother's family, the Sulmans, had a home in Lawson for many years, and some of his closest relations currently live in Wentworth Falls and Woodford.

He has published extensively in Australian political history, the history of Central Queensland,

Northern Territory history and Northern Territory politics.

His most recent publications include two family histories.

Actively involved throughout his career in community and professional activities, he is a former president of the Australian Historical Association, the Historical Society of the Northern Territory and the National Trust of Australia (Northern Territory) and is president of the Mosman Historical Society.

In 2003, he was made a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) for his services to heritage and history.

AT 86 NORMAN LINDSAY DESIGNED SPRINGWOOD'S TOWN CREST

By Shirley Evans, Springwood Historians

It was 1965 and, at last, Springwood was to have a hall! Designed by local architect and World War II veteran, Eric Skarrat, and built by Alec Gall Constructions Pty Ltd, it was begun in February, 1965 and completed in February, 1966.

The people of Springwood had long felt the need for a hall.

William Rayner , one of the earliest general store proprietors, set up his extensive business in about 1877. His store had a large room attached to it and this became known as Rayner's Hall.

Here despite its inadequate size, most of the meetings and gatherings of the town were held – the Progress Committee, various lodges, political gatherings, the Literary and Debating Club, church services, concerts.

This continued until 1893 when William found he needed the extra space for his business.

Gustav Larsen and his nephew, Axel Bech, Sydney tobacconists, had a holiday home, *Elsinore*, in Macquarie Rd which had a billiard room and they kindly offered this for community use.

The Royal Hotel also hosted meetings.

William Honeysett, another general storekeeper, built a fairly large hall (66ft x 30ft) in 1909 which included a refreshment room. This burnt down together with the shops around it in 1921.

The Springwood School of Arts was opened in 1913 but it was not suitable for dances or balls having only a library, office space and a large billiard room.

Meetings were sometimes held there but nothing on a large scale.

Both during and after World War I Springwood people began campaigning and fund raising to build a War Memorial Hall but this came to nothing.

In 1923 an open air theatre was built in Macquarie Rd by Harry Williams.

It was known first as the Springwood Theatre, then the Plaza and finally the Roxy.

It had seating for 450 people and could be used for dances and balls when it was later roofed. Made of corrugated iron, it was not a beautiful building but could be decorated with a bit of imagination.

But now in 1965 the town was actually getting a purpose built, architect designed hall. 1965 also happened to be the 150th anniversary of the naming of Springwood by Governor Lachlan Macquarie.

Springwood's town crest on the wall of Springwood Civic Centre. Photograph courtesy John Merriman.

The Springwood Chamber of Commerce decided it was a propitious time for the town to have its own coat of arms which could then be permanently displayed in the new hall.

Bruce Jackson, son of Joseph Jackson MLA and proprietor of the Stonewall Jackson store in Macquarie Rd suggested that respected local artist, Norman Lindsay, who had been a Springwood resident since 1913 and was still an active creative artist at the age of 86, should be asked to design the coat of arms.

The Macquarie Historical Society (now known as the Springwood Historical Society) of which Bruce Jackson was a member enthusiastically adopted the idea and Norman Lindsay agreed to create the design.

He painted in water colours a coat of arms with a central figure of a lyre bird with tail spread and crowned with a waratah.

Lyre birds were commonly found in the Springwood bush and were actually bred in captivity by Jack Coyle who lived in Raymond Rd Springwood in the 1930s. He had a licence to do so.

The waratah was also commonly found in the Springwood bush and was frequently plundered by tourists to the area.

On one side of the lyre bird was an aboriginal man holding spears who represented the first inhabitants of the region and on the other side was a white man representing the contribution of explorers to the Blue Mountains.

Royal College of Arms did not recognise it as a genuine coat of arms

Continued from page 6

Underneath was the name Springwood on a curved ribbon. Considerable research went into the devices of the design with the cooperation of the Society of Australian Genealogists to conform to the rules of Heraldry.

However, it could not be regarded as a genuine coat of arms, the right for which needed to be granted by the Royal College of Arms in London.

The Macquarie Historical Society wrote to the Blue Mountains City Council proposing that Lindsay's design "*be embodied as a feature in the front of the building [i.e. the new Civic Centre], and that it be constructed of some durable material.*

"We think that this feature would embellish the new building and, at the same time, relate it to the outstanding progress of the district from the days of the aborigine and the explorer, to the present state of development."

It was thought that executing the design in tiles by the majolica process would provide a suitably durable display and would ensure the permanence of the colours and quotes were sought from Diana Pottery in Marrickville.

This pottery was probably the most important of the Australian potteries in the 1960s producing brightly coloured ceramics often featuring flora and fauna.

Lindsay and the pottery artists had consultations regarding the colours and Norman also experimented at home, decorating tiles using pen and ink, watercolours and oils according to Harry McPhee in his *Memories of Norman Lindsay*. To set the colour he fired the tiles in his own electric oven.

In addition to the tiled reproduction for the Springwood Civic Centre the design was said by Alderman Powell, a Springwood developer, to have been intended for reduction to a size suitable for letterheads etc. However, he said, it was not the intention of the Macquarie Historical Society or the Springwood Chamber of Commerce to commercialise the emblem.

When Alderman Powell showed the design to the council, Alderman Hunter was not entirely satisfied with it, saying he felt it was archaic.

Norman Lindsay was better known for controversy surrounding his painting of nudes and the naked nymphs like this sculpture which still stands in the grounds of the National Trust of Australia (NSW) owned property, Norman Lindsay Gallery at Faulconbridge.

Other criticisms were made regarding the position of the lyre bird's tail. Alec Chisholm, noted ornithologist, disagreed.

Mr F Walford, a well known bushman, said that the lyre bird normally held its tail parallel with the ground and only occasionally threw it over its head for a very short time.

Aldermen Hunter and Campbell moved that the design be displayed publicly in the Springwood district and the public asked to express approval or disapproval.

The result showed 702 approvals and 24 disapprovals. These votes came from Springwood, Faulconbridge, Valley Heights and Warrimoo with 23 votes cast from elsewhere.

Diana Pottery quoted £65 for the work, 36 inches by 30 inches with the Springwood Chamber of Commerce agreeing to meet the cost.

The Macquarie Historical Society was given the custodianship of the work. The only problem was the name "coat of arms".

The Blue Mountains City Council already had a coat of arms so it was decided to call it the Springwood emblem or crest.

Norman Lindsay was a famous artist so the Sydney newspapers and even an Auckland, New Zealand paper picked up the story. News items were published in the *Sydney Morning Herald,* the *Daily Telegraph,* the *Sun*, and the *Mirror*.

One Sydney newspaper (title unknown) said: '*With a display of political brilliance the Blue Mountains City Council appears to have found a formula to resolve the embarrassing case of the Norman Lindsay coat of arms design.'*

And later in the item: *'And so the mountain men have demonstrated how to win and lose at the same time.'*

Continued page 8

'Even this innocent work of art, with not a naked lady insight'caused controversy

Continued from page 7

When Norman Lindsay heard of the controversy he was quite amused. Harry McPhee, his assistant and companion in those later years, said in *Memoirs of Norman Lindsay 1879 – 1969* : *'Even this innocent work of art, with not a naked lady in sight, invited controversy.*

'Would you believe that some of the council aldermen disputed the position of the lyre bird's tail. With his usual aplomb, he retorted that at his age he didn't take aldermen very seriously and wouldn't care if they threw it in the garbage. He said that generations of critics had been trying to brain him with their feeding bottles.'

He was also quoted as saying: *'At my time of life one does not take aldermen very seriously. They came and bothered me to design a crest. It represented about a morning's work. I don't care what they do with it. I can't take the whole thing seriously.'*

And: *'Heavens, Lord love a duck. When I think of all the uproar over my work in the past... now this. I think it's damn funny; I wouldn't care a hoot if they put it in the garbage. At my time of life one does not take aldermen seriously.'*

So the tiled and framed work was duly completed and now hangs on the wall in the Springwood Civic Centre facing the entrance which is glassed and has a westerly aspect.

Despite the hopes for the durability of the colours it appears to have faded and has lost the brightness of the original painting.

Springwood Historians were privileged to view the original which is safely archived at the Norman Lindsay Gallery. It has been occasionally shown as part of special exhibitions but otherwise is safe from the depredations suffered by the tiled rendition.

I wondered if the Springwood town crest had a part in today's local life and was delighted to discover it is still being used (with the approval of the Springwood Historical Society) by a few groups.

Early on the Springwood Chamber of Commerce had the design stencilled onto something like firm plastic with "Member of the Springwood Chamber of Commerce" added.

One of these was framed and is in the local studies section of the Blue Mountains City Library.

Another is attached to the window of the Honey Gem Nursery.

I can find no one with any recollection of this initiative. It was also said in a letter to Mr Keith Wingrove of the National Art Gallery of South Australia from the Blue Mountains City Council that the Springwood Chamber of Commerce has made use of the emblem on signs erected on the outskirts of Springwood bearing the inscription *Welcome to Springwood*. This remains another mystery.

More recently the crest is used by the Springwood Historical Society on their letterheads, newsletters and calendars.

The Springwood Chamber of Commerce has it on their letterhead.

The Springwood Sports Club has had the design on their badge for many years and it is also printed on their membership card. It decorates a lot of their merchandise – shirts, jackets, vests, caps and bowling cloths.

A history of the club was printed as place mats for the official opening of their new premises and it is liberally decorated with the crest and they have recently had the design stencilled on the glass entrance doors.

I think Norman Lindsay would be pleased.

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Springwood Historical Society minutes
Sydney newspaper, title unknown

A lyre bird.

My thanks to:
Sue Bourke, Honey Gem Nursery
Peter Chinn, president, Springwood Historical Society
John Merriman, Blue Mountains City Councl - Local Studies Librarian
David Moss, Springwood Chamber of Commerce
Pamela Smith, Springwood Historians
Springwood Sports Club
Amanda Trevillion, manager, Norman Lindsay Gallery.

NSW CORPS OF MARINES

Gavin Jones a member of the NSW Corps of Marines reenactment group will speak on the original Corps of Marine's role in colonial history at the June 4 meeting of the Blue Mountains Historical Society.

He and his colleagues will also present demonstration of marching and musket fire.

For further information Susan Warmbath 4757 3402.

Convict women and the female factories

By Gay Hendriksen - Curator Parramatta Heritage Centre

Convict Female Factory Women were *women transported* - transported from one place to another, one life to another, one world to another.

Their stories range from those of machine breakers and displaced farm workers to petty thieves and family women just trying to survive.

An estimated 9,000 convict women were in the 12 female factories over a period of 52 years -1804 to 1856.

The colonial convict women coming to Australia would have been experiencing and witnessing the results and meaning of the Agrarian, Industrial and accompanying social revolution as well as the implications of the French Revolution. Some certainly participated in and witnessed the breaking of the looms in England's north.

The Irish, Scottish and Welsh in some cases would have been reacting to the hundreds of years of British 'colonising'. Many left family and children never to see them again.

The early transportation journey began in prisons which had not yet felt the effects of the great prison reformers such as John Howard and Elizabeth Fry.

John Howard in 1777 wrote about his observations of some of the prisons he visited.

In the Old Newgate he observed: *The rooms and cells were so close as to be almost constant seats of disease, and sources of infection, to the destruction of multitudes, not only in the prison, but abroad.* [1]

Of Folkingham he said: *Prison under the keeper's house ...5 damp rooms, two are used for a lunatic.... by a trapdoor in one of these rooms you go down 8 steps into a dungeon... No chimney, small court, no pump, no sewer. Yet a woman and child at her breast was sent ...the child died.*[2]

As we know for the women, the idea of transportation would have had a sense of the perilous as well as a sense of travelling to *new world,* new possibilities, over the oceans to a land of myth.

In reality the conditions on board were no worse than the gaols in the early period. Later when the ships were under government scrutiny the journey improved.

During this early colonial period in NSW, Britain was a maritime power and for a considerable time was at war with the French.

Flax loom and other flax spinning equipment were on the list of First Fleet supplies.

At this time flax was discovered in the colony and experiments with it for maritime purposes were conducted.

Female Factory front entrance at Parramatta circa 1870. ***Photogaph courtesy Ralph Hawkins, Society of Australian Genealogists.***

There was no thought of female factories in the first 10 years of the colony, however, there was the practical need to solve the problem of what to do with the convict women once they arrived and a substantial number of female convicts did have spinning skills.

These women were also a strain on the government purse. The result was in 1804 the first convict factory in Australia, possibly the world, began its operations in Parramatta above the men's gaol.

The Convict Female Factory women were simply convict women who, for various reasons, spent time in a convict female factory. This may simply have been because they were not assigned at the docks on arrival or it may be because they committed an offence in the colony.

The treatment and perceptions concerning them were informed by negative notions existing in early colonial times. Governor Hunter described the convict women: *… disgrace of their sex, are far worse than the men, and are generally found at the bottom of every infamous transaction committed in the colony.*[3] Later Samuel Marsden noted the factory as *a grand source of moral corruption, insubordination and disease.*[4]

In contrast to these views, Thomas Reid describes the women as essentially good. While surgeon on the ship Morley, said of the convict women who are destined for the Female Factories in Hobart Town and Parramatta: *I cannot hesitate but to declare my conviction, that if duly protected, and not exposed to more than common temptation, they will realise the most favourable expectations, and even forever set, an example of propriety to others in their situation.*

Before disembarking 121 women signed a letter of thanks to Reid for his humanitarian attitude on board the Morley.

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Factory women were ordinary women in extraordinary circumstances

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The actual profiles of the women transported don't match the common stereotype at the time, of morally degenerate, prostitutes, from a crime class, unskilled and illiterate.

The majority were not of a *crime class*. For over 90% of the women transportation was a result of first or second offences. They were mainly transported for theft.

The women brought over 180 trades with them, demonstrating their skills and industry.

Just over half of the English were literate and just under half of the Irish.

These facts present quite a different picture to the descriptions of degenerate women with little chance of reform.

The factories were called factories because each was a site of production. The women produced spun wool and flax in all the factories.

There were 13 female factories - Parramatta (2), Bathurst, Newcastle, Port Macquarie (2), Moreton Bay (2), Hobart Town, Georgetown, Cascades, Launceston and Ross.

The experience in the factories varied according to when the women were in the factory and which factory they were in.

The earliest factory still in existence is the Greenway designed Parramatta Female Factory.

This was a Governor Macquarie initiative and the second factory in the country. Over half of the factory women experienced the Parramatta Female Factories.

The factory women were ordinary women in extraordinary circumstances.

They became the business women, farmers, mothers, teachers and workers that formed Australia.

Why are the factory women significant to us now? The significance today is somewhere in the spaces between myth and reality.

The Australian perceptions of strength in adversity *we can survive anything, do anything*, mateship, lack of deference to authority and the sense of humour can be tracked to these convict women and their partners.

Also these women's stories provide the paper on which we can mythologise, construct stories of ourselves and our lives.

We can rewrite our desires to act with strength against adversity and 'survive' with a sense of empowerment. In many ways we are the stories we tell.

The factory women by living their lives through opportunity in the colony were part of a quiet revolution where they taught their children and their children's children about their rights and equity which we treasure now.

Despite little tangible evidence, outside government records, the experiences and nature of these women has been significant in forming who we are as Australians.

As Kate Grenville describes in *Joan makes History:* There was not a single joy I could feel that countless Joans had not already felt, not a single mistake I could make that had not been made by some Joan before me... and although you may not think so to look at me, I am the entire history of the globe walking down the street…and like them all I, Joan, have made history[5].

(Endnotes)

[1] Howard, John *The State of the Prisons in England and Wales,* William Eyres, Washington 1777, p.173

[2] Howard, John *The State of the Prisons in England and Wales,* William Eyres, Washington 1777, p.289

[3] Hunter to Portland, 3 July *Historical Records of Australia,* Series 1, Volume 4. p.586

[4] Marsden, Samuel Letter from Rev. Samuel Marsden to Governor Macquarie 19th July 1815

[5] Grenville, Kate *Joan Makes History* University of Queensland Press, St Lucia1998, pp.278-279

About the author - Gay Hendriksen

Gay Hendriksen is a Blue Mountains resident and has worked in the gallery and museum environment for 21 years including local history museums in Shellharbour and Sydney, Penrith Regional Gallery, Norman Lindsay Gallery and Museum and now Parramatta Heritage Centre.

She also curated the exhibition Women Transported - Life in Australia's Convict Female Factories which has won national and state awards in excellence and is currently touring 5 states.

She is also currently president of the Parramatta Female Factory Action Group which has the aim of saving the Greenway designed Parramatta Female Factory which was commissioned by Governor Macquarie and making it available for all to experience.

Last month she presented a paper at the Blue Mountains Family History Seminar.

Readers are invited to view the Parramatta Female Factory Action Group's website and take a tour with experts on the history and significance of this part of our Australian Heritage.
www.petitionbuzz.com/petitions/savethefemale_factory/o/2

Educating Hartley ... and 'not the common moral decency of a privy'

By Joan Kent

When the Hartley Public School opened its doors in 1869, Hartley was a small village developed around the 1837 stone court house to service the new police district, catering for the increasing population west of the Blue Mountains and enabling authorities to keep track of assigned convicts.

In the early 1840s there were three inns in the village which also functioned as a staging post between the gaols at Bathurst and Sydney when prisoners were being escorted on foot between the two locations.

Most residents initially lived in rudimentary slab huts on small cleared lots, on which they produced potatoes, wheat and hay for local consumption and to feed travellers and their stock en route for destinations further west.

However, apart from an increasing number of inns and small agricultural holdings, amenities were meagre and the population often transitory. By the 1850s and '60s both the Catholic and Anglican churches had been established within the village and it was within this religious sphere that most rudimentary education was provided.

The first public schooling available to children living west of the Blue Mountains was provided by the National School at Bowenfels (then known as Hassans Walls) roughly halfway between Hartley and Lithgow.

It was a small settlement served by the Eagle and Child Inn and established on the site of an earlier stockade for troopers and convicts en route to Bathurst.

The schoolhouse and residence for the school's master and mistress, built in 1851, still stand, together with a further stone building built in 1866.

Conditions were originally quite primitive; one early teacher complaining that there was 'No provision for any kind of water. It had to be begged', and 'not the common moral decency of a privy'.

Under the recently established National School Scheme, teachers were required to have attended the model school in Sydney and to be supervised by a board of local patrons.

A half-time school the teacher alternated between two schools, sometimes on a daily basis.

However, a small denominational school had earlier been established in Hartley during the construction of St Bernard's Roman Catholic Church and Presbytery (1842-1848) - by 1855 it was reported that 37 pupils were in attendance.

The school comprised a schoolroom and residence of plastered vertical wooden slabs under one roof.

The number of pupils declined in the 1860s, possibly because of the setting up of a second denominational school by the Church of England, in an atmosphere of increasing sectarianism.

Although there is now no evidence of the Catholic School building, both church and presbytery still stand in a sound and admirable condition.

In 1868 the school inspector had noted the existence of an Anglican School, being 'at the Sydney entrance of the township...opposite the Church of England' [St. John the Evangelist] being in fact a separate part of a group of buildings formerly The Royal Hotel then rented and occupied by the Church of England Minister (Rev RH Mayne) and 'given up by him for the purpose.'

From the late 1860s until 1886, the former Royal Hotel was rented as the rectory and while it appears that the building used as a school was attached to the former inn, the exact location is not known.

There were a number of small private schools in the Little Hartley area in the mid to late 19th century when 'dame schools' were often conducted from private homes and rented premises, unfortunately leaving us little evidence of their existence.

It is however known that before 1900 a private school was run by Mr and Miss Young in a small cottage of pit sawn timbers and handmade nails, adjacent to the produce store on the highway, where it remains.

Children “in a desperate state of ignorance”

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Another, only recently demolished, operated from a cottage behind ‘Bonnie Blink’, the stately 1870s’ home in Bonnie Blink Drive.

The impetus for an extension of educational facilities was afforded by the passage of the Public Schools Act, 1866 whereby the Council of Education could take over all types of public schools and grant aid to certified denominational schools.

If the school complied, the Council of Education paid the teacher’s salary and supplied ‘school materials’, often helping with building maintenance.

The discovery of gold in the Bathurst area the previous decade had resulted in a booming Hartley economy - the inns were always full with a constant flow of travellers intent on making their fortunes affording many opportunities for skilled and semi-skilled labour.

On June 24, 1868 a number of local Hartley residents applied to the Education Council to change their present Anglican denominational school into a provisional one. However, the regional inspector decided that a provisional school was not warranted and that Hartley should become a half-time school in tandem with the Dudawarra School 8 miles away.

In a half-time school the teacher alternated between two schools, sometimes on a daily basis; or teaching at one school in the morning and the other in the afternoon. This suggestion received support from the Council of Education and the necessary arrangements were put in place.

Mr H Blyth, then the teacher of Eurobodalla School, arrived in Hartley to teach in the now public schools, each morning at Hartley and each afternoon at Dudawarra, even though it involved a daily horse ride of 16 miles.

Blyth considered this necessary, fearing that if he left his pupils for a full day, they would very likely go to the Catholic school, substantially reducing his salary which was paid by a £60 contribution from the Council of Eucation and from fees paid by the children.

A view of the Hartley Public School. Holterman Collection c.1871-75.
Source: ML Home & Away Videolink Still 38736.

There were 21 children at Hartley (some were 18 years old!) with 27 children at Dudawarra. Blyth commented that they were ‘in a desperate state of ignorance’, a situation he hoped to improve with the aid of a blackboard and easel.

This basic request was however initially refused as ‘not really necessary’ by William Wilkins, secretary of the Council of Education and hailed as one of the foremost colonial educators of the 19th century, but he finally acceded to the request with the intervention of the local inspector.

The poor standard or indeed the total lack of education in outlying areas of rural districts was a constant observation of educators for the last half of the nineteenth century and much of the early twentieth century.

This was not always helped by some poorly trained or inadequate teachers.

However within a year of his appointment, Mr Blyth left the district - and his replacement’s tenure was equally short.

The Hartley district however continued to grow - the railway linking Sydney with Bathurst had reached Mt Victoria by 1868 and began the torturous descent into Lithgow, via the Darling Causeway, Bell and the Zig Zag, opening in 1869.

The rail link allowed exploitation of the coal deposits of Lithgow Valley and Wallerawang and the development of Lithgow’s secondary industries and the central western pastoral industry.

For the Hartley Valley it was vital in the development of the oil-shale mining and retorting industries which began in Hartley Vale in the second half of 1865, utilising the rail line via a steep incline up an almost vertical face from the floor of Hartley Valley to the Sydney rail link on the Darling Causeway.

With the rapid growth in the population of Hartley Valley, the Rev Mayne approached the Council of Education for assistance in removing the school into more appropriate accommodation.

Two acres for a school site had already been donated in the Hartley Village and Rev Mayne had arranged for the purchase of a building formerly used by the fettlers working on the Great Western Line extension at One Tree Hill (later Mt Victoria) as a school for their children.

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Rules saw sale for £5 of One Tree Hill school building fall through

Continued from page 12

As the railway gangs and their families were moving on, all that was asked of the Council of Education was aid in moving the fettlers' building down into the Hartley Valley.

Inspector McCredie was enthusiastic about the offer but early in 1870 Rev Mayne advised that although he had agreed to buy the school building at One Tree Hill for £5, the two acre site in Hartley Village had been donated specifically to the Church of England and the Council of Education was forbidden under its' regulations to endorse the siting of the building on it.

The Council of Education could however grant aid to the school if it was a provisional (full-time) school, so the Reverend Mayne informed the council that the local residents would be entirely responsible for moving the newly purchased building and would then apply for aid for a provisional school.

By May 1870, all had been accomplished and in July the One Tree Hill building had been re-erected and all was in place to welcome the 32 children who were promised to attend.

McCredie was anxious to see the school operating as soon as possible, still fearing that some children would be lost to the Catholic school in Hartley or the private school in Little Hartley

A local committee responsible for the upkeep and general supervision of the school had been formed consisting of the Rev Mayne and the members carefully chosen by religious affiliation, five Anglicans and one Presbyterian.

Originally fees were set at the rate of 6d per child per week but this was increased almost immediately to 1/- a week for the first child and 6d each per week for any other children in the family – quite a financial burden considering the size of 19th century families.

Events took an unexpected turn when in August 1871, a member of the school committee, James Cale advised the Council of Education that he was soon to leave the Hartley district and offered his eleven acres of land and a six-roomed house to the council for £45, an offer immediately accepted.

The building was approximately 40' by 20' with a bark roof, and was eventually to serve as the residence for the teacher and his family.

It did however involve the relocation of the school to its present site on the corner of the Great Western Highway and Mid-Hartley Road and again removing and re-erecting the building from One Tree Hill to continue its function as the schoolhouse.

By 1875 this building required repairs – new sheets of bark, thoroughly cleaned and dressed, and supported by 12' saplings, replaced the old bark.

The chimney was bricked inside with a 'tin' exterior and a two-rail 5' paling fence kept out stray animals, goats then as now proving a considerable nuisance.

But despite the repairs, it was apparent that a new building was required. The Council of Education at first declined to act due to limited finances, but in May 1880 the local school board laid before the council the reasons why a new building was necessary – the school was in a 'ruinous and dangerous state', made only 'of bark and boards', formerly the accommodation for the 'use of the navvies' children when making the railway line...and removed here about 10 years ago and was only temporary when put up'. They declared it to be 'positive cruelty to send children to such a barn as all other parts had good schools'.

Towards the end of 1881 construction had begun by Messrs. Armstrong & Armstrong of Hartley Vale on a fine new brick building which still stands in situ. The old schoolroom remarkably was sold for £5/10/-.

There has been a good deal of confusion regarding the early buildings, their location and history, but it is now clear that the schoolmaster's house, formerly the original dwelling on the eleven acres purchased in 1871, stood empty for many years after 1911 when it was decided that as the attendance was unlikely to increase, the expenditure of £161 on maintenance was not warranted.

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Hartley Court House around which the village developed. ***Photograph by John Leary,OAM - October 2009.***

Hartley School finally closes in 1971

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It was considered preferable to appoint a single man as schoolmaster who could find accommodation in the Hartley or Hartley Vale villages.

Thereafter married teachers often occupied the school residence in Hartley Vale when it was not required for Hartley Vale School.

In 1939 the schoolmaster's residence was moved to Hartley Village, functioning firstly as a residence and workshop operated by EA Corney & Sons.

When a new and more substantial building was constructed post World War 2, the old building, afterwards known as Corney's Cottage, was relocated to a site below Corney's Garage.

Now mounted on brick piers, the weatherboards were replaced in the 1960s by asbestos cement sheets. Latterly it has undergone a program of conservation and maintenance, including the reinstatement of external weatherboards which had been removed and re-used to line the internal walls of the 'new' garage.

Hartley School continued to operate, apart from two years during World War 2, finally closing its doors in April 1971 following the significant decision by the then Department of Education to close many small rural schools and 'bus' students to larger centres, in this case Lithgow.

However, the tradition of building removal and re-erection continued when the present recreation hall was moved to the school site from Hartley Historic Village on June 3, 1974 during the realignment of the Great Western Highway through Hartley.

It continues the function of the Old Hartley School as a meeting place and focus for the community.

Endnotes:

Merle Peters, *Sketchbook to Hartley*
Hartley Historic Site – Conservation Management Plan, pp45-111
Hartley Historic Site – Landscape Conservation Plan 2006
Jim Fletcher, *The History of Hartley Public School 1869-1911*, booklet reprinted August 1969
R Ian Jack, *Heritage Study: City of Greater Lithgow Draft Thematic History, September 1996*
Website: Centre for Learning Innovation - Early History
Iris Paridaens & Steve Roach, *Lithgow and Hartley Valley Sketchbook, 1978*
SANSW, NRS 12419 Public Works Special Bundles, 1846-1963
SANSW, Public Works, Correspondence 1877 [2/1894 part].

25th year celebrations for Lithgow Family History Society

The Lithgow Family History Society Inc. celebrated it's 25th anniversary since foundation with a well attended function.

One of the highlights of the afternoon was the awarding of life membership to Kathleen Brennan for her outstanding work as librarian a position she has held for 22 years. Pictured are some of those attending the luncheon.

Foundation members who were present at the luncheon - back: Jan Saundercock, Sandra Haley, Jean Perry, Phyllis Mason, Neville Morgan, and Laurie Cook - seated; Fay Hasler,Thelma Draper, Eleanor Martin, and Helen Taylor.

Secretary Laurie Cook and treasurer Margaret Buckley.

Margaret and John Buckley.

Neville Morgan and Hilda Kirkwood.

TURF RACING CONNECTIONS

In the last issue of ***HERITAGE*** an article by John Broadley president of the Mudgee Historical Society Inc. appeared about the connections between early Mudgee and the turf racing industry.

BMACHO's secretary, Jan Koperberg has a distant connection with Poseidon a horse from Mudgee which won the Melbourne Cup in 1906.

Jan advises that her mother's second cousin, Tommy Clayton, won the Caulfield Cup and Melbourne Cup in 1906, thanks to Poseidon.

"It was a first for the double. Poseidon and Tommy Clayton won the Caulfield Cup again in 1907, another first for two Caulfield Cups in a row," Jan said

"Tommy died in 1909 from injuries received in a 12 horse fall when riding "All Blue" in the Trial Stakes at Rosehill.

"He was only 29 and died before my mother was born.

"Although he was my mother's second cousin, he was born the same year as my mother's mother. Tommy was on my mother's father's side," says Jan.

PATCHWORK TO HONOUR ANCESTORS

Members of Lithgow and District Family History Society are currently designing a wall hanger which will be made up of 7 inch calico squares and will have embroidered on them the names of their pioneer ancestors.

The squares will be sewn into a patchwork wall hanger to be displayed at the Lithgow Library Learning Centre for Heritage Week.

It will then be available for display at all the society's functions.

Dynamic duo to 'call it a day'

The energetic and very personable couple who as president and secretary have successfully led the Kurrajong – Comleroy Historical Society for a number of years have announced they will not seek re-election to the committee.

Valerie and Frank Holland at the Lachlan Macquarie bicentenary dinner last December.

The society's president, Frank Holland and secretary, Valerie Holland have indicated they will not be available for office at the elections to be held during the society's annual general meeting in September.

The Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society is one of the largest and most active historical societies in the region.

Much of the success in the short decade history of the society has been because of Frank and Val's ability to encourage others in the community to give of their best.

The society has held regular annual dinners. The formal dinner last December to mark the bicentenary of Lachlan Macquarie's visit to the district was an outstanding success with well over 120 guests in attendance.

The guest of honour was the Governor of NSW, Professor Marie Bashir, AC, CVO.

Announcing their decision, Frank said: The time has come where we will shortly need to make some lifestyle decisions that will require a good deal of our time and we will not be in a position to give the society the attention it deserves."

An artist in the gardens

An exhibition by local artist, Alison Jane Rice is to commemorate the opening of the upgraded gallery at Everglades.

The exhibition will be open on Sunday, June 12 between 10am and 4pm

Her works celebrate the persistence of nature in capturing and luxuriating in what will always belong to the earth.

Also available is Alison's much anticipated children's book *The Legend of Prince Farty Barty & His Sacred Bum Bum Tree*

The exhibition will also open weekends and during the week by appointment. Cost: adult $8, concession $6, child $4.

For further information 4784 1938

Successful seminar

Boat People – 1788 to 1922 was a successful seminar held by Blue Mountains Family History Society last month at Springwood.

About 50 people attended the seminar, made up of members from the Blue Mountains district and interested family historians and historians from other areas.

Christine Yeats, manager, public access, State Records NSW, spoke about *Convicts and Colonists: An overview of the boat people 1788 – 1922.*

Gay Hendriksen, curator and author, chose for her topic, *The sweet, the sour, the seditious...and the swashbuckling. From British prison to the shores of NSW and the convict female factory, women met the challenges of transportation.*

Ray Thorburn OAM spoke about the Scottish passages, the different waves of people brought from Scotland by various schemes, why they came, their journeys, where they settled and what they did for a living.

After lunch Jim Low, singer/ songwriter/author entertained the group with songs he has written about Australia.

The last speaker of the day was Gary Luke from the Australian Jewish Historical Society. Gary spoke about European and Jewish immigration.

Contributed by Jan Koperberg, president, BMFHS

Gay Hendriksen, Curator, Parramatta Heritage Centre.

New museum advisor

Blue Mountains City Council has been successful in gaining a further year's funding to deliver a part time museum advisory service.

The role of museum advisor has been taken over by Lynn Collins, who brings with him relevant experience in historic houses and museums, coupled with a strong art practice

Lynn has also recently been engaged as museum advisor to Lithgow City Council and this will help strengthen the networks between museums across a large part of BMACHO's constituency.

The Museums and Galleries website which registers consultants states: "With a diverse background in education, the visual arts and museum sectors, Lynn Collins is both an enthusiast and pragmatist in negotiating progressive, expressive arts ventures and local history projects, raising community awareness, operational standards and support for arts enterprises in the process.

"He is a good listener who enjoys creative, collaborative ventures applying exacting standards accumulated from 16 years as a curator and manager at six sites with the Historic Houses Trust of New South Wales (1990-2005); preceded by executive-directorial

Lynn Collins

roles at the Jam Factory Crafts Training Workshops and Crafts Council of South Australia (1982-1989); through broad experiences in teaching from primary through to tertiary levels (1965-1980); and from 40 years as a practicing visual artist.

"As the regular visual arts-crafts commentator with the *Adelaide Advertiser* (1984-1989) then with various, mostly populist journals, he promotes excellence and diversity in the arts, and also encourages strategic, relevant, cross-disciplinary partnerships."

Lynn replaces Shar Jones who has resigned after a lengthy absence and continued ill health.

Ray Thorburn, OAM spoke about the different waves of people who came from Scotland. Ray was appointed founding director of the Australian Genealogical Education Centre at Kiama in 1988, retiring in November, 2006.

Christine Yeats, manager, public access, State Records of NSW and Ian Kendall, Blue Mountains Family History's treasurer and master of ceremonies for the day.

Sheep and Shearing

Their Evolution and Contribution to Australia

Sheep and Shearing, self published by Robert Ellis takes a broad overview of the sheep industry over the years culminating in the industry today that encompasses some of the best wool and prime lamb available in the world.

The ups and downs of the wool industry certainly mirror Australia's harsh climate as well as the personal likes and dislikes of individuals who played a major part in the development of the breed of sheep over the past 200 years.

Ellis has written about the influence on blood lines by the Macarthurs, Merrimans, Faulkners and some of the lesser known successful breeders

Wool has played a major role in the financial prosperity of Australian society as well as the social fabric of our country.

The book covers the role played by early squatters, shearers, shepherds, drovers, bullock drivers, cameleers and donkey drivers who brought the wool bales to rail heads or barge loading sites. Finally he covers the history of sheep dogs

The range of photographs in this book gives a pictorial history of the breeds, the shearing equipment and the transport of wool bales from the outback by camel to river barges.

Available by enquiry to Mrs McMahon-Noff at e-mail bellbird@hotkey.net.au

Kurrajong Collections

Kurrajong Collections is the Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society's second pictorial coffee table book.

It includes selections from The Woodhill Collection (circa 1890-1900s) held by the Mitchell Library.

The University of Sydney archives contributed an image circa 1863, possibly amongst the first photographs taken in the area, and Mount Tomah Botanic Garden provided images from "The Jungle".

Other images from the National Library Collection give an insight into the eccentric William Hardy Wilson's vision for Kurrajong

Other unpublished photographs were provided from the society's collection, contributed by members and friends.

In his foreword to this edition, Alan Davies, curator of photographs at the State Library of New South Wales writes: *"…This wonderful evocative book brings together an important collection of historical photographs from the Mitchell Library and other sources, to*

reveal the changing face of Kurrajong, a small village about an hour north west of Sydney, at the foothills of the Blue Mountains … Kurrajong Collections is an important work today. In another century, it will provide a trail to follow for our great grand children, directing them not only to a life in Kurrajong in the 19th and early 20th century, but also to how we viewed the past through our 21st century eyes.

This book brings history just a little closer within reach."

To order send a cheque to Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society PO Box 174 Kurmond rrp $28 plus $5 postage.

EAT HISTORY
History Week theme 2011

The theme for History Week 2011 will be EAT History. History Week 2011 to be held September 3-11 will bring to the table the edible, appetising and tasty history of food. Who ate what and where in the past? How did we cook and where did our food come from?

History Week 2011 will be a smorgasbord of delectable delights!

History Week was initiated by the History Council of NSW in 1997 to showcase the rich, diverse history being produced by organisations and individuals across the state.

With over 200 events across NSW, History Week is about celebrating the best in community and professional history, highlighting its role in our cultural life and inviting people to get involved.

During History Week, community groups, local councils, libraries, archives, museums, universities, cultural institutions, professional and amateur historians across NSW open their doors to present the latest in today's historical research - fascinating stories, artefacts and experiences about both our past and ourselves today.

For more information and ideas for activities visit http://www.historycouncilnsw.org.au/history-week/history-week

North Springwood's earliest orchards thrived with ideal climate, rainfall and soil

By Lindsay Paish, Springwood Historians

North Springwood had an advantage over the traditional farming areas around Sydney because the climate is tolerable in summer and winter.

The average rainfall of about 125mm falls in autumn and spring provides ideal growing conditions for all types of produce, particularly fruit.

The soil derives from an outcropping of Wianamatta Shale that extends along the crest of the ridge from Springwood to Winmalee, providing a reasonable amount of fertility but with a harsh clay sub-soil. Soils around Hawkesbury Heights and Yellow Rock tend to be leached sandstone that is not nearly as rich.

The early explorers first noted evidence of the fertility of the area, and the 'woods,' as described by Blaxland and Macquarie, which clearly defined the limits of the good soil.

Such evidence is still apparent in the forests of Blue Gum *Eucalyptus deanei* and Ironbark around the Blue Mountains City Council depot and Buckland Village and in many places along Hawkesbury Road.

After the first flush of expansion westward from Sydney, following the crossing of the mountains in 1813, development took place in Springwood with the advent of the railway in 1864.

However, it was not until the late 1880s and early 1890s that viable farming developed in the North Springwood area. In all, about fifteen farms extended along the length of Hawkesbury Road and at Yellow Rock.

Initially, the pioneers who took up land established orchards as a matter of course and most notable was J.T. Ellison and Honore Marie.

In these early days, everyone who came as residents of the area established a few fruit trees and a chook yard to supply the everyday needs of the household.

Grapes being grown on trellises at the Greenheys orchard. Elisha Wiggins is in the foreground, circa 1880s - 1890s. Photograph courtesy Blue Mountains City Council Local Studies Image files.

The larger farms however, concentrated on earning a living from the land and the orchardists developed areas for fruit growing with great success.

Being virgin country isolated from the other horticultural areas, they produced some of the finest fruit for the Sydney market; top quality disease free apples, stone fruit – even persimmons – and some of the healthiest profitable citrus orchards in NSW.

These areas declined however, after World War 1, because of the growth of Batlow and the North Coast orchard areas together with improved transport for the produce.

Passionfruit produced in the area still held pride of place at the Sydney markets up to the end of the World War 2. The area produced the finest and earliest fruit for the market.

Despite the relatively good soils, there was a need for good husbandry. It has been recorded that Ellison successfully treated his orchard by mulching and enriching with yearly supplies of fresh soil but no manure.

Similarly, Henry Charles Lennox Anderson, one-time director of NSW Department of Agriculture, studied and experimented with chemical fertilisers on his White Cross property.

He concluded that if applied in the proper manner, chemicals were productive of great and lasting good, but warned that the land must be fully tested so that its wants may be supplied without waste of chemicals.

Present day trends however, lean towards a more conservative approach away from chemicals toward a more organic method similar to what Ellison originally used.

Many of the original properties had small orchards; Buckland Hospital provided fresh fruit for its patients and the tuberculosis hospital, Lynton Lodge, had a number of trees. Cordingley's farm, ultimately Bill Morgan's, had an orchard in conjunction with his poultry farm.

The White Cross property of the McCredie family (owned later by Jack Walsh and now the Winmalee Shopping Centre) also had a fair sized orchard associated with a poultry farm. There is little doubt; most residents in the area grew a reasonable array of fruit trees.

Continued page 19

A lone pear tree near the 18th hole

Continued from page 18

The first orchard along Hawkesbury Road, owned by J.T. Ellison, was located on the present day Springwood Golf Club.

Ellison, born July 25, 1841, purchased land in Springwood in 1872 at a cost of £1 ($2) an acre.

Ellison farmed about 130 acres with some crops and a dairy but his principal pursuit was a 20 acre orchard on which he developed oranges and summer fruits.

By 1891, he was receiving much public attention for the excellence of his produce and his success was marked by the dispatch of many cases of his oranges to inland towns.

This success did not come without a lot of effort. In 1889, he was so troubled by attacks on his fruit by flying fox that he was forced to erect a 15' high fence with a network of wires that covered the whole orchard.

John Ellison and his wife Hannah. Photograph courtesy Blue Mountains City Council Local Studies Image files.

He also battled the weather; a wind storm in December 1890 did so much damage that the ground was literally covered with young fallen fruit. The only reminder of Ellison's endeavour is a lone pear tree near the 18th hole.

The next orchard along Hawkesbury Road was located north of the golf links on what is known as the Golf Links Estate. The property was developed by GA Lloyd in 1920 and was eventually acquired by the Bennett family, who, much later, ran a pig farm on the area.

Samuel Lees, one-time mayor of Sydney, purchased the property of William Lawson (the explorer) which later became St. Columba's College.

He attempted to sub-divide the land, selling 7 acres to William Ipkendanz in 1894. Ipkendanz developed an orchard on the site and built 'Elmhurst.'

The property was eventually acquired by the Catholic Diocese in the early part of the 20th century. Today, St Thomas Aquinas Primary School occupies the front portion of the property, while the high school is located in the old college buildings to the rear.

Adjoining the college grounds another orchard was developed by R Stefansson in 1920 on the land now covered by Paulwood Avenue. The old cottage 'Sulitelma' still stands fronting Hawkesbury Road.

In 1920, James Wood acquired the land on the corner of Halcyon Avenue and Hawkesbury Road then owned by Irwin Turnbull of Windsor. Wood established a large citrus orchard and the trees were still evident in the early 1950s.

The Hawkesbury Road was not always a smooth well-formed road and in earlier times it was described as a disaster because the surface was constantly breaking up.

No cars or trucks used the road when the first orchardists arrived; to get their produce to Sydney they harnessed the horse and cart, loaded their fruit, and set off for Springwood Station. The journey often took over an hour each way along what was little more than a rough potholed track.

Norton Neave of Larke, Neave and Hoskins, car distributors, purchased land which is now Summerhayes Park and built the cottage 'Hiawatha.' In conjunction with the development of the land, he established an orchard at the rear of the house in the location of the present-day football ovals.

Further along Hawkesbury Road, where the present-day Winmalee High School now stands, Honore Marie built a small cottage known as 'Bombanoi' and planted a vineyard. No doubt many a fine vintage was produced from his vines. Marie had been the head warder of a prison in Noumea.

He also owned land opposite the Turnbull Estate and after the land had changed hands a number of times, George Mills became the owner. He established an orchard. Nellie, one of his daughters, became Mrs Stan Goddard, an old North Springwood identity.

Finally, the land opposite Simpson's Cottage (the present-day stone ruin at the top of the hill just before the Hawkesbury Lookout) was taken up by Annie Wheatley.

Annie, her husband and Tom Berry conducted a store in Springwood (present-day Springwood Mall) and ran the North Springwood land as an apple orchard.

Jo Booker took up land right out at the lookout with the aim of developing a passionfruit orchard because the Springwood area was so conducive to orcharding. The project never eventuated due to the advent of drought and the war.

Passionfruit was also the main farming activity in the Yellow Rock area where some of the best fruit was produced for the Sydney market.

In 1880, William Rayner was the first to set up in the area and built the cottage 'Evandale.' The family also ran a store in Springwood.

The property was managed by Elisha Wiggins, an apiarist from Bee Farm Road Springwood. The Evandale orchard produced some of the finest disease free apples and many other varieties of fruit including persimmons, which were said to be a 'treat to behold.'

Continued page 20

Loss of life as bushfires destroy farms

Continued from page 19

At one stage Rayner established a nursery and issued a neat little catalogue of fruit trees and vines. The property was finally owned by Jo Amarous who continued passionfruit farming after World War 2.

Closer in to Singles Ridge Road an Andrews family also ran a profitable passionfruit farm. Both properties were eventually purchased by Newports who developed the area as a nursery complex.

The soil, climate, and rainfall was also suitable for nurseries and in the period 1970 - 1980 North Springwood (now Winmalee) had approximately ten flourishing nursery businesses.

In 1918, RV Purvines, a relative of the Baxter family, held a large block of land at the end of what is now known as Purvines Road. He set up a small farm and began growing passionfruit.

The farm was all but wiped out and Mrs Purvines died during the bushfires of 1951. The only son Bob remained to redevelop the farm with wife Terry.

The only bushfire fighting equipment in the area in those days was an old Bedford truck owned by Reg Wheatley that carried a 'ship's' square tank of water on the back.

The lack of a volunteer bushfire brigade meant that protection of property was largely left up to the residents who did their best with what they had.

Just after Rayner began his farming enterprise, an English migrant by the name of DW Parker took up land adjacent to the present Illingworth Road and set it up as an orchard.

His farming venture didn't last long - due to the illness of his wife – but he started the first post office in North Springwood (now Winmalee), on the corner of Singles Ridge and Hawkesbury Roads.

James Baxter took up his land in 1890 and was one of the first to establish a viable passionfruit farm.

William Ipkendanz developed an orchard and built Elmhurst (pictured) in the mid 1890s. Photograph courtesy of Blue Mountains City Council Local Studies Image file.

He also grew vegetables for the Sydney market.

James only had one arm, losing the other in a shooting accident.

He had eight sons including Harold, Warwick and Norman, who operated a timber mill and were all well known in the area as champion axemen.

The next orchard in the Yellow Rock area was owned by the Fuller family who grew passionfruit, and a fine collection of summer fruits including peaches, pears and plums. It was reputed to be the best orchard in the area.

On the north, next door to the Fuller family, was the property of Holyer Fog. In the early 1930s, during the depression, Holyer Fog sent 500 cases of passionfruit to market and received just £25. Around the same time the jam manufacturers were only paying sixpence for a chaff bag full of passionfruit .

A large number of people were involved in orcharding during the hey-days of North Springwood as well as a number of vegetable gardens, poultry farms and dairies. Gradually, however, the viability of these farms decreased and ultimately fell into disuse when they were forced to compete with produce from the North Coast and inland and with a steady influx of pests and disease.

Although the land is still capable of producing good quality produce, the tide of residential development has overtaken the area. The land now grows homes not fruit while in some areas hobby farmers play at life on the land

About the author

The author, 85 year old Lindsay Paish is a former Forestry Department cartographer, now member of the Springwood Historians. Although now not in the best of health he wrote this article several years ago and knows the area of Springwood and its farms from long experience.

He has previously contributed to ***HERITAGE*** with an article on Lieutenant William Dawes who has been credited with being the first white man on the Blue Mountains drawing a map of the area in 1791.

Old barns in the Hawkesbury

'Old Barns of the Hawkesbury' will be the subject about which Graham and Carol Edds will speak at the next meeting of Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society on Monday, May 23.

For further information
frank.holland@bigpond.com.au

Spire restoration wins National Trust award

Renovation of the spire of St James Church, Sydney in continuous use since February 11, 1824 was recognised in the National Trust Heritage 2011 awards last month.

Restorers found ordinance marks on the orb and cross, probably stamped into the copper by the convicts who built the church

The St James Church restoration cost $1.3 million. Funded by donations and grants, it took a year to complete.

“There wasn’t anything about this project that came easily or simply,” said Greg Brown, a principal of the Sydney Restoration Company (a small Sydney firm also engaged to do restoration work at Wynstay, Mt Wilson).

“But it was extremely pleasurable. To be able to put your hands on an ordinance mark from the 1820s … I don’t know that I’ll ever get to do a job like this again,” Mr Brown said.

The restorers used similar techniques to the convicts. It was too costly to close streets during restoration so scaffolding was built up to and around the spire.

The deterioration of the framework of the orb and cross meant it could not be repaired in place so ropes and pulleys were used to lower the assembly.

Restorers then worked on the orb and cross by hand. There was no machinery.

The timber sarking beneath the copper of the spire was repaired and new copper used, with the patterns of the original work replicated.

Although not the first Anglican church in the colony, St James is now the oldest church in the Sydney CBD. It is in this church, the beginning of the legal year is marked with a service attended by the Supreme Court justices in

ceremonial costume. The church has also been associated with the most distinguished Order of St Michael and St George since 1950.

Source:
http://:www.sydneyrestoration.com.au, http://en.wikipedia.org.wiki St._James _Church,_Sydney, *The Sydney Morning Herald* April 5, 2011

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

REGISTERED OFFICE 14 Bunnal Ave, Winmalee 2777
E-mail: jank@eftel.com.au or bmacho.heritage@gmail.com
Website: www.bluemountains.heritage.com

THE ORGANISATION Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 following a unanimous response to a proposal from Professor Barrie Reynolds at the 2004 Blue Mountains Local History Conference which sought from Blue Mountains City Council the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the city.

BMACHO in its constitution uses the definition: “Cultural heritage is all aspects of life of the peoples of the Blue Mountains which was later changed to cover Lithgow and the villages along the Bell’s Line of Roads. It therefore involves the recording, preserving and interpreting of information in whatever form: documents, objects, recorded memories as well as buildings and sites.”

The objectives of the organisation are:

i. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage.
ii. To encourage and assist cultural heritage activities of member organisations.
iii. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations.

One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact, to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

HERITAGE BMACHO’s official newsletter is edited by John Leary, OAM.

Blue Mountains History Journal is edited by Dr Peter Rickwood.

MEMBERSHIP The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mount Tomah, Blue Mountains City Library, Blue Mountains Cultural Heritage Centre, Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc., Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc., Blue Mountains Tourism Limited, Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute, Cudgegong Museums Group Inc., Everglades Historic House & Gardens, Friends of Norman Lindsay Gallery, Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc., Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc, Lilianfels Blue Mountains Resort, Lithgow and District Family History Society Inc., Lithgow Mining Museum Inc., Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies, Lithgow Small Arms Factory Museum Inc, Mid-Mountains Historical Society Inc, Mid Western Regional Council Library, Mt Victoria and District Historical Society Inc., Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine History Society Inc. (including Turkish Bath Museum), Mudgee Historical Society Inc., Mudgee Regional Library, National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Blue Mountains Branch (including Woodford Academy), National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Lithgow Branch, Scenic World – Blue Mountains Limited, Springwood & District Historical Society Inc., Springwood Historians Inc., Transport Signal and Communication Museum Inc., The Darnell Collection Pty Ltd, Valley Heights Locomotive Depot and Museum, Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd. The following are individual members: Ray Christison, Associate Professor Ian Jack, Joan Kent, John Leary OAM, John Low, Ian Milliss, Professor Barrie Reynolds, and Dr Peter Stanbury OAM.

COMMITTEE The committee for 2011-12 is: Pamela Smith (president), Ian Jack (vice president), Jan Koperberg (secretary), Joan Kent (treasurer), Jean Arthur, Doug Knowles, John Leary, Dick Morony (public officer), Kathie McMahon-Nolf, Barrie Reynolds and Peter Stanbury.

HONORARY AUDITOR: Sue McMahon, B Comm CPA.

AFFILIATIONS BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society Inc.

HERITAGE

NEWSLETTER OF THE BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

JULY - AUGUST 2011 ISSUE No. 16

The Katoomba Waltz dedicated to an early chief justice

By John Leary, OAM

NSW HAS A NEW CHIEF JUSTICE, Tom Bathurst. With the delay in announcing a replacement for the incumbent, Jim Spigelman; barrister cum journalist Richard Ackland, published in the *Sydney Morning Herald* a speculative piece as to who might fill the office and if in fact there is a need for such an office.

Enchantingly, chief justices still live with us, in name. A Sydney ferry was named after Sir Leslie Herron's wife and Mary McCarron Maguire composed *The Katoomba* Waltz in honour of Sir Frederick Darley. [1]

Asked to name a popular waltz, most will recall the magic of Andre Rieu's presentations around the world of either the *The Blue Danube Waltz* or the *Emperor Waltz.*

However, few other than local historians would be aware of Mary McCarron Maguire's, *Katoomba Waltz* dedicated to Sir Frederick Darley (then Lieutenant Governor of NSW) and Lady Darley who lived in "Lilianfels", Katoomba.

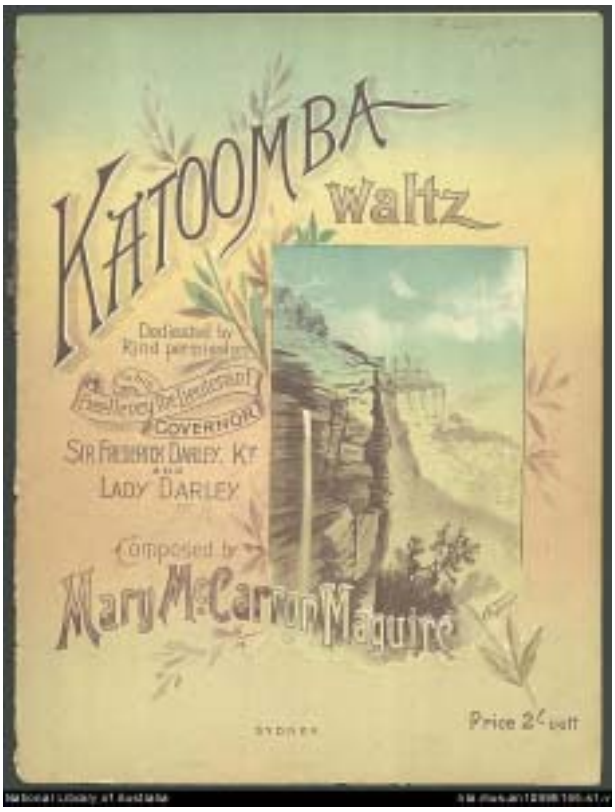
Published in 1895, *The Katoomba Waltz* was first performed at Government House in Sydney and was performed at the Tivoli Theatre in August 1895. The music was added to the repertoire of the NSW Artillery Regiment Band.

The Sydney Morning Herald of the day pronounced it 'a dashing composition admirably suited to ballroom purposes'

The rediscovery in 1989 of Mary McCarron Maguire's, *Katoomba Waltz* has led to speculation about a 'lost school' of popular composers whose works were inspired by the natural splendours of the Blue Mountains.

Little is known about Mary McCarron Maguire but she published two other waltzes, The *Antonina* and the *Commonwealth* during the decade 1890 - 1900, the *Commmonwealth* evidently inspired by the coming Federation in 1901. Two other musical items from 1890 - 1910 are a mazurka, *Leura Falls* by Alicia Nolan and *The Cascade Waltz* by Louis L Howarde.[2]

Very few details are known about Maguire's life, other than that she was one of two daughters of a Woollahra family.



This beautiful and delicately designed sheet music cover for the Katoomba Waltz is held in the National Library of Australia, Canberra which has approved the publication of this image nla.mus-an 10996145-1-v

They lived at "Lansdown" in Edgecliff Road, and were frequent guests at Government House and Admiralty House garden parties, and at lord mayoral receptions. Her sister Blanche was a semi-professional actress in the 1890s.

Sir Frederick Matthew Darley was born on September 18, 1830 in Dublin, Ireland. The first child of Henry Darley of Wingfield, Bray County Wicklow and his wife Maria Louise nee West.

At Hunsdon, Hertfordshire on December 13, 1860, Darley married Lucy Forest Brown, from Melbourne, a daughter of Captain Sylvester Brown (master mariner) and his wife Eliza Angell nee Alexander.

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From the editor's pen.....

Council's call for public participation in heritage advisory role welcomed

THOSE INTERESTED in the protection and conservation of our heritage will welcome Blue Mountains City Council's recent decision to establish a heritage advisory committee of council.

The prompt action of council staff in calling for nominations from the community soon after the decision is also worthy of commendation.

Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations (BMACHO) has for several years been advocating the establishment of a heritage advisory committee of council.

BMACHO has on occasions expressed concerns at what seemed to be delays in the process of having council accept the proposal for such a committee which are not uncommon in other local government units around the state and in fact in Australia.

On this occasion credit is due to the elected members of council and it's planning staff for the decision which should ultimately benefit council in its deliberations on heritage issues.

It is pleasing to BMACHO that council has acceded to some of the requests made by those in the heritage sector, both volunteers and professionals.

Council's decision to establish a heritage advisory council acknowledges the wealth of knowledge concerning the region's heritage and history, gained over many years by members of historical and heritage societies in the region.

In BMACHO's view there are still some issues that its members would have liked to have seen included in the terms of reference for the establishment of the committee.

However, within the wide parameter of council's objectives those who council decides to appoint to the committee should be able to provide some valuable expertise in matters of heritage advice.

Those who apply to be considered for appointment to the heritage advisory committee need to be very much aware that heritage is but a small part of the sometimes lengthy process of planning, a point that BMACHO has been stating for many years.

One of council's stated objectives for the heritage advisory committee, is a review of the heritage component of LEP 1991. This is the type of activity on which those in the heritage sector of our community are well equipped to provide.

Council recently released a quite comprehensive and easily understood, clear language document dealing with LEP processes and again this has been a worthwhile initiative of council's planning staff.

In welcoming council's decision to work more closely with the community it serves, (and in particular the not insignificant number of residents who have an abiding interest in our heritage and history) --- it is suggested there are a number of important ingredients to the ultimate success of this heritage advisory committee.

These are the need for those elected from the community to understand their work is limited to heritage issues only and that there must be an acceptance by them of the necessary and legal protocols council and its staff must observe.

There is also a need for council's staff to accept the limitations and ambitions of those who volunteer for this committee.

These community members need to be given dignity with tasks that allow them to believe they are contributing something worthwhile to the community in which they live, so they may share pride in achievement and not left to feel they just 'rubber stamp' the work of staff, without having had any real input into the processes.

John Leary, OAM - Past President, Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc.

LOCAL HISTORY BLOG

JUST over six months ago Springwood Historians launched a public/social history blog, or weblog.

One of the newer forms of 'engaging and interacting' with a wider audience, the blog or weblog aims to disseminate and gather historical facts and information related to the Blue Mountains.

The content is eclectic and changes regularly as new stories and information are added almost on a daily basis.

Some of the content, like the personal profiles of the Springwood Historians, and maps and general information related to the area - remain static, while older posts, which have been archived, can be accessed through the search facility on the weblog.

A 'comment' feature on the blog provides visitors with the ability to interact, which is something that Springwood Historians are keen to encourage. Another objective is to engage local schools.

So far the weblog has been viewed by more than 2,500 visitors from countries like the USA, UK, Canada, Russia, New Zealand and South Korea, and attracted favourable comments from local historians, genealogists and public historian, Cathy Stanton.

Pamela Smith, the editor of the blog, stated that although the blog is primarily focused on the Springwood area at present, they are eager to include stories on the wider Blue Mountains.

The address of the weblog is http://springwoodhistorians.blogspot or simply type Springwood Historians into the Google Search engine.

Grant awarded to BMACHO

FOR THE FOURTH YEAR in succession, BMACHO has been awarded a Commonwealth Government grant of $2,300 by the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Populations and Communities under its 2010 - 2011 GVEHO Program.

The program is intended to help cover administrative operational costs.

BMACHO is most appreciative of this continued generous Commonwealth support.

It is both recognition of the value of BMACHO to the heritage community and a practical contribution that makes the organisation's work possible.

The GVEHO grant is invaluable in helping to meet the routine administrative costs of the Association.

It has also supported workshops, the newsletter and other activities and allows the committee to concentrate on finding funding from other sources for special projects such as the *Journa*l and major workshops.

Overall, BMACHO has a sound record (80%) of success in its grant applications.

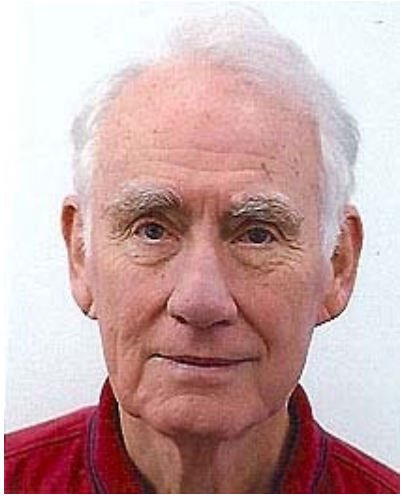
This year it has applied for two new project grants that would enable it to serve its membership more effectively and to contribute even more to heritage work in the region.

Grant applications require time and care in their preparation and, if successful, in the responsible management of the funds received.

There are, however, some useful tips on how to minimise the workload and increase the chances of success.

A workshop is being planned to assist members in the grant programs for their own societies.

Anybody interested in participating in the workshop, is asked to contact Barrie Reynolds by phone: 4757 4725, or by email: barrie.r@bigpond.net.au.



Professor Barrie Reynolds, BMACHO's grants officer and former inaugural secretary

TELSTRA GRANT FOR WORKSHOPS

MEANTIME, advice has just been received of BMACHO's success with another grant application

Telstra has generously awarded a grant of $5,025 under its Telstra Connected Seniors Grant Program, to enable BMACHO to provide a series of training workshops on the use of the internet for on-line historical research and information services in the heritage field.

Anybody interested please contact Barrie Reynolds: barrie.r@bigpond.net.au or 4757 4725.

Telstra Connected Seniors® is a tailored program created to help older Australians learn more about technology.

It offers individual self teach guides, fun interactive workshops, and also offers eligible community groups with the opportunity of funding to run successful training courses around technology.

It is anticipated these workshops will be conducted between February and May 2012.

Darley came to Australia on advice of another chief justice

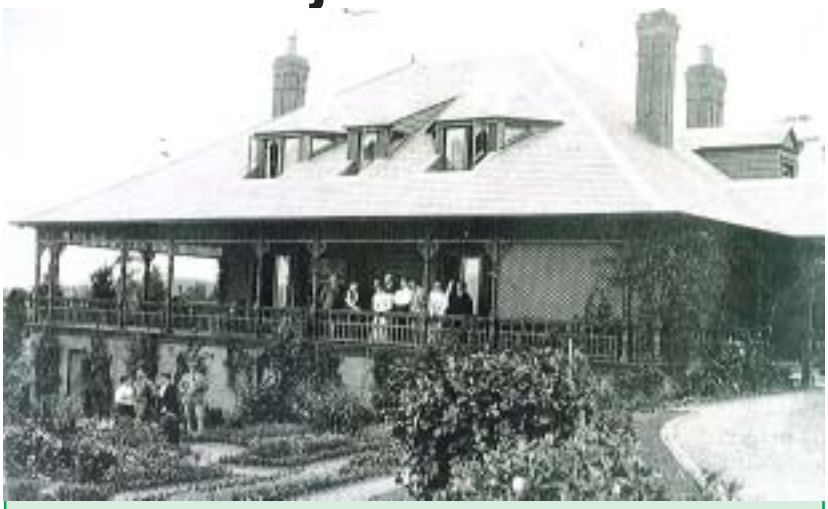
Continued from page 1

Darley and his wife came to Australia in 1862, on the advice of Sir Alfred Stephen (the Chief Justice of NSW) who convinced him that he would further his career in the colony.

Sir Frederick was knighted in 1887 and served five times as the Lieutenant Governor of NSW. The longest and most important being from January 24, 1900 to May 27, 1902, spanning the creation of the Commonwealth of Australia in 1901.

In August 1888, Sir Frederick Darley purchased more than 11 acres of land adjacent to Echo Point in Katoomba and enlisted Varney Parkes, the architect son of close friend, Sir Henry Parkes to design "Lilianfels" as a summer home.

The Darleys had seven children, six daughters and two sons and it was Lilian, who died at age 22 suffering tuberculosis, for whom the Katoomba property was named: the ending 'fels' has a German meaning, 'rocky ground'.



"Katoomba will in the future be historic from having as a resident one eminent Chief Justice, Sir Frederick Darley and his family at Lilianfels. Sir Frederick has spared no pains in laying the foundation of a fine garden and is said to have trenched a large portion of his property in order to grow fruit successfully." Illustrated Sydney News 1890

During the years in which Sir Frederick and Lady Darley resided near Echo Point, nearly every noted visitor to Australia accepted their hospitality and enjoyed the magnificent outlook.

Royalty, vice-royalty and princes of statesmanship, jurisprudence, science and art came in turn to view the mountains from the magnificent vantage point of Lilianfels.[3]

Footnotes

[1.] Ackland, Richard, *The Sydney Morning Herald* May 6, 2011

[2.] Leves, Kerry *Blue Mountains – Pictorial Memories* by John Low

[3.] *HERITAGE* November-December 2009

Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine Historical Society Inc.

CANCELLATION OF MEETING

Due to severe storm damage ongoing this week in Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine

the mid-year general meeting planned for

Saturday, 16 July, 2011

has been cancelled

The following bulletin issued today, July 6 by Beth Raines, Captain of the local Brigade of the Rural Fire Service will give some idea of the extent of the damage:

On Tuesday afternoon the two Mounts were hit with a massive wind storm with pretty devastating results. High winds have continued and are expected to abate on Friday. There have been major tree losses along all roads and Mt Irvine Road, Mt Wilson Road and The Avenue were finally cleared yesterday morning with all minor roads (except Waterfall Road) being cleared by Wednesday evening. Telephone (landline) services have been interrupted but are now restored in places. Power has been off since Tuesday afternoon and is not expected to be restored for days yet - realistically not until next week. We have had Council crews working alongside Brigade members to remove trees off the road to allow access. Conditions here are very cold and windy, there is a huge amount of debris everywhere and power lines are still down in many places.

I am sure all members and friends of the Historical Society will join with me in sending warm wishes of support to all those affected by the widespread storms throughout the region.

Florence Smart Secretary Tel. 9416 1957 Email.smart.delbridge@bigpond.com

EVANS OPENED THE WAY TO THE WEST

By John Leary, OAM

THERE IS A SERIES of inter-related events immediately after Lawson, Blaxland and Wentworth crossed the Blue Mountains in May and June 1813.

George William Evans began his survey of a roadway across the Blue Mountains in November 1813 and went as far as the future Bathurst.

William Cox then supervised the construction of the road from July 1814 to January 1815. Governor Macquarie travelled along the new road in April and May 1815 and selected the site of Bathurst.

There is however, a body of opinion that in fact Evans was 'the first European to cross the Great Dividing Range' the three explorers, Blaxland, Wentworth and Lawson not actually having crossed the main range.

What is uncontestable is the fact that in surveying a roadway from Emu Ford on the Nepean River to Bathurst and the subsequent building of the road by William Cox, opened up the interior to ensure the prosperity of the colony.

It allowed the creation and maintenance of a strong national economy based on pastoral and rural industries well into the second half of the 20th century.

Severe drought in the years immediately before the 'crossing' almost forced the small settlement which would eventually become Australia's largest city to be abandoned.

The crossing of the mountains, the surveying of the road and its construction in quick succession gave new found impetus to the colony.

Instructed by Governor Lachlan Macquarie, Evans the then Deputy-Surveyor of Lands was — "*to proceed in the Attempt of Effecting a Passage over the great Range and to discover what Description of Country lay to the Westward of them*." [1]

"the first European to cross the Great Dividing Range"

George William Evans image courtesy National Library of Australia pic - vn 3509777 - v

Governor Lachlan Macquarie sent Evans across the Blue Mountains into the Wiradjuri nation of central-western New South Wales to confirm the findings of the exploration party of Blaxland, Lawson and Wentworth.

He was the first European to record meeting with the Wiradjuri people of the region.[2]

Evans generally followed the route of Blaxland, Lawson and Wentworth, reaching the end of their route at a point Evans named Mount Blaxland.

Evans' party then moved on and discovered the Fish River area and further west near the junction of the now named Fish and Campbell Rivers and described two plains in his view, the O'Connell Plains and the Macquarie Plains.

Evans had made a significant decision, by determining to carry out the second part of Macquarie's instructions first, i.e. by surveying beyond the explorers' terminal point, which he did by starting at the foot of Mt York. Here he marked a tree on November 25, 1813 and measured westward to his later selected objective at the Macquarie River, reaching there on December 9, 1813.

Returning to his *Marked Tree* at the River Lett, which is described in his Survey Field Book (see AONSW Ref. Reel 2623) … *"About 10 chains from the River Lett, and the mouth of a drain about 4 chains left"* he then started on December 31, 1813, the survey of the explorers track, which he completed to Emu Ford on January 8, 1814.

Even today, with a team of surveyors using modern surveying equipment including GPS, digital theodolites and laser distance measures, such a feat would be difficult to emulate in a similar period of time and particularly as Evans had little qualified assistance.

Evans' party included Richard Lewis and James Burns, both 'Free Men' and three convicts, James Cooghan, John Grover and John Tygh.

Their names were recorded for posterity by Arthur J Hand, as street names when he subdivided the Lapstone Estate.

Continued page 6

Evans' reward — £100 and 1000 acres of land

Continued from page 5

Macquarie rewarded Evans with £100 and a grant of 1000 acres (405 ha) on the Coal River near Richmond, Van Dieman's Land. Evans and his family sailed for Hobart in May 1814, but Macquarie recalled him in March 1815 to act as a guide on a tour of the recently discovered country through which William Cox had constructed a road to Bathurst. [3]

By 1814 Evans was no stranger to the Australian bush and the hazards of surveying in uncharted territory.

Born on January 5, 1780, the third child and eldest son of William Evans, secretary to the Earl, of Warwick, of the Parish of St James, Westminster, England and his wife Ann nee Southam; young George served an apprenticeship with an engineer and architect and gained some elementary training in surveying.

In 1798 he married Jennett, daughter of Captain Thomas Melville, commander of the *Britannia* in the Third *Fleet* and migrated to the Cape of Good Hope.

He was employed in the Naval Store-keeper's Department at Table Bay and remained there until May 1802 when, in compliance with the treaty of Amiens, British forces were withdrawn.

Evans then aged 22 was persuaded by Captain William Kent to go to New South Wales and arrived at Port Jackson in HMS *Buffalo* on October 16, 1802.

Initially Evans was given the position of store-keeper in charge of the receipt and issue of grain at Parramatta, but in August 1803 he was appointed by Governor King as acting surveyor-general in the absence of Charles Grimes who was on leave in England.

In September 1804 he discovered and explored the Warragamba River, penetrating upstream to the present site of Warragamba Dam.

Discharged from the Survey Department by Governor Philip Gidley King in February 1805, he began farming at the Hawkesbury settlement on land granted to him the previous year.

This venture failed during the disastrous flood of March 1806, but he remained in occupation until Lieutenant-Governor William Paterson appointed him assistant surveyor at Port Dalrymple in 1809. However, his services were needed in Sydney and he did not leave to take up this office.

In March 1812, he surveyed the shores of Jervis Bay whence he led a small party overland on foot to Appin. This journey of two weeks was conducted under most arduous circumstances and resulted in the settlement of the Illawarra district during the drought years that soon followed.

His success probably induced Governor Lachlan Macquarie to later select him for the task of penetrating the interior of New South Wales.

In September 1812 he went to Van Diemen's Land with the acting surveyor-general, James Meehan, to remeasure grants made by former lieutenant-governors. These grants were in a deplorable state through the inefficiency and misconduct of deputy-surveyors George Harris and Peter Mills.[4]

While thus engaged he was appointed in November 1812 deputy-surveyor of lands, Van Diemen's Land, but in August 1813 he was recalled to Sydney and instructed to try to find a passage into the interior.

In May and June 1814, Evans led another expedition from Bathurst southward to within sight of the Abercrombie River, explored the middle reaches of the Belubula River, discovered the Lachlan River eight miles (13 km) downstream from Cowra, and traced its course as far as Mandagery Creek.

In July 1815 he returned to Hobart, remaining until 1817 when he was required to act as second-in-command to Surveyor-General John Oxley in an expedition then setting out from Bathurst to determine the course of the Lachlan River.

EVANS' WATCH. Astronomical observation are made to determine azimuths, latitudes and longitudes on the earth. Evans' watch would have been used in the timing of the observations to determine the the direction of true north and the latitude and longitude of Bathurst using solar or star observations. A watch error correction is applied to adjust the azimuth observation related to the true north meridian based on Greenwich mean time.

Though forced to return by flooded marsh country when about nine miles (14 km) below Booligal; Oxley paid tribute to Evans' able advice and co-operation, and the accuracy and fidelity of his earlier narrative.

In September 1817 Evans returned to Van Diemen's Land, but six months later he was again recalled to fill the position of second-in-command to Oxley, this time in his attempt to trace the Macquarie River to its termination.

Once again flooded marshes proved too great an obstacle, so the party turned eastward to Port Macquarie and thence southward to Port Stephens. After twenty-three weeks the exploration was completed in November 1818.

Evans returned to Hobart and for the first time since his appointment as deputy-surveyor was able to confine his attention to his duties in Van Diemen's Land, where land surveys were in serious arrears through inadequate staff and continual demands for his services on exploration.

Continued page 7

Evans' alleged bribery involvement

Continued from page 6

William Sorell had a high opinion of Evans, but the administration was lax and the surveyor had great power. Not only were mistakes often made but, in the issue of grants, a certain discretionary power was given to surveyors to 'throw in' additional pieces of land.

Sorell also sanctioned the acceptance of 'presents of office' by surveyors to supplement their inadequate pay.

This practice understandably brought complaints and accusations of corruption from disgruntled settlers and these were supported by (Sir) George Arthur, who replaced Sorell in May 1824.

The new lieutenant-governor sent to the secretary of state a lengthy account of Evans' alleged involvement in bribery and his illegal disposing of crown lands in an attempt to force him from office.

When Evans asked to retire on a pension, Arthur, in order to expedite his removal, was prepared to concede that his practices had been condoned by Sorell, but the stigma effectually prevented all further promotion of Evans' assistant, Thomas Scott.

Evans resigned in December 1825 on the ground of ill health, eight months after his wife had died.

A despatch from London in May 1826 appointing him the first surveyor-general of Van Diemen's Land had only recognised his position as the Colonial Office knew it when revising the establishment of the Surveyor-General's Department; soon afterwards Earl Bathurst wrote welcoming his resignation, confirming his pension and agreeing to abandon further investigation of his past conduct.

Evans sailed for England with his second wife, Lucy Parris, daughter of Thomas Lempriere, in November; while there, he supplemented his pension of £200 by teaching art, but in November 1828, when he heard of Oxley's death, he applied for appointment as surveyor-general in New South Wales, claiming that his health was fully recovered.

"South West View of Hobart Town, Van Dieman's Land ca.1819", a watercolour by Wiliam George Evans. Reproduced with permission of State Library of NSW. V6/1819/1

He was unsuccessful but in 1831 he surrendered his pension for a lump sum of £600, and returned to Sydney the next year.

Arriving in August he set up as a bookseller and stationer, and soon became drawing master at The King's School, then housed in Harrisford, George Street, Parramatta, while his wife conducted a finishing school for young ladies.

He returned to Hobart in 1844 to live with his family in Warwick Lodge, his home in New Town. After his wife died in August 1849, he moved to Macquarie Street, Hobart, where he died on October 16,1852, aged 72, and was buried in St John's churchyard, New Town.

He had at least twelve children, seven by his first marriage and five by his second.

As well as being a competent surveyor and a resolute explorer, Evans was an artist of some note.

His aquatint view of Hobart in 1820 was published as a frontispiece in his *Geographical, Historical and Topographical Description of Van Diemen's Land* … (London, 1822; second edition, 1824; and a French edition, Paris, 1823).

The original, with another aquatint of Hobart in 1819, is in the Dixson Library of New South Wales, where four of his views of Sydney are also hanging.

He appears to have drawn a number of sketches and water-colours, both of the settled areas of the colony and of the interior, when he journeyed with Oxley.

His artistic skill may also have helped him to win Paterson's favour in 1809 and so to restore him to official life at that time.[5]

Footsteps in time

Move forward into the 20th century and in the decade before 1988, across Australia towns, cities and villages were planning projects to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the first European settlement at Port Jackson in 1788.

In the Blue Mountains, John Yeaman, BEM, the city engineer had been considering a project to recognise the significance of Evans' surveying exploit from the River Lett at the base of Mount York east to Emu Ford on the Nepean River at Penrith .

In 1982 after having carried out research for the Blackheath Rotary Club's *Historic Blackheath* book, Yeaman put forward the idea that some action should be taken to remark the line of survey traverse carried out by Evans in 1813-14.

John Yeaman was another to contend that the work of Evans had been overshadowed by the recognition given to Blaxland, Wentworth and Lawson.

Continued page 8

Evans' pillars restored by surveyors group

Continued from page 7
It was the Blue Mountains section of the survey that interested Yeaman

On February 26, 1983 Yeaman presented a paper to the Mount Victoria and District Historical Society which provides a detailed picture of those who forged the link between the, then modest settlement at Port Jackson and the vast resources of the inland continent.[6.]

The remarking of the survey line established by Evans which Cox followed closely, was conceived as part of the 1988 celebrations.

Evans' Field Book is stored in the State Archives (Book No.96 AONSW Ref. Reel 2623) and despite its age and poor condition, it was possible to obtain details from it.

There are about 500 survey points, but initially it was decided to limit the number of points to 12, perhaps the most important watering holes[7].

An Australian Bicentennial grant of $45,000 was obtained by Blue Mountains City Council in 1986 which permitted 14 pillars to be built marking some of Evans' camping sites.

Mt York was the first pillar unveiled in 1988. Mr AK Weatherburn, a great, great grandson of George Evans and author of two books on the surveyor and his works, unveiled the Mt York pillar.

Footsteps in Time pillars are located at Mt York, Mt Victoria, Blackheath, Katoomba, Wentworth Falls, Wentworth Falls West, Lawson, Hazelbrook, Faulconbridge, Springwood, Warrimoo, Blaxland, Glenbrook, Lapstone and Emu Plains.

Each marker is identical to the base of a trigonomical survey pillar, as used throughout NSW for major surveys and contains four plaques; one giving details of the project, one giving details of Evans and his work, one giving reproductions of relevant pages of his field book and extract from his diary and one giving details of the individual unveiling ceremony.

An engraved steel plate on top of the marker completes the construction.

Over time some of the pillars have been vandalized, while others need refurbishment.

The Restoration of the *Footsteps in Time* pillars was a project undertaken by the Seniors Group Institution of Surveyors NSW Inc. funded by the Blue Mountains City Council, Perith City Council, Land and Property Management Authority and Institution of Surveyors NSW[8.]

The Seniors Group, Institution of Surveyors NSW Inc. conducted a ceremony at the Lapstone pillar in May 2011 to mark the restoration of the 14 pillars .

"Sydney from the western side of the Cove ca.1803" a watercolour by Wiliam George Evans. Reproduced with permission of State Library of NSW . XV1/1803/1

Mike Rutlidge chairman and Graham Hunt , survey monuments curator, Seniors Group Institute of Surveyors NSW Inc. at the recent unveiling of the Lapstone pillar.

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The asistance of Graham Hunt, in providing material for this article and the image of Evans' Azimuth watch is acknowledged and appreciated.

The assistance of Jan Koperberg in facilitating the National Library of Australia's image of Evans and other graphics is also acknowledged and appreciated.

What would you keep in an empty jar?

by Dr Peter Stanbury, OAM

CHRISTOPER ROBIN'S friend, Eyeore, thought that an empty jar was good place for dead balloons.

But what if the jar was bigger than those in the Arabian Nights that held rivers of gold and jewels?

What if they were as big as a person standing up and there were hundreds of them scattered around the landscape, some in groups of scores or more, some standing alone?

What if they were two thousand years old? What use can you imagine?

Would you want to research them if the area in which they are found has been a war zone for most of the last hundred years?

In the last decade or so most of the cluster bombs and other ordinances surrounding them have been destroyed and only shell holes and bomb craters remain.

Now is a good time to carry out research. In the Lao Peoples Democratic Republic there are thousands of stone jars.

No one really knows what they were used for. They are thought to be carved out of stone by iron tools. Perhaps they were used for burials – but did they hold raw corpses, mummies, ashes or only goods for use in the after life? If so, where are the lids?

The jars are there, but why are there virtually no lids? What is the meaning of the infrequently found carved human figures with outspread arms found on some examples?

Hundreds of these jars of unknown origin are scattered across the landscape

The puzzle is one of the foremost opportunities for prehistory studies in South East Asia. Xieng Khouang (pronounced Sieng Kwang) in the central eastern region of Lao is a plateau about 1200 metres above sea level.

It has a wonderful climate for the tropics, warm during the day and cool at night. Many minerals are found nearby.

The area is a military strategic point – like a medieval castle with a view of the surrounding countries and an excellent position from which to control the neighbouring peoples.

Although the area is popularly known as the Plain of Jars, many jars are found on hilltops and in wooded areas.

Some sites have up to 300 jars; some sites have a single jar. The jars are made of a variety of materials: sandstone, granite, limestone or a mixed conglomerate of material.

Some sites seem to have a nearby stone quarry; others appear remote from a source of stone.

So how were the jars transported? By elephants? By pushing them over rolling logs?

The mouths of some jars are essentially round; others have a rectangular or square shape.

The few flat stone discs that remain are about the right size for lids, but they may also have been used to cover holes in the ground that contained corpses, ashes or objects of worth such as offerings.

It is interesting that the rims of the jars vary: some have an internal niche around the circumference, others have an external niche and yet others have no niche. Just one jar has a human(?) carved on the outside; at least one lid has a similar carving.

Since 1998 UNESCO and the Government of Lao PDR have been attempting to safeguard and research the remaining jars.

Some are now broken; either in recent wars or by human vandalism over the ages. On many jars bullet marks can be seen - what is better than a big jar for target practice?

This jar shows an internal niche at its opening

Jars crying out to be researched

The first work recently carried out consisted of mapping the position of the individual jars, proclaiming as protected areas the sites where many jars are found and clearing (blowing up or removing) unexploded ordnance.

After that local people have been inducted into recording and archaeological practices. Some excavations have also taken place, underneath and in the vicinity of the jars.

The finds, however, are meagre. A relatively small number of iron knives have been found, as well as the remains of bracelets of bronze, necklaces of glass beads and pottery.

These are either stored in the region or a few items are on display in the National Museum of Lao PDR in Vientiane.

Unfortunately none are on display at the sites; of which four or five major ones are accessible to the public.

Furthermore, the items in storage are deteriorating due to lack of conservation knowledge.

The Plain of Jars has been a war zone as seen from this newspaper clipping which show soldiers reading maps with the large jars in the background

The only conservators in the country are the occasional visitors from overseas.

The major site on an actual plain is on the outskirts of Ponsavan (from which airplanes and buses disgorge tourists) and is becoming hemmed in by farms and other undesirable developments.

Richmal Crompton's famous schoolboy hero, William, philosophised that he would be an inventor except that the radio, the telephone, TV and movies had all been invented so there was nothing left to invent.

Some times it seems that research projects are equally elusive. But the jars are crying out to be researched. Is this an opportunity for you to take one small step?

At the top of this jar there is an external niche

About the author

Dr Peter Stanbury, OAM an executive member of BMACHO's management committee and a regular contributor *to HERITAGE* is a member of Australian Business Volunteers. Peter is also vice chair, UMAC (ICOM's International Committee for University Museums and Collections) and librarian, Richard Bailey Library, Australian Society of Anaesthetists

As a volunteer he often travels overseas to give freely of his advice particularly in museum collections.

On one of his recent trips when in Laos, Peter visited the Plain of Jars to inspect these 2000 year old man sized jars of uncertain origin and function. As Peter says this is an interesting research program just waiting to be tackled.

Dear Old Golden Rule Days

EDUCATION is something which has, at some time, in some place, touched us all. Whether we left school before matriculation, attended a tertiary education institution or are one of a growing community of 'life-long learners', we have all been influenced by education at some time and at some level. **…**Elissa MacDonald, Editor In Chief, *aMUSine.* The museums, galleries and collections zine by interesting people for interested people.

HERITAGE is indebted to *aMUSine* for this first hand account of life by a young boy at Blue Mountains Grammar School 75 years ago and before it became an exclusive boys school.

I WAS BORN IN 1926 and had attended five different schools by the time I turned twelve years of age.

This was due to the fact that my father was a postmaster and was moved around by the Postmaster General's Department during my childhood.

I think my most enduring memories are of Blue Mountains Grammar School, Springwood where I was a day pupil from fifth class in 1935 to 1938 when my father's move to Sydney resulted in my transfer to Sutherland Intermediate High School.

After starting me off at Springwood Public School (second and third classes), Dad decided that I should have the opportunity to develop as a "young gentleman" and enrolled me as a day pupil at the Blue Mountains Grammar School whose motto was "Nihil sine labore" (nothing without work).

At that time it was located near Springwood Railway Station on the corner of Macquarie Road and Homedale Street, Springwood.

The school was established by its first headmaster, Edward Kenneth Deane, in 1918 in the grand, Italianate home known as "Homedale", built in 1882, and which was demolished in 1975.

I think my father was influenced in this regard by the Greyfriars stories, written by Frank Richards, which he had read during his own pre World War 1 boyhood and by friends in the close knit Springwood community.

I attended Blue Mountains Grammar School from 1935 to 1938 inclusive and apart from undergoing the usual bullying by a couple of older day boys enjoyed it immensely.

This faded photograph is of Rex Turner in his full Blue Mountains Grammar uniform. Photograph courtesy of R Turner and C MacDonald

I have very happy memories of my days at BMGS. I remember well the masters, the old classroom building, the pre-school morning hymn (usually hymn number 1 - "Now that the daylight fills the sky ….. ") being beefed out by the boys as the headmaster, Ken Deane accompanied us on the piano, the daily fill of the three R's, the camaraderie of the students around me, and, of course, our periods of play.

Having been brought up on the type of schoolboy novels which encouraged certain qualities in their boys, I saw BMGS in some way as the local Greyfriars or St. Jim's of Frank Richard's creation, preparing us to be men worthy of the title of gentlemen.

The words of the first verse of Sir Henry John Newbolt's *Vitae Lampada* were especially meaningful to me, and the afternoon cricket match never failed to remind me that:

There's a breathless hush in the Close tonight -
Ten to make and the match to win
A bumping pitch and a blinding light,
An hour to play and the last man in.
And it's not for the sake of a ribboned coat,
Or the selfish hope of a season's fame,
But his Captain's hand on his shoulder smote –
"Play up! play up! and play the game!"

Life at Blue Mountains Grammar School 75 years ago

As I have mentioned, the headmaster was Ken Deane. He was short, rotund, stern and respected by all his pupils. I remember him as a fun man.

He had an old, noisy Ford flat top truck (his beloved "Tin Lizzie") which he used to take the boys to the roadside swimming hole at Valley Heights, and to football matches at the Springwood Sports Ground, and incidental tasks such as towing the school's dead cow from where it had succumbed to an enormous hole where it was to be interred.

A peach tree planted atop the grave later yielded loads of magnificent fruit. Ken Deane was instrumental in inculcating in me a realization that I could become a good student and, in due course I would have the "makings of a gentleman".

His ability to mould boys into men of worth and resolve set me an example which I have tried to emulate throughout my life.

Another of my teachers was the red headed Irishman and sportsmaster, Mr Russel who also taught me Latin (I was quite a dab hand at it) and frightened me on the sports field ("Who kicked that football back into the scrum?" – me of course, as I didn't want the bloody thing or been told what to do with it), and later after I had been chased over the try line with the ball in my hands and scored a couple of tries ("Good boy Turner, I didn't think you had it in you!").

There was however, one teacher who I consider was one of the greatest influences on my life - the part time elocution teacher, Mr Gorman.

I know my elocution and language in my early school days was basic and was a take off of the western film stars who used to entertain me at the local picture theatre on Saturday afternoons.

He had taken me in hand shortly after I became a BMGS pupil. One day, I was in the Springwood Post Office talking to Dad when, for some reason or other I used the word "Garn!", meaning of course, "Go on".

I happened to look at the customer side of the post office counter and standing there was Mr Gorman.

I cringed and repeated what I had just said – this time saying it correctly. Mr Gorman smiled, nodded and went on his way. My interest in his teaching was immediate and far reaching.

He taught me that syllables, consonants and vowels all had a purpose, and should be uttered clearly so that my listeners would understand what I wanted to say.

He taught me not to slur my speech, and to enunciate every word and sound properly. In essence he taught me to speak, which has been a wonderful attribute in my progression through life.

My feelings of nostalgia for my old Alma Mater are well captured in the words of the old school song:

"Mother kind, our pride and treasure,
Bold our voices cry, and free,
Moulding us through days of pleasure
For our struggles yet to be;
Fate on blackest waves comes surging
Triumphs from our tasks may rise,
Still we strive, her proud words urging,
Labour, labour, wins the prize.

Hers the race we run to dying
Hers our triumph's ringing cheer,
Hers the ball to victory flying,
Hands that strain, the line is near;
Work and play their trophies bringing,
Labour on, our school replies,
Words like bells forever ringing:
Labour, labour, wins the prize.

Glorious school, we laud thee proudly,
Giver of our fairest days,
Masters, playmates, singing loudly,
In our swelling song we praise;
Banner ever proudly bearing,
That our school waves in our eyes,
Banner direct battles daring,
Labour, labour, wins the prize."

Ours was not a political song. "Labour" in its context meant "Effort", or, as Calvin Coolidge would have put it, "Persistence and determination". I commend its sentiments, and as Grantland Rice wrote before me, that . . . "when the One Great Scorer comes to mark against your name, he writes - not that you won or lost - But how you played the Game ."

75 years later

Rex Turner a veteran of World War 2, now aged 85 considers himself a 'gentleman of leisure' though in the past he was chief executive of HCF Australia

HERITAGE is indebted to his granddaughter,Elissa MacDonald, editor In chief, *aMUSine* who arranged for this recent photograph of Rex who provided *aMUSine* his memories of his school days in the Blue Mountains 75 years ago.

Rex believes there may only be three of his contemporaries still living.

Crumbled chimney stack only reminder of Polar explorer who lived in Woodford

By Pamela Smith

MANY NOTABLE POLITICIANS, successful business people, war heroes, and inspiring educators have lived in the Blue Mountains at one time or another.

One of these was renowned geologist, polar explorer and university lecturer Sir Tannatt William Edgeworth David KBE CMG DSO DSc FRS with wife Caroline.

The couple purchased twenty-six acres of land at Woodford in 1898; naming the two-roomed cottage they built 'Tyn-y-Coed' (meaning house in the wood).

The name reflected Sir David's Welsh birth. Born in 1858 at the rectory of St Fagan's in Wales, he was the eldest child of Rev William David a fellow of Jesus College Oxford. Sir David graduated BA from Oxford in 1881.

He arrived in New South Wales to take up the position of assistant geological surveyor following the disappearance of Lamont H Young (his predecessor) on a field trip to Bermagui in 1880.

Sir David arrived in Sydney in 1882 and in July 1885, married English born Caroline Martha (Cara) Mallet whom he met on the voyage to Sydney.

There is a suggestion that Cara emigrated for reasons of health, however it is more commonly believed that she came to NSW to take up an appointment as founding principal of Hurlstone Training College for female teachers. Interestingly, she is thought to have been appointed by Sir Henry Parkes.

Mackay, David and Mawson raise the flag at the Magnetic South Pole January 16, 1909

William Edgeworth David led first expedition to reach South Magnetic Pole

Cara, an orphan from a working class background received her education by scholarship from Whiteland College London and later, she trained as a teacher.

She was a lecturer at the college prior to applying for the position at Hurlstone. Cara, a bright intelligent woman, became interested in and assisted with the introduction of the free kindergarten movement in the inner suburbs of Sydney.

She was aided by other early feminist educators like Louisa Macdonald and Maybanke Wolstenholme.

Sir Edgeworth David was appointed professor of geology in the University of Sydney in 1891.

Sir Ernest Shackleton appointed him as leader of the scientific team accompanying him to the South Pole in 1907 - 9.

Sir David led the party that discovered the South Magnetic Pole and he and his team scaled the active volcano Mount Erebus.

At the outbreak of the First World War, Sir David recruited and formed the Australian Mining Corps that was composed of tough individuals from the gold, copper, coal and silver mines of Kalgoorlie, Bendigo, Tasmania and South Australia.

Although little is known about the corps the most successful operation carried out by the men serving under Lieutenant Colonel David was the mining under and explosion of Messines Ridge, in 1917.

In the early part of the twentieth century the Blue Mountains and 'Tyn-y-Coed' became the David's main place of residence.

The cottage was expanded to meet the needs of the family and orchards and gardens were established. In 1909, following his return from the Antarctic, the Davids entertained the crew of the polar expedition ship, *Nimrod*.

They were community minded and sociable, and members of the local Woodford Anglican Church.

In August 1934 the media of the day announced the death of the world famous scientist. Sir David was given a State funeral.

It is unfortunate that the crumbled chimney stack of 'Tyn-y-Coed' (destroyed by fire) is the only reminder of the David's time in Woodford.

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Special days in World War 1

by Dr Peter C Rickwood

PATRIOTIC FERVOUR was high at times during World War I and the civilian population of Australia was eager to contribute to various 'relief' funds.

Volunteers often organised special days which became formally named after the particular cause, and processions[1], shows, etc. were organised to attract the populace with the aim of relieving them of money.

Whilst some special days were on specifically designated dates, it was common for small communities to hold them on a convenient nearby day - usually a Saturday when many were not at work; Sunday being off-limits due to religious observances.

This flexibility meant that the same special day was held on different dates at different places across Australia and not all communities would respond to a particular cause.

Belgium or Belgian Day, variously reported as having been held for the Belgian Relief Fund or to raise funds to provide food for children in Belgium, was on May 14, 1915 in the Blue Mountains, May 15, 1915 in Sydney[2], but seven weeks earlier in Victoria on March 26, 1915[3] and also in Tasmania[4]; in South Melbourne it was called Belgian Rose Day and reputedly was held on April 8,1915[5]. Note that it was not held on the National Day of Belgium, which is July 21, and marks the accession of King Leopold I in 1831!

A few special days were held in successive years, e.g. Red Cross Day.

Towards the end of the war there must have been some negative reaction to continual appeals for donations, and when the Armistice was declared local residents would have resisted these appeals with the intention of donating to the expected welcome home ceremonies for the volunteers from their community - many of which eventuated.

Some of the names of these special days in the 1914 - 18 period were unusual, and would not be known by many 21st Century residents, so I have attempted to compile a list.

The intent was also to show which 'days' were observed in which places in the Blue Mountains, but observances held in some villages may have been missed as most events were not advertised in newspapers, and post-celebration reports were often brief and concealed in articles with titles that do not convey all of their content.

Australian troops resting from the battle in Peronne (Somme) during World War 1. Image courtesy Australian War Memorial.

THE AUTHOR

The author, Dr Peter C Rickwood, a former president of the Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc. is the inaugural editor of BMACHO's *Blue Mountains History Journal* the second edition of which will be published online later this year.

Peter is a visiting senior research fellow at the School of Biological, Earth & Environmental Science at the University of New South Wales.

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Not all villages in the Blue Mountains observed any particular special day and there was great inconsistency of effort, but Katoomba and Leura would appear to have been the most co-operative.

Some of the designated special days are not known to have been observed by any of our Blue Mountains villages e.g. Sand Bag Day.

I am grateful to Mr John Merriman, Local Studies Librarian, Springwood for steering me to the Australian War Memorial website which has a list of these days. (http://www.awm.gov.au/findingaids/special/Souvenirs/Appeals.xml)

References

(For brevity, authors and titles of articles in newspapers have been omitted.)

[1] e.g. p.41 in Smith, N., 1996. Grandfather worked on the pool; tales of Old Blackheath. Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc., Wentworth Falls. 59pp.; Blue Mountains City Library, Local Studies Image PF 493. The celebration at Katoomba is recorded in a photograph in Blue Mountains Historical Society collection, No.786.

[2] *Sydney Morning Herald* 17 May 1915, p.8, col.8.

[3] *Kalgoorlie Western Argus*, March 30, 1915, p.8, col.1.

[4] *The Mercury,* 26 March 26, 1915, p.4, col.3 & March 27, 1915, p.7, col.3.

[5] *The Argus*, July 8, 1916, p.20, col.8.

SPECIAL DAYS CELEBRATED IN THE BLUE MOUNTAINS

Date	From the Australian War Memorial	From other sources	Celebrated at	References
1 Feb 1914	Red Cross Day			
14 May 1915	Belgian Day		Blackheath, Katoomba, Leura & Wentworth Falls	*BME* 30 Apr 1915, p.4, col.5; 7 May 1915, p.3, col.3; p.3, col.4; p.5, col.3 & 14 May 1915, p.3, col.3.
30 July 1915	Australia Day		Blackheath, Katoomba, Leura, Lawson & Hazelbrook	*BME* 30 Jul 1915, p.4 col.2 etc.
4 Nov 1915		Allies Day		*SMH* 5 Nov 1915, p.4, col.2.
19 Nov 1915		Allies Day	Leura	*BME* 19 Nov 1915, p.5, col.3.
10 Dec 1915	Sand Bag Day			
12 Apr 1916	Allies Day			
7 Jul 1916		War Chest Day	Blackheath	*BME* 7 Jul 1916, p.3, col. 2.
15 Dec 1916	Repatriation Day			
23 Feb 1917		Win-the-War Day	Katoomba	*BME 2*3 Feb 1917, p.2, col.4; 2 Mar 1917, p.1, col.5.
24 Feb 1917	Win-the-War Day			
14 Jul 1917	France's Day (sic)		Blackheath, Katoomba & Leura	*BME* 20 Jul 1917, p4., col.4; p.6, cols.2-3.
28 Sep 1917		War Chest Day	Leura, Lawson & Hazelbrook; Sydney	*BME* 7 Sep 1917, p2., col. 3; 21 Sep 1917, p.4 col. 3; 5 Oct 1917, p.3, col.4
29 Sep 1917		War Chest Day	Katoomba	*BME* 7 Sep 1917, p.2, col.3.
6 Apr 1918		Red Cross Day	Medlow Bath	*BME* 26 Apr 1918, p.4, col. 3.
24 Apr 1918		Red Cross Day	Leura	*BME* 10 May 1918, p.4, col.4
c. 4 May 1918	c. 4 May 1918	Red Cross Day	Blackheath, Glenbrook, Mt Victoria	*BME* 12 Apr 1918, p.5, col. 4; *SMH* 8 May 1918 p.10, col. 6
29 Jun 1918		Italy or Italian Day	Katoomba	*BME* 28 Jun 1918, p.2, col. 4; 5 Jul 1918, p2. col. 4.
14 Jul 1918		France's Day	Katoomba	*BME* 19 Jul 1918, p.3, col.3. .
26 Jul 1918	Australia day			
2 Aug 1918	AIF Memorial Day			
13 Sep 1918	Soldiers Homes Day			
14 Sep 1918		Soldiers Homes Day	Leura	*BME* 20 Sep 1918, p.1, col. 2
1 Nov 1918	Jack's Day		Katoomba, Leura, Wentworth Falls	*BME* 1 Nov 1918, p.2, col. 4; 8 Nov 1918, p. 4, col. 3; p.5, col. 4.
2 Nov 1918		Jack's Day	Hazelbrook	*BME* 1 Nov 1918, p.4, col. 4; 8 Nov 1918, p. 4, col. 3.
5 Nov 1918		Jack's Day	Blackheath	*BME* 8 Nov 1918, p. 4, col. 3.
30 Nov 1918		War Chest Day	Katoomba, Leura, Wentworth Falls	*BME* 22 Nov 1918, p. 3, col. 4; 29 Nov 1918, p.3, col. 3; p5, col.6; 6 Dec 1918, p.1, col. 5; p. .6, col.3.
Key:		Jack's Day = Sailors' Day		*BME* = Blue Mountain Echo *SMH = Sydney Morning Herald*

Historic 1880s Carrington Hotel to be venue for Blue Mountains history conference

HISTORIC CARRINGTON HOTEL, Katoomba has been chosen as the venue for the 2012 Blue Mountains' history conference

"The early years of the colony" is the title chosen by the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations for its first conference to be held on Saturday, October 20, 2012.

The conference follows earlier Blue Mountains history conferences organised under the auspices of Blue Mountains City Council's local studies section.

BMACHO, president Pamela Smith who was involved in the organisation of earlier conferences, said the event would focus on life in the early years before the colony was explored west of the Blue Mountains.

The Association is planning to present an affordable event with a range of well-informed speakers.

Closer to the event more details and cost to participants will be promoted.

The keynote speaker is expected to be well known historian, Dr Shirley Fitzgerald.

Dr Fitzgerald was the City Historian for the City of Sydney from 1987 - 2009, when she delivered a program connecting the community to their history using diverse formats from radio chats to formal lectures.

She has taught in NSW schools, lectured at the University of New England, and established the inaugural Master of Letters degree in Public History at the University of Sydney.

Dr Fitzgerald has held a number of professional positions, including president of the History Council of NSW, 1996 - 99 and chair of State Records NSW, 2001 - 2007.

She was the inaugural chair of the Dictionary of Sydney Trust and continues to be involved in this exciting project.

The 1880s heritage Carrington Hotel at Katoomba

She is currently Adjunct Professor in the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences at the University of Technology, Sydney.

Topics will focus *on:*
** Fashions from frockcoat and crinolines to convict canvas and cabbage palm leaf hats;*
** Convict Women, prostitution, imbalance of women - their fears and fate in a foreign environment;*
** Indigenous history – First encounters, food, language. Indigenous interaction - From genocide to government arrogance.*

The above are only working titles and obviously wil be refined both by the committee and the speakers as planning progresses.

Each speaker will be asked to speak for 45 minutes and there will be question and discussion time of 15 minutes at the end of each paper.

Included in the program will be a musical interlude with Jim Low a folk singer, historian and writer guaranteed to wake the audience after lunch which will be served in the Carrington's grand dining room.

For further details contact Jan Koperberg jank@eftel.com.au

Jean Arthur in Blue Mountains Hospital

JEAN ARTHUR, the secretary of Mount Victoria & District Historical Society; a remarkable woman with a wealth of knowledge about the Mount Victoria district, had a fall last month and fractured her shoulder, which resulted in her being admitted to Blue Mountains District Anzac Memorial Hospital.

On the evening of the fall, Jean did not feel like cooking dinner and crossed the highway to the garage to buy fish and chips.

On the way back she tripped in a pothole on the corner of Mt York Road and the Great Western Highway and there she lay till a gentleman from the Talisman Gallery found her and called the ambulance.

This chap had closed his shop in Hartley Valley and had gone for a bicycle ride up Berghofer's Pass and along Mt York Road and was going back down Victoria Pass.

This was fortunate for Jean, because she had been lying on the road for some time, waiting for help, cold and in pain.

Jean is a member of BMACHO's management committee

Some members have already visited Jean in hospital or sent get-well wishes. All wish Jean all the the best for a speedy recovery.

School of Arts or Mechanics Institutes have their origin in early 19th century

by Pamela Smith, Springwood Historians

IN THE EARLY YEARS of the 20th century Mechanic's Institutes or a School of Arts building was a common feature in most Blue Mountains villages.

However, as a "movement" their history is much older.

The first was established in Scotland in 1821, with the aim of improving the intellect of its members through the "diffusion of useful knowledge" and to nurture "literature, science and art."[1]

It was not too long before these "civilising institutes" appeared in the new colony.

With a land grant courtesy of Governor Richard Bourke the Sydney Mechanic's School of Arts opened its doors in 1833 and still exists to this day.

Springwood was not so lucky because even though a committee formed in 1901, fund raising activities and a promise of land by James Hunter Lawson (owner of Braemar and the Oriental Hotel) came to nought.[2]

In fact one of the members of that early committee is thought to have absconded with the funds.

The Springwood School of Arts finally opened its doors in 1913, with Mr Brinsley Hall MP officiating.

A commemorative booklet published for the event stated the committee overcame "great difficulties" and "discouragement" to bring about the end result.[3]

The graceful Federation style building was well-ventilated and lit with Benzoli air gas lights.

As well as a well stocked library, the building contained reading and committee rooms, and a "fine billiard room" - lined in Australian timber - containing two excellent billiard tables.[4]

Pictured are the Coo - ee marchers as they marched past the Springwood School of Arts on their way through the Blue Mountains from Gilgandra in the central west to Sydney to enlist in World War 1 in 1915 . Local photographer, Jo Booker.

When barely twelve months old the building provided overnight accommodation and comfort for men who took part in the Co - ee March.

Later, the institute became the scene of World War 1 commemorations when captured enemy machine guns and the honour roll were placed in their keeping.

A newspaper article in 1919 suggested the Springwood School of Arts was "indispensable" and a fine institution "for our young men" because no signs of gambling or objectionable behaviour were tolerated within the "cosy comfort" of its walls.

'... like an elite men's club catering for the upper class...'

Mothers and wives were being asked to encourage their sons and husbands to join.

Research indicates however that despite these overtures to the general community the institution did not realise its primary objectives until the 1940s.

Until then it had functioned more like an elite men's club catering to the upper-class demographics of the area at that time.

But, by the 1940s all that had changed. In 1943 the Australian Labor Party held meetings there and Red Cross ladies conducted fund raising activities from the veranda of the building.

During the 1940's Horace Lindrum, Australia's first professional snooker and billiards player was a regular visitor.

Lindrum (who would go on to win the world snooker title in 1952) was featured in a competition to aid the Australian Comforts Fund in 1944. An amount of £56 was raised.

In 1946 an essay competition held by the institution was judged by one-time resident, Supreme Court Judge and patron of the Arts, Rae Else Mitchell.

Continued page 18

Council explains LEP processes

AN INFORMATION SHEET on LEP processes has recently been released by Blue Mountains City Council

The following information provides some background on previous council processes, planning instruments and heritage studies and why Council is moving towards a review of heritage items under LEP 1991.

Council currently holds three Local Environmental Plans which apply to land throughout the Local Government Area. They are:

* Local Environmental Plan No.4 (LEP 4). This plan applies to limited sites throughout the LGA, is the oldest plan operating in the LGA and was gazetted in 1982.

- Local Environmental Plan 1991 (LEP 1991). This plan applies to outlying areas, land on the edges of towns and villages and rural sites throughout the LGA. It was gazetted in 1991.
- Local Environmental Plan 2005 (LEP 2005). This plan applies to the core villages and towns throughout the LGA and was gazetted in 2005.

History on LEP 2005

The development and gazettal of LEP 2005 took a number of years to complete and there were a number of draft LEP documents publicly exhibited and commented upon.

In all the LEP 2005 instrument went through two exhibition processes, before it was finally gazetted by the Department of Planning in 2005.

Blue Mountains Draft Local Environmental Plan 2002 (DLEP 2002) was placed on public exhibition between October 16 and December 13, 2002.

Council went through an exhaustive public review of DLEP 2002 in response to the submissions received from the community, internal review of the document and changes in government legislation.

The review of the DLEP 2002 resulted in council making a number of alterations to to the draft plan. The substantive bulk of the alterations were minor changes that did not change the role, operation and purpose of the LEP.

Consequently council adopted those changes. However, there were a number of alterations which were more substantive and council resolved to defer these issues and seek public comments on these deferred matters.

A second public exhibition of deferred matters was undertaken between October 16 and December 13, 2002 and the exhibition period was extended until January 17, 2003.

Following exhibition, council considered submissions and made appropriate changes to the DLEP and it was sent to the NSW State Government for gazettal.

The LEP was named Local Environmental Plan 2005 and was gazetted on October 7, 2005.

Heritage listed site ... Lennox Bridge, Glenbrook

Heritage listed site ... Norman Lindsay Gallery and gardens, Faulconbridge

Continued page 19

Springwood School of Arts

Continued from page 17

Over the ensuing years the building was used by a range of organisations like the local historical society, Boy Scouts & Guides, dance and musical groups, The Old Age Pensioners Association, Citizens Recruitment League, Red Cross and Children's Library Group conducted by caricaturist, cartoonist and artist George Finey.

During its lifetime it provided a venue for community celebrations, entertainments as well as charitable and wartime efforts.

Springwood School of Arts ... a graceful Federation style building

In the years following World War 2 the institution, which had never been strongly supported, faced competition from new technology like the advent of television.

Nevertheless, the building was used right up until its demolition in 1969. The Foundation Stone now graces the School of Arts Town Square.

ENDNOTES

[1] The Dictionary of Sydney, www.dictionaryofsydney.org

[2] *Nepean Times,* 31.8.1901.

[3] Booklet in the ownership of the late Ern Lesslie.

[4] *Nepean Times,* 10.5.1913.

Springwood images courtesy of Springwood Library and local studies collection

This article has previously been published on website of Springwood Historians.www.springwoodhistorians blogspot.com

Heritage is only one component of an LEP

Continued from page 18

Standard LEP

On March 31, 2006 the NSW Government gazetted a standard instrument for preparing new LEPs, also known as the LEP template.

Local plans across NSW will now use the same planning language, making it easier for communities to understand what is proposed for their local area.

Blue Mountains City Council is using a staged approach to achieving a standard LEP instrument.

The first stage is to review LEP 4 and LEP 1991 and bring these forward into the LEP 2005 instrument, therefore creating one LEP for the entire LGA.

The second stage will involve converting LEP 2005 into the Standard LEP instrument thereafter.

It is important to understand that creating an LEP is a lengthy process and may take a number of years to complete.

For example, the expected time frame for creating one LEP for the entire LGA is expected to be completed at the end of 2013.

Review of LEP 1991

Heritage is only one component of the final comprehensive LEP .

Heritage listed site ... Chimney Cottage, Mt Wilson

Heritage listed site ... Bills horse trough, Glenbrook

Council has received support from the Department of Planning that amendments to heritage items be undertaken to LEP 1991 before it is amalgamated into LEP 2005.

Therefore council staff are working towards updating and revising LEP 1991 Schedule 2 – Heritage and its associated mapping before it is rolled into the revised comprehensive LEP 2005.

Previous Heritage Studies

The first comprehensive heritage study undertaken in the Blue Mountains Local Government Area was a study completed in 1982 by Croft and Associates which applied to numerous sites throughout the LGA.

This study was later used as a basis for further heritage work.

Professor Ian Jack and Associates was engaged by council to undertake various heritage assessments and reviews to update heritage listings.

Dr Jim Smith was engaged by Council in 2010 to undertake a heritage study on natural areas covered by LEP 1991.

These include walking tracks, lookout and other heritage items of natural value.

A number of the heritage reviews which have been undertaken over the years, have not been publicly exhibited and the information has not been carried forward into an LEP instrument.

This is where some confusion may lie with community members, in that information from previous community consultation may not have resulted in amendments to the statutory LEP instrument.

Council is now working towards enacting previous heritage reviews undertaken and community input and carrying these forward into a revised and updated heritage schedule.

The first stage of the process is to consult with land owners of potential heritage items, publicly exhibit the heritage assessments

Heritage listed site ... Knapsack Zig Zag, Lapstone

Heritage listed site ... Woodford Academy

and reviews related to LEP 1991 items and seek council endorsement of these documents.

The second stage of the process is to carry forward the proposed amendments into an LEP amendment to LEP 1991.

HAVING TROUBLE WITH THE WEBSITE?

BMACHO's webmaster, Peter Hughes has placed the following message on the BMACHO website for Calendar of Events: **"If the file shows the previous month click on the refresh button on your browser or press F5 on the keyboard"**

This message also applies to archived copies of the *HERITAGE* newsletter.

The webmaster has also updated the "Contacts" on the website and you might have to use the refresh button or press F5 on the keyboard to update to view.

Heritage briefs from around the world

Greeks resist sale of heritage sites

A ROYAL PALACE where Prince Philip was born has been the focus of protests against the sale of Greece's national heritage to pay off its debts.

The Greek government has plans to sell state assets in a bid to raise 50 billion Euro.

Mon Repos Palace in Corfu one of the largest Greek islands, where Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh, was born 90 years ago, is one of several state-owned properties to be auctioned.

Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh

The fear is that places such as this will be sold off to private foreign buyers and closed off forever to the public. **Telegraph, London**

Fears for prehistoric art

CAVES containing some of the world's best prehistoric art are to be opened to the public despite warnings that human breath will destroy the 20,000-year-old paintings.

Scientists have said the decision carried 'immeasurable' risks.

The vast Altamira caves, discovered in 1879 in the Cantabria region of Spain have been called the Sistine Chapel of Paleolithic art.

They are covered in paintings of European bison, bulls and other animals.

The site is a UNESCO declared World Heritage Site. **Telegraph, London**

Bligh's medals up for auction

TWO GOLD MEDALS (pictured) awarded to Bounty captain, William Bligh have been put up for auction by his descendants.

The first medal was awarded in 1794 by the Royal Society in England for Bligh's work started on the voyage on the Bounty, relating to bread-fruit, which had been discovered in Tahiti.

The botanist Sir Joseph Banks was keen to transplant the crop to the West Indies as a food source for slave labourers.

The second is the Naval Gold Medal 1795 awarded to ship's captains.

Bligh won his for his role at the Battle of Camperdown, a major naval action on October 11, 1797 between the Royal Navy and the Dutch Navy in which the British captured 11 Dutch ships without loss of any of their own. ***The*** **Sydney Morning Herald**

Springwood emblem controversy

THE MAY-JUNE EDITION of *HERITAGE* , published an article by Shirley Evans about the design in 1965, by Norman Lindsay of what was described as a coat of arms.

The Springwood Chamber of Commerce decided it was a propitious time for the town to have its own coat of arms which could then be permanently displayed in the new hall.

However, it could not be regarded as a genuine coat of arms, the right for which needed to be granted by the Royal College of Arms in London.

The Blue Mountains City Council already had a coat of arms so it was decided to call it the Springwood emblem or crest.

It also happened to be the 150th anniversary of the naming of Springwood by Governor Lachlan Macquarie

A reader and contributor to this newsletter, Dr Peter Stanbury OAM has correctly pointed out that coat of arms and crest has quite specific meanings; they are not interchangeable.

The crest is the top part (often animal, piece of armour or sword) on or of a coat of arms

The blazon of arms for the above coat of arms would be as follows:

Arms: *"Argent, a saltire azure, cantoned with four markings of ermine sable."* (Silver or white shield with a blue saltire or 'X' and in four-equidistant places the marking of the ermine 'fur' in black.)

Crest: *"A lion's head erased azure langued gules."* (A lion's head cut off at the neck with a flourish, in blue with a red tongue.)

The Domesday Book

THE DOMESDAY BOOK was commissioned in December 1085 by William the Conqueror, who invaded England in 1066.

The first draft was completed in August 1086 and contained records for 13,418 settlements in the English counties south of the rivers Ribble and Tees (the border with Scotland at the time).

The original Domesday Book has survived over 900 years of English history and is currently housed in a specially made chest at The National Archives in Kew, London[1].

"…While spending the Christmas of 1085 in Gloucester William had deep speech with his counsellors and sent men all over England to each shire to find out what or how much each landholder had in land and livestock, and what it was worth," according to the *Anglo-Saxon Chronicle*.

One of the main purposes of the survey was to determine who held what and what taxes had been liable under Edward the Confessor; the judgment of the Domesday assessors was final—whatever the book said about who held the material wealth or what it was worth, was the law, and there was no appeal.

It was written in Latin, although there were some vernacular words inserted for native terms with no previous Latin equivalent, and the text was highly abbreviated.

Richard FitzNigel, writing around the year 1179, stated that the book was known by the English as 'Domesday', that is the Day of Judgement "for as the sentence of that strict and terrible last account cannot be evaded by any skilful subterfuge, so when this book is appealed to ... its sentence cannot be put, quashed or set aside with impunity.

Domesday Book and chest at the National Archives, Kew, London

That is why we have called the book 'the Book of Judgement' ... because its decisions, like those of the Last Judgement, are unalterable."

In August 2006 a complete online version of Domesday Book was made available for the first time by the United Kingdom's National Archives[2].

References

[1] *www.domesdaybook.co.uk/*

[2] *.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Domesday_Book*

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

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THE ORGANISATION Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 following a unanimous response to a proposal from Professor Barrie Reynolds at the 2004 Blue Mountains Local History Conference which sought from Blue Mountains City Council the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the city.

BMACHO in its constitution uses the definition: "Cultural heritage is all aspects of life of the peoples of the Blue Mountains which was later changed to cover Lithgow and the villages along the Bell's Line of Roads. It therefore involves the recording, preserving and interpreting of information in whatever form: documents, objects, recorded memories as well as buildings and sites."

The objectives of the organisation are:

i. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage.
ii. To encourage and assist cultural heritage activities of member organisations.
iii. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations.

One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact, to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

HERITAGE BMACHO's official newsletter is edited by John Leary, OAM.

Blue Mountains History Journal is edited by Dr Peter Rickwood.

MEMBERSHIP The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mount Tomah, Blue Mountains City Library, Blue Mountains Cultural Heritage Centre, Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc., Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc., Blue Mountains Tourism Limited, Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute, Cudgegong Museums Group Inc., Everglades Historic House & Gardens, Friends of Norman Lindsay Gallery, Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc., Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc, Lilianfels Blue Mountains Resort, Lithgow and District Family History Society Inc., Lithgow Mining Museum Inc., Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies, Lithgow Small Arms Factory Museum Inc, Mid-Mountains Historical Society Inc, Mid Western Regional Council Library, Mt Victoria and District Historical Society Inc., Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine History Society Inc. (including Turkish Bath Museum), Mudgee Historical Society Inc., Mudgee Regional Library, National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Blue Mountains Branch (including Woodford Academy), National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Lithgow Branch, Scenic World – Blue Mountains Limited, Springwood & District Historical Society Inc., Springwood Historians Inc., Transport Signal and Communication Museum Inc., The Darnell Collection Pty Ltd, Valley Heights Locomotive Depot and Museum, Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd. The following are individual members: Ray Christison, Associate Professor Ian Jack, Joan Kent, John Leary OAM, John Low, Ian Milliss, Professor Barrie Reynolds, and Dr Peter Stanbury OAM.

COMMITTEE The committee for 2011-12 is: Pamela Smith (president), Ian Jack (vice president), Jan Koperberg (secretary), Joan Kent (treasurer), Jean Arthur, Doug Knowles, John Leary, Dick Morony (public officer), Kathie McMahon-Nolf, Barrie Reynolds and Peter Stanbury.

HONORARY AUDITOR: Sue McMahon, B Comm CPA.

AFFILIATIONS BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society Inc.

HERITAGE

NEWSLETTER OF THE BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 2011 ISSUE No. 17

Lapstone Zig Zag railway overcame insurmountable climb

THE LAPSTONE ZIG ZAG was built on the Great Western Railway between 1863 and 1865, to overcome an otherwise insurmountable climb up the eastern side of the Blue Mountains.

The ruling grade was already very steep at 1 in 33 (3%). The original plan had been to build the whole line across the Blue Mountains on a completely different route through the Grose Valley with a 3 km long tunnel, but this was beyond the resources of the state of New South Wales at the time.

The zig zag track included a now abandoned station called Lucasville which was built for the Minister for Mines, John Lucas who had a holiday home nearby.

The rail route across the mountains reached as far as Wentworth Falls (then called Weatherboard) by 1867 but the Lapstone Zig Zag, soon ran into problems: the distance between the top points and bottom points limited the length of trains. The single track also meant that trains travelling in opposite directions had to stop at crossing points.

***The Lapstone Zig Zag viaduct.** Photograph by John Leary, OAM . May 2011*

The first crossing point after Lapstone Zig Zag was at Wascoe's Siding at what is now Glenbrook. The single track would contribute to a fatal accident at Emu Plains in 1878 where eastbound and westbound goods trains collided.

The deviation including a tunnel was built around1890 to replace zig zag, but it too experienced problems as it was built at too steep a grade, causing the locomotives to slip.

Smoke also became a problem for uphill trains.

By 1910, the line was being duplicated (made into double track) and the "rathole" tunnel was replaced on a different deviation and the Glenbrook tunnel built.

From then the lower section of the track, including the historic Knapsack Gully viaduct, was converted into a road, the Great Western Highway until the M4 expressway replaced it in the mid 1990s.

The older tunnel was converted for mushroom growing but was also used by the RAAF for storage during World War 2. During 1943 to 1946 Glenbrook tunnel stored chemical weapons.

The line of the old track and cuttings (including the long abandoned platform of Lucasville station), and the old Knapsack Gully bridge is now a popular bushwalking track.

An early steam engine on the Lapstone viaduct drawing empty sheep wagons returning from Homebush saleyards. Image: 'Full Steam Ahead Across the Mountains' by Peter Belbin and David Burke. Methuen 1981 page 28

This article was compiled by John Leary, OAM.
Source: www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lapstone_Zig_Zag

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An opinion from the editor.....

Is it time to engage more with the world's oldest living cultural heritage?

OFTEN WHEN THE CULTURAL heritage of the Australian Aboriginal is discussed, it is done so, in almost hushed tones as if those who have come to this country since the European colonisation, are either ashamed of the treatment received by the indigenous people or alternatively that this culture reaching back almost 50,000 years, is so bound up in mystery that it its exploration is just too difficult.

In Australia, indigenous communities keep their cultural heritage alive by passing their knowledge, arts, rituals and performances from one generation to another with land being fundamental to the wellbeing of Aboriginal people.

Of course, there are many genuinely sensitive issues that create unavoidable barriers in a wider communication.

There are those who consider the Australian Aboriginal cultural heritage has been too politicised and it is reasonable to accept there are antagonists, activists and apologists who have inflamed the subject with the result that this rich cultural heritage is not properly understood by generations of new comers to this continent.

On the other hand there are organisations such as the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies which have done much to open up discourse

In most local history societies there is a passing reference to the indigenous people in the records and the research undertaken by the societies' members; but with the exception of those groups established by Australian Aboriginal people and a few academics there seems to be very little real information and research available in this region.

BMACHO in its constitution uses the definition: 'Cultural heritage is all aspects of life of the peoples of [this region]'.

Put more adequately, cultural heritage is seen as 'the total ways of living built up by a group of human beings, which is passed from one generation to the next, given to them by reason of their birth'.

Aboriginal cultures are complex and diverse. The indigenous cultures of Australia are the oldest living cultural history in the world - they go back at least 50,000 years and some argue closer to 65,000 years.

One of the reasons Aboriginal cultures have survived for so long is their ability to adapt and change over time. It was this affinity with their surroundings that goes a long way to explaining how Aboriginal people survived for so many millennia.

The apparently simple lifestyle of Aboriginal people also resulted in two misconceptions - that Aboriginal people were culturally uniform, (despite having 600 languages) and that they had so little attachment to the land, and made so little use of it that James Cook could practise the sleight of hand of describing the continent as terra nullius (empty land) even though his landings were opposed with spears and fire[1]

Archaeological work in Australia has led to the gradual discovery that Aboriginal people had indeed, as they said, been here a very long time. Both the Dharug and Gundungurra people are known to have inhabited this region well before the coming of Europeans and a great many of them still live in the Blue Mountains region.

Perhaps it is now time for organisations such as BMACHO to encourage local historians and those interested in cultural heritage to better engage with those living members of the indigenous people so that assistance may be provided for future generations.

John Leary, OAM - Past president, Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc.

[1] Horton, DR, *Unity and Diversity: The history and culture of Aboriginal Australia*

Local historian provides images for Hazelbrook community mural

LOCAL HISTORIAN Ken Goodlet (pictured) points out features of historical interest on the new eastern wall mural of the underpass west of Hazelbrook Station.

The section of the mural in this picture shows from from left, Joseph and Florence Taggart's woodcutter's hut of 1912 from where they conducted their wood carrying and saw bench business on the north western corner of the Great Western Highway and Oaklands Road, Hazelbrook.

Behind Ken Goodlet is young Ivy and Hazel Denham with Minnie Adams on the first Hazelbrook Station, about 1900

On the left of the mural are an indigenous rock image of a kangaroo, found near Queens Rd Lawson and a rock hands-painting from a site north of Hazelbrook (not in picture).

To the right of the Hazelbrook Station image is, the first Hazelbrook service station, in snow, late 1920s; and Carl and Emma Liebrand working on their Oaklands Farm, around 1900.

This is all set against a backdrop of bushfires, a constant preoccupation of local residents.

Funded by the state government and local councillors, resourced by the Hazelbrook Association members, and guided by local artist Michael Lynn, young people designed and painted the mural. *Photograph by John Leary, OAM August 2011*

THE GENTLE ART OF PREPARING GRANT APPLICATIONS

A practical guide to the planning and completion of heritage grant applications and how to avoid some of the pitfalls. Plus dealing with what comes next.

A free seminar to be given by Barrie Reynolds, BMACHO's grants officer

Tuesday, 4 October, 2011, from 10 am to 12.30. Refreshments.

Location: Blue Mountains Historical Society, Hobby's Reach, 99-101 Blaxland Road Wentworth Falls.

Prior registration essential.

Further information and registration:
Phone/email Barrie Reynolds, 4757 4725
barrie.r@bigpond.net.au

RAHS HAS NEW CEO

THE ROYAL Australian Historical Society (RAHS) has a new CEO, Maria Walsh

President of the RAHS, Professor David Carment said, "Ms Walsh's appointment follows the 2010 RAHS Organisational Review.

"With a wealth of experience in both the not-for-profit and corporate sectors, Maria brings to the society the leadership skills to take us into the next phase of our development."

"I am honoured to have been appointed to lead this truly magnificent and unique organisation," said Maria Walsh.

"I have worked with national volunteer-based organisations and I pay tribute to the passion and community spirit of the 33,000 volunteers who work tirelessly for the benefit of the RAHS' association members."

A gift to the horses of Lawson

By John Low

THERE ARE SEVERAL early photographs of Douglass Square in Lawson where the shops and the Blue Mountain Hotel are prominently depicted.

My eye, nevertheless, is always drawn to the centre foreground where a horse hitched to a cart is drinking from a water trough at the edge of a grass plot near the intersection of Honour Avenue and the Western Road.

The trough was handed over to the town at a small ceremony in early December 1921 by prominent Lawson resident and former Lord Mayor of Sydney, RD Meagher.

He was standing in for his wife, Alice, who had initiated and funded the project but was too ill to attend.

The central place occupied by the horse trough in these photographs underscores the important function it performed in the community at the time.

In the years following World War I, working horses were still an everyday sight on the streets of our cities and towns and their welfare remained an object of a compassionate concern that had begun in earnest with the establishment of the NSW Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals* in 1873.

An important component of this concern had always been the provision of appropriate watering facilities.

While city and municipal authorities were lobbied regularly and offered practical advice and designs, the society also solicited contributions from its own supporters to finance the erection of troughs and encouraged its more affluent members to personally donate horse troughs in their local areas.

Even as late as 1919 the society was still reporting in its annual report that “much remains to be done”. Its pleas found a responsive benefactor in Mrs RD Meagher.

The Lawson horse trough. Photograph by John Low 2007

Alice Maude Osmond was born in New Zealand ca.1862 to Mary (nee Marsh) and John Osmond, a brewery manager.

She appears to have crossed the Tasman in the late 1880s and may have been the Miss A Osmond who ran a tobacconist business in Hunter Street, Sydney, during the years 1889 to 1891, though this has not been confirmed.

On January 26, 1891, aged 29, she married a young (25) Bathurst-born solicitor, Richard Denis Meagher, at St Francis Church, Paddington. The couple established their home, ‘Fernleigh’, in Bennett Street, Bondi.

RD Meagher, a devout Irish Catholic with political ambitions and a flair for flowery and sometimes caustic oratory, was by this time already an identity around town.

Employed in the legal firm of another pugnacious Irish Catholic, William ‘Paddy’ Crick, he became a partner in 1892 and won a seat in parliament in 1895.

Life for the wife of this ‘colourful’ figure was never going to be easy and in the ensuing years she weathered a number of very public storms blown up by the “cantankerous” nature of her husband’s temperament.

In the early years of their marriage, Meagher’s flawed handling of the defence of George Dean, a ferry boat captain accused of poisoning his wife, dragged them into financial ruin and public humiliation when, in 1896, he was charged with conspiracy, struck off the roll of solicitors and forced to resign his seat in parliament.

Then, in 1898, as he was just beginning to re-establish his political career, he took offence at a comment by the even more ‘colourful’ John Norton, editor of the *Truth* newspaper.

Armed with a greenhide whip, Meagher ambushed the hapless editor at lunch time in Pitt Street and proceeded to thrash him severely.

Norton took refuge behind a lamp post, drew his revolver and fired at the fleeing politician who leapt into a passing cab and escaped.

The episode caused a sensation and Alice, already a veteran of defending her house from besieging journalists, must have despaired of ever leading a normal life.

Meagher, nevertheless, escaped gaol again and continued to rebuild a career which, in subsequent years, followed a long trajectory of service in both local government, the NSW State Parliament and, though not reinstated to the roll of solicitors until 1920, the law.

...escaped gaol again to rebuild a career in politics...

Throughout this very public life their marriage remained solid, resting clearly upon a strong foundation of mutual devotion.

Added to the worries of her husband's occasional public transgressions, Alice's health had always been fragile.

Despite this, she played her part in public life with enthusiasm and commitment.

During the time her husband served as Sydney's first Labor Lord Mayor (1916-17) she opened the new

Lord Mayoress of Sydney, Mrs RD Meagher ca 1917 Portrait courtesy City of Sydney Archives

Anzac Parade (1917) and her name is inscribed on the memorial obelisk.

As lady mayoress **s**he supported her husband's efforts to raise men and money for the war and, when a transport strike erupted during the second year of his term, embarked upon a tireless fund-raising campaign to relieve the distress of the strikers' families.

In 1920, hoping that his wife might benefit from the upland climate and clean mountain air, Richard Meagher purchased 'Yarrowee', a substantial sandstone cottage on 5 acres of land fronting the Western Road at Lawson.

They renamed their new country home 'Durham Lodge' and even here, though increasingly an invalid, Alice's social conscience found further expression.

Few passing swagmen, tramping the Western Road in search of work, left her door empty-handed. Also, as a life member of the NSW SPCA, she soon spotted the absence of a community horse trough.

In August 1921 she approached the Blue Mountains Shire Council with an offer to cover the cost of a water trough for the horses of Lawson.

Council agreed and instructed its engineer to prepare an appropriate design. By December it had been erected and, following the small dedication ceremony already mentioned, became operational.

Uncommented upon but common to many troughs of the period, it also seems to have incorporated a lower basin to satisfy the thirst of the local dogs.

At both ends marble plaques bearing the following inscription were attached:

"For the Dumb Friends of Man
Presented to the
Blue Mountains Shire Council
By Mrs. R. D. Meagher
Lawson – 1921"

Alice Meagher died just over two years later, on the evening of Wednesday April 9, 1924 at the Lewisham Private Hospital. Her funeral was held at the Church of Mary Immaculate, Waverley, on the following Friday afternoon and she was buried in Waverley Cemetery.

Both Alice and Richard Meagher were devout Catholics and, having no children, made plans to use their property for the benefit of their religion.

Alice especially wanted part of their land at Lawson to become the site for a new Catholic Church and hoped that ultimately 'Durham Lodge' would go to the Franciscans.

While the latter was not to be, following her death her husband purchased the neighbouring property, donated both it and 'Durham Lodge' to the church, and helped finance the building of a substantial church dedicated to Our Lady of the Nativity.

The new church was consecrated on April 7, 1929 and stands as a memorial to the life of Alice Meagher, "a good citizen, philanthropist and an ever-willing worker in all public causes".

Her horse trough was later moved to the eastern side of Honour Avenue and may soon, I understand, be relocated again as part of the current refurbishment of Douglass Square.

Hopefully, it too will stand for many years to come as a further, if more humble, memorial to her compassion and concern for animals.

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Continued page 6

Horse trough to move to Douglass Square Lawson

Continued from page 5

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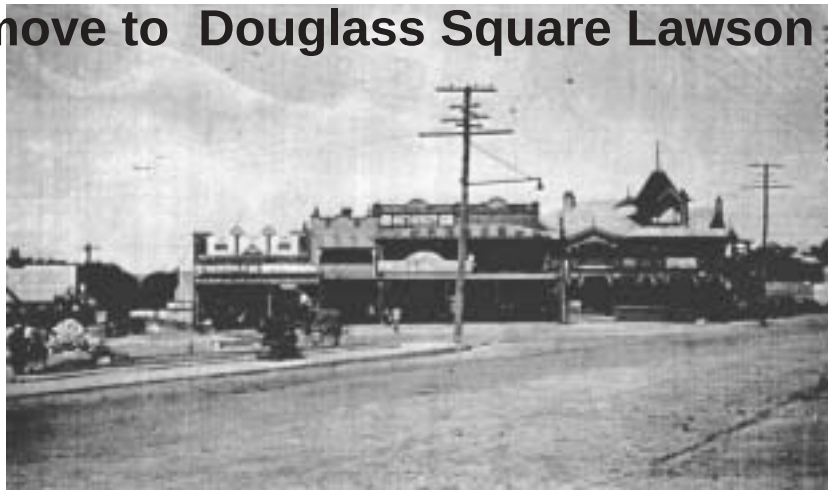
* Formed in 1873 as the NSW Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, it became the Animal Protection Society NSW in 1879. It reverted to its original title again in 1918 before being granted permission to use 'Royal' in 1923 and becoming the organisation we know today as the RSPCA.



The Lawson shopping centre circa 1920s. In the centre foreground a horse hitched to a cart, drinking from the water trough.

Rail Museum needs volunteers

VOLUNTEERS ARE REQUIRED to work in the Valley Heights Locomotive Heritage Depot Museum Shop. Some experience with cash handling, catering, food handling or customer service would be an advantage but is not essential.

All training will be provided.

The role involves ticket sales to customers, retail sales of the museum's range of souvenirs and memorabilia, as well as refreshments including tea/coffee and light snacks.

The museum is looking for diligent and reliable people with a friendly outgoing nature who like dealing with people.

The museum is open on the second and fourth Sundays of each month, as well as additional Sundays during public holidays from 10am to 4pm.

Volunteers working in the shop would be expected to be available from 8.30am to approximately 4.30pm on open days. You will be expected to be available to be rostered every 2nd or 3rd open day.

Anyone interested in this voluntary opportunity should, Steve Corrigan on 4759 1980 or sjc_alco@pnc.com.au

Land records workshop

A LAND RECORDS workshop will be conducted on Sunday, October 16, 2011 for members of BMACHO.

The workshop will be held at the Blue Mountains Historical Society Hobby's Reach Research Rooms, 99-101 Blaxland Road, Wentworth Falls commencing at 1.30 pm to 2.30 pm (approx presentation time).

Digital technology has revolutionised the way historians can research land.

It is now possible to find cadastral information online for any piece of land in NSW, and to trace its ownership, at least under Torrens Title, via the web.

Within the next four years, Old System Title records, as well as the vast resources of the Lands Department, maps, plans and survey records, will also be available on the internet.

Libraries and archives too, led by the National Library of Australia, have active map digitisation programs.

The Royal Australian Historical Society has designed a workshop for local and family historians to demonstrate how to find these resources and use them in research.

A benefactor who believes in the importance of community history has generously supported the workshop, and this donation has allowed the RAHS to run the workshop for historians and members of its affiliated societies in locations across NSW.

The presenter for this workshop, Lesley Muir is a librarian, and senior vice-president of the Royal Australian Historical Society, with thirty years' experience in land research.

She has a PhD in historical geography from the University of Sydney; her thesis, *Shady Acres: Politicians, Developers and the Design of Sydney's Public Transport System 1873-1895*, was about the growth of Sydney and its suburbs in the late Victorian era.

Admission to the workshop will be by gold coin donation to Blue Mountains Historical Society. Afternoon tea will be provided, at participants expense, $3 or $5, by members of BMHS

The presentation on USB stick can be purchased for the price of the USB stick, on the day and then societies or organisation can practice at their own leisure.

Those wishing to attend, should contact Jan Koperberg by phoning 02 4754 1544 or email bmacho.heritage@gmail.com

Governor appoints French exile as ambassador to king of the mountains

PROLOGUE. When I set out to write this piece about Francis Louis Barrallier who explored the Blue Mountains some 11 years before the three explorers who have been credited with the being the first Europeans to cross the Blue Mountains, I started by researching his Journal.

Barrallier's Journal although detailed in many places was for me tantalisingly ambiguous. I turned then to Andy Macqueen's *The life and journeys of Barrallier* only to be totally absorbed in the delightful style of this Blue Mountain's historian and narrator. So much so, that some of which follows is direct quotes from his book.

The fascination surrounding Barrallier has been heightened by the fact that his Blue Mountains route lay in country which is still wild today.[1] Much of it is now of course, the Blue Mountains World Heritage site.

Having bushwalked this country from the Nattai across to Yeranderie well before the Warragamba Dam was built isolating this silver mining village, then down into the swift flowing Kowmung's pebble strewn bed to camp overnight at its junction with Christys Creek, on to the tumbling Johnston Falls and finally to view the splendour of the sandstone Kanangra Walls from the valley floor; like Andy Macqueen, I too have encountered the spirit of the Mountain King albeit some 148 years later than Barrallier.

... John Leary OAM

A FRENCH FUGITIVE from the early days of the notorious career of Napoleon Bonaparte, who went on to create over two decades of turmoil in Europe, Francis Louis Barrallier (1773-1853) was to make his mark in Australian history in the short, 34 months he was in the colony.

Barrallier was to explore several areas of the colony, but it is his trek into the Blue Mountains, from the south near the Nattai River some 11 years before the three explorers who are credited with being the first Europeans to cross the Blue Mountains, which has created most interest.

He didn't succeed in crossing the Blue Mountains, but nor did others and when it was eventually done it was by a far easier route than that chosen for Barrallier's exploration.

Francois Barrallier was the son of a French naval surveyor, presumably with royalist sympathies who after the capture of Toulon, an important Mediterranean strategic naval base, in 1793 was evacuated with his father and two brothers, Joseph and Peter.

He and his brothers were off-loaded in Italy. However, his father soon found employment with the British Navy as a surveyor.

Francis was not at first so lucky as his father, but his father appears to have had connections with the English aristocracy which led to the then 26 year old, Francis being able to travel in late1799 to the fledgling colony of New South Wales with the newly appointed governor, Phillip Gidley King.

Barrallier arrived in Port Jackson on board the whaler *Speedy* on April 15, 1800 a mere 12 years after the colony was first founded then the New South Wales Corps (aka The Rum Corps) had assumed an influential role in the administration of the colony.

The Anglo-Spanish fleet entering Toulon in 1793

It had been formed in England in 1789 as a permanent regiment to relieve the marines who had accompanied the First Fleet to Australia.

Because of the remoteness and unpopularity of the posting they were composed of officers on half pay, troublemakers, soldiers paroled from military prisons and those with few prospects, who were gambling on making a life for themselves in the new colony.

Many were incompetent or corrupt and most seem to have been involved in private dealings.These same officers were to serve as magistrates.[2]

At the heart of the problem was the notorious rum trade and Governor Hunter who was in office when Barrallier arrived, was finding himself powerless to control the situation which deteriorated further under the new governor, King.

This was the climate to which Barrallier who spoke little or no English arrived.

In July, 1800 because of the lack of commissioned officers available for duty, the governor appointed Barrallier an ensign in the New South Wales Corps, 'until His Majesty's pleasure be known'.

Continued from page 7
According to Andy Macqueen's research despite the privileges, Barrallier did not like being in the army.

Clearly he thought he had better things to do with his life than put up with the types of men who dominated the military.

Perhaps he was too proud and arrogant for them; more likely, as a loner, he simply did not want to fit in with the military culture.[3]

Barrallier soon began to make a name for himself as an explorer, in March 1801 accompanying Lieutenant James Grant on the *Lady Nelson* to further explore Bass Strait.

He was responsible for charting Western Port the large tidal bay in south eastern Victoria.

The bay opening into Bass Strait was first seen by George Bass in 1798 mapping the coast between Wilson's Promontory and Western Port.

In June a voyage with Grant was made to the Hunter River, where Barrallier made a survey of Coal River (Newcastle).

Within a further two months the governor appointed him acting engineer and artillery officer in place of Captain Edward Abbot who had resigned.

His duties involved the maintenance and improvement of Sydney's defences.

He designed the citadel, Fort Phillip, which King planned to build on the highest windmill hill in Sydney.

There had been several recorded attempts by Europeans to cross the Blue Mountains in the 14 years before Barrallier came along, the earliest being by Lieutenant Dawes in 1789 who had got as far as Mount Twiss near Linden.

In 1793 Colonel Paterson had tried to sail up the Grose River but was stopped by boulder strewn rapids. Hacking, in 1794 was reported to have penetrated 'further than anyone before'.

Kanangra Walls. Had Barrallier followed available ridge routes from the Kowmung River, he could have reached here and gone on to cross the mountains near Jenolan Caves and Oberon. Photograph courtesy James Lamb 2002

In 1795 Everingham, Ramsay and Reid may have reached Mount Irvine.

'...their supposed easy road to China did not exist.'

From the south in 1796 Bass seems to have tackled the mountains in the same general direction as Barrallier.

The emancipated convict Wilson made two trips in 1798 towards Goulburn.

These were ordered by Governor Hunter who wanted to prove to some troublesome Irish convicts that their supposed easy road to China did not exist.[4]

Next came Barrallier who Governor King had originally planned to send into the mountains in March 1802, but the journey was deferred because of wet weather.

Barrallier actually made two expeditions to the mountains.

The first was a reconnaissance for the main expedition and took place in September or early October 1802.

He with six or seven European men, two Aborigines and two horses appear to have set off from Richmond.

He headed southward up the Nepean River valley, presumably looking for an obvious break in the mountains.

Eventually, after travelling more than 50 kilometres, he turned westward, crossing the Razorback range between Camden and Picton.

He then discovered the Nattai River before returning by a more direct route to Parramatta.

He decided that the depot for his main expedition should be located at a place called 'Nattai', some 13 kilometres from Picton.[5]

About this time disputes between King and the New South Wales Corps caused Colonel William Paterson to demand Barrallier's return to regimental duty and in deference to Paterson's protest, the governor relieved Barrallier of his extra-regimental duties on October 8, 1802.

However, ten days after ordering Barrallier back to the regiment, King appointed him his aide-de-camp, and so made it possible for him to be sent exploring again.

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For some reason, perhaps to tweak the noses of the New South Wales Corps, in order to get his way King resorted to a rather comical subterfuge: he pulled rank on Paterson, claimed Barrallier as his aide-de-camp and 'sent him on an embassy to the King of the Mountains' although the governor clearly had the objective of finding a crossing.[6]

Barrallier's second expedition left Parramatta on November 4, 1802 with a wagon drawn by two bullocks, which was to take supplies as far as the Nattai depot the site selected on the previous expedition.

The party comprised Barrallier, four soldiers, five convicts and the Aborigine Gogy with his wife and child. Gogy was the best known of the Dharawal.

He had been outlawed from his clan for killing and had taken refuge with Goondel's family. Goondel's hospitality did not incur long lasting gratitude.

Gogy and three of his people caught a woman from Goondel's clan near Nattai, tied her to a tree and killed her, removing some flesh.[7]

Later there may have been as many as 20 at the depot and it is to Barrallier's credit that there was no uprisings, desertions or serious incidents other than that which involved Gogy's wife.[8]

Their route took them past the site of Campbelltown (to be named by Governor Macquarie in honour of his wife's maiden name) then crossing the Nepean River near Menangle.

Skirting the Razorback Range they passed Picton arriving at the depot on November 9.

En route they encountered Aborigines who had never before seen white men and expressed fear and astonishment at Barrallier and his wagon with wheels.[9]

At the depot several bark huts had been constructed with the assistance of the Aborigines.

As the party travelled without tents bark huts were used for shelter on most every day during the expedition.

From the depot, Barrallier made three separate excursions down to the Nattai River which was followed to the junction of the Wollondilly River.

On the first of these excursions he met up with a party of Aborigines, including the tribal chief Goondel.

Barrallier recorded day-to-day life of Aboriginals

He had hoped to obtain advice about the route across the mountains from one of the chief's men but a quarrel developed between Gogy and Goondel's people, apparently because of Gogy's earlier involvement in the murder of a woman from Goondel's tribe.

Barrallier valued Gogy's service highly so they returned to the depot without the advice he hoped to have gained.

Barrallier's second excursion left from the depot on November 22, took 12 days and was his most significant.

This time the party consisted of Barrallier, five of his men and two young Aborigines Badbury and Le Tonsure. The latter so-named by Barrallier because of the hairless patch on his head, when his mother dropped him in a fire when he was a baby.

By the fourth night out from the depot the party thought they were virtually through the mountains but they were soon to be disillusioned.

On the fifth night out they camped nearby to the junction of the Kowmung and Christys Creek.[10]

The spot represents a favourite camp site of the more intrepid bushwalkers of today, as the Kowmung River remains one of the few virtually pristine rivers in the Sydney region.

On the morning of November 27, Barrallier sent two men up one of the adjoining mountains; on their return they reported that it was hopeless to follow the ridges as all that could be seen were separate and unjoined mountains.

Had the party climbed Joalah Mountain, on the other side of Christys Creek and followed the Boyd Range — or indeed had they followed the Bullhead Ridge on which the men stood, a viable route would have been found.

They continued on to follow Christys Creek to Wheengee Whungee Creek which they then negotiated until they reached what is now Johnston Falls which Barrallier inspected and decided they were impassable.

Returning to the Kowmung, they camped the night returning to the Nattai depot 5 days later.

And so Barrallier and his party had reached a point further west than Blaxland, Wentworth and Lawson would do almost 11 years later.

Andy Macqueen in his book, *The life and journeys of Barrallier 1773-1853* observes; 'Perhaps, Barrallier's journal has been more noted for its extensive and detailed observations of the Aborigines who accompanied him or whom he met, than for its description of the route.

'Barrallier's writing is quoted or referred to in a variety of works concerning the Aboriginal culture of the region.'

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‘Apart from numerous colourful descriptions of the day-to-day life of the Aborigines, such as in hunting and food gathering , he has much to say about their behaviour and character.

‘A prime subject for this is his assistant Gogy, who in the end proved much trouble to Barrallier.

‘Firstly, there was the episode in which Gogy became terrified of the chief Goondel and his men, apparently because Gogy had previously been involved in the murder of a woman from Goondel’s tribe — possibly Goondel’s own sister.

‘In order to appease Gogy [Barrallier] was forced to terminate the first excursion.

‘Later, Gogy went into a lengthy rage in the belief that one of Barrallier’s men had seduced his wife.

‘Gogy clubbed his wife severely, at one stage knocking her out and speared her in the thighs. This whole episode makes appalling reading.’

There is no reason to doubt the veracity of Barrallier’s description of such events.

He simply recorded them honestly in the same way he recorded his fear of the cliffs or the nature of the vegetation. But he was clearly fascinated and shocked. [11]

Macqueen’s view of Barrallier as an observer is shared by Ross Brownscombe in his book, *On Suspect Terrain* where he writes about the extensive descriptions by Barrallier of the Australians of the Nattai and Wollondilly Rivers.

‘These were made at a time when the indigenous owners of what would later become known as the Cumberland Plain and Burragorang Valley were on the cusp of oblivion, in the fading years of their mastery of the region.

‘What Barrallier captures is the epitaph of a proud people not yet corrupted, not yet pathetic, still immersed in the normal rhythms of their culture.’

‘His journal is unique in the annals of early Australian exploration in that the land he explores is inhabited, occupied by people using its productions, manipulating the environment and he takes the trouble to distinguish them, to give each an individuality, with physical [the Aborigine Le Tonsure] and psychological idiosyncrasies and characteristics.’[12]

Barrallier might not have found a way over the mountains for King but in Macqueen’s belief, Barrallier went to see the King of the Mountains.

...epitaph of a proud people...

An Aboriginal mia mia [bark hut] and encampment by an unknown artist. *The above drawing and the one on the preceding page appeared in ‘Historic Blue Mountains 1813-1938’ published by the Blue Mountains Shire Council.*

In a sense he found him. He found that spirit of the earth which conjured up dreadful barriers and hardships, but at the same time tantalized him with glimpses of beauty and mystery. Untouched by “civilized man”.

Barrallier was to fall out with Governor King and left the colony on May 17 or 18, 1803, the colony having been in some turmoil in the months after Barrallier’s return from the Blue Mountains.

King had fallen out with the senior officers of the Corps and had been subjected to a campaign of slander.

Even though the British were no longer at war with the French there were many who believed all Frenchmen in the colony were spies.

Barrallier had continued to be King’s aide-de-camp while still being an officer of the Corps and so Barrallier somehow became involved in one of King’s many crises.

Whatever the real circumstances concerning Barrallier’s resignation from the Corps it seems he was treated unjustly.

He returned to England and three years later at the age of 33 set sail for the West Indies where he remained for 11 years.

In May 1805, he was appointed a lieutenant in the 90th Regiment, and served at St Vincent in 1806, where he improved the defences.

In 1809 he became a captain in the 101st Regiment, and as assistant engineer was present at the capture of Martinique.

He was appointed aide-de-camp to the commander-in-chief in 1809.

He participated in the invasion of Guadeloupe in 1810, and in 1812 was ordered to make a military map of Barbados, which took him five years to complete.

In 1813 he was appointed deputy assistant quartermaster general under Sir James Leith, next year he was present at the second attack on Guadeloupe, which led to its capture, and then was appointed surveyor-general of Guadeloupe.

Valley Heights rail depot centenary

THE VALLEY HEIGHTS locomotive depot will be 100 years old in December 2013.

Already a centenary committee of the Blue Mountains Division, NSW Rail Transport Museum is planning celebrations which will run through from December 2013 until July 2014.

It is proposed that a series of day events will run over the 8 months period.

The events being scheduled include a number of train visits from fellow heritage operators running tours to Valley Heights, opportunities to operate shuttle services for locals, Lapstone Zig Zag walks, model railway exhibition, railway film weekend, to name a few.

Celebrations will 'officially' kick off in January 2014 when dignitaries will be invited to officially open the museum. The committee has set dates for these events which will be subject to funding.

To engage the interest of local and corporate businesses the committee is working on a business plan to sell the attractions of the museum, the historical significance of the locomotive depot and the centenary events.

The Roundhouse closed as an operating depot in 1988 and a dedicated membership has maintained this heritage property.

Valley Heights depot circa 1950s

Barrallier died aged 80

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In 1817 he returned to London and, after various periods of service in the 33rd Regiment and 25th Light Dragoons on and off half-pay, he became a brevet major in 1830 and a brevet lieutenant-colonel in 1846.

On July 31, 1819 he had married Isobel Skyrme at St Mary's, Lambeth, Surrey. He died on June 11, 1853 at his home in London, at the age of 80.[13]

FOOTNOTES

[1] Macqueen, Andy, *Blue Mountains to Bridgetown. The life and journeys of Barrallier 1773 – 1853* Andy Macqueen 1993, p6.
[2] http://en.wikipedia.org/wikiNew_South-Wales_Corps
[3] Macqueen, Andy, *Blue Mountains to Bridgetown. The life and journeys of Barrallier 1773 – 1853,* p.34.
[4] ibid., p.67.
[5] ibid., p.69.
[6] *On suspect terrain*, Journals of Exploration in the Blue Mountains 1795-1820 selected and edited by Ross Brownscombe, p.89.
[7] Liston, Carol, *Campbelltown – the bicentennial history*, Council of the City of Campbelltown 1988, p.6.
[8] Macqueen, Andy, *Blue Mountains to Bridgetown. The life and journeys of Barrallier 1773 – 1853*, p.72.
[9] ibid., p.74.
[10] Barrallier, Francis, *1773-1853,Journal of the expedition into the Interior of New South Wales in 1802: by order of His Excellency Governor Philip Gidley King/ byFrancis Barrallier.* Marsh Walsh Publishing, Melbourne. 1975.
[11] Macqueen, Andy, *Blue Mountains to Bridgetown. The life and journeys of Barrallier 1773 – 1853*, p.94.
[12] *On Suspect Terrain*, Journals of Exploration in the Blue Mountains 1795-1820 selected and edited by Ross Brownscombe, p.21.
[13] http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/barrallier-francis-louis-1745

The brief commentary of this article acknowledges the plotting of Barrallier's exploration by RH Cambage, R Else-Mitchell, Ernest Moxley, Alan EJ Andrews, Chris Cunningham and Ross Brownscombe.

Although there is much speculation most of it having been tested on the ground as to the exact route of Barrallier's trips, I particularly acknowledge the veracity of the conclusions Andy Macqueen has arrived at in his text, *Blue Mountains to Bridgetown. The life and journeys of Barrallier 1773 – 1853.* I appreciate and thank Andy for his assistance in, as he puts it, 'giving the Barrallier story another dusting off.' Unfortunately his book is out of print and no longer available for purchase.

I also thank Jan Koperberg for her continued assistance in sourcing images from the NSW State Library, the National Library of Australia and elsewhere.

Miles Franklin, her life and legacy

PROFESSOR JILL ROE the guest speaker at the October 1 meeting of the Blue Mountains Historical Society has chosen as her subject, Miles Franklin, Her Life and Legacy

Professor Roe is a leading authority on the life and work of Miles Franklin.

In this talk, scheduled to commence at 10am, she will present highlights of Miles Franklin's adventurous life and offer an outline of her legacies, with particular reference to the Miles Franklin Literary Award, by now Australia's most illustrious (and sometimes contentious) literary prize.

Jill Roe's prize-winning biography, *Stella Miles Franklin: A Life,* is now available in paperback and as an e-book and she has recently published a new edition of *My Congenials: Miles Franklin and Friends in Letters.*

For further information contact Susan Warmbath, 4757 3402 or John Low, 4782 3751

Former Governor who visited Springwood for golf 'outed' and banished

by Pamela Smith

WHAT DO EVELYN WAUGH'S novel *Brideshead Revisited;* the Honorable William Lygon, 7th Earl Beauchamp (Governor of New South Wales 1899-1901), and Hugh D McIntosh (the controversial boxing promoter/entrepreneur and parliamentarian) have in common.

More precisely, what have they to do with Springwood? An article in the *Nepean Times* provided a clue.

On March 11, 1933 the *Nepean Times* related how, on Saturday February 25, the Right Honorable. Earl Beauchamp KC drove the first ball when he conducted the official opening of the *Bon Accord Golf Links* at Springwood.[1]

Among the well-heeled guests were locals Dr and Mrs Baxter, Percy Dawson, David Rogalsky and the Blue Mountains shire president, Councillor Percy Wilson.[2] Other guests included Hugh Lygon (Beauchamp's son), the well known Macquarie Street specialist, Dr. Sydney Jones and wife and Mrs. White who was the sister of Sir Daniel Levy.[3]

It had been barely two years since William Lygon, who, in his bachelor days served as the Governor of NSW, had been outed and banished from England because of his homosexual inclinations.

Jane Mulvagh suggested, in recent years, in an article entitled *The Scandal that shook Brideshead*, that Evelyn Waugh used William Lygon as his model for 'Lord Marchmain' and son Hugo as the model for 'Sebastian.'[4] Mulvagh stated the Lygons - who provided the inspiration for the 'doomed aristocratic family in Waugh's novel' – put up a united front (except for his wife) when William was outed in June 1931.[5]

William had married Lady Lettice Mary Elizabeth Grosvenor in 1902, the daughter of Earl Grosvenor and accounts of his life, despite his sexual proclivities, credit William with being a loving husband and a devoted father to his seven children.[6]

Nevertheless, fearing the outcome of the scandal on his friend, King George entrusted Lord Stanmore and two other Knights of the Garter, with the task of presenting William with very limited options.

He was advised to resign from all his official posts and leave England immediately because if he remained the assured alternative would have been imminent arrest, a trial in the House of Lords and certain imprisonment. Homosexuality was still a criminal offence.

William did consider suicide but eventually fled to Wiesbaden where he was convinced by members of his family to put all thoughts of ending his life aside.[7]

Bon Accord where the former NSW governor officially opened the golf links

Lord Beauchamp as Governor of NSW in 1899. Drawing by Leslie Ward

Sadly, William thought that his exile would be short-lived, but David Dutton observed that in the years that followed William lived a 'somewhat pathetic peripatetic existence.'[8]

Evelyn Waugh - an Oxford friend to one of William's sons - arrived at *Madresfield* shortly after his departure and later immortalised the Lygons in the novel *Brideshead Revisited.*[9]

It would seem that William's outing had been a long time coming however, and interestingly Mulvagh blamed Australia for his final 'undoing.'

His sexual tendencies became common knowledge when he visited in August 1930, as part of a round-the-world trip.[10]

Accompanying William was a servant from *Madresfield* and Robert Bernays - a young Liberal MP - who acted as his speechwriter both said to be his current favourites.

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Unfortunately, William's 'varied sex-life' was reported back to his brother-in-law, the Duke of Westminster, who then passed the news on to the King.

Mulvagh suggested however, that Beauchamp's indiscretions had not gone un-noticed even during his tenure as Governor of New South Wales.

The poet Victor J Daley once described an evening at Government House where 'the most striking feature of the vice-regal ménage' was the youthfulness of its members.[11]

Dutton observed that William bestowed his patronage on local artists and writers during his time as governor which accounted for his friendship with people like Daley and Henry Lawson.[12]

As the *Nepean Times* article suggests, Beauchamp's exile eventually returned him to Sydney in 1933, and it is a little known fact that it was he who performed the official opening of *Bon Accord Golf Links.*[13]

The lessee of the *Bon Accord* property at that time was the ever controversial Hugh D McIntosh who is perhaps better known as 'Huge Deal McIntosh.'[14]

McIntosh established a nine-hole golf course on the property, perhaps to enhance the attraction of *Bon Accord Guest House.*

Percy Dawson and his brothers were the owners of the *Bon Accord* property, located on Hawkesbury Road, Springwood which added to their other property investments which included a chain of international jewellery shops, the Strand Arcade and Ambassadors restaurant and night club.[15]

Frank Van Straten has written extensively about Hugh McIntosh who dabbled in boxing and bicycle race promotion, politics, theatre productions and newspapers in Australia, and a chain of milk bars in England.

In 1923, convinced he would spend the rest of his life in England, McIntosh leased *Broome Park*, the 17th century home of the late Earl Kitchener, and extravagantly re-laid its cricket pitch with soil from Bulli in New South Wales.[16]

McIntosh was a remarkable man; he moved easily in political, high society and theatrical circles, and rubbed shoulders with people like HG Wells, Nellie Melba, Anna Pavlova and Oscar Ashe, and promoted artists like Roy Rene, (Mo), Ada Reeve and boxers like Jack Johnson and Tommy Burns.[17]

'...Governor's indiscretion not gone un-noticed...'

However, the narrative of his life illustrates that McIntosh swayed constantly between bankruptcy and times of incredible wealth.

In 1927, McIntosh sought damages from *Smith's Newspapers Limited* when Robert Clyde Packer was publisher.[18]

McIntosh wanted compensation for a headline that appeared in the *Daily Guardian* which read 'Mr HD McIntosh and how he met the Duke.'[19] It was obviously defamatory.

Even though the offending article has yet to be found it may have referred to the Duke and Duchess of York who visited Australia in 1927.

The *Daily Guardian* was part of Joynton Smith's newspaper empire.

In 1931, McIntosh was awarded a farthing damages in another libel case he actioned against the *Truth* because the tome referred to him as an 'erstwhile pie man who had blossomed into a newspaper magnate and drained the lifeblood from the *Sunday Times*.'[20]

He was well-known in Springwood; a one-time resident even remarked that the rafters of *Bon Accord* used to 'ring' in McIntosh's time.[21]

It was not at all uncommon for well-known actors and actresses to attend parties held in the ballroom of *Bon Accord* and Rose Lindsay, wife of Norman, was particularly fond of him and invited him to her soirees.[22]

Brideshead Revisited became a book and then a television drama, the still exiled William Lygon died in the Waldorf Astoria Hotel New York on November 15, 1938, and Hugh McIntosh was practically penniless again when he died at Golders Green (an area of London), in 1942.

Bon Accord Guest House burnt down in 1937 and *Bon Accord Golf Links* was absorbed into what presently exists in 1942 when the council purchased the property.

After his exile William Lygon spent a great deal of time in Australia. He owned an apartment at Darling Point and became the president of the Australian Sporting Club.[23]

It is obvious that the Blue Mountains was familiar to Lygon because Paula Byrne mentioned a trip made there by him and son Hugh.[24]

Hugh McIntosh (said to be a business associate of their father) was so well-known to the Lygon children that his name was used disparagingly among their inner circle of friends (like Waugh) as a private code for anything remotely 'boring.'[25]

The warrant for William Lygon's arrest was lifted temporarily to enable him to bury son Hugh when he died unexpectedly in 1936, and lifted permanently shortly before he died.

Endnotes

[1] 'Bon Accord' Golf Links Opened by Earl Beauchamp, *Nepean Times,* 11.3.1933.
[2] Baxter was the local doctor, the Dawson family owned the *Bon Accord* property and Rogalsky was a part-time resident of Springwood.
[3] *Nepean Times,* 11.3.1933.
[4] Jane Mulvagh, 'The Scandal that shook Brideshead,' *The Telegraph,* 1.6.2008, , http://www.telegraph.co.uk/culture/books/3553486/The-scandal-that-shook-Brideshead, accessed 12.7.2011.
[5] Ibid.
[6] Ibid.
[7] Ibid.
[8] David Dutton, 'William Lygon, 7th Earl Beauchamp (1872-1938), Journal Of Liberal Democrat History, Issue 23, Summer 1999, pp. 18-20.

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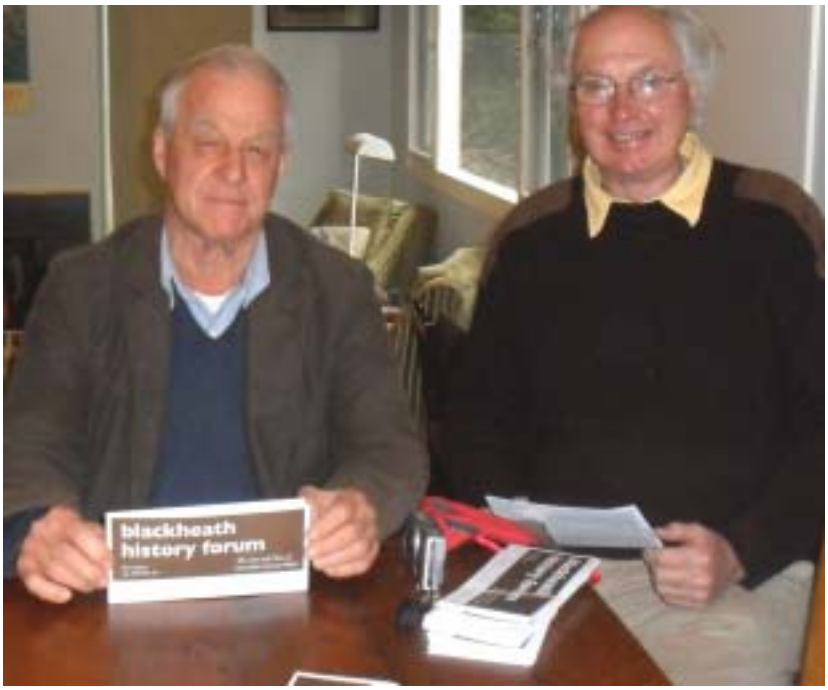
Keneally to speak at history forum

THOMAS KENEALLY will speak at the Blackheath History Forum on Saturday October, 22

Many will be familiar with his *Australians: Origins to Eureka.* In this lecture, he will focus on the forthcoming second volume of the series, advance copies of which should be available on the day.

Keneally will be the seventh and final speaker in this year's Forum season.

Lectures are being held at the Blackheath Primary School at 4pm every second Saturday afternoon, from July 30 to October 22.



Blackheath History forum chair Neal Bluett and committee person Robert O'Neill planning the launch of this year's season

Other speakers yet to come are Professor David Lowe (*Sir Percy Spender: foreign minister and diplomat)*; Professor Penny Russell (*Savage or Civilised? Manners in colonial Australia*); and Professor Stephen Foster (*Allan Macpherson: squatter, laird and parliamentarian*).

This is the third season of the Forum, which is open to anyone interested in understanding Australian history in both its national and global contexts.

Past speakers have included former premier Bob Carr, Dr Grace Karskens, Professor Henry Reynolds and Professor Robert O'Neill.

Entry is just $5, and refreshments are available from 3.30pm. For full details visit http://www.blackheathhistoryforum.org.au/images/stories/forum_2011.pdf

Former governor 'outed'

Footnotes continued from page 13

[9] Selina Hastings, 'Country house high jinks,' MailOnline, http://www.dailymail.co.uk, 4.6.2008, accessed 18.7.2011.
[10] Jane Mulvagh.
[11] Ibid.
[12] David Dutton; Cameron Hazelhurst, 'Beauchamp, seventh Earl (1872-1938),' *Australian Dictionary of Biography,* Vol. 7, Melbourne University Press, 1979, pp. 235-236.
[13] *Sydney Morning Herald,* 25.2.1933, p. 17.
[14] Frank Van Straten, *Huge Deal, The Fortunes and follies of Hugh D. McIntosh,* Thomas C. Lothian, South Melbourne, 2004.
[15] Pamela Smith, 'David Stewart Dawson,' *The Making Of A Mountain Community: A Biographical Dictionary of the Springwood District,* Springwood Historians, pp. 84-85.
[16] *The Register* (Adelaide), 3 August 1923, p. 9, Pamela Smith, 'Hugh Donald McIntosh,' *The Making Of A Mountain Community...*, p. 214. [17] Frank Van Straten, foreword Keith Dunstan OAM.
[18] *Barrier Mine* (Broken Hill), 31 March 1927, p. 4.
[19] Ibid.
[20] *Advertiser and Register,* (Adelaide), 12 September 1931, p. 16.
[21] Jean Davenport, Oral Taped Interview, BMCC Local Studies Collection.
[22] Mollie Fraser (nee Chapman) Oral Taped Interview, BMCC Local Studies Collection.
[23] Paula Byrne, *Mad World Evelyn Waugh and the Secrets of Brideshead,* Harper Press, 2010, p. 198.
[24] Ibid, p. 204.
[25] Ibid, p. 243.

Welcome to new member

DR PETER RICKWOOD, the inaugural editor of the Blue Mountains History Journal and former president of Blue Mountains Historical Society has accepted an invitation to become an individual member of BMACHO.

Peter is a visiting senior research fellow at the School of Biological, Earth & Environmental Science at the University of NSW. He has been involved with volunteers throughout the region and earlier this year assisted Mary Reynolds of Mt Wilson when she produced a history of postal and telephone communications in Mt Wilson.
.
A more detailed profile of Peter will appear in the next edition of *HERITAGE*

Dr Peter Rickwood

Bouquets for *HERITAGE*

FROM TIME TO TIME *HERITAGE* receives accolades in the e-mail.

Here are just a few which seems to indicate that almost 3 years of publishing the association's 17 editions of newsletter has been positively received.

From **Angela le Sueur editor, NSW National Trust magazine** *Thank you so much for your latest issue of HERITAGE newsletter – and congratulations on achieving, yet again, such an informative, insightful and inspiring mix of articles.*

From **Ken Goodlet, historian/ author - Hazelbrook:** *Congratulations on a truly enlightening edition. I have written a history of Blue Mountains Grammar and of Hazelbrook and Woodford, of course, but there was information here I had not known. Thank you.*

From John Low, local historian: *Enjoyed the last issue you sent. Packed full of interesting material.*

From **Bill Evans, local historian and Cox's Road enthusiast:** *Congratulations John....you have "raised the bar" once again.*

From P**aul Cardow, Beyond Photographics, Wallerawang**: *Great newsletter. Keep up the good work. I just wanted to compliment the efforts of your team to put a newsletter together on a continuing basis. I also like the fact that a group of people are dedicated in linking the cultural heritage groups together.*

*I was alerted to your existence by the Discovery Team at National Parks (DECC), and that connection was from my interest at the time of some history of the Newnes railway. Yes I would like to be on the mailing list and I'll keep in touch***.**

From **Lynn Collins, Museums Advisor to Blue Mountains City Council and Lithgow City Council**: *From my observations, BMACHO successfully reaches people through the mountains and by listing the current state of thinking and actual planning of commemorative activities in the electronic periodical, it may succeed in fostering a rich, varied and coordinated event all along the track through to Bathurst in 2015 utilizing the enthusiasm and resources of numerous agencies making contact up and down the road.*

From **Pru Acton curator, Hawkesbury Regional Museum:** *Thanks very much, John and Nanette – very interesting and informative, as usual. I was particularly interested in your piece on George Evans, and thought you might be interested in the attached image, which is attributed to Evans and one we use a lot because it is a very early depiction of Windsor (1809). Hawkesbury Regional Museum is located (roughly) in the centre of the picture.*

From **Valerie and Frank Holland, Kurrajong-Comelroy Historical Society Inc**.: *Just a short note to thank you for your newsletter. I have just sent it out to all our members with e-mail.*

From **Jan Koperberg, president Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc.**: *I love your stories in the current HERITAGE newsletter about the "Katoomba Waltz", George William Evans and Rex Turner, BMGS pupil. Loved Peter Stanbury's article too - what a mystery!*

Naomi Parry has left Lithgow

NAOMI PARRY has left her position as Lithgow City Council's cultural development officer and manager of Eskbank House, to return to academia.

Naomi will be working for the Australian Catholic University as the NSW historical researcher on an innovative national project called, *Find and Connect.*

This is a federally funded project which aims to help former child migrants and people who grew up in out of home care (the Forgotten Australians) find information about their families.

Naomi says, "the decision to leave Lithgow City Council and Eskbank House was very difficult, but *Find and Connect* will make a real difference to the lives of people who grew up in child welfare systems in the 20th century.

"This is work I started with my PhD, *Such a Longing: Black and white children in welfare in NSW and Tasmania, 1880-1940*, which I completed at UNSW in 2007."

Naomi will continue to live in the Blue Mountains, and intends to take an active part in the heritage and history community.

Naomi has contributed several artciles to *HERITAGE* and all in the heritage sector wish her well

Her position as cultural development officer was advertised in August 2011 and is expected to be filled shortly.

An invitation is still open
to hear**,** Philip Hammon, from Scenic World Katoomba speak on

"Coal, Oil Shale, Engineers and Entrepreneurs"

Woodford Academy, Great Western Highway, Woodford

on Friday 2 September 2011 at 10.00 am

Woodford Academy book sale bonanza

GRAB some great novels or non fiction books - cheap prices at the Woodford Academy book sale bonanza to be held on Saturday and Sunday, September 17 and 18.

Also inspect the oldest set of buildings in the Blue Mountains, and enjoy a delicious Devonshire tea on the balcony. Saturday open 10am - 4pm and Sunday 12noon - 4pm.

Cost: $6 adult, $4 concession, $3 children. Contact: (02) 4758 7809.

Lacemaking demonstration

OPEN DAY AT WOODFORD Academy on Saturday, October 15 will feature a delightful display of hand made lace, with the lacemakers present who will demonstrate the craft.

There will also be a display of popular crazy tea cosies.

The lace display will finish at 2pm, but the house will stay open till 4pm. A delicious morning or afternoon tea may be enjoyed on the Balcony Tea Rooms.

Cost: $6 adults, $4 concession, Booking: (02) 4758 7809

Ted Mullet back on his feet

DEDICATED and long- serving chairman of Valley Heights Locomotive Depot and Museum, Ted Mullett is now back home recuperating after his second knee replacement.

His many friends will wish him a speedy recovery.

The silhouettes man

BACK IN FEBRUARY 2010, Joan Francis a member of the Blue Mountains Family History Society recalled in that organisation's newsletter *The Explorer's Tree,* her recollection as a teenager of a man who during Christmas school holidays had a booth at Echo Point, Katoomba cutting paper silhouette portraits.

'The portraits for clients mainly teenage girls (I was one of them) – who thought it was the 'in thing' to do.

'He could quickly cut out very life-like and reasonably priced silhouettes - two copies – one facing right one facing left. His work was very popular, but after a few years he just disappeared.

'Imagine my surprise when I saw him at the Royal Easter Show — not looking a day older and still cutting out silhouettes just as quickly and accurately as he did all those years ago!!!', Joan wrote

Thanks to the Royal Agricultural Society of NSW, *HERITAGE* is able to publish this image of Sebastian John Ross (April 24, 1919 - August 24, 2008)

Ross, was an American-born Australian artist and showman, famous for his miniature silhouette portraits cut in black card.

In 1948, Ross began to tour the circuit of agricultural shows as a silhouette artist, encouraged by the travelling showman and boxing entrepreneur, Jimmy Sharman.

He was to continue working at shows for the next 60 years, travelling as far as the Proserpine Show in Queensland.

From the 1950s until its closure in 1979, Ross also worked at Luna Park, Sydney, unless he was touring shows.

John Ross became a well-known identity on the show circuit, with generations of families taking their children to have their portraits cut out by him. In 2006 he was named an "Ekka Legend" at the Brisbane Exhibition and in 2007 was named a "Show Legend" at the Sydney Royal Easter Show.

He worked until the age of 89, and in that time created thousands of portraits, including those of many celebrities. He was sometimes referred to as "Scissors John".

Inspired by an artist he saw at Michigan State Fair, he trained with the silhouette artist Budd-Jack.

During World War 2, Ross served in the Philippines. He then came to Australia and served at Base Section 7 in Sydney, and as a staff sergeant managed the US driving pool, driving entertainment celebrities such as Bob Hope and Jack Benny.

In his search for good drivers, he employed a number of Australian women in the WAAAF, thus meeting Florence Phyllis Counsell (known as Phyllis). They married in February 1945.

They lived at Falcon Avenue, Hazelbrook, in the Blue Mountains, New South Wales. Ross and Phyllis had two sons, John Leyton Ross and Philip Ross.

Leading historian as keynote speaker for 2012 conference

DR SHIRLEY FITZGERALD former historian for City of Sydney Council, university lecturer, author and leading light in numerous heritage and history ventures has agreed to be the keynote speaker at the 2012 Blue Mountains history conference.

The conference being planned by the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc. will be conducted in the heritage Carrington Hotel, Katoomba on Saturday, October 20, 2012.

Shirley writes about Sydney in a variety of formats, gives public lectures and regular historical chats on Sydney radio. She has taught in NSW schools, lectured at the University of New England and established the inaugural Master of Letters degree in Public History at the University of Sydney.

Until 2009 she was the city historian for the City of Sydney, delivering a program contributing to community understanding and involvement in it's history as well as undertaking historical research involving a wide range of products from pamphlets to film to research papers and published books.

Publications include *Rising Damp, Sydney 1870-1890*, Oxford University Press, 1987; *Sydney 1842-1992,* Hale & Iremonger, 1992, *Red Tape Gold Scissors: The Story of Sydney's Chinese,* State Library of NSW Press, 1997. (Chinese translation, 1998) and a series of histories of Sydney precincts - Chippendale, Surry Hills, Pyrmont, Millers Point - either as author or supervisor of the work.

The book *Rising Damp* establishes a detailed reconstruction of the urban environment, the state of public health, conditions of work and the chances of occupational mobility in late nineteenth century Sydney.

The conclusions arrived at were at odds with much of the perceived wisdom about colonial conditions.

Shirley Fitzgerald, BA Hons, PhD, Dip T.

This book is frequently cited in literature as having a significant impact on Australian historiography and on the development of Australian urban history.

She was instrumental in establishing the Dictionary of Sydney Project, a metropolitan wide, community based project which represents Sydney's history in electronic formats. She was the founding chair of it's Board of Trustees, 2006-9.

She has held a number of positions on history-related organisations, including president of the History Council of NSW, 1996-99 and trustee of the Historic Houses Trust of NSW 1996 -1998.

She received the Centenary of Federation Medal in 2003 for 'services to heritage', was made a life member of the History Council in 2004.

She is an honorary fellow of the Royal Australian Historical Society, has served as chairperson of the Board of State Records and is currently adjunct professor in the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences at the University of Technology, Sydney.

She is a graduate of the University of Adelaide and Macquarie University.

Vintage and Retro at Everglades

STEP BACK IN TIME at the Everglades Retro Fair to be held at Everglades Historic House and Gardens on November 5 and 6 .

Dance to the Sydney Youth Orchestra, sprawl on the green lawns while watching your kids play hopscotch or quoits, ladies can relish the fashions of the 30's and 40's while the men lust over polished vintage vehicles.

Play Croquet or enjoy a tour of the Art Deco home, wander through 8 acres of gardens. Find that perfect spot for a picnic.

Everyone is encouraged to dress the part - have a free retro face and hair makeover. Once you're done, you can learn to move and groove. All this and a lot more will be held at the National Trust property, Everglades.

To make a weekend of it, the Leura Golf Course will host the Woolworths Jazz on the Fairways featuring the George Washingmachine Quartet and the Blue Mountains Grammar School stage band. For more details www.nationaltrust.com.au or (02) 4784 1938.

Everglades open for Leura garden festival

UP TO 12 GARDENS will open to the public including the large private estate of 'The Braes' and the National Trust property Everglades during the Leura garden festival

The garden festival will be open from Saturday October 1 to Sunday 9.

Apart from Everglades the gardens featured in the festival are all privately owned properties and visitors have an exclusive opportunity to not only see a wide cross section of the very best gardens the region has to offer but also to interact with some of the garden owners, many of whom are present in their gardens during the days of the festival.

Garden enthusiasts who are planning new gardens or re-modeling existing one's always find

the festival is a fund of inspiring ideas.

Entry prices will be $20pp for a multiple entry ticket to all gardens, and $5pp for a single garden entry ticket. (Children with parents are admitted with no charge) Visa and MasterCard are accepted at festival HQ, Fitzroy Street Leura.

Multiple entry tickets may be used on any day or combination of days during the festival, and can be purchased at the entry to any garden. Bookings: 0431 095 279

1890s Tarella venue for Fuchsia Show

THE NSW FUCHSIA CLUB will be holding a wonderful show of their prize plants at historic Tarella, Blaxland Road, Wentworth Falls on Saturday, October 23 between 10am and 4pm.

There will be hundreds of young plants for sale with advice on how to get the best from growing them.

President of the Blue Mountains Historical Society, Graham Warmbath said, "Visitors should be early as the plants fly out the gate in the arms of eager buyers".

The 1890s cottage Tarella is open and there will be a display of historic photographs with the society's research officer being on hand to answer questions on people, places and events in the Blue Mountains.

This cottage was built by John McLaughlin, Sydney solicitor and Member of the Legislative Assembly, in 1890 as a holiday cottage for his family of four children to escape the heat of Sydney summers.

His daughter Beryl McLaughlin was the benefactor of the Blue Mountains Historical Society, leaving Tarella and the land to the Blue Mountains Historical Society on her death in 1988 just two months short of her 100th birthday.

The cottage contains an eclectic collection of memorabilia of the late 19th and early 20th centuries

Home-made refreshments will be available all day or picnic in the grounds.

Admission for adults is $5 and for children entry to the grounds is free with an 'I spy' competition to keep them amused with a small prize.

Meantime, The Open Garden Scheme has selected the grounds of Tarella as one of their gardens this year and it will be open for visits the weekend of October 29 and 30.

Home-made refreshments available all day or picnic in the grounds.

Admission is $6.

The 1890s cottage Tarella will be open on October 23, 29 and 30.

Methodist preachers also led Lithgow miners' union

By Ray Christison

IN RESEARCHING HISTORY of the development of the Western District Coal-Miners' Mutual Protective Association I quickly realised the very close connection between the Methodist churches and the union's leaders.

Many of those who led the development of the union were active in Lithgow's churches and a number were preachers or church leaders.

Methodists and Primitive Methodists held key leadership positions during the first two decades of the union.

The New South Wales Western Coalfield is bounded on the east by the Nepean River and extends northwest to well beyond Mudgee and Gulgong.

The western extremity of the field is located around Wellington and Dubbo.

During the 19th century and much of the 20th century coalmining activity was centred around the Lithgow Valley and the spine of the Great Dividing Range leading towards Rylstone.

Large-scale extraction of coal commenced after the construction of the Great Western Railway to Bowenfels in the late 1860s.

As the mines of the Western Coalfield developed men were drawn to the employment offered by the new collieries and shale mines.

Many came from the coalmining regions of Scotland, Northern England and Wales.

District and lodge officials taken with their banner before the 1900 Eight Hour Day procession. Photograph courtesy City of Greater Lithgow Mining Museum

Others came from Cornwall. As the gold mines of the Turon began to decline in the late 1870s, Cornish families were also drawn from these areas. Many of these migrants shared an adherence to the principles of Methodism.

Methodism developed in the 18th century as part of the evangelical revival movement encouraged by the preaching of John Wesley.

The evangelical doctrines of the movement, its reliance on the preaching of the word of God and its missionary zeal appealed to the workers struggling in the new industries fostered by the Industrial Revolution.

Primitive Methodism emerged from the Methodist movement from about 1810. The Primitve Methodists, or "ranters", became associated with many of the 19th century radical movements in Britain.

Methodism became quite popular among the coal and tin miners of England with numerous adherents in Cornwall, Wales and the North of England. Both sects placed a strong emphasis on preaching of the Bible and encouraged their members to take to the pulpit.

Like many 19th century evangelical sects they also organised Sabbath or Sunday Schools.

During the late 19th century Methodists and Primitive Methodists based in Lithgow played a pivotal role in the establishment and development of a mining union in the Western Coalfield.

The first union lodge was formed at the Vale of Clwydd Colliery in August 1878.

Thomas Druery, the first elected lodge president, was a member of a devout Methodist family from the River Tyne.

His father Robert, one of the heroes of the 1886 Lithgow Valley Colliery fire, was an active Methodist who worked in Lithgow's coalmines until he was well into his seventies.

He was remembered as one who "had taken a prominent part in the work of God in this place for many years" and "had worked faithfully for the cause of the kingdom of God".

Continued page 20

"A Light in the Vale. Development of the Lithgow District Miners' Mutual Protective Association 1875-1900"

Available from independent book retailers throughout Lithgow and the Blue Mountains. Also available at http://www.higround.com.au/higrpress.htm RRP $30.00

Miners' union leader and devout Methodist went on to be prime minister of Australia

Robert's other son Robert Ross was instrumental in the establishment of a union lodge at the Ironworks Tunnel Colliery in 1883.

Thomas and Robert Ross Druery were prime motivators for the establishment of a district union in February 1886. Robert Ross was elected the first president of the newly-formed Hartley District Miners' Mutual Protective Association.

In the following ten years the union was led by a succession of Methodists and Primitive Methodists.

Robert Ross Druery's successors Samuel Penna, William Teague and William Rickard were members of these churches.

William Rickard had commenced preaching in the Methodist church when he was 16 years old.

Joseph Cook, union general secretary between 1889 and 1891, was a devoted Primitive Methodist who gained popularity as a circuit preacher in the towns and villages around Lithgow.

Cook's popularity provided the foundation for his election as Labor MLA for the seat of Hartley in 1891.

During the Labor Loyalty Pledge disputes of 1893 and 1894 Cook retained the unswerving loyalty of his mining colleagues who continued to support his candidature in the face of pressure from the Central Labor Electoral League.

Cook was one of the preachers who railed against the manager of the Zig Zag Colliery who virtually forced miners to work on a Sunday in 1895. He used his oratory skills to highlight the desperation of the miners at a time of high unemployment.

The skills Cook acquired at the pulpit stood him in good stead as he fought political battles in the New South Wales Parliament in the 1890s. Cook went on to become prime minister of Australia in 1913.

The role of these men and their compatriots in the development of trade unionism in the Western Coalfield during the late 19th century is explored further in my book *A Light in the Vale. The development of the Lithgow District Miners' Mutual Protective Association 1875-1900*.

Waradah Goomeda exhibition at Mount Tomah

AN EXHIBITION titled Waradah Goomeda (Darug for Waratah Spirit) will be displayed at the Blue Mountains Botanical Garden, Mount Tomah between September 24 and October 9.

In partnership with Red Cockatoo Australia, this exhibition brings together Aboriginal artists including Chris Tobin, Leanne Tobin, Karen Maber, Dianne Ussher and Elly Chatfield from the Blue Mountains World Heritage region.

Image - Waratah by Chris Tobin

Waratah is a local Aboriginal word from the Darug language sometimes translated as "Beauty from afar". In this exhibition, individual artists share their Waratah stories creatively in painting and mixed media.

The dramatic Waratah is seen with different indigenous perspectives portrayed in brilliant colours.

Red Cockatoo Australia in partnership with the Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mount Tomah showcase their environmentally friendly range of Waratah gift cards, stories and Eco Waratah notepads by featured artists Chris Tobin, Karen Maber and Leanne Tobin.

Entry to the exhibition in the visitor's centre at the garden is free of charge 9.00am* to 5.00pm (*9.30am weekends)

To celebrate the state's floral emblem and inspire a love of waratahs in the wild, this year's program includes the state-wide waratah bloom competition, displays, growing advice, National Parks and Wildlife guided walk, waratah farm open day, information panels, school art competition and plant sales.

Enquiries: Phone 4567 3000 or visit www.mounttomahbotanicgarden.com.au/

Refreshments: Restaurant Tomah opens every day. Bookings recommended on 4567 2060

Blue Mountains Botanical Garden acknowledges the traditional custodians of this Blue Mountains region the Darug and Gundungurra people and their ancestors.

Waratahs in the wild. Photograph by John Leary, OAM

Defence sites heritage listed

THE SURVIVAL OF LITHGOW and the Blue Mountain's wartime history has been given priority with the highest level of State heritage protection.

A former railway tunnel and mustard gas storage facility in Glenbrook, the site of two former heavy anti-aircraft gun stations at South Bowenfels and Scenic Hill and a dummy gun station at Lithgow have all been added to the State Heritage Register.

Minister for Heritage, Robyn Parker, said the sites were part of a strategy to defend Australia in the event of an attack on home soil.

"By early 1942 the Japanese campaign was moving south and there was fear that Australia could be invaded.

One of the concerns was that the enemy could use chemical weapons as part of the attack.

Australia had seen the terrible injuries that soldiers had suffered when chemical weapons were first used in World War 1.

The military wanted to be able to protect Australia if chemical weapons were used against it during World War 2.

"The 1925 Geneva Protocol banned the use of chemical warfare for offensive purposes but it did give nations the ability to use chemical weapons to defend themselves if attacked," Ms Parker said.

A former railway tunnel in Glenbrook, constructed between 1891 and 1892 to bypass the Lapstone Zig Zag was chosen to store mustard gas, 3 other tunnels close to Sydney were also used for this purpose.

Glenbrook tunnel. Image courtesy Blue Mountains City Library - Local Studies Collection

Glenbrook tunnel construction 1910-1913. Image courtesy Blue Mountains City Library - Local Studies Collection

The first delivery of mustard gas to Glenbrook took place in August 1942; in 1946 the gas was removed from Glenbrook.

It is only in the last few years that the men who served there have been allowed to speak publicly about their experiences.

Two former heavy anti-aircraft gun stations and dummy gun station at South Bowenfels, Scenic Hill and Lithgow are the only known inland heavy anti-aircraft gun stations of their type in NSW.

"The gun stations were constructed to protect Lithgow's important mining, manufacturing and transport industries and the Lithgow small arms factory.

"Prior to December 1941 defence facilities were focused on the coast, however, the Military Command in NSW became concerned that enemy planes could reach some inland areas.

"Work on the gun stations, which included four gun emplacements and a command post, began in late 1941 and were completed in January 1942.

"From the air the dummy station looked like a real gun station and was aimed at confusing the enemy into bombing the wrong places.

The fake emplacements were constructed of materials such as piping and concrete.

"By January 1944 the threat of war on Australian soil had decreased, and the gun stations were abandoned soon after.

"Fortunately the defences at Lithgow and Glenbrook were not required.

"They are now part of Australia's wartime heritage and will be protected for future generations," Ms Parker said.

TOURISM AWARDS TO MEMBERS' STAFF

In the Blue Mountains, Lithgow and Oberon Tourism Awards of Excellence 2011, two BMACHO members' staff were recognised.

Lilianfels apprentice chef in the Darley Restaraunt, Tara Hellyer was chef apprentice of the year, while at Scenic World , Eric Jenkins was awarded employee of the year.

*Lilianfels and Scenic World are inaugural members of BMACHO

Western crossing commemoration 2013-15

great ideas - thoughts - just being talked about or its really going to happen

THE recently appointed museums adviser to Lithgow and Blue Mountains City Councils, Lynn Collins (pictured) has picked up on uncertainty about planning for the Western Crossings commemorations and writes: 'At the excellent forum Naomi Parry arranged at Lithgow in May this year, there was a good buzz as people were clearly stimulated by the range of speakers and ideas. I was impressed.

'Yet on my travels subsequently, as I touch base with various mountains cultural agencies, I have been asked tentatively about exhibition development grants, how small artefact collections might be utilsed and what resources are available for participation in whatever is going to transpire along the road during the two years of festivities.

'No-one quite knows. People are talking about doing something, soon, maybe, depends...Time is slipping by.

'Commemoration plans were first discussed 6 or 7 years ago, but with just roughly 20 months to go, what's the itinerary of the mooted exhibition of key artifacts coming out of Sydney? Folks are asking; what are the councils doing; what plaques are being refurbished; which schools are having pageants of 19th century pioneers, what seminars are being held; is the new highway to be launched as a key event within the commemorations and what lasting things will come out of this occasion.

'I raised the issue with the editor of *HERITAGE* and proposed a small corner for a "running-sheet" of what folk from say, Penrith or Parramatta to Bathurst are thinking of doing, a very simple, organic, non-binding listing, cobbled together from community contributions sharing their aspirations, plans-to-date, modest or expansive.

'If folks through the mountains knew the Hartley people were arranging a walk program on The Road on such-and-such-a-day/s, they might consider tacking something appealing onto that, to capitalise on the promotional opportunities, the tourists, and the buzz.

'Or deferring their own conflicting activity, or actually attending the walk (if there was room), or offering to assist the Hartley initiative in some way....From my observation, no joint activities seem evident, following the positive atmosphere at Lithgow, 3 months ago, but here is the start of some exchanges, perhaps, wrote Lynn.'

HERITAGE editor, John Leary has said, the idea seems good so those organisations that have plans no matter how tentative are invited to e-mail them to johnanette@optusnet.com.au for publication on this page in subsequent editions.

Several years ago, BMACHO's management committee considered that it did not have the capacity or mandate to take on a co-ordinating role for events that were being considered as part of the commemoration.

At about this time the RAHS undertook to take a major co-ordinating role for the Western Crossing 1813-15 commemorations and Professor David Carment AM, (pictured above) then the senior vice president of the RAHS and now its president, accepted the role of co-ordinator.

The RAHS subsequently agreed to endorse the Western Crossing Committee as a sub committee of the RAHS providing it with a legal entity in which to work.

There have been a number of very well attended meetings of this committee throughout the region at which a wide range of interested bodies including historical societies and local government from Pernith, Blue Mountains, Hawkesbury, Lithgow, Oberon and Bathurst have been reprented by mayors and councillors.

David Carment reported to the last meeting of the committee that NSW Pemier Barry O'Farrell had been made aware of the committee's work and the possibility of funding may be addressed.

In the meantime, Joan Kent from the Hartley Valley 1813 Crossings Committee writes: 'Events and activities which will highlight the development of Hartley Valley community are being planned by a sub committee of Hartley District Progress Association.

The centre point is the planned opening of a number of private properties to enable the original routes across the Valley to be explored (under supervision) during May 2013 from the tracks down the Mt York escarpment to the vicinity of Mt Blaxland.

Other events being pursued include sculpture and art exhibitions, a thematic presentation of images of Hartley Valley by maps, sketches, paintings and photographs to be exhibited at the Old Hartley School and adjacent buildings, the 'signing' of historic structures along the present Great Western Highway, a bush picnic at Glenroy, road and mountain bike rides, a woolshed dance at Liddleton Station and musical and theatrical presentations in Hartley Vale.

These activities are only in early planning stages at present but offer a range of events from which to select.'

One of the more unusual but inovative ideas comes from local businessman, Tom Colless who recently reported he was trying to secure agreement for the minting of a holey dollar and dump to be issued to schoolchildren.

Naval wrecks now on heritage lists

NEARLY 70 YEARS after the entire crew of 644 died when the HMAS *Sydney* sank off the coast of Western Australia, the wreck has been added to the Commonwealth and National Heritage lists.

The HMAS *Sydney* engaged in a vicious battle with the German Raider HSK *Kormoran* 207 kilometres off the coast of Western Australia on November 19,1941.

The *Kormoran* wreck, which lies to the north-west of the *Sydney*, will also be listed.

The announcement by the Heritage Minister, Tony burke, marks the last stage in a long journey to find the wrecks and will bring to an end the rumour-mongering that flourished in the wake of the deadly naval battle.

The *Sydney*'s Captain Joseph Burnett was apparently fooled by the *Kormoran*'s disguise as a merchant ship and gave the order to approach.

By the time he realised his mistake, the German ship an auxiliary cruiser under the Fregattenkapitan (Commander) Theodor Detmers had trained its gun on the Sydney.

The half-hour long engagement resulted in the ships' mutual destruction.

When *Sydney* failed to return to port, air and sea searches for the cruiser were conducted between November 24 and November 29.

Three boats and two rafts carrying German survivors were recovered by merchant ships, while another two German boats made landfall --- 318 of the 399 personnel from *Kormoran* survived.

The exact location of the two wrecks was unknown until March 2008.

HMAS Sydney image courtesy Australian War Memorial

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

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THE ORGANISATION Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 following a unanimous response to a proposal from Professor Barrie Reynolds at the 2004 Blue Mountains Local History Conference which sought from Blue Mountains City Council the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the city.

BMACHO in its constitution uses the definition: "Cultural heritage is all aspects of life of the peoples of the Blue Mountains which was later changed to cover Lithgow and the villages along the Bell's Line of Roads. It therefore involves the recording, preserving and interpreting of information in whatever form: documents, objects, recorded memories as well as buildings and sites."

The objectives of the organisation are:

i. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage.

ii. To encourage and assist cultural heritage activities of member organisations.

iii. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations.

One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact, to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

HERITAGE BMACHO's official newsletter is edited by John Leary, OAM.

Blue Mountains History Journal is edited by Dr Peter Rickwood.

MEMBERSHIP The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mount Tomah, Blue Mountains City Library, Blue Mountains Cultural Heritage Centre, Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc., Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc., Blue Mountains Tourism Limited, Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute, Cudgegong Museums Group Inc., Everglades Historic House & Gardens, Friends of Norman Lindsay Gallery, Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc., Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc, Lilianfels Blue Mountains Resort, Lithgow and District Family History Society Inc., Lithgow Mining Museum Inc., Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies, Lithgow Small Arms Factory Museum Inc, Mid-Mountains Historical Society Inc, Mid Western Regional Council Library, Mt Victoria and District Historical Society Inc., Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine History Society Inc. (including Turkish Bath Museum), Mudgee Historical Society Inc., Mudgee Regional Library, National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Blue Mountains Branch (including Woodford Academy), National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Lithgow Branch, Scenic World – Blue Mountains Limited, Springwood & District Historical Society Inc., Springwood Historians Inc., Transport Signal and Communication Museum Inc., The Darnell Collection Pty Ltd, Valley Heights Locomotive Depot and Museum, Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd. The following are individual members: Ray Christison, Associate Professor Ian Jack, Joan Kent, John Leary OAM, John Low, Ian Milliss, Professor Barrie Reynolds, Dr Peter Rickwood and Dr Peter Stanbury OAM.

COMMITTEE The committee for 2011-12 is: Pamela Smith (president), Ian Jack (vice president), Jan Koperberg (secretary), Joan Kent (treasurer), Jean Arthur, Doug Knowles, John Leary, Dick Morony (public officer), Kathie McMahon-Nolf, Barrie Reynolds and Peter Stanbury.

HONORARY AUDITOR: Sue McMahon, B Comm CPA.

AFFILIATIONS BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society Inc.

HERITAGE

NEWSLETTER OF THE BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2011 ISSUE No. 18

Cox's Road remnants to be listed on State Heritage Register

Earlier this year the NSW Heritage Office concluded it will list representative portions of Cox's Road as part of the 1813 bicentennial celebrations of the crossing of the Blue Mountains in recognition of the importance of the road in the history of opening up western NSW.

In April 2011 the NSW Heritage Office notified the Cox Road Project Committee, the nomination for listing of the Cox's Road on the State Heritage Register under the Heritage Act 1977 had been successful.

The Listings Committee advised that it was very enthusiastic about the proposal and considers the route a significant part of NSW's history and heritage.

After considering its options the committee concluded that listing of representative portions of Cox's Road would be undertaken as part of the1813 bicentennial celebrations.

This will require further extensive consultation with owners and other relevant stakeholders.

At least since the 1960s it has been acknowledged that there are significant remnants of the original colonial Cox's Road all along the Great Western Highway through the Blue Mountains and in the Lithgow and Bathurst local government areas.

Road formation carved as kerbed carriageway along the Woodford Ridge near the Woodford Trig.

Retaining wall on a deviation of the Cox's Road off the end of Cut Hill Road, Sodwalls, near Tarana.

Very little of the alignment has been recognised for its significance by any of the relevant local government bodies.

The Cox's Road Steering Committee was formed in July 2006 to look at long term objectives and mechanisms to preserve the 1814 Cox's Road alignment between Emu Plains and the Blue Mountains and Bathurst.

Convenor of the committee, Patsy Moppett has told *HERITAGE*, the committee was formed with delegates from the Lithgow, Blue Mountains and Bathurst branches of the National Trust, and operates under the auspices of the Trust as an informal committee.

"The committee sought to eventually establish a heritage walk or trail over parts of this route through some of the most beautiful countryside in Australia, and is currently seeking to have the remnants of the road listed on the State Heritage Register.

"The committee originally sourced input from various persons who had carried out research work on the Cox's Road including Alan Carey and Kevin Boole of the Land & Property Management Authority (LPMA), Siobhan Lavelle of NSW Heritage Office, Grace Karskens (Cox's Road Trust) and Bill Evans (RTA). These people still have associations with the committee.

"The committee's main objective is to facilitate the identification, conservation and management of the Cox's Road, Ms Moppett said.

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An opinion from the editor.....

Industrial heritage the Cinderella of cultural heritage

Industrial or engineering heritage because it usually has neither charm nor beauty is often seen as the Cinderella of our cultural heritage.

Industry is an important part of our cultural heritage. As well as having obvious heritage value, it can:

* demonstrate stages of technological development;
* aid understanding of the history of society and the influences on its growth and development;
* demonstrate the nature of work and changes in working conditions and practices.

Around the nation there are steelworks, power stations, transport systems and other works built for specific uses now lying neglected and decaying.

These structures once held and sometimes still do hide machinery and other industrial objects and systems, but because of their concealment within a building and the fact that they are worn out they tend to be discarded; their heritage value easily overlooked.,

Industrial heritage in the field of agriculture fares a little better, primarily because those on the land tend to place a greater value on heritage and as a result many towns conserve farm machinery, its manuals of use and other knowledge, in local museums.

Once the purpose is no longer required there may be little other use for the items; a smelting furnace can be used for little else than smelting.

Regrettably, this means, materials and the skills to create and construct the works may disappear, along with the knowledge to conserve them. For example, riveted steam boilers are now difficult to maintain because the appropriate trade skills are becoming rare.

Engineers Australia, the National Trust of Australia RAHS and several other bodies in Australia have recognised the importance of industrial heritage as part of Australia's social history.

While a great deal of potential for conservation and restoration of industrial heritage is being lost around the nation, this is not the case within the Blue Mountains-Lithgow regions.

In this region there are at least four good examples of where industrial heritage is being brought into adaptive re-use and the efforts of those involved, who are mainly volunteers with these challenging projects need to be applauded.

The first is the scenic railway at Scenic World, Katoomba where the Hammon family have not only created the infrastructure for a major tourist attraction around the steep incline railway that hauled the coal and oil shale mined in the Jamison Valley, but they have collected and conserved a wide range of implements, cables etc. associated with mining in the region. To this can be added the outstanding Philip Hammon and Philip Pells book *The Burning Mists of Time – A technological and Social History of Mining at Katoomba.*

Next and no less significant in its scope is the Lithgow State Mine Heritage Park and Railway run by a non-profit body. After taking control of the site City of Greater Lithgow Mining Museum Inc. began restorations and started to gather artifacts and stories.

The museum is working to tell the stories of the mine's workers and their industry. The organisation has published a number of books well researched and written by Ray Christenson about the western coalfields and the men and women who lived and worked these mines. The mine owners Dick Austen and Angelo Butta who donated the site of the former Lithgow State Coal Mine to the people of Lithgow also need recognition for their contribution to the region's heritage.

The other two outstanding contributions to the preservation of industrial heritage are the operators of the Valley Heights Rail Museum and the Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd.

John Leary, OAM - Past president, Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc.

Local government asked to include Cox's Road in future heritage reviews

Continued from page 1

The steering committee became the Cox's Road Project Committee in 2008 and has sought support from the Blue Mountains, Lithgow, Oberon, Penrith and Bathurst councils.

"We have asked them to consider inclusion of the Cox's Road for heritage listing in future reviews of the various councils' local environmental plans (LEPs), and referral to the committee of any development applications or other proposals in the five LGAs, so that the committee may make comment in the context of the project objectives.

"The assessment process has highlighted many features of the establishment of the heritage trail, which provide challenges to inception and management of each site, and present restrictive criteria upon which to base future site interpretation.

"This includes the fact that many sites are on private land, and on-going access is all but non-existent.

"Sites on public land are the most obvious ones to be exploited by the project, but must be in accordance with local and state agency liability restrictions and safety of the public, at the same time making the sites available and able to be interpreted by future generations, with minimal agency management.

Cox's Road descent at Mt York

A view of the stone cutting and carriageway at the beginning of the descent from Mt York to Hartley Vale on the original Cox's Road. Railing that used to stretch across the drop to the rock in the background, was erected to keep the stock on the road. Photograph courtesy Jan Koperberg

"Over the next few months our committee will be undertaking workshops to investigate these representative portions with the assistance of members of the community in each precinct, commencing in November 2011.

"Once the final listing is established, this should open the funding doors to resources and finance to employ a project manager in a similar format to the Great North Road Project. Our task would then pass to that person.

"The committee acknowledges the assistance of a large number of people, without whose assistance the research, actions and outcomes could not be achieved.

"These include: Kevin Boole, Grace Karskens, Alan Carey, Col Roberts, Leonie Knapman, Siobhan Lavelle, Kevin Webb and Lyn Wood, Kerry Bartlett, Bill Evans, Nicole Secomb, Alan Bardsley, Bill Evans and BMACHO's inaugural president, John Leary," Ms Moppett said.

Blue Mountains heritage advisory committee named

Blue Mountains City Council at its last meeting endorsed the nomination of 10 community members to its heritage advisory committee. They are:

*Dr Naomi Parry a former Lithgow City Council cultural development officer and resident of Katoomba,
*David Turner deputy chairman National Trust of Australia (Blue Mountains Branch of Katoomba,
*Ron Powell an architect and landscape architect of Leura,
*Juliana Swatko a lecturer in photography and design UWS of Woodford,
*John Leary, OAM, past president of BMACHO, past chair Friends of Woodford Academy of Woodford,
*Pamela Smith, president BMACHO of Springwood,
*Shirley Evans, member of Blue Mountains Family History Society and Springwood Historians of Winmalee,
*Suzanne Mitchell a member of Professional Historians Society and RAHS of Springwood,
*Kate Matthews historian of Warrimoo,
*Fiona Carruthers member of Mt Wilson Historical Society of Mt Wilson.

Powerhouse curator to present fashions at Blue Mountains History conference

A POWERHOUSE MUSEUM curator Glynis Jones has accepted an invitation to be presenter of textiles and fashions in the early colonial era at the Blue Mountains History conference being planned for October 2012 in the heritage listed Carrington Hotel, Katoomba.

Glynis is a curator in the design & society department of the Powerhouse Museum with responsibility for the museum's holdings of fashion and dress.

She looks after a very diverse collection area covering men's, women's and children's clothing and accessories ranging from elaborate 18th century embroidered waistcoats to the work of contemporary international and Australian fashion labels including Louis Vuitton, Akira Isogawa and Romance Was Born.

The museum also holds important designer archives from Jenny Kee and Linda Jackson including original artwork for textiles and garments, stunning fashion photography and even business records.

In addition there are significant manufacturer's archives from Speedo which document the evolution of competitive swimwear from the racer back woolen Speedos of the 1930s to today's high tech suits.

Through filmed interviews and photography Glynis has been collecting and documenting the richness and diversity of subcultural and alternative dressing in Australia, from Mods to Metalheads and Goths to DIY punks.

In 2006 Glynis developed the popular online *Electronic Swatchbook* project, a public domain archive of high resolution images of fabric swatches from the museum's collection.

Over 900 swatches have been made available in digital form to be used freely by fashion and textile designers, graphic designers and students- http://www.powerhousemuseum.com/electronicswatchbook/

Glynis Jones with some of her favourite things from the museum's collection including the first pair of elastic sided boots invented by Joseph Sparkes Hall in 1837, photograph entitled 'Craig' by Ilana Rose, 1992 and a 1950s cocktail dress by Jacques Fath. Photograph by Sotha Bourn

Glynis has curated a number of exhibitions including *Frock Stars: Inside Australian Fashion Week (2010)* exploring the history, purpose, highlights, controversies and achievements of Australian Fashion Week to *Sourcing the Muse (2002)* in which she invited eight Australian designers to look through the museum's textile and dress collection and select items to use as a source of inspiration for a new work; providing a fascinating insight to the designers creative process.

Glynis has also contributed to various publications including *Subcultural and alternative style in Australia* for the *The Berg* Encyclopedia *of World dress and Fashion*(2010) and *Jenny Kee and Linda Jackson* for *Yesterday's Tomorrows, The Powerhouse Museum and its precursors 1880-2005 (*Powerhouse Publishing in association with UNSW Press 2005).

Norman Lindsay's *Novel Drawings* exhibition

Over a period of 55 years Norman Lindsay wrote 14 novels many of which he also illustrated.

Novel Drawings — original book illustrations by Norman Lindsay an exhibition of the works will run until the end of December at the Norman Lindsay Gallery, Faulconbridge.

Lindsay considered his fiction writing a diversion from the serious business of his art making and enjoyed embellishing his novels with lively drawings purely for his own and the reader's enjoyment.

The exhibition includes over 50 pen and ink or wash that will appeal to all ages.

The exhibition is free with normal gallery admission.

Naval comrades give ‘Inflexible’ sailor a fitting burial at Katoomba

by Jan Koperberg

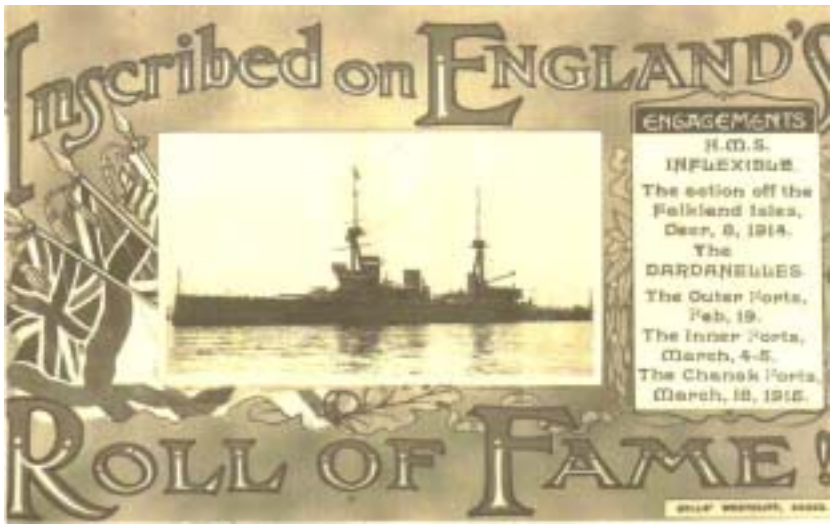
Thomas Dixon, RN, d.o.b. July 24, 1892, Byker, Northumberland, UK

IN SEPTEMBER 2007 I received an email from Heather Smeatom, who lives in Newcastle-upon-Tyne, England. She was researching her family tree and had found that her great-uncle Thomas Dixon was buried in Katoomba Cemetery in the Blue Mountains region of Australia.

Tom had served in the Royal Navy and his RN Records state that he was medically discharged from the Royal Navy in 1920 and spent nearly two years in Wentworth [Falls] Sanatorium in New South Wales, where he died on November 29, 1921.

Heather had obtained death details from NSW BMD Registry and had also obtained details of his burial from the Blue Mountains City Council Cemetery Register, which states that he is buried in Katoomba Cemetery, in Section KPR1, Row 1, Plot 15. Heather had tried, without success, to discover if any photographs of Katoomba Cemetery were available, perhaps location maps of the graves and also if the grave is (or was) marked.

I checked the Wood Coffill (Katoomba) Burial Index 1916 to 1945, Volume 1 and found the following entry:
Deceased:DIXON, Thomas Mr
Identification No: 589
Date of Death: Wednesday, 30 November
Age at Death: 30 yrs
Date of Burial: Thursday, 1 December 1921
Place of Burial: Katoomba
Religion:PR
Cemetery Section: 1
Plot Details: 15
Minister: Mackie
Informant: La Touche Medical Supt
Address of Informant: Bodington, Wentworth Falls
Other details: (none)
Vehicles: 2 horse hearse only (OPBM Vol 11) [1.]



The postcord recording events up to 1915 in which the HMS Inflexible participated. The Inflexible launched in 1907 saw considerable action in World War 1 but was deemed obsolete in 1921 and sold for scrap.

I then checked another publication, *Our Past Blue Mountaineers*, Vol XI and found the following entry for Tom:

“DIXON Thomas Katoomba, Presbyterian, Old Section, Row 1, No 15.

Scrolled grey marble headstone on sandstone surround, with white pebbled deck

‘IN LOVING MEMORY OF
THOMAS DIXON R.N.
DIED 29th NOV. 1921
AGED 30 YEARS

(Engraving of ships anchor)

“FAITHFUL UNTO DEATH’

ERECTED BY HIS SHIPMATESOF
H.M.A.S. MELBOURNE AND
H.M.A.S. SYDNEY[2.]

DIXON THOMAS: Tom was an ex-leading stoker on HMAS *Sydney*, who was a patient at Bodington Hospital, Wentworth Falls.

He had been there only six days as a TB patient when he died.

By some misunderstanding there was no official naval funeral party, so that several other naval inmates at Bodington attended the graveside.

They were Petty Officer Anderson and AB Hanley of HMAS *Torrens*, Stoker Malone of HMAS *Brisbane* and Signalman Wallace of HMAS *Australia*.

I went to Katoomba Cemetery, found the grave, and although worn, I photographed it for Heather, close up and at a distance, to show that Tom’s grave is nestled under a tree.

Heather was very touched that Tom’s shipmates had seen fit to give him a decent burial and to pay for a headstone and surround (the white pebbles are no longer there).

She wrote again in February 2008 to say that she had just returned to her research after a long break and thought she would write.

A cousin had come over from France a few weeks previously and had brought a letter and postcard from Tom, which she had found in a box of archives belonging to their second cousin. She was thrilled and thought it was a lovely letter, and attached a copy for me.

The postcard records, ‘Engagements H.M.S. Inflexible. The action off the Falkland Isles, Decr, 8, 1914, The Dardanelles. The Outer Ports, Feb, 19. The Inner Forts, March, 4-5. The Chanak Ports, March, 18, 1915.’
Continued page 6

Continued from page 5
Unfortunately the letter is not dated and the postmark on the envelope is not clear, but the postcard records events up to 1915, listed above, and Tom's Naval Record states that he served on HMS *Inflexible* between 1915 and 1919, so it is difficult to know exactly when it would have been sent.

The second cousin was born in 1907, so Heather thinks that perhaps it was sent around 1917/ 1918, when the cousin would have been around 10 years old.

The letter was from '6 Mess, HMS. *Inflexible*, C/o G.P.O., London states: Dear Norah
I am just writing you a few lines to let you know that I am still thinking of you. And I hope you are beheaving (sic) yourself while I am away, and when I come home again I will come and see you. I am sending you in this letter a photo of my ship. Well I cannot tell you any news, as I am not allowed to [because of war censorship]. I hope this letter finds you a good little girl, and give my best respect to all, as I am keeping fairly well. Your Sailor, Tom, xxxxxxxxxxxxxxx.'

'... a box containing dozens of old photos...'

In the same box among dozens of photographs, there were two of a young man in naval uniform and Heather was hoping that they were photographs of Tom, but she had been unable to confirm.

She was trying to discover if the uniform he was wearing would have been the type Tom would have worn during his time in the Royal Navy, but had not been successful.

The only thing she could come up with is a picture of the badge on his cap, which apparently is a RN petty officer's bullion cap badge.

The Dixon family which includes Tom in his naval uniform

This lead Heather to believe that it was not a photograph of Tom, as the last entry on his Royal Navy record states that he was a leading stoker, and there is no reference to him being a petty officer.

She had not given up hope altogether and thought it would be wonderful if it was Tom.

I received a copy of the 'Date and Period of Engagement' from Heather, which had a notation in the Remarks' - RAN agreement 2 years from January 12, 1920.

I looked up the National Archives of Australia for Navy Personnel 1911-1979, trawled through and found Tom's Record of Service. (Petty Officers and Men), stating he was "lent' from RN from January 12, 1920, which stated he had been on the *Melbourne* and the *Sydney*, which I referred to Heather.[3.]

Heather wrote again in August 2008 wanting to share some wonderful news.

Her uncle, who is 88, had rung to say that while clearing out some of her aunt's things, he found some old family photographs and wondered if she would like to have a look at them.

There was a photograph of the Dixon family, which included Tom. She said at last she could put a face to the name and such a handsome, young man.

She thinks the photograph would have been taken around 1910/11, when Tom was about 18 years old and is in pretty good condition, considering its age and the fact that it had been stored away in a box for such a long time.

She attached the photo and Tom is in his Royal Navy uniform.

Heather's grandmother (Annie) is standing at the back with Tom and their younger brother (George Dixon Jnr) is seated on the right.

They are pictured with their father (George Dixon Snr) and their step-mother (Mary). (Tom's mother had died when he was six years). The rest of the children are their half brothers and sisters (l-r) Mary, Ellen and Robert, but Heather did not know the name of the little boy next to his mother and did not even know of his existence.

What made this photograph special for Heather was a story her grandmother had told her when she was young, about the family photograph she had taken when she was about 16/17 years old.

She had arrived at the studio and removed her hat.

Her step-mother slapped her and called her a name because she had tied a scarlet ribbon in the back of her hair. Heather smiled back at her grandmother when she saw the offending ribbon.
Continued page 7

The Robert Howard Memorial Award

Robert Grove Howard 1924 – 1995

The Bob Howard Award for 2010 has been won by Vicki Wilson, for her article “Private Joseph Harold Nevill, Service No. 269”, published in *The Explorers’ Tree,* No. 83, June 2010 and was awarded to Vicki at the September 2011 Blue Mountains Family History Society (BMFHS) general meeting.

Vicki’s name is now on the shield in the family history society section of Springwood Library.

The competition was judged by Lorraine Stacker, library services, Penrith City Library and member of Nepean Family History Society Inc.

Background to the Award

When Bob Howard died on May 10, 1995, the late Colin Slade was president of Blue Mountains Family History Society.

He was asked to deliver a eulogy at Bob’s funeral.

In *The Explorers’ Tree* magazine, No. 35, August 1995, Colin wrote that he was delivering the eulogy as a friend, rather than as president of the society.

He and other members of the society were there to pay their last respects, offer their heartfelt empathy and understanding to his wife, Pat and other members of the Howard family and to say farewell to a much loved and respected friend.

Bob was a foundation member of the society, which was inaugurated in 1986 and he enthusiastically participated in working bees and fund raising activities.

Bob wrote many and varied articles for *The Explorers’ Tree* magazine. Colin Slade noted that it was very hard to remember an issue that didn’t have a Howard article.

Bob was co-opted to the committee in 1988 as cemetery officer, attending most cemetery transcription days and was responsible for compiling data for the cemetery publications, which became a consuming passion.

Bob was also treasurer from 1989 for two years.

Pictured while in Fromelles, Vickie Wilson and the Duchess of Cornwall

Bob would spend many hours in the Springwood Library, looking through the microfilms of the old local newspapers to glean any information to add to the cemetery transcriptions.

These publications were well respected and sold well, stamped with that little extra, “the Howard touch”.

In 1991 Bob Howard and Don Wilson, were awarded the well-earned honour of becoming the first life members of the society.

In his eulogy, Colin Slade said: “Indeed it is an honour for the society, as Bob’s wishes were for donations to be given to the society in lieu of flowers; and I will propose that an annual memorial award and trophy for research be set up.”

A judging committee of three was formed to judge the best researched article for each year, from *The Explorers’ Tree* magazine and John Low, (historian, former BMCC Local Studies Librarian), was on the original committee.

BMFHS minutes of general meeting December 11,1995, Jennifer Burrell, representing the judging panel for the Bob Howard Award for 1995, read the judges report, commended Carol Bailey as editor for maintaining the newsletter’s high standard, and announced the winning article: “Names In Genealogy” by Audrey King.

BMFHS minutes of the general meeting February 12, 1996 note that the Bob Howard Award shield is now hanging in the library.

Contributed by Jan Koperberg, President, Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc.

Search for “Inflexible” sailor

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Heather is still plodding on with her research, although does not get to spend as much time as she would like, and we still send photos of our coat-hanger bridges to one another at Christmas time, Heather’s of the Newcastle upon Tyne bridge and mine of the Sydney Harbour bridge.

Sources:

[1] Wood Coffill (Katoomba) Burial Index 1916 to 1945, Volume 1, published by Blue Mountains Family History Society, ISBN 09756788 2 5

[2] Our Past Blue Mountaineers, Vol XI, published by Blue Mountains Family History Society, ISBN 0 646 24216 4

[3] National Archives of Australia, Navy Personnel Records, 1911-1979, Series A6770, Digital Image with barcode 4416473

Govett's 'Leap' debunked as a myth

THE STORY OF GOVETT and his 'leap' belongs more to mythology than to fact.

It is claimed that a bushranger named Govett, being chased by the police, spurred his horse on and died rather than surrender as he disappeared off the waterfall which drops 450 m into the Grose Valley.

Unfortunately, even though the story deserves to become part of Australian history Govett's Leap was named after William Romaine Govett, a young surveyor who arrived in Sydney in 1827, spent many years surveying the Blue Mountains and the Hawkesbury area, and returned to England in 1834 after the government had reduced his surveying establishment.

The evidence for the 'leap' being simply named after Govett the surveyor is overwhelming.

Coming now to the word "leap". The word "leap" is Scottish for waterfall or cataract**.**

In the early 1830s the Three Sisters were known as Govett's Point, suggesting that he was well known and admired in the area.

The view from Govett's Leap looking towards Govett's Creek and the Grose Valley with its spectacular sandstone cliffs.

In a letter to the editor of *The Sydney Morning Herald* of April 24,1930 the correspondent B.A.R. suggested the bushranger story under the heading 'The Blue Mountains' had erroneously appeared in a by then defunct Sydney weekly newspaper, more than 45 years earlier.

In 1835, by then back in England, Govett wrote in the *Saturday Magazine*: 'The bold broken nature of the country on either side is particularly grand, and the streams which at first commence in swamps soon make their way into inaccessible gullies, until they arrive at the cliffs of the main channel where they fall in cascades... The most remarkable of these cascades is the one near the Weatherboarded Hut and that which falls into the head of the Grose River, which the surveyor general named 'Govett's leap' from the circumstances of my first having come upon the spot when surveying with Mr Rusden.'

William Romaine Govett, dry plate photograph courtesy Image courtesy Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW [Original: DG 223]

And therein lies another mystery. In the *Saturday Magazine* article, Govett himself places Govett's Leap clearly in the correct area, above Govett's Creek and the Grose Valley near Blackheath, but the reference to the Weatherboarded Hut means one of two things.

Either Govett in his writing was confusing the Weatherboard Hut near Wentworth Falls or there was at the time of his surveying a weatherboarded hut near Govett's Leap.

William Romaine Govett (1807-1848), surveyor, was born at Tiverton, Devon, England, the third son of John Govett, surgeon, and his wife Susanna Price, née Owen. He was at Blundell's School, Tiverton, from 1817 to 1820.

He was appointed assistant surveyor in the Surveyor-General's Department of New South Wales on July 10, 1827 at £240 a year, reached Sydney in the *Asia* next December and began work on (Sir) Thomas Mitchell's staff.

Part of his work included surveying on the old Bathurst road, during which he discovered Govett's Leap in the Blue Mountains, which was named by Mitchell in his honour.

Mitchell was pleased with Govett and described him in a report on the department in 1832 as a wild young man who needed control, who had come to the colony ignorant of surveying but with much natural

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talent had become perhaps the ablest delineator of ground in the department, and who was remarkably clever at dealing with unexplored country.

'...the ablest delineator of ground...'

In February 1829, Govett was sent to the Hawkesbury River, where many farms required measurement, but in 1833 his career ended abruptly when the department was reduced.

Govett returned to England in the *Ann* in March 1834 with a letter of recommendation from Mitchell to the British government.

After his return to England, Govett lived at Tiverton, where he wrote several articles on New South Wales which were published in the *Saturday Magazine* between May 7, 1836 and September 2 ,1837 under the title 'Sketches of New South Wales'.

Like so many of the early explorers and adventurers who worked in the early days of the colony, Govett appears to have been an accomplished artist with many of his works being published and a substantial collection of his works in the State Library of NSW and the National Library of Austtralia. This ink on verso drawing titled View of of the Grose River from a cataract named Govett's Leap by Govett is reproduced courtesy of National Library of Australia nla –an3364840

They dealt with such topics as the nature of the country he had helped to survey, the habits of the Aboriginals, and life in Sydney; they were illustrated with twelve paintings by Govett, which were later advertised for sale by G. Michelmore & Co.

Govett appears to have undergone a personal crisis after his return and repented of his wild early life, but although he considered going abroad again and making a fresh beginning he did not live long and died on August 22, 1848 in London.

Material for this article sourced and compiled by John Leary, OAM.I also thank, Jan Koperberg for her continued assistance in sourcing images from the NSW State Library, the National Library of Australia and elsewhere. jkl

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2. Sydney Morning Herald, August 15, 2007.
3. http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/18223449.

Life and Practice art at Everglades

AN ART EXHIBITION, *Life and Practice* featuring the works of Jurgis Miksevicius will be staged at Everglades House and Gardens, Leura between Sunday, November 20 2011 and Saturday January 28, 2012

This solo exhibition surveys examples of his extraordinary body of work which shows but a glimpse of the artist's legacy.

It is the life-gift of a creative individual who came to Australia as a young man escaping the horrors of war and violent dislocation from his homeland, Lithuania.

Woven into the display of Jurgis Miksevicius' paintings and drawings is a narrative of aspects of his life and creative process.

This is further illustrated by interior photos of his home of 50 years decorated with extraordinary murals; photos of his studios and pieces of furniture

The Student 1958 oil on hardboard 78 x 63 cm

Art works will be for sale. Dates: November 20, 2011 – January 28, 2012 (closed December 18 – January 6). Gallery hours: Thursday – Sunday, 11am – 4pm and by appointment

Cost: Free NT Members / $8 Adult / $6 Concession / $4 Child.
Enquiries: (02) 4784 1938

Caroline (Cara) Mallett: in her own right

By Pamela Smith - Springwood Historians

THE DIGITISATION and availability online of national newspapers, as well as magazines like the *Australian Women's Weekly*, are providing family and social historians with a clearer picture of past events. Thus, it is through this medium that we have a more personal view of the appointment of Cara Mallett to Hurlstone Women's Training School. In 1882, the *Sydney Morning Herald* published correspondence written by Sir Henry Parkes, and the Right Hon A.J Mundella MP who recommended Cara for the appointment.[1] This is the story of a remarkable woman who has been described as one of the earliest 'forward thinking' educators to come to this country in the 19th century.

The Reverend JB Faunthorpe, who was principal of Whitelands (the college Cara trained at prior to her Australian position) gave her a glowing reference as did the Inspector of Training Colleges in England, Canon Warburton.

The two gentlemen considered she was highly capable and Mundella, an English minister of parliament, suggested that although young, Cara possessed a better knowledge of 'modern' teaching methods than older teachers long in the profession.[2]

In her short career Cara had earned a first class Archbishop's certificate for religious knowledge, a first class certificate for advanced botany, a second class advanced certificate for physical geography, a full drawing certificate, first class advanced animal physiology, a first class merit certificate and the Lady Sudely prize for proficiency in domestic sanitation and a certificate from the St John's Ambulance Association.[3]

Faunthorpe stated, in his testimonial, that she was an excellent teacher, disciplinarian and manager, with some knowledge of the kindergarten system.[4] He also mentioned that Cara had more than a fair knowledge of Greek, Latin and French.[5]

The testimonials however also illustrated their regret at losing such a talented teacher. Another letter written by Saul Samuel, agent-general, stated that a berth had been secured for Miss Cara Mallett on the *Potosi* which sailed from England on the October 5, 1882.[6]

Eventful that voyage would prove to be because it was aboard the *Potosi* that Cara first encountered Tannant William Edgeworth David (later Sir) who of course was her future husband.[7]

Cara began life as Caroline Martha Mallett. She was born April 26, 1856 at Southwold, Suffolk in England and was the daughter of fisherman, Samuel Mallett and wife Pamela (nee Wright).[8]

Cara, as she preferred to be called, is said to have been orphaned at a young age and then raised by her grandmother.[9]

However, the 1871 census for England showed that at the age of 14, Cara was living with George and Mary Hurr.[10]

George was also a Suffolk fisherman and the census noted she was the couple's niece. She was a pupil teacher.[11]

Jennifer Horsfield, who explored Cara's life in some detail, suggested Cara exemplified what 'women could achieve' when they were 'empowered by education.'[12]

Horsfield confirmed that Cara, with an annual salary of £300, became 'one of the colony's first independent, highly qualified professional women.'[13]

As an avowal of her standing she was accepted into the Royal College of Preceptors in 1884, which allowed her to 'use the initials MRCP after her name.'[14]

Horsfield saw this event as not insignificant in a colony that remained wedded to the idea that a 'British stamp of approval' was the ideal.[15]

Cara proved to be a formidable principal and her active pursuit of higher standards and better training for student teachers often led to conflict with senior bureaucrats in the Department of Public Instruction.[16]

Horsfield suggested Cara was both outspoken and innovative and promoted Friedrich Froebel's radical kindergarten theories for teaching young children.

It is easy to see why Cara was impressed with German educator Friedrich Froebel (1782-1852) because he was quoted as saying:

"The destiny of nations lies far more in the hands of women, the mothers, than in the possessors of power, or those of innovators who for the most part do not understand themselves. We must cultivate women, who are the educators of the human race, else the new generation cannot accomplish its task."

Froebel's methods had an appeal to forward thinking educators like Cara because 'play' was considered as vital as more structured activities in the education of small children.[17]

Froebel even suggested that childhood play was the 'highest expression of human development' because it allowed the 'free expression of the child's soul.'[18] Froebel was not interested in turning out clones but in the 'wholeness' of the individual.[19]

Cara embraced Froebel's enlightened teaching methods and opposed rote learning which was taught by most teachers in the 'Victorian-era.'[20]

Froebel's methods are still being used to this day. While Cara was a strong advocate for the school curriculum to include the teaching of practical and domestic arts, she was equally supportive of girls being taught science.[21]

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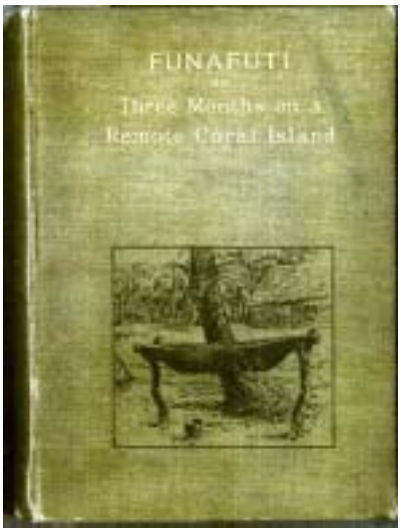
When Cara married mining surveyor, TW Edgeworth David, in 1885 she was required, as was the unequal tradition then, to resign her Hurlstone position.[22]

Horsfield implied that Cara's early married life, while dedicated to raising three young children, was somewhat lonely in many respects because her husband travelled frequently to 'far-flung geological field camps.'[23]

However, Carol Cantrell painted rather a different story by suggesting that Cara and the children often accompanied Edgeworth David.[24]

Cantrell described a trip they made to Funafuti in 1897, where Cara forged a friendship with locals while suffering the discomfort of 'rain, mouldy clothes and lack of privacy' quite cheerfully[25]

This trip obviously provided the material for *Mission work in Funafuti,* which Cara wrote when she returned home.[26]



Life gained a more normal pace after Edgeworth David was appointed Professor of Geology at the University of Sydney in 1891.[27]

The couple explored their own social and educational projects but equally, were at the centre of a 'group of liberal intellectuals who dominated Sydney's cultural life.'[28]

Thus, the Edgeworth David's could count among their friends people like William Windeyer and his feminist-campaigner wife, Mary; and Professors Scott, Anderson and MacCallum (academics from the University of Sydney).

During World War 1 Cara turned the David's Woodford cottage into a convalescent home for soldiers

The group founded the Australian Home Reading Union (AHRU) in 1892 that aimed to provide courses in science, history and general literature for people who had an interest but otherwise lacked higher education.[29]

The AHRU failed in its bid to attract the interest of working class people who, according to Horsfield, considered it was a club for the 'rich and privileged.'[30]

Together with friends like Louisa MacDonald (the first principal of the University Women's College) and feminist, Maybanke Wolstenholme, Cara supported the setting up of free kindergartens in the inner city.[31]

Cara put her skills to good use in the early decades of the twentieth-century when she lectured on topics like 'Foreign missions & the effect they had on natives,' 'National Efficiency,' and 'Women War Workers.'[32]

Newspapers of the day confirm that she was involved with the 'Women's Prohibition Movement' which was a body formed from the amalgamation of the 'Women's Christian Temperance Union' and other like societies.[33]

As president Cara addressed a large gathering at Katoomba in August 1920.[34] She stated that 'they had been unable to lift the dead weight of apathy from the general public' when she addressed another gathering later that same year.[35]

It is not clear whether they took up a suggestion made at that meeting that in order to rouse the apathy the ladies should go about ringing bells while carrying large placards declaring the benefits of Prohibition.

When the 'Wattle Day League' formed c1910, Cara and feminist campaigner, Rose Scott, became the vice presidents.[36]

The League president was Joseph Henry Maiden who was director of Sydney's Botanical Gardens.

Among other organisations Maiden was one-time president of the Linnean Society 1901-2; president of the Royal Australian Historical Society 1905-07 and president of the Horticultural Society 1903-17.

The objective of the Wattle League, in its formative years, was to instil a sense of national pride and patriotism for their country in Australian citizens.

Rose Scott's tireless campaign to improve women and children's rights also inspired Cara to become a devoted advocate.

Cara founded her own branch of the 'Women's Political Educational League,' begun by Scott in 1904, in an effort to alert women to their new responsibilities after gaining the vote.[37]

Edith Fry (1858-1940) another devotee of the Women's League was related to Woodford Academy principal John McManamey.

During World War One Cara turned the David's Woodford cottage (*Tyn-y-coed)* into a Red Cross convalescent home for soldiers.[38]

She was president of the 'Women's National Movement,' which aimed at social reform, like sex education for young children and the eradication of venereal disease.

Cara, given her involvement with the 'Women's Prohibition Movement', strongly supported prohibition and endorsed any measure to bring about six-o'clock closing.[39]

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Sir Edgeworth's testimony to his wife, Lady Cara

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Cara was divisional commander (1920) and then State commander (1928-38) of the NSW branch of the Girl Guides and organised the purchase of *Glengarry* at Turramurra for use as training headquarters.[40]

This amazing woman spun fleece into wool to knit hundreds of socks for World War Two servicemen and she even had a hybrid tea rose named in her honour.[41]

Edgeworth David once said of his wife 'Whatever success I may have achieved in life is due chiefly to my wife.'[42]

That testimony, glowing as it might be, only sums up a portion of the important contributions made by Cara or Lady Edgeworth David.

ENDNOTES

[1] *Sydney Morning Herald,* 30 October 1882, p. 5, copies of correspondence Parkes & Mundella, testimonials & correspondence from Mallett to Mundella, reference from Rev. J.B. Faunthorpe Principal of Whitelands College to Sir Henry Parkes, reference from Mrs. Newton, Superintendent Whitelands College & Miss Kate Stanley, Governess of Whitelands College, correspondence from Mallett to Parkes, Saul Samuel to Colonial Secretary.

[2] *Sydney Morning Herald,* Mundella to Parkes (3).
[3] *Sydney Morning Herald,* copy of reports.
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[11] Ibid.
[12] Jennifer Horsfield, 'Cara David A Forgotten Feminist,' in *The National Library Magazine*, Vol. 3, No. 1, March 2011, p. 24.
[13] Ibid.
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[18] Ibid.
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[21] Ibid.
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[25] Ibid.
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[27] Jennifer Horsfield.
[28] Ibid.
[29] Ibid.
[30] Ibid.
[31] Ibid.
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[33] *Sydney Morning Herald,* 10.7.1920, p. 13.
[34] Ibid, 27.9.1920, p. 4.
[35] *Sydney Morning Herald,* Prohibition, Women Fighters, Picturesque Ideas For the Campaign, 24.11.1920, p. 10.
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[38] Carol Cantrell
[39] Ibid.
[40] Ibid.
[41] *Australian Women's Weekly,* 27.6.1942.
[42] Carol Cantrell.

About the author

THE AUTHOR of this article, Pamela Smith's interest in the suffragette movement and early feminism was initiated when she first became aware that women, and their role in the national narrative, had largely been ignored until the rise of the feminist movement in Australia in the 1970s.

Pamela Smith

Since then she has endeavoured to do her small part by writing women back into Blue Mountains history. She carried out extensive research and presented a thesis on the women (and men) that operated early private venture schools in the Blue Mountains. Currently, she is interested in the women who contributed in the early years of local government in the Blue Mountains. Pamlea is currently the president of the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heitage Organisations (BMACHO)

New Windsor bridge proposal

THE RAHS WOULD LIKE to inform members of a current issue surrounding Thompson Square at Windsor that has proved to be a cause for concern.

The RAHS regards Thompson Square as a significant heritage and historic landmark and is deeply alarmed by any Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA) bridge proposals which would affect it.

Thompson Square was established in the 18th century, making it the oldest urban space in Australia.

Thompson Square also has significant links to Governor Macquarie, who gave the space a new name and appearance when he created Windsor as one of his five planned towns along the Hawkesbury-Nepean.

The Council of the RAHS has sent a letter to the RTA raising concerns regarding the current preferred option (Option 1). Option 1 involves a high level bridge 35 metres downstream of the existing bridge.

Individuals and societies are being encouraged to support the RAHS's stand against the new Windsor Bridge proposal to contact the Roads and Traffic Authority at Windsor_Bridge@rta.nsw.gov.au

Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine Historical Society Inc.
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Saturday November 5, 2011 at 10.30am

Mine owners gift to Lithgow heritage

by Ray Christison

IN 1990 COAL MINING entrepreneurs Dick Austen and Angelo Butta donated the site of the former Lithgow State Coal Mine to the people of Lithgow.

The City of Greater Lithgow Mining Museum Incorporated was formed to develop a mining museum in the complex of buildings on the site.

The museum's volunteers have restored industrial buildings, undertaken complete replacement of electrical and plumbing services on the four hectare site, fought bushfires, undertaken major environmental and flood mitigation projects, gathered Australia's most comprehensive collection of coal mining artefacts, developed interpretive displays, hosted tens of thousands of visitors, published three coal mining histories and articulated a vision for regional heritage tourism.

The Lithgow State Coal Mine was the first colliery developed by the New South Wales Government after the passage of enabling legislation in 1912.

After a faltering start the mine rapidly developed into one of the largest collieries in the state.

During the 1920s shafts were sunk, massive brick buildings constructed to house workshops, a power house and stables, and a large coal handling plant and weatherboard office were built.

By 1930 over 700 men were working at the mine.

The mine was intended to be an industry leader in the application of technology and the development of good working conditions.

It supplied coal to the NSW Department of Railways and its product was railed across the western districts of New South Wales.

Small coal, unusable in railway locomotives, was sent across the gully to the Lithgow Power Station.

This power station, constructed in 1927, supplied electricity from Lawson to Wellington.

During the 1920s the mine became a pivotal point of the Miners' Federation of Australia Militant Minority Movement.

This activist group was led by Communist miners Bill Orr and Charlie Nelson.

These men met at the State Mine and it was here that they recruited young miners like Alfred Airey to the Communist cause.

Alfred, having studied at the Lenin School in Moscow and taken the Communist Party name Jack Blake, became one of the key leaders of the Communist Party of Australia between the 1930s and 1950s.

Bill Orr and Charlie Nelson became leaders of the Miners' Federation. Together they raised the morale of embattled mine workers and helped set new workplace standards for the coal industry.

As the State Mine struggled through the Great Depression its workers developed strong co-operative and social ventures.

The rich social life of the colliery included a brass band, football teams, a ladies' auxiliary, a bodybuilders' club, a boxing club and numerous other social groups.

The mine's blacksmith boxers became legendary. Blacksmith's striker Billy Boyce represented Australia in the 1948 Olympics.

The colliery's workers recalled a strong bond of comradeship that developed in the mine's vast underground workings.

Like all coalminers they knew the wonder of working in the depths of the earth, feeling it move and pulse as they worked to hew the coal.

They experienced the drama of rescuing mates from roof falls and dealing with the effects of mechanical accidents.

They volunteered to fight bushfires, to search for children lost in the bush and rallied to support the families of men killed in other pits.

In July 1964, on the day the Beatles landed in Sydney, heavy rains led to the flooding of a number of abandoned collieries in Lithgow.

As the flooding continued the State Coal Mine came under increasing threat.

Continued page 14

Lithgow State Mine, 1920. Photograph

Mine closure comes with decline in steam locomotion

Continued from page 14The closure of the Lithgow Power Station four years earlier and the decline of steam locomotion on the NSW Government Railways had severely affected the mine's viability.

The decision was taken to close the mine and its shafts were finally sealed on October 13, 1964.

Following closure much of the mine's surface infrastructure was demolished leaving only the workshop, former power house (later used as a bath house), office building and powder magazines standing.

Many of these buildings were used as storage and the office building was rented as a dwelling.

After taking control of the site, City of Greater Lithgow Mining Museum Inc. began restorations and started to gather artefacts and stories.

The museum is working to tell the stories of the mine's workers and their industry.

A director of the City of Greater Lithgow Mining Museum, Ray Chistison said, "We have worked with the buildings, respecting their integrity while enhancing their capabilities.

"The massive scale of buildings such as the former power house has allowed us to host major community events, festivals and celebrations."

Union banners exhibition 2009

Lithgow State Mine, 1950s. Photograph

New Guinea life created interest in cultural values

THE NEW CULTURAL development officer for Lithgow City Council, Wendy Hawkes interest in culture began as a child when she moved with her family to Papua New Guinea and spent her childhood and teenage years amongst a culture that values art, dance and music highly.

Returning to Australia at the end of high school she completed a teaching degree and has taught in the Blue Mountains and Lithgow areas since 2001.

Wendy began her Masters of Art Administration in 2006 at the College of Fine Arts, UNSW when she realised she wanted to pursue a career helping others enjoy art as much as she does.

Wendy was especially interested in rural areas as that is where she enjoys living the most. She moved to Lithgow 3 years ago and added a love of history to her love of art as she began exploring the area with the local photographic group.

"Beginning my new career as cultural development officer at Lithgow City Council is a fantastic opportunity as it allows me to fulfill my ambition of helping others access culture and history, either by creating it or experiencing it, while being surrounded by culture and history myself," Wendy said.

Wendy Hawkes

"Eskbank House and Museum, at which I will be based part of the time, is an excellent venue for storing knowledge and history and from which to share it.

"I hope to make Eskbank House and Museum a place that the community calls home and in which it feels a real sense of ownership as well as a place people like to come to visit from outside Lithgow. I look forward to forming links with other community cultural organisations.

"There are other exciting cultural projects outside the museum that I will be involved in and I am very much looking forward to sharing in the exciting cultural future of Lithgow," said Wendy.

Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society has new president

A country boy who always wanted to be a steam train driver and ended up being the curator of a rail museum has recently been elected as the president of Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society following the retirement of Frank Holland.

He is John Cooper who was born on the Richmond River in 1938 the product of a dairy farmer and his wife.

John's mother contracted Parkinson Disease after his birth and spent many months at a time in hospital until her passing in 1950.

John recalls that following his mother's death, his two sisters and he spent some years with their grandparents before returning to the farm to help his father on the dairy.

"I used to milk the cows before riding five miles to school at Woodburn," John told ***HERITAGE***.

"I never excelled at school and on New Year's Eve 1955 departed the bush for Sydney.

"I lived with my Aunty Bid (my mum's sister) and joined the railways on January 6, 1955. I wanted to be a steam train driver but in 1958 was struck down with tuberculosis which put me in hospital for 13 months.

"By this time I had not long been married. After returning to work in January 1960, I was put on light duties and later became a shunter.

"In January 1961 I had an accident shunting and lost four of my toes with another year unable to work."

In 1970 he was elected a director of the Railway Credit Union, holding that position until 2008.

In the time he was a director the organisation went from the Railway Staff Credit Union with assets of about $600,000 to Encompass Credit Union with assets of over $230 million.

He also became involved with the proposal to create a steam tourist railway on the original great Zig Zag Railway formation.

He was a founding member and the first chairman of Zig Zag Railway Co-op Limited holding that position for over ten years.

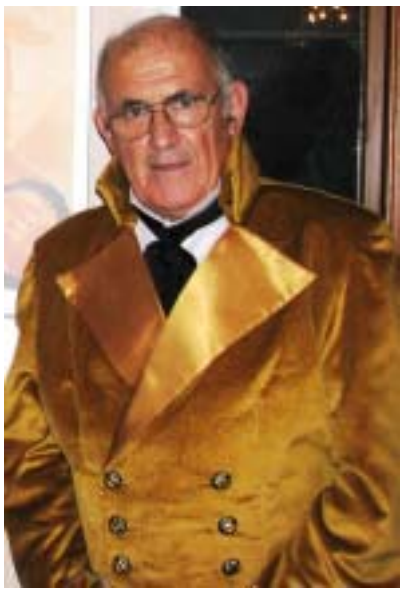
"I have also been chairman of the Australian Railway Preservation Society and on the committee of management of the Co op Federation of Australia.

"I have three children two of them have the same disease, Motor Neuron that took their mother in 1981. My son Peter passed away last year and his sister Donna is in a very advanced state.

"I remarried in 1996 to my now wife, Carolynne whom I met through the railway movement. "

John founded the Transport Signal & Communications Museum (TSCM) in 1990 at Cabramatta.

Carolynne joined the museum back then and they have worked together over the years in the restoration and the setting up of the museum which is now on their Kurrajong property.



John Cooper dressed as Richard Fitzgerald a convict, public servant and settler when he attended the formal dinner to celebrate 200 years since the visit of Governor Macquarie to Kurrajong in 2010. Lachlan Macquarie recognised Fitzgerald for his ability and praised the 'zeal, vigilance and integrity' of this 'most honest upright man'.

John is now the curator of TSCM and Carolynne is secretary, and he says they have a terrific committee which is now working towards the re opening of TSCM to the public by October 2012.

John and Carolynne are both president and secretary of the Australasian Telephone Collectors Society and have held those positions for some years. Carolynne has been on the Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society committee since 2008 and also is the coordinator of the family history group.

John says his position within Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society is very much to support the many dedicated members who are compiling family trees and the history of the early settlers of the local area.

"The Hawkesbury is indeed extremely rich in the very early days of our colony. After listening to our past president Frank Holland stating prior to his moving to Kurrajong he had shown no great interest in early history, so my view is if he can do it then possibly I can," said the new president, John Cooper.

Bob Clarke re- elected as chairman National Trust - Blue Mountains Branch

The popular Bob Clarke has been re-elected as chairman, National Trust - Blue Mountains Branch.

Other members of the committee include Rhona Leach (vice chair), John Partridge (secretary), Liz van Reyswoud (treasurer), David Donald Turner (heritage and advocacy adviser), Sandra Partridge (bookings and assistant treasurer), Bronwyn Mansfield (newsletter), Sarah Wray (catering), Elizabeth Saxton (assistant secretary), John Dikeman (walks co-ordinator), Laurel Anthony (functions) and Michael Blakeney (data base officer).

Grants workshop success

A very successful BMACHO workshop was conducted last month with the aim of encouraging a higher standard of grant applications.

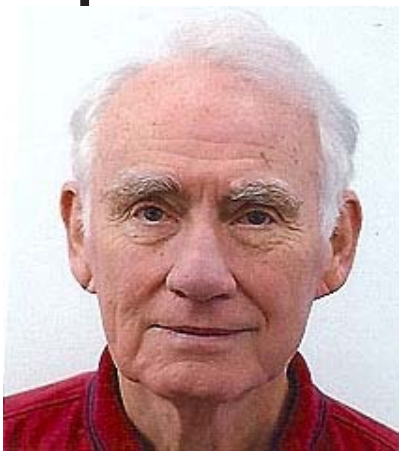
The seminar held at the Blue Mountains Historical Society's Hobby's Reach at Wentworth Falls was designed to give basic practical advice to the grants officers of (primarily heritage) societies and organisations.

The workshop designed and conducted by BMACHO's grants officer, Prof Barrie Reynolds focused on administrative and equipment grant programs that involve an actual application form.

"The principles expounded would, however, also be of help for capital, sponsorship and 'political' grant submissions.

"Topics covered were the planning and preparation involved prior to application, the completion of the application forms themselves and the aftermath: the handling of the project and legal and other responsibilities relating to a grant," Barrie said.

Some 21 participants attending from the following 10 BMACHO organisations: Blue Mountains Historical Society, Glenbrook Historical Society, Springwood Historical Society, Springwood Historians, Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society, Valley Heights Railway Museum, Blue Mountains Family History Society, Lithgow Family History Society, Blue Mountains Branch of National Trust, Lithgow Branch National Trust ; as well as six other non-BMACHO groups: Blue Mountains Probus, Cox's Road Project Committee,



Barrie Reynolds

Nepean Family History Society, Hartley District Progress Association, Blue Mountains, Wildplant Rescue and The Writers Room.

Barrie Reynolds has offered to comment on any draft applications that the participants plan to make.

He also said it is hoped to conduct the seminar again in Lithgow.

The occasion gave opportunities to encourage interest in the *Easy Grants* newsletter distributed online by BMACHO and the series of four workshops on the use of the internet for heritage purposes planned for early 2012.

These intended workshops are supported by a generous grant from the Telstra Connected Seniors Grant Program.

For further information on the proposed or expressions of interest in attending the Telstra internet workshop, e-mail: e-mail: committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au or go to the BMACHO contacts page on the website, www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au

LAND RECORDS WORKSHOP WELL ATTENDED

The Land Records workshop held at Blue Mountains Historical Society's Hobby's Reach Research Rooms on Sunday, October 16, 2011, was well attended, by members of societies from all over the Blue Mountains.

The workshop was designed for local and family historians

Lesley Muir and Carol Liston, on behalf of the RAHS, have presented this workshop to historians and members of its affiliated societies, in locations across NSW, due to the generosity of a benefactor, who believes in the importance of community history.

There was a large amount of information to digest in one afternoon, but most enthusiasts purchased a copy of the presentation on a RAHS USB stick, and no doubt will be spending many hours online.

BMACHO would like to thank the RAHS and Lesley and Carol for giving up their Sunday afternoon, to bring the presentation to the Blue Mountains.

Thank you also to Blue Mountains Historical Society for the use of their premises.

Contributed by Jan Koperberg Secretary BMACHO

Remembrance Day high tea at Woodford Academy

Following a minutes silence to commemorate Remembrance Day - at 11am on Friday, November 11, a high tea will be held in the house and grounds of Woodford Academy.

Enjoy a delicious home cooked high tea, with a variety of teas and coffee on offer.

Have a look around the house and grounds of this historic property.

Once an inn, it progressed to a private home, a guest house and then an exclusive boy's boarding school.

Astronomers from all over Australia came to view the Transit of Venus from here in 1874.

Cost $25 for entry and high tea. For enquiries Marilyn Wright (02) 4758 7809.

Woodford Academy

Louise Markus first to support conference

LOUISE MARKUS MP, the Federal Member for Macquarie is the first person to come forward and financially support the 2012 Blue Mountains History Conference – *Colonial Society* to be held at the heritage listed Carrington Hotel Katoomba.

Louise Markus, MP

The organising committee has so far concentrated its efforts in finding interesting and some of the countrY's top heritage experts to be speakers at the conference.

The committee last month started to look for sponsors and Mrs Markus was the first to come forward and undertake the printing of the brochure needed to promote the conference.

John Leary, OAM, the former president of the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) in welcoming Louise's support said that since she had become the local member, Mrs Markus had shown considerable interest in the work of BMACHO and the heritage of this region.

"I am delighted to be able to support the great work the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations does in promoting the heritage of the region," Louise Markus said.

Anyone interested in becoming a sponsor of the 2012 History Conference is asked to contact John Leary at johnnanette@optusnet.com.au or telephone 4758 8584.

Professor Ian Jack to open conference

A CONSUMATE SCHOLAR, and a man who has devoted a large part of his professional life to working with volunteers in the history and heritage sector, Associate Professor R. Ian Jack, MA, PhD, FRHistS, FRAHS has accepted an invitation to officially open the Blue Mountains Heritage Conference 2012.

Dr Jack last year stood down after 11 years in office as president of the Royal Australian Historical Society.

Former president of BMACHO, John Leary, OAM, said, "Ian's clarity of mind and communications are recognised and admired not only at academic institutions such as the University of Sydney, but throughout Australia by all levels of the heritage and history sector.

"Ian has a talent for encouraging others to engage in activities which

enhance the conservation and preservation of heritage and is able to summarize a range of opinions and views with precision and insight.

"He is a prolific researcher and writer of Australian history.

"Dr Jack has been and remains, an active exponent and promoter of Australian history and of heritage of the built environment," John Leary said.

Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Centre

The Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mount Tomah has opened a new 155 square metre exhibition centre to help visitors enjoy a heightened experience and understanding of the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area.

Visitors will be excited and inspired by this world-class attraction. Visitors may engage in a virtual journey through the canyons and ridges of 1,000,000 hectares of wilderness.

These inaccessible treasures may be experienced in the comfort of the exhibition centre, leaving these remote wilderness areas protected and intact.

Through the display, visitors can marvel at plant and animal diversity, experience the 14,000 years of Aboriginal culture that so lightly touched the land and understand the long geological forces which have shaped this wonderland.

The experience is hands-on with activity based learning suitable for all ages and languages.

Groups will be provided with opportunities to revel in this virtual wilderness and then walk through the 28 hectare Botanic Garden showcasing many of the rare plants of the World Heritage Area.

The centre has a gentle educational message promoting minimum impact eco-tourism and

Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mount Tomah is a foundation member of BMACHO

Welcome to new members

BMACHO welcomes the Eskbank Rail Heritage Centre at Lithgow as a new member.

The Eskbank Railway precinct is of state significance as an early railway precinct, important in the course of NSW's history because of its key role in the industrial development of the Lithgow Valley.

Meanwhile, the National Trust of Australia (NSW) has appointed a management committee for it's Woodford Academy property and BMACHO now welcomes the Woodford Academy Management Committee to full membership.

Woodford Academy is the oldest surviving property in the Blue Mountains.

Woodford Academy open to public

WOODFORD ACADEMY will be open to the public on November 11, 19 and January 21 between 10am and 4pm

This National Trust property reflects its colourful history from its earliest days as an inn, to its years as a model boys' school.

Enjoy the special atmosphere of the property which includes a fine example of a colonial kitchen and rare segmented arch over the fireplace (pictured below, photograph by John Leary 2007)

Then relax over a home-made morning tea on the balcony with its Blue Mountains vistas.

Cost: Free NT Members / $6 Adults/ $4 Concession / $3 Child Enquiries: Marilyn Wright (02) 4758 7809

Santa to arrive by steam tram

SANTA WILL ARRIVE EARLY in the Blue Mountains when aboard the heritage steam tram 103A he makes his appearance at the Valley Heights Rail Museum on Sundays November 27 and December 11.

Santa will arrive on both days at 11am and then later at 2pm.

He will have the usual bag of goodies for the children and looks forward to having his photograph taken with young children by mums and dads who bring their cameras.

Morning and afternoon tea will be available.

As a special treat on Sunday November 27 the NSW Railway Band will perform between 10.30am and 2.30pm.

Standard entrance charges will apply. For further information (02) 4751 4638 or www.infobluemountains.net.au/locdepot

Bradman scored a century for Blackheath

80 years ago this month, Don Bradman played for Blackheath against the Lithgow Pottery XI scoring an amazing century off three overs.

In a new book to commemorate the anniversary, the historian Ronald Cardwell and Irene McKilligan, the daughter of one of Bradman's team mates that day, have uncovered new material about Bradman's visit to the Blue Mountains.

Bradman had been invited to play for Blackheath in a game on November 2, 1931, by Oscar Wendell Bill, a journalist and former NSW player.

The 'Blackheath bat", which Bradman broke two months after the local game, became a significant item of memorabilia after he gave it to Blackheath mayor, Peter Sutton.

The bat is now displayed in the Bradman Museum in Bowral after a chequered history during which it lived in Blackheath council chambers, survived a burglary and resurfaced in the Blackheath Bowling Club.

Lithgow coalminer and opening batsman Bob Nicholson, a baritone singer so impressed Bradman,at a post match concert that the 'Don' invited him to sing at his wedding

***Bradman at Blackheath* is published by The Cricket Publishing Company.**

BRAIN STORMING AT SPRINGWOOD

A brain storming sessions for presidents, members of executives, committee members or those wishing to stand for positions on committees will be conducting on Tuesday, November 8.

The activity will commence at 9am in the Frazer Memorial Presbyterian Hall, Macquarie Street, Springwood.

This session will be facilitated by Doug Knowles, a committee member of Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations and currently president of Glenbrook & District Historical Society.

Ideas will be put forward, questions asked, and hopefully answered, but if answers are not forthcoming on the day, they will be sought.

Doug Knowles

Anyone wishing to attend, should contact BMACHO's secretary, Jan Koperberg by phone 02 4754 1544 or j.koperberg@bigpond.com

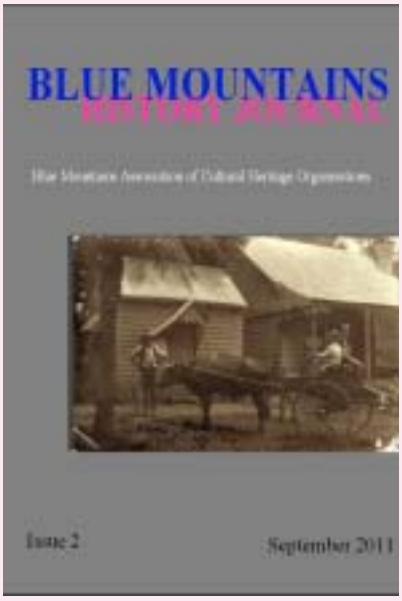
INTERESTING NEWSLETTERS

***HERITAGE*'s** editor receives regularly a number of first class newsletters from societies and corporations within the heritage sector. Sometimes a really good item of news or a well researched article deserving of a wider publicity is to be found in these newsletters.

If your newsletter is not being sent to the editor of ***HERITAGE*** he would appreciate receiving a copy, either by e-mail to johnnanette@optusnet.com.au or by post to John Leary, OAM, 31 Lysiana Road, WOODFORD 2778.

BLUE MOUNTAINS HISTORY JOURNAL

ISSUE 2 of the *Blue Mountains History Journal* is now available on the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisation Inc. website (www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au) and may be down-loaded for private use without charge. It can also be purchased in hard copy.



ISSUE 2 contains articles by distinguished local historians from the Blue Mountains:

* *The Martindale Family and the Sketchbook of Mary Elizabeth Martindale* by John Low
* *Over a Century of Worship at Medlow Bath* by Clair Isbister, Robert King and Peter Rickwood
* *A History of the Postal and Telephone Services of Mount Wilson* by Mary Reynolds
* *A Secret Army in the Blue Mountains?* by Pamela Smith

ISSUE 2 is 58 pages in length and profusely illustrated with 67 historical prints, maps and plans. Many of the prints are in colour. A limited number of hard copies are available post-free, for $27 each. Interested readers are invited to send their cheques (made payable to BMACHO) to The Secretary, Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Incorporated, 14 Burral Street, Winmalee, NSW 2777, before **20 November 2007.**

A few copies of the Inaugural ISSUE 1 of the *Journal* are also available (price $27 post free). This contains four articles:

* *North Springwood in the Nineteenth Century: the site of St. Columba's Seminary and High School* by Ian Jack
* *Joseph Hay: One of Lawson's Pioneers* by Brian Fox
* *Dr William Bell (1815-1871): Experiences of a 19th Century Doctor on either side of the Blue Mountains* by Lois Sabine
* *Aboriginal Prehistory of the Blue Mountains* by Eugene Stockton

ISSUE 1 is 44 pages in length and illustrated with 26 historical prints, many in colour, tables, plans and other illustrations.

Enquiries for further information and expressions of interest in submitting manuscripts for publication are welcomed by the *Journal* editor (Dr. Peter Rickwood) through the Association's website.

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INCORPORATED

First Waltzing Matilda manuscript on show as National Library unveils some of its treasures

THE NATIONAL LIBRARY of Australia in Canberra has unveiled a new permanent gallery showcasing some of the treasures of its collection.

The Treasures Gallery brings some of the library's valuable gems out of the vaults, with some on show for the first time.

It is an eclectic display including rare manuscripts and Captain James Cook's Endeavour journal, along with Doncker's exquisite atlas, that pre-dates Abel Tasman, showing a very different map of Australia.

There is a handwritten letter from Jane Austen to her sister Cassandra, William Bligh's notebook listing the bounty mutineers, and the original Waltzing Matilda manuscript.

There are also some very unexpected items. When a box of writer, Patrick White's notebooks was donated to the library, the curators found his reading glasses and beret inside.

Beside them are Jorn Utzon's original models for the sails of the Sydney Opera House.

Exhibitions director Nat Williams says the diverse collection highlights different aspects of Australia's history.

"We're an interesting country. We've been faced with all sorts of dilemmas. People have been courageous, they've explored, they've invented, they've innovated, they've advocated - they've done an extraordinary sort of range of things," he said.

"A lot of those things are reflected in here, from the first draft of Waltzing Matilda to Edward Mabo's papers.

"People can walk in, and in half an hour or an hour, walk around this gallery here and get a real sense of what Australia's about and how it's come to be where it is now."

The National Library has more than 12 million items in its collection, and the new gallery will constantly change to reflect that.

About every 16 weeks the library will turn the pages in some of the books and some of the sensitive items will be replaced with other items that cannot be on display for long periods of time.

There is still something about the one-off that really speaks to people," said curator Susannah Helman.

"People want to come and see the original thing, they want to come and see people's handwriting, they want to come and see something that's unique.

Pictured at left is the original Waltzing Matilda manuscript

A page in Austrlia's heritage - James Cook's journal. Image courtesy National Library of Australia nla.ms-ms1-s256r

"That's part of our culture I think, as humans, to marvel at what people have created and what people have been able to achieve."

The $7 million gallery has been 10 years in the making, with half of the funds coming from public donations. Mr Williams says visitors will appreciate the extensive collection.

"They're really enjoying it, they're finding it diverse, they're seeing the sort of richness of our collection which is boundless," he said.

"It really is one of the great collections in the world. It certainly documents Australian documentary heritage in an extraordinary way."
Alison Ramage

The purchase of the Endeavour journal of James Cook in 1923 is one of the most significant acquisitions made by the National Library of Australia. The journal covers the three-year voyage of the sailing ship Endeavour (1768 to 1771), captained by James Cook, when it circumnavigated the globe in the name of scientific advancement

Western crossing commemoration 2013-15

great ideas - thoughts - just being talked about or its really going to happen

A REPORT FROM PROFESSOR DAVID CARMENT, CHAIR WESTERN CROSSINGS COMMITTEE

THE ROYAL AUSTRALIAN Historical Society's (RAHS) Western Crossings Committee was established in 2010.

It provides a forum for the exchange of information and ideas on commemorating the bicentenary of the first crossings of the Blue Mountains, including the involvement of Aboriginal people, the 'three explorers' in 1813, the survey and construction of the first road across the Blue Mountains in 1813-1815, and Governor Macquarie's selection of the site of Bathurst in 1815.

All these events are of considerable and cumulative historical significance. The RAHS believes that commemorative projects ought to be of long-term benefit.

Meetings have been held at Sydney, Penrith, Woodford, Lithgow and Katoomba. The next meeting is at Emu Plains.

Participants in meetings represent community heritage and history associations, local governments, state government departments and Aboriginal traditional owners.

There was discussion at all meetings of proposals to interpret sections of the original Cox's Road.

At the Katoomba meeting on August 12, Bill Evans from the Roads and Traffic Authority gave a fascinating presentation on the heritage and history of surveying and road building in the Blue Mountains region, devoting special attention to the first road.

He showed and discussed rarely seen maps, photographs and survey books.

Bill offered during his presentation to show interested committee members Cox's Road near Woodford.

This inspection occurred on August 28, when a group of about 20 people walked to parts of the road that are still clearly visible and easily reached.

Also at Katoomba, I reported on my August 11 meeting with the Premier of New South Wales, Barry O'Farrell and the Member for Blue Mountains, Roza Sage,

The Premier expressed in principle support for a state coordinating committee similar to that formed for the Macquarie 2010 commemoration. I also argued for a special competitive grants program.
DAVID CARMENT

MACQUARIE MONUMENT

SPRINGWOOD HISTORIANS thought Lynn Collins' suggestion of "a small corner for a 'running sheet' of what folk from say Penrith or Parramatta to Bathurst are thinking of doing" for the Western Crossing Commemoration was an excellent idea so we would like to tell you of our project.

Springwood already has a Macquarie Monument (see *HERITAGE* Newsletter May/June, 2010) but we fear it is a neglected part of Springwood and indeed Blue Mountains and NSW history.

We decided to visit it individually and then meet to consider its problems. All except one of our members (and she lives in Glenbrook) knew where it was, had walked or driven past it many times and knew what it commemorated.

But we all agreed it was shabby, and, after talking to other people, mostly unnoticed.

Positioned on the site identified by the RAHS as Macquarie's camping place on his journey over Cox's road to Bathurst in 1815 and the site of the first Military Barracks in Springwood, it could be called the birthplace of Springwood.

So our project is to see it restored, refurbished and given more prominence.

The land on which it stands is owned by Blue Mountains City Council so our first step was to contact them. Patrick Williams, recreation coordinator met us at the monument and agreed that it was an important historic site with priorities for action being"the fences surrounding the monument and interpretation of the monument".

Other possibilities were "treating the existing plaque on the monument to resist weathering and providing directional signage to the site".

Council financing for this type of project in the 2012/3 financial year would have to be assessed against other identified projects and the total amount set aside was only $15,000.

Obviously more money would be needed to see our project successfully completed. Our small group is not incorporated and unable to apply for grants so we are looking for partners.

As a further disappointment, on the new Springwood information sign erected on the Springwood Town Square, the monument is noted on the map simply as "monument'! Monument to what?
SHIRLEY EVANS

HOLEY DOLLAR AND DUMP

LOCAL businessman Tom Colless is trying to secure agreement for minting a holey dollar and dump, to be issued to school children.

When the colony of New South Wales was founded, it soon had a lack of coinage. Governor Lachlan Macquarie took the initiative of using £10,000 in Spanish dollars sent by the British government to produce coins known as the holey dollar and the dump being the piece stamped from the centre.

Australia's first hospital celebrates 200 years

SYDNEY HOSPITAL Australia's first hospital celebrated 200 years last month on its Macquarie Street sites.

Sydney Hospital dates from the arrival of the First Fleet in 1788 and has been on its present site in Macquarie Street since 1811.

The oldest building now standing on the site is the Nightingale Building which dates from 1868, and the sandstone buildings on the Macquarie Street frontage, dating from 1894.

The new Clinical Services Building of the hospital was opened in 1996 and has been built to harmonise with the historic buildings on the site.

The complex of buildings provides an important monument to the history of medicine and nursing in Australia, and continues to provide high quality healthcare services.

The buildings facing Macquarie Street are an imposing group of high Victorian institutional buildings, which form an integral part of the historic streetscape of Macquarie Street, as well as being important to the early history of medicine in Australia.

But it is not the heritage buildings which attract most attention. It is a bronze boar.

Few people fail to notice him! People from all over the world have solemnly stood in Macquarie Street, Sydney and rubbed his nose, made a wish, dropped a coin in his basket and had a photograph taken standing near him.

His name is Il Porcellino. He is not a pig; he is a wild boar.

The original Il Porcellino statue is estimated to be over 500 years old, and was unearthed in Rome after having stood for over 100 years in the Uffizi Galleries in Florence.

The Sydney Hospital and Sydney Eye Hospital Il Porcellino, which is a copy of the original, was presented to the hospital in l968 by the Marchessa Clarissa Torrigiani in memory of her father and brother – Dr Thomas Fiaschi who died in 1928 and Dr Piero Fiaschi who died in 1948. Both had been renowned surgeons at the Sydney hospital.

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

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ABN 53 994 839 952

THE ORGANISATION Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 following a unanimous response to a proposal from Professor Barrie Reynolds at the 2004 Blue Mountains Local History Conference which sought from Blue Mountains City Council the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the city.

BMACHO in its constitution uses the definition: "Cultural heritage is all aspects of life of the peoples of the Blue Mountains which was later changed to cover Lithgow and the villages along the Bell's Line of Roads. It therefore involves the recording, preserving and interpreting of information in whatever form: documents, objects, recorded memories as well as buildings and sites."

The objectives of the organisation are:

i. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage.

ii. To encourage and assist cultural heritage activities of member organisations.

iii. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations.

One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact, to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

HERITAGE BMACHO's official newsletter is edited by John Leary, OAM.

Blue Mountains History Journal is edited by Dr Peter Rickwood.

MEMBERSHIP The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mount Tomah, Blue Mountains City Library, Blue Mountains Cultural Heritage Centre, Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc., Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc., Blue Mountains Tourism Limited, Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute, Cudgegong Museums Group Inc., Eskbank Rail Heritage Centre, Everglades Historic House & Gardens, Friends of Norman Lindsay Gallery, Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc., Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc, Lilianfels Blue Mountains Resort, Lithgow and District Family History Society Inc., Lithgow Mining Museum Inc., Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies, Lithgow Small Arms Factory Museum Inc, Mid-Mountains Historical Society Inc, Mt Victoria and District Historical Society Inc., Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine History Society Inc. (including Turkish Bath Museum), Mudgee Historical Society Inc., Mudgee Regional Library, National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Blue Mountains Branch, National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Lithgow Branch, Scenic World – Blue Mountains Limited, Springwood & District Historical Society Inc., Springwood Historians Inc., Transport Signal and Communication Museum Inc., The Darnell Collection Pty Ltd, Valley Heights Locomotive Depot and Museum, Woodford Academy Management Committee, Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd. The following are individual members: Ray Christison, Associate Professor Ian Jack, Joan Kent, John Leary OAM, John Low, Ian Milliss, Professor Barrie Reynolds, Dr Peter Rickwood and Dr Peter Stanbury OAM.

COMMITTEE The committee for 2011-12 is: Pamela Smith (president), Ian Jack (vice president), Jan Koperberg (secretary), Joan Kent (treasurer), Jean Arthur, Doug Knowles, John Leary, Dick Morony (public officer), Kathie McMahon-Nolf, Barrie Reynolds and Peter Stanbury.

HONORARY AUDITOR: Sue McMahon, B Comm CPA.

AFFILIATIONS BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society Inc.

HERITAGE

NEWSLETTER OF THE BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

JANUARY - FERUARY 2012 ISSUE No. 19

Lithgow Council underwrites funding for Cox Road signage

LITHGOW CITY COUNCIL has agreed to the installation of signage along the Cox's Road and will consider allocating $20,000 in 2013-14 management plan for the signage if state and federal government funding is not forthcoming.

The interpretive signage along the Cox's Road is part of the Blue Mountains crossing commemoration activities planned for 2013-15.

The road crosses through the Penrith, Blue Mountains, Oberon, Lithgow and Bathurst local goverment areas (LGAs).

There are still remnants of the road, which was built by William Cox and his crew of convicts in 1814, along which Governor Lachlan Macquari in 1815 travelled to the site where he proclaimed the township of Bathurst.

Lithgow Council is seeking funding in stages in order to have all signage installed by 2015.

Information board, Oberon LGA

Patsy Moppett, the convenor of the National Trust's Cox's Road Project Committee (CRPC), has advised the Blue Mountains Crossing Bicentenary Committee of Lithgow City Council that Oberon Council already has signage in place funded by the Australian Government's Department of Heritage.

Ms Moppett also told the committee that Blue Mountains City Council and Bathurst City Council are seeking funding over the next two years to instal signage in their local government areas.

The Cox's Road Project Committee has undertaken to co-ordinate mapping of the road and development of appropriate signage.

The Cox's Road Steering Committee was formed in July 2006 to look at long term objectives and mechanisms to preserve the 1814 Cox's Road alignment between Emu Plains and the Blue Mountains and Bathurst.

Convenor of the committee, Patsy Moppett has told *HERITAGE*, the committee was formed with delegates from the Lithgow, Blue Mountains and Bathurst branches of the National Trust, and operates under the auspices of the Trust as an informal committee.

"The CRPC sought to eventually establish a heritage walk or trail over parts of this route through some of the most beautiful countryside in Australia, and has sought to have the remnants of the road listed on the State Heritage Register. The NSW Heritage Office gave preliminaryy approval for this listing in April 2011.

Route signage in Oberon LGA

150-years for NSW Police Force

NSW POLICE FORCE will have served as a unified force for 150 years on March 1, this year.

Five police forces, the military mounted police, civil mounted police, gold police, mounted road patrols and rural constabulary, operated in the region between Emu Plains and the Cox's River from 1829 to 1862.

During the 1920s bushrangers and clashes between settlers and Aborigines were a growing law and order problem.[1.]

[1.] Chinn, Peter. *The Thin Red and Blue Lines,* Springwood Historical Society Inc. 2006

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An opinion from the editor.....

Darug, Daruk, Dharug, Dharuk or Darkiñung?

IN the August – September 2011 edition of ***HERITAGE***, I opined that now might be the time to encourage local historians and those interested in cultural heritage to better engage with living members of the indigenous people so that assistance may be provided for future generations.

In that *Opinion* I indicated both the Dharug and Gundungurra people are known to have inhabited this region well before the coming of Europeans and a great many of them still live in the Blue Mountains region. New findings in a study publicly released in August 2011 seem to challenge conventional wisdom in this statement.

In a 2010 postgraduate history thesis researched at Sydney University, Dr Geoff Ford suggests that the Aborigines of the Blue Mountains and Hawkesbury / Grose River catchments at the time of settlement were *Darkiñung*, recorded as bordering the mountain *Gundungurra* people from the Wollondilly / Cox River catchments to their south.

HERITAGE's *Opinion* lacks the capacity to provide informed comment on the locale of Aboriginal people in this region, other than to suggest there are other bodies of research contrary to this view.

Ford places insistence on the spelling of Darug, Daruk, Dharug and Dharuk commonly in use when identifying Aboriginal people in various localities. However, colonial attempts to record what Aboriginal people seemed to say, must at least have been described as unscientific.

There was no accepted phonetic system for transcription while there was no 'correct' spelling of English itself until 1755 when *A Dictionary of the English Language*, (*Johnson's Dictionary)* was produced.

The new study, 'Darkiñung Recognition', may be examined in more than 30 public libraries. A digital copy is available online from the University of Sydney library (at URL: http://ses.library.usyd.edu.au/handle/2123/7745).

Public scrutiny of Dr Ford's thesis is highly desirable as it may bring on further scholarly debate

In the 1970s, society deemed it to be appropriate to replace the word 'Aborigine' with another noun for Aboriginal persons in parts of NSW, *Kuri*.

Then, as we approached the 1988 bicentenary of settlement, family history flourished, with the removal of the stigma of having either convict or Aboriginal heritage

As we approach the 2013 bicentenary of the Blue Mountains crossing some historians might see it as an appropriate time to revisit earlier research about the traditional identity of the Aboriginal people in NSW.

But to do so without further intense consultation with the Aboriginal elders and their community lacks sensitivity.

Generations of Aborigines have believed in the spelling and identity which they have been perhaps given by Europeans.

This does not mean that consultation should not occur during the Western crossings commemorations 2013-2015. There are in the community most articulate well-informed spokespeople for the Aboriginal community and they should be given every opportunity to be heard.

WELL DONE LITHGOW

Congratulations to Lithgow City Council on forming a Section 355 committee to oversee activities for the 'bicentenary of the western crossing in 2013-15'.

The ready, no-nonsense acceptance of the aspirations of the local community and offer to work with volunteers as equals is inspiring and how local government should work.

John Leary, OAM - Past president, Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc.

The coming of the motor car...

by John Leary, OAM

ALTHOUGH MECHANICS and engineers had been experimenting with alternatives to horse-drawn carriages as far back as the design for the Cugnot steam trolley of 1769; most define that as the first "real" automobile produced by Amédée Bollée in 1873, who built self-propelled steam road vehicles to transport groups of passengers.[1]

Motorised vehicles probably made their first Australian appearance in Melbourne about 1900.

At first they were praised for being faster and cleaner than horses.

However, their noise, speed and fumes frightened horses and left pedestrians ducking for cover. People complained of 'road hogs' who recklessly sped through the streets endangering all in their path.

To control the motorised horde, in 1916 Melbourne City Council had imposed new restrictions. Vehicles had to travel on the left-hand side of the road in not more than two lanes. When stopping, a hand or a whip had to be raised.

In the following years hand signals for turning were imposed, along with time restrictions on parking.

Initially considered a toy for the wealthy, the ownership of motor vehicles increased most markedly after the First World War.[2]

Pictured outside the Hartley Court House on a trip to Jenolan Caves 1930.On back of photo mount: Souvenir of our trip to Jenolan Caves 1930. Vehicle: Belgian Fabrique Nationale 1918 Front: Driver in dust coat, Mrs Cubitt Rear: Miss May Cubitt, Mr Quincey Adams of Dubbo, Master Cubitt. Blue Mountains City Library.

The distinction of being one of Australia's first motorists to be booked for speeding, biscuit mogul RH Arnott was fined 10 shillings ($1) for travelling down a Sydney street at 13 km/h

The first driver's license to be issued in Australia was on September 10, 1906 to William Hargreaves of Woodville, South Australia.[3]

Dr Peter C Rickwood writing in the *Hobby's Outreach*, under the titles "The First Car Over the Mountains" August-September 2010 and "A Sequel to 'The First Car over the Mountains'", concludes from his extensive research that the first motor car to cross the Blue Mountains did so on September 29, 1901

Crossing the Blue Mountains was part of a journey made in a 3-seater 5.5hp Delahaye by William Gordon Dixon accompanied by WG Hamilton went at least as far as Bathurst. [4]

In 1832 Major Mitchell built a road from Mount Victoria to Hartley to replace the dangerous grades of Bathurst Road built by William Cox.

This new road made it possible to travel safely via horse-drawn vehicles.

However, not foreseeing some 72 years into the future in 1904, the first motor car to travel down Victoria Pass required the assistance of a horse to be able to get back to the top.[5]

The "Roaring Twenties" was characterised by a spirit of optimism and progress. The austere war years had come to an end, and for many Australians life improved.

An open tourer driving the Jenolan Caves Road on the old Hartley bridge over the River Lett circa late 1920s early 30s. Broadhurst Collection. Contributed by Paul Cardow

Continued page 4

Horse drawn Coaches made the 2-day trip to Jenolan Caves

Continued from page 3

Mass production and technological advances increased consumerism, materialism and modernisation.

Shorter working hours, improvements in public transport and a surge in car manufacture and ownership changed the way Australians spent their leisure time.

The introduction of radio and the growth of dance halls and picture palaces met the growing demand for entertainment and recreation.

The figure of the 'flapper', with her short skirts and bobbed hair became a metaphor for the pursuit of pleasure and novelty which characterised the decade, as well as the rapid changes in social and moral attitudes and values.

With the coming of the motor car Jenolan Caves and other sites in the Blue Mountains were but a short distance by touring motor car from the holiday towns of Katoomba, Blackheath, Medlow Bath and others.

Entrepreneurs in the Blue Mountains soon realised taking a tour in a motor car was a great adventure.

One of those was Robert Rolfe who in 1889 had set up a business transporting tourists by horse drawn coaches.

Coaches made the 2-day trip to Jenolan Caves on a regular timetable, it being the usual custom for passengers to walk up the steep grades to ease the strain on the horses.

By 1911 the Rolfes had moved their business to Blackeath and expanding their business had progressed from horse drawn coaches to motor vehicles.

Rolfe's tourist business had as many as 13 cars housed at Blackheath and employed in the fledgling tourist industry.

Robert Rolfe died in 1942 and the tourist and taxi business was finally sold in1956.[6]

Another early operator was Stefan (known as Sid) Josef Siedlecky who also saw the potential in touring cars, when he set up a business in 1919.

One of 'Sid's' early cars was a Cadillac. He also bought a Cole which was a powerful 10 seater, 8 cylinder car. He was the first person to drive a car down into Megalong Valley.[7]

A fleet of 'Italia' cars owned by Joyton-Smith garaged at the Carrington also took visitors to the Jenolan Caves;

The economic depression of the 1920s and 30s and the coming of the private car saw a downwards effect on the tourist trade.

Early motorists faced many challenges, not the least of all being the condition of roads which had been built for horse and cart.

Motor cars were notoriously unreliable and there were no such thing as a roadside garage.

Maintenance and navigation equipment such as puncture repair kits had to be packed for the trip.

Before the 1920s in Australia even fuel had to be carried as there were few petrol outlets

"Why Walk?" was one of the vehicles in the fleet of motorised cars used by Rolfe's Motor Service in Blackheath, c. 1920s. Photograph courtesy of Bill Ward

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[1] Eckerman, Erik (2001) *World History of the Automobile*

[2] Museum Victoria

[3]Stuart Nicol, Bullock Tracks and Bitumen, RAA 1978 p39 Professional Historians Association (SA) 1956

[4] Rickwood PC, *A Sequel to The First Car over the Mountains'.* Hobby's Outreach, 22(5): December 2010 - January 2011, pp.7 & 9.

[5] www.bluemountainsaustralia.com

[6] Rotary Club of Blackheath (2005) *Blackheath: today from yesterday*. 'The Rolfe's' contributed by Mrs O Campbell.Writelight. 2005.

[7] Rotary Club of Blackheath (2005) *Blackheath: today from yesterday*. 'Siedlecky' contributed by Dr Stefania Siedlecky. Writelight. 2005.

High tea

Enjoy the ambience of the Art Deco dining room at Everglades House and Gardens, Leura, high tea being served on Saturday and Sundays, January 28 and 29 and February 26 between 2.30pm and 4pm.

Visitors may wander through the magnificent gardens and explore the 1930s house before high tea

Booking essential to Anita 4784 1974 or Liz 0418 206 899.

Cost $25 National Trust member, $30 adult, $10 child

An intriguing character comes to the Blue Mountains

by Paul Innes

EVERY ONCE IN A WHILE, an intriguing character comes into our lives, and in late 1911 – just over 100 years ago – such a character arrived in the Blue Mountains.

The intriguing character in question was a gentleman named James Joynton – Smith, more commonly known as 'Joynton'.

In late October 1911, Joynton – Smith purchased Katoomba's Carrington Hotel, and he immediately made his presence known. Within a week of buying the hotel from Mr Peacock, Joynton put the weekly tariff up from £2/16/- to £3.

Many more changes were about to take place at the Carrington Hotel, but before describing these, it's worth taking a peak into Joynton's life before he came to the Blue Mountains.

Born James John Smith in 1858... "a vintage year for babies..."[1], the future owner of the Carrington Hotel spent his early years in London's East End. There, he learnt a great deal about human nature and business.

One thing he did perceive was that his name was too common. In order to get noticed, he eventually decided it would be best to change his middle name... "to the debonair name of Joynton. The James John Smiths who might infest directories, telephone books and electoral rolls would no longer crowd me."[2] he said.

Then, wishing to leave the East End... "a place crowded with people haggling over pence..."[3] Joynton told his family he wanted to emigrate to one of the colonies. Signing on as a third cook aboard the 'Port Chalmers', Joynton set sail for New Zealand in 1874.

Once in New Zealand, Joynton worked on board several ships. Gradually he realised that all the money on board ship seemed to come from the shore. this made him decide that ... "one day I would leave the ship and tap this wealth at its source."[4]

Over a number of years while he developed his business skills on land, Joynton learnt two valuable lessons. One was to avoid alcohol; the other was to pay off debts.

As an assistant barman at the Port Chalmers Hotel, Joynton soon discovered that many men came into the bar abiding by the drinking code 'never have one alone'.

Suddenly realising he was cultivating the habit of drinking, Joynton put in "the plug" adding… "although I've been associated with hotels almost all my life, I have never been a drinker. It has been the residential side, as distinct from the bar, that has interested me."[5]

Learning to pay off debts materialised not long after Joynton had purchased the Post Office Hotel, in Wellington. A local businessman, TG Macarthy informed Joynton he would prosper if he paid off debts owed to... "the little people in business who cannot afford to be out of their money. Small unpaid accounts injure a man's credit most." Furthermore, he was encouraged to... "keep your money and yourself active, and in keeping both employed, you are employing others also, and increasing prosperity."[6]

This advice seemed to pay off, for within four years of owning the Post Office Hotel, Joynton had amassed a nest egg of £10,000. Feeling the need to see his family again, and hoping to increase his wealth on a horse racing betting scheme, Joynton set sail for England in 1886.

James Joynton-Smith

However, while he succeeded in seeing his family, he lost all but £500 on the betting scheme.

Returning to New Zealand, Joynton started again, working in the secretaryship of the Cooks and Stewards Union in Wellington. This job lead him to Sydney in 1890, when at the height of the maritime strike, he resigned from the union and set up an 'Illuminated Funeral Cards' business; then needing a more secure job he accepted the position as manager of the Grand Central Coffee Palace.

Determined to get back into the hotel business for himself, Joynton began looking for a hotel to purchase.

It wasn't long till he found out that the Imperial Arcade Hotel could be secured.

In February 1896, Joynton secured the lease of both the Pitt and Castlereagh Street ends of the Arcade, eventually owning and vastly improving the entire Arcade... "in my judgement the choicest piece of real estate in Australia."[7]

Continued page 6

Continued from page 5
Joynton – Smith was beginning to make his mark on Sydney, and it wasn't long till he was investing time and money into other ventures, particularly buying horse racing tracks, and establishing Rugby League, in 1908.

Now, if time and space permitted we could further examine Joynton's Sydney life; his political career as an Upper House Member, and Lord Mayor of Sydney; his creation of the *Smith Weekly* newspaper; and his involvement in the establishment of South Sydney Hospital, where a wing is named after him.

'... When I saw the Blue Mountains they cast a spell over me...'

But we need to move up to the Blue Mountains...

Joynton – Smith's association with the Blue Mountains seemed to begin in the early years of the 20th century.

"When I saw the Blue Mountains, they cast their spell over me. Here, I said, is something I need ... without them I could never be happy again," he commented.

"It was Mount Victoria that particularly appealed to me. The Imperial Hotel seemed to offer what I needed, so I bought it."

"In the meantime, I bought the Carrington Hotel at Katoomba. I saw that this was the pivotal point of the Blue Mountains, and that it could be made the rest house of the tired business man of Sydney."[8]

Purchasing the Carrington in October 1911, Joynton – Smith immediately set about bringing the hotel into the 20th century.

In 1912, the original lace iron work façade was transformed into an art nouveau stained glass facade.

In 1913, Joynton constructed a power station (with its enormous chimney) at the rear of the hotel. This power station supplied electricity to the Carrington, as well as to railway stations, businesses and homes between Mount Victoria and Woodford.

Joynton also noticed that '…when I first went to Katoomba, there was only one bank in the town" … and … "realizing there was an opening for another…"[9] he persuaded the City Bank of Sydney to open a branch in Katoomba in the Carrington grounds.

Mr Housie lived upstairs and became its first manager.

Knowing Katoomba was a tourist town, Joynton became involved in the hire car business and picture show business.

A fleet of 'Italia' cars garaged at the Carrington took visitors to the Jenolan Caves; while both his Empire and Kings picture theatres entertained visitors and locals.

Mr Otto Camphin was made chief executive of both the Empire and Kings theatres, and he was rewarded with … "half the enterprise." For, added Joynton… "When I have taken on another into a venture and he has brought success, I have made it a rule to share and share alike."[10]

By 1926, the Carrington stood on Joynton's books at £120,000, and in the same year, he sold the Imperial at Mount Victoria for £16,000, in order to build the Log Cabin at Penrith.

Driving to the Mountains one day, Joynton stopped off at a Penrith Hotel, and asked for a cup of tea.

The ensuring fuss, and serving of a lukewarm shandy in its place, convinced Joynton… "That in the near future, I would have tea at Penrith, so I looked for a site, and bought a suitable area of land overlooking a lovely stretch of the Nepean River.

Parties of motorists now make it [the Log Cabin] the objective of a run from Sydney, and motor parties to and from the mountains find there a pleasant break in the journey, and I get my cup of tea without any fuss whatever."[11]

Joynton – Smith passed away in 1943, but during his time at the Carrington Hotel he hosted thousands of visitors. Honeymoon couples mingled with families, war veterans, bachelors, and overseas travellers.

Famous people came as well. The Duke and Duchess of York visited in 1927, Prime Minister Stanley Melbourne Bruce discussed matters of importance in 1924, Billy Hughes relaxed at the hotel in 1929, and Amy Johnson ('Johnny') briefly touched down in June 1930.

In my travels, I've been lucky enough to meet two people who not only worked at the Carrington in Joynton's time, but also met him, recalls Paul Innes.

In 2003, an elderly fellow called Les Timmings told me that sometime during the 1930's both he and his father, Samuel Timmings – who worked at the hotel as the gardener between 1914 and 1947 – received £10 from Joynton. "

Continued page 7

The Carrington Hotel pictured 2011

‘You’re smoking!’

Continued from page 6

“Apparently Joynton won some money on a horse the previous weekend, and gave every member of staff a 5 shillings tip.

That was a lot of money back then!” [12] Les said.

Then, in 2008, a fellow called Jim Mitchell, who was a pastry chef at the hotel said, “Yes, I met Joynton once.

“He didn’t come into the kitchen often, but on this particular day he came in as I was walking out the door into the corridor, about to go on my break.

“I’d already lit my cigarette.

“He saw that and told me I wasn’t allowed to smoke in the kitchen. I replied: ‘You’re smoking!’ (He had a cigar). He replied. ‘Yes, but I own the hotel!’”[13]

Touché Joynton…. and thank you for coming to the Blue Mountains.

Footnotes.
1. My Life Story. Joynton Smith. Cornstalk Publishing. 1927. Page 1
2. Ibid. Page 2.
3. Ibid Page 31.
4. Ibid Page 68.
5. Ibid Page 41.
6 Ibid Page 99.
7 Ibid Page 165.
8 Ibid Page 216 – 217.
9 Ibid Page 223
10 Ibid Page 226.
11 Ibid Page 223.
12 Interview with Les Timmings, 2003.
13. Interview with Jim Mitchell, 2008.

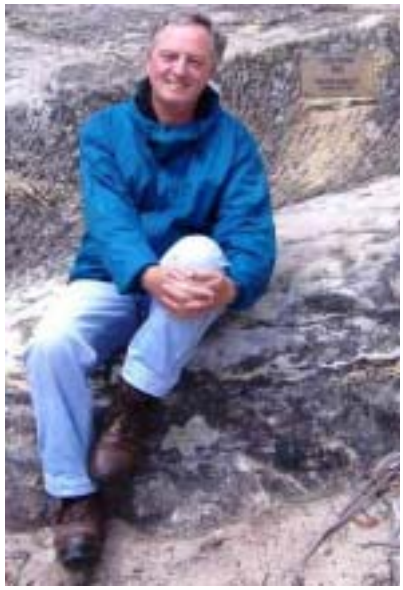
About the author

Paul Innes pictured and Helen Stamper regularly conduct guided historical walking tours around the Carrington Hotel; Katoomba; Mount Victoria; Mount York as well as several other sites in the Blue Mountains.

All tours are thoroughly researched, professionally presented and never rushed.

To book a tour or for further details, please visit their web site. www.discoverthebluemountains.com.au

Jan Koperberg’s photograph of Paul was taken at Mt Victoria on remnants of the Cox’s Road.



Springwood historic walk

SPRINGWOOD HISTORICAL Society, in association with Blue Mountains City Council and the Rotary Club of Springwood have identified, by numbered bronze plaques, seventeen historic sites in Springwood and produced a brochure containing a map and concise information about each place.

Arrangements may be made with the secretary Dick Morony by e-mail to: richardmorony@optusnet.com.au to take interested groups on a guided tour of these places.

Dick will also supply copies of the brochure to people who would like to undertake the walk on their own.

MURDER SITE ON GLENBROOK WALKS ITINERARY

GLENBROOK & District Historical Society regularly organises ‘walk and talk’ activities visiting interesting places of local history.

The March 31 activity is titled ’The Mountain Murders and a visit to Lee Weller’s grave site’.

In 1896 the sleepy village of Glenbrook was like most country towns in the Great Depression when the unemployed suffered real starvation in the absence of government assistance.

Then in 1896, the sleepy backwater’s name exploded into world headlines.

The anonymous but many named criminal known as Butler chose Glenbrook for the last of his murders, that of the retired sea captain, Lee Weller.

It appears he lured the sea captain with an offer to show him precious stones which he promised Weller he could find as a prospector

Already “Butler” was suspected of murders in West Australia, NSW and may be in Brazil and after the police were attracted to as they say “to certain happenings” at Glenbrook the second last victim a university student named Arthur Preston, was dug up at Faulconbridge.

Getting wind that the police were on his tail, he decided to flee to America, in a windjammer, but police had taken a steamship arriving in San Francisco to wait and arrest Butler.

Butler was brought back to Sydney where he was tried and hanged.

Those interested in participating in the walk should contact Doug Knowles at 4751 3275 or Tim Miers 4739 2384.
Source: Glenbrook and District --- A History.

Everglades horticulturist receives top award

EVERGLADES HEAD GARDENER, Guy McIlrath has received the National Trust Distinguished Service Award.

Guy who has been head gardener for 7 years received the award based on commitment, leadership, innovation and support for quality of work life.

Everglades manager, Scott Pollock said Guy's eye for detail ensures the property runs with the greatest of ease.

"During the recent upgrades at Everglades, there were 20 different projects which he closely monitored to ensure the end result was the best that could be achieved

"This included suggestions relating to the processes, placement of infrastructure, and keeping things aligned with the conservation plan.

"Guy has huge respect from all workers and volunteers because of his leadership skills.

"Guy is a master at ensuring all staff and volunteers have a productive, educational and enjoyable time while at Everglades," said Mr Pollock.

Pictured is Guy McIlrath (wearing hat) being congratulated by Scott Pollock.

Local architect managed rare'yellowblock' recovery for heritage sandstone restoration

THE NSW GOVERNMENT provides funding for the conservation of the state's significant sandstone buildings and structures.

Funding is allocated to NSW Public Works, and the work is undertaken by a team of stonemasons, heritage roofers, plumbers and painters from its Alexandria workshops.

The work is guided by heritage architects from the Government Architect's Office who specialise in stone conservation.

Most of Sydney's major sandstone buildings, such as the State Library, Art Gallery, Sydney Hospital and the Australian Museum have already had major conservation work carried out.

Regional projects including Hartley Courthouse have recently received program funding.

A key component for the success of this work occurred in 2000 when the rare "yellowblock" sandstone was obtained in a 'once in a century' opportunity.

Ron Powell

The program's manager for the past decade, Ron Powell, negotiated and oversaw giant saws cutting the precious "yellowbloc"k out of excavations for multi-level car parks at Pyrmont, on the site of the former famous Saunders yellowblock quarries.

Ron Powell retired from the program and moved to Leura in 2009 and was recently appointed to the Blue Mountains City Council Heritage Advisory Committee.

In 2009 Ron received an award from the Institution of Engineers Australia's Heritage Group for his work in having the Saunder's quarrying operations and their contribution to Sydney recognised.

He was the catalyst for a book "Paradise, Purgatory Hell Hole, The Story of the Saunders Quarries" being written and published as well as the placement of an Institution of Engineers Australia Historic Engineering Marker plaque being placed on the former quarry wall at Pyrmont.

Ron has undertaken at ***HERITAGE***'s request to provide more information about the program's projects in coming issues.

Lights stay on at historic homes

by *Will Holmes à Court* - former CEO, National Trust of Australia (NSW)

A few Sunday's ago over breakfast many of us read the news about grounded planes and airport chaos, while others, recipients of an early edition, had their comfort of tea and toast hijacked by the headline "Lights go out at historic homes"

It was distressing news with the report referring to National Trust properties. An opinion had been expressed that the Trust was going to have to "mothball" some of its properties and six were mentioned.

The headline generated significant angst particularly from the named communities, those that rely on their rich heritage to reinforce their identity, their strong sense of history and the economic well being of their towns.

So to the question, "Is all news good news"? It is probably too early to call it, but as I write I can reflect that, while it was better than feared, it was worse than hoped.

To another audience it was more like the curate's egg, good in parts. If nothing else it has started a conversation, a conversation that needs to be had if the community is to continue to enjoy its origins and preserve its rich heritage.

A conversation that needs to be had with every generation and every new government particularly at this time as the important gives way to the urgent and the quiet voice of reason is ditched for a jingle.

The story spawned other TV, Radio and newspaper conversations, much of which confirmed again to me, and many, how much the National Trust and its good work is treasured and valued in the community.

It has also prompted many of our members and supporters to ask if the National Trust really does have plans to close properties to which I can answer that the board has no current plans to close any properties and we are working to find ways to make each sustainable in the long term.

On the general question of the Trust's overall financial state it is worth reflecting that the Trust movement is struggling worldwide with most organisations stretched to breaking point.

The exception is the UK which is unique in its size with millions of international visitors each year, more than four million members, large rental income streams and the support of a Heritage Lottery.

Will Holmes à Court

Consistently only those Trusts with some government funding are able to deliver the support the community expects.

The NSW Trust, like many "not - for - profits", has been losing money from operations for many years.

Our goal, as always, is to be "not - for - loss" but with the continuing fallout from the global financial crisis, the uncertainty in federal government and the crisis in the economy from the European debt market a new approach with new answers are required.

There's no magic solution. With new revenue streams being slow, the Trust has implemented aggressive cost cutting measures but the conclusion must be that these measures, failing additional support, are unlikely to deliver long term sustainability.

This leaves the Trust movement to face the harsh reality that if current expense and revenue trends prevail, some properties will have to close, no matter how distressing we find it.

So what can be done? The community must express its concern about the future of our state's historic properties and have a voice that will highlight to the government the Trust's very real and urgent plight.

The National Trust has approached the government for assistance to continue this necessary work for the community, and recently, in a response to the Minister for Heritage's request, has provided a proposal for a sustainable Trust, a response to which we sincerely hope means **"Lights stay on at historic homes".**

Will Holmes à Court leaves Trust

Since, making this above statement Will Holmes à Court has resigned from the National Trust of Australia (NSW)

He left the Trust on November 27, 2010 saying, "I am leaving the Trust to make room for a smaller and hopefully more sustainable organisation."

In the short time he was at the Trust he introduced new financial and staffing structures and made considerable in-roads to politicians at ministerial and other levels who are responsible for government funding to heritage programs.

From the editors mail box.....

Govett's reputation debunked

To the Editor

I was pleased to see the myth of the bushranger Govett exposed in ***HERITAGE*** - Issue 18. It has of course been exposed many times before, but to the annoyance of many it seems to stick.

Perhaps we need to recognise the myth as an interesting aspect of history in its own right.

Incidentally, those wanting a fuller analysis of the myth might read Peter Rickwood's chapter on the subject in *Blackheath: today from yesterday.*

My purpose in writing is to expose William Govett himself. As reported in the ***HERITAGE*** article, Surveyor General Mitchell wrote that Govett was "perhaps the ablest delineator of ground in the department" and "remarkably clever" at dealing with unexplored country.

In fact, Govett was so clever that in 1833 he engaged in what Alan Andrews has described as a "mass of inexcusable fakery" in mapping the ridges and streams draining the Newnes Plateau and Bell Range.

Faced with country too rugged for his pack animals, and confused about the course of the Colo River, Govett fraudulently drew a non-existent drainage system on his map.

Although his surveyor colleague Frederick D'Arcy, who surveyed the Colo and most of its tributaries, tried to point out Govett's "errors" to Major Mitchell, Mitchell preferred to believe his clever and able delineator.

He chose to adopt most of Govett's "mapping" on his famous 1834 map of the colony.

Govett's fraud was not discovered for a whole century, when the army undertook mapping with the aid of aerial photographs.

Govett did however contribute positively through his writing and drawing—aspects which I have drawn out to some extent in my recent book on D'Arcy.
Sincerely
Andy Macqueen

References:
Andrews, Alan E.J. (1992) *Major Mitchell's Map 1834: The Saga of the Survey of the Nineteen Counties.* Blubber Head Press. 1992.
Macqueen, Andy (2007) *Frederick Robert D'Arcy: colonial surveyor, explorer and artist.* The author. 2007.
Rotary Club of Blackheath (2005) *Blackheath: today from yesterday*. Writelight. 2005.

Dr Peter Rickwood, an indivdual member of BMACHO, the editor of BMACHO's *Blue Mountains History Journal* and editor and contributing author to *Blackheath: today from yesterday*. also drew attention to the existence of many more myths.

In his very well researched and referenced contribution to the Rotary Club of Blackheath's book, Peter suggests there are at least 11 myths.

He confirms that the article published in the last editon of ***HERITAGE*** is substantially correct as to the origin of the naming of Govett's Leap although "...no written statement by TL Mitchell [concerning Govett's claims] have been discovered."

Govett's Leap Fall, Blackheath 1905. Photograph Blue Mountains Local History Library Collection

In his chapter, 'Legends', Peter writes "... there are more fanciful stories about the naming of this waterfall, many of which were included in a speech given in 1899 at the luncheon to mark the opening of the track to the base of the fall."

From Peter's extensive research it seems, "...Govett's nephew, John Govett Smith, and others, went to a lot of trouble trying to dispel these 'legends' but the stories persist still, possibly to enhance the intrigue of the area and bring financial gain to the community."

Dr Rickwood goes on to state: "The installation was mooted of a board in an unspecified 'prominent postion' telling the truth about Govett's discovery, but it never eventuated .

"Instead, in 1974 the Blackheath Rhododendron Festival Committee commissioned Sydney sculptor, Arthur Murch to create a statue of horse and rider which was erected in Neate Park, and purports to commemorate one of these fables"

Editors note: In the interest of factual history ***HERITAGE*** does not wish to perpetrate these fables by further promoting these myths by recording them in this newsletter.

References:
Rotary Club of Blackheath (2005) *Blackheath: today from yesterday*. Writelight. 2005.

BMCC HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETS

The recently formed heritage advisory committee of Blue Mountains City Council, met last month to introduce members and discuss the body's role.

It is anticipated that much of its work in 2012 will be involved with the heritage review of Local Environment Plan 1991.

The committee membership incudes 10 community members with considerable experience in a wide diversity of heritage.

Sculpture exhibition at Scenic World

by Lizzie Marshall

The Hammon family board's vision for creating a recurring sculpture exhibition was seen as a challenge on its own, but to create this event on the environmentally sensitive floor of rain a forest brought a whole new dimension to sculpture exhibitions. Scenic World's sculpture exhibition manager, Lizzie Marshall discusses in this article, some of these challenges

AS THE SCULPTURE exhibition manager, the central joy of my job has been the realisation of the Hammon family board's vision for a recurring sculpture show. This simple premise has turned out to be more involved than envisioned. The reality was to create an exhibition with the rainforest as a unique gallery that would enhance visitor experiences and provide a world class venue to showcase the art without competing with this unique setting.

My central aim, "of the highest artistic integrity" has had to be married with the considerations of the unique venue. This meant aligning artistic integrity with the environmental constraints of the fragile environment. This too has brought its own joys with resourcing the best advice in the individual fields of environmental and ecological concerns, heritage and cultural values, arboreal advice and a world class installation manager.

So where did my journey start. Firstly, the wonderful Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations was key to my understanding that the environmental concerns were only one factor which would need to be considered when siting sculptures along Scenic World's rainforest boardwalk.

The rich cultural heritage of the area needed to be preserved, protected as well as complemented by the exhibition. Notable exclusions to sculpture sites extended to existing heritage items that are largely remnants from the past mining operations.

Blue Mountains City Council's development planning team were invaluable and eternally encouraging throughout the whole DA process. Their specialised interest in protecting the natural environment highlighted that one of the biggest considerations would be compaction of the soil on the delicate rainforest floor.

One of the wonders of this exhibition is how we are transporting the art into the valley. The Scenic Cableway is going to be occupied within the hours of 7am and 9am of the installation period for this purpose. The minimisation of footprint (soil compaction) replaced the previous constrictions of the Cableway's doors and carrying capacity. Previously the Cableway had defined the size and weight of individual sculptures (1.2 tonne being the heaviest it could carry in one go).

This drew new guidelines for our independent judges, Monica McMahon, UWS curator and Leonard Janiszewski, Macquarie University Sculpture Park curator, to choose works from the overwhelming response we had to our open call for submissions, that were "of the highest artistic integrity and took into account the consideration of the environmental footprint". This proved to be an interesting journey for our judges and we feel that as a result the most excellent of all outdoor exhibitions is headed to Scenic World from February 16 to March 11, 2012.

Amazingly of the twenty six artworks selected for exhibition eleven are going to be suspended from trees. Two new considerations arose from this: firstly, the consideration of damage to the trees and vines. Arboriculture Australia proved invaluable with their advice on best practice for suspending sculptures from the trees. Second consideration was to the suspension of the artworks is to the installation team which would be handling the delicate and valuable works. It is with great pride that *Sculpture at Scenic World* has contracted one of Australia's leading installation managers, Richard Harrison to instal our show. You may be familiar with his unsung work on the Biennale of Sydney's Cockatoo Island installations and most recently he worked with Australia's leading sculptor Ken Unsworth on his recent show at Cockatoo Island.

Sculpture at Scenic World opens to the public on Thursday February 16, 2012. There is a fully engaged program covering the entire three weeks providing plenty of opportunities to hear insightful lectures, meet the artists and experience free guided tours. The exhibition closes Sunday, March 11, 2012, with the final day featuring an artists' discussion panel at 3pm with *Sculpture at Scenic World* artists Nigel Harrison, Michael Mandelc and Bronwyn Berman who all work with metal in different ways to create their unique art. The event is free and will be chaired by Paul Brinkman, director, Blue Mountains Cultural Centre.

For further information please visit: www.scenicworld.com.au/sculpture

The impulse to sculpt

By Michael Mandelc --- Sculptor

One of my earliest experiences of sculpture was under the guiding hand of my grandfather who had me welding at age 10 years.

I can clearly recall the impulse to sculpt as the most natural and important thing to do, gladly the same urge remains with me to this day.

The opportunity to immerse myself in the workshop environment at that time opened up a vast world of possibilities. I was imprinted with the sensation of what it meant to put form up in space.

In as much as form follows facility so too one's environment as an artist can be considered the very seed bed for the origin of ideas.

Personally I feel one of the artist's primary commissions is the absolute need to develop their observation skills as if they were to serve as a sixth sense.

Hardly any means by which to continue securing this sense is excelled by the practice of drawing. In my mind drawing is fundamental and those that find it unnecessary may have forgotten to put the garlic in the soup.

In our time it has become increasingly challenging to actually define sculpture as it further occupies the junction between a temporal event and static form. From this time/space nexus tension is derived creating enormous expressive potential.

I do feel however that it is very important when venturing to extend and innovate upon the conversation that it be clearly rooted in context to both art practice and history.

It is important to differentiate between the nature of pure spectacle and the language of form, the difference between something that has been styled to appear like sculpture and work of greater depth that irrefutably commands its space.

I feel strongly about a studio practice that applies the use of studies as sculptural notions are developed.

This is something I inherited from my teachers whom I also assisted namely Stephen Walker OA and Alan Ingham. Both of these sculptors acted as assistants to Henry Moore.

Via this tradition it became increasingly apparent that when seeking to establish a framework within which to execute ideas one of the most potent and enduring principles is found in the discussion of materiality. Here is where one finds the natural sculptural integrity that great work is so charged with.

In my own case I explore a robust yet delicate flexibility in my work and in keeping with this the lost wax process has formed a practical mainstay.

With wax as the intermediary material it constitutes a highly versatile medium that not only affords me a reliable shorthand with which to quickly model but also allows the form to be 'read' as bronze while working on it.

The inherent characteristics of these materials accurately answer my approach to modelling and provide an intuitive vehicle by which to bring latent energies to the surface of my sculpture whilst also exploring negative space.

Pictured above is the artist's marquette of The Rod of Aaron which when placed in the exhibition stands about 2 metres high with the upper element being cast in bronze using the 'lost wax method (cire purdue) and then gilded in 24 ct gold leaf.

The Rod of Aaron

The sculptor, Michael Mandelc said his objective with this work, is to evoke a harmonic sentinel which signals perpetual rejuvenation.

"To do so, I have sought to break nature open, laying it vulnerable and then go on to clothe it in its environment.

"For all those who wander the green cathedral, a tuning fork. 'Rod of Aaron' engenders pause and place whilst spiritually charging it's surrounds, as it suggests, with unseen aspects abundant in the wild divine."

Visit the sculptor's website at www.michaelmandelc.com

***Sculpture at Scenic World* - Katoomba opens to the public Thursday February 16, and runs to March 11, 2012.**
www.scenicworld.com.au/sculpture

Journals of early coastal explorers --- download sources

by Peter C Rickwood

Whilst it may not be common for residents of the Blue Mountains to have the need to browse the journals (or diaries) of the 18th and 17th Century coastal explorers, when they do so then printed copies are usually only available in distant libraries.

But to some extent this problem has been eased due to the release of many full text versions on various websites.

However some of these sites can be difficult to locate so provided here are the URLs for many that I have hunted down whilst researching in recent months.

Unfortunately, not many first editions have been digitised and the printed copies are of such high value that few regional libraries have been able to afford them; hence often they can only be consulted in the Mitchell Library.

Facsimile copies are usually authentic versions of the originals but with an added preface or introduction giving background information about the author or subject matter. They are reliable.

The sketch of natives cowering in a shelter watched over by soldiers is of significance because it was drawn by Captain John Hunter who came in 1788.

Transcriptions are usually reasonably accurate but at times editors have been known to change spellings, mostly to correct the work of semi-literate writers; e.g. in one case 'staid' was corrected to 'stayed'.

One such editor admitted to having amended inconsistent punctuation and to have broken up over-long paragraphs, etc.

Such cavalier action can result in the author's meaning being altered so if a nuance is important then it is wise to consult the first edition of the journal or diary.

Secondary sources can be helpful but caution is needed as authors tend to paraphrase the original words of an explorer.

Be particularly careful not to rely on Wikipedia!

18th Century

Cook 1770
transcription http://freeread.com.au/ebooks/e00043.html
transcription http://southseas.nla.gov.au/journals/cook/17700429.html
http://southseas.nla.gov.au/journals/cook/contents.html

Cook 1770
http://www.archive.org/details/threevoyagesofca02cook
pp.67-228

Banks 1770
transcription http://gutenberg.net.au/ebooks05/0501141h.html
transcription http://southseas.nla.gov.au/journals/banks/contents.html
http://adc.library.usyd.edu.au/view?docId=ozlit/xml-maintextsp00021.xml;chunk.id=d1393e_152;toc.depth=100;toc.id=d1393e147;database=;collection=;brand=default

Parkinson 1770
http://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=uc1.31822002235067;page=root;view=image;size=100;seq=1
transcription http://southseas.nla.gov.au/journals/parkinson/contents.html

Furneaux 1773
http://www.archive.org/details/threevoyagesofca03cook
pp.121-128

Cook 1777
http://books.google.com.au/books?id=d6wAAAAYAAJ&pg=PR38&lpg=PR38&dq="james+cook"+voyage +resolution&source=bl&ots=fGnrEO7L-f&sig=eao2O5TT9dt55Qqe8cqYJzIlFL8&hl=en&ei=g Vi0TsSYPOL tmAWH3JS Aw&sa =X&oi= book_result&ct=result&sqi=2&redir_esc=y -v=onepage&q=" Book I pp.1-421 (see p.93+)

Cook 1777
http://www.archive.org/details/threevoyagesofca05cook
pp.172-197

Phillip 1788
transcription http://purl.library.usyd.edu.au/setis/id/phivoya
transcription http://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/15100 http:freeread.com.au/ebooks/e00063.html

Journals of early coastal explorers --- download sources

Continued from page 13

Bligh 1788
transcription http://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/15411
transcription http://freeread.com.au/ebooks/e00041.html

Bradley 1788
facsimile & transcription http://purl.library.usyd.edu.au/setis/id/brajour

Hunter 1788
transcription http://setis.library.usyd.edu.au/ozlit/pdf/hunhist.pdf

King 1788
transcription http://purl.library.usyd.edu.au/setis/id/kinjour

Tench 1788
transcription http://purl.library.usyd.edu.au/setis/id/p00039
transcription http://freeread.com.au/ebooks/e00083.txt
transcription http://ebooks.adelaide.edu.au/t/tench/watkin/botany/complete.html

White 1788
transcription http://purl.library.usyd.edu.au/setis/id/p00092
transcription http://gutenberg.net.au/ebooks03/0301531h.html

Worgan 1788
transcription http://gutenberg.net.au/ebooks04/0400181.txt
transcription http://purl.library.usyd.edu.au/setis/id/worjour

Tench 1793
transcription http://www.archive.org/details/acompleteaccount03534gut
transcription http://purl.library.usyd.edu.au/setis/id/p00044 *endnote numbers are not identifiable in the unpaginated text*
transcription http://freeread.com.au/ebooks/e00084.txt

Malaspina and team stayed at Sydney Cove in March-April 1793, and he is reported to have written about the area. p.141+ in King, R.J. (1990) *The secret history of the convict colony : Alexandro Malaspina's report on the British settlement of New South Wales*.[translated by Robert J. King].Sydney : Allen & Unwin, 1990. 179 pp.[Mitchell Library REF 1/994.402/28]

Bass 1797-1798
"Mr Bass's Journal in the Whale Boat between the 3rd of December 1797 and the 25th of February, 1798" [M.L. Ref. C211 now CY 1270, Frames 6-24] transcription pp. 312-333 in Bladen, F.M. (ed) (1895) Historical Records of NSW, Volume III, Hunter. 1796-1799. Sydney: Charles Potter, Government Printer. 856pp. http://www.archive.org/stream/historicalrecor02walegoog#page/n10/mode/2up

Flinders 1799a
"A Journal in the Norfolk sloop ..." [M.L. Ref. C211 now CY 1270, Frames 26-47]
http://acms.sl.nsw.gov.au/album/albumView. aspx?acmsID=395200&itemID=823213

Flinders 1799b
"Narrative of the expedition of the Colonial sloop Norfolk from Port Jackson through the strait which separates Van Diemen's Land from New Holland; ..."[Mitchell Library C211 now CY 1270, Frames 49-97]
http://acms.sl.nsw.gov.au/item/itemdetailpaged .aspx?itemid=153831

Flinders published 1801-1803
Volume 1 http://freeread.com.au/ebooks/e00049.html
transcription Volume 1 1814
http://www.archive.org/stream/avoyagetoterraau12929gut/12929.txt
transcription Volume 2 1814
http://www.archive.org/stream/avoyagetoterraau13121gut/13121.txt

Observations on the coasts of Van Diemen's Land on Bass's Strait and its islands 1801
http://gutenberg.net.au/ebooks09/0900121.txt

The sketch of Sydney Parkinson by Newton, James, 1748-ca. 1804. is seldom seen for he was one of the 'lesser lights' of the 1770 expeditioners; this is NOT the tinted version in the National Library and viewable on http://www.pictureaustralia.org .

Continued page 15

Journals of early coastal explorers --- download sources

Continued from page 14

Collins published 1802
Book 1 Second Edition 1804
http://books.google.com.au/books?id=Yx0QAAAAYAAJ&pg=PR1&dq=%22an+account+of+the+engli sh+colony %22+%22second+edition%22&hl=en &ei=W9LVTsePEM 3nmAXRy6Rr&sa=X&oi=book result &ct=result&resnum =1&sqi=2&ved=0CDIQ6AEwAA#v=o nepage&q=%22an %20account%20of%20the%20english% 20colony % 22 % 20%22second%20edition%22&f=false
transcription Book 1
http://www.archive.org/details/anaccountoft heen12565gut
transcription "An Account of the English Colony in New South Wales, Volume 2"
http://www.archive.org/details/anaccountof theen12668gut

17th Century

De Torres 1606
translation http://gutenberg.net.au/ebooks06/0600361h.html

Carstens 1623
translation Heeres http://gutenberg.net.au/ebooks05/0501231h.html

Tasman 1642
translation http://gutenberg.net.au/ebooks06/0600571h.html
transcription http://gutenberg.net.au/ebooks04/0400771h.html
secondary http://gutenberg.net.au/ebooks06/0600551h.html

de Vlamingh 1696-1697
P.E. Playford, *Voyage of Discovery to Terra Australis* (Perth, 1998)

Dampier 1699
transcription http://freeread.com.au/ebooks/e00046.html

SECONDARY SOURCES
Early Voyages to Terra Australis, now called Australia.
Author: R H Major http://gutenberg.net.au/ebooks06/0600361h.html
translation De Torres 1606
secondary report of Pelsart 1629
extracts relating to
Hartog 1616
De Edel 1619
Carstens 1623
Nuyts 1627
the Vianen. 1628
de Vlamingh 1697
and others

Flinders
http://www.gutenberg.org/files/12929/12929-h/12929-h.htm

This 1796 view of Brickfields Hill or High Road to Parramatta displays the transport of the time and again is not commonly seen (creator unknown).

Prior Discoveries in Terra Australis
North Coast:
De Torres 1606
Zeachen 1618
Carstens 1623
Pool 1636
Tasman 1644
and others

West Coast:
Hartog 1606
Edel 1619
the Leeuwin 1622
the Vianen. 1628
Pelsert 1629
de Vlamingh 1696-1697
Dampier 1699
and others

South Coast
Nuyts 1627
and others

Tasmania
Tasman 1642
Marion 1772
Furneaux 1773
Cook 1777
and others

The Dutch In The Discovery Of Australia 1606-1765 – Heeres, J.E.
http://gutenberg.net.au/ebooks05/0501231h.html

Great Southern Land: The maritime exploration of Terra Australis – Pearson, M.
http://www.environment.gov.au/heritage/publications/about/great-southern-land.html p.20+ - most explorers

Wirraway crashes in Blue Mountains

by Peter Chinn, Springwood Historical Society

At about 10.00am on Thursday, August 1,1940 a Wirraway aircraft of 22 Squadron, piloted by Pilot Officer Harry Hopwood with observer Sergeant Vincent Monterola, took off from the RAAF base at Richmond for a training flight over the Blue Mountains in company with another Wirraway.

The Wirraway was a single-engined, two-seater aircraft built in large numbers prior to and during World War II by the Commonwealth Aircraft Corporation at Lidcome.

It was based on the North American Harvard trainer. Although originally a trainer the aircraft was also used by the Royal Australian Air Force as a dive-bomber and fighter.

It was, however, no match for the Japanese Zero fighters over Darwin or in Papua New Guinea. The Wirraway was generally armed with two .303 calibre Vickers machine guns and capable of carrying four 250 pound bombs.

No records are available to tell us what the weather was like at Richmond on that morning, however the central Blue Mountains were shrouded in heavy mist which was not unusual for that time of year.

Around 10.30am witnesses reported seeing an aircraft emerge below the mist above Hazelbrook railway station (elevation 2,200 feet), passing over the roofs of houses and narrowly missing a telegraph pole.

A few minutes later residents in Railway Parade, overlooking the gorge of Bedford Creek to the south, heard a crash then saw flames and black smoke shoot into the air some kilometres to the south.

The Wirraway had crashed into a hill on the southern side of Bedford Creek in an area only accessible in those days by scrub-bashing through precipitous and thickly-timbered terrain.

Mrs. Campbell, a Hazelbrook resident, contacted Constable Paine of Lawson Police who informed RAAF Richmond of the crash.

Her daughter, Miss Mary Campbell was a cubmistress at Hazelbrook who had often taken cubs and scouts for hikes in the region and led a police party to the site.

Two brothers, Harley and Irving James arrived at the crash site first. They told reporters that they had heard the two planes pass over Hazelbrook and to be just above the low clouds.

Much of the fuselage and a wing remain, partly hidden in thick undergrowth

They had found the remains of the aircraft still burning with the body of the pilot in the cockpit. The body of the observer was about twenty metres away near the top of the ridge.

The James brothers said that the aircraft had torn through trees for about 400 metres, tearing off branches as if they had been lopped.

Portions of the aircraft and a flying helmet were hanging from some of the broken trees, and fuel had set these items and the trees alight. The fire around the aircraft was fierce and a large area of bush was burnt.

Harley and Irving stated that some parts of the Wirraway were not burnt and were strewn over a wide area. They thought that the aircraft had impacted at about 200 miles per hour.

Pilot Officer Hopwood (26) was married and a resident of Mosman.

He had joined the Citizen Air Force at Richmond in 1934 and was called-up for full-time service with the RAAF in May 1940.

Sergeant Monterola (23), married, from Wentworthville, had enlisted in the RAAF in 1936.

The crash was thoroughly investigated by the RAAF and a report submitted to the Secretary of the Department of Air.

The investigators came to the conclusion that the cause of the crash was that “The aircraft had flown into cloud and probably spun out”.

I have visited the crash site a number of times with fellow-bushwalkers – reasonably accessible now due to the construction of a multitude of fire trails over the past thirty years or so but in 1940 it must have been a solid slog via Bedford Creek gorge.

While the crash site is only 3.5 km as the crow flies from Hazelbrook station the easiest access today is from Wentworth Falls via Kings Tableland Road, Queen Elizabeth Drive onto the Williams Ridge Fire Trail for about four kilometres before striking north another four kilometres on an unnamed fire trail

You have to look out for a crude cairn on the left of the fire trail (which is easily missed), then with the aid of a compass make a short ascent up and over the small ridge for about 100 metres to locate parts of the Wirraway just below the crest, still there after 71 years.

Continued page 17

WIRRAWAY CRASH

A Wirraway

Continued from page16

Much of the fuselage and a wing remain, partly hidden in thick undergrowth beneath the tall trees – a last reminder to the occasional visitor of this tragedy in the wilderness.

Unlike the site of the RAAF Avro Anson crash at Glenbrook on January 28, 1940, which claimed five lives, there is no plaque to record the accident. However, someone has placed the remains of one of the Wirraway's instruments in the cairn by the track to secure its identification with the crash.

While there is no tangible memorial to the deceased air crew authorities some years ago designated the area "Aeroplane Hills".

Sources:

– RAAF Historical Records, Department of Defence, Canberra

– Local Studies records, Springwood Library

Woodford Academy open day

The National Trust property Woodford Academy will have an open day on Saturday, January 21 between 10am and 4pm.

Enjoy the special atmosphere of the property which includes a fine example of colonial kitchen and a rare segmented arch of the fireplace. Home made morning teas are served on the balcony with Blue Mountains vistas.

Admission $6 adults, $4 concession, $3 child. Enquiries Marilyn Wright 4758 7809

War stories --- do you have a war hero in your family?

The reason we say war hero is that all men and women, who served in any war are heroes in our eyes.'

The Lithgow & District Family History Society Inc. is embarking on a new project which will focus, to begin with, on World War 1 and then continue on to World War 2.

If anyone has a story to tell of a loved one who served in World War 1 the project organisers would like to hear from them.

The object is to compile the war history and stories of these gallant men and women who willingly gave their services to fight for their country.

The society feels that these histories should be recorded for future generations.

Once they are gathered and compiled they will hold a very special place on the society's library shelves for all researchers and family historians to appreciate.

The society also envisages having the stories published in the *Lithgow Mercury* and in the Society's quarterly journal.

Even if individuals only know of their involvement in the war but don't know what their history is and would like to find out more, then the society can help people achieve that goal.

Anyone having photographs of a loved one can also be added, which makes the records so much more complete and interesting.

The amount of information which can often be found in the war records is very rewarding, such as place of enlistment, where they served and any battles they in which theyfought.

In cases where the person died in battle or from illness, it is usually recorded along with letters sent to family and occasionally photographs are also to be found.

The society holds a large collection of the *Lithgow Mercury* dating right back and in these newspapers there were many mentions of servicemen and women. Simple things like a letter sent home to a loved one,

or a soldier being wounded or killed in action, and quite often someone being admitted to hospital with an illness.

The society also has a collection of a few English war newspapers which make very interesting reading.

For more information please contact Lithgow Family History Society members Cecily McCarten on 0408 676 638 or Helen Taylor on 63 557231.

They would like to hear from individuals and of course if anyone is thinking of becoming a member of the society they would be made most welcome.

Post script: The soldier pictured above is George Joseph Mara from Portland near Lithgow the great uncle of Helen Taylor.

The photograph was taken in France, during World War 1.

He was wounded in action twice and survived, went to hospital twice with trench feet and once with mumps and then died of pneumonia 16 days after the Armistice was signed.

Helen has a letter he sent home to Helen's grandmother only two weeks before the war ended.

He is buried at Villers-Bretonneux Military Cemetery.

"Such a sad story but one that is dear to my heart," says Mrs Taylor.

Contributed by Helen Taylor, Lithgow Family History Society

Researcher finds three brothers who served their country as soldiers

HERITAGE published in its last edition a piece about The Bob Howard Award for 2010 which had been won by Vicki Wilson, for her article "Private Joseph Harold Nevill, Service No. 269". The award is made each year by the Blue Mountains Family History Society for the best researched article from The Explorers' Tree magazine. This article giving an insight into just how Vicki went about her research is now republished.

by Vicki Wilson

Private Henry James Nevill
Born 1894 Balmain, NSW
Died 1916 Fromelles, France

Since 2009 when the remains of the allied soldiers were discovered near the Belgian border at Pheasant Wood, Fromelles, France, I have listened and read with interest the articles about these men and the construction of the cemetery dedicated to them.

It was with amazement that I discovered that my family was part of this story.

In October 2009 I attended the family history fair at Lemon Tree Passage Bowling Club which is hosted by the Port Stephens Family History Society.

As usual I travelled with my three friends Sharon, Judy and Lorraine and we stayed in a townhouse for a weekend of non-stop fun (oops, that should read catching up on our family history).

Late one night Judy and I were chatting and the subject of what family lines we had not done much on, came up and fortunately, though a little embarrassed, I admitted that I had not touched my fathers' maternal line.

I could not remember why, it could have had something to do with researching in Queensland or the Sydney Smith, Elizabeth Jones marriage; a union that I didn't want to touch in the early days of my research.

I left Lemon Tree Passage having undertaken to concentrate on my Moore and Nevill lines.

When I arrived home I didn't unpack, I put my bags down and sat in front of the computer… this is what happened!

Working backwards from what I knew I entered my grandmother's name "Dulcie Jessie Moore" into Google and only one hit appeared[1], a posting on RootChat.com, a family history mailing list. My grandmother was part of the family tree included in the posting entitled 'Fromelles missing – Nevill (NSW and Qld)'.

The posting read:
'We are looking for living relatives of the following soldier. There is also a need to combine the family tree to do DNA testing if it proves viable. There is loads of info about him, so we hope to be able to trace the family. Grateful for any help…. Ruskie'

According to this family tree my grandmother was the niece of Joseph Harold Nevill, service number: 269, a private in the 31st Battalion AIF, aged 22 when killed in action on July 19, 1916, his place of burial unknown.

Within three minutes of me responding to this post I had a reply from Sandra, who along with Tim Lycett, are the administrators of the 'Fromelles Descendants Database'[2].

They and other posters on the RootsChat.com mailing list have not only been most helpful in aiding my research of Joseph but also my Nevill line.

My next port of call was a link on the 'Fromelles Descendants Database' to the Fromelles page on the Australian Department of Defence website[3] where I registered as a relative of Joseph Harold Nevill, I also discovered that there were other relatives registered so I gave my permission for my details to be passed on to them.

I then accessed the National Archives of Australia site to view his 41 page digitised military file[4], the Australian War Memorial site to view his Roll of Honour Circular[5] and his 12 page Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing Enquiry Bureau file 1914 -18 War 1DL/0428 which is also located on the Australian War Memorial site[6].

From these websites I learned that Joseph Harold Nevill (1894 - 1916) was born in Balmain, NSW, the son of Henry James Nevill and Ada Smith (the daughter of the previously mentioned Sydney Smith and Elizabeth Jones).

He had attended the State School, Indooroopilly, Queensland and was apprenticed to Mr Bonney of Brisbane as a leather bag maker in July 1915 when he enlisted.
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THREE BROTHERS WHO SERVED THEIR COUNTRY. From left Private JH Nevill (killed in action) Private BH Nevill and Corporal SG Nevill. This photograph appeared in The Queenslander Newspaper on July 27, 1925

Continued from page 18

I learned that two of Joseph's brothers had also enlisted: Stanley Cecil Nevill in August 1915 in the 5th Light Horse and Bertram Henry Nevill in April 1917 in the 30/2 Light Horse, both returned after their tours of duty.

Joseph departed Australia and arrived at Suez on the December 7, 1915 aboard the *HMT Wandilla.*

The next recorded event in his file is a 48 hour punishment at the Ferry Port on May 6, 1916 for conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline.

He then boarded the *HMT Hororata* at Alexandria on June 16, 1916 for an eight day voyage to Marseilles and is then recorded as missing in action in the field on the July 21, 1916 in the neighbourhood of Fromelles.

'Victory Medal sold for $80'

Dear Sir,
I regret to have to inform you that I have received the following cable from London:-'269 Pte J. H. Nevill 31st Btn. name appears German death list

JH Nevill

Fromelles Cemetery

We are advised that these lists are really made from the discs gathered by the Germans from the dead bodies in the trenches and that no date or place of burial is mentioned the soldiers did not live to be prisoners and that the bodies were buried by the Germans.
Yours Faithfully,
George Scott Hon. Sec'.[7]

The identity discs referred to in the letter were returned by the Germans to the War Office on February 24, 1917 but it wasn't until June 1919 and after many pleading letters that Joseph's family learned his fate:

Dear Madam,
We have received the following statement from our agents in London
'On the evening of the 19th July 1916, I was standing close to the above man and saw him killed by concussion from a shell. His death being instantaneous there being no wounds.
'This happened in No-Man's Land and it was impossible to remove him for burial as he was close to a German outpost.
I.W. Fuich,
Yallock , Via Kooweerup Victoria'[8]

Sadly, I found Joseph's Victory Medal had been sold at auction for $80 in September 2008[9].

Within three days of registering with the Australian Department of Defence I had a call from Chloe Wootten, communications manager, Australian Fromelles Project Group (ASFPG), who is the liaison person for the Fromelles Project.

Chloe first needed to establish that I was a relative of Joseph and, once confirmed, proceeded to tell me the Nevill family history that she had collected as part of the project. I still have a lot more research to do to fill in the gaps.

Joseph's father Henry James Nevill (November 28, 1858 - June 21 1943) was born in Burton on Trent, London to Benjamin Nevill and Isabella Mayger.

Henry was married three times. His first marriage was to Margaret Peters in London in 1878[10], they had two sons: Henry Richard in 1879 and Albert Edward in 1880[11].

On January 28, 1884 Henry married Ada Annie Smith at Bethel House; George Street North, Sydney. Mabel Isabel (my great grandmother), the first of their nine children was also born in 1884[12]. Joseph Harold born 1894 was their seventh child. Ada died of pneumonia on March 8 1898[13], thirteen days after the birth of her ninth child Roy. Joseph was three at the time.

Henry next married Gertrude Elizabeth Sexton in Queensland in 1899 and there were eleven children from this marriage.

It is understood that Henry and Ada's nine children remained in Sydney and travelled to Queensland after his marriage to Gertrude who raised them as her own but more research needs to be done on this.

A descendant of one of Henry James Nevill's first family in England has donated his DNA to the Department of Defence in the hope that Joseph's remains may be identified therefore enabling him to be buried with a named headstone in the new military cemetery in Fromelles.

Fortunately, more DNA samples have become available if the first sample is inconclusive; one from a cousin of Joseph's and also my father, George Maxwell Horne, a great nephew of Joseph.
Continued page 20

DNA identified soldier killed in 1916

Continued from page 19

The Fromelles (Pheasant Wood) Military Cemetery was dedicated on the 94th anniversary of the battle on July 19, 2010.

Less than five months ago I knew nothing about this line of my family and from a few words in a conversation this wonderful discovery emerged. I have found family members in South Australia, Queensland and England through the internet with whom I now correspond and more amazingly, I am going to be in Fromelles to be part of this wonderful event!

For more information about the battle and the cemetery have a look at these sites:
http://www.army.gov.au/fromelles/Fromelles_Home.asp
http://www.fromelles.net/
http://www.awm.gov.au/units/event_159.asp
http://www.defence.gov.au/ARMY/fromelles The_Battle_1916.asp

(Endnotes)

[1] http://www.rootschat.com/forum/index.php?PHPSESSID=2jrkrnfd19nagi21u lv26d57p5&action=printpage;topic=381028.0, accessed 18th October 2009
[2] http://www.fromelles.net/, accessed 18th October 2009
[3] http://www.army.gov.au/fromelles/Fromelles_Home.asp, accessed 18th October 2009
[4] http://naa12.naa.gov.au/Scripts/Imagine.asp?B=7996015&I=1, accessed 18th October 2009
[5] http://www.awm.gov.au/cms_images/AWM131/036/036878.pdf, accessed 18th October 2009
[6] http://www.awm.gov.au/cms images/1DRL428/00026/1DRL428-00026-1990802.pdf, accessed 18th October 2009
[7] Letter dated 10th February 1917 from the Australian Red Cross Society, Queensland Division to Mr H Nevill Esq, father of Joseph Harold Nevill
[8] Letter dated 24th Jun 1919 from the Australian Red Cross Information Bureau, Brisbane to Mrs H Nevill, stepmother of Joseph Harold Nevill
[9] Sold by CJ Medals, September 2008. This auction has been removed from their website, www.cjmedals.com
[10] Year: 1878; Qtr: D; Vol: 01c; Page: 910, GRO Reference
[11] 1881 England Census, Class: *RG11*; Piece: *459*; Folio: *26*; Page: *1*; GSU roll: *1341100*, Ancestry,com, accessed 9th December, 2009
[12] NSW Registry of Births Deaths and Marriages, 1884/3947
[13] NSW Registry of Births Deaths and Marriages 1898/622"

EDITOR'S NOTE

Subsequent to the research in this article the author Vicki Wilson was advised by the Defence Department that it had a positive match with the DNA collected from a relative and the remains of Joseph Harold Nevill.

This meant that Private Henry James Nevill would be buried with a named headstone.

Vicki continued to research the family line through the usual sources.

Through the Defence Department's Fromelles Project she was put in contact with Maureen McLaren who lives in South Australia and who is related to Joseph through his father Henry's first marriage to Margaret Peters. Maureen and her cousin David Neville [Nevill with an 'e'] had registered with the Fromelles

Headstone of Pte JH Nevill buried in the Fromelles Military Cemetery.

Project some time ago and David had donated his DNA in the hope of being able to positively identify Joseph's remains.

Viki Wilson had already planned to be in Europe in August 2010, so did not hesitate to alter her itinerary to include the dedication of the new military cemetery in Fromelles which was held on July 19, the 94th anniversary of the battle.

Joseph Harold Nevill is located at 2F in the cemetery where a ceremony was held in the presence of HRH the Prince of Wales, the Duchess of Cornwall and the Governor-General of Australia.

BLUE MOUNTAINS HISTORY CONFERENCE 2012

To be held at the historic Carington Hotel, Katoomba on, Satutrday, October 20
Conference title: Colonial Society

Official opening by Associate Professor R Ian Jack
Keynote speaker: Dr Shirley Fitzgerald - The early years of the colony
Segment 1 The effect in the Indigenous population with the establishment of a European colony
Segment 2 Colonial dress (Glynis Jones, Powerhouse Museum)
Segment 3 Nature and role of gardens in the early settlement period (Silas Clifford-Smith, Archivisit, Heritage Centre, UNE).

For further information and early bookings (capacity limited to 120 participants) to Jan Koperberg at
j.koperberg@bigpond.com or bmacho.heritage@gmail.com

BMACHO committee meets at Scenic World

THE 10 MEMBERS OF BMACHO's management committee meet every month to discuss and decide on various activities in which the organisation is engaged.

Without a permanent home, various organisational members host the committee either in their own premises or in rooms they have hired or 'borrowed" for the day.

The December 2011 committee meeting was held in the board room of Scenic World which is an inaugural member of BMACHO.

The Hammon family owners of Scenic World with their normal generous hospitality not only provided the meeting facilty and morning tea, but also arranged for committee members to have a guided tour of the complex which includes the Scenic Railway, the Scenic Walkway across the rain forest floor with relics of the mining village which once was home to early miners and the Scenic Cableway across the valley. **Photographs courtesy Peter Stanbury, OAM**.

BMACHO president, Pamela Smith with guest speaker Will Holmes a' Court at the December committee meeting

On the board walk in the rain forest at the bottom of the Scenic Railway. From left to right, Dave (Scenic World guide), Doug Knowles, Jan Koperberg (partially hidden), Dick Morony, John Leary, Ian Jack and Suzanna Edwards

Wild Woods

Bush tools hanging on the wall of a miners hut in the rain forest

Patsy Moppett becomes an individual member

A TOWN PLANNER and heritage officer in local government for some 18 years, Patsy Moppett is the latest person to be welcomed to BMACHO as an individual member.

Patsy has worked at Camden, Bathurst, Evans, Lithgow and Cabonne councils.

In local government her work included management of the heritage programs for a number of these councils.

The programs included the heritage advisory service, heritage committee and the local heritage fund of those councils.

Currently she works for a private consulting company in Kelso near Bathurst undertaking planning, heritage and environmental research and reporting.

She has a Bachelor of Town Planning Degree and a Diploma in Conservation and Land Management, and completed other courses related to heritage, planning law, property planning, the environment and permaculture.

Patsy is involved with a number of community organisations including National Trust of Australia (NSW), Cox's Road Project Committee, Evans Arts Council, Dry Stone walls Association of Australia, various central west family history groups and historical societies, and Convict Trail Project on the Great North Road.

She also undertakes history and heritage research and report writing, having written the book, "A History of Cow Flat".

Patsy is currently working on a history of the Lower Turon goldfields, and various family history projects including one which records her father's travels across Australia, the world and his trip to the Antarctic.

Patsy Moppett

Patsy has four grown children and one grandchild, and lives at Yetholme between Bathurst and Lithgow. She undertakes bushland regeneration projects on her land at Yetholme in consultation with and through funding from the Central West Catchment Management Authority.

Claim of wrong plaque for heritage grave

On Saturday, November 5, 2011, I was speaking to a man from Lower Portland whom I had casually met at the Hawkesbury River near the location of the Aborigines' Reserve.

He knew of the popular word for the people there as Dharug (which he pronounced 'Darug') when referring to them.

Obviously, I corrected him by mentioning new findings from my research of original source records which confirmed the people from there as Darkiñung.

His response was unexpected: Why would it matter - they're just Aborigines.

He may have meant they were, but I was able to point out that they are, and some of the descendants of these Darkiñung people are living round about where we were talking.

Yet, it was not until I told him that it was the same as saying Switzerland was part of Italy that he showed any comprehension.

He acknowledged the point by responding with the common example of Irish and English being separate. [In my 2010 thesis, I use Poland and Spain as an example, commentary fn.29 p.262.]

That evening, I was talking with a Windsor tour operator known locally as a 'self-appointed historian' of the Hawkesbury, who had on Sunday September 18, 2011 placed a plaque in the state heritage C of E cemetery without bothering with the authorities from whom permission was required.

He has brushed off such oversights with his suggestion that others should have contacted him.

I raised the issue that the previously unmarked grave had had a false inscription placed there, labelling the Aboriginal occupant Andy Barber as 'Darug'. Andrew, his father and his family, were all identified in their lifetime as Darkiñung.

Although one of Andy's sisters' granddaughters was at the graveside, she was completely disregarded in favour of politically active people with no relationship to the family - but who claim ancestry from the Georges River Dharug at Liverpool.

She had told me she did not want to make a fuss at the church, and the operator again told me it was up to her to have contacted him beforehand - although he had been told about the Darkiñung in February.

The 'punch-line' from my discussion that evening was that the operator said it doesn't matter, they are only Aborigines.

He pointed out what a good thing he'd done by commemorating them with his plaque, so it didn't matter whether he was correct or not. [In my 2010 thesis, I note this attitude that it does not matter several times, with eg commentary fn.24 p.260.] **I disagree - it does matter**.

Contributed by Dr GE (Geoff) Ford who recently published a thesis titled *Darkiñung Recognition f*or a Master of Arts (Research) Degree at the Universty of Sydney

Life membership for two Lithgow stalwarts

THE LITHGOW & District Family History Society Inc. (LDFHS) recently had the pleasure of recognising one of its members with a very well deserved life membership.

Jan Saundercock joined the LDFHS as one of its founding members in 1986.

Over the years in her time with the society Jan has held the following positions: president, secretary, treasurer, librarian, minutes secretary, newsletter editor, indexing convenor, publishing officer, public officer and librarian which is no mean feat.

Jan has worked tirelessly in each and every role she has undertaken and has always given 100%.

Like many other committee members, Jan has had some very trying personal times in recent years through which she still had the society's interest at heart.

Jan has organised numerous seminars and just recently she ran a very informative day on how to use the library which was just fantastic.

It was with much pleasure that the committee members congratulated Jan and asked her to accept her badge and certificate of life membership of the Lithgow & District Family History Society Inc.

Also to receive life membership was Kathy Brennan who joined the society in 1989 just three years after its inception and went straight into the position of library convenor.

Kathy has retained this position ever since without a break. Kathy is very well deserved of this life membership as she always puts 100% into everything she does, and it's not only handling the job of llibrarian but she has many other roles as well.

Kathy has been there for all functions including the Festival of the Valley floats for every year the society had a float she participated in them.

Left to right LDFHS president, Eleanor Martin with life members Kathy Brennan and Jan Saundercock

The many cake stalls, bingo nights, garage sales just to name a few fundraising ventures which have benefitted from her involvement. It was very fitting to see Kathy receive her life membership at the 25th anniversary luncheon in front of a large crowd of members and friends and her husband Brian who has always been very supportive as well.

Shakespeare at Everglades

THE HIGHLY successful Leura Shakespeare Festival returns to Everglades for its third season in January 2012.

The festival will feature two brand new plays, William Shakespeare's *Macbeth* and *The Taming of the Shrew*.

The outdoor theatre festival, a partnership between The National Trust and Sport for Jove Theatre, is based at the stunning Everglades Gardens, Leura and tours to the historic Norman Lindsay Gallery, Faulconbridge.

Featuring a superb ensemble cast and directed by acclaimed director Damien Ryan, this wonderful summer experience is not to be missed. Matinees 2pm, evening performances 7pm.

2012 Season dates:
Saturday and Sunday January 7 and 8 at Everglades Gardens; Friday – Sunday January 13 - 15 at Everglades Gardens and; Friday– Sunday January 20 -22 at Everglades Gardens, and then Friday Saturday January 27 and 28 at Norman Lindsay Gallery.**Cost:** $32 adults / $26 concession (with card) / free for children 8 years and under. Combined show tickets available but only in advance.**For more information:** call (02) 9439 5683
Bookings Essential

The golden Pyrmont sandstone arch which forms the dramatic backdrop to the stage in the Garden Theatre at Everglades was originally the recessed entrance to the London Chartered Bank of Australia on Sydney's George Street.

Western crossing commemoration 2013-15

great ideas - thoughts - just being talked about or its really going to happen

Lithgow City Council creates 2013-15 commemoration committee

LITHGOW CITY COUNCIL has established Section 355 Committee to oversee activities and in Lithgow LGA to commemorate the Bicentenary of the Crossing of the Blue Mountains by Europeans in 2013.

Mayor Neville Castle said, "This event is a highly significant one in the history of our nation.

"Events are being held from Penrith through to Bathurst and as the concluding point for Blaxland, Wentworth and Lawson's expedition, Lithgow plays an important role in these commemorations."

Lithgow Mayor, Cr Neville Castle

Mayor Castle told the inaugural meeting of the committee that there was an over arching committee under the auspices of the Royal Australian Historical Society.

The principle responsibilities of the Lithgow committee are:

- To monitor activities commemorating the Bicentenary of the Crossing of the Blue Mountains in 1813 and the completion of Cox's Road in 1815.
- To provide advice to community organisations which are planning their own events
- To ensure that perspectives of Aboriginal traditional owners are acknowledged in commemorations
- To assist Lithgow Council with other councils and other relevant organisations
- To assist council to lobby other governments for funding and other forms of support.

Lithgow Council will consider allocating in the 2012/2013 management plan funding of $20,000 comprising $10,000 in cash and $10,000 in-kind support towards the events.

The committee terms of reference specify membership of the following organisations: two councillors, three representatives from the Hartley District Progress Association and one representative from the following groups, Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations (BMACHO), National Trust, Cox's Road Project Committee, Royal Australian Historical Society, Lithgow District Family History Society, Mingaan, Wiradjuri Council of Elders, Gundungurra Tribal Council, Hartley Vale and Mt Blaxland Reserve Trust.

Joan Kent will represent BMACHO on the committee.

Commemorative stamps and coins

Australia Post and the Australian Mint will issue two commemorative stamps and a coin for the bicentenary.

Blue Mountains City Council was making public domain pictures available to the Mint and Australia Post.

Maps to be digitised

State Records of New South Wales will digitise relevant maps of the crossing.

Ian Jack has advised he has identified 24 maps from 1814 – 1815 of the various crossings.

These maps will be available on the Spatial Information Exchange (SIX).

Landmarks Gallery links

The National Museum of Australia is developing plans to link its new Landmarks Gallery with the bicentenary commemorations

George Main, a curator at the Museum has advised that the Blue Mountains is one of the landmarks and the Museum will be looking at the consequences of the crossing, with stories and artefacts, including the Jackie Lewis breastplate.

State Library travelling exhibition

The State Library of New South Wales is considering a travelling exhibition/display.

Prof. David Carment has advised when he met with Mitchell Librarian, Richard Neville, recently he (Neville Richard) was keen to have the State Library participate in the bicentenary commemorations.

Heritage grant application

The RAHS's Council has given approval for David Carment to submit an application for funding of an events website, under the Your Community Heritage grants program

1813 Pioneer Way signs

NSW Roads and Marine Services are trying to resurrect the old 1813 Pioneer Way signs.

Schools involvement

Penrith City Council has indicated it intended to invite all local schools to be involved in events in that area.

The next meeting of the Western Crossing Committee will be held at the Hobby's Reach Research Centre 99-101 Blaxland Road, Wentworth Falls at 2pm, Friday February 17, 2012.

100 years ago this month.....
Scott's fatal journey to the Pole

AN ANTARCTIC march which had commenced on November 1 the previous year culminated a century ago this month when Robert Falcon Scott and his four companions reaching the South Pole on January 17, 1912 only to find that the Norwegian Roald Amundsen had preceded him by five weeks.

Scott's anguish is indicated in his diary: "The worst has happened. All the day dreams must go. Great God! This is an awful place. "[1]

The disappointed party began the 1300 km return journey from the Pole on January 19 and made good progress despite poor weather, completing the Polar Plateau stage of the trip some 300km by February 7.

On February 17, Edgar Evans died near the foot of Beardmore Glacier.[2] after an earlier fall

On March 16 Lawrence Oates, barely able to walk voluntarily left the tent and walked to his death., his last words being recorded in Scott's diary: "I am just going outside and may be gone some time".[3]

The three remaining men, Scott, Edward Wilson, and Henry Bowers made their final camp on March 19, in a fierce blizzard. On March 23 Scott made his last diary entry, and it is presumed he died that day.

The world was informed of the tragedy when the expedition's ship *Terra Nova* reached New Zealand on February 10, 1913. Within days Scott became a national icon.

Scott had returned from his early expedition to the Antarctic in 1904 to become a popular hero, a status he held for more than 50 years after his death. He was awarded a cluster of honours and medals and promoted to the rank of captain.

Scott's group took this photograph of themselves using a string to operate the camera shutter on the day they reached the South Pole

Scott's reputation survived the period after World War 2, beyond the 50th anniversary of his death. In 1966 Reginald Pound, the first biographer given access to Scott's original sledging journal, revealed personal failings which cast a new light on Scott.

1. Huxley, *Scott's LST Expedition* Vol. 1, pp.543-44.
2. Huxley, *Scott's LST Expedition* Vol. 1, pp.572-73.
3. Huxley, *Scott's LST Expedition* Vol. 1, p 592.

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

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THE ORGANISATION Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 following a unanimous response to a proposal from Professor Barrie Reynolds at the 2004 Blue Mountains Local History Conference which sought from Blue Mountains City Council the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the city.

BMACHO in its constitution uses the definition: "Cultural heritage is all aspects of life of the peoples of the Blue Mountains which was later changed to cover Lithgow and the villages along the Bell's Line of Roads. It therefore involves the recording, preserving and interpreting of information in whatever form: documents, objects, recorded memories as well as buildings and sites."

The objectives of the organisation are:

i. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage.
ii. To encourage and assist cultural heritage activities of member organisations.
iii. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations.

One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact, to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

HERITAGE BMACHO's official newsletter is edited by John Leary, OAM.

Blue Mountains History Journal is edited by Dr Peter Rickwood.

MEMBERSHIP The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mount Tomah, Blue Mountains City Library, Blue Mountains Cultural Heritage Centre, Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc., Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc., Blue Mountains Tourism Limited, Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute, Cudgegong Museums Group Inc., Eskbank Rail Heritage Centre, Everglades Historic House & Gardens, Friends of Norman Lindsay Gallery, Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc., Hartley Valley District Progress Association, Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc, Lilianfels Blue Mountains Resort, Lithgow and District Family History Society Inc., Lithgow Mining Museum Inc., Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies, Lithgow Small Arms Factory Museum Inc, Mid-Mountains Historical Society Inc, Mt Victoria and District Historical Society Inc., Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine History Society Inc. (including Turkish Bath Museum), Mudgee Historical Society Inc., Mudgee Regional Library, National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Blue Mountains Branch, National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Lithgow Branch, Scenic World – Blue Mountains Limited, Springwood & District Historical Society Inc., Springwood Historians Inc., Transport Signal and Communication Museum Inc., The Darnell Collection Pty Ltd, Valley Heights Locomotive Depot and Museum, Woodford Academy Management Committee, Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd. The following are individual members: Ray Christison, Associate Professor Ian Jack, Joan Kent, John Leary OAM, John Low, Ian Milliss, Pastsy Moppett, Professor Barrie Reynolds, Dr Peter Rickwood and Dr Peter Stanbury OAM.

COMMITTEE The committee for 2011-12 is: Pamela Smith (president), Ian Jack (vice president), Jan Koperberg (secretary), Joan Kent (treasurer), Jean Arthur, Doug Knowles, John Leary, Dick Morony (public officer), Kathie McMahon-Nolf, Barrie Reynolds and Peter Stanbury.

HONORARY AUDITOR: Sue McMahon, B Comm CPA.

AFFILIATIONS BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society Inc.

HERITAGE

NEWSLETTER OF THE BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

MARCH - APRIL 2012 ISSUE No. 20

Grand house victim of bushfire now a ruin

By John Merriman, Local Studies Librarian, Blue Mountains City Library

THIS burnt out building ruin on the side of the Great Western Highway at Faulconbridge was once a grand house with a tower built for a wealthy businessman Andrew McCulloch in the early 1880s.

The stone used in its construction was quarried nearby and the work was carried out by a well known local stonemason, Patrick (Paddy) Ryan.

McCulloch furnished his country house using the exclusive Sydney firm of Lyon Cottier and Co.

The property boasted a tennis court, flag-staff and beautiful gardens and an ornamental lake made by damming a gully.

McCulloch named his new residence 'Weemala', an Aboriginal word said to mean "an expansive view", and spent the next few years developing the grounds.

However, at the end of the 1880s, he began to experience financial difficulties and sold the property to JW Cliff in 1889.

When Cliff sold the property, then totaling about 113 acres in 1907, the new owner, a solicitor named George Evans, changed the name to 'Eurama', said to be a Greek word meaning much the same as the earlier Aboriginal one.

Evans had also purchased the neighbouring house, 'Numantia', a wooden cottage adjacent to the railway line with its own rail platform, built in 1877 by Sir James Martin, and to this he transferred the name 'Weemala'.

This has proved to be a source of great confusion and many people today still refer to 'Eurama"'as 'Weemala'.

When George Evans died 'Eurama' passed to his daughter, Mrs Emily Ethel McLaurin.

It was later sold to Mrs Katherine Nathan in the 1920s and around 1930, to Mrs Daisy Brown.

Following Mrs Brown's death the building was left vacant for a time and suffered from some vandalism. Over the ensuing decades many owners had their dreams cut short.

The depression, war and other hard times, falling on the owners. In the early 1960s the then owner, Mr Adams, set about restoring the decaying property.

Restoration had been completed just prior to the disastrous bushfires on 1968.

The fire consumed the house in all its grandeur and the building remains a ruin today.

As a postscript to the 'Eurama' story, the Blue Mountains City Library was given permission by Mr Watkins, the then owner, to stage an open air children's adventure theatre performance there during the Bicentennial celebrations in 1988.

With the ruins as a backdrop the property proved a most effective site for this project.

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*P13 Heritage and the internet seminar
*P14 Wall hanging recalls pioneer ancestors
*P14 Blue Mountains an *Illustrated souvenir*
*P15 Walk beneath trade union banners
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*P20 State Library puts $1.8M 194-year old Australiana album on show

An opinion from the editor.....

Western crossing bicentenary gets a dynamic boost

THE REGION is indeed fortunate to have many dedicated and enthusiastic volunteers engaged in heritage and history work. This small army of people from Penrith to Bathurst is doing a great job in planning commemorations and celebrations for the 2013 -15 bicentenary of the crossing of the Blue Mountains, the discovery and development of the golden west.

BMACHO, the Royal Australian Historical Society and the National Trust of Australia some 6 or 7 years ago sounded the alert that 2013 -15 would be a golden opportunity to create a lasting commemoration, of the western crossing almost 200 years ago and the events that followed culminating in Governor Lachlan Macquarie arriving by coach in Bathurst to proclaim it a township.

Gradually local government has come on board with token finances from their limited resources for the project, while the state government at several levels including that of the premier and federal local members have promised support.

All this interest is welcome and part of the need to involve government at all levels and the people of this community who must be an integral part of the planning and event operating process.

But what has been lacking up to date has been a person or persons who might drive this project and bring to reality this great opportunity.

Just such a force has now emerged with the formation of the Business Supporting Bicentenary (BSB) funded by Phil Hammon of Scenic World and Tom Colless of Colless Foods. This body could take a key role in securing an estimated $3 million in government grants and company sponsorships needed to make the events reach their potential.

[Some 4 years ago a rough calculation by BMACHO's executive suggested a budget of $5 million. BSB has no doubt refined BMACHO's earlier 'guesstimates' which included $2 million government and sponsorship funds for developing public access and innovative interpretive signage at various sites along the original Cox's Road between Emu Plains and Bathurst]

Phil Hammon and Tom Colless are dynamic businessmen who have the Blue Mountains very much at heart and in the past have not been slow to "put their money where their mouth is". Their strong leadership in this vital part of the bi-centenary celebration and commemoration is the link in the chain the project so badly needed

However, the Western crossing is not just about Katoomba nor even the Blue Mountains. It is about the whole region from Penrith to Bathurst and possibly Parramatta, Blacktown and the Hawkesbury.

It is ludicrous to think no matter how many "Memorandums of Understanding' local government might sign that it has the capacity to co-ordinate, obtain the government and private funding and then manage the event on a regional level.

It is also a recipe for disaster to ignore the tremendous amount of work that has been done by the volunteers, in historical societies, National Trust , BMACHO and others in the heritage sector. This group under the able chairmanship of RAHS president, Professor David Carment has done much of the preliminary work.

It is after all, primarily a commemoration of a major historical event. The aim should to be to use the commemoration to exploit the tourism potential which must then benefit the region's economy. Government funding is more likely to come for a regional project, rather than a series of parochial events.

Federal and state government should seize the opportunity to demonstrate how our heritage linked with tourism is good for the economy of the nation.

John Leary, OAM - Past president, Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc.

Property name changes cause confusion

Weemala (1880s) became Eurama (1907)

Numantia (1877) became Weemala (1907)

The Eurama owners

The subsequent owners of 'Eurama', who consolidated it into one estate and expanded that estate to the present 141 hectares, have been of individual significance: Andrew McCulloch as the epitome of the ruthless wheeler and dealer in sellable land next to a projected railway, the politician, conveyancer and real estate speculator who always had inside information, an anti-hero of the 1870s and 1880s; JW Cliff, as a lesser player in McCulloch's world; George Evans as a proselytiser for the Mountain tracks, the eponym of Evans Lookout, the builder of the State-significant 'Eirene' (now 'Cleopatra'); his daughter, the formidable Emily MacLaurin, and her husband, as heirs to the Rouses and Fitzgeralds, as well as the Evanses and the MacLaurins, who brought the first motor-car to the stables at 'Eurama' and the first Rolls Royce, and reigned there with something of the old-fashioned authority of the quondam squattocracy, leavened by scholarship of which Badham would have approved.*Source: NSW State Heritage statment of significance*

Continued from page 1

'Weemala' is now situated close to the rail line behind the high stone wall.

The cottage originally on this site was erected about 1877 for Sir James Martin KCMG. It was to be his country residence and was named 'Numantia'.

Numantia being a region in Spain and it has been said that Sir James thought the countryside here similar to that of Numantia, Spain.

It was a wooden house set behind a high stone wall.

Sir James had acquired a large amount of land from Sir Henry Parkes and it was his intention to build a huge mansion after he had built this small wooden cottage.

The grand mansion never eventuated.

The foundations only were laid. They later c.1914 -18 became the foundations for 'Banool' now 'The Bungalow' on the corner of Martin Place and Great Western Highway at Linden.

In 1876 a railway platform was erected to service the well-to-do residents of the area. It became the Numantia Platform but ceased operation in 1892 with the platform being removed in 1897.

In 1898 Adolphus Rogalsky purchased 'Numantia' and it was he who changed the name to 'Weemala'.

This coincided with the name change for the other 'Weemala' to 'Eurama'.

The high stone wall of 'Numantia', later 'Weemala', still stands.

The cottage was destroyed by bushfire in December 1977. Since then a new three bedroom brick veneer cottage was erected behind the stone wall. This building has been badly vandalised.

Photographs from the Blue Mountains City Library collection, from the McLaurin family album. John Merriman, Local Studies Librarian © 2009 Blue Mountains City Library

'Weemala' originally named 'Numantia'

Great - great - great grand - daughter of William Cox is guest speaker for BMACHO'S AGM

Dr Anne-Maree Whitaker (pictured), the great-great-great grand-daughter of William Cox, who built the first road over the Blue Mountains in 1814 -1815 will be the guest speaker at this month's annual general meeting of the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc.

Her talk will be on her great - great - great - grandfather, William Cox, Justice of the Peace, paymaster NSW Corps and road builder.

Dr Anne - Maree Whitaker

Anne - Maree is working on a biography of her ancestor and has recently undertaken a research trip to the UK and Ireland in pursuit of family information.

Dr Whitaker has a PhD in Australian history from Macquarie University in Sydney.

She has published widely in Australian Catholic and Irish Australian topics and is an independent professional historian who undertakes research in a wide range of 18th - 20th century Australian topics.

Dr Whitaker is a Fellow of the Royal Australian Historical Society and the Royal Historical Society, and a member of the Professional Historians Association (NSW) and the Australian Catholic Historical Society.

Dr Whitaker was the winner of a 2010 National Trust Heritage Award for 'Sydney Parks - Signage and History Website'.

She is also the NSW State Library's CH Currey Memorial Fellow for 2011 - 2012.

Annual meeting marks 6 years of achievement

The existing management committee of BMACHO under the presidency of Pamela Smith for the past 12 months, has continued to provide innovative initiatives to serve the heritage sector.

Continuing on BMACHO's list of achievements in its first 5 years the committee's major milestones this year include; the publishing of the second *Blue Mountains History Journal,* several seminars or workshops, the publication of another 6 editions of the newsletter *HERITAGE*, support and advice on various issues as well as planning and organising the Blue Mountains History conference for later this year.

The committee has been particularly pleased to see achieved in 2011 one of its strategic aims, the creation by Blue Mountains City Council of a heritage advisory committee which in past years has seen a major task of lobbying by BMACHO.

The annual general meeting is scheduled for Saturday, March 14 at 2pm at the Grandview Hotel, Wentworth Falls.

In the past year, once again there has been a very compatible group of experienced men and women who have looked after the affairs of the association.

Particular mention is made of president Pamela Smith who has not had an easy job balancing her commitments, but has shown a strong lead in the affairs of the association particularly in the organisation of this year's major event the conference in October 2012.

The extraordinary capacity and ability of Jan Koperberg who as secretary has not only developed a very effective and timely communication with organisational and individual members, but in the wider heritage community continues to serve well past that of most others.

Nominations for all position close on March 9.

Pictured below is Pamela Smith during a meeting with National Trust CEO Will Holmes a Court

Review of role and future directions for heritage association

A REVIEW OF BMACHO's past and possible future roles will be undertaken by a small sub-committee which will provide the management committee with a report and recommendations by June 30, 2012.

Former BMACHO president John Leary has said, "Voluntary organisations such as those in the heritage sector play a vital role in society, but without strong management much of their hard work can be wasted.

"From time to time an organisation needs to review its overall strategic direction.

"All organisations need a strategic plan and that plan needs to answer three things: where are we now as an organisation, where do we want to be in three years time and how do we get from where we are now to where we want to be?.

"In the six years of its existence BMACHO has achieved much and now is the time to capitalise on these successes.

"For the review to be a success we need input and suggestions as to what members would like to see the association provide in the way of services," Mr Leary said.

'Organisations need strong, visionary, experienced people to provide strategic direction'

The committee will comprise BMACHO's president, Pamela Smith, secretary, Jan Koperberg, and former president, John Leary with vice president Ian Jack and former treasurer, Peter Stanbury available to also provide advice.

The decision to conduct the review has been discussed for some time and recently the NSW Department of Fair Trading recommended this action should be taken every couple of years.

It is 6 years since BMACHO was established and it is now considered to be an appropriate time to look at various aspects of the association's role.

The review will consider the following issues:

i. the quality and appropriateness of the services being supplied to members;

ii. the expectations of both organisational and individual members;

iii. the need and ability to provide extended and other services

iv. the ramifications of the possible extension of the area to be served by the association;

v. the necessity and desirability of a change in name for the association;

vi. the desirability of affiliating or associating with one or more universities; and

vii. any other area which the committee may think appropriate.

Some of the issues the sub-committee will investigate include:

* The advantage or disadvantages of increasing BMACHO's constituency to include neighbouring, but historically linked areas, such as Hawkesbury, Penrith, Oberon or even Bathurst

* The benefit to historical societies and other heritage groups from having professional advice and guidance on site for e.g. exhibit display and management or archiving or restoration work.

* The advisability and capability of BMACHO to provide support within the capacity of its members in their pursuit of heritage advocacy.

* The need to broaden BMACHO's financial base to allow more services to be provided to members.

* The possibility of linking BMACHO with a university and other research facilities.

The sub-committee will also look at ways to ensure that the association operates within the principle of 'best practice'.

Anyone interested in making a submission should make contact with Jan Koperberg at j.koperberg@bigpond.com

Internet and e-mail workshops

A series of four introductory workshops for people wishing to improve their skills in the use of the internet and email will be offered by BMACHO on Thursday mornings April 5, 12 19 and 26.

The workshops will be free and are funded by a generous grant from Telstra Connected Seniors Program.

The Workshops will be held at Hobby's Reach, the home of the Blue Mountains Historical Society, 99/101 Blaxland Road, Wentworth Falls.

The class size is limited and preregistration is essential.

Further information from Barrie Reynolds: phone 4757 4725; email barrie.r@bigpond.net.au

Scenic World Sculpture awards announced

A SCULPTURE of wool and wire has taken out the inaugural Sculpture at Scenic World $20,000 acquisitive award for pushing the medium's boundaries into the 21st Century.

Greer Taylor's work, *Distant Time*, is one of 26 sculptures by 27 artists from Katoomba to Belfast to be displayed along Scenic World's ancient temperate rainforest walkway, during the independent exhibition open until until March 11, 2012.

The award was presented by Scenic World's new joint managing directors, Anthea and David Hammon, on behalf of the Hammon Family Council during the official exhibition opening last month.

Taylor's winning sculpture comprises two parts, small and large formal pyramids composed with red woollen thread woven around steel wire, installed among the ancient trees to reflect a distant time that both contrasts and compliments the landscape.

Ms Taylor said after the presentation it was a privilege to create artwork for a beautiful natural environment that was being protected by the Hammon family's Scenic World.

"The respect for the art, artists and the environment is what inspired me to apply for this exhibition," Ms Taylor said.

"*Distant Time* reflects this forest. It's a web of random gatherings and by placing this form in the rainforest the sculpture and surroundings are mirrored and magnified by their differences."

The winning sculpture was selected by independent judges, UWS Curator Monica McMahon and Macquarie University Sculpture Park Curator, Leonard Janiszewski.

The works of Cassandra Scott-Finn, *Infinity?*, Elianna Apostilades, *Amber 302*, and Heidi Kenyon, *I'm Still Here*, have each been awarded highly commended by the judges. They stated:

"Scott-Finn's work achieves a mesmerising kaleidoscope of constantly changing colour and form that absorbs both viewer and environment as elements of its ongoing visual dance.

"Similarly, Elianna Apostilades successfully sculpts form, light, movement, environment and time, transcending preconceived notions of the traditional key canons of sculpture.

"Heidi Kenyon's magical work exposes the intricate preciousness of the organic through light, form and environment.

"The strength of all three works lies in their ability to challenge, readdress, reconstitute, and reinvigorate sculpture in the 21st century as an art form whose fundamental visual language incorporates environmental elements as essential."

Joint managing directors of Scenic World, Anthea and David Hammon with winner of the inaugural Scenic World Sculpture award Greer Taylor (holding the Keith Rowe trophy) with exhibition curator Lizzy Marshall).

Photograph by Peter Stanbury, OAM

The sculpture 'Distant Time', displayed along Scenic World's ancient temperate rainforest walkway

Scenic World is an inaugural member of BMACHO and the Hammon family is active in the conservation and preservation of the early mining ventures in the Blue Mountains. Phil Hammon is the co-author with Phillip Pells of *The Burning Mists of Time - A Technological and Social History of Mining at Katoomba.*

HERITAGE INDEX

BMACHO newsletter ***HERITAGE*** from January 2009 to December 2011 has been index by Joan Edwards of the Blue Mountains Family History Society.

The index is available on the BMFHS website at http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nswbmfhs/res/bmacho.htm

The Red Admiral - an exhibition of Patrick White's years at Mt Wilson

IN 2012, the Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine Historical Society will celebrate the centenary of Patrick White's May 28, 1912 birth date by holding a year-long exhibition at the Turkish Bath Museum at Mt Wilson.

Patrick White spent his formative years as a young child at Mt Wilson in the 1920s and 1930s; the exhibition will highlight the impact of both the Australian natural environment and the influence of working class and wealthy society individuals and families that were to strongly shape him for the remainder of his life, as an individual and as a writer of international acclaim.

The story of Patrick White and his family at Mt Wilson in the 1920s and 30s (the so-called 'Golden Age' of Hill Station life in Australia) is rich in historical interest, and yet, remains well hidden to most people.

The project aims to heighten awareness of the formative years of White's life in an easily accessible and understood manner.

The exhibition has been specifically designed not to be an academic treatment of his literature, nor does it require an understanding or appreciation of White, or his works.

The goal is to foster a recognition of a vital influence on White that has previously been ignored, or misunderstood, for many years, despite the amount of research undertaken on the most famous and renowned Australian author.

The exhibition will be in the form of a series of framed A1 sized posters designed by a local professional graphics artist.

The title of the exhibition is taken from the name White used as a ten-year old. His first published pieces were about Mt. Wilson. The 'Red Admiral' was his favourite butterfly.

The exhibition is to be opened at 11am on Sunday June 17, by the Governor of NSW, Professor Marie Bashir AC CVO at the Mt Wilson Village Hall.

Ruth White, the mother of Patrick White, on the verandah of Withycombe with an unidentified friend in 1923. Photograph Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine Historical Society Collection

In association with the exhibition, the Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine Historical Society is hosting an open gardens weekend on Saturday and Sunday April 28 - 29.

Three beautiful gardens – *Withycombe*, *Sylvan Close* and *Bisley* - that are seldom open to the public will be featured. Late April is traditionally the time of year when Mt Wilson's famous autumn colours are at their peak.

Withycombe was the childhood home of Patrick White. His parents, Dick and Ruth, bought the property in 1921 and held it until 1938 until it was sold to the Church of England for ten shillings.

Near the front gate of *Withycombe* is a tree which still carries, albeit very faintly, the initials PW carved into its trunk some ninety years ago.

The combined entrance fee to the three gardens is $20 per adult; children are admitted without charge. Tickets are available at the entrance of any of the three gardens.

The gardens will be open from 10am to 4pm. Food, drink and toilet facilities are available on the weekend from the Mt Wilson Village Hall.

Additionally, the Mt Wilson Turkish Bath Museum will be open in conjunction on both days.

This unique heritage listed building is situated within the *Wynstay* Estate at the end of The Avenue, Mount Wilson.

It was one of the first properties to be established in Mount Wilson, as early as 1875, by Mr Richard Wynne who also established the Wynne Landscape & Sculpture Prize in 1895.

The building was in use for a few years for its initial purpose, as a Turkish Bath, but now partly restored it houses a museum of local history operated by the Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine Historical Society.

The building itself is very stylish, featuring many original features including arched windows of stained and hand painted glass. It has exterior walls of polychrome brickwork with Italianate decoration and an elaborate turret with cast iron finials and roof decoration.

Ornate roof decorations on Turkish bath house, Mt Wilson

Dowell O'Reilly … father of Eleanor Dark an author and poet in his own right

by Pamela Smith - Springwood Historians

WHAT can we give in return

For her beauty and mystery

Of flowering forest, infinite plain,

Deep sky and distant mountain-chain,

And her triumphant sea,

Thundering old songs of liberty?[1]

DOWELL O"REILLY, better known perhaps as the father of author Eleanor Dark, was a schoolmaster turned parliamentarian and an author and poet in his own right.

Dowell, born in Sydney on July 18 1865, was the second of four children born to Anglican clergyman, Rev. Thomas O'Reilly and second wife Rosa (nee Smith).[22]

He was educated at Sydney Grammar School and took up a teaching post at 'Hayfield' to assist his mother after his father died in 1881.[3]

It was there that he met Eleanor McCulloch – the music teacher - who he married in a quiet, almost secretive, ceremony on December 28 1895.[4]

The bride's parents and close friends were absent which, according to Barbara Brooks and Judith Clark caused 'quite a stir' when the union became common knowledge.[5]

Albert Bathurst Piddington, who a year later married Dowell's sister Marion Louisa, was his best man.

Piddington, like Dowell, had been educated at Sydney Grammar.

Marriage to Eleanor Grace McCulloch meant that he became the son-in-law of the controversial politician, Andrew Hardie McCulloch.

McCulloch is perhaps better known in the Blue Mountains as the owner of the - now derelict - cottage 'Eurama' located at Linden.

The ruins of the cottage are a familiar sight to road and rail traffic as they pass by today.

O'Reilly was also related to Dr Charles Badham, Professor of Classics at Sydney University, through Badham's first marriage to Julia, sister to O'Reilly's mother.[6]

Dowell Philip O'Reilly

There is some speculation that Badham may have assisted O'Reilly's mother when she opened 'Hayfield' as a preparatory school for boys at Parramatta.[7]

An article in the *Illustrated Sydney News* in 1889, suggested that 'Hayfield,' presided over by Mrs. O'Reilly, was an efficient and comfortable school.[8]

Dowell and Eleanor had their first child, named for his father, in 1899. Eleanor, named for her mother, was born in 1901, while Brian arrived in 1905.[9]

Dowell junior died in 1926, Brian married Norah Wilson and died at Wentworth Falls in 1985 in the same year as sister Eleanor (then Eleanor Dark), who died in Katoomba.

In 1886/87, Dowell played cricket for Central Cumberland against the visiting English side, and in 1888, he was commissioned second lieutenant in the Parramatta Volunteer Rifles.[10] He transferred to the reserves in 1898.

Dowell was elected to the Legislative Assembly for Parramatta in 1894, on a free trade ticket.

Shortly after, he moved a motion in parliament in favour of female suffrage.[11]

Dowell's sympathies for female suffrage endeared him to Rose Scott; they became firm friends.[12] In 1898 he returned to Sydney Grammar where he remained a master until 1909.[13]

Although his literary career began in the 1880s, it was somewhat less than spectacular.

He is known to have destroyed volumes of *A Pedlar's Pack*, because sales of the book of verse had been inadequate.[14]

By the 1890s his literary career seemed to have picked up because he regularly contributed poems and short stories to the *Bulletin* and other publications.[15]

Night classes at the University of Sydney in 1889 brought him into contact with scholar and writer, John Le Gay Brereton, and the equally talented poet, author and scholar, Christopher Brennan.

One-time Professor of Economics, Robert Francis Irvine, was also a mutual friend.

The men were involved in publication of the short-lived *Australian Magazine* and were members of the Casual Club.[16]

In 1910 Dowell contested the seat of Parramatta as a Labour candidate and counted WM Hughes among his circle of friends.[17]

Continued page 9

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Friendship with controversial prime minister 'Billy' Hughes

WM Hughes,CH,KC - Prime Minister of Australia 1915 - 23

His friendship with Hughes was to have long term effects and was thought to have caused a rift with his brother-in-law, AB Piddington.[18]

A column in the *Sydney Morning Herald* called 'Sydney Day by Day' carried a very tongue in cheek view of Dowell.

The article implied that he was somewhat of the 'Bohemian order,' and well thought of in 'local literary' circles.[19]

The article went on to suggest that Dowell found favour among the 'womenfolk of the State' although 'not an enormous number,' who, by that time, had won the right to vote. The *Herald* correspondent suggested that Dowell had written some 'acceptable poetry' and his 'crisp and appetising' style was reflected in a letter sent to the paper regarding his feud with Piddington.[20]

Michael Roe suggested that while Piddington was intellectually gifted, he was of a turbulent disposition and prone to recurrent 'displays of wayward emotion.'[21]

Thus, O'Reilly's claim (see below) may have been correct. However, over recent years a darker side to this feud has been revealed by Helen O'Reilly and Marivic Wyndham, which had little to do with politics but more to do with personal issues within the family.[22]

Years of illness preceded the death of Eleanor Grace O'Reilly, who eventually died in 1914.[23] Dowell's second wife, Marie Rose Beatrice (Mollie) Miles, who he married in 1917, was a cousin he met in England in 1879.[24]

He continued contributing to periodicals and in 1913 published *Tears and Triumph*, that, while fiction, sketched an 'outline of his suffragette philosophy.'[25]

The local studies collection in Springwood library hold several of Dowell O'Reilly's works including *Tears and Triumph*, *Fivecorners, The prose and verse of Dowell O'Reilly and Dowell O'Reilly from his letters.*

Dowell died of pneumonia and vascular disease at Leura in 1923 and was buried in the cemetery at Blackheath.

Endnotes

[1] First verse of Australia by Dowell O'Reilly.
[2] Michael Sharkey, 'O'Reilly, Dowell Philip (1865–1923)', Australian Dictionary of Biography, National Centre of Biography, Australian National University, http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/oreilly-dowell-philip- 7917/text13773, accessed 21 September 2011.
[3] Ibid.
[4] Barbara Brooks & Judith Clark, *Eleanor Dark, A Writers Life,* Macmillan, 1998, p. 9.
[5] Ibid.
[6] Michael Sharkey.
[7] Ibid.
[8] *Illustrated Sydney News,* 3.10.1889, p. 19.
[9] NSW Births, Deaths and Marriage Indexes,
[10] Michael Sharkey.
[11] Ibid.
[12] Judith A. Allen, *Rose Scott,* Oxford University Press, Oxford, 1994, p. 254.
[13] Ibid.
[14] Michael Sharkey.
[15] Ibid.
[16] Ibid.
[17] Ibid.
[18] *Sydney Morning Herald,* The High Court, Identity of Mr X, Attack on Mr Piddington, 15.12.1922, p. 11; *The Argus,* Appearance of "X" Remarkable Statement, "Mud Nine Years Old," 15.12.1922, p. 11. The incident referred to questions asked by Piddington about the part O'Reilly & Hughes played in his appointment to the High Court and his subsequent resignation because he felt compromised. O'Reilly argued back that it was Piddington's hysterical nature that caused him to resign.
[19] *Sydney Morning Herald,* Sydney Day by Day, 16.12.1922, p. 30.
[20] Ibid.
[21] Michael Roe, 'Piddington, Albert Bathurst (1862-1945),' Australian Dictionary of Biography, National Centre of Biography, Australian National University, http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/oreilly-dowell-philip- 7917/text13773, accessed 21 September 2011
[22] Abuse as a muse, The Sydney Morning Herald Blogs, Entertainment, http://blogs.smh.com.au/entertainment, accessed 20.6.2011.
[23] Marivic Wyndham, *'A world-proof life': Eleanor Dark, a writer in her times, 1901-1985,* UTSePress, Sydney, 2007, p. 26.
[24] Michael Sharkey.
[25] Ibid.

The author

Pamela Smith a regular contributor to ***HERITAGE*** , is currently president of the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc, a founding member of Springwood Historians and a member of Blue Mountains City Council's heritage advisory committee.

Pamela has a BA (Hons) degree in History as well as an Advanced Diploma in Local Family and Applied History. Her honours thesis focused on private education in the Blue Mountains, while an earlier thesis dealt with the presence of the fascist Old Guard Movement in the Blue Mountains in the 1930s.

She is currently enrolled in the Master of History degree course at the University of New England, Armidale and has a special interest in non-government private venture schools, local/public history, the Old and New Guard and women's history, especially women involved in politics and local government.

Sydney the soft touch

By Andrew Tink - Biographer of Lord Sydney

IN AN AGE when convicts could be transported for the most trifling offences, it may come as a surprise to read that the home secretary who sent the First Fleet to Botany Bay was a soft touch.

While the sentencing of convicts was a matter for the criminal courts, those who had been condemned to death could plead to the king for clemency. As home secretary, Lord Sydney was responsible for the paperwork and he often tested George III's patience with his lenient attitude.

When Sydney made sympathetic representations on behalf of a convict sentenced to death for forgery, the king replied testily: 'there cannot be the smallest reason for any farther delay as to the law taking its course on George Owen…the execution of this unhappy convict [is] absolutely necessary as an example'.

Sydney was once even castigated by a minister of religion. 'I am told that you have now obtained a pardon for a man convicted of the horrid crime of wilful murder', the Reverend Charles Hardy said. 'Do I now live in a country where a secretary of state can in effect annul our laws?'

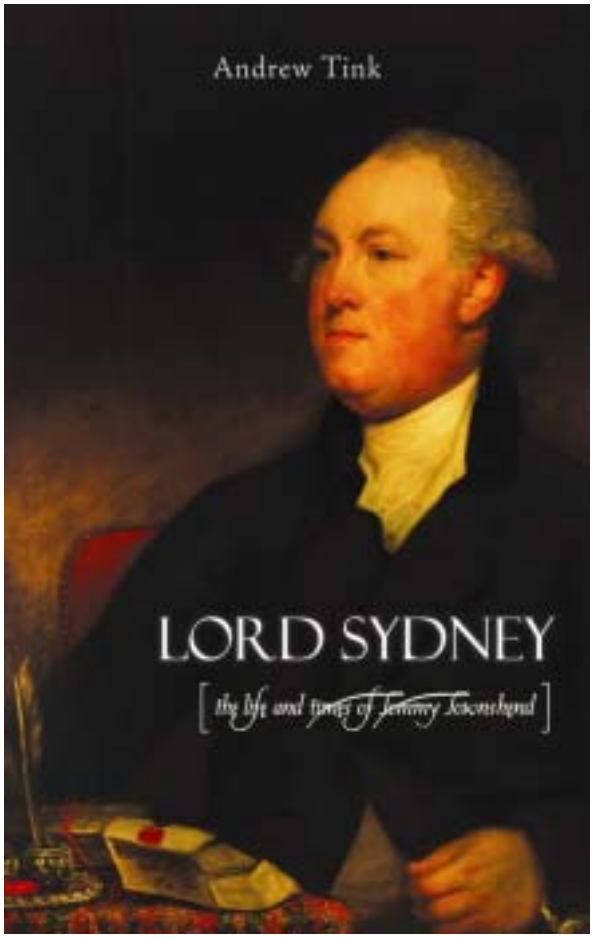
On Sydney's ministerial watch, the Transportation Act of 1784 had passed the British Parliament.

Among other things it provided that convict overseers 'could inflict…such moderate punishment…as may be inflicted by law on persons committed to a House of Correction'. Crude as it was, this imposed a duty of care on Lord Sydney and all others involved in organising the First Fleet.

Sydney's most important decisions included the choice of Arthur Phillip, a firm but fair man, to be the convict colony's first governor. And they shared the same vision for NSW:

- There was to be no slavery;
- The convicts would be encouraged to redeem themselves through emancipation and land grants;
- The ordinary rule of law rather than military law would apply to them;
- The Europeans were to live in 'amity and kindness' with the Aborigines.

In this short article Andrew Tink writes about the man who gave Sydney its name. The book *Lord Sydney: The life and times of Tommy Townshend* rrp $39.95, is available from all good booksellers (in Sydney – including, but not limited to: Lindfield Bookshop, The Children's Bookshop, Abbey's Bookshop, Berkelouw Books, Dymocks booksellers, Novella Fine Books, Lesley McKay's, Shearer's on Norton, Pages & Pages Bookseller, Potts Point Bookshop, Hordern House Rare Books).



Equally importantly, Sydney resolved that the convicts on the First Fleet were to be as generously provisioned as soldiers going to the toughest outposts in the British Empire.

In all, Sydney spent £ 58,000 to transport about 750 convicts and 250 military men to Botany Bay, using a competent contractor, William Richards, to organise things.

As a result, there were only about 25 deaths during the voyage. Sydney's generosity was criticised by some of his cabinet colleagues though. And soon after the return of the First Fleet ships to England, Sydney retired.

Determined not to be a 'soft touch', Sydney's replacement as home secretary, the 29 year old political up and comer, George Grenville, ordered that the Second Fleet be prepared with 'least expense to the public'.

Richards was replaced by a firm of slavers, Camden Calvert and King. And over 1,000 convicts were shipped for just £22,370. As a result, 267 died.

Had Sydney the soft touch organised the First Fleet the way young George Grenville organised the Second, the first European settlement of Australia would have failed.

Hazelbrook and Woodford history, 2nd edition

A SECOND edition of the 2007 National Trust award-winning Hazelbrook and Woodford history has recently been published.

As the first edition of *Hazelbrook and Woodford: a story of two Blue Mountains towns* launched in early October 2006 had sold out by 2008, the historian and author Ken Goodlet thought it time to do a second edition for Christmas last year. That first edition is now in, roughly, one in four households in Woodford/ Hazelbrook, but new residents have since moved in whom he thought might be interested in getting a copy.

Besides, new information and photographs had come to light and Ken wanted to incorporate in the history the events of the last five years, so there are more photographs, more general information, more appendices and obviously more pages. Important features are specialist chapters by Dr Eugene Stockton on geology and Aboriginal heritage and by Judy and Peter Smith on native animal and plant life.

The bulk of the book is about the early settlers, the holidaymakers, the community-minded spirits and the later suburban-dwellers in these two communities that have reinvented themselves over the decades.

While the book includes the fruit of research by earlier historians and by Ken, it also includes the memories of over 100 local people interviewed by him, supported by some 340 local photos and maps.

When Ken first undertook the Hazelbrook/Woodford project, he had hoped that there could be up-to-date histories of all mountains towns. The fine work by Dr Peter Rickwood on Blackheath has been a further step in that process. The new edition at $30 is available from local bookshops and from the author at 4758 6591.

Ken Goodlet's book cover image — *A Christmas Journey*, by T. Walter Wilson, Woodford Station, 1881. (The date indicates the drawing was the third of four stations at Woodford. The station pictured was, slightly west of the present station, just above the recently demolished old railway cottages.)

This picture has also been painted inside the waiting room of Woodford railway station.

An outstanding Mount Wilson potter of yesteryear

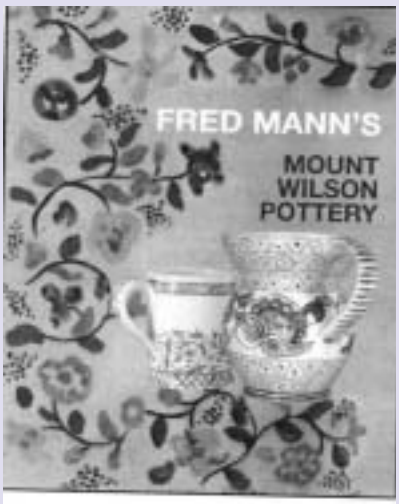
MT WILSON and Mt Irvine Historical Society have overseen the publication of an important new book that celebrates the life and creative output of an outstanding local identity, Fred Mann

Fred Mann's Mount Wilson Pottery was primarily the result of the efforts of two well - known local residents.

The book was the brainchild of Wendy Holland who has driven the project with extraordinary passion, energy and vision over the last two and half years.

Roger Howard-Smith shot most of the photographs in the book and most generously covered the initial printing costs

The book, to paraphrase John Valder, 'remains a cherished reminder of a generous, cheerful, friendly man'.



Many local or past residents of Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine offered their much loved pieces for inclusion in the book.

The book is truly a local community effort celebrating the pottery that emerged from the white clay from diggings at Yengo. Jess Delbridge, grand-daughter of Arthur Delbridge a talented graphic designer who lives at Mt Wilson was responsible for technical layout of the book.

The book can be ordered directly from Wendy Holland 4756 2094, Florence Smart 9416 1957 or Tim Gow 4756 2031 for $20. All proceeds of the sale of this book go to Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine Historical Society to underwrite future projects.

Republished from Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine Historical Society Newsletter No 28

The blacksmith and his anvil the symbol of runaway marriages

BLACKSMITHING is a dying trade and with it the blacksmith tools of trade, the most prominent being the anvil, writes **John Leary**.

There are many references to anvils in ancient Greek and Egyptian writings, including Homer's works.

Because anvils are very ancient tools and were at one time very commonplace, they have acquired symbolic meaning beyond their use as utilitarian objects.

But by far the most romantic reference to the anvil is attributed to the anvil priest of Gretna Green, in Scotland site of the famous 'runaway marriage".

Scottish law allowed for 'irregular marriages', meaning that if a declaration was made before two witnesses, almost anybody had the authority to conduct the marriage ceremony.

In the 18th and 19th century almost every European village had a blacksmith and some carried on the trade near inns or staging posts.

Local folklore has it that at Gretna Green it was not unknown for the blacksmith to be one of the two witnesses.

The blacksmiths in Gretna Green became known as "anvil priests"

Gretna's famous 'runaway marriages' began in 1753 when *Lord Hardwicke's Marriage Act* was passed in England; it stated that if both parties to a marriage were not at least 21 years old, then parents had to consent to the marriage.

The Act did not apply in Scotland, where it was possible for boys to marry at 14 and girls at 12 years of age with or without parental consent.

Many elopers fled England, and the first Scottish village they encountered was Gretna Green on the old coaching route from London to Edinburgh.

The tradition of eloping English couples searching for blacksmiths resulted legally from the fact that blacksmiths were necessarily citizens and could often be recognised by strangers by their presence at their forge and anvil

The Old Blacksmith's Shop, built around 1712, and Gretna Hall Blacksmith's Shop (1710) became, in popular folklore at least, the focal tourist points for the marriage trade. The Old Blacksmith's opened to the public as a visitor attraction as early as 1887.

Since 1929 both parties in Scotland have had to be at least 16 years old, but they still may marry without parental consent.

In England and Wales, the age for marriage is now 16 with parental consent and 18 without.

Today there are several wedding venues in and around Gretna Green, from former churches to purpose-built chapels.

The services at all the venues are always performed over an iconic blacksmith's anvil.

There are an estimated 5000 weddings services in the area each year and one of every six Scottish weddings.

Anvils have today lost their former commonness. Anvils are still used by blacksmiths and metal workers of all kinds in producing custom work. They are also essential to the work done by farriers.

As much as the author of this article, would like to have been able to write, that the anvil on this page was one on which marriages were solemnised at Gretna Green or anywhere else this blacksmith's anvil is one which John Leary, photographed in a recent visit to the Lithgow Mining Museum.

Nevertheless, the anvil has an interesting history, as Ray Christison writes on the following page.

The local blacksmith and his anvil have become the lasting symbols of Gretna Green, Scotland weddings where the ceremony is usually performed over an iconic blacksmith's anvil.

An anvil photograhed at Lithgow Mining Museum by John Leary,OAM

But well before Gretna Green the concept of an anvil may predate humanity. Chimpanzees have been observed using large sticks as hammers to crack nuts, using logs as anvils.

Large anvils still used by resident blacksmith at Lithgow Mining Museum

In its heyday the Lithgow State Coal Mine employed numerous blacksmiths, farriers and welders.

These men made and sharpened tools, repaired machinery, shod horses and ensured that the haulage ropes in the mine were safe and functional.

They worked from the large workshops building located at the northern end of the colliery headworks.

These were tough, muscular men who gained a reputation for their physical prowess.

Many trained in the art of boxing and quite a few obtained championship status.

Blacksmith's striker Billy Boyce came close to winning gold in his class at the 1948 Olympics.

Reg Kerrison, former Lithgow State Coal Mine master blacksmith working on an anvil at a colliery in the Illawarra.

When the mine closed in 1964 the blacksmiths' shop was cleaned out and was used for storage.

When the NSW Government Railway Workshops at Chullora were closed in the late 1990s the City of Greater Lithgow Mining Museum Inc was offered the blacksmithing equipment from that facility.

This was gratefully received and formed the basis of a major restoration.

Among the pieces gifted to the museum were two large engineering anvils.

These are now regularly used by the museum's resident blacksmith and others involved in training courses.

The Chullora equipment is a significant ensemble within the museum's collection.

The Chullora blacksmiths' shop manufactured components for railway carriages and locomotives.

During the Second World War this equipment was turned to the manufacture of Beaufort bombers and Sentinal tanks.

The anvils are an important component of this historic ensemble.

Heritage and the internet seminar

BMACHO, with a generous grant from Telstra Connected Seniors program, will be offering a public seminar on Heritage and the internet on Thursday, May 10 at 9.30 am.

Speakers will include Dr. Carol Liston (UWS), Michael Lech (Historic Houses Trust) and Dr. Peter Rickwood (UNSW and Blackheath). They will be speaking on the internet in heritage research, in the management and researching of museum collections and as a tool for publishing historical journals.

Each speaker plans to distribute a list of relevant websites for the benefit of those attending.

The seminar will be held in the meeting room of the Blue Mountains Historical Society at Hobby's Reach, 99-101 Blaxland Road, Wentworth Falls.

For further details: phone Barrie Reynolds 4757 4725; email barrie.r@bigpond.net.au .

Refreshments will be available and a gold coin donation will be appreciated.

BLUE MOUNTAINS HISTORY CONFERENCE 2012

To be held at the historic Carrington Hotel, Katoomba on, Satutrday, October 20
Conference title: Colonial Society

For further information and early bookings (capacity limited to 120 participants) contact Jan Koperberg at j.koperberg@bigpond.com or bmacho.heritage@gmail.com

Wall hangings recalls pioneer ancestors

RECENTLY the Lithgow Learning Centre (Library) was the venue for The Lithgow & District Family History Society Inc. to celebrate the launch of a wall hanging in remembrance of pioneer ancestors.

Each member took a calico square and either embroidered, painted or sketched the details of their pioneers who arrived in the colony in 1788 - 1888.

The idea came from local member Velma McFadden and the hanging was designed by the members, the squares were then sewn together by Margaret Buckley and Sandra Haley.

The quilting was done by Lyn and Graham Husdon from Portland and the society would like to thank them both very much for the wonderful job they did with the quilting.

The wall hanging was unveiled by Daryl Jenkins the son of the late Yvonne Jenkins who was the founding member and first president of the society.

Daryl spoke of his mother's love of family history and how for many years she spent gathering information on both her own family and that of many other local families.

She was an incredible lady and would have loved to have been present to see the concept of the wall hanging and the finished project.

. ***Lithgow Family History Society president Eleanor Martin and Daryl Jenkins beside the wall hanging***

Visitors and members were served morning tea at the launch and this gave them time to relate stories of their ancestors while being able to enjoy viewing the quilt.

The wall Hanging will be on display at the Learning Centre until Friday, March 16.

There is also a book with information on each pioneer available for anyone to view.

For further information contact on (02) 63531089 on Tuesday nights from 6 - 9pm or on Fridays from 10am - 4pm or Helen Taylor (02) 63557231 or email taygun@bigpond.com

Cox's Road walk at Linden

GLENBROOK & District Historical Society will conduct a walk along the Cox's Road at Linden on April 28.

Along the Linden section of the Cox's road there remain some excellent relics of carriageway and sandstone kerbs hand chiselled by convicts for whom work on the road represented emancipation as they laboured for their freedom.

Dr Grace Karskens writes in *An historical and archaeological study of Cox's Road and earlycrossing of the Blue Mountains NSW* , 1988 '... Cox following the example of other magistrates freely used the promise of pardons as payment for all aspects of the roadwork ... 'A total of 39 road labourers received between them 35 emancipations, 3 free pardons and one ticket of leave a further seven were emancipated for supplying horses and carts'.

For enquiries about the walk, contact Doug Knowles on 4751 3275.

Blue Mountains *an Illustrated Souvenir*

Photographer, Andrew Merry, in his exhibition Blue Mountains: an Illustrated Souvenir responds to how the Blue Mountains has been represented in art over the past 200 years.

The exhibition at Everglades Historic House, Leura is open by appointment from 11am to 4pm from now until 15 April 15

His photographs explore popular visual styles including 'the sublime', the picturesque and the postcard traditions.

The images offered are of cloud filled valleys, cliff edges, brooding landscapes, valley floors, fires and the rejuvenation of the bush.

In doing so this exhibition presents both a critique of clichéd views and an enjoyment in 'acting out' these clichés.

Locations for the photographs include the Blue Gum Forest, Hanging Rock, and the Grose and Jamison Valleys. Enquiries to 4784 1938

Walk beneath the trade union banner

LITHGOW STATE MINE Heritage Park is privileged to again host the Sydney Trades Hall collection of trade union banners.

Representing almost 150 years of trade union tradition these magnificent hand painted banners are listed on the NSW State Heritage Register.

They are rarely available for viewing by the public as there are few spaces large enough for them to be hung.

The former Lithgow State Mine Bath House is an ideal place in which to display the banners.

The bath house was originally constructed in 1923 as a power station for the colliery. In 1928 it was decommissioned and converted to accommodate showers and change rooms for the more than 700 men who worked in the mine.

With its open space and high ceiling the bath house provides a wonderful place to display the banners.

The State Mine's associations with the history of the Miners' Federation of Australia also make it a most appropriate venue for this exhibition.

The banners will be on display at the State Mine until the end of April 2012.

They can be viewed during museum opening hours, which are noon to 4pm Saturdays, Sundays, school and public holidays.

Group bookings are welcome at other times.

Admission fees are $5 per adult and $3 concession. Tours can be booked by contacting the museum at statemin@lisp.com.au or by phoning museum president Ray Christison on 6353 1812.

Free journals available

THE following free offer will be of particular interest to members, both librarians and curators of museums, societies and also individual researchers.

Back copies of the following heritage and museum publications are available:

Australian Heritage
Museums Australia
Museum Matters (NSW)
Artbeat (Fed Dept Arts)
Artfiles Arts Directory 2004
Sydney University Museums News
Museums Journal (UK)
Museum Practice (UK)
Conservation Perspectives (Getty Institute)

also
CAM, Cambridge University Magazine
Oxford Today University Magazine

Contact: Barrie Reynolds phone 4757 4725; email barrie.r@bigpond.net.au

Venturing above and beyond

PENRITH City Council and Library's History conference Venturing Above and Beyond will be held on Saturday, March 10.

This year the conference will be looking at the crossing of the Blue Mountains and also hear about the first flight over the Nepean area.

The Nepean River was the launching point for many adventurers exploring the Blue Mountains in search of new lands for the fledgling colony.

Men such as William Dawes, George Caley and Francis Barrallier attempted the crossing prior to 1813 and the conference will acknowledge the efforts of these early explorers.

At this time the settlement at Castlereagh was less than 20 years old and the large estates along the river were not much more than bushland.

A century later in 1911, William Ewart purchased a plane and brought it to Penrith to learn to fly. He was the first pilot to obtain his pilot's licence in Australia in December of that year.

In January 1912 he established an aviation school at Penrith before transferring his operations to Ham Common (Richmond RAAF)

Keynote speaker at this year's conference is Associate Professor Ian Jack, who will present some history and development of the District of Evan.

Dr Jack will be joined by Dr Grace Karskens, who will be talking about her research on Castlereagh. Peter Finlay will be introducing the early aviators in the Penrith area – William Ewart and Leslie Jones.

For more information, cost and registration phone Penrith Library (02) 4732 7687 or e-mail alisons@penrithcity.nsw.gov.au

From the editors mail box.....

Old Hartley bridge on Great Western Highway

PAUL CARDOW who kindly contributed the image (at right) of the old Hartley bridge circa. 1920s which appeared in ***HERITAGE*** January - February edition has written: 'I'm not trying to be pedantic, but the Old Hartley Bridge is part of the Great Western Highway, not Jenolan Caves Road.

The original caption inscribed on the glass plate, did say Jenolan Caves Road, which threw me initially, giving me reason to check the remains of the old bridge.

Apart from this, I really enjoyed your article and the related articles.

I'm more than impressed that Cox's road is to be marked out and signposted. It would be nice to see Bonaventure and the Old Coach Roads at Rydal marked out before they disappear as well.
Thanks for the correction Editor

More accolades

SEVERAL MONTHS AGO ***HERITAGE*** published some of the bouquets received in the e-mail.

Now published are a few more.

From **Dorothy Warwick, Holroyd Local History Research:** *Once again, can I congratulate you on a great newsletter! I have passed it on to various other groups that I belong to as it is such an interesting read. Congratulations and best wishes.*

From **John White, webmaster, Campbelltown-Airds Historical Society Inc**: *I received the Jan/Feb newsletter via Stella Vernon who has forwarded it to me. I'm very pleased to see the list of research web sites with journals of explorers in this edition.*

You have saved many people a lot of time by doing the searches for these sites, now to just get time to read them. Thanks again, look forward to future editions.

From **Lithgow City Councillor and managing director Westfund, Grahame Danaher:** *An excellent publication.*

From **Christo Aitken, Blue Mountains City Council's heritage advisor:** *I was on the mailing list previously and did receive a couple of your newsletters but you're right…at some time a gremlin must have dropped me off the list. Thanks for putting me back. It's a great newsletter…much time and effort spent by yourselves on its production…and good that you're readership is building*.

From **Julie Nixon, Holroyd Historical Family Group:** *I am currently researching my family who grow bigger and bigger the more I dig through our past. I look forward to receiving your newsletter,* ***HERITAGE*****.**

From **Ken Goodlet, local historian and author:** *Once again, a great edition of HERITAGE. There is so much there that I'm interested in.*

FRIDAY 13TH TWILIGHT TOUR

IT IS ALMOST as if organisers of 'twilight tour' for Friday, April 13 at Woodford Academy are tempting fate.

In March 1843, the convict George Conway, who was renowned for constantly escaping from his guards, met his end at Woodford Academy; some say his spirit resides here still.

Hear stories of the eccentric and colourful characters who resided at the Inn since the 1830's. Be welcomed along the front verandah by genial host of the 1840s, Mr Buss.

Tours commence 6pm, 6.30pm, 7pm and 7.30pm.

Cost $20 adult, $10 child. Supper included. Bookings essential prior to April 9 to 4758 7809.

Bob Debus to reflect on 30 years in politics

THE BERYL McLaughlin lecture 2012 will be delivered by former state and federal minister, Bob Debus on Saturday, March 3 at the Wentworth Falls School of Arts.

The annual lecture honouring the memory of the Blue Mountains Historical Society's principal benefactor, presents the reflections of prominent Blue Mountains citizens on both early and contemporary life in this region.

Mr Debus was the state member for Blue Mountains from 1981 to 1988 and 1995 to 2007 when he turned to federal politics as the member for Macquarie retiring Minister for Home Affairs after one term in 2010.

Previous lectures have included the historian Dr Jim Smith and artist John Ellison.

All are welcome to the 10.30am lecture with admission by gold coin donation. Morning tea is available from 10am.

The Wentworth Falls School of Arts is located on the Great Western Highway at Wentworth Falls, a short distance from Wentworth Falls Railway Station. Parking is available in the village or at nearby Pitt Park.

Two Blue Mountains Family History authors receive awards

THE WINNERS of two awards were announced last month by Vicki Edmunds, manager, libraries and customer services for Blue Mountains City Council, when she made presentations to Rhonda Flowers of Woodford and Jo Adam of Lawson after judging contributions to *The Explorers' Tree* magazines for 2011.

Commenting on the winning article for The Bob Howard award for best researched article: *Families at War "Lest We Forget"* by Rhonda Flowers, *(The Explorers Tree* March 2011*),* Vicki said it was a well written article that sets the scene by explaining where the Woodford War Memorial is, the recent history of the site and then the background to the monument.

"The reader gets an insight into some of the names on the war memorial.

"Rhonda has linked family members, discovered resting places and personalised an otherwise static sculpture.

"I especially enjoyed the postscript at the end of the article which encourages us all to remember the stories and families behind the names on a war memorial whenever we visit any town throughout Australia."

The Coolgardie Safe award for best article that does not fit the criteria for Bob Howard award, but which is worth preserving and exudes a breath of fresh air *was* won by Jo Adam's entry *A Walk Through my childhood – Tuesday is Washday (The Explorers Tree* March 2011*.)*

Jo did a wonderful job recreating her memory of washday in 1942 Australia.

"She set the scene very visually and I could even smell the story in some parts.

"It reminded me of watching my grandmothers' wrestle with their coppers and refusing any modern up to date washing machines.

"This piece on war-time washing not only captured what went on during washday but caught a lot of the social nuances that are hard to document. (Clothes-props, the health inspector, what it is like to have a husband MIA), Vickie said.

Blue Mountains Family History Society decided during 2011 to create *The Coolgardie Safe award* because so many articles submitted to the magazine did not fit the Bob Howard award criteria.

These are the stories that can be easily forgotten and lost, if not put into print.

Rhonda and Jo were both presented with certificates and their names will go on the shield in the family history section of Springwood library.

President of the Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc. Jan Koperberg said, thanks go to Vicki Edmunds for agreeing to judge the award and for her comments about both articles.

The society's thanks also go to Rhonda Flowers and Jo Adam for understanding the importance of research and recording memories.

Above Viki Edmunds with Rhonda Flowers and below Viki with Jo Adams

Text and photographs contributed by Jan Koperberg, president Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc.

Newsletter editor calls it a day

AFTER 15 years as editor of Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine Historical Society Inc, Elspeth Callender has called it a day.

During this period Elspeth has advanced her career as a freelance writer and highly skilled professional editor. She has worked for the Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine Historical Society in an entirely voluntary capacity with diligence and dedication.

Former president of the Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine Historical Society, Florence Smart has said, "That along with the Turkish Bath, the newsletter is the public face of the society and thanks to Elspeth, we enjoy a very positive reputation throughout the heritage sector and among our peer groups,"

Elspeth will now devote her time to editing and pulling together the large body of research and writing which Mary Reynolds and others have deposited into the society's archive, with the aim of producing a manuscript ready for publication which will present a history of Mt Wilson in an enjoyable, readable and saleable form.

The society has received a grant towards this project from the Royal Australian Historical Society

Awards for three Valley Heights Rail Museum members

THREE MEMBERS OF VALLEY Heights Rail Museum have received recognition with awards from the Office of Rail Heritage (OHR)

They are Brian Coker, Dick Butcher and Phil Robinson

Brian Coker joined the fledgling New South Wales Rail Transport Museum at the inaugural meeting in October 1962.

In 1964, two years after the formation of the NSW Rail Transport Museum, Brian Coker was elected to the position of treasurer.

Brian remained treasurer for the next 13 years, standing down from the position in the late 1970s. For the next 10 years, he extended his assistance to the various treasurers as required.

It was during that time, that Brian joined a locomotive restoration team led by Bob Booth (and later Tony Eyre) working at firstly, Petersham Cable Shed, then the RTM site at Enfield locomotive depot. Brian remained with the group until the ultimate move of the RTM from Enfield to Thirlmere.

In the 1980s, treasurer's duties were, at times, carried out by a number of members (including at one stage, a full time paid employee), but Brian Coker was given the unofficial duty of assistant to the treasurer, a task which Brian performed long after he retired from full time employment.

As late as the year 2011, Brian assisted with RTM accounts, wages, and general financial duties, having worked at the various RTM offices at Burwood, Redfern, Thirlmere and Central Station.

Apart from 49 years of continuous voluntary work for the NSW RTM at Enfield, Thirlmere and Sydney, Brian carries out voluntary financial work for the Valley Heights group. Brian has been part of that group for more than five years performing the role of treasurer during that whole time.

Pictured left to right are Ted Mullett, Peter Berriman and Marianne Hammerton (OHR) with award recipients Dick Butcher (second from left) and Phil Robinson (right), Brian Coker (inset left) Photographs: courtesy of Andrew Tester.

Brian has also been active in the Museum's retail department both at Thirlmere and at Valley Heights providing customer service to the museum's clients.

Richard (Dick) Butcher joined the NSW Rail Transport Museum in 1966. Dick has had an extensive service in various RTM activities at Enfield, Thirlmere and more recent times at Valley Heights.

These activities have included supervisory roles, running fitter on many RTM mainline tours and exhibit restoration of locomotives 5910 and 5711. Dick's passion for the railway preservation movement continued when the Eveleigh railway precinct was under early threat of redevelopment.

Having worked part of his career within the confines of Eveleigh Loco and the Large Erecting Shop, Dick knew of the industrial treasure that still existed at Eveleigh and led a personal campaign, writing many letters to relevant authorities with the aim of preserving what was left of the Eveleigh Railway Workshops.

Over the years Dick has passed on his vast knowledge in his railway trade of welding to many of his volunteer counterparts and has assisted many kindred organisations with his expertise.

In recent times Dick has been called upon to assist with some extensive heavy duty welding repairs to exhibits belonging to the Steam Tram & Railway Preservations Society, at Valley Heights. During this past year Richard was asked to assist Lachlan Valley Railway (LVR) with some repairs to Steam Locomotive 5917's firebox.

This required a highly skilled and knowledgeable person in the field of welding. Dick is well known within the railway preservation movement for his welding abilities and as a result of his efforts LVR's locomotive boiler has successfully completed hydrostatic tests.

Richard also provided a training workshop to members of the Valley Heights Division of the RTM in the use of the MIG Welding machine.

These members lacked the knowledge in the use of this valuable piece of equipment and Dick provided his expertise and training from his many years in the welding trade to insure it is correct.

Western crossing commemoration 2013-15

great ideas - thoughts - just being talked about or its really going to happen

Business supporting Bicentenary

BLUE MOUNTAINS commercial interests have formed Business Supporting Bicentenary (BSB) with a view to securing an estimated $3 million in government grants and company sponsorship needed to make the Blue Mountains Bicentenary Crossing reach its potential.

BSB funded by local businessmen Phil Hammon of Scenic World) and Tom Colless (Colless Foods) has prepared a prospectus document and information guide which includes a core of 12 Blue Mountains major events spread over the years 2013, 2014 and 2105.

Among the proposals are:

- a bicentenary launch in February 2013 featuring a grand parade at the Echo Point precinct, a fly over, entertainment, fireworks and an illumination display;
- a. Crossing Milestones Festival to feature a re-enactment of explorers Blaxland, Wentworth and Lawson three-weeks journey of discovery over the Blue Mountains in May 1813, village events, fireworks, community and sporting events, illumination of icons such as Carrington Hotel chimney, Three Sisters, bridges;.
- an Aboriginal art and cultural event that explores the response of indigenous people to the European crossing;
- A Road Builders Celebration involving descendants of Cox and others, soldiers and period costume, hands on activities such as stone

Randall Walker, chairperson Blue Mountains, Lithgow and Oberon Tourism

Phil and Tom are joined on the committee by leading businessmen Randall Walker, Bruce Ferrier and others.

Randall Walker, chairperson Blue Mountains, Lithgow and Oberon Tourism, said crossing bicentenary events in the Blue Mountains have the potential to reach an annual audience of five million visitors.

Grand parade of descendants

MT VICTORIA & District Historical Society is planning a grand parade of descendants. The parade will recreate a similar event held for the 175th anniversary. The society will seek out descendents of Blaxland, Wentworth and Lawson as well as William Cox and convict labourers who built the first road. Organisers are planning to carry horse drawn drays some of the parade particiapnts unable to take the walk to Mt York on May 28, 2013.

Crossing! a Play

Wendy Blaxland, the great-great-great-great grand-daughter of the explorer Gregory Blaxland has made an impressive presentation to a recent meeting of the Western Crossing committee concerning the production of a play *Crossing!*

The play looks at the personalities of the three explorers, the circumstances that led convicts, military personnel and free settlers to leave their homes in England to come to a unfamiliar land, the crossing itself and its consequences and the attitude of the Aboriginal inhabitants of the area.

Wendy told the meeting, "*Crossing!* is a re-creation of the expedition led by actors, with satisfying ways for its audience to be involved, not a theatrical spectacle to watch. Some individuals from the audience will become members of the expedition, and the audience itself will act as the Blue Mountains terrain, be invited to participate in songs and celebrate vital moments with the actors. The audience will experience the hardships and excitements of the crossing through drama, suspense and humour.

"The creative team will be professionals. The actors will interact with the audience to help populate the stage with the convicts, horses and dogs who accompanied the three named explorers, and the entire audience will become the terrain through which they travelled.

"Music will be an integral part of the show, and songs will provide an authentic feeling of the early 19th century. Costumes and props will help the audience travel back imaginatively in time. The play will last 50 minutes.

"As an experienced writer and theatre professional, I will write, direct and produce this production. Other creative talents are being assembled, from an experienced and distinguished composer through to young people with whom I have worked for some time," she said

State Library puts $1.8m, 194-year Australiana album on show

A REMARKABLE 194-year-old album of previously unknown drawings of colonial Sydney, Newcastle and its Indigenous people, was publicly unveiled at the Newcastle Art Gallery recently by NSW Arts Minister George Souris.

The Wallis Album was found in the back of a cupboard of a deceased estate in Ontario, Canada, in October last year before the State Library of NSW secured its passage home to Australia for $1.8 million.

The album was largely created and compiled some 194 years ago by Captain James Wallis, Commandant of Newcastle between 1816 and 1818.

"The State Library is committed to connecting the original documents of Australia with local communities, and we're thrilled to be partnering with the Newcastle Art Gallery in sharing this important artefact that has obvious historical and emotional significance to Newcastle," says Dr Alex Byrne, NSW State Librarian and chief executive.

"This remarkable album is the most significant pictorial artefact to have been made in colonial NSW during the 1810s and is a fantastic addition to the Mitchell Library's unrivalled collection relating to the history of our nation," says Dr Byrne.

The Wallis collection comprises 35 watercolours and drawings of Sydney and regional views of NSW, portraits of Aborigines and natural history illustrations made in Newcastle in 1818 by Captain Wallis and convict artist Joseph Lycett.

"Wallis painted named portraits of Awakabal Aboriginal people from the Newcastle area which are incredibly rare records of this community's ancestors," said Mitchell Librarian Richard Neville.

An untitled drawing by Joseph Lycett

"The album includes a Lycett view of Sydney Cove as well as one of Wallis' portraits which feature Burigon with whom he shared many pleasurable hunting expeditions.

Wallis album includes early sketches of paintings by Lycett that are featured on the Macquarie Collector's Chest c. 1818, which Wallis gave to Governor Macquarie to thank him for his patronage.

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

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Website: www.bluemountains.heritage.com
ABN 53 994 839 952

THE ORGANISATION Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 following a unanimous response to a proposal from Professor Barrie Reynolds at the 2004 Blue Mountains Local History Conference which sought from Blue Mountains City Council the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the city.

BMACHO in its constitution uses the definition: "Cultural heritage is all aspects of life of the peoples of the Blue Mountains which was later changed to cover Lithgow and the villages along the Bell's Line of Roads. It therefore involves the recording, preserving and interpreting of information in whatever form: documents, objects, recorded memories as well as buildings and sites."

The objectives of the organisation are:

i. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage.

ii. To encourage and assist cultural heritage activities of member organisations.

iii. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations.

One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact, to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

HERITAGE BMACHO's official newsletter is edited by John Leary, OAM.

Blue Mountains History Journal is edited by Dr Peter Rickwood.

MEMBERSHIP The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mount Tomah, Blue Mountains City Library, Blue Mountains Cultural Heritage Centre, Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc., Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc., Blue Mountains, Lithgow and Oberon Tourism Limited, Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute, Cudgegong Museums Group Inc., Eskbank Rail Heritage Centre, Everglades Historic House & Gardens, Friends of Norman Lindsay Gallery, Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc., Hartley Valley District Progress Association, Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc, Lilianfels Blue Mountains Resort, Lithgow and District Family History Society Inc., Lithgow Mining Museum Inc., Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies, Lithgow Small Arms Factory Museum Inc, Mid-Mountains Historical Society Inc, Mt Victoria and District Historical Society Inc., Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine History Society Inc. (including Turkish Bath Museum), Mudgee Historical Society Inc., Mudgee Regional Library, National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Blue Mountains Branch, National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Lithgow Branch, Scenic World – Blue Mountains Limited, Springwood & District Historical Society Inc., Springwood Historians Inc., Transport Signal and Communication Museum Inc., The Darnell Collection Pty Ltd, Valley Heights Locomotive Depot and Museum, Woodford Academy Management Committee, Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd. The following are individual members: Ray Christison, Associate Professor Ian Jack, Joan Kent, John Leary OAM, John Low, Ian Milliss, Pastsy Moppett, Professor Barrie Reynolds, Dr Peter Rickwood and Dr Peter Stanbury OAM.

COMMITTEE The committee for 2011-12 is: Pamela Smith (president), Ian Jack (vice president), Jan Koperberg (secretary), Joan Kent (treasurer), Jean Arthur, Doug Knowles, John Leary, Dick Morony (public officer), Kathie McMahon-Nolf, Barrie Reynolds and Peter Stanbury.

.**AFFILIATIONS** BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society Inc.

HERITAGE

NEWSLETTER OF THE BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

MAY - JUNE 2012 ISSUE No. 21

Little Wheeny Creek mill race survives ravages of floods

by Frank Holland - former president, Kurrajong - Comleroy Historical Society Inc.

SETTLEMENT around Kurrajong can be documented through various land grants the first being 500 acres to William Lawson and then in 1809 a series of grants were made.

However, it is likely that people were in the area prior to that time. It is known that Matthew Everingham carried out exploration in 1795 which took him through the Wheeny Gap and possibly as far as present day Mount Tomah.

In 1810 Governor Macquarie passed through the area, which by then had a number of people living on the land.

Shortly after its incorporation in 2001, Kurrajong - Comleroy Historical Society Inc (KCHS) researched the Singleton mills site on Little Wheeny Creek.

Most of the research focused on the location of the mills and attempts to understand the type of construction and plan of the mill. Based on this research a working model of the mill was constructed.

Over the past 11 years a number of tours of the site have been undertaken.

Benjamin Singleton with his mother and younger brother Joseph accompanied his father William, who had been convicted in England of the theft of some cloth, to Port Jackson.

William gained his ticket of leave and later obtained a grant of land on the Hawkesbury near Wilberforce.

Two grinding stones from Singleton's mill being examined by Dr Martin Gibbs (taking notes) and local historian Les Dolan a member of Kurrajong - Comleroy Historical Society. These mill stones which were recovered from Little Wheeny Creek when council was constructing a new bridge over the creek are now located in Memorial Park, Kurrajong Village

In 1809 Benjamin's elder brother, James, joined the family as a free settler and he and Benjamin were granted 50 acres each at what is present day Grose Vale in the Richmond district.

No evidence has been located proving that they actually lived on these grants and it is not until 1816 that documentary evidence can be found that at least one mill was in existence, as it was offered for sale that year.

This sale did not proceed. It is also unclear as to who held the title to the land on which the mill had been erected.

What is clear is that between 1810 and 1816 Benjamin and James built or had built two water mills, for grinding grain, on the banks of Little Wheeny Creek at Kurrajong.

This creek, although small provided a safe, permanent water supply (and still does).

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An opinion from the editor.....

Local historians and historical societies of immense value to heritage

THE eminent historian and former president of the Royal Australian Historical Society, Professor R Ian Jack has often expressed a view, which this writer shares, to the effect that local historical societies and historians are an extremely valuable and vital resource in researching and recording our heritage and history. Much of the preservation and recording of history and heritage in Australia probably would not have occurred had it not been for the quiet achievers associated with historical and heritage groups around Australia.

In this edition there are several examples that Dr Jack's views are very valid.

On page one of this edition of *HERITAGE* is a story of the exemplary tenacity and perseverance of members of the Kurrajong – Comleroy Historical Society whose research hopefully will lead to having the early industrial site of Singleton's mills recognised as a significant heritage site.

As is often the case, this research has been supported by academics, in this case Dr Martin Gibbs and his students from Sydney University.

This mill was away from the ravages of the frequent floods that destroyed more prominent mills and property along the banks of the Hawkesbury. Remnants of the race, stone work and the mill pond are visible today and it is possible that up to 30 people may have been housed in the area.

Elsewhere, in this publication is a piece about the untiring efforts of heritage enthusiasts to save from oblivion the historic Thompson's Square heritage building sightlines at Windsor.

In this case the proponents seeking to save this unique heritage precinct have mounted compelling arguments against what is an ill conceived bureaucratic solution which flies in the face of the NSW Heritage Register.

Not only are locals outraged, by this proposal for a new river crossing at this site, but so too must be every decent thinking person around Australia.

If the state government is to have any credibility in the area of history and heritage it must instruct the Road and Maritime Services to rethink the proposal for a new river crossing taking into account the formal recognition of heritage sites listed in the New South Wales Heritage Register.

And in yet another area of the region at Lawson the apparently cavalier actions of the Road and Maritime Services have buried a piece of rail heritage dating back to the laying of the first rail line across the Blue Mountains. With the roadwork construction of the Great Western Highway beside Sydney Rock near Lawson is a new rerouted railway cutting.

The now abandoned original cutting of the 1866-67 rail line is in its own right of some significance as rail heritage but apart from the built heritage, there are items of geological and botanical interest which need to be recognised. For many years Father Eugene Stockton has stressed the importance of this rail cutting and the nearby Sydney Rock as having heritage value.

There is a school of thought among many well qualified archaeologists that some of our heritage is best protected by it being "left in the ground" and this may well be one of those sites.

However, *HERITAGE* understands following an "11th hour community protest" at the burying of parts of this cutting, a compromise has been suggested by the Road and Maritime Services. The ham-fisted manner in which this compromise appears to have been negotiated leaves a great deal to be desired.

Road and Maritime Services must not be allowed to tread roughshod over our heritage as its predecessors have tried to do in the past.

John Leary, OAM - Past president, Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc.

Singleton's mills supplied flour to young colony

Continued from page 1

These mills were away from the ravages of the frequent floods that destroyed more prominent mills and property along the banks of the Hawkesbury.

The mills supplied flour to the fledging colonies on the Hawkesbury and at Port Jackson as evidenced by government contracts.

Based on photographs of later mills built by the Singletons they would have been of two levels of slab or weatherboard, constructed on a sandstone base.

A mill pond would have been constructed from which a steady flow of water could be conveyed to the mills by way of a water race.

Remnants of the race, stone work and the mill pond are visible today.

Based on other constructions and a study of the area local artist, Fay Edwards, painted an impression of the Little Wheeny Creek mill

Benjamin left the area circa 1822 for Patrick Plains, moving his family along the route he played a part in opening up through his own explorations and in partnership with William Parr and later with John Howe.

This route was the first European track north to the Hunter River but was soon superseded by the construction of the Great North Road.

Remnants of the race, stone work and the mill pond are visible today.

James Singleton continued on with his younger brother Joseph but later moved on to build tidal mills beside the Hawkesbury River near Wiseman's Ferry.

This shortened the travelling time to Port Jackson.

The Singletons built at least one other mill at the site to later be named Singleton.

The mills on Little Wheeny Creek passed through a number of owners and were operational up to circa 1858 before falling into disrepair.

As the Kurrajong area became more settled the buildings were scavenged for any useful material and the site became overgrown although eye witness accounts state that remnants of buildings were still visible in the early 1900's.

Today some stone work at the site can be seen with approximately 180 metres of a water race clearly defined **(**see photograph at top of this page).

Considerable labour would have been required to build the stone wall of the race and it is known that convicts were assigned to Benjamin Singleton.

It is possible that up to 30 people may have been housed in the area.

Eye witness accounts state that a substantial house was erected and it is reasonable to assume that a number of dwellings and out buildings surrounded the mills.

It is possible that other remnants are buried beneath the top soil and debris that has washed down the hillside over the years

In 2009 students from Sydney University under the guidance of Dr. Martin Gibbs**,** carried out a baseline survey of the site.

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Artist's impression of Singleton's mill painted by Fay Edwards

Sydney University students report on mill site

Continued from page 3

During this survey some previously unseen stone work was uncovered together with a piece of a glass bottle bearing the initials GR are clearly visible**.** (Photograph below)

These items were recovered and left on site.

A report was prepared by the students and this document was made available to the Hawkesbury City Council when a presentation was made seeking support to have the site (on Crown Land administered by council) re-named "Singleton's Reserve".

At the Council meeting of February 28, 2012, the following resolution was adopted by Hawkesbury City Council – *"That the name Singleton's Reserve for the reserve located on Mill Road Kurrajong (Lots 285 and 286 DP 751649 be supported and application be made to the Geographical Names Board for formal gazettal."*

As many readers would know the process of lobbying is not quick and a number of years passed from the first approaches to receiving this unanimous support of council and councillors.

The Kurrajong - Comleroy Historical Society is grateful for that support and will be seeking a similar response when the society moves to have the site recognised for its historical value as an early industrial site.

Society members believe it is a significant historical site certainly for New South Wales, if not for Australia and are currently awaiting formal gazettal.

A number of articles have been produced covering a brief history of the mills during Ben Singleton's ownership. The author of this article is currently involved in a KCHS project aimed at documenting the history of the mill site from construction of the mills through to the present day.

About the author - Frank Holland

FRANK and Valerie Holland moved to Kurrajong in 2000 following Frank's retirement after 35 years in banking and 6 years as a human resource consultant.

They joined the Kurrajong – Comleroy Historical Society shortly after it commenced in 2001.

Valerie was secretary for 7 years and Frank held a number of positions before being elected president in 2006.

They both stood down in September 2011 to focus more on research activities.

They remain committed to recording the history of 'The Kurrajong'.

They both sing with the Sydney Welsh Choir and Frank is a volunteer at Hawkesbury Fire Control – Communications Group where he holds the position of senior deputy captain.

In his earlier days he served in the Citizen Military Forces with the 30th Scottish Battalion and later commissioned as an officer in the 17 Battalion Royal New South Wales Regiment.

50 YEARS EARLIER

Sir, --- In the early 1800s Benjamin Singleton built mills in the Windsor and Wheeny Creek (now Kurrajong) district.

As wheatgrowing declined there and the Wheeny Creek mills fell into disuse, our forefathers painstakingly hauled, probably with bullock teams, two of the huge circular stones — splendid examples of the old millwright's art — up the ridge, and laid them on their side at the Comleroy Road junction.

Here they subsequently served as a base for a 1914-18 war memorial. Then the Bell's Line of Road was to follow a new alignment, and the Department of Main Roads appeared in the historic district with all the power and modernity of tractors, bulldozers and earthmoving equipment. It became necessary to move the ancient stones.

They now lie spread in a number of shattered segments, apparently ownerless, next to the Kurrajong Park, showing how our ancestor's loving care was nullified by an unappreciative posterity, despite every mechanical aid at its command.

MacLeod Morgan. Sydney
The Sydney Morning Herald
March 13, 1954

CONFERENCE KEYNOTE SPEAKER, PROFESSOR OF PUBLIC HISTORY

A CO-DIRECTOR of the Australian Centre for Public History (ACPH) and the Centre for Creative Practice and Cultural Economy, Professor Paul Ashton has accepted an invitation to be the keynote speaker at the Blue Mountains History conference being staged in October this year.

Paul (pictured) is the Professor of Public History at the University of Technology, Sydney (UTS),

He is also the academic director of UTS Shopfront, a university-wide community engagement program.

Paul's most recent book (co-authored with Paula Hamilton) is *History at the Crossroads: Australians and the Past* (Halstead Press) and he is a founder and co-editor of the refereed journal *Public History Review*, now published by UTSePress.

Paul commenced his career as a freelance historian and was an inaugural member and one-time president of the Professional Historians Association of NSW.

He was also closely involved with the formation of the Australian Council of Professional Historians Associations and the History Council of NSW.

Paul's work as a freelancer, which ranged from heritage conservation, oral and community history to commissioned history, drew him into the broader world of public history which emerged in North America in the 1970s and much later in Britain, though the earlier people's history movement in the UK was a form of public history which was to be internationally influential.

"... audience and historical authority."

He was appointed lecturer in Public History at UTS in 1995.

From 2002-5, he was a board member of the National Council on Public History in the USA.

Public history is concerned, among other things, with audience and historical authority.

Thus in the introduction to *History at the Crossroads*, Paul and his colleague wrote:

Metaphorically, history in the broadest sense might be though of as a house with many rooms.

Different groups inhabit the various quarters including local and community historians, genealogists, specialist museum practitioners, makers of historical films and public historians.

Some of these people inhabit more than one room while many make occasional visits to other parts of the house. And all of the rooms have internal divisions.

Some residents, however – notably academic historians – see themselves as occupying the principal room.

Indeed, not a few from the academy insist that they are in possession of the house.

The range and depth of historical activity in Australia, as elsewhere, is enormous. And it stretches back to early colonial society.

Paul's interest in Australian public history has seen him become involved in a number of diverse historical endeavours.

Recently, one of these was 'Sydney's Italian Fruit Shops', an exhibition co-produced by the ACPH and Co.As.It which ran for five months at Customs House in Circular Quay and is currently travelling.

Another is the landmark Dictionary of Sydney which takes in the Blue Mountains.

Paul was part of the team that secured an Australian Research Council grant to develop this cutting edge digital resource which has now published almost 900 000 'curated' words on Sydney's history.

He is a member of the Dictionary's Trust and its editorial management committee.

The Lindsays at home 1912-2012

AN exhibition at Norman Lindsay which is on until the end of May focuses on the Lindsay house, "Springwood" as a family home mainly in the 1930s.

There are over 50 photographs depicting this exciting time in the family's life and show the changes that were made to the house and its interior over the years as well as memorabillia that give a 'glimpse of the past'.

Rare views of Blue Mountains on show for first time

FIFTEEN original watercolours depicting Governor Macquarie's crossing of the Blue Mountains in 1815 are on display together for the first time ever in the State Library of NSW's major new exhibition, *Lewin: Wild Art.*

John William Lewin (1770-1819) carved out a career from humble insect collector to become Australia's first professional artist, yet his remarkable achievements have mostly gone unrecognised until now!

Lewin: Wild Art is the world's first comprehensive exhibition of Lewin's work, featuring over 150 original drawings and watercolours – many never seen by Australian audiences – selected from the Mitchell Library's renowned collection as well as other major local, national and international collections.

According to Richard Neville, exhibition curator and Mitchell librarian, Lewin was instantly captivated by the foreign landscape and exotic wildlife and was prolific in "giving Australians today an unrivalled visual record of their past."

"During his 19 years in the colony Lewin produced these powerful and distinctly Australian works featuring insects, birds and plants in their natural environment – an approach completely at odds with conventional English methods," says Mr Neville author of *John Lewin: Painter & Naturalist (NewSouth Publishing).*

Blue Mountains by Lewin, JW. State Library of NSW collection

Spring Wood by Lewin, JW. State Library of NSW collection

Lewin also produced commissioned works for every colonial governor, his most notable being the watercolours of the Blue Mountains and 12 large natural history works and landscapes for Governor Bligh in 1807, just a few months before he was overthrown.

"When Macquarie decided to take an expedition across the Blue Mountains, he was very aware that across these plains were important resources for the future expansion of the colony, and he wanted a visual record of what he found," says Mr Neville.

Lewin volunteered to join the expedition, which commenced on April 25, 1815 and made 20 "beautifully observed Australian landscapes" during the 10 day journey.

The 15 surviving works are held in the State Library's collection and depict the major views which Governor Macquarie noted in his account of the expedition.

"They are also some of the first European paintings to accurately capture the real characteristics of the Australian bush," says Mr Neville.

Among Lewin's may achievements was his landmark publication, Birds of New South Wales (1813), the first illustrated book to be published in the colony. Only 13 copies survive, and the State Library's copy is on show in the exhibition.

Lewin: Wild Art is a free exhibition at the State Library of NSW until May 27, 2012 then from July 28 to October 28 at the National Library of Australia at Canberra. For those who can not visit the exhibition in Sydney, they can visit www.sl.nsw.gov.au/lewin and view John Lewin's beautiful artwork in amazing detail using the collection viewer. Zoom in on over 150 images featured in the exhibition and watch the video commentary which has been added to selected artworks.

Emu Creek by Lewin, JW. State Library of NSW collection

Survival and Civilisation in a Strange Land

PROFESSIONAL gardener, historian and author Silas Clifford-Smith's subject for the 2012 Blue Mountains History conference is *Survival and Civilisation in a Strange Land*, which will highlight the importance of parks, gardens and cemeteries to Australian settlers from the time of settlement up to the early 20th century.

Although born and raised in England, Silas has lived in Australia for nearly thirty years.

He has qualifications in horticulture from Ryde College of TAFE and art history from the University of Sydney.

By profession he is a gardener who has specialised in the care and restoration of old gardens.

As well as working for many private clients he has been employed by the National Trust at the Norman Lindsay Museum in Faulconbridge and Experiment Farm Cottage.

Silas Clifford-Smith

Silas has also worked for the Historic Houses Trust at Vaucluse House and Elizabeth Farm, and the Governor-General at Admiralty House.

He has written for a broad range of publications on gardening, heritage and art themes. He recently wrote *Percy Lindsay: artist and bohemian* (Australian Scholarly Publishing, 2011), a biography which was awarded the Isabella Brierley History Prize for an unpublished manuscript.

He has also contributed to the *Oxford Companion of Australian Gardens* (Oxford University Press, 2002) and *Interwar Gardens* (National Trust, 2003).

Silas is an active member of the Australian Garden History Society and the Marrickville Heritage Society.

Although based in Sydney, Silas is currently restoring an old railway property in the central tablelands.

Government moves to preserve digital heritage

BLOGS, e-magazines, interactive newspaper articles and more could soon be joining the archives of the National Library of Australia to keep them alive for future generations if proposals released recently by the federal government are implemented.

The government recently launched a public consultation paper on the proposed reforms to the Copyright Act, which are designed to ensure that digital documents are kept by the National Library of Australia for future generations.

Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc. supports the move by the Attorney-General Nicola Roxon and Minister for the Arts Simon Crean and the proposal to reform the Copyright Act, which will ensure that digital documents are kept by the National Library of Australia for future generations

The proliferation of electronic readers, smart phones and tablet computers means that publishers are increasingly making available and distributing works in an electronic only format.

Currently the Copyright Act requires publishers to deposit printed works at the National Library of Australia in order to preserve Australia's documented heritage.

The government is seeking views on proposed changes that would modernise the current system to extend to electronic documents by empowering the director-general of the National Library to request certain electronic material to be deposited.

Australia's cultural landscape is changing dramatically with an increase in digital content and convergent art forms.

As writers, publishers and creators move into digital formats, there is a need to ensure that the preservation of cultural content for all Australians to enjoy and appreciate continues.

These changes will ensure future generations don't miss out on Australia's dynamic cultural heritage simply because the work was created digitally.

The consultation paper Extending Legal Deposit and instructions for providing submissions are available online at http://www.ag.gov.au/Consultationsreformsandreviews/Pages/Extending-Legal-Deposit.aspx.

SAVE 10% on early bird bookings

BLUE MOUNTAINS HISTORY CONFERENCE

To be held at the historic Carrington Hotel, Katoomba
on, Saturday, October 20, 2012
Conference theme: "*Colonial Society*"
with a great line-up of speakers and presenters

PROGRAM

9.30am Conference to be opened by former president RAHS, Prof Ian Jack.

9.50am *The early years of the colony* by keynote speaker, Prof Paul Ashton, co-director Australian Centre for Public History.

11.20am *The effect on the Indigenous population with the establishment of an European colony* (Speaker to be confirmed)

12.20pm *The Carrington Hotel - a return to the era of grace, elegance and charm.* A tour guided by Paul Innes.

12.45pm
Lunch to be served in the grand dining room of The Carington.

1.45pm
Musical interlude Jim Low, folk singer, historian and writer.

2.15pm Colonial dress by Glynis Jones, curator fashion & dress design & society, Powerhouse Museum.

3.45pm Nature and role of gardens in the early settlement period by Silas Cliford-Smith archivist at the Heritage Centre, UNE

Bookings with full payment before July 30 will be discounted to $45 per person ---

Cost includes morning and afternoon tea as well as lunch in the historic grand dining room of Carrington Hotel.

For further information and early bookings (capacity limited to 120 participants) contact Jan Koperberg at j.koperberg@bigpond.com or bmacho.heritage@gmail.com

Road works bury heritage rail cutting near Sydney Rock, Lawson

by Ken Goodlet - local historian and author

THERE are grave concerns about a proposal by the Roads and Maritime Services (RMS, formerly RTA) to bury some significant mountains historical, geological and botanical items in the now abandoned railway cutting on the southern side of Sydney Rock on the eastern approaches to Lawson.

Last month, a protest demonstration took place on the corner of the Great Western Highway and Somers Street, Lawson to object to the proposal.

The new re-routed railway cutting goes north of Sydney Rock, along with a new alignment of the highway, a major engineering feat.

The rail re-routing overcomes what has been a headache for Railcorp and its predecessors ever since the single track rail line began operating in 1867: periodic subsidence of the ground under the line immediately south-east of Sydney Rock.

The site contains many significant features.

First, there is the 1902 Monier arch bridge that carried the Bathurst Road, crossing the east-west rail line at a north-south orientation when the line was duplicated in that year.

The 1866/67 sandstone abutment on the southern side of the original 1867 rail track. Note the shadow on the left that shows where the 1866-67 stone arch of the Bathurst Road bridge began. Note, too, the roll of cloth to be used to cover the wall before its burial

That bridge is to be retained and left exposed by the RMS.

Second, there is a sandstone wall. When walking from north to south over the 1902 Monier arch bridge, this wall can be seen by peering over its south-western corner.

It is the original southern cutting of the 1866-67 railway line, covered since late April 2012 by a cloth. It is the remains of a masonry abutment consisting of eight courses of squared sandstone blocks with drafted margins.

This would have been part of the supports for the original single line sandstone arch road bridge of 1866-67 over the single track 1867 rail line.

The *Sydney Morning Herald* of the time mentions that there were two 'in masonry' bridges built running across the rail line between Blaxland and Lawson, this being one of them.

What I saw on that sandstone wall in early April 2012 was the beginning of the curve in stone of the 1866-67 arch road bridge at the top left when facing the sandstone wall.

This sandstone wall is in the process of being buried. I was informed on numerous occasions we protesters would have needed to register our protest five years ago for it to have been even considered.

Day by day, more rubble from the giant Bullaburra pile on the northern side of the highway is being used to fill in that part of the cutting.

Continued page 10

Those who took part in the protest on Friday 13 April advocating the establishment of the Sydney Rock and environs heritage reserve to protect the Rock and the old railway cutting (photograph courtesy The Blue Mountains Gazette, April 18, 2012, p. 10)

Continued from page 9
Third, there is the geological stratification. Father Eugene Stockton has written of the clear contact in this railway cutting 'between the Narrabeen series and the overlying Hawkesbury sandstone, a contact not so accessible for inspection elsewhere in the Blue Mountains'. It is the farthest west outcrop of Hawkesbury sandstone in the mountains.

'...very rare botanical species on face of rail cutting...'

A photograph in the site survey report to the site contractors on April 13, 2012 indicates full burial of the cutting from the new highway to the 1902 bridge and some 60 metres east and partial burial for a further 30 metres, leaving 25 metres uncovered. All significant geological heritage will be buried.

Fourth, there are the botanical features. Eugene Stockton again has written: 'An article I published for the Blue Mountains Conservation Society (*Hut News* No. 268, 2010, p.10) outlined the results of the botanical survey by Peter and Judy Smith, which highlighted the presence of the unique wet cliff-line community on the northern face of the old railway cutting with some rare species particularly of the very rare Cliff Teatree, *Leptospermum rupicola*.It is found in five other places in the mountains.

There is a possibility of at most three of the 33 Cliff Tea Tree plants in the cutting surviving burial, according to the April 2012 report

The cutting and its environs' distinctive plant life might well be due to the fact that it is the only area on the mountains ridge from Emu Plains to Hartley that has not been burnt out by bushfires since at least 1867.

Fifth, there is Sydney Rock itself. The name was first used in 1882 and it was a popular stopping-off spot for holiday-makers and locals. It might well have Aboriginal significance, although there are no markings visible at the site.

Eugene Stockton remembers it as a popular picnic spot in the 1940s and from there at night he and his friends could see the searchlights over Sydney's skies during World War II and the fireworks at the end.

While it is unlikely to be interfered with by the present construction efforts, its future remains uncertain.

Eugene Stockton has had a plan for some time of creating a heritage reserve of this whole area, enabling children and others to appreciate its educational, research and aesthetic worth.

This requires action by council to demarcate the whole site as a reserve, to be developed at a time when resources are available to do so.

We have lost so much of our mountains heritage over the years. This is partly because all development has perforce been confined to the ridges across the mountains, and the necessity of maximising the use of those ridges for infrastructure development has meant clearing away most of what little Aboriginal, 'built', geological and botanical heritage we have.

Where are we now with the Sydney Rock and railway cutting heritage?

The April 2012 report indicates that, while Sydney Rock, less significant geological stratification and possibly three Cliff Tea Tree plants will survive burial, most of the significant geology, possibly all the significant botany and all the history will be buried and effectively lost to us.

These losses are the latest in a long litany of such losses that go back to the 1920s, some of them unavoidable, others requiring a little creativity to save.

What have I learnt by this experience? The RMS engineers and designers and contractors have done a quite remarkable job on what they are trained to do: building a highway diversion and rail cutting.

Two of the five flowering Leptospermum rupicola plants high on the 1902 northern face of the railway cutting

They do not appear to have the expertise to represent local heritage stakeholders in the preservation of our history. The RMS decision-makers have not been given mandatory effective protocols to consult a particular nominated local heritage organisation that can be held accountable for its advice about their various projects at an early enough stage to influence their decision-making.

Useful references around this subject, offered by archaeologist Eugene Stockton and local studies librarian John Merriman on the Blue Mountains City Council Local Studies blog website, 2 August 2011:

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Stockton, E. and Whiteman. C., 'Proposed Blue Mountain Reserve at Sydney Rock', *Hut News,* Blue Mountains Conservation Society, Wentworth Falls, No 268. March 2010
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Grant funds for restoration of Norman Lindsay's painting studio

NATIONAL Trust of Australia (NSW) will receive funding under the Community Building Partnership program for restoration of Norman Lindsay's painting studio at the Norman Lindsay Gallery.

Norman Lindsay's painting studio was built in 1918 and was in continued use until the 1960s.

It was the space that allowed Lindsay freedom from distraction and was where he created his enormous output of paintings, made his ship models and wrote his books at night.

It was also where he often entertained his favourite guests with readings from his latest writings.

Its preservation and restoration is important in telling the story of both Lindsay's work and of this significant heritage listed property.

The restoration will include repairs to the buildings foundations, stucco walls and drainage enabling visitors to continue to view his studio and appreciate Lindsay's legacy for many years to come.

The Norman Lindsay painting studio

In addition to the $16,000 grant for restoration work at the painting studio at Norman Lindsay Gallery and Museum the National Trust will receive the following grants:

* Dundullimal church project - $20,000
* Grossman House external painting repairs - $17,000
* Riversdale external painting project - $12,000
* Miss Traill's House guttering replacement and timberwork - $12,000
* Brough House external painting and repairs - $17,000

Norman Lindsay pictured in his painting studio circa 1930s

Lindsay is widely regarded as one of Australia's greatest artists, producing a vast body of work in different media, including pen drawing, etching, watercolour, oil and sculptures in concrete and bronze.

Family History research changes

BLUE Mountains Family History Society has been re-organising the family history section of Springwood Library for the last 18 months.

Orientation is required to use the resources.

In June, orientation of the BMFHS library volunteers will commence, followed by interested members and the Blue Mountains City Council Library staff.

Following these orientations Patou Clerc, the information services co-ordinator, BMCC Libraries, has proposed that Blue Mountains Family History Society give orientation sessions to the general public during National Family History Week.

These sessions will be held Monday to Friday July 30 to August 3, 2012, inclusive, from 10 am to 12noon.

Patou will organise for BMCC to advertise the event and to take bookings.

Blue Mountains Family History Society will also promote the event on the NSW & ACT Association of Family History Societies' website http://www.nswactfhs.org/ , the Australasian Federation of Family History Organisations' National Family History Week website at http://www.familyhistoryweek.org.au/ and in the BMACHO Calendar of Events, once the proposed event is finalised.

Although there are two BMFHS Library volunteers on duty for guaranteed sessions Tuesday and Thursday, 10am to 1pm to assist members and the general public, February to November each year, there are also volunteers on duty most Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays (but these are not guaranteed days).

Crash of Wirraway near Hazelbrook

HERITAGE has previously published articles from contributors on the subject of the wartime aircraft crashes in the Blue Mountains and for these the editor and BMACHO is grateful, particularly when they open up debate.

The most recent article was in the January – February 2012 edition.

Respected local historian, Brian Fox has written to the editor referring to the Hazelbrook crash stating, " I have in the past walked to this site a number of times and interviewed the people who were first to reach this site.

"Many published stories were not quite correct. Which is why I set out to dispel the inconsistencies; history does have a way of repeating the errors of past historians."

Brian hopes his article will clarify this unfortunate tragedy.

HERITAGE is indebted to Brian and thanks him for the following contribution first prepared in August 2005 from oral histories followed up and researched by him.

Brian is pictured in an early photograph of him holding one half of the propeller (the other half was mangled when the plane hit the ground).

By Brian Fox - Local historian

WIRRAWAY A20-17 from 22 Squadron RAAF based at Richmond took off for a training flight on August 1, 1940 but not far into the flight the aircraft experienced engine trouble.

The weather for that day did not help either as it was a damp and foggy day, hence giving low visibility. About 10.30am the plane flew directly over the Campbell's residence, near Hazelbrook Railway Station and Norm the eldest child recalls the engine misfiring and spluttering and then a few moments later a bang.

In running to the back fence of their house they could see smoke in the distance from the crashed plane.

As a result of the crash two young men, Flying Officer Harry Thomas Hopwood and his observer Sergeant Vincent Charles Monterola were instantly killed when their aircraft sheared the tops of the trees and hit the wooded ridge south of Hazelbrook.

The Wirraway (Aboriginal for Challenge or Challenger) was the first product of the new privately owned Commonwealth Aircraft Corporation (CAC), and was a license built derivative of the North American NA-16 known as the 'Texan' or 'Harvard'.

This explains the parts sourced from America eg the name on the propeller shows "Hartford Connecticut, Division of United Aircraft Corporation."

The location of the crash site is now officially known as Aeroplane Hills (even though the locals preferred the name Wirraway Hill), located 3.2km SW of Hazelbrook Post Office.

One access to the site is via Wentworth Falls, Tableland Road, Ingar Fire Trail and along an unnamed fire trail on what is called Wirraway Ridge.

At the beginning of this unnamed fire trail a locked gate provides a 3.4km walk to the crash site.

Alternatively access is gained via Hazelbrook, Terrace Falls Road, Terrace Falls Reserve and walking across Bedford Creek and up the other side to the crash site. Note in 1940 there was no road access via Tableland Road, Wentworth Falls.

Even today, 65 years later the crash site still has the remains of the fuselage and struts giving a permanent reminder and memorial to this tragic event all those years ago.

A number of locals witnessed the plane flying over head and saw the plume of smoke when the Wirraway crashed. One such family was the Campbell's of Hazelbrook.

Oral history from Norm, Mary and Colin Campbell has helped to piece together that fateful day.

Norm the eldest of the Campbell children has the most vivid recollection of this fateful day.

Continued page 13

Oral history helped piece together the fateful day

Continued from page 12

Norm relates that his mother rang the police and the Richmond airbase to inform them of the accident and at first the airbase denied any of their planes were flying. (This could be attributed to war time policy).

Norm immediately jumped on his brothers Harley Davidson motor bike and charged off down Terrace Falls Road towards the crash site, in his haste he forgot to turn the fuel stop on so when the fuel in the bikes carburettor ran out the bike stopped and he could not get it going again.

Leaving his bike where it was he ran the rest of the way, through Terrace Falls Reserve down and across Bedford Creek and up the other side directed by the smoke to the crash site.

Norm's memory of what he saw still remains vivid today, for it was not a pretty site for anyone to witness, while Sergeant Monterola had been thrown out of the plane on impact (he had his parachute on and may have been intending to use it) while the Flying Officer Hopwood's burnt body still remained in the plane.

Norm being the first to the crash site could see that both had been killed instantly and not being able to offer any assistance returned back home to report his findings.

Nearly home Norm was surrounded by reporters from the local and Sydney newspapers who had heard about the crash and had reached Hazelbrook, the one local phone box near their house running hot as reporters filed their stories to their editors. Along with the reporters came the police, RAAF officials, ambulance and local bush fire brigade.

James Park at Hazelbrook being the closest vehicular access became the base for the search and recovery team for the two young fliers.

Norm again returned to the crash site guiding this team of men. The two bodies covered in tarpaulin were stretchered out to waiting ambulances at James Park.

As with any major event in a small village a crowd gathered at James Park. In the late afternoon, Norm recalls his father setting out to the crash site but on the way back it was too dark to see so he found a small overhanging cave near Bedford Creek to wait out the night.

Meanwhile Norm, who again after tea had returned to James Park, said I'm going to find Dad, the police said no, but Norm was persistent and for the third time that day set off again towards the crash site along with three others including the policeman.

With the use of kerosene lamps they reached the crash site. In the distance they could hear the Mudgee Mail Train coming up the mountains so they knew it was about 9pm.

Not finding his father John, they returned home; Norm being very familiar with the bush directed the other three back to James Park.

Meantime John Campbell had reached the crash site but on his way back it was too dark with out a light so he found an overhang near Bedford Creek to wait out the night and walked out at first light.

Norm records that his father had heard and seen their light but as Bedford Creek was running higher than normal and with the noise of the running water they could not hear each other.

By the next day the crash site had its souvenir hunters and in a short period of time a number of houses in Hazelbrook must have sported various pieces of the plane. One of the souvenir hunters was Norm and his brother Colin who returned early to the crash site as they had overheard the local plumber saying he was going to get the propeller, so they thought they would beat him to it.

The propeller (one half of it, as the other half was very mangled) ended up residing in Norm's sister Mary's house until her death in 2004 and being displayed in her front room.

Mary was only too happy to relate events from that eventful day and embellished the part that she played to the point that you would think that she was the one who led the search and recovery team to the crash site instead of being one of a few women who supplied the food and drink to the rescue team.

Many years after the accident relatives of Sergeant Monterola from Melbourne sought out Mary to talk about the accident. Mary would have liked to place a plaque near the site in memory of the two fliers but National Parks are not in favour of memorials in the park so the plaque never eventuated.

WALK TO KNAPSACK BRIDGE

Glenbrook & District Historical conduct regular walk and talk tours to historic sites.

On Saturday May 26 a walk is planned to Duck Hole, Glenbrook Creek.

On June 16 a walk to Eastern Zig Zag, Knapsack viaduct (pictured) and old mine shaft is being organise.The Lapstone Zig Zag was built on the Great Western Railway between 1863 and 1865, to overcome an otherwise insurmountable climb up the eastern side of the Blue Mountains.

The Zig Zag track included a now abandoned station called Lucasville which was built for the Minister for Mines, John Lucas who had a holiday home nearby.

For further details Doug Knowles 4751 3275.

Plane crash at Glenbrook

By Shirley Evans --- Springwood Historians

A TWIN engine Avro Anson, used for training at the Air Navigation School Parkes was on a mercy flight transporting a seriously ill airman to Sydney for urgent medical treatment when it tragically crashed killing all five men

At about 4.45 pm, Tuesday, January 28, 1941 the RAAF plane carrying five airmen crashed in Glenbrook in the lower Blue Mountains.

The plane was piloted by Pilot Officer John Ignatius Newman, 25, single of Toowoomba, Queensland.

He was a prominent rugby union player and had represented Queensland on a tour of New South Wales.

He helped establish the Toowoomba GPS football club and was its first captain.

His father had been a Brisbane detective and both parents were dead. Newman had completed over 313 hours of flying training and had been assessed as "average" or "average plus" on his flying courses.

Squadron Leader James M Rainbow, 42, single of Double Bay was the station medical officer.

Flying Officer Henry Theodore Skillman, 30, married of Parkes, was a qualified navigation instructor but was not a qualified Anson pilot. He was undergoing a conversion course on Ansons.

Flying Officer Bailey Middlebrook Sawyer, 34, married of Parkes, was the patient. He had a serious middle ear infection and it was thought he urgently needed specialist medical attention.

His service record held by the National Archives of Australia is very short on detail – place of birth unknown, place of enlistment unknown but date of birth was recorded as June 7, 1906.

The Sydney Morning Herald March 25, 1994 reported that the RAAF's chief of operations at Glenbrook, on the occasion of unveiling a monument at the site of the crash, said that Pilot Officer Sawyer was an American adventurer who was sailing in Australian waters when World War II was declared. He then joined the RAAF.

Aircraftsman Charles Richard Tyson, 23, single of Geelong West was the wireless operator. His father was a police sergeant.

Avro Anson planes had entered the RAAF service in 1935 and were initially used for maritime patrols. By the beginning of the war they were considered obsolete for this type of operation and were superseded by Lockheed Hudsons. Ansons were then considered ideal as training aircraft. According to the RAAF Museum Point Cook web page they were known as "Faithful Annie".

Avro Ansons similar to the one that crashed at Glenbrook

Eight days before the fatal flight, Flying Officer Sawyer developed the middle ear infection and by January, 28 it had developed into a mastoid with pus. Squadron Leader Rainbow warned the station commander that a plane might be needed to take the patient to Sydney.

Aircraftsman Charles Richard Tyson, 23 killed in crash

At about midday he decided it was an urgent necessity and the plane and crew were prepared. An operation order was prepared but not finished in time to give to the pilot who was instructed verbally.

The weather in Parkes was perfect and cloudless and he was told to keep below any cloud and to turn back if this was impractical. He was also told to fly low because of Sawyer's ear infection.

The plane took off at about 3pm and was in frequent wireless contact until 4.30pm. It was next heard and observed at Glenbrook where the sky was almost completely overcast with clouds hanging fairly low.

Witnesses saw it emerging through the clouds at a fairly steep angle. The port wing was seen to shatter about the middle and pieces fluttered down.

The aircraft tipped onto its left side and dived at great speed towards the ground where it struck an electric light pole and started two small fires.

The five parachutes were found at the scene.

Glenbrook station master, Oliver Shaw, who lived near the site of the crash at the intersection of Lucasville Rd and Clifton Ave, said he found the bodies of the airmen some distance from the wreckage. Portions of the wing material were found scattered throughout the bush over a wide area.

The story of the crash attracted a great deal of attention throughout the country. Newspapers from Darwin, Queensland, Western Australia, Tasmania and various towns in NSW such as Broken Hill carried the story. On January 30 the *Canberra Times* reported that the Minister for Air, Mr McEwen, stated "that of the last nine air accidents investigated it had been established beyond question that in eight cases personal misjudgement on the part of the crews had been the cause." He also said that the investigation into the Glenbrook crash had started and that there would be two independent inquiries.

Workers' Union condemned blaming the crew

Mr Forde, Deputy Leader of the Labor Party, urged for a searching inquiry into the system of training in the RAAF and the airworthiness of aircraft. He also suggested an enquiry into whether instructors were being overworked. He thought that accidents had been all too frequent in the last eighteen months. The Advisory War Council (see note 1) was to meet in Melbourne in the following week and Labor members intended to raise these issues.

The annual convention of the Australian Workers' Union opened in Sydney on January 31, 1941 and a searching inquiry into recent Air Force crashes was demanded. The union, the largest numerically and financially in the Commonwealth, deplored Mr McEwen's statement. Mr CG Fallon, Federal Secretary of the AWU, had lost a son in an air crash three years ago and *"condemned the practice of blaming the crew"*, although in that instance his son had not been blamed.

There was a coronial inquiry into the deaths of the five airmen in the Penrith Court House on March 4, 1941, where several Glenbrook residents, the manager of the Leonay Golf Club, a resident of Castlereagh St Penrith and several Air Force officers all gave evidence. The police were represented by Sergeant Kennedy and Wing Commander Ellis appeared for the Air Board. The Coroner, Mr EF Rule, concluded, "*I am unable to say what caused the crash, and would not say that any fault was due to the pilot whilst the machine was under his care.*"

A RAAF inquiry was held on January, 31 1941, very soon after the crash. The plane's records and log book and the airmen's records were examined and conclusions were reached. A copy of the report is available in the Local Studies Collection of the Blue Mountains City Library in the Vertical File under the heading AIR ACCIDENTS for those who are more technically minded but I will just quote some passages from it which I found significant:

REPORT NO. 11 REPORT ON ACCIDENT TO ANSON A4-5

"*The aircraft had for some considerable time been pegged down in the open and exposed to the weather. The riggers in charge of it stated that the protective covering on the plywood was inclined to crack, but was kept in good order by doping* (see note 2). *On 12.9.40 various repairs were effected to the port mainplane* (see note 3) *which had been damaged when the undercarriage collapsed while the aircraft was taxying. On 26.9.40 further repairs were effected to the port mainplane as the result of the aircraft being involved in a collision on the ground. Details of these repairs are attached to the report. On 25.11.40 repairs were effected to the plywood covering the underside port mainplane and a new ply panel was fitted.*"

"*The wreckage was examined by the Inspectorate at the scene of the accident on 29.1.41. The engines and centre section had crashed in the middle of a street in Glenbrook and were badly smashed. It was however clear that some disintegration had taken place whilst the aircraft was in the air. Portions of the wings and pieces of fabric were to be seen strewn as far back along the course of the aircraft as 700 yards from the main wreckage. The pieces furthest from the wreckage were pieces of the port wing suggesting that that was the first portion of the aircraft to break away. The first piece of the port wing, apart from small pieces of three ply and fabric which would naturally float furthest, to be located consisted of approximately 12 feet of the front spar together with portion of the leading edge. From then onwards to the position of the main wreckage various pieces of wreckage from the wing were found in a direct line corresponding to the path of the aircraft, including portion of the outer front spar of the starboard wing. These portions have been salved and instructions have been given for them to be forwarded to Air Board for further examination."*

"<u>The cause of the accident</u>"

(a) The accident was caused by the failure of the port wing which shattered about the middle shortly after the aircraft was brought down from or through the clouds.

(b) There are two possible causes either or both of which may have caused or contributed to the failure of the wing.

(1) It may have been due to the pilot descending at an excessive speed and so placing upon the wing a strain which it could not withstand. If this were the case the excessive speed may have been induced by the pilot desiring to take advantage of some gap in the clouds which he observed, or he may have been urged to descend quickly to a lower altitude for some reason connected with the patient in the aircraft.

(2) It may have been due to some weakness in the wing structure. The salved parts are

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being sent to Melbourne where they will be examined as soon as possible in an attempt to discover whether any weakness existed.

Whether the precise cause of the failure can be narrowed down still further to one of the above mentioned causes will depend upon the result of that examination.

Recommendation It is recommended that the facts of the present case be placed before the Director of Medical Services with a view to consideration by him of whether there are types of illness in which it is, because of altitude, inadvisable to transport the patient by air. If such types of illness do exist it is recommended that medical officers be advised accordingly."

I have found no evidence of further inquiries.

... brass plaque marks site of tragic crash...

On March 24, 1994 a monument of carved stone with a brass plaque was erected in Clifton Ave to mark the site of the tragic crash. Two brothers of Charles Tyson were able to attend the unveiling and memorial service.

Postscript In 1956, 15 years later, my husband, Jim, and I bought the block of land at 4 Clifton Avenue Glenbrook and built our first home. We lived there until the end of 1965, having our family, creating a garden, playing tennis and working with the Country Women's Association while Jim taught English and history at Penrith and Richmond High Schools.

Our house was very close to the crash site and very close to the home of Mr Shaw, a major witness, but never, at any time, did we hear of the dreadful accident. We were very surprised to read about the monument. I'm not sure what conclusions to reach from this – how quickly local history can be forgotten, perhaps.

Notes:

1. Advisory War Council: This was "formed under regulations on October 28 1940 after the September federal elections that year had given the government a majority of only one and after attempts to form an all-party government had failed. The members were the prime minister and 3 ministers and 4 members of the Opposition, and it provided a place for secret discussion of defence policy. It met less frequently in the later war years and was abolished on August 31 1945." Australian Encyclopaedia, 1963

2. Doping: a dressing, varnish or filler used as for protecting the cloth covering of aeroplane wings." Webster's' Dictionary of the English Language

3. Port mainplane: left wing of aeroplane

Further reading

Aston, Nell *Glenbrook and District: a History*, page 80

Le Brereton, Wendy *RAAF. Memorial Glenbrook* – paper in Local Studies Collection, Blue Mountains City Library – Vertical File "AIR ACCIDENTS"

Miers, Tim eyewitness account in *The Glenbrook of Yesteryear*

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Australian War Museum

*Blue Mountains Gazett*e, March 30,1994

National Archives of Australia

Nepean Times, various issues

RAAF Museum Point Cook, airforce.gov.au?raafmuseum/research

Sydney Morning Herald, March,25 1994

TROVE, various newspapers

Managing your collection/State Records workshop

TO help the heritage sector increase its skills, the RAHS in collaboration with State Records of NSW will bring Managing Your Records workshops into communities.

BMACHO has taken up the offer and Blue Mountains Historical Society have agreed for the workshop to be held at their research rooms, Hobby's Reach, Wentworth Falls

This is a 3-hour workshop with a break in the middle for lunch.

Some of the subjects to be covered are:

* Compiling and managing databases

* Digitising records and photographs

* Paper collection indexing, housing storage, and temperature control

* Providing access to records

Other topics that may be covered are:

* Arranging and describing collections

* Accessioning procedures

* Do's and Don'ts of storage

The RAHS agreement with State Records, requires that priority is to be given to RAHS members and affiliates.

The workshop will be held:
When: Saturday November 24, 2012
Time: 10.00 am for 10.30 am start
Where: Hobby's Reach Research Rooms, 99 – 101 Blaxland Road Wentworth Falls

Enquiries and bookings: Contact Jan Koperberg at j.koperberg@bigpond.com , bmacho.heritage@gmail.com or phone Jan on 02 4754 1544

Dave Evans - the Felixman of Echo Point

by John Merriman - local studies librarian, Blue Mountains City Library

DAVID (Dave or Dan) Evans, also called the Felixman, was a widely known local identity at Echo Point, Katoomba from the 1920s to the 1950s, with his Felix the Cat and later, mountain devil props.

Visitors, mainly families with children, would pose for a souvenir photograph which he developed while they waited. A number of these surviving photographs are held in the local studies collection of the Blue Mountains City Library.

One early photograph in the collection is a tintype, the rest are printed on photographic paper and mounted in a card frame.

Few facts of Dave Evans' life are known; he was apparently Welsh and lived in Kurrawan St Katoomba, within walking distance of Echo Point.

His income would have been highly seasonal and dependent on weather and holidays, never large enough to warrant a shop or staff and professional darkroom setup.

One witness says he would be at Echo Point taking pictures 'rain, hail or shine'; so his business address was right there in the open air where his customers were - what a workplace! A little draughty perhaps but in the absence of customers one always has the view, or the mist, or both.

The early photographs from the 1920s and 1930s show the child size Felix the Cat mannequin accompanying one or more children or family groups, some kids needed mother close by as their looks of apprehension suggest.

The later images from the 1950s show the large Mountain Devil doll. This may be a response to the commercial success of Felix and concern with copyright.

The majority of his surviving photographs are taken at Echo Point and they cover few other subjects but tourist portraits; although he may possibly have also operated at the Scenic Railway and there is a group portrait of working men at the Hydro Majestic with a Felix figure.

He was quite unlike a photographer such as Harry Phillips who took few intimate photographs and published widely and commercially on landscape subjects.

Evans is not listed as a property owner in council's rate records and local cemetery records make no mention of a David Evans, although he is listed in a 1933 commercial directory as D Evans, photographer of Katoomba and he is absent from the 1950s Katoomba phone books.

In April 1932 the *Blue Mountains Times* reported that Mr Evans, the Felixman at Echo Point, had

complained to Katoomba Council of unlicensed persons plying a somewhat similar business without paying a fee.

Katoomba shopkeepers were also complaining of the many street musicians collecting from passers by – they had become so common as to be quite a nuisance.

The Great Depression produced many unemployed men who tried their hand at busking for a few coins.

In 1962 the "late D Evans" photographic licence was transferred to Souvenir Snapshots of Katoomba. His name is too common to identify him in any NSW birth, death and marriage records and his final resting place remains a mystery.

Pictured bottom left is a very young Jan Koperberg nee Skulander her mother, Florence Jean Skulander, née Lea and next to her is her sister, Gladys Lea, circa 1949-50 with the mountain devil at Echo Point, Katoomba. At top of page is an image of an original tin type photograph of two unknown children.

Anyone who can can add more information about Dave Evans, The Felixman of Echo Point, or have any of his photographs is asked to contact John Merriman.

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Thompson Square, Windsor: the oldest civic square in Australia under threat

by Jan Barkley-Jack and Ian Jack

WITHIN a year of the first European settlement along the banks of the Upper Hawkesbury in 1794, a civic square began to form at Hawkesbury, with four wooden buildings on three sides: a wharf, store-house, the first soldiers' barracks and a granary.

The fourth side was the frontage to the Hawkesbury River, where ocean-going boats brought supplies and took grain back to feed Sydney.

The form and extent of the square as it is know it today were fixed by 1800.

Andrew Thompson received a lease that defined the eastern section of the square in 1799.

Governor Hunter had added a watch-house and a cottage for Thompson when he was constable, replaced the provision store and the soldiers' barracks and built two granaries.

All the early Hawkesbury settlers from 1795 onwards frequented the square regularly to get provisions, store their grain or to seek the help of the constables, the military or the magistrate, many landing at the square from their small boats.

High-ranking visitors, including all the early governors, also knew the square well.

The fabric within the square was steadily improved and amplified under King and Bligh, and when Macquarie first visited in 1810 he recognised it as a fully developed civic precinct which he called 'the present square'.

The name Thompson Square was given by Macquarie in honour of the archetypical convict redeemed. Achieved through extraordinary abilities of character, Andrew Thompson's entrepreneurial and civic successes, culminating as the first emancipist magistrate, make him a foremost representative of this Australian icon.

Thompson Square as an eighteenth-century public square in the most immediately successful of Macquarie's eight new country towns is a striking part of the surviving evidence for the governor's policies.

No other of Macquarie's squares in new towns such as Richmond or Wilberforce or Liverpool was already in existence.

Moreover, although public squares were a commonplace of Georgian town planning in Britain and elsewhere, the earlier settlements of Sydney and Parramatta along with Toongabbie had not initially developed around such defined focal space: no eighteenth century civic square predating Thompson Square now exists.

From Macquarie's time onwards, fine buildings were erected on the three landward sides of the square.

The suite of nineteenth-century vernacular buildings now adorning the west side of the square, the *Macquarie Arms* (built between 1812 and 1815), Howe's House (1820s) and the Doctors' House (1844), has exceptional integrity and architectural distinction.

The continuing aesthetic values of Thompson Square are embedded in the relationship and interaction between the built and the natural environment, because a civic square consists of both open space and its encapsulating buildings.

Because of the wharf and the bridge built in 1874 (and raised in 1897), Thompson Square has always been a thoroughfare.

The roadways in and across the square have evolved organically from the early tracks down to the punt, and naturally have brought changes to the contours and grassy spaces within the total area, but they have all remained low-level, sympathetic in bulk and scale, and so have continued unobtrusive for 217 years.

The Macquarie Arms (built between 1812 and 1815)

No 5 Thompson's Square built circa 1850

Howe's House (1820s) now part of the Hawkesbury Regional Museum

The Doctors' House (1844)

They do not interrupt the important sight-lines across the square or those from all parts of the square to the rural land opposite which is still readable as the part of the original 1794 farmers' grants.

All this is threatened by the current proposal to put a wider, higher-level bridge a short distance downstream from the 1874 bridge.

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Threat of disruption to historic sightlines

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The approaches to the new bridge would bring a major roadway through the north-eastern part of the square critically close to the buildings, disrupting the historic sight-lines and bringing an intolerable volume of noisy heavy traffic through Windsor's most popular public space, which is thronged every weekend.

No economic advantage would accrue to local businesses, because through traffic does not stop, and turning off into Windsor town will be gravely impeded.

It has been alleged that the 1874 bridge is no longer safe. Engineers' reports, however, make it clear that with judicious conservation the old bridge can continue in use into the 2030s.

The cost of conserving the existing structure is estimated at around $1m, a fraction of the cost of the proposed new bridge, especially one considered for the short term and in isolation from the wider needs of a flood-prone district.

The Options Report of Road and Maritime Services, published in 2011, acknowledges that the proposed bridge will itself be obsolete by 2026.

What is needed on the Upper Hawkesbury is a new crossing which will by-pass the historic towns and other important heritage places, well away from Windsor.

All bridge sites within the town of Windsor lead from one readily floodable area (McGraths Flats) to another (Wilberforce Road).

It is surely essential to plan a reasonably secure route from Windsor Road to the Hunter for the long term.

Such a new bridge elsewhere is more costly, which was, naturally, an important consideration in the preference and given to the Thompson Square option, but it is inevitable and would be good planning.

A photograph of Thompson Square taken by Ian Jack on March 3, 2012 from the opposing bank of the river when the water was very high, close to the decking of the existing bridge on the right.

Thompson Square from much the same place, painted by GW Evans in 1809, so this is the pre-Macquarie square. It is annotated with red to show the schematic curtilage of the present Thompson Square Conservation Area.

The Thompson Square Conservation Precinct has had a place amongst listings at the top of the New South Wales Heritage Register for nearly thirty years, and this formal protection is being over-ridden by the state government. Now that the value of Thompson Square as Australia's only eighteenth-century civic square has been fully documented, there is mounting local and Australia-wide outrage that the national values of this iconic civic space will be destroyed for short-term convenience.

Note: For references to the historical evidence which supports this article, please contact janbarkleyjack@aapt.net.au.

PUBLIC RALLY

Save Thompson Square, Windsor Australia's first public square under threat

Sunday, June 3, 2012 at 12 noon

Management committee changes at AGM

TWO of the original management committee members of the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisation (BMACHO), Professor Barrie Reynolds and Dr Peter Stanbury, OAM did not seek re-election at the recent annual general meeting.

Barrie and Peter have been executive members since the society was formed in April 2006 leaving John Leary and Ian Jack as the only other 'originals' serving on the committee.

Much of the credit for establishing the organisation must go to Barrie who for 3½ years was the inaugural secretary. During the past 6 years Barrie has been successful in gaining considerable funds for the work of BMACHO with more than $12,000 from successful applications in the past financial year.

Peter has filled a number of roles on the executive in the past 6 years including that of treasurer.

He has vast experience in various aspects of heritage particularly in the area of museums in Australia and overseas and has readily and freely provided assistance to organisational members throughout the region. His cheery disposition has made him popular not only on the committee but also among those with whom he has worked in the community.

Also to retire from the management committee were former treasurer, Kathie McMahon-Nolf and Jean Arthur. The input of both of these members will also be missed. Kathie took on the role of treasurer in March 2009 when there were difficulties in finding someone for this office.

Kathie's bright and breezy approach to issues was often welcomed during meetings.

A former president of Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society she has phenomenal knowledge of that district; Kathie lives on the same land her ancestors first settled in 1838. Kathie's husband, Alex passed away last year and Kathie will spend more time with her family some of whom live in Canada.

Jean a long-time secretary of Mt Victoria and District Historical Society has brought her lifetime of knowledge concerning local history to the management committee.

Although she suffered a serious road accident last year she still contributes assistance to the local historical society as well as a member of the Blue Mountains City Council's committee for the Western Crossing's commemoration.

At the 7th annual general meeting of BMACHO Pamela Smith, was elected unopposed for her second term as president as was Ian Jack for a sixth term as vice president, and Jan Koperberg for a third term as secretary.

Other members of the committee to be re-elected were former president John Leary, OAM, former treasurer, Joan Kent, Richard Morony, and Doug Knowles with a newcomer to the management committee being Scott Pollock.

Following the election of office bearers and committee, John Leary congratulated those elected welcoming "on board" Scott Pollock, the manager of Everglades.

Congratulating the president Pamela Smith, he said, "Pamela you brought to your first year as president a different style of leadership, a style that was most welcome and one that ensured members of the organisation were aware of what the committee was doing.

"Despite a busy life including university study, you along with Jan Koperberg have done a tremendous amount of work behind the scenes. It is indeed pleasing that you have accepted nomination for a further year and in what will be a busy time including the organisation of the Blue Mountains History conference," John said..

WELCOME TO NEW COMMITTEE MEMBER

AT the May meeting of BMACHO's management committee, Judy Barham accepted a position as a member of the committee for 2012.

Currently Judy is vice president of the Blue Mountains Historical Society and has been working as its librarian for a number of years during which she has been entering the library catalogue onto a database. Judy has said this is a long job and is still not finished.

"However, I am enjoying it and I now have an excuse to spend more time in bookshops! While the library budget is small, I have an excuse to buy a few books each year with someone else's money!

"I have worked as a high school teacher and for many years in the IT Industry as an analyst/ programmer. History has long been a hobby and I went back to university as a mature age student and completed by correspondence a degree in Australian History – years I thoroughly enjoyed," said Judy

From left to right Barrie Reynolds, Kathie McMahon-Nolf, Jean Artrhur,Peter Stanbury and Scott Pollock.

Last chance for 105 years to see Transit of Venus if missed on June 6, 2012

by John Leary, OAM

THE transit of Venus is one of the most famous events in the history of science according to Dr Nick Lomb long-time curator of astronomy at the Powerhouse Museum.

In his book *Transit of Venus* he states: It occurs when Venus, the planet named after the Roman goddess of love appears to move across the disc of the Sun.

This phenomenon occurs in an unusual pattern, in a pair of 8 years apart, and then not for over a century.

Transits of Venus are of especial interest to Australian since it was Lieutenant James Cook's voyage to Tahiti to observe the 1769 transit that led to European settlement of the continent.[1.]

During a transit, Venus can be seen from Earth as a small black disc moving across the face of the Sun. The duration of such transits is usually measured in hours (the transit of 2004 lasted six hours). A transit is similar to a solar eclipse by the Moon. Observations of transits of Venus helped scientists use the principle of parallax to calculate the distance between the Sun and the Earth.

Waiting for the transit at Woodford. Photograph from Transit of Venus 9 December 1874

In December 1874 observation was organised by the first Australian-born government astronomer Henry Chamberlain Russell.Four separate observing parties set up to reduce the chance of cloud disrupting observations. The sites were Sydney Observatory, Woodford, Goulburn and Eden on the south coast.

The site at Woodford was the property of Sydney businessman Alfred Fairfax (no relation to *The Sydney Morning Herald* Fairfax family) later to become the Woodford Academy now owned by the National Trust. The Woodford team was led by no lesser person than the surveyor-general PF Adams.

It is likely that in 1874 few would have seen the transit other than trained astronomers. But not so in 2004 as the event was transmitted to millions around the world by television as it happened.

At Woodford in 2004 an estimated 1000 people watched the transit through a series of telescopes and big screens while others were bused from Woodford Academy to a private observatory in Wentworth Falls for a viewing.

The day culminated with a formal dinner in the historic Woodford Academy where the guest of honour were Justice Barrie O'Keefe AM , president, National Trust and Warwick Watkins surveyor-general of NSW.

No doubt on June 6, 2012 a few will gaze into the sky to observe the Transit of Venus not to be seen again until the year 2117.

National Trust – Blue Mountains Branch will conduct a walk on the Transit of Venus Track on May 26. For more information contact Liz 4757 2694 or BlueMtsNatTr@gmail.com

End notes

[1.] Lomb, Dr Nick, *Transit of Venus* 2004 Sydney

Hartley 2012 History Workshop

HARTLEY District Progress Association – 1813 Commemoration committee will hold the 2012 History Workshop at the Hartley School Hall (1881), Middle Hartley Road, Hartley on Saturday, June 2, 2012

Continuing in the theme discussed at last year's workshop, the meeting will focus on 2012 as the bicentenary of the end of the era of pre European settlement.

Informality will be the keynote for a morning discussion around the theme of Hartley Valle before the coming of the white man.

Conversation can range broadly and participants may well discuss the best way to enrich the proposed 2013 Hartley History Forum with a strong element to engender a better understanding of the rich Aboriginal culture that was displaced by European settlement.

After a morning discussion around the fire in the Hartley Schoolhouse and a light lunch those attending will disburse to examine a number of heritage treasures within the valley.

This meeting is open to all who would like to attend.To facilitate catering those wishing to attend the workshop should advise Jeremy Dawkins at jeremydawkinsmail@gmail.com or Ramsay Moodie at ramsay.moodie@bigpond.com no later than May 30. Telephone enquiries to Ramsay Moodie at 0412 283 800

Walking with women

WALKING with Women – sharing the journeys of convict women from trial and transportation to life in the female factories is the topic chosen by guest speaker Gay Hendriksen at BMACHO's next general meeting.

Also to be discussed is their connection today and the significance of the Parramatta Female Factory.

Following on the success of the last general meeting of BMACHO when the guest speaker was Phil Hammon of Scenic World the next general meeting is scheduled for Saturday July 14.

The meeting is scheduled to commence at 2pm at the Blue Mountains Historical Society's Rooms, Hobby's Reach, Blaxland Road, Wentworth Falls.

Gay Hendriksen is a Blue Mountains resident and has worked in the gallery and museum environment for 21 years including local history museums in Shellharbour and Sydney, Penrith Regional Gallery, Norman Lindsay Gallery and Museum and now Parramatta Heritage Centre.

She also curated the exhibition Women Transported - Life in Australia's Convict Female Factories which has won national and state awards in excellence last year

Gay Hendriksen

She is currently president of the Parramatta Female Factory Action Group which has the aim of saving the Greenway designed Parramatta Female Factory which was commissioned by Governor Macquarie and making it available for all to experience.

Afternoon tea will be served and for further information contact Jan Koperberg at j.kopeberg@bigpond.com.au

GREAT WORK IF YOU CAN GET IT!

BMACHO member and doyen of heritage and vintage fashion and curator of the Darnell Collection, Charlotte Smith will take part in a 10 A day luxury tour of England later this year.

There will be many special highlights such as afternoon tea and cocktail making at Bovey Castle entry to Killerton House and dinner at the world famous River House.

Later those participating in the tour will stay at Bath for three nights in that historic city where they can stroll through the Bath Vintage Fair.

The party will visit Frome a delightful and historical market town that features cobblestone streets and famous quirky vintage shops.

Then it's on to the Dorset countryside and the beautiful town of Totness which is the home of the Museum of Costume, Fashion and Textiles. Then follows visits to several other towns before returning to London for an exclusive tour of Kensington Palace.

The tours starts at $7099 but airfares to and from UK are not included. For more information visit Travelling Divas at www.travellingdivas.com.au

More accolades for *HERITAGE*

FROM Alison Spencer, Research Officer, Penrith City Library: *Your group has very kindly been sending a copy of your newsletter to Lorraine. We have decided to put this newsletter into our Local Studies magazines collection as it contains many articles relating to something or someone in our area.*

From Dr Peter Rickwood, former president Blue Mountains Historical Society, editor of Blue Mountains History Journal: *Congratulations on yet another informative issue of Heritage Newsletter. I have great admiration of your work in hunting down so many different authors.*

From Alan Clark, secretary Shoalhaven Historical Society: *Congratulations on the latest edition of Heritage which is up to its always high standard; I usually forward the newsletter to people which they enjoy in the Shoalhaven Society.*

From Andrew Tink former MP in NSW Parliament: *Many thanks for including my Sydney article in Heritage. The high quality of your magazine continues to astound me and for me, it is indeed a privilege to be asked to contribute an article to it.*

From Wendy Blaxland, great, great, great, great grand-daughter of Gregory Blaxland: *Loved the newsletter; thanks so much.*

From Ken Goodlet, local historian and author, Hazelbrook: *Congratulations once again on your latest HERITAGE in March-April.*

TRAVELLING THE SILK ROAD

STEP back a 1000 years in time to experience the sights, sounds and stories of the greatest trade route of history.

Travelling the Silk Road is an exhibition of the ancient pathway to the modern world on show until July 29 at the National Museum of Australia, Canberra.

Admission is $10 adults, $8 concession pass holders, $5 child or $22 a family.

For information: Freecall 1800026 132 or www.nma.gov.au

Scots Church, Pitt Town celebrates its 150th anniversary

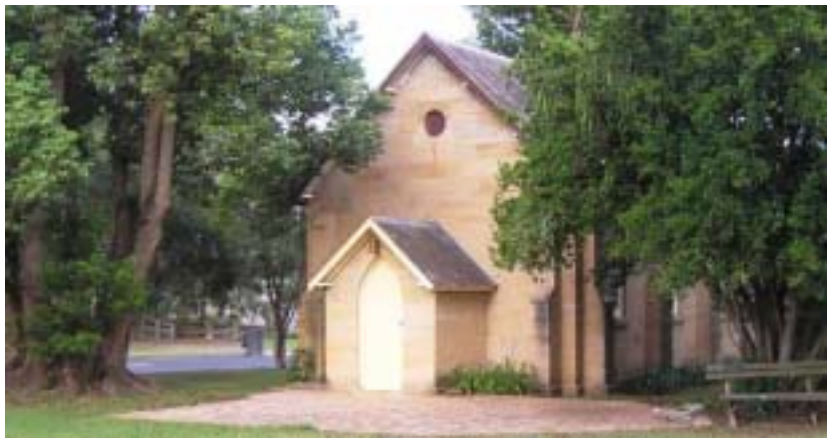
SCOTS Church, Pitt Town will celebrate its 150th anniversary during the weekend May 25-27 and the public are invited to participate in the activities.

A car tour organised by the Hawkesbury Historical Society is part of the sesquicentennial celebrations of Scots Church and will be held on Saturday, May 26

Starting at 10.30am at Scots Church, Bathurst Street, Pitt Town, the tour focuses on the lives of William Hall, the principal donor for the building of the church in 1862 and Rev George Macfie, the minister at the time the church was built.

The areas to be toured are Cattai and Pitt Town.

The tour starts with talks given in Scots Church by local historians.



The first stop on the tour is at the Riverside Oaks Golf Resort, Cattai, the original land grant given to the pioneer George Hall, where historical sites will be inspected.

A sandwich and finger food lunch will be available at Riverside Oaks before returning to Pitt Town.

After visiting various sites in Pitt Town a Devonshire tea will be served at the church.

Bookings are essential. Tickets $25 per person, $15 per child 5-16 years with under 5 year olds free.

For bookings contact Kath Wilkins 4577 3842.

On Friday night May 25 a bush dance will be held in the Maraylya Hall, Boundary Road, Maraylya commencing at 6.30pm For further information 4572 3518.

On Sunday, May 27 an anniversary service will commence at 10.30am. The service will be followed by a plaque unveiling, cutting of an anniversary cake, morning tea, entertainment, historical talks and displays.

For further information contact Ted Brill 4579 9235.

Scots Church circ 1932

HISTORY WEEK 2012

Theme for this year - "Threads. They wore what!"
September 8-15, 2012

LONG before the fashionist as of today decided 'the look', dress was an important element of human expression.

From status to style, culture to professional identity, clothes have defined us.

History Week 2012 will explore the history of threads and unpick the meaning behind the wardrobes of the past.

During History Week, community groups, local councils, libraries, archives, museums, universities, cultural institutions, professional and amateur historians across NSW open their doors to present the latest in today's historical research – fascinating stories, artifacts and experiences about both our past and ourselves today.

The History Council of NSW encourages groups to register local events for History Week on the internet at www.historycouncilnsw.org.au/history-week/history-week

History Week events will be published on the website from August to September

Western crossing commemoration 2013-15

great ideas - thoughts - just being talked about or it's really going to happen

THE Western Crossing Committee continues to meet regularly under the chairmanship of Emeritus Professor David Carment, with an ever increasing attendance of organisations and local government from Blacktown to Bathurst.

PENRITH PLANS. At the most recent meeting, Lorraine Stacker reported that Penrith City Council had released a program and events overview to include community commemorations and lasting legacies.

She said there would be a breakfast function at South Creek Farm, the launch of the re-enactment trek, a family camp out on the banks of the Nepean River, a historical festival and commemoration of the 50th anniversary of Emu Plains becoming part of Penrith City.

The lasting legacies would include a commemorative booklet, preparation of supplements for local newspapers and special memorabilia.

CROSSING! THE PLAY. The exciting theatrical project, *Crossing!* the play recreating the crossings of the Blue Mountains in a lively and interactive theatre production is forging ahead well, with generous help and information coming in from many directions, reports Wendy Blaxland.

Deirdre Burges has agreed to be the designer and Sarah de Jong composer. Both are experienced and well-regarded theatre professionals.

Books, documents, individuals, courses and discussion have led to the understanding that while the 1813 crossing is important, it falls within a continuum of crossings dating from Aboriginal crossings for thousands of years, a number of different explorations in different areas of the mountains and other important later crossings, including the building of the road and the perilous journeys of some early settlers and travellers. These aspects will also form part of the play, giving a wider perspective on the central story.

The central season of *Crossing!* will be during May and June 2013. Performances will take place at the Blaxland and Wentworth Falls Festivals, as well as at other Mountains townships, both in schools and more public venues.

Partnerships are being forged with chambers of commerce, local government, historical societies, drama departments in schools and local theatre groups to ensure that the *Crossing!* project is firmly rooted in the local community.

CONFERENCE. The 2013 RAHS State History conference will be held in the Blue Mountains.

HARTLEY FORUM. Joan Kent has advised that Hartley District Progress Association will hold a forum on June 12, 2012 when discussions would be about the area before European settlement; another at the end of May or early June 2013 based on the western crossings and one in 2014 about surveying and building the road.

ABORIGINAL ARTEFACTS. Mt Victoria and District Historical Society is planning an exhibition in 2013 to include Aboriginal artifacts.

DESCENDANTS' PARADE. Marcia Osterberg-Olsen has advised that the Mt Victoria & District Historical Society is planning a parade from Mt Victoria to Mt York with descendants depicting the three explorers, the servants, the horses and dogs.

The parade will probably be held on Sunday May 26 to maximize the participants rather than the anniversary, May 28, 2013.

BLUE WAVE WALK. The Blue Mountains Blue Wave walk planning is well advanced.

Blaxland's grave site report

At the request of Professor Carment, AM, Dr Siobhan Lavelle, OAM has prepared an updated assessment of the headstone and gravesite of Gregory Blaxland[1]

The report indicates: 'There is little or no work required on the headstone at this time' following the repair work carried out to the site in 1997.

Dr Lavelle reports that '…although the reblacking [on the headstone] has faded …the inscription remains legible'

'If more attractive aesthetic appearance is desired then minor cleaning could be carried out.

'That should be done with water and a soft bristle brush.

'The aim would be to remove surface soiling and NOT to achieve a new looking stone.

'It is perfectly appropriate for a stone of this age to look old and show evidence of its history.'

[1] Siobhan Lavelle, *Headstone & Gravesite of Gregory Blaxland All Saints' Cemetery, Parramatta – Updated Assessment April, 2012*

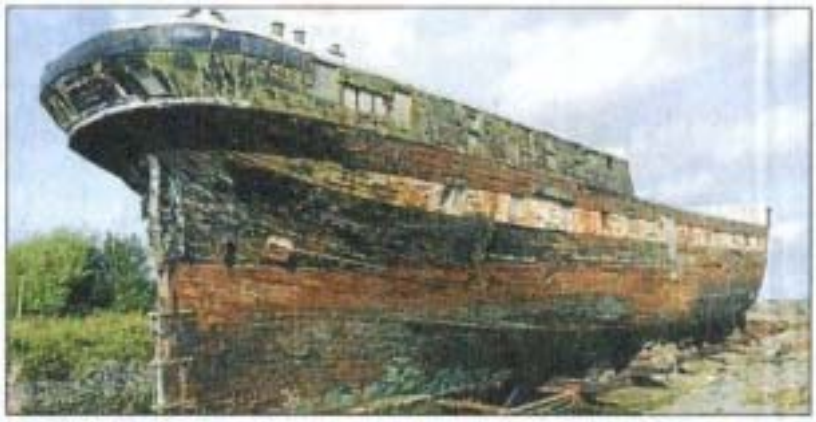
Historic clipper retires to sun after 150 years

IT is the oldest surviving clipper ship in the world apart from the Cutty Sark, and in its heyday carried emigrants from Scotland to Australia where about 250,000 people can trace their origins to its passengers.

For years the City of Adelaide has lain rotting on a slipway in Irvine, Scotland. But now, almost 150 years after it was launched on May 7, 1864 preparations are under way for one last voyage to Adelaide, where the vessel is to become a tourist attraction.

According to the UK National Historic Ships Committee, the 54 metres ship is one of the most important in British maritime history, the last survivor of the timber trade between North America and Britain.

Despite its early splendour and pedigree, the future had looked bleak for the *City of Adelaide* after it sank in the River Clyde. It became a political issue, with various parties laying claim to ownership until a bid from Australia secured its future. The ship spent 23 years making 16,000 km trips to and from Australia and, played a fundamental role in the development of the young nation.



The hulk of the City of Adelaide before it is loaded on 100-tonne cradle for shipping to Australia

In 1893, it was converted to a hospital ship at Southampton and after being commissioned in the Royal Navy in 1924 was converted to a training ship and renamed *HMS Carrick.*

It sank in the Clyde in 1991 and after a year under water, it was raised by the Scottish Museum and moved to its present site.

The clipper will become the centrepiece of the maritime heritage display in Adelaide.
Source: *Guardian News & Media*

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

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THE ORGANISATION Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 following a unanimous response to a proposal from Professor Barrie Reynolds at the 2004 Blue Mountains Local History Conference which sought from Blue Mountains City Council the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the city.

BMACHO in its constitution uses the definition: "Cultural heritage is all aspects of life of the peoples of the Blue Mountains which was later changed to cover Lithgow and the villages along the Bell's Line of Roads. It therefore involves the recording, preserving and interpreting of information in whatever form: documents, objects, recorded memories as well as buildings and sites."

The objectives of the organisation are:

i. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage.

ii. To encourage and assist cultural heritage activities of member organisations.

iii. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations.

One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact, to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

HERITAGE BMACHO's official newsletter is edited by John Leary, OAM.

Blue Mountains History Journal is edited by Dr Peter Rickwood.

MEMBERSHIP The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mount Tomah, Blue Mountains City Library, Blue Mountains Cultural Heritage Centre, Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc., Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc., Blue Mountains, Lithgow and Oberon Tourism Limited, Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute, Cudgegong Museums Group Inc., Eskbank Rail Heritage Centre, Everglades Historic House & Gardens, Friends of Norman Lindsay Gallery, Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc., Hartley Valley District Progress Association, Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc, Lilianfels Blue Mountains Resort, Lithgow and District Family History Society Inc., Lithgow Mining Museum Inc., Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies, Lithgow Small Arms Factory Museum Inc, Mt Victoria and District Historical Society Inc., Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine History Society Inc. (including Turkish Bath Museum), Mudgee Historical Society Inc., Mudgee Regional Library, National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Blue Mountains Branch, National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Lithgow Branch, Scenic World – Blue Mountains Limited, Springwood & District Historical Society Inc., Springwood Historians Inc., Transport Signal and Communication Museum Inc., The Darnell Collection Pty Ltd, Valley Heights Locomotive Depot and Museum, Woodford Academy Management Committee, Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd. The following are individual members: Ray Christison, Associate Professor Ian Jack, Joan Kent, John Leary OAM, John Low, Ian Milliss, Pastsy Moppett, Professor Barrie Reynolds, Dr Peter Rickwood and Dr Peter Stanbury OAM.

COMMITTEE The committee for 2012-13 is: Pamela Smith (president), Ian Jack (vice president), Jan Koperberg (secretary), Judy Barham, Joan Kent, Doug Knowles, John Leary, Dick Morony (public officer), and Scott Pollock.

.**AFFILIATIONS** BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society Inc.

HERITAGE

NEWSLETTER OF THE BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

JULY - AUGUST 2012 ISSUE No. 22

Governor opens 'The Red Admiral' exhibition at Mt Wilson

GOVERNOR of NSW, Professor Marie Bashir, AC CVO officially opened "The Red Admiral" – an exhibition of Patrick White's years at Mount Wilson last month

Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine Historical Society celebrated the centenary of Patrick White's May 28, 1912 birth date with the opening of an exhibition that examines the writer's early years at Mt Wilson.

It highlights the impact of both the Australian natural environment and the influence of working class and wealthy society individuals and families that were to strongly shape White for the remainder of his life.

"He [White] was one of our greatest writers and this exhibition enriches our understanding of him," said Professor Bashir .

"The hidden yearnings of White's characters are what I have most enjoyed and now I am inspired to revisit them," Professor Bashir said.

David Marr and Barbara Mobbs, White's biographer and literary executor respectively, were also guests of the society at the opening.

A specially commissioned 25 minute DVD of White, and his relationship to Mt Wilson, premiered at the exhibition.

The film featured interviews with three Mt Wilson residents, Peter Valder, Mary Reynolds and Libby Raines. Another three local residents – Rachael Kohn (interviewer), Huw Evans (narrator) and Fiona Carruthers (producer) – also made significant contributions to the film.

Mary Reynolds, OAM , the Governor of NSW Professor Marie Bashir AC CVO and Des Barrett at the exhibition opening

Dr Bernadette Brennan and Dr Susan Lever, two respected academics from the University of Sydney and the Association for the Study of Australian Literature (ASAL), and David Marr were also interviewed in the video and explore Mt Wilson's influence on White's works.

Both the video and the exhibition material were enthusiastically received by attendees.

Most people were genuinely surprised at the deep affection White had for his childhood home and the profound influence it had on his work.

At the conclusion of the opening formalities, Des Barrett, president of the Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine Historical Society, presented $5,000 to ASAL for the purpose of study at post-graduate level (MA or PhD) of the literary work of Patrick White.

ASAL have nominated that the scholarship would be jointly shared by Georgina Loveridge from the University of Sydney and Lorraine Burdett from the University of NSW. Both Georgina and Lorraine attended the opening and were presented to the audience by Bernadette Brennan, ASAL's president.

The exhibition is now in winter recess and will move to the Mt Wilson Turkish Bath in September through to May 2013.

Details of opening hours during this period will be announced at a later date.

The DVD can be obtained by contacting Tim Gow at historicalsociety@mtwilson.com.au or on (02) 4756 2032. A donation to the Society of $15 to cover postage and copying costs is suggested.

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An opinion from the editor.....

The digital age and the way researchers source information

FOR a decade or more libraries and universities around the world have been emptying their bookshelves of books as more of the bound paper objects are digitalised.

Of course some universities and to a lesser degree libraries are using the cover of a need to digitalise to dispose of publications which are not in regular demand thus freeing up valuable space for computers and work areas. Using the euphemisms of today this will mean 'the transformation of libraries from studious environments to social ones'.

Librarians have had to weigh up the pluses and minus of disposing of 'slow demand publications' from libraries and one of the more obvious downsides is this information bound between the dusty covers could be lost for ever.

So how is digitalising affecting the researchers — academics, professionals and more importantly for readers of this newsletter, people like the amateur historian and local studies enthusiasts?

Researchers face the task of acquiring technological skills to navigate the masses of information often displayed in an entirely different form of past centuries.

Generally speaking academics and professionals appear to have readily adapted to digitalisation; many predicting that with completion of indexing the time in researching subjects has been dramatically shortened allowing time saved "looking things up" to be used for more in-depth research. One of the downsides is of course that the easy access of information by students paves the way to more plagiarism.

But how are amateur historians coping? These are the people who as this column has stated many times before form the backbone of research and recording of our local history and heritage.

They have taken surprisingly well it would seem, to change, although there are some who have been left behind with the computer age and in particular digitalisation.

BMACHO with a generous grant from the Telstra Connected Seniors program earlier this year played a significant role in assisting local historians to better navigate the Internet and other organisations continue to assist older people.

Libraries are and have changed and it is interesting that the incoming chairman of the National Library of Australia, Ryan Stokes appears to come to the job making no claims as a scholar or lover of books. But rather in a previous life, he had according to the federal minister for arts shown leadership in "driving digital content and developing the digital economy with the wireless broadband provider Vividwireless."

John Leary, OAM - Past president, Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc.

What have we learned in 2067 years?

"THE budget should be balanced, the treasury should be refilled, public debt should be reduced, the arrogance of officialdom should be tempered and controlled, and the assistance to foreign lands should be curtailed lest Rome become bankrupt. People must again learn to work, instead of living on public assistance." Cicero - 55 BC

Correction

IN the May – June 2012 edition of *HERITAGE* it was reported that during the past 6 years Barrie [Reynolds] has been successful in gaining considerable funds for the work of BMACHO with more than $12,000 from successful applications in the past financial year.

While the statement was not incorrect it could have been reported that in his [Professor Reynold's] term of office BMACHO has been successful in applications at local, state and federal levels to the tune of some $25,000

Crisis for regional tourist icon Zig Zag Railway

ONE of the region's premier tourist attractions the heritage Zig Zag Railway at Clarence suddenly closed last month and could be off the rails for months after its board received notice to cease operations from the Independent Transport Safety Regulator (ITSR)

Larry Zanker, chairman, Zig Zag Railways issued the following statement: "Zig Zag railway has been operating both steam and diesel rail motor trains seven days a week for many years now.

"Unfortunately this intensive running schedule is taking its toll of our locomotives and carriages.

"Zig Zag Railway is currently developing a whole new set of procedures to ensure that we will be able to return to the services we offered before."

An ITSR spokesperson said the regulatory body did not consider there was an immediate threat to safety at the attraction but action had been forced by "systemic and management difficulties."

NSW Transport Minister Gladys Berejiklian has offered to provide the Zig Zag Railway's management with the advice, expertise and assistance it needs to update its operational systems to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements.

The Zig Zag Ralway is a 19th century engineering masterpiece and a renowned tourist attraction.

The Zig Zag is a full size, narrow gauge tourist railway located at Clarence, 10km east of Lithgow.

Built in the 1860s, the line was constructed to transport people and produce from the western plains of NSW to Sydney.

John Whitton, chief engineer of the NSW Government Railways, designed a 'Zig-Zag' line - a series of gently sloping ramps in the form of a letter 'Z' - which alternately push and pull trains down the escarpment.

The Zig Zag Railway, passes over three wonderful sandstone viaducts and through two hand-hewn tunnels plus a cutting. The views during its descent from the Blue Mountains into the Lithgow Valley are striking.

By the beginning of the 20th century rail traffic over the Blue Mountains was heavy and the single track was inadequate.

A ten-tunnel line was constructed through the escarpment and completed in 1910 bypassing the zig-zag line.

The trains, track and rolling stock are maintained and operated by the Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd, a voluntary, "not for profit' co-operative.

The Zig Zag Railway appeals to children and adults alike, especially those who once rode behind steam locomotives on the way to school or on holidays.

An early photograph of the heritage Zig Zag railway

A BMACHO member

Zig Zag Railway is an inaugural member of BMACHO and its members wish the railway's management and volunteers a speedy return of this great attraction steeped in the heritage of this region

Historians and friends congratulate John Low on Order of Australia award

MANY will have privately congratulated John Low on being recognised with an Order of Australia Medal (OAM) for his service to the Blue Mountains as a historian, author and librarian

HERITAGE in a salute to John an individual member of BMACHO, has invited a number of people to comment on the work of this truly quiet achiever.

Former president of BMACHO John Leary, OAM has written:
"Communities throughout Australia have men and women researching and chronicling local history, the immense product of which is and will be of immeasurable value to future students and those interested in our heritage. Most of these good people will go unheralded and John Low in his humble way might well say, 'Why me'.

"Simply … using the hackneyed phrase, 'his award is well deserved.' He has served his community well. He has been a doer, a giver and the Blue Mountains has been a better place for his coming.

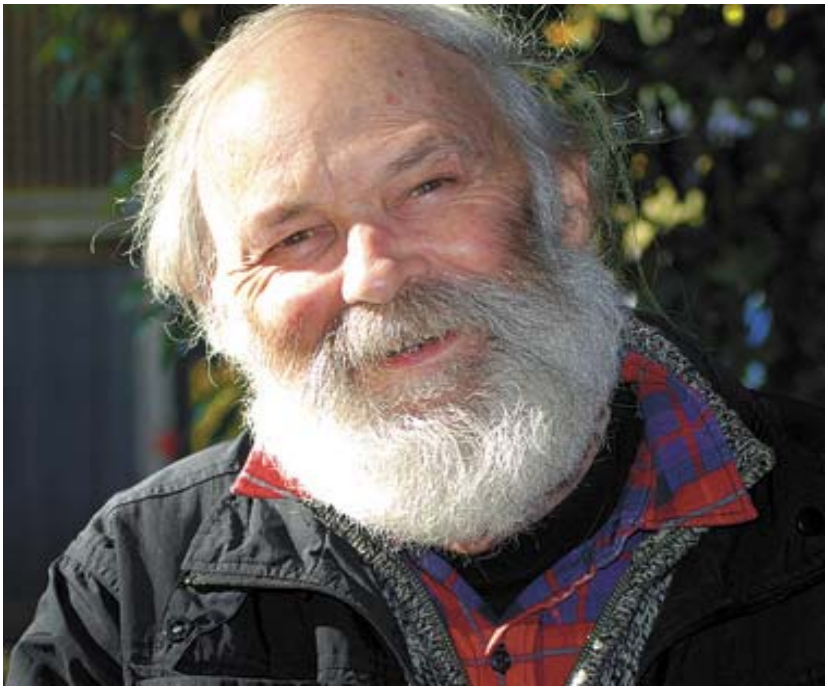
"John Low has a quality which marks him out as a person who is not only interesting but also interested.

"John as a historian, while always keen to discover the facts of our heritage portrays history in an interesting manner almost as if a raconteur.

"Not only is John interesting but he is also interested as a spectator of what is going on around him.

"I've learnt a great deal in my time as local studies librarian and my life in the Blue Mountains has been the richer for it. Now it's time to retire and let someone else enjoy it."

- John Low July 2, 2007



John Low, OAM --- Historian, gentleman and friend to many. Photograph courtesy Blue Mountains Gazette

"*Wild Ephemera* a collection of some his poems is indicative of his ability and skill as an unbiased observer of the natural and human history of the Blue Mountains.

"The opening stanza of his poem *LISTENING*,

With cries like breaking glass
five rosellas,
blue and scarlet darts
fire themselves
at a hidden target
somewhere
in the canopy's confusion.
My daughter is startled, but excited.
She loves the bush innocently, pointing
to where the birds have gone…

evokes an image which has been part of Blue Mountains heritage since time immemorial.

"One of the most refreshing of my memories of John was in the early years of this millennium when as chairman of the Friends of Woodford Academy; I invited a number of local poets including John Low and Deb Westbury to read poetry as a fund raiser for the National Trust of Australia (NSW).

"The day had been a success, but for me the jewel in the crown of the day was to quietly talk and listen to John about Woodford Academy.

"I listened enthralled to John quietly tell me what he knew about the property. He told me in a quite humble manner what he knew about the property encapsulating in a very short time more than I could have ever hoped to have researched on my own. John has continued to give me this sort of advice and support for more than a decade and particularly as the editor of *HERITAGE.*

"His advice is highly valued by all that come in contact with him not only in the Blue Mountains but in a much wider sphere.

"His pleasing personality and unassuming manner allows those seeking the benefit of his experience to gain access to a treasure trove of knowledge.

"Others will speak and write more eloquently than I of this giant of a man in the field of Blue Mountains heritage and whose love of local history seems to know no bounds,"

--- John Leary, OAM

‘A mastery of so many unfamiliar corners of Mountains history...’

Long term former president the RAHS and vice president of BMACHO, Associate Professor Ian Jack was one of many to respond to a request for a comment.

“All students of heritage and history in the Blue Mountains are much in the debt of John Low,” said Dr Jack

“By developing a local studies centre of excellence at Springwood Library, John has been an essential force in broadening public awareness of the diversity of surviving evidence.

“I was impressed at my first exposure to the local studies collections not only by the historical books and journals, the guide books, the rate books, the maps and the photographs, but also by the shelves of creative literature written in or inspired by the Mountains.

“The search-rooms became as a result an indispensable source for cultural history of all sorts.

“I was simultaneously pleased to find the rich files and photographs of the Springwood Historical Society cohabiting with the Blue Mountains City Council’s local studies library and equally accessible.

“While John’s own holdings dealt even-handedly with the whole of the Blue Mountains City, their location in Springwood implied inevitably a particular relationship with historians of the lower Mountains and the relationship of the two independent collections has benefited all potential users.

“John’s amiability, unflappability and determination, combined with his own effortless mastery of so many unfamiliar corners of Mountains history, have given him a very special place in the affections of all right-minded scholars,”

--- **Ian Jack**.

“He kept me entertained with his conversation...”

President Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc and secretary of BMACHO, Jan Koperberg writes: “I first remember meeting John Low in 1988, when I purchased two Blue Mountains City Council posters, one by H Rousel and one by Joe Booker, which I still have, framed in my home.

“At the time John was in the local studies section of Springwood library when it was in the “dungeons”, under the existing library, which now houses the librarians’ offices.

“However, it would have been a much quieter and much roomier location than the present local studies section, where it shares with Braemar Gallery.

“Over the years, when I have come into contact with John, he has always been the same. Always pleasant and always willing to provide assistance.

“He has been guest speaker at a number of Blue Mountains Family History Society meetings and I once drove John to Windsor for a meeting of the Hawkesbury Family History Group, where he was guest speaker.

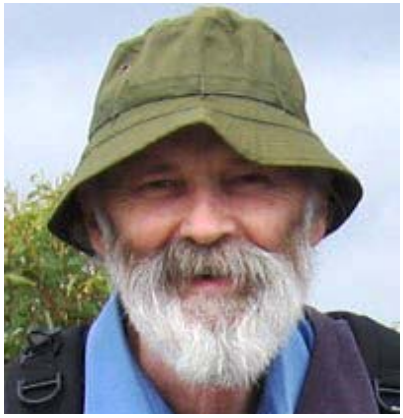
“He kept me entertained with his conversation to and from Windsor.

John is ever the historian, still researching, still taking groups on tours, still guest speaking and assisting others with their research.

“His daughters say to him that he is still doing what he was doing when he was working, but now he doesn’t get paid. John recalls this with a laugh.

“Congratulations John, you thoroughly deserve the OAM award.”

--- Jan Koperberg



John Low OAM --- Simply Australia

WELL DESERVED

Manager Blue Mountains City Council’s libraries and customer services Vicki Edmunds has contributed the text from an address at his retirement in 2007

John Low was employed by the Blue Mountains City Library as a local history librarian in March 1982 on a 6 month contract to establish a local history collection.

“Following an extension of this contract, he was appointed on a permanent basis in September 1983.

“From these small beginnings the local history (now studies) collection has grown into a large and valuable part of the library’s reference and information service.

“It has been used by a wide variety of people – school and university students, local residents seeking explanations for place and street names, professional and local historians, authors, songwriters etc. – and has been acknowledged in numerous publications.

“Besides acquiring material and answering inquiries John enjoyed getting out and speaking to community groups and school classes and liaising with the various historical societies.

“He particularly enjoyed researching lots of hidden corners of Blue Mountains history and planned to continue doing this.”

John retired from Blue Mountains Library Service in August, 2007.

--- Vicki Edmunds

Continued page 5

"I doff my cap to John Low, OAM"

President of the Blue Mountains Historical Society, Graham Warmbath writes, "I doff my cap to John Low, OAM"

"As a boy in war time Britain, chortling over Sir David Low cartoons of Hitler and Musollini, if someone had told me that one day I should meet a relative, how could I have believed that? Yet it's happened.

"If Sir David 'damaged Anglo-German relations', John has charmed us all from his 'head full of secrets'.

"Did I really think that the soldiers of the 4th King's Own Regiment of Foot would lead as harsh a life as those of the convicts? I could go on!

"John Low is a prominent member of Blue Mountains Historical Society and of its management committee, taking responsibility for a program of 'walks and talks' which has attracted a community and grown membership of the society.

"Formerly, John was Blue Mountains City Council's local studies librarian, based at Springwood library. I first met John there, a genial mercurial figure with whom I felt at ease.

"Fast forward to Monday June, 11 last: *The Sydney Morning Herald* publishes the Queen's Birthday Honours List 2012… John Carlisle Low has been awarded the Order of Australia Medal 'for service to the Blue Mountains as a historian, author and librarian'… news that melted all composure.

"Well done, friend. Hurrah from the Blue Mountains Historical Society."

--- Graham Warmbath

Encyclopaedic knowledge

Vice president of the Blue Mountains Historical Society Judy Baham writes: "As a comparative newcomer to the Mountains, I have always found John's encyclopaedic knowledge of the area inspiring.

"Little snippets of information given freely come at most unexpected times.

"I enjoy the lectures he gives. They are often on obscure events of local history which he turns into an absorbing tale.

"As Blue Mountains Historical Society's librarian, I can always turn to John for advice and recommendations for new books and know that what he says is sound advice.

"I can never hope to acquire his knowledge of Blue Mountains authors and their works."

--- Judy Barham

John Low on the verandah of "Braemar", Springwood 1987, a building in which he spent considerable time as a local studies librarian. Photograph Blue Mountains City Library collection.

John's train trips to foster local history

Former president Blue Mountains Histoical Society and current editor *Blue Mountains History Journal* Dr Peter Rickwood writes: "It is pleasing that the contributions of the pre-eminent historian in the Blue Mountains have at last been recognised with the award of an OAM.

"One aspect of John's activities that has not been covered by others is his willingness to travel in the interest of fostering local history.

"For some years John made weekly train journeys from Leura to North Sydney to work as a volunteer at the Don Bank Museum.

"But although that is his usual mode of transport he is not restricted to the rail corridor as one of his passions is for walking.

"Thus he has been known to attend ceremonies etc. all over the Blue Mountains irrespective of their location and the prevailing weather conditions, and his presence is always appreciated.

"Congratulations John."

--- Peter Rickwood

A man unstinting of his time

President of BMACHO and co-founder Springwood Historians, Pamela Smith writes: "John deserves the award for all the hard work and dedication he put into building up the local studies collection from virtually nothing to a very valuable asset of BMCC.

"He was always unstinting in the time he gave to local schools, service organisations and people that frequented local studies (including myself) and as a result John has gained wide recognition and respect from all those with whom he came into contact."

--- Pamela Smith

Miles and her mates in the Mountains

A prolific writer and biographer of Miles Franklin, Professor Emerita, Jill Roe, AO (at right) will be one of a line up of first class speakers at the Blue Mountains History conference in October this year.

Professor Roe has chosen the title *Miles and her mates in the Mountains* for her 'talk'

Jill is professor emerita in modern history at Macquarie University, Sydney.

She is the author of the prize-winning *Stella Miles Franklin — A Biography* (2008, now available in paperback and as an e-book), and editor of selections of Miles Franklin's letters (*My Congenials*, 2nd edition, 2010) and her topical writings (*A Gregarious Culture*, 2001, with Margaret Bettison).

She is a long-standing member of the editorial board of the *Australian Dictionary of Biography*. At present she is working on aspects of regional history

At Macquarie University, Sydney, she has most recently served as Director of the Macquarie PEN Anthology of the Australian Literature Centre.

Professor Jill Roe AO the author of the prize-winning Stella Miles Franklin — A Biography

She has published books on urban and social policy history in Australia; also on the history of alternative religious movements, and is now a leading authority on the life and works of Australian writer Stella Miles Franklin.

Professor Roe was visiting Professor of Australian Studies at Harvard University from 1994-1995, and an honorary visiting fellow at the Schlesinger Library, Radcliff College in 1999. She was chair of the editorial board of the *Australian Dictionary of Biography* from 1996-2006, an associate editor of a *Supplementary Volume* (2005), and is an ongoing member of the ADB's NSW Working Party.

From 1998-2002 she was president of the Australian Historical Association and is a life member.

From 2005 to 2008 she held leading positions in the NSW History Council. She has been a member of the Australian Nominating Committee, Harvard Chair of Australian Studies since 2005, and in 2009 was appointed a member of the editorial board of *History Australia.*

Her biography of Miles Franklin was awarded the Queensland Premier's History Book prize 2009, and the South Australian Premier's non-fiction prize and the Magarey Medal for Biography in 2010.

Major sponsors come on board for conference

IN another boost to the Blue Mountains History conference, Blue Mountains City Council has donated $600 from its Community Donations Program.

This amount and the $500 from the Katoomba and Upper Blue Mountains Community Bank (Bendigo Bank) will assist in defraying some of the administrative costs associated with organising this important inaugural event.

BMACHO president, Pamela Smith said government grant funds are becoming particularly difficult to obtain in this current climate.

"In addition to the two major sponsors already commit ted BMACHO would like to thank Blue Mountains City Council library, the Federal Member for Macquarie, Louise Markus MP, who arranged for the printing of invitations for supporting the conference at no cost.

"Other sponsors are also being sought to keep the fee for participants within reasonable limits," Pamela said.

See comment by Robert Stock, chairman of Upper Blue Mountains Community Bank (Bendigo Bank) on page 13

Thanks to Louise Markus, MP - Member for Macquarie

World War 2 in the Blue Mountains

By Joan Edwards

HOW did mountains people live during WW2?

The common view was that war would be repeat of 1914-1918; an expeditionary force would be formed, go overseas, women would send knitted socks and food parcels, and war would be "over there".

The Commonwealth enacted several pieces of legislation in the first week including banning certain imports, price controls and regulation of enemy aliens.

Within the background of international politics and events, a mere 7 million Australians occupied this island nation, many of whom still called Britain "home" even though they had never been there.

The Commonwealth Government declared the narrow coastal belt from Newcastle to Wollongong as the priority area, ignoring the small mountain settlements with dairies, poultry farms and piggeries, the holiday destinations of the upper mountains and the Lithgow Valley industrial area yet to recover from the depression.

The significance of the area was not fully realised until 1942.

Censorship determined what the public was allowed to know as well as what the government wanted them to believe – not necessarily the facts.

Many variations of the facts have emerged over the years so it has been necessary to rely on Trove's digitised major metropolitan newspapers for the wartime version to which I have been able to add released information, extant newspapers and records, oral histories, reminiscences and unexpected, once restricted, archival material.

There are several recurring themes all of which relate to the political, military, social and economic conditions at the time.

Rationing was in force, some items were on the coupon system, others when shopkeepers eked out their supplies to regular customers.

Providing an escort to Wentworth Falls station for a patient allowed to go home

Creativity and ingenuity were paramount as local ladies dried used tea leaves to bulk out the official supply sufficient for two cups per day, or use golden syrup when no egg was available to bind a cake.

Similarly they could dodge the holes in Dad's worn out trousers, turn them inside out and create new trousers for the son.

One pre-war development at the Small Arms Factory, Lithgow was to revert from peacetime orders such as golf club heads and handcuffs back to guns for which they were famed in WW1.

The output of Bren guns was outstanding especially in view of strikes, not receiving full set of blue prints or tools and under trained workforce.

Lithgow's coal mines, electricity generation, woollen mills, pottery works and nearby Portland Cement Works all contributed to the war effort.

Goods to and from these locations crossed the mountains by the one direct road or rail line through the Blue Mountains.

Lithgow could not house the ever increasing workforce so shanty camps developed.

Secondary medical screening using X-rays identified tuberculosis in many recently enlisted personnel.

In numerous cases it was two or three weeks after attestation so they were discharged into the care of the Red Cross at Bodington Sanatorium at Wentworth Falls.

Medical advances in T.B. treatment were in their infancy and Bodington became recognised for its care. Other male TB patients were nearby at the Queen Victoria Homes with fewer amenities.

Activity increased in the desperate days of 1942. Brownouts were in force, and all signage removed from streets and railway stations.

Street lighting and vehicle headlights were hooded.

In addition to usual voluntary support services, volunteers undertook roles within the National Emergency Services (NES) as wardens, first aiders, ambulance drivers and filled any other positions as required.

Several centres produced hundreds of camouflage nets, while others took up the challenge and joined the Volunteer Air Observers Corps (plane spotters) and provided 24 hour service at Wentworth Falls and Blackheath.

Continued page 9

Volunteer Defence Force lost its "dad's Army image

Continued from page 8

The Volunteer Defence Force lost its Dad's Army image as it came under military control.

They were readied for possible invasion, prepared for sabotage if required. Gun emplacements were established to defend Lithgow industries. The route across the mountains was vital.

Hundreds of SAF workers were housed in the upper Blue Mountains. The workers were transported by rail, later by buses.

It is difficult to imagine the men and women, working 12 and 8 hour shifts respectively, travelling by buses limited to 20 miles per hour due to brownout regulations, or even loaded buses travelling up Victoria Pass at that speed.

The impact of voluntary evacuations to the mountains in 1942 is difficult to comprehend.

Katoomba school (K to 3rd year high) had 830 pupils in 1941, and an extra 500 turned up on the first school day in 1942.

Up to 70 extras turned up at primary schools. Mountain boarding schools were filled to capacity and several Sydney boarding schools set up temporary boarding houses.

Teachers were called up, retirees and married women taught in classrooms or hallways or open lunch sheds or any other available space.

Victoria Barracks needed a less vulnerable location and requisitioned Burnside Homes at North Parramatta and so buildings to house another 500 had to be requisitioned in Springwood.

Leura's large bus depot was taken to store emergency food supplies and the Hydro Majestic Hotel for a U.S. army hospital.

The pros and cons of obtaining chemical weapons for retaliatory purposes was discussed from the mid 1930s as it was known the Japanese were using them in China.

It was not until the 1990s that citizens knew about Glenbrook tunnel storage, even then the extent of chemical weapon storage was not revealed. Of course, spies and enemy aliens are essential in war stories and, yes, we had them too.

All this went on within mountains life as we know it. Droughts, storms, weddings, thefts, sporting activities, movies, bushfires, late trains, lost bushwalkers, golf results and more bushfires as well as fears, uncertainty and the stress of family and friends serving overseas, the ever increasing lists of casualties and the dreaded telegram announcing missing or killed in action.

About the author

Joan Edwards is an historical geographer with a particular interest in people and events within their total environment – physical, built, social, economic and political.

This research results from Joan's desire to place her childhood memories in the environmental context.

Joan has produced numerous publications over the years including educational texts for Oxford University Press and others.

Joan is the past president of the Blue Mountains Family History Socity Inc.and currently its vice president.

World War 2 in the Blue Mountains will be published by Blue Mountains Family History Society in 2013.

DAFFODILS AT THEIR BEST MOUNT TOMAH

AUGUST 18-26

Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mount Tomah will be supporting the Cancer Council's Daffodil Day on Friday, August 24 as part of a week long festival celebrating the beauty of daffodils and in anticipation of the start of spring. For detailS see page 13.

Managing your collection workshop

State Records in partnership with RAHS will conduct a regional workshop, *Managing Your Collection* on Saturday, November 24.

Being organised by BMACHO, the workshop will be held at Hobby's Reach the property of Blue Mountains Historical Society, 101 Blaxland Road, Wentworth Falls.

The workshop will commence at 10.30am and a cup of tea or coffee will be available from 10am.

Morning tea will be provided halfway through the workshop and a light lunch will be provided at 1.30pm.

Bookings are essential by e-mail to: j.koperberg@bigpond.com or phone to Jan Koperberg 902) 4754 1544.

SAVE 10% on early bird bookings

BLUE MOUNTAINS HISTORY CONFERENCE

To be held at the historic Carrington Hotel, Katoomba
on, Saturday, October 20, 2012
Conference theme: "*Colonial Society*"
with a great line-up of speakers and presenters

PROGRAM

Conference to be opened by former president RAHS, Prof Ian Jack.

Prolific writer and biographer of Miles Franklin Professor Emerita, Jill Roe, AO has chosen the title Miles and her mates in the Mountains for her 'talk'

Colonial dress by Glynis Jones, curator fashion & dress design & society, Powerhouse Museum.

The early years of the colony by keynote speaker, Prof Paul Ashton, co-director Australian Centre for Public History.

The Carrington Hotel - a return to the era of grace, elegance and charm. A tour guided by Paul Innes.

Nature and role of gardens in the early settlement period by Silas Cliford-Smith archivist at the Heritage Centre, UNE

Musical interlude Jim Low, folk singer, historian and writer.

Bookings with full payment before August 20 will be discounted to $45 per person ---

Cost includes morning and afternoon tea as well as lunch in the historic grand dining room of Carrington Hotel.

For further information and early bookings (capacity limited to 120 participants) contact Jan Koperberg at j.koperberg@bigpond.com or bmacho.heritage@gmail.com

Paddy Ryan left his mark in stone, but much of his life is an enigma

by Pamela Smith - Springwood Historians

PADDY Ryan, the local Blue Mountains stonemason, remains somewhat of an enigma. Not a great deal is known about his life or origins despite being described as an 'early character of the district.'

It appears that he did not belong to any association or group in Springwood because when his name was mentioned periodically in the newspapers it was only in relation to his profession.

The earliest official record of Paddy is documented on the 1891 census, where it was said that Patrick Ryan lived in a private house on Grose Road, Faulconbridge.

A few years later the 1894-5 electoral roll confirmed again that he was still residing at Faulconbridge.

His occupation had changed, and was noted then as being a 'farmer'. Andrew Ryan, a labourer of Springwood was also listed on the same roll, but it is not known if the two were related.

It is not clear how much land he owned because his name does not appear on any early maps. However, it appears that the property he held was located in the vicinity of Grose Road and Chapman Parade.

The road that is currently Chapman Parade was known initially as Grose Road, and the present day extension of Grose Road past the high school was known then as Links Road. More specifically, it would seem that Paddy owned the property where the Norman Lindsay Gallery is currently located.

That home, along with several others in the district, attests to the high quality and enduring nature of his workmanship. Some years prior to the 1890s he is believed to have been responsible for the erection of several other buildings in the area.

At Faulconbridge/Linden he is thought to have built *Lady Martin's Bath*, *Martin's Folly* and a home for Sir Alfred Stephen.

Everton built by Paddy Ryan for the Hon John Meeks in 1875-7 is still standing,

Around c1882-3, in the same area, he was the stonemason who built *Eurama/Weemala* for Andrew Hardie McCulloch MP, to a design supplied by colonial architect George Mansfield.

Paddy was employed again c1885-7 for the building of *Everton* for the Hon. John Meeks. *Everton* still exists. Paddy was most fortunate to have a 'moneyed local' clientele.

According to the *Nepean Times* (June 2, 1894), the skill of local stonemason Paddy Ryan was in demand again.

This time he was erecting a stone cottage for Mrs Quarry (formerly Gibbes). The *Times* mentioned that the home was being built on land that lay along Lomatia Park Road.

A paper written many years ago by Mrs Quarry's grandson, Mr HB Gibbes**,** stated that 'several attempts' were made at building the cottage from stone that was quarried from a site nearby.

Unfortunately Mr Gibbes did not elaborate on what the problem was. The home later became *Stonehaven*, a home for boys, which was demolished 1966-7 for the Great Western highway deviation.

Several years later the *Nepean Times* (June 18, 1898) related that P Ryan, contractor, was about to 'finish off' the home that stood on property he had subsequently sold to Francis Foy of Mark Foy fame.

Paddy had long been in the process of building the home, dubbed *Erin go Brangh* ---but according to the newspaper the home stood unfinished for many years.

We have no way of knowing how Foy came to know about the property because it is so far off the main road as to make it invisible to anyone passing.

Perhaps Paddy advertised it for sale in the paper but, if he did, we have no record.

Foy subsequently owned portions 4 (80 acres), 108 (42 acres) and 110 (50 acres) along the present day Chapman Parade.

But it is not clear if Paddy Ryan was the original owner of all three lots.
Continued page 12

Paddy before the court for having "too much "powder on the job"

In March 1898 John Lawler, a Sydney bedding manufacturer, employed Paddy Ryan to build his stone cottage on a rather uneven piece of property that he owned in Railway Parade, Springwood.

The home still stands today and is one of the finest in the district. It is listed on the Blue Mountains City Council heritage register.

The erection of Lawler's home did not pass without its share of drama. The quarryman (Paddy?) who was working on the project was served with a fine for having 'too much powder on the job', with insufficient means of storage.

He was obliged to appear before the bench at Penrith Court House where he was duly fined. The name of Lawler's home, *Eringah*, like Paddy Ryan's unfinished home (*Erin go brah*), would suggest they both had Irish connections.

In August 1903 the *Nepean Times* correspondent mentioned that 'Mr P Ryan was doing some good work as a stonemason at Mr Lawler's new buildings'.

Unfortunately, the reporter failed to specify where these buildings were! Almost a year went by without further news, and in July 1904 readers were told by the *Nepean Times* that Mr P Ryan of Vale of Avoca had lately started in the poultry farming line.

An amazing tale was told of an Orpington hen he had purchased from a Rooty Hill poultry farm that had laid 66 eggs without a break.

The poor hen rested for a week before she started this amazing feat all over again! He was reported to be very pleased with his purchase.

Paddy had a stern warning given to him via the pages of the same paper in 1906, which said that it would be advisable for Mr Ryan to keep his pigs and poultry well protected with the rifle club members so anxious to start shooting.

The exact location of Vale of Avoca is unclear, however a paperback entitled *Exploring the Blue Mountains* mentions a place with this name as being downstream of the Grose Valley.

The first explorer into the narrow valley was William Paterson who thought it might be a gateway to the west. However, it is not known if this refers to the place of residence of our Paddy Ryan.

Paddy is known to have married Kathleen (Kate) but no details are available as to where or when this event occurred.

They had a son Patrick junior who was a contemporary of William and Percy Croucher.

The three made a return trip on foot to Jenolan Caves in 1895.

Paddy died in 1917, and proctor James CJ Ryan administered his estate. Kate was his beneficiary.

The 1920 electoral roll mentions Thomas George Ryan, railway employee, *Tyneside* Faulconbridge, Kathleen Ryan, St Martha's Home Leichhardt, and Martin Ryan, *Avoca*, Archer Street, Chatswood, as owners of allotments of land at Faulconbridge.

It seems safe to assume that Kathleen (his wife?) and Martin were relatives of Paddy but more research would be required to confirm if all three shared kinship.

About the author.....

Pamela Smith, the author of this biography of Paddy Ryan is a regular contributor to *HERITAGE*.

She has an Advanced Diploma in Local, Family & Applied History, a Bachelor of Arts (Hons.) in History and is currently studying for a Masters in History all through the University of New England Armidale.

She has studied Australian and international history, museum practices, and conservation. Her special interests are women's history, the history of education and politics and social history in general.

She is currently working through a unit on crime, punishment and servitude which encompasses the convict era, the architecture and function of early prisons, World War internment in Australia and the current day internment of asylum seekers.

She is also currently president of the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc and a founding member of Springwood Historians. She also serves on Blue Mountains City Council's heritage advisory committee.

An avid local history researcher and author she has been published on a wide range of subjects.

This article was first published on Springwood Historians blog http://springwood historians.blogspot.com.au/

Book before 20 August and save 10%
Blue Mountains History Conference
20 October, 2012 at Carrington Hotel Katoomba

Contact Jan Koperberg at j.koperberg@bigpond.com

Magnificent old giants at Mount Tomah

School children measuring the girth of a giant Eucalyptus fastigata (Brown Barrels) tree trunk at Mount Tomah

THE Blue Mountains Botanic Garden at Mount Tomah will celebrate National Tree Day as a family day with displays and walks.

National Tree Day this year is on Sunday, July 29 and activities are planned in the garden from 10.30am to 2.30pm.

Visitors to the Blue Mountains Botanic Garden can discover the magnificent old giants of Mount Tomah.

They can be guided through the ancient hollows of *Eucalyptus fastigata* (Brown Barrels) and meet dinosaur trees - the tallest living species in the world!

The Waratah Education Centre will open its doors to showcase our wonderful world of trees.

Images, barks, fruits, seeds, amazing facts about trees and their life giving properties can be seen.

Since 1996 National Tree Day has recorded over 2.8 million volunteers planting over 17 million native trees and shrubs.

National Tree Day includes a whole range of different activities around Australia including planting trees and native plants and bushes, caring for trees and plants by removing weeds, information sessions, bushwalks and more. Most of all it is lots of fun!

The Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mount Tomah sits on a basalt peak 1,000 metres above sea level in the World Heritage listed Greater Blue Mountains.

The garden is home to thousands of species of cool climate and southern hemisphere plants

Daffodil festival

The early bulbs are starting to appear and once again the Blue Mountains Botanic Garden will support the Cancer Council the Daffodil Festival from August 18-26.

With optimum growing conditions, the garden will be transformed by a sea of golden hues as additional plantings of daffodils erupt in bloom.

Enjoy a picnic, take some photographs or simply enjoy the mass plantings. Cut flowers and Cancer Council merchandise will be available for sale.

Contact details for all events:
Call: 02 4567 3000 / Restaurant Tomah 02 4567 2060
Email: tomah@rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au
Find us on Facebook
www.mounttomahbotanicgarden.com.au
Entry to the Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mount Tomah is free.

Bendigo Bank supports Blue Mountains history conference

BENDIGO Bank through its local branch, Katoomba and Upper Blue Mountains Community Bank has donated $600 towards the administration costs of the Blue Mountains History Conference

Chairman of the Katoomba and Upper Blue Mountains Community Bank, local resident Robert Stock announcing the donation said, “The bank is very pleased to have the opportunity to offer support to the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc with a contribution towards the cost of the annual history conference in October.

“It is clear that much of our cultural heritage is lost over the years as technologies change and our built environment is redeveloped.

“Hopefully with advocacy and education provided by organisations such as BMACHO, where redevelopment is necessary, it can be done sensitively and in such a way that evidence of the past is not lost.

“Maintaining this cultural heritage adds interest and quality to life up here in the mountains.

“It is of course also a significant theme with our local tourism industry.

As such BMACHO’s efforts to understand and preserve our cultural heritage are applauded.

“We wish BMACHO every success with its conference later this year,” Mr Stock said

Robert Stock

Lithgow Small Arms Factory to celebrate centenary

LITHGOW Small Arms Factory Museum will celebrate the centenary of the establishment of the factory which went on to be the source of much of Australia's defence equipment for World War 1 and 2.

An exhibition of pre-federation colonial weapons will be presented by the Lithgow Small Arms Factory Museum in conjunction with the Antique Arms Collectors Society of Australia from September 20 to October 27.

A series of centenary workshop talks will be conducted over the weekend October 20-21.

For more information on these activities contact the Lithgow Small Arms Factory Museum by e-mail to lithgowsafmusesum@ozemail.com.au or by telephone to (02) 6351 4452.

BRIEF HISTORY OF THE SMALL ARMS FACTORY

The Federation of the Australian states in 1901 resulted in a uniform defence and armed services policy being implemented.

When the British Army adopted the .303 calibre short, magazine Lee-Enfield rifle for general issue to its forces colonial governments were "asked" to standardise and submit orders to the UK for the new weapons.

It was proposed in Australia that the country should be more self sufficient and manufacture its own defence needs in its own arsenal and a number of sites were considered for Australia's first rifle manufacturing facility.

The government received an offer in 1904 by Mr W Sandford of Eskbank Ironworks to lease land, supply cheap coal and prepare his plant to produce the steel required for the manufacture of rifles if Lithgow was chosen.

The Lithgow Progress Association also made representation to the Honorable Sir Joseph Cook MP on Lithgow's behalf.

After considerable investigations by the defence department and inspection by Lord Kitchener in 1909, Lithgow was chosen as the site to establish a small arms factory.

The ready supply of steel and coal for power were the main factors but it was also believed that Lithgow was beyond the range of the naval guns of the day.

Engineer Commander William Clarkson of the Royal Australian Navy was seconded by the defence department to supervise all operations.

A suitable parcel of land was purchased and the contract to erect the factory buildings was let to the firm of Jones and Allman early in 1910.

A rifle fan display at the Small Arms Factory, Lithgow

The contract for the power plant was given to the State Government Dockyard.

World wide tenders were called for the supply of suitable plant to manufacture 1,500 rifles per annum. Despite there being three British tenders, the contract was awarded to the Pratt & Whitney Company of Hartford Connecticut., USA because of its assurance its machinery was designed for the "American method of repetition manufacture" which is now known as "high precision mass production". Included in the contract was the supply of machine tools, tooling and gauges as well as the training of six craftsmen in America.

The factory was officially opened by the Governor General, Baron Denman on June 8, 1912.

The level of employment grew rapidly from 25 to 300 in 1913 and the onset of war in 1914 brought increased production, extra shifts and a labour force which reached 1,150 by the end of hostilities in 1918. The factory was the largest employer in Lithgow and continued pioneering the techniques of mass production with precision tools and highly trained personnel which enabled it to produce all of Australia's weapon needs.

Rifle production declined in the 1920's with a resulting reduction in the work-force but production of the .303" Vickers machine gun commenced in a newly erected building circa 1924 and staff numbers began to rise.

The 1930s' depression caused more reductions in staff with the figure reduced to around 250 employees. Despite much opposition from the private sector the factory began to undertake commercial production in an attempt to retain its workforce and keep the factory operational.

This work included the manufacture of Western Electric 'talkie' projectors, reverse engineered sheep shearing hand-sets, Slazenger golf clubs, spanners, sewing machines, police handcuffs and many other non-military items.

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Tribute to Bills horse troughs

Patsy Moppett an individual member of BMACHO and a heritage consultant at Yethome who contributed this article writes: 'Following up on previous articles in *HERITAG*E about Bills horse troughs, I would like to add a little more information. Having developed an interest in them elsewhere in NSW and Victoria, I began to notice them a little closer to home'

BILLS horse troughs are located in mostly in country towns throughout NSW and Victoria, although there are some to be found in the metropolitan area.

They were a feature of the Depression years, and none were made after 1940.

Many had a small dog drinking trough attached to the side. The average daily drinking water requirement for a horse is said to be about 50 litres.

Other troughs are showing signs of wear, and with most people not being aware of their significance they are sometimes inadvertently destroyed.

Some are still in pristine condition in their original locations, and others have been relocated to sites near museums etc.

Many of the troughs have had to be moved to make way for road works, and many were destroyed or dumped in rubbish tips.

Many were saved from this fate and have found their way into private ownership and with tender loving care are still preserved today.

They are very much sort after items for features in gardens

Some have been relocated to sporting grounds and are used for their original purpose for watering horses, or for garden beds.

The two at Narrandra are classic examples, being located at the pony club grounds as a flower trough, and at the show ground, possibly still being used as a drinking trough.

Within the Blue Mountains there are several, at Medlow Bath, Glenbrook, Warrimoo and Wentworth Falls.

Another unrelated trough is located at Lawson, being donated by Mrs. R D Meagher to "The dumb friends of man" presented to the Blue Mountains Shire Council in 1921.

A Bills horse trough at Wentworth Falls

The Glenbrook trough has been well documented by John Low, historian, in the March-April 2011 edition of *HERITAGE.*

The history of their troughs and their origins with George and Annis Bills was related admirably by John Leary, OAM in the January-February 2010 edition of *HERITAGE*.

The troughs at Medlow Bath and Wentworth Falls are of standard design.

They are mostly a water area, a cistern with an iron lid being at one end.

There is the additional small water trough for dogs and cats at the right hand end.

The pedimented section at the rear has the usual terrazzo panel nearing the Bills' name.

The trough at Warrimoo is the same usual characteristic design, but lacking the small side trough for small animals.

The trough was relocated in 1999 from the highway frontage, and now sits within a small park, where its significance is somewhat lost, away from where horses would normally have passed through.

Much of the wider research into Bills troughs can be attributed to the work of George Gemmill, who has travelled all over with his dog Hamish, recording and photographing them.

George is the" keeper of the memories" and has recorded over 310 locations where the troughs may be found in NSW, Victoria, Western Australia and from Great Britain. He has yet to find any in South Australia or Tasmania.

As a young boy and growing up in Newport, Melbourne Australia, George sold papers on the Williamstown short road ferry. He can remember a Bills trough which was in a park over the road from the Newport Hotel near the bus stop.

As lads they used to meet around this spot, and the trough was used by the few horses which were still being used to deliver bread, milk, ice and wood around Newport. This would have been about 1948.

Compassion for animals during the depression

Continued from page 15

George has dedicated a web site to the memories of Annis and George Bills, who showed such compassion for animals during the Depression.

From his travels he has collected a large library of photographs, and has displayed the images and their locations on his web site.

He has received photographs of Bills troughs from places as far away as London Ireland and Northcliffe in Western Australia, and he is always open to add in items that others find.

A Bills horse trough at Warimoo

The Webmaster of his site can be contacted at billshorsetroughs@hotmail.com and George always welcomes inquiries, and additions to the library.

There are still some to be found. Any new ones I find, I relate the information to George Gemmill, as do other people from across the globe.

He would love to hear of any others through the Blue Mountains and elsewhere that are hidden away in some back street or in a rear yard gathering moss.

As an aside, the other water trough located at Lawson at the Honour Avenue Gardens, was originally installed in the 1920s in Douglass Square and relocated to its current setting in Honour Avenue near the remnant steps of the Grand Hotel (prior to the hotel's destruction by fire) during earlier refurbishments.

The trough has a recessed trough beneath, probably for use by dogs. It has a timber post and rail buffer plank to the road, with a plate and lock fixed to the plank to prevent access.

The trough is in reasonable condition with clear lettering, painted yellow, mostly flaked off. It no longer functions as a refill trough, containing rainwater only.

The trough has a plaque on each end which reads "The Dumb Friends of Man. Presented to the Blue Mountains Shire Council by Mrs RD Meagher, Lawson 1921".

A review of the trough's history was presented by John Low in the September-October 2011 issue of *HERITAGE*.

References:

Conservation Management Plan for Honour Avenue Gardens, Lawson, for Blue Mountains City Council 2007
http://billshorsetroughs.spaces.live.com
www.webdotwiz.com/billshorsetroughs
NSW Heritage Office Listings

e-mails are bouncing

IN recent times a number of members of the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) may have been missing out on e-mailed advice of activities and other information.

Secretaries of organisations are particularly asked to provide this updated information as often the secretary or contact person for the society also changes from time to time.

.Email addresses with the contact name and telephone number of all individual and organisational members should be e-mailed to BMACHO's secretary at j.koperberg@gmail.com .

Bendigo Community Bank helps Everglades prepare for fire

A dontaion of $1500 from Bendigo Community Bank will be used by Everglades Historic House and Gardens to purchase a pump to better equip the property for firefighting.

President of the Everglades fund-raising committee, sandy Luxford approached the Katoomba bank asking for a dontaion for the equipment and within a short time the board approved the donation.

This is the second time the Bendigo Community Bank has supported Everglades, last year sponsoring the inaugural Vintage and Retro weekend.

The National Trust property Everglades which adjoins vast stretches of national park bushland has been lucky since the 1930s to escape from bushfires.

The 2011 fire reached to within 500 metres of the property and the Gordon Creek area has not been burnt since the 1957 bushfires.

Head gardner, Guy McIlrath has always been aware of the issue and pointed out the need for a fire-fighting pump.

Everglades at Leura is set in one of Australia's foremost heritage gardens.

The house and gardens were designed in the 1930s as a week-end retreat by Danish-born architect Paul Sorensen.

The property sits on the edge of the Jamison Valley and offers breathtaking views across the Blue Mountains National Park.

The gardens themselves cover more than 12 acres and feature both European and native Australian flora.

Everglades is open from 10am to 5pm in spring and summer and from 10am to 4pm in autumn and winter.

Cemetery walk remembers Gallipoli hero

A cemetery walk at the Lithgow Cemetery to mark ANZAC day 2012 was held by the Lithgow & District Family History Society Inc.

The walk started with morning tea in the car park and the sharing of ANZAC biscuits made by member Cecily McCarten where participants also had a discussion about returned service men and women. This was followed by the playing of the Last Post and one-minute silence before commencing the walk.

Each visitor was given a map showing the graves of 12 returned servicemen.

It was very fitting to see Sandra Haley able to lay the card on her own father Alfred Piggott's grave and Cecily McCarten lay the card on her grandfather Cecil Ford's grave.

Members visited the grave of Private Joseph Peter King who was a Gallipoli hero.

Joseph King was born in 1891 in Omaru, New Zealand and was the son of Frederick and Margaret King.

He enlisted at Rosehill, Sydney on October 2, 1914 in the 13th Battalion.

His occupation prior to enlisting was that of a coach painter.

Joseph proceeded to Gallipoli aboard the Alexandria arriving April 12, 1915. He suffered from shell shock when he was in Rest Gully and a shell exploded just behind his dugout. He and two of his mates were buried.

He was dazed at the time and was unconscious for 3 hours and suffered concussion, but did not report sick until 5 days later, when he was sent to Lemnos where he remained for 4 months before returning to Gallipoli, although he had become very nervous while resting at Lemnos.

Joseph was returned to Australia suffering from shell shock and was discharged from service on August 24, 1916 as medically unfit suffering from epileptic fits.

He never returned to New Zealand but was admitted to Lithgow Hospital in 1917 suffering from Epilepsy and his address was given as The Lansdowne Hotel. He passed away on October 2, 1917 just 26 years of age.

After hearing the story of Private King it has been decided by some members of the society to have a working bee and do some restoration and cleaning of his grave.

Lithgow Family History Society will make this an annual event.

Cecily McCarten laying the card on her grandfather Cecil Ford's grave

Sandra Halley laying a card on the grave of her father Alfred Piggott

Text and photographs contributed by Helen Taylor

National Trust luminary dies

JOHN FISHER who recently passed way will be remembered for his contribution to the National Trust of Australia (NSW) in its formative years from 1960 into the 1980s.

A member of the Trust Council for 20 years, he founded and was the first chairman of the Trust's historic building's committee.

Here he worked with such luminaries as Helen Blaxland, Max Freeland, Leslie Wilkinson, Rachel Roxburgh, Morton Herman, John Mansfield, Cedric Flower, Daniel Thomas and Ted Farmer, the government architect, producing a list of significant buildings worth preserving.

John also worked on many Trust properties as an honorary architect, and worked on most of the Trust advisory committees on both built and natural heritage.

In 1959 he prepared a plan to preserve The Rocks, and in 1966 represented the Trust in advising the government on preserving Hill End.

High tea at Everglades

HIGH tea will be served at Everglades historic house and garden on Saturday, July 28

Enjoy the ambience of the Art Deco dining room at the recently restored 1930's property at Leura.

A scrumptious home made high tea follows a welcome punch and nibbles. Leaf tea and plunger coffee will be served.

Wander around the garden before or after the tea.

Bookings essential by telephoning Anita on 4784 1974 or Liz on 0418206899.

Cost: $25 for National Trust members, $30 for adults and $10 for a child.

Lithgow Family History elects 2012-13 committee

LITHGOW & District Family History Society Inc recently held it'sannual general meeting and election of officers for the coming year.

Pictured are members and office bearers for 2012-13.

Back row, L-R: Laurie Cook- secretary/public officer, Louise Dean - research officer/social secretary, Coralie McDonald - member, Ian Irvine - filing, Danny Whitty - vice president, Robyn Whitty - member, Marcie Farr - photographic convenor, Ken Brice - committee, Helen Taylor- cemetery convenor/publicity officer, Eleanor Martin- president/ membership secretary, Jan Saundercock - publishing officer,

Seated left to right: Lea Wootton - indexing convenor/PALO convenor, Ross McDonald - journal editor, Ean Jones - special projects computer indexer, Kathy Brennan - librarian, Sandra Haley - minutes secretary.

Absent: Margaret Buckley - treasurer and Cecily McCarten - committee.

The society is hoping for another productive year with steady growth as it has had in the previous year. The library is still growing with many additions to the shelves. Anyone wishing to join the society or just call in to do some casual research will be made most welcome.

"Family history is still one of the fastest growing hobbies found today and becomes quite addictive so why not come in and research your own ancestors, said Helen Taylor.

The society's library hours are Tuesday nights 6pm – 9pm, Fridays 10am – 4pm and the 1st Saturday of every month 10am – 4pm. There is always an on duty librarian to help.

Discover exotic plants

THE discovery of the continent of Australia with its exotic plants previously unknown to the rest of the world caused a sensation to the botanic scientists.

Mt Annan Botanic Gardens displays over 4000 of these plants in acres of hills and lakes.

The Blue Mountains branch of National Trust is organising a bus tour to Mt Annan on Saturday, August 11.

Participants will have a choice of staying on the bus for a tour of the gardens or taking a walk to scenic outlooks, lakes or bird hides.

Cost is $35 per person for Trust members, $40 for non members or $25 if participants meet the tour at Mt Annan Botanic Gardens

Enquiries and bookings to Sandra at 4739 3003 or BlueMtsNatTr@gmail.com

Small Arms Factory history

Continued from page 13

With the outbreak of the second world war manufacture of small arms resumed and following the evacuation of Dunkirk in 1940 the United Kingdom requested that Australia forward as many rifles as could be spared. In response, 30,000 rifles were sent, severely reducing availability of weapons.

Action was taken to expand weapon production by erecting new feeder factories, the first at Bathurst followed by Orange, then Forbes, Wellington, Mudgee, Cowra, Young, Parkes, Dubbo and Portland.

In 1943 the total personnel employed at Lithgow was 6,000 while a further 6,000 were employed at the ten feeder factories. Weekly production achieved figures of 4,000 rifles, 150 Bren guns and 70 Vickers machine guns.

To protect Lithgow's defence facilities from possible air-attack, anti-aircraft guns were sited at the east and western ends of the Lithgow valley as well as a machine gun company stationed on the roof of the factory.

During 1945 all 'feeder factories' were closed and full production re-established at Lithgow.

When manufacture of the .303" SMLE rifle No.1 Mk.III ceased in 1956, a total of 640,000 had been produced in Australia, 415,000 of these were produced from 1939.

In 1954 the Australian government adopted the 7.62mm L1A1 rifle (Australia's version of the Belgian FAL rifle) and entered into a manufacturing agreement with the Fabrique Nationale d' Armes de Guerre of Belgium to produce the rifle at Lithgow.

Again the factory was completely re-organised, new buildings erected, and new machine tools procured for its production. When production ceased in the mid 1980s, some 230,000 units had been issued.

Western crossing commemoration 2013-15

great ideas - thoughts - just being talked about or it's really going to happen

New chair

Dr Anne-Maree Whitaker, senior vice president of the RAHS (pictured above) will take over as chair of the Western Crossing committee at its August meeting.

She replaces Prof David Carment who has been the inaugural chairman for a number of years.

As a descendant of William Cox the road builder, she has a personal interest in the 2013-15 commemorations.

Anne-Maree is an independent professional historian who undertakes research in a wide range of topics.

She is the author of several books including histories of Marrickville, South Sydney, Appin and St Vincent's Hospital.

Her biography *Joseph Foveaux: power and patronage in early NSW* was short-listed for the NSW Premier's Literary awards in 2001. She won the National Trust Heritage award for the Sydney Parks Project in 2010.

***** Commemorative postage stamps are to be launched after the Western Crossing meeting at Blue Mountains City Council chambers on August 17. The BMCC Crossings Committee had argued that the $1.20 stamp was not appropriate, not as widely used, and so it was decided to issue a 60c stamp.

***** Andrew Tink would be willing to give talks pertaining to his book the *Biography of William Charles Wentworth.* (A number of local societies and organisations have had Andrew Tink as their guest speaker since the book was published.)

***** Lithgow City Council had put aside $10,000 for the Western Crossings and a further $20,000 for interpretive signage for Cox's Road.

***** William Cox and William George Evans had both lived in the Hawkesbury area and the Hawkesbury Historical Society in conjunction with Hawkesbury City Council has indicated they would like to be involved in the Western Crossing Committee commemorations.

***** Richard Cox a great great grandson of William Cox who recently published a book will speak about the work and significance of the crossings at the August 17 meeting of the Hawkesbury Historical Society.

***** Graham Hunt a member of the Seniors Group, Institution of Surveyors NSW, the group which maintains the *Pillars in Time* monuments, had received $10,000 for restoration work.

***** The BMCC Crossings committee has received a grant of $23,000 for the Mt York interpretive signage.

PENRITH LAUNCH OF CELEBRATIONS

Australian actor Jack Thompson will be the face of the Penrith crossing celebrations.

He recently joined members of the Penrith District Historical Society and St Marys and District Historical Society and descendents of the original three explorers on the banks of the Nepean River to launch next year's program of events marking 200 years since Blaxland, Wentworth and Lawson trekked across the Mountains.

The two descendents of Gregory Blaxland, Gregory Blaxland and Wendy Blaxland were present at the launch as were the Blue Mountains mayor and Penrith mayor Greg Davies.

Pictured at right are members of the St Marys and Nepean District Historical Societies

Photographs courtesy of Rosemary Weaver - Penrith and District Historical Society

John Kelaher and Craig Werner (NDHS) with Jack Thompson

Timbuktu World Heritage shrine under attack

TIMBUKTU'S fabled shrines listed by UNESCO as endagered sites only days before have been attacked by Islamic fundamentalists.

The gunmen reported to be from a militant group with ties to al-Qaeda had attacked tombs and vowed to destroy every last shrine standing in an act similar to the 2001 destruction of the ancient giant Buddah of the Bamiyan Valley in Afghanistan.

Timbuktu is thought to have been founded towards the end of the 5th century.

Legend has it a temporary camp was established guarded by an old woman, Buktu.

Gradually Tim-Buktu (the place of Buktu) became a small sedentary village at the crossroads of several trade routes. Quickly converted to Islam, the market city of Timbuktu reached its apex under the reign of Askia (1493-1591).

It then became an important centre of Koranic culture with the University of Sankore and numerous schools attended, it is said by some 25,000 students.

As an intellectual and spiritual capital, its three great mosques, Djingareyber (1325), Sankore (1578-1582)and Sid Yahia (circa. 1400), recall Timbuktu's golden age.

In the 16th century Moroccan invaders began to drive scholars out, and trade routes slowly shifted to the coast The city's importance and prestige waned and scholars drifted elsewhere.

French colonisation at the close of the 19th century dealt another serious blow to the former glories of Timbuktu. Source: UNESCO World Heritage Committee

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

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THE ORGANISATION Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 following a unanimous response to a proposal from Professor Barrie Reynolds at the 2004 Blue Mountains Local History Conference which sought from Blue Mountains City Council the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the city.
BMACHO in its constitution uses the definition: "Cultural heritage is all aspects of life of the peoples of the Blue Mountains which was later changed to cover Lithgow and the villages along the Bell's Line of Roads. It therefore involves the recording, preserving and interpreting of information in whatever form: documents, objects, recorded memories as well as buildings and sites."
The objectives of the organisation are:

i. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage.

ii. To encourage and assist cultural heritage activities of member organisations.

iii. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations. One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact, to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

AFFILIATIONS BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society Inc.

HERITAGE BMACHO's official newsletter is edited by John Leary, OAM.
Blue Mountains History Journal is edited by Dr Peter Rickwood.

MEMBERSHIP The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mount Tomah, Blue Mountains City Library, Blue Mountains Cultural Heritage Centre, Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc., Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc., Blue Mountains, Lithgow and Oberon Tourism Limited, Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute, Cudgegong Museums Group Inc., Eskbank Rail Heritage Centre, Everglades Historic House & Gardens, Friends of Norman Lindsay Gallery, Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc., Hartley Valley District Progress Association, Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc, Lilianfels Blue Mountains Resort, Lithgow and District Family History Society Inc., Lithgow Mining Museum Inc., Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies, Lithgow Small Arms Factory Museum Inc, Mt Victoria and District Historical Society Inc., Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine History Society Inc. (including Turkish Bath Museum), Mudgee Historical Society Inc., Mudgee Regional Library, National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Blue Mountains Branch, National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Lithgow Branch, Scenic World – Blue Mountains Limited, Springwood & District Historical Society Inc., Springwood Historians Inc., Transport Signal and Communication Museum Inc., The Darnell Collection Pty Ltd, Valley Heights Locomotive Depot and Museum, Woodford Academy Management Committee, Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd. The following are individual members: Ray Christison, Associate Professor Ian Jack, Joan Kent, John Leary OAM, John Low OAM, Ian Milliss, Pastsy Moppett, Professor Barrie Reynolds, Dr Peter Rickwood and Dr Peter Stanbury OAM.
COMMITTEE The committee for 2012-13 is: Pamela Smith (president), Ian Jack (vice president), Jan Koperberg (secretary), Judy Barham, Joan Kent, Doug Knowles, John Leary, Dick Morony (public officer), and Scott Pollock. .

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HERITAGE

NEWSLETTER OF THE BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 2012 ISSUE No. 23

WILLIAM COX AND HIS TEAM OF CONVICT ROAD BUILDERS

by Richard Cox, great, great, grandson of William

Mr Cox is a Sensible, intelligent Man, of great arrangement, and the best agriculturalist in the colony.... *Governor Macquarie, recommending William Cox to be the Commandant at Bathurst, after building the road, 24 June 1815*[1]

WILLIAM COX, who forged a place for himself in Australian history by organising the building of the first road across the Blue Mountains in 1814, was a man of extraordinary personal contrasts.

On his way out to the colony in 1799 in charge of a shipload of convicts on the *Minerva* he displayed considerable humanity. Between them, he and the ship's surgeon ensured that the 196 convicts were given regular exercise and fresh air.

As a result only three elderly prisoners died en route, an unusually low percentage. When there was an attempted mutiny William only sentenced the ringleaders to six lashes each, when on many ships they would have been hung from the yardarm.

Yet on arrival, as paymaster of the New South Wales Corps he used regimental funds in London to pay for farms, building himself into the second largest landowner in the colony in two years. In plain terms he embezzled the money.

William's little empire collapsed in 1803, leaving his family penniless. He was sent home for trial and 'dismissed the service' in 1808.[1] But Governor King had already given him and his sons' grants of land in 1804 and after his return in 1810 he was rehabilitated when Governor Macquarie appointed him as a magistrate at Windsor.

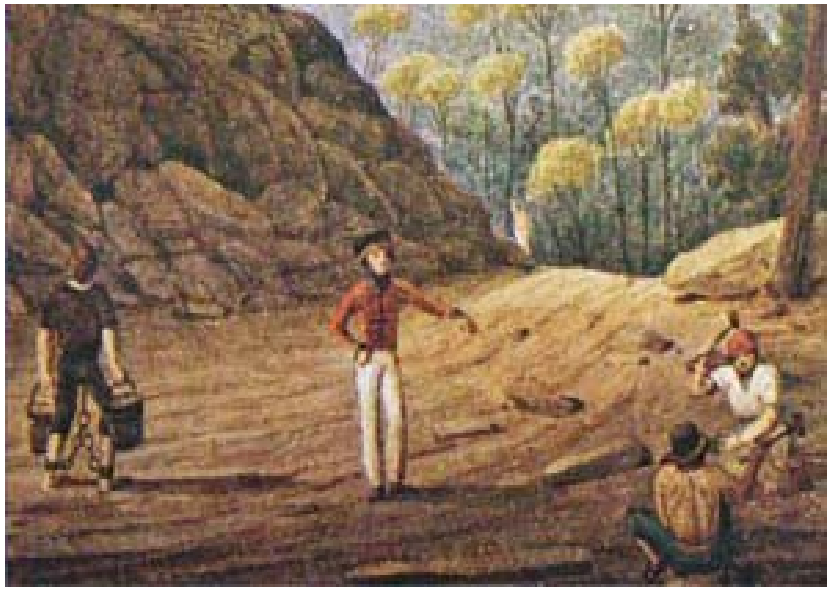
However, as a JP he increasingly favoured himself in the allocation of skilled convict workers, or 'mechanics', to employers and was heavily criticised for it by his contemporaries. At the same time his judgements were fair and liberal, as when he simply re-assigned convicts to new masters after punishment had been demanded by obstreperous ones.

This brings one to the way in which he dealt with convicts and the building of the Blue Mountains road, which he was contracted for by Macquarie. It was a considerable task.

The range rises to over 4,000 feet and although the famous trio of Gregory Blaxland, William Lawson and WC Wentworth had found a way over in 1813, they had in fact not traversed the main range. Blaxland's advice to William to follow the ridges very nearly defeated the entire enterprise when the road builders reached Mount York.

On July 14, 1814 Macquarie sent William a letter detailing exacting requirements. The road had to be 12 feet wide to permit two carts to pass each other 'with ease', although he preferred it to be 16 feet. In forest and brush ground the timber had to be cleared away to 20 feet. It was to run from the Emu Plains, on the Nepean River, to a 'centrical part' of the Bathurst Plains. Depots were to be established en route.

Continued page 3



'Convicts repairing the mountain road' circa 1826. A painting by the American Augustus Earle, reproduced with permission of the National Library of Australia

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Educational and research body proposed

DR DAVID BLAXLAND a descendant of the explorer, Gregory Blaxland has come up with a proposal which may well be seen as a lasting and welcome commemoration for the bicentenary of the '1813-15 Western Crossing' and at the same time harness the wealth of knowledge and expertise contained in the Western Crossing Committee (WCC).

He has proposed the establishment of a permanent educational and research body in this region. The main objective of such a foundation would be to facilitate and promote education and research concerning the natural history, cultural heritage and human development of this region. The idea appears to have great merit and needs to be carefully considered.

There are many in the heritage sector who strongly believe the commemoration of the 1813 -15 western crossing should have lasting benefit. The same people are becoming concerned that the opportunity to create a lasting commemoration is fast slipping away.

The WCC came into being as a result of discussions between BMACHO and the RAHS when concern was being expressed about ad hoc plans across the region. BMACHO asked the then president of the RAHS, Associate Professor Ian Jack if it might be possible for RAHS to co-ordinate the various plans and so the RAHS Council appointed Professor David Carment AM to chair the committee who recently handed over the chair to his RAHS colleague Dr Anne Whittaker. The committee under the auspices of the RAHS has from Penrith to Bathurst attracted a wide range of individuals and organisations and eventually local government .

In early discussions BMACHO and RAHS asserted that the commemoration should include projects that are of a long-term benefit. At the time it was considered possible, because of the significance of the event that application to the federal and state governments might well attract funding for projects which will remain long after the event.

It is fair to say that there has been some success in funding smaller commemorative projects. But to date there has been little success in initiating a major project such as the much talked about walking trails along parts of the route on which William Cox and his gang of 30 convicts built the 101 miles of road between the Nepean River and the site where Bathurst now stands.

The idea in that project was to restore a substantial part of Cox's Road so this could be used as an educational tool and tourist attraction through the region. In the case of this project it is important to acknowledge the investigative work into land ownership in the Lithgow Valley carried out by members of the National Trust and the funding of signage by Lithgow City Council.

There are plenty of wonderful examples of these types of walkways or selected site access projects around Australia such as the UNESCO World Heritage listed Great North Road convict built to link Sydney with the fertile Hunter Valley, the numerous walking tracks within the Sydney metropolitan area including the Fairfax walk on North Head or the Tamar Valley Drive in Tasmania with its educational journal and audio companion for those who prefer to stay in their car.

A 'visionary' was needed to get the Cox's Road project up and running and no such person has so far been forthcoming who had the capacity to excite government, major corporations and the local community to the significance of this important milestone in the history of Australia.

This is not to say, David Carment and the WCC have not done a most commendable job coordinating the many local groups so that there will be plenty of celebrations including some educational activities. Sure, to capture the imagination of the public there will be need for some celebratory activity; but care should be taken to ensure that public funding is not all frittered away on an extravaganza of parades, plaque placements, partying and pyrotechnics.

John Leary, OAM - Past president, Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc.

William Cox selected 30 convicts to work for emancipation

Continued from page 1

William selected 30 convicts, who volunteered, in Macquarie's words, 'on the Condition of receiving emancipation for their extra Labour on the conclusion of it. This is the only remuneration they receive, except their rations'.[2] The supervisors were free men. William kept a journal during the six months of the job. He never referred to the men as convicts, always by names or as 'workmen', 'quarrymen' or 'carpenters'. A small guard of soldiers was there to deal with Aborigines and ward off sightseers.

On July 17,1814 William left Clarendon, his estate, for Captain Woodruff's farm, carts and provisions arrived from Sydney, and he 'mustered the people'. They were issued with slops (working clothes). On July 24, he noted that, after crossing the Nepean, 'The workmen exerted themselves during the week, much to my satisfaction'. As reward he gave them 'a lot of cabbage' (which would also ward off scurvy).

A resting place subsequently named Springwood was created 12 miles from the ford, beyond the first depot. But soon the going became tougher. William recorded 'The ascent is steep; the soil rough and stony; the timber chiefly ironbark.'

The hardness of this wood blunted the axes. The blacksmith's forge was brought up and a chimney built for it. In effect they were progressing in a leapfrogging way, with William himself at the centre and the advance party ahead, while behind them provisions were moved slowly forward.

'The workmen go with much cheerfulness and do their work well.' he wrote on August 2 and again 'Gave them a quantity of cabbage as a present.' But William would not take insubordination and the first victim was a supervisor named Burne, who he sacked on August 4 for refusing to accept orders from the senior supervisor, Lewis.

Despite worries about Aborigines on August 8 'two natives from Richmond joined us; one shot a kangaroo'. On August 28 Joe from Mulgoa and Coley from Richmond also joined them, promising to remain. They were employed as guides. Many years later he would also employ natives as farm workers at Mulgoa, telling a visitor that so long as they were decently fed they were as good as whites.[3]

Always ahead of them lay the enticing prospect of 'good forest ground down in the valley'. The problem was going to be getting to it from the long ridges which constituted the massif of the mountains, while there were many problems, not least of supply.

They ran out of food on August 12. At daylight next day William 'sent Lewis to the depot with a letter to Mrs Cox to send me out immediately 300lb of beef.' Obtaining supplies from Clarendon, rather than from the Commissariat further off in Sydney, was of immediate benefit to the workmen.

William Cox, Sketch courtesy of Blue Mountains Local Studies collection. File HS0\HS0589.

They now set off along a 12 mile ridge, as Blaxland had so unfortunately advised. The going through the forest was as bad as through the brush below.

The trees were gigantic, while continual rain and cold on the mountain began to make many of the workmen ill. William recorded of them tersely: 'Done well'. By August 28 they had 'removed, with all the people, to a little forward of the 16th mile'. On September 3 he recorded unemotionally: 'The road finished to Caley's heap of stones, 17 ¾ miles' (near present day Linden). It had taken from August 7 to construct nine miles of road.

On September 8 the wind was high and cold and 'blew a perfect hurricane': again a precursor of future conditions, totally different to those they had left on the Cumberland Plain. They would have liked to shoot kangaroos for meat, but saw none, only bagging three pheasants. On September 12 the 'long bridge', the first of many, was completed. It had occupied twelve men for three weeks, 'which time they worked very hard and cheerful'.

The stone in the rocky ground was too hard to break with sledgehammers and was having to be levered up. They also had a small supply of gunpowder.

Continued page 4

The road plunges down, twisting between gigantic boulders, in places swerving past the very edge of cliffs

Continued from page 3

By October 2 the second depot building had been weatherboarded, with gable ends. It was to become the Weatherboard Inn, giving its name to what is Wentworth Falls today. They had now reached 28 miles from the Emu ford, little more than a quarter of the way to the 'centrical point' of the Bathurst plains.

Forward scouting revealed that at the end of ridge there was a formidable descent. William sent men to search for a way down, unsuccessfully.

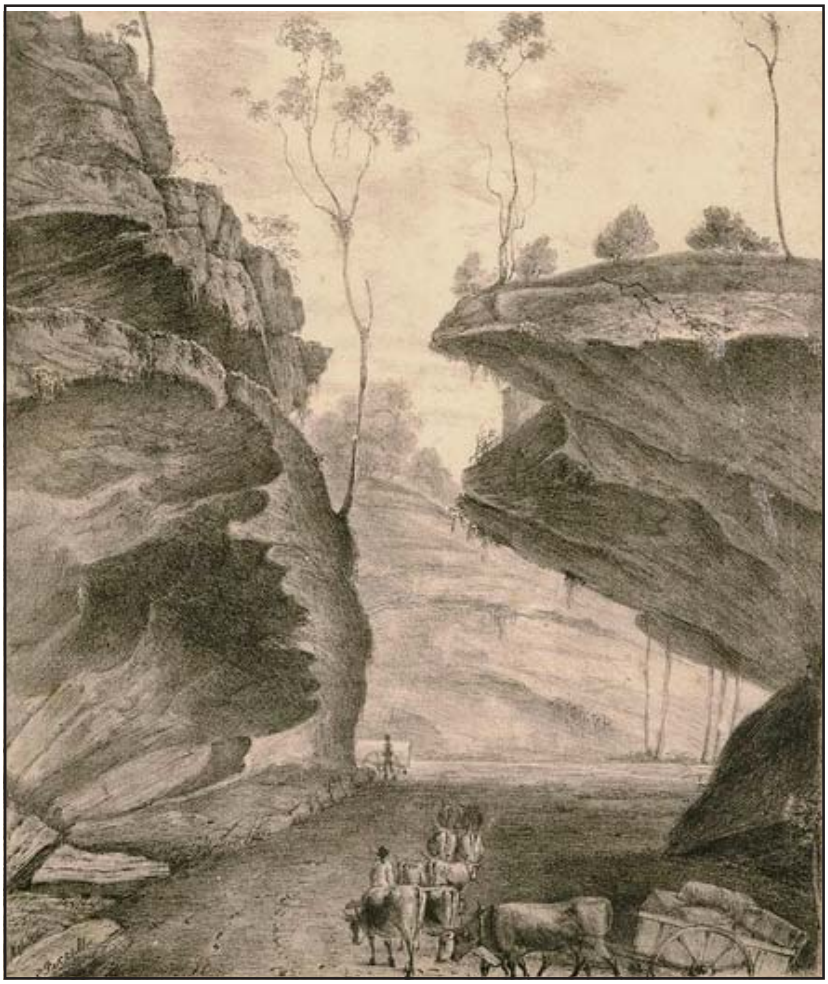
It rained a lot and the 'blankets belonging to the men were very wet and uncomfortable'. On November 2 he decided to survey it himself 'as a road must be made to get off the mountain', but found the descent 'much worse than I expected…The whole front of the mountain is covered with loose rock…the hill is so very steep about half a mile down that it is not possible to make a good road……without going to a very great expense'.

He therefore 'made up my mind to make such a road as a cart can go down empty or a very light load without a possibility of its being able to return with any sort of load whatever'. In transport terms this was tantamount to defeat, although 'such a road would answer to drive stock down to the forest ground'.

When he managed to get down there himself he found: 'Grass of a good quality…Timber thin and kangaroos - plenty'. But 'in returning back we had to clamber up the mountain, and it completely knocked me up'.

He was now uncomplainingly close to his 50th birthday. He frequently gave the men a gill of spirits each to cheer them when they got wet. He compassionately wrote to the Reverend Cartwright on the Emu Plains asking him to 'send two of the gaol gang to cut and house Tindall's wheat at the Nepean. He has a large family and it is his all.'

There are still two small waterholes, thick with leaf mould, a few metres to the side of the track to Mount York, close to which his men slept in bark huts, as apparently did he when his caravan got stuck. The overhanging rock ledges at the top of the mountain are easily identified, too. William described them as 'so lofty and undermined that the men will be able to sleep dry'.



Part of Cox's Pass, New South Wales, 1821. Reproduced with permission of Mitchell Library, State Library of New South Wales is a lithograph by E. Purcell (Ref: sv1B/Blu M /21.)

In the end, they did get the road down in a series of semi-circular bends. The governor's secretary John Campbell, in his account of Macquarie's tour of inspection in May 1815, described this three quarters of a mile as 'a rugged and tremendous descent in all its windings'.[4]

If you go to Mount York today, not far from an obelisk commemorating Cox's achievement, you will see a short section of the road, restored by the Blue Mountains City Council. It then plunges down, twisting between gigantic boulders, in places swerving past the very edge of cliffs.

Even when it was finished horses harnessed to carriages had to be taken down backwards, because they became terrified. Great logs were attached to the rear of wagons to slow them. The historian Chris Cunningham, calls the eventual achievement 'perhaps the most noble of all the stories involved in crossing the Blue Mountains'.

The later problems of bridging rivers were much less. After reaching the Fish River William 'ordered a bullock to be killed for the use of the people, which I had issued to them in lieu of giving them a ration of salt pork … when the men were mustered this morning they were extremely clean, and looked cheerful and hearty'.

Cox aged 50, had certainly exhausted himself in bitter mountain weather

On January 5 the strain of the long and punishing endeavour overtook William and he fell sick himself, the last of the team to do so: 'About midnight I was taken violently ill with excruciating pains just above my left hip.' Perhaps he had spent too long in the saddle.

He had certainly exhausted himself in bitter weather and was fifty years old. Macquarie remarked that 'Mr Cox voluntarily relinquished the comforts of his own house and the society of his numerous family and exposed himself to much personal fatigue, with only such covering as a bark hut could afford from the inclemency of the weather'.[5] (His caravan, drawn by a horse called Scratch, could not always be negotiated up the slopes).

William Cox in the uniform of an officer of the New South Wales Corps, circa 1797-1798
Miniature portrait, reproduced with permission of the State Library of NSW digital order a1087001

The final diary entry, on January 7, recorded ordering the men further forward and himself riding to the head of the Sidmouth valley. 'Returned by the hills, which are very fine. An emu and a kangaroo passed quietly along'. These last words conjure up a picture of William in his paradise, riding in the wilderness.

But he was quickly back at work at home, before the road was actually finished.

On January 15, 1815 he submitted an estimate to government for the construction of two bridges and of Bridge Street at Windsor.

Campbell's account finished: 'The road constructed by Mr Cox and the party under him commences at Emu Ford … and is thence carried 101 ½ miles to the flagstaff at Bathurst …

'The Governor cannot conclude this account of his tour without offering his best acknowledgements to William Cox, Esq, for the important service he has rendered to the colony in so short a period of time' and 'shall have great pleasure in recommending his meritorious services on this occasion to the favourable consideration of his Majesty's Ministers'.

In fact all William did receive was a grant of 2,000 acres at Bathurst. But he had made his name. He was indeed a 'man of great arrangement'.

Endnotes

[1] *London Gazette*, 14 April 1808.
[2] Macquarie to Bathurst, 7 October 1814, *HRA* 1, vol. viii, p. 314.
[3] Grace Karskens, *The Colony,* Allen & Unwin, Sydney, 2009, p.537.
[4] Macquarie to Bathurst, 24 June 1815, *HRA* 1, vol. viii, pp. 571-576.
[5] Macquarie to Bathurst, 24 June 1815*, HRA* 1, vol. viii, p. 570.

William Cox : a contradictory character

The stock, when valued, was considered worth twenty five percent more than the purchase money, consequently the farm did not stand Mr Cox in six-pence. What made things even better was that Mr Cox paid him with bills on the regimental agents

Joseph Holt, Irish rebel and farm manager for William Cox, paymaster of the New South Wales Corps, October 1800

Paymaster William Cox, of the New South Wales Corps, is dismissed the Service.

London Gazette, 16 April 1808

Mr Cox is a Sensible, intelligent Man, of a great arrangement, and the best agriculturist in the colony.

Governor Macquarie, recommending William Cox to be the commandant at Bathurst, 24 June 1815

Let a foreigner, a stranger, be told that it is the Convict, the refuse of our Country, that [sic] have performed nearly all the labour that has been done here in the short space of thirty years, and I think he would be astonished.

William Cox to Commissioner Bigge, 7 May 1820

I have received also a grant of land of 100 acres for my Service on the Western road. I have sold it to Mr Cox. He gave me £25 for it he paid me in money and a cow, and several orders, that I have paid.

James Watson, emancipated worker on the Bathurst road, in complaint to Bigge, 29 November 1820

There is not a magistrate in the Colony who has given so much of his time to the business of the Crown & public these ten years past as myself...If any man ever laboured amidst a den of thieves and a nest of hornets it is myself.

William Cox to Commissioner Bigge, 4 December 1820

Extracts from *William Cox: Blue Mountains Road Builder and Pastoralist*

Professor Ian Jack launches William Cox

WELL KNOWN Australian historian and author, Dr Ian Jack has officially launched Richard Cox's latest book, *William Cox: Blue Mountains Road Builder and Pastoralist.*

A large gathering, many of them Cox descendants listened for more than an hour to the author talk about the Cox dynasty and his book during the launch at the Hawkesbury Regional Museum last month.

Welcoming the great, great grandson of William Cox, Dr Jack said: "It is a very real pleasure to launch the first substantial biography of William Cox and to welcome its author, Richard Cox.

"It is always good to see a family which takes account of its own history.

The author, Richard Cox

"Richard is particularly well placed to set the Australian story in its British context, since he is one of the members of the extensive Cox clan who have resettled in Britain.

"In Australia, William Cox is remembered by the general historically-minded population in a fairly narrow way, dependent on where they live.

"We in the Hawkesbury tend to think of him as the local magistrate and entrepreneur and we look with pride on the surviving buildings which he helped to construct, such as St Matthew's Anglican church, rectory and stables and Windsor court-house.

"People in the Blue Mountains primarily relate to Cox as the man who built the first dray road over the Mountains and opened up the central west to European settlement: and indeed Richard's sub-title gives pride of place to Cox as a road builder.

"Folk in the Penrith area have a particular interest in the Cox houses in the Mulgoa valley, all constructed for or by sons of William Cox and their brides.

"Out at Mudgee, Cox the pastoralist is still alive and well, for alone among the estates opened up by the original William, Burrundulla is still owned by a descendent in the direct male line, and still used for its original purposes, although old William did not live to see the lovely homestead that his descendants built at Burrundulla.

"All these aspects of the heritage of William Cox have their proper place in the new biography, but the setting of the Coxes in south-west England is also deftly analysed. Here in Australia we tend to forget that William Cox was already in his 30s when he came to Sydney.

"Three formative decades had been spent elsewhere. His childhood, his formal education, his technical training in clock-making, his military experience, all this baggage which created the dominant personality we think of in Australia was gained in Britain.

"Richard's familiarity with the family circumstances of the late eighteenth-century Coxes gives a freshness of vision to the introductory chapter of his book. It also gives some unfamiliar images in this pleasingly illustrated book.

"I did not know, for example, that William Cox had actually manufactured some handsome long-case clocks until I saw Richard's colour image of a surviving one made by William in Devizes in 1791.

"So this is a well rounded biography. It is also a dispassionate account of a great-great grandfather. One of the perils sometimes attending family histories is piety. Members of a subsequent generation are not always willing to concede that their forefathers had some deficiencies as well as transcendent merits.

Professor Ian Jack

"Richard faces up squarely to the difficulties William Cox encountered in explaining how he had handled the finances of the NSW Corps when he was their paymaster and how these problems resulted in the sale of virtually all his substantial assets in the colony in 1804 and 1805.

"He strikes a very convincing moderate position, putting William's behaviour firmly in an eighteenth-century context, while in no way concealing that William's behaviour was not above reproach from both contemporary and modern ethical standpoints.

"As the story of William's rehabilitation unfolds, Richard draws out some significant themes. To me the outstanding theme is the family itself.

"When I gave a paper to the National Trust a couple of years ago about the Cox houses, I was struck by the number of land-grants run by William Cox which had in fact been made in the name of his children: this was how Clarendon here on the Hawkesbury had escaped the disastrous sales of 1804-1805, since it had been granted in the names of two of his sons.

"But what Richard brings out most tellingly is the way in which the whole Cox enterprise of the years up to William's death in 1837 was a family one.

"There was never any doubt who was boss, but the enterprise was a team effort.

Continued page 7

Cox family unity ensured an empire

Continued from page 6

"Richard makes very clear that the second marriage of William, after his first wife, Rebecca, died in 1819, did not affect the cohesiveness of the family.

"There were ten children between the two wives and the lack of any recorded animosity is very striking.

"I had noticed an odd little instance of this in my copy of *Memoirs of William Cox JP*, which was printed by the family in 1901.

"My copy is a specially bound issue for family members only and bears the signature of the widow of George Henry Cox of Burrundulla. Carefully pasted onto the inside front cover is the death notice of the second Mrs William Cox, who had died long before the publication of the *Memoirs*.

"Now Anna Blachford was not the grandmother of George Henry Cox: she was the step-grandmother. I found it rather touching that this should be pasted in at Burrundulla in 1901.

"What Richard has done is to fill out in fine detail the context of family solidarity and real affection which is reflected in my little piece of Coxiana.

"Without this family unity, the Cox empire, which encompassed Clarendon, Mulgoa, Bathurst, Mudgee and the Hunter, could not have been consolidated so successfully.

"Without it, the family could not have enjoyed the material rewards of major pastoral stations over the Mountains which followed so naturally on the road-building of 1815.

"This is not to diminish the qualities of old William himself: for example, his ability to supply thousands of bricks and forests of timber to construct public buildings and above all his large employment force of convicts and ex-convicts experienced in all sorts of useful trades, so that a conservation architect like Graham Edds can identify stylistically roofs put up by Cox's team of carpenters.

"All this made the private village of Clarendon with its 100 employees the initial heart of the Cox enterprise and the headquarters for building the Western Road.

"In this biography, we have a rounded picture of the man responsible for that Western Road, which is about to be commemorated in so many ways during its bicentenary.

"Richard, you could not have timed your publication better and you could not have chosen more appropriate publishers than David and Scilla Rosenberg.

"I am delighted to declare *William Cox* well and truly launched," concluded Ian Jack.

Trust walk will trace earliest crossings of Blue Mountains

THE EASTERN escarpment of the lower Blue Mountains is steeped in history – both Aboriginal and European.

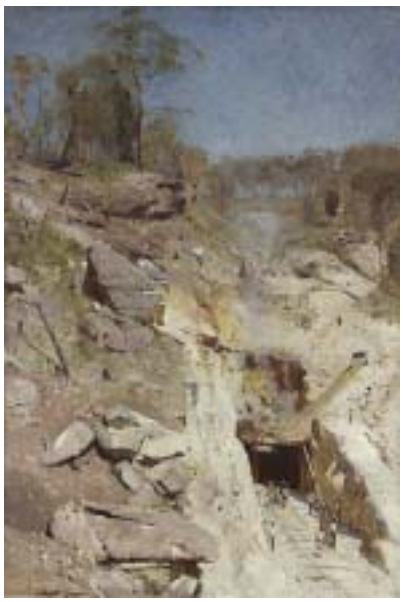
Blue Mountains Branch – National Trust of Australia (NSW) is organising a walk 'Darks Common – construction railway' walk for Monday, October 1. Those participating in the walk will meet at Lapstone Primary School car park, Explorers Road with the event starting at 10am and scheduled to finish at 1.30pm.

Focusing on the exploration and earliest crossings of the mountains by Europeans and to the early road works and ultimately to the railway, the walk embraces many aspects of the journey.

The Lapstone Hill area was part of the mountain barrier that had to be overcome in order to open the way to the pastures and agricultural land that were sorely needed by the infant colony in the early days after settlement in 1788.

The walk will highlight the efforts to overcome the barrier - referring to the Lapstone Zig-Zag, the viaduct, designed by John Whitton, Lapstone tunnel which Arthur Streeton painted in 1891 'Fire's On', one of the iconic Australian paintings. And much more!

Along the route of the 'construction railway', evidence of rock cutting, drilling, explosive 'quarrying' - embankments to carry the line over gullies, also the concrete foundation of winch gear servicing the funicular railway which extended down to the 'new' railway line will be seen.



Lapstone tunnel which Arthur Streeton painted in 1891 'Fire's On', one of the iconic Australian paintings.

The walk will finish at Darks Common, followed by a hearty lunch.

Cost $25 members, $30 non-members. Bookings essential by Sunday, September 23 Enquiries: Sandra 47393003 or **BlueMtsNatTr@gmail.com**

Blue Mountains History Conference October 20, 2012

See page 18

Everglades a picture of beauty for all seasons

SPRING, summer, autumn and even winter provides spectacular displays of colour, texture and design for those who visit the National Trust owned property Everglades at Leura.

Professional photographer Jonathan Miller visited this heritage property during the past autumn to produce a portfolio of about 50 photographs for the Trust.

In the delightful image at right he captured a rustic red brick edged window framing the blue-green and russet hues of the Jamison Valley and escarpments beyond.

A delight in early autumn, had he photographed this view in spring the green leaves would have made way to a purple cascade of wisteria.

Below he has captured the autumn leaves and enigmatic trunk and branches.

The gardens at Everglades under the tender care of horticulturist Guy McIlrath and his small band of volunteers are regarded as one of Australia's foremost cold climate gardens and arboreta.

This 1930s treasure unites European romanticism with the raw magic of the Australian bush.

Five hectares of valley views, bluebell woodland, lawned and flowering terraces, stone walls, winding paths, glades, pools, and fountains, art deco house, gift shop, tea rooms, art gallery, picnic spots is an ideal place for a day of relaxation.

The property is open every day between 10am and 4pm April to

September and 10am to 5pm October to March. Admission charges: Adults $10, concession $8, child - $4.

Angela le Sueur in her book *Everglades at Leura* wrote that the Everglades gardens are an expression of a special partnership between the wealthy businessman, Henri Van de Gelde and the Danish horticulturist and landscape designer, Paul Sorensen, whose legendary skills created many gardens of note in Leura and Katoomba.

At Everglades the special character of each terrace 'room' is enjoyed on its own terms, as are the spectacular vistas beyond.

Brightly coloured bulbs are still a feature of the upper terrace which gently leads the visitor to the azalea drift where delicate pinks and oranges mix the more vibrant colours of azaleas and rhododendrons and on lower perimeters, to native plants.

Both images on this page have been photographed at Everglades by professional photographer Jonathan Miller

Sorenson planned for the future - a time when his signature trees and shrubs would grow to overshadow the first mass planting beds.Van de Gelde collected statues from Europe and some of these remain today to embellish the gardens.

Today, 70 years on Everglades is a highlight of any visit to the Blue Mountains; a place for people of all ages to gather and enjoy its special events – or to wander and contemplate alone.

Leura Gardens Festival 2012

Eleven gardens will be open to the public including the large National Trust property Everglades, as part of the Leura Garden Festival 2012.**T**he festival will be held from Saturday September 29 to Sunday October 7. Gardens open at 9.30am to 4.30pm daily.

Apart from Everglades, the gardens featured in the festival are all privately owned properties and visitors have an exclusive opportunity to not only see a wide cross section of the very best gardens the region has to offer but also to interact with some of the garden owners, many of whom are present in their gardens during the days of the festival.

Entry prices will be $20pp for a multiple entry ticket to all gardens, and $5pp for a single garden entry ticket. Children with parents are admitted with no charge

Best visual memories of Scenic Railway to go on display

THE 25 MILLION visitors to Scenic World in the past 67 years have been invited to *Make History* at the internationally celebrated attraction, as part of a $30 million redevelopment of the iconic Scenic Railway.

Visitors past and present have been asked to share their memories of Scenic World and the Blue Mountains through photograph and video.

The best memories will find a permanent home onsite as part of the reimaging of the Scenic Railway.

The *Make History* project is part of the major upgrade which will include a new train to transport passengers down to the ancient rainforest floor in the Jamison Valley, new top and bottom platform with interpretation and a new track.

Scenic World has offered five double tickets from anywhere in Australia to share in the official launch event, experiencing first hand the new train which will continue to be the steepest railway descent in the world at 52 degrees.

Scenic World's joint managing directors, Anthea and David Hammon, said the *Make History* project aims to herald an exciting new chapter for Scenic World while creating a time capsule of Australia's past.

"Our family has operated Scenic World for three generation over the past 67 years so history is very important to us," Anthea and David said.

"Our visitors play a key role in our history so we want to extend our interpretation program under the railway redevelopment to include visitor memories through stories, images and moving footage of the site and the greater Blue Mountains."

Submissions will be displayed on Scenic World's Facebook timeline and viewed by more than 100,000 friends. Some of the entries will also be placed on the attraction's website with curators selecting the best entries for a permanent onsite gallery.

Competition winners, judged on entries from each decade, will experience the new Swiss-made railway first hand, scheduled to open in February 2013.

The prize also includes return domestic flights, transfers, two nights at Lilianfels Resort and Spa, double pass to the exclusive railway launch party, and annual passes.

International visitors who participate will also be in the running to win a unique Scenic World merchandise pack as a keepsake of their visit to the Blue Mountains.

To enter, participants can upload images and videos, along with a short description, on a custom-built tab on the Scenic World's Facebook page, www.facebook.com/ScenicWorld and enter via the website www.scenicworld.com.au.

The competition closes on September 2, 2012.

For more information contact; Australia PR director, Michelle Grima/ 0416 114 911/ mg@australiapr.com.au/ or Scenic World marketing manager, Amanda Byrne/ +61 2 4780 0200/ amandab@scenciworld.com.au/

Senic railway circa 1930s

Scenic railway, Katoomba circa 1952

The white lady of Mt Victoria

By John Low, OAM - Blue Mountains Historical Society

FOR PROBABLY more than 100 years the figure of a mysterious woman, carved into the face of a rock by the side of a bush track at Mt Victoria, has danced to soundless music.

Hidden for much of this time by moss and scrub, she was cleaned up and given a white dress some decades ago by an unknown admirer.

She attracted a new audience, becoming the town's celebrated 'white lady' and though her purity and visibility have waned significantly in recent years one can still find her dancing on her rock stage along the path to Fairy Bower .

But who was this woman with the power to inspire such admiration? It is a question invariably asked by those who encounter her and while a categorical answer may never be forthcoming there is at least one very good suggestion.

In the early 1990s the Mt. Victoria & District Historical Society announced that it had found in its collection a photograph of a dancing woman that matched the mysterious image in the bush behind the Toll Bar Cottage. Dated 1906, the photograph is of Emily Hutchinson-Cooper (1878-1947), the daughter of George and Margaret Cooper, owners of the 'Grand Hotel'.

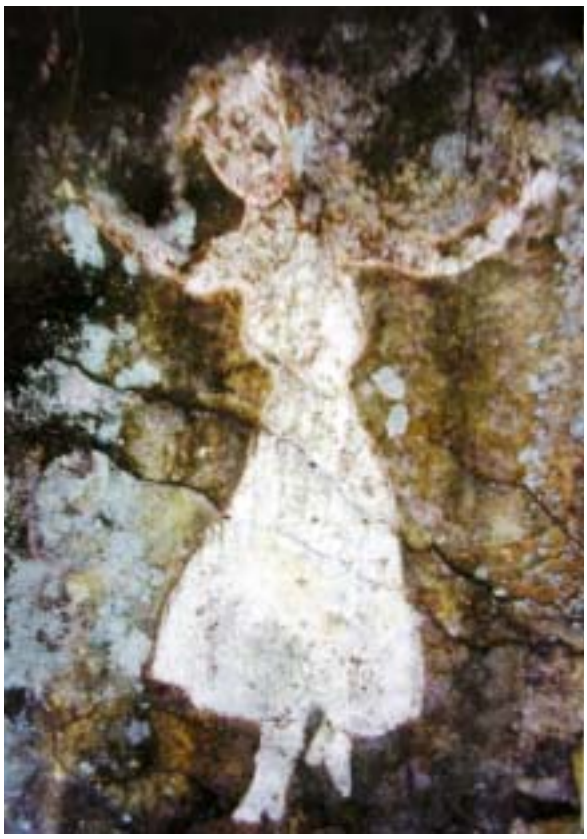
Emily was born in Sydney in 1878, almost a decade before her father purchased the Fairfax family's 'Manor House' in Mt. Victoria.

On the back of the Jenolan Caves tourist boom, he developed it into the town's premier accommodation house with its own coach line and stable of 80 horses.

Emily was a talented and versatile musician, accomplished as a singer, violinist and pianist and musical entertainments were a common feature of life at Cooper's Grand Hotel.

In June 1900 she and her sister performed for a vice-regal party on their way to the Caves that included Lady Mary Lygon, well known as a friend of composer Edward Elgar and probably the subject of his *13th Enigma Variation.*

She was in Australia to assist her bachelor brother in his duties as governor and it may well have been through her influence that Emily made her debut as a soprano in Sydney the following year.



For six years from 1901 to 1907, "under vice-regal patronage", she headlined at an annual concert in the city.

The photograph, (pictured below) taken the year Emily was married in Katoomba and now displayed at the Mt. Victoria museum, depicts an attractive, vivacious young woman in a stage costume of cream dress and boots, 'kicking up her heels' and thoroughly enjoying the experience.

While somewhat faded, it bears a strong enough similarity to the image on the rock to justify serious consideration of the society's claim to have solved the mystery. In any case, until a better solution appears, it will be Emily I think of whenever I pass that rock on the way to Fairy Bower or Cox's Cave.

This article was first published in the Blue Mountains Conservation Society's *Hut News*, No. 271, June 2010

Convict female factory women - You and me in a different set of circumstances….

by Gay Hendrickson

WHAT IS our connection to the convict female factory women, the lives they left, the journeys they made and what they would have experienced?

These convict women are an important part of who we are as Australians.

They are a part of our bloodlines, our lifelines and our storylines. In many ways we are them and they are us.

In order to find out who these women were and what their lives were really like involves tracing the shapes of their lives.

These convict women coming to Australia were living at a time of extraordinary junctures in British and European history.

The women lived within a web woven by the whims and idiosyncrasies of the powerful and the extreme circumstances that were the 1790s to the 1850s.

They would have been experiencing and witnessing the full effects and meaning of revolution.

Some of these women would have protested against authority against domination and lack of human rights becoming the early proponents of the social revolution.

Many would have experienced the agrarian revolution - enclosing of lands and changes in agricultural methods and machinery.

Others would have seen massive changes from living an agricultural life and dislocation from the countryside to industrialisation and life in large towns and cities, participating willingly or otherwise in the industrial revolution.

Some certainly participated in and witnessed the breaking of looms in England's north. Many of the Irish, Scottish and Welsh would have been reacting to the hundreds of years of British 'colonising'.

We know that 24,960 women were transported by ship[1]. Of these an estimated 9,000 went through the female factory system[2].

Convict female factory women were simply convict women who for various reasons, spent time in a convict female factory.

This may simply have been because they were not assigned at the docks on arrival or it may have been because they committed some offence in the colony.

These women were considered by many as society's outcasts.

The real telling of the story of these women is to push past the stereotypes commonly described and look at particular sets of circumstances.

Gleaning moments from the lives of some of these women and sharing their stories, Charlotte Badger, Maria Riseley, Mary Hindle, Elizabeth Browning Owen, Bridget Byrnes, Mary Field and Ellen Sweeney gives an insight into this hidden part of our history.

Charlotte Badger was born in Bromsgrove and in 1799 was transported for seven years[3].

She was incarcerated for four years in Worcester Gaol before being transported.

The Ship *Earl Cornwallis* departed England on November 18, 1800, with 193 male and 95 female prisoners.

Mary Noonan

Mary was born on January 20, 1812 in County Waterford, the daughter of John Noonan and Mary Dobbin.

Mary was convicted of 'stealing money' in 1829, Waterford, sentenced to transportation for seven years, she had two previous convictions.

Mary married Owen Stapleton in 1835 and had seven children.

In 1876 she married Colin Rogers. She died in 1903 and is buried at Blayney

- Image courtesy of Frances Cook

There were 27 male and 8 female deaths on the voyage of 206 days (nearly 7 months).

Charlotte was assigned. When she had two years left to serve, she became pregnant and was sent to the Female Factory, Parramatta.

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Continued from page 11
Her daughter Anny was born, the father, an un-named soldier.

She was then to be assigned to masters in Van Diemen's Land and put aboard the *Venus*.

Captain Chace was cruel to crew and prisoners including flogging women.

He also wanted to do sealing on the way so the women were put ashore at Two Fold Bay and left to fend for themselves for fifteen days and when the ship returned the women were locked below decks.

The captain was also cruel to the crew who objected and were accused of mutiny by the captain.

When *Venus* arrived in Port Dalyrymple in 1806 the Captain went ashore to make his report at which time the crew committed piracy - while the women were on board.

Charlotte by default became a pirate.

Last officially seen in Tonga[4], however, the muster of 1823, 1824 and 1825 has this entry; Maria Badger age 10, born in colony, daughter of Charlotte Badger, Parramatta. Charlotte's story was one of being buffeted by circumstance.

Maria became an unwanted chattel

Maria Riseley was a woman who shaped circumstance, although some of the negative attitudes toward convict women formed her life as well.

Maria was born about 1780. She was convicted of *stealing from a dwelling house*[5] and sailed on January 2, 1804 aboard *Experiment I.* There was no surgeon and the ship included 2 males and 136 females. Six women died.

The women from the *Experiment 1* were assigned to the first Female Factory, Parramatta.

While there Maria gave birth to a daughter, Caroline Maria, the father stated as John Thompson.

She was assigned to Edward Lord from the Factory and travelled to Van Diemen's Land.

She had another 7 children.

Edward travelled to England often with one or more of his children, all of whom were educated in England. Maria was never allowed to go to England or have anything to do with Edward's family.

Constance de la Sablonaire,
Constance with her cousin/sister Elizabeth were sent to Madame Morel to be taught a range of skills as was the practice of slave owners These two were sent needlework where they were accused of trying to poison the mistress – white powder in tea .

Madame and her three-year-old son reacted to the tea, with a violent headache, dizziness and palpitations. The doctor decided they had been poisoned with arsenic. They did survive but the girls were charged with attempted murder.
Image courtesy of the National Library of Australia

They were store owners and ship owners with retail and property interests, their homes and two hotels in Hobart.

They also had 6,974 acres, 3,400 cattle, 4,500 sheep and 41 horses.

They employed 25 free workers and 50 convict servants.

Much of his fortune was Maria's good business management.

Edward Lord was named as father to Ann Fry's child, born in the colony in 1825.

He had also established another family in England with his children's British nurse and fathered another five children.

The impact on Maria through this must have been devastating. To Edward she became an unwanted chattel.

We can find portraits of all the members of this important family…except Maria. Maria died on July 22, 1859.

Mary Hindle's life was defined by her choices over a couple of days participating in loom breaking riots.

She was born in Haslingden, Lancashire, c1799 to James and Mary Holden (nee Haworth). In 1818 she married George Hindle, a handloom weaver, and had 3 children. Elizabeth was baptised at St. James on March 21, 1819.

There are two other children who are recorded in the burials but not baptisms, Abraham on January 10, 1822 aged 1 year and Robert on December 17, 1823, both aged 1 year.

By 1826 Mary, her husband and 7 year old Elizabeth were living at Pleasant Street, Haslingden.

Mary's trade was a laundry woman. She had lost two of her three children.

It was hard for the handloom weavers like George at the time and 72 hour weeks were not uncommon.

Continued page 13

Spies had been sent among the rioters and cut small pieces of cloth from clothing to identify the culprits

Continued from page 12

Life generally in Lancashire at the time was that of early industrialised England. Haslingden was a weaving centre and Mary's time was one of protest.

On Monday, April 24, 1826 about 1,000 workers rioted. It went on for four days.

On the first day soldiers sent did not attack them. On April 25, Mary Hindle was in the crowd at William Turner's Mill at Helmshore and she shouted encouragement and laughed: *I have won my bet; I bet a shilling that the powerlooms would be destroyed within five weeks.*[6]

At Chatterton the army made a stand and killed 4 people including a bystander waiting for a coach to Manchester. Over 1,100 looms were destroyed at a cost of £16,000.

Spies had been sent among the rioters and cut small pieces of cloth from clothing to identify the culprits and proffered this as evidence[7]. This evidence convicted Mary.

There were 53 men and 12 women tried in August. Of these people 35 men and 6 women received the death penalty but were subsequently reprieved.

Eight men and two women were sentenced to transportation for life. Mary Hindle and Anne Entwhistle were the only two women to receive this punishment.

Mary Hindle was sentenced at Lancaster Assizes on August 8, 1826, term - Life[8].

Almost 10 months later on June 4, 1827 Mary sailed from London with another 80 females on board the *Harmony* and arrived in September 1827.

She never settled into life in the colony as is evident in her letters to her husband and her petition she sent to the governor while in the factory.

Her petition was a plea for freedom: *I hear that pardons have been granted to the men involved in the crime [machine breaking] and I humbly implore your Excellency to include me in the number of those who have received the Blessing of such Clemency…do not suffer me to languish the remains of my existence in hopeless Slavery.*[9]

The annotations on her petition *"Is this woman one of the machine breakers? No pardon has been received for this woman. Let her be told by Mrs Leach." (Matron)*

Mary was out of the factory in 1840 and assigned to the principal superintendent of convicts but absconded again.

In1841 Mary committed suicide (verdict intoxicated). Mary was one of the women who could not cope with the dislocation, separation from family and the attitudes towards women like her.

Elizabeth Browning Owen's transportation story was shaped by her connection with her children and empathetic officials.

Elizabeth was born about 1792, most likely in the parish of Newington, Surrey.

From age 19 Elizabeth's life as a mother began when she gave birth to son John.

Every two years for the ensuing six, she gave birth to a child – Eliza, Robert and then Elizabeth.

Sometime after the birth of her fourth child she was alone caring for them.

She had skills with her hands, a good eye and a sense of precision.

She found her way into forging. Elizabeth was tried at the Surry Assizes on March 25, 1820 and sentenced to transportation for fourteen years[10].

Emma Mayner and daughters

Emma "was found guilty of receiving a time piece valued at £2 and a shawl valued at 6 shillings, the goods of Charles Wisedale, knowing them to have been stolen. It appears that they were stolen at Aston by Thomas Shenton. Her age was given as 18 and she could neither read nor write."

Image courtesy of Shirley Moore

It was almost two months between the trial and embarkation on the *Morley.*

During this period she was separated from her children. Her children ranged from three to nine years old.

Her nine year old child was deemed too old to travel with the mother.

Elizabeth Browning Owen was extremely distressed with the prospect of separation by transportation.

The ships surgeon Thomas Reid noted her struggle at the time of embarkation.

He said that: *At 6pm … a person arrived saying he had brought four children belonging to Browning Owen, a convict, but had left them at Woolwich, being uncertain whether they would be received on board.*

Continued page 14

Her 9 year old child was deemed too old to travel with the convict mother

Continued from page 13

One of them happened to be three years above the age permitted [aged 9]. The case of this poor woman seems one of aggravated distress: About nine months since, her husband incited her to commit a crime; and after involving her in guilt and misery, left her with a helpless family without a friend in the world. Her conduct having been exceedingly good since she came on board, induced me to lay a statement of her case before Mr Capper, for consideration of the Secretary of State, whose benevolence granted permission for all the children to be embarked and accompany her.[11]

Her children - John 9 years, Eliza 7, Robert 5 and Elizabeth 3 - boarded the ship *Morley* , were reunited with their mother and joined another 121 female prisoners.

The ship arrived in Sydney 1820 via Hobart. Elizabeth married Emanuel Marvin in 1822. Elizabeth worked with him at *The General Bourke/ Governor Bourke* Hotel, Parramatta in 1839. She died in Parramatta in 1839.

Bridget Byrne was born about 1773 in Trim, County Wicklow.

She was a mantua maker which meant she had good sewing skills and unlike so many in Ireland at the time she had an income.

Her story was not a story of petty crime gone wrong but protest against a colonial power responsible for the death of her brother during the rebellion.

The story of her crime tells us, during a rebellion, she hit a soldier on the head and killed him, in reprisal for the death of her brother at the hands of the British soldiers.

Through this act upon a 'king's man it was considered an assault on the king and sedition.

Bridget was convicted in Meath in August 1801 for murder and transportation for Life[12].

Bridget embarked on the ship *Rolla* which departed from Cork Harbour November 4, 1802 carrying 127 male and 37 female prisoners.

She was in the female factory about 1804, when she married Morgan Power.

Bridget died on November 25,1820 and is buried at St John's Parramatta.

Mary Field's story is a part of one that appears to be 'family migration'. Mary was born 1778, Youghall, County Cork, Ireland.

She married James Field and had four children.

Mary was described as a washerwoman, nurse and a seamstress. Her daughter Margaret was a washerwoman and straw plaiter.

Mary's husband James died about 1820 in Ireland. Mary had two convictions by the time she was indicted in 1827 aged 49 for stealing from a person. Her daughter Margaret aged 18 was also accused.

This was not enough for capital punishment but was enough for transportation. They were sentenced in Cork to seven years transportation[13].

Three children preceded her and Margaret to the Colony of NSW. Catherine came out on the *Brothers,* Elizabeth came on the *Lady Rowena* and James on the *Godfrey Webster*

Mary and Margaret embarked on the *Elizabeth* together with daughter Margaret, two of 194 females.

The master was Walter Cock and the surgeon was John Hughes. It sailed from Cork on August 27, 1827 taking a little over 4 months (138 days) and arrived on January 12, 1828 with 192 women.

Anne Dunne

Anne was born c1810 Carlow, Ireland. She was tried in Dublin November 17, 1830, found guilty of 'stealing linen', and sentenced to transportation for seven years.

She had had a previous conviction, which carried a sentence of seven months. On April 16, 1835 at Christ Church Castlereagh, Anne Dunne married James Tompkins.

There were 10 children to this couple. Disheartened by flooding of the Nepean River John moved his family to Gulgong where he continued as a carrier and gold miner, until his death in 1879.

Image courtesy of Maureen Upton and family

My own female factory ancestor, Ellen Sweeny was born about 1818 to Caroline and James Sweeney.

She married a William Murphy in 1832 and had two sons, Mathew and John. Her husband died leaving her the two children.

Continued page 15

These women became the silent revolution in Australia

Parramatta Female Factory - Image courtesy Society of Australian Genealogists

Continued from page 14

Ellen stole money from her master and was transported in 1842. Her comment – 'borrowed' money on the 'never never' from her employer Mr Stragel who had underpaid her.

She had to leave her two boys , 5 and 8 years old, behind never to see them again. Ellen was sent to Van Diemen's Land to the Cascades Female Factory and gave birth to Sarah on August 11, 1843 at the Cascades Female Factory known as 'The valley of death'.

John Dale was the father. Ellen was given a ticket of leave and married John in 1845 at St Georges Church, Battery Point, Hobart.

John and Ellen moved to Elizabeth Street, Hobart where Alfred was born on September 10, 1846. James was born on October 8, 1849 at Henty's sheep station "Muntham", near Coleraine. Son, Alfred, was born in 1846.

They moved to Victoria and had one more child, James in 1849. Ellen died in 1899.

All these women became the silent revolution in Australia. Through their lives, and values the Australian character began to be shaped into what it is today. In so many ways they were the mothers of the nation. Yet they really were just you and me in a different set of circumstances.

About the author

Gay Hendriksen is a Blue Mountains resident and has worked in the gallery and museum environment for 21 years including local history museums in Shellharbour and Sydney, Penrith Regional Gallery, Norman Lindsay Gallery and Museum and now Parramatta Heritage Centre.

She also curated the exhibition Women Transported - Life in Australia's Convict Female Factories which has won national and state awards in excellence and is currently touring 5 states.

She is also currently president of the Parramatta Female Factory Action Group which has the aim of saving the Greenway designed Parramatta Female Factory which was commissioned by Governor Macquarie and making it available for all to experience.

Readers are invited to view the Parramatta Female Factory Action Group's website and take a tour with experts on the history and significance of this part of our Australian Heritage. www.petitionbuzz.com/petitions/savethefemale factory/o/2

Endnotes

[1] Robson, Leslie Lloyd *The Convict Settlers of Australia: An Enquiry into the Origin and Character of the Convicts Transported to New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land, 1787-1852*, Melbourne 1965, p.4
[2] Hendriksen, Gay Women Transported – Myth or Reality, *Women Transported – Life in Australia's Convict Female Factories, Parramatta City Council, 2008, p.7*
[3] England & Wales Criminal Registers 1791-1892
[4] 41 Badger, Angela *Charlotte Badger: Buccaneer* Briar Hill: Indra Publishing, Sydney, 2002, p.229
[5] England & Wales Criminal Registers 1791-1892
[6] *The Lancaster Gazette and General Advertiser,* Saturday August 5, 1826
[7] Turner, William Riot – The story of the East Lancashire Loombreakers in 1826,Lancaster County Books, Preston, 1992. P.76
[8] England & Wales Criminal Registers 1791-1892
[9] Hindle, Mary *Petition for Free Pardon 22nd June 1838*
[10] England & Wales Criminal Registers 1791-1892
[11] Reid, Thomas, Two voyages to New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land, 1822, p117
[12] England & Wales Criminal Registers 1791-1892

Glenbrook Walk

Glenbrook & District Historical Society walk to Dunn's sawmill site; Brookside Creek, Lennox Bridge and old quarry September 8. Contact Doug Knowles, 4751 3275 Tim Miers, 4739 2384.

Proposal for permanent educational and research body

A PROPOSAL which would bring a lasting benefit to the region has been presented to the Western Crossing Committee (WCC) the coordinating body for the 2013-15 western crossing celebrations.

Dr David Blaxland a descendant of the explorer Gregory Blaxland who has been participating in the WCC meetings has proposed the setting up of the Western Crossings Foundation (or Trust) as a permanent body for education and research concerning the natural environment and human development of the region.

The proposal could lead to increased employment opportunities in the fields of education, care of the environment, tourism and research.

Dr Blaxland a medical practioner living in Wagga Wagga has pastoral interests with a farm employing environemental practices at Warrnambool, Victoria.

"There would be a potentially immeasurable contribution to the canon of historical knowledge of the region.

"This could be a valuable bicentennial legacy to future members of the local community," he said.

Dr Blaxland has suggested that the objectives of the Foundation might be:

1. To facilitate and promote education and research concerning the natural history and human development of the region;
2. Through the above, to foster understanding and co-operation between local communities and groups of people; and
3. To make results of this work available for promotion of the region to visitors.

The work of the Trust would also contribute to the historical knowledge of the region.

The outgoing chairman of WCC, Professor David Carment has suggested the establishment of links with one or more tertiary educational insitutes such as the University of Western Sydney or Charles Sturt University and local TAFE colleges.

The Foundation would be established in a form to accept grants, donations and bequests.

Dr Blaxland said the Western Crossings Committee was unusual consisting of members from diverse backgrounds encompassing a wide range of skills, knowledge and experience.

If there is no further action the committee will automatically disband at the end of 2015 celebrations.

Numerous ideas have been discussed including the production of films showing how tasks were performed and comparing them with modern methods including now rare trades and the construction of lost trades.

Another idea was for the production of CDs for use in motor vehicles when encompassing a large geographical area.

A small group of people who have shown an interest in the proposal will meet with Dr Blaxland before the next meeting of the Western Crossing Committee.

A LESSON LEARNT FROM THE BURIAL OF THE 1867 RAIL CUTTING ABUTMENT

"BURIED beside the highway and railway diversion in the old railway cutting between Lawson and Hazelbrook is the last 'built' link with the original 1867 single track train line," writes local historian and author Ken Goodlet of Hazelbrook

"The entombed southern side eight-course stone abutment supported an arched masonry railway bridge over which the Bathurst road went, one of two such bridges on the mountains, according to the *Herald* of the time.

"You have to go to either the west or east escarpment to see any original stonework.

"This is just one more piece of our heritage that has been taken away from us without our [the Mountains community] permission.

The 1866/67 sandstone abutment on the southern side of the original 1867 rail track. Note the shadow on the left that shows where the 1866-67 stone arch of the Bathurst Road bridge began.

"Much of it over the years was unavoidable, but not this time. Had the Roads and Maritime Service (RMS) looked at their own guidelines for preserving heritage in their excellent 2002 Review of Environmental Factors for the mountains highway, they would have created a concrete block wall or equivalent on the southern side of the new highway as they have done on the northern side, rather than sacrificing our heritage by supporting the wall with a whopping amount of lime and blue metal strengthened rubble.

"Fortunately, the RMS's failure to follow their own heritage guidelines on the Woodford highway heritage precinct has been picked up early enough by a sub-committee of Woodford residents to give them a fighting chance of reviving their discrete community identity," Mr Goodlet said.

All set for Blue Mountains history conference

THE BLUE Mountains History conference being organiSed by BMACHO will be held at the heritage listed Carrington Hotel, Katoomba on Saturday, October 20.

At the time of going to press with this newsletter there were a limited number of places available and those interested in attending should email Jan Koperberg at j.koperberg@bigpond.com

Early bird registrations are now closed and the normal fee of $50 is payable with bookings.

The fee includes morning and afternoon tea as well as lunch in the historic grand dining room at Carrington Hotel now restored to its former glory. The conference will be held in the ballroom also restored to its original décor.

The registration desk will open at 8.30am with the conference opening at 9am

The conference will be officially opened by the well known historian Associate Professor Ian Jack former long-term president of the Royal Australian Historical Society.

Ian has been an indefatigable advocate of the importance of history and heritage of Australia. He has immeasurably increased the appreciation of heritage and has saved innumerable items from oblivion.

His vast knowledge of the history and heritage of the Greater Blue Mountains region and the Hawkesbury made him an obvious choice for the role of opening this conference.

The keynote speaker Professor Paul Ashton has chosen as his subject the 'The early years of the colony'.

Paul is a co-director of the Australian Centre for Public History (ACPH) and the Centre for Creative Practice and Cultural Economy. He is the Professor of Public History at the University of Technology, Sydney (UTS),

Paul's most recent book (co-authored with Paula Hamilton) is *History at the Crossroads:*

Pictured front row from left BMACHO secretary, Jan Koperberg, Brigette Mackenzie (Bendigo Bank , Katoomba branch manager), BMACHO president , Pamela Smith and Peter Carroll (Bendigo Bank); back row BMACHO committee members Doug Knowles, Judy Barham, Scott Pollock and John Leary, OAM at the cheque presentation at Everglades, Leura.

Australians and the Past (Halstead Press) and he is a founder and co-editor of the refereed journal *Public History Review*, now published by UTSePress.

Professional gardener, historian and author Silas Clifford-Smith's subject for the conference is Survival and Civilisation in a Strange Land, which will highlight the importance of parks, gardens and cemeteries to Australian settlers from the time of settlement up to the early 20th century.

As well as working for many private clients he has been employed by the National Trust at the Norman Lindsay Museum in Faulconbridge and Experiment Farm Cottage.

Silas has also worked for the Historic Houses Trust at Vaucluse House and Elizabeth Farm, and the Governor-General at Admiralty House.

A prolific writer and biographer of Miles Franklin, Professor Emerita, Jill Roe, AO is another of the line up of first class speakers for the conference.

Professor Roe has chosen the title 'Miles and her mates in the Mountains' for her 'talk'.

Jill is professor emerita in modern history at Macquarie University, Sydney.

A Powerhouse Museum curator Glynis Jones has accepted an invitation to be presenter of textiles and fashions in the early colonial era.

Glynis is a curator in the design and society department of the Powerhouse Museum with responsibility for the museum's holdings of fashion and dress.

Local historian Paul Innes will speak and provide a tour of the heritage Carrington Hotel. His subject, 'The Carrington Hotel – a return to the era of grace and elegance and charm'.

Hurry last chance to book……

BLUE MOUNTAINS HISTORY CONFERENCE

To be held at the historic Carrington Hotel, Katoomba
on, Saturday, October 20, 2012
Conference theme: "*Colonial Society*"
with a great line-up of speakers and presenters

PROGRAM

8.30am Registration
9.00am Introductions conference starts

9.15am Conference to be opened by former president RAHS, Prof Ian Jack.

9.45am *The early years of the colony* by keynote speaker, Prof Paul Ashton, co-director Australian Centre for Public History.

10.45am Morning tea

11.15am *Nature and role of gardens in the early settlement period* by Silas Cliford-Smith archivist at the Heritage Centre, UNE

12.15pm *TheCarrington Hotel - a return to the era of grace, elegance and charm.* A tour guided by Paul Innes.

12.45pm
Lunch in the grand dining room

1.45pm
Musical interlude Jim Low, folk singer, historian and writer in the ballroom.

2.30pm *Colonial dress* by Glynis Jones, curator fashion & dress design and society Powerhouse Museum

3.30pm
Afternoon tea

4.00pm Prolific writer and biographer of Miles Franklin Professor Emerita, Jill Roe, AO has chosen the title *Miles and her mates in the Mountains* for her 'talk'

Cost of $50 includes morning and afternoon tea as well as lunch in the historic grand dining room of Carrington Hotel.

For further information and early bookings (capacity limited to 120 participants) contact Jan Koperberg at
j.koperberg@bigpond.com or bmacho.heritage@gmail.com

Pictured at the right the heritage listed Carrington Hotel and above the grand dining room

Lithgow Small Arms Factory centenary

LITHGOW Small Arms Factory Museum will celebrate the centenary of the establishment of the factory which went on to be the source of much of Australia's defence equipment for World War 1 and 2.

An exhibition of pre-federation colonial weapons will be presented by the Lithgow Small Arms Factory Museum in conjunction with the Antique Arms Collectors Society of Australia from September 20 to October 27.

There will be an official opening of this exhibition on September 29 and the cutting of a centenary cake at 11.30am. Talks and demonstrations by expert members of the AACSA will commence at 1pm.

A series of centenary workshop talks will be conducted over the weekend October 20 - 21.

Among the speakers will be Professor Greg Patmore who will speak of 'The Factory and the Lithgow community before the Second War', Ian Kuring on 'The development of military small arms in Australia during the 20th century', Colonel Jim Burns, 'The role, organisation and tactics of the modern Australian defence force', Justin Hewitt an archaeologist,'Weapons from the West' Tony Griffiths (author of *Lithgow's Small Arms Factory and its people*) 'Ladies of Lithgow and the SAF' and Graham Eveden 'Development of the F88 Austeyr rifle: 1988 till today and into the future'.

Saturday workshops will be of interest to military and arms enthusiasts while the Sunday program will centre on talks for history enthusiasts. For more information on these activities contact the Lithgow Small Arms Factory Museum by e-mail to lithgowsafmusesum@ozemail.com.au or by telephone to (02) 6351 4452

Volunteer Defence Corps not a Force

AN ARTICLE titled *World War 2 in the Blue Mountains* by Joan Edwards appeared In the July-August 2012 edition of *HERITAGE.*

Bob Burnett of Mt Victoria Historical Society has drawn attention to an incorrect nomenclature of the organisation that was often known as Australia's 'Dad's Army of the day which was in fact the Volunteer Defence Corps (not Force), also referred to as the VDC.

Thanks Bob, you information is correct. *HERITAGE* has done some research and offers the additional information.

The Volunteer Defence Corps (VDC) was an Australian part time volunteer military force of World War 2 modelled on the British Home Guard.

The VDC was established in July 1940 by the Returned and Services League of Australia (RSL) and was initially composed of ex-servicemen who had served in World War 1[1].

The government took over control of the VDC in May 1941, and gave the organisation the role of training for guerrilla warfare, collecting local intelligence and providing static defence of each unit's home area[2].

General Harry Chauvel, who had retired in 1930, was recalled to duty in 1940 and appointed Inspector-General of the VDC. Chauvel held this position until his death in March 1945.

Following the outbreak of the Pacific War, the Government expanded the VDC in February 1942.

Membership was open to men aged between 18 and 60, including those working in reserved occupations. As a result, the VDC reached peak strength of almost 100,000 in units across Australia[3].

As the perceived threat to Australia declined the VDC's role changed from static defence to operating anti-aircraft artillery, coastal artillery and searchlights.

Members of inland VDC units were freed from having to attend regular training in May 1944 and the Volunteer Defence Corps was officially disbanded on August 24, 1945[4].

REFERENCE

1. Dennis, Peter; et al. (2008). "Volunteer Defence Corps". *The Oxford Companion to Australian Military History* (Second edition ed.). Melbourne: Oxford University Press Australia & New Zealand. pp. 558–559. ISBN 978-0-19-551784-2.
2. ibid
3 ibid
4. ibid

Pictured below are members of the Volunteer Defence Corps in 1942 before they were issued with uniforms. Photograph courtesy Australian War Memorial cat. no. PO2O18.087

Patron's favourite Lindsays on show at artist's home

A SPECIAL exhibition of many of the best of the Norman Lindsay watercolours from the Howard Hinton collection is planned for the months of September to November at the Norman Lindsay Gallery in Faulconbridge.

Stunning watercolours such as *Happiness, Hydrangeas, Belshazzar, Hot Blood, Odysseus* and *Guarded* are among the works to be exhibited and seen for the first time together in the artist's home.

Howard Hinton was 'an Artist's patron' and during his lifetime he donated over 1000 works of art to various institutions including the Teachers' College in Armidale

He planned the collection to be a thorough representation of Australian art from 1880. It eventually included works by William Dobell, Hans Heysen, Margaret Preston, Thea Proctor, Tom Roberts, Arthur Streeton and the large collection Lindsays.

It was described by Norman Lindsay as 'the only complete collection of Australian art in the country'.

The exhibition will run from September 10 to November 19 and is included with normal admission to the gallery.

Happiness, Norman Lindsay, 1933, Watercolour, Bequest of Howard Hinton 1948, New England Regional Art Museum, Armidale NSW

Vintage and retro

EVERGLADES will be hosting its second Vintage and Retro weekend on November 17 and 18.

This year, vintage and retro fashion parades will be featured. While the ladies relish the fashions of the 30s and 40s, the men can lust over polished vintage vehicles.

There's plenty of lush green lawns to sprawl over while watching your kids play hopscotch or quoits.

Everyone is being encouraged to dress the part. Once you're done, you can learn to move and groove. All this and a lot more will be up for grabs.

Cost: Adult $14, National Trust members $10, concessions $12, children $8. family $35. Tickets/enquiries**:** 02 47841938

More accolades for *HERITAGE*

From David Blaxland a descendant of Gregory Blaxland:*Thank you very much for adding my email address to your newsletter. I'm astonished by the high quality of the articles.*

They're easy to read and very informative. Jan Koperberg mentioned that she was the secretary of BMACHO – I knew that it would consist of an interesting group of members but I had no idea that the standard of your work would be so high. I'm sure that, if it would be permissible, my fourth cousin Richard Blaxland, would also like to receive a copy of HERITAGE.

Richard and I both have a keen interest in history in general, and Australian history in particular.

From Mary Reynolds, Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine Historical Society Inc: *What a mammoth effort with the latest HERITAGE newsletter.*

From Neryl Medcalf former research officer Woodford Academy: *Thank you, for the latest copy of the HERITAGE newsletter - always a great read!*

From Wendy Blaxland, great, great, great, great grand-daughter of Gregory Blaxland:*Thanks again for a most interesting newsletter; you provide such a valuable service to everyone wanting to share information about the history of this fascinating area*

From Alison Halliday: *As always a pleasure to receive and a fascinating read. Many thanks.*

From Joan and Tom Kent of Hartley Valley: *Congratulations on a particularly interesting edition of the newsletter HERITAGE - you have really excelled in difficult circumstances.*

From Ken Goodlet, local historian and author of Hazelbrook: *Congratulations, John on another wonderful newsletter. I'm particularly pleased that John Low got such a high profile in it. He is a wonderful asset and a thoroughly nice person.*

From Geoff Bates, Mt Victoria Historical Society: *Keep up the good work of recording our history - very interesting.*

Inland explorers' stamps issue launched

AUSTRALIA POST has issued the 'Inland Explorers' series of four stamps.

They were issued on July 3 and Blue Mountains City Council held an afternoon tea on August 17 to launch the Crossings website and the commemmorative stamps.

This stamp issue commemorates two anniversaries: in 2012 it is 150 years since John McDouall Stuart returned from his overland crossing of Australia; and in 2013 it will be 200 years since Gregory Blaxland, William Lawson and William Charles Wentworth crossed the Blue Mountains.

In 1813, Blaxland, Lawson and Wentworth travelled through Dharug and Gundungurra country to establish a route across the Blue Mountains to open up the western plains of NSW for farming and settlement.

Others had attempted the crossing before, but the party's key strategy was to follow a westward-running ridge travelling for 21 days to what became known as Mt Blaxland.

Their expedition led, within a few short years, to a road across the mountains.

Some 50 years later, Stuart became the first European to make the south-north return crossing of Australia.

He left South Australia with his nine companions in October 1861, on his third attempt to cross the continent, reaching the coast at Van Diemans Gulf on July 24, 1862. Stuart raised the flag the following day, after first attempting to find the mouth of the Adelaide River.

Turning south, the party made Adelaide on December 17 that year. Stuart's success has been attributed to his experience, his egalitarian leadership style and his lighter method of travel. His expedition eventually led to the Adelaide-Darwin telegraph, (enabling telegraphic communication with the world) and the Stuart Highway.

Collector gets three postmarks

Local lay philatelist, former president of Blue Mountains Historical Society and now editor of the *Blue Mountains History Journal,* Dr Peter Rickwood might be in other circles described as one who had won the trifecta.

Peter purchased the Australia Post first day cover envelopes with the two 60 cents stamps of Blaxland, Wentworth and Lawson on the day of issue as well of that of John McDougall Stuart in the 'Inland Explorers' series.

Not content with the envelope bearing any old post office post mark, he visited post offices at Blaxland, Lawson and Wentworth Falls on July 3, 2012 the official date of issue by Australia Post and had his first day covers post marked at post offices in the three towns.

This initiative is probably almost unique. Well done Peter! Of course, the chance of it being unique would probably have been assured if Peter had flown on the same day to post offices at say Adelaide River 0846 Northern Territory, Oodnadatta 5374 or Coober Pedy 5723 South Australia all towns which came into existence after the exploration by Stuart or even Stuart Park near Darwin which seems to be the only town named in his honour .

John Leary, OAM

Western crossing commemoration 2013-15

great ideas - thoughts - just being talked about or it's really going to happen

New chair

Dr Anne-Maree Whitaker (pictured) the senior vice president of RAHS has now assumed the chair of the Western Crossing Committee (WCC) replacing the RAHS president Prof David Carment AM.

Aircraft to fly over region

Mr Phil Hammon of BSB and Scenic World advised a recent meeting of WCC the planned flight path is from Bathurst, over the Grose, down to Emu Plains and then back up the route of the Great Western Highway and on to Bathurst.

Descendants walk

Trevor Lloyd from the Blue Mountains Blue Wave has advised WCC its planned re-enactment walk from St Marys to Hartley Valley was organised to be held over 21 days. SES vehicles will accompany the walkers.

The team will be made up of descendants and their families and will be conducted from May11 to May 31, 2013. It is hoped the walkers will be in Katoomba on May 25 for the aircraft flyover.

There are 7 people in the walk, but not the same 7 people over the 21 days. Stephen Wentworth will start the walk to represent William Charles Wentworth.

Digital mapping project

Rosemary Sempell, Land and Property Information said that the relevant maps had now been scanned at State Records and that there would be digital delivery by the end of the year.

Holey dollar

A holey dollar coin is to be created for distribution to 12,000 primary and high school children in the Blue Mountains area.

Phil Hammon has displayed to the recent WCC meeting a 'promo' coin in brass with the dump, which is a copy of the original coin and dump. This was in a display box, on a backing, which would show the logo of the sponsor/s.

The commemorative coin would be made in pewter. Phil said the metal used depended on whether the coin was to look new or old.

Sharon Lamb asked if school children from Blacktown to Bathurst could receive the coin and this possibility is now being considered.

William Lawson's grave

Blacktown City Council has received a grant to restore William Lawson's grave at St Bartholomew's church at Prospect. St Bartholomew's Anniversary Day will be held on April 13, 2013.

A moment in Time

Hartley District Progress Association will be conducting an images exhibition titled *A Moment in Time*, in the historic site for the two weeks either side of the June1 weekend.

The yet to be named Fair Day on June 1, 2013 will run from 10am to 4pm.

There will also be guided walks on Cox's Road in May and June.

These walks will be of varying length and difficulty, limited to manageable numbers and only on those sections of the road where permission can be obtained from landholders.

Hartley District Progress Association also has a history conference scheduled for June 8, 2013.

Katoomba RSL Club

Katoomba RSL has donated $500 for Mt Victoria & District Historical Society to paint the museum before the bicentenary events.

Possible Event in London

Richard Cox, a great-great-grandson of William Cox has offered to try to organise some celebrations in England in May 2013.

2013 William Cox Festival

Nepean Historical Society will be holding their usual William Cox Festival at the Arms of Australia Inn, Emu Plains in July 2013.

Mount York re-enactment

Marcia Osterberg-Olsen has advised that Mt Victoria & District Historical Society had planned a parade of descendants from the beginning of Mount York Road out to Mount York, a re-enactment of the parade organised by Jean Arthur 25 years ago. There will also be horse-drawn vehicles.

The parade is being planned for May 26, which would co-incide with the 'Great Train Weekend', but organisers are now looking at May 28, to coincide with the main commemorative event.

Parramatta and District Historical Society

Parramatta & District Historical Society, has advised the society holds an event at Hambledon Cottage, Parramatta every year in September for History Week, with school children from the district role-playing historic events and people.

For the Crossings bicentenary next year, the society will be focusing on Blaxland, Lawson and Wentworth and the crossing of the Blue Mountains

Crossing! Play

Wendy Blaxland advised that a website had been set up to give publicity about the play: www.Blaxlandanddaughter.com. The names of the convicts who travelled with the three explorers are still unknown, as are the names of the Indigenous people.

For more information about Western Crossing events contact: www.bluemountains crossings.com.au

Stolen artefacts back in Afghanistan

HUNDREDS of looted treasures have been returned to Afghanistan with the help of the British Museum, British police and border forces.

The haul is just a fraction of what has been stolen from Afghanistan's national museum and rich archaeological sites in recent decades.

"The pieces, and their enormous range, bear testament to the incredibly rich cultural history of Afghanistan," said, Colin Crokin, Britain's consul-general in Afghanistan, at the hand over ceremony recently for the 83 meticulously catalogued items.

"In a sense, they are symbols of Afghanistan's struggle for national unity and peace - scattered by the civil war, recovered and now passed back to their own people for safekeeping."

Among the important recovered artefacts is a second century schist Buddha, which now gazes down from a niche on the museum's main stairwell, despite a 20-year odyssey to other corners of Asia.

The statue was part of the museum's collection but disappeared in the early 1990s, when the building was on the frontline between warring factions, which repeatedly raided its storerooms.

The Buddha ended up with a Japanese collector, who refused to return it and could not be legally compelled to do so, even though it had been looted.

But an anonymous British dealer stepped in, spending hundreds of thousands of pounds to buy for the museum.

"It is very important for us to get these artefacts back because they are part of cultural heritage and history," said Afghanistan's deputy culture minister Sayed Masaddeq Khalili.

About 9000 looted artefacts have been returned from other countries since 2009. Guardian News & Media

Back home... a cosmetic flask returned to the national museum in Kabul after being looted. Photograph British Museum

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

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THE ORGANISATION Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 following a unanimous response to a proposal from Professor Barrie Reynolds at the 2004 Blue Mountains Local History Conference which sought from Blue Mountains City Council the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the city.
BMACHO in its constitution uses the definition: "Cultural heritage is all aspects of life of the peoples of the Blue Mountains which was later changed to cover Lithgow and the villages along the Bell's Line of Roads. It therefore involves the recording, preserving and interpreting of information in whatever form: documents, objects, recorded memories as well as buildings and sites."
The objectives of the organisation are:

i. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage.
ii. To encourage and assist cultural heritage activities of member organisations.
iii. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations. One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact, to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

AFFILIATIONS BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society Inc.

HERITAGE BMACHO's official newsletter is edited by John Leary, OAM.
Blue Mountains History Journal is edited by Dr Peter Rickwood.

MEMBERSHIP The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mount Tomah, Blue Mountains City Library, Blue Mountains Cultural Heritage Centre, Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc., Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc., Blue Mountains, Lithgow and Oberon Tourism Limited, Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute, Cudgegong Museums Group Inc., Eskbank Rail Heritage Centre, Everglades Historic House & Gardens, Friends of Norman Lindsay Gallery, Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc., Hartley Valley District Progress Association, Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc, Lilianfels Blue Mountains Resort, Lithgow and District Family History Society Inc., Lithgow Mining Museum Inc., Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies, Lithgow Small Arms Factory Museum Inc, Mt Victoria and District Historical Society Inc., Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine History Society Inc. (including Turkish Bath Museum), Mudgee Historical Society Inc., Mudgee Regional Library, National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Blue Mountains Branch, National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Lithgow Branch, Scenic World – Blue Mountains Limited, Springwood & District Historical Society Inc., Springwood Historians Inc., Transport Signal and Communication Museum Inc., The Darnell Collection Pty Ltd, Valley Heights Locomotive Depot and Museum, Woodford Academy Management Committee, Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd. The following are individual members: Ray Christison, Associate Professor Ian Jack, Joan Kent, John Leary OAM, John Low OAM, Ian Milliss, Patsy Moppett, Professor Barrie Reynolds, Dr Peter Rickwood and Dr Peter Stanbury OAM.
COMMITTEE The committee for 2012-13 is: Pamela Smith (president), Ian Jack (vice president), Jan Koperberg (secretary), Judy Barham, Joan Kent, Doug Knowles, John Leary, Dick Morony (public officer), and Scott Pollock.

DISCLAIMER Views and opinions expressed in ***HERITAGE*** originate from many sources and contributors. Every effort is taken to ensure accuracy of material. Content does not necessarily represent or reflect the views and opinions of BMACHO, its committee or members. If errors are found feedback is most welcome.

HERITAGE

NEWSLETTER OF THE BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2012 ISSUE No. 24

Heritage of mountain villages sacrificed for highway progress

MANY older residents of the Blue Mountains are lamenting the continual erosion of the unique character of the villages that developed along the Great Western Highway in the last 150 years.

The heritage landscape has been swallowed up as the ribbon of highway under construction for several decades presses on to the west. It is only the historians and those long-time residents of the mountains who can recall the unique character which was once the Blue Mountains

Pictured at right are Joseph (left) and Florence (centre) Taggett outside their wood carrier and saw bench business in Hazelbrook, circa. early 1920s.

Born in Somerset in about 1881, Joseph migrated in 1911, served as a dispatch runner in World War I and purchased his home, 'Oakura' in Woodford in June 1920. The second location of his woodcutting business was near the present Hazelbrook service station where this photograph seems to have been taken.

In a small mountains economy, survival meant multi-skilling, so woodcutting, construction of the dam wall at Hazelbrook in 1928 and general building were amongst his accomplishments.

When working as a garage attendant, this immensely strong man would as a joke lift a car's back wheels off the ground as patrons were starting their cars.

Public spirited, in 1923 Joseph was elected a lieutenant of the newly-formed Woodford Bushfire Brigade.

He died in 1939, the wood site being then sold to become a service station. ***Photograph --- Ken Goodlet collection***

BMACHO History conference success

THE BLUE Mountains History conference 2012 held in the heritage Carrington Hotel, Katoomba was by all measures an outstanding success.

Organised by the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) the conference was attended by almost 100 participants.

BMACHO president, Pamela Smith reminded those present that BMACHO had been formed as a result of a suggestion by Professor Barrie Reynolds at an earlier conference at the Carrington and it was most appropriate that the organisation's first conference be held at this venue.

Attendees were exposed to a smorgasbord of speakers the conference opening address being given by former long-time president of the Royal Australian Historical Society, Associate Professor R Ian Jack.

In his address titled *Colonial society and beyond* (which is published in full on pages 4-7 of this edition of *HERITAGE*), Ian said "…a conference like this is another, necessary, dimension to BMACHO's activities, because it brings together more than 100 like-minded people to listen to papers, to meet other historians and, most of all, simply to talk during the all-important periods of tea and lunch.

"The real action takes place in the Carrington's dining-room. This has been happening in this great hotel ever since 1883 although the context has perhaps shifted over the years: I hope that the deals done today will be less dodgy than some of those in the past," Ian said.

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An opinion from the editor.....

Heritage appears to go missing from proposed NSW planning reforms

THE NSW state government is proposing legislation to remove the rights of individuals under the guise of streamlining the planning process.

What that means is making it easier to get developments approved by removing community consultation from the approval process.

The proposed legislation which has been outlined in a government green paper, A *New Planning System for NSW* will remove the right of communities to have a say in development proposals and planning matters directly affecting their lives. It will also diminish the role of elected councillors.

It will permit 'Enterprise Zones' with no planning controls to be imposed over entire suburbs or local government areas. It will not protect the environment or the heritage.

For years it has been accepted that the role of planning is to balance the needs of the community and the environment with those of the private interests of developers.

Now the government is proposing to enact a planning system that puts the developers' needs and interests above those of the community and the environment.

The O'Farrell government came to power with a promise to return planning powers to the community but it is clear the reform processes have been captured by the same interests that gave us the notorious Part 3A under the previous government.

Local heritage consultant architect Margi Fallon has produced a timely article which appears on page 14 of *HERITAGE* and her views and recommended actions are extremely pertinent.

Ms Fallon in her artcile states: "...over the past 10 years the heritage branch has been decimated by the removal of staff to the planning department and then the separation of the heritage branch from the planning department.

"Their statutory status has been greatly reduced, and staffing has reduced their capacity to train and support the heritage protection industry."

The winding back of the status of the heritage branch has been of concern to heritage groups for sometime and to see further degeneration of this authority was not what was expected from the promises made by the O'Farrell government when in opposition.

The public should voice their concern in letters to local state members, Premier Barry O'Farrell and Planning Minister Brad Hazzard even though the closing date for official submissions has passed.

Margi Fallon's article is recommended as required reading for all interested in the preservation of our heritage and the retention of individual's rights to have a say on planning matters directly affecting their lives.

CONGRATULATIONS

IT IS always good to be able to congratulate someone who receives an award for excellence and on this occasion as editor of *HERITAGE,* I applaud the efforts of BMACHO individual member Ian Milliss and his associate Dr Lucas Ihlein who have won the Fremantle Arts Centre Print Award regarded as Australia's most prestigious award.

Primarily it is an award for art, but the subject of the collaborative work, *Yeoman's Project* (see page 11 brings a new dimension to the pursuits of BMACHO; it introduces through commercial graphics the history and heritage of agriculture and of topographical mapping.

It must be of interest that a farming system on the property Nevallan at nearby North Richmond is being considered for state heritage listing.

John Leary, OAM - Past president, Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc.

CENTENARY OF LOCOMOTIVE DEPOT

VALLEY HEIGHTS locomotive depot will celebrate its centenary in 2014.

In 1988, the Valley Heights Locomotive Depot was closed after 75 years of faithful railway service.

The locomotive depot proudly stands today housing a local heritage museum, thanks to the efforts of local volunteers over the course of last 24 years.

Now in its 99th year, planning is well underway to celebrate its 100th anniversary, a milestone that was doubtful back in 1988.

Some of the proposed events planned include:
*an official opening for the celebrations with a special train;
*visits by steam locomotives
local steam shuttles
*themed days for historical societies.

These plans albeit in its early stages, are very much subject to financial support from the community and are subject to change. Committee member of the museum, Andrew Tester said, it would be great if members of BMACHO could support these celebrations, the details of which will be published in the pages of *HERITAGE* during 2013.

At the inaugural Trains, Trams and T's event at the Valley Heights Loco Depot Heritage Museum early this year, museum volunteers, tram crews and visitors came dressed for the occasion. The event was held to showcase transport in the 1920s. Photograph Andrew Tester

Colonial past and public history

THE KEYNOTE speaker, at last month's Blue Mountains History conference was Professor Paul Ashton (pictured below) who took as his topic *Colonial past and public history*.

"Public history can be broadly defined, as Paula Hamilton and I have defined it, 'as a diverse set of practices that communicate and engage with historical meanings in public arenas'.

"As the British-based historian Ludmilla Jordanova reminds us in her wonderful book *History in Practice*, 'we should remember that the state, which in many countries plays a major role in funding institutions such as archives and museums, lies at the heart of public history.'

"Public history also concerns memory. There are numerous ways in which memories are constructed, reproduced and circulated. Nancy Woods' book *Vectors of Memory: Legacies of Memory in Post War Europe* (Berg 1999) investigates conduits of memorial activity in the twentieth century.

"But we can apply this concept of vectors of memory to public history in colonial times.

"Take maps for example. These documents were not simply finding aids.

"They were often comprehensive recordings of places, circulating in cultures in different ways and reinforcing a sense of place in the public imagining.

"They showed patterns of development and often the dynamics underpinning change and growth.

"Value systems can also be read in maps. Monuments and memorials, public landscapes, processions, rituals of 'social integration', art galleries, museums and official histories also became vectors of memory.

"They became part of a process described in the second half of the twentieth century by Donald Horne as 'the great drama, endlessly playing... of maintaining definitions of the nation and its social orders'.

"During the nineteenth century and beyond, however, this great drama was ultimately an imperial, masculine narrative." Professor Ashton said.

Paul is the co-director of the Australian Centre for Public History and the Centre for Creative Practice and Cultural Economy & Professor of Public History at the University of Technology, Sydney.

Colonial society and beyond

THE following is the text of an address by Associate Professor Ian Jack who officially opened the Blue Mountains History conference organised by the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Organisations on October 20.

'It is a great pleasure to make some introductory remarks at this conference.

The Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations is delighted that so many folk interested in the history and heritage of the mountains have found their way to Katoomba today.

BMACHO is still a very young society beside the Springwood Historical Society, the Blue Mountains Historical Society at Wentworth Falls, the Mount Victoria Historical Society and the Mount Wilson and Mount Irvine Historical Society.

But thanks to John Leary, Jan Koperberg, Pamela Smith and co-founders, Barrie Reynolds and Peter Stanbury, BMACHO has achieved a great deal in its overview role within the historical community beyond the Monocline, through John Leary's splendid *HERITAGE* newsletter, Peter Rickwood's thoroughly refereed *Blue Mountains History Journal* or the occasional general meetings organised at various venues.

And it has tried to obtain state and commonwealth funding to enhance public understanding of the area: not least, in 2006, it combined with the National Trust to seek real money, seven figures of money, to 'Rediscover our Heritage in the Blue Mountains'.

That has not happened but a helpful relationship with Telstra has funded a series of appropriate workshops this year. A lot of mountain water has passed under the BMACHO bridge over the last few years.

But a conference like this is another, necessary, dimension to BMACHO's activities, because it brings together more than 100 like-minded people to listen to papers, to meet other historians and, most of all, simply to talk during the all-important periods of tea and lunch.

The real action takes place in the Carrington's dining-room. This has been happening in this great hotel ever since 1883 although the context has perhaps shifted over the years: I hope that the deals done today will be less dodgy than some of those in the past.

The Carrington is very strategically sited. Katoomba is a natural place to foregather.

Ever since the railway penetrated the mountains a century and a half ago, Europeans have been tempted to come on up here; an affordable touristic pilgrimage and Katoomba-Leura soon developed a remarkable concentration of guest-houses, over a hundred in their heyday.

Grand dining room of Katoomba's Carrington Hotel

Associate Professor Ian Jack

If we had held this conference a hundred years ago, each of you could have stayed in a separate guesthouse tonight.

But to congregate in the vicinity of Katoomba is not just a European phenomenon at all. This has always been a place of meetings.

We may call our function today a conference, for that is the fashionable term with overtones of tax-deductibility, but in reality we are just continuing an age-old tradition of meeting in the Mountains.

The Mountain plateau had been for millennia an area where Aboriginal people from different language groups, Darug, Gundungarra, Wiradjuri, had met, long before the Weatherboard Inn was dispensing dubious hospitality, long before Katoomba Street and Lurline Street were lined with accommodation houses, and before the Three Sisters took on a Europeanised mythology created by Mel Ward in 1949.

As Martin Thomas reminded us in his marvellous book, *The Artificial Horizon*: *Imagining the Blue Mountains*, the legend of the Three Sisters as articulated by Ward and his successors is in fact 'an especially revealing text in the dreamwork of imperialism…, a fragment from an extensive mythological order, emerging from a region … which always, it seems, has been a privileged place for marvel and speculation' (p.155).

So we are here like others before us over the last 30,000 or 40,000 years, to marvel and speculate.

Continued on page 5

‘Like a handshake across the centuries’

Continued from page 4 To see the mountains as a barrier was a very European construct. At first the Mountains seemed a handy prison wall to the west of the Cumberland Plain’s distributed penal station.

In a quite different way, to Aboriginal people the Blue Mountains were a self-evident demarcator, where various language groups had a fluid boundary, but that said, the Mountains were not so much a divider as a meeting-place.

The name, the Great Dividing Range, is profoundly revealing of one type of European outlook.

There was another, simultaneous outlook, however, for the name ‘Great Dividing Range’ is the antithesis of the romance and gum-laden exhalation of the term ‘Blue Mountains’.

But for the folk who had been enjoying the area for many millennia, the Wiradjuri, the Gundungurra and the Darug people, the Mountains were not a divide at all, but a natural point of contact.

The mountains lay on the periphery of several indigenous language groups and trade routes inevitably led across the plateau.

Father Eugene Stockton, the much-loved priestly archaeologist of Lawson, recalled how he came to Aboriginal studies in the Mountains.

Twenty years ago, in his influential book, *Blue Mountains Dreaming*, he told how ‘As a teenager I began to find stones which did not belong to the geology of the area.’ (p.5)

Australian Aboriginal flaked stone tools. Image courtesy NSW Office of Environment and Heritage

These stones are the physical evidence of Aboriginal trade routes and habits of exchange. Eugene went on to coin a very telling phrase.‘Holding a stone tool in my hand [he wrote] I wondered at the last hand to grasp it: it was like a handshake across the centuries.’ (p.5)

‘A handshake across the centuries’. I do wish that I had thought of that phrase, for it is a warm and friendly evocation of how historians should respond to any physical evidence of any human activity, of any period.

We should all be shaking hands across the centuries in response to all the variety of cultural heritage which surrounds us. It is an essential part of historical discourse.

And it helps to remind us that there is no wilderness. The Blue Mountains National Park which is all around us here was given World Heritage status because of its natural qualities.

But there is no part of the World Heritage area which has remained untrodden by human beings over many millennia.

Even in the remotest gorges of the Wollangambe, where the Wollemi Pine was found with such fanfare, even there you find Aboriginal art-sites.

Here at Katoomba, Jamison Valley is not just a wonderful environment: it is still a place full of relics of European coal-miners and oil-shale workers, relics which the Hammon family has skilfully used to enhance the cultural value of a trip on the Scenic Railway.

And over the last century and a half, thousands of steps have been cut into the living rock-faces at the edge of this plateau some for miners but more for tourists.

All these Mountain features, and hundreds more like them, have been created or modified by people over tens of thousands of years.

This is not just a miracle of nature: it is nature moderated by men and women.

So there are many, many hands which we should all wish to grasp, wherever we go in the Mountains and whatever historical curiosity we may happen to have.

Aboriginal hand stencils in the Red Hand Cave near Glenbrook

All sorts of things may excite our curiosity: an ochred hand, or a powder-magazine beside a convict road, or an elegant stone culvert, or remnant plantings on an abandoned country retreat, or, one of my favourites, a mine-adit cut horizontally into the talus from a narrow ledge where lyre-birds display and the archaeologists try not to lose their tools or their colleagues down the 300-metre drop into the Grose Valley.

All this suggests that there is no neat chronological divide.

Long before Lawson, Wentworth and Blaxland, there was widespread Aboriginal knowledge of how to attain the table-top from the plains and valleys on all sides, not just from the coastal plain, but also from the north and south and west.

There was detailed information about how to cross the climactic landscape of the table-top without falling down a precipice or leaping down a waterfall like the mythologically transformed Mr Govett.

For everyone on the mountains, indigenous or European, travel in the region was at bottom a ‘negotiation with the perpendicular’, in Martin Thomas’s quizzical phrase.

But for the indigenous people it was country like any other, and the mountains with their abysses had their fair share of Dreamtime stories of ancestral creation, skilfully interpreted in the past two decades by Jim Smith.

Continued page 6

Continued from page 5

To the Europeans the Mountains were for a long time an infernal nuisance full of 'impassable chasms' , with the plateau an arid and unattractive area to hurry across to get to the other side.

It was only gradually in the nineteenth century that the mystique of the Sublime gathered force and, as Kate Hartig felicitously observed: 'the aesthetic appraisal of the mountain landscape was cloaked in a romantic image and was expressed by sentiments of exaltation and delight.'

The grand concept of the Sublime in the nineteenth century fostered an appreciation of the savagely scenic.

In Europe, the Alps ceased to be a confounded nuisance for travellers to surmount and became instead somewhere to walk, to climb, to sketch, to admire. It is one aspect of the invention of the holiday.

Once it was known in the 1810s that there was another side to the Blue Mountains, leading to promising plains for European animals to graze and erode, the stretch from Glenbrook to Mount Victoria was seen primarily as a hazardous intermission between the good grazing on the Cumberland Plain and the next accessible patch in Hartley Vale.

And in that intermission there was precious little for animals or people to eat or drink. This perception took half a century to moderate. The Mountains road was still 'dreary and desolate' to Louisa Meredith in 1839.

What happened in the Blue Mountains, as elsewhere in the course of the nineteenth century, is a very European realisation that, while a road may very well have been constructed to lead from A to B and that one ventured on that road at A with the sole wish to reach B as safely and expeditiously as possible, nonetheless there may be pleasures to be found along the way of which one had not dreamt.

It is not quite the world where 'It is better to travel hopefully than to arrive', but it is a world where new possibilities and new realisations were gradually opened up.

The gardens at Nooroo, Mt Wilson - the summerhouse framed by wisteria, maples and rhododendrons

So mountain retreats sprang up, often in spectacular situations, like Yester Grange at Wentworth Falls or Eurama at Faulconbridge, cool places for the well-to-do to escape the discomfort of summer weather in Sydney or Newcastle.

Two became recognisable hill stations in the pattern of the Indian raj: these were Mount Wilson and Kurrajong Heights.

And country retreats and hill stations called for gardens, like those which Silas Clifford-Smith will be talking about this morning. And this is true not only of the hill-stations; it is equally true of the later gardens, symbolised in the twentieth century by the work of Paul Sorensen, that ambivalent icon.

Many of these gardens, and their successors, are now on display every year as part of such things as the Leura Festival. They are no less manicured and have created no less ruthless clearings of the environment within throwing distance of the World Heritage park.

That does not mean that I do not admire them nor that I do not recommend many of them for heritage listing, often at a state-wide level of significance.

But there is a tight-rope to walk when weighing up just what has been the impact of some of these gardens on the heritage values of the Mountains.

...the irony of classic gardens which we love so much at Mt Wilson...

It always strike me as an irony that the classic gardens which we all love so much at Mount Wilson are in fact exotic importations created by the deliberate destruction of the rich natural vegetation of the basalt cap, with its rain-forest and tree-fern under-storey.

The character of Mount Wilson is complex, just as its Indian counterpart, Simla, is complex, for reasons both similar and dissimilar. Neither has a simple, uncomplicated relationship between the original environment and the modified.

And because each has a seasonal occupation by the wealthy professional folk who need to escape hot and humid cities, each has also a different sort of permanent resident, those who take care of the estates and form their own very different community throughout the year.

Continued from page 6
There is an analogue in the service-providers, living all the year round in the towns and villages which grew up along the railway line from the 1870s onwards.

The mountains are gearing up, however, in 2012, not for a celebration of the Sublime, nor of the long-term impact of mass tourism, but for a full-blooded dedication to European events of two hundred years ago.

This conference is a forerunner to an extraordinary three years of events designed to examine afresh the European crossing of the Mountains in stages through 1813, 1814 and 1815.

A Western Crossing Committee, formed by the Royal Australian Historical Society and strongly supported by BMACHO, has been instrumental in bringing together a wide variety of societies, groups and local council agencies from Penrith and Richmond and Kurrajong in the east through all the villages and towns along the Great Western Highway and Bells Line of Road right out to Bathurst in the west, so that there is a common sharing of information about all the multifarious activities which are planned.

The commonality of interest among the local government areas of Hawkesbury, Penrith, Blue Mountains, Lithgow, Oberon and Bathurst has never been so clearly articulated and has produced significant by-products such as the linking of the tourist bodies in Blue Mountains City, Lithgow City and Oberon Shire.

No less than the Three Sisters, the Western Crossing has acquired its own mythology. This is neatly enshrined in a tangible shrine here in Katoomba, the so-called Explorers' Tree, which, as Siobhan Lavelle has so deftly demonstrated, has a remarkable amount to say about almost everything in the last 200 years, from the Dauntless Three, through Evans the surveyor and Cox the entrepreneur, through the convicts who constructed and maintained the changing lines of the western road, to the tourist revolution and its corollary, the service providers, and ultimately the dormitory suburb.

If you have not yet read Siobhan's article in the *Journal of the Royal Australian Historical Society in 2003* entitled 'A Tree and a Legend: the making of past and place in the Blue Mountains', you should do so, for it fully lives up to Siobhan's claim that:

> The Explorers' Tree provides an historic case study of interest in its demonstration of place creation, recognition and acceptance, and also the role of place as marker of national and local identity.

The Explorers Tree, Katoomba ca 1875. Charles Bayliss National Library of Australia vn4192094

And place is so essential a part of Mountain studies.

Siobhan successfully shows how different observers over 150 years have had widely divergent reactions to the legendary tree, indeed making a rather ordinary *eucalyptus oreades* into a legendary tree. And these contrasting views among observers have a certain equation with whether the observer is a local or not.

These are big questions which should resonate on sites other than the Explorers' Tree: they have certainly been resonating recently in yet another reappraisal of the alleged convict graves situated just above the Explorers' Tree on Pulpit Hill: we are now down to only one, but that is the earliest convict grave on the Mountains, described by French explorers in the 1820s and probably on the site located recently by ground-penetrating radar.

There are so many topics, great and small, which still have the capacity to provide fodder for conferences and symposia held here in the Mountains. Today the organisers have brought together a cross-section of interests. The early colonial period bookends the talks, with a Professor of Public History, Paul Ashton, at one end and Glynis Jones, a curator of textiles and clothing at the other.

Gardens get their due in a nineteenth-century context wider than the Mountains from Silas Clifford-Smith, well-known hereabouts for his work in the gardens at the Norman Lindsay gallery.

The mountains have also had a significant role in literary inspiration. John Low, who was inspirational in earlier conferences here at the Carrington, was for many years the local studies librarian at Springwood. One of his significant achievements there was the accumulation of a first-rate collection of literary works of fiction relating in some way to the mountains.

The shelves of these hard-to-find novels caught my eye the first time I browsed in John's domain at Springwood and the collection deserves more recognition, particularly because of the renewed success of the writers' centre at Eleanor Dark's old home of Varuna, here in Katoomba.

So it was a happy inspiration to invite Jill Roe to come and distil from her comprehensive knowledge of Miles Franklin a paper on Miles's Mountain Mates. And we close one phase of the proceedings with a closer look at our surroundings here in the Carrington conducted by the in-house historian, Paul Innes.

Mudgee Colonial Inn Museum a part of the town's heritage

by John Broadley --- president Mudgee Historical Society

THERE are few historical societies in Australia which can claim to ownership of part of a town's rich heritage.

The site of the Colonial Inn Museum, headquarters of the Mudgee Historical Society, is situated on part of one of Mudgee's most historic land grants: Portion 181 of the Parish of Mudgee in the County of Wellington, a crown grant of 995 acres which was registered in 1835 to Mudgee pioneer, George Cox.

Although the site contains numerous buildings from various periods, the main museum building dates from the mid 1850s and is one of Mudgee's oldest.

George Cox and his younger brother Henry, sons of noted Hawkesbury settler and Blue Mountains road builder, William Cox, were pioneer settlers of Mudgee, establishing runs at Mudgee in February 1822.

They gradually accrued extensive landholdings on the southern banks of the Cudgegong River which flows through the Mudgee valley, while Blue Mountains explorer Lieutenant William Lawson occupied the northern bank.

These three men were soon joined by Richard Rouse senior of Windsor, Robert Lowe of Bringelly and William Bowman of Windsor as pioneer settlers of the Mudgee district.

All were, however, largely absentee landowners, leaving their Mudgee lands in the charge of convict overseers until the next generation came of age.

As a result of the discovery of gold in 1851 at Louisa Creek, now Hargraves, near Mudgee, the population of the district increased dramatically, and the sleepy backwater village of Mudgee became a service centre for the surrounding goldfields.

A recent photograph of the Colonial Inn Museum

Industry developed – breweries, tanneries, foundries, flour mills - while many shops and hotels were built; remarkably, many buildings from this era remain, although most have undergone transformations.

From the early 1850s George Cox began to subdivide the south-eastern corner of Portion 181 which adjoined the western boundary of the town of Mudgee which had been proclaimed in 1838.

These subdivisions varied in size, but mostly comprised a few acres and were located along, or close to, Market Lane, the north-western entry to the town.

This area rapidly became a busy industrial and commercial centre to service the passing hordes on their way to and from the gold fields. Numerous shops, a soap factory, a foundry, a flour mill, wheelwrights and coach factories sprang up in the vicinity.

Several hotels were erected during the 1850s between the bend in what is now known as Market Street west and the site of Radio 2MG on Mudgee's north-western outskirts.

In 1853 George Cox sold a parcel of 8 acres of his grant to John Brooks for £5. This was a narrow portion of land on the northern side of Market Lane immediately adjacent to the town boundary and ran down to the Cudgegong River.

By 1856 John Brooks had constructed the existing building – in brick, two-storeyed, with a narrow cantilevered balcony on the front facade and two rear service wings - whose design suggests that it was intended for use as licensed premises.

The building was decidedly grander than many of the inns and hotels of the period outside of the town boundary.

On the ground floor the building's two front doors accessed the public bar on the right and the ladies' saloon or parlour on the left.

Segregated service of alcohol remained the norm until well into the twentieth century.

In 1857 John Brooks sold the property to George McQuiggan, who operated a hotel on the premises until 1861.

George McQuiggan was a prominent businessman with an extensive real estate portfolio in the burgeoning town.

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From 1861 to 1864 the building was leased to the Mudgee firm of Dickson & Burrows who operated a store on the premises.

From 1865 until 1923 the West End Hotel operated from the premises by numerous licensees under a variety of owners; in those days the licensee was not always necessarily the owner.

George McQuiggan died in 1874 and in 1880 his trustees conveyed the property to Thomas Wilton who in turn died in 1894.

In 1896 his executor and the executor of his daughter, Annie Hollis, who had died in 1895, conveyed the property to Joseph Mulley who had been licensee since 1890.

Joseph Mulley remained licensee until his death in 1903, when his widow Sarah took over the licence.

...not unusual for women to be licensees...

It was not unusual for women to be licensees, as there had been several female licensees in Mudgee during the 1800s; in fact, Sarah was the second female licensee of the West End Hotel, as Mrs James Dwane had been licensee from 1875 to 1877, succeeding her husband who had been licensee from 1871 to 1875.

In 1905 Sarah Mulley sold the property to Albert Gentle who held the licence until 1923 when the West End Hotel and numerous other hotels in the town and district were delicensed.

The building remained the Gentles' private residence until its sale to Rose Bowen in 1927, when it became a boarding house/flats; it was also reputedly used as "lying-in accommodation" for women from isolated areas awaiting birth.

In 1935, during the Great Depression, the mortgagee sold the property to Wilfred Roth, farmer of Bombira, Mudgee, and his wife, Alice Hazel Roth.

The West End Hotel circa 1880s

The Roths only held the property briefly, on selling in 1937 to Gibson Harland, farmer of Gilgandra, and his wife, Phoebe.

The Harlands retained the property until the late 1950s, by which time they had retired to Mudgee.

In 1958 they sold to Joyce Helena Cole, servicewoman, who in turn sold the property in 1966 to the Mudgee Historical Society for use as its headquarters and as a museum.

The Mudgee Historical Society had been formed in 1964 as an initiative of the Mudgee Rotary Club and originally occupied a few rooms in the recently-delicensed premises of the Post Office Hotel which was adapted for commercial and residential use.

In the early days of the Mudgee Historical Society many items were generously donated for exhibition and the museum quickly outgrew its limited space. Thus a search began to find suitable premises for a museum.

The society trustees selected four historic premises, but ultimately decided upon the former West End Hotel as being in the best condition and offering scope for expansion. Renamed the Colonial Inn Museum, the building remains to this day the offices of the Mudgee Historical Society Inc and is the core of its museum displays.

Remarkably, the old hotel building has undergone few changes since it was built circa 1856.

The original cantilevered balcony was replaced by a deep two-storeyed verandah in the late 1800s; the ironwork – verandah railing, posts and pillars bear the mark of Mudgee's Hansen foundry which started in the early 1880s in premises nearby.

Windows and doors are original and the floors and the majority of the lath and plaster ceilings are intact. The odd internal door and window have been inserted, moved or sealed and the occasional partition wall upstairs has been inserted or realigned.

Rooms had been added to the rear of the wings at various stages, and the previously-open space between the wings has been roofed over.

The building has adapted well to use as a museum. Its thick exterior walls mean that the building's interior has a relatively standard temperature all year round, ideal for the preservation of delicate items.

Several theme display rooms have been installed in rooms which originally served a particular function during its hotel period.

The entry is the original bar and it is set up as such, while the original parlour is accurately set up as a late nineteenth century parlour.

The hotel kitchen remains a late 19th/early 20th century kitchen, and this room in particular evokes many comments from visitors: "It's just like my Nanna's kitchen!"
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A “gozunder” that fascinated school children

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Upstairs, one of the hotel bedrooms is furnished as a typical Victorian bedroom, along with a commode chair and a “gozunder” (these fascinate school children), while the long room at the front upstairs, which opens onto the verandah and which was used for dinners, meetings and dances, contains the original Mudgee Municipal mayoral desk and chair and councillors’ table and chairs; the long room also houses war memorabilia and a chemist display.

Other theme rooms within the original hotel building are a men’s room, a women’s room, a children’s room, “kept for best” room, handicraft room, and a room featuring early cameras and record players.

When the society bought the property it had been considerably reduced in size and all the old outbuildings – stables, outhouses, sheds – had been demolished.

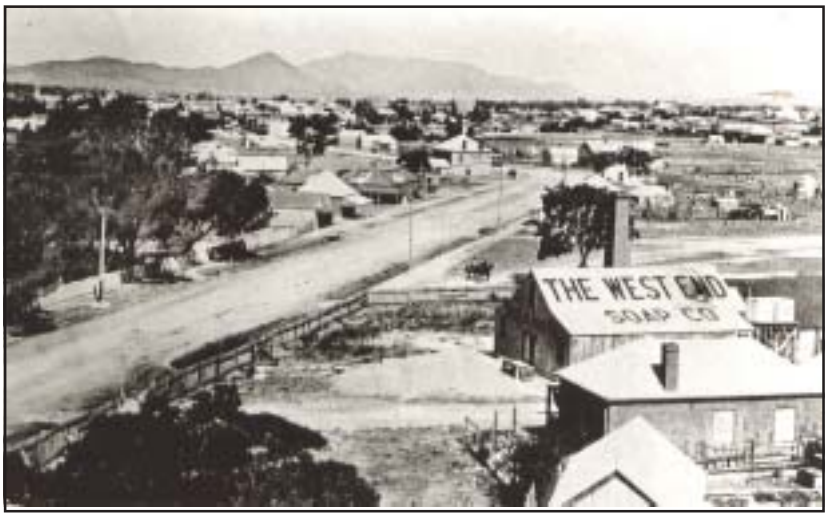
Since then an adjoining block of land was purchased and a variety of buildings, all sympathetic in design and materials, have been erected or transported to the site.

These structures include a combined meeting room, kitchen and toilet block; a recreation of a vertical slab hip roofed cottage; a large gabled storage/display shed with skillions; and extensive skillion machinery and vehicle display sheds.

In 1996 a gabled, corrugated iron-clad former church was re-located to the site from South Mudgee for use as display space, especially to house the museum’s sizeable costumed doll collection; originally built in 1906 at Lue, a village to the south-east of Mudgee, the church had been previously moved in the 1930s into Mudgee.

More recently, a brand new curator’s storage and work shed and a blacksmith shop have been completed, the latter made solely from recycled material.

The Colonial Inn Museum and its grounds contain an enormous collection of 19th and early 20th century Australiana: domestic implements, furniture, agricultural machinery, tools, horse-drawn vehicles and cars, and also holds substantial photographic and archival documents collections.



A panorama of the west of Mudgee township in the late 1800s showing the West End soap factory in the foreground and at the top centre West End Hotel to the left of the bend in the unsealed road. Image courtesy Mudgee Historical Society Inc

It is open seven days a week and is used extensively by local schools as an educational resource, and as a community meeting place for a number of organisations.

It is also a welcoming place for visits from local nursing homes, and for the last four years the Mudgee Historical Society Inc has hosted a courtesy morning tea for local senior citizens during National Seniors’ Week.

The Mudgee Historical Society Inc is solely a volunteer organisation which wholly owns its site and buildings and relies on the hard work of its volunteers and the generosity and support of its membership and the community to survive.

It is especially appreciative of the constant support of the Mid-Western Regional Council and its predecessor, the Mudgee Shire Council.

The Mudgee Historical Society Inc looks forward to celebrating the Golden anniversary of its establishment in 2014 and of its existence on site in 2016.

A Moment in Time exhibition at Hartley

AN IMAGES exhibition titled *a Moment in Time* will be conducted by Hartley District Progress Association in June 2013.

The exhibition will be staged in the Hartley historic site for two weeks either side of the Queens Birthday weekend.

A yet to be named Fair Day on June 1 has been diarised by the Governor of NSW and festivities on that day will run from 10am to 4pm.

There will be guided walks along the Cox’s Road in May and June.

These walks will vary in length and difficulty, limited to manageable numbers and only on sections of the original road where landholder’s permission can be obtained.

Hartley District Progress Association has a history conference scheduled for June 8, 2013.

Heritage farming project wins prestigious print award

IAN MILLISS pictured, an individual member of BMACHO and his associate Lucas Ihlein have recently been awarded the prestigious Fremantle Arts Centre Print Award, for their collaborative work *Yeoman's Project.*

Through a series of five prints, the art work explores the influence of Percival Alfred Yeomans, an Australian farmer and engineer whose research into sustainable agriculture continues to attract international acclaim.

Known best for his invention of the "Keyline System", Yeomans' enhancements to the practices of land cultivation won him the Prince Phillip Design Award in 1974.

Ian and Ihlein have been awarded the $15,000 acquisitional prize, and Yeomans Project will become part of the City of Fremantle's permanent art collection.

The judges said of the winning entry, 'In a tight layering of concept and research and through the process of offset lithography, the series references land art, commercial graphics, agricultural advertising and the history of topographical mapping.

The award has special local significance as Yobarnie and Nevallan at North Richmond are the two properties where Yeomans developed and refined his ideas.

Nevallan is still intact and currently under consideration for state heritage listing. Yobarnie has already been partly subdivided; dams destroyed and built on although large parts still remain intact.

by Ian Milliss

If you look to the south when driving up the Kurrajong Road from North Richmond just before you reach Kurmond you will overlook a farm with regular rows of tree belts and dams circling the hills.

This is the distinctive image of Nevallan, one of the first properties of the Australian agricultural innovator PA Yeomans.

Percival Alfred Yeomans (1904 - 1984) was an Australian inventor known for his "Keyline System" of farm design and management.

Beginning as a novice farmer shortly after World War 2, Yeomans applied his engineering and mining training to the degraded hillside land outside Richmond that he took over when his brother-in-law who was managing the family owned property died in a bushfire.

He successfully combined water retention techniques and tilling patterns into an innovative form of organic farming designed to renew the eroded farmland by rapidly regenerating topsoil.

Keyline farming focuses on water flow patterns. The layout of farm dams, irrigation areas, roads, fences, farm buildings, tree lines and water storage are all structured to maximise retention and repeated recapture of run-off water on the farm.

Once rainfall water is captured it is used for irrigation but its flow is controlled by a particular pattern of tilling based on the "keyline" which maximises absorption and pasture growth, effectively spreading the irregular rainfall patterns so common to Australia.

Yeomans' approach directly opposed the conventional wisdom of the time.

Collecting and storing large quantities of run off water on the farm itself for subsequent irrigation was virtually unheard of and was opposed by government soil conservation departments whose priority then (and still now to some extent) was encouraging rapid runoff into watercourses where the water is later resold down river to intensive irrigators.

His advocacy of tyned tillage equipment and a unique cultivation pattern to solve the ravages of erosion and increase soil fertility also conflicted with the simplistic approach of the agricultural chemical industry.

Yeomans later extended his analysis to urban landscape design as well.

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Part of the Nevallan property at North Richmond

He argued that there is a local and global problem of mismanagement of both rain water and human effluent caused by poor landscape design.

...a "City Forest" scheme to process the nutrients of human waste...

He proposed a "City Forest" scheme to process the nutrients of human waste and slow rainwater flow, arguing that forests should be deliberately designed and grown as an intrinsic part of cities, a radical extension of his techniques for working on farmland.

Yeomans also designed and manufactured his own specialised ploughs and tynes, receiving The Prince Philip Design Award in 1974.

Yeomans' ploughs work the subsoil by lifting the pasture surface and breaking up root systems without overturning the sod.

The deep surface furrows direct water into the subsoil, encouraging renewed root growth and making the ploughs particularly effective in regenerating degraded pasture.

Yeomans was energetically devoted to promoting his ideas through his several books, extensive education programs and field days.

From the 1950s onward his techniques were taken up by many farmers throughout Australia and ultimately worldwide.

In the 1970s they led to the development of the permaculture movement and also influenced other farming techniques such as the low tillage movement.

One of the 5 winning prints

Yobarnie and Nevallan at North Richmond are the two properties where Yeomans developed and refined his ideas.

Unfortunately it has been difficult to get any recognition of the heritage significance of these properties, among the most historically important farming landscapes in the country particularly given the current focus on sustainable farming.

The properties were sold after Yeomans' death and continued to operate for many years as dairy farms.

One of Yeomans' ploughs

Nevallan is still intact and currently under consideration for state heritage listing. Yobarnie has already been partly subdivided; dams destroyed and built on although large parts still remain intact.

But that is Yeomans' work. Our investigation is itself now a part of art history.

In the early 1970s I worked with the Art Gallery of NSW to curate an exhibition on Yeomans as part of an ongoing art world discussion on the definition of art, artists and cultural activism.

I was advocating that artists were not defined by the manufacture of certain types of artefacts or media (eg painting) nor by their use of certain distribution mechanisms (eg galleries) but rather by their ability to generate adaptive cultural change using any available activity.

On that basis Yeomans represented a model for a new understanding of what an artist could be, a type of cultural innovator who used any means available to change the culture.

The exhibition was eventually cancelled by the last minute intervention of the Gallery's Board of Trustees, despite the objections of the director and curators, on the basis that it was a trade show, not art. ***Continued page 13***

The Yeomans' project ... art, farming, history and more ...

Continued from page 12

While I moved on to explore similar ideas in other ways the trustee's action was one of many inappropriate interventions which resulted in the Art Gallery Act being changed in 1980 to remove their power over day to day activity in the institution.

In 2010 a young artist, Dr Lucas Ihlein, approached me about working with him to recreate this project for a 2011 exhibition on the influence of early conceptual art at the Australian Centre for Contemporary Art in Melbourne.

We received funding from the Australia Council and the revived project has taken a variety of forms, a blog http://yeomansproject.com, a series of prints (which recently won the 2012 Fremantle Arts Centre Print Award http://yhoo.it/RaZZ91), the display itself which included artefacts relating to Yeomans including one of his ploughs, a bus tour and a number of talks and conference appearances.

The multi disciplinary nature of the project illustrates the way disciplinary boundaries are currently dissolving. As the internet and social media open up the potential for cheap and widespread distribution and interaction the gatekeepers of previously discrete disciplines are being bypassed yet the disciplines themselves are being expanded and opened out to a broader range of practitioners, with varying results.

The Yeomans Project now has components that can be classified as history, art, farming, education, environmental activism, and a variety of other previously more clearly separated activities.

In a final irony the original exhibition has once again been scheduled for the Art Gallery of NSW in November 2013, only 38 years late.

The growth of gardens in the Blue Mountains

FIVE half-day (identical) seminars are being held over the weekend April 12-14, 2013 by Garden Clubs of Australia — Blue Mountains zone as part of the 200th anniversary of the 'Crossing of the Blue Mountains' by Blaxland, Lawson and Wentworth in 1813 celebrations

The seminars will cover the growth of gardening, within the historical establishment of the Blue Mountains, from pre-settlement times, through the early days of the developing towns and villages of the 19th and 20th centuries; to the spectacular and historic gardens of to-day.

Beginning with a look at indigenous native food plants (pre 1813 and to-day) and early market gardens, then on to how many of the 'estate' and 'resort' gardens were established, and then to the large number of quality residential gardens annually on display, the seminars conclude with a look at the challenges and opportunities confronting Blue Mountains gardeners, and gardeners generally, in the 21st century.

The seminars begin at Kurrajong on the evening of Friday, April 12 then Springwood and Wentworth Falls on Saturday 13 and conclude at Blackheath and Lithgow on Sunday 14 — giving Blue Mountains garden club members, residents, and visitors, a wide choice of venues and times to participate in the program.

There will be five high - profile speakers:

Bundeluk, of the Darug people: "Storyteller" — Bushtucker tradition indigenous plants, pre 1813 and to-day.

Associate Professor Ian Jack, Royal Australian Historical Society: —- Historical development of the Blue Mountains and its early gardens.

Alison Halliday, co-author of the best-selling publication A *Passion for Place, Gardens of the Blue Mountains* - Bells Line of Road gardens.

Angus Stewart, noted native plant breeder and presenter, ABC TV's "Gardening Australia" — Our Blue Mountain Gardens of To-day.

Jerry Coleby-Williams, Director - Seed Savers Foundation, and another prominent presenter of ABC TV's "Gardening Australia" program: — Into the Future – Challenges and Opportunities.

The seminars (each of 3 and a half hours duration) are open to the garden interested public on Saturday, April 13 at Springwood (8.30am – 12.30pm) and Wentworth Falls (2.30pm –6.00pm) and the next day (Sunday) at Lithgow (2.30 – 6pm) all for a low cost of $12, school students, free.

This is a unique opportunity to learn, from renowned speakers, of the development of Australian gardening from the early days to the present, and of what lies ahead for gardeners in the future.

Numbers are limited but early bookings can be made by telephoning mobile 0488-075-388 or by e-mail to cyberguy1@me.com.

Garden clubs with members wanting to attend should contact Central Blue Mountains Garden Club, P.O. Box 164, Lawson 2783, or ring Warren Boorman on (02) 4759 2149.

The seminars are an "1813 Crossing " scheduled event, part of extensive celebrations being held throughout the Blue Mountains region from 2013 to 2015, concluding with the 200th anniversary of Governor Macquarie's visit to "declare open" Bathurst, Australia's first inland settlement.

PROPOSED NSW PLANNING REFORMS OVERLOOK HERITAGE VALUE

By Margi Fallon Heritage Consultant Architect

MANY may be aware of the proposed *New Planning System for NSW* as outlined in the green paper released for public comment in July this year. Submissions for individuals closed on September 14 and for councils on October 5.

It was clear from many of the submissions that the proposed planning reforms will have a major effect on community consultation, design quality, environmental protection and heritage within the state.

The reforms are being developed with the primary aim of speeding up development in the state, with many risks attached.

Despite many reservations being expressed from community, environment, local government and heritage groups around the state, the government is proceeding quickly to the development of the white paper which will go before parliament for ratification early to mid next year.

OBJECTIVES OF THE PROPOSED PLANNING REFORMS

The key drivers of this reform are 'growth and development outcomes', and these will occur at the cost of quality, environment and good design. The removal of the word environment from the naming of the planning instruments is ominous.

The word "heritage" also barely appears in the green paper.

A stated objective of greater community involvement will not be met as this is proposed to be restricted to the strategic planning.

The general community will not be able to understand enough of the end result to be able to fully engage in strategic planning unless they are very honestly and clearly trained and consulted by highly trained professionals, with scale models of what will land on the ground as a result.

There needs to be community consultation at the development end of the process as well as the strategic end of the process.

An inverted triangle principal of planning, proposed by the Productivity Commission, sets the concept of a top down planning system rather than a merit based assessment system.

This will be difficult to achieve without a very careful and coordinated approach that enables the local and character needs to be addressed at the state level.

It is difficult to see how this can happen in reality.

The community is unlikely to engage at a state level, and will be more involved at a local level.

However, what is left to decide strategically at a local level will be pretty small as the state and regional plans will provide the framework through which the local planning can happen.

The streamlining of the planning process to remove or reduce the scope of merit based assessment of design will need to either be a very complex system of clearly defined code requirements to enable the "tick box " to provide for good outcomes, or it will create a proliferation of the lowest common denominator of design and urban outcomes.

The outcome of this will only be noticed when it is too late. (Noting that the majority of small to medium scale developments are not designed by design trained professionals.)

While the green paper appears to recognise local government, the regional and subregional system has the potential to remove the role and power of local government in planning.

This will not have a good outcome as NSW is a diverse culture and it will not be possible to adequately cover urban, coastal, regional, outer west and other local areas from a state level concept.

The environment of NSW is diverse and the needs of the various communities are diverse.

The drivers and focus of these reforms are clearly based on Sydney urban growth and development issues and these issues are not as relevant in regional NSW.

What is relevant is decentralisation, and infrastructure. These are also included in the reforms and the implementation of the reforms with a greater focus on regional NSW will enable this issue to be potentially addressed.

The planned strategic management system of state to regional to subregional to local, will only work if the manning of the various offices at each level are located appropriately (ie regional and sub regional offices in their relevant regional areas, manned by regional professionals, not Sydney based ones.)

The manning of the "Independent" bodies suggested in the report is heavily weighted to the planning and developer profession.

However, for a good design outcome a broad range of professionals need to be involved in the strategic planning bodies including :
Heritage professionals, Aboriginal cultural professionals, environmental professionals, planning professionals, urban design professionals, and community representatives.

The last group -- community representatives, does at its heart need to involve local government councillors. I don't believe local community elected representatives can be removed from the consultative and decision making system. After all, that is what they have been elected to do – advocate for the local community.

New system aimed at removing local government from planning

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The proposed new system is heavily weighted to centralisation and standardisation of planning controls, removing the role of local government. To me this is a step toward council area amalgamations.

While there may be some efficencies from going to regional councils it cannot deal with some of the more specific local area needs.

For example, the Blue Mountains is not a metropolitan area even though it is so close to Sydney – to amalgamate with say Penrith would be completely inappropriate as the issues of a World Heritage Area are completely different to the issues of a Sydney Plains suburban area.

It would be better to retain and expand the systems already in place which enable the local councils to remain independent, but enable some linking of services such as is provided by WESROC, or in the central west the WBC Strategic Alliance where Wellington, Blayney and Cabonne work together in some areas of service.

As a result of the speed with which these reforms seem to be travelling, a number of community groups have joined forces to form the Better Planning Network (BPN).

This group has been lobbying the government in a positive way to ensure the community and environment groups have a strategic say in the reforms.

Most recently they have been lobbying for an extended period for the consultation process for the white paper.

At present it is planned that the public consultation period will be for three months over the Christmas period. However, there may be signs that this will be extended to six months through the lobbying of the BPN.

Check out the planning reforms process and get informed. It is happening quickly and we may lose many good things if it is not done properly.

The planning reforms and process for consultation can be viewed at : http://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/a-new-planning-system-for-nsw. You can also connect to the Better Planning Network at : http://betterplanningnetwork.good.do You can also continue to write to the planning department. Some of the issues that I have personally put to the Planning Department are :

1. THE HERITAGE BRANCH NEEDS TO BE REINSTATED AS A KEY PLAYER IN THE PLANNING SYSTEM. – over the past 10 years the heritage branch has been decimated by the removal of staff to the planning department and then the separation of the heritage branch from the planning department.

Their statutory status has been greatly reduced, and staffing has reduced their capacity to train and support the heritage protection industry.

2. ABORIGINAL HERITAGE CONSERVATION – also needs a greater role in planning. Currently planning concentrates on artefacts in the ground and a lot of heritage is being removed as part of destroy permits which seem not to protect the systems they should. Aboriginal cultural heritage officers need to be part of the strategic planning system – particularly in regional areas where there is a stronger connection to the indigenous past.

3. THE STATE GOVERNMENTAL PLANNING OFFICE NEEDS TO BE STRENGTHENED – ie the strategic planning needs to be a governmental driven issue not a consultant driven issue.

The government needs to employ planners and heritage advisers and professionals that will be wholly focussed on the community and not split between working for both the developer side of the equation and the community side of the equation.

4. THE DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING NEEDS TO BE DECENTRALISED – with the Regional Planning Board serviced by a regional planning office. That office would include planners, heritage, environmental and Aboriginal cultural professionals.

The regional planning offices need to be located in the regions they serve. (ie Bathurst /Orange, Grafton, Gosford, Newcastle, Dubbo, Nowra, Wagga, Albury, Armidale, Tamworth). The old buildings may still be there.

The author

Margaret Fallon BArch RAIA is principal architect of Integrated Design Associates.

Along with her experience in commercial, public and private design projects and construction management, Margaret has a keen interest in community and environmental design issues.

Margaret is a heritage consultant and has carried out a number of heritage studies in the Blue Mountains and central west of NSW.

A resident of Wentworth Falls, Margaret has held heritage advisor positions at Blacktown and Strathfield councils, as well as working for a short period of time at the NSW Heritage Branch.

The Cox's Road - Context of representative portions

THE COX'S Road Steering Committee was formed in July 2006 to look at long term objectives and mechanisms to preserve the 1814 Cox's Road alignment between Emu Plains and the Blue Mountains and Bathurst. The committee was formed with delegates from the Lithgow, Blue Mountains and Bathurst branches of the National Trust of Australia (NSW), and operates under the auspices of the Trust as an informal committee.

In April 2011 the NSW Heritage Office concluded it will list representative portions of Cox's Road as part of the 1813 bicentennial celebrations of the crossing of the Blue Mountains in recognition of the importance of the road in the history of opening up western NSW.

Cox's Road Project Committee (CRPC) convenor, and an individual member of BMACHO, Patsy Moppett pictured, has produced a series of articles for *HERITAGE* to provide some of the detail for each precinct of the road, this being the introduction to the series as well as the Emu Ford and Woodford precincts.

By Patsy Moppett

AS A follow up to a previous article on the Cox's Road in September 2011, it is timely that further information be shared in regard to the original road across the Blue Mountains that opened up the western region for the wider settlement of the New South Wales colony.

It is common knowledge that the Cox's Road was followed up in subsequent years by various other crossing routes and deviations, resulting in the Great Western Highway as we see it today. With increasing interest in the western crossings in general, the significance of the original crossing should be acknowledged.

This monument erected by the RAHS marks the location where Macquarie declared the site for Bathurst

The Cox's Road Project Committee (National Trust) (CRPC) made a submission for nomination of Cox's Road for listing on the SHR under the Heritage Act 1977 in 2010, to record and register the significance of the road.

The State Heritage Register Committee of the Heritage Council of NSW considered its options for listing all or part of the Cox's Road.

The SHR committee was very enthusiastic about the proposal and considered the route a significant part of NSW history and heritage.

After considering its options, the SHR committee concluded that listing of representative portions of Cox's Road would be undertaken as part of the 1813 bicentennial commemorations of the crossing of the Blue Mountains in recognition of the importance of the road in the history of opening up of western NSW.

It was understood that this would require extensive consultation with owners and other relevant stakeholders.

The significance of the road relates to its place within early colonial history and society.

Sophisticated technology had little part to play in the construction of the modest structures that enabled the opening up of western NSW, and the standards and practice of road engineering of the colonial period stand out.

The route traversed a rugged and inhospitable landscape, with minimal loss of life, with efficient and effective management of labour and equipment, demonstrating basic work patterns and skills.

The road construction was also associated with notable public figures of the time including Cox, Macquarie, Evans and Blaxland.

A report presented by Grace Karskens in 1988, Cox's Way, was carried out as a historical and archaeological study of William Cox's Road, which also touched on other early crossings of the Blue Mountains. ***Continued page 17***

Grace Karskens' study, first to bring together available surveys for whole road

Continued from page 16

Dr Karskens' report was prepared for the Cox's Road Trust, within the then NSW Department of Lands.

The study was the first which brought together available surveys, historical and archaeological data for the whole of the road. For ease of assessment, Karskens divided the route into precincts, within which one can identify specific significant remaining features of the original road.

As part of the initial submission to the Heritage Council, all of the precincts identified by Grace Karskens have been examined under the State Heritage Register criteria.

The Cox's Road Project Committee has now examined in more detail some representative portions of the road, to reinforce the data previously presented to the Heritage Council.

The choice of precincts does not suggest that other sites are less significant. However, the logistics of listing such a heritage feature as a road route present issues relating to land ownership, access, environmental impacts and so on.

Therefore the precincts that have been chosen for closer examination are identified as the least vulnerable.

Traditionally, the stony ridge tops at Linden and Woodford, and the Mount York Descent have been the most well-known features.

Little has been recorded in regard to the road beyond Mount York, or the other sections of the route through the mountains from the Nepean River.

Karskens' study examines the whole of the route from the Nepean River right through to the Bathurst plains, picking up and analysing all remaining features of the route, stopping short of more elaborate survey and archaeological investigation along less significant sections.

The CRPC has taken some of the major Karsken's precincts and elaborated on their significance. The detail documented would assist in the production of maps and brochures for both the 1813 bicentennial commemorations and for the actual listing process.

In 2011 the NSW Heritage Council and Heritage Office emphasised that they would like to consider promotion of the history and importance of the road through the publishing of articles and through relevant events over the following months.

Therefore it is my intention, through a series of articles during the course of the coming issues of *HERITAGE,* to provide some of the detail for each precinct, as follows:

- Emu Ford
- Woodford/Linden
- Caley's Repulse
- Mount York
- Mount Blaxland
- Fish River and beyond

The Emu Ford precinct

The Emu Ford precinct is located on the Nepean River at Penrith, just north of the existing weir. It was probably the first crossing of the river, even before William Cox set off in 1814.

It was utilised by Blaxland, Lawson and Wentworth, and subsequently by Surveyor Evans to access Emu Island, and what became the settlement of Emu in 1832.

Cox began the approaches in July 1814, the whole crossing construction taking only a couple of days.

A punt and ferries further to the south provided the formal replacement of the ford in later years but were subject to a toll, thus the ford remained in use as a means to avoid the toll for quite some time.

It is possible that people travelling to the west continued to use the crossing even up until the 1850s, but mapping of the 1860s showed no sign of the crossing.

Travellers had to negotiate the steep slopes near Peach Tree Creek until the first bridge was constructed in 1867, the Victoria Bridge.

Goods were usually transported across the river on horseback, and people were taken across by boat.

The subsequent development of the weir and Peach Tree Park has meant that the eastern approaches to the crossing are no longer evident.

The western side is not too disturbed but any evidence is overgrown. The narrowing of the river and the shallow stony crossing are still quite clear, near where a small side creek, Peach Tree Creek, enters the River from the east.

In her report "Cox's Way", Grace Karskens states that "*this precinct is a historically significant site, marking the starting point of the early mountain crossings and still illustrates the nature and problems of water crossings during the early nineteenth century".*

The following photographs document the remaining key features in the vicinity of the crossing:

Emu Ford site view to south west

Emu Ford site view to north west

“Nepean River; banks very steep on the east side”... *William Cox July 18, 1814*

Continued from page 17

The following extracts are taken from records of the time contained in *Fourteen Crossings of the Blue Mountains.*

Gregory Blaxland
Tuesday, May 11, 1813
“Mr. Gregory Blaxland, Mr. William Wentworth and Lieutenant Lawson took their departure to endeavour to explore the interior of the Country and to effect a passage over the Blue Mountains between the Western River and the River Grose.

They crossed the Nepean River at the ford on to Emu Island at four o’clock in the afternoon and proceeded by their Calculation two Miles through forest land and good grass, encamped at 5 o’clock at the foot of the first ridge of the Mountains”.

Assistant-Surveyor Evans
Friday November 19, 1813
“I directed the Provisions and other necessaries to be conveyed across the Nepean to the N.E. Point of Forest Land, commonly called Emu Island, which was done, and by the time everything was arranged Evening approached”.

William Cox July 18, 1814
“Began work at 10.00am to make a pass across the Nepean River; the banks very steep on the east side...”.

July 19, 1814
Finished the road down the right bank of the river. The swamp oak on Emu side very hard to cut and root. In the afternoon began our operations on Emu Plains”.

Major Henry Colden Antill (in company of His Excellency Governor and Mrs Macquarie)
April 26, 1815
Sir John Jamieson...had requested we would breakfast at his farm ...situated on the banks of the Nepean, the horses and carriage were sent round to the ford while we were at breakfast, about a mile down the river, where they crossed and came up to the Government stockyard opposite to Sir John’s, …we all crossed in a boat and at 11 o’clock started from Emu Plains, …”

Emu Ford by John Lewin courtesy State Library of NSW

LITHOGRAPHS – Record from Governor Macquarie’s journey over Cox’s Road in Aril 1815
John Lewin’s (1770-1819) watercolour drawings of (Cox’s Pass ca. 1815-1816) held at the State Library of New South Wales document parts of Cox’s Pass. It was during this trip that Governor Macquarie proclaimed the site and settlement of Bathurst,

John William Lewin was primarily a natural history artist and collector.

In April 1815, Lewin accompanied Governor Macquarie’s expedition over the Blue Mountains to assess the Bathurst Plains for agricultural and pastoral merit.

Lewin recorded the journey in 21 watercolour drawings, of which 15 are held in this series.

Among the group was Major Henry Colden Antill who made a deal with Lewin to provide a copy of his journal in exchange for copies of Lewin’s watercolours. This set is the one that belonged to Antill.

References:
*Fourteen Journeys Over The Blue Mountains of New South Wales 1813-184*1 Collected and Edited by George Mackaness, Horwitz Publications Inc. Pty. Ltd 1965

Grace Karskens, *Cox’s Way, Historical and Archaeological Study of Cox’s Road and Early Crossings of the Blue Mountains, NSW*, 1988

www.penrithcity.nsw.gov.au
www.environment.nsw.gov.au/heritageapp

Continued page 19

Breakfast tour of historic chocolate factory

HERE is an opportunity to have a hot breakfast at The Paragon at Katoomba with a tour of the historical chocolate factory, Wednesday November 21, from 7.30 am to 9.00 am.

Organised by Biznet.

Check out the link for cost and booking information http://www.biznet.org.au/event.asp?pid=10&id=284

One of the best preserved sections of Cox's Road runs through Woodford

Continued from page 18

Woodford Precinct

The Woodford precinct is located off the Great Western Highway opposite the end of Tollgate Drive, rising to pass behind the Woodford trig station and Rockcorry cottages.

It joins Taylor Road up until the entry of the track through the National Park back to Glenbrook.

The road here was superseded by the road along the existing Great Western Highway after 1835.

It conveys a sense of the conditions of travel at the time, together with indications of the deviations that occurred trying to avoid the original rough track made by Cox.

As the precinct is quite elongated, the features of the road are quite considerable, and the route is accompanied by numerous other tracks which could be early diversions.

The route is clearly defined by numerous sections of kerbs, cuttings, retaining walls and drains which run intermittently along the road.

The cuttings range from 4 to 40cm in height and up to 25m long and are partly on private land.

In places there are shallow gutters, curved to direct water away from the road.

Adjacent to the Woodford trig lays a particularly good section of kerbing.

There are low rough cuttings near the Rockcorry Cottages and low earthen embankments and retaining walls on Taylor Road.

At one point there is a carving in the rock face opposite the low retaining walls.

The pavement to the eastern end is uneven with large expanses of natural rock, now covered often in sandy, earth and gravel, or clay. The width varies from 12 ft to 20 ft.

Two sections of early retaining wall run along the eastern side of Taylor Road where the road has a gravel surface in good condition.

An early retaining wall eastern side of a gravelled section of Taylor Road

One wall comprises up to 1m high of roughly shaped or simply faced stone, stacked with no particular coursing or jointing.

The second wall is up to 210cm with neat squared large blocks with jointing and coursing.

Battering was attempted to stabilise the wall, and also heightening the embankment.

In her report *Cox's Way*, Grace Karskens states that the precinct is one of the best preserved and most intact sections of Cox's Road, presenting a graphic picture of the work done by Cox's men on the rocky outcrops and shelves of the ridge.

Photographs on this and the next page document key features of Cox's Road that is clearly visible.

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Photographic images on this and other pages accompanying the text of this article except where acknowledged with the caption have been taken by the author, Patsy Moppett.

Hand chiselled sandstone kerbing

Rock cutting east of trig station

Rockcorry road drain

Continued from page19

The Woodford precinct of the Cox's Road route does not feature highly in diaries of the period, mainly due to it being a largely featureless track along a narrow rocky ridge with little requirement for construction works.

However some small snippets are recorded. It should be noted that the Woodford precinct may also include the Caley's Repulse site, as documented by Allan Searle in his *"Historic Woodford and Linden" 1980.*

He believed that a site in the vicinity of the Woodford trig was a truer site which conformed to all written descriptions of it. However, in this report Caley's Repulse is not included, being treated in the history of the Road as a separate precinct.

'Woodford stretch not the most comfortable for travellers...'

The following extracts are taken from records of the time contained in *Fourteen Crossings of the Blue Mountains,* all observations being immediately followed by an approach to a "pile of stones".

It appears that the Woodford section of the road was not the most comfortable section for travellers!

Blaxland, Lawson and Wentworth - May, 18 1813 ...to Mark and Cut a passage for the Horses through the brush returned to their Camp – very tired and out of spirits -...along a very narrow ridge not more than fifteen or twenty yards over...

Assistant Surveyor Evans - November 21
...travelled on mostly Ridges overrun with Brush...

William Cox - August 18, 1814
...and just entered a scrub with stunted timber..... The stonemason went forward to examine a rocky ridge about three miles ahead, and on Monday he will go there to work to level them.

A portion of the Cox's Road near the Woodford trig where carved into the rock is a kerb on either side, both sides, a clear indication that Macquarie's order to Cox to build a road "so that two carriages may pass side by side" was adhered to by Cox.

Governor Lachlan Macquarie - April 27, 1815
...At a further distance of four miles a sudden change is perceived in the appearance of the timber and the quality of the soil – the former becoming stunted, and the latter barren and rocky. At this place the Country became altogether mountainous, and extremely rugged...

Major Henry Colden Antill - April 27, 1815
....Our Road was stony, and some very severe and short hills for the loaded carts.....

Quoy, Gaudichaud and Pellion – 1819
...Soon we saw the ground change and the road, although still well kept, became rather less easy on account of the inequality of the ground. The masses of sandstone show bare here almost everywhere; the vegetation is poor; and at the bottom of great valleys right and left, tower these vertical and natural walls of rock, for a long time insurmountable barriers, which caused the failure of so many enterprises to seek a passage through the Blue Mountains.

References:

Fourteen Journeys Over The Blue Mountains of New South Wales 1813-1841 Collected and Edited by George Mackaness, Horwitz Publications Inc Pty Ltd 1965

A Historical and Archaeological Study of Cox's Road and Early Crossings of the Blue Mountains, NSW, Grace Karskens 1988, for Crown Lands Office, Sydne

Historic Woodford and Linden 1980, Allan Searle

About the author

Patsy Moppett has worked as a town planner and heritage officer in local government in the central west of NSW for some 22 years, her work including management of heritage programs, heritage advisory service, heritage committee and local heritage funds.

She has also worked in private consulting, undertaking planning, heritage and environmental research and reporting. She has a Bachelor of Town Planning Degree and a Diploma in Conservation and Land Management, and has completed other courses related to heritage, planning law, property planning, the environment and permaculture.

Patsy undertakes history and heritage research and report writing, having written the book "*A History of Cow Flat*". She is currently working on a history of the Lower Turon goldfields, and various family history projects.

Patsy is convenor of the Cox's Road project Committee, which was formed to undertake the listing of the road on the State Heritage Register. Under this Committee she has assisted in the preparation of reporting for the NSW Heritage Office.

Oldest grave in the Blue Mountains

by Peter Chin --- president, Springwood Historical Society

PARTLY hidden in the shade of a large tree in a remote part of Springwood Cemetery is the grave of Private Francis Smith, one of the earliest known European to die and be interred in the Blue Mountains.

From the opening of the Western Road over the Mountains in 1815 until the late 1830s travellers were required to have a permit from the governor to travel to the west in the interest of controlling settlement in the Bathurst region.

To enforce this regulation small military posts, manned by three or four soldiers, were established at points along the road.

From November 1815 there was a post at Springwood somewhere in the vicinity of the present Macquarie monument in Macquarie Road which was relocated in 1833 to a site on what is now the Springwood Mews in Ferguson Road.

Private Francis Smith was a member of the 4th King's Own Regiment which was stationed in New South Wales from 1832 to 1837, and with probably three other soldiers manned the Springwood military post.

Smith had joined the regiment in 1813 and served in the Peninsula War, the war against the United States in 1814 and later in the West Indies before returning to England. He arrived in Sydney in 1832 and was located at various posts in Sydney and the Blue Mountains before coming to Springwood in January 1836.

Private Smith died at the Springwood post on May 5, 1836 from causes unrecorded. Because this was the only European settlement in the area he was buried in the bush near the post. A headstone bearing the following inscription was placed on the grave:

Sacred to the memory of
Francis Smith
Who died May 5th 1836
aged 43 years
having served
for 25 years
as a soldier in
H.M. The King's Own Regt.

In 1878, in response to a parliamentary enquiry, it was reported that a solitary soldier's grave was located near the site of the old military post but that the headstone "is broken and supported by a sapling."

Sad to relate, the headstone remains in that condition.

In 1886 Springwood Cemetery was established and the Church of England portion consecrated and in use by 1887.

Private Smith's broken headstone which is now shaded under a tree in Springwood cemetery Photograph by John Leary, October 2012

It was probably not long after this that the remains of Francis Smith were exhumed and re interred in this section of the cemetery (grave No.91) and marked by the broken headstone and foot stone.

While Private Smith's grave lies almost forgotten in Springwood Cemetery a monument to the memory of this earliest of our European inhabitants was erected in the small park in the front of Springwood Civic Centre in May 1990 and unveiled by Brigadier DJ McLachlan, Commander of the 2nd Military District, assisted by 15 months old Nathan Dubber of Tweed Heads, Francis Smith's youngest direct descendant.

It is to be hoped that action will soon be taken to restore Private Smith's headstone since its broken condition was first recorded 134 years ago.

The King's Own Regiment

The Kings Own Regiment in which Pte Smith served was an infantry regiment of the line of the British Army, which served under various titles from 1680 to 1959.

Its lineage is continued today by the Duke of Lancaster's Regiment . It saw service for nearly three centuries. In 1751, after various name changes, the regiment was titled 4th (King's Own) Regiment of Foot. The regiment retained this title until 1881 when it became The King's Own (Royal Lancaster Regiment). In 1921, it was re-designated The King's Own Royal Regiment (Lancaster).

After partcipating in every major conflict in the late 17th an 18th centuries the regiment saw colonial service in Australia from 1832 until 1837, being stationed variously at Tasmania, Sydney, Victoria ,South Australia, and the Swan River Colony under the command of Lieut. Colonel J. K. McKenzie. Footnote --- John Leary, OAM

The Harold Kenneth Campbell monument

MOST PEOPLE who have driven along Great Western Highway on the west side of Blaxland will have noticed a vault like monument on a narrow strip of grassed land between the highway and Wilson Way.

Some may even have taken the trouble to visit the site to discover that it is a memorial to an individual soldier, one of the 61,513 Australian soldiers of the 1st AIF who lost their lives in the 'war to end all wars', the Great War later to become known as the First World War

The monument is a memorial to Harold Kenneth Campbell, who aged 19 years and 5 months, enlisted in the Australian Imperial Force on June 29, 1915.

His parents gave their written consent saying he had "been raised to fight for his King & Country".

His father, James Spink Campbell, of "Beverley", Blaxland, was named as next of kin. Harold's occupation was poultry farmer and James was a civil servant.

Harold fought at Pozieres as a private in the 3rd Battalion, sustained gunshot wounds to his knee and leg and died as a result of his wounds in the General Hospital, Rouen, on August 2, 1916. He is buried at St Sever Cemetery, Rouen.

On October 22, 1916 the Blaxland Progress Association requested permission to erect a Soldier's Memorial at the intersection of Railway Parade and Station Street, opposite the station in full view of passengers in passing trains.

Permission was granted. It was to be a stone or granite pedestal with a machine gun mounted on top.

The monument was unveiled in 1925 with about 200 people assembled.

Councillor Wilson made a speech in which he said that it would "stand for ever as a beacon for the boys of the future to do their duty as the fallen hero had done his".

The machine gun was one of a number of German guns seized in France. The monument was unveiled by Major General Sir Charles Rosenthal, a local highly decorated soldier.

Councillor Wilson took the opportunity to collect donations to finish paying for the cost of the memorial.

In 1928 the Great Western Highway on the south side of the railway station was proclaimed as a main road and superseded Mitchell's Pass as the main western road. Consequently, it was decided to move the monument to Blaxland Park, a small park opposite Blaxland Public School.

In 1926 the Wilson Way over bridge intercepted the highway in line with Bridge Street but in the 1980s, when the highway was widened, it was altered to the present alignment.

This alienated the triangle piece of land where the monument now stands. The monument which has only been moved once retained its original fence until 1958

In 2001 the Blue Mountains City Council requested and received permission from the Minister for Land and Water Conservation to rename the park the Blaxland War Memorial Park.

Barbara Higginson had lobbied for this renaming and had been supported by the Blaxland and District Chamber of Commerce & Industry Inc who commented: "The war memorial is a significant part of the history of Blaxland and the Chamber of Commerce is mindful of the importance of the memorial and the park to the township and the residents.".

Over the years the plaque(s) and the gun on the monument have disappeared and the Blaxland – Glenbrook RSL Sub Branch who have assumed a de facto ownership of it have, with the help of the Blue Mountains City Council, organised restoration and refurbishment, replacing the plaque and repairing the little fence at the base.

CAMPBELL FAMILY BACKGROUND

It was quite unusual for a World War I memorial to be erected for a single fallen soldier. Honour boards and monuments in the Blue Mountains were erected in memory of numbers of men (and a few women).

Perhaps Harold was the only Blaxland man who enlisted. Four other men, born in Blaxland, were located in the World War I Nominal Roll; two enlisting in Cootamundra, one in Lithgow and one in Sydney, but nothing further is known about them.

Blaxland was a very small township and Harold would have been quite well known locally.

His parents, James and Edith, and sister, Edith, lived in a house called "Beverley" which was situated where the Blaxland Arcade is now located. The house was named after James' family home or rather property in Boorowa, NSW.

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Continued from page 22
James and Edith were active community and church workers. James was treasurer of the Urban Area and Progress Association for many years and he and Edith were strong supporters of St David's Church of England in Taringha Street.

They donated the block of land on which the church hall was built and they set up a memorial to their son, in the church. The church was destroyed in the 1968 bushfires.

...a very interesting and prestigious pedigree

James could claim a very interesting and prestigious pedigree. His maternal grandfather was Rowland Hassall, an early colonial preacher and farmer.

His paternal great great grandfather, William Campbell, was a colourful sea captain who owned a ship called the "Harrington".

He had trade connections with John Macarthur and settled in Australia after receiving a land grant of 2000 acres near Camden.

He named his property, "Harrington Park", and there is now a suburb with this name.

The homestead still stands and is being restored. The Fairfax family are thought to have been the last private owners.

The Hassall and Campbell family members married into other well known colonial families including the Antills (Captain Henry Antill was Governor Macquarie's ADC) of "Jarvisfield", Picton.

They also frequently married cousins so their family tree is scattered with the Campbell and Hassall surname.

James Spink Campbell was married twice, first to Gertrude Williams of Yass. She gave birth to a son, William Douglas Adye Campbell in 1883 and died in the same year.

James married Edith Deacon at Ashfield in 1894 and they had two children – Harold and Edith.

Edith married John Back and they lived in Sydney for a time before moving back to live in "Beverley" in Blaxland in 1942. They had three children, Josephine, Kenneth and Shirley.

Kenneth became vice chancellor of James Cook University in Townsville.

He married Patricia Cummings, daughter of Regner Olaf Cummings, who was a noted tennis player during the Hopman era. They currently reside in Queensland.

After serving with the military forces in World War II, Josephine married Francis Clement Murray.

Shirley married veterinary surgeon Marcus Richard Edward Durand.

In the Hassall family tree on Ancestry.com James' second marriage and children are not recorded.

William, the son of his first marriage, is noted as the family historian. He died in 1966. Does this indicate a family disapproval of the second marriage? We don't know.

With his privileged family background and his position in the tiny Blaxland community he would have been well known and respected and his loss of a son would have been felt by all – hence the erection of a community memorial.

This article forms the basis of a report by Pamela Smith and Shirley Evans of Springwood Historians to Blue Mountains City Council's heritage advisory committee. Council has asked its heritage advisory committee to comment on a request to council by the Glenbrook-Blaxland Returned and Services League (RSL) Sub-Branch to relocate the monument from its existing location to within the grounds of Glenbrook Bowling Club.

RAFFLE PRIZE WINNERS

THE following are the results of the raffle conducted by BMACHO to raise funds to offset costs of the Blue Mountains History conference:

1st prize - Ticket No 0104 - Accommodation package at The Carrington won by Ian Milliss

The heritage listed Carrington Hotel, Katoomba

2nd prize - Ticket No 0288 - Gourmet picnic at Everglades, Leura – won by Tom Kent

3rd prize - Ticket No 0671 - 2 metre hand-knitted Alpaca scarf won by Beth Koperberg

4th prize - Ticket No 0605 - Basket from Hazelbrook Pharmacy won by Diana Jones

5th Prize - Ticket No 0264 - 2 tickets to Scenic World won by Jeff Smeaton

Managing your collection workshop

STATE Records in partnership with RAHS will conduct a regional workshop, *Managing Your Collection* on Saturday, November 24.

Being organised by BMACHO, the workshop will be held at Hobby's Reach the property of Blue Mountains Historical Society, 101 Blaxland Road, Wentworth Falls.

The workshop will commence at 10.30am and a cup of tea or coffee will be available from 10am.

Morning tea will be provided halfway through the workshop and a light lunch will be provided at 1.30pm.

Bookings are essential by e-mail to: j.koperberg@bigpond.com or phone to Jan Koperberg (02) 4754 1544.

HISTORIC HOUSES OF MUDGEE

MUDGEE-BASED historian and heritage consultant, John Broadley, earlier this year released his book *Historic Houses of Mudgee*.

The launch was held at historic Putta Bucca House, Mudgee, one of the 19 houses featured from Mudgee town and country.

Friend Dr Judy White of Belltrees, Scone, who also wrote the *Foreword* and who has connections to several of the houses featured, was guest speaker at the launch.

In the foreword, Dr White, AM writes "The book brings history alive".

John self-published the book which was a passionate personal quest.

Over twenty years he undertook all the research, took the photographs, did hundreds of line drawings by hand of the joinery, and acquired high-end desktop publishing skills to produce a print-ready document.

He identifies the site of each house, presents the ownership history, describes the exterior and interior in detail, and also treats the properties' outbuildings and gardens.

The stories of these houses are an intricate part of the history of the Mudgee district, one of the earliest settled areas (1822) west of the Blue Mountains.

Historic Houses of Mudgee will give its reader an intimate understanding of how Mudgee was settled and how it developed.

Historic Houses of Mudgee is available from the author at $70.00 (plus $15 for postage and packaging).

Contact: Address: 7 Oakfield Close, Mudgee, NSW, 2850
Phone: 02. 6372 3365 or 0429 708 218.
Email: jb@johnbroadleyheritage.com
Website: http://johnbroadleyheritage.com

Mudgee historian and heritage consultant, John Broadley introduces Dr Judy White of Belltrees, Scone at Putta Bucca House, Mudgee to launch his book, Historic House of Mudgee

A painting of Binnawee homestead, by Sam Paine, which appears on the front cover of Historic Homes of Mudgee

Reflections on Blaxland's Blue Mountains expedition

1813: SOME reflections on Blaxland's Blue Mountains expedition is the title of a talk to be given by John Low, OAM at Mt Wilson later this month.

John's talk will follow the annual general meeting of the Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine Historical Society in the Village Hall on Saturday, November 10 commencing at 10.30am.

John was employed by the Blue Mountains City Library as a local history librarian in March 1982. His task was to establish a local history collection. He secured a permanent appointment in September 1983 and stayed for the next 24 years providing a range of services to historians in the Blue Mountains and beyond

John, in the words of Professor Ian Jack, has "his own effortless mastery of so many unfamiliar corners of Mountains history, [which has] given him a special place in the affections of all right-minded scholars".

MONUMENTS AND MEMORIALS

by Shirley Evans - Springwood Historians

OF LATE I have been very concerned with monuments and memorials – specifically the Macquarie monument in Springwood and the Harold Campbell monument in Blaxland.

I have also been (very slowly) photographing monuments with the help of other members of Springwood Historians for a possible CD.

I have some books about monuments and I took up one of these and began to browse. The book was *Monuments and Memorials* edited by Beryl Henderson, published by the Royal Australian Historical Society in 1988 and funded by the NSW Bicentennial Council.

It lists monuments and memorials throughout NSW. Foundation stones, buildings and cemeteries are not included, all the information was contributed, and while there is a huge amount of information in this edition the need for a second volume was contemplated at the time of publication. Some of the monuments are illustrated in black and white.

While it is certainly not riveting reading I found it fascinating and soon began to read in depth rather than skimming.

Some memorials are very touching, particularly those from parents remembering children lost through sickness, accidents or in war.

They are mainly in churches and take the form of brass or marble tablets or plaques.

I haven't been able to find out the difference between a plaque and a tablet.

In this book the tablets seem to be mostly marble and the plaques brass but I can't be sure of this.

The other form of family tribute in churches is the stained glass window and there are many of these, particularly in memory of beloved parents.

Two very touching memorials are windows in memory of children who are now unknown.

One is in a Sydney church remembering "Wee Crissy" showing the Wise Virgins going out into the night with lamps lit.

The other one is in a Woollahra church in memory of "Ranee Ann", 1929-1933 – a set of three windows depicting "child themes".

A very sad monument to pioneer children was erected by the White Cliffs History Group in 1983 which stands in front of a small cemetery containing the graves of five children named Richardson.

They died between 1890 and 1892, and were thought probably to have died of heat exhaustion and bad water.

Predictably, many of the memorials in churches are to men of the cloth, church workers including a surprising number of choir masters and church benefactors.

There are also many memorials to those lost in disasters – mining accidents, shipwrecks, bushfires and wars.

Of course many monuments are tributes to people we all know from history such as explorers, members of the royal family or political figures, and there are monuments that we know quite well but are ignorant of their story.

One such for me was the "Il Porcellino" fountain in Macquarie Street, Sydney at the entrance to Sydney Hospital.

This was sculpted in Florence and erected in 1968 by Marchese Fiaschi Torrigiani in memory of her brother and father, both of whom worked as honorary surgeons for Sydney Hospital, and also as a link of friendship between Italy and Australia.

It is a copy of a bronze work by Pietro Tacca which itself was inspired by an ancient Roman marble sculpture.

Monuments to animals are unsurprisingly frequent.

Annis and George Bills, great animal lovers, established a trust fund to provide horse troughs throughout the country and even overseas to give relief to thirsty horses and there are eleven of these listed. The Glenbrook trough is not listed.

A brass plaque in Sydney pays tribute to the part played by the Clydesdale horse in the development of Australia.

Continued page 26

Mare and foal, Scone

Matthew Flinder's cat Trim, NSW Library, Sydney

Ill Porcellino, Sydney Hospital

Aboriginal people also remembered in Wauchope

Continued from page 25

A statue of a ram at the side of the Cobb Highway near the Wanganella Village acknowledges the debt owed to the merino by Australian people.

On a wall in the Sydney Botanic Gardens the members of the Desert Mounted Corps erected a large plaque dedicated to the gallant horses that carried them over the Sinai Desert into Palestine in 1915-1918.

Another which I think we would all know is a statue and brass plaque erected by the North Shore Historical Society outside the NSW State Library in honour of Matthew Flinders' beloved cat.

A surprising memorial was erected in 1970 on the Hume Highway, Bargo, commemorating the first recording by Europeans of the lyrebird and koala.

Tessa, the Guide dog is remembered in Stockton – a realistic bronze Labrador on her haunches complete with guide dog harness.

Tessa and monument, Stockton

Aboriginal people are remembered too.

In Wauchope there is a bronze plaque mounted on a block of local sandstone in memory of the Aborigines of the Hastings River.

On the lighthouse at Norah Head there is a monument to Bungaree acknowledging his great help in surveying the coastline near Norah Head.

One of the most spectacular looking monuments was erected in Bondi Junction to acknowledge the origins of the Surf Life Saving Movement.

It is built of reinforced concrete in the form of a wave which is about to break.

One of the sweetest is a brass plaque in a Woollahra church erected by the employees of John S Hunter in recognition of the happy relationship which always existed between them.

And one of the most exotic is a brass plaque in a Mittagong church in memory of Florence Alice Stewart Rawson, wife of Admiral Sir Harry Rawson (21st Governor of NSW 1902-1909), who died in 1905 and was buried in the Red Sea.

The entries are arranged geographically.

The Blue Mountains has surprisingly few entries with only two for Springwood and only one of the amazing number of monuments at Mt York.

The book, in a different sort of way, is an index to New South Wales' social history – social values, historic tragedies and pioneering achievements.

Further reading

HERITAGE newsletter
Shirley Evans, *The Story Behind the Springwood Macquarie monument,* May-June, 2010
John Leary, *'...for the relief of horses and other dumb animals...'* January-February, 2010
Patsy Moppett,*Tribute to Bills horse Troughs,* September-October , 2012

GET INTO THE CHISTMAS SPIRIT

BLUE MOUNTAINS Branch of National Trust is having stalls at Leura on December 1 and Wentworth Falls on December 8, with a Christmas theme.

For more details contact Rhona Leach on 4757 2424

War Hero project launch

LITHGOW Family History Society will officially launch its *War Hero* project later this month.

The launch on Remembrance Day, Sunday November 11, will be held in the Club Lithgow (Bowling Club, 2c Lithgow Street, Lithgow with proceedings commencing at 2.30pm.

Guest speaker, Mr Joe Elkusch from Springwood RSL Sub Branch will talk about his World War 2 recollections as a boy, of the midget submarine attack on Sydney Harbour.

There will be a slide presentation by Helen Taylor of the *War Hero* project.

Also attending the function will be local resident Mr Ron Barker a son of "Digger" Walter Barker who served in the 6th Light Horse Battalion in World War 1.

Ron will bring to the launch for display, memorabilia brought home from Egypt by his father.

Cost of the afternoon including afternoon tea is $10.

Members of the public are welcome to attend. RSVP to Helen Taylor (02) 63 557 231 or Lithgow & District Family History Society (02) 63 531 089, PO Box 516, Lithgow 2790

In brief.....

Valley Heights 2013 calendar

FOR MANY years the Springwood Historical Society has produced an annual calendar featuring interesting historic photographs of the local area from yesteryear.

This year the calender will be a joint effort of Springwood Historical Society and Valley Heights Loco Depot Museum.

The 2013 calendar has now been released and features Valley Heights.

Valley Heights was chosen for this year's calendar to highlight the significance of Valley Heights Loco Depot in the lead up to its centenary celebrations in 2014.

The calendar is now available and retails at $10 plus $2 postage and package.

In past years the historical society has largely produced this as a community service and those interested in history and heritage might like to support the society by purchasing a copy and/or promoting the sale of the calendar.

The calendar can be ordered on line at richardmorony@optusnet.com.au or atmuseum@optusnet.com.au."

Glenbrook Historical Society office bearers

AT THE recent annual general meeting of Glenbrook and District Historical Society, Doug Knowles was re-elected as president.

He may be contact by e-mail at: sunvalley5@bigpond.com or telephone (02) 4751 3275.

Former Blue Mountains City councillor, Kevin Frappell kevinfrappell@gmail.com (02) 4739 8718 has been elected as vice president.

Mary Knowles was elected as secretary and Elizabeth Saxton (02) 4739 1426 has been elected as treasurer.

State award for Kurrajong Family History Group

MEMBERS of the Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society - Family History Group are to receive one of a number of 2012 NSW Government Heritage Volunteer Awards.

Pictured is Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society president, John Cooper advising the members of the Family History Group they have been recognised with the award. L-R Wanda Deacon, Carolynne Cooper, Joy Shepherd and Valerie Birch.

The presentation is to be made later this month in Heritage Branch, Office of Environment and Heritage, Parramatta.

The group has been involved in heritage projects related to research and recording of family and local history; the provision of advice to members of the public in relation to family history research; and the digital archiving of photographs and other images of the Hawkesbury and surrounding district.

This work is slow and tedious and group members have spent a tremendous number of hours during the past 7 years developing this collection's archives.

Ultimately the archive will be of immense value to researchers, scholars and students. It will also be a valuable model for other historical societies and groups.

VALLEY HEIGHTS LOCO MUSEUM AGM

THE 21st annual general meeting of the Blue Mountains Division NSW Rail Transport Museum will be held on Saturday, November 10, at the Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Heritage Museum commencing at 1.30pm

Apologies can be tabled prior to the meeting by e-mail at atmuseum@optusnet.com.au

Vintage and retro at Everglades

EVERGLADES will be hosting its second Vintage and Retro weekend on November 17 and 18.

This year, vintage and retro fashion parades will be featured. While the ladies relish the fashions of the 30s and 40s, the men can lust over polished vintage vehicles.

There's plenty of lush green lawns to sprawl over while watching your kids play hopscotch or quoits.

Everyone is being encouraged to dress the part.

Once you're done, you can learn to move and groove. All this and a lot more will be up for grabs.

Cost: Adult $14, National Trust members $10, concessions $12, children $8. family $35. Tickets/enquiries**:** 02 47841938

Lithgow Museums' Networking Group -- revealing the history of Lithgow

The Lithgow area is a hidden gem of history and heritage.

Visitors and locals alike can enjoy the history of one of the most fascinating areas in Australia through the many museums, historic sites and heritage organisations.

From Aboriginal history through to the history of the Small Arms Factory and from Hartley through to Glen Davis there are sites and museums to learn about Aboriginal, convict, mining, social, railway and factory history.

In March 2012 a group of museum and heritage organisation operators from the Lithgow LGA met at Eskbank House and Museum to have a chat about how they could help each other out.

From this initial gathering the Lithgow Museums' Networking Group was formed.

The group meets monthly and its aims are: educating each other to improve the quality of local museums, networking to promote each other's museums and share resources, co-operating to create a combined museum experience for visitors and sharing enthusiasm and to enjoy each other's company as museum and heritage enthusiasts.

A spokesperson for the group said it is exciting to be able to work together, take strength from each other and present a combined museums experience to visitors and locals.

There are 12 organisations in the group, some able to attend regularly others coming when they can or contributing via email, etc.

The groups include: Lithgow and District Family History Society (LDFHS), Lithgow Small Arms Factory Museum (LSAFM), Simmo's Museum, Eskbank House and Museum, Lithgow Library Learning Centre (LLLC), Lithgow State Mine Heritage Park, Lithgow State Mine Railway Ltd, Hartley Historical Village, Portland History Group, Rydal Village Association, Delta Expo and Newnes Pub.

Each organisation takes turns hosting the meetings and this has been an invaluable part of getting to know each other's museums and being able to share resources and promote other museums to visitors.

The group has participated in several group activities aimed at increasing visitor numbers to museums and generally get the word out that Lithgow's Heritage is amazing and worth a visit.

The first activity was an open day for many of the museums in the group on International Museums Day 2012. International Museums Day is in May and is celebrated by over 30,000 museums throughout the world.

With only a short time to organise and limited advertising most museums still saw an increase in visitation on the day of over 500 %.

The group has more plans for International Museums Day 2013 and also celebrating other international days like Volunteers Day 2012 with an afternoon tea for the wonderful volunteers in all these organisations.

The next group activity was a combined stall at Daffodils at Rydal. Photographs from the different organisations were displayed and pamphlets and postcards were handed out along with the first Lithgow Heritage Newsletter outlining heritage events happening in September and October in the region.

The most rewarding part of the day was talking to people about the museums and history and hearing their stories of the area. Perhaps this is in fact the most rewarding part of running a museum in general.

The latest event was a stall at the "Back to Hartley" celebrations on Sunday, October 28, 2012. This time the display included a "What is it?" table with a variety of mysterious objects for people to ponder, a "Who is it?" display of historic photographs of Lithgow citizens with space for people to comment, displays from the museums and projected historical images of the Lithgow area. Participants said, the most interesting part of the stall was talking heritage and history and spending time with other museum enthusiasts.

For more information contact Eleanor Martin, Lithgow District Family and History Society ldfhs@lisp.com.au 0429 932 319.

Contributed by Jan Saundercock – Lithgow Family History Society

Pictured are members of the group who attended the recent meeting at Simmo's Museum at Glen Davis. On the shelves in the background of the picture are old radios and other collectable on display at Simmo's

Western crossing commemoration 2013-15

great ideas - thoughts - just being talked about or it's really going to happen!

Background and purpose of Western Crossings Committee

The Western Crossing Committee was established several years ago as a sub-committee of the Royal Australian Historical Society following discussions by the then presidents of both RAHS and BMACHO.

National Trust of Australia (NSW) local branches had also been discussing ideas for special activities in 2013-15 as far back as a decade or more ago.

BMACHO continues to be a strong supporter of the Western Crossing Committee of the RAHS and acknowledges numerous other committees have been established along the route from Parramatta to Bathurst including by Penrith, Blue Mountains, Lithgow, Hawkesbury and Bathurst city councils as well as individuals, business and historical and heritage groups.

The RAHS Western Crossings Committee's purpose is to provide a consultative forum on activities relating to the commemoration of the bicentenary of the crossings of the Blue Mountains by:

* Gregory Blaxland, William Lawson, and William Charles Wentworth in 1813;
* George Evans in 1813;
*William Cox and the road party in 1814 – 1815;
*Indigenous people before, during and after white exploration and settlement;
*Other persons including convicts who may have crossed the Blue Mountains before 1813 but not received recognition at the time.

The current chair of the Western Crossings Committee is Dr Anne-Maree Whitaker pictured who is also president of the RAHS.

---John Leary OAM

Grants for Macquarie monument and Private Smith's gravestone

Springwood Historians and the Springwood Historical Society decided that their special projects for the commemorations would be to work towards the rehabilitation/ restoration of the Macquarie monument in Macquarie Rd, Springwood and the grave of Francis Smith in the Springwood Cemetery.

We believe it is important to care for existing monuments and sites and to make their history more accessible to the public.

After the completion of thorough research by the two groups the state and federal government representatives and the Blue Mountains City Council were contacted and representatives from the groups met with council staff.

A council staff member has agreed that the Macquarie monument was of great historical significance and certainly in need of refurbishment and an interpretive sign.

Private Francis Smith who served in HM 4TH The King's Own Regiment is buried at the rear of Springwood Cemetery.

The old gravestone is damaged and the immediate environs untended.

Council agreed to apply for a grant on our behalf under the Federal Government's Community Heritage Program and the application was successful receiving $2272.27 for the Macquarie Monument and $2272.27 for the grave.

The grant funding under this program is being matched from Council Operation Plan funding for Cultural and Physical Assets for 2012-2013 which is allocated to the interpretation of cultural and physical assets and interpretive signage is going to be provided at both sites.

Aircraft fly over

The brainchild of Philip Hammon is a flyover of a diverse range of aircraft as part of the celebrations on Saturday, May 25, 2013.

It is anticipated that Tiger Moths, a Super Constellation and an FA -18 with fly across the mountains to co-incide with community events which will be organised at ovals and schools from where the aircraft can be viewed as they flyver.

The aircraft will land at Bathurst Airport where visitors can see the aircraft on the ground and meet pilots and crews.

It is hoped that RAAF, Navy and Army aircraft will also participate while the Royal Flying Doctor Service, RFS, Wespac Rescue and National Parks will also be invited.

A number of flying clubs have also been contacted.

Events workshop

A Blue Mountains Crossings 2013-2015 events workshop will be conducted later this month.

The workshop under the auspices of Blue Mountains City Council will be conducted on Thursday, November 29, 2012 at the Mid Mountains Community Centre, New Street, Lawson between 9am and 1pm

An invitation is extended to all interested in the event to participate

This workshop will provide information about the Crossings, how to register an event, what events are being planned and how to encourage public participation.

RSVP by email crossings@bmcc.nsw.gov.au .For further information Kerrin O'Grady at Blue Mountains City Council on 4780 5659

For more information about Western Crossing events contact: www.bluemountains crossings.com.au

350 years of Punch

RESPECTED *Sydney Morning Herald* political journalist, Peter Hartcher has alluded to the Australian parliament as a Punch and Judy show --- so *HERITAGE*'s editor John Leary has looked to history and has discovered this violent puppet show celebrates 350 years of performance in 2012.

Punch made his earliest appearance in the 14th century in Italy, in the Commedia del'Arte dramas, when he was Pulcinella.

Later, in France in the 16th century, he became Polichinelle, the "hunchbacked fool of French farce," and, in 17th century diaries and journals, he is seen in England as Punchinella, Mr. Punch, and finally, Punch.

Punch and Judy shows reached their greatest popularity in England in street shows, fairs, and small theatres during the 19th century. Until this time, the often-bawdy shows were directed to adult audiences, but now they had begun attracting more and more children.

Toy Punch and Judy shows began to appear. Like other toys, these playthings re-created in small scale the real-life delights of the world in which children lived.

Most of the puppets were made in Germany, hand-carved in wood or shaped with papier mache, with exaggerated features and colorful costumes, ranging generally from about 8" to 20" in height.

There were usually 6 to 12 figures in a set, though the number varied.

It's easy to see the appeal for children of the Punch and Judy shows – characters of all stripes, silly, nonsensical plots and dialogues, quaint, decorated, little stages. Often a live dog, Toby, sat in front of the stage with a ruff around his neck and a hat on.

Punch, could commit the most heinous of acts and get away with it! Throw the baby out of the window, whack his wife with a big stick, kill off the authorities that come to take him to jail, chase the ghost away, and, his greatest triumph, vanquish the devil himself, all with a merry grin. Pleased as Punch.

There was very little in the way of plot that the street watchers had to follow - Punch must contend with a shrewish wife and a screaming baby so he murders them both and is then forced to defend himself from the law officials and do-gooders who try to get him to the gallows.

The dialogues were passed on orally without much written down, but some authentic texts and scraps do exist.

SOURCE*: A history of Punch and Judy* by Judith Lile

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

REGISTERED OFFICE 14 Bunnal Ave, Winmalee 2777
E-mail: committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au
Website: www.bluemountains.heritage.com
ABN 53 994 839 952

THE ORGANISATION Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 following a unanimous response to a proposal from Professor Barrie Reynolds at the 2004 Blue Mountains Local History Conference which sought from Blue Mountains City Council the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the city.
BMACHO in its constitution uses the definition: "Cultural heritage is all aspects of life of the peoples of the Blue Mountains which was later changed to cover Lithgow and the villages along the Bell's Line of Roads. It therefore involves the recording, preserving and interpreting of information in whatever form: documents, objects, recorded memories as well as buildings and sites."
The objectives of the organisation are:

i. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage.
ii. To encourage and assist cultural heritage activities of member organisations.
iii. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations. One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact, to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

AFFILIATIONS BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society Inc.

HERITAGE BMACHO's official newsletter is edited by John Leary, OAM.
Blue Mountains History Journal is edited by Dr Peter Rickwood.

MEMBERSHIP The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mount Tomah, Blue Mountains City Library, Blue Mountains Cultural Heritage Centre, Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc., Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc., Blue Mountains, Lithgow and Oberon Tourism Limited, Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute, Eskbank Rail Heritage Centre, Everglades Historic House & Gardens, Friends of Norman Lindsay Gallery, Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc., Hartley Valley District Progress Association, Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc, Lilianfels Blue Mountains Resort, Lithgow and District Family History Society Inc., Lithgow Mining Museum Inc., Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies, Lithgow Small Arms Factory Museum Inc, Mt Victoria and District Historical Society Inc., Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine History Society Inc. (including Turkish Bath Museum), Mudgee Historical Society Inc., Mudgee Regional Library, National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Blue Mountains Branch, National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Lithgow Branch, Scenic World – Blue Mountains Limited, Springwood & District Historical Society Inc., Springwood Historians Inc., Transport Signal and Communication Museum Inc., The Darnell Collection Pty Ltd, Valley Heights Locomotive Depot and Museum, Woodford Academy Management Committee, Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd. The following are individual members: Ray Christison, Associate Professor Ian Jack, Joan Kent, John Leary OAM, John Low OAM, Ian Milliss, Patsy Moppett, Professor Barrie Reynolds, Dr Peter Rickwood and Dr Peter Stanbury OAM.

COMMITTEE The committee for 2012-13 is: Pamela Smith (president), Ian Jack (vice president), Jan Koperberg (secretary), Judy Barham, Joan Kent, Doug Knowles, John Leary, Dick Morony (public officer), and Scott Pollock.

DISCLAIMER Views and opinions expressed in ***HERITAGE*** originate from many sources and contributors. Every effort is taken to ensure accuracy of material. Content does not necessarily represent or reflect the views and opinions of BMACHO, its committee or members. If errors are found feedback is most welcome.

HERITAGE

NEWSLETTER OF THE BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

JANUARY - FEBRUARY 2013 ISSUE No. 25

Iconic Paragon at Katoomba under threat

The iconic Paragon Café at Katoomba which includes one of the oldest chocolate making factories in Australia, a candy factory and bakery is under threat of closure unless funding can be found to carry out urgent repairs to the roof of the building and over a longer period solve many complex issues concerning the continued use of the property.

The roof is just a small part of many, issues.

" Even had there been good maintenance programs in place all these years there comes a time when something of this age needs a major rework and the Paragon is at this point, the Paragon's lessee Ms Robyn Parker said.

"The problems are far more complex than a leaking roof and far more complex solutions than just this.

"The Paragon is an 80 year old piece of infrastructure in a modern world, trying to compete with modern cafes.

"The building is over 100 years old, the internal fitout is 80 years old and neither have been well maintained.

"What we are looking for from government is assistance to develop a conservation management plan combined with funding to assist in both conservation and restoration.

"It is hoped to develop a 5 year program to address conservation issues in order of priority.

"We are also looking for assistance to refit areas of the building that have fallen into a state of disrepair to enable them to be self supporting," Ms Parker said.

Panelled timber walls and plaster moulds of classical figures, adorn the Paragon cafe. Photograph courtesy Ian Jack.

The property is listed on the State Heritage Inventory Form as being: '...of state significance, reflecting the flair and taste of a Greek immigrant family with a wide experience in catering and the need for a high-class tea room, sundae parlour, confectionery and ballroom in inter-war [years] for locals and visitors'.[1]

In a bid to find assistance , Ms Parker invited the NSW Minister for Heritage Robyn Parker (no relation to the lessee) and the Member for Blue Mountains, Roza Sage to visit Katoomba, last month, to inspect the Paragon.

BMACHO president, Pamela Smith, vice president, Associate Professor Ian Jack, secretary, Jan Koperberg and former president, John Leary along with Blue Mountains, Lithgow and Oberon Tourism chairman Randall Walker also attended the meeting to support Robyn Parker's plea to the minister.

A daughter-in-law of the original owner, Mrs Simos, was also there to provide advice to the minister.

This shop is one of a suite of four built at 63-69 Katoomba Street more than a century ago.

The Paragon is one of the best known art deco restaurants and function rooms in New South Wales and its name remains a strong attraction to tourists.

In the early part of the 21st century the Paragon fell into a state of disrepair.

Robyn Parker, who has loved the place since she was a child, is the woman behind the reinvigorated Paragon. She is passionate about ensuring the survival of the Paragon.

"I was fascinated by it," she says. "I thought a princess must live here or something. It was just like nothing I'd ever seen."

Every Christmas, Robyn would travel to the Blue Mountains from her family's Sydney home and although she didn't pass through the Paragon's doors until she was much older, simply driving past was a highlight of every trip.

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An opinion from the editor.....

Catostrophic bushfires --- may need family histories in survival plan

CATOSTROPHIC bushfires this month have swept across the Australian landscape, often leaving nothing in their path other than a household chimney standing like a single sentinel guarding the memory of lost history and part of our heritage.

Until the late 19th century, family histories were almost exclusively of interest to persons who had obtained their wealth or rank by inheritance.

Other people, who had inherited nothing, might, in extreme cases, suppress their family history as a matter of shame.

Since the second half of the 20th century in Australia, there has been a growing pride in the pioneers and nation-builders.

Much of our family history painstakingly researched and recorded is kept in private homes, while many artifacts of heritage value are housed in local history museums.

It is probably timely for a wake up call, that these recorded histories and artifacts need to be included along with our other treasures in our bushfire survival plans.

But one public figure who does deserve the community's thanks is the former Member for Blue Mountains and later Member for Macquarie, Bob Debus.

Bob Debus has an abiding love of the Blue Mountains and its people and his knowledge of local history and our cultural heritage is exceptional.

It was he, probably more than anyone, with his vision and tenacity, who ensured this project came to fruition.

While some see the cultural centre as primarily embracing the visual arts it also must be remembered that from the earliest time it was planned to be inclusive of our cultural heritage and to some degree this is being achieved through exhibits such as the World Heritage area exhibition.

Aboriginal people have lived in the Blue Mountains for many thousands of years.

The region incorporates significant parts of the traditional lands of the Gundungarra and Dharug tribal groups.

The cultural centre acknowledges the important histories of the traditional owners of the Blue Mountains region and the relevance of those histories to the Blue Mountains identity.

The Cultural Centre will play an important role in showcasing, celebrating and respecting the indigenous cultures of the region.

There are many aspects of our cultural heritage which will hopefully warrant subjects for exhibitions, particularly during the next three years as we commemorate the 'Western Crossings (1813 - 15)' bicentenary.

The Blue Mountains Cultural Centre is indeed a welcome addition to the amenities of this city.

John Leary, OAM - Past president, Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc.

Blue Mountains Cultural Centre worth long wait

There have been times in the past decade and more that some have doubted if they would ever live long enough to visit the Blue Mountains Cultural Centre, but it is now up and running. It is indeed a magnificent facility.

Many have worked hard to achieve that which was only a dream and they deserve credit; while there will also be many in public life who claim credit for which probably they do not deserve.

Minister for Heritage visits Paragon

Continued from page 1

"It was just so stunningly beautiful... and I fell in love with it," she says.

The Paragon, which used to be called the Paragon Sundae and Candy Store, was an upmarket cafe; somewhere where you wore your Sunday best.

It was brought to life in 1916 by a young Greek immigrant, Zach Simos, who'd moved to Australia four years earlier. By 1926, Zach had a roaring business.

In 2000, however, the Simos family put their beloved cafe up for sale.

By the time Robyn had the opportunity to take over in 2011 it was "almost dying".

"It was about at the point of collapse," she says sadly, explaining that the back rooms had been shut-up, an action which ultimately had been their saviour.

These back rooms, which are now set up as a dining room and charming piano bar, were added to the original building in the mid-1930s; the dining room in 1934 and the bar in 1936.

Both were designed in a glamorous Hollywood art-deco style by architect Henry White, who also designed the State and Capitol theatres in Sydney.

***L to r: The daughter-in-law of the original Paragon owner - Mrs Simos, The NSW Minister for Heritage - Robyn Parker, current lessee of the Paragon - Robyn Parker and the Member for Blue Mountains - Roza Sage.** Photograph courtesy Jan Koperberg*

Velour seats run along two walls of the lounge, behind which were once ornate plaster works and gilded mirrors.

Where the bar now stands, there used to be a stage, while the piano in the corner is the original.

Architecturally, the rooms are very significant, "but not many people know these details and it's one of the paradoxes of the Paragon," said Ms Parker".

"For something so special, it's been hidden all these years."

Although Robyn had always dreamt of owning the Paragon, which she says is Australia's oldest cafe, she knew she had, and still has, a monstrous task of restoration ahead of her.

The kitchen sink the staff washes up in is 80 years old, along with other infrastructure, posing numerous challenges. [2]

Internally, the Paragon restaurant retains its inter-war art deco interiors.

The front section has a panelled timber shop fit out and timber booth seating with panelled timber walls and plaster moulds of classical figures. Original chairs with the "P" motif for the restaurant remain in service.

The rear rooms of the Paragon are fitted behind the adjacent shops and feature a ballroom/dining room lined with timber veneers with a coved plaster ceiling to the south influenced by the décor of ocean liners.

To the north is the bar (former banquet hall) with perforated plaster frieze work showing a pre-Columbian influence in its motifs. The toilet spaces also retain much of their original fitout.[3]

The chocolate-making machinery, imported after World War 1 from France and America (and possibly elsewhere) is still in store upstairs and will soon be inspected by experts in the history of technology.

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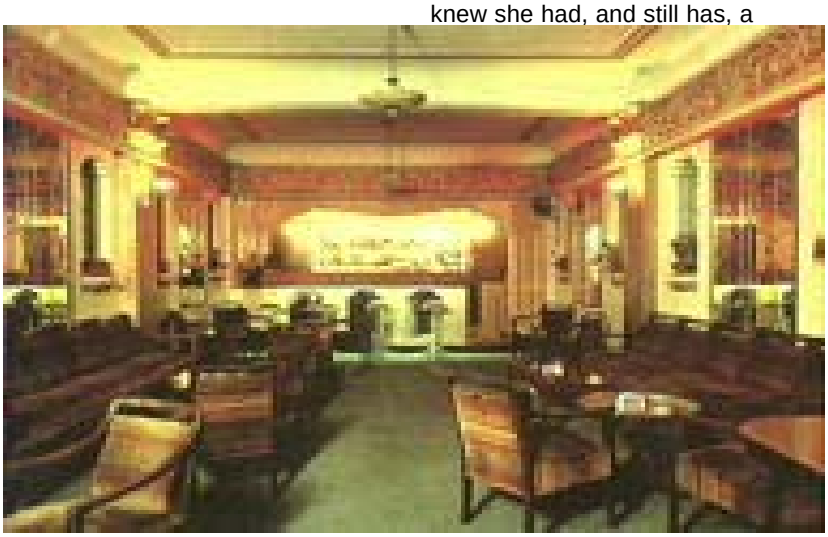

Paragon cocktail bar. Bartel photography c.a. 1980 - Courtesy Blue Mountains City Library

Continued from page 3

The four shops, 63 to 69, were built on Newlind's land in 1909 (photograph in Paragon).

The three to the north, 63 to 67, including the future Paragon, were all owned in 1911 by the Reverend John Russell, who was the Anglican rector of St Hilda's across the street from 1902 until 1913.

Since Russell did not own the fourth shop, it is likely that he was not responsible for building on the site but merely bought existing new shops as an investment.

Russell continued to own the properties as an income-earner until 1924, retaining thereafter only one nother investment property, 100-102 Katoomba Street .

The income from the various shops was no doubt useful to Russell when he went to Sydney as senior curate to the rector of St James .[4]

Russell leased his shops as three separate entities. No. 63 was by 1914 leased by a jeweller, LP Goldstein, who bought the freehold from Russell in 1924.

The shop was later occupied by another jeweller, H Lloyd, and is currently Mine Shaft Jewellery. This is remarkable consistency of use over a period of almost one hundred years.

No. 65 was leased by Russell to a series of shopkeepers, Sullivan in 1914-6, Dagon from 1917 to 1919.

By 1923 it was leased to Zacharias Simos as refreshment rooms, called the Paragon, and in 1924 Simos purchased both 65 and 67 from Russell.

Simos was a Greek migrant

Simos was a Greek migrant who had arrived in Sydney early in the century. After working and saving energetically, he arrived in Katoomba in 1916.[5]

An old Paragon 1 lb chocholate box in the memorabilia at the Paragon cafe. Photograph courtesy Ian Jack

After a period working as a caterer, in 1921 Simos bought the refreshment rooms owned by Miss Kelly and previously run by Mrs Banning at 110 Katoomba Street.

At the same time he also bought Miss Kelly's adjacent premises at n 112 - 114, then leased by the estate agents, Soper Brothers.

Simos was able to earn and save enough to retain 110 to 114 Katoomba Street while paying £9250 in 1924 for 65 and 67.

Simos and his wife were responsible for the art deco restyling of the Paragon in 1925 and for the addition of the banquet hall in 1934 and the Blue Room in 1936, utilising space behind 67 as well as 65.[6]

The high reputation of the suitably named Paragon was preserved by Mrs Simos after Zacharias' death and the tea-room has remained as a remarkably intact example of interwar art deco, outside and in, though it is no longer owned by the Simos family.

The fourth shop in the suite, 69, was never owned by Russell. From the outset in 1909 it was owned by Reuben S Hofman, who seems to have used it as his own draper's shop.

After his retirement, Hofman leased 69 initially to E Luce, also a draper, in the early 1920s, but it became a confectioner's in the mid-1920s, competing with the Paragon.

It was bought in the 1930s by Mrs Mary Simos, wife of Zacharias, so that the three shops, 65, 67, and 69, were all in the Simos family control. No.69 was always leased for income.[7]

This article was prepared by John Leary, OAM from various sources including those listed as references.

The editor is grateful to Ian Jack for his oversight of the text for this article.

Reference

[1] NSW State Heritage Inventory. K034 Paragon Café Group, http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/heritageapp/ Accessed 20 December 2012

[2] An interview with Ms Robyn Parker December 2012

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[4] ibid.

[5] Low, J, *Pictorial Memories: Blue Mountains* 1991

[6] Rotary Club of Katoomba, *Old Leura and Katoomba* 1981

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McLaughlin lecture at Wentworth Falls

THE annual McLaughlin lecture organised by the Blue Mountains History Society will be held on Saturday, March 2, commencing 10am at the Wentworth Falls School of Arts.

Dr Siobhan Lavelle will be the guest speaker addressing the significance and impact of the Western Crossing.

Admission: by gold coin.

Paul Brunton to speak of the mysteries surrounding early explorers' rare manuscripts

THE MITCHELL Library holds the eye-witness accounts by William Lawson, William Charles Wentworth and Gregory Blaxland of their journey over the Blue Mountains in 1813.

Those by Lawson and Wentworth are in manuscript while that of Blaxland is a rare privately printed volume, published in 1823, of which there are only about 10 extant copies.

All three items were early acquisitions by the Library following its opening in 1910, perhaps indicating the contemporary view of the pivotal nature of this event.

Paul Brunton will speak about these original sources and the mysteries surrounding them at BMACHO's annual general meeting.

The AGM will be held at the Blue Mountains Cultural Centre, Katoomba on Saturday, March 23 commencing at 2pm.

Members of the association are welcome to have any interested person associated with their society to participate in the meeting in addition to one voting delegate.

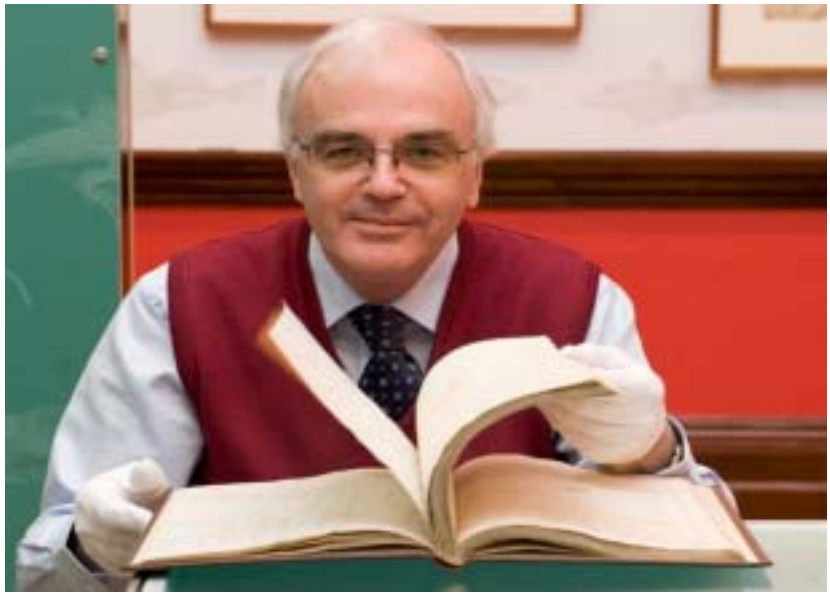
Those members of the public interested in history and heritage will also be welcome to hear this outstanding speaker.

Paul Brunton is Emeritus Curator, State Library of New South Wales and an Honorary Associate of the School of Philosophical and Historical Inquiry, University of Sydney.

He was Senior Curator, Mitchell Library, State Library of New South Wales, from 2002-2012 and Curator of Manuscripts from 1986 to 2001.

Paul has published on archives administration and on various aspects of the State Library's collection including *Matthew Flinders: personal letters from an extraordinary life* (2002).

He is preparing an annotated edition of the original handwritten journal and logbook of William Bligh kept on HMS *Bounty*, 1787-1789, for publication by Allen & Unwin.



Paul Brunton, OAM with the Stokes diary

Paul has curated many exhibitions including *Matthew Flinders: the Ultimate Voyage* (2001); *First Sight: the Dutch mapping of Australia, 1606-1697* (2006); *Politics and Power: Bligh's Sydney Rebellion 1808* (2008); and *ONE hundred* celebrating the Mitchell Library's centenary (2010).

He was president of the Australian Society of Archivists, 1991-1993. In 2003, he was awarded the Centenary of Federation medal for services to libraries.

In 2012, he was awarded the Order of Australia Medal (OAM) for services to Australian history through various curatorial positions at the Mitchell Library.

High point for Cultural Centre

THE BLUE Mountains Cultural Centre features the Blue Mountains City Art Gallery and World Heritage Exhibition which is devoted to education about the distinctive environment, history and culture of the Blue Mountains region which is co-located with the new Katoomba Library. The centre officially opened on November 17, 2012.

The Cultural Centre will showcase innovative, diverse, distinctive and creative cultural programs for enjoyment by residents of, and visitors to, the Blue Mountains.

Built on the highest point in Katoomba with panoramic views of the World Heritage area and its links to the main shopping precinct on Katoomba Street through enhanced pedestrian connections.

Being the first publicly owned and managed, purpose designed facility of the arts to be constructed in the Blue Mountains, it is expected that the development will significantly contribute to the improvement of the economic health and cultural vitality of the Blue Mountains and the surrounding regions.

HOURS OF OPERATION
Monday – Friday 10am-5pm
Saturday + Sunday – 10am – 4pm
Closed Public Holidays

Features of the Cultural Centre include:

- Foyer – providing cultural and visitor information
- Theatrette/seminar room – for seminars, talks and presentations
- Multi-purpose workshop – for educational public programs
- Cultural Centre restaurant / café – for fine food and outdoor dining
- Cultural Centre shop – providing quality craft and mementos of the Blue Mountains region.

Sydney Lord Mayor built Mountain mansion

by John Leary, OAM

THE SON of an Irish farmer and his wife, Charles Moore (1820-1895) emigrated to Australia in 1849 to make his fortune as a draper in the 'gold-rush era' going on to become Lord Mayor[1] of Sydney in 1867[2]

He soon prospered and in 1860, Moore built a substantial house at Coogee and was elected to Randwick Municipal Council going on to be elected as mayor in 1863 despite being in the Coogee minority faction.

During his term on Randwick Municipal Council he was also a member of Botany-Randwick-Coogee Roads Trust.

In 1865 he was elected to Sydney City Council for Bourke Ward being the lord mayor from 1867 to 1869.[3]

One of two Moorecourt gateposts still standing in Buttenshaw Park, Springwood,
Image - John Leary, OAM Nov 2012

Moorecourt . Image - Blue Mountains City Library HS0\196

Charles Moore built the single storey section of *Moorecourt* in Springwood in 1876, the rear two storeys being added in 1880.

At Pulpit Hill on the Mountains, there was an old government lock-up built of massive stone and Moore purchased it for a small sum, subsequently moving all of the useful material by rail to Springwood to build the cottage.[4.]

At once he became busy in local affairs and in 1876 he was a member of the committee which sought the establishment of a public school.

In 1878-79 he was listed in the Post Office Directory along with 23 others as a resident of the Valley.

In 1880 he moved into *Moorecourt* a mansion he had built on land which is now part of Buttenshaw Park.

Moorecourt became a ladies college in 1897 and ceased to be Springwood Ladies College in 1949. The building was demolished in 1956. [5]

As Mayor of Sydney, Charles Moore won the reputation of being an "improver". First elected as mayor in December 1866 by a large margin, again in 1867 by a similar majority and for a third term in December 1868

It was during his term as Sydney's mayor the site for the Town Hall was acquired, plans drawn and the foundation stone laid.

Moore induced the government to pass an Act transferring the old burial ground next to St Andrew's Cathedral to the Corporation, for a town hall site, thus eradicating what was seen as an eyesore in the best part of George Street, Sydney.[6.]

He successfully championed earlier plans for making dams to improve the capacity of the Botany swamps, Sydney's main water source.

He had the Tank Stream covered, Macquarie Street extended to Circular Quay and the Tarpeian Way (lower Macquarie St) formed.[7.]

Probably he gained most fame for improvement, involving the Sydney Common.

The land was part of 1000 acres (4.0 km^2) originally set aside by Governor Lachlan Macquarie in 1810 for grazing and watering stock.

This sandy waste was generally believed to be crown land but in 1866 Moore traced documents proving that in 1811 it had been vested in Sydney's inhabitants.

Moore fought for the land to be dedicated as a leisure area for the people of Sydney and suburbs He planned to improve and sell part of it to provide funds to improve half of the rest; the remainder was to be gazetted as a water reserve.

Continued page 7

Parklands a memorial to Charles Moore

Continued from page 6

The scheme was supported in parliament by the colonial secretary, Henry Parkes, and the secretary for lands, JB Wilson.

Early in 1867 work began on levelling the sand hills and planting them with grass and trees, and the council renamed the common 'Moore Park'.

Sydney's first zoo was established here in 1879 on 7 acres (28,000 m^2) of land known as Billygoat Swamp. The zoological gardens covered 15 acres (61,000 m^2) by 1906 but moved to Bradley's Head at the site now known as Taronga in 1917.

It was replaced by Sydney Girls High School which opened on this site in 1921.

Students transferred from Elizabeth Street, which became the site of the David Jones Department Store. Sydney Boys High School opened in 1928 on the remaining zoo land.

An infamous pack rape crime occurred in the park, leading to the 1886 Mount Rennie rape case. Nine men were sentenced to death and four were hanged despite controversy.

At the time of dedication, Moore Park was bounded to the south by Lachlan Estate and Randwick Racecourse, to the west by Dowling Street, to the north by Old South Head Road, and to the east by the Lachlan Water Reserve.

A road lined with stone and pines marked this eastern boundary of the park and the western boundary of the water reserve.

The Right Honourable Charles Moore, MLC

Moorecourt circa 1937 when the building housed Springwood Ladies College Image – Blue Mountains City Library HSO\O92

Two other roads crossed Moore Park prior to 1866; the first was known as Old Botany Road and was used by hunters and fisherman initially and later by pleasure seekers traveling to Coogee and Botany.

The second road provided a western entrance to a cemetery that was located off South Dowling Street.

The dedicated land encompassed the Tunnel Reserve (1827-1838), the Military Barracks and the Military Cricket Ground.[8.]

Charles Moore was one of Sydney's leading citizens and was also one of the outstanding pioneers of Springwood.

Born August 29, 1820 at Ballymacarne, Craven Ireland he was the 11th child of James Moore and Catherine Moore.

His grandfather and great grandfather were businessmen in Ballymacarne, but were believed to have come from London where they were connected with the Guilds of London and Sir William Moore who was Lord Mayor of London in 1395 is believed to have been of this family.[9]

Having decided to emigrate to Australia, he sailed from Plymouth in the *Minerva* in September 1849. At Adelaide and Melbourne he disposed of part of the consignment of drapery he had brought and was so impressed by the profits, he dispatched at once orders to London for further supplies.

In Sydney he was soon well established as a draper and shared handsomely in the prosperity of the gold-boom period.

Subsequently he acquired Charles Newton's auctioneering business in Pitt Street, Sydney.[10.]

Charles Moore was honoured by numerous memorials apart from Moore Park. Moore Street (Martin Place) was also named after him.

Other memorials to Moore's civic works include the Moore stairs at Circular Quay which were opened in 1868.

Years ahead of his time, he proposed an underground railway beneath York Street running from Central Station to Circular Quay.

In 1874 after a visit to England, he was elected to the Legislative Assembly as the Member for East Sydney to fill a vacancy created by the resignation of JAES Henry Neale.

Four months later the parliament was dissolved and in the ensuring election Moore was defeated.

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From 1880 until his death in 1895, he was a member of the NSW Legislative Council.

Charles Moore was deeply interested in the Church of England.

In St Philip's Church, Sydney there is a plaque to his memory. He was also involved with St Jude's Church in Randwick.

In Springwood, he first used part of his home for church services and after the appointment of a rector; he donated land and much of the money to build Christ Church. This was completed in 1889.

…a seemingly obstinate man

Moore was seemingly an obstinate man, both at St Jude's and at Springwood he had violent differences of opinion with other church members.

In Springwood one result of this was that he never transferred the house next door to the church to the trustees.

Moore had built this as a vicarage but after the disagreements it was no longer used as such.

The land on which the Lawson, Church of England is built was in Moore's name for many years.

Moore held other public positions on the Blue Mountains, such as trustee of the Springwood Cemetery and trustee of various sights and recreation areas in Lawson.[11.]

In July 1895 Charles Moore, MLC died in Old Government House, Parramatta where he had moved from Springwood when it was found necessary to have his medical advisers constantly at hand.

He was buried in the Church of England section of Emu Plains Cemetery on July 6, 1895.

He was twice married but there were no children from either marriage.

In January 1854 Moore had married Sarah Jane Wilcox, who died without issue.

In 1882 he again visited Europe and in 1883 at Kingston, Ireland, married a widow Annie Hill Montgomery.[12.]

The gateposts of *Moorecourt* were removed by the Blue Mountains City Council and reerected in the Wisteria Walk, Buttenshaw Park.

His coat of arms, showing the inscription 'Moore of Springwood' is evidence of his love for and interest in this district.

End notes

1. Charles Moore is variously referred to in this article as Lord Mayor and Mayor of Sydney. The office of Mayor of Sydney along with the Sydney municipality was created 20 July 1842 pursuant to the Sydney City Incorporation Act 1842 by Governor Sir George Gipps, of the New South Wales Legislative Council. This replaced the previous system under an Act of 1833, whereby three police commissioners were responsible for local conditions. The office of mayor was elevated to lord mayor in 1902 by King Edward VII, and as part of this process received the honorific The Right Honourable (The Rt. Hon.).

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3. Lyons, Mark, Australian *Dictionary of Biography, Moore, Charles (1820-1895*)
4. *Nepean Times*, July 27, 1895 An obituary to the Late Hon. Charles MooreMLC
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6. *Nepean Times*, July 27, 1895 An obituary to the Late Hon. Charles Moore, MLC
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9. Morony, TAM *Springwood Historical Society Bulletin No 26*, July 1979.
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12. Lyons Mark, *Australian Dictionary of Biography, Moore, Charles (1820-1895)*

Welsh coal mining museum goes solar

A COAL museum seeking to save money on its electricity bill has installed 200 solar panels on its roof.

The panels at Wales' Big Pit National Coal Mining Museum are expected to save the museum about $618,000 over 25 years, the trade magazine *Renewable Energy World* has reported.

Not a bad deal for an up-front cost of about $100,000.

"Coal is such an important part of Wales' heritage and yet green energy will play a major part in the future,"

The museum manager has said. "A solar powered coalmining museum is a fantastic way to celebrate this national journey"

Big Pit shut down in 1980 and reopened three years later as "a living , breathing reminder of the coal industry in Wales and the people and society it created", according to the museum's website.

UNESCO named it a World Heritage Site in 2000.

Annie Davis – governess, gossip and go-getter

By Kate Nielsen Matthew

Governesses in Australia can be difficult to locate in the historical record.

Often only a shadowy reference in an employer's records, or a notation on an immigrant ship manifest, gives a clue that a governess had a part to play in that story.

Despite the impression of insignificance that these glimpses might suggest, governesses played a significant role in the history of Australian education in the nineteenth century – holding positions in both rural and urban homes and teaching the young ladies of the colony English and history as well as music, singing, drawing, dancing and how to navigate society.[1]

Through one of those serendipitous occurrences that historians are greatly indebted to, a body of letters survived to illuminate the individual lives of a group of English governesses who emigrated to Australia in the 1860s and 1870s.

The Female Middle Class Emigration Society assisted these women to travel from England to the Australian colonies in search of jobs.

In return, many of the women wrote to the Society giving their views on life in Australia, the employment prospects for governesses, the class and quality of employers, and sometimes on each other.[2]

Annie Davis was one such governess.

Opinionated, gossipy, and apparently quite good at her job, Annie's letters help to shed some light not only on her life, and that of her fellow governesses, but also on the position of women in a time of growing expansion of opportunities and personal freedom - if they could maintain economic independence.

Annie emigrated from England in 1863, arriving in Melbourne in July of that year.[3]

She was an experienced governess, with a comprehensive range of skills.

She could teach French, German, music, singing and drawing, and although English is not mentioned within her skill set, competence in English literature and poetry was assumed.[4]

This was typical of the range of subjects taught to young women in the 1860s, with some variations on the theme of accomplishments depending on whether the governess played piano or violin, and was better at drawing or painting.

The choice of subjects was limited both by what society felt was necessary and desirable for female education, and by what the governesses themselves were capable of teaching.

As a result, educational reform for women was slow, and it was not until the 1880s that university educated governesses began to flood the market in Australia.

In the process they displaced many of the British governesses who were still trying to find work teaching what they themselves had learned during what was best described as 'a very indifferent education'.[5]

However, the 1860s was still the halcyon days before this revolution in teacher education had occurred. Annie's range of skills meant that, unlike many of the other governesses, she was rarely unemployed.

She had six positions that we know of after her transfer from Melbourne to Sydney soon after her arrival.

After 13 months working for Donald McIntyre at Glebe, where she was paid £90 per annum in addition to her board to educate three girls, Annie found herself unemployed and forced to take a morning engagement, which was 'not well paid', for six months.[6]

This was not unusual in the governessing profession. Contracts were often only for six months or one year, after which time they could be dissolved by either party for any reason.

Annie's next position was with William Durham's family at Wambo in the Hunter Valley, but again this only lasted six months.[7]

Between June and September 1865 she taught at two different schools, but again found some stability with the Allen family (a well-known Sydney family of solicitors) in January 1866.[8]

Continued page 10

The Governess. painted Rebecca Solomon (1832-1886), ca. 1851, exhibited at the Royal Academy 1854. In this image the governess wears black clothes and is occupied in teaching her pupil, while the probable daughter of the family that employs her is wearing a bright-colored dress, and is musically flirting with an eligible man.

Continued from page 9

Despite very short contracts, Annie was well paid – averaging between £80 and £90 per annum plus board – which was a reflection of her superior skills.

At the time, the average wage for governesses in Australia was approximately £67 per annum, slightly higher than the English average.

It remains difficult to explain why Annie did not apply to join the school system as a teacher.

The rates were far better, as were the hours and the level of personal independence and freedom.

One of her fellow FMCES emigrants – Louisa Dearmer – did pass the examinations required to join the state school system in New South Wales, and was earning £150 per year.[9]

Of course, governesses usually lived with the family, and therefore the cost of their room and board was added to their salary.

However, even with that taken into account, the position of school teacher was still better paid and was accompanied by more personal freedom and independence.

One reason why Annie might not have gone into the school system was the change that would have made to her social position.

Governesses at the time were largely considered to be ladies, a description that carried some very loaded connotations in nineteenth century society.

The stereotypical Victorian lady of leisure was an aspiration for English society as a whole, and although it was diluted considerably in the British colonies the concept of a lady in Australian society still required that she did not earn her own living.[10]

The role of governess, especially one that lived with the family, was one of the few that preserved a veneer of gentility by hiding the employment relationship within the household dynamics – in the same way that the position of lady's companion did.

Many of the advertisements in the newspapers of the day were worded as though the governess was looking for a home rather than a job, and that she would bestow her services only on those worthy of her efforts.

Annie's letters, however, suggest that she may not have been one of those women who feared losing the veneer of lady-like respectability that came from governessing.

Although initially reporting that Mrs Dillon, the Society's contact in Sydney, should be accurately described as a scholastic agent rather than a philanthropic contact to Society emigrants to 'save Ladies some embarrassment', she later described her as having 'been a kind friend to me', suggesting an ongoing social intercourse. [11]

A further counter-point to the typical governess attitude lies within Annie's description of the shelf-life of governesses (no one over 40 had much in the way of career prospects in her opinion) and her declared intention to re-train as a nurse.[12]

…marriage was not for her…

Annie had no intention of marrying, and saw nursing as a way to prolong her ability to earn her own living.

This recognition that marriage was not for her, and the foresight to plan for her future, distances Annie from those who were determined to maintain their status as ladies at all costs.

It is possible that she would not have been able to pass the teaching exam, but her ability to command a high salary as a governess in addition to her room and board makes this unlikely.

This aspect of Annie's career remains irreconcilable with the traditional parameters of a governess' life.

Gossip was not unusual in the letters that governesses sent to the FMCES.

In the nineteenth century, good-natured gossip was one of the few ways of getting news about mutual friends or acquaintances.

Reports of marriages, job changes, successes or failures were common reports back to the Society, and the Secretary, Jane Lewin, encouraged these reports from the governesses as much as possible.

However, Annie took it to a new level and, amongst the more than 450 pages of letters transcribed in the FMCES records, Annie's represent a very few correspondents who engaged in gossip of a malicious variety.

The worst offence was against two fellow governesses, who had been employed by the Allen family before Annie took up her position there.

She wrote to Miss Lewin that 'Miss Maize … is a little insane', for which she offers no evidence except Miss Maize's propensity to change jobs regularly – something that most governesses did.[13]

Her charge against Miss Ford was more serious.

Annie reported that 'I believe her salary here was the same as mine but during the six months she spent every fraction she earned and ran up bills at two or three Drapers to the sum of £90!! making use of Mrs Allen's name.'[14]

It is a serious charge, but Annie's source was Mrs Walker, mistress of a boarding house, rather than anyone connected with the Allen family, so its veracity is difficult to determine.

Gossiping about her fellow governesses was not her only offence.

Two years earlier, Annie repeated some negative comments she had heard about the Society to a friend in England, which subsequently got back to London and proved very embarrassing for her correspondent, Jane Lewin.[15]

Although Annie was repentant in her letters, there is no evidence that it curbed her enthusiasm for gossip.

What we can piece together of Annie's life is therefore both typical and atypical of that of a governess in New South Wales.

She was typical in terms of the subjects she taught and the number of times she changed jobs, but atypical in the salaries she could command, her almost continuous employment and her pragmatic approach to her future.

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Annie Davis the governess

Continued from page 10

She was a delightful correspondent: entertaining, with an eye for gossip and a willingness to express her opinion with more candor than is often seen in letters of this nature.

Annie Davis' story ends with her last letter to the FMCES in February 1867, and although there are some clues, no further information can be verified at the present time.

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(End notes)

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[3] Annie Davis to Jane Lewin, letter, 21 February 1867, *FMCES Records*, letter book 1, p 90; Annie Davis to Jane Lewin, letter, 21 February 1867, *FMCES Records*, letter book 1, p 175

[4] Annie Davis to Jane Lewin, letter, 21 February 1867, *FMCES Records*, letter book 1, p 261

[5] Annie Davis to Jane Lewin, letter, 21 February 1867, *FMCES Records*, letter book 1, p 261

[6] Annie Davis to Jane Lewin, letter, 21 February 1867, *FMCES Records*, letter book 1, p 260

[7] Annie Davis to Jane Lewin, letter, 20 January 1865, *FMCES Records*, letter book 1, pp 174-175

[8] The quote itself is from Jane Austen's *Emma*, referring to the provisions that Harriet Smith's guardian had made for her schooling. Jane Austen, *Emma*, Macmillan & Co Limited, New York, 1896, p 53

[9] Annie Davis to Jane Lewin, letter, 20 January 1865, *FMCES Records*, letter book 1, pp 172-177

[10] Annie Davis to Jane Lewin, letter, 21 February 1867, *FMCES Records,* letter book 1, pp 257-262

[11] Annie Davis to Jane Lewin, letter, 21 February 1867, *FMCES Records,* letter book 1, pp 257-262

[12] For further detail on the life of a governess in nineteenth century Australia, please see Kate Matthew, 'Governesses', *Sydney Journal*, vol 3, no 2, December 2011, pp 17-25, http://epress.lib.uts.edu.au/ojs/index.php/sydney_journal/issue/view/170/showToc, A. James Hammerton, 'Feminism and Female Emigration, 1861-1888', *Emigrant Gentlewomen: Genteel Poverty and Female Emigration, 1830-1914*, London, 1979, pp. 124-147

[13] For further detail on the FMCES governesses, please see Kate Matthew, 'The Female Middle Class Emigration Society in Australia: a failed vision?', *Journal of Australian Colonial History*, vol 14, 2012, pp 107-130; Patricia Clarke, *The Governesses: Letters from the Colonies 1862-1882*, London, 1985; *Records – Female Middle Class Emigration Society*, Australian Joint Copying Project, Part 8, Reel M468, National Library of Austra (hereafter referred to as '*FMCES records*')

[14] Annie Davis to Jane Lewin, letter, September 1863, *FMCES Records*, letter book 1, p 86

[15] Annie Davis to Jane Lewin, letter, September 1863, *FMCES Records*, letter book 1, p 89

The author Kate Matthew

Kate Matthew (BA, MHist) is a historian based in the Blue Mountains.

In addition to governesses in nineteenth century Australia, her research interests include John Lucas MLA/MLC and the Fourth Parliament of New South Wales (1860-1864).

Kate was recently awarded a grant from the Royal Australian Historical Society to research the history of the site currently occupied by the RAAF Base at Glenbrook.

She is a member of the Blue Mountains City Council Heritage Advisory Committee and a casual lecturer at the Australian Catholic University at Strathfield.

Kate Nielsen Mathew

HERITAGE newsletter alive and well in USA!!

Family historians are great 'detectives' and have very little trouble tracking down distant relatives, especially these days with modern technology.

In late September, I had an email arrive in the BMACHO gmail account, through the enquiry form on the BMACHO website, marked for my attention.

It was from Michael Thompson, who gave his location as USA.

Michael had seen my article **online** in the *HERITAGE* newsletter, September/October 2010, titled 'John Ross, Convict Labourer on the Cox's Road in 1814'.

He was writing to say that he too was descended from John Ross and Elizabeth Bennett, but through their son George Ross, whereas I am descended through their daughter, Mary, born 1814, while her father was labouring on the first road over the Blue Mountains with William Cox.

Michael was asking if he could add my article to his personal research, with appropriate acknowledgement, to which I agreed.

He went on to say that living in USA, he has to rely very heavily on the internet to gather information about his Australian ancestors.

I am pleased Michael found the *HERITAGE* article and that I was able to be of assistance.

Jan Koperberg
Secretary BMACHO

BMACHO's
Annual general meeting
Blue Mountains
Cultural Centre,
Katoomba
23 March 2013

Australia Day breakfast in a Kurrajong vineyard

AUSTRALIA Day breakfast in a local vineyard seems a great idea!!

Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society is organising the event to be held at Remo's & Sons Vineyard, 58 Blaxland Ridge Road, Kurrajong on Australia Day, January 26.

The event will celebrate the 12th anniversary of the founding of Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society and selective awards will be presented for outstanding contribution to the society.

Cost of the breakfast is $35 per person, scheduled for 8.30am for a 9am sitting. The awards will be made at 10am.

Bookings before January 15 to the society's secretary, Suzanne Smith at (02) 4567 7410 are essential to allow for catering.

BMACHO JOINS PLANNING LOBBY GROUP

FOLLOWING an article by local heritage consultant, Margi Fallon and an *Opinion* piece titled, *Heritage goes missing from proposed NSW planning reform* both of which appeared in the November-December 2012 edition of *HERITAGE*, the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc, has accepted an invitation to join the Better Planning Network.

Former president of the Royal Australian Historical Society Inc Associate Professor Ian Jack says: "the Better Planning Network is bringing together the dismay felt by many people. Margaret Fallon is drawing attention to what is happening, in her role as a heritage consultant."

Former president of BMACHO, John Leary OAM said:"the NSW state government is proposing legislation to remove the rights of individuals under the guise of streamlining the planning process.

"What that means is making it easier to get developments approved by removing community consultation from the approval process.

"The proposed legislation which has been outlined in a government green paper, A *New Planning System for NSW* will remove the right of communities to have a say in development proposals and planning matters directly affecting their lives.

" It will also diminish the role of elected councillors".

BMACHO president, Pamela Smith has said: "the Green Paper is frightening and heritage is only mentioned four times.

BMACHO's management committee in discussions last month decided to suggest that constituent members of BMACHO may also wish to join the Better Planning Network.

The planning reforms and process for consultation can be viewed at: http://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/a-new-planning-system-for-nsw. or to connect to the Better Planning Network at: http://betterplanningnetwork.good.do/nsw/email-the-premier/

Better Planning Network (BPN) has advice from the NSW Planning and Infrastructure that the government's white paper will be released in early February 2013. It has been suggested that the consultation period on the white paper may be as short as 2-4 months.

BPN has advised the department that this timeframe (particularly anything less than 4 months) is unacceptable.

Veteran journalist's epic walk

Newly elected chair of Woodford Academy management committee, Ian Harman and local historian Ken Goodlet late last month joined veteran Fairfax journalist, Malcolm Brown for part of the way on his walk from Sydney to Dubbo to draw attention to this year's bicentenary celebrations of the western crossing in 1813.

As he passed through Woodford he inspected a section of William Cox's Road.

In a bid for a wider impact from his epic walk Mr Brown hopes it might encourage people to get out of their cars and see the world from a wider perspective.

When he was a child, Mr Brown said it was not unusual to see Aboriginal people walking between towns — a notion that would seem alien for anyone today.

200 years since Bennelong died

Researchers believe they have located near Kissing Point, the grave of Benelong a leader of the Eora people.

Bennelong was brought to the settlement at Sydney Cove in November 1789 by order of the Governor Arthur Phillip who planned to learn the language and customs of the local people living around Sydney Cove.

January 3, 2013 marks the 200th anniversary of Bennelong's death.

Portrait (signed "W.W.") thought to depict Bennelong

Inside and outside museums in Burma

Peter Stanbury, OAM, PhD

A typical sunset in Burma

What seems a good idea at the time doesn't always turn out the way one had envisaged.

As Burma has been open to individual visitors for over a year it seemed an enticing place to visit *en route* to the UMAC (International Committee for University Museums and Collections) conference in Singapore.

Actually it is not really on the way at all, it is further north and west and one has to go via Bangkok or Kuala Lumpur. But what does that matter, once you have decided to go?

There are still places in Burma where visitors are not welcome, mostly near the borders of other countries, but there is still plenty to see and one feels welcomed by smiles and offers of advice from ordinary citizens.

Official welcome is less encouraging. A visa takes a month to obtain.

There is not one public ATM in Burma at the time of writing – this means you must carry an uncomfortable amount of cash that can normally be exchanged only at official banks. However, not once did I feel threatened by theft.

My reason for going to Burma was to see if the national or regional museums would appreciate volunteers as in Cambodia or the Philippines.

In spite of writing beforehand and offering in person it became clear that museums are still under strict control.

Locals seldom visit and it seemed to me, few international visitors bother to go.

The buildings are enormous caverns; in the galleries large historical exhibits cower along the walls.

Both labels and staff are scanty. Staff appear to be under strict instructions not to encourage communication; it is as though there is behind the scenes still a strong governmental control or influence.

Photography, with or without flash, within museums is prohibited for no good reason.

Private citizens with a collection of important objects may not start their own museum.

The conservation of animals and plants appears to be treated by the authorities as important; national parks are established and there are trained rangers within the parks.

Burma is a land of spiritual people. Whereas Chinese often make money make more money, wealthy Burmese would rather endow a pagoda, temple or build a religious structure.

There are thousands upon thousands of temples and stupas, a few big and well patronised but many small and in ill repair.

To become a monk, or work for monks, even for a short time, is considered an important contribution to one's life and to the community. Buddhism is the way of life.

The pagodas and the philosophy of the people make the whole of Burma a living museum, so visit as soon as you can and enjoy whatever it is that fascinates you: you find it there in this country of 50 million people (5 million in the big city of Yangon (Rangoon).

As in any Asian country, many crafts are practiced – weaving, lacquer work, carving and gilding although some souvenirs and many useful and industrial objects are imported.

Before the military rule people in different regions of the country wore distinctive clothing; even in one region clothes clearly distinguished one's position in the community.

Meals are built around rice with the addition of curry, clear soup, hot dip and vegetable fingers to scoop the dip, salad and cooked vegetables, crisps of some dried vegetable, followed by fresh fruit – really a mixture of Indian and Chinese cuisine.

Bagan Museum

Robinson's remarkable large scale maps of the Shire of the Blue Mountains

By Peter C Rickwood and Peter R Atherden --- Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc.

For the first time, a set of 80 early 20th century detailed maps of the settled parts of the Blue Mountains have been made convenient to use. These are a most valuable resource for historians who now can not only readily read the information on these maps using computers at either the Springwood Library or at the Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc., Wentworth Falls, but also can obtain jpeg files of small areas.

Herbert Edward Cooper Robinson, (1856-1933), a renowned map maker and map publisher from 1895[1], was commissioned in 1912 to produce detailed maps of the Shire of the Blue Mountains.

However the contract was contentious and Robinson's quotation was held over at the April meeting of the Shire Council[2] only to be reconsidered in July[3] when it was confusingly reported that: "Mr Robinson, of Sydney, had quoted £320 for the supply of 242 maps in sections ..." to be supplied over a period of four years. But it was moved that: "Ninety five maps of a scale of 8 chains to one inch would be required at once."

When the order was acknowledged in August[4] there were to be "... 93 maps at £3.10s each ..." drawn at an unspecified scale, and some councillors protested because the contract had not been put out to public tender.

Surprisingly it was reported in September 1913[5]: "In the office of Mr RB Paterson will be seen the complete series of maps of the Shire of the Blue Mountains, issued and published by Mr HEC Robinson, Government cartographist.", which seems dubious and may relate to only a part of the order.

Eventually the maps were provided at a scale of 4 chains to an inch [1: 3,168] but exactly how many is uncertain. Goodacre[6] wrote that: "Early in its history the firm began work on the first ever large scale map of the Blue Mountains area, for the Blue Mountains Shire Council. It was on 90 sheets, each measuring 30" by 40" and it took the draughtsman, Mr CH Richards, three years to draw. Herbert Robinson himself did survey work for it."

Four partial sets of these 4 chains to an inch maps are known to exist, two sets of original maps and two of copies.

One set of original maps is held by the Blue Mountains City Council Local Studies Library (BMMCLS - 80 Sheets) at Springwood and a second by the Blue Mountains Historical Society (BMHS - 64 Sheets) at Wentworth Falls.

A third set at the Mitchell Library[7,8] (84 Sheets) consists of "blueprint" [9] copies (white print on a dark blue base) and the fourth set is in the National Library of Australia (26 Sheets) but as shown on their website[10] these are "paper prints in negative format" [11] (white lines on a black background).

These sets overlap in area coverage and between them there are copies of 86 sheets. Four copies of the index map are known[12] on which are outlined 211 sheets but many parts of the shire area were wilderness and so were not mapped.

Clues come from notes printed in vacant space: eg on Sheet 112 (BMCCLS) has a signed annotation " H.E.C. Robinson 15 November 1915" (Figure 1) and Sheet 127 (BMHS) "H.E.C. Robinson 1st Decr 1915" which may be handwritten. Sheet 93 has a similar note dated 1.12.13 but with a printed name and not a signature.

Before attributing a date to a map from such an addition, that text needs to be carefully inspected to see if it is printed or if it has been skilfully added to a base map in drawing ink; that is not always easy for some of the printed text seems to be handwritten as in Figures 1.

For convenience, 1915 is the date used here for these maps despite the fact that it post-dates the 1913 completion date reported in a newspaper[14] but it does fall within the three years that the draughtsman was said to have been working on these maps[15].

However in their catalogue the National Library of Australia [16] use 1947 and explain: "Publication date based on latest date appearing in series. Sheets 101 and 116 "Proclaimed City of Blue Mountains 19th September 1947"

[Not seen on BMCCLS or ML maps so they pre-date 1947]. That information seems to be printed on the maps so might these be re-prints of the originals?

These maps are some of the most detailed of the Blue Mountains and they contain a lot of information of interest to historians researching aspects of the settled areas, such as original owners, Certificate of Title Volume and Folio numbers, Estate names, planned roads etc. (e.g. Figure 2).

Continued from page 15

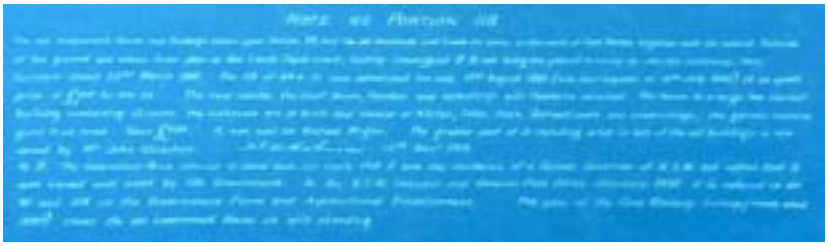

Figure 1. Text written on Robinson's Sheet 112 (ML Collection).

Some of the most detailed of the Blue Mountains

Continued from page 14

But the maps are “40 inches x 30 inches” (101.6 cm x 76.2 cm) on sheets 109 x 87 cm so are cumbersome to use.

This is not helped by one set being stored in a basement archive in a vertical hanging map cabinet (BMCCLS); the second partly flat in a horizontal map cabinet but mostly in rolls (BMHS) and the third set (Mitchell Library) is inconveniently bound into two very heavy ‘books’.

Moreover some maps in the BMCCLS and BMHS collections are cracked and shedding patches from their linen backing so that they are now very fragile.

It occurred to one of us (PCR) that it was high time that these be copied in electronic format both for preservation of the information and for convenience of use, and the other of us (PRA) had the photographic skill and equipment to make this possible.

So with the help of Mr John Merriman, local studies librarian, Springwood, the BMCCLS collection of 80 maps has been photographed in recent months and a complete set of images (as jpeg files) has been burned onto CDs for examination on a computer. These CDs can be consulted at either BMCCLS or BMHS, and it is possible to extract a part of any map as a jpeg file for use in publications.

Abbreviations

BMCCLS = Blue Mountains City Council Local Studies Library, Springwood.
BMHS = Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc., Wentworth Falls.
ML = Mitchell Library.

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[3] Anonymous (1912b) Blue Mountains Shire Council. *The Blue Mountain Echo*, 19 July 1912, p.1, cols.1-2 & 5-6.
[4] Anonymous (1912b) Blue Mountains Shire Council. *The Shire Echo,* 2 August 1912, p.2,col.1.

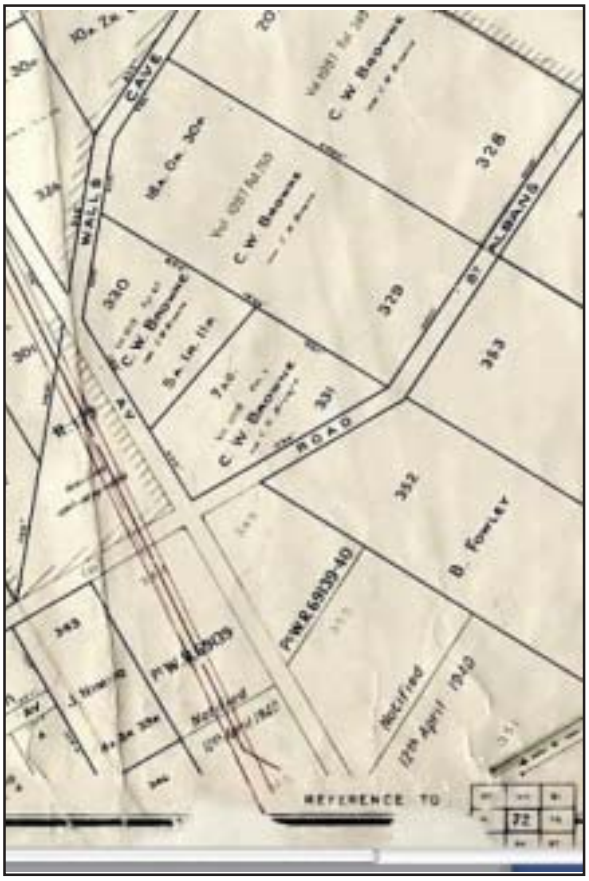

Figure 2. Part of Robinson’s Sheet 72, Medlow Bath. (BMCCLS Collection).

[5] Anonymous (1913) Local and General. Maps of the Shire. *The Blue Mountains Echo*, 12 September 1913, p.7, col. 2.
[6] p.3 in Goodacre, M.M. (1966) *A bio-bibliography of the firm H.E.C. Robinson,* UNSWR School of Librarianship. Second assignment. [Mitchell Library ML Doc 1066]
[7] Robinson, H.E.C (1915a) Blue Mountains Shire: [plans]. Scale 4 chains to an inch. “Compiled to the order of the Shire Council by H.E.C. Robinson, Sydney” – map. H.E.C. Robinson, Pty. Ltd., Sydney. Sheets 1-92 and Index Sheet. [Mitchell Library XX/9v.l]
[8] Robinson, H.E.C. (1915b) Blue Mountains Shire: [plans]. Scale 4 chains to an inch. “Compiled to the order of the Shire Council by H.E.C. Robinson, Sydney” – map. H.E.C. Robinson, Pty. Ltd., Sydney. Sheets 93-158. [Mitchell Library XX/10v.2]
[9] http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blueprint <Accessed 25 November 2012>; http://www.ingenious.org.uk/site.asp?s=RM&Param=1&Sub_Param=1&Content=1&Article_ID={EDBCEB44-B0BF-4F17AFAF-C9C1238FA1F0}&ArticleID2={AAE8AF81-0D46-4CD6AFDFCFED5EEF8969} &Menu LinkID={FB123E73-A026-4389-A4EF-7952465AEB83} <Accessed 25 November 2012>
[10] http://nla.gov.au/nla.map-vn4983415 <Accessed 27 November 2012>
[11] http://catalogue.nla.gov.au/Record/4983415? lookfor=shire of bluemountains&offset =1&max=50945 <Accessed 28 November 2012>
[12] Robinson, Hector E.C. (1915) *Index to sheets of 4 chains to an inch map of Blue Mountains. Scale 1 Mile to an inch.* “Each sheet when drawn on scale of 4 chains to an inch will measure 40 inches x 30 inches representing a rectangle 160 chains x 120 chains.” [BMHS (mounted and rolled); Mitchell Library 812.17/1915 CC91/62; first map in Reference [7]; National Library of Australia, http://www.nla.gov.au/apps/cdview/?pi=nla.map-vn4983415-s1 <Accessed 28 November 2012>]
[13] References [7 & 8]
[14] Reference [5]
[15] Reference [6]
[16] http://catalogue.nla.gov.au/Record/4983415?lookfor=shire of blue mountains&offset=1&max=50945 <Accessed 28 November 2012>

DEATH OF SPRINGWOOD HISTORIAN

A founding member of Springwood Historians, Lindsay Paish passed away peacefully in his sleep in the first days of the new year.

He was a contributor to *HERITAGE* and will be sorely missed by many.

Scenic Railway's final trip

KATOOMBA'S Scenic Railway will depart on its last journey down to the pristine rainforest floor on January 13, 2013

The world's steepest passenger railway at 52 degrees is being replaced by a new Swiss-designed train and railway line under a $30 million redevelopment of Scenic World, expected to be completed by Easter 2013.

Fondly known as the 'Mountain Devil', the current train has taken 700,000 journeys through the rainforest corridor to a parcel of the World Heritage – listed Jamison Valley.

Siblings and Scenic World joint managing directors, Anthea and David Hammon, said the decommissioning of the train would be a nostalgic time for their three-generation family business.

"This train has been a big part of our childhood, the generations before us, and the wider Blue Mountains community," said Mr Hammon.

"But it is now time for a new chapter at Scenic World and this railway transformation will provide our visitors with a fresh perspective on the rainforest with some new surprises with our history."

The legendary Scenic Railway was originally part of the remarkable

The Scenic Railway in earlier days

technology that accompanied mining activities in the Jamison and Megalong Valleys.

Philip Hammon and Philip Pells in their fascinating book, *The Burning Mists of Time* relate how some of the engineering works became part of one of Australia's major tourist attractions under the stewardship of Harry Hammon.

The coal mine operated until 1945 when the loss of a contract to provide coal to the Katoomba Municipal power house caused it to close.

The incline had however been carrying paying passengers for many years before this, because the construction of the Giant Stairway, the Furber Steps and the Federal Pass walking tracks brought many hikers to the foot of the incline, begging for a ride to the top.

They were initially carried inside the coal skip; a little plank was installed at the back for the attendant miner to be seated, and hessian sacks were draped over coal dust coated planks to protect the passengers clothing.

A 12 seater car was built, called "Jessie". Jessie was used on weekends and public holidays carrying passengers at sixpence a time.

History etched in glass

More than 13,000 glass negatives forming the Fairfax Archives Glass Plate Collection have been donated to the National Library of Australia.

The photographs taken by Fairfax photographers between 1908 and the mid 1930s, will be restored and put in digital form in a partnership between Fairfax Media, the National Library and the government's National Cultural Heritage Foundation which contributed $425,000

Australia's rarest collection of photojournalism is an evocative insight into another time.

Not just into the events of that time - Depression-era dole queues, the first ANZAC Day march, bustling life in Sydney's streets but also into the intricate art of glass plate photography that was common a century ago.

The National Library of Australia's director-general, Anne-Marie Schwirtlich has said the collection was particularly significant for Australian's understanding of the early 20th century.

These images are special because they provide a complete archive of photojournalism during the era.

There are no comparable newspaper photo archives, "Ms Schwirtlich said.

The director of information services at Fairfax Media, Chris Berry, who has led the project over the past three years, said the goal was to preserve the images for all Australians.

'A lot of the stories are familiar ones, but the vivid nature of the glass plates bring them to life."

The collection is expected to be available online by the middle of this year.

The Sydney Morning Herald

The Cox's Road - Caley's Repulse named by Macquarie on a false premise

THE NSW Heritage Office in April 2011 concluded it will list representative portions of Cox's Road as part of the 1813 bicentennial celebrations of the crossing of the Blue Mountains in recognition of the importance of the road in the history of opening up western NSW.

Much of the credit for the initiative to have the NSW Heritage Office reach this decision has come from the Cox's Road Steering Committee formed in July 2006 to look at long term objectives and mechanisms to preserve the 1814 Cox's Road alignment between Emu Plains and the Blue Mountains and Bathurst. The committee was formed with delegates from the Lithgow, Blue Mountains and Bathurst branches of the National Trust of Australia (NSW), and operates under the auspices of the Trust as an informal committee.

For the November-December edition of *HERITAGE,* convenor of the Cox's Road Project Committee (CRPC) who is also an individual member of BMACHO, Patsy Moppett pictured, produced the first of a three part series of articles to provide some of the detail for each precinct of the road.

In this edition, Patsy covers the Caley's Repulse and Mt York precincts.

By Patsy Moppett

The Caley's Repulse precinct is located off Railway Parade, Linden, on the ridge above the railway line and highway and to the north-west.

It is so named from the legendary "pile of stones", but does not define the location of the stones.

When Cox came to construct this section of road, he chose a lower route than Evans had surveyed, where the high rocky areas gave way to the more flat rocky areas.

In spite of this choice travellers found the going a jolting ride, and many small deviations sought to find a more comfortable way through.

Even though Mitchell's route was laid in 1835, the old route was still in use as late as 1839.

The precinct is defined by a series of low rock cuttings and kerbs, rutted stone pavements and a small section of side drain.

The common width of the road in this vicinity is 6-7m, with almost vertical faces up to 60cm. Chisel and pick marks are common, and the rock shelves show signs of the scraping of vehicles drawn over the rocky surfaces.

Pile of stones fenced in 1974 appears not to been built by Caley as records indicate he did not penetrate into this part of the mountains

In her report *Cox's Way*, Grace Karskens states that the precinct is "one of the longest and most intact sections of Cox's Road across the rocky ridge, and illustrates the simple methods and tools used by the gangs.....the rocky platforms and wild appearance of the area give a clear picture of the conditions of nineteenth century transport and travel".

The following extracts are taken from records of the time contained in *Fourteen Crossings of the Blue Mountains,* all observations referring to a "pile of stones".

Blaxland, Lawson and Wentworth - May 19, 1813
"….. from this ridge they first began to have an extensive view of the settlements below at a little distance from the spot they descended they found a heap of stones piled up in the Shape of a Pyramid by some European one side of which the Natives had opened if apparently to see if anything was deposited in the Middle……."

Assistant-Surveyor Evans - November 21, 1813
"….. at about 11 o'clock I passed the Pile of Stones alluded to by a former party: soon after we were on a very high hill, which was clear of Mist…"

William Cox - September 1, 1814
"Retained eight men to work on the bridge. Sent the rest forward road-making….."

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From Evan's Cave 'a view of the country as far as the eye can carry you'

Continued from page 17

September 3,1814
"The road finished to Caley's heap of stones, 17 ¾ miles".
September 4,1814
"Removed forward to Caley's pile...went to Caley's pile, and from thence up the rock to Evan's cave you get a view of the country from north-west round to south-west as far as the eye can carry you".

Governor Lachlan Macquarie April 27,1815
"Near to the 18th Mile Mark (it is to be observed that the measure commences from Emu Ford), a pile of stones attracted attention; it is close to the line of road, on the top of a rugged and abrupt ascent, and is supposed to have been placed there by Mr Caley, as the extreme limit of his tour – hence the Governor gave that part of the Mountain the name of "Caley's Repulse". To have penetrated even so far, was at that time an effort of no small difficulty."

Major Henry Colden Antill - April 27, 1815
"About 5 miles further on we came to a very extensive prospect from a lofty spot, where we found a heap of stones, supposed to have been placed there by an adventurer, who had penetrated thus far with much difficulty in his endeavour to cross the mountains.

He had arrived at it from a difficult direction from the one we had now taken, and much more difficult, but finding this place no end to the mountains, and the country looking most unpromising around him, and his provisions being nearly expended, he gave up what he thought a fruitless attempt, and retraced his steps, after erecting this pile of stones, to which the Governor gave the name of Keely's Repulse".

Quoy, Gaudichaud and Pellion - 1819
After crossing, by a wooden bridge, a very steep precipice, we found before us, near the road, a pile of stones surmounted by a pole; a rustic monument showing the termination of the venturesome journey of Mr Caley, an English botanist, at a time when the high road that we were travelling in so easy a manner had not yet been laid down".

Cox's Road alignment near Linden 2012

Further thoughts
In the vicinity of this stretch of road was supposedly located the pile of stones referred to in the many diaries of the time, and named by Governor Macquarie after George Caley, even though Caley never explored this section of the mountains.

George Caley was a botanist of note, an explorer and naturalist, publishing many journals, letters and observations relating to his travels through the Blue Mountains.

The stones were reported to be on the roadside at Linden, and many are the tales of how they came to be.

It was shown on maps to the 1830s, but not always in the same location. For over 70 years the site was "lost".

It then aroused considerable interest and conjecture in the early 1900s, in with the community attempting to establish cultural significance of the feature.

In particular the Australian Historical Society set out in 1913 to accurately locate and "restore" the stones.

The pile of stones we see today (off Tollgate Drive, Glossop Road, Caley's Lane) was fenced in 1974 and a plaque erected, but is probably not in the original location, which is thought to be nearer to the original route and near the current day Woodford Trig.

Cox's Road edges near Linden

Mount York Precinct

The Mount York Precinct is located near Mount Victoria, just before the descent down into the Hartley Valley.

It contains Cox's Pass, so named by Governor Macquarie in 1815 in recognition of the feat of building the road on the descent from the Blue Mountains to the valley below.

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Continued from page 18
A number of other tracks abound at the Mount York precinct, and without some research the casual observer would be forgiven for confusing one with another.

All routes were constructed with the idea of seeking the most effective and efficient way down the precipitous cliffs and ridges into the Hartley valley.

Cox's Pass was the first to follow Surveyor Evans. Other routes included Lawson's Long Alley, Lockyer's Pass (never completed), and Berghofer's Pass. The final descent was via Mitchell's Pass, which we utilise today.

The track down Cox's Pass today contains almost complete sections of the original road.

It is situated in the Blue Mountains National Park and the marked walking trail follows the course of the road.

There is evidence of two land bridges and indications of numerous variations to the route to avoid steep pinches and rocky outcrops, including at least two zig-zags.

The works on Mt York became the focus of Cox's road building task

In her report Grace Karskens suggests that the remnants of Cox's Road in the Blue Mountains are very rare surviving examples of a significant road constructed in the simple style used during the period of Macquarie's governorship.

Its significance lies in its extensive display of Cox's methods and approaches, and also later attempts to improve some sections.

Rectangular sockets cut in the rock to receive a 3-railed fence to prevent stock from falling over a precipice along Cox's Road at Mt York

The precinct is also important because of the symbolic cultural meaning vested in it by writers and travellers, including Governor Macquarie in 1815, and a host of others since.

The works on Mt York became the focus of Cox's road building task.

The ascent (descent) features cuttings, retaining walls, earthen embankments, a bridge site and zig-zag formation.

Bridge support rock cutting on Cox's Road, at Mt York

The rocky sections near the summit have types of cuttings typical of Cox's works on other sections – the roughly cut low stone kerb up to 50cm high with a vertical face adjoining rock platform/pavement, which was probably quarried to form the retaining wall opposite.

This wall has partly collapsed and is of rough or broken stones up to 40cm in length.

The wall is approximately 20m long and the road at this point is 7m wide.

A little further on the road passes narrowly between two rock faces, partly covered with short chisel marks.

Rectangular sockets cut in the rock nearby appear to have received a three-railed timber fence to guard against stock falling over the immense precipice.

The following extracts are taken from records of the time contained in *Fourteen Crossings of the Blue Mountains:*

Gregory Blaxland - Friday May 28, 1813
"They got ready about nine O'clock and proceeded about 5 miles and three quarters … until five O'clock when they encamped on the edge of the precipice (Mount York) and discovered to their great satisfaction that what they had considered sandy and barren land below the mountains to be forest land…"

Hand chipped rock on Cox's Road, Mt York

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"...a road must be made to get off the mountain"

—William Cox' diary November 2, 1814

Continued from page 19

Saturday May 29, 1813

"They fetched up the horses and began to descend the mountain at 7 O'clock through a pass in the rocks about thirty feet wide they had discovered the day before … going down they were forced to unload the horses part of the way and carry their loads themselves as they could but just keep their footing without a load… where a road for a cart might easily be made by cutting a trench slanting along the side of the mountain in the earth which lays against it and which at this place joins the earth on the top ….."

William Cox - November 2, 1814

"Sent three men again to examine the descent of the mountain, and ascertained that there is no other way but from the bluff originally marked. Tomorrow I intend going to survey it, as a road must be made to get off the mountain."

November 3, 1814

"At 6 this morning went forward with Lewis, Tye, and a soldier to examine the mountain at the end of the ridge – four miles. Found it much worse than I expected. It commences with going down steep between immense large bounders, when it opens with a very steep gulley in front, and towards the left it falls off so steep that it is with much difficulty a person can get down at all. The whole front of the mountain is covered with loose rock, at least two-thirds of the way down; and on the right and left it is bounded both by steep gullies and rocks, so that we cannot, by winding short to the left, get half length sufficient to gain ground to get down without a number of circular turns both to the right and left, and in that case the hill is so very steep about half-a-mile down that it is not possible to make a good road to go down and up again without going to a very great expense. I have, therefore, made up my mind to make such a road as a cart can go down empty or with a very light load without a possibility of its being able to return with any sort of load whatever; and such a road will also answer to drive stock down to the forest ground."

Upper reaches of Cox's Road, Mt York

Cox's Pasf [Pass] ca. 1815-1816 by John William Lewin
Mitchell Library State Library of NSW – PXE 888/6

November 14, 1814

"Got on erecting the bridge at the beginning of the descent off the mountain, and blowing up the rocks that are in the line of our intended road down to the forest. Find it difficult work, and it will cost us much labour."

November 18, 1814

"Hard at work on the rocks this day. Kept our six pickaxes at work; and W. Appledon (a sailor) fixed the blocks and tackle to trees, and got a most capital purchase to turn out an immense large rock at the side of the mountain in the way of our road, which he performed well. Two men received slight hurts in doing it by one of the purchases slipping (J. Tindall and T. Adams)."

November 22, 1814

"Thick, moist morning. The sick list reduced to one (S. Davis). All hands again on the mountain. Light rain and heavy fogs during the day, but the men continued out and did a good day's work. Turned out a great number of very large rocks this day; blew up one. The ground as we dig discovers many more rocks than we expected."

November 26, 1814

"Issued to all hands one pair of trousers each. The stone on the mountain is uncommon hard, and flinty. Cuts extremely bad, and some of it will not split. We have been fortunate in turning out very large solid rocks 2 ft. thick without breaking them, and we have used by little powder this week."

Governor Lachlan Macquarie - April 1815

"The road continues ….. on the ridge of the mountain ….. and there it suddenly terminates in a nearly perpendicular precipice of 676 feet high, ascertained by measurement. The road constructed by Mr Cox down this rugged and tremendous descent, through all its windings is no less than 3-fourths of a mile in length, and has been executed with such skill and stability as reflects much credit on him. The labour here undergone, and the difficulties surmounted, can only be appreciated by those who view this scene.

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Cox's Road

Continued from page 20

In order to perpetuate the memory of Mr Cox's services, the Governor deemed it a tribute justly due to him, to give his name to this grand and extraordinary Pass; and he accordingly called it 'Cox's Pass'."

Major Henry Colden Antill (in company of His Excellency Governor and Mrs Macquarie) **- April 29, 1815**

"About 11 o'clock, at the 49-mile tree, we came to the pass down the mountain into the new country below, which could be seen to great advantage from the projecting rock on the left just before descending the pass …. The pass had been made with great labour down a very steep mountain of upwards of six hundred feet, and the way the road is made traversing the face of it makes it nearly a mile long; it was with much difficulty and exertion we got carts down by fixing drag-ropes behind and holding on with the people; it was so perpendicular in places that the cattle could scarcely keep their footing …. This pass was likewise named Cox's Pass, in compliment to the gentleman who had superintended making the road and pass ……. a piece of work which certainly reflects great credit on his exertions and perseverance."

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George Caley (1770-1829), R Else-Mitchell.

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Caley's Repulse: Cultural Incompatibility & Historical Myth Making (unpublished essay), Anastasia Dalitz 2009.

Tracks into History, NP&WS *(Smith)* 2006.

BMCC Mount York Reserve Draft Plan of Management (POM) 2008

The final precincts in this article covering Mt Blaxland precint and the Fish River and beyond will be published in the March-April edition of *HERITAGE*

Members of BMACHO executive were invited to attend the meeting between the NSW Minister for Heritage and Paragon lessee Robyn Parker. Pictured left to right are Jan Koperberg, John Leary OAM, Ian Jack, Robyn Parker and Pamela Smith

BMACHO supports move to set up regional educational and research Foundation

BMACHO supports the formation of a Western Crossings Foundation and will hold a workshop in an endeavour to form a Western Crossings Foundation committee.

A planning meeting to organise the workshop will be conducted at Everglades on January 18.

Dr David Blaxland a descendant of the explorer Gregory has proposed the setting up of the Western Crossings Foundation (or Trust) as a permanent body for education and research concerning the natural environment and human development of the region.

The proposal could lead to increased employment opportunities in the fields of education, care of the environment, tourism and research.

Dr Blaxland a medical practioner living in Wagga Wagga has pastoral interests with a farm employing environmental practices at Warrnambool, Victoria.

"There would be a potentially immeasurable contribution to the canon of historical knowledge of the region.

"This could be a valuable bicentennial legacy to future members of the local community," he said.

Dr Blaxland has suggested that the objectives of the foundation might be:

1. To facilitate and promote education and research concerning the natural history and human development of the region;

2. Through the above, to foster understanding and co-operation between local communities and groups of people; and

3. To make results of this work available for promotion of the region to visitors.

The work of the trust would also contribute to the historical knowledge of the region.

The outgoing chairman of WCC, Professor David Carment has suggested the establishment of links with one or more tertiary educational insitutes such as the University of Western Sydney or Charles Sturt University and local TAFE colleges.

A LONG MARCH FROM LITHGOW

REMEMBRANCE Day 2012 was an appropriate day for the launch by Lithgow & District Family History Society of its War Hero project.

Held at Club Lithgow the event with around 140 people attending was a very successful launch with the Federal Member for Calare, John Cobb speaking on the importance of remembering Australia diggers before officially launching it and congratulating the society for its initiative in taking on the project.

Lithgow mayor, Maree Statham also spoke on the importance of such a project and wished the society all the best for the publishing of the book in 2014.

War Hero project convenor Helen Taylor outlined the criteria for the project saying that a certain amount of the records will be on permanent display on the library's shelves but the full content will be available on computer.

Helen then announced the title of the book which will be launched on Remembrance Day 2014 to be *A Long March From Lithgow.*

A very large display of memorabilia including firearms, a trench telescope, kit bags, medals, photographs, flags and much more were viewed by guests.

Joe Elkusch from Springwood RSL Sub Branch then spoke on the Japanese submarine attack on Sydney Harbour and had the audience totally captivated.

This was then followed by a quite emotional DVD presentation covering the Boer War, WW1 and WW2. It featured many who were present along with their fathers, uncles and grandfathers.

The slide presentation also featured music by country music singer Darren Coggan from his *War Stories* CD.

Helen Taylor has said anyone who has a war veteran, man or woman who served their country either overseas or on the home front the Lithgow Family History Society would be pleased if they could contact the society.

The content for the book will be restricted to local areas and the society may be contacted for more information concerning the areas to be included, at the society's library at the corner of Tank and Donald Street Lithgow, telephone (02) 63 531 089 on Tuesday nights from 6pm – 9 pm or Fridays from 10am – 4pm and the 1st Saturday each month from 10am – 4.pm

Contributed by Helen Taylor

Pictured at right is a leather coated cannister probably used to carry hot food in the trenches in World War 1 owned by WW1 6th Light Horse Regt soldier Walter Barker.

Pictured below is a framed montage of NX178842 Corporal William Thomas Martin who served with 55/53 Australian Infantry Battalion including medals, discharge certificate, colour patches and Japanese occupation money

L to r Bob and HelenTaylor with Danny Whitty OAM members of the Lithgow Family History Society at the launch of the War Hero project

Workmen discover early kitchen at Eskbank House

By Wendy Hawkes - cultural officer, Lithgow City Council

IN MANY houses the kitchen is the heart of the home and at Eskbank House workmen recently rediscovered the heart of this 1840s heritage property, with the revealing of an original kitchen flagstone floor under the Masonite workroom floor.

The flagstones were discovered during the installation of a new heating system in December 2011.

Everything was put on hold while a heritage architect supervised several access holes being cut into the flooring to determine the extent of the flagstones and to give recommendations on how to proceed.

The flooring was then removed revealing an area of flagstones (with a small area of bricks) and raising a million questions and mysteries.

While the flagstone were undoubtedly the most exciting discovery, the removed flooring, fireplace and what was discovered between the floor layers all had stories to tell as well.

There were several layers to the flooring that was removed and each told a tale about the different lives of Eskbank House.

The flagstones are thought to date from 1866 – 1875, when the wings were added to the original 1840s house.

Eskbank House circa 1878 which indicates a flue on the roof.

In the 1920s the courtyard between the wings was enclosed and a floor added and this is likely when the cypress tongue and groove floorboards were placed over the flagstones to keep the damp and cold out.

The next layer of flooring was linoleum attached to a base Masonite layer and was probably laid over the floor boards during its time as a rental property, perhaps even when it was used as a boarding house for the Small Arms Factory workers during World War 2.

The final layer of flooring was a Masonite layer with a red paint finish.

It is probable this was placed over the rest of the layers by the Lithgow District History Society after 1948 (Integrated Design, 2011).

It is amazing to see the story of Eskbank House, from a genteel wealthy residence through to a museum, told in the layers of flooring.

The fireplace also changed over time and some of these changes were revealed when the flooring was removed.

The original fireplace appears to have had a rectangular shape with the location of the former kitchen fit out (1920s – 1970s) visible in wall fittings and skirting cutouts.

An 1878 photograph of the house from the outside shows the presence of a flue on the roof and indicates a cast iron combustion stove may have been set in this fireplace.

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Lithgow City Council workmen, Al and Terry holding an old coin and brass hinge they found under flooring at Eskbank House

A fireplace which has cooked the meals for Lithgow wealthiest citizens through to factory workers

Continued from page 23

The fire place was changed to a brick arch at some stage and this is still visible in the current fireplace.

During the time the house was run by the Lithgow District Family History Society a prefabricated cement slab was laid over bricks, over the flagstones.

Gas was also fitted in the fireplace and the gas fixture is still visible.

This fireplace has cooked the meals for Lithgow wealthiest citizens through to factory workers and even museum caretakers. What yarns it could tell!

Another small mystery in the kitchen is an area to the right of the fireplace where the flagstone has been replaced by bricks and the render on the wall is marked.

Those who are associated with the property have all speculated on what this might have been; a platform for a copper (but they were usually in the laundry) or a space for a cupboard are the most common suggestions, but it still is really not known.

Other finds that intrigued viewers were the objects that had fallen between the cracks and lodged under the floor boards.

A penny dated 1911, newspapers dated 1997, pencil stubs, pieces of tiles, nails and plant roots have all been found.

But the most exciting item was a Marvel comic which had been pulled under the floor boards by a mouse and torn up to make a nest in the hollow between the fireplaces flagstone and the floorboards.

There was even a mummified mouse itself which has been kept for the record.

At the beginning of the year the flagstone floor was completely excavated with decking placed over a third of it so that visitors could view it without damaging it.

Flagstone floor and fireplace discovered during work at Eskbank House. Brick section of flooring on the right side of the fireplace

It is proposed to install a recreated 1870s kitchen using objects already in the museum's collection, but staff are taking their time doing this as they want to get it right.

In the meantime, visitors are invited to spend some time gazing at this discovery and imagining and speculating on all that must have gone on there over the years.

'Keeping volunteers interested'

VOLUNTEERS are the life blood of societies affiliated with BMACHO and most societies have difficulty in recruiting and keeping members interested.

To share ideas and discuss the issue BMACHO will hold a "Getting the people you need" seminar later this year.

All societies rely heavily on the hard work and commitment of the people who make up the committee and on the people who volunteer in every facet of an organisation from research, and marketing to manning exhibits in museum through to washing up after a meeting or activity.

Getting people involved in an organisation is a challenge for most societies, large or small.

Attracting younger people, in particular, who are willing to take up the reins from those who have been keeping the group going over many years is also a challenge.

The workshop's theme will be about creating an environment that attracts, develops and retains people who are willing to continually improve the society.

The workshop will look at how societies can work more effectively with people; how to help people get the skills needed; to sort out difficult situations; and how to demonstrate appreciation of each volunteer's effort.

Committees function most effectively when members have a broad mix of backgrounds, skills and experiences.

The sustainability of societies in the long term is dependent on continually recruiting, and developing interested and willing contributors.

The workshop will look at all these and other issues.

Western crossing commemoration 2013-15

great ideas - thoughts - just being talked about or it's really going to happen!

Pioneer walk to Mt York being planned

Marcia Osterberg has advised that Mt Victoria & District Historical Society will coordinate the Pioneer Walk to Mt York on May 28.

Vintage cars will be used to transport elderly and those unable to walk the distance. Descendants of pioneers who wish to participate in the walk must register on the website www.bluemountains crossings.com.au

Marcia said that it was also hoped to include in the Western Crossing program, the Great Train weekend, a popular annual event at Mt Victoria which this year will be held on May, 25-26.

Back to St Bart's Day

Blacktown City Council has a yearly event, Back to St Barts Day.

Blacktown City Council's community events manager, Peter Filmer has said, this year the event to be held on April 27, and will be part of the Western Crossing program.

St Bartholomew. constructed in 1841, is the oldest building in Blacktown and where the grave of William Lawson i s located in the church's graveyard.

Restoration to this grave site has been commenced and it is the intention to unveil a plaque in recognition of the 200th anniversary of the crossing.

Katoomba rifle shoot

Katoomba Rifle Club will conduct a bicentenary shoot at Leura on April 28.

A number of rifle clubs are expected to participate.

Wiradjuri people

Wiradjuri people have agreed to meet with Hartley District Progress Association to discuss their involvement in local activities including the consequences of the stolen generation.

New schools kit

Chair of the Wetern Crossings committee, Dr Anne-Maree Whitaker has advised that the National Museum has produced a new schools kit on the Blue Mountains crossing in the *Australian History Mystery* series, which ties in with the Year 9 history curriculum.

Holey dollar

Bruce Ferrier has advised that the first proofs of the holey dollar and dump "look fantastic."

Probably 30,000 of these coins will be produced with 18,000 given to schoolchildren at the beginning of second term 2013.

Tthe coins at $10 will be marketed through two barrack vans which will be stationed around the mountains.

One of the vans is an 'approximate' reproduction, but its history is more related to the vehicles used on the convict built Great Northern Road.

The public will be able to buy memorabillia photographs of themselves chained with convicts in the seconfd van.

A notice will advise that the vans are not accurate reproductions.

George Evans to be honoured

Surveyor, George William Evans has been nominated for a posthumous award for his contribution to the work on the road across the Blue Mountains.

Hawkesbury City Council's mayor, Kim Ford has advised that Evans' name will be added to the honour board at Windsor during the Australia Day 2013 luncheon.

Trust members to walk Cox's Road

National Trust members will participate in a walk on the Linden-Woodford section of Cox's Road on June 1.

Flyover of crossings route

A flyover of the Blue Mountains, Lithgow and Bathurst is being planned as part of the activities marking the bicentenary of Blaxland, Lawson and Wentworth's Blue Mountains crossing.

Organisers hope everything from helicopters to small private fixed wing aircraft to World War 2 fighters and modern day military jets will take part in the event on May 25.

They are working with the RAAF for their assistance with resources such as staging areas and aircraft participation.

Once airborne, pilots will follow a similar path to that blazed by the three explorers in 1813, with viewing areas planned for Penrith, Glenbrook, Springwood, Hazelbrook, Wentworth Falls, Katoomba, Blackheath, Mt York, Lithgow and Bathurst.

Former RAAF Wing Commander Matt Hall, Australia's leading aerobatic display pilot, is coordinating the event on behalf of Business Supporting the Bicentenary (BSB) and Blue Mountains Lithgow and Oberon Tourism (BMLOT)

BSB director Philip Hammon of Scenic World came up with the idea of a flyover to enable thousands of people to view the event and celebrate the bicentenary of their local communities.

"A flyover is something that demonstrates just how far we have come in the last 200 years since Blaxland, Lawson and Wentworth made their historic journey, said Mr Hammon.

For more information about the Crossings Bicentenary, visit www.bluemountainscrossings.com.au

Blue Mountains Gazette

For more information about Western Crossing events contact: www.bluemountains crossings.com.au

A tetradrachma from Thrace (323-281BC)

THE practice of putting royal portraits on coins began after the death of Alexander the Great. This coin (pictured) is from Thrace, one of the ancient regions he conquered

It shows Alexander the Great in profile with ram's head horns associated with the god of Amon.

Nearly every state conquered by Alexander started to mint coins with his face according to Dr Anna Trofimova.[1] It spread his image over vast distances.

This coin is one of more than 400 items ranging from coins and jewellery to weapons and armour, frescos and statues.

Underpinning this extraordinary display is a thesis or rather several.

It seeks to explain how Alexander transformed the world through military conquest, spreading Greek culture and art. – Hellenism – from the shores of the Mediterranean to the deserts of central Asia and the borders of India

In the process Alexander the man became Alexander the myth; a deity to some, a tyrant to others.

His image, real, imagined and invented was stamped on coins and in the faces of statues and idols, pervading cultures and creeds.

Dr Trofimova claims that Alexander was very sexy. He was brave, died young and believed in his glory.

The real Alexander is as fascinating as the myth. A master tactician, the Macedonian king who conquered the world in the 4th century BC.

He displayed gtreat humanity to the people he conquered. But he had a dark side too:an incandescent temper and a love of drink.

No discussion of Alexander can ignore the question of his sexuality. His lifelong companion was Hephaestion, a childhood friend and lieutenant. Some scholars believe they were lovers.

The debate is complicated by the sexual mores and social mores of the era.

The exhibition which opened last November runs until to April 28

Footnote

[1] Trofimova, Dr Anna of the Hermitage Museum in St Petersburg is curator *of Alexander the Great: 200O Years of Treasures* on exhibition at the Australian Museum.

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

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THE ORGANISATION Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 following a unanimous response to a proposal from Professor Barrie Reynolds at the 2004 Blue Mountains Local History Conference which sought from Blue Mountains City Council the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the city.
BMACHO in its constitution uses the definition: "Cultural heritage is all aspects of life of the peoples of the Blue Mountains which was later changed to cover Lithgow and the villages along the Bell's Line of Roads. It therefore involves the recording, preserving and interpreting of information in whatever form: documents, objects, recorded memories as well as buildings and sites."
The objectives of the organisation are:

i. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage.

ii. To encourage and assist cultural heritage activities of member organisations.

iii. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations. One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact, to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

AFFILIATIONS BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society Inc.

HERITAGE BMACHO's official newsletter is edited by John Leary, OAM.
***Blue Mountains History Journa*l** is edited by Dr Peter Rickwood.

MEMBERSHIP The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mount Tomah, Blue Mountains City Library, Blue Mountains Cultural Heritage Centre, Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc., Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc., Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute, Eskbank Rail Heritage Centre, Everglades Historic House & Gardens, Friends of Norman Lindsay Gallery, Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc., Hartley Valley District Progress Association, Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc, Lithgow and District Family History Society Inc., Lithgow Mining Museum Inc., Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies, Lithgow Small Arms Factory Museum Inc, Mt Victoria and District Historical Society Inc., Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine History Society Inc. (including Turkish Bath Museum), Mudgee Historical Society Inc., Mudgee Regional Library, National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Blue Mountains Branch, National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Lithgow Branch, Scenic World – Blue Mountains Limited, Springwood & District Historical Society Inc., Springwood Historians Inc., Transport Signal and Communication Museum Inc., The Darnell Collection Pty Ltd, Valley Heights Locomotive Depot and Museum, Woodford Academy Management Committee, Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd. The following are individual members: Ray Christison, Associate Professor Ian Jack, Joan Kent, John Leary OAM, John Low OAM, Ian Milliss, Patsy Moppett, Professor Barrie Reynolds, Dr Peter Rickwood and Dr Peter Stanbury OAM.

COMMITTEE The committee for 2012-13 is: Pamela Smith (president), Ian Jack (vice president), Jan Koperberg (secretary), Judy Barham, Joan Kent, Doug Knowles, John Leary, Dick Morony (public officer), and Scott Pollock.

DISCLAIMER Views and opinions expressed in ***HERITAGE*** originate from many sources and contributors. Every effort is taken to ensure accuracy of material. Content does not necessarily represent or reflect the views and opinions of BMACHO, its committee or members. If errors are found feedback is most welcome.

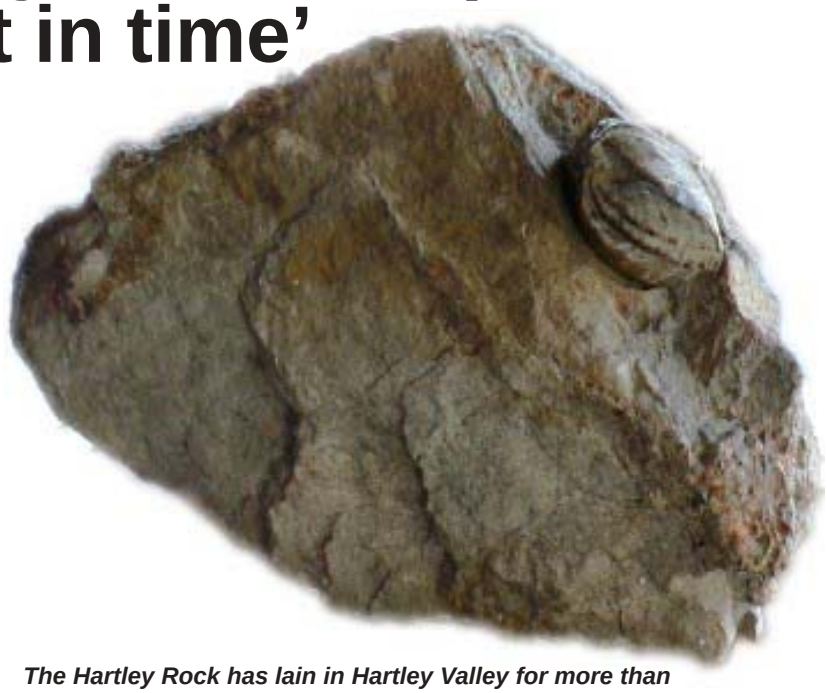
HERITAGE

NEWSLETTER OF THE BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

MARCH - APRIL ISSUE No. 26

The Hartley Rock, the pivot for 'A moment in time'

By Joan Kent BAHons. Macquarie University, MSocSc.Ind.Archaeology, Birmingham University



The Hartley Rock has lain in Hartley Valley for more than 300 million years. Image: John Leary, OAM.

THE ACTIVITIES associated with the commemoration of the two hundredth anniversary of the European crossing of the Blue Mountains have generated a reappraisal of this 'historic' event.

The images exhibition, 'A Moment in Time' to be presented by the Hartley District Progress Association at the Old Hartley School Hall in May and June this year will contribute to this reassessment.

In terms of European settlement over the last 200 years 'the Crossing' certainly is significant, as it is for the Aboriginal peoples upon whom this expedition had such a profound impact.

However, it also focusses our attention on the vast period of time over which the 'New Country' is represented geologically.

For that reason the Hartley Rock is the pivot of the exhibition for *'To see tomorrow, you must first know yesterday.*'

'The Hartley Rock has lain in the Hartley Valley *substrata* for over three hundred million years; a fossilised *brachiopod* nestled in a cavity of the bedrock, smaller shell fossils embedded in the surface.'

The history of the Hartley Valley can be traced far beyond the upheaval when the Australian continent – then part of the great southern supercontinent of Gondwana which comprised all the major southern landmasses – finally severed its last links with Antarctica 45 million years ago.

In ancient times the landscape which now surrounds the valley of the Cox was a vast plain which over ten to fifteen million years was gradually invaded by the sea – at a rate of 7 millimetres per year! An uplift which created the Blue Mountains, including the valley of the Cox, occurred between ninety and sixty million years ago – at an estimated rate of 2.5cms per century.

This ancient rock and its' embedded fossils were formed in an even earlier period of the planet's evolution, the Devonian period, now revealed after 300 hundred million years of oblivion.

It is appropriate that the Hartley Rock is the witness to both Aboriginal habitation over many thousands of years and the recent overlay of European settlement.

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The separate fossilised brachiopod which nestles in a cavity in The Hartley Rock'. Images: Nigel Ryan.

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An opinion from the editor.....

Two centuries on we commemorate the Western Crossings

In the run up to the events from 2013 to 2015 which will commemorate and celebrate the achievements of the crossing of the Blue Mountains by the party led by the three explorers, Blaxland, Wentworth and Lawson, the subsequent surveying of the route by Evans from Emu Plains to what would become the City of Bathurst, the extraordinary feat of the convict party under the supervision of Cox in building a road to open up the golden west and the journey along this road to proclaim the site for the township of Bathurst; we perhaps need to pause to reflect on what effect this would have in lifting the colony of NSW into the great nation and economic wonder of today.

Not in the wildest dreams of Lachlan Macquarie or his masters back in London could there have been perception of a future nation of the dimension of Australia, which 200 years later stands, with a status based on most indicators of human wellbeing, democracy, social, industrial, political and economic achievements, among the top in the world.

Without the events of 1813-15, although it may in the long-run have prospered, it is likely that had not the golden west been opened up, the fledgling colony, with its small population, largely centred on Sydney Cove with some expansion north, south and to the west as far as Parramatta would have perished and been abandoned.

Those who came to the colony in its first 30 years including some, erroneously classed as felons because of minor misdemeanours or indiscretions, became the true pioneers and foundation stock of this now great nation. Of course, others were to follow in the next two hundred years including those of the last 50 years who have contributed to our now multicultural society.

Continuing the policy of promoting the research and recording of the region's cultural heritage, in the pages of this edition of *HERITAGE* are stories of some of these early pioneers and their achievements, as well as reports on the activities associated with the commemoration of this significant event in Australian history.

Among these reports is welcome news of the state government's recognition of the work of a small army of volunteers in the region's heritage sector; firstly through an amount of $80,000 to be distributed through the Royal Australian Historical Society and secondly through Lithgow City Council to the Cox's Road Project Committee a grant of $20,000.

One of the groups to benefit from the government's support is BMACHO which will receive up to $5,000 to be used for legal administrative costs of setting up a philanthropic foundation for research and education in the region, first proposed by Dr David Blaxland a direct descendant of the explorer, Gregory Blaxland.

While there will always be need for celebratory activities which in their own right through tourism bring benefit to the region, it is important there be some lasting benefit to the community with commemorative activity such as the proposed Western Crossings Foundation.

Finally, the front page article about the Hartley Rock brings starkly into contrast the 200 years of human achievements related to the western crossings and the existence of that 300 million years-old piece of geological mass, reminding us our achievements are but a blink of an eyelid in the evolution of the universe.

John Leary, OAM -
Past president, Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc.

Hartley rock linked with Bonnie Blink

Continued from page 1

Much attention is paid to the crossing of the Blue Mountains but it must be remembered that it is the story of the descent of Mt York on May 29, 1813 and the subsequent utilisation of the country beyond which is of lasting significance for regional and national history.

The development of the Hartley Valley played a vital role in this process, initially as a place for resting and provisioning weary travellers and settlers to the New Country, prompting the erection of a number of inns and small businesses, but also as a coaching depot and the first agricultural and pastoral activities west of the Mountains.

A large number of these buildings remain, centred in the Hartley Historic Site but the history of the Valley and the early western expansion is also illustrated by the inns and domestic dwellings which mark the route of the 'new' Great Western Road from the 1830s.

Even earlier are the inns in Hartley Vale on the original alignment of Cox's Road – Collit's Inn (1823) and the Comet Inn (1879) from the shale mining period.

Another icon with a strong link to 'the Hartley Rock' is *Bonnie Blink* (believed to mean happy face or smile) – our rock was discovered by Mrs Pat Connell in the grounds of *Bonnie Blink* some ten years ago, as a result of ploughing. The 80 acre property was granted to Hugh Brady in 1854.

Here it is believed he built the original house with an associated school, run by his sister. This house had been demolished by late 1884 but the school building remained intact until demolished in 1996.

The property passed through several hands between 1876 and 1884, including for a short period the Anthony Hordern family. It is believed that the Horderns continued their practice of planting an English oak tree (which survives and flourishes) at Hartley in keeping with their trademark 'While I live I'll grow'.

In 1884 the property was purchased by the colourful and prolific colonial architect Charles Henry Edmund Blackmann, who was then in partnership with Varney Parkes (son of Sir Henry Parkes) and the renowned John Sulman in a prominent Sydney architectural practice.

Bonnie Blink where the Hartley rock was discovered.

It was Blackmann who constructed the French provincial style country villa, possibly on the foundations of the earlier building.

This surviving 1884 building was built of local sandstone which Blackmann found on the property, reputedly left after plans for a nearby church were abandoned.

The iron gate at the front of the house bears his initials 'CHEB' as proof of his ownership although it may well have been a speculative project as it was sold in 1886.

Again there were a series of new owners of short duration until 1903 when the properties came into the ownership of the McKillop family, cousins of the beatified Mother Mary McKillop.

In 1916 *Bonnie Blink* was purchased by Oliver Alexander Baaner and has remained in the Baaner family, OA Banner's granddaughter, Mrs Pat Connell being the present owner.

Mrs Connell was responsible for extensive renovations with the advice of heritage architect Christo Aitken during the early 2000s.

Now restored to much of its' former glory and set in beautiful gardens complete with the Horden oak tree, the 'Bonnie Blink' building is approaching its' 130th anniversary, treasured by the Baaner/Connell family and the Little Hartley community.

This year of 2013 is an appropriate vantage point from which to view both our ancient and recent past and our future – being aware of our past will better equip us to decide our future.

The contributions of Mrs Pat Connell in the preparation of this article are gratefully acknowledged.

THE AUTHOR

The author of this article, Joan Kent (pictured) is curator of the exhibition *A Moment in Time* reflecting on the earliest history of the Hartley Valley and the consequences of the western crossing.

Joan is a an indivual member of BMACHO and its former treasurer. She is involved in numerous other community activities and with her husband Tom runs an alphaca farm at Kanimbla.

Gregory Blaxland's wine medals

By David Blaxland

FEW PEOPLE realise that Gregory Blaxland won the first medals overseas for Australian wines.

The first vines in the colony were grown from cuttings that arrived with the first fleet in 1788 on board the *Lady Penrhyn.* These were obtained at Rio de Janiero and Capetown, and are thought to have been planted in Sydney Cove.

Unfortunately the vines died due to the disease anthracnose('black spot' or 'blight').

Several later plantings were established including those at Rose Hill, Camden Park and Norfolk Island.

Gregory Blaxland, his wife Elizabeth and their three children left England on September 1, 1805, above decks on the *William Pitt,* a transport carrying 121 prisoners, all except one being female. This was the only convict transport to participate in an overseas expedition, sailing as part of a fleet intended for the reduction of the Dutch settlements at the Cape of Good Hope.

After the longest passage from England of any female transport between 1801 and 1820 the *William Pitt* arrived at Sydney Cove on April 11, 1806, bringing the news of the battle of Trafalgar to the colony, as

The silver and gold medals won in London for wines produced by Gregory Blaxland in NSW.

well as vines that Gregory had procured at the Cape.

These initial vines and shoots suffered from blight, almost certainly due to anthracnose.

However, with experimentation he found a variety of grape which appeared resistant to this disease.

This variety, Black Constantia, had probably been brought from the Cape with the first fleet, and was the variety of grape first planted at Brush Farm, his 185 hectare property in present day Eastwood.

Several years later he planted two new varieties he thought to be Claret, but which were probably Pinot Noir and Pinot Meunier.

The Royal Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufacturers & Commerce offered a medal for 'the finest wine of not less than 20 gallons of good marketable quality made from the produce of vineyards in New South Wales'.[1]

Gregory sailed for London from Sydney Cove on the *Royal George* on March 19, 1822 with 86 gallons of wine in two casks. He submitted a quarter of a pipe (26 ¼ gallons) for judging, and sent a letter dated February 12, 1823 to the Secretary of the Royal Society, in which he stated that 'the red wine got too much heated in the fermenting tun before I was aware of it and the white wine has flavour of rum from being put in a cask which had that liquor in it some time before the wine was put in.'[2]

He was awarded a silver medal, the judges' comments being: On examination by the committee it appeared to be a light but sound wine with much of the odour and flavour of ordinary Claret, or rather holding an intermediate place between that wine and the red wine of Nice. The general opinion seems to be that although the present sample, from the expertness of the manufacturer and the youth of the vine, is by no means of superior quality, yet it affords a reasonable ground of expectation that by care and time it may become a valuable article of export [3].

After returning to Sydney, Gregory continued experimenting with wine making. Several years later, on being selected to travel to London with a petition concerning civil rights and taxation, he took the opportunity to take samples of his wine to enter for the 1828 awards of the Society.

Continued page 5

About the author David Blaxland

Dr David Blaxland is a direct descendant of of Gregory Blaxland and the prime mover in the establishment of the Western Crossings Foundation. He is acknowledged as a "Blaxland-ophile" having extensively researched the Blaxland family.

He has been a general pathologist since 1987 working initially in northern Tasmania, then south west Victoria and southern NSW having previously practised as a GP. Based at Wagga Wagga David is the regional pathologist for a large medical service in the Riverina area He is a general pathologist with a special interest in histopathology, haematology, and medical undergraduate education.

Although a full time medical practitioner he also finds time for his farm at Warnambool where he employs the best environment methods including the use of native grasses for stock feed. He is also a breeder of Clydesdale horses.

Businessman's move on explorers' busts

AT THE CEREMONY to unveil the statue of Governor Lachlan Macquarie in Hyde Park earlier in the year the sculptor, Terrance Plowright also unveiled three models he described as "roughies' of busts of explorers Blaxland, Wentworth and Lawson.

Commissioned and funded by Businesses Supporting Bicentenary (BSB) member Tom Colless, it is hoped local fund raising over coming months will ensure the bronze busts of each explorer will be installed in the Blue Mountains towns named after them. Mr Colless said he hopes to make busts part of a lasting legacy from the upcoming Blue Mountains Crossings Bicentenary events between May 2013 and December 2015.

People who donate to the project can have their names engraved on plaques.

Plaques will identify the first 200 people to support the cost of each of three busts.

Business listings of up to 2 lines will cost $220, private donors $110 for 1 line or $220 for 2 lines.

The great-great-great-great granddaughter of Gregory Blaxland who also attended the Hyde Park, Sydney launch was impressed with the designs.

"He (sculptor Terrance Plowright) has made him (Blaxland) look very handsome, even more than Wentworth and Lawson, I think," she said.

To find out more about the project, visit
www.bluemountainscrossings.com.au

BMACHO AGM

Saturday, March 23 2013

Blue Mountains Cultural Centre, Katoomba

For details see page 6

Wentworth Falls sculptor Terrance Plowright (centre) and Business Supporting Bicentenary members Philip Hammon and Tom Colless beside Mr Plowright's designs for bronze busts of the three explorers.

Blaxland's wine medals on loan to Mitchell Library

Continued from page 4

This wine was probably made from his Pinot Noir and Pinot Meunier grapes.

So in February 1827 he departed from Sydney with three half pipes of wine from his vineyard, fortified with 10% French brandy to withstand the voyage.

He subsequently won the Gold Ceres Medal, the committee commenting that the wine was wholly free from the earthy flavour that unhappily characterised most of the Cape wines. The colour of the wine was a tawny red.[4]

The large silver medal awarded in 1823 measures 5.2cm in diameter, and the smaller gold medal of 1828 is 4.0cm in diameter.

Fortunately, even though ownership of the medals was retained by the Blaxland family, in 1911 the Trustees of the Mitchell Library agreed to hold both medals for safe custody.

Acknowledgements
My cousin Chris Blaxland for allowing access to a letter dated November 21, 1911 from Fred Blaxland, solicitor of Cooma, to his cousin Charlie, our great grandfather, relating the circumstances under which the medals were placed in the Mitchell Library.

The Mitchell Library, for permission to photograph the medals.

Ron Buttrey whose research for and writing of *A Short History of the Life of Gregory Blaxland* provided me with an invaluable source which forms the basis of much of the material in the article I have written for *HERITAGE*.

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Excerpts for this article have been taken from the following books:
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Specific sources as recorded in *A Short History of the Life of Gregory Blaxland:*
[1] Houison, JKS 'John and Gregory Blaxland, *JRAHS, Vol.22,* 29 October 1935, p 1.
[2] *Sydney Gazette,* 12th August 1824.
[3] *Transactions of the Royal Society of the Arts, Vol.41* (1623-4) pp 285-89.
[4] *Transactions of the Society of the Arts, Vol. 46 op cit,* pp 134-135.

COX'S ROAD HERITAGE SIGNAGE PROJECT GETS $20,000 GRANT

ROADS MINISTER Duncan Gay and Member for Bathurst Paul Toole have announced the NSW government will provide $20,000 to the Lithgow City Council for road signs along Coxs Road in commemoration of the bicentenary of the crossing of the Blue Mountains.

"Coxs Road was the first road from Sydney to Bathurst, built by William Cox at the instruction of Governor Macquarie in 1814," Mr Gay said.

"It was named and proclaimed by Governor Macquarie on April 25, 1815 after he travelled along the road by carriage.

"Cox's Road is a unique example of early road building in NSW. Sections of the original road remain and are of historic significance.

"The funding allocation follows representations by Member for Bathurst Paul Toole.

Paul Toole, MP

"The Coxs Road Project Committee, a volunteer organisation dedicated to mapping, preserving and sharing the story of Coxs Road, will manage the sign project," Mr Gay said.

Mr Toole said the committee will use the funds to install interpretive signs, route alignment signs and route direction signs along Cox's Road.

"The signs will celebrate the 200th anniversary of the building of the road and are expected to become a significant community resource featuring historical, educational, tourism and research information," Mr Toole said

Asked to comment on the grant, convenor of the Cox's Road Project Committee, Patsy Moppett said, the success of Lithgow Council in procuring this funding is excellent news.

"Lithgow can now join with Bathurst and Oberon councils in signposting the route of the Cox's Road route where it passes through those local government area.

"The Cox's Road Project Committee has provided advice in regard to the design and location of the signage, and will continue to act in an advisory role.

"Lithgow will now move to erect the signage as part of the western crossings commemorations activities which will take place over the next 2-3 years, both in Lithgow and in various towns along the Cox's Road route," said MsMoppett

Mayor of Lithgow, Cr Maree Statham said, the Cox's Road played an integral part in the early settlement of the Lithgow area.

"Lithgow City Council is very pleased to be able to join with NSW Government, Oberon and Bathurst Council's in signposting the historic Cox's Road.

"Some parts of the road are still evident today and signage will enable visitors and locals to learn about why this road was so significant and the different journeys that have been made upon it." Cr Statham said

Top librarian to talk about explorer's rare manuscripts

THE MITCHELL Library holds the eye-witness accounts by William Lawson, William Charles Wentworth and Gregory Blaxland of their journey over the Blue Mountains in 1813.

Those by Lawson and Wentworth are in manuscript while that of Blaxland is a rare privately printed volume, published in 1823, of which there are only about 10 extant copies.

All three items were early acquisitions by the Library following its opening in 1910, perhaps indicating the contemporary view of the pivotal nature of this event.

Paul Brunton will speak about these original sources and the mysteries surrounding them at BMACHO's annual general meeting.

The AGM will be held at the Blue Mountains Cultural Centre, Katoomba on Saturday, March 23 commencing at 2pm.

Members of the association are welcome to have any interested person associated with their society to participate in the meeting in addition to one voting delegate.

Those members of the public interested in history and heritage will also be welcome to hear this outstanding speaker.

Paul Brunton is Emeritus Curator, State Library of New South Wales and an Honorary Associate of the School of Philosophical and Historical Inquiry, University of Sydney.

He was Senior Curator, Mitchell Library, State Library of New South Wales, from 2002-2012 and Curator of Manuscripts from 1986 to 2001.

Paul Brunton

Governor unveils sculpture of Lachlan Macquarie

A BRONZE SCULPTURE of Governor Lachlan Macquarie the work of Wentworth Falls sculptor Terrance Plowright has been unveiled in Hyde Park by the Governor of NSW, Professor Marie Bashir, AC CVO.

The statue holds a scroll in its left hand that symbolically contains plans of Sydney Town and from its elevated aspect gazes towards Macquarie Street.

Governor Bashir described the sculpture as outstanding and said, “we commend you (Mr Plowright) warmly on your work”.

Revealing it was Macquarie’s birthday that day (January 31) she said, “the Australia of today, I think would have been a source of great pride to Lachlan Macquarie”.

“I based the sculpture on a painting by Senator Richard Reed, but I also made sure I had my own input into the face, as just (carving) one millimeter here and there can change the character immensely,” Mr Plowright said.

“Governor Macquarie was an incredibly dignified man, he had a strength of character and a face of humility and he was a man of great intelligence — I wanted to show that in the face.”

NSW Premier Barry O’Farrell said, “we see him (Macquarie) with that sense of fair go that we see in this land today.” *Shane Deslatinik Blue Mountains Gazette.*

Pictured are the Governor of NSW, Professor Marie Bashir, with Wentworth Falls sculptor, Terrance Plowright and Lord Mayor of Sydney, Clr Clover Moore at the unveiling of the bronze sculpture of Governor Lachlan Macquarie. Image: Paul Patterson, courtesy of City of Sydney.

Harbour honoured

SYDNEY HARBOUR has officially been recognised as an iconic National Landscape.

The harbour will be the 16th landscape listed and the first that takes in natural and archtectural wonders, along with thousands of years of human history. It joins the Great Barrier Reef, the Kimberley and the Red Centre.

Sydney Harbour’s shimmering saphire waters, sunburnt sandstone headlands, white sand beaches and grey-green iron bushland are legendary.

The harbour holds stories of the Aboriginal dreaming and European settlement, while beneath the waves lives a wealth of marine life, hundreds of fish species, penguins, dolphins and even kelp forests.

Hammerhead crane

NATIONAL TRUST will be commenting on a proposal to remove the historic hammerhead crane at Garden Island which was listed on the National Trust Register in 1996 and listed on the Australian “Our Heritage at Risk” list in 2007.

The Trust will be opposing the removal of this landmark of Sydney’s Working Harbour and has questioned the quoted cost of annual maintenance.

The Trust believes there are options for private funding of the Garden Island hammerhead Ccane restoration and conversion to a major Sydney tourist attraction.

The Clydebank titan crane in Glasgow, has been fully restored and is now promoted as Scotland’s most unique attraction.

Cockatoo ghost

COCKATOO ISLAND in Sydney Harbour housed convicts in the early days of the settlement and has had a long naval history of which much has been written.

Not so well known nor written about is the brutal history of Biloela Industrial and Reformatory School for Girls, a forbidding presence on the harbour island.

Author Yvette Poshogillan has taken two years researching the history of this institution for destitute and wayward girls, for her novel, *Escape from Cockatoo*, writing some of it in the very rooms where girls like those fictional characters of her subject would have lived and worked. Biloela was established in 1871 to deal with ‘street arabs”, a term used to deal with orphans and homeless children.

GEORGE WILLIAM EVANS

'...he created the western road to open up the interior.'

NEW South Wales is about to embark on three years of commemoration of the crossing of the Blue Mountains.

The western road goes across a great watershed and its creation in itself is a watershed, the act which changed Australia from being a small colony along the coastal plain around Sydney Cove to a state coming to grips with an immense inland country for grazing and agriculture, altering the environment and displacing its traditional occupants.

The Great Dividing Range is well named.

There were four well-defined phases in the Western Crossing in Governor Macquarie's time.

First, of course, there were the dauntless three, the self-interested explorers, Lawson, Blaxland and Wentworth, who reached the Hartley Valley, hoping for new grazing lands for their stock.

Then immediately afterwards, at the behest of the government, there was the professional surveying of the ridge-top route.

Next came the road-making itself, done in exemplary fashion by convicts under William Cox, buoyed up by a promise of remission of their sentence when the road was completed

George William Evans nla-pic-vn3509777-v

And finally in 1815 there was the establishment of Bathurst, followed by the first settlements on the Bathurst Plains.

I want to say something about the man who did the all-important surveying and mapping of the route blazed by Blaxland, Wentworth and Lawson.

They had turned back at Hartley Valley, but the surveyor went much further west and created his own route to what became Bathurst.

The surveyor, in short, was also an explorer, the first European to stand on the Bathurst Plains.

George William Evans was a well-educated Englishman, who came to New South Wales via the Cape of Good Hope.

He had eloped to Cape Town in 1798 with a fifteen-year old bride and moved on to Sydney in 1802, where he was soon appointed Acting Surveyor-General while Charles Grimes was in Britain.

Evans's story is not, however, a simple one of colonial success.

He was dismissed for some unspecified fraud in 1805 and went to live on the quite large Hawkesbury farm which he had been granted in trust for his two infant daughters in 1804.

Evans's 519 acres was immediately adjacent to the 200 acres held by the young children of William Cox. This is half-way between Windsor and Richmond: the present Richmond Air Base is just to the south on this map

The association of Evans and Cox did not begin with the planning of the western road, but had begun a decade earlier, with an unexpected intimacy.

Both the Cox and Evans farms were largely rich arable land on the Hawkesbury river flood-plain, with a small strip of high land at the south end, adjacent to the common.

The two farms, looking towards the river with the Blue Mountains evocatively in the distance.

When the rains come in earnest, all that lowland as far as the Blue Mountains can be under water, even today. Cox prudently built his house, Clarendon, on the strip of high land.

Continued page 9

George William Evans is the text of a talk by Associate Professor, R Ian Jack, former president of the Royal Australian Historical Society to members and guests of the society on Australia Day 2013.

Ian is the vice president of BMACHO.

Continued from page 8
Cox extended his original cottage in Macquarie's time, but the core of this house was already there when a big flood hit the Hawkesbury in March 1806.

Evanses rescued from roof top by boat in flood

Evans had unwisely built his house down on the flood-plain and he, his wife and the girls had to be rescued by boat from the top of their roof.

Their first rescuer was a neighbour from the other side of the Hawkesbury, but as the flood waters rose that house too was threatened and the Evanses had to be rescued again.

This time their boatman was William Cox himself who rowed them across the torrent to Clarendon, which was nice and dry, comfortably above the highest flood.

The message was not lost on Evans who at once built a new home for himself on his own high land immediately adjacent to Clarendon.

Unlike Cox, Evans built a two-storey house. And, unlike Clarendon, which fell down a century ago, Evans's house still exists, essentially intact.

It is the oldest two-storey house in Australia. It had the second storey because of the belt and braces approach of Mrs Jennet Evans.

We know this because Jennet wrote a hysterical letter to Governor King about her experiences clinging to the roof ridge during the 1806 flood and the King family kept her letter.

The flood plains below Evans' house. Photograph - Ian Jack 2011.

Cox's Clarendon from south-east c. 1890 Photograph courtesy RAHS

Although the house was built in three phases between 1806 and 1810, each phase was two-storey.

The first, in mid-1806, the second was very soon afterwards, probably late in 1806; while the larger section was added by 1810.

Jennet Evans was unduly cautious. The house has never had any flood-water even on its ground floor and even the cellar has never been flooded.

The house faced away from Clarendon. The frontage faced the common: what this says about Jennet Evans' hang-ups I'm not sure.

William and Rebecca Cox chose to have their front view over the flood-plain.

So George and Jennet lived nice dry lives in their new house as Hawkesbury farmers from 1806 until Governor Macquarie changed their lives.

Macquarie restored Evans to favour as a government surveyor and, along with James Meehan, Evans laid out the sites of the new Hawkesbury towns like Windsor and Richmond in 1810 and 1811.

During his years as a local farmer, Evans had continued to paint: he was a most talented topographical artist and three of his water-colours of the village which became Windsor survive.

The Evanses had social cachet. It is striking that George and Jennet attended the famous dinner party in December 1810 when Macquarie named the new towns, whereas the senior surveyor James Meehan was not invited.

William Cox was present, of course, as the new magistrate for the district.

The dinner party was held in the government cottage.

Evans was sent to Tasmania as surveyor in 1812, but it is striking that Macquarie recalled him to New South Wales in 1813 specifically to lay out a suitable road across the Mountains after the news of Blaxland, Wentworth and Lawson broke.

Evans did not sell the Hawkesbury farm and Jennet, who did not go to Tasmania with him in 1812, was still there in 1813.

So the survey of the western road and its construction were master-minded by the two neighbours Evans and Cox.

Even after George and Jennet finally went together to Tasmania in 1814 and leased the Hawkesbury farm, Evans was again recalled by Macquarie to accompany the governor on the famous trip across the new road in 1815 which culminated in the naming of Bathurst on a site discovered by Evans.

There is a full-size statue of Evans in Bathurst, where he is still appreciated.

Evans was again recalled to New South Wales from Tasmania in 1817 to assist John Oxley in his exploration of the interior and he did many of the illustrations to Oxley's book.

But after Macquarie left Australia, there were no more recalls.

Continued page 10

‘Evans house still intact, a touching testimony to a wife’s hysteria about flood-water’

Continued from page 9 Evans published a justly famous book about the geography, history and topography of Tasmania in 1822 (which was translated into French a few years later).

But Jennet died in Tasmania in 1825 and he resigned his surveyorship.

Though he promptly remarried in Tasmania, Evans returned to England in 1826.

The final stage in the Evans saga was his return to Sydney in 1832 with his wife and five new children.

In Sydney he sold books and stationery and published other people’s books.

He supplemented his income by teaching boys to draw at The King’s School, while his wife Lucy ran a finishing school for young Sydney ladies.

But Lucy went back to Tasmania in 1839 and George finally followed her in 1844.

Lucy died in 1849 and George died in Hobart in poor circumstances three years later.

His career petered out, but Evans should be remembered for his fundamental work in creating the western road and the opening up of the interior, for distinguished exploration, for really important and attractive topographical painting and drawings and for his contribution to Tasmania.

And not least because his Hawkesbury house is still intact, a touching testimony to a wife’s hysteria about flood-water.

Evans’ house 1806 -18110, front view. Photograph by Ian Jack, 1989.

Green Hills, 1809 by George William Evans.

Bathurst, 1815 by John Lewin. Macquarie’s Bengal tent on the site of the township.

LOST IN THE STORY OF THE ‘DAUNTLESS THREE’

When the expedition led by Gregory Blaxland (1778-1853) William Lawson (1774-1850 and William Charles Wentworth (1790-1872) left Blaxland’s South Creek farm on May 11, 1813 in quest of as passage over the Blue Mountains, their departure was noted quietly in a paragraph on page 2 of the Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser several day later. Noting their spirit and determination, the writer also made special mention of their ‘prudentially taking with them four sumpter horses’ (Anonymous 1813). Source: Low, John *Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine Historical Society Historical Paper No 13.*

Community leaders support Western Crossings Foundation

AT A MEETING held at Everglades, in January it was decided to form the Western Crossings Foundation.

At a further meeting at Bathurst earlier this month it was decided that the mission statement would read: To facilitate the study of heritage and consequences of the crossing of the Blue Mountains.

The aims and objectives of the foundation are:

* To facilitate and promote education and research concerning the natural history and human development of the region;

* Through the above, to foster understanding and co-operation between local communities and groups of people; and

* To make results of this work available for promotion of the region to visitors.

Federal member for Macquarie, Louise Markus attending the first meeting of the steering committee said, “A celebration is important for the crossings, but to want to invest in something of a long term basis is quite an exciting proposal.”

Ms Markus suggested a project which could be considered was a mobile education unit to travel the area.

Dr Blaxland suggested another project might be setting up spur lines from the National Trail.

David suggested that the Foundation should target projects not already being funded by government.

Pictured at the meeting at Everglades, Leura to form the Western Crossings Foundation are from left to right, the Mayor of Bathurst Clr Monica Morse, the Member for Macquarie Louise Markus, MP, Dr David Blaxland great great grandson of the explorer Gregory Blaxland, John Leary, OAM former president of Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Jasmin Smith representing the Vice Chancellor, CharlesSturt University (Professor Susan Thomas) and Jan Koperberg secretary BMACHO and former president Blue Mountains Family History Society.

There will need to be broad spectrum funding. The area of embrace from the Cumberland Plain to the Bathurst Plain and include the Hawkesbury area.

The steering committee now comprises: Dr David Blaxland, Dr Ian Jack, the Member for Macquarie Ms Louise Markus, John Leary OAM, the Mayor Bathurst Cr Monica Morse, Ms Jan Koperberg, Jasmin Smith representing the Vice Chancellor of Charles Sturt University (Professor Sue Thomas), former principal Yanco Agricultural High School, Colin Brown, Philip Hammon and Professor David Carment.The University of Western Sydney will also be asked to be represented on the committee.

The steering committee will conduct seminar or workshop at the Imperial Hotel on Sunday, June 23.

The Turkish Bath in Spring

The *Turkish Bath in Spring* a painting by Mt Irvine artist Ray Harrington recently acquired by the Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine Historical Society has now been hung in the Turkish Bath Museum at Mt Wilson.

Source Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine Historical Society Newsletter No 27.

More accolades for *HERITAGE*

From Peter Stanbury OAM PhD, vice chair UMAC - ICOM’S International Committee for University Museums & Collections, Librarian, Australian Society of Anaesthetists: *Really John the newsletter goes from strength to strength - congratulations and thank you for the hours and hours (weeks and months!) of work you put in. I hope this year turns out really well for you and Nanette*

From Dorothy Warwick, Friends of Linnwood, Holroyd Local History Research: *Congratulations on another GREAT issue! I look forward to receiving it every time and forward it on to all members of the Forum of societies we facilitate. Love the article on The Paragon. My husband and I were in Katoomba recently and actually spoke to Robyn about all the issues she is having with the owner of the building. We hope that something can be done to preserve such a brilliant piece of history*.

From Peter Webber: *Many thanks for a stunningly informative and impressive issue.*

From Stella Vernon Campbelltown and Airds Historical Society: *Thanks for the opus Blue Mountains John - I was interested in William Cox.*

Mums, Children & Mustard Gas, The Blue Mountains Goes to War

Joan Edwards – former president Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc. writes a preview of her forthcoming book, *Mums,Children & Mustard Gas, The Blue Mountains goes to War*

The author, Joan Edwards (centre) pctured with State Member for the Blue Mountains Roza Sage and Federal Member for Macquarie Louise Markus. Photograph by Glenis Geldard BMFHS, image courtesy Blue Mountains Gazette.

LIFE WAS CHAOTIC on the Mountains and Lithgow areas once Japan attacked Pearl Harbour.

Never before had the population to deal with so many changes concurrently, almost daily.

The war related industries and the vulnerable road and rail access to the west were prime targets to be defended and all activities were compounded by the rush of evacuating Sydneysiders.

Priority activities ranged from home defence to personal welfare, all impacting greatly on the region's infrastructure and human resources.

The immediate response to the Japanese attack on Hawaii was Katoomba Municipal Council's change of five Leura street names within 48 hours.

The patriotic names remain today: Britain, Winston, Churchill, Franklin and Roosevelt streets in lieu of their original Japanese names given by the late Alfred Ickerso.

Then it was down to more practical matters such as ensuring the public understood what to do, and not to do, in an air raid even how to extinguish incendiary bombs.

The latter was well demonstrated in newsreels of city theatre usherettes in full evening dress and would have been seen by locals 'at the pictures'.

Volunteers dug air raid trenches at local schools and classes practised evacuations, remembered by many as fun rather than of any practical value.

Some families built air raid shelters while others planned refuge in nearby bushland.

Parents and the community generally, protected children from worst case scenarios such as the Japanese chemical weapon atrocities in China.

Yet Glenbrook children were aware of the importance of weapons in Glenbrook tunnel and knew it was not to be mentioned. Similarly children elsewhere were silent about local happenings.

My mother never told me about chemical nasties, but in her VAD first-aid book she had handwritten notes on a variety of poisons including prussic acid and cyanide and even the antidote for opium poisoning. Can't imagine her administering that!

Young people made significant contributions. Young lads with billy carts collected paper, metals and whatever else was required for recycling.

Young teens on bikes were messengers conveying memorised verbal messages and replies. Telephones were not considered safe and messengers would not be carrying vital information if they were captured.

Bike riding in brownouts or blackouts over potholed unsealed roads was challenging but they coped.

Girls, too, contributed with fund raising, sewing and knitting. Even primary school lasses knitted scarves but many, including myself, found seeming never ending scarves too boring.

One Leura lass chose to knit gloves and balaclavas. I chose socks, only navy socks for the air force because I hated khaki. Even picky little girls made valuable contributions. Others made camouflage nets including Ascham girls evacuated to Blackheath.

2013 – 2015 marks the bicentenary of crossing the Blue Mountains: the achievements of Blaxland, Lawson and Wentworth, Evans' survey and Cox's Road. Four thousand AIF troops followed in their footsteps 73 years later of as they marched from Ingleburn to Bathurst in 1940.

Four main contingents of the 7th Division undertook the 12 day march, starting two days apart. Each group spent 8 nights in our area namely at Springwood, Hazelbrook/Lawson, two nights at Katoomba, Blackheath/Mt. Victoria, Lithgow and Wallerawang.

Continued page 13

4000 troops marched across the mountains

Continued from page 12
Many believed it was because there were no trains. Not so.

The 2nd/13th was followed by the 2nd/17th followed by Signals, Field Ambulance, Anti Tank Squadron etc. They were billeted or bivouaced and entertained by locals all the way.

It was designed to harden the troops quickly and test not only men and equipment but catering, the field hospital and other support services so adjustments could be made.

It was a well publicised promotion to convey a sense of readiness, to arouse pride and patriotic fervour and, hopefully, persuade many more to enlist.

Lasting friendships were made between locals and these troops that were renamed the 9th Division

Officers and men of the 2nd/13th Infantry Battalion received a warm welcome as they marched into Katoomba on their way to training camp at Bathurst. Photograph courtesy The Sydney Morning Herald.

Pte Harry Dick led the 2/13th march down Katoomba Street with borrowed "Boris" as mascot. The authoress of this article, Joan Edwards, was a cousin some 20 years younger and she did not know he was involved until given the newspapercutting. Photograph courtesy The Sydney Morning Herald.

en route to North Africa where they served with distinction in many battles and siege of Tobruk. Locally they became "our boys".

These are snippets of some stories of life on the home front in *Mums, Children & Mustard Gas, The Blue Mountains Goes to War*.

It is far from definitive as I negotiated my way as best I could through censorship and propaganda but if it encourages others to add to the story, I will have achieved my aim. If all goes to plan it will be published later this year. Further information will be added to www.bmfh.org in the coming weeks.

Bid to fence Woodford graves

WOODFORD Academy's management committee has asked Blue Mountains City Council to provide the low key identification and fencing for the 1840s gravesites in the adjacent Woodford Reserve.

This action is included in the Blue Mountain City Council's plan of management for the reserve.

Woodford Academy's committee has also asked council to apply for a grant to restore the gravestones.

The graves are part of the history of the road across the mountains and the humble people and their families who lived and died here.

The graves are of a child, a soldier and a convict.

These people have been identified from the broken headstones in safekeeping at the Academy.

The Reserve is part of the area originally known as Twenty Mile Hollow and was valued because of the availability of water near Cox's Road.

The damaged gravestones are for safekeeping stored inside Woodford Academy and can be viewed on open days on the third Saturday of each month between 10am and 4pm. Woodford Academy is a National Trust property.

The Cox's Road - some of the most significant features on Mt Blaxland

THE NSW Heritage Office in April 2011 concluded it will list representative portions of Cox's Road as part of the bicentennial celebrations of the crossing of the Blue Mountains in recognition of the importance of the road in the history of opening up western NSW.

Much of the credit for the initiative to have the NSW Heritage Office reach this decision has come from the Cox's Road Steering Committee formed in July 2006 to look at long term objectives and mechanisms to preserve the 1814 Cox's Road alignment between Emu Plains and the Blue Mountains and Bathurst. The committee was formed with delegates from the Lithgow, Blue Mountains and Bathurst branches of the National Trust of Australia (NSW), and operates under the auspices of the Trust as an informal committee.

For the two previous editions of *HERITAGE,* convenor of the Cox's Road Project Committee (CRPC) who is also an individual member of BMACHO, Patsy Moppett pictured, produced the first two of a three part series of articles to provide some of the detail for each precinct of the road.

In this edition, Patsy covers the Mt Blaxland and the Fish River and beyond precincts, the final in the series.

by Patsy Moppett

THE MT BLAXLAND precinct is located off McKane's Falls Road, south west of the city of Lithgow, and continues on to the south west from there to cross the Rydal Hampton Road.

The rocky outcrop of Mt Blaxland itself is located on the property *Mt Blaxland.*

Mt Blaxland was traditionally thought to be the point reached by Blaxland, Lawson and Wentworth in May 1813, having been previously identified by Surveyor Evans.

Although some doubt has now been cast on the accuracy of the description of the landscape, some of the most significant features of the Cox's Road can be found around the zig zag section of the precinct. However, these road remnants can only be reached across private land.

The road from the lower slopes of Mt Blaxland winds around the hills via a significant zig zag formation, short sections of stone work and bridge embankments at creek crossings, stone retaining walls, some pavement remains, stone box culvert, and a number of diversions.

A primitive stone box culvert along the Cox's Road on the lower slopes of Mt Blaxland.

Much of the alignment is indistinct in open areas and where diversions have occurred.

Monuments are located both at the top and the base of Mt Blaxland.

In her report *Cox's Way*, Grace Karskens states that William Cox marked out the road at Mt Blaxland in December 1814, and sent out men to camp there, whilst the rest of the party were still working on the bridge at Cox's River.

The present day farm track actually runs some distance north of the early McBrien's survey, so Cox's Road would have involved little cutting or forming over the easy grades, and would have left little or no trace.

The farm track from McKanes Falls Road has a graded earthen surface with side drains and concrete pipe culverts.

There appears to be an earlier diversion on the north side, running below the present approach to Lowther Creek where the road swings out wider than at present. No bridge was built at Lowther Creek; the existing ford was probably used.

Then the road swings off the track to the south west and commences to ascend immediately, following the present day fence line through more thickly timbered country.

Continued page 15

Road cuts through pink granite

Continued from page 14

At one point the road cuts through pink granite, where broken stone is lying around, and a quarry formed in later years.

A short retaining wall of field/faced stones is built on the north west side and matches the work further along.

The pavement here has packed stones, and the width is about 3m, although variable.

Approximately 750m from the base of the hill, the road is formed into a significant zig zag of about 140m, with one major turn and another contoured curve above.

It is supported by substantial retaining walls of relatively careful construction and in good condition, apart from one section on the first reach and some loose sections at the top.

A 'primitive' stone box culvert is located about 30m from the end of the wall, set on walls of two courses of squared stone, with a roughly cut lintel and an earthen floor.

Beyond the zig zag section the road levels out and is edged intermittently with broken stone.

The formation is not so worn here, as it reaches to the top of the walls.

There is evidence of a steep short section where an attempt has been made to improve the gradient in later years.

Cox's Road below the road's zig zag

A portion of a substantial retaining wall on the zig zag of the roadway on the lower slopes of Mt Blaxland.

Cox's road continues directly up hill while the second road curves slightly along its outside edge.

The road is typical of Cox's work, with steep unbroken climbs, narrow width, minimal cuttings, retaining walls and scattered pavement stones.

From the summit the line is not visible, running directly down the grassy slopes of the ridge, with a slight cutting near the McDonalds Road junction.

The following extracts are taken from records of the time contained in *Fourteen Crossings of the Blue Mountains*, relating to Mt Blaxland:

Gregory Blaxland - May 31, 1813
The party encamped by the side of a fine stream of water [Lowther Creek] *at a short distance from a high hill, in the shape of a sugarloaf* [Mt Blaxland]*. In the afternoon they ascended its summit, from whence they descried all around, forest or grass land, sufficient in extent in their opinion, to support the stock of the colony for the next thirty years.* This was the extreme point of their journey.

William Cox - December 11, 1814
After passing Mt Blaxland we ascended a high ridge, and found it continued to ascend until we got extremely high...the hills to the west, north, and south are extremely high and difficult of access, but in many of them the feed is good to the highest part.

December 13, 1814
Mr Hobby went forward to Blaxland's Mountain to superintend the 10 men ahead in road making...

December 15, 1814
At 7am, went forward myself, and come up with the party at the 10-mile, to which they had completed the road, except turning some rock out of it after you ascend the hill at Blaxland's Mountain. Returned at 10, and sent forward three men with crow bars, pickaxes etc, to complete the road, and remain with the party ahead.

Governor Lachlan Macquarie - May 1, 1815
Early on Monday May 1, they were back on the road headed for the Fish River.

They continued past Mount Blaxland and two small hillocks in the shape of sugarloaves that Macquarie named for Wentworth and Lawson.

This day proved exhausting for the livestock traversing the road over a succession of steep hills for nearly sixteen miles.

Most of this difficult terrain was covered by Governor Macquarie and Elizabeth on horseback.

Continued page 16

"A mist rises from a part I suppose to be a River or a large Lagoon ..."

Assistant Surveyor Evans, November 30, 1813

Continued from page 15

Major Henry Colden Antill - May 1, 1815

This day proved the most fatiguing and trying for the cattle of any we had yet experienced; the road lay over a succession of steep hills for nearly sixteen miles, one hill in particular about 3 miles on the road was very steep, and obliged us after one cart was up to send back the horses to help up the other…about two miles from our encampment passed Mount Blaxland, and a little further on Wentworth's and Lawson's sugar loaves.

Fish River Precinct

The Fish River precinct commences from Pitts Corner, the intersection of Cut Hill Road with Jerry's Plains Road, within the Lithgow local government area.

It follows a crown road to the west and down to the Fish River bridge site near Phil's Falls, south west of the City of Lithgow.

William Cox selected a line towards the Fish River from the east and found the land on either side of the river "extremely hilly and awkward for road building".

The western slopes proved particularly difficult, and it was not long before alterations were being made to improve gradients on the eastern side.

The original route ran along the ridge, while easier grades were built on the lower slopes.

The road from Pitts Corner clearly follows the crown road through private properties.

Its upper reaches have experienced some erosion, defined by remaining eucalypts.

About 1.5km east of the Fish River a major deviation occurs, defined by significant retaining walls.

The original route runs along the ridge, barely visible, descending down to the river, as defined by McBrien's survey.

The later deviation is cut around the hill with an easier grade, at 6m wide. It is supported by a significant retaining wall from 30cm to 2m in height, of un-coursed rubble work. Tree growth and stock use have caused some areas to collapse.

Upper section of retaining wall for the road.

In her report *Cox's Way,* Grace Karskens describes another road, between the original route and the deviation, cut out of the hill, and with a flat surface, which may have been another attempt to improve the road.

The road then continued south of the crown road and down to the river, defined by another line of timber, where there are shallow cuttings and the indentation of the old road.

The banks of the Fish River show no sign of Cox's 25 foot long bridge with stone filled approaches.

Both banks today are well vegetated, with a stony base on the western side.

An earth mound on the eastern side may have been part of the approach to the crossing site.

Karskens states that this precinct is an excellent example of the progressive development of the road west; with three roads of progressively larger scale still clearly visible alongside one another.

They illustrate the typical growth of a road from a rudimentary track to a made road, both in location and construction, and reflect the growing importance of the western region and thus its link with Sydney.

Parts of the road pass through private land.

The following extracts are taken from records of the time contained in *Fourteen Crossings of the Blue Mountains*, relating to the Fish River precinct:

Assistant-Surveyor Evans - November 30, 1813

A mist rises from a part I suppose to be a River or a large Lagoon ... the descent then becomes steep for a ¼ of a mile, leading into a fine valley at the end of which I met a large Riverlett arising from the southern hills...my course is down the Riverlett...on the north of it at this place is a remarkable Sugar Loaf Hill having a Stone on the peak of it, which I have named after myself.

William Cox - December 18, 1814

At half past 7 went forward to examine the road from hence to the Fish River. Found the country very hilly and rocky in many places…fixed on the road, except going up the hill, which must be avoided if possible.

View from west down to Fish River crossing.

William Cox - December 25, 1814

At 8am, after serving out the rations, went forward to the Fish River, and removed the caravan and one cartload there, where I pitched my tent...examined the river to find the best place to cross it, and fixed on a spot about 10 chains below where Mr Evans crossed...the land on both sides of the river extremely hilly, and awkward for road making.

December 27, 1814

We made the river at a spot where a small stream falls into it from north-north-east, about two miles below Evan's Mountain, to the west.

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January 3, 1815
The men finished filling in the piers at each end of the bridge…got all the split logs brought in for the bridge. They are very good heavy logs, well split.

January 5, 1815
Finished the bridge over the Fish River this evening. It is a strong and well-built one. On each end is a pier of 25 feet, which is well filled up with stone and a very little earth over it. The span across is 25 feet more, which is planked with split logs; and as flood will go over it, there is no earth put on top. It is altogether 75 feet long and 16 feet wide.
There is also another small bridge 10 ft. long across a creek leading to it, which is also completed this evening.

Governor Lachlan Macquarie - May 1, 1815
Early on Monday May 1, they were back on the road headed for the Fish River… a range of very lofty hills and vallies (sic) *alternately form the tract of Country from Cox's River, for a distance of 16 miles, until the Fish River is arrived at; and the stage between these rivers is consequently very severe and oppressive on the cattle.*

Major Henry Colden Antill - May 1, 1815
We passed Evan's Peak, a very remarkable hill, with a round rock crowning its summit… we arrived at our night's station on the banks of a small river, called the Fish River...The Fish River is now a small stream running through a valley…the feed for the cattle at this station is good and plentiful along the banks of the river.

Beyond the Fish River

On the western side and beyond the Fish River the remnants of the road become less distinct.

This includes the precincts of Snakes Valley Creek and Sydmouth Valley.

At Snakes Valley Creek, the old road crossed the creek via a shallow stony ford, where it would appear as though a bridge was not required.

Snake Valley Creek crossing.

There remain trench like depressions curving up and around the bank from the creek on the western side.

On the eastern side the road came directly down the slope.

The approaches and the few remaining features are now grass covered and indistinct.

At Sydmouth Valley slopes were less severe, and the valley opened out around Sydmouth Valley Creek.

Cox's diary ceased here, and so the record of works beyond this point is not clear, other than he stated that the road beyond here was good for road making.

Remnants of the road have not survived for the valley, but a trench / ramp cut is still visible on the bank of Sydmouth Valley Creek, which may have been the site of a bridge, which follows McBrien's traverse.

Grace Karskens describes these precincts as examples and reminders of the early road illustrating the means of crossing the many streams.

Sydmouth Valley provided visitors with the English-type landscape that they longed for in its lush greenness and gentle horizons.

Further investigation may provide more evidence of the early road.

Once again, much of this part of the road passes through private land.

Beyond Sydmouth Valley there is little evidence of the road, right through to the O'Connell Plains and to Bathurst.

The following extracts are taken from records of the time contained in *Fourteen Crossings of the Blue Mountains*, relating to the Fish River precinct:

Assistant-Surveyor Evans - December 1, 1813
I am more pleased with the Country every day; it is a great extent of Grazing land without being divided by barren spaces as on the East side of the Mountains, and well watered by running streams in almost every Valley:

As Evans followed the Fish River and approached the O'Connell Plains and Macquarie Plains he became increasingly exuberant in his descriptions of the landscape.

December 2, 1813
*I think it equal to Van Dieman's Land, the River running through fine flats, and round the points of small Ridges that gradually descend to it, covered with the finest grass and intermixed with the White Daisey (*sic) *as in England.*

December 4, 1813
My progress is through an exceeding good Track of Country: it is the handsomest I have ever seen with gentle rising hills and dales well watered.:

Continued page 18

…an exceeding good Track of Country: it is the handsomest I have ever seen with gentle rising hills and dales well watered… *Wiliam Evans December 4, 1813*

Continued from page 17

William Cox - January 1, 1815
While the bridge over the Fish River was underway, Cox travelled beyond and to Emu Valley, Sydmouth Valley and to O'Connell Plains and Macquarie Plains.

During these three days travelling [probably December 30, 31 and January 1] *we passed over a great quantity of most excellent pasturage. Fine, dry healthy hills, gravelly soil, and good grass, and so thinly timbered, that it resembled park in England rather than a forest…At Sydmouth Valley I never saw finer grass, or more on the same quantity of land in a meadow in England than was here, and just in a fit state for mowing.*

January 2, 1815
Cox was back at the Fish River examining how they might make a way up the hill on the western side.

The land got hilly, and falls more into gullies than lower down. It is also scrubby in places, and more timber on it, and altogether not so good as lower down.

Sydmouth Valley by JW Lewin courtesy State Library of NSW PXE 88813A.

January 4, 1815
At 8am went with Mr Hobby, Tye and two soldiers to Emu Valley, to mark the intended line of road from thence to Sydmouth Valley. Returned at 4.30, having marked very good ground for road making. We also traced down the rich valley. There are about two miles of it equally good as where we cross, then it falls into a creek...removed the gang of 12 men forward to Emu Valley this evening, three miles.

Cox noted that from this point they would have no further need of their forge until they reached Bathurst Plains.

January 6, 1815
At 8am crossed the river and the new bridge with the caravan and two carts, as also our horses, and went as far as Sydmouth Valley...In the afternoon marked the trees for our road from the valley to the next creek, where we have a bridge to build, and also one in the valley.

January 7, 1815
Ordered the whole of the men forward to a creek about two miles ahead this evening, and rode up to the head of Sydmouth Valley.

The diary ended here. The road was completed to Bathurst on January 14, 1815.

Governor Lachlan Macquarie - April 29, 1815
Passing on from hence (Mount Evans) the country continues hilly, but affords good pasturage, gradually improving to Sydmouth Valley…the land here is level, and first met with unencumbered timber; it is not of very considerable extent, but abounds with a great variety of herbs and plants. Leaving Sydmouth Valley, the country becomes again hilly, and in other respects resembles very much the country to the eastward of the valley for some miles from Sydmouth Valley…there began to exhibit an open and extensive view of gently rising grounds and fertile plains.

May 4, 1815
The Governor and Suite arrived at these Plains (Macquarie Plains and O'Connell Plains) on Thursday the 4th May, and encamped on the southern or left bank of the Macquarie River – the situation being selected in consequence of its commanding a beautiful and extensive prospect for many miles in every direction around it.

Major Henry Colden Antill May 2, 1815
Our encampment this day was picturesque and beautiful, situated in a valley with a chain of Ponds running through it, a high hill bounding each extremity, and very good grass and water for our cattle. After passing the first three or four miles we seemed to be leaving the hilly country behind us, and to be fast descending into a more open one.

May 3, 1815
…we came to an extensive plain, called by Mr Evans, who first discovered it, O'Connell Plains,... A considerable tract of land without a tree, fit for both pasture and cultivation. Continuing along the banks of the river we came to another extensive plain called Macquarie Plains…the most extensive of the two, and equally good for pasture and cultivation.

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Walk and Talk to Duckhole

Pictured is the chute down which coal was delivered to the site of a steam driven pump alongside Glenbrook Creek. The engine was used to pump water up to the lagoon. The water then fell by gravity to Glenbrook Station for filling steam train engines. At bottom of chute is the late Ted Nolan (sitting) and Henry Lawson's son Will. Photograph Nolan Collection

AS ONE of their regular "Walks and Talks" events, members of the Glenbrook Historical Society walked to Duck Hole on Saturday, March 16.

The activity included walking the old roadway, visiting the Duck Hole, the pump site and wind eroded caves.

As early as 1867, locomotives watered from a water tank at Glenbrook.[1] There were no stations on Lapstone Hill. Trains had to stop at a water tank near what later was to become the village of Glenbrook.

The trains' boilers were empty after the long climb up the zig zag.

A wooden pipeline brought water to the tank from Glenbrook Lagoon.There was also some water brought by rail from Wentworth Falls to fill the water tank.

The nameless railway stop became known as 'Water Tank'[2]

The Lagoon had been dammed to hold more water for the train engines and the top of the dam wall became part of a new road to be known as Glenbrook Road.

This was a link to Great Western Highway for almost 60 years.

Even with the damming there was not always enough.

The pumping site has a significant connection with the early rail transport across the Blue Mountains to the west.

Steam trains required huge amounts of water to be supplied during the trip across the mountains.

Early water supply to the filling point at Glenbrook was gravity fed from Glenbrook Lagoon.

A series of drought periods between 1877 and 1884, combined with the increasing rail traffic brought a rising need for more water. It was in this period that the steam pump was installed.[3]

In 1913 the pump was removed.

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[1] Bailey, William A, *Lapstone Zig Zag Railway* 1972

[2] Aston, Nell, *Glenbrook and District History,* Glenbrook Historical Society Inc. 2009

[3] ibid

Springwood Historians donate $1000 for newspaper digitisation

IN 2007 the National Library of Australia together with all Australian State and Territory Libraries embarked on a program to digitise Australian newspapers for access and preservation purposes.

For those newspapers digitised so far this free online service provides full text searching of newspaper articles published prior to 1955.

Newspapers published after this date may be digitised with the agreement of the publishers.

The cost of digitising is estimated at $2.00 per page plus GST.

Up till now no Blue Mountains newspapers have been digitised.

However, under the State Library of N.S.W. Digital Excellence Project the *Blue Mountains Echo* is being included.

The *Nepean Times* is very nearly ready to being available for searching. (perhaps at the time of publication already is)

Springwood Historians have appreciated the availability of historic information from this source and have recently given the Blue Mountains City Library $1000 to facilitate the digitisation of additional Blue Mountains newspapers.

The Library has added a further $1000. Other history groups might be able to contribute to this worthwhile project.

Contributed by Shirley Evans

WALK WITH MEMBERS OFGLENBROOK HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Next walk: Saturday, April 13 --- Eastern zig zag railway, Knapsack viaduct

Bookings are essential. For those wishing to participate in this and other interest filled walks contact Doug Knowles on 4751 3275

FIRE IN THE MINE

Miner Ned Curry with his horse Snow, circa late 1940s.

THE CITY OF GREATER Lithgow Mining Museum Inc is excited to announce the launch of Fire in the Mine, the museum's newest permanent exhibition.

Fire in the Mine, a pepper's ghost interpretation developed by The Shirley Spectra Australia Pty Ltd, tells the story of the coalminer's life in the mid 20th Century.

It is the culmination of a twelve year conversation clearly demonstrating the value of a strategic vision and long-term planning in community museums.

Fire in the Mine relates stories of the working lives of coalminers and the horses they worked alongside through the persona of Marion Curry.

Marion is the wife of Ned Curry who worked as a wheeler at the Lithgow State Coal Mine from 1946.

As coal mining is a very 'blokey' industry, filled with hard working, coal-dusted men it was decided that the story should be told through the eyes of a miner's wife.

"This allowed us to approach the work of mining quite objectively," says Ray Christison

"As a close family member, Marion has as much knowledge of the industry as we need to communicate to visitors."

She far better expresses the dangers of coal mining than her husband, avoiding the temptation for bravado.

For the miners themselves the dangers they faced were not a matter of courage but simply all in a day's work.

Marion's character recounts the dangers of life in the mines and the comradeship of the men and women associated with coalmining.

She also talks of Ned's love for the horses he was privileged to lead.

Her account culminates in the tragic story of an underground fire in 1953 that took the lives of twenty seven 'of the best horses a man could ever have'.

The museum has converted a former shower block in the former Lithgow State Coal Mine bath house to accommodate the pepper's ghost theatrette.

The room has been sealed and carpeted to minimise sound echo but much of its character has been conserved with original wall tiles and soap holders still adorning one wall.

Companion interpretations explain the role of bath houses in collieries from the early 1920s.

These incorporate artefacts related to showering and bathing.

Continued page 21

Pictured is the space in the bath house converted for the theatrette.

Fire in the mine

Continued from page 20

These artefacts include miners' baths donated by various local families, a miners' clothing basket from Kandos Colliery and photographs of showering and change facilities.

A companion interpretation, featuring a miner's pushbike, talks about getting to the pit in all kinds of weather.

The museum's display horse, Socks, completes the companion exhibits.

This project has been a real community collaboration that has been funded through the Mine Workers Trust supported by donations from Biogas Energy, Delta Electricity and Hartley Corporate. Lithgow's wonderfully talented artisans have contributed to the success of this development.

Blacksmith Phil Spark has undertaken all metal fabrication, sculptor Tim Johnman has made models and a coalface bas relief, and cabinet maker Trevor Beutel has crafted a traditional door for the theatrette.

Miners and their horse at Lithgow State Mines circa 1930s

Local trades people have also contributed their skills to the development.

Ancillary décor has been funded through the Museums and Galleries NSW Volunteer Initiated Museums Small Grants Program.

In addition to the theatrette it has been possible to modify the bath house toilets to incorporate an accessible toilet, and to create a new food preparation area within the old bath house ambulance room.

Volunteers have undertaken substantial building works to complete the project.

This project is the springboard for a series of planned multimedia interpretations designed to enhance the capacity and appeal of the museum.

Contributed by Ray Christison, president, The City of Greater Lithgow Mining Museum Inc.

Lithgow's hidden sandstone heritage

LITHGOW Branch of the National Trust will lead tours around the built legacy of Andrew Brown, one of Lithgow's earliest and most famous sons, on Saturday 21 April 21 and Sunday April 22 , between9.30am - 1pm.

This will be a rare and special treat.

Those wishing to participate will meet at Lithgow Visitor Centre, 1 Cooerwull Road, Great Western Highway (The Miners' Lamp) the coach assembly area at 9.30am.

The front of Cooerwull House shows Andrew Brown on the verandah, about 1880, with his wife Christina and daughter Grace in the carriage. Copyright Ian Jack

The tour will allow participants to discover the buildings which are links to the opening up of pastoral development after the Western Crossings of the Blue Mountains in 1813.

Philanthropist Scotsman Andrew Brown (1797-1894) established a great pastoral empire which commenced at "Cooerwull' Homestead (now western Lithgow).

Led by historian Dr Ian Jack, travel by coach to churches, schools, mills, houses, and back in time to the rustic outbuildings of Andrew Brown's once thriving homestead.

COST: $30 per person includes morning tea.
BOOKINGS: Essential
ENQUIRIES: Helen Clements (02) 6353-1501

History and art at Tarella

HISTORIC *Tarella* at Wentworth Falls will be the venue for an art exhibition later this month.

The Blue Mountains Historical Society owners of the 1890s holiday cottage have joined with the Blackheath Art Society to stage the exhibition on Saturday and Sunday, March 23 -24, 1013

Tarella will be open for inspection in the grounds of the historical society's property at 99 Blaxland Road, Wentworth Falls. It will be open from 10am to 4pm

Admission to the exhibition is $5 per person and morning and afternoon tea will be available.

Tarella was built in 1890 by John McLaughlin, a Sydney solicitor, on a 50 acre grant of land awarded to him for his service in the Volunteer Reserve.

The cottage stands in its original state, and is set up in the period of the early 1900s.

John built *Tarella* around 1890 as a holiday cottage for the family to have relief from the summer heat and to escape the smells that pervaded the air in Sydney.

The cottage stands on Cox's original road on a stretch constructed under the watch of Lt Thomas Hobby which Cox observed on his return, *'at the 29th mile is a very handsome long reach, quite strait, which I call, from the layer of it out, Hobby's Reach'.* (*Hobby's Reach* is the name used for the Research Centre of the Blue Mountains Historical Society).

Tarella cottage as it now stands.

WAY FORWARD THROUGH STORIES

Elders knowing - Elders showing - Children watching - Nyree Reynolds.

Way Forward through Stories is a series of art works on Aboriginal cultural and history awareness and art expression from the first in a series of workshops run at Eskbank House during February 2013.

The works exhibited in the Courtyard Gallery at Eskbank House is a collaboration between Lithgow City Council, Lithgow Community Projects and Mingaan Aboriginal Corporation.

The exhibition will be open on Wednesday through to Sunday from 10am to 4pm through March 27 to April 14, 2013.

The workshop series aims to bring Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities together through the experience of culture, history and art.

It aims to explain and discuss the wrongs of the past, many a result of the crossing of the Blue Mountains by Europeans, in order to move forward towards a harmonious community with a greater understanding and appreciation of each other.

The first workshop was very successful with participants looking keenly forward to the next one.

"This is such a positive workshop for the community," said Lithgow City Council Mayor Maree Statham.

"Art is such a great way to bring people together. In this workshop participants are able to discuss and express tough topics relating to Aboriginal history in a safe, creative environment."

The response to the workshop has been overwhelming. A group of Lithgow High School students and teachers attended along with community members of both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal descent.

The first workshop began with the group watching a documentary called "Contact" which tells the story of the Martu community who were removed from the dump zone for the Woomera Rocket Tests in 1964.

Mai-Lynn Elliot from Lithgow Community Projects then led a discussion focusing on the feelings and thoughts the documentary had created.

Kamilaroi artist, Nyree Reynolds, then introduced the medium of acrylics to the group who went on to paint their reflections on the documentary.

These images are currently on display in the Courtyard Gallery at Eskbank House and the exhibition will build over the next few weeks as the workshops continue.

BLUE MOUNTAINS JOURNEY

by Ken Goodlet
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Journeying has always been part of the mountains story, but of particular significance in this bicentenary year.

Local historian, researcher and author Ken Goodlet has written his latest book, *Blue Mountains Journey* to be launched during celebrations of the Western Crossings Bicentennary later this year.

As well as the tale of the wayfinders' traverse of the Blue Mountains barrier two centuries ago, here there are accounts of many earlier and later mountains journeys, coming up to the present time.

Set within a detailed biographical context in many cases, there are journeys by indigenous peoples, colonial explorers and surveyors, fortune-seekers, travellers heading west, wagoners, marauders, rail travellers and workers, holidaymakers, settlers, commuters, trailblazers and ramblers, cyclists and motorists.

There are more or less detailed accounts of the lives and mountains journeys of Matthew Everingham, Gregory Blaxland, Elizabeth Hawkins, Archibald Bell, Robert Hoddle, William Govett, James Backhouse, Charles Darwin, Louisa Anne Meredith, Sophia Stanger, Godfrey Mundy, Edward Hargraves, Chinese prospectors, bushrangers, Rachel Henning, James Hunter, Edwin Fearnside, railway workers, the Countess of Belmore, John and David Heron, George Gascoigne, John Deering, Eccleston du Faur, Myles Dunphy, Paddy Pallin, early motorists, Mark Foy, the Cooee marchers, Ken Cale, the Leeton cyclists, Fish travellers, Adrian Paul, John Seymour, Ken Ames, Ken Groves, Queen Elizabeth II, Gerald Harvey, Harry Van Den Bout, aryy Van Den Bout, Eleanor Dark, Grace Bayley, Oonagh Kennedy, Lynette Stanger, Ian Brown, Andy Macqueen, Bill Davis, Emily Mohr, Randall Walker and Emily Davis.

Continued page 24

Travellers going west, passing Woodford House, a guesthouse at this time, now known as Woodford Academy. 'The Illustrated London News, 16 February 1889, p.212'.

The author --- Ken Goodlet

As a child, the author Ken Goodlet and his family holidayed most years in the mountains.

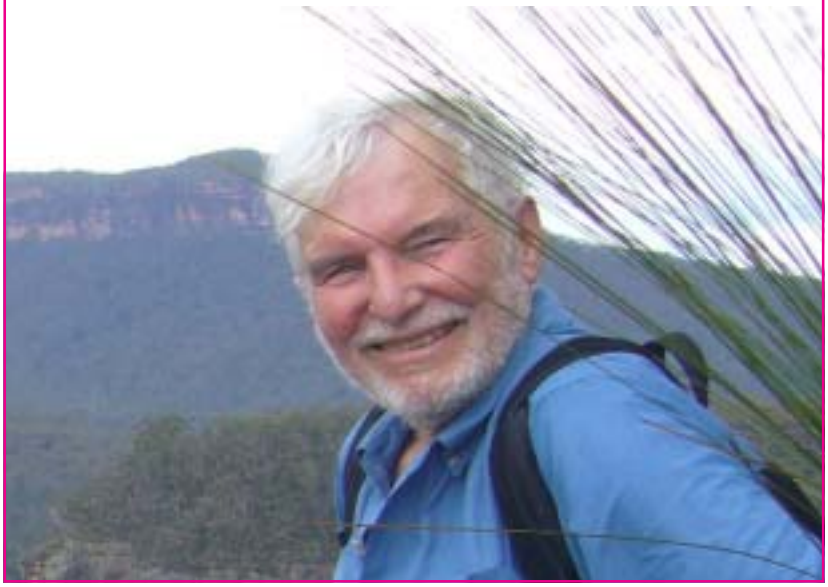
When he and his wife Jan married at the end of 1961, they bought a cottage at Springwood.

After returning from eight years working in Malaysia, they moved to Hazelbrook where they have lived since 1973.

Their four sons, their wives and nine grandchildren have all lived in the Blue Mountains.

Ken has been a teacher and school administrator in Malaysia and Australia, editor for an Australian book publisher, and has written four published community histories, the earliest, published in Malaysia, being his University of Sydney thesis.

His two published histories on the mountains community are *Mountain Springtime: a History of Blue Mountains Grammar School* and the National Trust highly commended *Hazelbrook and Woodford: a story of two Blue Mountains towns*.



Blue Mountains National Trust plans bus tour and to Kelly's Bush and Vienna Cottage

THE BLUE Mountains Branch of the National Trust will be conducting a bus tour to and walk in the Woolwich/Hunters Hill area on Saturday, April 21.

The walk will incorporate a visit to the old graving dock (Mort's Dock), Vienna Cottage and Kelly's Bush which was the site of the first Green Ban in the world.

Vienna Cottage is a rare example of an artisan's home of the 19th century.

Built in1871, it was the home of John and Ann Hillman.

It is a typical tradesman's cottage with 4 rooms in the main building and a detached kitchen and laundry at the back.

The house remained in the ownership of the family until 1984, when it was purchased by the National Trust.

Kelly's Bush was originally inhabited by the Guringai-speaking Wallumedegal clan and rock waterholes, engravings and middens remain within the area.

The tour will be led by two very experienced local guides, who know the area and its history comprehensively.

Participants in this activity should meet at 9am Whitton Park, Glenbrook for the buses to Woolwich. It is anticipated that the party will arrive back at Glenbrook at 4.30pm

The tour accommodates both those who wish to walk and those who don't. An appetising boxed lunch will be provided.

COST: NT members $35, others $40.Those choosing to meet at Woolwich: NT members $25, others $30.

Bookings essential by April 14 - call Sandra 4739 3003 or email **BlueMtsNatTr@gmail.com**

Those wishing to meet at Woolwich should also contact Sandra on 47393003

Vienna Cottage a National Trust owned property is a rare example of an artisan's home of the 19th century.

Blue Mountains Journey

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We meet in these pages the disinherited custodians and their long search for home, the wayfinder yeoman who sought to recreate in this alien landscape his family tradition of enterprise, the Bathurst-bound settler mother of eight who thought how fortunate she was to be in this new land of opportunity, the Quaker who walked all over Australia on behalf of the disadvantaged, the naturalists whose curiosity and sense of wonder inspired them amidst the shuddering bumps of the road, the 'Celestials' who shuffled across the mountains in search of gold, the travellers who encountered bushrangers and lived to tell that story, the surveyor who championed the reserves for public enjoyment, the conservationists who tramped through the wilderness and sought to preserve it, the royal traveller who thought the mountains the most beautiful place in the Commonwealth, the engine driver who revelled in the might of his 57 class engine, the recent bushwalker who learnt life lessons while enjoying her bush experience.

It is hoped that this A4 book of 240 pages, 140,000 words and over 350 small and a score of large illustrations and maps, some in colour, will enhance and enrich the readers' appreciation of the Blue Mountains. *Blue Mountains Journey* will soon be available from outlets through the Blue Mountains including: Turning Page at Springwood, Lamdha at Wentworth Falls, Megalong Books at Leura and Glee Books Blackheath or from Ken Goodlet at kgoodlet@tpg.com.au

Travelling by coach over the Western Road, a sketch in colour by Mary Martindale, wife of the NSW Commissioner of Roads 1860. State Library of NSW – PXA 2498.

DR JAMES NORTON MLC (1824-1906)

An MP who inherited his love of horticulture and his green thumb

by Shirley Evans - Springwood Historians

JAMES NORTON acquired portions of crown land in the 1880s and purchased more land from John Ellison in Springwood adjacent to the Frazer property of *Silva Plana* .

Here he built his country residence *Euchora* where he pursued his passion for horticulture and botany.

His primary residence in Sydney was *Ecclesbourne* in Double Bay which he had bought in 1857.

The Springwood property Euchora circa 1920 when it was a guesthouse where the owners advertised that they provided fresh milk. Note a cow in the image above.

The garden at *Ecclesbourne* boasted a huge variety of Australian trees and shrubs, ferns and orchids.

Exotics were also planted in abundance – proteas, deodars, palms, agaves, jacarandas, hollies, camellias and more.

He planted camellias although they were not fashionable in the late 1880s and 90s according to the *Australian Town and Country Journal,* October 14, 1899, because of the flowers' lack of perfume', sweet smelling flowers being in vogue at that time.

One of the horticultural features of *Ecclesbourne* was the Sparaxis lawn.

A collection of about a thousand different varieties of this multicoloured South African flowering bulb were naturalised in the lawn and every spring provided a brilliant display.

According to the *Town and Country Journal* "the lawn rivals the richest of mosaic work in colouring". Norton frequently held a garden party at this time.

In Springwood he set about landscaping the *Euchora* garden, experimenting with cold climate trees while not neglecting the abundant native flora in the Springwood bush.

At the time the late Lindsay Paish was working on his book *Hawkesbury Road and the Development of North Springwood* he compiled a list and a plan of the planting of the trees and shrubs still growing in the grounds of Buckland Retirement Village, once the site of *Euchora.*

He listed more than 60 species. Of course we cannot know how many of these were planted by Norton or how many of Norton's original plantings survived.

James Norton was born in Sydney, one of ten children of James Norton, senior and Jane McKenzie.

His father was a successful solicitor who came to Australia from England in 1818.

In 1834 he bought *Elswick*, a 100 acre property in Leichhardt where he planted a beautiful old-world garden complete with roses, peacocks and a pond full of eels.

Son James obviously inherited his love of horticulture and his green thumb.

James, the younger was married twice. His first wife was Harriett Mary Walker, daughter of the late Deputy Commissary-General Walker of Rhodes, Parramatta River.

They had two daughters and a son. One daughter, Gertrude, after her marriage to James Bell, established *Coochin Coochin* homestead garden in Queensland, famous for its horticultural features as well as its important visitors who included members of the Royal Family and Agatha Christie.

Harriett died in 1860 and James married Isabella Stephens, sister of Professor William Stephens, in 1862. Another daughter and son were born. The daughter, Alice, became a well known painter.

James became a very successful attorney, the senior partner of Norton, Smith & Co.

He had the degree of LLD conferred on him by St Andrews University, Scotland in recognition of his services. He was a director of the Australian Gaslight Co., the North Shore Gas Company and the Australian Joint Stock Bank, a trustee of the Australian Museum and the Public Library and a trustee of Hyde, Phillip and Cook Parks.

He was nominated to the Legislative Assembly serving as Postmaster–General, was solicitor to the University of Sydney and had a very special interest in the establishment of the Mitchell Library.

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On his death, Mr HCL Anderson, the public librarian (and for a time an orchardist in North Springwood) thought Norton's epitaph should be: *His life was gentle, and the elements so mixed in him that nature might stand up and say to all the world, "This was a man."*

James was a founder of the Linnaean Society of NSW in 1875 and he studied the native flora as well as Australian birds.

Australian Birds. Useful and Noxious.

He wrote a paper, *Australian Birds. Useful and Noxious.* He read this at a conference of fruit and vine growers and it was later published.

He was a friend of Edward Daintree and Robert D Fitzgerald who wrote a book on Australian orchids. Fitzgerald named an orchid for James – Adenochilus Nortonii.

In the 1800s flower shows were very popular, particularly those that featured native flowers.

Whole plants were uprooted and branches lopped for display and set up in elaborate artistic arrangements.

James wrote a number of letters to the *Sydney Morning Herald* deploring these displays and warning of the long term effects of this wholesale removal from the bush of rooted plants and large branches.

The Manly Flower Shows of the 1880s he mentioned in particular.

I have been researching flower shows for a while now and will save my more detailed information for another article.

One of James' projects was to compile for the *Sydney Morning Herald* a list of wild flowers suitable for pot culture but I have not yet been able to find this.

James Norton by an unknown photographer, courtesy State Library of NSW PX D624.

Another letter I found which he wrote to the *Sydney Morning Herald,* December, 15, 1871 was on the subject of women's rights: *I am not an advocate for conferring on women the right of voting at elections, as proposed by a bill now before Parliament, or any such other so-called right, as would not only make them ridiculous, but unfit them for the performance of those duties which laws of nature and of Christianity alike impose upon them*.

This leads us nicely into James Norton, part time resident of Springwood.

The construction of Christ Church of England in Springwood was a time of turmoil and controversy in the little town.

On March 9, 1889, the bishop, when consecrating the church is reported in the *Nepean Times* as having preached a sermon in which he emphasised very strongly that when a church had been consecrated it became the property of the parish and that no contributor to its erection, however generous, had any more interest in it than any other parishioner.

The Hon Charles Moore, a man prone to grand philanthropic gestures, decided opinions and a difficult temper, had set aside for the new church what was known as the Church Acre, adjacent to Mrs Hoare's residence *Homedale*.

Suddenly he changed his mind and set aside a smaller piece of land near his own residence *Moorecourt*.

Although an official church committee had been set up he continued to keep a second bank account in his own name in which he deposited donations.

He built a parsonage for the rector, the Rev Edward Cranswick, but would not hand it over to the church.

He said he would do this in his own good time.

He decided to charge the Rev Cranswick £52 per annum but would put £1 per week in the church collection plate to cover this.

Then he changed his mind and only put half a crown in the collection. He and the Rev Cranswick did not get on so he evicted the Cranswick family from the rectory leaving them homeless.

Moore kept his own key to the church and when he acquired a second hand black reredos (screen) inscribed with the Ten Commandments from St Phillips Church in Sydney which they no longer wanted, he moved it into Christ Church.

He became very angry when the parishioners refused to set it up as it did not fit in with the light decor of the church.

At this time one of the church wardens became so upset he resigned and the Honourable James Norton stepped in.

It is very hard, with the information available, to get a clear picture of what was going on.

What is clear however is that Moore and Norton, aging, wealthy and very important men in the city were not considered so important by the regular townsfolk.

True, they spent money in Springwood and provided some employment but Springwood people were hard working, intelligent, conversant with world affairs and liked democratic processes where everyone was equal and had an equal voice.

The unrest over the church came to a head at a vestry meeting in April, 1891.
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More than seventy people attended and the Rev Cranswick took the chair.

James Norton was absent. There was disagreement over the minutes and the accounts and, as stated by the *Nepean Times* correspondent that, 'notwithstanding that a number of ladies were present it must be admitted that their influence did not wholly prevent some unseemly remarks.'

It would appear that a remark made by Martin Olsen about James Norton was reported to him. Olsen was a colourful Springwood character. He had emigrated to Australia from Norway in 1874 and lived in Springwood for nine or ten years.

He was unmarried, about 36 years old, and obviously, from his participation in the Springwood Literary and Debating Society, well educated and took an active part in all local affairs including those of the church, despite acknowledging that he was not religious.

He worked for William Rayner, the general store keeper who was also a well educated and literate man.

James was most annoyed by what Martin was reported to have said so he sent his employee, John Watson, to tell William Rayner that if he allowed his 'man' to attend Church meetings or any other meetings he would not get any more of his custom.

The town folk were outraged and a public meeting was called. It was attended by about 60 people. The headline in the *Nepean Times* read:

An M.L.C. Severely Handled

There were many impassioned speeches about freedom of speech.

William Rayner asserted that his employees' lives outside of their working hours were their own and they could attend whatever meetings they liked.

Mr Robert Anderson, the school teacher, a young energetic artistic man told the meeting that James Norton had reported him to the Minister for Education for holding office in local organisations – he was president of the Springwood Club and secretary of the Springwood Progress Committee – and he was officially instructed by the Department of Education to resign.

Somehow, as part of all this unrest Mr John Huddy's employment at *Silva Plana* was terminated.

The meeting formally extended their sympathy and presented him with a purse of sovereigns and an illuminated address designed and painted by the school teacher, Robert Anderson.

Norton's action…a base attempt at curbing freedom of speech…

A formal resolution was passed: 'That the action of Hon James Norton in threatening to boycott Mr Rayner if he allowed his assistant to attend public meetings is a base attempt at curbing freedom of speech in the community and is deserving of the strongest condemnation, being particularly unworthy of one holding the office of clergyman's churchwarden and a member of parliament.'

James Norton was not present at this meeting. He wrote to William Rayner denying he had given John Watson any such message to deliver.

He wrote, 'Since my residence in Springwood I have always looked upon you rather in the light of a friend than of a mere tradesman supplying me with goods'.

After this, life in Springwood returned to normal.

The Reverend Cranswick and his family went to live in *Silva Plana* while the Frazers had an extended overseas trip, John Huddy found a new and better position,

Martin Olsen attended all the meetings he liked and presumably James Norton returned to his gardens and his work in the city.

James died at *Ecclesbourne* at the age of 81.

Euchora was sold and later became a boarding house offering fresh milk, proximity to the golf course, ideal winter climate and a wireless set.

On May 31, 1907 it was announced in the *Sydney Morning Herald* that Mr Thomas Buckland had offered the property with its 127 acres to the government for a convalescent mental hospital. Today it is the site of a very extensive retirement village.

Ecclesbourne remained in the family until 1931.

In more recent years it was bought by the Cancer Patients' Assistance Society and used for accommodation for patients and family.

It was recently sold again. It is believed that there is little of the garden remaining and no sign of the Sparaxis lawn.

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More information about Martin Olsen, HCL Anderson, William Rayner and Robert Anderson may be found in *The Making of a Mountain Community: a Biographical Dictionary of the Springwood District* , Springwood Historians.

Western crossing commemoration 2013-15

great ideas - thoughts - just being talked about or it's really going to happen!

Support for commemorative coins

BUSINESS and individuals can help sponsor coins free to all school students in the Blue Mountains.

Sponsorship of $500 can ensure that 100 or more students receive this historic memento which can be accompanied by a message from the sponsor' company or business.

Business's and individuals can also make a wholesale purchase of coins at $5 each (minimum order 100 coins). The coins can either be sold at a rrp of $10 each or used as promotional gifts

The coins are also available to individual members of the community at $10 plus postage. Orders for 6 or more are free of postage.

All enquiries to sponsorship@bicenteary.com.au or telephone (02) 4757 1425.

COX'S ROAD WALK

MEMBERS of Blue Mountains Branch of National Trust will conduct a walk from Mt York car park, at the end of Mt York Road to Hartley.

Those participating will walk the road constructed by William Cox and his band of convicts in 1814-15 and follow in the footsteps of Blaxland, Wentworth and Lawson almost 200 years to the day on June 1, 2013

The walk is quite steep and good, strong footwear is required.

Lunch will be provided at the bottom of the road and a bus will take walkers back to Mt York.

Cost including lunch is $30 for National Trust members and $35 for non members.

Enquiries and books to Liz on 4757 2694, Rhona on 4757 2424 or by e-mail to BlueMtsNatTr@gmail.com by May 27

NSW government grants for Western Crossings groups

Blue Mountains MP Roza Sage and RAHS president, Dr Anne-Maree Whitaker soon after announcing the Western Crossings bicentenary grants. Image courtesy Blue Mountains Gazette.

NSW Government grants totaling $40,000 will be issued by the Royal Australian Historical Society to help groups commemorate the Western Crossings bicentenary.

RAHS president Dr Anne-Maree Whitaker announced the grants at the February meeting of the Western Crossings committee.

Recipients of the grants include Ancestral Pathways of the Blue Mountains (Gundungurra Aboriginal Heritage Association), Western Crossings Foundation (Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc.), Blue Wave reenactment (Blue Mountains Blue Wave), Crossing A Play! (Marian Theatre for Young People).

The grants were the result of a delegation to the NSW Premier by the previous RAHS president, Emeritus Professor David Carment and Blue Mountains MP Roza Sage.

Dr Whitaker has paid tribute to "their hard work on behalf of the community".

Dr Whitaker urged all local residents and organisations to participate in the bicentenary commemorations with diverse activities planned for the whole community.

For more information about Western Crossing events contact: www.bluemountains crossings.com.au

WENTWORTH FALLS CELEBRATIONS

WENTWORTH Falls Chamber of Commerce will the bicentenary with an event around the lake on May 25 .

Smoke signals from the Vatican

NO CHIMNEY in history has been more scrutinised than the simple stovepipe running up through a window in the Sistine Chapel in the Vatican.

In one of the Roman Catholic Church's most sacred traditions, the election of their pontiff, cardinals sequestered among Michelangelo's masterpieces use the iron stove and its narrow metal chimney to communicate with the outside world.

The chimney is not permanent fixture.

Workers scale the roof of the Sistine Chapel and attach the chimney pipe that bellows white smoke to alert the world that a new pope has been elected.

Attached by a safety clip and cable, a worker inches down the tiled roof and uncaps a small top that had covered the chimney.

He replaces it with a tall, thin pipe fed to him by another man in dress pants and a tie who was standing in an opening in the chapel's sloped roof.

The tradition is simple: black smoke means a vote has failed to produce a pope; white smoke means the cardinals have come to agreement.

Locked in the Sistine Chapel, the eligible cardinals conduct a secret ballot until someone receives a vote of two-thirds plus one.

The ballots are burned after each vote.

If a new pope has been elected, the papers are burned with chemicals (it used to be wet straw) to give white smoke.

Otherwise, they give off black smoke

On April 6, 2005, it was announced that, in addition to the white smoke, the bells of St Peter's Basilica will be rung to signal the election of the new pope.

This will avoid any doubt about whether the smoke is white or black.

The first mass in the Sistine Chapel was celebrated on August 9, 1483, the Feast of the Assumption, at which ceremony the chapel was consecrated and dedicated to the Virgin Mary.
Source:
http://italian.about.com/library/weekly/aa050901a.htm

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

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Website: www.bluemountains.heritage.com
ABN 53 994 839 952

THE ORGANISATION Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 following a unanimous response to a proposal from Professor Barrie Reynolds at the 2004 Blue Mountains Local History Conference which sought from Blue Mountains City Council the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the city.
BMACHO in its constitution uses the definition: "Cultural heritage is all aspects of life of the peoples of the Blue Mountains which was later changed to cover Lithgow and the villages along the Bell's Line of Roads. It therefore involves the recording, preserving and interpreting of information in whatever form: documents, objects, recorded memories as well as buildings and sites."
The objectives of the organisation are:

i. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage.
ii. To encourage and assist cultural heritage activities of member organisations.
iii. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations. One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact, to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

AFFILIATIONS BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society Inc.

HERITAGE BMACHO's official newsletter is edited by John Leary, OAM.
Blue Mountains History Journal is edited by Dr Peter Rickwood.

MEMBERSHIP The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mount Tomah, Blue Mountains City Library, Blue Mountains Cultural Heritage Centre, Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc., Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc., Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute, Eskbank Rail Heritage Centre, Everglades Historic House & Gardens, Friends of Norman Lindsay Gallery, Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc., Hartley Valley District Progress Association, Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc, Lithgow and District Family History Society Inc., Lithgow Mining Museum Inc., Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies, Lithgow Small Arms Factory Museum Inc, Mt Victoria and District Historical Society Inc., Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine History Society Inc. (including Turkish Bath Museum), Mudgee Historical Society Inc., Mudgee Regional Library, National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Blue Mountains Branch, National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Lithgow Branch, Scenic World – Blue Mountains Limited, Springwood & District Historical Society Inc., Springwood Historians Inc., Transport Signal and Communication Museum Inc., The Darnell Collection Pty Ltd, Valley Heights Locomotive Depot and Museum, Woodford Academy Management Committe, Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd. The following are individual members: Ray Christison, Associate Professor Ian Jack, Joan Kent, John Leary OAM, John Low OAM, Ian Milliss, Patsy Moppett, Professor Barrie Reynolds, Dr Peter Rickwood and Dr Peter Stanbury OAM.

COMMITTEE The committee for 2012-13 is: Pamela Smith (president), Ian Jack (vice president), Jan Koperberg (secretary), Judy Barham, Joan Kent, Doug Knowles, John Leary, Dick Morony (public officer), and Scott Pollock.

DISCLAIMER Views and opinions expressed in ***HERITAGE*** originate from many sources and contributors. Every effort is taken to ensure accuracy of material. Content does not necessarily represent or reflect the views and opinions of BMACHO, its committee or members. If errors are found feedback is most welcome.

HERITAGE

NEWSLETTER OF THE BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

MAY - JUNE 2013 ISSUE No. 27

GOVERNOR CONTINUES HER SUPPORT FOR BLUE MOUNTAINS HERITAGE

HER EXCELLENCY, Professor Marie Bashir, AC CVO earlier this month continued her close support of Australia heritage with yet another visit to the Blue Mountains, when she officially launched Hazelbrook historian and author, Ken Goodlet's latest book *Blue Mountains Journey.*

Professor Bashir said it was a privilege to have been invited to be the bicentenary patron and praised *Blue Mountains Journeys* as a "glorious book" and "a gift to Australia".

She said she was pleased that Australians were embracing their history.

NSW Governor, Professor Marie Bashir congratulating author Ken Goodlet. Photograph: David Hill BMLOT

Three years of Crossing events gets underway

THREE GRANITE boulders in the Hartley Valley have been placed in a new position in symbolic preparation for the bicentenary of the first European crossing of the Blue Mountains into Hartley

The boulders were taken from the property of Hartley resident Dick Austen and transported to the grounds of the Hartley School to commemorate the valley's history

Local sculptor Henryk Topolnicki overseeing the placement of the granite boulders.

which includes Blaxland, Wentworth and Lawson's journey through the area in 1813.

The NSW Governor, Professor Marie Bashir will "inaugurate the rocks on June 1, the date when it is thought the explorers passed close to the school's location.

Hartley District Progress Association secretary Ramsay Moodie said the commemorative rocks also acknowledged the special geology of the valley from high sandstone escarpments down to its granite base.

Events big and small, some conceived five or more years ago and some in recent weeks have started to get underway across the region and in other parts of the country to commemorate the bicentenary of the Western Crossing.

The Hartley Valley rocks memorial is only one of many such events ranging from the magnificent re-enactment walk by descendants of the three explorers along the route taken by Blaxland, Wentworth and Lawson, to a mass flyover the region by civilian and military aircraft, fireworks displays and the presentation of holey dollars to school children.

Meantime, 200 years to the day on May 11, 2013, on the site, once the property of Gregory Blaxland in St Mary's, NSW Governor, Professor Bashir farewelled descendants and other participants on a trek --- one of the more innovative activities the Blue Mountains Blue Wave - authentic re-enactment.

Professor Bashir said the first recognised European crossing of the Blue Mountains in 1813 not only provided fresh farmlands for the starving colony and a pathway to future gold, sheep and wheat wealth, it represented the enormous string of achievements throughout Australia's history and the world-renowned "Aussie" quality of mateship.

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An opinion from the editor.....

Three years of festivities and commemorations have begun with little help from government

As one of the largest commemoration and celebrations ever to occur in this region gets under way it is worthy to note that the ideas, planning and organisation of most of these events has been the result of dedicated individuals, community groups assisted by the RAHS..

Had it not been for the enthusiasm, dedication and ingenuity of these people there would not have been this iconic series of events to commemorate and celebrate the bicentenary of the first European crossing of the Blue Mountains in 1813 by the party led by Blaxland, Wentworth and Lawson; the subsequent surveying of the route across the Great Dividing Range by Evans in 1814 which lead to the opening of the golden west to allow the nations great pastoral wealth to contribute to the country's economic stability for most of the 19th and 20th century; and the building of the road by William Cox and his party of convicts which allowed Macquarie to travel inland to a site where he proclaimed Bathurst as a town in 1815.

There has so far been a dismal failure of government to contribute more than a token amount of funding to either the overall commemoration or the multitude of events so far planned for the next three years as celebrations roll from St Maryd to Bathurst. It appears so far that the Australian government has contributed very little while the NSW government has done little better and local government despite all its rhetoric was never expected to come to the party with loads of money.

This *Opinion* hastens to be grateful for what government has contributed but far more funding should have been forthcoming for this magnificent opportunity to promote this region. Had government provided funds to say 1/10th of the budget expended on the political advertising under the guise of public information in the run up to an election for just one of its projects, then the economic gain to this region through tourism alone would have been tremendous.

As it is, it has been the generosity of people like Philip Hammon and Tom Colless, those associated with local business houses and other individuals who have so far funded many of the bicentenary activities while groups like Blue Mountains, Oberon and Lithgow Tourism (BLOT) and Business Supporting the Bicentenary (BSB) have made there contribution through entrepreneurial skills. It is not too late for government to accept the challenge of a substantial funding for events planned from now until 2015.

There are many exciting events which are occurring as part of the commemoration and celebration in May and June 2013. However, the prize for sheer guts and determination against all odds for a brilliantly conceived authentic re-enactment which has captured the imagination of large numbers must go the John O'Sullivan and his small group of volunteers.

The NSW government bureaucracy should hang its head in shame for its shambolic attempts to stifle both the participants in the Blue Mountains Blue Wave re-enactment 21 day trek and for ensuring that campsite locations were kept secret for fear that too many people might turn out to meet with the participants, some of them descendants of the three explorers. This over governing of our lives has reached the height of ridiculousness and full marks must go to those who persevered with the pioneer spirit along the pioneer way.

John Leary, OAM - President, Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc.

New faces, new ideas for BMACHO management committee

NEW FACES often bring fresh ideas to an organisation, as will no doubt be the case with the four new members of BMACHO's management committee.

Following the recent annual general meeting of BMACHO, Kevin Frappell of Glenbrook, Wendy Hawkes of Lithgow, Patsy Moppett of Yetholme and Jean Winston of Mt Victoria became members of the committee.

John Leary, OAM has returned to the presidency following a break due to illness after 5 years as the inaugural president

Associate Professor Ian Jack continues for the 8th year as vice president, while Jan Koperberg was re-elected unopposed as secretary. Others re-elected unopposed for 2013-14 were Dick Morony, Doug Knowles and Scott Pollock.

Former president, Pamela Smith did not seek re-election as she has moved from the region.

Speaking at the annual general meeting, John Leary complimented Pamela on the work she had done during her two years at the "helm"

"I personally was most grateful that Pamela had accepted my invitation to be the president when I stepped down two years ago.

"Pamela certainly deserves credit for many of the things that she and Jan were able to do and which certainly brought credit to the association.

"In particular Pamela's proactive approach to many of the advocacy issues on the periphery of our organisation's aims and objects was most admirable.

"I certainly admired her part in trying to save the Springwood civic centre and her support of the Better Planning Network lobby group.

"I strongly believe BMACHO should be involved in advocacy although it may be in a limited fashion.

"Of course the crowning glory of the two years must be the effort Pamela put into finding speakers for the Blue Mountains History Conference.

"Pamela's work in leading BMACHO will not be forgotten and I do thank her sincerely and hope that through Springwood Historians and Pamela's Blog, she will continue to be associated with the heritage and history of this region," Mr Leary said.

"Few organisations are so fortunate as BMACHO to have as secretary, Jan Koperberg and without her dedication and pleasing manner many of the achievements over recent years probably would not have occurred.

"Jan is well known among members of historical societies and admired for her attention to detail.

"Societies often comment favourably about the up-to-the-minute information over wide range of topics, so promptly conveyed by e-mails to societies which are members of BMACHO.

"In the absence of a treasurer for the past year or more, Jan has also diligently filled this role and for this I am very grateful," John Leary said.

"It goes without saying that any historical or heritage group that has the support of Ian Jack is indeed fortunate.

For many years Dr Jack has been, and remains, an active exponent and promoter of Australian history and of the heritage of the built environment.

"Ian has been described as a consumate scholar, but the free advice and the benefit of his vast knowledge is a living legacy.

"Ian was a long-time serving president of the RAHA and was elected as Fellow of the Royal Australian Historical Society in 2003.

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Jan Koperberg has been elected as secretary a position she has held since 2010 Jan has also been acting as treasurer for sometime

Associate Professor Ian Jack continues for the 8th year as vice president of the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Orgnisations Inc.

John Leary , OAM returns to lead BMACHO having been the inaugural president from 2006-11.

New faces join committee

"Ian's dedicated support of BMACHO has brought much credit to this organisation.

"I look forward to continuing to work closely with this pre-eminent Australian historian as he starts off on his 8th year as vice president.

"The incoming committee is well balanced with people like Dick Morony, Doug Knowles and Scott Pollock who have worked on the committee for a number of years.

"Dick has been responsible for membership matters while Doug has been working behind the scenes ensuring meetings and events are organised.

"Scott as the association's webmaster has redeveloped this valuable communication tool and is expected to work closely with newcomer Wendy Hawkes in developing social media for the association in this current year.

"The quiet input into BMACHO's deliberations and the wise counsel of former treasurer, Joan Kent of Kanimbla and that of Judy Barham neither of whom sought re-election, will also be missed," Mr Leary said.

Joan Kent (pictured above) holds an Honours Degree in History from Macquarie University and a Masters Degree in Social Science from the University of Birmingham as the holder of a British Australian Bicentennary Scholarship.

She has worked as a professional historian and as the research historian to the National Parks & Wildlife Service.

In retirement she operates an Alpaca breeding stud with her husband Tom in the Kanimbla Valley and is involved in the 2013 commemoration of the European crossing of the Blue Mountains.

Judy Barham is the new president of Blue Mountains Historical Society having been elected at the society's AGM last month.

Judy has known for about 12 months that she would be taking over the reigns and leading the society in their role as host society for the RAHS State Conference, to be held in Katoomba early November this year.

Both Judy and her husband, Ken, worked in IT.

The four new members of BMACHO's management committee are, Patsy Moppett, Wendy Hawkes, Kevin Frappell and Jean Winston

PATSY MOPPETT

Patsy has worked as a town planner and heritage officer in local government in the central west of NSW for some 22 years, her work including management of heritage programs, heritage advisory service, heritage committee and local heritage funds.

She has also worked in private consulting, undertaking planning, heritage and environmental research and reporting.

She has a Bachelor of Town Planning Degree and a Diploma in Conservation and Land Management, and has completed other courses related to heritage, planning law, property planning, the environment and permaculture.

Patsy undertakes history and heritage research and report writing, having written the book "*A History of Cow Flat*". She is currently working on a history of the Lower Turon goldfields, and various family history projects.

She is convenor of the Cox's Road Project Committee, which was formed to undertake the listing of the road on the State Heritage Register. Under this committee she has assisted in the preparation of reporting for the NSW Heritage Office, addressed a number of

Patsy Moppett

Jean Winston

groups in regard to the history of the road project, undertaken site investigation, and assisted in many other research aspects of this original western crossing.

She lives at Yetholme

JEAN WINSTON

Having been born and brought up in the UK Jean has always been interested in history. Jean says the high school which she attended was the oldest girls' day school in England. It was founded in 1844 and was visited by Charles Dickens.

Soon after Jean moved to Katoomba in 2001 she joined the Mount Victoria and District Historical Society and has been a volunteer at the museum ever since.

Jean has worked as publicity officer for most of that time. Jean says she finds the eclectic collection fascinating and enjoys working in the only general historical museum in the mountains.

Mount Victoria Museum was represented in BMACHO by Jean Arthur until she was unable to continue and Jean said she is proud to follow in her footsteps.

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New faces join committee

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WENDY HAWKES

Having trained as a school teacher, Wendy Hawkes in 2000 started teaching in primary schools in the Blue Mountains and Lithgow areas focusing on special education and emotionally disturbed students before becoming the cultural development officer at Lithgow City Council which includes managing Eskbank House and museum.

Wendy Hawkes

Wendy says her interest in culture began as a child when she moved with her family to Papua New Guinea and spent her childhood and teenage years amongst a culture that values art, dance and music highly.

Returning to Australia at the end of high school Wendy completed a teaching degree.

Wendy began a Masters of Art Administration in 2006 at the College of Fine Arts, UNSW and realised she wanted to pursue a career helping others enjoy art as much as she does, especially in rural areas.

When Wendy moved to Lithgow she added a love of history to her love of art as she began exploring the area with the local photographic group.

"Beginning my new career as cultural development officer at Lithgow City Council is a fantastic opportunity as it allows me to fulfil my ambition of helping others access culture and history, either by creating it or experiencing it, while being surrounded by culture and history myself," Wendy said.

"Eskbank House and museum, at which I am based part of the time, is an excellent venue for storing knowledge and history and from which to share it.

"I hope to make Eskbank House and museum a place that the community calls home and in which it feels a real sense of ownership as well as a place people like to come to visit from outside Lithgow.

"I look forward to forming links with other community cultural organisations.

"There are other exciting cultural projects outside the museum that I will be involved in and I am very much looking forward to sharing in the exciting cultural future of Lithgow," Wendy said.

KEVIN FRAPPELL

A former councillor who served for 4 years on Blue Mountains City Council, Kevin Frappell is the vice president of Glenbrook and District Historical Society.

A resident of the Blue Mountains for 30 years, Kevin spent almost 40 years in the NSW public service dealing with the administration management of Crown Lands.

He retired in 1999 holding a senior position, State Manager - Crown Lands.

Kevin Frappell

Kevin is currently a director of the Catholic Cemetery Board which is responsible for the management of a number of metropolitan cemeteries.

These cemeteries include Catholic cemeteries at Rookwood and Field of Mars, Liverpool, Kemps Creek, North Rocks and Greendale.

Kevin has a particular interest in built history and its preservation for future generations, including the various early rail constructions, buildings, roads, cemeteries etc.

He and his wife Frances have three children and five grandchildren.

Blue Mountain Education and Research Trust a new member of BMACHO

Blue Mountain Education and Research Trust has joined BMACHO as a new member.

The trust is a small not-for-profit organisation located at Lawson.

The objectives of the trust are to publish and promote research and education on Blue Mountains history, archaeology, religious ideas and philosophy.

The chair of the trust is Father Eugene Stockton, DD, PhD and author, biblical scholar and self described "local hermit" .

The trust also auspices the Blue Mountains Aboriginal Archaeology Forum.

One of the better known publications of the trust has been *Blue Mountains Dreaming: The Aboriginal Heritage* which is now published in its second edition.

This second edition has new chapters written by experts in their fields and gathers together the latest research and information about the original inhabitants of the Blue Mountains. It provides a fascinating account of histories, languages, legends and European contact and serves as a model for regional studies elsewhere.

1813: THE FOUR SUMPTER HORSES OF BLAXLAND, LAWSON AND WENTWORTH

by John Low, OAM

WHEN THE EXPEDITION led by Gregory Blaxland (1778-1853) William Lawson (1774-1850) and William Charles Wentworth (1790-1872) left Blaxland's South Creek farm on May 11, 1813 in quest of a passage over the Blue Mountains, their departure was noted quietly in a paragraph on page 2 of the *Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* several days later.

Noting their spirit and determination, the writer also made special mention of their "prudentially taking with them four sumpter horses" (Anonymous 1813).

The *Gazette* writer's particular comment on the decision to take packhorses is interesting.

As the "grand narrative of the Blue Mountains crossing (Lavelle 2012, p. 28) developed over the next two hundred years the four horses, along with the four 'servants' and five dogs, slipped into the background, becoming mere decorative appendages to the main story of the "dauntless three".

Little thought and few words have been given to them.

Was the decision to take the horses in fact a prudent one, introducing, as explorer/historian Ernest Favenc argued in 1888, a new era of exploration in which horses would play a significant part or is bushwalker/historian Ross Brownscombe (2004, p. 223), writing over a century later, correct in concluding that the decision to take them was a bad, even stupid, one with the horses proving more of a hindrance than a help?

The four sumpter horses deserve reflection and offer an interesting angle from which to approach the 1813 expedition.

The horse in earlier Blue Mountains exploration: George Caley

While Francis Barrallier (1773-1853) was toying briefly with the idea of using horses as part of a supply chain to provision his November 1802 expedition (Macqueen 1993, pp. 69-70), the botanist George Caley (1770-1829), son of a Yorkshire horse dealer, was also giving thought to the role horses could play in exploration.

The sumpter horse

His correspondence with his employer Sir Joseph Banks gives some insight into his thinking.

Writing to Banks on November 1, 1802, a month or so after Barrallier had made a reconnaissance journey using two horses, Caley made the following remarks:

> "[Barrallier] is upon the eve of setting off again with a larger party, and instead of horses he takes out two bullocks. ... I am so vain as to think that with another man besides myself, and a horse, that I can go further than what this party will, provided the weather is favourable. I have often lamented that being bred a horseman had been all lost labour in forwarding a pursuit in natural history, but at length I am undeceived, for as a traveller in this country it has given me an advantage over all others. When Mr. Barrelier (sic) returned I perceived his loss for the want of the like."
> (Macqueen 1993, pp. 70-71; Andrews 1984, p. 15)

Again, on November 8, 1802, he continued:

> "Mr. Barrelier (sic) set off on his journey on Thursday last. They were 10 or 11 in number, and all had guns [and] a cart with two bullocks. This party, I understand, are likely to go a great way if we credit the report; but in my opinion it will fail, for they cannot go above 2 days' journey before they must part with the bullocks, and then every man must carry his own provisions, and he must be a very strong man that can carry 20lb extra of his gun, ammunition, etc. They talk of making stations in order to have supplies forwarded. Upon a horse I can take 100lb of food extra of all other articles for my pursuit. I am not afraid to travel by having only another person besides myself. By this I have not the encumbrance that will always be found in a large party."
> (Macqueen 1993, p. 71)

Caley's observations proved accurate for, having established his first depot at Nattai, Barrallier's planned supply line of depots failed to materialise and he and his men returned "footsore and short of provisions" (Richards 1979, p. 20) on December 2.

Subsequent letters to Banks suggest Caley may have made a number of Blue Mountains excursions using a horse, though only one appears to have been documented.

Lasting nine days, it occurred in February 1804 when he crossed the upper Nepean River and journeyed some distance into the mountains with one companion and a mare laden with provisions (Andrews 1984, p. 15).

Did Caley meet with Blaxland as early as 1810 to discuss Blue Mountains venture?

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This was not, however, "the grand mountain journey" (Andrews 1984, p. 15) he was dreaming of and about which he had written to Banks almost a year earlier, on May 13, 1803, telling him that "next spring I mean to visit the ruggedest part of the Blue Mountains" and adding that "this will be a tract impassable for to take a horse".

His opinion on the horse's place in his own plans had clearly changed and the February 1804 expedition (and any others he may have made) did not persuade him otherwise for on August 18, 1804 he informed Banks: "In the course of a month I think of going a journey into the mountains for about a fortnight ... I have already travelled the ground that can be done with a horse." (Andrews 1984, p. 16)

And again on November 1, 1804: "Upon the eve of going a journey ... Having tried every part to the westward for to penetrate into the interior with a horse but always having been prevented by very barren rocky ground I have now fitted myself out as well as the colony will afford for such a journey." (Andrews 1984, p. 17)

A day or two later Caley set out with three companions and a dog, equipped for about 20 days. In his journal he listed in some detail his provisions: biscuits, flour, rice, portable soup, pork, sugar, tea, "two fusees (small muskets] and a brace of large pistols", 20lb of ammunition, cooking utensils, compass, brush clearing implements etc.

The total weight to be divided between Caley and his companions must have been at least 250lb and this was unlikely to have lightened as the expedition progressed because "as the food diminished the natural history collections took its place". (Andrews 1984, pp. 101-102)

When he returned, his comments to Banks (December 16, 1804) on the conditions he encountered were blunt: "My journey to the Carmarthen Mountains was a very rough one. I was out three weeks which was as long as I was able to abide for the want of provisions. The roughness of the country I found beyond description. I cannot give you a more expressive idea than travelling over the tops of the houses in a town." (Andrews 1984, p. 24)

The 1813 Expedition depicted in the Sydney Mail Christmas Supplement, December 25, 1880 (State Library of NSW).

Such conditions certainly seemed to confirm the unpracticality of a horse.

But could Caley have later changed his mind again?

Though his expedition got bogged down in the Devil's Wilderness and failed to re-find the ridge that would have seen them into the Hartley Valley, Caley did report from the top of Mount Banks that "to the eastward very high land is seen" (Andrews 1984, p. 79) and found cause to reflect upon the possibilities such high land might offer for easier travelling (Andrews 1984, p. 81; Cunningham 1996, p. 118).

Could he have thought more on this and not only seen the potential of the ridges but also renewed his faith in the value of the horse?

Though there is no evidence to substantiate it, is it possible that Caley met with Gregory Blaxland and discussed Blue Mountains exploration prior to his departure for England in May 1810? (Richards 1979, pp. 38-39) Sir Joseph Banks, after all, was a mutual friend (Blaxland, in fact, sent Banks a copy of his Blue Mountains journal in 1816).

Blaxland also mentioned Caley by name in correspondence with Commissioner JT Bigge in 1819, though including him with others who had believed that a Blue Mountains crossing was impossible (Richards 1979, p. 175).

While this might suggest that if indeed he had met with Caley their discussion was unfruitful, it should be remembered that by 1819 Blaxland was nursing a grudge against Macquarie.

He was feeling badly treated and ignored and was playing up his achievements to Bigge, a ready listener to complaints against the governor.

It has also been suggested that Caley met with William Lawson while the latter was in London between 1810 and 1812 ostensibly to act as a witness at the court martial of his superior officer, Lieutenant Colonel George Johnston.

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The anonymous writer 'X.Y.Z', probably the tobacco merchant Thomas Horton James (Havard 1953), believed this and wrote in March 1827, in an article for Wentworth's *The Australian*, that: "no sooner [had Lawson] arrived from London where he had met Mr Caley, and frequently discussed the practicability of a mountain pass, than he determined to set out on the expedition to find a passage over the Blue Mountains". (Jervis 1954, pp. 74-75)

While there is no record of Lawson ever confirming James' statement, nor did he deny it.

Despite the lack of direct evidence, it is still interesting to speculate that, if such meetings did take place, issues such as ridges and packhorses may well have been discussed.

For Caley's part, it is clear that he never lost his interest in the Blue Mountains, as can be seen from a letter he wrote to his friend George Suttor on August 10, 1812: "Oh! Botany Bay! I wish I could forget you! But this will never be the case as long as your mountains haunt me." (Webb 2009, p. 80)

The decision to take horses in 1813

By 1813 Gregory Blaxland, his pastoral concerns under pressure from the deteriorating conditions on the coastal plain, had clearly been thinking for some time on the possibilities of expansion and had made several earlier trips into the mountains.

The first began as a picnic excursion by boat up the Nepean River with Governor and Mrs Macquarie in November 1810, during which they ventured into the gorge of the Warragamba and would almost certainly have discussed the possibilities of a crossing.

Blaxland was clearly enthused and made a quick return journey a few days later and soon followed this up with a further more rigorous exploration that strengthened his conviction "that it was practicable to find a passage over the mountains ... by the ridge which appeared to run westward, between the Warragomby and the River Grose" (Blaxland 1823, p. 65).

A moment during the 1951 re-enactment of the 1813 crossing (Blue Mountains City Library).

This latter expedition was undertaken in the company of "three European servants and two natives, with a horse to carry provisions and other necessaries" (Blaxland 1823, p. 65).

Blaxland was clearly aware that the length of time an expedition could stay out depended on the provisions it was able to take and that, if on foot, a leader had to balance what each man could carry against his ability to still manage the hard graft of walking and clearing a path.

"Four horses laden with provisions, ammunition and other necessaries"

This was certainly a problem that had plagued earlier expeditions and his use of a horse in his 1810 excursion shows that he was giving practical thought to the matter.

Though discouraging him, mistakenly perhaps, from the use of Aboriginal guides (he felt their geographical knowledge was too limited; (Blaxland 1823, p. 65), he seems to have been satisfied with the role of the horse and when the main expedition left his farm at South Creek on May 11, 1813 it was equipped with "four horses laden with provisions, ammunition, and other necessaries" (Blaxland 1823, p. 67).

It has been suggested by Ross Brownscombe (one of the few historians to give the subject more than a passing thought) that the decision to employ horses in 1813 was a bad one, made simply on the basis of class, that this was "a 'gentleman's excursion' and unlike their predecessors, the 'dauntless three' had no intention of carrying their own provisions." (Brownscombe 2004, p. 223)

This seems to me, however, too cynical and shallow a judgement, down-playing the seriousness of their intent and ignoring their obvious willingness to embrace hard physical labour.

Colonial gentry and driven by economic self-interest, certainly, they were nevertheless, as Lawson's journal in particular makes clear (Lawson 1813), prepared to share the heavy work of exploring and cutting a path with their 'servants'.

The horses seem to have been a deliberate strategy to save all five members of the expedition from the extra burden of carrying their arms and supplies.

Brownscombe states further that the decision to take horses was "not very smart because most of the difficulties the party encountered, particularly the hand cutting of the track ... , were the result of the horses' inability to make their way unaided through the thick bush" (Brownscombe 2004, p. 223).

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They proved it possible to get animals over the mountains and open the way to the west

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While the explorers, as we shall see, did encounter difficulties with the horses this judgement again seems too hasty and misses what I think was another important reason for taking the horses, other than as beasts of burden.

The explorers' journals make it clear that, unlike Caley, they were not primarily interested in "going farther than any person has yet been" (Andrews 1984, pp. 17-18) but, rather, in finding a practical route across the mountains along which both men and livestock could travel.

By taking the horses they were proving that it was possible to get animals over the mountains and, to this end, the labour invested in cutting a path was a necessary imposition.

Towards the end of his account, while admitting that they had not completely crossed the mountains, this was clearly what Wentworth was saying when he wrote (using 'cattle' in its older and broader sense): "we have at all events proved that they are traversable and that too, by cattle – a circumstance which ... has been hitherto deemed impossible". (Wentworth 1813, p. 114)

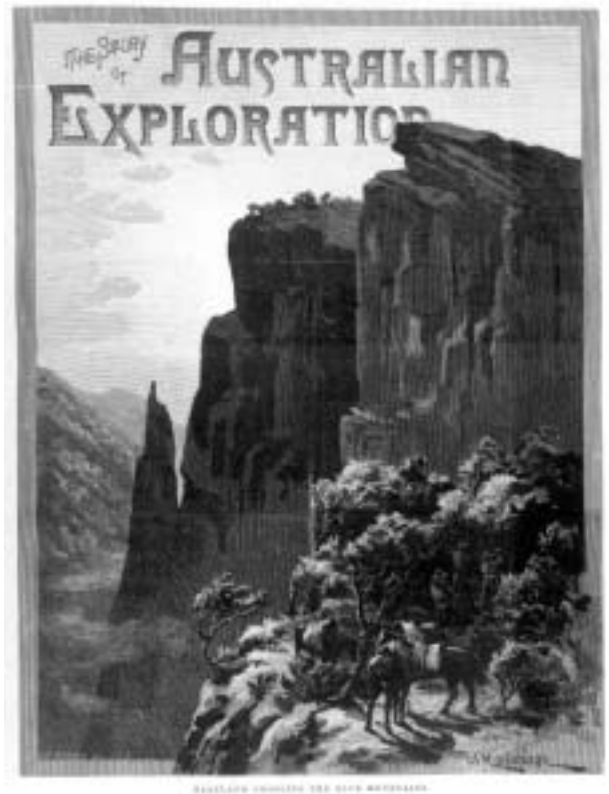
The horse in Australia 1788-1813

When the First Fleet arrived in early 1788 nine horses, purchased from the Dutch colony at the Cape of Good Hope and primarily of Spanish origin, were landed: one stallion, three mares and three 'colts' (1 male, 2 female) plus a further stallion and mare bought privately by two of the marine officers (Binney 2005, p. xvi).

Though a government stud was soon established, the authorities showed little interest in horse breeding in the early years and the better quality Arab, Thoroughbred and Jennet horses that followed were imported largely through the commercial enterprise of the officers of the NSW Corps and various wealthy free settlers ('exclusives').

The importation of large numbers of Spanish Jennet mares during the 1790s and the fact that Arab stallions dominated breeding up to the 1820s meant that the colony's horse population by 1813 was primarily composed of Arab and Arab-cross horses.

Such strong Arab bloodlines, combined with the freedom of open pasture lands, began to produce a local horse of hardy character, strong and with good wind and increasingly suited to the local environment (Kennedy 1992, pp. 12, 80, 84).



The 1813 Expedition as depicted in the Illustrated Australian News, January 1, 1891 (State Library of Victoria).

Even Commissioner JT Bigge, loaned a saddle horse by John Macarthur during his time in NSW 1819 -1821, was impressed with the quality, endurance and speed of the colonial bred horses (Kennedy 1992, p. 85).

The success of early horse breeders such as John Macarthur, D'Arcy Wentworth and Samuel Marsden was founded on Jennet mares and Arab stallions (Kennedy 1992, p. 83).

Because the business practices of these 'privateers' were not always strictly legal and they sometimes operated without official approval it is difficult to track exact numbers of horses in the colony.

Illegal imports did not always appear in official census figures (Binney 2005, pp. xvii-xviii).

By the early years of the 19th century, however, there were probably something like 300 horses in the colony, most owned by officers and wealthy free settlers. Horses were expensive and the preserve of 'gentlemen'.

Their number had increased to almost 1000 by 1808 and by 1815 numbered close to 2,500. (Kennedy 1992, pp. 13-14).

The first officially sanctioned race meeting was held at Hyde Park in October 1810 (at which Wentworth Jnr rode one of his father's horses to victory) and by the time Blaxland's party set out for the mountains horse breeding was a minor (compared to cattle and sheep) but established part of pastoral activity on the Cumberland Plain.

All three of the explorers owned horses and large pastoral properties.

Blaxland had 'Brush Farm' and 'Lee Home' at Eastwood and South Creek respectively, Lawson 'Veteran Hall' at Prospect, and Wentworth 'Vermont' on the Nepean River.

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The four sumpter horses were likely locally bred

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On his first small property acquired at Concord in 1807, Lawson had kept six horses and his interest continued when he established Veteran Hall.

Following his retirement from the military in 1824 he became a significant player on the Australian equine scene, importing a number of stallions and breeding and racing numerous horses. (Binney 2005, pp. 35-38)

His horses were also prized by the emerging coaching services.

In an 1826 memorial written to Earl Bathurst of the Colonial Department he claimed to own 70 horses (along with 9,000 sheep and 1500 head of cattle) (Magann nd., p. 68)

The four sumpter horses chosen in 1813 were most probably locally bred, selected with an eye for fitness and stamina and, in light of the above, primarily of Arab descent.

They were the precursors of a great equine heritage, for the pasture lands to which they helped open a passage would become, with increased Thoroughbred imports, a nursery for that hardy Australian stock horse, the Waler, a horse that later found its place in both the 'bush' ('Man from Snowy River') and 'ANZAC' (Australian Light Horse) legends. (Yarwood 1989, p. 17)

The performance of the horses during the expedition

Though a detailed list of the expedition's provisions is not available, a list of sorts can be made by using the journals themselves and the list of Caley's provisions mentioned earlier.

In this way some idea can be formed of what the horses were required to carry.

The expedition took seven muskets plus ammunition, tents, brush clearing implements (hooks, hoes etc.), compasses and cooking utensils.

Their food included salt meat and flour and probably, like Caley, also a supply of biscuit, rice, sugar and tea and perhaps even the portable soup which Caley valued greatly.

With seven men, the weight of these provisions would have been considerably greater than Caley's.

Five dogs and four horses, of course, also had to be fed and while the odd bird or wallaby might have helped feed the dogs, as we shall see the natural fodder available for the horses proved inadequate and had to be cut where available and added to their load.

The horses were not burdened, though, with a growing collection of natural history specimens!

There is no doubt that the loaded horses experienced problems with the mountain terrain and sometimes stumbled and fell. (May 13, 19, June 4) They "travelled very awkwardly", wrote Blaxland, "being much incommoded by the small trees and brush at places and the ridge they followed being very crooked and intricate between the gullies" (Blaxland 1813, p. 3).

The ground too, often with sharp, jutting rocks and loose stones that made ascents and descents especially difficult, severely tested the horses.

The general method of proceeding was to cut a path through the bush and then bring the loaded horses forward.

A camp would be established and a couple of men left to look after the horses and provisions while the others cut and cleared a path forward through the often thick brush, returning to camp at the end of the day.

The daily distances achieved often varied considerably and sometimes, when the going was especially difficult, they camped in the one spot for a couple of days and were forced to re-walk the same section of cleared track several times. It was tedious and exhausting work.

Several times they were forced to redistribute the horses' loads.

Descending Mount York (May 29) they used a hoe to cut a small trench to prevent the horses from slipping, but even so "the descent was so steep, that the horses could but just keep their footing without a load, so that, for some way, the party were obliged to carry the packages themselves." (Blaxland 1823, p. 74).

On the return ascent of Mount York (June 2) they again had to carry the horses' loads for part of the way and later, towards the end of the return journey (June 4), "one of them fell this day with its load quite exhausted and was with difficulty got on after putting its load on the other horses" (Blaxland 1813, p. 11).

On only one occasion did they actually lose a horse. It got away in the night (May 16) and fortunately they found it again the next morning "about a mile and a half back" (Blaxland 1813, p. 4).

The most serious and regular problem was lack of feed and water.

Good grass was generally difficult to procure on the mountains, reported Blaxland, the horses surviving on "coarse swamp grass or rush [as] nothing else could be got for them." (Blaxland 1813, p. 5).

"It was", confirmed Wentworth, "the scanty fare which these swamps afford that enabled our horses to exist." (Wentworth 1813, p. 112)

Where grass and rush was available it had to be cut and loaded on the horses for later use.

Occasionally only enough water could be found for the men and the horses went without.

Perhaps the decision, unlike the majority of earlier expeditions, to go out in the cooler months was made not only with the men in mind, for there is little doubt that the horses would have fared very badly in the hot, dry months (Brownscombe 2004, p. 223).

By the time they got the horses down Mount York "they were getting into miserable condition" (Blaxland 1813, p. 9).

Continued page 11

A wise innovation or silly mistake?

Continued from page 10

Soon, however, they passed into "open meadow land clear of trees, covered with grass two and three feet high" and "encamped on the bank of fine stream of water to rest themselves and to refresh their horses" (Blaxland 1813, p. 10).

Feed for horses continued to be a problem even after the road was built and had to be carried, until inns offering baiting facilities began to appear in the 1820s and 1830s.

It is interesting that many of the feed and water locations identified in 1813 eventually became regular stopping places for stock, then as locations for inns and eventually towns.

Springwood, Lawson ('Christmas Swamp') and Wentworth Falls, for example, can trace their stories in this way.

Conclusion

So, back to the question posed at the beginning – a wise innovation or a silly mistake?

It seems to me that the inclusion of sumpter horses to carry the provisions and equipment was a carefully planned one made in conjunction with the strategy of tracking along the ridge and that their presence was also important in demonstrating the practicality of moving livestock along the route the expedition travelled.

The horses certainly experienced difficulties but they did cope and, despite all the problems, all four returned safely, proving the quality of locally bred horses and their ability to survive in inhospitable terrain.

As suggested by Favenc, this *was* the horse's first real test in inland exploration and did in a sense begin what he termed "a new phase of exploration" (Favenc 1888, Ch. 2).

George Evans, sent out by Governor Macquarie to confirm and survey the newly discovered route later that year, saw no reason not to follow Blaxland's example and also included horses in his party.

After the road was built, Bathurst established and exploration extended further inland, horses became a common component of exploratory expeditions.

John Oxley in his exploration of the Lachlan River in 1817 took 13 horses, while explorers like Parr, Howe and Gregory Blaxland's nephew John who later (1817-1824) explored the Northern Blue Mountains also made use of horses. (Macqueen 2004)

When Melbourne folk were confronted with the extraordinary sight of Burke & Wills leaving that city in 1860 with 28 horses and 24 camels; horses (and other baggage animals) were well and truly taking "their share of sacrificing their lives in the cause" (Favenc 1888, Ch. 2).

The text of this article formed the research for an address by John Low OAM to the Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine Historical Society Inc on November 10, 2012 and was later published for that society as Historical Paper No.13.

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Continued page 12

The author ... John Low, OAM

Long term former president ofthe RAHS and vice president of BMACHO, Associate Professor Ian Jack in a tribute to John when it was announced that John had been honoured with the Order of Australia Medal probably more than most succinctly summed up the man, when he wrote:.

"All students of heritage and history in the Blue Mountains are much in the debt of John Low.

"By developing a local studies centre of excellence at Springwood Library, John has been an essential force in broadening public awareness of the diversity of surviving evidence.

"John's amiability, unflappability and determination, combined with his own effortless mastery of so many unfamiliar corners of Mountains history, have given him a very special place in the affections of all right-minded scholars," wrote Dr Jack.

John was employed by the Blue Mountains City Library as a local history librarian in March 1982 on a 6 month contract to establish a local history collection.

Following an extension of this contract, he was appointed on a permanent basis in September 1983 and retired in August 2007.

Wild Ephemera a collection of some his poems is indicative of his ability and skill as an unbiased observer of the natural and human history of the Blue Mountains.

John is a regular contributor to *HERITAGE* and other newsletters and journals and has published a number of books.

John is a much sought after and accomplished public speaker.

He is an individual member of BMACHO and served a term on its management committee.

1813: The four sumpter horses of Blaxland, Wentworth and Lawson

Continued from page 11

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The ubiquitous plaque

Blue Mountains City Council will conduct the invitation only 'Mount York Civic Event' as part of the Blue Mountains Crossings bicentenary celebrations on May 28.

A commemorative plaque will be unveiled.

Grant to research Woodford Academy students who served in World War 1

Fifteen graduates from Woodford Academy who enlisted in the First AIF during the First World War will be the subject of further research.

A grant of $2859 from the NSW Office of Communities (Veterans Affairs) will be used to assist this research.

They served in a variety of capacities. Two were killed in action and one was awarded the Military Medal.

They can now be seen as a mini-study of the time and experience of men who served in that war.

There is a large collection of unprocessed resources and records that contains information about these men and their school experiences.

This includes photographs, school records, fees paid family contacts and the like.

It is proposed to research these boys and the period 1910 -1918 and to add their military records to create a teaching and learning experience for schools in the area and the wider community.

The information will be of particular interest to a study of the social history surrounding the men and the motivations that caused them to join.

The untapped material will also be valuable to university undergraduates and research students

A number of years ago, Mrs Neryl Medcalf carried out an extensive study of the men and this formed the basis for an interesting standing display at Woodford Academy.

1813: A tale that grew in the telling

1813 has been long celebrated as the year that three intrepid European explorers – Gregory Blaxland, William Charles Wentworth and William Lawson – successfully penetrated the sandstone prison walls around the prison colony at Sydney.

The First Crossing of the Blue Mountains is thus a key historic story of early Australian exploration, as it was the first significant land-based expedition into the continent's interior.

Over 200 years the Blue Mountains have been heavily inscribed figuratively and materially by European travellers, settlers, and their descendants.

First perceived as a barrier to westward progress the mountains were reviled for their 'wildness' in early accounts, but once they had been travelled over, the 'fair prospect' they provided gained them more positive descriptions.

Eventually the mountains became a health and recreation resort in their own right.

The language of bodily health and enjoyment associated with tourism continues to this day.

Parallel with the figurative inscriptions upon the landscape came the material ones.

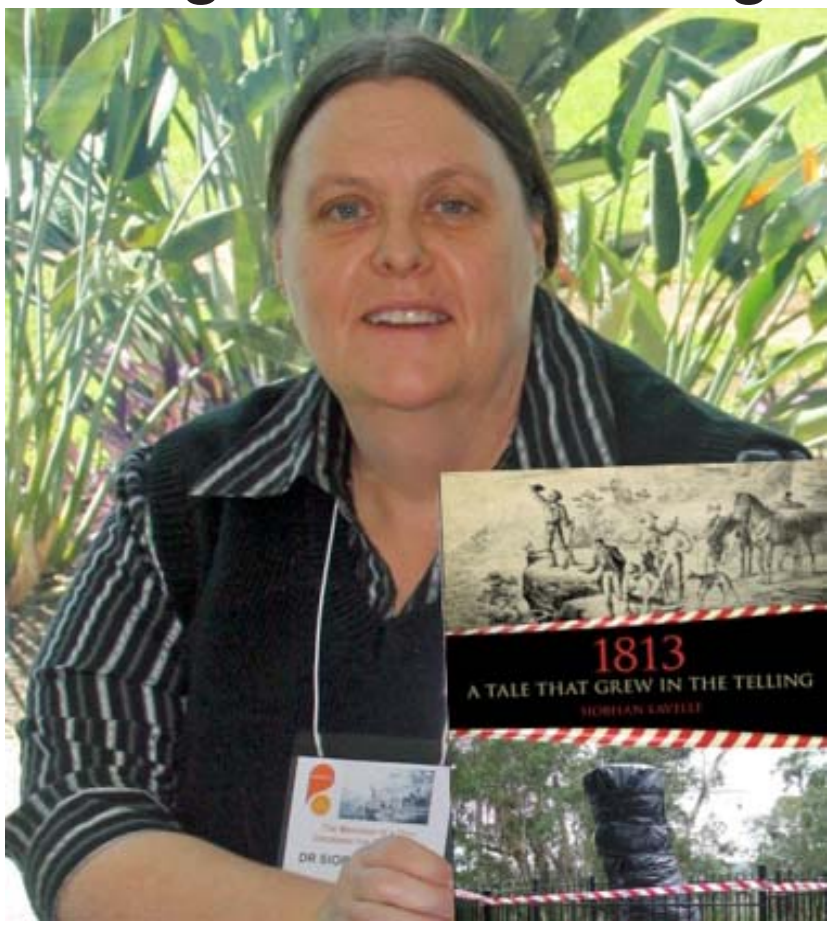
Trees were marked, cairns built, roads made and later memorials were erected.

Dr Lavelle's book, *1813: A tale that grew in the telling* does not deal in detail with the events of the 1813 Crossing.

Instead it examines the commemoration of the First Crossing through poetry, literature, and visual images as well as commemorative ceremonies, monuments and plaques.

Five chapters are devoted to sites and monuments regarded as icons, each of which marks a focal point or key event in the story of the crossing.

The sites were associated with 'original' events or reputed happenings, and with later commemorations and celebrations.



Siobhan Lavelle, OAM, MA, PhD with her latest book 1813: A tale that grew in the telling.

The region contains about a dozen sites associated with the First Crossing, ranging from simple monuments such as rock cairns, to more complex sites thickly populated with elaborate landmark structures and explanatory plaques.

The author explains that the sites were erected by local people to claim their part in the historic narratives about European exploration, discovery, possession of the country, national progress and expansion, with explorers as central heroes – the agents of empire and transformation.

Thus an historical narrative may be written both *about* the landscape and also *in* the landscape or place, by the people who live or lived there.

Chapters 1 and 2 examine the genesis, evolution and re-casting of the master narrative during the 19th and 20th centuries.

Chapter 3 examines the commemorative celebrations and ceremonies. Chapters 4 to 8 deal with specific sites, their histories and their roles within the overall ideological construct and requirements of the narrative of the 'First Crossing'.

The 1813 book argues that the details of memorialisation and twists in the overall narrative of the First Crossing are inextricably tied to significant changes in the settler ideology and to historical explanations about Australia's origins and key events.

The sites are discussed in chronological order based upon when they were first identified or memorialised.

Sites discussed in detail include: the Explorers' Marked Tree (Chapter 4), Mount York (Chapter 5), Caley's Repulse (Chapter 6), a series of smaller monuments or sites (Chapter 7), and Mount Blaxland (Chapter 8).

Continued page 14

1813: A tale that grew in the telling

Continued from page 13

These sites were valued as the product of a dominant narrative that remains remarkable for its longevity.

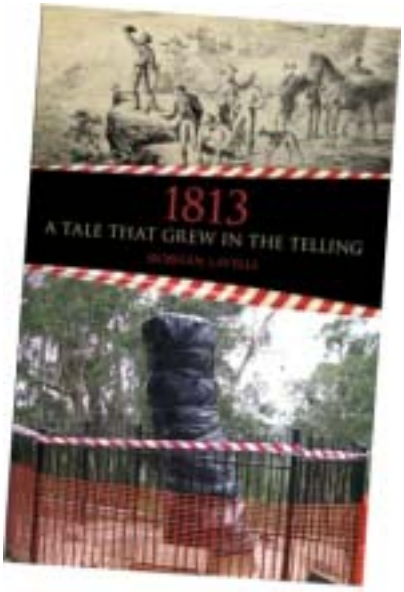
The first site was memorialised in 1884; the last new monument was added to a site in 1988.

Some renewal of structures has occurred recently and new monuments, additions and refurbishment of some existing sites will happen in 2013.

It is argued that the importance of the sites examined in this study lies not in issues about authenticity or otherwise but in the way they have been used in different historic contexts and eras.

With the 1813 First Crossing bicentenary occurring in May 2013, this account of earlier commemorative efforts has special interest.

Dr Lavelle's book was launched in Sydney on April 18, 2013 at History House by by Associate Professor Grace Karskens and in the Blue Mountains at the Cultural Centre, Katoomba, by Wendy Blaxland on May 3, 2013.



It is available in Blue Mountains independent book shops with a rrp of $35

About the author - Siobhan Lavelle, OAM, MA, PhD

Siobhan Lavelle has worked in archaeology and heritage since 1985.

She commenced her career at the NSW National Trust, then established a private consultancy in 1989 providing advice and assistance to the private sector, government and community groups.

From 1994 to 2003 she was the consultant archaeologist for the Heritage Council endorsed "Convict Trail Project" with much work undertaken on an honorary basis.

Between 1990 and 2004 Siobhan won several heritage awards, both state and national.

Siobhan completed a history PhD on the First Crossing of the Blue Mountains in 2004.

In 2008 she received a National Trust Commendation (Bronze Medal).

In 2009 she received an OAM for service to historical archaeology and heritage conservation, particularly the preservation of colonial roads and cemeteries.

Siobhan re-joined the public sector full time in 2005 and works as a senior heritage officer for the Heritage Council of NSW.

BMACHO support for Thompson Square National Heritage Listing

Nomination of Thompson Square, Windsor for National Heritage listing has been supported by BMACHO with a submission made to the Federal Minister for Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities, Tony Burke, MP

Thompson Square, Windsor, the oldest town square in Australia, is under threat from the present plans of Roads and Maritime Services, to replace the existing historic Windsor Bridge with a high level road and bridge, which will cut a swathe through Thompson Square, isolating some of the colonial buildings on the northern side from the rest of the square.

A new bridge is planned and this would encroach on Thompson Square and the remaining historic buildings.

The current bridge can be repaired for a lot less than the cost of a new bridge and these repairs would last for at least another 20 years. There is an alternate route that could be taken for a new bridge over the Hawkesbury River.

Thompson Square, Windsor, has the highest significance and value in the course of Australia's cultural history, as the first developed example of this country's town planning.

It is within the planned structure of Macquarie's largest and first developed rural town, yet still visibly within the context of its 1794 farming roots.

Thompson Square retains its civic structure and the form it evolved between 1795 and 1800. The Square remains still legible, useful and esteemed in 2013, after 218 years.

A BASTILLE DAY LUNCHEON will be held at Everglades Historic House and Garden, Leura on July 14.

A delicious French flavoured luncheon will be served in the stunning art deco tearooms. Bookings essential to 4784 1938 or everglades@nationaltrust.com.au

Scenic World sculpture exhibition stands well in heritage rain forest

Blue Mountains artist, Daniel Kojta, has been awarded the $20,000 Scenic World acquisitive prize for his highly polished stainless steel sculpture, *Reflect Phi [a momen].*

Kojta's work is one of 35 artworks from as far as America and Ireland, on exhibition for selection along the rainforest floor at Scenic World.

The award was presented by Scenic World's joint managing directors, Anthea and David Hammon, on behalf of the Hammon Family Council, during the official exhibition opening last month

The winning artwork consists of three independent but related sculptures translated through the mathematical Phi formula of Australian natives.

Kojta said: "it was an incredible opportunity to receive the award at an exhibition that is growing and supporting professional contemporary arts in the Blue Mountains".

Judges for the 2013 exhibition were: artist and Environmental Research Initiative for Art (COFA) Director Allan Giddy, Dinosaur Designs Creative Director, Louise Olsen, and Associate Professor in Art History and Theory at the College of Fine Arts (COFA), Dr Alan Krell.

The judges said the winning sculpture was a unique response to site that reflected both a modernist and contemporary aesthetic sensibility.

"What appealed to us about Kojta's work was its beguiling ability to reflect subtly the immediate environment and successfully create a dialogue between the geometric and the organic," they said

Highly commended sculptures are;

- Last year's winner from Wollongong, Greer Taylor's *resting place* – "a delicately knitted wire structure that belies its materiality and seemingly floats in the rainforest";
- Nigel Harrison's *Bypass* – "an enigmatic work that references and challenges the rainforest through its evocation of 'energy' both literally and figuratively; and
- Ireland's Darragh O'Callaghan's "copper pipe configuration, *Serosa* that resonates wonderfully with the calligraphic qualities of the rainforest."

Exhibition manager, Lizzy Marshall, said Sculpture at Scenic World had again pushed the boundaries of onsite responsive art.

"All of our exhibiting artists have magnificently created within the context of an environment that is adherent to the complexities of sculpture and its mass, tension, formalist ideals and narrative objectives," she said.

Australia's only dedicated rainforest sculpture exhibition includes the indoor *Sculpture Otherwise* exhibition, and public programs featuring guided and independent tours, free evening lectures, and family and children's activities.

Sculpture at Scenic World 2013, offered a $20,000 acquisitive award, the new $5000 artist peer award, a $2000 Scenic World staff choice award and The Carrington Hotel's $1000 people's choice award.

Scenic World has also released a series of special overnight exhibition packages, starting at $207.50 for couples and $299 for families, at a collection of iconic Blue Mountains hotels and resorts.

Sculpture at Scenic World closed on May 19, 2013.

For more information about Daniel Kojta, visit www.onaircontemporary.com For interviews, images or media famils, contact Australia PR director, Michelle Grima, on 0416 114 911 or email mtgrima@gmail.com. For more information about the event and packages, visit www.scenicworld.com.au/sculpture

Scenic World is an inugural member of BMACHO

Daniel Kojta's highly polished stainless steel sculpture, Reflect Phi [a momen].

David and Anthea Hammon standing with sculptor Daniel Kojta winner of the $20,000 Scenic World sculpture award . Photograph: Cindy Waldron.

Mt Victoria museum creates new displays

MOUNT VICTORIA and District Historical Society is working hard to present new displays at the museum for the Crossings commemoration on May 25 and 26.

One room will be devoted to aspects of the crossing from the time of explorers to Evans, Cox and the Macquaries.

Dramatic images will be in place and tools of trade on display from cross cut saws and a boot-maker's last to the historic circumferenter, an early surveying instrument.

Another new display is of artifacts from the Gundungurra tribe which were donated to Melbourne Ward for his local museums and later donated to the Mt Victoria and District Historical Society.

The third major display is of farm implements from farms in the local valleys, showing how resourceful the settlers were and what tough lives they led.

It is hoped to improve signage for all these displays.

***Mt Victoria museum is uniquely situated in the beautifully restored sandstone bulding which continues to service passengers travelling to* the west**

Opening hours for the museum for the month of May have been extended and are from 12 noon to 5pm each weekend. The hours for the crossing weekend will be from 10am to 5pm. The museum is housed in the Mount Victoria Railway Station.

There are five display rooms on the ground floor which are wheelchair accessible and there are displays in most of the upstairs rooms. Admission is $5 adult/ $1 child.

Contributed by Jean Winston.

Powerhouse Museum Movable Heritage Fellowship 2013

POWERHOUSE Museum Movable Heritage Fellowship 2013

Coming up with an idea for a research project was not difficult for Leanne Wicks from Kandos, living as she does on the Western coalfields of NSW.

Leanne has just been awarded the Powerhouse Museum Heritage Festival for 2013.

Evidence of Kandos' past reliance of the winning of coal doesn't take much digging.

First hard hat issued to miners in 1947. It is lined with copper mesh. It replaced the cloth hat.

With superior Kandos cement from kilns heated with Kandos coal contributing to the concrete footings of Sydney Harbour Bridge no wonder it stands strong after 80 years.

Evidence of the regions' present reliance on coal is also easy to find with many coal mines still dotting the landscape.

Fascinated by objects in the Kandos Bicentennial Industrial Museum, which came from the Kandos Collieries, Leanne wanted to tell the story of the many men who have mined the black treasure from 1913 to 2001.

"Having grown up with green coloured glasses, I'm enjoying the challenge of respecting the history of coal-mining, researching the facts about the industry and recoiling from at what some mines are doing to the land," Ms Wicks said.

Museums workshop

BMACHO will conduct a workshop to assist volunteers to better manage local museums and collections.

The workshop to be facilitated by Lynn Collins will be held at the Mt Victoria & District Historical Society Museum on Saturday, July 20 commencing at 10am and finishing at about 3pm

Lunch will be provided by BMACHO at the Blue Mountains Manor House.

As numbers are limited, only the first 30 registrations will be accepted. Contact Jan Koperberg at j.koperberg@bigpond.com or 4751 5834 (leave a message if unanswered) by July 13.

Newspapers and genealogy

By Audrey King, president Blue Mountains Family History Society

NEWSPAPERS have always played an important role in Australian life.

A wooden-screw printing press came to the colony with the First Fleet and in 1796 George Hughes, the first "government printer", was at work in a small building behind Government House, his job being to print government orders, broadsheets, and so on.

But until 1841 most of the government's printing was contracted out to the many private presses.

In December 1840 Governor Gipps established a government printing office on the corner of Bent and Phillip Streets, and appointed John Kitchen as government printer, with two free men as assistants.

One of these was my husband's great-grandfather, John Spring, who had previously worked on the *Sydney Herald* from its inception in 1831. In 1831 John Spring was not a free man!

At the beginning of 1838, *The Australian* contained a notice advising intending migrating pressmen, that there was constant employment available, as 17 papers were being printed in the colony.

Immigrating pressmen were given free passage for themselves and their families, and *The Australian* itself required two pressmen. Wages were 50 shillings per week. This was in 1838.

Not all the newspapers established in the colony were successful.

Many were started by men with a bit of spare cash and an axe to grind, and the freedom of the press was abused so much that sensitive governors unsuccessfully attempted to introduce censorship.

Battles raged between various editors, often on sectarian grounds, and libel suits were common.

When people began moving out of the cities, newspaper men followed closely behind, for information was important.

It was the printer or compositor who was the important person behind the newspaper, and in fact many early editors were artisans rather than creative writers. Perhaps we could say the same today in many cases!

The gold rush spawned many newspapers, and when the fields closed and the diggers moved on, so did the presses.

Even away from Sydney the rivalries between newspapers was keen, and Goulburn was a good example, with five papers being printed in the early 1850s and quite a bit of unhealthy rivalry existed.

The first newspaper in Katoomba appears to have been *The Mountain Advertiser* (1876).

William Spring (son of the aforementioned John Spring) started *The Katoomba Times Plain Dealer* in 1889, and then sold it to his son and a partner.

It was not a success and the plant was moved to Kaduna South Australia about 1894.

The Mountaineer was begun in 1894, *The Observer* c1895.

Others began, faded, were resurrected, died again and amalgamated throughout this century and now there is just *The Blue Mountains Gazette.*

As I said before, many of the early newspapers were started by men with a message to spread, but today's editors need to be a little more circumspect in expressing their opinions and they usually try to ensure an appearance of impartiality.

The advent of a better educated community means that most people can now think for themselves, and are not keen on having the opinions of others rammed down their throats.

The big metropolitan dailies attract a loyal readership, but the local papers, usually supported by advertising and free to householders, are community-based and so cater for the local area.

They provide us with council happenings and non-happenings, community events, town plans, local gossip, public notices, advertisements for just about everything and (a source of considerable amusement and amazement) letters to the editor.

Continued on page 18

The author - Audrey King

Born and schooled as Audrey Eamens at Parramatta, I became a high school teacher (French) at the new and absolutely huge Fairfield Girls High School back in the 1950s.

My later country service at Murrumburrah Inter High was an absolute pushover after such an introduction. Marriage to another teacher, and a move to Narrabri, was followed by a return to Parramatta.

When the last of our four children started school I was dragooned into primary teaching, which I actually enjoyed, for the next 15 years.

When our two married sons moved to Springwood and Kurrajong we found it easier and cheaper in 1988 to move to Springwood, having taken up a new career in building and renovations on their behalf.

Fortunately, as we've grown older so have they, and even the grandchildren no longer require child sitting.

Newspapers and genealogy

Continued from page 17

These often provide unbalanced and very partial views, but whether or not we agree with the opinions expressed, at least there is a forum for expression, and in our local area there is a fairly good chance of having a letter printed (unpaid journalists?).

Unfortunately even in country papers we find amalgamations having an effect, and there are very few independent local newspapers left.

So many local newspapers now have a few outside pages devoted to local news, and then the greater part is common to newspapers from one end of the state to the other.

The few remaining independent papers are the successors of those dear to the heart of the family historian.

All newspapers are important to family historians because they set the background for the social history of the times we are interested in, but it is the true country or local paper that makes our eyes light up and takes up an inordinate amount of our time as we are diverted by the trivia in our search for relevant information.

It was in the *Braidwood Observer and Miners' Advocate* of 1862 that I read of the steepness and the narrowness of the road to Araluen that necessitated "up days" and "down days" for traffic.

It was in the *Maitland Mercury* of 1892 that I read "The number of deaths for April is lower than in that month for 10 years past. The government statistician says that this is because people who might otherwise have died in April had died previously from influenza." A touch of Hibernianism here, surely.

I can still remember the hours wasted in taking up linoleum and carpet squares when I was younger.

In those days underfelt was not used — the linoleum or carpet was laid on a few thicknesses of newspapers, and how interesting those papers were many years later!

That's where the waste of time came about.

However, I digress. The great importance of local newspapers for family historians is in the publication of the trivia.

When my mother-in-law holidayed with us in the early 1960s the event was recorded in the Harden paper (she came from Harden) and the Narrabri one (we lived at Narrabri).

The information did not come from us directly, but I guess each paper had its own "gossip writer" whose job was to collect such trivia.

But you all know the sorts of things I have in mind — graduations, weddings, competitions, etc. And if you're lucky you might even find a photograph.

The really big plus is the obituary!! I spent a small fortune trying to discover the death in Victoria of my husband's great -grandmother.

I knew she was still alive in 1863, but every search I requested of the VPRO for later years came back negative.

Eventually, after a plaintive complaint from me, they informed me that Victoria doesn't cross-reference, and that she may have remarried.

This, of course, is exactly what had happened. But it was in the days before public access to BDM's, so I took a trip down to Melbourne and read through the Broadford papers in the Latrobe Library until I found her obituary in 1905.

Obituaries in themselves can be a source of wonder. I have read some very flowery ones (especially from the Grafton and Maclean area) and some that make you feel good, like the one in the *Cootamundra Herald* in 1901: '…Her case was a hopeless one …Mrs King was ever ready to assist in any local matters, and she was of such a happy nature as to make all around her feel happy with her. In her illness she was visited by a large number of kind friends.' [my husband's grandmother!]

Over the years I had tried to discover more about John Spring and his time in Goulburn in the early 1850s, but the local history association was unable (at that stage at any rate) to help me.

SYDNEY GAZETTE,
And New South Wales Advertiser

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY.

SATURDAY, MARCH 5, 1803

General Order.

ADDRESS.

At left, the front page of the first newspaper printed in NSW, *The Sydney Gazette and NSW Advertiser* on March 5, 1803. *National Library of Australia, Trove, Australian Newspapers.*

Continued page 19

Newspapers

Continued from page 18

Last year I wrote to the Goulburn Family History Society and BINGO! treasures galore!! These included photocopies of advertisements, reports etc culled from the local papers of the time.

Do you wonder that I like local newspapers, and sing the praises of family history societies?

Goulburn obviously has indexed its local newspapers, and it is a hope of mine that the Blue Mountains Family History Society may someday complete a similar index for the benefit of future family (and other) historians.

With my interest in names you can surmise quite rightly that I am also fascinated by the names of newspapers.

In actual fact, there are really not all that many when you consider the vast number of newspapers.

The owners show a lamentable lack of originality or an over-desire for conforming to tradition.

Off the top of my head I can think of: *The Globe, The Sun, The Star, The Gazette, The Press, The Herald, The Mercury, The Advertiser, The . . . Daily, The Observer, The Courier, The Express, The Advocate, The Mirror, The Dispatch* and *The Signal.* I leave you to add all the others you have come across. Now be honest! Are there many more?

In this article I have done little more than scratch the surface of the importance generally of newspapers in and to the local community.

From underwear to hardware

HAWKESBURY REGIONAL MUSEUM will celebrate its 5th anniversary on May 25-26 with a weekend of talks, activities for kids, things to eat and drink and the opening of a new exhibition, *From underwear to hardware* (Hordern Brothers, Windsor 1962-1998)

Funds for flagging works at Woodford Academy

SANDSTONE FLAGGING areas at Woodford Academy will receive a much needed restoration following a successful application for a grant from the NSW government.

A grant of $16,000 under the Community Building Partnership Program has been received and the Trust has allocated a further $21,000 totalling $37,000 to lift and repair the sandstone flagging areas of the Academy and repaint the external timberwork.

Meantime, Libby Burgess of the Woodford Academy Management committee has been instrumental in the new town entry signs showing Woodford, "Home of the Woodford Academy c 1834.

Libby is also the liaison person with Abigroup, which has agreed to build a connecting path between the Academy and Woodford Reserve, for the Lend Lease Community Day project in September 2013.

This will provide a pleasant alternative entrance for visitors after the dual highway is completed.

In 1979 this property was gifted to National Trust which in 2001 received an Australian government grant of $1 million from the Centenary of Federation fund for renovation.

Flagging at the rear of Woodford Academy. Image by John Leary, OAM

A moment in time...
a remarkable exhibition at Hartley

OPENING MID-MAY *A Moment in Time*, is an exhibition that examines the celebrated crossing of the Blue Mountains by Europeans in 1813, and the consequences of that crossing.

Duncan Wass, chairman of the Hartley District Progress Association 1813 Sub Committee said: "In settling on the name *A Moment in Time*, we have tried to capture the essence of the crossing.

"It was but a moment in time and this is an exhibition that considers what existed before and what came after".

Curated by retired professional historian Joan Kent, now a resident in the Hartley Valley, *A Moment in Time* examines much more than the crossing by Blaxland Lawson and Wentworth and their party.

It begins with a consideration of the rich and ancient geology of the landscape into which the explorers intruded, where ancient sedimentary rocks lie juxtaposed with igneous granite.

In fact, the opening display in the exhibition is a most remarkable large mollusc or Brachiopod fossil, that has never before been on public display.

Discovered in the Hartley Valley, it nestles in, but is removable intact, from the block of late Devonian grit stone in which it was discovered.

Whilst geology is the opening theme, the exhibition explores many aspects of the crossing story, from the Indigenous peoples whose country was being traversed, through the explorers and the development of the Bathurst Road, to the first European visitors to Bathurst.

It closes with a consideration of the life and achievements of some of the earliest settlers in the Hartley Valley, John and Jane Grant and Pierce and Mary Collits who settled here in the early 1820s.

"This significant exhibition is a comprehensive, sophisticated, accessible and absorbing presentation of that exciting yet poignant moment when the Europeans vigorously fanned out westwards - it's a must-see amongst Crossings commemorations," commented noted museums adviser Lynn Collins who has acted as an occasional adviser to the project.

The exhibition has been open to the public on weekends from May 18 and will be until June 16, from 10am until 3pm, and by appointment midweek.

Party viewing can be arranged at any time by contacting Barbara Johnson on 6355 2017.

The exhibition will be held at the historic Hartley School and Hall located just off the Great Western Highway in Mid Hartley Road, Hartley.

A Moment in Time is just one element of the commemoration activities the Hartley community is undertaking, all promoted under the 'Hartley Rocks' logo.

Other activities include guided walks and rides along the line of Cox's 1814 road through the Hartley Valley, a project to date sign many of the heritage assets located within the valley and the commitment of a time capsule to inform 2113 residents of the valley.

The Cox's Road walk represents a unique opportunity to walk some of the country traversed by Cox and the explorers, much of which is located on privately owned land and is not normally accessible to the public.

For information on the Hartley Valley's Bicentenary events, go to www.hartleyvalley.org.au/hartleyrocks .

For more information on the Bicentenary of the Crossings, go to http://visitbluemountains.com.au/bicentenary.php

For any further information contact: Duncan Wass chairman Hartley District Progress Association 1813 Committee, telehone (02) 6355 2043 0414 506 643, Email: hartleyprogress@gmail.com

The Hartley Rock has lain in Hartley Valley for more than 300 million years. Image: John Leary, OAM.

Festival to recall bushranger Ben Hall's 1863 raid on Bathurst

A FESTIVAL to mark the 150th anniversary of the Ben Hall raid at Bathurst in 1863 is being planned for the weekend September, 27-29, 2013

The raid on Bathurst saw some far-reaching effects that changed people's lives and the government of the day.

Bathurst District Historical Society president Alan McRae, FAIHA said, the anniversary will take the form of a weekend festival with numerous activities planned over three days.

There will be a full program of re-enactments, talks, tours, historic bushranging and colonial displays and memorabilia, book launches as well as a special dinner with guest speaker and bushranger historian Peter Smith with his talk entitled "Heroes to Villains."

A sub-committee of the Bathurst District Historical Society has been meeting since May last year to organise this special weekend.

This event marks the raid on Bathurst by the Ben Hall Gang and the effect it had not only on Bathurst but the Colony of New South Wales and the police system.

The raid took place on the evening of Saturday October 3, 1863, sending many residents into a panic as the news was passed around.

It was during the time in history where bushrangers roamed the country from the 1860s till the 1880s.

"Plans for the weekend are well in hand and coming together nicely. There is only a short time before visitors start arriving in Bathurst so be sure to book or arrange your weekend accommodation if you plan to stay for the weekend," said Alan McRae.

The Bathurst Regional Council has granted permission to close Russell Street in front of the historic Bathurst Court House to hold the activities on the Saturday afternoon and has agreed to finance the cost of the closure.

The Bathurst District Historical Society and the committee are very appreciative of their assistance.

Details, locations and information on the dinner, historic displays, talks, tours and other activities over the three days will appear in various issues of a special e-newsletter and media as details are confirmed.

It is hoped some families will use the weekend to incorporate a family reunion, especially on the Sunday.

Ben Hall - Penzig Collection

Some may wish to put a plaque on Bathurst's Pioneer Wall which can be organised through the Bathurst District Historical Society on info@bathursthistory.org.au to arrange for the information and application form.

To receive the e-newsletter direct just email amcrae@lisp.com.au

Contributed by Alan McRae, FAIHA, President Bathurst District Historical Society

BEN HALL RAID DINNER TO BE HELD AT HISTORIC BATHURST SHOWGROUND

A SPECIAL Ben Hall raid dinner will be held on the Saturday evening May 28, 2013, in the historic Beau Brown pavilion at the Bathurst Showground.

It was re-constructed in 1891 and 1892 and was initially known as the Showground Art Gallery (pavilion) having been purchased at Ashfield and dismantled and numbered before bringing it to Bathurst on the train and re-erected on the grounds.

CABLE CLERICAL INDEX ONLINE

AN INDEX to Anglican Clergy in Australia, prepared by the late Dr Ken Cable and his wife, Leonie is now available for searching online.

Ken Cable was a former councillor of the Society of Australian Genealogists.

Initially, his index was only intended to cover clergy who served in the diocese of Sydney from 1788 to 1890, but it was later extended to cover up to December 31, 1961 (when the Church of England became the Anglican Church of Australia).

Each entry provides both biographical details as well as information on the individual's 'career' within the church.

The Cables initially prepared the index on thousands of hand-written cards and these have now been transcribed in a Word document which is downloadable as a 2826 page PDF document http://anglicanhistory.org/aus/cci/ .

TRUST WALK ON COX'S ROAD

BLUE MOUNTAINS Mountains Branch of National Trust are organising a walk from Mt York to Hartley, down the road constructed by William Cox and his band of convicts in 1814-15.

The walk on Saturday, June 1, follows almost 200 years to the day in the footsteps of Blaxland, Lawson and Wentworth.

Those who wish to participate should meet at the Mt York car park at the end of Mt York Road, Mt Victoria at 9.30am.

There is much to see to remind us of the past.

The walk is quite steep and walkers need good, strong footwear.

There will be a hearty lunch to greet participants at the bottom and a bus will take walkers back to Mt York.

There is the possibility of a pickup and return to Blackheath Station.

Cost: includes food and drinks, NT members $30, non-members $35, child $10. Bookings/tickets: essential. Contact: Liz Van Reyswood (02) 4757 2694 or BlueMtsNatTr@gmail.com

Cox's Road, Mt York stockyard rail anchorage

Cox's Road, Mt York rock cuttings for bridge support

Cox's Road, Mt York chipped rock face

HAZARDOUS TO HERITAGE

THE BETTER PLANNING Network (BPN) says the new planning laws proposed by NSW Planning Minister Brad Hazzard will endanger our heritage buildings and sites.

BPN's Corinne Fisher said: "With the government proposing that 80% of development will be approved with no opportunity for heritage assessment, community comment or involvement, we can expect a huge decrease in heritage assets over the coming decade.

"We are particularly concerned that Aboriginal heritage which has not yet been listed on a heritage register will simply be bulldozed."

Under the current system things like rock carvings and middens that neighbours are aware of but are not officially listed on the National Parks register, or are only discovered once the site is surveyed, can be protected.

"The proposed system opens the way for destruction of many priceless carvings, middens and artifacts simply because they have remained hidden and undisturbed, sometimes for thousands of years.

"Now they could be in the way of development where there is no heritage assessment and the community has no right to comment or raise objections,'' said Ms Fisher.

"We have to rely on the goodwill of developers to declare these heritage items and to protect them."

The same fate will await heritage houses that local government has been slow to place on heritage registers.

The new planning laws allow buildings with heritage value but which have not been formally listed as heritage to be demolished without any opportunity for their character to be preserved.

"We urge residents who do not want the local character of their suburbs to be demolished and who do not want what is left of our Aboriginal heritage to disappear to voice their opinion strongly to the minister.''

"The minister can act to protect heritage. It's up to the community to show him we care."

For more information contact: Corinne Fisher 0421 831 889

Bradman house wins Trust award

THE ICONIC tank stand, where a young Don Bradman honed the skills that would see him become part of Australian Folklore, is among the amazing and varied pieces of heritage restored and recognised at the 19th annual National Trust Heritage Awards.

The awards have come to represent the pinnacle for those saving our past for the future.

2013 winners include the restoration of a now-vibrant wetlands in the Hunter Valley, re-building a crumbling church, reviving Wollongong's North Beach Bathers Pavilion, creating a 'sand library' to assist with vital mortar restoration projects, and re-shaping the Chinese Gardens in Darling Harbour.

For more information and a list of all the winners visit http://bit.ly/12SNnFc

Image: Bradman Project, Conservation Built Heritage - Community/Individual, Joint Winner - Clive Lucas Stapleton & Partners

More accolades for *HERITAGE*

From Conrad Mathias, St Joseph's College Hunters Hill: *Thank you very much for forwarding your excellent newsletter. I am once again struck by the professionalism and accessibility of your publication. The preservation of historical issues and the oral testimony of learned people is such an important facet of a civilised society.*

From Mary Reynolds, research officer Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine Historical Society: *The newsletter is a remarkable triumph.*

From Wendy Blaxland, a descendant of Gregory Blaxland AND playwright *Crossing!* the play*: Just loved the March-April 2013 edition of HERITAGE, and have said so at length in an email to other members of the committee. Well done!*

From Wendy Hawkes cultural development officer, Lithgow City Council: *What a FANTASTIC edition of HERITAGE John. Thanks for popping so much Lithgow things in, especially our workshop. Really appreciate it. The Mercury has agreed to do a column for us on the Crossings every fortnight and I was wondering if I could forward this on to them as a resource as it has so much well researched info on so many events and stories.*

From Kate Matthew – Historian and member of Blue Mountains City Council's heritage advisory committee: *Thank you for another great newsletter – it is a great source of information on the work being done on Blue Mountains history and heritage*.

From Associate Professor Ian Jack former president of Royal Australian Historical Society: *My warmest congratulations on HERITAGE, which goes from strength to strength.*

The servants and kangaroo hunter

THE NAMES of Blaxland, Wentworth and Lawson already household names in Australian history are being thrust before the community with regular monotony as this year's Western Crossings bicentenary celebrations and commemoration proceed But what of the lesser known characters in this much lauded adventure.

Marcia Osterberg-Olsen of the Mt Victoria & District Historical Society has written and had published in the *Sydney Morning Herald*'s RSVP column a plea to find and to recognise the descendants of the three servants and the kangaroo hunter who accompanied the three explorers. Marcia wrote that there appears to be no record of these men.

STOP PRESS Two of the convicts with Blaxland, Lawson and Wentworth have been named. The kangaroo hunter was John Burns or Byrnes and one of the convicts was Samuel Fairs, discovered recently by Christine Yeats, senior vice president, RAHS. Christine found the information on a petition written in 1817 by Samuel Fairs to the Governor.

BMACHO WILL PROMOTE MEMBERS EVENTS

DICK MORONY, email address richardmorony@optusnet.com.au compiles the 'Calendar of Events' list for BMACHO members and sends it out by email monthly.

Member organisations can send their events for the whole year if they wish or as they plan during the year.

Scott Pollock, email address everglades@nationaltrust.com.au will add members' events, with a description and photograph to the BMACHO website.

Scott would like to receive the submissions about six to eight weeks before the event.

Events are also published in the association's newsletter *HERITAGE.*

HERITAGE is published and distributed by e-mail six times a year in January, March, May, July, September, November.

Material including photographs should be e-mailed to John Leary at johnnanette@optusnet.com.au about 6 to 8 weeks before the event for the best coverage.

It is suggested BMACHO members make use of these options for publicity.

In addition to publicity and promotion, it also helps other societies and organisations with their planning.

Western crossing commemoration 2013-15

great ideas - thoughts - just being talked about or it's really going to happen!

Poem for bicentenary

LINDEN BUSH POET Gregory North has been commissioned to pen a commemorative ode to mark the first recognised European crossing of the Blue Mountains.

The poem will be recorded and performed at events throughout the Blue Mountains Crossings Bicentenary.

Blue Mountains Lithgow and Oberon Tourism chairman Randall Walker said the crossing is 'such an iconic piece of local and national history that it deserves its own piece of poetry to commemorate the bicentenary".

"There is no better talent than the Blue Mountains' very own champion bush poet Gregory North, who has already encapsulated many times through poetry the essence of what it is to be Australian, this magnificent World Heritage landscape and the wonderful characters who have formed the community in which we now all live," he said.

Mr North said trawling through the annuls of history had provided rich pickings for countless priceless anecdotes to inspire and weave into his poem.

Music, markets and plane spotting

HARTLEY DISTRICT Progress Association is planning for Saturday May 25 from 10am to 3.30pm, music and markets day at Hartley School Hall, Mid Hartley Road, Hartley.

They are planning for a memorable day of lively music, varied market stalls and the opportunity to view the bicentennial flyover as they pass over Hartley School during the day.

The exhibition *A Moment in Time* will also be open for viewing on that day.

Businesses Supporting the Bicentenary founders Tom Colless OAM (Colless Foods) and Philip Hammon (Scenic World) at the recent Blue Mountains Bicentenary Community Ball. Photograph: David Hill, Blue Mountains Lithgow & Oberon Tourism.

Support for coins to school children

BUSINESS and individuals can help sponsor coins free to all school students in the Blue Mountains.

Sponsorship of $500 can ensure that 100 or more students receive this historic memento which can be accompanied by a message from the sponsor company or business.

Businesses and individuals can also make a wholesale purchase of coins at $5 each (minimum order 100 coins). The coins can either be sold at a rrp of $10 each or used as promotional gifts

The coins are also available to individual members of the community at $10 plus postage. Orders for 6 or more are free of postage.

Produced by Philip Hammon of Scenic World and co-founder of Business Supporting Bicentenary, the holey dollar coins are a lasting memento of this historically significant occasion

All enquiries to sponsorship@bicenteary.com.au or telephone (02) 4757 1425.

Governor Lachlan Macquarie acquired Spanish silver coins to overcome the problem of the early colony not having a currency.

He punched the centre out of the coin, the larger coin being known as the holey dollar and the smaller the dump creating two coins of different values.

WENTWORTH FALLS CELEBRATIONS

WENTWORTH Falls Chamber of Commerce will celebrate the bicentenary with an event around the lake on May 25 .

Radio plays

BLUE Mountain Radio Players will present *1813 an all that*, a lighter side of the crossing of the Blue Mountains by Colin Semmler on May 25 at 2.30pm in the Mt Vic Flicks (bookings 4787 1577) and on May 26 at 2.30pm in the Mountain Heritage Ballroom (bookings 4782 2155).

The *Lost Special* by Arthur Conan Doyle will also be presented on each day.

Beam holds clue to Mayan calendar

CARBON-DATING of an ancient beam from a Guatemalan temple may help end a century-long debate about the Mayan calendar.

Experts have long wrangled over how the Mayan calendar correlates to the European calendar.

Texts and carvings describe rulers and great events and attribute the dates according to a complex system denoted by dots and bars, known as the Long Count.

But the date of its starting point is unknown. Spanish colonisers did their utmost to wipe out traces of the Mayan civilisation, destroying evidence that could have provided a clue.

Mayan mask. Stucco frieze c.250-600AD

An example of the confusion this has caused is the date of a decisive battle that shaped the course of Mayan civilisation.

It occurred 1,390,838 days from the start of the count, but attempts to transcribe this into the European calendar have given estimates that vary by hundreds of years.

Anthropologists led by Douglas Kennett at Pennsylvania State University took a sample from a carved wooden lintel found at a temple in the city of Tikal.

Using a technique called accelerator mass spectrometry, the team concluded the tree was cut down and carved about AD658-696.

The estimate closely matches that of a decades-old benchmark for Mayan dating, the Goodman-Martinez-Thompson method, which put the battle at about AD695-712.

The small discrepancy may be explained by the wood itself, Kennett's team believes.The study, published in *Scientific Reports*, says the huge lintel was taken from a sapodilla tree, which has a very hard wood and would have taken years to strip and carve using stone-age implements.

Historians should now be able to build a more accurate chronology of the rise and fall of the Mayan civilisation, the study says.**AFP**

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

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ABN 53 994 839 952

THE ORGANISATION Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 following a unanimous response to a proposal from Professor Barrie Reynolds at the 2004 Blue Mountains Local History Conference which sought from Blue Mountains City Council the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the city.
BMACHO in its constitution uses the definition: "Cultural heritage is all aspects of life of the peoples of the Blue Mountains which was later changed to cover Lithgow and the villages along the Bell's Line of Roads. It therefore involves the recording, preserving and interpreting of information in whatever form: documents, objects, recorded memories as well as buildings and sites."
The objectives of the organisation are:

i. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage.
ii. To encourage and assist cultural heritage activities of member organisations.
iii. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations. One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact, to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

AFFILIATIONS BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society Inc.

HERITAGE BMACHO's official newsletter is edited by John Leary, OAM.
Blue Mountains History Journal is edited by Dr Peter Rickwood.

MEMBERSHIP The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mount Tomah, Blue Mountains City Library, Blue Mountains Cultural Heritage Centre, Blue Mountain Education and Research Trust, Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc., Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc., Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute, Eskbank Rail Heritage Centre, Everglades Historic House & Gardens, Friends of Norman Lindsay Gallery, Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc., Hartley Valley District Progress Association, Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc, Lithgow and District Family History Society Inc., Lithgow Mining Museum Inc., Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies, Lithgow Small Arms Factory Museum Inc, Mt Victoria and District Historical Society Inc., Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine History Society Inc. (including Turkish Bath Museum), Mudgee Historical Society Inc., Mudgee Regional Library, National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Blue Mountains Branch, National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Lithgow Branch, Scenic World – Blue Mountains Limited, Springwood & District Historical Society Inc., Springwood Historians Inc., Transport Signal and Communication Museum Inc., The Darnell Collection Pty Ltd, Valley Heights Locomotive Depot and Museum, Woodford Academy Management Committe, Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd. The following are individual members: Ray Christison, Associate Professor Ian Jack, Joan Kent, John Leary OAM, John Low OAM, Ian Milliss, Patsy Moppett, Professor Barrie Reynolds, Dr Peter Rickwood and Dr Peter Stanbury OAM.

COMMITTEE The committee for 2012-13 is: John Leary, OAM (president), Ian Jack (vice president), Jan Koperberg (secretary), Kevin Frappell, Wendy Hawkes, Doug Knowles, Dick Morony (public officer), and Scott Pollock, Jean Winston.

DISCLAIMER Views and opinions expressed in ***HERITAGE*** originate from many sources and contributors. Every effort is taken to ensure accuracy of material. Content does not necessarily represent or reflect the views and opinions of BMACHO, its committee or members. If errors are found feedback is most welcome.

HERITAGE

NEWSLETTER OF THE BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

JULY - AUGUST 2013 ISSUE No. 28

HERITAGE FOREST OF WOLLEMI PINES

Many botanic gardens are increasingly becoming involved in conservation activities that integrate in situ and ex situ approaches to tree conservation, which are typically undertaken in partnership with other organisiations such as national park agencies, forest services, non-government organisations(NGOs) and local communities.
(BGCI- Integrated Conservation of Tree Species: A reference manual)

by Ross Ingram, Acting Curator Manager, Blue Mountains Botanic Garden

In the early 1990s Blue Mountains Botanic Garden acquired almost 200 hectares of wilderness, adjoining and to the north of the existing garden.

Following the discovery of the Wollemi Pine in 1994 and with the declaration of the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage area a few years later the acquisition took on even greater significance and opportunity.

All of these changes precipitated the need for a review of the gardens thematics to refocus the role and function of the garden in a World Heritage area and to explore the new opportunities and possibilities arising from these changes.

Into this context came an approach from University PhD student Heidi Zimmer in conjunction with the Wollemi Pine Recovery group which stimulated interest and the immediate possibility to initiate a planting of some 200 trees. To quote Heidi's report –
To date, research of the natural populations of Wollemia nobilis has been observational.

Studies on the natural history, and morphology, biology, genetics and phylogeny of Wollemia provides a fundamental understanding of the species and is a necessary precursor to informing conservation strategies.

However, the current populations of Wollemia exist in a relatively narrow set of environmental conditions.

View into rugged a gorge and selected planting site on Blue Mountain Botanic Garden conservation area. Photograph Greg Bourke

One potential conservation strategy is to establish ex situ populations in natural environments. To maximise the effectiveness of this approach it is critical to understand how Wollemia responds to a broader range of environmental conditions. This requires an experimental approach. (Zimmer and Baker, 2011)

After careful exploration and research of a number of locations within the conservation area, a site which almost replicates the original discovery site, was identified and the challenging task of planting out began

A new visitor experience

With this planting project completed successfully, the idea arose of creating another site using some very advanced trees not utilised in the initial project to create an ex situ forest that would provide visitors with a relatively safe and managed "wild *Wollemi* experience".

Access to the conservation area has to date been challenging.

The first obstacle was overcome with the donation of funding by the Friends of the Botanic Gardens for a footbridge which made safe access across the highway possible.

Visitor access has been limited to students participating in formal field study trips and to those who were prepared to book and pay for an organised tour with a guide.

The area is abundant with natural attractions ranging from lush rainforest to dry sclerophyll and heath, ancient rock formations, wildflowers, dozens of bird species and spectacular views.

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An opinion from the editor.....

Sealing of Cox's Rd is heritage vandalism by local government

Plans by Blue Mountain City Council to apply bitumen over the unsealed parts of Old Bathurst Road (Cox's Road), Woodford impregnating with tar, a road constructed of and on sandstone,198-years ago; can at least be considered cavalier and at worst sheer heritage vandalism.

When one considers the wealth of misinformation that councillors and senior staff spread, suggesting that this roadway had no heritage significance and that 'there is no heritage listing at either local or state level', it is well time that someone should look at council's flow of information both within the organisation and to the ratepayers and residents of this city.

It has been claimed by several descendants of the explorers that pressure was brought upon them not to alert the media. as it might affect the success of the celebrations.

It is certain that every member of Blue Mountains City Council's heritage advisory committee was aware of the listings and the heritage significance of this road construction had council or its senior staff taken the trouble to consult with this body.

The simple fact is that the Cox's Road is listed on the State Heritage Inventory and in council's Local Environment Plan 1991.

At council's ordinary meeting of June 4, 2013 some councillors appeared to be in complete denial about these facts.They could not or did not want to understand, that the heritage value is in the road construction itself, not in some cast-off shoe from Cox's horse or a broken clay pipe dropped by one of his convicts.

There is a legal requirement on council to take note of this item in the SHI and LEP 1991 and certainly a moral obligation to future generations.

It is ironical, at the present time as we commemorate and celebrate the bicentenary of the Western Crossings 2013-2015, that this work which if it goes ahead will ultimately destroy one of the earliest colonial road-lines which allowed the starving settlement at Sydney to expand and open up the golden west of NSW.

It is almost like a Bacchanalian celebration of ancient Greece where after the festivities there followed a drunken orgy of crimes and conspiracies. Here in the Blue Mountains, after the commemoration and celebrations of the achievements of the three feted explorers, an orgy of destruction of one of the only major heritage structures remaining from that period will follow.

Many who live in this rustic setting would prefer it to remain an unsealed road unattractive to the hoons likely to see it as a route to a bush rubbish tip or worse. The concerns of local residents need to be taken into account. The most serious concern is drainage after summer storms. Sealing the road on its own will only make the drainage problem faster and more destructive. The drainage concerns can and should be addressed without having to seal the road.

Council will now wait on an archaeological report before taking further steps to seal the road; but until councillors accept that heritage is just more than a word to which they pay lip service, the future of heritage conservation in the Blue Mountains will sound very hollow. With a little innovative thought by council, Cox's Road could be equal to Old Great North Road - World Heritage walk which features a historic convict-built, some in chains, road overlooking the Hawkesbury River, in Dharug National Park.

John Leary, OAM - President, Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc.

A wilderness walk plunging into a Wollemi gorge

Continued from page 1

Here was the opportunity to offer a truly unique visitor experience by creating a varied wilderness walk with the chance to experience rainforest, open woodland and wildflowers, cliff edges, a magic *Angophora* forest and then finally plunging into a Wollemi gorge.

However, this is more than just about providing visitors with a pleasant, relatively safe ”emersion” in wilderness.

The botanic garden of the 21st century has a role and a responsibility to address much more than simply providing visitors with pleasant experiences and displaying collections of plants in well organised high standard horticultural displays.

Here is the chance to interpret and explain conservation, the nature and importance of biodiversity, habitat, the relationship between people and plants and the understanding of place - in a botanic garden managed wilderness.

Blue Mountains Botanic Garden natural area staff have begun systematically surveying the area so that we have a good idea of what the area has to offer and what responsibilities we have in managing the site.

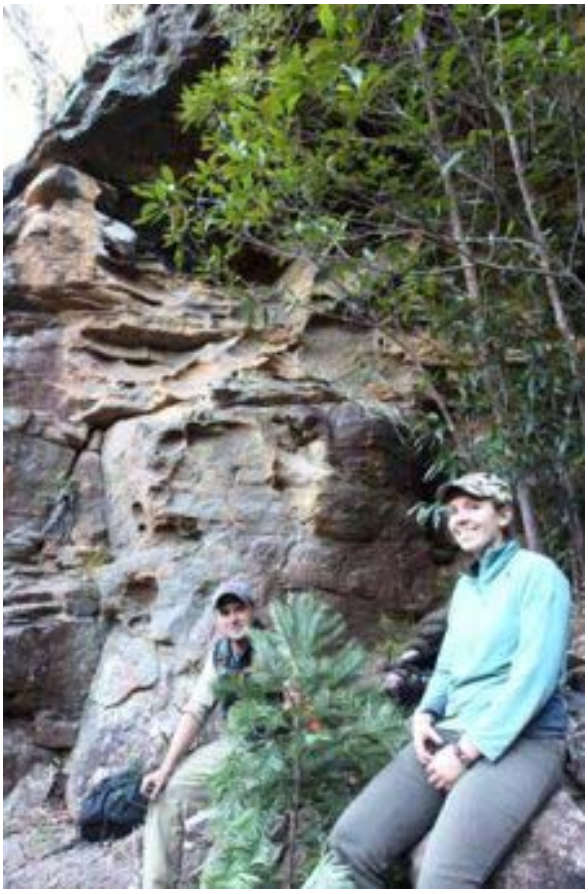
Tracks have been created and some preliminary guided walks have been laid out.

Horticulturists planting out and recording details. Photograph: Greg Bourke

A circular walk through a variety of ecosystems and features and across different terrains will lead walkers to the Wollemi grove which nests in a moist gully beneath sandstone cliffs.

The proposed boardwalk will minimize the impact of walkers, avoid erosion problems and enable intimate contact with the trees and associated vegetation.

Unfortunately the conservation area is difficult terrain and access will be limited to relatively fit and able persons.



Research scientist Heidi Zimmer (right) and horticulturist Chris Crottey take a break during “operation plantout”. Photograph : Greg Bourke

At least two hours will be needed to fully enjoy the walk and the country is quite steep in places.

Because it is a heritage and conservation area, the proposal is to not intrude unnecessarily and for the infrastructure to be as unobtrusive as possible.

Approval was sought and received and work has started.

The project will need to attract substantial sponsorship as it will be necessary to construct a lengthy boardwalk to provide access.

The boardwalk will reduce the impact of visitors on the fragile site and provide means to maintain the highest standard of hygiene. (The disease Phytopthora is carried on footwear).

Wildfire and disease represent the two big threats to a project such as this.

Recently, in collaboration with the Botanic Gardens Trust, the Rural Fire Service conducted a very successful hazard reduction exercise to help manage the threat of wildfire.

Part of the ongoing management plan for the site is that such exercises will need to be conducted at regular intervals as determined and recommended by ecologists to both ensure the integrity of the natural ecosystems and to protect the Wollemi plantings into the future.

Wollemi nobillis

‘Crossing of the Blue Mountains’ an outstanding exhibition at Mt Victoria

A remarkable and innovative engagement with the community

“There has been plenty of opportunity for celebratory activities and some of them have been memorable, such as the Blue Wave crossing re-enactment by John Sullivan and descendants of the three explorers, the spectacular flyover of aircraft and the mass circulation of the commemorative holey dollar to schoolchildren to name but a few.

“There has however, been few enduring things which have so far come from the three-year commemoration of the bicentenary of the ‘western crossing’ other than the foundation proposed by Dr David Blaxland and the splendid activities centred around the Hartley Valley.

“To its great credit the Mt Victoria Historical Society has produced another enduring legacy, which will have immense value for many years to come — the outstanding exhibition created at Mt Victoria museum in a newly dedicated Crossings Room.

“Not only has the concept and energy of Marcia Osterberg-Olsen, herself of descendant of some of our earliest pioneers been harnessed, to curate this commemorative exhibit; but it has also seen the engagement by this historical society with a much wider community including Rotarians, volunteers, professional and business people as well several generous donors.

“Other groups could well learn from this successful engagement with the community for the preservation and presentation of our heritage.

“This exhibition is as well presented and as professionally created to equal those displays found in many of larger state owned museums.

“In this article, president of the Mt Victoria and District Historical Society, Mrs Jean Winston outlines the work involved to create this exhibition. Congratulations to all concerned.” **John Leary, OAM – president, Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc**

An outstanding exhibition, to commemorate the bicentenary of the ‘Crossing of the Blue Mountains’ has been created at the Mount Victoria Museum.

The concept and execution of the exhibition were driven by the determination of Marcia Osterberg-Olsen whose family were pioneers in the Little Hartley district.

There were many pitfalls to be overcome before the display could be mounted, including renovations and painting of the designated room.

This was done by members of the historical society.

Money was limited and an application for a grant from Museums and Galleries NSW had been declined.

A graphic designer and Blackheath Rotarian, Clive Jones of Red Egg Design offered his skills free of charge, as did his wife Gabrielle.

The Blackheath Rotary Club generously offered financial and physical support to get the exhibition under way.

One Rotarian sent a letter to local residents asking for financial support and a Katoomba Rotarian erected a false wall in the exhibition room.

These efforts were gratefully received by the Mount Victoria and District Historical Society which managed the exhibition.

Marcia said that she wanted a ‘wow’ factor for the exhibit.

Continued page 5

A clever illusion: a real table and glassware in front of the graphic of Governor and Mrs Macquarie drawn by Clive Jones.

A chronology of the crossings

Cotinued from page 4
This was to be achieved through artifacts, tools of trade, stories, line drawings, pictures and photographs.

Her idea was to show the chronology of the crossings of the Blue Mountains starting with the Aborigines and ending with the journey by Governor and Mrs. Macquarie to Bathurst in 1815.

The three local Aboriginal tribes, Gundungurra, Darug and Wiradjuri had been crossing the Blue Mountains and the Great Dividing Range for centuries carrying chert and mudstone to make tools.

Examples of these objects found in the Hartley area are on display.

The routes of four earlier attempts to cross the mountains are depicted, those of Bass, a ship's surgeon, Everingham, a convict, Barrallier, a Royal Navy surveyor and Caley a botanist.

None were successful and Caley was amazed when he heard it had been done. He is depicted sitting at home in England, with a parrot on his shoulder, a virtual recluse.

Large panels of text give information on the explorers, surveyors, road makers and on the governor and Mrs. Macquarie.

The display gives extensive biographical notes on each of the men up to the time that they crossed the mountains. Blaxland aged 35, Lawson 39 and Wentworth 23 set out in 1813.

They got as far as Mount Blaxland, further west from Mount York where they stood and overlooked the western plains.

A copy of Gregory Blaxland's diary written, very legibly, on May 28, 1813 at Mount York is on display and really connects the viewer with the explorers.

To progress each day, they struggled through dense bush and had to go ahead to reconnoitre a route ahead of the main group, blazing trees as they went, and then went back to bring the horses.

Grass for the horses had to be cut where available and carried, increasing their loads to about 100kg each.

The party encountered one group of Aboriginal women and children who were frightened at first but when interest was shown in the children they all relaxed.

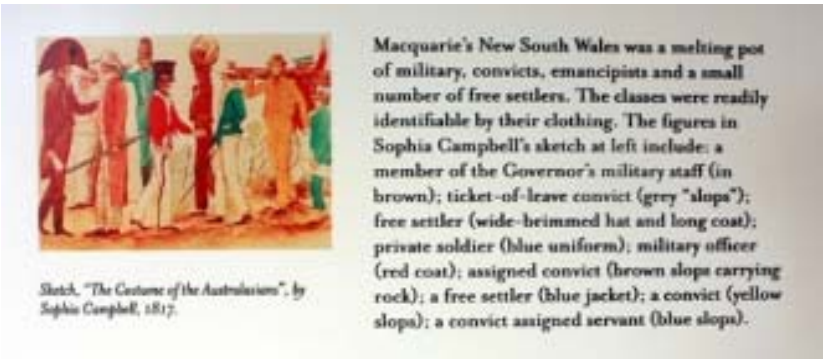
It was reported that both the women were blind in the right eye.

Surveyor Evans, who was thirty three years old, was asked to make a route suitable for horses and stock. He took enough stores for a two months period.

One of his tools of trade was a circumferentor which is a surveyor's compass, an earlier version of the theodolite.

The Land and Property Information Service at Bathurst has kindly lent a circumferentor to the society. The instrument measures horizontal angles. The east and west points on the face of the instrument are reversed from the normal way.

The road maker William Cox, aged fifty one later built a road of 101.5 miles on Evans route.



Sketch, "The Costume of the Australasians", by Sophia Campbell, 1817.

Macquarie's New South Wales was a melting pot of military, convicts, emancipists and a small number of free settlers. The classes were readily identifiable by their clothing. The figures in Sophia Campbell's sketch at left include: a member of the Governor's military staff (in brown); ticket-of-leave convict (grey "slops"); free settler (wide-brimmed hat and long coat); private soldier (blue uniform); military officer (red coat); assigned convict (brown slops carrying rock); a free settler (blue jacket); a convict (yellow slops); a convict assigned servant (blue slops).

Details are given of the equipment used and some examples are on display: gunpowder, block and tackle, crowbars, sledge hammers, axes, two man cross-cut saws, picks and shovels.

The method of sawing used in a two man pit saw was for a saw pit to be dug to about 2.5metres deep and 1.5 metres wide.

Poles were placed across the pit and the log to be sawn was placed on the poles.

The bottom man stood in the pit and the top man or senior sawyer balanced on the log above and guided the saw in making the cut.

English artist John Lewin who travelled with Macquarie's party to Bathurst in 1815 painted scenes along the way.

A huge reproduction of his watercolour painting 'Spring Wood' stands in a commanding position on the false wall at the end of the room.

Line drawings of Governor Macquarie and Mrs Macquarie, sitting like ghosts in the scene, are superimposed on it.

In front of the figures is an actual table with a lamp, a decanter, wine glasses and a pack of cards put ready for the evening game of whist.

Beyond the Spring Wood scene is a beautiful chiaroscuro screen named 'Eucalypt' which was made by Marcia's daughter Vashti Gonda and donated by Creative Powerhouse Pty Ltd. It is a work of art in itself.

The following panels depict and describe Governor and Mrs. Macquarie.

It was noted that Macquarie like other governors before him had given orders that all colonists make every effort to live in friendship with the Aboriginal people.

On Thursday May 4, 1815 Macquarie's expedition reached the Bathurst Plains where the town of Bathurst was proclaimed.

Continued on page 6

...a beautiful chiaroscuro screen named 'Eucalypt'...

Continued from page 5
The final small picture shows how the colour of their clothes delineated the status of the wearers.

A society member assisted Marcia by doing research for the text.

A Hartley man gave money for the installation of the lighting system.

Numerous other people have assisted in preparing this exhibition and I apologise to any whom I have omitted.

The Mount Victoria and District Historical Society is immensely pleased with the final display and is most appreciative of the creative ability and determination shown by Marcia Osterberg-Olsen in seeing the project through to the finish.

Pictured is the chiaroscuro screen named 'Eucalypt' made in aluminium by Vashti Gonda and donated by Creative Powerhouse Pty Ltd.

BLUE MOUNTAINS HISTORY CONFERENCE IN 2014

SUCCESS of the 2012 History Conference organised by BMACHO has spurred the committee into staging another in May 2014.

Three venues are currently being considered and in the meantime, a number of eminent historians are being approached to be speakers.

A good number of people interested in heritage and history attended the day long conference last October and at least this number is expected to register for the May 2014 event.

All who attended last years conference will be contacted and invited to next year's function.

Further details will be announced in coming weeks and will appear on BMACHO's website www.bluemountainsheritage.com

Woodford Academy seeks grant for schools program based on service in World War 1

DURING the First World War, up to 48 graduates from the Woodford Academy enlisted in the First AIF.

They served in a variety of capacities. Two are known to have been killed in action and one was awarded the Military Medal.

The study of the Academy's records of all these veterans has not yet been undertaken.

These men and their experiences can now be seen as a mini-study of the times and experiences of men who served in that war.

There is a large collection of unprocessed recourses and records that contains information about these men and their school experience. This includes photographs, school records, fees paid, family contacts and the like.

The military records of these men are freely available from the National Australian Archives.

Their unit records are freely available from the Australian War Memorial in Canberra.

Woodford Academy management committee has submitted an application for funding from the Australian Government's Department of Veteran Affairs *ANZAC Centenary* grants program.

The funding would be used to develop the recourses that exist at the Academy that deal with these boys and the period 1910-1918 and to add their military records to create a teaching and learning recourse for schools in the Blue Mountains.

Through the study of this history the Woodford Academy would like to contribute to the understanding of Australian school students about the social and political situation under which these particular men lived and enlisted and to see how this might have been affected by their First World War experience.

Descendants wearing service medals including a Military Cross of former students of Woodford Academy at the 2006 Remembrance Day unveiling of a restored honour roll. Photograph John Leary, OAM

Council were set to destroy heritage integrity of Cox's Road, Woodford

by Jan Koperberg and John Leary --- photographs by Patsy Moppett taken on June 7, 2013

BLUE MOUNTAINS City Council has damaged some of Australia's oldest road construction when it graded Old Bathurst Road (Cox's Road), Woodford.

A number of local residents became alarmed, as were members of BMACHO and other heritage and historical societies on the Mountains, that the Blue Mountains City Council had graded the Woodford stretch of Bathurst Road (Cox's Road), ready for sealing.

Council had earlier decided to include this heritage carriageway, as part of a project to seal presently unsealed roads on the mountains.

People with knowledge of the road's heritage approached a number of councillors who had been publicly stating there was no heritage value in the roadway.

This particular section of Old Bathurst Road is listed on the NSW Heritage Branch Inventory, as 'LD 019: Remnants of Cox's Road'.

This listing covers Old Bathurst Road and Taylor Road, Woodford. It is one of the earliest colonial-era road-lines surviving in Australia.

The 1814 road is tangible evidence of the development of the colony at Sydney and the expansion of white settlement into western NSW.

This was originally listed in LEP 1991 and was updated in January, 2005, the study being done in 2003 by Dr Siobhan Lavelle and Dr Ian Jack.

When council became aware of the concerns by historians and others of the road's heritage status, a site inspection took place with the attendance of several councillors, council senior staff, council's heritage advisor, a representative of Roads and Maritime Services who had considerable knowledge about this road, and local residents.

To council staff's credit, when they became aware of the heritage listings, the sealing of the road was delayed.

Stone wall is evidence of 1820s improvements to the original Cox's Road over which council had planned to seal with bitumen.

Following protests to council by people with heritage knowledge, and after grading of the road had been finished and machinery brought in for sealing, a report by staff was presented to council.

Some damage to the original roadwork was done to the construction of the 198-year old heritage road.

The staff report stated: ' …there is no heritage listing at either local or state level'.

This is clearly untrue as it is listed in the State Heritage Inventory and also in council's own LEP 1991.

It is understood a report drawing attention to the road's heritage status was not made available to councillors for the council meeting of June 4, 2013.

A number of people for the sealing and against the sealing, attended the Blue Mountains City Council meeting on Tuesday June 4, 2013.

Three people were allowed to speak in favour and three against. Those who spoke against the sealing of the road were John Leary, OAM, president of Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc, Ian Harman, chairman, Woodford Academy management committee and Jan Koperberg, secretary, BMACHO.

Those residents in favour of sealing this rural road cited dust and stormwater run-off problems.

Not all residents are in favour of the road being sealed and some are concerned that it will increase traffic movements to a property where an allegedly unauthorised commercial activity is taking place.

Cr Geordie Williamson, a Woodford resident, was the only councillor to speak in favour of retaining Old Bathurst Road as an unsealed road.

At the time *HERITAGE* was published on-line, council was seeking advice from an archaeologist.

View of the graded road to the south near the stone wall Cox's Road foundations

Devotion – Sir Joseph and Dame Mary Cook

An exhibition celebrating Lithgow's Prime Minister

AN EXHIBITION celebrating the lives and achievements of Sir Joseph and Dame Mary Cook is on display at Eskbank House and Museum until October 7, 2013 having been officially opened earlier this month.

"Lithgow is very proud to have its own Prime Minister in Sir Joseph Cook," said Lithgow City Council Mayor Maree Statham. "It is also very special to see, in this exhibition, the bond between Sir Joseph and Dame Mary and how they were able to achieve so much together."

The couple moved to Lithgow in 1886 and Sir Joseph worked in the Vale of Clwydd Colliery as he studied and worked his way up through the unions and into politics.

He was a minister in the first federal government, became prime minister in 1913, was high commissioner in London and knighted in 1918.

As well as being beside him every step of his career, Dame Mary was heavily involved in the Red Cross and was made a Dame in the Order of the British Empire in 1925 for this work.

This exhibition focuses on the lives of Sir Joseph and Dame Mary and their devotion to politics, the community and family.

As well as stories and images, several items from the couple, not exhibited before, will be on display, such as a lovely reference written by Dame Mary for one of her maids and the original letter from Her Majesty's Privy Council to Sir Joseph Cook offering him the position of Australian High Commissioner in England.

The exhibition was officially opened by Mayor Statham followed by talks from Hartley Cook (great grandson of Sir Joseph and Dame Mary), Cassandra Coleman (a member of the Sir Joseph Cook Commemorative Group) and curators Miriam Scott and Wendy Hawkes.

Joseph Cook photographed at the time he was post master general.

During Sir Joe's time as high commissioner in London both Sir Joe and Dame Mary were very active in promoting Australia's interests in Great Britain. In these photographs Dame Mary is officially commissioning the first Australian amphibian flying boat "The Seagull" in 1926. Sir Joe then took a flight in the plane. The bottom image is Dame Mary wishing him well and the top is a very relieved kiss when he landed safely. A photograph album gifted to the Cooks by the Supermarine Aviation Works Ltd. is in the National Australian Archives and is a beautifully told story of the occasion. (Photographs from the National Australian Archives M3613)

ALICE IN WONDERLAND

by John Low, OAM - Loal historian

WHEN THE ENGLISH aristocracy visited the Blue Mountains, as they regularly did, the unfamiliar pleasures of the landscape often seduced them into relaxing the normal formalities of their class.

Even the future Queen Mary and her ladies took to the swings at Leura Cascades in 1901 and wandered the bush paths for longer than they should.

Almost a decade earlier, following a visit to Jenolan Caves in January 1893, Alice, Duchess of Buckingham and Chandos, alighted at the Carrington Hotel with her friend Hilda.

Having roughed it at smaller accommodation houses, they settled in to the comfort of the grand hotel, a panoramic view from their verandah and their dinner table "covered with flowers".

The following day Sir Frederick Darley of 'Lilianfels' took them to Wentworth Falls and the Three Sisters and despite the heat and flies they were not deterred from accepting an invitation the next morning for "a grand picnic expedition" to Govetts Leap.

Coach driver Harry Peckman, their guide for the day, was a man well versed in the art of introducing the aristocracy to the informalities of the bush.

Bushman, poet and raconteur, it was he who had taken Lord and Lady Carrington by horse across the Six Foot Track in 1887 and introduced them to the camaraderie of the camp fire and the delights of billy tea.

"Oh, such a beautiful, wonderful place!" exclaimed Alice on arrival at the Leap, the amphitheatre of cliffs intersected with dashing waterfalls (her words) becoming the background against which the 'theatre' of the picnic played out.

Both director and performer, Peckman always ensured that his guests were part of the action.

It began with a story, a skeleton found in the thick bush in the depths of the valley, a lost soul who'd wandered from his friends and died "bewildered in the endless scrub and forest".

A 19th century picnic at Govett's Leap

Then a lesson in fire-making and the baking of potatoes, followed by a warning about snakes and a careful study of the ground to ensure no serpents would spoil their "excellent repast".

After lunch and an exciting scramble down to the edge of the precipice, "throwing stones to see if we could hear them fall", it was time for the ritual of 'billy tea' and the climactic flourish of the guide's own poetry.

His 'Laughing Jackass', a humorous verse and prose piece that included a reputedly faultless imitation of a Kookaburra, brought the picnic to a suitably colourful conclusion.

But the drama had not yet ended! Nature still had a few lines of her own to deliver.

"On the way home", Alice reported, "we were caught in a tremendous thunderstorm, and got well soaked – hailstones like peas ... and sheets of rain.

It rains like a water-spout here when it once begins.

Some of the ladies were so frightened that they took refuge in a house, but most of us drove on and braved the elements".

An outing with Harry was invariably a memorable experience!

Authors note: A copy of Alice's letters, *Glimpses of Four Continents*, written during her world tour and published in London in 1894, is held in the Local Studies Section at Springwood Library.

Also, copies of Jim Smith and John Low's book on Harry Peckham, *The Prince of Whips,* are still available at the give-away price of $5!

This article was first published in *Hut News* of the Blue Mountains Conservation Spociety, Issue 298, November 2012**.**

Longtime series

KURRAJONG Comleroy Historical Society will hold its annual general meeting on Monday, September 23 when the guest speaker will be Lesley Jane Abrahams.

Lesley will share local history from the "Longtime Series" by Hesba Hungerford Brinsmead and other interesting research.

The meeting will be held at the Kurrajong Community Centre, McMahon Park, Kurrajong.

Sydney Rock - On the Ways to the West

SYDNEY ROCK is a striking sandstone outcrop some six metres high beside the Great Western Highway and the recently realigned railway on the eastern approaches to Lawson.

It is listed on the State Heritage Inventory and recent highway construction and railway deviations have left it more isolated and best approached from Somers Street.

On its irregular top surface it has weathered into a small-scale lunar landscape.

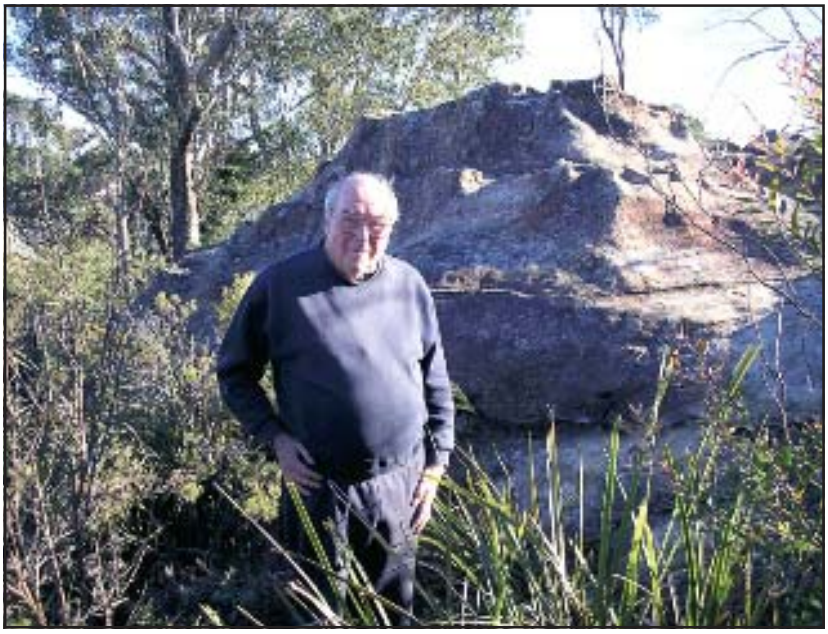
Beside the highway, the west side of the rock has been chipped away, probably as a result of highway widening.

Historic notes forming part of the State Heritage Inventory listing state: 'Sydney Rock was a significant landmark at the north-eastern approaches to nineteenth-century Lawson.

'In 1903 it was damaged by 'vandals who had begun to blast it out for road metal': the four drill-holes evident at the north end of the outcrop today are probably the work of these 'vandals'.

'The breaking-up of the rock was stopped in 1903 by the brisk intervention of John Geggie, the store-keeper and honorary secretary of both the Lawson Progress Committee and the Reserves Trust.

'The damage to the lower part of the rock adjacent to the highway is likely to be the result of roadworks later in the twentieth century.



Eugene Stockton at the playground which he shared with butterflies.

'Sydney Rock was a popular picnic area, with a commanding view down to Sydney before the regrowth of the bush.

'It was a vantage point from which local people during World War II would go to watch searchlights probing the skys over Sydney or in peace-time fireworks displays on [Sydney] Harbour.'

'It also gave its name to a refreshment house opposite on the highway, known as the Sydney Rock Cafe long before Hard Rock Cafes were invented.'[1.]

Sydney Rock was long recognised as a prominent landmark along the highway. Brian Fox in his *Blue Mountains Geographical Dictionary* records its recognition as early as 1882.[2.]

Now a book *Sydney Rock - On the Ways to the West*, published by Blue Mountain Education and Research Trust and edited by Lawson's, Father Eugene Stockton has been released. Father Stockton may be contacted on(02) 47 591818

"Sydney Rock loomed large across the highway from my childhood home," recalls Eugene.

"In the 1940s we kids clambered over the Rock imagining ourselves as early explorers who first crossed the Blue Mountains.

"Parties often enjoyed picnics on the Rock, savouring the far distant views and the mountains breezes.

"During World War 2 one watched the searchlights waving across the Sydney horizon and the fireworks at war's end.

In those years petrol rationing severely limited traffic on the highway, but since then increasingly heavy traffic has virtually closed access to the Rock and tree growth has hidden it from the view of passing motorists.

Continued page 11

Pictured is Sydney Rock some years ago.

Western most outcrop of Hawkesbury sandstone

Continued from page 10

"Now with the completion of the roadworks in 2012, Sydney Rock can be restored to public enjoyment, while the old railway cutting left partly unfilled allows inspection of the sandstone stratagraphy and of the pick marks of the rock cutters (1867 and 1902)

"The rock brings together the history of the road and railway, geology and botany – and even mating butterflies!!," according to Father Stockton.

Greg McNally an engineering geologist and chartered engineer believes that Sydney Rock is the westernmost outcrop of Hawkesbury sandstone in the Blue Mountains.

"With the 2013 realignment of the road and railway, the now abandoned and partly backfilled railway cutting on its southern flank exposes contact between the Hawkesbury sandstone and the underlying Narrabeen group rocks

"The cutting is significant because it contains the only identified Hawkesbury sandstone/Narrabeen contact in the area, though other occurrences could be present in local gullies and road cuttings," Greg McNally has said.

Sydney Rock overlooked a precious pocket of bushland, according to Hazelbrook's Chris Whiteman a horticulturist for the Commonwealth Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry who is particularly interested in the preservation of the mid-Blue Mountains heathland and has completed botanical surveys of this area.

In 2007, this pocket of about 1.25 hectares was surveyed by botanists Judy and Peter Smith, who found this small area,

Cross bedding in sandstone on southern face of the cutting, beneath the third (steel) bridge.

supported a rich mix of plant communities and species, some of special conservation significance and interest.

The Smiths recorded 118 species across 47 plant families in the course of a brief survey, noting that further species, particularly grasses and orchids, could well be revealed in future searches.

Three Aboriginal sites have been recorded in the neighbourhood, including rock shelters with deposit, axe grinding grooves and rock engravings

The rock itself shows no sign of Aboriginal activities.

However, Father Stockton considers, to Gundungurra people travelling along the main ridge, Sydney Rock could well have served as marker turning north along this ridge.[3.]

Copies of *Sydney Rock - on the Ways to the West* are available direct from the publisher at $15 a copy plus postage and handling.

For more information about this publication, telephone Eugene Stockton, Blue Mountain Education and Research Trust (02) 4759 1034 or e-mail: olon@tpg.com.au

End notes

[1.] NSW Environment & Heritage *State Heritage Inventory 25 Feb 2000,* Ld 009 Sydney Rock

[2.] Fox, B. 2001 *Blue Mountains Geographical Dictionary (*2nd Edition)

[3.] Stockton, E. 2009 *Blue Mountains Dreaming. The Aboriginal Heritage* (2nd Edition).

RAHS Conference in Katoomba

The annual RAHS Conference will be held this year at Katoomba RSL.

It will begin on Friday afternoon, November 1, with a visit to State Records.

This will be followed by a *Meet and Greet* pre-dinner drinks and 'nibblies' at Hobby's Reach.

Tarella will be open for those who would like to see through the cottage.

The Conference whose theme is *The Great Divide - From Here to There* will be held on Saturday and Sunday, November 2-3.

Details of the speakers and their topics have not yet been released. For more details visit the RAHS website.

Lithgow migration and settlement study

LITHGOW CITY Council has entered a partnership with the Powerhouse Museum's NSW Migration Heritage Centre to undertake a Lithgow Region Migration and Settlement Thematic Study.

This scholarly research and resulting history will involve the research and production of a community history through researching and uncovering the hidden story of all the waves of migration and settlement to the Lithgow City Council area, with a focus of industrial and family history.

The history will research from first European settlement to the present.

It will encompass Anglo-Celtic migrations (with reference to particular diaspora) and contact history with Aboriginal Australians, including the shared labour histories on farms and in local industries.

- The early pastoral economy, including settlement patterns and the use of convict labour.
- Coal, oil shale, minerals processing, electricity generation and munitions industries, and their workers.
- The impact of the railway coming to Lithgow
- Manufacturing industry, including the linen mills and more recently, Berlei.
- Hostels for contractual and migrant labour, including Lithgow and Wallerawang.
- Social groups, friendly societies, worker organisations and religious practice.
- The experience and impact of migrant women and children.
- The influence of migrant groups on political activism and ideas. Employment-driven settlement patterns and subsequent living conditions such as housing supply.
- 19th Century Chinese migration.
- Post Second World War refugees
- Recent, ie within past 20 years, migration including refugees.
- The impact of the White Australia immigration policy and its abolition.

A wonderful image of coalminers from the Lithgow Valley Colliery taken in the 1880s. Research by Ray Christison indicates these men came from Northumberland and Durham, Shropshire, Staffordshire and Cornwall. Some came to Lithgow via the goldfields, the Turon, Bendigo, Ballarat or California. A substantial proportion of the early miners were Methodists and Free Methodists. (Lithgow Regional Library 42439)

Research for the project will concentrate on the Lithgow City Council area including Lithgow, Wallerawang, Hartley, Portland and surrounding districts.

Among other groups Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc (BMACHO) is to be consulted during the project. Other groups who will be asked for participation in the project are the Eskbank House and Museum, The City of Greater Lithgow Mining Museum Inc, Lithgow Small Arms Museum Inc, Lithgow and District Family Historical Society; (all four groups are members of BMACHO), National Parks & Wildlife Service, and Office of Environment & Heritage.

An illustrated history is to be the outcome of the first three stages of the project.

The history will focus on key places and industries – including places of work, recreation, religion and business – that will help tell the story of the region and its distinctive migration and settlement history, township by township.

The history will include an oral history component to access the knowledge of elderly former migrants or people with recollections that will assist the project. This is a priority as many post-World War Two former migrants are aging and frail.

Lithgow City Council is currently seeking an experienced consultant with professional historian qualifications to under take stage one of this study project.

The project is scheduled to be completed by May 31, 2014.

Capt Cook's pistol fetches $220,000

A RARE PIECE of Australian history has gone under the hammer, netting a small but tidy profit for its seller.

A pistol belonging to Captain James Cook handed down through the family for many generations, was sold at auction in Melbourne earlier this year for almost $220,000.

For a man who had such a profound effect on the European colonisation of Australia, there is remarkably very little physical evidence of Captain James Cook or his personal possessions.

Had he failed to make landfall in 1770, Australia might have become a Portuguese, Dutch or Spanish dependency.

While his legacy looms large in Australia's collective consciousness, only Cook's pistol remains as the one key link to his life and relationship with Australia.

If not for the efforts of former Melbourne Lord Mayor, Grand Prix impresario and philanthropist, Ron Walker AC CBE, even this would have stayed well away from our reach.

Mr Walker purchased the pistol in 2003 from the descendants of Cook at an auction in Edinburgh, Scotland.

It had been willed to the family by Cook and remained in their possession for more than two centuries.

Now, almost 250 years after his death in Hawaii, the early 18th century Continental Flintlock holster pistol was offered for sale by Leski Auctions of Melbourne under instructions from Mr Walker.

"There is a wealth of memorabilia available that is associated with the icons of Australia, be it Bradman, the Kelly Gang, Phar Lap, Kingsford Smith or Mawson," says Charles Leski.

"Yet James Cook, arguably the most significant of that group in terms of his impact on Australia as a nation, has left us virtually nothing.

This pistol is therefore the one tangible link to him personally.

"We can confidently argue that he has left his DNA on this, something that can't be said for the anchor of the HMB Endeavour which is located at the James Cook Historical Museum in Cooktown or the ship's cannon which is located at the Australian National Maritime Museum in Canberra."

The lock of the pistol is signed "Corbau-A-Maastricht", a reference to its Dutch gunmaker, Godefroi Corbau Le Jeune.

It features a plain 13 bore barrel, brass fore-sight, spurred brass pommel, brass trigger guard, replacement ramrod and pipe, and pale fruitwood full stock with carved shell behind tang. The barrel is 31cm long.

Polar trek made to measure

WHEN SIR DOUGLAS Mawson led his epic scientific expedition to Antarctica, cutting edge technology meant being able to send daily wireless messages back to Australia.

A century on, Chris Turney's six week scientific expedition will use a modern mix of Twitter, You Tube, live streaming video conferences and blog sites.

Surveying tools such as the clunkey theodolite, used by Mawson's men, will be replaced by a drone that will scan the icy continent to collect data to create "bird's eye" film in 3D.

The drone will map areas of several square kilometres in a matter of hours, with an accuracy rate within 10 centimetres. In Mawson's day this would have taken days or weeks.

But despite differences in technology, the trips a century apart are motivated by the same thing: a sense of scientific curiosity.

"It's still very much science-driven, climate scientist Professor Turney said of the privately funded $1.5 million voyage which leaves Hobart on November 25.

On his fifth trip to the Antarctic Professor Turney said the information collected by Mawson and his team between 1911 and 1914 would be a valuable comparative resource for modern scientists.

"They generated a vast amount of data and things like the saltiness of the water is today a very useful measure of how much the ice is melting."

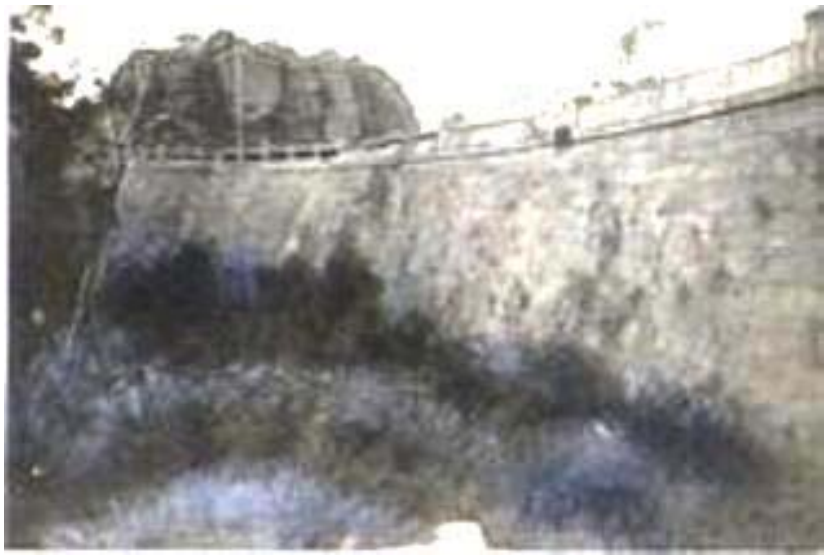
Professor Turney and University colleague Chris Fog will be among 20 scientists, oceanographers and ornithologists and even a tree ring expert, to trace the steps of Mawson

The first part of the trip will concentrate on the sub-Antarctic islands down to 50 degree latitude.

Bridie Smith, *science reporter, The Sydney Morning Herald*

Sir Douglas Mawson,

History at your fingertips



A NEW WEBSITE full of Blue Mountains historical photographs and publications has been launched by the Royal Australian Historical Society.

The website was developed following a grant from the NSW Department of Premier and Cabinet to mark the bicentenary of the first crossing.

This fantastic collection of material is available for everyone to explore for themselves," said RAHS president, Dr Anne-Maree Whitaker. Website: www.rahs.org.au.western-crossing/

There are over 300 photographs and six historical publications included and these will be added to in coming months.

Pictured from the website is: The great wall of the old Mt Victoria Pass constructed by the chain gang in 1832 when forming the old Bathurst Road. ***Courtesy RAHS – The Frank Walker Collection***

Plans to bring water into museum

THE AUSTRALIAN National Maritime Museum will turn to the private sector to try and realise a major revamp of its exhibition space.

Its director, Kevin Sumption, has set out plans to 'bring water into the museum' by building exhibits that reach out to its 14 floating vessels in Darling Harbour.

Plans to float HMAS Onslow inside museum

The museum will seek to complete the first stage — a new pavilion to tell the story of its submarine, HMAS Onslow, and destroyer HMAS Vampire — in time for the ANZAC centenary in 2015.

More than 8 million people have visited since the Maritime Museum opened in 1991.

Government has said that the $8 million to $10 million required for the project over a six to 8 year cycle would need to come substantially from commercial partnerships, grants or foundations.

Later stages not yet costed, include a new exhibit to complement the museum's replicas of the HMS Endeavour and a maritime archaeological centre where visitors could don a wetsuit and step into the harbour to explore wrecks already owned by the museum.
Leesha McKenny, *The Sydney Morning Herald*

Aboriginal heritage grant for Kandos Museum

THE KANDOS Museum has received a $12,000 Aboriginal heritage grant to enable it to develop a Dabee Travelling Cultural History exhibition in partnership with the Aboriginal people of Kandos.

"The grant will help us with site identification, the building of the travelling exhibition on the Dabee people and the creation of a small introductory exhibition at the Kandos Museum, Colin Jones curator at the museum said. "The project is about recognising family ancestors of the Dabee people.

"The exhibition itself will identify individual north-eastern Wiradjuri people and their ancestors who contributed to the creation on Kandos and the culture in the region today," Mr Jones said.

Lyn Syme, Native Title cultural heritage officer at Moorlarben Coal was instrumental in getting the exhibition off the ground.

Ms Syme put forward the initial $12,000 and it was with that money the Kandos museum was able to apply for the "dollar-for-dollar" Aboriginal heritage grant.

The exhibition will travel around to schools, other museums and cultural centres in order to educate people on the significance of the Dabee people in the local area.

"In the local area, many people are under the incorrect assumption there are no more Dabee people remaining in the district," Ms Syme said.

The exhibition will include photographs, stories and artifacts and will also include information about the descendants of these Dabee ancestors who were a large community in the Kandos area. *Laueren Stanford*

CRONJE, THE BRUMBY BRIGAND

by John Low, OAM – Local historian

PIET CRONJE was a Boer General, rough of manner, ruthless, courageous and a thorn in the side of the British in South Africa.

At the same time in the vicinity of Jenolan, in the mountainous back country of the Cox and its tributaries, a brumby stallion was causing similar disruption among the European settlers.

Life in this isolated part of the Blue Mountains demanded a tough resilience from its inhabitants.

They were skilled bushmen and expert horsemen, every bit as daring as the Snowy River men.

They recognised in the wild stallion the characteristics of the Boer Cronje and bestowed that name upon him with genuine, if grudging, respect.

The story of Cronje is documented in that splendid book, *Cullenbenbong;* by Bernard O'Reilly whose family settled at Long Swamp in the second half of the nineteenth century.

At the feet of his father and the older men, young Bernard (born 1903) absorbed the stories of the wild brumbies sweeping down from the mountains at night, killing tame horses and making off with the mares to replenish their breeding stock.

It is claimed "...on one occasion Cronje hurdled to freedom over two mounted men."

He learned of the brumby runners, those men of "reckless courage and riding ability" who fought these depredations with their skills in pursuit and capture and the use of assorted firearms and who, aided by drought, gradually reduced the numbers of the marauding horde.

By the end of the century one dominant stallion remained, the last of a "long rebel line", a magnificent horse, "a brigand and a killer" but so coveted by the mountain horsemen that they set upon a reckless determination to capture him.

Drives were organised and strategies planned, issuing in dramatic displays of skill and courage, near success, injury and even death, but always failure.

Cronje was equal to the challenge, usually with a surprise in reserve.

He out-ran them, charged through lines of shouting, stockwhip wielding riders, ran pursuers into wombat holes (a rider "spinning along the ground like a football"), crashed out of timber enclosures and on one occasion hurdled to freedom over two mounted men.

The climax came when Cronje, cornered at the edge of a precipice, leapt "in a beautiful arc and disappeared into the blue air", traversed a landslide prone scree slope and in a "thrilling wild-horse run" escaped to the bottom of the gorge, leaving only "the ring of his hooves and the clatter of the rocks he took with him".

Continued page 16

On the gently-swelling ridge in the fork of two creeks stands a house – the type of house which has disappeared from the Australian scene along with the generation who built it. It is of slabs silvered by the weather; it has a thatched roof and a great stone chimney, and like nearly every other pioneer home it faces the north-east.' Bernard O'Reilly's Cullenbenbong still stands today in Kanimbla Valley, the quintessential slab hut. Photograph courtesy of Ian Jack

New Aboriginal heritage tour at the Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mt Tomah

AN AUTHENTIC new Aboriginal tour focusing on the Indigenous use of plants was launched at the Blue Mountains Botanic Garden recently.

The Aboriginal heritage tour provides visitors with a unique opportunity to experience the culture and plant resources of the Indigenous people of the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area, led by an expert Aboriginal guide.

Brenden Moore, Aboriginal horticulturalist at the Garden who has developed and will be leading the tour says: “The Aboriginal heritage tour offers an opportunity for visitors to learn about the rich heritage and culture of the Aboriginal people of the region.

“Although this was thought to be an impassable mountain range by early Europeans, Mount Tomah and the surrounding Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area provided important trade routes for Aboriginal people.

“With a diverse array of flora and fauna, ample fresh water, rock shelters and views to the coast, it was a safe haven for many local Aboriginal people for thousands of years.”

The one and a half hour walking tour takes visitors around the Garden highlighting plants that were traditionally used by Aboriginal people for food, medicine or tools.

The tour concludes with a didgeridoo performance by Brenden.

Bush tucker can be arranged if booked in advance.

The tour is available on request but bookings are essential.

To view Brenden talking about the Aboriginal heritage tour visit: www.youtube.com/user/BotanicGardensTV .

Tour details
When: Book anytime.

No minimum fee on Fridays tour runs 10 am - 11.30 am.

All tours must be pre-booked at least 24hours ahead.

Aboriginal tour guide, Brenden Moore playing the didgiridoo at Mt Tomah. Photograph by Michelle Leer.

Cost: $36.50 pp. $275 minimum tour cost (except Friday 10 am - 11.30 am). $16.50 student/child. Friends and Foundation discount on request.

Bush Tucker is available at an extra charge, at the end of the tour if pre-booked.

For further details telephone (02) 45 67 3000 or e-mail:
tomah@rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au

Cronje

Continued from page 15
That was enough and the pursuit of Cronje came to an end.

It’s a great story, even if perhaps grown a little more colourful in the telling.

The isolated life of men and women, thrown back so often on their own ingenuity, fosters a rich tradition of legend and story.

Apparently, Cronje escaped the devastating bushfire of 1904-1905 and was last seen, still wild and free, years later in the ranges at the head of the Kowmung River.

If you look at your map you will find him remembered in Cronje Mountain, Cronje Ridge and Cronje Gully.

This article was first published in *Hut News* of the Blue Mountains Conservation Society.

"The Biggest Estate on Earth: how Aborigines made Australia"

by Bill Gammage, 2011

A Blue Mountains critique

by Andy Macqueen

IN HIS BOOK "The Biggest Estate on Earth", Bill Gammage seeks to demonstrate, particularly through historical artworks and writings, that virtually every inch of Australia was managed by Aboriginal people by the systematic and scientific use of fire.

He discounts the role of natural wildfire arising from lightning ignitions. (Gammage 2011) Whether or not all aspects of his thesis are beyond challenge, his book is important in highlighting the significance of the traditional Aboriginal custodial role.

Gammage draws from a number of the journals of early Blue Mountains explorers and surveyors, using them to provide examples of the sorts of landscape management in which the traditional custodians engaged.

As a person familiar with the early journals and the country they concern, the writer was naturally interested to examine the references which Gammage relies on. These are all addressed below:

Firstly, on pages 72, 188 and 207 Gammage refers to two locations mentioned in the journal of Surveyor George Evans on November 30 and December 17, 1813, to support ideas concerning manufactured clearings in the Blue Mountains.

Unfortunately, neither location is in the Blue Mountains. The former date relates to the Fish River country, as Evans observed it from the Great Dividing Range near Cheetham, while the latter relates to a place on the Macquarie River 30 kilometres north-west of Bathurst. Both are today represented by farmlands. (Weatherburn 1966)

Secondly, on page 7 Gammage points out Surveyor William Govett's observation that the mountain summits were "clothed with grass, which circumstance, considering the barrenness and excessive sterility which pervades all the connecting ridges, and that region of the mountains, is certainly very extraordinary … In general … the ranges are covered with short timber and scrub." (Govett 1977, pp3,4) Govett was referring to the basalt-capped Mounts Hay, Banks and Tomah.

However, he was working in the area in 1831, by which time there had been European impacts.

As Govett himself explains in the same piece, the top of Mount Hay had been totally cleared of all but one tree for survey purposes (Figure 1), while the eastern side of Mount Tomah "has been cleared and cultivated, and a large house and buildings have been erected".

Govett describes the vegetation elsewhere on Tomah in similar terms to George Caley, who back in 1804 wrote that "The brush seems to occupy the whole of the summit, as well as most of the other parts ...

The part which was void of brush was thickly covered with timber". (Andrews 1984, pp61-2)

Thirdly, on page 207 Gammage cites the "small piece of ground, which was destitute of trees, and no herbaceous brush" mentioned by George Caley, as evidence of a clearing created by Aboriginal people. (Andrews 1984, p71)

The place concerned is not really "above the Grose Valley", as Gammage suggests, but on the west flank of Mount Tomah South, traversed by Caley on November 13, 1804.

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Figure 1: William Govett's "View of the gullies of the Grose River from a cataract named Govett's Leap" (National Library n/a.pic-an3364840_v). The mountain on the right is the basalt-capped Mount Hay, one of Govett's "extraordinary" features. As shown by the drawing, it had been cleared of all but one tree for survey purposes.

The hardest day of Caley's remarkable expedition

Cotinued from page 17

That day was one of the hardest of Caley's remarkable expedition, involving scrub so thick that in places they could "scarce force a passage".

His reason for remarking on this spot was that it offered respite from the scrub and a view of the terrain ahead, including Mount Bell.

His precise route is impossible to determine, but there is no doubt that for a time he sidled above the sandstone rim of the mountain (below the basalt) and in doing so would have encountered some of the natural swamps and small bare rock areas to be found there today.

There is a bare rock area some 15 metres across about 850 metres south-west of Tomah South Trig which appears to fit all the necessary requirements with regards to Caley's account, and there are probably others.

Fourthly, on page 207 Gammage mentions the "about two thousand acres of land Clear of trees" described by Blaxland (and others) in 1813, as further evidence of Aboriginal clearing. (Richards 1979, p71)

Again the location is wrong: the place is not "north of Katoomba".

It is the northern part of Kings Tableland, a windswept place with shallow sandstone and stony soil, typical of many natural heaths on the plateau of the upper Blue Mountains. (Figure 2)

Today it is mostly characterised by heath species of banksia and casuarina, whereas the early descriptions indicate a predominance of "coarse grass".

It is therefore apparent that the area had been subjected to more fire in the years prior to 1813 than it has been today.

To that extent, it may be relevant to Gammage's thesis, though it should be understood that today's low fire frequency is largely due to the fact that authorities actively *prevent* fire there. Baker (1997, p67) has suggested that "it is possible that this heath was kept in a low state by fire management perhaps to partly allow for ease of movement through the area which is known for its Aboriginal occupation and industrial sites".

That hypothesis relies on an assumption, perhaps not an unreasonable one given the place's accessibility and views, that the sites at Kings Tableland were more significant than the hundreds of other known sites, many of which are situated in shelters in scrubby, wooded areas.

Fifthly, on page 159, Gammage quotes selectively from Evan's account of a fire on the Blue Mountains in January 1814, concluding that it was an example of a cool summer burn by Aboriginal people because Evans "walked close behind the flames.

He could not have done so behind any of Australia's recent big fires". This interpretation does not stand scrutiny, and it is worthwhile to reproduce Evans' complete description:

> *3 Jan [near Katoomba]: The mountains have been fired; had we been on them we could not have escaped; the Flames rage with violence through thick underwood, which they are covered with. Bad travelling the stick of the Bushes here are worse than if their leaves had not been consumed; they catch my Chain which makes the measuring very fatiguing; also tears our clothes to pieces, and makes us appear as Natives from black dust off them. The Marks in the Trees are burnt out; therefore am obliged to go over them again; Our Horses now want Grass; the herbage in this spacious Valley [Jamison Creek] is destroyed; we cut some sweet Rushes for them that grow on the edge of a stream of Water which runs through it. distance, 4 Miles.*
>
> *4 Jan: The Mountains are as yesterday; fired in all directions; at 11 o'Clock I was upon the high hill: all objects Eastward are obscured by thick smoke; We stopped where there was feed for the Horses and Water. [Lawson vicinity] distance, 5¼ Miles*
>
> *5 Jan: Still in thick Brush; the leaves of it are burnt. The weather is disagreeably warm and boisterous, which has been the case for the last 3 days. … distance, 4½ Miles [stopping in Linden vicinity]*

Continued page 19

Figure 2: The open heath country of Kings Tableland is extensive but not unique. It is associated with exposed and shallow rock, as is this open area on the Mount Hay Range. The grooves prove that the people clearly lingered there, but whether they fire-managed the place comprehensively is speculative. A. Macqueen 1996.

6 Jan: The fires have been in my favour, otherwise it would be impossible to measure; the flames have consumed the foliage from the highest Trees. The Ridges continue as usual until the latter part of my journey which is Forest Land [Springwood] for ½ a Mile; the timber on it is chiefly lofty stringy Bark and Oaks; there are small patches of grass left that the fire missed. … distance, 5¼ Miles

7 Jan: The Forest land continues a Mile farther; afterwards the brushy Ridge commences again, the thickest of it consumed, which I consider fortunate, had it not I should be obliged to have given off measuring; at the end of today's Journey is a Lagoon of good Water, with tolerable grass round the edge of it. [Glenbrook Lagoon] distance, 5¾ Miles. (Mackaness 1965, pp30-31)

This was an extensive fire, ranging at least 36 kilometres in a west-east line and apparently well to the south and north.

It occurred in the heat of summer, and burnt through the thick scrub of which Evans, and Blaxland, Lawson and Wentworth, had previously complained.

On December 29, when still in the Hartley Valley, Evans had commented that "The Natives seem to be numerous; there are fires in many parts not far from us".

This statement, together with his opening words on January 3, seems to imply that he thought Aboriginal people were responsible for the fire.

However, it is not clear whether he thought they did it deliberately, and he makes no comment on why they might have lit it or whether they were managing it in any way.

His description of the fire seems quite consistent with what one might expect from an uncontrolled summer wildfire sweeping across the Blue Mountains today: shrubbery reduced to blackened sticks, with the leaves on the highest trees being consumed in places.

Given the extensive thick scrub which Blaxland and Evans previously reported, and the "warm and boisterous" weather, it is hard to imagine that the fire could have been anything other than intense.

Gammage proposes it was a cool fire because Evans was able to walk close behind it.

However, Evans does not say that he walked close behind it. He may have been several days behind the flames.

Perhaps Gammage interprets the present-tense clause "the Flames rage with violence through thick underwood" to mean that Evans was witnessing those flames, whereas Evans may only have been making a general statement about the character of fire in scrub.

Incidentally, Evans' "forest land" with its "small patches of grass that the fire has missed", was situated on the rich Wianamatta Shale around Springwood and Faulconbridge—an area noted by Blaxland for its open grassy nature.

That is the only part of the entire Blue Mountains Ridge between Lapstone and Mount York not characterised by soils derived from the sandstones and interbedded claystones of the Triassic series.

Baker (1997, pp67-68) noted the evidence for Aboriginal burning in that vicinity and along the associated Hawkesbury Ridge. (Figure 3)

The large summer fire that Evans encountered was not unique in early accounts.

Caley's men accidentally started a November bushfire when lighting their campfire during his 1804 expedition.

He described the subsequent inferno which raged across the hills, causing trees to fall with the sound of gunfire. (Did not Aboriginal campfires ever similarly escape?)

Francis Barrallier observed what appeared to be a large wildfire in the southern Blue Mountains in December 1802, while William Parr encountered an enormous fire in the Wollemi in November 1817.

These are discussed in Macqueen (2004, ch4).

Sixthly, and finally, on page 197 Gammage raises matters from John Wilson's 1798 expeditions.

These were not in the Blue Mountains as we now generally understand them, but as he traversed rugged country of similar

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Figure 3: John Lewin's depiction of Macquarie's 1815 party at Springwood (NSW State Library). This was the grassy forest land which Evans (and Blaxland, Lawson and Wentworth before him) remarked on. It corresponds to the rich shale-derived soils of the area which contrast with those of the surrounding sandstone country.

These were not in the Blue Mountains

Continued from page 19
geology, and because the accounts are some of the earliest of any value, it is relevant to consider the matters raised. Gammage states that on his first expedition Wilson

> *reached the Wingecarribee-Wollondilly junction northwest of Berrima. In what is now mostly dense forest, they crossed "fine open country, but very mountainous", grass meadows, thinly timbered plains. And scrub and vine brushes, including Bargo Brush, soon notorious for poor soil, stringybark, and tangles of scrub and fallen timber.*

This interpretation relies on Cambage (1920) and Chisholm (1955).

Subsequent analyses by Andrews (1990) and Brownscombe (2004), and also by the writer (unpublished), discount that view.

The terminus of the first expedition was almost certainly in the Berrima-Bong Bong area, which now features open farming country.

The particular "fine open country, but very mountainous" country mentioned in the above quote was actually encountered on January 27, 1798 when the party appears to have been travelling up the long ramp which forms the watershed between the Bargo River and the Nepean system.

The surface geology for much of the way consists of Wianamatta Shales and would, if burnt frequently, have produced open grassy forest (as at Springwood).

Much of the area, such as around Yerrinbool, is now occupied by small farms, not scrub.

Gammage further states (still page 197):

> *In March 1798 Wilson led another party to Mt Towrang east of Goulburn… He found*

Figure 4: Rural scene near Berrima. This is the country crossed by John Wilson on March 19, 1798, which Gammage states is "thick of timber" today. A. Macqueen 2011

> *"a most beautiful country, being nothing but fine large meadows with pools of water in them; fine green hills, but very thin of timber." They are thick of timber now.*

The "most beautiful country, being nothing but fine large meadows …" was nowhere near the party's Mount Towrang terminus.

It was reported by the diarist on March 19, 1798 just south of Berrima, in today's aforementioned open farmlands. It is certainly not "thick of timber" today. (Figure 4)

To conclude. The archaeological record tells us that the sandstone terrain of the Blue Mountains was of great cultural significance to the traditional owners.

However, the pattern, frequency and purpose of their occupation or visits is not well understood. (Attenbrow 2009)

Nor is the nature of their burning practices.

However, it can be said with reasonable certainty, based on the early historical accounts and on the botanical evidence, that most of the sandstone country was covered in the scrubby vegetation that we still see today, rather than the open grassy woodlands that many imagine. (Macqueen 2004, ch4; Benson & Redpath 1997)

This is not inconsistent with Gammage's thesis. He acknowledges that "people burnt the most useful land most and the most sterile or sensitive land perhaps not for generations", and that they might only have burnt dry ridges "every 15-25 years". (Gammage, pp162, 165)

However, if dry ridge country of the Blue Mountains were left alone for such periods one would expect that fire from lightning ignitions, accidental ignitions, or escaped fires, would attain more significance.

This would be consistent with palaeoenvironmental research which suggests that the frequency and intensity of fire on the Blue Mountains mainly reflected the climate. (Mooney & Martin 2009)

Setting those questions aside, it is unfortunate that Gammage's above acknowledgement is relatively hidden in the book.

By the manner in which he presents examples from the Blue Mountains historical record, he implicitly invites the reader to think that attention would have been given to all the mountains on a detailed and frequent basis.

However, from the above discussion one is entitled to conclude that the pieces of evidence cited have not been properly examined with respect to their context or relevance.

Continued page 21

'…systematic and scientific use of fire…'

Continued from page 20

In terms of their usefulness in supporting Gammage's thesis that all of the country was managed by the systematic and scientific use of fire, they are variously not applicable to the Mountains, misleading or doubtful.

While the cited evidence suggests that part of Kings Tableland and places on the Nepean Ramp may have been burnt frequently to promote open landscape, such practice can simply be associated with the particular geological environments to be found there, in the same way that frequent burning may have been applied to the Wianamatta Shale country at Springwood, the alluvial flats of the Burragorang and other large incised valleys, the alluvial flats of Putty and Mellong, the volcanic diatremes and the upland swamps. (Figure 5)

Those examples say nothing about traditional management on the vast area of rugged sandstone country with its scrubby woodland.

It is not intended to deny that the traditional owners managed their country throughout the Blue Mountains.

However, the evidence educed by Gammage is unhelpful in understanding the nature of that management.

The writer

Andy Macqueen has spent many years analysing Blue Mountains explorers' accounts and following in their footsteps.

He has also been closely involved in the survey of remote Aboriginal cultural sites.

His knowledge of fire in the mountains derives from observations as a bushwalker, and wide reading and briefings in the course of his 18 years on the NPWS Regional Advisory Committee.

He is not a fire ecologist, but neither is Bill Gammage.

Figure 5: The explorers came across many natural clearings associated with swamps, such as this one (Burralow Swamp) encountered by Caley in 1804. Elsewhere on his journey Caley described the same scrubby vegetation that we see today. A. Macqueen 1996

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Focus on the George Evans story

FOCUS WILL be on the George William Evans story, explorer, surveyor and artist seconded by Governor Macquarie to survey the newly found route over the Blue Mountains in late 1813 when Associate Professor, Ian Jack speaks at the mid-year dinner of Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society.

The dinner will be held at Loxley circa 1833, on Bellbird Hill Kurrajong on Friday evening, July 26.

The cost is $55 per person and bookings should be made with Suzanne Smith on 4567 7410 by July 19.

George Evans lived in the Hawkesbury area, near the present day RAAF base.

Along with Surveyor Meehan, Evans assisted in the survey of the five Macquarie Towns.

He was the man who did the all-important surveying and mapping of the route blazed by Blaxland, Wentworth and Lawson.

They had turned back at Hartley Valley, but the surveyor went much further west and created his own route to what became Bathurst.

Evans's house, 1806-1810, front. Photograph, Ian Jack 1989

The surveyor, in short, was also an explorer, and the first European to stand on the Bathurst Plains.

George William Evans was a well-educated Englishman, who came to New South Wales via the Cape of Good Hope.

He had eloped to Cape Town in 1798 with a fifteen-year old bride and moved on to Sydney in 1802, where he was soon appointed Acting Surveyor-General while Charles Grimes was in Britain.

Evans's story is not, however, a simple one of colonial success.

He was dismissed for some unspecified fraud in 1805 and went to live on the quite large Hawkesbury farm which he had been granted in trust for his two infant daughters in 1804.

Evans's 519 acres was immediately adjacent to the 200 acres held by the young children of William Cox. This is half-way between Windsor and Richmond: the present Richmond Air Base.

The association of Evans and Cox did not begin with the planning of the western road, but had begun a decade earlier, with an unexpected intimacy.

Both the Cox and Evans farms were largely rich arable land on the Hawkesbury River flood-plain, with a small strip of high land at the south end, adjacent to the common.

The two farms, looked towards the river with the Blue Mountains evocatively in the distance.

When the rains come in earnest, all that lowland as far as the Blue Mountains can be under water, even today. Cox prudently built his house, Clarendon, on the strip of high land. [1]

Reference

[1.] Jack, RI. In an Australia Day 2013 address to the Royal Australian Historical Society.

THE SEX LIVES OF AUSTRALIANS: A HISTORICAL REFLECTION (and other topics)

For those interested in topical history beyond the Blue Mountains, the Blackheath History Forum will be hosting the first of its 2013 lectures on Saturday August 3.

The speaker will be Frank Bongiorno, author of the recent book "The Sex Lives of Australians: A History".

The History Forum will be held every second Saturday until October 26, at 4pm at the Blackheath Public School hall. Anyone is welcome. Entry is just $5.

For more information on this year's program visit www.blackheathhistoryforum.org.au

Walk to the Cattle Rustlers' Yards

with members of Glenbrook & District Historical Society on Saturday 10 August

For information Doug Knowles 4751 3275 or Tim Miers 47439 2384

Lynn Collins to facilitate museums workshop

THERE ARE still some vacancies for those wishing to register for the Museums Workshop being sponsored by Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc. on Saturday, July 20.

The workshop is to be held at the Mt Victoria & District Historical Society's Museum, Station Street, Mt Victoria and will commence at 10am and finish at about 3pm.

This workshop will be facilitated by Lynn Collins,(pictured at right) the BMCC Museums & Galleries Adviser.

Lunch will be provided by BMACHO, at the Blue Mountains Manor House, Montgomery Street, Mt Victoria.

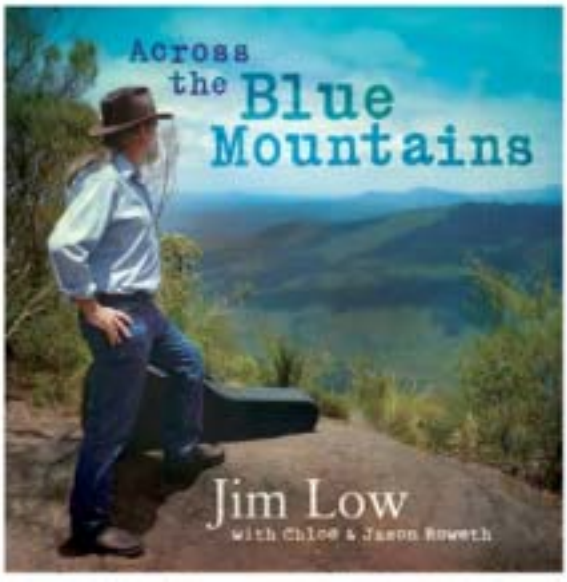
The objectives of the meeting is for members of other societies/ organisations to exchange information, and to identify possible joint ventures, for instance -

- skill based workshops (eg interpretation/display techniques, collection management issues, marketing)
- combined displays and promotions, linking with tourism industries
- research and publishing opportunities
- collection development
- the feasibility of well-appointed, shared storage
- building numbers and users
- succession planning and support
- making best uses of all resources in the Mountains and beyond

Each participant is asked to come to the workshop with three issues presently concerning their group and/or where your society/ organisation is/will be in five years' time.

RSVP to Jan Koperberg by email: j.koperberg@bigpond.com or by phoning 02 4751 5834 (if unanswered, please leave a message).

Across the Blue Mountains ... the new CD by Jim Low



Jim Low is a singer/songwriter and author. He presented some of his songs and observations of the region at last year's Blue Mountains History conference produced by BMACHO

Across the Blue Mountains is his latest CD released on Undercover Music's Rouseabout label and it contains 18 songs about the area and its history.

Many of Jim's songs have been inspired by the Blue Mountains where he lives.

The human impact has made the Mountains rich in history.

Jim has captured some of it in his music with songs about exploration (Cayley, Evans, Blaxland, Lawson and Wentworth) road and rail building (Cox and Whitton), travellers (Mrs Elizabeth Hawkins) and bushfires.

Also included are songs in response to the natural beauty of the landscape.

Along with the CD there is a website which is also called *Across the Blue Mountains*. It can be found at: http://acrossthebluemountains.com.au

As well as links to the songs, it contains articles and resources pertaining to the Mountains and the Crossing.

The CD is available from the website, selected Blue Mountains outlets and digitally on iTunes.

Western crossing commemoration 2013-15

great ideas - thoughts - just being talked about or it's really going to happen!

Coins still available

More than 14,000 school students and teachers throughout the area have received a set of commemmorative coins as part of Businesses Supporting the Bicentenary co-founder Scenic World owner Philip Hammon's lasting legacy of the Blue Mountains Crossings Bicentenary 2013-2015.

The holey dollars will be a reminder of the first recognised European crossing of the Blue Mountains by explorers Gregory Blaxland, William Lawson and William Charles Wentworth in 1813.

Mr Hammon personally underwrote the cost of the holey dollars. which he and descendants of the explorers, presented to students at special school assemblies.

Each holey dollar accompanied by an inspirational message to students from NSW Governor Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir.

The coins are also available to individual members of the community at $10 plus postage. Orders for 6 or more are free of postage.

All enquiries to sponsorship@bicenteary.com.au or telephone (02) 4757 1425.

Festival of Walking

The bicentenary Festival of Walking will be launched in The Gully, Katoomba in conjunction with the Gully Traditional Owners, Gundungurra Heritage Association, National Parks & Wildlife Service and Blue Mountains, Lithgow and Oberon Tourism at 9am on Saturday, October 9, 2013.

Activities will include: self guided interpretive walks, indigenous gallery exhibition, bush tucker, cultural performances and launches of Aboriginal Cultural Experience Guide, iconic Six Villages Walk and the latest bush trackers guides for children.

Aboriginal insight in crossings walk

A Gundungurra Ancestral Pathways Walk will take place in the Blue Mountains later this year as part of the bicentenary commemorations.

Participants will walk from west to east following the Aboriginal pathways.

The walk which is expected to take place in October will make use of the traditional and post-contact Aboriginal pathways and cover 67 kilometres of country in seven days and six nights.

The official Crossings website says the walk "affirms the ongoing presence of Aboriginal people in the Mountains, connected to and walking their country, looking after it and uttilising it for cultural purposes.

It recognises the ongoing stories and beliefs that account for Country."

The walk is also open to "non-Aboriginal people to participate and experience the Blue Mountains from a different perspective".

Participants will experience first-hand Aboriginal cultural heritage and tradional sites of the Mountains, the website states.

Bathurst looks to 2015 proclamation celebrations

Monica Morse

The crossing of the Blue Mountains was significant for the development of inland Australia. In the same year that a route was found, the explorer Evans mapped the way to the plains which he named the Bathurst Plains.

Bathurst Regional Council is looking forward to acknowledging the importance of the first crossing in opening up of the towns of inland Australia. Between 2013 and 2015 a series of events and activities will be developed to follow on from the celebrations and re-enactment of the success of the first explorers.

We look forward to history buffs and tourists retracing the steps of those brave men who made that first crossing and the subsequent road builders. We have already welcomed surveyors to come to Bathurst to recreate and replicate the original surveys using old and modern techniques.

The first Sunday in May is called Proclamation Day in Bathurst which marks the date when the first flag was raised, the site of a new town to be called Bathurst was proclaimed and the first divine service was held west of the Blue Mountains. The flag staff which was erected on May 7, 1815 remained in place until the 1850s and served as the survey point for all exploration inland.

I am sure that the energy and enthusiasm which have been generated by the interest in the early crossing of the Blue Mountains will continue until 2015 when we plan to have many celebrations to mark the history of Australia's first inland settlement.

CLR MONICA MORSE
Mayor of Bathurst

Ancient Syrian sites imperilled by war

Across much of Syria, the country's archaeological heritage is imperilled by war, facing threats ranging from bombing and bullets to opportunistic digging by treasure hunters who take advantage of the power vacuum to prowl the country with spades and shovels,

Ebla has been celebrated for insights it offers into early Syrian civilisation. Now it is a prime example of the scores, if not hundreds, of archaelogical sites often built and inhabited millenniums back, because of their military value, puts them at risk as they are once more put to military use.

In the 1960s and 70s Ebla became well known among archaeologists when the city-state's long-buried archives of more than 16000 stone tablets were discovered. Elba was the most important kingdom in the era of 3000BC.

Translated from cuneiform script, these tablets have shed light on life in a city from another time

First settled more than 5000 years ago, Ebla became a fortified walled city whose residents traded olive oil and beer across Mesopotamia. Destroyed about 2200BC it flourished anew centuries later and was then destroyed again.

Part of the excavated city of Ebla

The latest disruption came after war began in 2011. Once the rebels pushed the army back and into nearby garrisons, the outcrop which is Ebla made it ideal for spotting government planes that in turn the MiG and Sukhoi jets have repeatedly bombed on towns that have fallen from Assad's control

Maamoun Abdul-Karim, who leads the Directorate-General of Antiquities and Museums in Syria, has appealed to combatants on both sides to avoid using ancient sites for military purposes, and to protect the ruins from vandals, looters and thieves.

"A whole civilisation belonging to all humanity is being destroyed," he says. ***New York Times***

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

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THE ORGANISATION Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 following a unanimous response to a proposal from Professor Barrie Reynolds at the 2004 Blue Mountains Local History Conference which sought from Blue Mountains City Council the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the city.
BMACHO in its constitution uses the definition: "Cultural heritage is all aspects of life of the peoples of the Blue Mountains which was later changed to cover Lithgow and the villages along the Bell's Line of Roads. It therefore involves the recording, preserving and interpreting of information in whatever form: documents, objects, recorded memories as well as buildings and sites."
The objectives of the organisation are:

i. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage.
ii. To encourage and assist cultural heritage activities of member organisations.
iii. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations. One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact, to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

AFFILIATIONS BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society Inc.

HERITAGE BMACHO's official newsletter is edited by John Leary, OAM.
Blue Mountains History Journal is edited by Dr Peter Rickwood.

MEMBERSHIP The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mount Tomah, Blue Mountains City Library, Blue Mountains Cultural Heritage Centre, Blue Mountain Education and Research Trust, Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc., Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc., Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute, Eskbank Rail Heritage Centre, Everglades Historic House & Gardens, Friends of Norman Lindsay Gallery, Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc., Hartley Valley District Progress Association, Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc, Lithgow and District Family History Society Inc., Lithgow Mining Museum Inc., Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies, Lithgow Small Arms Factory Museum Inc, Mt Victoria and District Historical Society Inc., Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine Historical Society Inc. (including Turkish Bath Museum), Mudgee Historical Society Inc., National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Blue Mountains Branch, National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Lithgow Branch, Scenic World – Blue Mountains Limited, Springwood & District Historical Society Inc., Springwood Historians Inc., Transport Signal and Communication Museum Inc., The Darnell Collection Pty Ltd, Valley Heights Locomotive Depot and Museum, Woodford Academy Management Committe, Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd. The following are individual members: Ray Christison, Associate Professor Ian Jack, Joan Kent, John Leary OAM, John Low OAM, Ian Milliss, Patsy Moppett, Professor Barrie Reynolds, Dr Peter Rickwood and Dr Peter Stanbury OAM.

COMMITTEE The committee for 2013-14 is: John Leary, OAM (president), Ian Jack (vice president), Jan Koperberg (secretary), Kevin Frappell, Wendy Hawkes, Doug Knowles, Dick Morony (public officer),Scott Pollock and Jean Winston.

DISCLAIMER Views and opinions expressed in ***HERITAGE*** originate from many sources and contributors. Every effort is taken to ensure accuracy of material. Content does not necessarily represent or reflect the views and opinions of BMACHO, its committee or members. If errors are found feedback is most welcome.

HERITAGE

NEWSLETTER OF THE BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 2013 ISSUE No. 29

Men and women of the bush in early Australian cinema

By Andrew Pike, OAM

A summary of the Theo Barker Memorial Lecture delivered in Bathurst on August 16, 2013, presented by the Bathurst District Historical Society in conjunction with Charles Sturt University.

WHEN I FIRST started researching the history of Australian film history in the late 60s, the landscape was very bleak.

There were no film studies at any university, and no publications to act as a guide.

I eventually located some oases in the desert – the pioneering research of Ross Cooper, Merv Wasson, Anthony Buckley, Joan Long and a handful of others, and some dedicated librarians (Larry Lake, Rod Wallace and Ray Edmondson) working within the film section of the National Library of Australia, doing their best to find resources to save films at risk of being lost.

Ross Cooper and I decided to pool our resources to try to provide a framework for our own research and hopefully to help others.

Our book was eventually the result (*Australian Film, 1900-1977*, published by Oxford University Press).

In working systematically towards our listing, I began by working backwards from the late 60s, scouring capital city newspapers and trade publications to find evidence of Australian films that had been produced and released in the past.

It was a long but exciting journey back in time, and I became used to finding only a small handful of films each year – maybe 6 or 7 in a good year, or none in some grim years.

Lorna Denver (played by Vera James) shows her skill at branding - a scene from the 1921 film, 'A Girl of the Bush'

Back through the decades to the 30s and the 20s and the First World War years the story was always much the same – just a thin scattering of Australian films in Australian cinemas.

But then we reached 1912 and 1911, and suddenly we found evidence of Australian films everywhere, scores of films, many each month.

Our excitement was perhaps like that of an archaeologist who digs down through geological layers and then suddenly reaches a layer where there is evidence of a lost civilisation.

Here in 1911 and 1912 was a rich treasure trove of Australian cinema that had been forgotten, and was unlike anything in later years, at least up to the late 60s where our searching had begun.

The landscape of film in 1911 and 1912 was indeed strange – not only Australian films galore, but no sign of Hollywood.

Instead theatres showcased films from Germany, Sweden, Denmark, Italy, England – and only a few short films from America.

Silent cinema knew no language barrier, and Australian films were a vital part of this cosmopolitan mix.

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Planning backflip: new laws in doubt --- but vigilance imperative

One of the first actions by the O'Farrell government when it came to power some 2-and- a-half-years ago was to repeal the notorious Part 3A section of the Planning Act which the ousted Labor government had allowed to be abused.

The Liberal government promised to return planning decisions back to the local community.

The government has touted its planning reforms as the biggest changes to the planning regime in 30 years, to streamline approval processes and ensure development matches the need for new homes and jobs.

Instead landmark planning reforms have met with severe criticism at all levels of the community.

The central plank of the Coalition's election promise — that local communities have more of a say in the planning process did not rate a real mention in the draft Bill nor the government's white paper.

Instead it was proposed that 80 percent of development applications be waved through under a proposal by which applications would be assessed strictly against planning codes — "codes assessment" — rather than have to be considered case-by-case by local government councils.

Grave concerns had been expressed that heritage and environmental issues would be sidelined to prevent the community from opposing unwanted development.

The changes would have erased ecological principles which limited the community's ability to protect natural assets.

Local government around the state was in revolt and full credit to councils in this region for their stand. Blue Mountains City Council led by its then deputy, now mayor Mark Greenhill did much to put the case that this region has special planning needs and that a "one-fits-all" code was not acceptable.

A white paper outlining the changes attracted almost 5000 submissions, hardly the "small vocal minority" suggested by a rapacious development industry.

One group alone, the Better Planning Network Inc. (BPN) has some 420 affiliated community groups including BMACHO.

The relentless work of Corrine Fisher from BPN has brought together a wide spectrum of stakeholders to oppose this proposed legislation which even ICAC is reported as having warned the Bill contains a high risk of corruption.

BPN's campaign is not a ragtag protest it is a professional exercise which could well be taken as a model for future actions against threats to individual and group dissent to bad legislation.

Planning and Infrastructure director-general Sam Haddad has admitted that the planned overhaul had "gone further than the government intended" and department staff may have unintentionally spread "inaccurate or misleading information"

It now appears that the NSW Planning Minister, Brad Hazzard has done a backflip, lacking the support of cabinet colleagues for major components of the Bill.

But stakeholders and the community need to be vigilant and keep up the pressure on local MPs to ensure this toxic planning proposal never becomes law. The proposed reforms empower developers not communities.

John Leary, OAM - President, Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc.

Continued from page 1
It was during the First World War that the high levels of production in Europe were disrupted and Hollywood stepped into the breach internationally, gaining a foothold that it never lost.

The boom in Australian films faded away after two glorious years for reasons which are complex and had nothing to do with Hollywood, but to some extent the Australian films made in these boom years carried a seed which contributed to their own demise, as we shall see.

‘Australian films made in those [early] years were entirely for Australian audiences’

Overseas sales were not part of the business model, and were rare. It was emphatically a local film industry, making films for local audiences – audiences that the filmmakers could know and understand.

The subjects were many and varied - convict era dramas, filmed versions of American and British plays, films inspired by paintings, poems, songs - and of the 100 or more films made at that time, about 40 were dramas set in the bush – usually stories which romanticised the past.

That past could encompass gold mining dramas, stories of clashes with Aboriginal Australians, and pioneering stories, but about a third of the bush films were about bushrangers.

Captains Midnight, Starlight, Moonlite and Thunderbolt were heroic figures in these bushranging sagas alongside Ben Hall and members of his gang, and of course Ned Kelly.

The shearing shed at Freemantle Station, outside Bathurst, used as a location for the 1921 film, ‘A Girl of the Bush.’ Vera James as ‘the Girl’ is in the centre.

These bushranging films constituted a distinctive local genre well before Westerns became established in Hollywood: we had our own stock characters, our own stock situations that owed nothing to American cowboys and Westerns. As one filmmaker from those days, Raymond Longford, later recalled: “All they needed was (sic) horses hired from stables in Redfern, some uniforms, guns, a stagecoach, and enough men to play troopers and rangers.

“They would take their gear down to the bush at Brookvale, outside Manly, camp out for a week and - without any script - make a film. Their action was usually a stagecoach hold-up, a lot of galloping, and a shooting-match.” (*Daily Telegraph*, Sydney, November 9, 1946)

By 1912, the popularity of bushrangers started to cause concern to the New South Wales Police who had carriage of film censorship at that time.

They felt that this wave of films glorified criminal behaviour, made a mockery of law enforcement, and was unhealthy for young audiences.

The result was a police ban on bushranging films which effectively removed the most popular male figure from Australian cinema.

With the sudden loss of the strongest male characters in the local bush genre, the men who were left seemed to be an empty shell.

Many of them seemed to become bland and polite, and were no match for the later heroes of the American West such as WS Hart and Tom Mix who took over the popular imagination during the war years.

With the bushranger ban, the “real men” of the bush disappeared, but the women did not.

The women who featured in many of these early bush dramas appear to have followed a particular stereotype which survived in bush dramas until the last great manifestation of the bush heroine in the Daphne Campbell role in *The Overlanders* in 1946.

The women of the bush were a distinct local phenomenon: they differed profoundly from many later Hollywood heroines of the Western genre.

The Australian bush heroines could confidently and reliably do the work of a man – could manage a station, go mustering, work in the shearing sheds, brand cattle, and ride with great proficiency.

At the same time, they could be attractive, demure and glamorous after the day’s work was done.

Continued page 4

‘In the absence of strong male heroes, these women were often the protagonist’

Continued from page 3

They were far from being tomboys and in no sense competed with men; on the contrary, they enjoyed male company, even flirting with the bland young men who courted them.

In the absence of strong male heroes, these women were often the protagonist.

The duality in her personality, balancing the “masculine” and “feminine” aspects of her character, could be expressed in her very name. In *The Squatter’s Daughter* (1933) she is Jo to the men, and Joan to those who know her domestically.

The heroine of *Silks and Saddles* in 1921 is known around the station as Bobbie, but is Roberta in the homestead.

In some films the bush heroine shared responsibilities with a man who might be a brother but who would sometimes be weak, lazy, snivelling, dishonest, immoral, selfish and irresponsible – in short, a bounder.

Sometimes he was literally disabled as in *The Squatter’s Daughter*.

Interestingly, the hero who romances the heroine in *A Girl of the Bush* (1921) is a well-mannered surveyor, not a “true” man of the bush though doubtless he will become one when he marries her.

Lorna Denver (played by Vera James) at work on the station, watched by her dissolute suitor Oswald (played by Herbert Linden) - a scene from the 1921 film, ‘A Girl of the Bush’.

The contrast with some of the strong women of the American West is remarkable: in Hollywood, women who did a man’s job were often depicted as tomboys, sometimes emotionally disturbed, and had to be tamed**.**

Lorna Denver (played by Vera James) . This image and others included in this article have been accessed courtesy National Film and Sound Archive.

Gun-toting, whip-cracking, tough-as-nails characters such as Anny Oakley were essentially competitive and challenging to men (“*Anything you can do, I can do better*”), but the Australian counterpart had no need to be competitive: she was a balanced, well-rounded character who could be an equal of the men in her life.

Very few of the early films from 1911-12 survive but we can learn a lot from newspapers articles, advertising and other published material.

Where fragments of the films do survive, we can see vivid examples of these women who are far from being conventional “romantic interest” or relegated to home-making and child-rearing roles like many women in the American West.

They were a distinctive local creation, strong and forceful characters at the forefront of our national cinema when it burgeoned before the First World War.

Since the 1950s, her demise from our national culture is almost complete.

Women in the bush in later films had little in common with her.

Continued page 5

Forgotten gems

Continued from page 4

The bush became a claustrophobic, stultifying environment from which a woman needs to escape (*Dust in the Sun* and *My Brilliant Career*) or with which a woman struggles long and hard (*We of the Never Never*). Nicole Kidman's role in *Australia* might have had potential but missed the mark entirely.

Perhaps the conventions of American film and television have now become so pervasive that we no longer know what we once had, or even feel the need for it.

But exploration of our own national cinema and its unique characteristics can reveal exciting elements that are worthy of much more study and discussion.

When the National Film and Sound Archive can marshal the resources to re-release forgotten gems like *A Squatter's Daughter* and *A Girl of the Bush*, we will finally have the tools to understand the characters who once stood strong and proud at the centre of our popular culture.

About the author

Andrew Pike is a film distributor, film historian, documentary film-maker and former exhibitor. With Ross Cooper, he wrote *Australian Film 1900-1977*, published by Oxford University Press.

His films as director include the award-winning *Angels of War* (1982) about Papua New Guinea during World War 2, *The Chifleys of Busby Street* (2008) about Australia's post-war Prime Minister, Ben Chifley, and *Emily in Japan* (2010), an arts documentary commissioned by ABC TV.

He has personally produced several documentaries for other directors.

Andrew managed the Electric Shadows cinema in Canberra for 27 years, from 1979 to 2006, and through his company, Ronin Films, has distributed many Australian films including *Strictly Ballroom* and *Shine*, and 500 documentaries.

In 2007 Andrew was awarded an OAM and an honorary doctorate from the University of Canberra for his services to the film industry and community.

Andrew Pike, OAM

In 2003 he was appointed by the French government to the rank of *Chevalier dans L'Ordre des Arts et Lettres* for Ronin's promotion of French cinema in Australia.

He served on the Board of the National Film and Sound Archive from 2008 to 2012 and is a member of the ACT Government's arts policy advisory council.

State government sale of Bridge Street buildings

The three major NSW Government owned Bridge Street, Sydney sandstone buildings – the Lands Department, Department of Education and the Chief Secretary's Buildings are proposed for sale/lease by the government prompting expressions of deep concern by the public to the National Trust.

The three buildings were listed on the National Trust Register in the 1970s and on the State Heritage Register in 1999.

As a group and individually they have the highest heritage significance.

For example, the Lands Department Building "is one of the most influential and major public buildings ever established during the mid nineteenth century in Australia's colonial history."

While the National Trust supports the concept of "adaptive re-use" to keep buildings intact and to fund their ongoing maintenance, any development proposal for these three buildings must be sympathetic.

These are landmark buildings seen "in the round" with important ornamentation on their rooftops.

Like the Queen Victoria Building any development would have to respect the scale of these buildings and their extraordinary exteriors, interiors and rooftops.

Lands Department tower - 1892

The Trust has expressed deep concern about proposals in the new draft state planning legislation that would transfer planning approval powers for State Heritage Register listed buildings from the Heritage Council of NSW to the Director-General of the Department of Planning & Infrastructure.

The treatment of these buildings is likely to be the first major test of the new planning/heritage regime.

There must be careful consideration given to development proposals to ensure that they properly protect these historic gems

The Trust will carefully monitor any proposed developments.
Reprinted from *National Trust Heritage Alert.*

Little Jacky Tougher - a grave story

IT WOULD BE hard to imagine any possible connection between the death of a baby in Lithgow in 1898 and the Australian Customs & Border Protection Service marine base at Neutral Bay but some very strange things do happen as this story will reveal.

James and Mary Tougher had emigrated from Scotland around 1879, to make a new life in Lithgow where James probably found work with Hoskins steel works.

James' brother John and his wife Margaret had joined them in the town and the brothers were stalwarts of the municipal brass band.

James and Margaret were the parents of four sons and five daughters – a typically large family for the time.

In April 1897 their last child, Jack, was born but he was to have only a very short life, dying on March 17, 1898.

The cause of death is not known but at that time and in that area typhoid claimed the lives of quite a number of young children.

Jack was buried in the Presbyterian section of South Bowenfels Cemetery which lies a little to the east of Lithgow on the Great Western Highway.

A small marble headstone was subsequently erected on his grave which bore the inscription:

IN LOVING MEMORY
OF JACK
BELOVED SON OF
J. & M. TOUGHER
DIED MARCH 17 1898
AGED 11 MONTHS
A BUD IN HEAVEN.

The next part of the story is pure hypothesis. Let us fast-forward to the 1970s when two Customs officers, after a weekend shooting trip in the west, stop at Lithgow for refreshments at a pub.

It is a moonlight night as they set off for Sydney along the highway but nature calls and they decide to avail themselves of the quiet of South Bowenfels Cemetery which is unfenced and freely accessable.

The officers notice the small headstone (which measures some forty centimetres square) and in a spirit of devilment easily remove it from the plinth and take it with them.

On their return to work on the Monday they place it in the garden beside the car park at the Neutral Bay marine base.

In December 2000 a Customs officer from Canberra was waiting for a taxi in the car park and noticed the little headstone.

He noted the details and contacted the Customs history officer in Sydney, Peter Chinn to see what might be found out about this curious item.

Considering the possibility that the headstone might have been on the site before the Customs marine base was established in the early 1960s Peter Chinn contacted the North Shore Historical Society to see if they had any knowledge of the headstone.

The Society's investigations determined that Jack Tougher's headstone belonged in far away South Bowenfels Cemetery.

North Shore Historical Society's journal editor Cameron Sparks made contact with John Bayliss, Local Studies Librarian at Lithgow Regional Library to arrange for its return.

This was finally done in 2003, and Lithgow City council, which is responsible for this very fine old cemetery, restored the headstone to its rightful place.

Peter Chinn who contributed this article is president of Springwood Historical Society, a member of Springwood Historians and a regular contributor to HERITAGE

Mary Reynolds to "retire"

MARY REYNOLDS, the driving force behind the establishment of Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine Historical Society in 1996, is to "retire" from the day-to-day activities of the society.

Mary plans, when time permits, to concentrate on her history of Mt Wilson and sorting and cataloguing of archival material.

President of Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine Historical Society, Des Barrett has said, "Mary's contribution to our society and to the study of local history generally, has been truly remarkable.

"A full recognition of her commitment to and work for the society will be acknowledged at this year's annual meeting, to be held on Saturday November, 9."

Mary was honoured in January 2011 with the award of an Order of Australia Medal (OAM) for service to the community through a range of historical, environmental and charitable organisations.

The Paragon, Katoomba

by Ian Jack, an edited version of a talk given to the Australian Society for the History of Engineering and Technology and the Royal Australian Historical Society on July 25, 2013

KATOOMBA INITIALLY developed in a fashion quite distinct from the other Blue Mountains townships along the 1860s railway line.

From 1874 onwards trains halted at The Crushers, in the vicinity of the later station, not for passengers but for stone quarried near the later court-house.[1]

The first settlement in the area was two kilometres to the south-west of the railway, near Katoomba Falls, where John Britty North opened a coal-mine complex in the Jamison Valley in 1878.

There was a village near the top of Katoomba Falls and another village grew up deep down in the valley itself close to the base of the Falls, just below where the Scenic Railway ends today.

North built a private tramway from the top of the incline near Katoomba Falls to join the main western railway line at what is now known as Shell Corner, a kilometre west of the present station.[2]

All this diverted attention away from what we all think of as the core area of the urban development, the area on either side of Katoomba Street, that essential north-south connecting link between the railway and Echo Point.

This area around Katoomba Street was within the large land-holding of James Henry Neale, a master butcher and Sydney politician, who had been a member of the Legislative Assembly from 1864 until 1874.

In 1877 Neale built a country retreat called Froma on what is now the new Cultural Centre site on the east side of Parke Street. But in 1881 Neale sold his interest in central Katoomba, including the house, to Frederick Clissold.

Clissold, a wool-merchant resident in the Sydney suburb of Ashfield, immediately sub-divided the land, creating and naming the modern street system.

Parke, Katoomba and Lurline Streets were created, running north-south, while Waratah Street ran east-west and defined the southern edge of the initial commercial centre of the new town. The Great Western Highway and the railway defined the northern limit.[3]

Olympus,12 Cliff Drive, Katoomba, the house built by Zacharias and Mary Simos in 1940. The upstairs section was altered in the 1980s. Photograph, Ian Jack, 2001.

So Katoomba changed rapidly. It started as only two industrial halts on the railway, with stone for railway works at one and at the other a private tramway leading down to a coal-mine and two mining villages.

Then it became a characteristic Mountains town relating to a proper railway station serving real people, as the 78 allotments created in 1881 were, over two decades, purchased and developed.

During this period from the 1880s up to the First World War, the whole area below the Carrington, quite close to the railway station, along Katoomba, Parke and Lurline Streets, became a busy commercial precinct, dominated by shops, services and a cluster of guesthouses, tempered by a remarkable number of churches (Anglican, Methodist, Presbyterian, Catholic and Congregationalist) along with their halls and manses.

The influx of seasonal tourists and the increasing number of permanent residents who serviced the tourists created a need for local services, so the area between the station and Waratah Street gradually filled up with shops, restaurants, cafés, two theatres and public utilities, such as the post office and the public school.[4]

But there was still a lot of free space in 1906, captured in a marvellous photograph showing south Katoomba from the most spectacular of the early consolidations, the Great Western Hotel of 1882, better known as the Carrington, on its spacious hill-top site.

A real entrepreneur at 19

Froma was still there in 1906, just below the Carrington although it was demolished six years later. Between Froma and Katoomba Street, the site of the later Paragon was a large, empty space, which remained undeveloped until 1909, when William Newlind built four shops on the vacant Katoomba Street block.[5]

Newlind had built the four shops as a speculation and three of them were soon bought as an investment by the Anglican rector of St Hilda's, just across the street.

These were all retail shops until 1916 when one was converted into refreshment rooms, called the Paragon.[6]

This was just at the beginning of a new phenomenon in Australian country towns, the Greek café.

From the early 1910s onwards a number of émigrés from Greece, often with experience of the United States, created a new café experience in cities and towns throughout Australia.

The Greek café was 'essentially an evolutionary amalgam' of the Greek coffee-house and the American oyster saloon and soda parlour with the familiar fare of the existing British-Australian steak-houses, and the names of the cafés, Californian, Golden Gate, Niagara on the one hand and Acropolis, Parthenon, Paragon on the other, reflected the shared inheritance.[7]

In Katoomba a drapery store built at 92 Bathurst Road near the station about 1905 was converted in 1917 to a Greek café called the Acropolis and soon rechristened the Niagara to emphasise its trendy American drinks.[8]

This is the Australian environment which a fifteen-year-old Greek boy called Zacharias Simos found when he migrated from Greece in 1912.

Where did he find work? In Greek cafés, of course, in Sydney, in Windsor and in Tenterfield.[9]

By 1916 he was in Katoomba, where in a brief partnership with Demetruos Sophios he became a fruiterer and a confectioner, opening his own premises in Katoomba called the Paragon Café and Oyster Palace.

He was advertising his Paragon wares as 'confectionery, fruit, American fountain drinks, and ice cream specialities'. This was in September 1916.

He was a real entrepreneur at the age of 19, offering to deliver fresh lobsters and oysters anywhere in the Mountains and making a speciality of 'late suppers'.[10]

Simos was an early exponent of American-style soda drinks with fancy flavours: he fell foul of the law in 1918 for combining raspberry syrup (brought from America) with too much sodium benzoate

.

But he survived the fine of £2 (about $150 today) and expanded the Paragon in 1925 to create the present deep restaurant area which we all love today.[11]

This doubled the length of the café and a new soda fountain was installed at the rear bar, with a lavish use of Australian marble.

At this time wall panels were added, not the present ones, but 'artistic plaques', framed in gold, which have not been captured in any known photograph.[12]

The bench seating was pleasant though not out of the ordinary. But the decorations and the style of the Paragon were of an elegance which distinguished it from most of its rivals.

Simos and the Poulos family which ran the Niagara round the corner were good friends although rivals and the Paragon and the Niagara were keenly aware of each other.[13]

The area just behind the Paragon bar is now a sort of hall-way, but in 1925 it was an elegant private supper-room: this is why it has fine period detailing, such as its Art Deco ceiling light.

Behind this supper-room was a new change-room with all modern conveniences for 'the girls' who worked in the café. Further back again was the kitchen, just as it is today.[14]

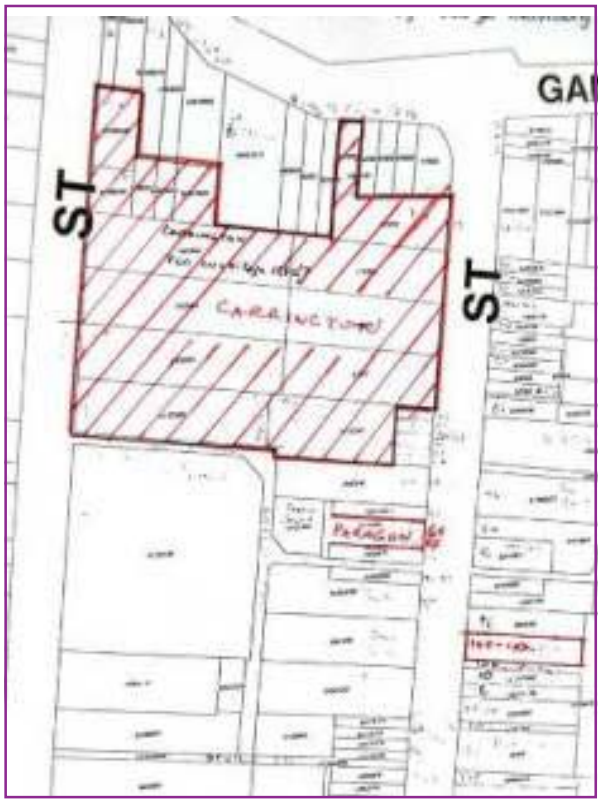
Upstairs in 1925 was the industrial side of the enterprise, not open to the public.

There was a bakehouse, a large refrigeration plant for the ice-cream made on the premises and a new 'sweet factory', with a gas boiler and a forced-air draught for cooling the chocolate.[15]

The technology of the chocolaterie is well documented, although the equipment was dismantled a decade ago.

Photographs of the upstairs rooms survive from various periods and have been gathered together and displayed by Robyn Parker.

Continued page 9



Location map of the Carrington hotel and the Paragon Café.

“... industrial dimension to the Paragon is of exceptional importance.”

Continued from page 8

The chocolate-making equipment is still stored upstairs and on April 10, 2013 members of the ASHET committee inspected and photographed the various items with a view to compiling a full report later in the year.

This industrial dimension to the Paragon is of exceptional importance.

Chocolate-making at the Paragon had been of a high order ever since Zacharias Simos had been joined by his two brothers: George was a master confectioner and they were trading as Simos Brothers by 1926.[16]

During a visit to Europe in 1929, Zacharias married an American-born daughter of café proprietors whom he met in his own home town of Kythera in Greece when they were both on holiday.

Maria or Mary became something of a legend in Katoomba and as a widow after 1976 managed the Paragon until 1987.[17]

Mrs Simos sums up the complex influences evident in the way in which America and Europe (Austria as well as Greece) contributed to the Australian Greek café.

In 1946 and 1947 new bas-relief friezes were commissioned for the front rooms.

These were by an émigré Danish artist, Otto Steen, who had arrived in Australia at the end of 1927.

He also did significant work at Everglades for Henri van de Velde

The chocolate room upstairs at the Paragon, showing the equipment now in store still in situ in 2000.

and assisted Rayner Hoff with the sculptures in Sydney’s Anzac Memorial.[18]

Steen’s fine friezes matched very well with the fairly extravagant new rooms right at the back of the Paragon when it was remodelled again in 1934 and 1936, designed by the theatre architect Henry White (who had also created the Capitol and State theatres in Sydney in 1927-1929).[19]

These two private rooms for functions are remarkable, not only for their décor but also for their very sexy lighting.

Robyn Parker, the present enlightened lessee of the Paragon, has rescued important memorabilia and documentation from various cubby-holes around the building and has put up a valuable museum display in the ballroom. We are all much in Robyn’s debt.

It is illuminating to compare the Paragon with the Simos family’s own house in Katoomba.

Originally, Zach Simos lived above the shop, in that part of the upstairs rabbit-warren overlooking Katoomba Street which was not used for making chocolates or for baking cakes.

In the late 1930s Zach and Mary bought vacant land on what is now Cliff Drive down at Echo Point and in 1940 they commissioned GN Kenworthy, the architect of the State Ballroom in Sydney, who had also worked on the State Theatre, to design a classy Functionalist house, which they called, of course, Olympus. Despite some additions to the upper frontage in the 1980s, the house and its important outbuildings, (garage, pergola, summer-house, fuel store), have retained a great deal of integrity.[20] This is the necessary corollary to the Paragon, blending perfectly with the developed façade of the famous café.

The Paragon is the apotheosis of the Greek café in Australia and it reflects the increasing prosperity and stylishness of the Simos family as the premises were extended and aggrandised between the two world wars.

It has managed to preserve to an astonishing degree the features which made it so famous, and the continuing quality of the chocolates, still made upstairs, and the décor of the long room which everyone sees are stunning.

But it is the unseen Paragon which makes it ultra-special: the two underused grand private function rooms at the back which so few people ever see, let alone eat and drink and dance in; and most of all, not least for ASHET, the crowning glory is the survival of the upstairs industrial rooms for chocolate-making and for baking, and the survival of much of the earlier equipment seen *in situ* in the old photographs.

Continued page 10

"…[this] Art Deco Cafe extremely rare and precious

Such an industrial dimension within the context of a spectacular Art Deco café is extremely rare and precious. Robyn Parker is to be congratulated for her exemplary stewardship.

End notes

[1] B Fox, *Upper Blue Mountains Geographical Encyclopaedia,* 2nd ed., author, Bathurst, 2001, pp.46-47.
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[3] RI Jack, History, 'Site of Froma', State Heritage Inventory 1170440, Blue Mountains City Council, Katoomba, K 117.
[4] RI Jack, History, 'Katoomba Heritage Conservation Area', State Heritage Inventory 1170518, Blue Mountains City Council, Katoomba, K 159.
[5] *Australasian Traveller*, 7 January 1907, p.13.
[6] RI Jack, History, 'Paragon Café Group', State Heritage Inventory 1170394, Blue Mountains City Council, Katoomba, K 034.
[7] Cf. L Janiszewski and E Alexakis, '"American Beauties" at The Niagara: the marriage of American food catering ideas to British-Australian tastes and the birth of the classic Australian "Greek café"'. *Locality*, Spring 2002, pp.14-18.
[8] RI Jack, History, 'Café Niagara', State Heritage Inventory 1170431, Blue Mountains City Council, Katoomba, K 106.
[9] R Parker, 'The Paragon Chronology', p.1.
[10] *Blue Mountain Echo,* 15 September 1916 p.5, 10 August 1917, p.4.
[11] *Blue Mountain Echo*. 22 March 1918, p.1.
[12] *Blue Mountain Echo*, 4 June 1926, p.2.
[13] Cf. *Blue Mountain Echo*, 1 February 1924, p.4.
[13] *Blue Mountain Echo*, 4 June 1926, p.2.
[14] *Blue Mountain Echo*, 4 June 1926, p.2.
[15] *Blue Mountain Echo*, 4 June 1926, p.2.
[16] Parker,' Paragon Chronology', p.1.

Paragon frieze by Otto Steen, showing the judgment of Paris.

[17] Parker,' Paragon Chronology', pp.1-2; *Blue Mountain Echo*, 1 February 1924, p.4.
[18] G Sturgeon, *The Development of Australian Sculpture, 1788-1975*, Thames and Hudson, London, 1978, p.136; D Hunt, 'Obituary: Otto Steen, 1902-1981', *Sculptors Society Bulletin*, October 1981, p.3; Information from Robyn Parker, 2012; the friezes were dated by the sculptor.
[19] Parker, 'Paragon Chronology', p.2; J Thomas, 'White, Henry Eli (1876-1952)', *Australian Dictionary of Biography.*12, Melbourne University Press, Carlton, 1990, p.468.
[20] RI Jack, 'History, 'Olympus', State Heritage Inventory 1170110, Blue Mountains City Council, Katoomba, K 068; http://www.daao.org.au/bio/gn-kenworthy/.

Valley Heights locomotive depot centenary

Andrew Tester from the Valley Heights Locomotive Heritage Museum, last month held a gathering of local historical and family history societies from Nepean and Blue Mountains at the Museum

This was to hand out their brochure *2014 – Celebrating the Past, Envisioning the Future*, which is a celebration of 100 years of service to the Blue Mountains community.

Andrew went through the proposed event calendar for 2013/2014 (which is subject to change), starting with community events from January 2014. The first event will be the local community pre centenary celebration on Australia Day, Sunday, January 26, 2014.

On Friday January 31, 2014, the museum official opening and official opening of centenary celebrations will be held – this event will be invitation only.

This will be followed by a community event on the weekend of February 1-2, 2014. Organisers are hoping to hold a community day in March, where the local historical, family history,heritage organisations can hold information stalls.

On the same day, the members of the public will also have an opportunity to experience steam train rides with shuttle trip being planned to operate between Springwood and Penrith. This will be confirmed in due course. There will be other events during the year up until the World War 1 centenary event in October 2014.

After the presentation, Andrew took all those present on a tour of the grounds and Museum, where there is a lot of work being carried out in preparation for next year.

Good speakers, entertainment and lunch in heritage dining room planned for conference

THE 2014 Blue Mountains History Conference being organised by the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc, will be held again at The Carrington Hotel, following the success of the 2012 event in this venue.

The conference will be held on Saturday, May 10, 2014 and already a number of speakers have been secured.

Associate professor Ian Jack, MA, PhD, FRHistS, FRAHS will give a talk on historical educational buildings.

Ian served as president of the Royal Australian Historical Society for 11 years and is regarded as an eminent historian with numerous books and other publications to his credit. He has been described by one of his peers and a "consummate scholar".

He is constantly being sought as a speaker around the state and throughout the nation.

Another speaker will be Hector Abrahams, a heritage architect and former RAHS councillor, who will give a talk on historical buildings built for religious activities including churches and schools.

Hec has a deep interest in the architecture of old places - the repair conservation and sensitive changes to buildings and the addition of new buildings within an existing precinct.

He has worked on larger projects including the new wings at St Paul's and St Andrew's Colleges at the University of Sydney, and the Sydney GPO.

He isre very familiar with the architecture of many of the religious buildings in this region

Robyn Parker, proprietor of the Paragon Café, Katoomba will participate in a question and answer (Q & A) half hour session on the history of the Paragon, assisted by Ian Jack.

Dr Nick Lomb, a former astronomer at Sydney Observatory, will provide an address about astronomy observed from the Blue Mountains. He has observed the Transit of Venus, the scientific event which led Captain Cook to Australia.

Nick has been involved in the observations of the Tansit of Venus from Woodford Academy in June 2004 and again in June 2012

The program for the Blue Mountains History Conference including an entertainment interlude will be finalised in the next few weeks when registrations will open.

The conference will finish by 3.45 – 4.00 pm and an optional extra will be offered on the registration form for those wishing to go to the Paragon Café for afternoon tea.

Robyn Parker has agreed to provide afternoon tea of tea/coffee, scones and cream, plus a tour of the Paragon Café for $10.

The fee for the conference, morning tea and buffet lunch at The Carrington will be $50.

The Carrington Hotel

The Carrington has a long and rich history spanning almost a century and a quarter since her establishment by Sydney hotelier Harry Rowell.

Opened in 1882 as The Great Western, this 'grand old lady' soon became a popular mountain retreat for international visitors, the elite of Sydney and those eager to see the natural wonders of the Blue Mountains.

Renamed 'The Carrington' in 1886, in honour of the then Governor of New South Wales, Lord Carrington, the hotel was extended by its new owner, Mr FC Goyder who is credited with the creation of the grand dining room. With its extended and upgraded facilities, The Carrington gained even more acceptance as a world class establishment.

By the early 1900's The Carrington's reputation as the premier tourist resort in the southern hemisphere was undisputed and the newspapers of the day often cited her as the only rival to Raffles within The Empire.

Sold in 1911 to Sir James Joynton Smith, who introduced the famous stained glass facade, The Carrington entered a new phase and quickly became known as the honeymoon destination of choice, and this remained so for the next half a century.

The Carrington closed her doors in late 1985 and remained empty and derelict until 1991 when it was purchased with the aim of restoring and relaunching this 'grand old lady' of the Mountains.

The Carrington reopened her doors in December 1998 after eight years of restoration, and works are continuing on the restoration of the gardens, garages, stables, and powerhouse.

RAHS annual conference - *Great Divide: Getting there from here* theme

THE THEME this year of the RAHS conference to be held in Katoomba in November is *The Great Divide: Getting there from here*.

It will examine new family history resources; commemorating the past; places and landscapes; museum collections and society management.

There will be opportunities to network with people who are committed to promoting local and community history and who enjoy sharing their successes and challenges with others.

The conference will be held in the Katoomba RSL Club on Saturday and Sunday November 2 and 3

The RAHS is delighted to announce that the distinguished historical geographer Associate Professor John McQuilton has accepted an invitation to deliver the 2013 Lesley Muir address.

His publications include *The Kelly Outbreak: The Geographical Dimensions of Social Banditry* (1979), *Australians: A Historical Atlas* (1988) and *Rural Australia and the Great War: from Tarrawingee to Tangambalanga* (2001).

Katoomba Street, 1920 - RAHS Photographic Collection

Outline of Conference Program
Day 1 – Saturday 2 November – Welcome to Country • Welcome to Region • Presentation of 2013 Cultural Grants • RAHS President's Address – Dr Anne-Maree Whitaker • 2013 Lesley Muir address – Associate Professor John McQuilton • Morning tea and book sales • Session on new family history resources • Lunch and book sales • Session on commemorating the past with particular focus on World War I • Afternoon tea and book sales • Choice of conference tours • Conference dinner

Day 2 – Sunday 3 November – Business Session • Presentation of 2013 Heritage Grants• Morning tea and book sales • Session on places and landscapes • Lunch and book sales • Session on museums & interpreting objects

For further information about the conference contact the RAHS on [02] 9247 8001 or email history@rahs.org.au.

There will be regular updates on the conference and other RAHS news in the fortnightly eNewsletter. Source: *RAHS eNewsletter September 2013 Issue 1.*

Pre-conference drinks at Hobby's Reach hosted by Blue Mountains Historical Society

Tarella 1910 - Ada McLaughlin with her two daughters and friends. Image - Blue Mountains Historical Society

BMHS will be hosting pre-conference drinks from 5.30 pm at their research premises Hobby's Reach on Friday November 1.

The Society will also be providing place mats using images from their extensive photograph collection to decorate tables for the Saturday night conference dinner.

There is limited parking at the pre-conference venue. However there is on-street parking near-by. There is also a community bus available to transport people from Katoomba RSL to Hobby's reach. Please contact outreach@rahs.org.au for details of this service.

EXPOSING OUR PICTORIAL PAST

HOW important are your old family photos?

Ted Szafraniec will explore how we learn from the past through our old photos during his talk, "Exposing Our Pictorial Past" at the Blue Mountains Historical Society Rooms, 99 Blaxland Road, Wentworth Falls on Saturday, October 5t, 2013.

Morning tea will be available from 10.00 AM. The meeting will commence at 10.30 AM.

Ted's talk will be of great interest to all those keen on photography, local history and the history of the Blue Mountains.

The Blue Mountains Historical Society's photographic collection provides a wonderful insight into the history and culture of our region.

During the morning, the BMHS Library and Research Centre will be open and the Society's publications will be available for sale.

Fish fossils in Canowindra

THE NATURALIST and wildlife broadcaster Sir David Attenborough has described a collection of Australian fossils neglected by the state's natural museum as 'world class"

On a break from his two-week speaking tour around the country recently , Sir David was taken to a site in NSW's central west where hundreds of ancient fish perished at the bottom of small lake 360 million years ago.

Arguably one of the country's most impressive fossils deposits, the site reflects a time when fish ruled the world and animals were on the verge of walking on land.

Today, evidence of this event can be seen on several large rock slabs on display at Canowindra's Age of Fishes Museum.

"When you look at one of these slabs you can see it is extraordinary," said Sir David.

"What you have here is dozens, if the rock was big enough, hundreds of these things piled one on top of another."

Sir David said the high quality exhibits at the small Age of Fishes Museum, run by the Cabone Shire Council, were a credit to the local community.

Sir David Attenborough and Dr Alex Ritchie looking at the fossils in Canowindra.

"But the find is world class and it deserves even more than it has got here," he said.

"It would be nice to think that the state or the nation should support such a thing."

Dr Alex Ritchie, an Australian palaeontologist, a world authority on early fishes and a former senior researcher at the Australian Museum who led the first, and only, excavation of the roadside site just outside Canowindra 20 years ago had invited Sir David to visit the rare fossil deposit.

Several leading international palaeontologists believe the site may contain some of the earliest evidence of tetrapods, the first animals to walk on land.

Story: Nicky Phillips, *photograph: Janie Barrett - The Sydney Morning Herald.*

Leading professionals join National Trust Board

THE PRESIDENT of the National Trust of Australia (NSW), Ian Carroll OAM, is pleased to announce the appointment of two outstanding new directors to the Board - renowned architect Clive Lucas and chartered accountant Alan Kerr.

Clive Lucas OBE is one of Australia's most respected architects, and a founding partner of Clive Lucas, Stapleton & Partners.

Clive has won numerous awards, including the National RAIA Lachlan Macquarie Award for restoration nine times. Clive has been appointed to fill a casual vacancy and will be required to stand for the 2013 election.

Alan Kerr is a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants (FCA), a profession he has worked in for 42 years, and has been the principal of Alan Kerr & Co for 21 years.

He holds many credentials, including as a chartered tax advisor with the Taxation Institute (CTA), and is a registered company auditor and registered SMSF auditor. Alan has been appointed for a fixed term expiring in November 2014.

"The National Trust of NSW is very fortunate to be gaining leadership and expertise of this calibre, and I welcome both Clive and Alan to the Board," Mr Carroll said.

Everglades and beyond

October 5 - 27

An exhibition of watercolours by Esther McFarlane at Everglades, Leura

Gardens and gardening are great loves of Esther, so naturally, they are favourite subjects of hers to paint. For further detail Scott 4784 1938

Time for spring cleaning your museum?

by Peter Stanbury, OAM, PhD

SPRING IS HERE! It is time to review your museum…what can you do to protect your heritage items…what can you do to attract more visitors…more volunteers…more funds?

Recently I escaped winter in the Blue Mountains to the monsoon season in Phnom Penh to face a similar agenda at the National Museum of Cambodia under the aegis of *Australian Business Volunteers*, a non-government, not-for-profit international development agency that sends volunteers to 16 countries throughout the Asia Pacific region.

You can find out more if you fancy an overseas volunteer experience at http://www.abv.org.au/

The National Museum of Cambodia is a wonderful museum. It is housed in one of the most beautiful buildings anywhere in the world.

It has a large, important, well preserved collection. Overseas museums want to borrow exhibits and are prepared to provide material benefits in exchange.

It is centrally located in a city visited by people from all over the world.

When one has worked in a place for a long time the surroundings and habits become so familiar that they seem quite natural, satisfactory, and even unchangeable.

But the challenges are not insurmountable if one works in small steps. So thought the newly appointed director in the National Museum of Cambodia.

The director was determined to better the museum and to provide the staff with opportunities to advance their careers. As in any museum, keeping up with public expectations means constant improvements, both short and long term.

He wanted the eyes of a non-staff museum worker to look at the museum and its operations and discuss improvements with the staff.

It is important to recognise that successful change is composed of many small steps. The path to the eventual destination may at first sight seem long, difficult, even frightening but the most important part of the process is the decision to go and the first few steps. (Think of a double B truck doing a U-turn in a narrow street.)

Some of the steps will be large, but many will be simple, easy and even enjoyable.

It is wise first to choose simple first steps, relatively enjoyable ones that produce results quickly, or you may never start.

Think of the best you can imagine for your museum! How proud you will be to have achieved what you set out to do.

In spite of some difficulties on the way you will be able to look back and see that improvements have become a part of your life – an experience to pass onto your children and grandchildren

I had discussions with senior staff and together we came up with nearly 100 steps to better serve the public and re-invigorate the morale of the staff.

We realised that visitors usually have limited time to learn something of the local culture, so exhibits must be presented so their significance can be understood quickly.

Information should be easily assimilated. Visitors must be able to find their way around an unfamiliar building and not be distracted by public health and safety concerns.

The idea was to come up with ideas and plans to make the museum more accessible, to increase funding sources and to safeguard the building and its contents.

Some of the steps proposed were simple such as ensuring fire extinguishers were in working order, improving housekeeping so that insects and other animal pests do not damage the collection, and the provision of free information about the objects (improved labels and brochures).

The National Museum of Cambodia has a splendid roofline.

Spring cleaning your museum

Continued from page 14

Medium term objectives included improving storage conditions by monitoring and controlling humidity and temperature, and introducing added value-added visitation with 'behind the scenes' tours.

Introducing a privileged membership category to raise consciousness among local businesses, council staff and councillors and possible philanthropists were also suggested.

Longer term proposals considered specialist "curator" positions, additions to the building to house the library, thousands of historic photographs and a conservation space.

This would allow expansion of the exhibition space and improved facilities for school groups.

These efforts were to be guided by a policy document with a declared mission and vision understood by all staff.

This document is important to inspire confidence in the museum's achievements and goals by the relevant government departments and when seeking funding.

Do you have a few spare umbrellas? Is the path to the museum from the gates safe when wet?

Pictured above and clockwise are Peter Stanbury and Suzanna Edwards working at the National Museum of Cambodia as volunteers. 1. Protect yourself when carrying out dirty jobs; 2. Change your displays often to rest objects from the light and repeat visitors; 3. Those objects that are packed away should be unwrapped and checked for mould, insects or other damage.

Touring the past: tourism and history in Australia

AN EXHIBITION,'Touring the past: tourism and history in Australia' currently be staged at the Macleay Museum at Sydney University until February 14, 2014, charts the way Australians began to discover they had a past worth visiting.

The exhibition, curated by Rebecca Conway, will showcase images from Sydney University Museums Historic Photograph Collection.

How did the Australian past become an object of the tourist gaze?

For well over a century Australians have learnt to be nostalgic about their past. Convicts, bushrangers and rebellious diggers became standard tourist fare surprisingly early.

At the same time, Australia's past was also acquiring a patina of nostalgia, as artists discovered the beauties of colonial architecture and country towns recognised the benefits of promoting their history to tourists.

From Port Arthur to the Dog on the Tuckerbox, this exhibition explores the variety of pasts that tourists visited, the exhibits that drew them in and the souvenirs they took away.

At left : CALEY'S REPULSE — The discovery of the remains of the long-lost relic was made by a party of members of the Australian Historical Society in 1912 near Linden.

Source: ***RAHS eNewsletter September 2013 Issue 1 and Sydney of University website.***

BMACHO MEMBERS DEMYSTIFY SOCIAL MEDIA PHENONOMEN

IT WAS ONLY 20 years ago the *New York Times*: revealed: "One of the new technologies American vice president Al Gore is pushing is the information superhighway, which will link everyone at home or office to everything else—movies and television shows, shopping services, electronic mail and huge collections of data."

There's a statistical theory that if you give a million monkeys typewriters and set them to work, they'd eventually come up with the complete works of Shakespeare. Thanks to the Internet we now know this isn't true.

The Internet may be the superhighway to knowledge but when Sean Parker entrepreneur and computer hacker co-founded Facebook (today worth $US2 billion), launching Facebook into the social media arena, he introduced a different network to which millions around the world including BMACHO now subscribe.

At Everglades Historic House and Gardens, Leura this beautiful ironstone wall curves along the edge of the lookout looking through eucalypts to Mt Solitary.

BMACHO is grateful to former president Pamela Smith, current committee members Scott Pollock of Everglades Historic House and Gardens and Wendy Hawkes of Lithgow City Council and Eskbank House for bringing this organisation in to the 21st century media realm with its own Facebook page.

BMACHO's Facebook page is https://www.facebook.com/heritagebluemountains

Please 'Like' BMACHO's Facebook page.

Most organisations seem to be using social media to create interest and to network with people and organisations from far and wide, with great success.

BMACHO's website is - http://www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au/

BMACHO members are asked to continue to send events to Dick Morony for placement in the 'Calendar of Events' at richardmorony@optusnet.com.au which are emailed monthly by Dick.

Members are also asked to send events with photographs to, webmaster Scott Pollock at evergladesgardens@bigpond.com for placement on the website under 'events' and for the Facebook page.

Timeline for Mt Tomah and Blue Mountains Botanic Garden

7000BC Earliest dated rock art on Bells Line of Road.

Darug Traditional Tribal Group inhabits northern Blue Mountains including Mount Tomah

1600 Estimated date for oldest eucalypt in the Garden

1804 Naturalist George Caley visits Fern Tree Hill, now Mount Tomah

1823 Archibald Bell discovers a route across Blue Mountains, afterwards known as Bells Line of Road

1823 Botanist Allan Cunningham visits the area

1830 Susannah Bowen receives the first land grant in the area

1934 Effie and Alfred Brunet acquire property for a cut-flower farm to supply Sydney florists

1972 The Brunets present their land to the Royal Botanic Gardens Sydney

1987 Mount Tomah Botanic Garden opens to the public (1 November)

2000 The Garden reaches a milestone 1 million visitors

2002 Darug Connections storyboard trail launches

2009 Mount Tomah Botanic Garden acquires The Jungle. Lady (Nancy) Fairfax Walk opens to the public

2010 The World Heritage Education Centre opens

2011 The Garden gets a name change to Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mount Tomah

The Blue Mountains Botanic Garden

Bells Line of Road, Mt Tomah (02) 4567 3000

Australia's highest botanic garden

THE RED ADMIRAL TO CONTINUE UNTIL YEAR'S END

WITH MORE THAN A YEAR passed since the Governor of NSW, Professor Marie Bashir, AC CVO officially opened "The Red Admiral" – an exhibition of Patrick White's years at Mount Wilson' it has been decided to keep the exhibition open until the end of this year.

Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine Historical Society celebrated the centenary of Patrick White's May 28, 1912 birth date with the opening of an exhibition that examines the writer's early years at Mt Wilson.

It highlights the impact of both the Australian natural environment and the influence of working class and wealthy society individuals and families that were to strongly shape White for the remainder of his life.

"He [White] was one of our greatest writers and this exhibition enriches our understanding of him," Professor Bashir, said in opening the exhibition last year.

"The hidden yearnings of White's characters are what I have most enjoyed and now I am inspired to revisit them," Professor Bashir said.

Most people were genuinely surprised at the deep affection White had for his childhood home and the profound influence it had on his work.

Sales of the video, *Patrick White at Mt Wilson* have been encouraging.

An on-line version of the exhibition is available for those who may want to see it, but who cannot get to the Turkish Bath Museum at Mt Wilson.

Details of opening hours can be obtained by emailing historicalsociety@mtwilson.com.au

Stories of Devotion will bring exhibition to an end

AN EXHIBITION celebrating the lives and achievements of Sir Joseph and Dame Mary Cook is on display at Eskbank House and Museum, Lithgow until October 7.

He was a minister in the first federal government, became prime minister in 1913, was high commissioner in London and knighted in 1918.

As well as being beside him every step of his career, Dame Mary was heavily involved in the Red Cross and was made a Dame in the Order of the British Empire in 1925 for this work.

Curators Miriam Scott and Wendy Hawkes have given a series of presentations based on the images, objects and stories from the exhibition "Devotion Sir Joseph and Dame Mary Cook" during August and September

A talk on the trials and tribulations of creating the history exhibition "Devotion" will be conducted as library forum at the Lithgow Learning Centre on Thursday, October 3 at 5.30pm for 6pm. For further information contact Wendy Hawkes 6354 9999

Wendy Hawkes to talk about the Cooks

THE LIVES of Sir Joseph Cook and Dame Mary Cook will be the topic for the guest speaker, Wendy Hawkes at a BMACHO general meeting to be held on Saturday, October 19.

Wendy Hawkes,(pictured at right) is the cultural development officer with Lithgow City Council and curator at Eskbank House, Lithgow, where an exhibition about the Cooks is in its final stages, closing on October 7.

The Cooks moved to Lithgow in 1886 and Sir Joseph worked in the Vale of Clwydd Colliery as he studied and worked his way up through the unions and into politics. He became prime minister 27 years later.

A light lunch will be provided, (catered by the Cultural Centre and at BMACHO expense), at the Cultural Centre at approximately 12.30 pm

After lunch, from 1.30 pm to 3.30 pm (or earlier) a workshop will be conducted, where a suggested format for an "Explorers Cultural Trail" brochure will be presented.

Wendy Hawkes

Those attending the workshop will be asked for input into this project.

Please RSVP by email j.koperberg@bigpond.com or phone Jan Koperberg on 02 4751 5834

When: Saturday, October 19, 2013 from 10.30 am to 3.30 pm

Where: Blue Mountains Cultural Centre, Parke Street, Katoomba

Cost to participants: FREE

Old Toongabbie Government Farm: an elusive vision for 5 governors

HAVE THE fearsome convict stories and the loathsome reputation of the old Toongabbie Government Farm in early colonial times sometimes caught your interest?

Historian Jan Barkley-Jack's latest work, Toongabbie's Government Farm: an Elusive Vision for Five Governors 1791-1824, will give those who have wondered about this harsh place an opportunity to understand what really happened there.

The book is beautifully published by Toongabbie & District Historical Society. Michael Flynn, well-known historian and author, has written the Foreword, and in Flynn's words, "those interested in colonial history will be fascinated by these new perspectives on the penal colony as it struggled to secure a reliable food supply".

Perhaps one of your forebears was amongst that human struggle.

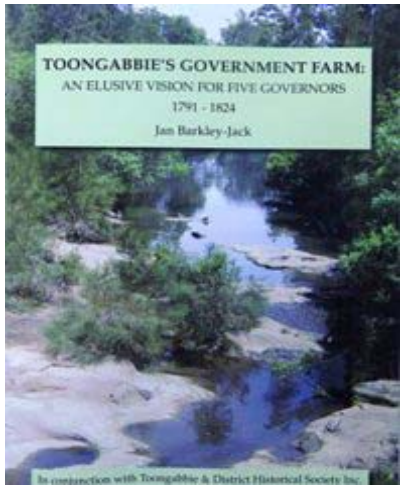
The story of the years beyond 1793 provides insight into the emotional fortitude of some sent there, while showing how most administrators, including Governor King, had their visions tested.

By quirky fate the Toongabbie Government Farm cattle became linked to William Bligh's overthrow and added fuel to long-term opposition to the farm by John Macarthur.

Lachlan Macquarie added a twist to the implementation of the British Government's plans to close the NSW public farms, by applying for Toongabbie to become his own colonial estate.

The book is A4 format with cardboard spine and covers, containing 120 pages with 36 colour plates and 9 black and white plates, and includes maps.

In addition there are tables showing the stock and agricultural details year by year, as well as early settlers by date of promise of grant 1792-1795.



Three appendices include lists of grants given by Governors Hunter and King in the district of Toongabbie, a distinct entity to the Government Farm but highly influential in causing its demise.

The price of the book is $30 (does not include postage), and it is available from Toongabbie & District Historical Society, ph. 96361905

Scrutinizing paper-based collections

AFTER a successful mid-year tour of museums and keeping places in the Lithgow region, conservator Tamara Lavrencic visited the Blue Mountains in August to advise on management and treatments for paper-based objects causing concern to carers of four local collections.

As museum programs & collections manager with Museums & Galleries of NSW, this was another familiarisation exercise allowing Tamara and her colleague – program & collections coordinator, Phoebe Arthur – an occasion to meet volunteers and sight collections while offering practical assistance with artefacts ranging from insect-ravaged photographic portraits to early copperplate correspondence fading away.

Having spent a fulsome hour at the Glenbrook Historical Society's new base then, at a pace, less than sixty minutes at the vast Mt Victoria Historical Society Museum, the visitors examined items in the Varuna Writers' Centre before moving onto a generous Blue Mountains Historical Society luncheon and a further hours consultancy with their collection: the whirlwind visit culminated in a power-point presentation by Tamara offering additional insights to preventative conservation materials and resources; best museum practices; and grant opportunities to assist with the caring of paper-based (and other) collection items.

In July, the roving duo from M&GNSW had spent two days viewing collections in the Lithgow local government area with an introductory tour of diverse sites – the respected Lithgow State Mine Heritage Park, the slowly transforming Charlie Pinch museum in Portland, charming Rydal village and Hartley Historic site – which preceded a day of a similar consultancies involving brief overviews of collections and expert advice on a variety of challenges facing Lithgow Small Arms Factory Museum, Lithgow Library Local Studies unit, Esbank House; and the Lithgow & District Family History Society.

As with the folks in the mountains, an end-of-day summary session presented museum volunteers with more valuable guidance, and a chance to meet Phoebe, an affable and practical M&GNSW administrator of VIM and other project and program grant opportunities …that could benefit conservation, management and interpretation of collections in the two regions? (see www.mgnsw.org.au)

"The best thing about Tamara's friendly, informative visit was the assurance she gave sorting through our collection and advising where a professional conservator should be involved," said manager-curator at Esbank House, Wendy Hawkes.

Continued page 19

Scrutinizing paper-based collections

Continued from page 18

"Then with other objects, she showed us how, with often only minimal treatment and careful storage, our books, photographs and documents could be happily preserved for ages".

Doug Knowles from Glenbrook was very appreciative of the help and attention their "totally disorganized documents" were given along with valuable insights to light levels required for storing them.

Jean Winston from Mt Victoria was surprised gloves were not recommended for handling paper-based objects and that insecticides used for marauding insects may do as much harm as the critters themselves.

She learnt a great deal about archival storage materials.

Overall, those visited seemed well pleased with the day-tour consultancy format, many reeling away over-loaded with ideas and information, but invigorated to tackle issues at their museums and keeping places.

Discussing Varuna archival material, from LHS, CEO Jansis O'Hanlon, Phoebe Arthur, archivist Barbara Palmer and Tamara Lavrencic.
Photograph by Lynn Collins

For the visitors, who were delighted to meet so many dedicated museum personnel, it was a useful way to gain an understanding of local concerns and scope and state of a variety of collections.

M&GNSW would be pleased to assist with follow-up workshops, perhaps employing experts in other disciplines working with collections:

Lynn Collins Collins, the museums adviser with both Blue Mountains andand Lithgow City Councils, is interested in discussing other similar compact events with museum volunteers …perhaps involving disaster planning around bushfires and other local hazards; or pest management; handling and cleaning large-format photographs; maybe caring for furniture and paintings, which were amongst a number of suggestions immediately arising from these successful couple of visits to the regions.

To Register interest or to offer other proposals, contact Lynn at lynngcollins@iinet.net.au

Tamara Lavrencic with Phoebe Arthur at her side, discusses storage and conservation options for recently received school records with Glenbook Historical Society president Doug Knowles, Mary Knowles and Pam Pascoe. ***Photograph by Lynn Collins***

Glenbrook Discovery — Heritage Walk

Saturday October 19

Doug Knowles 4751 3275

Restoration of Springwood's historic monuments

by Peter Chinn

AS INITIATIVES in commemorating the bicentenaries of the Western Crossing in 1813 and the construction of the Western Road in 1814-15 Springwood Historical Society and Springwood Historians made representations to Blue Mountains City Council for action to be taken to restore and appropriately mark two significant historical relics in Springwood.

The Macquarie monument is an obelisk located on Macquarie Road about half a kilometre from the town and marks the approximate location of the place where Governor Macquarie and party camped on April 26,1815 on their way westwards to the site of Bathurst.

It was here that Macquarie, impressed by the abundance of tall trees and the proximity of springs in the gullies named the site "Spring Wood".

The first permanent European habitation (albeit three soldiers) was established in this vicinity in November 1815.

This small military depot was set up to control access to the Western Road on the orders of the governor in order to prevent unauthorised settlement over the Blue Mountains, and to capture runaway convicts.

In 1939 the Royal Australian Historical Society erected the Macquarie Monument on a small piece of ground – some two metres square – excised from the adjacent property.

A marble plaque with inset lead lettering reads:

Governor Macquarie and his party
Camped here on their way to Bathurst
On April 27 1815
And named the place"Springwood"
William Cox erected here A military Depot
Early in 1815

Over the years the monument has suffered deterioration – lettering lost, mortar eroded and general weathering.

The oldest known European grave on the Blue Mountains lies beneath a tree in Springwood cemetery.

It is surrounded on three sides by dilapidated wooden palings.

Apart from essential restoration it was felt that this most important relic of Springwood's history warranted more appropriate surrounds as well as interpretive signage as to how it came to be erected – an integral part of its history.

Private Francis Smith's Grave

The oldest known European grave on the Blue Mountains lies beneath a tree in Springwood cemetery – that of Private Francis Smith who died at Springwood on May 5, 1836.

Smith was a soldier of the 4th Regiment of Foot (King's Own Regiment) which performed garrison duties in New South Wales from 1832 to 1837 and he was detached with two other soldiers to man the Springwood military depot on the Western Road.

Private Smith died at the depot from causes unrecorded and as there was no cemetery on the Blue Mountains he was buried in the bush near the depot (which consisted of a primitive hut).

At this time the depot had been relocated from its original site, where the Macquarie monument now stands, to a location now the site of Springwood Mews in Ferguson Road.

A headstone bearing the following inscription was placed on the grave:

Sacred to the memory of
Francis Smith
Who died May 5th 1836
Aged 43 years
Having served
For 25 years
As a soldier in
H.M. The King's Own Regt

In 1878, in response to a Parliamentary enquiry, it was reported that a solitary soldier's grave was located near the site of the old military post in Springwood and that the headstone, "is broken and supported by a sapling".

Thomas Hobby makes his mark as Cox takes a 'sickie', August 1815

by Peter Rickwood PhD

THE CURIOUS NAME, Hobby's Reach, the property of Blue Mountains Historical Society came from the stretch of Cox's Road (now Blaxland Road) between c. Edward Parade and the north-west corner of the society's property.

It was completed under the supervision of Thomas Hobby between August 19 and 26, 1814 when William Cox was away recuperating from a bad cold.

In his journal entry of August 26, Cox wrote: "Arrived at the working party at 2pm. Found Mr Hobby well. The road finished during my absence. Done well."But a month later on October 3, 1814, he added: "At the 29th mile is a very handsome long reach, quite straight, which I call, from the layer of it out, 'Hobby's Reach'." (Cox 1901, p.69).

Thus on Friday, October 3, 2014 it will be the bicentenary of the assignment of the name and surely an event that we should celebrate; fortuitously it comes at start of a long weekend holiday.

But while being of historical significance that stretch of road only has a length of 640 metres (700 yards) and it is by no means the longest straight and continuous bit of road in the Blue Mountains.

So where is the longest stretch of sealed road?
Before dealing with that it is important to observe the requirement 'continuous' as many roads were drawn on plans to go across valleys where those sections were quite impractical to construct, so some road names have been applied to two or more unjoined sections.

But Megalong Street in Leura is not one of those as it is continuous,and essentially straight from York Street, (in the Katoomba Industrial Estate) to Gladstone Road, a distance of 2.26 km (1.4 miles).

But is there a longer one ?

The longest essentially straight section of the Great Western Highway is in Blackheath, between the south-west corner of Whitley Park and Ridgewell Road; it is 1.61 kilometres in length so exactly 1 mile.

Reference

Cox, W. (1901) *Memoirs of William Cox, JP Lieutenant and Paymaster of N.S.W. Corps or 102nd. Regiment. Late of Clarendon, Windsor.* Sydney and Brisbane: William Brooks & co., Printers. Library of Australian History, Facsimile Series Number 21, 1979. 149pp. [BMHS REF 203.18] http://acrossthebluemountains.com.au/res-cox.html <Accessed 14 June 2013> also see http://gutenberg.net.au/ebooks04/0400191.txt <Accessed 14 June 2013>

Private Smith exhumed

Continued from page 20

In 1886 Springwood Cemetery was established and the Church of England portion was in use by 1887.

It was probably not long after this that the remains of Private Smith were exhumed and reinterred in this section of the cemetery (Grave No. 91) and marked by the broken headstone and intact footstone.

Examination of the grave some years ago revealed that only the bottom half of the headstone was in place and that the footstone was in two pieces on the site.

It was believed that the top part of the headstone had been removed to the council depot but enquiries were unable to establish that this was a fact.

The broken portion of the footstone remains by the base.

While the grave remains almost forgotten in the cemetery a monument to this earliest of our European inhabitants was erected in the small park in the front of Springwood Civic Centre in May 1990 and unveiled by Brigadier DJ McLachlan, Commander of the Second Military District, assisted by 15 months old Nathan Dubber of Tweed Heads, Francis Smith's youngest direct descendant.

As a result of the representations by Springwood Historical Society and the Springwood Historians the Blue Mountains City Council was successful in obtaining government funding to undertake remedial and interpretive work on both monuments.

Council has advised that the Royal Australian Historical Society have engaged a contractor to undertake some maintenance and restoration work on the Macquarie monument which will involve replacing missing lead lettering, cleaning the plaque and repointing of the stone work.

In relation to Private Smith's grave Blue Mountains City Council has done a commendable job in putting in place at the foot of the grave a fine sandstone plinth with a brass plaque containing a history of Private Smith and its historical significance.

The Royal Australian Historical Society has also undertaken work on the Macquarie monuments at Glenbrook and Blackheath as part of a broader project

Japanese culture at Norman Lindsay Gallery

JAPANESE culture will be featured as two workshops at Norman Lindsay Gallery, Faulconbridge on Saturday, October 6.

Commencing at 11am to 12.30pm Patricia Waters, will demonstrate the art of ikebana. The cost of $20 includes gallery viewing and refreshments.

Between 1pm and 2.30pm Haylee Hill and Shirley Jenkins will demonstrate origami and teach people of all ages how to make beautiful paper birds and cranes. Cost: $12.

Bookings for both workshops are essential on 02 4751 1067.

Blue Mountains Explorers Trail Map idea

AN IDEA for a project sparked by the BMACHO museum workshop at Mt Victoria Museum has prompted the setting up of a project group to develop a Blue Mountains Explorers Trail map.

Richard Woolley a member of Blue Mountains Historical Society was so inspired by the activity that he came away from the workshop determined to see the development and publishing of such a map.

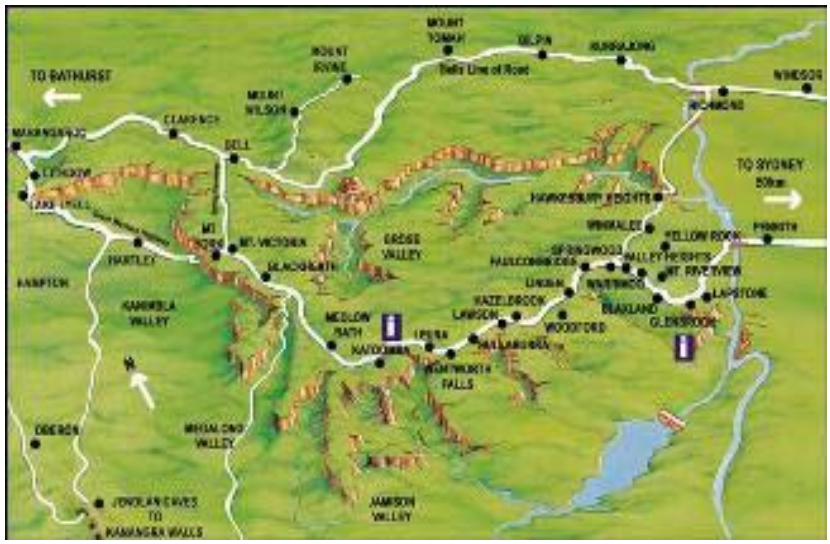
“The mountains has a prolific variety of scenic wonders which already attract a huge volume of local and international tourists bringing tourist dollars and recognition,” Richard has said.

“It also contains a wealth of state and nationally significant history and historic places which are supported by local councils and a diverse group of volunteer organisations working to promote their particular interests.

“The geographical structure of the community means that many of these groups are stretched out along the Great Western Highway and are focussed mostly and naturally on their local village communities.

“Tourism, backed and funded by commercial interests and government, has done a great job in promoting the region with events, publications and websites combining the resources of many groups for greater impact.

Lenox Bridge. ***Photograph by John Leary, OAM November 2011.***



“Heritage and cultural groups have been less successful, being fragmented by their local and limited volunteer resources but are eager to pool their resources to create a co-operative marketing idea which is greater than any individual organisation could mount.

“So let’s change this situation, take a leaf out of the tourism push and combine our resources and influence to present a united front to those who can help fund such enterprises and to our huge visitor target audience .

Richard says the idea is to construct and promote to all visitors and potential visitor groups to the Blue Mountains, a visitors’ trail map which connects heritage and cultural groups, interesting and accessible historical sites (eg: Lennox Bridge or Mt York) with selected cafes, restaurants and accommodations between Emu Plains and the Lithgow Valley and back down Bells Line of Road to the plains

Designed to be very flexible the trail should provide for day visits to sites or organisations, overnight or longer ‘short breaks’ as well as contact resources for all other museums, family history groups and commercial operators that may be identified on the Cultural Explorers Trail map.

Primary promotion

* A high quality, full colour Trail Map (say A3 folded to A4) distributed through all participating museums and keeping places and through Glenbrook, Katoomba and Lithgow visitor centres.

* Promotion on the websites of all BMACHO participating groups.

* Extensive website listings on sector sites (RAHS, MGNSW, CAN) media sponsored sites, Tourism NSW, council sites.

* Maybe develop a dedicated website for the Trail Map.

It will be vital that sites which are shown on the Trail map must be readily accessible (open) as far as possible and that those that are not can be listed in the Explorer Heritage contact listing.

The instant nature of modern communication (internet, Facebook and Twitter) demands that information is accurate and timely so and for this reason the map must not promote inaccessible places.

Funding needed for production will depend on the details of the developed concept and should aim to be self sufficient from grant sources, commercial contributions from enterprises mentioned on the map, local councils, and members of the BMACHO group.

The project group comprising Richard Woolley and BMACHO management committee members Scott Pollock, and Wendy Hawkes and museums adviser, Lynn Collins are currently working through a number of options.

Railway journeys to the upper Blue Mountains: before and after October 20, 2013

by Peter C. Rickwood

READERS MAY well wonder why historians should be concerned about the progressive reduction in time to travel by railway from Sydney to the Blue Mountains.

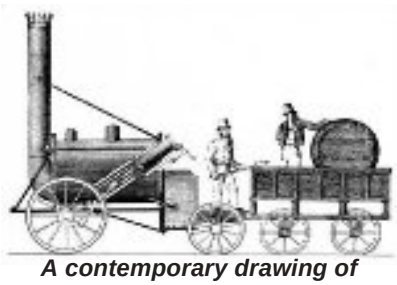
The answer lies in the feasibility of commuting to the Sydney or Parramatta CBD on a daily basis, and how that was really not tolerable prior to 1957 and so affected the employment possibilities for residents and the social structure of the villages.

The inevitable protests came following the leaking of a draft of a new railway timetable that is to be introduced on October 20, 2013 and now that the final version has been released it is timely to see if the complaints are justified.

The residents of the upper Blue Mountains have been the most deprived of service so I have taken Blackheath as an appropriate station for this investigation - an extension of one that was printed five years ago in *Hobbys Outreach*, (Dec.-January 2008-2009, pp.6-8).

Number of trains.
After October 2013 there will be 23 trains per weekday, one more than there has been since 1993, a gain but a small one indeed. The new one is to depart Sydney at 11.18am so it fills a two hour gap in the former timetable.

In future there will be about one train per hour but from 1946 until 1962 there were only nine per day, and from 1893 until 1910 only three, so we must consider ourselves well served by comparison to those who travelled in the first 100 years of railway service.



A contemporary drawing of Stephen's Rocket (1829) the world's first modern steam locomotive.

Average travel time - Central to Blackheath
Prior to this new schedule, the average travel time remained almost constant from 1978 but in future the average time for that journey has been reduced by two minutes to 2 hours and 11 minutes.

The most significant speed increase occurred in 1957 after electrification of the line when the average travel time reduced to below 3 hours.

Pity the residents of earlier years who from 1893 until 1957 suffered average travel times of about 3 hours and 22 minutes and for some reason those travelling between 1918 and 1930 faced even lengthier journeys averaging 3 hours and 43 minutes!

Fastest
And if you are pressed for time just how quick will it be possible to get to Blackheath?

Under the new schedule the quickest journey will be 2 hours and 5 minutes or two minutes longer than earlier this year!

However there has been little change for 50 years and mostly those quick journeys were at around 5.15pm.

Convenience
Getting to work in Sydney by 7am will necessitate catching a train at Blackheath at 4.21am, and for an 8.00am start being on the station at 5.44am and for a 9am start the relevant train leaves at 6.44am.

Those departure times are a little later than under the current timetable so there will be a few more minutes in bed for those commuters!

For the upper Blue Mountains residents working in Sydney there will be three trains departing Central between 4 and 5pm, two in the next hour and two between 6 and 7pm.

In each of those periods one train departs in the first half of an hour so those leaving work on the hour should find the new service satisfactory.

Whether there will be adequate seating for all of the commuters is another matter altogether.

Getting to work in Parramatta by 7am necessitates catching a train at Blackheath at 4.51am, and for 8.00am and 9.00am starts the appropriate trains depart at 6.14am and 7.12am respectively.

Again a few more minutes of sleep than commuters currently get.

Making the return journey home from Parramatta should not be too awkward for there will be two trains between 4 and 5pm that go through to Blackheath, two in the next hour and two between 6 and 7pm.

Conclusion
After October 20, 2013 not a lot will be changing as far as the upper Blue Mountains railway travellers are concerned.

Commuting to work at either Sydney or Parramatta will remain arduous but marginally less so than it has been earlier this year.

So there is little to fear as a result of the new timetable - but commuter satisfaction is likely to be dependent on

- the adequacy of seating - which is only a problem when travelling westwards.
- the cleanliness of the carriages.
- punctuality.

Locomotive No 1 brings to life the age of steam travel, which began in 1855 when this very locomotive hauled New South Wales' first train. Image courtesy PowerHouse Museum

Fizzy soda waters much loved by the gentry since 1783

ONE WOULD BE forgiven for thinking Coca Cola were first in the field of fizzy drinks

Forget Coca Cola. Schweppes is the real pioneer of the fizzy drink.

In 1783 a young Swiss watchmaker and keen amateur scientist, Jacob Schweppes (1740 - 1821), became the first person to perfect an economical process for making carbonated mineral water, much loved by the gentry and widely administered by doctors to cure a variety of ailments including indigestion and gout.

It was described as a “safe and cooling drink for persons exhausted by much speaking, heated by dancing or crowded assemblies”.

He perfected a way of capturing and bottling bubbles (the process of carbonation).

The addition of carbon dioxide was considered at the time, to have medicinal properties.

He founded Schweppes in Geneva the same year, 1783, and within seven years had expanded into England with a factory in Drury Lane, London.

Erasmus Darwin, the grandfather of Charles Darwin began talking up the beverage, which started to become popular. In 1831, King William IV of England adopted the beverage which could then use the famous “by appointment of”.

In 1798, Jacob retired and sold most of his interest in the company to three men.

In exchange, he revealed to the partners, ’ the whole art, mystery and process of making and composing artificial mineral waters’.

The company introduced fizzy lemonade in 1831, the success of which led to a flood of other flavoured fizzy drinks. The most famous was Schweppes Tonic Water, introduced in the 1870s.

The company continued to expand geographically with factories opening around the world with the brand being a popular drink throughout the world until this day.

In 1877, the Schweppes brand arrived in Australia with the first factory built in Sydney.

So its a sure bet that if you have had a gin and tonic, a whisky and soda, a mineral water or a ginger ale the refreshing carbonated waters have been enjoyed thanks to young watchmaker, Jacob Schweppes.

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

REGISTERED OFFICE 1/19 Stypandra Place, Springwood, 2777 (02) 4751 5834E-mail: committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au or j.koperberg@bigpond.com
Website: www.bluemountainsheritage.com
ABN53 994 839 952

THE ORGANISATION Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 following a unanimous response to a proposal from Professor Barrie Reynolds at the 2004 Blue Mountains Local History Conference which sought from Blue Mountains City Council the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the city.
BMACHO in its constitution uses the definition: “Cultural heritage is all aspects of life of the peoples of the Blue Mountains which was later changed to cover Lithgow and the villages along the Bell’s Line of Roads. It therefore involves the recording, preserving and interpreting of information in whatever form: documents, objects, recorded memories as well as buildings and sites.”
The objectives of the organisation are:

i. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage.
ii. To encourage and assist cultural heritage activities of member organisations.
iii. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations. One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact, to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

AFFILIATIONS BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society Inc.

HERITAGE BMACHO’s official newsletter is edited by John Leary, OAM.
***Blue Mountains History Journa*l** is edited by Dr Peter Rickwood.

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HERITAGE

NEWSLETTER OF THE BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2013 ISSUE No. 30

An alternative crossing: Bells Line of Road

Part 1: Alexander Bell junior

by Ian Jack

Introduction

THROUGHOUT 2013 there has been a bicentennial preoccupation with the genesis of the Great Western Highway over the Blue Mountains.

The development of a viable road along the high ridges south of the Grose River to the plains beyond had powerful consequences which were gradually realised over the decades following 1813.

The recent and continuing commemorations of Blaxland, Lawson, Wentworth, Evans, Cox and Macquarie have contributed to a welcome appraisal of the events of 1813 to 1815.

It is worthwhile, however, to recall that another ridgeway to the north of the Grose gorge had also been explored by Europeans and was surveyed as a viable road in 1823.

Bells Line of Road was a real enough alternative to the Western Road, although, for a variety of reasons, it has always played second fiddle to the southern route.

But when Archibald Bell and Robert Hoddle created the alternative road in 1823, the descent from Mount York was still a challenge for the traveller on the Western Road and Thomas Mitchell had not yet arrived in the colony to make autocratic determinations about the best lines for all three main roads, north, south and west.

Mount Tomah proved to be Bell's Mount York, but in 1823 the northern route promised much.

Whereas the southern route ran from the lower Nepean at Emu Plains, the new route started on the upper Hawkesbury adjacent to North Richmond, climbed the escarpment through Kurrajong to Kurrajong Heights with deviations over the years, then descended onto a singularly equable ridgeline until the great obstacle of Mount Tomah presented generations of road-users and road-makers with dangers and dilemmas.

Ian Jack in this image of the Grose River gorge from Bells Line captures the immensity of the dividing line between the two roads the Bells Line of Road to the north and to the south the Great Western Highway as the routes are know today.

Once over Mount Tomah, the road followed the only practicable ridgeline until it turned south at the Darling Causeway, where the Grose River had its source.

Halfway down the Darling Causeway it turned west again down a viable creek gully into Hartley Vale (the route still in use today as Hartley Vale Road).

Once safely down in Hartley Vale, it passed the inn that Pierce Colletts had established in 1821 and joined the Western Road (*Figure 1*).

Aboriginal and early European knowledge

The Kurrajong hills had been familiar to Europeans since the earliest days of the colony. Captain Watkin Tench, Lieutenant William Dawes and Sergeant Isaac Knight were the first Europeans known to have climbed the Kurrajong foothills.

They had no Aboriginal people with them. 'Stopped by a mountainous country', they ended their foray on top of Kurrajong Heights (or just possibly Bowen Mountain) which Tench and Dawes named Knight Hill in May 1791 in honour of the sergeant of marines.[1]

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An opinion from the editor.....

Bushfires' ferocity touched the region's heritage

The devastating bushfires which ripped through parts of the Blue Mountains and Lithgow areas destroying more than 200 urban homes is in itself a piece of history which students of cultural heritage in the future will ponder particularly as to the effect on the community at large.

The destructive force of the fires and the heroic efforts of those volunteers and professionals who fought the fires often at danger to themselves, has been well recorded in the media and it is not the intention to comment other than to add to the overwhelming chorus of appreciation which has rightly been showered upon these men and women.

Closer to home, a number of those associated with BMACHO were under real threat and to them go our sincere hopes that like Phoenix they will rise from the ashes. Particularly our sympathy goes out to former president of Mt Victoria & District Historical Society, Robert Cameron who was one of those to lose his home to the flames.

With fire within two kilometers of the Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Museum wise precautions were taken to move off site and away from the district some valuable paintings housed in the complex. Members also took appropriate action, rolling out fire fighting hoses to ensure the site was adequately covered should an outbreak of fire occur.

A little further west at Faulconbridge, up to 10 fire trucks surrounded the historic National Trust property of Norman Lindsay Gallery where priceless art works were carefully packed up and moved off the Mountains. The decision to move the treasures despite on-site fireproof storeroom was made because of the ferocity of the fires and the weather conditions.

Not so lucky was the Zig Zag Railway where members had been working tirelessly for some time to satisfy the Rail Safety Regulator and had genuine hopes of resuming passenger services towards the end of this year. The fire brought devastation mainly to the Bottom Points depot complex where the destruction of the workshop facility and office occurred. However, the society still has enough rolling stock to resume passenger operations in the future while the three stations buildings were not touched by the fire.

Clearly, it is a time for all museums and heritage properties to look to bush fire survival plans, because inevitable bushfire is one of the prices we pay for living and working in such a beautiful environment.

CONGRATULATIONS

All too often the outstanding and dedicated work of our volunteers and those professionals with whom they work , is overlooked. In the pages of this edition of *HERITAGE* is recorded the awards to a number of these people.

Firstly those individuals and organisations who have worked tirelessly for the success of the bicentenary celebration of the Western Crossing have been honoured by the Blue Mountains, Oberon and Lithgow Tourism. Secondly we have the National Trust awards where 5 out of the total of 20 awards this year have come to the Blue Mountains.

BMACHO warmly congratulates those who have been recognised with an award and thanks both organisations for realising the worth of the volunteers and the professionals who work alongside them in the heritage sector

John Leary, OAM - President, Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc.

Macquarie rode up to Kurrajong Heights

Continued from page 1

With the development of farming in the Hawkesbury Valley from 1794 onwards and the granting of land on both sides of the river, there was a natural likelihood of further early exploration.

The only written account to survive from these first years is by Matthew Everingham, a First-Fleet convict, who set out from his Hawkesbury farm in 1795 with two other Europeans 'to cross the blue mountains of this country', climbed up to Kurrajong Heights as Tench had done, though his exact route is uncertain, and then went beyond as far as the eminences of Mount Wilson/Irvine or Mount Tomah.[2]

In 1804 the naturalist George Caley travelled from Kurrajong Heights to Mount Tomah and Mount Banks by a very difficult route, still remembered by names such as the Devil's Wilderness and Dismal Dingle (*Figure 2*).[3]

Because of their proximity to the Hawkesbury River, the Kurrajong hills and the North Richmond area were settled and developed quite early, including the Bell family's Belmont in 1807.

James Meehan surveyed North Richmond in 1809 and Kurrajong in 1811.[4]

Governor and Mrs Macquarie rode up to Kurrajong Heights in December 1810 after visiting the Bell family at Belmont, found no difficulty in ascending the final hill and used an alternative route down to the north-west, already marked out by the same surveyor, George William Evans, who was to survey Cox's Road in 1813-1814.[5]

Although Aboriginal people knew the route along the ridges from Kurrajong Heights to Mount Tomah, this does not seem to have been a common indigenous way across the Mountains.

This is suggested by a story retailed in 1904 by a well-informed Richmond man, Sam Boughton, born locally in 1841.

According to Boughton, an altercation just before 1823 between the local Belmont Aborigines and a group from Pipers Flat near Wallerawang, who had crossed the Mountains via Springwood, led to the abduction of six Belmont women:

'In about six days one of the gins returned alone, but from a different direction than by the way she was taken off: and when questioned as to how she came back, she pointed to the Big Hill (Kurrajong Heights), saying, "that feller".

'This event caused some surprise, not only to the Bells, but to the blacks also, as it was thought there was no other way over the mountains than by Springwood.'[6]

This story does not imply that local Aboriginal people did not know how to cross Kurrajong Heights, but it makes it clear that they did not expect to go to the Bathurst Plains directly from Kurrajong .

The evidence of George Bowen, who lived at Berambing, near Mount Tomah, in the 1830s, is categorical:

'The Aboriginal natives never lived in [that part of] the mountains, but there was a tribe who wandered over the neighbouring lowlands [i.e. the plateau between Kurrajong Heights and Mount Tomah] and occasionally paid me a visit.'[7]

The evidence strongly suggests that the Darug people had some knowledge of the area as far as Mount Tomah, but that no regular Aboriginal thoroughfare from the Bathurst Plains to the Cumberland Plains existed immediately to the north of the Grose River.

Archibald Bell junior and his three expeditions in 1823

Archibald Bell junior spent almost his entire early life in the Kurrajong district.

Born in England in 1804, he had arrived in New South Wales with his parents and eight and a half siblings in 1807.

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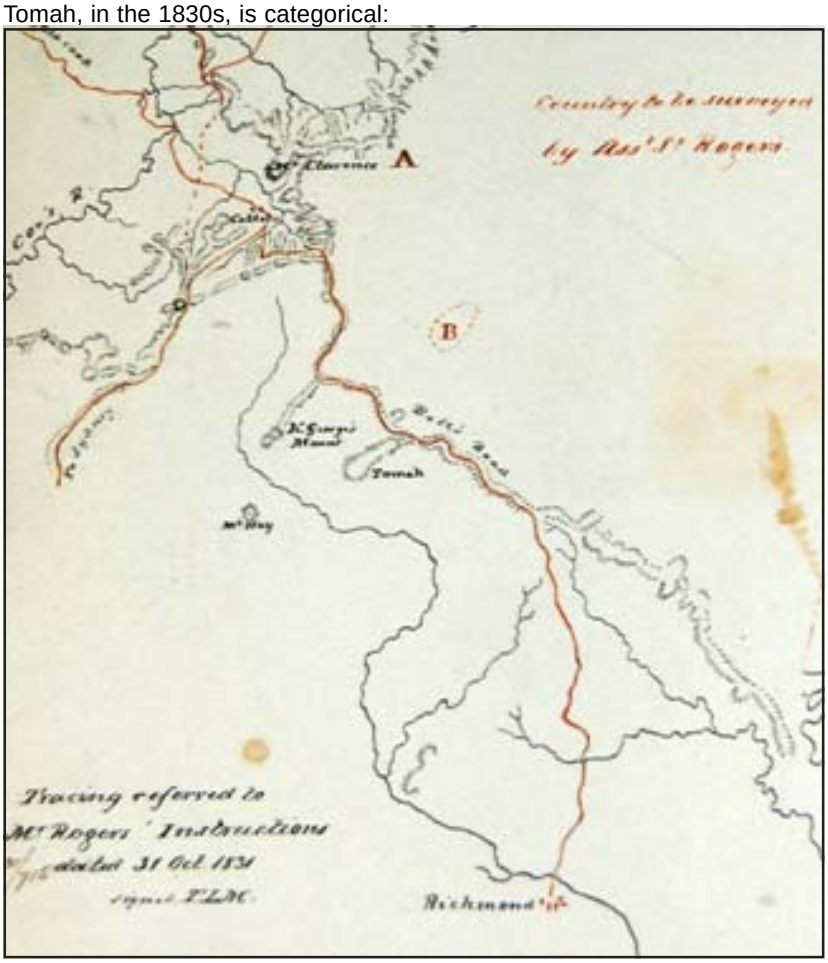

Figure 1. Bells Line of Road as surveyed by Robert Hoddle in 1823, sketch-map used in 1831 by Surveyor Rogers. State Records NSW, Surveyors' Sketch-books, X751, item 206.

Archibald senior a member of the Rum Corps

His father, Archibald Bell senior, a member of the Rum Corps, was given 500 acres [200 hectares] on the north bank of the Hawkesbury at North Richmond by Governor Bligh, built his house of Belmont there, expanded his landholdings during the interregnum and under Paterson and, despite his complicity in the fall of Bligh, was in 1810 confirmed in his acreage by Governor Macquarie.[8]

Lachlan and Elizabeth Macquarie visited the Bell family at Belmont in November 1810 and took tea on the verandah.[9]

Belmont was already a comfortable home in 1810, and Archibald Bell senior and his wife Maria developed the property between 1826 and 1834 into the delightful house drawn by Conrad Martens in 1838 and painted by Henry Fullwood in 1892 (*Figure 3)* .[10]

Young Archibald was still living at home in 1823, a lad of nineteen.

Three years before he had been stimulated by his elder brother, William, who enterprisingly followed John Howe's newly blazed route to the Hunter Valley via Bulga Ridge, but Archibald had been too young to join William on this expedition.[11]

The original ZigZag constructed probably in 1823-1824 by convicts under the control of Archibald Bell senior was essential to the success of his son's 1823 road. Image Ian Jack October 2013.

The ZigZag descended the steep cliff leading from the top of Warks Hill Road at Kurrajong Heights down to the Cut Rock, which is now on the realigned line of road. The image is of the last Zag in the descent. The rock cutting is very clear. Further up the ZigZag there is also stone walling to buttress the road on tricky stretches.

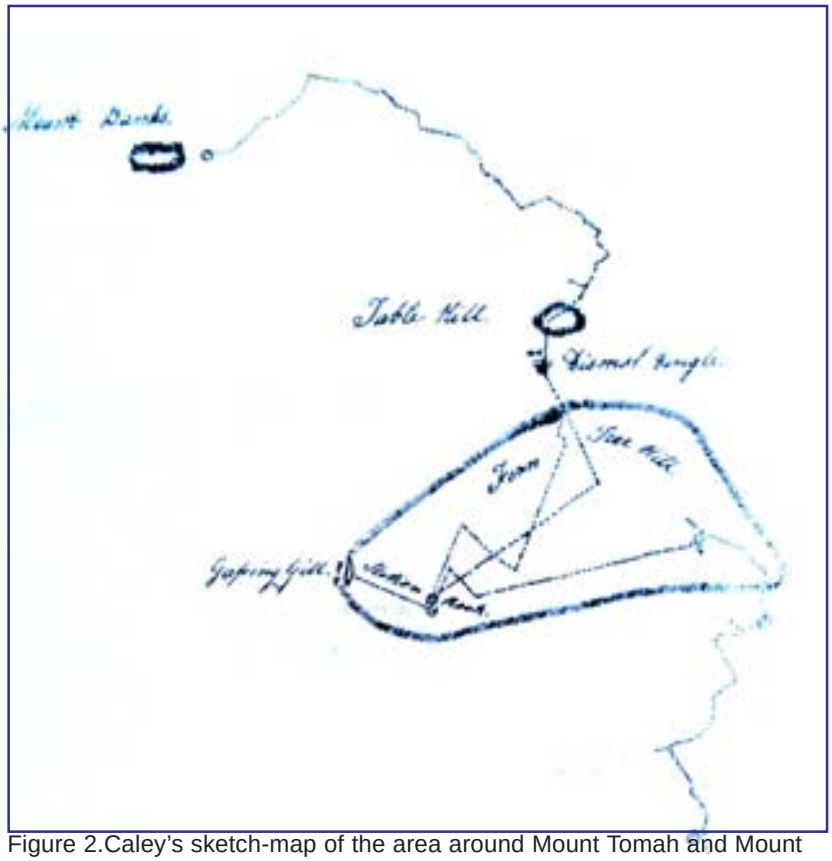

Figure 2.Caley's sketch-map of the area around Mount Tomah and Mount Banks, which he explored in 1804. *Historical Records NSW*, vol.5, after p.724.

In 1823, the incident of the Aboriginal woman returning by a northern route to Kurrajong and Belmont from her abduction by a group from Wallerawang, inspired Archibald to mount an expedition of his own.

He mustered his small party at the water-mill on Little Wheeny Creek on August 1, 1823, and left with two settlers, one of them the local blacksmith, William McAlpine.

In the diary which Bell kept while on his expedition and carefully copied out on his return in a notebook which luckily survived in the family library, he makes it clear that he had 'Native Guides' but does not identify them.[12]

Sam Boughton, who knew two of Archibald's sisters, was quite sure that the abducted Aboriginal woman went with Bell, while Alfred Smith, another local identity, claimed in 1910 that on Bell's first or second expedition there were only 'two blackfellows "Cocky" and "Emery"', men who are known in other documentation and were about 27 years old in 1823.[13]

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The first expedition reached Mount Tomah, but the horses were unable to proceed beyond because of the extreme hazards of the western exit from the mountain.

With a larger group Bell returned in September, found a viable route half-way up Mount Tomah and went on farther than Everingham or Caley had done, turned south onto the Darling Causeway and then down to Hartley Vale.[14]

When Bell returned to Belmont, he quickly spread the news of his success and gained publicity for the argument that the new line of road was shorter and easier than the Great Western Highway, with better feed for stock.[15]

Hoddle was to climb every 'remarkable' mountain

John Oxley, the surveyor-general, was impressed and at once sent his new assistant surveyor, Robert Hoddle, freshly arrived from the Cape of Good Hope, to survey Bell's route.

Hoddle was to describe the country, estimate the amount of cultivable land, climb every 'remarkable' mountain and mark the direction of every creek.[16]

On October 6, 1823 Hoddle set out from Kurrajong accompanied by Bell, two Aborigines, five European men and three horses. The field-book which Hoddle maintained throughout the fortnight taken to reach Collett's Inn survives, along with the more polished account that he sent to Oxley on November 4, 1823.

Hoddle compiled a workmanlike map, showing the whole length of around fifty kilometres surveyed.[17]

Hoddle shows that the existing road from the Hawkesbury to Kurmond followed a line very close to the modern Bells Line, but this road then went north of what is now Kurrajong village: Hoddle

Figure 3 Henry Fullwood's watercolour of the Bells' Belmont, painted in 1892, just before the house was demolished. Photocopy of sale catalogue, in State Library of NSW, Mitchell Library, Small Picture File, mistakenly filed under 'Newcastle Suburbs, Belmont'. Courtesy of State Library.

suggested on his map a deviation through Kurrajong, the road known today as Old Bells Line of Road through the village.

Kurrajong Heights was named 'Bell's View' on Hoddle's map and along the relatively easy road to Mount Tomah the surveyor marked, as instructed, places where there were 'plenty of water', 'good soil' and 'fine timber'.

After the descent from the Darling Causeway, Hoddle showed two possible end-games once the road levelled out, with a preference for the more easterly route, making a beeline for Collett's Inn .

Otherwise the road as surveyed in October 1823 represents the route established by Bell's second expedition in the previous month.[18]

Archibald Bell was an able publicist for his new route. Not only the *Sydney Gazette* in 1823 but also the English *Morning Herald* of June 21, 1824 compared the old and the new roads and believed Bell's propaganda about the new: 'Besides considerably reducing the distance, the road will be comparatively level, and free from nearly all the obstacles which render the bleak and barren one now used so uninviting to the traveller, and ill adapted for the passage of carts and driving of cattle.'[19]

But the advent of Thomas Mitchell as surveyor general, the continuing intransigence of Mount Tomah and the building of the railway in the 1860s ensured that Bells Line remained subsidiary to the Western Road for the rest of the nineteenth century.

(END NOTES)

[1] W. Tench, *Sydney's First Four Years*, ed. L.F. Fitzhardinge, Sydney, 1979, pp.234-235, 324.

[2] *The Everingham Letterbook*, ed. V. Ross, Sydney, 1985. This contains, in addition to the text of Everingham's letters which describe the expedition, an excellent account of various attempts in the early 1980s to reconstruct the actual route taken.

[3] M. Hungerford, *Bilpin the Apple Country: a Local History*, Bilpin, 1995, pp.9-17.

[4] State Records New South Wales [SRNSW], Surveyor's Field-Book 70, Reel 2622, SZ 891, cover, pp.3-7, 26-29. Meehan's survey notes on Kurrajong, although in his own list of contents, are missing from the volume.

[5] Lachlan Macquarie, Governor of New South Wales: Journals of his Tours in New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land 1810-1822, Sydney, 1979, pp.24-25.

[6] 'Cooramill' [S. Boughton], ed. C. McHardy, *Reminiscences of Richmond: from the Forties Down,* Windsor, 2010, p.107.

[7] Quoted in Hungerford, *Bilpin,* p.35.

[8] *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, vol.1, pp.78-79; SRNSW, Primary Applications, 10/26656/7816, items 8, 9.

[9] Macquarie, *Journals,* p.24.

[10] Three dated stones survive from old Belmont, evidence of building works in 1826, 1830 and 1834. The Martens drawings are now in the State Library of NSW, PXC 295 fos.85-88, DL PX 27 fo.72. One of the five Fullwoods is still at Belmont Park, while a colour photocopy of another is in the Small Picture File of the Mitchell Library, mis-filed under 'Newcastle Suburbs, Belmont'.

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A breathtaking floral display of purple haze

by John Leary,OAM

WALKING OR DRIVING through the main thoroughfare of Springwood, Macquarie Street, locals and visitors are at this time of year, struck by the breathtaking floral display of purple haze surrounding the Jacaranda tree (Jacaranda mimosifolia) at the Frazer Memorial Presbyterian Church.

Its vivid lilac-blue clusters of trumpet shaped blossoms appear in late spring and early summer, later falling to the earth carpeting the church grounds with a mass of colour and spilling over to the pedestrian footpath along Macquarie Street.

It is said that if you are walking underneath the Jacaranda tree and one of the trumpet blossoms falls on your head you will be favoured by fortune.

Jacarandas are used world wide as a decorative ornamental tree commonly used to line avenues.

The blooming Jacaranda and to its left the branches of the Cedar of Lebanon enhance the picturesque Frazer Memorial Church in Springwood. Photograph by Jan Koperberg, November 2013

Their history and significance has been extensively documented from the famous annual Grafton festival in Australia to Pretoria, the Jacaranda City, (located 50 kms north of Johannesburg) noted for it's 70,000 plus flowering Jacaranda trees.

Jacarandas have richly figured timber that is rarely cut, as its ornamental value is high. The interesting leathery seedpods follow flowering.

But it is not, as is so often said to be, a native of South Africa, but of the mountain deserts of Brazil.

Although considered to be of significance in Blue Mountains City Council's LEP 2005 and listed on the State Heritage Inventory it is another tree which has a much more interesting origin — a few metres east of the Jacaranda in the church grounds.

This tree is older than the 20th century plantings of both the Jacaranda and Illawarra Flame Tree (Brachychiton acerifolius). It is a very mature cedar of Lebanon (Cedrus libania) which is marked by a plaque: 'This tree was grown from a seed brought back from Lebanon by Mrs John Frazer in 1890s'.

These giant, beautiful, evergreen trees grow in mountainous regions, at altitudes of 3,300-6,500 feet (1,000-2,000 m).

They can be found in Lebanon, south-central Turkey, and Cyprus. They produce cones which grow on top of the branch.

The trees can attain a height of 100 feet (30 m) and the trunk may reach 6 feet (2 m) in diameter. Compared with the trees of Israel, the cedar is indeed a mighty tree, and it is highly praised in Scripture.

BIBLICAL SIGNIFICANCE

Commonly referred to in scripture as the cedars of Lebanon, this aromatic, durable wood was highly desirable for building in Iron Age Israel.

David used it in building his palace (2 Sam 5:11; 1 Chr 17:1), and Solomon used it in the construction of the temple and a palace for himself (2 Chr 2:3-8). He was said to make the cedar as plentiful in Jerusalem as sycamore-fig trees in the Shephelah (2 Chr 1:15). The second temple was also constructed from cedars (Ezra 3:7).

The NSW Environment & Heritage in the SHI's statement of

Continued page 7

Bells Line of Roads

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[11] A. Macqueen, *Somewhat Perilous: the Journeys of Singleton, Parr, Howe, Myles & Blaxland in the Northern Blue Mountains,* Wentworth Falls, 2004, p.117.
[12] R. Else-Mitchell, 'The Discovery of Bell's Line, 1823: a Note and a Document', *Journal of Royal Australian Historical Society* [*JRAHS*], 66, 1980-1, pp.92-3. The manuscript notebook is now in the Mitchell Library, ML MSS 1706 Add-on 1071, pp.5,,7.
[13] 'Cooramill', ed. McHardy, *Reminiscences of Richmond,* p.106 ; A. Smith, *Some Ups and Downs of an Old Richmondite*, Emu Plains, 1991, p.27; Hungerford, *Bilpin,* pp.19-20.
[14]Hungerford, *Bilpin*, pp.21-23.
[15] *Sydney Gazette*, 9 October 1823, p.2.
[16] J. Jervis, 'Robert Hoddle, first Surveyor-General of Victoria, and his Early Work in New South Wales', *JRAHS*, 23, 1937, pp.42-45.
[17] SRNSW, Surveyor's Field Book 258, Reel 2626, 2/4894; Surveyor-General's In-Letters, 4/1814 pp.109-114 (partly published in Hungerford, *Bilpin,* p.24); Map SZ 422.
[18] SRNSW, Map SZ 422.
[19] Cutting from *Morning Herald*, 21 June 1824, in Miscellaneous Papers collected by H.F. Garner, Mitchell Library, ML 1493, reel CY 907, p.390b.

Continued from page 6
significance describes, 'The Frazer Memorial church as a striking example of Victorian philanthropy, financed entirely from the generosity of a prosperous Presbyterian businessman in Sydney and his widow, Elizabeth Frazer.

...strikingly beautiful church built with a gift of £500...

'It reflects significantly the rapid growth of the Scottish and Northern Irish Presbyterian community in the Lower Mountains in the last years of the nineteenth century.

'The design of the Frazer Memorial Church is a tribute to the important architectural firm of Slayter and Cosh, later known as Spain and Cosh; Spain, Cosh and Minnet; and Spain, Cosh and Dods.

'The Frazer Memorial Church features high quality stonework in its handsome Federation gothic design.

'The design of the church is completed by the fine sandstone tower with the tall copper spire.

'Its spire and its location in the centre of the commercial centre of Springwood make it an important landmark in the town.

'The trees associated with the Frazer Memorial Church, the Cedar of Lebanon (Cedrus libani) Jacaranda (Jacaranda mimosifolia) and the Illawarra Flame Tree (Brachychiton acerifolius) are of high aesthetic significance at a local level for their value as individual specimens and for their contribution to a complex of considerable value in the streetscape of Springwood.

Historical notes attached to the State Heritage Inventory listing indicate 'The funds to build this strikingly beautiful church derive from the bequest of £500 and the gift of 1.4 hectare (3.5 acres) in central Springwood made by John Frazer, who died in 1884.

'Frazer was a successful Sydney merchant. Born in co Down in 1827 to an artisan Presbyterian family, he had come from Ireland to seek his fortune in Australia along with three siblings when he was fifteen years old.

'After a period working in the bush, followed by a clerical position in Sydney, Frazer opened a wholesale grocery business in 1847 and never looked back, leaving an estate of £400 000 pounds on his death.

'The firm of John Frazer and Co was under John Frazer's control until his early retirement due to ill-health in 1869, but his partners in the business were able men, a brother and two brothers-in-law of Elizabeth Ewan, whom John married in 1853.

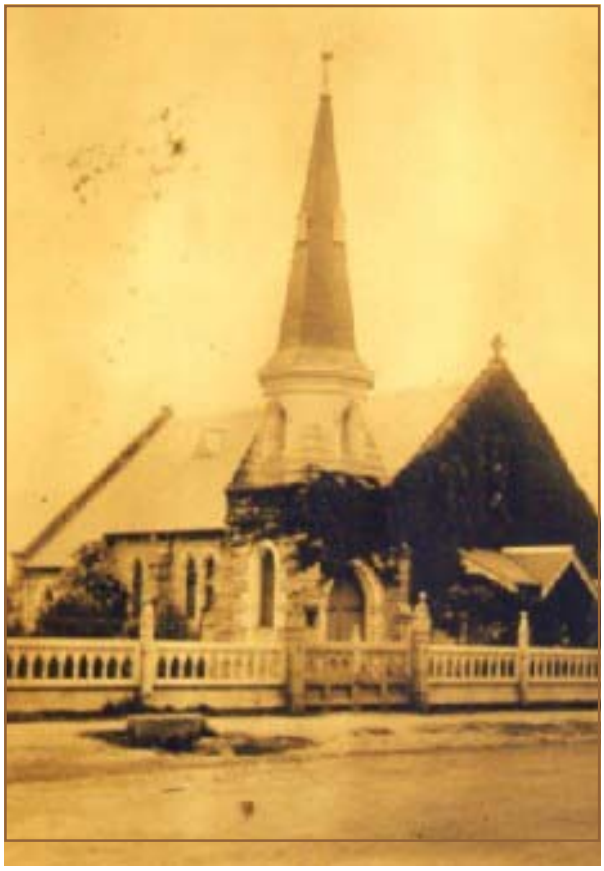
'In the 1870s, John Frazer resumed his interest in the business and took a larger role in public life, as a member of the NSW Legislative Council from 1874 until his death ten years later and as a philanthropist.

'Two fine fountains, one in Hyde Park, the other at the entrance to the Domain, are surviving memorials to his generosity to the city; the University of Sydney, where he hoped to fund the chair of History, still awards the Frazer scholarship in History; and he is remembered in the Presbyterian foundation, St Andrew's College, within the university, as a founding councillor in 1870 and the donor of funds to assist candidates for the Presbyterian ministry studying at the College. (Maddock, 5-13; ADB IV 218-9)

'Frazer's connection with the Blue Mountains began in earnest when he built Silva Plana at Springwood in 1881.

'This country retreat on the east side of Hawkesbury Road, on a landscaped site of 14 hectares (35 acres) now partly occupied by the Buckland retirement village, was characteristic of the Mountain estates developed in the later Victorian period by a number of Sydney businessmen, politicians and lawyers, including friends of Frazer's such as Sir Henry Parkes, whose son Varney designed Silva Plana.(Searle and Morony, 6, 32; Robinson, map of Springwood c.1910)

Continued page 8



An early image of the Frazer Memorial Church showing the ornate sandstone fence. Photograph courtesy Springwood Local Study Collection.

Mrs Frazer sent her gardener to the church

Continued from page 7

'Frazer survived only three years after building Silva Plana, but spent a good deal of time there and was anxious to provide a church for the increasing Presbyterian community on the Lower Mountains.

'In 1884 Springwood had no church of any denomination and Frazer, with the encouragement of his friend, the Reverend James Cameron, a fellow councillor of St Andrew's College, who had in his early years in the 1850s been responsible for the Lower Mountains as well as his main centre at Richmond, donated land he had acquired from Frank Raymond's grant in central Springwood, in a very long narrow allotment, and instructed his trustees to spend £500 on the building of a Presbyterian church there. (Maddock, 7-19)

'There was, however, a long interval between Frazer's death in 1884 and the opening of the church in 1895.

'This was caused by the reluctance of his trustees to release the money until it was plain that there were sufficient Presbyterians in the Springwood area to support a minister.

'Despite the active interest of the Presbytery of the Hawkesbury, stimulated by Dr Cameron of Richmond and Dr Clouston of Penrith, the trustees were cautious.

'In 1893 the first Presbyterian services in Springwood were held under the turpentines on the land donated by Frazer, just where the great cedar of Lebanon stands today, then in the Oriental Hotel and finally in 1895 on the verandah of James Lawson's Braemar. Attendance increased dramatically from 25 to 50 to 100, and the trustees were convinced, once the local people had guaranteed £60 a year for the minister. (Maddock,20-8)

'On August 17, 1895 the foundation stone for the church was laid by the sister of the widowed Mrs Frazer, who was abroad. At the same time memorial stones were laid by Mrs Frazer's sister, the widow of John Frazer's business partner, William Manson; by Mrs Rayner, wife of the Methodist storekeeper whose premises were just across the road; by Mrs Ellis, wife of John Ellis of Valley Heights, who had signed the building contract on behalf of the church; and by Mrs Flora Urquhart, the daughter of James Lawson, the Scottish cabinet-maker who had built Braemar and the Oriental Hotel, where services had been held in expectation of the building of the church. (Maddock, 26-7)

'The church was opened only three months later, on December 8, 1895. (Maddock, 36, 55, 74)

'Mrs Frazer returned from her trip to Europe and the Near East in 1896, bearing the seed from which the cedar of Lebanon grew beside the church, on the site of the grove of turpentines where the first services had been held.

'Elizabeth Frazer was not satisfied with the church building, however, as the Lower Blue Mountains Presbyterian magazine commented in December 1945, Mrs Frazer immediately had additions made and the building beautified.

'The present chancel and the porch and steeple were added. Further, she sent her gardener [from Silva Plana] to lay out the grounds and plant the trees, which add to the beauty of the surroundings. (Maddock, 35)'

REFERENCES

1. A substantial portion of this text has been copied verbatim from the NSW Environment & Heritage website www.environment.nsw.gov.au/heritage Blue Mountains City Council LEP 2005.
2. Maddock John *The Frazer Memorial Church - A History,* 1995, Springwood Historical Society Inc.

Blue Mountains History Conference

THE 2014 Blue Mountains History Conference being organised by the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc, will be held again at The Carrington Hotel, following the success of the 2012 event in this venue.

The conference will be held on Saturday, May 10, 2014 and already a number of speakers have been secured.

Associate professor Ian Jack, MA, PhD, FRHistS, FRAHS will give a talk on historical educational buildings.

Ian served as president of the Royal Australian Historical Society for 11 years and is regarded as an eminent historian with numerous books and other publications to his credit. He has been described by one of his peers as a "consummate scholar".

He is constantly being sought as a speaker around the state and throughout the nation.

Another speaker will be Hector Abrahams, a heritage architect and former RAHS councillor, who will give a talk on historical buildings built for religious activities including churches and schools.

Hec has a deep interest in the architecture of old places - the repair conservation and sensitive changes to buildings and the addition of new buildings within an existing precinct.

He has worked on larger projects including the new wings at St Paul's and St Andrew's Colleges at the University of Sydney, and the Sydney GPO.

He is very familiar with the architecture of many of the religious buildings in this region.

Final arrangements with speakers is expected to be made in January and information will be available from Jan Koperberg at j.koperberg@bigpond.com.au

The fee for the conference, morning tea and buffet lunch at The Carrington will be $50.

WOODFORD ACADEMY LAUNCHES BICENTENARY SCHOOL PROGRAM

Seriously 'Old School'

In commemoration of the bicentenary of the crossing of the Blue Mountains 2013-2015, the Woodford Academy, a National Trust property, is thrilled to launch the bicentenary school program.

The bicentenary school program provides the opportunity for school students to experience first hand the Blue Mountains' unique and intriguing colonial history within the walls of the Blue Mountains' oldest building.

The bicentenary school program offers a guided tour developed especially for school children.

The tour, presented by skilled volunteers in the tradition of oral histories, tells the story of the Woodford Academy and its changing uses over time.

Admission cost for the guided tour will be $5/student for a 2 hour program (morning or afternoon) and is available from Term 1 of 2014 for groups of up to 60 students plus supervising teachers.

The Woodford Academy is also offering free entry to teachers and their families (up to 4 persons) for the museum's monthly open days in 2013-2015.

This special educational offer is intended to encourage and inspire teachers to devise their own ways in which they can use this rich resource to teach curricula for history, the arts and technologies.

To be eligible for this special offer, interested teachers are requested to complete the information form in the new bicentenary school program brochure, which Woodford Academy volunteers have commenced distributing to Blue Mountains primary schools.

Members of the Woodford Academy Management Committee (from left) Felicity Anderson, Ian Harman and Ken Goodlet with the new Bicentenary School Program brochure at the Woodford Academy

Costs for teacher initiated educational programs will be assessed on application, depending on requirements.

The bicentenary school program brochure will also be available at the door at the Woodford Academy's next monthly open day – or interested schools can contact the Woodford Academy management committee by phone (02) 4758 8743 or email Woodfordacadmey@gmail.com .

Bicentenary tributes to George Evans and William Cox

IN ALL the plethora of the 2013 bicentenary celebrations of the Blue Mountains crossing scant attention has been paid to two other important aspects of the event.

Immediately after the three explorers' trek, at the behest of the government, there was the professional surveying of the ridge-top route by George Evans.

Next came the road-making itself, done in exemplary fashion by convicts working hard under William Cox, buoyed up by a promise of remission of their sentences when the road was completed.

A small monument to George Evans (the road builder) has recently been moved from private land.

Lindsay Green of Lithgow Branch of National Trust Australia (NSW) has advised that that the monument is now located on land owned by Lithgow City Council near where Evans had begun the descent to the Fish River.

Meanwhile, Hawkesbury Historical Society and a Cox descendant have recently organised the unveiling of two plaques at the Visitor Information Centre, Clarendon.

These two plaques are a bicentenary tribute to William Cox and George Evans, the two Hawkesbury men who were so instrumental in bringing about the construction of the first road over the Blue Mountains.

The ceremony at Lithgow and Clarendon commemorated the commencement of George Evans survey of the road on November 20, 1813.

William Cox completed the supervision of building the road from Emu Plains to Bathurst between July 24, 1814 and January 1815.

The Gully, officially opened

AS PART OF the Bicentenary Festival of Walking, The Gully, Katoomba was officially opened on Saturday October 5, 2013, The guest of honour was Neville Poelina, chair of World Indigenous Tourism Alliance.

This event followed the very successful 'Ancestral Pathways' walk, organised by Auntie Sharyn Halls from the Gundungurra Aboriginal Heritage Association.

The aim of the walk was to show people the best way to know Country, by walking Country.

Members of the Association traversed the Blue Mountains from west to east, following Aboriginal pathways.

The walk included both traditional and post-contact Aboriginal pathways, covering 67 kms of Country.

Participants were invited to do the full walk over seven days and six nights or join the group for sections of the walk.

The walk affirmed the ongoing presence of Aboriginal people in the mountains. It shows they maintain the connection by walking their country, looking after it and utilising it for cultural purposes.

Image above: Gundungurra Ancestral Pathway Walk - Dancers at The Gully historic site, Katoomba. Photograph by David Hill, Blue Mountains, Lithgow and Oberon Tourism.

Wiradjuri Dance and Corroboree gathering at Bathurst

The WIRADJURIi Wagangha Dance group featured in the Wiradjuri Dance and Corroboree gathering in the vicinity of Mt Pleasant in the grounds of Abercrombie House earlier this month.

The gathering acknowledged the 200 year anniversary of the first contact between the Wiradjuri people and the arriving European explorers which took place near this site of December 21 1813.

It also acknowledged the naming of the Bathurst Plains and Mount Pleasant by surveyor George Evans on December 10, 1813.

The gathering also acknowledged that the last Wiradjuri Corroboree in the vicinity of Mt Pleasant took place 164 years ago in 1849.

The evening was organised by the Wiradjuri Elders of the Bathurst Plains together with Bathurst Historical Society and the Morgan family to celebrate the endurance and renewal of Wiradjuri culture and customs on the Bathurst Plains

British campaign ends gallery's bid to buy historic animal art

THE NATIONAL Gallery of Australia was "extremely disappointed" when earlier this month it was blocked from buying two paintings representing the first known depictions of Australian animals in Western art.

The 18th century works by George Stubbs willl remain in Britain after a $2.5 million donation by billionaire shipping magnate Eyal Ofer enabled the country's National Maritime Museum to buy the paintings of a kangaroo and a dingo.

Joseph Banks commissioned Stubbs to paint the works after the naturalist returned from Captain James Cook's first Endeavour voyage.

World renowned naturalist, Sir David Attenborough, who headed the British "Save Our Stubbs" campaign, said: "Exciting news that these two pictures so important in the history of zoological discovery are to remain where they were commissioned and painted.

According to former Art Gallery of NSW director, Edmund Capon said: "I can't feel it's a huge loss to be honest.

"You have to recognise the fact both animals were painted in Britain. They weren't painted here. They have never been her." ***The Sydney Morning Herald.***

The making of a possum skin cloak

By Jan Koperberg

THE GUNDUNGURRA Tribal Council and Blue Mountains Cultural Centre invited the Blue Mountains community to observe the making of a traditional possum skin cloak in the Cultural Centre Central Courtyard in late September.

The Saturday of the three day workshop was windy and the carefully laid out possum skins (from New Zealand) were being blown out of order. They had been laid out and numbered, as they were to be sewn.

Possum skin cloaks (Carreng Golangaya in Gundungurra language) are one of the most sacred artefacts for Aboriginal people.

This workshop represented an important healing for the Gundungurra, who worked with Auntie Maree Clarke, an artist and curator from Banmirra Arts and Auntie Esther Kirk, both from Victoria, with assistance from Amanda Reynolds, the senior curator for the 'Our Story' section of the new First Peoples exhibition at Melbourne Museum. Amanda was a guest speaker at the recent RAHS State conference held at Katoomba RSL Club.

Aunty Sharon Brown on the left, holding up the possum skin cloak, showing the burnt patterns on the skin side.

The possum skin cloak being held by Kerren O'Grady

On the Saturday there were many observers, itching to help and Auntie Sharon Brown from the Gundungurra Tribal Council gave permission for interested observers to help with the sewing.

I was privileged to take part and enjoyed the experience, working with the team. I was not able to return on the Sunday, but the cloak was finished and Auntie Maree and Auntie Esther showed the method of applying patterns and burning them onto the skin side of the cloak.

I think the patterns were applied by Tom Brown, Sharon's artist husband, and they are beautifully finished. Aunty Maree and Aunty Esther then headed back to Sydney airport for their flight back to Melbourne.

Never mind Blaxland, Lawson and Wentworth; it's

All about Evans

First European explorer to cross the Great Divide and survey a route to Bathurst

Tarella Open Day January 18 10am-4pm

Crossings reading by Wendy Blaxland > Display of the 1814 lifestyle > Talk on Evans > Tarella cottage museum inspecton > Family friendly > no need to book just come and explore > refreshments available

In the grounds of Hobbys Reach, the home of the Blue Mountains Historical Society, 99-101 Blaxland Road, Wentworth Falls

Historic sharing culture — Aboriginal commemoration walk ‘Jummangunda Ngunninga’

by Jan Koperberg

The Aboriginal commemoration walk ‘Jummangunda Ngunninga’ (Gundungurra language meaning ‘many belonging here’)was held at Mt York and Bardens Lookout, Mount Victoria on Sunday October 13, 2013. This was a historic sharing culture event.

The Gundungurra Tribal Council, the Gundungurra Aboriginal Heritage Association and the Blue Mountains Lithgow & Oberon Tourism invited people to attend as part of the Bicentenary Festival of Walking.

This walk was conceived by Auntie Sharon Brown (Gundungurra elder) and welcomed representatives of all six Aboriginal language groups from across the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area, (the Darkinjung, Darug, Dharawal, Gundungurra, Wiradjuri and Wonnarua), locals and visitors.

This special event recognised the impact of European settlement on Australia’s first inhabitants, and allowed Indigenous people to proudly share their culture with others ‘on Country’.

Aboriginal people and groups proactively involved in the bicentenary organised this event so that in 2013, the nature of what is recognised and commemorated included Aboriginal participation.

This demonstrated that community attitudes and cultural awareness have evolved since centenary (1913) and sesquicentenary (1963) events conducted at Mt York.

Walkers prepare for the commemoration walk ‘Jummangunda Ngunninga’ walk from Bardens Lookout to Mt York.

Blue Mountains City Council has completed an important upgrade of the Mt York precinct and it is now truly a world class interpretive historic site.

A ceremony was held at Mt York, where a plaque was unveiled,on which the text read as below.

The group then walked from Mt York to Bardens Lookout, where an Aboriginal smoking and healing ceremony was held, along with the sharing of cultural performances and stories.

During this ceremony the possum skin cloak was handed to Cr Daniel Myles to be exhibited at the Blue Mountains Cultural Centre.

The main Commemoration Walk ‘Jummangunda Ngunninga’ took place from Bardens Lookout to Mt York.

After lunch, I was lucky to be treated to an interpretive walk by Kathleen Brown, the daughter of Tom and Sharon Brown.

We caught the shuttle bus from Mt York and alighted at the entrance to Lawson’s Long Alley.

We walked from here to Lucinda Oval where my car was parked.

Along the way Kathleen showed me scarred trees (where bark had been removed to make items for use by early Aboriginal people), showed me different plants and described their uses, either for medicinal or for bush tucker.

I now know that a flour can be made from the seeds of the Lomandra.

She also showed me how the small banksia with very strong bristles could be used as a hair-brush and with softer bristles, how the end of the brush could be used for painting.

‘Not how did they die, but how did they live.
Not what did they gain, but what did they give.
These are the units to measure the worth,
Of a people, as a people, regardless of birth.
Recognising the impact of European settlement on the
Six Aboriginal language groups of the
Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area;

Darkinjung, Darug, Dharawal, Gundungurra, Wiradjuri and Wonnarua.
Community Aboriginal Commemoration Walk,
13 October 2013
Blue Mountains Crossings Bicentenary’

Exhibtion of bark paintings

Among the treasures of the National Museum of Australia are more than 2000 bark paintings created by Indigenous artists.

Later this year the museum will open a major exhibition devoted to the remarkable artists who made these paintings.

The 122 paintings will include the works of famed artists such as Narritijin Maymuru, Yirawala, Djunmal and Mawalan Marika.

RETROSPECTION AND CONTINUITY - THE COX'S ROAD JOURNEY

A village discovers its past

by Joan Kent

As the Western Crossings commemoration activities come to a close for 2013, a period of retrospection is necessary before the contemplation of plans for the continuation of the Cox's Road journey begin.

The communities west of the plains were treated with a fascinating array of events and activities acknowledging the first recorded crossing of the Blue Mountains by Europeans in 1813.

Some were formal civic events which reflected the changes wrought on the landscape, whilst others attempted to capture the cultural and social atmosphere of the mountains and valleys to the west two hundred years ago, involving the present population in aspects of colonial life not now often contemplated.

The Hartley Valley folk focussed on bringing the history of the local area to the present population, some of whom had previously had little interest in the past - in the process bringing to life an era which has often been culturally blinkered and romanticised.

The commemorative activities involved guided walks along the route of the original Cox's Road, now substantially located within private land holdings – not ending at Mt York so often believed as the termination of the original trek, but at Glenroy, the final campsite along the route.

These walks have proven so popular that requests have been received to make them an annual event.

A horseback version was well into the planning process when an infectious equine disease brought this to an abrupt halt.

Again it is planned to revive the activity in the future.

Also enormously popular was the exhibition 'A Moment in Time' displayed in the Old Hartley School Hall, often attracting the descendants of many former residents of the Hartley area from all over the state and even some overseas visitors.

So warmly was the exhibition received that the members of the Western Crossings Trust, the administrative body supporting the Hartley commemorations, were persuaded that a lasting memoir of the events should be produced and so the printed version of 'A Moment in Time' came into being, despite the exhaustion of the dedicated band of local volunteers.

Expanded from the exhibition, the book of the same name was produced by a trio of professionals, with research and text by historian Joan Kent in collaboration with internationally renowned theatre designer Michael O'Kane and graphic artist Kaylene Brooks, all of whom are local residents.

Historian and author, Joan Kent autographing a copy of 'A Moment in Time'. Image courtesy Carolyn Piggott, Lithgow Mercury.

The book begins with a consideration of the rich and ancient geology of the landscape into which the 1813 explorers intruded and moves on to examine many aspects of the 'crossing story', from the original inhabitants whose country was being traversed, to the development of the Bathurst Road and the first Europeans in the Bathurst region.

It closes with the life and achievements of some of the earliest European settlers in the Hartley Valley who began their new lives there in the early 1820's.

The book was formally launched in October at the Lithgow Learning Centre by internationally acclaimed 'plein air' landscape artist Warwick Fuller, also a local resident of Hartley Valley.

Warwick's great great grandparents settled in the valley in 1839, raising twelve children who attended the former Schoolhouse Creek School in Kanimbla Valley.

Warwick was recently a member of the Royal Visit Party at the personal invitation of His Royal Highness Prince Charles, who now has four of Warwick's landscapes in his private collection. Poet George Clark recited his poem 'A Moment in Time' from the book, inspired by George's visit to the Images Exhibition in May and June.

Continued page 14

The question of promoting the crossing stories to a wider public

Continued from page 13
The pleasant evening concluded with the mayor of Lithgow, Councillor Maree Statham cutting and distributing 'The Moment' cake to those in attendance.

The book is available at $29.95 including postage, Perfect Bound, 200x260 in full colour from Barbara Wheat at thewheats@bigpond.com or Joan Kent at joantomkent@bigpond.com.

A deluxe hardcover full colour edition, 290x320 is available from Blurb Books at $131 plus postage from the US at http://blur.by/1cpKjKp.

All proceeds go to the Western Crossings Trust, the charitable entity established by the Hartley District Progress Association to promote consideration of the consequences of the crossing of the Blue Mountains by Europeans in 1813, and the acquisition of items of moveable cultural heritage relevant to the Hartley Valley.

Donations to the Western Crossings Trust are welcomed and are tax deductable.

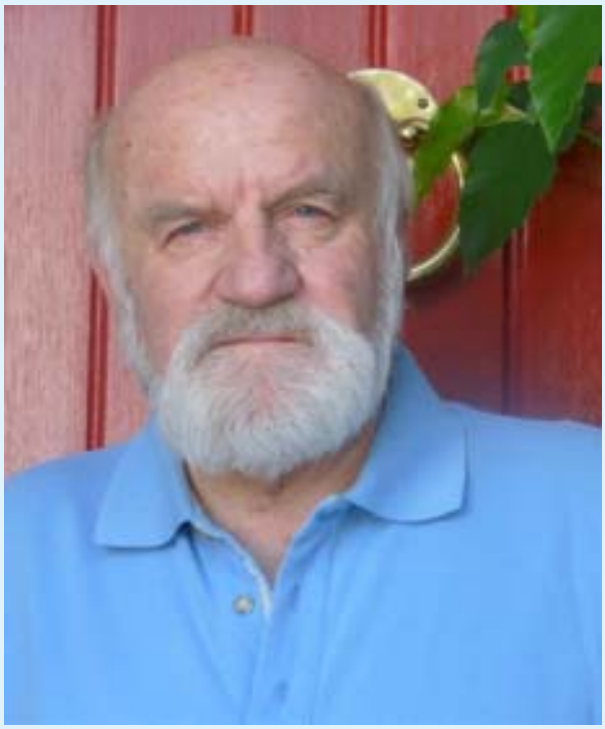
The question now under consideration for all with an interest in the history of the European settlement of the 'New Country' is 'Whither Goest Thou?'

Careful thought must be given to the continuation or otherwise of the presentation of the crossings stories to the wider public, and indeed the long-term storage, preservation and extension of the products of the 2013 commemorations to encompass the progress of the 'Journey to Bathurst and beyond' over ensuing years.

This article was contributed by professional historian and curator of the outstanding exhibition, *A Moment in Time* Joan Kent officially opened and acclaimed by the Governor of NSW Professor Marie Bashir.

The exhibition was the major plank in the Western Crossing commemoration activity of the Hartley Valley District Progress Association.

Historian with song writing to his credit becomes president at Kurrajong



STEVE RAWLING AM, (pictured) the newly elected president of the Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society, was a founding member of the society, and has been a member of its committee at various times.

His initial interest in local history was sparked by the discovery that the property he has lived on since 1996 in Kurrajong Heights is part of the larger property once owned by Louisa Atkinson, "the botanist of the Kurrajong" and pioneer woman writer.

He has contributed a number of articles about Louisa and on other topics to the society's newsletter *The Millstone*, as well as speaking about related topics to the society and to other community groups in the Hawkesbury.

He has written a suite of songs which was produced as a CD and songbook entitled "Memories of Kurrajong – History in Song" which was presented at the National Folk Festival in Canberra some years ago.

He was also a founding member of the Hawkesbury Branch of the National Trust, having been a member of the National Trust of Australia (NSW) for more than forty years. He has served as chair and secretary of the Hawkesbury Branch.

Steve has spent almost all his working career in the university sector, including periods at the universities of Sydney, Oxford and Wollongong, and the Australian National University.

He now has a part-time consulting role at the University of Western Sydney.

He was made a member of the Order of Australia in 1992 for services to education.

He has also been involved as a director and chairman of an environmental consultancy run by his wife, Judie, and is a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Persistence wins museum a grant

PERSISTENCE and a change of ideas about its museum's collection has seen the Mount Victoria and District Historical Society recently being successful in receiving a Community Heritage grant for $4686 from the National Library of Australia.

The Community Heritage grant is for a significance assessment to be carried out on some of the collection of its museum.

Roy Bennett the curator applied for the grant which is to fund the services of an assessor and the society's president, Jean Winston attended the workshop in Canberra organised by the National Library and other federal bodies to gain more insight into the meaning of significance and to learn more about conservation.

The society had been unsuccessful before but Roy thought on the second try that he had portrayed the historical associations of the collection in a better way.

The collection has to be of national significance.

Other criteria required are historical, aesthetic, scientific/research or social/spiritual.

An important part of the collection is showing the opening up of the Blue Mountains and lands to the west by road and rail.

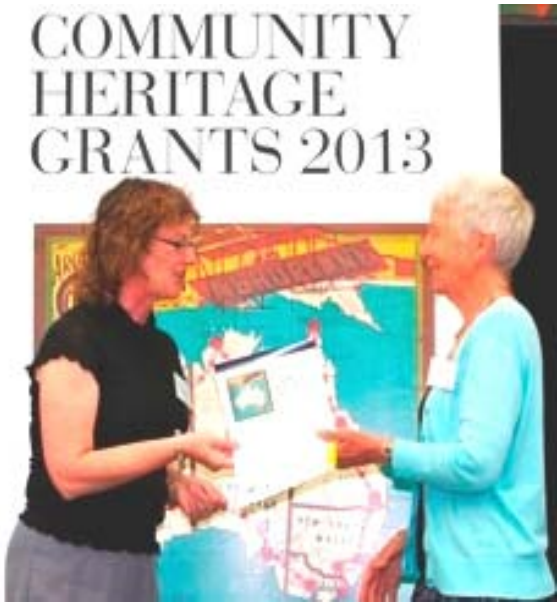
The actual tools used by the early land holders are on display.

Memorabilia and exploits of the explorers, surveyors and road makers, including convicts, form part of the collection.

The museum itself is housed in the sandstone railway station opened in 1868 and still operating.

The railway brought tourists to the area and local hotels catering to the tourists who are depicted in photographs and memorabilia.

Notable people have lived at Mount Victoria: Sir Henry Parkes and the Fairfaxes had grand houses built in the coolness of the mountains.



Ms Anne-Marie Schwirtlich, director general of the National Library of Australia presenting the grant documents to Mrs Jean Winston, president Mt Victoria and District Historical Society.

At Blackheath a unique girls school Osborne Ladies College, run on naval lines, had boarders and day girls. One room at the museum is dedicated to memorabilia from that school.

Roy detailed these unique events and showed how the museum collection told the stories of what had happened locally.

Community groups will have a greater capacity to preserve Australia's heritage with the announcement of the 2013 Community Heritage grants.

A total of 78 grants worth $426,000 will go to 77 community groups and organisations, with the History Trust of South Australia, the recipient of two grants.

Recipients also attended a three-day intensive preservation and collection management workshop held at the National Library of Australia, the National Archives of Australia, the National Museum of Australia and the National Film and Sound Archive in Canberra.

Director-General of the National Library Anne-Marie Schwirtlich said the CHG program showed the commitment by the National Library, along with its partner institutions and the federal government, to assist communities to care for the nation's heritage, in the cities, the country or out in remote Australia..

The Community Heritage grants program is funded by the Australian government through the National Library of Australia; Ministry for the Arts, Attorney General's Department; the National Archives of Australia; the National Film and Sound Archive; and the National Museum of Australia.

Governor to open Valley Heights Loco Depot museum

The Governor of NSW, Professor Marie Bashir has agreed to officially open the Valley Heights Locomotive Depot on January 31, 2014 as the first event of a year-long centenary of the depot.

Her Excellency will be accompanied by her husband Sir Nicholas Shehadie.

For further details of centenary activities
www.infobluemountains.net.au/locodepot/centenary.shtml

Friends of the Paragon formed

STRONG SUPPORT has been given to the formation of the Friends of the Paragon.

At a recent meeting in the heritage Paragon Restaurant, Katoomba it was decided to form a group to ensure the conservation of this heritage icon.

Paragon cocktail bar

The lessee of the premises Robyn Parker told the meeting that help was needed to ensure this piece of heritage did not disappear.

The general objectives, to be properly defined in due course in a formal document, include:

1. research into the history of the Paragon and the Simos family
2. assisting in tours of the Paragon for groups
3. assisting in the preparation of a renewed nomination of the building and its contents to the State Heritage Register
4. public advocacy
5. approaches to the Greek community (and others) in Australia for support
6. creating a program of public events in 2014 to raise the profile of the Paragon
7. establishing a Paragon Foundation in the hope that the property can be purchased.

The meeting heard that research is under way by Robyn Parker and Ian Jack and that Doreen Knox (who is a fluent speaker of modern Greek) will use her Greek connections.

Paragon wall pieces

Two people present at the meeting, Doreen Knox and Robert Trenchard-Smith, have volunteered to be tour guides and Ms Parker will organise a training session for them both in the near future.

Ian Jack said he will take carriage of a nomination for State listing and will talk to members of the listing team at the Heritage Division of the Office of Environment and Heritage.

Doreen Knox, has subsequent to the meeting, documented the existence of the Kytherian Association of Australia, in which George Poulos is a prominent member.

Since the Simos family and many other café-owning families came directly or indirectly from the island of Kythera, this flourishing association is of the greatest interest.

A short program of events is being finalised by Robyn Parker.

The Kytherian Association may be a key to the establishment of the Paragon Foundation.

The next meeting of those interested in the project is scheduled for Thursday February 20, 2014, at 6 pm in the Paragon.

Contributed by Ian Jack who represented BMACHO at the meeting.

New strategy for Australian heritage

IDEAS and suggestions for an Australian Heritage Strategy are being requested by the federal government.

Minister for the Environment, Greg Hunt said he wanted to hear from heritage practitioners and experts across Australia.

"The Australian Heritage Strategy will provide a common framework and priorities for Australia's heritage and help ensure our heritage is recognised and protected for future generations," Mr Hunt said.

"A draft strategy will be released for public comment in Australian Heritage Week next year."

He said the government's plan was to develop partnerships and provide initiatives that enabled practical local actions and solutions to protect and manage heritage places.

"We are providing $1.4 million over three years for small-scale community heritage projects for the conservation, protection and interpretation of local heritage.

Grants of up to $10 000 will be available to local heritage groups and historical societies, commencing in the 2014-15 financial year," Mr Hunt said.

Greg Hunt MP

"Under the Community Heritage and Icons program we will invest $1.5 million on vital restoration work at Port Arthur's World Heritage-listed penitentiary building, one of Australia's most significant heritage icons."

Mr Hunt said the government's Green Army would also play a key role in the protection of local heritage.

"Green Army projects will focus on the conservation and refurbishment of significant local heritage while contributing to a skilled workforce for heritage-focused business and industry," he said.

Sandstone the making of the Blue Mountains

Blue Mountains City Council has agreed to a round of small grants to assist owners of heritage listed buildings or places to carry our sympathetic repairs or restorations.

NSW Heritage Branch will provide a grant of $8500 and this has been matched by council to provide a fund of $17,000.

Applications closing on December 20 have been invited from owners of listed heritage buildings or from owners of a building within a heritage conservation area or period housing area.

The grants are targeted at small projects ready for an immediate start and which must be complete by mid April 2014.

The program is being managed by council with support from the heritage advisory committee.

The committee has suggested that one of the grant priorities is sandstone repair and restoration projects, but a range of other projects will be considered.

These could include repainting of exteriors of residences and shops, repairs o decorative external timberwork or joinery, repairs of shop fronts, awnings or repairs to streetscape or wider community benefit will also be considered and should be discussed with council staff and the heritage adviser beforehand.

Applicants must confirm that their project can commence early in 2014 and can be completed by mid April 2014.

A copy of the standard LHF guidelines and application forms can be downloaded from council's website or by contacting council on 4780 5740

Lights to be installed opposite Woodford Academy

Traffic lights are now planned to allow pedestrians to cross the Great Western Highway opposite Woodford Academy.

Road and Maritime Services (RMS) has scrapped its proposal for a pedestrian refuge island on the widened highway near Arthur Street in favour of traffic lights.

Woodford Academy chairman Ian Harman said it was fitting pedestrian safety would be boosted before the highway widening project was completed through Woodford in 2014, given the tragic circumstances of former Woodford Academy resident and principal, John McManamey's death on the highway in 1946.

John McManamey established Woodford Academy in 1907 as a 'young gentleman's school'. Woodford Academy closed in 1925 and McManamey used the building as a private residence.

He reopened the school for local children in 1930 it closing in 1936.

In 1979 his sole surviving daughter Gertrude donated Woodford Academy to the National Trust of Australia (NSW) on condition she could live there until she died. She died in 1988 having left the property 2 years earlier.

National Trust received a $1 million Centenary of Federation grant from the Australian government in 2001.

REFERENCE:
Leary, Nanette, *A brief history of Woodford Academy,* 2005,Friends of Woodford Academy.

Nepean Historical Society joins BMACH0

The Nepean District Historical Society is the latest to join as a member of BMACHO.

The society has its home in the Arms of Australia Inn Museum at Emu Plains the gateway to the Blue Mountains.

The inn was once a staging post for travellers making the trip from Sydney over the Blue Mountains to Bathurst and the goldfields.

Built in two sections, the first in 1826, it is one of the oldest buildings in Penrith, if not the oldest.

‘Our Jan’ honoured for work on Western Crossings Committee

AMONG the individuals to recently receive a Blue Mountains, Lithgow & Oberon Tourism Award of Excellence 2013 for contribution to the Blue Mountains bicentenary, was BMACHO’s hard working and popular secretary, Jan Koperberg.

Jan has also been the minutes secretary of Western Crossings committee since its inception.

INDIVIDUALS to receive the award were: Auntie Sharyn Halls, Bob Kemnitz, Clr Daniel Myles, Dr Anne-Maree Whitaker, Dr Siobhán Lavelle OAM, Jan Koperberg, Jessica Blaxland-Ashby, John O’Sullivan, Ken Goodlet, Melissa Mylchreest, Meryl Butterworth, Philip Hammon, Professor David Carment, Randall Walker, Sandy Holmes, Tanya Loviz, Tom Colless OAM, Trevor Lloyd, Uncle Graeme Cooper and Wendy Blaxland.

BMACHO member organisations to be recognized were the Blue Mountains Historical Society and Hartley District Valley Progress Association.

ORGANISATIONS to receive the award were: Blaxland & Districts Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Blue Mountains City Council, Blue Mountains Historical Society, Blue Mountains International Hotel Management School, Blue Mountains Lithgow & Oberon Tourism, Chamber of Commerce and Industry Lawson, Falls Wines, Garden Clubs of Australia, Gundungurra Aboriginal Heritage Association, Hartley District Progress Association,

Jan Koperberg with her award

Katoomba Theatre Company, Lithgow City Council, Penrith City Council, Royal Australian Historical Society, TAFE Western Sydney Institute, Wentworth Falls Chamber of Commerce and Windowrie Estate.

NATIONAL TRUST HONOURS AWARDS 2013

FIVE OF THE 20 people statewide to be honoured with National Trust of Australia (NSW) awards at the Trust’s annual general meeting on November 30 are associated with Trust properties in the Blue Mountains.

Top honours go to the grand-daughter of Norman Lindsay, Ms Helen Glad who becomes an honorary life member of the National Trust and the manager Norman Lindsay Gallery and Museum, Amanda Trevellion who has received the staff distinguished service award.

Those to receive the voluntary service awards were Mrs Leonie Fry (Friends of Norman Lindsay Gallery), Mrs Jean Reynolds (Friends of Norman Lindsay Gallery) and Mrs Elizabeth van Reyswoud (Friends of Everglades and National Trust -Blue Mountains Branch.

Mrs Sandra Luxford of the Friends of Everglades received the Trust commendation award.

Helen Glad

Amanda Trevillion

Elizabeth van Reyswoud

Sandra Luxford

Jean Reynolds

Blue Mountains new plan goes on exhibition

A PLANNING document to guide land use and development in the Blue Mountains went on public exhibition earlier this month.

Blue Mountains City Council's Draft Local Environment Plan (DLEP) 2013 has been the subject of long negotiations with the state government.

Blue Mountains mayor Mark Greenhill said the council's DLEP 2013 has been prepared in response to the NSW government requirement for all councils in NSW to prepare a new plan based on a standard template.

"The DLEP 2013 is essentially a conversion of council's existing planning document into a single comprehensive LEP for the city that complies with the NSW government's standard format while maintaining the key provision in our current LEPS," he said.

"In doing this, council has made a considerable effort to ensure the DLEP 2013 is a 'best fit' with the standard LEP, providing the planning framework that aims to protect our unique environment while permitting appropriate development in the future.

"All residents will notice that the zoning of their land will have a new name, and the permitted land uses may have changed, but for the most properties in the Blue Mountains the change will be minimal the mayor has said.

The public exhibition period for the DLEP 2013 started on December 4 and will conclude on March 4, 2014.

For further information on the DLEP 2013 and to have a say visit www.bluemountainshaveyoursay.com.au/draftlep2013

Mayor Greenhill said, "council acknowledges the commitment of the public exhibition in December is not the ideal time to engage the community on a significant planning proposal, however council is required to adhere to the direction of the NSW Government.

Mayor Mark Greenhill

In recognition of this, council has extended the closing time of the exhibition to March 2014 to ensure adequate time for the community to get involved."

SOURCE:*Blue Mountains Gazette December 4, 2013 - Shane Desiatnick*

NSW Government withdraws controversial planning bill

THE NSW government has withdrawn the proposed controversial planning legislation; the planning minister, Brad Hazzard indicating it could not accept the heavy amendments imposed by the upper house. .

Elizabeth Vines OAM president, Australia – International Council of Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS)

Liz Vines, OAM

has said the state government's landmark planning reforms are now under serious threat after the NSW upper house blocked key parts of the new laws.

"Community groups say the changes are an 'immense win' that will give residents a voice on what is built in their neighbourhoods.

"A new, streamlined development pathway known as 'code assessment' was stripped from the bill.

"Under this system, if a development in high-growth areas meets agreed requirements, such as building type, heights and environmental standards, it would have needed to be approved by a council within 25 days, and the community's right to object would be limited.

"The government has now announced that it cannot accept the amendments and has withdrawn the legislation while it considers its response, and is likely to reintroduce the legislation in March 2014.

"Notwithstanding the amendments passed in the NSW upper house, a number of aspects of the proposed changes have not been amended and remain of concern to Australia ICOMOS and the many other professional and community groups with an interest in the issue.

" What is also of concern is that the minister and organisations with a vested interest in removing many of the current heritage safeguards are portraying those who have lodged submissions against aspects of the proposed legislation as a minority of extremists.

"However, A-ICOMOS will continue to monitor the situation and make further presentations as required to get the best possible outcome for the care and management of our cultural heritage," Ms Vines said.

BLUE MOUNTAINS HISTORY JOURNAL No. 4 NOW ONLINE

The *Blue Mountains History Journal* No. 4 now online and also available in bound hard copy of six papers and one note is the largest edition so far since the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Oganisations (BMACHO) decided on such a publication.

President of BMACHO, John Leary said editor of the *Blue Mountains History Journal* now in its 4th year, Dr Peter Rickwood deserves considerable acclaim for the work he has done to promote interest in local history and heritage through this medium.

He has sought out and encouraged authors to publish refereed material in the *Journal* the result being a very high quality of papers.

Dr Rickwood in his editorial provides an interesting overview of the papers which have been published.

In this edition Peter writes: 'two papers deal with explorations of the Blue Mountains before the 1813 crossing, the bicentenary of which is being commemorated this year.

'Three papers have pioneering individuals as their subject, one each inr elation to Blackheath, Medlow Bath and Lawson.

'The sixth paper focuses on the various ways by which the Nepean River has been crossed near Penrith - the main gateway to the Blue Mountains.

Dr Peter Rickwood, editor the Blue Mountains History Journal

'The first two papers have been written by Andy Macqueen, and they deal with different aspects of George Caley's explorations.

'They are complementary to each other, the first focussing on Caley's obsession to find a route across the mountains and his regret that he did not achieve that before he left the colony.

'The second of Andy's papers relates to the curious names that Caley used for various features in the Blue Mountains; it not only reveals where some have become attached to features that Caley did not intend but it also deals with the possible origin of the names given to somewhat similar features in Yorkshire.

'In the third paper Ron Brasier has brought together much of his extensive research on Osborne Ladies' College that had its final chapter in Blackheath.

'But the principal, Miss Gibbins, commenced on a career in education up in Queensland and the sequence of schools that she started has been traced.

'Ron reveals many fascinating aspects of this enigmatic character and his paper is illustrated by a generous collection of photographs.

'Medlow Bath is one of the smallest of the villages of the Blue Mountains but it too has had its characters.

'The fourth paper discusses the life of one Cornwallis Wade-Browne who started out in a military career in England, became a stockman in Queensland and ended up settling in Medlow (as it was then called) and having a peripatetic life moving between a farm on what is now Water Board land and a holiday home in Bay View.

'Fifthly, Brian Fox has revealed what he has been able to find out about another pioneer of Lawson.

'In our first issue (2010) he tackled Joseph Hay and now it is Benjamin Roberts - both at one time being owners of large parcels of land in Lawson.

'The one feature that is common to all who have contributed to the history of the Blue Mountains is that at some time they, or their ancestors, had to cross the Nepean/Hawkesbury River by some means in order to gain access to the Blue Mountains.

'Patsy Moppett has researched this most important aspect of travel to the Blue Mountains and in the sixth paper she provides the chronology of the ways by which the Nepean River has been crossed near to Penrith.

'That location needs to be stated for the crossings of the Hawkesbury River near to Windsor and Richmond await another study.

'All of the papers in Issue 4 have been independently reviewed and revised as a consequence of suggestions.

'The final contribution is a short postscript by Christine Cramer who has been able to confirm some of the conclusions published in Issue 3 relating to the death of Professor V. Gordon Childe in 1957 and the bones discovered at the same site in 1959.'

Ray Christison wins coveted IMAGinE award

Ray Christison of Lithgow State Mine Heritage Park has won the coveted 2013 IMAGinE award for individual achievement and the award for the best exhibition – volunteers has gone to the Lithgow State Mine Heritage Park for its exhibit *Fire in the Mine.*

Pictured above is Ray Christison with wife, Jenny and Museums and Galleries chairman Oliver Frankel at the November presentation night in Sydney.

The recently developed multimedia exhibit titled *Fire in the Mine* explores the working lives of coalminers in the mid twentieth century and the horrific consequences of an underground fire that occurred in the State Coal Mine in 1953

The IMAGinE awards recognise the people who work in museums and galleries across NSW and the contributions they make.

IMAGinE celebrates all institutions–the big to the small–and pays homage to those organisations run by volunteers, with limited budgets and minimal resources.

M&G NSW first launched IMAGinE in 2008 in collaboration with Museums Australia (NSW & ACT) and Regional & Public Galleries NSW.

Since then they have become our most popular event receiving around 70 nominations each year.

M&G NSW provides programs and services improving the visitor experience in small to medium museums, galleries and Aboriginal cultural centres across NSW.

BLUE MOUNTAINS HISTORY JOURNAL NOW AVAILABLE

Blue Mountains History Journal Issue 4, October 2013, can now be downloaded and viewed in .pdf on the BMACHO website http://www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au/imagesDB/wysiwyg/BMHJ41Elec.pdf

This issue, has once again been edited by Dr Peter Rickwood and designed by Peter Hughes and is also available in hard copy.

It is a large issue, over 100 pages on quality gloss paper and can be purchased for $30, with postage extra. It cost almost $30 to print, so BMACHO is not making a profit.

To purchase a copy, please email: The Secretary, BMACHO
1/19 Stypandra Place
SPRINGWOOD NSW 2777 and it will be sent to you with an invoice.

Postage varies from post code to post code, so postage will be added to the invoice when it is paid at the Post Office. Alternatively it can be collected from Jan Koperberg at Springwood.

Wendy Hawkes to talk about the Cooks

THE LIVES of Sir Joseph Cook and Dame Mary Cook will be the topic for the guest speaker, Wendy Hawkes at a BMACHO general meeting to be held on Saturday, February 8. at the Paragon Restaurant., Katoomba.

Wendy Hawkes, is the cultural development officer with Lithgow City Council and curator at Eskbank House, Lithgow, where an exhibition about the Cooks was recently staged.

The Cooks moved to Lithgow in 1886 and Sir Joseph worked in the Vale of Clwydd Colliery as he studied and worked his way up through the unions and into politics. He became prime minister 27 years later.

A light lunch will be provided, in the Paragon at BMACHO expense), at approximately 12.30 pm

After lunch, from 1.30 pm to 3.30 pm (or earlier) a workshop will be conducted, where a suggested format for an “Explorers Cultural Trail” brochure will be presented.

Those attending the workshop will be asked for input into this project.

Please RSVP by email j.koperberg@bigpond.com or phone Jan Koperberg on 02 4751 5834

When: Saturday, February 8, 2014 from 10.30 am to 3.30 pm **Where:** Paragon Restaurant, Katoomba Street, Katoomba
Cost to participants: FREE

St Stephens Parish Kurrajong Registers 1861 - 1902

THE BOOK *St Stephens Church, Kurrajong Parish Registers 1861-1902* published by the Family History Group, Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society was recently released.

The publication is a transcription of the parish records of St Stephens Anglican Church, Kurrajong, incorporating St Philips Chapel of Ease at North Richmond (formerly called Enfield), St James Church of England at Kurrajong Heights and Salis Flats Mission Church, later called St John the Evangelist when moved to the corner of Single Ridge and Comleroy Roads. Salis Flats is often written as Sallys Flats and this area is now known as The Slopes.

The Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Family History Group began the process of transcribing the records with the full co-operation of the present rector, the Reverend Shaun McGregor, and the group is indebted to him for his assistance.

The Family History Group realised immediately the significance of the information contained in the records which document the growth, character and early settlement patterns in the Kurrajong district as well as giving an indication of local industries and occupations.

Kurrajong was a farming community and the majority of the people gave their occupations as farmers and / or orchardists. Following these were labourers, drovers, brickmakers, sawyers, butchers, blacksmiths and saddler.

The registers also indicate a strong sense of place and belonging, and outline a history of families in the area.

In a scattered, relatively isolated farming community like Kurrajong it was not uncommon for boy to marry the girl next door because social contact mainly involved interaction with the neighbours. It was not uncommon for brothers to marry sisters from neighbouring farms. For all these reasons it was considered essential to document this information.

St Stephens Church, Kurrajong

The transcription, recording and compilation of the information contained in this publication entailed countless hours of volunteer work by members of the Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Family History Group.

Together with the actual records also included is a brief history of some of the early settlers to provide a better understanding of Kurrajong's past and its place in the history of the Hawkesbury.

The research team were Carolynne Cooper (team leader, Valerie Birch, Wanda Deacon, Kath McMahon-Nolf, Carol Roberts and Joy Shepherd.

The compilation and layout was done by Chris Upton, editor of the Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society's newsletter *Millstones.*

The180 pages book is priced at $27 plus postage and packing of $10 for postage and handling throughout NSW, and $14 for other states of Australia

For enquiries telephone (02) 4588 5867 and orders can be placed by contacting the secretary at PO Box 174 Kurmond 2757.

Paragon joins BMACHO

The Paragon Restaurant at Katoomba is another new member of BMACHO this month.

The Paragon first started by a Greek émigré in 1916 at the beginning of a new phenomenon in Australian country towns, the Greek café. From the early 1910s onwards a number of émigrés from Greece, often with experience of the United States, created a new café experience in cities and towns throughout Australia.

ANZAC Centenary grants available

LOUISE MARKUS MP, the Member for Macquarie has announced that applications are now open for the ANZAC Centenary grants program.

Mrs Markus said that for the 100th anniversary of the Gallipoli landing the federal government is making available $100 000 in funding allocated to each electorate in Australia to support projects in the community that mark the occasion.

Louise Markus, MP

These grants are a wonderful opportunity to honour the service and sacrifice of the servicemen and women.

Applications are open to:
*community and ex-service organisations,
* schools and education institutions,
* museums and cultural institutions,
* local government authorities,
* other non-profit organisations.

Types of projects that are eligible under this program include:
* public commemorative events,
* new First World War memorials or honour boards,
*the restoration of existing First World War memorials and honour boards,
* the preservation, interpretation and display of Fist World War wartime and military memorabilia and artefacts.
* relevant school projects, such as research with a focus on military involvement and social impacts, and the products of research.

Types of projects not eligible are:
* expenditure already incurred or ongoing expenditure (eg annual maintenance of memorials),
* construction and repair of buildings, including museums, memorial halls and sporting facilities,
*recurring activities (events held every year),
*salaries, travel and accommodation,
*sporting events,
*educational materials where projects by Department of Veteran Affairs already provides resources for schools.

Two public information sessions will be announced and held regarding the ANZAC Centenary grants program.

Guidelines for proposed projects and application forms can be accessed online at http://wwwanzaccentenary.gov.au/grants/

Deadline for grants applications is March 30, 2014.

Applications may be submitted to louise.markus.mp@aph.gov.au or mailed to the ANZAC centenary grants program PO Box 855, Windsor 2756.

Australian and British soldiers take a welcome break before going up to the front line trenches in France during World War 1

"I look forward to receiving all applications and working with the community to deliver commemorations they will be proud of, that honour the centenary of our nation's service at Gallipoli," said Mrs Markus.

NEW HERITAGE NETWORK FORMED

THE NSW Heritage Network has recently been established with the objective of bringing heritage campaigners and community organisations together to share information, resources, experiences and skills to support local and state heritage campaigns.

Speaking at the recent launch at the State heritage listed property Linnwood House, Guildford, Ms Barbara Perry, Shadow Minister for Heritage said it had been the vision of Anne Field, Peter Duggan, Leesha Payor and June Bullivant, OAM "to grow an alliance of community groups, representing constituents across NSW with a common bond – advocating for heritage issues across the state."

Ms Perry said, "It is the NSW government's planning legislation which has forced community advocates to the fore. The planning legislation does not support heritage"

"The NSW government has put emphasis on economic growth and development; our built heritage is virtually ignored and it is the ongoing management of that which is at risk.

"The clock will be wound back to the days prior to the Heritage Act of 1977"

For further information: June M Bullivant OAM (02) 9631 0216 or 0438 31 0216

Utzon's Opera House

IT IS A RARE ARTIST who has not been inspired by the Sydney Opera House

The SH Ervin Gallery Sydey is presenting the exhibition Utzon's Opera House over the summer period, coinciding with the 40th anniversary of the opening of the Opera House in 1973 and to celebrate its significance for Australian visual artists.

The Sydney Opera House, designed by Danish architect Jørn Utzon is an architectural icon and one of the most outstanding buildings of the twentieth century.

Recognised in 2007 by UNESCO on the World Heritage List, it is appropriate that the National Trust celebrate this milestone of Australia's most remarkable building.

The inspiration for the exhibition has its genesis in the 2012 exhibition Australian Artists and the Sydney Opera House (curated by Lin Utzon) at the Utzon Center in Denmark which took the work of eight Sydney artists to Aalborg, the birthplace of Jørn Utzon.

The SH Ervin Gallery exhibition expands on this selection and include images of the indigenous figure Bennelong, after whom the peninsula it stands on is named, as well as works by some of Australia's leading artists including Eric Thake, William Dobell, Lloyd Rees, Brett Whiteley, John Olsen, Margaret Olley, Martin Sharp, Ken Done, Peter Kingston, Kevin Connor, Noel McKenna and Chris O'Doherty aka Reg Mombassa.

There will also be on display original drawings and working models by Utzon, which are held by the State Library of New South Wales. Works will be drawn from public and private collections across the country.

The exhibition which opened in late November, will run until January 19.

For further information www.nationaltrust.org.au/nsw

Sydney Opera House at sunset

LANDMARKS

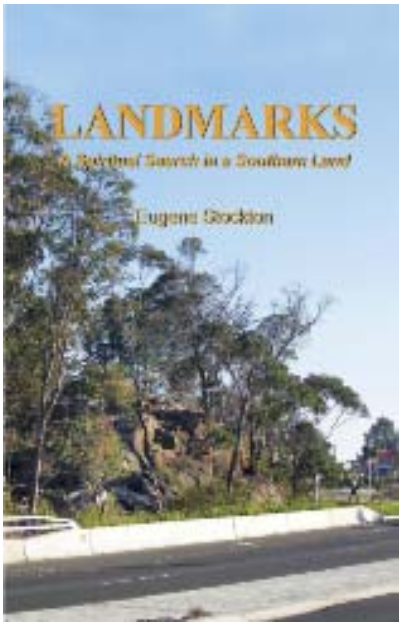
LAWSON PRIEST, researcher, author, and authority on the Australian Aboriginal culture, Father Eugene Stockton has recently published another book through the Blue Mountains Education and Research Trust.

Landmarks is an exploration of an Australian spirituality. Drawing on the cultural influences now in our land, it offers a graded, comprehensive presentation of gospel teachings, with an Australian diction and imagery.

The reader is introduced in terms of an "Australian setting", focusing on one particular aspect of the Australian experience.

The body of each chapter analyses that experience, exploring the parallels with its biblical counterpart.

The bible is used, not as a book of God or a store of normative texts, but as the story of people, who are our spiritual ancestors.



The attempt is made to insert ourselves into that story, with all its ups and downs, to identify our own experience in its unfolding, and through it to catch the vision of God which the past projects onto our present and future.

Blue Mountains Education and Research Trust a member of BMACHO was established to promote local research in religion and Aboriginal studies especially through the publication of findings.

Copies of *Landmarks* are available direct from the publisher at $15 per copy plus postage.

For more information about this publication contact Eugene Stockton (02) 4759 1818.

BMACHO support for grant application

LETTERS OF SUPPORT have been provided by BMACHO several historical societies and individuals to Blue Mountains City Council in the bid of its library service to obtain a $30 000 grant.

The grant application was to the Library Council of NSW.

If successful the grant would be used to complete the digitisation of all surviving Blue Mountains newspapers up to 1954; after which copyright becomes a problem.

Springwood Historian have already made a donation of $5000 to the library to allow digitisation of local newspapers to start.

Rome's gigantic waste disposal site

MOST MODERN CITIES today have a major problem with waste disposal. But the problem has been around for a long time as archaeologists have found in Rome.

Monte Testaccio is an artificial mound in Rome composed almost entirely of fragments of broken amphorae dating from the time of the Roman Empire,

It is one of the largest spoil heaps found anywhere in the ancient world, covering an area of 20,000 square metres at its base and with a volume of approximately 580,000 cubic metres, containing the remains of an estimated 53 million amphorae in which some 6 billion litres of oil was imported mainly from Spain.

It has a circumference of nearly a kilometre and stands 35 metres high, though it was probably considerably higher in ancient times.

It stands a short distance away from the east bank of the River Tiber, near the Horrea Galbae where the state-controlled reserve of olive oil was stored in the late 2nd century AD.

The huge numbers of broken amphorae at Monte Testaccio illustrate the enormous demand for oil of imperial Rome, which was at the time the world's largest city with a population of at least one million people.

Monte Testaccio was not simply a haphazard waste dump; it was a highly organised and carefully engineered creation, presumably managed by a state administrative authority.

Excavations carried out in 1991 showed that the mound had been raised as a series of level terraces with retaining walls made of nearly intact amphorae filled with shards to anchor them in place

As the oldest parts of Monte Testaccio are at the bottom of the mound, it is difficult to say with any certainty when it was first created.

Deposits found by excavators have been dated to a period between approximately AD 140 to 250, but it is possible that dumping could have begun on the site as early as the 1st century BC.

The mound has a roughly triangular shape comprising two distinct platforms, the eastern side being the oldest.

At least four distinct series of terraces were built in a stepped arrangement. Layers of small shards were laid down in some places, possibly to serve as paths for those carrying out the waste disposal operations

REFERENCE: Monte Testaccio website by University de Roma "La Sapienza" and Universitat de Barcelona.

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

REGISTERED OFFICE 1/19 Stypandra Place, Springwood, 2777 (02) 4751 5834 E-mail: committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au or j.koperberg@bigpond.com
Website: www.bluemountainsheritage.com
ABN53 994 839 952

THE ORGANISATION Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 following a unanimous response to a proposal from Professor Barrie Reynolds at the 2004 Blue Mountains Local History Conference which sought from Blue Mountains City Council the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the city.
BMACHO in its constitution uses the definition: "Cultural heritage is all aspects of life of the peoples of the Blue Mountains which was later changed to cover Lithgow and the villages along the Bell's Line of Roads. It therefore involves the recording, preserving and interpreting of information in whatever form: documents, objects, recorded memories as well as buildings and sites."
The objectives of the organisation are:

i. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage.
ii. To encourage and assist cultural heritage activities of member organisations.
iii. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations. One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact, to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

AFFILIATIONS BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society Inc.

HERITAGE BMACHO's official newsletter is edited by John Leary, OAM.
Blue Mountains History Journal is edited by Dr Peter Rickwood.

MEMBERSHIP The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mount Tomah, Blue Mountains City Library, Blue Mountains Cultural Heritage Centre, Blue Mountain Education and Research Trust, Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc., Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc., Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute, Eskbank Rail Heritage Centre, Everglades Historic House & Gardens, Friends of Norman Lindsay Gallery, Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc., Hartley Valley District Progress Association, Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc, Lithgow and District Family History Society Inc., Lithgow Mining Museum Inc., Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies, Lithgow Small Arms Factory Museum Inc, Mt Victoria and District Historical Society Inc., Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine Historical Society Inc. (including Turkish Bath Museum), Mudgee Historical Society Inc., National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Blue Mountains Branch, National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Lithgow Branch, Nepean District Historical Society Inc., Paragon Restaurant - Katoomba, Scenic World – Blue Mountains Limited, Springwood & District Historical Society Inc., Springwood Historians Inc., Transport Signal and Communication Museum Inc., The Darnell Collection Pty Ltd, Valley Heights Locomotive Depot and Museum, Woodford Academy Management Committe, Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd.
The following are individual members: Ray Christison, Associate Professor Ian Jack, Joan Kent, John Leary OAM, John Low OAM, Ian Milliss, Patsy Moppett, Professor Barrie Reynolds, Dr Peter Rickwood and Dr Peter Stanbury OAM.

COMMITTEE The committee for 2013-14 is:
John Leary, OAM (president), Ian Jack (vice president), Jan Koperberg (secretary), Kevin Frappell, Wendy Hawkes, Doug Knowles, Patsy Moppett, Dick Morony (public officer), Scott Pollock and Jean Winston.

DISCLAIMER Views and opinions expressed in ***HERITAGE*** originate from many sources and contributors. Every effort is taken to ensure accuracy of material. Content does not necessarily represent or reflect the views and opinions of BMACHO, its committee or members. If errors are found feedback is most welcome.

HERITAGE

NEWSLETTER OF THE BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

JANUARY - FEBRUARY 2014 ISSUE No. 31

Governor to open Locomotive Depot museum at Valley Heights

by John Leary, OAM

LONG GONE is the excitement of the steam train, like a great steel monster white steam gushing from its nostrils, as it pulls out of Sydney Central, quickly passing the back yards of another generation's dwellings of the western suburbs, then racing at what in those days was considered a break-neck speed across the Cumberland Plains much of it then still farmland until the noisy loco and its train reached Penrith, then a small country town soon to develop as the hub of a satellite city with new suburbs housing a considerable population.

Engine 5183 is turned at Valley Heights. ***Photograph - Australian Railway History Society (NSW RRC) 060615 NJ Simons Collection.***

At Emu Plains the speed slowed with the loco chugging along as it wound its way around the lower Blue Mountains until it reached Valley Heights.

At Valley Heights a pilot engine which had been waiting steamed up ready to do its work was hooked to the front of the main loco adding to the needed power to pull the carriages up the mountains to Katoomba.

The Valley Heights Locomotive Depot was officially opened in January 1914 and the Valley Heights Locomotive Heritage Museum has organised a year-long centenary celebration of events.

Engine 3827 and standard good pilot ready for departure from Valley Heights.

Photograph: Australian Railway Historical Society (NSW RRC) 004024.

On January 31, the Governor of NSW, Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir AC, CVO will officially open the Valley Heights Locomotive Heritage Museum. (The opening is by invitation only). Some 47 years earlier, on July 11, 1867, the first official journey by train was made between Penrith and Weatherboard (Wentworth Falls) where the line terminated.

The depot's locomotives assisted up to 30 trains a day from Valley Heights to Katoomba. Located on the steeply graded line to Katoomba in the Blue Mountains, the depot served the railways for 75 years.

However, its days became numbered when more efficient and powerful electric locomotives were introduced - eventually resulting in the closure of the depot, marking a major milestone in the state's railway history. **Continued page 3**

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An opinion from the editor.....

What is cultural heritage? ...Is it all about the past?

I am frequently asked: What is cultural heritage? ...Is it all about the past?

Definitions of cultural heritage are highly varied.

The definition perhaps I find to be the simplest and most decisive is, …cultural heritage is the legacy of physical artefacts and intangible attributes of a group or society that are inherited from past generations, maintained in the present and bestowed for the benefit of future generations.

The definition embraces simply the 'physical' and 'intangible' and has a timeline of the past, present and future.

I often think of the precise nature of that statement when I ponder a trust that was placed in me some 20 years ago by a very influential Japanese friend when he as the mayor of a large city and I, were directing efforts of a sister cities relationship which has endured from the 1980s to the present.

He had expressed to me a concern that young people in Japan were no longer interested in traditional music, but instead followed blindly the American trends.

These trends have built-in obsolecence that was gradually seeing the emergence of everything without an apparent use, being placed on the scrapheap of oblivion when its used-by date is reached..

My friend, Shimamura *sensei* asked if I would accept three instruments as personal gifts to be kept and passed down through generations of the Leary family to which I hesitatingly agreed to accept, being mindful of the obligation being place on me.

His vision was that if and when the traditional musical arts and craft were lost to Japan, that some time in the future some historian or musical researcher may find in Australia the instruments given to me and return them to their native country to see a revival in the tradition.

He recently passed away, but before he did, I told him that while I had kept the shakuhachi, the other two instruments, the koto and shamishan had been gifted to two separate institutions with the hope that a wider distribution of the artefacts might make possible the enactment of his vision.

The shakuhachi flute has been traced back as far as ancient Egypt and is thought to have migrated through India and China before being brought back to Japan by monks who were studying abroad in China during the 6th century.

Is this cultural heritage? I believe it is — it certainly fits the definition, that I most like, albeit the experience is more in the nature of Japan's cultural heritage and the vision of a far thinking and generous man.

Is it all about the past? No.It has a timeline embracingof the past, present and future.

Another reputable definition is that … cultural heritage is an expression of the ways of living developed by a community and passed on from generation to generation, including customs, practices, places, objects, artistic expressions and values.

Cultural heritage is often expressed as either intangible or tangible cultural heritage (ICOMOS, 2002).

John Leary, OAM - President, Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc.

'The care of our own historical memory reveals the degree of civilization and morality of a country.'

"The Fish" and "The Chips"

Continued from page 1

Although the depot has been on its Valley Heights site since 1914, February 2, 1957 saw the end of steam operations from Valley Heights.

On this day No. 27 passenger train was hauled by steam locomotive 3662 and on arrival at Valley Heights electric locomotives 4611 and 4617 backed out of the depot and assisted the train to Katoomba.

From that train all steam hauled trains, both freight and passenger were electrically assisted to Katoomba, until complete electrification saw steam removed from the scene.

The depot in latter years was basically a very efficient freight wagon and electric locomotive repair workshop, the electric engines receiving minor repairs and complete overhauls at the depot.

The demise of Valley Heights depot began when the 85 class electric locomotives were introduced in 1979 and through working of freight trains commenced.

The demise was accelerated with the introduction of the 86 class locomotives in early 1983. From the mid 1980s the number of trains requiring piloting from Valley Heights had been reduced to a handful each day, until the depot closed in 1988.

The site is now home to the Locomotive Depot Heritage Museum which provides interactive exhibits of engines and carriages, along with other unique displays of railway memorabilia.

Rail travel for more than150 years in Australia has been popular, despite the sometimes uncomfortable conditions with the odd coal cinder in the eye when one opened the windows and today, cramped and dirty commuter rail services.

There were and still are in Australia interesting services available to travellers who prefer the slower pace.

A 53 class engine assisting a 35 class out of Valley Heights -
Photograph Australian Railway Historical Society (NSW RCC) 012376

But for commuters in the Blue Mountains trains like the "The Fish" and "The Chips" were a way of life.

"The Fish" is still the name of one of the peak hour train services between Sydney and Lithgow.

For about fourteen years this service was regularly driven by a Mr John Heron who, being a big man, gained the nick name "The Big Fish" which eventually transferred to the train itself.

The original engine pulling "The Fish" survived about 20 years.

The era of steam trains which fascinated travellers around the world, may be long gone, but for those who enjoy a stroll along 'memory lane' the Valley Heights Locomotive Heritage Museum will go a long way towards bringing back that enchantment with steam train travel.

For details of centenary activities www.infobluemountains.net.au/locodepot/centenary.shtml

References:

Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Heritage Museum **http://www.infobluemountains.net.au/locodepot/history.shtml**
<Accessed January 13, 2014>

Another year for BMACHO --- annual general meeting

ANOTHER YEAR has come around as BMACHO goes into its 9th year of operations.

The association's annual general meeting will be held at the Woodford Academy on Saturday, March 22, 2014 commencing at 2pm.

The business including president's report, financial reports and election of office bearers will be followed by a guest speaker and afternoon tea.

A guest speaker soon to be finalised will be announced on Facebook and by e-mail to members.

Members of the association and their representatives at the meeting will also be given the opportunity to look through this building the property being the oldest on the Blue Mountains.

Formal notice of the meeting together with the calling of nominations for the 10 member management committee will be distributed in the near future.

‘For the cricket tragics’

By John Leary, OAM

MANY of our readers have probably spent considerable time during the 2013 - 14 festive season, watching grown men throw a usually red leather covered ball at three sticks, which another player seems to protect, while others on the field stand by in silly mid on and in slips seemingly with little to do.

It seems there have been five tests this summer between England and Australia and the uninitiated must wonder why so many examinations for what seemingly is a simple sport.

And they have played in these tests for the doubtful prize of a set of bails burned to ash and secreted in a small wooden urn.

Patriotically, the writer must state Australia seems to be the brightest, its team having succeeded in all five tests while the English have failed each time they were before the stumps behind which stands a man in a white coat and a number of hats.

Perhaps those ‘cricket tragics’ might ponder this little piece about the origins of this manly sport.

The game of cricket has a *known* history spanning from the 16th century to the present day, with international matches played since 1844, although the official history of international Test cricket began in 1877.

However, no one knows for sure when or where cricket began but there is a body of evidence, that suggests cricket was devised by children and survived for many generations as essentially a children’s game.

Cricket at Melbourne Cricket Ground January 1, 1864

Adult participation is unknown before the early 17th century.

Despite many other suggested references, the first definite mention of the game is found in a 1598 court case concerning an ownership dispute over a plot of common land in Guildford, Surrey.

A 59-year old coroner, John Derrick, testified that he and his school friends had played *crecket* on the site fifty years earlier when they attended the Free School.

Derrick’s account seems to prove beyond reasonable doubt that the game was being played in Surrey circa 1550.

There is also a reference to cricket being played as an adult sport was in 1611, when two men in Sussex were prosecuted for playing cricket on Sunday instead of going to church.

In the same year, a dictionary defined cricket as a boys’ game and this suggests that adult participation was a recent development

Cricket has had an influence on the lexicon of nations around the world, especially in the English language, with such phrases as “that’s not cricket” (unfair), “had a good innings”, “sticky wicket”, and “bowled over “.

Cricket has been played in Australia for over 210 years.

The first recorded cricket match in Australia took place in Sydney in December 1803 and a report in the *Sydney Gazette* on January 8, 1804 suggested that cricket was already well established in the infant colony.

Intercolonial cricket in Australia started with a visit by cricketers from Victoria to Tasmania in February 1851.

The first tour by an English team to Australia was in 1861 - 62, organised by the catering firm of Spiers and Pond as a private enterprise. A further tour followed in 1863-64, led by George Parr and was even more successful than the previous.

English cricket legendWG Grace “taking guard” in 1883. His pads and bat are very similar to those used today. The gloves have evolved somewhat. Many modern players utilise more defensive equipment than was available to Grace, notably helmets, and a thing called a “box” .

Cricket has a close relationship with Australian rules football and many players have competed at top levels in both sports.

In 1858, prominent Australian cricketer Tom Wills called for the formation of a “foot-ball club” with “a code of laws” to keep cricketers fit during the off-season.

The following year, Wills and other Victorian cricketers founded the Melbourne Football Club and codified the first laws of the game. It is typically played on modified cricket fields and borrows terminology from cricket, such as “umpire” and “sledging”.

It is often said that in Australia the office of test captain is second in stature behind the office of prime minister.

As a member of the No Cricket and Football League, the author is now so overloaded with cricket minutia it is perhaps an appropriate time, as the cricketing fraternity say, to ‘take tea” ,which may well be an euphemisim for consumption of a beverage better known as a beer

Editor’s note. Some of this material has been sourced from Wikipedia and we leave it to the reader to check the veracity of the information. jkl
Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_cricket_to_1725

An alternative crossing: Bells Line of Road part 2: 1823 to 1872

by Ian Jack

IN THE November/December 2013 issue of *HERITAGE* I discussed the making of an alternative road leading across the Blue Mountains to Hartley Valley in 1823.

The main problem with the new route was Mount Tomah: the road from the Zig Zag descending westwards from Kurrajong Heights and leading to Mount Tomah was relatively level and straight, with good fodder for animals.

This section of Bells Line of Road soon attracted some settlement, in Bilpin and Berambing.

The Royal Veterans Company in New South Wales had been formed in 1810 mainly from old Napoleonic soldiers. When it was disbanded in 1823, it was anticipated that its members might be settled along Bells Line.[1]

This did not happen but when reincarnated veterans' companies arrived in the colony in 1826 and proved quite unsuitable in government employ, Governor Darling offered them either a passage back to Britain or a land grant of 40 to 100 acres.

Some of the veterans took up the offer of land and in 1829 twelve allotments each of 100 acres (40 hectares) were surveyed at Bilpin and Berambing, of which ten were taken up and occupied for a while.

In 1830 it was anticipated that three bullock teams would transport the necessary equipment to these veterans' farms over Kurrajong Heights, but, despite petitions from the new settlers, Mitchell in 1832 refused to spend public money on improving the Zig Zag at Kurrajong Heights.[2]

The other new owners of land on Bells Line in 1830 were Mrs Susannah Bowen and her son, George Meares Countess Bowen, a retired army man, who occupied substantial grants on Mount Tomah (1280 acres) and at Berambing (2560 acres) respectively.

Jacob's Ladder, on the notoriously difficult western pass leaving Mount Tomah in the nineteenth century. Conrad Martens made this drawing in November 1876 soon after improvements had been made but just before a by-pass was created. State Library of NSW, Mitchell Library,PXD307 vol.2 fo.13. Reproduced by courtesy of the State Library.

Bowen built a fine stone house called Bulgamatta (the Aboriginal name for the area), with three sitting rooms and four bedrooms along with outbuildings and a sawmill on the creek below, but in 1836 was obliged to sell to the entrepreneur Robert Towns (the later founder of Townsville) after he 'lost a large portion of [his] capital and some of [his] best years'.[3]

Bowen's mother returned to England in the same year and sold Mount Tomah, where she had not built any residence, to her son's army acquaintance, Captain George Bartley, in 1838.[4]

Bowen had built huts for his employees about 2 kilometres west of Bulgamatta. These probably remained in occupation under the overseer for Robert Towns, Sam Seinor, an ex-convict who lived in Bulgamatta homestead and had a number of workers on the property, with two farms under grain and pigs being reared.[5]

Because of this increased occupation of the stretch of Bells Line between Kurrajong Heights and Mount Tomah in the 1830s, because of the pressure applied by Bowen and Towns, because of overnight accommodation being offered by the Douglasses at Kurrajong Heights, and because of increased citrus orcharding on the Kurrajong foothills, there was increased local interest in improving the road from the Hawkesbury.

Accordingly a Committee of Management of the Windsor and Bathurst New Road, with the Surveyor-General, JL Scarvell, as its secretary, was formed and in 1839 was soliciting tenders 'for making a Dray Road from Richmond, through the Kurryjong, by Mount Tomah, over the Mountains to the present Bathurst Road'.[6]

‘£100 for dray road from Richmond over the mountains’

The stone cottage called Bulgamatta, built on Bells Line of Road by George Meares Countess Bowen at Berambing, just east of Mount Tomah, as soon as he entered on his grant of 2,560 acres (1,030 hectares) in 1830. The pencil drawing was done by Conrad Martens in July 1838

(State Libary of NSW,Mitchell Library, SSV SP Coll Martens 3).

Continued from page 5

The sum of £160 was raised and spent in 1840, principally for ‘clearing’ the road from Mount Tomah to Bowenfels, but Sam Seinor was also paid for ‘clearing the eastern side of Mount Tomah’ and James Douglass a similar amount for a rock cutting on Tabaraga ridge on Kurrajong Heights, while Thomas Dargan (who gave his name to Dargans Creek beyond Bell) had two men employed ‘improving the pass at Mount Tomah’.[7]

Despite these locally funded efforts, the ‘new line of road over Mount Tomah’ was described in 1841 as only ‘a bridle road’, though it was hoped that it would ‘shortly become fit for the carriage’.[8]

This was optimistic, for, in particular, the descent of the Western Pass, known as Jacob’s Ladder, was acutely steep and contained dangerous rock steps called ‘jumps’.[9]

The first crossing with a bullock team was indeed in 1840, with experienced men, including the blacksmith William McAlpine who had gone with Bell in 1823, and Thomas Dargan who had been supervising road works, but they used a ‘slide’ instead of a wheeled dray, dragged by four bullocks, and the slide was soon broken on a bad stretch of road at Mount Charles.

An improvised slide was created out of a tree-fork and the return trip to North Richmond was completed safely.[10]

This was, however, an exceptional act of bravura and did not create a habit. Sam Boughton, who knew most of the bullockies and the drovers, was quite clear that no drays coming from the Hawkesbury could get beyond Mount Tomah until the 1870s.[11]

Until a new Road Trust undertook successful improvements to the road in 1872 and subsequent years, Bells Line as a through-way to the west operated primarily as a drove road.

The western graziers regarded it as a desirable alternative to the Great Western Highway. George Cox, for example, wrote to his sons in 1848: ‘… when you come down … find out whether it will be at all practicable to send the sheep across … either down Bell’s line of road, or onto the Mountain Road at Blackheath. Either of which must be preferable to their going up the Mount Victoria Road to avoid all that pounded Red Ironstone up Mount Victoria.’[12]

The drovers on Bells Line were familiar faces in Richmond. Some were larger than life, like Jack Timmins of Yarramundi, born in 1813 and still yarning to Sam Boughton in 1903: ‘the only man I ever heard of [wrote Boughton] crossing the mountains with a drove of cattle without human aid. His only help was his dogs, which were the wonder of the age.’

One dog brought firewood to the nightly camp, another water and the third controlled the cattle, Timmins boasted, though Boughton expressed discreet reservations.[13]

The road was consistently used. Alfred Smith, born in 1831, was a drover in his youth and recalled how he had brought 63 flocks of sheep over Bells Line.[14]

Droving required yards and some occasional inns. Sam Seinor, Towns’ overseer at Bulgamatta, built stockyards for drovers at Dargans Creek near Bell, at Mount Charles and at Bulgamatta.[15]

During the Gold Rush years of the 1850s there were many prospectors on the move, walking across Bells Line to Ophir and the Turon, so Thomas Sherwood opened an accommodation house near Bulgamatta, built with timbers from Bowen’s old house.

Sherwood and his sons regularly went a distance west to meet drovers coming to the coast and to help them up Jacob’s Ladder.[16]

Continued page 7

‘no ride in the colony can be more enchanting’

Continued from page 6

The Hawkesbury end of the road, from Kurrajong to the river, was by far the busiest part of Bells Line.

Not only was there increasing farming and orcharding, but the Putty Road, which was an important drove route from the Hunter, joined Bells Line at Kurrajong, so the final eastern stage saw cattle and sheep converging from both the western plains and the Hunter Valley.

The Packhorse Inn at North Richmond (later the Woolpack) became an important place for the Sydney butchers to acquire stock, just as Joseph Collett’s inn in Little Hartley was a rendezvous for Hawkesbury dealers to acquire stock cheaply in the 1850s before city price-rises were known over the Mountains.[17]

All the characteristics of Bells Line in this period are summed up in a letter from Thomas Cadell junior of Ben Bullen, published in the *Sydney Morning Herald* in July 1851.

He went on horseback from Windsor, crossed the river on the punt and rode up to Douglass’ accommodation house: it was a good road and ‘no ride in the colony can be more enchanting than this of a fine evening’.

Cadell had to walk his horse over Kurrajong Heights, but then he rode for two hours to Towns’ Tomah House, now unoccupied, and an hour later he came to Mount Tomah, where he dismounted and led his horse as any ‘merciful man’ would do.

There he met a herd of Fitzgerald’s cattle coming from Dabee to the coastal markets, ‘winding slowly round the mountain in “single file”, adding not a little to the scene’.

Cadell remounted and rode on westwards to Dargans Creek ‘over a monotonous road, some parts of it very good, others not quite so, but mostly free of the heavy sands which are such a hindrance on the other line [the Great Western Highway].[18]

And so Bells Line remained for another twenty years, until the local Roads Trust was formed in 1872 which was instrumental in opening the entire road to wheeled vehicles.

(Endnotes)

[1] Cutting from *Morning Herald*, 21 June 1824, Mitchell Library, ML 1493, reel CY 907, p.390b.
[2] M. Hungerford, *Bilpin*, *the Apple Country: a Local History*, Bilpin, 1995, pp.34, 37-40.
[3] *Sydney Herald*, 4 January 1836 p.4 c.5; Hungerford, *Bilpin*, pp.31-32.
[4] H.A. MacLeod Morgan. ‘George Meares Countess Bowen’, *Australian Genealogist*, 8, 1955-8, pp.113-114; Hungerford, *Bilpin,* p.37.
[5] W.L. Havard, ‘Sir Paul Edmund de Strzelecki’, *Journal of Royal Australian Historical Society*, 26, 1940, p.41; Hungerford, *Bilpin*, pp.64-65. Seinor’s surname was later misremembered as ‘Senior’.
[6] *Australian*, 16 May 1839; Hungerford, *Bilpin*, p.66.
[7] *Australian*, 20 October 1840; Hungerford, *Bilpin*, p.66.
[8] *Australian,* 6 April 1841; Hungerford, *Bilpin,* p.67.
[9] Hungerford, *Bilpin*, pp.94-95.
[10] ‘Cooramill’, *Reminiscences of Richmond, from the Forties Down*, ed. C. McHardy, Kurrajong, 2010, p.107; Hungerford, *Bilpin*, p.67.
[11] ‘Cooramill’, *Reminiscences of Richmond*, pp.107, 116, 120-121; Hungerford, *Bilpin,* p.96.
[12] *George Cox of Mulgoa and Mudgee: Letters to his Sons, 1846-1849*, ed. E. Hickson, Mudgee, 1980, p.72.
[13] ‘Cooramill’, *Reminiscences of Richmond*, pp.103-104: cf. J.T. Ryan, *Reminiscences of Australia,* 1894, reprinted South Penrith, 1982, p.65.
[14] A. Smith, *Some Ups and Downs of an Old Richmondite*, Nepean Family History Society, Emu Plains, 1991, pp.30-31.
[15] *Ibid.,* p.116; letter from T. Cadell, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 4 July 1851, p.3 c.4.
[16] Smith, *Some Ups and Downs of an Old Richmondite,* p.123; Hungerford, *Bilpin,* p.90.
[17] Ryan, *Reminiscences of Australia*, 295-8; ‘Cooramill’, *Reminiscences of Richmond*, p.117.
[18] Letter from Cadell, *Sydney Morning Herald,* 4 July 1851, p.3 cc.3-4; partly printed in Hungerford, *Bilpin,* p.72.

Heritage churches subject for BM history conference

HECTOR ABRAHAMS has now agreed to be one of the speakers for the Blue Mountains History conference to be held at the Carrington Hotel, Katoomba on May 10, 2014.

He has been asked to present an address about the architectural and cultural heritage value of religious buildings in the Blue Mountains, Lithgow, Hawkesbury and Sydney regions.

Hector Abrahams BSc (Arch) (Hons), BArch, ARAIA is an architect with diverse experience in public and private work in the areas of conservation, cultural projects and adaptive re-use since graduating from the University of Sydney over 25 years ago.

A particular interest is in Christian churches. He is chairman of the NSW Heritage Council Religious Property Advisory Panel as the representative of the Australian Institute of Architects and serves on several architectural panels in the Anglican Church. He is trustee and honorary secretary of the Camperdown Cemetery Trust. He is a former councillor and vice president of the Royal Australian Historical Society.

He is the author of the entry for Church architecture on the *Dictionary of Sydney*, and the very substantial entries for Edmund Thomas Blacket and John Horbury Hunt in the *Encyclopedia of Australian Architecture.*

Heritage pear tree remnant of Woodford Academy orchard bears fruit

IT WASN'T A PARTRIDGE IN THE PEAR TREE from the English carol lyrics first published in 1780, but it was four pears in a tree, the image captured by Elizabeth Burgess on a delightful festive greetings e-mail from Woodford Academy which leapt off the computer screen just before Christmas 2013.

Closer inspection revealed the pears had been growing on what is probably a heritage tree planted at Woodford Academy in the time of Alfred Fairfax's occupation circa 1868 -1880s.

Local professional horticulturalist and former horticulturalist teacher with TAFE, Doug Knowles has recently inspected the tree and suggests it could be as old as 150 years.

Mr Knowles says that the tree is in an advanced state of decreptitude. It has very short incremental seasonal growth and extensive wood rot.

"What we see are the remains of a very old tree easily one of the original trees. It could have been planted 150 years ago :1860/70," Mr Knowles has suggested.

"The Camden Park Catalogue of 1857 liists 31 cultivated varieties,

This magnificent image of the pears fruiting on what may well be a heritage tree on land adjacent to Wooford Academy was taken by Elizabeth Burgess, Woodford Academy Management Committee - summer of 2013

but no descriptions and I cannot therefore cast any light on its varietal name," Mr Knowles said.

Fairfax bought the property in 1868 from the widow of William Buss.

Buss had conducted an inn which was licensed as 'The Kings Arms' in 1855. The establishment was more popularly known as Buss' Inn.

There had been an inn on the property since circa 1834 with Thomas Pembroke having been granted 2 acres of land in 1831.

Pembroke named the inn 'The Woodman' and lived there with his wife and 6 children.

The inn provided food and lodgings for travellers from Sydney on their way to Bathurst and the western plains. Soldiers and colonial officials were some of their guests.

In 1835 Pembroke was granted a further 48 acres at what was then known as Twenty Mile Hollow

Pembroke fell on hard times, heavily mortgaging the property and being sentenced to 2 years on a road gang for stealing slabs of wood at Springwood.

His sentence was later reduced to one year but forced him to sell the property in 1839.

But back to the pears and in particular the tree which is most likely to be the last remnant of an orchard and garden planted for Fairfax who developed the property as a gentleman's residence.

Continued page 9

The pear tree in all its glory of spring bloom. Photograph by Elizabeth Burgess, Woodfrod Academy Management Committee - spring 2013

Pear tree probably planted 150 years ago in Alfred Fairfax's orchard

Continued from page 8

Fairfax renamed his home, 'Woodford House' and built the second storey east wing primarily to accommodate his Sydney friends and their servants.

It became an exclusive retreat for Fairfax and his friends.

During his time at Woodford he bought more land circa 1868 and then owned 90 acres on which he created an orchard and house garden to provide fresh food for his guests.

One of the more notable events at Woodford House was in 1874 when members of the scientific community visited the Fairfax property to observe the transit of Venus. Portable observatories were set up in tents for the observations.

In 1897 losing money in his financial dealings in mining ventures, Alfred Fairfax sold the house to a David Flannery who subdivided the property and sold some of the land.

The fruit in the picture on this page is in fact a China pear, not very good for eating unless cooked or made into bottling fruit and chutney.

REFERENCES

1. Leary, Nanette *A Brief History of Woodford Academy*. 2004 Friends of Woodford Academy.

2. I am also grateful to Hazelbrook historian and author Ken Goodlet who has knowledge of the tree's more recent existence having sighted a 1943 aerial photograph in which a grown tree appears in the location of the subject tree.
3. I also acknowledge the advice of Sun Valley horticulturist and current president of Glenbrook District Historical Society Doug Knowles who recently visited the site to examine the tree and its gnarled trunk.
4. Finally, I pay tribute to Elizabeth Burgess for her skills as a photographer and the inititiave and innovating use of the image as a greeting card and for the promotion of Woodford Academy which stands on the site which has been occupied by a building longer than anywhere on the Blue Mountains.

100 years of wedding dresses at Everglades 1880 to 1980

Photograph credit: © Cavalcade - Timeline Photography

The Friends of Everglades are holding a fabulous display of wedding dresses through the ages staged by The North Shore Cavalcade of History and Fashion. The presentation is accompanied by a fascinating talk on changes to wedding dresses over the years.

at the Leura Golf Club
1 Sublime Point Road, Leura
on Saturday 12 April 2014
2pm.

$35 per person
$30 National Trust members
includes afternoon tea.

Bookings essential - phone Anita McIlwrath 4784 1974 or Birgitta Sandstrom 0448 219 254

Jazz in the artist'sgardens

THIS VERY popular Jazz in the Garden event celebrates the birthday of one of Australia's finest artists Norman Lindsay.

This event is scheduled for Saturday, February 22, 2014 from 5 to 9pm in the gardens of the Norman Lindsay Gallery, Faulconbridge

This vibrant picnic event attracts 800 jazz lovers from all over NSW, the very popular legendary Galapagos Duck will perform jazz classics and some upbeat jazz-rock from the gallery verandah.

Now is the time to organise your group of family and friends.

Bring with you some food and beverages, chair or blanket, free parking is included as is admission to the gallery.

The Friends of the Norman Lindsay Gallery and Galapagos Duck promise this evening of jazz will be like you've never heard before.

Tickets: adult $30, children $15 members $25.

Enquiries: (02) 4751 1067
info@normanlindsay.com

Wendy Hawkes to talk about the Cooks

THE LIVES of Sir Joseph Cook and Dame Mary Cook will be the topic for the guest speaker, Wendy Hawkes at a BMACHO general meeting to be held on Saturday, February 8, at the Paragon Restaurant, Katoomba.

Wendy Hawkes, is the cultural development officer with Lithgow City Council and curator at Eskbank House, Lithgow, where an exhibition about the Cooks was recently staged.

Wendy was to have been the guest speaker at a general meeting last year, however the meeting was cancelled because of the bushfires which raged through the Blue Mountains and Lithgow.

The Cooks moved to Lithgow in 1886 and Sir Joseph worked in the Vale of Clwydd Colliery as he studied and worked his way up through the unions and into politics. He became prime minister 27 years later.

A light lunch will be provided, in the Paragon (at BMACHO expense), at approximately 12.30 pm

After lunch, from 1.30 pm to 3.30 pm (or earlier) a workshop will be conducted, where a suggested format for an "Explorers Cultural Trail" brochure will be presented.

Those attending the workshop will be asked for input into this project.

Please RSVP by email j.koperberg@bigpond.com or phone Jan Koperberg on (02) 4751 5834

When: Saturday, February 8, 2014 from 10.30 am to 3.30 pm **Where:** Paragon Restaurant, Katoomba Street, Katoomba.
Cost to participants: FREE.

Wendy Hawkes

HMS Bounty cannonball on display

A CANNONBALL from HMS Bounty is currently part of an exhibition at Hawkesbury Regional Museum at Windsor.

A very special recent acquisition, the cannonball is from HMS Bounty, infamous as the vessel whose crew mutinied and cast off their commander, William Bligh.

This is one of the best-known stories in the English-speaking world, and to have a material part of it in a local museum is very exciting, particularly because of Bligh's association with the Hawkesbury:

After the mutiny, Bligh came to New South Wales as governor, and helped the Hawkesbury to recover from the disastrous flood of 1806.

He established a farm for himself at present-day Pitt Town, installing Andrew Thompson as manager, and was supported by the people of the Hawkesbury in the conflict with John Macarthur and his cronies that culminated in what became known as the Rum Rebellion.

The relic is a donation by Barry Craft, who spent time on Pitcairn Island and was given the cannonball, as well as a replica of HMS Bounty made from local timber and using actual Bounty nails.
For more details T: 4560 4655
museum@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au

Yvonne Jenkins memorial award

YVONNE JENKINS of Rydal was a well known family historian and author of several books on family history in the Bowenfels, Rydal and surrounding areas.

She was the convenor of the Lithgow and District Family History Society in 1986 and encouraged members to write stories about their ancestors.

The Lithgow and District Family History Society has chosen to commemorate Ms Jenkins memory each year by conducting the Yvonne Jenkins Memorial Award.

Entry is open to members and non-members of the society and is in the form of a short essay (1000 words).

The topic for the 2014 award is "My Ancestor was a…..".

The winner will receive a certificate and one year's membership of the society.

Entries close on April 30 and must be accompanied by an entry form, available on the society's websitewww.lisp.com.au/ldfhs.

DIARY DATE; Blue Mountains History Conference at the Carrington Hotel, Katoomba May 10, 2014 j.koperberg@bigpond.com

Lesser known accounts of early and mid-19th Century journeys over the Blue Mountains

by Peter Rickwood

Dr Peter Rickwood the researcher and author of this article is a regular contributor to *HERITAGE and* in describing some of the perils faced by lesser known travellers than the three celebrated explorers, he has meticulously transcribed reports which have appeared in the earliest publications of the colony.

Peter is currently the editor of BMACHO's *Blue Mountains History Journal* which late last year released its fourth online edition although hard copies are available and will in time become a collector's item. He is a member of Blue Mountains Historical Society and its former president.

Introduction

The diaries of Blaxland, Lawson and Wentworth relating to their discovery of a route over the Blue Mountains in 1813, of Evans in extending that route to Bathurst in 1814, and of Cox in building the road, all predate the type of journey that is of concern here.

Well known, and often cited, are the descriptions of journeys over the Blue Mountains road that were collated by Mackaness in his "Fourteen Journeys"[1]. Amongst these are accounts of travel on the 'road' by Antill (1815), Macquarie (1815), Quoy, Guadichaud and Pellion (1819), Hawkins (1822), Field (1822), Lesson (1824), Dumaresq (1827), Backhouse (1835), Darwin (1836), Meredith (1839) and Stanger (1841) - many published long after the year of their journey. Accounts by 'celebrities' such as Louisa Meredith[2] and Rachel Henning[3] have recently been followed by John Low's discussion of the travels of Mrs Mary Elizabeth Martindale.[4]

But lying in the newspaper archives are some enchanting and graphic descriptions by lesser mortals whose turn of phrase warrants repeating. [The quality of copies of newspaper extracts is seldom good so what follows are carefully made transcriptions.]

The Journey Commences

In 1858 one writer, appalled by the opposing traffic on the road, pleaded for a railway:

> "The first thing that attracts the attention of the traveller leaving Sydney for the far west is the long string of drays laden with wood for the fires of the good people of that city, which he so frequently encounters, and as he passes dray after dray, with the miserable horses crawling and staggering under their heavy loads, he cannot but wonder why the railway is not available to this purpose, and so much labour and horse flesh devoted to some more useful and profitable occupation."[5]

A railway service to Penrith did not commence until July 1862[6] so prior to that year horse conveyances still had to be used and another who travelled in 1855 described the harrowing conditions encountered before even reaching the Nepean River:

> "I crossed the eastern creek, and on descending the hill opposite Minchinbury was enveloped in a perfect quagmire. There I got stuck up to the axel, and but for the assistance of two friendly good-natured bullock drivers, who lent their aid, I might have remained at the mercy of the elements all the live-long night.
>
> After being released from this unpleasant dilemma, and scraping off the mud and dirt which was pretty heavy and thick upon my members, I made an effort to get along through a mere pond of mud and slush knee-deep, for half-a-mile long. Oh ! shade of M'Adam, thy mantle has not yet descended upon the sapient members of the trust for this great thoroughfare, for it is sadly, it is grossly neglected; the chasms and rents which stand yawning wide to embowel man and horse, are fearful to contemplate."[7].

And with that traveller's experience already soured it is not surprising to read his summary:

> "It was my fate some days since, from urgent circumstances, to make a journey to the western interior for the first time, and I earnestly hope it may be the last, for the dangers and difficulties I have experienced through the execrable state of the roads, and other obstacles were truly appalling."

Figure 1. Emu Ferry - sketch by Conrad Martens, 15 May 1835
State Library of NSW, DL PX 24/No.3
http://www.acmssearch.sl.nsw.gov.au/search/itemDetailPaged.cgi?itemID=446239 <Accessed 6 January 2014>

Continued page 12

Crossing the Nepean River

Crossing the Nepean River in those times was quite an 'adventure' (Figure 1), an informative account of which was published anonymously in 1858:

> "A quarter of an hour's drive brings us to the banks of the Nepean, which have a gradual slope down to the river. The punt is all ready, and we are slowly driven into it, coach, horses, passengers, and baggage; but the puntman is not quite ready; he presently shows up, and with provoking coolness sets about adjusting preliminaries for our puntation across the river, which is a fine sheet of water. About a quarter of an hour, or perhaps more, is spent in slowly dragging us over, by means of hawsers extended from one bank to the other, and traversing over certain pulleys fixed to a kind of hand-rail or frame, which protects the passengers and cattle from falling over the sides of the punt. This piece of business is an index to the whole history of travelling on the Great Western Road. Nearly seventy years have passed away since the colony was founded; vast strides have been made by us in the interval, in settlement and civilization, but we still use the rude punt to cross the Nepean. The Western District yields a large revenue to the public treasury, and yet we have not a bridge across the Nepean, distant only 33 miles from the metropolis." [8]

But the real journey was only about to begin and according to this description even the approach to the Lapstone Hill proved uncomfortable as late as 1858:

> "After a great deal of pulling, and tugging, and straining, we are conveyed across in our barbarous conveyance; the chain in front of the horses is cast off, and away they plunge as if eager for a gallop; but they are now on the wrong side of the Nepean for galloping. Large boulders crop out of the ground as if they had been purposely placed there to upset the coach and break our necks.

'…with a crash and a bump; the shock is tremendous; your seat seems to leave you in mid-air, and down you come with a horrible jolt…'

> The horses make a desperate plunge; the wheels slowly rotate until they have arrived at the apex of these egg-shaped stones, when, all of a sudden, down go the front wheels with a crash and a bump; the shock is tremendous; your seat seems to leave you in mid-air, and down you come with a horrible jolt which shocks your whole frame, your teeth coming together with a gnash which sends fire out of your eyes; your bones knock against each other as though they would break off short, and you now for the first time begin to realise the dreadful stories of your friends about the Western Road. Shock No. 1 is the initiatory shock; shocks *ad infinitum* follow closely upon its heels; you almost feel inclined to implore the driver to stop and let you out were it not for very shame. By this time you get on to the last decent piece of road between the Bathurst Plains and the Nepean, and are whirled over Emu Plains at the rate of about eight miles an hour."[9].

The Ascent of Lapstone Hill

An 1827 account of an ascent contrasts with those of most travellers who have described this obstacle in terms amounting to 'horrendous' (Figure 2):

> "The first ascent of the Blue Mountains, by this new Lapstone Hill is excellent. It would be perfectly practicable to take over, as I said before, a train of twenty-four pounders. ... it would ... be a fine sight to see fifty bullocks harnessed to a gun marching in array up the bristling hill."[10]

Nevertheless the topography was deemed to be 'frightening' even in 1858:

> "A couple of miles over a rough cobblestone road now carries you, across the Emu Plains, to the foot of the Blue Mountains, and here you commence the ascent of Lapstone Hill.

Figure 2. Lapstone Hill - watercolour (no date) by Samuel Thomas Gill (1818-1880).

Dixson Galleries, State Library of NSW DG v*/Sp Coll/Gill/12

http://www.acmssearch.sl.nsw.gov.au/search/itemDetailPaged.cgi?itemID=840625

<Accessed 6 January 2014>

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After a short distance, you find yourself on a broad road escarped from the side of a tremendous precipice of sandstone formation, and following the windings of a deep chasm; on the left, the rock rises some hundreds of feet in perpendicular height above you, crowned with loose masses, hundreds of tons in weight, which seem ever about to fall, and, like an avalanche, crush all beneath them; on the right, you look down for a fearful height when nothing is to be seen but heavy masses of rock, dark sombre looking trees, and scrub clinging to the side of the precipice, which gradually fade into gloom and darkness; while the precipitous and rocky mountain on the opposite side covered with stunted trees, casts his shadow over the road and seems to defy the power of man to reach his summit. The ravine now becomes more and more shallow as you proceed, and a sudden turn in the road leads to a fine bridge of one arch, over which the escarped way takes a sharp turn or two, and leaving the ravine and precipices behind soon leads to the top of the mountain and places you upon a table land from which you will not descend for forty miles. The road up the pass is in good condition, with the exception of a couple of hundred tons of rock piled upon the bridge for the purpose either of testing the strength of the arch, or trying the skill of the teamsters who have sufficient to contend with in the sharp turn on both sides."[11]

On the Lower Blue Mountains

Conditions were still bad in 1858 immediately after the ascent:

"... to the top of Lapstone Hill, two miles beyond Wascoe's Inn, the road becomes very bad, the naked rocks protruding, and rendering it almost impassable; a little further on a Canadian cord wood road has been laid down for about a quarter of a mile, the logs used being in the round and of unequal diameter, rendering the floor rough, and the vibration of the timber irregular – consequently it is full of mud holes, and forms one of the worst parts of a bad road. Still further on, and a patch of squared log work occurs; this is much better, and appears to stand, but is not equal to the sawn plank."[12]

'…I discovered a large white tarantula, about the size of a dollar, just over my head…'

And just a decade after the road had been completed, even a horse ride could be a challenging experience as was found in 1827:

"We now rode on for Springwood, and had an unpleasant ride the last six or seven miles in the dark, the road not being here so good, many stumps being left standing in the middle, on which my tired horse made a frequent stumble. From Sydney to Springwood in one day is no joke, to one not accustomed to the saddle: and I thought this ten or twelve miles in the dark, longer than all the rest of the journey put together. Once or twice, from the blackness of the night, and the narrowness of the road, I got into the bush, till suddenly brought up by a thick scrub, which the horse could not penetrate, or receiving a knock on the head from an impending bough, I was obliged to exert my lungs and cooey out for my companion, who cooeyed in return, and by the sound of his voice I was enabled to find my way back to the road. I thought we should never get to Springwood, and from the horrid length of the miles, had I been asked, at the moment, how I liked the Blue Mountains, I must certainly have answered with Maiochi '*piu no que si.*' At last the yelping of some dozen angry curs, resounding through the silent forest, gave symptoms of the abode of man – it must be Springwood – but it was a miserable melancholy hole – not a glimmer of light of any kind shone askaunt (*sic*) the lofty trees, and but for the noisy dogs, we might have passed it in the dark. I got off my saddle with a slight groan, and was soon convinced by the dark dungeon-appearance of the place, we were not exactly on the Bath road. "How many quarts of corn shall I give your horses?" said a private of the 57th regt. one of the road party under charge of a corporal usually stationed at this first stage of the Mountain road. I had previously heard that our horses would be very badly off going over the Mountains, but I was not prepared to hear of corn being sold by the quart. I thought I could not do better than refer the good natured soldier to the horse himself, and requested he might have for his supper as much as he could eat."[13]

Before the coming of the railway to Wentworth Falls in June 1867 and to Mount Victoria in May 1868[14], establishments on the Mountains often only provided 'very basic' accommodation and at Springwood in 1827 it could be zoologically 'interesting':

"I discovered a large white tarantula, about the size of a dollar, just over my head, upon a piece of cotton that served as a curtain to the couch or bed, outside of which we lay. We had made up our minds to fleas and bugs in quantity, and were not disappointed, but had made no reckoning for any of the spider species; my companion therefore seized a fork to run this tarantula through, but though an excellent shot in general, he missed his aim, and the tarantula fell down upon the bed, ... As an additional comforter to us, one of the soldiers in the adjoining room cried out "ah! there's a good many tarantulopes (*sic*) in that 'ere room." So what with the fleas, bugs, and the aforesaid tarantulopes, and the noise of two entire horses, who were fighting and kicking one another all night, loose in the paddock, we had not a wink of sleep, and were glad to jump out of our dungeon at the first peep of day."[15]

'…the passengers drunk, to the annoyance of the sober…'

Continued from page 13

Coach travellers were at the mercy of the driver when it came to the number and frequency of the stops. One in 1858 wrote that after leaving the Pilgrim Inn at Blaxland:

> "Thus we go on hour after hour, stopping at public-houses where there is no need whatever to stop, but to make one portion of the passengers drunk, to the annoyance of the sober portion, and to fritter away the time which would be infinitely better spent by the post-master in Bathurst, on the following evening, in sorting and delivering the letters to the good people of that town, about whom the mail contractor or his servants do not appear to care very much."[16]

Some parts of the Western Road were particularly bleak in the early years of its existence:

> "Near the 16 mile tree, for the trees are marked all the way to Bathurst, is the spot where some years ago, a gentleman of the name of O'Brien lost himself. It is supposed he left the ridge for the purpose of obtaining water for himself or horse, and going into the dell, met with some accident, and died, as he has never since been heard of. The horse was found some weeks afterwards, grazing on the mountain road with his saddle on. It is a melancholy spot, – "all the evils of dereliction rush upon the thoughts." We imagine the dying unfortunate, ..."[17]

There is a corroborating, but less detailed, report of that disappearance[18] without specifying that location, which is not a well known modern site – so where was the 16 mile tree ? William Cox wrote in his diary:

> "August 26. — At 10 a.m. arrived at Martin's ..."
>
> "August 27. — Measured to the 16th mile, immediately after which the ground got very rocky, and in half-a-mile we came to a high mountain, which will cost much labour to make a road over."[19]
>
> "September 3. — ... The road finished to Caley's heap of stones, 17¾ miles".[20]

[Evans saw Caley's Heap of Stones on the ridge at the W end of the boundary between numbers 2 & 3 Caley Lane, Linden[21], from where Cox reported that there was a view of "A table rock..." [22]. The identity of that summit is uncertain; it might be what is now known as 'Flat Top' (Figure 3A) which lay c.14 km to the WNW in the direction that they were travelling, or more likely it was the more prominent feature which in 1804 Caley called 'Table Hill' (Figure 3B) that is c.20 km to the NNW.

Irrespective, that comment indicates that it relates to a vantage point on the top of the ridge whereas the present location of Caley's Repulse (as it is now called - Figure 4) is below the ridge line so it cannot be in the original position - the offset from the true location is c.50 m in an ENE direction.]

Based on that measurement and measuring along the route of Evans

Figure 4. The present location of Caley's Repulse.
Photograph: Peter Rickwood, 2013

Survey, the 16 mile mark was between Faulconbridge and Linden at about Weemala Avenue. Thereabouts is the junction of four deep valleys (Figure 5) with Weemala Avenue having been constructed along a narrow ridge trending to the NNW and Cox's Road (now the Great Western Highway) along a NE-SW aligned narrow ridge - a fire prone and bleak spot indeed.

Figure 5. Topographic map of East Linden. © Land and Property Information NSW 2013 © City of Blue Mountains 2013

The "high mountain" mentioned by Cox was the summit where today is Linden reservoir[2]

[3].

Continued page 15

Figure 3A. Flat Top

Figure 3B. Mount Bell (aka Table Hill)
Photographs: Peter Rickwood 2013

'…the sooner we get off the mountain the better…'

Continued from page 14

When travellers eventually got to Lawson (Figure 6) in 1855 the road conditions ahead were no better:

> "At Perry's Blue Mountain Inn, which is reached a little before noon, and which terminates another stage, the country descends, forming a valley, above which, in the distance, tower the mountains from which the inn takes its name. Hitherto, the roads, although nowhere as good as could be desired, have been tolerably firm and regular. After leaving the Inn just named, however, a striking change for the worse begins to be perceptible. In some places, the rock appears at a very dangerous height above the sand and gravel with which the road is covered; while in other places, wide and deep ruts render very careful driving necessary, in order to keep at a distance the probability of an upset."[24]

But further on there were inns to distract travellers, such as at Woodford and Wentworth Falls:

> "Well, here is the Twenty-Mile Hollow. Don't go in! "Why ?" you ask. Simply because we wish to perform a day's journey, and if we once get in there, our day's work is at an end, for the agreeable host and hostess will surround you with so many comforts that you cannot leave them to face the d—d ugly road again. The sooner we get off the mountain the better, so let us push on to the "Weatherboard," which is a very decent inn; the present proprietor has made wonderful alterations – in fact, completely metamorphosed the place, and *it wanted it (sic)*." [25]

> Even in 1827 Wentworth Falls was a 'settlement' of note (Figures 7 & 8), but this description would not have appeal for a modern traveller!

Figure 6. The second Blue Mountain Inn - built 1875.
Royal Australian Historical Society Inc., Walker Collection U0152

> "The weather boarded hut was only two miles further; and there we refreshed, at the highest inhabited spot, of the Blue Mountains. It is a bleak and forbidding place, at the entrance of Jamison's Valley; the soil, is a wet and rotten peat, that after the least shower, will take a horse up to the girths at every step. In addition to the corporal's party stationed in this sterile region, we were surprised at finding an opposition shop newly opened, for the entertainment of travellers. What will not the spirit of English competition bring about ! Here we are in one of the wildest spots in nature, thirty miles in the midst of the mountains of Australia, and nearly 4000 feet high; and yet the question arose "which house shall we go to?" We patronised the nearest, and found ourselves and horses, after a couple of hours, all the better for the rest."[27]

Establishments on the Mountains only provided 'survival' food, and even as late as 1858 that was not always available:

> "Daylight breaks in and we draw up to get a cup of coffee at a public-house some distance from the road side; we get a cup of some kind of decoction (*sic*) resembling coffee in colour, but in all other respects tasting like burnt maize, sans milk, sans flavour, sans relish; having hastily swallowed the cup of coffee, the modest charge of one shilling is made, and we set forth upon our journey once more. A couple of hours driving bring us to Black Heath, where we ought to have breakfast if matters were properly arranged, but where we cannot from some cause of which everyone is ignorant."[28]

Thus what we now know as the Upper Blue Mountains was reached, and according to this 1858 writer the road improved although he seems to have misconceived ideas about the slope of the land!

> "The traveller has now a desert mountain road before him. From the soft and friable nature of the sandstone – the only stone to be obtained along the ridge for many miles – it is in the worst possible condition, and with this material it is equally impossible to keep it in repair. The road for the whole distance to Mount Victoria is carried along the crown of a ridge, with frequent escarpments, to avoid the many rocky peaks and summits that occur in its course;

'Finally the descent from Mount Victoria had to be faced.'

Continued from page 15

it rises by easy gradients until it reaches the Weatherboard Hut, and then gradually descends to the top of Mount Victoria. It requires nothing but a hard solid roadway to make it one of the best mountain roads in the world; as it is, it may be classed with the worst."[29].

Finally the descent from Mount Victoria had to be faced. In 1827 the unstated route was by Lawsons Long Alley:

> "The descent down Mount York did not surprise me, after so much has been said about it. It was the new road and comparatively easy. It is perfectly safe, but rather too narrow, as it will soon become cut up by water channels, after a winter's rain. It should be at least twice the present breadth, with a deep grooved gutter on the high side for the water, and a low parapet on the off-side, of solid stone work, with numerous holes underneath, like scuppers in a ship's deck, to let the water off. We soon arrived at the bottom, where the ground was strewed with fallen trees, in great numbers, all regularly arranged by the road side. As the country was by no means thinly timbered, I could not conceive what these trees were intended for. They all appeared more or less black by age; and it was only after my companion had rode up from the rear, that I understood how the trees came there. ... It appears that all carts coming down the Big Hill, as this is called, must, ere (*?sic*) they descend, cut down a tree at the top, to fix behind the dray, instead of locking the wheel. They were all of great weight and size, and I should have thought much too large for such a purpose."[30]

However by 1848 the Pass of Mount Victoria had long been completed and was then the normal route off the Blue Mountains, but this 'better' descent still troubled some travellers:

> "Descending Mount Victoria by a somewhat precipitous road, covered with loose stones like cannon balls, a viaduct presents itself, connecting the road which is about to be left behind, with a road cut out of the rock in an opposite mountain. This viaduct or causeway is, at a rough guess, about one hundred yards long, is about sufficiently wide barely to allow of two teams passing each other, should such an emergency ever arise, is according to one of the passengers on the coach, who is familiar with the district, 1000 feet high, and is curbed (*?*) on either side by a row of small flags placed upright, end to end. This peculiar parapet which I previously had occasion to notice along the road, gives the causeway a baby-house appearance which contrasts most singularly with the stupendous nature of the works in other respects. Passing to the other side, the descent commences towards Hartley, which is now about four miles distant, the road being, for some length, somewhat similar to that at Lapstone Hill – the hewn rock ascending on one side, while on the other the gully precipitously descends almost interminably. Here is shown the spot where, a short time since, the mail coach went over, killing two passengers out of seven. ... , where the broken carriage remains to this day."[31]

Acknowledgement

I am grateful to Graham Warmbath (Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc.) for providing electronic files of Figures 7 and 8.

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Figure 7. The Weatherboard Hut (1814-c.1836)[26] - 1815 watercolour by John William Lewin (1770-1819). State Library of NSW; PXE 888/3

Early journeys in the Blue Mountains

Continued from page 16

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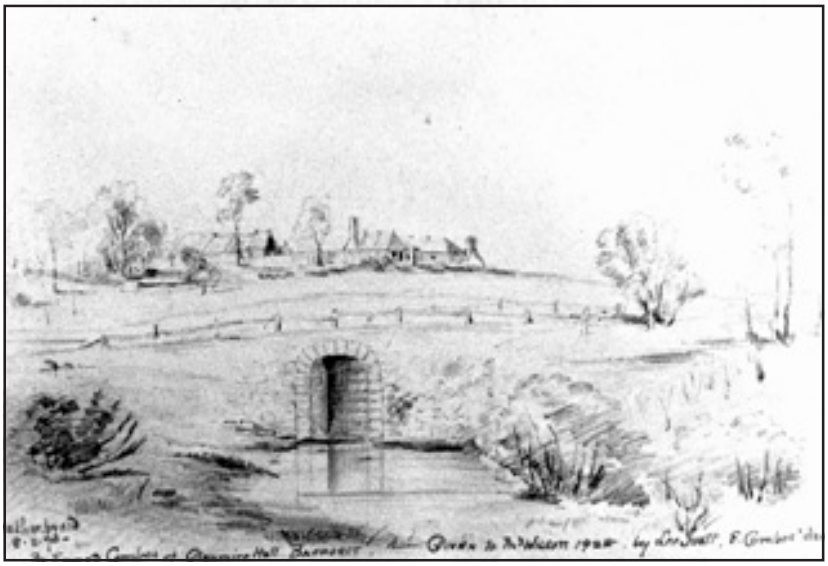


Figure 8. The Weatherboard Inn (1826-c.1880) - 1873 sketch by Edward Coombes (1830-1895).
Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc., P1238

Honour for Andrew Tink

POPULAR former politician, and historian Andrew Tink (pictured) was listed in the 2014 Australia Day Honours list and becomes a (AM) Member of the Order of Australia.

Andrew was recognised for his services to the NSW Parliament, local history and the law.

He has been a great supporter of BMACHO and its member societies being readily available as an excellent speaker.

He has had published three major works: *William Charles Wentworth - Australia's greatest native son; Lord Sydney - The Life of Tommy Townshend*; and *Air Disaster Canberra - The plane crash that destroyed a government.* In July 2013, Tink was appointed as an Adjunct Professor at the Macquarie University Law School.

Joan Smith retires to Melbourne

JOAN SMITH who was highly respected locally for her work as Blue Mountains Historical Society's research officer, has retired from this position.

She is going to live in Melbourne to be close to her daughter and family. This is a loss for the society which will be deeply felt for some time to come.

President of Blue Mountains Historical Society, Mrs Judy Barham said: "Joan joined the Society in 1997. She became research officer and secretary in 2004.

"Joan was an active committee member until she retired from the committee in 2011 while still remaining research officer.

"Joan's contribution to the society has been enormous.

"She has done the research required for over 1,000 house histories which has greatly added to the pool of local knowledge in our files.

"Often phone queries came in which she could answer without hesitation.

"Members with that pool of knowledge are hard to replace. It takes time, dedication and an inquiring mind.

"She was highly regarded by members of the Blue Mountains City Council for whom she did occasional research," Mrs Barham said.

Members of the society who want a quick answer to a question, will no longer be able to say "Let's ask Joan. She'll know".

"We will miss you Joan but the society is so grateful to you for the great contribution you made and we wish you well in your new life."

Joan Smith was a member of the original management committee of the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations and her valuable contribution was appreciated.

The railway to the west

Doug Knowles

AS ALL STUDENTS will know the Blue Mountains was first crossed by Europeans in 1813 and within a very short time Evans had surveyed a route and Cox and his party of convicts had built a road to Bathurst. It wasnot until the late1860s when the Lapstone Hill section of the western railway was conquered that the real movement stock and grain was able to be achieved.

Cost constraints by the colonial government meant that expensive tunnels could not be built, so a zig zag layout was devised to get the single track line over the top of Lapstone Hill.

The limitations of the zig zag were later eased by by building a single track tunnel through the top of the ridge in 1892.

This single track tunnel created almost as many problems as it was supposed to solve. In 1910 it was decided to build a double track railway through the Glenbrook Creek Gorge.

President of Glenbrook and District Historical Society, Doug Knowles who has lived in the area most of his life with his inquisitive mind is an excellent choice as a speaker on this subject at this Blue Mountains History Confernce on May 10 at the Carrington Hotel, Katoomba.

For conference bookings contact Jan Koperberg
j.koperberg@bigpond.com

Sydney's hard rock story
...the cultural heritage of trachyte

WHAT IS TRACHYTE and how did it become the unsung hero of Sydney's building stones?

The answer is found in this fascinating story of how hard stone quarried in the Southern Highlands of NSW became the city's most important stone after sandstone.

The title provides an apt description: trachyte was Sydney's hard rock.

Sandstone with all its virtues was the premier building stone of Sydney's early and middle years but trachyte had qualities sandstone lacked and so it perfectly complemented the 'yellowblock" of our heritage buildings.

Sydney's hard rock provided what sandstone, with all its beauty, could not provide.

This tough, distinctively coloured igneous stone was first quarried at Mount Gibraltar near Bowral in the 1880s and soon began appearing in the kerbs and gutters along the growing city's streets.

Soon it was adopted by builders and architects and can still be seen overhead in the keystones of the great buildings as well as under foot, in myriad small and large scale projects throughout New South Wales and beyond.

Its importance in the city is why the authors have called their tale *Sydney's Hard Rock Story.*

The book traces trachyte's extensive uses, starting with its geology and some of the dramas of Bowral's 'Gib' and its quarrymen.

It continues by examining its basic utilitarian beginnings like kerbing. After designers were awakened to its qualities they used trachyte to create some of our finest monuments, foundation stones, commemorative plaques and paving.

350 George Street, Sydney, formerly The Equitable Life Assurance Society of the United States building. Its American architect, Edward Raht, believed it would last 'a thousand years'. The facade is almost entirely of trachyte.

A special feature of the book, showcasing many fine and surprising examples of this special stone, is the illustrated trachyte walk in central Sydney. Handsomely illustrated throughout with 245 illustrations including 25 colour photographs.

Publication date: April 2014 **Retail price:** $29.95

Potential readers: Those fascinated with Sydney's built environment, architects, and engineers.

The authors

ROBERT IRVING is an architectural historian, a fellow and former president of the Royal Australian Historical Society (1987) and was a senior lecturer in architecture at UNSW.

He was the co-author of *Identifying Australian Architecture* published in 1989 as well as several other works including *First Views of Australia 1788 - 1825, The History and Design of the Australian House* and *Fine Houses of Sydney.*

RON POWELL is an architect and stone consultant. For a decade until recently he was manager of the NSW Centenary Stonework program, which provides strategic approach to the 'catch-up' of state-owned, heritage stone buildings and monuments; he was also landscape director for Darling Harbour and public domain co-ordinator for the Pyrmont/Ultimo Redevelopment.

A resident of the Blue Mountains Ron is a member of the Blue Mountains City Council's Heritage Advisory Committee.

NOEL IRVING is a research assistant and picture researcher who has worked on publications including *Paradise Purgatory Hell Hole* and *Twentieth Century Architecture in Wollongong*.

He was co-author of *Donald Thomas Esplin Architect: His Life and Work.*

Noel has also served as a member of Sydney City Council's Sandstone and Trachyte Committee.

Wasteland, Wilderness, Wonderland.

Getting to know Sydney's Sandstone Country
Gil Jones

Wasteland, Wilderness, Wonderland is the latest publication produced by Blue Mountain Education Research Trust (BMERT) at Lawson.

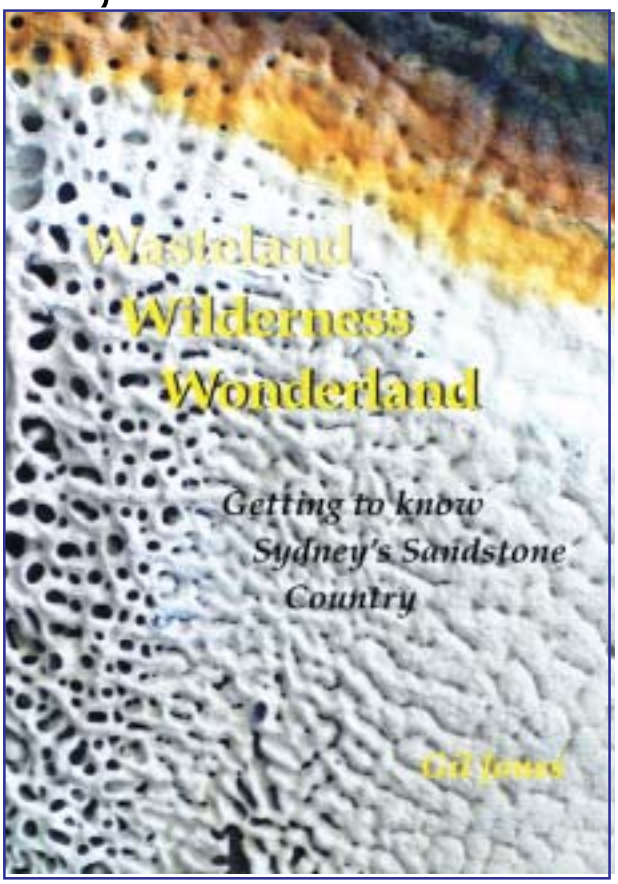
The official launch of Gil Jones book will be at Jamison Park, Wentworth Falls on Saturday, 12 noon on February 1, 2014.

Other publications produced by BMERT, can be viewed at their websitehttp://www.catholica.com.au/marketplace/bmert/ or contact BMACHO secretary, Jan Koperberg j.koperberg@bigpond.com for a full list, with jpgs of the covers and a descriptive list of the publications.

BMERT encourages those with interesting historical and cultural heritage research to commit it to paper and have it published. The books are beautifully illustrated and would make a fine gift.

The following is the description for *Wasteland, Wilderness, Wonderland*: Sydney city stands on the eastern rim of a shallow basin defined by deeply dissected sandstone plateaus encircling the lowlands of western Sydney and extending west to Lithgow, north to the Hunter Valley, and south to the Illawarra escarpment.

In this book, surveyors, scientists, writers and artists are joined in the physical and intellectual exploration of Sydney's sandstone country – its landscape and landscape history, and its distinctively Australian vegetation with its Gondwanan inheritance.



Also recalled is the ruthless dispossession of its first people whose rock engravings and cave paintings provide a glimpse of a sense of country and belonging which is critical to a fulfilled future in this privileged place.

Recommended retail price - $40 including GST, plus postage and handling ISBN 978-0-646-91496-1

Accolades for *HERITAGE*

THROUGH THE YEARS we have received numerous e-mail and communications congratulating those associated with the production of *HERITAGE* and this encouragement is really appreciated.

We strive for excellence, but regret that some times we fall short of the mark. There are many people involved in this publication from writers, researchers and contributors to proofreaders and all deserve credit for the work they are doing to keep alive an interest in our heritage and history and promote it as a living legend.

Space will not allow the publication of each accolade received and again this edition records just a sample of those received since the last edition.

From Dr Peter Stanbury OAM – Individual member of BMACHO: *Another great issue; especially the lead article and yours about the sealing of the road. In fact full of well written news, very welcome in Phnom Penh. Elections here in a week's time, present PM has been in power for 34 years, but will be challenged this time so lots of marching, loudspeakers, roads closed and mass demonstrations here.*

From Kate Santlben: Look forward to reading *HERITAGE* and congratulations on five years of publication...

From Wendy Blaxland, author and descendant of Gregory Blaxland: Thanks so much for another great issue, and many thanks for everything you have done and continue to do to keep the history of the Blue Mountains alive.

From Len Ashworth, OAM – Editor Lithgow Mercury : Congratulations on another great effort. I love reading it (and occasionally stealing from it).

From John Low, OAM - author and historian: *Thank you for the latest edition of HERITAGE and for all the work you put into its production. It is one of the most interesting 'newsletters' around and greatly appreciated.*

From Marcia Osterberg-Olsen Mt Victoria and District Historical Society: *Thanks for the wonderful HERITAGE newsletters.*

The kangaroo that could rewrite history

AN IMAGE of what is thought to be a kangaroo on a 16th-century processional could lend weight to the theory that the Portuguese were the first explorers to set foot on Australian soil, before the Dutch or English.

The document, acquired by Les Enluminures Gallery in New York, shows a sketch of an apparent kangaroo (''canguru'' in Portuguese) nestled in its text and is dated between 1580 and 1620.

It has led researchers to believe images of the marsupial were already being circulated by the time the Dutch ship Duyfken - long thought to have been the first European vessel to visit Australia - landed in 1606.

Portugal was extremely secretive about her trade routes during this period, explaining why their presence there wasn't widely known.

The pocket-sized manuscript, known as a processional, contains text and music for a liturgical procession and is inscribed with the name Caterina de Carvalho, believed to be a nun from Caldas da Rainha in western Portugal.

Peter Trickett, an award-winning historian and author of *Beyond Capricorn*, has long argued that a Portuguese maritime expedition first mapped the coast of Australia in 1521 - 22, nearly a century before the Dutch landing.

National Library of Australia curator of maps Martin Woods said that while the image looked like a kangaroo or a wallaby, it alone was not proof enough to alter Australia's history books.

''The likeness of the animal to a kangaroo or wallaby is clear enough, but then it could be another animal in south-east Asia, like any number of deer species, some of which stand on their hind legs to feed off high branches,'' Dr Woods said.

'For now, unfortunately the appearance of a long-eared big-footed animal in a manuscript doesn't really add much.''Read more: http://www.smh.com.au/entertainment/books/16thcentury-manuscript-could-rewrite-australian-history-20140115-30vak.html#ixzz2qpBjYIoh

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

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THE ORGANISATION Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 following a unanimous response to a proposal from Professor Barrie Reynolds at the 2004 Blue Mountains Local History Conference which sought from Blue Mountains City Council the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the city.
BMACHO in its constitution uses the definition: "Cultural heritage is all aspects of life of the peoples of the Blue Mountains which was later changed to cover Lithgow and the villages along the Bell's Line of Roads. It therefore involves the recording, preserving and interpreting of information in whatever form: documents, objects, recorded memories as well as buildings and sites."
The objectives of the organisation are:

i. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage.
ii. To encourage and assist cultural heritage activities of member organisations.
iii. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations. One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact, to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

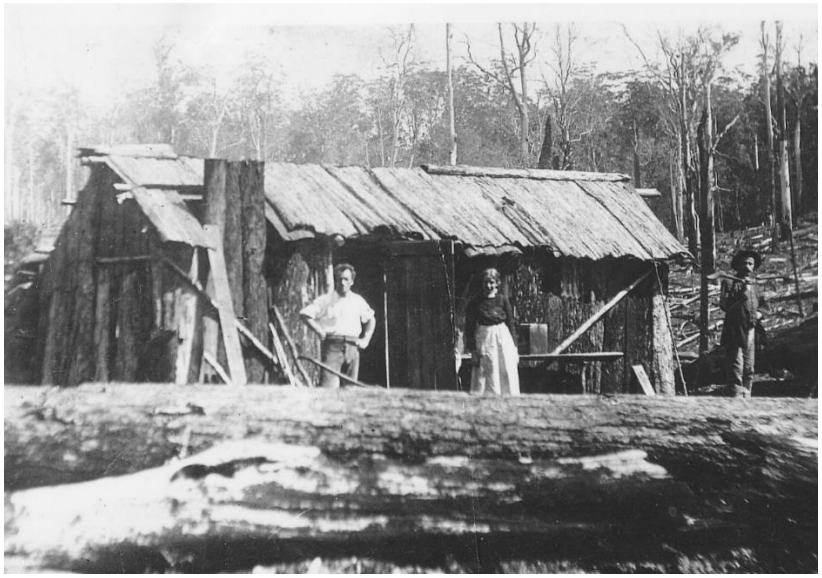
AFFILIATIONS BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society Inc.

HERITAGE BMACHO's official newsletter is edited by John Leary, OAM.
Blue Mountains History Journal is edited by Dr Peter Rickwood.

MEMBERSHIP The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mount Tomah, Blue Mountains City Library, Blue Mountains Cultural Heritage Centre, Blue Mountain Education and Research Trust, Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc., Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc., Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute, Eskbank Rail Heritage Centre, Everglades Historic House & Gardens, Friends of Norman Lindsay Gallery, Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc., Hartley Valley District Progress Association, Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc, Lithgow and District Family History Society Inc., Lithgow Mining Museum Inc., Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies, Lithgow Small Arms Factory Museum Inc, Mt Victoria and District Historical Society Inc., Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine Historical Society Inc. (including Turkish Bath Museum), Mudgee Historical Society Inc., National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Blue Mountains Branch, National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Lithgow Branch, Nepean District Historical Society Inc., Paragon Restaurant - Katoomba, Scenic World – Blue Mountains Limited, Springwood & District Historical Society Inc., Springwood Historians Inc., Transport Signal and Communication Museum Inc., The Darnell Collection Pty Ltd, Valley Heights Locomotive Depot and Museum, Woodford Academy Management Committe, Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd.
The following are individual members: Ray Christison, Associate Professor Ian Jack, Joan Kent, John Leary OAM, John Low OAM, Ian Milliss, Patsy Moppett, Professor Barrie Reynolds, Dr Peter Rickwood and Dr Peter Stanbury OAM.

COMMITTEE The committee for 2013-14 is:
John Leary, OAM (president), Ian Jack (vice president), Jan Koperberg (secretary), Kevin Frappell, Wendy Hawkes, Doug Knowles, Patsy Moppett, Dick Morony (public officer), Scott Pollock and Jean Winston.

DISCLAIMER Views and opinions expressed in ***HERITAGE*** originate from many sources and contributors. Every effort is taken to ensure accuracy of material. Content does not necessarily represent or reflect the views and opinions of BMACHO, its committee or members. If errors are found feedback is most welcome.



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The slab hut housing Hazelbrook wood supplying saw bench business owned by Joseph (left) and Florence (centre) Taggett circa 1920s. Photograph courtesy Ken Goodlet

Those Amazing Slab Huts

by Paul Wheeldon

Our earliest pioneers became renowned for their building expertise in the construction of their dwellings.

The Australian outback settler was also famous for his versatile use of the closest materials at hand.

If he had easily quarried stone and little timber, even if he had only the most elementary idea of masonry, he would probably build his habitation in stone, either in perhaps a two room hut or, if his family requirements called for greater accommodation, he would construct a cottage of several rooms.

If he was somewhat of a tradesman at all he would build a pitched roof and if it were to be a better class dwelling he would roof it in split shingles in preference to perhaps a bark roof.

By comparison the majority of outback huts or small cottages were of wooden or slab construction. The early settler learnt quickly that the old English 'wattle and daub' construction was not in any way suitable for the Australian climate.

The most common early constructions were of the 'vertical slab' type.

There were of course a considerable number of variations in their construction in this type alone.

Wingebelaley formerly Cullenbenbong, a slab hut built by Bernard O'Reilly in the Kanimbla Valley and immortalised in his son's book named like the hut. Photograph courtesy Ian Jack 1997

Primarily the frame of the building was erected, commencing with the corner posts, good solid logs of the desired height were let into the ground at least a half metre.

According to the degree of performance required they were either left round or adzed or broad axed into square shape.

Door openings and window outlets were generally indicated by posts.

In the more permanent buildings a base and top plate were prepared again not necessarily squared, by cutting a channel of perhaps 1 ½ inches wide and two inches deep in which to set the adzed and squared ends of the split up-right slabs.

Very often the based ends of the slabs were merely let into the ground, where, of course, they ultimately rotted.

The discriminating builder always used a good base plate set up off the ground on a foundation of stones and lime mortar to prevent rotting.

Stringy bark was the preferred timber for split slabs

The split edges of the slabs were nearly always adzed or squared off to ensure the best possible fit between slabs.

The roof frame was constructed from round timber 'saplings' (small young trees). It was a pitched roof often with 'hip' ends.

In an ordinary dwelling it was invariably roofed with stringy bark, or perhaps, if it was a fair size better class cottage, it may have used a wooden shingle roof requiring very much more roofing battens which has to be sawn.

Hence we do not find any real early primitive huts or houses with shingle roofs.

The early settler only had modest tools and labour so he built in the first instance the most modest dwelling.

The average settler's tool consisted of perhaps an adze, several sizes of augurs and the like, a hand-made driving maul and a set of splitting wedges, an axe, a broad or squaring axe, several hammers, a crosscut saw and possibly a shovel, crowbar and pick or mattock.

Possibly among the greater skills was the selection and preparation of the materials.

Stringy bark was the preferred timber for split slabs, or was it because there was a greater abundance of that timber?

Not only did the selected wood split straight but it was among the most durable of timber.

The discriminating timber worker was particularly fussy about selecting his trees.

It was generally accepted that either the white or red stringy bark was suitable but the tree that grew in the valley or creek beds was the best to split.

A chip would be struck off a tree under selection and the chip split readily in the hand it followed the tree would be a splitter.

Trees off the higher ground were generally the last choice, and if possible were to be avoided for this purpose.

The bark would be used for the roof and again called for some skill in its preparation.

The length would be cut around the top and bottom and then a zig-zag cut would be made from top to bottom and the whole sheet of bark peeled off in one piece. The art of preparing the bark for the roof so that it would not split was often a guarded secret by some.

The Coble family home at Yass in the 1860s (the author's paternal grandmother's family). Often the new house beside the older one and the other was used for other purposes.

It consisted of keeping it rolled up and almost immediately stood over a small fire so that it was virtually a chimney.

According to the condition of the bark it would be roasted, so to speak, for perhaps half-an-hour and then probably turned end for end to complete the process.

The sheets were then carefully laid out on the ground and weighted down flat before being placed on the roof.

It was generally conceded that this heating process also increased its waterproof qualities.

When the bark was placed in position it was generally held down by further timber placed on top of it and dowel pegged to keep it together.

Later, of course, both wire and nails were often used.

The tree was felled by either axe or cross-cut saw.

The slabs were split with maul and wedges.

As regards early huts etc. nails were virtually unprocurable and all jointing was either by mortice or with tenon or dowel pegs.

Yet another variation of the slab hut was the 'drop hatch' construction.

Much more demanding in skill than its more common vertical slab brother, it was considered a more substantial construction, though in actual fact it has not really proved to be. Slabs were mostly adzed both inside and outside.

Continued page 3

‘Another era of an early colonial dwelling has passed…’

All posts, door and window openings were usually channelled down each side.

The specially prepared slabs were then dropped into their correct recesses from the top of the wall and thus laid horizontally one over the other.

More often than not the fireplace was externally of slab with an interior of clay and stone.

Some refinements included the caulking between the slabs with clay mortar generally mixed with animal urine or ox blood.

Later strips of zinc or galvanised iron were tacked between the slabs.

Very often in the primitive huts the earthen floors were of clay, cow dung and urine, which made a fine hard floor.

A hut is generally considered to be a dwelling of two rooms – one portion the living quarters and the other the sleeping area.

On the other hand there have been and still are some quite substantial homes of slab.

Many of these larger slab homes provided comfortable living.

Many had wooden floors and often plaster-lined and offered many refinements.

Such places are to be seen still in use in many areas of eastern Australia.

The earlier dwellings were often lined with newspapers which were continually added to, eventually getting quite thick.

The ceiling was often just suspended hessian or calico.

A somewhat later development many of these dwellings had all refinements including glass windows.

In the primitives the windows were just small opening doors suspended on leather or green hide to act as hinges.

Often the split inside of the slab was adzed to smooth it down and often a verandah was attached over the one end and only door entrance.

It is a tribute to the builders and their selection of timbers that their durability is responsible for their continued use today.

They have outlived their bark or shingle roof and are to be seen with replaced galvanised iron.

Many of them owe the change to iron for the inclusion of an additional verandah or so.

Another era of an early colonial dwelling has passed with the advancement of time.

Pictured above a slab hut in the village of Duramana, some 15 kilometres north west of Bathurst. Photograph courtesy Ken Goodlet.

At left: a slab hut in Queensland ca 1880. Couretsy Queensland State Library.

Continued page 4

Those amazing slab huts

Continued from page 3

Building implements and their meanings :

Adze: An ancient type of edge tool dating back to the stone-age. Used for smoothing or carving wood in hand working, similar to an axe but with the head mounted perpendicular to the handle.

Augur: A drilling device, or drill bit, that usually includes a rotating helical screw blade called a 'flighting' to act as a screw conveyor to remove the drilled out material. The rotation of the blade causes the material to move out of the hole being drilled.

Broadaxe: A large broad headed axe used for shaping logs by hewing.

Maul: A large hammer, heavy wood splitting tool resembling both axe and hammer.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

PAUL WHEELDON the author of *HERITAGE*'s front page story, *Those amazing slab huts* is a member of the Nepean District Historical Society and a committee member of the Nepean Family History Society.

Other memberships include the Goulburn and District Historical Society, the Goulburn District Family History Society also the Collector and District Historical Association. He has contributed articles to a number of these societies.

Paul spent almost all his working career in the University sector, mostly at the University of Sydney and the University of London. He also had some memorable years as Secretary to the Anglican Bishop of Southwark in London.

Recently he was made redundant from the University of Sydney. This has now allowed him to concentrate his time on his passion for family history and local history.

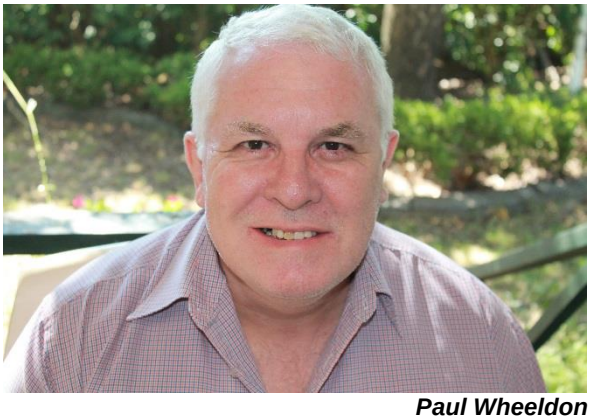
In 1988, the bicentenary year, he organised a family reunion for the Wheeldon family at Collector, releasing a book, *Another Time, Another Place* to coincide with that reunion.

Under the direction of the Anglican Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn, Paul will be releasing a book on St. Matthias' *Currawang* (near Lake George). This will be a history of the church and those who are interred in the cemetery. It is to be released in February 2015 to coincide with the 140th Anniversary of the church.

Following this another publication of *Currawang* local history will be released. The area covered will be Tirranna, Komungla (previously Bangalore), Thornford, Spring Valley and Currawang through to Collector.

A feature of this local history will be the Currawang. copper mines, the largest copper producer in New South Wales from 1866 to 1872.

This article has previously appeared in Nepean District Historical Society's newsletter, *The Arms Chronicle* No. 64 February 2014.



Paul Wheeldon

Oldest known piece of Earth

Scientists using two different age-determining techniques have shown that tiny zircon crystal found on a sheep station in Western Australia is the oldest known piece of our planet, dating back 4.4 billion years. In a recent edition of the journal *Nature Geoscience,* researchers have reported that the discovery indicates that Earth's crust formed relatively soon after the planet formed and the gem was a remnant of it. John Valley a University of Wisconsin geoscience professor who led the research, said the findings suggest the Earth was not as harsh a place as many scientists have thought. The finding supports the notion of a "cool early Earth" where temperatures were low enough to sustain oceans, and perhaps life, earlier than previously thought.

An opinion from the editor…

Western crossing has combined commemoration and celebration

In an address I gave at the recent annual general meeting of BMACHO and circulated to members, I may have given the impression that the activities so far in the Western Crossings 2013-15 program were more celebration and little commemoration.

On reflection it is probably fair to state that In fact there was considerable commemoration as well as celebration.

Although individuals and bodies such as National Trust and the RAHS had been floating ideas for the bicentenary celebrations, the Western Crossings commemoration had its genesis with BMACHO.

However, it was quickly and correctly recognised that this organisation did not have the resources to manage such a venture. BMACHO's committee asked the then long serving president of the Royal Australian Historical Society Associate Professor Ian Jack to explore with the RAHS Council, the idea of co-ordinating the project.

It was pleasing when the RAHS quickly took up the challenge and Professor David Carment, AM very ably took on the role of the first Western Crossings Committee chairman which he continued to do when he became the president of the RAHS.

I recall soon after David took on the task of chairman he, Ian Jack (then the president of the RAHS) and I (then president of BMACHO) met one Sunday afternoon in my home to look at objectives and parameters for the Western Crossings Committee as it was to become known.

From that informal meeting there came a strong recommendation that the commemoration of the bicentenary should be from the period 2013 – 2015 embracing the anniversary of a series of inter – related events after the 1813 exploration by Blaxland, Wentworth and Lawson. George William Evans began his survey for a roadway across the Blue Mountains in November 1813 and went as far as the future Bathurst; William Cox then supervised the construction of the road from July 1814 to January 1815 and then Governor Lachlan Macquarie accompanied by Mrs Elizabeth Macquarie travelled along the new road in April and May 1815 and selected the site of Bathurst.

There is no doubt all those who attended the Western Crossings Committee meetings from the very earliest meeting, were in agreement, time and time again, that the Crossings was a commemoration of all who had crossed, from the very earliest Aboriginal crossings to the crossing by Governor Lachlan Macquarie and Mrs Elizabeth Macquarie and party in 1815.

The European crossings from 1813 are not a celebration for the Aboriginal people and there were many commemorations of Indigenous crossings held during 2014, like the Ancestral Pathways walks organised by Auntie Sharyn Halls , the official opening of The Gully at Katoomba with interpretive signage, the commemoration walk 'Jummangunda Ngunninga' walk from Bardens Lookout to Mt York.

The excellent exhibition in Hartley *A Moment in Time* curated by Joan Kent starting with a very comprehensive history of the Wiradjuri people, through to Governor Lachlan Macquarie is one of the lasting commemorations as is the Western Crossing room at the Mt Victoria Museum and there are others.

As I stated in my annual report,… 'Credit must go to the Royal Australian Historical Society for its role in overseeing through the Western Crossings Committee the co-ordination of the celebration. This committee brought together organisations from Blacktown to Bathurst; descendants of those involved with what has been described as the first crossing of the Blue Mountains by Europeans; local Indigenous groups; as well as others to promote and co-ordinate this part of the celebration and will continue to do so until 2015.

'Unfortunately, the celebration has not yet attracted major financial support from government with most of the events being funded by local organisations and sponsorship from local business and individuals.

'The State government did provide a grant of $80,000 to the Royal Australian Historical Society and this was distributed to various groups and activities involved in the centenary. This grant was negotiated between Professor David Carment and the then Premier of NSW Barry O'Farrell.'

John Leary, OAM – president, Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc and editor of *HERITAGE.*

HERITAGE
March – April 2014

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Page 7 A knighted architect and patron of the arts… There are no family secrets left hidden in David Carment's descriptive narrative of Sir John Sulman, his second wife Annie and the generations of descendants over more than a century's association with the Blue Mountains.

Page 32 The Lithgow church that helped the Chinese Revolution Ray Christison a regular contributor to *HERITAGE* who can always find something quirky in history, in writing about churches in this piece, neatly spins the yarn about a would-be builder who ended up being the personal confidante of Madame Chiang Kai-Shek.

Page 23 Katoomba's unique World War 1 memorial In 1919 Gearin's Hotel was being refurbished when carpenter, Ted Stratford, was knocked unconscious when struck on the head by falling timber. Joan Edward writes, this was the catalyst for the opening of Katoomba Hospital more than a decade later.

Page 30 What happened here 4000 years ago? A genetic study has found ancestors of modern Indians may have come to Australia about 4,000 years before Europeans colonised the continent. Eugene Stockton proposes a possible scenario.

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Pictorial

P10 ***The Sulmans of the Blue Mountains***

P26 ***Lych gate at Holy Trinity, Wentworth Falls***

A knighted architect and patron of the arts, his wife a renowned community worker and photographer, and their family from the 18th century to today …
the Sulmans in the Blue Mountains

By Emeritus Professor of History, Charles Darwin University
David Carment, AM.

Introduction

Thank you for the invitation to speak. I am pleased to be here as I have a longstanding interest in the Blue Mountains and support the work of the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations.

My mother's family, the Sulmans, first became associated with the Blue Mountains during the late nineteenth century and with Woodford Academy in the early twentieth century.

Today I want to explain why that association commenced through regular long summer visits and developed after the family acquired Kihilla in Lawson as their Mountains residence before focussing on three family members: my great grandfather the architect, town planner and patron of the arts Sir John Sulman; his wife the community worker and photographer Annie, Lady Sulman; and their son, my grandfather the racing car driver Tom Sulman.

All lived for long periods in the Blue Mountains. I briefly conclude by showing how the family connection continues through to the present.

A summer retreat from the city

The historian Julia Horne explains that from the 1880s the Blue Mountains came 'to be seen as restorative for those seeking peace and quiet from the daily grind, as well as those recuperating from a range of illnesses'.

Late nineteenth century discussion 'focused on the beneficial effects of a dry inland climate at altitudes higher than sea level'. By the end of the century the Blue Mountains were particularly valued 'for their pure air and cool climate during summer months, a retreat from the hot and tiring life of the city'.[1]

These were the principal motivations for John Sulman's migration to Australia and his discovery of the Blue Mountains. Born in England in 1849, he was a successful architect there but migrated to Australia

Ernest Brougham Decker, *The Three Sisters, Katoomba, Blue Mountains NSW,* 1898 (Macleay Museum, The University of Sydney

with his invalid first wife Sarah Clark Sulman, formerly Redgate, and young son Arthur in 1885 after receiving medical advice that Sarah's tuberculosis was so serious that she could only survive in a warm climate.

They decided to settle in Sydney, where John quite quickly became a prominent architect and began his concerns with town planning and the arts. His other two children, Florence (known as Florrie) and Edith (known as Edie), joined John, Sarah and Arthur from England in 1886.[2]

Sarah's condition, unfortunately, deteriorated. She died at the end of 1888.

[1] Julia Horne, *The Pursuit of Wonder: How Australia's Landscape was Explored, Nature Discovered and Tourism Unleashed,* The Miegunyah Press, Melbourne, 2005, pp 135-136.

[2] Zenaida S Edwards, 'The Life and Work of Sir John Sulman 1849-1934', Doctor of Philosophy thesis, University of Technology Sydney, 2006, Vol II, Ch 1.

Continued From page 7
Before then, in searching for a location that would improve her health, John first encountered the Blue Mountains.

In a letter of November 1885, he notes that 'the chief objection to Sydney is the moist enervating climate of the summer months and the more or less moisture laden sea breeze which blows all year round'.

It was necessary for the '4 hot months' that 'my wife must move to a place in the hills'.[3] Initially they preferred the New South Wales Southern Highlands but John also went to the Blue Mountains and writes of its 'bracing' climate.[4]

In summer 1886 he rented a cottage at Lawson, not far from the railway station.[5]

The summer of 1887-1888 was spent in Springwood, where John and Sarah made good friends. Florrie and Edie had school lessons in nearby Falconbridge with the children of a solicitor. It was during this period that John designed the Springwood Anglican church that I discuss later.[6]

The Sulmans, Sydney, 1900.

Back row Florence (Florrie) (1876 - 1965), Arthur (1882 – 1971), front row Edith (Edie) (1878 – 1907), John (later Sir John Sulman) (1849 – 1935), Dorothy Joan (Joan) (1896 – 1973), Thomas Noel (Tom) (1899 – 1970), Annie Elizabeth (later Lady Sulman) (1864 – 1949), Geoffrey (1894 – 1916). Not present John Masefield (Jack) (1906 – 1959). **(Sulman Family Archives).**

John was married again in 1893 to the Sydney born Annie Elizabeth Masefield, who while a young child was adopted into the wealthy and prominent Walker family as a companion for Eadith (later Dame Eadith) Walker, later a well-known philanthropist.

Between 1894 and 1906 John and Annie had four children: Geoffrey, Dorothy Joan (known as Joan), Thomas Noel (known as Tom) and John Masefield (known as Jack).[7]

Annie quickly became fond of the Blue Mountains so regular trips to them continued. Each summer was spent in one or other of the mountain resorts to save the children, John writes, 'from the enervating effects of the moist heat of Sydney'[8]. One year's summer stay was in a large cottage in Katoomba.

John describes a memorable walk then with some of his children and a local doctor as involving a route by: *the Narrow Neck to the State Mine under the Ruined Castle… and* [Arthur's] *refusal to return by the same route because of its length and insistence on making the direct cut across the valley via the wire rope trollies which carried the shale to Katoomba. It looked much shorter but was far more arduous and we had to descend quite a thousand feet to the creek and then climb two thousand to reach the Katoomba look-out where fortunately I found a buggy for hire and we drove home. It almost finished the Doctor who was short and rather stout*.[9]

Other locations visited during the late 1890s were Jenolan Caves and Mount Solitary.

It was also at this time that John and Annie began their interests in photography, in which Annie developed particular expertise.[10]

On Christmas Day 1899 their son Tom was born at the Chalet in Wentworth Falls.[11] The regular long summer stays in the Blue Mountains went on during the early twentieth century.

Kihilla

To alleviate Geoffrey's digestive problems and Annie's rheumatism,[12] in October 1909 the Sulmans arranged to occupy Kihilla, sometimes called Kihilla Park, in Lawson with what a *Blue Mountains Echo* report describes as 'further improvements' being planned there under John's oversight.[13]

In February the following year he successfully applied to have a telephone service installed.[14] Some sources indicate that John purchased Kihilla in 1913 so until then he may have leased it.

While the Sulmans also had a home in Sydney, Kihilla was where the younger children mainly lived with servants and other staff for about 10 years. John and especially Annie were also quite frequently in residence.[15]

[3] John Sulman to English friends, 12 November 1885, in Zeny Edwards (comp), 'The Sulman Archives Held by the Family', July 1997, p 56.
[4] *Ibid.,* p 60.
[5] John Sulman, 'Reminiscences', 1927, p 45, Sulman Family Archive (SFA).
[6] *Ibid.*, pp 45-46.
[7] Edwards, 'The Life and Work of Sir John Sulman', Vol II, Chs 1-15.
[8] *Ibid*., p 60.
[9] *Ibid.*, pp 60-61.
[10] *Ibid.*, p 61.
[11] Annie Sulman, diary of births, deaths and marriages, SFA.
[12] Edwards, 'The Life and Work of Sir John Sulman', Vol II, pp 181-182.
[13] *The Blue Mountains Echo*, 30 October 1909.
[14] *The Blue Mountains Echo*, 26 February 1910.
[15] Nance Cooper, Lawson, http://www.dictionaryofsydney.org/entry/lawson, accessed 10 February 2014; Edwards, 'The Life and Work of Sir John Sulman', Vol II, pp 181-182; Ln017 : Kihilla and Grounds | NSW Environment & Heritage,

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By this time Edie had died and Arthur, a pastoralist in North Queensland, was only an occasional visitor. The unmarried Florrie came more regularly.

In 1914 she published her much read two volumed *Popular Guide to the Wildflowers of New South Wales,*[16] which she later told me was inspired by her Blue Mountains experiences.

The Sulmans, Kihilla about 1913.Back row Joan, Jack and Tom Back, front row Geoffery, John and Annie. **Sulman Family Archive.**

Tom writes of Kihilla as: *an old mansion with verandahs all around it, big high ceilinged-rooms, standing in 22 acres of land a mile out of Lawson. There were stables, coach houses, and several outbuildings, a large orchard, and bushland – a kid's paradise.*[17]

Kihilla was built in 1883. Largely unchanged since the Sulmans' time, it is a complex of structures set in extensive landscaped grounds overlooking bushland to the north.

The principal house with its former stables and a small cottage are at the site's north end. The former gardener's cottage, now under separate ownership, is close to the Great Western Highway.

Kihilla's attraction to the Sulmans must have been enhanced by its proximity to Lawson, one of the Blue Mountains' most prosperous towns. It had a railway station, good shops, hotels, a post office, and, from 1918, electric power.

The Sulman family owned Kihilla until 1953 but ceased using it after John's death in 1934. It was then leased out to a series of guesthouse proprietors.[18]

Following Annie's death in 1949, it was bequeathed to her grandchildren, the oldest of whom was my mother Diana aged only 22. They could not afford to keep the house and it was sold for what my father described as a pittance.[19] The Church Army Australia now uses it as a retreat and conference centre.[20]

Life at Kihilla was very varied. Although busy with a range of activities in Sydney, John got back as often as he could. Zeny Edwards's biography describes him as having a 'patriarchal disposition' and being 'a strict disciplinarian' but 'loving and fair in his duties as a father'.[21] He did not provide the children with pocket money but allowed them to earn as much as possible by cutting firewood, weeding the orchard and numerous other chores.

'The more we earned', Tom recalls, 'the better pleased father was'.[22]

There were frequent family picnics in the nearby bush. They involved large wicker baskets full of food, rugs and other utensils. Outdoor meals also sometimes occurred under a shelter.

Until 1912, Geoffrey, whose poor health prevented regular school attendance, and Tom shared a tutor at Kihilla.[23] Tom, and later Jack, then attended Woodford Academy, about which I later say more.

Geoffrey loved building model aeroplanes and steam engines in his Kihilla workshop and was fascinated by motor vehicles. On one occasion he and Tom secretly built a full-sized glider, which crashed and disintegrated with Tom as its pilot. He luckily escaped with only a few bruises.[24]

Unable for health reasons to enlist in the Australian Imperial Force after the First World War started and unsuccessful in his attempts to work in the munitions industry, as an unmatriculated student Geoffrey attended engineering classes at the University of Sydney but was often at Kihilla until in 1916 he went to England. There he became an officer in the Royal Flying Corps before dying in an aircraft accident the following year.[25]

It was a tragedy from which Annie never fully recovered.

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http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/heritageapp/ViewHeritageItemDetails.aspx?ID=1170677, accessed 10 February 2014.

[16] Margaret Henry, 'Sulman Florence (1876-1965), Australian Dictionary of Biography, National Centre of Biography, Australian National University, http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/sulman-florence-871/text15251, accessed 12 February 2014.

[17] Tom Sulman, 'Autobiography – July 1969', pp 1-2, SFA.

[18] Ln017: Kihilla and Grounds.

[19] Personal knowledge.

[20] Kihilla Retreat & Conference Centre | Church Army Australia, http://www.churcharmy.com.au/hire-conference-centre/, accessed 11 February 2014.

[21] Edwards, 'The Life and Work of Sir John Sulman', Vol II, pp 316-317.

[22] Sulman, 'Autobiography', p 6.

[23] Various photographs, SFA.

[24] Sulman, 'Autobiography', p 2.

[25] Keith Jones, 'The Sulman Letters', in *The University of Sydney* Record, no 1, 1995; National Archives (Great Britain), AIR/76/490; Students at the University of Sydney – Senate – The University of Sydney, http://sydney.edu.au/senate/students_WWI_casualties.shtml, accessed 15 February 2014.

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Joan was dux of the Blue Mountains Girls School at Lawson in 1910.[26] She later married Tom's Woodford Academy friend Dr Bruce Shallard, the medical practitioner son of a well-known Glenbrook apiarist.[27]

In 1912 John bought a family car. Tom describes it as: *a 35 horse power seven-seater SPA, a 4-cylinder, 4-speed Italian car weighing about two tons. It was a beautiful job and quite fast for that period – 65 mph – and very up-to-date with electric side and tail lights and a siren, though it had no generator to keep the battery charged. Unluckily it had loads of brass work which was my special responsibility – no shiny brass, no ride – still, we were all very proud of it.*[28]

With Geoffrey as driver, it took them all over the Mountains on many enjoyable outings. In December 1913 a fire menaced Kihilla until a combination of volunteers and rain put it out.[29]

***A Blue Mountain outing in the family car about 1912. Back seat – Joan, Tom, Annie, Florrie; front seat – Geoffrey, Jack, John. (*Sulman Family Archive).**

Another fire came close to the main house in February 1926. The Katoomba Fire Brigade was called and a 'difficult fight ensued', *The Blue Mountains Echo* reports, 'before it was beaten out'.[30]

After John's death, the President of the Blue Mountains Shire Council, Councillor Percy Wilson, remarked that he was 'very generous to us on the Mountains, and at Lawson especially…that fine property of his is a credit to the place'.[31] There is now a Sulman Road close to Kihilla.

John Sulman's Blue Mountains designs

John's most permanent contributions to the Blue Mountains were the structures he is known to have designed there, all still standing and all with recognised heritage significance.

The first was Christ Church Anglican Church in Springwood, constructed in 1888 and 1889. Now a landmark on the Great Western Highway, it is a fine sandstone building with a simple but sensitively designed interior.

The sandstone is local and the roof is slate. Later extensions to the church to create the chancel, north transept and tower are in keeping with John's original design.

The New South Wales Office of Environment and Heritage Statement of Significance notes that the church's interior 'has an unusually peaceful atmosphere created by the use of pale sandstone and stained timber and restrained detailing'. John's original conception as seen from his drawings, though, was never finished. This included an eastern and a western transept at the church's rear and a large crowning tower between the two.[32]

Another John Sulman church in the Blue Mountains is the former Holy Trinity Anglican Church at Wentworth Falls, also constructed in 1888 and 1889. The Office of Environment and Heritage does not acknowledge him as the architect but Zeny Edwards's carefully researched biography does. It is a well-built wooden structure with a steeply pitched corrugated galvanised steel roof. There are a side entry porch and a single bay sanctuary. The building is now used as a hall.[33]

Perhaps the grandest of John's Blue Mountains designs is Khandala, also known as Kardinia Park, in Katoomba, completed in 1898. A picturesque house in the Federation Queen Anne style, it is situated above a terraced garden where it has uninterrupted views over the Jamison Valley to Mount Solitary, the Ruined Castle and Narrow Neck.

The house is timber framed on a brick base and clad with wide rusticated weatherboards on the ground floor. Some chimneys are topped with corbels incorporating bricks and terracotta pots. A verandah is on the house's southeast corner.

To the north of the house is the original coach house, a large gabled structure.
Ernest and Margaret Young engaged John to design their Katoomba retreat in 1897. By the end of 1898 the house was ready.

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[26] *The Blue Mountains Echo*, 30 December 1910.
[27] *The Richmond River Herald and Northern Districts Advertiser*, 17 January 1928.
[28] Sulman, 'Autobiography', p 5.
[29] *Nepean Times*, 11 December 1913.
[30] *The Blue Mountains Echo*, 19 February 1926.
[31] *Times*, 25 August 1934. *Nepean*
[32] Christ Church Anglican Church | NSW Environment & Heritage, http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/heritageapp/ViewHeritageItemDetails.aspx?ID=5045251, accessed 10 February 2014; Edwards, 'The Life and Work of Sir John Sulman', Vol III, p 154.
[33] WF003 : Holy Trinity Anglican Church | NSW Environment & Heritage, http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/heritageapp/ViewHeritageItemDetails.aspx?ID=1170021, accessed 10 February 2014; Edwards, 'The Life and Work of Sir John Sulman', Vol III, p 154.

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In the original plan a drawing room, dining room and nursery were on the ground floor.

Before the house was completed, the Youngs had another child with a further baby expected, so a playroom was added to the original design.

More than most late nineteenth and early twentieth century retreats in the Blue Mountains, Khandala represents, according to the Office of Environment and Heritage, 'many of the attributes sought out by those who could afford to develop a summer home in the mountains'. It is also 'a particularly fine example of the Federation Queen Anne style'.[34]

Khandala (also known as Kardinia Park) Katoomba 2011. **(Century 21)**

Christ Church, Springwood about 2013. **(commons.wikpedia.org)**

Former Holy Trinity Church Rectory, Wentworth Falls. No date. **(pigott-gorrie.blogspot.com)**

Former Holy Trinity Church, Wentworth Fall about 2013. (pigott-gorrie.blogspot.com)

Very different is the smaller and far simpler former Holy Trinity Rectory in Wentworth Falls erected in 1906, still extant but no longer on its original site. Limited funds only allowed for a quite basic timber structure and there was a delay of six years between John doing the plans and the Rectory being built.[35]

The Honour Gardens in Lawson are most recent of John's Blue Mountains designs.

They were partly a labour of love in memory of Geoffrey. He and Annie also endowed in Geoffrey's name a memorial prize, later converted into a memorial lectureship, at The University of Sydney. From 1919 John chaired the New South Wales War Memorials Advisory Board, whose name was changed in 1921 to the Public Monuments Advisory Board.

War memorial and entry to Honour Gardens, Honour Avenue, Lawson 2014. **(David Carment)**

[34] K001 : Khandala | NSW Environment & Heritage, http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/heritageapp/ViewHeritageItemDetails.aspx?ID=1170734, accessed 10 February 2014; Edwards, 'The Life and Work of Sir John Sulman', Vol III, p 172.

[35] *Ibid.,* p 179.

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The state's Local Government Act required its approval of design and site before any monument could be erected in a public space.

As the historian Ken Inglis writes, John 'put much energy into the job of influencing how other people commemorated their war dead'.[36]

The First World War had a major impact on Lawson as it did on other Australian small towns. Many memorial gardens were planted across Australia but Lawson's are now unusual in retaining their original form.

Working closely with the Blue Mountains Shire Engineer, John initially created the gardens in 1918 and 1919. The layout shows his love of order and symmetry.

Permission to erect a substantial archway at the Avenue's entrance was granted in 1920. Improvements John proposed to the Shire Council, including the stonewalling on the Gardens' western side, were implemented in 1928.

John supervised this work without a fee. Geoffrey's name is inscribed on the stone arch war memorial at the gardens' entrance that was designed by Sir Charles Rosenthal and completed in 1923.[37]

Annie Sulman: community worker and photographer

Annie's early life was tragic.

The granddaughter of an Irish convict and the daughter of an insolvent Sydney schoolteacher who died in an asylum for the insane, before she was 12 years old her parents and both her siblings were all dead, and the Walker family adopted her.[38]

Her difficult early years combined with the Walkers' strong belief that wealthy people like them had a duty to help the less fortunate and participate in community activities, led to her active support of a range of worthy causes.

She took a quite prominent part in the 1913 celebrations at Lawson to mark the centenary of the first known European crossing of the Blue Mountains. At a ceremony in Lawson on May 28, 1913, she drove a peg on the spot where an obelisk to the explorer William Lawson was to be erected.[39]

For many years she served as President of the Lawson Branch of the Red Cross. In April 1915 she presided at a successful Red Cross fund raising concert in Lawson, at the end of which she strongly appealed to Lawson's women to join the 40 already engaged there in Red Cross work.[40]

At about the same time, the Red Cross published her poem *The Call of the Red Cross* that revealed intense wartime patriotism but not any noticeable poetic skills. It begins:

For the Love of King and Country!
There cometh oe'r the sea,
The call to Every Woman
In our land so wide and free

And finishes:

Oh! Britain, grand old Britain,
We send across the sea,
Our kitchens, lorries, motors,
And all for love of thee.[41]

So far as I am aware, it does not appear in any poetry anthology. In an address to the Lawson and District Horticultural Show in February 1922, she expressed particular concern for the returned soldiers whose nerves were shattered at the front, strongly recommending gardening as an activity that would restore their mental well-being.[42]

Annie 1931. **(National Library Australia)**

A *Sydney Morning Herald* report of March 1925 in commenting on what it called Annie's 'unfailing service' to the Red Cross in Lawson and elsewhere remarks that no one 'has done more in quiet service to invalid retired nurses'.[43]

Another passion was photography, a skill that she developed during the 1880s and 1890s. In addition to taking numerous photographs of relations, friends and

[36] K S Inglis, *Sacred Places: War Memorials in the Australian Landscape*, The Miegunyah Press, Melbourne, 1998, p 150.
[37] Cooper, 'Lawson'; Edwards, 'The Life and Work of Sir John Sulman', Vol III, p 187; Ln014 : Honour Gardens Conservation Area | NSW Environment & Heritage, http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/heritageapp/ViewHeritageItemDetails.aspx?ID=1170564, accessed 17 February 2014; Register of War Memorials in NSW, http://www.warmemorialsregister.nsw.gov.au/content/lawson-war-memorial, accessed 19 February 2014.
[38] David Carment, research in progress for a biography of Annie Sulman.
[39] *The Sydney Morning Herald*, 29 May 1913.
[40] *The Blue Mountains Echo*, 9 April 1915.
[41] A.E.S., *The Call of the Red Cross,* no place or date of publication.
[42] *The Blue Mountains Echo*, 17 February 1922.
[43] *The Sydney Morning Herald*, 26 March 1925.

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places, she was expert in photographing Australian wildflowers, many of which were in bush near Kihilla.

The major Australian publisher Angus and Robertson produced her two books of photographs *Some Familiar Wild Flowers* and *Australian Wild Flowers*.[44] Both were well received and reprinted.

In their prefaces she states her modest purposes. The first book's preface reads in part: *This small collection of wild flower photographs was originally started entirely for my own use and pleasure; but finding many others similarly interested, I am making this attempt to share it with them.*[45]

The second says: *As one flower-lover to others, I offer some more photographs of our most familiar and easily-found wild flowers, hoping that among them they may find some old friends and that, in looking for those unknown to them, a fresh interest may be added to their rambles in the bush. In no sense of the word am I a botanist, hence the flowers in my book are simply arranged as fancy dictated, without regard to order or family.*[46]

Tom Sulman: the beginnings of a life with motor vehicles and his education at Woodford Academy

From an early age Tom was obsessed with motor vehicles. The sections of his autobiography dealing with life in the Blue Mountains discuss little else.

He recalls in some detail how in about 1908 he had his first ride in a motorcar, which the family hired for a journey from Katoomba to Jenolan Caves.

'The trip', he writes: *was very little faster than the usual transport – a coach and four – but what a thrill!. Even though it boiled furiously and numerous stops had to be made to cool down and refill the radiator, and we had to get out and walk up Victoria Pass on the return run.*[47]

When he was about 10 Tom decided to become a racing car driver. He built a billycart with pram wheels, a steering wheel cut out of the side of a butter box, and cable and bobbin steering.

He then constructed a track down the slope of Kihilla's orchard with various types of corners, a hard surface of rolled cinders and a fairly steep gradient. He practised for hours on this.

At weekends Geoffrey timed him with a stopwatch and started him off with a homemade flintlock pistol.

***Tom on is billy cart, Kihilla, about 1910*. (Sulman Family Archive).**

Later Tom built what he called a 'de luxe' model with pushbike wheels that he used to go down a steep hill on the main road. This proved his undoing. The steering failed and as there were no brakes the billycart went over a cliff and was destroyed. Tom only just managed to jump clear.[48]

He entered Woodford Academy as its 83rd enrolment on February 2, 1912. The school was then only five years old.

Located in a former inn built during the early 1830s, with John McManamey as owner and rector it offered a curriculum based on the liberal arts. Commercial subjects were also available.

Rather oddly, the admissions register describes Tom as a Congregationalist[49] although John had abandoned Congregationalism for Anglicanism shortly after arriving in Australia, he and Annie were married in an Anglican church, and Tom described himself as Church of England when he enlisted in the Australian Imperial Force in 1918.[50]

Tom's autobiography says very little about his schooling and does not even directly mention Woodford Academy. 'I am afraid', he observes, *I could never boast of my scholastic ability, the main trouble being that most of my schooldays were during the war and my ambition was to follow in Geoffrey's footsteps and enlist in the Royal Flying Corps, beyond this I could not think*.[51]

That, however, is something of an exaggeration, as Geoffrey did not join the Flying Corps until 1916. Tom's best subject was mathematics.[52]

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[44] A E Sulman, *Some Familiar Wild Flowers,* Angus & Robertson Ltd, Sydney, no date [1915]; A E Sulman, *Australian Wild Flowers*, Second Series, Angus & Robertson Ltd, Sydney, no date.
[45] Sulman, *Some Familiar Wild Flowers,* Prefatory Note.
[46] Sulman, *Australian Wild Flowers*, Preface.
[47] Sulman, 'Autobiography', p 1.
[48] *Ibid.*, p 3.
[49] Admissions register, Woodford Academy; Woodford Academy – History – Blue Mountains Australia BMPH, http://infobluemountains.net.au/history/wood_ac.htm, accessed 16 February 2014.
[50] Sulman, 'Reminiscences', p 47; National Archives of Australia: B2455, SULMAN THOMAS NOEL, http://recordsearch.naa.gov.au, accessed 15 February 2014.
[51] Sulman, 'Autobiography', pp 7-8.
[52] Display on Tom Sulman, Woodford Academy, viewed 15 February 2014.

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He also performed quite well in athletics events.[53] He finished school at the end of 1917[54] but left a permanent legacy in the form of his name prominently carved into a desk.[55]

By October 1918 he was studying engineering at the University of Sydney but that may have been, like Geoffrey, as an unmatriculated student.[56] He maintained contact with the school, in 1922 being elected to the committee of the Woodford Old Boys' Union.[57]

Immediately after leaving school he worked on his brother Arthur's North Queensland station.[58] On November 5, 1918, just before the First World War ended and with his parents' reluctant agreement, he enlisted in the Australian Imperial Force. He was discharged in early January 1919.[59]

During the years at Woodford Academy, Tom continued to spend as much time as he could with motor vehicles. His main reading was motorcar and motorcycle magazines.

At the age of 15 he resurrected Geoffrey's old two and a quarter horsepower motorcycle from the scrap heap. After fitting it with a magneto and carburettor, he took it out on surreptitious rides until he got his licence and had the motorcycle registered at the end of 1916.

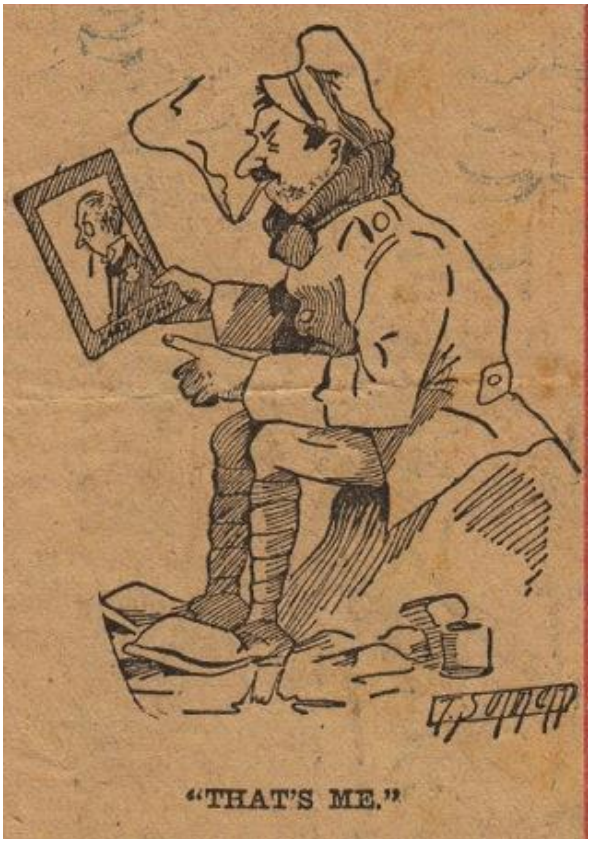
Because he could not afford much petrol, he ran the vehicle on kerosene taken from the household supply with a bottle of petrol in his pocket to start it up. The motorcycle broke down so frequently that Tom believed he must have pushed it further than he rode it.

Eventually it fell apart, sending Tom into a ditch as it did so. This was, he writes, 'the first time I broke my nose and had concussion, not the last by any means'. With John's financial help, he then bought a six horsepower racing motorcycle that proved more reliable.[60]

An accomplished pen and ink artist, Tom covered the costs of running this vehicle by regularly publishing cartoons in the Sydney newspaper *The World's News.*[61]

Geoffrey taught Tom to drive the family S.P.A. car around Kihilla's grounds in about 1914. Following Geoffrey's departure for England, John decided that once Tom got his licence he could take over Geoffrey's driving responsibilities.

Before then, because the car had been unused for quite a long time, Tom had to do a lot of mechanical work on it.



***Tom Sulman, "That's Me", cutting from "The World's News" 1917*. (Sulman Family Archive)**

He then for about a year from the beginning of 1917 drove the family in the car every weekend. The first journey proved a disaster as the tyres were perished, resulting in five punctures.[62]

One journey involved, Tom recalls: *a 1000-mile tour, quite a major undertaking in those days as all roads were un-Macadmised outside the major cities and garages few and far between.*

Luckily we had a practically no-trouble run, except for several punctures and a couple of broken springs which were expected with the bad roads, cart springs and no shock absorbers.

My father used to tell me to 'steady down' if the speed exceeded 40 mph, except when we were overtaking another car when he would cast a blind eye on the speedometer until we passed, explaining to my mother that the dust was not good for her.[63]

Before Tom departed for North Queensland he taught Joan to drive the car. Because she was unable to start it, which required using a large handle, John replaced the S.P.A. with a 20 horsepower Dodge that was started more easily.[64]

[53] *The Sydney Morning Herald*, 19 November 1912; *Nepean Times*, 23 November 1912.
[54] Sulman, 'Autobiography', p 9.
[55] Viewed 15 February 2014.
[56] Certification of enrolment, University of Sydney, 9 October 1918, SFA.
[57] *Sunday Times*, 22 January 1922, p 2.
[58] Sulman, 'Autobiography', pp 9-11.
[59] National Archives of Australia, B2455.
[60] Sulman, 'Autobiography', pp 5-7.
[61] Tom Sulman, 'Fifty Years Racing', in *Australian Autosportsman*, January 1969, p 33.
[62] Sulman, 'Autobiography', p 8.
[63] *Ibid.*
[64] *Ibid.*

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Although mostly based in Sydney, Tom's participation in motor vehicle races and trials between 1919 and his death while racing at Bathurst in 1970 sometimes brought him back to the Blue Mountains.

He also until the late 1920s quite regularly stayed with the family at Kihilla. It was there during 1920 in Geoffrey's old workshop that he built a prototype of the Sulman Simplex cycle car that John financed.

This was a two-seater, light tourer powered by a 12 horsepower, twin-cylinder, air-cooled engine. Despite a solid rear axle, it had a sporty performance. Tom found business interests prepared to provide further finance and by 1923 had in Sydney built three more of the cars that were well received.

As the motoring journalist Pedr Davis tells the rest of the story: *Orders for the light car were most impressive and Tom stood by, ready to launch a public company and enter the production field with gusto. Unfortunately, Lord Austin chose that precise moment to invade the Australian market with his diminutive "Seven". Tom's backers panicked and cooled off abruptly. Plans for the public company disintegrated and Tom was left with a bundle of parts and a flattened bank balance.*[65]

David Sulman Carment, AM

The author of this article Emeritus Professor of History, Charles Darwin University David Carment is the great grandson of Sir John Sulman and Lady Sulman who followed by their descendants have lived and/or been associated with the Blue Mountains for more than a century.

David a former president of the Royal Australian Historical Society and the inaugural president of the Western Crossings committee set up to coordinate the bicentenary of the first European crossing of the Blue Mountains activities, presented this paper at the 9th annual general meeting of BMACHO. David has had a distinguished career in academia and as the director of National Trust (Northern Territory).

He was recognised in the Order of Australia for services to the community as an advocate for the protection of Northern Territory cultural heritage, and to the scholarship and dissemination of knowledge of Northern Territory history.

An enduring connection

Even after the Sulmans stopped using Kihilla in 1934, various family members in addition to Tom travelled to the Blue Mountains.

From the 1950s my own family went there quite frequently.

In 1957, for example, we stayed in a rented house on Cliff Drive in Katoomba, enjoying walks, picnics and car trips to various beauty spots that the Sulmans first saw during the late nineteenth century.

My mother Diana from time to time told stories of Kihilla, which she and her younger cousins once briefly owned.

Tom's daughter Diana Inglis Carment (1927 – 2005) on holiday in the Blue Mountains,1957. **(Carment Family Archive)**

A few years ago I followed in my great grandmother Annie's footsteps by becoming involved in commemoration of the Blue Mountains' first European crossings.

A permanent family connection was re-established in 1987 when my sister Annie and her partner Vittorio Cintio bought a house in Wentworth Falls, the town where Tom Sulman was born. They have lived there ever since.

My now deceased parents regularly went to see them. My brother Tom and his family and I have done the same.

Three of Annie's five children, all educated at Korowal School in the Blue Mountains, have now left home but two live in other parts of the Mountains.

Her daughter Talulah's house is very close to Woodford Academy. They often return to Wentworth Falls, particularly for the lunches that Vittorio now organises on most Sundays where family and friends get together.

As frequently as possible these are outdoors, continuing the tradition established at Kihilla so many years ago.

[65] Pedr Davis, 'The Tom Sulman Story', in *Sports Car World*, December 1957, p 59.

New faces on BMACHO management committee

There are three new faces on the management committee following the 9th annual general meeting of the association held recently a Woodford Academy recently.

They are Richard Woolley (Blue Mountains Historical Society), Suzanne Smith (Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society) and Roy Bennett (Mt Victoria & District Historical Society).

They replace Jean Winston (Mt Victoria and District Historical Society) Kevin Frappell (Glenbrook & District Historical Society who did not seek re-election and Doug Knowles (Glenbrook & District Historical Society who resigned late last year to devote more time to his society of which he has been the president for several years.

John Leary, OAM the inaugural president of BMACHO now in his 7th year at the helm returned to the office last year after a 2 year break due to ill health.

John welcomed the new committee members and congratulated those who were re-elected.

Those re-elected are Associate Professor Ian Jack (individual member) as vice president for the 9th year, Jan Koperberg (Blue Mountains Family History) as secretary/acting treasurer, Dick Morony (Springwood Historical Society) as membership officer, Scott Pollock (Everglades Historic House and Garden), Wendy Hawkes (Lithgow City Council's cultural heritage officer and manager of Eskbank House).

In welcoming them to office John said that present and past committee members had a wealth of knowledge and experience right across the heritage sector.

These committees had available to them members including those from academia, the heritage/history professionals, and the amateur enthusiasts all of whom had proved to be invaluable.

BMACHO president John Leary has said the 2014 – 15 management committee will face many new and continuing challenges.

Among these issues will be the effect of anticipated government funding cuts, development of the proposed heritage trail promotion, the adequacy of and ability to sustain the level of service to members, a review of the association's constitution and vision, assistance to member societies in recruiting and retaining volunteers, further engagement with the Indigenous peoples and their cultural heritage and many more.

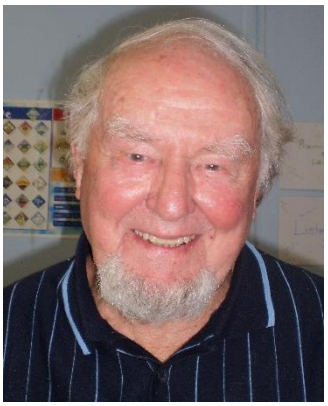
There will be many more activities associated with the 2013 – 15 Western Crossing Bicentenary commemorations in which individuals and various societies as well as BMACHO will support as the 3 year event moves further westward to Bathurst.

In presenting the president's report, John Leary praised the most improved professionalism of museum exhibits by organisation.

"I watch very little television. However, I do try to stay awake for any of David Attenborough's documentaries", Mr Leary said.

"Recently, I was enthralled when the wizardry of computer graphics, manipulated remnant fossilised bones to bring alive priceless but normally stuffy skeletal exhibits at the British Natural History Museum.

"When the museum closed for the night out came the creatures of the Jurassic era. Like the fabled wooden soldiers in the toy shop strutting their stuff as the clock struck midnight.



Roy Bennett

Richard Woolley

Suzanne Smith

"Instead of towering and fearsome reconstructed skeletons of dinosaurs bolted to the floor and wired to the roof, the giant brontosaurus roamed the galleries of this great museum, while menacing pterodactyls, the winged lizards flew above the exhibits and the Yeti humorously taunted the viewer from behind columns of the magnificent building.

Continued from page 16
"I thought wouldn't it be great if local museums could produce computer graphic enhanced exhibits like those in the documentary.

"Then I was jolted out of my reverie.

"Wait a minute, I thought -- what about the Governor Macquarie Room and the dramatically improved curating of living history at the Mt Victoria Museum sufficient to attract a substantial grant from the National Library of Australia?

"What about the fabulous 'Red Admiral' exhibition on the life of Patrick White at Mt Wilson?

…the awesome exhibit acclaimed by the Governor of NSW

"What about the awesome exhibit acclaimed by none other than the Governor of NSW, at Hartley Vale, the Joan Kent curated exhibit, 'A moment in time'?

"What about the innovative miners' bath house conversion into an auditorium media presentation at the Lithgow State Mines including the telling of the Fire in the Mine story which recently won two Museums & Galleries NSW awards?

"What about the ongoing first class exhibits at Norman Lindsay Gallery at Faulconbridge and 'Tarella in the grounds of the Blue Mountains Historical Society's property at Wentworth Falls?

"And how can anyone forget the visual delights of the Blue Mountains Botanic Garden at Mt Tomah and the spectacular all seasons gardens of Everglades.

"Then there is the intrigue of the Turkish Bath House again at Mt Wilson.

Turkish Bath House at Mount Wilson

"A century ago in 1914 a locomotive depot was established at Valley Heights and here we find perhaps not a living history but the actual locomotives that climbed the Blue Mountains in those early days of rail --- all steamed up and on show; while over Kurrajong way undergoing transformation is a spectacular collection of exhibits at the Transport Signal and Communication Museum.

"The Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society, Blue Mountains Historical Society, and the local studies units in the municipal libraries at Penrith, Springwood and Lithgow have well over 10,000 images catalogued and much of this now digitally archived.

"At Emu Plains there are thousands of photographs and local artefacts collected and curated by the Nepean & District Historical Society housed in the former Arms of Australia Inn built in 1893.

Woodford Academy

"Here at Woodford Academy we have a property that goes back to the 1830s as a wayside inn.

"At Scenic World in Katoomba, the Hammon family have done a fantastic job retracing and preserving the early mining cultural heritage of Jamison Valley combining it with a world class tourist attraction.

"And there's a lot more heritage sites, all of which are part of our cultural heritage, set in the wonderful UNESCO World Heritage listed Blue Mountains National Park.

"In commerce jargon we have the product let's go market it. And market it is what we are about to do.

"A bloke named Richard Woolley from Blue Mountains Historical Society attended one of our workshops in the Western Crossing Room at the Mount Victoria Museum earlier this year and in his own words came away inspired to do something about marketing a Heritage Trail and that very night e-mailed me his idea about marketing heritage throughout the region.

"I asked him to head up a working party comprising Wendy Hawkes from Lithgow's Eskbank House, Scott Pollock from Everglades and Lynn Collins BMCC museums adviser. Richard has some expertise in the field of marketing, Wendy could sell refrigerators to Eskimos, and Scott is Mr Can-do in all he aspires to do while Lynn brings a wealth of experience in museums and heritage.

SOME OF THE HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

"In this annual report from the president, I do not propose to go into detail on everything with which BMACHO and its constituent societies has been involved for the past 12 months, as most of it has been reported in the association's

Continued from page 17
newsletter *HERITAGE* and other regular e-mailed bulletins. Rather I will only touch on one or two significant issues.

THE FIRES

"The year 2013 will be remembered sadly as the year that nature in all her fury swept through the Blue Mountains, Lithgow and neighbouring districts destroying property including more than 200 homes. Fortunately, no lives were lost and this was in no small way due to the dedication and bravery of the volunteer firemen who often put their lives on the line to fight the insatiable monster. The fires brought out the best in people and this in itself is part of the cultural heritage of this region and in the years to come will become part of history.

"A number of our members were badly affected by the fires, Rob Cameron a former president of Mt Victoria & District Historical Society was one of those to lose his home while the Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd lost a great deal or had damaged a great deal of its rolling stock and equipment while the State Mines Museum at Lithgow was in direct line of the fires.

"The irreplaceable art collection at Norman Lindsay Galleries was hastily moved to safe storage and other individuals were evacuated for their own safety.

THE WESTERN CROSSINGS 1813-1815 BICENTENARY CELEBRATIONS

"In the first year of the Western Crossings celebrations there were numerous activities to mark many aspects of the western crossing and many of these have been reported in the media and various newsletters.

"Credit must go to the Royal Australian Historical Society for its role in overseeing through the Western Crossings Committee the co-ordination of the celebration. This committee brought together organisations from Blacktown to Bathurst; descendants of those involved with what has been described as the first crossing of the Blue Mountains by Europeans; local Indigenous groups; as well as others to promote and co-ordinate this part of the celebration and will continue to do so until 2015.

"Unfortunately, the celebration has not yet attracted major financial support from government with most of the events being funded by local organisations and sponsorship from local business and individuals.

"The State government did provide a grant of $80,000 to the Royal Australian Historical Society and this was distributed to various groups and activities involved in the centenary. This grant was negotiated between our guest speaker at today's meeting Professor David Carment and the then Premier of NSW, Barry O'Farrell.

Phil Hammon and Tom Colless celebrate the bicentenary

"Measured in many regards the commemoration and celebration rather than commemoration could be judged as a success. However, with the lack of substantial funding many believe the event missed its much wider potential including that of leaving a lasting commemoration.

BMACHO MEMBERSHIP

"In the past 12 months membership has increased with the Nepean District Historical Society and the Paragon Restaurant coming on board and as I understand it the Hawkesbury Historical Society is about to apply for membership.

"It is pleasing that at the two general meetings held in this period that members considered that BMACHO was both relevant and apart from several minor administrative issues sought no change in the management committee's direction.

PLANNING AND ADVOCACY

"BMACHO has continued to be affiliated with the Better Planning Network which was principally set up to oppose much of the proposed legislation by the NSW government which leaves heritage even more exposed to threat of destruction by developers.

"A major submission by BMACHO supported much of Blue Mountains City Council's response to the mandatory 'one size – fits all' planning instrument in preparing the city's Local Environment Plan 2013 for the NSW government's planning department.

"BMACHO's support for deviances from the standard instrument recognised the city's unique and special characteristics.

"BMACHO's submission drew attention to the nature of the villages and townships coupled with the renowned natural beauty of the mountains and the abundant reminders of Australia's early history and cultural heritage which allows local residents to experience a state of satisfaction with 'their

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lot' and helps create a feeling of personal wellbeing.

"BMACHO became aware towards the end of last year that Blue Mountains City Council was about to seal parts of Old Bathurst Road, (formerly Cox's Road), Woodford including some of the original construction by William Cox.

Stone wall part of the original Cox's Road under threat

"In collaboration with local residents, in a very short time an argument was put together, against the sealing and damage to the remnants of one of the oldest roads in Australia. A strong protest was put before council about this proposed heritage vandalism by local government. Jan Koperberg, Ian Harmon Juliana Swatko a local resident, and I addressed a meeting of the full Blue Mountains City Council objecting to the proposal last year.

"As a result council agreed to have a professional heritage archaeologist investigate the damage already done and the value of the road as a heritage site. The matter has been stalled in council for almost 6 months.

"Blue Mountains City Council has consulted BMACHO on a number of issues and most recently the future of the Stationmaster Cottage at Lawson. There has been a close relationship between BMACHO and council's heritage adviser Christo Aitkin and Museums Adviser Lynn Collins.

"BMACHO's representative on BMCC heritage advisory committee has had input in numerous issues and was on the panel which allocated funds from the Local Heritage Fund.

FUNDING

"In the past 8 years BMACHO has been reasonably able to fund much of its activity including workshops, from government grants, and public authorities but for various fiscal reasons these sources are expected to be less forthcoming in the immediate future. BMACHO in the year ahead will need to look to some belt-tightening and find alternative sources for funding.

THANKS TO MANY

"Finally, I thank our member organisations and individual members for the support, encouragement and trust they have placed in the association's committee. It has again been my great pleasure to work with a quite unique body of people who have led and directed the association for another year. This committee has a great mix of personnel from academia, professionals and dedicated volunteers bringing to the committee a very experienced and balanced approach in regard to cultural heritage.

'Once again this report does not allow for the real appreciation I feel for the members of the committee to be expressed. However, I know that most will be aware I trust, the few words I have to say about them now, are accepted as a mere modicum of the real esteem in which I hold them, for the invaluable work they are doing within the heritage sector.

"In previous annual reports in thanking our vice president Ian Jack I have touched on his lifetime of involvement in cultural heritage and Australian history and as each year comes and goes I wonder how Ian is able to provide an ever increasing support for the heritage movement.

"To list Ian's achievements, the organisations he supports and the bodies which seek his professional advice would take pages. Ian your involvement as vice president for the past 8 years has been exceptional and I thank you so very much for this and for what you have helped me achieve and learn in the heritage sector.

"Our secretary Jan Koperberg never ceases to amaze me for her capacity to achieve. I have said it before but it is worth repeating:

"I have worked with many secretaries and few have come anywhere near the excellence that Jan has exhibited.

"She is on the ball all the time, her minuting of meetings leaves no doubt as to the decisions and why they were made and which appear in easy to read documents.

"Jan is not only an extremely able and efficient administrator but she also is in her own right a keen explorer of history and our heritage, contributing a great deal to this and other organisations.

"Jan's energy is also incredible and I am not sure just how many groups she belongs to or supports but I do know how much time she gives to BMACHO and this is quite staggering. Jan you are great to work with and Nanette and I enjoy your company.

"Dick Morony has again kept our membership records in a good condition and it is always a pleasure to have him along at our meetings contributing the benefit of his long experience in the heritage sector.

"Doug Knowles, Kevin Frappell and Jean Winston brought to the management committee not only a vast expertise of local history but also have a good

Continued from page 19
understanding of what the smaller historical societies need and limitations are within the heritage sector and to them. I am grateful and will miss them on the committee in the coming year.

"Patsy Moppett has continued to provide a valuable contribution to the committee. Her knowledge of local government planning is extremely valuable I and others also value the work she has done with National Trust and others to preserve the western end of the iconic Cox's Road. Thank you Patsy for your involvement.

"Scott Pollock and Wendy Hawkes have brought to our management committee not only the expertise they have built up with the properties they so ably manage in the case of Scott, Everglades and Wendy Eskbank at Lithgow but also a vibrant enthusiasm of younger people. They both have a keen interest in cultural heritage and have been a great asset to our deliberations.

"I am delighted they will stay on the committee. Thank you Wendy and Scott.

"Most will be aware of Nanette's ill fortune and the frustrations she is still experiencing but as she has done so lovingly for more than 60 years, 57 as my wonderful wife, she is still supportive of my involvement in activities and I am delighted she is with us today.

A clever illusion: a real table and glassware in front of the graphics of Governor Lachlan and Elizabeth Macquarie drawn by Clive Jones

"Thank you one and all for the support you have given us during yet another year as president of the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc."

John Leary, OAM

THE GREAT WAR THEME FOR HISTORY WEEK 2014

The Great War will be the theme of the History Council of NSW History Week, which this year runs from September 6-14.

It was to be "the war that will end war" as H.G. Wells commented in August 1914. From the heights of hope to the horror of the trenches, the Great War changed the world irrevocably.

It separated families and lovers, turned young men into soldiers and young women into nurses, converted friends and neighbours into enemies.

The unusual circumstances of warfare intervened with each aspect of life. In which ways did the conduct of war shape, change and inform those fighting and those remaining on the home front?

How have historians approached complex topics surrounding it, such as the scale of violence, women's involvement in war, forced migration? What impact did the Great War have on the cultural memory of those involved – allies and enemies?

In the aftermath of 1915 Australians elevated the Gallipoli landing into a foundation story, which claims that the nation was born on this battlefield, but there are more layers of remembrance yet to be uncovered and examined. History Week 2014 will explore the impact of World War 1 abroad and at home.

Sydney University historian Julia Horne to open Blue Mountains History Conference

Pursuing Wonder in the Blue Mountains'' is the title of the keynote address to be delivered by Sydney University Associate Professor Julia Horne at the Blue Mountains History Conference to be held at the heritage listed Carrington Hotel, Katoomba on Saturday May 10.

Dr Horne (pictured right) has taught history at UNSW, worked as a curator in social history at the Powerhouse Museum, pioneered local history outreach programs and spent hundreds of hours interviewing people about their lives as Head of the Oral History Program in the UNSW Archives.

She has been a member of the Council of the Royal Australian Historical Society since 2007, and in 2009, was appointed member of the governing council of the Australian National Maritime Museum

Dr Julia Horne's research interest include: The public university in Australasia 1850-1918; various aspects of oral history including memory, biography, 'the interview', and oral history as a form of modern personal papers; overseas students in Australia in the 1950s and 1960s and history of travel, tourism and natural landscapes.

At the University of Sydney, the role of University historian is as public historian responsible for various university history-related tasks such as maintaining the university's oral history program and developing strategies to promote the university, its heritage and history to the wider community.

After morning tea Associate Professor Ian Jack will speak about 'The Heritage of Education in the Blue Mountains' followed by heritage architect, Hector Abrahams who has chosen as a title for his paper, 'The Heritage of Religious buildings in the Blue Mountains'.

Ian Jack is no stranger to most who have an interest in Australian history and the nation's heritage.

Often described as a consummate scholar, Ian has been associated with local history groups throughout the region and in fact throughout NSW and farther afield in Australia, providing the benefit of his well versed advice freely to those many historians and others who frequently seek his assistance.
Ian has the greatest respect for the army of volunteers who research material, and work with collections in towns and villages around the country.

Ian Jack (pictured right) was president of the Royal Australian Historical Society for 11 years, is president or a senior member of many historical and heritage groups including being president of the Hawkesbury Historical Society and for the past 8 terms vice president of BMACHO.

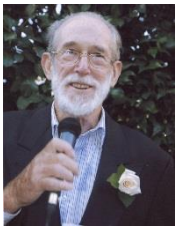
The last speaker before lunch, Hector Abrahams (pictured below), also a former president of the RAHS has brought to his firm a philosophy that old buildings have to be understood, kept well and made liveable and workable for people in today's world.

Hector has said: "Churches are for the long-term, and faith communities have such different needs from decade to decade. It is most important to recognise this.

"A good church has to be able to withstand the vicissitudes of church life, and to have an enduring aesthetic."

Lunch will be served in the heritage dining room of The Carrington and this will be followed by a musical interlude by Christine Wheeler and Friends with songs from "Rain in the Mountains – Songs of Henry Lawson".

Ms Robyn Parker, proprietor, The Paragon Restaurant Katoomba and Dr Ian Jack will conduct a question and answer segment about this iconic restaurant



The final speaker for the day will be Doug Knowles, whose subject is the Great Western Railway – Lapstone Hill, the first challenge.

31 sculptures set among an ancient rainforest

Featuring Ken Unsworths Harlequin's shuttle

Thirty new sculptures framed by Blue Mountains ancient rainforest, artist led workshops for children, and an 8 metre commissioned artwork by renowned Australian sculptor, Ken Unsworth AM, are part of Sculpture a Scenic World 2914 now on until May 18, 2014.

Blue Mountains Gazette review reports, Ken Unsworth has fond memories of the Blue Mountains and has made many journeys Scenic World's rainforest during the seven day process to install Harlequin's Shuttle beneath the majestic canopy.

The8 metre sculpture will remain in situ for the duration of the exhibition.

Two years in the waiting Harlequin's Shuttle is the first time iconic sculptor Ken Unsworth has exhibited in the Blue Mountains within his illustrious career spanning over four decades

The Jurassic landscape and mining relics at Scenic World create a unique setting for the exhibition featuring sculptures from the People's Republic of China, Hong Kong, 17 from NSW,10 from the Blue Mountains and one from Tasmania.

David Hammon, joint managing director said Scenic World is thrilled to deliver the third annual exhibition. "Ëach year the artists continue to surprise and inspire us with their vision, as they collectively transform our rainforest into a stunning outdoor gallery for our visitors to enjoy," said Mr Hammon.

Exhibition manager Lizzie Marshall, said , "This exhibition is an exceptional showcase of Australia's sculptural scene and the Blue Mountains as the City of the Arts. The artists have developed different frameworks to respond to the natural environment.

"Key themes include absorptive black, reflective surfaces and architectural responses to the rainforest," Ms Marshall said.

Participating artists will also have the opportunity through a new partnership between *Sculpture at Scenic World* and the Blue Mountains Cultural Centre to exhibit at the Cultural Centre from June 9 to July 7.

Pictured above: Ken Unsworth, Harlequin's Shuttle. Image by A Shot Above Photography.

Pictured at left: Louis Pratt, A Backward Attitude. Image by A Shot Above Photography.

Katoomba's unique World War 1 memorial

By Joan Edwards – member, Blue Mountains Historical Society and former president Blue Mountains Family History Society

While Blue Mountains has many World War 1 memorials, Katoomba's is unique, namely the Blue Mountains District Anzac Memorial Hospital, the only World War 1 memorial hospital in Australia.

The 1914-1918 war had come and gone and still there was no hospital between Penrith and Lithgow.

Some locals thought there should be a community hospital while others opposed the idea as there were already large sanatoria and smaller care homes.

It would be disadvantageous to be known for hospitals instead of guesthouses in the great holiday location.

In 1919 Gearin's Hotel was being refurbished when carpenter, Ted Stratford, was knocked unconscious when struck on the head by falling timber and had to be transported to Penrith.

Fellow workers passed the hat around and collected 6/6. Stratford's accident became the catalyst for a local hospital.

The following day, contractor Fred Johnson, began organising a football match to raise funds. Leura station master, a keen footballer, organised an opposing team.

It was to be fancy dress with a procession from Leura Baths to Katoomba Falls football ground. Collections were made along the route and raised £162 to add to the 6/6.

We owe thanks to Dean Piryak, director of nursing, for early research presented as Foundation Day Speech in October 1995.

Unfortunately he found no record of which team won the match, but hopefully, it will not be too long before the local newspapers are digitised and we will be able to imagine the colour, noise, events and excitement of that day.

The original frontage of the Blue Mountains District ANZAC Memorial Hospital

The momentum slowed when work was completed at Gearin's until Mr Edward Booth suggested that money raised should fund a lottery which was set up as 'Katoomba Thousand Lottery'.

The funds grew rapidly and Mr Booth formed the Blue Mountains District Hospital and Peace Memorial Committee with Dr John Allan as chairman.

The committee met solidly for a week to plan and set goals to be achieved. They decided to complete all preliminary work before petitioning the government.

The committee decided that it should be a peace memorial.

In the wording of the original committee's minutes, "No more fitting memorial to our gallant citizens who have fallen for us could be devised and we contend that a united effort to secure for us this communal blessing is much more desirable than that each township should erect drinking fountains and such like street obstructions".

The energetic and enterprising Mr Booth is credited as being the driving force that kept all working toward the final goal.

Presumably there were the card parties, fancy dress balls and so on with celebrities pressed into promotions.

Sir Ross Smith sent a notice by 'Aeroplane Post' Advice from the Clouds of a Race Meeting to be held at Medlow Bath Racecourse on Wednesday, February 25th. £50 prize money was offered.

It took a further six years fundraising that is to 1925, before they were ready to proceed.

The foundation stone was laid by the New South Wales Governor, Sir Dudley de Chair, on October 6, 1925.

Building work proceeded fairly rapidly, as did the fundraising, in spite of some opposition from residents who thought it would be filled with TB sufferers and others with long term illnesses.

As the building work neared completion, the committee thought the name should include ANZAC and the names of the fallen should be on marble tablets in the vestibule of the main entrance, in all 139 names.

They hoped, wished, that the tablets would be unveiled by the Duke and Duchess of York (later King George V1 and Queen Elizabeth).

After the usual negative responses, the authorities controlling the royal tour said they would consider the request.

It was approved with restrictions such as it was not to be included in the royal itinerary, the ceremony must *not* be advertised, and only hospital committee members and hospital management could attend. In addition it must be a very brief stop.

Mr Booth stepped out when the motorcade stopped, approached the Duke and Duchess and requested they perform the unveiling ceremony.

They agreed, alighted and the Duchess of York performed the ceremony. The Duke and Duchess inspected the hospital and signed the visitor's book before continuing their journey to Blackheath.

It was late May, 1927, just three weeks before the first patients were admitted in June.

Initially the hospital had two wards, one male, one female, with a total of 22 beds under the control of Matron E Richards, six nurses and local medical officers.

It was gazetted as a public hospital on August 5, 1927. The rather grand official opening was conducted on October 3, 1928 by Lieutenant Governor of New South Wales, Sir William Cullen.

Katoomba's Blue Mountains District Anzac Memorial Hospital is far from a drinking fountain or other street obstruction and stands today as a testament to the driving force and dedication of a community.

Indeed it is the community's ongoing good fortune that Ted Stratford was knocked unconscious at Gearin's Hotel all those years ago!

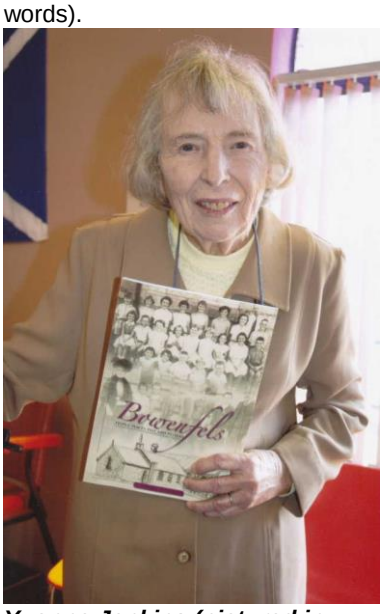
'My ancestor was…'

YVONNE JENKINS of Rydal was a well-known family history and author of several books of family historian in the Bowenfels, Rydal and surrounding areas.

She was the convenor of the Lithgow and District Family History Society in 1986 and encouraged members to write stories about their ancestors.

The Lithgow and District Family History Society has chosen to commemorate Ms Jenkins memory each year by conducting the Yvonne Jenkins Memorial Award.

Entry is open to members and non-members of the society and is in the form of a short essay (1000 words).



Yvonne Jenkins (pictured in 2008)

The topic for the 2014 award is "My Ancestor was a…..".

The winner will receive a certificate and one year's membership of the society.

Entries close on April 30 and must be accompanied by an entry form, available on the society's websitewww.lisp.com.au/ldfhs.

Have you booked your seat for the Blue Mountains History Conference on 10 May 2014?

A VERY SIGNIFICANT COLLECTION

Recently the Blue Mountains Historical Society was given a very significant collection of books by one of its members, Malcolm Ferguson.

Former president and the society's librarian Judy Barham said, "The Society is indeed so fortunate and we are extremely grateful.

"Malcolm has been collecting books on all aspects of the Blue Mountains since the 1960s. The collection is very comprehensive and many of the books are no longer in print.

When one goes with John Low to look at it and he picks up a book and says, "I have heard of this and never seen a copy", you know that there are some important and rare books in the collection.

There are not only books but also maps, pamphlets and other small items relating to the area.

"The society cannot thank Malcolm enough for his very generous donation. We will value it very highly" said Mrs Barham.

Blue Mountains History Conference

On Saturday, 10 May 2014 at the heritage listed Carrington Hotel, Katoomba

Opening up the Route to the West ... Architecture and the Railway

The conference is being organised by the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc. (BMACHO)

For 2014, the keynote speaker, Associate Professor Julia Horne, will speak about 'Pursuing Wonder in the Blue Mountains'

Associate Professor Ian Jack will give a presentation about the early educational architecture

Hector Abrahams will give a presentation on the early religious architecture.

After lunch Christine Wheeler and Friends will present "Rain in the Mountains – Songs of Henry Lawson", singing Henry Lawson poems.

This recital will be followed by a Question and Answer half hour, when Dr Ian Jack will ask questions of the proprietor of the Paragon Restaurant, Mrs Robyn Parker.

The last speaker will be Doug Knowles and his presentation will be 'The Great Western Railway – Lapstone Hill, the first challenge".
In addition there will be an optional afternoon tea served at an extra charge at the Paragon, which includes a tour of the Paragon, including upstairs where the chocolates are made. Conference, including morning tea and lunch at The Carrington $50 per head and optional afternoon tea and tour of The Paragon an extra $10

For registration form go to bluemountainsheritage.com.au 'Events and Activities' and click on the link or use the form attached to the email.

Contact Email: committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au

BMACHO thank the supporters of the Blue Mountains History Conference:

blue mountains City Council

SCENIC WORLD BLUE MOUNTAINS AUSTRALIA

NATIONAL TRUST

Everglades Historic House & Gardens

Bendigo Bank

Funds for restoration at four heritage properties

Blue Mountains Council has recently instigated a local heritage fund with the assistance of the newly established heritage committee. This is a long awaited and very welcome initiative of the council and an initiative of BMACHO.

One of the beneficiaries of this inaugural local heritage grant has been the lych gate on Falls Road, Wentworth Falls at Holy Trinity Anglican Church (photograph this page courtesy Margi Fallon, Heritage Consultant, Integrated Design Associates).

The gate was built in 1921 in memory of Douglas Gillfillan, who with his wife built “Gwandalan” in 1910 – 12 at the junction of Henderson Road (then Government Road) and Blaxland Road, Wentworth Falls.

At that time it was known as 7 Government Road. The Gillfillans built a magnificent garden on their property.

The property remained within the Gillfillan family until 1989. Mr Gillfillan died of tuberculosis in 1921, after a long illness and it is said that the room that he was in was burnt as a sterilization measure as was common at the time.

The gate at Holy Trinity is constructed of a sandstone base, with beautifully crafted timbers for the roof, which have been dowelled and pegged together.

The gate uses no nails in the main structure, with only the small nails to tack down the cedar shakes, and the timber lining boards.

There is an art nouveau styled bronze plaque placed in memory of Mr Gillfillan located on the inside.

This beautifully crafted gate will be carefully restored by the replacement of the shakes which have well and truly lived out their life, and provide for the ongoing protection of the crafted structure beneath. The sandstone base will be repointed.

The gate will then be able to continue to contribute to the visually significant streetscape of Falls Road, taking its place among the pine trees, the heritage listed 1890 Anglican Church building, and the similarly styled Presbyterian Church opposite.

The lych gate was one of four projects selected to receive assistance from this year’s funding.

The other three projects were to the Paragon Restaurant for design, construction and installation of lighting to the front awning and other work to return this iconic restaurant and chocolate factory; the gatekeepers cottage at Valley Heights and restoration of sandstone footings of a building at 112 Katoomba Street, Katoomba which has heritage significance.

The funded work at the Paragon and at 112 Katoomba Street will further enhance what is substantially intact streetscape of heritage shops and residence.

The building’s originality and classic façade is notable and often photographed by tourists and students of architecture.

The property at 110-114 Katoomba Street is a fine and intact example of Federation free classical commercial. The intact copper clad shopfronts add particular interest to the streetscape at pedestrian level

The work on the gatekeeper cottage at 4 Great Western Highway, Valley Heights will include replacing two timber windows to restore external character as shown in the 1867 original drawings.

The building which is listed on the State Heritage Inventory, is being considered for adaption by its owners to provide heritage tourism accommodation.

The sandstone cottage has strong links to the Valley Heights Railway Heritage Museum.

Because the railway shared a narrow ridge with existing road systems from the 1860s onwards, there was need of numerous level crossings.

Twelve of these were guarded by gates controlled from a gatekeeper’s cottage.

Six of the original stone cottages of 1867 survive, but only four of them are habitable and on their original sites.

There were two such cottages in Valley Heights. One, no. 5, was just east of the railway station and was demolished after 1902. The other, no. 4, survives on its original site, although its stone privy has been demolished.

It remained in railway ownership until 1950, then fell into disrepair, but was reroofed in 1984 and is now a residence once again.

Editors note: A lychgate, also spelled lichgate, lycugate, or as two separate words lych gate, is a gateway covered with a roof found at the entrance to a traditional English or English-style churchyard.

TomahROMA autumn food and wine fair showcases regional producers

A celebration of nature's bounty set against the spectacular deciduous colours of the cool climate gardens at the Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mt Tomah .

TomahROMA promises an enjoyable experience all day as local produce, gourmet delights, wine tasting, music, free guided walking tours and plant sales will all be part of this event

Lovers of local produce and crafts shouldn't miss TomahROMA, the annual autumn food and wine fair at the Blue Mountains Botanic Garden on Saturday May 3, from 9 am to 4 pm. For enquiries 4567 3000

This year the Garden is hosting around 30 stallholders from the Blue Mountains and Hawkesbury regions.

A stallholder at a previous TomahROMA.

The garden's annual blaze of autumn colour.

Fresh juice and cider from local Bilpin apples, wine from Mudgee, handmade bags from Woodford, cupcakes from Penrith and plants propagated by the Growing Friends, volunteers at the Garden, just a small taste of the variety of lovingly made regional produce visitors will be able to sample and buy.

Coffee and hot food stalls add to a lively vibe and fun day out for all. Perfect for finding a unique gift!

Discover the many horticultural delights within the 252 hectare grounds on a free guided tour departing regularly from the visitor centre.

Run by volunteer guides, the tours will focus on the seasonal autumn highlights of the Garden.

The fair will be set against the bright autumnal colours of the turning garden, which in itself attracts thousands of visitors throughout autumn.

This is the best time to see the garden in its annual blaze of colour, which is a sight not to be missed.

TomahROMA has built a strong following with food and garden lovers alike and is now in its 11th year!

Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mount Tomah is an inaugural member of the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc.

Make your Mark in History

To commemorate the Centenary of the ANZAC, the Woodford Academy Management Committee (WAMC) is undertaking extensive research on the Academy boys' who fought in the Great War and the impact that this had on their lives. Over 300 students were educated at the Woodford Academy between 1907 and 1925.

Fifty three of these students served in World War 1. The research being undertaken is informing the preparation of a secondary school program and new interpretive material for the Academy's museum.

'Make your Mark in History' is the first in a series of interpretive presentations developed by the WAMC that provide a glimpse into these boy's experiences. For further information: woodfordacademy@gmail.com

This work has been made possible with the assistance of a NSW Department of Communities – Veteran Affairs grant.

Bicentenary of the building of Cox's Bathurst Road to be celebrated at Hartley

The Hartley District Progress Association as trustee of the Western Crossings Trust, has announced its intention to mark the bicentenary of the building of Cox's Road through the launch of its exhibition *A Moment in Time II* and by conducting an enhanced series of guided walks on Cox's 1814 road.

Some 3000 visitors attended the Trust's 2013 projects, many, who were disappointed by the short run of the 2013 program, have already pre-booked for this year's event.

A Moment in Time II will be conducted at the Historic Hartley Schoolhouse, 10am-4pm on weekends from Saturday, September 13, to Sunday October 12, 2014 and by appointment, for large groups, on any week day in that period.

Cox's Road walks will be conducted on Sunday September 14, Sunday September 21, Thursday October 2, Saturday October 4, Sunday October 12 ; with bookings accepted for large parties on any day between September 14 and October 12.

The exhibition *A Moment in Time*, curated by professional historian Joan Kent, captures what existed before and what came shortly after the 1813 crossing of the Blue Mountains by Europeans.

It begins with a consideration of the rich and ancient geology of the landscape into which the explorers intruded, before exploring many aspects of the crossing story from the indigenous peoples whose country was being traversed, through the explorers, the road building and early settlement west of the Blue Mountains

'A Moment in Time II' builds on the original exhibition drawing widely on the contemporary Cox's Road research to present a comprehensive vision of 'the road'.

Pictured above: Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir, Governor of NSW with her aide examining an exhibit after opening Á Moment in Time's 2013 season.

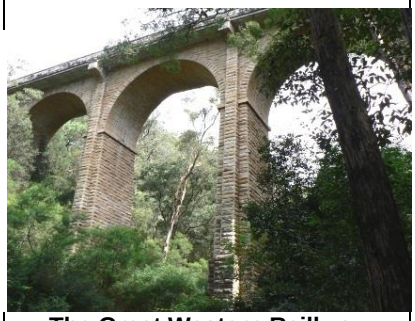
The Cox's Road walks, run in conjunction with the exhibition, represent a unique opportunity to walk some of the country traversed by Blaxland Lawson and Wentworth 1813, Evans 1813 – 14, Cox 1814 – 15 and Macquarie 1815.

Led by informed local guides, these walks offer a great opportunity to learn about the early traverses, the rich colonial heritage of the Hartley Valley and the array of heritage assets the valley harbours.

Bookings for walks and arranged openings of the exhibition will be taken from August 1. Early enquiries and pre bookings can be addressed to Barbara Johnson on 0458 552 017.

For further information contact Tom Kent, president Hartley District Progress Association (02) 6355 2393 e-mail: joankent@bigpond.com or Ramsay Moodie,(02) 6355 2259 or (02) 9983 0134 e-mail: ramsaymoodie@bigpond.com

GLENBROOK HISTORY WALKS



The Great Western Raillway 1867 Lapstone Hill Zig Zag and Knapsack Gulley Viaduct will be the destinations on Sunday, May 25 walk and talk series.

Adults $10 children free

Bookings essential to Doug Knowles 4751 3275

Crossing the play 2014 season

Plans are well underway for presentation of Wendy Blaxland's play *Crossing* to children during the 2014 season in Term 3 2014, mid-July to mid-September.

Crossing will play to schools in Sydney, the Blue Mountains and Bathurst, with a short public season for families in Sydney at Brush Farm House.

Thousands of schoolchildren saw the play during 2013 as part of the Western Crossing celebration in 2013. Schools booking forms are available.

For bookings Wendy Blaxland phone 9489 4955 m 0411 071 273

wendyblaxland@optusnet.com.au www.blaxlandanddaughter.com or Jessica Blaxland Ashby phone 0438 241 126 or 9489 4955 jessica@blaxlandanddaughter.com

Crossing was the brainchild of Wendy Blaxland who gatherered around her a talented experienced team of theatrical artists and production people to produce this memorable play. The 2014 budget is leaner, but there is still a $25,000 shortfall for pre-production costs. Another play is planned for 2015. *Pioneers in Petticoats* will be a one-woman show looking at the women who crossed the mountains.

Pictured are Wendy Blaxland and Jess Blaxland Ashby at Brush Farm House, Eastwood, the restored original home of explorer Gregory Blaxland.'

Rain in the Mountains

Rain in the Mountains - Songs from Henry Lawson' is a unique musical performance of poems from Australia's iconic poet.

Featuring the classic folk voice of Blue Mountains resident Christine Wheeler, the CD also features a number of exceptional local musicians with backgrounds from classical to jazz and world music. Influences from Celtic music underpin the whole sound.

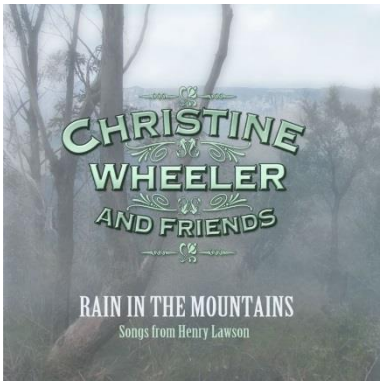
The title track is derived from two poems written by Henry Lawson aged 21, when he lived and worked at Mt Victoria.

His gift for conveying powerful feelings in the straightforward language of ordinary people is highlighted by the varied musical settings on this album - writers as diverse as Slim Dusty, John Schumann, jazz composer Ade Monsbourgh and folk icon Chris Kempster, as well as several of Christine's originals.

The CD has received considerable airplay on ABC Classic Drive FM and on ABC Local Radio's Australia All Over.

For information about performances or to purchase the CD, contact Christine www.christinewheeler.net.au

Graham McDonald, Recorded Sound Archivist, National Film and Sound Archive of Australia has said of the CD: "There are subtleties, skill and impressive musicianship in the way these songs have been put together. I suspect the CD and the live shows which Christine is planning will become a landmark in the interpretation of Australian folk song."



What happened here 4,000 years ago?

The Sydney Morning Herald of 16/1/2013 carries this news item:

> A genetic study has found ancestors of modern Indians may have come to Australia about 4,000 years before Europeans colonised the continent . . .
>
> A genetic analysis of more than 300 Aborigines, Indians and people from Papua New Guinea and island south-east Asia has found a "significant gene flow" from India to Australia about 4,230 years, or 141 generations, ago.
>
> The study's lead researcher, Irina Pugach, from the Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology in Leipzig, Germany, said the arrival of these people during the period known as the Holocene coincided with many changes in Australia's archaeological record.
>
> "[There was] a sudden change in plant processing and stone tool technologies, with microliths appearing for the first time, and the first appearance of the dingo in the fossil record," Dr Pugach said.
>
> "Since we detect inflow of genes from India into Australia at around the same time, it is likely that these changes were related to this migration". . .
>
> The Aboriginal DNA used in the study comprised more than 10 per cent Indian genetic markers, which suggested there had been substantial interbreeding between the groups. "[The Indians] could have been sea traders," said Professor Allan Cooper, Director of the Australian Centre for Ancient DNA at the University of Adelaide.
>
> The researchers said it was possible Indian ancestry came to Australia indirectly, through south-east Asian populations that had trade links with northern Australia and Indonesia. But the analysis found no evidence of this in the genes of the island south-east Asian populations. . .

This paper by Father Eugene Stockton proposes a possible scenario. It is known that about this time there was a highly developed civilisation in the Indus Valley, centred on the large settlements of Mohenjo Daro and Harappa.[1] The economy was based on mixed agriculture. The technology included well-established painted pottery, incipient metallurgy (simple copper and bronze objects) and the manufacture of stone tools. Such an assemblage is familiar to me from the excavation of the Chalcolithic site of the Teleilat Ghassul in the lower Jordan Valley.[2] Other Chalcolithic sites have been found east of the Indus Valley.

The stone tool technology included the mass production of chert blades, ground stone tools, beads (of lapis lazuli and carnelian) and pre-eminently inscribed square seals of steatite. The beads and seals were traded over long distances to the Persian Gulf, Mesopotania, Iran, Afghanistan and Turkmenia, offset by imports of lapis lazuli, turquoise and jade. Trade was conducted both overland and by sea. Models exist of both carts and boats.

This civilisation was eventually eclipsed by the Aryan invasion in the second millenium BC.

The possible scenario proposed here is that a trading vessel ventured or drifted far to the east and was shipwrecked on the coast of North Australia. The survivors lacked the means to return home, perhaps lacking the skills and resources for ship-building, pottery and metallurgy. Settling down and interbreeding with the local inhabitants, they were able to pass on the finer techniques of working stone current in their homeland. Aborigines have shown that in matters of interest to them, such as religion and art, they are very receptive of new ideas and ready to pass them on to other communities. As long time workers in stone they would have welcomed the skill and artistry of the new technology.

Archaeological excavation at six Blue Mountain sites, and particularly at Shaws Creek, shows a sudden change in stone tool making at about 4,000 years ago. The relevant strata show a remarkable increase in the amount of flaked stone, a corresponding decrease in flake size, new techniques to control flaking to the desired shape and the production of exquisite small tools.[3] Although differences in tool type occurred from region to region, throughout Australia at about this time there was a similar intensification of flaking stone and the production of small tools (which may have been hafted).

I have suggested that such tools did not offer notable economic advantage, but were rather the expression of skill and artistry, a leisure time activity.[4] What spread quickly was not so much a useful addition to the tool kit as an *idea*, a *fashion*, that was quickly copied and taken up by neighbouring groups. The north-western expression was the surface-flaked point and adze, while the south-eastern expression was the backed-blade implement (for which there were already rough antecedents). I have suggested that this intense activity was conducted around the campfire and was the accompaniment of intense social intercourse, out of which developed the complexities of religion, ceremony, law and kinship relationships for which Aborigines were renowned.

References

1. Lacking ready access to libraries I have drawn on Dilip Chakrabati "Early agriculture and the development of towns in India." *The Cambridge Encyclopedia of Archaeology*, C.U.P. 1980, pp.162-7.
2. E. Stockton, "The Stone Industry" in J. B. Hennessy "Preliminary Report on a First Season of Excavations at Teleilat Ghassul." *Levant* Vol. 1, 1969, pp.17-21.
3. E. Stockton, "Archaeology of the Blue Mountains" *Blue Mountains Dreaming: The Aboriginal Heritage* (2nd Edition), Lawson 2009, pp.41-71.
4. *Ibid*. pp.66-7. This is argued in more detail in E. Stockton, "Reflections around the Campfire," *The Artefact* Vol. 6, 1981, pp.3-16.

Hartley District Progress Association has new president, Tom Kent

'…a strong feeling in the community that the enthusiasm generated by our 1813 commemoration activities should be maintained and enhanced…'

TOM KENT (pictured below has been elected as president of the Hartley District Progress Association and at the request of *HERITAGE* has outlined in this article some of the objectives of the group in coming years.

He writes: 'After two years of intense organisation and activity focussing on the 200th anniversary of the crossing of the Blue Mountains by Europeans, and in response to its constitutional requirements, a number of new faces have appeared on the executive of the Hartley District Progress Association, including myself as president for 2014.

Tom Kent

'Although I grew up in a small rural community in the Wagga area, the lifestyle at Hartley is a far cry from my subsequent career in accountancy and ultimately petroleum marketing for a large international oil company, leading to postings across Australia and then to responsibility for Europe and Asia, based in Central Offices in London.

'Retirement in Hartley with my wife Joan and a small herd of alpacas is an appropriate episode in an interesting life's journey.

'Apart from the natural beauty of the area, Hartley has a sadly unappreciated heritage of its' crucial role in the expansion of European settlement and an impressive array of nineteenth century buildings and road construction relics.

'I believe the Hartley District Progress Association has a responsibility to make this irreplaceable heritage known and appreciated by the wider community.

'Drawing upon my previous life experience, I envisage the HDPA expanding its activities beyond the financial requirements necessary for its continuation.

'There is a strong feeling in the community that the enthusiasm generated by our 1813 commemoration activities should be maintained and enhanced, adding to the existing social events such as the children's Christmas treat and the annual Boot Sale - projects such as the completion of the 'Signing Our Heritage Places' initiative, the ongoing restoration and internal painting of the 1881 Old School House, the conservation of the old school map and the completion of the Honour Rolls acknowledging the service and sacrifice of local servicemen and women and their families since the Great War of 1914 -18.

'Following the acclamation which followed our 1813 commemoration activities we are now planning our future activities – revisiting the popular Cox's Road walks and the companion horse trail rides which had to be abandoned last year for veterinary reasons.

'We anticipate further heritage seminars and a possible extension of the 'A Moment in Time' exhibition to include the subsequent history of the Hartley Valley as a centre of administration and education, its' shale and coalmining and apple growing industries and the rich family history of the early settlers in the district.

'Initially a 200th-year commemoration of the vice regal progress through Hartley to Bathurst is also contemplated for 2015.

'In an immediate sense it is imperative that we find a permanent 'home' in the Valley for our exhibition - which raises a number of issues - it requires 90 square metres of floor space and the security and management of such a venture poses problems for such a small albeit dedicated group.

'I believe that these are worthy ambitions for the Progress Association and look forward to the challenges ahead with optimism and enthusiasm.

Hartley court house. Photography John Leary OAM

The church that helped the Chinese Revolution

By Ray Christison

The construction of St Mary's Presbyterian Church in Lithgow had quite unforeseen consequences for the son of its builder George Donald, and for the development of China in the 20th century.

George McGarvie Donald was a master stonemason and builder who helped to create the City of Lithgow.

He was born at Paddington, Sydney in 1846[1], the son of Scottish stonemason George Donald. George senior had been encouraged to migrate to New South Wales by Governor Lachlan Macquarie who wished him to assist with government building works[2].

After completing a basic education young George McGarvie Donald was apprenticed as a stonemason to his father and uncle.

After completing his apprenticeship George was engaged on the railway construction projects undertaken by Thomas Higgins in the Bowenfels district during the late 1860s.

He worked on the stone railway bridges at the Great Zig Zag and at Marrangaroo, and married Marion Miles, daughter of one of the construction foremen.

Following completion of the railway contract George moved to Hill End where he worked on a number of construction projects.

Among these was the Hill End Methodist church, which was constructed using basalt rubble from the gold mines.

Church of St John the Evangelist at Wallerawang

This building is currently used as the Hill End Anglican Church.

After the failure of the deep lead gold boom of the 1870s George returned to the Lithgow Valley and established a construction business with Thomas Crowe.

In the early 1880s George constructed St Mary's Presbyterian Church for Thomas Brown. The church was built as a memorial to Brown's wife Mary.

He also constructed Cooerwull Academy for Andrew Brown and the Church of St John the Evangelist at Wallerawang

Other projects included Lithgow Town Hall, Wallerawang Public School, the Lithgow Oddfellows Hall and many residences. Donald & Crowe also built Mort's freezing works.

George Donald was extremely active in community affairs and had a great sense of social justice. He was a founding member of the GUIOOF Lily of the Valley Lodge and the Good Templars Lodge.

Popular amongst his fellow citizens he was elected the first mayor of Lithgow after the establishment of the Municipality of Lithgow in 1889.

[1] Reid, W., 1973 George Donald, First Mayor of Lithgow

[2] Thompson, P., 2011. *Shanghai Fury.* p.82

Continued from page 32

George Donald held the seat of Hartley in the New South Wales Legislative Assembly jointly with Joseph Cook from 1891.[1]

Donald was at times invited to address the celebration dinners held by the Coal Miners' Mutual Protective Association and other public meetings dealing with contentious labour issues.

In early 1893 he and Joseph Cook were responsible for arranging assistance for miners and their families made destitute by the closure of the Katoomba Colliery[2].

As magistrate he presided over the case brought against fifteen Zig Zag colliery miners for working on the Sabbath.

In administering penalties he fined the miners and their employer, indicating that all of the fines should be paid by the mine manager who had instructed the men to work.[3]

George died at Marrickville on May 30, 1930 aged 84, his wife Marion having died three years earlier. He was buried at Woronora Cemetery.[4]

William Donald was born to George and his wife Marian in 1875. It was intended that he follow his father into the building trade until an accident at St Mary's Presbyterian Church left him with a permanent impairment:

> *… Bill, always a boisterous boy, joined other young parishioners in jumping from a platform in the bell tower and swinging on the bell rope. One day he missed the rope and fell heavily, breaking his collarbone. … the fracture left him with a permanent weakness in his left arm.*[5]

William's injury precluded him from following his father's vocation and he was apprenticed into the printing trade at the Lithgow Mercury.

St Mary's Presbyterian Church, Lithgow

Under the mentorship of Lithgow Mercury editor James Ryan he learned the craft of journalism and eventually moved to Sydney where he worked as a court reporter.

Through various contacts he obtained the position of sub-editor of the China Mail in Hong Kong in 1903.[6]

This move launched William on a trajectory that placed him at the heart of the Chinese revolutionary movements of the early 20th century.

After the 1911 Revolution William provided some advice to the government of Sun Yat-sen and during the 1920s he became the personal confidante of 'Young Marshall' Chang Hsueh-liang in Manchuria.[7]

From the mid 1930s William became the personal confidante of Madame Chiang Kai-shek. His career at the heart of the Chinese revolution earned him the title "Chinese" Donald.

About the author

The author of this article Ray Christison of Lithgow is a regular contributor to *HERITAGE*

He is another contributor who can turn an otherwise story about the history of a couple of churches into an interesting heritage piece which readers will enjoy reading avidly from the opening sentence to mystery connection revealed in the last couple of paragraphs.

Ray was invited to become an inaugural individual member of BMACHO and served on the management committee for several terms.

Ray Christison is an archaeologist who conducts a heritage consultancy business High Ground Consulting, based in Lithgow.

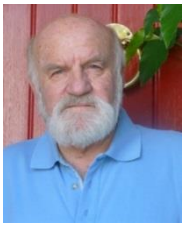
He is president of the City of Greater Lithgow Mining Museum Inc and has served on the Board of this organisation since 1992.

Ray won the coveted 2013 IMAGinE award for individual achievement for its the exhibit *Fire in the Mine.*

[1] Reid, W., 1973 George Donald, First Mayor of Lithgow
[2] The Lithgow Mercury 20 April 1894
[3] Sydney Morning Herald 10 January 1895
[4] Reid, W. 1973 George Donald, First Mayor of Lithgow
[5] Thompson, P., 2011. *Shanghai Fury.* p.85
[6] Thompson, P., 2011. *Shanghai Fury.* p.95
[7] Lewis, W., 1981. Australian Dictionary of Biography [Online]

The built heritage of Kurrajong-Comleroy

By Steve Rawling AM



Some time ago (2009 in fact), I wrote a piece in the *Millstone* which was then republished in *HERITAGE* about the various levels of "heritage listing" pointing out that while all such lists are of interest, most of them do not confer any real protection for heritage buildings or other material items. To summarise them again:

Council lists items of heritage interest in its local environment plan (LEP), which then requires council to consider heritage factors when assessing development applications.

The State Heritage Office has a State Heritage Inventory, which draws on council's list (but does not include all items) and is again simply "items of interest".

For an item to be strongly protected, it must be chosen to be listed on the State Heritage Register, as being of "State significance".

Then there is the National Heritage List, which contains only a small number of items, but is gradually being added to.

The World Heritage List of course contains the Greater Blue Mountains, close to us, but that is a natural rather than a built item.

Perhaps the best known of all is the listing by the National Trust. It is certainly the longest-established, and it is often thought to confer protection on items it contains, but again it doesn't – it simply identifies important buildings and natural areas which are of genuine heritage interest, judged by people with expertise.

So how does our area – Kurrajong-Comleroy, fare in all of this? The sad fact is that very little in our area appears on any list which would confer real protection.

There are 99 Hawkesbury items on the State Heritage Inventory, and 51 on the State Heritage Register. Of the latter, only half a dozen are in our area, mostly in Wilberforce and Ebenezer.

But we should start at the beginning, with council's LEP which is fairly inclusive, containing over 600 items in the Hawkesbury, about 120 of which appear to be in our area.

Notable inclusions, which everyone would expect to appear, are Westbury at Grose Vale, Reibycroft at Freeman's Reach, Goldfinders in Kurrajong Village, Lochiel at Kurrajong Heights, St John of God at North Richmond, Sunnyside at North Richmond, Rose Cottage, Stannix Park and Australiana Pioneer Village at Wilberforce, and of course the church and former school house at Ebenezer.

There are also various other churches, cemeteries, substantial early houses, and quite a few smaller houses and cottages.

When the Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Society was first formed, I attempted to locate all items on the list, but was frustrated by the fact that the old street numbering was used.

The current version of the LEP can be accessed on the Web by googling Hawkesbury Local Environment Plan 2012.

It has to be said that the original compilers of the list did a pretty comprehensive job. However, what is most surprising and disturbing is what is not on the list.

Two items in particular, of great significance to anyone interested in the history of our area, are conspicuously absent. They are the Comleroy Road School of Arts and the Singleton's Mills sites. How these were overlooked is hard to understand.

The School of Arts has of course a special place in our society's history and is a significant element in early twentieth century social history of the area.

It is to be hoped that it can be rescued from its present poor state, whether or not the society can be involved that process.

The Mill sites on the other hand are almost 100 years older, and were central in the thinking of the founders of our society – hence the logo - representing as they do the earliest history of the Kurrajong, and a vanished industry of grain growing and milling.

The proposal to apply for State Heritage listing, which is being co-ordinated by Frank Holland, will leapfrog other levels and, if successful, guarantee future protection of the remains of what we believe is of genuine state significance.

Any member with an interest in or knowledge of our built heritage is very welcome to contact the committee to discuss any action we might take on this front. For example, a project involving a photographic record of the items on the LEP could be of interest for someone with a camera!

In this article Steve Rawling, AM president of Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society debunks some of the myths built up about the protection (or lack of it) afforded the state's built heritage. Although he deals specifically with the Hawkesbury City Council's LEP the matter in principle is generic and can be applied to any local government area in NSW.

LATE NEWS

ELECTION TO RAHS COUNCIL

BMACHO's hardworking, efficient, popular and effective secretary, Jan Koperberg has been elected as a councillor of the Royal Australian Historical Society with a very large percentage of the vote.

The election was for four councillors, with the president Dr Anne-Maree Whitaker and Hazelbrook heritage archaeologist Dr Siobhan Lavelle, OAM being re-elected and Chris Maxworthy filling the fourth position up for election.

Treasures from home

Do you have a treasure at home ?

The Museums of Lithgow would like to learn about individual's treasure and help the owners work out its significance.

As a part of International Museums Day 2014 *ABC Open* will be joining staff and volunteers to photograph treasure, write up its history an upload it to their Object Stories online Museum.

Treasures should be brought to Eskbank House, Lithgow on Sunday, May 18, 10am to 2pm.

For further information telephone 6351 3557 or www.lithgow.com/esbank/.

Image: Trooper George Cecil Green's Welcome Home Medal owned by Lindsay Green

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

REGISTERED OFFICE 1/19 Stypandra Place**, Springwood 2777 (02) 4751 5834. E-mail:** committee@blumountainsheritage.com.au or j.koperberg@big.com Website: www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au
ABN 53 994 839 952

THE ORGANISATION Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Organisations Inc (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 after local historical and heritage societies and individuals recognised the need for the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the local government area (LGA) of Blue Mountains City Council. The constituency now embraces but is not limited to the LGAs of Blue Mountains, Lithgow, Hawkesbury, Penrith and Mudgee. BMACHO membership includes historical and heritage groups, museums, commercial enterprises with an historical or heritage component in its core business, local government (local studies units, library collections) and a limited number of individual members by invitation such as but not necessarily academics. The objectives of the organisation are i. to raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage; ii. to encourage and assist cultural heritage; iii. to initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations. One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

AFFILIATIONS BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society and is affiliated with the Better Planning Network.

PUBLICATIONS BMACHO's official newsletter *HERITAGE* is edited by John Leary, OAM; the annual refereed *Blue Mountains History Journal* is edited by Dr Peter Rickwood and occasional papers are published from time to time.

MEMBERSHIP The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains Botanic Garden - Mount Tomah, Blue Mountains City Library, Blue Mountains Cultural Heritage Centre, Blue Mountain Education and Research Trust, Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc., Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc. Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute, Eskbank Rail Heritage Centre, Everglades Historic House & Gardens, Friends of Norman Lindsay Gallery, Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc., Hartley Valley District Progress Association, Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc., Lithgow and District Family History Society Inc., Lithgow Mining Museum Inc., Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies, Lithgow Small Arms Factory Museum Inc., Mt Victoria and District Historical Society Inc., Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine Historical Society Inc. (including Turkish Bath Museum), Mudgee Historical Society Inc., National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Blue Mountains Branch, National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Lithgow Branch, Nepean District Historical Society Inc., Paragon Restaurant – Katoomba, Scenic World Blue Mountains Limited, Springwood & District Historical Society Inc., Springwood Historians Inc., Transport Signal and Communication Museum Inc., The Darnell Collection Pty Ltd, Valley Heights Locomotive Depot and Museum, Woodford Academy Management Committee, Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd. The following are individual members: Ray Christison, Associate Professor Ian Jack, Joan Kent, John Leary OAM, John Low OAM, Ian Milliss, Patsy Moppett, Professor Barrie Reynolds, Dr Peter Rickwood and Dr Peter Stanbury OAM.

COMMITTEE: The management committee for 2013-14 is: John Leary OAM (president), Ian Jack (vice president), Jan Koperberg (secretary/acting treasurer), Roy Bennett, Wendy Hawkes, Patsy Moppett, Dick Morony (public officer), Scott Pollock, Suzanne Smith and Richard Woolley.

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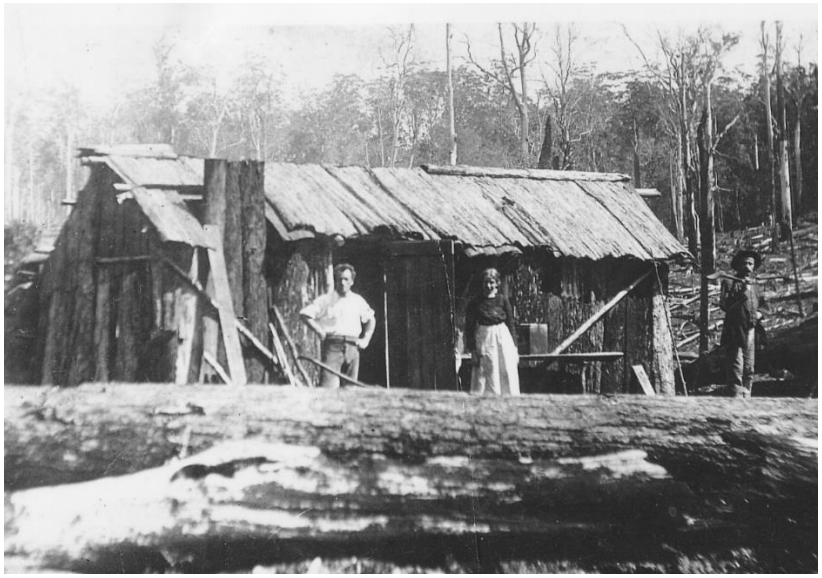

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The slab hut housing Hazelbrook wood supplying saw bench business owned by Joseph (left) and Florence (centre) Taggett circa 1920s. Photograph courtesy Ken Goodlet

Those Amazing Slab Huts

by Paul Wheeldon

Our earliest pioneers became renowned for their building expertise in the construction of their dwellings.

The Australian outback settler was also famous for his versatile use of the closest materials at hand.

If he had easily quarried stone and little timber, even if he had only the most elementary idea of masonry, he would probably build his habitation in stone, either in perhaps a two room hut or, if his family requirements called for greater accommodation, he would construct a cottage of several rooms.

If he was somewhat of a tradesman at all he would build a pitched roof and if it were to be a better class dwelling he would roof it in split shingles in preference to perhaps a bark roof.

By comparison the majority of outback huts or small cottages were of wooden or slab construction. The early settler learnt quickly that the old English 'wattle and daub' construction was not in any way suitable for the Australian climate.

The most common early constructions were of the 'vertical slab' type.

There were of course a considerable number of variations in their construction in this type alone.

Wingebelaley formerly Cullenbenbong, a slab hut built by Bernard O'Reilly in the Kanimbla Valley and immortalised in his son's book named like the hut. Photograph courtesy Ian Jack 1997

Primarily the frame of the building was erected, commencing with the corner posts, good solid logs of the desired height were let into the ground at least a half metre.

According to the degree of performance required they were either left round or adzed or broad axed into square shape.

Door openings and window outlets were generally indicated by posts.

In the more permanent buildings a base and top plate were prepared again not necessarily squared, by cutting a channel of perhaps 1 ½ inches wide and two inches deep in which to set the adzed and squared ends of the split up-right slabs.

Very often the based ends of the slabs were merely let into the ground, where, of course, they ultimately rotted.

The discriminating builder always used a good base plate set up off the ground on a foundation of stones and lime mortar to prevent rotting.

Stringy bark was the preferred timber for split slabs

The split edges of the slabs were nearly always adzed or squared off to ensure the best possible fit between slabs.

The roof frame was constructed from round timber 'saplings' (small young trees). It was a pitched roof often with 'hip' ends.

In an ordinary dwelling it was invariably roofed with stringy bark, or perhaps, if it was a fair size better class cottage, it may have used a wooden shingle roof requiring very much more roofing battens which has to be sawn.

Hence we do not find any real early primitive huts or houses with shingle roofs.

The early settler only had modest tools and labour so he built in the first instance the most modest dwelling.

The average settler's tool consisted of perhaps an adze, several sizes of augurs and the like, a hand-made driving maul and a set of splitting wedges, an axe, a broad or squaring axe, several hammers, a crosscut saw and possibly a shovel, crowbar and pick or mattock.

Possibly among the greater skills was the selection and preparation of the materials.

Stringy bark was the preferred timber for split slabs, or was it because there was a greater abundance of that timber?

Not only did the selected wood split straight but it was among the most durable of timber.

The discriminating timber worker was particularly fussy about selecting his trees.

It was generally accepted that either the white or red stringy bark was suitable but the tree that grew in the valley or creek beds was the best to split.

A chip would be struck off a tree under selection and the chip split readily in the hand it followed the tree would be a splitter.

Trees off the higher ground were generally the last choice, and if possible were to be avoided for this purpose.

The bark would be used for the roof and again called for some skill in its preparation.

The length would be cut around the top and bottom and then a zig-zag cut would be made from top to bottom and the whole sheet of bark peeled off in one piece. The art of preparing the bark for the roof so that it would not split was often a guarded secret by some.

The Coble family home at Yass in the 1860s (the author's paternal grandmother's family). Often the new house beside the older one and the other was used for other purposes.

It consisted of keeping it rolled up and almost immediately stood over a small fire so that it was virtually a chimney.

According to the condition of the bark it would be roasted, so to speak, for perhaps half-an-hour and then probably turned end for end to complete the process.

The sheets were then carefully laid out on the ground and weighted down flat before being placed on the roof.

It was generally conceded that this heating process also increased its waterproof qualities.

When the bark was placed in position it was generally held down by further timber placed on top of it and dowel pegged to keep it together.

Later, of course, both wire and nails were often used.

The tree was felled by either axe or cross-cut saw.

The slabs were split with maul and wedges.

As regards early huts etc. nails were virtually unprocurable and all jointing was either by mortice or with tenon or dowel pegs.

Yet another variation of the slab hut was the 'drop hatch' construction.

Much more demanding in skill than its more common vertical slab brother, it was considered a more substantial construction, though in actual fact it has not really proved to be. Slabs were mostly adzed both inside and outside.

Continued page 3

‘Another era of an early colonial dwelling has passed…’

All posts, door and window openings were usually channelled down each side.

The specially prepared slabs were then dropped into their correct recesses from the top of the wall and thus laid horizontally one over the other.

More often than not the fireplace was externally of slab with an interior of clay and stone.

Some refinements included the caulking between the slabs with clay mortar generally mixed with animal urine or ox blood.

Later strips of zinc or galvanised iron were tacked between the slabs.

Very often in the primitive huts the earthen floors were of clay, cow dung and urine, which made a fine hard floor.

A hut is generally considered to be a dwelling of two rooms – one portion the living quarters and the other the sleeping area.

On the other hand there have been and still are some quite substantial homes of slab.

Many of these larger slab homes provided comfortable living.

Many had wooden floors and often plaster-lined and offered many refinements.

Such places are to be seen still in use in many areas of eastern Australia.

The earlier dwellings were often lined with newspapers which were continually added to, eventually getting quite thick.

The ceiling was often just suspended hessian or calico.

A somewhat later development many of these dwellings had all refinements including glass windows.

In the primitives the windows were just small opening doors suspended on leather or green hide to act as hinges.

Often the split inside of the slab was adzed to smooth it down and often a verandah was attached over the one end and only door entrance.

It is a tribute to the builders and their selection of timbers that their durability is responsible for their continued use today.

They have outlived their bark or shingle roof and are to be seen with replaced galvanised iron.

Many of them owe the change to iron for the inclusion of an additional verandah or so.

Another era of an early colonial dwelling has passed with the advancement of time.

Pictured above a slab hut in the village of Duramana, some 15 kilometres north west of Bathurst. Photograph courtesy Ken Goodlet.

At left: a slab hut in Queensland ca 1880. Couretsy Queensland State Library.

Continued page 4

Those amazing slab huts

Continued from page 3

Building implements and their meanings :

Adze: An ancient type of edge tool dating back to the stone-age. Used for smoothing or carving wood in hand working, similar to an axe but with the head mounted perpendicular to the handle.

Augur: A drilling device, or drill bit, that usually includes a rotating helical screw blade called a 'flighting' to act as a screw conveyor to remove the drilled out material. The rotation of the blade causes the material to move out of the hole being drilled.

Broadaxe: A large broad headed axe used for shaping logs by hewing.

Maul: A large hammer, heavy wood splitting tool resembling both axe and hammer.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

PAUL WHEELDON the author of *HERITAGE*'s front page story, *Those amazing slab huts* is a member of the Nepean District Historical Society and a committee member of the Nepean Family History Society.

Other memberships include the Goulburn and District Historical Society, the Goulburn District Family History Society also the Collector and District Historical Association. He has contributed articles to a number of these societies.

Paul spent almost all his working career in the University sector, mostly at the University of Sydney and the University of London. He also had some memorable years as Secretary to the Anglican Bishop of Southwark in London.

Recently he was made redundant from the University of Sydney. This has now allowed him to concentrate his time on his passion for family history and local history.

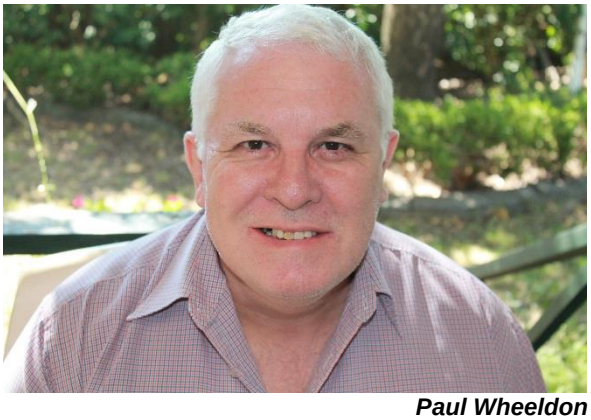
In 1988, the bicentenary year, he organised a family reunion for the Wheeldon family at Collector, releasing a book, *Another Time, Another Place* to coincide with that reunion.

Under the direction of the Anglican Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn, Paul will be releasing a book on St. Matthias' *Currawang* (near Lake George). This will be a history of the church and those who are interred in the cemetery. It is to be released in February 2015 to coincide with the 140th Anniversary of the church.

Following this another publication of *Currawang* local history will be released. The area covered will be Tirranna, Komungla (previously Bangalore), Thornford, Spring Valley and Currawang through to Collector.

A feature of this local history will be the Currawang. copper mines, the largest copper producer in New South Wales from 1866 to 1872.

This article has previously appeared in Nepean District Historical Society's newsletter, *The Arms Chronicle* No. 64 February 2014.



Paul Wheeldon

Oldest known piece of Earth

Scientists using two different age-determining techniques have shown that tiny zircon crystal found on a sheep station in Western Australia is the oldest known piece of our planet, dating back 4.4 billion years. In a recent edition of the journal *Nature Geoscience,* researchers have reported that the discovery indicates that Earth's crust formed relatively soon after the planet formed and the gem was a remnant of it. John Valley a University of Wisconsin geoscience professor who led the research, said the findings suggest the Earth was not as harsh a place as many scientists have thought. The finding supports the notion of a "cool early Earth" where temperatures were low enough to sustain oceans, and perhaps life, earlier than previously thought.

An opinion from the editor…

Western crossing has combined commemoration and celebration

In an address I gave at the recent annual general meeting of BMACHO and circulated to members, I may have given the impression that the activities so far in the Western Crossings 2013-15 program were more celebration and little commemoration.

On reflection it is probably fair to state that In fact there was considerable commemoration as well as celebration.

Although individuals and bodies such as National Trust and the RAHS had been floating ideas for the bicentenary celebrations, the Western Crossings commemoration had its genesis with BMACHO.

However, it was quickly and correctly recognised that this organisation did not have the resources to manage such a venture. BMACHO's committee asked the then long serving president of the Royal Australian Historical Society Associate Professor Ian Jack to explore with the RAHS Council, the idea of co-ordinating the project.

It was pleasing when the RAHS quickly took up the challenge and Professor David Carment, AM very ably took on the role of the first Western Crossings Committee chairman which he continued to do when he became the president of the RAHS.

I recall soon after David took on the task of chairman he, Ian Jack (then the president of the RAHS) and I (then president of BMACHO) met one Sunday afternoon in my home to look at objectives and parameters for the Western Crossings Committee as it was to become known.

From that informal meeting there came a strong recommendation that the commemoration of the bicentenary should be from the period 2013 – 2015 embracing the anniversary of a series of inter – related events after the 1813 exploration by Blaxland, Wentworth and Lawson. George William Evans began his survey for a roadway across the Blue Mountains in November 1813 and went as far as the future Bathurst; William Cox then supervised the construction of the road from July 1814 to January 1815 and then Governor Lachlan Macquarie accompanied by Mrs Elizabeth Macquarie travelled along the new road in April and May 1815 and selected the site of Bathurst.

There is no doubt all those who attended the Western Crossings Committee meetings from the very earliest meeting, were in agreement, time and time again, that the Crossings was a commemoration of all who had crossed, from the very earliest Aboriginal crossings to the crossing by Governor Lachlan Macquarie and Mrs Elizabeth Macquarie and party in 1815.

The European crossings from 1813 are not a celebration for the Aboriginal people and there were many commemorations of Indigenous crossings held during 2014, like the Ancestral Pathways walks organised by Auntie Sharyn Halls , the official opening of The Gully at Katoomba with interpretive signage, the commemoration walk 'Jummangunda Ngunninga' walk from Bardens Lookout to Mt York.

The excellent exhibition in Hartley *A Moment in Time* curated by Joan Kent starting with a very comprehensive history of the Wiradjuri people, through to Governor Lachlan Macquarie is one of the lasting commemorations as is the Western Crossing room at the Mt Victoria Museum and there are others.

As I stated in my annual report,… 'Credit must go to the Royal Australian Historical Society for its role in overseeing through the Western Crossings Committee the co-ordination of the celebration. This committee brought together organisations from Blacktown to Bathurst; descendants of those involved with what has been described as the first crossing of the Blue Mountains by Europeans; local Indigenous groups; as well as others to promote and co-ordinate this part of the celebration and will continue to do so until 2015.

'Unfortunately, the celebration has not yet attracted major financial support from government with most of the events being funded by local organisations and sponsorship from local business and individuals.

'The State government did provide a grant of $80,000 to the Royal Australian Historical Society and this was distributed to various groups and activities involved in the centenary. This grant was negotiated between Professor David Carment and the then Premier of NSW Barry O'Farrell.'

John Leary, OAM – president, Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc and editor of *HERITAGE.*

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Page 32 The Lithgow church that helped the Chinese Revolution Ray Christison a regular contributor to *HERITAGE* who can always find something quirky in history, in writing about churches in this piece, neatly spins the yarn about a would-be builder who ended up being the personal confidante of Madame Chiang Kai-Shek.

Page 23 Katoomba's unique World War 1 memorial In 1919 Gearin's Hotel was being refurbished when carpenter, Ted Stratford, was knocked unconscious when struck on the head by falling timber. Joan Edward writes, this was the catalyst for the opening of Katoomba Hospital more than a decade later.

Page 30 What happened here 4000 years ago? A genetic study has found ancestors of modern Indians may have come to Australia about 4,000 years before Europeans colonised the continent. Eugene Stockton proposes a possible scenario.

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A knighted architect and patron of the arts, his wife a renowned community worker and photographer, and their family from the 18th century to today …
the Sulmans in the Blue Mountains

By Emeritus Professor of History, Charles Darwin University
David Carment, AM.

Introduction

Thank you for the invitation to speak. I am pleased to be here as I have a longstanding interest in the Blue Mountains and support the work of the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations.

My mother's family, the Sulmans, first became associated with the Blue Mountains during the late nineteenth century and with Woodford Academy in the early twentieth century.

Today I want to explain why that association commenced through regular long summer visits and developed after the family acquired Kihilla in Lawson as their Mountains residence before focussing on three family members: my great grandfather the architect, town planner and patron of the arts Sir John Sulman; his wife the community worker and photographer Annie, Lady Sulman; and their son, my grandfather the racing car driver Tom Sulman.

All lived for long periods in the Blue Mountains. I briefly conclude by showing how the family connection continues through to the present.

A summer retreat from the city

The historian Julia Horne explains that from the 1880s the Blue Mountains came 'to be seen as restorative for those seeking peace and quiet from the daily grind, as well as those recuperating from a range of illnesses'.

Late nineteenth century discussion 'focused on the beneficial effects of a dry inland climate at altitudes higher than sea level'. By the end of the century the Blue Mountains were particularly valued 'for their pure air and cool climate during summer months, a retreat from the hot and tiring life of the city'.[1]

These were the principal motivations for John Sulman's migration to Australia and his discovery of the Blue Mountains. Born in England in 1849, he was a successful architect there but migrated to Australia

Ernest Brougham Decker, *The Three Sisters, Katoomba, Blue Mountains NSW,* 1898 (Macleay Museum, The University of Sydney

with his invalid first wife Sarah Clark Sulman, formerly Redgate, and young son Arthur in 1885 after receiving medical advice that Sarah's tuberculosis was so serious that she could only survive in a warm climate.

They decided to settle in Sydney, where John quite quickly became a prominent architect and began his concerns with town planning and the arts. His other two children, Florence (known as Florrie) and Edith (known as Edie), joined John, Sarah and Arthur from England in 1886.[2]

Sarah's condition, unfortunately, deteriorated. She died at the end of 1888.

[1] Julia Horne, *The Pursuit of Wonder: How Australia's Landscape was Explored, Nature Discovered and Tourism Unleashed,* The Miegunyah Press, Melbourne, 2005, pp 135-136.

[2] Zenaida S Edwards, 'The Life and Work of Sir John Sulman 1849-1934', Doctor of Philosophy thesis, University of Technology Sydney, 2006, Vol II, Ch 1.

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Before then, in searching for a location that would improve her health, John first encountered the Blue Mountains.

In a letter of November 1885, he notes that 'the chief objection to Sydney is the moist enervating climate of the summer months and the more or less moisture laden sea breeze which blows all year round'.

It was necessary for the '4 hot months' that 'my wife must move to a place in the hills'.[3] Initially they preferred the New South Wales Southern Highlands but John also went to the Blue Mountains and writes of its 'bracing' climate.[4]

In summer 1886 he rented a cottage at Lawson, not far from the railway station.[5]

The summer of 1887-1888 was spent in Springwood, where John and Sarah made good friends. Florrie and Edie had school lessons in nearby Falconbridge with the children of a solicitor. It was during this period that John designed the Springwood Anglican church that I discuss later.[6]

The Sulmans, Sydney, 1900.

Back row Florence (Florrie) (1876 - 1965), Arthur (1882 – 1971), front row Edith (Edie) (1878 – 1907), John (later Sir John Sulman) (1849 – 1935), Dorothy Joan (Joan) (1896 – 1973), Thomas Noel (Tom) (1899 – 1970), Annie Elizabeth (later Lady Sulman) (1864 – 1949), Geoffrey (1894 – 1916). Not present John Masefield (Jack) (1906 – 1959). **(Sulman Family Archives).**

John was married again in 1893 to the Sydney born Annie Elizabeth Masefield, who while a young child was adopted into the wealthy and prominent Walker family as a companion for Eadith (later Dame Eadith) Walker, later a well-known philanthropist.

Between 1894 and 1906 John and Annie had four children: Geoffrey, Dorothy Joan (known as Joan), Thomas Noel (known as Tom) and John Masefield (known as Jack).[7]

Annie quickly became fond of the Blue Mountains so regular trips to them continued. Each summer was spent in one or other of the mountain resorts to save the children, John writes, 'from the enervating effects of the moist heat of Sydney'[8]. One year's summer stay was in a large cottage in Katoomba.

John describes a memorable walk then with some of his children and a local doctor as involving a route by: *the Narrow Neck to the State Mine under the Ruined Castle… and* [Arthur's] *refusal to return by the same route because of its length and insistence on making the direct cut across the valley via the wire rope trollies which carried the shale to Katoomba. It looked much shorter but was far more arduous and we had to descend quite a thousand feet to the creek and then climb two thousand to reach the Katoomba look-out where fortunately I found a buggy for hire and we drove home. It almost finished the Doctor who was short and rather stout*.[9]

Other locations visited during the late 1890s were Jenolan Caves and Mount Solitary.

It was also at this time that John and Annie began their interests in photography, in which Annie developed particular expertise.[10]

On Christmas Day 1899 their son Tom was born at the Chalet in Wentworth Falls.[11] The regular long summer stays in the Blue Mountains went on during the early twentieth century.

Kihilla

To alleviate Geoffrey's digestive problems and Annie's rheumatism,[12] in October 1909 the Sulmans arranged to occupy Kihilla, sometimes called Kihilla Park, in Lawson with what a *Blue Mountains Echo* report describes as 'further improvements' being planned there under John's oversight.[13]

In February the following year he successfully applied to have a telephone service installed.[14] Some sources indicate that John purchased Kihilla in 1913 so until then he may have leased it.

While the Sulmans also had a home in Sydney, Kihilla was where the younger children mainly lived with servants and other staff for about 10 years. John and especially Annie were also quite frequently in residence.[15]

[3] John Sulman to English friends, 12 November 1885, in Zeny Edwards (comp), 'The Sulman Archives Held by the Family', July 1997, p 56.
[4] *Ibid.,* p 60.
[5] John Sulman, 'Reminiscences', 1927, p 45, Sulman Family Archive (SFA).
[6] *Ibid.*, pp 45-46.
[7] Edwards, 'The Life and Work of Sir John Sulman', Vol II, Chs 1-15.
[8] *Ibid*., p 60.
[9] *Ibid.*, pp 60-61.
[10] *Ibid.*, p 61.
[11] Annie Sulman, diary of births, deaths and marriages, SFA.
[12] Edwards, 'The Life and Work of Sir John Sulman', Vol II, pp 181-182.
[13] *The Blue Mountains Echo*, 30 October 1909.
[14] *The Blue Mountains Echo*, 26 February 1910.
[15] Nance Cooper, Lawson, http://www.dictionaryofsydney.org/entry/lawson, accessed 10 February 2014; Edwards, 'The Life and Work of Sir John Sulman', Vol II, pp 181-182; Ln017 : Kihilla and Grounds | NSW Environment & Heritage,

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By this time Edie had died and Arthur, a pastoralist in North Queensland, was only an occasional visitor. The unmarried Florrie came more regularly.

In 1914 she published her much read two volumed *Popular Guide to the Wildflowers of New South Wales,*[16] which she later told me was inspired by her Blue Mountains experiences.

The Sulmans, Kihilla about 1913.Back row Joan, Jack and Tom Back, front row Geoffery, John and Annie. **Sulman Family Archive.**

Tom writes of Kihilla as: *an old mansion with verandahs all around it, big high ceilinged-rooms, standing in 22 acres of land a mile out of Lawson. There were stables, coach houses, and several outbuildings, a large orchard, and bushland – a kid's paradise.*[17]

Kihilla was built in 1883. Largely unchanged since the Sulmans' time, it is a complex of structures set in extensive landscaped grounds overlooking bushland to the north.

The principal house with its former stables and a small cottage are at the site's north end. The former gardener's cottage, now under separate ownership, is close to the Great Western Highway.

Kihilla's attraction to the Sulmans must have been enhanced by its proximity to Lawson, one of the Blue Mountains' most prosperous towns. It had a railway station, good shops, hotels, a post office, and, from 1918, electric power.

The Sulman family owned Kihilla until 1953 but ceased using it after John's death in 1934. It was then leased out to a series of guesthouse proprietors.[18]

Following Annie's death in 1949, it was bequeathed to her grandchildren, the oldest of whom was my mother Diana aged only 22. They could not afford to keep the house and it was sold for what my father described as a pittance.[19] The Church Army Australia now uses it as a retreat and conference centre.[20]

Life at Kihilla was very varied. Although busy with a range of activities in Sydney, John got back as often as he could. Zeny Edwards's biography describes him as having a 'patriarchal disposition' and being 'a strict disciplinarian' but 'loving and fair in his duties as a father'.[21] He did not provide the children with pocket money but allowed them to earn as much as possible by cutting firewood, weeding the orchard and numerous other chores.

'The more we earned', Tom recalls, 'the better pleased father was'.[22]

There were frequent family picnics in the nearby bush. They involved large wicker baskets full of food, rugs and other utensils. Outdoor meals also sometimes occurred under a shelter.

Until 1912, Geoffrey, whose poor health prevented regular school attendance, and Tom shared a tutor at Kihilla.[23] Tom, and later Jack, then attended Woodford Academy, about which I later say more.

Geoffrey loved building model aeroplanes and steam engines in his Kihilla workshop and was fascinated by motor vehicles. On one occasion he and Tom secretly built a full-sized glider, which crashed and disintegrated with Tom as its pilot. He luckily escaped with only a few bruises.[24]

Unable for health reasons to enlist in the Australian Imperial Force after the First World War started and unsuccessful in his attempts to work in the munitions industry, as an unmatriculated student Geoffrey attended engineering classes at the University of Sydney but was often at Kihilla until in 1916 he went to England. There he became an officer in the Royal Flying Corps before dying in an aircraft accident the following year.[25]

It was a tragedy from which Annie never fully recovered.

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http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/heritageapp/ViewHeritageItemDetails.aspx?ID=1170677, accessed 10 February 2014.

[16] Margaret Henry, 'Sulman Florence (1876-1965), Australian Dictionary of Biography, National Centre of Biography, Australian National University, http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/sulman-florence-871/text15251, accessed 12 February 2014.

[17] Tom Sulman, 'Autobiography – July 1969', pp 1-2, SFA.

[18] Ln017: Kihilla and Grounds.

[19] Personal knowledge.

[20] Kihilla Retreat & Conference Centre | Church Army Australia, http://www.churcharmy.com.au/hire-conference-centre/, accessed 11 February 2014.

[21] Edwards, 'The Life and Work of Sir John Sulman', Vol II, pp 316-317.

[22] Sulman, 'Autobiography', p 6.

[23] Various photographs, SFA.

[24] Sulman, 'Autobiography', p 2.

[25] Keith Jones, 'The Sulman Letters', in *The University of Sydney* Record, no 1, 1995; National Archives (Great Britain), AIR/76/490; Students at the University of Sydney – Senate – The University of Sydney, http://sydney.edu.au/senate/students_WWI_casualties.shtml, accessed 15 February 2014.

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Joan was dux of the Blue Mountains Girls School at Lawson in 1910.[26] She later married Tom's Woodford Academy friend Dr Bruce Shallard, the medical practitioner son of a well-known Glenbrook apiarist.[27]

In 1912 John bought a family car. Tom describes it as: *a 35 horse power seven-seater SPA, a 4-cylinder, 4-speed Italian car weighing about two tons. It was a beautiful job and quite fast for that period – 65 mph – and very up-to-date with electric side and tail lights and a siren, though it had no generator to keep the battery charged. Unluckily it had loads of brass work which was my special responsibility – no shiny brass, no ride – still, we were all very proud of it.*[28]

With Geoffrey as driver, it took them all over the Mountains on many enjoyable outings. In December 1913 a fire menaced Kihilla until a combination of volunteers and rain put it out.[29]

***A Blue Mountain outing in the family car about 1912. Back seat – Joan, Tom, Annie, Florrie; front seat – Geoffrey, Jack, John. (*Sulman Family Archive).**

Another fire came close to the main house in February 1926. The Katoomba Fire Brigade was called and a 'difficult fight ensued', *The Blue Mountains Echo* reports, 'before it was beaten out'.[30]

After John's death, the President of the Blue Mountains Shire Council, Councillor Percy Wilson, remarked that he was 'very generous to us on the Mountains, and at Lawson especially…that fine property of his is a credit to the place'.[31] There is now a Sulman Road close to Kihilla.

John Sulman's Blue Mountains designs

John's most permanent contributions to the Blue Mountains were the structures he is known to have designed there, all still standing and all with recognised heritage significance.

The first was Christ Church Anglican Church in Springwood, constructed in 1888 and 1889. Now a landmark on the Great Western Highway, it is a fine sandstone building with a simple but sensitively designed interior.

The sandstone is local and the roof is slate. Later extensions to the church to create the chancel, north transept and tower are in keeping with John's original design.

The New South Wales Office of Environment and Heritage Statement of Significance notes that the church's interior 'has an unusually peaceful atmosphere created by the use of pale sandstone and stained timber and restrained detailing'. John's original conception as seen from his drawings, though, was never finished. This included an eastern and a western transept at the church's rear and a large crowning tower between the two.[32]

Another John Sulman church in the Blue Mountains is the former Holy Trinity Anglican Church at Wentworth Falls, also constructed in 1888 and 1889. The Office of Environment and Heritage does not acknowledge him as the architect but Zeny Edwards's carefully researched biography does. It is a well-built wooden structure with a steeply pitched corrugated galvanised steel roof. There are a side entry porch and a single bay sanctuary. The building is now used as a hall.[33]

Perhaps the grandest of John's Blue Mountains designs is Khandala, also known as Kardinia Park, in Katoomba, completed in 1898. A picturesque house in the Federation Queen Anne style, it is situated above a terraced garden where it has uninterrupted views over the Jamison Valley to Mount Solitary, the Ruined Castle and Narrow Neck.

The house is timber framed on a brick base and clad with wide rusticated weatherboards on the ground floor. Some chimneys are topped with corbels incorporating bricks and terracotta pots. A verandah is on the house's southeast corner.

To the north of the house is the original coach house, a large gabled structure.
Ernest and Margaret Young engaged John to design their Katoomba retreat in 1897. By the end of 1898 the house was ready.

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[26] *The Blue Mountains Echo*, 30 December 1910.
[27] *The Richmond River Herald and Northern Districts Advertiser*, 17 January 1928.
[28] Sulman, 'Autobiography', p 5.
[29] *Nepean Times*, 11 December 1913.
[30] *The Blue Mountains Echo*, 19 February 1926.
[31] *Times*, 25 August 1934. *Nepean*
[32] Christ Church Anglican Church | NSW Environment & Heritage, http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/heritageapp/ViewHeritageItemDetails.aspx?ID=5045251, accessed 10 February 2014; Edwards, 'The Life and Work of Sir John Sulman', Vol III, p 154.
[33] WF003 : Holy Trinity Anglican Church | NSW Environment & Heritage, http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/heritageapp/ViewHeritageItemDetails.aspx?ID=1170021, accessed 10 February 2014; Edwards, 'The Life and Work of Sir John Sulman', Vol III, p 154.

Continued from page 10

In the original plan a drawing room, dining room and nursery were on the ground floor.

Before the house was completed, the Youngs had another child with a further baby expected, so a playroom was added to the original design.

More than most late nineteenth and early twentieth century retreats in the Blue Mountains, Khandala represents, according to the Office of Environment and Heritage, 'many of the attributes sought out by those who could afford to develop a summer home in the mountains'. It is also 'a particularly fine example of the Federation Queen Anne style'.[34]

Khandala (also known as Kardinia Park) Katoomba 2011. **(Century 21)**

Christ Church, Springwood about 2013. **(commons.wikpedia.org)**

Former Holy Trinity Church Rectory, Wentworth Falls. No date. **(pigott-gorrie.blogspot.com)**

Former Holy Trinity Church, Wentworth Fall about 2013. (pigott-gorrie.blogspot.com)

Very different is the smaller and far simpler former Holy Trinity Rectory in Wentworth Falls erected in 1906, still extant but no longer on its original site. Limited funds only allowed for a quite basic timber structure and there was a delay of six years between John doing the plans and the Rectory being built.[35]

The Honour Gardens in Lawson are most recent of John's Blue Mountains designs.

They were partly a labour of love in memory of Geoffrey. He and Annie also endowed in Geoffrey's name a memorial prize, later converted into a memorial lectureship, at The University of Sydney. From 1919 John chaired the New South Wales War Memorials Advisory Board, whose name was changed in 1921 to the Public Monuments Advisory Board.

War memorial and entry to Honour Gardens, Honour Avenue, Lawson 2014. **(David Carment)**

[34] K001 : Khandala | NSW Environment & Heritage, http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/heritageapp/ViewHeritageItemDetails.aspx?ID=1170734, accessed 10 February 2014; Edwards, 'The Life and Work of Sir John Sulman', Vol III, p 172.

[35] *Ibid.,* p 179.

Continued from 11
The state's Local Government Act required its approval of design and site before any monument could be erected in a public space.

As the historian Ken Inglis writes, John 'put much energy into the job of influencing how other people commemorated their war dead'.[36]

The First World War had a major impact on Lawson as it did on other Australian small towns. Many memorial gardens were planted across Australia but Lawson's are now unusual in retaining their original form.

Working closely with the Blue Mountains Shire Engineer, John initially created the gardens in 1918 and 1919. The layout shows his love of order and symmetry.

Permission to erect a substantial archway at the Avenue's entrance was granted in 1920. Improvements John proposed to the Shire Council, including the stonewalling on the Gardens' western side, were implemented in 1928.

John supervised this work without a fee. Geoffrey's name is inscribed on the stone arch war memorial at the gardens' entrance that was designed by Sir Charles Rosenthal and completed in 1923.[37]

Annie Sulman: community worker and photographer

Annie's early life was tragic.

The granddaughter of an Irish convict and the daughter of an insolvent Sydney schoolteacher who died in an asylum for the insane, before she was 12 years old her parents and both her siblings were all dead, and the Walker family adopted her.[38]

Her difficult early years combined with the Walkers' strong belief that wealthy people like them had a duty to help the less fortunate and participate in community activities, led to her active support of a range of worthy causes.

She took a quite prominent part in the 1913 celebrations at Lawson to mark the centenary of the first known European crossing of the Blue Mountains. At a ceremony in Lawson on May 28, 1913, she drove a peg on the spot where an obelisk to the explorer William Lawson was to be erected.[39]

For many years she served as President of the Lawson Branch of the Red Cross. In April 1915 she presided at a successful Red Cross fund raising concert in Lawson, at the end of which she strongly appealed to Lawson's women to join the 40 already engaged there in Red Cross work.[40]

At about the same time, the Red Cross published her poem *The Call of the Red Cross* that revealed intense wartime patriotism but not any noticeable poetic skills. It begins:

For the Love of King and Country!
There cometh oe'r the sea,
The call to Every Woman
In our land so wide and free

And finishes:

Oh! Britain, grand old Britain,
We send across the sea,
Our kitchens, lorries, motors,
And all for love of thee.[41]

So far as I am aware, it does not appear in any poetry anthology. In an address to the Lawson and District Horticultural Show in February 1922, she expressed particular concern for the returned soldiers whose nerves were shattered at the front, strongly recommending gardening as an activity that would restore their mental well-being.[42]

Annie 1931. **(National Library Australia)**

A *Sydney Morning Herald* report of March 1925 in commenting on what it called Annie's 'unfailing service' to the Red Cross in Lawson and elsewhere remarks that no one 'has done more in quiet service to invalid retired nurses'.[43]

Another passion was photography, a skill that she developed during the 1880s and 1890s. In addition to taking numerous photographs of relations, friends and

[36] K S Inglis, *Sacred Places: War Memorials in the Australian Landscape*, The Miegunyah Press, Melbourne, 1998, p 150.
[37] Cooper, 'Lawson'; Edwards, 'The Life and Work of Sir John Sulman', Vol III, p 187; Ln014 : Honour Gardens Conservation Area | NSW Environment & Heritage, http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/heritageapp/ViewHeritageItemDetails.aspx?ID=1170564, accessed 17 February 2014; Register of War Memorials in NSW, http://www.warmemorialsregister.nsw.gov.au/content/lawson-war-memorial, accessed 19 February 2014.
[38] David Carment, research in progress for a biography of Annie Sulman.
[39] *The Sydney Morning Herald*, 29 May 1913.
[40] *The Blue Mountains Echo*, 9 April 1915.
[41] A.E.S., *The Call of the Red Cross,* no place or date of publication.
[42] *The Blue Mountains Echo*, 17 February 1922.
[43] *The Sydney Morning Herald*, 26 March 1925.

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places, she was expert in photographing Australian wildflowers, many of which were in bush near Kihilla.

The major Australian publisher Angus and Robertson produced her two books of photographs *Some Familiar Wild Flowers* and *Australian Wild Flowers*.[44] Both were well received and reprinted.

In their prefaces she states her modest purposes. The first book's preface reads in part: *This small collection of wild flower photographs was originally started entirely for my own use and pleasure; but finding many others similarly interested, I am making this attempt to share it with them.*[45]

The second says: *As one flower-lover to others, I offer some more photographs of our most familiar and easily-found wild flowers, hoping that among them they may find some old friends and that, in looking for those unknown to them, a fresh interest may be added to their rambles in the bush. In no sense of the word am I a botanist, hence the flowers in my book are simply arranged as fancy dictated, without regard to order or family.*[46]

Tom Sulman: the beginnings of a life with motor vehicles and his education at Woodford Academy

From an early age Tom was obsessed with motor vehicles. The sections of his autobiography dealing with life in the Blue Mountains discuss little else.

He recalls in some detail how in about 1908 he had his first ride in a motorcar, which the family hired for a journey from Katoomba to Jenolan Caves.

'The trip', he writes: *was very little faster than the usual transport – a coach and four – but what a thrill!. Even though it boiled furiously and numerous stops had to be made to cool down and refill the radiator, and we had to get out and walk up Victoria Pass on the return run.*[47]

When he was about 10 Tom decided to become a racing car driver. He built a billycart with pram wheels, a steering wheel cut out of the side of a butter box, and cable and bobbin steering.

He then constructed a track down the slope of Kihilla's orchard with various types of corners, a hard surface of rolled cinders and a fairly steep gradient. He practised for hours on this.

At weekends Geoffrey timed him with a stopwatch and started him off with a homemade flintlock pistol.

***Tom on is billy cart, Kihilla, about 1910*. (Sulman Family Archive).**

Later Tom built what he called a 'de luxe' model with pushbike wheels that he used to go down a steep hill on the main road. This proved his undoing. The steering failed and as there were no brakes the billycart went over a cliff and was destroyed. Tom only just managed to jump clear.[48]

He entered Woodford Academy as its 83rd enrolment on February 2, 1912. The school was then only five years old.

Located in a former inn built during the early 1830s, with John McManamey as owner and rector it offered a curriculum based on the liberal arts. Commercial subjects were also available.

Rather oddly, the admissions register describes Tom as a Congregationalist[49] although John had abandoned Congregationalism for Anglicanism shortly after arriving in Australia, he and Annie were married in an Anglican church, and Tom described himself as Church of England when he enlisted in the Australian Imperial Force in 1918.[50]

Tom's autobiography says very little about his schooling and does not even directly mention Woodford Academy. 'I am afraid', he observes, *I could never boast of my scholastic ability, the main trouble being that most of my schooldays were during the war and my ambition was to follow in Geoffrey's footsteps and enlist in the Royal Flying Corps, beyond this I could not think*.[51]

That, however, is something of an exaggeration, as Geoffrey did not join the Flying Corps until 1916. Tom's best subject was mathematics.[52]

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[44] A E Sulman, *Some Familiar Wild Flowers,* Angus & Robertson Ltd, Sydney, no date [1915]; A E Sulman, *Australian Wild Flowers*, Second Series, Angus & Robertson Ltd, Sydney, no date.
[45] Sulman, *Some Familiar Wild Flowers,* Prefatory Note.
[46] Sulman, *Australian Wild Flowers*, Preface.
[47] Sulman, 'Autobiography', p 1.
[48] *Ibid.*, p 3.
[49] Admissions register, Woodford Academy; Woodford Academy – History – Blue Mountains Australia BMPH, http://infobluemountains.net.au/history/wood_ac.htm, accessed 16 February 2014.
[50] Sulman, 'Reminiscences', p 47; National Archives of Australia: B2455, SULMAN THOMAS NOEL, http://recordsearch.naa.gov.au, accessed 15 February 2014.
[51] Sulman, 'Autobiography', pp 7-8.
[52] Display on Tom Sulman, Woodford Academy, viewed 15 February 2014.

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He also performed quite well in athletics events.[53] He finished school at the end of 1917[54] but left a permanent legacy in the form of his name prominently carved into a desk.[55]

By October 1918 he was studying engineering at the University of Sydney but that may have been, like Geoffrey, as an unmatriculated student.[56] He maintained contact with the school, in 1922 being elected to the committee of the Woodford Old Boys' Union.[57]

Immediately after leaving school he worked on his brother Arthur's North Queensland station.[58] On November 5, 1918, just before the First World War ended and with his parents' reluctant agreement, he enlisted in the Australian Imperial Force. He was discharged in early January 1919.[59]

During the years at Woodford Academy, Tom continued to spend as much time as he could with motor vehicles. His main reading was motorcar and motorcycle magazines.

At the age of 15 he resurrected Geoffrey's old two and a quarter horsepower motorcycle from the scrap heap. After fitting it with a magneto and carburettor, he took it out on surreptitious rides until he got his licence and had the motorcycle registered at the end of 1916.

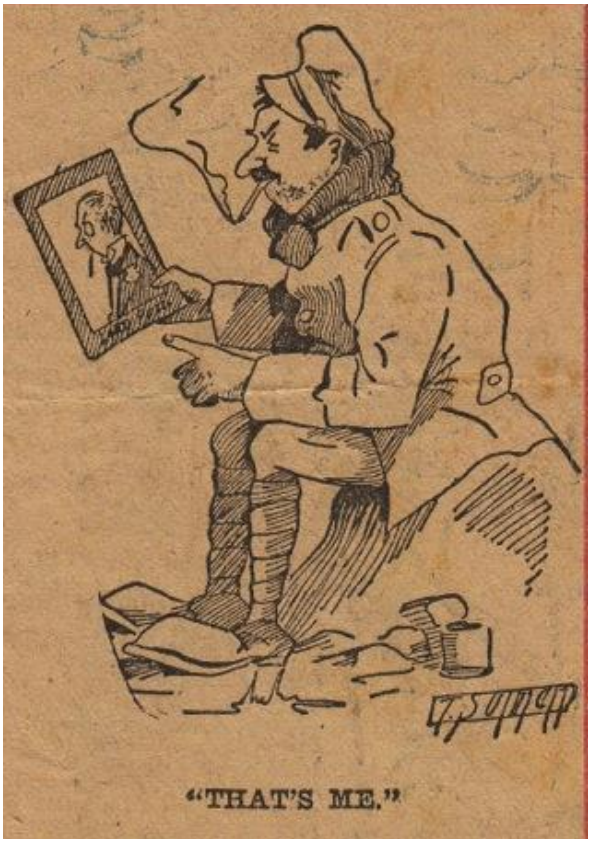
Because he could not afford much petrol, he ran the vehicle on kerosene taken from the household supply with a bottle of petrol in his pocket to start it up. The motorcycle broke down so frequently that Tom believed he must have pushed it further than he rode it.

Eventually it fell apart, sending Tom into a ditch as it did so. This was, he writes, 'the first time I broke my nose and had concussion, not the last by any means'. With John's financial help, he then bought a six horsepower racing motorcycle that proved more reliable.[60]

An accomplished pen and ink artist, Tom covered the costs of running this vehicle by regularly publishing cartoons in the Sydney newspaper *The World's News.*[61]

Geoffrey taught Tom to drive the family S.P.A. car around Kihilla's grounds in about 1914. Following Geoffrey's departure for England, John decided that once Tom got his licence he could take over Geoffrey's driving responsibilities.

Before then, because the car had been unused for quite a long time, Tom had to do a lot of mechanical work on it.



***Tom Sulman, "That's Me", cutting from "The World's News" 1917*. (Sulman Family Archive)**

He then for about a year from the beginning of 1917 drove the family in the car every weekend. The first journey proved a disaster as the tyres were perished, resulting in five punctures.[62]

One journey involved, Tom recalls: *a 1000-mile tour, quite a major undertaking in those days as all roads were un-Macadmised outside the major cities and garages few and far between.*

Luckily we had a practically no-trouble run, except for several punctures and a couple of broken springs which were expected with the bad roads, cart springs and no shock absorbers.

My father used to tell me to 'steady down' if the speed exceeded 40 mph, except when we were overtaking another car when he would cast a blind eye on the speedometer until we passed, explaining to my mother that the dust was not good for her.[63]

Before Tom departed for North Queensland he taught Joan to drive the car. Because she was unable to start it, which required using a large handle, John replaced the S.P.A. with a 20 horsepower Dodge that was started more easily.[64]

[53] *The Sydney Morning Herald*, 19 November 1912; *Nepean Times*, 23 November 1912.
[54] Sulman, 'Autobiography', p 9.
[55] Viewed 15 February 2014.
[56] Certification of enrolment, University of Sydney, 9 October 1918, SFA.
[57] *Sunday Times*, 22 January 1922, p 2.
[58] Sulman, 'Autobiography', pp 9-11.
[59] National Archives of Australia, B2455.
[60] Sulman, 'Autobiography', pp 5-7.
[61] Tom Sulman, 'Fifty Years Racing', in *Australian Autosportsman*, January 1969, p 33.
[62] Sulman, 'Autobiography', p 8.
[63] *Ibid.*
[64] *Ibid.*

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Although mostly based in Sydney, Tom's participation in motor vehicle races and trials between 1919 and his death while racing at Bathurst in 1970 sometimes brought him back to the Blue Mountains.

He also until the late 1920s quite regularly stayed with the family at Kihilla. It was there during 1920 in Geoffrey's old workshop that he built a prototype of the Sulman Simplex cycle car that John financed.

This was a two-seater, light tourer powered by a 12 horsepower, twin-cylinder, air-cooled engine. Despite a solid rear axle, it had a sporty performance. Tom found business interests prepared to provide further finance and by 1923 had in Sydney built three more of the cars that were well received.

As the motoring journalist Pedr Davis tells the rest of the story: *Orders for the light car were most impressive and Tom stood by, ready to launch a public company and enter the production field with gusto. Unfortunately, Lord Austin chose that precise moment to invade the Australian market with his diminutive "Seven". Tom's backers panicked and cooled off abruptly. Plans for the public company disintegrated and Tom was left with a bundle of parts and a flattened bank balance.*[65]

David Sulman Carment, AM

The author of this article Emeritus Professor of History, Charles Darwin University David Carment is the great grandson of Sir John Sulman and Lady Sulman who followed by their descendants have lived and/or been associated with the Blue Mountains for more than a century.

David a former president of the Royal Australian Historical Society and the inaugural president of the Western Crossings committee set up to coordinate the bicentenary of the first European crossing of the Blue Mountains activities, presented this paper at the 9th annual general meeting of BMACHO. David has had a distinguished career in academia and as the director of National Trust (Northern Territory).

He was recognised in the Order of Australia for services to the community as an advocate for the protection of Northern Territory cultural heritage, and to the scholarship and dissemination of knowledge of Northern Territory history.

An enduring connection

Even after the Sulmans stopped using Kihilla in 1934, various family members in addition to Tom travelled to the Blue Mountains.

From the 1950s my own family went there quite frequently.

In 1957, for example, we stayed in a rented house on Cliff Drive in Katoomba, enjoying walks, picnics and car trips to various beauty spots that the Sulmans first saw during the late nineteenth century.

My mother Diana from time to time told stories of Kihilla, which she and her younger cousins once briefly owned.

Tom's daughter Diana Inglis Carment (1927 – 2005) on holiday in the Blue Mountains,1957. **(Carment Family Archive)**

A few years ago I followed in my great grandmother Annie's footsteps by becoming involved in commemoration of the Blue Mountains' first European crossings.

A permanent family connection was re-established in 1987 when my sister Annie and her partner Vittorio Cintio bought a house in Wentworth Falls, the town where Tom Sulman was born. They have lived there ever since.

My now deceased parents regularly went to see them. My brother Tom and his family and I have done the same.

Three of Annie's five children, all educated at Korowal School in the Blue Mountains, have now left home but two live in other parts of the Mountains.

Her daughter Talulah's house is very close to Woodford Academy. They often return to Wentworth Falls, particularly for the lunches that Vittorio now organises on most Sundays where family and friends get together.

As frequently as possible these are outdoors, continuing the tradition established at Kihilla so many years ago.

[65] Pedr Davis, 'The Tom Sulman Story', in *Sports Car World*, December 1957, p 59.

New faces on BMACHO management committee

There are three new faces on the management committee following the 9th annual general meeting of the association held recently a Woodford Academy recently.

They are Richard Woolley (Blue Mountains Historical Society), Suzanne Smith (Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society) and Roy Bennett (Mt Victoria & District Historical Society).

They replace Jean Winston (Mt Victoria and District Historical Society) Kevin Frappell (Glenbrook & District Historical Society who did not seek re-election and Doug Knowles (Glenbrook & District Historical Society who resigned late last year to devote more time to his society of which he has been the president for several years.

John Leary, OAM the inaugural president of BMACHO now in his 7th year at the helm returned to the office last year after a 2 year break due to ill health.

John welcomed the new committee members and congratulated those who were re-elected.

Those re-elected are Associate Professor Ian Jack (individual member) as vice president for the 9th year, Jan Koperberg (Blue Mountains Family History) as secretary/acting treasurer, Dick Morony (Springwood Historical Society) as membership officer, Scott Pollock (Everglades Historic House and Garden), Wendy Hawkes (Lithgow City Council's cultural heritage officer and manager of Eskbank House).

In welcoming them to office John said that present and past committee members had a wealth of knowledge and experience right across the heritage sector.

These committees had available to them members including those from academia, the heritage/history professionals, and the amateur enthusiasts all of whom had proved to be invaluable.

BMACHO president John Leary has said the 2014 – 15 management committee will face many new and continuing challenges.

Among these issues will be the effect of anticipated government funding cuts, development of the proposed heritage trail promotion, the adequacy of and ability to sustain the level of service to members, a review of the association's constitution and vision, assistance to member societies in recruiting and retaining volunteers, further engagement with the Indigenous peoples and their cultural heritage and many more.

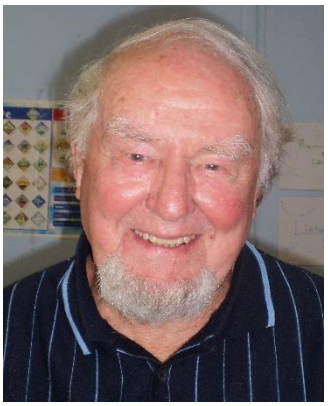
There will be many more activities associated with the 2013 – 15 Western Crossing Bicentenary commemorations in which individuals and various societies as well as BMACHO will support as the 3 year event moves further westward to Bathurst.

In presenting the president's report, John Leary praised the most improved professionalism of museum exhibits by organisation.

"I watch very little television. However, I do try to stay awake for any of David Attenborough's documentaries", Mr Leary said.

"Recently, I was enthralled when the wizardry of computer graphics, manipulated remnant fossilised bones to bring alive priceless but normally stuffy skeletal exhibits at the British Natural History Museum.

"When the museum closed for the night out came the creatures of the Jurassic era. Like the fabled wooden soldiers in the toy shop strutting their stuff as the clock struck midnight.



Roy Bennett

Richard Woolley

Suzanne Smith

"Instead of towering and fearsome reconstructed skeletons of dinosaurs bolted to the floor and wired to the roof, the giant brontosaurus roamed the galleries of this great museum, while menacing pterodactyls, the winged lizards flew above the exhibits and the Yeti humorously taunted the viewer from behind columns of the magnificent building.

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"I thought wouldn't it be great if local museums could produce computer graphic enhanced exhibits like those in the documentary.

"Then I was jolted out of my reverie.

"Wait a minute, I thought -- what about the Governor Macquarie Room and the dramatically improved curating of living history at the Mt Victoria Museum sufficient to attract a substantial grant from the National Library of Australia?

"What about the fabulous 'Red Admiral' exhibition on the life of Patrick White at Mt Wilson?

…the awesome exhibit acclaimed by the Governor of NSW

"What about the awesome exhibit acclaimed by none other than the Governor of NSW, at Hartley Vale, the Joan Kent curated exhibit, 'A moment in time'?

"What about the innovative miners' bath house conversion into an auditorium media presentation at the Lithgow State Mines including the telling of the Fire in the Mine story which recently won two Museums & Galleries NSW awards?

"What about the ongoing first class exhibits at Norman Lindsay Gallery at Faulconbridge and 'Tarella in the grounds of the Blue Mountains Historical Society's property at Wentworth Falls?

"And how can anyone forget the visual delights of the Blue Mountains Botanic Garden at Mt Tomah and the spectacular all seasons gardens of Everglades.

"Then there is the intrigue of the Turkish Bath House again at Mt Wilson.

Turkish Bath House at Mount Wilson

"A century ago in 1914 a locomotive depot was established at Valley Heights and here we find perhaps not a living history but the actual locomotives that climbed the Blue Mountains in those early days of rail --- all steamed up and on show; while over Kurrajong way undergoing transformation is a spectacular collection of exhibits at the Transport Signal and Communication Museum.

"The Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society, Blue Mountains Historical Society, and the local studies units in the municipal libraries at Penrith, Springwood and Lithgow have well over 10,000 images catalogued and much of this now digitally archived.

"At Emu Plains there are thousands of photographs and local artefacts collected and curated by the Nepean & District Historical Society housed in the former Arms of Australia Inn built in 1893.

Woodford Academy

"Here at Woodford Academy we have a property that goes back to the 1830s as a wayside inn.

"At Scenic World in Katoomba, the Hammon family have done a fantastic job retracing and preserving the early mining cultural heritage of Jamison Valley combining it with a world class tourist attraction.

"And there's a lot more heritage sites, all of which are part of our cultural heritage, set in the wonderful UNESCO World Heritage listed Blue Mountains National Park.

"In commerce jargon we have the product let's go market it. And market it is what we are about to do.

"A bloke named Richard Woolley from Blue Mountains Historical Society attended one of our workshops in the Western Crossing Room at the Mount Victoria Museum earlier this year and in his own words came away inspired to do something about marketing a Heritage Trail and that very night e-mailed me his idea about marketing heritage throughout the region.

"I asked him to head up a working party comprising Wendy Hawkes from Lithgow's Eskbank House, Scott Pollock from Everglades and Lynn Collins BMCC museums adviser. Richard has some expertise in the field of marketing, Wendy could sell refrigerators to Eskimos, and Scott is Mr Can-do in all he aspires to do while Lynn brings a wealth of experience in museums and heritage.

SOME OF THE HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

"In this annual report from the president, I do not propose to go into detail on everything with which BMACHO and its constituent societies has been involved for the past 12 months, as most of it has been reported in the association's

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newsletter *HERITAGE* and other regular e-mailed bulletins. Rather I will only touch on one or two significant issues.

THE FIRES

"The year 2013 will be remembered sadly as the year that nature in all her fury swept through the Blue Mountains, Lithgow and neighbouring districts destroying property including more than 200 homes. Fortunately, no lives were lost and this was in no small way due to the dedication and bravery of the volunteer firemen who often put their lives on the line to fight the insatiable monster. The fires brought out the best in people and this in itself is part of the cultural heritage of this region and in the years to come will become part of history.

"A number of our members were badly affected by the fires, Rob Cameron a former president of Mt Victoria & District Historical Society was one of those to lose his home while the Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd lost a great deal or had damaged a great deal of its rolling stock and equipment while the State Mines Museum at Lithgow was in direct line of the fires.

"The irreplaceable art collection at Norman Lindsay Galleries was hastily moved to safe storage and other individuals were evacuated for their own safety.

THE WESTERN CROSSINGS 1813-1815 BICENTENARY CELEBRATIONS

"In the first year of the Western Crossings celebrations there were numerous activities to mark many aspects of the western crossing and many of these have been reported in the media and various newsletters.

"Credit must go to the Royal Australian Historical Society for its role in overseeing through the Western Crossings Committee the co-ordination of the celebration. This committee brought together organisations from Blacktown to Bathurst; descendants of those involved with what has been described as the first crossing of the Blue Mountains by Europeans; local Indigenous groups; as well as others to promote and co-ordinate this part of the celebration and will continue to do so until 2015.

"Unfortunately, the celebration has not yet attracted major financial support from government with most of the events being funded by local organisations and sponsorship from local business and individuals.

"The State government did provide a grant of $80,000 to the Royal Australian Historical Society and this was distributed to various groups and activities involved in the centenary. This grant was negotiated between our guest speaker at today's meeting Professor David Carment and the then Premier of NSW, Barry O'Farrell.

Phil Hammon and Tom Colless celebrate the bicentenary

"Measured in many regards the commemoration and celebration rather than commemoration could be judged as a success. However, with the lack of substantial funding many believe the event missed its much wider potential including that of leaving a lasting commemoration.

BMACHO MEMBERSHIP

"In the past 12 months membership has increased with the Nepean District Historical Society and the Paragon Restaurant coming on board and as I understand it the Hawkesbury Historical Society is about to apply for membership.

"It is pleasing that at the two general meetings held in this period that members considered that BMACHO was both relevant and apart from several minor administrative issues sought no change in the management committee's direction.

PLANNING AND ADVOCACY

"BMACHO has continued to be affiliated with the Better Planning Network which was principally set up to oppose much of the proposed legislation by the NSW government which leaves heritage even more exposed to threat of destruction by developers.

"A major submission by BMACHO supported much of Blue Mountains City Council's response to the mandatory 'one size – fits all' planning instrument in preparing the city's Local Environment Plan 2013 for the NSW government's planning department.

"BMACHO's support for deviances from the standard instrument recognised the city's unique and special characteristics.

"BMACHO's submission drew attention to the nature of the villages and townships coupled with the renowned natural beauty of the mountains and the abundant reminders of Australia's early history and cultural heritage which allows local residents to experience a state of satisfaction with 'their

Continued from page 18
lot' and helps create a feeling of personal wellbeing.

"BMACHO became aware towards the end of last year that Blue Mountains City Council was about to seal parts of Old Bathurst Road, (formerly Cox's Road), Woodford including some of the original construction by William Cox.

Stone wall part of the original Cox's Road under threat

"In collaboration with local residents, in a very short time an argument was put together, against the sealing and damage to the remnants of one of the oldest roads in Australia. A strong protest was put before council about this proposed heritage vandalism by local government. Jan Koperberg, Ian Harmon Juliana Swatko a local resident, and I addressed a meeting of the full Blue Mountains City Council objecting to the proposal last year.

"As a result council agreed to have a professional heritage archaeologist investigate the damage already done and the value of the road as a heritage site. The matter has been stalled in council for almost 6 months.

"Blue Mountains City Council has consulted BMACHO on a number of issues and most recently the future of the Stationmaster Cottage at Lawson. There has been a close relationship between BMACHO and council's heritage adviser Christo Aitkin and Museums Adviser Lynn Collins.

"BMACHO's representative on BMCC heritage advisory committee has had input in numerous issues and was on the panel which allocated funds from the Local Heritage Fund.

FUNDING

"In the past 8 years BMACHO has been reasonably able to fund much of its activity including workshops, from government grants, and public authorities but for various fiscal reasons these sources are expected to be less forthcoming in the immediate future. BMACHO in the year ahead will need to look to some belt-tightening and find alternative sources for funding.

THANKS TO MANY

"Finally, I thank our member organisations and individual members for the support, encouragement and trust they have placed in the association's committee. It has again been my great pleasure to work with a quite unique body of people who have led and directed the association for another year. This committee has a great mix of personnel from academia, professionals and dedicated volunteers bringing to the committee a very experienced and balanced approach in regard to cultural heritage.

'Once again this report does not allow for the real appreciation I feel for the members of the committee to be expressed. However, I know that most will be aware I trust, the few words I have to say about them now, are accepted as a mere modicum of the real esteem in which I hold them, for the invaluable work they are doing within the heritage sector.

"In previous annual reports in thanking our vice president Ian Jack I have touched on his lifetime of involvement in cultural heritage and Australian history and as each year comes and goes I wonder how Ian is able to provide an ever increasing support for the heritage movement.

"To list Ian's achievements, the organisations he supports and the bodies which seek his professional advice would take pages. Ian your involvement as vice president for the past 8 years has been exceptional and I thank you so very much for this and for what you have helped me achieve and learn in the heritage sector.

"Our secretary Jan Koperberg never ceases to amaze me for her capacity to achieve. I have said it before but it is worth repeating:

"I have worked with many secretaries and few have come anywhere near the excellence that Jan has exhibited.

"She is on the ball all the time, her minuting of meetings leaves no doubt as to the decisions and why they were made and which appear in easy to read documents.

"Jan is not only an extremely able and efficient administrator but she also is in her own right a keen explorer of history and our heritage, contributing a great deal to this and other organisations.

"Jan's energy is also incredible and I am not sure just how many groups she belongs to or supports but I do know how much time she gives to BMACHO and this is quite staggering. Jan you are great to work with and Nanette and I enjoy your company.

"Dick Morony has again kept our membership records in a good condition and it is always a pleasure to have him along at our meetings contributing the benefit of his long experience in the heritage sector.

"Doug Knowles, Kevin Frappell and Jean Winston brought to the management committee not only a vast expertise of local history but also have a good

Continued from page 19
understanding of what the smaller historical societies need and limitations are within the heritage sector and to them. I am grateful and will miss them on the committee in the coming year.

"Patsy Moppett has continued to provide a valuable contribution to the committee. Her knowledge of local government planning is extremely valuable I and others also value the work she has done with National Trust and others to preserve the western end of the iconic Cox's Road. Thank you Patsy for your involvement.

"Scott Pollock and Wendy Hawkes have brought to our management committee not only the expertise they have built up with the properties they so ably manage in the case of Scott, Everglades and Wendy Eskbank at Lithgow but also a vibrant enthusiasm of younger people. They both have a keen interest in cultural heritage and have been a great asset to our deliberations.

"I am delighted they will stay on the committee. Thank you Wendy and Scott.

"Most will be aware of Nanette's ill fortune and the frustrations she is still experiencing but as she has done so lovingly for more than 60 years, 57 as my wonderful wife, she is still supportive of my involvement in activities and I am delighted she is with us today.

A clever illusion: a real table and glassware in front of the graphics of Governor Lachlan and Elizabeth Macquarie drawn by Clive Jones

"Thank you one and all for the support you have given us during yet another year as president of the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc."

John Leary, OAM

THE GREAT WAR THEME FOR HISTORY WEEK 2014

The Great War will be the theme of the History Council of NSW History Week, which this year runs from September 6-14.

It was to be "the war that will end war" as H.G. Wells commented in August 1914. From the heights of hope to the horror of the trenches, the Great War changed the world irrevocably.

It separated families and lovers, turned young men into soldiers and young women into nurses, converted friends and neighbours into enemies.

The unusual circumstances of warfare intervened with each aspect of life. In which ways did the conduct of war shape, change and inform those fighting and those remaining on the home front?

How have historians approached complex topics surrounding it, such as the scale of violence, women's involvement in war, forced migration? What impact did the Great War have on the cultural memory of those involved – allies and enemies?

In the aftermath of 1915 Australians elevated the Gallipoli landing into a foundation story, which claims that the nation was born on this battlefield, but there are more layers of remembrance yet to be uncovered and examined. History Week 2014 will explore the impact of World War 1 abroad and at home.

Sydney University historian Julia Horne to open Blue Mountains History Conference

Pursuing Wonder in the Blue Mountains'' is the title of the keynote address to be delivered by Sydney University Associate Professor Julia Horne at the Blue Mountains History Conference to be held at the heritage listed Carrington Hotel, Katoomba on Saturday May 10.

Dr Horne (pictured right) has taught history at UNSW, worked as a curator in social history at the Powerhouse Museum, pioneered local history outreach programs and spent hundreds of hours interviewing people about their lives as Head of the Oral History Program in the UNSW Archives.

She has been a member of the Council of the Royal Australian Historical Society since 2007, and in 2009, was appointed member of the governing council of the Australian National Maritime Museum

Dr Julia Horne's research interest include: The public university in Australasia 1850-1918; various aspects of oral history including memory, biography, 'the interview', and oral history as a form of modern personal papers; overseas students in Australia in the 1950s and 1960s and history of travel, tourism and natural landscapes.

At the University of Sydney, the role of University historian is as public historian responsible for various university history-related tasks such as maintaining the university's oral history program and developing strategies to promote the university, its heritage and history to the wider community.

After morning tea Associate Professor Ian Jack will speak about 'The Heritage of Education in the Blue Mountains' followed by heritage architect, Hector Abrahams who has chosen as a title for his paper, 'The Heritage of Religious buildings in the Blue Mountains'.

Ian Jack is no stranger to most who have an interest in Australian history and the nation's heritage.

Often described as a consummate scholar, Ian has been associated with local history groups throughout the region and in fact throughout NSW and farther afield in Australia, providing the benefit of his well versed advice freely to those many historians and others who frequently seek his assistance.
Ian has the greatest respect for the army of volunteers who research material, and work with collections in towns and villages around the country.

Ian Jack (pictured right) was president of the Royal Australian Historical Society for 11 years, is president or a senior member of many historical and heritage groups including being president of the Hawkesbury Historical Society and for the past 8 terms vice president of BMACHO.

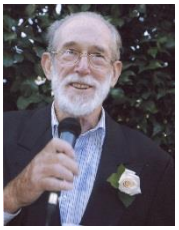
The last speaker before lunch, Hector Abrahams (pictured below), also a former president of the RAHS has brought to his firm a philosophy that old buildings have to be understood, kept well and made liveable and workable for people in today's world.

Hector has said: "Churches are for the long-term, and faith communities have such different needs from decade to decade. It is most important to recognise this.

"A good church has to be able to withstand the vicissitudes of church life, and to have an enduring aesthetic."

Lunch will be served in the heritage dining room of The Carrington and this will be followed by a musical interlude by Christine Wheeler and Friends with songs from "Rain in the Mountains – Songs of Henry Lawson".

Ms Robyn Parker, proprietor, The Paragon Restaurant Katoomba and Dr Ian Jack will conduct a question and answer segment about this iconic restaurant



The final speaker for the day will be Doug Knowles, whose subject is the Great Western Railway – Lapstone Hill, the first challenge.

31 sculptures set among an ancient rainforest

Featuring Ken Unsworths Harlequin's shuttle

Thirty new sculptures framed by Blue Mountains ancient rainforest, artist led workshops for children, and an 8 metre commissioned artwork by renowned Australian sculptor, Ken Unsworth AM, are part of Sculpture a Scenic World 2914 now on until May 18, 2014.

Blue Mountains Gazette review reports, Ken Unsworth has fond memories of the Blue Mountains and has made many journeys Scenic World's rainforest during the seven day process to install Harlequin's Shuttle beneath the majestic canopy.

The8 metre sculpture will remain in situ for the duration of the exhibition.

Two years in the waiting Harlequin's Shuttle is the first time iconic sculptor Ken Unsworth has exhibited in the Blue Mountains within his illustrious career spanning over four decades

The Jurassic landscape and mining relics at Scenic World create a unique setting for the exhibition featuring sculptures from the People's Republic of China, Hong Kong, 17 from NSW,10 from the Blue Mountains and one from Tasmania.

David Hammon, joint managing director said Scenic World is thrilled to deliver the third annual exhibition. "Ëach year the artists continue to surprise and inspire us with their vision, as they collectively transform our rainforest into a stunning outdoor gallery for our visitors to enjoy," said Mr Hammon.

Exhibition manager Lizzie Marshall, said , "This exhibition is an exceptional showcase of Australia's sculptural scene and the Blue Mountains as the City of the Arts. The artists have developed different frameworks to respond to the natural environment.

"Key themes include absorptive black, reflective surfaces and architectural responses to the rainforest," Ms Marshall said.

Participating artists will also have the opportunity through a new partnership between *Sculpture at Scenic World* and the Blue Mountains Cultural Centre to exhibit at the Cultural Centre from June 9 to July 7.

Pictured above: Ken Unsworth, Harlequin's Shuttle. Image by A Shot Above Photography.

Pictured at left: Louis Pratt, A Backward Attitude. Image by A Shot Above Photography.

Katoomba's unique World War 1 memorial

By Joan Edwards – member, Blue Mountains Historical Society and former president Blue Mountains Family History Society

While Blue Mountains has many World War 1 memorials, Katoomba's is unique, namely the Blue Mountains District Anzac Memorial Hospital, the only World War 1 memorial hospital in Australia.

The 1914-1918 war had come and gone and still there was no hospital between Penrith and Lithgow.

Some locals thought there should be a community hospital while others opposed the idea as there were already large sanatoria and smaller care homes.

It would be disadvantageous to be known for hospitals instead of guesthouses in the great holiday location.

In 1919 Gearin's Hotel was being refurbished when carpenter, Ted Stratford, was knocked unconscious when struck on the head by falling timber and had to be transported to Penrith.

Fellow workers passed the hat around and collected 6/6. Stratford's accident became the catalyst for a local hospital.

The following day, contractor Fred Johnson, began organising a football match to raise funds. Leura station master, a keen footballer, organised an opposing team.

It was to be fancy dress with a procession from Leura Baths to Katoomba Falls football ground. Collections were made along the route and raised £162 to add to the 6/6.

We owe thanks to Dean Piryak, director of nursing, for early research presented as Foundation Day Speech in October 1995.

Unfortunately he found no record of which team won the match, but hopefully, it will not be too long before the local newspapers are digitised and we will be able to imagine the colour, noise, events and excitement of that day.

The original frontage of the Blue Mountains District ANZAC Memorial Hospital

The momentum slowed when work was completed at Gearin's until Mr Edward Booth suggested that money raised should fund a lottery which was set up as 'Katoomba Thousand Lottery'.

The funds grew rapidly and Mr Booth formed the Blue Mountains District Hospital and Peace Memorial Committee with Dr John Allan as chairman.

The committee met solidly for a week to plan and set goals to be achieved. They decided to complete all preliminary work before petitioning the government.

The committee decided that it should be a peace memorial.

In the wording of the original committee's minutes, "No more fitting memorial to our gallant citizens who have fallen for us could be devised and we contend that a united effort to secure for us this communal blessing is much more desirable than that each township should erect drinking fountains and such like street obstructions".

The energetic and enterprising Mr Booth is credited as being the driving force that kept all working toward the final goal.

Presumably there were the card parties, fancy dress balls and so on with celebrities pressed into promotions.

Sir Ross Smith sent a notice by 'Aeroplane Post' Advice from the Clouds of a Race Meeting to be held at Medlow Bath Racecourse on Wednesday, February 25th. £50 prize money was offered.

It took a further six years fundraising that is to 1925, before they were ready to proceed.

The foundation stone was laid by the New South Wales Governor, Sir Dudley de Chair, on October 6, 1925.

Building work proceeded fairly rapidly, as did the fundraising, in spite of some opposition from residents who thought it would be filled with TB sufferers and others with long term illnesses.

As the building work neared completion, the committee thought the name should include ANZAC and the names of the fallen should be on marble tablets in the vestibule of the main entrance, in all 139 names.

They hoped, wished, that the tablets would be unveiled by the Duke and Duchess of York (later King George V1 and Queen Elizabeth).

After the usual negative responses, the authorities controlling the royal tour said they would consider the request.

It was approved with restrictions such as it was not to be included in the royal itinerary, the ceremony must *not* be advertised, and only hospital committee members and hospital management could attend. In addition it must be a very brief stop.

Mr Booth stepped out when the motorcade stopped, approached the Duke and Duchess and requested they perform the unveiling ceremony.

They agreed, alighted and the Duchess of York performed the ceremony. The Duke and Duchess inspected the hospital and signed the visitor's book before continuing their journey to Blackheath.

It was late May, 1927, just three weeks before the first patients were admitted in June.

Initially the hospital had two wards, one male, one female, with a total of 22 beds under the control of Matron E Richards, six nurses and local medical officers.

It was gazetted as a public hospital on August 5, 1927. The rather grand official opening was conducted on October 3, 1928 by Lieutenant Governor of New South Wales, Sir William Cullen.

Katoomba's Blue Mountains District Anzac Memorial Hospital is far from a drinking fountain or other street obstruction and stands today as a testament to the driving force and dedication of a community.

Indeed it is the community's ongoing good fortune that Ted Stratford was knocked unconscious at Gearin's Hotel all those years ago!

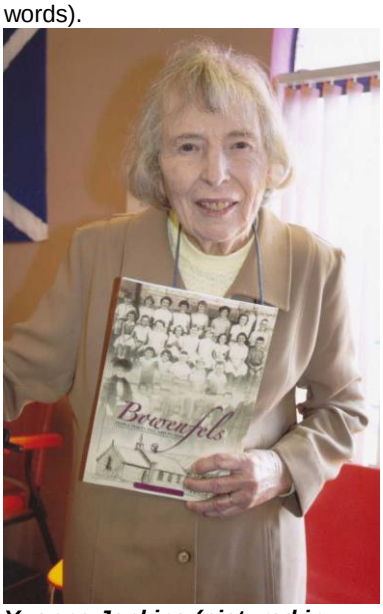
'My ancestor was…'

YVONNE JENKINS of Rydal was a well-known family history and author of several books of family historian in the Bowenfels, Rydal and surrounding areas.

She was the convenor of the Lithgow and District Family History Society in 1986 and encouraged members to write stories about their ancestors.

The Lithgow and District Family History Society has chosen to commemorate Ms Jenkins memory each year by conducting the Yvonne Jenkins Memorial Award.

Entry is open to members and non-members of the society and is in the form of a short essay (1000 words).



Yvonne Jenkins (pictured in 2008)

The topic for the 2014 award is "My Ancestor was a…..".

The winner will receive a certificate and one year's membership of the society.

Entries close on April 30 and must be accompanied by an entry form, available on the society's websitewww.lisp.com.au/ldfhs.

Have you booked your seat for the Blue Mountains History Conference on 10 May 2014?

A VERY SIGNIFICANT COLLECTION

Recently the Blue Mountains Historical Society was given a very significant collection of books by one of its members, Malcolm Ferguson.

Former president and the society's librarian Judy Barham said, "The Society is indeed so fortunate and we are extremely grateful.

"Malcolm has been collecting books on all aspects of the Blue Mountains since the 1960s. The collection is very comprehensive and many of the books are no longer in print.

When one goes with John Low to look at it and he picks up a book and says, "I have heard of this and never seen a copy", you know that there are some important and rare books in the collection.

There are not only books but also maps, pamphlets and other small items relating to the area.

"The society cannot thank Malcolm enough for his very generous donation. We will value it very highly" said Mrs Barham.

Blue Mountains History Conference

On Saturday, 10 May 2014 at the heritage listed Carrington Hotel, Katoomba

Opening up the Route to the West ... Architecture and the Railway

The conference is being organised by the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc. (BMACHO)

For 2014, the keynote speaker, Associate Professor Julia Horne, will speak about 'Pursuing Wonder in the Blue Mountains'

Associate Professor Ian Jack will give a presentation about the early educational architecture

Hector Abrahams will give a presentation on the early religious architecture.

After lunch Christine Wheeler and Friends will present "Rain in the Mountains – Songs of Henry Lawson", singing Henry Lawson poems.

This recital will be followed by a Question and Answer half hour, when Dr Ian Jack will ask questions of the proprietor of the Paragon Restaurant, Mrs Robyn Parker.

The last speaker will be Doug Knowles and his presentation will be 'The Great Western Railway – Lapstone Hill, the first challenge".
In addition there will be an optional afternoon tea served at an extra charge at the Paragon, which includes a tour of the Paragon, including upstairs where the chocolates are made. Conference, including morning tea and lunch at The Carrington $50 per head and optional afternoon tea and tour of The Paragon an extra $10

For registration form go to bluemountainsheritage.com.au 'Events and Activities' and click on the link or use the form attached to the email.

Contact Email: committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au

BMACHO thank the supporters of the Blue Mountains History Conference:

blue mountains City Council

SCENIC WORLD BLUE MOUNTAINS AUSTRALIA

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Everglades Historic House & Gardens

Bendigo Bank

Funds for restoration at four heritage properties

Blue Mountains Council has recently instigated a local heritage fund with the assistance of the newly established heritage committee. This is a long awaited and very welcome initiative of the council and an initiative of BMACHO.

One of the beneficiaries of this inaugural local heritage grant has been the lych gate on Falls Road, Wentworth Falls at Holy Trinity Anglican Church (photograph this page courtesy Margi Fallon, Heritage Consultant, Integrated Design Associates).

The gate was built in 1921 in memory of Douglas Gillfillan, who with his wife built “Gwandalan” in 1910 – 12 at the junction of Henderson Road (then Government Road) and Blaxland Road, Wentworth Falls.

At that time it was known as 7 Government Road. The Gillfillans built a magnificent garden on their property.

The property remained within the Gillfillan family until 1989. Mr Gillfillan died of tuberculosis in 1921, after a long illness and it is said that the room that he was in was burnt as a sterilization measure as was common at the time.

The gate at Holy Trinity is constructed of a sandstone base, with beautifully crafted timbers for the roof, which have been dowelled and pegged together.

The gate uses no nails in the main structure, with only the small nails to tack down the cedar shakes, and the timber lining boards.

There is an art nouveau styled bronze plaque placed in memory of Mr Gillfillan located on the inside.

This beautifully crafted gate will be carefully restored by the replacement of the shakes which have well and truly lived out their life, and provide for the ongoing protection of the crafted structure beneath. The sandstone base will be repointed.

The gate will then be able to continue to contribute to the visually significant streetscape of Falls Road, taking its place among the pine trees, the heritage listed 1890 Anglican Church building, and the similarly styled Presbyterian Church opposite.

The lych gate was one of four projects selected to receive assistance from this year’s funding.

The other three projects were to the Paragon Restaurant for design, construction and installation of lighting to the front awning and other work to return this iconic restaurant and chocolate factory; the gatekeepers cottage at Valley Heights and restoration of sandstone footings of a building at 112 Katoomba Street, Katoomba which has heritage significance.

The funded work at the Paragon and at 112 Katoomba Street will further enhance what is substantially intact streetscape of heritage shops and residence.

The building’s originality and classic façade is notable and often photographed by tourists and students of architecture.

The property at 110-114 Katoomba Street is a fine and intact example of Federation free classical commercial. The intact copper clad shopfronts add particular interest to the streetscape at pedestrian level

The work on the gatekeeper cottage at 4 Great Western Highway, Valley Heights will include replacing two timber windows to restore external character as shown in the 1867 original drawings.

The building which is listed on the State Heritage Inventory, is being considered for adaption by its owners to provide heritage tourism accommodation.

The sandstone cottage has strong links to the Valley Heights Railway Heritage Museum.

Because the railway shared a narrow ridge with existing road systems from the 1860s onwards, there was need of numerous level crossings.

Twelve of these were guarded by gates controlled from a gatekeeper’s cottage.

Six of the original stone cottages of 1867 survive, but only four of them are habitable and on their original sites.

There were two such cottages in Valley Heights. One, no. 5, was just east of the railway station and was demolished after 1902. The other, no. 4, survives on its original site, although its stone privy has been demolished.

It remained in railway ownership until 1950, then fell into disrepair, but was reroofed in 1984 and is now a residence once again.

Editors note: A lychgate, also spelled lichgate, lycugate, or as two separate words lych gate, is a gateway covered with a roof found at the entrance to a traditional English or English-style churchyard.

TomahROMA autumn food and wine fair showcases regional producers

A celebration of nature's bounty set against the spectacular deciduous colours of the cool climate gardens at the Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mt Tomah .

TomahROMA promises an enjoyable experience all day as local produce, gourmet delights, wine tasting, music, free guided walking tours and plant sales will all be part of this event

Lovers of local produce and crafts shouldn't miss TomahROMA, the annual autumn food and wine fair at the Blue Mountains Botanic Garden on Saturday May 3, from 9 am to 4 pm. For enquiries 4567 3000

This year the Garden is hosting around 30 stallholders from the Blue Mountains and Hawkesbury regions.

A stallholder at a previous TomahROMA.

The garden's annual blaze of autumn colour.

Fresh juice and cider from local Bilpin apples, wine from Mudgee, handmade bags from Woodford, cupcakes from Penrith and plants propagated by the Growing Friends, volunteers at the Garden, just a small taste of the variety of lovingly made regional produce visitors will be able to sample and buy.

Coffee and hot food stalls add to a lively vibe and fun day out for all. Perfect for finding a unique gift!

Discover the many horticultural delights within the 252 hectare grounds on a free guided tour departing regularly from the visitor centre.

Run by volunteer guides, the tours will focus on the seasonal autumn highlights of the Garden.

The fair will be set against the bright autumnal colours of the turning garden, which in itself attracts thousands of visitors throughout autumn.

This is the best time to see the garden in its annual blaze of colour, which is a sight not to be missed.

TomahROMA has built a strong following with food and garden lovers alike and is now in its 11th year!

Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mount Tomah is an inaugural member of the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc.

Make your Mark in History

To commemorate the Centenary of the ANZAC, the Woodford Academy Management Committee (WAMC) is undertaking extensive research on the Academy boys' who fought in the Great War and the impact that this had on their lives. Over 300 students were educated at the Woodford Academy between 1907 and 1925.

Fifty three of these students served in World War 1. The research being undertaken is informing the preparation of a secondary school program and new interpretive material for the Academy's museum.

'Make your Mark in History' is the first in a series of interpretive presentations developed by the WAMC that provide a glimpse into these boy's experiences. For further information: woodfordacademy@gmail.com

This work has been made possible with the assistance of a NSW Department of Communities – Veteran Affairs grant.

Bicentenary of the building of Cox's Bathurst Road to be celebrated at Hartley

The Hartley District Progress Association as trustee of the Western Crossings Trust, has announced its intention to mark the bicentenary of the building of Cox's Road through the launch of its exhibition *A Moment in Time II* and by conducting an enhanced series of guided walks on Cox's 1814 road.

Some 3000 visitors attended the Trust's 2013 projects, many, who were disappointed by the short run of the 2013 program, have already pre-booked for this year's event.

A Moment in Time II will be conducted at the Historic Hartley Schoolhouse, 10am-4pm on weekends from Saturday, September 13, to Sunday October 12, 2014 and by appointment, for large groups, on any week day in that period.

Cox's Road walks will be conducted on Sunday September 14, Sunday September 21, Thursday October 2, Saturday October 4, Sunday October 12 ; with bookings accepted for large parties on any day between September 14 and October 12.

The exhibition *A Moment in Time*, curated by professional historian Joan Kent, captures what existed before and what came shortly after the 1813 crossing of the Blue Mountains by Europeans.

It begins with a consideration of the rich and ancient geology of the landscape into which the explorers intruded, before exploring many aspects of the crossing story from the indigenous peoples whose country was being traversed, through the explorers, the road building and early settlement west of the Blue Mountains

'A Moment in Time II' builds on the original exhibition drawing widely on the contemporary Cox's Road research to present a comprehensive vision of 'the road'.

Pictured above: Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir, Governor of NSW with her aide examining an exhibit after opening Á Moment in Time's 2013 season.

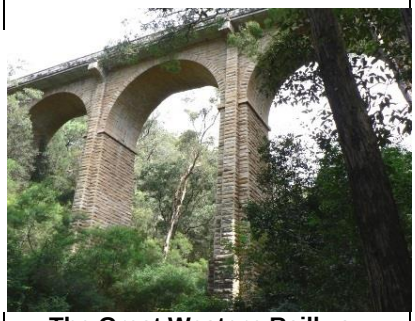
The Cox's Road walks, run in conjunction with the exhibition, represent a unique opportunity to walk some of the country traversed by Blaxland Lawson and Wentworth 1813, Evans 1813 – 14, Cox 1814 – 15 and Macquarie 1815.

Led by informed local guides, these walks offer a great opportunity to learn about the early traverses, the rich colonial heritage of the Hartley Valley and the array of heritage assets the valley harbours.

Bookings for walks and arranged openings of the exhibition will be taken from August 1. Early enquiries and pre bookings can be addressed to Barbara Johnson on 0458 552 017.

For further information contact Tom Kent, president Hartley District Progress Association (02) 6355 2393 e-mail: joankent@bigpond.com or Ramsay Moodie,(02) 6355 2259 or (02) 9983 0134 e-mail: ramsaymoodie@bigpond.com

GLENBROOK HISTORY WALKS



The Great Western Raillway 1867 Lapstone Hill Zig Zag and Knapsack Gulley Viaduct will be the destinations on Sunday, May 25 walk and talk series.

Adults $10 children free

Bookings essential to Doug Knowles 4751 3275

Crossing the play 2014 season

Plans are well underway for presentation of Wendy Blaxland's play *Crossing* to children during the 2014 season in Term 3 2014, mid-July to mid-September.

Crossing will play to schools in Sydney, the Blue Mountains and Bathurst, with a short public season for families in Sydney at Brush Farm House.

Thousands of schoolchildren saw the play during 2013 as part of the Western Crossing celebration in 2013. Schools booking forms are available.

For bookings Wendy Blaxland phone 9489 4955 m 0411 071 273

wendyblaxland@optusnet.com.au www.blaxlandanddaughter.com or Jessica Blaxland Ashby phone 0438 241 126 or 9489 4955 jessica@blaxlandanddaughter.com

Crossing was the brainchild of Wendy Blaxland who gatherered around her a talented experienced team of theatrical artists and production people to produce this memorable play. The 2014 budget is leaner, but there is still a $25,000 shortfall for pre-production costs. Another play is planned for 2015. *Pioneers in Petticoats* will be a one-woman show looking at the women who crossed the mountains.

Pictured are Wendy Blaxland and Jess Blaxland Ashby at Brush Farm House, Eastwood, the restored original home of explorer Gregory Blaxland.'

Rain in the Mountains

Rain in the Mountains - Songs from Henry Lawson' is a unique musical performance of poems from Australia's iconic poet.

Featuring the classic folk voice of Blue Mountains resident Christine Wheeler, the CD also features a number of exceptional local musicians with backgrounds from classical to jazz and world music. Influences from Celtic music underpin the whole sound.

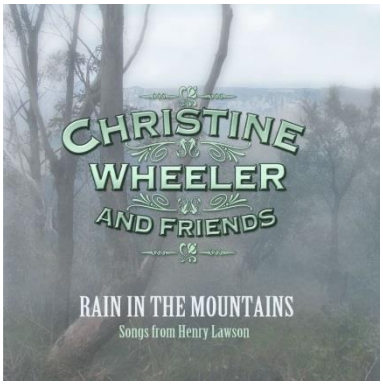
The title track is derived from two poems written by Henry Lawson aged 21, when he lived and worked at Mt Victoria.

His gift for conveying powerful feelings in the straightforward language of ordinary people is highlighted by the varied musical settings on this album - writers as diverse as Slim Dusty, John Schumann, jazz composer Ade Monsbourgh and folk icon Chris Kempster, as well as several of Christine's originals.

The CD has received considerable airplay on ABC Classic Drive FM and on ABC Local Radio's Australia All Over.

For information about performances or to purchase the CD, contact Christine www.christinewheeler.net.au

Graham McDonald, Recorded Sound Archivist, National Film and Sound Archive of Australia has said of the CD: "There are subtleties, skill and impressive musicianship in the way these songs have been put together. I suspect the CD and the live shows which Christine is planning will become a landmark in the interpretation of Australian folk song."



What happened here 4,000 years ago?

The Sydney Morning Herald of 16/1/2013 carries this news item:

> A genetic study has found ancestors of modern Indians may have come to Australia about 4,000 years before Europeans colonised the continent . . .
>
> A genetic analysis of more than 300 Aborigines, Indians and people from Papua New Guinea and island south-east Asia has found a "significant gene flow" from India to Australia about 4,230 years, or 141 generations, ago.
>
> The study's lead researcher, Irina Pugach, from the Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology in Leipzig, Germany, said the arrival of these people during the period known as the Holocene coincided with many changes in Australia's archaeological record.
>
> "[There was] a sudden change in plant processing and stone tool technologies, with microliths appearing for the first time, and the first appearance of the dingo in the fossil record," Dr Pugach said.
>
> "Since we detect inflow of genes from India into Australia at around the same time, it is likely that these changes were related to this migration". . .
>
> The Aboriginal DNA used in the study comprised more than 10 per cent Indian genetic markers, which suggested there had been substantial interbreeding between the groups. "[The Indians] could have been sea traders," said Professor Allan Cooper, Director of the Australian Centre for Ancient DNA at the University of Adelaide.
>
> The researchers said it was possible Indian ancestry came to Australia indirectly, through south-east Asian populations that had trade links with northern Australia and Indonesia. But the analysis found no evidence of this in the genes of the island south-east Asian populations. . .

This paper by Father Eugene Stockton proposes a possible scenario. It is known that about this time there was a highly developed civilisation in the Indus Valley, centred on the large settlements of Mohenjo Daro and Harappa.[1] The economy was based on mixed agriculture. The technology included well-established painted pottery, incipient metallurgy (simple copper and bronze objects) and the manufacture of stone tools. Such an assemblage is familiar to me from the excavation of the Chalcolithic site of the Teleilat Ghassul in the lower Jordan Valley.[2] Other Chalcolithic sites have been found east of the Indus Valley.

The stone tool technology included the mass production of chert blades, ground stone tools, beads (of lapis lazuli and carnelian) and pre-eminently inscribed square seals of steatite. The beads and seals were traded over long distances to the Persian Gulf, Mesopotania, Iran, Afghanistan and Turkmenia, offset by imports of lapis lazuli, turquoise and jade. Trade was conducted both overland and by sea. Models exist of both carts and boats.

This civilisation was eventually eclipsed by the Aryan invasion in the second millenium BC.

The possible scenario proposed here is that a trading vessel ventured or drifted far to the east and was shipwrecked on the coast of North Australia. The survivors lacked the means to return home, perhaps lacking the skills and resources for ship-building, pottery and metallurgy. Settling down and interbreeding with the local inhabitants, they were able to pass on the finer techniques of working stone current in their homeland. Aborigines have shown that in matters of interest to them, such as religion and art, they are very receptive of new ideas and ready to pass them on to other communities. As long time workers in stone they would have welcomed the skill and artistry of the new technology.

Archaeological excavation at six Blue Mountain sites, and particularly at Shaws Creek, shows a sudden change in stone tool making at about 4,000 years ago. The relevant strata show a remarkable increase in the amount of flaked stone, a corresponding decrease in flake size, new techniques to control flaking to the desired shape and the production of exquisite small tools.[3] Although differences in tool type occurred from region to region, throughout Australia at about this time there was a similar intensification of flaking stone and the production of small tools (which may have been hafted).

I have suggested that such tools did not offer notable economic advantage, but were rather the expression of skill and artistry, a leisure time activity.[4] What spread quickly was not so much a useful addition to the tool kit as an *idea*, a *fashion*, that was quickly copied and taken up by neighbouring groups. The north-western expression was the surface-flaked point and adze, while the south-eastern expression was the backed-blade implement (for which there were already rough antecedents). I have suggested that this intense activity was conducted around the campfire and was the accompaniment of intense social intercourse, out of which developed the complexities of religion, ceremony, law and kinship relationships for which Aborigines were renowned.

References

1. Lacking ready access to libraries I have drawn on Dilip Chakrabati "Early agriculture and the development of towns in India." *The Cambridge Encyclopedia of Archaeology*, C.U.P. 1980, pp.162-7.
2. E. Stockton, "The Stone Industry" in J. B. Hennessy "Preliminary Report on a First Season of Excavations at Teleilat Ghassul." *Levant* Vol. 1, 1969, pp.17-21.
3. E. Stockton, "Archaeology of the Blue Mountains" *Blue Mountains Dreaming: The Aboriginal Heritage* (2nd Edition), Lawson 2009, pp.41-71.
4. *Ibid*. pp.66-7. This is argued in more detail in E. Stockton, "Reflections around the Campfire," *The Artefact* Vol. 6, 1981, pp.3-16.

Hartley District Progress Association has new president, Tom Kent

'…a strong feeling in the community that the enthusiasm generated by our 1813 commemoration activities should be maintained and enhanced…'

TOM KENT (pictured below has been elected as president of the Hartley District Progress Association and at the request of *HERITAGE* has outlined in this article some of the objectives of the group in coming years.

He writes: 'After two years of intense organisation and activity focussing on the 200th anniversary of the crossing of the Blue Mountains by Europeans, and in response to its constitutional requirements, a number of new faces have appeared on the executive of the Hartley District Progress Association, including myself as president for 2014.

Tom Kent

'Although I grew up in a small rural community in the Wagga area, the lifestyle at Hartley is a far cry from my subsequent career in accountancy and ultimately petroleum marketing for a large international oil company, leading to postings across Australia and then to responsibility for Europe and Asia, based in Central Offices in London.

'Retirement in Hartley with my wife Joan and a small herd of alpacas is an appropriate episode in an interesting life's journey.

'Apart from the natural beauty of the area, Hartley has a sadly unappreciated heritage of its' crucial role in the expansion of European settlement and an impressive array of nineteenth century buildings and road construction relics.

'I believe the Hartley District Progress Association has a responsibility to make this irreplaceable heritage known and appreciated by the wider community.

'Drawing upon my previous life experience, I envisage the HDPA expanding its activities beyond the financial requirements necessary for its continuation.

'There is a strong feeling in the community that the enthusiasm generated by our 1813 commemoration activities should be maintained and enhanced, adding to the existing social events such as the children's Christmas treat and the annual Boot Sale - projects such as the completion of the 'Signing Our Heritage Places' initiative, the ongoing restoration and internal painting of the 1881 Old School House, the conservation of the old school map and the completion of the Honour Rolls acknowledging the service and sacrifice of local servicemen and women and their families since the Great War of 1914 -18.

'Following the acclamation which followed our 1813 commemoration activities we are now planning our future activities – revisiting the popular Cox's Road walks and the companion horse trail rides which had to be abandoned last year for veterinary reasons.

'We anticipate further heritage seminars and a possible extension of the 'A Moment in Time' exhibition to include the subsequent history of the Hartley Valley as a centre of administration and education, its' shale and coalmining and apple growing industries and the rich family history of the early settlers in the district.

'Initially a 200th-year commemoration of the vice regal progress through Hartley to Bathurst is also contemplated for 2015.

'In an immediate sense it is imperative that we find a permanent 'home' in the Valley for our exhibition - which raises a number of issues - it requires 90 square metres of floor space and the security and management of such a venture poses problems for such a small albeit dedicated group.

'I believe that these are worthy ambitions for the Progress Association and look forward to the challenges ahead with optimism and enthusiasm.

Hartley court house. Photography John Leary OAM

The church that helped the Chinese Revolution

By Ray Christison

The construction of St Mary's Presbyterian Church in Lithgow had quite unforeseen consequences for the son of its builder George Donald, and for the development of China in the 20th century.

George McGarvie Donald was a master stonemason and builder who helped to create the City of Lithgow.

He was born at Paddington, Sydney in 1846[1], the son of Scottish stonemason George Donald. George senior had been encouraged to migrate to New South Wales by Governor Lachlan Macquarie who wished him to assist with government building works[2].

After completing a basic education young George McGarvie Donald was apprenticed as a stonemason to his father and uncle.

After completing his apprenticeship George was engaged on the railway construction projects undertaken by Thomas Higgins in the Bowenfels district during the late 1860s.

He worked on the stone railway bridges at the Great Zig Zag and at Marrangaroo, and married Marion Miles, daughter of one of the construction foremen.

Following completion of the railway contract George moved to Hill End where he worked on a number of construction projects.

Among these was the Hill End Methodist church, which was constructed using basalt rubble from the gold mines.

Church of St John the Evangelist at Wallerawang

This building is currently used as the Hill End Anglican Church.

After the failure of the deep lead gold boom of the 1870s George returned to the Lithgow Valley and established a construction business with Thomas Crowe.

In the early 1880s George constructed St Mary's Presbyterian Church for Thomas Brown. The church was built as a memorial to Brown's wife Mary.

He also constructed Cooerwull Academy for Andrew Brown and the Church of St John the Evangelist at Wallerawang

Other projects included Lithgow Town Hall, Wallerawang Public School, the Lithgow Oddfellows Hall and many residences. Donald & Crowe also built Mort's freezing works.

George Donald was extremely active in community affairs and had a great sense of social justice. He was a founding member of the GUIOOF Lily of the Valley Lodge and the Good Templars Lodge.

Popular amongst his fellow citizens he was elected the first mayor of Lithgow after the establishment of the Municipality of Lithgow in 1889.

[1] Reid, W., 1973 George Donald, First Mayor of Lithgow

[2] Thompson, P., 2011. *Shanghai Fury.* p.82

Continued from page 32

George Donald held the seat of Hartley in the New South Wales Legislative Assembly jointly with Joseph Cook from 1891.[1]

Donald was at times invited to address the celebration dinners held by the Coal Miners' Mutual Protective Association and other public meetings dealing with contentious labour issues.

In early 1893 he and Joseph Cook were responsible for arranging assistance for miners and their families made destitute by the closure of the Katoomba Colliery[2].

As magistrate he presided over the case brought against fifteen Zig Zag colliery miners for working on the Sabbath.

In administering penalties he fined the miners and their employer, indicating that all of the fines should be paid by the mine manager who had instructed the men to work.[3]

George died at Marrickville on May 30, 1930 aged 84, his wife Marion having died three years earlier. He was buried at Woronora Cemetery.[4]

William Donald was born to George and his wife Marian in 1875. It was intended that he follow his father into the building trade until an accident at St Mary's Presbyterian Church left him with a permanent impairment:

> *… Bill, always a boisterous boy, joined other young parishioners in jumping from a platform in the bell tower and swinging on the bell rope. One day he missed the rope and fell heavily, breaking his collarbone. … the fracture left him with a permanent weakness in his left arm.*[5]

William's injury precluded him from following his father's vocation and he was apprenticed into the printing trade at the Lithgow Mercury.

St Mary's Presbyterian Church, Lithgow

Under the mentorship of Lithgow Mercury editor James Ryan he learned the craft of journalism and eventually moved to Sydney where he worked as a court reporter.

Through various contacts he obtained the position of sub-editor of the China Mail in Hong Kong in 1903.[6]

This move launched William on a trajectory that placed him at the heart of the Chinese revolutionary movements of the early 20th century.

After the 1911 Revolution William provided some advice to the government of Sun Yat-sen and during the 1920s he became the personal confidante of 'Young Marshall' Chang Hsueh-liang in Manchuria.[7]

From the mid 1930s William became the personal confidante of Madame Chiang Kai-shek. His career at the heart of the Chinese revolution earned him the title "Chinese" Donald.

About the author

The author of this article Ray Christison of Lithgow is a regular contributor to *HERITAGE*

He is another contributor who can turn an otherwise story about the history of a couple of churches into an interesting heritage piece which readers will enjoy reading avidly from the opening sentence to mystery connection revealed in the last couple of paragraphs.

Ray was invited to become an inaugural individual member of BMACHO and served on the management committee for several terms.

Ray Christison is an archaeologist who conducts a heritage consultancy business High Ground Consulting, based in Lithgow.

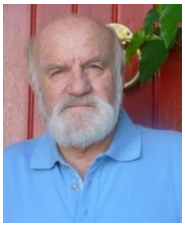
He is president of the City of Greater Lithgow Mining Museum Inc and has served on the Board of this organisation since 1992.

Ray won the coveted 2013 IMAGinE award for individual achievement for its the exhibit *Fire in the Mine.*

[1] Reid, W., 1973 George Donald, First Mayor of Lithgow
[2] The Lithgow Mercury 20 April 1894
[3] Sydney Morning Herald 10 January 1895
[4] Reid, W. 1973 George Donald, First Mayor of Lithgow
[5] Thompson, P., 2011. *Shanghai Fury.* p.85
[6] Thompson, P., 2011. *Shanghai Fury.* p.95
[7] Lewis, W., 1981. Australian Dictionary of Biography [Online]

The built heritage of Kurrajong-Comleroy

By Steve Rawling AM



Some time ago (2009 in fact), I wrote a piece in the *Millstone* which was then republished in *HERITAGE* about the various levels of "heritage listing" pointing out that while all such lists are of interest, most of them do not confer any real protection for heritage buildings or other material items. To summarise them again:

Council lists items of heritage interest in its local environment plan (LEP), which then requires council to consider heritage factors when assessing development applications.

The State Heritage Office has a State Heritage Inventory, which draws on council's list (but does not include all items) and is again simply "items of interest".

For an item to be strongly protected, it must be chosen to be listed on the State Heritage Register, as being of "State significance".

Then there is the National Heritage List, which contains only a small number of items, but is gradually being added to.

The World Heritage List of course contains the Greater Blue Mountains, close to us, but that is a natural rather than a built item.

Perhaps the best known of all is the listing by the National Trust. It is certainly the longest-established, and it is often thought to confer protection on items it contains, but again it doesn't – it simply identifies important buildings and natural areas which are of genuine heritage interest, judged by people with expertise.

So how does our area – Kurrajong-Comleroy, fare in all of this? The sad fact is that very little in our area appears on any list which would confer real protection.

There are 99 Hawkesbury items on the State Heritage Inventory, and 51 on the State Heritage Register. Of the latter, only half a dozen are in our area, mostly in Wilberforce and Ebenezer.

But we should start at the beginning, with council's LEP which is fairly inclusive, containing over 600 items in the Hawkesbury, about 120 of which appear to be in our area.

Notable inclusions, which everyone would expect to appear, are Westbury at Grose Vale, Reibycroft at Freeman's Reach, Goldfinders in Kurrajong Village, Lochiel at Kurrajong Heights, St John of God at North Richmond, Sunnyside at North Richmond, Rose Cottage, Stannix Park and Australiana Pioneer Village at Wilberforce, and of course the church and former school house at Ebenezer.

There are also various other churches, cemeteries, substantial early houses, and quite a few smaller houses and cottages.

When the Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Society was first formed, I attempted to locate all items on the list, but was frustrated by the fact that the old street numbering was used.

The current version of the LEP can be accessed on the Web by googling Hawkesbury Local Environment Plan 2012.

It has to be said that the original compilers of the list did a pretty comprehensive job. However, what is most surprising and disturbing is what is not on the list.

Two items in particular, of great significance to anyone interested in the history of our area, are conspicuously absent. They are the Comleroy Road School of Arts and the Singleton's Mills sites. How these were overlooked is hard to understand.

The School of Arts has of course a special place in our society's history and is a significant element in early twentieth century social history of the area.

It is to be hoped that it can be rescued from its present poor state, whether or not the society can be involved that process.

The Mill sites on the other hand are almost 100 years older, and were central in the thinking of the founders of our society – hence the logo - representing as they do the earliest history of the Kurrajong, and a vanished industry of grain growing and milling.

The proposal to apply for State Heritage listing, which is being co-ordinated by Frank Holland, will leapfrog other levels and, if successful, guarantee future protection of the remains of what we believe is of genuine state significance.

Any member with an interest in or knowledge of our built heritage is very welcome to contact the committee to discuss any action we might take on this front. For example, a project involving a photographic record of the items on the LEP could be of interest for someone with a camera!

In this article Steve Rawling, AM president of Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society debunks some of the myths built up about the protection (or lack of it) afforded the state's built heritage. Although he deals specifically with the Hawkesbury City Council's LEP the matter in principle is generic and can be applied to any local government area in NSW.

LATE NEWS

ELECTION TO RAHS COUNCIL

BMACHO's hardworking, efficient, popular and effective secretary, Jan Koperberg has been elected as a councillor of the Royal Australian Historical Society with a very large percentage of the vote.

The election was for four councillors, with the president Dr Anne-Maree Whitaker and Hazelbrook heritage archaeologist Dr Siobhan Lavelle, OAM being re-elected and Chris Maxworthy filling the fourth position up for election.

Treasures from home

Do you have a treasure at home ?

The Museums of Lithgow would like to learn about individual's treasure and help the owners work out its significance.

As a part of International Museums Day 2014 *ABC Open* will be joining staff and volunteers to photograph treasure, write up its history an upload it to their Object Stories online Museum.

Treasures should be brought to Eskbank House, Lithgow on Sunday, May 18, 10am to 2pm.

For further information telephone 6351 3557 or www.lithgow.com/esbank/.

Image: Trooper George Cecil Green's Welcome Home Medal owned by Lindsay Green

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

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ABN 53 994 839 952

THE ORGANISATION Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Organisations Inc (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 after local historical and heritage societies and individuals recognised the need for the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the local government area (LGA) of Blue Mountains City Council. The constituency now embraces but is not limited to the LGAs of Blue Mountains, Lithgow, Hawkesbury, Penrith and Mudgee. BMACHO membership includes historical and heritage groups, museums, commercial enterprises with an historical or heritage component in its core business, local government (local studies units, library collections) and a limited number of individual members by invitation such as but not necessarily academics. The objectives of the organisation are i. to raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage; ii. to encourage and assist cultural heritage; iii. to initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations. One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

AFFILIATIONS BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society and is affiliated with the Better Planning Network.

PUBLICATIONS BMACHO's official newsletter *HERITAGE* is edited by John Leary, OAM; the annual refereed *Blue Mountains History Journal* is edited by Dr Peter Rickwood and occasional papers are published from time to time.

MEMBERSHIP The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains Botanic Garden - Mount Tomah, Blue Mountains City Library, Blue Mountains Cultural Heritage Centre, Blue Mountain Education and Research Trust, Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc., Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc. Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute, Eskbank Rail Heritage Centre, Everglades Historic House & Gardens, Friends of Norman Lindsay Gallery, Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc., Hartley Valley District Progress Association, Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc., Lithgow and District Family History Society Inc., Lithgow Mining Museum Inc., Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies, Lithgow Small Arms Factory Museum Inc., Mt Victoria and District Historical Society Inc., Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine Historical Society Inc. (including Turkish Bath Museum), Mudgee Historical Society Inc., National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Blue Mountains Branch, National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Lithgow Branch, Nepean District Historical Society Inc., Paragon Restaurant – Katoomba, Scenic World Blue Mountains Limited, Springwood & District Historical Society Inc., Springwood Historians Inc., Transport Signal and Communication Museum Inc., The Darnell Collection Pty Ltd, Valley Heights Locomotive Depot and Museum, Woodford Academy Management Committee, Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd. The following are individual members: Ray Christison, Associate Professor Ian Jack, Joan Kent, John Leary OAM, John Low OAM, Ian Milliss, Patsy Moppett, Professor Barrie Reynolds, Dr Peter Rickwood and Dr Peter Stanbury OAM.

COMMITTEE: The management committee for 2013-14 is: John Leary OAM (president), Ian Jack (vice president), Jan Koperberg (secretary/acting treasurer), Roy Bennett, Wendy Hawkes, Patsy Moppett, Dick Morony (public officer), Scott Pollock, Suzanne Smith and Richard Woolley.

DISCLAIMER Views and opinions expressed in *HERITAGE* originate from many sources and contributors. Every effort is taken to ensure accuracy of material. Content does not necessarily represent or reflect the views and opinions of BMACHO, its committee or its members. If errors are found feedback is most welcome.

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Ali Khan the trader…and Indian Hawker

Ali Khan the trader pictured in the driving seat of his cart, was one of many to travel around the Hawkesbury and other regions of Australia selling his wares.

This photograph courtesy of Kathie McMahon was taken from the McMahon's guest house in 1905 on the Bells Line of Roads, Kurrajong North.

The Indian community has a long and rich history in Australia, with immigration beginning quite early in Australia's colonial history.

The earliest Indians came as convicts or as servants of British subjects who had been living in India.
Many Indian immigrants to Australia in the late 19th to early 20th centuries sought employment in rural areas as labourers or itinerant hawkers.
These hawkers traversed rural parts of Australia, moving from town to town in their covered wagons.
The hawkers sold a diverse range of products, including food, books, pots and pans and jewellery, as well as products from India, such as silks and spices.

Many sources indicate that these hawkers provided a lifeline to the rural towns and more isolated farms by providing a large range of products, as well as a diversion from the everyday[1].

There is enough anecdotal evidence from local Australians that the Sikh hawkers were much loved members of the community.

The womenfolk loved them because they provided a welcome break from their mundane existence - the hawkers brought beautiful clothes, goods, all things exotic, and a fleeting glimpse of the big wide world beyond their farmlands.

The Australian men liked the hawkers because they were tough - they knew how to survive in difficult bush land and, more importantly, they played cricket!

The Aussie kids adored the hawkers because of the stories they told of another world, because of their playful spirit and their wonderfully aromatic curries.

There must have been a great sense of excitement when the hawker came to town bearing new merchandise, both every day and exotic, which might otherwise not be seen outside the big cities.

The National Library of Australia holds images of Indian hawkers and have done research into the lives of specific individuals [1.]

There were concerted attempts in the early 1900s to establish a discourse about Indian Hawkers that conformed to the framework of the White Australia Policy.

Numerable editorials and feature articles complained of the Indian hawker in the Australian landscape as a redundant nuisance pushing shoddy goods, or as a pernicious threat to the fabric of rural society, harassing Australian women in their homes.

It is surprising, therefore, that hawkers feature in so many photographs of the period, and yet they do. Many images of the hawker signal his difference, as a lone and somewhat alienated figure in the Australian landscape, often mis-captioned, stereotyped and misunderstood.[2]

End notes

[1]museumvictoria.com.au/immigrationmuseum/.../your.../**indian-hawkers**/ Accessed May 18, 2014.
[2] Maclean, Morven. Associate Professor UNSW. *What the Camera Tells: Indian Hawkers and White Australians in the early 20th Century,* Abstract History Seminar Series March 2014.
Compiled by John Leary, OAM.

EDITORIAL NOTE: As many of you will be aware, the passing of BMACHO President John Leary, OAM, on 10 July 2014, has left a void in the heritage community, as well as being a tragic loss to all his family and friends.
John was the Editor of this Newsletter from its inception in 2006. The Committee intend to maintain his good work and will ensure that the Newsletter is able to continue to reach the high expectations that he had in getting spreading the heritage word.
John was midway through creating the May-June Newsletter when he fell ill. Due to the passing of time, the Committee have moved the May-June Newsletter over to July-August 2014, thus there will be no May-June Newsletter this year.
John's Editorial has been retained in his memory as follows, as his parting thoughts to you.

Patsy Moppett – BMACHO Committee member and Acting Newsletter Editor.

An opinion from the editor…

Western crossing has combined commemoration and celebration

In an address I gave at the recent annual general meeting of BMACHO and circulated to members, I may have given the impression that the activities so far in the Western Crossings 2013-15 program were more celebration and little commemoration.

On reflection it is probably fair to state that In fact there was considerable commemoration as well as celebration.

Although individuals and bodies such as National Trust and the RAHS had been floating ideas for the bicentenary celebrations, the Western Crossings commemoration had its genesis with BMACHO.

However, it was quickly and correctly recognised that this organisation did not have the resources to manage such a venture. BMACHO's committee asked the then long serving president of the Royal Australian Historical Society Associate Professor Ian Jack to explore with the RAHS Council, the idea of co-ordinating the project.

It was pleasing when the RAHS quickly took up the challenge and Professor David Carment, AM very ably took on the role of the first Western Crossings Committee chairman which he continued to do when he became the president of the RAHS.

I recall soon after David took on the task of chairman he, Ian Jack (then the president of the RAHS) and I (then president of BMACHO) met one Sunday afternoon in my home to look at objectives and parameters for the Western Crossings Committee as it was to become known.

From that informal meeting there came a strong recommendation that the commemoration of the bicentenary should be from the period 2013 – 2015 embracing the anniversary of a series of inter – related events after the 1813 exploration by Blaxland, Wentworth and Lawson. George William Evans began his survey for a roadway across the Blue Mountains in November 1813 and went as far as the future Bathurst; William Cox then supervised the construction of the road from July 1814 to January 1815 and then Governor Lachlan Macquarie accompanied by Mrs Elizabeth Macquarie travelled along the new road in April and May 1815 and selected the site of Bathurst.

There is no doubt all those who attended the Western Crossings Committee meetings from the very earliest meeting, were in agreement, time and time again, that the Crossings was a commemoration of all who had crossed, from the very earliest Aboriginal crossings to the crossing by Governor Lachlan Macquarie and Mrs Elizabeth Macquarie and party in 1815.

The European crossings from 1813 are not a celebration for the Aboriginal people and there were many commemorations of Indigenous crossings held during 2014, like the Ancestral Pathways walks organised by Auntie Sharyn Halls , the official opening of The Gully at Katoomba with interpretive signage, the commemoration walk 'Jummangunda Ngunninga' walk from Bardens Lookout to Mt York.

The excellent exhibition in Hartley *A Moment in Time* curated by Joan Kent starting with a very comprehensive history of the Wiradjuri people, through to Governor Lachlan Macquarie is one of the lasting commemorations as is the Western Crossing room at the Mt Victoria Museum and there are others.
As I stated in my annual report,… 'Credit must go to the Royal Australian Historical Society for its role in overseeing through the Western Crossings Committee the co-ordination of the celebration. This committee

brought together organisations from Blacktown to Bathurst; descendants of those involved with what has been described as the first crossing of the Blue Mountains by Europeans; local Indigenous groups; as well as others to promote and co-ordinate this part of the celebration and will continue to do so until 2015.

'Unfortunately, the celebration has not yet attracted major financial support from government with most of the events being funded by local organisations and sponsorship from local business and individuals.

'The State government did provide a grant of $80,000 to the Royal Australian Historical Society and this was distributed to various groups and activities involved in the centenary. This grant was negotiated between Professor David Carment and the then Premier of NSW Barry O'Farrell.'

John Leary, OAM – president, Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc and editor of *HERITAGE.*

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The Heritage of Education in the Blue Mountain

By Ian Jack

At the Blue Mountains History Conference 2014, held at the Carrington Hotel, Katoomba Associate Professor Ian Jack delivered a most interesting address titled: *The heritage of education in the Blue Mountains.* Space in this edition of *HERITAGE* will not allow for the full text to be published and at the editor's request, Ian has produced an abridged version which appears on this and following pages. A biography of the author appears at the end of this article.

In my conference paper I explored the surviving tangible heritage related to education in the Blue Mountains and the Hartley/Bowenfels area over the past 160 years.

Many of the establishments were private schools. Most of these adapted pre-existing buildings, which in turn later reverted to other uses and are not readily identifiable as schools today.

State schools, on the other hand, almost always had custom-made buildings, but the earliest schoolhouses have often been demolished or moved elsewhere and what we see today in the public schools in every village along the Great Western Highway is a long but incomplete sequence of attempts to provide for an expanding population of children in the 20th century.

National School at Bowenfells

Public education began exceptionally early, with the National School at Bowenfels, erected in 1851. It was built by local people to a local design.

It contained three rooms originally, one the schoolroom, the other two the living space for the schoolteacher, John Edhouse.

The schoolhouse opened without furniture, water supply or toilet but the local 'patrons', mainly Scottish farmers, paid for improvements in 1852 and 1853.

In 1866 a new separate schoolroom was constructed and all three rooms of the 1851 building became the schoolmaster's residence.

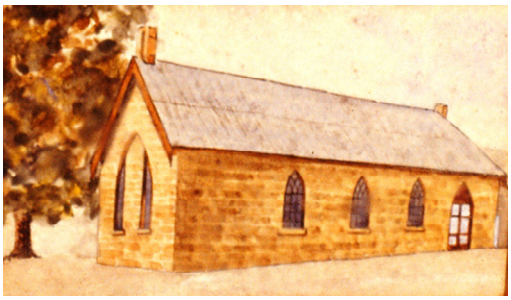
The stonemason was James Connor, an innkeeper who lived nearby in Umera, itself later a private school. Connor was a gifted craftsman and was responsible for some of the finest grave markers in the local cemeteries. The 1866 building remained in use as a primary school for an extraordinarily long time, over a century, until the end of 1969.

Since then the Bowenfels complex has been privately owned. For a time the 1866 school was used as an artist's studio, while the artist lived in the 1855 building.

Once the railway came over the mountains in the later 1860s, there was, of course, a new need for schools. The first public school was in Mount Victoria, opened in 1868, not for local residents, who were still few, but for the education of the children of workmen engaged on the construction of the railway and the Zig Zag. That 1868 building was, however, replaced in 1877.

The education of railway children also prompted the building of the first private school. Andrew Brown, a wealthy Scots Presbyterian grazier at Cooerwull in Bowenfels, had bitterly opposed the building of the Lithgow Zig-Zag in the 1860s, because he did not want the Bathurst railway to cut through his estates.

But once the decision was taken, he accepted the inevitable and allowed a semi-permanent camp for railway construction workers to be located on Cooerwull estate, near the present Bowenfels railway station.



Cooerwull stone school - a painting by John Sands & Co.

The workers were accompanied by their womenfolk and children, as they had been at Mount Victoria in 1868. Genuinely distressed at the plight of the children, Andrew Brown made land available to them and built a slab building, roofed with bark.

Then in 1873-1874 he built a sandstone school for the railway children and other local children, with a stone residence for a schoolteacher. All the stone came from a quarry on the estate. The schoolhouse was also used on Sundays for services, both Presbyterian and Anglican.

When the present Cooerwull Public School was built by the government in 1906-1907, the building became solely a Presbyterian Church and Sunday School. Later secularised, the lovely little building is now the centre-piece of a car-yard on the highway, but it is still externally as it was in 1874.

But the connection of the Brown family with Cooerwull School continued. A bell is still rung daily in the playground of the modern state school. It originally hung in the belfry of the 1848 stables at Cooerwull House, where it summoned employees back at the end of the working day. It had been brought out from Scotland along with Andrew Brown's bride in 1841.

In 1930 it was given to Cooerwull School by one of Andrew's heirs and it has been there ever since.
You can compare it to the old bell hanging in the playground of Blackheath Public School. That has been there since 1888, but has no story attached comparable to the Cooerwull bell. It is good, however, to see that it is still there
.
The school at Blackheath had opened in 1885, three years before the bell was installed, but the earliest surviving building was erected in 1896 right on the highway. In December 1884 the parents of Blackheath had applied to the Department of Education for the establishment of a public school in the village. The application was approved and the department's inspector and the residents decided on a two-acre site bisected by Leichhardt Street.
Two acres was the standard size of a school site.

The site that was chosen was part of the eastern edge of the Blackheath Stockade, which was established in 1844 and was in operation until 1849, so the school grounds have quite a lot of archaeological potential.
The history of the site explains why what was once the schoolmaster's residence is separated from the school by a busy street.

The Department of Education still owns the old residence, since local residents demonstrated loudly against its proposed demolition some years ago and it is now sensibly used as a community centre, a Cyber-Shed in front and Before and After School Care behind.

Before any custom-made school buildings were erected in any of the Mountains villages, other than Mount Victoria, Springwood and Katoomba, the same private philanthropist who had built the school for the railway children erected entirely at his own expense a major Great Public School for country boys on a different part of his estate at Bowenfels.

Andrew Brown's concern for education led him to found a boarding school, particularly, but never exclusively, for Scottish families on country properties. In 1881 he engaged George Donald, the principal Lithgow building contractor, to erect the spacious stone buildings of Cooerwull Academy which still stand.

The school was intended to provide an Australian equivalent to Edinburgh Academy, where Brown's two boys had spent two years from 1858 to 1860 and for 34 years an interesting and often distinguished staff taught boys

from many of the élite grazing families and also from the professional families in country towns, including Lithgow.

The ablest boys went on, through Brown scholarships, to St Andrew's College and the University. In 1892 Brown gave the school to St Andrew's which ran it until in 1916 the school was obliged to close, when most of the staff left to serve in World War I.

By 1907 the Academy was larger than any of the colleges at the University of Sydney, with 65 rooms accommodating up to 40 boarders, set in 7 hectares of land. There was an extensive library; art was taught by Arthur and George Collingridge, science by the Antarctic explorer Borchegrevink.

The school had excellent sports fields and played not only other major schools but also the local Lithgow industrial football and cricket teams. It was both élite and inclusive.

In 1953 the De La Salle Brothers purchased the derelict property and opened a Catholic school, La Salle Academy.

La Salle Academy still flourishes as a co-educational school and has maintained the old buildings in use. But Cooerwull Academy and its aspirations did not die in 1916. The rector appointed in 1903 had been a man called John McManamey. McManamey was a Scottish policeman's son from Wellington, educated at an Anglican boarding school, All Saints at Bathurst, and then at the University of Sydney where he lived in St Andrew's College . At University and College he was enabled to indulge his passions for classical literature, and extended it into English literature, while living a vigorous outdoor and sporting life.

After graduation he was the founding headmaster of Dr Aspinall's Scots College in Sydney. He left to found his own school, The Australian College, and then went off to Queensland to be senior classics master at the renowned Ipswich Grammar School.

In 1903 he returned to the Central West of NSW to be rector of Cooerwull Academy, but again ventured out to create a school of his own in 1907. And this, of course, was Woodford Academy, directed, like Cooerwull, towards the University entry examination and élite learning generally.

Woodford is a classic case of adapting much older buildings to school use, while supplementing the old with a custom-made wing. Built on the site of an early road gangs' encampment, Michael Pembroke's weatherboard Woodmans Inn in 1832 was developed into a stone inn, the Kings Arms, under Michael Hogan in 1842 (the present west wing).

By 1862, during William Buss's occupancy, the kitchen wings were added. From 1867 until 1897 it was a private country retreat, owned by Alfred Fairfax, and from 1897 to 1907 it was a boarding house.

Finally, from 1907 to 1934, it became a significant school, Woodford Academy, in competition and then in succession to Cooerwull Academy.

After Woodford Academy closed in 1934, the McManamey family lived privately in the house until Miss Gertrude McManamey gave the property to the National Trust of Australia (NSW) in 1978.

An unfamiliar heritage aspect of Woodford Academy is the engraving of boys' names on the massive outcrop of rock just to the east of the school. There are many initials carved, such as RSBS, who was Ralph Sanders Barclay Sillar. Sillar was a student at Woodford in 1909, and after WWI, a successful lawyer, who lived on until 1970. I find this a very human part of school heritage.

I went on to discuss a dozen other schools, public and private, and noted the variety of heritage values among surviving places.

Sometimes the school as at the Victoria and Albert was only a wartime emergency. Sometimes the schools were small dame-schools which flickered for a while and went out. Sometimes they were grand custom-built schools like Cooerwull Academy or Mount St Marys. Sometimes, as with Coorah at the Blue Mountains Grammar School, a major historic homestead remains the heart of a much larger modern complex.

Education is a fundamental need and finds many expressions through the private and the public purse. The heritage of education in the Mountains area is in need of more exhaustive evaluation and conservation.

About the author ---

Associate Professor R Ian Jack

Ian Jack was born and educated in Scotland at two of its oldest schools and at a university which had just celebrated its 500th anniversary.

Like most Scots graduates, he was obliged to find suitable employment elsewhere. He came to Australia to re-establish medieval European history in the curriculum of the University of Sydney, but in the 1970s the influences of an archaeologist and the burgeoning heritage movement made him more and more involved with the development of the Australian rural scene and its physical remains.

Although he gave up a decade to serve as the Head of the Department of History and as Dean of the Faculty of Arts, he was also co-founder of the new inter-disciplinary course in Historical Archaeology and became a member of the Heritage Council.

He was also chair of its State Heritage Register Committee, its History Panel and its Religious Properties Panel.

Ian was inevitably involved in consultancy work and among his various commissions was the full revision of the Heritage Study of the Blue Mountains City Council area.

As a result, he got to know in some measure some 900 sites the length and breadth of the Mountains and has continued to write report, give lectures and publish articles on aspects of Mountains history and heritage.

Other works in the Central West, on rural, industrial educational and Scottish themes have supplied a useful context to understanding the Mountains better.

He retired from the Department of History 10 years ago, but he has kept a toe hold on the University campus as resident Senior Fellow at St Andrew's College.

While serving 8 years as the longest-serving president of the Royal Australian Historical Society, he established the Western Crossings Committee which has been so useful a coordinating body for the bicentenary commemorations in this area.

Ian supported the foundation of the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc (BMACHO), has been its vice president from the outset more than 8 years ago and has been delighted to see the society blossom.

The Witche's Leap

For over a century guidebooks and commentators, occasionally pointing out that 'leap' is "an old Scottish word for waterfall"[i], have generally associated the name 'Witches Leap' (sometimes spelt 'Witch's Leap') with a small waterfall that pours into a cool, forested gully bounded by cliffs on the 'Round Walk' at Katoomba Falls.[ii] In this article, however, I want to suggest that the waterfall might not, in fact, have been foremost in the minds of those who originally conferred the name.

The 'Round Walk' is alive with echoes from the earliest days of Katoomba and, when the name 'Witches Leap' was first described in a guidebook in the early 1880s, JB North's coal mine had not long begun operations and miners were already tramping to work down a steep access path which passed through here. "The Witch's (sic) Leap, wrote JEM Russell in his *Pictorial Guide to the Blue Mountains*, is easily found by the winding path which leads to the foot of the fall, with perpendicular cliffs on each side towering up to a height of 150 feet; and here will be seen one of the prettiest dells or gullies of the mountains."

The special significance given to the "perpendicular cliffs" is noteworthy and can similarly be seen in *A Tourist Guide to the Blue Mountains,* published in 1887 by the Penrith printer Alfred Colless. Under the heading "The Witches Leap", while describing the "spray of water [falling] into the charming Fern Gully", the striking image again is of finding "yourself hemmed in on two sides by gigantic walls of rock …"[iii] While the name had shifted focus to the falls by the end of the nineteenth century, the sense in both these early descriptions is of it being used more to identify a *place* encompassing a number of natural features but dominated by those enormous rock walls.

Australian topography is littered with names derived from the folklore of fairies, witches etc. though generally these are merely descriptive or, at most, expressions of cultural memory and are not deeply rooted in the long traditions of place that exist in countries like Great Britain. Nevertheless, cultural associations can genuinely enhance a relationship with a new place and this, I think, is what might have occurred in the naming of Katoomba's 'Witches Leap'.

In Scotland's North Esk River Valley, south-west of Edinburgh and east of the Pentland Hills, is the small village of Carlops which came into being in the late 18th century as a cotton weaving centre also possessing resources of coal and limestone. Its name derived from an old folk tradition known as the 'Carline's Loup' ('Witches Leap'), a tale of two local 'carlines' (Jenny and Mause) who would meet of an evening at the edge of the village and leap between two rock outcrops in a kind of aerial dance.[iv]

Though coal mining as a Carlops industry was still listed in gazetteers of the 1880s[v], all the town's industries were in decline by the late nineteenth century, the village ultimately reinventing itself as a holiday and health resort and promoting itself as a literary tourist site through its associations with the Scottish writer John Ramsay (1686-1758).[vi]

With North's newly opened Katoomba Coal Mine attracting employees from near and far, is it possible that miners from the Scottish Borders tramped down through Fern Gully and were reminded of their home and its two carlines? While the gully and its waterfall may have triggered a memory of the dell in Ramsay's famous play *The Gentle Shepherd* (set near Carlops) - where "the water fa's and maks a singan din"[vii] - it would have been those "perpendicular cliffs" facing each other across the gully that particularly caught their imagination and made the 'Witches Leap' the bearer of a rich cultural memory and a link between two towns on opposite sides of the world.
©*John Low*

'Path to the Witche's Leap'. Glass negative, full plate, Kerry and Co. Sydney c 1884 – 1917 courtesy Power House Museum

End notes

Brian Fox, *Blue Mountains Geographical Dictionary*, Bathurst, NSW: The Author, 2006, p. 308

[2] See for example: 'Katoomba', *Blue Mountain Echo*, 25 December 1909, p.13 (Supplement); Harry Phillips, *Blue Mountains and Jenolan Caves Illustrated Tourist Guide*, Willoughby NSW: The Author, 1928, p.50

[3] J. E. M. Russell, *The Pictorial Guide to the Blue Mountains of NSW and the districts between Parramatta and Bathurst*, Sydney: Gibbs, Shallard &W Co., 1882 (2nd edition), 1885 (3rd edition), pp.30-31 (map), 33. The 3rd edition is available on-line at: http://nla.gov.au/nla.aus-f15299-s37 <accessed 17 November 2013>

[4] Alfred Colless, *The Tourist Guide to the Blue Mountains*, Penrith NSW: The Author, 1887, p.8
[5]See for example: *Australian Town and Country Journal*, 26 November 1898, p.33
[6]See Esk Valley Trust, Scotland www.eskvalleytrust.org/carlops.html and 'Carlops' www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/carlops <both accessed 17 November 2013> Also see *The AA Road Book of Scotland*, London: Automobile Assoc. & Cassell, [1945] which mentions only one witch "seen to leap on her broomstick" between "two conical rocks at the south end of the village".
[7]Francis Groome, *Ordnance Gazetteer of Scotland 1882-4* (www.visionofbritain.org.uk/place/22364) and John Bartholomew, *Gazetteer of the British Isles 1887* (www.visionofbritain.org.uk/descriptions/1876590) at *A Vision of Britain Through Time* (University of Portsmouth) <both accessed 17 November 2013>
[8] *Gazetteer For Scotland*: www.scottish-places.info/towns/townfirst715.html <accessed 17 November 2013>
[9]Quoted in *The AA Road Book of Scotland*, London: Automobile Assoc. & Cassell, [1945] in its entry on Carlops.

This article has previously been published in Hobby's Outreach March – April 2014 edition

As illustrated above, courtesy of the Power House Museum, *HERITAGE* used the image of a glass negative, full plate, 'Path to the Witche's Leap', Kerry and Co, Sydney, Australia, c. 1884-1917

This photographic negative was published by the Sydney firm Charles Kerry & Co. and is part of the Powerhouse Museum's Tyrrell collection which contains over 2900 glass plate negatives by Kerry & Co.

Although a few appear to be from the 1880s most were produced between 1892 and 1917.

Over this period, and well into the early 1900s, prints from these negatives appeared in many Australian publications and albums of views.

In 1903 the company began producing postcards from these negatives, further establishing the images as some of the most significant and best known early views of New South Wales.

Some of the more significant themes covered by the collection include; views of New South Wales, Queensland, country towns, Sydney, indigenous Australians, the South Pacific, rural life, native flora and fauna, and sentimental views.

In addition a number of significant events from the 1900s are covered by the collection including; embarkation of troops for the Boer War, Hordens fire, the Inauguration of the Commonwealth in 1901, the arrival of the Great White Fleet and the Burns verses Johnson boxing match at Rushcutters Bay in 1908.

Charles Kerry was born in 1858 and by 1885 was running a studio in partnership with CD Jones. This partnership lasted until 1892, when Charles became sole owner and
changed the studio's name to Kerry and Co.

By 1890 the company was employing a number of photographers who would become famous in their own right. George Bell who covered rural New South Wales was employed in 1890 and Harold Bradley was doing outdoor work and covering events around Sydney by 1899.

Kerry continued to work in the field and in 1895 he took photographs of Royal National Park for New South Wales Government, photographed Queensland artesian bores and was employed by the New South Wales Government to travel the state and photograph indigenous Australians. In 1897 Kerry led the first party to reach the summit of Mt Kosciuszko in winter conditions and photographed the Jenolan caves.

By 1900 Kerry had turned his studio into one of the largest and most respected photographic establishments in the colony. His new four story premises at 310
George Street Sydney were designed by the architect HC Kent and the third floor studios alone could accommodate 70 people wanting their portraits taken.

In 1913 Kerry retired leaving the running of the studio to his nephew, unfortunately the business did not do well and Kerry and Co. closed its doors in 1917. Kerry himself died in 1928.
Geoff Barker, Curatorial, January, 2009

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Blue Mountains History Conference success

The Blue Mountains History Conference 2014 held in heritage listed Carrington Hotel has been acclaimed a success by feedback from participants in the event on May 10.

The keynote address titled, *A behind the scenes look at pursuing wonder in the Blue Mountains* presented by Associate Professor Julia Horne.

Associate Professor Julia Horne is University Historian and Principal Research Fellow at the University of Sydney where she works on the University's history & heritage.
Professor Horne's address was a most interesting expose of the social experience of guest houses in the late 19th century as an important part of the Blue Mountains heritage and in particular the development of early tourism.

She cleverly wove the story which demonstrated the importance of preserving travel letters. She presented an alternate aspect of the history of the Blue Mountains, introducing the social experience of guest houses in particular.

Dr Ian Jack then spoke about educational architecture, "The Heritage of Education in the Blue Mountains", as previously covered in the pages of this Newsletter, covering the Cooerwul Academy, St Andrews College and De La Salle College, all at Lithgow, and some connections to the Woodford Academy.

Hector Abrahams, BSc (Arch) (Hons), BArch, ARAIA then addressed the group. Hector has established his own practice, Hector Abrahams Architects, and specialises in the design of new buildings within a historic precinct, with a passion for church architecture.

Hector spoke about the heritage of religion in the Blue Mountains, including in particular the Baptist Church and the Gospel Hall at Katoomba.

After the luncheon break the attendees were entertained by **Christine Wheeler and Friends**, "Rain in the Blue Mountains", songs of Henry Lawson.

Christine joined with skilled musicians Leigh Birkett and Rebecca Daniel, in a unique musical performance of poems from the iconic Henry Lawson.

Dr Ian Jack then joined Robyn Parker of the Paragon Restaurant at Katoomba, in discussion about the current status of the conservation of this iconic heritage building.

Doug Knowles, President of the Glenbrook and District Historical Society, delivered the final address. Doug is also an active member of the Springwood Historical Society.

Doug has been interested in the railway across the Blue Mountains for some years and in particular that part of the Great Western Railway which posed the first challenge to establishing the rail likn across the Mountains and beyond, that of the Lapstone Hill.

The day concluded with a Devonshire tea and an optional tour of the Paragon Restaurant, including upstairs where the chocolates are made.

Julia Horne

Hector Abrahams

Doug Knowles

William Cox Historical Festival at the Arms of Australia

The William Cox Festival on July 20, 2014 will celebrate one of the most important achievements in early colonial history – the building of a road across the Blue Mountains

Construction of the road built by William Cox started in July 1814 at Emu Plains and finished at Bathurst in March 1815.

With a working party of 32 convicts, four free persons and a handful of guards, Cox completed the 101 mile (163km) road over the mountains in seven months.

The road opened up inland New South Wales to European settlement. Cox's bullock cart was the first wheeled vehicle to pass over the Blue Mountains and down over Mt. York.

To mark the bicentenary, the Nepean District Historical Society with the support of Penrith City Council will re-enact the start of Cox's journey from Regatta Park, Emu Plains at 10.30 am on July 20 to the Arms of Australia Inn Museum for the William Cox Festival and formalities.

The NSW Corp of Marines will be in charge, with displays, drills, and re-enactments from the life and times of the early colony. Members of the 1st Windsor Light Horse Regiment will help keep order.

There will be plenty of food, stalls and entertainment. Tall Timbre Country and Western Band will provide music along with the Penrith City Show Band. Students from the Nepean Creative and Performing Arts High School will perform songs and poetry readings.

Children can enjoy old fashioned games, write on slates in the old school room, ride a pony, pet animals in the animal farm, jump to their heart's desire in the jumping castle try trampoline bungee jumping and join in the ever popular, tug of war and lots more.

The William Cox Festival and Open Day is at the Arms of Australia Inn Museum on the corner of Great Western Highway and Gardenia Avenue, Emu Plains from 9am. Admission is free.

Australian Navy Submarines Centenary

A little remembered centenary is that of the first two submarines AE1 and AE2 arriving in Sydney in May 1914 to join the Australian Navy.

The AE2, the Royal Australian Navy's second submarine, was built in the United Kingdom and commissioned there on February 28, 1914 After commissioning, AE2 accompanied by AE1, sailed to Australia crewed jointly by British and Australian sailors, arriving at Sydney in May 1914.

Following the outbreak of war in August, both submarines proceeded to New Guinea for operations against the German colonies. AE2 was subsequently based in Suva, Fiji, and returned to Sydney in November 1914.

In the following month she joined the second AIF convoy at Albany, Western Australia for passage to European waters and was towed across the Indian Ocean by the former auxiliary cruiser Berrima.

Upon arrival in the Mediterranean, AE2 was assigned to operations off the Gallipoli Peninsula. She was ordered to penetrate the Dardanelles on April 25,1915. AE2 entered the Dardanelles at 2.30 am. After torpedoing and damaging the Turkish gunboat Peykisevket, she passed through the Narrows, pursued by surface vessels. She ran aground twice beneath the guns of the Turkish forts along the shore, but these guns could not be depressed low enough to fire on her.

Shaking off her pursuers, the submarine entered the Sea of Marmara on April 26. For the next four days she attacked Turkish shipping with her torpedoes, but without success. Nevertheless, her presence was a nasty shock to the Turks.

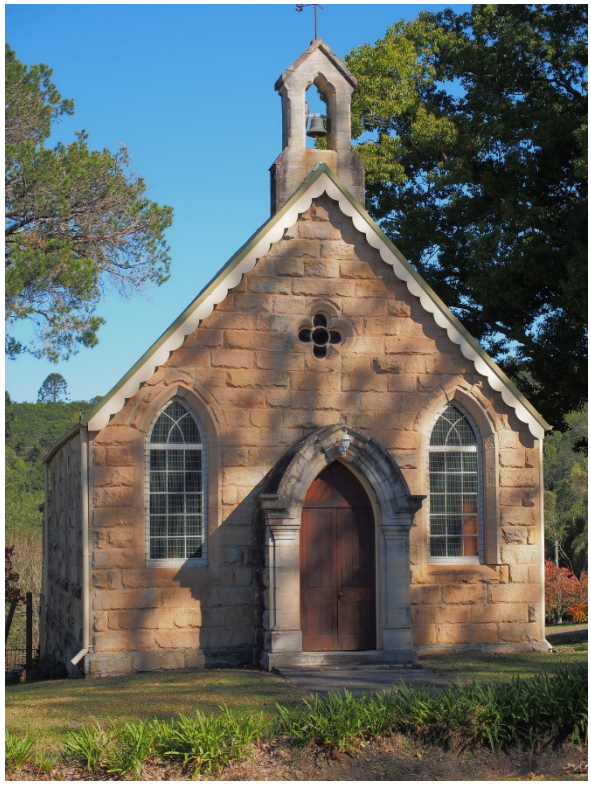
On April 29, AE2 met the British submarine E14 and the two vessels arranged to rendezvous the next day. E14 was the first of a number of submarines that were to follow AE2 into the Sea of Marmara and effectively close it to Turkish shipping bound for the battlefields of the Gallipoli Peninsula.

As AE2 surfaced at the rendezvous point on 30 April, the Turkish torpedo boat Sultan Hissar approached.

AE2 immediately dived, but she lost trim and went out of control, broaching the surface twice. AE2 was hit in the engine room by Sultan Hissar's guns and the crew had no choice but to abandon ship. Although none of the submarine's complement were lost in the sinking, four were to die in captivity

Project aims at photographing all heritage items in Hawkesbury region

In a previous isue, president of Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Steve Rawling wrote about the vulnerability of heritage items, even if they were identified in Council LEPs, listed by the National Trust, or were otherwise noted as being of interest.



Unless formally listed on the State Heritage Register, there is no full protection, and their preservation depends on the goodwill of owners, councils, developers, and their ability to withstand the ravages of time and demolition by neglect.

The Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society decided recently to ensure a current record of all items on Hawkesbury City Council's LEP. Many items have numerous historical photographs, but the intention is to create a comprehensive contemporary record.

There can be real challenges in identifying and accessing some items, especially private houses. Other historical societies have, undertaken similar projects. Just how vulnerable are heritage buildings?

The photograph here of St David's Church in Kurrajong Heights illustrates the issue. This splendid photograph was taken by one of our members Paul Hulbert in 2004, who is an experienced photographer. We are fortunate to have him leading the project, assisted by Chris Upton, Steve Rawling advises.

St David's, originally a Presbyterian, now a Uniting Church, is one of a group of buildings in Kurrajong Heights which includes the building now known as the restaurant Lochiel, which was built 40 years earlier than St David's, in the 1820's.

Even Lochiel has no absolute protection, despite being the oldest building between Richmond and Bathurst, and pre-dating some other buildings which are on the State Heritage Register.

A proposal some years ago by the Hawkesbury Branch of the National Trust for it and St David's to be included got nowhere.

St David's was built in 1867, and I was surprised and pleased to learn at the recent BMACHO Conference that this pre-dates any churches on "the other side", the Blue Mountains plateau.Despite the significance of this group of buildings, when the ill-fated proposal for Bells Line Expressway was prepared by the then RTA, the proposed route went straight through the centre of Kurrajong Heights, requiring demolition of the whole group.
While that was rejected, there is still a risk that future road upgrades could threaten.

Contributed by Steve Rawling AM, FAICD

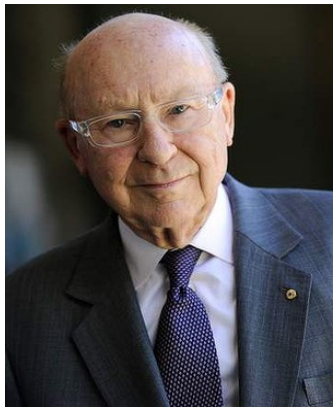
Barry O'Keefe (1933-2014)

Distinguished jurist, ICAC chief, mayor, defender of heritage - a man decent in all things

It is difficult for obituary writers to adequately prepare a definitive but brief biography of Barry O'Keefe, QC, AM - a distinguished jurist, barrister, Queen's Counsel the state's second ICAC commissioner, long term councillor and mayor of Mosman, president of the Local Government Association and president of National Trust of Australia (NSW) among the many roles he performed in a lifetime of service to the community.

He was an absolute gentleman, courtesy and decent in all things. He understood people and appreciated all they did to make this a better world.

Barry Stanley John O'Keefe was born on May 20, 1933, the first of three children to Ray O'Keefe and his wife Thelma (nee Kennedy). Ray owned a furniture store on Pitt Street and was later mayor of Waverley, while Thelma was reputedly the first woman to surf at Bondi Beach. For the rest of his life, Barry talked to Thelma almost every day, no matter where in the world he was, and always cited Ray's gentleness as a model for how a man could be.



His generous support for the work of National Trust has meant that many sectors of Australia's heritage have benefitted.

Barry served on the board of National Trust Australia (NSW) as a member, vice president and then from 1991 to 2006 as president. Under his leadership, the Trust emerged from bankruptcy and built up a large and active membership of heritage defenders.

As former president of the Friends of Woodford Academy, John Leary, OAM and a friend of the deceased remembers well the regular visits of Barry 'Keefe to the iconic sandstone former inn, later gentleman's resident and educational facility.

Barry loved the property and had great respect and affection for those volunteers who maintained the heritage site. He often would arrive unannounced just for a cup of tea and a chat and always a thank you to the volunteers

It was Barry who first considered the value of this 1830s property when it was falling down around the then owner, Gertrude McManamey the sole surviving daughter of the academy foundation John McManamey.

Barry using his own money spent a substantial amount to restore parts of the building particularly the eastern part of the main building. He did this unheralded and in the manner which marked his ethos of service.

Woodford Academy was donated to the National Trust in 1979 by Miss McManamey with an agreement that she be allowed to continue living there until her death. She died in 1988 having left the house 2 years before to be cared for at the Queen Victoria Homes, Wentworth Falls.

Barry had a major part in obtaining a $1 million Centenary of Federation grant from the Federal Government to help restore the property. He seldom missed a fund raising function at Woodford Academy and made sure that the day after the event there was a thank you note to the president and volunteers of the Friends accompanied by a donation of several hundred dollars.

The National Trust was not the only organisation to benefit from this generous benefactor. His interests were wide and diverse and ever thing he did was with a vibrant energy

O'Keefe went to the bar in 1957 and at about the same time started lecturing at the University of Technology, Sydney where he was popular with the law students. There is a story that students dubbed him "the Mild One", in contrast with his brother Johnny O'Keefe, "the Wild One" OF Australian rock-n-roll.

He took silk in 1974 and as a formidable cross examiner was renowned for his ability to manage and analyse masses of complex facts. He appeared frequently before the NSW Supreme Court, the High Court of Australia and the Privy Council.

He served as president of the NSW Bar Council from 1990 to 1991 and sat on the executive of the Law Council of Australia from 1992 to 1993.In 1993 he was appointed as Chief Judge of the Commercial Division of the NSW Supreme Court. In 1994 he accepted a five-year appointment as commissioner of NSW's Independent Commission against Corruption

In 1989, Barry O'Keefe, QC was made a Member of the Order of Australia for service to local government.

Although terminally ill in 2013 O'Keefe agreed to the request of the Australian Catholic bishops to chair the Truth, Justice and Healing Council, established to co-ordinate the church's submission to the royal Commission on Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse.

Two days before Barry O'Keefe's death, Pope Francis created him Knight Grand Cross (First Class) of the Order of St Gregory the Great – the highest papal honour an ordinary layperson can receive.

Barry is survive by Janette (Jan) his wife of 52 years, children Phillip, Vanessa, Andrew and Sophie an seven grandchildren and sister Anne.

Barry O'Keefe Photograph: Justin McManus

This is an abridged version of an obituary by Philip O'Keefe and Kevin McCann which appeared in the Sydney Morning Herald on May 24-25, 2014 with anecdotes from John Leary.

Bits and Pieces

Gallery thanks Faulconbridge firies

A $7000 cheque has been presented to the Faulconbridge Rural Fire Service as a thank you for their efforts to protect Norman Lindsay Gallery during last year's bushfires.
The donation was made possible after Helen Glad, Norman Lindsay's granddaughter generously gave an original Lindsay artwork to be sold with the proceeds to go towards the local fire brigade for the purchase of equipment.

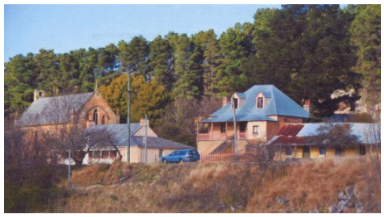
Descendant of John Britty North entertained at BM history conference

Singer and instrumentalist Christine Wheeler one of the three performers who presented the musical interlude *Rain in the Mountains --- Songs of Henry Lawson* at the Blue Mountains History conference at The Carrington Hotel, Katoomba turns out to be the great, great grand daughter of John Britty North.
JB North was leading force in developing oil shale resources of Megalong Valley and by 1877 in partnership with RH Reynolds was developing Katoomba and the coal outcrops in the Jamison Valley. In 1880 he claimed the oil shale resources in the Ruined Castle area. Source: Pells, Phillip J and Hammon Phillip J, *The Burning Mist of Time,* 2009

National Trust Heritage Award – Hartley Revitalisation Project

The National Trust Heritage Awards for 2014 were announced on May 14 and Hartley figured highly amongst the achievements. The Hartley Project won the category for Adaptive Reuse – Government Corporation, for work at the Hartley Historic Site. The assessors declared that although the project was a long time in coming, it led to many effective decisions being made, which followed on from the Conservation Management Plan for the Historic Site, in the various proposals to relocate an intrusive amenities block to a discrete location.
The Awards followed the theme this year of "Journeys", and this was referring to the "journeys that the Australia made from indigenous walkabout to the immigrants' tale."
The National Trust spokesman Brian Scarsbrick, declared that the winners in several categories have helped provide the nation with a "wonderful gift for the future".
The National Trust Awards honour communities and individuals for their outstanding contributions to Australia's heritage landmarks, saving our past for future generations.

The Hartley project was managed by Steve Ring, Hartley Historic Site NSW NPW, with input from Jum Stephany, Truman Zaniol and Associates.



Has Columbus's ship been found?

A shipwreck found off the north coast of Haiti could be the 500-year-year old remains of the Santa Maria which led Christopher Columbus' voyage to the New World.

Al the geographical, underwater topography and archaeological evidence strongly suggests this wreck is Columbus famous flagship according to Marine investigator Barry Clifford. But Haitian officials said it was unlikely anything remained of the wreck.The wreck was discovered in about three to five metres of water and matches the length of the Santa Maria's 35-metre keel.

Between 1492 and 1503, Columbus completed four round-trip voyages between Spain and the Americas, all of them under the sponsorship of the Crown of Castile. These voyages marked the beginning of the European exploration and colonization of the American continents, and are thus of enormous significance in Western history.

Columbus always insisted, in the face of mounting evidence to the contrary, that the lands that he visited during those voyages were part of the Asian continent, as previously described by Marco Polo and other European travelers.

Columbus' refusal to accept that the lands he had visited and claimed for Spain were not part of Asia might explain, in part, why the American continent was named after the Florentine explorer Amerigo Vespucci and not after Columbus.

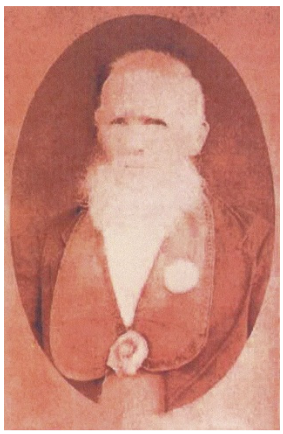
Restoration Project - Second Fleeter, Paul Bushell

The main transport route of choice from Sydney through the Blue Mountains is the Great Western Highway, via Penrith, but everyone has at least tried Bells Line of Road via Windsor and Richmond. Driving through those towns, how could you not absorb the historic ambience of the Hawkesbury, the district which saved the first European settlers of Australia from starvation? How could you not enjoy the views from Kurrajong?

It's easy to understand, then, the passion that's driving descendants of two of the earliest settler families of the Hawkesbury to 'do something' about restoring a historic grave at Wilberforce.

Wilberforce Cemetery is the last resting place for 34 people who arrived on the First, Second and Third Fleets and being so historic, it has Heritage listing. Agitation from the Friends of Wilberforce Cemetery has led to major drainage works at the Cemetery, and the erection of a protective security fence. This provides a better guarantee that restoration efforts will not be wasted.

One of the Cemetery's Second Fleeters is Paul Bushell. Arriving in 1790, from 1798 to his death in 1853 he lived at Wilberforce. Here he married Isabella Brown, eldest daughter of David Brown (a convict who arrived in 1792) and Eleanor Fleming (a Third Fleeter who arrived in 1791 as a child with her NSW Corps father). All four, along with six other members of their family) were buried at Wilberforce Cemetery in an impressive double gravesite featuring two altar monuments.



Paul Bushell

These had collapsed by 1990, due to weathering, erosion and vandalism. Government grants are not available for private headstones where a descendant family exists but, when individuals visit the cemetery, the organisational task and high cost of restoring them seems overwhelming as a private venture. The widespread use of the internet created new opportunities for coordinated action.

It's now much easier to find and communicate with the right people. Readers of Louise Wilson's book *Paul Bushell, Second Fleeter* (published in 2010, advertised on the internet and Highly Commended in a recent national family history award), were galvanised to 'do something'. A committee of people living in NSW, Victoria, Queensland and WA was formed in 2013 and a Community Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/BushellBrownGraveProject was set up.

Another hurdle was the difficulty of locating any stonemasons, let alone masons with the necessary skills. The committee eventually found a team of two, based at Rookwood Cemetery, who were prepared to work at Wilberforce.

The hassles for a volunteer Committee of establishing, maintaining and eventually closing down a Trust Fund when the task was complete (what would we do with the money?) were overcome by building up a good working relationship with the Hawkesbury City Council. The Council has legal responsibility for everything that happens at the Cemetery and has generously agreed to act as our 'banker' by establishing a special account into which funds collected for our project will be paid. Council, being fully across the Heritage issues, will manage the construction phase, pay the contractors out of our account, accept the public liability risk and retain any funds left over as a contribution to the next grave restoration project.

The advent of crowd funding dealt with the legalities of soliciting the public for funds, especially beyond state borders. We hope you'll check out our trail-blazing fund-raising project on http://www.pozible.com/project/177971 , watch our video, read our story and make a contribution.

If we don't meet our fund-raising target of $16,000 the whole project will lapse. We're hoping to zoom past the target, as people recognise this project's capacity to help restore other historic graves in the Hawkesbury, so please tell your friends and family. And we hope we've given you a 'template' for restoring historic graves in your area and have inspired you to begin.
Louise Wilson, Project Co-ordinator

The Blue Labyrinth

For anyone who likes bushwalking and good books, this second edition by Bruce Cameron is a must have item! Hard covered and 350 glossy pages long, it is packed with information, history, maps, with most of the text illustrated by adjacent, clear photographs.It is worth every cent in your bookcase for the good reading, entertainment and many, many references. *Allan Walsh.*

THE BLUE LABYRINTH is the tract of land between the Blue Mountains townships of Wentworth Falls and Glenbrook, stretching south almost to the stored water of Warragamba Dam, and then east to the Nepean Gorge. It is part of the Blue Mountains National Park, which in total covers almost 216 000 hectares of mountain plateau between the coastal lowlands and the Great Dividing Range. The Blue Labyrinth is included in the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area. The eastern edge of the Blue Labyrinth is on the suburban fringe of Sydney, and is around 50 kilometres from the centre of the city. *Bruce Cameron*

This is a place forgotten to many, hovering vaguely on the edge of perception for some, known and loved by a few. But it was not always so. Thousands of years before the Blue Labyrinth was bypassed by suburbia, it was roamed by the first Australians: the land was a larder, a hardware store, a school, a cathedral … and a home. In what seems to us today a difficult landscape, more than a thousand sites prove that Aboriginal people knew

every rocky knoll, every pool, creek and crevice. The many strands of human endeavour explored in this book lie like morning mist across the maze of valleys, but add immeasurable layers of meaning to the beautiful, intriguing Blue Labyrinth. We desperately need such places for nourishment and renewal … and redemption. *Ian Brown*

Bruce Cameron's book is a work of love. Its trove embraces the broad sweep of the Labyrinth. Not just as you would see laid out on a map: the prose hints at the butcherbird's song beyond the fence, and from that moment back, to ancient floods from melting ice that scoured distant lands long since displaced, laying down the matrix of sandstone at our feet. But the strength of Bruce's book lies in its sympathetic view of human movement across the Labyrinth, where black and white gain complex shades of meaning and interaction. Read this book and look up, find a place within the horizon it describes. *Tom Williams*

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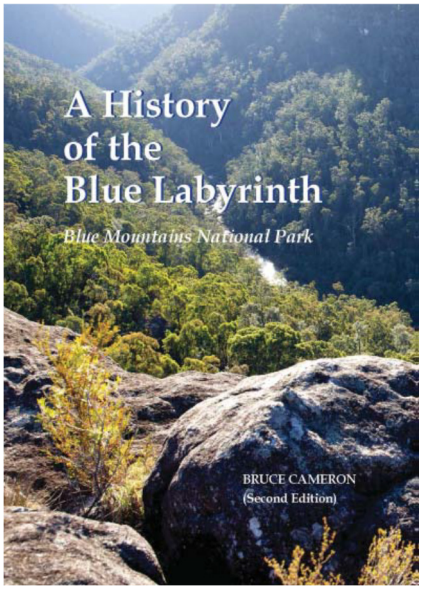

Offshoots: A Florilegium from Cairns Botanical Gardens coming to Mount Tomah

Offshoots is a vibrant exhibition of contemporary botanical illustrations by Cairns artist Julie McEnerny, who uses a variety of techniques to document the extraordinary plant collection of the Cairns Botanic Gardens.

The exhibition will go on show at the Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mt Tomah from June 29 until August 31

Julie McEnerny's technical skills as a botanical illustrator are matched only by her insight into the cultural and ecological significance of her subject matter and by her sheer dedication to her role as Cairns Botanic Gardens illustrator in residence.

After five years on the *Offshoots* project, the body of work is substantial, fascinating and worthy of representing the diverse collection of plants at the Cairns Botanic Gardens.

The exhibition will be open daily from 9.30am to 5pm in the Visitor Centre at the Blue Mountains Botanic Garden with entrance to the garden and exhibition being free of charge.

For further information telephone: 4567 3000.

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

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ABN 53 994 839 952

THE ORGANISATION Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Organisations Inc (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 after local historical and heritage societies and individuals recognised the need for the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the local government area (LGA) of Blue Mountains City Council. The constituency now embraces but is not limited to the LGAs of Blue Mountains, Lithgow, Hawkesbury, Penrith and Mudgee. BMACHO membership includes historical and heritage groups, museums, commercial enterprises with an historical or heritage component in its core business, local government (local studies units, library collections) and a limited number of individual members by invitation such as but not necessarily academics. The objectives of the organisation are i. to raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage; ii. to encourage and assist cultural heritage; iii. to initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations. One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

AFFILIATIONS BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society and is affiliated with the Better Planning Network.

PUBLICATIONS BMACHO's official newsletter *HERITAGE* is edited by Patsy Moppett; the annual refereed *Blue Mountains History Journal* is edited by Dr Peter Rickwood and occasional papers are published from time to time.

MEMBERSHIP The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains Botanic Garden - Mount Tomah, Blue Mountains City Library, Blue Mountains Cultural Heritage Centre, Blue Mountain Education and Research Trust, Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc., Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc. Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute, Eskbank Rail Heritage Centre, Everglades Historic House & Gardens, Friends of Norman Lindsay Gallery, Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc., Hartley Valley District Progress Association, Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc., Lithgow and District Family History Society Inc., Lithgow Mining Museum Inc., Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies, Lithgow Small Arms Factory Museum Inc., Mt Victoria and District Historical Society Inc., Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine Historical Society Inc. (including Turkish Bath Museum), Mudgee Historical Society Inc., National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Blue Mountains Branch, National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Lithgow Branch, Nepean District Historical Society Inc., Paragon Restaurant – Katoomba, Scenic World Blue Mountains Limited, Springwood & District Historical Society Inc., Springwood Historians Inc., Transport Signal and Communication Museum Inc., The Darnell Collection Pty Ltd, Valley Heights Locomotive Depot and Museum, Woodford Academy Management Committee, Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd. The following are individual members: Ray Christison, Associate Professor Ian Jack, Joan Kent, John Low OAM, Ian Milliss, Patsy Moppett, Professor Barrie Reynolds, Dr Peter Rickwood and Dr Peter Stanbury OAM.

COMMITTEE: The management committee for the remainder of 2013-14 is: Ian Jack (vice president and acting president), Jan Koperberg (secretary/acting treasurer), Roy Bennett, Wendy Hawkes, Patsy Moppett, Dick Morony (public officer), Scott Pollock, Suzanne Smith and Richard Woolley.

DISCLAIMER Views and opinions expressed in *HERITAGE* originate from many sources and contributors. Every effort is taken to ensure accuracy of material. Content does not necessarily represent or reflect the views and opinions of BMACHO, its committee or its members. If errors are found feedback is most welcome.

HERITAGE NEWSLETTER

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of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc.

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Ali Khan the trader…and Indian Hawker

Ali Khan the trader pictured in the driving seat of his cart, was one of many to travel around the Hawkesbury and other regions of Australia selling his wares.

This photograph courtesy of Kathie McMahon was taken from the McMahon's guest house in 1905 on the Bells Line of Roads, Kurrajong North.

The Indian community has a long and rich history in Australia, with immigration beginning quite early in Australia's colonial history.

The earliest Indians came as convicts or as servants of British subjects who had been living in India.
Many Indian immigrants to Australia in the late 19th to early 20th centuries sought employment in rural areas as labourers or itinerant hawkers.
These hawkers traversed rural parts of Australia, moving from town to town in their covered wagons.
The hawkers sold a diverse range of products, including food, books, pots and pans and jewellery, as well as products from India, such as silks and spices.

Many sources indicate that these hawkers provided a lifeline to the rural towns and more isolated farms by providing a large range of products, as well as a diversion from the everyday[1].

There is enough anecdotal evidence from local Australians that the Sikh hawkers were much loved members of the community.

The womenfolk loved them because they provided a welcome break from their mundane existence - the hawkers brought beautiful clothes, goods, all things exotic, and a fleeting glimpse of the big wide world beyond their farmlands.

The Australian men liked the hawkers because they were tough - they knew how to survive in difficult bush land and, more importantly, they played cricket!

The Aussie kids adored the hawkers because of the stories they told of another world, because of their playful spirit and their wonderfully aromatic curries.

There must have been a great sense of excitement when the hawker came to town bearing new merchandise, both every day and exotic, which might otherwise not be seen outside the big cities.

The National Library of Australia holds images of Indian hawkers and have done research into the lives of specific individuals [1.]

There were concerted attempts in the early 1900s to establish a discourse about Indian Hawkers that conformed to the framework of the White Australia Policy.

Numerable editorials and feature articles complained of the Indian hawker in the Australian landscape as a redundant nuisance pushing shoddy goods, or as a pernicious threat to the fabric of rural society, harassing Australian women in their homes.

It is surprising, therefore, that hawkers feature in so many photographs of the period, and yet they do. Many images of the hawker signal his difference, as a lone and somewhat alienated figure in the Australian landscape, often mis-captioned, stereotyped and misunderstood.[2]

End notes

[1]museumvictoria.com.au/immigrationmuseum/.../your.../**indian-hawkers**/ Accessed May 18, 2014.
[2] Maclean, Morven. Associate Professor UNSW. *What the Camera Tells: Indian Hawkers and White Australians in the early 20th Century,* Abstract History Seminar Series March 2014.
Compiled by John Leary, OAM.

EDITORIAL NOTE: As many of you will be aware, the passing of BMACHO President John Leary, OAM, on 10 July 2014, has left a void in the heritage community, as well as being a tragic loss to all his family and friends.
John was the Editor of this Newsletter from its inception in 2006. The Committee intend to maintain his good work and will ensure that the Newsletter is able to continue to reach the high expectations that he had in getting spreading the heritage word.
John was midway through creating the May-June Newsletter when he fell ill. Due to the passing of time, the Committee have moved the May-June Newsletter over to July-August 2014, thus there will be no May-June Newsletter this year.
John's Editorial has been retained in his memory as follows, as his parting thoughts to you.

Patsy Moppett – BMACHO Committee member and Acting Newsletter Editor.

An opinion from the editor…

Western crossing has combined commemoration and celebration

In an address I gave at the recent annual general meeting of BMACHO and circulated to members, I may have given the impression that the activities so far in the Western Crossings 2013-15 program were more celebration and little commemoration.

On reflection it is probably fair to state that In fact there was considerable commemoration as well as celebration.

Although individuals and bodies such as National Trust and the RAHS had been floating ideas for the bicentenary celebrations, the Western Crossings commemoration had its genesis with BMACHO.

However, it was quickly and correctly recognised that this organisation did not have the resources to manage such a venture. BMACHO's committee asked the then long serving president of the Royal Australian Historical Society Associate Professor Ian Jack to explore with the RAHS Council, the idea of co-ordinating the project.

It was pleasing when the RAHS quickly took up the challenge and Professor David Carment, AM very ably took on the role of the first Western Crossings Committee chairman which he continued to do when he became the president of the RAHS.

I recall soon after David took on the task of chairman he, Ian Jack (then the president of the RAHS) and I (then president of BMACHO) met one Sunday afternoon in my home to look at objectives and parameters for the Western Crossings Committee as it was to become known.

From that informal meeting there came a strong recommendation that the commemoration of the bicentenary should be from the period 2013 – 2015 embracing the anniversary of a series of inter – related events after the 1813 exploration by Blaxland, Wentworth and Lawson. George William Evans began his survey for a roadway across the Blue Mountains in November 1813 and went as far as the future Bathurst; William Cox then supervised the construction of the road from July 1814 to January 1815 and then Governor Lachlan Macquarie accompanied by Mrs Elizabeth Macquarie travelled along the new road in April and May 1815 and selected the site of Bathurst.

There is no doubt all those who attended the Western Crossings Committee meetings from the very earliest meeting, were in agreement, time and time again, that the Crossings was a commemoration of all who had crossed, from the very earliest Aboriginal crossings to the crossing by Governor Lachlan Macquarie and Mrs Elizabeth Macquarie and party in 1815.

The European crossings from 1813 are not a celebration for the Aboriginal people and there were many commemorations of Indigenous crossings held during 2014, like the Ancestral Pathways walks organised by Auntie Sharyn Halls , the official opening of The Gully at Katoomba with interpretive signage, the commemoration walk 'Jummangunda Ngunninga' walk from Bardens Lookout to Mt York.

The excellent exhibition in Hartley *A Moment in Time* curated by Joan Kent starting with a very comprehensive history of the Wiradjuri people, through to Governor Lachlan Macquarie is one of the lasting commemorations as is the Western Crossing room at the Mt Victoria Museum and there are others.
As I stated in my annual report,… 'Credit must go to the Royal Australian Historical Society for its role in overseeing through the Western Crossings Committee the co-ordination of the celebration. This committee

brought together organisations from Blacktown to Bathurst; descendants of those involved with what has been described as the first crossing of the Blue Mountains by Europeans; local Indigenous groups; as well as others to promote and co-ordinate this part of the celebration and will continue to do so until 2015.

'Unfortunately, the celebration has not yet attracted major financial support from government with most of the events being funded by local organisations and sponsorship from local business and individuals.

'The State government did provide a grant of $80,000 to the Royal Australian Historical Society and this was distributed to various groups and activities involved in the centenary. This grant was negotiated between Professor David Carment and the then Premier of NSW Barry O'Farrell.'

John Leary, OAM – president, Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc and editor of *HERITAGE.*

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The Heritage of Education in the Blue Mountain

By Ian Jack

At the Blue Mountains History Conference 2014, held at the Carrington Hotel, Katoomba Associate Professor Ian Jack delivered a most interesting address titled: *The heritage of education in the Blue Mountains.* Space in this edition of *HERITAGE* will not allow for the full text to be published and at the editor's request, Ian has produced an abridged version which appears on this and following pages. A biography of the author appears at the end of this article.

In my conference paper I explored the surviving tangible heritage related to education in the Blue Mountains and the Hartley/Bowenfels area over the past 160 years.

Many of the establishments were private schools. Most of these adapted pre-existing buildings, which in turn later reverted to other uses and are not readily identifiable as schools today.

State schools, on the other hand, almost always had custom-made buildings, but the earliest schoolhouses have often been demolished or moved elsewhere and what we see today in the public schools in every village along the Great Western Highway is a long but incomplete sequence of attempts to provide for an expanding population of children in the 20th century.

National School at Bowenfells

Public education began exceptionally early, with the National School at Bowenfels, erected in 1851. It was built by local people to a local design.

It contained three rooms originally, one the schoolroom, the other two the living space for the schoolteacher, John Edhouse.

The schoolhouse opened without furniture, water supply or toilet but the local 'patrons', mainly Scottish farmers, paid for improvements in 1852 and 1853.

In 1866 a new separate schoolroom was constructed and all three rooms of the 1851 building became the schoolmaster's residence.

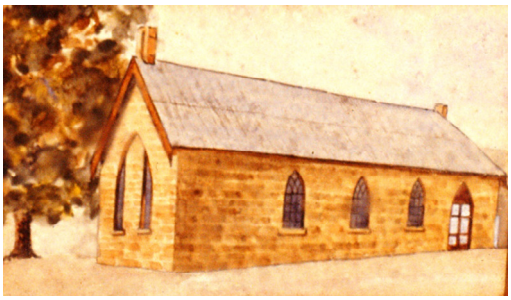
The stonemason was James Connor, an innkeeper who lived nearby in Umera, itself later a private school. Connor was a gifted craftsman and was responsible for some of the finest grave markers in the local cemeteries. The 1866 building remained in use as a primary school for an extraordinarily long time, over a century, until the end of 1969.

Since then the Bowenfels complex has been privately owned. For a time the 1866 school was used as an artist's studio, while the artist lived in the 1855 building.

Once the railway came over the mountains in the later 1860s, there was, of course, a new need for schools. The first public school was in Mount Victoria, opened in 1868, not for local residents, who were still few, but for the education of the children of workmen engaged on the construction of the railway and the Zig Zag. That 1868 building was, however, replaced in 1877.

The education of railway children also prompted the building of the first private school. Andrew Brown, a wealthy Scots Presbyterian grazier at Cooerwull in Bowenfels, had bitterly opposed the building of the Lithgow Zig-Zag in the 1860s, because he did not want the Bathurst railway to cut through his estates.

But once the decision was taken, he accepted the inevitable and allowed a semi-permanent camp for railway construction workers to be located on Cooerwull estate, near the present Bowenfels railway station.



Cooerwull stone school - a painting by John Sands & Co.

The workers were accompanied by their womenfolk and children, as they had been at Mount Victoria in 1868. Genuinely distressed at the plight of the children, Andrew Brown made land available to them and built a slab building, roofed with bark.

Then in 1873-1874 he built a sandstone school for the railway children and other local children, with a stone residence for a schoolteacher. All the stone came from a quarry on the estate. The schoolhouse was also used on Sundays for services, both Presbyterian and Anglican.

When the present Cooerwull Public School was built by the government in 1906-1907, the building became solely a Presbyterian Church and Sunday School. Later secularised, the lovely little building is now the centre-piece of a car-yard on the highway, but it is still externally as it was in 1874.

But the connection of the Brown family with Cooerwull School continued. A bell is still rung daily in the playground of the modern state school. It originally hung in the belfry of the 1848 stables at Cooerwull House, where it summoned employees back at the end of the working day. It had been brought out from Scotland along with Andrew Brown's bride in 1841.

In 1930 it was given to Cooerwull School by one of Andrew's heirs and it has been there ever since.
You can compare it to the old bell hanging in the playground of Blackheath Public School. That has been there since 1888, but has no story attached comparable to the Cooerwull bell. It is good, however, to see that it is still there
.
The school at Blackheath had opened in 1885, three years before the bell was installed, but the earliest surviving building was erected in 1896 right on the highway. In December 1884 the parents of Blackheath had applied to the Department of Education for the establishment of a public school in the village. The application was approved and the department's inspector and the residents decided on a two-acre site bisected by Leichhardt Street.
Two acres was the standard size of a school site.

The site that was chosen was part of the eastern edge of the Blackheath Stockade, which was established in 1844 and was in operation until 1849, so the school grounds have quite a lot of archaeological potential.
The history of the site explains why what was once the schoolmaster's residence is separated from the school by a busy street.

The Department of Education still owns the old residence, since local residents demonstrated loudly against its proposed demolition some years ago and it is now sensibly used as a community centre, a Cyber-Shed in front and Before and After School Care behind.

Before any custom-made school buildings were erected in any of the Mountains villages, other than Mount Victoria, Springwood and Katoomba, the same private philanthropist who had built the school for the railway children erected entirely at his own expense a major Great Public School for country boys on a different part of his estate at Bowenfels.

Andrew Brown's concern for education led him to found a boarding school, particularly, but never exclusively, for Scottish families on country properties. In 1881 he engaged George Donald, the principal Lithgow building contractor, to erect the spacious stone buildings of Cooerwull Academy which still stand.

The school was intended to provide an Australian equivalent to Edinburgh Academy, where Brown's two boys had spent two years from 1858 to 1860 and for 34 years an interesting and often distinguished staff taught boys

from many of the élite grazing families and also from the professional families in country towns, including Lithgow.

The ablest boys went on, through Brown scholarships, to St Andrew's College and the University. In 1892 Brown gave the school to St Andrew's which ran it until in 1916 the school was obliged to close, when most of the staff left to serve in World War I.

By 1907 the Academy was larger than any of the colleges at the University of Sydney, with 65 rooms accommodating up to 40 boarders, set in 7 hectares of land. There was an extensive library; art was taught by Arthur and George Collingridge, science by the Antarctic explorer Borchegrevink.

The school had excellent sports fields and played not only other major schools but also the local Lithgow industrial football and cricket teams. It was both élite and inclusive.

In 1953 the De La Salle Brothers purchased the derelict property and opened a Catholic school, La Salle Academy.

La Salle Academy still flourishes as a co-educational school and has maintained the old buildings in use. But Cooerwull Academy and its aspirations did not die in 1916. The rector appointed in 1903 had been a man called John McManamey. McManamey was a Scottish policeman's son from Wellington, educated at an Anglican boarding school, All Saints at Bathurst, and then at the University of Sydney where he lived in St Andrew's College . At University and College he was enabled to indulge his passions for classical literature, and extended it into English literature, while living a vigorous outdoor and sporting life.

After graduation he was the founding headmaster of Dr Aspinall's Scots College in Sydney. He left to found his own school, The Australian College, and then went off to Queensland to be senior classics master at the renowned Ipswich Grammar School.

In 1903 he returned to the Central West of NSW to be rector of Cooerwull Academy, but again ventured out to create a school of his own in 1907. And this, of course, was Woodford Academy, directed, like Cooerwull, towards the University entry examination and élite learning generally.

Woodford is a classic case of adapting much older buildings to school use, while supplementing the old with a custom-made wing. Built on the site of an early road gangs' encampment, Michael Pembroke's weatherboard Woodmans Inn in 1832 was developed into a stone inn, the Kings Arms, under Michael Hogan in 1842 (the present west wing).

By 1862, during William Buss's occupancy, the kitchen wings were added. From 1867 until 1897 it was a private country retreat, owned by Alfred Fairfax, and from 1897 to 1907 it was a boarding house.

Finally, from 1907 to 1934, it became a significant school, Woodford Academy, in competition and then in succession to Cooerwull Academy.

After Woodford Academy closed in 1934, the McManamey family lived privately in the house until Miss Gertrude McManamey gave the property to the National Trust of Australia (NSW) in 1978.

An unfamiliar heritage aspect of Woodford Academy is the engraving of boys' names on the massive outcrop of rock just to the east of the school. There are many initials carved, such as RSBS, who was Ralph Sanders Barclay Sillar. Sillar was a student at Woodford in 1909, and after WWI, a successful lawyer, who lived on until 1970. I find this a very human part of school heritage.

I went on to discuss a dozen other schools, public and private, and noted the variety of heritage values among surviving places.

Sometimes the school as at the Victoria and Albert was only a wartime emergency. Sometimes the schools were small dame-schools which flickered for a while and went out. Sometimes they were grand custom-built schools like Cooerwull Academy or Mount St Marys. Sometimes, as with Coorah at the Blue Mountains Grammar School, a major historic homestead remains the heart of a much larger modern complex.

Education is a fundamental need and finds many expressions through the private and the public purse. The heritage of education in the Mountains area is in need of more exhaustive evaluation and conservation.

About the author ---

Associate Professor R Ian Jack

Ian Jack was born and educated in Scotland at two of its oldest schools and at a university which had just celebrated its 500th anniversary.

Like most Scots graduates, he was obliged to find suitable employment elsewhere. He came to Australia to re-establish medieval European history in the curriculum of the University of Sydney, but in the 1970s the influences of an archaeologist and the burgeoning heritage movement made him more and more involved with the development of the Australian rural scene and its physical remains.

Although he gave up a decade to serve as the Head of the Department of History and as Dean of the Faculty of Arts, he was also co-founder of the new inter-disciplinary course in Historical Archaeology and became a member of the Heritage Council.

He was also chair of its State Heritage Register Committee, its History Panel and its Religious Properties Panel.

Ian was inevitably involved in consultancy work and among his various commissions was the full revision of the Heritage Study of the Blue Mountains City Council area.

As a result, he got to know in some measure some 900 sites the length and breadth of the Mountains and has continued to write report, give lectures and publish articles on aspects of Mountains history and heritage.

Other works in the Central West, on rural, industrial educational and Scottish themes have supplied a useful context to understanding the Mountains better.

He retired from the Department of History 10 years ago, but he has kept a toe hold on the University campus as resident Senior Fellow at St Andrew's College.

While serving 8 years as the longest-serving president of the Royal Australian Historical Society, he established the Western Crossings Committee which has been so useful a coordinating body for the bicentenary commemorations in this area.

Ian supported the foundation of the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc (BMACHO), has been its vice president from the outset more than 8 years ago and has been delighted to see the society blossom.

The Witche's Leap

For over a century guidebooks and commentators, occasionally pointing out that 'leap' is "an old Scottish word for waterfall"[i], have generally associated the name 'Witches Leap' (sometimes spelt 'Witch's Leap') with a small waterfall that pours into a cool, forested gully bounded by cliffs on the 'Round Walk' at Katoomba Falls.[ii] In this article, however, I want to suggest that the waterfall might not, in fact, have been foremost in the minds of those who originally conferred the name.

The 'Round Walk' is alive with echoes from the earliest days of Katoomba and, when the name 'Witches Leap' was first described in a guidebook in the early 1880s, JB North's coal mine had not long begun operations and miners were already tramping to work down a steep access path which passed through here. "The Witch's (sic) Leap, wrote JEM Russell in his *Pictorial Guide to the Blue Mountains*, is easily found by the winding path which leads to the foot of the fall, with perpendicular cliffs on each side towering up to a height of 150 feet; and here will be seen one of the prettiest dells or gullies of the mountains."

The special significance given to the "perpendicular cliffs" is noteworthy and can similarly be seen in *A Tourist Guide to the Blue Mountains,* published in 1887 by the Penrith printer Alfred Colless. Under the heading "The Witches Leap", while describing the "spray of water [falling] into the charming Fern Gully", the striking image again is of finding "yourself hemmed in on two sides by gigantic walls of rock …"[iii] While the name had shifted focus to the falls by the end of the nineteenth century, the sense in both these early descriptions is of it being used more to identify a *place* encompassing a number of natural features but dominated by those enormous rock walls.

Australian topography is littered with names derived from the folklore of fairies, witches etc. though generally these are merely descriptive or, at most, expressions of cultural memory and are not deeply rooted in the long traditions of place that exist in countries like Great Britain. Nevertheless, cultural associations can genuinely enhance a relationship with a new place and this, I think, is what might have occurred in the naming of Katoomba's 'Witches Leap'.

In Scotland's North Esk River Valley, south-west of Edinburgh and east of the Pentland Hills, is the small village of Carlops which came into being in the late 18th century as a cotton weaving centre also possessing resources of coal and limestone. Its name derived from an old folk tradition known as the 'Carline's Loup' ('Witches Leap'), a tale of two local 'carlines' (Jenny and Mause) who would meet of an evening at the edge of the village and leap between two rock outcrops in a kind of aerial dance.[iv]

Though coal mining as a Carlops industry was still listed in gazetteers of the 1880s[v], all the town's industries were in decline by the late nineteenth century, the village ultimately reinventing itself as a holiday and health resort and promoting itself as a literary tourist site through its associations with the Scottish writer John Ramsay (1686-1758).[vi]

With North's newly opened Katoomba Coal Mine attracting employees from near and far, is it possible that miners from the Scottish Borders tramped down through Fern Gully and were reminded of their home and its two carlines? While the gully and its waterfall may have triggered a memory of the dell in Ramsay's famous play *The Gentle Shepherd* (set near Carlops) - where "the water fa's and maks a singan din"[vii] - it would have been those "perpendicular cliffs" facing each other across the gully that particularly caught their imagination and made the 'Witches Leap' the bearer of a rich cultural memory and a link between two towns on opposite sides of the world.
©*John Low*

'Path to the Witche's Leap'. Glass negative, full plate, Kerry and Co. Sydney c 1884 – 1917 courtesy Power House Museum

End notes

Brian Fox, *Blue Mountains Geographical Dictionary*, Bathurst, NSW: The Author, 2006, p. 308

[2] See for example: 'Katoomba', *Blue Mountain Echo*, 25 December 1909, p.13 (Supplement); Harry Phillips, *Blue Mountains and Jenolan Caves Illustrated Tourist Guide*, Willoughby NSW: The Author, 1928, p.50

[3] J. E. M. Russell, *The Pictorial Guide to the Blue Mountains of NSW and the districts between Parramatta and Bathurst*, Sydney: Gibbs, Shallard &W Co., 1882 (2nd edition), 1885 (3rd edition), pp.30-31 (map), 33. The 3rd edition is available on-line at: http://nla.gov.au/nla.aus-f15299-s37 <accessed 17 November 2013>

[4] Alfred Colless, *The Tourist Guide to the Blue Mountains*, Penrith NSW: The Author, 1887, p.8
[5]See for example: *Australian Town and Country Journal*, 26 November 1898, p.33
[6]See Esk Valley Trust, Scotland www.eskvalleytrust.org/carlops.html and 'Carlops' www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/carlops <both accessed 17 November 2013> Also see *The AA Road Book of Scotland*, London: Automobile Assoc. & Cassell, [1945] which mentions only one witch "seen to leap on her broomstick" between "two conical rocks at the south end of the village".
[7]Francis Groome, *Ordnance Gazetteer of Scotland 1882-4* (www.visionofbritain.org.uk/place/22364) and John Bartholomew, *Gazetteer of the British Isles 1887* (www.visionofbritain.org.uk/descriptions/1876590) at *A Vision of Britain Through Time* (University of Portsmouth) <both accessed 17 November 2013>
[8] *Gazetteer For Scotland*: www.scottish-places.info/towns/townfirst715.html <accessed 17 November 2013>
[9]Quoted in *The AA Road Book of Scotland*, London: Automobile Assoc. & Cassell, [1945] in its entry on Carlops.

This article has previously been published in Hobby's Outreach March – April 2014 edition

As illustrated above, courtesy of the Power House Museum, *HERITAGE* used the image of a glass negative, full plate, 'Path to the Witche's Leap', Kerry and Co, Sydney, Australia, c. 1884-1917

This photographic negative was published by the Sydney firm Charles Kerry & Co. and is part of the Powerhouse Museum's Tyrrell collection which contains over 2900 glass plate negatives by Kerry & Co.

Although a few appear to be from the 1880s most were produced between 1892 and 1917.

Over this period, and well into the early 1900s, prints from these negatives appeared in many Australian publications and albums of views.

In 1903 the company began producing postcards from these negatives, further establishing the images as some of the most significant and best known early views of New South Wales.

Some of the more significant themes covered by the collection include; views of New South Wales, Queensland, country towns, Sydney, indigenous Australians, the South Pacific, rural life, native flora and fauna, and sentimental views.

In addition a number of significant events from the 1900s are covered by the collection including; embarkation of troops for the Boer War, Hordens fire, the Inauguration of the Commonwealth in 1901, the arrival of the Great White Fleet and the Burns verses Johnson boxing match at Rushcutters Bay in 1908.

Charles Kerry was born in 1858 and by 1885 was running a studio in partnership with CD Jones. This partnership lasted until 1892, when Charles became sole owner and
changed the studio's name to Kerry and Co.

By 1890 the company was employing a number of photographers who would become famous in their own right. George Bell who covered rural New South Wales was employed in 1890 and Harold Bradley was doing outdoor work and covering events around Sydney by 1899.

Kerry continued to work in the field and in 1895 he took photographs of Royal National Park for New South Wales Government, photographed Queensland artesian bores and was employed by the New South Wales Government to travel the state and photograph indigenous Australians. In 1897 Kerry led the first party to reach the summit of Mt Kosciuszko in winter conditions and photographed the Jenolan caves.

By 1900 Kerry had turned his studio into one of the largest and most respected photographic establishments in the colony. His new four story premises at 310
George Street Sydney were designed by the architect HC Kent and the third floor studios alone could accommodate 70 people wanting their portraits taken.

In 1913 Kerry retired leaving the running of the studio to his nephew, unfortunately the business did not do well and Kerry and Co. closed its doors in 1917. Kerry himself died in 1928.
Geoff Barker, Curatorial, January, 2009

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Blue Mountains History Conference success

The Blue Mountains History Conference 2014 held in heritage listed Carrington Hotel has been acclaimed a success by feedback from participants in the event on May 10.

The keynote address titled, *A behind the scenes look at pursuing wonder in the Blue Mountains* presented by Associate Professor Julia Horne.

Associate Professor Julia Horne is University Historian and Principal Research Fellow at the University of Sydney where she works on the University's history & heritage.
Professor Horne's address was a most interesting expose of the social experience of guest houses in the late 19th century as an important part of the Blue Mountains heritage and in particular the development of early tourism.

She cleverly wove the story which demonstrated the importance of preserving travel letters. She presented an alternate aspect of the history of the Blue Mountains, introducing the social experience of guest houses in particular.

Dr Ian Jack then spoke about educational architecture, "The Heritage of Education in the Blue Mountains", as previously covered in the pages of this Newsletter, covering the Cooerwul Academy, St Andrews College and De La Salle College, all at Lithgow, and some connections to the Woodford Academy.

Hector Abrahams, BSc (Arch) (Hons), BArch, ARAIA then addressed the group. Hector has established his own practice, Hector Abrahams Architects, and specialises in the design of new buildings within a historic precinct, with a passion for church architecture.

Hector spoke about the heritage of religion in the Blue Mountains, including in particular the Baptist Church and the Gospel Hall at Katoomba.

After the luncheon break the attendees were entertained by **Christine Wheeler and Friends**, "Rain in the Blue Mountains", songs of Henry Lawson.

Christine joined with skilled musicians Leigh Birkett and Rebecca Daniel, in a unique musical performance of poems from the iconic Henry Lawson.

Dr Ian Jack then joined Robyn Parker of the Paragon Restaurant at Katoomba, in discussion about the current status of the conservation of this iconic heritage building.

Doug Knowles, President of the Glenbrook and District Historical Society, delivered the final address. Doug is also an active member of the Springwood Historical Society.

Doug has been interested in the railway across the Blue Mountains for some years and in particular that part of the Great Western Railway which posed the first challenge to establishing the rail likn across the Mountains and beyond, that of the Lapstone Hill.

The day concluded with a Devonshire tea and an optional tour of the Paragon Restaurant, including upstairs where the chocolates are made.

Julia Horne

Hector Abrahams

Doug Knowles

William Cox Historical Festival at the Arms of Australia

The William Cox Festival on July 20, 2014 will celebrate one of the most important achievements in early colonial history – the building of a road across the Blue Mountains

Construction of the road built by William Cox started in July 1814 at Emu Plains and finished at Bathurst in March 1815.

With a working party of 32 convicts, four free persons and a handful of guards, Cox completed the 101 mile (163km) road over the mountains in seven months.

The road opened up inland New South Wales to European settlement. Cox's bullock cart was the first wheeled vehicle to pass over the Blue Mountains and down over Mt. York.

To mark the bicentenary, the Nepean District Historical Society with the support of Penrith City Council will re-enact the start of Cox's journey from Regatta Park, Emu Plains at 10.30 am on July 20 to the Arms of Australia Inn Museum for the William Cox Festival and formalities.

The NSW Corp of Marines will be in charge, with displays, drills, and re-enactments from the life and times of the early colony. Members of the 1st Windsor Light Horse Regiment will help keep order.

There will be plenty of food, stalls and entertainment. Tall Timbre Country and Western Band will provide music along with the Penrith City Show Band. Students from the Nepean Creative and Performing Arts High School will perform songs and poetry readings.

Children can enjoy old fashioned games, write on slates in the old school room, ride a pony, pet animals in the animal farm, jump to their heart's desire in the jumping castle try trampoline bungee jumping and join in the ever popular, tug of war and lots more.

The William Cox Festival and Open Day is at the Arms of Australia Inn Museum on the corner of Great Western Highway and Gardenia Avenue, Emu Plains from 9am. Admission is free.

Australian Navy Submarines Centenary

A little remembered centenary is that of the first two submarines AE1 and AE2 arriving in Sydney in May 1914 to join the Australian Navy.

The AE2, the Royal Australian Navy's second submarine, was built in the United Kingdom and commissioned there on February 28, 1914 After commissioning, AE2 accompanied by AE1, sailed to Australia crewed jointly by British and Australian sailors, arriving at Sydney in May 1914.

Following the outbreak of war in August, both submarines proceeded to New Guinea for operations against the German colonies. AE2 was subsequently based in Suva, Fiji, and returned to Sydney in November 1914.

In the following month she joined the second AIF convoy at Albany, Western Australia for passage to European waters and was towed across the Indian Ocean by the former auxiliary cruiser Berrima.

Upon arrival in the Mediterranean, AE2 was assigned to operations off the Gallipoli Peninsula. She was ordered to penetrate the Dardanelles on April 25,1915. AE2 entered the Dardanelles at 2.30 am. After torpedoing and damaging the Turkish gunboat Peykisevket, she passed through the Narrows, pursued by surface vessels. She ran aground twice beneath the guns of the Turkish forts along the shore, but these guns could not be depressed low enough to fire on her.

Shaking off her pursuers, the submarine entered the Sea of Marmara on April 26. For the next four days she attacked Turkish shipping with her torpedoes, but without success. Nevertheless, her presence was a nasty shock to the Turks.

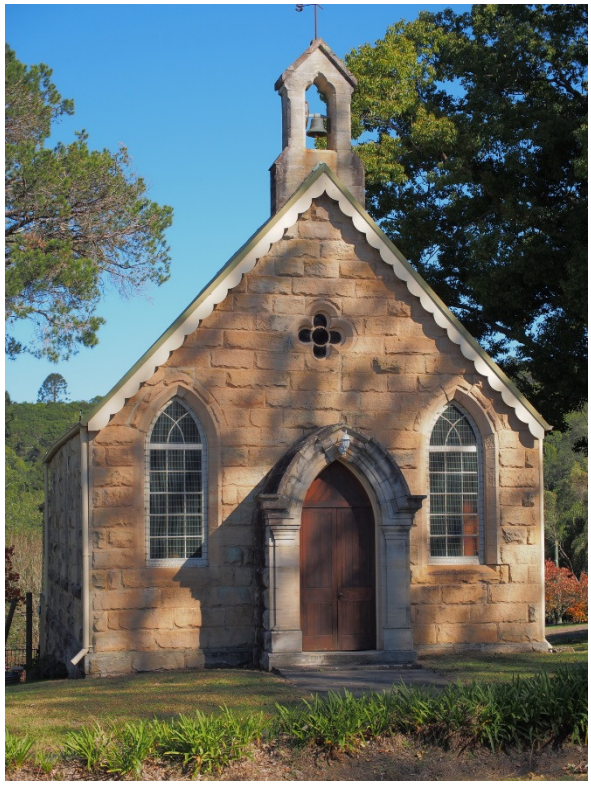
On April 29, AE2 met the British submarine E14 and the two vessels arranged to rendezvous the next day. E14 was the first of a number of submarines that were to follow AE2 into the Sea of Marmara and effectively close it to Turkish shipping bound for the battlefields of the Gallipoli Peninsula.

As AE2 surfaced at the rendezvous point on 30 April, the Turkish torpedo boat Sultan Hissar approached.

AE2 immediately dived, but she lost trim and went out of control, broaching the surface twice. AE2 was hit in the engine room by Sultan Hissar's guns and the crew had no choice but to abandon ship. Although none of the submarine's complement were lost in the sinking, four were to die in captivity

Project aims at photographing all heritage items in Hawkesbury region

In a previous isue, president of Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Steve Rawling wrote about the vulnerability of heritage items, even if they were identified in Council LEPs, listed by the National Trust, or were otherwise noted as being of interest.



Unless formally listed on the State Heritage Register, there is no full protection, and their preservation depends on the goodwill of owners, councils, developers, and their ability to withstand the ravages of time and demolition by neglect.

The Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society decided recently to ensure a current record of all items on Hawkesbury City Council's LEP. Many items have numerous historical photographs, but the intention is to create a comprehensive contemporary record.

There can be real challenges in identifying and accessing some items, especially private houses. Other historical societies have, undertaken similar projects. Just how vulnerable are heritage buildings?

The photograph here of St David's Church in Kurrajong Heights illustrates the issue. This splendid photograph was taken by one of our members Paul Hulbert in 2004, who is an experienced photographer. We are fortunate to have him leading the project, assisted by Chris Upton, Steve Rawling advises.

St David's, originally a Presbyterian, now a Uniting Church, is one of a group of buildings in Kurrajong Heights which includes the building now known as the restaurant Lochiel, which was built 40 years earlier than St David's, in the 1820's.

Even Lochiel has no absolute protection, despite being the oldest building between Richmond and Bathurst, and pre-dating some other buildings which are on the State Heritage Register.

A proposal some years ago by the Hawkesbury Branch of the National Trust for it and St David's to be included got nowhere.

St David's was built in 1867, and I was surprised and pleased to learn at the recent BMACHO Conference that this pre-dates any churches on "the other side", the Blue Mountains plateau.Despite the significance of this group of buildings, when the ill-fated proposal for Bells Line Expressway was prepared by the then RTA, the proposed route went straight through the centre of Kurrajong Heights, requiring demolition of the whole group.
While that was rejected, there is still a risk that future road upgrades could threaten.

Contributed by Steve Rawling AM, FAICD

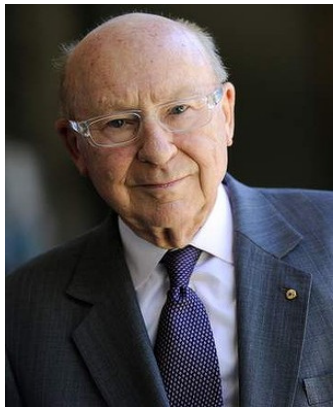
Barry O'Keefe (1933-2014)

Distinguished jurist, ICAC chief, mayor, defender of heritage - a man decent in all things

It is difficult for obituary writers to adequately prepare a definitive but brief biography of Barry O'Keefe, QC, AM - a distinguished jurist, barrister, Queen's Counsel the state's second ICAC commissioner, long term councillor and mayor of Mosman, president of the Local Government Association and president of National Trust of Australia (NSW) among the many roles he performed in a lifetime of service to the community.

He was an absolute gentleman, courtesy and decent in all things. He understood people and appreciated all they did to make this a better world.

Barry Stanley John O'Keefe was born on May 20, 1933, the first of three children to Ray O'Keefe and his wife Thelma (nee Kennedy). Ray owned a furniture store on Pitt Street and was later mayor of Waverley, while Thelma was reputedly the first woman to surf at Bondi Beach. For the rest of his life, Barry talked to Thelma almost every day, no matter where in the world he was, and always cited Ray's gentleness as a model for how a man could be.



His generous support for the work of National Trust has meant that many sectors of Australia's heritage have benefitted.

Barry served on the board of National Trust Australia (NSW) as a member, vice president and then from 1991 to 2006 as president. Under his leadership, the Trust emerged from bankruptcy and built up a large and active membership of heritage defenders.

As former president of the Friends of Woodford Academy, John Leary, OAM and a friend of the deceased remembers well the regular visits of Barry 'Keefe to the iconic sandstone former inn, later gentleman's resident and educational facility.

Barry loved the property and had great respect and affection for those volunteers who maintained the heritage site. He often would arrive unannounced just for a cup of tea and a chat and always a thank you to the volunteers

It was Barry who first considered the value of this 1830s property when it was falling down around the then owner, Gertrude McManamey the sole surviving daughter of the academy foundation John McManamey.

Barry using his own money spent a substantial amount to restore parts of the building particularly the eastern part of the main building. He did this unheralded and in the manner which marked his ethos of service.

Woodford Academy was donated to the National Trust in 1979 by Miss McManamey with an agreement that she be allowed to continue living there until her death. She died in 1988 having left the house 2 years before to be cared for at the Queen Victoria Homes, Wentworth Falls.

Barry had a major part in obtaining a $1 million Centenary of Federation grant from the Federal Government to help restore the property. He seldom missed a fund raising function at Woodford Academy and made sure that the day after the event there was a thank you note to the president and volunteers of the Friends accompanied by a donation of several hundred dollars.

The National Trust was not the only organisation to benefit from this generous benefactor. His interests were wide and diverse and ever thing he did was with a vibrant energy

O'Keefe went to the bar in 1957 and at about the same time started lecturing at the University of Technology, Sydney where he was popular with the law students. There is a story that students dubbed him "the Mild One", in contrast with his brother Johnny O'Keefe, "the Wild One" OF Australian rock-n-roll.

He took silk in 1974 and as a formidable cross examiner was renowned for his ability to manage and analyse masses of complex facts. He appeared frequently before the NSW Supreme Court, the High Court of Australia and the Privy Council.

He served as president of the NSW Bar Council from 1990 to 1991 and sat on the executive of the Law Council of Australia from 1992 to 1993.In 1993 he was appointed as Chief Judge of the Commercial Division of the NSW Supreme Court. In 1994 he accepted a five-year appointment as commissioner of NSW's Independent Commission against Corruption

In 1989, Barry O'Keefe, QC was made a Member of the Order of Australia for service to local government.

Although terminally ill in 2013 O'Keefe agreed to the request of the Australian Catholic bishops to chair the Truth, Justice and Healing Council, established to co-ordinate the church's submission to the royal Commission on Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse.

Two days before Barry O'Keefe's death, Pope Francis created him Knight Grand Cross (First Class) of the Order of St Gregory the Great – the highest papal honour an ordinary layperson can receive.

Barry is survive by Janette (Jan) his wife of 52 years, children Phillip, Vanessa, Andrew and Sophie an seven grandchildren and sister Anne.

Barry O'Keefe Photograph: Justin McManus

This is an abridged version of an obituary by Philip O'Keefe and Kevin McCann which appeared in the Sydney Morning Herald on May 24-25, 2014 with anecdotes from John Leary.

Bits and Pieces

Gallery thanks Faulconbridge firies

A $7000 cheque has been presented to the Faulconbridge Rural Fire Service as a thank you for their efforts to protect Norman Lindsay Gallery during last year's bushfires.
The donation was made possible after Helen Glad, Norman Lindsay's granddaughter generously gave an original Lindsay artwork to be sold with the proceeds to go towards the local fire brigade for the purchase of equipment.

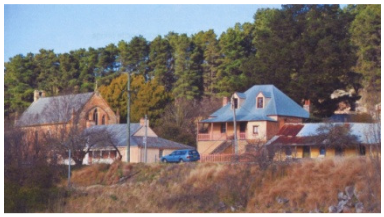
Descendant of John Britty North entertained at BM history conference

Singer and instrumentalist Christine Wheeler one of the three performers who presented the musical interlude *Rain in the Mountains --- Songs of Henry Lawson* at the Blue Mountains History conference at The Carrington Hotel, Katoomba turns out to be the great, great grand daughter of John Britty North.
JB North was leading force in developing oil shale resources of Megalong Valley and by 1877 in partnership with RH Reynolds was developing Katoomba and the coal outcrops in the Jamison Valley. In 1880 he claimed the oil shale resources in the Ruined Castle area. Source: Pells, Phillip J and Hammon Phillip J, *The Burning Mist of Time,* 2009

National Trust Heritage Award – Hartley Revitalisation Project

The National Trust Heritage Awards for 2014 were announced on May 14 and Hartley figured highly amongst the achievements. The Hartley Project won the category for Adaptive Reuse – Government Corporation, for work at the Hartley Historic Site. The assessors declared that although the project was a long time in coming, it led to many effective decisions being made, which followed on from the Conservation Management Plan for the Historic Site, in the various proposals to relocate an intrusive amenities block to a discrete location.
The Awards followed the theme this year of "Journeys", and this was referring to the "journeys that the Australia made from indigenous walkabout to the immigrants' tale."
The National Trust spokesman Brian Scarsbrick, declared that the winners in several categories have helped provide the nation with a "wonderful gift for the future".
The National Trust Awards honour communities and individuals for their outstanding contributions to Australia's heritage landmarks, saving our past for future generations.

The Hartley project was managed by Steve Ring, Hartley Historic Site NSW NPW, with input from Jum Stephany, Truman Zaniol and Associates.



Has Columbus's ship been found?

A shipwreck found off the north coast of Haiti could be the 500-year-year old remains of the Santa Maria which led Christopher Columbus' voyage to the New World.

Al the geographical, underwater topography and archaeological evidence strongly suggests this wreck is Columbus famous flagship according to Marine investigator Barry Clifford. But Haitian officials said it was unlikely anything remained of the wreck.The wreck was discovered in about three to five metres of water and matches the length of the Santa Maria's 35-metre keel.

Between 1492 and 1503, Columbus completed four round-trip voyages between Spain and the Americas, all of them under the sponsorship of the Crown of Castile. These voyages marked the beginning of the European exploration and colonization of the American continents, and are thus of enormous significance in Western history.

Columbus always insisted, in the face of mounting evidence to the contrary, that the lands that he visited during those voyages were part of the Asian continent, as previously described by Marco Polo and other European travelers.

Columbus' refusal to accept that the lands he had visited and claimed for Spain were not part of Asia might explain, in part, why the American continent was named after the Florentine explorer Amerigo Vespucci and not after Columbus.

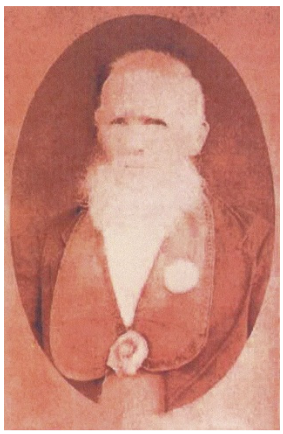
Restoration Project - Second Fleeter, Paul Bushell

The main transport route of choice from Sydney through the Blue Mountains is the Great Western Highway, via Penrith, but everyone has at least tried Bells Line of Road via Windsor and Richmond. Driving through those towns, how could you not absorb the historic ambience of the Hawkesbury, the district which saved the first European settlers of Australia from starvation? How could you not enjoy the views from Kurrajong?

It's easy to understand, then, the passion that's driving descendants of two of the earliest settler families of the Hawkesbury to 'do something' about restoring a historic grave at Wilberforce.

Wilberforce Cemetery is the last resting place for 34 people who arrived on the First, Second and Third Fleets and being so historic, it has Heritage listing. Agitation from the Friends of Wilberforce Cemetery has led to major drainage works at the Cemetery, and the erection of a protective security fence. This provides a better guarantee that restoration efforts will not be wasted.

One of the Cemetery's Second Fleeters is Paul Bushell. Arriving in 1790, from 1798 to his death in 1853 he lived at Wilberforce. Here he married Isabella Brown, eldest daughter of David Brown (a convict who arrived in 1792) and Eleanor Fleming (a Third Fleeter who arrived in 1791 as a child with her NSW Corps father). All four, along with six other members of their family) were buried at Wilberforce Cemetery in an impressive double gravesite featuring two altar monuments.



Paul Bushell

These had collapsed by 1990, due to weathering, erosion and vandalism. Government grants are not available for private headstones where a descendant family exists but, when individuals visit the cemetery, the organisational task and high cost of restoring them seems overwhelming as a private venture. The widespread use of the internet created new opportunities for coordinated action.

It's now much easier to find and communicate with the right people. Readers of Louise Wilson's book *Paul Bushell, Second Fleeter* (published in 2010, advertised on the internet and Highly Commended in a recent national family history award), were galvanised to 'do something'. A committee of people living in NSW, Victoria, Queensland and WA was formed in 2013 and a Community Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/BushellBrownGraveProject was set up.

Another hurdle was the difficulty of locating any stonemasons, let alone masons with the necessary skills. The committee eventually found a team of two, based at Rookwood Cemetery, who were prepared to work at Wilberforce.

The hassles for a volunteer Committee of establishing, maintaining and eventually closing down a Trust Fund when the task was complete (what would we do with the money?) were overcome by building up a good working relationship with the Hawkesbury City Council. The Council has legal responsibility for everything that happens at the Cemetery and has generously agreed to act as our 'banker' by establishing a special account into which funds collected for our project will be paid. Council, being fully across the Heritage issues, will manage the construction phase, pay the contractors out of our account, accept the public liability risk and retain any funds left over as a contribution to the next grave restoration project.

The advent of crowd funding dealt with the legalities of soliciting the public for funds, especially beyond state borders. We hope you'll check out our trail-blazing fund-raising project on http://www.pozible.com/project/177971 , watch our video, read our story and make a contribution.

If we don't meet our fund-raising target of $16,000 the whole project will lapse. We're hoping to zoom past the target, as people recognise this project's capacity to help restore other historic graves in the Hawkesbury, so please tell your friends and family. And we hope we've given you a 'template' for restoring historic graves in your area and have inspired you to begin.
Louise Wilson, Project Co-ordinator

The Blue Labyrinth

For anyone who likes bushwalking and good books, this second edition by Bruce Cameron is a must have item! Hard covered and 350 glossy pages long, it is packed with information, history, maps, with most of the text illustrated by adjacent, clear photographs.It is worth every cent in your bookcase for the good reading, entertainment and many, many references. *Allan Walsh.*

THE BLUE LABYRINTH is the tract of land between the Blue Mountains townships of Wentworth Falls and Glenbrook, stretching south almost to the stored water of Warragamba Dam, and then east to the Nepean Gorge. It is part of the Blue Mountains National Park, which in total covers almost 216 000 hectares of mountain plateau between the coastal lowlands and the Great Dividing Range. The Blue Labyrinth is included in the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area. The eastern edge of the Blue Labyrinth is on the suburban fringe of Sydney, and is around 50 kilometres from the centre of the city. *Bruce Cameron*

This is a place forgotten to many, hovering vaguely on the edge of perception for some, known and loved by a few. But it was not always so. Thousands of years before the Blue Labyrinth was bypassed by suburbia, it was roamed by the first Australians: the land was a larder, a hardware store, a school, a cathedral … and a home. In what seems to us today a difficult landscape, more than a thousand sites prove that Aboriginal people knew

every rocky knoll, every pool, creek and crevice. The many strands of human endeavour explored in this book lie like morning mist across the maze of valleys, but add immeasurable layers of meaning to the beautiful, intriguing Blue Labyrinth. We desperately need such places for nourishment and renewal … and redemption. *Ian Brown*

Bruce Cameron's book is a work of love. Its trove embraces the broad sweep of the Labyrinth. Not just as you would see laid out on a map: the prose hints at the butcherbird's song beyond the fence, and from that moment back, to ancient floods from melting ice that scoured distant lands long since displaced, laying down the matrix of sandstone at our feet. But the strength of Bruce's book lies in its sympathetic view of human movement across the Labyrinth, where black and white gain complex shades of meaning and interaction. Read this book and look up, find a place within the horizon it describes. *Tom Williams*

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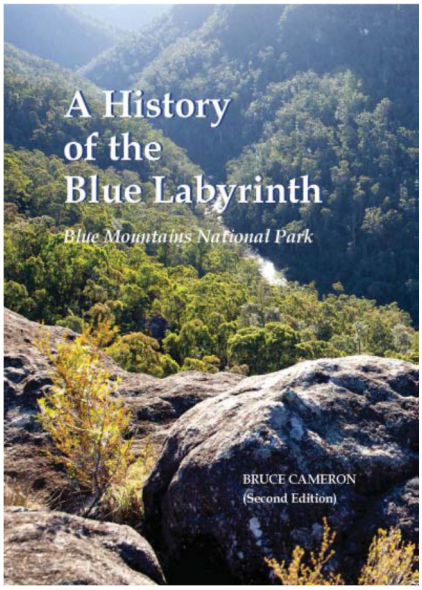

Offshoots: A Florilegium from Cairns Botanical Gardens coming to Mount Tomah

Offshoots is a vibrant exhibition of contemporary botanical illustrations by Cairns artist Julie McEnerny, who uses a variety of techniques to document the extraordinary plant collection of the Cairns Botanic Gardens.

The exhibition will go on show at the Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mt Tomah from June 29 until August 31

Julie McEnerny's technical skills as a botanical illustrator are matched only by her insight into the cultural and ecological significance of her subject matter and by her sheer dedication to her role as Cairns Botanic Gardens illustrator in residence.

After five years on the *Offshoots* project, the body of work is substantial, fascinating and worthy of representing the diverse collection of plants at the Cairns Botanic Gardens.

The exhibition will be open daily from 9.30am to 5pm in the Visitor Centre at the Blue Mountains Botanic Garden with entrance to the garden and exhibition being free of charge.

For further information telephone: 4567 3000.

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

REGISTERED OFFICE 1/19 Stypandra Place**, Springwood 2777 (02) 4751 5834. E-mail:** committee@blumountainsheritage.com.au or j.koperberg@big.com Website: www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au
ABN 53 994 839 952

THE ORGANISATION Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Organisations Inc (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 after local historical and heritage societies and individuals recognised the need for the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the local government area (LGA) of Blue Mountains City Council. The constituency now embraces but is not limited to the LGAs of Blue Mountains, Lithgow, Hawkesbury, Penrith and Mudgee. BMACHO membership includes historical and heritage groups, museums, commercial enterprises with an historical or heritage component in its core business, local government (local studies units, library collections) and a limited number of individual members by invitation such as but not necessarily academics. The objectives of the organisation are i. to raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage; ii. to encourage and assist cultural heritage; iii. to initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations. One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

AFFILIATIONS BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society and is affiliated with the Better Planning Network.

PUBLICATIONS BMACHO's official newsletter *HERITAGE* is edited by Patsy Moppett; the annual refereed *Blue Mountains History Journal* is edited by Dr Peter Rickwood and occasional papers are published from time to time.

MEMBERSHIP The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains Botanic Garden - Mount Tomah, Blue Mountains City Library, Blue Mountains Cultural Heritage Centre, Blue Mountain Education and Research Trust, Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc., Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc. Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute, Eskbank Rail Heritage Centre, Everglades Historic House & Gardens, Friends of Norman Lindsay Gallery, Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc., Hartley Valley District Progress Association, Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc., Lithgow and District Family History Society Inc., Lithgow Mining Museum Inc., Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies, Lithgow Small Arms Factory Museum Inc., Mt Victoria and District Historical Society Inc., Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine Historical Society Inc. (including Turkish Bath Museum), Mudgee Historical Society Inc., National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Blue Mountains Branch, National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Lithgow Branch, Nepean District Historical Society Inc., Paragon Restaurant – Katoomba, Scenic World Blue Mountains Limited, Springwood & District Historical Society Inc., Springwood Historians Inc., Transport Signal and Communication Museum Inc., The Darnell Collection Pty Ltd, Valley Heights Locomotive Depot and Museum, Woodford Academy Management Committee, Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd. The following are individual members: Ray Christison, Associate Professor Ian Jack, Joan Kent, John Low OAM, Ian Milliss, Patsy Moppett, Professor Barrie Reynolds, Dr Peter Rickwood and Dr Peter Stanbury OAM.

COMMITTEE: The management committee for the remainder of 2013-14 is: Ian Jack (vice president and acting president), Jan Koperberg (secretary/acting treasurer), Roy Bennett, Wendy Hawkes, Patsy Moppett, Dick Morony (public officer), Scott Pollock, Suzanne Smith and Richard Woolley.

DISCLAIMER Views and opinions expressed in *HERITAGE* originate from many sources and contributors. Every effort is taken to ensure accuracy of material. Content does not necessarily represent or reflect the views and opinions of BMACHO, its committee or its members. If errors are found feedback is most welcome.

Heritage

Newsletter of the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc

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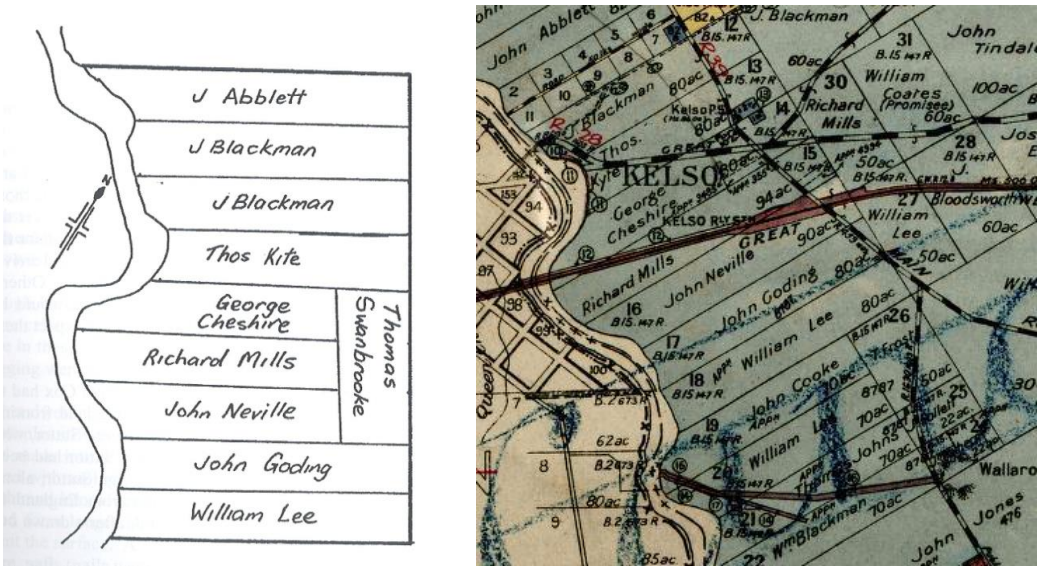
The King William Inn 1870, known by then as the Carriers' Arms

King William IV Inn, Lee Street, Kelso

In 1828 the settlement of Sydney was governed for a short time by Major-General Stewart. Bathurst was growing strongly under the squatters who took the leading life in the colonial times, and development of self government was carefully managed by them. In 1828 a council formed from this powerful squatting class and was empowered to even veto the Governor's decisions, if they so wanted. With this background it was natural that it was the squatters who were the principal builders of the buildings that have survived from that period in Bathurst.

Before this, Governor Lachlan Macquarie was recognized as a man who gave credit to settlers for their hard work, and the part they played in opening up the new settlement. He often rewarded their good conduct with tickets-of-leave and free pardons, and Governor Brisbane had followed his example. During the rule of Governor Brisbane, Charles William Wall was appointed to manage the settlement at Bathurst. (1827-28). Governor Wall continued to govern the settlement until the arrival of Major General Stewart of Mount Pleasant, Bathurst, two years later (1828).

The diary of Governor Macquarie records on 2 February 1818, that he had inspected ten settlers for Bathurst, and that he had agreed to grant each 50 acres of land, a servant, a cow, four bushels of wheat, and an allotment in the new town, and to provide them for twelve months from the King's stores. These men were William Lee, Richard Mills, Thomas Kite, Thomas Swanbrooke, George Cheshire, John Abbott, John Blackman and his brother James, John Neville and John Goding.



Original land grants – Parish of Kelso

Early buildings of the period included the original portions of the 1830's homesteads of Walmer, Westbourne, Blackdown, Alloway Bank, Ardsley, Mount Pleasant, Rainham (1833), and closer to the urban centre: Kelsoville, the Holy Trinity Church (1835), and the King William Inn (1835) at Kelso.

The original King William IV Inn building was constructed in 1831 by Richard Mills as an inn, the third licensed hotel on the Bathurst Plains. The first was Thomas Kite's "Dun Cow Inn" near Woolstone House, from 1828 to 1835. Mills' inn is situated on Lee Street at Kelso on what was originally the main approach road to Bathurst, the Lockyer's Line of Road, which came in from O'Connell and Lagoon. This road was surveyed by Major Edmund Lockyer, the principal surveyor of roads and bridges under Governor Darling. Major Thomas Mitchell's road, now the Great Western Highway, superseded this road in the 1830s. Kelso was also the initial settlement area.

Richard Leveret Mills was born in Wales in 1780. He was transported to Australia as a convict in 1800 on the "Royal Admiral" and became a servant to David Langley of Richmond. Langley had come to Australia with his wife and three daughters in 1803, and Mills was assigned in 1804. Langley was superintendent of blacksmiths in the colony from 1806. In 1811 his daughter Ann Bella married their convict servant. Richard Mills successfully managed the Langley estate in Richmond while Langley managed other business in Sydney.

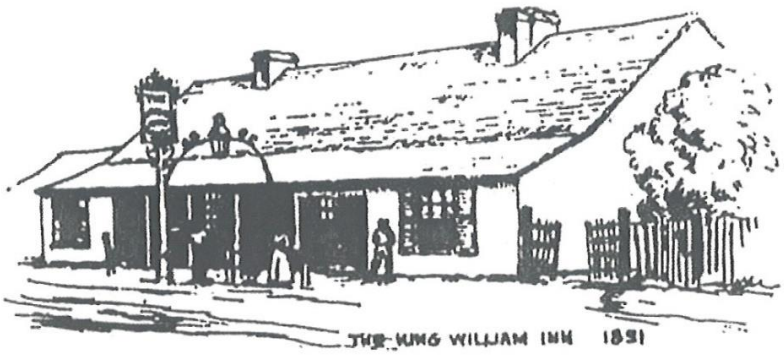
His skills as a farmer were recognized in the land grant from Governor Macquarie. He had married Ann Langley in Sydney in 1811, and in all they had nine children between 1807 and 1830. Ann was born in London in 1792. The Mills family came to Bathurst at a time when

times were extremely difficult as there were few tracks, no shops and businesses and little labour available.

Soon after settling in the Bathurst district Ann Mills had given birth to her sixth child, George Bathurst Mills, in 1819. He was the first white child born west of the mountains. In 1823 Sir Thomas Brisbane had, upon application from Richard Mills, granted this child a block of land in the new settlement to commemorate the occasion. This land extended to the east from the top of Richard Mills' original grant. By 1844 Mills owned 144 acres of land.

Richard and Ann Mills were in turn themselves assigned convicts to work for them. This included one Edward Gates, who was given the job of painting the inn. Edward Gates later established the first coach building works in the area in 1840, having married Mills' daughter Nancy in 1839. Mills always showed great compassion for many of the convict workers, having been one himself. He assisted Gates with finance and allowed the construction of his daughter's first home on his land.

The Mills' had been quite progressive in support they gave to the establishment of a Bathurst Independent Academy school in Kelso around 1927. Mills had offered to rent land for the school, and was a subscriber, wanting a better education for his children. He was concerned about the education of children of convicts, ex-convicts and orphans. It is unsure whether the school was ever established.



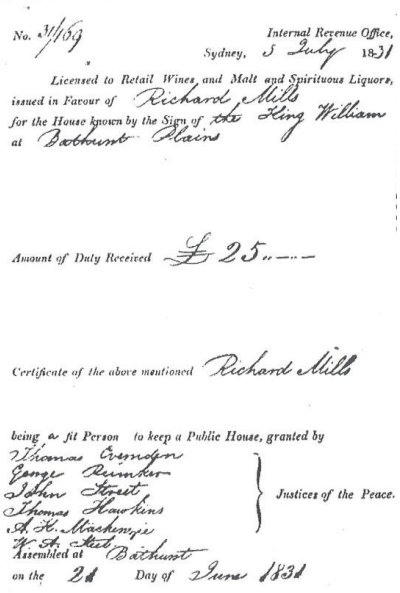
By 1831 Richard and his wife Ann lived in a thatched sod construction house, on the Kelso side of the Macquarie River, and were growing wheat. The house design was based on Ann Mills' parents home in England. The original structure of four rooms was constructed of local clay, with the walls about eighteen inched thick. A fire place was constructed in one of the back rooms, probably Ann's kitchen. A bricked bread oven was constructed at some stage. A well had been dug near the building which supplied all the water that the family required, and later for the guests at the inn. The roof was constructed of saplings and wood shingles. They extended the cottage over the next few years and a separate laundry was added. A wood shed was erected at the rear. By 1828 Mills had 95 acres. In 1831 he decided to convert part of the house into a wattle and daub, shingle roofed inn, the King William Inn, the licensee being Richard Mills. Part of Richard Mills' land was also offered for auction adjacent to the newly established Kelso Railway Station in 1875. Mills was licensed to sell wines, malt and spirituous liquors, the license costing 25 pounds.

Gable additions were made at each end in the Federation period. The building was a single storey colonial Georgian inn of stuccoed brick under a hipped and gabled iron roof, somewhat altered from its original form in Victorian times. The recessed bull nose verandah is set between gabled wings with segmented arched easement windows. It was 40 feet wide across the front, excluding the wings on either side. The main door opened onto a narrow hallway, with a room leading off either side. The room to the left was the parlour which also had a fireplace for the comfort of patrons. The ceilings were quite high. The additions and alterations were done by James Vincent, the brother in law of John Neville, also an original settler in the area. Vincent had been involved in building at the Langley's estate at Richmond.

The two long wings, extending a few feet beyond the front of the original house, required the roof to be altered to accommodate the water shed. A verandah extended over the front of the original home. The extension roofs were shingled, and constructed of locally made bricks. Several six paned windows were used, probably with shutters. The wing on the right was probably initially, the children's bedroom.

A large rectangular two storey brick coach house and barn with shingle roof and window arches and doorways was constructed for use by the Mills family, as well as patrons of the inn. The ground floor held the carriages and horses and the top floor held the fodder and the coachman's quarters. This building was demolished in 1962.

Mills sold the inn and moved to Mudgee in 1835, where his sons had inns. Richard Mills died in 1850 and is buried in the Holy Trinity Church cemetery in Kelso. Ann died in 1875 is buried at Mudgee, where they had the property "Enfield", in later years.



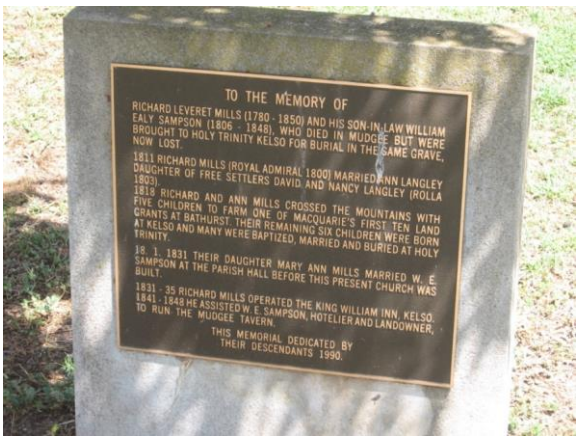
No. 3/169 Internal Revenue Office,
Sydney, 5 July 1831

Licensed to Retail Wines, and Malt and Spirituous Liquors, issued in Favour of Richard Mills for the House known by the Sign of the King William at Bathurst Plains

Amount of Duty Received £25.---

Certificate of the above mentioned Richard Mills

being a fit Person to keep a Public House, granted by
Thomas Evernden
George Rumker
John Street
Thomas Hawkins
A. H. Mackenzie
W. H. Steel } Justices of the Peace.
Assembled at Bathurst
on the 2d Day of June 1831

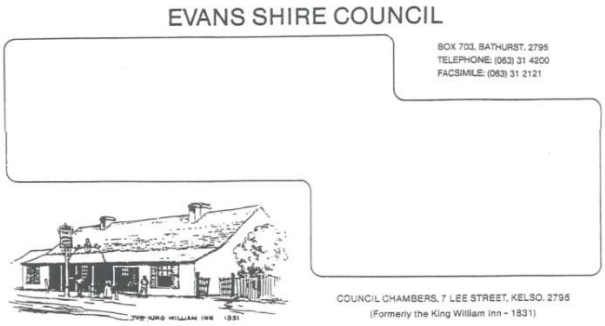


Richard Mills' liquor license 1834 *Grave of Richard Mills at Kelso*

When Richard Mills moved to Mudgee, the inn was purchased by William Boyles, and renamed the Traveller's Inn. Boyles left the district in 1840, and the building was not licensed for some years. In about 1865 William Conwell was the publican until the inn was bought by George Robert Matthews 1869. By this time a number of shops were established between the inn and the railway line, and there were five small cottages at the rear of the inn.

Matthews changed the name of the premises to the Carrier's Arms in 1870. In 1872 the place was known as the Sportsman's Arms Hotel. Although Matthews was bankrupt in 1879 he retained the hotel until 1882. He died in 1902.

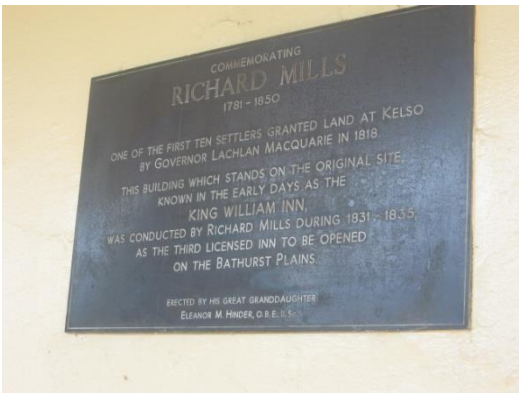
From 1883 to 1885 the hotel was run by licensee Robert Norris. From 1886 Thomas Brewer took it over. By 1891 the hotel was run by Robert McCleery, leasing it from Brewer. In 1892 William Sims Peers leased the business from Brewer. In 1894 the Sportsman's Arms was destroyed by fire. Repairs were carried out and the premises reopened in 1895 by W G Mitten as the Royal Hotel. Mitten retired in 1899 and the hotel was then run by Archibald Wells until 1902. The last publican was William Baker IN 1903. The property was auctioned in 1906, and in 1908 the Turon Shire opened their office there, holding their first meeting in May.



ESC letterhead

In 1977 a local government amalgamation took place and the Turon Shire was amalgamated with the Abercrombie Shire to form the Evans Shire Council, which retained the building as its offices. During this period a number of extensions were carried out to the northern end of the building to accommodate office space, and the various engineering depot buildings were constructed at the rear. The image of the old inn was used on the Evans letter head. The building was shared by the Rural Fire Service and the Upper Macquarie County Council weeds authority. The Evans Arts Council has utilized the building for storage and meetings, exhibitions and workshops since the 1980s.

Former Evans Shire Council Chambers



Plaque on front of building *Former ESC building showing office extensions*

A further local government amalgamation occurred in 2004, when Evans Shire Council was dissolved and the majority of the Shire came under the Bathurst Regional Council. The former council chambers were no longer required.

Today the building is still occupied by the RFS and the Upper Macquarie in the older section. The more recent northern section is now occupied by Bathurst Family Day Care.

Compiled by Patsy Moppett

References:
Bathurst Regional Heritage Inventory
Former Evans Shire Council letterhead page
Dawning of a township, Denis Chamberlain 1997
Kelso Village, Book 1, Alan McCrae & Carol Churches
NSW Dept of Lands

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Family History Month, Lithgow

Family History Month in Lithgow was celebrated in August by an interesting day in August at the Lithgow Library Learning Centre when four local historians talked about their own families.

Christison

Ray Christison is an archaeologist and heritage consultant in rural and regional NSW. He is also an author and museum director, and is an individual member of BMACHO.

Ray related details about his great grandfather, John Hampton Christison. John was born in Scotland in 1858. He trained as a dancer from the age of 7. He valued the arts and travelled widely, being renowned for his dancing prowess and his teaching skill. He went to sea in 1875, working for the Commission Agent and making his way to Australia. He married Sophia in Maitland in 1880, and ran dance classes in Clarence Town.

He ran into financial difficulties in 1883 and returned alone to Scotland, where he entered and won several dancing contests, thereby re-establishing himself financially. He returned to Australia but continued living the high life, falling bankrupt again in 1889. He returned to Scotland again, this time with Sophia and their five children.

Sophia then stumbled upon information relating to John's numerous extra marital affairs and they were subsequently divorced. He moved to Mittagong, acquiring property. In 1900 he joined the NSW Mounted Rifles and went to South Africa, where he was wounded and

returned home. He was not able to dance for some time, and remarried Mary Moore in 1909. By 1914 he was back in Sydney and dancing, where he held classes until 1923, when he died of a cerebral haemorrhage aged 63. *Ray Christison*

JH Christison

Francis Langdon

Langdon

Mark Langdon described three brothers who joined up for World War II at the same time and place and did their training in three different countries. Mark is a regular participant in the Lithgow Library Learning Centre's activities and is an accomplished author.

His father Lesley trained in Darwin as a gunner but flew in 11th Squadron in Catalina aircraft, doing operations and mine laying. He finished up a wireless leader in 1943, and in air sea rescue from 1945. He was discharged in 1945 as a flying officer.

His uncle Norman entered the RAAF in 1940. He went to Rhodesia and then the UK following operations training. He entered 210 squadron, flying Catalinas in the Battle of the Atlantic. In 1945 he was in Darwin in air sea rescue, and then in administration.

Mark's uncle Francis (Frank) also entered the RAAF in 1942. He entered the militia as an anti tank gunner, but was removed to the RAAF as a navigator in Lancaster's. He went to Canada and the UK, and then into 463 Squadron in a Lancaster in 1944. He was shot down and killed flying the Bergen Uboat pens in late 1944, and has no grave. *Mark Langdon*

Griffiths/Carroll

Tony Griffiths is a retired Engineer with an interest in Australian and family history. He commenced his family history research in the 1960s. The family was found to be involved in the trade union movement, in the internal employees union at the Lithgow Small Arms Factory. He has written several books on the SAF.

Tony elaborated on his research into his Griffiths/Carroll heritage from Ireland, always being told there were no convicts!

The Carroll family came from near Tipperary in Ireland and on a trip to the UK Tony managed to track down some distant cousins. He also met his wife Lilian!

The Griffiths were traced back to a Michael Griffin and his wife Ellenor. He found that Michael and Ellenor were actually transported for 7 years in 1827 for stealing furniture from their employer, John Gibbs, as the man owed them money. Michael was assigned to Archibald Bell at Windsor, and Ellenor and her sister Mary joined him there in 1828. In time Michael changed their name to Griffiths.

Whilst in Ireland, Tony managed to locate the prison where Ellenor and Mary were detained whist awaiting transportation, and even the cell where they were held, evidenced by their names scratched in the wall!

The family was traced back to Kurrajong, and also to the Sodwalls/Hartley area, where they found the family farm and family graves at Rydal cemetery. The gravestone of Ellenor Griffiths was found and restored.

Tony also played a moving video re-enactment of Michael and Ellenor's story by a group of primary school students from North Cork. *Tony Griffiths*

Griffiths family 1916

Sarah Ann King 1862

Hillier/King/Osborn/Frankcom

Vicki Hartley is a Lithgow local with a strong interest in her family history, and also assists others in discovering their own ancestors and stories. This only commenced in 2000 when her father passed away. By googling all four family names in the one search Vicki unearthed a treasure of research already carried out by a family member in the UK. The investigation took her to the tiny village of West Littleton in Gloucestershire, which it was found had not changed much in over 400 years. The area consisted of mainly eight families, and Vicki is descended from four of those.

Excavations in 1968 found skeletons on the site dating back to 977BC, together with bronze spearheads dating to 1200 and 1000 BC, They were best examples of pre historic skeletons ever found in Britain.The local church of St James and its churchyard contain memorials to the Frankom, Hillier and Osborne families.

Through the research Vicki managed to trace her great great grandmother Sarah Ann King, nee Hillier. The research showed that Sarah's lineage could be traced back to Francis Francombe, Vicki's eight times great grandfather, whose money saved William of Cavendish, the Duke of Newcastle, from bankruptcy around 1637!

Combined with other research, Vicki can now trace 15 generations of her family! *Vicki Hartley*

For further information regarding events at the Lithgow Library Learning Centre see www.lithgow.nsw.gov.au

Food for thought ..... Editor's note

Carpe diem - literally speaking - "seize the day"! Take every opportunity, and don't put all your trust in tomorrow.

Do we really realise how lucky we are in the opportunities that avail us to experience history today? Everywhere we turn, there are community groups and individuals offering experiences through seminars, collections, tours and publications about our past.

Family history groups and historical societies, museums individuals and tourist organisations abound throughout the country, where dedicated members "work" to collect, store and disseminate information about where we came from, how we reached these shores and how Australia developed from a simple colony to the nation we know today. I say "work" because to them it is often not work but a labour of love.

With the passing of John Leary OAM, it would seem timely to look back and see where we of BMACHO have come from in fostering these opportunities. BMACHO commenced in 2006 with the aim to foster and support cultural heritage activities related to the Blue Mountains. To revisit the Objects of the Constitution:

1. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage.
2. To encourage and assist the cultural heritage activities of member organisations.
3. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations.

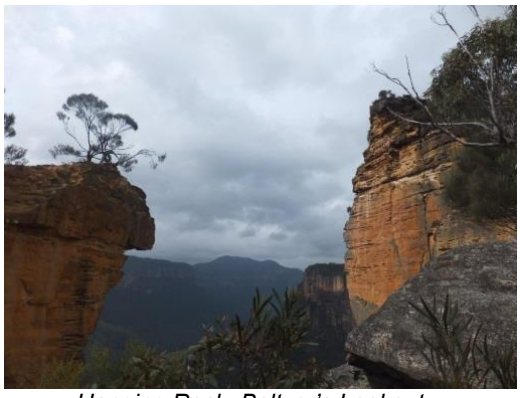
BMACHO seeks to take every opportunity to bring together many groups to share information and promote culture and heritage throughout the greater Blue Mountains area and beyond. In light of this the most current initiative is our Heritage Trail project. Our diverse membership uniquely blends the skills and resources of historical, cultural and heritage groups, major tourist attractions, gardens and galleries. We need to promote our collective skills and assets to the widest possible audience.

BMACHO is taking up the challenge and is producing a high quality Heritage Trail leaflet and trail map for distribution through Visitors' Centres, historical societies, family history societies and museums, with contribution from BMACHO members. In addition, a dedicated website which presents the map and detailed contacts, for all BMACHO members, is also envisaged, in due course.

The Heritage Trail would incorporate open days for BMACHO member groups perhaps quarterly, proceeding along the Great Western Highway from Emu Plains to Lithgow, and up the Bells Line of Road from the Hawkesbury to Lithgow. If visitors can see the premises open on the Common Open Days, they can plan a trail that is comfortable for them to travel in a day.

Not every member group has premises, but those without may be able to use a hall or library to facilitate visitors. Even if a member is not able to participate in the Common Open Days, they can list their opening hours on the leaflet.

View from top of Six Foot Track



Hanging Rock, Baltzer's Lookout

A local along Jamison Creek

Darks Cave

Funding is to be generated through corporate sponsorship and through participant's participation fees. The launch of the project should be later in early 2015.

In the meantime, BMACHO will continue to collect and share information and events through this Newsletter. News items are always welcome, from the smallest note to articles in the order of 1500 words. Photographs will always help to illustrate the story and should be sent as separate files. Please direct any items to the editor *pmoppett@gmail.com* or to the secretary *jkoperberg@bigpond.com*

Patsy Moppett
Heritage Newsletter Editor
Blue Mountains Association of Cultural & Heritage Organisations Inc

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John Kenneth Leary OAM (1934-2014)

The BMACHO group and the wider community is morning the loss of John Kenneth Leary, OAM, former President and *Heritage* Editor. Under his chairmanship of BMACHO (the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural and Heritage Organisations), he has steered this Association into maturity, but he has also initiated, edited and produced the magazine *Heritage*. *Heritage* has been a remarkable achievement, each new issue being eagerly awaited by the community and now being read by a thousand and more readers.

John Leary served in the 1960s on the Berrima Court House Trust that was responsible for the restoration of this historic property and which later became a major tourist attraction for the Southern Highlands.

John had wide ranging experience and an impact on local heritage and community matters in various districts; a fact that was recognized by the award of the Order of Australia Medal (OAM) in 2003 for community service in particular to the agricultural movement and the various exchanges including recognizing two multi-million dollar cultural 'cultural exchanges' between Australia and Japan through the sister cities movement.

John Leary's career as a professional journalist meant he had worked on metropolitan daily newspapers, and as managing editor on several regional and country newspapers including the Berrima District Post which then had a tri weekly publication; the Goulburn Evening Post, a daily; and Gilgandra newspapers which produced a number of regional papers. He at one time owned a small Sydney based suburban newspaper and publisher of magazines.

John Leary served as an elected member of Campbelltown City Council including a term as Mayor, and member of a Regional Council; senior member of Council staff and a consultant in the field of corporate, government and community relations to two major metropolitan local government units.

John Leary always presented a balanced view over a wide range of subjects after careful consideration and appreciation of conflicting differing points of view. He was able to summarise concisely and with positive strength of feeling in a manner that did not offend.

His additional experience includes 25 years as the president of Campbelltown City Show Society, one of the four largest agricultural shows in Australia outside a capital city. John was a member for nearly 10 years of the Agricultural Societies Council of NSW, the peak umbrella recognizing 204 agricultural shows in NSW.

Since the 1940s he was interested in the heritage walking tracks in the Blue Mountains and Middle Harbour areas. His exploration of these between the 1940s and early 1960s led to an association with the National Trust (NSW). More recently he was Chair of the Friends of Woodford (over four years) and was awarded the Trust's meritorious service for volunteers medal.

John Leary was recognized by the NSW government, in 2007 by being given a certificate of appreciation, “recognizing outstanding contribution to heritage conservation in NSW”.

His ability to communicate was evidenced by his large number of friends of sometimes opposing views and his skill in distilling a problem into one or more practical solutions.

John was a consummate speaker and his presentations were listened to with rapt attention.

As President of BMACHO, and their representative on the BMCC heritage committee, he readily understood Council’s points of view, those of the heritage community and those expressed, sometimes somewhat obliquely, by the general members of the public.

John leaves behind wife Nanette, and children Richard, Tanya and David Leary and their families.

Adapted from a statement by Peter Stanbury OAM

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AE1 and AE2 Australia Navy Submarines

Further to the article on the AE1 and AE2 in the July-August issue of *Heritage*, Steve Norton of the Canal Reserve Action Group at Prospect/Holroyd has offered to share his family connections to the event, as follows.

This is a story that begins in 1764....

Thomas Kidner who was born in the year 1764 in Bristol, Somerset, England. When Thomas was eighteen he stole 4 pieces of Irish Linen. He was tried and convicted in the Bristol Court on the 30 October 1782 and sentenced to transportation to Australia for seven years. He was kept in gaol until early 1786 when he was transferred to the prison hulk “Censor”. He spent a number of years on this ship before he was transferred to the “Alexander” on the 6th January 1787. The “Alexander” sailed for Botany Bay on the 13 May 1787 and arrived on the 26 January 1788.

So began Thomas’s life in Australia. A life that would see him transported to Norfolk Island on the 11 November 1789, where he met a convict named Jane Whiting. Jane was born in 1755 in Westminster Middlesex England. Thomas and Jane married on the 5 November 1791 on Norfolk Island.

Thomas and Jane had two children, Thomas and Ann. Thomas was born on the 30 May 1795 on Norfolk Island. Ann was born on Norfolk Island on the 14 October 1798. The family sailed to Van Diemens Land (later named Tasmania) on the 15 October 1805 on the ship “Lord Nelson”.

Thomas jnr. married Elizabeth Burkett in Van Diemens Land on the 7 January 1822 in Hobart Van Diemens Land. Thomas and Elizabeth had eight children, all born in Van Diemens Land. Their second child, Elizabeth was born on the 26 October 1824.

Elizabeth Kidner married Francis Bidelph (Biddulph)on the 6 August 1842 in Van Diemens Land. Elizabeth and Francis Bidelph had 11 children, all born in Van Diemens Land.

Their sixth child, David Bidelph was born on the 14 April 1853 in Van Diemens land.

David Bidelph married Mary Ann Driscoll on the 10 June 1879 in Tasmania. David and Mary Bidelph had eight children, all born in Tasmania.

Their sixth child, Henry Thomas Bidelph, was born in Park Street Hobart Tasmania on the 3rd October 1893.

On the 12 July 1912, at the age of 18 he enlisted in the Royal Australian Navy in Melbourne Victoria under the name Thomas Henry Bidelph for a 5 year stint. Thomas Henry was Steve Norton's grandfather.

In 1909 the English Admiralty had proposed the creation of a Pacific fleet consisting of three fleet units to be operated by imperial forces in the pacific region. Each fleet unit would be built around a battle-cruiser, supported by several light cruisers. One of these fleets would comprise the Royal Australian Navy (RAN). With the Australian Government agreeing to this concept, work commenced on the ships.

The destroyers, HMA Ship's "Yarra" and "Parramatta" reached Australian waters in November 1910 and on the 10th July 1911 His Majesty King George V granted the title Royal Australian Navy to the Commonwealth Naval Forces.

In June 1912 a third destroyer, HMAS "Warrego" was commissioned at Sydney and in 1913 the battle cruiser HMAS "Australia" and the light cruisers HMAS "Melbourne" and "Sydney" arrived in Australian waters.

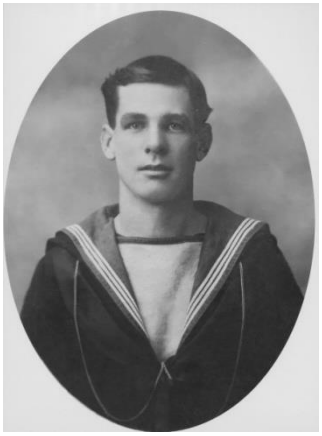
He was onboard HMAS "Sydney" on the 4 October 1913 when the Australian Fleet entered Sydney Harbour for the first time.

His service record shows that on the 2/10/1913 he was now an able bodied seaman and retained that rank until he left the RAN. His service record also shows that on the 31/12/1913 his character was deemed "very good" and his ability was "satisfactory". His service record further shows that on the 31/12/1914 his character was still deemed "very good" and his ability was "superior". On the 18/04/1915 his service record was still deemed "very good" and his ability was still "superior".

During his RAN service over the next three years he served on five ships, as well as in the London Depot in Great Britain.

While in the London Depot he underwent training and returned to Australia as a crew member of HMAS "Sydney". He took part in two events that are now part of Australia's naval history.

Firstly, he was on board HMAS "Sydney" when it and the other six ships of the RAN entered Sydney Harbour for the first time on the 4th October 1913. This was the birth of the Royal Australian Navy. A 100 year celebration occurred on the 4th October 2013 when 7 ships sailed into Sydney Harbour to commemorate the first entry.
(Stephen Norton and his wife Judy were guests of Vice Admiral Ray Griggs at the celebrations on Garden Island).



Thomas Henry Bidelph

"Sydney" escorts AE1 and AE2 into Cairns 14 May 1915

Secondly he was on HMAS "Sydney" when she escorted two submarines from Singapore to Garden Island. At 7.30am on 2nd March 1914 Australia's first submarines, HMA AE1 and HMA AE2 left Portsmouth U.K. for Sydney with the escort ship HMS "Eclipse". The "Eclipse" escorted both submarines to Colombo, arriving on the 9th April 1914. AE1 & AE2 left Colombo with HMS "Yarmouth" at 6pm on the 14th April 1914 for the voyage to Singapore, arriving on the 21st April 1914.

AE1& AE2 left Singapore on the 25th April 1914 with their escort HMAS "Sydney", stopping in Cairns on the 14th May 1914 before travelling to Sydney Harbour, arriving in Garden Island on the 24 May 1914. HMAS "Sydney" (1) escorted both submarines from Singapore to Sydney, stopping in Cairns. The NSW State library has a wonderful photograph on display of Sydney and both submarines. *Stephen Norton*

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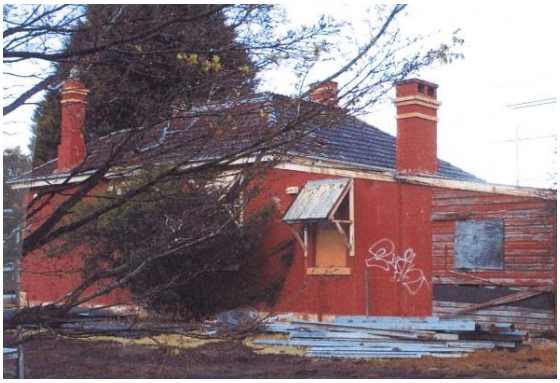
Lawson Station Master's Residence

The former Lawson station master's residence adjacent to Lawson Railway Station has been given a reprieve. It was scheduled for demolition, along with a number of fomer railway workshops and ancillary buildings at the site on Loftus Street.

The brick & tile residence was constructed in 1896. Sydney Rail was refused a S60 application under the Heritage Act to the NSW Heritage Council to demolish the building. The rail depot site is under redevelopment to construct a new depot building, incorporating landscaping and more car parking. The refusal included recommendations to relocate the new maintenance depot and car park further west, thus saving the residence.

2009

2014



2014

2014

The residence is one of the last original elements of the railway precinct, from the days when Lawson was a railway town. It was occupied until the mid 1990s when it was abandoned due to cracking in the brickwork caused by vibration from major track work at the time.

In 2008 the buildings on the site included the District Engineers' Office and the associated stores and sheds, the station building (1902) and signal box (1921), out-of shed (1902), island platform (1902), side platform (c1879), pedestrian subway 91944), station master's residence (1896), electrical depot site, former District Engineer's Office (1956), workshops (1957), signals and earthworks depots, substation (1956), numerous water columns and tanks, many moveable items and landscape features. The site was noted with significant potential for archaeological investigation.

Numerous modifications have occurred to various aspects of the station and depot, some resulting from the substation fire in 2003. The original roof of the Station Master's residence, with an ornate ridge, was replaced at an unknown date. Internally all original fabric has been removed.

There was a halt at Lawson dating back to the beginning of the railway through the mountains in 1867. It bore the name "Blue Mountain" initially after Wilson's Blue Mountain Inn, 400m away. In 1879 when the station's name was changed, a brick platform and station building were added and this remained unchanged until 1902. Duplication of the line in 1902 brought a new island platform and station buildings in the Federation style.

Lawson became a significant stop over as locomotives took on water there.

The original station master's dwelling was constructed in 1880, and the current residence replaced it in 1896. The residence, many of which were built at this time, reflected the status of the proposed occupant. The Lawson residence is an example of the largest type that was used in the 1890-1914 period. It contained three bedrooms and the asymmetrical plan of the structure predates the wave of new residence, being first used in 1885.

The overall site is historically significant due to its continued rail use since 1880, with the Station Master's cottage demonstrating the custom of providing accommodation for railway staff and the importance of the station as a key terminus for locomotive facilities with its large number of water columns and tanks.

The residence has an unusual architectural style as it does not conform to any standard design, although it has similarities to a standard "J3" design. It is an excellent example of

simple architectural forms of other similar railway residences. With the loss of interior fabric the integrity is only moderate.

The rail authority indicates that they have no further need of the building at this stage. Therefore it remains for another use to be found for the building. It has been suggested that BMACHO or some similar organisation might utilise the building, together with other societies or organisations looking for permanent home, if a reasonable contract could be developed. This may give those groups a permanent premises to store archives, records and equipment, to hold meetings, seminars and workshops. If BMACHO were involved it would not mean that BMACHO would not continue to travel around to the members premises for committee meetings.

The site has had a statutory listing under the NSW Heritage S170 State agency heritage register as the Lawson Railway Station group, and footbridge, as updated in 2009, and was recognised within the Heritage and Conservation Register of the State Rail Authority of NSW 1993, and the State Rail Authority Heritage Register Study 1999.

At present BMACHO are considering it only as an option, and any other member groups within the community are encouraged to consider the possibility of some kind of sharing arrangement to provide an appropriate adaptive reuse for the building, to conserve its remaining integrity and retain the building in its historical context. *Complied by Patsy Moppett*

References:
Blue Mountains Gazette: 20 August 2014
Heritage database: NSW Heritage Office
BMACHO Minutes August 2014

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The Technical Side

Heritage Curtilage – what is it and why is it needed?

Curtilage means “the area of land (including land covered by water) surrounding an item or area of heritage significance which is essential for retaining and integrating its heritage significance”. *Heritage Curtilages – NSW Heritage Office 1996.*

It is often defined by a site diagram, and it enables the community to retain, identify and interpret significance. It varies depending upon the purpose for which the place was established.

It could be a visual zone or a cultural landscape (which may contain many elements), and it enables management controls to be established specific to the place.

The diagram identifies lot boundaries, and can be used to reduce heritage curtilages, extend heritage curtilages, and to explain composite heritage curtilages such a heritage conservation areas.

The Patrick House, Athol Street, Blayney

This locally significant dwelling at Blayney, a two storey building with a northerly aspect over the town, now faces the prospect of a new dwelling next door. Although the new building will be cut into the site, views from and to the heritage premises will be compromised. The problem has arisen as not sufficient land was reserved around the heritage building when the subdivision was done. Although the significance of the heritage dwelling itself remains intact, its context and setting are compromised by surrounding contemporary residential development.

In the consideration of defining a curtilage a number of matters require consideration:

- Has the significance of the original relationship of the heritage item to its site and locality been conserved?
- Has an adequate setting for the heritage item been provided, enabling its heritage significance to be maintained?
- Have adequate visual catchments or corridors been provided to the heritage item from major viewing points and from the item to outside elements with which it has important visual or functional relationships?
- Are buffer areas required to screen the heritage item from visually unsympathetic development or to provide protection from vibration, traffic noise, pollution or vandalism

Specific matters which must be considered by heritage planners include historical allotments; design, style and taste; functional uses and interrelationships; visual links; scale; significant features; vegetation; archaeological features.

A number of statutory controls can be utilised to protect and manage the curtilage. This includes listing in a local environmental plan or development control plan using zoning or nomination of heritage conservation areas, or via an order under the Heritage Act 1977. There are various other pieces of legislation which afford protection such as the Local Government Act 1993, local policies and State ownership protection under the Heritage Act.

Non statutory controls such as conservation management plans specific to the site can also define a curtilage.

The High Court of Australia *(Royal Sydney Golf Club v Federal Commissioner of Taxation 1955)* defined curtilage as:

Any building, whether it is a habitation or has some other use, may stand within a larger area of land which subserves the purpose of the building. The land surrounds the building because it actually or supposedly contributes to the enjoyment of the building or the fulfilment of its purposes.

Of course curtilage applies not only to buildings, but heritage places in general. It is also to be balanced by the value of the land for other purposes. Sometimes the curtilage is defined by demand pressures for housing, and the attempt to fit as many dwelling lots into a subdivision as possible, leaving the heritage building isolated on a block of land ultimately located amongst contemporary housing.

Carrington House

Tarella

Sufficient curtilage has been retained around Carrington House at Katoomba to define its significance in the gardens in the forecourt area. The hilltop location assists in this regard.

The garden setting at Tarella at Wentworth Falls enables experience of the space to appreciate the original garden location and scale of the development. Although the meeting hall is located on the site, it is sufficiently removed to allow appreciation of the Tarella precinct.

Woodford Academy

With increasing encroachment from the Great Western Highway in front of the Woodford Academy, management of the building is still able to hang onto the surrounding garden setting. Together with suitable adaptive reuse of the place, little new building work has been required which might have compromised the heritage significance. Even cobbled walkways and garden features remain, together with the views into the bush at the rear of the precinct. *Compiled by Patsy Moppett*

References:
Heritage Information Series: Heritage & Development: A Lawyer's Perspective: NSW Heritage Office 2000
Heritage Curtilages: NSW Heritage Office 1996

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Community events & updates

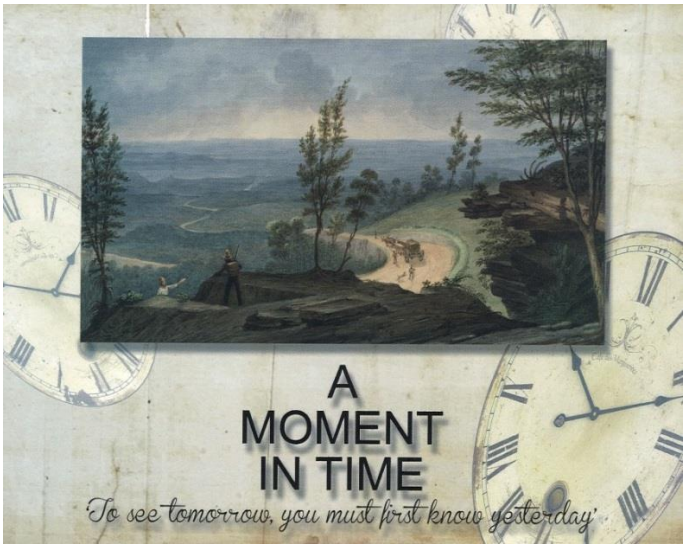
"A Moment in Time II" Exhibition

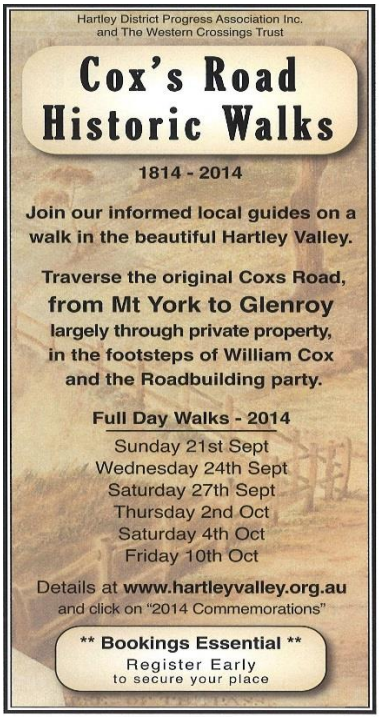
The Exhibition returns to Hartley from 13 September to 12 October 2014. This exhibition by local historian Joan Kent is a "must see"!

The exhibition, curated by retired local historian Joan Kent, captures what existed before and what came shortly after the 1813 crossing of the Blue Mountains by Europeans.

It begins with a consideration of the rich and ancient geology of the landscape into which the explorers intruded, before exploring many aspects of the crossing story from the indigenous peoples whose country was being traversed, through the explorers, the road building and early settlement west of the Blue Mountains.

"A Moment in Time "builds on the original exhibition drawing widely on contemporary Cox's Road research to present a comprehensive vision of 'the road'".





The exhibition was mounted by the Western Crossings Trust and attracted hundreds of visitors a day last year. It promises to be even more popular this year with its insightful look into the miracle of Cox's road to Bathurst.

The "A Moment in Time II" exhibition will be open on weekends between **13th September and 12th October** 10am to 4pm Mid Hartley Road, Hartley(just follow the signs).

In addition, there will be guided walks in the Hartley Valley in the footsteps of William Cox, as per the above flyer.

See the associated website www.hartleyvalley.org.au

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2014 RAHS State Annual History Conference

This year the Conference will be held at Mittagong RSL, examining how history evolves over time and is always moving as we respond to new information that changes our understanding of the past.

Day one - learn about the histories of Mittagong and successful fund raising campaigns that will resonate with the broader history community.

Day two – hear advice on future directions for historical societies including developing advocacy, technology and collection management skills.

Directions for historical societies, especially in succession planning is a timely theme in these days of falling patronage for some organisations, with all the work being left to a few.

See the RAHS web site for bookings. www.rahs.org.au

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Ali Khan Trader ..... and Indian Hawker

Further to the article in the July-August edition of Heritage, Kathie McMahon-Nolf advises some additional information.

The photograph of Ali Khan was taken from the other side of the Bells Line of Road in 1905, but the guest house "Bellbird Echo" was not built until 1929. The McMahons did live opposite on the same spot as the guest house was built, in their house called "Luchenough".

Although the article refers to Indian Traders, the gypsy Ali Kahn was probably from Afghanistan, or that is how the oral history goes. *Kathie McMahon-Nolf*

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Hobby's Reach-Weatherboard-Wentworth Falls

The community is invited to the 200th anniversary of the naming of Hobby's Reach (now part of Blaxland Road). The anniversary occurs on 3 October 2014, and it will be celebrated on 4th October at Tarella, 99 Blaxland Road, Wentworth Falls, by the Blue Mountains Historical Society.

Thomas Hobby was in charge of this section of the 170km Cox's Road from Emu Plains to Bathurst.

The celebration will include:

- A special display about Thomas Hobby
- A talk at the BMHS Meeting on the part that Hobby played in the epic endeavour to build Cox's Road over the mountains.
- An open day at Tarella, the Society's 1890s cottage museum.
- Colonial music to match.

Join them to learn more about the village and the extensive variety of resources at the Blue Mountains Historical Society that are available to all with an interest in local history. Admission is free to all residents and refreshments will be on sale.

Enquiries to Ph: 02 4757 3824 or www.bluemountainshistory.com

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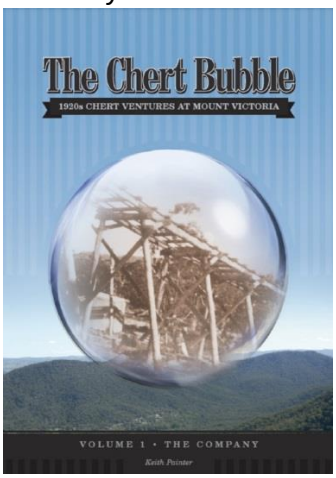
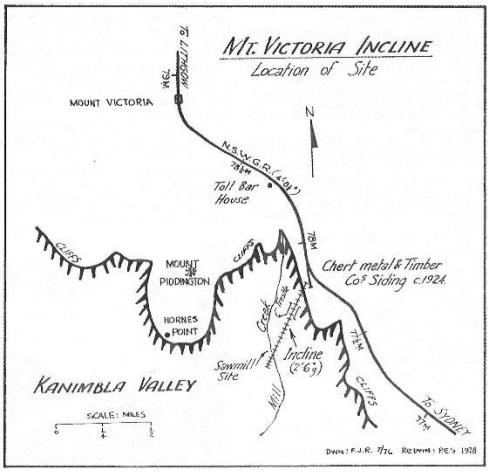
The Chert Bubble

The Chert Incline Railway at Mt Victoria was built in the 1920s to haul chert from the Kanimbla Valley. Chert is a sedimentary rock used in road construction. The whole venture lasted less than 10 years from inception to closure, and very little can be seen today in the vicinity of the railway incline down on the Blackheath side of Mt Victoria.





The fascinating history of this little known venture has been brought to life by Bathurst author and guide Keith Painter, in his book "The Chert Bubble – 1920s Ventures at Mount Victoria".

Volume 1 is available from selected bookshops or from the publisher, Mountain Mist Books, at www.mountainmistbooks.com

Volume 2 will follow in time, detailing the Blue Mountains Shire Council chert quarry above the lower part of Victoria Pass and the steam wagons they used to move the rock to their siding near Mt Victoria Station. A must read!

References:
Blue Mountains Gazette: 20 August 2014
Chert Incline – Mt Victoria NSW by John Reid 1979

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Paragon Cafe, Katoomba

This widely renowned cafe at Katoomba has received a significant boost to its future success with a funding grant under the Blue Mountains City Council's local heritage assistance fund program. This year Council has continued to support the restoration of

heritage properties, seeking to preserve these places which help to define the character and history of the Blue Mountains area and its people.

Robyn Parker, manager of this iconic property, has advised the Blue Mountains Gazette that she is putting the finishing touches on the restoration work to the historic Paragon Cafe in Katoomba Street. She has been able to replace lighting and curtains, restore the front tiles, and repaint the ceiling in parts of the building.

With the application for listing of the Paragon on the State Heritage Register currently underway, the work can only contribute to the integrity of the fabric of the place.

References:
Blue Mountains Gazette: 20 August 2014

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Cox's Road – Taylor Road, Woodford roadworks
The saga of Taylor Road is almost passed, with a solution which reaches a compromise between the purists wishing to retain the road in its original unsealed state, and the sealing of the road to reduce the impact of dust and road maintenance.

The sealed Taylor Road in August 2014

The maintenance of a 600m section this road became an issue in 2013 when Council scheduled the road to be sealed. The road is the route of one of the last remaining accessible remnants of the route of William Cox's 1814 road in this vicinity. The road verges contain many intact stone retaining walls and drains, which had already been partially covered or displaced by previous regular maintenance of the road.
Council sought to extend its works program, proposing sealing of the road for the health and safety of residents along the sometimes dusty road, to incorporate drainage measures. The works were paused to allow the community and archaeologists to investigate the condition and integrity of the road features.
With the advice of Council's Heritage Advisor and the archaeologist, the road was sealed with a light coloured seal, and now at first glance appears as a gravel road.

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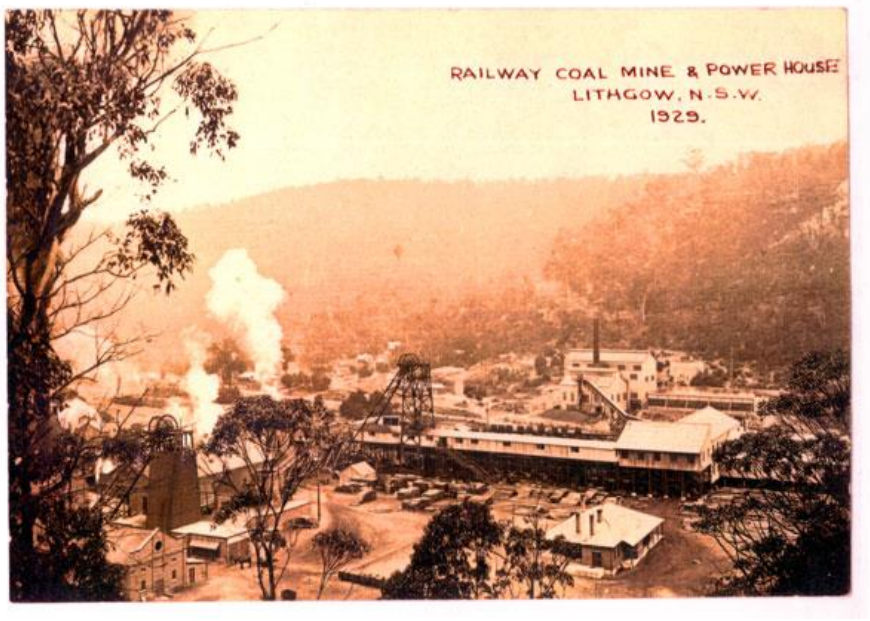
Lithgow State Coal Mine
On 13th October 1964 the Downcast Shaft of the Lithgow State Coal Mine was sealed permanently. This marked the end of an enterprise that had operated since the dark years of the Great War.

The mine is significant as it was the first government coal mine opened in New South Wales in the 20th century and it also has an important place in industrial relations history of the Australian coalfields.



To recognise 50 years since the closure of the mine the City of Greater Lithgow Mining Museum Inc is hosting an informal luncheon in the State Mine Bath House from 11.30am on Saturday 18 October 2014.

Guests of honour will include Paul Toole, MLA for Bathurst and Minister for Local Government, Maree Statham, Mayor of Lithgow, and Wayne McAndrew, General Vice-President, CFMEU Mining and Energy Division.

Former State Mine workers and their families are invited to attend. Entry would be by donation. Notification of attendance should be through the Mine's Facebook page, Lithgow State Mine Museum, or by contacting the museum on 02 6353 1513. *Ray Christison*

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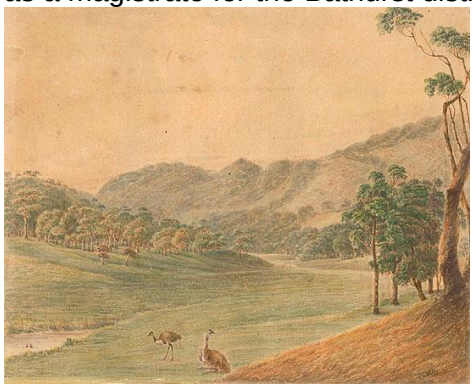
Sydmouth Valley Homestead

The Homestead was built in 1826 by Robert Lowe in the Sydmouth Valley through which William Cox constructed his road to Bathurst. Robert Lowe received the grant of 2,000 acres of land and the service of 20 convicts by Governor Macquarie in recognition of his services as a magistrate for the Bathurst district.



John Lewin's painting of the Valley

Sydmouth Valley homestead

Ann Webb purchased the property in 1871 for her youngest son, Thomas Bernard Webb, and the Webb family descendants have continued to occupy the property ever since.

The Lithgow & District Family History Society Inc has arranged for the current owners Kevin Webb and Lynne Woods to conduct a tour of inspection of the handmade brick homestead and the old world cottage garden on Saturday 11 October 2014, be followed by Devonshire Morning tea.

The tour group will meet at the Tarana Hotel at 9 a.m. and following the tour there is an option to return to the Tarana Hotel for lunch, at your own expense.

The cost of the tour and morning tea is $15 which must be paid before 5 October 2014 at Lithgow & District Family History Society Inc, Ewen Smith Memorial Hall, Cnr Tank & Donald Streets, Lithgow during the Resource Centre opening hours or by post to The Secretary, PO Box 516, Lithgow.

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Repairs and Restorations to Heritage Properties

Blue Mountains City Council with the aid of the NSW Heritage Division is offering funding to owners of heritage listed places to carry out sympathetic repairs or restorations. A total fund of approximately $20,000.00 may be shared amongst a number of small eligible projects.

Applications are invited from owners of individual heritage buildings or buildings within a Heritage Conservation Area or Period Housing Area. Priority will be given to the repair and restoration of stonework, particularly sandstone, and to conservation works for historic buildings within the Central Katoomba Urban Conservation Area. However, a range of other projects will also be considered.

Grants are offered on a dollar for dollar basis with the successful applicants and must be completed by April 2015. For full details download the Local Heritage Places Fund Guidelines and Application Form. From http://www.bmcc.nsw.gov.au/sustainableliving/bluemountainslocalheritage/bluemountainslocalheritageplacesfund

or contact Council on 02 4780 5740. On completion, email or post the applications to Council via the following contacts:

Email: council@bmcc.nsw.gov.au or Annalisse Bentley abentley@bmcc.nsw.gov.au

Post: Locked Bag 1005, Katoomba NSW 2780

Fax: 02 4780 5555

Applications close 5pm, Friday 26th September 2014.

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BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

Registered office: 1/19 Stypandra Place, Springwood 2777. (02) 4751 5834
Email: committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au or j.koperberg@bigpond.com
Website: www.bluemountainsherieteg.com.au **ABN**: 53 994 839 952

The organisation: Blue Mountains Association of Cultural & Heritage Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 after local historical and heritage societies and individuals recognised the need for the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the local government area (LGA) of Blue Mountains City Council. The constituency now embraces but is not limited to, the LGAs of Blue Mountains, Lithgow, Hawkesbury, Penrith and Mudgee. BMACHO membership includes historical and heritage groups, museums, commercial enterprises with an historical or heritage component in its core business, local government (local studies units, library collections) and a limited number of individual members by invitation such as but not necessarily academics. The objectives of the organisation are:

1. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage
2. To encourage and assist cultural heritage
3. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations.

One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

Affiliations: BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society and is affiliated with the Better Planning Network.

Publications: BMACHO's official newsletter ***Heritage*** is edited by Patsy Moppett. The annual refereed *Blue Mountains History Journal* is edited by Dr Peter Rickwood and occasional papers are published from time to time.

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The following are individual members: Ray Christison, Associate Professor Ian Jack, Joan Kent, John Low OAM, Ian Milliss, Patsy Moppett, Professor Barrie Reynolds, Dr Peter Rickwood and Dr Peter Stanbury OAM.

Committee: The management committee for 2014-2015 (from July 2014) is: Ian Jack (vice president & acting president), Jan Koperberg (secretary/acting treasurer), Roy Bennett, Wendy Hawkes and Scott Pollock (web site), Patsy Moppett (***Heritage*** Newsletter editor), Dick Morony (public officer), Suzanne Smith, Richard Woolley (heritage trail co-ordinator).

Disclaimer: views and opinions expressed in Heritage originate from many sources and contributers. Every effort is taken to ensure accuracy of material. Content does not necessarily represent or reflect the views and opinions of BMACHO, its committee or its members. If errors are found feedback is most welcome.

Heritage

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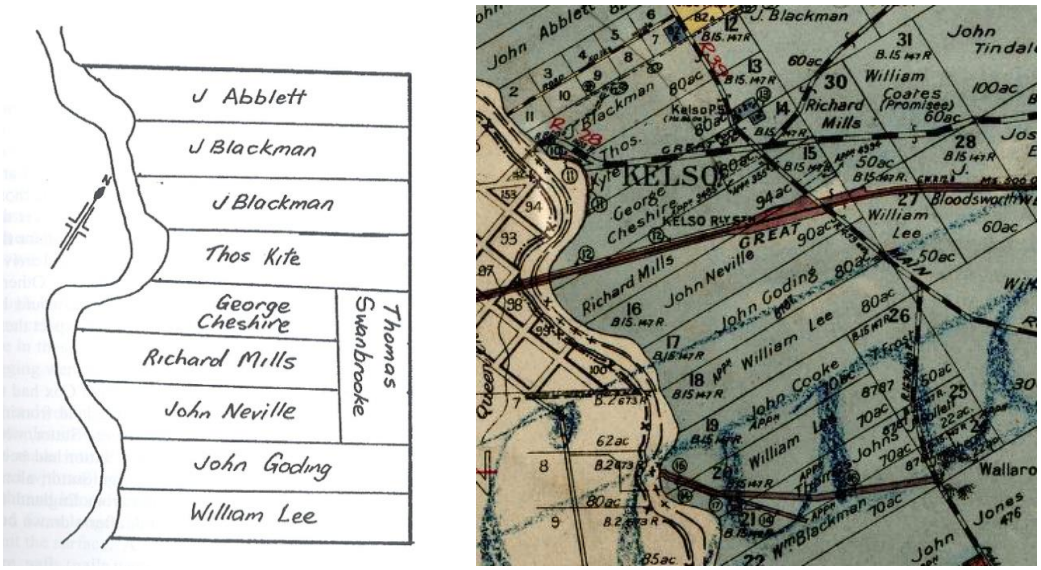
The King William Inn 1870, known by then as the Carriers' Arms

King William IV Inn, Lee Street, Kelso

In 1828 the settlement of Sydney was governed for a short time by Major-General Stewart. Bathurst was growing strongly under the squatters who took the leading life in the colonial times, and development of self government was carefully managed by them. In 1828 a council formed from this powerful squatting class and was empowered to even veto the Governor's decisions, if they so wanted. With this background it was natural that it was the squatters who were the principal builders of the buildings that have survived from that period in Bathurst.

Before this, Governor Lachlan Macquarie was recognized as a man who gave credit to settlers for their hard work, and the part they played in opening up the new settlement. He often rewarded their good conduct with tickets-of-leave and free pardons, and Governor Brisbane had followed his example. During the rule of Governor Brisbane, Charles William Wall was appointed to manage the settlement at Bathurst. (1827-28). Governor Wall continued to govern the settlement until the arrival of Major General Stewart of Mount Pleasant, Bathurst, two years later (1828).

The diary of Governor Macquarie records on 2 February 1818, that he had inspected ten settlers for Bathurst, and that he had agreed to grant each 50 acres of land, a servant, a cow, four bushels of wheat, and an allotment in the new town, and to provide them for twelve months from the King's stores. These men were William Lee, Richard Mills, Thomas Kite, Thomas Swanbrooke, George Cheshire, John Abbott, John Blackman and his brother James, John Neville and John Goding.



Original land grants – Parish of Kelso

Early buildings of the period included the original portions of the 1830's homesteads of Walmer, Westbourne, Blackdown, Alloway Bank, Ardsley, Mount Pleasant, Rainham (1833), and closer to the urban centre: Kelsoville, the Holy Trinity Church (1835), and the King William Inn (1835) at Kelso.

The original King William IV Inn building was constructed in 1831 by Richard Mills as an inn, the third licensed hotel on the Bathurst Plains. The first was Thomas Kite's "Dun Cow Inn" near Woolstone House, from 1828 to 1835. Mills' inn is situated on Lee Street at Kelso on what was originally the main approach road to Bathurst, the Lockyer's Line of Road, which came in from O'Connell and Lagoon. This road was surveyed by Major Edmund Lockyer, the principal surveyor of roads and bridges under Governor Darling. Major Thomas Mitchell's road, now the Great Western Highway, superseded this road in the 1830s. Kelso was also the initial settlement area.

Richard Leveret Mills was born in Wales in 1780. He was transported to Australia as a convict in 1800 on the "Royal Admiral" and became a servant to David Langley of Richmond. Langley had come to Australia with his wife and three daughters in 1803, and Mills was assigned in 1804. Langley was superintendent of blacksmiths in the colony from 1806. In 1811 his daughter Ann Bella married their convict servant. Richard Mills successfully managed the Langley estate in Richmond while Langley managed other business in Sydney.

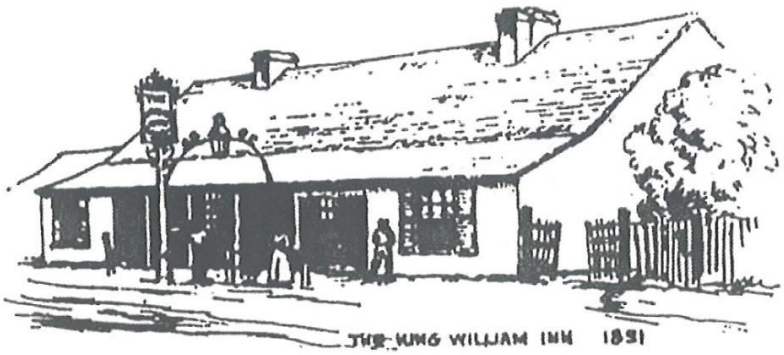
His skills as a farmer were recognized in the land grant from Governor Macquarie. He had married Ann Langley in Sydney in 1811, and in all they had nine children between 1807 and 1830. Ann was born in London in 1792. The Mills family came to Bathurst at a time when

times were extremely difficult as there were few tracks, no shops and businesses and little labour available.

Soon after settling in the Bathurst district Ann Mills had given birth to her sixth child, George Bathurst Mills, in 1819. He was the first white child born west of the mountains. In 1823 Sir Thomas Brisbane had, upon application from Richard Mills, granted this child a block of land in the new settlement to commemorate the occasion. This land extended to the east from the top of Richard Mills' original grant. By 1844 Mills owned 144 acres of land.

Richard and Ann Mills were in turn themselves assigned convicts to work for them. This included one Edward Gates, who was given the job of painting the inn. Edward Gates later established the first coach building works in the area in 1840, having married Mills' daughter Nancy in 1839. Mills always showed great compassion for many of the convict workers, having been one himself. He assisted Gates with finance and allowed the construction of his daughter's first home on his land.

The Mills' had been quite progressive in support they gave to the establishment of a Bathurst Independent Academy school in Kelso around 1927. Mills had offered to rent land for the school, and was a subscriber, wanting a better education for his children. He was concerned about the education of children of convicts, ex-convicts and orphans. It is unsure whether the school was ever established.



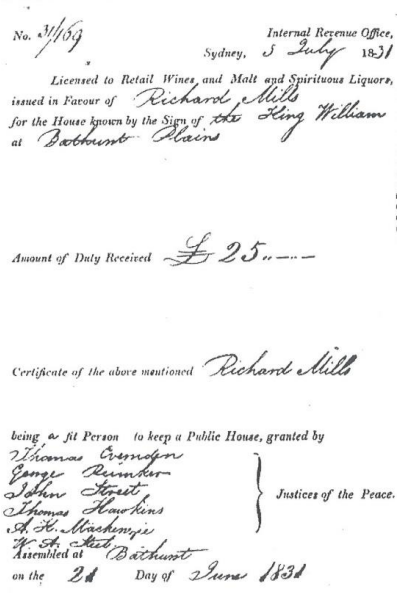
By 1831 Richard and his wife Ann lived in a thatched sod construction house, on the Kelso side of the Macquarie River, and were growing wheat. The house design was based on Ann Mills' parents home in England. The original structure of four rooms was constructed of local clay, with the walls about eighteen inched thick. A fire place was constructed in one of the back rooms, probably Ann's kitchen. A bricked bread oven was constructed at some stage. A well had been dug near the building which supplied all the water that the family required, and later for the guests at the inn. The roof was constructed of saplings and wood shingles. They extended the cottage over the next few years and a separate laundry was added. A wood shed was erected at the rear. By 1828 Mills had 95 acres. In 1831 he decided to convert part of the house into a wattle and daub, shingle roofed inn, the King William Inn, the licensee being Richard Mills. Part of Richard Mills' land was also offered for auction adjacent to the newly established Kelso Railway Station in 1875. Mills was licensed to sell wines, malt and spirituous liquors, the license costing 25 pounds.

Gable additions were made at each end in the Federation period. The building was a single storey colonial Georgian inn of stuccoed brick under a hipped and gabled iron roof, somewhat altered from its original form in Victorian times. The recessed bull nose verandah is set between gabled wings with segmented arched easement windows. It was 40 feet wide across the front, excluding the wings on either side. The main door opened onto a narrow hallway, with a room leading off either side. The room to the left was the parlour which also had a fireplace for the comfort of patrons. The ceilings were quite high. The additions and alterations were done by James Vincent, the brother in law of John Neville, also an original settler in the area. Vincent had been involved in building at the Langley's estate at Richmond.

The two long wings, extending a few feet beyond the front of the original house, required the roof to be altered to accommodate the water shed. A verandah extended over the front of the original home. The extension roofs were shingled, and constructed of locally made bricks. Several six paned windows were used, probably with shutters. The wing on the right was probably initially, the children's bedroom.

A large rectangular two storey brick coach house and barn with shingle roof and window arches and doorways was constructed for use by the Mills family, as well as patrons of the inn. The ground floor held the carriages and horses and the top floor held the fodder and the coachman's quarters. This building was demolished in 1962.

Mills sold the inn and moved to Mudgee in 1835, where his sons had inns. Richard Mills died in 1850 and is buried in the Holy Trinity Church cemetery in Kelso. Ann died in 1875 is buried at Mudgee, where they had the property "Enfield", in later years.



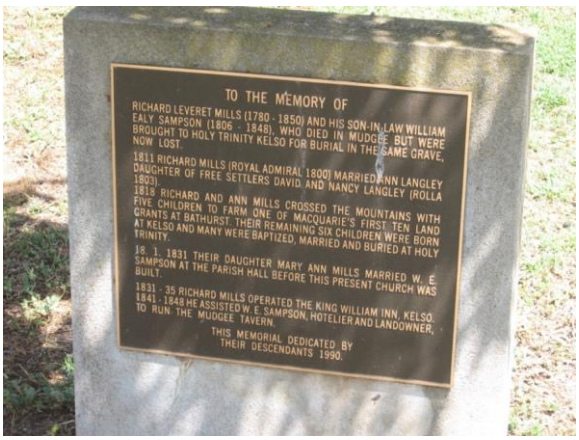
No. 3/169 Internal Revenue Office,
Sydney, 5 July 1831

Licensed to Retail Wines, and Malt and Spirituous Liquors, issued in Favour of Richard Mills for the House known by the Sign of the King William at Bathurst Plains

Amount of Duty Received £25.---

Certificate of the above mentioned Richard Mills

being a fit Person to keep a Public House, granted by
Thomas Evernden
George Rumker
John Street
Thomas Hawkins
A. H. Mackenzie
W. H. Steel } Justices of the Peace.
Assembled at Bathurst
on the 2d Day of June 1831

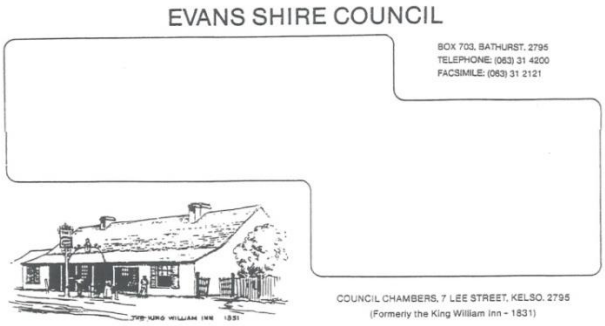


Richard Mills' liquor license 1834 *Grave of Richard Mills at Kelso*

When Richard Mills moved to Mudgee, the inn was purchased by William Boyles, and renamed the Traveller's Inn. Boyles left the district in 1840, and the building was not licensed for some years. In about 1865 William Conwell was the publican until the inn was bought by George Robert Matthews 1869. By this time a number of shops were established between the inn and the railway line, and there were five small cottages at the rear of the inn.

Matthews changed the name of the premises to the Carrier's Arms in 1870. In 1872 the place was known as the Sportsman's Arms Hotel. Although Matthews was bankrupt in 1879 he retained the hotel until 1882. He died in 1902.

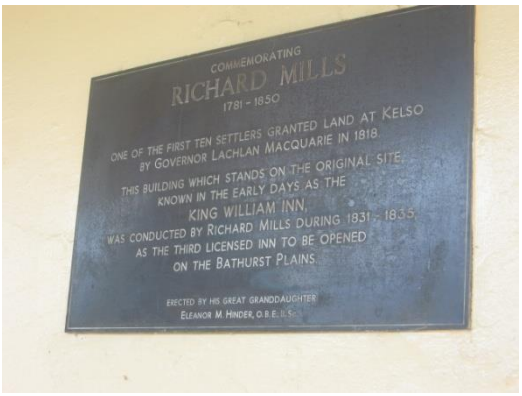
From 1883 to 1885 the hotel was run by licensee Robert Norris. From 1886 Thomas Brewer took it over. By 1891 the hotel was run by Robert McCleery, leasing it from Brewer. In 1892 William Sims Peers leased the business from Brewer. In 1894 the Sportsman's Arms was destroyed by fire. Repairs were carried out and the premises reopened in 1895 by W G Mitten as the Royal Hotel. Mitten retired in 1899 and the hotel was then run by Archibald Wells until 1902. The last publican was William Baker IN 1903. The property was auctioned in 1906, and in 1908 the Turon Shire opened their office there, holding their first meeting in May.



ESC letterhead

In 1977 a local government amalgamation took place and the Turon Shire was amalgamated with the Abercrombie Shire to form the Evans Shire Council, which retained the building as its offices. During this period a number of extensions were carried out to the northern end of the building to accommodate office space, and the various engineering depot buildings were constructed at the rear. The image of the old inn was used on the Evans letter head. The building was shared by the Rural Fire Service and the Upper Macquarie County Council weeds authority. The Evans Arts Council has utilized the building for storage and meetings, exhibitions and workshops since the 1980s.

Former Evans Shire Council Chambers



Plaque on front of building *Former ESC building showing office extensions*

A further local government amalgamation occurred in 2004, when Evans Shire Council was dissolved and the majority of the Shire came under the Bathurst Regional Council. The former council chambers were no longer required.

Today the building is still occupied by the RFS and the Upper Macquarie in the older section. The more recent northern section is now occupied by Bathurst Family Day Care.

Compiled by Patsy Moppett

References:
Bathurst Regional Heritage Inventory
Former Evans Shire Council letterhead page
Dawning of a township, Denis Chamberlain 1997
Kelso Village, Book 1, Alan McCrae & Carol Churches
NSW Dept of Lands

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Family History Month, Lithgow

Family History Month in Lithgow was celebrated in August by an interesting day in August at the Lithgow Library Learning Centre when four local historians talked about their own families.

Christison

Ray Christison is an archaeologist and heritage consultant in rural and regional NSW. He is also an author and museum director, and is an individual member of BMACHO.

Ray related details about his great grandfather, John Hampton Christison. John was born in Scotland in 1858. He trained as a dancer from the age of 7. He valued the arts and travelled widely, being renowned for his dancing prowess and his teaching skill. He went to sea in 1875, working for the Commission Agent and making his way to Australia. He married Sophia in Maitland in 1880, and ran dance classes in Clarence Town.

He ran into financial difficulties in 1883 and returned alone to Scotland, where he entered and won several dancing contests, thereby re-establishing himself financially. He returned to Australia but continued living the high life, falling bankrupt again in 1889. He returned to Scotland again, this time with Sophia and their five children.

Sophia then stumbled upon information relating to John's numerous extra marital affairs and they were subsequently divorced. He moved to Mittagong, acquiring property. In 1900 he joined the NSW Mounted Rifles and went to South Africa, where he was wounded and

returned home. He was not able to dance for some time, and remarried Mary Moore in 1909. By 1914 he was back in Sydney and dancing, where he held classes until 1923, when he died of a cerebral haemorrhage aged 63. *Ray Christison*

JH Christison

Francis Langdon

Langdon

Mark Langdon described three brothers who joined up for World War II at the same time and place and did their training in three different countries. Mark is a regular participant in the Lithgow Library Learning Centre's activities and is an accomplished author.

His father Lesley trained in Darwin as a gunner but flew in 11th Squadron in Catalina aircraft, doing operations and mine laying. He finished up a wireless leader in 1943, and in air sea rescue from 1945. He was discharged in 1945 as a flying officer.

His uncle Norman entered the RAAF in 1940. He went to Rhodesia and then the UK following operations training. He entered 210 squadron, flying Catalinas in the Battle of the Atlantic. In 1945 he was in Darwin in air sea rescue, and then in administration.

Mark's uncle Francis (Frank) also entered the RAAF in 1942. He entered the militia as an anti tank gunner, but was removed to the RAAF as a navigator in Lancaster's. He went to Canada and the UK, and then into 463 Squadron in a Lancaster in 1944. He was shot down and killed flying the Bergen Uboat pens in late 1944, and has no grave. *Mark Langdon*

Griffiths/Carroll

Tony Griffiths is a retired Engineer with an interest in Australian and family history. He commenced his family history research in the 1960s. The family was found to be involved in the trade union movement, in the internal employees union at the Lithgow Small Arms Factory. He has written several books on the SAF.

Tony elaborated on his research into his Griffiths/Carroll heritage from Ireland, always being told there were no convicts!

The Carroll family came from near Tipperary in Ireland and on a trip to the UK Tony managed to track down some distant cousins. He also met his wife Lilian!

The Griffiths were traced back to a Michael Griffin and his wife Ellenor. He found that Michael and Ellenor were actually transported for 7 years in 1827 for stealing furniture from their employer, John Gibbs, as the man owed them money. Michael was assigned to Archibald Bell at Windsor, and Ellenor and her sister Mary joined him there in 1828. In time Michael changed their name to Griffiths.

Whilst in Ireland, Tony managed to locate the prison where Ellenor and Mary were detained whist awaiting transportation, and even the cell where they were held, evidenced by their names scratched in the wall!

The family was traced back to Kurrajong, and also to the Sodwalls/Hartley area, where they found the family farm and family graves at Rydal cemetery. The gravestone of Ellenor Griffiths was found and restored.

Tony also played a moving video re-enactment of Michael and Ellenor's story by a group of primary school students from North Cork. *Tony Griffiths*

Griffiths family 1916

Sarah Ann King 1862

Hillier/King/Osborn/Frankcom

Vicki Hartley is a Lithgow local with a strong interest in her family history, and also assists others in discovering their own ancestors and stories. This only commenced in 2000 when her father passed away. By googling all four family names in the one search Vicki unearthed a treasure of research already carried out by a family member in the UK. The investigation took her to the tiny village of West Littleton in Gloucestershire, which it was found had not changed much in over 400 years. The area consisted of mainly eight families, and Vicki is descended from four of those.

Excavations in 1968 found skeletons on the site dating back to 977BC, together with bronze spearheads dating to 1200 and 1000 BC, They were best examples of pre historic skeletons ever found in Britain.The local church of St James and its churchyard contain memorials to the Frankom, Hillier and Osborne families.

Through the research Vicki managed to trace her great great grandmother Sarah Ann King, nee Hillier. The research showed that Sarah's lineage could be traced back to Francis Francombe, Vicki's eight times great grandfather, whose money saved William of Cavendish, the Duke of Newcastle, from bankruptcy around 1637!

Combined with other research, Vicki can now trace 15 generations of her family! *Vicki Hartley*

For further information regarding events at the Lithgow Library Learning Centre see www.lithgow.nsw.gov.au

Food for thought ..... Editor's note

Carpe diem - literally speaking - "seize the day"! Take every opportunity, and don't put all your trust in tomorrow.

Do we really realise how lucky we are in the opportunities that avail us to experience history today? Everywhere we turn, there are community groups and individuals offering experiences through seminars, collections, tours and publications about our past.

Family history groups and historical societies, museums individuals and tourist organisations abound throughout the country, where dedicated members "work" to collect, store and disseminate information about where we came from, how we reached these shores and how Australia developed from a simple colony to the nation we know today. I say "work" because to them it is often not work but a labour of love.

With the passing of John Leary OAM, it would seem timely to look back and see where we of BMACHO have come from in fostering these opportunities. BMACHO commenced in 2006 with the aim to foster and support cultural heritage activities related to the Blue Mountains. To revisit the Objects of the Constitution:

1. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage.
2. To encourage and assist the cultural heritage activities of member organisations.
3. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations.

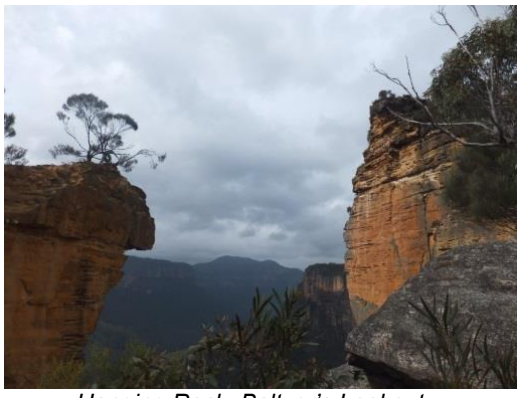
BMACHO seeks to take every opportunity to bring together many groups to share information and promote culture and heritage throughout the greater Blue Mountains area and beyond. In light of this the most current initiative is our Heritage Trail project. Our diverse membership uniquely blends the skills and resources of historical, cultural and heritage groups, major tourist attractions, gardens and galleries. We need to promote our collective skills and assets to the widest possible audience.

BMACHO is taking up the challenge and is producing a high quality Heritage Trail leaflet and trail map for distribution through Visitors' Centres, historical societies, family history societies and museums, with contribution from BMACHO members. In addition, a dedicated website which presents the map and detailed contacts, for all BMACHO members, is also envisaged, in due course.

The Heritage Trail would incorporate open days for BMACHO member groups perhaps quarterly, proceeding along the Great Western Highway from Emu Plains to Lithgow, and up the Bells Line of Road from the Hawkesbury to Lithgow. If visitors can see the premises open on the Common Open Days, they can plan a trail that is comfortable for them to travel in a day.

Not every member group has premises, but those without may be able to use a hall or library to facilitate visitors. Even if a member is not able to participate in the Common Open Days, they can list their opening hours on the leaflet.

View from top of Six Foot Track



Hanging Rock, Baltzer's Lookout

A local along Jamison Creek

Darks Cave

Funding is to be generated through corporate sponsorship and through participant's participation fees. The launch of the project should be later in early 2015.

In the meantime, BMACHO will continue to collect and share information and events through this Newsletter. News items are always welcome, from the smallest note to articles in the order of 1500 words. Photographs will always help to illustrate the story and should be sent as separate files. Please direct any items to the editor *pmoppett@gmail.com* or to the secretary *jkoperberg@bigpond.com*

Patsy Moppett
Heritage Newsletter Editor
Blue Mountains Association of Cultural & Heritage Organisations Inc

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John Kenneth Leary OAM (1934-2014)

The BMACHO group and the wider community is morning the loss of John Kenneth Leary, OAM, former President and *Heritage* Editor. Under his chairmanship of BMACHO (the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural and Heritage Organisations), he has steered this Association into maturity, but he has also initiated, edited and produced the magazine *Heritage*. *Heritage* has been a remarkable achievement, each new issue being eagerly awaited by the community and now being read by a thousand and more readers.

John Leary served in the 1960s on the Berrima Court House Trust that was responsible for the restoration of this historic property and which later became a major tourist attraction for the Southern Highlands.

John had wide ranging experience and an impact on local heritage and community matters in various districts; a fact that was recognized by the award of the Order of Australia Medal (OAM) in 2003 for community service in particular to the agricultural movement and the various exchanges including recognizing two multi-million dollar cultural 'cultural exchanges' between Australia and Japan through the sister cities movement.

John Leary's career as a professional journalist meant he had worked on metropolitan daily newspapers, and as managing editor on several regional and country newspapers including the Berrima District Post which then had a tri weekly publication; the Goulburn Evening Post, a daily; and Gilgandra newspapers which produced a number of regional papers. He at one time owned a small Sydney based suburban newspaper and publisher of magazines.

John Leary served as an elected member of Campbelltown City Council including a term as Mayor, and member of a Regional Council; senior member of Council staff and a consultant in the field of corporate, government and community relations to two major metropolitan local government units.

John Leary always presented a balanced view over a wide range of subjects after careful consideration and appreciation of conflicting differing points of view. He was able to summarise concisely and with positive strength of feeling in a manner that did not offend.

His additional experience includes 25 years as the president of Campbelltown City Show Society, one of the four largest agricultural shows in Australia outside a capital city. John was a member for nearly 10 years of the Agricultural Societies Council of NSW, the peak umbrella recognizing 204 agricultural shows in NSW.

Since the 1940s he was interested in the heritage walking tracks in the Blue Mountains and Middle Harbour areas. His exploration of these between the 1940s and early 1960s led to an association with the National Trust (NSW). More recently he was Chair of the Friends of Woodford (over four years) and was awarded the Trust's meritorious service for volunteers medal.

John Leary was recognized by the NSW government, in 2007 by being given a certificate of appreciation, “recognizing outstanding contribution to heritage conservation in NSW”.

His ability to communicate was evidenced by his large number of friends of sometimes opposing views and his skill in distilling a problem into one or more practical solutions.

John was a consummate speaker and his presentations were listened to with rapt attention.

As President of BMACHO, and their representative on the BMCC heritage committee, he readily understood Council’s points of view, those of the heritage community and those expressed, sometimes somewhat obliquely, by the general members of the public.

John leaves behind wife Nanette, and children Richard, Tanya and David Leary and their families.

Adapted from a statement by Peter Stanbury OAM

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AE1 and AE2 Australia Navy Submarines

Further to the article on the AE1 and AE2 in the July-August issue of *Heritage*, Steve Norton of the Canal Reserve Action Group at Prospect/Holroyd has offered to share his family connections to the event, as follows.

This is a story that begins in 1764....

Thomas Kidner who was born in the year 1764 in Bristol, Somerset, England. When Thomas was eighteen he stole 4 pieces of Irish Linen. He was tried and convicted in the Bristol Court on the 30 October 1782 and sentenced to transportation to Australia for seven years. He was kept in gaol until early 1786 when he was transferred to the prison hulk “Censor”. He spent a number of years on this ship before he was transferred to the “Alexander” on the 6th January 1787. The “Alexander” sailed for Botany Bay on the 13 May 1787 and arrived on the 26 January 1788.

So began Thomas’s life in Australia. A life that would see him transported to Norfolk Island on the 11 November 1789, where he met a convict named Jane Whiting. Jane was born in 1755 in Westminster Middlesex England. Thomas and Jane married on the 5 November 1791 on Norfolk Island.

Thomas and Jane had two children, Thomas and Ann. Thomas was born on the 30 May 1795 on Norfolk Island. Ann was born on Norfolk Island on the 14 October 1798. The family sailed to Van Diemens Land (later named Tasmania) on the 15 October 1805 on the ship “Lord Nelson”.

Thomas jnr. married Elizabeth Burkett in Van Diemens Land on the 7 January 1822 in Hobart Van Diemens Land. Thomas and Elizabeth had eight children, all born in Van Diemens Land. Their second child, Elizabeth was born on the 26 October 1824.

Elizabeth Kidner married Francis Bidelph (Biddulph)on the 6 August 1842 in Van Diemens Land. Elizabeth and Francis Bidelph had 11 children, all born in Van Diemens Land.

Their sixth child, David Bidelph was born on the 14 April 1853 in Van Diemens land.

David Bidelph married Mary Ann Driscoll on the 10 June 1879 in Tasmania. David and Mary Bidelph had eight children, all born in Tasmania.

Their sixth child, Henry Thomas Bidelph, was born in Park Street Hobart Tasmania on the 3rd October 1893.

On the 12 July 1912, at the age of 18 he enlisted in the Royal Australian Navy in Melbourne Victoria under the name Thomas Henry Bidelph for a 5 year stint. Thomas Henry was Steve Norton's grandfather.

In 1909 the English Admiralty had proposed the creation of a Pacific fleet consisting of three fleet units to be operated by imperial forces in the pacific region. Each fleet unit would be built around a battle-cruiser, supported by several light cruisers. One of these fleets would comprise the Royal Australian Navy (RAN). With the Australian Government agreeing to this concept, work commenced on the ships.

The destroyers, HMA Ship's "Yarra" and "Parramatta" reached Australian waters in November 1910 and on the 10th July 1911 His Majesty King George V granted the title Royal Australian Navy to the Commonwealth Naval Forces.

In June 1912 a third destroyer, HMAS "Warrego" was commissioned at Sydney and in 1913 the battle cruiser HMAS "Australia" and the light cruisers HMAS "Melbourne" and "Sydney" arrived in Australian waters.

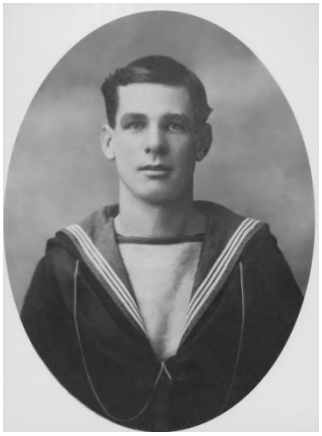
He was onboard HMAS "Sydney" on the 4 October 1913 when the Australian Fleet entered Sydney Harbour for the first time.

His service record shows that on the 2/10/1913 he was now an able bodied seaman and retained that rank until he left the RAN. His service record also shows that on the 31/12/1913 his character was deemed "very good" and his ability was "satisfactory". His service record further shows that on the 31/12/1914 his character was still deemed "very good" and his ability was "superior". On the 18/04/1915 his service record was still deemed "very good" and his ability was still "superior".

During his RAN service over the next three years he served on five ships, as well as in the London Depot in Great Britain.

While in the London Depot he underwent training and returned to Australia as a crew member of HMAS "Sydney". He took part in two events that are now part of Australia's naval history.

Firstly, he was on board HMAS "Sydney" when it and the other six ships of the RAN entered Sydney Harbour for the first time on the 4th October 1913. This was the birth of the Royal Australian Navy. A 100 year celebration occurred on the 4th October 2013 when 7 ships sailed into Sydney Harbour to commemorate the first entry.
(Stephen Norton and his wife Judy were guests of Vice Admiral Ray Griggs at the celebrations on Garden Island).



Thomas Henry Bidelph

"Sydney" escorts AE1 and AE2 into Cairns 14 May 1915

Secondly he was on HMAS "Sydney" when she escorted two submarines from Singapore to Garden Island. At 7.30am on 2nd March 1914 Australia's first submarines, HMA AE1 and HMA AE2 left Portsmouth U.K. for Sydney with the escort ship HMS "Eclipse". The "Eclipse" escorted both submarines to Colombo, arriving on the 9th April 1914. AE1 & AE2 left Colombo with HMS "Yarmouth" at 6pm on the 14th April 1914 for the voyage to Singapore, arriving on the 21st April 1914.

AE1& AE2 left Singapore on the 25th April 1914 with their escort HMAS "Sydney", stopping in Cairns on the 14th May 1914 before travelling to Sydney Harbour, arriving in Garden Island on the 24 May 1914. HMAS "Sydney" (1) escorted both submarines from Singapore to Sydney, stopping in Cairns. The NSW State library has a wonderful photograph on display of Sydney and both submarines. *Stephen Norton*

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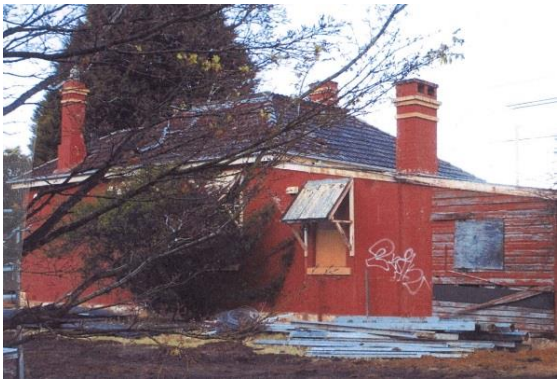
Lawson Station Master's Residence

The former Lawson station master's residence adjacent to Lawson Railway Station has been given a reprieve. It was scheduled for demolition, along with a number of fomer railway workshops and ancillary buildings at the site on Loftus Street.

The brick & tile residence was constructed in 1896. Sydney Rail was refused a S60 application under the Heritage Act to the NSW Heritage Council to demolish the building. The rail depot site is under redevelopment to construct a new depot building, incorporating landscaping and more car parking. The refusal included recommendations to relocate the new maintenance depot and car park further west, thus saving the residence.

2009

2014



2014

2014

The residence is one of the last original elements of the railway precinct, from the days when Lawson was a railway town. It was occupied until the mid 1990s when it was abandoned due to cracking in the brickwork caused by vibration from major track work at the time.

In 2008 the buildings on the site included the District Engineers' Office and the associated stores and sheds, the station building (1902) and signal box (1921), out-of shed (1902), island platform (1902), side platform (c1879), pedestrian subway 91944), station master's residence (1896), electrical depot site, former District Engineer's Office (1956), workshops (1957), signals and earthworks depots, substation (1956), numerous water columns and tanks, many moveable items and landscape features. The site was noted with significant potential for archaeological investigation.

Numerous modifications have occurred to various aspects of the station and depot, some resulting from the substation fire in 2003. The original roof of the Station Master's residence, with an ornate ridge, was replaced at an unknown date. Internally all original fabric has been removed.

There was a halt at Lawson dating back to the beginning of the railway through the mountains in 1867. It bore the name "Blue Mountain" initially after Wilson's Blue Mountain Inn, 400m away. In 1879 when the station's name was changed, a brick platform and station building were added and this remained unchanged until 1902. Duplication of the line in 1902 brought a new island platform and station buildings in the Federation style.

Lawson became a significant stop over as locomotives took on water there.

The original station master's dwelling was constructed in 1880, and the current residence replaced it in 1896. The residence, many of which were built at this time, reflected the status of the proposed occupant. The Lawson residence is an example of the largest type that was used in the 1890-1914 period. It contained three bedrooms and the asymmetrical plan of the structure predates the wave of new residence, being first used in 1885.

The overall site is historically significant due to its continued rail use since 1880, with the Station Master's cottage demonstrating the custom of providing accommodation for railway staff and the importance of the station as a key terminus for locomotive facilities with its large number of water columns and tanks.

The residence has an unusual architectural style as it does not conform to any standard design, although it has similarities to a standard "J3" design. It is an excellent example of

simple architectural forms of other similar railway residences. With the loss of interior fabric the integrity is only moderate.

The rail authority indicates that they have no further need of the building at this stage. Therefore it remains for another use to be found for the building. It has been suggested that BMACHO or some similar organisation might utilise the building, together with other societies or organisations looking for permanent home, if a reasonable contract could be developed. This may give those groups a permanent premises to store archives, records and equipment, to hold meetings, seminars and workshops. If BMACHO were involved it would not mean that BMACHO would not continue to travel around to the members premises for committee meetings.

The site has had a statutory listing under the NSW Heritage S170 State agency heritage register as the Lawson Railway Station group, and footbridge, as updated in 2009, and was recognised within the Heritage and Conservation Register of the State Rail Authority of NSW 1993, and the State Rail Authority Heritage Register Study 1999.

At present BMACHO are considering it only as an option, and any other member groups within the community are encouraged to consider the possibility of some kind of sharing arrangement to provide an appropriate adaptive reuse for the building, to conserve its remaining integrity and retain the building in its historical context. *Complied by Patsy Moppett*

References:
Blue Mountains Gazette: 20 August 2014
Heritage database: NSW Heritage Office
BMACHO Minutes August 2014

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The Technical Side

Heritage Curtilage – what is it and why is it needed?

Curtilage means “the area of land (including land covered by water) surrounding an item or area of heritage significance which is essential for retaining and integrating its heritage significance”. *Heritage Curtilages – NSW Heritage Office 1996.*

It is often defined by a site diagram, and it enables the community to retain, identify and interpret significance. It varies depending upon the purpose for which the place was established.

It could be a visual zone or a cultural landscape (which may contain many elements), and it enables management controls to be established specific to the place.

The diagram identifies lot boundaries, and can be used to reduce heritage curtilages, extend heritage curtilages, and to explain composite heritage curtilages such a heritage conservation areas.

The Patrick House, Athol Street, Blayney

This locally significant dwelling at Blayney, a two storey building with a northerly aspect over the town, now faces the prospect of a new dwelling next door. Although the new building will be cut into the site, views from and to the heritage premises will be compromised. The problem has arisen as not sufficient land was reserved around the heritage building when the subdivision was done. Although the significance of the heritage dwelling itself remains intact, its context and setting are compromised by surrounding contemporary residential development.

In the consideration of defining a curtilage a number of matters require consideration:

- Has the significance of the original relationship of the heritage item to its site and locality been conserved?
- Has an adequate setting for the heritage item been provided, enabling its heritage significance to be maintained?
- Have adequate visual catchments or corridors been provided to the heritage item from major viewing points and from the item to outside elements with which it has important visual or functional relationships?
- Are buffer areas required to screen the heritage item from visually unsympathetic development or to provide protection from vibration, traffic noise, pollution or vandalism

Specific matters which must be considered by heritage planners include historical allotments; design, style and taste; functional uses and interrelationships; visual links; scale; significant features; vegetation; archaeological features.

A number of statutory controls can be utilised to protect and manage the curtilage. This includes listing in a local environmental plan or development control plan using zoning or nomination of heritage conservation areas, or via an order under the Heritage Act 1977. There are various other pieces of legislation which afford protection such as the Local Government Act 1993, local policies and State ownership protection under the Heritage Act.

Non statutory controls such as conservation management plans specific to the site can also define a curtilage.

The High Court of Australia *(Royal Sydney Golf Club v Federal Commissioner of Taxation 1955)* defined curtilage as:

Any building, whether it is a habitation or has some other use, may stand within a larger area of land which subserves the purpose of the building. The land surrounds the building because it actually or supposedly contributes to the enjoyment of the building or the fulfilment of its purposes.

Of course curtilage applies not only to buildings, but heritage places in general. It is also to be balanced by the value of the land for other purposes. Sometimes the curtilage is defined by demand pressures for housing, and the attempt to fit as many dwelling lots into a subdivision as possible, leaving the heritage building isolated on a block of land ultimately located amongst contemporary housing.

Carrington House

Tarella

Sufficient curtilage has been retained around Carrington House at Katoomba to define its significance in the gardens in the forecourt area. The hilltop location assists in this regard.

The garden setting at Tarella at Wentworth Falls enables experience of the space to appreciate the original garden location and scale of the development. Although the meeting hall is located on the site, it is sufficiently removed to allow appreciation of the Tarella precinct.

Woodford Academy

With increasing encroachment from the Great Western Highway in front of the Woodford Academy, management of the building is still able to hang onto the surrounding garden setting. Together with suitable adaptive reuse of the place, little new building work has been required which might have compromised the heritage significance. Even cobbled walkways and garden features remain, together with the views into the bush at the rear of the precinct. *Compiled by Patsy Moppett*

References:
Heritage Information Series: Heritage & Development: A Lawyer's Perspective: NSW Heritage Office 2000
Heritage Curtilages: NSW Heritage Office 1996

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Community events & updates

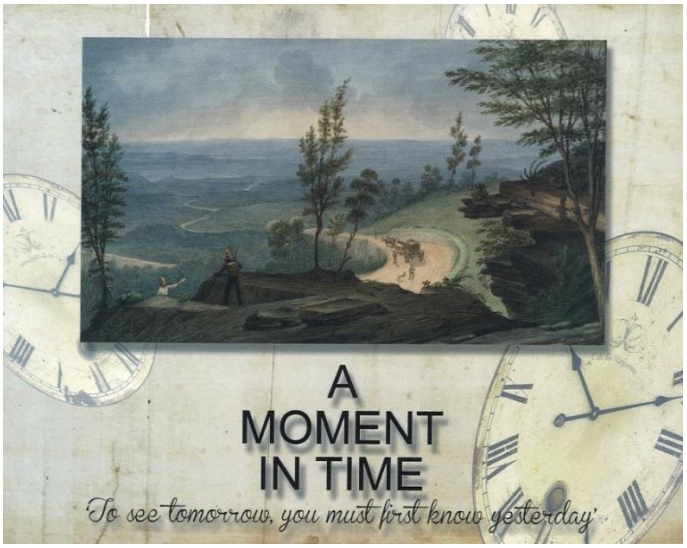
"A Moment in Time II" Exhibition

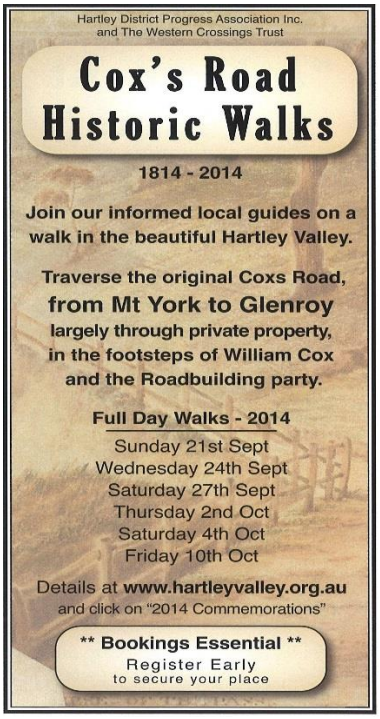
The Exhibition returns to Hartley from 13 September to 12 October 2014. This exhibition by local historian Joan Kent is a "must see"!

The exhibition, curated by retired local historian Joan Kent, captures what existed before and what came shortly after the 1813 crossing of the Blue Mountains by Europeans.

It begins with a consideration of the rich and ancient geology of the landscape into which the explorers intruded, before exploring many aspects of the crossing story from the indigenous peoples whose country was being traversed, through the explorers, the road building and early settlement west of the Blue Mountains.

"A Moment in Time "builds on the original exhibition drawing widely on contemporary Cox's Road research to present a comprehensive vision of 'the road'".





The exhibition was mounted by the Western Crossings Trust and attracted hundreds of visitors a day last year. It promises to be even more popular this year with its insightful look into the miracle of Cox's road to Bathurst.

The "A Moment in Time II" exhibition will be open on weekends between **13th September and 12th October** 10am to 4pm Mid Hartley Road, Hartley(just follow the signs).

In addition, there will be guided walks in the Hartley Valley in the footsteps of William Cox, as per the above flyer.

See the associated website www.hartleyvalley.org.au

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2014 RAHS State Annual History Conference

This year the Conference will be held at Mittagong RSL, examining how history evolves over time and is always moving as we respond to new information that changes our understanding of the past.

Day one - learn about the histories of Mittagong and successful fund raising campaigns that will resonate with the broader history community.

Day two – hear advice on future directions for historical societies including developing advocacy, technology and collection management skills.

Directions for historical societies, especially in succession planning is a timely theme in these days of falling patronage for some organisations, with all the work being left to a few.

See the RAHS web site for bookings. www.rahs.org.au

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Ali Khan Trader ..... and Indian Hawker

Further to the article in the July-August edition of Heritage, Kathie McMahon-Nolf advises some additional information.

The photograph of Ali Khan was taken from the other side of the Bells Line of Road in 1905, but the guest house "Bellbird Echo" was not built until 1929. The McMahons did live opposite on the same spot as the guest house was built, in their house called "Luchenough".

Although the article refers to Indian Traders, the gypsy Ali Kahn was probably from Afghanistan, or that is how the oral history goes. *Kathie McMahon-Nolf*

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Hobby's Reach-Weatherboard-Wentworth Falls

The community is invited to the 200th anniversary of the naming of Hobby's Reach (now part of Blaxland Road). The anniversary occurs on 3 October 2014, and it will be celebrated on 4th October at Tarella, 99 Blaxland Road, Wentworth Falls, by the Blue Mountains Historical Society.

Thomas Hobby was in charge of this section of the 170km Cox's Road from Emu Plains to Bathurst.

The celebration will include:

- A special display about Thomas Hobby
- A talk at the BMHS Meeting on the part that Hobby played in the epic endeavour to build Cox's Road over the mountains.
- An open day at Tarella, the Society's 1890s cottage museum.
- Colonial music to match.

Join them to learn more about the village and the extensive variety of resources at the Blue Mountains Historical Society that are available to all with an interest in local history. Admission is free to all residents and refreshments will be on sale.

Enquiries to Ph: 02 4757 3824 or www.bluemountainshistory.com

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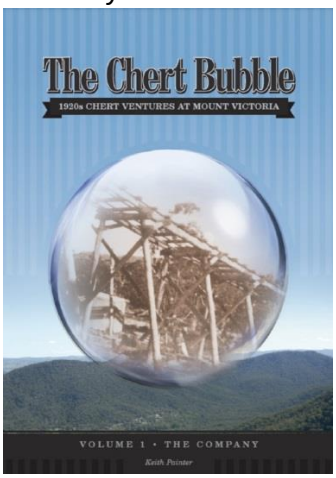
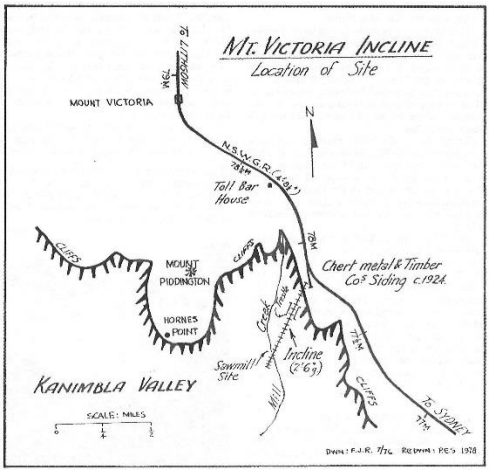
The Chert Bubble

The Chert Incline Railway at Mt Victoria was built in the 1920s to haul chert from the Kanimbla Valley. Chert is a sedimentary rock used in road construction. The whole venture lasted less than 10 years from inception to closure, and very little can be seen today in the vicinity of the railway incline down on the Blackheath side of Mt Victoria.





The fascinating history of this little known venture has been brought to life by Bathurst author and guide Keith Painter, in his book "The Chert Bubble – 1920s Ventures at Mount Victoria".

Volume 1 is available from selected bookshops or from the publisher, Mountain Mist Books, at www.mountainmistbooks.com

Volume 2 will follow in time, detailing the Blue Mountains Shire Council chert quarry above the lower part of Victoria Pass and the steam wagons they used to move the rock to their siding near Mt Victoria Station. A must read!

References:
Blue Mountains Gazette: 20 August 2014
Chert Incline – Mt Victoria NSW by John Reid 1979

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Paragon Cafe, Katoomba

This widely renowned cafe at Katoomba has received a significant boost to its future success with a funding grant under the Blue Mountains City Council's local heritage assistance fund program. This year Council has continued to support the restoration of

heritage properties, seeking to preserve these places which help to define the character and history of the Blue Mountains area and its people.

Robyn Parker, manager of this iconic property, has advised the Blue Mountains Gazette that she is putting the finishing touches on the restoration work to the historic Paragon Cafe in Katoomba Street. She has been able to replace lighting and curtains, restore the front tiles, and repaint the ceiling in parts of the building.

With the application for listing of the Paragon on the State Heritage Register currently underway, the work can only contribute to the integrity of the fabric of the place.

References:
Blue Mountains Gazette: 20 August 2014

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Cox's Road – Taylor Road, Woodford roadworks
The saga of Taylor Road is almost passed, with a solution which reaches a compromise between the purists wishing to retain the road in its original unsealed state, and the sealing of the road to reduce the impact of dust and road maintenance.

The sealed Taylor Road in August 2014

The maintenance of a 600m section this road became an issue in 2013 when Council scheduled the road to be sealed. The road is the route of one of the last remaining accessible remnants of the route of William Cox's 1814 road in this vicinity. The road verges contain many intact stone retaining walls and drains, which had already been partially covered or displaced by previous regular maintenance of the road.
Council sought to extend its works program, proposing sealing of the road for the health and safety of residents along the sometimes dusty road, to incorporate drainage measures. The works were paused to allow the community and archaeologists to investigate the condition and integrity of the road features.
With the advice of Council's Heritage Advisor and the archaeologist, the road was sealed with a light coloured seal, and now at first glance appears as a gravel road.

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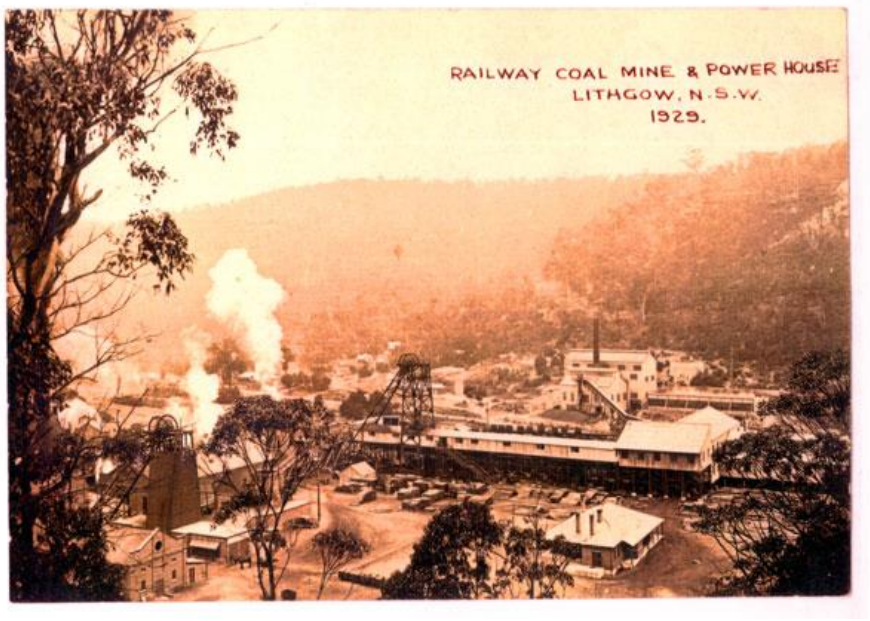
Lithgow State Coal Mine
On 13th October 1964 the Downcast Shaft of the Lithgow State Coal Mine was sealed permanently. This marked the end of an enterprise that had operated since the dark years of the Great War.

The mine is significant as it was the first government coal mine opened in New South Wales in the 20th century and it also has an important place in industrial relations history of the Australian coalfields.



To recognise 50 years since the closure of the mine the City of Greater Lithgow Mining Museum Inc is hosting an informal luncheon in the State Mine Bath House from 11.30am on Saturday 18 October 2014.

Guests of honour will include Paul Toole, MLA for Bathurst and Minister for Local Government, Maree Statham, Mayor of Lithgow, and Wayne McAndrew, General Vice-President, CFMEU Mining and Energy Division.

Former State Mine workers and their families are invited to attend. Entry would be by donation. Notification of attendance should be through the Mine's Facebook page, Lithgow State Mine Museum, or by contacting the museum on 02 6353 1513. *Ray Christison*

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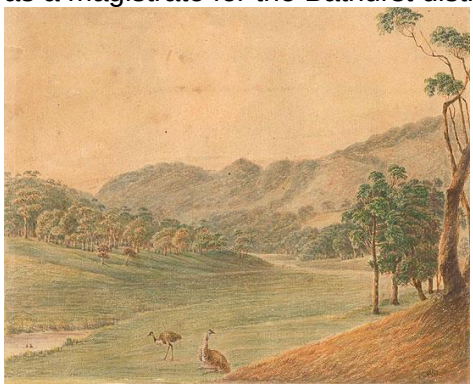
Sydmouth Valley Homestead

The Homestead was built in 1826 by Robert Lowe in the Sydmouth Valley through which William Cox constructed his road to Bathurst. Robert Lowe received the grant of 2,000 acres of land and the service of 20 convicts by Governor Macquarie in recognition of his services as a magistrate for the Bathurst district.



John Lewin's painting of the Valley

Sydmouth Valley homestead

Ann Webb purchased the property in 1871 for her youngest son, Thomas Bernard Webb, and the Webb family descendants have continued to occupy the property ever since.

The Lithgow & District Family History Society Inc has arranged for the current owners Kevin Webb and Lynne Woods to conduct a tour of inspection of the handmade brick homestead and the old world cottage garden on Saturday 11 October 2014, be followed by Devonshire Morning tea.

The tour group will meet at the Tarana Hotel at 9 a.m. and following the tour there is an option to return to the Tarana Hotel for lunch, at your own expense.

The cost of the tour and morning tea is $15 which must be paid before 5 October 2014 at Lithgow & District Family History Society Inc, Ewen Smith Memorial Hall, Cnr Tank & Donald Streets, Lithgow during the Resource Centre opening hours or by post to The Secretary, PO Box 516, Lithgow.

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Repairs and Restorations to Heritage Properties

Blue Mountains City Council with the aid of the NSW Heritage Division is offering funding to owners of heritage listed places to carry out sympathetic repairs or restorations. A total fund of approximately $20,000.00 may be shared amongst a number of small eligible projects.

Applications are invited from owners of individual heritage buildings or buildings within a Heritage Conservation Area or Period Housing Area. Priority will be given to the repair and restoration of stonework, particularly sandstone, and to conservation works for historic buildings within the Central Katoomba Urban Conservation Area. However, a range of other projects will also be considered.

Grants are offered on a dollar for dollar basis with the successful applicants and must be completed by April 2015. For full details download the Local Heritage Places Fund Guidelines and Application Form. From http://www.bmcc.nsw.gov.au/sustainableliving/bluemountainslocalheritage/bluemountainslocalheritageplacesfund

or contact Council on 02 4780 5740. On completion, email or post the applications to Council via the following contacts:

Email: council@bmcc.nsw.gov.au or Annalisse Bentley abentley@bmcc.nsw.gov.au

Post: Locked Bag 1005, Katoomba NSW 2780

Fax: 02 4780 5555

Applications close 5pm, Friday 26th September 2014.

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BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

Registered office: 1/19 Stypandra Place, Springwood 2777. (02) 4751 5834
Email: committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au or j.koperberg@bigpond.com
Website: www.bluemountainsherieteg.com.au **ABN**: 53 994 839 952

The organisation: Blue Mountains Association of Cultural & Heritage Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 after local historical and heritage societies and individuals recognised the need for the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the local government area (LGA) of Blue Mountains City Council. The constituency now embraces but is not limited to, the LGAs of Blue Mountains, Lithgow, Hawkesbury, Penrith and Mudgee. BMACHO membership includes historical and heritage groups, museums, commercial enterprises with an historical or heritage component in its core business, local government (local studies units, library collections) and a limited number of individual members by invitation such as but not necessarily academics. The objectives of the organisation are:

1. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage
2. To encourage and assist cultural heritage
3. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations.

One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

Affiliations: BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society and is affiliated with the Better Planning Network.

Publications: BMACHO's official newsletter ***Heritage*** is edited by Patsy Moppett. The annual refereed *Blue Mountains History Journal* is edited by Dr Peter Rickwood and occasional papers are published from time to time.

Membership: The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mt Tomah; Blue Mountains City Library; Blue Mountains Cultural Heritage Centre; Blue Mountain Education & Research Trust; Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc; Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute; Eskbank Rail Heritage Centre; Everglades Historic House & Gardens; Friends of Norman Lindsay Gallery; Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc; Hartley Valley District Progress Association; Hawesbury Historical Society Inc; Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc; Lithgow & District Family History Society Inc; Lithgow Mining Museum Inc; Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies; Lithgow Small Arms factory Museum Inc; Mt Victoria & District Historical Society Inc; Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine Historical Society Inc (including Turkish Bath Museum); Mudgee Historical Society Inc; National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Blue Mountains Branch; National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Lithgow Branch; Nepean District Historical Society Inc; Paragon Restaurant, Katoomba; Scenic World Blue Mountains Limited; Springwood & District Historical Society Inc; Springwood Historians Inc; Transport Signal Communication Museum Inc; The Darnell Collection P/L; Valley Heights Locomotive Depot and Museum, Woodford Academy Management Committee, Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd;
The following are individual members: Ray Christison, Associate Professor Ian Jack, Joan Kent, John Low OAM, Ian Milliss, Patsy Moppett, Professor Barrie Reynolds, Dr Peter Rickwood and Dr Peter Stanbury OAM.

Committee: The management committee for 2014-2015 (from July 2014) is: Ian Jack (vice president & acting president), Jan Koperberg (secretary/acting treasurer), Roy Bennett, Wendy Hawkes and Scott Pollock (web site), Patsy Moppett (***Heritage*** Newsletter editor), Dick Morony (public officer), Suzanne Smith, Richard Woolley (heritage trail co-ordinator).

Disclaimer: views and opinions expressed in Heritage originate from many sources and contributers. Every effort is taken to ensure accuracy of material. Content does not necessarily represent or reflect the views and opinions of BMACHO, its committee or its members. If errors are found feedback is most welcome.

Heritage

Newsletter of the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc

January-February 2015 *ISSUE 36*

ISSN 2203-4366

Flora in the Cemetery

It has been said that biodiversity lives where the dead people go, that a cemetery may be the last place you would think to look for something alive. Very often it is the vegetation that adds the charm and ambience, to the sense of peace and tranquillity we experience in a graveyard.

Many cemeteries are found in association with a church or chapel, a lawn cemetery and a columbarium or a crematorium. Many more are isolated entities, with difficulty of access and no longer in use.

St David's, Kurrajong Heights

Some cemeteries are elaborately landscaped with the botanical elements impacting upon the overall atmosphere and design, such as cemeteries in an urban setting. Other burial grounds are void of design, and run to natural landscape features of native vegetation in a remnant woodland or grassland setting.

Natural vegetation

Cemeteries are often life-saving refuges for many of the most endangered native plants and on occasions for entire ecosystems. Some cemeteries contain significant remnants or indications of the original native vegetation. This can be quite significant within an urban situation where development has covered up the majority of natural areas, or in rural areas where agriculture has disturbed the majority of the landscape through cropping and grazing. Cemeteries, along with stock reserves, road and rail reserves can harbour good quality woodland.

Many areas have been cleared for grazing, and only the understorey remains. This can be a very valuable factor in the maintenance of genetic diversity, in the preservation of the original species from when the country was settled. Although small and disjointed, the remnants may contain high species diversity, and could form the core of say a “Grassy White Box Woodlands” community. This community was found widely across the slopes and ranges of eastern Australia from QLD down to central Victoria. Agriculture has played a large part in the reduction of its extent to 0.01% of its former distribution.

Katoomba General Cemetery

Large expanses of intact White box (*Eucalyptus alba*) woodland are rare and any remnants are significant. They comprise a well spaced canopy of Eucalypts, few shrubs, but a diverse collection of ground-covering wild flowers and grasses, such as the native Yam Daisy *(Microseris scapigera),* which was once abundant aboriginal food. It is now only found in un-grazed woodlands. The White box community is usually found in a wider community associated with Yellow box and Blakely’s Red Gum.

Mowing of native grasses and groundcovers may be required less often than for exotic grasses, however access to the grave sites should be maintained in a safe condition. A balance must be achieved between the protection of the native plant community and the protection of the cemetery visitor.

As the species in a natural area may be a part of a well preserved example of a wider ecosystem, their value may also relate to the birds or other fauna they attract, and therefore add to the value of the cemetery.

Exotic vegetation

Early burial grounds often contain a variety of plantings which are no longer evident elsewhere. They also present an over view of historical vegetation, species often planted upon the burial plot of a loved one, planted within the cemetery grounds to represent family ties and traditions, or simply to beautify the hallowed grounds. The arrangement of burial areas, alignment of driveways and paths, avenues of trees and massing of shrubs add significance to the cemetery design.

The grounds can still illustrate a continuing tendency for the use of plantings that relate to the particular person buried there, a family property, the religious denomination, the land of birth and so on, and has always been a socially accepted way of dealing with bereavement. Exotic evergreen trees, bulbs, roses and other original grave or landscape plantings contribute to the cemetery’s visual and nostalgic quality. Plantings are often chosen for their

symbolic meanings, such as rosemary. Even for exotics therefore, cemeteries may provide a valuable resource as a botanical collection or as a source of unusual or rare specimens. Mowing and slashing of lawn grasses will be required regularly, to maintain visual amenity and safe passage throughout the graveyard. In lawn cemeteries and war graveyards of course, it is a given that mowing occurs.

Blackheath General

Wentworth Falls General

The wider landscape

Often, both formal landscaping and natural areas lend themselves to ease of maintenance, with decoration and enhancement limited to the burial mounds themselves, or the massing of shrubs and trees to achieve screening and protection.

A cemetery within an urban environment will also be required to address amenity from a visual perspective for the visitor. The care and maintenance of a cemetery that has regular visitation will have a higher community expectation in regard to the upkeep of the site, quite apart from the safety aspects of increased requirements for access and safety for family, visitors and tourists.

Mt Victoria General

Wentworth Falls General

A rural cemetery or isolated grave site will have less demand for the formal features of a burial ground, and the level of maintenance expectation is often formulated by the groups of families and local people who carry out the maintenance and care of the place.

A cemetery can often become a place of repose for visitors, to rest a while and reflect on life and family, which would entail the inclusion of park furniture in a landscaped setting. The placement of vegetation and furniture must be carried out around trails and pathways, driveways and other ornaments, commemorative walls and columbarium, lawn burial areas and chapels, and of course the grave markers and site signage. It really does become quite a complex site, especially within an urban setting.

Management should have regard for the possibility of the graveyard being a harbour for populations of rare or endangered species, botanical rarities both introduced and local, and

they can become a valuable resource for horticultural and botanical research and conservation.

Threats to integrity

Weeds are also found in cemeteries. With a weed being commonly defined as a plant growing somewhere where it is not wanted, the interpretation of what is a weed may vary from landscape to landscape. Many exotic plants have become weeds over time, becoming invasive, such as vines like *vinca major* and ivy, seeding shrubs like cotoneaster and suckering shrubs like some wattles, and trees like *robinia.*

Weed control is preferred to be via manual removal, use of selective herbicides and careful trimming and mowing.

Emu Plains General

The native understorey plants are extremely sensitive to disturbances such as grazing, ploughing and fertilizing, and if these disturbances occur, most native species are replaced by weeds, pasture legumes and exotic grasses, and in extreme cases only a few tough native species remain. Exclusion of livestock is imperative to limit the spread of weed seed and the compaction of soils and vegetation.

Roots of trees can threaten the stability of monuments, and the removal of suckers and seedlings may be required to reduce the possibility of further damage. Diseased branches and limbs require removal and periodic inspections carried out to monitor further damage, decay or intrusion. The type of soil and bedrock will impact upon this aspect of deterioration.

Vandalism is known to cause damage to grave markers and cemetery furniture, but it can also impact upon vegetation, through compaction and destruction, theft and fire.

Rabbits can undermine monuments, and allow other vermin and wildlife access to further exacerbate the situation. Their tendency is to dig under a solid object such as a log or in some cases, a grave marker. The type of vegetation will also provide dietary requirements, and rabbits tend to seek out exotic species, particularly tubers and bulbs in the winter season, creating uneven ground, erosion and soil accumulation against grave markers.

Bushfire risk can be exacerbated with the growth of vegetation, and therefore control of growth becomes a balance to retain the species diversity whilst at the same time enabling the protection of adjoining properties through control of bushfire risk and fuel reduction.

Even cemetery maintenance can be a threat, through misuse of machinery, slashing and the over enthusiastic use of clearing practices and herbicides.

Management

The Cemetery Conservation Management Plan has a large role to play in biodiversity conservation, to observe and record the vegetation within a graveyard area, and formulate measures for the preservation and conservation of the existing species.

Priorities for maintenance can be categorized into the most immediate or urgent work, through to necessary activities, and down to the desirable work which can be carried out subject to resources. This program would then be followed up by a monitoring program.

A number of measures can be incorporated to assist site managers in biodiversity conservation, including guidelines for:

- Fencing and stock exclusion
- Seed collection
- Survey and monitoring
- Regeneration
- Propagation and revegetation
- Maintaining tree cover
- Limit consideration of new species
- Mowing and slashing
- Signage
- Weed and sapling control
- Feral animal control
- Grave maintenance
- Consultation and cooperation with adjoining landholders
- Land tenure arrangements
- Driveway/pathway maintenance, including drainage

Blackheath General

Hartley General

Compromise

The conservation and management of cemeteries will often involve compromise. The need to conserve the cemetery as a place of historical, botanical and scientific significance should be balanced with the need for the provision of safe access and interpretation opportunities. Some of the areas where this will occur are:

- Mosses and lichens are vegetation, but suggest damp problems, adversely impacting upon the longevity of grave markers and their inscriptions;
- Rabbits help with vegetation control, but undermine graves and other infrastructure;
- Climatic changes will affect survival of some species, and efforts to retain some species may be in vain;
- Native grasses may be important to biodiversity, but long grass creates fire and safety risks
- Mature trees should be retained and preserved, but suckers need removal for stability of grave markers and other infrastructure;
- Cemetery management should be in secure hands, but this may limit access arrangements.

Emu Plains General

Mt Victoria General

Conclusion

The initial step undertaken in the preservation and conservation of vegetation in a cemetery is to record the species present. This may need to be undertaken on a number of occasions throughout the year to establish seasonal variations in species and their occurrence.

The existence of large or unusual trees or plants should be noted, along with the stories behind the use of particular species, if available. A site plan should be drawn up showing the location of pathways, structures, interesting monuments or plantings, graveyard furniture, and of course the grave markers themselves.

The assistance of your local Greening Australia, Conservation Volunteers or other Landcare or green group can often be enlisted to assist with identification, care and control.

The Conservation Management Plan can pull all this together in an orderly fashion, and ensure thorough documentation and conservation is carried out for the benefit of the community, families, tourists, visitors and property managers. *Patsy Moppett*

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Food for thought ..... Editor's note

Having touched on heritage listing in a previous issue of *Heritage*, it is worth considering further when a heritage listing may be too hastily applied.
Industrial heritage, like any heritage sites, are an important part of our built environment and landscape. They provide tangible and intangible links to our past and can have great potential to play significant roles in the future of our towns and rural environments.
Industrial remains can include dramatic buildings, landscapes and precincts which can give character to our environments. If adaptive reuse is an option for the place, it can contribute to the building of social and cultural capital, environmental sustainability and urban regeneration.

The problem for small isolated rural communities is that of where are the investors (both government and private sector) who will invest in reuse projects for large scale industrial sites? Opportunities for reuse of these sites is hampered as industrial practices and areas continue to change.
No one would deny that the remains of industrial complexes demonstrate industrial cultures of historical, technological, social, architectural or scientific value. They link the present world to the work of the past, recalling the industrial processes and social structures and the work of those who laboured in such places. Industrial sites may be held dear by the community in which they are located, or dismissed as unsightly signs of dilapidation and decay. Their history and significance can continue to be recorded on an inventory sheet indefinitely.
Industrial activities and processes undergo constant change and development, so the history of industrial sites is often one of continual change and adaptation. Changes in products and technology mean that it is not easy to keep using purpose built industrial places for their original function. Adaptive reuse of places that have been heritage listed through Burra Charter principles could convert a site to another use. Its reuse can provide understanding and interpretation of the history of the place, and provide another layer in its history.
It is not always possible to find a long term reuse that is financially viable and appropriate to the heritage context, when an industrial site is heritage listed. Abandoned (if they are really abandoned) or even simply vacant buildings are subject to decay and vandalism, and can be subject to contamination, outdated infrastructure and regional isolation. All of which contribute to discourage investors. Such conditions will even preclude demolition on economic grounds. Vacant, unused industrial sites, particularly in the vicinity of urban areas, will contribute to loss in property value, loss of jobs and tax revenue, a threat to public health and the environment, and potential liability for contamination issues. We should not be too

quick to apply a heritage listing to an industrial site when its industrial purpose is simply in a state of flux.
To propose listing of an industrial site may assume that the industrial site is abandoned with no potential for rejuvenation as an industry. However, the landowner may have long term plans as yet not revealed.
Heritage places in rural areas and urban redevelopment zones are at the greatest risk, and when private owners are faced with heritage listing and the associated costs the reactions are frequently negative, which often explains unauthorized building demolitions. One of the most problematic reasons for loss of heritage also arises from demolition by neglect in rural areas and communities.

Council would always like to see a building use recommenced with an employment generating facility to aid with growth and development of the town, in conjunction with associated existing and proposed freight/infrastructure development. To add a heritage "burden" to a site may be inappropriate on an economic basis, the economics of the town being significant to its future.
Council may not be in a position to offer incentives to support investment on a heritage basis at the level of support which would be required to redevelop the site. It is still potentially a functional site, capable of update and rejuvenation as a fully operational industrial site. To heritage list a building or site may suggest that it has no further purpose in its original function, and Council should not pre-empt abandonment through heritage listing of the site. Although listing is not specifically advised against, and heritage listing is often seen as the preferred way to preserve industrial heritage, we should not be too hasty in establishing a listing due to the economic implications. Economic incentives may be more appropriate in order to allow the industry to continue.
Having said that, an inventory sheet should still be maintained for the site, and be revised with accurate information to reflect the changing site circumstances. It should be regularly reviewed and updated, with the history of the construction and occupation of the site being further investigated. *Patsy Moppett*

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The Adaptive Reuse of Historic Industrial Buildings, Sophie Cantell, 2005
Adaptive Reuse of Industrial Heritage: Opportunities & Challenges, Heritage Council of Victoria 2013
Adaptive Reuse of Heritage Places Policy, NSW Office of Environment & Heritage 2012
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Santa Maria Convent, Lady of the Nativity Church, Lawson

This site on the Great Western Highway at Lawson comprises a complex of buildings with a significant history of a multitude of uses over time. Currently the site includes the Our Lady of the Nativity Church, school and presbytery, and the Santa Maria Convent and

Conference Centre. It is set in attractive gardens off the edge of the highway, still retaining an ability to be a place of peace and solitude.

Our Lady of the Nativity Church

School

"Dalmeny" cottage was erected in the late 1880s by John & Hannah Wheeler. In 1919 it was loaned by the Wheelers as a home to the Red Cross Society for military nurses and influenza victims. In 1920 it was bought by the firm Farmer & Co as a holiday centre for its female shop assistants until 1928. The new owner, Richard Meagher, gave the building to the Good Samaritan Sisters in 1929.

The Good Samaritan Sisters had arrived in Lawson in 1919, residing at "Cabra" a dwelling on the highway near Ridge Street, adjacent to the original Our Lady Help of Christians Church (Lawson Catholic Church). Upon the establishment of the new Church of Our Lady of the Nativity on its current site, the sisters were asked to staff a school and commence a girls' boarding school at "Dalmeny". The Ridge Street weatherboard church was dismantled and transferred behind "Dalmeny" and the new church, and used as a library for the school. The boarding school was named "Santa Maria" Good Samaritan Convent Boarding School for Girls, with accommodation on the western side of 'Dalmeny". The boarding school operated for 42 years, closing its doors in 1981. The school premises was then used for school and youth camps, retreats and prayer groups. Holiday accommodation for disabled persons commenced in 1983 in the convent, a new wing was added in 1995, and continued until 2002. A sensory garden was established on the slopes behind the convent, giving inmates opportunity for peace and solitude. The Santa Maria Conference Centre opened in 2003 and continues today, with a number of fibro and portable shed buildings associated with the centre included in the complex. A small chapel also now graces the rear garden. The Santa Maria Convent is an important Victorian Regency style residence which survives in a fairly intact condition with some of its original gardens.

The stone cottage known as "Durham Lodge" was built about 1900 as a country retreat, "Yarrowee", by the prominent journalist Watkin Wynne. Wynne revived the ailing Sydney Daily Telegraph in 1879, continuing his association with the paper until his death in 1921. He was also a prominent Freemason. He sold the premises to Richard Meagher in 1920, who renamed the residence. Meagher had bought the premises as a retreat for his sick wife. After her death in 1924, there being no children of the marriage and as a memorial to his wife, he gave "Durham Lodge" to the Catholic Church, which became the presbytery. The Presbytery is a substantial Federation bungalow style residence in a prominent position.

Durham Lodge

Dalmeny

School bell & sensory garden gate

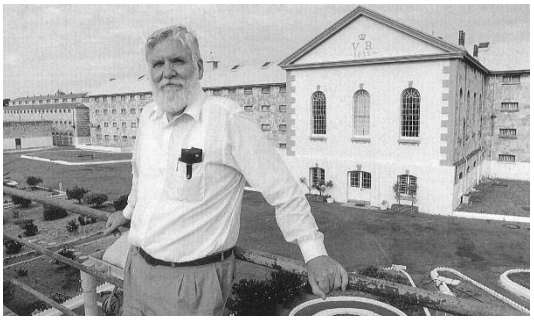
Quiet corner

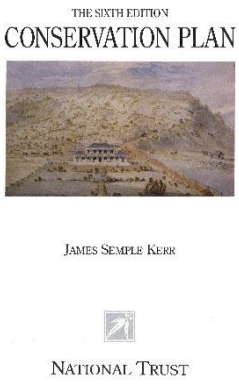
The new brick Our Lady of the Nativity Church was built by Meagher in 1929, and he also financed the move of the Ridge Street church to the site. The old Our Lady of the Nativity Church became a parish school, with boarders until 1979. The new Our Lady of the Nativity Church is a fine Inter-War Catholic Church featuring sandstone detailing and statuary in the north gable. A brick annex was built off the side of the church building in 1965, incorporating offices, sacristy, meeting room and amenities.
Patsy Moppett

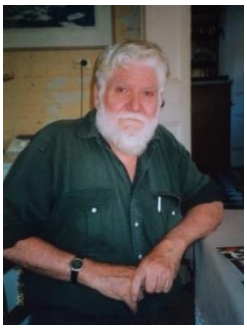
References:
Sharing a Journey, 75th Anniversary, compiled by Allan Walsh & Companions, 2004
Santa Maria Convent and Durham Lodge, NSW Heritage Inventory Sheet

James Semple Kerr (6 July 1932 - 15 October 2014)

The Sydney Morning Herald stated on 22 November 2014 that James Semple Kerr was "an innovative conservator who strove to connect the past with the future…….. [his] legacy is worldwide".
James Semple Kerr passed away on 15 October 2014. He was an architectural historian and heritage practitioner in Australia, who was an early member of Australia ICOMOS, being a major contributor to the drafting of the Burra Charter, and developing standards for conservation practice such as conservation management plans. His publication *Conservation Plan: A guide to the preparation of conservation plans for places of European cultural significance (1982)* has guided building conservation in Australia and around the world. The SMH added that *Conservation Plan* "…..showed a generation of people how to read the fabric of historic buildings, and to use that understanding to inform decisions not only about what was important, but how best to change it….". The







publication was in its 13th Edition at his death.
His works were influenced by his studies in London with architectural historian Sir Nikolaus Pevsner, and by his wife, historian Joan Kerr (nee Lyndon), an expert in her own right. He was an established writer and publisher, photographer and draftsman. He documented the many sites that he studied in intricate detail, and had a wicked and irreverent sense of humour.

The Conservation Plan

"At its simplest a conservation plan is a document which sets out what is significant in a place and, consequently, what policies are appropriate to enable that significance to be retained in its future use and development. For most places it deals with the management of change."
The document sets out how to go about understanding the heritage place, what is cultural significance and how to gather and document evidence, how to co-ordinate and analyze that evidence, and assessing cultural significance. It sets out the information needed for policy development, actually developing the policy, its flexibility and use, and maintenance and supervision of the heritage works.
The Glossary deals with issues and questions that have been brought up by readers over recent years, and is intended to aid clear thinking. These issues include agreements, boundaries, confidentiality, charters, copyright, curtilage, fabric, facades, finding, gardens and landscapes, maintenance and preservation, reconstruction and restoration, setting and vulnerability.
In the Appendices Kerr documents detail relating to several projects in which he was involved such as Goulburn Correctional Centre, Sydney Opera House and Sydney Observatory.

Legacy

In addition to *Conservation Plan* his final legacy was to catalogue both his and his wife's archives as an important record of Australian heritage and a period of creative innovation in heritage thinking.

Patsy Moppett

References:
Conservation Plan, James Semple Kerr 1982
Wikipedia
SMH 22 November 2014

The Technical Side

Storm damage and repair

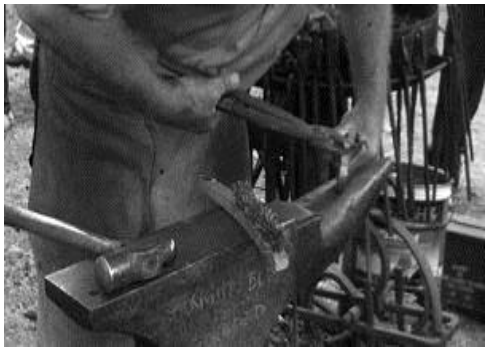
Every year natural disasters such as storms, earthquakes and other extreme weather conditions cause extensive and costly damage to historic buildings and structures, landscapes and places of heritage significance. Too often the urgency to repair such

damage due to public health and safety leads to further loss of building materials, roofs and other architectural features through removal of material and replacement with inappropriate materials.
Conservation of heritage places under the Burra Charter is generally a process of caring for heritage properties through maintenance, preservation, restoration, reconstruction or adaptation. Although approaches can vary the overall aim is to protect the heritage values of the property.
The Burra Charter states that it is acceptable conservation methodology and reconstruction is appropriate "where a place is incomplete through damage or alteration and where it is necessary for its survival, or where it reveals the cultural significance of the place as a whole".
When storm damaged materials are replaced with dissimilar materials, it can often decrease some of the physical heritage significance of a place. Reconstruction projects are encouraged to reproduce the materials that existed in the building or place.
Heritage professionals and experts will always encourage the retention of original fabric of a place and replacement with similar materials in order to complement and enhance the structure as a whole.
It is imperative during and after a storm to limit damage to interiors and to secure the building from loss of important architectural elements or features, with damaged elements being collected for repair or reuse.

Earthquake damage

Christchurch Cathedral

Although experts will call for repair of storm damage as quickly as possible following storm damage, this is not always possible. Interim protection and security measures are usually required to prevent further loss and/or damage, often whilst insurance claims are processed, Council applications made, funding sources, tradesman sought etc.



Blacksmithing

Dry stone walling

It is usually recommended to place the works into the hands of a professional, obtaining a written scope of works and schedule of conservation measures before taking on a

contract. A Conservation Management Plan may already existing under which emergency works can be carried out. Alternatively a new CMP may be required. Opportunities for recovery funding should be investigated.
General principles include:

- Wherever possible the original materials/elements should be retained, repaired and reused.
- Where new material is necessary, the replacement materials should match the original as close as possible.
- Replacement of traditional details should be of a typical or sympathetic form, suited to the original period of construction.
- Where entire replacement is required, an attempt should be made to retain samples of the original fabric within the structure of the place.
- Seek expert advice in the preparation of documentation and assessment.
- An integral part of the repair of traditional structures is the sourcing of traditional trades, techniques and skills.
- Repair should be carried out in a manner that does not detract from the cultural significance of the place.
- Ensure ongoing monitoring and maintenance after repair.
- Establish a list of emergency contacts.

Patsy Moppett

References:
Guide to Storm Damage and the Philosophy of Repair 1997, National Trust of Australia

Community events & updates

State Heritage Register

The Heritage Council of NSW has advertised its intention to consider whether to recommend the places below for listing on the State Heritage Register in acknowledgement of their heritage significance.

Cox's Road (1814-15) and Early Deviations (1820s), including the following six separate precincts:

- Mount York, Cox's Pass Precinct, Mount York
- Sodwalls, Fish River Descent Precinct, Sodwalls
- Woodford, Old Bathurst Road Precinct, Woodford
- Linden Precinct, Linden
- Woodford with inappropriate, Appian Way Precinct, Woodford
- Clarence Hilly Range, Mount Blaxland Precinct, Hartley

Mt York/Woodford/Mt Blaxland Precincts

Written submissions on the abovementioned listing are invited from any interested person by 31 January 2015. Enquiries should be directed to Dr Siobhan Lavelle OAM, on (02) 9873 8546 or siobhan.lavelle@environment.nsw.gov.au

Paragon Café, Katoomba

Written submissions on the abovementioned listing are invited from any interested person by 31 January 2015. Enquiries should be directed to Gary Escourt, on (02) 9873 6546 or gary.escourt@environment.nsw.gov.au

Further details on the nominated places can be viewed at:
www.environment.nsw.gov.au/heritageapp/NominationsofStateHeritageRegister.aspx
Please direct submissions to: Heritage Council of NSW, Locked Bag 5020, PARRAMATTA NSW 2124 or heritage@heritage.nsw.gov.au

Succession Planning

Opportunities exist for organisations to find out the many ways to make their job easier and more effective and ensure their volunteers get the most out of their roles. So why does succession planning seem so hard? Why do we still fail to fill positions on committees and a handful of “old faithfuls” carry on the work of many.

On 13 May 2013 the Minister for Citizenship and Communities, The Hon. Victor Dominello MP, released a Statement of seven Principles for the Recognition of Volunteers. Organisations that adopted the principles would be sending out a clear signal to current and potential volunteers that their contributions are valued. (see www.volunteering.nsw.gov.au). Statistics show that 95% of Australia’s not for profit organisations are run by volunteers. The NSW Department of Environment and Community’s web site provides much information in regard to working with corporations, supporting volunteers, running an organisation, and promoting an organisation.
BMACHO invites you to a **Succession Planning Workshop** on Saturday 21 February 2015 from 2pm to 4.30pm ta the City of Greater Lithgow Mining Museum, State Mine Gully Road (off Atkinson Street), Lithgow.
The speakers will be:

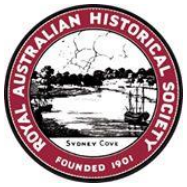
- Emeritus Professor David Carment AM, Past President of the Royal Australian Historical Society, current RAHS Councillor and author.

- Ray Christison, President of the City of Greater Lithgow Mining Museum, Consultant in Cultural Heritage Management and author.

Both David and Ray will speak about their failures and successes and there will be question time after each speaker.
Other attendees include Lynn Collins, Museums and Galleries Advisor for Blue Mountains and Lithgow City Councils, and Tamara Lavrencic, a Museums & Galleries of NSW senior staff member.
Up to three (3) members are invited to attend from each society/organisation/museum.
Please RSVP, for catering purposes by 21 January 2015, to Jan Koperberg (02) 4751 5834 or by emailing committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au or j.koperberg@bigpond.com

RAHS, Western Crossings Committee

Dr Anne-Maree Whitacker, Chair of the Western Crossings Committee of the Royal Australian Historical Society, made a presentation to their Committee on 24 November 2014 in regard to the completion of works by the Committee to date.



She advised that the Committee was established by the RAHS in 2010 at the suggestion of then President Dr R Ian Jack, to bring together everyone planning activities for 2013-2015 to mark the bicentenaries of Blaxland, Lawson & Wentworth's "first" crossing of the Blue Mountains, George Evans' survey of a western route, William Cox's western road and the founding of Bathurst.
The Committee was not set up to organize events or even to direct the activities of groups and councils. Its primary role was to facilitate networking and linkages and in this it was extremely successful.
"The exchange of information at Western Crossings meetings enabled groups to plan complementary rather than clashing activities. This RAHS role was publically acknowledged on many occasions including the bicentenary launch by the Governor at Echo Point in February 2013 and the civic event at Mount York in May 2013. The Bicentenary website home page is introduced by a message from the RAHS President – http://www.hyperhub.com.au/forto/Crossings_BiCentenary/ "
A grant of $80,000 was achieved which the RAHS partly distributed to community events and partly committed to RAHS legacy projects.
"These RAHS legacy projects were:

- Button badges http://www.rahs.org.au/western-crossings/community-initiatives/
  14,000 badges distributed to schools in Blue Mountains and Emu Plains
- Frank Walker Western Crossings Website http://www.rahs.org.au/western-crossings/
  300 historic photos and six rare publications from RAHS library collection made readily available on the internet, establishing a precedent for further digitisation
- Monument Restoration http://www.rahs.org.au/western-crossings/monuments/
  Four historical monuments in Penrith and Blue Mountains LGAs (at South Creek, Glenbrook, Springwood and Blackheath) restored by qualified heritage stonemasons
- *History* magazine special edition http://www.rahs.org.au/western-crossings/publications/
  Reports on Bicentenary events and funded projects in full colour souvenir issue (including message from Premier)

The Western Crossings Committee built up a list of nearly 150 email contacts who were notified of both meetings and news between meetings.

The networking at Western Crossings meetings also benefited the RAHS when it came to organising the 2013 conference in Katoomba. Welcome to Country, conference satchels, the Friday welcome function, courtesy bus, raffle prizes, walking tours, grants presentation and much more were the outcome of the close linkages made with local groups, businesses and Blue Mountains MP Roza Sage. ”

“The 2013 Blue Mountains Lithgow and Oberon Tourism Awards included an Award of Excellence to the RAHS for its contribution to the Blue Mountains Crossing Bicentenary. Individual awards were also made to RAHS Councillors Emeritus Professor David Carment AM, Dr Anne-Maree Whitaker and Dr Siobhan Lavelle OAM.

The 2014 National Trust Heritage Awards recognised the RAHS Western Crossings Project, which had grown out of the Western Crossings Committee and been funded by the resulting Premier’s grant, as the winner of the Education and Interpretation, Community/Individual category. This was the first time the RAHS has won a National Trust Heritage Award which represents recognition of excellence in the heritage sector throughout New South Wales.

The Western Crossings Committee has greatly enhanced the reputation of the RAHS in regional NSW and within the heritage sector for virtually no cost and no imposition on staff. Thanks are due to the voluntary work of councillors past and present for this extraordinary and highly commendable achievement.” *Patsy Moppett*

Adapted from a presentation to the RAHS Committee on 24 November 2014 by Dr Anne-Maree Whitaker

National Trust Heritage Festival 2015

The National Trust Heritage Festival will take place from 11 April to 26 May 2015, celebrating 35 years as the longest running community festival.

The theme for 2015 is “Conflict and Passion” – those having shaped who we are and helped a new multicultural nation evolve. From our indigenous history to the centenary of WW1, the 2015 National Trust Heritage Festival will explore the human side of war, rebellion, sacrifice and endurance, and the extraordinary stories of courage and compassion that come from the horror of conflict and strife.

It is free to register a heritage related event for the festival and this can be done on-line or by contacting the National Trust. The printed guide will be distributed to libraries, councils, tourist information centres, event participants and to all NT members. The Festival provides free publicity to encourage people to attend the events and to give greater exposure to participants. See www.nationaltrust.org.au

Lithgow Local Studies are planning an event and are currently seeking speakers. Contact Kay Shirt at the Lithgow Library Learning Centre, Ph: 02 6352 9100.

Enlightened Lithgow

In the year just past, the Council of the City of Lithgow wrote some six hundred heritage properties into the heritage listings in its Local Environment Plan. This volume of listings provides a measure of the extraordinary early European and Aboriginal heritage evident in close proximity to this city of some ten thousand people that is located less than two hours drive from Sydney.

Many would recall Lithgow as it's old self, a mining and manufacturing city famous for producing Australia's first iron and steel (much of the Sydney harbour bridge is made of Lithgow steel) Lithgow pottery, heaps of coal . Today it's a far cry from those days, whilst still heavily reliant on mining in the immediate area, the town is now a regular winner of Tidy Town awards, the air is 'Blue Mountains pure' and the town is progressively seeing its future as a tourist mecca. One element of its tourism potential is its wealth of early European heritage properties. Unlike Sydney, where subsequent development saw the destruction of much of the old, the inns and rural houses that were built in Lithgow and the Hartley Valley immediately to its south saw no destructive development and survive to this day.
The most notable early buildings in the area are Moyne Farm 1822, Collits Inn 1823 and Cooerwull House built by Andrew Brown on his 1824 grant of land in the Lithgow Valley.

Moyne

Collits Inn

These buildings are the first, second and third oldest buildings built west of the mountains. In addition, the area boasts some of the best remnant elements of Cox's 1814 road through the Hartley Valley and a wealth of road works culverts, bridge work and a viaduct dating from Mitchell's 1832 upgrade of the Bathurst Road. It also has remnants of three convict stockades, several graveyards tucked away in isolated settings with headstones dating back to the 1830s, the boundary markers of some of the earliest land grants west of the mountains and a host of buildings dating from 1831 that served as inns servicing travellers on Mitchell's Bathurst Road. On top of all this wealth of pre 1850 heritage there is a potpourri of industrial and agricultural built heritage that ranges from Victorian farm buildings to abandoned early mining and industrial machinery.
Whilst Moyne farm and its private graveyard are not accessible to the public, Collits Inn in Hartley Vale is again open to the public, being operated as a restaurant. Cooerwull House, still home to the descendants of its builder, is to be open to the public this year for one day during the 2015 National Trust Heritage Festival.

Graves at Moyne

Cooerwull House c.1880

This jewel in the Lithgow heritage treasury is a most remarkable series of sandstone buildings, the erection of which commenced in 1824. The builder Andrew Brown, a Scottish immigrant, settled in the Lithgow valley on a grant of 200 acres that today is part of West Lithgow. His original simple cottage, built in the 1820's, remains as the western rooms of Cooerwull House, the home of impressive proportions he created with an extension he undertook in the 1830's. Following completion of the house Brown went on to build six other stone buildings to complete the cluster of pre 1850 buildings that we see today. A separate kitchen building, a barn, stables, shearing shed, equipment storage shed, all of a consistent architectural style, creates a stunning building cluster. The remains of a garden bathhouse, fed by a continuous flow of water channelled from nearby Farmers Creek and a Victorian heated glasshouse add further interest to the site. The buildings' original shingles, over-laid with corrugated iron more than a century ago, the tight square cut flagging of courtyards and items of Victorian farm equipment stored in the sheds are just added detail that make access to this set of extraordinary buildings an inspiring heritage experience.
For those interested in joining the Lithgow branch of the National Trust for an opportunity to inspect these buildings and to hear commentary by Dr Ian Jack, who has a deep knowledge of Brown and his accomplishments, call 1300 760 276 to book your attendance. The open day will be held on Saturday 18th April commencing at 10 am.

Ramsay Moodie, Honorary Treasurer, National Trust Lithgow Branch

Former Station Master's Residence, Lawson

An update with regard to this premises – it has been painted!!! BMACHO Secretary,Jan Koperberg, reports that further works have been carried out on this building. The building was painted with a grey undercoat and then the finishing colour of a red/orange colour. The lean-to on the side has been repaired, the windows have been boarded up and there is a concrete path at the back of the building (facing Loftus Street). A security guard mans the premises, and was very interested in Jan's information on the history of the building when she took the following photos. He found it hard to believe the building was built in 1896! There are a number of groups interested in using the building as their home base and the railway authority will be advised of these.

Lawson residence November 29, 2014

Further advice now received says that the cottage has been integrated into the Lawson Depot complex as part of its future operations; the cottage cannot be opened up to the general public as it is not currently habitable together with the operational nature of the Depot. The cottage has, however, had an external makeover (painting, roof tiling) to make the structure safe, and a general makeover.
Sydney Trains will be carrying out an assessment to determine the building condition. It is anticipated that a contractor will be engaged for this purpose for Lawson (and other locations) during February 2015, to be completed by mid to late 2015.

Whether or not the building could be used for adaptive re-use will depend upon what further works are required, together with the costs of those works and any restrictions from heritage and Depot activities. *Jan Koperberg*

NSW, History Week 2015

History Week will be celebrated this year from 5-13 September, with a theme of *"War, Nationalism and Identity"*.

History Week was initiated by the History Council of NSW in 1997 to showcase the rich, diverse history being produced by organisations and individuals across the state. With over 100 events across NSW History Week is about celebrating the best in community and professional history, highlighting its role in our cultural life and inviting people to get involved.

The History Council advises that it is often argued that the Australian was born of war, on the slopes of Gallipoli to be precise. But historians have also argued that the cost of the war was so great that the country was left internally divided, a generation of men was lost on the battlefields of the Western Front and the economy was left shattered. By 1919 Australia was a broken nation.

The Second World War was then seen as a nation building exercise, especially in the dark days of late 1941, early 1942, when invasion seemed imminent and political leaders argued that Australia's capacity for resistance would be a measure of the strength of nationhood. But World War II proved less costly both in economic and human terms, and this time the country was not left divided by sectarian or political issues. In 1945 Australia was better prepared for growth and prosperity than at any time in its history.

How then does war shape ideas of nation and history? Is baptism on the battlefield a prerequisite of nationhood and a sense of national identity? What are the roles of ideas and political movements in creating and shaping nation states? In 2015 the theme of History Week will focus on the history of nation building, nationalism and national identity as the products of both peaceful and violent processes, focusing on generals and politicians, constitution makers and revolutionaries.

It should be noted that in order to host events under the History Week banner your organisation must be a member of the History Council of NSW. For further information contact www.historycouncilnsw.org.au

Engineering Feat, Katoomba – the Bleichert Ropeway

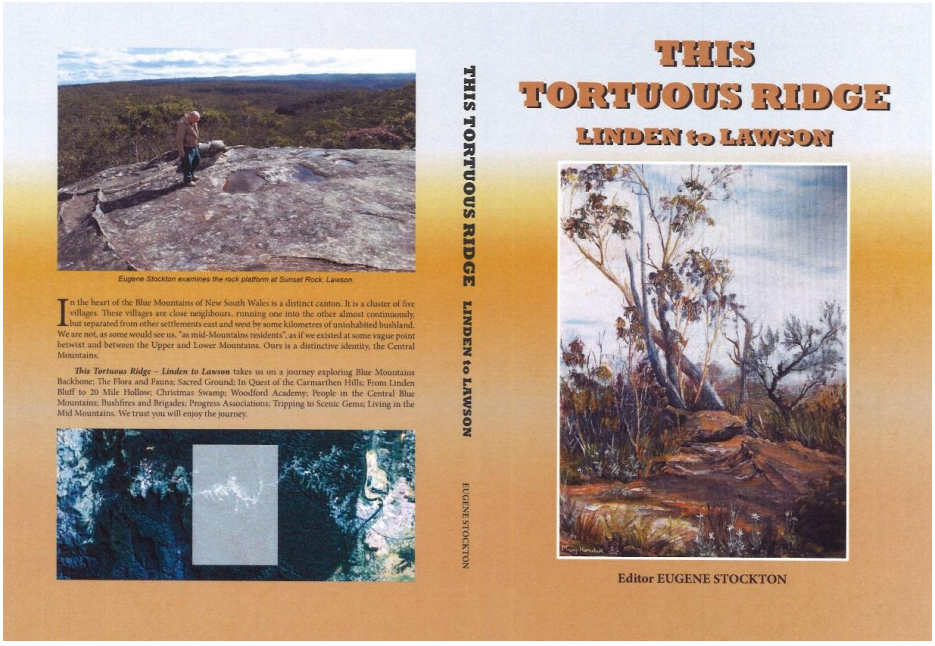
In 1885 an aerial ropeway was constructed to transport mined oil shale across the Jamison Valley. It collapsed after only six months.

Earlier this year the Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute, UNSW, Scenic World, NPWS and experienced bushwalkers conducted a field survey of the ropeway's remaining heritage items in the valley.

The Institute invite you to attend Scenic World, 1 Violet Street, Katoomba on Thursday 12 February 2015 from 5-7pm, to learn about this fascinating and hidden history of Katoomba. They now have a complete and accurate record of what remains from the ropeway, and have produced a report highlighting its cultural significance and recommendations for its conservation. They have also produced a computer simulation of the ropeway to illustrate its operation and how it failed.
Register by contacting Annabel Murray at a.murray@bmwhi.org.au RSVP by 2 February 2015.

Book Review: This Tortuous Ridge – Linden to Lawson

This book takes us on a journey through a cluster of five villages along the Blue Mountains ridge. The villages are close neighbours, running one into the other almost continuously, but separated from other settlements to the east and west by uninhabited bushland. Locals know it as the Central Blue Mountains, between the Upper and Lower regions.
Skillfully edited by Eugene Stockton, the book was launched by the Blue Mountain Education and Research Trust in November 2014, introduced by Grace Karskens, author of *The Colony – A History of Early Sydney.*
The book tells us that the earliest visitor to the region was William Dawes in 1789 when he reached the Lawson ridge, and gives an overview of the geological formations across the Blue Mountains, showing a much weathered landscape.
Gil Jones then takes us through the topography examining bedrock, the dissected sandstone plateau that stretches north from the Great Western Highway, and places where the rock profile can be readily seen.
Chris Whiteman then hones in on the flora of the Central Blue Mountains, highlighting detail that for early travellers may have gone unnoticed. The area contains many rare and endangered plant species, although botanists have been recording these since early settlement. He examines the various ecological communities including heath, cliff face, swamp and lagoon, woodland and communities, open forest, rainforest, riparian and urban, illustrating them with a number of clear and colourful photographs.
Chris goes on to discover the fauna of the area and those most common in each of the same ecological communities. Once again the section is clearly illustrated with a variety of birds and other creatures, and concludes with advice for maintaining a wildlife friendly backyard.
Eugene Stockton then elaborates on the Aboriginal domain, and presents evidence of Aboriginal occupation of the area through rock engravings and stone arrangements.
John Low takes us along with William Dawes and that journey in 1789, when he ventured west of the Nepean River only to be stopped in the vicinity of the Lawson ridge. From Dawes own map compiled in 1891 and other sources, Low gives an account of Dawes' experience, the conditions and landscape features that they experienced, those who travelled with him, and the early routes explored at the time.
John Merriman then takes us along the early western road through the Central area as it was from Cox's construction in 1814 to today in 2014. This explores the significant Woodford and Linden sections of the road where features of construction can still be seen. He covers the works deviations by Mitchell and Bull, looking at Caley's Repulse, convict retaining walls at Woodford, and the various changes in the construction and route of the highway as we see it today.



Eugene Stockton leads us back to ground zero with a walk through Christmas Swamp! This was one of several hanging swamps in the vicinity of Lawson, and Eugene details a number of inns and buildings in the vicinity and where the swamp was mentioned in literature over time.

Elizabeth Burgess and Ken Goodlet describe the history of Woodford Academy and its location along the 1830s road, and through to its significance and use today.

Ken Goodlet then gives us an overview of some of the people of the Central Blue Mountains. He commences with the Aboriginal custodians and the first colonial settlers, and then the tourists of the late 19th and early 20th century, and through to the growth of commuter travel and population growth. He looks at the cultural buildings and homes, memorials, churches and meeting places, and heritage streetscapes and landscapes.

Ken Goodlet goes on to examine the brigades and bushfires of the area, and the fire threat that is a constant for residents of the Central and indeed the wider Blue Mountains. Ken also looks at the various community associations and progress associations along the way who have been so active in achieving recognition for heritage places and people such as the Hazelbrook murals and the naming of the highway bridges.

Julie Stockton treats us to an account of the "scenic gems" to be found in the Central Blue Mountains, such as water falls and walks in the mountain air, and the way that early settlers appreciated the landscape in pools and rainforest trails and other visitor attractions designed for a healthy lifestyle.

Jim Tulip sums up our experiences with a look at living in the Mid Mountains today, and the various experiences of memory and cultural appreciation available to residents.

A list of local amenities is included at the end of the text including bushwalks, churches, community groups, libraries, schools, parks and sporting clubs.

The book presents a very thorough and complete review of the locality, in "living colour", varying from overviews to details of every aspect imaginable. The contributors have painted a picture of a place that is environmentally and culturally special to those who reside there and a place which can provide some very special experiences to both travellers and visitors.

Patsy Moppett

Some glowing comments on the publication have been offered by others as follows:

"The Central Blue Mountains can be our point of reference, but the fabric of which it is a part is as rich and intricate as our curiosity and imagination dare to unravel". *Gil Jones*

"The achievement of a modern stylish and well landscaped four lane highway (The Great Western Highway) is a triumph. It is an event of Australian significance and importance. The road itself tells a story worth the telling". *Jim Tulip*

"Nevertheless, the fact that there have not been and are unlikely to be large towns in the Central Mountains and they are pockets of settlement linked along a narrow ridge means that a discrete sense of identity exists in each town, even in the case of Hazelbrook and Woodford, which have shared so many similar features and facilities and have always been a continuum on the narrow ridge*".* *Ken Goodlet*

The title of this handsome, multi-authored (10 of them), book is attractive but is it accurate? The Editor himself wrote in the Introduction "In the heart of the Blue Mountains of New South Wales is a distinct canton. It is a cluster of five villages." So that means Bullaburra - Lawson - Hazelbrook - Woodford - Linden hence the title should have been Linden to Bullaburra. Dare one suggest that this might have been intentional so as to promote the 'home' village of Lawson? Poor Bullaburra missed out again by being omitted from the collection of photographs of village signs, and indeed it seems to have been disregarded by most of the authors!

Whether this section of the mountains be called the Central Blue Mountains or more commonly the "Mid Blue Mountains" or its contraction the "Mid Mountains" was raised at the launch of this book on 30 November 2014 with the show of hands favouring the use of 'Central' - as does the editor. But there is a considerable amount of published material, and formal names of organisations to overcome to get that nomenclature change accepted.

The publication brings together summaries of previously published material and that these accounts are informative and clear.

Chris Whiteman contributed on the flora and fauna of the area, respectively. His account of the flora gives information that is well presented and his use of the commonly adopted Specht system of plant communities is clear and informative for the non-specialist. The many photographs will be welcomed by newcomers to the area but what a pity that there are so few photographs of the rare plants that are mentioned, and that the colour rendition of both *Grevillea sericea* and the 'Lawson Giant' is rather too mauve. Help from a botanist with proof reading would have been beneficial as there are several spelling and botanical nomenclature errors and the photograph labelled *Isopogon anethifolius* is actually of *Isopogon anemoniafolius*. The inclusion of the historical development of exotic plant gardens is interesting and completes this general account of the flora of the area.

An abbreviated account of his renowned archaeological history of the area has been written by Eugene Stockton, with Kelvin Knox as co-author, and in Chapter 7 Fr Stockton contributes a concise explanation of the swamp that led to the existence of Lawson. John Low has supplied background information on the 1789 Dawes expedition (Chapter 5) which is a most welcome addition to the literature on the Blue Mountains. Also pleasing to find is the comprehensive description of the road, its method of construction and the condition of its surface as felt by travellers that has been written by John Merriman (Chapter 6) and as a bonus he dispels the myths surrounding features at Bulls Camp. I did feel the need of a map to assist the reader to comprehend the locations of the several road realignments that have been made over the years.

About a quarter of this book is the work of Ken Goodlet who contributed Chapters 9 (People & Buildings), 10 (Bushfires & Brigades), 11 (Progress Associations) and co-authored Chapter 8 (Woodford Academy). That significant contribution is hardly surprising for his own extensive book on part of the area was published not so long ago (*Hazelbrook and Woodford*. *A story of two Blue Mountains towns 2006).* Ken manages to make a compelling read out of the data in the rather 'dry' census publications which has resulted in an informative overview of the development of each of the five villages; and yes Bullaburra does feature!

This new book abounds with excellent photographs but I do regret that the waterfalls on pp.32 & 38 are not identified although the latter seems to me to be Terrace Falls. The maps on pp.6, 9 & 17 are uncluttered and clear so surely the cartographer(s) should have been acknowledged? In a similar vein the majority of the many historic photographs are presented without stating where they might be found; although they will be out of copyright, and the collections are credited, it is preferable that this information be more immediate and clear as has been done elsewhere in the book. On p.117 it is stated that the illustration on p.64 is from "Mary Martindale's sketchbook" without the location of that obscure item being indicated yet it was expressly given by John Low not long ago in another publication (*The Martindale Family and the Sketchbook of Mary Elizabeth Martindale*, Blue Mountains Journal 2). The purpose of most illustrations is either stated or is obvious but the photograph on p.51 has neither a date nor a location - a nice image nonetheless!
Modern photographs of village buildings etc. are scattered through the book and are going to become historic snapshots of Lawson, Hazelbrook, Woodford and to a limited extent Linden. But Bullaburra missed out again!
In summary, this is a neat and well presented book that is a credit to the publishers. It has content that will be appreciated by the general public to whom it can be thoroughly recommended. Congratulations Eugene on producing another informative book and how appropriate that it was launched on your 80th birthday!!"

Adapted from comments by Peter C. Rickwood, Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc. & UNSW.

This Tortuous Ridge – Linden to Lawson is available from Blue Mountain Education and Research Trust @ $35.00 per copy plus postage. Orders to Allan Walsh allan.walsh@exemail.com

BMACHO Heritage Trail - Natural Disaster Recovery Grant

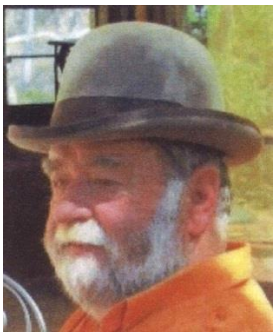
BMACHO has succeeded in obtaining funding for the proposed Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail project, thanks to the initiative of Secretary, Jan Koperberg!
BMACHO was one of the successful applicants for the Westpac Group Natural Disaster Recovery Grants. The grants were announced on 11 December 2014, to help fund 12 community projects, providing support and financial assistance to the Blue Mountains region. Recipients will use their funding to launch or expand programs designed to facilitate the social, economic and community recovery of disaster affected areas in the Blue Mountains. Westpac advises that recovery from a natural disaster (last summer's bushfires) takes a long time and they are proud to be able to fund the projects which they know are important to the Blue Mountains community.

Recipients include the Blue Mountains Cultural Centre, Catholic Care Social Services, Mt Victoria Public School P & C Association, Blackheath Area Neighbourhood Centre,

Springwood Neighbourhood Centre Cooperative LTD and the Holy Monastery of St George, to name a few.
BMACHO's grant of $9,000.00 will be used to help develop a brochure and website for the Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail, to promote the historical societies, cultural heritage organisations, museums, historic gardens and historic businesses in the Blue Mountains. Work on the project is well underway, but BMACHO cannot announce a launch date just yet due to membership losses on the Committee. *Jan Koperberg*

Richard James Woolley

The BMACHO membership sincerely regrets the passing of Committee Member Richard James Woolley, who passed away on 21 November 2014. Richard was the initiator of the proposed Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail and his enthusiasm for the project will be sorely missed.
The Committee's thoughts and prayers are with his family.



BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

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Website: www.bluemountainsherieteg.com.au **ABN**: 53 994 839 952

The organisation: Blue Mountains Association of Cultural & Heritage Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 after local historical and heritage societies and individuals recognised the need for the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the local government area (LGA) of Blue Mountains City Council. The constituency now embraces but is not limited to, the LGAs of Blue Mountains, Lithgow, Hawkesbury, Penrith and Mudgee. BMACHO membership includes historical and heritage groups, museums, commercial enterprises with an historical or heritage component in its core business, local government (local studies units, library collections) and a limited number of individual members by invitation such as but not necessarily academics. The objectives of the organisation are:

1. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage
2. To encourage and assist cultural heritage
3. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations.

One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

Affiliations: BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society and is affiliated with the Better Planning Network.

Publications: BMACHO's official newsletter ***Heritage*** is edited by Patsy Moppett. The annual refereed *Blue Mountains History Journal* is edited by Dr Peter Rickwood and occasional papers are published from time to time.

Membership: The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mt Tomah; Blue Mountains City Library; Blue Mountains Cultural Heritage Centre; Blue Mountain Education & Research Trust; Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc; Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute; Eskbank Rail Heritage Centre; Everglades Historic House & Gardens; Friends of Norman Lindsay Gallery; Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc; Hartley Valley District Progress Association; Hawesbury Historical Society Inc; Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc; Lithgow & District Family History Society Inc; Lithgow Mining Museum Inc; Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies; Lithgow Small Arms factory Museum Inc; Mt Victoria & District Historical Society Inc; Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine Historical Society Inc (including Turkish Bath Museum); Mudgee Historical Society Inc; National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Blue Mountains Branch; National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Lithgow Branch; Nepean District Historical Society Inc; Paragon Restaurant, Katoomba; Scenic World Blue Mountains Limited; Springwood & District Historical Society Inc; Springwood Historians Inc; Transport Signal Communication Museum Inc; The Darnell Collection P/L; Valley Heights Locomotive Depot and Museum, Woodford Academy Management Committee, Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd;
The following are individual members: Ray Christison, Associate Professor Ian Jack, Joan Kent, John Low OAM, Ian Milliss, Patsy Moppett, Professor Barrie Reynolds, Dr Peter Rickwood and Dr Peter Stanbury OAM.

Committee: The management committee for 2014-2015 (from July 2014) is: Ian Jack (vice president & acting president), Jan Koperberg (secretary/acting treasurer), Roy Bennett, Wendy Hawkes and Scott Pollock (web site), Patsy Moppett (***Heritage*** Newsletter editor), Dick Morony (public officer) and Suzanne Smith.

Disclaimer: views and opinions expressed in Heritage originate from many sources and contributers. Every effort is taken to ensure accuracy of material. Content does not necessarily represent or reflect the views and opinions of BMACHO, its committee or its members. If errors are found feedback is most welcome.

Heritage

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Some History of Bullaburra

Bullaburra was the last town to be developed in the Blue Mountains, linked to the establishment of the railway. It is located some 97km from Sydney, between Lawson and Wentworth Falls. It began as a tiny settlement consisting of only a few streets on the southern side of the rail line.

Minnatonka Falls

Although the single rail track through Bullaburra was opened in 1867, the station itself did not open at the site until 1924, when the station proper was built to service the land subdivision occurring at that time. Prior to this there was no formal stopping place for the railway at Bullaburra. It is a unique station site as it was financed by a real estate firm. Sydney property developer Arthur Rickard & Co developed a local land subdivision in the vicinity and financed NSWGR to erect a brick shelter shed with awnings, to enhance land values. The Department of Railways did not actually take ownership until 1947. The Dept of Main Roads had its own rail siding, with an associated office building. This building was destroyed in the 1977 bushfires.

The town is 769m above sea level. Much of the land was first owned by Sir Henry Parkes who called it the village of Coleridge after a place in England. Arthur Rickard, land developer and auctioneer, developed a large residential subdivision of the area on three portions

owned by Parkes and applied the Aboriginal name Bullaburra, which was thought to mean "blue sky" or 'fine weather".

Railway platform

Existing railway footbridge

However, opinions vary as to the meaning of the name. It has been translated from the Aboriginal for "twin peaks" or the alternative "blue/clear skies". The twin peaks would refer to Mt Hay and Mt Banks which can be seen from the town. The word is still sounded as it originally would have been, as if from a didgeridoo. Aboriginal relics dating back to 12,000-5,000BC have been found on Kings Tableland so Bullaburra could well be one of the oldest names in Australia still retaining its original sound. The station itself was originally known as "Blue Skies".

The main railway buildings were under construction from 1924 through to 1957, being officially opened on 16th February 1925. At first it was unmanned, and the first attendant was not appointed until 1964 to sell tickets only. In travelling from Penrith in the 1950s one had to consult with the station master at Lawson on the way through, letting them know that the train had to stop at Bullaburra for you. To be collected, one had to flag the train down during the day, or light the station lamp at night to signal the driver. It remained unattended until the 1980s, and is still unmanned.

The station has an island platform accessed from an overhead steel platform, and contains a ticket machine shelter, a modern steel shelter, a 1924 brick waiting shed and the main 1957 brick station building. The buildings do not follow the standard railway building designs used in NSW during the period. A steel footbridge was constructed in 1924 giving access to railway Parade and the highway.

In-ground reservoir

Early Bullaburra residence

The railway having first opened to Wentworth Falls in 1867, was extended to Mt Victoria in 1868. Water supply was critical to steam power and a large earth dam had been built at Lawson. Due to its lack of capacity a further dam was built at Wentworth Falls in 1906. A large octagonal concrete in-ground reservoir (a break pressure tank), part of the supply system between the dams, was built in 1906 at the base of Boddington Hill at Bullaburra.

We are indebted to Una King and Adrian Paul for their thoughts and memories of Bullaburra, Una having arrived there in 1981, and Adrian having holidayed there in the early 1950s. Una tells us that when access through the mountains was still via coach or horseback, a stopping place was established in the 1830s opposite where the current railway station stands. When the railway came though Sir Henry Parkes purchased the property and built a residence there, 'Buena Vista". Parts of the building remain behind a residence in Kalinda Road. The housing area here was gazetted as the "Buena Vista" estate.
The government map of 1879 was the first of the area, which showed the land to the north of the rail line as owned by Joseph Hay. To the south most land belonged to Henry Parkes. West of Genevieve Road belonged to John Graham.
Joseph Hay lived in Hay (formerly Berg) Street, buying land to the north and south of the rail line. His property was called "Lanassa Park".

Bullaburra

The Pick of the Mountains

may become even better than Katoomba.

When Nature made Bullaburra it did a wonderful job, not only in the immediate surroundings, but of such dominating and magnificent peaks as Mount Riey and Mount King George, and others; all to be seen to the greatest advantage in the clear atmosphere which distinguishes Bullaburra.

Auction Sale

Of the First Subdivision of

Bullaburra

will be held on Easter Saturday, April 11 next, on the ground at 3 p.m.

Right at the new Bullaburra Station (recently opened), situate on the Great Western Line, between Lawson and Wentworth Falls, forty-one miles from Sydney, with an

Elevation of 2524 Feet

The key of business sites of the New Township, right opposite the station gates, on both sides of the line. Residence sites with commanding views. Garden and orchard blocks.

The opening sale of a New Township is a rare event, and presents opportunities which seldom occur.

The Vendors have secured large areas at Bullaburra, which will be gradually developed and subdivided so as to make this a model mountain resort.

Every development must add to the value of the land round the station, and this is the land that will be offered at the opening sale.

Glorious views, level building land, good soil, and all so handy to the station.

Easy terms, 5 per cent. deposit, balance, including interest, payable by instalments of 10/ per month for each £25 of purchase money. Lithos now ready.

Torrens Title

Arthur **Rickard** *& Co Ltd*

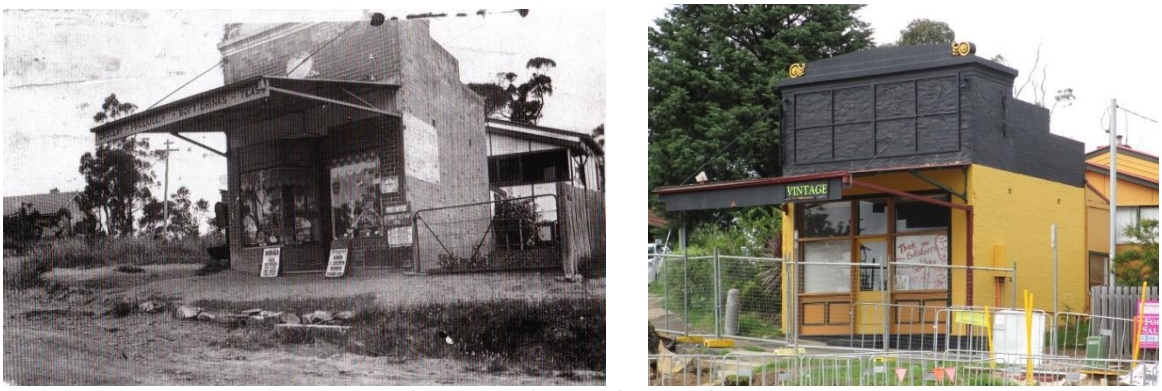
84 Pitt St

Realty Specialists

Rickard House, 84 Pitt Street, Sydney

Arthur Rickard's real estate agency advertised the land as the Lanassa Park Estate. The blocks had a 100 ft frontage and no water or sewer. A shopping centre was to be associated with the estate along with smaller blocks and a car park. None of these other features ever eventuated.
The first industry in the area was timber, cedar and hardwood. Bullaburra cedar was highly sought after. There were also rural industries such as piggeries and poultry farms.
Heather Mollenhauer lists Hay as having a property of 300 acres further along at Lawson that he named San Jose Estate, which was from the current San Jose Avenue right up to Bullaburra. Joseph's wife Mary Anne also had property, 101 acres along Honour Avenue at Lawson, called the Santa Cruz Estate.

There was a store on the main road opposite the railway station, and a roadhouse at the corner of Genevieve Road. The roadhouse was used as tea rooms from the 1930s until 1971, where a private residence now stands.
The former general store on the corner of Cooranga Street and the highway was first occupied by a Mr. Fletcher, a WW1 veteran, who died soon after taking possession. It was then owned by Mr. Wigan from 1929. Even though there was a DMR camp for workers opposite Genevieve Road in Eungella Park, the store never paid very well.
In 1939 the store was taken over by Margery Anderson, who was a community leader and Councillor. Anderson Street is named for her. Subsequent owners were Rodders and Swinbourne amongst others. The store was always the centre of the community, being the post office, grocer, newsagent, greengrocer, and general goods store. Being open from 6am to 8pm every day, one could leave a shopping list, and have the goods delivered, as was often the way in those days. This general use ceased in the 1970s, and it became a takeaway shop with a few groceries. That closed in the early 1980s. Since then it has had a number of uses including crafts, antiques, furniture, second hand goods and Porters Paints. Currently it stands vacant once again, probably due to the impact of the current highway upgrading road works.



The general store then and now

A service station was built in 1950 on the corner of Boronia Road by Arthur Denning of Lawson. The first proprietor was Ken Perkins. It sold many different brands of fuel over the years, and at one stage an unexploded WW2 cannon shell was found on site. During the 1980s it was known as the Grumbling Tum, but was closed down for a time by local health inspectors, before it then reopened. Plans to utilise it as a convenience store and car wash never eventuated. The service station was demolished in 2008. It is currently a works site for the highway roadworks contractors.
At the edge of the village area on the western side of the highway an almost bare site is located, which contains a stone rotunda which originally supported a water tank. This was the site of Cadia Park, the home of Charles Hoskins, owner of the Lithgow Steel Mill, and is marked by a boundary brick fence and mature conifers. It was originally called “Zermatt”, but about 1918 it was renamed for the source of Lithgow’s iron ore at Cadia. Hoskins had moved to Bullaburra for the sake of the health of his daughter Nellie.
The property was originally a grant to James Grieson Wilson, who built a residence on the land called Myrtlebank. When Hoskins purchased 5 acres of the property in 1913 the house was not on this portion. Myrtlebank actually burnt down in 1923. Hoskins built a residence in 1914 although Nellie died the same year. The facilities provided for Nellie included a zoo, well-kept gardens, a large brick well and an oval swimming pool. The private zoo was located between the road and the railway on a leased reserve. Hoskins purchased another 36 acres to the south.

Main highway entrance to Cadia Park

Front fence

The Hoskins family sold the property in 1921, after the steelworks moved to Port Kembla, and moved to Elizabeth Bay in 1922. The property was sold to E & E Davies, and then to Sir Arthur Rickard in 1923. However, Rickard's easy terms landed him in financial difficulties and in 1927 the property was sold to Henry Swain.

The rotunda

In 1930 the Benedictine Order bought the property from Swain and operated it as a monastery. A small cemetery was dedicated at the rear and three members of the Order were buried there, although the cemetery is no longer apparent. In 1949 the property passed to the Sisters of Saint Joseph who ran it as a holiday rest home for the Sisters of the Order. They built a further two cottages (for the chaplain and for the handyman), and the steam laundry. The tall pine trees made the place look dark and foreboding. The bells could be heard when they tolled for prayers, and the nuns worked in vegetable gardens at the rear. The fires of 1977 destroyed the original residence. Sisters from Vietnam were staying there at the time. A convent belonging to various Christian Orders (including Brothers of the Holy Family) remained in the building next door. In 2006 a family lived there and set it up as a ministry called the Father's House. Cadia proper remained in an increasingly derelict condition. Only the rotunda, the 1950s brick steam laundry and some garden remnants and garden edges remain.

Former steam laundry

Garden remnants

A Progress Association was formed in 1942, one of the founders being Margery Anderson, so the meetings were held at the store. One of their principle aims was to establish a vehicular crossing over the rail line to join north and south Bullaburra. Even today only a pedestrian crossing onto the station platform is all that has eventuated. The quest for a pedestrian crossing over the highway began in 1961. As usual it took a fatality to have it carried out, and lights were eventually installed as well. A footway is currently nearing completion over the highway.

The group obtained the land on the corner of Noble Street and the highway in 1949 and constructed a hall using Navy sheds from the depot at Kingswood. Meetings were carefully minuted and the building well managed, being used mostly by the group or its members, or as a polling place, and later the local lapidary club. The activities included games nights and dances. The Ladies Auxiliary met regularly and held bingo nights, and organized street stalls, bus trips and bushwalks for fundraising. Through grants and insurance on vandalism the building has been well maintained. At one time it had a heritage listing.

The community had a wish to establish an Anglican church on the hall site. Home services were being held at the time. By 1928 money had been raised but this was given over to Lawson and even home services ceased in 1939.

Rural fire service

Village hall

At the end of WW2 Arthur Rickard offered the land on the corner of Noble Street to provide a church, which was to be erected within 2 years. Nothing eventuated so Mr. Pressley suggested that a Uniting Church be built behind the store for the use of all denominations. This was built in the early 1950s and the Progress Association's 25th anniversary was celebrated there in 1967. It became a private residence in the 1970s.

The Bullaburra Volunteer Bushfire Brigade was formed in 1955 with 25 members. The first captain was Harry Baker. The first shed was built behind the store so meetings were held at the store. Stan Lattye provided the first tanker, and the Ladies Auxiliary undertook fundraising for equipment. A brick shed was then built at the corner of Kalinda Road in 1955-57. The present shed was built in 1977 on land donated to the brigade.

Nowadays Bullaburra is a quiet residential suburb of the mountains, with an unstaffed railway station, a railway siding, numerous parks including the Village Green, and a number of home businesses.
Bushfires swept through the area from time to time. In December 1977 the fires destroyed many homes and other buildings. This included the “lookshed” on the corner of Cooranga Street and Kalinda Road. The view from this point was said to cover from the sandhills of Kurnell to Mittagong. The amenities in Red Gum Park were also destroyed.
Natural places include Red Gum Park, Sir Henry Parkes Park, the Village Green, Minnatonka Falls, Claire’s Glen and Walkers Glen, and the nearby Blue Mountains National Park.
There used to be a pool in Redgum Park (formerly Bullaburra Park from 1925 to 1964) across Bedford Creek in the 1950s. However pollution from nearby piggeries, poultry farms and septic tanks caused it to be filled in. The park was set aside as a reserve for recreation in the original Village of Coleridge on 13 May 1879, and became a park in 1925 within the Bullaburra Estate.
Eungella Park used to have fencing, play equipment, and seats, which were removed in the 1980s. The tennis courts were replaced with a car park and the tennis shed removed to a park in Lawson.
Sir Henry Parkes Park is a memorial to the great man. A pine grove in the park was donated to the community by Mr. Swain, Forestry Commissioner in South Australia, NSW and Qld, who had retired to Bullaburra.
The Bullaburra Village Green was the result of lobbying by residents for land for community needs in 2003.

Village Green

An entrance to Red Gum Park

The removal of many of these community facilities has also removed much of the locality’s history.
Walkers Glen can be accessed off Essex Street, north of the rail line, and comprises thick dry wetland vegetation, acacia and melaluca, in a small area at the valley bottom.
Claires Glen is accessed off the Kent Street track.
A walking track was constructed through the area in 1937. NSWGR agreed to provide an electrical supply to the Blue Mountains Shire Council from the Lithgow power station and a transmission line was constructed from Blackheath to Lawson with a maintenance track. This track was promoted as a walking trail and a pamphlet produced. The surveyor was Albert Bruce, and the walk became known as Bruce Walk, along the north side of Bullaburra. After WWII the track was forgotten and subsequently the route broken up by Greaves Creek dam in 1942.
In 1980 a bushwalker Dick Rushton found the pamphlet and set about clearing the track. From Wentworth Falls to Bullaburra. He wrote a guide to this section 1983. Other walkers became interested in the track and it was again cleared in 1986 by Jim Smith and Wilf Hilder. They found many artefacts and features, including signs, shelter caves, seats and

picnic tables. The track was officially reopened from Wentworth Falls to Bullaburra in 1986, and other sections to Medlow Bath were cleared the same year. Today the track is still little known and used and does not appear on the topographic map for the area.
Notable properties include:

- Rhodda Valley.
- The former George Haining Coach House and Glencairn, 7-9 Kalinda Street: an original brick cottage with a detached kitchen and coach house, built by George Haining on land purchased from Henry Parkes, on land developed by Arthur Rickard as the Bullaburra Estate. The cottage was later sold off separately. The kitchen wing was developed as a separate cottage. The weatherboard coach house was replaced by a garage.

New highway footbridge under construction

Water reservoir

Bullaburra was first gazetted as a suburb of the Blue Mountains City Council area on 9 January 2004. The 2006 census suggests the population was some 1,236 people.

Bullaburra Railway Station Group, NSW Environment & Heritage
Bullaburra Past & Present, Una King 2001
Memories of Bullaburra, Adrien Paul
Blue Mountains Geographical Dictionary, Brian Fox 2006
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Food for thought ..... Editor's note

So what about Bullaburra!
In listening to others and after much reading about the Blue Mountains in various resources and publications I felt a sense of tenable history at Bullaburra, a sense of significant things having gone before, coveted things that were hidden and sometimes lost.
In mingling with the community through historical societies, conferences and other events I saw through others eyes a very special corner of the world. A fierce pride in their heritage and history and sense of place illustrated strongly to me that there was a fascinating story to be told.
In my reading of copious references over the years in regard to the Blue Mountains, Bullaburra has often been mentioned but only in passing. All along the mountains numerous small settlements and groups of houses, inns and stores have come and gone since the first colonial settlements, through the heady days when the goldfields were in full swing, right through until today. Bullaburra falls to the east of and below Wentworth Falls and to the immediate west of Lawson.

Track into Red Gum Park

As a historian and writer, and through my many years in local government in a planning & heritage role, I have developed an interest in the history of the mountain areas, and have always felt a need to document the information I come across, where others have not, especially in regard to heritage and history in isolated areas or areas where few tangible features remain of what and who went before.
Bullaburra caught my imagination. Bullaburra has always interested me in that there is little there, but there is evidence of what was, not all of it obvious upon driving through. Many visitors do not even realize that there was ever a village there. Although Bullaburra is given passing mentions in a few local historical works, the particular locality has never been dealt with comprehensively.
I commenced some research into the history of the place and straight away came to realize that there was more there than I first realized. Further reading suggested that Bullaburra was an area which needed exploration, and that its boundaries were not easily defined. Many

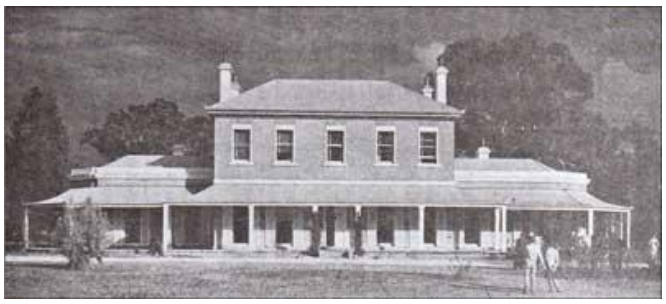
residents spend short periods there in a variety of capacities, but usually moved on to settle in the larger centres of Lawson, Katoomba and beyond.
So recently I took to my bike and spent some time cycling around the village area. The few lines I have penned in this Newsletter are the tip of the iceberg. My hope is that I spark an interest in order that someone will take on the challenge and bring Bullaburra back to life in a written work, bringing together all the various features of a history, to complement the thoughts and memories that have been previously documented by former residents and others.

"Burrundulla" Inn, Mudgee

Many will recall seeing this abandoned building a few kilometres southeast of the Mudgee township, on the corner of Spring Flat Road and the Castlereagh Highway.
The building is the former "Burrundulla" Inn. The current building is the second inn on the site, built by the Murray family during their long association with Mudgee as licencees. However an inn was present on the site as early as the 1860's, on what would have been part of George Cox's extensive property of ""Burrundulla"". The earlier building is said to have burnt down. The current building appears to be dated about the late 19th or early 20th century.
The Cox family is one of considerable historical importance in both Mulgoa and Mudgee for they pioneered both districts and contributed to their development.
William Cox (of Cox's Road fame) and his wife Rebecca arrived in Sydney in 1800, accompanied by their sons James, Charles, George and Henry. After a short stay at Pennant Hills the family settled at Windsor. George and Henry then took up land grants at Mudgee. George's "Burrundulla" was eventually inherited and managed by his son George Henry Cox from 1845.

William Cox *George Cox* *George Henry Cox*

George Henry Cox married his cousin Henrietta Jane, daughter of Henry Cox in 1853. They had five sons and seven daughters. George Henry was well respected in the wool industry and is credited in building the fine, dense and elastic qualities for Mudgee wool, winning many awards in Australia and overseas. For many years he was councilor on the Agricultural Society of NSW and president of the Sheepbreeders' Association.
He conducted a model public school at "Burrundulla" for his tenants, and his consistent principles were free trade and the abolition of state aid to religion and Church schools, proclaiming the befits of public education.
In 1864 he completed a substantial Georgian style two-storey house on "Burrundulla", designed by architect William Weaver, , which replaced the old homestead, which was probably either burnt out or flooded. It is still owned and occupied by his descendants. The ""Burrundulla"" homestead was a large, two storey brick building with a main staircase lit by stained glass window bearing the Cox crest and monogram. Its living rooms were once adorned with prints of Italian renaissance masters collected in Europe and paintings by Conrad Martens. George Henry Cox died at "Burrundulla" on November 28, 1901.



"Burrundulla" 1900

In 1993 grapes were first planted for wine making, and today an extensive vineyard exists on the land. Although the land area is much reduced from the original grant, "Burrundulla" is one of the nation's oldest pastoral properties. A new cellar door opened on the property in 2005.
Although the house was renovated in 1970, part of the ceiling collapsed in 2003 and had to be completely removed and replaced. An old boot was found above the fireplace, almost at the junction of the ceiling. There was a superstition that when the homestead was built that a boot placed in a wall, particularly a chimney wall, would keep out evil spirits.

Former "Burrundulla" Inn, Mudgee

The old inn now sits abandoned and in a state of disrepair due to time and vandalism. It is privately owned, and has been the subject of development applications for redevelopment over the last 15 years or so, none of which have eventuated.
Mr. John Broadley of the Mudgee Historical Society will address the 2015 Penrith City Council's Conference in March on the connections between Penrith and Mudgee as relates to the Cox family, and will elaborate on the history of the "Burrundulla" property and perhaps the status of the former inn.

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Cox of Mulgoa and Mudgee, John Broadley, 2006
George Henry Cox, Australian Dictionary of Biography, Ruth Teale 1969
Our Story Burrundulla, www.burrundulla.com.au
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Email from John Broadley, February 2009.

Farm Magic

Ian Evans, OAM, PhD, advises that ABC-TV's Landline programme did a story in late 2014 about his continuing research into the influence of folk magic on life in Australia in the period before circa 1935. Ian advises that it is now clear that settlers and convicts brought ancient beliefs in evil spiritual beings with them when they came to Australia. Certain rituals involving the concealment of shoes, garments and other artefacts in building voids were thought to provide protection, as did the use of apotropaic marks to avert evil. The Landline programme had a rural emphasis but the fact was that these rituals took place throughout the Australian

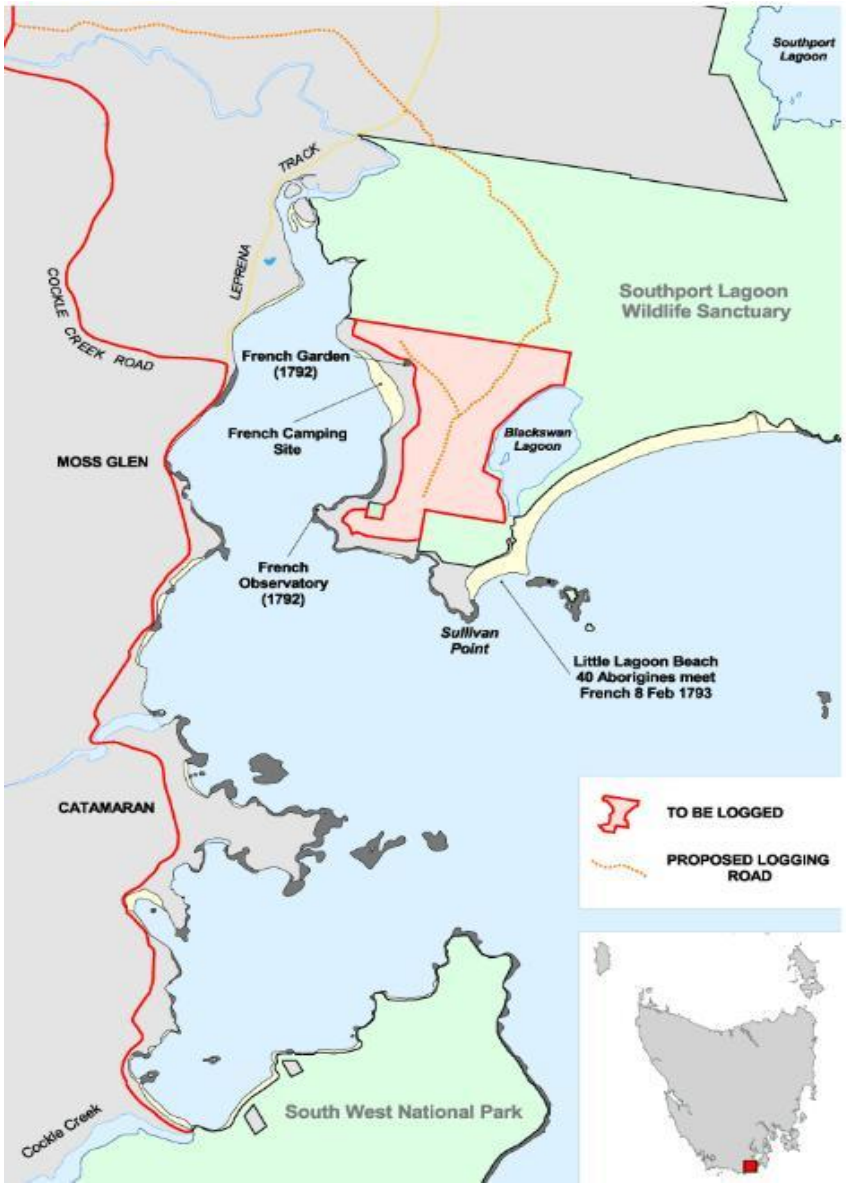
colonies. The evidence of this is slowly coming to light as buildings are being renovated and with new awareness of the material culture of folk magic in this country.
Heritage practitioners should be aware of the possibility of finding concealments or magic marks on their work on old houses and other buildings. Ian asks that he be contacted at www.oldhouses.com.au if either marks or concealments are found.
The Landline episode could be seen at
http://www.abc.net.au/landline/content/2014/s4105115.htm
As renovators are rebuilding and restoring old buildings they are finding secrets hidden from view for nearly 200 years. Fiona Breen reported that a type of folk magic was practised by some early settlers, a desperate ply, perhaps, to protect them in a strange new country where the unexpected lurked.
One such place was Woodbury House in Tasmania, which dated from the early 1800s. Objects such as old shoes, a dead cat, children's toys were found secreted away within walls of the building.
At Willow Farm in Tasmania a number of shoes were found hidden on a ledge near the chimney.
The most common location for concealments are typically around doorways, windows, in chimneys and in roof cavities. Ritual etchings too are common, such as a hexafoil at Shene, Tasmania. The etchings are another ancient practice transplanted into Australia to counter evil spiritual forces.
Ian Evans states that what made it so fascinating was that it gives us an insight into the thought processes of the people in Australia at that time, and despite their various religious persuasions, they were still obsessed with fear of death for themselves and their children and other members of their family, because they were taking precautions against evil spiritual beings who might come into the house and cause illness among their children or other members of the family.

Photographs of concealments and markings from Ian's website

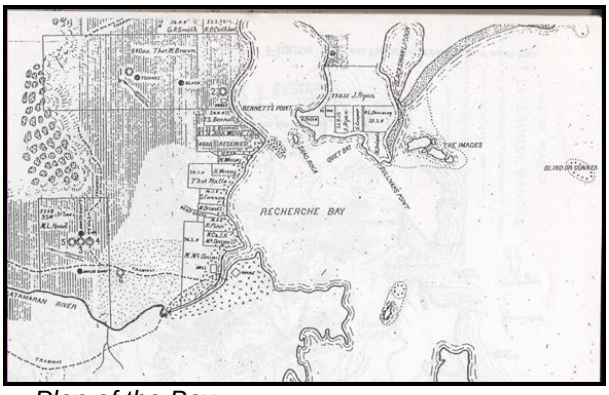
Recherche Bay Gardens

Recherche Bay is on the far southern tip of Tasmania, named for the *Recherche,* one of the ships of Rear Admiral Bruni d'Entrecasteaux, which anchored in the bay in April 1792 with the *Esperance,* following a torrid journey through strong winds and high seas across the Indian and Southern Oceans. D'Entrecasteaux himself broke a rib.
The company had been searching for the lost Frenchman la Perouse. They made a temporary camp inside the north east peninsula of the bay. The group was made up of scientists including botanists and naturalists, artists, a mineralogist, a gardener, two astronomers and a hydrographer, as well as sailors, a few soldiers but no settlers, being given instructions to explore the south coast of Australia from Cape Leeuwin, carry out scientific investigations, learn about the local Indigenous people and then come away. Whilst there they explored the coastline in a long boat, unable to fully complete a survey due to lack of water.
The camp had a bakery, blacksmith, a mess hall, garden, ship repair yards and a scientific observatory. Whilst there they collected many plant and animal, bird and geological specimens, and came to record many aspects of the Aboriginal people whom they encountered.
D'Entrecasteaux himself was much taken with the landscape, describing the perfection of

the harbour, the tall trees, green foliage, and “nature in all its vigour”.
Following ship repairs and caulking of the ships, and reprovisioning with water, firewood and fish, the ships sailed away in January 1793.
In 2003 [Senator] Bob Brown sought to find the French garden of 1792, and discovered some mossy rocks surrounding a garden area, an area of 21 feet by 27 feet (8.8m x 6.8m) divided into 4 sections! The stone “botanic garden” structure had supposedly been established by gardener Felix Delahaye as part of the d’Entrecasteaux expedition.
In April 2002 the bulldozers of a logging operation had commenced construction of a road to log the peninsular. Following extensive protests Brown secured the support of entrepreneur Dick Smith who purchased the peninsular with support from the State government and public subscriptions and gifted it to the Tasmanian Land Conservancy. So the historic landscape was rescued from destruction. Various sections of the peninsular were nominated for entry in the Tasmanian Heritage Register, which were duly registered in 2006.



Recherche Bay observatory site



Plan of the Bay

The garden was planted with onions, cress, chervil, celery, potatoes, cabbages, radishes, chicory and sorrel. It took 3 men more than 3 days to prepare the ground and sow the seed. It was intended to benefit the Aboriginal community as well as provide a future resource for mariners who might visit the area.
However, the listing has always been questioned as archaeological investigation showed that the original garden was probably a little further inland. The garden area found by Bob Brown was probably an uncompleted structure associated with the milling industry in the area about the turn of the 20th Century. The structure is still to be protected. However the location of the original French garden is yet to be finally determined.
Other particular sites part of the nomination included the burial site of gunner Boucher in the Cockle Creek area (first European burial on Tasmanian soil), a forge site at Motts Beach and the observatory site at Bennett's Point.
Heritage Agreements and Management Plans are in place to manage the various sites as long as they remain listed. Investigations across the peninsular also recorded former whaling and timber settlements.
D'Entrecasteaux 's voyage remains significant for the following reasons:

- Scientific observations and experiments carried out, including proving the science of geomagnetism;
- Meetings between the French & Aboriginal people, representing friendly exchanges, and early records of first contact;
- Associations with a number of people involved with the expedition, including d'Entrecasteaux himself, naturalist Labillardiere, scientist Rossel, gardener Delahaye, hydrographer Beautemps-Beapre and artist Piron.

Recherche Bay

Painting presentation in 2014

Brown commissioned a painting by Ian Hansen to be carried out in 2011 of the *Recherche* and *Esperance* under sail in the bay in 1793, which was presented to the Tasmanian Museum & Art Gallery in 2014.

The significance of the sites demonstrates an important episode in the early exploration, discovery and later settlement of Van Diemen's Land. The setting today has changed little from that originally viewed by the French. Many of the sites do not have tangible or physical remains, but this does not lessen their importance.

References:
Optimism, Bob Brown 2014
Flinders, Rob Mundle 2013
The Great race, David Hil 2012
Recherche Bay Information Package, Tasmanian Heritage Council 2009

Historic Alignment Markers in the Blue Mountains

Walking around your Blue Mountains village you may have noticed a broad arrow embossed on a rusty iron plate, about 4 inches (*10 cm*) square that is set into the kerb.

Figure 1 is a photograph of one that has been polished by the shoes of numerous people as they have entered and exited through the main entrance of Gardner's Inn at Blackheath!

Figure 1. *Alignment marker on the kerb outside of the front door of Gardners Inn, Blackheath. Photo: Peter Rickwood Sept. 2005.*

What you were seeing is the top of what, in official documents, has been called both an Alignment Post[1] or an Alignment Pin[2]*, the raised Broad Arrow being on the uppermost horizontal surface. These iron markers are about 100 years old[3] and were installed by surveyors so are nothing to do with the convicts that are usually associated with the broad arrow symbol.
Sometimes a makeshift substitute for the more common embossed broad arrow was formed out of welding rods and an example is shown in Figure 2; that marker is located at Mount Victoria, on the SE corner of Station Street at the intersection with the Great Western Highway.

** To avoid nomenclature confusion I have preferred to call them Alignment Markers.*

Figure 2. *Alignment marker on the kerb of Station Street outside The Imperial Hotel, Mount Victoria. Photo: Peter Rickwood July 2011.*

Installation

The sequence of actions was:

- surveyors determined the precise positions for alignment markers,
- then cast iron markers were installed,
- and finally, if the Local Council could afford to proceed, then kerbs were formed from stone blocks laid between the markers, or more commonly concrete kerbs were cast and sometimes enclosed a marker.

Thus alignment markers were always installed in bare ground such as gravel or soil, and hence can be difficult to locate if kerbs have not been cast (e.g. Figure 3); some may even be partly concealed by grass such as along the Great Western Highway at Blackheath (Figure 4) and formerly at Wentworth Falls[4].

Superficially these markers appear to be rather small but the official description contradicts that impression:

> "ALIGNMENT OF STREETS
> 9.12 Alignment pins used for marking the alignment shall be iron castings, open box style, 4 inches x 4 inches x 18 inches (*10.2 x 10.2 x 45.7 cm*) which should be supplied by the Council, and be in readiness at time of survey. These are available at the Department of Lands as also are castings 24 inches (*61 cm*) long for use in sandy soils."[5]

Thus most of each marker is buried to ensure both stability and durability but their true size can be assessed from a photograph on the internet[6] of one that had been removed from the "WSW corner of Morven Road and Russell Road, Leura" and is claimed to weigh 12 kg. Judging by the stated length it is one of the longer ones; incidentally, a kerb has never been formed at that location!

Figure 3. *Alignment marker in gravel at the NW corner of the Oval in Wentworth Street, Blackheath. Photo: Peter Rickwood August 2010.*

Figure 4. *Alignment marker in grass alongside the Great Western Highway and opposite the north side of Prince George Street, Blackheath. Photo: Peter Rickwood January 2015.*

Re-locating alignment markers.

Alignment markers were most commonly placed at the corners of streets, not precisely at the corner but in line with the portion boundaries. Hence each corner had two such markers (Figure 5), one arm of the broad arrow being approximately parallel to the kerb and as the other is at 75º it pointed in the general direction of the portion boundary that was in the intersecting street; for the surveyor it is the point of the arrow that is the precise location marker. Thus for a cross road intersection there could be eight markers, and at a T junction usually four (Figure 5) but sometimes just two placed opposite the lot

boundaries in the side street (e.g. at Blackheath on the west side of the Great Western Highway at the intersection with Prince George Street). But markers were also installed where a road took a bend, and along some straight sections (e.g. Figure 1) between corner markers that were deemed far apart.

A decade ago, a short account was published[7] concerning the remaining alignment markers in Blackheath. The research for that article involved walking all of the streets that were drawn on the 1913 alignment plan[8] and not only trying to find those markers indicated on the plan but also checking other likely locations. Searching was also carried out along other streets that were thought to have existed pre-WWI. The outcome was that in July 2005 only 50 markers remained in Blackheath yet 256 are shown on that 1913 alignment plan as having been installed. No doubt some were lost when parts of the kerbs were repaired, or replaced, or when ramps and drains were installed at street corners. One instance is known of a marker being removed in 2010 during the widening of Wentworth Street, Blackheath and subsequently being incorporated in the new kerb!

Following the publication of that 2005 article on Blackheath, the research was extended to all of the other villages in the Blue Mountains for which alignment plans were known (and subsequently no more have been discovered). An alignment plan was usually drawn at such a scale that it covers only a few of the streets in a village, hence for some villages there are a number of different plans (e.g. Katoomba) nevertheless coverage of the older streets is usually incomplete.

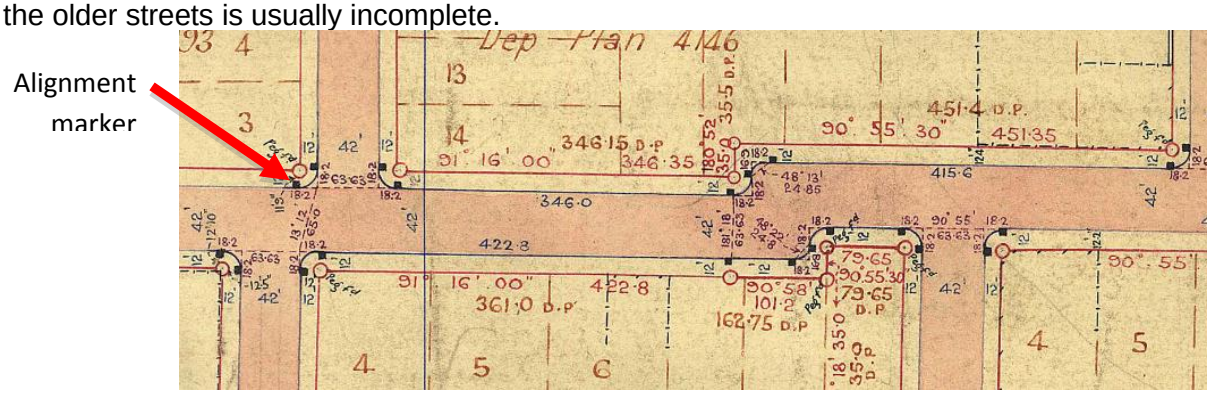


Figure 5. *Part of the alignment map of Leura[9], showing the curious misalignment of Craigend Street between Albert and Holmes Streets. On that plan Surveyor Madsen stated "Alignment Posts fixed as shown in Black ..... ⑤" and a handwritten insertion after "Posts" is "(Cast iron)".*

In 2006 no alignment plans had been located for Bullaburra, Woodford, Linden, Faulconbridge, Coomassie, Valley Heights, Warrimoo, Blaxland, Glenbrook and Lapstone so those villages were not searched, but in hindsight possibly they should have been. Thus both Mount Victoria and Medlow Bath were inspected even though no alignment plans were known; the outcome was that two alignment markers were found in Mount Victoria (e.g. Figure 2) yet the inspection of the streets in Medlow Bath revealed none.

That second phase of searching was completed in 2007 and annotated photocopies of the alignment plans were sent to Land and Property Information NSW from which their staff drew a map of each of eight villages (Mount Victoria, Blackheath, Katoomba, Leura, Wentworth Falls, Lawson, Hazelbrook and Springwood) with all of the markers then existing indicated - Figure 6 is one of these maps. Due to the scale of these maps, and the size of the circles used to indicate the location of markers, it can be difficult to ascertain the precise position of a particular marker which is why I did not call them plans.

But why go to all that bother to find the remaining alignment markers? That was best explained by the then Manager of the Cadastral Management Unit of the Department of

Lands:

> "I am using your good work to communicate to all road and construction utilities (i.e. BMCC, RTA, Sydney Water, Energy Australia, etc) the location of the surviving alignment marks. As they form essential evidence to re-establish the cadastre in these streets and they are our surveying heritage, it is paramount that all marks are preserved wherever possible and every means to protect them must be made."[10].

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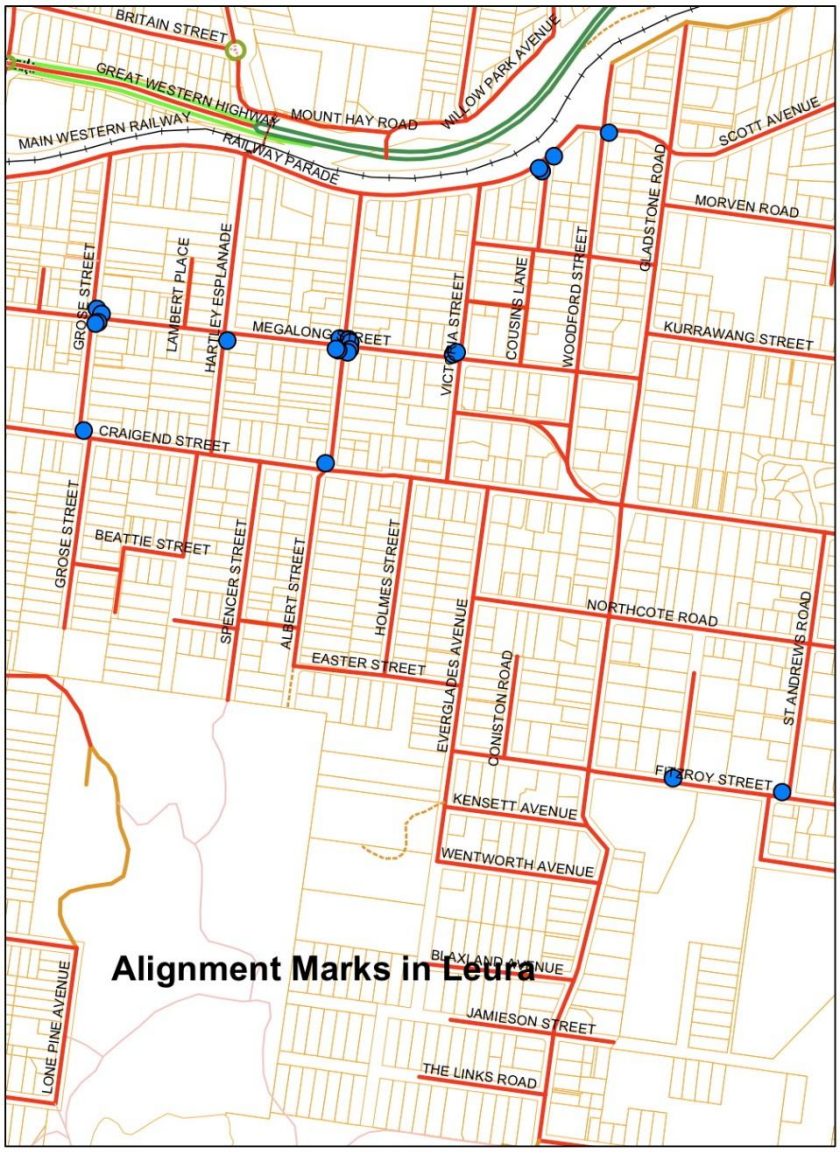

Figure 6. *2007 Map of Alignment Marks in Leura*
© Land and Property Information (2007)

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That project ended eight years ago and a lot of road re-construction has taken place since so it is unlikely that all of the markers found between 2005 and 2007 will still be in place; those 2007 maps are merely snapshots of the best knowledge of the situation at that time. It is now known that not all of the existing markers were found during that second phase of research. Thus in 2011 a previously missed alignment marker was located outside of 26 Honour Avenue, Lawson but reports of others in that village have not led to other discoveries. One that was reported to be on the east side of Honour Street to the north-west of Flinders Street (outside of the rear entry to 3 Cascade Street) appears to have been removed when a concrete path was installed, and those on kerbs at the north end of Bass Street[11] were lost when the Great Western Highway was widened.

Peter C Rickwood

Acknowledgement

Mr Les Gardner (now Manager, Survey Infrastructure & Geodesy, Land & Property Management Authority, Bathurst) kindly provided guidance, encouragement and assistance with this project. I am most grateful for his help which has been invaluable.

References

[1] *e.g. Madsen, S.B. (1913) Plan of proposed alignment under the Public Roads Act 1902 of Streets in the Village of Blackheath and part of the Great Western Road, Urban Area, Blue Mountains Shire, Parish of Blackheath, County of Cook, Land District of Lithgow, Land Board District of Orange, Scale – 2 chains to an inch. Transmitted 25th Novr No.13-1 1-2609. Section 4.8 in Hughes, L. (2007) Hallmann's Legal Aspects of Boundary Surveying as Apply in New South Wales. Release 6, February 2007. 827pp.*

[2] *e.g. p.78 in Marshall, I.H. (ed.) Marking the Landscape. A Short History of Survey Marking in New South Wales. The Board of Surveyors of New South Wales. 128pp.*

[3] *e.g. see Blue Mountains Shire. Nepean Times, 20 December 1912, p.9, col.1 (re Springwood); The Engineer's Reports. Blue Mountains Shire. Nepean Times, 12 July 1913, p.3, col.2 (re Blackheath & Lawson) ; Mountain Memoirs. Springwood. Blue Mountains Echo, 6 August 1913, p.5, col.3 (re Mount Victoria & Springwood); Questions. Blue Mountains Shire. Nepean Times, 6 September 1913, p.6, col.7 (re Blackheath & Lawson).*

[4] *p.21 in RMS (2012) Standard Management Procedure: Unexpected Archaeological Finds. Transport. NSW Roads and Maritime Services. July 2012. 35pp. http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/documents/about/environment/protecting-heritage/managing-development/unexpected-archaeological-finds-procedure.pdf <Accessed 11 January 2015>*

[5] *Reference [2].*

[6] *Bruce Ayling's Homepage http://web.aanet.com.au/bayling/alignpin.html <Accessed 11 January 2015>*

[7] *Rickwood, P.C. and Sadler, G. (2005). Historic Alignment Markers. Hobby's Outreach, 17(4): 1 & 4.*

[8] *Reference [1], item 1.*

[9] *Madsen, S.B. (1915) Plan of proposed alignment of Streets under the Public Roads Act 1902. – Blue Mountains Shire – Parish of Jamieson, County of Cook, Land District of Lithgow, Land Board District of Orange. Town of Leura. Scale 2 chains to one inch. Transmitted with field notes to the District Surveyor Orange with letter dated 7th April 1915 No.7. S.B. Madsen, Licensed Surveyor.*

[10] *Pers. Comm. Les.Gardner@lands.nsw.gov.au 25 Jun 2007.*

[11] *p.12 in Blue Mountains City Council (2006) Enclosure 1. Blue Mountains Local Environment Plan 2005. Draft Amendment 1 (Heritage Amendment for Lawson, Hazelbrook, Springwood and Blaxland). Consideration of Submissions. 45pp. http://www.bmcc.nsw.gov.au/yourcouncil/councilmeetings/2006meetings/21november2006 Download 9 < Accessed 13 January 2015>*

The Technical Side

Cultural Landscapes

Cultural landscapes are all around us and we hear the term bandied around often enough. Cultural landscapes are the result of the interaction of humans with their environment over many years, and relate to the visual impact and significance of places. It is said that they should be protected for future generations, as they may be valued by the community on a number of levels:

- They may show the evolution of settlement and societies.
- They may hold myths, legends, spiritual and symbolic meanings.
- They may be highly regarded for their beauty.
- They tell us about societies' use of natural resources, past events and sustainable landuse, and/or,
- They may display landscape design and technology achievements.

Some are designed **intentionally** such as gardens, suburbs, landscapes, ornamental lakes, water storages or campuses eg. gardens by Paul Sorensen such as Lidsdale House at Lithgow and gardens such as the Everglades at Leura.

Everglades

Lidsdale House

Some are **evolutions** over time of landuses in their form and features such as relict former mining or rural landscapes, eg. Peelwood, Glen Davis, Adelong and Newnes, or continuing landscapes such as modern active farms like Tocal at Paterson, or Coombing Park at Carcoar, vineyards such as many in the Hunter, Claire and Barossa Valleys, plantations, or mines such as Cadia and those at Broken Hill.

Peelwood mine site

Tocal outbuildings

It may also include natural environments such as coastal landscapes, rainforest remnants and wilderness areas.
Some are also **associativ**e landscapes that are landscapes or landscape features that represent religious, artistic, sacred or other cultural associations to individuals or communities.eg. cemeteries and church landscapes, the Cox's Road and Great North Road remaining colonial road features, the various war sites along the coasts of Australia which represented our defence initiatives during WW II eg. North and South Heads in Sydney, gun emplacements at Lithgow and Port Stevens.

Gun emplacement, Port Stephens

Cox's Road, Mt Blaxland

Threats
Numerous threats exist which may endanger the ongoing appreciation and preservation of these landscapes such as:
Lack of identification and recognition of values.
Large developments such as mining, forestry plantations, new infrastructure and urban expansion.
Incremental detrimental large and small changes.
Natural disasters such as floods, cyclones, bushfires, drought or other disaster.
Man-made erosion, salinity and detrimental weeds.
Protection
Protection is available through local plans and zonings, and other controls such as local, State and Territory, Federal and National heritage listings.
The protection process is not unlike other heritage protection. The important provenance must be recorded, the stories, the physical features, the views, the aesthetic qualities. Record how the landscape has been used, its sustainability and conservation needs. Communities (including indigenous) should be contacted to ascertain meanings, stories

and interpretations associated with the landscape. The landscape should be mapped and photographed, and any potential threats documented. Management guidance should be offered, and the findings should be publicised to relevant authorities who are relevant to the protection process.

Adapted from brochure by Australia ICOMOS www.australia.icomos.org Australia ICOMOS Inc. is the national chapter of ICOMOS (International Council on Monuments and Sites), an international non-government organisation primarily concerned with the philosophy, terminology, methodology and techniques of cultural heritage conservation.

Community events & updates

Loss of significant heritage building near Woodstock

Sunday Telegraph, 15 February 2015

A Royal Easter Show steward has been fined $175,000 after illegally demolishing a 100-year-old homestead to build a new home for his ailing wife.

Gregory Fuller pleaded guilty in the Land and Environment Court of breaching the Environment Planning and Assessment Act for his role in removing the historic Cowra property without council consent.

The Woodstock cattle farmer from the State's central west claimed the homestead had been in poor condition, while his wife was unable to walk up the stairs to the second floor.

Constructed in the 1900s, the Shiel Homestead was built in a late Victorian design before being renovated in the 1920s to a late Federation-style.

The court heard Mr Fuller and his wife Sharon bought the property and surrounding land in 2011 for $6.9 million.

The couple later lodged a development application to erect three sheds on the property, before discussing with Cowra Shire Council of plans to replace the homestead with a new one.

Shortly after the discussions, the court heard the council assessed the property for the purpose of listing it as a heritage item.

"That he was motivated by in part by the desire to provide a suitable residence for his ill wife is not an adequate excuse" - Justice Nicola Pain

In January 2012, the couple spent $600,000 on new sheds and a cattle yard complex.

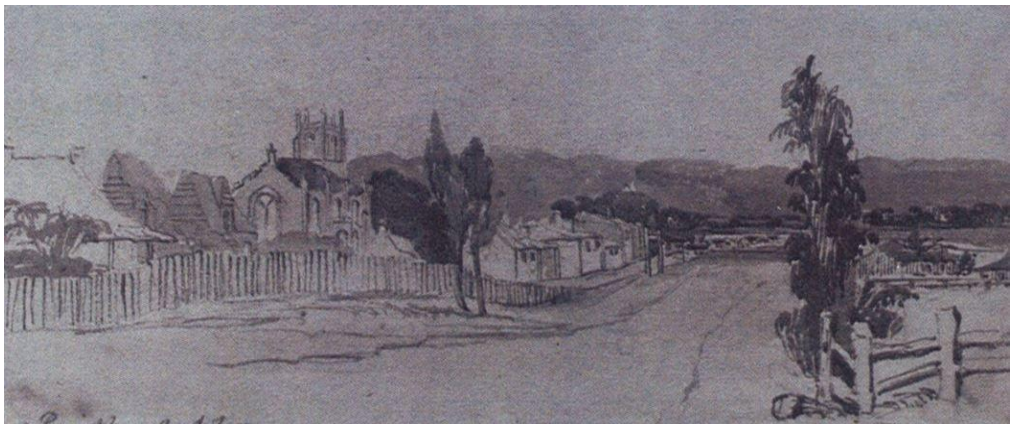
Two months later, the Council wrote a letter to the Fullers indicating that the home was to be included as a "heritage item" in the local environment plan.

In April, while Mr Fuller and his wife were in Sydney exhibiting cattle at the Royal Easter

Show, the homestead was demolished. The court heard the contractors removed the house at the direction of Mr Fuller.
The maximum penalty for the offence committed is $1.1 million.
In handing down the sentence last week, Justice Nicola Pain noted Mr Fuller's claims that he had committed [the breach] as a result of extenuating circumstances, including the ill health of his wife.
However, the demolition still constituted a breach, she said.
"That he was motivated by in part by the desire to provide a suitable residence for his ill wife is not an adequate excuse,…. The state of repair of the Shiel Homestead is irrelevant to lessening the seriousness of the offence…… While it was in poor repair and required significant restoration work … it remained structurally sound."
Mr Fuller was ordered to pay $175,000.

The Makings of a City: From Guard House to Gallipoli
Penrith 14th Annual History Conference

The Penrith City Council and Library's 2015 History Conference will be held this year on Saturday 14 March 2015 at the Bonynge Concert Hall of the Joan Sutherland Performing Arts Centre at 597 High Street, Penrith.
The conference will acknowledge some significant events in the City's history – the 200th anniversary of the construction of the guard house and depot on the new Great Western Road (now the site of Penrith Police Station) and the 100th anniversary on 25th April 2015 of the landing by ANZAC forces on Gallipoli.



Early Penrith Main Street

Guest speakers will include:

- Carol Liston – early days of the settlement that became Penrith.
- John Broadley – the connections between Penrith and Mudgee, following up the families (such as the cox's) who moved across the mountains to settle in the western districts of NSW.
- Lorraine Stacker – the development of the District of Evan and its ultimate demise as a place name.
- Norm Andrews – a history of the RSL – the stories about the creation of the organisation after the war and the establishment of Memory Park.
- Kim Phillips – the Gallipoli campaign and the local men who took part.

To book please contact Alison Spencer on 02 4732 7687 or at alisons@penrithcity.nsw.gov.au
More details and copies of the conference brochure can be found at http://penrithhistory.wordpress.com/home/makings-of-a-city-history-conference/

Yvonne Jenkins Memorial Award 2015

An award to be known as the "Yvonne Jenkins Memorial Award" was launched in 2014 by the Lithgow & District Family History Society and the winner will be announced during Family History Month 2015. The award was prompted by the commemoration of the centenary of ANZAC, and the current topic is "What my ancestor did during World War I". This is not necessarily a serviceman or woman.

The award honours the Society's founder and local and family historian Yvonne Jenkins from Rydal NSW. The Award would be in the form of a certificate and a free membership of the Society for the following year.

Yvonne Jenkins

Entry is open to both members and non-members of the LDFHS, and is to be in the form of a short essay. Entries are not to exceed 1,000 words and must be submitted by 30th April 2015. Full details and the entry form are available from the Society at ldfhs@lisp.com.au or by writing to The Secretary, PO Box 516, Lithgow 2790.

Hartley Australia Day Awards

The Hartley District Progress Association was originally established in 1956 with the aim of improving the living conditions within the Hartley district, along with promotion of cultural, social, sporting and other aspects of the area.

The Hartley valley sits below the western and northern edges of the Blue Mountains plateau, 125km west of Sydney, and has been used by nomadic hunters and gatherers, miners, orchardists and graziers, and more recently is occupied by small holdings and family lifestyle blocks.

Cultural features today include colonial architecture and historic sites, and remnants of the shale oil industry, quite apart from a spectacular landscape.

Recent Australia Day awards recognised two members of the community for their respective community works. Margaret Combs was recognised and awarded an Order of Australia Medal for her services to local history as well as to the local emergency services and local sporting organisations. David Peters received a Volunteer Award for his active membership of eleven community service enterprises.

Congratulations to those Hartley people, and indeed to the Hartley community who would have supported their work!

Hartley valley

RSL Centenary of ANZAC Commemorations

As Australia and New Zealand commemorate the Centenary of ANZAC, the New South Wales Government reiterates its support for our service men and women and the Returned and Services League (RSL) of Australia.

In a recent Ministerial Press Release the NSW government, The Hon Paul Toole MP and the Hon Pru Goward MP, advise that community interest in events in general is already significant and many are led by the RSL. In the lead up to ANZAC Day and more broadly in the planning of other Centenary events, events are being planned in all local government areas in New South Wales, and all local councils are urged to support the events.

The government and the RSL encourage Councils to assist in the preparation of the Centenary of ANZAC services and events, assisting RSL sub-branch representatives with event management in planning and running ANZAC Day and other Centenary services throughout the entire Centenary period.

Councils are also urged to use discretion and remain mindful of the importance of the services when deciding whether or not to impose fees for development applications and other local approvals. It is hoped that due to the local, State and national significance of these events that councils will see fit to waive any fees that may traditionally be imposed, if they able.

For councils requiring further information on community events please refer to *"DEVELOPING A COUNCIL COMMUNITY EVENTS POLICY – A TOOLKIT FOR NSW COUNCILS", NSW Government, 2011.*

Further information regarding RSL events can be found by contacting your local RSL sub-branch in the coming months.

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

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Website: www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au **ABN**: 53 994 839 952

The organisation: Blue Mountains Association of Cultural & Heritage Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 after local historical and heritage societies and individuals recognised the need for the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the local government area (LGA) of Blue Mountains City Council. The constituency now embraces but is not limited to, the LGAs of Blue Mountains, Lithgow, Hawkesbury, Penrith and Mudgee. BMACHO membership includes historical and heritage groups, museums, commercial enterprises with an historical or heritage component in its core business, local government (local studies units, library collections) and a limited number of individual members by invitation such as but not necessarily academics. The objectives of the organisation are:

1. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage
2. To encourage and assist cultural heritage
3. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations.

One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

Affiliations: BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society and is affiliated with the Better Planning Network.

Publications: BMACHO's official newsletter ***Heritage*** is edited by Patsy Moppett. The annual refereed *Blue Mountains History Journal* is edited by Dr Peter Rickwood and occasional papers are published from time to time.

Membership: The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mt Tomah; Blue Mountains City Library; Blue Mountains Cultural Heritage Centre; Blue Mountain Education & Research Trust; Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc; Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute; Eskbank Rail Heritage Centre; Everglades Historic House & Gardens; Friends of Norman Lindsay Gallery; Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc; Hartley Valley District Progress Association; Hawesbury Historical Society Inc; Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc; Lithgow & District Family History Society Inc; Lithgow Mining Museum Inc; Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies; Lithgow Small Arms factory Museum Inc; Mt Victoria & District Historical Society Inc; Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine Historical Society Inc (including Turkish Bath Museum); Mudgee Historical Society Inc; National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Blue Mountains Branch; National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Lithgow Branch; Nepean District Historical Society Inc; Paragon Restaurant, Katoomba; Scenic World Blue Mountains Limited; Springwood & District Historical Society Inc; Springwood Historians Inc; Transport Signal Communication Museum Inc; The Darnell Collection P/L; Valley Heights Locomotive Depot and Museum, Woodford Academy Management Committee, Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd;
The following are individual members: Ray Christison, Associate Professor Ian Jack, Joan Kent, John Low OAM, Ian Milliss, Patsy Moppett, Professor Barrie Reynolds, Dr Peter Rickwood and Dr Peter Stanbury OAM.

Committee: The management committee for 2014-2015 (from July 2014) is: Ian Jack (vice president & acting president), Jan Koperberg (secretary/acting treasurer), Roy Bennett, Wendy Hawkes and Scott Pollock (web site), Patsy Moppett (***Heritage*** Newsletter editor), Dick Morony (public officer), and Suzanne Smith.

Disclaimer: views and opinions expressed in Heritage originate from many sources and contributers. Every effort is taken to ensure accuracy of material. Content does not necessarily represent or reflect the views and opinions of BMACHO, its committee or its members. If errors are found feedback is most welcome.

Heritage

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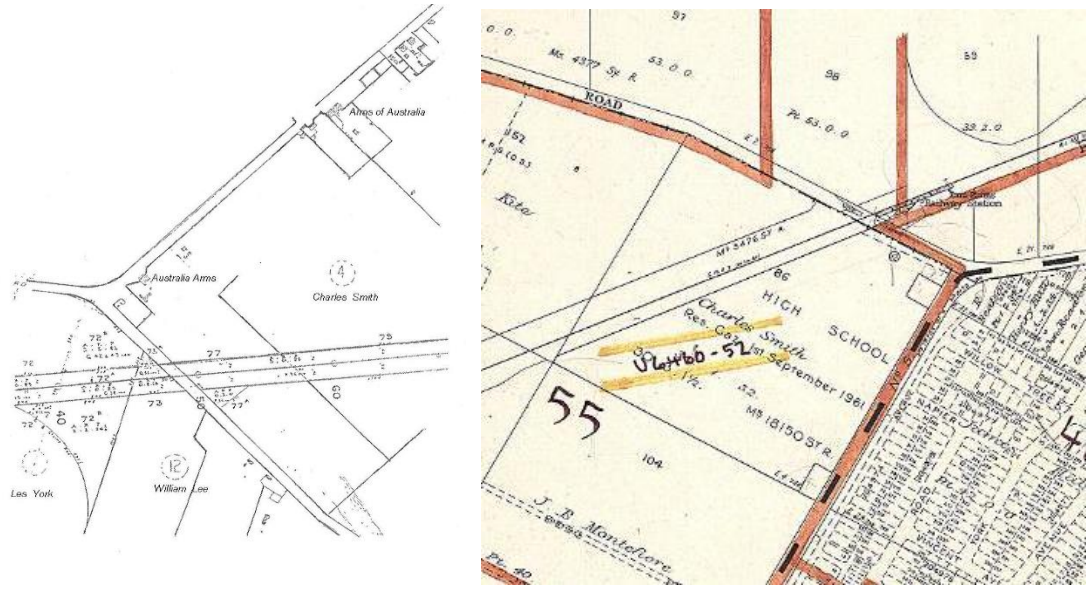
Former Australian Arms Inn, Emu Plains Post Office

The inn is on the corner of the Great Western Highway and the Old Bathurst Road, at Emu Plains. The township of Emu was renamed Emu Plains in 1882. The date of construction of the original building is unknown. However it was the rival of several other inns along the road to Bathurst between the Nepean River and the foot of Lapstone Hill.

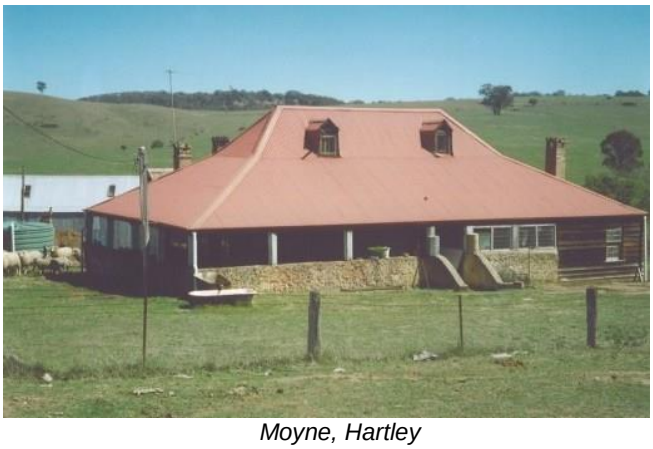


Early plans showing location of the two inns

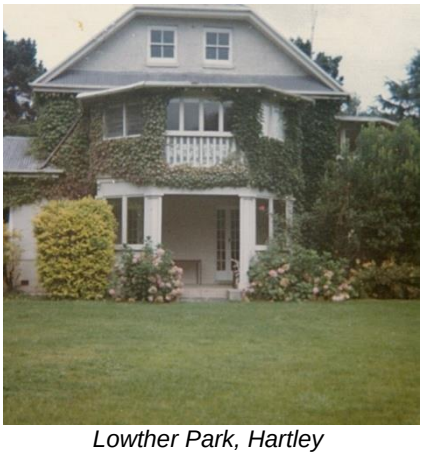
Prior to 1850 the owner was Charles Smith, who bought the property in 1833. Ten months later Smith sold it to John Grant in 1834. The Grants did not live there but leased it out. Neither Smith nor Grant had a publican's license. Little is known about the building before 1850. Maps of the periods show no buildings before 1845, although Grant advertised an inn for lease on the land in 1844, and it was possibly on the site as early as 1841.

Old Post Office, Emu Plains

In 1844 it was known as the Travellers Inn, and was leased by a John Mortimer, rented from John Grant of “Lowther Park”, Hartley.
It is not to be confused with the Arms of Australia Inn (now a museum) built by John Mortimer in 1841, and leased by Robert Beatson from 1850, at the corner of the Great Western Highway and Gardenia Avenue. The original name was the Australian Arms, and when Beatson left he went down the road to the old post office building and it is suggested he took the name and license with him in 1955. A railway map of about 1863 shows both inns.
Beatson leased the second inn from Grant until 1859. He died in 1869 and the inn closed. His family lived on in the building. It was operated as an inn for at least 17 years. There remains some conjecture in regard to the early licensing and operation of the two inns.
The owner of the building, John Grant, was the son of an Irish Catholic tenant farmer. He was convicted of attempted murder in 1810 in Ireland and transported on the ship “Providence” for life to New South Wales in 1811.
He married Jane O’Brien in 1814 and they had three children. He worked for William Redfern, and in 1820 he received his pardon. He commenced applications for land grants, first at Minto and then at the Vale of Clwydd near Mount York. He acquired land on the Cox’s River at Hartley and built his “Moyne” dwelling there in 1823. Sadly Jane died in 1826. That commenced an extraordinary accumulation of land by Grant across the colony, with abundant increases in land, stock and capital over the next few years.



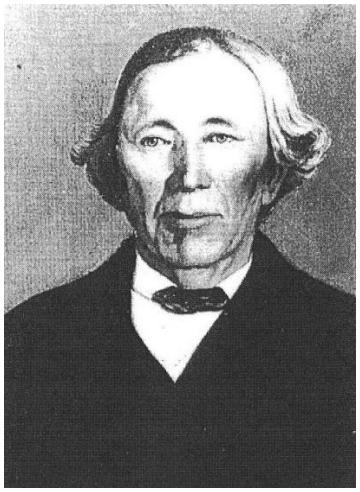
Moyne, Hartley



Lowther Park, Hartley

By 1828 he had more assets that any other Irish Catholic in the colony. During 1833 he began to apply for land to be put up for auction at Emu, Springwood and Blackheath. At Emu he bought allotments 3 and 7, the nearest to the Pilgrim Inn. Grant was also recorded as

having half an acre at Emu. During this period he would have purchased the inn property from Charles Smith.
He married a second time to Elizabeth West in 1833, and bought the property adjoining "Moyne", "Lowther Park", in 1839 from John Wood. Wood had been accused of murdering a female servant and burying her body in the cellar. He sold the property and left the district. Grant lived at "Lowther Park" until 1859, making frequent visits to his considerable holdings on the Belubula, particularly "Merriganowry". He died in 1866 and was buried on the western property.



John Grant (Snr)

Elizabeth Grant (West)

Grave of John Grant (Snr) Merriganowrie

John Grant (Jnr)

Julia Grant (Finn)

Grant had made his will in 1852 when he turned 60. He owned a lot of land, capital and possessions and he wanted to provide for Elizabeth and his ten surviving children. In his will, Grant provided for Elizabeth and seven of the children, the older three being adults and married. His personal possessions were left to Elizabeth, and the lands and capital assets were divided between Elizabeth and the children. One land parcel was 39 ¾ acres at Emu Plains, which would have contained the inn.
The inn site passed to Grant's son John, who retained it until his death in 1906. It was then transferred to his daughter Ellen (Coghlin) who sold it in 1914.
A number of other families have had an association with the building – Beatson, Turnbull and McKellar.

Old Post Office, Emu Plains

The building is described in detail by G. Gyford as having timber floors, three fireplaces on the ground floor, 7 rooms on the ground floor and 6 rooms on the first floor. The core of the ground floor has stone walls, and the remainder, added later in 1880-1890, is mostly weatherboard, with some brick. Further changes were made to the buildings verandahs and chimneys in the 1920s.

Old Post Office sketch by Gifford Eardely 1974

There were also three slab buildings on the site, a well, fodder stores, silos, cow bails and kitchen gardens.
Over time the building has been painted over with stucco and whitewash, operating as a post office for some 53 years. In 1967 it still functioned as a post office, run by Miss McKellar. She still owned the building in 1974. A fire in the building caused damage and although the building has been restored, it has been vacant ever since. It has belonged to Penrith City Council since 1983.

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Emu Plains, Joan Steege 1977
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Food for thought ..... Editor's note

Highway Safety Upgrades – Mount Victoria

BMACHO has recently been approached by a couple of members of the Mount Victoria community in regard to the proposed Roads and Maritime Services (RMS) safety upgrades to the Great Western Highway through the village. These residents request that BMACHO take a stand and make a statement on perceived adverse impacts of the RMS proposals on the village. It has been suggested that we should take an interest and speak out about anything which affects the heritage environs, and that we should, as an entity, register either the urgency of the situation at Mount Victoria, or acknowledge the opportunity presented by a proposed alternate scheme (by a local architect) and other creative ideas advanced by local residents and heritage experts.

The suggestion is made that BMACHO silence to date has made it to some extent party to a collective failure of political will and imagination, and that future generations may well hold BMACHO responsible for it. It is also suggested that had BMACHO joined with Blue Mountains City Council previously, the State government and the RMS may have undertaken a more timely and proper evaluation of this alternate scheme.

Who is BMACHO?

BMACHO is made up of representatives of many local history based organisations. BMACHO seeks to take every opportunity to bring together these member groups to share information and promote culture and heritage throughout the greater Blue Mountains area and beyond. Our diverse membership uniquely blends the skills and resources of historical, cultural and heritage groups, major tourist attractions, gardens and galleries. To quote from the BMACHO website:

"BMACHO, the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Incorporated, was established in 2006 to support the work of the numerous organisations in the cultural heritage field in the Blue Mountains. In recent years, it has expanded to include neighbouring districts such as Lithgow, Penrith and the Hawkesbury.

Our Member Organisations consist of societies, museums, archives, businesses, gardens and institutions. Together, these represent over 1,500-2,000 local residents. In addition there are a limited number of Individual Members to support its work. These are invited professionals who make a significant contribution to the heritage sector in the region. BMACHO provides communication and information across the sector, and training and professional advice for its members. It has its own newsletter, e-journal and website and carries out research on aspects of local heritage, such as its region-wide review of the local heritage sites to document any changes. It is rapidly building effective information heritage services for the benefit of residents and visitors alike.
BMACHO has been a strong and successful advocate on heritage matters at local government level."
Former President, John Leary stated in 2013 that the "Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Organisations Inc (BMACHO) was established in early 2006 following a unanimous response to a proposal from Professor Barrie Reynolds at the 2004 Blue Mountains Local History Conference (sponsored by Blue Mountains City Council) which sought the creation of a local heritage strategy for the city".
The objectives of the organisation include:

- The raising of public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage;
- The encouragement and provision of assistance with cultural heritage activities organised by member organisations;
- The initiation and support of cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations;
- To give a combined 'voice' on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

Background

In recent months BMACHO has been made aware of plans by the NSW Roads and Maritime Services to continue the Great Western Highway upgrades towards the west with work commencing at Mount Victoria in mid-2015. Concern has been expressed that BMACHO has not joined with the combined voice of the community in approaches to government that the proposed works may not be appropriate at Mount Victoria in terms of the heritage significance of the village.

Victoria Falls Road to Harley Street

Until this time, BMACHO was not aware of the strong feeling within the village in regard to the proposed changes, and when approached by a member of the community to endorse a petition for a moratorium on the matter, as well as consideration of an alternate scheme by architect Peter Buckwell, BMACHO has issued the following statement:
"The Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations wishes to remain impartial when there is a difference of opinion amongst bodies within one locality. BMACHO will not, therefore, be a signatory to the proposed petition in relation to the "Buckwell Scheme" in Mount Victoria".
In saying this, BMACHO is still in a position to raise public awareness and provide information to the community in regard to the significant changes which are proposed by the State government, via NSW Roads and Maritime Services (RMS), so that informed decisions can be made by member associations and residents.

Following extensive research by BMACHO on the information available, the following comments are provided to readers.

Mount Victoria

The Federal and State governments have provided some $250 million in funding to improve safety and travel conditions along the Great Western Highway between Katoomba and Lithgow. Originally major works were proposed which included dramatic infrastructure and road construction to bypass the village. However, changes in government and policy, and obviously economics, has resulted in a move for safety upgrades along the highway in the short term.

The RMS sought feedback from the community in 2011 in regard to the formulation of options for treatment of the highway to improve safety for all road users in Mount Victoria and cater for a mix of motorists, cyclists and pedestrians. The solution had to be sensitive to the area's natural and cultural environment and to local communities. And it had to maintain the integrity and qualities of Mount Victoria as a village in the greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area.

The works would be over a 2.3km section of the Great Western Highway, divided into three distinct sections. Some 21 options were subsequently formulated through community feedback for various works to occur between Katoomba and Lithgow. These were then considered in 2012 against criteria including many factors, and in particular affording protection for heritage items, landscape character and visual impact. It was emphasized that most impact would be temporary.

Darling Causeway/Railway Station

Harley Street/Station Street

The options were displayed from 8 October 2012 until 26 October 2012, staffed displays were held, it was publicised on the RMS website, and some 7,500 residents from Mount Victoria to Lithgow were notified by letter drop. In all 41 responses were received, with none from State agencies, including Blue Mountains City Council.

In early 2013 RMS selected a preferred option which would best meet the proposal objectives in terms of safety and future traffic flows, and the best balance between technical, environmental, social and economic benefits and costs. In November 2013 RMS released a Review of Environmental Factors (REF) under the *Environmental Planning & Assessment Regulation 2000*, for these road safety upgrades through Mount Victoria village.

The REF was placed on public exhibition from 25 November 2013 and 7 February 2014, and comments closed on 7 February 2014, although submissions were received up until 21 February.

It is noted that the document was available in hard copy for viewing at a number of locations, including the Mount Victoria General Store and newsagency. It was also on the RMS website and in the local press.

Following community feedback, some 106 submissions were received, four being from agencies. Two alternate options were developed for the section of the highway from Kanimbla Valley Road to Fairy Dell Road at Mount Victoria. Comments were sought from the community on these options. A Newsletter was issued to residents in July 2014.

It was emphasised that all submissions would go into a submissions report to be placed on the RMS website, and that consultation would be ongoing during the detailed design and construction phases of the proposal.
The Submissions Report was prepared detailing the feedback received and showing how it was addressed in finalising the REF.
These RMS documents are available on the RMS website www.rms.nsw.gov.au , along with regular updates and fact sheets.
The REF documented a number of aspects of the proposal including its need and the options considered, the statutory and planning framework, community and stakeholder consultation processes. It then looked at environmental impacts, including biodiversity, land use, property and socio-economic issues, non-Aboriginal heritage, hydrology and water quality, noise and vibration. It then set down the justification and conclusions for the project. These are standard criteria for an REF to consider.

Great Western Highway/Station Street

Railway bridge

The REF acknowledged the Mount Victoria Urban Conservation Area, and a number of heritage items which may potentially be affected by the proposal. It suggested that the proposal would not have any direct impacts on listed heritage items within the study area. It did suggest indirect visual impacts and impacts from vibration may occur during construction, and that these are not considered to be significant and would be managed during construction through the application of mitigation measures.
Later in the REF it states that the upgraded highway would have no direct impact on heritage items or associated curtilages, and that in general, there would be a visual improvement along most sections of the highway through the village. Environmental safeguards are set down including retaining and/or “replanting” trees, sandstone faces on retaining walls, culvert protection, construction site management, tool box talks to highlight heritage significance, and the salvaging of sandstone kerbing for reuse elsewhere.
It is noted that the submission from the NSW Heritage Council recommended that all recommendations in the RMS report be undertaken.
Blue Mountains City Council submission was partly based upon a report by their Heritage Advisor in regard to heritage considerations. Their concerns related to safety and the status of the highway, clarification of the scope and scale of the development, requests for detailed design plans including intersections, asset maintenance, pedestrian and cyclist access, heritage and landscape character and visual amenity impacts, and vegetation removal.
The design phase has been underway during the second half of 2014, with key changes considered including:

- Reduction in the size of a retaining wall opposite Harley Street.
- Sandstone facing on retaining walls east of Hooper Street.
- Narrowing of the service road.
- Removal of water basins.

The relevance of sections in the BMCC Heritage Advisor’s report therefore, must now be balanced against these changes.

Hooper Street/Great Western Highway

Mt Piddington Road/Great Western Highway

Moving forward

It may be that the alternate plan for Mount Victoria has been around for a year or so. However BMACHO has only recently been made aware of its existence by two local residents, and certainly not by any of its member organisations.

There is no doubt that Mount Victoria is unique in its heritage village character and aesthetic appeal. This is acknowledged by everyone including the RMS. However, it is also acknowledged that the evaluation of visual and heritage character and impact is often a very subjective matter.

It should be remembered when considering the effect of the proposals on creating a physically divided community, that the road came first! William Cox built a road across the mountains for Governor Lachlan Macquarie and the people followed, building either side of the road from day one. What we see today is a further set of "deviations", added to a myriad of changes that have gone before, from Emu Plains through to the Hartley Valley and beyond. To think these changes are different is short sighted. We are still trying to provide access through from Sydney to the west, and in increasing volumes.

How the State government goes about this, the detail, will often come down to community awareness and education. Legislation sets down an authority's responsibilities with regard to community consultation. Above and beyond this is community awareness and the community knowing when and how to respond to matters such as the current situation at Mount Victoria. How that community comes together and presents its case is imperative upon its credibility to authorities in the planning stages of a development or project, and its ability to make itself heard.

BMACHO does not intend to make representations to politicians or authorities on this matter. This is no passive acceptance of the current RMS proposals by BMACHO, as we urge our member organisations and readers to make themselves aware of situations in their respective communities and do the research, to form educated, unbiased and responsible opinions, and have the courage to make informed representation where appropriate.

BMACHO support all efforts to make allowance for heritage significance but acknowledge that compromise is required, evaluation can be subjective, and that hard decisions have to be made on both sides.

We urge our member organisations and readers to attend to the following references for further information on this matter where required.

Patsy Moppett

Queries to Roads and Maritime Services can be directed to:

- *Ph: 1800 035 733*
- *Email: K2Lupgrade@rms.nsw.gov.au*
- *Postal: K2L Great* Western Highway Upgrade, Reply Paid 87115, Lane Cove, NSW 1595

References:

13 July 2014 – Letter to Roza Sage (forwarded to BMACHO in March 2015)
24 January 2015 – Letter from Mount Victoria Business and Heritage Group (forwarded to BMACHO in March 2015)
5 March 2015 – Emails to BMACHO from two concerned residents - various
10 March 2015 – Blue Mountains Gazette article, Alternative plan for highway work at Mt Victoria
Letters to the editor in Blue Mountains Gazette - various
Highway Works in Mount Victoria paper – concerned residents of Mount Victoria
Mount Victoria Highway Safety Upgrade Discussion Paper, David May 2014 (forwarded to BMACHO in March 2015)
Great Western Highway – Katoomba to Lithgow: Mount Victoria Village Safety Upgrade – Review of Environmental Factors, NSW Roads and Maritime Services, November 2013
Great Western Highway – Katoomba to Lithgow: Mount Victoria Village Safety Upgrade – Review of Environmental Factors, Appendix F: No-Aboriginal heritage technical paper, NSW Roads and Maritime Services, November 2013
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Great Western Highway Safety Upgrade – Mount Victoria Village: Submissions Report, NSW Roads and Maritime Services, October 2014
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Report on RMS Safety Upgrade Proposals – Mount Victoria, BMCC Heritage Advisor Christo Aitkin 17 January 2014

A Short History of Flower Shows in New South Wales

Blue Mountains people have always been garden lovers – their own and other peoples' – and flower shows were certain to be popular.

On 26th October, 1889, the *Nepean Times* triumphantly announced "*Springwood to the fore. We are going to have a real flower show about the beginning of next month".* The paper also claimed, "*Our climate is well adapted to flower culture. We certainly are a month later with most flowers in the neighbourhood of Sydney, but we make up for it in the vigour of growth with half the attention required for them."*

The organising committee comprised William Rayner, General Store Keeper and owner of the Evandale Nursery; Robert Anderson, School Master; John Illingworth, Policeman; and Lancelot Iredale Brennand, of Valley Heights, Superintendent of the Colonial Stores Department in Sydney. Money raised was to be in aid of the Public School Picnic Fund.

The Show was held on the Prince of Wales' birthday and large numbers of tourists arrived by train to see the school room lavishly decorated with flags and flowers. The little room was somewhat small for such a vast array of floral exhibits.

S.E. Lees, M.L.A. for Nepean and James Inglis, Minister for Public Instruction arrived by train, Mr Inglis bearing a box of roses from his own garden in Strathfield. He was lavish in his praise of the Show and of the wonderful refreshments, including home-made ice cream served in a refreshment tent. Flowers exhibited included wild flowers, roses, lilies, pansies, foxgloves, honeysuckle, ferns and palms and the perfume was wondrous. Stalls displayed bouquets of various kinds. Although the weather was quite hot the flowers were kept fresh into the evening by the use of a large syringe. A profit of £20 was made with £15 worth of expenses.

The organisers were encouraged to stage another Flower Show on the Prince of Wales birthday the following year. This time it was held in one of Mrs John Frazer's paddocks at *Silva Plana*. It was an elevated site and close to the main road. A bush house was erected giving plenty of room to display the exhibits. A large marquee behind the bush house held the refreshments, said by the *Nepean Times* to be "*a tempting assortment of eatables and drinkables - temperance of course*." This time £30 was raised for the Public School Picnic and Library Funds. It is interesting to note that James Clay, gardener to the Hon. Charles Moore, and later head gardener to Sir James Fairfax, was a consistent prize winner.

A FLOWER SHOW
in aid of the
Public School Picnic Fund,
will be held in the
PUBLIC SCHOOL, SPRINGWOOD,
ON
Saturday, Nov. 9th, 1889.

COMMITTEE:
Messrs. W. J. Rayner, L. I. Brennand, J. Illingworth and R. Anderson.

JUDGES:
Messrs. H. C. L. Anderson and Walker.

THE SHOW will be formally opened at noon by MR. JAMES INGLIS, late Minister for Public Instruction, and remain open till 9 p.m.

Admission to Show — One Shilling; Children under 15, Sixpence.

N.B.—Refreshments Provided at Reasonable Rates.

Nepean Times 9/11/1889

R. ANDERSON,
Hon. Sec. Springwood.

Springwood 1889

Chelsea, UK 1931

These Springwood Flower Shows were quite modest compared with one held in Penrith in September, 1887. Money was needed to build a Presbyterian manse and to pay the debt on the Wesleyan Church, and the two parishes formed a committee to organise a wild flower show. This type of show was very popular in Sydney, but more about that later. After much discussion the Penrith Committee decided to show not only wild flowers but every class of flower. Many donations of flowers and fruit were received from every part of the district, but also from Messrs Shepherd & Co. of the Darling Nursery in Sydney and from their growing and cultivation property, *Chatsworth*, situated two miles from Rooty Hill between Eastern Creek and Ropes Creek. Springwood folk also contributed – Mrs Hoare from *Homedale,* the Hon Charles Moore and William Rayner whose family were Penrith residents and devout Wesleyans gave a lovely collection of flowers of every description.

Mrs Squires lent her steam launch to collect flowers from the river and a marquee capable of holding 500 people was hired from Sydney. It must have been a wonderful sight to see being decorated, not only with pot plants, ferns fruit and floral exhibits, but with all manner of exotica. People were thanked for lending or donating the following items:

A ship in a case, shells and curios, statuary, pictures, a rustic moss cottage, a model ship, dried ferns in a case, drawings and memorial of the 1851 Exhibition, picture made from native pine cones, fern gypsy tables, an albatross in a glass case, a pelican, paper flowers, toys, a singing canary, a stag's head, a second stag's head, splashwork, various food stuffs for the refreshments, as well as timber and iron (possibly for the construction of the stalls).

Sir Henry Parkes had been expected to open the Show but had been double booked (he was opening an aquarium at Bondi) so Mr James Inglis, accompanied by Mr S.E. Lees, performed this important duty. Mr Inglis had carried out this task at a large number of functions and, despite being a witty and skilled speaker, referred to them privately as "pestilential bazaars". Entertainment in the evening was provided by the Excelsior String Band and the Juvenile Band. More than £120 was raised.

Kempsey

Sydney Royal

This was the second Penrith Flower Show. Their first ever show was organised by the Penrith Pride of the Forest Lodge, Ancient Order of the Druids, in April, 1887, to raise funds to be shared by the Lodge and the Bulli Relief Fund. There had been a massive gas explosion in a Bulli Colliery earlier in the year killing 81 men.

The Nepean Times was very enthusiastic about the long term benefits of the Shows saying that it "*will likely do more good to horticultural interests of our district than they ever thought of"* and it would have "*the purpose of bringing our farmers and gardners (sic) to vie with each other than they ever thought of.*"

Neither Flower Show had a competitive element with prizes awarded. The display was the thing.

It is interesting to follow the impetus or motivation behind these early flower shows – raising funds for churches and schools, organising a delightful social event in the days when people made their own entertainment, but also having an economic rationale. Another aspect, social welfare, was raised in Parramatta on the occasion of establishing a Horticultural Society, reported by the *Sydney Morning Herald*, 22nd November, 1875. The chairman was the Rev. W.J. Gunther, who had been a curate at St Georges, Bloomsbury, England. There, he said, they had a working man's flower show which was taken up in other areas and had "*proved interesting and beneficial to the people.*" He went on to say "*there were prizes to be competed for by working men, others for the National Schools, the Ragged Schools, and the dwellers in the Mews.*"

In Sydney, the Floral and Horticultural Society organised competitive flower shows in the 1840s as a way of promoting the advancement of horticultural and floricultural skill. The early shows were held in the Market Shed in Sydney and attracted a wide variety of entries of flowers, fruit, vegetables and what was called "colonial manufactures". It is interesting to note what was exhibited.

At this time the well-off citizens of the Colony were building grand homes and employing gardeners to create lovely surroundings to set them in. Flower Shows were very popular. The elite of the Colony, including the Governor and his lady, dressed in their best and enjoyed a social occasion where they could mingle, get inspiration for their gardens and enjoy the entertainment in the form of music provided by various bands.

The *Sydney Morning Herald*, 25th February, 1847, commented "*that a great portion of the really respectable inhabitants never fail to attend. It is one of the social and patriotic duties they can perform, and at the same time enjoy the gratification of a refined taste. Public countenance can never be more appropriately bestowed than in the patronage of those pursuits which develop the resources of the land we live in, contribute to the comfort of our fellow citizens, and which have withal, a humanising and beneficial influence on the character and conduct of the community at large.*"

The successful exhibitors were frequently the proprietors of garden nurseries. The three earliest nurseries in Sydney were established by:

1. Thomas Shepherd, a professional English gardener, who was encouraged to set up a nursery in Chippendale by Governor Ralph Darling and who called it the Darling Nursery. His propagating and growing nursery was *Chatsworth* at Rooty Hill which was mentioned earlier. He died in 1835 but his family continued his work with the help of Robert Henderson, also a nurseryman.
2. Robert Henderson whose Camellia Grove Nursery was in Newtown. One of his specialities was roses.
3. John Baptist, of Portuguese nationality, who did not start out as a gardener, but a servant, arrived in the Colony as a steerage passenger with his wife on the "Swiftsure" in 1829. He came in the employ of Captain Charles Wilson who had been appointed Director of Public Works but lost his position after 18 months. Baptist then opened a butcher's shop with ex-convict, Ned Shackley. They branched out into market gardening and supplying floral arrangements for weddings and funerals. Baptist bought 36 acres in Bourke St, Redfern (where Redfern Police Station now is)

and established a nursery while continuing with the market garden. It was called Baptist's Garden or simply the Gardens – a lovely place with a running stream, a fernery, aviaries and fountains with both imported and locally propagated plants. One of his specialities was camellias. He also propagated native plants and had a thriving export business. The fountain was given to the Trustees of Hyde Park in 1888 and has been recently restored.

William Macarthur, youngest son of John and Elizabeth Macarthur, was also a frequent exhibitor specialising in wines and spirits. He was a botanist and horticulturist credited with introducing camellias into the country and he and his brother, James, established vineyards and made excellent wines and spirits at Camden Park.

Flower Shows continued to flourish, not only in Sydney, but in the suburbs and the country regions, proving to be a delightful way of raising funds for schools and churches. There were changes, of course. Sydney in 1879 hosted a flower, dog and poultry show in the Agricultural Hall. The dogs were exhibited outside but the poultry (including pigeons) shared the hall with the flowers. One wonders what odours assailed the nostrils of the visitors.

In 1894 Camden held a Flower Show in aid of the Carrington Centennial Hospital. It featured Mr F.A. Downes' magnificent collection of chrysanthemums and cyclamens. The same year Queanbeyan held a competitive chrysanthemum show for the Presbyterian Church. Canowindra and Carcoar also held chrysanthemum shows and Carcoar's show was followed by a well-attended "bread-and-butter" dance. Mudgee Horticultural Society staged an autumn show which was judged by Mr T.E. Horton of Sydney. A John Henry Horton was head gardener to Miss Eadith Walker, Concord, Sydney). Deniliquin, Milton, Kiama and Inverell all had Spring Shows, St Marys had a horticultural and art show and Moama staged a rose show.

These shows were still very social occasions, particularly in the city. The *Australian Town and Country Journal*, 21st February, 1897, devoted more space describing the outfits worn by the female visitors than to the exhibits. One outfit took my fancy: "*A very pretty dress was worn by a young lady of striped washing material, the colors – art-green, red and a shade of art-pink; her hat was of the present flat shape, and was trimmed with golden poppies, bows of black velvet, and a little gold tulle.*"

Show organisers were prepared to go to extreme lengths to create beautiful and novel events. Halls were profusely decorated with garlands, grasses, ferns and pot plants and entertainment in the form of bands and vocal presentations were popular. Flowers were not the only exhibits. Gift stalls were set up with posies, baskets of fruit and vegetables, table decorations and gifts to entice visitors to spend their money. The *Australian Town and Country Journal*, 3rd October, 1885, published a "*description of novel attractions*". One idea was to set up a gypsy encampment – perhaps a caravan set up over 4 cart wheels with steps at the entrance. It should, the writer said, be gaudily decorated with the vendors (who should be attractive) dressed as gypsies selling trinkets and cheap toys, telling fortunes and even preparing tea or soup over an outdoor fire. "*Cigars, pipes and tobacco would always find a ready sale among the male visitors who always flock into odd places.*"

Then came the passion for Wild Flower Shows.....

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Springwood Historians, "The Making of a Mountain Community: a Biographical Dictionary of the Springwood District"
"The Oxford Companion to Australian Gardens"
"The War Chest Flower Book"

NEWSPAPERS

Australian Town and Country Journal
Daily Southern Cross
Nepean Times
Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser
Sydney Morning Herald

Assisted Immigrant Passenger Lists 1828 to 1896
City of Sydney Media Centre
Wikipedia - William Macarthur's biography

Succession Planning

The Succession Planning Workshop held by BMACHO in February at the Lithgow Mining Museum provided an opportunity for **organisations and committees to find out the many ways to make their tasks easier and more effective and ensure their volunteers get the most out of their roles**. (See *Heritage* January-February p.14). The day commenced with a tour of the museum site.

Lithgow Mining Museum workshops

BMACHO Vice President Ian Jack opened the proceedings. Those few who were able to attend were treated to very worthwhile presentations by the speakers, Emeritus Professor David Carment, Ray Christison, Lynn Collins and Tamara Lavrencic.
Both David and Ray spoke about their experiences in being on committees and their approaches to the success of their various organisations.
David Carment: David reviewed the principles set down by Museums and Galleries of NSW to assist organisations in their operations. He emphasized the importance of valuing the work of volunteers and encouraging their involvement, dealing with aging membership and finding people to fit the committee positions. Inclusion of fixed terms for positions and seeking people who have something to offer, may be key solutions.
Utilization of social media and sharing the load, are also ways to relieve the pressure. People have less and less time to be involved and to carry out the myriad of tasks required in a committee these days.
Ray Christison: Ray cover the topic under five headings, as follows:

- What is succession planning – finding people to fill key positions on a committee to sustain the required functions of the group. In particular, finding a leader who will identify the problems and work to solve them. Ray quoted from Ben Chifley, "Rookwood is full of people who were indispensable".
- Roles – the roles in a committee range from a leader, administration, program management, tour guides, site/building management, museum development. The task is finding suitable people who can do each of these jobs.

BMACHO Vice President Ian Jack addresses the group

- Plan for the future – the problem is broken down, deciding who does what. Divide the position and delegate tasks. The tasks can be carried out by volunteers, casual staff or contractors.
- Attracting volunteers – the vision should be articulated. Sensible business planning should be undertaken, obtaining recognition for the organisation, creating a positive and creative environment for volunteers. Sometimes the facilities can be difficult for volunteers eg. heat/cold. Anticipate the benefits of participation. Network within the community. Keep exhibitions fresh, undertake projects that renew/maintain interest, for both volunteers and visitors.
- Alternatives – use contractors for some tasks if possible. Identify roles and cash flow, sponsors and compliances with legislation. Expand the capabilities of the group and possible use a business model. Make use of existing assets such as publications, local businesses, social media. Decide how to access different sectors of the community and have a clear vision. Have a vision statement, and communicate effectively.

Lyn Collins: Lyn summarised their comments and went on to highlight the salient points relating to continuity, role sharing, rotation of positions, reviewing the provisions of the relevant constitution, employing outside expertise, the importance of having a strategy and undertaking social events, and redefining the tasks and roles required. He emphasised the social benefits and the sustainability of committees.

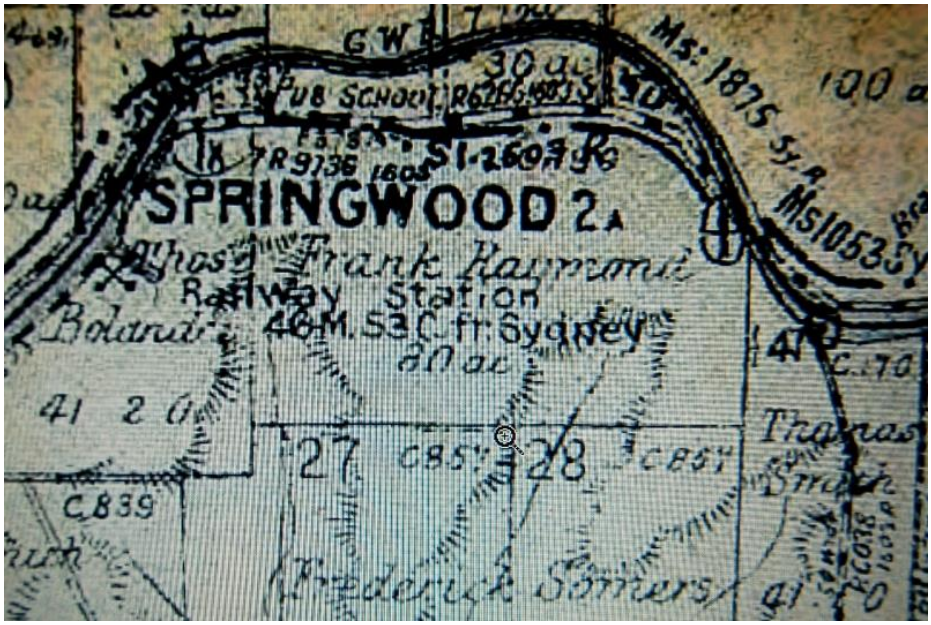
Tamara Lavrencic: Tamara was visiting from the Museums and Galleries of NSW, and explained the Standards Program. It operates for some 10 months of the year and has a regional bias. It is an opportunity to seek assistance for surveying collections, management, engaging visitors, caring for the collection. An independent reviewer is sent out to each museum. They act as mentor to the museum management. Many resources are available, including risk management, grants, setting up a website, and an advisory service.
It provides an opportunity for self review against the national standard.

***Editor's comment*:** It would appear that we need to take time out of our busy schedules to find the time to help ourselves. It is strongly recommended that all organisations seek out the *Principles for the Recognition of Volunteers* for a review. Organisations that adopt the principles would be sending out a clear signal to current and potential volunteers that their contributions are valued. (www.volunteering.nsw.gov.au). *Patsy Moppett*

Also *Volunteer Succession Planning – a "How-to" Guide*, Museums and Galleries of NSW (www.mgnsw.org.au)
The NSW Department of Environment and Community's web site provides much information in regard to working with corporations, supporting volunteers, running an organisation, and promoting an organisation.
If anyone is interested in repeating this workshop, please contact BMACHO with suggestions for numbers of attendees and venues. (www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au)

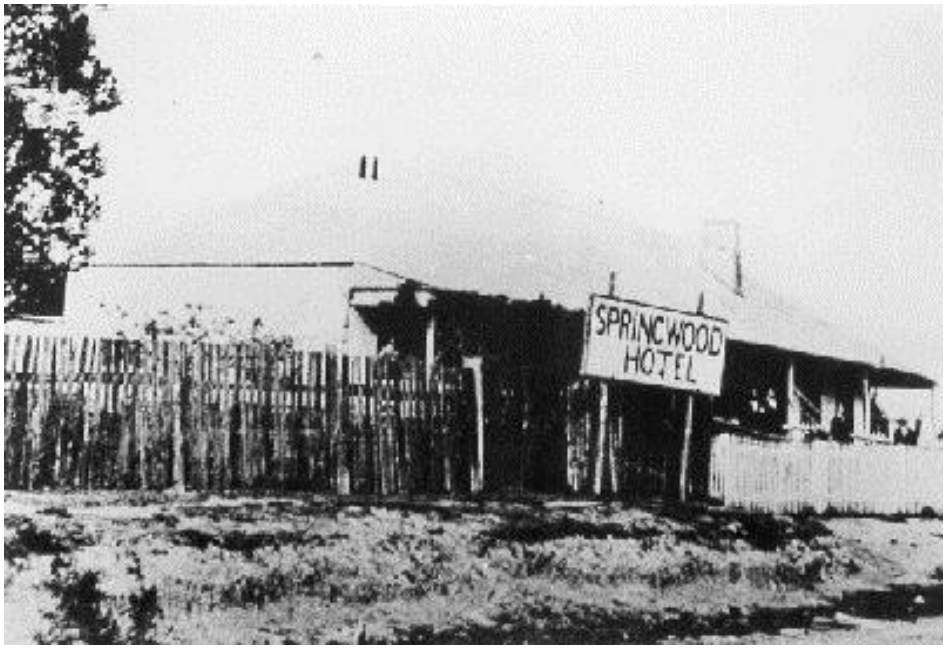
The Oriental Hotel, Springwood, and the Lawson Family

Possible redevelopment of the Oriental Hotel, Springwood, and the adjacent area in Raymond Road is an object of current concern. The entire area south of Macquarie Road to the east of the railway station was originally owned by Frank Raymond, who gained formal title to the 80 acres in 1878, although he had been occupying it since the 1860s.[1]



Parish Map of Magdala, County of Cook, 1909 showing Frank Raymond's grant, Portion 2A (formerly Portion 52)

In the 1870s Raymond built the single storey Springwood Hotel on the site of the later oriental, but left for Sydney in the 1880s to become a professional photographer, in Waterloo and Marrickville[2].
In 1890 the half century of Lawson domination of that end of Springwood began, when James Lawson bought the eastern 60 acres from Raymond. Lawson was a prosperous Scottish cabinet maker and furniture dealer, born in Greenock in 1836, arriving in Australia in 1855. Springwood Hotel and its outbuildings were the only existing buildings on the 60 acres, at its western end. Further east there was a substantial orchard and flower garden. Lawson immediately rebuilt Raymond's hotel and created a grander two storey hotel, with an extensive cellar, and renamed it the Hotel Oriental in 1991, that being the main fabric of the present building.
Between the hotel and the orchard Lawson proceeded to build his own elegant country retreat. This was "Braemar", 102-104 Macquarie Road, now very suitably housing the Local Studies section of the Blue Mountains City Library.
James Lawson and his wife Emma Glen, did not live in "Braemar" for long and by 1895 had built a new retirement residence adjacent to the east, which they wittily called "Glen Lawson", now "Danebury", 100 Macquarie Road. The Lawsons lived at "Glen Lawson" until their deaths in 1926, while "Braemar" was leased for a variety of purposes[3].



Springwood Hotel 1878

The Hotel Oriental in the 1920s,
Blue Mountains City Library, Local Studies, Springwood, photograph 204

Very early in the twentieth century, the Raymond orchard and flower garden were absorbed into new residential blocks for the family of James Lawson. His second son, William Maxwell Lawson, built "The Knoll", 86-88 Macquarie Road, while a widowed daughter of James occupied "Caberfeagh", 94-96 Macquarie Road. The space between "The Knoll" and "Caberfeagf" was filled after James Lawson's death when the land was sold by William Maxwell Lawson and the new owner built "Nirvana". 90-92 Macquarie Road, in 1933[4].
The Oriental remained in Lawson ownership until after World War II. Staunch Presbyterians, the Lawsons made the hotel available to the church's Burnside Homes in North Parramatta as a wartime evacuation centre for 94 of the disadvantaged boys. The licensed premises did not close but moved across to the other side of Macquarie Road.

Oriental Hotel 1960

Oriental Hotel 2015

William Lawson also surrendered his own home, “Glen Lawson”, to the administration of the Burnside evacuees[5].
This eastern end of Springwood ceased to be a Lawson precinct after the war and the hotel and houses were gradually sold off. The alterations to the Oriental which are familiar today were largely done by new owners in the 1960s and again in the mid 1990s[6]. The Lawson houses constitute an outstanding suite in modern Springwood. The enclave, moreover, still looks out to the north over open land, thanks to the other major Presbyterian landholders, the Frazers, who chose not to build on their holdings along the northern side of Macquarie Road.
There are significant environmental and heritage issues to be weighed when decisions about redevelopment of the Oriental site are placed before the Blue Mountains City Council.

Associate Professor Ian Jack

References:

[1] Springwood Historians, The Making of a Mountain Community: a Biographical Dictionary of the Springwood District, authors, Springwood 2002, pp.269-270; Land Titles Office, vol.346 fo.120.

[2] Springwood Historians, Making of a Mountain Community, p.270; Alan Davies and Peter Stanbury, The Mechanical Eye in Australia: Photography, 1841-1900, Oxford University Press, Melbourne, p.216

[3] John Low and Helen Halliwell, Braemar, 1892-1992, Braemar Management Committee, Springwood, 1992, pp.5-6.

[4] Blue mountain Heritage inventory, SP 022 023, 029, 053, 054, 056

[5] Florence C. Fleming, '\Caring for Kids', Legacy Torchlight, 37 ii, October 1995, p.4; John Maddock, The Frazer Memorial Presbyterian Church: a History, Springwood Historical Society, Springwood, 2nd. ed. 1995, pp.6-47.

[6]Blue Mountains City Library, Local Studies, 'Oriental' file.

The Technical Side

Salt attack & rising damp

This process in heritage buildings must be understood to prevent onset of the problem and to address buildings already affected. The two are separate but interrelated. And both must be dealt with.
Rising damp is caused by capillary suction of water into the fine pores or voids that occur in all masonry materials. Water is drawn from the soil and today we utilise a damp proof course to prevent rising damp. Early masonry buildings were often built directly onto the ground, or on stone footings.
Salt attack is the decay of masonry materials such as stone, brick and mortar by soluble salts forming crystals within the pores of the masonry. The salts come from the soils and as the moisture evaporates salts are left behind. Masonry reacts with the crystals and crumbles away, or “melts”.
Walls must be able to “breathe” with heating and cooling of the surrounding air. In humid conditions condensation can occur within the wall causing moisture to accumulate. If

coatings are applied that prevent breathing, the wall remains damp, even in dry weather, and becomes weak and fragile under the outer coating.

Peeling whitewash on brick wall

Salt rising through floor

Signs of rising damp and salt attack can include blistering of paint, fretting of mortar and or brickwork, decaying plaster and
The problems should be accurately diagnosed. The building should be efficiently and effectively drained to prevent moisture impact, and underfloor ventilation undertaken where possible, particularly in the event of storms, floods, drought etc. Mild damp can be treated by using weak mortars which are replaced regularly. Excessive salt can be removed easily with a brush or vacuum.
It is imperative then to undertake regular monitoring and maintenance to protect a building, and inserting damp proof courses after salt removal where possible.
Although most buildings in Australia are under 200 years old, it is still imperative to assist buildings to last beyond this.

Decimated headstones in rural cemetery

There are many ways of preventing and dealing with rising damp and salt attack, and experts in the field who utilise up to date techniques and equipment. Small changes in management can make a world of difference when teamed with ongoing monitoring. There are numerous technical guides available on the subject which make excellent references when trying to diagnose the problem and seek solutions. *Patsy Moppett*

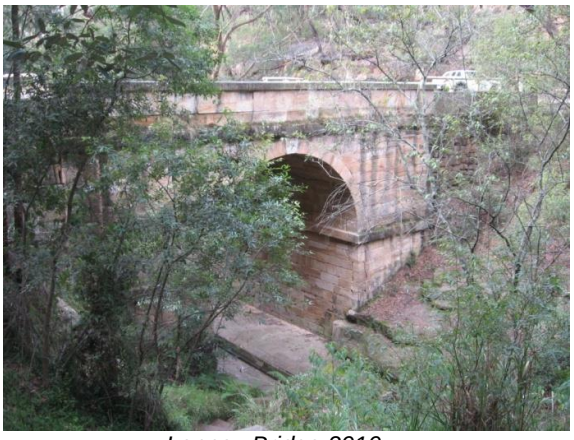
References:
Salt Attack & Rising Damp, Technical Guide, David Young 2008
Rising Damp, Information Sheet 2.1, NSW Heritage Office 1998

Community events & updates

Lennox Bridge to be refurbished

A State government grant has enabled this significant structure to have a much needed makeover and refurbishment. The funding will enable the removal of graffiti, strengthening of cracking in the stonework, installation of interpretive signage and also CCTV equipment. The works will enable on going conservation of the bridge and greater appreciation by the public of the historical significance of the bridge. The grant was awarded through the State government's Major Works Program, which is designed to assist owners and managers of State Heritage Register listed properties to restore and reuse their properties.

Lennox Bridge 1830s



Lennox Bridge 2010

The bridge is the oldest stone arch bridge on the Australian mainland, being constructed between 1832 and 1833. It was designed by Scottish stone mason David Lennox and constructed by convict labour.

Patsy Moppett

The Paragon SHR Gazettal

The Paragon, 63-69 Katoomba Street, Katoomba, was formally listed on the State Heritage Register on 5 March 2015 in Government Gazette No. 17. It was listed by the Minister for heritage, the Honourable Rob Stokes MP, on the recommendation of the Heritage Council of NSW, pursuant to Clause 37(1)(a) of the *Heritage Act 1977.*

The listing was undertaken due to the item's heritage significance to the people of the State of NSW. The details can be viewed on the State Heritage Register via the Heritage Division, Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) website at www.heritage.nsw.gov.au

Meeting to celebrate

Drinking straws c. 1940

BMACHO is delighted that the Paragon, the iconic Greek café in Katoomba, was gazetted on 5 March 2015 as an item on the State Heritage Register. Jan Koperberg has been

secretary to the incipient Friends of the Paragon and Ian Jack was a founding member of this group. Very substantial contributions to the nomination to the Heritage Council were made by Roy Lumby, President of the Twentieth-Century Heritage Society and an expert on Art Deco, and, on the historical side, by Ian Jack.
There was a small celebratory lunch at the Paragon on Saturday 28 March 2015 before the Annual General Meeting of BMACHO hosted by Robyn Parker, the dedicated lessee of the Paragon. The photograph shows those attending: from left to right, Fiona Burn (National Archives of Australia), Robyn Parker, David Rozenker (Twentieth-Century Heritage Society), Sara Reilly (Blue Mountains City Council); and on the opposing side of the table, Roy Lumby (Twentieth-Century Heritage Society), Patsy Hollis (editor of book on Paragon) and Jan Koperberg (BMACHO).
At the Annual General Meeting of BMACHO in March, Ian Jack made a presentation to Robyn Parker of two real straws taken from the Paragon in c.1940, which he had recently been given. One straw was still in its original paper wrapping, printed as an advertisement for the café. The inscription is only partly legible in the photograph. The complete text is:

REAL HYGIENIC DRINKING STRAW
MADE IN FRANCE
THE PARAGON, Katoomba, Sole Agents for Australia

The straws will be on display at the Paragon in future. *Associate Professor Ian Jack*

The Cox's Road SHR Gazettal

A number of precincts of the Cox's Road were formally listed on the State Heritage Register on 25 March 2015 in Government Gazette No. 27. The sites were listed by the Minister for heritage, the Honourable Rob Stokes MP, on the recommendation of the Heritage Council of NSW, pursuant to Clause 37(1)(a) of the *Heritage Act 1977.*
The listing was undertaken due to the sites' heritage significance to the people of the State of NSW. The details can be viewed on the State Heritage Register via the Heritage Division, Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) website at www.heritage.nsw.gov.au
The formal listing was made as follows:
Cox's Road (1814–15) and Early Deviations (1820s) - Four Precincts within the Local Government Areas of Blue Mountains City and Lithgow City:

- Cox's Road and Early Deviations—Woodford, Appian Way Precinct
- Cox's Road and Early Deviations—Mount York, Cox's Pass Precinct
- Cox's Road and Early Deviations—Hartley, Clarence Hilly Range/Mount Blaxland Precinct
- Cox's Road and Early Deviations—Sodwalls, Fish River Descent Precinct

Mount Blaxland track, Hartley

Track below Mount York

The listing is a culmination of the work commenced in 2006 by John Wellings and the Cox's Road Project Committee, together with support from the community and the relevant local government bodies. *Patsy Moppett*

Hartley Commemorates - Correcting the Record

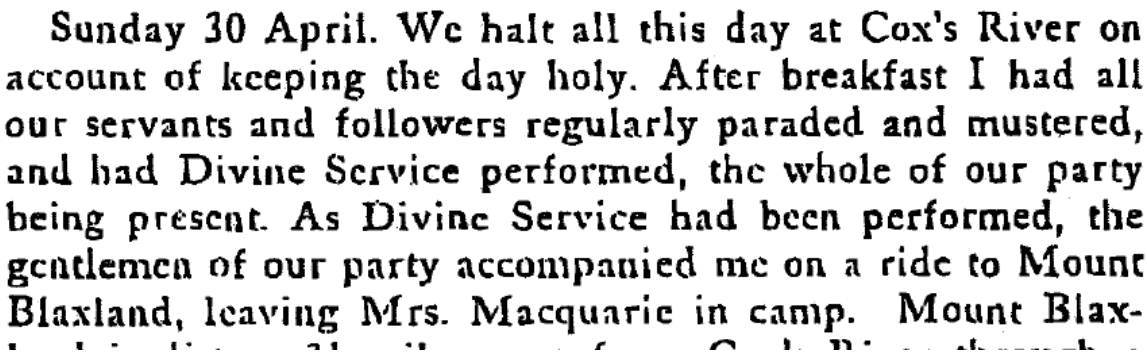
On the South bank of the Macquarie River at Bathurst stands an obelisk bearing an inlaid marble plaque erected in 1930 by the Royal Australian Historical Society. It commemorates Sunday 7th May 1815, when Governor Lachlan Macquarie proclaimed the town of Bathurst. It then goes on to state "after which the first Divine Service west of the Blue Mountains was held". Truth is, it's wrong, Macquarie didn't conduct the first Divine Service west of the mountains in Bathurst. He did that in Hartley.

The Memorial at Bathurst

The Hartley District Progress Association in conjunction with The Macquarie Society is holding an event to commemorate and correct the record on this historical anomaly. On ***Sunday April 26th*** they are expecting a big crowd to see Governor Macquarie's military escort and their entourage, to hear Professor Dame Marie Bashir speak on Macquarie and Tim Mc Iver the Minister of St Johns at Hartley, celebrate Divine Service exactly as Macquarie would have in 1815. "This is an important historic event" said Ramsay Moodie the Chairman of the Hartley District Progress Association's organising committee "we are putting a peg in the ground with a troop of Red Coats to back us up – Hartley is where the first divine service was celebrated".

The Memorial at Glenroy, Hartley

With the day starting at 11 am the main proceedings commence at 2 o'clock sharp. "We are encouraging families to come from 11am so there is time to talk to the soldiers before they deliver their first volley in salute, on the arrival of Professor Dame Marie Bashir" explained Ramsay Moodie " the Hartley Fire brigade will be doing a sausage sizzle for lunch and the formal proceedings will commence at 2pm". They are doing all this in Butlers paddock on Jenolan caves road 4klms from the Great Western Highway junction, as Ramsay added " it's a very historic place, Mt Blaxland in front of us and Macquarie's campsite and Cox's road just below, plus there is lots of room for parking".


Sunday 30 April. We halt all this day at Cox's River on account of keeping the day holy. After breakfast I had all our servants and followers regularly paraded and mustered, and had Divine Service performed, the whole of our party being present. As Divine Service had been performed, the gentlemen of our party accompanied me on a ride to Mount Blaxland, leaving Mrs. Macquarie in camp. Mount Blax-

Extract from Macquarie's Diary

After formal welcomes, Professor Dame Marie Bashir will deliver the 2015 Macquarie Oration, the first of an annual series of talks on the virtues of Governor Macquarie, the fourth governor of New South Wales. Patrick Dodd the president of The Macquarie Society, who are partnering with the Hartley District Progress Association in the delivery of this event, said "Dame Marie is a noted Macquarie Scholar and she graciously accepted the role of Patron of our society when she was still the governor of New South Wales". He went on to explain "At our event in Hartley, I am told, Dame Marie will give us an insight into what she sees in Macquarie's attitudes and behaviour that have contributed to what we would regard today as our Australian Values".

This is an event not to be missed, if you want more information go to www.hartleyvalley.org.au. It's important that you book as this will ensure you get to enjoy a cup of tea with Dame Marie at the end of proceedings. To book call the Lithgow Visitors Information Centre on 1300 760 276.

Hartley District Progress Association
For more information Call:
Ramsay Moodie Ch HDPA Organising Committee - 02 6355 2259
Patrick Dodd, President Macquarie Society - 02 9487 3221

Glenroy Crossing

Glenroy Bicentenary Commemoration Committee invites you to attend a Divine Service by Reverend Tim McIver, Anglican Minister of St John's Hartley, and Oration on Governor Lachlan Macquarie by Dr Anne-Marie Whitaker, President of the Royal Australian Historical Society, on Thursday the 30th April 2015. The event would be followed by refreshments and site inspection at Glenroy.

The Divine Service and Oration commemorates the bicentenary of the First Divine Service west of the Blue Mountains, held at Glenroy on the 30th April 1815, in the presence of Governor Macquarie and Mrs Macquarie.

The event will take place between 12 noon and 2pm near the existing monument at Glenroy, Hartley.

Eliza Rodd grave

Glenroy Precinct

A site inspection of the location of the first two bridges built west of the Blue Mountains, the location of the Military Depot 1814, and the grave of Eliza Rodd, 1831, will take place after refreshments.
Please bring a chair, your lunch and coin donation to the event. Be prepared for inclement weather.
Bradley and Rosemary Barber,
Glenroy Bicentenary Commemoration Committee

Heritage Roadshow

The Baird government has recently allocated some $28.5 million to conserving and protection local churches, old schools, and industrial and wartime relics. The NSW government will appoint a Heritage Roadshow Team (similar to the BBC series Antiques Roadshow, and Time Team) comprised of experts with skills in archaeology, history, heritage architecture, planning and Aboriginal culture. The Team would tour the State, encouraging residents to seek advice from them on the conservation of historical items and places. The Team would record historical information to protect important places and help local Councils improve skills amongst their heritage staff.
A pool of $8 million for local communities or property owners to restore heritage items that aren't on the State Heritage Register, will be offered. A focus will be making heritage more accessible to the public through adaptive reuse and access/building/efficiency upgrades.
A pool of $2 million will focus on energy efficiency.
A pool of $6 million will be offered to local councils to improve technical advice for conservation.

Patsy Moppett

Flag Staff, Bathurst

A group of local Bathurst people are approaching the completion of a project to erect a new Flag Staff on the spot where Governor Lachlan Macquarie raised the flag to name the town of Bathurst on 7th May 1815. The event marked the earliest gateway to inland NSW and enabled development of the fledgling nation.
The Flag Staff marked the finishing point of the first road over the Blue Mountains built by William Cox, and was the official survey point for laying out the original plans of the Bathurst township.

Governor Lachlan Macquarie

Lewin's depiction of Bathurst

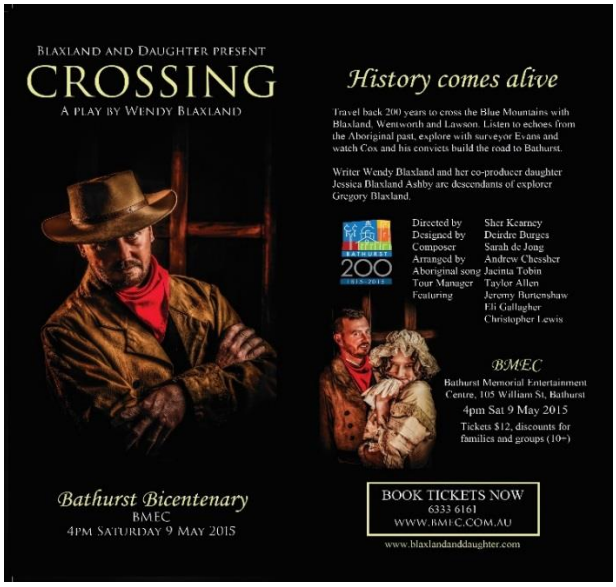
The Bathurst Bicentennial Colonial Fair Committee, under the auspices of the Bathurst District Historical Society, are planning two colonial fairs, one on Thursday 7th May (Proclamation Day) and one on 9th May 2015. A life-size slab hut has been completed and will be relocated to the site on the banks of the Macquarie River. Early costumes have been researched and numerous activities will be included at the fairs. *Patsy Moppett*
Further information is available from the Bathurst Visitors Centre.

Crossing

Bathurst's Bicentenary Celebrations are almost here! And one of the most eagerly awaited is the play CROSSING, a fun romp through the early crossings of the Blue Mountains, written specially for these three years of commemorations. CROSSING follows explorers Blaxland, Wentworth and Lawson, the aboriginals who have crossed the mountains for thousands of years, surveyors, roadbuilders and pioneer families across the mountains. Three energetic actors play forty different parts, and the action is interspersed with traditional and purpose-written songs. It will be performed at Bathurst's well-known Entertainment Centre at 4pm on Saturday 9th May, at the special discount price of $12. Booking details are available at the Bathurst Memorial Entertainment Centre Ph: 6333 6161. Please forward this to anyone who might be interested in coming – and see you at the show!

Wendy Blaxland, www.wendyblaxland.com www.blaxlandanddaughter.com

19 Lisa Valley Close Wahroonga NSW 2076 AUSTRALIA ph +61 02 9489 4955, m 0411 071 273



BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

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Website: www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au **ABN**: 53 994 839 952

The organisation: Blue Mountains Association of Cultural & Heritage Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 after local historical and heritage societies and individuals recognised the need for the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the local government area (LGA) of Blue Mountains City Council. The constituency now embraces but is not limited to, the LGAs of Blue Mountains, Lithgow, Hawkesbury, Penrith and Mudgee. BMACHO membership includes historical and heritage groups, museums, commercial enterprises with an historical or heritage component in its core business, local government (local studies units, library collections) and a limited number of individual members by invitation such as but not necessarily academics. The objectives of the organisation are:

1. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage
2. To encourage and assist cultural heritage
3. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations.

One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

Affiliations: BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society and is affiliated with the Better Planning Network.

Publications: BMACHO's official newsletter ***Heritage*** is edited by Patsy Moppett. The annual refereed *Blue Mountains History Journal* is edited by Dr Peter Rickwood and occasional papers are published from time to time.

Membership: The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mt Tomah; Blue Mountains City Library; Blue Mountains Cultural Heritage Centre; Blue Mountain Education & Research Trust; Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc; Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute; Eskbank Rail Heritage Centre; Everglades Historic House & Gardens; Friends of Norman Lindsay Gallery; Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc; Hartley Valley District Progress Association; Hawkesbury Historical Society Inc; Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc; Lithgow & District Family History Society Inc; Lithgow Mining Museum Inc; Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies; Lithgow Small Arms factory Museum Inc; Mt Victoria & District Historical Society Inc; Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine Historical Society Inc (including Turkish Bath Museum); Mudgee Historical Society Inc; National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Blue Mountains Branch; National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Lithgow Branch; Nepean District Historical Society Inc; Paragon Restaurant, Katoomba; Scenic World Blue Mountains Limited; Springwood & District Historical Society Inc; Springwood Historians Inc; Transport Signal Communication Museum Inc; The Darnell Collection P/L; Valley Heights Locomotive Depot and Museum, Woodford Academy Management Committee, Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd; Bygone Beautys Tea Pot Museum, Tea Rooms and Antiques.
The following are individual members: Ray Christison, Associate Professor Ian Jack, Joan Kent, John Low OAM, Ian Milliss, Patsy Moppett, Professor Barrie Reynolds, Fiona Burn, Dr Peter Rickwood and Dr Peter Stanbury OAM.

Committee: The management committee for 2015-2016 (from April 2015) is: Patsy Moppett (President and ***Heritage*** Newsletter editor) ,Ian Jack (vice president), Jan Koperberg (secretary), Ian Hammon (Treasurer), Roy Bennett (Grants Application Officer), Wendy Hawkes and Scott Pollock (web site), Dick Morony (Public Officer/Membership Secretary/ Calendar Editor), Suzanne Smith and Louise Vining (Events and Venue Co-ordinators).

Disclaimer: views and opinions expressed in Heritage originate from many sources and contributors. Every effort is taken to ensure accuracy of material. Content does not necessarily represent or reflect the views and opinions of BMACHO, its committee or its members. If errors are found feedback is most welcome.

Heritage

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Mount Lambie on the Honeysuckle Range

Mount Lambie - John Lambie

The locality we now know as Mt Lambie, some 20km west of Lithgow on the Great Western Highway, has been known in the past as Mt Lambi, and Mt Lambey, Thorpe's Pinch and Warrawang.

Presbyterian Church, Mt Lambie

Former Victoria Inn, Rydal- Mitchell's Line of Road

It was named Mt Lambie after Surveyor John Lambie, who was an overseer and surveyor on the construction of Victoria Pass and the Great Western Road. Thorpes Pinch Road at Mt Lambie is part of the original alignment of the Mitchell's line of road from Sydney to Bathurst.
John Lambie was born in Ayrshire, Scotland in 1793 to John Lambie and Elizabeth. John Lambie Snr was an engineer from Saltcoats, Ayrshire, born in 1833, coming from a railway background. His father had been Traffic Manager of the Wishaw and Coltness Railway until 1848 when it became the Caledonian Railway. John Snr became Locomotive Superintendent of the Caledonian Railway in 1891. He died in 1895, two years after John Jnr was born. He improved conditions for enginemen by fitting cab doors, better handrails and footsteps to locomotives.
John Jnr came to Australia in 1828, some years after his father's death, and worked as a surveyor in the Survey Department in Sydney. He was appointed as a civil officer, an Assistant Surveyor, in the Department of Roads and Bridges on 4 June 1829, when he received a salary of 150 pounds per year. In 1830 he became licensed and an additional allowance of 2/6 per day for his horse. In December of that year he was transferred to the Department of the Surveyor General where his salary rose to 200 pounds per year. He also received rations when in the field.
In 1828 Major Thomas Livingstone Mitchell became the Surveyor-General, replacing John Oxley, recently deceased. He assumed control for the Survey Department, and carried out considerable changes on the roads between Sydney & Parramatta, and out to Liverpool. He turned his attention almost immediately to the improvement of the Great Western Road. He surveyed a route running north west from Hartley via Mt Walker to Meadow Flat, crossing the Honeysuckle Range at the top of Mt Lambie, then running in an almost straight line westward via Browns Hill to Kelso, to meet the pre-existing road. Mt Lambie is located to the south of the current highway alignment.
Edmund Lockyer was in the process of building a new pass down from Mt York, a route suggested by Pierce Collits, a settler of Hartley, when Mitchell ordered a cessation of work, claiming that he had a more suitable route. He established a new descent from the Blue Mountains towards Bathurst in 1830 down what we now know as Victoria Pass, which was completed by 1837, through Rydal (Solitary Creek), over Mt Lambie, and through Yetholme, where it became a main road to Bathurst and the main route for mail.
In 1830 his road was commenced, descending Mt Victoria, crossing the River Lett below Hartley, and above Glenroy. Glenroy had been the site of a military station (stockade) at the confluence of the Cox's River and the River Lett, and took on the name as a rural property in about 1837.
By November work was being carried out on Victoria Pass, where road gangs numbering over 110 men were under the care of Supervisor Elliott. Thorpe was another overseer or ganger on the construction of the road through this area, under Thomas Mitchell. His military camp (stockade) was established at Honeysuckle Hill from 1832-1839.
Discipline was challenging. In 1830 Assistant-Surveyor John Lambie had been in charge of the road parties at Argyle. In January 1831 John Lambie took over as Supervisor from Elliot at the Pass. The pace of work picked up after this, although discipline was still difficult. In 1836 both Lambie and Mitchell were signatories to a submission to the Governor in regard to their exclusion from the Commission of the Peace.
In August 1830 the Campbelltown Assizes heard a matter relating to two prisoners being apprehended for forgery, Jean Herman Maas and Thomas McGibbon. To the Chief Justice, John Lambie swore that he was the Assistant Surveyor of Roads in the Liverpool district and it was his duty to make up the ledgers of the road gangs under his direction, including road gang No. 38, and send them to the Commissariat Office at Liverpool. The ledgers included the names of the men, the number of days each had worked, and the provisions furnished for them. Lambie's signature had been forged on papers, and monies stolen. These two convicts were accused of the forgery. They were tried and Maas found guilty, McGibbon not guilty. Later they were both again placed at the bar, and further witnesses called. The jury returned a verdict of guilty for both, and passed the sentence of death for both prisoners.

Maas in particular had had a colourful past. He was a Dutch-Sinhalese convict from Ceylon, who was sent to Mauritius as an assigned servant to political prisoners in 1818. In 1924 he was sentenced for 7 years for forgery. He was not put on a road gang like most Indian convicts, due to his literacy and his European parentage, but was attached as a personal assistant to the head of the department of roads and bridges, William Staveley. It was considered that he was not of a class accustomed to hard labour, and that he be apprenticed to some trade. Within a year he had been arrested again for trying to spend a forged coin, being caught with forged coins and coinage equipment. He was tried and sentenced to transportation for 15 years to NSW in 1828 on the ship Celia, being age 20 years and of coloured complexion. His privileged background meant he was attached to the Liverpool Commissariat's office as a clerk. Despite being transported twice, he stole the contractor's payments, was tried and found guilty. He was executed with Thomas McGibbon in 1930, they being the last persons hanged for forgery in NSW.

Lambie reported that in February 1832 there were 216 convicts employed in irons and 60 out of irons on Victoria Pass, 21 in irons and 39 out of irons on Honeysuckle Range (Mt Lambie), 43 in irons and 15 out of irons at Stoney Range, and a bridge party of 62 in irons and 33 out of irons was stationed at Mt Victoria. In July 1832 Surveyor John Nicholson replaced Lambie.

Convict stockade at Cox's River crossing near Hartley: artist unknown

Victoria Pass opened in October 1832, and in April 1834 Mitchell visited his new line of road to Bathurst, nearly completed. It was said to be preferable to the former line. With the object of making the western road one of his greatest achievements in the colony, Mitchell urged Nicholson & his successor Dulhunty to proceed expeditiously with the work. The result was that at the close of 1836 the new road to Bathurst was ready for traffic, although ironed gangs were retained in subsequent years to make necessary alterations and repairs.

Convict gangs on Major Mitchell's Pass 1832: unknown artist

Surveyor Thomas Mitchell went on to complete the survey of the town of Cooma in 1849. Lambie also moved to the Monaro region in about 1837, following along Mitchell's work, and became a prominent road builder in his own right. He was subsequently appointed the first Commissioner of Crown Lands for the Monaro (formerly known as Maneroo) District of NSW. The Maneroo extended from Michelago Creek to Ninety Mile Beach, and from the Snowy Mountains to the coast.

He became the first public official in the Maneroo and was the first magistrate to adjudicate in Cooma. When a court of petty sessions was established in 1847 he was appointed Chief Magistrate. For several years he administered all civil work in the district, and was a signatory to a request for a survey for a town at Braidwood.

His returns for livestock, livestock slaughtered, and private schools, were sent to the Commissioner of Crown Lands at Panbula (Pambula). Upon his request, musters for "ticket of leave" men were held each year for many years.

He lived and worked in this district from 1837 to 1852. He lived in Yass and then Braidwood, before settling at Back Creek, that being the original name for Cooma from 1849. In 1848 he acquired a property of 1,280 acres in the vicinity of the village of Cooma, his home and the Commissioner's Office being in the vicinity of Kirwan's Inn. This would have been a part of James Kirwan's "Cooma Run", where the old lock-up and a boarding school were located, in an area called Lambie's paddock. The paddock now contains a large part of what is now the Cooma Showground.

James Kirwan was the principal early settler of the Monaro region, who settled there from 1836, and owned in excess of 50,000 acres in the vicinity of Cooma township. He was killed in 1852, being shot by his groom/gardener, John McSpadden, whilst being the inn keeper at Kirwan's Inn. The matter was reported on numerous occasions in the press, as McSpadden absconded, only to surrender to police in Liverpool. He was tried and sentenced to 15 years on the roads in 1854.

Lambie's position as the Crown Lands Commissioner was terminated in 1856, and John Lambie appeared to retire from all public duties from 1858.

Early Cooma

John Lambie is buried at Cooma

He died in 1862 and is buried at Christ Church Anglican Cemetery, Cooma. Christ Church (built in 1845) is the earliest official cemetery on the Monaro and is the last resting place of many of the districts pioneers and the forebears of many local families. Lambie Street and Commissioner Street led to his home at the southern end of Lambie Street, which was named for Lambie in the original town plan. *Patsy Moppett*

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Food for thought ..... Editor's note

The Bicycle goes to war

Most of us have more than one hobby, a number of interests, which can be quite varied. When you receive an opportunity to combine two or more in the one exercise, you grab the opportunity. Recently, after reading a thought provoking article in "Cycling Australia" by Michael Hartman (March-April 2015), it gave me the chance to combine my love of cycling with my historical interests, in particular that of war history.

In this the year of the centenary of Gallipoli, and also the 75th anniversary of the end of World War II, spare a thought for the part that bicycle technology played in the battlefields of France and Belgium and elsewhere across the world. Michael tells us about his uncles from northern NSW, and the part they played, when the ANZAC Cyclist Battalion was established by "hot, bored and eager" Australian soldiers in Egypt in 1915. He poses the idea of how incredible it might be to consider the bicycle as a serious weapon of war. He quotes the British Cycling Magazine in 1914:

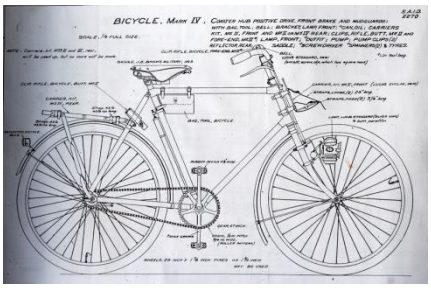
"The reasons of the success of the soldier-cyclist are not far to seek. In the first place it must be realised that his mount, unlike that of the cavalry man, is silent in progress. This gives him an enormous advantage over his noisy foe, whose horse betrays his presence even when galloping over grassland. In short, the cyclist can hear and not be heard. He can approach speedily and noiselessly, and without warning can attack the enemy, who, all unconscious of his presence, often falls an easy prey".

Bicycles were a relatively new invention. No carbon fibre frames or lycra outfits! The AIF had cycling units during many of the early major battles, deployed to the front line as well as undertaking cable burying, traffic control and reconnaissance work. They carried water bottles and rifles, a kitbag with kit and rations, a toolkit and a bedroll on the handlebars. They wore their heavy army issue clothing, although sometimes knee breeches replaced the baggy army trousers. All units had colour patches and badges, square with a white background and a superimposed red middle square Bicycles were fine over firm hard dry ground, but struggled in the muddy conditions and often rubble strewn roads of the Western Front. Even in 2008 in East Timor bicycles were used to improve field patrols.

Bicycle infantry was utilised in the late 19th century by Britain, Europe and the USA. They lessened the need for horses, fuel and vehicle maintenance. They could carry more equipment and travel longer distances than foot soldiers, and could substitute for horses as messengers and scouts. With an ease of economy, simplicity of training, relative silence, ease of support, and being lightweight could be carried over obstructions, they became a logical alternative.

The first known use of the bicycle in combat was during the Jameson Raid, where cyclists carried messages. Even tandem bicycles were used, patrolling railway lines on specially constructed machines fixed to the rails, in the Second Boer War. France and Britain developed a folding bicycle which could be collapsed and carried across the rider's shoulders. A bicycle ambulance carried a stretcher between three bicycles, one in front and two behind.

The USA, France, Italy, Poland, Finland, Switzerland, Denmark, Belgium, the Netherlands, Germany, Japan and Russia all developed a cycling infantry. Cycle-mounted infantry was utilised in both World Wars, with the USA even dropping bicycles from aeroplanes to reach troops behind enemy lines.



During WWI Britain used three types of bicycles – military folding bicycle, military roadster and civilian roadsters. The principle manufacturers were Raleigh, BSA, Royal Enfield,

Rudge-Whitworth, Bianchi and Columbia. AIF bikes were issued from England and manufactured by Birmingham Small Arms Company (BSA). Soldiers usually had a standard military issue machine, with standard tyres with little or no grip.

CYCLISTS! YOUR KING & COUNTRY NEED YOU!

New cyclists battalions to be raised at once

Who will ride in the ranks of the famous Essex regiment?

Unique opportunities for keen, fit wheelmen

How and where to join…

Manpower initially comprised cycling enthusiasts, and they proved their worth. Athletic and cycling clubs were prime candidates for enlistment. The trenches however forced the reassignment of many cyclists from their cycling units to infantry units.

The humble bicycle.....!

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Coxs River: a "new" name, two centuries on?

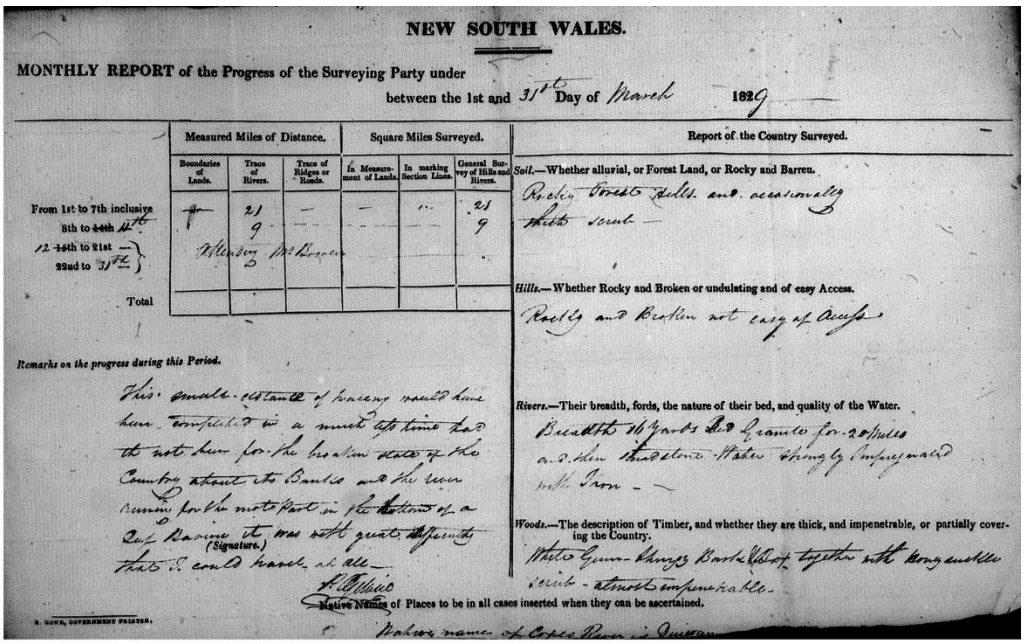
The Coxs River rises near Wolgan Gap, about 22 kilometres north-north-west of Lithgow, and flows southward and eastward to eventually join the Wollondilly River in Lake Burragorang. Rather controversially, it provides an official boundary to the Blue Mountains. (Macqueen 2012)

Governor Macquarie named the river two hundred years ago when he reached it at Glenroy on Saturday April 29 1815, after descending Mount York. (Macquarie 1815) Macquarie assigned many placenames along his journey to Bathurst. None of these was an Aboriginal name, which is not surprising. The act of applying European names was an essential part of taking possession and rendering the alien familiar. Besides, he had no meaningful encounters with Aboriginal people except at Bathurst.

Fortunately, when Major Thomas Mitchell became surveyor general he directed his men to ascertain traditional placenames wherever possible, with the result that many such names are now officially recognised, albeit their relevance and phonetics may be spurious or doubtful. A number of names relevant to the Gundungurra country of the southern Blue Mountains were so-recorded around 1830, but until now no name for the Coxs River has emerged from that era.

As late as 1896 Gundungurra elder Billy Lynch was reported as saying that the Gundungurra group who had lived in the Megalong-Kanimba area were the "Therabulat", and that was also their name for the Coxs River. In presenting this information, historian Jim Smith stated that the name meant "two hills", and suggested that the hills concerned might be Mount Blaxland and the combined Wentworths and Lawsons Sugarloaves. He considered the hills might have constituted some sort of boundary or site of significance. Perhaps complicating matters, and as Smith pointed out, another source gave the name "Tarrapalatt" for the Lett River. (Smith 1990). Recently, Gundungurra language historian Jim Barrett came to the view that the appropriate spelling of "Therabulat" would be "Dhurrabulat", which means "two rivers". He concluded that the two rivers referred to would be Coxs River and River Lett, and that the name properly applied to the Coxs River at, and locally below, the junction. He also concluded that there was no Aboriginal name for the whole river. (Barrett 2015)

I do not have a view on the above interpretations. However, I do wish to put forward a Coxs River name recorded back in the Major Mitchell era.
I have been studying the tragic story of Mitchell's assistant surveyor Peter Grant Ogilvie (c1806-1841). In the course of his work Ogilvie recorded the supposed traditional names of many features. At one stage I noticed that one of his maps indicated that the Aboriginal name "Wollangambe" applied to Mount Irvine rather than to the river which now carries the name. (Macqueen 2014)



NEW SOUTH WALES.

MONTHLY REPORT of the Progress of the Surveying Party under

between the 1st and 31st Day of March 1829

	Measured Miles of Distance.			Square Miles Surveyed.			Report of the Country Surveyed.
	Boundaries of Lands.	Trace of Rivers.	Trace of Ridges or Roads.	In Measurement of Lands.	In marking Section Lines.	General Survey of Hills and Rivers.	
From 1st to 7th inclusive	—	21	—	—	—	21	Soil.—Whether alluvial, or Forest Land, or Rocky and Barren. Rocky Forest Hills and occasionally Scrub
8th to 14th		9				9	
15th to 21st		Wollangambe Mt Boroan					
22nd to 31st							Hills.—Whether Rocky and Broken or undulating and of easy Access. Rocky and Broken not easy of Ascent
Total							

Remarks on the progress during this Period.

This month a distance of twenty would have been completed in a much less time had the not been for the broken state of the Country situate to Banks and the river running for the most part in the bottom of a Deep Ravine it was with great difficulty that I could hawk it all

(Signature.)

Rivers.—Their breadth, fords, the nature of their bed, and quality of the Water. Breadth 40 Yards Bed Granite for 20 Miles and then stone Water strongly impregnated with Iron

Woods.—The description of Timber, and whether they are thick, and impenetrable, or partially covering the Country. White Gum Stringy Bark & Box together with Honeysuckle Scrub - almost impenetrable.

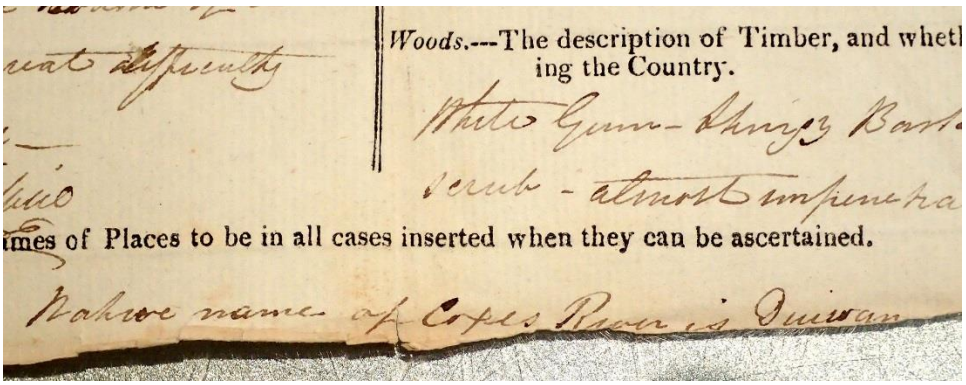
Native Names of Places to be in all cases inserted when they can be ascertained.

Native name of Coxes River is Duiwan

H. GOVT. GOVERNMENT PRINTER.

Figure 1: Peter Ogilvie's monthly report of March 1829

Recently I was studying his monthly report for March 1829. (Ogilvie 1829a)(Figure 1) Under the printed heading "Native Names of Places to be in all cases inserted when they can be ascertained", Ogilvie wrote "Native name of Coxes River is [X]". When I first saw this on the microfilm at State Records I could not interpret the word [X], and I also suspected that the film had not captured all the page. I discussed the matter with Senior Archivist Gail Davis, with the result that the original material was helpfully brought out for examination. The film had indeed captured all the page, the bottom of which has been cut or torn off, but recourse to the original gave a clearer view of what does appear to be the entire word. (Figure 2)



Woods.---The description of Timber, and whetl
ing the Country.

White Gum- Stringy Bark

Scrub - almost impenetra

imes of Places to be in all cases inserted when they can be ascertained.

Native name of Coxes River is Duiwan

Figure 2: Enlarged detail of the March report

After comparing the word [X] with the handwriting in Ogilvie's many other reports and letters, with the assistance of advice from Gail Davis and her colleagues, I have concluded that Ogilvie first wrote "Duivan" but corrected it (by over-writing) to make it "Duiwan".

It might also be noted that the first letter is almost exactly matched by many of Ogilvie's upper-case "D"s, so any temptation to designate it as a "Q" should probably be avoided. I understand that the consonants "q" and "v" were not used in the Gundundurra language. (Barrett 2015)

Exactly what the Scottish Ogilvie heard could be a matter for conjecture. Barratt believes the word would have been "du-wi-wan", Ogilvie not having picked up the soft sound of the first "w". However, I wish to place on record the historical context of Ogilvie's little note. Given that different parts of the river may have had different names, the most important question is: what part of the river did the name apply to?

In the latter half of February 1829 Ogilvie travelled from Sydney to the Coxs River. (Ogilvie 1829a) He was carrying the following instruction from Major Mitchell, dated 3 February:

> *1—You will hold yourself in readiness to accompany Mr Bowen when he arrives at Bathurst, in the meantime I wish to employ you to unite several unconnected portions of Cox's River and the Fish River, as you proceed to the westward.*
> *2—You will therefore halt near the Pulpit Hill in the Blue Mountains and turning to the left you will find your way to Mr Norton's Grant on Cox's River – and from the Eastern boundary of that land you will trace Cox's river downwards until you make twelve miles of direct distance from where you have commenced.*
> *3—You will next proceed from Mr Norton's farm by the most convenient road to where the Mount Blaxland Road crosses Cox's river from which point you will trace that river upwards to its source near Mount Walker.*
> *4—You will advance towards Bathurst by the Mount Blaxland road, until you reach the Fish River when you will again halt your party and turning to the left trace the Fish River upwards as high as you can get.*
> *5—You will transmit the plans of these different portions of rivers as soon as you shall completed the trace of each, with a Report on the nature of the country on their Banks etc.*
> *6—But in the event of Mr Bowen joining you before you can complete this duty it may stand over until you are returning from the Bathurst Country. … (Mitchell 1829)*

Are we to believe that Ogilvie completed all the above? No. Aside from the impossibility that Ogilvie ventured down Blacks Ladder from Pulpit Hill with his men and pack animals, the clumsy arrangement whereby Ogilvie was to take orders from Land Commissioner George Bowen, rather than directly from Mitchell, almost certainly interfered. The arrangement was a matter of much annoyance to Mitchell, and accounts for the poor record that we now have of Ogilvie's precise movements and achievements in the following months. Fortunately however we do have some critical monthly reports and maps to go on.

The only surviving report that apparently alludes to work on the Coxs River is that of March 1829, in which Ogilvie indicated he surveyed 30 miles of river, 20 miles of which was in granite country, and most of which was "in the hollow of a deep ravine". (Figure 1) He did not say where the river was. Then, after a two-week break "attending to Mr Bowen", we find him in April surveying just three miles of a river somewhere, and 35 miles evidently of the Great Dividing Range. By June he was in the Cudgegong country. (Ogilvie 1829a,d)

While most of the maps produced by Mitchell's surveyors survive in State Records, no map in connection with Coxs River has been attributed to Ogilvie. However, on examining two unattributed, undated and adjoining Coxs River maps I discovered they are certainly Ogilvie's work. The faint magnetic-north arrows are in his style and are accompanied by the equally-faint but unmistakable initials "PO".

The first of these maps (Ogilvie 1829b)(Figure 3) covers the part of the river from Glenroy (at the River Lett junction) up to a point just north of Mount Walker, west of Lithgow, and is a fairly accurate representation. The distance along the river is about 25.5 kilometres or 16 miles.

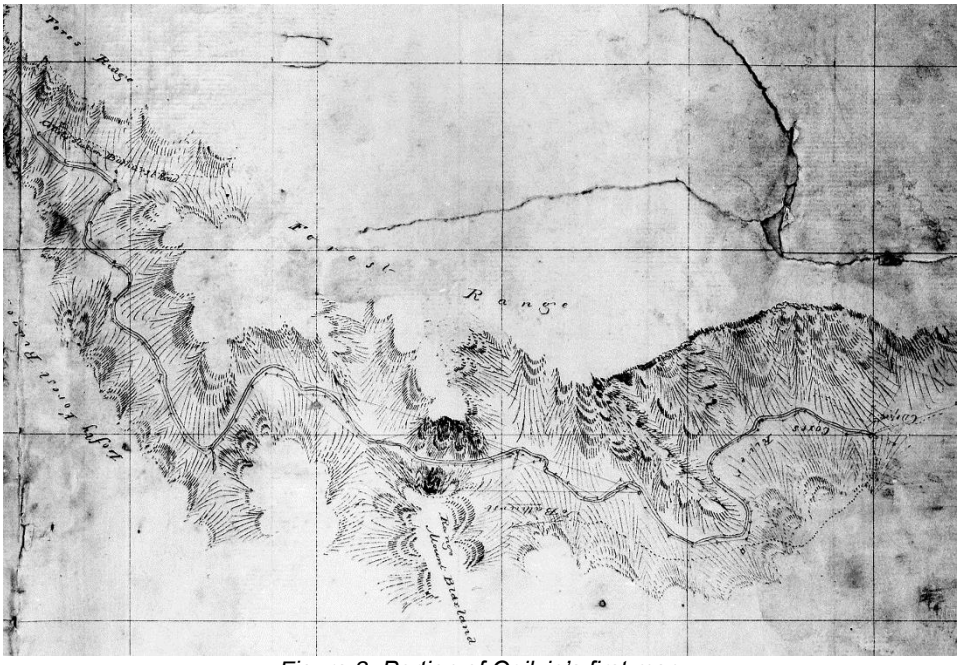


Figure 3: Portion of Ogilvie's first map

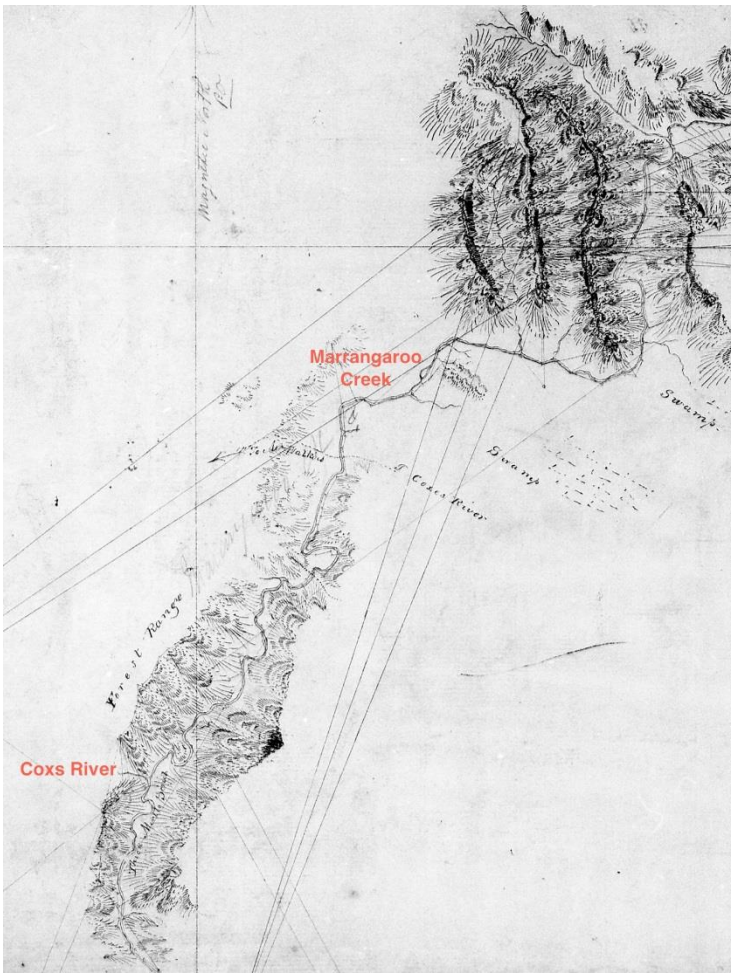


Figure 4: Portion of Ogilvie's second map

The second map (Ogilvie 1829c)(Figure 4) continues upstream, but on reaching the Marrangaroo Creek junction it heads on up that creek to its headwaters north of Lithgow instead of following what we now know as the Coxs. The entry of the latter is indicated but

unlabelled. Moreover, the part of the map in the junction area is quite inaccurate: it appears that Ogilvie did not bother with proper survey there. He was apparently put off by the rough nature of the river which included the "thick mirtle scrub" which he labelled on the map. Marrangaroo Creek and Coxs River are similar in size at their junction. It appears that Ogilvie made a mistake and took the wrong branch, but was set straight before he drew his map. The evidence for this, firstly, is that he did not place any name on the Marrangaroo Creek portion of his work, while clearly labelling Coxs River on the first map. Secondly, the map shows a track crossing Marrangaroo Creek near where today's Great Western Highway crosses, labelling it "To Mr Walkers" to the west and "To Coxes River" to the south east. It would be strange to put the latter label at a watercourse he considered to be part of Coxs River.

The length of watercourse on the second map is around 24 kilometres or 15 miles, so the total over the two maps is about 31 miles. This is consistent with the river distance that Ogilvie said he surveyed in his March report, being 30 miles. It is also consistent with his 20 miles of "granite country", if we take granite as being rock other than sandstone. It appears then, that in doing the work in March he was fulfilling Paragraph 3 of Mitchell's instructions—except that part of the work was on the wrong watercourse.

What about Paragraph 2? The Norton grant to which Mitchell referred was in the Kanimbla Valley, and ran from Grants Creek down to just below Norton's Creek (Dixon 1837). Mitchell presumably meant the "Southern" rather than "Western" boundary when he asked Ogilvie to survey from there down to a point a direct distance of 12 miles (19 kilometres) away. That point would be almost at the Kanangra Creek junction (which is the point below which William Govett roughly mapped in 1833), and would have involved a survey distance of over 20 miles (32 kilometres). Aside from the problem of accessing the Megalong Valley by the route that Mitchell specified, there is simply no space in Ogilvie's time schedule or reported survey distances for him to have surveyed that section in addition to the abovementioned parts upstream. Having said that, I have to acknowledge that I have yet to discover just who did survey the part from Glenroy down to Kanangra Creek, and for that matter the part from Wolgan Gap down to the Marrangaroo junction. Someone did, for the whole river is shown on Mitchell's classic 1834 map. (Mitchell 1834) Andrews (1992) indicates it may have been White or Hoddle. It assuredly wasn't Ogilvie.

So, to return to the question: what part of the river might the name Duiwan have applied to? If we assume that by the time Ogilvie wrote his March report, probably some time in April 1829, he had a clear view as to what was the Coxs River and what wasn't, then in writing that Duiwan was the name for the Coxs River his understanding was presumably that it applied *at the very least* to the part of that river which he had surveyed and where he had presumably met his informant. That is, the part of Coxs River from Glenroy up to around Mount Walker.

That would conveniently fit Barrett's interpretation that the name Dhurrabulat could apply to the part *downstream* from Glenroy. Indeed, Barrett has suggested that Duiwan applied to *all* of the river upstream from Glenroy. (Barrett 2015)

Very likely, as Jim Barrett believes, there never was an Aboriginal name for the whole of Coxs River.

Andy Macqueen

Acknowledgements

I thank Senior Archivist Gail Davis at NSW State Records for assistance in interpreting Ogilvie's handwriting, and for granting permission to publish Mitchell's letter and the documents at Figures 1-4. I owe special thanks to Jim Barrett for the thoughtful advice and opinions he has provided. His new book "Gandangurra: The Language of the Mountain People - and Beyond" is expected to be released late in 2015.

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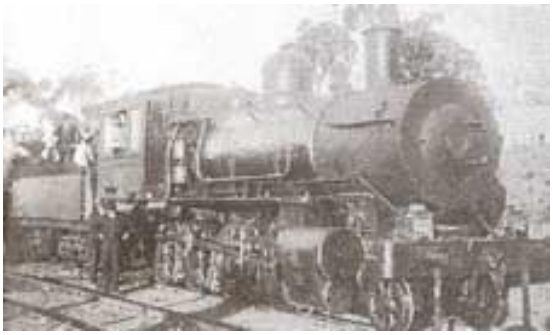
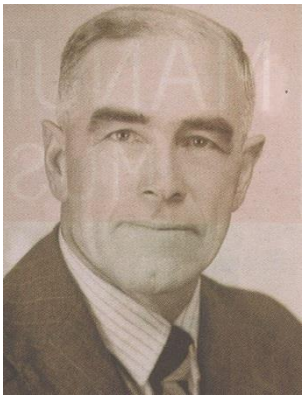
Lapstone – Arthur Hand

Lapstone is a small village on the eastern escarpment of the Blue Mountains.
The name "Lapstone Hill" was in use from at least the 1820s and derives from the shape of numerous water worn stones in the area which were once a part of the bed of the ancient Nepean River. To road workers and travellers they resembled the lap stones used by cobblers. In 1822 Mrs Elizabeth Hawkins, on her way to Bathurst, wrote: "We now began our ascent up the first Lapstone Hill, so called from all the stones being like a cobbler's lapstone."
Lapstone the village did not come into being until being developed from 1954. The land was originally bought and developed by Mr Arthur J Hand, an Alderman of the Blue Mountains City Council. In 1954, Mr Hand, at age 70, retired to Blackheath from the Sutherland shire where he had been mayor. In October of that year he signed a contract to purchase 116 acres of timbered, but vacant land, in the Lower Mountains known as Stephen's Paddock. He immediately started to subdivide, at up to 20 acres at a time, the area which is now Lapstone.


Lapstone steam

Lapstone Railway Station 2015

Lapstone railway station, which recently celebrated 50 years, was privately funded by Hand, after guaranteeing buyers of the estate he subdivided, that the blocks would have a railway. The station, and much of Lapstone itself, was built by Mr Hand in 1963-64.
It took several years for the Department of Railways to give consent for the construction of Lapstone Railway Station. Negotiations with the railways were finally successful, with the agreement that Hand finance the building of the station. Lapstone station was constructed by Ron McGraw with curb and guttering brickwork by Frank Davis. Mr Hand offered both men their choice of land as a sign of appreciation.



Arthur Hand

Over time the station ownership reverted to the State. The railway played a major role helping the new residential area to Glenbrook's east forge its own identity.
A plaque is being organised to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Lapstone station. Once it is finished, the local community will be invited to attend an event to mark the plaque's unveiling. Mr Hand will be mentioned on the plaque.
Lapstone today is a residential village. The school remains, along with a sporting complex, including a netball centre, a bushfire shed and the station. *Patsy Moppett*

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Tremain's Flour Mill, Bathurst

The former Tremain's Flour Mill at Bathurst has recently been sold. The site dates back to 1857 and includes a four storey industrial building, grain silos and associated structures, in-situ machinery and buildings including the Victoria stores and what is now Bedwell's Feed barn. Together with the nearby Crago Mill (1850), these two businesses were major employers in the town, two of five mills in Bathurst by 1883, being located in an area of Bathurst known as Mill Town, where many nearby dwellings were constructed for mill workers.

Tremain's Mill & silos

There was a mill on the site from about 1857, probably built by Chapman Brothers. Chapmans sold to Brown, who leased the site to HS Hayes in 1862. In 1868 the mill manager was Minehan. The Smith brothers ran the mill in 1868, and William Tremain purchased the site in 1874. It was by then known as the Victoria Mills. Tremain had first operated mills at O'Connell, and at "Rainham" at Orton Park. He let these go and moved to operate the Havannah/Keppel Street site. Tremain renamed the mill the Victoria Roller Flour Mill in 1887 when new machinery was installed. A separate rail line was constructed to the site in the 1890s. William Tremain died in 1898 aged 67. He had also been an alderman in Bathurst from 1882 to 1898.

He left the mill to his sons Reuben, John and Edwin. In 1901 the mill burnt down, but was rebuilt. The Tremains had to relocate their business to another mill in town, the Britannia, during the reconstruction. The ownership became Tremain Bros P/L from 1926. Electricity was introduced to the mill in 1953, no longer relying on steam. In 1972 the chimney was demolished, and in 1980 the company sold to George Fielders & Co, who closed the mill later that year. It had been the last operating mill in Bathurst.

Although the mill officially ceased operation in 1980, parts of the site are still in use, accommodating a number of small businesses. The possibilities for the site include adaptive reuse and tourism opportunities. A working group has been established which would seek to have a conservation management plan and a master plan drawn up, to maintain and protect the historical integrity of the site. Any proposals would be in the same vein as the conserved Crago Mill in Bathurst, which remained vacant for many years before being restored and conserved for alternate uses in recent times. *Patsy Moppett*

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More on Flowers

Further to the fascinating history of flower shows in NSW provided by Shirley Evans in the previous issue of Heritage, the following list of exhibits of the most popular species is provided by Shirley. Ranging from flowers, vegetables and fruit through to manufactured products, we can see even that the average agricultural shows and markets of today still carry a range of these most popular products for exhibition and competition.

EXHIBITS AT FLOWER SHOWS IN THE 1840S

FLOWERS		VEGETABLES	FRUIT	COLONIAL MANUFACTURES
Clianthus	Cyclamen	Cauliflower	Mandarin orange	Silkworms
Cork bark	Saxifraga	Broccoli	Naval (sic) orange	Silk
Azalea	Bellis perennis	Peas	Apple	Beeswax
Tropelian peregrimon	Thunbergia	Salad	Pineapple	Preserved beef
Pansies	Leptospermum	Cabbage (various types)	Bananas	Glue
Auriculus	Zinnias	Cucumber	Loquat	Neatsfoot oil
Primulas	Sunflower	Asparagus	Strawberries	Bone manure
Polyanthus	Sweet William	Leek	Lemons	Preserved lambskins
Daisies	Convolvulus	Radish	Guavas	Marmalade

Ranunculus	Balsams	Horse radish	Pears	Wines
Anemones	Dahlias	Red and white beet	Grapes	Spirits
Tulips	Hibiscus	Potatoes	Plums	Preserved fruits
Narcissus	Aster	Celery	Rock melons	Dried fruits
Sparaxis	Wisteria	Spinach	Medlars	Rose water
Babianas	Petunia	Turnips	Pomegranates	Gelatine
Ixias	Cheiranthus	Carrots	Quinces	Stearin
Magnolias	Mesembryanthemum	Parsnips (2 kinds)	Peaches	Tallow
Camellias	Ceres	Lettuce (various)	Water Melon	Salt
Ericas	Bouvardias	Rhubarb	Walnuts	Tobacco
Vethelionia	Salvia	Herbs (all kinds)	Shaddocks	Almonds
Geraniums	Lobelia	Spring onions	Citrons	Soap
Polygala cordifolia	Marigolds	Water cress		Hops
Fuchsia	Amaryllis	Parsley		Dressed flax
Pelargonium	Tradescantia	Salsify		Sauces and catsups (sic)
Pittosporum	Haemanthus	Beans		
Japonicum	Cockscombs	Pumpkin		
Peonia	Yucca	Sea kale		
Diplacium	Dianthus	Broad beans		
Wallflower	Begonia	Red celery		
Calceolarias		Potato onions		
Cowslips		Garlic		
Cerceous		Endive		
Cactus		Marrow		
Stock (gillyflower)		Squash		
Roses		Capsicum		
Leucacoryne		Chilli		
Gladiolus		Green shallots		
Mimulus		Egg plants		
Tritonia		Silver beet		
Euphorbia		Mangold-wurtzel		
Verbena		Onions		

In coming issues Shirley hopes to regale us with the history of wild flower shows from the past.

Shirley Evans

Dahlia

Medlar

Silkworm & cocoon

Mangel-wurzel

The Technical Side

Local government heritage conservation and management

Across the State local government areas hold a wide range of heritage features. The history of the districts include aspects of early exploration, agriculture and mining, closer settlement in the towns and villages themselves, together with the influences of the technological revolution which led to the decline of many regional communities.

There remain many fine rural and urban homesteads, on agricultural properties both operational and not. Each urban centre holds some fine public buildings and significant homes, many of which have undergone a range of adaptive reuses to come through the history of the region unscathed.

Mining relics, Quartz Ridge

Remnants of mining remain in some areas, and other industrial heritage abounds in railway infrastructure, large industrial complexes and much moveable heritage (industrial and agricultural) as is displayed within numerous museums.
Each local government area has items listed as locally significant in a Schedule of their local environmental plan, and a scattering of items on the State Heritage Register.
Heritage Conservation Areas are located in many urban areas, and some properties are also listed on the National Trust Register.
The NSW Department of Environment and Heritage, through the NSW Heritage Office, operate a heritage program with a range of resources, funding opportunities and other services to assist the community with heritage conservation. The major elements of the program for local government include the heritage advisory service and the local heritage assistance fund. Each council provides regular feedback to councilors and the community on the results of the program operations in their area.

Heritage Advisory Service

Originally in the 1990s councils took part in heritage week activities, with some State funding, and undertook surveys to establish the first lists of shire/municipal heritage items, undertook numerous history research inquiries, and followed up on significant heritage issues and projects.
Nowadays most councils have a nominated heritage advisor in place, employed by the council (together with funding from the NSW Heritage Office) to advise on new development or redevelopment of existing heritage properties and precincts, among other things. An agreement is usually signed by both council and the consultant, which sets down the terms for the program.

Homestead, Millthorpe

The original agreements required the advisor to visit Council one day every month, although this arrangement can vary from council to council depending upon the funding resources available and the scheduled work load. The standard day for a heritage advisor is often 8 hours.
The major tasks undertaken by the heritage advisor might include:

- Reviewing applications under the Local Heritage Assistance Fund.
- Commenting on development applications.
- Providing heritage advice outside of development applications at pre-DA stage.
- Input upon request into processes such as any landuse strategies, LEP reviews (to make adjustments to the heritage items schedule), community based heritage studies, preparation of development control plans and input into planning proposals.

Local Heritage Assistance Fund

Many local heritage funds were set up in the 1990s. Prior to this, projects received funding via the NSW Heritage Assistance Program, run by the NSW Dept of Planning. Eventually the scheme moved over to utilise the program in the form as we know it today.

In each financial year council budgets for a local heritage fund, with the expectation in the program's early years of grant funding (2:1) from the NSW Heritage Office program. After three years the funding moves over to 3:1. The program results in a range of projects being funded and successfully completed in the local area, including matters such as exterior and interior painting and roof restoration, restoration and maintenance of buildings, stormwater stabilization, fence and window restoration, historic signage renewal, emergency works, and painting of main street commercial premises.

Emergency works – stone wall, Carcoar

The Heritage Office provides a Guideline to the operation of the service, which is available from their website. Each council then has a guideline or policy as to how the program operates in their local government area.

Resources & initiatives

The Heritage Office offers a wide range of publications to assist property owners and heritage professionals in the operation of heritage conservation, which are all available on their website.

There are many levels of heritage management which can be undertaken by local government, with the support of the Heritage Office. Many of these could be undertaken in-house, staff resources permitting, or at least in co-ordination with the heritage advisor position. External funding resources should also be investigated.

Initiatives might include:

- Commence an interpretive signage program and/or heritage trails for urban and rural areas and/or its villages.
- Compilation of a consultants, suppliers and tradesmen directory.
- Establishment of heritage committees under S355 of the Local Government Act 1993.
- Produce a heritage newsletter – perhaps quarterly. Updates are sometimes placed in community newsletters.
- Compile a collection and/or list of history resources available locally.
- Provide listing and best practice information through flyers/ brochures/fact sheets.
- Publicize the local heritage fund and the heritage advisory service through brochures/ flyers/fact sheets, web sites and the local media.
- Schedule the operation of the heritage fund to enable effective use of staff resources and time.
- Commence heritage awards program and publicize heritage success stories.
- Compile Council's heritage assets register (a schedule of council owned heritage properties).

- Promote staff training to raise awareness of heritage issues.
- Review and update the council's heritage inventory, seeking to have the information updated in NSW Heritage Office records accordingly.
- Initiate and seek funding for main street studies.
- Compile advisory information in regard to wider heritage funding opportunities.
- Review all current heritage studies and act on the recommendations.
- Offer periodic heritage review reports to councilors.
- Initiate and maintain a cemetery register – private and public – funding is often available for cataloging cemetery records.
- Hold heritage seminars/workshops for community education.

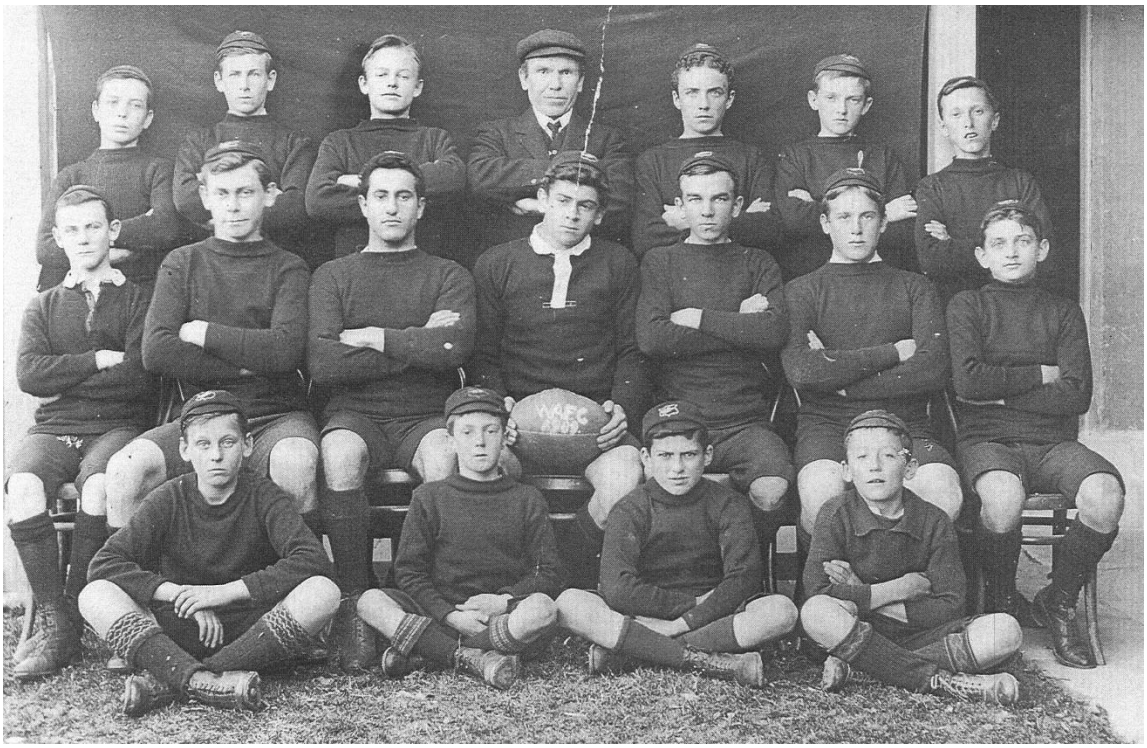
Patsy Moppett

Community events & updates

1909 Woodford Academy Football Team

The Woodford Academy Management Committee is very proud to announce that the Academy has received a 2015 National Trust award for the 'Events & Exhibitions - Community & Individuals' for the 'Make Your Mark In History' interpretive exhibit produced by the WAMC that is currently on display in the museum.

'*The interpretive exhibit features the war and medical records of 12 of the 17 boys who are depicted in the 1909 Woodford Academy Football team photo with their teacher, John McManamey. The historic photo from the property's collection is a powerful visual metaphor for the significant proportion of boys that enlisted from this small school, linking names and war experiences to what were previously anonymous, young, innocent faces. An original musical score composed by WAMC volunteer Noel Burgess, provides a memorable & contemplative mood for visitors to also consider what details the sparse, factual information of the war and medical records do not reveal.*



The research and production of this exhibit involved a number of Woodford Academy volunteers generously donating a wide range of expertise including history, research, education, technology, design& musical composition. In 2012 former WAMC volunteer

Michael Pyne successfully applied for an application for a 'NSW Veteran Affairs ANZAC Community Grant Program' to undertake research on the former Woodford Academy students involved in World War 1. WAMC volunteers Ian & Deidre Harman, Ken Goodlet and Rae Clapshaw undertook the extensive research on these boys. The 'Make Your Mark in History' audio/visual interpretive exhibit was initiated by Noel & Elizabeth Burgess (2000Hz music + audio & 2000ft Design) to present the results of some of this extensive research to museum visitors as a respectful, engaging and contemplative commemoration of the Centenary of World War 1. '
The WAMC dedicate this award to the 54 former Woodford Academy students who served in World War 1, whose courage and sacrifice has inspired this tribute. The award is a wonderful acknowledgement of the positive outcomes that are being achieved with the good will, dedication and skills of the Woodford Academy volunteer community. *Elizabeth Burgess*

2015 Royal Australian Historical Society Conference

The 2015 RAHS Conference will be held on 24-25 October at Bankstown Sports Club. There will also be the customary pre-conference get together on the Friday evening. The Conference will showcase the fascinating and diverse historical and cultural heritage of the Bankstown area.

Opening of Railway 1909, Bankstown

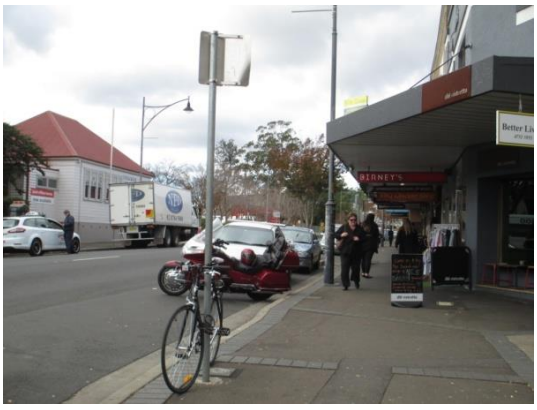
St Felix Cemetery, Bankstown

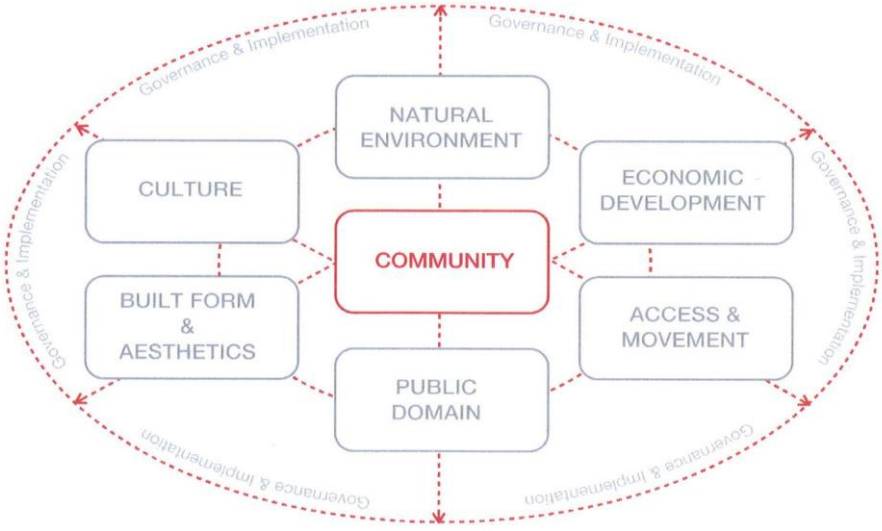
Water Reservoir, Bankstown

The program will be issued in coming months. ***SAVE THE DATE!***

Springwood Town Centre Master Plan

Blue Mountains City Council is to review and update the Springwood Town Centre Master Plan, originally adopted in 1995. The Master Plan will guide the future development of the Springwood town centre, playing an important part in setting a suitable planning framework for the look, feel, vitality, viability, sustainability and accessibility of towns and villages in the town.





The aim of a master plan is to guide the future development of a centre, the management of Council assets and facilities in the public domain, and inform of major projects and initiatives. Under the Plan Council recognises the role Springwood has as a vital district centre providing commercial and community services for the Lower Mountains.
The focus will be to ensure the Springwood town centre remains a vibrant village centre with convenient local services, mixed uses and meeting places, now and into the future.
Blue Mountains City Council has appointed a specialist consultancy service, McGregor Coxall, to review the Springwood Town Centre Master Plan.
Opportunities for community engagement in the Springwood Town Centre Master Plan will be promoted widely.
The Council proposes rigorous community engagement for this strategic process. The Master Plan is proposed for completion towards the end of 2015, and the community should stay in touch with Council updates on this process. *Patsy Moppett*

www.bluemountains.nsw.gov.au
www.bluemountainshaveyoursay.com.au
www.bluemts.com.au

Waves of Immigration Seminar

The Blue Mountains Family History Society is presenting a seminar on 15 August 2015. The seminar is entitled "Our Heritage", Waves of Immigration – 1830-2000 Building a Nation of Families.

Migrant House, Liverpool

Dutch Migrants 1954

The presentation will be held at the Springwood Presbyterian Church Hall, Macquarie Road, Springwood from 9am to 3.30pm. Speakers will include:

- Ray Thorburn (Kiama Family History Centre): Post Irish famine and industrial revolution migrants.
- Gail Davis (Senior Archivist, State Records): Free Immigration 1845-1868, 1850-1900.
- Fiona Burn (National Archives): Immigration 1922-1960s.
- Lorraine Turtle (Turtle Consolidated Services: Researching immigration records.

Morning tea and lunch are included in the cost of $40.00 per person. Bookings close Friday 8 August 2015, and should be made to PO Box 97 Springwood 2777, pay at a General Meeting, or at the Springwood Library.
Inquiries should be directed to xploretree@yahoo.com.au

William Cox Historical Festival Celebrates bicentenary trilogy on 19 July

This year's William Cox Historical Festival and Open Day at the Arms of Australia Inn Museum, Emu Plains, on Sunday July 19 marks the final chapter in the bicentenary trilogy of the colony's early years.

At 11am on the day, Fiona Scott, Federal MP for Lindsay will unveil a plaque at the museum to commemorate the three bicentenaries, the crossing of the Blue Mountains by Blaxland, Wentworth and Lawson in 1813; the building of the road across the mountains by William Cox in 1814; and Governor Macquarie's trip over the new road to the settlement on the western plains, which he named Bathurst.
Music by Tall Timbre Country and Western Band, with guests Roger Corbett and Clare O'Meara from the Bushwackers, and the Penrith City Band, will entertain visitors. To make sure all goes smoothly, the NSW Corps of Marines will keep order.
As in previous years, the festival will have a host of activities for young and old - including wagon rides, animals and pony rides, the old fashioned school room, merry-go-round and jumping castle, plus plenty of stalls and food.
The William Cox Festival and Open Day is to be at the Arms of Australia Inn Museum on the corner of the Great Western Highway and Gardenia Avenue, Emu Plains from 9am to 3pm. Admission is free.
For more information contact:
Rosemary Weaver 4751 6975 or 0408 416 735
or the museum on opening days 4735 4394

Mount Victoria Road Safety Upgrades

Tenders are now being reviewed for the pending safety upgrading works at Mount Victoria, set to commence later in 2015. The works are part of major highway upgrading by the State government currently underway between Katoomba and Lithgow. The Blue Mountains Gazette reported on 13 May 2015 that the Great Western Highway operates as a key road transport link between Sydney and the Central West, serving numerous regional communities in the west of the State. Works are currently being finalised at Bullaburra. The upgrade at Mount Victoria will include intersections, improvements to road curves and shoulders, pavement surfaces and retaining walls. Tenders closed on 27 May 2015.
On 27 May the Mount Victoria Community Association reported to the Gazette that they welcomed the news that work will soon commence on these safety upgrades. They feel that the works will provide safer conditions for both local residents and tourists alike, whilst still retaining the historical character and social amenity of the village, and having a positive effect on the wider Blue Mountains.
Whilst they said they may not agree with every aspect of the safety upgrade, they believe the Association has worked alongside local residents and business owners, councillors and local members of parliament towards the best outcome for the village. *Patsy Moppett*

Blue Mountains Lithgow & Oberon Tourism (BMLOT)

Blue Mountains Lithgow & Oberon Tourism (BMLOT) is about to be wound up after coming to an agreement with Destination NSW to settle its outstanding debts.

Blue Mountains Tourism Limited, trading as Blue Mountains Lithgow and Oberon Tourism (BMLOT) was the Regional Tourism Organisation responsible for strategic development and overall destination promotion of the region. Businesses were encouraged to become members of BMLOT to play their part in the overall promotion of the destination. Blue Mountains, Lithgow and Oberon Tourism covered the local government areas of Blue Mountains, Lithgow and Oberon. Industry led and membership based, it has strategically marketed the destination since October 1998 as a not-for-profit organisation.
The best of tourism and hospitality businesses in the Blue Mountains, Lithgow and Oberon regions were often revealed at annual Blue Mountains, Lithgow & Oberon Tourism (BMLOT) Awards. These official regional tourism awards recognised and promoted product and service quality in the regional tourism and hospitality industry. The BMLOT regional tourism awards fed into the NSW Tourism Awards and the Qantas Australian Tourism Awards.
In 2013 Blue Mountains Lithgow and Oberon Tourism (BMLOT) completed a major restructure by upgrading the role of its administrative head and appointing a chief executive officer, as the culmination of a four year process of reform, beginning with an independent strategic review commissioned by BMLOT and a board commitment to restructure the organisation, which included an international search for a CEO.

Hartley Valley from Berghoffer's Pass

An industry summit is to decide the shape of a replacement organisation which may see the region reject Lithgow and Oberon and embrace Penrith and Hawkesbury. The chairman Jason Cronshaw advised the Blue Mountains Gazette recently that that there would be a major change in the region's tourism promotion and marketing. The boundaries of the region would be adjusted, and the participant areas were yet to be decided. He was confident that the old organisation would be closing with no debts, due to assistance from Blue Mountains City Council and others. The community forum will involve the Council, the industry and Destination NSW, to find "a model that protects and grows this vital and massive part of our local economy". *Patsy Moppett*

Blue Mountains Gazette 3 June 2015.

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

Registered office: 1/19 Stypandra Place, Springwood 2777. (02) 4751 5834
Email: committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au or j.koperberg@bigpond.com
Website: www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au **ABN**: 53 994 839 952

The organisation: Blue Mountains Association of Cultural & Heritage Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 after local historical and heritage societies and individuals recognised the need for the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the local government area (LGA) of Blue Mountains City Council. The constituency now embraces but is not limited to, the LGAs of Blue Mountains, Lithgow, Hawkesbury, Penrith and Mudgee. BMACHO membership includes historical and heritage groups, museums, commercial enterprises with an historical or heritage component in its core business, local government (local studies units, library collections) and a limited number of individual members by invitation such as but not necessarily academics. The objectives of the organisation are:

1. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage
2. To encourage and assist cultural heritage
3. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations.

One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

Affiliations: BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society and is affiliated with the Better Planning Network.

Publications: BMACHO's official newsletter ***Heritage*** is edited by Patsy Moppett. The annual refereed *Blue Mountains History Journal* is edited by Dr Peter Rickwood and occasional papers are published from time to time.

Membership: The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mt Tomah; Blue Mountains City Library; Blue Mountains Cultural Heritage Centre; Blue Mountain Education & Research Trust; Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc; Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute; Bygone Beautys Treasured Teapot Museum and Tearooms.
Eskbank Rail Heritage Centre; Everglades Historic House & Gardens; Norman Lindsay Gallery; Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc; Hartley Valley District Progress Association; Hawkesbury Historical Society Inc; Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc; Lithgow & District Family History Society Inc; Lithgow Mining Museum Inc; Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies; Lithgow Small Arms Factory Museum Inc; Mt Victoria & District Historical Society Inc; Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine Historical Society Inc (including Turkish Bath Museum); National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Blue Mountains Branch; National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Lithgow Branch; Nepean District Historical Society Inc; Paragon Cafe, Katoomba; Scenic World Blue Mountains Limited; Springwood & District Historical Society Inc; Springwood Historians Inc; Transport Signal Communication Museum Inc; The Darnell Collection P/L; Valley Heights Locomotive Depot and Museum, Woodford Academy Management Committee, Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd; The following are individual members: Fiona Burn, Ray Christison, Associate Professor Ian Jack, Joan Kent, John Low OAM, Ian Milliss, Patsy Moppett, Professor Barrie Reynolds, Dr Peter Rickwood and Dr Peter Stanbury OAM.

Committee: The management committee for 2015-2016 (from April 2015) is: Patsy Moppett (President and ***Heritage*** Newsletter Editor) ,Ian Jack (Vice President), Jan Koperberg (Secretary), Philip Hammon (Treasurer), Roy Bennett (Grants Application Officer), Scott Pollock and Wendy Hawkes (web site), Dick Morony (Public Officer/Membership Secretary/ Calendar Editor), Suzanne Smith and Louise Vining (Events and Venue Co-ordinators).

Disclaimer: views and opinions expressed in Heritage originate from many sources and contributors. Every effort is taken to ensure accuracy of material. Content does not necessarily represent or reflect the views and opinions of BMACHO, its committee or its members. If errors are found feedback is most welcome.

Heritage

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Eurama - a special place

"Eurama" slumbers. The cries and screams, smoke and flames have long died away. The people left, taking their lives with them and never returned, almost 50 years ago. The charred remains of flooring supports bear witness to what happened, now rain washed and leached of colour.

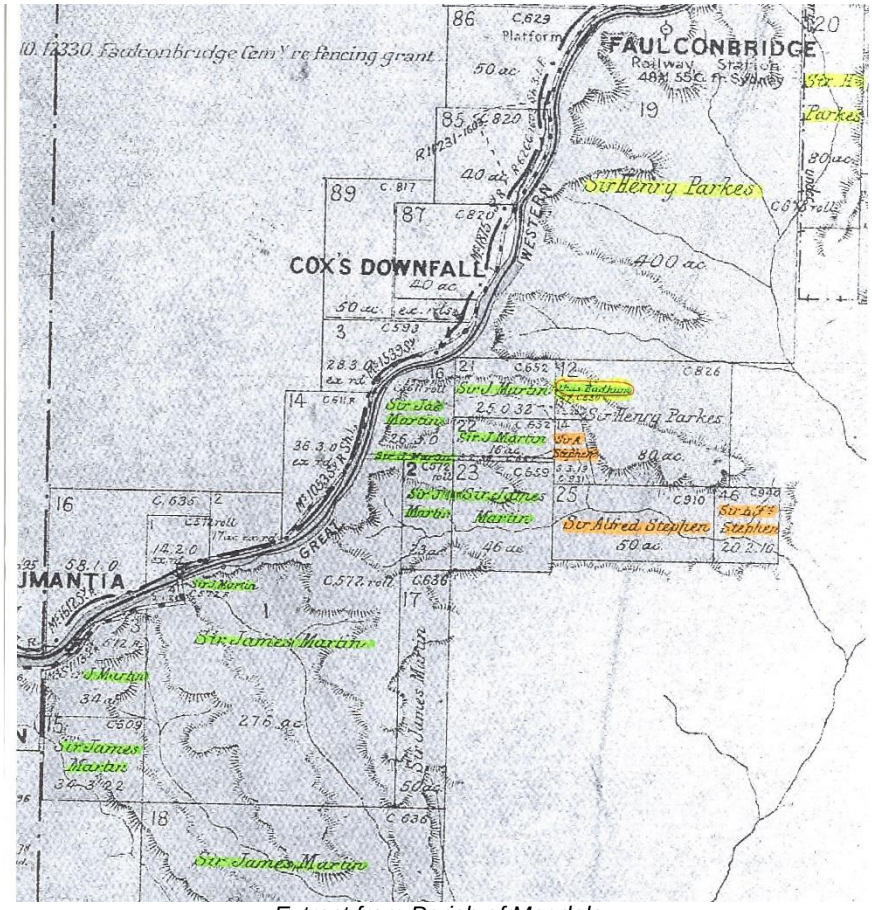
Now the mice and rabbits scuttle around her bones, the bones of a graceful home, now reduced to an empty sandstone shell…..but not so empty. Possums scamper up the slender tree trunks which have grown up in each room where the flooring used to be, rooms now bereft of structure and decoration. They clamber along the top of the sandstone walls and through the ivy which seek to support the structure and perhaps protect it from harm. Or will these vines be the very destruction of the place.

Birds and bats nest in the chimneys and the tower, which reach up into the fading sunlight of a winter's afternoon, calling softly to the world that she was cared for once, and that she lives on.

People have visited since the fire……schemers and dreamers, for mischief or seeking memories. They have taken and given. Relics have gone and some callers have left their marks on the site. Others have taken the wonder of the place and the desire for protection, and left only their footprints, less tangible things, visions and imaginings of what might have been, the wonder of what is now a ghost of times past.
She was a grand lady once. She entertained the rich and celebrated from Sydney town, who wandered her gardens and pathways and bush tracks, past the cairns, the ponds and exotic trees and flower gardens. The wisteria has escaped across the courtyard near the well, with a hint of bloom to come. Freesia carpet the swards about the place, and flower softly in shaded glades. The magnolia still flowers by the front door. The Chinese Fir stands sentinel and the kangaroos graze nearby, noting all who come and go.
It is a romantic, wistful place……..time stands still there, hold its breath in nervous anticipation of the whisperings of the future……. new beginnings or pending destruction……..…

***

The remaining property of “Eurama”, sometimes known as Eurama castle, is located between Linden and Faulconbridge to the south east of the Great Western Highway and the rail line. It was a mountain retreat for several generations of owners with numerous dwellings, significant gardens and landscaping, now in ruins.
Originally there were several 19th Century dwellings, whose property boundaries are now blurred through consolidation into one estate.
Sir Henry Parkes was to acquire land to the north at Faulconbridge in 1875-76 and build a country retreat, nearby at Stonehurst and then Faulconbridge House. Three other men and their families, Sir Alfred Stephen, Professor Charles Badham and Sir James Martin visited the area and chose allotments in the location of present day “Eurama” in 1876, on land including Portions 1, 2, 12, 13, 14, 16, 17, 19, 21, 22, 23, 25 & 46 in the Parish of Magdala. Sir James Martin purchased several portions and then apportioned the land between the three.
Sir James Martin was to build the wooden “Numantia”, named for a region in Spain, near the railway line, which later became known as “Weemala”. Some of “Numantia” ‘s stone work remains, a kitchen, courtyard and other skillion rooms, along with the stone wall which protected their privacy, near the rail line and former siding.
The railway platform was built in 1876 to serve the well-to-do residents. It became the “Numantia” Platform, but ceased use in 1892, being removed in 1897.
In 1898 Adolphus Rogalski purchased “Numantia”, and changed the name to “Weemala”. The timber dwelling was destroyed by fire in 1977.
Sir Alfred Stephen built “Alphington” on the adjoining section in 1877, later buying Portion 46 so that he could also own “Numantia” Falls. He named the place for his childhood home in England.



Extract from Parish of Magdala

Badham then constructed “Metchley” on an adjoining lot in 1877. Badham did not reside at “Metchley” for long, building another dwelling some 300m away to the north east at “Weston”.

Chinese fir

Meat house

Internal hallway

All three ordered their timber homes ready-cut from the catalogue of Hudson Bros in Redfern. “Alphington” and “Numantia” looked almost identical.
Each had large families and the families spent a lot of time together, establishing gardens and planting trees. However their stay was short. The houses were small and all were weatherboard.
For a time “Alphington” was leased in 1914 by Alban Scanlon and William Bailey, who subsequently purchased it and moved it to Faulconbridge in 1921 to its current location at 492 Great Western Highway, Faulconbridge It is now known as Danville.

Badham died in 1884. “Metchley” was burnt down and “Weston” was demolished by a future owner, MacLaurin, due to termites.
In 1882 Andrew McCulloch purchased the entire Stephens property. Some 100m to the east of “Alphington” McCulloch built himself a new expansive sandstone house, which he named “Weemala”, an Aboriginal name meaning “an expansive view”. The architect was George Mansfield and the builder was Patrick (Paddy) Ryan. Ryan had constructed the stonework at “Numantia”, and the stone was locally quarried. The gardens were expanded from then, a tennis court being laid and a dam wall constructed to create a lake.
McCulloch used both houses but suffered financial losses and sold them and the property in 1889 to John Cliff, who had been the Martins’ lessee at “Numantia”. Cliff also had financial difficulties and sold to George Evans in 1896, by which time the property was quite run down. Evans sold off the railway siding, and used the new owners of the station to housekeep at “Weemala”. Evans developed the bush pathway system and rebuilt the dam wall on the lake. He had determined to change the name of the property, and the name “Eurama” came into use in the late 1890s, although Badham had used the name casually before 1884. It had a similar meaning to “Weemala”, with Greek origins.
Evans died in 1910. Evans’ daughter Emily MacLaurin purchased the property. However, due to ill health she left for England in 1920. She sold “Eurama” to her husband’s cousin Gilbert Nathan. It was soon sold to Mr Brown and his wife Daisy. Upon her death in the 1940s the house remained unoccupied for some time, suffering vandalism. A development company “Eurama” Homes bought the property, and then sold it to a Mr Adams. Adams restored the house.
Soon afterwards in November 1968 the impressive sandstone house was gutted by a bush fire. A local timber merchant Mr Watkin purchased the property but was not able to restore the house. He did construct a large steel & stone machinery shed nearby. He undertook extensive tree plantings but these were in turn largely destroyed by the other fire in 1977.
The present owner purchased the property in 2004, with the intention of extensive subdivision, some of which has already been under taken. The names of surrounding streets reflect the various names associated with the property over time: Weemala Avenue, Badham Place, Martin Place and Numantia Road.
Most of the sites and ruins are contained with Portions 16 & 22. “Eurama” itself was a substantial sandstone house. The stone fabric of the building remain intact, coursed stone blocks with dressed stone quoins. A bay window overlooked the main garden, and a square tower with a flat roof and balustrade parapet, overlooked the bush. Verandah tiles and roof slates survived the fire, but have long since been taken away.

Ornamental lake

Escutcheon

Camelia

Over the front door there is a heraldic escutcheon carved for McCulloch bearing the motto “VI ET ANIMA” [By Force & Spirit]. Adjoining is an intact stone meat house, roofed with stone slabs. A domed cistern is nearby. Evidence of the extensive gardens are all about to the east and north. A wisteria pergola once graced the courtyard beside the in-ground well. Vandalism has taken its toll on the place, with the remaining ruin and the large shed being extensively vandalized and scarred by graffiti.

Comment: Upon request to undertake a brief summary of this site and its history proved a daunting task! The history can never be brief, and as can be seen, with many layers of ownership and landuse. The remaining features need to be urgently identified and documented prior to further deterioration.
The main issues which relate to the property include security of the property generally, and security of the remaining relics and remains, the protection of the various significant heritage components, and recognition of the overall heritage significance of the place. A conservation management plan is essential for the future of this site, and any designated curtilage would be extensive. *Patsy Moppett*

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Blue Mountains Heritage Register, NSW Heritage – Weemala
Blue Mountains Heritage Register, NSW Heritage – Danville
www.bmlocalstudies.blogspot.com.au

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Food for thought ..... Editor's note

Why do we do what we do - history & well being

Hope everyone enjoys the wide range of topics covered in this the 40TH issue of *HERITAGE*! A huge milestone in our own story, a tribute to contributors over the years and to the foresight of the former editor John Leary in seeing an opportunity to share history with the wider community!

We who are involved in the heritage world know that visiting heritage sites is good for your happiness & wellbeing, be it a historic town or building, or an archaeological site. However it is often forgotten that heritage also counts for a large sector of the economy in terms of the tourist dollar.

Although Australia's European history is short compared to the rest of the world, it remains to link us to our past in culture, literature and landscape. Our indigenous heritage is even more precious.

The concept of heritage and things that are worth preserving is variable, and although many people undertake the heritage encounter every year, our "young" heritage is still disappearing before our eyes. Its conservation remains under appreciated and under funded by governments and suffering from demolition through neglect by developers who are not encouraged to take up adaptive reuse and tourism opportunities.

Although interest in heritage is slowly spreading, we may lose much of it before we have a chance to grasp the significance of the loss of individual items in a wider heritage landscape. With appropriate maintenance many heritage buildings/precincts can live on indefinitely.

However, too often the significance of a place is much reduced when its curtilage is swallowed up with residential encroachment and other inappropriate landuses.
Studies in the UK have illustrated the vital role heritage plays in our national life by measuring its value and impact on individuals and communities, converting a positive impact into potential community benefit. Participation in heritage projects, be it in visitation, volunteering or conservation works, increases self-esteem, increases skills, forms friendships and connections, and gives a stronger sense of belonging to a community and a source of local pride.

Innisfree Cottage, Katoomba

Innisfree Cottage, 39 Walgett St, Katoomba is, arguably, one of the oldest existing houses in Katoomba. It is currently owned by Innisfree Cooperative Ltd. It was purchased in 1979 to provide affordable accommodation for church and social groups. It continues this purpose still today.
“Shirley”, as the property was originally named, was built in the early 1880s on land originally owned by the “Father of Katoomba” John Britty North. North owned extensive areas of land in Katoomba, but Walgett St with its level aspect, extensive views, and close proximity to the railway station, was where North, and his sister-in-law Mrs Weynton, chose to build their own homes. At the western end of Walgett street, a large cottage was built. Records show that ownership of the land where the cottage is situated, now known as 41, 39 and 37 Walgett St, was transferred to Herbert Weynton, North's nephew, in 1883.

Katoomba Estate 1873

Brochure 1905

Both North and the Weynton family were very heavily involved in the activities of the Congregational Church, and church services were held in their homes, presumably until 1883, when North built the first Congregational Church Building on the Walgett St land. Records show that 'Shirley' was being run as a guest house by the Weyntons. An advertisement in the SMH dated 24th October 1887 stated that 'Shirley' had been “recently enlarged and improved”. In 1901 Mrs Weynton died at home, at 'Shirley'. Not long after records show that Mrs Clarence Linden was the proprietor.

John Britty North

Grave at Gore Hill

It is not certain when Mrs Linden took over the running of 'Shirley'. However an advertisement, with a photograph, appears in a 1905 tourist publication. 'Shirley' offers “superior accommodation to visitors”, with “tennis court and smoking room” for two guineas per week. The photograph shows a remarkable similarity with Innisfree Cottage today. Records show that Mrs Norman and then Mrs Hadden were the guest house proprietors of 'Shirley' until 1917. A SMH advertisement in 1918 advises of new management of 'Shirley', and the lands title records show the ownership of the section of property containing the house was transferred to William Ward in 1919. A further advertisement in the SMH in 1919 advertises rooms at 'Bonnie View' for 35/-. Shirley's time had passed.

'Bonnie View' was apparently named after a real person. Bonnie was the niece of the new owners. The story was told by Bonnie, herself, when she made an impromptu visit to 39 Walgett Street in about 2005. The then very elderly Bonnie told Cindy Howes (President of Innisfree Cooperative) that the house was, indeed, named after herself and, as a school-girl, she attended boarding school in Katoomba. On weekends and holidays Bonnie would come stay at “Bonnie View”.

Shirley 1905

Innisfree Cottage 2015

The property changed ownership again in 1926, and continued to offer accommodation. Several advertisements in the SMH in 1929 show that 'Bonnie View' was being run by a Mrs Lindsay and offered 'board' for 35 shillings. It seems that 'Bonnie View' may have made the transition from 'guest house' to 'boarding house' at this time. A 'Mrs Muir' is also recorded as a proprietor of 'Bonnie View', and there is evidence that it was still being used as a guest house in 1947.

Land title and local government rate records show that 'Bonnie View' change ownership four times between 1944 and 1970. Little other details of those years can be found.

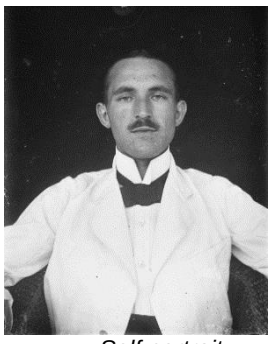
In 1971 the house was bought by Sydney University Settlement. 'Sydney University Settlement was previously known as the Sydney University Womens' Social Service Society.

Sydney University Settlement used the house as a holiday house for women and children's groups.
The house was purchased by Innisfree Cooperative Ltd in 1979 and the name of the house was changed to 'Innisfree Cottage'. At the time of purchase the house was in need of some serious repair, and the volunteers from Innisfree Co-operative have successfully maintained the house in reasonable condition since that time.
Innisfree Cottage continues to be run by Innisfree Cooperative Ltd as a weekend venue for church and social groups, and as holiday accommodation for members.

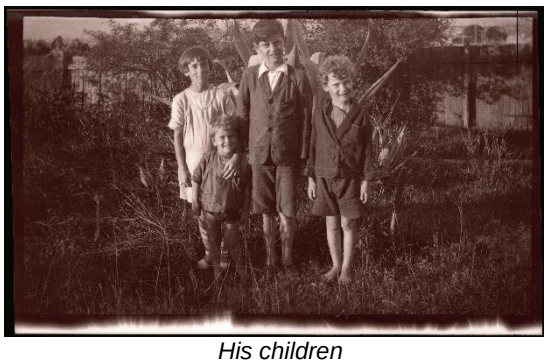
Source: Nerida Dalitz, Secretary, Innisfree Cooperative Ltd (references available upon request)

Rodoni Photographic Collection

A fabulous collection of photographs, in the vein of other significant collections such as the Holterman's, has been released to the public in a donation to the University of Newcastle Library, Cultural Collections. The photographic glass and film negatives (over 600) by Thomas James Rodoni (1882-1956) were donated by Rodoni's son Bill, with the assistance of family members. Bill passed away in late 2014. Family members and others have stepped in to assist in donating further negatives, providing family records to assist in the accessioning and description process, and providing important papers to the University Archives.



Self portrait



His children

Self Portrait

Thomas James Rodoni was born in Victoria in 1882, to Irish and Swiss parents. His actual occupation was recorded as a toolmaker, and in 1914 he was living in Sydney and joined the first AIF, sailing to New Guinea. As a photographer, Rodoni was able to capture many aspects of the war in the Pacific region. He also documented life in pre-war Sydney, in candid shots of his family, the people, the places, crowd scenes and parades, military and civilian marches. In 1915 he returned to Australia to work in the small arms factory at Lithgow for a year as a cutter & grinder, and then married Catherine Annie Wilson, settling in Newcastle, where they had four children. Here he worked in the government dockyard as a tradesman on engines for the Commonwealth ships. His love of the camera continued throughout his life, featuring scenes and people of Newcastle and surrounds. He died as a result of a car accident in 1956 at Waratah near Newcastle.

New Guinea

Dock workers

The collection was exhibited at the University of Newcastle in March-April 2015, with a focus on the WW1 photographs. However, the diverse collection also includes industrial works and machinery, his family and friends, and public places. The identification of individual images is ongoing, through associated archivists, historians, and family and community members. The collection is accessible on Flickr, and further information from the global community will assist in building new knowledge about this significant collection. The University advises that the images are available for use for study and personal research purposes, with appropriate acknowledgement. They welcome any further information that anyone can shed on Thomas Rodoni and his collection of glass plate negatives, and comments are invited in the identification of individuals and/or subject matter of the images. *Patsy Moppett*

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The Technical Side

Origins of local government & town planning in the Blue Mountains

Within the settlement origins of this country, separate colonies were formed on both the east and western coasts of Australia. During the 19th century the six colonies won self-government, and established local governments. The first local authority was established in Australia in1838 in Perth. The Adelaide Municipal Council was established in 1840.
In NSW it took longer to emerge, with most of the metropolitan councils and larger country towns being established between 1859 and 1900. The Sydney Corporation came in 1842, established to manage primary services such as street lighting and drainage, to be funded by a rate levy. The Sydney City Council dates back to 1848.
The system of district councils was set up in 1842, such councils being for maintenance of gaols outside the convict regime, and civic powers related to roads, bridges, public buildings and schools. Although 28 districts were proclaimed, the system collapsed. In 1858 the first general municipal legislation was proclaimed, the Municipalities Act of 1858 allowing for the creation of municipal councils, which was strengthened by the Municipalities Act of 1867. However, the statutory framework was dismantled in 1906, by which time only 25% of the NSW population was within a municipality. Rural councils were not incorporated until 1906, when the first shires were established. There were 192 units across the state, with only basic functions.
The Local Government Act 1906 was gazetted, providing a statutory foundation, and this was updated by the Local Government Act of 1919, which survives today. Comprehensive building control came into being, becoming a core council function. Rates became an incentive to develop land, and to clear land for agriculture or other commercial but environmentally destructive purposes.

Origins of town planning

Man creates systems for EVERYTHING and always has! Even the early caveman had customs and systems for communication and living. Rules and regulations may seem overwhelming at times, but without them we would have chaos. In the built environment we create systems to manage our environment, such as, transport (of people & goods) – road, rail, air and sea, utilities such as power, sewer, water and gas, communications – telecommunications and IT, housing and accommodation, social - health and other medical, social and community services, cultural features and facilities, and economic - finance, taxation, etc.
Town and rural planning is a process to establish those systems and guide the orderly development of urban and rural settlement, being concerned with the use of land and the design and management of the built environment, including air and water, and the associated infrastructure such as transportation and distribution networks.
The discipline creates plans to direct settlement management, plans which can take a variety of forms including strategic plans, local, State and regional plans, cultural and social

plans. Plans are created under legislation at local, State, Federal level or international level. Planners are responsible for applying and enforcing the plans and any associated policies. Planning of towns was undertaken even as far back as Neolithic times, although not recognised as such. Towns were designed to cater for the immediate needs of the population and were often along trade routes, waterways etc – along lines of transport (ie. infrastructure).

The origin of modern day town planning lay in the need for urban reform that arose as a reaction to the chaos of the industrial revolution in the mid-19th century, when urban growth created massive challenges for housing and provision of infrastructure. The garden city movement was one new innovative design, first set up in the late 1900s in England and the USA. Many different ideas floated around, and everyone thought they had the perfect solution to managing people.

Most Australian towns were designed on a grid pattern, which for the most part worked really well. But the plans were drawn up at a desktop, and often bore no relation to ground-truthing, other than where there was a major landuse feature such as a river.

Designers grew bored with the grid and tried different ideas such as in Canberra, with satellite towns and circular road networks.

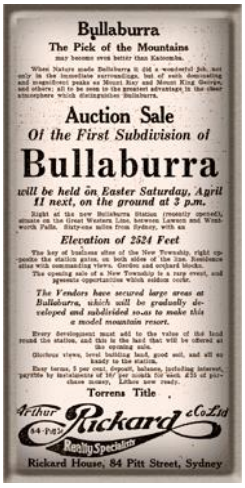
The NSW Parliament introduced a comprehensive land use planning system in 1945 empowering Councils to prepare planning scheme ordinances. Councils commenced preparation of planning schemes under the Local Government Act 1919. In terms of town planning and development prior to 1977, planning assessment was subject to Part XII, and then XIIA, of the Local Government Act 1919, and under numerous Ordinances (policies) including Ordinance 70 for building works, and comprehensive land use planning.

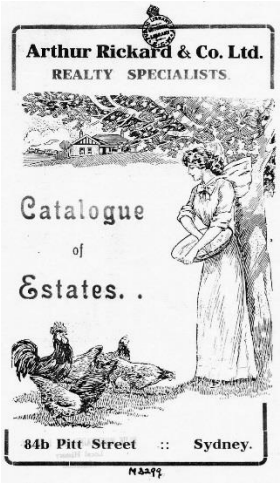
Origins of town planning in the Blue Mountains

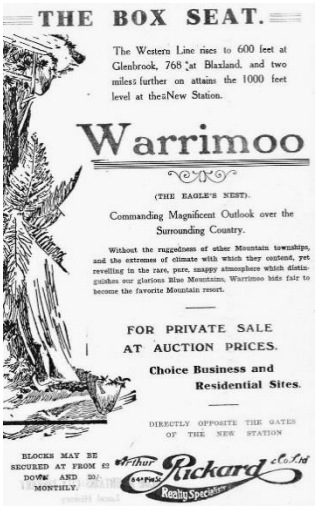
There was a Draft Interim Scheme ordinance for Katoomba dated 1960. A Draft Planning Ordinance Scheme then emerged, dated 1973, adopted in 1958 and 1967 and reissued in 1972. Many other instruments were gazetted until 1980, most of which resulted from rezoning applications. In 1980 Interim Development Order No. 28 was gazetted for the City of Blue Mountains, which rescinded all previous IDOs.

The first Blue Mountains local environmental plan appears to have been BMLEP No. 4, gazetted in 1982, which rescinded IDO No. 28 and LEPs 1, 2, 3, 5, 6 & 7. It was followed by amendments to BMLEP No.4 by BMLEP 1991. Further amendments were made by BMLEP 2005, which operates today. All three LEPs operate together today.

Now of course Blue Mountains is considering its Draft LEP 2013, to replace the three older instruments, currently proceeding through the lengthy process of community consultation, and endorsement from the State government.







The old IDOs and the newer LEPs comprise a written document and a set of zoning maps. The instruments set out provisions for how the local government area is zoned, what is permitted in each zone, and provisions for subdivision, building and other development types. Its provisions are fairly broad. All the current instruments applicable to each council can be viewed on the relevant council's web site.

The Standard Instrument (SI)

In 2008 The State government introduced the Standard Instrument (SI), which was a template for the creation of all planning schemes across the state, to achieve consistency in policy, interpretation and assessment of development. There remain only a couple of local government areas to complete their SI LEPs, one being Blue Mountains.

Many Councils across the State have adopted the SI with adjustments to suit their own particular environments. In addition, the Department of Planning & Environment has worked with those Councils to draft additional clauses into the SI for use by any council eg, for minor boundary adjustments.

Blue Mountains has had their Draft LEP 2013 on exhibition and it lies with the Minister for Planning & Environment at present, for consideration of the final version. Although the area is protected under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999, the Native Vegetation Act 2003, the Heritage Act 1977, the UNESCO World Heritage Area, and other legislations, the Council and the community felt that the area needed a flexible LEP which reinforced these safeguards, and took into account the unique features of the Mountains, in particular stormwater quality management, the protection of significant vegetation communities and protection of period and/or character housing areas. Special provisions were incorporated into the Draft which accounted for these issues. The Draft went to exhibition in early 2014 with the support of Council for the special provisions. However, concern has been expressed by the Department's legal branch with some aspects of these special provisions. The Council claims that although the SI is the minimum, it has gone beyond this to provide added protection. The Council are particularly concerned for the preservation of character housing and other conservation protections in the Draft LEP.

The community is concerned that changes to the Draft LEP resulting from Parliamentary Counsel consideration will not be re-exhibited. However it was stated during the exhibition process:

Please note that following the exhibition, the Department of Planning and Infrastructure [as they were at the time] *have advised that the Draft LEP may be changed to satisfy the legal drafting requirements and amendments to local model clauses.*
The community were possibly not expecting the extent of alteration which may currently be proposed.

The R6 Zone

One particular special provision was the inclusion of a new zone, the R6 Residential Character Conservation Zone. At present this zone had been deferred out of the LEP, and is being considered within a group request from various councils about various proposed new zones. The draft clause currently reads as follows:

> ***Zone R6 Residential Character Conservation - (Living Conservation)***
> ***Notes:*** *The new R6 Residential Character Conservation zone is proposed by the Council to preserve the character attributes of the existing Living Conservation zone. The Department has advised that it should be noted that the R6 zone is not consistent with the Standard Instrument Order and there is a risk that it cannot be supported by the State Government when the plan is finalised.*
> ***Direction.*** *The following must be included as either "Permitted without consent" or "Permitted with consent" for this zone:*
> ***1 Objectives of zone***
> *• To preserve and enhance the character of residential areas that are formed by larger allotments and single dwelling houses within a prominent traditional garden setting.*
> *• To enhance the landscape character and setting along roads of historic significance where the road forms a visually significant entrance to a village or a linkage between visitor destinations*
> *• To ensure development retains the prominence of landscape elements and traditional garden settings.*
> *• To allow for a limited range of non-residential land uses where these are conducted in association with a predominantly residential land use and are consistent with the retention of a residential character based on a landscape or open space setting.*
> ***2 Permitted without consent***
> *Home businesses; Home occupations; Environmental protection works.*
> ***3 Permitted with consent***
> *Bed and breakfast accommodation; Building identification signs; Bush fire hazard reduction work; Business identification signs; Child care centres; Dwelling houses; Environmental facilities; Exhibition homes; Flood mitigation works; Home-based child care; Neighbourhood shops; Respite day care centres; Roads.*
> ***4 Prohibited***
> *Multi-dwelling housing; Residential flat buildings; Seniors Housing; Any development not specified in item 2 or 3.*

The development control plan

It should also be noted that the more specific details of how development is to be carried out such as setbacks, landscaping, parking etc are usually set down in an accompanying Development Control Plan (DCP), relating to heritage areas, residential precincts, industrial, commercial, rural, residential, rural residential, and medium density housing and other land uses. Within the various sections of the DCP, there are objectives set down as to what they are trying to achieve.
Blue Mountains City Council currently has a comprehensive DCP covering most forms of development, and a number of minor ones which relate to specific sites, such as Echo Point and for infrastructure installation. This document will require review once the new LEP is gazetted. The DCP has the ability to identify residential character areas and how each can be protected through development criteria. The DCP is a more flexible document over which Council has more control in terms of development assessment and policy making.
Importantly, much of any perceived adverse impact may actually result from the

thoroughness and the integrity given to the assessment process for development, not in the actual legislation current at the time.

Conclusion

BMACHO made a submission to the Blue Mountains City Council during the Draft exhibition period, in support of the proposed deviations to the planning instrument, emphasizing that heritage protection is not just limited to individual sites or items, but the character and feel of the area as well. Significance was placed on the fact that the Blue Mountains to date has not suffered from urban encroachment such as is seen within the Sydney metropolitan area. BMACHO would reinforce its previous support for the changes to the Blue Mountains Draft LEP, bearing in mind that in terms of residential character conservation, protection is actually provided through other legislative measures at all government levels, including the imposition of heritage conservation areas and residential character areas, which need not necessarily fall within the bounds of, or need to be reinforced by, a local environmental plan.

Community events & updates

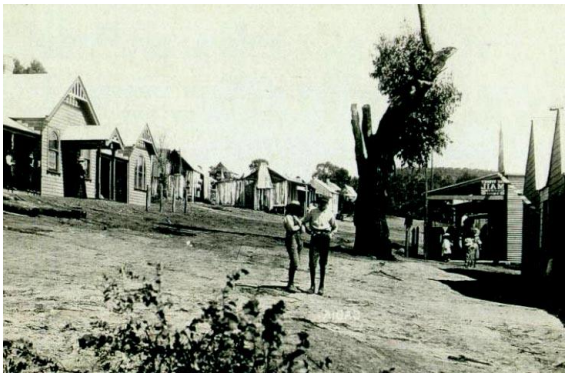
Cadia Valley Heritage

A new website has recently been launched which is the culmination of a detailed historical and archaeological investigation of the mining community of Cadia, 30km south of Orange in the NSW Central West. Mining commenced at Cadia in the 1850s, but really took off in the 1860s with the investment of the Scottish Australian Mining Company. By 1870 the population had declined to about 150. Mining improved in the early 1900s, and the population rose again to some 500 by 1908.

School 1910

School group

Cadia Village survived the ups and downs of mining up to the 1940s. Following this the village declined rapidly, with little to show of the original settlement.



Early Cadia

In 1992 Newcrest Mining discovered the Cadia Hill ore body, which was large enough to secure Newcrest's future in the valley with the final estimate of gold potential for Cadia Hill projecting a 12 year mine life. Cadia Valley Operations currently comprises two underground mines, Cadia East and Ridgeway. These are large scale mining operations using caving mining methods. Production from the Cadia Hill Open Pit was suspended in July 2012 and further development will be assessed in the future. *Patsy Moppett*

References:
www.facebook.com/eha.archaeology.history.heritage

Historic Blue Mountains Newspapers – now on line

Blue Mountains City Library, the State Library of NSW and the National Library of Australia have collaborated to deliver online access to surviving historical Blue Mountains newspapers up to 1954, via Trove.
How useful this will be when carrying out searches of your house or your street, or a significant event in the past within the Blue Mountains area. The work was made possible with the help of a State Library of NSW grant, and contributions from the Springwood Historians and Blue Mountains City Council.

Historical newspapers digitized include:

- The Mountaineer (1894-1908)
- The Blue Mountains Gazette (1903-1904)
- The Blue Mountains Echo (1909-1928)
- Katoomba Daily (1920-1939)
- The Blue Mountains Daily (1939)
- The Blue Mountain Star (1921-1931)
- The Blackheath Beacon (1930-1931)
- Blackheath Bulletin (1929-1931)
- The Chronicle (1929)
- The Hospital Saturday News (1930)
- The Independent (1930-1931)
- The Record of the Blue Mountains (1924)
- The Enterprise (1913)
- The Mountain Daily (1919-1920)
- The Blue Mountains Times (1931-1937)

- The Blue Mountains Advertiser (1940-1954)

A pre-generated search can be used to search the records:

- bit.do/HistoricBlueMountainsNewspapers, or
- bit.do/BMnewspapers-on Trove
- www.trove.nla.gov.au

or via the library catalogue. *Patsy Moppett*

References:
Blue Mountains City Library
www.bluemts.com.au/news/historic-blue-mountains-newspapers-now-digital/

Blue Mountains Gazette

Fairfax Media has recently announced plans to restructure its community publishing operations in the greater Sydney area. The overhaul commenced in 2013, and is almost half way through. It includes introducing new technology and training for journalists and sales staff, workforce reductions and some publication changes. Their network covers hundreds of newspapers and web sites serving regional, rural and suburban communities across Australia.
Their claim is that there would be no lessening in Fairfax commitment to providing coverage of local communities, but they wish to better focus their resources and strengthen newspapers and web sites.

BLUE MOUNTAINS Gazette

There are implications for the Blue Mountains Gazette, including staff reductions. Fairfax themselves state that the Blue Mountains Gazette has been serving the district for over 39 years. The key to its success is community involvement, making it one of the leading newspapers serving the outer western region of Sydney.
BMG reports that the newspaper has actually served the community for nearer 52 years, since 1963. The changes will result in a smaller editorial team producing both the BMG and the Penrith City Gazette. The loss of the ability to provide comprehensive coverage and high quality content is of concern. Penrith and the Blue Mountains have vastly different demographics and issues and concerns.
BMG urges the community to contact Fairfax Media in this regard to reconsider the plans, to allow the BMG to continue to serve the community with strength and purpose, as it has in the past.
Without support it may be that readership and advertising will decline and may mean ultimately the demise of the newspaper, which would then enter the realms of the myriad of publications listed in the previous article in this HERITAGE Newsletter.
BMG feel that their newspaper is a well read and respected, financially viable local paper, which needs the support of the community if it is to survive in its current format.
Premier Mike Baird, in a recent address to NewsLocal editors about leadership, commented on the role of community newspapers in NSW. He said that the role of media is changing, but “people are still turning to their local masthead”. “People have a great sense of connection and ownership with their area; and it is the local paper that brings together the different threads and speaks with a united voice”. “Suburban papers will have a key role to

play, because as we increasingly move to global, it is more important than ever to focus on local".
More recently Fairfax have announced that staff will achieve a slight increase in editorial resources for the Blue Mountains/Penrith Gazette merge, being one additional person for two days a week. Voluntary redundancy has been offered. Apparently this decision is final and the outcome for local newspapers has been announced.
The community are urged to contact Fairfax and the BMG to continue to express their concerns. *Patsy Moppett*

Contacts:
mail@saveourgazette.com
www.gofundme.com/uzdkmv9s
Love Your Blue Mountains Gazette Facebook page
Letters to the Gazette and to Fairfax Media.

References:
Fairfax Media
Blue Mountains Gazette, 9 July 2015
Blue Mountains Gazette, 29 July 2015
Email: J O'Leary, 14 August 2015
Penrith Press, 21 August 2015

Labours of Love: Australian Quilts 1845-2015

The Hazelhurst Regional Gallery and Arts Centre Exhibition Labours of Love: Australian Quilts 1845-2015 is set to stir the imagination of quilters and lovers of beautiful craft everwhere. The exhibition is on from 8 August through to 5 October 2015, and presents some of the finest examples of Australian quilts, including heritage quilts on loan from other State and Federal organisations and select examples from regional museums. They have been created not only for comfort and show, but also to commemorate historical events and family occasions, to reveal social histories and personal stories.

Quilt making and patchworking went into decline following WWII but the traditions have been maintained.
Don't miss these beautiful quilts which demonstrate significant levels of skill, intricate detail and workmanship. *Patsy Moppett*
The Gallery is open 10am to 5pm.

References:
www.sutherlandshire.nsw.gov.au

Lawson Shops Interpretive Signage

Following much community concern and consultation over recent years, the makeover for the Lawson Shopping precinct is almost compete. The development was approved by Blue

Mountains City Council in 2010, subject to a large number of conditions. Two sets of shops join the highway strip, a number of which are already occupied on the highway frontage, including the famous Lawson Cake Shop, a pizza shop, a bottle shop and a café.
A developer spokesperson suggested that they were trying to attract tenancies which facilitate and complement the needs of the community, being mindful of the already existing businesses within the village.
The locality appears as an entity as early as 1817 as The Swamp or Christmas Swamp. By the 1830s it was referred to as the 24 Mile Hollow and it became Lawson in 1879, named for the explorer William Lawson. During the mid to late 1900s and into the 21st century the shopping area had become quite degraded, and the opportunity for revitalization came with the highway widening project. Several buildings were burnt and others neglected, and inappropriate alterations made to others.

Blue Mountain Hotel

1920s

1890

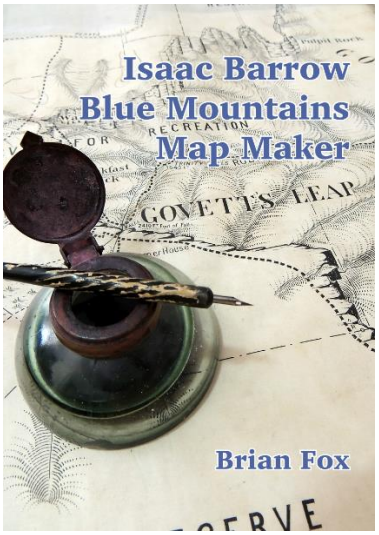
The development consent included a condition worded as follows:
Two interpretive panels are required to be deigned in consultation with Council and community representatives for the purpose of highlighting the heritage significance of the previous structures on the site and in the vicinity. One is to be located on the north elevation and the other similarly on the south elevation.
The developer sought input from community groups on the content of signage and the community was encouraged to forward ideas and text to the project. Although responses were due by 7 August or thereabouts, there may still be an opportunity to have a say.

Patsy Moppett

Contact: ian.rufus@gmail.com or bmercer@bmcc.nsw.gov.au

Book Review: Isaac Barrow: Blue Mountains Map Maker

Barrow Lookout at Blackheath stands proudly above the cliff line and looks directly over the waterfall, Govetts Leap and down into Govett Gorge towards the Grose Valley.
Who was this man Barrow? Why was he given the honour to such a prestigious lookout?
Brian Fox's most recent book "Isaac Barrow - Blue Mountains Map Maker" details the life story of this remarkable man. Isaac and his family had moved from Sydney to Yass, where young Isaac the son was born. Moving again, to Gundagai the family survived the greatest loss of life in a flood in Australia's history, (1852). He was educated at the Church of England Grammar School in Melbourne and employed as a surveyor with the Victorian Crown Lands and Survey. One of his assigned projects was to survey the NSW / Victorian border.
He moved to Sydney in 1876 and was employed as a draftsman at the NSW Lands Department, where over the course of his 39 year career, compiled 12 detailed tourist promotion maps of the Blue Mountains.
Isaac's country home at Woodford remained in the family for 56 years.



Cover

Barrow Lookout

Brian Fox's passion for the Blue Mountains and its maps stemmed from being employed as a cartographer by the Lands Department in Sydney 90 years after Isaac Barrow had entered those hallowed doors. In 1976, the Central Mapping Authority (The NSW Lands Department re badged) moved to Bathurst. Brian's 40 year mapping career produced the first map in NSW to be fully computerised in 1998, The Katoomba Topographical Map. Not unreasonably Brian feels a close affinity with the pioneering spirit of Isaac Barrow. *Mike Keats*

72 pages illustrated with colour photos and the maps Isaac drew of the Blue Mountains.
Can be viewed and purchased via the web site, postage free
brian@bushexplorers.com.au
or further details can be obtained from Brian Fox Ph: 0407 067 081
Price $25 plus $5 postage if direct from author, 19 Weeks Place, Bathurst, NSW, 2795

Blaxland, Lawson & Wentworth

Businesses Supporting Bicentenary (BSB) P/L have sought to mark the bicentenary of the first successful European crossing of the Blue Mountains through an artwork by Wentworth Falls sculptor Terrance Plowright. The work was commissioned by founding member Tom Colless in early 2013, and are reaching their final stage.

Phil Hammon at the 2013 launch

The crossing

Lawson

Wentworth

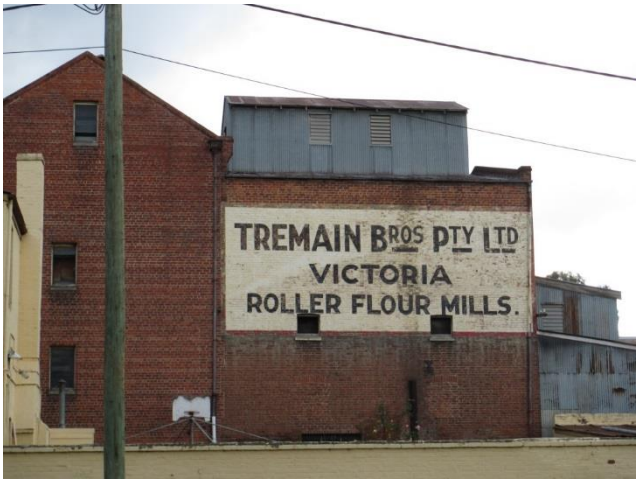
Blaxland

The three busts of Gregory Blaxland, William Charles Wentworth and William Lawson were finished in bronze castings, being on display at the Tourist Information Centre at Glenbrook. Descendants of the explorers, local businesses and the general public were invited to sponsor the project, to be rewarded with their names engraved on the monument of their choice. Lists are being finalized and include many direct and indirect descendants, including convicts. Donations (supply and installation) have been made by Mr Colless and fellow BSB member Phil Hammon, through their company businesses.
The Statues will each be erected in their namesake towns on a sandstone plinth, with the names of donors thereon. The date of installation is as yet unknown. *Patsy Moppett*

References:
Phil Hammon, photographs & emails August 2015
Blue Mountains Gazette 21 July 2015
Wikipedia

Tremain's Flour Mill, open to public

Further to an article in the BMACHO Heritage Newsletter of July-August 2015, it can now be advised that Bathurst's historic Tremain's Mill is opening its doors to the public, with its new owners inviting the community to an open day at The Mill on Sunday 20 September 2015.
"We are inviting the Bathurst community to see the site and to help us record the history of this important Bathurst icon," new owner Steve Birrell said. "The local memories of Tremain's are an important part of its history, and we are keen to hear from people who worked at The Mill or who have recollections about the place.
"We would love to chat with people and record their Tremain's stories. We'd like to see any photos, documents and other Mill-related objects, so that we can gain a deeper appreciation of the site and the lives of the people who worked there," he added.



"We are developing a Conservation Management Plan for The Mill and its silos. This will inform the development of a Master Plan for the precinct with the help of the heritage groups and Bathurst Council.

"Our vision is for a pedestrian friendly mixed-use precinct that preserves the heritage streetscape and the important historic elements of The Mill and silos, and we are interested in gathering community feedback to help inform that vision," he said.

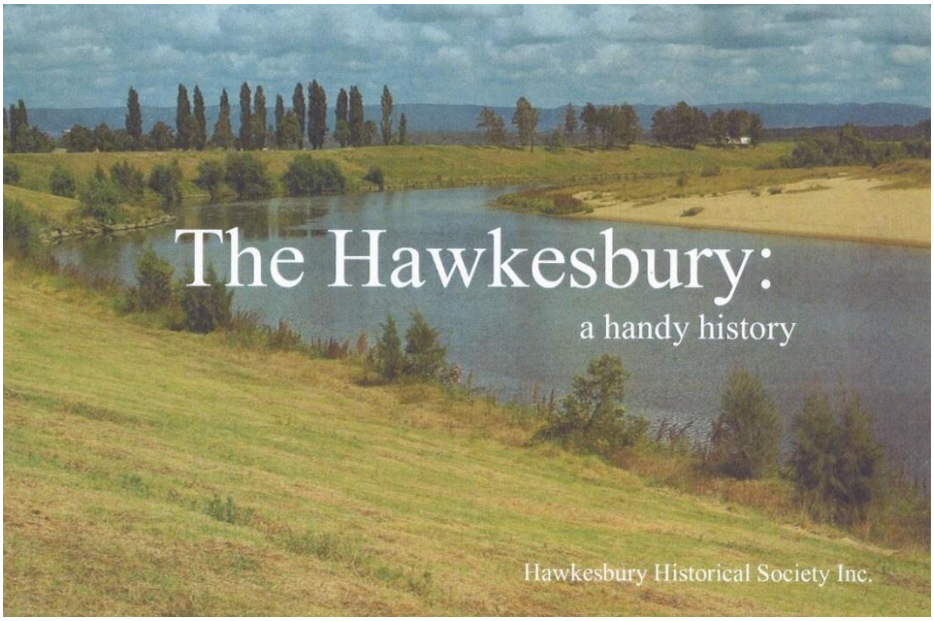
The Open Day has been planned in partnership with the Tremain's Mill Community Group which includes representatives from Bathurst historical and heritage groups and Keppel Street residents. "The support and input of these local community groups is an important part of the project," Mr Birrell said.

The Open Day will include historic displays and copies of historic and current plans, and free tours of parts of site. There will be food, refreshments and entertainment available.

Patsy Moppett

Media contacts:
Steve Birrell: 0407 415 167 *stephen@tremainsmill.com*
Sandy Bathgate: 6329 4233 *info@heritagebathurst.com*

Hawkesbury History



A new booklet is being launched by the Hawkesbury Historical Society, “The Hawkesbury – a handy history”, collated by the Society. It is aimed at young readers and the general public alike. The launch will be undertaken by Professor Ian Jack, President of the Society, at the Hugh Williams Room, Hawkesbury Regional Museum, Baker Street, Windsor, on Friday 4 September 2015. All members and visitors are welcome. The RSVP was due by 21 August, but the booklet will be available from the 4th of September. It will be sold at $5.00 for groups visiting the Museum, or $7.00 to the general public.

Source: Neville Dehn, Secretary, Hawkesbury Historical Society

Beautiful revamp for treasured teapot collection

Whether you like English or Irish breakfast, Oolong or Russian Caravan, white, green, orange or red, weak, strong or smoky, the long-awaited Bygone Beautys Treasured Teapot Museum & Tearooms revamp has been steeped to perfection and is ready to savour.
The major extensions and renovations of the popular Leura tourist attraction in the Blue Mountains were officially opened at a glittering soiree by former NSW Governor Professor the Honourable Dame Marie Bashir AD CVO on 4 August 2015.
Dennis Barber, who gave an *Acknowledgement to Country* on behalf of the local Gundungurra people, said tea drinking was a great equaliser of class and status and that many problems had been solved over a cuppa.

That theme was expanded by Professor Dame Marie, who said Bygone Beautys was filling an important role in preserving the history and culture of tea, a significant part of Australian ethos and heritage.
She told the gathering about visiting the Blue Mountains as a child, “one of the most beautiful places on the planet”.
The Bygone Beautys revamp includes a new museum space featuring more than 5,500 teapots (some debuting publically for the first time), function room, formal tearoom and retail area specialising in all things tea-related.
It also features a spectacular custom-made Mad Hatter-inspired teapot sculpture by local metal artists Ron Fitzpatrick and Steve Cunningham of Talisman Gallery at Hartley. The creation was made from a salvaged chimney stack from a steam engine, complete with a candy-like decorative steel handle, bow-tie-wearing rabbit and spout.
Resplendent in a magnificent patterned jacket and trademark bowtie, Mr Cooper (aka Mr Teapot) acknowledged partner of 48 years Kerry McKenzie, as well as the efforts of owner of the original Bygone Beautys teapot collection Ron Hooper, who began the collection in 1974 and with whom Mr Cooper went into business in 1992.
“I was thinking about what I was going to do during my retirement, Ron had a teapot collection and I was a compulsive teapot buyer,” Mr Cooper said. “When we took over this premises it was zoned as a tearoom so to comply we had this tiny little tearoom and a huge display of antiques.”

Dame Marie Bashir and Maurice Cooper

Steve Cunningham Ron Fitzpatrick

Twenty-three years later, the teapot collection has grown to more than 5,500 teapots and is the largest of its kind in Australia and one of the largest in the world. It spans five centuries and includes items from all over the world. It also includes 7,000 teaspoons and 3,000 tea towels among other artefacts.
The tearooms are also famous for a decadent Devonshire tea and traditional high tea, served with a degree of pomp and ceremony on fine bone china from a tea trolley to the strains of *Land of Hope & Glory*.
Bygone Beautys is located on the corner of Grose and Megalong Streets in Leura, a short stroll from Leura Mall. Open seven days a week between 10am and 5.30pm, with the last tearoom orders being taken at 5pm. Traditional High Tea is available 10.30am - 4pm weekdays and 10.30am - 4.30pm on weekends. Bookings essential: (02) 4784 3117 or *info@bygonebeautys.com.au*

Source: Bygone Beautys Treasured Teapot Museum & Tearooms

Seniors Week 2016: Theme – "Healthy Living"

The NSW government has allocated some $200.000 seed funding for community groups, volunteer organisations and local councils to host events during the 2016 Seniors Week, 1 April to 10 April 2016. Funding categories are as follows:

- Tier 1 - grants of up to $1,000 to deliver small local events or activities in the community.
- Tier 2 - grants from $1001 to $5000 for large scale events which focus on this year's theme, "Healthy Living". Please be aware that Tier 2 grants must be matched by at least 50% of your organisation's own resources. This matched amount can include sponsorship, cash or in-kind contributions such as venue hire, catering and administration costs, and money spent by your own organisation.

The object of the events under this theme is to inform seniors to the importance of staying healthy and active, and to provide expert advice surrounding health and wellbeing to address their nutritional, physical and recreational needs, and to empower seniors to lead fulfilling lives and achieve their potential in their communities.
Suggested activities might address healthy living, active living, and intergenerational, technological, creative, recreational and cultural activities. *Patsy Moppett*
Although applications close at 5pm on Friday 4 September 2015, to be submitted on line to: *www.seniorsweek.com.au* ……. if you miss the date be ready for 2017!

Further Cox's Road SHR Gazettal

The final precincts of the Cox's Road were formally listed on the State Heritage Register on 31 July 2015 in Government Gazette No. 64. The sites were listed by the Minister for heritage, the Honourable Mark Speakman SC MP, on the recommendation of the Heritage Council of NSW, pursuant to Clause 37(1)(a) of the *Heritage Act 1977.*
The listing was undertaken due to the sites' heritage significance to the people of the State of NSW. The details can be viewed on the State Heritage Register via the Heritage Division, Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) website at www.heritage.nsw.gov.au
The formal listing was made as follows:
Cox's Road (1814–15) and Early Deviations (1820s) - Two Precincts within the Local Government Area of Blue Mountains City:

- Cox's Road and Early Deviations—Linden, Linden Precinct
- Cox's Road and Early Deviations—Woodford, Old Bathurst Road Precinct

Linden Precinct

Woodford Precinct

The listing is a culmination of the work commenced in 2006 by John Wellings and the Cox's Road Project Committee, together with support from the community and the relevant local government bodies. *Patsy Moppett*

Cox's Road Dreaming

Greening Bathurst has launched their Flagship Bathurst Bicentennial Project Guide Book "Cox's Road Dreaming, at the Blue Mountains Historical Society, Hobbys Reach, 99 Blaxland Road, Wentworth Falls on Saturday 29th August 2015. A light lunch was provided afterwards. The launch was to be a part of the BMHS's Open Day.
The Guide Book was be available on the day @ $29.95. The illustrated 100 page A4 book comes with eight fold out maps that enable participants to visit 116 sites along the line of William Cox's 1814/15 road to Bathurst, and to engage in its natural history.

Macquarie's Flagstaff, Bathurst

Independent reviews were provided on the publication by historians Christopher Morgan and Andy McQueen, which commented on the impressive scope and quality of the work, and the value as a resource for the wider community. *Patsy Moppett*
For copies of the Guide contact bhms@bluemountainshistory.com or Greening Bathurst.

Reference:
David Goldney
Chair: Greening Bathurst Bicentennial Sub-committee
Adjunct Professor, Charles Sturt University

Vintage Rail Motor Ride, Capertee Valley

A charming deco-style Rail Motor set is making a run between Lithgow and Kandos and return through the spectacular Capertee Valley, on 19 September 2105. The train has just been refurbished and in October is heading up to Byron Bay to work for a resort.
Car-pooling for the return trip from Lithgow to Kandos would be an option for a day out for Central West and Blue Mountains residents. Whilst in Kandos the train will be running down to Carlos Gap so locals can enjoy the tunnel trip.

Capertee Valley, from Pearsons Lookout, by Karon Grant

This event has been organised by the Kandos Museum and State Mine Railways Limited, the enthusiasts who have done the refurbishment. *Fiona McDonald*

For bookings: http://www.kandosmuseum.org.au/events/

Tracing Your Scottish Ancestors

Kurrajong Comleroy Historical Society's Family History Group advises that a talk will be given on 25 November 2015 at Windsor by Duncan Macniven in regard to tracing Scottish ancestors and how to access the records in Scotland. Duncan holds an MA and MLitt from

the University of Aberdeen, Kings College, and was Registrar General for Scotland from 2003 to 2011. He is visiting Australia and this will be his only public appearance.

Register House, Edinburgh

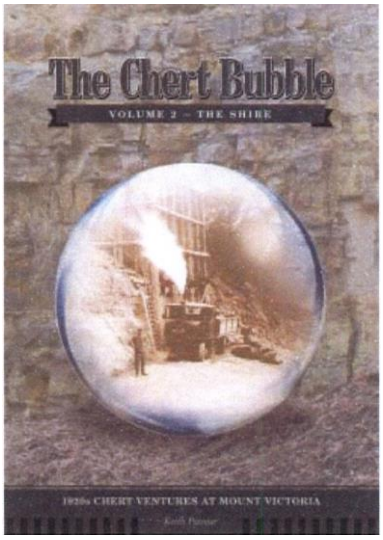
Duncan Macniven

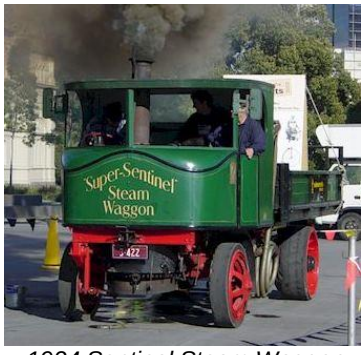
In 2009 Duncan launched images from the Old Parish Register burial and death records dating back to the 16th century on the internet, marking the completion of the digitization project, commenced in 2001, to make available online genealogical records held by his department.
In Scotland he was a familiar figure explaining the census (held every 10 years) and Scotland's demography to a wide audience. In his final year as Registrar General he oversaw the amalgamation of the General Register Office for Scotland and the National Archives of Scotland (responsible for Scotland's historical records), to form the National Records of Scotland in April 2011.
Macniven believes that Scotland is a world leader in genealogical record keeping, maintaining accessible comprehensive resources on the web. *Patsy Moppett*
The talk will commence at 2pm at the Tebbutt Room, Deerubbin Centre, 300 George Street, Windsor.
The cost per head is $5.00 and includes afternoon tea.
Contact: secretary@kurrajonghistory.org.au
RSVP by 20 November 2015, to KCHS, PO Box 174, Kurmond NSW 2757

References:
Kurrajong Comleroy Historical Society
www.abdn.ac.uk
www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk

The Chert Bubble, Volume 2 - The Shire

Volume No. 2 in the series on Mount Victoria's chert quarry has arrived from the printers!
The book will be launched By the Mount Victoria & District Historical Society and Mountain Mist Books at Mount Victoria on Saturday 5 September 2015 at 2.30pm at the Refreshment Room, Platform 1, Mount Victoria Railway Station. Mount Victoria.
The book tells the story of the Blue Mountains Shire Council's chert quarry at Victoria Pass (1922-1938) and the Sentinel Steam Waggons which the Council used to truck crushed chert road metal to a siding near Mount Victoria station.
The Special book launch price is $45.00. Normal price will be $49.50.
The day includes the 1924 Super Sentinal Steam Waggon No. 5322 on display near the station and in operation on Mount Victoria's streets, courtesy of Paul, Karen and Emily Dove and Campbelltown Steam & Machinery Museum.
The Mount Victoria Museum is open from 12noon to 3pm, with a display of relics and information on chert, coal and shale mining.





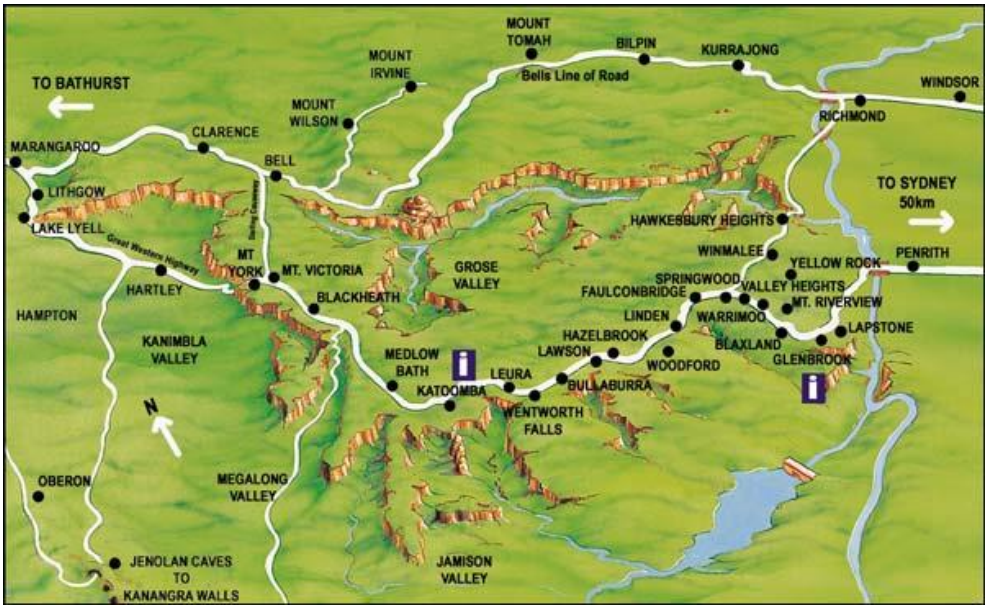
1924 Sentinal Steam Waggon

The launch at 2.30pm will entail a short talk by author Keith Painter "Chert Baby or Skeleton in the Cupboard", followed by the book launch by Michael Neall, former Mayor of Blue Mountains City, and special guests. *Patsy Moppett*
Bookings are essential for the launch, RSVP August 31 to greatguides@mountainmistbooks.com OR Ph: 02 6337 3395.

References:
Keith Painter
Jean Winston
Wikipedia

The Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail (GBMHT)
Blue Mountains Association of Cultural & Heritage Organisations (BMACHO)

The GBM Heritage Trail was instigated by Richard Woolley in 2013, who was then a member of the Blue Mountains Historical Society. He initiated the idea at a BMACHO workshop at the end of 2013 and the then President, John Leary asked Richard to look into the possibility of promoting an event that would further the interests of BMACHO members. Richard became a committee member of BMACHO in March 2014 and worked on the project. Unfortunately Richard passed away later in 2014, after handing his project work on to fellow BMACHO committee members, who continued with his work.
We originally asked our members if they were interested in participating in four common open days a year, the first Saturday of January, April, July and October even though most are open on a more regular basis. We found those who could and would participate, and those who could participate by appointment only. Initially our participating members and businesses contributed to get the project off the ground.
In mid-November 2014, the Westpac Group was offering funding by way of the Natural Disaster Recovery Grant for not-for-profit organisations on the Mountains, following the disastrous 2013 bushfires at Springwood, Winmalee, Yellow Rock and Mt Victoria, in an effort to bring business and life back into the Mountains. BMACHO Secretary Jan Koperberg applied and BMACHO was granted the funding in December 2014.
The Trail is to be launched at the Cultural Centre at Katoomba at 5.30pm on 22 September 2015.



GBMHT project area – Richard Woolley

Lawson Workshop August 2015

The project is proudly sponsored by Westpac and the Natural Disaster Recovery Fund, for BMACHO Members, and Food & Beverage and Accommodation Businesses. BMACHO are most grateful to the Westpac Group for their confidence in their ability to deliver this project. ***Saturday 3 October 2015 is the first common Open Day.*** The community is welcome to come and enjoy the historical societies, the museums, the heritage properties, the heritage gardens, historical businesses, publishers, exhibitions and a lot more. Visit some of the Hidden Gems along the way, have a picnic. Enjoy the spectacular scenery, have morning tea, lunch, afternoon tea or dinner at one of our heritage businesses. Stay for the day, stay for the weekend.

Jan Koperberg & Patsy Moppett

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

Registered office: 1/19 Stypandra Place, Springwood 2777. (02) 4751 5834
Email: committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au or j.koperberg@bigpond.com
Website: www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au **ABN**: 53 994 839 952

The organisation: Blue Mountains Association of Cultural & Heritage Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 after local historical and heritage societies and individuals recognised the need for the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the local government area (LGA) of Blue Mountains City Council. The constituency now embraces but is not limited to, the LGAs of Blue Mountains, Lithgow, Hawkesbury, Penrith and Mudgee. BMACHO membership includes historical and heritage groups, museums, commercial enterprises with an historical or heritage component in its core business, local government (local studies units, library collections) and a limited number of individual members by invitation such as but not necessarily academics. The objectives of the organisation are:

1. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage
2. To encourage and assist cultural heritage
3. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations.

One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

Affiliations: BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society and is affiliated with the Better Planning Network.

Publications: BMACHO's official newsletter ***Heritage*** is edited by Patsy Moppett. The annual refereed *Blue Mountains History Journal* is edited by Dr Peter Rickwood and occasional papers are published from time to time.

Membership: The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mt Tomah; Blue Mountains City Library; Blue Mountains Cultural Heritage Centre; Blue Mountain Education & Research Trust; Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc; Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute; Bygone Beautys Treasured Teapot Museum and Tearooms.
Eskbank Rail Heritage Centre; Everglades Historic House & Gardens; Norman Lindsay Gallery; Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc; Hartley Valley District Progress Association; Hawkesbury Historical Society Inc; Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc; Lithgow & District Family History Society Inc; Lithgow Mining Museum Inc; Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies; Lithgow Small Arms Factory Museum Inc; Mt Victoria & District Historical Society Inc; Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine Historical Society Inc (including Turkish Bath Museum); National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Blue Mountains Branch; National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Lithgow Branch; Nepean District Historical Society Inc; Paragon Cafe, Katoomba; Scenic World Blue Mountains Limited; Springwood & District Historical Society Inc; Springwood Historians Inc; Transport Signal Communication Museum Inc; The Darnell Collection P/L; Valley Heights Locomotive Depot and Museum, Woodford Academy Management Committee, Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd; The following are individual members: Fiona Burn, Ray Christison, Associate Professor Ian Jack, Joan Kent, John Low OAM, Ian Milliss, Patsy Moppett, Professor Barrie Reynolds, Dr Peter Rickwood and Dr Peter Stanbury OAM.

Committee: The management committee for 2015-2016 (from April 2015) is: Patsy Moppett (President and ***Heritage*** Newsletter Editor) ,Ian Jack (Vice President), Jan Koperberg (Secretary), Philip Hammon (Treasurer), Roy Bennett (Grants Application Officer), Scott Pollock and Wendy Hawkes (web site), Dick Morony (Public Officer/Membership Secretary/ Calendar Editor), Suzanne Smith and Louise Vining (Events and Venue Co-ordinators).

Disclaimer: views and opinions expressed in Heritage originate from many sources and contributors. Every effort is taken to ensure accuracy of material. Content does not necessarily represent or reflect the views and opinions of BMACHO, its committee or its members. If errors are found feedback is most welcome.

Heritage

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The Hydro Majestic Hotel

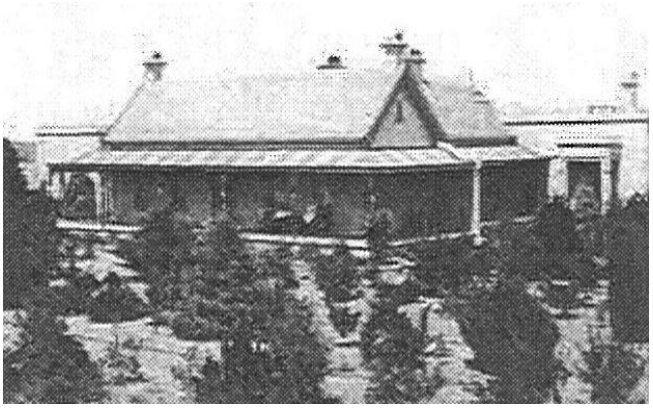
The iconic hotel was created by Mark Foy the Sydney businessman, sportsman and playboy, in 1904. The initial complex comprised three earlier buildings:

- The single storey country retreat of WH Hargraves, son of Edward Hargraves of gold discovery fame. This home had been built in two stages, a Victorian style cottage, followed by a two storey extension which became the Delmonte Hallway. Hargraves land also included 9km of bush walking tracks, available to the public. Foy leased the property in 1902 and purchased it in 1903.
- The existing hotel called the Belgravia, opened in 1891 by Mr & Mrs Ellis.
- Cottage owned by local solicitor Alfred Tucker.

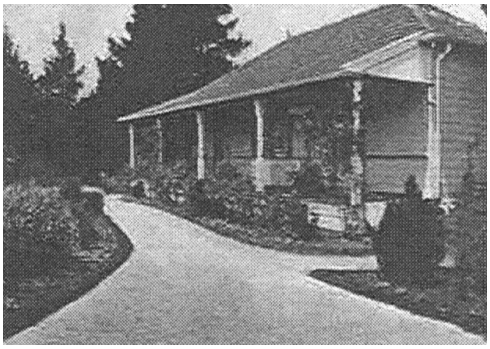
In 1904 Mark Foy created his hydropathic establishment, opening the facility on 4th July to attract American visitors, advertising cures for nervous, alimentary, respiratory and circulatory ailments, but did not include sufferers of infectious diseases and mental illness.

He believed that the land contained mineral springs, although this was probably in error, as Foy was importing mineral water from Germany. The town was then known as Medlow, and Foy petitioned the NSW Government to change the name to Medlow Bath.

Belgravia



Hargraves House



Tucker cottage

Hydro Majestic 1904 - Casino

A striking prefabricated casino was brought in from Chicago, and erected between Hargravia and Belgravia with the picture gallery joining the buildings together. The dome was built to Foy's specifications and dismantled for shipping. Guests enjoyed the magnificent view over the Megalong Valley and a resident Swiss doctor, George Baur, attended to their ailments. Patients were restricted to no alcohol, no tobacco and no discussion of illnesses. However, Baur left after only a year, being replaced by Dr Cale.

Buildings complex 2015

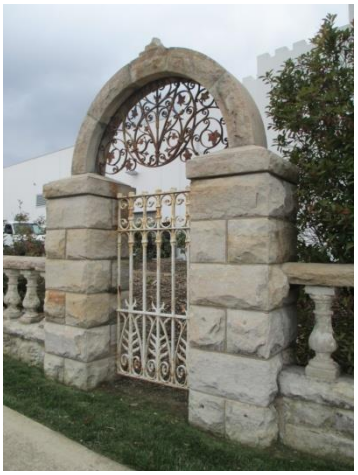
The entire complex was heated and powered by the separate boiler house. It had privately operated electricity, sewer system, freezing works and telephone systems. Foy extended the walking tracks down into the valley, which were popular within the health regime of the hotel. The tracks took one through steep gullies and past waterfalls, caves, the Coliseum and

included Sun Bath. In later years the track down the cliff was closed due to safety, becoming the “forbidden” track. At the base was the Hydro’s farmhouse on a 600 acre farm some 1700 feet below the hotel. Mark Foy named many of the features on his property which included the Coliseum, Sun Bath, Solomon’s Seat and Pulpit Rock.

Casino 2015

Belgravia 2015

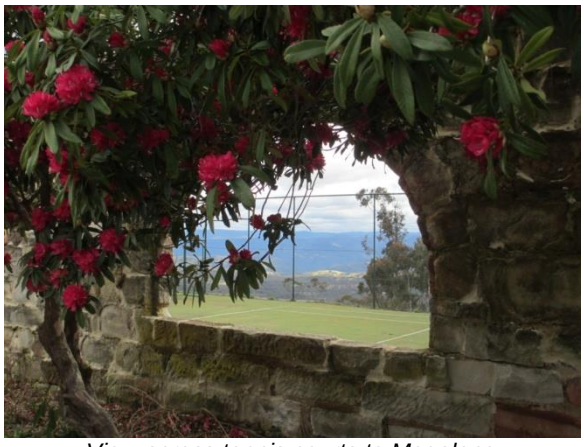
Eventually the hotel prevailed over the clinic in 1906. Entertainment was lavish. Foy’s farm in Megalong Valley supplied the kitchens via flying fox, and a stable of horses allowed guests to explore the valley. The farm provided horse riding, shooting and a tea house, entertainments, art and statuary. He set up numerous sporting facilities, and created the Mountains Motor Car Company, with his fleet of luxurious cars, taking guests on tours to places such as Echo Point and Jenolan Caves almost daily. The cars were readily able to handle the poor conditions of the western road. Many were auctioned in 1910, including Fiats, Daimlers and a De Dion, but they played an important role at the Hydro.
Foy established magnificent gardens, balustrading and the stone fence we see today, tennis courts and promenades, and brought in expensive furnishings, artworks and set up other facilities including golf links, croquet courts and clay pigeon shooting. Many of the waiters who served the hotel were Chinese, and coffee was served by two Turks in national costume. Charlie (Louie) Goh Mong was a favourite of Foy and guests, working there for some 35 years.
Foy bought up other property, including houses on the eastern side of the railway line for staff. Many famous guests stayed at the hotel including Dame Nellie Melba, Edmund Barton and Sir Arthur Conan Doyle.



Features along highway frontage

In 1905 a bushfire destroyed the gallery building. In 1913 Foy had leased the property to business man James Joynton Smith for 60,000 pounds. During this lease period, in August 1922 a bushfire severely damaged both the hotel and the picture gallery, sweeping away up

to 130 of the bedrooms. Loss of life was prevented as the hotel was closed for the winter. The fire also destroyed a section of the Explorers' Tree. The tree had died in 1903 and been lopped. Mark Foy had retrieved the logs and taken them back to the Hydro, where he displayed them on a pedestal for visitors to see.
The buildings were replaced, with the Belgravia completed by 1936. A new wing, which had replaced the old Belgravia, was built in 1938. In WW2 the place was utilized as a convalescent hospital by American servicemen, during which time the condition deteriorated due to vandalism. After it was vacated in 1943 it remained vacant for a time until the government paid compensation for the war contribution, and refurbishment was undertaken. Mark Foy died in 1950.
The Hydro received heritage listing in 1984. By this time the economic burden had taken its toll on the family, and the resort was sold to barrister John North, who under took further upgrades, removing the Lounge bar and introducing the Megalong room. Further refurbishment and alterations were done in the early 1990s. Fire again threatened the hotel in 2002. A Malaysian based group purchased the site from North in 2006, and the place was closed for refurbishment in 2008.



View across tennis courts to Megalong

Garden wall

The Escarpment Group has a deep commitment to preserving, restoring and respecting history as well as delivering world class visitor experiences. The hotel has now reopened in late 2014 with most of the site restored to its former glory at a cost of $35m. In addition the boiler house has been recovered from the blackberries and scrub and converted to a fine restaurant/café. The works included restoration of historic areas, beautification of the gardens, renovation of the hotel's two main façades (east and west), a new lobby to provide dining, conference and function areas, creation of the Mark Foy Pavillion as a providores and history centre, regional tasting centre and an interactive history environment. A hospitality training centre has been established, new accommodation wings and a large spa and treatment room complex.

Boiler House cafe

Hydro Majestic Pavillion

As with many old hotels across the world, there are also the ghost stories!! Ghost tours are still a feature of the place. Apparently one tale details a girl who jumps around the furniture in the guests' lounge. Another tells of a young female who sought to flee a troublesome male suitor in 1912, and boarded a commuter train at Sydney's Central Station, fleeing west to Medlow Bath to find sanctuary, or so she thought, in the hotel's labyrinth of corridors and alcoves. Unfortunately for the lady, her less than chivalrous admirer, devastated by her apparent rejection, pursued her to her room where he strangled her with her favourite silk scarf.

View from Bellevue Crescent 2015

Also meeting a premature end while holidaying at the Hydro Majestic in January of 1920 was Australia's first Prime Minister, Sir Edmund Barton, who passed away of heart failure while taking a bath in a second-floor suite.
There are also the Hydro's more "permanent" occupants. Take a tour of this venerable, eclectic hotel and you're bound to hear the story of its two resident ghosts, a little girl in a blue frock with a white lace collar who likes to run through walls, and the boy who's often seen by staff sitting on the dining room's chandeliers long after the last diners have returned to their rooms*!* *Patsy Moppett*

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Blue Mountains Hydro Majestic hotel rediscovers its former glory……., Philippa McDonald, ABC News 31 October 2014
Hydro Majestic's rich in history, Sunday Telegraph, Rhett Watson

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Food for thought ..... Editor's note

Rare Trades

We are continually able to review and consider research relating to heritage buildings and places in publications such as *Heritage* and other newsletters, books, magazines, journals and on line. We wonder at the architecture and the fabric, the landscaping and the setting. How often though, do we consider the tradesmen who carry out these sometimes basic works, the craftsmen who undertake these "rare trades", the people who make things with their hands. So many works are now carried out by machine that the old manual skills are in danger of being forgotten, but for a very special group of people who remain experienced artisans in their respective trade. This includes dry stone wallers, coopers, shipwrights, bodgers and blacksmiths, quarrymen and stonemasons, engravers, and bullockies, coach builders and farriers, bookbinders and violin makers, weavers and woodcarvers, and many others.

The notion of a Rare Trade, the things they all have in common, are these:

- that the skills they use were the same a hundred and more years ago. Many objects made then are still used for their primary purpose, so the tools, materials and techniques are proven over time.
- that their skills were originally learned as a trade, rather than creative art or home craft. That means the things they make are meant to be functional before they are beautiful. In fact, they are beautiful because they have been made with such care and detail to a custom need.
- that the things they crafted were intended to last, and may well outlive you. They are designed to be repaired and inherited, not replaced and discarded.

Weaver

Stonemason

I would like to undertake a series of articles in *Heritage – The Technical Side,* to look at some of these skilled artisans who still make things the old way. Skilled manual work, the kind that took a real master, is now rare. Some of the rare trades will never really disappear as there will always be a trickle of demand for those services. They come with their own special tools, traditions, language and secrets. These people each have tools specific to their trade, which in themselves are often museum pieces and historical artifacts. They take raw materials and shape them with these few tools and their hands into utensils and furniture, ornaments and buildings. Their patience enables them to extract life and character from these raw materials, the properties of which are in danger of being forgotten. It is said that we are not just losing the skills, but also a sense of attitudes and approaches, how to solve problems, adaptation and invention, curiosity, memory, knowledge and insights. Some of these things are critical to the world's survival and things which a world of technology cannot duplicate.

Stonemason's tools

Carpenter's tools

We cannot deny that in some of these trades getting your hands dirty is not always fun. It can be hard, hot and dirty work (ask a blacksmith). For those who, in a medieval world, made their livelihood from some of these skills, it may not have made for a beautiful life. But the sense of satisfaction at the end of the day, that you have created something beautiful with minimal tools and machines, something which has instilled within in part of yourself, is not something that can be experienced through a world of IT.

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Rare Trades, George Negus ABC 2003
sagoontuesdays@bigpond.com

Was your council Fit For the Future?

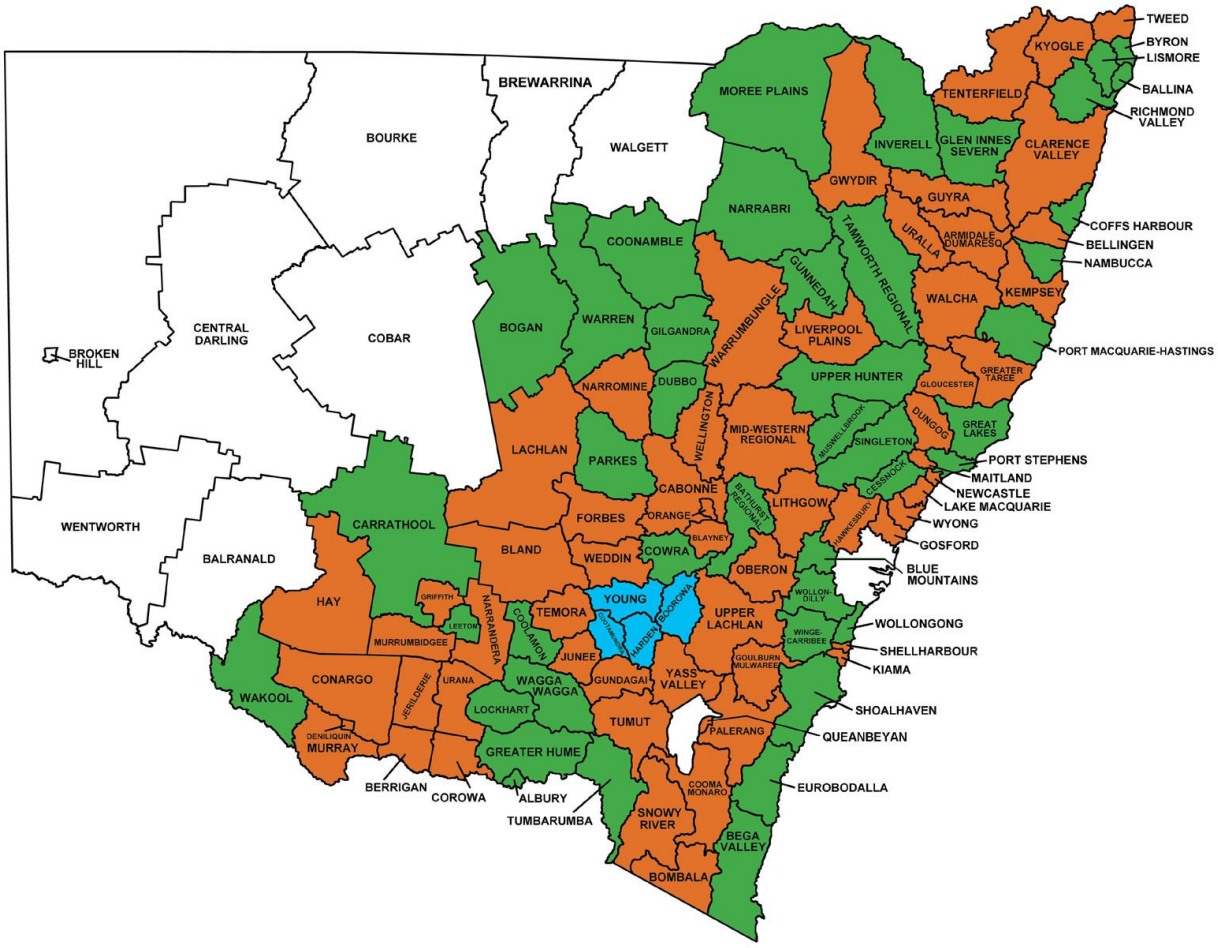
The Independent Pricing & Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) has recently provided the NSW Government with its report card on the assessment of 139 councils across the State, and their ability to be "Fit For the Future" (FFF).

Councils were assessed on:

- Scale & capacity
- Financial criteria (financial, infrastructure and service management and efficiency).

IPART found that only 37% of the State's councils are FFF.

A variety of reconfigurations to local government composition are currently being considered by both metro and regional councils who were deemed not fit, to formulate a preferred solution by 18th November 2015 for presentation to the government.



Green – FFF Brown – Not Fit Blue – Merger proposals

The report card set out the advantages of mergers, and declared how scale and capacity could be improved. In particular, some 34 councils were assessed as having insufficient scale and capacity, because they have declining or static populations, with population forecasts below 10,000 by 2031. It was felt that a population of this size is likely to affect a council's efficiency and strategic capacity to meet the future needs of its community.

Editor's Comment: The report card has only said that a small population was "likely" to affect a council's capacity to perform, and on this basis alone has deemed then unfit, in spite of the fact that many of these smaller councils were financially fit, and have been serving their communities satisfactorily for many years.

Nobody would deny that scale and capacity can be improved, but why go to this expensive extent. These councils could have been given the opportunity to provide evidence of how they could work better with what they already have.
The FFF process has been a major exercise in semantics, with suggestions that voluntary mergers would see a faster progression towards efficiencies. Read – "if you do not do it voluntarily you will be forced to do it our way ie. forced amalgamations". FFF placed the emphasis back on councils to prove their worth, and it is now obvious that government have had preconceived outcomes all along.
(Please note these are the Editor's comments only, and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of all BMACHO members).

Implications for BMACHO members and other heritage and cultural organisations
Amongst BMACHO membership, relevant councils are Blue Mountains, Penrith, Lithgow and Hawkesbury. Lithgow and Hawkesbury fall within the "not fit" category. However, many readers of this newsletter will be located in other local government areas affected by the changes.
Moving forward with the inevitable, it was raised at the recent Royal Historical Society Conference in Bankstown that societies and organisations should look to their constitutions, MOUs and policies to make sure they too, are FFF. Some things to consider include:

- Some organisations have been formed under the auspices of the Local Government Act as a S355 committee and where a new council is formed, may no longer be a valid body.
- More informal committees may exist solely at the behest of the current council. The question should be asked that, if the council is dissolved and a new council formed, where does that leave you?
- Where are your headquarters? What are your storage arrangements? A new council may not be satisfied with the current arrangements in the local hall, library etc.
- What is the name of your organisation? Does it include the words" shire" or "district", and how would this work if the shire no longer existed? How does this affect letterheads, logos etc.

The conference specifically mentioned:

- If a society has generally covered a single LGA this may change.
- Some of your area may be lost to another LGA.
- You may have to work with another society to cover your original area of interest.
- Impacts on support from a new council.
- Local history v. local identity – will this change?
- Will your group be compliant/reactive or active/proactive in moving forward.

Leuralla Sculptures

On a kerb stone on the south side of Hunter Street, opposite the State Library, is an engraving in the form of a Jewish candelabra or menorah (Figure 1).
Being a frequent user of the State Library, and having often crossed Macquarie Street at this corner, this engraving had puzzled me for many years so eventually I asked the RAHS Librarian, Donna Newton, about it. At first she was unable to help but after asking the secretary of a member organisation she was able to solve the puzzle and she wrote a short note for the RAHS Newsletter[1], which was accompanied by my photograph (Figure 1*), and reads:
"After futile searching of the net, I forwarded this query onto another of our affiliated societies who promptly supplied some answers. The carving chiseled into the kerb is a representation of the seven-branched menorah. It is the work of a Saul Munro, sculptor, who worked on the bicentenary project of paving stones along Macquarie Street in 1987. Saul, interested in biblical signs and images loved leaving a Jewish symbol on much of his work. [2]

Figure 1. Kerbstone in Hunter Street at corner with Macquarie Street.
Photo: Peter Rickwood 2015

"The Three Mysteries of Life" sculpture nearly buried amongst the bush in the garden annex of the Leuralla Toy and Train Museum in Leura, NSW was sculpted by him. This interesting display is very overgrown and neglected with a barely visible sign. And that is another mystery!"

Her findings were emailed to me before publication and they came with a photograph of the Leura carvings taken in 2010 before their surroundings became overgrown[3]. Being intrigued about this connection of the Hunter Street engraving with sculptures in the Blue Mountains I went to see for myself.

As was correctly reported, the sculptures are in the garden annexe of the Leuralla Toy and Train Museum, 29 Olympian Parade, and entry to that annexe is by payment to get a turnstile to rotate. It gives access to a well-kept grassed area upslope of the renowned amphitheatre but there are no paths leading to the sculptures. Indeed they are only visible from outside the fence line at the N corner of the property (Figure 2).

* Another photograph of that kerbstone was later found on the internet[4].

Figure 2. Location of sculptures in Olympia Parade, Leura
SixMaps © Land and Property Information (2015)

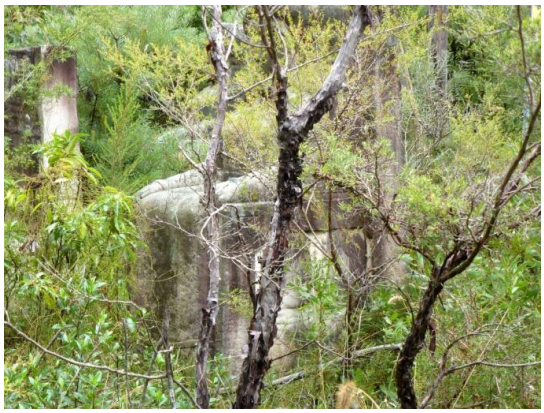


Figure 3. One of three sculptures by SaulMunro
Photo: Peter Rickwood February 2015

Figure 4. Well hidden sculptures.
Photo: Peter Rickwood February 2015

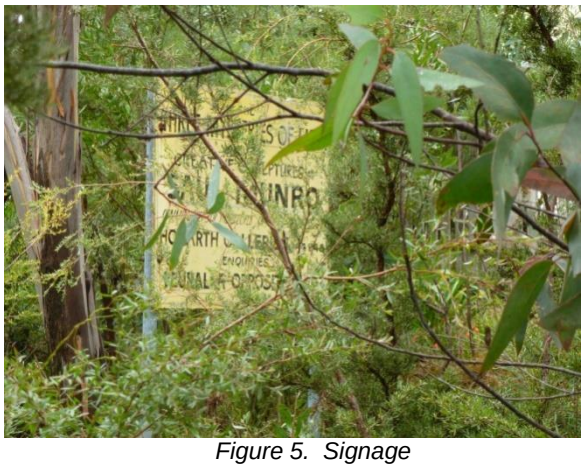


Figure 5. Signage
Photo: Peter Rickwood February 2015

From outside the fence, the sculptures can be partially seen (Figures 3 & 4) amidst a veritable jungle and the signage is just about readable by looking around the sides of trees and shrubs (Figure 5).

Subsequent searching on the internet revealed that there is a warning about the overgrown nature of the area[5] but nothing more about the sculptor and his works.

"The Three Mysteries of the Mountains" are large 'sphinx like' statues, c.2m high, carved from Gosford sandstone[6]. Judge, The Hon. Elizabeth Evatt AC explained that they were commissioned to be created by Saul Munro[7] in memory of her mother-in-law Mrs Marjorie Evatt Andreas. Work started on them in the spring of 1986[8] and by April 1987 they were well advanced toward completion[9]. Even before they were finished an American offered to buy them but they were not for sale[10]. However that offer suffices to indicate that they are of high monetary value. The quality of Munro's work can be better assessed in winter when the foliage decreases to the extent that it is possible to take a photograph that reveals the profile of one of the statues (Figure 6.)

Subsequently, Saul Munro also created a mosaic[11] that is in front of the Leuralla house and several small sculptures that are in the garden[12].

There is not a lot known about Saul Munro who resides near Windsor. A photograph of him working on these sculptures accompanies the article by Bates[13] and two more recent images are also available[14].

When the sculptures were being created some local residents contacted the Evatt family to complain that they were "an eyesore" (Anonymous 1986), but surely those minor protests did not lead to the neglect of the area. And there the story ends for the moment as I have not discovered why the surrounding bush has been allowed to grow and overwhelm the sculptures.

Peter C Rickwood

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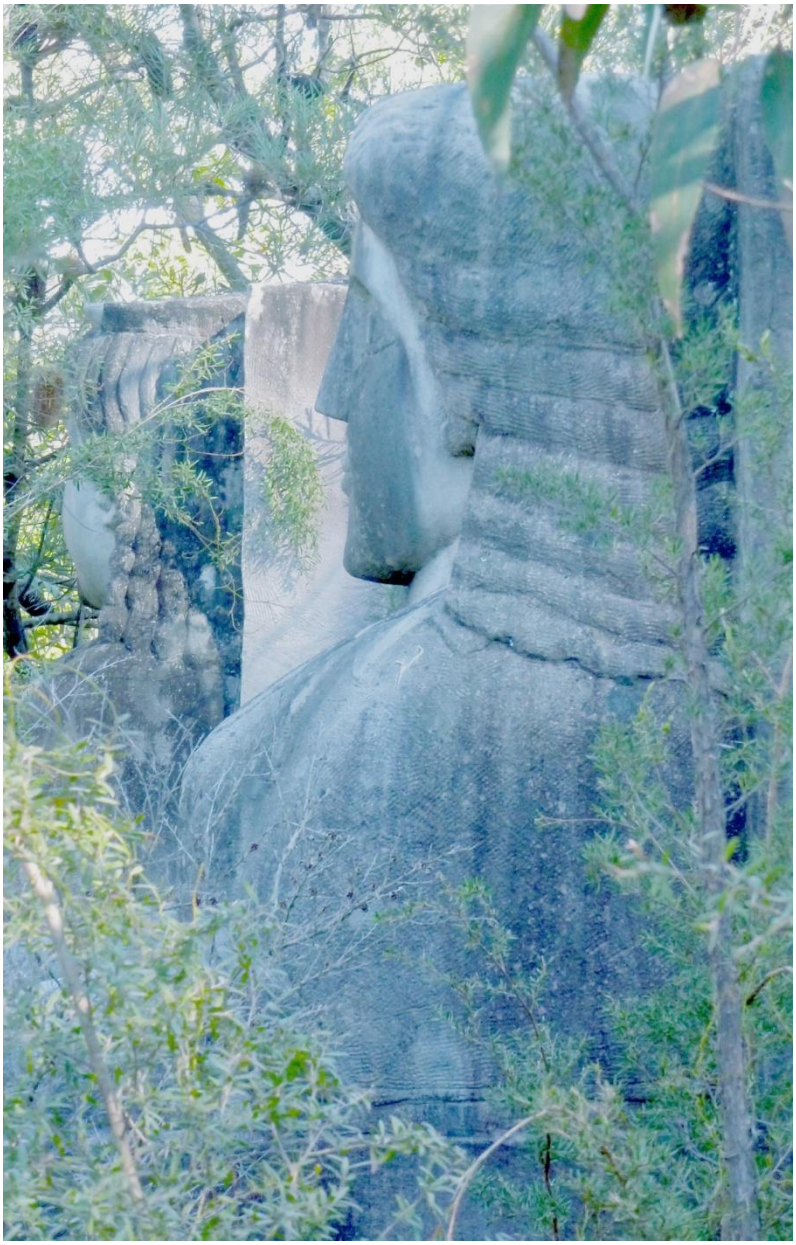


Figure 6. A profile of one statue
Photo: Peter Rickwood July 2015

[4] *Martingraf (1996) Engraved menorah in stone. http://www.dreamstime.com/stock-photo-symbol-carved-stone-image22297040 <Accessed 20 February 2015>*
[5] *pjmpjm (2013) Leura Three Mysteries of Life. Geocaching Australia. http://geocaching.com.au/cache/ga6343/print/5 <Accessed 7 April 2015>*
[6] *Bates, G. (1986) Saul chips away at Mountain Mysteries. The Blue Mountains Echo, 28 October 1986, p.1, cols.1-4; p.2, cols.4-5.*
[7] *Reference 6; photograph of the sculptor.*
[8] *Reference 6; Anonymous (1987) Presiding over the Jamison. The Blue Mountains Echo, 14 April 1987, p.5, cols.3-5.*
[9] *Reference 8 - Anonymous (1987).*
[10] *Anonymous (1986) Clive won't sell and Saul won't go to America. The Blue Mountains Echo, 4 November 1986, p.3, cols.1-3.*
[11] *Sanctu (2009) Leuralla https://www.flickr.com/photos/mithril/4363909781/lightbox/ <Accessed 20 April 2015>*
[12] *pers. comm. John Merriman 20 April 2015.*
[13] *Reference 6.*

[14] *Anonymous (2009) Old Friends & Struggling With The Computer Age. http://www.diaryofanartist.com/2009/08/old-friends-struggling-with-the-computer-age.html <Accessed 17 April 2015>*

Emu Plains Railway Station and Stationmaster's Residence

When the railway came to Emu Plains the first train crossed the bridge in June 1867. One year later the Emu Plains Railway Station was opened on the south side of the Bathurst Road. Subsequently this building was abandoned and a new railway station building and station master's residence was opened in November 1886. A telegraph office was opened at the station a year later.

Platform facade

Emu Plains is located on the western banks of the Nepean River at the foot of the Blue Mountains. It has many historic buildings and sites, which date back to the first settlement. The river and the mountain range bounded the new colony to the west and a mere trickle of movement ventured beyond these topographical features at first.

The sighting of emus on the river flats may have prompted the name in the late 1700's, and may have originated from Watkin Tench in his early exploration of this part of the region. The name Emu Plains came into use around 1814. The government farm was established here in 1819 by Governor Macquarie, where convicts cleared the land and carried out cultivation of wheat, maize, tobacco and other crops for 13 years. The town of Emu was surveyed for settlers in the early 1830's. By this time a road had been established across the mountains to the Bathurst plains and more land was being sought for expansion of Sydney town. The convict farm was officially closed in 1832 and the land sold.

The river was crossed at first via the ford, and the Emu Ferry. The challenge to bridge the river was thwarted several times by the significant floods which occurred regularly. The final bridge which met the challenge was the Victoria Bridge, a road/rail structure.

The Victoria Bridge was given over to road traffic only in 1907, when a new railway bridge was opened. The line from Penrith was electrified in 1956.

The second railway station building was a two story structure with the stationmaster's residence up stairs. It is one of the oldest railway stations in Australia. A Victorian era Gothic Revival style railway building, it is only one of three remaining metropolitan examples (with Fairfield and Riverstone) of the early custom of providing accommodation for railway staff within the same building as the station facilities, and is the only two storey metropolitan example.

Rear facade

Date panel showing 1863

Bay window

Rear facade

It is constructed of face brick with stone detailed quoins capping and mouldings. The building actually presents two storeys to the platform, and actually three stories to the street frontage. Distinctive features include the steep gabled and parapet slate roof, two medieval style chimneys and fretted motifs on gables. A bay window to the basement and ground levels dominates the eastern facade.
Changes to the building include the incorporation of ticket windows, and door replacements. The stationmaster's residence is accessed from a concrete stairway from the rear.
Inside the original floor layout is retained with minimal changes. Substantial renovation occurred in 2008-2009. Many features were retained such as fire place surrounds, custom orb metal ceiling, lathe and plaster ceilings with ceiling rose, and the timber staircase. Most other original fittings have been removed. *Patsy Moppett*

References
www.penrithhistory.com/suburb-profiles
www.smh.com.au/New-South-Wales/Emu-Plains
www.environment.nsw.gov.au/heritageapp

BMACHO for You

The question has recently arisen as to just what does the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural and Heritage Organisations (BMACHO) have to offer your organisation. An examination of the original aims of the group, as well as a review of activities to date, provides the following:

1. Membership of a well-respected cultural heritage organization.
2. Low membership fees.
3. Opportunities for membership as an organization, or as an individual with particular background/skills/expertise to share.
4. Opportunities for networking through:
    - Workshops and seminars

- Bi-annual Conference
- AGM & Committee meetings (visitors always welcome)
- BMACHO links to outside organizations on the BMACHO database

5. Opportunities to promote your organization as a member of BMACHO:
   - Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail, Open Days, brochure and associated web site
   - Regular email distribution from the Committee
   - BMACHO website
   - BMACHO on Facebook
   - The bi-monthly HERITAGE Newsletter
6. Opportunities to read about, research and learn about history and heritage:
   - Publication of the annual Blue Mountains Journal
   - Publication of Occasional Papers
   - The bi-monthly HERITAGE Newsletter
   - Workshops and seminars

Heritage Trail functions

BMACHO is always willing to consider feedback from both member and non-member organisations as to how we can assist your group and your members. If you can add to the above, or would like to join, please do not hesitate to contact the Secretary at: committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au OR j.koperberg@bigpond.com

The Technical Side

The Bodger

In the first of a Rare Trades series we introduce the **bodger**. What on earth is that you ask? The term first appeared in the late 19th century, and may have come from the Middle English *bocchen* which lends a sense of repairing or mending. The origins of the word are not clear, although the craft dates back to the Egyptions and Vikings. The word was also used to describe a rough sack of corn. It may also have been a corruption of the word badger, the badger having dwelt in the woods and seldom emerging until evening.

Bodgers were itinerant wood turners who worked in the beech wood forests of the Chilterns in Buckinghamshire. As their tools were so easy to move, they moved about the countryside rather than set up a permanent workshop. The bodger sometimes camped out in the open woods in a lean-to structure constructed of forest floor lengths suitable for use as poles, lashed together to form a triangular frame for a water proof thatch. It may have been enclosed in a wicker or wattled manner. More often they lived in the nearby village and made their way each day to the woods to work.

Viking pole lathe

Bodger camp

Medieval lathe worker

Most commonly they made chair legs, which were sold to furniture factories for chair making. They turned timber into chair legs by turning it on a pole lathe, an ancient and very simple tool that uses the spring of a bent sapling to help operate it. They used a variety of chisels, sharpening stones and grinding wheels, the spokeshave-like drawknife, a trestle or saw-horse, a coarse saw, mallets, axes and adzes, and a shave horse.
They also sold their product as waste for kindling, or as exceptionally durable woven baskets.
They were one of the craftsmen associated with the making of the traditional country Windsor chair. English bodgers made chair legs and stretchers for the Windsor chairs, which were assembled at High Wycombe, England.
Bodging was a job of necessity using whatever tools and materials came to hand, which although not necessarily elegant, was nevertheless serviceable.
Today's bodger can be seen demonstrating at fairs and markets, workshops and field days. The skills and tools are retained by a specialised few, who take pride in creating timber objects for practical use and creativity.

Bodger and his tools at recent Yetholme History Day

Pole lathe

Tools of the trade

Spoke-shave

The Leura Bodger, Roy Davi, was recently seen in action at a workshop near Mudgee. Roy is a pole lathe greenwood turner and furniture maker. He conducts weekend courses to share his trade, where you might simply observe the making of wood turned furniture and

utensils, utilise Roy's lathes and tools to make your own pieces, or even attempt to make your own pole lathe.
Roy may be contacted for classes or demonstrations at roy.davi@y7mail.com

References:
Roy Davi, The Leura Bodger 2015
www.worldwidewords.org
Wikipedia
Rare Trades, Mark Thompson 2002

Community events & updates

Unveiling the Honour Board at Valley Heights

On Wednesday 7 October 2015 the Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Heritage Museum (VHLDhM) held an unveiling of an Honour Board at the Museum, to commemorate railwaymen from the local area who enlisted for World War 1.
A welcome was given by VHLDHM Chairman, Bruce Coxon, who handed over to Keith Ward, the VHLDHM Publicity Officer. Keith had lead a number of volunteers in the research for the Honour Board, with the help of *Remembrance - Springwood and District Honor Roll 1914 – 1919,* by Shirley Evans and Pamela Smith, Springwood Historians, published in 2008. Both Shirley and Pamela were in the audience and their work was acknowledged.

The Honour Board

Keith Ward & Louise Markus MP Macquarie

Keith spoke about the 'Connections' and the families of the men who served. He had researched the men thoroughly, along with other volunteers, and found it quite an emotional experience. He spoke warmly and respectfully about the men. Descendants of Thomas Brett and Albert Honey were present and both families had a representative speak about their ancestor, after the unveiling.
The Honour Board was unveiled by Louise Markus MP Macquarie, with speeches following Louise, by Trish Doyle MP Blue Mountains, Pamela Smith, historian, and the descendants.
A copy of *Remembrance – Springwood and District Honor Roll 1914 – 1919* was made available for signing by all present on the day and is to be kept at the Museum.
After the ceremony, there was a guided tour of the VHLDH Museum , followed by a light lunch.
The Honour Board now hangs proudly in the Museum!

Jan Koperberg

Descendants of Allbert Honey & Thomas Brett

Descendants of Albert Honey with Locomotive 3214

Sculptures at Scenic World

An exhibition is to be held between 8 April and 8 May 2016 at Scenic World, Katoomba, entitled *Sculpture at Scenic World*. This is Australia's only annual rainforest exhibition and incorporates the only prize of its kind in an Australian rainforest. The site is a Jurassic rainforest, part of the World Heritage listed Blue Mountains National Park. The exhibition manager, Justin Morrissey, advises that artists will create work in a very unique environment, to receive significant installation support and advice, and have their work judged by some of Australia's most influential and talented professionals. The exhibition is set to provide an unforgettable experience for visitors, recognizing that artists play the most pivotal part in providing that experience.

The judging panel has been announced, and includes Dr Felicity Fenner, Michael Snelling and Claire Healy. For more information visit www.scenicworld.com.au/sculpture

Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences (MAAS), Regional Stakeholder Forum 2015

This year's forum will provide updates on issues affecting the regional heritage sector, discuss regional tourism and museums, crowdfunding, and the role of consultants, and how the arts can "activate" and energise your museum.

This annual forum is an opportunity for the regional museums and collections sector to get together, discuss current topics and be inspired by new ideas.

The forum will be welcomed by Rose Hiscock, Director of MAASA, and a wide range of speakers will address the forum including Vic McEwan, Andrew Gray, Caroline Downer, Michael Brealey, Harlan Hall, Elliott Bledsoe, Brett Dunlop, Debbie Sommers, Kevin Williams, Marcus Hughes, Fiona McDonald and Jackie Hemsley. Many of these presenters are from regional areas.

Forum 2014

The forum will be held on Friday 13 November 2015, from 9am to 4pm at the Powerhouse Museum, L2 Theatrette, 500 Harris Street, Ultimo. Participation is free, but bookings are essential as places are strictly limited.
Book through www.maas.museum

Cox's Road Walk

The Macquarie Society will be walking a part of the original Cox's Road on Saturday 14 November 2015, as part of their continuing celebrations of Governor Macquarie crossing the Blue Mountains 200 years ago. This is a unique opportunity to walk the road much of it over private property.

Cox's Pass

Mount York Cemetery

Walkers will meet at the old Hartley School, Mid Hartley Road, Little Hartley, at 10am for morning tea, and a bus will then take walkers to the Mount York Lookout. Starting at the top of Mount York you will walk down the original Cox's Pass into the Hartley valley and follow the original road over private property to the Mount York cemetery. The bus will pick you up there for lunch.
In the afternoon you will continue to follow the original road westwards across private property to the River Lett at Glenroy Crossing. Glenroy is where the Cox's River and the River Lett join and where Governor Macquarie held the first church service west of the mountains. The bus will meet you there for transport back to Hartley School.
The first part of this walk is quite steep and rough in spots but is all downhill and then level from the bottom. The morning walk is 6kms taking 2 ½ hours.
The second half, after lunch, follows the original road across private property which is open grazing land with magnificent views of the mountains all around. The afternoon walk is 6kms also taking 2 ½ hours, finishing about 4.30pm.

You will need good walking shoes. Reasonable fitness is all that is required.
This event has been organised by the Hartley Valley Progress Association. Ramsay and Susie Moodie and other locals of the area, will lead the walk.

Don't miss out!

Please confirm your place by sending funds ($65 per person) with your name attached to:

- Bank of New South Wales Lane Cove: BSB 032085 Account Number 408924
- or post by cheque to Hon. Treasurer, Rosemary Taylor, 8 Matthews Avenue, Lane Cove. 2066 rosemarytaylor10@gmail.com Cheques payable to The Macquarie Society Inc.

Source: Patrick Dodd, President, The Macquarie Society

More Colonial Road Walks

Glenbrook & District Historical Society intend to hold walks on historic sections of the Cox's Road in 2016.

- 26 March 2016: Three short return walks on the three most historic roads to the west, Cox's Pass 1815, Lawson's Long Alley 1822, and Berghofer's Pass 1909. These walks are located at Mount York and the day will commence at 9am. Cost is $12.00 including morning tea, and would be led by Doug Knowles and Frank Bowman.

Lawson's Long Alley

Berghofer's Pass

- 25 June 2016: A walk along a section of the historic Cox's Road following the ridge-top from Linden to Woodford trig. The walk would commence at 1.30pm. The cost is $8.00 per person and the walk would be led by Doug Knowles and Frank Bowman.

Bookings are essential through Doug on P: 02 4751 3275, for details regarding meeting place, time and grade of walk. Good walking shoes are essential, as well as a hat and drinking water.

Source: Glenbrook Points, Glenbrook & District Historical Society, October-November 2015

Volunteers Wanted - Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Heritage Museum

Volunteers are required to work in the Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Heritage Depot Museum Shop. Some experience with cash handling, catering, food handling or customer service would be an advantage but is not essential. All training will be provided.
The role involves ticket sales to customers, retails sales of the Museum's range of souvenirs and memorabilia, as well as refreshments including tea/coffee and light snacks. They are looking for diligent and reliable people with a friendly outgoing nature who like dealing with people.

The Museum is open on the second and fourth Sundays of each month, as well as additional Sundays during public holidays from 10am to 4pm. Volunteers working in the shop would be expected to be available from 8.30am to approximately 4.30pm on open days. They will be expected to be available to be rostered every 2nd or 3rd open day.
If you feel you could fulfil this voluntary opportunity and would be interested in trying something new, please contact their Retail Manager, Steve Corrigan on 4759 1980 or sjc_alco@pnc.com.au

2015 RAHS Conference

The Royal Australian Historical Society Conference was held at the Bankstown Sports Club on 24-25 October with a theme of "Migration Matters".
The Conference explored the importance of migration history, provided skills that will support history projects and provided opportunities to network and share histories with RAHS members and friends.

Families in a new country

Bankstown is one of the most ethnically diverse communities in Australia with over 60 different languages spoken. The Conference made the most of local knowledge by working with Bankstown City Council, Bankstown Historical Society and Bankstown Family History Group.
Heritage awards and grants were presented to a wide range of projects across the State, and a fascinating variety of speakers addressed the group.
Speakers included:

- David Hill, (Director ABC, Chair Australian Football Association, and many other significant executive appointments and chair positions). Hill was also a "Fairbridge kid", coming from England to Australia in 1959 under the Fairbridge Farm School

Child Migrant scheme. He is also an author. David Hill detailed his experiences as a child migrant, in an emotional address to the spell bound audience.

- Sue Rosen: The immigrant experience in Bankstown.
- Tim Carroll: Springboard – oral histories as the base for new projects and new audiences.
- Ann Parry: Connecting your history with local schools.
- Liz Rushen: The government's hand in nineteenth century migration to Australia.
- Bruce Pennay: Seeing migration matter locally.
- Judith Dunn: Every migrant has a story.
- Sarah-Jane Rennie: The importance of heritage significance.
- Paul McPherson: The other side of collecting: refusing, replacing and de-accessioning historical material.
- Jean Winston: Experiences in understanding a significance assessment and its benefits.
- Wayne Peake: The Peake family of Peakhurst and the Georges River district 1811-1996: impressions and sketches.
- Linda Myring & Eleanor Menton: Migrant experience, and an Asian teacher in a new country.
- Ben Mercer: The migrant in all of us – DNA tests.

The Conference provided a view of migration which is demonstrated across many districts in the State, and prompted reflection by all attendees on their own backgrounds and experiences.

Patsy Moppett

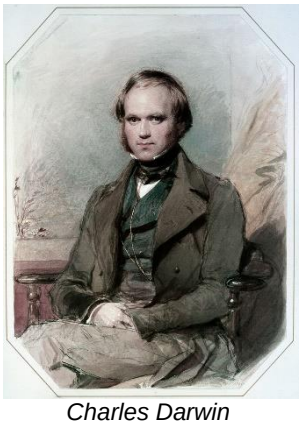
Charles Darwin's Illness – his Wedgewood Family Inheritance

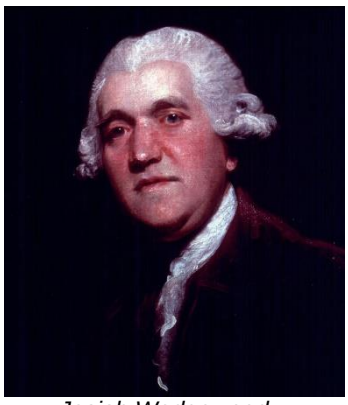
On Saturday, November 7, the Blue Mountains Historical Society monthly meeting and public lecture will be presented by Dr John Hayman. His topic is ***Charles Darwin's Illness-His Wedgewood Family Inheritance****.*

For much of his adult life, Charles Darwin's health was compromised by an uncommon combination of symptoms leaving him severely debilitated for long periods of time. However, in some ways this may have helped his work, and Charles Darwin himself wrote, "Even ill-health, though it has annihilated several years of my life, has saved me from the distractions of society and amusement."

The cause of Darwin's illness has been frequently examined by medical researchers since his death.

Erasmus Darwin


Charles Darwin


Josiah Wedgewood

Dr Hayman, a pathologist from the University of Melbourne, has presented a case that Darwin's symptoms indicate that he suffered from cyclic vomiting syndrome, an illness associated with mitochondrial DNA abnormalities.
Dr Hayman's paper on the topic was accepted by *The BMJ* and the *Medical Journal of Australia*, and was published in December 2009. In a supplement published in February 2012, he proposed that stroke-like episodes of memory loss and partial paralysis which do not occur with CVS are characteristic of the MELAS syndrome.
Dr Hayman's talk will explore the connection between Darwin, his Wedgewood family and this debilitating illness.
Dr Hayman will address society members and interested guests at the Blue Mountains History Association's rooms at 99 Blaxland Rd, Wentworth Falls, on Saturday 7 November 2015 at 10.30 a.m. Ph: 0419 985 546. Morning tea is available from 10.00am.

Robyne Ridge

Source: Blue Mountains Historical Society

Standards Program – Lithgow State Mine Heritage Park & Museum

Readers will recall the article on Succession Planning in *Heritage* which referred to the Museums and Galleries' Standards Program, in Issue 38 May-June 2015.
On 7th August 2015, the Lithgow State Mine Heritage Park and Museum availed themselves of the services of the Standards Program and a field visit was undertaken by Reviewers, Sarah Jane Brazil and Sam Malloy. A report was produced on the current operations of the Museum and the initiatives already undertaken by the management committee.

Workshops

Bath House

State Mine Office

The management committee took the Reviewers through the various aspects of the museum including grants secured, interpretive signage, the visitors' centre displays and collections, the bathhouse building space, banner display, spectravision display and the workshops.
The Reviewers' report discussed conservation management, marketing and interpretation, and made a number of recommendations toward the ongoing success of this museum. Such recommendations included matters such as collection management, a Disaster Management Plan, targeting seniors groups, and story boards for the use of the various rooms in the State Mine Office building.

On Thursday 5 November 2015 a planning & feedback session will be held at the Museum to discuss the outcomes of the Report, from 9:30am to 3:30pm. Any key stakeholders in the project are most welcome to attend and participate in planning discussions.
Contact: Ray Christison, President
www.statemine.org.au
0419 438 609

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

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Email: committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au or j.koperberg@bigpond.com
Website: www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au **ABN**: 53 994 839 952

The organisation: Blue Mountains Association of Cultural & Heritage Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 after local historical and heritage societies and individuals recognised the need for the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the local government area (LGA) of Blue Mountains City Council. The constituency now embraces but is not limited to, the LGAs of Blue Mountains, Lithgow, Hawkesbury, Penrith and Mudgee. BMACHO membership includes historical and heritage groups, museums, commercial enterprises with an historical or heritage component in its core business, local government (local studies units, library collections) and a limited number of individual members by invitation such as but not necessarily academics. The objectives of the organisation are:

1. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage
2. To encourage and assist cultural heritage
3. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations.

One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

Affiliations: BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society and is affiliated with the Better Planning Network.

Publications: BMACHO's official newsletter ***Heritage*** is edited by Patsy Moppett. The annual refereed *Blue Mountains History Journal* is edited by Dr Peter Rickwood and occasional papers are published from time to time.

Membership: The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mt Tomah; Blue Mountains City Library; Blue Mountains Cultural Heritage Centre; Blue Mountain Education & Research Trust; Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc; Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute; Bygone Beautys Treasured Teapot Museum and Tearooms.
Eskbank Rail Heritage Centre; Everglades Historic House & Gardens; Norman Lindsay Gallery; Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc; Hartley Valley District Progress Association; Hawkesbury Historical Society Inc; Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc; Lithgow & District Family History Society Inc; Lithgow Mining Museum Inc; Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies; Lithgow Small Arms Factory Museum Inc; Mt Victoria & District Historical Society Inc; Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine Historical Society Inc (including Turkish Bath Museum); National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Blue Mountains Branch; National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Lithgow Branch; Nepean District Historical Society Inc; Paragon Cafe, Katoomba; Scenic World Blue Mountains Limited; Springwood & District Historical Society Inc; Springwood Historians Inc; Transport Signal Communication Museum Inc; The Darnell Collection P/L; Valley Heights Locomotive Depot and Museum, Woodford Academy Management Committee, Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd; The following are individual members: Fiona Burn, Ray Christison, Associate Professor Ian Jack, Joan Kent, Ian Milliss, Patsy Moppett, Professor Barrie Reynolds, Dr Peter Rickwood and Dr Peter Stanbury OAM.

Committee: The management committee for 2015-2016 (from April 2015) is: Patsy Moppett (President and ***Heritage*** Newsletter Editor) ,Ian Jack (Vice President), Jan Koperberg (Secretary), Philip Hammon (Treasurer), Roy Bennett (Grants Application Officer), Scott Pollock and Wendy Hawkes (web site), Dick Morony (Public Officer/Membership Secretary/ Calendar Editor), Suzanne Smith and Louise Vining (Events and Venue Co-ordinators).

Disclaimer: views and opinions expressed in Heritage originate from many sources and contributors. Every effort is taken to ensure accuracy of material. Content does not necessarily represent or reflect the views and opinions of BMACHO, its committee or its members. If errors are found feedback is most welcome.

Heritage

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The Zig Zag Brewery - Part One

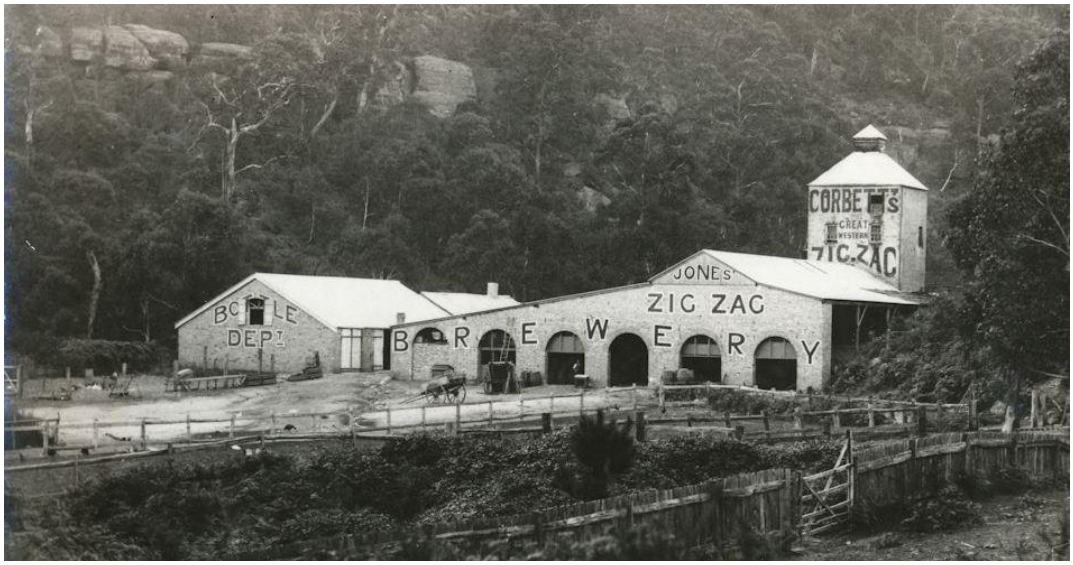
Of all those great industries born in Lithgow's boom years of the 1870s and '80s, only very few survived the repeated shocks of the first half of the 20th Century. Under the economic changes brought about by Federation, the Great Depression and two World Wars, the coal mines and power station of the Farmers Creek valley were superseded by larger, more modern operations to the west; the iron and steel works had transferred to Port Kembla by 1930; and with it, associated industries like coke-making and engineering support all eventually closed.

In this context it is even more remarkable that Lithgow's Zig Zag Brewery (also primarily known as Terry's Brewery in its latter years) survived until as late as 1958. That made it the last country brewery left standing in NSW, and its lifespan of 70 years (with only two short periods of closure during the Depression) also gave it the title of the longest operating country brewery in NSW.

The tale of the brewery contains all the elements of a great story. There are heroes and villains, successes and failures, episodes of great hilarity and tragedies both personal and corporate.

Late 1800s

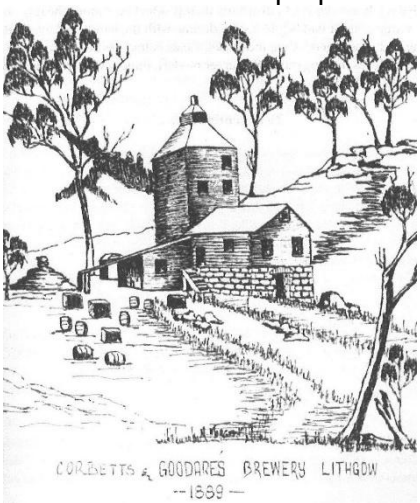
The name associated with its founding is Henry 'Harry' Corbett, but behind him was the support of his wife Eliza and father-in-law, William Mills. It is clearly Mills who had the resources and expertise for this venture and the subsequent record shows that the brewery was a legacy for his daughter and grandchildren. Mills, at age 72, died unexpectedly just six days after the brewing licence was issued on the 25th July 1888.
It came into being in a rush. Brewing began in temporary premises while the impressive (and still standing) brew tower was being built. The Mills family had been in the hotel keeping business in Lithgow for nearly a decade with several licences and their 'flagship' Imperial Hotel, strategically built opposite Eskbank Station (although this was almost immediately wrong-footed by the new Lithgow Station). But in early 1888 the town's brewer, Richard Inch, was in one of his periodic financial crises. He had always managed to overcome these, but this time it was different and his Eskbank Brewery was sold to a consortium of local hoteliers and businessmen in May.
Mills may have made an unsuccessful bid for Inch's brewery or have been in disagreement with his fellows or just thought he could do better; but in any event the race was on. Immediately the site of the new brewery was purchased (in the name of Corbett (2/3) and Alfred Goodare (1/3) and second hand brewing equipment bought for an immediate start before the new plant could be delivered. (Goodare was the fiancé of Mills' grand-daughter, Sarah, and played no part in the subsequent history). Within 10 weeks of the sale of Inch's, beer was beginning to flow from Corbett's vats, two weeks ahead of the new opposition.
And so it began, brewing in a small way in a hastily built shed while the new brewery was built around it, showing from the start the remarkable vigour and intelligence that characterised the first half of the brewery's history and ensured its survival when so many others failed, especially after Federation and the introduction of a new Commonwealth Excise regime which saw hundreds of small local breweries unable to comply.
Right from the start, the 'heir apparent' was William Mills' grandson, James A. S. Jones.



Early 1900s

After he finished school at Cooerwell Academy he was sent for an apprenticeship with Henry Burrows at his Surrey and/or Waverley Breweries in Sydney. Jones was clearly a man of great capacity and character and his years at Burrows' equipped him well in both practical brewing technology and business skills. On returning, he took over the active management from about 1891 and, in 1897 at just 26 years of age, the business was transferred to his name. Harry Corbett, having successfully established the brewery and 'kept the seat warm', was bought out and soon left Lithgow to lead a somewhat itinerant life for his remaining 18 years.
John A. S. (Jackass) Jones is by any measure the greatest of the heroes of this story. His life outside the business of the brewery was outstanding – a horseman of note, bicycle

racing champ, motor sportsman on two wheels and four, socialite and *bon viveur*, town councillor and mayor for a term, universally loved in his town of Lithgow. But of interest here is his drive and intelligence in building up a small-town brewery into a great success.
At the end of his 33 years at the helm, the business comprised a network of about 15 hotels in the district (at least three of which were personally owned), had steadily and regularly upgraded its equipment and techniques and had achieved an output sufficient to supply the Central West with beer at a competitive price to the much larger Sydney breweries.
In 1910, Jones married the charming and feisty Sydney socialite, Nina Harris, and after 1913 took a step back from the day-to-day running of the brewery although very much remaining in active control. As manager and head brewer he appointed Alex Laing whose long and faithful service to the brewery was to keep it running in the difficult years that were ahead. Without Alex Laing it is doubtful that the business would have survived the Great Depression of 1929-33, thus qualifying him as the second of the heroes.
All through the brewery's history, incidents of theft have occurred, but the one of 21st August 1926 had tragic consequences. Two men, Porter and Lyons, having stolen a week or so before, foolishly returned for another go. Sergeant Wallace and Trooper Bell had the scene under surveillance and arrested the pair red-handed. Porter submitted and was handcuffed, but Lyons attempted freedom by attacking the police. In the struggle, he was fatally wounded. The coroner attached no blame on Trooper Bell who was a young and well-regarded man, and the pistol discharge being in the heat of combat rather than premeditated. Still, for Lyons it was a high price for a petty theft. Trooper Bell was reported to have been distressed by the incident all his days.
In 1927, Jones decided to retire and cash in. A company, the Lithgow Brewing Co. Ltd., was floated with Jones retaining a minority share. As history records, this was lucky timing on his behalf. He had left the brewery in excellent shape and was justly remunerated for his nearly 40 years of good management. He was also wise to retain a share-holding because, two years later on the brink of Depression, the speculators moved in and paid almost three times the share price. Jones again received a dividend and severed his connection with the business he had built, although he retained all the property titles to both the brewery itself, three hotels and several properties in and around Lithgow.



1889

Artefacts of the trade

The new company of October 1929, The Sydney Brewing Co. Ltd., was a speculative push out of the Richmond Brewing Co. of Melbourne to expand into NSW. The timing was disastrous. A purchase and capital raising float of £200,000 clearly failed and the new proprietors found themselves with embarrassing debt and falling sales as the Depression hit Lithgow and its industrial base particularly hard. One by one the shareholders bailed out, leaving a few to struggle on and try as best they could to keep the gates open while they waited for better times or a financial saviour. Neither appeared in time and the company was wound up and the receivers were appointed.

And so, in September 1932, when the next company, the Zig-Zag (Lithgow) Brewery Ltd., was floated its capital was a modest £ 10,000. But the low entry price was no help; it too failed, went into receivership again and this time the gates of the brewery were locked.
At a Sheriff's sale in March 1934, the great Zig Zag Brewery was knocked down for a mere £ 1,400 and its darkest hour was nigh. The sale was made to one Valleck Cartwright Mallan, a native of Adelaide and member of a prestigious family with interests in brewing there. But Valleck was clearly skating on thin legal ice. As a string of court cases both before, during and well after his association with Lithgow would attest, he was a con-man, a spiv and a criminal. Mind you, he did get the brewery running again and so played a part.
From his very first day in charge, with faithful Alex Laing back to do the actual work, Mallan decided that paying his excise duty was an option he would forgo. Within four months he was arrested and found himself in Court in what the Sydney Morning Herald reported as the largest-scale customs frauds since Federation. While it is not specifically recorded, there can be little doubt that Laing, disgusted by the turn of events, would have alerted the authorities. Found guilty, somehow Mallan evaded a gaol sentence but was heavily fined and stripped of his directorship and hence ownership. But that chapter was not quite closed.
At the ensuing Sheriff's sale in August 1934 the business interests and plant were knocked down for the token amount of £ 500. To add insult to injury, the purchaser Hyman Wolfensohn, was a business associate of Mallan's and some of the proceeds of the floated Blue Mountains (Lithgow) Brewery Ltd. no doubt found their way back into Mallan's pockets. Wolfensohn himself had no interest in brewing, but one fortuitous event may have justified his otherwise useless ownership. He appointed (or perhaps re-appointed) Walter 'Fred' Lanfear as Head Brewer and Alfred 'Norm' Wyld as Manager. This was to replace Alex Laing who finally had had enough of seeing his life's work being the plaything of petty criminals and took up a well-deserved position with Tooth's Brewery in Sydney. Wolfensohn was the final chapter in the 8 dark years of the brewery's history and Lanfear and Wyld were the new brooms who would bring in the next 20 years of prosperity. *Vaughan Bryers*

References on request

Note: Stay tuned for Part 2 in this fascinating history in future issues of *Heritage.* The Brewery is open every Saturday from 10am to 4pm. www.zigzagbrewery.com.au www.lithgowbrewery.com.au www.oakeyparkbrewery.com.au

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Food for thought ..... Editor's note

The Tool Library

The Macquarie Dictionary defines a library as "a place set apart to contain books and other literary material for reading, study or reference, as a room, set of rooms or a building, where books can be read or borrowed".

It is said that this makes the library a tool for literacy. It is a means of sharing knowledge, and of communication between generations.

Libraries have existed since 300BC, with the Great Library of Alexandria, although with limited readership. Their establishment came more into being in the 1800s, when more widespread literacy was on the increase.

Parallel to this now, and in line with Newsletter's current series on Rare Trades, is the establishment of the tool library.

A tool library enables patrons to borrow tools, equipment and "how-to" instructional materials, functioning either as a rental shop, with a charge for borrowing the tools, or more commonly free of charge as a form of community sharing. The tool library can include the following:

- Tool lending: all kinds for use in volunteer projects, facility maintenance and improvement projects, community improvement events, and special events.
- Tool advocacy: for the complete and timely return of all borrowed tools, to guarantee the long-term sustainability of available inventory. Staff also seeks compensation for lost tools and tools returned late.
- Tool maintenance: performing routine maintenance and repairs on all equipment to ensure good condition and to extend the lifespan of the inventory. This function is typically performed by volunteers and community service workers.

In ancient times tools were part of man's few private possessions, which were closely tied to his survival. Nowadays the possession of tools seems far removed from a purpose for survival. The range and ownership of tools is amazing, and the cost is becoming exorbitant.

The nature of shared use and reuse is an increasing one on many levels within the community. We share many items on a daily basis, and the value to socio-economic realities and the strengthening of community capacity cannot be underestimated.
Tool libraries exist all over the world in various concepts. Volume, target audience, financial structure and purpose vary considerably, but they all enable their patrons to use tools without actually owning them.
There are few tool libraries, as such, in Australia. The principle ones are in Melbourne, at Brunswick and at Braybrook. The Brunswick Tool Library (BTL) is intended for people who do occasional home improvement, garden or DIY projects but don't want to buy a tool they might only use once. The BTL offers surrounding area residents and community groups access to hand tools, power tools, garden tools, ladders, etc. for use on their own projects.

In NSW, mens' sheds could be seen to play a role, in that they are places for men to share activities and tools, but without actual formal borrowing services.
These libraries are a way to use resources more efficiently. They make it possible for dozens of people to share one rotary tiller, one drill press, or one extension ladder, or hand tools, instead of each having to buy their own.

Storage

Sharing

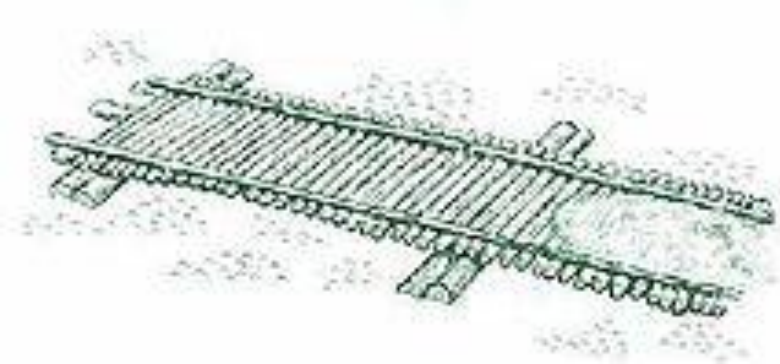
When it comes to rare trades, the tools can be more obscure and becoming obsolete. Sourcing or remaking such tools could become expensive. A library of rare tools would enable tradesman of the less practiced trades to source and share relevant tools, and enable those moving away from the trades to part with their previous possessions to the library in the knowledge that the tools will continue to be utilized for the purpose for which they were created. How often do we see old tools for sale at clearing/garage sales, some of which are not even recognizable as to their purpose?

Such libraries must incorporate management regimes for the care of tools, breakages, theft, personal injury, cataloging and sustainability. There is even a short list of tools which no tool library will lend for obvious reasons: left handed hammer, sky hooks, 2-inch hammer screws, electrician's spanner, well ladder (for working in wells) and cans of metal stretcher.
There are many models for these libraries, but are all founded on the concept of community sharing. Should any organization be considering incorporating such a facility into existing operations, or simply starting from scratch, see www.sharestarter.org for a guideline and other resources. *Patsy Moppett*

References:
The Macquarie Dictionary 1995
Wikipedia
Tool Libraries in Australia, G Kool 2003
www.sharestarter.org

The Corduroy Road

A subject of discussion of late in heritage circles has related to the corduroy road. By definition, this is a road built of logs laid side by side transversely and usually used in low or swampy places. The result is an improvement over traversing muddy or swampy ground, although hazardous to horses and bullocks and vehicles, and subject to frequent disrepair. The contemporary name of course relates to its similarity to the texture of corduroy fabric. Gravel was sometimes used to seal the surface and they were often covered by mud.
They have been used from early times across the world, from as early as 4,000 BC, and were common in Europe by the 18th century. They have been used extensively in various conflict situations such as the American civil war, WW1 and WW2, and across Canada, Europe and the United States. Remains of early colonial examples can be found in Australia, and examples of such roads have been documented at Glastonbury, England, the Alaska Highway in Yukon, and examples on the outskirts of Seattle and Vancouver.
They were and still are used in farming practices to cross wet areas, not as a permanent road but as an adequate temporary solution, at a much lower price than spreading a gravel or sealed surface.
They do not work everywhere and need a solid bed upon which to be laid, rocky soils, hard mineral soils or clays, and areas such as peat are not suited. They should be laid in winter or the driest time of year and the choice of appropriate tree species can become quite technical, including incorporating geotextile. However, usually the early road builders used what was to hand.



In colonial times of Australia, corduroy construction was utilised in particularly difficult areas such as the western plains and the Darling Downs for landholders getting their stock, crops or wool to market, and by companies such as Cobb and Co seeking to traverse the more difficult routes in all weather conditions. They could be constructed as a cheap and simple form of stabilising roadways, and with scarce labour and finances, they were a viable means of dealing with poor road conditions.

Examples include:

- The Toowoomba-Ipswich Road, Laidley Qld: This road is still buried and moves have been made to excavate parts of it for historic research.

Laidley

- The Corduroy Road Historic Site at Armatree: Use of this road technique was common on the black soil plains, as Cobb and Co sought to establish changing stations across the countryside. During the 1960s much of this corduroy road was lifted and trucked to Dubbo to provide fuel for brick kilns.

Armatree

- The old Australian Agricultural Company Road between Tahlee and Karuah: Used from the early 1800s, the corduroy road enabled communication between agricultural enterprises to markets. A guide book now takes walkers along the old 1845 route through both public and private lands.

Tahlee-Karuah

- Remains at Woolgoolga Creek, discovered in 2011 by workers rebuilding the Pacific Highway. The remains were excavated, to be reconstructed elsewhere.

Woolgoolga

Lawson's Long Alley

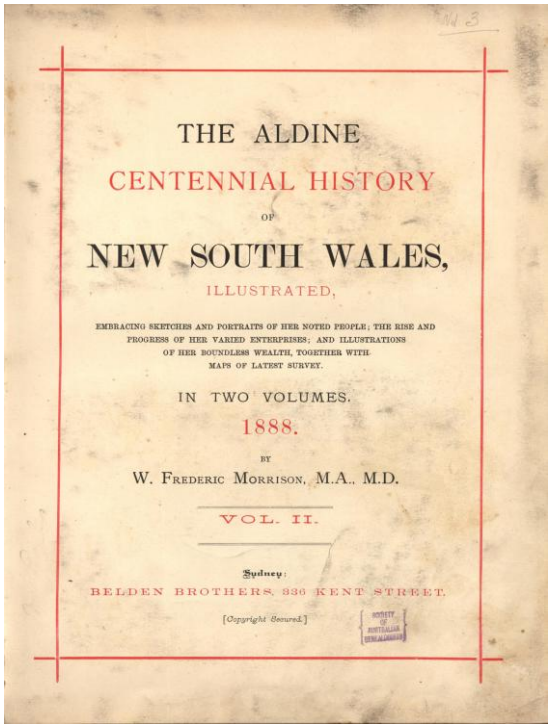
The writer has also observed the remains of probably a more modern version of a corduroy road adjacent to a board walk on the lower reaches of the Lawson's Long Alley colonial road at Hartley Vale. In an effort to make the track more useable for walkers, reserve management has utilised the technique across a swampy section of the road, prior to construction of the boardwalk.

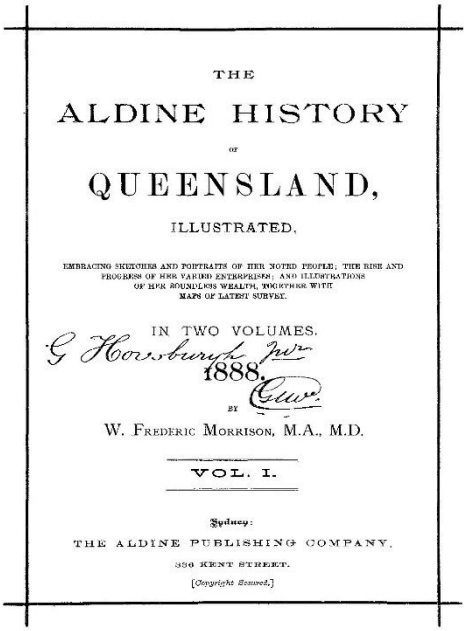
Dr Grace Karskens outlined that William Cox utilised a variety of simple bridge building techniques, including round beam and slab decks, corduroy crossings and possibly cribwork, to span the various streams along the first western road.
The nature of the materials used in this technique of early road building means of course that most such roads are long gone, timber rotting away in damp conditions. Some sound examples can be found in drier western climates, and there are probably many more out there that we are unaware of, having been subject to subsidence, submersion and simple deterioration over time.
The technique has probably not outlived its usefulness, still being utilised in parks and reserves for traversing boggy and low lying areas. *Patsy Moppett*

References:
Corduroy Section of Australian Agricultural Company Road inventory sheet, Office of Environment & Heritage 2004
Cox's Way, Grace Karskens 1988
Civil Engineers Australia, July 2012
Corduroy Road Historic Site inventory sheet, Office of Environment & Heritage 2008
www.northernwoodlands.org
Wikipedia

Historical Resource: The Aldine Centennial History of New South Wales 1888

In 1888 William Frederic Morrison produced *The Aldine Centennial History of New South Wales* in a two-volume set. Publications were also done for Queensland and South Australia. This work presented to the people of Australia a brief history of its discovery and early settlement, and fully set forth its rise and progress for the previous one hundred years. Each Aldine Centennial History was intended to be artistic, and to represent in its mechanism the perfection of Australian art.


THE ALDINE
CENTENNIAL HISTORY
OF
NEW SOUTH WALES,
ILLUSTRATED,
EMBRACING SKETCHES AND PORTRAITS OF HER NOTED PEOPLE; THE RISE AND PROGRESS OF HER VARIED ENTERPRISES; AND ILLUSTRATIONS OF HER BOUNDLESS WEALTH, TOGETHER WITH MAPS OF LATEST SURVEY.
IN TWO VOLUMES.
1888.
BY
W. FREDERIC MORRISON, M.A., M.D.
VOL. II.
Sydney:
BELDEN BROTHERS, 336 KENT STREET.
[Copyright Secured.]


THE
ALDINE HISTORY
OF
QUEENSLAND,
ILLUSTRATED,
EMBRACING SKETCHES AND PORTRAITS OF HER NOTED PEOPLE; THE RISE AND PROGRESS OF HER VARIED ENTERPRISES; AND ILLUSTRATIONS OF HER BOUNDLESS WEALTH, TOGETHER WITH MAPS OF LATEST SURVEY.
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1888.
BY
W. FREDERIC MORRISON, M.A., M.D.
VOL. I.
Sydney:
THE ALDINE PUBLISHING COMPANY,
350 KENT STREET.
[Copyright Secured.]

In the publication for NSW, Volume 1 and the first part of Volume 2 cover the early explorers, geography, aborigines, flora and fauna, governors of NSW as well as the Constitution and more. Volume 2 is devoted to brief biographies of prominent inhabitants and brief descriptions of industries listed under town names within NSW, which were called

Biographical Sketches. As most of the companies listed were family companies, the entries are valuable for their biographical data and the local history of the district. Each entry has at least a paragraph on each person, although some details are quite extensive. Details can include parents' names, emigration details, birth place, education and employment history. The Morrison publications form a major biographical reference source.

William Frederic Morrison, homeopath and publisher, was reputedly born in Australia in about 1837, the son of Captain Robert Morrison. A few months afterwards the family settled in Canada. He graduated as an MD from Victoria College at the University of Toronto, in 1898, and had graduated in 1877 from the Hahnemann Medical and Homeopathic College and Hospital in Chicago.

It is not clear when he returned to Australia but it was recorded in the Sands Directory that in 1885 a Frederic W. Morrison, Bookseller and Stationer, was located at 85 King St., Sydney. He reappeared as Dr Morrison, M.A., Surgeon at 139 Victoria St., Sydney from 1888 to 1890 and again from 1892 at 231 Macquarie St., Sydney. His last listing in the *Directory* is in 1896-1897 at 199 Macquarie St.

Morrison published his *Aldine Histories for N.S.W.* and *Queensland* in 1888 in two volumes at the Aldine Publishing Co., 336 Kent St., Sydney. *The Aldine History of South Australia* was published in 1890. He became involved in lengthy legal proceedings arising out of the publication of these volumes and left South Australia in 1891 after being declared insolvent. In an article in the *Adelaide Advertiser* in August 1890. Morrison stated that he had been a publisher for a number of years having written several books and he had then gone in for historical writing, having come to Australia from America for that purpose. He intended to publish histories of all the colonies of Australia and intended to then leave for the Cape Colony. What became of W.F. Morrison after 1897 is not known but perhaps he followed his intention and left for South Africa.

It is not known whether Morrison married or had issue in Canada. No record has been found of family connections in Australia. *Patsy Moppett*

Note: These resources can be reviewed on line, and can be purchased on CD from various sources.

References:
Aldine Centennial History of New South Wales 1888 CD

Investigating the Bleichert Ropeway, Katoomba

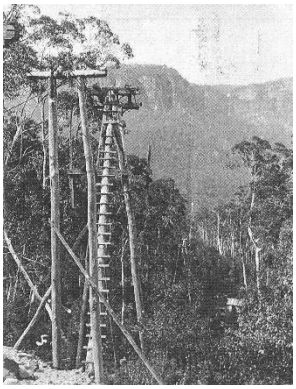
In 1888 an aerial ropeway was constructed to transport mined oil shale from the Ruined Castle Mine, across the Jamison Valley. It collapsed after only six months. A small number of features such as the tension pit and tower platforms survive in situ. All other items are movable, and most have been moved some distance (determined by the items' size, shape and weight, as well as by local topography and hydrology).

It is understood that the only section that collapsed in 1889–1890 was the inbound track rope from the cliff top to the tension station. Most of the objects on the ground today originated from this and other operating mishaps, but many items would also have been salvaged. After the catastrophic failure of the inbound rope, many bucket carrier assemblies would still have been recoverable since the break effected less than one quarter of the track-rope system. After the Ropeway was abandoned, the majority remained upright and in situ, slowly deteriorating and collapsing as bush fires, falling trees, erosion and other natural forces prevailed. Buckets and carriers probably tumbled a short distance as they fell. Some heavy items may have also moved due to erosion or vegetation growth, and lighter items have clearly been moved by walkers on the track. Others clearly have not moved for some time.

Most remains were distributed across the area, although there is a concentration of tower poles south of Causeway Creek where the conditions were drier and more remnant timber survived.

The Bleichert Ropeway represented part of an engineering system developed in Germany but exported and adapted for use across the world. The Bleichert Ropeway at Katoomba was the first mine haulage infrastructure in NSW and possibly Australia, and a part of the oil shale industry in the Blue Mountains area during the 1880s. This incredible feat of engineering ran from the top of the cliffs near what is now Scenic World across to Ruined Castle Mine. This infrastructure played a key role in shaping the history of the Katoomba community and the development of the Blue Mountains, yet it is unknown to many parts of the community, particularly the younger generation.

Plate on bucket


Ropeway tower

Bucket

The Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute (BMWHI), UNSW, Scenic World, NPWS and experienced bushwalkers conducted a field survey of the ropeway's remaining heritage items in the valley in 2014/15 which raised awareness within the local community. Under Stage 1 of the project they undertook a comprehensive field survey documenting over 300 artefacts, to better understand, conserve and celebrate this heritage. A customized smartphone and tablet-based app was developed through the Federated Archaeological Information Management Systems (FAIMS) project. See www.fedarch.org

The work consolidated past voluntary research and recording of artefacts and has significantly advanced the knowledge of the Ropeway. It has also advanced understanding of the conservation and interpretation requirements of the remains of the Ropeway. However, detailed examination of the Tension Pit (a central part of the Ropeway's operation) was unable to be inventoried as it required an archaeological excavation. In addition, some other aspects of the artefact material require further investigation.

An archaeological assessment was carried out by GML Heritage. The conclusions of their report indicated a high potential for structural remains associated with the Ropeway system. Lower potential was indicated with regard to sealed deposits or isolated artifacts. Test excavations are now needed to expose the base of the pit, and enable documentation of the construction and layout of the ropeway function, and its subsequent failure. Remains could demonstrate social, historical and mining/industrial significance.

The Stage 2 proposal outlines work to complete the survey of the tension pit, finalise the survey of artefacts, and accurately map the ground profile of the Ropeway route. The work involves excavating the tension pit in the Jamieson Valley, firstly to ascertain the mass of the tension counterweights still remaining in the pit, so that the correct catenaries and rope tensions can be calculated, and secondly so that any other artefacts that may be in the pit may be recovered, which might tell of the social or construction history of this unique structure. The weights are on the valley floor in the Blue Mountains National Park, covered with about two metres of dirt and leaves.

In addition, a "citizen-science" version of the tablet app will be developed. The additional work aims to support responsible agencies in implementing appropriate conservation policies and management.

The hope is to have the results published in Wire Rope News and Doppelmayr's industry magazine, and maybe NPWS publications.

BMWHI have also been working to have the ropeway State Heritage listed.

However, the cost for the project has blown out to $40,000. Private funding of $10,000 has already been put towards the project, but the group has to find another $30,000, or find another way to conduct the project.
The group are currently publicizing the need for funds from anyone interested in heritage/archaeological engineering and technology. Anyone who would like to be associated with this project can be assured that their name would be included in this resulting publicity and published papers, and should contact BMWHI. *Patsy Moppett*

References:
Phil Hammon, (BMWHI)
Bleichert Ropeway Tension Station, Katoomba, NSW, Archaeological Assessment, October 2015
Bleichert Ropeway, Katoomba 2014 Survey Report, BMWHI

Archival Records of Blue Mountains Councils

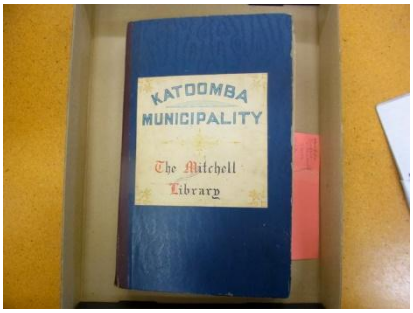
Archival records of the various local government bodies that have existed in the Blue Mountains can be found in a number of locations. This document is an attempt to list these in one place so that researchers will have an easier task finding what you need.
My first aim was to list only Blue Mountains Shire Council records but there are so many links between the councils that I have now produced a combined listing.

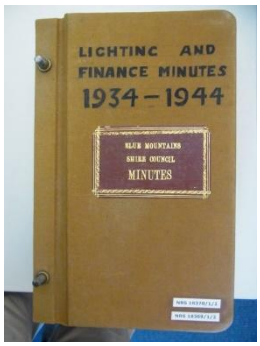
Outline of Blue Mountains Council history

The first local government body on the Blue Mountains was the Municipality of Katoomba, created in 1890. It was preceded by the Katoomba Progress Association. I mention this because Minutes of both organisations can be found in one book covering the period 1885 to 1890 and Letters in a book with dates ranging from March 1887 to March 1893.[1]

- In March 1906 the Kanimbla Shire was established.
- In January 1907 its name was changed to Blue Mountains Shire.
- In December 1919 the shire was divided into the Blue Mountains Shire and the Municipality of Blackheath.
- In 1945 the Blue Mountains County Council (made up of two representatives from each of the Blue Mountains Shire and the Katoomba Municipality, and one from Blackheath Municipality) was formed with responsibility for seven functions: electricity, gas, water, sewerage, road transport, housing and publicity.[2]
- In May 1946 the City of Katoomba was proclaimed.
- In September 1947 the County Council was abolished and the three councils amalgamated to form the Municipality of Blue Mountains, which was then proclaimed a City on the same day, thus becoming the Blue Mountains City Council.

During the life of the various councils there have been more than ten changes to boundaries.[3] For a fuller history go to
http://investigator.records.nsw.gov.au/Entity.aspx?Path=\Organisation\165





The following is a list of council records that I have found:

State Records NSW:

Reading Room, 143 O'Connell St, Kingswood; PO Box 516, Kingswood NSW 2747; phone 02 9673 1788; email srecords@records.nsw.gov.au; website www.records.nsw.gov.au

In the following list KMC = Katoomba Municipal Council; BMC = Blackheath Municipal Council; BMSC = Blue Mountains Shire Council; BMCityC = Blue Mountains City Council; BMCountyC = Blue Mountains County Council; SRNSW = State Records New South Wales; NRS = New South Wales Record Series; Cons = Consignment; Cont = Container, The record item number is in square brackets. (All the listed items are part of Consignment 1 unless otherwise noted.) The records are listed in the order of the NRS numbers.

So:

Blue Mountains Shire Council, Quarry Committee Minutes, NRS 18373, Cont 1, Item [2], 24/04/1923 to 30/07/1924.

becomes:

BMSC, Quarry Committee Minutes, NRS 18373, 1 [2] 24/04/1923 to 30/07/1924.

Katoomba Municipal Council, Minutes, NRS 18362, Cont 1 to 19, [Items 1 to 19] 22/01/1890 to 30/09/1947.

KMC, Business papers and committee meeting notices, NRS 18363, 1 [1] 01/01/1943 to 30/06/1944.

KMC, Finance Committee Minutes, NRS 18364, 1 [1] 10/01/1940 to 30/09/1947.

KMC, Reports of the Works Committee, NRS 18365, 1 [1] 18/07/1945 to 20/08/1947.

Blackheath Municipal Council, Minutes, NRS 18366, 1 to 6 [1 to 6] 10/02/1920 to 29/09/1947.

Kanimbla Shire Council, Minutes, NRS 18367, 1 [1] 13/06/1906 to 18/01/1907.

Blue Mountains Shire Council, Minutes, NRS 18367,

1 [2] 29/01/1907 to 08/02/1909; 2 [3] 22/02/1909 to 30/08/1911;
3 [4] 13/09/1911 to 10/07/1912; 4 [5] 09/01/1924 to 13/12/1933;
5 [6] 24/01/1934 to 13/12/1938; 6 [7] 10/01/1939 to 12/12/1944;
7 [8] 16/01/1945 to 09/09/1947.

Blue Mountains City Council, Minutes, NRS 18367, Cont 8 to 30 [9 to 31] 25/09/1947 to 17/12/1957.

(Note: NRS 18368 is not related to Blue Mountains Councils.)

BMSC, Lighting Committee Minutes, NRS 18369, 1 [1] 1918–33; 2 [2] 1934–44.

BMSC, Finance Committee Minutes, NRS 18370, 1 [2] 1913–33; 2 [1] 1934–44; 3 [1] 1945–47.

BMCityC, Finance Committee Minutes, NRS 18370,

Cons 1, 3–13 [1–11] 1947–57;
Cons 3, 1–5 [1–5] 1958–62;
Cons 2, 1–10 [1–25] 1962–74.

BMSC, Works Committee Minutes, NRS 18371, 1 [1] 1925–33; 2 [2] 1934–40; 3 [3] 1941–44; 4 [4] 1945–47.

BMCityC, Works Committee Minutes, NRS 18371,

Cons 1, 5–10 [5–10] 1950–57;
Cons 3, 1–5 [1–5] 1958–62;
Cons 2, 1–21 [1–43] 1962–74.

BMSC, Subdivision Committee Minutes, NRS 18372, 1 [1] 10/02/1915 to 21/01/1917.

BMSC, Quarry Committee Minutes, NRS 18373, 1 [2] 24/04/1923 to 30/07/1924.

BMSC, Health and Buildings Committee Minutes, NRS 18374, 1 [3] 1913–33; 2 [1] 1934–44; 3 [2] 1945–47.

BMSC, Engineers Report Books, NRS 18375, 1 [1] 1919–20; 2 [2] 1920–21; 3 [3] 1921–22; 4 [4] 1922–23; 5 [5] 1923–25.

BMSC, Correspondence files, NRS 18376, 1 to 14 [1 to 151] 1916–47.[4]

Blue Mountains County Council, Minutes, NRS 18377, 1 to 2 [1 to 2] 25/07/1944 to

29/09/1947.
BMCountyC, Public Vehicles Committee Minutes, NRS 18378, 1 [1] 22/01/1945 to 15/09/1947.
BMCountyC, Finance Committee Minutes, NRS 18379, 1 [1] 08/01/1945 to 29/09/1947.
BMCountyC, Reports of the County Clerk, NRS 18380, 1 [1] 03/08/1944 to 25/09/1947.
BMCountyC, Reports of the Water & Sewerage Engineer, NRS 18381, 1 [1] 16/02/1945 to 25/09/1947.
BMCityC, Business papers of council meetings, NRS 18382, 1 to 7 [1 to 7] 01/10/1947 to 11/12/1962.
BMCityC, Correspondence, NRS 18464, 1 to 87 [1/1 to 2002/18] 1953–64.

Blue Mountains City Library Local Studies, Springwood Library:

104 Macquarie Road, Springwood; phone 02 4723 5040; email ref@bmcc.nsw.gov.au; website www.bmcc.nsw.gov.au/yourcommunity/library/informationservices/localstudies
Rate books and Valuation books — 1889-1947 on microfiche (incomplete), also held by Blue Mountains Historical Society.
Photos: includes some councillors and staff, various dates — http://www.photosau.com.au/bluemountains/scripts/home.asp
Blue Mountains historic newspapers online: bit.do/BMnewspapers-onTrove.

Blue Mountains Historical Society:

Hobby's Reach Research Centre, 99-101 Blaxland Road, Wentworth Falls; PO Box 17, Wentworth Falls, NSW 2782; phone 02 4757 3824; email bmhs@bluemountainshistory.com; website www.bluemountainshistory.com
Rate books and Valuation books — 1889–1947 on microfiche (incomplete), also held by Blue Mountains City Library Local Studies section at Springwood Library.
The Local Government box in the archives storage area contains:

- Minute Book for the Katoomba Progress Association, 16/12/1885 to 13/12/1889, and Katoomba Municipal Council, 22/01/1890 to 20/03/1890.
- Katoomba Progress Association, Letter Book, March 1887 to November 1889, and Katoomba Municipal Council, Letters, 30/01/1890 to 08/03/1893 (with a gap from February 1890 to April 1891, part of which is covered in the next letter book).
- Katoomba Municipal Council, Letter Book, February 1891 to September 1891.
- Blue Mountains Shire Council, Building Committee Minutes, 1911–1915, and court prosecutions 1915–33 and 1941.
- Seven folders of Blue Mountains City Council newspaper cuttings, 1964–68.
- An undated copy of a Blue Mountains Planning Scheme Ordinance.

In the Compactus, Shelf Bank 3, Shelf 1, Box 14/1 contains:

- Two Newspaper Scrapbooks compiled by Mrs Jessie Pearce for her father Mr Wilson (I'm not sure which Wilson). They contain Katoomba Municipal Council cuttings. Book 1 (blue cover) holds 1931–35; Book 2 (grey cover) holds 1934–35. At the front of both books there are loose sheets containing an index that someone has compiled.

Also in the Compactus, Shelf Bank 4, Shelf 6, Box 13/2 contains:

- Scrapbook of Kanimbla and Blue Mountains Shire Council advertisements from 1906 to 1914. (See Mount Victoria & District Historical Society listing for the next scrapbook in date sequence.)
- Scrapbook of Katoomba Municipal Council publicity articles, 1939–42. These come from newspapers and various magazines, such as "Bank Notes: the monthly staff magazine of the Commonwealth Bank of Australia".

A subject listing of the BMSC Correspondence now held at SRNSW is in Drawer F, Folders 600–601. These folders also contain some historic documents (or copies) relating to BM councils. There's a list of all councillors and alderman who have served on each of the councils. There's an article by John Yeaman on the 1933 appointment of the Katoomba Municipal Council Engineer by the State Government. There are also lots of photocopies of newspaper articles. These files are somewhat mixed up though.
Photos of the Shire chert quarry at Mount Victoria and Sentinel Steam Waggons.

Mount Victoria & District Historical Society:

Railway Station buildings, Station St, Mount Victoria; PO Box 36, Mount Victoria NSW 2786; website
http://mountvictoriamuseum.info/

Original Blue Mountains Shire Council correspondence files can be found in files labelled: Shire chert quarry, Mount Victoria land, Rienits (Henry), Blair Athol coal mine, Hotel Mount Victoria & Lees, Mount Victoria sanitary depot, Mount Victoria Progress Association. There could be more.

Scrapbook of Blue Mountains Shire Council newspaper advertisements, 1914–1941. (The preceding scrapbook in date sequence is held by the Blue Mountains Historical Society.)

Photos of the Shire chert quarry and Sentinel steam waggons.

State Library of NSW:

"The Blue Mountains Shire Council's Chert Metal Quarries", an 8-page brochure published by the Blue Mountains Shire Council, August 1923, printed by "Echo" Print, Katoomba. Call No. Pam file/622.5-629.1, Collection of pamphlets on water, sewerage and drainage and transport.

Cr John McManamey's papers. Call No. MLMSS 1507, John Fraser McManamey family papers, 1889-ca. 1970, with related material, 1863-1976.

"Report of the Special Committee on the administration of the Blue Mountains Shire", 1918, Call No. 91/1117.

Keith Painter

Note: There may be other records in other locations. If anyone knows of such information please contact the author at **greatguides@mountainmistbooks.com** or your local historical society.

Special thanks to Emily Hanna and other staff at State Records NSW for their assistance.

References:

[1] *Blue Mountains Historical Society, Local Government box in archives section.*

[2] *The Nepean Times, 27 July 1944, p1, http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article117896061.*

[3] *SRNSW: Organisation Detail (No. 165) and Agency Detail (No. 3994) listings.*

[4] *See BMHS listing for BMSC Correspondence contents list.*

The Technical Side

Wallers and the Dry Stone Wall

The use of stone for building stretches back before recorded time. Some of the earliest buildings were stone, from about 3200BC. Early Australian settlers brought their techniques out to the colony from Britain and Ireland and practiced their trade from the beginning. Back home there had been a proud heritage of wall building in the thousands of miles of dry stone walls in many regions which defined the landscape.

The Irish landscape

The fascination of stone is tangible - how it feels, what kind of stone it is, how it came to be where you have found it. The variety of stone available is large, around which a language

has developed to describe its attributes and uses. There is a joy and creativity in the search for the perfect stone, and in solving what has been described as a three dimensional puzzle. Wood and wire fences can be intimidating and visually intrusive and hedges need a lot of upkeep, but dry stone walls melt into the landscape and require the minimum of maintenance. A dry stone wall speaks of permanence, which may explain the romance of an Irish countryside. Walls are symbolic of diligence, skill, hard work and strength, providing a need from the land, which continues to complement the landscape. The stone wall stands as a beautiful and natural monument, and it was said that the builders forbade the removal of stone from a wall once built.

Harlock family, Pomborneit, Victoria 1902

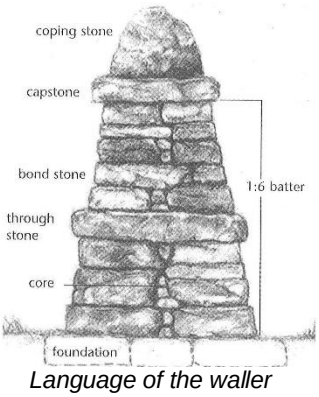
Kentucky 2007

The building of dry stone walls was free, and their use cleared the land. In Britain they incorporated other utilitarian structures such as stiles, water troughs, creep holes and gate openings. In Australia they were not found before about 1826, when stockmen used shepherds to watch flocks and herds and used timber to build brush fences. More permanent fencing was needed after the Lands Act of 1862, to enclose paddocks and clear them of stone. Their use in later years made good fire breaks, sheltered stock from chilly winds and wild weather, and made effective fences also used against the rabbit, built in such a way that the rabbit could climb out of a paddock but not back in, which were ingenious. The building of stone walls was eventually superseded by the use of relatively cheap wire. Wallers became obsolete and few are known to have worked past the mid 1900s. Evidence of their activities remain, particularly in south western Victoria, where the most extensive range of dry-stone walls in Australia can be found, including consumption dykes and rabbit proof fences, retaining walls and water races.

Note: Consumption dykes were created where stone was so plentiful that it was a nuisance and it made sense to stack it into walls that took up less space and served as boundary markers and livestock fences.

Some stone simply is not suitable for walling, like rounded river stone, which can lead to instability. The most common stone sources for stonework today includes basalt, gneiss, granite, limestone, sandstone and slate. Each type of stone has particular characteristics regarding weight, colour, grain, workability and strength, which determine which stone is suitable for each job. The cross section of a wall should be slightly pyramidal for stability through the simple use of gravity. A simple test is to stand on your work! With each course stepped back slightly the wall should withstand your weight and therefore more courses. The only expenses for the purist is time and energy, and of course a good source of stone and some sturdy gloves. You don't need elaborate footings of concrete and steel. The tools and equipment used for dry stone wall work are remarkably simply. They are usually quiet, inexpensive, and low maintenance.

Tools of the trade



Language of the waller

Under construction, Leura

A free standing wall can be built almost anywhere on top of stable soil. They are double sided and are tied together using bond "through" stones, also referred to as ties. The walls upper half will narrow considerably, and bond stones extend into and past the centre, binding the two faces of the wall together. Voids are filled with chink stones. The top of the wall has a cover of capstones, which can be set vertically or horizontally, and limit rainwater from entering the wall's core. They should have an overhang, and may then be topped with coping stones if desired. If need be, one major benefit of a dry stone wall is that it can be easily dissembled and reconstructed.

Today the skills in dry stone walling relate to building or repairing walls, and are passed down from father to son. Many apprentices were restricted to building dry stone walls long before they were permitted to use mortar, with the theory being that they learn the fundamentals of physics and permanent stone placement before they progressed on to more complex tasks.

The writer's efforts, Yetholme 2005

Yetholme 2007

The physical and cultural attributes of the Victorian walls have been identified and, together with grant funding, volunteer wallers and the wider community, ways of protection have been identified and many have been heritage listed. Walls can also be found on the NSW north and south coasts, and in Queensland, Tasmania and South Australia.

The Dry Stone Walls Association of Australia Inc. (DSWAA) is an active volunteer not-for-profit organisation comprising dry stone wall owners and enthusiasts, rural landholders, urban dwellers and practitioners in the craft of dry stone walling.

Their vision is that dry stone walls and dry stone structures are widely accepted for their unique place in the history, culture and economy of the nation and for the legacy they represent. A Directory is currently being prepared and will list people who undertake the craft of dry stone walling on a professional basis. It will be maintained by the DSWAA and expanded as more wallers submit information.

Patsy Moppett

References:

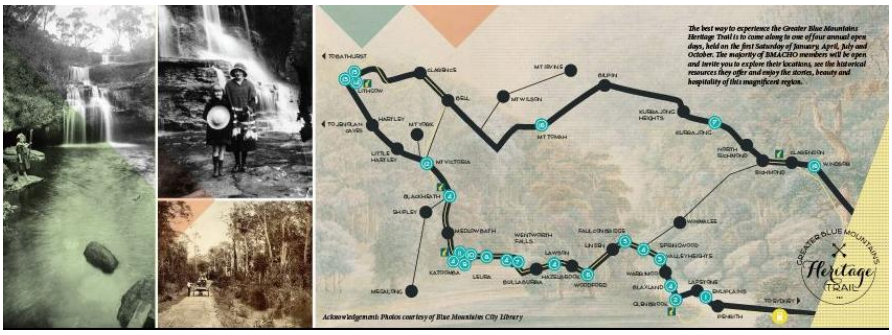
Rare Trades, Mark Thompson 2002
How to Lay Stone, Stony 2007

The Art & Craft of Stonework, David Reed 2002
Stonework for the Garden, Alan & Gill Bridgewater 2001
The Forgotten Art of Building a Stone Wall, CP Fields 1971
The Art and Craft of Stonescaping, David Reed 2000
If These Walls Could Talk – Corangamite Dry Stone Walls Conservation Project 2002
www.dswaa.org.au

Community events & updates

Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail

The next common Open Day is Saturday 2 January 2016



The Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail (GBMHT) is a project of BMACHO. There are four common Open Days each year, i.e. the first Saturday of January, April, July and October. The participants include historical societies, family history societies, museums, heritage properties, heritage gardens and heritage businesses in the Greater Blue Mountains, Emu Plains, Lithgow and the Hawkesbury areas. There are also a number of historic "places to eat" and "places to stay" listed on the website and in our brochure. We are also adding "Hidden Gems" in the region to our website, along with photos and links to maps. Brochures are available at Visitor Information Centres in the Blue Mountains, Lithgow and the Hawkesbury, and all the museums in the region. Keep an eye on our website and our Facebook page to see planned events and please subscribe to our GBMHT newsletter, by clicking the link on the bottom of each page of the website. This project was funded by the **Westpac Group.** *Jan Koperberg*

National Heritage Lottery

The federal government is considering introducing a national lottery - similar to the Opera House lotteries of the past - to fund the preservation of Australia's most precious places. It will explore the feasibility of adapting Britain's Heritage Lottery fund. Since it was launched in 1994, this lottery has raised more than $71 billion and funded more than 39,000 projects, that it says "make a lasting difference for heritage, people and communities."
An Australian national heritage lottery is one of a range of funding initiatives that are outlined in the new Australian Heritage Strategy, a five-year plan that was released at the Opera House recently by the Minister for the Environment Greg Hunt. It also includes plans to generate more publicity for nationally listed heritages sites by a more creative use of online storytelling. Mr Hunt said the strategy would explore the potential for a national lottery that would benefit Australia's "magnificent heritage". Heritage management should be a "shared responsibility between national, state and local governments, private owners, businesses and the local community", he said.

Australian icons

Mr Hunt said that “While the Heritage Lottery Fund is a uniquely British institution, and there would be many issues to work through in seeking to establish a fund like this in the Australian federation, it is an example of the potential to harness new sources of funding to support Australian heritage,” the report says. Mr Hunt said he would leave the experts to develop what form the heritage lottery could take, but he envisaged it would be drawn either weekly, fortnightly or monthly.

Frank Howarth, the national president of Museums Australia, welcomed the idea of a lottery. He said the lack of funding at federal, state and local level for cultural and heritage institutions was very concerning. In particular, organisations that relied on local government funding were really "feeling the pinch".

The British lottery had been "immensely successful" in building a large number of cultural facilities that would otherwise not have been built, said Mr Howarth, who was previously director of the National Museum of Australia.

He warned that it was important that there was a strategy so that organisations that received lottery money for capital works also had funding to cover ongoing operational costs. Several projects funded by lottery money in Britain had closed because they didn't have funding for operational costs.

When the Opera House Lottery ended, the then manager of the NSW Lotteries Bryne Smith told the *Herald* that the primary motivation to buy lottery tickets was to win money. "But a secondary reason is often the knowledge that the money spent on the ticket is going to a good cause," he said. *Patsy Moppett*

Sources:
Sydney Morning Herald 9 December 2015
Courier Mail 10 December 2015

National Trust Heritage Festival 2016

Registrations for the National Trust Heritage Festival 2016 closed on 13 December 2015. Next year the National Trust will be exploring our regions and rediscovering amazing treasures through the National Trust Heritage Festival.

Discovery & Rediscoveries is the theme for the 2016 National Trust Heritage Festival, defined as:

Discovery can encompass the experience of discovering something for the first time or

rediscovering something that has been lost, forgotten or concealed.
They invite you to be part of their festival by attending one or some of the cultural & heritage related events to be held. In NSW the Festival will be held from 16 April to 29 May.
It is due to participating organisations and visitors that the festival keeps growing, attracting tourists from all over Australia and overseas. It is about sharing our stories and participation will help make it a success.
40,000 copies of the printed guide will be distributed throughout NSW, to libraries, councils, tourist information centres, event participants and to all of our members. The Heritage Festival also provides free publicity to encourage people to attend events and to give participants greater exposure. *Patsy Moppett*

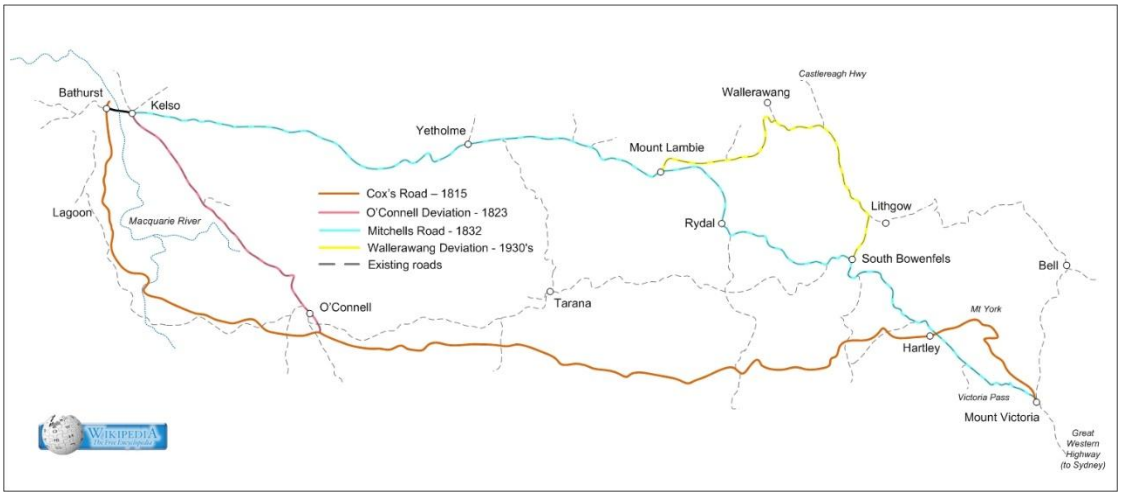
If you want to request an extension of time to register an event, would like more information or have any questions**,** please contact Eloise:

ehairman@nationaltrust.com.au
Or call 02 9258 0143
Or www.nationaltrustfestival.org.au

Source: National Trust (Australia)

Beyond the Blue Mountains: Following the Road from Bathurst

This year the RAHS completed its "*Beyond the Blue Mountains: Following the Road from Bathurst"* project, which examines the history of New South Wales inland settlement and the ways in which this history is remembered. Historians provide an overview of key themes connected to this important period of NSW history.
There are videos to watch, manuscripts and articles to read and galleries of images to enjoy that provide insights into key aspects of this history. These webpages were launched to coincide with the 200 year anniversary of the proclamation of Bathurst as a town by Governor Lachlan Macquarie. The RAHS wish to thank all the contributors who volunteered their knowledge and time in providing these online resources on this fascinating period of New South Wales history.

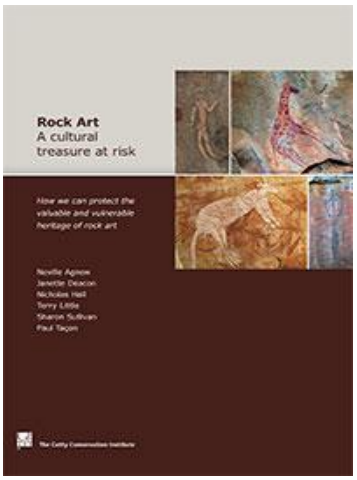


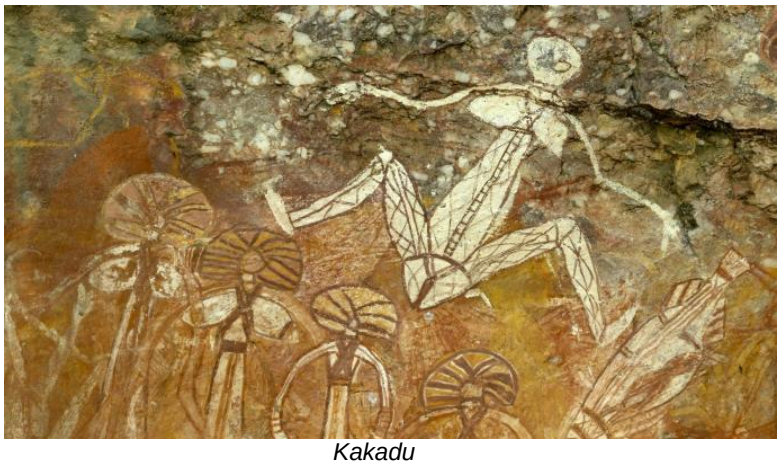
They also acknowledge the support of the Office of Environment and Heritage and Heritage Council in providing a generous grant to support this initiative. *Patsy Moppett*
See www.rahs.org.au

References:
Wikipedia
www.rahs.org.au

Rock Art Publication

A booklet entitled Rock Art: a cultural treasure at risk, is now available online for comment. It is a culmination of the Getty Conservation Institute's Southern African Rock Art Program that offered courses and workshops between 2005 and 2011, and the subsequent exchange between traditional owners and rock art specialists in Southern Africa and Australia in an exchange program between 2012 and 2014.





Kakadu

The purpose is to raise public awareness about the value of rock art and to encourage best practice in its conservation and management, identifying issues and the foundation principles and actions, based on internationally recognized and well-founded conservation management principles. The document will be finalised in 2016. Comments are welcome to Neville Agnew nagnew@geyy.edu or Tanya Koeneman tlk2146@hotmail.com , or to any of the other authors. *Tanya Koeneman*

See
http://www.getty.edu/conservation/publications_resources/pdf_publications/rock_art_cultural.htm

Steam Tram Rolling Stock Collection, Valley Heights

The Heritage Council of NSW resolved, at its meeting of 2nd December 2015, to give notice of its intention to consider listing elements of the Steam Tram Rolling Stock Collection on the State Heritage Register in acknowledgement of its heritage significance to the people of New South Wales. This advice is in accordance with section 33(1)(a) of the *Heritage Act 1977 (NSW).*

Any members of the community, owners, managers, organisations or other interested parties are invited to make a written submission regarding the proposed listing and significance of the Steam Tram Rolling Stock Collection. Submissions should be posted or emailed to the Heritage Council of NSW at the following address during the public submission period commencing on 17th December 2015 and closing on 9th February 2016.

Heritage Council of NSW, Locked Bag 5020, PARRAMATTA NSW 2124
heritage@heritage.nsw.gov.au

Please note that the Heritage Council is unable to accept submissions received after the above closing date.

The Steam Tram Rolling Stock Collection has potential state heritage significance as a remnant of the state government-provided steam tram network in NSW which was in operation between the 1880s and the 1930s. This street-based public transport, which

supplemented the rail networks in Sydney and Newcastle, broadened social outlets and employment opportunities, especially for lower income people. The two carriages and one locomotive may have state technical significance as a rare showcase of steam tram rolling stock technology, both imported and locally manufactured. Two of the examples of rolling stock were adaptively designed and manufactured in NSW and thus

demonstrate the design and craft expertise of their Sydney manufacturers. The rolling stock demonstrates construction methods of joinery and fitting from an early stage in the development of public street transport. They form the only operational collection of steam tram engine and carriages in NSW and are among the last remaining representatives of this type of rolling stock in NSW. The collection may be of state social significance to the many enthusiasts of historic train technology and historic steam technology. Riding on these steam tram trailer cars provides a live sensory experience today of what street transport may have been like for people of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

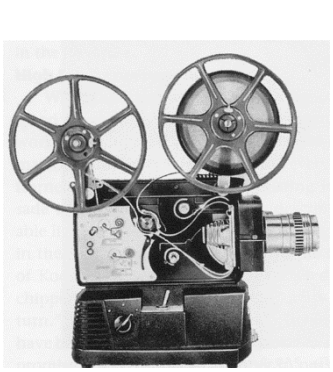
Further details on the nominated item, the State Heritage Register, listing criteria, making a submission and the benefits of listing can be viewed on the Heritage Division, Office of Environment & Heritage (OEH) website at:
http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/heritageapp/NominationsOfStateHeritageRegister.aspx

If you have any questions, require further information, or if you do not have internet access and would like paper copies of the documents referred to above, please do not hesitate to contact Cliff Daylight, Heritage Officer at the Heritage Division, OEH, on (02) 9585 6167

NSW Heritage

Liven up your presentations!!!

- A picture is worth a thousand words!



BMACHO can help you make presentations to your members or guests more attractive and lively with visual aids which are available for loan, as follows:

- Camera: Nikon P50 digital compact:
  - 8.1 megapixels
  - 3.6 x Zoom wide angle lens
  - Long life rechargeable batteries and charger, user guide, carrying case all included.
- A Laptop computer: to help you prepare your presentations or play DVD's etc.
- A Digital Projector: We can provide the appropriate connection to our own computer or any VGA equipped laptop to show your masterpiece.

(Please note that users of Apple computers will need to provide their own Apple-to-VGA connection).

- A screen: on which to show your masterpiece.

In addition, we can store your masterpiece: **My Book External Hard Drive, 1 TB/To with USB 3.0 + USB 2.0 100% compatible**. This can be used to store your photographs of sites or other items on an external hard drive away from your own premises. *Jan Koperberg*

For details, please contact Jan Koperberg, j.koperberg@bigpond.com

Merry Christmas and a happy and safe New Year to all!

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

Registered office: 1/19 Stypandra Place, Springwood 2777. (02) 4751 5834
Email: committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au or j.koperberg@bigpond.com
Website: www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au **ABN**: 53 994 839 952

The organisation: Blue Mountains Association of Cultural & Heritage Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 after local historical and heritage societies and individuals recognised the need for the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the local government area (LGA) of Blue Mountains City Council. The constituency now embraces but is not limited to, the LGAs of Blue Mountains, Lithgow, Hawkesbury, Penrith and Mudgee. BMACHO membership includes historical and heritage groups, museums, commercial enterprises with an historical or heritage component in its core business, local government (local studies units, library collections) and a limited number of individual members by invitation such as but not necessarily academics. The objectives of the organisation are:

1. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage
2. To encourage and assist cultural heritage
3. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations.

One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

Affiliations: BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society and is affiliated with the Better Planning Network.

Publications: BMACHO's official newsletter ***Heritage*** is edited by Patsy Moppett. The annual refereed *Blue Mountains History Journal* is edited by Dr Peter Rickwood and occasional papers are published from time to time.

Membership: The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mt Tomah; Blue Mountains City Library; Blue Mountains Cultural Heritage Centre; Blue Mountain Education & Research Trust; Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc; Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute; Bygone Beautys Treasured Teapot Museum and Tearooms.
Eskbank Rail Heritage Centre; Everglades Historic House & Gardens; Norman Lindsay Gallery; Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc; Hartley Valley District Progress Association; Hawkesbury Historical Society Inc; Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc; Lithgow & District Family History Society Inc; Lithgow Mining Museum Inc; Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies; Lithgow Small Arms Factory Museum Inc; Mt Victoria & District Historical Society Inc; Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine Historical Society Inc (including Turkish Bath Museum); National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Blue Mountains Branch; National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Lithgow Branch; Nepean District Historical Society Inc; Paragon Cafe, Katoomba; Scenic World Blue Mountains Limited; Springwood & District Historical Society Inc; Springwood Historians Inc; Transport Signal Communication Museum Inc; The Darnell Collection P/L; Valley Heights Locomotive Depot and Museum, Woodford Academy Management Committee, Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd; The following are individual members: Fiona Burn, Ray Christison, Associate Professor Ian Jack, Joan Kent, Ian Milliss, Patsy Moppett, Professor Barrie Reynolds, Dr Peter Rickwood and Dr Peter Stanbury OAM.

Committee: The management committee for 2015-2016 (from April 2015) is: Patsy Moppett (President and ***Heritage*** Newsletter Editor) ,Ian Jack (Vice President), Jan Koperberg (Secretary), Philip Hammon (Treasurer), Roy Bennett (Grants Application Officer), Scott Pollock and Wendy Hawkes (web site), Dick Morony (Public Officer/Membership Secretary/ Calendar Editor), Suzanne Smith and Louise Vining (Events and Venue Co-ordinators).

Disclaimer: views and opinions expressed in Heritage originate from many sources and contributors. Every effort is taken to ensure accuracy of material. Content does not necessarily represent or reflect the views and opinions of BMACHO, its committee or its members. If errors are found feedback is most welcome.

Heritage

Newsletter of the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc

March-April 2016 *ISSUE 43*

ISSN 2203-4366

Photographers – through their eyes

There is a particular group of people to whom we, as people/organisations interested in our history, owe a huge dept. That is - the photographer. Be it the official or professional or private photographer, they provide us with pictures of both ourselves and our nation, at specific points in time. Their work is a historical record, showing the meaning and intensity of life at the time, and the current social dynamics that accompany them.

The Macquarie Dictionary (1995) defines a photographer as a person who carries out "the art of producing images of objects on sensitized surfaces by the chemical action of light or of other forms of radiant energy, as x-rays, gamma rays, cosmic rays etc". Obviously today in a more modern definition, this would be expanded to include digital experiences.

However, for the recording of historical subjects, this former definition would ring true.

Many photographers in the 19th and 20th centuries sought to celebrate the communities of people who work to lay the foundations of the country, to record specific events, covering both individual stories, and town and rural life.

Incline, Kembla Coal, King

Katoomba clouds, Phillips

Chinese wool wasking, Kerry

When we look at a photo, what are we looking at? Many photos bring us back again and again, and we see something different every time. The photographer may have sought to depict a particular event, person, but inadvertently has recorded a variety of other material, such as fashions and tools, landscapes and buildings, cultures and social customs, techniques and trades.

In *Heritage* Newsletter September-October 2015 we looked at the fabulous Rodoni collection of photographs, recently released to the public in a donation to the University of Newcastle Library, Cultural Collections. This is an exceptional collection of photographs which give a sense of the past, and the patterns and rhythms of the development of Australia and the South Pacific.

In this article I would like to present some other instances where the photographer has shown us (to use that much used phrase) a “moment in time”, through the frame of the photographic window, and given us a glimpse of life as it was then, and an insight into the lives of our forebears and of other cultures.

Holterman, Merlin & Bayliss

Bernard Holtermann was a rogue! Born in Hamburg, and coming to Australia in 1858, he worked at a variety of jobs including a steward, a photographer’s assistant and a groom. He established a friendship with Louis Beyers and the two headed for Tambaroora and Hill End in the Central West to make their fortunes at the goldfields. As their luck was fairly indifferent, Holtermann turned to other occupations such as butcher, bartender, and baker. Holtermann sold his share elsewhere but then Beyers discovered gold. Holtermann sought swiftly to purchase his share back and they two were wealthy men. Holtermann was not a popular person in Hill End, with his restless scheming and wheeling and dealing.
Another of his schemes in 1872, for which the community would one day be glad, was to employ a photographer to establish a studio and set about ….. “picturing the greater cities of Australia’s south-west. He would photograph in the largest possible negative proportions, their public buildings and their industries”, systematically photographing the town.

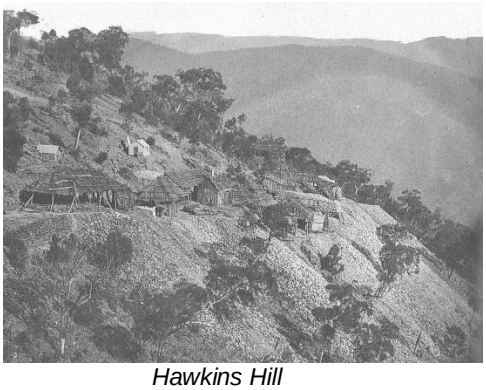
Holtermann

Merlin

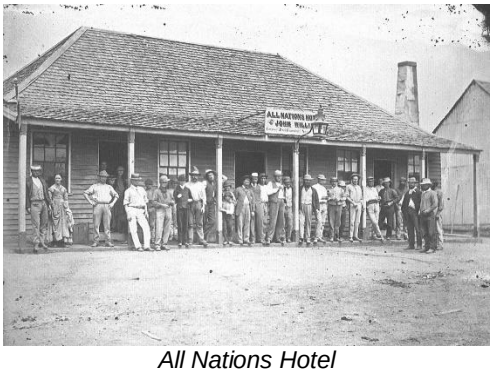
Bayliss & Clark

The person he employed was Henry Beaufoy Merlin, an established photographer, whose firm A & A, was already established in Sydney & Melbourne. Merlin was born in London and came to Australia in 1871. He was ably assisted by Charles Bayliss, and together they provided a wonderful visual record of the period 1872-73, during the greatest part of the gold boom. Bayliss was born in Suffolk and came to Melbourne with his parents in 1854.
Merlin and Bayliss worked on the project for only two years, until Merlin’s death in 1873. The collection of wet-plate negatives numbered in the thousands, was completed by Bayliss. Holtermann then toured the world with the “Holtermann” collection in 1877, 1878 and 1879, and the collection still goes by that name today.

Main Street



Hawkins Hill



All Nations Hotel

Metropolitan Hotel

Holtermann died in 1885. However, the negatives lay forgotten until 1952 when they were discovered in the loft of Holtermann's house at St Leonards, by Mr Burke of Kodak, and were considered the greatest photo-historical find of the time. They were presented to the Mitchell Library by Holtermann's grandson.
The collection defined the town of Hill End as a historic place. The images were often sold as cartes-de-visit, and were collected in family albums or used as postcards. As the photographs were produced in quite a specific period they really were "a moment in time". They depicted the mines and the landscape, the crowds, the stores, the roads, sidewalks and buildings, homes and gardens, people and fashion. It also shows us how much of the landscape and townscape has not survived.

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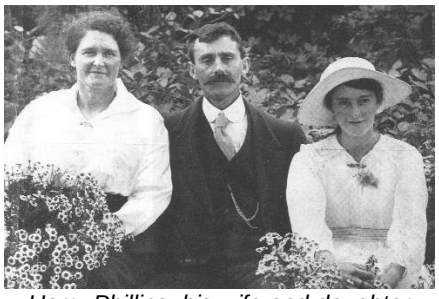
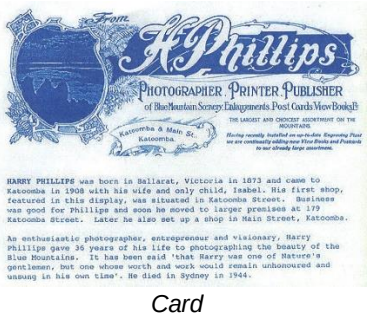
Harry Phillips

Harry Phillips was born in Ballaratt in 1873. He became a printer machinist who moved to Katoomba with his family in 1908 to recover from an injury to his hands. The family decided to settle there and his previous interest in photography came to the fore. He established a small photography and confectionery business and then introduced printing into the business. He is renown for the Blue Mountains viewbooks, which he sent all over the world, and which were even known to be found in the trenches in WWI.

Viewbook Covers



Harry Phillips, his wife and daughter



Card

He loved the mountains and the landscape and would often wait hours to capture the perfect moment, loving clouds and mist, having a particular fascination with clouds.
He was not concerned with profit and often underpriced his books and postcards, being preoccupied with ideas and perfection. His wife Isabel was left to run the business, and she kept the books, ordered stock and handled customer relations.
Few of Phillips' photographic negatives survive, making his books the most comprehensive record of his work. Phillips favoured the popular panoramic format in his photography and many of his books were sized accordingly. More than 80 books have been documented and the subject

matter extends beyond the Blue Mountains to Sydney and surrounds, Canberra and the royal visits.

Jamison Valley clouds

At work

His Katoomba Street studio

He was able through his work to display the natural beauty of the mountains and an awareness of the need for preservation, together with everyday life and street scenes, and at the same time, share the work through his viewbooks to the wider community.
He "…..was one of Nature's gentlemen, but one whose worth and work would remain unhonoured and unsung in his own time." He died in 1944.

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Blue Mountains Local Studies

Evan Antoni Johann Lumme

Evan Antoni Johann Lumme was born in Estonia in 1865. He arrived in Australia in 1881 and set up business in Ashfield as a photographer during 1993-1897. He then moved to Orange where he established the Orange Art Studios. In 1900 he moved to the Lyndhurst area with his wife Alice Rosina (Rose), south west of Orange in the Central West of NSW, and spent the rest of his life in that area on a farm at Burnt Yards.
He photographed the life and times of the small communities there, including Mandurama and Lyndhurst and the Junction Reefs mining area. He did maintain the Orange Studio for a while, and appears to have been an itinerant photographer as well, travelling around in a covered wagon with his family.

The covered wagon

Lumme & family

Lumme's wife & children

On his death he left a collection of about 3,500 glass negatives, the Mandurama Collection, which formed the basis of a book "Faces of Mandurama", published by the National Library in 1997, introduced by John Thompson.
The Mandurama Collection is an accumulation of photographs taken between 1865 and 1935, unfortunately most of them being uncaptioned. Although some research has been carried out, the identification and date of most of the images is unknown. The full collection comprises copies of letters, personal documents and photographs.

Who were they……?

Many photographs are of the village of Mandurama and its residents but there are images from as far west as Boorowa. Mostly the images are of the residents and areas of, Mandurama, Lyndhurst, Carcoar. Some are from Cowra, Burnt Yards, Garland, Gallymont, Neville, Shaw, Burraga, Blayney and Orange.
The photographs are considered an invaluable resource for seeing country Australia as it was in the Victoria era and the post-federation era.
After Lumme died in 1935 the photographs were forgotten and not re-discovered until 1975, under the old Lumme house at Burnt Yards where Lumme had lived, still owned by his descendants. A local resident contacted the National Library. Through the generosity of Lumme descendants and the local community, the plates were donated to the National Library by RM Hines of Mandurama.

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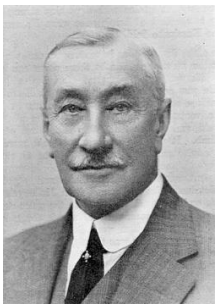
Tyrell Collection – Kerry & King

The Tyrell Collection consists of 7,903 glass-plate negatives, largely from the studios of Charles Kerry (1857-1928) and Henry King (1855-1923), who operated two of Sydney's principal photographic studios in the late 1800s and early 1900s.The collection was bought by Sydney bookseller James Tyrell in 1929 for a floating ethnographic museum moored in Sydney Harbour. The museum never eventuated, although Tyrell kept the collection intact and sold it to Australian Consolidated Press in 1980. They in turn donated it to the Powerhouse Museum in 1985.
The Collection documents a valuable record of town and country life across Sydney, the south coast, the Blue Mountains and country NSW, including transport, shipping, caves, sport, and the indigenous people. Other photos are included in the collection include those of the South Pacific, taken during Kerry's excursions to Tonga, New Guinea, Fiji and other such locations.

Leura Station

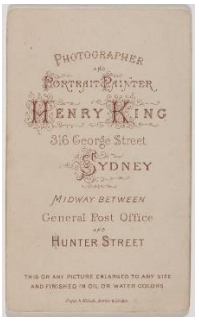

Charles Kerry

Katoomba Station

Charles Kerry was born on Bobundra Station in the Monaro region of NSW. He began working as a photographer in about 1875, working for AH Lamartiniere in George Street, Sydney. By 1884 he had taken over the business as Kerry & Co, and in 1890 was appointed

official photographer to the NSW Governor, Lord Carrington. He turned the business into Australia's largest photographic establishment and continued his traveling about NSW, selling albums of high quality pictures of the countryside.
In 1895 he commenced a squatters' service, travelling around the colony photographing farmers' homesteads, families and livestock. He married Delphine Vivian in 1897 at Darling Point. He also photographed in the Kiandra area, and was the Founding President of the Kosciusko Alpine Club in 1909. He was the founder of the NSW Gun Club, and was interested in cavalry sports and clay pigeon shooting.
In 1913 he retired to take up his mining interests in Malaya. His nephew carried on the business until 1917. Kerry died suddenly in 1928 at Neutral Bay, and was survived by his wife and son. Sir Frank packer named his son after Kerry.

Hyde Park



Farm Cove

Henry King was apprenticed to J Hubert Newman before opening his own studio with William Slade in 1879 in George Street, Sydney. By 1883 he was the sole proprietor. He eventually moved from portraiture to landscape photography, and travelled throughout NSW and Qld in his horse drawn caravan/studio.
King was born in 1855 in Dorset, England, the son of a stonemason. His family emigrated to Australia in 1857, and in 1878 he married Elizabeth Lang.
Much of his early work captured images of indigenous people portrayed against a painted background of the bush. He later turned to landscapes, and provided notable views of NSW including Jenolan Caves, and was held in high esteem by his profession due to his artistic skills.
King died in 1923 following abdominal surgery, leaving his wife, a son and three daughters, and was buried at Waverley.
Some 2,900 of the Tyrell Collection negatives are attributed to Charles Kerry, purchased in 1929. Another 1,300 negatives were done by Henry King. Some 3,000 glass-plates are from unattributed sources from the late 1880s through to about 1930.
James Tyrell used the Kerry-King negatives to produce booklets and views of NSW, but many images were never used. By the time the Museum acquired the Collection, some plates were damaged and a few totally broken.
A selection of 12 photographs of Indigenous Australians was auctioned by Mossgreen in Melbourne in recent years. Eleven of these were studio portraits. They were said to demonstrate that photographs are an important part of Australia's visual history and show the role that photographers played in helping to shape the view of how other societies viewed Australia at the time.

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Lost Diggers of Vignacourt

The small French village of Vignacourt was a staging point, casualty clearing station and recreation area for troops of all nationalities moving up to and then back from the battlefields on the Somme. A local enterprising photographer took the opportunity of this passing traffic to establish a business taking portrait photographs.

Captured on glass the photographs made by the Thuillier family enabled many soldiers to maintain a fragile link with loved ones in Australia. The Thuillier collection covers many of the significant aspects of activity on the Western Front, from military life to the friendships and bonds formed between the soldiers and civilians.

The Louis and Antoinette Thuillier Collection contains almost 4,000 glass-plate negatives depicting British, French, Australian, US, and Indian soldiers, Chinese labour corps, and French civilians. More than 800 of these glass-plate negatives feature Australians.

The collection was re-discovered in 2011 after sitting undisturbed for nearly a century in the attic of a farmhouse in the French village of Vignacourt. They were taken by a husband and wife team of Louis and Antoinette Thuillier, who had set up a makeshift studio in their stable yard, just off the main street of the town, to supplement their farm income by selling pictures to passing Allied soldiers.

They set up a courtyard studio to supply their customers with photographic post cards. At some point they introduced a classical painted canvas backdrop that has survived along with the plates.

Vignacourt

They appeared to give up photography after the war. Louis died in 1931, committing suicide.

Journalist Ross Coultardt was part of the team that unearthed the collection through communication with Laurent Mirouze, an amateur French historian. Mirouze said he had seen samples from such a collection back in the 1980s in Vignacourt, and had contacted the Australian embassy in France at the time, who showed little interest.

Coultardt was then introduced to Robert Crognier, a local Vignacourt photographer, who showed him some of the collection. Robert was a relative of the Thuilliers, who had long passed away. Soon Robert himself passed away.

In 2010 Robert's widow was contacted and showed some ammunition cases from her attic. They contained some of the glass plates her husband had made prints from 25 years previously. She insisted the collection be taken back to Australia. She also introduced the team to other Thuillier descendants who agreed to show them the secret location, in the attic

of one of the family farmhouses. They were about to sell the farm and would probably have thrown the glass-plates away.
The collection was donated to the Australian War Memorial by Kerry Stokes AC, Chair of the Seven network, who had lent his personal support to the project in August 2012. The Australian War Memorial's 2013 exhibition *Remember me: the lost diggers of Vignacourt* showcased 74 photographs specially hand-printed in the Memorial's darkrooms from the original glass-plate negatives. *Patsy Moppett*

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Food for thought ..... Editor's note

What's in a Name – Browntown – which Mr Brown?

Browntown is located just south east of Mount Victoria on the Great Western Highway. Today all that can be seen is the Browntown Oval, which accommodates sporting events such as football, cricket and archery. There are a clubhouse and amenities on the site, along with another of the George Evans' "Footsteps in Time" obelisks, establishing that the site was on the route of the original western crossing alignment. Evans surveyed this location on 31 December 1813.

In seeking to establish the origins of the name, I find there is little to be discovered. Brian Fox surmises that it is a locality named after a community who lived in the vicinity of Browntown Oval, approximately 2km south east of Mount Victoria Village, being named for a local resident called Brown.
It was known as Brown Town from the late 1880s. The land in the vicinity of Browntown Oval was leased by Nick and Charles Delaney in 1891 for slaughtering cattle for their butchery business.

- The electoral roll in 1902 for Hartley listed a John Brown with the occupation as wheelwright living at Mount Victoria.
- The Greville's Directory for 1872 lists several Browns at Lithgow – Andrew Brown; George Brown, weaver; Samuel Brown, miller; and Thomas Brown.
- In the other direction, Medlow Bath was originally known as Brown's Siding when the railway came through in 1880, as the siding was in the vicinity of Brown's pioneering sawmill, on the eastern side of the rail line on Railway Parade, hence the Brown's Siding Store we know today. Brown's Siding was changed to Medlow in 1883 as there was another Brown's Siding in Lithgow. The Lithgow siding became Eskbank Station, being established by Thomas Brown for his coal transport.
- The Brown of Brown's Siding was a John Harding Brown, who died in Lithgow in 1883 aged 58. His wife was Pricilla nee Richards nee Malloney. They had two sons. Pricilla died in 1920, and she is buried at Lithgow with John. They left Victoria in the 1870s, having sold his share of Laceby Station at King River, to his cousin John Ambrose Brown in 1867.

Associated with the Browntown site is Broughton's Waterholes, which would have been in the proximity of the current Browntown Oval. After the road across the Blue Mountains was constructed, a toll bar was opened about 1 kilometre (0.62 miles) east from the present township of Mount Victoria (then known as One Tree Hill) in 1849 and the area was also known as Broughton's Waterhole Toll Bar. Coaches were charged at the toll according to how well sprung they were, and ones without springs were not charged as it was believed they would help crush the road surface.
After the railway station marking the termination of the Main Western railway line was opened in 1869, One Tree Hill became known as Mount Victoria. The town's name was officially changed after the first Post Office was built in 1876.
In regards to Browntown, there is more research to be done. In setting out the above in *Heritage* it is hoped that more information may come to light which may assist in pinning down where the name has come from, and which Mr Brown we are talking about!!!

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Medlow Bath Railway Station Group Inventory Sheet, Office of Environment and Heritage 2009
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A Tragic Price of Beauty

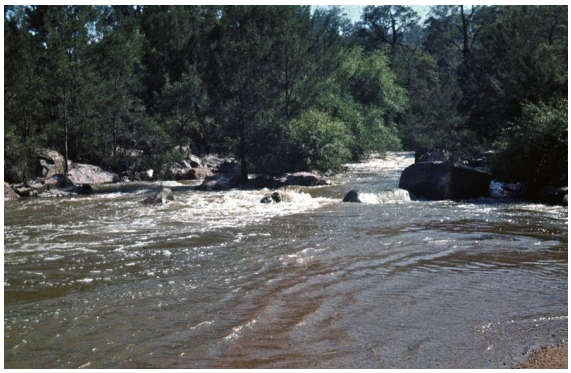
Many of us have enjoyed the natural beauty and heritage of the Blue Mountains through bushwalking and horse riding, and also through a simple scenic drive. The tales of experiences on Blue Mountains tracks and trails are told time and time again, usually

describing the spectacular landscape, flora and fauna, and the special individual experiences had along the way.

Oonagh and friends

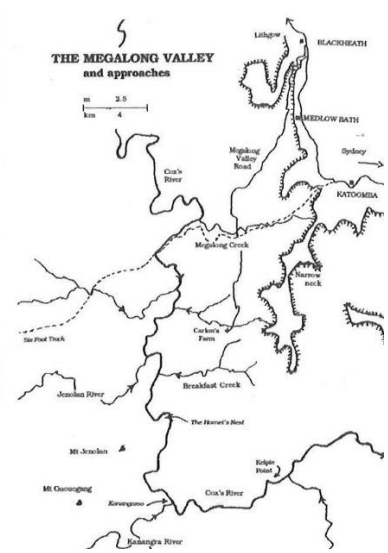
However, few are quite so poignant or tragic as the story of a group of young people who set off on their "adventure" in August 1967.
At that time five experienced bushwalkers set off from Sydney for Blackheath, where they travelled by car to a rural property in Megalong Valley. They had intended to travel down Carlon's Creek and Breakfast Creek on horseback as far as the Cox's River, and from there to the junction with the Kanangra River on the first day. The second day they would return the same way and return to Sydney. Their names were Clem Apted, Oonagh Kennedy, Margaret Figacio, Lynne Robinson and Mark Griggs.

Peaceful river



Cox's River in flood

The weather appeared suitable for their trip, and they set off on horseback from the farm in high spirits. Later they described the magic of the riverine areas, the trees and the ranges in general. However, the weather closed in and the rain began. The river rose alarmingly, and they could not return safely, so they camped the night. The next morning the river was very high and the rain continued. Much as they wanted to return it was almost impossible to cross the river. Margaret managed to cross and Clem followed her progress, walking on the opposite side of the river. Once Margaret became isolated on a high cliff, Clem then rejoined the others. The three had decided to camp a second night, moving to higher ground as the waters continued to rise. The next morning the rain had stopped, and Oonagh decided to try and cross despite the water and debris flowing swiftly past. They never saw her again alive. Although Clem too was washed away trying to cross further along, he managed to reach the farm, and a rescue party was mounted, and the remaining three were saved. Oonagh's body was found wedged between a rock and a log.



A plaque was erected in honour of Oonagh near the junction of Breakfast Creek and the Cox's River. *Patsy Moppett*

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Enlightened Lithgow

Discover heritage with the National Trust

Sited on the Great Western Highway only two hours from Sydney, the Central Tablelands city of Lithgow is surrounded by the World Heritage Listed Blue Mountains National Park and the Wollemi National Park where in 1994, the Jurassic-age Wollemi Pine was discovered in a remote canyon.

Lithgow is known to many as a mining and manufacturing city famous for producing Australia's first iron and steel (much of the Sydney Harbour Bridge is made from Lithgow steel). But it is not always appreciated that Lithgow and its surrounds includes an extraordinary wealth of early European and Aboriginal heritage.

Much of it has survived intact thanks to industrial development – coal, steel and pottery - of the 19th and 20th centuries which kept the region off the radar for residential development and change. Unlike Sydney, where much of the old has fallen victim to expansion and modernisation, the inns and rural houses of Lithgow and the Hartley Valley immediately to its south, remain intact today.

There are other reminders of the fortitude and ingenuity of the early colonials as they pushed westwards. They include some of the best remnants of Cox's 1814 road through the Hartley Valley and a wealth of road works, culverts, bridge work, and a viaduct dating from Mitchell's 1832 upgrade of the Bathurst Road. Boundary markers indicate some of the earliest land grants west of the mountains and a host of buildings dating from 1831 that once served as inns servicing travellers on Mitchell's Bathurst Road. Adding another dimension to the pre 1850s heritage in the Hartley Valley is the mix of industrial and agricultural structures ranging from Victorian farms to abandoned early mining and industrial machinery.

In 2014, the Council of the City of Lithgow wrote some 600 of these and other heritage properties into the heritage listings in its Local Environmental Plan. These listings include Cooerwull House (1826) in the Lithgow Valley, Moyne Farm (1822) and Collit's Inn (1823) in the Hartley Valley, the three oldest buildings west of the Blue Mountains, and a host of other pre 1850 buildings scattered across the Hartley Valley.

In this year's Heritage Festival, building on its success with earlier openings of Cooerwull house, the Lithgow Branch of the National Trust will be offering a ***Hartley Valley Secret***

Treasures Tour. The day will commence with an overview of the Valley from the new lookout on the heights of Hassan's Walls, which was named by Governor Macquarie in 1815 as it reminded him of the Walls of Hassan in Southern India.

The group will then descend into the Valley visiting the historic mining town of Hartley Vale & the Comet Inn (C1879), before walking on to visit the picturesque gravestones of Pierce and Mary Collits' of Collits' Inn (1823), which lie in a bush graveyard below Mt York. The group will then view an historic culvert on Mitchell's 1832 road below Hassan's Walls, before enjoying a home cooked lunch in the old Sorensen gardens at the homestead at Forty Bends Farm (1860), site of the original Travellers Inn and post office from 1832 (burnt down 1846).

After lunch they will explore the private Hassans Walls graveyard, the earliest burial dating from 1834. On the return journey the group will visit John Blackman's "Fernhill", licensed as the Australian Arms in 1858, reputed to be one of the finest stopping places on the Bathurst Road. We will have an opportunity to inspect this remarkable sandstone building, now in the good hands of descendants of the original builder, and to view the two story stable building at the rear of the property.

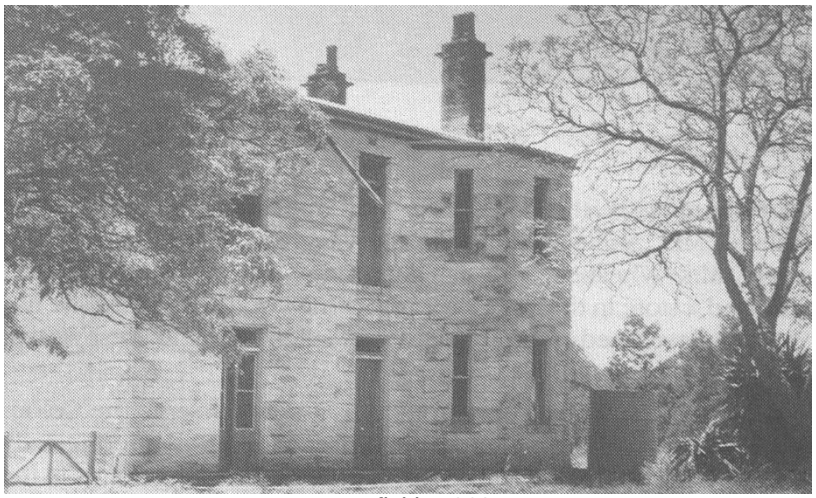
The Branch is promising that this will be a real 'secret treasures' tour providing an intimate insight in to Hartley Valley heritage. See the above Heritage Festival Guide for booking details.

Ramsay Moodie

Ramsay Moodie is Honorary Treasurer of the Lithgow Branch of the National Trust

Hartfields (Hartlands)

Hartfields is a splendid two storey sandstone dwelling on the Hawkesbury Road, at Winmalee. It is constructed of rockfaced random coursed stone, with tall chimneys embellished with scotia cornices. The front verandah is single storey with cast iron columns and a tessilated tile floor, and the roof is corrugated steel. The rear of the building has a broad skillion and a fountain is located in the rear garden.



Hartfields 1962

The year of construction is 1889 and the place was known as Hartlands. A Miss Janet Thetis Hooper conducted a private school for young ladies in Fort Street, Sydney, for some 30 years, from the 1860s until 1889. A friend, Honore Marie, and his wife Camille, had purchased 500 acres on the south side of the Hawkesbury Road at Winmalee. Camille was a French teacher to Miss Hooper, and prompted Miss Hooper to purchase 100 acres on the north side of the road. Janet built the two storey stone house, named Hartlands (named for where she had lived once in England), and moved the school to the site in 1890 with 12 boarding girls, where Camille continued to teach. Its significance lies in being one of the earliest purpose built girls' schools in the colony, and is relevant as a late Victorian Italianate building.

This area of North Springwood was settled by orchardists and timber getters. The sandstone of Hartfields was quarried locally.

Miss Hooper and her niece Florence Earle Hooper, an art teacher, lived at Hartlands and ran the school until Florence went to England in 1897 and Janet returned to Sydney. Camille kept on teaching until then, supporting her ailing husband. She died in 1910. Janet Hooper leased the premises and its orchard but it was frequently untenanted and fell into disrepair, becoming known as "the haunted house". Many features were removed such as the cedar staircase, windows, architraves and doors, and the white ants moved in.

It was finally purchased by Peter McTaggart in 1956, who thoroughly renovated the house, installing the iron lace on the front verandah, obtained from WR Wise's foundry, creating a charming home filled with antique furniture. In 1962 it was still the only building along this stretch of road, some 6km from the highway. The garden was completely dilapidated, with a jacaranda tree in the front garden being the only survivor from the Hooper era. Through some misinformation, McTaggart called the place Hartfields, a name which has remained today. McTaggart sold the property in 2003.

Hartfields 2015

Today the place is surrounded by mature trees and extensive gardens which disguise its architectural appeal. *Patsy Moppett*

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Lyttleton Shop and Residence, Lawson

This residence and shops was the first store in Lawson, erected in its prominent position about 1883, on the corner of San Jose Avenue and Badgery's Crescent by John Geggie and his wife Charlotte.

Changes over time

The premises is a rare example of a late Victorian cottage with attached double fronted store, which has continued as a shop/shops for over a century. It retains its shop fronts with their recessed entries. Later development to the site resulted in a third shop front to the east. It is constructed of brick with an iron/corrugated fibro roof and a fibro parapet in three bays. The property was named after Geggie's Irish mother-in-law Bridget Lyttle, daughter of a convict transported to Australia in 1841. Bridget is a legend amongst her descendants, being a considerably wealthy woman through property deals based in Ashfield. She bought 2 ½ acres of the original 3 acres which John Geggie acquired in 1883. Mrs Charlotte Geggie became postmistress there in 1885. Geggie was a founding member of the Progress Association in 1893, and he became a prominent estate agent.
By 1905 WG Staple had taken over the store as The Popular Store, but he moved across the railway line in 1907. By 1910 the premises was the Fairfax Store and later Riordan's. A café and gallery/craft shop used to be Riordan's home. In 1920 it was occupied by Hannah

Hollingsworth. Since the 1970s the store has also been an antique shop, Badgery's Antiques. It was a grocery store, a produce store, and a boarding house for a time, and the first Congregational services were held at this home.

Badgery's Attic

Pantree Produce Staff

It has recently been restored and reopened as Pantree Produce by local sisters Jacinta and Adelina Carmichael-Parissi, as an organic grocery store, also selling artisan made wares, and provides a learning space for workshops. *Patsy Moppett*

References:
Lyttleton Shop and Residence Inventory Sheet, NSW Office of Environment and Heritage 2008
Blue Mountains Gazette, 16 December 2015
A Historical Tour of Lawson, Heather Mollenhauer2006
www.lyttletonstores.com.au
www.midmountainshistory.org
www.truebluemountains.com.au

Historic Document Awareness – saving our history

Further to the first article in this Newsletter, it is not just such glass-plate negatives that can prove so elusive.

How often have you been flitting through a secondhand book at the op shop or at a second hand book shop, and a slip of paper falls to the ground. Do you dismiss it and throw it into the rubbish? Next time, take a second look. It may be a letter, an old recipe, receipt or any one of a number of other pieces of information related to the person who previously owned or read the book.

Similarly, when purchasing second hand furniture, or moving into a new house and investigating the cupboards/drawers, have you found old papers/documents which on the surface appear inconsequential.

When assisting in sorting through the possessions of a deceased loved one, have you found letters and recipes, notes and other scribblings, inscriptions in books and on pictures, and so on.

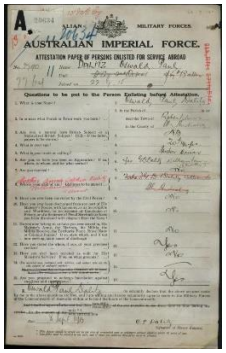
Many is the time that a family tree scrawled on an envelope, or a poem written in an old exercise book, is lost when we do not take the time to check. Even old uncaptioned photos may be significant if passed on to the local historical or family history society for identification.

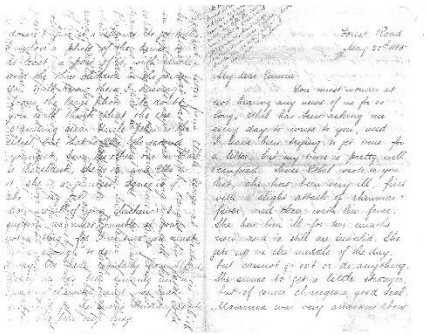
In agreeing to present an article on this subject I found limited information in regard to how to treat this situation, or to advise people who find themselves in possession of possibly significant artefacts.

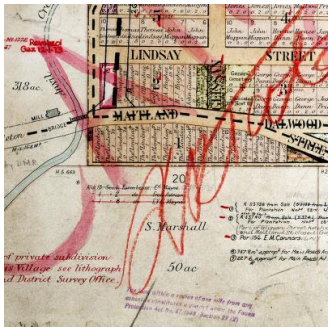
It is imperative that people in our position, as trustees of history and heritage, or simply people with an interest, be aware, particularly in the handling of deceased estates, to carefully go through records and documents, books and cupboards, to ensure that papers and similar items are not left behind. Very often older people tend to forget exactly what they collected years ago and do not have the presence of mind to pass the papers on to family. Years later it is found with no significance attached without that person around to explain it. Antique dealers, and op shops often find such material and too often it is thrown away, with its significance not being clear to the staff member/s.

It may be a responsibility of groups such as historical societies, museums and family history groups, and individuals, to make contact with relevant secondhand outlets to bring to their attention an awareness that such material, when found, can be lodged with the local historical society etc for identification and archiving.

From personal experience. I found a scribbled family tree in my grandmother's belongs many years ago which at the time meant nothing to me. Now I am more aware of my family history I know where it fits in. In later years my family sent some of my father's old books to Lifeline for the Book Fair. Luckily it was my daughter working at the Fair who found a handwritten piece of prose lodged in one of the books and she returned it to me for safe keeping. How easy it would have been to dismiss these things.







The conservation of these materials, letters, legal documents, newspaper cuttings, books, magazines, catalogues, manuals, comics, scrapbooks and photographs are all subject to chemical and physical deterioration due to the materials from which they are made and can be fragile. Their care and conservation should be inclusive of information about the object, its context and nexus. The challenge of preserving these objects, called artefacts, may require an understanding of the value and the development of an effective and efficient strategy for their preservation. Many of these skills are held within BMACHO member groups.

Within the context of the *Heritage* newsletter, BMACHO would bring this matter to the attention of its members, to share the issue, undertake discussion within their groups, and to perhaps develop policies for getting the awareness word out there when material is entrusted to them for safe keeping, and to develop strategies for the most economic and effective preservation technologies to use, if these are not already in place.

Patsy Moppett

References:
On the Preservation of Books and Documents in Original Form, Barclay Ogden 1989
Oklahoma Centennial Project 2009

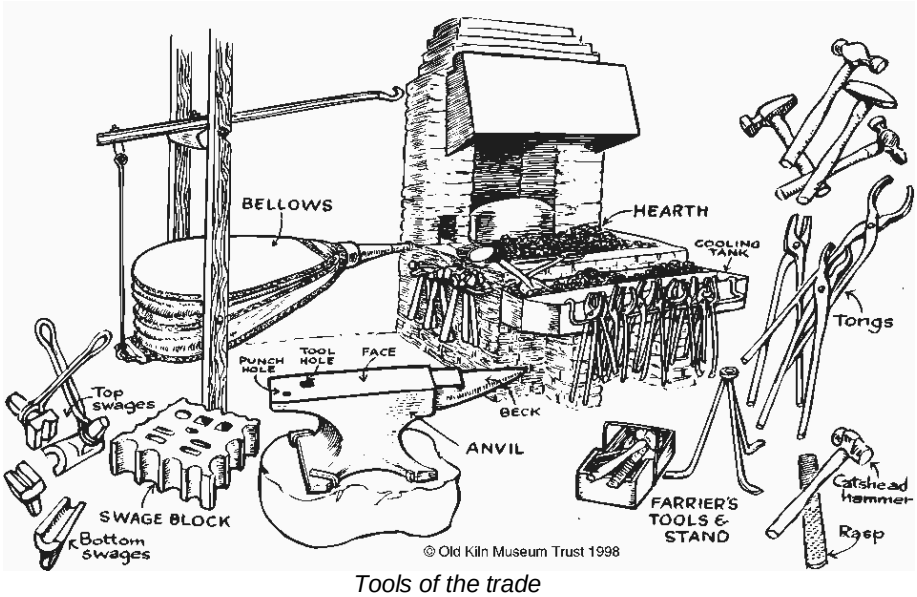
The Technical Side

The Blacksmith

There was a time when every village or town had at least one blacksmith. Although the village blacksmith is an uncommon sight today, blacksmiths can still be found, with many young people continuing to learn the trade. Heating and shaping hot metal continues to attract enthusiasts, although the trade now leans more towards decorative works. However, many heritage properties still require the replacement of gates, fences, doors, domestic items and artistic attachments.

Welding and soldering are relatively recent innovations, but for thousands of years the blacksmith was the metal working jack of all trades.

Blacksmithing provided both economical and interesting solutions to problems, or more complex and delicate solutions. It also addressed the need for tools, and in the agricultural world, the farmer still addresses the necessity to replace items and carries out his own work, smithing and welding.



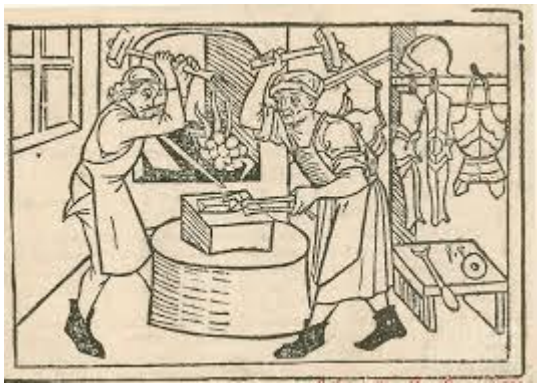
Tools of the trade

Blacksmithing is an ancient trade, with a rich and fascinating history. It is attributed to the making of deadly weapons, ploughs and tools, being identified with power and strength. Almost every culture had a smith, once man found uses for metals, and smithing is the basis for almost every trade that reshapes metal in some form or other.

By definition a blacksmith is a metalsmith who creates objects from wrought iron or steel by manually forging the metal using tools, and the variety of tradesmen who utilize smithing include farriers, wheelwrights and armorers and machinists.

The trade dates back to ancient times, utilized by the Romans and Greeks, the Celts and the Norse people, and many other cultures. The first metals worked were the softer pure metals from before the Iron Age: gold, silver and copper. The development of bronze came later during the Bronze Age, being less susceptive to corrosion.

Iron ores were smelted from as early as 1500 BC by the Hittites, and once their empire collapsed in about 1200BC the skills spread far and wide, and blacksmithing developed from then. Although iron smelting had commenced some 3000 years before, the western world did not develop the ability to make a fire hot enough to melt iron until the 16th century. The Chinese were developing cast iron 1000 years before this. In Europe, larger bellows were eventually produced to generate blast furnace temperatures, which resulted in cast iron.



The medieval blacksmith

In the Medieval world the blacksmith was considered a part of the *seven mechanical arts.* As technology improved, the demand for blacksmiths to make things like wagon/carriage wheels, weapons and tools was gone. More modern methods utilized factories and mass production, lathes, and now laser technology. Gases replaced coal for the forge, and the need for blacksmiths and their tools and hardware was greatly reduced. By the late 19th century the trade was more usually associated with farrier work.

1800s workshop *Workshop in Canada*

In the 1970s interest was renewed through self-sufficiency and home craft trends, and clubs or associations were formed to keep the trade alive.
For example, the Artist Blacksmiths Association of NSW Inc is a group of amateur and professional blacksmiths who meet on a regular basis, for hands on activities shaping hot iron. The aim of the Association is to maintain the traditional skills of blacksmithing and to foster an awareness of this creative craft in Australia. The members' interests range from the preservation and practice of traditional skills to the development of contemporary ironwork using modern materials and equipment.
Another group, the Australian Farriers and Blacksmiths Association Inc is Australia's organisation for men and women who make their living as professional farriers. The AFBA began in 1984 in Victoria with a small group of Australian farriers that wanted to help organise the farrier industry and provide some direction for the future. Ever since, the AFBA has continued to grow into an association of national scope that is continuing to provide direction and growth for the industry.
The AFBA objectives are repeated across many organisations and include:

- To promote interest in farriery and blacksmithing.
- To promote good fellowship amongst those interested in farriery and blacksmithing.
- To educate, train and encourage members of the Association.
- To represent farriers and blacksmiths to governments and industry.
- To do all such other acts and things to promote the furtherance of the objects and interests of the Association

They undertake a number of activities such as farriers' and blacksmiths' competitions, clinics and seminars, promotions and displays and social activities.
Apart from the individuality and aesthetic appeal of hand-wrought metal, the major advantage of blacksmithing over modern techniques is the versatility of this ancient trade. The blacksmith can make all his own tools, such as the forge, the anvil, the tongs and hammers, the chisels and hages, and various fire tools such as pokers, shovels, rakes and swabs.
In our region there remain many opportunities to see these craftsmen at work, experience the techniques yourself and to own the hand wrought metal products of their labours:

- ***Ironfest*** (an arts festival with a metal edge) at Lithgow is held annually, at the former State Mine site, making use of the original mine metal working workshops for a number of artisans to demonstrate and to provide hands on experiences. See *www.ironfest.com.au*

State Mine workshop

- ***Hazelcombe Farm*** at Totness Valley, east of Mudgee, hosts a variety of workshops twice a year through Scythes Australia including blacksmithing, where Peter Birchell's skills can be observed and tried, and useful objects made to serve the workshop site. See *www.scythesaustralia.com.au*

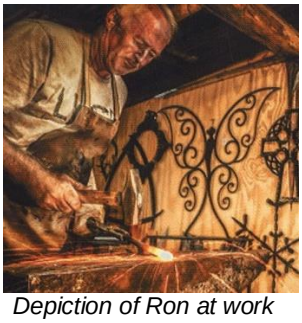
Peter Birchell in his workshop at Totness Valley

- ***Metal as Anything*** at Newbridge has a wonderful outdoor gallery where Tom Miller and his partner Monika display their individual/collaborative abstract home and garden pieces made out of metal and tree stumps, as well as a great range of traditional blacksmith items. Their next open day is 6 March 2016. See the Gallery on Facebook and via the Bathurst Arts Trail. You can contact the gallery on *0415 892 991*.

Tom Miller at work at Newbridge

- ***The Talisman Gallery*** at the Hartley Historic Site displays a fabulous gallery of metal wall art and silver jewelry. Ron Fitzpatrick operates from a converted woolshed at the Historic Site. Visitors to Bygone Beautys Teapot Museum at Leura will have seen the giant teapot in the front garden, which originated from Ron's workshop. See *www.talismangallery.com.au*

Gallery


Depiction of Ron at work

The giant teapot

All these craftsmen invite the visitor to view the items actually being created, and are always willing to share and teach. *Patsy Moppett*

References:
Rare Trades, Mark Thompson 2002
Wikipedia
Artist Blacksmiths Association of NSW Inc
Australian Farriers and Blacksmiths Association Inc
Your Own Resources, Michael Richardson 1991

Community events & updates

Interesting Objects Exhibition

In late January Hawkesbury Museum announced the official opening of their exhibition "Interesting Objects": 60 years of the Hawkesbury Historical Society Collection".
The official opening was on 26 January, and the exhibition seeks to recognize the Society's efforts in collecting objects significant to the history of the Hawkesbury since 1956, when a group first met to adopt a constitution setting out rules, aims and objectives.

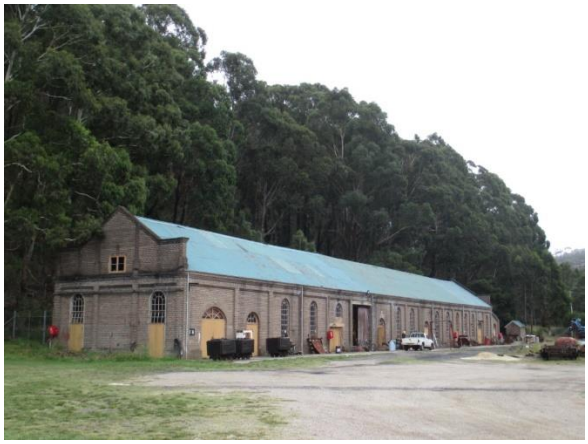
The Museum was first set up in Howe House on Thompson Square, and then moved to a purpose built facility in 2008. The Council then took over the running of the museum using professional staff and volunteers together.
The current display presents a special exhibition of those objects that members and visitors have seen as the most interesting and significant over the years. This includes the Society's first Minute Book, the original deed to the farm of ex-convict Samuel Jackson, issued in 1794, a celestial globe, an exquisite lace collar and black beaded dress, a miner's couch and a model gaff-rigged cutter.

The exhibition will be on for approximately 12 months. The Museum is located at 8 Baker Street, Windsor. The hours are Wednesday to Monday, 10am to 4pm, and Tuesdays by appointment.
Ph: 4560 4655 *Hawkesbury Regional Museum*
www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au

Industrial Cultural Landscape Workshop & Tour

Australia ICOMOS' (National Scientific Committee on Cultural Landscapes and Cultural Routes is holding a workshop and tour at Lithgow from 18-20 March 2016.
Australia ICOMOS (International Council on Monuments and Sites) is a non-government, not-for-profit organisation of cultural heritage professionals formed as a national chapter of ICOMOS International in 1976. Australia ICOMOS' mission is to lead cultural heritage conservation in Australia by raising standards, encouraging debate and generating innovative ideas.

Lithgow Blast Furnace


State Mine Workshops

The Group will attend a dinner on the Friday night at the Lithgow District Workmen's Club, then meet outside the Club on the Saturday to commence a guided tour. Following lunch at the State Mine Museum, talks, workshops and presentations will be held, followed by a self-funded dinner.
On the Sunday the group will undertake a self-drive tour of original sections of Major Mitchell's 1830's road to Bathurst and associated convict and inn sites. The event will conclude with lunch.
Registration should be undertaken by 29 February 2016, to juliet.ramsay@gmail.com or by phone to Juliet Ramsay on 02 6236 3214. There will be a lunch fee of $30.00 for ICOMOC and TICHI members, and $50.00 for non-members lunches.
Various accommodation opportunities are available by visiting http://www.visitnsw.com
Australia ICOMOS – Dr Sue Rosen

Blue Mountains Local Environmental Plan 2015

The new Blue Mountains Local Environmental Plan 2015 has been made, to come into effect on 15 February 2016! The LEP is intended to consolidate and replace all previous LEPs. However, a number of properties across the LGA will continue for a time to operate under earlier controls, sites which have been deferred out of LEP 2015, and generally include land zoned Living Conservation under LEP 2005 (proposed to be R6 Residential Character Conservation under the draft LEP 2013), and other land identified as requiring further review or a change to mapping.

Stair to Pool of Siloam, Leura

Some changes were made to the exhibited draft LEP 2013, both during the review of submissions process and in negotiation with the Department of Planning and Environment. Generally, the changes are a result of standardization in drafting by Parliamentary Counsel's Office, which has led to additional clauses and/or rewording of clauses.
The new LEP is seen to incorporate important provisions, including a recognition of period housing, and greater protection of water quality. Council and the community fought for 3 years to convince the Department that the Blue Mountains' unique world heritage listing gave it credence to vary the standard instrument, resulting in the most customized LEP in the State.
Cr Mark Greenhill has been quoted as saying that the new LEP will "… continue to protect and manage many special characteristics of the natural and built environment of the Blue Mountains, which are clearly valued by the community …. including the preservation of the character of our villages, and the protection of water quality and significant vegetation".

Patsy Moppett

References:
Blue Mountains Gazette, 16 December 2015
BMCC, Letter of 13 January 2016 to BMACHO

Rylstone History Online

A great online resource for the Rylstone area is Rylstone Online, a blog site for local historians. It provides an opportunity to contribute, communicate, share and make available, information relating to the history of early settlement in the Rylstone district.

Nash's Store 1800's

Historic residence 2010

The blog provides links to other organisations such as BMACHO, details with regard to history, heritage and museums, old images of Rylstone, information with regard to the Rylstone Autograph quilt, and the Rylstone and District Historical Society.
Current posts include historic properties and families, the Bells Line of Road, a Rylstone murder, storms in the Rylstone district and much more. *Wal Pilz*

Reference:
http://rylstonehistory.blogspot.com.au

Penrith City Council 15th Annual History Conference

This year's conference will focus on the Castlereagh, the earliest settlement area in the City of Penrith. In particular, a close community developed amongst the families in the area, resulted in a web of family inter-relationships with scandalous liaisons and flourishing crime. Hence the title of this conference being *The Makings of a City – Sex, Crime and Politics – Castlereagh Connections*.

Speakers will include Grace Karskens, who will speak about the complex family relationships that defined Castlereagh from the early years.

Craig Bratby will be looking at the family connections that tied bushranger Johnny Vane to the Castlereagh. Vane originated in the Castlereagh and then went on to rampage around the Cowra and Blayney areas.

Sir Arthur Rutledge

Castlereagh Cemetery

Johnny Vane

Graham Wilcox will examine the life of Methodist Minister Sir Arthur Rutledge, and his early life as a farmer's son in the Castlereagh.

Ann-Maree Bonner will then explain the value of the local records held in the Research Room for local and family history research.

The conference will also acknowledge the soldiers and local people who "made the supreme sacrifice" and died in 1916.

The conference will be held on 12 March 2016 at the Bonynge Concert Hall, Joan Sutherland Performing Arts Centre, 597 High Street, Penrith.

Conference registration is from 8.30am, and conference commencement is at 9am, with the conclusion at 4pm. *Patsy Moppett*

Bookings may be made to Alison Spencer, alison.spencer@penrith.city or Ph: 02 4732 7687

Lithgow & District Family History Society Celebrates 30 Years

Celebrating their 30th Birthday, the members of the Lithgow & District Family History Society are holding an Open Day at their Resource Centre on the corner of Tank & Donald Streets on ***Saturday 5th March*** 2016 between 10 am and 4pm.

The Society's first meetings were held in 1986, in what was referred to as 'the Dungeon', a small room in the basement of the Charles H Hoskins Memorial Institute, underneath the then Lithgow City Library. The demand for more space saw a relocation to the LINC building on the corner of Padley Street and Railway Parade. Each Friday, members of the committee put out the tables, set up the microfiche readers and 'opened for business'.

The Society's move from the LINC premises to the Ewen Smith Memorial Hall was due to the generosity of the Lithgow City Council. The building was relocated from another site by Apex Club Lithgow for the Civilian Widows Association. The Society was able to obtain a lease when the building became vacant in 1991.

Exclusive use of this Centre has allowed for permanent storage of the Society's collection of books, microfiche, photographs and other resources. A network of computers has allowed the digitisation of and easier access to the Society's many paper records, and to the many web-based records now available.

Donations of photographs, family trees, letters or copies of these items are always welcome and the Open Day provides an opportunity to share family stories or photographs or just check out some of the records in the Resource Centre at no charge.

Basement under Lithgow Library 1986: Left to right: Nancy Draper, Esther Coleman-Hart, Yvonne Jenkins, Scott and Helen Taylor, Thelma Draper. Seated: Helen Tracy and Jan Saundercock.

Lithgow Library 2016. Left to right - Kathy Brennan, Ian Irvine, Laurie Cook, Marcie Farr and Sandy Banks-Smith at the Resource Centre. 2016

Contact Jan Saundercock jansaundercock@gmail.com

BMACHO: Blue Mountains History Conference 2016

The BMACHO conference is held every two years and this year's event will have a museum focus with the theme of ***"Artefact".***

The conference will focus on collections and associated mysteries, and specific items within local collections. The day will also include a look at the Scotch Thistle Inn, now the Gardner's Inn, at Blackheath. Following lunch there will be a medley of speakers from five museum groups who will present an item of interest from their particular collection.

Speakers will include:

- Ray Christison, Lithgow State Mine Heritage Park, will speak about the coal miner's tools of trade, terminology and customs.
- Rebecca Turnbull will discuss items in the current *Interesting Objects* collection at Hawkesbury Regional Museum.
- Peter Rickwood will discuss the Gardners Inn at Blackheath, and the carved keystone which Blue Mountains Historical Society has been entrusted to preserve.

- Philip Hammon will talk about the Bleichert rope joiner, and associations with Adolph Bleichert and Oscar Schultz.

Master of Ceremonies will be Lynn Collins, Museums and Galleries Advisor, to Blue Mountains City and Lithgow City Councils.
The conference will be held on 7 May 2016 at the historic Victoria and Albert Guesthouse, Station Street, Mount Victoria. A hotel has operated from this site since the mid 1860s. The premises has changed hands many times, and has also been a grammar school and a convalescent home. Today it is an architecturally attractive two storey guesthouse located on a prominent corner in the village, with many intact internal and external features.

Late 1800s

2014

Conference registration is from 8.45am, and conference commencement is at 9.15am, with the conclusion at 4.30pm.
Bookings may be made via the Secretary at *committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au or j.koperberg@bigpond.com , or Ph: 02 4751 5834* *Patsy Moppett*

Yvonne Jenkins Memorial Award

Essay topic: *My favourite grandparent*

Grey hair, spectacles and false teeth may be characteristic of many people's memories of their grand-parents in the past. Today's grand-children may have different memories – smart phone and/or Facebook addict, always on holidays, working or busy looking after grand-children.
How do you remember your grand-parents, great grand-parents, or perhaps your friend's grandparents?
The opportunity to write about your favourite grandparent, their story and perhaps the reason why they are a 'favourite' was the decision behind the topic chosen for the 2016 Yvonne Jenkins Memorial Award Essay.
The Lithgow & District Family History Society Inc runs this annual award as a tribute to its first President, Yvonne Jenkins, who was a prolific author and family historian. Yvonne illustrated many of her books with pencil sketches of the various buildings and houses of the families whose stories she researched and of whom she wrote. Yvonne encouraged members to realise that even a short essay on an individual was an important part of research, as it shared the information with other family members as well as a wider audience when published.
Conducted annually, the essay is limited to 1,000 words and may be accompanied by photos. Entries close on 30 April 2016 and the winner will be announced during August, which is celebrated annually as Family History Month. The winner's prize is a free membership of the Lithgow & District Family History Society Inc for one year and the winning entry will be published in the Society's journal which is distributed to members and over 150 other family history societies across Australia.
The entry form and conditions of entry are published on the Society's website, or may be obtained by contacting the Society by email (ldfhs@lisp.com.au) or from the Society's

Resource Centre on the corner of Tank & Donald Streets, Lithgow on Fridays between 10 am and 4 pm.

Submitted by Jan Saundercock, Publicity Officer.
Lithgow & District Family History Society Inc

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

Registered office: 1/19 Stypandra Place, Springwood 2777. (02) 4751 5834
Email: committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au or j.koperberg@bigpond.com
Website: www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au **ABN**: 53 994 839 952

The organisation: Blue Mountains Association of Cultural & Heritage Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 after local historical and heritage societies and individuals recognised the need for the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the local government area (LGA) of Blue Mountains City Council. The constituency now embraces but is not limited to, the LGAs of Blue Mountains, Lithgow, Hawkesbury, Penrith and Mudgee. BMACHO membership includes historical and heritage groups, museums, commercial enterprises with an historical or heritage component in its core business, local government (local studies units, library collections) and a limited number of individual members by invitation such as but not necessarily academics. The objectives of the organisation are:

1. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage
2. To encourage and assist cultural heritage
3. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations.

One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

Affiliations: BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society and is affiliated with the Better Planning Network.

Publications: BMACHO's official newsletter ***Heritage*** is edited by Patsy Moppett. The annual refereed *Blue Mountains History Journal* is edited by Dr Peter Rickwood and occasional papers are published from time to time.

Membership: The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mt Tomah; Blue Mountains City Library; Blue Mountains Cultural Heritage Centre; Blue Mountain Education & Research Trust; Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc; Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute; Bygone Beautys Treasured Teapot Museum and Tearooms; Eskbank Rail Heritage Centre; Everglades Historic House & Gardens; Norman Lindsay Gallery; Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc; Hartley Valley District Progress Association; Hawkesbury Historical Society Inc; Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc; Lithgow & District Family History Society Inc; Lithgow Mining Museum Inc; Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies; Lithgow Small Arms Factory Museum Inc; Mt Victoria & District Historical Society Inc; Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine Historical Society Inc (including Turkish Bath Museum); National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Blue Mountains Branch; National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Lithgow Branch; Nepean District Historical Society Inc; Paragon Cafe, Katoomba; Scenic World Blue Mountains Limited; Springwood & District Historical Society Inc; Springwood Historians Inc; Transport Signal Communication Museum Inc; The Darnell Collection P/L; Valley Heights Locomotive Depot and Museum, Woodford Academy Management Committee, Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd; The following are individual members: Fiona Burn, Ray Christison, Associate Professor Ian Jack, Joan Kent, Ian Milliss, Patsy Moppett, Professor Barrie Reynolds, Dr Peter Rickwood and Dr Peter Stanbury OAM.

Committee: The management committee for 2015-2016 (from April 2015) is: Patsy Moppett (President and ***Heritage*** Newsletter Editor) ,Ian Jack (Vice President), Jan Koperberg (Secretary), Philip Hammon (Treasurer), Roy Bennett (Grants Application Officer), Scott Pollock and Wendy Hawkes (web site), Dick Morony (Public Officer/Membership Secretary/ Calendar Editor), Suzanne Smith and Laura Stinson (Events and Venue Co-ordinators).

Disclaimer: views and opinions expressed in Heritage originate from many sources and contributors. Every effort is taken to ensure accuracy of material. Content does not necessarily represent or reflect the views and opinions of BMACHO, its committee or its members. If errors are found feedback is most welcome.

Heritage

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Chateau Napier

The period from 1910 into the 1920s was a major period of growth in Leura. The town was promoted as a tourist destination and many hotels, guest houses and weekend cottages were established, especially in relation to the development of the railway. One of these guesthouses was Chateau Napier, a magnificent multi storey complex, at the corner of the Great Western Highway and the eastern end of Leura Mall.

Chateau Napier prior to the 1957 fire

The place was owned by the McSweeney family, being opened in 1910. It was extended in 1914 to increase accommodation capacity to 150 people.

Justin McSweeney was a Sydney contractor, railway engineer and developer. He erected Leura House, in 1904 and Chateau Napier in 1910. McSweeney was a prominent figure in the development of significant properties in Leura. He and his wife Emily lived at Rakaia in Railway Parade, Leura, which appears to have been erected about 1904. When McSweeney died, his wife continued to occupy that house until after WWII. Single storey additions were added to Rakaia after her husband's death.

The official opening of Chateau Napier, originally known as "The Napier, Palatial Mountain Resort", was undertaken by the Lord Mayor of Sydney, on 16 December 1910. It was described as one of the largest and best appointed guest houses in the Blue Mountains, and although McSweeney still owned the place, a relative, Mrs McManus, was the proprietor. She operated the guesthouse until 1935, during which time she remarried and became Mrs O'Brien.

In 1912 the building was described as a two and three storey timber building with two chimneys, and a two storey timber framed verandah along the front façade. Wings extended at the rear, and other features included the large masonry retaining wall along the Highway frontage, the fenced tennis court, a promenade roof, and the entry steps from the Highway.
In 1914 another building was added, a two storey brick and rendered structure, along with the rough cast rendered garden entry archway, with curved walls and balustrade, and its associated access path.
In 1915 the more grand name of Chateau Napier was adopted. McSweeney died in 1920 and the property was retained by his widow Emily. After 1935, the manageress, Mrs O'Brien, passed management across to W Brewster, but in the early 40s refugee students from the Sydney Grammar School for Girls were billeted there. After WWII the guesthouse resumed operation, first under a Miss Elliott, and then under Weisman and Born.
A well as being a guesthouse, the centre had a hall which was utilized by the community for functions, meetings and "musicale" occasions.
The gardens complemented the grand guesthouse on its elevated site above Leura and included cypress, cedar and radiata pine.
Just as the Hydro Majestic had its produce farm, the Napier was supplied with dairy, poultry and produce from surrounding properties such as The Braes, in which McSweeneys had an ownership interest, and the adjoining Knight farm, a market garden.

After the fire

However, of all the significant buildings lost to bushfires in the Blue Mountains, the outstanding one must be Chateau Napier. The rough cast rendered archway and associated pathway, the walled tennis court and the large retaining wall fronting the Highway are the most significant remaining features of what was once an impressive complex.
In December 1957 the place was destroyed by fire, with only brick foundations, walls piers, concrete footings remaining. The former tennis court is still obvious, as well as retaining walls, garden walls, paths, steps, and remnant gardens. A number of the original trees are still visible including cypress, pine and cedar. Some of the walling is unstable and steps down to the highway have been blocked off. Graffiti is rife, and rubbish blown in and strewn around, as the site is not secured by fencing.
The bushfire followed the driest season on record for the area, lives were lost, and over 600 left homeless throughout Leura and Wentworth Falls due to the out of control fires. Buildings were exploding like bombs as the fires hit them. Many eyewitness accounts told of the event, and later aerial photographs were able to document the extent of the disaster.
The Chateau ruin is listed in Schedule 5 of Council's LEP 2015, as a locally significant site, although due to demolition of the fire remains, theft and time, the remaining features of the site apparently hold little archaeological research potential. A draft development control plan for the site was never gazetted, although the Heritage Act provisions apply to any relics on the site.

Arched gateway

Retaining wall along Highway

Retaining wall and tennis court

Old steps down to Highway

Council's recently gazetted LEP 2015 has relaxed building height limits and floor space ratios which will possibly assist in the redevelopment of the site in the future. *Patsy Moppett*

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Food for thought ..... Editor's note

A year in reflection

In addition to my role as Editor of the *Heritage* Newsletter, I have also been the President of BMACHO. My position has recently been reaffirmed at the BMACHO Annual General Meeting in March, for which I thank those who nominated me, and for the support provided to me during the previous 12 months. My report to the AGM is presented below as a summary of our 2015-2016 year.

How quickly the past year has gone, in my first year as President of this most highly regarded organization! We have picked up the pieces from where the previous President, John Leary, left off, and moved forward with confidence and certainty, in providing to the community what we hope is a valuable service in the promotion of member organisations and their activities and interests. We have also sought to address other matters in a way that has enabled the community to make educated decisions about topical issues.

Meetings

We have taken our meetings to a number of members' premises each month and would like to thank them for their hospitality and sharing of their own local histories. This includes Everglades, Mount Wilson, Windsor, Valley Heights, Bygone Beautys, Hartley, Mount Tomah, Arms of Australia at Emu Plains and Solitary at Leura. Thank you to Committee members Suzanne Smith, Jan Koperberg and Louise Viney for facilitating these events. We hope to touch base with other members in the coming months.

Mount Wilson

Everglades

Membership

This year we welcomed Phil Hammon, of Scenic World origins, into our ranks from within the committee. Phil has ably stepped directly into the role of Treasurer, and has kept tabs on us all year.

We had welcomed Bygone Beautys Treasured Teapot Museum into our membership early in the year, together with their representative Louise Vining coming onto our Committee, only to have to farewell Louise later in the year in her move to Tasmania. We thanked Louise for her input into the marketing of BMACHO and the Heritage Trail, and wished her well. We now have the pleasure of welcoming Laura Stinson into our group, and now onto the Committee.

We also welcome Leurella Toy and Railway Museum as a member.

Fiona Burnn of the RAHS and Wayne Hanley from Blue Mountains Historical Society, have become individual members, and BMACHO has had several expressions of interest from heritage groups and individuals with regard to joining our membership, and we hope to be able to welcome them in the near future.

Finances

It was flagged at the AGM in 2015 that administrative expenses were low and that we needed to seek additional funding. To date we have managed to keep our heads above board, thanks to the scrutiny's of Phil and Jan. However, we are always on the lookout for new funding and grant opportunities. In particular, with the next BMACHO conference due this year, to be held at Mount Victoria, an opportunity is there to boost the coffers.

Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail

At last! The launch of the Trail in September 2015 was the culmination of mountains of work by members of the Committee, and a desire to see the project come to fruition, as initiated by Committee member Richard Woolley the previous year, prior to his passing.

Following many subcommittee meetings, emails, phone calls and planning conversations, a workshop was held in August where member groups were invited to have their final input into the final preparations for the first Open Day, which was held the first weekend in October. The brochures came together and were distributed, and the word was spread on Facebook, Twitter, and the special purpose Trail web site.

A second Open Day was held on the first weekend in January 2016, and a third in April. Although progress is slow, and visitor numbers were down on both occasions, members and the Committee are confident that word is spreading and that the teething problems such as clashing with other events and the seasons, will sort themselves out in time!

Blue Mountains History Journal

Once again, ably carried by Dr Peter Rickwood, the 2015 Journal has hit the shelves. The production of the Journal by Peter and his associates is a mammoth task, and its issue can be delayed by many matters beyond their control. However, the articles once again are interesting and thought provoking and well worth their noble efforts!

Heritage Newsletter

The *Heritage* Newsletter has become more popular, with input from both the community and the Editor, which we continue to welcome. We have covered historical places and people, events and topical issues. We have taken a step further and issued a Special Edition in December, which explained the machinations of BMACHO, and another in March on two matters of current community interest. These Special Editions will be issued from time to time on an ad hoc basis.

Cox's Road, Woodford

Springwood Main Street plaza

Specific issues we have covered include the Springwood Master Plan, Cox's Road precinct at Woodford, BMCC LEP 2013, Lawson stationmaster's cottage, Princes Rock, Mount Victoria safety upgrades, the Woodford footbridge, and the Oriental Hotel at Springwood. We have also been asked on a number of occasions to share our articles with other groups for their publications, requests we have happily acceded to.

Constitution

The BMACHO Constitution has had a broom put through it and the Committee has referenced relevant legislation and its own operations to produce a revised and updated

version, considered for endorsement at the AGM. Many thanks to the Secretary, Jan Koperberg, for the hours she has spent producing version after version for our perusal!

Thank you

My thanks go out to the Committee who has supported me in my role as President, and I am proud to have led such a talented and friendly group for the past year.

Thank you to the Vice-President Ian Jack, who has assisted me where he has been needed, in checking my writings and providing advice during meetings.

Thank you to Jan Koperberg for her non-stop work ethic, in spite of a hip operation, in getting through the correspondence she handles (incoming and outgoing) as well as taking minutes and preparing agendas, website operations and grant fund chasing, constitution writing, and many more incidental things which we are probably not even aware of. Every organization needs a "Jan". and we are so lucky to have scored this one!

Thanks to Phil Hammon for stepping up, not just onto the Committee, but for taking on the Treasury role. Your input and experience has been invaluable, as well as your Blue Mountains knowledge and background.

Thanks to the Heritage Trail publicity and website people, Committee members Scott Pollock, Wendy Hawkes, Jan Koperberg, Louise Viney and now Laura Stinson. Without your IT experience and knowledge, we would be lost! As IT is so much a part of today's world, we cannot avoid it, and it is certainly paying off.

Thanks you to Committee member Dick Morony for trying to keep our membership up to scratch, and for the monthly calendar. The calendar is an essential part of the BMACHO aim, to work for our members, and to distribute information about their events.

To Committee members Roy Bennett and Suzanne Smith, thank you for your regular attendance at meetings and the invaluable input you have into discussions on the various topics which we cover. Also to Suzanne for arranging our meeting venues, and for Roy's input into the Mount Victoria issues and events. It is not just the practical skills we need but the minds as well! Many hands/minds make light work.

And thank you also to all BMACHO members for their support, enabling us to carry out our aims and objectives.

The new Committee has been returned as per last year, with the addition of Laura Stinson in place of Louise Viney:

- President: Patsy Moppett (Individual Member BMACHO)
- Vice-President: Ian Jack (Individual Member BMACHO)
- Treasurer: Philip Hammon (Director, Scenic World)
- Secretary: Jan Koperberg (Blue Mountains Family History Society)

Committee:

- Roy Bennett
- Wendy Hawkes
- Dick Morony
- Scott Pollock
- Suzanne Smith
- Laura Stinson

We are looking forward to the next BMACHO year, in whatever roles we fill, in harmony and companionship, working to our common goal of heritage education, appreciation and promotion.

Ephemeral distance measurements on the Blue Mountains

Road Distances

Blaxland, Lawson and Wentworth noted mileages along their route which are inferred to be measured from the Emu Island in the Nepean River, a feature that no longer exists[1]. When Evans[2] surveyed a route for a road he was quite specific about the zero point "From Emu Island," and Cox[3] when making the road wrote on 27th July 1814:

"measured the ground from the ford in the river to the creek leading from Emu Plains to the mountain, three miles. marked the trees at the end of each mile at the left side of the road"[4].

The account by Major General Lachlan Macquarie (Governor of New South Wales, 1810-1821) of the journey his party made when they followed the road that Cox had built also contains a specific starting point viz:

"The commencement of the ascent from Emu Plains to the first Depôt, and thence to resting place, now called "Spring Wood," distant 12 miles from Emu Ford, ..."[5] (no doubt the western bank of the Nepean River).

Subsequently, Governor Macquarie stipulated that distances be measured from a fixed mark (the zero point) which was to be a sandstone obelisk in Sydney (at what became known as Macquarie Place) for which a contract was entered on 19 September 1816[6]; it was designed by Francis Greenway and built in 1818[7].

It did not take long for milestones to be erected along the major routes out of Sydney[8]. They were mostly trimmed sandstone blocks and the distance to Sydney was engraved by masons using Roman numerals[9]. But the distances that they indicated were only valid until the road was either deviated or realigned somewhere along the route back to Macquarie Place.

It would appear that the first set of distance markers in the Blue Mountains were wooden and they were replaced by "conspicuous mile-stones" in about 1904[10].

In the 1930s concrete replaced stone[11], some, and maybe all, being of steel-reinforced concrete[12]. Many were installed long before others reputedly were made at the DMR Depot at Windsor in the early 1950s (pers. comm. Doug Knowles 29.1.16). These concrete milemarkers were made to Imperial measurements and to published specifications[13] - 4' 9" (*144.8 cm*) long and 13" (*33 cm*) across the back; the sides with mileages were to be 9 ins (*22.9 cm*) wide. The amount exposed to view was to have been 2' 9" (*83.8 cm*) and with 2' 0" (*61 cm*) being specified as the length to be buried they were quite stable. But in practice the length buried is likely to have depended on the difficulty of digging the hole in which to place them; thus from the soil staining in Figure 1 it is apparent that this milestone was buried to a lesser depth (c.16 ins (*40.6 cm*)) so stability came from the great weight (by calculation c.90 kg or *c.1.8 cwt*) which was also a deterrent to thieves. [Sandstone milestones were larger, reputedly 1 x 0.5 x 0.5 m and for a density of 2.6g/cm^3 weighed c.0.65 tonnes, and not the 1.5 tonnes as reported[14], yet from a site near Prospect even one of these was stolen!]

Milestones were always situated on the left as you departed Sydney[15] and on the side facing you they showed the mileage to the next town of significance,

"both figures and letters will be incised (into the concrete) and painted in black,"[16].

Where necessary, the distance to Sydney was painted on the top bevel surface thereby being easy to correct when roads were changed[17].

In 1933 the 'mile-stones' were in place along the Main Western Road[18], and many lasted until metrication occurred[19]. Parliament passed the Australian Metric Conversion Act in 1970[20] but conversion of road measurements was delayed until mid 1974. By then the local road realignments had made some of the distances shown on milestones incorrect anyway.

Today the milestones remaining on the Blue Mountains seemingly are few:

- one is in the Mount Victoria & District Historical Society Museum (Figure 1; L14 (*Lithgow*), K10 (*Katoomba*)) - it is in excellent condition.
- a second is adjacent to the letterbox of 16 Coachhouse Lane, Medlow Bath[21]; (Figure 2; L18, K6). But that is not its original position for it is now on the right of the old road, and the back is set more-or-less at right angles to that road. However, it was recovered by the house owner from nearby and the distances shown (Lithgow 18 *miles* - although the 1 is

not clear nowadays; Katoomba 6 *miles*) are said to be right for Medlow Bath (pers. comm. Robyne Ridge 1 February 2016). Sadly, it is in poor condition and is now partly obscured by branches of a tree.

Photo: PCR 2016
Figure 1. Milestone at Mt. Victoria Museum

Photo: Robyne Ridge
Figure 2. Milestone at Medlow Bath

- a third is in a private garden at 49 Railway Parade, Hazelbrook[22] (Figure 3; L10, W42 (*Windsor*), S78 (*Sydney*)) and can be seen clearly from the street and in Google Street View. It is in good condition except for the painted lettering on the top surface.

Photo: PCR 2016
Figure 3. Milestone at Hazelbrook

Photo: Doug Knowles 2016
Figure 4. Milestone at Sun Valley

- a fourth is in a garden at Sun Valley (Figure 4; K20, PN12 (Penrith): S (Sydney) 44 (replacement lettering).
- the fifth is quite different from, and much older than, the previous four, being a carving in the sandstone 500 m east of Lennox Bridge[23] showing “Penrith IV” and “Sydney XXXVII”[24].

A milestone formerly in the garden of 10 Leichhardt Street, Blackheath can still (February 2016) be seen in Google Street View even though it was removed late in 2015 when the land was cleared for a new building.
But maps showing the positions of these milestones in the Blue Mountains were seemingly lacking until Doug Knowles[25] recently compiled one for the Great Western Highway between Valley Heights and Lapstone. Even Gregson's[26] 1894 detailed 4 chains to an inch map of the Main Western Road (Sheet 4) does not have any indication of mileage markers. Sometimes a road map will have a mileage indicated beside a drawn road but that number is actually the distance along the adjacent railway line (e.g. Figure 5).

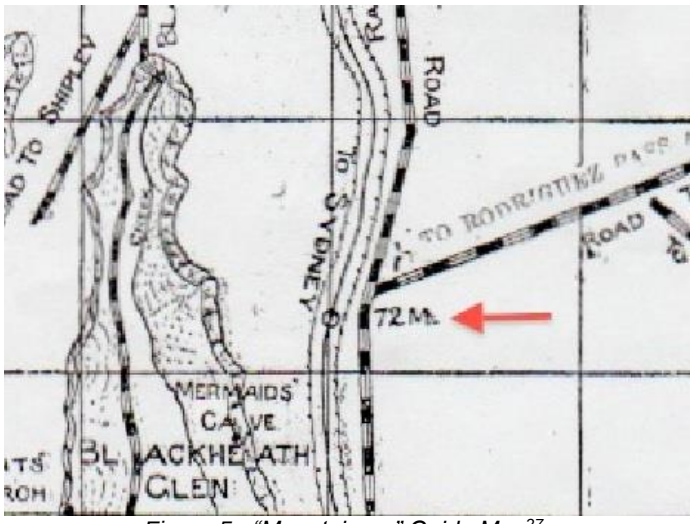

Figure 5. "Mountaineer" Guide Map[27].

There are many variants of that "Mountaineer" Tourist Map - a very amateurish bit of drafting - which seems to indicate that the 72 mile spot was just a short distance S of Grand Canyon Road and the marker on the rail line is at the southern end of a bend that is concave west.

Rail Distances

On his 1877 map, Du Faur[28] marked the 72 mile distance in a small font just south of Evans Lookout Road, Blackheath (Figure 6) and it is similarly sited on the Surveyor Generals Department[29] plan of the railway line (Figure 7). Those are positions towards the northern end of, and in the centre of, a bend that is concave west, respectively, whereas it was placed at the southern end of that bend on the Mountaineer maps (Figure 5) - clearly some inaccuracies in plotting.

Figure 6. Du Faur (1877)[28]

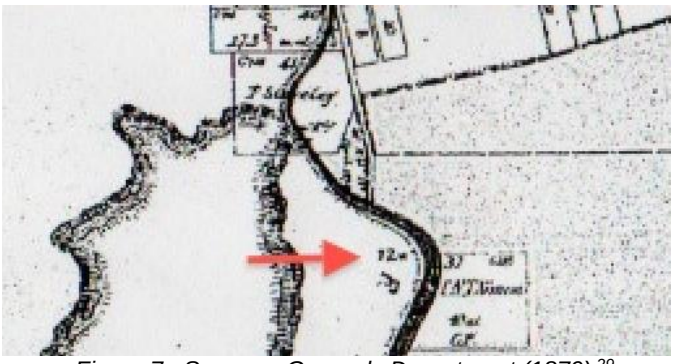
Figure 7. Surveyor Generals Department (1879)[29]

But distances along the railway line have changed over the years:
- by small amounts due to realignments on bends,
- by a moderate amount when the Lapstone Zig-Zags were bypassed by the Lapstone tunnel in 1892[30],
- by another moderate amount in 1913 when the Glenbrook Gorge route was opened[31],

• and by a major amount (c.1.2 km) when the terminus changed from Redfern to Central (opened 4 August 1906[32]).

A complete set of the editions of the Parish of Blackheath map is not available online, however, Editions 3 (1890), 9 (1920), 10 (1926) and 11 (1952) do not show a distance against Blackheath railway station.

But Editions 7 (1909; Figure 8) & 8 (1915) have Blackheath Station marked as being at 72 miles 9 chains (*72.1125 miles or 116.054 km*) which puts the 72 mile location close to, and on the north side of, the railway level crossing. Note that editions 7 and 8 were published after Central Station had been opened, although the increase in distance over that on 1870s maps cannot be attributed to that change of terminus alone.

Figure 8. Parish of Blackheath Edition 7 (1909)[33]

On some subsequent maps that 72 mileage is marked at different locations on different editions. Thus there are several editions of the Robinson 4 chains/inch maps of the Blue Mountains - all undated although the base map seems to have originated in 1915[34]. The 72 mile mark is shown on the railway line either at Medlow Bath Station (Figure 9) or opposite the Blackheath Automotive Services at 215 Great Western Highway, Blackheath (Figure 10) - locations that are c.4.2 km apart and c.2.8 km south and c.1.4 km north, respectively, of the location shown by Du Faur[35].

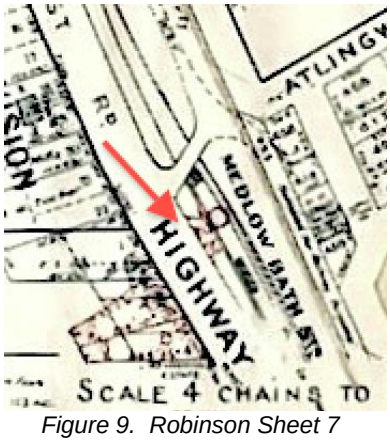

Figure 9. Robinson Sheet 7

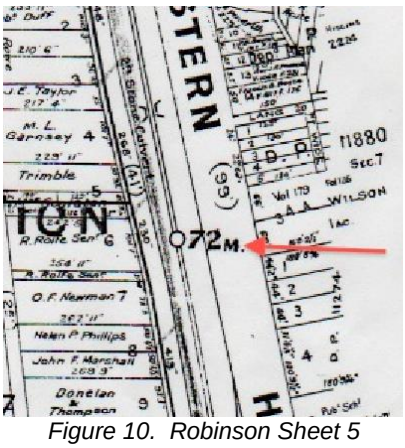

Figure 10. Robinson Sheet 5

In 1957, that very careful Railway historian C.C. Singleton also placed the 72 mile mark at Medlow Bath Station (Figure 11)[36].

Figure 11. Singleton (1957) [36]

Photo: PCR 28 January 2016
Figure 12. Signage at Medlow Bath Station

Nowadays railway distances are measured from a point on Platform 1 at Central Station[37] and in 2016 the distance shown on an enamel notice at Medlow Bath Railway station (Figure 12) is 115.715 km (*71.902 miles*) so the maps in Figures 9 & 11 are essentially correct for the present day rail distance. *Peter C Rickwood*

Acknowledgements
This research arose because of an enquiry from John Low about a location between Medlow Bath and Blackheath that was specified as being between particular milestones. I am grateful to Doug Knowles for a description of the placement of these markers and for providing photographs of one in a private garden at Sun Valley. Keith Painter kindly allowed me to photograph the milestone in the Mount Victoria & District Historical Society Museum and Robyne Ridge sent me better photographs of the Medlow Bath milestone than I had taken and she also obtained the account of salvaging it. Brian Fox is thanked for searching his map collection for one with milestones marked, albeit unsuccessfully.

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[8] *Reference 6, pp.15 & 16.*

[9] *e.g. Reference 4, Fig.2, p.129*

[10] *Anonymous (1904) Town Talk. Blue Mountain Gazette, 22 January 1904, p.2, cols.2-5.*

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[15] *Reference 13, p.66 & Reference 11, p.7.*
[16] *Reference 13, p.66.*
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[21] *pjmpjm (2013) S33° 40.212' E150° 16.804' Geocaching Australia http://geocaching.com.au/cache/ga0643 <Accessed 30 January 2016>; rogerw3 (2012) S33° 40.212' E150° 16.804' Geocaching Australia http://geocaching.com.au/cache/ga0643 <Accessed 10 February 2016> [although that source gives the house number as 12!]; Reference 11, p.84.*
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[Mitchell Library ZM2 812.17/1877/1][Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc., Wentworth Falls] (An uncoloured map between pp.160-161 of the Appendix to the Report of Railways of New South Wales, 1877. 122pp. and 2 maps. Votes & Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales during the session of 1878-79; 5: 39-160. [Mitchell Library MDQ 328.9106/4]. (Technically printed in 1878 but almost certainly prepared in 1877 as catalogued by the Mitchell Library.)
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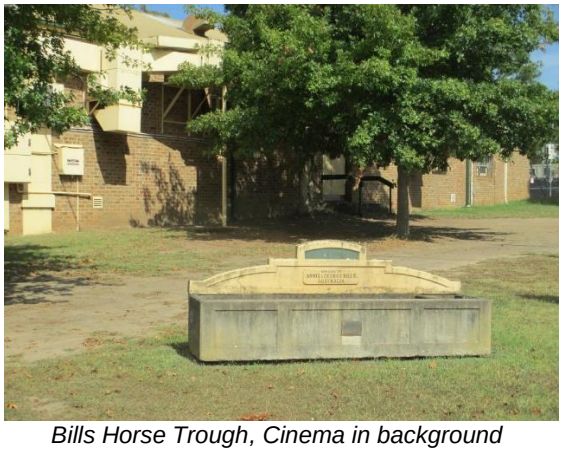
Glenbrook Park

Glenbrook is located in the lower Blue Mountains, some 70km west of Sydney. The place takes its name from Glenbrook Creek, located on the southern side of the village. Within Glenbrook and surrounds can be seen many historical features and places including historic homes, the Lennox Bridge, the old Zig Zag railway, the Glenbrook tunnel, churches and public buildings.

Glenbrook was originally known as “Watertank”, known for the water tank located there which fed the zig zag railway line, filled from Glenbrook Lagoon. When a loop siding was constructed in 1870 it became “Wascoe’s Siding”, connected with the railway stopping point of Wascoe (now Blaxland).

In 1878 Sir Alfred Stephen decided to give the place a “proper” name, and called it Brookdale, but one year later the station became Glenbrook, the village was gazetted in 1884 and took the name in 1885.

Gateway Signage



Bills Horse Trough, Cinema in background

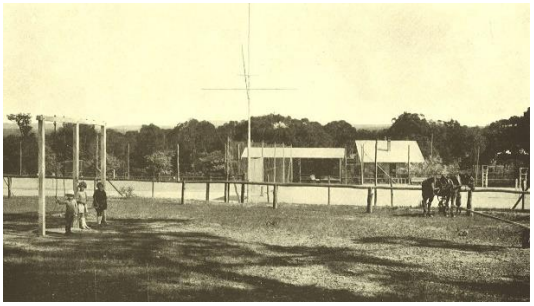
One particular feature of the village which dates from 1884 is Glenbrook Park, just across Ross Street from the shopping centre. The Park and its stone gates are heritage listed within Schedule 5 of the Blue Mountains LEP 2015. Glenbrook Park in its entirety, is listed on the NSW State Heritage Inventory.

Entrance gates

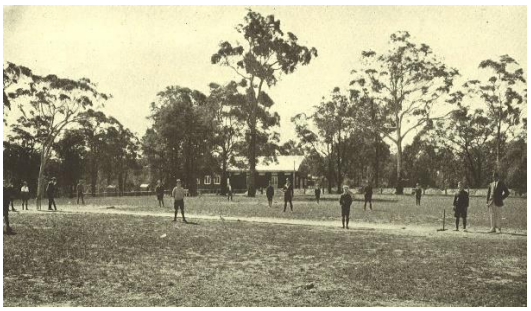
Place name steps

The Park is bounded by Ross, Park and Green Streets, with Highway access via Haymet Street. The whole of the land as far west as Raymond Street was originally reserved for public recreation in 1897, including the station-master’s house and garden. The first public school was built in the north east corner in 1892, and was dismantled and rebuilt in 1903, being supplemented in 1911 by the surviving brick building, in the south west corner. Extensions were carried out in 1936-37, and wooden classrooms relocated to the site in the 1950s. The new primary school was built in 1961, with the old buildings retaining the infants school.

The original School of Arts had been built close by to the west, in the north east corner in 1909. When this School of Arts was burnt down in 1927, the north east corner reverted to parkland.
The Park contains many significant features, including the Glenbrook Visitor Information Centre along the Great Western Highway frontage. Adjacent to the centre is a set of sandstone steps on which are carved the names of the villages of the Blue Mountains as far as Katoomba. The site also contains tennis courts and an associated (1980s) pavilion, the original brick hipped roof pavilion, a football/cricket field, an early childhood health centre (1960), and memorial plaque to the Glenbrook train disaster.



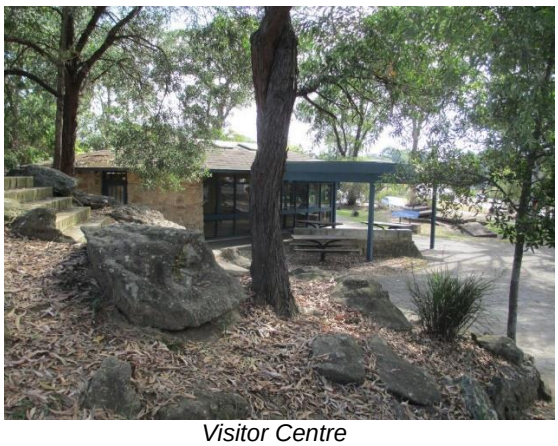
Tennis courts 1983



Cricket, old School of Arts in background

The original Cox's Road passes through the Park, a George Evans monument is located nearby, and an original Bills horse trough is located near the cinema. The trough was donated by George and Annis Bills, erected between 1930 and 1940, *"in memory of those horses which did not return from the First World War, 1914-1918"*. It is not in its original location.

Parklands



Visitor Centre

The park contains public amenities and picnic shelters, a children's playground and parking area. The eastern side of the site is the location of the former public school and the original school of arts, which is now an attractive native vegetation area.
The site contains a sandstone sculpture by the Graystone Carvers. The pair of sandstone pillars on the northern boundary fronting the highway are an early set of gates carved by John Colquhoun Dunn, a stonemason and resident of Glenbrook, erected by him in 1935 as the main entrance to the park. The gates were moved slightly to the south to accommodate widening of the Highway and the construction of the slip road.
The Glenbrook Cinema is also located in the north western corner of the site, which is the second school of arts building. The building's use as a cinema commenced in the 1920s when a travelling showman set up a cinema and came back on a regular basis. The theatre was rebuilt in 1978 and renovations carried out in later years. Plaques along the north wall record that the original School of Arts foundation stone was laid by Mrs. Colin Smith in 1909. Another plaque states that the stone was re-laid by Mrs. WH Williams in 1927.

George Evans Monument

Second School of Arts

Rail disaster plaque

The playing field was used for football until the game was relocated across the Highway to Glenbrook Oval, and the field used to have a cinder running track at the time of the coronation of Elizabeth II.
The Park is, and always has been, used for large community events.

Plan of Management & Master Plan

A Heritage Assessment was carried out in 2000 by Professor Ian Jack for the University of Sydney, and the site is due for reassessment.
Blue Mountains City Council has recently carried out community consultation with regard to formulation of a Plan of Management and a Master Plan for Glenbrook Park, to guide the future use, improvement and management of this significant place.
Council's Principal Landscape Architect, Elizabeth Dudley-Bestow, advises that following the first round of consultation to identify issues and values, the draft Plan of Management and Master Plan are now being developed. The draft documents are currently scheduled to go to the Council Meeting of 24 May, for the Councilors to endorse them for exhibition, although this scheduling has yet to be confirmed.
If and when the Council approves the exhibition material, it is expected that the draft documents would be made available for public comment in the weeks following the Council Meeting. The exhibition time would be six (6) weeks and include information sessions at the Park.
BMACHO will provide updates on this process as they come to hand. *Patsy Moppett*

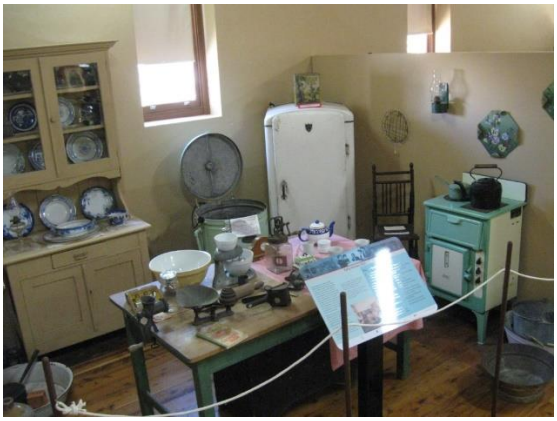
References:
Glenbrook Park Inventory Sheet, Office of Environment & Heritage 2008
Horse Trough Inventory Sheet, Office of Environment & Heritage 2008
Glenbrook Park Inventory Sheet, Office of Environment & Heritage 2008
Glenbrook Primary School Inventory Sheet, Office of Environment & Heritage 2008
Mount Sion, CR Staples & Co Ltd 1983
Email from Lisa McQueen, BMCC 7 March 2016
Email from Elizabeth Dudley-Bestow, BMCC 5 April 2016
Wikipedia
www.bluemts.com.au

The Technical Side

Mayhem in the museum

In our museums we are all aware of the damage that pests can do, damaging buildings and collections. In the past museums undertook extensive fumigation regimes, which were both costly and potentially damaging to the collection (spray and pray). Many objects are exposed to the internal environment and offer an attractive source of food for pests. Externally, methods of building construction, plants close to buildings, fence posts, open windows and doors can encourage pests.

Carmanhurst Museum, Carcoar


Golden Memories Museum, Millthorpe

Nowadays there remain a series of steps to be taken towards management and monitoring of buildings and collections utilizing a more modern approach, in order to prevent structural damage and loss of significant museum artefacts.

Materials at risk

Organic materials are most at risk from pest infestation – paper, textiles, and objects made of materials such as wood, plant material and fur, cellulose materials, and protein-based materials. Some pests eat anything! Items can also be generally damaged by general dirt and staining resulting from pest activity.

Signs, times and places of activity

- Holes, surface grazing or bite marks, and/or small piles of fresh dust.
- Droppings or eggs.
- Webbing, cases and cocoons from larval stages.
- Live or dead insects, and cast skins.
- Some pests can be heard chewing, or leave distinctive odours.

Spring is the best time to be watchful in the warmer weather, although regular inspections are recommended, such as once per season. Critically, it is important to inspect collections coming into the building before they are placed in storage ie. loaned collections, acquisitions or collections from other institutions.

Places to check include warm areas, dark or undisturbed areas, damp or wet areas, messy spaces, plants and animals, and new collections.

Actions to take

Live insects can be captured, contained and labeled for identification. Identifying the insect will assist with appropriate treatment and control methods.

Quarantine the affected objects by sealing into plastic bags (if small items) or removing the item from the collection space.

Check nearby collections to ensure there is no further infestation. Monitor this area regularly.

Clean the area of dead insects and debris.

Keep a record of the infestation and contact conservators who may be required.

Type of major pests

These include carpet beetle, clothes moth, silverfish, book lice, wood-boring beetles, termites, spider beetles, biscuit beetles, hide and leather beetles. Other pests include millipedes and centipedes, wasps and spiders, ants and cockroaches, birds and rodents, bats, crickets and large moths.

In particular, the *borer* can be the bane of a museum's existence. The wood borers may include the drugstore beetle or powderpost beetle, the Ambrosia or pinhole borer beetle, the dampwood borer, longicorn beetle, particoloured Auger beetle, with the worst ones being woodboring weevil and the furniture beetle. Most lesser borers cause damage usually limited to the first five years after the timber was milled, and repairs are cheaper to carry out. However, it may be much more expensive to repair the damage of the last two species, which can attack hardwood or softwood of any age. They chew through wood, paper, and

books and leave networks of tunnels with perfectly round exit holes. The ubiquitous little pile of dust is often the only way to detect an active infestation. They may also affect building materials, display cases, storage cabinets and other furniture.

Borer damage in wood

Integrated pest management (IPM)

This is defined as a coordinated approach to pest management that does not rely on chemicals and so moves away from the "spray and pray" approach. It focusses on making the museum spaces and the building unattractive to insects and other pests through physical exclusion, good housekeeping and early detection. It also relies on knowledge of the pest's life cycle and habits, and good management and monitoring of the museum environment, inside and out.

The basic components are:

1. *Physical control* – basic hands-on activity.
   - Regular cleaning and housekeeping schedule.
   - Regular building maintenance.
   - Sound storage containers.
   - A safe quarantine area.
   - A regular program of trapping insects.
2. *Cultural control* – changing the mindset, establishing good habits:
   - Regular programmed inspections.
   - Written records of all IPM activities.
   - Awareness.
   - Rigorous programmed housekeeping.
   - Staff training

Borer damage in wood

A range of equipment may be required, some of it quite simple and easily obtained, which should be maintained on site, such as sticky traps, torch, logbook, insect identification kit/manual, small plastic containers, building map, clear polyethylene plastic bags.

Wooden items in particular need regular maintenance, and should be inspected every six months. Look in subfloor spaces for signs of rot and termites in the flooring and framing. In roof spaces, look for evidence of leaks that may promote fungal growth. Any sign of breakage or distortion of roof structures should be investigated by a structural engineer.

Check external paint finishes for splitting or cracking that may indicate water penetration to the wood beneath.

Basic infestation treatment

Often simply cleaning the object or item is enough, such as for flat items such as documents, framed prints and photographs. However, some objects are difficult to clean such as clothing, or books. Regardless of the treatment method chosen it is still imperative to remove as much insect matter as possible.

Modified temperature treatment works to limit with oxygen and a comfortable temperature for pests to survive. 15-25 degrees C is when they are most active. A rapid drop or rise in temperature is required to kill all stages of the insect cycle, from eggs to larvae to adults. These methods amount to freezing and heating.

Freezing – not all items can be frozen. Chest freezers are the most suitable receptacle, and objects need to be packed appropriately and labelled. Treatment is most commonly carried out to -20 degrees C for at least 7 days. Removal of the frozen objects must be undertaken with care, and thawed to room temperature before handling.

Objects which may be frozen include books and coated papers, feathers and newspapers, organic fibres such as basketry and tapa cloth, paper files, records and maps, textiles and soft toys.

Avoid freezing animal mounts and study skins, audio and video tape, bone and ivory, computer disks, CDs and CD-ROMs, ceramic, daguerreotypes, ambrotypes and tintypes, ethnographic items with mud, ochres and other friable materials, film-based material, glass, glass plate negatives and lantern slides, leather, metals (including buttons), paintings, parchment and Vellum, photographic prints, negatives and transparencies, plastic, vinyl/shellac/acetate records, wooden objects, especially if waterlogged, and works of art on paper.

The Australian Museum treats all objects as they arrive into the Museum with low oxygen, freezing or nitrogen gas flushing. It does not use any chemical fumigant.

Interestingly, the Historic Houses Trust has had experience in wrapping pianos and other large furniture for freezing, and they admit getting a piano into a plastic bag is challenging! With the use of Cryovac sheets the bags were constructed around the items and the final join done with the item in place.

Heating **-** items to 52 degrees C for 4 hours is the most effective eradication treatment for insects. The most successful treatment is in the field using simple sunlight heat, where other equipment may not be available. It can be damaging to some items, and care should be taken not to heat items including glass, wax, resins, adhesives and leather.

The treatment is cheap and easy, using black plastic bags, up off the ground.

Chemical control - this is of course the careful application of pesticides as a last resort. Natural pyrethrum and synthetic pyrethoids are usually chosen due to their safety.

The pros and cons of treatment have ever been debated, but the main principles which would guide the appropriate method are guided by:

- Safety – visitors and staff.
- Residual nature of chemicals.
- Level of intervention – impact on the site.
- Effect on building/item fabric.
- Ability to work with other contractors.
- Cost.

Getting help

To discover that there is an insect problem in a collection, and then not know where to turn for help, is not uncommon. However, in this day and age there are many resources and help mechanisms available which are simply based on *planning ahead*.

Some basic steps are needed to begin this process, the first step being to do the research and see who/what is out there:

1. Establish a regional museum network – why try to reinvent the wheel when there are others out there who may have had similar crises such as yours.

2. Contact specific expertise outside the museum – eg. Museums & Galleries NSW.
3. Develop a register of volunteers – undertake some succession planning.
4. Utilise these resources to draw up a disaster preparedness plan.

Planning ahead – the disaster plan is applicable to a range of situations. A disaster may be something large and catastrophic, but it is often the case in museums that it is something relatively small and definitely not catastrophic, but one that can lead to a serious disaster. So a disaster may apply equally apply to — a small leak through the storage area window that has drenched the newspaper collection; a pest invasion; a major flood; a piece of vandalism; an earthquake; theft of your most precious object; a fire; etc. Do not think of a disaster as something that is always large and obvious.

For a document with such a long name, a disaster preparedness plan can really be quite a simple document. The document *Be Prepared, Guidelines for small museums for writing a disaster preparedness plan, Heritage Collections Council 2000* is available on line and is an easy guide to planning for disasters, whether it is insect invasion or a flood.

Standards Program - Museums & Galleries NSW has the Standards Program, an opportunity to seek assistance for surveying collections, management, engaging visitors and caring for the collection. An independent reviewer is sent out to each museum. They act as mentor to the museum management.

Many other resources are available, including risk management, grants, setting up a website, and an advisory service. It provides an opportunity for self- review against the national standard.

M & G NSW also has many publications available on line which can assist museums.

Patsy Moppett

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Managing pests in the collection – Integrated Pest Management, Help Sheet, Community Museums Program, History South Australia 2011.
Wood borers you should know, Museums Victoria
How do I prevent insects damaging my artworks? Australian Museum, Colin McGregor 2010
What works for us: issues that affect the Historic Houses Trust of NSW's choice of treatment for pest control, Tamara Lavrencic & Alex Roach, 2003
Wood preservation, Information Sheet 5.1, NSW Heritage Office 1998
Be Prepared, Guidelines for small museums for writing a disaster preparedness plan, Heritage Collections Council 2000

Book Review - Aboriginal Rock Art in the Blue Mountains

Blue Mountain Education and Research Trust, which aims at promoting local research and writing, is proud to bring to the public its latest title ***Aboriginal Rock Art in the Blue Mountains.*** John Van der Have is an architect who specialises in harmonising design with the landscape. Here he has approached the subject of local rock art, not from an anthropological or archaeological view point, but from an artistic and aesthetic one. Over and over again he stresses the sense of place in which the art is found. These artworks are inextricably and forever connected to their location.

These figures, whether painted on rock shelter walls or engraved on open rock platforms, may be presented to the public in isolation from their setting, perhaps framed on gallery walls or photographed in a book such as this. But the author, with sensitive text and superb landscape views, emphasizes that the locations were already in themselves sacred places which made an impact on the soul of the artist. These settings were grand in scale, vast and spectacular – undoubtedly storied places, which the artist has drawn out with a lightness of touch and agility of hand. The artwork is not itself monumental but suggestive of deeper meaning and motivated by the artist's special feeling for the land. Together, artwork and setting constituted what could be termed landscape architecture, an open-air temple.

Fittingly this book has been dedicated to the Aboriginal People of the Blue Mountains, living descendants of those who had been here for thousands of years. It is a warm endorsement and respectful acknowledgement of the treasures which their ancestors bequeathed to them

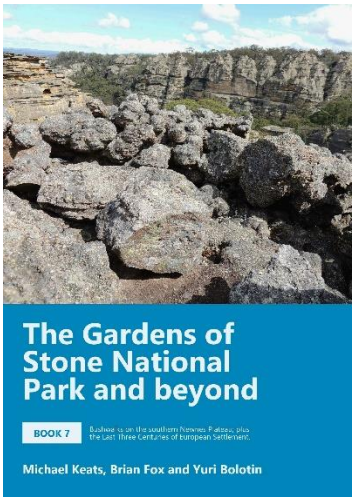
and which are now given to all to share. It has been estimated that about 1,000 rock art sites are known in the Blue Mountains and undoubtedly many more to be discovered. It is high time to record all we know as some artwork has almost faded away and all are vulnerable to the ravages of time, and even more so to vandalism.

John Van der Have tells the story of the modern Aboriginal art movement which sprang up in the Central Desert in the 1970's.
"There were artworks that drew upon the richness of Aboriginal culture extending back thousands of years. The artistic outpouring that began at Papunya in the early 1970's captivated the world, and within a few years led to passionate worldwide interest . . . These contemporary Aboriginal artworks struck a deep cord with many people, not only in Australia, but also throughout the world."
Art critic for *Time* magazine, Robert Hughes, is quoted as calling it *"the last great art movement of the 20th Century."* John points out the common tradition behind the contemporary art world and the simple figures displayed in this book are sourced from the same feeling of identity with the land. *Eugene Stockton*

Aboriginal Rock Art in the Blue Mountains *- RRP$50 is available from The Turning Page Bookshop, Springwood; Megalong Books, Leura; Lamdha Books, Wentworth Falls; Gleebooks, Blackheath, Glebe.*
Blue Mountain Education and Research Trust publisher of this book invites you to view their publications at www.bmert.org email enquiries to allan.walsh@exemail.com.au

Book Review – Gardens of Stone National Park and Beyond

Book 7 in the 9 book series, The Gardens of Stone National Park and Beyond by Michael Keats, Brian Fox and Yuri Bolotin, is principally about the last three centuries of European occupation of the area. It includes stories of such iconic engineering feats as the Wolgan Valley Railway, The Newnes Industrial Complex as well as follies such as the proposed Wollemi International Airport and a 6000MW power station at Birds Rock.
Previously unpublished historic photos are included together with interviews involving descendants of some of those men and women whose parents and grandparents were directly involved. It is a book of contemporary history, warts and all.
One of the most amazing stories is that of the construction of the dam on the Bungleboori Creek. Although very much of our recent past, the pictures tell stories about changes to Work Place Safety while at the same time revealing just how much of our lauded, second to none, pioneering resilience has been lost.



Perhaps the greatest challenge documented in the book is the story of the telephone services that connected Newnes to the outside world. Michael, Brian and Yuri, along with bushwalking colleagues walked many tens of kilometres following residual evidence of the original poles and wires that have survived the depredations of bushfires, storms and souvenir hunters.
There are also many great walks, principally along the southern escarpment of the Newnes Plateau from the Darling Causeway to Hassans Walls. The case for the entire escarpment to be declared a national park, with its rich natural, Aboriginal and European heritage, should be undertaken as a matter of priority.
Even if you hated history at school, we think you will find these stories and the many hundreds of pictures a compelling read. *Michael Keats, Brian Fox and Yuri Bolotin*

The book can be purchased from Brian Fox for $50.00, free delivery Australia wide.
Ph: 0407 067 081, or email brian@bushwxplorers.com.au

Community events & updates

Walk – Discovering Linden – Secrets will be Revealed!

Blue Mountains Branch of the National Trust announce a fascinating walk in the Linden area on Saturday 28 May 2016. Both visitors and Blue Mountains residents drive up and down the Great Western Highway, regularly by-passing the township of Linden. The Branch is organizing a walk to discover Linden's secrets. There is a cave, a grave, an old road and a cairn. Join them on a 3-4km walk to find out more about them. Morning tea would be provided.

The cairn

The cave

The grave

The old road

Participants will meet at the corner of Glossop Road and Burke Road at 10am. They can also be picked up from the Linden Railway Station, northern side, from the 9.49am train from Sydney and from the 9.56am train from Mount Victoria.
Cost: $20 for members, $25 for non-members, $5 for children. *Liz van Reyswood*
Enquiries: Rhona Leach, Ph: 02 4757 2424, or email: bmnt1814@gmail.com

Glenbrook Construction Tramway – Walk

The Glenbrook Construction Railway was built c1910 for the duplication of the eastern end of the railway across the Blue Mountains, and opened in 1911. The duplication replaced the single line zig-zag and tunnel and was very important for the expansion to the west.
A walk will be run by the Blue Mountains Branch of the National Trust, and will take place on 18 June 2016. It will take you down the tramway to the overlook of Glenbrook Gorge. Morning tea would be provided at the Gorge, and then you would walk back along Emu Road, where there was a navvies' camp.

Tramway cutting

The group will meet at Lapstone Primary School parking lot at 9.30am for a 10am commencement. The cost is $10, which includes morning tea. *Liz van Reyswood*
Bookings essential: Rhona Leach, Ph: 02 4757 2424, or email bmnt1814@gmail.com

Maitland-Morpeth Tour

The Blue Mountains Branch of the National Trust is holding a small group bus tour to visit Maitland, Morpeth and the surrounding districts on 26 to 28 July 2016.

Walka Water Works

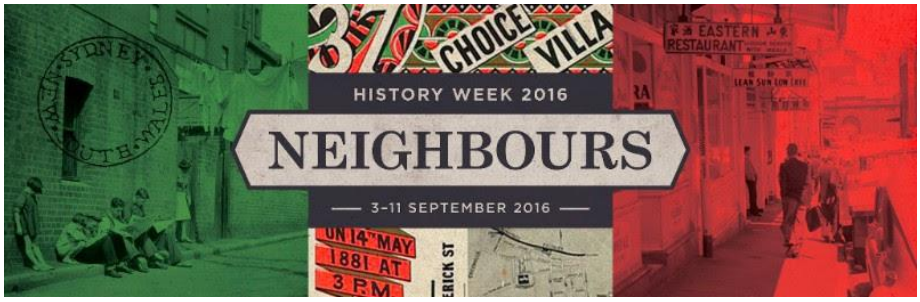
Maitland Gaol Governor's House

Anlaby Inn, Morpeth

The tour will cover a visit to the 1870s Grossman House, Maitland, where lunch would be provided. This would be followed by a tour of Maitland. The following day the group would visit Sir William Clark's Walka Water Works, followed after lunch by a tour of Maitland Gaol. The third day would commence with a visit to historic Morpeth, a colonial river port, before returning home. Accommodation and dinner would be provided in the city each evening. The cost is $450.00 per person (+$40 single supplement), and further information would be provided closer to the day. *Liz van Reyswood*
Bookings are essential. Rhona Leach Ph: 4757 2424, or email bmnt1814@gmail.com

History Week 2016, 3-11 September 2016

Now in its 19th year, the History Council of NSW's History Week has become a significant event in the cultural calendar of NSW. This year's theme "*Neighbours*" includes stories of individuals, families and communities living near one another and links between adjoining suburbs, regions and countries. The concept of neighbours has shaped imaginations and memories, creating identities and has been a source of both conflict and friendship.



As part of History Week, the Annual History Lecture will be held on 7 September delivered by Emeritus Professor Heather Goodall of the University of Technology, regarding Indigenous histories and relationships in Australia, environmental history and intercolonial networks.
Register your event, as a member of the History Council of NSW, or choose to host an event. Events must be relevant to the theme and take place during History Week.
Applications close on 31 May 2016. *History Council NSW*

Mailing address: PO Box R1737, Royal Exchange NSW 1225.
Email: admin@historycouncilnsw.org.au
www.historycouncilnsw.org.au

Oral History NSW Events

Oral History NSW is hosting a workshop and seminar on Saturday 14 May 2016 at History House, 133 Macquarie Street, Sydney – *Capturing Memories: Oral History in the Digital Age*. This is intended to be a practical workshop for all interested in recording the experiences of family, friends, the local community, history of museum items or any other project incorporating memories of the past. The presenters would be Pauline Curby and Andrew Host. Reference notes from each session will be provided. This workshop builds on the OHA Oral History Handbook, available for purchase for $25.00 (normally $35.00).
See http://oralhistorynsw.org.au

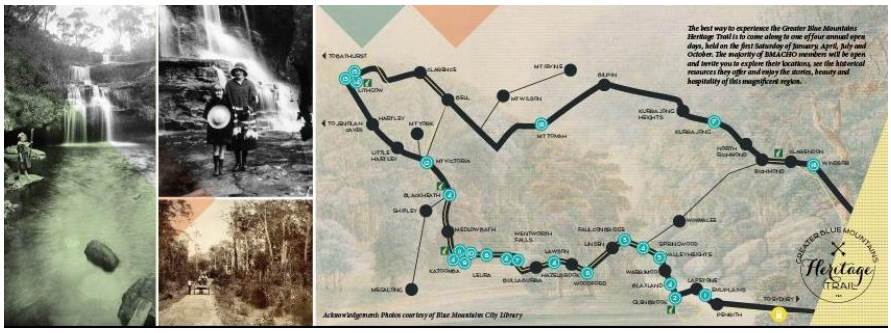
ORAL HISTORY
NSW

Oral History NSW are also holding a joint seminar with the State Library of NSW on Saturday 25 June 2016 at the State Library of NSW – *Those who've come across the seas*: Oral history and migration stories. The session will explore the use of oral history as a means of recording and revealing Australian stories of migration.
See http://oralhistorynsw.org.au

Bookings are essential for these events. Enquiries: Anisa Puri – events@oralhistorynsw.org.au
Ph: 02 8094 1239

Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail

The next common Open Day is Saturday 2 July 2016



The Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail (GBMHT) is a project of BMACHO. There are four common Open Days each year, i.e. the first Saturday of January, April, July and October. The participants include historical societies, family history societies, museums, heritage properties, heritage gardens and heritage businesses in the Greater Blue Mountains, Emu Plains, Lithgow and the Hawkesbury areas. There are also a number of historic "places to eat" and "places to stay" listed on the website and in our brochure. We are also adding "Hidden Gems" in the region to our website, along with photos and links to maps. Brochures are available at Visitor Information Centres in the Blue Mountains, Lithgow and the Hawkesbury, and all the museums in the region. Keep an eye on our website and our Facebook page to see planned events and please subscribe to our GBMHT newsletter, by clicking the link on the bottom of each page of the website. This project was funded by the **Westpac Group.**

Feedback from the Trail operation to date shows a positive outlook for most operators, although we all acknowledge that there is a long way to go. The timing of the open day events will be reflected in visitor numbers, depending upon the season, publicity and other events which may occur on the same day.

We know the events will gain momentum, and BMACHO and the member organisations will continue to promote the Trail, increasing awareness as much as possible.

Congratulations to the winners of the first Heritage Trail Photo Challenge Competition! Here are our winning photos!

1st Place: Irma Tognotti, teapot photo at Bygone Beautys,

2nd Place: Kel Torrance, photo at the Paragon Cafe,

3rd Place: Neale Bayliss, photo on the train ride at Lithgow State Mine Railway Limited

Thank you to all the entrants and your fantastic photos!

Keep an eye out for the next photo competition, and have a go!!! Great prizes to be won!!

BMACHO Committee

BMACHO: Blue Mountains History Conference 2016

REMINDER: The BMACHO conference "*Artefact",* will be held on 7 May 2016 at the historic Victoria and Albert Guesthouse, Station Street, Mount Victoria.

The conference will focus on collections and associated mysteries, and specific items within local collections. Discussion will include a coal miner's tools of trade, terminology and customs; the current *Interesting Objects* collection at Hawkesbury Regional Museum; the Gardners Inn at Blackheath, and the carved keystone which Blue Mountains Historical Society has been entrusted to preserve; and the Bleichert rope joiner, and associations with Adolph Bleichert and Oscar Schultz.

Master of Ceremonies will be Lynn Collins, Museums and Galleries Advisor, to Blue Mountains City and Lithgow City Councils.

Conference venue

Conference registration is from 8.45am, and conference commencement is at 9.15am, with the conclusion at 4.30pm. The cost is $60.00 per person.

Bookings may be made via the Secretary at *committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au or j.koperberg@bigpond.com , or Ph: 02 4732 7687* *Patsy Moppett*

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

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The organisation: Blue Mountains Association of Cultural & Heritage Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 after local historical and heritage societies and individuals recognised the need for the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the local government area (LGA) of Blue Mountains City Council. The constituency now embraces but is not limited to, the LGAs of Blue Mountains, Lithgow, Hawkesbury, Penrith and Mudgee. BMACHO membership includes historical and heritage groups, museums, commercial enterprises with an historical or heritage component in its core business, local government (local studies units, library collections) and a limited number of individual members by invitation such as but not necessarily academics. The objectives of the organisation are:

1. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage
2. To encourage and assist cultural heritage
3. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations.

One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

Affiliations: BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society and is affiliated with the Better Planning Network.

Publications: BMACHO's official newsletter ***Heritage*** is edited by Patsy Moppett. The annual refereed *Blue Mountains History Journal* is edited by Dr Peter Rickwood and occasional papers are published from time to time.

Membership: The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mt Tomah; Blue Mountains City Library; Blue Mountains Cultural Heritage Centre; Blue Mountain Education & Research Trust; Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc; Bygone Beautys Treasured Teapot Museum and Tearooms; City of Lithgow Mining Museum Inc; Eskbank Rail Heritage Centre; Everglades Historic House & Gardens; Norman Lindsay Gallery; Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc; Hartley Valley District Progress Association; Hawkesbury Historical Society Inc; Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc; Leurella NSW Toy & Railway Museum; Lithgow & District Family History Society Inc;; Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies; Lithgow Small Arms Factory Museum Inc; Mt Victoria & District Historical Society Inc; Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine Historical Society Inc (including Turkish Bath Museum); National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Blue Mountains Branch; National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Lithgow Branch; Nepean District Historical Society Inc; Paragon Cafe, Katoomba; Scenic World Blue Mountains Limited; Springwood & District Historical Society Inc; Springwood Historians Inc; Transport Signal Communication Museum Inc; The Darnell Collection P/L; Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Heritage Museum, Woodford Academy Management Committee, Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd. The following are individual members: Fiona Burn, Ray Christison, Wayne Hanley, Associate Professor Ian Jack, Joan Kent, Ian Milliss, Patsy Moppett, Professor Barrie Reynolds, Dr Peter Rickwood and Dr Peter Stanbury OAM.

Committee: The management committee for 2016-2017 (from April 2016) is: Patsy Moppett (President and ***Heritage*** Newsletter Editor), Ian Jack (Vice President), Jan Koperberg (Secretary), Philip Hammon (Treasurer), Scott Pollock and Wendy Hawkes (web site), Dick Morony (Public Officer/Membership Secretary/ Calendar Editor), Suzanne Smith and Laura Stinson (Events and Venue Co-ordinators), Roy Bennett.
Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail sub-committee: Scott Pollock, Laura Stinson, Wendy Hawkes & Jan Koperberg.

Disclaimer: views and opinions expressed in Heritage originate from many sources and contributors. Every effort is taken to ensure accuracy of material. Content does not necessarily represent or reflect the views and opinions of BMACHO, its committee or its members. If errors are found feedback is most welcome.

Heritage

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Course de Circuit Hartley

Following on from the previous issue of Heritage, another local racing circuit was located in the Hartley Valley, south east of Lithgow. It operated from approximately 1910 to 1938, although these dates are uncertain. It ceased at the beginning of WWII and never restarted, as by then the Mount Panorama circuit had opened. The course was 6.035km (3.75 miles) in length and went in a clockwise direction. Buses conveyed people from Lithgow at a cost of 4/- return. The original racing surface is long gone, the track is now partly bitumen and partly gravel, and the existing roads still follow the original route.

Used mostly for motorbikes and sidecars, it hosted the Tourist Trophy and other events on Anniversary Day January 26 each year. After each event many farm fences required re straining as spectators sat on the fences to watch!

It was a very fast circuit with the Hartley Vale Road and Browns Gap Road sections being reasonably straight, flat and about 2 kilometres in length. The Mid Hartley Road section was somewhat more challenging with blind crests and two very fast sweeping corners. There were three corners that caused more accidents than any other part of the circuit. Mount York Corner, A. Butta's Corner and J. Morris' Corner, being almost hairpins, creating a sudden end to the long straights.

In 1924 the event was reported to have a good attendance and good racing. The events held were the 50 miles under 600cc, 25 miles sidecar handicap, 50 miles handicap all powers, and the 25 miles open championship.

In 1925 Blaxland Shire Council placed a veto on road racing which, if enforced, would have prevented the January carnival from taking place. The Council was approached to have the restriction relaxed. Club representatives met with the Council to discuss the veto, at Mr Bird's shop days before the scheduled carnival, and the carnival was able to go ahead with a record number of entries (83 for the four solo events).

The sidecar event was not held as there were only two competitors. The crowd swelled to 1,500 people, and AJS machines secured first in all events. Other bikes featured included New Imperial, BSA, Douglas, Harley Davidson and Norton.

The 1925 event included the 25 mile State Championship, and the State's best riders were competing. The first race commenced at 9.30am, and the event included luncheon on the grounds. The President of the Lithgow MCC at the time was G Smith, and the Honorary Secretary was PE Farthing. Entrants included Tom O'Dea, Gus Clifton and Stewart Williams. The Lithgow Mercury reported that the course was again very safe and maintained its reputation of not having a serious accident in 15 years. Events included the 25 mile novice handicap, the 25 miles (500cc and under), the 100 mile (all powers) handicap, and the State Championship.

In the State Championship, a novel scheme was introduced to prevent crowding at the start. There were 18 entries, but only nine faced the starter. The first division was allowed halfway around the course before the second was started.

In 1926 the annual carnival was again held, although numbers were affected by big events at Maroubra speedway, and an idea on the part of many metropolitan riders, that the Blaxland Shire would not sanction racing over the course.

The large trees in the vicinity of the starting point at "Stormville", owned by Mr R Jones, afforded shade for spectators and competitors, many picnicing under the trees. Mrs Jones served a nice lunch at the homestead. The president was Mr G Tyrer, and the Honorary Secretary was Mr Roy Boon. Major incidents were avoided other than a few spills which resulted in gravel rash. Unfortunately, the biggest event, the 100 mile handicap, was marred by a large bushfire which developed across a portion of the road. The riders persisted and the event was not cancelled, but reduced in length to 25 miles so the riders did not have to pass through the smoke too often!

The following years would prove just as difficult to organise the event, with the 1927 meet being the last for nine years. In 1936, motorcycles returned to the circuit with the event being eventually discontinued.

The large tree on what is now the corner of Browns Gap Road and Fields Road, was often an obstacle and the route was diverted to the northern side of the tree to minimise mishaps.

Later in 1936, the Tourist Trophy was held on January 27 and attracted several thousand people. Three accidents marred the day but no one was seriously hurt, although hospitalisation was required in all three cases. The Mount York corner claimed one victim, when the chassis of a sidecar collapsed, hurling the rider into the fence. The passenger escaped injury. The events held were the Junior Tourist Trophy (under 350cc), Lightweight Championship Scratch Race (under 250cc), Lithgow Handicap (all powers sidecars), NSW Senior TT Championship (all powers) and the Blaxland Handicap (all power solo).
In 1937 the Blaxland Shire Council refused permission for road closures, and the event was moved to 3 January 1938, with practice held the previous weekend.
Management of the races eventually was given over to the Western Suburbs Club.
One bizarre story reported by Old Bike Australasia involved the Italian man who ran the provisions stall from his front yard. He was found murdered, and several local youths were arrested. They believed that he had a stash of cash in his house, which proved to be quite false.

Patsy Moppett

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Lithgow Mercury, 28 January 1936
Recollections of Chris Bird
Recollections of Michael Coomb
General research by Rohan Moppett
Tracks in Time, Hartley Vale, Old Bike Australasia May-June 2010

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Food for thought ..... Editor's note

With the Christmas season on us again already, I will not regale you with deep and meaningful philosophical thoughts on history and on heritage conservation! There are too many exciting events coming up over the Christmas break and many intriguing conferences and forums in 2017 to look forward to, which will enable the community to make its own observations on the past, and to make decisions about future directions of heritage.
The BMACHO Committee hope you enjoy the selection of articles in this issue, where a variety of topics has been researched to entertain members and non-members over the Christmas break.

Kamloops Heritage Railway Steam Train, British Colombia

We hope you enjoy the content of *Heritage* No. 47 as much as we enjoy presenting it to you. We always welcome articles from the community, so would encourage these at any time. Merry Christmas and a happy and safe New Year! Looking forward to sharing heritage in 2017!

Centenary of The Paragon

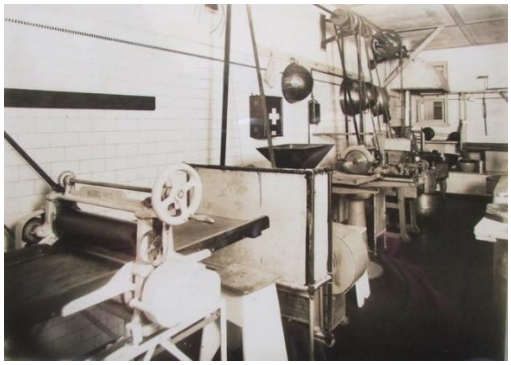
The Blue Mountains Historical Society has joined with lessee Robyn Parker and Friends of the Paragon to celebrate the centenary of this iconic Katoomba business.
Fifteen year old Greek Zacharias Simos arrived in Sydney on 13 May, 1912 per Omrah (Orient Line), worked in a Greek café in Tenterfield for 18 months, then in Sydney for 2½ years[i] before leasing the 1909 Katoomba building housing the "Devonshire Tea Room" in 1916.
He was joined later by brothers Peter, and George, a confectioner. The tea room became The Paragon Café and Oyster Palace, and specialised in late suppers for patrons after evening dances and shows. Patrons included many affluent holiday makers who stayed at The Carrington or The Ritz at Leura. Simos grasped the opportunity to develop the niche market. His first advertisement[ii] was as Z Simos & Co., Proprietors.

Grocers in upper mountains towns delivered locally on set days, but not broadly across the mountains, with perishable goods such as oysters and lobsters. He set a standard, challenging others to follow. Following Simos' business names can be a challenge too. There have been many changes over the past century but The Paragon has continued at the same site. Zacharias, known as Jack, took many risks but seems to have had an uncanny ability to foresee and capitalise on business opportunities. Once he owned the building, he set about fitting out the upstairs area for accommodation, an office, storage area, a bakery, and a chocolate factory, the latter run by brother George. Business expanded rapidly.
In addition to the culinary delights and late night service, Jack enhanced visitors' experience over the years by what could be simply called decorating the walls and developing specialist rooms. He travelled through Europe for a year or so, seeking out the best the world had to offer at that time. Nothing less than the best would do for his business in the relatively small holiday town of Katoomba in the Blue Mountains. One can only wonder what the locals thought of his early endeavours!

The café area

The chocolate selection 2016

In 1921 The Paragon was advertised as a Sundae and Candy Shop by Z Simos, Proprietor. The celebration of the official opening of the dance room in conjunction with the Paragon Sundae Shop was a major event in Katoomba and was highly praised. Guests were delighted by the modern architecture still with the comforts they enjoyed, the decorations, mirrors and the attention to detail. Local Radio 2KA broadcast from The Paragon and The Katoomba Daily[iii] wrote a rave review. In addition, they raised funds for Shuna, the Red Cross Home for Girls.
His promotions emphasised the products made in the store including chocolates, peanut brittle and many other goodies. In 1924 Jack purchased the property freehold[iv] and began the development of accommodation, office, chocolate factory, bakery and storage rooms upstairs.
In 1926 he was ready to refit the Tea Room into a Viennese Style Café. Jack employed the best shop fitting designers available, Harry and Ernest Sidgreaves (Ltd). His focus was on locating the best and latest, so travelled through Europe in 1929.



Machinery upstairs (photo courtesy) Robyn Parker

Banquet hall 2016

He met American born Greek Maria Panaretos in Kythera where she was holidaying with her parents. They married in USA in 1930 and returned to Australia. Maria, (Mary) a calm, very capable lady was an asset to the business with her welcoming manner and practical approach.

Jack employed the creative theatre architect, G N Kenworthy, as designer for the two back rooms. The Banquet Hall, with its Pre-Columbian decoration, was completed in 1934 and the Ocean Liner style Blue Room completed in 1936. Dr Ian Jack's well illustrated article on The Paragon was published by BMACHO and can be accessed online as BMACHO History Journal No. 5, pages 1 to 12.

In 1937 Jack was a foundation member of the Katoomba Rotary Club, the first on the Blue Mountains, and made The Paragon available for meetings. It was just part of his ongoing community service.

The situation was very different with the outbreak of WW2[v] as the whole population was affected and although 70 years have passed many families still live or have connections with mountains residents. In 1939 the Australian Government played down the possibility of war to minimise panic, while at the same time was preparing bills to be introduced immediately if, or when, war was declared. Within a week the Federal Parliament had met and implemented the National Security Bill, imposed censorship of the press, introduced categories of goods to be price controlled and other severe measures. Further restrictions were announced in the following week.

In 1940, at the start of WW2, Jack and Mary Simos selected architect G N Kenworthy to design a home for them at 12 Narrow Neck Road, Katoomba. At the same time Jack was involved in some way with the formation of The Paragon at Goulburn about 1940. Australia was already sending food to Britain as well as to Australian forces overseas, and was increasingly supplying food to the United States, British, Dutch and Free French navies in the Pacific. Australia's population of 7 million was producing food for 13 million … and this continued to 1945 and beyond.

Rationing was introduced to meet the demand as fairly as possible. The term rationing was originally used only for goods for which coupons as well as money were required. Clothing was first, on 24 June 1942, then tea. Australia was a nation of tea drinkers but when the Japanese overran Malaya that source ceased. Neither India nor Ceylon could make up the shortfall and shipping was unavailable even if the tea was. Tea coupon rationing was introduced on 6 July 1942 when the amount set was 1.5 ounces (56g) per person for five weeks. In effect it allowed for 2 or 3 cups of tea per day for all over 9 years of age. There are still locals who remember mother drying used tea leaves in the oven to eke out the tea further. There were relatively minor changes in quantities of rationed foods and drinks at times. This was followed by coupons for sugar and butter – all lasting until after the war was over. Supplies may or may not arrive on time, or even at all.

There were special instructions for registered businesses that provided casual meals such as The Paragon. The coupon system had to be met, not only for tea, but also sugar from 29 August and for butter on 7 June 1943. That was the first Australian produced food to be

rationed, followed by meat on 14 January 1944. Each had to meet the coupon system[vi] and lasted for years after the war.
Yet the family, and their employees, met the challenges through all those years.
In 1947 the Simos employed the Danish sculptor, Otto Steen, to carve 12 alabaster friezes to be attached to the maple-wood walls of the dining room, thus changing to a Greek theme. The Art Deco style classical Grecian figures in bas-relief are just one of the Paragon's treasures.
The Paragon continued to flourish under the Simos family in the ever changing conditions of the post war period. The years were catching up, Jack died in 1976 and Mary carried on. Their son Theodore, a lawyer, was concerned that she was not coping well and approached Stuart Chandler to "run" the business. This he did from 1977 to.1982 and he has generously told us more about her at the time. In Stuart's words: "*My memories of Mary are of a generous and welcoming person who showed great pride in the business and her husband's achievements. Although she left me to manage the day to day operations, she still worked seven days a week, serving chocolates and bakery goods behind the counter. She made coffees and often set up the window display of cream cakes, scones and pastries early each morning. However, Mary was best known for the warm way she greeted customers, personally seating many of them in the café. Even at her age, she rarely stopped for a break and would often be seen sitting near the counter, wrapping the freshly made famous Waratah Chocolate Bars in foil or the individual pieces of nougat in rice paper*."
The Paragon was recognised by The National Trust and placed on the Australian Heritage Commission's 1977 Register of the National Estate.
The Simos era ended with Mary's passing in 2001.
On Sunday 28 August, Sunday 25 September and Saturday 1 October 2016 there was the opportunity to find out more about parts of The Paragon not seen, the industrial activities undertaken upstairs, and further information on both the early Viennese style decoration and the later Art Deco for which the building is renowned. Who were the designers? When and why did they change to Art Deco style? Many changes have occurred over the century including fashions, worn by brides at their weddings at The Paragon. You can follow more of the story on the Facebook sites, Blue Mountains Historical Society, Tarella Cottage Museum and Friends of The Paragon.

Friends of the Paragon meet to celebrate the inclusion of the café on the State Heritage Register in 2015

This was a rare opportunity to find out about the equipment of yesteryear, what they were and how they were used. Friends of the Paragon were present to point out key features and answer questions. The Exhibition was held in the Tarella Cottage Museum, in the grounds of Blue Mountains Historical Society, 99 Blaxland Road, Wentworth Falls from 10am to 4pm.

Linsi Braith & Joan Edwards

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[1] *NAA*
[2] *15 September 1916*
[3] *The Katoomba Daily, Tuesday 17th December 1935.*
[4] *Katoomba Rate Assessment Book*
[5] *WW2 from Mums, Children & Mustard Gas, Joan & Chris Edwards 2016*
[6] *Melbourne Commonwealth Rationing Commission 1950*

Mrs. Wilhelmina Dunmore Lang

The number of famous people who have visited the Blue Mountains must be both indeterminable and huge yet few are known to have died there whilst visiting. Just three spring to mind. Sir Edmund Barton, who died of heart failure in the Belgravia wing of the Hydro Majestic Hotel, Medlow Bath, at 9.00 a.m. on 7 January 1920[1] and then almost four decades later there was Professor V. Gordon Childe, who committed suicide by falling from Barrow Lookout, Blackheath on 19 October 1957[2]. But long before those there was Mrs. Wilhelmina Lang, the widow of the Rev. J. Dunmore Lang, who had the misfortune to die at *Heatherton*, Blackheath on Tuesday 6th October 1891 of influenza[3].

Wilhelmina Lang (née Mackie)

Wilhelmina was born in Greenock, Scotland on 24 September 1812[4] (Figure 2) the daughter of William and Mary Mackie and *"when she was eighteen she sailed for Australia, under the care of Dr. Lang, at that time distinguished for his active labours in the interests of religion and civilisation."* [5].

The background to this lady gives an insight to some of the moral standards of 19th Century Presbyterians for 18 year-old Wilhelmina Mackie had left Scotland with her cousin the Rev. Lang (Figure 1) who was 13 years older, and *"Rev. Lang was escorting his cousin Wilhelmina Mackie to Sydney to marry his brother, Andrew. However, he persuaded her to marry him whilst on board the ship 'Stirling Castle' in Simon's Bay, Cape of Good Hope on the 25th August, 1831*." [6].

It is said that she married him at *"Cape Town to avoid opposition from Lang's mother, anticipated because of the difference in their ages."!* [7] The matriarch, Mary Lang (née Dunmore), is said to have *"had formidable powers of moral indignation and such capacity for vituperation that in comparison her son's most savage strictures seemed but a mild remonstrance.*" [9].

Nevertheless, it seems incredible that Wilhelmina's parents (William and Mary Mackie) would have let a teenaged, vulnerable, inexperienced, spinster travel alone with a male

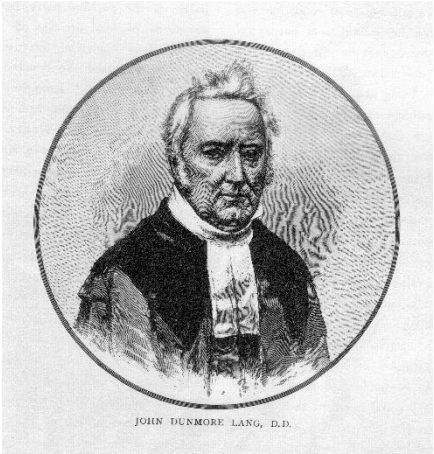

Figure 1. John Dunmore Lang, D.D.[8]

Figure 2. Mrs J. Dunmore Lang, ca 1880s

cousin, albeit that her escort was deeply religious. Seemingly at that time it was not deemed outrageous for young girls to be shipped off to distant parts of the globe to marry cousins but

one has to wonder what Andrew Lang thought of his brother for 'stealing' his bride-to-be. Clearly in the matter of love the Rev. Lang proved to be unscrupulous.
The *Stirling Castle* left Greenock on 1 June 1831 and arrived at Sydney on Thursday 13 October 1831 the couple being correctly listed as "Rev. Dr. Lang and Mrs. Lang" [10]. *"They took up their residence at No.11 Jamieson-street, Sydney, ... and which remained the home of his venerable widow till within four days of the end."*[11].
It was not a long street (now spelled Jamison) so that residence on the southern side was close to his Scots Presbyterian Church. The marriage was long and successful for they produced ten or eleven children (the count varies); two daughters were named Wilhelmina, the first died in 1845 aged just 6 weeks and was replaced by a second Wilhelmina in 1851 although she lasted just 15 months.
The Reverend John D. Lang pre-deceased his wife on 8 August 1878 and Wilhelmina (Figure 2) had been a widow for 13 years when she died on 6 October 1891[12] aged 78 having outlived at least six of her many children. Her body was taken down to Sydney promptly, supposedly on the mid-day train of the following day[13], for her funeral service was at 1.30 p.m. on Wednesday 7 October 1891 at the Scots Church although that cannot be correct; at that time[14] to arrive in Sydney for a 1:30 p.m. funeral it would have been necessary to catch the 8:08 a.m. train which arrived at 11.10 a.m. as the following 1:15 p.m. train did not arrive until 4:30 p.m. Interment followed in the family vault[15] at the Devonshire Street Presbyterian Cemetery[16] but when that ground was reclaimed for the Central Railway Station the remains must have been removed to Rookwood (grave 2307, Presbyterian Section, Rookwood Cemetery[17] (Figure 3).

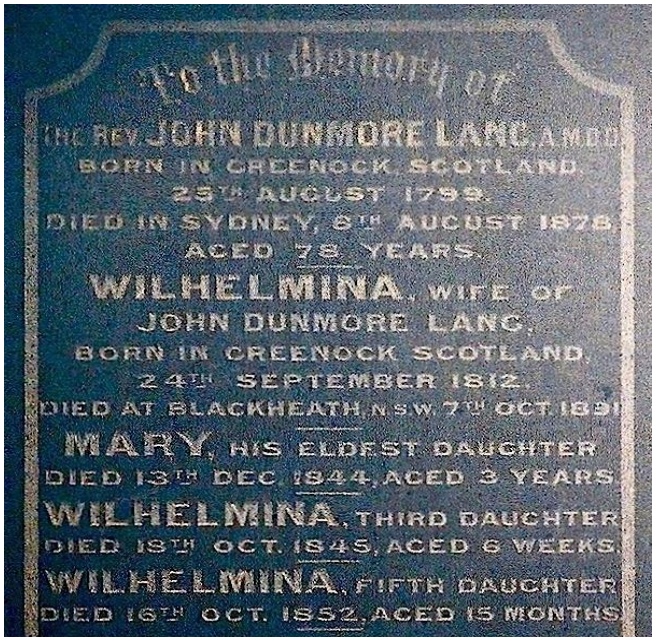

Figure 3. Lang Family, Rookwood Cemetery (Photo Peter Rickwood May 2012)
[The date of death is wrong.]

Heatherton, 47 Leichhardt Street, Blackheath. *(SHI 1170325)*
"A single storey house with a steeply pitched gabled roof with intersecting gables on the north and south sides. The house faces north overlooking a large garden." "Heatherton is a good representative example of a substantial Victorian Rustic Gothic residence. While this style is seen in the Blue Mountains in the extant gatekeeper's cottages, it is less common in privately built residences." [18].

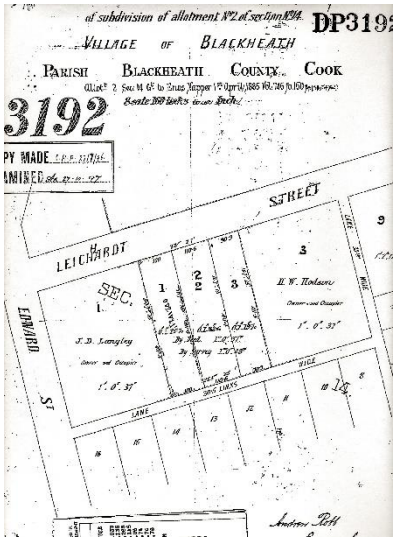

Figure 4. Part of DP 3192[19]

Figure 5. Heatherton[20]

Section 14, Lot 1 (bounded by Leichhardt Street, Prince Edward Street and Prince George Lane; DP3192[21] (Figure 4)) was bought by the Reverend John Douse Langley on 1 April 1885[22] and he had a furnished cottage constructed which was advertised for renting in October 1887[23].

"The house was built as a mountain retreat for the Anglican Bishop of Bathurst. Since St. Aidan's Anglican Church was within the Diocese of Sydney, the Leichhardt Street House was simply a holiday home for the Bathurst Bishop." [24].

With her clerical connections Wilhelmina Lang was almost certainly at Blackheath for a holiday when she died[25].

By the end of 1897 a school known as *Heatherton*[26] was operating in premises at 47 Leichhardt Street, Blackheath. Previously it had been called *Tusculum* a property which had been advertised as a *"large Furn. Cot., 4 min. station"* [27] so the School seems to have relocated further from the village centre to *Heatherton*. The school catered for *"Delicate children will have special attention, and elder girls taught Cookery and other home duties."* [28].

Seemingly, Miss Rebecca Darling, formerly Principal of St Catherine's School Waverley (1891-1895), advertised for the last time in 1900[29] with the enticement *"Bracing climate and thorough education."*

In 1962 the land was subdivided[30], *Heatherton* (Figure 5) being on Lot 1, the largest of seven, and extending from Leichhardt Street to Prince George Lane. *Heatherton* is set close to the middle of the block so from Leichhardt Street it is hidden from view behind a row of high bushes.

Peter C. Rickwood

Abbreviations:
BMCC = Blue Mountains City Council
CT = Certificate of Title
NSWBDM = New South Wales Births, Deaths and Marriages
NSWOE&H = NSW Office of Environment & Heritage
SAG = Society of Australian Genealogists
SHI = State Heritage Inventory

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[8] *p.351 in Garran, A. (Editor) (1888) Picturesque Atlas of Australasia; our country: as it was and as it is From 1606 to 1888. Volume 1. Sydney & Melbourne: Picturesque Atlas Publishing Co., Limited. 530pp.*
[Mitchell Library F919.40431/1 vol.] [Blue Mountains Historical Society Library, Wentworth Falls]

[9] *See reference 7, p.77.*

[10] *Anonymous (1831) Shipping Intelligence. Arrivals. Sydney Gazette, 15 October 1831, p.2, col.3*

[11] *See reference 5.*

[12] *See reference 5 and reference 3, item 3.*

[121] *See reference 19.*

[13] *See reference 3, item 3.*

[14] *Anonymous (1892) Railway Time-table – Great Western Line. Katoomba Times, 10 June 1892, p.4, cols.5-6.[BMHS Railway Timetables F351]*

[15] *See reference 5.*

[16] *Anonymous (1891b) Funerals. Sydney Morning Herald, 7 October 1891, p.8, col.1.*

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[26] *Darling, Miss (1897) Advertisement. Sydney Morning Herald, 29 December 1897, p.1, col.6.*

[27] *Anonymous (1891e) Blackheath. Sydney Morning Herald,19 December 1891, p.6, col.1.*

[28] *Darling, Miss (1898) Advertisement. Sydney Morning Herald, 8 June 1898, p.1, col.5.*

[29] *Darling, Miss (1900) Advertisement. Sydney Morning Herald, 28 March 1900, p.5, col.4.*

[30] *CT (1962) Certificate of Title Vol.8393, Fol.17; 31 August 1962. [Land Titles Office, Sydney].*

Dirk Hartog – 400 Years Celebration 1616 – 2016

The landing of Dutch East India Company (VOC) Captain Dirk Hartog at Cape Inscription WA in his ship the *Eendracht,* on 25 October 1616, sailing from the Dutch port of Texel along the Brouwer route, and making landfall on an island in the mouth of the current-day Shark Bay, marked the first formally recorded European contact with Western Australia.
This event has been celebrated by both the Dutch and Australian communities during 2016 with events taking place all over Australia. This 400 year relationship between the two countries has stretched into a connection that stretches far beyond the close political and economic ties.

Dirk Hartog

DIRK HARTOG
1616 - 2016
Marking our history, celebrating our future.

Anniversary Logo

Pewter plate

The year was launched in January 2016 with a Dutch orchestral performance in Sydney. On 1 October 2016 a seminar was held at History House, Sydney "In the Wake of Dirk Hartog: The Contribution of Dutch Exploration to Australia's History. The keynote speaker was Dr Edward Duyker OAM, and the day's program also included Paul Brunton OAM, Linda Emery, Dr Karen Entwistle, and Professor Adrien Vickers. Other actions included the creation of replicas of the pewter plate, and installation of interpretive panels at Cape Inscription.
The many events culminated in the commemorative function on 25 October 2016 at Cape Inscription on Dirk Hartog Island, hosted by the WA State Government.

Painting of the ship Eendracht & fleet by Willem van de Velde II

When Hartog landed in WA he left behind a pewter plate, realising that it was essential he leave evidence of his visit. He had his crew flatten a pewter dinner plate and engrave details of their trip. This was then nailed to an oak post and set in a rock fissure on the cliff above the beach. This plate is the oldest known European object ever found on Australian soil. The Island was named for Hartog.

Patsy Moppett

Further information with regard to the celebrations can be seen at the purpose-built website www.dirkhartog2016.nl

References:

History, RAHS Magazine September 2016, Number 129
www.dirkhartog2016.nl
Great South Land, Rob Mundle 2015
The Great Race, David Hill 2012

The Technical Side

Coopers and Hoopers

Cooperage or coopering is the ancient craft of barrel making, a rare trade that results in a water-tight, wooden vessel held together by nothing more than the hoops that surround it. The word cooperage also refers to the place or building where the craft takes place.
The *cooper* is a person in this trade, who makes and/or repairs utensils, casks, buckets, drums and barrels from wood, but occasionally from other materials (plastics, stainless steel, pallets and corrugated cardboard). The cooper usually learned his trade from a master craftsman over several years.

Coopers and hoopers at work

The craft involves making wooden staved vessels, bound together with hoops, and possessing flat ends or heads. The *hooper* was the man who fitted the metal hoops around the barrels or buckets.
Barrels have been used for over 2,000 years, dating back to Roman times, replacing clay pots. The French (the Gauls) claimed to be the first coopers, and there were coopers guilds in the early Middle Ages in France and England.
There were coopers and there were coopers!

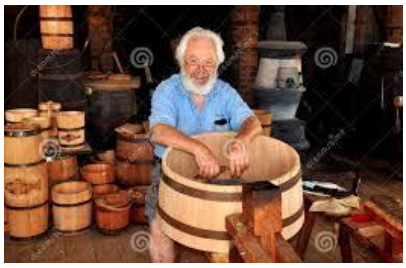
- The “dry” or “slack” cooper made containers for dry goods such as cereals, nails and tobacco, which were varnished.
- The “dry-tight cooper” made casks designed to store dry goods in and moisture out. Such as gunpowder and flour.
- The “white” cooper made straight stave containers like wash tubs and buckets which would hold water.
- The ”wet” or “tight” cooper made vessels for long term storage and transportation of liquids, such as beer.
- The “general” cooper worked on ships, on the docks and in warehouses, being responsible for cargo while in storage or transit.

Coopers guilds were common

Barrels are made much the same as they originally were. Few tools are used, and those included a saw and axe, planes, a croze and knives. Today power tools are sometimes used. Bob Butler worked at the Penfolds Winery back in 2002 in the Barossa Valley. He

explains that they have a great attachment to their tools. They “put them to bed” each night in a pile of wood shavings, so that the wood absorbs any moisture and helps prevent any rust.

The oak wood is carefully chosen and aged, the staves are carefully prepared, and the actual construction quite like the original methods. A skilled cooper could also mend a broken stave without losing the contents.
The choice of wood determined the quality of the end barrel – the age of the trees, the location in which they are grown, and the growing conditions of that area. French, American, Hungarian oaks are mostly used, the choice of which can determine the flavor of the wine, and trees chosen are usually 80-100 years old.
The wood must be straight and knot free, the grain tight and the tannin content high. Once the wood is staved it is stored in tiers exposed to weather and the elements to age and mature for several years.



The art has changed little

Once partly complete the barrel is toasted over an open flame to char the inside of the barrel to whatever level of toasting the client requires, and to enable the remaining iron bands to be attached. All measuring is by hand and eye. A barrel does not contain glue or nails or screws.
The terminology in the craft is quire specific, as with other rare trades:

- *Staves* – are created from oak that must be straight, knot-free, and properly aged, they are shaped and fitted together in a precise pattern that will render the finished barrel water-tight.
- *Hoops* are usually metal – steel, copper or iron. The chime hoop is at the outer edges, the quarter hoop is about ¼ of the way to the centre, French hoops are between the quarter hoop and the bilge hoop. The bilge hoop goes around the widest part of the barrel.
- *Chime* – the beveled edge at the top and bottom of the barrel where the ends of all the staves come together.
- *Croze* – is the groove that is created at the top and bottom of the barrel staves, created to hole the head. The tool used to make this groove is also called a croze.
- *Head* – is the flat circular top or bottom of the barrel. Each barrel is unique, so each head must be measured and created for the barrel it will fit.

Barrels from Spain in use at the Joadja distillery 2016

Today the cooper is mostly engaged in barrel making for the wine and spirits industry. In Medieval times, they were often portrayed as fat people, the story being that they needed a large belly to hold the barrel in place! The talent and skill required however, is unmatched today as a manual art form.
Now also used commonly as a surname, the word was derived from Middle Dutch or Middle Low German, originating from the Latin *cupa*, a tun or barrel. A coffin maker was sometimes known as a cooper as well. The namesake has been based therefore, on an ancient trade and art form.

References:
Wikipedia
www.wooodenbarrelwarehouse.com
Rare Trades – National Museum of Australia
Rare Trades, Mark Thompson 2002

Mystery photo

BMACHO has been set a challenge to assist the community in identifying some "mystery" photos! The first is a snowman!!! Actually, it is the location of the snowy gent that we need to know!

The writer advises that his mother's first snowman peeps into the photograph, where John Low proposes the location is other than Blackheath. The writer's mother stayed in the mountains for her winter holiday from Adelaide, probably in the early 1940s, and possibly suffering from a broken heart having lost her beau aboard the ill-fated Sydney (sunk 19/11/41).
The photograph is pasted into their family album and captioned in his mother's hand - "*My first & last snowman. Bless him"* and "*Rowena Dunkley's Home, Blackheath, NSW".* (In the 1936 Electoral Roll, Stan & Rona Dunkley lived at Eveleigh Avenue, Blackheath).
Does the building in the background give us any clues? *Patsy Moppett*

Please send any ideas in to BMACHO, to be passed on to the writer.

Email: committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au or *j.koperberg@bigpond.com*

Community events & updates

Arcadian Artists 2016 – Exhibition & Art Trail

The Arcadian Artists' "Art Trail" takes you through Dural, Galston, Arcadia, Fiddletown and Berrilee and entices the people of Sydney, Blue Mountains, the south and north coast of New South Wales and beyond to experience the special talent exhibited by their Australian artists. All work is handmade by their exhibitors.

This year they are excited to be including two new private Studios along the "Trail". Both these venues are in the Galston area.

On the weekend of November 12th and 13th, bring along family and friends, and drive through the beautiful semi-rural area of Sydney's Hornsby and the Hills Shire's. You will be captivated by the work presented along the trail visiting eight (8) private studios opening for the weekend. There will be over 50 artists exhibiting, many of whom will be demonstrating their skills.

Entry is free. Visitors are given the exclusive opportunity to view and purchase unique artworks from their creators. The works available include such items as paintings, printmaking, sculpture, glass, mosaics, ceramics, textiles, felt work, jewellery, leather, timber work, book making and handmade shoes.

Exhibitors are by invitation only and this year will include our very own Leura bodger, Roy Davi, as featured in *Heritage* November-December 2015. Roy will be wood turning at Pine Valley Studio at 6 Galston Valley Road, Galston.

Roy advises: "*Pole lathe greenwood turning is my passion. My enthusiasm for this ancient craft began many years ago when I first came across 'bodging' – the traditional craft of greenwood turning. Bodging was developed in medieval times and later used for creating fine furniture including the classic Windsor chair. More recently I have broadened my interests and now create my own style of greenwood furniture as well as traditionally crafted wooden household utensils"*.

Patsy Moppett

Roy at work

Contacts:
www.arcadianartists.com.au
www.theleurabodger.com.au
E: roydavi@mail.com *Ph: 0435 491 427*

Royal Australian Historical Society Conference 2016
Times Are A-Changing – History & Innovation

The 2016 RAHS Conference was held at Centro CBD, Wollongong (28 Stewart St. Wollongong NSW) on Saturday 22nd – Sunday 23rd October 2016.

The Conference examined how the digital revolution is impacting the way we research and produce history. There is also an increasing appetite for local and community history that connects people to their identity and place.

Sublime Point Lookout, Wollongong c.1925

The Conference showed how history plays a critical role in advocacy campaigns to ensure that these places remain part of our cultural landscape in this era of widespread urban development. How historical societies engage with these developments is critical to ensure their continued relevancy in 21st century Australia.

Patsy Moppett

For the conference program and more information, visit:
www.rahs.org.au/2016-royal-australian-historical-society-conference
Enquiries:
02 9247 8001 or
E: history@rahs.org.au

Crago Observatory Tour

Commemorate the work of the Hawkesbury's famous astronomer (1834-1916) with a visit to Crago Observatory at Bowen Mountain for a viewing of the night sky, on Saturday 5 November at 5.30pm. Tebbutt's Crater on the moon, as well as Mars, Venus and Saturn (weather obliging) will be visible.

Crago Observatory

John Tebbutt

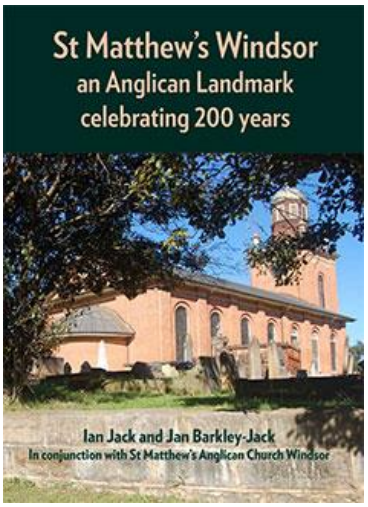
Crago Observatory is the Astronomical Society of NSW (ASNSW)'s "local" dark sky observing site at Bowen Mountain, located a short distance from the northern end of Lt Bowen Road. The Observatory consists of a large rotating dome housing a high class 16" Dobsonian Telescope, fitted with Argo Navis and ServoCAT as well as a wide range of eyepieces and star charts available for use with the telescope. *Patsy Moppett*
Tour participants will meet at the museum. Bookings are essential. Ph: 02 4560 4655.

St Matthews Windsor Celebrates 200 years

St Matthews Anglican Church in Windsor is set to celebrate 200 years with the launch of a new book by Jan Barkley-Jack and Dr Ian Jack on 12 November 2016 on the history of the

church. The launch will be undertaken at the beginning of their Bicentennial Year and will be attended by The Honourable Dame Marie Bashir AD CVO.
Francis Greenway's church has become a landmark, religious, social and architectural, in the town of Windsor and far beyond. Its commanding presence in the upper Hawkesbury valley began early in the European history of the third area farmed on the Australian mainland and is still potent today.

St Mathews, Windsor



The book analyses the architectural heritage within its social context. The orange-pink glow of the bricks, the elegant lines and softly repetitive arched windows tell why St Matthew's has been cited as its ex-convict architect's masterpiece.
This is a new study of St Matthew's first 200 years, told not just as bricks, mortar, sandstone and cedar, but of its people in the river valley. This book recreates the life and aspirations of the Anglican community which has created and preserved this rare, early church.

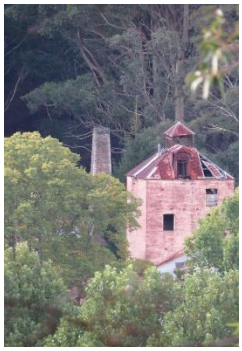
Patsy Moppett

The book will be available from November from Rosenberg Publishing for $29.95.

References:
Rosenberg Publishing
Community Bicentennial Team

Murder Mystery at the Brewery

On November 4th the Old Zig Zag Brewery at Lithgow (c.1893) will offer the perfect backdrop for a night of mystery and murder hosted by the Lithgow Regional Branch of the National Trust NSW.
"A Chocolate Orange", concerning the mysterious goings-on in the making of a new film is a comedy twist on the name of the seventies-style thriller 'A Clockwork Orange'. It is performed by the Bathurst Theatre Company and Mountain Murder Mysteries. The latter group is well known locally, having previously entertained visitors in the breathtaking setting of Jenolan Caves.



To open the night Vaughan Bryers, official Zig Zag Brewery historian, will link history and whodunit and introduce the villains and heroes in the Brewery's past.
Seventies dress is optional, and if you front up in the flamboyant and colourful clothes of that era worn by men and women alike, prizes are on offer. You could join the characters to track down vital evidence, or just sit back and work out who did it. *Lithgow National Trust*

Show and 2-course dinner:
Brewery Lane, Lithgow, 6.30pm on Friday 4th November.
Tickets: $60 per person from Readers Heaven Books, Lithgow – 0474 957 856 or from Lithgow National Trust branch – 02 6359 3109

Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences (MAAS) Regional Stakeholder Forum

This annual forum is an opportunity for the regional museums and collectors sector to get together, discuss current topics and be inspired by new ideas. It is designed for regional stakeholders, such as;

- Volunteers.
- Arts development officers.
- Museum Advisors.
- Program producers.
- Regional cultural sector advisors.

Speakers include:

- Ray Christison, President, Lithgow State Mine Heritage Park
- Ann Frederick, Transport Heritage NSW
- Michael Rolfe – CEO Museums & Galleries of NSW
- Tamara Hynd & Toni Lindwall – Shellharbour City Council
- Luke Grealy - Museums of the Riverina
- Yvonne Rutledge - Museum Advisor for St John Museum, Unley, SA and Broken Hill Museums NSW
- Kerry-Ann Jones - Executive Director, South West Arts
- Marcus Hughes - Indigenous Program Producer, MAAS
- Elliott Bledsoe - Queensland Writers Group
- Susan Davis - Secretary, Historian & Archivist, The Oaks Historical Society
- Cathy Mann – Holbrook Submarine Museum

The Introduction will be done by Tristan Sharp, MAAS Director, and the Welcome to Country and summing up will be done by Deborah Vaughan.

The Forum will be held on Friday 11 November 2016, from 9am to 3.30pm at the Powerhouse Museum, 500 Harris Street, Ultimo NSW. The event is free but registrations are essential. It includes morning/afternoon tea and a light lunch. The full program can be seen at www.maaas.museum.org.au *Patsy Moppett*

National Trust Heritage Festival 2017 – *Having a Voice*

The National Trust Heritage Festival began back in 1980 and has become Australia's biggest festival of heritage and culture. There is a new name and a new home for event organisers to register their events and join an amazing network of local organisers across the country.

In the last 36 years the Heritage Festival has become the largest and longest running grass roots national festival of its type, with up to 1,400 events bringing together people all over Australia to celebrate what makes their neighbourhood special. Each year stories are told, traditions explored and histories brought to life through activities like guided walks, talks, tours, demonstrations and hands on history experiences for people of all ages.

The time is right for a different approach both to the festival itself and in the way it is marketed and communicated, it in order to secure its sustainability both now and into the future.

Emu Plains

Glenbrook

Windsor

Some things won't change. The NT still want everybody to join them in celebrating Australia's historic, natural and Aboriginal heritage during the months of April and May. The changes they have made are designed to make the festival more exciting and inclusive and are about being part of the community.

The first stage of this new approach is a revised registration process. This will soon be live on their website and you will be able to click on "How to get involved" to be taken to a page full of information on how to register your event. For the first time they have entry criteria so you may be sure that the event you are registering stays true to the ethos of the festival of encouraging different interpretations of heritage and culture around the country.

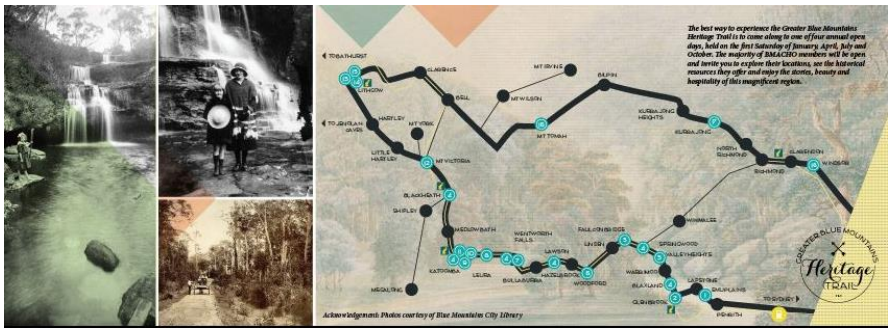
The 2017 Festival will run from 18th April until May 21st 2017. The theme for 2017 will be *"Having a Voice"* which calls on communities to champion their local heritage and show their support for cultural and historic assets on their doorsteps.

The NT are finalising an exciting new registration portal which will be up and running in the

next few weeks. They will email out to their database again with more details and when registrations are about to open, and BMACHO will publish information as it comes to hand. In addition, there are other exciting initiatives coming up next year which will help make the Festival even bigger and better for all concerned. *Patsy Moppett*

Contact: Kay Proos: Heritage Festival Coordinator and Events Manager, National Trust of Australia (NSW)
Hours: Monday – Thursday 9am – 4pm
Ph: 02 9258 0112
Email: kproos@nationaltrust.com.au
Upper Fort Street, Observatory Hill (Millers Point), NSW 2000
PO Box 518, Sydney, NSW 2001
http://www.nationaltrust.org.au/nsw

Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail



The Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail enables travellers to experience the history and landscapes, and the extensive sources of archives, images and stories presented by members of the Trail. In addition, the Trail draws in eateries and accommodation venues along the way. Brochures are available at participating businesses and Visitor Information Centres from Parramatta through to Orange, from Hawkesbury to Wollondilly, and out through Oberon to the Jenolan Caves.

Open Days: Following consideration of feedback from the various member groups over the past year of Open Days held, the BMACHO Committee has decided not to continue with the official Open Days beyond October 2016. For a variety of reasons, weather conditions, clash of events, lack of resources and staff at venues, etc the Open Days could not be further justified.

A number of other options are being considered by the Committee for 2017, when the Trail brochure is due for reprinting.

Feedback from members, however, is always welcome on any aspect of the Trail!

Email: committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au or *j.koperberg@bigpond.com*
See www.heritagedrive.com.au or www.facebook.com/GBMHeritageTrail

Merry Christmas and a Happy & Safe New Year!

From the BMACHO Committee

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

Registered office: 1/19 Stypandra Place, Springwood 2777. (02) 4751 5834
Email: committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au or j.koperberg@bigpond.com
Website: www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au **ABN**: 53 994 839 952

The organisation: Blue Mountains Association of Cultural & Heritage Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 after local historical and heritage societies and individuals recognised the need for the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the local government area (LGA) of Blue Mountains City Council. The constituency now embraces but is not limited to, the LGAs of Blue Mountains, Lithgow, Hawkesbury, Penrith and Mudgee. BMACHO membership includes historical and heritage groups, museums, commercial enterprises with an historical or heritage component in its core business, local government (local studies units, library collections) and a limited number of individual members by invitation such as but not necessarily academics. The objectives of the organisation are:

1. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage
2. To encourage and assist cultural heritage
3. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations.

One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

Affiliations: BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society and is affiliated with the Better Planning Network.

Publications: BMACHO's official newsletter ***Heritage*** is edited by Patsy Moppett. The annual refereed *Blue Mountains History Journal* is edited by Dr Peter Rickwood and occasional papers are published from time to time.

Membership: The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mt Tomah; Blue Mountains City Library; Blue Mountains Cultural Heritage Centre; Blue Mountain Education & Research Trust; Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc; Bygone Beautys Treasured Teapot Museum and Tearooms; City of Lithgow Mining Museum Inc; Day Fine Art; Eskbank Rail Heritage Centre; Everglades Historic House & Gardens; Norman Lindsay Gallery; Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc; Hartley Valley District Progress Association; Hawkesbury Historical Society Inc; Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc; Leurella NSW Toy & Railway Museum; Lithgow & District Family History Society Inc; Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies; Mt Victoria & District Historical Society Inc; Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine Historical Society Inc (including Turkish Bath Museum); National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Blue Mountains Branch; National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Lithgow Branch; Nepean District Historical Society Inc; Paragon Cafe, Katoomba; Scenic World Blue Mountains Limited; Springwood & District Historical Society Inc; Springwood Historians Inc; Transport Signal Communication Museum Inc; The Darnell Collection P/L; Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Heritage Museum, Woodford Academy Management Committee, Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd.
The following are individual members: Fiona Burn, Ray Christison, Wayne Hanley, Associate Professor Ian Jack, Joan Kent, Ian Milliss, Patsy Moppett and Dr Peter Rickwood.

Committee: The management committee for 2016-2017 (from April 2016) is: Patsy Moppett (President and ***Heritage*** Newsletter Editor), Ian Jack (Vice President), Jan Koperberg (Secretary), Philip Hammon (Treasurer), Scott Pollock and Wendy Hawkes (web site), Dick Morony (Public Officer/Membership Secretary/ Calendar Editor), Suzanne Smith and Laura Stinson (Events and Venue Co-ordinators), Roy Bennett, and Lynn Collins, Museums Advisor.
Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail sub-committee: Scott Pollock, Laura Stinson, Wendy Hawkes & Jan Koperberg.

Disclaimer: views and opinions expressed in Heritage originate from many sources and contributors. Every effort is taken to ensure accuracy of material. Content does not necessarily represent or reflect the views and opinions of BMACHO, its committee or its members. If errors are found feedback is most welcome.

Heritage

Newsletter of the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc

November-December 2016 *ISSUE 47*

ISSN 2203-4366

Course de Circuit Hartley

Following on from the previous issue of Heritage, another local racing circuit was located in the Hartley Valley, south east of Lithgow. It operated from approximately 1910 to 1938, although these dates are uncertain. It ceased at the beginning of WWII and never restarted, as by then the Mount Panorama circuit had opened. The course was 6.035km (3.75 miles) in length and went in a clockwise direction. Buses conveyed people from Lithgow at a cost of 4/- return. The original racing surface is long gone, the track is now partly bitumen and partly gravel, and the existing roads still follow the original route.

Used mostly for motorbikes and sidecars, it hosted the Tourist Trophy and other events on Anniversary Day January 26 each year. After each event many farm fences required re straining as spectators sat on the fences to watch!

It was a very fast circuit with the Hartley Vale Road and Browns Gap Road sections being reasonably straight, flat and about 2 kilometres in length. The Mid Hartley Road section was somewhat more challenging with blind crests and two very fast sweeping corners. There were three corners that caused more accidents than any other part of the circuit. Mount York Corner, A. Butta's Corner and J. Morris' Corner, being almost hairpins, creating a sudden end to the long straights.

In 1924 the event was reported to have a good attendance and good racing. The events held were the 50 miles under 600cc, 25 miles sidecar handicap, 50 miles handicap all powers, and the 25 miles open championship.

In 1925 Blaxland Shire Council placed a veto on road racing which, if enforced, would have prevented the January carnival from taking place. The Council was approached to have the restriction relaxed. Club representatives met with the Council to discuss the veto, at Mr Bird's shop days before the scheduled carnival, and the carnival was able to go ahead with a record number of entries (83 for the four solo events).

The sidecar event was not held as there were only two competitors. The crowd swelled to 1,500 people, and AJS machines secured first in all events. Other bikes featured included New Imperial, BSA, Douglas, Harley Davidson and Norton.

The 1925 event included the 25 mile State Championship, and the State's best riders were competing. The first race commenced at 9.30am, and the event included luncheon on the grounds. The President of the Lithgow MCC at the time was G Smith, and the Honorary Secretary was PE Farthing. Entrants included Tom O'Dea, Gus Clifton and Stewart Williams. The Lithgow Mercury reported that the course was again very safe and maintained its reputation of not having a serious accident in 15 years. Events included the 25 mile novice handicap, the 25 miles (500cc and under), the 100 mile (all powers) handicap, and the State Championship.

In the State Championship, a novel scheme was introduced to prevent crowding at the start. There were 18 entries, but only nine faced the starter. The first division was allowed halfway around the course before the second was started.

In 1926 the annual carnival was again held, although numbers were affected by big events at Maroubra speedway, and an idea on the part of many metropolitan riders, that the Blaxland Shire would not sanction racing over the course.

The large trees in the vicinity of the starting point at "Stormville", owned by Mr R Jones, afforded shade for spectators and competitors, many picnicing under the trees. Mrs Jones served a nice lunch at the homestead. The president was Mr G Tyrer, and the Honorary Secretary was Mr Roy Boon. Major incidents were avoided other than a few spills which resulted in gravel rash. Unfortunately, the biggest event, the 100 mile handicap, was marred by a large bushfire which developed across a portion of the road. The riders persisted and the event was not cancelled, but reduced in length to 25 miles so the riders did not have to pass through the smoke too often!

The following years would prove just as difficult to organise the event, with the 1927 meet being the last for nine years. In 1936, motorcycles returned to the circuit with the event being eventually discontinued.

The large tree on what is now the corner of Browns Gap Road and Fields Road, was often an obstacle and the route was diverted to the northern side of the tree to minimise mishaps.

Later in 1936, the Tourist Trophy was held on January 27 and attracted several thousand people. Three accidents marred the day but no one was seriously hurt, although hospitalisation was required in all three cases. The Mount York corner claimed one victim, when the chassis of a sidecar collapsed, hurling the rider into the fence. The passenger escaped injury. The events held were the Junior Tourist Trophy (under 350cc), Lightweight Championship Scratch Race (under 250cc), Lithgow Handicap (all powers sidecars), NSW Senior TT Championship (all powers) and the Blaxland Handicap (all power solo).
In 1937 the Blaxland Shire Council refused permission for road closures, and the event was moved to 3 January 1938, with practice held the previous weekend.
Management of the races eventually was given over to the Western Suburbs Club.
One bizarre story reported by Old Bike Australasia involved the Italian man who ran the provisions stall from his front yard. He was found murdered, and several local youths were arrested. They believed that he had a stash of cash in his house, which proved to be quite false.

Patsy Moppett

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Lithgow Mercury, January 1924
Lithgow Mercury, January 1925
Lithgow Mercury, 25 January 1926
Lithgow Mercury, 28 January 1936
Recollections of Chris Bird
Recollections of Michael Coomb
General research by Rohan Moppett
Tracks in Time, Hartley Vale, Old Bike Australasia May-June 2010

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Food for thought ..... Editor's note

With the Christmas season on us again already, I will not regale you with deep and meaningful philosophical thoughts on history and on heritage conservation! There are too many exciting events coming up over the Christmas break and many intriguing conferences and forums in 2017 to look forward to, which will enable the community to make its own observations on the past, and to make decisions about future directions of heritage.
The BMACHO Committee hope you enjoy the selection of articles in this issue, where a variety of topics has been researched to entertain members and non-members over the Christmas break.

Kamloops Heritage Railway Steam Train, British Colombia

We hope you enjoy the content of *Heritage* No. 47 as much as we enjoy presenting it to you. We always welcome articles from the community, so would encourage these at any time. Merry Christmas and a happy and safe New Year! Looking forward to sharing heritage in 2017!

Centenary of The Paragon

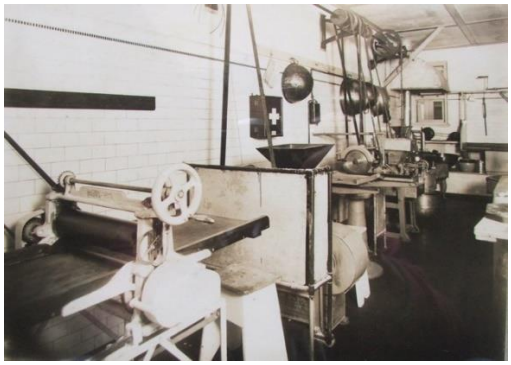
The Blue Mountains Historical Society has joined with lessee Robyn Parker and Friends of the Paragon to celebrate the centenary of this iconic Katoomba business.
Fifteen year old Greek Zacharias Simos arrived in Sydney on 13 May, 1912 per Omrah (Orient Line), worked in a Greek café in Tenterfield for 18 months, then in Sydney for 2½ years[i] before leasing the 1909 Katoomba building housing the "Devonshire Tea Room" in 1916.
He was joined later by brothers Peter, and George, a confectioner. The tea room became The Paragon Café and Oyster Palace, and specialised in late suppers for patrons after evening dances and shows. Patrons included many affluent holiday makers who stayed at The Carrington or The Ritz at Leura. Simos grasped the opportunity to develop the niche market. His first advertisement[ii] was as Z Simos & Co., Proprietors.

Grocers in upper mountains towns delivered locally on set days, but not broadly across the mountains, with perishable goods such as oysters and lobsters. He set a standard, challenging others to follow. Following Simos' business names can be a challenge too. There have been many changes over the past century but The Paragon has continued at the same site. Zacharias, known as Jack, took many risks but seems to have had an uncanny ability to foresee and capitalise on business opportunities. Once he owned the building, he set about fitting out the upstairs area for accommodation, an office, storage area, a bakery, and a chocolate factory, the latter run by brother George. Business expanded rapidly.
In addition to the culinary delights and late night service, Jack enhanced visitors' experience over the years by what could be simply called decorating the walls and developing specialist rooms. He travelled through Europe for a year or so, seeking out the best the world had to offer at that time. Nothing less than the best would do for his business in the relatively small holiday town of Katoomba in the Blue Mountains. One can only wonder what the locals thought of his early endeavours!

The café area

The chocolate selection 2016

In 1921 The Paragon was advertised as a Sundae and Candy Shop by Z Simos, Proprietor. The celebration of the official opening of the dance room in conjunction with the Paragon Sundae Shop was a major event in Katoomba and was highly praised. Guests were delighted by the modern architecture still with the comforts they enjoyed, the decorations, mirrors and the attention to detail. Local Radio 2KA broadcast from The Paragon and The Katoomba Daily[iii] wrote a rave review. In addition, they raised funds for Shuna, the Red Cross Home for Girls.
His promotions emphasised the products made in the store including chocolates, peanut brittle and many other goodies. In 1924 Jack purchased the property freehold[iv] and began the development of accommodation, office, chocolate factory, bakery and storage rooms upstairs.
In 1926 he was ready to refit the Tea Room into a Viennese Style Café. Jack employed the best shop fitting designers available, Harry and Ernest Sidgreaves (Ltd). His focus was on locating the best and latest, so travelled through Europe in 1929.



Machinery upstairs (photo courtesy) Robyn Parker

Banquet hall 2016

He met American born Greek Maria Panaretos in Kythera where she was holidaying with her parents. They married in USA in 1930 and returned to Australia. Maria, (Mary) a calm, very capable lady was an asset to the business with her welcoming manner and practical approach.

Jack employed the creative theatre architect, G N Kenworthy, as designer for the two back rooms. The Banquet Hall, with its Pre-Columbian decoration, was completed in 1934 and the Ocean Liner style Blue Room completed in 1936. Dr Ian Jack's well illustrated article on The Paragon was published by BMACHO and can be accessed online as BMACHO History Journal No. 5, pages 1 to 12.

In 1937 Jack was a foundation member of the Katoomba Rotary Club, the first on the Blue Mountains, and made The Paragon available for meetings. It was just part of his ongoing community service.

The situation was very different with the outbreak of WW2[v] as the whole population was affected and although 70 years have passed many families still live or have connections with mountains residents. In 1939 the Australian Government played down the possibility of war to minimise panic, while at the same time was preparing bills to be introduced immediately if, or when, war was declared. Within a week the Federal Parliament had met and implemented the National Security Bill, imposed censorship of the press, introduced categories of goods to be price controlled and other severe measures. Further restrictions were announced in the following week.

In 1940, at the start of WW2, Jack and Mary Simos selected architect G N Kenworthy to design a home for them at 12 Narrow Neck Road, Katoomba. At the same time Jack was involved in some way with the formation of The Paragon at Goulburn about 1940. Australia was already sending food to Britain as well as to Australian forces overseas, and was increasingly supplying food to the United States, British, Dutch and Free French navies in the Pacific. Australia's population of 7 million was producing food for 13 million … and this continued to 1945 and beyond.

Rationing was introduced to meet the demand as fairly as possible. The term rationing was originally used only for goods for which coupons as well as money were required. Clothing was first, on 24 June 1942, then tea. Australia was a nation of tea drinkers but when the Japanese overran Malaya that source ceased. Neither India nor Ceylon could make up the shortfall and shipping was unavailable even if the tea was. Tea coupon rationing was introduced on 6 July 1942 when the amount set was 1.5 ounces (56g) per person for five weeks. In effect it allowed for 2 or 3 cups of tea per day for all over 9 years of age. There are still locals who remember mother drying used tea leaves in the oven to eke out the tea further. There were relatively minor changes in quantities of rationed foods and drinks at times. This was followed by coupons for sugar and butter – all lasting until after the war was over. Supplies may or may not arrive on time, or even at all.

There were special instructions for registered businesses that provided casual meals such as The Paragon. The coupon system had to be met, not only for tea, but also sugar from 29 August and for butter on 7 June 1943. That was the first Australian produced food to be

rationed, followed by meat on 14 January 1944. Each had to meet the coupon system[vi] and lasted for years after the war.
Yet the family, and their employees, met the challenges through all those years.
In 1947 the Simos employed the Danish sculptor, Otto Steen, to carve 12 alabaster friezes to be attached to the maple-wood walls of the dining room, thus changing to a Greek theme. The Art Deco style classical Grecian figures in bas-relief are just one of the Paragon's treasures.
The Paragon continued to flourish under the Simos family in the ever changing conditions of the post war period. The years were catching up, Jack died in 1976 and Mary carried on. Their son Theodore, a lawyer, was concerned that she was not coping well and approached Stuart Chandler to "run" the business. This he did from 1977 to.1982 and he has generously told us more about her at the time. In Stuart's words: "*My memories of Mary are of a generous and welcoming person who showed great pride in the business and her husband's achievements. Although she left me to manage the day to day operations, she still worked seven days a week, serving chocolates and bakery goods behind the counter. She made coffees and often set up the window display of cream cakes, scones and pastries early each morning. However, Mary was best known for the warm way she greeted customers, personally seating many of them in the café. Even at her age, she rarely stopped for a break and would often be seen sitting near the counter, wrapping the freshly made famous Waratah Chocolate Bars in foil or the individual pieces of nougat in rice paper*."
The Paragon was recognised by The National Trust and placed on the Australian Heritage Commission's 1977 Register of the National Estate.
The Simos era ended with Mary's passing in 2001.
On Sunday 28 August, Sunday 25 September and Saturday 1 October 2016 there was the opportunity to find out more about parts of The Paragon not seen, the industrial activities undertaken upstairs, and further information on both the early Viennese style decoration and the later Art Deco for which the building is renowned. Who were the designers? When and why did they change to Art Deco style? Many changes have occurred over the century including fashions, worn by brides at their weddings at The Paragon. You can follow more of the story on the Facebook sites, Blue Mountains Historical Society, Tarella Cottage Museum and Friends of The Paragon.

Friends of the Paragon meet to celebrate the inclusion of the café on the State Heritage Register in 2015

This was a rare opportunity to find out about the equipment of yesteryear, what they were and how they were used. Friends of the Paragon were present to point out key features and answer questions. The Exhibition was held in the Tarella Cottage Museum, in the grounds of Blue Mountains Historical Society, 99 Blaxland Road, Wentworth Falls from 10am to 4pm.

Linsi Braith & Joan Edwards

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[1] *NAA*
[2] *15 September 1916*
[3] *The Katoomba Daily, Tuesday 17th December 1935.*
[4] *Katoomba Rate Assessment Book*
[5] *WW2 from Mums, Children & Mustard Gas, Joan & Chris Edwards 2016*
[6] *Melbourne Commonwealth Rationing Commission 1950*

Mrs. Wilhelmina Dunmore Lang

The number of famous people who have visited the Blue Mountains must be both indeterminable and huge yet few are known to have died there whilst visiting. Just three spring to mind. Sir Edmund Barton, who died of heart failure in the Belgravia wing of the Hydro Majestic Hotel, Medlow Bath, at 9.00 a.m. on 7 January 1920[1] and then almost four decades later there was Professor V. Gordon Childe, who committed suicide by falling from Barrow Lookout, Blackheath on 19 October 1957[2]. But long before those there was Mrs. Wilhelmina Lang, the widow of the Rev. J. Dunmore Lang, who had the misfortune to die at *Heatherton*, Blackheath on Tuesday 6th October 1891 of influenza[3].

Wilhelmina Lang (née Mackie)

Wilhelmina was born in Greenock, Scotland on 24 September 1812[4] (Figure 2) the daughter of William and Mary Mackie and *"when she was eighteen she sailed for Australia, under the care of Dr. Lang, at that time distinguished for his active labours in the interests of religion and civilisation."* [5].

The background to this lady gives an insight to some of the moral standards of 19th Century Presbyterians for 18 year-old Wilhelmina Mackie had left Scotland with her cousin the Rev. Lang (Figure 1) who was 13 years older, and *"Rev. Lang was escorting his cousin Wilhelmina Mackie to Sydney to marry his brother, Andrew. However, he persuaded her to marry him whilst on board the ship 'Stirling Castle' in Simon's Bay, Cape of Good Hope on the 25th August, 1831*." [6].

It is said that she married him at *"Cape Town to avoid opposition from Lang's mother, anticipated because of the difference in their ages."!* [7] The matriarch, Mary Lang (née Dunmore), is said to have *"had formidable powers of moral indignation and such capacity for vituperation that in comparison her son's most savage strictures seemed but a mild remonstrance.*" [9].

Nevertheless, it seems incredible that Wilhelmina's parents (William and Mary Mackie) would have let a teenaged, vulnerable, inexperienced, spinster travel alone with a male

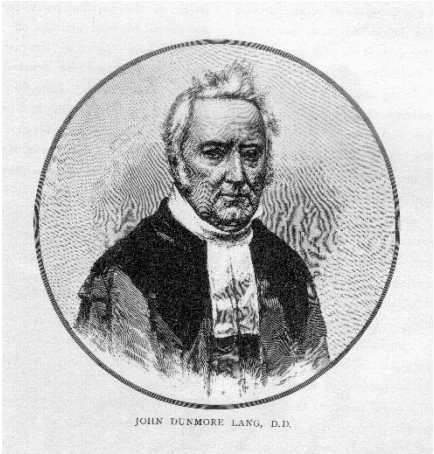

Figure 1. John Dunmore Lang, D.D.[8]

Figure 2. Mrs J. Dunmore Lang, ca 1880s

cousin, albeit that her escort was deeply religious. Seemingly at that time it was not deemed outrageous for young girls to be shipped off to distant parts of the globe to marry cousins but

one has to wonder what Andrew Lang thought of his brother for 'stealing' his bride-to-be. Clearly in the matter of love the Rev. Lang proved to be unscrupulous.
The *Stirling Castle* left Greenock on 1 June 1831 and arrived at Sydney on Thursday 13 October 1831 the couple being correctly listed as "Rev. Dr. Lang and Mrs. Lang" [10]. *"They took up their residence at No.11 Jamieson-street, Sydney, ... and which remained the home of his venerable widow till within four days of the end."*[11].
It was not a long street (now spelled Jamison) so that residence on the southern side was close to his Scots Presbyterian Church. The marriage was long and successful for they produced ten or eleven children (the count varies); two daughters were named Wilhelmina, the first died in 1845 aged just 6 weeks and was replaced by a second Wilhelmina in 1851 although she lasted just 15 months.
The Reverend John D. Lang pre-deceased his wife on 8 August 1878 and Wilhelmina (Figure 2) had been a widow for 13 years when she died on 6 October 1891[12] aged 78 having outlived at least six of her many children. Her body was taken down to Sydney promptly, supposedly on the mid-day train of the following day[13], for her funeral service was at 1.30 p.m. on Wednesday 7 October 1891 at the Scots Church although that cannot be correct; at that time[14] to arrive in Sydney for a 1:30 p.m. funeral it would have been necessary to catch the 8:08 a.m. train which arrived at 11.10 a.m. as the following 1:15 p.m. train did not arrive until 4:30 p.m. Interment followed in the family vault[15] at the Devonshire Street Presbyterian Cemetery[16] but when that ground was reclaimed for the Central Railway Station the remains must have been removed to Rookwood (grave 2307, Presbyterian Section, Rookwood Cemetery[17] (Figure 3).

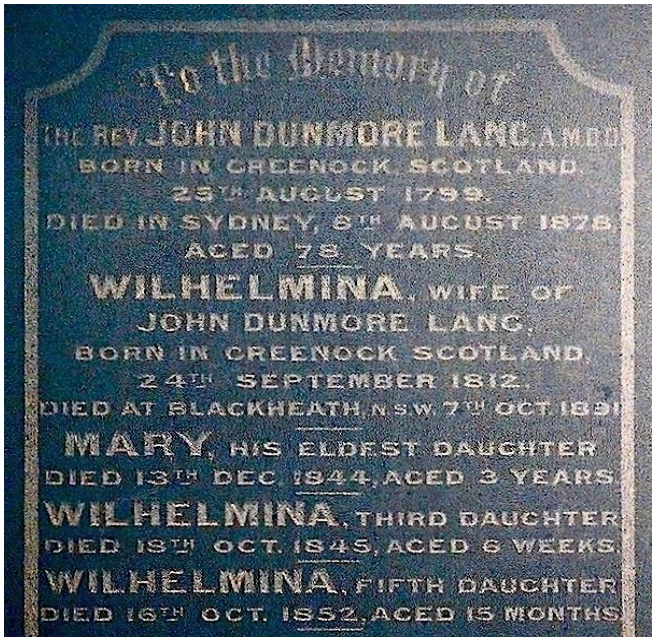

Figure 3. Lang Family, Rookwood Cemetery (Photo Peter Rickwood May 2012)
[The date of death is wrong.]

Heatherton, 47 Leichhardt Street, Blackheath. *(SHI 1170325)*
"A single storey house with a steeply pitched gabled roof with intersecting gables on the north and south sides. The house faces north overlooking a large garden." "Heatherton is a good representative example of a substantial Victorian Rustic Gothic residence. While this style is seen in the Blue Mountains in the extant gatekeeper's cottages, it is less common in privately built residences." [18].

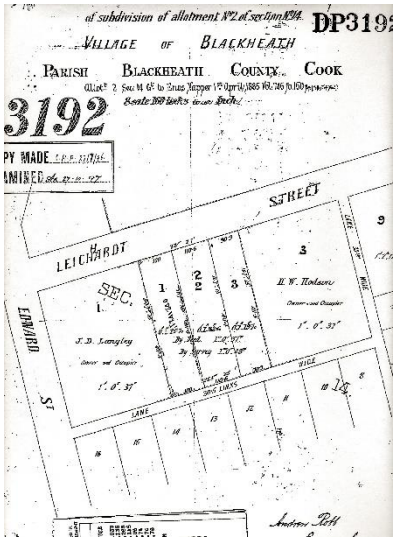

Figure 4. Part of DP 3192[19]

Figure 5. Heatherton[20]

Section 14, Lot 1 (bounded by Leichhardt Street, Prince Edward Street and Prince George Lane; DP3192[21] (Figure 4)) was bought by the Reverend John Douse Langley on 1 April 1885[22] and he had a furnished cottage constructed which was advertised for renting in October 1887[23].

"The house was built as a mountain retreat for the Anglican Bishop of Bathurst. Since St. Aidan's Anglican Church was within the Diocese of Sydney, the Leichhardt Street House was simply a holiday home for the Bathurst Bishop." [24].

With her clerical connections Wilhelmina Lang was almost certainly at Blackheath for a holiday when she died[25].

By the end of 1897 a school known as *Heatherton*[26] was operating in premises at 47 Leichhardt Street, Blackheath. Previously it had been called *Tusculum* a property which had been advertised as a *"large Furn. Cot., 4 min. station"* [27] so the School seems to have relocated further from the village centre to *Heatherton*. The school catered for *"Delicate children will have special attention, and elder girls taught Cookery and other home duties."* [28].

Seemingly, Miss Rebecca Darling, formerly Principal of St Catherine's School Waverley (1891-1895), advertised for the last time in 1900[29] with the enticement *"Bracing climate and thorough education."*

In 1962 the land was subdivided[30], *Heatherton* (Figure 5) being on Lot 1, the largest of seven, and extending from Leichhardt Street to Prince George Lane. *Heatherton* is set close to the middle of the block so from Leichhardt Street it is hidden from view behind a row of high bushes.

Peter C. Rickwood

Abbreviations:
BMCC = Blue Mountains City Council
CT = Certificate of Title
NSWBDM = New South Wales Births, Deaths and Marriages
NSWOE&H = NSW Office of Environment & Heritage
SAG = Society of Australian Genealogists
SHI = State Heritage Inventory

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[3] Anonymous (1891a) Deaths. Lang. Sydney Morning Herald, 7 October 1891, p.1, col.1.; Anonymous (1891c) Deaths - Lang. Sydney Morning Herald, 7 October 1891, p.12, col.1.;

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[6] *See reference 4.*

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[8] *p.351 in Garran, A. (Editor) (1888) Picturesque Atlas of Australasia; our country: as it was and as it is From 1606 to 1888. Volume 1. Sydney & Melbourne: Picturesque Atlas Publishing Co., Limited. 530pp.*
[Mitchell Library F919.40431/1 vol.] [Blue Mountains Historical Society Library, Wentworth Falls]

[9] *See reference 7, p.77.*

[10] *Anonymous (1831) Shipping Intelligence. Arrivals. Sydney Gazette, 15 October 1831, p.2, col.3*

[11] *See reference 5.*

[12] *See reference 5 and reference 3, item 3.*

[121] *See reference 19.*

[13] *See reference 3, item 3.*

[14] *Anonymous (1892) Railway Time-table – Great Western Line. Katoomba Times, 10 June 1892, p.4, cols.5-6.[BMHS Railway Timetables F351]*

[15] *See reference 5.*

[16] *Anonymous (1891b) Funerals. Sydney Morning Herald, 7 October 1891, p.8, col.1.*

[17] *SAG (2002) Rookwood Cemetery Transcriptions. Society of Australian Genealogists. Compact Disc. Transcription No. 47422.*

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[24] *See reference 18.*

[25] *BMCC (2000) Draft Review of Heritage Register. Stage 1. Mount Victoria to Leura. Blue Mountains City Council March 2000. Loose leaf. BH088, SHI 1170325, p.1.*

[26] *Darling, Miss (1897) Advertisement. Sydney Morning Herald, 29 December 1897, p.1, col.6.*

[27] *Anonymous (1891e) Blackheath. Sydney Morning Herald,19 December 1891, p.6, col.1.*

[28] *Darling, Miss (1898) Advertisement. Sydney Morning Herald, 8 June 1898, p.1, col.5.*

[29] *Darling, Miss (1900) Advertisement. Sydney Morning Herald, 28 March 1900, p.5, col.4.*

[30] *CT (1962) Certificate of Title Vol.8393, Fol.17; 31 August 1962. [Land Titles Office, Sydney].*

Dirk Hartog – 400 Years Celebration 1616 – 2016

The landing of Dutch East India Company (VOC) Captain Dirk Hartog at Cape Inscription WA in his ship the *Eendracht,* on 25 October 1616, sailing from the Dutch port of Texel along the Brouwer route, and making landfall on an island in the mouth of the current-day Shark Bay, marked the first formally recorded European contact with Western Australia.
This event has been celebrated by both the Dutch and Australian communities during 2016 with events taking place all over Australia. This 400 year relationship between the two countries has stretched into a connection that stretches far beyond the close political and economic ties.

Dirk Hartog

DIRK HARTOG
1616 - 2016
Marking our history, celebrating our future.

Anniversary Logo

Pewter plate

The year was launched in January 2016 with a Dutch orchestral performance in Sydney. On 1 October 2016 a seminar was held at History House, Sydney "In the Wake of Dirk Hartog: The Contribution of Dutch Exploration to Australia's History. The keynote speaker was Dr Edward Duyker OAM, and the day's program also included Paul Brunton OAM, Linda Emery, Dr Karen Entwistle, and Professor Adrien Vickers. Other actions included the creation of replicas of the pewter plate, and installation of interpretive panels at Cape Inscription.
The many events culminated in the commemorative function on 25 October 2016 at Cape Inscription on Dirk Hartog Island, hosted by the WA State Government.

Painting of the ship Eendracht & fleet by Willem van de Velde II

When Hartog landed in WA he left behind a pewter plate, realising that it was essential he leave evidence of his visit. He had his crew flatten a pewter dinner plate and engrave details of their trip. This was then nailed to an oak post and set in a rock fissure on the cliff above the beach. This plate is the oldest known European object ever found on Australian soil. The Island was named for Hartog.

Patsy Moppett

Further information with regard to the celebrations can be seen at the purpose-built website www.dirkhartog2016.nl

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History, RAHS Magazine September 2016, Number 129
www.dirkhartog2016.nl
Great South Land, Rob Mundle 2015
The Great Race, David Hill 2012

The Technical Side

Coopers and Hoopers

Cooperage or coopering is the ancient craft of barrel making, a rare trade that results in a water-tight, wooden vessel held together by nothing more than the hoops that surround it. The word cooperage also refers to the place or building where the craft takes place.
The *cooper* is a person in this trade, who makes and/or repairs utensils, casks, buckets, drums and barrels from wood, but occasionally from other materials (plastics, stainless steel, pallets and corrugated cardboard). The cooper usually learned his trade from a master craftsman over several years.

Coopers and hoopers at work

The craft involves making wooden staved vessels, bound together with hoops, and possessing flat ends or heads. The *hooper* was the man who fitted the metal hoops around the barrels or buckets.
Barrels have been used for over 2,000 years, dating back to Roman times, replacing clay pots. The French (the Gauls) claimed to be the first coopers, and there were coopers guilds in the early Middle Ages in France and England.
There were coopers and there were coopers!

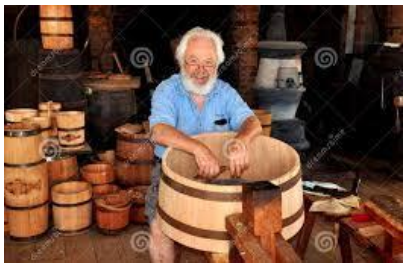
- The “dry” or “slack” cooper made containers for dry goods such as cereals, nails and tobacco, which were varnished.
- The “dry-tight cooper” made casks designed to store dry goods in and moisture out. Such as gunpowder and flour.
- The “white” cooper made straight stave containers like wash tubs and buckets which would hold water.
- The ”wet” or “tight” cooper made vessels for long term storage and transportation of liquids, such as beer.
- The “general” cooper worked on ships, on the docks and in warehouses, being responsible for cargo while in storage or transit.

Coopers guilds were common

Barrels are made much the same as they originally were. Few tools are used, and those included a saw and axe, planes, a croze and knives. Today power tools are sometimes used. Bob Butler worked at the Penfolds Winery back in 2002 in the Barossa Valley. He

explains that they have a great attachment to their tools. They “put them to bed” each night in a pile of wood shavings, so that the wood absorbs any moisture and helps prevent any rust.

The oak wood is carefully chosen and aged, the staves are carefully prepared, and the actual construction quite like the original methods. A skilled cooper could also mend a broken stave without losing the contents.
The choice of wood determined the quality of the end barrel – the age of the trees, the location in which they are grown, and the growing conditions of that area. French, American, Hungarian oaks are mostly used, the choice of which can determine the flavor of the wine, and trees chosen are usually 80-100 years old.
The wood must be straight and knot free, the grain tight and the tannin content high. Once the wood is staved it is stored in tiers exposed to weather and the elements to age and mature for several years.



The art has changed little

Once partly complete the barrel is toasted over an open flame to char the inside of the barrel to whatever level of toasting the client requires, and to enable the remaining iron bands to be attached. All measuring is by hand and eye. A barrel does not contain glue or nails or screws.
The terminology in the craft is quire specific, as with other rare trades:

- *Staves* – are created from oak that must be straight, knot-free, and properly aged, they are shaped and fitted together in a precise pattern that will render the finished barrel water-tight.
- *Hoops* are usually metal – steel, copper or iron. The chime hoop is at the outer edges, the quarter hoop is about ¼ of the way to the centre, French hoops are between the quarter hoop and the bilge hoop. The bilge hoop goes around the widest part of the barrel.
- *Chime* – the beveled edge at the top and bottom of the barrel where the ends of all the staves come together.
- *Croze* – is the groove that is created at the top and bottom of the barrel staves, created to hole the head. The tool used to make this groove is also called a croze.
- *Head* – is the flat circular top or bottom of the barrel. Each barrel is unique, so each head must be measured and created for the barrel it will fit.

Barrels from Spain in use at the Joadja distillery 2016

Today the cooper is mostly engaged in barrel making for the wine and spirits industry. In Medieval times, they were often portrayed as fat people, the story being that they needed a large belly to hold the barrel in place! The talent and skill required however, is unmatched today as a manual art form.
Now also used commonly as a surname, the word was derived from Middle Dutch or Middle Low German, originating from the Latin *cupa*, a tun or barrel. A coffin maker was sometimes known as a cooper as well. The namesake has been based therefore, on an ancient trade and art form.

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Mystery photo

BMACHO has been set a challenge to assist the community in identifying some "mystery" photos! The first is a snowman!!! Actually, it is the location of the snowy gent that we need to know!

The writer advises that his mother's first snowman peeps into the photograph, where John Low proposes the location is other than Blackheath. The writer's mother stayed in the mountains for her winter holiday from Adelaide, probably in the early 1940s, and possibly suffering from a broken heart having lost her beau aboard the ill-fated Sydney (sunk 19/11/41).
The photograph is pasted into their family album and captioned in his mother's hand - "*My first & last snowman. Bless him"* and "*Rowena Dunkley's Home, Blackheath, NSW".* (In the 1936 Electoral Roll, Stan & Rona Dunkley lived at Eveleigh Avenue, Blackheath).
Does the building in the background give us any clues? *Patsy Moppett*

Please send any ideas in to BMACHO, to be passed on to the writer.

Email: committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au or *j.koperberg@bigpond.com*

Community events & updates

Arcadian Artists 2016 – Exhibition & Art Trail

The Arcadian Artists' "Art Trail" takes you through Dural, Galston, Arcadia, Fiddletown and Berrilee and entices the people of Sydney, Blue Mountains, the south and north coast of New South Wales and beyond to experience the special talent exhibited by their Australian artists. All work is handmade by their exhibitors.

This year they are excited to be including two new private Studios along the "Trail". Both these venues are in the Galston area.

On the weekend of November 12th and 13th, bring along family and friends, and drive through the beautiful semi-rural area of Sydney's Hornsby and the Hills Shire's. You will be captivated by the work presented along the trail visiting eight (8) private studios opening for the weekend. There will be over 50 artists exhibiting, many of whom will be demonstrating their skills.

Entry is free. Visitors are given the exclusive opportunity to view and purchase unique artworks from their creators. The works available include such items as paintings, printmaking, sculpture, glass, mosaics, ceramics, textiles, felt work, jewellery, leather, timber work, book making and handmade shoes.

Exhibitors are by invitation only and this year will include our very own Leura bodger, Roy Davi, as featured in *Heritage* November-December 2015. Roy will be wood turning at Pine Valley Studio at 6 Galston Valley Road, Galston.

Roy advises: "*Pole lathe greenwood turning is my passion. My enthusiasm for this ancient craft began many years ago when I first came across 'bodging' – the traditional craft of greenwood turning. Bodging was developed in medieval times and later used for creating fine furniture including the classic Windsor chair. More recently I have broadened my interests and now create my own style of greenwood furniture as well as traditionally crafted wooden household utensils"*.

Patsy Moppett

Roy at work

Contacts:
www.arcadianartists.com.au
www.theleurabodger.com.au
E: roydavi@mail.com *Ph: 0435 491 427*

Royal Australian Historical Society Conference 2016
Times Are A-Changing – History & Innovation

The 2016 RAHS Conference was held at Centro CBD, Wollongong (28 Stewart St. Wollongong NSW) on Saturday 22nd – Sunday 23rd October 2016.

The Conference examined how the digital revolution is impacting the way we research and produce history. There is also an increasing appetite for local and community history that connects people to their identity and place.

Sublime Point Lookout, Wollongong c.1925

The Conference showed how history plays a critical role in advocacy campaigns to ensure that these places remain part of our cultural landscape in this era of widespread urban development. How historical societies engage with these developments is critical to ensure their continued relevancy in 21st century Australia.

Patsy Moppett

For the conference program and more information, visit:
www.rahs.org.au/2016-royal-australian-historical-society-conference
Enquiries:
02 9247 8001 or
E: history@rahs.org.au

Crago Observatory Tour

Commemorate the work of the Hawkesbury's famous astronomer (1834-1916) with a visit to Crago Observatory at Bowen Mountain for a viewing of the night sky, on Saturday 5 November at 5.30pm. Tebbutt's Crater on the moon, as well as Mars, Venus and Saturn (weather obliging) will be visible.

Crago Observatory

John Tebbutt

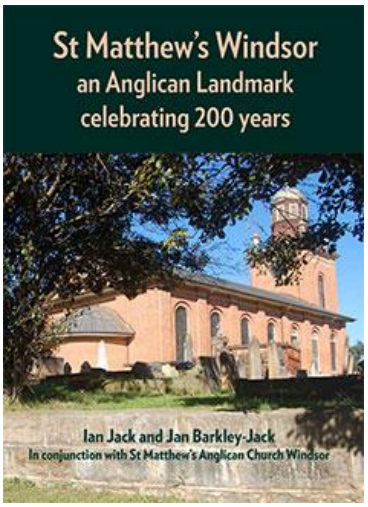
Crago Observatory is the Astronomical Society of NSW (ASNSW)'s "local" dark sky observing site at Bowen Mountain, located a short distance from the northern end of Lt Bowen Road. The Observatory consists of a large rotating dome housing a high class 16" Dobsonian Telescope, fitted with Argo Navis and ServoCAT as well as a wide range of eyepieces and star charts available for use with the telescope. *Patsy Moppett*
Tour participants will meet at the museum. Bookings are essential. Ph: 02 4560 4655.

St Matthews Windsor Celebrates 200 years

St Matthews Anglican Church in Windsor is set to celebrate 200 years with the launch of a new book by Jan Barkley-Jack and Dr Ian Jack on 12 November 2016 on the history of the

church. The launch will be undertaken at the beginning of their Bicentennial Year and will be attended by The Honourable Dame Marie Bashir AD CVO.
Francis Greenway's church has become a landmark, religious, social and architectural, in the town of Windsor and far beyond. Its commanding presence in the upper Hawkesbury valley began early in the European history of the third area farmed on the Australian mainland and is still potent today.

St Mathews, Windsor



The book analyses the architectural heritage within its social context. The orange-pink glow of the bricks, the elegant lines and softly repetitive arched windows tell why St Matthew's has been cited as its ex-convict architect's masterpiece.
This is a new study of St Matthew's first 200 years, told not just as bricks, mortar, sandstone and cedar, but of its people in the river valley. This book recreates the life and aspirations of the Anglican community which has created and preserved this rare, early church.

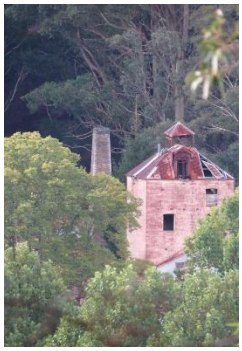
Patsy Moppett

The book will be available from November from Rosenberg Publishing for $29.95.

References:
Rosenberg Publishing
Community Bicentennial Team

Murder Mystery at the Brewery

On November 4th the Old Zig Zag Brewery at Lithgow (c.1893) will offer the perfect backdrop for a night of mystery and murder hosted by the Lithgow Regional Branch of the National Trust NSW.
"A Chocolate Orange", concerning the mysterious goings-on in the making of a new film is a comedy twist on the name of the seventies-style thriller 'A Clockwork Orange'. It is performed by the Bathurst Theatre Company and Mountain Murder Mysteries. The latter group is well known locally, having previously entertained visitors in the breathtaking setting of Jenolan Caves.



To open the night Vaughan Bryers, official Zig Zag Brewery historian, will link history and whodunit and introduce the villains and heroes in the Brewery's past.
Seventies dress is optional, and if you front up in the flamboyant and colourful clothes of that era worn by men and women alike, prizes are on offer. You could join the characters to track down vital evidence, or just sit back and work out who did it. *Lithgow National Trust*

Show and 2-course dinner:
Brewery Lane, Lithgow, 6.30pm on Friday 4th November.
Tickets: $60 per person from Readers Heaven Books, Lithgow – 0474 957 856 or from Lithgow National Trust branch – 02 6359 3109

Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences (MAAS) Regional Stakeholder Forum

This annual forum is an opportunity for the regional museums and collectors sector to get together, discuss current topics and be inspired by new ideas. It is designed for regional stakeholders, such as;

- Volunteers.
- Arts development officers.
- Museum Advisors.
- Program producers.
- Regional cultural sector advisors.

Speakers include:

- Ray Christison, President, Lithgow State Mine Heritage Park
- Ann Frederick, Transport Heritage NSW
- Michael Rolfe – CEO Museums & Galleries of NSW
- Tamara Hynd & Toni Lindwall – Shellharbour City Council
- Luke Grealy - Museums of the Riverina
- Yvonne Rutledge - Museum Advisor for St John Museum, Unley, SA and Broken Hill Museums NSW
- Kerry-Ann Jones - Executive Director, South West Arts
- Marcus Hughes - Indigenous Program Producer, MAAS
- Elliott Bledsoe - Queensland Writers Group
- Susan Davis - Secretary, Historian & Archivist, The Oaks Historical Society
- Cathy Mann – Holbrook Submarine Museum

The Introduction will be done by Tristan Sharp, MAAS Director, and the Welcome to Country and summing up will be done by Deborah Vaughan.

The Forum will be held on Friday 11 November 2016, from 9am to 3.30pm at the Powerhouse Museum, 500 Harris Street, Ultimo NSW. The event is free but registrations are essential. It includes morning/afternoon tea and a light lunch. The full program can be seen at www.maaas.museum.org.au *Patsy Moppett*

National Trust Heritage Festival 2017 – *Having a Voice*

The National Trust Heritage Festival began back in 1980 and has become Australia's biggest festival of heritage and culture. There is a new name and a new home for event organisers to register their events and join an amazing network of local organisers across the country.

In the last 36 years the Heritage Festival has become the largest and longest running grass roots national festival of its type, with up to 1,400 events bringing together people all over Australia to celebrate what makes their neighbourhood special. Each year stories are told, traditions explored and histories brought to life through activities like guided walks, talks, tours, demonstrations and hands on history experiences for people of all ages.

The time is right for a different approach both to the festival itself and in the way it is marketed and communicated, it in order to secure its sustainability both now and into the future.

Emu Plains

Glenbrook

Windsor

Some things won't change. The NT still want everybody to join them in celebrating Australia's historic, natural and Aboriginal heritage during the months of April and May. The changes they have made are designed to make the festival more exciting and inclusive and are about being part of the community.

The first stage of this new approach is a revised registration process. This will soon be live on their website and you will be able to click on "How to get involved" to be taken to a page full of information on how to register your event. For the first time they have entry criteria so you may be sure that the event you are registering stays true to the ethos of the festival of encouraging different interpretations of heritage and culture around the country.

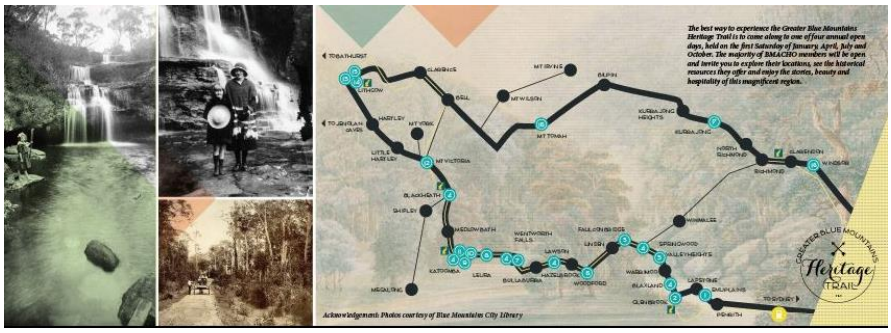
The 2017 Festival will run from 18th April until May 21st 2017. The theme for 2017 will be *"Having a Voice"* which calls on communities to champion their local heritage and show their support for cultural and historic assets on their doorsteps.

The NT are finalising an exciting new registration portal which will be up and running in the

next few weeks. They will email out to their database again with more details and when registrations are about to open, and BMACHO will publish information as it comes to hand. In addition, there are other exciting initiatives coming up next year which will help make the Festival even bigger and better for all concerned. *Patsy Moppett*

Contact: Kay Proos: Heritage Festival Coordinator and Events Manager, National Trust of Australia (NSW)
Hours: Monday – Thursday 9am – 4pm
Ph: 02 9258 0112
Email: kproos@nationaltrust.com.au
Upper Fort Street, Observatory Hill (Millers Point), NSW 2000
PO Box 518, Sydney, NSW 2001
http://www.nationaltrust.org.au/nsw

Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail



The Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail enables travellers to experience the history and landscapes, and the extensive sources of archives, images and stories presented by members of the Trail. In addition, the Trail draws in eateries and accommodation venues along the way. Brochures are available at participating businesses and Visitor Information Centres from Parramatta through to Orange, from Hawkesbury to Wollondilly, and out through Oberon to the Jenolan Caves.

Open Days: Following consideration of feedback from the various member groups over the past year of Open Days held, the BMACHO Committee has decided not to continue with the official Open Days beyond October 2016. For a variety of reasons, weather conditions, clash of events, lack of resources and staff at venues, etc the Open Days could not be further justified.

A number of other options are being considered by the Committee for 2017, when the Trail brochure is due for reprinting.

Feedback from members, however, is always welcome on any aspect of the Trail!

Email: committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au or *j.koperberg@bigpond.com*
See www.heritagedrive.com.au or www.facebook.com/GBMHeritageTrail

Merry Christmas and a Happy & Safe New Year!

From the BMACHO Committee

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

Registered office: 1/19 Stypandra Place, Springwood 2777. (02) 4751 5834
Email: committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au or j.koperberg@bigpond.com
Website: www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au **ABN**: 53 994 839 952

The organisation: Blue Mountains Association of Cultural & Heritage Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 after local historical and heritage societies and individuals recognised the need for the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the local government area (LGA) of Blue Mountains City Council. The constituency now embraces but is not limited to, the LGAs of Blue Mountains, Lithgow, Hawkesbury, Penrith and Mudgee. BMACHO membership includes historical and heritage groups, museums, commercial enterprises with an historical or heritage component in its core business, local government (local studies units, library collections) and a limited number of individual members by invitation such as but not necessarily academics. The objectives of the organisation are:

1. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage
2. To encourage and assist cultural heritage
3. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations.

One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

Affiliations: BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society and is affiliated with the Better Planning Network.

Publications: BMACHO's official newsletter ***Heritage*** is edited by Patsy Moppett. The annual refereed *Blue Mountains History Journal* is edited by Dr Peter Rickwood and occasional papers are published from time to time.

Membership: The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mt Tomah; Blue Mountains City Library; Blue Mountains Cultural Heritage Centre; Blue Mountain Education & Research Trust; Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc; Bygone Beautys Treasured Teapot Museum and Tearooms; City of Lithgow Mining Museum Inc; Day Fine Art; Eskbank Rail Heritage Centre; Everglades Historic House & Gardens; Norman Lindsay Gallery; Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc; Hartley Valley District Progress Association; Hawkesbury Historical Society Inc; Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc; Leurella NSW Toy & Railway Museum; Lithgow & District Family History Society Inc; Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies; Mt Victoria & District Historical Society Inc; Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine Historical Society Inc (including Turkish Bath Museum); National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Blue Mountains Branch; National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Lithgow Branch; Nepean District Historical Society Inc; Paragon Cafe, Katoomba; Scenic World Blue Mountains Limited; Springwood & District Historical Society Inc; Springwood Historians Inc; Transport Signal Communication Museum Inc; The Darnell Collection P/L; Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Heritage Museum, Woodford Academy Management Committee, Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd.
The following are individual members: Fiona Burn, Ray Christison, Wayne Hanley, Associate Professor Ian Jack, Joan Kent, Ian Milliss, Patsy Moppett and Dr Peter Rickwood.

Committee: The management committee for 2016-2017 (from April 2016) is: Patsy Moppett (President and ***Heritage*** Newsletter Editor), Ian Jack (Vice President), Jan Koperberg (Secretary), Philip Hammon (Treasurer), Scott Pollock and Wendy Hawkes (web site), Dick Morony (Public Officer/Membership Secretary/ Calendar Editor), Suzanne Smith and Laura Stinson (Events and Venue Co-ordinators), Roy Bennett, and Lynn Collins, Museums Advisor.
Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail sub-committee: Scott Pollock, Laura Stinson, Wendy Hawkes & Jan Koperberg.

Disclaimer: views and opinions expressed in Heritage originate from many sources and contributors. Every effort is taken to ensure accuracy of material. Content does not necessarily represent or reflect the views and opinions of BMACHO, its committee or its members. If errors are found feedback is most welcome.

BLUE MOUNTAINS HISTORY JOURNAL

Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations

Issue 7

May 2017

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Blue Mountains History Journal

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Mr Peter Hughes

The Blue Mountains History Journal is published online under the auspices of BMACHO (Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc.).

It contains refereed, and fully referenced, articles on the human history, and related subjects, of the Greater Blue Mountains and neighbouring areas. Anyone may submit an article which is intermediate in size between a Newsletter contribution and a book chapter.

Hard copies of all issues, and hence of all published articles, are archived in the National Library of Australia, the State Library of NSW, the Royal Australian Historical Society, the Springwood Library, the Lithgow Regional Library and with the Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc.

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BLUE MOUNTAINS HISTORY JOURNAL

http://www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au/journal.html

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EDITORIAL

Issue 7 of **The Blue Mountains History Journal** contains six papers.

The first concerns the relationship between some of the indigenous and white people in the Burragorang Valley in the 19th Century. In it Diana Levy reveals some previously unpublished documents that relate to the iniquitous practice of 'dummy purchasing'.

Then come two papers about still extant buildings that have very different origins. Unravelling the history of *Verna*, a Wentworth Falls house that had once been owned by a family member early in the 20th century, has been a remarkable piece of investigative research undertaken by Louise Wilson. About the mid-20th century, the architect H.P. Oser designed a group of houses in Blackheath and Chris Betteridge, the descendant of the owner of one of those houses, *Whispering Pines*, has documented their features, construction and former owners.

Finally a group of three papers have been included that discuss various natural and artificial features in the Blue Mountains. Soldiers Pinch between Blackheath and Mount Victoria has posed a traffic problem for two centuries and the sequence of attempts to fix that problem has been documented. That is followed by John Low's promised Part 2 of his account of the horse troughs existing in the Blue Mountains - mostly are concrete artefacts but this time he has discussed three in the Upper Blue Mountains that were hewn out of sandstone. The final paper is an 'essay' by John Dunkley on some of the sandstone caves of the Blue Mountains, in part a description and documentation of the caves but also evaluating their 'aesthetic, historic, scientific, social and spiritual values'.

For the convenience of readers, at the end of this issue there is a cumulative list of the papers that were published in Issues 1 to 6.

Extracts from this publication may be reproduced provided that the source is fully acknowledged.

Dr Peter C. Rickwood,
Editor

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JOHN JINGERY, GUNDUNGURRA MAN, AND ROBERT J. O'REILLY, GRAZIER, IN THE BURRAGORANG VALLEY.

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Springwood, NSW 2777.
diana.r.levy@gmail.com

Abstract
In the settling of the Burragorang Valley, the Gundungurra inhabitants were displaced. Most of the farmers who settled there were Irish, and Catholic. There was a degree of cooperation between these two groups, and it was thought that Robert J. O'Reilly assisted Aboriginal man, John Jingery, to purchase a 40 acre selection, Portion 20, in 1875. Jingery forfeited this land in 1877 - it had in fact been a dummy purchase for his boss, O'Reilly. The thread of John Jingery's life is traced from primary sources and give some idea of how he adapted to Europeans.

Key Words: Gundungurra, Aborigine, Conditional Purchase, Dummy Purchase, Burragorang, Blue Mountains.

INTRODUCTION

The records for Aboriginal people in the nineteenth century are far fewer than for settlers like Robert J. O'Reilly. What follows is but a small window into the adaptation by 'John Jingery, Aboriginal' (all the documentation identifies him in this way) to European settlement of his traditional Gundungurra lands. [Other spellings include Gandangara and Gandanguurra.] These two men lived and worked in the environs of the Burragorang Valley, which is formed by the Coxs and the Wollondilly Rivers (Figure 1).

The traditional country of the Gundungurra is vast (Figure 2) and extends to the southern Blue Mountains, The Oaks, Goulburn, the Abercrombie River, Jenolan Caves, Rydal, Lithgow, the Wolgan

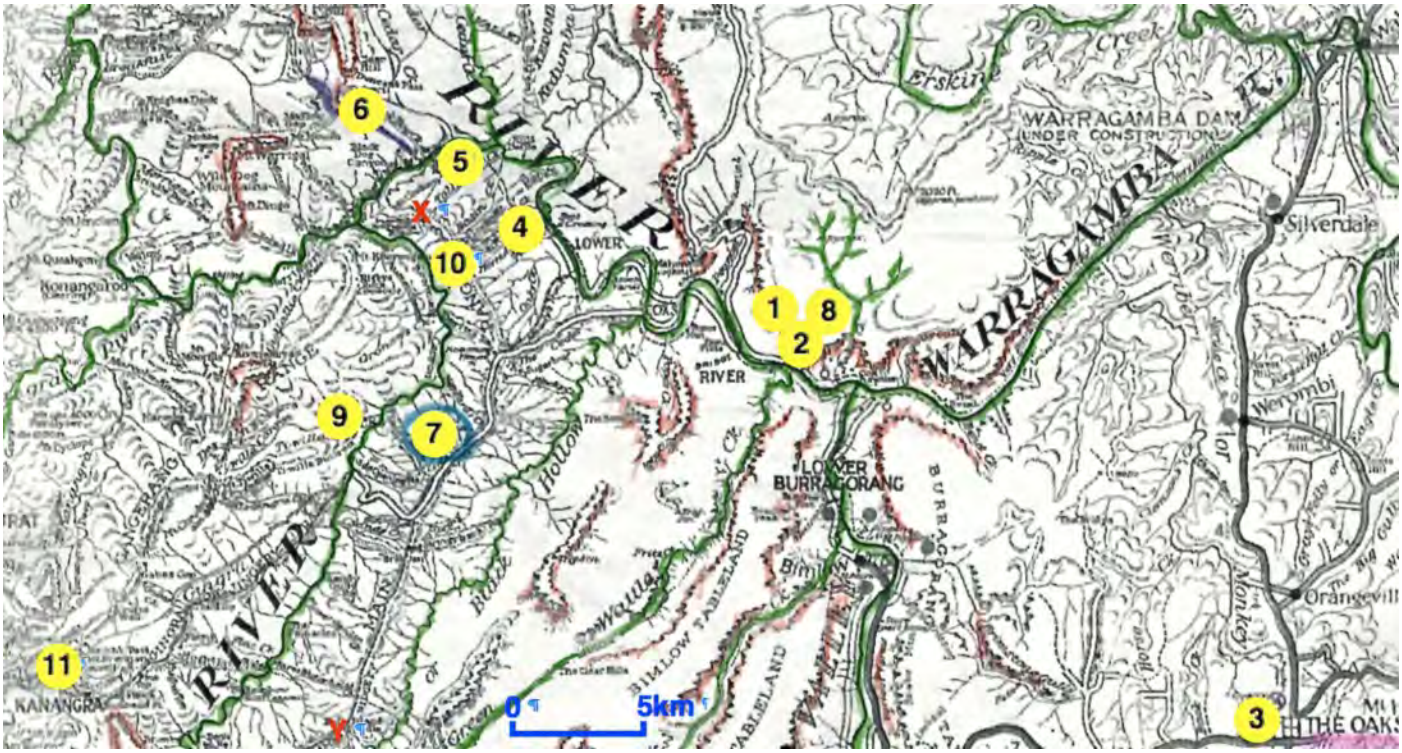
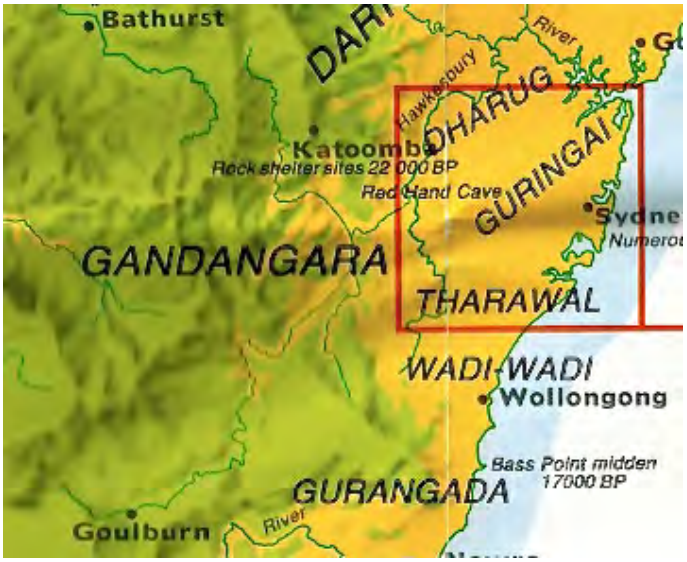


Figure 1. Map of part of the Burragorang Valley (after Cooke 1955).

1 Dallawang Ridge **2** Robert O'Reilly dwelling **3** The Oaks
4 Grundy family holdings **5** Appletree Flat **6** Black Dog Ridge
7 New Yards & Portion 20 & The Shack **8** Pocket Creek **9** Kowmung River
10 Kowmung Lookout **11** Kanangra
X to **Y** Scott's Main Range

['Burra' means kangaroo in the Gundungurra language (Russell 1914, p.14); 'gurrang' means 'place of' or 'plenty of' (Barrett 2015 p.22)].

Valley and the western Blue Mountains. It borders Tharawal, Darug, Wiradgiri, and Darkinjung country. The Burragorang Valley is in the eastern part of those lands, bordering Tharawal country. With its steep inaccessible sides this valley is now the repository for much of Sydney's water supply (Figure 3).



© Central Mapping Authority 1987

Figure 2. Aboriginal Lands (CMA 1987).
[Boundaries between these different Aboriginal nations are extremely contentious so although this map is now old it does give a general idea of the terrain, the rivers and the neighbouring nations].

At the time of English colonization in 1788 all land was presumed to be owned by the Crown. Conditional purchase was introduced by the Government in 1861 (State Records 2016) and it was a way of distributing Crown land before it was surveyed. Certain conditions had to be met: the settlers had to pay a deposit, they had to show that they intended to 'improve' the land, and that they intended to live on it. They had three years in which to demonstrate their occupation of the land. Sometimes people would build a shack and string up a washing line, then hang clothing on this line to fool the inspectors into thinking that a little family did live there.

> "The (*Lands*) Department's work was further complicated with the practices of 'dummying', where a person would select an area only to sell by pre-arrangement to another party, ..." (State Records 2016).

The Burragorang Valley

The first encroachment on traditional life in the Burragorang Valley was probably the cattle which escaped from the First Fleet settlers and found their way to Cowpastures - out Camden way. Next the cattle duffers found the Burragorang to be a very suitable hideaway. More respectable settlers began

Photo: Noel Rath, 2014

Figure 3. Coxs River dammed (Lake Burragorang) from Dallawang Ridge (**1** on Figure 1).

taking up tickets of occupation from the 1820s. One such was Robert Bernard O'Reilly (Robert Joseph's father - b. unknown; d. 24/7/1873) who had been transported in 1820 from County Cavan when Ireland was under military occupation by the British, and he and Brian Carolan were convicted of conspiracy to murder. Brian Carolan (family name was shortened to Carlon later on) and Robert B. O'Reilly were in servitude to John Jamison for fifteen years and then their families began the settling process in the Burragorang, as did other Irish Catholic settlers. Later R.B. O'Reilly selected land at the junction of Green Wattle creek and Coxs River (**2** on Figure 1) where there were large flats of good loamy soil. Local historian Jim Barrett stated,

> "Bearing in mind the friction which arose between white man and black man as settlement of the Colony expanded, it is pleasing to record that relationships within the Burragorang Valley were in general quite harmonious." (Barrett 1995, p.112).

The idea that O'Reilly helped Jingery buy land supports this notion.

John Jingery's birth date is not known, so his story as established from primary sources began in 1871 with an English settler, John Grundy, and an Irishman, John Fitzgerald. John Grundy was an English free settler who came out from Yorkshire in 1840 at the age of 15 and worked in Campbelltown for a time. Then he

> "purchased farming and grazing properties at The Oaks (**3** on Figure 1) and Burragorang, and went to live on the former property some 40 years ago." - i.e. 1870 (Anonymous 1910).

He was buried in the Church of England section of The Oaks Cemetery. It is likely that John Jingery was Grundy's stockman. Fitzgerald was charged with

stealing flour, pork and horseshoes from Grundy's house at Coxs River. At the time of the trial the Grundy family was in residence at The Oaks (**2** on Figure 1), so the Burragorang 'dwelling' was vacant or used by employees. At the trial, which took place at the Police Office in Picton, 'Jingray' gave evidence in support of the Grundys and against Fitzpatrick, who had been before the Bench quite often. But the case was dismissed for lack of evidence supporting "the Aboriginal's" testimony.

[See Appendix 1 for an exact transcription of the court record.]

Like most settlers, Grundy's holdings expanded and in the book *Cullenbenbong*, Bernard O'Reilly (1940) (R.J.'s nephew) mentioned that Grundy owned land in the middle section of Coxs River, on the north side of Scott's Main Range (**4** on Figure 1). The 1918 Parish of Speedwell map (Department of Lands 1918) shows substantial holdings by Grundy family members adjacent to the Coxs River. [John Grundy jnr. held Portions 6, 10 & 46 and James Grundy held Portions 18 & 101. Adjoining but away from the river James Grundy also held Portions 59, 68 ,71 & 100 (**4** on Figure 1)] Significantly, W.H. Grundy held Portion 47 on Appletree Flat (**5** on Figure 1) which was a Gundungurra campsite for the very good reason that it is nice macropod grazing country (Barrett 1993, p.87). Appletree Flat is close to the travel route up Black Dog ridge (**6** on Figure 1) and less than half a day's walk from Portion 20 (**7** on Figure 1**)** of which more is to come.

For Aboriginal people being torn from land was akin to being torn from one's relatives.

> "To Aboriginal people, their land is full of their ancestors and when they roam about in it, they are encountering ancestral beings" (pers. comm. Will Moon M.A. archaeologist April 2016).

Prior to 1875 the Catholic Church in NSW had been concerned by the ongoing tragedy of dispossession of Aboriginal lands. [Other local historians such as Jim Barrett (1990) and Jim Smith (1991) have amply documented efforts made by the clergy to find solutions - especially Smith]. The Aborigines lobbied the Government to find them some land and in 1870 Father George Dillon established St. Joseph's farm at the junction of Pocket Creek and Coxs River (**8** on Figure 1**)** to provide a base. Robert J. O'Reilly (b. 1841 d. 28/8/1915) lived directly opposite this (**2** on Figure 1), so had plenty of opportunity to interact with that community.

> "Robert was a good friend of the Aborigines who showed him the route from the Burragorang to Megalong via Black Dog." (Barrett 1993, p.82).

In the 1870s Gundungurra men George Riley, Sammy Hassell, Charley Jellick and Billy Russell (Werriberri) attempted to regain their lands by applying to the Government and in 1875 the lands applied for became Aboriginal Reserves 26 and 27 under a group of trustees (Farnell 1878). It might seem that John Jingery was a part of this reclaiming movement. Not so.

It is documented (Barrett 1990, p.68) that in 1875 John Jingery applied for 40 acres (*16.2 ha*; Portion 20), on Scotts Main Range (**X** to **Y** on Figure 1**),** Parish of Speedwell, County of Westmoreland, through "his agent, Robert O'Reilly" and subsequently made a Conditional Purchase. The deposit was paid, the application was dated 1 July 1875 and it was signed by R. O'Reilly, who was by this stage a postmaster for the lower Coxs River. But Jim Barrett posed the questions:

> "Who was John Jingery, Aboriginal? What were the circumstances of his bid for the land? For what was he going to use it? It should be borne in mind that the blocks around portion 20 had already been acquired by the cattle men." (Barrett 1990, p.70).

In fact, John Jingery was Robert Joseph O'Reilly's stockman, and it was a dummy purchase. As we shall see, it was never intended that Jingery purchase the land for himself, though he put his name to it; the purchase was forfeited and bought at auction by Charles Dunn in 1877 (Department of Lands 1877?). The Shack (Figure 4) stands on Portion 20 (**7** on Figure 1) - a rocky bit of ground on a ridge top above the Kowmung river (**9** on Figure 1), on the old cedar road. Archaeologist Michael Jackson has found a marked tree and many artefacts there, evidence of traditional occupation (pers. comm. 20 November 2016). A side ridge, now called New Yards Ridge (**7**

Photo D. Noble 2015

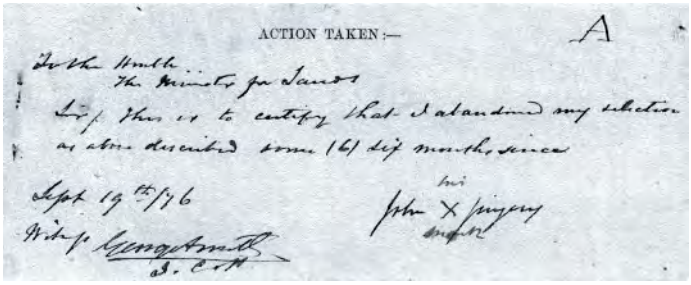
Figure 4. The Shack (owned by the Guntawang Catholic Bushwalkers) (**7** on Figure 1).

Photo D. Noble 2015

Figure 5. Kowmung River below the Shack (**9** on Figure 1).

on Figure 1) runs down to the river (Figure 5), where trout hide in granite pools.

The sequence of events from conditional purchase to re-sale to Charles Dunn has been traced through primary sources. It is summarised in Table 1.



ACTION TAKEN:— A

Figure 6. John Jingery's signed abandonment of Portion 20 (Jingery 1876).

So it was a dummy purchase, a stratagem Robert O'Reilly used against his rival Charles Dunn.

Unlike other Aboriginal men (Smith 2012), John Jingery is not on any electoral roll and nor is he on the blanket lists (as the last one was in 1842) nor in death notices. After 1875 he disappears from the record, who knows where to.

Anecdote

There is a story about R.B. O'Reilly (Robert Joseph's father) told by Owen Pearce (1991) who grew up in the Burragorang. Owen Pearce's great-grandfather was convict George Pearce, who served out his sentence as a stonemason - hard and heavy work in leg irons. At the age of 30 he went to the Burragorang and joined the cattle-duffers. Using stolen cattle to clear some land, he changed occupations again and took up farming, cultivating the river flats and then selecting it. This was his *modus operandi* and like Patrick Carlon, his holdings grew. [Carlon's grew from 40 acres to 3,000 acres – pers. comm., Carlon descendant 2015] O'Reilly senior was selecting nearby and eventually there was only one parcel of 100 acres between the two of them. The difference though, was that the Irishman always selected first, then cleared, then cultivated.

Pearce was worried that another English settler, Henry Dunn (Charles' father) had his eye on this block and he discussed his fears with O'Reilly, who did not mention that he had already selected it. George Pearce was a man of violent temper who when he found out, stormed over to the O'Reilly place. Robert B. was spading the garden but fled inside. Pearce got the spade and attacked the front door. When that didn't work he climbed on the roof of the house and tried to climb down the chimney. Next he tried to pull a sheet of bark from the roof. Finally he climbed down and sat on the front verandah with the lethal spade. After an hour he gave up and went home.

> "Thankfully the feud ended with their passing and was not continued by succeeding generations" (Pearce 1991, p.302).

It was also said about Pearce, that when an Aborigine speared him in the leg, he and a mate found the man and hanged him.

Photo D. Levy 2011

Figure 7. Kowmung River below the Shack (**10** on Figure 1).

Who then was Charles Dunn? He was the son of Henry Dunn, an English free settler, and he was born at The Oaks in 1843 (d. 1917). Dunn ran cattle with a man called Lakeman and they became known as "the cattle kings" (Barrett 1990, p.52). Charles Dunn, like Grundy, lived in the more convenient location of TheOaks, so maybe the English lived at The Oaks and the Irish in the Burragorang.

Table 1. Timeline for Jacky Jacky /John Jingery

		Born or spirit conception at 'Jingery'
1871	14 April	He gives evidence at Police Office, Picton, in break and enter case Fitzpatrick v. Grundy (Appendix 1).
1875	1 July	He is working for Robert O'Reilly as a stockman and agrees to his name being used in conditional purchase of 40 acres, Portion 20, Parish of Speedwell, County of Westmoreland (Smith 1876 Appendix 2).
	7 August	Portion 20 is surveyed "Applicant was on the ground but residence doubtful. No improvements". Resides on it for a short period while minding cattle for O'Reilly (Inquiry evidence; State Records 1876).
1876	March	He abandons selection (Figure 6) when Dunn and O'Reilly have a 'law suit' and decide that Dunn will take possession (Appendix 2; LTO 1875).
	19 September	Inspector Smith finds Jingery in search of cattle and hears this news. He gets him to 'sign' (put his mark) on a paper (Figure 6) that agrees to relinquish ownership due to having abandoned it (Appendix 2; LTO 1875).
	23 September	Smith's letter to Lands Department setting all this out (Appendix 2) (LTO 1875).
1877	23 April	A letter is written from Whittingdale Johnson, Commissioner of Lands for the Western District, notifying that there will be a court of enquiry into the abandonment (State Records 1876).
	14 May	Senior Constable Moesch serves this notice on Jingery at Courthouse in Picton (State Records 1876).
	29 May	Inquiry held at court House at Camden. Claimant not present. Decides on forfeit (State Records 1876).
	7 August	Portion 20 (in the name of John Jingory) gazetted for auction as a Forfeited Conditional Purchase (Driver 1877).
	14 November	Portion 20 purchased by Charles Dunn at Camden auction (State Records 1877).

Features named Jingery

There are a number of place names around Portion 20 (**7** on Figure 1) that relate to this story, and they are all near the Kowmung River (Figure 7). On Myles Dunphy's 'Gangerang' map (1979) the range running beside the river and up towards Kanangra (**11** on Figure 1) is the 'Gingra (Jingera, Jingery) range' whereas the current topographical map (LPI 2002) has settled on 'Gingra Range'. Both maps show 'Gingra creek', but only 'Little Gingra creek', can be found on the website of the Geographical Names Board of NSW (2016), yet those names are on some 1930s maps (pers. comm. Jim Barrett, 20 November 2016). Did these names apply before 1875? In his latest book Jim Barrett's phonetic spelling of the pre-1788 name is Dyingarii Creek (Barrett 2015, p.20). Barrett shows in this book that there has been considerable slippage between the original Gundungurra naming of places, and what has been sieved out by European ears and inclinations - in spite of best intentions. In addition, both maps show 'Mt. Jingery', which is near Brennan Top at Kanangra. It is an unremarkable hillock that bushwalker Dave Noble observed to be nothing special. However Kanangra has some remarkable ochre drawings.

It is possible that there was a deep connection in the traditional sense, between these places and John Jingery. Certainly it would be better for a mother to give birth by a pool where water is available, than on a rocky ridge. Gundungurra descendant Ivy Brookman recollected that her ancestor Dennis Riley

> "married or had children with a wild Aboriginal lady of the Gingara tribe" (Bookman & Smith 2010, p.1).

Probably a sub-group or clan is what was meant.

Conclusion

Much of the good land in the Burragorang had been selected by the 1870s and there were very many obstacles for the traditional owners as they adapted to this fact. The primary sources are a rich vein to tap, in getting at the true story of how this adaptation took place. Both the Grundy and O'Reilly accounts show an association with the area around Scott's Main Range, the Coxs River and the Kowmung river. In many cases working as a stockman was a great way to continue traditional connections with country while also working for a white boss – a compliant attitude would smooth the way to manage both sets of obligations. This choice of occupation has continued into the twentieth and twenty–first centuries.

The sources cited herein also reveal the attitudes prevailing at the time towards Aboriginal people. Jingery's evidence was only that of a 'native', therefore of lesser value, yet Jingery was judged intelligent by Inspector George Smith – and speaking a second language, English, he understood what was going on between the two graziers. [There is another document from Charles Dunn showing his attitude to the young Aboriginal girls growing up at St. Joseph's farm.]

Like Werriberri, Jingery was a stockman and both would have known that country like the 'back of their hands', and the intimacy of that expression contains within it, a glimmer of what the relationship between country and indigenous people would have been.

There was indeed a level of cooperation between poor Irish settlers in the Burragorang and the Aborigines. But it only went so far.

Acknowledgments

My thanks for help in researching this article go to: Trish Hill of The Wollondilly Heritage Centre; Guntawang Catholic Youth Centres, especially Maureen and Bob Anderson; Dave W. Noble (some photos and bushwalking companionship); the helpful staff at State Records, Kingswood and at the Mitchell Library; John Merriman, Local History librarian, Blue Mountains City Library, Springwood.

Abbreviations

CMA Central Mapping Authority
LPI Land and Property Information.
LTO Land Titles Office

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APPENDIX 1

Record of case involving John Jingray (*sic*) (State Records 1871).

Police Office Picton
Friday 14th April 1871
Before John M. Antill Esq. JP
and
R.A. McInnis Esq. JP

separate paper

The Queen
v
John Fitzpatrick

Charged with feloniously breaking and entering the dwelling house of John Grundy at Coxs river on the 7 February 1871 and stealing a quantity of flour pork & horseshoes

Evidence of John Grundy
Edward Grundy
and John Jingray (an Aboriginal)

Case dismissed - No corroborative testimony to that of the Aboriginal (my underlining)

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APPENDIX 2

Letter from Inspector Smith after he met John Jingery (Smith 1876; exactly transcribed):

Lands Office
Sydney Sept 23rd. / 76

To The Honorable
The Minister for Lands

Sir /.

I have the honor to report in the matter of enquiry into the Selection of "John Jingery" alias "Jacky Jacky" of Speedwell, Cox's River.

That I was prevented crossing the River any more times on account of the fresh coming down, but that I succeeded in finding the Selector.

"Jingery" (a name after the place where he was born) I found in the mountains, in search of Cattle, and seeing that he was rather intelligent, I got the following information.

That Robert O'Reilly, a Selector and Grazier on Cox's River, employs "Jingery" as Stockman, that O'Reilly took up this Selection in "Jingery's" name on Chas. Dunn's run, solely to "block" him, being jealous of him in the same avocation -

//Which means buying up poor farmers' calves, and planting them in every available spot in the mountains, until they are fit as store cattle for the market // Eventually O'Reilly & Dunn had a law suit and the price of the settlement of the same, was making "Jingery" abandon the Selection / which was done some months since / leaving Dunn in possession of this secluded spot.

Having received this statement I asked for the..?.? attached marked A.

Knowing therefore that a notice to show cause would follow I deemed it more prudent to ……(pursue? hasten?) my inspection of other spots, than run a risk in crossing the river at this particular period.

I have the honor to be Sir
Your most obedient Servt.
George Smith

Inspector of Purchases
Metropolitan District

There are a number of things in Smith's letter to explain and notice. What Smith meant by a "fresh" is that the river was up, a frequent and dangerous occurrence for the valley residents. How fortunate for the prudent inspector that the Aboriginal was "rather intelligent" – the evolutionary social theory of the time would have had it that Aborigines were mentally inferior and doomed to die out. "My name is Jacky Jacky," he corrected Smith - a generic name for Aboriginal men in those times. "Jingery" is where he was born - or is that "born"? i.e. the place where he was spiritually "born" - where the spirit baby entered his mother's body? Eugene Stockton explains it thus:

> "The land is his mother, common to all other living beings, who are real brothers and sisters to him. Certainly he is born of a natural mother with a father's collaboration, but his origins are deeper still. He has pre-existed as a spirit child since the creative time of the Dreaming when his ancestral hero left him and the spiritual seed of others who share his totem (both human and non-human) in a certain place, the life centre of the totem, until such time as his natural mother passing by allowed him to be incarnated in her womb" (Stockton 2015, p.14).

THE BOULTON FAMILY OF *VERNA*, WENTWORTH FALLS.

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Abstract
Piecing together the implications of several unaddressed letters, a pencil sketch, a watercolour and a few undated photos of Dora Boulton's family in the years 1895-1906 unexpectedly unravels more of the history of *Verna*, a house at Wentworth Falls that is listed in the NSW State Heritage Inventory.

Key words: *Verna*, *Clunes*, Dora Boulton, Wentworth Falls, Blue Mountains

INTRODUCTION

Philip Boulton left England in 1878 for lack-of-health reasons (ANZ Group Archives 1999) and Dora Mary (Dolly) Flockton left England in 1882 for lack-of-wealth reasons (Wilson 2016, p.41). They met and married in Queensland where their son Nigel Boulton was born in 1888, in the sugar-milling town of Bundaberg (Anonymous 1888).

Bank manager Philip Boulton was promoted in 1889 to a new posting in the gold-mining town of Clunes in Victoria, where Nigel's younger brother Stephen was born in 1890 (Anonymous 1890). A further promotion saw the family move to Brunswick in Melbourne. There, in the manager's residence of the Union Bank of Australia, my grandmother Dorothea (Thea) was born (Anonymous 1895a), five months before her father died there in June 1895 (Anonymous 1895b). Philip Boulton was buried at Melbourne General Cemetery on his 43rd birthday.

A new manager moved into the bank's residence. Where did the Boultons go? The answer has heritage interest.

Clunes 1895 - 1900

A few scraps of family memorabilia marked the Boulton trail. Young Stephen's sketch book contains a pencil outline of a Wentworth Falls landscape dated 26 December 1895. His grandfather Frank Flockton also painted several watercolours of the Blue Mountains (see Figure 1). Why? Because his widowed mother moved with her three young children to New South Wales, closer to her Flockton parents

Photo courtesy Stephanie Arbuthnot.

Figure 1. Blue Mountains, by Frank Flockton (pre 1901).

and her sister. She stayed with them in Sydney for a short while before opting to settle in the Blue Mountains at Wentworth Falls, about 100km west of Sydney. Famed for its fresh, cool air and brisk walks, this was a popular holiday destination easily accessible by train from Sydney.

Dolly had inherited £451 from her husband's Australian assets, enough to purchase a home in New South Wales (Anonymous 1895c). Strangely, there is no record of this purchase in Land Titles records, but read on … all will be explained. Dolly also needed to generate some income to support her children. Her new abode suited as a private guest house, but it was well over a year before the enterprising young mother made her first recorded appearance in this business, in 1897:

> "Mr. and Mrs. Henderson and family, who have been staying for some weeks with Mrs. Boulton, The Clunes, Wentworth Falls, New South Wales, have returned to Marchmont station, near Barcaldine." (Anonymous 1897, col.e).

Nostalgically, she had named her guest house *Clunes* after happy years spent with her husband in that Victorian town. Her early married life in Queensland had taught her that people with money, from places like Barcaldine, were willing to pay for a holiday in a cool climate. She targeted that Queensland market,

helped by her former contacts as a bank manager's wife in that State.

A year later, with Thea past babyhood, Dolly was freer to take on the burdens of caring for children additional to her own three, so she advertised:

> "BLUE MOUNTAINS.—Widow Lady wishes care of Children requiring change to cooler climate, comforts of a happy home, motherly care, and educational advantages. Liberal diet. Cow. References to parents in Queensland and elsewhere. Terms moderate. Mrs. D. M. Boulton, Wentworth Falls, Blue Mountains, N.S.W." (Anonymous 1898a).

Her own children did well at the local public school. In 1898, Nigel and Stephen both won academic and sporting prizes at the annual prize-giving ceremony and school picnic: N. Boulton came second in 3rd class & won second place in the sack race, and S. Boulton came second in 2nd class & earned second prize for sports in 2nd class (Anonymous 1898b). But the extended family felt they had to 'do something' about educating the two boys 'properly'. Schools in England were deemed to be better and English relatives used their influence to get the boys into the British Orphan Asylum at Slough, a school offering free tuition and board to the children of 'gentlemen' where the father had died leaving the family to suffer a declining standard of living (Wilson 2005, p 61). Entry to the school required a student to obtain sufficient 'votes' from the school's financial supporters. The cause of the Boulton boys (see Figures 2 & 3) was promoted well, because both were accepted into the school.

Figure 2.
Nigel Boulton, c 1899.

Photos Julia Woodhouse Collection

Figure 3.
Stephen Boulton, c 1899.

It might have seemed that Dolly too planned to leave Wentworth Falls, because advertisements like the following ran for several weeks in August and September 1899:

> "BLUE Mountains.–To Let for six months, large comfortably furnished Cottage ; dining and drawing rooms, six bedrooms, kitchen, bath, piano, garden; near station, church, school ; rent, £2 10s. Apply Clunes, Wentworth Falls." (Anonymous 1899).

As will be seen, she had simply moved a short distance. However, that description of the location for *Clunes* proved useful. Local historians up until 2016 were mystified as to how such a substantial building as *Clunes*, clearly much larger than the word 'cottage' implies today, had hitherto escaped their attention. If it was near the station, the church (which stood on the one acre one rood 36 perches block of land donated by Miss Helen Campbell (Anonymous

© *Land and Property Information (2016)*

Figure 4. Map of the southern part of the Village of Wentworth Falls (LPI 1916).

1889) and the school (in Falls Road), all marked on Figure 4, then where was it?

More clues emerged from some letters. Although the entire family eventually sailed to England, Dolly arranged for her ten-year-old son Nigel to travel ahead on his own, by ship from Sydney to London, departing Sydney on 9 September 1899 aboard the *Australia*. Three 'brave' letters written by young Nigel on that journey survive (Boulton 1899a,b,c). Whoever stood *in loco parentis* was not mentioned in his letters, the first of which asked after his friends and family:

> "How are the Cales and Steve and babs, how is Steve getting on with his schooling, does he miss me much. Has Miss Tick left yet, hope not, give my love to her if she has not. Mr Wormley wrote me a Post Card and I wrote to Is and he wrote a Post Card back to me." (Boulton 1899a).

Nigel's references to these people, hitherto mysterious because the three envelopes were discarded, taking with them his mother's address, made sense with the knowledge that she still lived at Wentworth Falls. Thomas Cale has significant heritage interest as a storekeeper at Wentworth Falls (NSWOoEH 2000a); his store was located in the block on the corner of Cascade Street and the main western road to Bathurst. Steve, of course, was his nine-year-old brother and 'babs' was his four-year-old sister Thea (my grandmother). It is possible that Miss Tick (Miss Thickner in the next letter) was a paying guest in the Boulton cottage. Mr. Wormley worked at the Wentworth Falls Railway Station. The identity of 'Is' remains unknown.

His second letter queried the progress on some building works underway at home:

> "Has Denis been yet, has he sold the pie-bald; how is Bill getting on with the painting, has he painted a side yet, and did you get enough paint? How is everybody, all well I suppose. ... Does Babs miss me, does she ever ask of me. Give my love to Miss Thickner." (Boulton 1899b).

The *Australia* docked in London several days before Nigel's 11th birthday on 29 October 1899, a milestone which he celebrated with his English relatives, all strangers to him. After Christmas he wrote from the home of his Doherty cousins to his younger brother Steve, making reference to his school days, past and present:

> "I was so glad to get your letter that you wrote on December the 3rd. You must have been sharp to be top in the Lower Third. You will have your prize when this letter gets to you.
>
> Do I like the English School, I like it pretty well, it is not as nice as Mr Chiplin's. I have to go to School on Saturday. But we have a half-holiday, on Wednesdays, and Saturdays, but I do not come home to Aunties I have to stop and play football. I am doing Fractions now, and Practise with Fractions in them not like Mr Chiplin taught me with Decimals. And I am getting on in French, and Latin. Tell Mr Chiplin I will write soon. Auntie wants to say something on the other side." (Boulton 1900).

Mr. Chiplin was Walter James Chiplin, a gifted teacher at Wentworth Falls who deserved Nigel's praise. Prior to his arrival at Wentworth Falls in 1896, Chiplin had worked for four and a half years as the assistant at the Model School, Fort Street, the leading public school in Australia, and in addition he had university training (Anonymous 1896). Parents at Wentworth Falls appreciated having a teacher of such ability to train their children, before Chiplin was promoted to a new school early in 1900.

A few weeks after Nigel reached London, and four years after the family's arrival at Wentworth Falls, his mother's purchase of a property at Wentworth Falls entered the official records. For £300, on 20 November 1899 Dora Boulton purchased Lot 3 of Brasfort North Subdivision, an area of one acre seven perches bounded on the north by the Western Road (a.k.a. Bathurst Road) (LPI 1899). The property contained a dwelling house and outbuildings. The sellers were two widowed sisters living in Manly, Hannah Martha Malcolm and Mary Jane Malcolm, who had married two brothers.

Dolly's legal documentation of 1899 formalized an existing and perhaps troubled arrangement which had been in place for some time. A later legal battle over another property inherited from their father (John Farrell of Manly, who had died late in 1888 (NSWBDM 1888) alluded to the sisters having fallen out (Anonymous 1903a). The sale of Lot 3 at Wentworth Falls in 1899 hints that Hannah had earlier tried to sell this property, without her younger sister's agreement. Its conveyance document states that nothwithstanding anything 'done, omitted or knowingly suffered' by Hannah Martha Malcolm, she now had full power to grant and release this property, 'now or heretofore used, occupied and enjoyed' by Dora Boulton, with no claim being made for the rents and profits received by Dora Boulton.

In the Yewen's Directory of 1900 (Yewen 1900, p.400), Dolly is listed as the proprietor of *Clunes*, using her land for grazing (previously she had owned a horse and a cow), with an orchard. But early in 1900 it was a Mrs. Edwards, who must have responded to Dolly's earlier advertisement offering *Clunes* 'to let for six months', who briefly ran the residence as a boarding house, charging 25 shillings per week (Anonymous 1900a). We shall see that Dolly had subdivided Lot 3 and had built a new cottage on the back portion behind *Clunes*, where she now lived with Stephen and Thea.

Photo Julia Woodhouse Collection

Figure 5. Nigel & Stephen Boulton, England, Dec.1900.

Photo Julia Woodhouse Collection

Figure 6. *Verna*, Wentworth Falls (Anonymous 1955).

After 1900 the name *Clunes* disappeared from the records of Wentworth Falls as the house was about to acquire a new and much more famous identity.

Clunes becomes *Verna*

In the middle of 1900 ten-year-old Stephen was despatched alone (again under an unknown person's watchful eye) on the long sea voyage to join his brother at school in England. (See Figure 5.) Master Stephen Boulton was booked to travel on the P&O vessel *Britannia*, leaving Sydney on 14 July 1900 for London (Anonymous 1900b).

It is known that his mother and sister farewelled him and returned home to their newly-built cottage, because Dolly was one of 33 Wentworth Falls residents contributing to a charity cause around August 1900 (Anonymous 1900c).

Being a keen Anglican churchgoer Dolly had become friendly with the new Rector, Rev Claydon, and in September 1900 she and Claydon did a deal:

> "The Rev. E. Claydon, the rector of Springwood, has arranged to purchase a cottage and furniture at Wentworth Falls, to be called "Holy Trinity Parsonage," for the use of any of the clergy who may officiate there." (Anonymous 1900d, col.c).

The deal was sealed a few weeks later when 'Dora Boulton, widow', sold the front portion of Lot 3 containing a house to 'Ernest Henry Beales Claydon of Springwood, a clerk in holy orders', for £535 (LPI 1900). This house was then used temporarily as the Holy Trinity Parsonage until the foundation stone for

Photo Julia Woodhouse Collection

Figure 7A. Stephen, Thea & Nigel Boulton at Wentworth Falls, c.mid 1899.

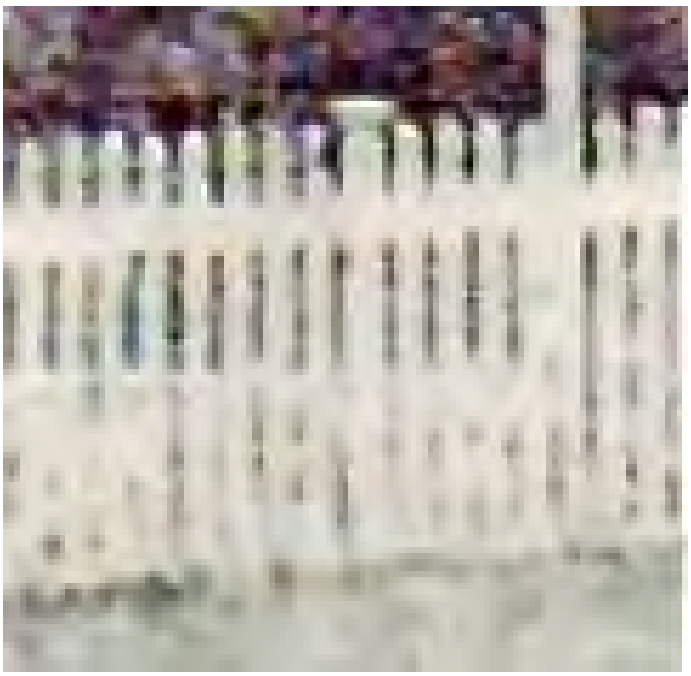
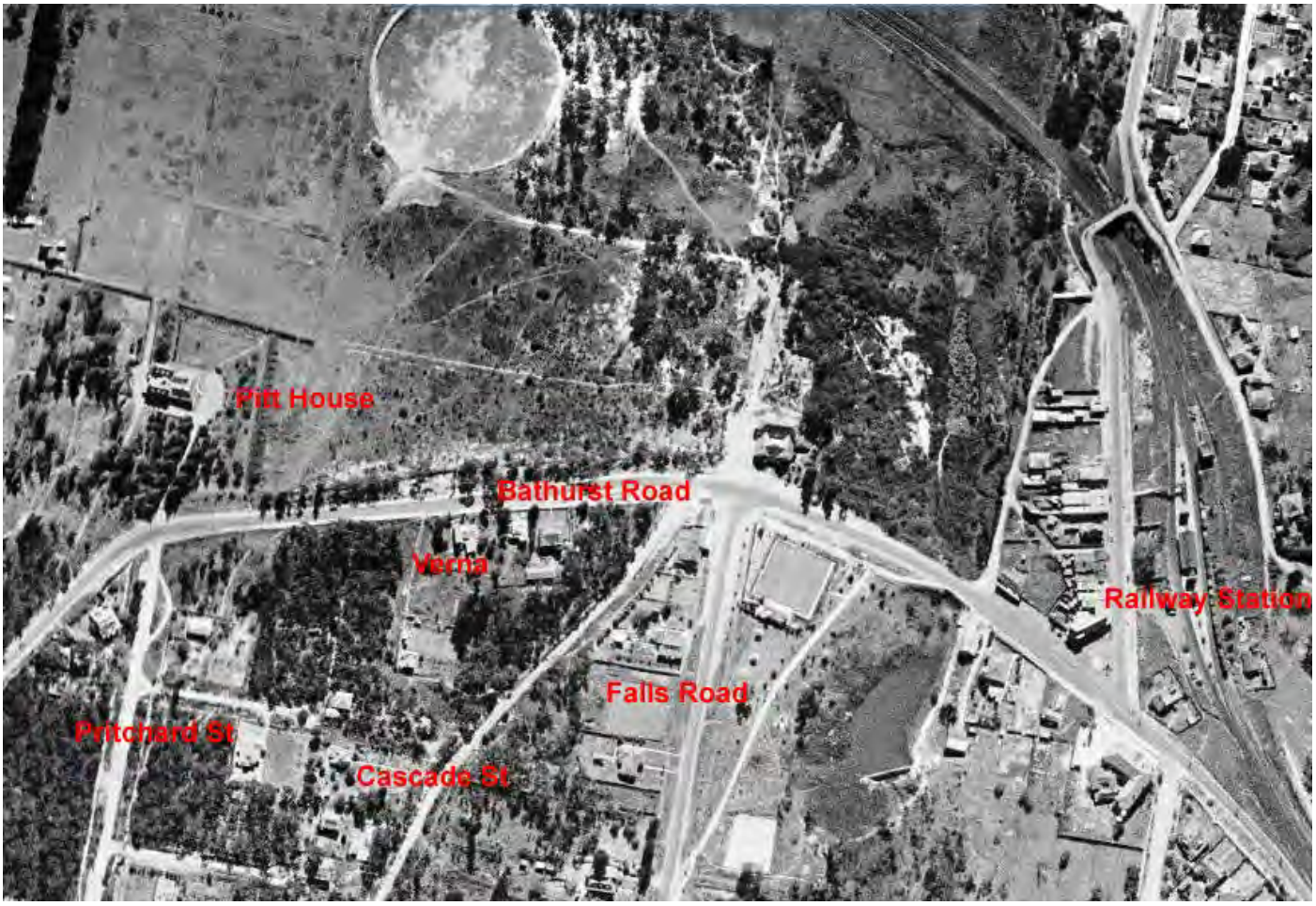


Figure 7B. The fence at *Verna*, (Anonymous 1955).



1943 AUSIMAGE © Sinclair Knight Merz Pty Ltd

Figure 8. 1943 Aerial Photograph of Wentworth Falls.

a new parsonage was laid in August 1906. It was after this that the temporary parsonage (Figure 6) was renamed *Verna* by Rev. Claydon and it was first mentioned by that name in 1907 when his tenth child, a son, was born there (Anonymous 1907).

The ages of the Boulton children in Figure 7A indicate that the photograph was taken before Nigel left for England in September 1899; significantly it shows a very distinctive fence, the shape of the palings and the toppings of the fence posts being the same as for the original fence at *Verna* (Figure 7B). It follows, then, that *Clunes* and *Verna* were one and the same cottage.

After selling *Clunes*, Dolly continued to live in the back portion of Lot 3. This property was named *Cosy Camp*, recognised by her descendants as the quirky kind of name she would give to a house. Later documentation refers to it having a right-of-way and to Dolly's address as Cascade St, consistent with the

Photo Julia Woodhouse Collection

Figure 9. *Verna* c.1900.

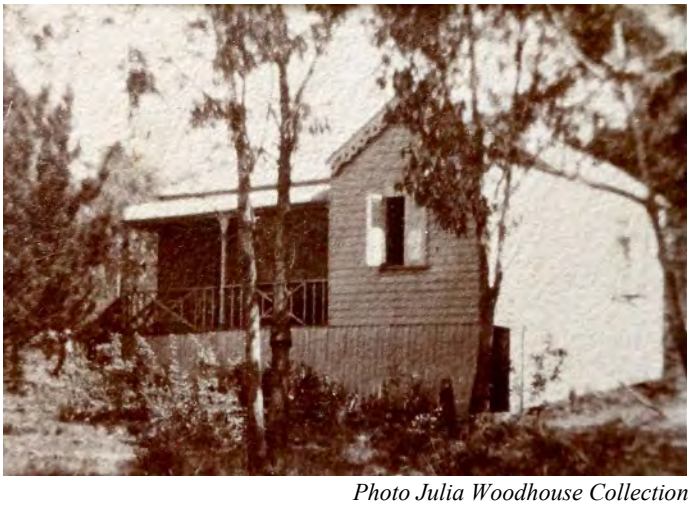


Photo Julia Woodhouse Collection

Figure 10. Probably *Cosy Camp* c.1900.

1943 aerial map (Figure 8) which shows a winding driveway passing through other vacant allotments and leading to Cascade Street.

These conclusions now make perfect sense of several unidentified photos in an old family album recently re-examined by the author. Two old photos are clearly images of *Clunes* a.k.a. *Verna*, taken around 1900 when the house was well set back from the highway (Figure 9) before it was realigned prior to 1943 (Figure 8). On the preceding page is a photo of a small weatherboard cottage which could well be *Cosy Camp* (Figure 10).

Dolly's property ventures at Wentworth Falls had not gone smoothly because by March 1901 a court dispute was underway with the builder of *Cosy Camp*:

> "NO. 2 JURY COURT (Before Mr. Justice Cohen and a jury of four.)
> CLAIM FOR ERECTING A COTTAGE.
> Knox v. Boulton (part heard).
> Mr. Shand and Mr. Teece, instructed by Mr J.W. Abigail, appeared for the plaintiff ; and Dr. Brissendon, instructed by Mr. T.M. Slattery, for the defendant. This was an action brought by Robert William Knox, carpenter and builder, against Dora Boulton, to recover the sum of £65, being balance of account claimed to be due to plaintiff for the building of a weatherboard cottage at Wentworth Falls for the defendant. The original contract was for £95, but extras increased the amount to £135, and £70 had been paid on account, leaving the sum now sued for. Defendant paid into court the sum of £23 15s 6d as being sufficient to satisfy the plaintiff's claim ; and as to the remainder she pleaded, by way of cross action, that the plaintiff did not carry out the work in a skilful, workmanlike, or proper manner, or within a reasonable time. The result was that she was deprived of the use of the premises for a long time and lost the profits which she would otherwise have derived, and this she was willing to set off against the plaintiff's claim. The evidence on both sides having closed, and counsel having addressed the jury, the latter returned a verdict tor £37 18s 6d in addition to the amount paid into court." (Anonymous 1901).

Dolly's stance against the builder proved to be inadvisable: she had to pay £61 14s 0d, most of his claim, plus legal fees.

By October 1901 Dolly and her daughter had departed from Wentworth Falls to share a house with Dolly's widowed sister Phoebe Clarke and her two children, then living at Mosman in Sydney (UK Probate 1901). Philip Boulton's probate in England had at last been granted to her and Dolly began to plan her return to her homeland for the first time in 20 years. First, something had to be done with *Cosy Camp* and its furnishings:

> " "THE COTTAGE", adjoining the Parsonage, on the Bathurst-road 5 minutes from WENTWORTH FALLS Station, and nearly opposite Mr. Pitt's property.
>
> This is for Immediate SALE in consequence of the early departure of the vendor, Mrs. D. Boulton, for England.
> Only £300, INCLUDING FURNITURE.
> To inspect, keys with Mr. Cale, storekeeper
> . PIERCY ETHELL and CO.,
> 3 Moore-street." (Anonymous 1902a).

The interpretation of this advertisement of March 1902 depends entirely on its second comma, a punctuation mark often used sloppily. With that comma, only two cottages adjoined the Parsonage on the Bathurst Road, these being Lots 2 and 4. But without the second comma, the meaning of the sentence was very different, and the cottage would have been *Cosy Camp*, also adjoining the Parsonage but at its rear. As for being 'nearly opposite Mr. Pitt's property', as late as 1943 the land opposite the Parsonage (*Verna*) still was mostly vacant and Mr. Pitt's house was the only structure for some distance. It remained a meaningful landmark in 1943 and back in 1902 would have been an easy way to describe a house anywhere on that section of the Bathurst Road (today's Great Western Highway) at Wentworth Falls.

Dolly (Figure 11) and Thea (Figure 12) Boulton boarded the *Runic* and sailed for London on 24 June 1902 to enjoy a lengthy stay in England as guests of various family members (Figure 13) (Anonymous 1902b). It appears that Dolly's cottage and furniture did not sell before her departure and the property was let out by Mr. Cale during her absence (Anonymous 1903b).

She and Thea returned home to Australia aboard the *Medic* on 28 February 1904, bringing Nigel with them and leaving 13-year-old Stephen behind at school in England (Anonymous 1904). Nigel finished his schooling at The King's School at Parramatta, a school his mother deemed of suitable status, and went on to study medicine at the University of Sydney. When aged 15, Stephen returned alone to Sydney on 22 September 1905, also aboard the *Medic* (Anonymous 1905a). He joined his brother at The King's School

Photo Julia Woodhouse Collection

Figure 11. Dora Boulton, c.1902.

Photo Julia Woodhouse Collection

Figure 12. Thea Boulton c. 1902.

to complete his matriculation studies and went on to work for the Union Bank of Australia and then the new Commonwealth Bank.

Photo Julia Woodhouse Collection

Figure 13. Family Group in England, c.1902.
Rear: Two relatives & Dolly Boulton.
Front: Stephen, Thea & Nigel Boulton.

In July 1905 Dolly started to dispose of her remaining property at Wentworth Falls, preparatory to buying in Sydney. The transaction commenced with a notice by Thomas James Cale to bring the following land under the Real Property Act:

> "No. 13807. County of Cook and Parish of Jamieson, 3 roods 33 1/3 perches, situated on the Main Western or Bathurst road, near Wentworth Falls Station, is lot No. 2 of Brasfort North subdivision, and is part of 31 acres 2 roods (portion No. 3 of parish) granted to Edward Dougherty; adjoining the properties of Revd. E. Claydon, Mrs. Dora Boulton, G. M. Hayward, and Louisa Cale." (Anonymous 1905b).

Five months later:

> "Property Sales. — Mr E. H. Green, house and Land agent, of Wentworth Falls, reports having sold that cottage in Pritchard street known as "Littleton Cottage," with two acres of ground, and also in conjunction with Mr T. Cale the cottage lately owned by Mrs Boulton, in Cascade street, both at satisfactory figures." (Anonymous 1905c).

Photo Courtesy Wentworth Falls Realty.

Figure 14. *Verna*, Wentworth Falls, 2016.

The legalities took a few more months to process. Dora Boulton, a widow of Parramatta, sold her house and land with its right-of-way to John J. Shipley on 12 March 1906 for the sum of £170 (LPI 1906). Financially she appeared to come out ahead over the ten year period of her connection with Wentworth Falls. For her original investment of £435 (£300 for *Clunes* (LPI 1899) plus the £135 cost of building the *Cosy Camp* cottage (Anonymous 1901)) she had sold both properties for a total of £705 (£535 for *Verna* plus £170 for *Cosy Camp* cottage). That was the Boulton family's last recorded connection with Wentworth Falls.

However Dolly and her children retained a long-term link with the Blue Mountains via their close friends the Bryant sisters, Judy and Erica, who later lived for many years at *Glenshiel*, Gladstone Road, Leura, a house backing on to the golf course. The author spent several happy holidays at *Glenshiel* as a child.

Verna, at 230-232 Great Western Highway, today is one of a number of sites at Wentworth Falls included on the NSW State Heritage Inventory. The entry for *Verna*, (Wf082), reads as follows:

> "Verna was … built by Mrs. Dora Boulton on the Highway frontage around 1890. In 1900, Mrs. Boulton sold the house and its land to the new Anglican rector of the lower Blue Mountains, whose parish ran from Glenbrook to Wentworth Falls. The Reverend E. H. B. Claydon was rector there from 1899 until 1903 … Claydon clearly did not use Verna as a residence while he was rector, … The Claydon family used Verna as a mountain holiday home when it was not occupied by catechists." (NSWOoEH 2000b).

In truth, *Verna* was most likely built in the late 1880s by John Farrell of Manly or in the early 1890s by his two daughters. After its occupation by Dora Boulton in 1895, the cottage was known as *Clunes* until its sale to Rev Claydon in 1900, then as the Holy Trinity's 'Parsonage' until 1906 and afterwards as *Verna*, the name chosen by Claydon.

The dynamics of kinship become evident, aligning the work of family historians and historical societies to generate a story with a satisfying outcome for both parties! The restored, refurbished and re-fenced *Verna* (Figure 14) is now described as the original landmark cottage in an 'Over 55s' development accessed via Cascade Street, its new address given as 12/11 Cale Lane (Wentworth Falls Realty 2016). *Cosy Camp* appears to have been demolished as part of the re-development of the site.

Postscript

Much more about Dolly Boulton and her sons and daughter is in my book '*Brothers in Arms: The Great War Letters of Captain Nigel Boulton, R.A.M.C., and Lieut Stephen Boulton, A.I.F.'* (Wilson 2005).

Acknowledgements

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Whispering Pines – AN H.P. OSER HOUSE WITH A PAUL SORENSEN GARDEN AT BLACKHEATH.

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Abstract
In 1953 the author's parents purchased land in Blackheath and commissioned Austrian-born modernist architect H.P. Oser to design a timber and stone weekender, which they named *Whispering Pines*. The Danish-born landscape designer Paul Sorensen was engaged to design the garden around the house, including a rear lawn bordered with a variety of ornamental conifers and silver birches, a rockery planted with alpine plants and a front garden of azaleas, Japanese maples and a long planter box of daffodils on the terrace. The house is part of a small enclave of mountain retreat weekenders designed by Oser in Blackheath and has one of many Blue Mountains gardens designed or part-designed by Sorensen, widely regarded as one of the foremost landscape designers in NSW in the 20th century.

Key words: Houses, gardens, Oser, Sorensen, Blackheath, Blue Mountains

INTRODUCTION

Both the author's maternal great grandfathers had strong associations with the Blue Mountains. Samuel Edward Lees, a prominent layman in the Wesleyan Methodist Church, was twice elected Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA) for Nepean, an electorate which included the lower Blue Mountains. He was Mayor of Sydney in 1895 and later, Lord Mayor, when that office was instituted in the early twentieth century. One of Lees' four daughters, the author's grandmother, was Elma Carine Lees. In 1904 she married Congregational minister Reginald Blair Reynolds (1881-1959), a son of Robert Henry Reynolds (1834-1913) who at various times had extensive land holdings at Katoomba and Blackheath and was a one-time partner of John Britty North in mining ventures in the Jamison and Megalong valleys. Welsh-born R.H. Reynolds, a veteran of the Crimean War and one of the Maori Wars, finished his military career as Sergeant Instructor of Musketry at Sydney's Victoria Barracks. Known popularly as "Captain" Reynolds, an honorary rank conferred on him on his retirement from the army, R.H. Reynolds dabbled in many different business activities including coastal shipping, merchandising and mining. He built a semi-detached house *Glen Ayr* (later incorporated with the adjoining *Boronia* and renamed *Braemar* (NSWOoEH 2002)) in Station Street, Blackheath and a row of cottages in Haviland Avenue, one of a number of streets in the town named after Reynolds family members (Yeaman 1976, pp.356-357).

The author's mother, Olive Roberta 'Bobbie' Lees Betteridge (née Reynolds) (1907-1990), started holidaying at Blackheath from the time she was six months old. Until 1916 members of both the Reynolds and Lees families took every opportunity to take holiday breaks at Blackheath and the Reynolds children often spoke of these times with great affection. In 1911 the family was apparently at Blackheath for Elma's birthday. A postcard of a young girl in a flimsy dress with a bunch of flowers titled 'Hearty Birthday Greetings' was addressed to Mrs. R.B. Reynolds, *Beaconsfield*, Blackheath, Blue Mts, with the message:

> "We all wish the dear Elma a happy birthday & many, many more to come. 13/10/1911"

[*Beaconsfield* was a "boarding establishment" at what is now 3 Haviland Street.]

After her marriage in 1931 to Albert Robert 'Bob' Betteridge (1905-1995), Bobbie continued the family tradition of holidaying at Blackheath. Their honeymoon was at *The Carrington Hotel* in Katoomba and included the almost obligatory rail and road trip to Jenolan Caves. For many years the family stayed with their friends, the Partington family in a large house [No. 160] on the Great Western Highway at the Medlow Bath end of Blackheath. The author remembers his own childhood school holidays at rented cottages including *Deloraine* in Station Street [No.163], Miss Pittendrigh's in Clanwilliam Street [No. 80] and at *Castleford*, on the corner of Wentworth Street [No.63], and Prince George Street, Blackheath.

When the author's parents decided to buy a mountain property and build a weekend retreat in the early 1950s, they naturally selected Blackheath and chose a sheltered site on the edge of a pine plantation known

as 'Foy's Paddock' on the eastern side of the village, between the former bowling club and the golf course. Like many streets in Blackheath, Prince Edward Street was continuous on paper but in reality was fragmented into a number of sections, truncated by the steep local topography. 'Bobbie' Betteridge had fallen in love with a group of three houses, *La Cabana* [Lot A DP 354930; was No.9 but now 13 Prince Edward Street], *Lilly Pilly* [Lot B DP 354930; was No.7 but now 9 Prince Edward Street], and *Suvretta* [Lot 1 DP 19071; was No.1 but now 52-54 Hargraves Street], all on the eastern side of Prince Edward Street, between Reynolds Lane and Hargraves Street. These three houses had been designed by Vienna-born Hans Peter Oser (1913-1967), a modernist architect who had fled the Nazi regime in Austria and settled in Sydney. The fear of nuclear conflict at the height of the Cold War led many European migrants to build retreats on the Blue Mountains where they thought they would be safer in the event of a new war and where the climate, conifers and other cool climate plants reminded them of their homelands.

Hans Peter Oser

Born in Vienna on New Year's Day 1913 into a middle-class Jewish family, Hans Peter Oser studied architecture at the University of Vienna although his father wanted him to study interior decorating to continue the family business (Quinton 1997, p.80). Growing up in Austria's capital city, the young Oser was initially influenced by the Secessionist Jugendstil (Art Nouveau) architecture of Josef Maria Olbrich, Josef Hoffmann and Otto Wagner who rebelled against the pomposities of classical architectural design. Another major influence was Adolf Loos and his drastic changes to "simplification and purer rectilinear forms" (Curtis 1996 in Quinton 1997, p.67). Quinton (1997, p.80) argued that "the seeds of modernism were firmly planted in the young Oser". Oser supplemented his university studies with vacation work in architectural practices including that of Josef Hoffmann and Oswald Haerdtl who were both professors at Vienna's equivalent of Sydney's College of Fine Arts. With his family background in interior design, Oser also nurtured his long-standing appreciation of art with regular visits to Vienna's many museums.

In 1937 Oser accompanied Professor Haerdtl to Paris to assist with the design and construction of the Austrian pavilion for the Paris Exposition of 1938. This trip had a profound impact on Oser who developed a desire to move to the French capital. With his increased experience and authority Oser was commissioned to design additions to Vienna's iconic Imperial Hotel which had been an important gathering place for Kaiser Wilhelm II and other dignitaries. Oser's appointment as supervisor for this project ended abruptly in March 1938 with the rise of Nazism in Germany and Austria. Sensing the dangers for Jews staying in Vienna, Oser married and he and his new bride applied for an Australian visa and work permit. Just why they decided to migrate to Australia is not known but perhaps they thought it was a place furthest removed from the impending conflict about to engulf Europe. Oser went back to France briefly but found there were no architectural work opportunities there in the changed environment and uncertain future. He joined his wife in England and in November 1938 the pair sailed for Sydney, arriving the following month and settling into a small apartment in Kirribilli, on the northern shore of Sydney Harbour.

In January 1939 Oser was fortunate to join a large Sydney architectural firm where he mixed with other European émigré architects and was guided by Professor Alfred Hook (1886-1963) who had contributed to the foundation of the Faculty of Architecture at the University of Sydney and the Royal Australian Institute of Architects (Broomham 1996). Oser learned Australian construction techniques and his skills increased rapidly. A director of the firm was a benefactor of the Red Cross and was well connected in the Sydney social scene. Oser was invited to parties and the opera, pleasures denied him in his later years in Europe. During the Second World War, Oser's fortunes varied, including two years working in a Labour Corps torch factory but improving in 1944 when he was appointed chief architect for the Housing Commission of New South Wales, with a good salary and a car. In both his work in the torch factory and at the Housing Commission, Oser also designed furniture for private clients, working from his small apartment (Quinton 1997, p.84).

By 1946, with his growing client list and "firmly entrenched in the social, cultural and architectural scene in Sydney" (Quinton 1997, p.85), the demand for Oser's work was increasing. Designing from his apartment, with his wife doing the office work, soon became impossible and they set up practice in Hosking Place, a narrow laneway between Castlereagh Street and Pitt Street. Oser became a close friend of modernist architect Sydney 'Syd' Ancher (1904-1979) and, like Ancher, tried his hand at the design of project homes. Oser's were two and three-bedroom houses in a residential estate on a hill near Manly golf course which he had purchased with friend Joseph Gervich.

This development proved to be very successful but came to a sudden end with the untimely death of Gervich in 1956. Oser's impressive client list by now included real estate developer L.J. (later Sir Leslie) Hooker (1903-1976) (Spearritt 1996), Vienna -born clothing manufacturer and developer Frank Theeman (1913-1989) (Hawker 2012), as well as the Benjamin family and the German-born Jewish restaurateur Walter Magnus (1903-1954).

In his domestic architectural work, Oser was a champion of the use of timber for house construction, arguing against a prevailing post-World War II view in many local government authorities that houses should be of solid masonry construction and that the use of timber and asbestos would lead to a proliferation of shacks, thereby depreciating property values. Oser challenged the validity of this view in an article in the *Sunday Herald* in July 1950, saying:

> "Councils have wide powers to control design, so why should they not declare 'selective areas,' where timber homes could be built when the design was approved by qualified people? Probably the most workable method would be to refer the applications to a committee composed of councillors, architects nominated by the Royal Australian Institute of Architects, and real estate men." (Newman 1950).

All of Oser's houses in Prince Edward Street, Blackheath are of timber construction, with brick or stone chimneys and terraces.

Walter Magnus & *La Cabana*

Born in Dortmund, Germany, Walter Magnus studied dentistry and practised in his home city and in Berlin (Cunneen 2000, p.284), before escaping the Nazis in 1933 by travelling to Switzerland, Italy and France before setting up as a dentist in Barcelona, Spain. In 1934 he married German-born Hedwig Lisser Zinner and within two years they were driven out by the Spanish Civil War, escaping first to Czechoslovakia, then to Holland and finally to England. With Walter's sister and Hedy's brother the couple sailed for Australia, reaching Sydney on 8 April 1937.

Denied the right to practise dentistry in his new country, Walter Magnus decided to turn his love of food and cooking into a new profession. He had certainly been exposed to a variety of European cuisines in the previous decades. He bought the *Claremont Café* in Kings Cross, then *La Palette*, Double Bay (1940), the catering rights for the Journalists' Club (1941), *Le Coq d'Or* in Sydney's Ash Street (1943), the *Savarin* in George Street, Sydney (1946) and *The Pier*, Rose Bay (1951).

Figure 1. *La Cabana* - front elevation (Norman 1951, p.42). [Chris Betteridge collection].

It is reported (Norman 1951, p.43) that Magnus was riding with friends through the bush at Blackheath when he first saw the land known as 'Foy's Paddock', a clearing in a dense plantation of *Pinus radiata* (Radiata Pine, Monterey Pine), land that had once belonged to Mark Foy, the Sydney retailer who developed the Hydro Majestic Hotel at Medlow Bath. The house that had been on the land had burnt down. Magnus purchased three and half acres (*approx. 1.4 hectares*) of this land and commissioned H.P. Oser to design a three-bedroom holiday home which Magnus named *La Cabana* (Figure 1), the name-board being fixed to a giant pine tree beside the red-painted gates at the western end of the long entrance drive that wound down through the pines.

Oser's aim in designing *La Cabana* was to achieve a rustic retreat in keeping with the forest setting. Sited in a clearing, with a backdrop of tall pines, the house has an easterly aspect, with views over dense bushland near the headwaters of Govetts Leap Brook, including stands of *Grevillea acanthifolia* ssp. *acanthifolia*, a prickly shrub found in wet places in the upper Blue Mountains. The author remembers as a teenager how difficult it was moving through this bush which was also infested with blackberries and gorse. The open plan living / dining area and the two front bedrooms of *La Cabana* were under a skillion roof while the rear rooms comprising a third bedroom, WC, bathroom, laundry and kitchen were under a flat roof. There were wide overhanging eaves all round and a carport at the southern end with its roof supported on slanted cypress beams. The layout of the house is shown in the plan at Figure 2.

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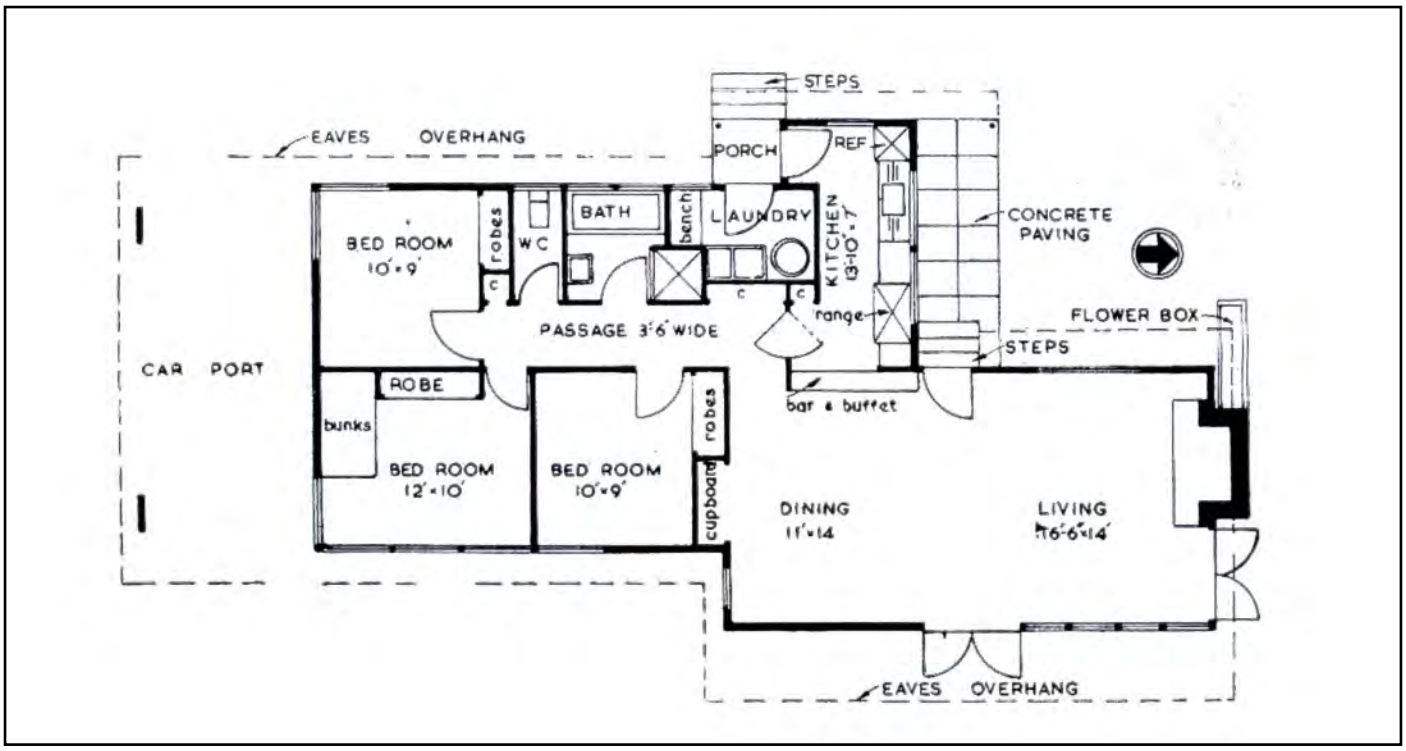


Figure 2. The plan of *La Cabana* (Norman 1951, p.43). [Chris Betteridge collection]

The external walls were clad in oiled and varnished horizontal cypress weatherboards. For the time, the house had extensive glazed areas, with a series of multi-paned timber framed French doors with fixed highlights giving onto the stone-paved front terrace which returns around to the northern and western sides. The living area has windows on three sides, maximising the solar access, and there is a fireplace at the northern end, with a brick chimney. The terrace had a barbecue and painted timber outdoor furniture on wheels for ease of movement. To the east of the house was a large lawn, with flower and vegetable gardens, fruit trees and shrubs.

In the early 1950s the palette of colours that had characterised interwar houses was replaced with vibrant primary colours on external joinery and accent panels and a variety of shades on internal walls, often with different colours on walls in the same room. The roof and entrance doors of *La Cabana* were painted pillar box red, as were the driveway gates and the arris rail and wire boundary fence. All external architraves and glazing bars were painted frosty white. In the living room the walls were painted eggshell blue and the ceiling grey. Interior doors were painted silver grey and curtains and upholstery were vibrant 'Mexican' colours. Furniture was made of Australian cedar, with an oiled finish over the natural timber. Built onto the living room wall adjoining the kitchen was a cypress pine cocktail bar made from left-over scraps of timber from the floors. A hatch through to the kitchen allowed for snack meals at the counter which had lacquered bar stools.

Figure 3. A corpulent but apparently happy Walter Magnus walking his dog *Amigo* at Rose Bay (Anonymous 1952).

Walter Magnus was obviously enjoying taking his pet dachshund *Amigo* for a walk at Rose Bay in the press photograph here as Figure 3.

Walter Magnus unfortunately did not live long enough to spend much time at his cherished *La Cabana*. He was described in the *Australian Dictionary of Biography* (Cunneen 2000, p.285) as:

> "heroically corpulent by the 1950s – his 24½ stone (*156 kg*) globular frame topped by a 'happy, smiling moon of a face'. He spoke several languages, English with a thick German accent. … A wine connoisseur, beer quaffer and cigarette smoker who indulged all his pleasures, he died of a cerebral haemorrhage on 5 February 1954 … A distinctive 'New Australian', Magnus had helped to broaden Sydney's culture and improve its cuisine."

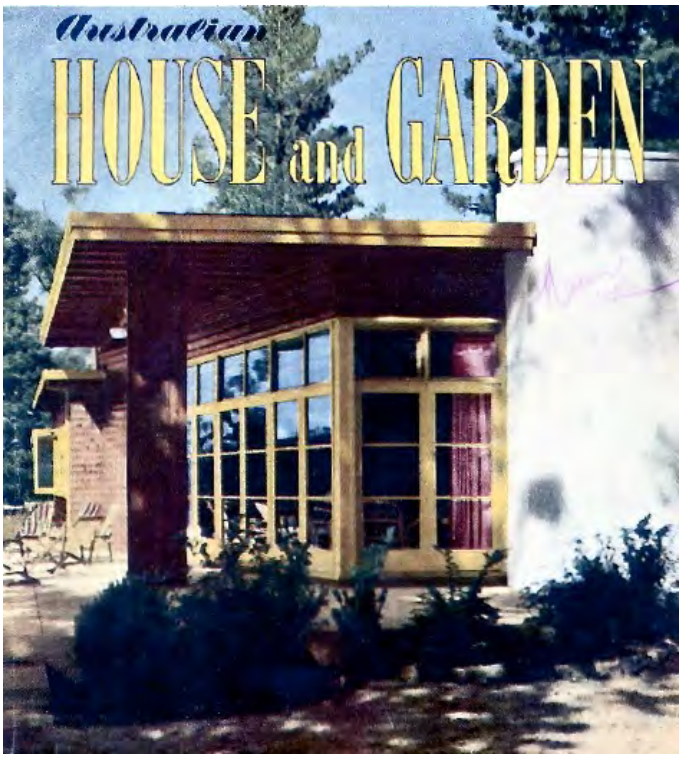


Photo M. Michaelis.

Figure 4. Side elevation of *Lilly Pilly* (Anonymous 1951). [Chris Betteridge collection].

The next owners of *La Cabana* were a couple named Inkster who adopted four young children from the one family and the author remembers these children enjoying the wonderful property, with its enchanting forest setting. The property was subsequently sold to the Fairfax family. Renamed *Pine Cabin*, the house survives but has been repainted and the state of its original interior is unknown to the author.

The Benjamin Family & *Lilly Pilly*

In a clearing to the south of *La Cabana,* but not separated from that property by a boundary fence, was the weekender that Oser designed for Magnus' friends, the Alfred J. Benjamin family. The Benjamins owned department stores at Chatswood and Top Ryde, the latter being the first regional shopping centre in New South Wales and only the second in Australia, opened by the premier J.J. Cahill in November 1957 (City of Ryde 2015). The author remembers as a child being very impressed by the cars in which the owner of this property arrived, including a two-tone blue and white 1950s Pontiac sedan. Set in just over two acres (*0.8 ha*) of pine forest and similar in many ways to the Magnus house, *Lilly Pilly* (Figure 4) was a house with yellow-painted window joinery and fascias and a white-painted rendered masonry chimney; it was clad in horizontal cypress weatherboards. It had three main roof planes, each a very slightly pitched skillion. The

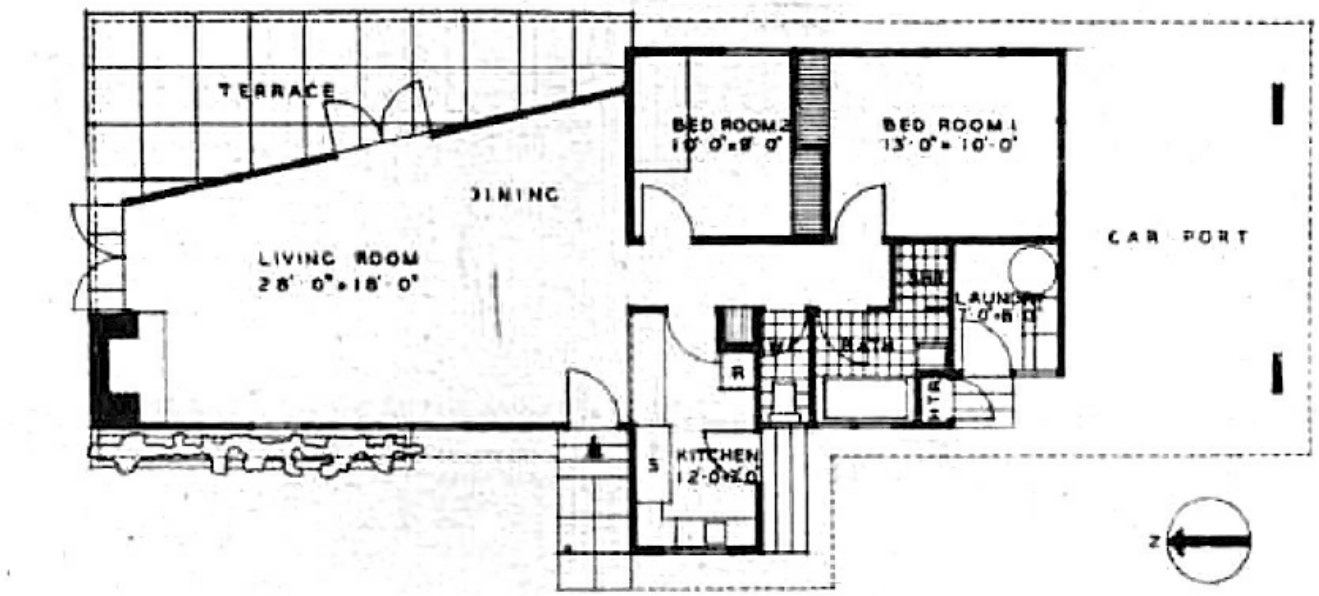


Figure 5. Plan of *Lilly Pilly*, Blackheath, as built (Anonymous n.d.).

highest roof covered the large asymmetric living / dining area, the middle roof covered the two bedrooms, kitchen, bathroom, WC and laundry, with the lowest roof over the carport at the southern end. As at *La Cabana*, a run of French doors with highlights above gave onto an elevated terrace with planter boxes and a garden bed along its eastern side. In a contemporary publication by the Timber Development Association of Australia (NSW Branch) Ltd, titled build your home in TIMBER, an unidentified house that was obviously *Lilly Pilly* was described in glowing terms thus:

> "An outstanding example of contemporary architecture in timber. Designed for both indoor and outdoor living, this Blue Mountains home nestles against a background of pine trees which provide an excellent wind-break. Architect, H.P. Oser."

Another article espousing the qualities and cost savings in using timber for house construction also shows *Lilly Pilly* as an example of a timber dwelling (Anonymous 1952) and the plan is shown in Figure 5.

Figure 6. End elevation of the carport at *Suvretta*, Blackheath (Anonymous n.d.).

Suvretta

The third in the enclave of Oser-designed houses in Prince Edward Street, Blackheath, is a small weekender called *Suvretta*, possibly named after a famous hotel in St. Moritz, Switzerland; it is located on the eastern side of the street in the short block between Belvidere Avenue and Hargraves Street. Sited quite close to the street boundary behind a row of screening conifers, *Suvretta* is clad with dark-stained timber boards and has a low-pitched gabled roof. It presents a more European appearance, with timber shutters to the windows. The carport, shown in Figure 6 is at the north-eastern end but the interior layout is not known. Originally set on a double lot with an ornamental garden of conifers and deciduous trees for autumn colour, the land has been subdivided, leaving the house on a relatively shallow site, with a new dwelling fronting Hargraves Street on part of the original garden.

Other Oser-Designed Buildings in NSW

Quinton was unaware of the Oser houses in Prince Edward Street, Blackheath when he prepared his architectural dissertation but he referred (Quinton 1997, p.144) to two other Oser houses in Blackheath – one in Golf Links Road and another in Govetts Leap Road – and a third at Echo Point, Katoomba. In addition to the Blue Mountains houses, Quinton referred to Oser designed residential dwellings in Bellevue Hill, Beauty Point, Mosman, Roseville, Middle Cove, Avalon, Woollahra and Castle Cove. The Hersey House in Telopea Street, Mount Colah, designed by Oser in 1954 is, like *Whispering Pines*, another timber dwelling with low-pitched gabled roof (O'Callaghan & Pickett 2012, pp.63-64, 117).

Oser's commercial output included the William Bland Centre at 229-231, Macquarie Street, Sydney, a building in which "the minimalist curtain wall reduces architecture to a grid of lines" (Jahn 1997, p.163) and the Canberra Rex Hotel (1959). Quinton (1997, p.87) stated that Oser

> "was known for taking on many young Jewish architects who were having difficulty finding work at the time".

In 1952 Oser employed the highly-skilled French émigré draftsman / architect Jean Fombertaux and the firm eventually became Oser, Fombertaux & Associates. In 1963 the practice designed the Sydney booking offices for the airline British Overseas Airways Corporation (BOAC) (now British Airways). Located at 64 Castlereagh Street, these offices, with a marble-sheathed beam across the façade allowed for an impressively wide front window of 11 metres, creating an 'open' ground floor (Apperly & Lind 1971, p.25). In 1966, the year before Oser's death, the firm designed the *Glenmore Apartments* at 176, Glenmore Road, Paddington, a slab block with extensive views of Sydney Harbour (Apperly & Lind 1971, p.46). In that same year the firm designed the cosmetic production complex for Helena Rubinstein Pty. Ltd. at 12-26, Wharf Road, Ermington (Apperly & Lind 1971, p.88).

Oser's domestic and commercial work has been described as

> "marked by a sophistication of form and composition within an informed modernist style." (Goad & Willis c.2012, p.520)

The Betteridge Family & *Whispering Pines*

When the author's parents were contemplating the purchase of land at Blackheath, their favourite holiday haunt, they were impressed with the three Oser-designed houses and they decided to commission the same architect for their weekender. They had purchased three adjoining lots fronting the western side of Prince Edward Street, directly opposite *La Cabana* and Blue Mountains City Council records indicate that the transfer of ownership had been completed by 14 May 1953. This land, of area 147 feet x 150 feet, sloped quite steeply up from the road which in the early 1950s was a narrow unsealed track leading down to the old dairy beside Prince George Street. The land also had many pine trees self-propagated from those on 'Foy's Paddock', as well as remnant eucalypts such as *Eucalyptus sieberi* (Silvertop Ash) and native shrubs such as *Telopea speciossima* (Waratah), *Persoonia levis* (Geebung), *Lambertia formosa* (Mountain Devil), *Hakea dactyloides*, *Lomatia silaifolia* (Crinkle Bush) and the prostrate spider flower, *Grevillea laurina*. At the time Radiata Pine did not have quite the bad reputation as an invasive species as it does today and the author's parents loved the smell of the pine needles and the sound the branches made in the wind. They named the property *Whispering Pines* [Lots 15-17 DP19856; 4-8 Prince Edward Street].

The family decided to site the house well-back from the street and straddling the three narrow lots to maximise the space around the dwelling. For at least two years they camped (Figure 7) on the property on weekends while they prepared the land, grubbing out large tree roots (Figure 8) and levelling the house site, being careful to retain as much as possible of the native vegetation. Transport from the family home in

Photo: Bob Betteridge c.1954

Figure 7. Camping on the land at weekends and during school holidays was great fun for a seven-year old boy; the author is next to the family tent.

Photo: Bob Betteridge c.1954

Figure 8. The author, clothed in 'Jackie Coogan' overalls and wielding a tomahawk, helping his mother, with axe and spade, to clear timber from the house site at *Whispering Pines*.

Parramatta was in the Ford V8 sedan which Bob Betteridge had bought new in December 1935 from a Strathfield dealer. Accommodation on these weekend excursions was a canvas tent strung between two pine trees. Cooking was done over an open fire or on a kerosene stove and food was kept away from marauding ants and possums in a meat safe hanging from a tree. All of the family helped to clear the land, gaining great satisfaction as each milestone was achieved.

It would have been quite a leap of faith for Bob and Bobbie Betteridge to commission Oser to design their house and the author suspects they took the plunge to engage an architect because they realised it was probably the only way they could get the house of their dreams. Roberta Betteridge had always had an interest in art, architecture and design. As a young woman she had wanted to study art but it was not considered an appropriate choice for the daughter of a Congregational minister. She did however dabble in sketching for many years and enjoyed hand colouring the black and white photographs which Bob took on his Kodak vest pocket folding camera. Bobbie threw herself into the house design process with considerable enthusiasm. Although she was a very shy person, she enjoyed the visits to Oser's offices in Hosking Place and to suppliers of kitchen appliances, bathroom fittings and furnishing fabrics. The author fondly remembers accompanying his mother on these outings to the city and playing on the floor of Oser's office, constructing buildings with the architect's books which probably included tomes on the works of Le Corbusier (1887-1965) and Mies Van Der Rohe (1886-1969). The earliest record of this project that the author has been able to locate to date is a note

about a working drawing dated 12 October 1953 (Oser 1953) which shows the house sited towards the eastern side of the land, close to Prince Edward Street, with a rotary clothes line to the rear, but the working drawing is marked 'Positions to be adjusted on site'.

In the early 1950s building materials were still in limited supply after World War II and there was a shortage of builders, particularly those who had worked under the supervision of an architect. On the Blue Mountains in 1953/4 such builders would have been a rarity and the author believes his parents and Oser had some difficulty finding someone who could take on the task of constructing the house, especially to Oser's exacting standards. The author remembers the builder's surname was Cadwallader but he has no further information on him apart from the fact that the house took much longer to be completed than his parents had expected. This was probably due to a number of factors including delays in obtaining supplies, Oser's Sydney base and likely arguments between the architect and the builder. Once the house was partially completed, the family would camp in the structure (Figure 9) in preference to the old canvas tent.

H.P. Oser had recently visited the United States and had come back impressed by the way in which American women had much greater choice when it came to fitting out their homes with colour-matched appliances, fitted wardrobes and labour-saving devices. Although the Betteridge house was only going to be a weekender, it was designed to make maximum use of available space. The refrigerator, kitchen bench and stove were all the same height and the fridge top could be used as extra bench space. The kitchen sink had wide draining boards either side, allowing for additional bench space and a generous cupboard underneath. There was a pair of casement windows above the sink offering views out to the garden during washing up. The L-shaped dining bench served both the kitchen and the large living area, with cupboards above the bench suspended on steel poles from the ceiling. You could reach just about everything you needed without leaving your chair. The kitchen cupboards were grey on the kitchen side and a coffee colour on the living room side. The kitchen wall above the stove and refrigerator was a deep turquoise colour and the 'lino' floor tiles were a random pattern of grey and yellow squares. Kitchen benches had Formica tops in a faintly patterned turquoise colour. The six dining chairs were Eames DCM and the lounge suite comprised a two-seater sofa and two chairs, upholstered in brown and yellow mottled woollen fabric

One long side and part of the end of the living room were fitted with wide divans which doubled as beds for extra guests on weekends. These were upholstered in a dark brown woollen fabric. The bedrooms had generous floor to ceiling fitted wardrobes. Long fitted dressing tables had compartments with lids that hinged up to reveal make-up mirrors. Oser had an aversion to traditional central ceiling-mounted pendant light fittings. Ceiling lights in the living area, kitchen and hall were translucent glass mushroom type but much of the lighting in the house was in the form of wall-mounted fittings and the coachwood double bunks had anodised aluminium bed lamps. At the northern end of the house a huge sandstone fireplace

Photo: Bob Betteridge c.1954

Figure 9. The author and his mother Bobbie Betteridge in the partially completed house circa 1954. The scaffolding for the stone work looks decidedly dodgy and would certainly not meet today's Workplace Safety requirements.

Photo: Bob Betteridge c.1960s

Figure 10. The northern end of the living area circa 1960s, showing the sandstone fireplace inside and barbecue outside on the terrace. The original red and yellow butterfly chairs were usually on the terrace. The lamp on the mantelpiece was fashioned by a family friend from a section of pine branch complete with four cones.

(Figure 10) continued through to the front terrace where it became a wood-fired barbecue. As with the previous Oser houses *La Cabana* and *Lilly Pilly* the house had large glazed areas but at *Whispering Pines* the windows are not multi-paned but large sheets of plate glass. There are large fixed picture windows and equally large casement windows, all with large fixed highlights above to ceiling height. When the Venetian blinds were open it was not uncommon for birds to knock themselves out on the windows, thinking that they could fly straight through the house.

The living area had light grey raked ceilings and pale yellow walls, contrasting with the dark brown upholstered divans. Floors throughout the living area, hall and bedrooms were oiled and polished 100mm cypress pine tongue and groove boards. Internal doors and architraves and the fitted wardrobes were painted glossy white. The ceiling and two walls in the main bedroom were painted off-white while the accent wall behind the fitted double bed was a mid-blue. The second bedroom featured fitted double bunks in coachwood, with alcoves at the head ends for book storage and further shelving at the head end of the lower bunk. Walls were painted pale yellow with a pale grey ceiling. A large storage box with hinged lid upholstered in studded red leather was fitted under the window. The riot of colour was continued in the bathroom, with pale blue toilet suite, wash basin and fitted bath. Wall tiles were pale pink and the floor and shower recess had small hexagonal tiles in a random pattern of pink and light grey.

The front elevation of the house under the bedroom windows, and the rear elevation under the kitchen windows and between the bathroom and laundry windows, featured yellow-painted panels of asbestos cement in white painted timber frames, providing a strong contrast with the glossy cypress weatherboards which were originally finished with Brolite yacht enamel. Oser would have been aware of this company's products because he had designed a second storey addition to their factory at Alexandria (Anonymous 1954). The front door was a solid core type painted turquoise blue while the kitchen door was a white-painted stable type which, with the top half open, allowed for good views out to the back garden. A concrete terrace extended along the rear of the house from the kitchen to the carport, with a step down to a wide crazy-paved path (Figures 11 & 12). The laundry, with external access from the rear terrace, featured a large off-peak Braemar hot water service and two concrete laundry tubs. A timber clothes drying rack suspended from the ceiling could be raised

Photo: Chris Betteridge 1965

Figure 11. The southern elevation of the house after the record snow storm in June 1965, showing the low pitched main roof and the similarly pitched but lower carport roof.

Photo: Chris Betteridge 1965

Figure 12. The rear of the house after the record June 1965 snow fall. Note the amount of snow on the low-pitched roof.

and lowered with ropes. A Hoovermatic™ twin-tub washing machine was a later addition.

The low pitched main roof and the lower carport roof were both clad in 'super-six' corrugated asbestos cement sheeting with matching ridge cappings. The huge sandstone chimney which served both the internal fireplace and the external barbecue was topped with a rectangular steel plate supported on steel posts. In the author's opinion the low-pitched roof was not particularly well-suited to the heavily treed environment and sweeping pine needles off the roof and cleaning out the deep guttering hidden behind wide timber fascias was a constant chore. That roof also was unable to cope with heavy hail or snow but perhaps the architect did not anticipate events such as the record snow fall of June 1965 which also caused considerable damage to the garden (Figures 11, 12 & 13). The sandstone flagged front terrace, partly

Photo: Chris Betteridge 1965

Figure 13. The view up the drive from Prince Edward Street during the record June 1965 snow fall. The garden could not cope with such heavy snow and over two hundred pines, other trees and shrubs were broken by the weight of snow.

protected under the roof, featured a fitted cypress pine bench seat with a Formica topped bench next to the barbecue for preparation of meals. Extending along the front of the terrace to the steps leading up to the front door was a sandstone edged window box which was traditionally planted with daffodils for a great splash of spring colour.

In the late 1960s the author's parents commissioned Oser, Fombertaux and Associates to design a large rumpus room in the same style as the house, to be connected to the carport by a timber pergola. This structure provided support for climbers such as Clematis 'Montana' hybrids and shelter for the Mollis azaleas planted by Sorensen.

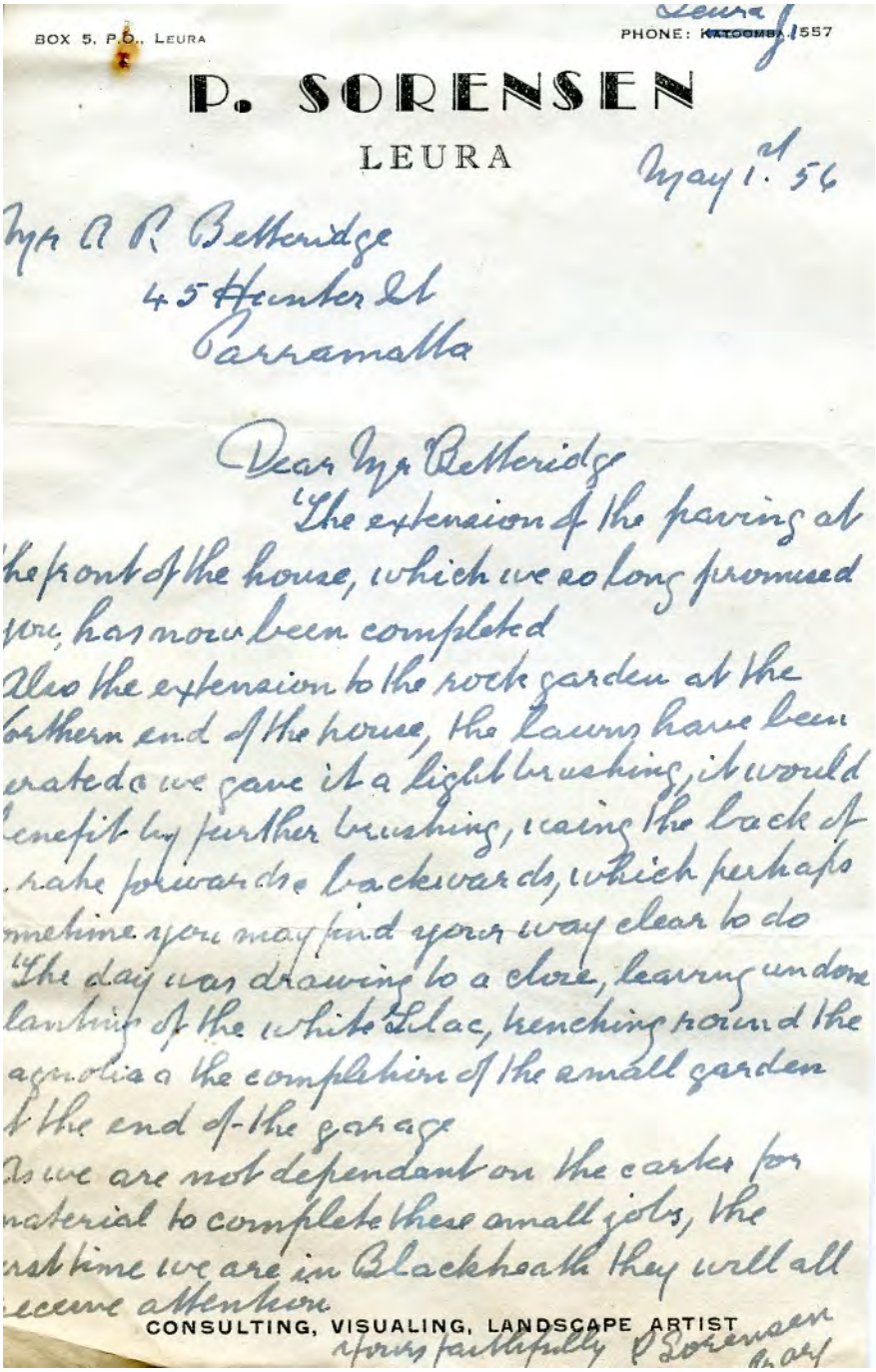
Sorensen and the garden at *Whispering Pines*

In his seminal 1990 work on the gardens of Danish-born landscape designer Paul Sorensen, the late Richard Ratcliffe (p.138) described the garden at *Whispering Pines* thus:

> "While Blue Mist [at Leura] shows Sorensen's virtuosity in the use of contrasting scale and dramatic surprise, Whispering Pines at Blackheath shows him in a simpler mood. When the Betteridge family built their house, designed by Sydney architect H.P. Oser in 1955, they chose to site it towards the rear of their largeish block because of the pleasure they gained from the mature pines which covered the major portion of the site towards the street. Sorensen built stone walls and paving which link the house to the garden and carried out some limited planting to the rear of the house. All other planting was completed by the owners but is so typically Sorensen in selection and style that it is plain that he provided much advice and inspiration. All of the pines were retained and simply underplanted with azaleas, maples, camellias and rhododendrons. In some areas these in turn are underplanted with ivy which makes its presence more visible as it climbs the occasional pine, adding to the lush verdure of contrasting foliage textures and forms. Paths in this garden are reduced to narrow ones of natural earth meandering among the trees and shrubs in an environment of overwhelming restfulness. The Betteridges have added subtle lighting among the trees to expand the available experiences into the darker hours."

The author is not sure how his parents came to choose Sorensen to design the garden around the house. They were probably aware of his work at *Everglades*, Leura, and possibly other gardens in the upper Blue Mountains – he is known to have designed more than forty gardens in the Blue Mountains (Aitken & Looker 2002, p.559). Sorensen's Nursery at Leura was also one of the main sources of cool climate trees, shrubs and herbaceous plants in the area and the author remembers many happy visits to the nursery with his parents who maintained a long friendship with Sorensen, exchanging cards at Christmas time for many years after their garden was finished. The author's friend, Sydney architect and garden historian Howard Tanner recounts a story of similar visits with his own parents to Sorensen's Nursery. On one occasion his parents were discussing plants with the great nurseryman when another customer came up to them and asked Sorensen how much a particular plant cost. Sorensen later turned to Howard's parents and said "if he has to ask the price, he probably can't afford it!" Judging from the receipts for the author's parents' plant purchases, Sorensen's prices were certainly not cheap but the quality of the plants was high and keen gardeners will often pay to get the plants they want.

As Ratcliffe suggested, Sorensen's main input at *Whispering Pines* was to the rear of the house but he also had some input to the area immediately in front of the house and at its northern end, as evidenced in his letter dated 1 May 1956 in which he styles himself as 'Consulting, Visualing, Landscape Artist' (Figure 14). Garden historians find it extremely frustrating that Sorensen never committed his plans to paper but his invoices and letters to clients do give clues to his design intent which must be supplemented by analysis of surviving gardens.


BOX 5, P.O., LEURA

PHONE: KATOOMBA 1557

P. SORENSEN

LEURA

May 1. 56

Mrs A R Betteridge
45 Hunter St
Parramatta

Dear Mrs Betteridge
The extension of the paving at the front of the house, which we so long promised you, has now been completed
Also the extension to the rock garden at the northern end of the house, the lawns have been aerated & we gave it a light brushing, it would benefit by further brushing, using the back of a rake forwards & backwards, which perhaps sometime you may find your way clear to do
The day was drawing to a close, leaving us down planting of the white Lilac, benching round the magnolia & the completion of the small garden at the end of the garage
As we are not dependant on the carter for material to complete these small jobs, the next time we are in Blackheath they will all receive attention
Yours faithfully P Sorensen

CONSULTING, VISUALING, LANDSCAPE ARTIST

Figure 14. A letter dated 1 May 1956 from P. Sorensen, Leura 'Consulting, Visualing, Landscape Artist' to Mr. A.R. Betteridge, the author's father, advising completion of the paving along the front of the house, the extension of the rockery and completion of the small garden at the end of the garage. [Betteridge Family Collection]

The rear (west) boundary adjoining the lawn, with a return along part of the southern boundary, was planted with a row of mixed conifers, supplied in June 1955, predominantly *Pseudotsuga menziesii* (Douglas Fir) but also including golden cultivars of *Chamaecyparis* spp. including *C. obtusa* 'Crippsii'. At the narrow end of the triangular lawn was a specimen of Blue Spruce, most likely a cultivar of *Picea pungens*. This tree flourished initially but never achieved its expected growth, possibly due to restrictions on its root system from one of the many stone 'floaters' in the garden. It eventually succumbed to insect attack.

Overhanging the steps from the back of the house up to the lawn was a pink flowering cherry. Along the eastern edge of the lawn was a row of three specimens of *Betula pendula* (Silver Birch) but these suffered from ongoing attack by borers. Specimens planted on the lawn included two dogwoods, *Cornus* 'Kousa' and *C. florida* 'Rubra' as well as a *Viburnum x burkwoodii* 'Chenault'. Two old grasstrees *Xanthorrhoea* sp. were retained on the lawn. The garden bed along the eastern edge of the lawn was planted with yellow, mauve, blue and pink flowers including varieties of primulas, phlox, rosemary, carnations and irises (Figure 15).

Along the western end of the house and extending around the northern side of the house was a rockery made of the eroded ironstone rocks common on the more exposed parts of the upper Blue Mountains. Bobbie Betteridge was very fond of alpine plants and Sorensen's Nursery supplied plants such as primroses, gentians, alpine phlox and aubretia. Sorensen planted specimens of an ornamental dwarf conifer, probably a juniper cultivar, beside the front steps up to the terrace and at the northern end of the planter box. In front of the terrace and on the eastern side of the path paved with sandstone stepping stones which extended along the length of the front of the house were massed plantings of azaleas, particularly the hardy pink Kurume types. At the northern and southern ends of the house were specimens of Mollis and Ghent azaleas in shades of orange, white and yellows.

Surviving records show that Sorensen's Nursery supplied considerable plant material for the garden until at least the middle of 1957 and probably the odd specimen after that. The author's parents also sourced plants from other mountain nurseries including Yamba Nursery, Leura (T. Shucksmith), The Pottery Patch

Photo: Bob Betteridge c.1950s

Figure 15. The author photographed circa late 1950s on the rear garden wall built to Sorensen's design. The vast majority of plants in the bed along the wall and in the rockery at far right were supplied by Sorensen's Nursery.

Nursery, Wentworth Falls (Dorothy H. Commins and Valerie T. Murray), Scrivener's Nursery at the bottom of Boddington Hill, Wentworth Falls and the Hollandia Nursery, Mt. Boyce (W.R. & P. Harris) as well as Rumseys in Church Street, Parramatta where Bob Betteridge worked as a pharmacist for over forty years. In later years Bob and Bobbie Betteridge continued to supplement the plantings at *Whispering Pines* with material from sources as varied as Coles at Katoomba to Libby Raines' nursery at Mt. Wilson.

In the early 1980s, Sorensen had been engaged by property developer Warren Anderson to make further changes to the garden which Sorensen had earlier designed for the Darling family at *Fernhill*, Mulgoa, the State significant property developed by Edward Cox as part of the Cox family's extensive pastoral holdings in the Mulgoa Valley. By then Sorensen was close to the end of his life but still a "man of impressive stamina" (Morris, 2012). At this time the author was working for the Heritage and Conservation Branch, NSW Department of Environment and Planning and met Sorensen again at *Fernhill* and remembers him dressed in jeans and jungle green army surplus shirt, up a ladder, waving his arms about and stating in his still broad Danish accent "We must seek to capture the Australian light!" Morris (2012) wrote

> "Sorensen excelled at pruning trees and, with theatrical gestures, extolled the virtues of bringing out the 'spirit' of a tree. Stone walls and paving were features of his work; keeping within budget was not."

Aitken & Looker (2002, p.559) described Sorensen gardens as

> "based on the idea of creating outdoor rooms defined by the use of large trees and shrubs or with walls and changes of level."

At *Whispering Pines* the house was quite close to the rear boundary and Sorensen created a secluded lawn area for display of specimen shrubs and took advantage of the change in level between the rear boundary and the back of the house to introduce the fine stone walling and paving that were trademarks of his work. *Whispering Pines* is an introspective garden, with many sheltered spaces and surprises as one moves through the landscape. Bob and Bobbie Betteridge and their children all helped to develop and maintain the garden over the years, with the construction of features such as ornamental pools, low stone walls and other landscape features. The author's brother, the late Warwick Betteridge, put in an enormous effort after his parents' deaths to maintain the garden. Over the past twenty years or so, the author's sister Roslyn Scribner has resided at *Whispering Pines* with her husband Ted Scribner and they have continued to care for the house and garden, regularly winning prizes at the local horticultural show for blooms from the garden.

The Future

The author's sister has retained the original exterior and interior colour schemes and most of the original fittings apart from replacement of items such as the original refrigerator. The recent replacement of the roofs on the house, carport and rumpus room has ensured the integrity of the interiors. The garden at *Whispering Pines* has suffered from a number of severe storms which have hit the upper Blue Mountains in recent years. A number of old pines have either come down in these storms or have been removed for safety reasons. Many of the surviving pines are over-mature and some paths are overgrown. When the house was built and the garden commenced, there was only one other house adjoining, and that only touching at the south western corner. The garden is now surrounded on three sides by residential dwellings squeezed onto the long narrow lots resulting from historic subdivisions. It is fortunate that Bob and Bobbie Betteridge had the ability and foresight to

acquire three lots and to site the house so that it still has an adequate curtilage around it. The author and his sister are discussing the conservation of the garden in ways that respect the original design intent but take into account the changes that have taken place both within the site and in its local context. The author is carrying out further research of the family archives, particularly in regard to the plant species used in the garden as many of the names have changed since the 1950s.

Pine Cabin (formerly *La Cabana*), *Lilly Pilly* and *Whispering Pines* are all included on the Australian Institute of Architects Register of Significant Architecture in NSW although there are some inaccuracies in the description of the properties which need to be corrected. *Whispering Pines* is private property and should be respected as such.

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SOLDIERS PINCH, BLACKHEATH: THE HISTORY OF ITS NAMING AND DEVELOPMENT.

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Abstract
Various versions of the highway across the Blue Mountains have been formed over a steeply sloping ridge between Blackheath and Mount Victoria, all with a severe bend known as Soldiers Pinch. The supposed alternative origins of that name are discussed as are the experiences of some 19th Century travellers heading west and down the slope. The various routes taken by successive road builders are shown on maps and aerial photographs but the exact route taken on the pioneer journey in 1813 remains uncertain.

Key Words: Soldiers Pinch, steep bend, Blackheath, Bathurst Road, Blue Mountains

INTRODUCTION

Under contract to The Roads and Transport Authority of NSW, Thiess Pty Ltd. completed the construction of a new segment of the Great Western Highway between Blackheath and Mount Victoria in June 2002 (RTA 2012) (Figure 1B) in order to avoid a notorious accident 'blackspot', a big bow in the road, which the RTA called Soldiers Pinch (RTA 2005) (at c.MGA 468 785; LIC 2000).

[The use of the apostrophe (as in Soldier's) is no longer favoured by the NSW Geographic Names Board.]

Prior to that (Figure 1A), the descent to the north was a moderately steep curving section of a three lane highway that had an adverse camber which had been the downfall (literally) of several well loaded trucks heading towards Sydney. However, the section at the Blackheath end had also been problematical with several accidents occurring due to a surface that was particularly slippery when wet (in the vicinity of the sign that forewarns Sydney bound travellers of the approaching truck checking station).

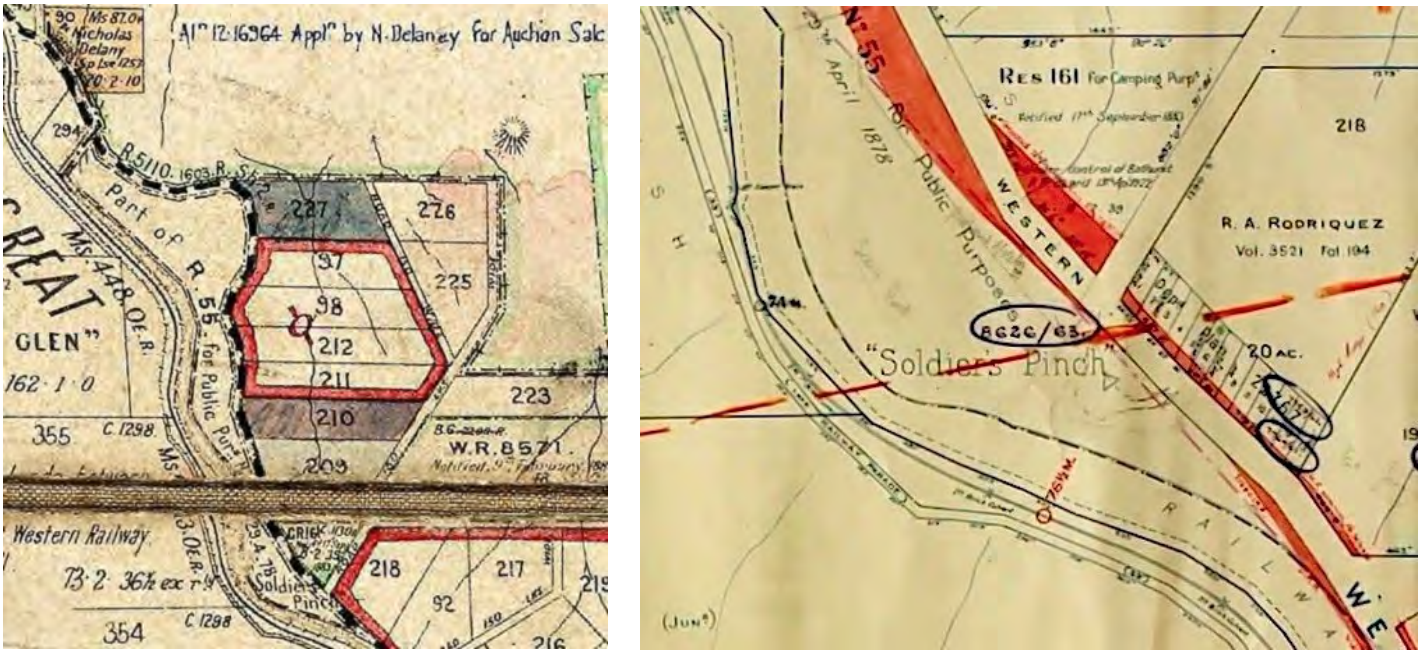
Myth ?

The origin of the name 'Soldier's Pinch' is probably the result of an apocryphal story that was repeated by several early travellers and circulated shortly after the road over the Blue Mountains road was first constructed. Thus in 1839 Louisa Anne Meredith (1844, p.54) wrote of her journey that

1943 AUSIMAGE © Sinclair Knight Merz Pty. Ltd. *Map data ©2012 Google*

A 1943 SixLite **B** Google Maps

Figure 1. A: 20th Century Road and **B:** Realignment in 2002.



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A: Parish of Blackheath Map 1909. **B:** Robinson's Sheet 47 c.1915.

Figure 2. Early 20th Century Maps of Soldiers Pinch.

> "In one place we came to an almost precipitous descent in the road, called 'Soldier's Pinch' or 'Pitch', most probably from some accident which has happened there."

However, Mrs. Sophia Stanger (1882, p.68) was more forthcoming by stating in July 1841

> ".. Soldier's Pinch which owes its name to the folly of a soldier, who, being called on to block the wheel, unwittingly placed his foot instead of a stone, which was, of course crushed to atoms."

In 1848 the writer of a travel description stated that the explanation current at that time was:

> "A soldier – more probably some one known by the nick-name of The Soldier – was travelling with a heavily laden dray: in going up that *pinch* – an ugly one it is too – the driver requested him "to block up;" the poor man having no block to *block up* with, he put his foot behind the wheel, which immediately pinched it clean off; that is the reason why it has got such a strange name." (Anonymous 1848).

By 1860 the story had 'developed' for James Mudge wrote of the state of road from Bathurst in that year and stated:

> "Then there is 'Soldiers Pinch' which derives its name from the fact that an unfortunate soldier was killed there while the road was being formed." (Mudge 1905; Low & Smith, 1993, p.10)

If Meredith's 1839 account is correct then at that time Soldiers Pinch was a very steep descent, and that corresponds to the explanation of Harry Peckman, the renowned Blue Mountains horseman (started in 1863) who once related "We called a hill a 'pinch' in those days" (Low & Smith, 1993, p.11). That interpretation still exists for Woods (1999, p.149) gave the meaning as "a short but steep section of road".

But on the Parish of Blackheath Maps (7th to 10th editions inclusive (1909 (Figure 2A) - 1926), Robinson's "4 chains to an inch" map Sheet 47 (undated, c.1915; Figure 2B) and Coleman's 1946 map (Figure 3), 'Soldiers Pinch' is printed opposite Portion 218 and Carawatha Road at Mount Boyce c.MGA 469 771 (LIC 2000) in a relatively flat location. One definition is that

> "the word 'pinch' is a geographical term describing a narrow passage." (Fox 1999, p.124; 2001, p.151)

which tends to suggest that these maps are indicating such a feature at Mount Boyce - yet nothing there seems to warrant that term.

[Those placements of the name "Soldiers Pinch" have to have been deliberate for there is adequate space on the inside of the prominent bend that is on Figures 2A and 3 and which is to the north of Figure 2B on the adjacent Sheet 36.]

The location of Soldier's Pinch was the main topic of an unpublished paper by Cecil L. Atwell at the end of which he concluded;

> "... I would say that the "Soldier's Pinch" never existed on any part of the Cox's Road, and was originally the name bestowed about 1830, along part of the new line of Bathurst Road, somewhere

between Mt. Boyce and Black Heath (*sic*)." (Atwell 1995, p.11).

But that is even further south towards Blackheath and between those two localities the ridge has very limited undulation and no "narrow passage" so nothing warranting a special name.

Clearly these three locations cannot all be correct and the balance of evidence is for the most northerly of them. Whilst the exact location of Soldiers Pinch, as so-called in early 19th Century, is uncertain (Karskens, 1988, p.142) there seems little doubt that it was on a very steep slope (base c.MGA 465 782 and high point c.MGA 466 781 (LIC 2000) - pers. comm. Brian Fox, 25 October 2012) so somewhere between the small track (at c.MGA 4649 7820) and the power transmission line track (at c.MGA 4660 7820), both of which are clearly visible on the orthophoto maps (CMA 1980). At most this is a slope 150m long. However it could originally have been slightly further west in the present position of the railway lines (indicated by the YELLOW line in Figure 4) and once (21.5.1897) termed "Soldiers Pinch Ballast Siding" (Wylie & Singleton, 1958).

This deduction accords with the statement made by Mrs. Sophia Stanger (1882, p.68) that in July 1841

> "At the bottom of Soldier's Pinch is another cluster of huts belonging to the Iron-gang station."

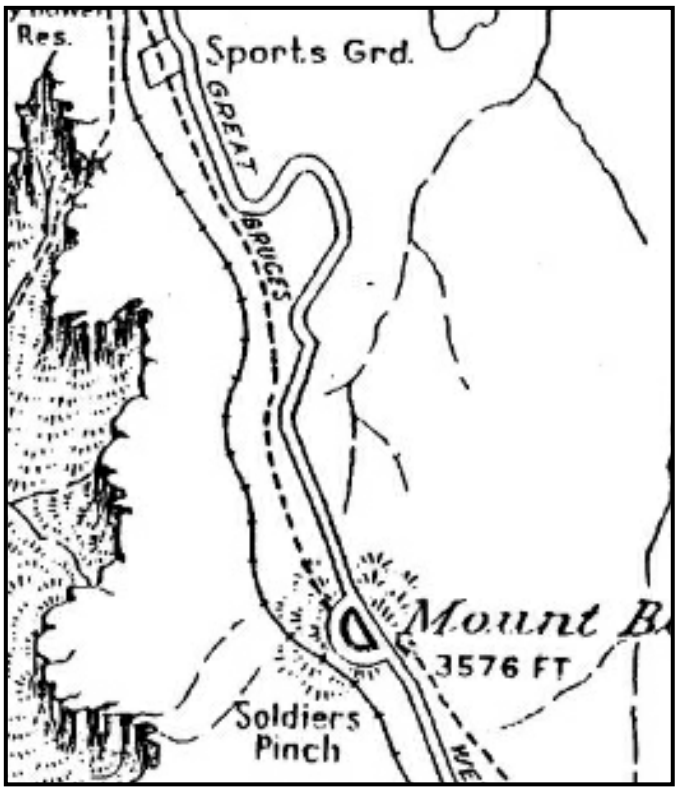

Figure 3. Part of Coleman's 1946 *Tourist map of Blackheath and Mount Victoria*.

Possibly that is Browntown Oval (opposite the label 'Sports Grd.' on Figure 3) or thereabouts and consistent with the location of the descent conjectured. A concrete marker post was installed at the western end of the oval in 1988 (a Bicentennial project), one of many placed as close as possible to the mile marks along the route surveyed by G.W. Evans in 1813 (Yeaman et al. 2009).

Routes down the ridge

The three explorers passed Soldiers Pinch on 28 May 1813 (Blaxland, 1823, p.17; Yeaman, 1976, p.17) and, although the exact route of the descent taken by them is not known, it is likely to have been very direct for time was pressing so possibly it was that shown in Figure 4 by the GREEN line. The track shown in Figure 5 was not cleared in 1813, but it indicates the kind of conditions that Blaxland, Lawson and Wentworth might have encountered.

[Atwell (1995, p.2) wrote about the accuracy of the type of compass that this party carried and stated: "From this I conclude that the true route taken by the Blaxland Expedition can not be plotted."]

Blaxland, Lawson and Wentworth were quickly followed on 24 November 1813 by G.W. Evans who had been sent to check their route and to survey a line for road construction (Evans, 1814, p.28). Most probably Evans would have deemed that direct route down the ridge too steep for horses to negotiate so he surveyed a curving but steep descent, close to the line taken by the Great Western Highway prior to the 2002 realignment but tighter (Karskens, 1988, Fig. 53; Figure 6; the BLUE line in Figure 4).

In the next year Cox built the first 'cart road' (Karskens 1988, p.22) and his gang got to the vicinity of Soldiers Pinch on 28 October 1814 (Cox 1815, p.52; Yeaman, 1976, p.17) but Evans' proposed route was not followed exactly (Karskens 1988, p.21) as Macquarie had given Cox permission to

> "make any occasional deviation therefrom" (Karskens 1988, p.17)

and he tried

> "to cut off over long or steep sections (for example at Caley's Repulse and Soldiers Pinch)." (Karskens 1988, p.19).

There are some who think Cox constructed his road along the route which was subsequently surveyed by McBrien in 1823; this was re-computed and plotted in 1986 (Karskens, 1988, p.55) and shown to be essentially the present dirt track with a left hand hairpin bend (Figure 6; Karskens, 1988, p.79, Fig. 53; the RED line in Figure 4) that is considerably tighter than Evans' line of descent but less steep. However

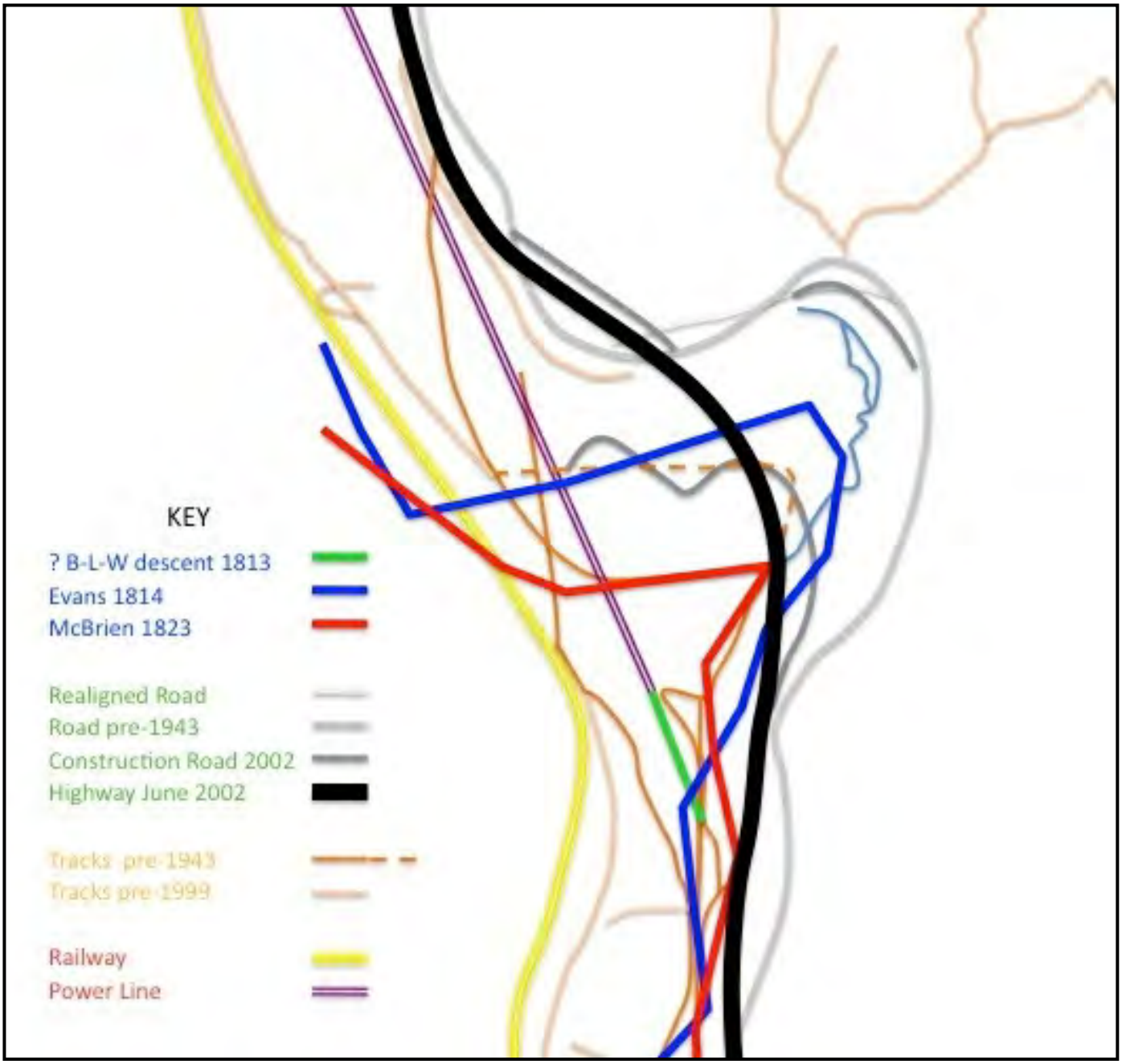

Figure 4. Composite map of tracings from 1943, 1999 (infra-red) and 2011 aerial photographs. Lines surveyed by Evans and McBrien were traced from Karskens (1988, Fig.53). The pale blue lines are rough tracks most clearly seen on the 1999 infra-red aerial photograph (Figure 15).

the road made by Cox was an evolving route, and Atwell (1995, p.3) wrote:

> "By the time McBrien did his survey ... Lieutenant Lawson ... had had many changes made to the route of the original Cox's Road."

But no record is known of any changes supposedly ordered by Lawson in the vicinity of Soldier's Pinch. Atwell deduced that McBrien used a prismatic circumferenter readable to fractions of a degree but the accuracy would not have been comparable to that of modern day instruments. However the plotted route is likely to have been close to, but not necessarily exactly the same as, the road that McBrien surveyed.

The road work done by Cox and his team was checked by Governor Macquarie (Antill, 1815, pp.87 & 97; Yeaman, 1976, p.17) who came through the area of Soldiers Pinch on 29 April and 18 May 1815, but neither he, nor his companions, made specific reference to any difficulties with the road at this point.

When in 1839 Louisa Anne Meredith (1844, p.41) described Soldier's Pinch

> "It was a mass of loose stones, continually rolling from under the horses' feet, and so steep as to be very fatiguing even to walk down, ..."

and Mrs. Sophia Stanger (1882, p.68) wrote of her 1841 encounter

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Photo: Peter Rickwood,2007.

Figure 5. Soldiers Pinch 2001 c.MGA 4655 7815.

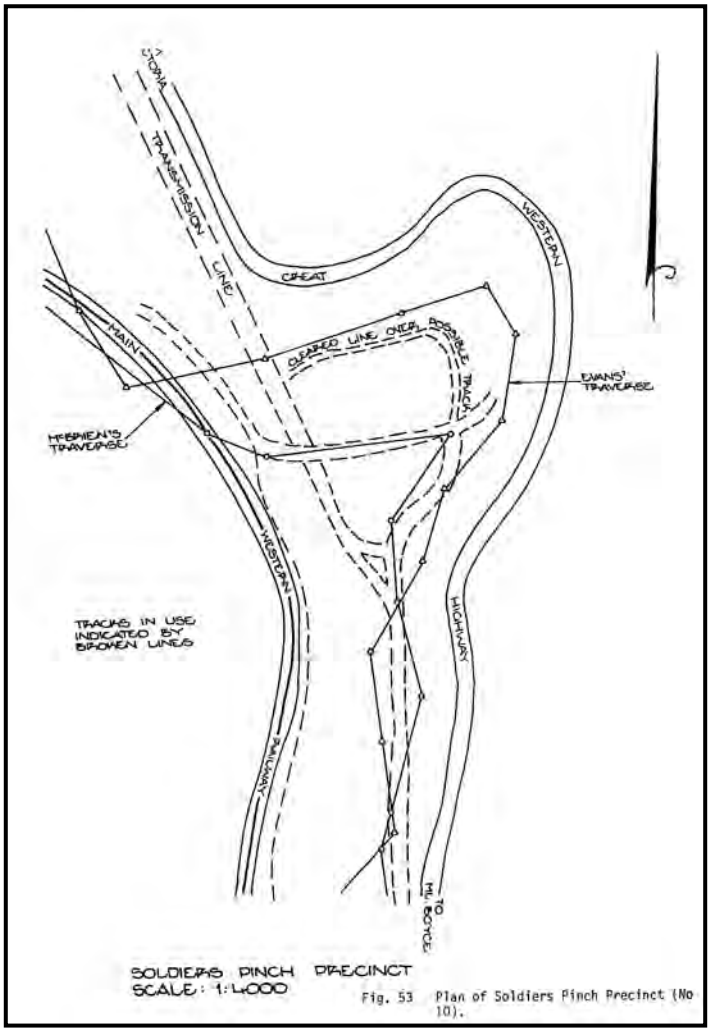

Figure 6. Soldiers Pinch (Karskens 1988, Fig.53).

> "It was late one evening when we began to descend Mount Victoria. At its top there is a very sudden and awkward hill, called Soldier's Pinch, ...".

The only known contemporary image of this location is a rather faint pencil sketch by Conrad Martens (1840) (Figure 7); it appears to depict two men seated at the crest of a bend in the road so that would correspond to the route that Louisa Anne Meredith had taken in 1839. The caption (oblique in the lower left corner) to this may be the first use of 'Soldiers Pinch' in print, but it seems to be directionally inaccurate for the view is to the west with Mount Piddington being on the right hand side.

The very angular bend at Soldiers Pinch was surveyed by William Romaine Govett in 1831 and plotted on his map (Figure 8), so probably it was created in the 1820s yet it is not shown on Mitchell's 1827 map although the scale used in the latter might have prevented the inclusion of such detail.

Matters were complicated by the visit of Thomas Mitchell in 1845 following which he ordered a realignment (Karskens 1988, pp.51, 78); on his map (Figure 9) the bend has the same angularity as Govett surveyed but in addition there is a broken line for the desired detour which would have been a direct descent. Atwell (1995, Fig.7) showed part of Mitchell's bypass as being equivalent to the southern solid BROWN line in Figure 4 labelled 'Tracks pre-1943'. On 20 December 1847 Captain Bull reported that his team was building that section of road (Karskens, 1988, p.51) and later it was confirmed that

> "Captain BULL turned the road to avoid the Soldier's Pinch between Blackheath and Hartley, ..." (Anonymous 1851).

However the exact location of Bull's construction is not known; perhaps it was that which Melville (1939) marked as 'Original Road' (Figure 11) although that would seem to be too straight and does not correspond to any known track and is at a different angle to that shown on the Parish of Blackheath map, 13th edition (1984) (Figure 15). One existing track crosses about a third of the way across the loop, and Karskens (1988, Fig.53) indicated that it might extend to two thirds of the distance, but not the whole way to the north side.

Figure 7. Conrad Martens' pencil sketch "Bathurst Road from Soldiers Pinch looking South".

State Records plan 3685

Figure 8. Soldiers Pinch (Govett 1831).

Figure 9. Mitchell's 1845 realignment proposal.

Figure 10. Part of the survey made by Horace Charlton (1849).

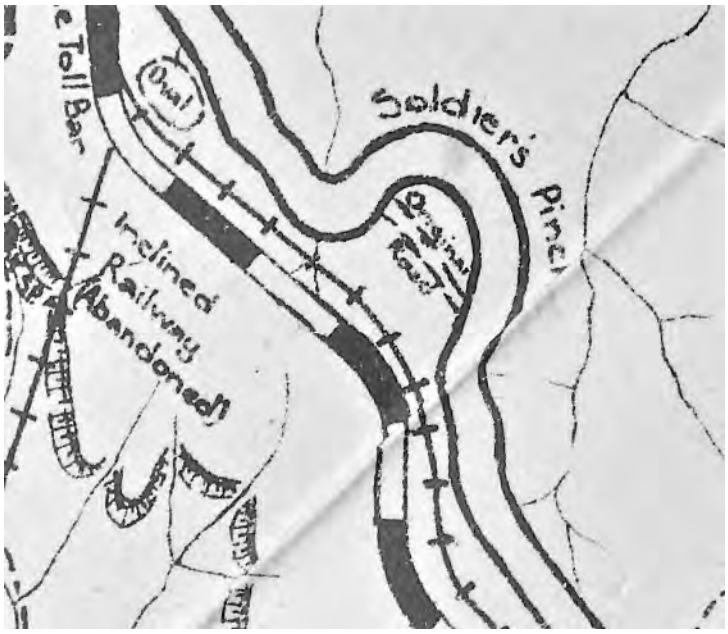

Figure 11. Part of a map by Nin Melville (1939).

The part of the Bathurst Road near Soldiers Pinch was surveyed again in 1849 (Charlton 1849; Figure 10) and on his plan Horace Charlton marked the 'Soldiers Pinch Bridge' in a position that today is close to the entrance to Browntown Oval and about 30 metres on the eastern side of the present Great Western Highway. That corresponds to about the north western end of the straight section of road shown in DARK GREY on Figure 4. During a site inspection remnants of old road surfaces were found and the narrow stream channel that had to be bridged; the slopes on the road leading to that bridge would have been fairly steep. Today the Great Western Highway is on an embankment that towers over that channel.

> "By 1862 very little of the original Cox's Road was still in use, .." (Karskens, 1988, p.51)

and

> "Cox's Road ... in the Soldiers Pinch section ... was cut off by the new highway by 1862" (Karskens, 1988, p.57).

That date is curious for only two years later, on 1 September 1864, the Department of Public Works issued an advertisement for tenders for two contracts for work to be done on the Great Western Road (Holroyd 1864a). Seemingly that advertisement was only partly successful for a month later one of those contracts was re-advertised as

> "Contract on the 2nd District, Great Western Road, viz.:– No. 8-64.–Soldier's Pinch." (Holroyd 1894b).

Neither the plan nor specification of what was to be done have been found, and the outcome is unknown, but that work may have been completed late in 1864 or early 1865.

A bend at that location is marked on Du Faur's (1877) map which is hardly surprising for it has in its title:

> "The Natural Features have been taken mainly from Plans and Sketches made by Mr Surveyor Govett in and about the Years 1831-2."

However the shape of the bend that Du Faur drew (Figure 12) is less angular than on Govett's map so in that interval of nearly half a century the road seems to have been modified - indeed it would be remarkable if it had not.

Road changes are well recorded on Parish maps but unfortunately a complete set of the Parish of Blackheath maps has not been located, the first and second editions being amongst those missing. However, the 3rd Edition (1890) (Figure 13A) (thin LIGHT GREY line in Figure 4) displays a further reduction in the angularity of the bend shown in Figure 12. The 4th Edition (1892) and the 5th Edition (189?) have not been located but the 6th Edition (1899) reveals another change in shape of that road bend that is essentially the same as shown in the 7th Edtion (1909) (Figure 13B) so it was effected in the last decade of the 19th century. That 1909 shape was retained in the 8th Edition (1915) and 9th Edition (1920) maps but in the 10th Edition (1926) (Figure 13C) the road was plotted as looping more tightly at its NW corner (thick LIGHT GREY line in Figure 4). That tighter shape is puzzling for it seems retrograde and the dating of that 10th edition Parish Map is also curious for the plan for that realignment was not

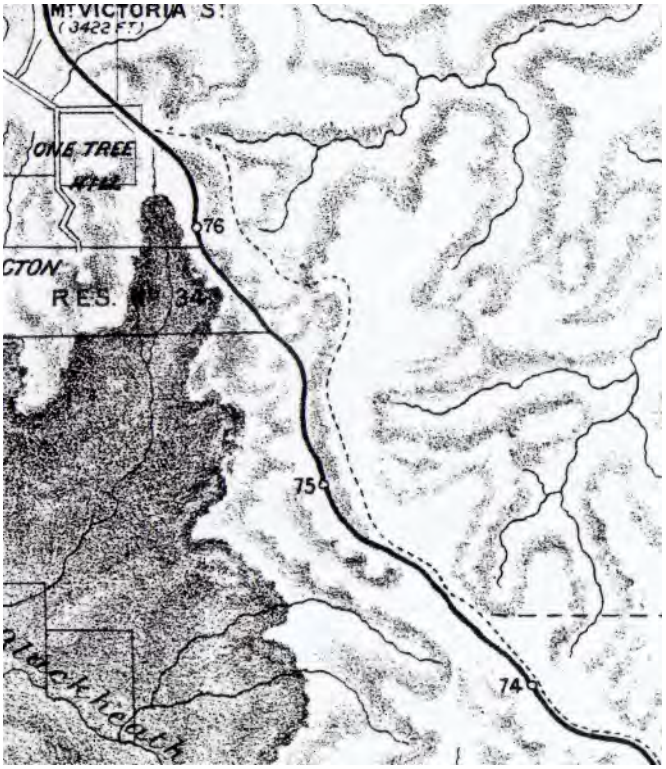

Figure 12. Soldiers Pinch (Du Faur 1877).

approved until 27 May 1927 (Hansen 1927), then notified on 3 June 1927 (Horsington 1927, p.2711), and dedicated and gazetted on 13th January 1928 (Bruxner 1928, p.133) so the work was most probably done late in 1927.

It is known that an adjustment to the Soldiers Pinch bend was made in mid-1900 (Anonymous 1900) and it may well have caused the undated realignment shown by a DARK GREY line in Figure 4 that became a construction road in 2002.

Thereafter that alignment of that bend appears to have been kept until the highway bypass (Figure 14) was constructed in 2002 (BLACK line in Figure 4).

But note that on the coloured version of the 13th edition (1984) (Figure 15) there are two nested bends and part of a third; those extra roads are not on the 12th edition (1971) map. Also sketched across the innermost loop on the 13th edition (1984) is a NW-SE track that is not seen in an aerial photograph (Figure 16).

Road Naming

From 1876 this major route to the west was known as the Main Western Road (Deering 1876) and later as the Main Bathurst Road (Batt, Rodd & Purves 1890) although often it was referred to as the Great Western Road (Macquarie 1822, p.696) or the Bathurst Road (Darling 1829a,b).

Summary

Figure 4 brings together these various surveyed routes, roads, tracks, railway and power lines. It is suggested that in 1813 Blaxland, Lawson & Wentworth would have taken a direct descent down the ridge such as is now beneath the power line (Figure 5 and shown by the GREEN line in Figure 4); if not there then it is likely to have been a short distance to the west but it would have had a similar character. The route planned by Evans in 1814 (BLUE line in Figure 4) was often eschewed by Cox and he made his road along the route confirmed by McBrien (RED line in Figure 4); it made a tight turn to the west part way down the slope.

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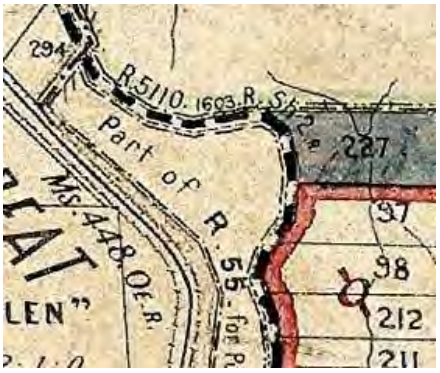
A

1890 3rd Edn.



© Land and Property Information (2012)

B

1909 7th Edn.

© Land and Property Information (2012)

C

1926 10th Edn.

Figure 13. Parts of Maps of the Parish of Blackheath.

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Figure 14. Aerial Photograph 2012, ex SIXMaps.

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Figure 15. Parish of Blackheath 1984 13th Edn.

LEP 2002 *Blue Mountains City Council © 2009*

Figure 16. Infra-Red Image December 1999.

Soldiers Pinch sequence of routes (refer to Figure 4).

No.	Date	Notes
1	1813	Blaxland - Lawson - Wentworth (inferred route - GREEN line)
2	1814	G.W. Evans surveyed route (BLUE line).
3	1823	McBrien's surveyed route which is that inferred to have been made by Cox (RED line).
4	pre-1831	a very angular bend was surveyed by Govett so it must have been made in the late 1820s (? broken BROWN line).
5	post-1845	easing of the gradient instructed by Mitchell (1827). Atwell (1995, Fig. 3) plotted this as a very straight route being roughly equivalent to the southern BROWN and GREEN lines and the parallel PURPLE lines.
6	1849	Charlton (1849; Figure 10) surveyed a 'smooth' bend, the southern and eastern parts of which are similar to those of the thick LIGHT GREY line. Note that on his plan he also marked a bridge across a gully at a position that is to the SE of the entrance to Browntown Oval and near the NW end of the straight section of the 2002 construction road (DARK GREY line).

Hereabouts in the time line the history becomes murky for, as has been explained above, it has been stated that by 1862 Coxs Road had been cut off (Karskens, 1988, p.57) yet in September 1864 the Department of Public Works (Holroyd 1894a) advertised for tenders for a contract to do work there.

7	pre-1890	a gentle curved route is recorded on the 3rd Edition Parish of Blackheath Map (thin LIGHT GREY line).
8	1900	In 1900 the curve was made tighter on the northern side as plotted on the 7th Edition (1909) Parish Map (DARK GREY line) and it is similarly shown on the 8th (1915) and 9th (1920) Editions of the Parish Map.
9	pre-1926	the curve was adjusted again as shown on the 10th Edition of the Parish Map (thick LIGHT GREY line) and maybe that is what was recorded on the 1943 air photo and is regarded as the old Great Western Highway. But the construction date has not been established more precisely than between 1920 and 1926 when the plan was sent by the Main Roads Board to the Blackheath Municipal Council (Anonymous 1926).
10	2002	Forewarning of an intended major upgrade was given in May 2000 (RTA 2000), it was followed by notification that work would commence in April 2001 (RTA 2001) and the realignment was completed by June 2002 (RTA 2008, p.3) to provide the current divided three lane section of road (BLACK line).

Three railway routes are known:

a	1867	Opened on 1 May 1868 (? the southern PINK line labelled 'Tracks pre 1999")
b	1897	Re-grading deviation on S side; opened 16 September 1897.
c	1902	Line duplication yielding the route taken today (YELLOW line); the high level line on the eastern side was closed on 16 October 1902.

Abbreviations

AO	Archives Office - now NSW State Records
CMA	Central Mapping Authority of New South Wales
LEP	Local Environmental Plans
LIC	Land Information Centre
MGA	Map Grid of Australia
RTA	Roads and Traffic Authority (*NSW*)

Acknowledgements

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WATERING THE GEE-GEES: A SURVEY OF BLUE MOUNTAINS HORSE TROUGHS, PART 2.

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Abstract
In Part 1 of this article (Low, 2015) I began a survey of the old horse troughs still surviving in the Blue Mountains City Council area arguing that, though generally now redundant and disregarded, they are valuable reminders of a time when the horse was central to community life and of the rise in consciousness that has led to the modern animal welfare movement. Part 1 covered the geographic area between Glenbrook and Wentworth Falls, Part 2 continues the survey onwards from Wentworth Falls to Mount Victoria and Bell. As before, each entry includes the trough's location and present condition, historical context and, where appropriate, any significant associations it has to specific people.

Key Words: horse troughs, water, animal welfare, wayside features, Bills, Goyder, Marr, Blue Mountains

Introductory Note
Readers are referred to the initial paragraphs of Part 1 (Low 2015) for the rationale and organisation of this two part paper. Here it suffices to explain that Troughs No.1 to No.5 were described previously and to avoid confusion the numbering has been continued so here it commences with No.6. Figures 1 to 17 were the numbers used for illustrations in Part 1 - here they have been started at Figure 21 to signify that they relate to part 2.

Trough No. 6: Leura (Figures 21 & 22).
Location: At the *Meeting of the Waters* on the north side of the old Chelmsford Drive, west of the arch bridge and opposite the lower park (formerly the men's section of the old Katoomba Swimming Baths).

Description & Condition: This small water trough has been hewn from the natural sandstone and was designed to tap the natural water flow before it channels under the road. The main bowl (Figure 21), measuring approximately 175 x 60 x 20 cm, is at ground level while, in a grotto-like cavity above there is a smaller bowl (Figure 22), measuring approximately 70 x 30 x 5 cm, probably intended for human use. On last inspection (16 August 2016) both continue to fill with water and, despite some sediment and obscuring vegetation, are accessible.

History: In the late nineteenth and early twentieth century the *Meeting of the Waters*, with its cascades, waterfalls, walking tracks and picnic area, attracted hundreds of visitors, especially during the summer season. As early as 1902 there were complaints from holiday makers about the lack of good drinking water

Photo J. Low 2016

Figure 21. *Meeting of the Waters* trough, Leura (lower bowl).

Photo J. Low 2016

Figure 22. *Meeting of the Waters* Trough, Leura (upper bowl).

and calls from local carriage drivers for the provision of "a drinking-trough for horses". In support, *The Mountaineer* newspaper declared that:

> "We would like to see a natural spring tapped at the top of the falls.". (Anonymous 1902b).

While the small trough at the *Meeting of the Waters* may have been constructed in response to this demand, its appearance could have waited until work on the Chelmsford Drive and the ladies and men's swimming baths took place some ten years later; these were officially opened in December 1913 (Anonymous 1913b). The improvements of drive, bridge and baths incorporated sweeping curves into a design that accentuated the natural beauty of the place and into which the small drinking trough fitted snugly. The trough is not on any heritage listing.

Trough No. 7: Park & Main Streets, Katoomba (Figures 23 & 24).

Location: This trough, now in the Mount Victoria & District Historical Society Museum (Accession No. 0217) (Figure 23), was originally located at the intersection of Park and Main Streets in Katoomba.

Description & Condition: A covered, cast iron trough (184 x 39 x 37cm) with two drinking holes and the mark of the maker, Gordon Marr & Sons Ltd., Pyrmont, stamped on **top**. While there are signs of deterioration (rust, missing bolts etc.) it appears to be in generally good, though inoperative, condition.

Photo Keith Painter 2016

Figure 23. Katoomba Trough now in the Museum at Mt. Victoria**.**

History: This cast iron trough, installed at the corner of Park Street and Bathurst Road sometime between 1904 and 1910 (Figure 24), appears to have been the first Council sponsored trough in the town. As Katoomba grew in the latter part of the nineteenth century the proximity of this section of Bathurst Road (soon to be known as Main Street) to the railway station made it the early focus of the town's commercial life. It was full of horse-related activity, with carriages and carts of all kinds coming and going throughout the day, loading and delivering goods and collecting visitors off the trains. It is not surprising that a horse trough was considered necessary in this vicinity or that it's siting and condition remained an issue of public debate.

Before the trough was installed sources of drinking water in the vicinity were limited. In early 1899 the licensee of the Railway Hotel had placed a trough in front of his premises opposite the station (Anonymous 1899), though how long it survived is unknown and, anyway, on its own it would not have been enough to cope with the increasing demand. The only alternative seems to have been a water hole in Railway Park (later known as Russell Hawke Park and destroyed during construction of the highway by-pass in the 1980s), a remnant of the earlier stone quarry. It, too, found the increasing demand difficult and suffered from over use and resultant issues of cleanliness. In 1902 it dried up and the press suggested that the town's horse owners band together to get it "thoroughly cleaned out" (Anonymous 1902a). As a permanent source, it was unreliable and problems with it persisted even as a supplementary supply after the Bathurst Road trough had been installed.

When Frederick Charles Goyder, Katoomba's first Mayor, died in January 1900 a committee was established to raise money for an appropriate public memorial and by the end of the year had announced its judgement that

> "a horse trough of freestone and trachyte and lamp at the intersection of the Bathurst road and Katoomba street would be most suitable, and would be in accordance with the views of the late highly respected gentleman." (Anonymous 1900b).

By the time the memorial lamp was unveiled in June 1901, however, the horse trough component had been dropped (Anonymous 1901b).

It was, nevertheless, clearly picked up again following a suggestion two years later for a similar lamp to be installed at the corner of Park Street and Bathurst Road (Anonymous 1902c, col.4) for, by 1910, both lamp and horse trough were *in situ* at the second intersection. The horse trough, however, was not the stone one of earlier conception but rather a cast iron model sourced from a Sydney manufacturer.

Though gaps in the contemporary newspaper record and in the KMC minutes make it difficult to determine the precise date of the trough's (or indeed the lamp's) installation, the fact that the trough's manufacturer, Gordon Marr & Sons Ltd., was registered under that

name in 1904 and that the trough was referred to in a newspaper account of a runaway coach in December 1910 (Anonymous 1910), place its installation sometime between those two dates. It is also possible that the lamp was erected soon after the proposal was accepted by Council and that the trough was a later addition, possibly added following the establishment of a town water supply in 1907. Though the memorial was originally intended to mark the coronation of Edward VII (Anonymous 1902c), it soon came to be seen as a second memorial to F.C. Goyder. Both lamp and cast iron trough appear in a photograph by Harry Phillips dated ca.1910 (Figure 24).

Photo H. Phillips c.1910 [BMHS P566]

Figure 24. Trough at Intersection of Park & Main

Goyder's trough did not have an altogether happy life, its location becoming increasingly problematic. While the coach mentioned above narrowly averted a collision with the horse trough, a few months later another carriage was not so lucky. In April 1911 a

> "coach was dashed into the water-trough … upsetting the trough and severing the connecting water pipe". (Anonymous 1911).

The trough again figured in a 'traffic' incident at the end of 1912 when a groom employed by local businessman Patrick Mullany lost control while exercising a racehorse and was thrown heavily as his mount "swerved to avoid collision with the watertrough (*sic*)." (Anonymous 1912).

Though, once again, the absence of KMC minutes for this period hinders specific dating, sometime during the next two years the cast iron trough appears to have been removed. In August 1914, a report appeared in the press of a proposal by Council for the

> "removal of the lamp post, [no mention of the trough] and the provision of a water trough at the intersection of Main and Park streets."

and tenders were called

> "for the construction of a trough in accordance with a plan submitted by the Town Clerk. The new trough is to be circular and uncovered and the cost is estimated at about £25." (Anonymous 1914).

When the new stone trough was installed the lamp was again incorporated into the design.

By the early 1920s, however, this replacement trough was also experiencing problems. Its "dirty state" was raised during a Council meeting in September 1923 and its contents described as more like

> "a concoction of chop suey and billagong (*sic*) juice" (Anonymous 1923d).

When a columnist in the local press remarked in February 1924 that the trough

> "looks as if it is only cleaned by Council's officers on February 29 of each Leap Year." (Anonymous 1924, col.4)

it was clear that little had changed during the intervening months. And, not only was the trough becoming an oft remarked upon public eyesore and a health risk to the horses that used it, but its pump was also malfunctioning.

> "The flow is too slow to meet requirements and half the time the convenience is useless for thirsty horses" (Anonymous 1925a).

While these problems persisted, motor traffic, too, was increasing and it soon became obvious that public unsightliness, mechanical failures and equine health were not the only problems posed by the 'new' Goyder trough. It was, to put it mildly, awkwardly located and its fate was finally sealed in early January 1927 when a traffic accident involving the trough resulted in a cyclist breaking his thigh (Anonymous 1927a). Promptly, the Council moved in and demolished the old trough. Its stonework was crushed and sent for use in road-making, the site was tarred over and the lamp "which sat so proudly on its crest," set aside to be erected elsewhere (Anonymous 1927b).

But that was not the end of the matter, for the removal of the trough and the subsequent tardiness of Council to honour its promise to erect another at the Cascade Street corner nearby upset the carters and carriage operators. Finding the Main Street trough had been removed, a local identity wrote an angry letter to the local press arguing that the cavalier manner in which the memory of the town's first Mayor was discarded was bad enough but with his memory

> "went the only small trough in this Municipality where Dobbin and his co-workers could get a drink."

He further recounted how he had approached a Council employee about the matter and was told to

> " "Let 'em go to the pond" – meaning the dirty slush pool at the foot of the small park near the Court House. This has been tried but horses used to good treatment and clean water will not tackle the semi-stagnant slush, and, when they do, are sick for days after." (Vanman 1927).

[When, a year or so later, the park was 'renovated' and became Russell Hawke Park the "slush pool" became an ornamental pond and probably off-limits to horses completely.]

Percy Tabrett, owner of a large coaching business in the town, urged the Katoomba Chamber of Commerce to lobby Council, "in the interests of humanity", to expedite a replacement for

> "the only available drinking trough [that] had vanished". (Anonymous 1927c).

Again, when put on the spot, Council moved swiftly and as quickly as its predecessor had vanished a replacement appeared at the intersection of Main and Cascade Streets (Anonymous 1927d). A week or so later the *Echo's* satirist, casting his eye over the whole saga, summed it up in a long piece of humorous verse (Double-Yew 1927).

The original cast iron horse trough that stood at the intersection of Park and Main Streets until ca.1914 had apparently been placed in storage by the KMC for, many years later, it was donated to the Mount Victoria & District Historical Society (est. 1966) by the Blue Mountains City Council. There are similar cast iron troughs, though by a different maker, at the Lithgow Showground and in the Bathurst District Historical Society. This Katoomba trough is not on any heritage listing.

Association with Particular People: Frederick Charles Goyder (1827-1900) (Figure 25) was born in Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire, England in 1827.

In 1856 he migrated to Australia where he settled in Melbourne, becoming a prominent and successful businessman in the hotel and sporting community, interests he had brought with him from England. For many years he ran the Victoria Hotel in Bourke Street where he 'practiced' as one of Melbourne's early bookmaking identities and where a small rear bar of the hotel, known as 'Goyder's Lounge', became a regular meeting place for the city's racing men. In the early 1870s buying and selling horses became another of his business concerns when, for several years, he and a partner managed sales in Kirk's Bazaar, the famous centre of Melbourne horse trading located

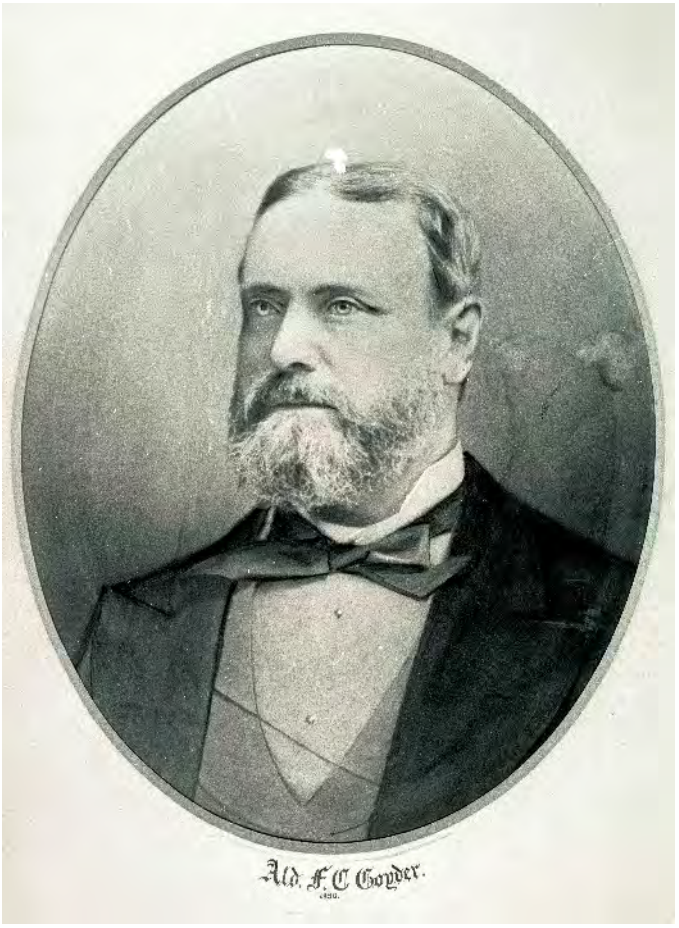

Photo BMHS P632.

Figure 25. Frederick Charles Goyder.

adjacent to his hotel (Anonymous 1871). Even as late as 1882, he was advertising to buy and sell

> "by public or private contract all kinds of horse stock." (Augur 1882, col.5)

at the Tattersall's Horse Bazaar in Stephen Street, Melbourne. During his time in Victoria Goyder, himself, owned numerous racehorses, his most successful being *Sussex*, winner of the inaugural Grand National Steeplechase at Flemington in 1881 (Anonymous 1881a, col.4) and rated by many as one of the greats of the Australian turf.

Goyder's career during this time, however, was not without controversy and his involvement in a number of racing-related 'scandals' landed him in court. Among these was an accusation of falsely and publically accusing a fellow owner of 'pulling' his horse in the Victoria Derby of 1859 (Anonymous 1859) and a charge of organising an illegal sweep on the 1881 Melbourne Cup (Anonymous 1881b). Each of these cases captured wide media attention, though in both instances the charges were dismissed.

In the early 1880s Goyder, now in his mid-fifties, sold his business and sporting interests in Melbourne and

cast his gaze north, investing in a sheep station in western NSW, on the Warrego River near Bourke (Anonymous 1890, col.1.). Though the railway was due to reach Bourke in 1885 and the future of the area seemed bright, the venture ended badly, his pastoral hopes killed off by drought. Again he looked elsewhere, this time to the Blue Mountains and a profession he knew, purchasing the Great Western Hotel at Katoomba in the latter half of 1885. With an eye to its image and with the permission of the Governor (one of the hotel's most prominent visitors), he re-named the hotel *The Carrington* and set about extensive additions and improvements, soon turning it into one of the most grand hotels in NSW. While its profitability was tempered by the depression of the early 1890s, its prestige remained high.

In Katoomba, Goyder quickly involved himself in community affairs. By December 1885 he was on the Katoomba Progress Committee (Anonymous 1885) and, during the next fifteen years, interested himself in a wide spectrum of town and district activities, including membership of the Cricket & Athletic Club, Recreation Reserves Trust, School of Arts and even a Katoomba Jockey Club, formed to establish a racecourse for the town. In 1890 he was elected to the new Katoomba Municipal Council and, as well as serving several terms as an alderman, was briefly the municipality's first Mayor. Following several years of debilitating ill-health, he died in January 1900 (Anonymous 1900a), in his seventy-second year, and was buried in Katoomba Cemetery. Goyder was survived by his second wife, Emily, three daughters and three sons. Of the various memorials erected in the years after his death only the small cast iron horse trough in the Mount Victoria museum survives. A small avenue in South Katoomba also bears his name.

Gordon Marr & Sons Ltd. was a Sydney firm of engineers and iron founders which operated from a factory on the corner of Jones and Miller Streets, Pyrmont up to the early 1920s when it relocated to Bourke Street, Waterloo. It was still in business there in the 1960s. The founder, Gordon Marr, was born ca.1840 at Fyvie in the North of Scotland and arrived in Sydney on the *Rifleman* in 1863 where he entered into a partnership in an engineering works. Originally in Clarence Street, the successful business soon outgrew its premises and moved to a larger site in Pyrmont. By the early years of the twentieth century, with his partners both departed, the firm was operating under his own name. Marr had married in 1867 and in 1904 several of his sons entered the business necessitating a further (and final) re-registration as Gordon Marr & Sons Ltd. In private life Gordon Marr was an active member of the Highland Society and the Masonic Lodge. He died at his Woollahra residence in 1915 and was buried in Waverley Cemetery, his wife Sarah predeceasing him by a couple of years. He was survived by six sons and three daughters (Anonymous 1915; Marr 1862-1972).

Trough No. 8: Katoomba Showground (Figure 26).
Location: This trough can be found on the north-west (Orient Street) side of the Katoomba Showground, 183-187 Great Western Highway, across from the grandstand and near what is now the Men's Shed and separated from the Orient Street fence by a wooden storage 'container' (against which it sits).

Photo J. Low 2016

Figure 26. Katoomba Showground Trough**.**

Description & Condition: This is a basic, unembellished, uncovered concrete trough, measuring approximately 200 x 65 x 40 cm and supported on sloping ground by bricks at one end. It is no longer operational, the cistern having been removed, and on last inspection (16 August 2016), except for some dirt and leaf litter, was empty. Signs of neglect and 'wear and tear' to the concrete are apparent, with the corners especially badly chipped. A distinguishing feature is its body's beveled edges.

History: The creation of a Katoomba Showground with an accompanying trotting track occurred during the decade following World War I and, while rugby league was played on it from 1925 (Anonymous 1925b), it was not for another two years that the

grandstand and other associated improvements were completed (Anonymous 1928b). Horse-related activities – gymkhanas, trotting club meetings etc. - were to feature prominently in the ground's use in subsequent years and when the first District Show on the new grounds took place in January 1928, impressive equine accommodation had already been provided in the form of twenty stalls

> "constructed of magnificent posts of mountain ash … with iron roof supported on sawn scantlings." (Anonymous 1928a, col.5).

No mention was made of a horse trough, however, and while it is possible that its installation at the showground could have coincided with (or come soon after) these developments, the trough could equally have been an addition made any time during the next two decades. The mounted division of the Volunteer Defense Corps, for example, were using the ground during World War II (Anonymous 1944c) while, at the end of the war, a new Blue Mountains Trotting Club was established that initiated considerable improvements and began to organize successful meetings which drew people and horses from all over NSW (Anonymous 1945a,b). The trough may well date from this period. It should be noted, too, that its present location may not be its original one; it could well have come even from somewhere beyond the perimeters of the showground. Though the trough does not have an individual heritage listing, the Showground (and its accompanying amenities) is listed in the Blue Mountains City Council's Local Environment Plan (LEP) as having local heritage significance (NSWOoEH 1999).

Trough No. 9: Victoria Street, North Katoomba (Figure 27).

Location: This trough is outside what used to be a small corner store, on the eastern side of Victoria Street near its intersection with Camp Street, North Katoomba.

Description & Condition: This is a basic, unembellished, uncovered concrete trough, measuring approximately 200 x 65 x 40 cm and supported level on a sloping street by a concrete slab. On last inspection (16 August 2016) there were signs of general distress and neglect – the rim especially is badly chipped - and the trough is no longer operational. It was filled with dirt, weeds and several hardy flowers perhaps surviving from its use as a 'garden' pot. Some remnant piping was still attached to the section once housing the cistern.

Photo J. Low 2016

Figure 27. Victoria Street Trough, North Katoomba.

History: The trough was clearly in existence by 1944 when the local newspaper reported it becoming the subject of a brief exchange at a KMC meeting in August of that year. Alderman Hodgson claimed that it was too high, provoking a response from the Mayor (Alderman Freelander) that he would instruct Council to make it lower "or raise the ground up a bit," (Anonymous 1944b). One might conclude from this exchange that the trough had not long been in operation and the fact that the RSPCA had donated a concrete trough to the Blackheath Municipal Council (BMC) earlier in 1944 (State Records NSW 1944) suggests that KMC may also have been the beneficiary of that organization.

Sometime after it ceased to operate as a water trough it was converted into a "flower garden" and was still functioning as such in 2006 (pers. comm. Mrs. Evelyn Harvey 2006). The small general store appears to have closed around this time and when I visited the trough in 2007 the weeds had already taken over. The trough is not on any heritage listing.

Trough No.10: Railway Parade, Medlow Bath (Figure 28).

Location: This 'Annis & George Bills' trough is situated in Railway Parade, backing on to the railway fence opposite the entrance to Somerset Street, Medlow Bath.

Description & Condition: The trough is similar in size, structure and design to those at Glenbrook, Warrimoo and Wentworth Falls (Low 2015). It is made of concrete, measures approximately 240 x 40 x 40 cm, is supported on three concrete blocks and possesses the usual pediment section that includes the

inscription "Donated by Annis and George Bills Australia". Like the trough at Wentworth Falls the concrete does not appear to have been painted and, on its right-hand side, it is accompanied by a small dog and cat trough, approximately 60 x 30 x 14 cm. A major difference with the other three Blue Mountains 'Bills' troughs, however, is the use of a terrazzo panel rather than a plain concrete one to carry the inscription. On last inspection (16 August 2016) there was water in the trough (though not in the dog/cat trough), the wall dividing off the uncovered cistern was still in place and the trough appeared to be in good condition and its surrounds clear of vegetation. The inscription to Annis and George Bills, however, was almost illegible.

History: Funded through the estate of businessman and animal welfare activist George Bills (Low 2015), it has not been possible to determine the date of this trough's arrival in Medlow Bath nor if it's present (seemingly 'out of the way') site is its original location. Long-time local resident John Pike remembers it being in its present position "by the mid-1940s" (pers. comm. J. Pike 27 July 2016) and while it is possible that it was received and installed around the same time as the three Blue Mountains Shire Council ones, the small embellishment of the terrazzo inscription panel does suggest that this is a distinct and, perhaps, earlier model. The trough is listed in the Blue Mountains City Council's LEP as having local heritage significance (NSWOoEH 2000b).

Associations with Particular People: George and Annis Bills. For information on the Bills see Part 1 of this article (Low 2015).

Photo Peter Rickwood April 2016

Figure 28. Annis & George Bills Trough, Medlow Bath.

Photo J. Low 2016

Figure 29. Neate Park Trough, Blackheath.

Trough No.11: Neate Park, Blackheath (Figure 29).
Location: This trough can be found against the railway fence in Neate Park, Great Western Highway (opposite 211 Great Western Highway) and near the statue of the bushranger and his horse.

Description & Condition: This is a basic, unembellished, uncovered concrete trough measuring approximately 200 x 65 x 40 cm and supported on two concrete blocks. At last inspection (16 August 2016) it was empty of water and no longer operational (cistern and connections removed) but was in good condition with minimal chipping. The area around the trough is kept mown and tidy.

History: The landscape through which the Western Road passes in the vicinity of Blackheath features a number of natural aquifers, making this one of the few spots on the upper ridge possessing permanent, accessible water. When Governor Macquarie travelled through the area in 1815 he noted "plenty of good water for Man and Beast" (Macquarie 1815) and later travelers would make good use of "several stock watering pounds" (Rickwood & West 2005, p.127) located along the road here. No doubt, too, there were early water troughs associated with the inn built in 1831 by Andrew Gardiner, the military stockade that operated during the 1840s and possibly others erected as the fledgling village of Blackheath evolved following the arrival of the railway in 1868.

The earliest horse trough I have been able to find any specific reference to, however, did not appear until after the establishment of the Blackheath Municipal Council (BMC) in 1919. Following a recommendation from the BMC Engineer in June 1922, a concrete horse trough was purchased from the

State Monier Pipe and Reinforced Concrete Works and erected "in front of the gardens on the main western road" in early 1923 (Anonymous 1923a; State Records NSW 1920-1925, Minute No.154, 6 February 1923, p.2). Its purchase appears to have been the culmination of advocacy led by Ald. Peter Sutton and proved to be

> "a great boon during the hot spell, not only horses, but house-keepers availing themselves of its cooling waters. It seems likely to develop into the village pump." (Anonymous 1923b).

Peter Sutton (1891-1970) had a long aldermanic career on the Blackheath Council, spanning the years 1922 to 1947 and serving as Mayor during 1930-1931. His interest in animal welfare was acknowledged in June 1923 when he was appointed an RSPCA Inspector (State Records NSW 1920-1925; Minute 29 June 1923, p.1.).

The trough's location "opposite The Gardens" was soon considered unsuitable for, in early August 1928, Council resolved that it be "removed to another position" and a committee was formed to meet at the Gardens the following day to decide on its new home (State Records NSW 1925-1928). This decision to move the trough may have had something to do with the imminent erection of a "Soldiers Memorial Arch" at the entrance to the Gardens, though I have not been able to determine what resulted from the committee's deliberations. If indeed the trough was shifted at this time it was certainly to another spot nearby on the Main Western Road for Ald. Sutton had to remind Council several times in the early 1930s

> "to have the horse trough in the main highway cleaned and kept in good condition." (Anonymous 1932, col.4; also see Anonymous 1934).

By the mid-1930s further difficulties emerged with the increasing motor traffic along the highway. When "Mr. George Bentley's well-known grey saddle horse" (Anonymous 1936) was frightened while drinking at the trough and bolted into the path of an on-coming car, the dangers associated with the trough's siting on the main highway became clear. The horse was so seriously injured that he had to be put down. However, when the trough was moved again (or ultimately disposed of) I have been unable to discover. Could it be the one now in Neate Park?

While this seems to have been the earliest concrete trough erected in Blackheath, the installation of others eventually followed. In April 1944, for example, BMC accepted an offer from the RSPCA to provide a

> "suitable water trough … complete with concrete stand and stop cock and valve"

on condition that the Council accept responsibility for its freight, installation and on-going maintenance (State Records NSW 1944). It was decided, reported the local newspaper, to locate it "at the top of Hill 33, near Whitley Park," (Anonymous 1944a). Could this trough have found its way to Neate Park!

There is, also, photographic evidence of a horse trough outside St. Aidan's church in 1943 (Figure 30) and a Heritage Inventory Sheet (NSWOoEH 2000a) records that in 1998 it was moved to its present site in Neate Park. But there is, in fact, conflicting information regarding this.. Local historian Geoff Bates, explained that its relocation from St. Aidan's was the result of impending roadwork, but he said it took place around the time of the erection of the 'Govett' bushranger statue in 1974, a re-siting that was thought would enhance that sculpture's equine associations (pers. comm. G. Bates 23 February 2008). Both of these accounts contrast with a further recollection that the trough had already been in Neate Park for some time before the bushranger statue arrived (pers. comm. W. Hanley 2016 in which he relayed the opinion of Dick Harris who with his brother Phil had installed the bushranger statue in 1974). Nevertheless, irrespective of which account is correct the question of whether any agreed former site was in fact the trough's *original* site still remains. It seems an element of mystery will

1943 AUSIMAGE © Sinclair Knight Merz Pty. Ltd.

Figure 30. 1943 Aerial photograph of Blackheath. A horse trough (arrowed) is outside of St. Aidan's Church with tracks to it from both directions along the Great Western Highway (SixMaps 2016).

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continue to surround the origin of the Neate Park trough.

As a footnote to this, in 1989 the Blackheath District Progress Association made a recommendation to BMCC that the Neate Park trough

> "be repositioned to Bundarra Street, Blackheath, near the RSL Hall and have a water service connected" (BMCC 1989).

This was, clearly, not taken up. The trough is listed in the Blue Mountains City Council's LEP as having local heritage significance (NSWOoEH 2000a).

Associations with Particular People: While there is no evidence that the Neate Park trough was the original council-installed trough initiated by Ald. Peter Sutton in the early 1920s, it could still be appropriate to see it as bearing a memory of the man whose concern led to BMC supplying accessible, public water troughs for the local working animals.

Photo Marika Low 2008

Figure 31. Shipley Road Trough, Blackheath.

Trough No. 12: Shipley Road, Blackheath (Figure 31).

Location: Travelling out from Blackheath this trough can be found on the section of Shipley Road between its intersection with the Megalong Road and its meeting with the Old Shipley Road at the bottom of Glen Esk Hill. The trough is on the right-hand side of the road and, because of its tendency now to be concealed by vegetation, the best guides to its location are the numbered electricity poles – it is between poles 627 and 628.

Description & Condition: This trough, measuring approximately 125 x 35 x 17 cm, has been hewn out of the solid sandstone and is fed by a natural spring. It is not easily visible because of the vegetation growth but, on last inspection (16 August 2016), was filled with clear water and in good, usable condition. It should be noted that, because of traffic on the narrow road, access can be dangerous.

History: The Shipley Road deviation on which the trough is located was opened to traffic in the first half of 1902, eliminating several steep sections that travelers were forced to navigate when using the old road. Though narrow, the road accommodated considerable and varied traffic, everything from pedestrians and riders to all manner of horse-drawn vehicles and bullock teams (Rickwood & West 2005, p.108). The 'Drinking Trough', hewn from the natural sandstone and

> "utilising the water from the permanent spring, which, hitherto, had been running to waste." (Anonymous 1922)

was an improvement proposed by the Shipley Progress Association in January 1922, along with a number of seats to be placed along the road for the benefit of walkers (Anonymous 1922; Rickwood & West 2005, p.110). The trough is not on any heritage listing.

Trough No. 13: Kanimbla Drive, Shipley (Figure 32).

Location: This trough is located on Kanimbla Drive (formerly Kanimbla Valley Road), on the left-hand side approximately 0.9 km from the junction with Mount Blackheath Road.

Description & Condition: Like the trough on Shipley Road (No.12), this too has been hewn out of the solid sandstone and is fed by a natural spring that continues to fill it with clear water. It measures approximately 200 x 120 x 65 cm and on last inspection (16 August

Photo Marika Low 2008

Figure 32. Kanimbla Drive Trough, Shipley.

2016) remains accessible and in usable and excellent condition.

History: Kanimbla Valley Road was constructed under the Unemployment Relief Scheme during the Great Depression. Work on the road began in October 1937 and the section on which the trough is located was completed by September the following year (Anonymous 1938). Workers were accommodated in camps and the trough was most likely constructed to provide them with a water supply in the first instance and then later to service those using the road when completed (Rickwood & West 2005, p.115). The trough is not on any heritage listing.

Photo Petah Low 2010

Figure 33. Former Mt. Victoria trough now at the Kanimbla Valley farm.

Trough No. 14: Mount Victoria Railway Station (Figure 33).

Location: Though originally located in the goods yard at Mount Victoria Railway Station, this trough is now operating on a sheep property in the Kanimbla Valley. It is not accessible to the public.

Description & Condition: This is a concrete trough of plain and functional design, manufactured by the Concrete Pipe Works of Richard Taylor Ltd. at Marrickville. It is approximately 240cm long, 65cm wide and 40cm deep, was in good condition and working order when I inspected it some years ago and, I understand, remains so.

History: With the arrival of the railway in 1868, Mount Victoria emerged briefly as a busy rail and road interchange where people, livestock and wagons interrupted their journeys to elsewhere. Outside the One Tree Inn, wrote one traveler in 1868,

> "were congregated some thirty wagons … Some were empty waiting the arrival of their loading by the train; some were loaded up with the goods which were about to be taken into the interior, and others still had their loads of wool and produce from the bush which they were waiting to discharge into the railway goods trucks. Around and about the wagons was a regular troop of horses." (Anonymous 1868, col.2).

All these horses, like their handlers, required feeding and watering, accomplished with the help of a large timber trough outside the inn and makeshift canvas 'mangers' hung between the shafts of the wagons. What additional feed and water facilities, permanent or impermanent, existed to cater for the multitude of other transiting livestock (cattle, sheep etc.) in these early years remain un-recorded. And, even when the railway extended beyond Mount Victoria, travelling stock continued for many years to be a significant part of local station activity. For the period June 1903-June 1904, for example, three thousand, nine hundred and thirty two sheep, among lesser numbers of other livestock, were loaded at the Mount Victoria Railway Station (Anonymous 1904).

The early animal welfare legislation was generally weak on affirming a positive duty of care to ensure that an animal's basic needs were satisfied (MacCulloch, 1994). That meant that, from the time animal welfare groups were established in the 1870s, the treatment of stock in transit was an issue that occupied much of their time and attention. As late as 1923 the Department of Railways was still being taken to task over the appalling conditions endured by animals being "cooped up, bumped, and waterless for days," (Anonymous 1923c) during their journey to market. The resultant lobbying of authorities responsible for the work areas where such animals congregated – railway stations, wharves, markets etc. - and the gradual improvements to legal protection, created an increasing demand for water troughs to accommodate these areas, to which companies in the business of manufacturing cement products responded.

The date of its installation in the railway goods yard at Mount Victoria is not known, though it could have been as early as the 1920s. By the 1970s the trough had become redundant and was marked for removal. When he heard that it "was to be broken up and taken to the tip" a farmer, Ross Fragar, approached the station master and purchased it for the nominal sum of one dollar. He transferred the trough (which had been "mounted on 2 stands, each 2ft. high") to his sheep property in the Kanimbla Valley on,

appropriately, 'the horse's birthday', 1 August 1975 (pers. comm R. Fragar July 2016). The trough is not on any heritage list.

Association with Particular People: Little is known of the manufacturer, Richard Taylor, though he appears to have played something of a pioneering role in the cement and concrete industry in Australia. Indeed, in 1936, his Marrickville firm claimed the distinction of being

> "the oldest and largest private concrete pipe and culvert works in New South Wales" (Marrickville Council 1936, p.179).

Apparently "English-trained" and with some experience in New Zealand, he arrived in Victoria in the 1880s and during the following decade, in association with Peter McCann, was involved in cement manufacture in Geelong and the nearby town of Fyansford (McKay 1986). By the early 1900s he had also become the Melbourne representative of the NSW-based Commonwealth Portland Cement Company (Taylor 1907; Anonymous 1920).

In January 1913 it was reported in the press that:

> "Richard Taylor, Ltd. has been registered with a capital of £10,000 in shares of £1 each, and will acquire the New South Wales rights for the Kielberg Patent, as well as certain lands at Marrickville for the manufacture of concrete pipes." (Anonymous 1913a).

Those "certain lands" were located at 46-72 Edinburgh Street, Marrickville and, by 1927, as well as pipes Taylor's works were turning out box culverts, gutter bridges, culvert covers, tanks, slabs and, of course, horse and cattle troughs and were advertising their role as

> "Contractors and Suppliers to Leading Municipalities, Shires, Surveyors, Estate Agents and Contractors" (Marrickville District Hospital 1927, p.48).

The company operated at the Marrickville site until its closure in the early 1940s (pers. com. C. Meader, Marrickville Council's historian, 26 April 2010).

Today, few troughs manufactured by Richard Taylor's company seem to have survived and even in the suburb where the business was located none now exist. Though there may be more, I know of only two other Taylor troughs: one on Clark Road at Anderson Park, North Sydney & one in the tip at the Royal National Park in Sydney's south.

Trough No. 15: Berghofer's Pass, Mount York (Figures 34 & 35).

Location: This trough is located on the old Berghofer's Pass (now a walking track), access to which is on the left hand side of Mount York Road about 1km from its intersection with the Great Western Highway. Proceeding down the Pass, the water trough can be found on the left of a sharp bend not long before arriving at the boundary marker between the Blue Mountains and Lithgow Council areas. A clear wooden signpost marks its presence.

Description & Condition: This is another water trough hewn out of the solid sandstone and fed by a natural spring that keeps it filled with clear water. It measures approximately 97 x 42 x 25 cm and, on my last inspection (16 August 2016), remains usable, with clear access and in excellent condition. There is also a smaller cup-like bowl (approximately 20 x 20 x 10 cm) hewn at the front right.

Photo J. Low 2007

Figure 34. Trough on Berghofer's Pass, Mount Victoria.

History: Berghofer's Pass was constructed as a direct result of the arrival of the motor car, early models of which found difficulty with the steep grades of Victoria Pass. Its construction was largely at the instigation of the remarkable early Blue Mountains resident and community leader, John William Berghofer (1840-1927), first President of the Blaxland Shire Council and owner of *Rosedale* at the foot of Victoria Pass. His pass was begun in 1907 and opened in 1912 and its easier grades made it the preferred route on and off the western escarpment until motor cars became more powerful and improvements to Victoria Pass were effected in the 1920s. It finally closed in 1934 and was re-opened in more recent times as a walking track. The stone trough would not only

have satisfied the thirst of human and animal traffic using the pass but, most probably, also the demands of many passing motor vehicles. Individually, the trough is not on any heritage list though Berghofer's Pass as a whole is listed in the Blue Mountains City Council's Local Environment Plan (LEP) as having local heritage significance (NSWOoEH 2008b).

Association with Particular People: Though not (as far as is known) specifically associated with John William Berghofer, the trough is an integral part of the pass that he initiated and that bears his name. Indeed, members of his family regard it as significant for on the rock wall to the right of the trough is a small memorial plaque to the memory of his great grandson, Cyril 'Bruce' Parker (1922-2004) who claimed this as "His Chosen Resting Place" (Figure 35).

Photo J. Low 2016

Figure 35. Plaque accompanying the trough on Berghofer's Pass, Mount Victoria.

Trough No. 16: Water Trough Hill, Bell (Figure 36).

Location: This trough can be found by travelling for about 3km east along the Bells Line of Road from its intersection with the Darling Causeway (or, alternatively, 4.5km west from the Mount Wilson turn-off) to the eastern base of Water Trough Hill (WTH). Here a remnant section of an earlier road veers off on the southern side of the current road and passes along the southern edge of WTH before rejoining the present road a kilometre or so further west. By walking west along the old road (in process of being reclaimed by nature and damp in parts) the trough can be found about 150m in on the right hand side. It is easily missed, however, being somewhat hidden by growth and the site can be a bit wet and boggy.

Photo Peter Rickwood 2016

Figure 36. The Bell Trough, Water Trough Hill, Bells Line of Road.

Description & Condition: The trough has been cut out of a natural sandstone shelf about 60cm above the ground, is fed by a permanent spring and is approximately 85cm in length, 52cm wide and 9cm deep. The date 1894 is carved into the rock face beneath the pool. At my last inspection on 12 April 2016 it was in good, serviceable condition, filled with cool clear water.

History: Bells Line across the Blue Mountains into the Vale of Clwydd, though following the route of an already established Aboriginal pathway, was 'discovered' in 1823 by Archibald Bell Jnr. and provided access to the west for travelers and stock from the Windsor and Richmond districts. Crossing to the north of the Grose Valley, it offered an alternative to the older line (the Western Road from Penrith) that followed the more southerly ridge. The earlier section of Bells Line on which the trough is located (also possessing good examples of dry stone walls, rock surfaces etc.) was by-passed, probably during the later major road improvements that began in 1939 under an unemployment relief scheme and continued during World War II and into the post-war period (Anonymous 1950). The origins of the trough, though dating from 1894, are unknown. It is possibly the

> "pool by the roadside, much patronized by horses and dogs"

mentioned in the account of a trip from Blackheath to Mount Banks published in the *Mountaineer* in 1901 (Anonymous 1901a). The trough is listed in the Blue Mountains City Council's Local Environment Plan (LEP) as having local heritage significance (NSWOoEH 2008a).

Conclusion:

If nothing else, I hope this survey of the surviving horse/water troughs in the Blue Mountains, an on-going project, has demonstrated the importance these unassuming relics of an earlier age can have in enhancing our experience of community. They are the bearers of memories and lost histories, they speak of the changes in our work-a-day world and of enduring values of respect and compassion, and as such are worthy of our attention and preservation.

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Abbreviations:

BMC	Blackheath Municipal Council
BMCC	Blue Mountains City Council
BMHS	Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc.
KMC	Katoomba Municipal Council
LEP	Local Environment Plan
n.d.	no date
NSWOoEH	NSW Office of Environment and Heritage
pers. comm.	personal communication
RSPCA	Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
WTH	Water Trough Hill

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SANDSTONE CAVES IN THE BLUE MOUNTAINS: THEIR EUROPEAN CULTURAL HERITAGE

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Abstract
The concepts of place, space and landscape are discussed in constructing European cultural perspectives of sandstone caves in the Blue Mountains, of which nearly 400 are known, mostly named historically. Of minor significance individually but noteworthy in their totality, examples of their aesthetic, historic, scientific, social and spiritual values are described. The tangible European historical heritage is scattered among numerous sources, but much remains intangible. The caves are worth celebrating and their history recorded, not merely as natural features, but primarily as places and spaces connecting with human life, enlightenment and endeavour.

Key Words: caves; sandstone; cultural; place; European, Blue Mountains

INTRODUCTION

"... although we are accustomed to separate nature and human perception into two realms, they are in fact indivisible. Before it can ever be a repose for the senses, landscape is the work of the mind. Its scenery is built as much from strata of memory as from layers of rock. . . .(it is) a way of looking; of rediscovering what we already have, but which somehow eludes our recognition and our appreciation." (Simon Schama 1995, pp.6-7, 14)

This essay will focus on sandstone caves in the Blue Mountains, in particular the cultural interests of Europeans, and will touch on their aesthetic, historic, scientific, social and spiritual values.

Until late in the nineteenth century, limestone and sandstone caves were both regarded as important more for their exploitation and contents than for any consideration of genesis or aesthetics. No significant distinction was drawn between what we now refer to as karst caves in limestone, and artificial grottos, rock shelters and shallow sandstone caves. Sandstone caves are found throughout the onshore 36,000 km² of the Sydney Basin (Anonymous n.d.), including World Heritage Areas which, however, gained that status primarily for their natural biological values. Scattered in the 30% of the Basin which is sandstone and varying widely in their areal density, most are small but over 1,000 are recorded in the database of the Australian Speleological Federation Inc. (see Postscript Note below), the longest being 263 m (Dunkley 2013a, 2013c). About 395 are documented in the Blue Mountains greater than 3 m depth, most possessing greater cultural than natural associations. Of these, 31 have aboriginal significance, 49 are bushwalkers' camping sites, another 46 carry personal names evenly split between male and female, 17 have interior constructions, and a dozen or so were used as spiritual or family retreats and for a period by the homeless or destitute. It is likely that a significantly larger number were used by Aboriginal people, either seasonally or semi-permanently, especially those with sunny aspects and close to streams. First Fleet settlers recorded Aboriginal life in caves around Sydney Harbour not long after they arrived in January 1788 (Bradley 1788, pp.67-68) interpreting it through a European prism, not by scientific training or study. The result was that little serious academic research was undertaken for most of a century, and only then did enquiry into the Aboriginal occupation of the country arise and serious scientific investigations begin. See for example the catalogue of works relating to the surveyor and self-taught amateur anthropologist Robert H. Mathews, who produced 29 anthropological papers in NSW alone and over 170 in Australia at large (Thomas n.d., pp.435-450). It would take most of another century before the real antiquity of both the land and its original inhabitants' culture was recognised and eventually widely accepted (e.g. Stockton 1993).

Aboriginal sites have been studied for a century on the lower Blue Mountains (e.g. Stockton & Holland 1974), indicating a local community of about 2,000 people. At low elevations cave occupation was continuous for 20,000 to possibly 50,000 years. The central Blue Mountains attracted religious activity as evidenced by rock engravings, cave paintings and drawings, and stone arrangements, while the upper Blue Mountains (e.g. Walls Cave) proved favourable for good shelter, water and foraging for resources, despite climatic variations (Figure 1).

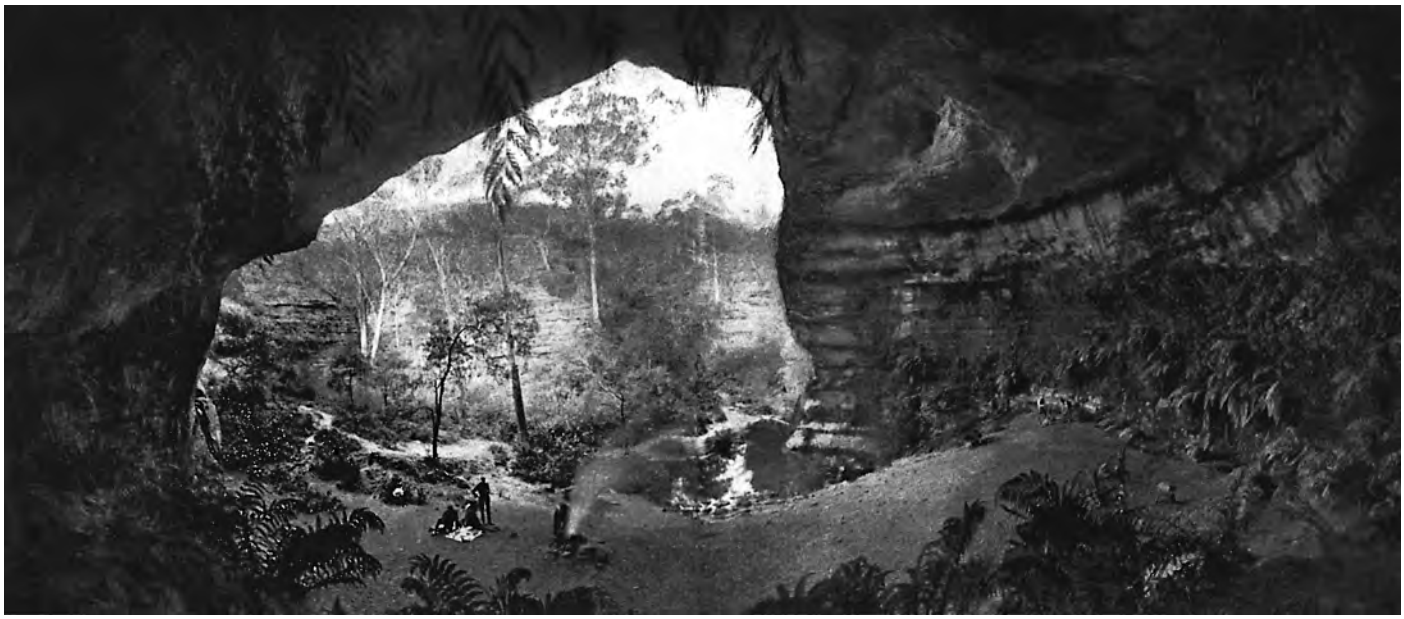

Figure 1. Walls Cave, Blackheath (Phillips n.d., p.13).
View facing north on a stream, significant for both Aboriginal and European heritage and now protected with a viewing platform, it has inspired poems, music and innumerable photographs.
[Photo taken with a panoramic lens by renowned Blue Mountains photographer Harry Phillips.]

This review thus concentrates on the webs of significance woven by European cultural perspectives, with examples of how individuals reacted, with caves as a common characteristic. Overall, quartz sand and sandstone provided a smaller lens through which scientists and managers tended to overlook the natural values of sandstone caves (e.g. Wray 1993,1995). West (2014-2016) described artificial 'grottos' in the Blue Mountains of the kind seen in parts of Europe and Asia, which in an Australian context appear out of place but may have some cultural significance.

European perspectives and perceptions: place, space, landscape, culture and caves.

It is well established that for more than a century most white settlers in Australia underestimated the differences between Australia and the lands that they left (Britain and Ireland) or that they had lost (America) (see, for example, Griffiths 1996, p.152; Horne 2005, pp.25-59). Initially regarded as an impassable barrier, and for long afterwards simply marvelled or despaired over - e.g. "wasteland, wilderness, wonderland" (Jones 2013), "production of imperial landscape" (Mitchell 2002, especially Chapter 1) and "pursuit of wonder" (Horne 2005) - a century after white settlement the encircling sandstone landscapes still served mainly as places to hurry through.

Immediately after 1813, the main agenda was building a road, and later a railway, to productive land on the other side. There were no old buildings to visit or study in Australia, no written history, no culture that Europeans understood. The Blue Mountains were thus the first Australian mountains to capture the colonial imagination, early accounts emphasising - often with a florid flourish - the cliffs and canyons, endless ridges, lack of reference points, and lack of water or of land suitable for agriculture. British imperial expansion informed travellers' accounts and drawings even as they ventured through landscapes bereft of a familiar past and barren of recognisable history and culture. Some Europeans took comfort that an uncertain past owed nothing to the present, and in time obtained temporal depth by turning to the sublime, to the natural environment. Fear can still descend quickly when, for example, someone becomes lost or disoriented in the trackless labyrinth of heavily vegetated hills and valleys below or distant from the escarpments. It is only in the last 130 years or so that we find mountains and caves influencing people's imaginations and lives more directly. Macqueen (2012, pp.1-15) reviewed the concept of the Blue Mountains as "space", effectively demonstrating that even the term 'Blue Mountains' is still not well defined.

Mitchell (2002) is admittedly difficult to read. At the outset (pp.x, 1) he distinguished between place, space and landscape as a dialectical triad: if a place is a specific location, a space is a 'practised' location, and a landscape is that encountered as image or 'sight'. He argued that landscape needs to move from noun to a verb, so that it becomes a process by which social and subjective identities are formed, he saw landscape

as a marketable commodity to be purchased, consumed and souvenired as postcards and, no doubt, 'Facebookfed'; the object of fetishistic practices involving limitless repetition of identical photographs taken on identical spots by tourists with interchangeable emotions is discussed:

> "… but how many photographs, postcards, paintings and awestruck "sightings" of the Grand Canyon will it take to exhaust its value as landscape? Could we fill up Grand Canyon with its representations? How do we exhaust the value of a medium like landscape"? (Mitchell 2002, p.15).

On the other hand, he accepted that landscape expresses meaning as well as value (and indeed spiritual value), thus mediating the cultural and the natural.

Horne (1991) discussed ideas that *cultural* acquisition of land, meaning the ways in which cultures define or imagine spaces, is extremely important when claiming land. From the time we started describing the Blue Mountains as mountains, the link between European civilisation in Australia and that in Europe became more firmly established. She concluded that Australian colonists gained confidence in the *idea* of the Blue Mountains both as a refutation of our convict inheritance, and a promise of a brighter future, concluding that the Blue Mountains became an important cultural acquisition for white settlers in nineteenth century Australia.

Vanclay et al. (2008, p.3) also dealt with places and spaces:

> "'Place' is generally conceived as 'space' imbued with meaning"

where an individual can tell a story about a specific location, with personal meaning. More than geographically unidimensional, it's the coming together of an atmosphere and a sense of narrative, symbolic meanings and emotional attachment, of exploring perspectives through different senses and lenses. A sense of place develops early, from childhood experiences, educational opportunities and learning from elders, then sustained and mediated by dozens of competing social factors: age, familiarity, ability or spirituality. A particular place in the landscape, such as a cave, thus becomes significant when we give meaning to its part in the larger, undifferentiated space.

Until humans arrived the Blue Mountains lacked cultural meaning: they were spaces without places. Millennia of corporate memory then followed and in time mostly vanished as new groups and individuals added new layers of meaning over time, thereby altering the perception of a place and its surrounding space. In other words, older layers of meaning are displaced, decay and vanish, as undoubtedly occurred, for example, even over two centuries of recorded visitors' perceptions of the sandstone caves. Now a recurring theme of conservation and management debate, the relationship between people and nature raises cultural questions about the knowing and experiencing of places, the power of both the familiar place and the newly discovered or rediscovered place, and the many different ways of seeing and knowing that each person brings to a landscape feature or place, including what we can divine about the first human visitors.

Place is thus our legacy on the land. Drilling down, a cave is three places: the one imagined, the one experienced, and the one remembered, each changed by its predecessor. It's a fuzzy concept: abstract, difficult to quantify, defined by local knowledge rather than broader principles, and perhaps embodied in folklore, music or literature.

Perception is the key: middle class conventions and values informed and pervaded the writings of nineteenth century travellers to caves (see, *inter alia*, Horne 2005, pp.227-251), passing on their 'discoveries' to others who in turn found their own. We can visit them, perhaps experience what to us is a new cave or other place and, like visiting a new city, we discover how much easier it is to understand and appreciate a memorable place if one has visited and can place it in context.

But we still return to how we look at the land: as artists and photographers, story tellers, writers and poets, historians, musicians, tourists, speleologists and, in a few cases, people who lived or died in caves. They all discovered, were inspired (or occasionally repelled), and drew on their experiences albeit fleetingly to enhance our appreciation of them, as discussed below. The idea of cultural landscape is a human concept: it is we who give place, space and landscape a context.

Caves as historical places

For thousands of years natural clifflines and gorges confined human movement throughout the area, early settlers observed Aboriginal groups moving through the few natural passes between the valleys and ridges (Smith et al. 2006). Escaped convicts undoubtedly stumbled into caves on the outskirts of Sydney in the 1790s, probably including sites beyond the Cumberland Plain. An early record of a cave beyond the Nepean came on 25 November 1802 when, during

Photo John Dunkley 1999

Figure 2. Barralliers Cave, near Yerranderie. It overlooks a view unchanged for two centuries since Francis Barrallier almost succeeded in crossing the Blue Mountains, possibly visited by only a dozen or so Europeans since.

his second expedition in search of a route across the Blue Mountains, Francis Barrallier recorded that

> "The rain compelled me to seek a shelter for myself and my men in the cave which, the natives assured me, was the home of wombats. I waited till 7 o'clock in the cave for my two men ..." (Barrallier 1802, p.795).

This description aided relocation of the cave in the 1990s (Figure 2), settling a long debate about the route taken by Barrallier's expedition (Andrews 1998; Dunkley 2002). Almost two years later a similar cave (possibly WL879*) sheltered George Caley from a wild thunderstorm in November 1804 (see map in Macqueen 2013, p.22) but that one has not been unequivocally identified among candidates above the upper Grose Valley.

[* Caves, including some unnamed, are listed in the state-by-state cave and karst database of the Australian Speleological Federation Inc. and may be referred to by their catalogue number.]

As early as June 1830 Thomas Mitchell was guided to "the Cataract near the Weatherboard hut at Wentworth Falls", where he stayed two nights en route to Bathurst (Dunkley in press), and by mid century travellers began making their own paths to nearby sites. Akin to crossing the Appalachian Mountains, within a few years waves of settlers were moving westwards across the Blue Mountains. The moving frontier continued for much of the remaining nineteenth century and into the twentieth. European use of Kings Cave at Linden dates may date as early as 1821 (Searle 1985, part 2, pp.13-15), as the base for the Kings Own Regiment whose task was to guard convicts and ensure that only authorised persons were allowed access across the Blue Mountains (although some sources attribute it – almost certainly incorrectly - to a bushranger named King, e.g. Russell 1882, p.28; 1885, pp.24-25,). Road builders, overseers and convict gangs laboured along the line of the now Great Western Highway, using small caves as shelters or depots. At Mount York evidence of past technologies from 1815 can still be discerned beside several caves alongside the steep Coxs Descent, before it was bypassed by Mitchell's route down Victoria Pass. Other examples include Store Cave at Linden and the

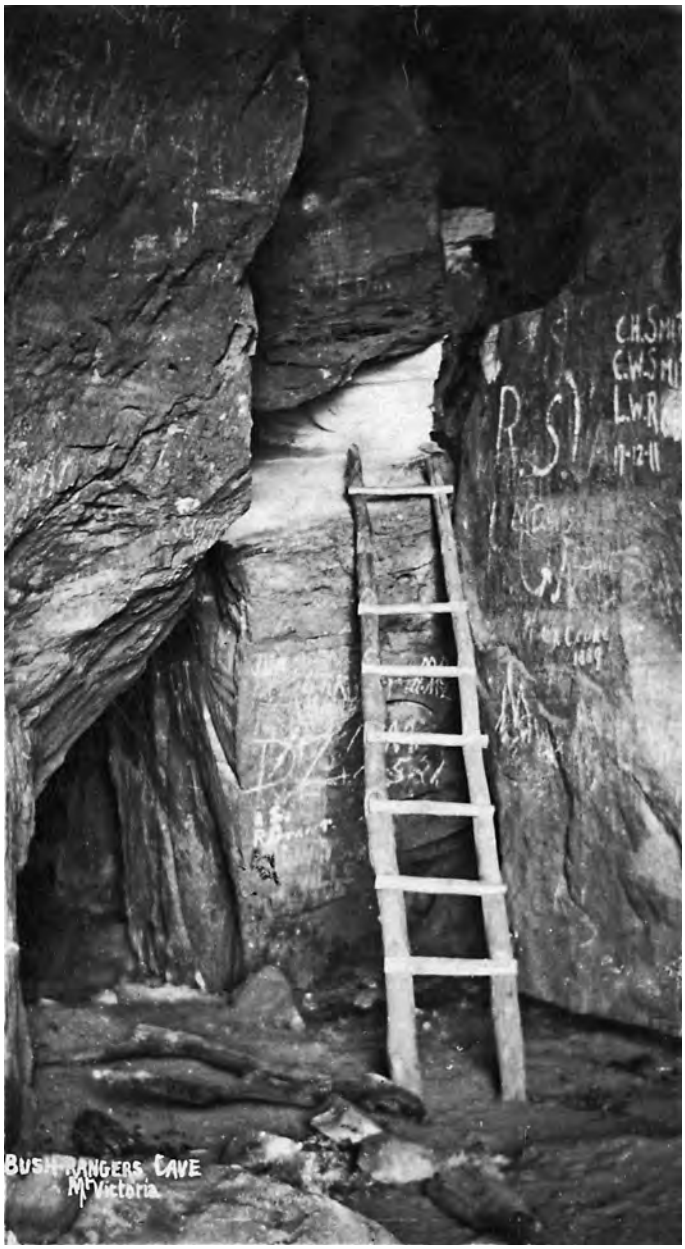

Figure 3. Bushrangers (Cunimbla, Kanimbla) Cave, Mount Victoria, one of the few carrying graffiti and debatable legends of European origin.

partly excavated Bulls Camp Cave at Woodford (ca. 1835-1844), both apparently used by the military to protect gold shipments in the 1850s, during the railway construction and workers in 1866 (Coleborn 1989a; Lavelle 1996) and again in 1896. By the 1880s Australia was a wealthy country. Caves housed itinerant workers in the lower Blue Mountains and as the railway edged up the ramp towards the Great Zig Zag and Lithgow from 1867 to 1869 it carried new waves of people: hotel, real estate and business entrepreneurs, tourists and recreationists.

Entrepreneurs, Walking Tracks, Tourist Authorities, Lovers, Fairies and Caves

The first wave of leisured travellers arrived in the lower Blue Mountains in the 1870s, even as the railway grew and long before Australia's beach culture was born, seeking retreat to pleasant climes and attractions on their mountain holiday properties. Beginning with wealthy landowners and hotel entrepreneurs, local councils, progress associations and enthusiastic volunteers later began cutting tracks to local lookouts, glens, waterfalls and caves. An early example was Sir Henry Parkes whose private 600-acre network at Faulconbridge formed, 80 years later, the heart of Blue Mountains National Park. As early as 1879 the authors of The Railway Guide of NSW described many tracks, including those to Rocklily Cave at Faulconbridge (p.38), and Cunimbla (Bushrangers) Cave at Mount Victoria (p.55) (Figure 3) where

> "These extend into the mountain for some considerable depth, and should not be explored without a light or guide." (Railway Guide of NSW 1879, p.55).

At the time there was no accommodation available between Mt. Victoria and Wentworth Falls - neither Leura nor Katoomba were even mentioned in the extensive guide. By the time of the second edition (1884), Mermaids Cave in the glen below Blackheath had been added along with a direction sign, the Trustees of Mount Piddington had built several trails and installed seats at intervals, including to Coxs Cave with its ladder leading upwards to a fine view,

> "the floor being covered with a luxuriant growth of large ferns." (Railway Guide 1884, p.53)

to Engineers Cascade (cave) and lower down the Little Zigzag to Cunimbla Cave (now obsolete) i.e. Bushrangers Cave.

From the early 1900s and peaking in the 1930s, local Councils and tourist authorities named and vigorously promoted many sandstone caves in the district (e.g. Walford 1928, pp.32, 44-45, 47), as did the Government Tourist Bureau (see, for example, Anonymous 1920). Every village on the Blue Mountains swiftly annexed a signature waterfall or cave, although a number of the latter were little more than overhangs with alluring names. Paths snaked down the escarpment to knit other waterfalls, caves and attractions into a network

> "Of more than 300 tracks and track sections studied for the 1999 Walking Track Heritage Study. ..." (Smith et al. 2006, Introduction p.3, Section 1.3).

Until the various small reserves began consolidation from 25 September 1959 into the Blue Mountains National Park, the Lands Department made modest annual grants (upon formal application) of a few hundred dollars to trustees of most towns on the Blue Mountains, typically local businessmen, who supplemented this with volunteer labour and with cash from fellow businessmen to promote local attractions and build walkways. Trustees placed very high priority on providing picnic facilities such as shelter sheds, fire places, picnic tables, seats and water supplies. While many caves were physically modified, few retain the infrastructure, exceptions being the seats in sites such as Ross Cave (Figure 4), those beside the Furber Steps (Figure 5) and in Lyrebird Dell at Leura. Some tracks were blocked, almost forgotten or became overgrown and have since

A

Photos John Dunkley 2010

B

Figure 4. Only 10 minutes easy walk from suburbia, Ross Cave (Mount Victoria) appears just as it did a century ago.

Photo John Dunkley 2011

Figure 5. Hundreds of visitors each day pass or pause at caves on Furbers Steps below Scenic World at Katoomba.

been reopened and abandoned sections added, such as Bruces Walk (Blackheath to Lawson) in 1986 onwards (Smith 2015) during which a minor long forgotten cave was relocated (Shelter Cave).

Thus over the 50 years or more from the 1930s a complex network of tracks grew, linking numerous attractive places, bequeathing romantic or fanciful names to caves, promoting a flourishing industry of postcards and souvenir books, and in turn encouraging extensive outdoor recreation activities. Much was touted about the desirable, restorative and curative properties of the climate, of a 'change of air'. But walks demanded a focal attraction, one reason for the promotion of caves as resting points or destinations as well as waterfalls and lookouts.

Medlow Bath hosted the most extensive private tracks (Smith 1999, pp.12 & 145) and almost all survived virtually intact (Smith 1999, p.14). Between about 1893 and 1907, and possibly later, Murdo McLennan, a gardener on William Hargraves' property, built many tracks along and down the escarpment, to and past several caves (Smith 1999). His achievements celebrate the skills of a master stonemason and the most extensive dry stone walls in the district (Figure 6). In 1903 Sydney businessman Mark Foy bought the land, built the *Hydro Majestic Hotel*, and to attract guests retained McLennan to extend the network to 18-20 km (Smith (1999, p.144) wrote that all the new tracks were constructed for Mark Foy). Although overgrown in places and occasionally eroded, the present author had few problems walking along them or locating the caves, at least two of which retain old signposts. Maxines Grotto retains some original pathways inside the cave. Foy's will provided for a large mausoleum to be built to accommodate both him and some of his family, about 850 m to the NNW of the *Hydro Majestic Hotel* at or near where Marks Tomb Cave is now located (Figure 7). This did not eventuate: he was buried at South Head Cemetery, the will was contested strongly by the beneficiaries, none of whom wished it to be built, and the presiding judge empowered them to determine the future use of the money including sale of the land (Anonymous 1951).

Similar tracks were built around Wentworth Falls by Peter Mulheran (Smith 2012a) and Halbert & Ellis (2011) wrote about the tracks and caves around Mount Victoria.

After 1935 many such caves and trails were forgotten or neglected, but most survived because the rugged escarpment in particular became incorporated into public reserves and later national parks. Forming probably the most remarkable network in Australia,

Blue Mountains City Library PF000/000817.

Figure 6. "Mr Hargreaves (*sic*) in the cave near main Baths (Hydro)"
(M. Shaw: written on the back of the print.).
Note the dry stone construction below, and attractive honeycombing (tafoni) (Young et al. 2009) in bedrock above.

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Photo John Dunkley 2011

Figure 7. Mark Foy wanted to be buried in or near the attractive Marks Tomb Cave.

the trails are of heritage significance at the national level, although authorities appear to be slow in recognising this (Smith et al. 2006, 2-E-1).

Bushwalkers, Tourists and Campers

In the nineteenth century most travellers walked; time was cheaper than income and horses and coaches were both expensive. Increasing middle class affluence, the gradual demise of Saturday work, and the initiation

Photo John Dunkley 2011

Figure 8. Pumping Station Cave on Narrow Neck retains its artificial windbreak for campers, who enjoy stunning views across Megalong Valley.

of paid annual leave provided opportunities for recreational bushwalking. The Government Tourist Bureau encouraged weekend and longer walking trips by train (Anonymous 1920) and although omitting mention of caves, the delightful route guide *With Swag and Billy* (Tompkins 1914) must have whetted appetites; it certainly recalls a fitter, determined brand of long-distance walker to rival any seen today.

Nearly 50 caves are now known to have been pressed into service for a century or more for bush camping by walkers and climbers, occasionally by wanderers and more recently by boulderers and canyoners. Most still are, especially in rugged country, more than a day's walk from roads. Many more would have been utilised for centuries by Aboriginal groups. In the early years limited time and release from work often confined walkers to areas such as the Blue Labyrinth south of Glenbrook, accessible by train or car followed by a short walk, sometimes on a Friday night; there are four such camping caves known just in that area (Cameron 2014). The greatest concentration of caves is in the rugged wilderness stretching south from Narrow Neck and Mount Solitary, where there are ten (Figure 8), and on to the Gangerang Range, Wild Dog Mountains, Kanangra Walls, Kowmung River and Yerranderie, in some of the wildest country in eastern Australia where any overhang is a shelter from bad weather. Some caves were appropriated as weekend and holiday retreats by walkers and others, and partly as a result inspired works by writers, poets, artists and musicians. A number served as permanent homes for recluses and the indigent, especially in the early 20th century and during depression years. A camp fire cultural memory attaches to all these communal places, promoting shared ownership, common experiences and yarns as it probably did for thousands of years.

Evidence from a variety of sources (e.g. Horne (2005, pp.100-139), and Smith (1999, pp.105-107) who also referred to Government publications listing accommodation) indicates that in the 1920s and 1930s the typical visitor holidaying on the Blue Mountains did a bushwalk nearly every day of their stay; it was a largely middle class pursuit. Possibly to emphasise their ease of access, several caves received female names such as Annies Rest, and one each for Eveline, Lorna, Louisa, Marguerite, Marie and a Mermaid, along with Maxines Bower and Hildas, Minnies (Figure 9), Veras and Gwennies Grottos.

> "Most probably this 'grotto' was named for Guinevere Goyder, born in Katoomba in 1890 and granddaughter of Frederick Charles Goyder, owner of the Carrington Hotel, Mayor of Katoomba and early trustee on the Katoomba, Leura, Echo & Banksia Parks Trust. It was common for such attractions to be named for female relatives of trust members …

... I set out earlier this year to find this special place. Just below Weeping Rock we climbed down from the present track to where an earlier path followed more closely the edge of the creek and made an exciting discovery - evidence of an old bridge and the buttresses that had supported it. I recalled a lovely old photograph by Harry Phillips of two young girls standing on this bridge with Weeping Rock and the Bridal Veil in the background. But where had the girls been going to (or coming from)?

A scramble across the creek and up the opposite bank provided the answer, leading us to a series of steps and into a hidden recess of moss and fern that must surely, we thought, be Gwennies Grotto. Two overhangs, a levelled and stone wall supported floor, a fireplace, metal spikes (to hang picnic gear?) and an abundance of old graffiti spoke clearly of a place once buzzing with activity. A further path and steps wandered on to a ravine, the remains of another bridge visible in its depths, hinting at even more secrets to discover!

We had stumbled into a place long hidden from the world, closed up like a room in an old house. Changing times had shut the door on Gwennies Grotto and now only the ghosts of memory remained to shape and shift the shadows of its present disuse. William Goyder, his wife Phoebe and daughter Guinevere moved to Sydney ca.1904 where they settled in Mosman. 'Gwennie' never married and died there in 1933. Did she, I wonder, ever revisit her grotto? I'd love to know." (Low 2011).

Photo John Dunkley 2011

Figure 9. Minnies Grotto, an attractive historic resting point on the Prince Henry Cliff Walk, Leura.

Figure 10. Bride & Bridegroom's Cave: the ladder, the sign and the Edwardian era tourists have long vanished, leaving only a postcard memory.

An assortment of Ferns and Fairies of indeterminate gender and genera also became the names of caves. Several (particularly in the Leura - Katoomba area) alluded to romantic spots such as Bride and Bridegroom (Figure 10), and Honeymoon Cave (not forgetting Lovers Nook and Honeymoon Point - neither being a real cave), although no Breakup or Divorce Caves are known.

Women numbered among the early walkers as long ago as the 1880s on the Six Foot Track to Jenolan Caves (e.g. Allen 1886). In the 1920s and 1930s Marie Byles was a pioneer who regarded nature as a living being, responding to our love and interest, just like human beings, and that we get more from it by co-operation than by exploitation. Conservationist & feminist, the first practising female solicitor in New South Wales, mountaineer, explorer and avid bushwalker. In this extract she was following the first practicable route from the plateau established by

Frank Walford to the Grose River, camping in Hemispherical Cave at Butterbox Point, recording in her writings:

> "Marj said we would travel light, take no tent and camp in a cave. (Byles & Shaw 1935, p.24)
> …
> But who would camp down below when there is a perfectly good cave on the heights above? Below our cave the plateau dipped away in tier below tier till it reached the coastal plain, beyond which the lights of Sydney glimmered on the eastern horizon, with Pennant Hills Wireless Station conspicuous among them. But that was the only sign of civilisation: for the rest there were the silent hills and no light . . . (*op. cit.*, p.25)
> …
> . . .We camped near Butterbox Point, where there was both a cave and a stream and no necessity to spoon water from rocky pools. From there we followed the course of the stream towards its source, finding that every tributary ended in a waterfall, and that the seemingly gently sloping wooded spurs turned into caverned cliffs at the bottom. Still we went on hopefully, and eventually succeeded in making our way to what seemed a gentle slope right to the creek bed. But when we came to go down, we found the same cliffs as before, a little more broken, that was all. We were able to climb down till we stood on the verge of the final gorge. Fifty feet below ran the dark mysterious waters of a stream hemmed in by caverned cliffs, a stream whose waters had never seen the sunlight, and whose boulders had never known the foot of man, and Ernestine quoted:
>
> "Where Alph, the sacred river, ran
> Through caverns measureless to man
> Down to a sunless sea". (*op. cit.*, P.25)
>
> Up and down the valley the cliffs rose higher than ever, and deep beneath their many caverns flowed the Many Caverned Creek". (*op. cit.*, p.25)

For some years from the 1930s a few caves served as free holiday or weekend sanctums, or semi-permanent shelters for depression era indigents. Darks Cave near Wentworth Falls was for many years occupied regularly by the family of Eric and Eleanor Dark (see below) and a few artefacts remain. The Knowling family apparently used Lyrebird Cave at Blackheath (Figure 11), Frank Walford Cave hosted the sometime Mayor of Katoomba in a cave above Carne Creek and Arethusa Canyon (Fox 2006, p.119), and Eric Lowe in Rookery Nook (Fox 2006, p.256) while Little Switzerland Cave (Figure 12) on Kings Tableland was a hideout for indigents in the 1930s, a German speaker in World War 2 (an unlikely story!), and by bushwalkers, depending on which local legend is accepted (Coleborn 1989b, Fox 2006, p.184).

The removal of wartime restrictions and shortages, increasing real incomes and the rise of private motor vehicles spelt doom for older forms of holidays, and the wonder is that so much land in the Sydney Basin remained in public hands. Three reasons:

- first, unlike America, on settlement the Australian colonies began as Crown Land.
- second, the mountain region did not attract squatters: demand for agricultural land in the nineteenth century came from free immigrants and a rising number of emancipists who could not make a living on the Cumberland Plain, or the sandstone mountains, and merely moved through to greener pastures beyond.
- third, in the twentieth century, and beyond, demand rose for urban retreats and commuter suburbs, but the sandstone caves, located as they are on or near the escarpment, escaped depredation by developers and land clearance.

Recently one or two private caves began providing retreats for a much more moneyed clientele in search of troglodytic travel somewhere different e.g. Hatters Hideaway at Clarence (Hatters Hideaway 2016) or even 'romance-with-jacuzzi-and-view' as at the Clifftop Cave (Blain 2015) or Enchanted Cave (Anonymous 2016) near Berambing which, while artificial, is architecturally designed inside and out to mimic a sandstone cave in its natural setting.

Photo John Dunkley 2011

Figure 11. Lyrebird Cave, Blackheath, still with traces of camping and believed to be the retreat of the Knowling Family.

Photo John Dunkley 2010

Figure 12. Directly below Lincoln Lookout (formerly called Flat Rock), Wentworth Falls, Little Switzerland Cave retains its old masonry walls & a view of Jamison Valley.

The Artists - writers, musicians, poets and the spiritual dimension of the caves

Lower prices and peaceful surrounds attracted authors, artists, poets and even musicians to the mountains, the solitude of caves inspiring a number. The forbidding landscape, frequent swirling mists and secret caves backdropped yarns of adventure and romance. One example is Smeaton's fictional '*The Treasure Cave of the Blue Mountains*' (1898). Other writers found early escape after defining experiences in the bush suburbs of Sydney and the Blue Mountains, in the many small caves almost in their backyards, especially before suburbia tentacled and oozed across every rocky peninsula between the creeks. The mountains increasingly attract such escapees, recalling earlier innocence.

Grace Bayley wrote without pretension, evocatively and passionately about the magic:

> "On that holiday (*in 1932*) I fell in love with the Blue Mountains." (Bayley 1993, p.4) .

Over 80 years she visited and revisited numerous caves, helping offspring as well: ferns, rocks, pools and picnics at Mermaids; Dad wriggling into Harpers and helping her grandson do it as his granddad did 50 years earlier; grilling sausages at Walls Cave; the tunnel in Grand Canyon; swooping bats in Coxs; the third zag to Bushrangers, tables and chairs set out for a picnic at Flat Rock, Wentworth Falls, and the cave beneath; the huge overhanging rock at Lourdes Grotto; a room with three doors, a window and a story teller to talk about Marks Tomb Cave; the Keyhole Slot in Deep Pass and Wollangambe Canyons; lyrebird tracks, red mud, stalagmites and stalactites in Goochs Crater. Wind-eroded Cave. The Cave Church. Oxley Cave at Rocket Point.

Similarly without affectation, Jim Low wrote (2008):

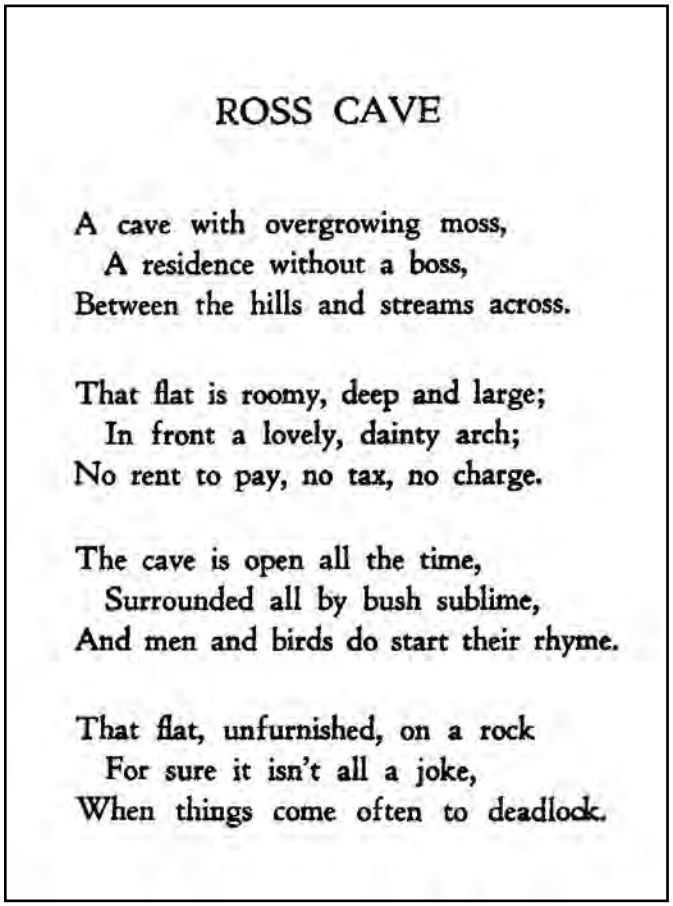
> "The large rocks look like they straggled slowly up the ridge, countless years ago. Some of them apparently stopped to rest forever along the way. Some arrived pocked with caves and inaccessible crevices; some continue performing incredible balancing acts, as if defying gravity. I crouch at the rear of one of these large caves and regard the valley, crudely framed by this cave.
>
> My valley view is serenely smothered in greens. Scattered, black tooth picks of trees protrude from the fresh greens, their crusty, black coats a testament to the intensity of previous, bushfire battles. Many are dead, cruelly transformed into their own monuments. They await the strength of the late winter/early spring wind gusts to see if they can last another year upright. Yellow flashes of 'egg-and-bacon' plants and the orange glow from intricate shaped bottle-brushes are splattered about the ridge.
>
> The cave floor is steep and uneven, dusted with sand from the stone that forms it. Part of the floor is stained with cement grey seepage, long dry. Other parts are variegated shades of browns and yellows. Directly above me is the cave's rough, coral textured, rust coloured ceiling. A closer inspection reveals the small, scattered, crystal pieces which softly reflect, like fragments of a shattered, dirty mirror. From my raised vantage, the cave has the feel of being in the 'gods' at a theatre. Its stage is a stone platform resting askew at the centre and its backdrop is the bushland, plummeting to the valley floor and up the other side.
>
> On some days, like today, the cave traps the exhilarating, subtle smell of the bushland, a mixture of eucalypt and wild flowers. You could almost bottle this essence. I am reminded of the elevated Queensland country city of Toowoomba, first visited many years ago as a youth. At the

information centre, I purchased 'a tin of Toowoomba fresh air' and sent it to my family back in Sydney. I guess they saw me coming!

Here in the cave, the powerful, deafening, jet engines of an aeroplane, distantly high in another world, are just a gentle rumble. A more audible impact comes from another source, a natural one. The sudden, jarring shrieks from a white cockatoo cascade from above, their echoes resounding raucously through the valley.

This is definitely another world here. I sing some words of a song and they surround me, resonating with intensity. Here no one can hear you. I could deliver a passionate address, expounding upon my inner most beliefs and no one would be any the wiser." (Quoted with permission, October 2016).

Perhaps the most widely circulated was Frederick Meyer's *Pearls of the Blue Mountains of Australia* (1929), 217 single page dollops of doggerel including 13 caves in NSW, three in Victoria and two in Western Australia. Paeans of praise were heaped on Hildas Grotto, Engineers Cascade, Lyrebird Dell (though curiously omitting mention of the large cave), and York, Walls, Ross (Figure 13) and Bushrangers Caves.



ROSS CAVE

A cave with overgrowing moss,
A residence without a boss,
Between the hills and streams across.

That flat is roomy, deep and large;
In front a lovely, dainty arch;
No rent to pay, no tax, no charge.

The cave is open all the time,
Surrounded all by bush sublime,
And men and birds do start their rhyme.

That flat, unfurnished, on a rock
For sure it isn't all a joke,
When things come often to deadlock.

Figure 13. One of Frederick Meyer's 'masterpieces' of meditative musing! (Meyer 1929, p.86).

First used in 1937, Darks Cave, the weekend retreat of the family of Eric and Eleanor Dark, inspired books and music. A decorated World War 1 veteran, Eric was a sergeant in the Blue Mountains Volunteer Defence Corps in World War 2 (Merriman 2011) when (according to local folklore, anyway) he was ordered to find caves to use as guerrilla bases in case of Japanese invasion, leading his wife to write to a friend that the latest rumour she'd heard was that "we have a year's supply of food hidden in our cave"! Eleanor authored well received novels such as the much reprinted 'The Timeless Land' trilogy (Dark 1941, 1948, 1954), said to have been partly written in the cave. In an essay Barbara Brooks (2000) wrote that Dark dealt with our history of black custodianship and white occupation, about the human need for wilderness, about what it does for the spirit. The country wasn't a passive backdrop to a human landscape; she (Dark) believed that the country had moulded people as well as people moulding, sometimes exploiting, the country. All that time in the bush meant she knew it in her body as well as her mind. We are part of the country, she said, concluding with a quote:

> *"....* this conception of ourselves as eternal antagonists of nature instead of harmoniously co-operating parts of it has made us strangers in our own world. *(Unpublished essay, Conquest of Nature)".*

Eleanor did much of her research in the Mitchell Library, Sydney, but apparently Darks Cave provided opportunities for reflection according to colleague Dr Willam Holland (pers. comm. 2012). Her novels share some worthy intentions - to educate in an entertaining manner and to remind Australians of where they came from. The main theme, of course, is the clash of two very different cultures, each obeying their own tribal law.

In 1999 Dr Holland, a musically inclined younger colleague of Eric Dark in the Volunteer Defence Force, was inspired by the company, by Dark's love of the outdoors, the writings of Eleanor Dark, and by an affinity with Aboriginal people derived from his archaeological cave work with Eugene Stockton (Dunkley 2013b). Composing 'Darks Cave' in three movements entitled 'Nature and the Aborigines', 'Katoomba' and 'The Cave', scored for soprano, bass baritone, piano, choir and orchestra (Figure 14) was followed by 'Walls Cave', for piano and orchestra,

Figure 14. Music written in 1999 to celebrate the memory of Darks Cave (with permission from Dr William Holland, 26 September 2016).

and 'Lyre Bird Dell Cave' for piano quintet (Holland 2016).

Scenes from *Mad Max Beyond Thunderdome*. were filmed in Mermaids Cave, Blackheath with sets inhabited by a tribe of feral kids at the 'crack in the earth' site; only photographs of this exploit remain (Barton n.d).

Spiritual and Religious Connections and Retreats

While Darks, Frank Walfords, Professor Eds, Rookery Nook and several other caves were appropriated from time to time as family seclusion from civilisation, surprisingly few have been used for religious retreats or observance, and only one or two carry any solid association. Known since the earliest days of European settlement and appearing on an 1837 map (Jack 2010, p.2) as Kables Spring, Lourdes Grotto is beside and behind a waterfall on Springwood Creek (Figure 15). In 1952 Catholic Bushwalking Club members placed a statue of Mary in the cave, officially blessed by Mgr. Duane on 27th September 1953. Mass was then said at the site every September until 1983, when the statue was removed to The Oaks as the Club was spending very little time visiting it. An easy, well constructed path leads down to the cave which has since become somewhat overgrown compared with the photograph.

Figure 15. Lourdes Grotto, Springwood (W.G. 1934, p.179; also see Jack 2010 Fig. 3, p.2).

Only a few caves retain tangible religious associations, compared with numerous sandstone caves in Europe and Asia of spiritual significance.

Cave Church below the *Hydro Majestic Hotel* at Medlow Bath hosted Anglican worship between 1894 and 1902 (Isbister et al. 2011, p.16), remaining in use until Mark Foy, a prominent Catholic, bought the site in 1903. Up to 70 adherents attended, although it's difficult to see how they could all have fitted into the available space. In the early 20th century it housed a Chinese market gardener employed by Foy, becoming known as Chinamans or simply Medlow Cave (Fox 2006, pp.75 & 198). Most of the masonry infrastructure remains (Figure 16).

From the writings of bushwalkers, in particular, several caves hold spiritual significance. The Word Cave was supposedly named before World War 1 by the devout Hall brothers for the first few words of Genesis (Cameron 2014, pp.214-216; Fox 2006, p.310). Sites closer to Sydney such as Father Guris Cave at Kentlyn (Campbelltown), and Santi Cave near Bundanoon (near Moss Vale) continue to serve similar purposes, but unlike long settled places few Australian caves evoke that kind of spiritualism.

Photo John Dunkley 2011

Figure 16. Cave Church, beside one of Murdo McLennan's wonderful tracks below the *Hydro Majestic Hotel*, was used for early church services, and later occupied by a Chinese market gardener.

The homeless, destitute or deceased

There are numerous accounts of homeless or destitute people living in caves in Sydney and a number in the Blue Mountains, in addition to several recorded deaths. A death in Chinamans Cave at Lapstone was recorded 1850, while Billy Toms Cave at Kurrajong (Anonymous 2010), and Chinamans Cave (i.e. Cave Church) at Medlow Bath were used for long term habitation in the twentieth century. Widely reported in Sydney newspapers, as recently as May 2011, the National Parks and Wildlife Service and Centrelink identified (from a police helicopter) 40 temporary shelters in Royal National Park, 30 of them inhabited by mostly middle-aged men with drug and alcohol, family and mental health issues (Wilkes 2011). This exercise highlighted the fact that occupation of caves by the homeless or indigent continues long after the 1930s Depression.

Behind Hazelbrook Bowling Club is a large cave believed to have been used by Aborigines on their way across the Blue Mountains, and by travelling 'swaggies"; it became the 'home' for Tom Hicks, alias 'Old Tom' or 'cappie' (Campbell 1989, p.119). However many residents were not so much destitute as mentally ill or, sadly, suicidal. Henry Snedden Grant, a former taxidermist at the Australian Museum, starved to death in a cave at Glenbrook (Anonymous 1944) and several others died in similar places. Patrick Molloy, a swagman aged about 60, was found on 17 March 1892 in Kings Cave, Linden (Anonymous 1892) and had apparently taken his own life. Audrey Mountford lived in an unnamed cave on the Blue Mountains for several years before dying in 1971 and the body and possessions lay undisturbed until a decade later when a bushwalker alerted police, but not until 2009 did a coronial inquest determine whose remains these were (Malkin 2009; Kontominas 2009).

Rockclimbers, Boulderers and Canyoners

Carter et al. (2010, pp.10-16) included a useful potted history of the growth of rock climbing, along with several hundred pages of route descriptions. Rockclimbing in the Blue Mountains appears to have been born in the 1920s around Malaita Point in Katoomba, by intrepid boys from Katoomba High School. There was a climbing accident in the area attended by the local GP who happened to be Dr Eric Dark, who had climbed in the Southern Highlands and southern Queensland before moving to Katoomba. Some of the boys continued to climb with him for some time after the accident and this small band became known as the Blue Mountaineers, notching up first ascents there and in the Warrumbungles. In the 1930s Dark and friends joined a group from the Sydney Bushwalking Club, making further first ascents.

The term 'cave' in rock climbing parlance means a roof (a horizontal or very steep overhang enclosed on two sides, so only a few will meet established criteria for a cave; certainly a number of major climbing sites house seriously impressive sandstone caves including some at Mount York and Blackheath in particular where there are spectacular overhanging cliffs.

The Sydney Rockclimbing Club set standards for the anarchy and disdain for rules for which some modern climbers pride themselves. One of their members started the practice of painting white squares at the base of routes to make them easier to find, analogous to cave tagging but more visually intrusive, though it seems to have decreased in recent years with the advent of detailed illustrated guidebooks such as Carter et al. (2010).

The sport expanded rapidly in the 1960s (Smith 2012b) and now attracts a wide range of enthusiasts, from traditional anarchists and iconoclasts to professional guides. There are several thousand 'routes' known and well documented in the Blue Mountains alone and of these at least 20 are 'caves'. On any good weekend there will be several small groups of climbers in places such as Centennial Glen (Blackheath), and especially around the crags and caves between Leura and Mount York, where scarcely a virgin stretch of cliff remains, with a few on outliers beyond to the Bell Road. Rockclimbers opened and maintained negotiable tracks to previously unknown and/or very inaccessible cave locations, including some reached only by difficult climbing or abseiling. Several sites, especially those with challenging 'roofs' such as WL847 and WL853 below Bardens Lookout at Mount York (Figure 17) and a cliff a short distance before WL763 at Blackheath are especially popular, being festooned with bolts, hangers, tags and an occasional old-fashioned piton, sometimes to excess.

Climbing can impact on the often fragile environment of the mountains: from foot traffic, vegetation trampling and erosion. However certain practices are now largely eschewed: chipping, drilling or gluing holds, and 'tagging' certain sites with painted initials of the kind seen at Little Zig Zag (Mount Victoria), parts of Mount York and on a cliff a small distance

Photo John Dunkley 2011

Figure 17. Bardens climbing site at Mount York.

before Centennial Glen Cave at Blackheath. A few sites have been closed to climbing for safety and environmental reasons: Jamison Valley around Wentworth Falls, areas near Katoomba including the Three Sisters, and Govetts Leap. To minimise foot traffic on Mount York, access pathways to most of the known caves have been sympathetically hardened with support from Blue Mountains City Council, sponsors, volunteer groups and an occasional helicopter.

With much less publicity, canyoning and bouldering flourish throughout the region, especially in the upper Blue Mountains and beyond. Mostly far from tourist centres, often with both difficult entry and exit points, world class spectacular caves (with little or no light) in the splendid deep, narrow and often dark canyons are generally robust because of regular flooding (see, for example Jenkins 2011). Over 80 such canyons are known: as with limestone caves, the National Parks and Wildlife Service cautions against publicity for "new" canyons and/or in wilderness areas to preserve opportunities for discovery and minimal impact. Specialised pursuits with small but enthusiastic adherents still find new canyons in some of the wildest country in Australia, but rely primarily on 'webliographies' and similar social media for exchange of views. As Brennan (2016) related:

> "For most people the word "canyon" evokes images of the Grand Canyon in the USA, a massive open gorge many kilometres wide and hundreds of kilometres long. The slot canyons of the Blue Mountains are quite different. Deep, dark, narrow and twisting, they are places forgotten by time, forsaken by light. Carved by water over many thousands of years, their sandstone walls and waterfalls make them a challenge to visit."

Bouldering is a more pure style of free rock climbing undertaken without a rope, less invasive than most rock climbing, traditionally carried out on 'boulders' rather than high cliff faces and normally limited to very short climbs. Assistants may stand poised beside or below to direct the climber's body toward the crash pad during a fall, while protecting the head from hazards. It is a relatively recent sport in New South Wales although practised for over a century in Europe, its popularity has increased because of the number of small sandstone overhangs with platy protrusions and because of the minimal cost. Numerous climbing and bouldering sites are recorded in the Blue Mountains (although based in Finland, Muittari (2016) and similar enthusiasts appear to be aiming to document all 100,000 crags and boulders

in the world! There are, for example, 14 listed just in Centennial Glen, Blackheath).

Environmental Pressures and Management

Sandstone caves are generally robust: in the Blue Mountains traffic is concentrated on a relatively small number alongside walking tracks or roads, especially between Wentworth Flls and Mount Victoria. The author has inspected well over 100 known or probable Sydney Basin Aboriginal sites including a number containing art work which are of course more sensitive, but they have also generally survived rather well, mostly through education and judicious non-disclosure. Aboriginal occupation itself did hasten deterioration of caves and art sites, and so do present-day visitors, but graffiti is almost absent. Most sites of Aboriginal significance are restricted, with visits to those open to the public confined to viewing platforms outside the cave, such as at Walls Cave at Blackheath. Inexcusable vandalism occurred at a very few sites, notably Red Hands Cave at Glenbrook, but protective measures are now in place. When visiting sites not physically protected, it is better to view and photograph from outside the dripline.

Mining subsidence and landslides recently forced closure of the area around Hassans Walls at Lithgow: the path had greatly deteriorated and the caves more difficult to locate. Adjacent to the area forming the main focus of this work, some sites could be impacted by coal extraction in the Gardens of Stone National Park and by the Moolarben Coal Project in the upper reaches of the Goulburn River. In some mountain areas urban encroachment has exacerbated run off, sedimentation, pollution and infiltration of garden and other chemicals but not to the extent readily apparent in Sydney metropolitan areas.

Conclusion

Visitors to the readily accessible sandstone caves came and went over the millennia. Aboriginal and later walkers, travellers, recreationalists and others built spiritual, emotional and psychological attachments to the sandstone caves, contributing to the proposition that it is culture that determines perceptions of scenery, and the converse. None of the sites is of great significance, and examples discussed evoke an everyday appeal to the senses.

Cultural significance is embodied in such places: the fabric, setting, use, associations, meanings, records, related places and related objects. As historian John Low (2011) concluded of one evocative cave place,

> "Now only the ghosts of memory remained to shape and shift the shadows … ".

The caves witness this intangible cultural and spiritual heritage along with their somewhat lesser scientific significance. They broaden and deepen our understanding of Blue Mountains social history. While minor features, they are worth celebrating and their history recorded, not primarily as natural features, but as places and spaces connecting with human life, enlightenment and endeavour.

Postscript Note

All the caves cited herein are documented in the state-by-state cave and karst database of the Australian Speleological Federation Inc, totalling more than 5,300 sites in New South Wales alone and over 20,000 nationally. General information on the NSW catalogue can be obtained from the state coordinator Mr. P. Dykes [ngalina@activ8.net.au, ph. 02-63355247]. The present work is based on a catalogue constructed by the author, dealing only with features in the Sydney Basin, during which nearly 1,000 sandstone sites were recorded (Dunkley 2013a), 395 of these being in the Blue Mountains region. However only recently has the database held more than a handful of sandstone caves, primarily because (having been constructed on a volunteer basis by speleologists), they received much less attention and documentation than traditional limestone caves. At the time of publication all are being transferred to a new database more accessible to researchers and others. In accordance with established practice of the Australian Speleological Federation Inc, detailed location information is not published. However the outlines below should entice visitors to a variety of readily accessible sites.

Cave Information

Organised **geographically westwards**, and except for Lourdes Grotto and Cave Church, all the following are on public land and readily accessible. Some appear on street directories and GPS assistance may be required.

Red Hands Cave (WL84) is one of the few Aboriginal sites to which tourist visits are encouraged and it is readily accessible from the Glenbrook entrance to the Blue Mountains National Park.

Lourdes Grotto (WL594) is on the property of St. Columbas College, Springwood, and requires access permission. The walk is easy, but the cave no longer carries the religious infrastructure and atmosphere.

Kings Cave (WL61), Burke Road, Linden. From Sydney turn left, cross back over the highway down

Burke Road. Not signposted but well known, a short walking track leads down to the cave which was almost certainly an Aboriginal camping cave with northerly aspect and permanent water supply from a shallow spring. It suffered some vandalism and extensive modification for nearly two centuries. Historical items nearby include Donohue's Grave, Caleys Repulse and Bulls Cave.

Bulls Cave Campsite (WL62) on the northern side of the highway at Woodford began as a convict stockade in 1835. To the left of the picnic ground a small sandstone cell was probably of convict origin, used for storing tools and (by legend) for punishment and known as The Dungeon. During the 1850s a Military Police Post was based there to protect travellers and gold shipments. Railway gangers occupied the camp during the 1860s construction period, again in the 1890s, and in the 1930s it was a transitory home for 'swaggies' heading across the Blue Mountains. Store Cave (WL63) across the highway next to Hepburn Road, Linden (beside remnants of the old road), is sometimes referred to as Powder Cell Cave as it may have stored gunpowder. It bears numerous pick marks, similar to such facilities on the convict roads to the north and south of Sydney in the 1830s.

Horseshoe Falls, Hazelbrook (WL612). Turn right from the highway along Oaklands Road. At the bottom of a hill, just before turning left, a walking track leads off to the right for about 1 km. Shaped like a horseshoe with a waterfall over the front, the cave is dank from spray but particularly photogenic after rain. An occupation site was radiocarbon dated by Eugene Stockton to 7280±230 years ago. Glow worms are sometimes to be seen.

Little Switzerland Cave (WL60). Drive to south end of Little Switzerland Drive, Wentworth Falls and then walk to Lincoln Rock for a spectacular view. The cave is immediately below the rock, with parts of a stone wall remaining.

Butterbox Point (Hemi-Spherical) Cave (WL650) overlooks a hanging swamp above Butterbox Canyon (also known as Mount Hay Canyon) near Mount Hay (access is restricted to preserve the swamp but the cave is close to the track), and is probably the one used by Marie Byles and Marjorie Shaw in the 1930s. From the corner of Britain Road, Leura, turn onto Mount Hay Road which progressively becomes a dusty 2WD track. From the car park, walk about 2.5 km to the cave, on the left and unposted. Beyond this a fair track continues to great views into the Grose River.

Minnies Grotto (WL644) is near the head of the first gully east of the Solitary Café (90 Cliff Drive, Leura). At the U-bend on the road descend a short stairway to Prince Henry Walkway, turning left on a level track for 400 m. Facing southwest, its walls are covered with moss and ferns and a seat has been installed, echoing the small scale infrastructure supplied by local trustees and Councillors before the area was incorporated into the National Park.

Hundred Man Cave (WL697) is a remote overhang 100 m long, east of Mount Cloudmaker, hard of access but well known to bushwalkers, hence the name. Even larger is Thousand Man Cave (WL698).

Cave Church (Chinamans Cave) (WL722) An easy, wide and well graded walk leads from behind the *Hydro Majestic Hotel* at Medlow Bath past the remains of the cave in the side of a cliff with a cement floor, masonry wall and shelving. From 1894 to 1902 it was used for Church of England services before a permanent structure was built nearby, with as many as 70 attending (there must have been quite an overflow of numbers!). Later it became the home of a Chinese gardener who supplied fresh food for the hotel. Compare this with another almost identical cave (WL721) which shows what the Cave Church cavity might have looked like before development.

Marks Tomb Cave (WL727) From the end of Belgravia Street, Medlow Bath, a short steep descent leads to the Wonderland Track. Turn right for about 400 m of easy level walking to an old sign pointing to "Marks Tomb". A less well defined downhill side track leads to the cave. The cave resembles a mausoleum but is well lit from three small entrances and is attractive to photograph.

Mermaids Cave (WL776) Marked on many street directories and GoogleEarth. From Blackheath drive south alongside the western side of the railway line, and turn right down Shipley Road. At the Crossroads, turn sharp left into Megalong Road and park on the inside of the first sharp U-bend. Cross the road to a path leading to the cave which features an attractive waterfall.

Walls Cave (WL51) and Underground River (WL55). Once a popular tourist spot then closed for many years, this wonderful site was improved by National Parks and restored with a good timber walking track. Follow Evans Lookout Road and turn right into Walls Cave Road, then walk the 800 m path down to Greaves Creek. Cross the little bridge, from which an underground river tunnel section passes through an unusual short entrenched meander to the right. The shortcut was caused by mass movement blocking the stream, causing it to pass underground. Continue downstream to the next curve of the creek, from which an access platform overlooks the cave. The cave is an aboriginal site - please do not cross the fence.

Bushrangers (Cunimbla) Cave (WL53). From Innes and Kanimbla Valley Roads, Mount Victoria, descend the Little Zigzag to its 7th turning, then scramble to the left for 60m. Long abandoned, the walk illustrates the difficulty and expense of providing access to Kanimbla Valley. Probably the longest cave in the area, it may have been formed by a process of mass movement.

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Heritage

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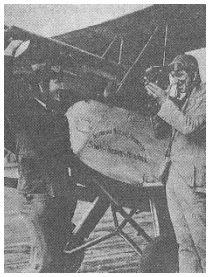
Southern Cloud – lost, found and remembered

Australia's worst civil aviation disaster (of the time) and greatest air mystery occurred on 21 March 1931. The aircraft was an Avro 618 Ten (licensed built as a Fokker F-VII), one of five, three engine aircraft flying daily services between Australian cities for Australian National Airways (ANA). ANA had been founded by aviation pioneers Charles Kingsford Smith and Charles Ulm.

Southern Cloud



Travis Shortridge (right)

Southern Cloud and friends

The aircraft carried the pilot Travis Shortridge, the co-pilot Charlie Dunnell, and six passengers: accountant Bill O'Reilly, first timer Clara Stockes, theatre producer Charles Clyde Hood, businessman Hubert Farrell, engineer Julian Margules and holiday maker Elsie Glasgow. Travis Shortridge and Charlie Dunnell were WWI veterans.

The plane disappeared without a trace on a routine flight between Sydney & Melbourne and a large search failed to find the whereabouts of the aircraft or the occupants.

The plane had left Sydney in the morning. However, during the day the forecast changed from "windy and rainy" to cyclonic conditions over the Australian Alps. The plane had no radio so the information could not be relayed.

Unfortunately, ANA lost another aircraft that same year in Malaya, and the airline closed down.

An exhaustive search by the Civil Aviation Branch of the Department of Defence, private pilots, RAAF personnel, Kingsford Smith and Ulm, other ANA pilots, and ground parties, failed to find the remains.

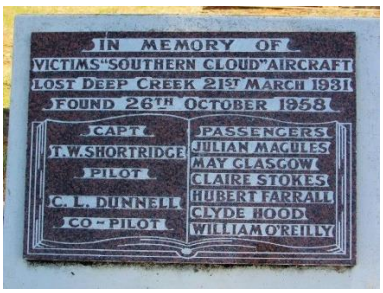
An official inquiry was held and could not determine the cause of the disaster, apart from the weather conditions. However, one of the recommendations of the inquiry was that radios and qualified operators be made compulsory in regular passenger services, and weather forecasting improved. Thus, the Southern Cloud helped create safer air travel for all Australians, but at a huge cost.

Matthew Higgins at crash site

Crash remains

Lions Club Plaque, Cooma

Twenty seven years later the crash site was found by Tom Sonter, a carpenter on the Snowy Mountains Hydro-Electric Scheme. He had been born only 9 months after the crash and had never heard of it. He was climbing on a mountain top at the north east end of the Toolong Range in October 1958, when he came upon a mound of earth which was a different colour to the surrounding landscape. He found shapeless twisted and bent pieces of metal. It was the plane. He took some pieces with him and a few days later led police and civil aviation experts to the site. They scraped away the earth and found the brass plate which read "Avrotype XDWG NO P1131".
Various theories arose as to what had occurred in 1931. The weather and the plane speed (from observations by residents along the route) were analyzed, as well as fuel carried, right down to the time on the broken watch of one of the passengers.



Cooma Cemetery

On December 11 1960 a burial service was held for the occupants of the aircraft in a common grave in Cooma's cemetery. Today little is left of the plane, the site has been cleared and tourists can climb to the site to see the few tangled remains. It is on a heavily wooded steep hillside, which is burnt out by bushfires from time to time, extremely rugged and named "World's End".

Cooma Memorial

Tumbarumba Memorial

In 1962 a memorial was erected in Cooma to the crash victims and all pioneers of aviation. Concrete wings provide the roof to a memorial alcove which encloses the memorial and the recovered engine parts and other historic relics. Another memorial was erected at Tumbarumba.
In 2006 another relic was presented to the Museum of Australia, a clock from the aircraft's instrument panel from the crash site in 1958. Matthew Higgins from the Museum was pleased to add the item to the Museum's collection of air-related objects. *Patsy Moppett*

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Food for thought ..... Editor's note

Memories – we all have them, and we preserve them (or don't) in many different ways. Whether it is memory of a building, a place, or personal memories of people the recording of the past means different things to different people.
Trauma will trigger grief, but this mellows into precious recollection. The horror of the aftermath of the New Zealand earth quakes in 2010 for example, presented the loss of not just human life, but also the loss of buildings linked to the country's heritage, crumbled to the ground. WWI and WWII laid waste whole towns and cities, stunning cathedrals and local community edifices alike. Disasters of all kinds may result in the loss of similar tangible evidence of our history.
We cannot rebuild history, or bring the people back, but we can undertake the rebuilding, and the construction of memorials and plaques, the writing of publications, the posting of precious words on social media, and so on. Some people will simply treasure their memories in their hearts.
Some of the articles in this issue of *Heritage* present ways in which the relevant community set about preserving their recollections.
The loss of the Southern Cloud (page 1) in southern NSW in 1931 was devastating for both the families of those lost and for the airline company. The drama was made worse by the fact that the plane was not found. Imagine the relief years later in 1958 when the wreckage was found, and the families were able to lay their loved ones to rest and also to construction of memorials to ensure that they were never lost again.
Feel for Mrs Atkinson (page 4) when her husband James was taken from her at only 39 years of age, with 4 young children to care for. She chose to deny the community the consent to erect a public memorial in his memory. She had to deal with it in her own way.

The community was left to deal with it through heart felt obituaries and articles which acclaimed his popularity and achievements. He was not forgotten.
The Charles Hoskins Memorial Church in Lithgow (page 8) is an awe-inspiring memorial to a lost son. Several stained-glass windows in the church commemorate the lives of two daughters also lost, as well as the man himself. Hoskins commissioned the church but did not live to see it completed. His wife then sought to use the work as a memorial to her family.
The resilience of communities who, following a natural disaster or any other grave occurrence, completely rebuild a town or a city, or set about turning their lives in a different direction, is a tribute to their solidarity and determination, their resilience and their passion, such that the memory of that fateful day will not weigh them down.
Not everyone can deal with the situation with success, but the representations we present in *Heritage* seek to show how the wider community has attempted to conserve and preserve the memory of their history and heritage, their forebears and ancestors, the message being how often simple human nature drags us back to reality and moves us on.

Atkinson - a talented pioneering family

James Atkinson was born in 1795 at his father's farm "Oldbury" in West Kent near Mereworth and Ightham.
James' parents came from Yorkshire and had a well-run farm which influenced James later in life. At 16 he worked at the naval dockyard at Deptford, where he stayed for 9 years, meeting two other merchants. The three decided to emigrate to Australia. The merchants, Alexander Berry and Edward Wollstencroft, left first in early 1819 and James followed later in the year in the ship "Saracen". He arrived in May 1820 and obtained a job as Principal Clerk at the Colonials Secretary's Office. He explored the colony before applying for a land grant of 324 acres near Sutton Forest which he called "Oldbury", and an additional grant of 283 acres which he called "Mereworth", 140km south of Sydney.

Early "Oldbury"

"Oldbury"

He moved to "Oldbury" in 1822 and increased his grant to 809 hectares, commencing his farming career. His brother John arrived in 1823 and took over the "Mereworth" name, and obtained his own grant of 809 hectares, running horses and cattle. The Mereworth house had a long history, with John converting it into the Kentish Arms in 1836. It later became a dwelling again in 1867 when the southern railway caused it to cease trading. It was demolished in 1918 to make way for the Great Southern Road (the Hume Highway).
In 1825 James Atkinson sailed to England, where he published a book, "*An Account of the State of Agriculture and Grazing in New South Wales"*, to provide prospective settlers with practical information.
James, aged 33, married Charlotte Waring in 1827 at St Paul's at Cobbitty. Charlotte had come to the colony in 1826 to serve as a governess to the family of Hannibal Hawkins Macarthur. After her marriage to James, they settled at "Oldbury". They had four children, Caroline Louisa, Emily Jane, Charlotte Elizabeth and James John. The well educated Charlotte was the author of Australia's earliest known children's book, *"A Mother's Offering*

to her Children: By a Lady, Long Resident in New South Wales", In 1841. The book was published by George Evans (former surveyor), come book seller and stationer.
Charlotte also created a book of illustrations with pen, ink and watercolour drawings as a gift to her daughter Emily Jane on her 13th birthday in 1843, reflecting her study with John Glover back in England. The book demonstrates her interest as a naturalist, her English background and also her feeling for Aboriginal people at "Oldbury".
James interested himself in the development of the district and was also on the local bench of magistrates. He was involved in the Agricultural and Horticultural Society, and held annual ploughing matches on his property. He published other books, encouraged farmers to operate their own stills, and erected the first windmill in the district in 1827. In 1830 he introduced the first water mill. The first residential lot in Berrima was surveyed for James Atkinson. He had input into the location of road routes through the area, and to the location of Bong Bong village.

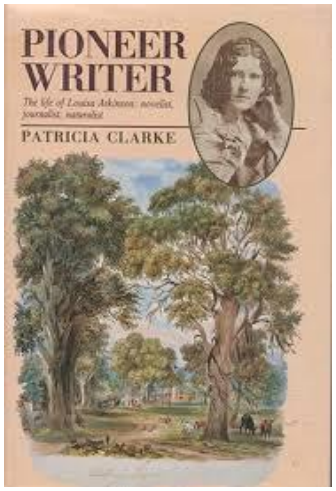
"Oldbury"

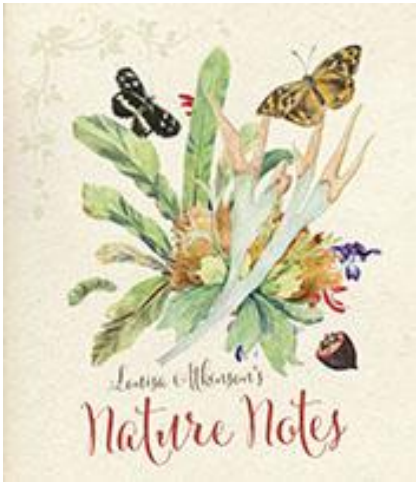
James Atkinson Esq., JP, died in 1834 soon after the birth of their fourth child, Caroline Louisa, at his estate at Sutton Forest, aged 39, after a painful and lingering illness. His obituary described him as a "*gentleman of great energy and considerable talent, and his frugality and economy on his farm …….. operated as a most useful example …….. in this Colony".*

Grave of James Atkinson

All Saints Church & graveyard, Sutton Forest

The community sought to erect a public monument. It was reported that he was a character, *"in every way estimable, highly talented, and patriotic individual".* A proposal was put to Mrs Atkinson, and money was raised, but the lady declined the offer, although was very grateful. The money was returned to the various subscribers.
James was buried in the All Saints Anglican cemetery at Sutton Forest. The "Oldbury" homestead still stands today, a testimony to this remarkable pioneer settler.
After James' death, Charlotte married "Oldbury" 's overseer, George Barton in 1836. However, he had a history of alcoholism and violence, became insane, and was convicted of manslaughter in Bathurst in 1854. Charlotte separated from him and moved to Budgong, and then to Sydney in 1839, taking on the guardianship of her children in court in 1841, and subsequently their education. In her book "*A Mother's Offering…."*, Charlotte used her own personal experiences and those of her children.
Charlotte lived at the house built by her, "Fernhurst" (now gone) with her daughter Louisa, at Kurrajong Heights, and then later returned to "Oldbury", where she died in 1867.
Their son James Atkinson, may also have been a farming pioneer, possibly at Moira Station in southern NSW, being the overseer of the station for 17 years.
Their daughter Charlotte lived to a ripe old age at Orange. Their daughter Emily Jane died at 24.

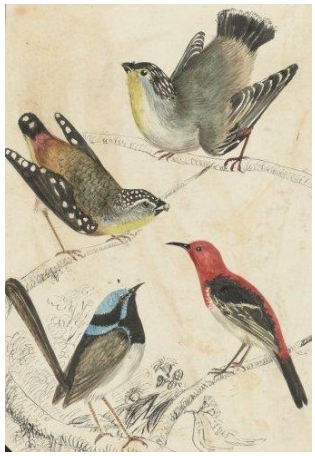




Louisa Atkinson

Caroline Louisa Waring Atkinson was born in 1834 at "Oldbury" not long before her father's death, to parents of considerable literary talents, as can be seen above.
Frail as a child with a heart defect, and under the influence of her mother, she developed a strong interest in geology, botany and zoology.
She herself became a novelist and journalist with a lifelong interest in the natural environment. Her first illustrated notes were published when she was 19, and she became the first woman in Australia to have a long running series of articles published in a major newspaper, in *The Illustrated News,* and had a regular column in the *Sydney Morning Herald* for over 10 years.
She lived briefly in Sydney and the Illawarra, and then at Kurrajong, where she collected botanic samples, which were sent to Rev Dr William Woolls and Baron Ferdinand von Mueller for identification. This resulted in her name being applied to a number of new species, including *Atkinsonia ligustrina*. In her articles, she often called for protection of the environment.
She was the first Australian-born woman to write and publish a book in 1857, *Gertrude, the immigrant: a tale of colonial life.* She developed a skill in taxidermy, and was also influential in dress reform, when she felt that a rambling naturalist might have difficulty with the long dresses of the day, and she expressed this feeling in her articles on practical fashion!
She was well known for her fiction writing, as a writer, illustrator, novelist and her botanical work, which included her sympathetic references to Australian Aborigines. She was

significant in the part played by women in natural science and journalism, giving a female perspective on colonial Australia in its urban growth and rural development.
Louisa was an advocate for fund raising which sought to investigate the ill-fated Leichardt expedition to inland Australia.
Louisa returned with her mother to "Oldbury" in 1869, where she married James Snowden Calvert, a survivor of the Leichardt expedition, who was also interested in botany. He was the manager of Cavan Station, near Yass. She died of heart disease at Swanton near Sutton Forest in 1872 soon after giving birth to a daughter, Louise Snowden Annie. She was buried in the family vault at All Saints Anglican cemetery, at Sutton Forest. Young Louisa grew up to marry a Mr Cosh.



An elderly Louisa

Louisa Atkinson's friend Rev Woolls composed a poem for his dedicatory sermon:

> *"Yes, still she lives! Her lasting fame*
> *Shall dwell in ATKINSONIA'S name*
> *And long as Tomah loves to wear*
> *Its leafy garlands – she is there".*

Her obituary described her as "*this excellent lady, who has been cut down like a flower in the midst of her days, highly distinguished for her literary and artistic attainments as well as for the Christian principles and expansive charity which made her career".*
In 1979 The Kurrajong Heights Garden Club produced a tribute booklet on Lousia's life and work, to commemorate the occasion of the unveiling of a plaque in Powell Park at Kurrajong Heights.
"The Club thought it fitting that the memory of a woman of her calibre should not fall into complete oblivion …….. The present inscription would place on record the fact that today's residents of the place where she spent so much fruitful time are not unmindful of her work".

Patsy Moppett

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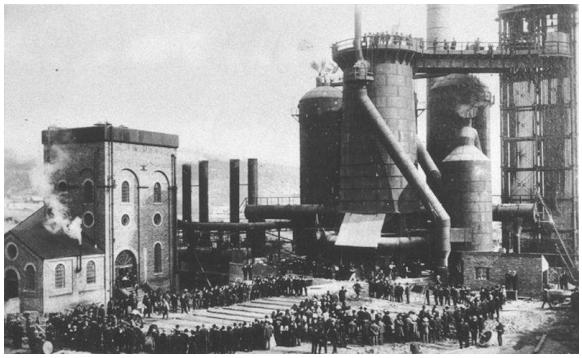
Louisa Atkinson of the Kurrajong, A Tribute, The Kurrajong Heights Garden Club (JM Smail) 1979

Hoskins Memorial Presbyterian Church – a tragic legacy

Charles Hoskins was a wealthy industrialist in Lithgow, having been the first man to establish successfully the iron and steel industry in Australia.

Coming to Australia from London in 1853 with his parents John and Wilmot Eliza Hoskins, the family first settled in Melbourne. After his father's death, young Charles and his family moved to Ballarat. In 1876 he joined his brother George in Sydney in a small successful engineering workshop.

In 1881 Charles married Emily Wallis. He helped to found the NSW Chamber of Manufacture in 1885, and became president of the Chamber in 1895. He was not a fan of trade unions, and he believed in freedom of contract and opposed a minimum wage. He was a leader in the Iron Trades Employers' Association of NSW, and prominent in the Employers' Federation of NSW in 1903.



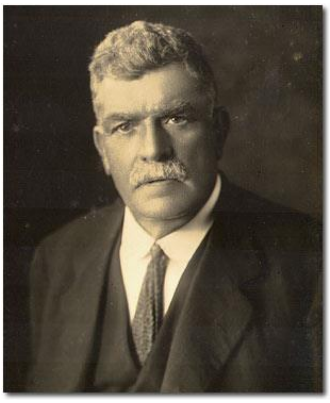
Blast furnace 1907

Blast furnace ruin 2015

G & C Hoskins P/L took over the Sandford ironworks in Lithgow in 1907, acquiring the blast furnace, iron and steel works, colliery, and leaseholds at Cadia and Carcoar.

In 1908 Charles moved his family to Lithgow, while George remained in Sydney. He then set about upgrading, despite it being in a difficult location for manufacture and marketing. He was an impatient employer and his efforts to enforce a contract day-labour system of wages resulted in a series of strikes, the major one being for 9 months in 1912.

The company flourished during WWI, and in 1919 he bought out his brother George, and the name of the company was changed to Hoskins Iron and Steel Co. Ltd. BHP slowly took over the industry in the early 1920s and Charles retired as manager in 1924.



Charles Hoskins

Police guard during strike in 1911 – Photo by H Mellor

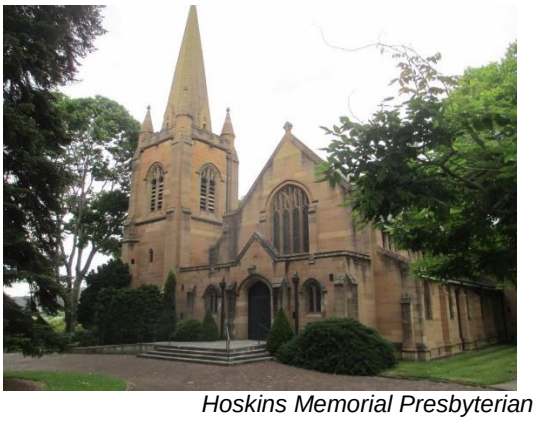
His life seemed to be fraught with challenges, and this did not exclude his private life. In 1912 he had moved to Cadia Park, at Lawson, where he established a beautiful garden and a private zoo, with an intention to provide an improved climate for the health of his ailing grownup daughter Nellie, who subsequently died of tuberculosis in 1914. (See *Heritage* Newsletter March-April 2015 - Bullaburra). Another daughter Hilda, had died in 1912 in a level crossing accident at Eskroy.

In 1916 his eldest son, Guildford, died while repairing a generator, after an acetylene gas explosion at the Eskroy Park works, at the age of 29. As a consequence, Charles donated land and paid for, a parish hall and the Hoskins Memorial Presbyterian Church, on the corner of Bridge and Mort Streets in Lithgow, as a memorial to his son. Work began on the site in 1919, and the hall was completed in 1924, but the church was not completed until 1928, two years after Charles' death. Charles himself died in 1926, survived by his wife, two sons Cecil and Sidney, and three daughters.

Under construction 1928

Lithgow churches

However, even Emily did not live to see the opening, as she died five days before the opening ceremony. The ceremony was then conducted by Guildford's widow, Jeanie.
The architect of the church was John Barr, and the supervising contractor was J Halliwell. The stonemasons were from Loveridge and Hudson, the gardens were laid out by Searle Brothers, and the building was opened in 1928, maintained by a family trust. The original church foundations had been laid for a building which could hold 1,000 people. Due to cost the project was changed so the church would seat 450 people. The foundations for the larger church lie beneath the current Sorensen gardens.
In 1938 the gardens were relaid by Paul Sorensen of Leura, under the guidance of Guildford's brother Cecil. A brick manse was built in 1977, about when the congregation elected to join the Uniting Church.



Hoskins Memorial Presbyterian Church and gardens 2016

The organ in the church is of particular note. It was built by WL Roberts of Adelaide in 1928, enlarged in 1935 by Hill, Norman and Beard (Aust) P/L, who rebuilt it in 1949. A further rebuild took place in 1961, and further work occurred again in 1972 and 1984. The result was that a Choir organ and the Great organ exist together in the church.
The windows in the church are dedicated to the sad family loses – to Hilda and Nellie, to Guildford and to Charles. Another window is dedicated to Cecil Hoskins' infant sons Charles and Eric, who also died in tragic circumstances. *Patsy Moppett*

References:
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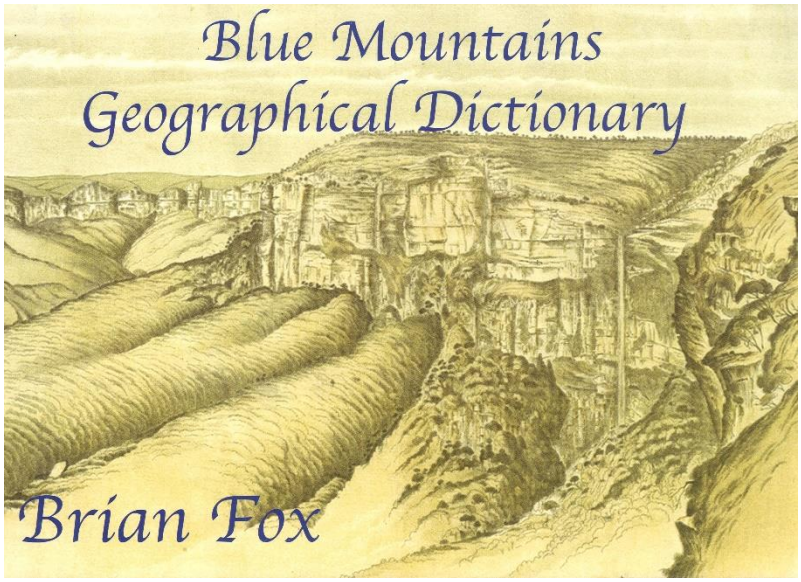
Hoskins Memorial Presbyterian Church, Dept of Environment and Heritage 1998
www.lithgow.com/historyavenue
www.ohta.org.au/organs

Browntown, Mount Victoria

In 2006 the *Blue Mountains Geographical Dictionary* was published by Brian Fox. The book is a marvelous description of hundreds of place names within the Blue Mountains, detailing the location, origin and background to each name's meaning. This includes Browntown, the locality at Mount Victoria as documented in the BMACHO Newsletter of April-May 2016. Brian now has found more information with regard to the site, which will be set down in a revision of the publication. Brian offers the following comments:

"In the Heritage Newsletter of the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc. March / April 2016. Issue 43, p. 8, Patsy Moppett the editor posed the question and statement below:
What's in a Name – Browntown – which Mr Brown?
Browntown is located just south east of Mount Victoria on the Great Western Highway. Today all that can be seen is the Browntown Oval, which accommodates sporting events such as football, cricket and archery. There is a clubhouse and amenities on the site, along with another of the George Evans' "Footsteps in Time" obelisks, establishing that the site was on the route of the original western crossing alignment. Evans surveyed this location on 31 December 1813.



It is over 10 years since the last (3rd edition) of the Blue Mountains Geographical Dictionary was published. It quickly sold out. Over subsequent years I have continued to receive requests asking whether there are any copies available for purchase. I have also been asked for more information regarding particular names.
A further revision has been on hold due to an extended and ongoing collaboration with Michael Keats as we researched and produced, "The Passes of Narrow Neck", "The Upper Grose Valley - Bushwalkers Business" and the eight book series "The Gardens of Stone National Park and beyond." I have also authored numerous articles for the Blue Mountains History Journal. During the period, I also released my book "Isaac Barrow, Blue Mountains Map Maker," which has also sold out.
Now along with co-authors, Michael Keats OAM and my brother John Fox who has lived at Blaxland for the last 40 years, 28 of them as a Maths teacher at Blaxland High School, work

has commenced on producing a revised and expanded 4th edition of the Blue Mountains Geographical Dictionary.
In an endeavour to ensure as many names as possible are included and the information about them is accurate I am requesting you, the reader for assistance. Should you have an earlier edition of the dictionary and have noted errors or omissions then please let me know so these can be corrected or added. If you have seen a name in any publication or new signage that you think should be brought to my attention, again please let me know. Please do not assume that I would have that information. A quick phone call, an email, or a letter and you can be part of this massive project.
Back to the name Browntown and the editor's query. Browntown is just one of more than 2,400 place name entries in the Dictionary.

Browntown Oval, Mt Victoria

Browntown was a locality name in the vicinity of Browntown Oval, Mount Victoria. Located 1.1km south east of Mount Victoria Railway Station. The name originates from the extended Brown family who lived in this area. Ellen Brown purchased 40 acres in the locality c1837. It is known that several other family members lived here including her son, William Henry (c1838-1912) and his wife Margaret (c1833-1923) along with their children, William Clement Brown (1862-1936), James and George.
The old locality name lives on with the name Browntown Oval, a recreation area between the Great Western Highway and Main Western Line (railway). This reserve was Gazetted on the 21st April 1880. The first trustees appointed were Charles William Pratt, George William Biles and John George Cousins. At present Browntown Oval is administered by the Blue Mountains City Council and zoned as Public Recreation and has an area of 2.88ha".

BMACHO will advise further when the new updated book is due for issue, and any updated information may be conveyed directly to Brian, or to BMACHO.

Note: Madga Cawthorne, in her recently released book Hidden Histories of the Blue Mountains, suggests that Browntown was named for an old farm known to have been in the area as far back as the 1860s.

Email: brianandelaine@aapt.net.au
Email: brian@bushexplorers.com.au

References:
Mount York Historical Society, Map of Mount Victoria, 1968.
The Katoomba Daily 2nd January 1937, p. 4.
Sydney Morning Herald 10th December 1923, p. 9.
Mount Wilson Topo Map, 461 792.
Hidden Histories of the Blue Mountains, Magda Cawthorne 2016

The Technical Side

The Tinsmith (fairy tapper)

As is suggested, this tradesman makes and repairs tinware, both industrial and domestic objects and containers, from sheets of steel coated with tin (tinplate). A tinker travelled the countryside repairing household utensils such as buckets, pots and pans.
Sometimes referred to as a whitesmith, he may work with tin, pewter, or other materials. Unlike blacksmiths (who work mostly with hot metal), tinsmiths do the majority of their work on cold metal (although they might use a hearth to heat and help shape their raw materials). The term is also applied to metalworkers who do only finishing work – such as filing or polishing – on iron and other "black" metals.

The tinsmith's workshop

Tin goods

Tin smithing emerged after the Industrial Revolution in the 18th Century due to the ready availability of affordable sheet metal. It is now considered a rare trade because, like many trades, the items made are produced by machines, and often now made of plastic. It is an occupation that transforms things from the two dimension to three, giving form to the flat. The techniques of the trade were learnt through an apprenticeship with a master craftsman. Tinplate is hammered, bent, rolled, pulled and twisted into shape. Curving metal into domes was called plenishing. Cut metal was put through a roller to break the grain, and shapes are cut out, hammered and joined. The term "fairy tapper" is used sometimes, as the hammering is more like a small gentle tapping.
Items made included lanterns, scone cutters, candle lamps, pie plates, serviette rings, bowls, cutlery and containers. Larger items might include a hip bath or a phonograph sound trumpet.

An 18th Century workshop

Civil War soldier's mess kit

Pure tin is an expensive and soft metal and it is not practical to use it alone. However it can be alloyed with lead and copper to make pewter or alloyed with copper alone to produce bronze. Today's tinplate is mild steel electroplated with tin.
Tin wares were being produced in London by the 1630s, being known as Crooked Lane Wares (from the street where they were made). The *Worshipful Company of Tin Plate*

Workers were incorporated as a separate London Livery Company in 1670. However, tinplate workers were widespread.
Tools of the trade include:

- Bick iron – the anvil used to shape sharp curves.
- Jenny – a crimping tool to crease the metal.
- Firepot and soldering irons.
- Bossing stump & mallet – hollowed out tree stump to allow shaping the metal into a bowl or dome shape, by gentle tapping with the mallet.
- Stick – made of wood and used to flatten or turn metal.
- Punches and stamps – used to impress shape or cut metal.
- Tinsnips – straight or curves snips to cut metal sheet.
- Square faced cross peen hammer – used for shaping through light tapping. A variety of other hammers are also used.

The tinsmith has been plying his trade in America since 1720. Colonial tinsmiths used tinplate, wire, solder, and a few simple tools to produce their wares. When tinplate was finally produced in America in the early 19th century the products of the tinsmith became more widely available. They in turn saw an increase in demand and a need to speed up production. This brought about the development of many ingenious hand powered machines which sped up production and helped the tinsmith meet the demands for his products. The goods were "brought to market" by peddlers. *Patsy Moppett*

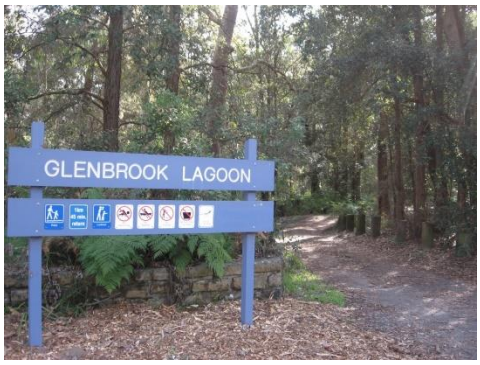
References:
Rare Trades – National Museum of Australia
Rare Trades, Mark Thompson 2002
Wikipedia

Community events & updates

Glenbrook Walks 2017 - be tempted!

Take a look at the walks planned by the Glenbrook & District Historical Society for 2017! Always something to be seen in this part of the mountains and beyond, and with this variety, there must be something for you.

- March 11: Glenbrook Lagoon Precinct - the first water supply for the 1867 railway.



Glenbrook Lagoon

Berghoffer's Pass

- March 25: Walks along the three Mt York tracks – Cox's, Lawsons, and Berghofer's.
- April 8: The Duckhole, Glenbrook Creek: original roadway built for access to the pump site for the railway water supply.
- May 6: Bull's Creek Dam – railway water supply – stone dam, pump site, pipeline relics.
- June 10: The Mountains Murders – Captain Lee Waller's murder site, first grave, rock inscriptions.
- July 8: Zig Zag A – eastern Zig Zag 1867 – Knapsack viaduct, Gatehouse No. 1.

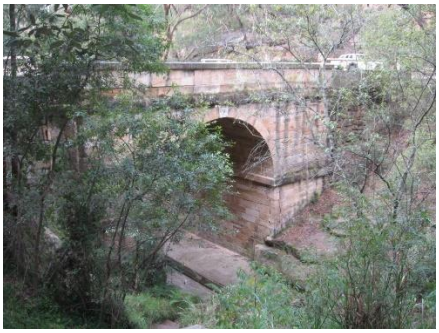
- July 15: Zig Zag B – eastern Zig Zag – 1867 railway line, Lapstone Hill Tunnel, east portal only.

Tunnel portal

Knapsack Viaduct

- July 29: Lapstone Construction (temporary) Railway 1910-1913 – the route and eastern portal.
- August 26: Faulconbridge Steam Sawmill and incline railway.
- September 9: Lennox Bridge, Brookside Creek old quarry, Dunn's Mill relics, earth dam.

Lennox Bridge1830



Lennox Bridge 2010

- October 7: Glenbrook Discovery – various sites.

Bookings essential via Doug Knowles Ph: 02 4751 3275.

BMACHO Arts NSW 2016 Cultural Grant Award

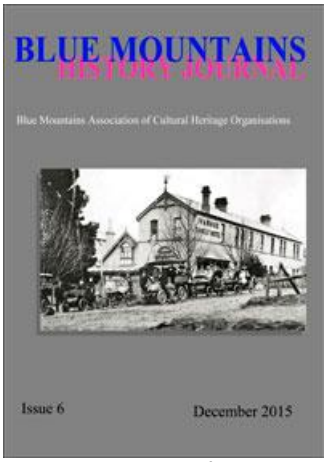
The Cultural Grants Program is an Arts NSW funding program administered by the Royal Australian Historical Society (RAHS) on behalf of the NSW Government. This Cultural Grants program assists historical research and publication of local, community and regional history projects. Arts NSW funding priorities can be found on its website, together with a list of grants awarded each year

Projects should be relevant to understanding the history of NSW and its people and places. Grants of up to $5000 support the work of historical research and publication undertaken by local historical societies and similar bodies across New South Wales. The projects should generally be able to be completed within 12 months. Applications may be made for more than one project.

Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations (BMACHO) was successful in obtaining an Arts NSW 2016 Award.

Trish Doyle, MP Blue Mountains, was pleased to see NSW government funding being awarded to a Blue Mountains organization. BMACHO has received the grant to facilitate publication of its *Blue Mountains History Journal Issue 7.* *Patsy Moppett*

Trish Doyle, MP, & Jan Koperberg



Issue 6 December 2015

Note: For earlier issues of *Blue Mountains History Journals* see www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au

Windsor Bridge Update

A recent update from Roads and Maritime Services explains the background to the Windsor Bridge replacement project. It is planning to replace the existing 140 year old bridge with a new bridge (three lanes wide – two southbound and one northbound), some 35m downstream, across the Hawkesbury River.

This will require new approach roads and intersections, and incorporate landscaping. The existing bridge would then be removed, with the project expected to take 2 years to complete.

Artist's impression, looking north

This apparently provides an opportunity to unify the green space in Thompson's Square, by connecting the new bridge to Old Bridge Street, reducing the roads in the Square from three to two, and improving the connection of the Square to the river foreshore.

The RMS suggests the works are required to improve safety, improve traffic flow and efficiency, reduce the road footprint, unify the open space in Thompson's Square, increase flood immunity and give better pedestrian/cyclist access.

The traffic increase modelling was considered for the time period 2016 to 2026.

Archaeologists are involved in a detailed testing program required.

In early 2017 the RMS will invite community feedback on the proposed Urban Design and Landscaping Plan for the project. *Roads & Maritime Services*

For further information visit Roads and Maritime's website www.rms.nsw.gov.au/windsorbridge
Phone: 1800 712 909
Email: Windsor_bridge@rms.nsw.gov.au
Post: Windsor Bridge Project, PO Box 973, Parramatta NSW 2124

Greater Sydney Commission – District Plans

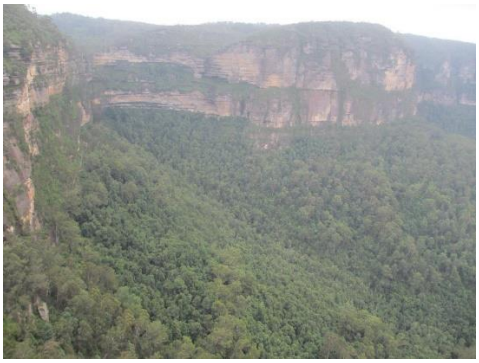
The Greater Sydney Commission (GSC) was established in 2016 to undertake the bigger picture planning for Greater Sydney, under the District Commissioner, Sean O'Toole. Six draft District Plans have been developed by the GSC to undertake the bigger picture planning for Greater Sydney. Each Plan sets out the GSC's 20-year vision for each District. Planning currently occurs at State and local level. The NSW Government develops overarching plans that consider the growing population, employment and transport. Local government develops local environmental plans to identify how land can be used, including housing, business and recreation areas. The GSC seeks to bridge this gap with district level planning that connects local planning with the longer term metropolitan planning for Greater Sydney.

The District Plans cover Greater Sydney as follows:

- Central – City of Sydney, Burwood and Canada Bay, Randwick, Waverly, Woollahra.
- South – Kogarah, Broken Bay.
- North – North Sydney, Macquarie Park, Brooklyn.
- West Central – Blacktown, Paramatta.
- South West – Camden, Picton, Bargo, Liverpool, Western Sydney Airport.
- West – Blue Mountains, Hawkesbury, Penrith.

Of relevance to BMACHO readers, the GSC recognizes the West District's *"unique and rich tapestry of urban, rural and natural environments, combined with access to jobs, quality health care, education, recreation, cultural and natural experiences, creates a great quality of life for its communities"*. It also acknowledges Aboriginal heritage and the associated cultural significance.

Katoomba



Blackheath

The West District Plan would look at this area with a view to the natural landscape, major infrastructure investments, the Greater Penrith region, tourism potential, and the relationship of the area with the Western Sydney Airport.

The Plan sets out priorities and actions that will shape the District's future and guide policy decisions. These include:

- Protecting the district's natural landscape.
- Making it a connected place.
- Planning for a 21st Century aerotropolis.
- Creating a hub for international tourism.
- Providing access to jobs, goods and services.
- Creating a diversity of jobs for the next generation.
- Enhancing Greater Penrith as Sydney's western gateway.
- Encouraging a diversity in housing.
- Acknowledging culture and heritage underpin the sense of place and identity.

The draft District Plans move on from the current 2014 20-year plan, *A Plan for Growing Sydney*, and contribute to *Towards our Greater Sydney 2056*, a strategy for a metropolis of

three cities (Western City, Central City and Eastern City), which is productive, livable and sustainable.

Patsy Moppett

The full draft District Plans can be viewed at www.greater.sydney and inquiries made to:
Email: engagement@gsc.nsw.gov.au
Ph: 1800 617 681
Post: Greater Sydney Commission, Draft West District Plan, PO Box 257, Parramatta NSW 2124

National Trust Blue Mountains Award Winners

Scott Pollock, Manager of Everglades Historic House and Gardens in Leura, recently received a Meritorious Service Award at the National Trust of Australia (NSW) Annual General Meeting, on Saturday 25 November 2016. The award was presented to Scott by Clive Lucas, President of the National Trust of Australia (NSW). Scott is also a valued BMACHO committee member and the BMACHO webmaster.

Clive Lucas & scott Pollock

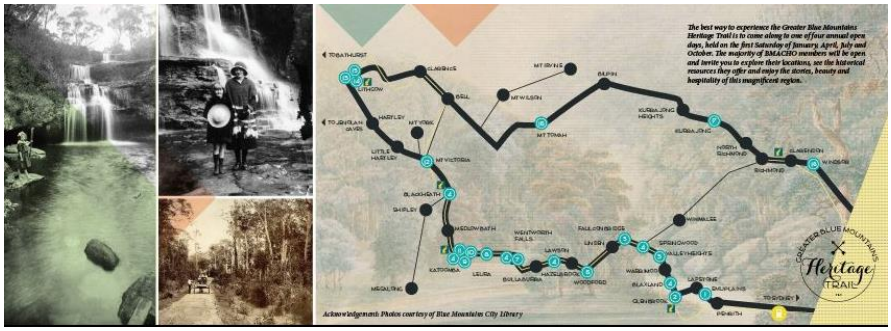
Award winners

Scott was the only staff member receiving an awards. Other Award recipients were volunteers from Everglades, and also included Jenny Szemenyei from Woodford Academy and John Dikeman from the Blue Mountains Branch of the National Trust.

Reference:
Rhona Leach, Blue Mountains Branch National Trust (NSW)

Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail Update!

Westpac
Australia's First Bank



The Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail is no longer holding the common Open Days, and BMACHO continues to promote the Heritage Trail and members' upcoming events. BMACHO intend to reprint the Heritage Trail brochure early next year and have asked members if they wish to participate. For a reasonable cost, members can appear in the

reprint of the brochure, feature on the Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail website and have their events promoted on the website and Facebook page.
In 2017 BMACHO are organising a competition to encourage visitation to Trail participant properties. For this purpose, BMACHO are asking members to think of an artefact or item at their premises that can only be found by visiting. BMACHO will then list approximately 25 questions on a "Passport and Entry Form", which will be an insert to the brochure, and visitors can either answer the questions or obtain a stamp showing they have been to a venue. BMACHO will hold a prize draw approximately every six months. BMACHO already have offers of prizes for the competition.
Most organisations will be closed from now till the end of January, so BMACHO are asking if you have not already responded in regard to participation in the reprint by 17 February 2017, please do so as soon as possible. BMACHO would like to have the new brochure printed in March.

If you are a member and you would like to participate, or if you would like to become a member, please email the BMACHO Secretary at committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au

For general information about BMACHO and the Trail, see www.heritagedrive.com.au or www.facebook.com/GBMHeritageTrail

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

Registered office: 1/19 Stypandra Place, Springwood 2777. (02) 4751 5834
Email: committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au or j.koperberg@bigpond.com
Website: www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au **ABN**: 53 994 839 952

The organisation: Blue Mountains Association of Cultural & Heritage Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 after local historical and heritage societies and individuals recognised the need for the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the local government area (LGA) of Blue Mountains City Council. The constituency now embraces but is not limited to, the LGAs of Blue Mountains, Lithgow, Hawkesbury, Penrith and Mudgee. BMACHO membership includes historical and heritage groups, museums, commercial enterprises with an historical or heritage component in its core business, local government (local studies units, library collections) and a limited number of individual members by invitation such as but not necessarily academics. The objectives of the organisation are:

1. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage
2. To encourage and assist cultural heritage
3. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations.

One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

Affiliations: BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society and is affiliated with the Better Planning Network.

Publications: BMACHO's official newsletter ***Heritage*** is edited by Patsy Moppett. The annual refereed *Blue Mountains History Journal* is edited by Dr Peter Rickwood and occasional papers are published from time to time.

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The following are individual members: Fiona Burn, Ray Christison, Wayne Hanley, Associate Professor Ian Jack, Joan Kent, Ian Milliss, Patsy Moppett and Dr Peter Rickwood.

Committee: The management committee for 2016-2017 (from April 2016) is: Patsy Moppett (President and ***Heritage*** Newsletter Editor), Ian Jack (Vice President), Jan Koperberg (Secretary), Philip Hammon (Treasurer), Scott Pollock and Wendy Hawkes (web site), Dick Morony (Public Officer/Membership Secretary/ Calendar Editor), Suzanne Smith and Laura Stinson (Events and Venue Co-ordinators) & Roy Bennett.
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Heritage

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Gabriel Louis Marie Huon de Kerilleau

Gabriel Louis Marie Huon de Kerilleau was a member of the French nobility, born in Brittany, France in 1769, the youngest son of Squire Jean Francois Huon of Uxilleau (Kerilleau), at St-Pol-de-Leon. At age 20 he became a Royalist refugee from the French Revolution of 1789. He found himself in England in 1791-92 and enlisted in the NSW Corps under the name of M. Louis. In 1799 he served in Captain Abbott's company.

From 1800 he was under lieutenant John Macarthur on the *Surprize*, arriving in the colony in June 1794, with a desire to explore the new Great South Land. Macarthur's son James, and probably other Macarthur children, were apparently educated by a French refugee (M Louis) until about 1809. It appears Huon had a school at the Elizabeth Farm estate at Parramatta in 1807. His identity as M Louis was taken on to protect himself as a refugee. In a memorial to Governor Macquarie in 1810, he stated that his discharge from the army in 1807 had been ordered by the Duke of York, at the insistence of the Bishop of St Paul de Leon.

In 1807 M. Louis received a grant of land from the Governor of the colony, 100 acres near the Georges River, being some of the original land grants in that area, and several other small farms, and registered under his family name of Huon de Kerilleau. He also received 400 acres at Narellan, called *Buckingham*. He was held in high regard by most of the early governors and regularly visited Government House.

Gabriel Huon

Louisa Huon

Elizabeth Mitchell (Huon)

He was married to Louisa Le Sage in 1801, by the Rev Samuel Marsden at St John's Parramatta, under permission from Governor King. Later they married in a Roman Catholic nuptial mass in 1807.

Louisa de Sage was a French convict, born at Bretagne, France in 1772. She had been working as a maid at the home of James Brocke, where she only spoke French. Brocke lived

near Buckingham gate, interesting when we know that Huon called his Narellan property, *Buckingham*. Louise, who could not speak English at the time, was tried at the Old Bailey in 1794 for stealing a silver watch, a metal watch key, a black mode clock, a dimity petticoat, and two cotton shawls. The jury was comprised of half-English, half-foreign members, who found her guilty, and she was sentenced to 7 years' transportation. She arrived in Sydney in April 1776 aboard the *Indispensible*.

Soon after Louise's arrival in the colony she was living with Gabriel Huon, and it is possible they came from the same part of France, Saint Pol de Leon, so may have known each other before. She may have been assigned to him, as she was eventually granted her freedom by servitude.

Gabriel and Louise had five children, four sons, Louis, Paul, Aime and Charles, and a daughter, Elizabeth. They dropped the de Kerilleau from their name and were known simply as Huon. The daughter later married their neighbour, William Mitchell.

During the term of office of Governor Brisbane in 1823, Huon and Mitchell moved to new country near Bungonia, where they raised sheep. Huon's property was 3,000 acres, named *Corrun-daroo*, and Mitchell's was *Brisbane Meadow*. In 1825 Huon then purchased another 1,000 acres at nearby Corrundaroo, which he named "Carne" or "Karn". The 1820's house still stood on the property as late as the 1980's.

Images of house and outbuilding at "Carne"

However, tragedy struck the Huon family. At age 59, Huon headed out for Sydney on foot on business and to visit his son's property at Campbelltown, on a Sunday in December 1828, following the Shoalhaven gullies to the coast, with a book in hand, as was his custom. Local stockmen record seeing him moving along a track through that hugely mountainous country. He was later seen and spoken to, and twice put on the right road. He was never seen again. The community set out in search of him, led by Captain William Mitchell, but the only traces found were his gold spectacles, broken, and on a tree the words "*Going east".*

Scenes of the spectacular and rugged countryside where Gabriel disappeared

Bungonia Gorge

Shoalhaven River

Jerrara Creek

No stone can mark his last resting place. However, located on *Brisbane Meadow* is a headstone erected to the memory of son-in-law William Mitchell (died 1837), and Huon's wife Louisa Emmanuel Huon (Le Sage). Louisa died in 1842 aged 70.
Papa Huon's connection with the French Royal Family was not known until after his death, although his preferential treatment under his first land grant suggests that the Governor at the time was aware. Evidence was found amongst his papers after his strange disappearance.
His grandmother the Countess of Lesquern had left him an annuity of £200 and he sought to claim it. He maintained contacts with his family through letters and received a letter from the French monarchy after its restoration about reclaiming the family estates. These letters were uncovered after his death.
The Huon and Mitchell families maintained their family ties, and their descendants are numerous. Their history is also the history of the pastoral industry in the Riverina and more widely across south eastern NSW. *Patsy Moppett*

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Food for thought ..... Editor's note

The subject of unauthorized demolition of a heritage building has arisen again, this time in Victoria.
BMACHO reported in *Newsletter* March-April 2015, details of the demolition of a 100-year-old homestead at Woodstock, near Cowra, NSW. Constructed in the 1900s, the Shiel Homestead was built in a late Victorian design before being renovated in the 1920s to a late Federation-style.The maximum penalty for the offence committed is $1.1 million. The landowner was ordered to pay $175,000.

Shiel, Woodstock, NSW

Kelly house, Beveridge, VIC

The latest incident involves the demolition of a significant hotel in Carlton, Victoria. Further detail in regard to this is set down in this Newsletter, immediately following this Editorial. Once again, it raises the question of penalties, and deterrents for these abhorrent actions. There are precedents set where a developer has been required to rebuild a demolished premises. This includes the 1860 house built for Ned Kelly's family in rural Beveridge, Victoria, where the building had become so dilapidated that it could not be restored as it was. However, consent was sought and the rebuild carried out under supervision.
It is the unauthorized demolition which creates the angst.
A 90-year-old factory in Richmond, Melbourne was demolished in 2011 and the developer was fined and ordered to rebuild using the original bricks. The building had been the former Wertheim Piano Factory, which had operated in Bendigo Street from 1908 to 1935.

Wertheim Factory plate, Richmond VIC

Row of heritage shop fronts at Annandale, NSW

In 2015 a company was prosecuted and fined for the unauthorized demolition of a row of heritage shop fronts on Parramatta Road, Annandale NSW. Although a redevelopment had been approved, it required retention of the front façade. The builder was fined $50,000, the

developer was fined $150,000, and the developer's company $50,000. This sentence was to operate as a deterrent to prevent similar crimes in the future.
Extreme anguish is now felt for the demolition of the former Carlton Inn (more recently the Corkman Irish Pub), in Carlton, Melbourne. Coincidentally the Carlton Tavern in Kilburn, London UK, was also demolished in recent years. In this instance, the developer was ordered to rebuild.
In some instances, the community and/or the council has been able to purchase properties to prevent demolition, but this is not always an option in the open market.
It should be noted however, how many times in history we have seen a building, following eg. a fire, being rebuilt on the same site with the same use. Therefore, the alternative of a penalty to rebuild does remain an option.
However, the heritage laws in Victoria, and indeed across Australia, as they stand, do not prevent the developer then requesting demolition of the second building, as heritage significance can be shown to be drastically reduced. The developer in the Corkman case has provided a letter to the Victorian Planning Minister saying the hotel will be rebuilt. The letter admits that they were clearly at fault, and they have alleged a range of justifications for their actions.
The Melbourne City Council is at this stage reluctant to demand such rebuilding recourse in this case, but in late October the Victorian government launched Victorian Civil and Administration Tribunal action against the landowners, to compel the developer to rebuild, seeking an enforceable order.
Although the Victorian Minister said that the new laws would send the message to developers that rogue developers could not knock down buildings without permission or consequences, he also suggests that the laws would serve to preserve public confidence in the planning system.
But will they? The laws do not actually prevent demolition from happening. Unauthorised demolition will still occur, with developers weighing up the costs of demolition/penalties/redevelopment and determining whether risks are worth taking. It has been said that through demolition in the Corkman case, the developer has doubled the value of the site, literally overnight. Penalties are only useful after the fact, and the monetary penalties handed out by the courts never seem to reflect the gravity of the loss. Once a premises is bulldozed, it is gone, and the heritage significance and community (social) value completely removed. No amount of penalties or replica rebuilding or interpretive signage will replace this.
One matter in particular which constrains authorities is that the mechanisms for protection provided by local planning laws and the Heritage Act 1977, are generally limited to the conservation of fabric, and not necessarily retaining the historic use, where it is at all possible.
Definitely, food for thought……..!

Corkman Irish Pub (former Carlton Inn)

On the corner of Leicester Street and Pelham Street in Carlton Victoria, there used to be a two storey brick and bluestone hotel with rendered facades, in a simple Georgian style. Built in about 1856-7 it was one of the oldest buildings in the Carlton area.
In 1853 the corner block was purchased by R Hepburn, who subsequently subdivided the land into a number of allotments, with the corner allotment being 70ft x 70ft. Over the next couple of years an inn was built and in 1856 the licensee was George Edmonds. Originally known as the Carlton Inn, it was soon transferred to John Cozens. In 1863 it was taken over by the Noble family, who kept the premises for about 25 years, starting with Mrs Noble, and then to William Noble from 1923 to 1936, and then the Estate of WK Noble in 1954.
The site is across the roundabout, opposite Melbourne University's law building and Australia's oldest law school, and the University Square Gardens. The building was a striking yet simply styled building, which had had rear additions in 1933, designed by Thomas Watts & Sons, built by G G Edwards. In 1936 a new two storey section was added along the

eastern boundary, designed by JA Trencher and built by HJ Johnston. In 1954 Architect HJ Little designed further alterations, being amenities, storage and replacement of former outbuildings, building work being carried out by RJ Johnston.

Carlton Inn, 1950s

The City of Melbourne Heritage Inventory described the building as:

"……historically significant as one of the earliest extant buildings in this part of Carlton, which has undergone substantial change since the time of its initial phase of construction in 1857. The Carlton Inn is of aesthetic significance as a good example of the Victorian period. The façade is relatively plain and generally indicative of the early to mid-Victorian period, though the parapet may date to the later Victorian period. The façade has a stucco finish but the original corner section may be partly stone".

A recent heritage assessment had found it was one of the earliest remaining buildings in the precinct.

Corkman Irish Pub in recent years

The building was owned for a short time from 1973 by lawyer Sam Holt, son of the late Prime Minister, Harold Holt.
Mr Alf King then bought the premises in 1987, retaining ownership until he then sold the building for $4.76 million to Messrs Kutesovski and Shaqiri, with the previous lease due to expire. The new owners took possession and a week later a suspicious fire broke out on 8 August 2016.
Imagine the consternation felt by residents on the night of Saturday 15 October 2016, when destruction of the historic hotel was commenced by a demolition company. Local residents rang Melbourne City Council on the Saturday night complaining about demolition noise from the hotel site. Inspectors arrived on the site but the work had already begun. A stop work

order was issued by a Council officer, however the next day the contractors returned and completed the demolition.

The aftermath 15-16 October 2016

No demolition, building or planning permits had been issued by the Council, other than an application for a road closure. The road closure was clearly to cater for the demolition or at least some sort of work on the site, and hoardings had been erected along the footpath. Surely this evidence would lead one to believe the site was set for some type of activity, but it was not recognized by authorities as such at the time.

The building was listed in the Council's planning instrument, but not on the State Register. The heritage overlay applies to all fabric whether visible or not from the public realm. It does allow for the demolition of damaged parts of a building, on the proviso that they be rebuilt in sympathetic fashion, but they argue strongly against gutting a building and keeping the exterior only, and it does require that developers "*respect the rich fabric of the area*".

The demolition debris included asbestos material, and some was later found at nearby Cairnlea, on another property owned by the developer. The developer had proposed to redevelop the Leicster Street site with apartments and had also been linked to other unauthorized demolitions elsewhere in the city.

The response was immediate, from all forms of the media, politicians and the Melbourne Lord Mayor, the National Trust, the Victorian EPA, student groups and community groups such as the Melbourne Heritage Action Group. One of the University law students points out that the building was not just bricks and mortar. It was a gathering place for the student community and the wider community.

Victoria's Planning Minister Richard Wynne advised that the developers would be brought before the planning tribunal to force them to replace the illegally demolished 159-year-old hotel, with another heritage-style building.

The developer is currently negotiating through a solicitor with State government agencies and the Victorian Building Authority over penalties. Fines may go to $750,000 for planning breaches, and the asbestos and building waste dumping. The company has now been deregistered.

Law students at Melbourne University have launched a petition demanding the building be rebuilt.

Planning laws were set to be introduced in Victoria which would prevent the developer redeveloping the site with nothing other than a two-storey building of similar size and style. The new planning laws may enable the Council to utilize the site as a park temporarily if need be.

Patsy Moppett

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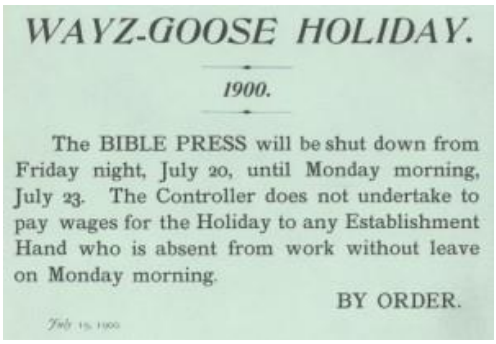
What's in a name - wayzgoose

A wayzgoose (waysgoose) was at one time an entertainment given by a master printer to his workmen each year on or about St Bartholomew's Day (24 August), St Bartholomew being the patron saint of bookbinders (amongst other things). It marked the traditional end of the English/European summer and the start of the season of printers working by candlelight. Later, the word came to refer to an annual outing, when the master would close the workshop and hold a feast for the staff of a printing works or the printers on a newspaper. It became an annual picnic day for printers.

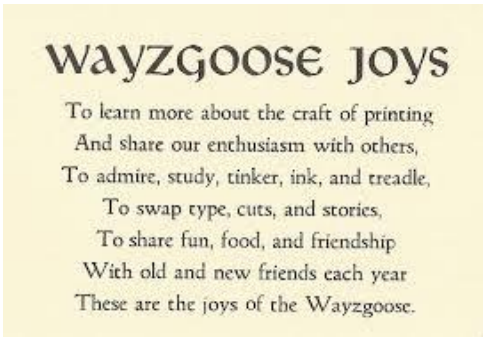


WAYZ-GOOSE HOLIDAY.

1900.

The BIBLE PRESS will be shut down from Friday night, July 20, until Monday morning, July 23. The Controller does not undertake to pay wages for the Holiday to any Establishment Hand who is absent from work without leave on Monday morning.

BY ORDER.



WAYZGOOSE JOYS

To learn more about the craft of printing
And share our enthusiasm with others,
To admire, study, tinker, ink, and treadle,
To swap type, cuts, and stories,
To share fun, food, and friendship
With old and new friends each year
These are the joys of the Wayzgoose.

The Oxford Dictionary relates that in 1919, in the first issue of the staff magazine *The Clarendonian*, a potted history is given, as follows:
"Prior to the year 1851 the Wayzgoose was an afternoon affair at some local inn…followed by a supper, which, if the accounts given by our seniors are to be trusted, did not invariably end in harmony."
Further, the Great Exhibition of 1851 and the opening up of the railways led to the wayzgoose becoming more of a holiday than a day trip. An extract given from a local newspaper for the 1854 wayzgoose states

Wayzgoose feast

"On Saturday, July 15, the men and boys employed on the Bible Side of the University Press enjoyed their annual holiday. The former, through the liberality of their employers and by an arrangement with the Great Western and the South Western Railway Companies, were enabled to spend a day or two on the sea-shore, arriving at Portsmouth about noon on Saturday and returning on the Monday evening following."
The building in which the Wayzgooze Café is located in the Mall, Leura, dates back to 1902-3 when it was constructed by the Milgate family, who kept it in the family for some three

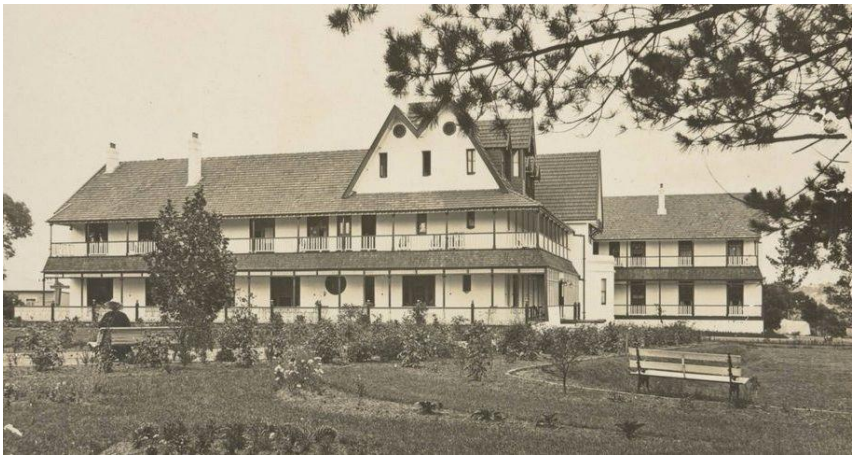
generations, leasing it out for over 40 years. The Milgates were dominant figures during the twentieth century in the development of Leura.
The establishment of Leura came with the subdivision of land owned by Benjamin Backhouse in 1881 under the **Leura Estate, Katoomba**. In December 1881 George Withers and Co were advertising allotments with *"commanding grand and extensive views of the most picturesque scenery in NSW"*. The allotments as surveyed by R L Murray, Sydney, stretched from the east-west railway line and Railway Parade, south to Craigend Road, east to Gladstone Road, and west to about Murray Street, offered in Crown Grant titles, at very liberal terms!
Later, the **Leura Estate, near Katomba**, was being offered for sale in 1893, by William Eyre, Patrick Mullany and Samuel Milgate, being advertised as Milgate's Subdivision. Around this time, advertisements stated that the blocks were being purchased by *"most respectable citizens"*, and that buildings to be erected would be *"largely advanced in value*"! This Estate stretched from Craigend Street, south to Malvern Road, east to about Holmes Street, and west to about Murray Street again.
The Milgate's bought several properties along what became the Mall, including the 170-174 property, during the 1890s.

S S Milgate

Samuel and Jessie Milgate

Thomas and Mary (Ranger) Milgate arrived in Sydney in 1840 with their 9 children, all under 14. Thomas established a corn and hay business in Newtown and by the 1870s had four produce stores managed by his sons, at Newtown, Camperdown, Parramatta and Campbelltown. He died in 1874 and his sons continued the business. The Camperdown store was managed by Spencer Samuel Milgate, senior.
Spencer was born in Rye, Sussex, England in 1835. Spencer had married Jessie Hamilton in 1855 and had planned to live at Campbelltown with their 7 children and his widowed mother, Mary. They did buy Eshcol Park and lived there for a while. However, tragedy struck and his mother died in 1877, and a year later two of his daughters died of diphtheria, followed by a third daughter in 1879. In 1878 Spencer turned his attention to real estate development at Leura. Spencer Samuel and Jessie Milgate became highly influential in shaping the early development of Leura.
The Milgates invested in land around Leura Mall. They acquired a number of properties including 170-174 The Mall, as well as the Methodist (Uniting) Church site in Grose Street. Spencer Samuel Milgate Snr's son, Spencer Samuel Milgate Jnr, was born in 1863, and was also involved in the development of Leura from the 1890's.
In 1903 Spencer Samuel Milgate Jnr announced he was about to construct two new shops next to Mr Jones' store. In 1903 he also offered to build a hall and furnish it suitably for school purposes. In 1904 he had built a hall near the railway station, being the owner and builder. However, he was not the perfect citizen as the Council found fault in 1909 when he had removed several trees from The Mall. He was reprimanded and the Council agreed to write to him that if he replaced the trees they would be happy!
Milgate acquired the church site for the Methodist congregation and the church opened on Good Friday in 1909.
Jessie Milgate had built a house in Grose Street called Adelia (later called Weeroona) in 1911, which was later demolished. It sat behind what is now Laurelea.

The Milgates were associated with 170-174 The Mall for three generations as well as the Leura Hotel. Milgate Snr and friends sought to erect a large coffee palace as early as in 1890, which eventuated as the Coffee Palace (now The Ritz).



The Ritz

Following a move to Sydney in the winter of 1911, Milgate Snr died in late October at Ashfield, aged 77. Milgate Jnr died in 1932 at Granville.

The building at 170-174 The Mall is one of the earliest remaining shop buildings in the Mall commercial area, there being only one other from the period. The format and use of the building over time appears to vary in interpretation. However, it was originally a shop and residence, with each having separate ground floor frontages. It is a simple traditional timber frame and weatherboard clad building, with a corrugated iron roof. Although there are a number of fireplaces remaining within the building, there is only one remaining chimney on the south side of the gable roof. At some point the front of the residence became a shop front.

The building was constructed by Spencer Samuel Milgate Jnr in 1902, and leased out in 1903 to a Mrs AG Clarke, who lived there and ran a store for a year or so. From 1908-11 the building was used as a branch of the Tabrett's shoe shop.

Before 1940, the building had been referred to as two shops, and in 1943 Emma Milgate, wife of Milgate Jnr, sold the property to Leura Olsen, her married daughter. At this time the building also had several outbuildings, including stables and storage sheds.

One tenancy was held by Peter Giles Hart, who operated his printing works from the building, the Federation Printing Works. Hart was born in 1863 and came from a printing works background, having worked in both Sydney and Melbourne. He established his business around the time of Federation, and purchased the "The Mountaineer" publication in the Katoomba in 1895 from Robert Moss, a publication which circulated throughout the blue Mountains and Hartley.

In 1904 he sold that paper to his brother-in-law John Knight, and moved to Rylstone, where he ran the local newspaper, combining the then "The Rylstone Star" with the "Rylstone Express". He was known for having "*a very neat journal, strong in advertising matter and its advocacy of local requirements".*

In 1907-08 he returned to the mountains, to Leura, where he moved his Federal Printing Works into the building at 170-174 Leura Mall. His wife Rosanna Knight, was also an entrepreneur, and was a guesthouse proprietor at the time, at "Hurlstone", also in the Mall. He may have added the side skillion extension during his time there. He was not necessarily in the newspaper business by then, but carried out a variety of other printing activities, flyers, cards and advertising etc

Hart died in 1946 aged 83, and was remembered as having published the first newspaper in Katoomba over 50 years previously. He was the proprietor of the Federal Printing Works (FPW) until just before his death, and was held in high regard by many Blue Mountains

residents, where he was widely known. He was survived by his wife Rosanna, four sons and a daughter.

Rylstone School of Arts, 1905, Hart back row, far right

FPW Leura advertisement 1924

In 1947 the premises was acquired by the Bank of NSW, and then one shop was tenanted to butcher, Cecil Stewart, in 1955. A further rear skillion was then added in the 1950s, possibly as coolroom and storage for Stewart.
The building survived the 1957 bushfires and was then purchased by Blue Mountains City Council in 1970 for a car parking area, but the shops have continued to be leased to various tenants over the years. The FPW remained in the building until 1980.
The Council was advertising for tenants in 1982, stating that the building was the "Federal Printing Works" building, and suggesting that the building "…..*would be suitable for use as restaurant or an art gallery……for suitable restoration and repair works to the exterior of the building….. consistent with the requirements of the National Trust"*. Central Leura is classified by the National Trust.
Today there are two shop fronts, with one recessed entry doorway, a second entry to the former residence area, and a third doorway to the former FPW premises and the Wayzgoose Café. The smaller shop premises is unlet at present. The internal floor plan is generally intact, and the former residential use can still be evidenced.

Street view

Front façade

Rear garden

Wayzgoose Cafe commenced trading in 2003, to create a link to the past and in acknowledgment of the building's printing past, hence the name. The café proprietors explain that it is their way of a sign of respect for the many people who worked in the humble building for nearly 80 years. They explain that the wayzgoose feast has remained exclusive to the printing industry, acknowledged in printing trade apprenticeships and in literary departments of universities.
The external gabled façade is typical of the original Mall streetscape, and together with several other original or near original buildings, demonstrates the historical character of the precinct. The building retains its own singular personality, but is also a part of the wider heritage significance of the Mall.

Patsy Moppett

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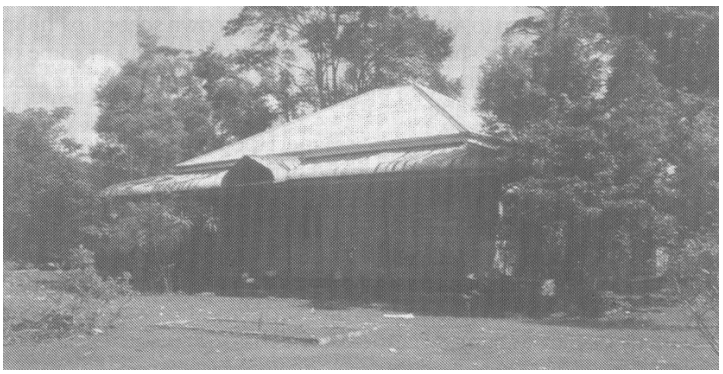
Advice and assistance in editing from Associate Professor Ian Jack

William Simpson's cottage

A year ago, BMACHO's *Newsletter* No. 43 presented an article on "Hartfields", a former school and now a residence, along the Hawkesbury Road at Hawkesbury Heights. Further along the same stretch of road is an intriguing stone ruin in a bushland setting, which invites the inquiring mind to ask what the history of the site is.
The substantial remains are of a house, and are quite visible from the road. They are located on private property, and were part of the history of the eastern end of Hawkesbury Road in the late Victorian era.

Simpson's Cottage 2016

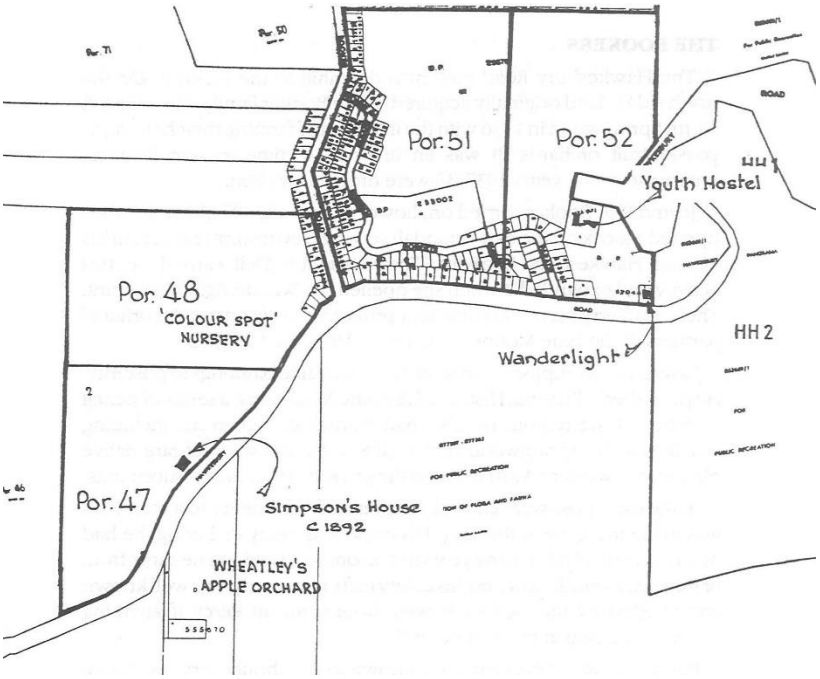
Although it is partially obscured by vegetation growing in and around it, the ruin comprises substantial sandstone walls, with window openings on the front façade, and a chimney at the rear. Some garden remains are evident, but the immediate curtilage is well maintained and simply mown. To the rear of the building and about 50m to the west, a stone chimney can be seen, the remnants of the former coach house and stables on the site, which served the house.
Old photos of the building show a hipped roof, but no gables, a front and side bullnose verandah with a bullnose gable, and a rear skillion roofed wing. The window and door frames that remain are charred, evidence of a fire in the premises. A top light is evident above the front door, which was flanked by French doors and shutters. The windows were paired casements with top lights.



Before the fire 1990

Chimney in rear yard

Between the house and the stables is evidence of an outbuilding, and the garden remnants around the site include a jacaranda, front path and garden edges, sandstone posts of the front fence, bushes and trees, and a tennis court site.



Location plan

Ruins about 2004

The house was built on Portion 47 by William H Simpson in about 1809-92. Simpson was a saddlery merchant from Glebe, hence the rear stables and coach house. He used the premises as a retreat, retaining his main residence at Waverley, but became involved in

local affairs. He joined the Springwood Progress Association in 1893, and in 1895 represented Christ Church at the Anglican Synod. He was a trustee for the Hawkesbury Lookout from 1895 for several years.
In later years the house was owned by Athol Hunt.
In 1994 a burning tree landed on the cottage during a bushfire, and caused extensive structural damage, together with the actual bushfire damage. It may be that the building can be restored, with a new roof, stabilization of the walls and renewed joinery, but a new dwelling has now been erected to the rear of the ruin site, allowing more seclusion and privacy, and the ruin has been recognized and maintained as a significant feature in the grounds by the current owner. *Patsy Moppett*

References:
Stone Residence, NSW Environment & Heritage 2004
Hawkesbury Road and the development of North Springwood, Lindsay Paish 1998

The wild gardens of Miss Gladys Carey

My childhood at North Sydney took place in post-War Australia of the 1950s. Thankfully I still have many fond memories of not only the district but also the people I met there. One such person was Miss Gladys Carey.
When I first met Miss Carey she was in her mid to late seventies. She lived with her older sister Hilda in the same street as me and I can still clearly remember her. Her pale, tissue paper skin was creased by a life of care and usefulness. A kindly sparkle in her eyes shone from under a mop of white hair.
The Second World War resulted in a shortage of labour in many local communities. People living in North Sydney were asked by their local council to look after the appearance of their street. Miss Carey acted upon this request, keeping not only the footpath in front of her home tidy, but other neighbours' home fronts as well.
Close to Miss Carey's house is a walkway. It leads to Milson Park, which fronts Careening Cove on Sydney Harbour. Most of this walkway is a steep staircase which passes by an area of land that had been left to run wild. Over the next twenty years Miss Carey changed this over grown space into a small, attractive park.

Gladys at work

Gladys Carey Reserve

Hilda & Gladys

I remember her always in a long dress when working in the park. Bad weather never stopped her gardening and she toiled away on the most miserable of days. All the plants she grew came from cuttings from her own garden, her neighbours and discarded plants. The stones that form the rockeries were all manoeuvred into place by her.
During my early childhood, fresh bread was delivered daily to our homes by horse and cart. At my mother's suggestion, I would shovel up the horse manure that was left after the baker's delivery. I would then walk the short distance to Miss Carey's park and leave the contents there. She was a very friendly lady and always thankful for the manure.
Early in 1967 the local council recognised her selfless efforts by naming the park *The Miss Gladys Carey Reserve*, and 2017 marks the fiftieth anniversary of this gesture.
Gladys Carey was born in London, England in 1881. Her family sailed to Australia as unassisted passengers on the steamship *Sorata* in 1882, arriving in Sydney on 20 January1883. She was one and a half years old.

Educated in Bowral, Miss Carey trained as a kindergarten teacher. Around 1917 she and her mother moved to the Blue Mountains. Her teaching career was unfortunately cut short so that she could care full time for her mother. They lived at *Arlington*, Walgett Street, Katoomba until her mother's death in 1937. By then Gladys Carey had been looking after her mother for nearly twenty years.

When reading local papers of the day, I was surprised and excited to discover that her little park at North Sydney was not her first 'wild garden'. While living at Katoomba, she created a garden on a steep, neighbouring embankment. In 1936 her efforts caught the attention of the local council. The mayoral minute of Alderman Soper was quoted as follows in the ***Katoomba Daily***:

'It is with pleasure that I have to report that Miss Carey, of Walgett Street, has exhibited a particularly fine civic spirit in constructing a rockery and gardens at the end of Walgett Street, where it leads to the lower road level. The work has been well done and is a credit to Miss Carey's industry and enthusiasm. I recommend that a letter be addressed to Miss Carey conveying this Council's sincere thanks and appreciation for the improvements effected by her in beautifying this area.'

On 24 September of the following year, a month after her mother's death, another reference to the garden, under the heading *A Labour of Love*, again appeared in the **Katoomba Daily**. It was contributed by an appreciative resident and reads as follows:

'As I was taking a quiet walk along Walgett Street, Katoomba, the other day, I came upon an embankment of various plants of shrubs of every conceivable name, from the pretty little Forget-Me-Not upwards, interspersed with wild ferns from the bush, and divided by walks between the numerous bordered ironstone beds. I was told on making enquiries that the landscape gardener of this magnificent piece of beauty was a lady living on the brow of the hill by the name of' Miss Carey. It is a veritable feast for the eyesight to gaze on an embankment turned into a beauty spot by an indefatigable effort on the part of a lady in her spare time, for which she is deserving of the highest praise by the residents and visitors alike of the Blue Mountains.'

After her mother's death, Gladys Carey moved to High Street, North Sydney, to live with her sister Hilda. They resided there for the rest of their lives.

On Australia Day 26 January 1972 Miss Gladys Carey died at the Neutral Bay Convalescent Hospital after a short stay there. She was 90 years old. Her sister Hilda had died in March the previous year.

In 1989 I composed a song which I called *Miss Carey's Little Park*. It was a way of documenting a significant childhood memory, as well as keeping alive the memory of Miss Gladys Carey and her park. Over the years, I have performed the song many times and have had people tell me that they visited the park after hearing the song.

Sadly, there is no visible evidence today of her Katoomba garden. However, I still return to North Sydney and make time to visit Miss Carey's park where I happily spend time reflecting on this unassuming lady who believed in the value of living a useful life.

Jim Low

Notes:
A longer version of this article can be found at
http://simplyaustralia.net/article-jkl-carey.html
A newly recorded version of the song can also be listened to and downloaded freely at
https://soundcloud.com/jim_low/miss-careys-little-park

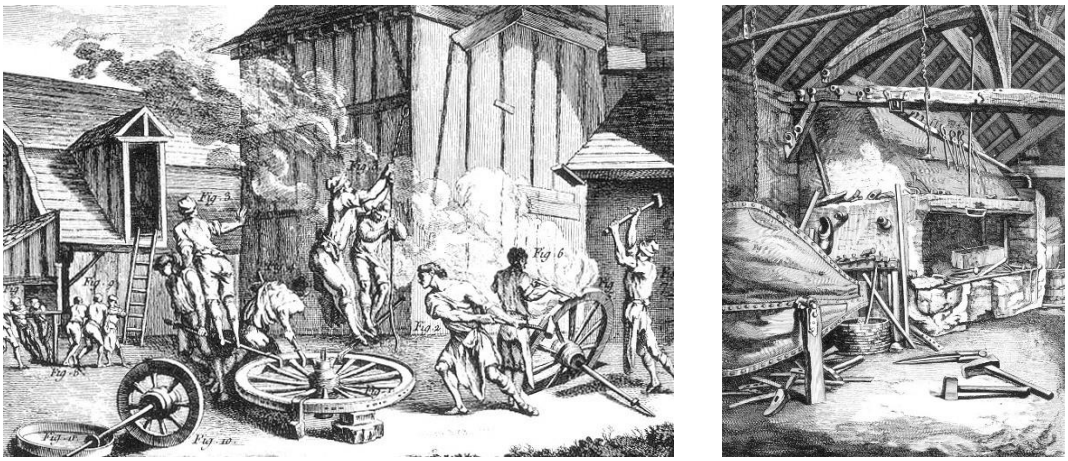
And of course, a visit to the Miss Gladys Carey Reserve is ***definitely recommended!***

The Technical Side

Another old occupation – the wheelwright

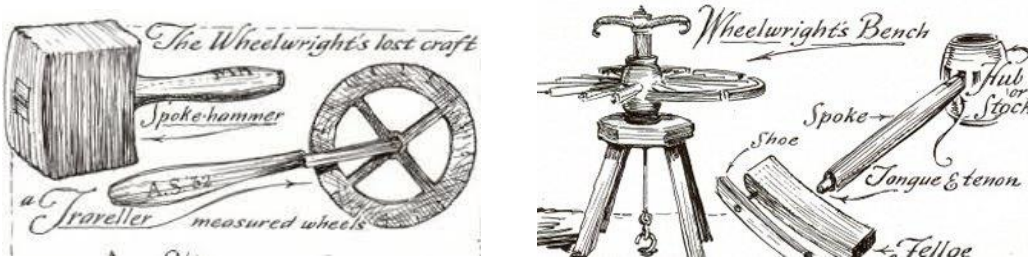
The wheelwright was a significant tradesman in colonial times and before. He made and repaired wooden wheels for carts, carriages and wagons, and the craft is said to be some

4,000 years old, dating back to prehistoric times and the invention of the wheel. Until the Iron Ages and Roman times, the wooden wheel was made and then the iron hoop was introduced around the rim of the wheel for strength. Before this rawhide was also used to bind the wheel, being applied wet and allowed to dry.
About 2,000 BC spoked wheels first appeared in Asia Minor. The one-piece hoop method disappeared in Victorian times, but reappeared in the 18th Century. But since the early 17th Century the main design has been largely the same. In later years came the development of the dished wheel, where the design was shaped like a saucer with the hollow side facing outwards.



Outdoor and indoor workshops

The wheelwright also made and repaired household utensils, farm implements and buildings, gates and coffins. They also actually built and repaired carts, wheelbarrows, and wagons. It was a woodworking business. The craft is in little demand as such these days with the use of steel rims and tyres. The horse and carriage days were the heyday of the craft, but roads were rocky and rough so wheels had to be made strong to handle these conditions.
A wheelwright had to have precise measuring skills as well as knowledge of basic geometry. Their tools were sharp so care had to be taken to avoid cuts. The wheelwright also had to deal with hot metals. They used a lathe, a traveller (a measuring device) stools and cradles for supporting the wheel during construction, knives and spoke shaves, saws and chisels, an adze, a spoke dog for inserting the spokes into the felloes (the sections forming the rim), and a Samson (a large iron clamp applied over the rim of the wheel to squeeze the felloe joints together while the iron strips are nailed into position).



Tools and terms of the trade

The wheelwright obtained his timber from a variety of sources, such as saw mills and timber merchants, or actually went bush to seek their own. He had to know his trees, and the position of the branches to know where knots and other weaknesses were. He also liked to know the location of the tree as different soils could impact the nature of the wood produced. The tree was felled and the bark stripped, the bark being sometimes sold to tanners for leather making. The wood was sought in spring, and left uncut until winter. A sawyer would then cut the logs into planks and it would be left to season for another 5-6 years.

Craftsmen specialized in a particular type of vehicle or design, the craft also varied according to the wheelwright's location, and construction could take up to six months. Variations included light carriages, smart coaches, or farm carts, as well as making fences, gates, ladders and horse boxes.

Workshop in Brockham, UK

Colonial workshop

The making of the wheel was critical, and they began from the centre, or the nave or hub. Elm wood (for its interwoven grain) was used for hubs and planks: oak (it does not bend, compress or flex), beech, ash (flexibility and springy nature) or elm was used for wheel spokes, and beech for felloes.
This skilled operation required years of experience to achieve the fit which could be neither too loose or too tight. Due to the variety of knowledge that they accumulated with regard to timber and its properties, and the way the skill was passed down through the trade and through families, the craft was highly regarded. They were often wearing more than one cap, being also employed in other trades to make their incomes, such as carpenter, blacksmith, postman or lamplighter!!

The modern workshop

The trade went into decline following WWI and WWII, but has been kept alive through trade groups such as the Worshipful Company of Wheelwrights in the UK, and other small businesses, societies and trusts. *Patsy Moppett*

References:
www.mrnussbaum.com
Old Occupations: Wheelwright, by Mary Carter, Family Tree Magazine, October 1992
www.witheridge-historical-archive.com
Wikipedia
www.brockhamhistory.org
Rare Trades, National Museum of Australia

Community events & updates

Southern Cloud memories

BMACHO is always happy to receive feedback on the articles printed in the *Newsletter*, and sometimes these comments are quite moving.

Further to the article in the previous BMACHO *Newsletter* January-February 2017, in regard to the Southern Cloud, Bill Evans has related memories from his Mother's experience back in 1932.

It seems that June Evans, as a six year old (born 14 June 1926 in Sydney) was taken to a paddock near Mascot by her parents, Bill and Margaret Newell. They arrived in their Essex sedan (Rego 57376), where the plane was parked. Bill had heard that it was possible to go on a joy flight over Sydney. The money raised by the flights was to be used to start regular flights to other capital cities in Australia.

Bill was concerned that the plane might be too dangerous so he went for a flight on his own first, while June and her Mother waited in the car. When he landed, he said to them: *"I wouldn't let you miss this for the world"*. The tickets were 5 pounds each, and little June travelled for free.

June explains that the three engines were very loud and made the plane shudder as the pilot started them up. The flight lasted for just under an hour, and it flew all over Sydney and up to the harbor to see the partially constructed bridge, the bridge being what we now know as the Harbour Bridge. June can clearly remember seeing the Harbour Bridge still being built and that she had to kneel on the bench seat to look out the window. The seats on the Southern Cloud were all attached to the side walls and faced inwards. There were no seat belts for the passengers either.

June Evans and her memories

June may now be one of the last people alive to have travelled on, and seen the plane, before it disappeared two weeks later. Today June keeps a photograph of the Southern Cloud on the wall of her home in Dulwich Hill.

Bill Evans

More on Windsor Bridge

Further to BMACHO's article in regard to the progress of the Windsor Bridge redevelopment project, the information presented in *Newsletter No*. 48 January-February 2017, was derived from Roads and Maritime Services sources.

However, like every story there are two sides, and BMACHO would encourage readers to do the research.

Community Action for Windsor Bridge (CAWB) is a community action group formed in 2013 in response to the NSW Government's decision to demolish and replace the existing historic Hawkesbury River bridge (Windsor Bridge) at Windsor and create a major, thoroughfare through the historic Thompson Square.
The CAWB website (www.cawb.com.au) elaborates that the group is made up of *"independent, local people from a wide variety of backgrounds including lawyers, engineers, financial advisers, business owners, teachers, architects, builders and academics".* It also includes families who have passion for the Hawkesbury and their local community, and for the historical significance of Windsor. Many of them also have ties to the very early settlers in the Hawkesbury and are proud and protective of both these long-standing family connections.
The majority of CAWB members use the current Windsor Bridge daily, and therefore experience the traffic congestion first hand.

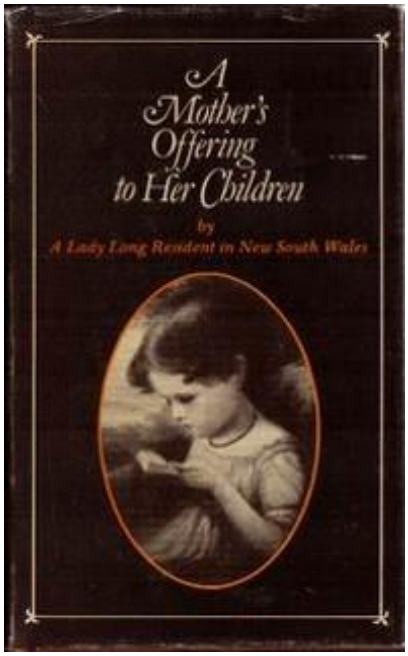
CAWB in action April 2016

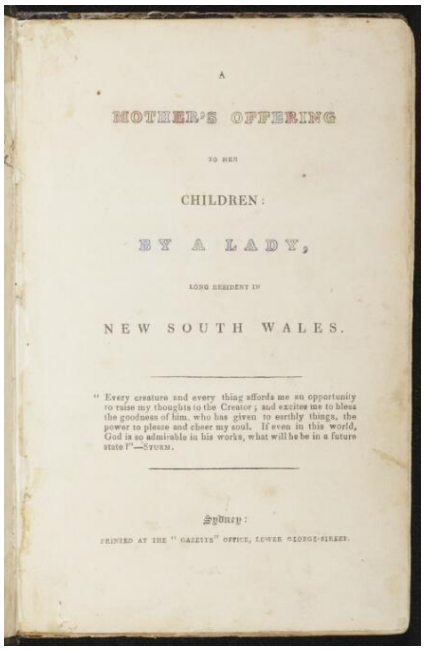
The campaign to save the bridge and to protect the precinct as a whole commenced in 2013. Since 21 July 2013, CAWB has been occupying Thompson Square 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, having reached over 1300 days of occupation, showing perseverance and tenacity. Readers are referred to their web site as documented above for further background and information about this group.

Patsy Moppett

The Charlotte Waring Barton Award

Further to the Newsletter article relating to the Atkinson family, James and Charlotte (Waring), and their daughter Louisa, (January-February 2017), reader Wendy Blaxland advises that this story rings a strong chord with her as she is familiar with family descendants. In addition, Wendy relates information with regard to the Charlotte Waring Barton Award.
As documented, Charlotte was an extraordinary woman. Her daughters became notable writers, artists and naturalists, with Louisa becoming the first Australian born female novelist and journalist. Other descendants became successful writers and artists. Her great-great-great-great granddaughters, sisters Kate Forsyth and Belinda Murrell are both best-selling, internationally published authors. Their research and published imaginative work has led to the Children's Book Council of Australia (CBCA) offering an award in her honour.
The Charlotte Waring Barton Award is presented annually by the CBCA NSW Inc to an unpublished author residing in NSW. The recipient of the Aspiring Writers Mentorship Program receives the award at the Lady Cutler Dinner. The award is named in honour of Charlotte, the author of Australia's earliest known children's book, *A Mother's Offering to her Children: By a Lady, Long Resident in New South Wales*. It was published anonymously in 1841 by the Gazette Office in Sydney. The identity of the author was only discovered in 1980.




A

MOTHER'S OFFERING

TO HER

CHILDREN:

BY A LADY,

LONG RESIDENT IN

NEW SOUTH WALES.

"Every creature and every thing affords me an opportunity to raise my thoughts to the Creator; and excites me to bless the goodness of him, who has given to earthly things, the power to please and cheer my soul. If even in this world, God is so admirable in his works, what will he be in a future state?"—Evans.

Sydney:

PRINTED AT THE "GAZETTE" OFFICE, LOWER GEORGE-STREET.

The National Library of Australia has fully digitized the 1841 edition, which can be accessed at www.nla.gov.au *Patsy Moppett*

References:
Wendy Blaxland, Blaxland & Daughter Productions
www.nsw.cbca.org.au
www.nsw.cbca.org.au

Australia Day Award for Carolynne

BMACHO offers congratulations to Carolynne Cooper, member of the Colo Shire Family History Group, on the receipt of the Hawkesbury Cultural Heritage Award! Carolynne is a researcher with the Colo group, a key asset as the team leader and main digital archivist. Her volunteer work entails expert restoration of old photos given to the family history group and her expertise in the production of booklets, flyers and brochures for the group's activities, which are well recognized throughout the Hawkesbury.

Carolynne 3rd from left

Carolynne (right), Penrith Conference 2016

Previously Carolynne played an important role in the Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society's Family History Group. She was the team leader for the initiative and production of the transcripts of the Parish of St Stephens Anglican Church at Kurrajong and is continuing to work on those records for the group. *Patsy Moppett*

Mystery photograph

Another mystery to solve! A good deal of attention has been paid to this particular photograph from the BMHS collection. However, it remains something of a mystery. Where, along the line, was it taken? Early thoughts suggested it may have been at Blackheath. Perhaps it was, but there are reasons to suggest that this may not be the case. Can the collective investigative wisdom of our membership solve this ongoing riddle?

Blue Mountains Historical Society

Building the line across the Blue Mountain

Yvonne Jenkins Memorial Award 2017 - an opportunity to remember & record

Our lives are a kaleidoscope, an intermingling of colourful episodes and shadows of memories past. Often these memories are never recorded, or are forgotten over the years. Details of an event not recorded in the newspaper of the day, how we felt during a family crisis, or at a celebration of national or local significance, even the birth of a sibling, escape being recorded by most of us.

The 2017 Yvonne Jenkins Memorial Award essay competition *title "An important time in my life was….",* is an opportunity to choose one of those memories within the framework of a 1,000 word essay to be submitted to the Lithgow & District Family History Society by 30th April 2017.

Yvonne

Rydal Village

Yvonne

The winner of the Yvonne Jenkins Memorial Award competition will be announced during National Family History month in August 2017.

The award is held annually in memory of Yvonne Jenkins, founder of the Society, who was well known for her work as an author, artist and family and local historian, from Rydal.

Further details about the competition are available on the society's website and Facebook page or may be obtained by writing to the Secretary, PO Box 516, Lithgow NSW 2790.

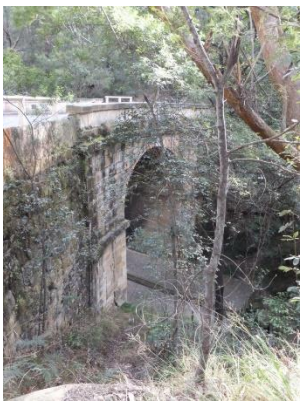
Jan Saundercock

Scenic Eastern Escarpment Master Plan

The eastern escarpment of the Blue Mountains is located on the eastern edge of the mountains, fringing western Sydney. The site extends from Darks Common in the south, adjoining the Blue Mountains National Park, to Knapsack Reserve in the north connecting with Yellomundee Regional Park. The western boundary of the precinct is formed by the residential areas of Glenbrook, Blaxland, Winmalee, Mt Riverview, Yellow Rock, and Hawkesbury Heights, while the eastern boundary is formed by the residential townships of Lapstone Emu Plains, Leonay, Emu Heights and the Nepean River.

The eastern escarpment contains a rich diversity of ecological communities, significant historic and cultural heritage sites and a wide range of recreational opportunities. These cultural assets are spread across a large number of public reserves under different land ownership and management. In addition, the existing recreational facilities are aging and require renewal.

Knapsack Viaduct



Lennox Bridge

Blue Mountains City Council is preparing a Scenic Eastern Escarpment Master Plan as part of Council's visitor precinct planning work to provide a strategic, locality based approach to recreation and tourism in natural areas. The Master Plan will form the basis for resourcing and implementing visitor facility upgrades and developments aimed at improving opportunities for nature and culture-based recreation and tourism experiences.

The Scenic Eastern Escarpment Master Plan will focus on visitor and recreational facilities within the natural areas, and establish a coherent approach to landscape design and infrastructure development that supports nature and culture-based recreation and tourism experiences. The Plan will respond to recreation and tourism planning initiatives in the lower Blue Mountains and Western Sydney region.

The objectives of the Master Plan are to:

- Guide the future development of recreational infrastructure;
- Improve recreational and tourism opportunities in the region; and
- Support the promotion of the sites cultural and nature based recreational opportunities.

The key dates for development of the Plan and community engagement are as follows:

- Stage 1: Stakeholder engagement – 16 January 2017 to 17 March 2017.
- Stage 2: Prepare Draft Master Plan – 1 February 2017 – 31 May 2017.
- Stage 3: Public Exhibition Draft Master Plan – 1 June 2017 – 14 July 2017.
- Stage 4: Finalise Master Plan – 14 July 2017 to 31 August 2017.

Blue Mountains City Council

References:
See www.bluemountainshaveyoursay.com.au *for the Site User Survey.*
And www.bmcc.nsw.gov.ayu *for further information.*

West of the Great Divide – Surveyors and Settlers

National Trust (Lithgow) Tour 2017

On Sunday 23 April 2017, the Lithgow Regional Branch of the National Trust are hosting a coach tour to routes and sites important to opening up land west of the Great Dividing Range. The Tour will visit the point of Evans' first crossing by a European, Evans Crown, and parts of Cox's 1815 road. After lunch at the 1873 Tarana Hotel, the Tour will then visit *Macquarie* (1822) at O'Connell, the original home of William Lawson, and *Westham* (1830) at Brewongle, built by early settler Thomas West, and now owned by Ian Kiernan AO.

Convict barracks at Macquarie

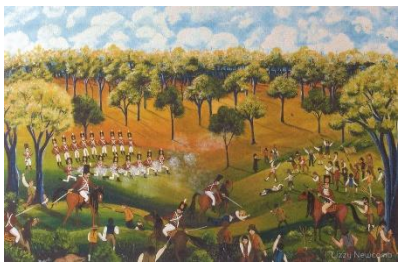
Westham

The Tour leaves from the Lithgow Visitor Information Centre (VIC) at 9.30am and returns there about 4.30pm. The cost ($60 NT members, $65 non-NT members) includes lunch at Tarana and morning tea.

Bookings are essential: Phone the Lithgow VIC on 1300 760 276.
For information contact Celia Ravesi: Ph: 02 6359 3109, or Email: cerav@bigpond.com

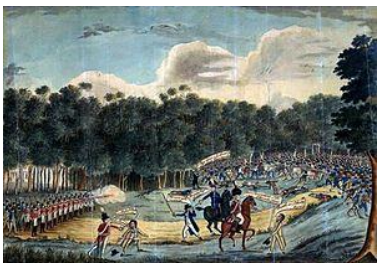
The Battle of Vinegar Hill 1804

The convict rebellion at Castle Hill in 1804 was dubbed the Second Battle of Vinegar Hill (the first being in Ireland in 1798). The battle was fought between convicts and the colonial forces. With the 1798 rebellion fresh in their minds, the convicts were led by veteran of the first rebellion, Philip Cunningham. Their intention was to establish Irish rule and capture a ship to sail to Ireland. Martial law was declared in the colony by Governor King. The convicts were brought to a halt by the colonial forces, led by Major George Johnston, at a hill named Vinegar Hill, and the rebellion was crushed. About 15 of the convicts were killed, nine of the rebel leaders were hanged, and hundreds were punished.



The battle

Major George Johnston



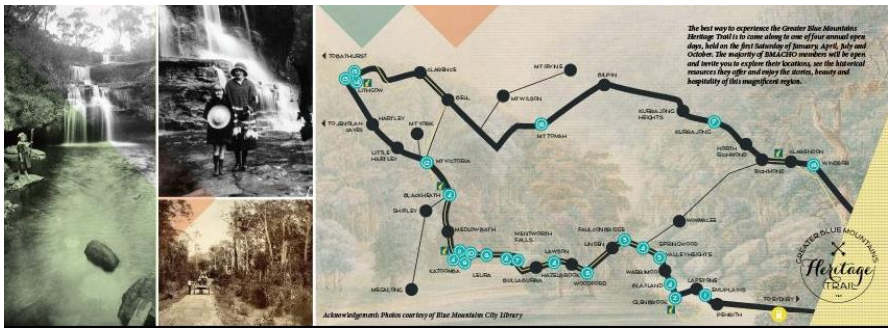
The battle & hangings

The bicentenary was celebrated in 2004 with a variety of events, celebrating the battle site as a special place of international and Australian significance. The remains of the site are centred on Castle Hill Heritage Park, and a sculpture commemorates the sacrifice, and the impact on Hawkesbury history.
On the 213th anniversary a special presentation by historian Lynette Silver and artist Lizzy Newcomb will bring to life the years of failed mini rebellions, botched escape attempts, mutiny, wild rumours, betrayals, conspiracies and personal tragedy that resulted in the ill-fated battle.

The event will be held at the Hawkesbury Regional Museum, 8 Baker Street, Windsor, on Saturday 4 March 2017, at 2pm. Bookings are essential. The cost is $5 and refreshments would be provided. *Hawkesbury Regional Museum*

Ph: 02 4560 4655
Email: museum@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au

Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail Update!



BMACHO continues to promote the Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail and members' upcoming events.
BMACHO intend to reprint the Heritage Trail brochure soon and have asked members if they wish to participate. For a reasonable cost, members can appear in the reprint of the brochure, feature on the Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail website and have their events promoted on the website and Facebook page.
In addition, during 2017 BMACHO are holding a competition to encourage visitation to Trail participant properties. For this purpose, BMACHO are asking members to think of an artefact or item at their premises that can only be found by visiting. BMACHO will then list approximately 25 questions on a "Passport and Entry Form", which will be an insert to the brochure, and visitors can either answer the questions or obtain a stamp showing they have been to a venue. BMACHO will hold a prize draw approximately every six months.
BMACHO already have offers of prizes for the competition.
In regard to the Heritage Trail brochure reprint, BMACHO are asking members and prospective participants if you have not already responded in regard to participation in the reprint by 17 February 2017, please do so as soon as possible. BMACHO would like to have the new brochure printed sometime in March.

If you are a member and you would like to participate, or if you would like to become a member, please email the BMACHO Secretary at committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au

For general information about BMACHO and the Trail, see www.heritagedrive.com.au or www.facebook.com/GBMHeritageTrail

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

Registered office: 1/19 Stypandra Place, Springwood 2777. (02) 4751 5834
Email: committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au or j.koperberg@bigpond.com
Website: www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au **ABN**: 53 994 839 952

The organisation: Blue Mountains Association of Cultural & Heritage Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 after local historical and heritage societies and individuals recognised the need for the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the local government area (LGA) of Blue Mountains City Council. The constituency now embraces but is not limited to, the LGAs of Blue Mountains, Lithgow, Hawkesbury, Penrith and Mudgee. BMACHO membership includes historical and heritage groups, museums, commercial enterprises with an historical or heritage component in its core business, local government (local studies units, library collections) and a limited number of individual members by invitation such as but not necessarily academics. The objectives of the organisation are:

1. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage
2. To encourage and assist cultural heritage
3. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations.

One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

Affiliations: BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society and is affiliated with the Better Planning Network.

Publications: BMACHO's official newsletter ***Heritage*** is edited by Patsy Moppett. The annual refereed *Blue Mountains History Journal* is edited by Dr Peter Rickwood and occasional papers are published from time to time.

Membership: The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mt Tomah; Blue Mountains City Library; Blue Mountains Cultural Heritage Centre; Blue Mountain Education & Research Trust; Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc; Bygone Beautys Treasured Teapot Museum and Tearooms; City of Lithgow Mining Museum Inc; Day Fine Art; Eskbank Rail Heritage Centre; Everglades Historic House & Gardens; Norman Lindsay Gallery; Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc; Hartley Valley District Progress Association; Hawkesbury Historical Society Inc; Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc; Leurella NSW Toy & Railway Museum; Lithgow & District Family History Society Inc; Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies; Mt Victoria & District Historical Society Inc; Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine Historical Society Inc (including Turkish Bath Museum); National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Blue Mountains Branch; National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Lithgow Branch; Nepean District Historical Society Inc; Paragon Cafe, Katoomba; Scenic World Blue Mountains Limited; Springwood & District Historical Society Inc; Springwood Historians Inc; Transport Signal Communication Museum Inc; The Darnell Collection P/L; Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Heritage Museum, Woodford Academy Management Committee, Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd.
The following are individual members: Fiona Burn, Ray Christison, Wayne Hanley, Associate Professor Ian Jack, Joan Kent, Ian Milliss, Patsy Moppett and Dr Peter Rickwood.

Committee: The management committee for 2016-2017 (from April 2016) is: Patsy Moppett (President and ***Heritage*** Newsletter Editor), Ian Jack (Vice President), Jan Koperberg (Secretary), Philip Hammon (Treasurer), Scott Pollock and Wendy Hawkes (web site), Dick Morony (Public Officer/Membership Secretary/ Calendar Editor), Suzanne Smith and Laura Stinson (Events and Venue Co-ordinators) & Roy Bennett.
Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail sub-committee: Scott Pollock, Laura Stinson, Wendy Hawkes, Jan Koperberg & Lynn Collins, Museums Advisor.

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Heritage

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The Bramley Apple

Whilst in Australia we value the heritage and history of our own Granny Smith Apple, in Great Britain it is all about the Bramley Apple!

It is recorded that over six thousand apple cultivars have been recorded across the UK alone. In Australia, there may be in the order of less than one thousand.

Most were developed many years ago in the northern hemisphere when selection of fruit was based on its suitability for home growing or for local markets. Flavour and appearance were important but the cooking apple was possibly the most important. Storage times and conditions were limited and different regions sought their own cultivars to serve their regional requirements.

Social change which came with modern industrialisation changed all this. Cultivars had to be tough to survive the picking, packing, handling and storage regimes which came with industry. So, the old home garden species became obsolete.

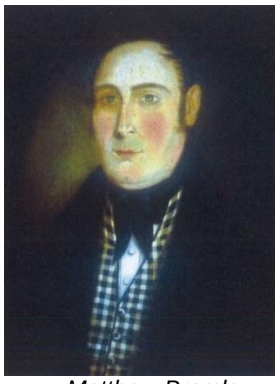
Thanks to specialist orchardists in both Australia and across the world, many of the old varieties are preserved, and cultivars can generally be sourced from nurserymen and guilds. The National Trust (Victoria) had a particular influence on the conservation of old fruits in Australia.

The Bramley apple tree at Southwell, UK

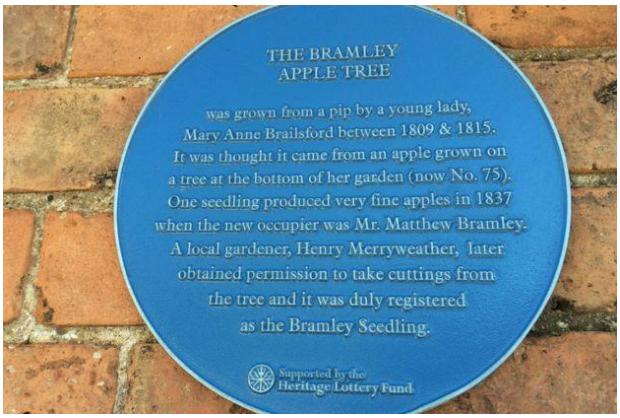
In Great Britain, the original Bramely apple tree, planted more than 200 years ago, and the "mother" of all modern Bramely apples, is located in Southwell, Nottinghamshire, dating back to 1809.Every Bramley apple can be traced back to one x 200 year old tree! The trees are

large, vigorous, spreading and long lived. It has won many awards over the years and holds the Royal Horticulrural Society's Award of Garden Merit.
The apple is a cultivar *malus domestica*, and current stock is slightly different from the original tree. Cloning was carried out in 1990 by the University of Nottingham, because the old tree was suffering from old age (!), and was under attack from fungus. Twelve of the cloned trees now grow in the University grounds, and one was planted beside the old tree at Southwell.
However, it was recently acknowledged in 2016 that this magnificent old tree is dying!!! The first seedling tree grew from pips planted by Mary Ann Brailsford when a girl, in her garden at Southwell. The tree was in the garden of the cottage when it was sold to Matthew Bramley in 1846. In 1856 a local nurseryman, Henry Merriweather, who was just 17, asked if he could take cuttings from the tree and start to sell the apples. Bramley agreed, but insisted that the apples should bear his name. The first recorded sales were in 1862.

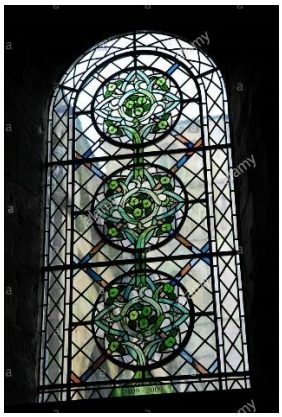
The Bramley apple


Matthew Bramley

In 1900, the original tree was knocked over during violent storms, but it survived, and is still bearing fruit two centuries after it was planted. There are now more than 300 Bramley growers across England. Although the apple can now be found in other parts of the world, it is almost exclusively a British variety.
The current owner, Coulson Howard, has been advised that the fungus is incurable. It gets into the water transport system of the tree and slowly kills it off. He hopes to preserve the tree where it stands for as long as possible once it has died.
The tree has been studied for many years and tissue cultures taken to micro-propagate the tree. Howard had acquired the cottage and garden from his aunt Nancy Harrison, who had spent many years caring for the tree and entertaining the many people who came from all over the world to visit it.

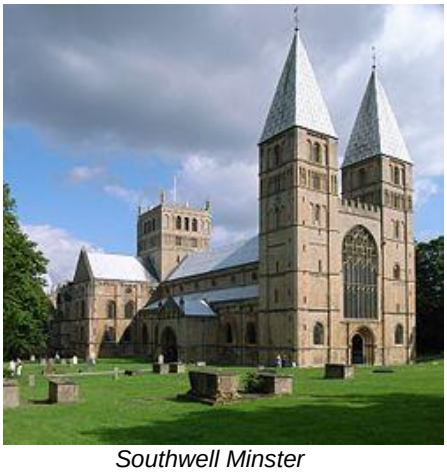


Brass plaque on the cottage


Minster stained glass window

Each year Southwell celebrates the Bramley Apple Festival, and the old tree is considered a town treasure. A plaque on the cottage wall commemorates the apple, and a stained glass window was installed in 2009 within the Southwell Minister, on the 200th anniversary of the

planting of the tree. The Minster is a magnificent cathedral with one of the finest Norman naves in Europe. It hosts a festival of food and drink and all things associated with Southwell's Bramley Apple heritage. Morris Men performances and live music can be seen as you wander the streets of one of the prettiest towns in Nottinghamshire in October.



Southwell Minster

Bramley Apple Festival

Lord Byron spent his holidays here in 1803. One of the local football clubs is nicknamed "The Bramleys". The local newspaper is "The Bramley". The town's new library and youth centre is The Bramley Centre.

The town also contains the Saracen's Arms, formerly the King's Head, where Charles I surrendered to a Scottish army in 1646, marking the end of the Civil War. *Patsy Moppett*

References:
Appletrees Old & New, Clive Winmill 1995
Wikipedia – Bramley apple
Wikipedia – Southwell, Nottinghamshire

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Food for thought ..... Editor's note

In this being the 50th issue of the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural and Heritage Organisations" *Heritage* Newsletter (!), it is a pleasure to bring to you some more articles and information, probably a little different from the usual. In addition, some of the articles are from members and community historians which contribute in their own way on topics of their choice.

And autumn is as always a busy time, with events, tours and exhibitions, information requests, festivals and conferences. It is hoped that in some way we are able to help you choose your itinerary for the coming weeks through this issue.

The BMACHO calendar of events is also due out for the month of May, so be on the lookout for it and leads to other happenings. Don't forget the Glenbrook walks, as presented in *Heritage* Newsletter January-February 2017.

Blue Mountains icon

All the past *Heritage* Newsletters can be found on our website, so if you missed an issue please feel free to download the one you need.

The new Committee for 2017-2018 was ushered in at the recent Annual General Meeting held at Hobbys Reach on 25 March 2017. The incoming Committee and the new position holders are documented on the last page of this Newsletter, and we are looking forward to the next 10 months of providing and sharing information with our members and the wider heritage community.

BMACHO will be holding a workshop later in the year to assist members with their use of Trove, and we look forward to learning more about the recent changes to this free search engine by the National Library of Australia, which will enable us to explore more deeply into our family histories and the history of our nation. More information will be provided as it comes to hand.

So keep busy as we head towards the colder months and we look forward to catching up with members at their various venues, at meetings and the workshop, or even just online, in the coming weeks.

Concrete Relief Maps

Early Aids to Teaching Geography & History

Having recently moved to Portland, about 25 km west of Lithgow, naturally I've been walking around a lot, looking for signs, so to speak, in the historical undergrowth of the town. One of my interesting early discoveries was made at the local school where my grandchildren attend. Opened as the Cullen Public School in 1884 to service the small bush community

growing around a nascent lime industry, Portland Central School is older than the town itself. It was moved to its present site shortly after the village of Portland was gazetted in 1894, adopted the new name in 1899 and has remained within the commercial heart of the town ever since. By 1931 the school had become an Intermediate High School, even taking on its first students to sit for the Leaving Certificate, and like many progressive schools at the time was clearly on the lookout for new teaching methods to enhance the learning experience of its pupils.

One of the fashionable new methods then circulating saw the construction of large concrete relief maps within school grounds all around NSW and beyond. Here was the interactive teaching of history and geography in an age before computers and for a town like Portland, founded on cement, what more appropriate idea could be adopted. Indeed, when the headmaster, J. B. Ireland, sought the help of the Commonwealth Portland Cement Company it supplied all the cement the project required and, with a number of workmen also volunteering their time, the project was completed at minimal cost by the end of November 1931.

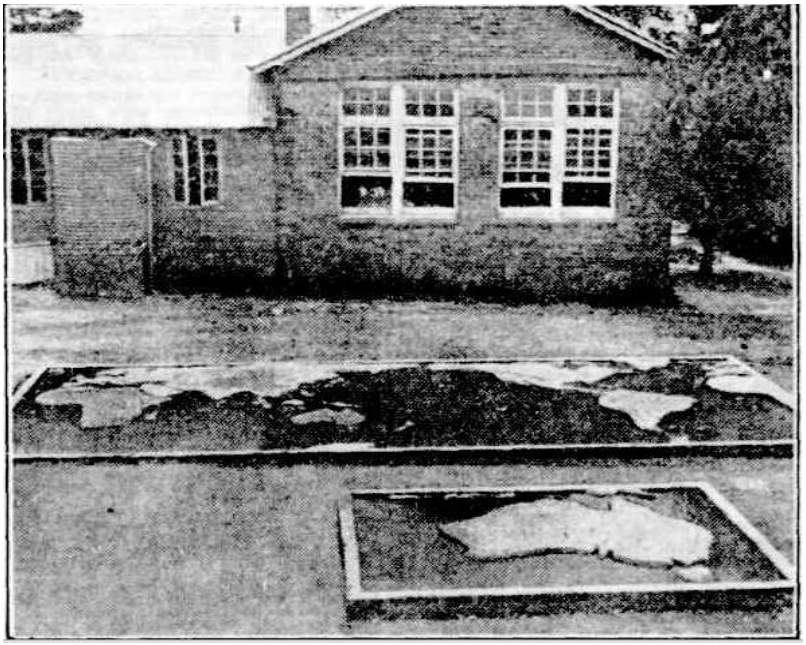


Image 1: Concrete Maps at Portland Intermediate High School, 1931 (SMH, 3 December, 1931, p.12, cols.2-3)

Unlike most other schools, Portland's project accomplished two separate maps: one of the world (28 x 14 feet) and a smaller one of Australia (10 feet). Each map was moulded in relief within shallow 'boxes' into which water would be poured to create the oceans, while atlas colours including national and state boundaries and locations of important cities were to be added later. Even a model ship "fitted with a magnet" was said to be under construction, soon to be launched and drawn by magnetism along the world and Australia's important sea routes. And finally, an observation block, complete with sun dial and rain gauge, allowed the whole cemented geography to be surveyed with ease. It was, said the *Sydney Morning Herald*, a piece of "novel school equipment".

But, as I've already indicated, it turned out to be not quite so novel. In fact, there were already some in existence by 1931 and during the following decade many more sprang up in playgrounds across the country. On a quick newspaper search I've listed at the conclusion of this article, 29 schools in NSW that initiated map projects and I'm sure there would have been lots more unremarked upon by the press. While the majority chose (or could afford) to create just one map (most chose Australia), Portland, through the practical support provided by the local cement company, was able to build both.

Though primarily school initiated projects, there are examples of concrete relief maps erected by other authorities. In 1932, for example, the Blue Mountains Shire Council constructed a large map of Australia in Wilson Park at Lawson, its surrounding 'ocean' fed

from a natural watercourse flowing through the park; while in 1937, next to the Ocean Baths at Newcastle, a 'Mariner's Pool' was built by the Municipal Council that included a large-scale relief map - with Australia and New Zealand in the centre surrounded by the world - around which model yacht owners could sail their boats. Apparently, too, even the lions at Taronga Park Zoo possessed a large relief map of Australia to amuse (and educate?) themselves.

Image 2: Map of Australia, Lawson, 1932 (Blue Mountains City Library)

The biggest and most ambitious concrete map I came across was a map of the world constructed on a scale that might have surprised even Walt Disney (or Clive Palmer!). It was, however, not Australian but spread over several acres of ground at a school in Paris. The major rivers were filled with real water and the volcanoes belched real smoke, while the sea was deep enough for boats to sail pupils from one country to another and deliver them into the hands of a small railroad system (steam engine etc.) which transported them to other more landlocked destinations.

In NSW schools, however, things were more modest. Nevertheless, though some maps remained fairly basic, there was always plenty of scope for imagination. All seem to have allowed for the presence of an 'ocean' of real water and the major cities, towns, rivers and mountain ranges were generally always marked. Centres of primary and secondary industry and the routes of explorers and major communication lines (Overland Telegraph, air and trade routes) were also commonly identified. Some schools even employed 'armies' of miniature models of animals, produce, aeroplanes, ships etc. to demonstrate particular themes of note (centres of industry, trade routes etc.). One country school in northern NSW even installed a working model of an artesian bore and a coastal lighthouse that actually flashed its light.

Such maps represent the progressive and 'interactive' teaching methods of an earlier era. Those that did survive into the age of television and computers, have struggled to justify their existence and, if not removed, are likely to be neglected and left to decay, their oceans dried up, all trace of human activity fading into a wasteland of cracked cement. Cautionary warnings, perhaps, of real-world climate disaster!

Originally Portland's maps were constructed next to each other in the playground fronting Wolgan Street but, as their usefulness as teaching aids diminished and school growth necessitated more classrooms, they fell victim to progress. Sometime before 1983 the map of Australia was 'buried' under a new Domestic Science room and later, in 1995, under the present Administration building; while the map of the world was cut into sections in the early

1990s and relocated to the Level 3 playground. Here it remains (2016), minus its original observation block, sun dial and rain gauge and, unless slow decay is to be its fate, in need of some repair.

Image 3: The Portland World Map, February 2016

NSW schools known to have had concrete maps & date constructed

Artarmon, World Map, 1936, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 2 April 1936, p.6
Braidwood, Australia Map, 1932, *Braidwood Despatch*, 23 Sept. 1932, p.2
Burrowa, Australia Map, 1934, *Burrowa News*, 22 June 1934, p.5
Burwood, [? 1920s], *Sydney Morning Herald*, 5 December 1931, p.6
Condobolin, World Map, 1938, *Lachlander & Cond. Recorder*, 14 March 1938, p.5
Dudley, World Map, [1930s], *Newcastle Morning Herald*, 16 July 1949, p.5
Eltham, Australia Map, 1934, *Northern Star*, 12 February 1934, p.3
Emmaville, Australia Map, 1933, *Glen Innes Examiner*, 21 December 1933, p.6
Fairfield, World Map, 1915, *Cumberland Argus*, 17 July 1915, p.5
Gosford, [? 1930s], *Gosford Times*, 10 December 1936, p.10
Kandos, Australia Map, 1934, *Mudgee Guardian*, 22 March 1934, p.9
Kyogle, Australia Map, 1930, *Northern Star*, 12 August 1930, p.7
Lismore, Australia Map, 1933, *Northern Star*, 11 May 1933, p.6
Maclean, Australia Map, 1922, *Daily Examiner*, 10 Aug 1922, p.4; 6 Nov. 1943, p.4
Marsfield, Australia Map, 1929, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 26 Sept. 1929, p.10
Mudgee, Australia Map, 1933, *Mudgee Guardian*, 2 October 1933, p.9
Narrabri, Australia Map, 1932, *North Western Courier*, 27 June 1932, p.1
North Junee, Australia Map, 1937, *Albury Banner*, 17 December 1937, p.38
Paddys Plain, [?], 1939, *Daily Examiner*, 9 November 1939, p.12
Portland, World & Australia Maps, 1931, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 3 December 1931, p.8
Shortland, Australia Map, 1934, *Daily Mercury* (Qsld), 10 June 1934, p.11
The Risk, World Map, 1944, *Northern Star*, 28 August 1944, p.5
Uralla, Australia Map, 1936, *Armidale Express*, 21 August 1936, p.6
West Wyalong, Australia Map, 1945, *West Wyalong Advocate*, 11 June 1945, p.2
Woodport, World Map, 1924, *Gosford Times*, 29 May 1924, p.24
Woy Woy, World Map, 1936, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 10 November 1936, p.6

Non-school concrete maps known to have been constructed in NSW

Lawson, Australia Map, 1932, *Katoomba Daily*, 12 May 1932, p.6
Newcastle, World & Australia Maps, 1937, *Newcastle Sun*, 25 May 1937, p.5
Taronga Zoo, Australia, 1936, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 15 Sept. 1936, p.115

John Low

Author's Note: *While I know that the maps at Portland and Lawson still survive and that the unique marine map at Newcastle and the one in possession of the lions at Taronga Zoo apparently do not, it would be great to learn the fate of others listed above. It would also be nice to discover more that could be added to my list. My email address is: grizzlybear3au@yahoo.com*

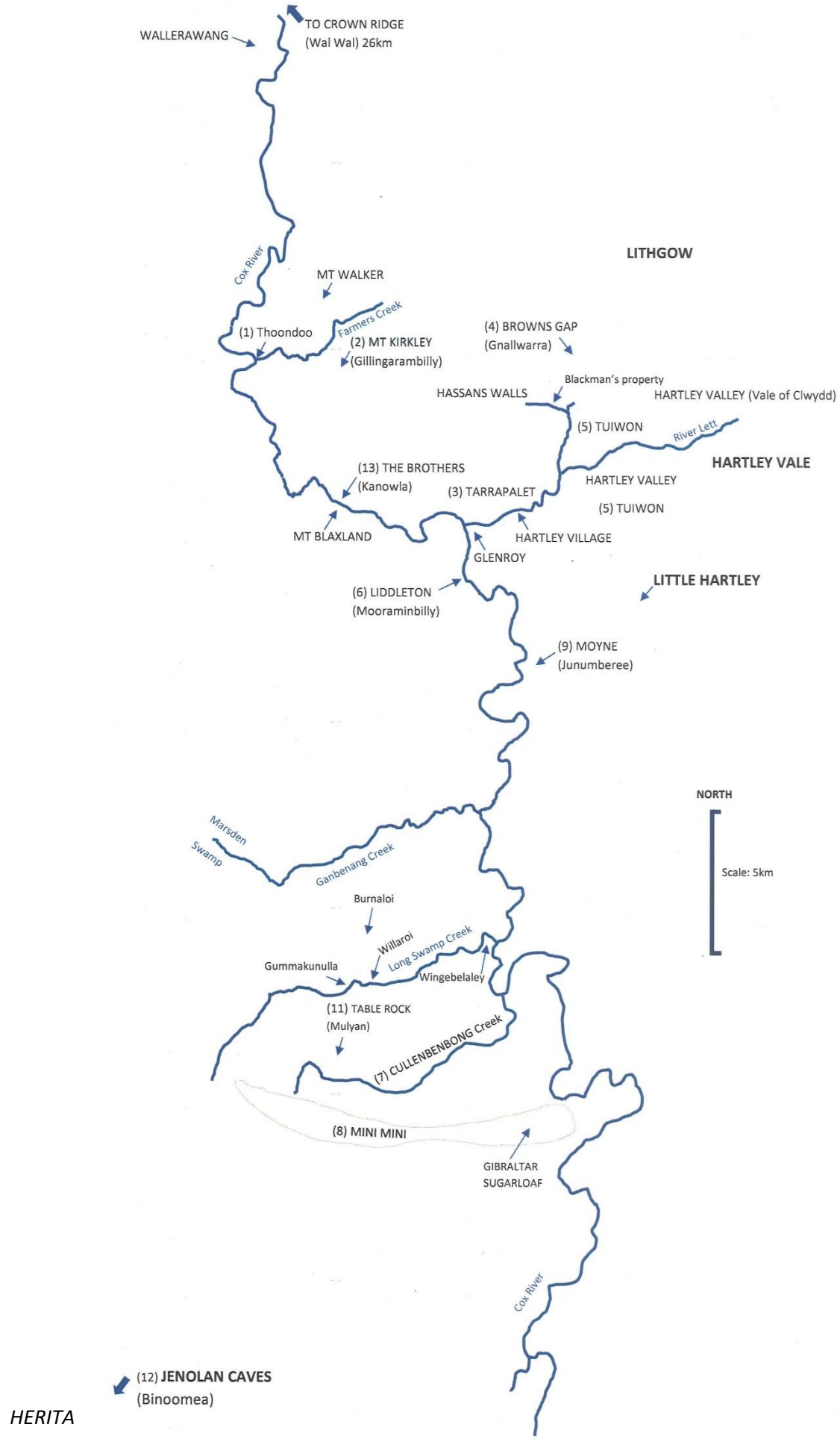
This article first appeared in Doryanthes, a Journal of History, Heritage & the Arts, Vol.9 No.2, May 2016, pp.18-21

Aboriginal place names along the upper Cox River

{The following article is the introduction and first part of a larger paper provided by Jim Smith.}

An official place name I am responsible for is Therabulat Lookout. This came about when I was asked by Blue Mountains City Council to suggest a name for a new lookout situated on the track between Nellies Glen and Stuarts Road, part of the proposed Grand Cliff Top Walk. I felt that recognition of the indigenous history of the Blue Mountains would be appropriate. During a visit to Katoomba in 1896, E.D. Hoben, a journalist for the *Sydney Mail*, interviewed the Gundungurra man Billy Lynch, who had been born in the Kanimbla Valley. Hoben interpreted Lynch's comments:
"The aboriginal tribe inhabiting the Cox River district was the Therabulat, taking their name from the native name of the district…".
In a list of local place names was included: *"Therabulat for the Cox River".* Hoben also referred to Lynch's clan as the "*Therabulat tribe*".
As the new viewing point overlooked what I believed to be part of Billy Lynch's country, I proposed the name Therabulat Lookout, which was gazetted in August 1988. It should be noted that, at the time, there were no Aboriginal organisations representing Gundungurra descendants.
This article has been partly prompted by the discovery by Andy Macqueen of an Aboriginal name for the Cox River, found in a notebook of surveyor Peter Ogilvie. His monthly report for March 1829 includes the annotation "*Native name of Coxes River is Duiwan*".
Macqueen concludes, after working out where Ogilvie had been surveying during that month, that Duiwan was the name for *"the part of Cox River from Glenroy up to around Mt Walker."*
The Cox River is over 100 kilometres long and passes through the country of numerous clans of Gundungurra speaking people, each of whom were "custodians" of the Creation stories associated with their section of the river. Place names were often derived from these stories. How many local names like Therabulat and Duiwan, for parts of the Cox River, would there have been?
The Aboriginal placenames on our maps are the result of mostly undocumented conversations between Aboriginal people and early surveyors and settlers. These conversations were fraught with misunderstandings. For example, when the earliest settlers applied for grants of land they would often describe the area they wanted as, for example, "*called by the natives Goodoomba*". Misunderstanding could easily occur with regard to the extent of the area to which the placename applied.
The Aboriginal informant, in trying to understand what the white man was asking, could give the name of the spot where they were standing or the name for where the enquirer was looking or pointing. In a situation like this, the name of the white recorder is known but the name of the Aboriginal informant is virtually never given. In many cases, settlers would ask

Aboriginal people for the “meanings” of placenames and again this question, and the Aboriginal person’s answer, could involve mutual misunderstandings.


WALLERAWANG
TO CROWN RIDGE
(Wal Wal) 26km
LITHGOW
Cox River
MT WALKER
Farmers Creek
(1) Thoondoo
(2) MT KIRKLEY
(Gillingarambilly)
(4) BROWNS GAP
(Gnallwarra)
Blackman's property
HASSANS WALLS
HARTLEY VALLEY (Vale of Clwydd)
(5) TUIWON
River Lett
HARTLEY VALE
(13) THE BROTHERS
(Kanowla)
HARTLEY VALLEY
(3) TARRAPALET
(5) TUIWON
MT BLAXLAND
HARTLEY VILLAGE
GLENROY
LITTLE HARTLEY
(6) LIDDLETON
(Mooraminbilly)
(9) MOYNE
(Junumberee)
NORTH
Scale: 5km
Marsden
Swamp
Ganbenang Creek
Burnaloi
Willaroi
Long Swamp Creek
Gummakunulla
Wingebelaley
(11) TABLE ROCK
(Mulyan)
(7) CULLENBENBONG Creek
(8) MINI MINI
GIBRALTAR
SUGARLOAF
Cox River
(12) JENOLAN CAVES
(Binoomea)

HERITA

Once these alleged “meanings” have become established in local non-Aboriginal folklore there is strong resistance to challenging them. A good example is the place name Goodoomba, recorded by surveyor William Govett in 1833. This is a variant form of the word also pronounced as Katoomba and Kedumba. Since the 1880s it has repeatedly been stated that this is the name for the area around the township of Katoomba and means “falling water”. It is now known that this place name was used by Gundungurra people for the area around the junction of the Kedumba and Cox Rivers and refers to the edible ferns that grew in this area.

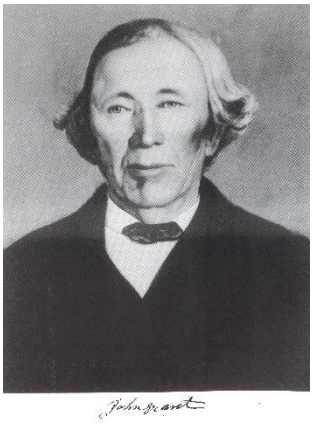
In contrast with the great majority of Aboriginal placenames, which are the result of attempts at communication between poorly educated settlers who were not particularly interested in Aboriginal language, and anonymous Aboriginal people, is a list of names for areas along the Cox River first published in 1892. They were recorded by surveyor William Mylecharane (20 February 1843-30 March 1917).

Mylecharane published these placenames in the *Lithgow Mercury* in April or May 1892. Unfortunately, there are no surviving issues of the *Lithgow Mercury* earlier than 1898. However, Lithgow resident James Padley (1860-1918) made a transcript of the article and deposited it in the Mitchell Library. Mylecharane himself summarised the list in the *Sun* newspaper in 1913 and identified his informants:

The following aboriginal names were obtained of the places mentioned, at different times, from Jenny Clay and Betsy Grant, so that one verified the other, fully 30 years ago [i.e. in about 1883]. They were the two last Cox River full Blacks that I remember meeting.

The ‘Cox’s River Tribe’ was recorded in the 1828 census. Hundreds of different members of this group of clans went to the Hartley courthouse throughout the 1830s and 1840s to receive blankets.

The first record I have located mentioning Jenny Clay is her marriage, as Jane Grant, to ex-convict Samuel Clay in January 1855. Presbyterian minister Colin Stewart was the celebrant. Jane and Samuel were both then living at Hartley. Samuel Clay died in 1868 and Jenny then became the partner of George Miranda, eldest son of the Gundungurra warrior Murrandah (c.1780-c.1852). Between 1870 and 1880 the couple were issued with blankets at various properties in the Bathurst district. George Miranda died in 1882, aged 60. Jenny then lived from time to time at the Kiloola property near Peel. Her companion there was the Aboriginal woman Mary Ann Parker. Jenny adopted an orphaned girl Sarah who died in about 1885. Jenny herself died a few years later.



John Grant Senior

Moyne Homestead

As Jenny’s maiden name was Grant, Betsy Grant may have been related to her. Jenny and Betsy could have been mother and daughter or sisters. A number of Aboriginal people in the upper Cox River and Canowindra districts adopted the name of Grant through their association with ex-convict John Grant (1792-1866) who settled at Moyne Farm near Hartley in 1821 and established a station on the Lachlan River in the early 1830s. It was a common practice of Aboriginal people living on the properties of early settlers to adopt their employers’ surnames. A Jackie Grant of the “Cox’s River tribe”, born about 1810, was issued

with blankets at the Hartley courthouse between 1838 and 1842. Betsy Grant was frequently referred to in local settler reminiscences and folklore as 'Black Bet' or 'Princess Betsy'. Hugh Dalziel, writing about the Aboriginal burial ground on top of Tinkers Hill in the Kanimbla Valley concluded: *"The last two natives buried there were George Miranda and his wife Black Bet."* It is possible that both Betsy Grant and Jenny Clay were partners of George Miranda. George's father had four wives.

Mylecharane was a licensed surveyor, used to precisely describing areas of land, and his informants were talking about places in their own country. It is rare to have a list of Aboriginal placenames in New South Wales where the names of both the recorder and informants are known. Mylecharane even took the precaution of interviewing his informants separately. He published the list about ten years after he first recorded it. Therefore, this list of placenames should be regarded as having a high level of authenticity.

The names are listed in the order of the 1913 article and compared with the wording in Mylecharane's 1892 article. The differences in spelling of the Aboriginal words suggest that, in 1913, Mylecharane did not have his 1892 article in front of him and was relying on memory. The numbers correspond to the numbers on the map.

Each placename, when first used, is followed by the spelling suggested by Jim Barrett, in square brackets, to reflect a more accurate sound of the word in the Gundungurra language. Barrett has recently published the authoritative work *Gandanguurra. The Language of the Mountain People and beyond.* *Jim Smith*

{In his article, Jim Smith goes on to elaborate on the names listed by Mylecharane. This coverage will be presented in the coming issues of Heritage}.

References: For references please refer to the author, as they are too extensive to be reproduced in this publication. Ph: 02 4757 1327.

Lithgow Living History

Historical re-enactments are popular overseas and have been for decades. The Dark Ages, medieval times and Renaissance are popular eras for re-enactments, the American Civil War, WWI and WWII, the Vikings and late Roman times, knights and Saracens, crusaders and Napoleon, and martial arts groups. Re-enactments enable an understanding of history, and provide a way to interact with the past in a way that books and photos cannot.

History comes alive

In Australia re-enactments have occurred at least since the 1970s. With no significant civil disturbances since colonisation, many military re-enactments focus on events from other countries, mostly European. The oldest surviving re-enactment groups in Australia are the Ancient and Medieval Martial Arts Society, originating in the 1970s, and the New Varangian Guard, founded in 1981. There were earlier groups such as the Melbourne Vikings and the Medieval Society of Tasmania, which no longer exist.

Three main groups serve to cater for the interest, the Queensland Living History Federation (1997), the Australasian Living History Federation (2002), and the Australian Re-enactors Association (2012). These umbrella groups organise public liability insurance, and

represent members in areas such as legislation. They offer members, event organisers and the public, advice and guidance on such things as performance and display safety, and the reasonable representation of historical accuracy in recreational re-enactment activities. There is also the Australasian Register of Living History Organisations which is a website that provides links to living history groups in Australia and New Zealand.

Having a go

In particular, Australian groups focus on later periods within living memory – WWI and WWII, and on early colonial history. There is also a large focus on Australian Light Horse, which is significant as each participant must provide their own horse!
Many feasts, drill practices weekend events and tournaments are held throughout the year. Some groups are also involved in ceremonial duties and teaching history. Some have associations with the RSL, and can be involved in ANZAC Day activities. Other events include re-enactment of the Castle Hill convict rebellion (Vinegar Hill) and the Eureka Stockade.
Within the BMACHO membership area the Lithgow Living History group (established in 2012) are very active. Some of their activities include:

- Staging a display of the anti-aircraft guns at South Bowenfels in Lithgow in 2013 during Heritage Month.
- Invitation to Warbirds Downunder air show at Temora in 2015, to display the Bofors 40mm (gas firing) anti-aircraft gun, in 2013 and 2015.
- Regular involvement with the Ironfest event at Lithgow each year.
- Social occasions and photo shoots at Lithgow's Blast Furnace.
- Re-enactment of the Ben Hall Gang raid on Bathurst.
- Involvement in the Australasian Air Show.

There are over 20 members in the group, being multi-talented as performers in the re-enactments. Several members are also musicians and singers.
Group member Ian Rufus has previously explained to local press that they have all the legalities of firearms and such, covered. While authenticity and safety are prime factors, they focus on enjoyment for their members and their audiences.
Recently Ian provided BMACHO with the following commentary on their attendance at the Australasian Air Show:

"Lithgow Living History Anti-Aircraft crew came to the rescue of Port Moresby at the Australasian Air Show, the biggest in the southern hemisphere and one of the largest in the world. We helped the 39th Battalion, the Kokoda heroes, to defend the strategic aerodrome at 7 Mile outside Moresby. Our aircraft technicians attended to the needs of the Kittyhawks that beat off the attacking Zeros. Europeans trying to escape the Japanese invasion also came to the aid of the troops, even to manning and womaning the anti-aircraft gun. Unfortunately, some of our defences were hit and we showed the scars of battle.
We endured 3 days of constant air raids and put up strong airfield defence. The Bofors AA gun ran hot as we tracked aircraft attacking the 'drome. Huge fireballs filled the sky as aircraft attacked the landing strip. We had countless civilians coming to our compound to be saved from the attackers, who cheered and clapped at every plane which trailed smoke and disappeared after our shots shattered the tropical air. Our anti-tank gun, rifles and

pistols were used to good effect against the attacking ground forces.
Back to normality, our shows ran almost continuously. We responded to the crowds that gathered around us and used a full oxygen bottle which emptied last time over the course of a whole year. We had the same response as at Ironfest, where the displays and battles over the past 3 years have resulted in massive increase in attendance and ticket sales."

Patsy Moppett

Lithgow Living History can be found on Facebook, or contact Ph: 6351 2095

References:
Email, Ian Rufus, Lithgow
Wikipedia – Historical Re-enactment in Australia
Lithgow Living History head to Temora, Lithgow Mercury3 December 2015
Re-enactment of antiaircraft guns at Bowenfels, Lithgow Mercury 30 April 2013
Heritage with a roar and a bang, Western Advocate, 1 December 2013
Re-enactment group living history in Lithgow, www.abc.net.au/local/audio , Angela Owens, 12 December 2012

Mystery photograph

Yet another mystery to solve! This particular photograph is also from the BMHS collection. However, it also remains something of a mystery.
Who are these happy picnickers and bushwalkers, and where are they enjoying their interlude? The writing on the rock to the left of the photograph may give a clue. The young ladies look to the older gentleman with a mixed set of emotions on their faces. Has he just made an unwitting joke, and they are not sure how to take it??? However, the dog appears decidedly non-plussed!

Blue Mountains Historical Society

A day in the mountains

The Technical Side

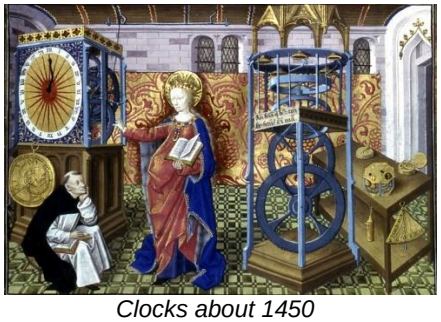
The Horologist

An horologist is a person who makes time pieces and measures time. Horology comes from the word “horologe” or the old French word “orologe”, meaning an instrument for telling the hour, or the study of time.

The clock is one of the most influential and significant inventions in history. Ancient Sanskrit language had a word for “hour”. Horology, or the science (or art or craft) of measuring time, can be dated back to the time of the Babylonians, who instigated the system of 60 second-minutes, and 60 minute-hours, as we know it. The Persians divided the day into 24 hours starting at sunrise. The Athenians began the day at sunset.

The first time keeping device was probably a stick in the ground, or observation of land features and their shadows. From this activity came the sundial. Other devices used included marked candles, oil lamps or a stick of incense, which burned at a measured rate.

The first mechanical clock was apparently made by a blacksmith in Italy, as an alarm clock for a brother in a monastery, who had to wake his colleagues at a certain time for the morning to start the day’s worship routine!



Clocks about 1450

Medieval

Colonial clockmaker

From this sprang the monster tower clocks that appeared all over Europe from about 1200, but which were most inaccurate, large mechanical edifices that were weight driven. The earliest use of the term *clokkemaker* is said to date from 1390. The first watch appeared in about 1500, also somewhat inaccurate. Between 1500 and 1510 Peter Henlein of Nuremberg invented the spring powered clock which resulted in smaller clocks, as alarm clocks, but these were still not too accurate.

The pendulum was known from the time of Galileo, who had the idea to use a swinging bob to regulate the motion of a time-telling device early in the 17th Century.

Antique pocket watch

Christiaan Huygens

Modern watch

Pendulums were not formally applied to the clock until a Dutch mathematician, Christiaan Huygens, in 1656 made the first pendulum clock, later in 1675 developing the balance wheel and spring assembly still found in some clocks today. He is considered as the inventor of the clock. Prior to 1800 clocks were entirely handmade in a single shop under a master

clockmaker. By the 19th Century clock parts were beginning to be made in small factories, but the skill of designing, assembling and adjusting the clock was still done by clockmaking shops.
Accuracy did not really kick in until Lee Deforest invented the vacuum tube in the 1920s, and the later invention of the transistor in the 1940s. Technical and decorative designs developed and many took on the trade of clock makers, or were involved in clock repairs.
Guilds of clockmakers were formed as early as 1544, and an enactment by Francis 1 declared that no one but a master could make or cause to be made any clocks, watches, alarms or other machines for measuring time. A requirement for joining a guild was to practice their craft and gain as much experience as possible. There are still many guilds where clockmakers meet to buy and sell, and have clocks left with them for repair.
During the 1800s and 1900s clocks or watches were carried around as a form of flaunting social status, or a way of instilling a sense of time regulation for work in the industrial workplace.
Interestingly, actual horological manufacturing was largely untouched by the industrial revolution. It was more the movement into the UK of US clockmakers, that spelt the demise of the long case clock. Also, many watchmakers in Britain were incensed by the comments of horologist John Bennett, who criticized English watch manufacturers in his praise of the industry in Switzerland. One Edward Johnson, a watch and chronometer maker from Clerkenwell, led the response to Bennett in 1857, which led to Johnson's idea of a Horological Institute. The Institute was then formed in 1858, and led to raising the standards of British horology, publication of a monthly journal, courses, examinations and diplomas. The Institute still exists today.

Edward Johnson

Fine motor skills required

The clock must first be designed. Each part is calculated, simulated and verified several times, drawings (blueprints) are made, and each part is individually made using very precise machinery to ensure precision. Tools of the trade included small screwdrivers, and broaches (boring tools), gear cutters, oilers, pliers, calipers, die/screw plate, files, piercing saws, turns (lathes), riveting hammers, and depthing tools to align the gears. Gloves protect the hands from chemicals and cuts, and prevent fingermarks on polished surfaces. Masks protect against fine toxic dust and fibres, and safety goggles protect eyes from machinery or dangerous fluids. Keen motor coordination is required to work on devices with small gears and fine machinery.
Since most clocks are now made in factories, most modern clockmakers only repair clocks. With the advent of digital clocks and watches, jewelers have little need to employ horologists. It is not hard to find a new battery, and more people make use of disposable watches. So the horologist is becoming a rare trade.

The workshop

Precision

The clockmaker

There are many horology museums and specialized libraries, including the Royal Greenwich Observatory, also the source of the Prime Meridian (longitude), and the home of the first marine timekeepers accurate enough to determine longitude. Other significant museums are found in Switzerland, Germany, North America and the USA, France, and of course Cuckooland Museum in the UK. *Patsy Moppett*

References:
www.nawcc.org
Rare Trades, National Museum of Australia
Wikipedia – clockmaker
https://en.wikipedia.org – Horology
Google Search – clockmaker horologist
www.city.ac.uk/news/2016/november/conversations-with-a-clock-conservator

Community events & updates

Book Launch – Hassans Walls – Prized and Pillaged

A book launched on 24 March 2017 at the Lithgow Library Learning Centre has been welcomed by the community as a definitive examination of the Hassans Walls Reserve at Lithgow. The author, Keith Painter, has spent many months walking the Reserve and also collating data from a variety of sources, to compile a spectacular collection of photographs and information. The 160 page book, *"Hassans Walls - Prized & Pillaged",* names features of the Reserve and describes aspects of the Reserve which most of the wider community is unaware of.

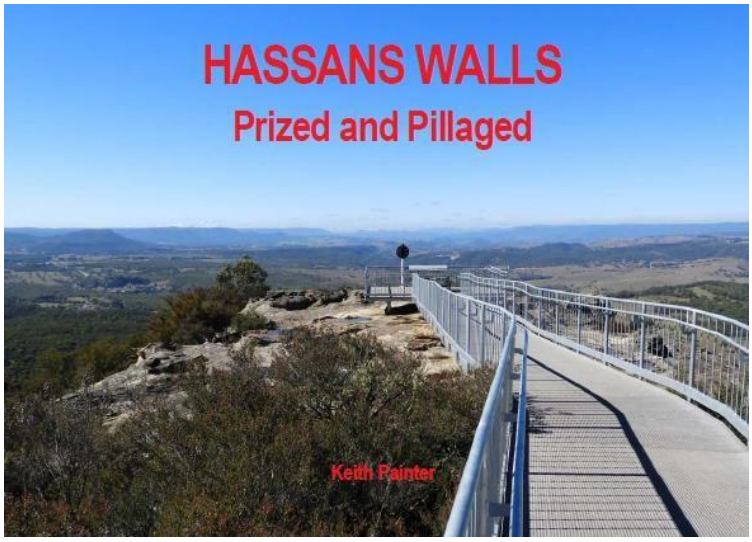
Keith, who hails from Raglan near Bathurst, says:

"The Reserve was created in 1882 and has grown to over 700 hectares. Hassans Walls Lookout is the highest lookout in the Blue Mountains and has the most extensive view from one point.

The heyday of development of facilities in the Reserve was from 1910 to 1918 under the leadership of James Padley. Lookouts, walking tracks, cave shelters and fireplaces were constructed and named after leading Lithgow citizen. So there is Rutherford Glen – James Rutherford of Cobb & Co fame and the first ironmaker at Lithgow; Dooleys Lookout – James Dooley, Premier of NSW in the 1920s; Hoskins Cave, Gannon Cave, Pillans Lookout and many more".

These are just one of the many fascinating details that are documented in *"Hassans Walls - Prized and Pillaged".*

As the book name suggests, the Reserve has had a chequered past, and its story now unfolds.



At the book launch, attended by over 80 people, the author gave a short talk, testimonials were presented by fellow bushwalker and author Brian Fox, and Len Ashworth of the Lithgow Mercury. These were followed by the formal book launch by Cr Maree Statham, who expressed her delight in the details and knowledge the book provided.
The book has also been entered in the 2017 NSW Premiers History Awards for the Community and Regional History Prize! *Patsy Moppett*

The book is available through the author at www.mountainmistbooks.com , various books shops in Lithgow and the upper Blue Mountains, and the Lithgow Visitor Information Centre.

Keith shows us around

Padley monument

Footnote:
The book had a timely release, given that the Lithgow City Council's Draft Plan of Management for the Hassans Walls Reserve had just gone on public exhibition. Although the preparation of the Draft PoM had already included community consultation, the recent exhibition provided opportunity for the community to provide further feedback on Council's proposed management of the Reserve and for its future.
It has already been established that there are a number of inaccuracies in the Plan, and the community is encouraged to approach the Lithgow Council web site and view it for themselves.
Now that the true value, character and history of the Reserve has been documented and the information placed out into the community through the recent book by Keith Painter, both local people and visitors to the area are urged to provide comments to Council so that the

Plan of Management truly reflects the significance of this special place both for Lithgow and the Region.
The Draft Plan of Management has been on exhibition until 28 April 2017 on the Lithgow Council website www.lithgow.nsw.gov.au

Request for information – Mt Victoria & District Historical Society

Mount Victoria & District Historical Society are seeking information on some "wall boards" that they hold in their collection. The Museum holds about twenty four (24) "wall boards" which they believe were used in the construction of a hut adjacent to the swimming baths at the Rienits School at Mount Victoria.
The School, Mount Victoria, was an independent, non-denominational, boarding school for boys. Opened on 18 July 1885, The School was designed and run by the proprietor and principal Mr Henry Guenther Rienits (1851 –1928). Although Rienits was a naturalized Australian citizen, he was of German birth and so was forced by war-time legislation to close The School during 1916. The campus was situated amongst ornamental trees and gardens on eight acres. The main building contained a large schoolroom, dining hall and lavatories on the ground floor, with dormitories on the upper floor. Facilities included a swimming pool fed by springs, rifle range, tennis court and gymnasium.

Wall boards

The "wall boards" contain names carved into the wood, one of which also appears on a list of students enrolled at the school. His name was Fred Hart.
The Museum Committee seeks information on the history of the boards, and how they came to be at the Museum.

Wall boards

Responses can be sent to BMACHO, or to Stephen Davis, member and volunteer at the Museum.

Exhibition: RESURRECT

BMACHO member, Everglades Gardens, announces its up and coming exhibition at their Gallery. ***RESURRECT*** is a collaboration of printmaker Jan Melville and photographic artist Tracy Ponich.

"The artists' subjects, materials and overall mood dovetail, as does the underlying notion of creating art that breathes life into things that are sometimes overlooked. ***RESURRECT*** evokes a sense of endurance and renewal of what is often dismissed as transitory, quickly passed by, or forgotten."

- Jan Melville - Tales of boats, birds and goddesses: Jan is a teller of tales, stories that take the form of the printed image and small-scale sculpture. She incorporates found materials into her works. These might be objects from nature, or as discovered elsewhere, then resurrected in unexpected ways to give new life, and a new mythology.
- Tracy Ponich - Photographs of the land and its elements: Tracy's images explore Blue Mountains bushland, and are fitting for the exhibition space, and aspects of Everglades. The photographs of land and garden join studies of found and fallen minutiae. Isolated flora and fauna, sympathetically captured in studio, come to life through the lens. Landscape or bush element, Tracy's photographs possess a stillness and sense of timelessness.
-

Melville - Redemption

Ponich – After the Rain

The exhibition runs from 8 - 30 April 2017, Wednesday to Sunday, from 11am to 3pm, being open on public holidays.

The Opening was held on Saturday 15 April from 1-4pm, and included an artists' talk & carving demonstration. *Everglades*

To contact the artists:

- *Jan Melville:*

w: janmelvilleprintmaker.weebly.com
e: flycowstudio@hotmail.com

- *Tracy Ponich:*

w: www.feathermark.com.au
e: photos@feathermark.com.au

Exhibition: "IF THESE WALLS COULD SPEAK"

As part of the 2017 Australian Heritage Festival, a wonderful exhibition has opened at the Woodford Academy, 90-92 Great Western Highway, Woodford, on April 1 2017. It is a thematic exhibition inspired by the architecture, landscape, real and imagined personalities, history and heritage of Woodford Acadamy, the Blue Mountains' oldest building.

The exhibition will feature works by select Blue Mountains Artists' Network (BMAN) artists' works being displayed throughout the historic buildings and grounds. Poetry readings/artists' talks will be held at 1pm on each of the three open days on the exhibition.
Participating artists include Greg Bakes, Cathie Cox, Mary Grieg, Caitlin Hughes, Tia Henderson, Christine Hyde, Livonne Larkins, Jo Langley, and Alison Marcer. Poets include Emma Brazil, Jenny Campbell, Mark O'Flynn and John McManamey.

Elizabeth Burgess

Exhibition dates – 1 & 15 April, & 20 May 2017 10am to 4pm.
Museum entry & exhibition:

- *Adults $6*
- *Concession/child (4-16 yrs) $4*
- *Family $15 (2 adults, 2 children)*
- *Guided tours - $2/ person (4 + years)*

Exhibition - LITHGOW'S ANCIENT NATURAL GARDENS

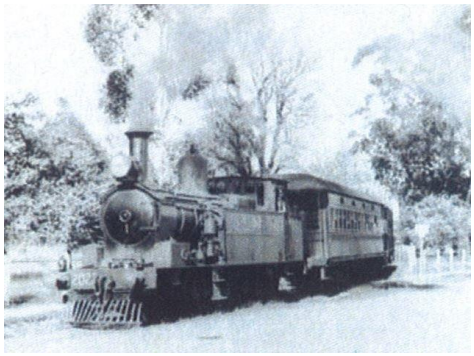
A photographic exhibition is being held at the Lithgow Library Learning Centre, 157 Main Street, Lithgow, from 31 March until 30 April 2017. With photographs by Julie Favell, the exhibition opening was held on 31 March, and presentations were given by:

- Vicki Dick, friend of Julie's and wildlife carer, with a passion for our native environment;
- Yuri Bolotin, exhibition co-ordinator: Nature Photography as a Constant Source of Inspiration and Knowledge;
- Michael Keats, OAM, author and bush explorer: Why Lithgow can be one of Australia's Top Ecotourism Destinations;
- And a Q & A with Julie and the presenters.

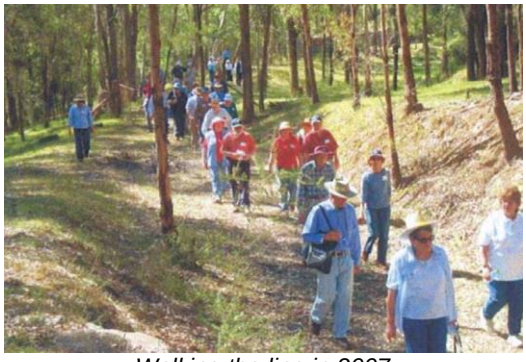
The exhibition remains open until 30 April 2017, and further information can be obtained from the Library on 6352 9100.

Pansy Line Tour

Join the Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society as they take the Pansy Line Tour on Saturday 17 June 1027. WALK ALONG as they explore the remnants of the Richmond to Kurrajong Railway 1926-1952. With the railway gone for so long, it is getting difficult to find many remnants but our experienced local guides will show you what there is, much of which is on private property and not normally accessible. Coaches depart from Richmond and the tour includes lunch in Kurrajong. Some walking would be involved.



Pansy



Walking the line in 2007

Bookings are essential. Details and bookings are to be found on their website,
www.kurrajonghistory.org.au
Or contact David on 02 4567 7993.
Costs are: Adults $35, Seniors $30 and children $25.
Order a copy of their Pansy book for the tour, only $10 (normally $12).

National Trust Australian Heritage Festival

NATIONAL TRUST
AUSTRALIAN
HERITAGE
FESTIVAL

The Australian Heritage Festival 2017 is being held from 18 April to 21 May, celebrating Australia's historic, natural and Aboriginal heritage.
The 2017 Festival theme is *Having a Voice*, and communities across Australia are invited to tell their stories through different voices, recognizing the many narratives that have shaped Australia. Thoughts to be considered include:

- When has your community joined together to be heard?
- What voices deserve to be commemorated in your town?
- What stories are shared across cultural groups in your community?
- How do you celebrate the voices that have shaped your area?
- What sounds are unique to your region?
- Does your community celebrate its heritage via song?

Our shared heritage is rich with voices from many cultures – *Having a Voice* is about taking time to stop and listen to stories from every corner of our society.

For further information and to register your event, contact www.nationaltrust.org.au

Conferences 2017

Penrith History Conference

For those of you who were looking out for information on the Penrith History Conference this year, you have not missed the Conference – it was not held! After 15 years of presenting their *Annual Makings of a City History Conference*, the Penrith City Council Library staff have made the decision to make a change to the way they disseminate their local history to the community. Instead of the conference, a program of events throughout the year has been organised:

- Saturday 25 March: *Family History Saturday: Sourcing and Sorting it.* Hosting a day to help people research and preserve their family history.
- 8-19 May: *The Many Voices of Penrith*. An oral history program.
- August 2017: National Family History Month. Talks and workshops.
- 2-10 September 2017 – History Week. Presentation of talks.
- Wednesday 15 November – film night and history talk with regard to the Light Horse Charge on Beersheba, 100 years on.
- Changing displays at the library throughout the year.
- Publications: Recent releases include:
  - 1917 Our Fallen booklet, to be released in April.
  - 2018 History Calendar, to be released in November 2017.
- Staff will attend fairs, conferences and talks throughout the year to promote the history of the local area.

More information can be found at their local history blog at https://penrithhistory.com//
For bookings for events or for information, call Lorraine Stacker, Vanessa Stockford or Alison Spencer at Penrith City Library.

Royal Australian Historical Society Conference 2017

The RAHS Affiliated Societies Committee announces that their next conference will be held at Cowra, in the Central West of NSW, on 28-29 October 2107. The venue will be at the Cowra Services Club, 101 Brisbane Street, Cowra.

Experiment Farm, Cowra

The RAHS will work with the Cowra & Distict Historical Society and the Cowra Family History Group to provide an opportunity to explore the fascinating history of the area and experience its good wines and great food. Details will be released I July 2017.
Travel and accommodation arrangements should be made early. Watch their website for further information www.rahs.org.au

Blue Mountains Association of Cultural and Heritage Organisations (BMACHO) Bi-annual Conference 2018

Save the date! BMACHO has scheduled its 2018 Conference a year out, and knows that last year's Conference at Mt Victoria "*Artefact"* will be a hard act to follow.

Conference 2016

The date is ***Saturday 12 May 2018***, and a theme has yet to be determined.
Watch this space!!!

Francis Greenway Tour

On Saturday 6th May 2017, Hawkesbury Historical Society is holding a Francis Greenway Car Tour of Windsor & Liverpool. The tour will be led by well-known historians Jan Barkley-Jack, and Ian Jack.
Although Francis Greenway arrived a convict forger and died in obscurity, he brought distinction to Australian colonial architecture. Windsor and Liverpool are two of Macquarie's country towns which retain works designed by Greenway.

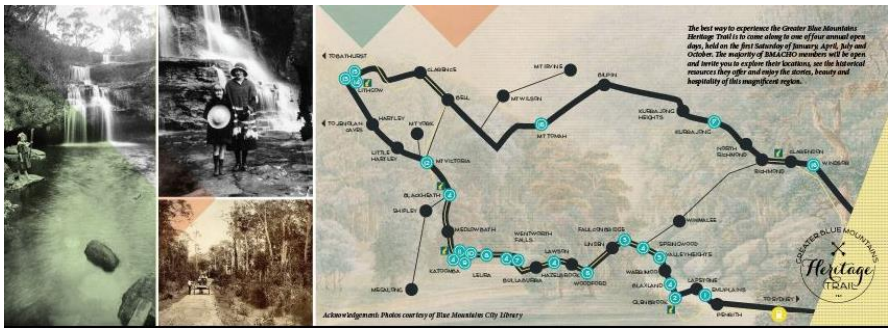
Western side of Thompsons Square, Windsor

The tour will begin at 9.45am in Thompson Square, George Street, Windsor and end at 4pm at St Luke's Anglican Church, Liverpool. Cost is $45.00 per person, $60.00 per family.

Neville Dehn

Bookings are essential. Bookings can be made through the Secretary:
secretaryhawkesburyhistory@gmail.com
Or phone: 02 9659 4103.
Payment is to be by cheque to P O Box 293, Windsor 2756,
Or by bank transfer: Hawkesbury Historical Society BSB 062 622, Account 009 006 643.

Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail Update!



BMACHO continues to promote the Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail and members' upcoming events.
BMACHO intend to reprint the Heritage Trail brochure soon and have asked members if they wish to participate. For a reasonable cost, members can appear in the reprint of the brochure, feature on the Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail website and have their events promoted on the website and Facebook page. This process is currently being finalised.
In addition, during 2017 BMACHO intend to hold a competition to encourage visitation to Trail participant properties. For this purpose, BMACHO have asked members to think of an artefact or item at their premises that can only be found by visiting. BMACHO will then list questions on a "Passport and Entry Form", which will be an insert to the brochure, and visitors can either answer the questions or obtain a stamp showing they have been to a venue. BMACHO will hold a prize draw approximately every six months. BMACHO already have offers of prizes for the competition, and this event is set to commence soon.

If you are a member and you would like further information, or if you would like to become a member, please email the BMACHO Secretary at committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au

For general information about BMACHO and the Trail, see heritagedrive.com.au or www.facebook.com/GBMHeritageTrail

To find out more about BMACHO visit www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

Registered office: 1/19 Stypandra Place, Springwood 2777. (02) 4751 5834
Email: committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au or j.koperberg@bigpond.com
Website: www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au **ABN**: 53 994 839 952

The organisation: Blue Mountains Association of Cultural & Heritage Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 after local historical and heritage societies and individuals recognised the need for the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the local government area (LGA) of Blue Mountains City Council. The constituency now embraces but is not limited to, the LGAs of Blue Mountains, Lithgow, Hawkesbury and Penrith. BMACHO membership includes historical and heritage groups, museums, commercial enterprises with an historical or heritage component in its core business, local government (local studies units, library collections) and a limited number of individual members by invitation such as but not necessarily academics. The objectives of the organisation are:

1. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage
2. To encourage and assist cultural heritage
3. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations.

One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

Affiliations: BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society and is affiliated with the Better Planning Network.

Publications: BMACHO's official newsletter ***Heritage*** is edited by Patsy Moppett. The annual refereed *Blue Mountains History Journal* is edited by Dr Peter Rickwood and occasional papers are published from time to time.

Membership: The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mt Tomah; Blue Mountains City Library; Blue Mountains Cultural Heritage Centre; Blue Mountain Education & Research Trust; Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc; Blue Mountains Historical Society; Bygone Beautys Treasured Teapot Museum and Tearooms; City of Lithgow Mining Museum Inc; Colo Shire Family History Group; Day Fine Art; Eskbank Rail Heritage Centre; Everglades Historic House & Gardens; Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc; Hartley Valley District Progress Association; Hawkesbury Historical Society Inc; Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc; Leurella NSW Toy & Railway Museum; Lithgow & District Family History Society Inc; Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies; Mt Victoria & District Historical Society Inc; Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine Historical Society Inc (including Turkish Bath Museum); National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Blue Mountains Branch; National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Lithgow Branch; Nepean District Historical Society Inc; Norman Lindsay Gallery and Museum; Paragon Cafe, Katoomba; Scenic World Blue Mountains Limited; Springwood Historical Society Inc; Springwood Historians Inc; Transport Signal Communication Museum Inc; Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Heritage Museum, Woodford Academy Management Committee, Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd. The following are individual members: Wendy Blaxland, Fiona Burn, Ray Christison, Wayne Hanley, Associate Professor Ian Jack, Ian Milliss, Patsy Moppett, Keith Painter and Dr Peter Rickwood.

Committee: The management committee for 2016-2017 (from April 2016) is: Patsy Moppett (President and ***Heritage*** Newsletter Editor), Ian Jack (Vice President), Jan Koperberg (Secretary), Philip Hammon (Treasurer), Scott Pollock and Jan Koperberg (web sites), Dick Morony (Public Officer/Membership Secretary/ Calendar Editor), Suzanne Smith (Events and Venue Co-ordinators), Fiona Burn, Peter Brownlee and Roy Bennett. Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail sub-committee: Scott Pollock, Peter Brownlee, Fiona Burn, Jan Koperberg, Suzanne Smith, & Lynn Collins, Museums and Galleries Adviser.

Disclaimer: views and opinions expressed in Heritage originate from many sources and contributors. Every effort is taken to ensure accuracy of material. Content does not necessarily represent or reflect the views and opinions of BMACHO, its committee or its members. If errors are found feedback is most welcome.

Heritage

Newsletter of the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc

July-August 2017 *ISSUE 51*

ISSN 2203-4366

Fernhill Estate, Mulgoa

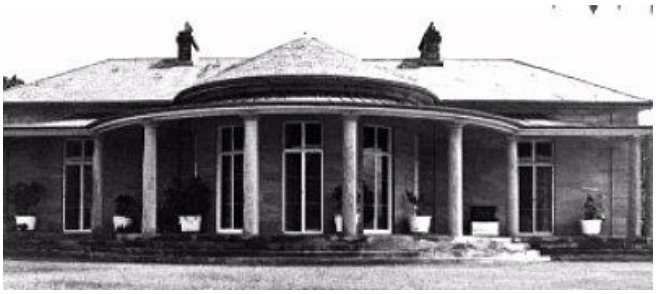
Fernhill Estate is a large rural property, being the remaining lands at Mulgoa associated with Edward Cox, son of the road builder and Hawkesbury magistrate William Cox. Edward was granted the land when still only 4 years old, in 1809.

Fernhill Homestead, Mulgoa

History: The original grants in the Mulgoa valley amounted to some 3,760 acres. Edward's was the first grant of 30 acres. The first house on this grant was The Cottage, built about 1810-11, and was occupied by several of William's sons in turn before they each developed their own properties. Edward had been sent away to school in England and returned in about 1825, married Jane Brooks, and lived at The Cottage for the next 16 years.

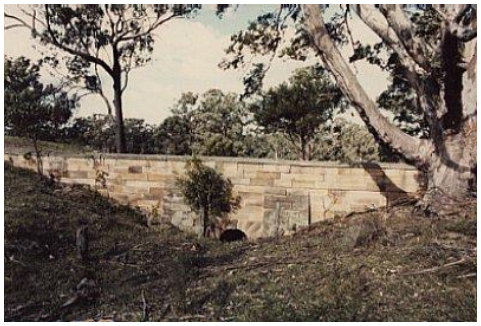
In 1843 Edward built the grand sandstone Greek revival temple house known as Fernhill. It was designed as a two storey building, but built as single storey, possibly by architect Mortimer Lewis, but was never actually finished. Some 20 Irish stonemasons were brought to Australia to the building project, using local stone quarried on the property. Other suggested architects were John Verge and Francis Clarke. Edward and Jane moved into the house in 1843. Above the door is a date of 1842.

The Cottage was also within the property, the whole of which was leased out during the depression of the 1840s.



Fernhill Estate, Mulgoa

The Cox's vineyards produced prizewinning wines, and their farming methods were recognized as significant land management practices.
Edward Cox died in1863 and the property passed to his son Edward King Cox of Mudgee, who operated a racehorse stud at Mulgoa until 1883.
Upon Edward King's death in 1883, the Estate was divided and his son in turn, Alfred Edward Cox ran a dairy from The Cottage property from 1897 to 1913.
In 1913 The Cottage was sold to Fowler and Bayliss of Penrith, and then to a Mr Max Lamb. In 1920 it was purchased by HJ Davey. Mrs Davey and a Mr Love ran a dairy until 1969 when Mrs Davey retired.
Fernhill was sold in 1888 by Standish Cox, to Mr Wright of Wright Heaton and the house was uninhabited for some years. By 1911 the property was owned by RB Baynes of Mudgee.
In 1931 the house and 1,000 acres was bought by Mr and Mrs Moyse who ran it as a guest house.
In 1965 John Darling bought the Estate. Darling was a WWII fighter pilot, a banker, company director, agri-business pioneer and film industry visionary. Fernhill was gradually restored. Darling had Paul Sorensen rework the gardens.
In 1980 the house was sold with 1,000 acres to a developer, Anderson, who continued with the restoration, adding the sandstone columns on the northern pergola.
Luckily, bushfires in 2001-2002 left the house undamaged, and Anderson then acquired properties to the north.
In 2010 an auction of Anderson's collection was held, which included antiques, furniture, and artworks.
Description: The property comprises farm estates, the building complex and areas of natural bushland, rural landscapes and escarpments, avenues of trees and sculptured gardens, watercourses and stone bridges.


Stone bridge, Fernhill

Cox's Cottage

The garden features include terracing and pool, significant plantings of trees and hedges, orchards and stone garden walls.
The building complex includes the house, cellar and wings, officers' courtyard, stables and coach house, stone box drains, and winery (now a ruin). At one stage in the 1980s there was a private zoo.
Modifications have occurred at various times to the buildings, mainly in the 1950s and 1960s, then again in the 1980s.
In 1966 a subdivision was approved into two lots, a 25 acre lot around the house and the driveway from Mulgoa Road, leaving a 926 acre residue.
In the 1970s the coach house and stables were renovated as stables and a dwelling.
Further subdivision occurred in 1979, excising 49.8ha in the north eastern sector of the property.
Former uses of the property include the farm, residence and guest house, plant nursery and chicken hatchery, piggery and stone mason's yard. The owners since 2011-2012, S & B Tripp, have used the property for functions, picnic races, moto cross events, rock concerts,

ghost tours and heritage tours. The property is also listed as farm stay accommodation. Earlier in 2017 the sale of five allotments in Fernhill's Mayfair precinct took place.
Significance: The property is significant for its modified and natural landscapes, a history of landed pastoral estates and early rural development of the colony, and its association with adjacent properties, St Thomas' Anglican Church and cemetery, and The Cottage.

St Thomas Anglican Church, Mulgoa

Edward Cox grave

George Cox grave

The future: Recently some 384ha of the property has been offered for sale. The property contains the historic house and outbuildings, horse racing track and stables.
Community opposition has been raised in recent years to proposals for rezoning and subdivision of the historic estate.
Town planning for the forecast increase in population is a priority for government, with new infrastructure such as rail, roads and housing well underway. Planning for future burial space is just as important.
With many Australian cemeteries expected to reach capacity in the next few decades, cemetery managers must look to the future early. This includes cemeteries such as Penrith and Rookwood.
Technologies such as multi-level structures and cremation are capable of extending the life of cemeteries, but for many people, religious earth interments are the only option.
Rookwood: One significant offer has now been made by Rookwood General Cemeteries Reserve Trust (RGCRT). RGCRT have been exploring options outside Lidcombe for many years including other large undeveloped areas in the west. They have now taken an important step towards expanding, and have nominated Fernhill Estate as a possibly alternate site to Rookwood, which was established in 1867 and includes many heritage buildings itself. It is the largest Victorian cemetery in the world.
The property that would be purchased at Fernhill comprises some 384ha, and about 40% of that would be required for a cemetery, a dignified and historically significant final resting place. It would provide burial potential for about 150 years.
They advise that given their history of heritage patronage, custodianship and commitment at the Rookwood site, they are very much aware of making the Fernhill homestead a site for the whole community. The current listing on the State Heritage Register would allow for protection of heritage significance and further conservation works. They advise:
"Fernhill Estate is a suitable location for RGCRT as it is within close proximity to Rookwood. Furthermore, the historic nature of the property gives an ongoing heritage link to Rookwood and provides the opportunity for the Trust to once again conserve and restore a significant piece of history for future generations."
At the same time, Rookwood would always be available for burials while space is available, with strategies being in place to ensure the gates remain open indefinitely.
Preliminary designs show that the Fernhill homestead and heritage landscape would be preserved, a buffer of 25ha being set aside around the house. Some 220ha of bio banked land would also be protected.

Rookwood Cemetery

A predominantly lawn style cemetery is proposed, with low profile plaques to be used in any areas visible from the road or homestead, together with appropriate landscape screening.
RGCRT have entered into a due-diligence process, with a view to securing the Fernhill Estate, which could run up until September 2017. This amounts to a six month exclusivity period which would allow the Trust to conduct the required due-diligence process, commencing with a period of community consultation. The first of twelve community meetings was held on 16 May 2017.
The community consultation process consisted of:

- Artists impression for visual landscape impact;
- Heritage assessments for impact on significance, and ongoing management;
- Environmental assessments to assess the impact on the existing biobanking arrangements;
- Noise and traffic assessments;
- Service assessments;
- Geotechnical assessments;
- Hydrological assessments.

Following these sessions, and upon receipt of community feedback, more community meetings would be held. RGCRT have stated that they will not proceed if public opinion is against the development.
The first meeting held in May discussed a wide range of topics, and specific concerns included the possibility of goth parties in the cemetery, vandalism and grave robberies. RGCRT advise that Roads and Maritime Services would determine whether Mulgoa Road would be upgraded and widened. Rookwood currently holds between 2 and 10 services daily, which is a guide to the traffic volumes generated by such a development.
Such a cemetery proposal would create business opportunities for the region and reduce the risk of residential subdivision of the Estate. It would provide opportunities for education and research, involving visitation by schools and university groups. It would provide opportunities for employment, for jobs in administration and apprenticeships.
Community comment: Most recently, the Mulgoa Progress Association has expressed grave concerns for the cemetery project, their president Wally Cox saying it would be destructive. As the site of both the homestead and the unique colonial landscape, is of the greatest State heritage significance, the aesthetics of a lawn cemetery would not be compatible. They would oppose any cemetery in the Mulgoa valley, which already has a cemetery on the grounds of St Thomas' Anglican Church. Their recently prepared submission opposing the development outlines a number of specific concerns:

- A historic colonial landscape in danger of development.
- Such a development which would include signage, roads, lighting, parking and administrative buildings would not be compatible or aesthetically sympathetic to this landscape.

- The landscape should not be compromised or developed.

The MPA are seeking the support of organisations and individual experts concerned about the conservation of gardens and landscapes, who would emphasize to the developer the importance of the landscape and the need for its conservation, and convey to it the extent of public concern.

Some time ago, during a proposal lodged with Council for rezoning and subdivision of the Fernhill Estate, the Blue Mountains Conservation Society Inc provided comment on the impact of that development on the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area and the Blue Mountains National Park. As the Estate adjoins both these areas, the following concerns were raised:

- The proposal was not in accordance with the guidelines set down by the State and Federal governments for development in such adjoining land;
- Servicing matters such as sewer were not provided for.
- Sealing of local roads and the impact on neighbouring bushland – weeds;
- Impact on endangered species, and risk of fauna mortality;
- Influx of recreational animals;
- No ecological assessments were undertaken;
- Cumulative impacts of a staged development;
- Concern for tree removal;
- Consideration of the impact on the existing biobanking arrangements;
- Impact on the Shale Sandstone Transition Forest as a critically Endangered Ecological Community;

Conclusion: Fernhill Estate in its entirety is certainly in need of conservation and investment and the cost would be high. It can be seen that a wide range of land uses has been applied to the property over time, in an attempt to maintain and conserve this large and significant link to Australia's colonial past. The current zoning permits such a cemetery development with consent.

From the above it would appear as though the Rookwood General Cemetery Reserve Trust are quite aware of what they are dealing with. At the same time, the local Mulgoa community feel there are adverse implications for the Estate, as well as the wider Mulgoa valley.

It is to be hoped that the due-diligence period that has been undertaken by RGCRT results in a thorough consultation with the community. Also, a critical element will be a highly responsive community feedback regime. The results of the consultation period will be assessed by RGCRT and further consultation undertaken, before they decide in September whether to proceed or not.

Therefore, following the explanation and elaboration given by RGCRT, and a viewing of the specialist reports to be prepared, it is critical that the community express their specific concerns and general comments, both for and against. It is obvious that RGCRT are conscious of the value of Fernhill, and given their background they are not your usual property developer.

BMACHO member organisations and individuals, as well as the wider community are encouraged to contact RGCRT during any coming consultation periods, to register their thoughts in regard to this significant proposal, which should include both the positive and negative attributes of the project. *Patsy Moppett*

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Fernhill Inventory Sheet www.environment.nsw.gov.au
Cox's Cottage Inventory Sheet www.environment.nsw.gov.au
William Cox, by Richard Cox 2012

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Food for thought ..... Editor's note

What a bumper issue we have for you this time! With so many interesting articles and input from a range of other writers, as well as our own happenings throughout the BMACHO membership region, I even had to keep some of the writings back.
There are so many fascinating topics floating around the heritage world at present that information is in overload.
We hope that the details provided will allow distribution of information on a range of topical matters, a wide appreciation of places, people and place names, contacts for coming events, tours and exhibitions.
Focussing on the age old question, "what is heritage", the situation regarding Fernhill Estate illustrates how people's views of heritage are so varied, and how values must be prioritised in order to achieve a balance between heritage conservation and progress.
It could be said that a cemetery is the ultimate in an expression of heritage. However, with modern cemeteries moving over into the lawn cemetery form, and the modern headstone being often less elaborate than the romantic grave markers utilised 150-200 years ago, the visual impact of this does not necessarily sit well with other elements we consider built heritage. However, this visual impact can be managed through careful site configuration and landscaping.
But not only is visual impact a matter for consideration at Fernhill.
The installation of a new cemetery anywhere will also involve consideration for the infrastructure required to cater for it. This includes roads and servicing, administrative building and facilities, and the impact and burden of these on the local and regional community. The natural environmental and heritage aspects of the landscape, considering

features such as plantings, old access roads, drainage lines, endangered species and habitat, as well as built heritage, all also come into play.
Large properties such as Fernhill require considerable ongoing cost and maintenance, and it is obvious that people who have taken the property on in the past have struggled, attempting to introduce a wide range of uses for both the buildings and the site, being the subject of multiple subdivisions, activities, alterations and additions over time, to generate income. Having said that, the property still remains quite an intact significant example of colonial rural development.
Ideas flow thick and fast as to what to do with the property, including the cemetery project, subdivision and residential development. However, how one narrows down exactly what is suitable for the site may continue to be an ongoing case of trial and error, with the hope that the significance is not eroded. Any suitable adaptive reuse development must provide opportunity to keep the Estate active, and conserved for future generations.
This dilemma occurs frequently with regard to large abandoned industrial sites, which are not necessarily visually attractive in themselves, but which usually demonstrate technological, economic and social history. More on that another day!
Happy reading!

Footsteps in Time – George William Evans

Travelling through the Blue Mountains we have often seen the memorials to George Evans and his survey across the Blue Mountains. But how often have we stopped to contemplate the context of those monuments, and how/when they were erected.
Yes, Evans carried out a survey from Penrith to Bathurst. The timing of that survey however, places him at the first white man to reach Bathurst. Cox then followed him with the first road. Sufficient credit has not been awarded Evans for this feat, whereas the feats of Blaxland, Lawson and Wentworth, and of William Cox are now well documented common knowledge.
These fifteen monuments each acknowledge the survey of Evans, and each contains an extract of his diary entry for each location.
Bill Ivin has set down some background to Evans' work, and also to how the monuments came to be, thanks to the efforts of John Yeaman and Jack Darby, who sought funding for the monument project.
Each monument was unveiled by a different person on a different date, such as Mignon Yeaman, widow of John Yeaman; Jennifer Hunt and Gwen Hammond, Great, Great, Great Granddaughters of George Evans; Donald M Grant, Surveyor General for NSW; and Greg Goodman, President, Institution of Surveyors NSW Inc. *Patsy Moppett*

A Tour Guide to the 15 Monuments Commemorating George William Evans', Survey 1813/14

(compiled by Bill Ivin in 2013-14 for distribution in 2015, but not adopted)

"Following the successful crossing of the Blue Mountains by Blaxland, Lawson and Wentworth in May/June 1813, the Governor Lachlan Macquarie instructed George William Evans – then Deputy Surveyor for Lands:
"To proceed in the Attempt of effecting a Passage over the great Range of Mountains. Called here the Blue Mountains, and to discover what Description of Country lay westward of them"
George William Evans set out on this exploration in November 1813, with five men – Richard Lewis and James Burns, (both Free Men) and three convicts – James Coogan, John Grover and John Tygh (sic Tighe). Evans made a significant decision, by determining to carry out the second part of his instructions first, ie. by surveying beyond the "Explorer's Terminal Point" which he did by starting at the foot of Mount York. Here he marked a tree on the 25th November, 1813, and measured westward to his later selected objective at the Macquarie River, reaching there on 9th December 1813.
Returning to the "Marked Tree" at the Riverlett, Evans began the survey to record the route established by the Explorers – defined by a line of blazed trees – back to Emu Ford, on 31st

December, 1813. This survey of 48 ½ miles (about 80km) was completed on 8 January, 1814.
Thus Surveyor Evans and party walked in the “Footsteps” of the three “Explorers”.
This Guide is intended for those wishing to visit the monuments spaced throughout the Blue Mountains, which record in part some of “Evans’ Survey” and thus become aware of its significance that led to the rapid expansion across the fertile plains west of the Great Dividing Range. This Guide commences at Mount York and proceeds to the Nepean River in accord with the records of the survey that will become self-evident when reading the historical facts.

Mt York

Browntown

Blackheath

Mount York: This is the first of 15 monuments – and is probably the most significant in the successful crossing of the Blue Mountains – is located at the end of Mount York Road, Mt Victoria. This is truly a very scenic location with good access to lookouts and detailed historical information. Most of the sites could be considered :wheel-chair accessible”. However, reasonable fitness is needed to undertake the first 200m down the original “Cox’s Road”, and the experience is well worth the effort. Prepare to spend in excess of ½ hour at this location.
Mt. Victoria: located at “Browntown Oval” – about 1km east of Mt. Victoria – turning right off the highway via a turn right seagull lane and continuing on to the amenities shed. It is unfortunate that this monument is in such a remote location and not wheel-chair accessible, however the nearby bush is typical for the upper mountains and probably very similar to that encountered by the “Explorers”, “Evans Survey Party” and “Cox’s Road Gang”.
Blackheath: located outside the Ivanhoe Hotel, Blackheath at the main set of traffic lights on the highway with easy access along a level path.

Katoomba

Wentworth Falls Lake

Wentworth Falls

Katoomba: Conveniently located outside the Blue Mountains City Council Chambers, with parking available outside the Chambers and easily accessible.
Wentworth Falls Lake: If driving down the highway this site is best accessed by turning in to Sinclair Crescent, before passing under the railway, and continue through to the lake. The monument is located at the western end of the lake and is quite accessible.
Wentworth Falls: This monument is centrally located within the shopping centre outside the former “old” Post Office in Station Street and has easy access.

Lawson: The monument is located near the Lawson Bowling Club, in Badgery Crescent and accessed by turning left off the highway at the set of traffic lights on the crest of a hill after passing the Blue Mountain Hotel. The site is easily accessible.
Hazelbrook: Situated in the precincts of the Hazelbrook Shopping Centre on the northern side of the highway – off street parking available and wheel-chair accessible.
Faulconbridge: Within Jackson Park, Prime Ministers' Corridor of Oaks and found by turning off the highway at the Railway Crossing – wheel-chair accessible – nearby is the former "country" home of Sir Henry Parkes, Premier of NSW (5 times) and also known as the "Father of Federation".

Lawson

Hazelbrook

Springwood

Springwood: Located in Telstra Park, Macquarie Road, Springwood Shopping Centre. Being located within the shopping centre the parking might present a problem, however the site is easily accessible. It is suggested that when driving from Faulconbridge one continue along Macquarie Road and stop for a while near the intersection with Short Street, Springwood, to observe the monument where Governor Macquarie camped in 1816 and named Springwood.
Warrimoo: Located within Ardill Park and easily accessible after turning off the highway just to the east of the "Citizen's Hall", after crossing over the railway.
Blaxland: Situated on the south side of the highway within the centre of the shopping centre and best to be accessed via turning right off the highway in to View Street and then Hope Street in to the parking area.

Warrimoo

Glenbrook

Lapstone

Glenbrook: Located within Glenbrook Park, at the rear of the Tourist Information Centre and accessed after turning right off the highway at the set of lights in to Mann Street and then continue to Glenbrook Park. The site is wheel-chair accessible.
Lapstone: Located within Skarrat Park, Governor's Drive and at time of publication in bushland and only accessible by the fit and adventurous?
Emu Plains: Located near intersection of Great Western Highway and River Road in Regatta Park. If visiting this site one should include a walk down the former Punt Road and the site of the former river crossing.

Acknowledgement: John Yeaman: Blue Mountains City Council Engineer 1948-1970, who during that time became interested in the feats of the early explorers that paved the way across the rugged Blue Mountains. He became somewhat miffed that the expedition of George William Evans, Deputy Surveyor of Lands (1813/14), who was the first European to cross the Great Dividing Range to discover the fertile plains of the Macquarie River Valley, had been given scant recognition. As part of this expedition George Evans surveyed the route undertaken by the three Explorers – Blaxland, Lawson and Wentworth (1813) from the Riverlett, Hartley Vale to Emu Ford, Penrith.
Also of the engineering feat of William Cox for the construction of the "road" from Emu Ford to Bathurst in 1815/16.
Upon his retirement, with Jack Darby, Surveyor General and the Blue Mountains City Council jointly prepared a submission to the Federal Government for funding under the Bi-Centennial Grants Projects for the establishment of monuments at suitable locations throughout the Blue Mountains to commemorate George William Evans Survey.
This pamphlet has been produced by W.C (Bill) Ivin, retired surveyor of Faulconbridge, as a personal contribution to the Bi-Centennial Celebrations of the Crossings of the Blue Mountains." *Bill Ivin*

Aboriginal place names along the upper Cox River

{The following article is the second part of a larger paper provided by Jim Smith. The first part was documented in HERITAGE Newsletter No. 50. Please refer back to that article for map showing the location of many of these places.}

(1) Thoondoo [dhuu(n)duu]

1892. "The Junction-- Aboriginal Name Thoondoo—Farmer's Creek with Walker's River, Rydal Road." Another local correspondent J. Dobbie added this description: "*So called because at this place on the Great Western Road (Bowenfells to Rydal) Farmer's Creek joins the Cox River. A convict settlement called the Junction Camp was established here on a small piece of flat land entirely surrounded by precipitous hills."*
1913. "Junction of Walker's or Cox's River with Farmer's Creek-- aboriginal name, Toondoo."
Interpretation. A section of Cox's River near the Farmers Creek junction was known as Walker's River after an early settler. Farmers Creek is also known Cooerwull [guuwawal] or Coerwull Brook. Cooerwull is said to be the name of a small blue flower, possibly the native Bluebell *Wahlenbergia stricta.* This word was chosen in 1824 by the first settler in the area, Andrew Brown, as the name for his property on Farmers Creek and also became the name for two schools in the area.
A "*small piece of flat land entirely surrounded by precipitous hills*" at the junction of two rivers is very likely to have been an Aboriginal camping place.

(2) Gillingarambilly [gi.li.nga.ra(m)bi.lii]

1892: "Mount Kirkley-- native name Gillingarambilly-- The hill behind Mr Gould's place on road from Bowenfells to Rydal."
1913: "Mount Kirkley, hill half-mile west of junction of Bathurst and Mudgee roads-- Gillingarambilli."
Interpretation. Gould's Hill or Mount Kirkley is shown on Alex Wilson's 1914 map. However, Wilson shows the Aboriginal name of Mt Walker, about three km to the north west, as Giligarambala. This is another interpretation of the word Gillingarambilli. Another local resident also claimed that Giligarambala was the name for Mt Walker. A story about the cultural significance of Mt Walker was recorded: "*the natives had a superstitious aversion to this hill owing to some very remarkable echoes to be heard about it, and which answered their coo-ees after a considerable lapse of time*." It is possible that this placename applied to the region around Mt Walker and Mount Kirkley.
Gillingarambilli is one of two words on Mylecharane's list which end with the suffix-- billi. The other one is Mooraminbilly. It is a common word ending (usually as --bili) in the Ngarigu language spoken in south-eastern New South Wales. David Nash kindly extracted, from the Geographical Names Board database, a list of New South Wales placenames with this

ending. One name, Jincumbilly, is in Ngarigu country but the majority are in or near the country mapped by Tindale as Ngunnawal country. These are: Yarrangobilly, Adjungbilly, Currockbilly, Mutmutbilly, Muttbilly and Wagragobilly. An outlier, Gogobilly, may be in Wiradjuri country. The other four names are many hundreds of kilometres away, in north-western New South Wales. Ngarigu, Ngunnawal and Gundungurra belong to the same language family, the Yuin group and Gundungurra and Ngunnawal are very similar in vocabulary and grammar. The placename ending—billi / billy appears to have had some significance within Yuin country, but its meaning is not known.

(3) Tarrapalat [dha.rra.ba.lat]

"1892: River Lett-- native name Tarrapalat-- Named by Evans 'The Riverlet' (Rivulet) corrupted to River Lett."

1913: "The River Lett at Hartley—Tarapalet."

Interpretation.

The journalist who interviewed Billy Lynch recorded that the word Therabulat was a name for [part of] the Cox River originally occupied by Lynch's "tribe". Tarrapalat and Therabulat are the same word, heard and recorded in English in variant forms by two different people. Jim Barrett concluded that "…*the appropriate spelling of "Therabulat" would be "Dhurrabulat", which means "two rivers*". While the literal meaning of Dhurrabulat is "two rivers", the Gundungurra appear to have used it for places where two rivers came together. Thus, it may not be an exclusive placename for the area around the junction of the River Lett and Cox River.

The Gundungurra people in the Burragorang Valley had a similar word to describe the areas around river junctions. R.H. Mathews noted that Gurradhulla meant a "junction of watercourses" and A.L. Bennett wrote Kurradalla for a "meeting of the waters (a junction)". These latter spellings may be the same word, heard and written down differently, or represent a difference in dialect between the clans of the upper and lower Cox River. Mathews recorded that the last waterhole on the Wollondilly River, about 400 metres above its junction with the Cox River, was called Gurradhulla. This indicates that the word Gurradhulla was not used just for an actual river junction by the lower Cox river clan but for the area around it. Tarrapalat /Therabulat was probably used in the same way by the upper Cox river clans.

River Lett at Glenroy

Cox's River at Glenroy

(4) Gnallwarra [nga.la.wa.rra]

1892: "Gnallwarra-- High rock of peaks, either side of Brown's Gap."

1913: "Rocky Peak, northerly from Blackman's old place near the new road over Brown's Gap from Mount Victoria and Hartley Vale to Lithgow-- Gnallwarra."

Interpretation.

The range dividing the Lett River catchment from the Farmers Creek catchment is called Hassans Walls, at least on its western end. Where this range swings northwards is a saddle called Brown's Gap. It appears that the peaks on either side of this saddle were known as

Gnallwarra, although the 1913 definition implies there is a single “Rocky Peak” on one side of the Gap which was known by this name.
When very early settlers chose to name their properties with Aboriginal words, they often used the true Aboriginal placename for their land. However, John Blackman called his property, some 2 km south-east of Brown’s Gap, “Nulwara” suggesting either that he wished to name his place after the “Rocky Peak” he could see in the distance or that he misunderstood his Aboriginal informant.

(5) Tuiwon [du.wii.wan]

1892: “The Vale of Clwydd-- native name Tuiwon-- This embraces the whole of the country under the mountains, extending from Mr Neale’s [Little Hartley], including Hartley Vale, and past the bottom of Brown’s Gap.”
1913: “The Vale of Clwydd (proper)-- Tuiwon.”
Interpretation.
Governor Macquarie named the Vale of Clwydd on 29 April 1815. After leaving the base of Mt York he described his party’s route along Cox’s Road: “*we pursued our journey in the carriage over a fine plain verdant country of open forest land through a beautiful extensive vale of five miles which I have named the Vale Clwydd after the vale of the same name in Wales. This vale terminates at a river running south formed by two smaller ones coming from the westward and eastward and which unite at the distance of 5 miles from Mount York.”* This “termination” of the Vale of Clwydd, as defined by Macquarie, is at Glenroy. Mylecharane’s description of the extent of the country described by Tuiwon is similar to Macquarie’s definition of the Vale of Clwydd i.e. what we call today the Hartley Valley. In 1913 Mylecharane needed to clarify that Tuiwon referred to Macquarie’s “Vale of Clwydd (proper)” as distinct from the suburb of Lithgow with the same name. So, how can Mylecharane’s information, that Tuiwon was the name for the extensive area of the Lett River catchment, be reconciled with Peter Ogilvie’s claim that Tuiwon was the name for part of the Cox’s River? One interpretation could be that a lengthy stretch of Cox’s River adjacent to (what we call) the Hartley Valley was known to Aboriginal people by the same name as the Valley, i.e. Tuiwon, with Therabulat / Tarrapalat being a more localised name for the area around the junction with the Lett River.
Jim Barrett has noted a relationship between the placename du.wii.wan and the name of one of the upper Cox River clans, recorded by early settlers as Wywandy, (spelt by Barrett as wii.wan.dii), with this local clan group identifying with the du.wii.wan river frontage. A problem with this suggestion is that, at the time of the earliest European records, the remnants of the Wywandy clan were living at Wallerawang, about 15 km north of the Hartley Valley. The Wywandy may have occupied all the country between du.wii.wan and Wallerawang and beyond. Alternatively, they may have been a small localised clan of the Hartley Valley that moved northwards to settle on James Walker’s Wallerawang property. When the Wywandy went to Bathurst to collect blankets they were referred to as the “Cox’s River Tribe”.

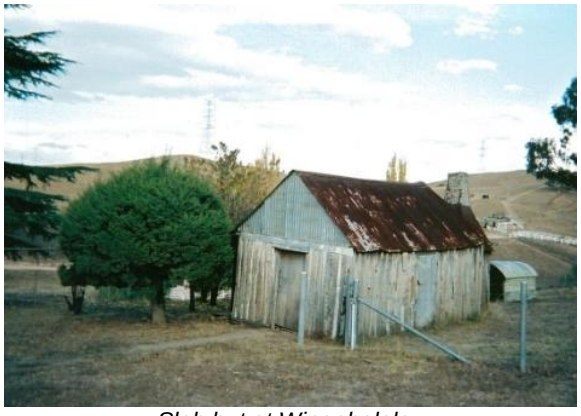
(6) Liddleton

1892: “Liddleton-- native name Mooraminbilly [muu.ra.mi.n.bili] (near Hartley).”
1913: “Liddleton, on Cox’s River-- Mooramanbilly.”
Interpretation. Liddleton was the name given to the 1826 land grant to John Maxwell, beside the Cox River, about two km downstream from the River Lett intersection. It is possible that the section of Cox River adjacent to this land was also known as Mooraminbilly.

(7) Cullenbenbong [gulan.ba(n).bung]

1913 only. “Junction of Long Swamp with Cox’s River, county Westmoreland, Keenan’s old place-- Cullenbenbong.”
Interpretation. The “Long Swamp” referred to is not Long Swamp Creek. “Keenan’s old place” was on Cullenbenbong Creek, extending between one and three km upstream of its junction with the Cox River. Both Long Swamp Creek and Cullenbenbong Creek originally consisted of a series of pools, full of reeds and other water plants, connected by slow flowing water. Both creeks were literally “long swamps”. On the parish map of Mylecharane’s era,

what is today called Cullenbenbong Creek was named “Cullenbenbong Swamp”. Due to the underlying geology, the creeks flowing eastwards from the Great Dividing Range to the Cox River, between Ganbenang Creek (which included Marsden’s Swamp) and Cullenbenbong Creek, tended to form wetlands. These environments were important places for Aboriginal people as they contained permanent water and were rich in plant and animal resources. William Cullen (1906-2007), a grandson of one of the original settlers on Long Swamp Creek, explained to me that a massive storm, soon after the devastating bushfire of 1905, scoured out Long Swamp Creek, destroying its wetlands. Since then the Creek has flowed along the channel created in 1905 and the reedbeds have never regenerated.
Peter Luke O’Reilly called his farm on Long Swamp Creek, just upstream of its junction with the Cox River, “Wingebelaley” [wi(n). dyi.ba.la.lii]. His son Bernard’s book about life in this area made the word Cullenbenbong one of the most widely known Gundungurra placenames. Two of the Cullen family farms higher up on Long Swamp Creek were given Aboriginal names that were probably of local origin. Portion 69 was called ‘Willaroi’ [wi.la.roi] and the property on Portion 157 was called “Gummakunulla” [gu.ma.gu.nu.la]. One of the Cullens wrote that the latter word meant “big reed bed”. This may have been the Aboriginal name for Long Swamp Creek or a general word for the swampy creeks in the region.
The Cullen of Cullenbenbong may be a version of a Wiradjuri word for water, often found as the ending *--gullen* on place names in the Yass district. Nash suggests that it may also have been used in other areas of Wiradjuri territory, for example in the placenames Cullen Bullen and Cullenbone. Cullen Bullen is not far south of “Wall Wall”, the most northerly name on Mylecharane’s list. *Cullen* or *gullen* were not recorded as Gundungurra words for water but Nash raised the possibility that the word may have travelled in Pidgin usage beyond Wiradjuri country. One of the recorded meanings for *gullen* was “swamp”.



Slab hut at Wingebelaley

Kanimbla Valley

(8) Minni Minni [mini mini]
1892: “The Alum Mount-- native name Minni Minni-- South of Ganbenang [ga(n).ba.nang] and east of Caves road.”
1913: “Range south of [Cullenbenbong] (the Alum Mount forms part)--Minni Minni.”
Interpretation. The 1892 definition appears to limit the name to a single peak, the Alum Mount, whereas the 1913 definition extends the name over the whole range which includes this peak. Jim Barrett wrote that The Alum Mount is the peak now called Gibraltar Sugarloaf. The Gibraltar Sugarloaf is probably the primary location of the placename Mini Mini and the rest of the range derived its name from this site. In current usage, the Mini Mini Range is the name for a major spur off the Great Dividing Range, extending as far as the Gibraltar Rocks. Mylecharane’s 1913 definition suggests that the name applied as well to the lower, more eroded sections of this range as far as Gibraltar Sugarloaf, and perhaps all the way to the Cox River at Billy Healy Hill.

{In the next article, Jim Smith goes on to conclude his research on the names listed by Mylecharane.}

References: For references please refer to the author, as they are too extensive to be reproduced in this publication. Ph: 02 4757 1327.

Vale of Clwydd

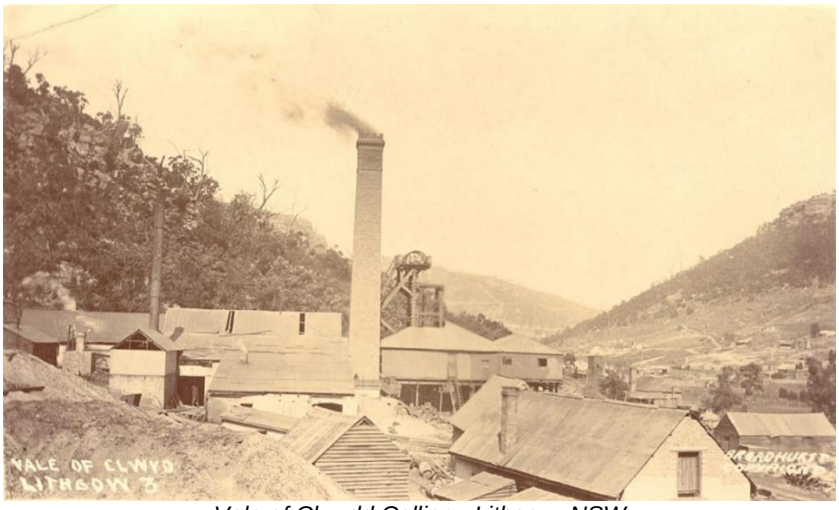
It was Governor Macquarie, on his trip to Bathurst in April 1815, who brought the name Vale of Clywdd to the region. Macquarie was moved by the beauty of the Hartley Valley and the escarpment and named the valley the Vale of Clywdd. After descending Mt York he wrote in his journal:

"*at 2.15pm we pursued our journey in the carriage over a fine plain verdant country of open forest land through a beautiful vale of five miles I have named the vale Clywdd after the valley of the same name in Wales. This Vale terminates at a river running South formed by two streams, one from the westward (the Cox) and one from the eastward (the River Lett) at a distance of five miles from Mt York*".

Rural scenes at Clwydd, Wales

This reference to the top of the Hartley Valley remained in use 'til late Victorian times. An 1879 map of the County of Cook marks the River Lett valley as the Valley of Clwydd. In the late 1800s a village of Clywdd subdivision was planned just east of the River Lett Crossing on Browns Gap Rd, the origin of the house blocks being built on today. In Colliers Arcade up at Blackheath a 1924 tourist map on the wall attributes the name Vale of Clywdd to the whole of the Hartley/ Kanimbla valley.

The Vale of Clywdd as a name clearly belongs to the Hartley Valley, so how did it become the name of the small community located just east of Lithgow on Hartley Valley Road? All is made clear in the publication "Looking Back and Forward", a 1947 publication by the Vale of Clwydd Progress Association, where it is stated "*the settlement was officially founded in 1867 when a member of the company (that sunk the coal mine in the Vale of Clywdd), a Welsh mining engineer, named the area the Vale of Clwydd*".



Vale of Clwydd Colliery, Lithgow, NSW

Not a bureaucratic bungle, more just a coincidence, two different individuals, at different times, seeing the likeness of these areas to the Vale of the same name in Wales.

Ramsay Moodie, Hartley District Progress Association

The Technical Side

Obtaining technical assistance

The NSW Heritage Council has advised in the past, the best way to ensure that a heritage building survives for future generations is for it to be used. Yet historic buildings were not designed with modern requirements for access, fire safety and building services in mind. In fact, some of our oldest buildings predate the existence of any formal building regulations in Australia.

Old houses in need……

Over time the NSW Heritage Division has produced a list of resources to help those seeking advice on fire safety, access and services, and their website contains a wealth of publications, many of which are free to download, which assist the home owner, tradesman and developer to undertake work on heritage buildings.

Some of the topics covered include historic masonry; cracking in buildings; terracotta roof tiles; marble headstones; salt attack and rising damp; metalwork; slating, tiling and roof plumbing; wood preservation; removing paint from old houses; paint, plaster and lime wash – the list goes on.

In addition, the Heritage Division's Technical Advisory Group provides directories for conservation products & services directory, including firms and specialist trades who provide a range of heritage supplies and services across NSW.

Salt attack *Peeling paint on timber* *Slate roofing*

Check these heritage consultant directory for professional heritage consultancy services across NSW. Also check for services, suppliers and tradespeople in your local business phone directory, newspaper or search on the internet. Sometimes your local Council will have a district specific Heritage Trades Directory.

There are a number of helpful publications on heritage conservation in Australia, available through the Sydney Building Information Centre and the National Trust of Australia (NSW) Bookshop.

Another useful directory for heritage building restoration is www.oldhouses.com.au , the numerous publications available covering a wide range of subjects.

Please note that inclusion in any such directory is not necessarily a recommendation or endorsement by the local Council, the Heritage Division or Heritage Council of NSW of any qualifications, skills or experience, or ability to meet your project requirements.

Convict barracks, Macquarie, Bathurst

Fairfax residence, Orielton, Narellan

Therefore, before purchasing supplies or engaging a firm, you should always check their suitability for your project requirements first! Check their qualifications, membership/s and accreditation; ask about relevant experience and to see examples of previous work, as well as references from previous clients; and obtain more than one quote.
Help is always out there!

Patsy Moppett

Community events & updates

Scenic Eastern Escarpment Master Plan

Further to the article in HERITAGE Newsletter No. 50 March-April on this subject, BMACHO was represented at a meeting at 1.30pm at Glenbrook on 17 May 2017, when an address was given to the Glenbrook District Historical Society. It was presented by Soren Mortensen, Environmental Planning Officer for Blue Mountains City Council. The following notes are provided for the information of readers:

Soren advised that this large-scale planning initiative for the escarpment area will be funded by Blue Mountains City Council. The issues within the Master Plan are very broad and include heritage, public land management and recreation. The covered area goes from the Hawkesbury Lookout down to and including Darks Common. The Plan is more than just a reserve plan of management, and will look at all the reserves in that area, seeking to provide connectivity between them and the wider community. Most of the heritage items are around Mitchells Pass and in the southern sector.

The main stakeholders are Blue Mountains City Council, the Crown, Penrith City Council, Roads and Maritime Services, Railcorp and Sydney Water. There are connections between stakeholders, cross tenures and Crown lands held in trust by each Council.

The Plan's vision will relate to the management of open space at a strategic level, infrastructure renewal, tourism opportunities, coordinated management and economics.

The Plan was initiated by the Sydney Commission's Green Grid initiative, and will look at Blue Mountain City Council's existing strategies, and the Knapsack and Lapstone existing Plans of Management, being about managing changes that are required to those strategies and plans, to enable guidance for the use of government funding.

The Plan will calculate costings and investment, and prioritise regional projects.

A user survey was carried out by BMCC between 1 January 2017 and 1 May 2017, which resulted in some 300 responses.

The principle responses came from bicycle riders (40), walkers (180) and runners (25). The survey showed that there is a high level of usage of the various reserves, but that this will

change. A balance is needed to minimise impact when more facilities are to be provided, allowing more people to come.

Elizabeth Lookout

Bushwalkers

Marges Lookout

The priorities highlighted appeared to be for bike trails, walking trails, access opportunities, facilities, signage, protection of heritage items, accessibility, car access, transport and parking, balancing conservation and recreation.
The Management Plan must recognise that the reserves have to be managed for multiple uses, provide links to public transport and links to towns and other regional reserves. In particular, access/use will be set down for adaptive reuse for the Glenbrook (Lapstone) tunnel and the old STP (with Sydney Water) site, and attention to Aboriginal cultural heritage management.
Asset management plans would set priorities to match the level of use, the type of use and the users' priorities. Some uses don't mix, so planning and design for enhancement are critical to minimise conflict.
More investigation is needed for the Lapstone tunnel and the old STP site. The contamination matters have been addressed, but no strategic or heritage assessments have been done.
Matters highlighted by the meeting attendants at Glenbrook included:

- The Dark's Common shared pathways need work.
- The Whitten Memorial site and cottage need assessment and interpretation (the 150 year anniversary is due on 21/7/2017, and the site needs cleaning up).
- The Glenbrook tunnel name was corrected to the Lapstone hill rail tunnel.
- The Glenbrook History Walks should be acknowledged and allowance made re site access.
- Lucasville Station needs work.
- The viaduct – abseiling.
- Development v. informal walking tracks on private land. Some tracks have been lost. Council's only options would be to seek a right of way over the tracks, to acquire the land or seek alternate routes. No option is easy

Soren concluded that the Council are still doing stakeholder consultation – State agencies have been slow to respond. The Draft Plan should be ready by the end of July. The plans will go up on "Have Your Say" and other suggestions received by then. The Draft Plan will go to Council for endorsement, and then be placed on public exhibition during August-September 2017.
The meeting concluded at 2.10pm, and Soren was thanked for his presentation.

Patsy Moppett

Promoting tourism in our beautiful blue mountains

BMACHO, the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Incorporated, was established in 2006 to support the work of the numerous organisations in the cultural heritage field in the Blue Mountains. In recent years, it has expanded to include neighbouring districts such as Lithgow, Penrith and the Hawkesbury.

BMACHO has been a strong and successful advocate on heritage matters at local government level. It is responsible for the Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail brochure which highlights significant heritage sites to tourists, to visit whilst in the Blue Mountains. Leuralla NSW Toy & Railway Museum is a member of BMACHO and recently hosted their meeting and morning tea for the members in the grand dining room.
For further information on becoming a member of BMACHO please contact the Secretary committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au
The Leuralla NSW Toy & Railway Museum is open daily from 10am to 5pm. The Museum and gardens have particular appeal to families and special interest groups. For further info contact 4784 1169 or info@toyrail.com.au

BMACHO members meet in the original 1912 dining room at Leuralla

Leurella, 36 Olympian Parade, Leura NSW 2780
Phone: 02 4784 1169 • Fax: 02 4784 2462
Web: www.toyandrailwaymuseum.com.au
Email: toyandrailwaymuseum@gmail.com

Celebrate 150 Years of Railway History

The Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Heritage Museum is planning to celebrate 150 years of railway history on the Blue Mountains. The anniversary is July 2017, 1867 being when the railway line went to Wentworth Falls (formerly Weatherboard).
Celebrations will be held over the weekend of July 21, 22 & 23:

- 21 July : Official Steam Train to Wentworth Falls followed by a ceremony.
- 22 July: From Penrith, ride Steam Train shuttles to Springwood and/or “Red Rattler” to Blacktown.
- 23 July: From Lawson ride Steam Train shuttles to Katoomba. Enjoy the street stalls and activities at Lawson.

Valley Heights Rail Museum is open each days, at 17b Tusculum Road, Valley Heights NSW 2777. Event details are to be confirmed (see website in the coming weeks).
Website: www.valleyheightsrailmuseum.info
Email: info@valleyheightsrailmuseum.info
Phone: 02 4751 4538 (leave messsage)

That mystery photograph….

Further information regarding the mystery photograph as presented in HERITAGE Newsletter May-June 2017, is provided by Dr Peter Rickwood. It was supposedly taken in Blackheath Glen pre 1903, but the more exact location is unknown. The original photo is inscribed on the back. The people in the photograph are:

Elsie Beer (Lithgow), Grace Sharp, Miss R Barnett;
Emily Sharp,(Mrs Alf Statham, Judy's grandmother married 1903), Mr Alf Field, dog Charcoal;
Ettie McLaren, Miss V Chandlerr.

The photograph

Blackheath Glen

One suggestion is that the rock in the background might be found around Lawson or Federal Falls, as there are some painted signs on rocks at Lawson in this vicinity.
If anyone can provide further information to BMACHO or the Blue Mountains Historical Society, it would be most welcome. *Patsy Moppett*

Wunderkammer – The Cabinet of Wonders

Everglades Garden Gallery is holding thought-provoking exhibition, opened on 10 June and running until 27 August.

Wunderkammer

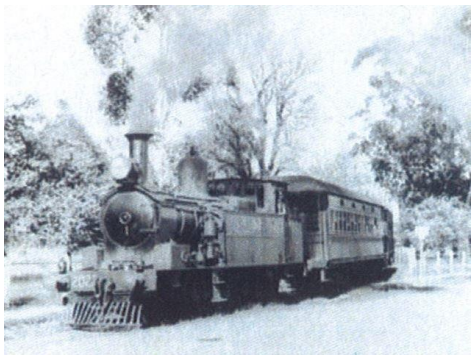
"Each work touches on a different aspect of the human-animal relationship, including biodiversity, pollution, climate change, conservation and stewardship. Each work asks us to examine our responsibilities as fellow travelers on this planet". Rod McRae, creator

Rod explains: "My principal area of investigation remains how art can influence and reinforce the environment and climate change debate. I draw on my knowledge and interest in taxidermy working with ethically sourced specimens as diverse as Polar Bear, Zebra, Lion, Lamb, Fox, Penguin, insects, skeletons and plant material to create installations to challenge human perceptions of the natural world and the non human species that inhabit it.
I would like to believe that art can make a difference!"

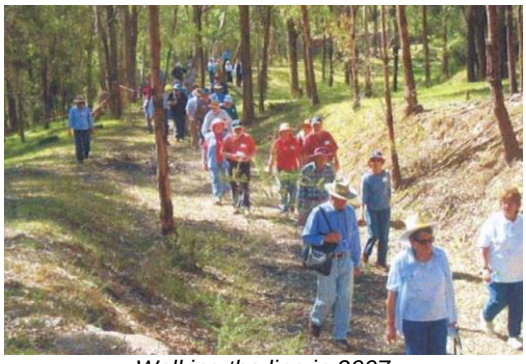
The exhibition is open from 11am to 2pm at Everglades Historic House and Gardens, 37 Everglades Avenue, Leura.
Ph: 02 4784 1938
Email: everglades@nationaltrust.com.au

Pansy Line Tour

Due to popularity and demand this tour will be held again in August!
Join the Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society In as they take the Pansy Line Tour on Saturday 12 August 2017. Join them as they explore the remnants of the Richmond to Kurrajong Railway 1926-1952. With the railway gone for so long, it is getting difficult to find many remnants but our experienced local guides will show you what there is, much of which is on private property and not normally accessible. Coaches depart from Richmond and the tour includes lunch in Kurrajong. Some walking would be involved.



Pansy

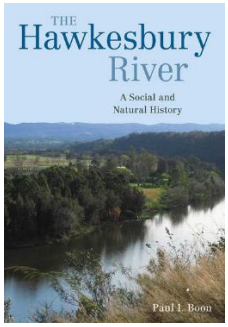


Walking the line in 2007

Bookings are essential. Details and bookings are to be found on their website,
www.kurrajonghistory.org.au
Or contact David on 02 4567 7993.
Costs are: Adults $35, Seniors $30 and children $25.
Order a copy of their Pansy book for the tour, only $10 (normally $12).

Book launch: The Hawkesbury River

The Hawkesbury is the longest coastal river in New South Wales. It has a long Aboriginal history, and was critical for the survival of the early British colony at Sydney. Its weathered shores, cliffs and fertile plains have inspired generations of artists and poets, and it is surrounded by an unparalleled mosaic of national parks, including the second-oldest national park in Australia, Ku-ring-gai National Park. But, despite being so close to Sydney, and home to tens of thousands who live within the local government area that takes its name, to many people the Hawkesbury is a 'hidden river' – its historical and natural significance neither understood nor appreciated.



Hawkesbury River

Paul Boon will be discussing his new book, *The Hawkesbury River: a Social and Natural History* (CSIRO Publishing) at Hawkesbury Central Library on Thursday 6 July 2017.
Paul is a Professor in the Institute for Sustainability and Innovation at Victoria University, Melbourne, and has published extensively on aquatic ecology and management. Though he has lived in Melbourne for the past 25 years, the Hawkesbury is very close to his heart: he spent his childhood and adolescence on the river, and conducted field studies for his

BSc(Hons) project on the mangroves at Brooklyn. He will describe how the Hawkesbury River has evolved, and how its uses have impacted on the community.
To be held at Hawkesbury Central Library, at 6pm. The event is free but bookings are essential (Phone 02 4560 4460). Hawkesbury Central Library is located at 300 George Street, Windsor.

Historical Open Day - Arms of Australia Inn Museum

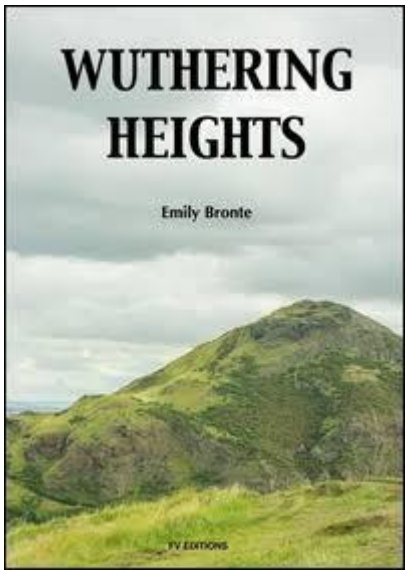
The Nepean District Historical Society will be holding their annual Historical Festival and Open Day at the Arms of Australia Inn Museum on Sunday July 16, 2017 at Emu Plains, from 9am to 3pm. Admission is free.
This year's Open Day will be centred on celebrating one of the most important achievements in our early colonial history, the opening of the Victoria Bridge and the start of the railway line from Penrith to Wentworth Falls in 1867.
There will be special displays of railway equipment, and a display in the inn telling the history of the building of the bridge and the railway line which went to Bathurst and the West.

The NSW Corp of Marines, who recreate the lives and times of the First Fleet Marines, will be at the festival and will be in charge of keeping law and order, helped by members of the 5th Light Horse Regiment from Windsor.
The marines will have displays, drills, and floggings of miscreants and re-enactments from the life and times of the early colony.
As in previous years, the festival will have activities for young and old - including the animal farm, pony rides, the old fashioned school room where they can write on slates, merry-go-round and jumping castle, plus plenty of stalls, displays, live music and food.
For more information call the inn on 4735 4394 on opening days or email info@armsofaustraliainn.org.au

Woodford Academy Happenings

The Woodford Academy is very proud to present "*Ephemeral Threads*", a collaborative sensory and tactile exhibition by Academy Artist in Residence, floral artist Edith Pass, & Blue Mountains photographer Jennifer Leahy, for our upcoming open days on Saturday 1st & Saturday 15th July, & Saturday 19th August 2017. The exhibition explores floral installation weavings that incorporate botanical and photographic materials.
Edith Pass is a floral and visual artist, with a background in print media, drawing, floristry and education. Her visceral investigations touch on the subject of commemoration, giving tribute to the post-colonial/Victorian women of the Blue Mountains. Edith runs a bespoke floral art and design studio based in the Blue Mountains called "Floral Ink", located at The Woodford Academy since 2015. See www.floralink.com.au
Jennifer's photography explores ideas of historical decay embellished with remnant traces of grandeur. Jennifer Leahy is a creative photographer based in the Blue Mountains, and works across both film and digital media creating imagery that questions historical reality, memory and folklore. Her interest and experience in photographic records and visual archives informs many aspects of her image making. See www.silversaly.com.au

Join Edith & Jennifer for the Exhibition Launch on Saturday 1st July 2017 at 1pm to hear more about the creative process behind this exciting collaboration.
Museum Entry & Exhibition
Adults $6, Concession/Child (4-16yrs) $4, Family $15 (2 adults, 2 children)
Guided Tours - $2/Person (4+years)
Woodford Academy 90-92 Great Western Highway, Woodford
(on street parking available on Vale Rd)



Woodford Academy is also thrilled to support the second *"Most Wuthering Heights Day Ever"* to be held in the Woodford Reserve on Saturday 15th July 2017. Originally the grounds of the Woodford Academy, the Woodford Reserve is a local heritage listed park, located behind the Blue Mountains' oldest building. All guests dressed as Kate Bush will be offered discounted entry of $2 to the Woodford Academy museum/café & exhibition on the day.
More information about this wonderful, fun community event can be found at
www.facebook.com/Most-Wuthering-Heights-Day-Ever-Blue-Mountains-NSW-454173658120146

As a volunteer managed property, all proceeds from Woodford Academy open days and events directly contributes to the conservation of this important historic property. Thank you for your ongoing support. *Elizabeth Burgess*

Lilianfels Winter Escape

Lilianfels present their winter escape details. Savings can be made through staying two or more nights at Lilianfels Resort and Spa, to explore the wonders and beauty of winter in the Blue Mountains: the winter school holidays, Yulefest celebrations, Winter Magic Festival, the MET Concert, Winter Magic Festival, the Daffodil Festival and much more.

- Yulefest, Christmas in July, is available this season every Friday and Saturday from the 1st July to 29th July 2017, at the Hydro Majestic at Medlow Bath.
- MET Winter Concert is to be held on Saturday 22 July 2017 at the iconic Hydro Majestic Ballroom at Medlow Bath. The Metropolitan Orchestra will explore the depths of emotion within the Hydro's stunning surrounds.
- Mountain Concert High Tea will be held on Saturday 19th August.
- Opera Festival 2017 at the Hydro will be held on the October long weekend, Saturday 30th September to Sunday 1st October 2017.

See www.lilianfels.com.au for further information on events.
Contact Email: reservations@lilianfels.com.au for bookings

Blue Mountains Association of Cultural and Heritage Organisations (BMACHO) Bi-annual Conference 2018

Save the date! BMACHO has scheduled its 2018 Conference a year out, and knows that last year's Conference at Mt Victoria "*Artefact"* will be a hard act to follow. The date is ***Saturday 12 May 2018***, and the theme is "Heritage Landscapes".

Mount Victoria Manor, Montgomery Street, Mt Victoria

The venue is to be Mount Victoria Manor, Mount Victoria, a significant heritage house with an interesting history. The property was built in 1876 as a weekender for John R Fairfax, founder of the Sydney Morning Herald. It was designed by architect and builder Alexander Dean. Since the late 1800s the property has had several owners and many renovations, including being George Cooper's Grand Hotel in the 1890s. In honour of its original name and its significance to the Mt Victoria village the property is now known as Mount Victoria Manor.

Tarella Cottage Museum, Hobby's Reach

This cottage was built by John McLaughlin, Sydney solicitor and Member of the Legislative Assembly, in 1890 as a holiday cottage for his family of four children to escape the heat of Sydney summers. His daughter Beryl McLaughlin was the benefactor of the Blue Mountains Historical Society, leaving Tarella and the land to the Society on her death in 1988 just two months short of her 100th birthday. The cottage contains an eclectic collection of memorabilia of the late 19th and early 20th centuries.
Tarella Cottage Museum is open on the last Sunday of each month from 10am - 4pm.
Homemade refreshments would be available
There is a small entry fee for adults.
Groups are always welcome throughout the year by prior arrangement and refreshments can be provided. Please contact the Society.
Associated with Tarella is Blue Mountains Historical Society. Their meetings are held at their Library & Research Centre at Tarella on the first Saturday of the month from February to November from 10 am until 12 noon at the premises, 99-101 Blaxland Road, Wentworth

Falls. Visitors are very welcome to attend these meetings. Morning tea is available from 10am and meetings commence at 10.30am.

John McLaughlin

Tarella Cottage Museum

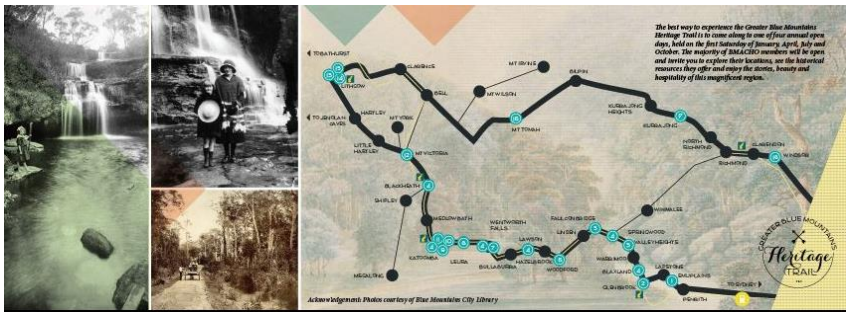
John McLaughlin Collection

The Library and Research Centre are open, and publications are available for sale.
If visitors wish to attend regularly then we would ask you to become a member and you become eligible to attend our monthly excursions to places of historic interest and borrow books from our extensive library of history books.
The monthly BMHS meeting coming up on Saturday 1 July 2017, will feature speaker Keith Painter, author of "Hassans Walls, Prized and Pillaged".
The next Open Day will be Sunday 30th July 2017.
Postal address: Blue Mountains Historical Society, PO Box 17, Wentworth Falls NSW 2782
Email: bmhs@bluemountainshistory.com
Ph: 02 4745 3824
www.bluemountainshisory.com

Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail Update!

BMACHO continues to promote the Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail and members' upcoming events. BMACHO intend to reprint the Heritage Trail brochure and the final draft is ready for printing. In addition, during 2017 BMACHO intend to hold a competition to encourage visitation to Trail participant properties.
For this purpose, BMACHO asked members to think of an artefact or item at their premises that can only be found by visiting. BMACHO will then list questions on a "Passport and Entry Form", which will be an insert to the brochure, and visitors can either answer the questions or obtain a stamp showing they have been to a venue. BMACHO will hold a prize draw approximately every six months. The Passport Entry and Competition forms are also about to go to print, and information will be available on the Trail website (see below) as soon as the Competition is launched.

Westpac
Australia's First Bank



If you are a member and you would like further information, or if you would like to become a member, please email the BMACHO Secretary at committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au

For general information about BMACHO and the Trail, see heritagedrive.com.au or www.facebook.com/GBMHeritageTrail

To find out more about BMACHO visit www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

Registered office: 1/19 Stypandra Place, Springwood 2777. (02) 4751 5834
Email: committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au or j.koperberg@bigpond.com
Website: www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au **ABN**: 53 994 839 952

The organisation: Blue Mountains Association of Cultural & Heritage Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 after local historical and heritage societies and individuals recognised the need for the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the local government area (LGA) of Blue Mountains City Council. The constituency now embraces but is not limited to, the LGAs of Blue Mountains, Lithgow, Hawkesbury and Penrith. BMACHO membership includes historical and heritage groups, museums, commercial enterprises with an historical or heritage component in its core business, local government (local studies units, library collections) and a limited number of individual members by invitation such as but not necessarily academics. The objectives of the organisation are:

1. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage
2. To encourage and assist cultural heritage
3. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations.

One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

Affiliations: BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society and is affiliated with the Better Planning Network.

Publications: BMACHO's official newsletter ***Heritage*** is edited by Patsy Moppett. The annual refereed *Blue Mountains History Journal* is edited by Dr Peter Rickwood and occasional papers are published from time to time.

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A Most Ingenious Invention: An Early History of the Pianola in Australia

"The Pianola is certainly a most ingenious invention, and I feel quite sure that nothing has more closely approached hand-playing." Moriz Rosenthal, famous Concert Pianist
(Source: AEOLIANS issued by Henry M. Birge & Co, Melbourne c 1902)

Throughout most of the 20th century the Pianola played an important role in the musical life of many Australians and this is why even today many older Australians have fond memories of it. This essay is dedicated to telling the social history of the Pianola in Australia during its introduction in 1900 and is taken from my larger work which covers the period up to the First World War. It is also a history of the 65 note piano player in this country, i.e. the first and earliest Pianolas could only play 65 notes of the piano.

Aeolian Pianola with grand piano, New York 1898

The first major Pianola concert, New York, 1899

Sentiments about the place of the Pianola in Australian history were beautifully expressed by the late Denis Condon. Denis, a musicologist and avid collector of player pianos, penned these words in 1975 during a period of intense renewed interest in all things player piano:

Player pianos are numerous enough in Australia for most of the population to have personally had a try at pumping a roll through. Certainly all player owners have had their initial interest awakened by the enthusiasm of player piano owners. They are indeed happy folk, owners of player pianos - good quality players are easy to find, fairly simple to repair, no trouble to adjust and, with average care, maintenance free.

Player piano enthusiasts here enjoy the luxury of living in one of the only two countries in the world providing new repertoire for their machines - 88 note rolls are plentiful, of extraordinary variety and not unreasonably priced. Pumping a player piano gives a splendid "do-it-yourself" feeling second only to playing by hand; it is creative, the "performer" (or is it operator?) being able to give free reign to the most extravagant flights of musical fancy. He can sing, often in any one of seven keys of his

choice; indulge in the odd dramatic pause; crash through a magnificent climax, using the damper pedal as he sees fit; or play poetically with a wondrous pianissimo with no fear of notes failing him. If the Pianolist has a machine equipped with some sort of accentuating device such as "Themodist" or "Solodant" or the like, he can, as can any other musician, practice his performances until they are equal to the best "live" playing and very satisfying to both him and his listeners. There is no doubt that the player piano is a most sociable instrument when it comes to self-expression in music, the most sociable of the arts. (Source: Australian Collectors of Mechanical Musical Instruments (ACMMI) News Bulletin No.2 March 1975)

There are lots of scholarly books and articles written on the Pianola, but very little about the arrival of this amazing machine in Australia in 1900. This is not a technical history of the Pianola but an Australian social history of this ingenious invention.

The Pianola arrived in Sydney in February 1900 courtesy of William Henry Lardelli. However, before discussing what Mr. Lardelli did with his Pianola, it seems prudent to provide some background material on the music scene in Australian during the Edwardian period as well as a brief history of the early Pianola.

MUSIC IN AUSTRALIA

From the time of the Australian Federation in 1901 a growing sense of national identity began to emerge in the arts, although with a patriotic attachment to the 'mother country' (Britain and the Empire), which continued to dominate musical taste. In order to gauge the possible reaction the Pianola would have received upon its arrival in Australia in 1900, it seems sensible to give a brief account of the state of music in Australia at the beginning of the Twentieth century. In this regard I have selected the well-known work of W. Arundel Orchard, *Music in Australia.* Orchard arrived in Sydney in 1903 and is a prime source of information. Writing in 1952, Orchard describes this period as follows:

The beginning of the twentieth century found Australia both alive and vigorous in the development of music. During the past fifty years the slender link with England and Europe was considerably strengthened by improved facilities of travel, consequently the visits of overseas artists were not only more frequent, but many of the world's finest musicians had found it worthwhile to take the journey which, though still a matter of weeks instead of months, was endured under more comfortable conditions. The more frequent tours of distinguished visitors enabled resident musicians to adjust their standards and keep in closer touch with the developments in the great centres of music.

Locally great improvements had been made. Teaching was good; at least there were two conservatoria of music, those of Adelaide and Melbourne, to say nothing of smaller collegiate efforts. Choral singing was flourishing and much more general than it is today. Subscribers were plentiful, and there were no picture theatres or broadcasting commission to disturb the activities of choral societies. People were making music in their own good time, and doubtless were better and happier in doing it. Concert tickets and social invitations still bore the direction, "Carriages may be ordered for 10.15p.m." In fact life was then more leisurely, dignified, and comfortable. There were drawbacks and inconveniences, more or less tolerated, but the period of noise, speed and vulgarity generated by mechanical inventions had not yet arrived. (1)

One assumes his reference to 'mechanical inventions' does not including the Pianola or the Phonograph. With a burgeoning interest in music in Australia the arrival of the Pianola in 1900 was guaranteed to be favourably received, which it was.

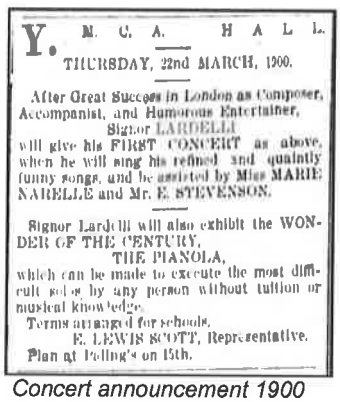
A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE PIANOLA

Whatever the claims to priority of invention may have been, it was certainly the Pianola which outshone all the rest, as the first truly musical piano player. The very first Pianola (piano player) was built in early 1895 by Edwin Votey, in a workshop at his home in Detroit, and his Farrand & Votey Organ Company made several trial models during 1896 and 1897. The first commercial use of the Pianola trademark occurred on 15 January 1898, and by the autumn of that year production in Detroit had started in earnest, with instruments being sold by the Aeolian Company in New York and elsewhere in the USA.

Like most other piano players, the Pianola worked by suction, created by foot pedals, and it played 65 notes of the piano, losing about an octave at each end of the compass. Its rolls were perforated at a scale of six notes to the inch, the same as the contemporary 58-note organ rolls, and both types of roll had pins that protruded from each spool end, where they attached to the Pianola mechanism. From left to right, are a sustaining pedal lever, a dynamic

subduing lever, a tempo lever that moves over a curved scale, and a forward/re-roll lever. Only the earliest of Pianolas are as simple as this.

Aeolian Pianola Advertisement c1903


Y. M. C. A. HALL.

THURSDAY, 22nd MARCH, 1900.

After Great Success in London as Composer, Accompanist, and Humorous Entertainer, Signor LARDELLI will give his FIRST CONCERT as above, when he will sing his refined and quaintly funny songs, and be assisted by Miss MARIE NARELLE and Mr. E. STEVENSON.

Signor Lardelli will also exhibit the WONDER OF THE CENTURY, THE PIANOLA, which can be made to execute the most difficult solos by any person without tuition or musical knowledge.

Terms arranged for schools.

E. LEWIS SCOTT, Representative.

Plan at Paling's on 15th.

Concert announcement 1900

William Henry Lardelli 1897

Export of Pianolas to Europe began in 1899, and Queen Victoria, for example, owned a Pianola for the last two years of her life, although one might surmise that she never actually played it herself. The rest of the world followed including Australia in 1900.

THE *WONDER OF THE CENTURY* ARRIVES IN AUSTRALIA 1900

My research has shown that the first Pianola arrived in Sydney from London in February 1900 courtesy of **William Henry LARDELLI** (1857-1910).(2) William Lardelli is better known by his self-styled Italianised version of his name - *Signor Guglielmo Enrico Lardelli*. Born in England in 1857 he first arrived in Melbourne in 1875 and was a successful organist, and a prolific composer of songs as well as piano, opera and organ music. He returned to England in 1885.(1)

The arrival of Signor Lardelli and the Pianola in Sydney in February 1900 was considered an important event by the press and the reporting on both of these topics is the genesis of our Pianola history in Australia:

> ***Return of Signor Lardelli.*** *Among the passengers by the incoming Barbarossa is Signor Lardelli, who returns to Sydney after a sojourn of five years in the world of London. Like many another accustomed to the warm glow of this southern clime, he found the English winter was in a fair way of breaking him up, so he returns with his muse, and, by way of compensation for his long absence, brings along with him a number of musical novelties. The chief of these is the pianola, an ingenious American contrivance, which adjusted to the keyboard of an ordinary piano, enables a person, whether musical or unmusical, intelligent or ignorant, who has strength enough in the feet to work a couple of pedals, to produce the most exquisite music, to execute such titles as Bach's Chromatic Fantasia and Fugue, and Liszt's Rhapsodies, with perfect ease and correctness, with the most minute detail of expression. Any doubt on this matter will be removed by Signor Lardelli; who purposes to take the public into his confidence, and demonstrate how it is done. Meanwhile, it may be said that this novel instrument has the appearance of a small American organ. It is easily wheeled up to the piano and adjusted to the key board, and the operator having inserted a roll of perforated paper — of which there are 7000 and more to choose from — has but to put his feet to the pedals to cause the paper to revolve, and so to set into swift and harmonious vibration little 'wooden' fingers, which overlap the keys of the pianoforte, and communicate to them a touch 'which may be high and ringing, soft and clinging,' according as the performer manipulates a little gauge, which finds itself convenient to his hand. Another novelty, in which, perhaps, the general public will be less interested, is the 'Virgil Clavier,' a dummy keyboard for pianoforte students, which has lately been adopted by the Berlin Conservatorium, and which, by reason of its 'click,' is said to surpass all other 'dummies' as a means of arriving at a perfect technique. As for himself, Signor Lardelli has not been idle during the years he has been away from our shores. No fewer than 150 of his musical compositions have been published by London firms, eighty of them emanating from Edwin Ashdown, Limited, who have appointed Signor Lardelli their Australian agent. In addition to these, Signor Lardelli is the composer of a number of songs of a refined, humorous turn (the words in every case being by Mr. M. B. Spurr of 'Tin Gee Gee' fame), and he contemplates in the near future; introducing them himself to the*

public notice. The return of Signor Lardelli, therefore, should create a flutter in circles musical. (Evening News Sydney Fri 23 Feb 1900).

MR LARDELLI'S FIRST PIANOLA CONCERT

It appears Signor Lardelli and the Pianola did cause a flutter in musical circles and he did not waste any time in promoting the Pianola in Sydney. His first big step was to exhibit the 'WONDER OF THE CENTURY, THE PIANOLA' at his first concert which was held at the YMCA Hall Sydney on the **22 March 1900**. A newspaper report promoting the forthcoming concert provides some very interesting details about Lardelli, the concert itself and of course the Pianola. The following promotional report is worth reporting:

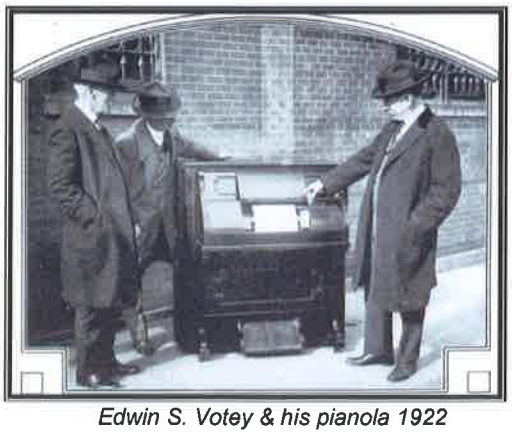
***SIGNOR LARDELLI'S CONCERT**. On Thursday next (22 March), at the Y.M.C.A. Hall; Signor Lardelli, whose reappearance in Sydney after an absence of five years was warmly welcomed when he sang at Mr. Lawrence Campbell's Kipling recital, will give an entertainment upon his own behalf. He will be assisted by that admirable vocalist **Miss Marie Narelle** (3) and by other favourite artists. His own share of the programme will be made up of excerpts from his humorous, repertoire, which is broad and extensive; and he will also display the prowess of the Pianola, an invention intended to enable lovers of the piano who cannot play the instrument to enjoy its effects by means of a mechanical attachment. (The Australian Star (Sydney) Sat 17 Mar 1900).*

REVIEWS OF THE FIRST PIANOLA CONCERT

Lucky for posterity there are two reviews of the first Sydney Pianola concert:

***First:** In Introducing the Pianola, which is a pneumatic machine, attached to the keyboard of a piano, Signor Lardelli has given us a novelty, for by this means he can produce some thousands of pianoforte pieces, such as Rubinstein's "Valse in E flat," "Ronda Capriccioso," by Mendelssohn, and Wieniawski's "Valse de Concert," all of which were played by him last night in a faultless manner. It can be worked so as to produce the requisite light and shade, a rallentando and even to accentuating a given chord in perfect style. Indeed, as expressed by many connoisseurs; played a long way better than many of the world's artists could do. We understand that the machine costs £65 In London. The class of entertainment given by Signor Lardelli is certainly most enjoyable. (The Australian Star Sydney Fri 23 Mar 1900).*

***Second:** Signor Lardelli gave a concert at the Y.M.C.A. Hall last week, at which the compositions were almost entirely from his pen. The only exceptions were those heard on the Pianola, a new instrument, of which Signor Lardelli is agent in these colonies. It is played by the feet, like a harmonium, and gives a solo with all the tone, power, and accuracy of a virtuoso, but lacks, of course, expression. On this occasion it pedalled out Rubinstein's pretty Valse in E flat, Mendelssohn's Andante and Rondo Capriccioso, and other well-known pieces. Signor Lardelli was himself heard in a number of humorous songs, although he cannot be said to be very funny. Some bright and light songs were sung by Miss Marie Narelle, and Mr, Stevenson played several pleasing violin soli. (The Sydney Mail & NSW Advertiser Sat 31 Mar 1900).*



Edwin S. Votey & his pianola 1922

Chris Neave, peddles, with fellow collector looking on

The reviews of the Pianola concert given by Lardelli in Sydney on 22 March 1900 cited above constitutes it as one of the very earliest known Pianola concert in Australia. The first Pianola concerts began in 1898 at The Aeolian Company's warerooms at 18 West 23rd Street, New York, USA. The first known Pianola Concert in the UK was held on Friday 28th February 1902 and organised by Milsoms, a large music dealer in Clifton, Bristol – the programme for this

concert has survived. I believe the March 1900 Lardelli Pianola concert to be one of the earliest known Pianola concerts in the British Empire.

COST OF A PIANOLA

There are a couple of interesting bits of information from the above Pianola concert reviews; firstly that Signor Lardelli is 'agent in these colonies' for the Pianola. Secondly, the cost of the Pianola in London in 1899 (the time he would have embarked for Sydney) was £65. More will be said about the Pianola agency in Australia further on. However, by 1902 the cost of the Pianola in Australia had changed very little e.g. Henry M. Birge & Co. of Sydney were advertising the cost as £60 (or credit £65 on monthly repayments) (*The Maffra Spectator* 8 May 1902).

Of course before you purchased your Pianola you would have to already own a piano or have to purchase one. The first Pianola was a piano player (push-up) and the price of an upright piano at the turn of the 20th century ranged from £12 (second-hand) to £95 plus (new) for famous upright and grand pianos such as Bechstein.

In Australia in 1902 the average weekly wage was £1.36 (by 1907 £1.39) which means in 1902 the cost of a Pianola would have been for the average worker 44 weeks' wages or 47 weeks on monthly repayments.(4) To own a Pianola would have been an impossible dream to those trying to live on an average weekly wage.

MR LARDELLI ON THE ROAD

After the success of the concert in Sydney, Lardelli then spent several months travelling in Australia, giving similar concert performances, such as the one at the Melbourne Exhibition Building 23 May 1900 and a further one in the Victoria Hall in Adelaide (date unknown, but assume mid 1900). The advertisement for the Melbourne Pianola demonstration follows but no newspaper review of it was located:

> ***Melbourne Exhibition Building 23 May 1900*** *Matinee: Attraction!!! - A New Musical Instrument, The Wonder of the Century, The Pianola. The Pianola, will Play "Paderewski Solos," "Mark Hambourg Solos," "Rubinstein Solos." Signor Lardelli will give a Lecture on the merits of this most marvellous instrument. (Admission one shilling, tickets from Allans) (The Melbourne Age, Wed 23 May 1900)*

After this initial burst of energy in early 1900 giving concerts and promoting the Pianola, Signor Lardelli appears to have found the need for other employment as news of his Pianola activities abruptly ended by mid 1900. Maybe he lost interest in the enterprise or he did not have the necessary entrepreneur skills to make money from selling the Pianola preferring to leave it to others, i.e. Nicholson & Co. From late 1900 onwards the shortage of money seems to have been a problem for Lardelli, as he was constantly moving around the country giving concerts of his own works, teaching music or accepting music posts as organist and/or choirmaster at some of Australia's prestigious cathedrals. At Charters Towers on the 7 July 1910, Lardelli became ill and died of pneumonia, he was aged 55.

PIANOLA AGENTS IN AUSTRALIA

In an advertisement in Sydney in **July 1900** Messrs. Nicholson and Co Sydney made the claim they were the sole agency. This appears correct with Nicholson either buying the sole agency claim from Signor Lardelli or just securing it from the Aeolian Co because Lardelli failed to do so himself. Nicholson's claim is stated in the following newspaper report:

> ***Mr. J. C. W. Nicholson****, of Messrs. Nicholson and Co., the well-known music and piano house in George Street, returned last week from an extended visit to the various piano factories of England, Germany, and America. In addition to the agencies they already hold for the celebrated Bechstein, Ronisch, Mignon, and other pianos, Mr .Nicholson has secured for the firm sole agencies for the Mason and Hamlin, Krell, Palmer, Crown, Cameron, and Sterling pianos, and the celebrated Pianola and Orchestrelle. Messrs. Nicholson is also sole Australian agents for John Church and Co., the music publishers of New York and London. (Sunday Times (Sydney) Sun 1 Jul 1900)*

In September 1900 Melbourne's *Carnegie & Sons* (106 Elizabeth Street) advertised themselves as the sole agents for the Pianola and the *Aeolian*.(5)(6) It is assumed they were referring only to Melbourne and/or Victoria. So with two companies advertising themselves as the Pianola agent, things must have come to a head by 1901 with the arrival of Henry M. Birge & Co. who took over sole agency for Australia. The Aeolian Co. New York must have finally decided who they wanted as their Australian agent.

It is interesting to note that another claimant other than Lardelli suggests he was the first to introduce the Pianola to Australia. This was reported in an advertisement for a concert 5th April 1901 to be held at the Town Hall Sydney (*Sydney Morning Herald*, Wed 27 March 1901). This notice advised readers that Mr A B Adams will introduce the Pianola for the first time and that the concert plan was available from Paling's (W H Paling & Co). As this advertisement did not say who the sponsor of the concert was, it probably was Birge & Co, as Mr Adams was identified as "Our Mr. Adams" by a Birge advertisement for 13 April 1901.(7) Birge & Co were not the first to introduce the Pianola to Australia, as already stated above that honour must go to Signor Lardelli.

W H Paling & Co was not the Pianola agent for Australia, though in 1901 they did have limited agency rights as attested by the following advertisement:

> ***W H Paling & Co. Limited.*** *The Pianola. Having taken the exclusive Agency for the Pianola & Aeolian for Newcastle & Environs from Messrs. Henry M. Birge & CO., the sole agents for Australasia, we have arranged to give daily recitals at our warehouse this day (Wednesday) from 10am to 1pm & tomorrow (Thursday) from 10am to 4pm and extend an invitation to all interested to see and hear these ingenious inventions. W. H. Paling & Co. Limited, 42 Hunter Street, Newcastle. (Newcastle Morning Herald Wed 17 Apr 1901)*

Henry M. Birge & Co became the sole agent for the Pianola in Australia opening their showroom in Sydney in early 1901 and their Pianola and Aeolian Rooms in Melbourne in December 1901. Why Nicholson (Sydney) and Carnegie (Melbourne) lost their agency rights is unknown. Henry M. Birge & Co. maintained their sole agency rights to sell the Pianola in Australia from *The Aeolian Co.* New York up to 1908 before changing its name to the *Pianola Company*. The story of Henry M. Birge & Co. continues the story from 1901 onwards and is the subject of the next chapter in my monograph *A Most Ingenious Invention: An Early History of the Pianola in Australia* (published 2017).

CONCLUSION

The Pianola went on to become the well-known and much loved musical instrument of choice for many Australians during the 20th century. An active interest in the Pianola and player piano was maintained throughout this period as can be seen by the fact that the well-known Sydney piano roll manufacturer *The Mastertouch Piano Roll Company* was able to continue its operations from 1919 until it closed its doors in 2005. At its height of interest in the first half of the 20th century, piano rolls were also manufactured in large numbers in Melbourne by *The Anglo-American Player Roll Company* under the brand name "Broadway". This company made piano rolls from 1921 up until the death of its founder Len Luscombe in 1957.

After more than 100 years in Australia, interest in the Pianola and player piano lives on thanks to collectors and enthusiasts who continue to love this amazing invention and who hope this interest will survive in a physical sense, i.e. player pianos will continue to be rescued, restored and used, rather than end up as an item of interest in a museum.

Christopher Neave

Footnotes:

1. W.Arundel Orchard, Music in Australia, Melbourne 1952, page 65

*2. **LARDELLI, William Henry** (1857- 1910) (Composer & Organist): William Henry Lardeilli, also known by the self-styled Italianised version of his name, "Signor Guglielmo Enrico Lardelli," was born 12 May 1857 in Brighton, Sussex, the son of Italian immigrant Maurizio Giovanni Lardelli and Louisa Matilda Lardelli. Lardelli first arrived in Melbourne in 1875. He became prominent as an organist in Maitland and Sydney in the 1880s and 1890s. He also spent much time in England during the period 1885-1900. Later in life he lived in Grafton, Bathurst and Perth, followed by a short time in Queensland where he died at Charters Towers on 7 July 1910, at the age of 55 years. He was the first Australian musician to be made a Fellow of the College of Organists (from 1903 the Royal College of Organists) and he wrote several pieces of organ music. He was a prolific composer of popular songs, piano pieces, operas and operettas and was named one of Australia's 'first-class' organists in 1896. From the late 1890s Lardelli concentrated on compositions of popular music and the performance of humorous recitations and songs which took over from his career as an organist. Lardelli was a restless character who did not spend more than a few years in the same place and in later life became plagued by bad debts and ill health. After arriving back in Sydney in February 1900 from a trip to England, Lardelli was able to say that 150 of his compositions had been published in London, of which 80 were for Edwin Ashdown Ltd who had made him their Australian agent. Just after his arrival back in Australia he gave a 'bright concert' in the YMCA Hall on 22nd March (1900) featuring a pianola (invented in 1895) which he had brought with him from Europe and the rest of the programme consisted of his own compositions of a 'light' nature. He then spent several months travelling, giving performances in a similar vein, including one at the Melbourne Town Hall and Victoria Hall, Adelaide. (Source, Richard Ward, The Sydney Organ Journal 45.4 (2014). To see this biography in full go to: https://ozvta.files.wordpress.com/2011/12/lardelli-ge-ward-soj-2014.pdf.*

*3. **NARELLE, Marie** (1870-1941) (Singer): Marie Narelle, singer, was born on 28 January 1870 at Combaning station, near Temora, New South Wales, fourth child of native-born parents of Irish lineage, John Ryan, goldminer, and his wife Catherine, née Comans. Registered as Catherine Mary, the child was known as Molly. She was educated locally and at the Presentation convent (Mount Erin), Wagga Wagga, where she learned music and singing. On 29 January 1891 at St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney, she married Matthew Aloysius Callaghan, an attorney's clerk. A drunkard, he left her about 1894 with three small children to support. Finding few work opportunities in Sydney, she became a music teacher at Candelo, visiting her scattered pupils on horseback and by horse and sulky.*

Molly Callaghan adopted the stage name Marie Narelle, reputedly taking the surname from an Aboriginal 'Queen of the Moruya tribe' as a 'sort of talisman'. Invited by the visiting Irish politician William O'Brien to sing in Ireland at the close of the Cork Exhibition, she left Australia in July 1902. Narelle was acclaimed in Ireland. On 8 June 1903 she shared the platform at the Royal Albert Hall with (Dame) Clara Butt and Ada Crossley.

Further success saw Narelle and John McCormack visiting the United States of America in 1904 as part of the Irish cultural delegation to the St Louis World Fair. Following many American engagements, and having made wax cylinder recordings for Thomas Edison (1905), in June 1906 she returned to the Australian concert circuit; she also sang in New Zealand then went back to Europe.

During another Australian tour in 1909, including Western Australia, Narelle obtained a divorce from Callaghan in Sydney, on 2 June. Next year she settled in New York and in 1911 gave recitals throughout the U.S.A. with McCormack. On 9 December at the West End Presbyterian Church, Manhattan, she married Harry Allen Currie, a Canadian-born electrical engineer. The couple lived in New York, where her hospitality to Australian soldiers passing through the U.S.A. in World War I became famous.

Narelle made her last Australian tour in 1925-26, revisiting the New South Wales scenes of her youthful successes, including Temora, Candelo and Boorowa—'the Tipperary of Australia'. After her husband's death in 1934, she moved to England. Reconciled with the Catholic Church, Catherine Mary Narelle Currie died on 26 January 1941 at Clevecot, Chipping Norton, Oxfordshire, England.

'The Australian Queen of Irish Song' was noted for a voice 'not unlike Melba's', for her marvellous diction in four languages and for the passion with which she performed. Commenting on the pre-eminence of Australian singers such as Melba and Crossley, she held that, rather than physical influences like climate, it was 'the Australian personality that has made the Australian voice'. 'We are a natural people . . . free in all we do and say and think and it is that freedom, I believe, that makes us good singers'. (Source: Australian Dictionary of Biography).

4. www.measuringworth.com.

5. The Age (Melbourne) Tue 4 Sep 1900.

*6. **The Aeolian** was a roll playing musical instruments based upon the organ principle, i.e. the sounds are produced by vibrating pipes or reeds. This is the oldest of all known methods of producing sound. The Aeolian was first produced in 1885 and by the late 1890's the Aeolian Grand, a 58 note music roll instrument, was the sales leader at that time. Around the turn of the 20th century the Grand was renamed the Aeolian Orchestrelle. Both the Aeolian and the Orchestrelle were built by the Aeolian Company, New York, USA.*

7. Newcastle Morning Herald 13 April 1901.

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Food for thought ..... Editor's note

When planning my activities for the next few weeks I hardly know where to start! It is spring and there are so many events on! We could not include all events in the Newsletter that came past our desks, but have attempted to incorporate a cross section of events from across the BMACHO region. We apologise for any omissions but will depend upon our email distributions to get the wider message out there. If we know about your event, it will be disseminated in one way or another.
In the meantime there are a number of interesting articles in this issue from other writers, which cover a diverse range of topics. From the pianola to old photographs, we hope you enjoy the coverage.
In particular the analysis and dating of old photographs is a good one. Such analysis can be undertaken from a range of angles, from fashions, the format of the photograph and the photographer, dating the card mount or frame, and other visual clues such as landscape, nature of the event depicted, buildings and streetscapes.

Teachers of the art will instruct to "*Observe, reflect, question*": or describe, think about the features and then wonder.....

- Describe what you see: What do you notice first? What people and objects are shown? How are they arranged? What is the physical setting? What, if any, words do you see? What other details can you see?
- Why do you think this image was made? What's happening in the image? When do you think it was made? Who do you think was the audience for this image? What tools were used to create this? What can you learn from examining this image? If someone made this today, what would be different? What would be the same?
- What do you wonder about..... Who? What? When? Where? Why? How?

1839 is recognised as the dawn of photographic history, even though many people were working on various techniques for nearly 30 years prior. A history of 19th century photographs can be documented from the five distinct photographic technologies and their eras: Daguerreotypes, Ambrotypes, Tintypes, Cartes de Visite and Cabinet Cards.
Whilst the examination of these technologies is hoped to be covered within a future article in the BMACHO Newsletter, following the simple plain English method as set down above, may set you on a path of discovery! Have a go! *Patsy Moppett*

Analysing old photographs

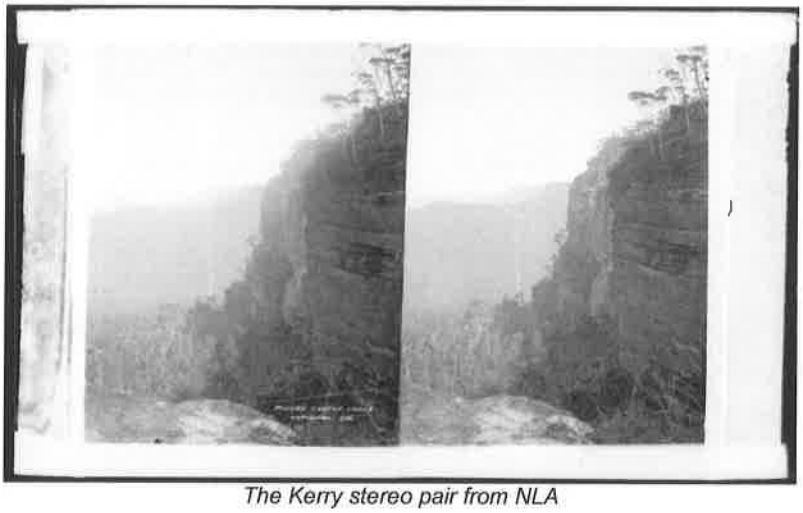
We often look at old photographs and tend to see only the picture on its face value. How often do we look into the background of the photograph and notice the buildings, the landscapes, even the clothing of the people pictured, or other features recorded? Photographs of people and places can tell us so much more about the wider context and the times in which the picture was taken.
Phil Hammon shows us an exercise he has undertaken and the unexpected things he found which helped to date the photos in question.
"I was first made aware of this photograph from Henry King when a photograph of the Bleichert Ropeway to the Ruined Castle Shale Mines was posted on the *"Do you remember Katoomba when"* Facebook page, with a link to the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences (MAAS) photo library. (ex Powerhouse)

King's ropeway photo #1082 ex MAAS collection

Charles Kerry

Henry King advertisement

I was very excited to see this photo as I have been researching this ropeway for 30 years, and have only found two photographs of it, a stereo pair by Charles Kerry and a stereo pair by King.



The Kerry stereo pair from NLA

As far as I know, King and Kerry numbered their prints as they were printed, rather than the order in which they were taken, so the numbers help a bit but are not absolutely chronological.

Because of the link to MAAS, I followed it up to find other photographs by King that had recently been added to the page, and one was of Katoomba. I was particularly interested to see the one of Katoomba because it showed many buildings in Katoomba that may enable me to date it and hence get a better idea of the dates of the other two. I could also see the northern end of the Tramway in the far-right background. I do not have any other photographs of that area. Also in that far background is *Essendene*, North's house which had been sold in January of 1888 and turned into, firstly a guest house, then a school.

The King stereo pair #45 from Macleay Museum Sydney University.

The King photo of Katoomba numbered 410.

King's photo of the ropeway was numbered 1082, and his stereo pair was numbered 45. Certainly the stereo pair was earlier, because it was taken before the drive was commissioned, (indicated by the lack of spilled shale, and the tramway tracks are buried in sand washed down the cutting to the right of the photographer). The 1082 was taken later, when the ropeway was actually running (indicated by the motion blurred buckets on the ropeway). The ropeway only operated from May until September of 1889. So that should give me a time window for #1082. However, the shadows cast in that photograph are not conducive with a winter time photo, so more work to be done there. Unfortunately, both #410 and #45 were taken on overcast days (to reduce shadows and make less contrast), so sun angle was no help. So, when was 410 taken?
I obtained a high-resolution scan from MAAS and went to work.
The Carrington on the far left of the photo has not had the ballroom added on the LHS. Goyder called for tenders for additions to the Carrington on 11th April 1888 in the SMH.
The railway is still a single track. The duplication reached Katoomba in 1889.
Biles Hotel (to become Gearins) in centre foreground opened in May 1881, and the Great Western in January 1884.

The Family Hotel on the corner of Parke and Main Streets had been built by Mr Curnow and is now owned by Richard Fryer. Because there were a lot of hotels being built at the time all being called "Family Hotels", even the "Great Western" to become the Carrington, was called a Family Hotel when tenders were being called for, it is difficult to determine when Curnow built his hotel. Fryer bought it from Curnow in 1885. Richard Fryer left his hotel to become the manager of Oakey Park Coal Mine in Lithgow, then moved back to Katoomba to run the Katoomba Family Hotel. He died aged 54 in December 1891.

Katoomba Shop fronts

Left: Richard Fryer "Family Hotel"
Centre: Katoomba buildings. The signs on the awing areas follows;
I VENESS - Bootmaker
J STEEDMAN (John) Baker, Cordials and Fruit
STANLEY HOSIE – Auctioneer and Estate Agent
FRUITERER & c
Right: Australian Joint Stock Bank.
The building to the right of the Family Hotel was known as "Katoomba Buildings" and housed the following businesses:
I VENESS - Isaac Veness, bootmaker, appears in the Katoomba Times in May 1890 when his daughter, Clara Elizabeth Veness aged 17, committed suicide by taking rat poison.
J STEEDMAN. The first we hear of the Steedmans was when Mrs Steedman catered for the Loyal Orange Lodge annual meeting Saturday 21st July 1888. John Steedman was a baker and confectioner, who from May of 1889 regularly advertised in the Katoomba Times, as being in the "Katoomba Buildings". His wife had a significant hand in the business, for it was she, who placed advertisements in the 3rd August 1889 Katoomba Times, berating Mr William James for undercutting her quote of 3s 6d for "The Ball". Mr Williams replied to this "vile slander" the following week on behalf of Pritchard's Bakery.
By February 1890 James Steedman was bankrupt and held in Bathurst goal awaiting trial. Three months before, he had providentially given his business to his son. His son Andrew, continued to advertise his bakery business on these premises until December 1890. I don't know if he bothered to change the signwriting on front of the building, so that doesn't help much with the dating of the photo. Mr Steedman advertised his bakery business with cordials and fruits. Somehow Mr Stanley Hosie seems sandwiched between!
Stanley Hosie apparently was bought out by J H Mitchell & Co who are advertising houses for sale and rent from the "Katoomba Buildings" in August of 1889.
The Australian Joint Stock Bank opened a branch in Katoomba, with sub branches in Blackheath and Mt Victoria in January 1888. So, the photo is getting squeezed between 1889 and 1888.
There is a stormwater pipe being installed across the junction of Parke and Main Streets. We haven't been able to find a specific mention of this in Council reports.

On 11th April 1888 F C Goyder advertised for Tenders for additions to the Carrington. The item that clinched the date of the photo was the discovery in the photograph of a windmill behind the Carrington.

The windmill

Althouse Mill advertisement

This very same windmill from the Carrington was advertised for sale by R C Goyder in the Nepean Times on 7th and 14th April 1888.
The type of windmill, "Althouse", manufactured by Scott and Young of Melbourne, and promoted as a "vaneless fan" is advertised in the Sydney Mail 24th Nov 1888, as a unique design of vanes in a barrel, which can be seen in the shadow of the turning windmill in the photo, and the ad for the windmill above.
He wouldn't be advertising it for sale if it was still being used, so it seems reasonable that the photo was taken before that date.
So I conclude that the photo was taken in the first quarter of 1888!!!" *Philip Hammon*

Aboriginal place names along the upper Cox River

{The following article is the third part of a larger paper provided by Jim Smith. The first part was documented in HERITAGE Newsletter No. 50, the second part in HERITAGE Newsletter No, 51. Please refer back to the first article for map showing the location of many of these places.}

(9) Junumberee [dyu.nu(m).ba.rii]

1892. "Moyne-- Aboriginal name Junumberee-- near Little Hartley."
1913. "Moyne Farm, near Kanimbla [ka.ni(m).bula], county of Cook—Tenumberi."
Kanimbla Valley settler Mr Cullen compiled a list of place names, mostly based on Mylecharane's article, with another spelling for this place: Tunumberee.
Interpretation. John Grant's original portion of land was about 1.5 kilometres from the Cox River, although Grant later greatly expanded his holdings in the area. So, there is the usual difficulty in knowing whether the placename Tenumberi applied just to the little hollow where Grant built his first home, calling it Moyne Farm, or whether it had a wider application, perhaps extending to a stretch of the adjacent Cox River.

(10) Wall Wall

1892. "Crown Ridge-- Aboriginal name Wall Wall-- Mudgee Road."
1913. "The Crown Ridge (otherwise Dalhunty's Crown, Mudgee Road) - Wall Wall."
Interpretation. This is the most curious inclusion in Mylecharane's list. The other place names, apart from the one for Jenolan Caves, are all reasonably close to a 40 km section of the Cox River, between Thoondoo and Mini Mini. Crown Ridge (also known as The Crown and Blackman's Crown) is some 40 km northwards of Thoondoo. If Jenny and Betsy were describing a locality in their own country they have given us important information about the extent of the lands of the "Cox's River Tribe". Or, Crown Ridge may have been a place that

they just visited. It may be significant that Mylecharane does not appear to have recorded any Aboriginal placenames between Thoondoo and Crown Ridge.
Linguistically, Wall Wall is an unlikely pronunciation. It is possible that a quickly or softly pronounced vowel on the ends of the words was missed by Mylecharane. For example, 'Walli Walli' would be a more plausible pronunciation. Wiradjuri has *waliwali* for 'crooked, bent, askew'. Bennett recorded a similar Gundungurra word *walluk walluk* for 'crooked'. Seen from above, the Blackman's Crown ridge has almost a right-angle bend in it. It is rather like a boomerang in shape, so that it could definitely be described as a 'bent' ridge.

(11) Mulyan [mu.ly.an]

1892. "The Table Rock-- Native name Mulyan-- High Peak near Alum Mount."
1913. "The Table Rock, east of road to Jenolan cave, a little more than half-way from Mount Victoria-- Mulyan."
Interpretation. If, as Jim Barrett suggests, Alum Mount is the Gibraltar Sugarloaf it is not exactly "near" Table Rock, being over 6 km away. Mulyan is the Gundungurra word for the Wedge-tailed Eagle. The Table Rock is a typical place where updraughts attract soaring eagles.

(12) Binoomea [bi.nuu.mii.wa]

1892. "Jenolan Caves-- Aboriginal Name Binoomea."
1913. "Jenolan Caves-- Binoomea."
Interpretation. Oliver Trickett was the first author to widely publicise this Aboriginal placename, including it in his 1899 guidebook to Jenolan Caves, acknowledging Mylecharane for recording it from Betsy Grant and Jenny Clay. The only meaning that has been suggested for the word is 'holes', indicating that it may be a general word for landscapes with 'holes' such as caves.
The placename Jenolan was used by the Gundungurra for a mountain 13 km from the Caves. R.H. Mathews analysed the word: "Jeno'lan, Jenno-wullan, caves (two feet or Bullen feet?)". One interpretation of this is that Mount Jenolan was created by the feet of the Bullen brothers during their travels in the 'Dreamtime'.

(13) Kanowla [ga.nau.la]

1892. "The Brothers-- Aboriginal name Kanowla-- Opposite Mr. Blaxland's Cox's River."
1913. "The Brothers, two peaks on Cox's River near Mt Blaxland, now known as Lawson and Wentworth-- Kanowla."
Interpretation. "Mr Blaxland's" in the 1892 transcript is probably meant to be Mt Blaxland. The Cox River passes through a steep gorge, with the peaks of Lawsons Sugarloaf and Wentworths Sugarloaf to the north of the Cox, and Mt Blaxland on the other side of the river. It is possible that the Cox River in this area was also known as Kanowla. Usage of the English name 'Brothers' in this area may have been a recognition by early settlers that local Aboriginal people understood these peaks to be part of the Bullen Brothers story. A comparison could be made with the early English adoption of the name The Three Sisters for the rock formation near Katoomba. This may have been a recognition by early residents in the area that the rocks were once living Sisters in the mythology of the local Gundungurra people. Or, it could have just been a coincidence.

Conclusion

River junctions were important landmarks for Gundungurra people. Four of the placenames in Mylecharane's list: Thoondoo, Tarrapalat, Tuiwon and Cullenbenbong relate to areas around the junctions of creeks or rivers with the Cox River. It is likely that local clan groups were known by these names and that the section of Cox River adjacent to their country had the same name as the local clan group. Tarrapalat /Therabulat is the best documented example of this, with Billy Lynch saying that this was the name for his "tribe" (or clan), for part of the Cox River and the district around this section of Cox River.
Macqueen concluded his article by agreeing with Jim Barrett that *"there never was an Aboriginal name for the whole of Cox's River."* There would have been numerous local names for sections of the Cox River along its 100 km length, with many of these also identifying local clans adjacent to these sections.

The Aboriginal cultural practice of recognising a series of names applying to sections of a river was common across Australia. A South Australian anthropologist concluded:

> *Creeks almost always take their name from the last waterhole or other significant place through which they passed… That is to say, as well as relinquishing its name at a junction, a creek also relinquishes its name at a named place, generally a waterhole… it is more correct to talk not of a creek which "changes its name" but of (a series of) creeks.*

William Stanner gave an example of the difficulty (for non-Aboriginal people) of defining the extent of the areas covered by Aboriginal placenames.

> *"…a large stretch of the Fitzmaurice river was known to several contiguous tribes as 'Kimul', the place-name of a deep pool. But to try to plot the 'boundary' of Kimul in any precise way would have been meaningless to the aborigines. What was true of 'big' names like Kimul was true of unimportant place-names. Each, while denoting one particular place was projected onto a larger or smaller surround… Zones thus identified graded into one another except where natural features conveniently served as signs. Interest lay predominantly in the material, historical and symbolical values of particular places."*

It is because Aboriginal placenames sometimes "graded into one another" that different recorders, speaking to different Aboriginal informants, at different times, developed apparently contradictory interpretations of the areas described by placenames.

Three of the names on Mylecharane's list appear to be descriptive of topography and potentially could have been used in other areas than the ones identified in his list. Dhurrabulat, Mulyan and Binoomea were probably used for other localities where there were two rivers flowing together, congregations of eagles, or landscapes with 'holes', respectively. Because of our lack of knowledge of local creation stories, it is not possible to ascertain whether any of the placenames recorded by Mylecharane had associations with the 'Dreaming', except for Binoomea where the 'holes' were formed during the Dreamtime pursuit of Gurangatch by Mirragan. It is curious that Mylecharane did not attempt to ascertain the 'meanings', or cultural associations, of any of the names that he got from Betsy Grant and Jenny Clay.

Lower down on the Cox River there is a small waterhole named Me-oo-wun [mii.wuu.wun], formed during the journey of Gurangatch and Mirragan. Because of the great cultural significance of this waterhole to Gundungurra people, a nearby mountain range (now called the Wild Dog Mountains), about five km long, was also called Me-oo-wun, because of its proximity to the waterhole. This way of thinking seems paradoxical to non-Aboriginal people, who would see a huge natural feature like a mountain range as being more 'significant' than a small waterhole.

Of the thirteen names discussed in this article only two, Mini Mini and Cullenbenbong, are used on our maps. A third name, Binoomea, has a high level of recognition in the non-Aboriginal community as it has been acknowledged in the literature associated with Jenolan Caves from 1899 to the present day. Binoomea, and a number of the other names documented by Mylecharane, have potential to be used as 'dual names' together with their English equivalents, in accordance with the Geographical Names Board policy on dual naming. Some of them could eventually become as well-known as Uluru is today.

Betsy Grant and Jenny Clay were described as members of the "Cox's River tribe". There is strong ethnographic and linguistic evidence that this "tribe" was a clan of the Gundungurra speaking people. However, when visiting Lithgow, for example, there are signs erected asserting that this is in Wiradjuri country. 'Welcomes to country' in the upper Cox's River are performed by people of Wiradjuri descent. When the Gundungurra Tribal Council Aboriginal Corporation lodged their native title claim, all of the places discussed in this article (except for Crown Ridge) were included in what they regarded as traditional Gundungurra country. However, after the process of carving off areas claimed by other language groups, none of them remained in the 'core' undisputed area which recently became the subject of an Indigenous Land Use Agreement. Documents such as Mylecharane's list of Aboriginal placenames, along with a large amount of anthropological information from recent research,

will hopefully be used in the future to gain a clearer picture of the extent of Gundungurra country.
I wish I had known more about the subtleties of Aboriginal naming conventions back in the mid-1980s when I recommended the name Therabulat for the new lookout overlooking the Megalong Valley. It is at least a genuine Gundungurra word that draws attention to the indigenous history of the area. It also commemorates the clan name with which Billy Lynch, the best known early Gundungurra resident of the Megalong Valley and Katoomba, identified.

Acknowledgement: Jim Smith issued thanks to Jim Barrett and David Nash for their comments on drafts of this paper.

References: For references please refer to the author, as they are too extensive to be reproduced in this publication. Ph: 02 4757 1327.

The Colraine Rock – a Modern Mystery

David Coleby is seeking information on this feature at Wentworth Falls:
"I came across The Colraine Rock by accident in May 2017 while looking for new locations for *Eucalyptus cunninghamii*, the Cliff Mallee Ash. I was searching a clifftop area of Kedumba Walls between the large gate on Kedumba Valley Road, and Sunset Rock, both on Kings Tableland, Wentworth Falls, in the Blue Mountains of Australia.
The location is in a mixture of habitats, Open Forest and Escarpment Complex, but the Colraine Rock itself juts out of the cliff, over the abyss which is the Jamison Valley. It is located at 33º 45′ 54.15″ S; 150º 22′ 22.0″ E, or Grid Values 56686079. It shows up as a bright rectangle on Google Earth (Satellite). Getting to it is a *very* hard bush bash!

Kedumba Walls

The carving of the name looks very professional, not the kind of thing a day-tripper would do, and more likely to be a stonemason's work, perhaps somebody who was used to carving inscriptions on gravestones. Whoever it was took time and trouble to make it look good.
Asking around, I drew blanks everywhere. NPWS at Blackheath had never heard of it, nor had Michael Keats, Brian Fox, John Low, Ian Brown, Jim Smith, the Blue Mountains Historical Society, the Blue Mountains Conservation Society, BM City Council, and the Geographical Names Board.
Two of them (John Low and Jim Smith) came up with a plausible theory that the inscription was carved by a patient at the nearby Queen Victoria Hospital, but sadly there is no proper evidence. Apparently the patients were encouraged to walk in the bush for exercise, and they would most likely go to the (nearer) Sunset Rock where there remain a number of walking tracks (see Jim Smith's article about Sunset Rock in the Newsletter of the BM Historical Society in 2011).
More investigations by Brian Fox drew blanks at Coleraine (Victoria) and Colerine (Ireland), although I did find a Daniel Colraine (b. about 1815, d. 15 December 1866) in Sydney in 1865-66, a Thomas Colraine also in Sydney in 1876-77, and an Edward Alleyne Eugene Colraine mentioned in the South Australian Police Gazette of 1909. The only more modern reference was to a Kmbrki (sic) Colraine in the Australian Electoral Rolls of 1972. I discarded the connection, if any, to the Colraine Equestrian Centre in Truro, Cornwall, England.
Has anyone else got information that would throw light on this modern mystery?"

Please contact David Coleby:
Phone: 02-4784-1395
Email: davidcoleby@bigpond.com

The Technical Side

Wavy glass – my eyes are playing tricks

Have you ever been visiting a significant historic site or visiting in a historic house, looked out through the windows and thought your eyes were playing tricks on you? The glass appears uneven and features beyond the window are unclear and distorted. My thoughts were often that there was a fault in the glass.
However, no longer! A recent conversation over lunch at a Blue Mountains historic guest house, whilst looking through such a window, sent me to investigate this thing called "wavy glass".

Distorted fence

Multi storey distortion

Old window panes can sometimes look wavy, and handmade, and feel uneven, bumpy. Such ripples and dimples are not a sign of age, as such, but comes down to how the glass was made. Such glass, instead of being a fault, is another way of dating a building's construction.
There were two types of glass in the 19th Century, and each type represented the period and the manner in which it was manufactured. The first earlier type was crown glass, the second was cylinder glass.
Glass making was first perfected by French glassmakers in the 1320s and was a trade secret.

Crown glass

Cylinder glass

Crown glass was not actually made in London until 1678. Crown glass was made in front of a furnace to keep it hot and fluid so it could be formed into a circle shape by blowing and spinning it. Its popularity did not last long as it could not be used in larger windows due to its awkward nature. The thinnest glass was at the edges and the thicker glass towards the centre. Once it was cut to size the thicker glass was often used in gables or in doors where light meant more than a view.

Cylinder glass (1700-1860, the Georgian and Victorian periods) actually looks like our drinking glass. It became popular because it could be manufactured not only in cylindrical shape, but also in glass sheets, which could then be applied to larger windows. It was made when crown glass could not cater for the need for large panes.
It was imported from France and Germany from the 1700s until production in Britain began in the mid 1800s.To make cylinder glass, the glassblower blew a large tube of glass. After cracking off the blowpipe, he would then cut off the ends and slit the tube down one side. From here these shawls were transferred to a special oven where they could wilt and unfold into a flat sheet. Deep pits were dug into the glass factory floor to allow blowers to swing the glass as they blew. The resulting cylinders were up to 18 inches diameter and a remarkable 7 feet in length. Twenty years later some manufacturers had mechanized the steps with cranes and compressed air.
In the 1900s William Blenko used the cylinder method to make stained glass.
For a time both types of glass were made at the same time, so dating can be difficult.
You can determine whether you have crown or cylinder glass by eye and feel. When cutting glass for repairs, cylinder glass has a smooth side, once the outside of the cylinder, and a rough side, the former inside. Most crown glass is rare enough that you probably won't want to cut it at all. Crown glass was spun on the end of a rod in a circular motion, so the waves tended to be curved. Cylinder glass was spun in a back and forth motion and the waves tend to be straight and more parallel.

Mt Victoria Manor, Mt Victoria

So the waves and ripples are the characteristics created at the time the glass was made and not actually the regular flaws as we might think. Each pane of glass in an old house is unique and the old windows are like its fingerprints.
Decades of weathering May have left minute pits in the surface of either glass, which can make them hard to clean.
The early 20th Century saw the move away from hand blown to machine manufactured glass such as rolled plate, machine drawn cylinder sheet, flat drawn sheet, single and twin ground polished plate and float plate.
There are restoration companies which still carry the two older types of glass, used for replacement of window panes in these older buildings. They are usually made using modern methods, but there are craftsmen in Europe who still use the old methods.
Many people enjoy the unique designs and patterns that are remnants of the past as it signifies the house has a history to it.

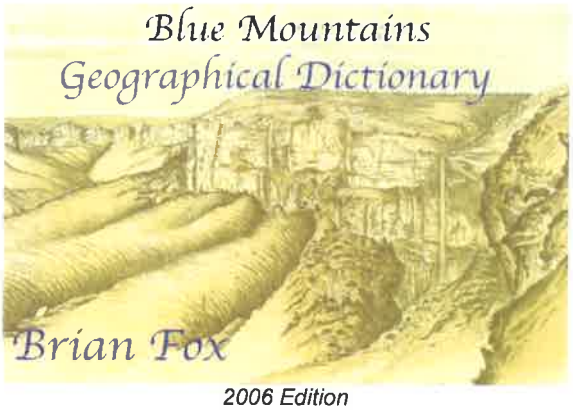
Patsy Moppett

References:
www.pioneer.glass
Wikipedia: Crown glass (window)
Wikipedia: Cylinder blown sheet glass
https://thecraftsmanblog.com
www.daystarwindowtinting.com
www.thehomeinspector.com
http://histoglass.co.uk

Community events & updates

Blue Mountains Place Names Project

Eleven years ago, in 2006 Brian Fox launched the third edition of an iconic book, 'Blue Mountains Geographical Dictionary'. It was a best seller, soon sold out and there have been consistent requests and enquires for it to be reprinted. In 2017 a reprint was not an option. The work merited a complete rewrite. This old text was compiled before the advent of GPS, Trove and other search engines.



2006 Edition

In the meantime, Brian has been busy working closely with Michael Keats to write texts on the Passes of Narrow Neck, a comprehensive work on the Upper Grose Valley and with a third team member Yuri Bolotin, the mammoth bench mark series, eight (8) volumes on The Gardens of Stone National Park and beyond.

The time has now come to revisit the Blue Mountains Geographical Dictionary and produce a text that has the benefit of technology advances, wider input and a more user-friendly format. For over 18 months in collaboration with his brother John Fox, a dedicated researcher, and Michael Keats OAM author, the team has been beavering away, revisiting sites, verifying information and checking out land ownership details for several generations and more.

The project team has also benefited from input from Blue Mountain authors, Bruce Cameron, author of *The Blue Labyrinth*, Erik Halbert and Ross Ellis's, *Sandstone Caves of Mount Victoria*, Dr Peter Rickwood's *Blackheath: today from yesterday*, Andy Macqueen's *Back from the Brink*, Phil Hammon's *The Burning Mists of Time*, and Keith Painter's Pocket Pal series. Also input from John Low - retired BMCC Local Studies Librarian, Doug Knowles - Glenbrook & District Historical Society, and many, many more.

The good news is that the project is advancing well. The team would like to hear from anyone who has local knowledge of names now fallen out of use or favour, or from anyone with knowledge of a particular area who would like to add their input.

They would also like to hear from those people wishing to express an interest in ordering a copy for early next year.

Brian Fox

You are invited to contact:
Brian Fox, 19 Weeks Place, Bathurst 2795.
Ph: 6332 2590
Mob: 0407 067 081
Email: brianandelaine@aapt.net.au
Website: www.bushexplorers.com.au

Blue Mountains Historical Society Garage Sale

The Blue Mountains Historical Society is raising funds for a cairn to be installed in the History Centre grounds at Hobby's Reach, for the Geoffrey McLaughlin Commemorative Weekend, to be held on 28 & 29 October 2017.

Geoffrey McLaughlin

Tarella Cottage Museum

The major part of the fundraising will take place on Saturday 16 September 2017, and will include a garage/jumble sale, cake stall and sausage sizzle, with the Tarella Cottage Museum also being open.
To this end, and throughout August, BMHS has been accumulating goods through donations.
Save the date and join the fun on September 16!!! *Alan Foster*

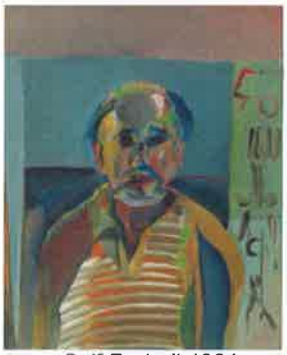
For more information contact:
bmhs@bluemountainshistory.com

Exhibition: Jurgis Miksevicius, "Portraits Real & Imagined"

The National Trust Everglades Gallery will be hosting an exhibition from 2-23 September 2017. The exhibition will be a survey of selected portraits by Jurgis Miksevicius (1923-2014). **The exhibition is titled "*Portraits Real and Imagined*", will be opened by Elspeth Pitt, A/g** Senior Curator, Australia Prints, Drawings and Illustrated Books, National Gallery of Australia, Canberra, on Saturday 2 September 2017, 2-4pm. There will be a floor talk on Sunday 10th **September 2017, by Carolyn Leigh about the artist's life and work, followed by** morning tea in the Everglades Tearooms.

Gabrielle 1958

Sandpaper Lady c.1963



Self Portrait 1981

Jurgis Miksevicius (1923 – 2014) a Lithuanian displaced person, migrated to Australia in 1948 after studying fine arts at a school which followed Bauhaus principles of art education, in Darmstadt, Germany. He lived, painted and exhibited in Bathurst, Canberra, Sydney and the Central Coast, NSW for nearly seventy years. From 1960 to 1983 Miksevicius was an art teacher and Head teacher for the NSW Education Department.
His work is represented in the National Gallery of Australia, Canberra, Lithuanian Art Museum, Vilnius, Lithuania, National M.K. Ciurlionis Art Museum, Kaunas Lithuania, national and international private collections. *Carolyn Leigh*

National Trust Everglades Gardens Gallery

Everglades Historic House and Garden
37 Everglades Ave, Leura, NSW 2780
everglades@nationaltrust.com.au
www.everglades.org.au

Gallery Hours:
Wednesday – Sunday 10am – 4 pm
Cost:
$10.00 including, free entry to Everglades and morning tea in Everglades Tea Rooms.
Bookings by: *Friday 8 September.*
Ph: *02 47 84 1938*

Prosecution Project

An exciting historical research project has been developed over the last few years by Griffith Criminology Institute, Griffith University. The Prosecution Project been investigating the history of the criminal trial in Australia by digitizing a variety of court and criminal records, extending from the early 19th to the late 20th century. Some of the data has been made available to the community through their public website:
www.prosecutionproject.griffith.edu.au
The creation of the project has been greatly assisted by their army of community volunteers, who have worked to transcribe various sets of court records from across Australia. They are seeking to recruit volunteers to work at completing the transcription of the remaining court registers and witness depositions.

William Liardet, 'The Opening of the Supreme Court'

If you think you can help with these projects, please get in touch with them by email or post at the following addresses.

Professor Mark Finnane, ARC Laureate Fellow
Griffith Criminology Institute, Griffith University
Mt Gravatt campus, 170 Kessels Road, Brisbane Queensland 4111

Ph: 07 3735 1032
Mob: 0417 760 432
Fac: 07 3735 1033
Email: prosecutionproject@griffith.edu.au

Mt Tomah: Diary of events, Spring 2017

Celebrating their 30th birthday, the Blue Mountains Botanic Garden is located under two hours' drive from Sydney & is home to some 21,000 species. It is the only Botanic Garden located in a World Heritage Area and is focused on the conservation of cool climate plants.

Their educational, cultural and artistic events including exhibitions and workshops are set against the breathtaking backdrop of the Garden, reflecting the stunning surrounds.

The following events will be available through September-October:

A LEAF, A TREE, A FOREST...WILD GARDENS OF THE BLUE MOUNTAINS BOTANIC GARDEN
Saturday 2 September – Sunday 22 October at the Visitor Centre
9.30am – 4.30pm Free entry.

STARRY NIGHT
Saturday 2 September at the Waratah Education Centre
5.30pm – 7.00pm
Join astronomers from The Sydney Observatory for a night of sky viewing from Mount Tomah. Cost: $15 adults (16+ years); $8 children (up to 16 years); $30 per family (2 adults & 2 children). Bookings essential at www.bluemountainsbotanicgarden.com.au/What-s-On

NERD ALERT
Saturdays 2 September, 14 October and 4 November at the Waratah Education Centre
1pm-3pm
Let's make and mix, build and test, investigate and experiment with super-cool science! Cost: $20 per child. Bookings essential at www.bluemountainsbotanicgarden.com.au/What-s-On

WILD ABOUT WARATAHS FESTIVAL
Saturday 23 September – Monday 2 October at the Visitor Centre & Garden
9.30am – 4.30pm. Free entry.

WARATAH SCIENCE + ART
Saturday 23 & Sunday 24 October at the Waratah Education Centre
11.30am – 12.30pm & 1.30pm – 2.30pm
Kids will discover the secrets of Waratahs on a Garden walk. Cost: $12 per child. Bookings essential at www.bluemountainsbotanicgarden.com.au/What-s-On

THE KING AND QUEEN OF GREEN: THE REALM OF RUBBISH
Saturday 23 & Sunday 24 September on the Formal Lawn
10.30am-11.15am & 12.30pm – 1.15pm
The King and Queen of Green love the planet earth and in particular things that are green! Cost: $8 all tickets. Bookings essential at: www.bluemountainsbotanicgarden.com.au/What-s-On

DINOSAUR STOMP
Wednesdays 27 September & 4 October at the Waratah Education Centre
1pm-3pm
Let's stomp around the Garden to discover megafauna and dinosaurs, and the plants they enjoyed eating. Cost: $20 per child. Bookings essential at:
www.bluemountainsbotanicgarden.com.au/What-s-On

GARDEN AFTER DARK – SPOTLIGHT TOUR
Saturday 30 September at the Waratah Education Centre
5.30pm – 7.00pm
Visit the Garden after hours. Cost: $20 adults; $12 children (8-16 years). Bookings essential at:
www.bluemountainsbotanicgarden.com.au/What-s-On

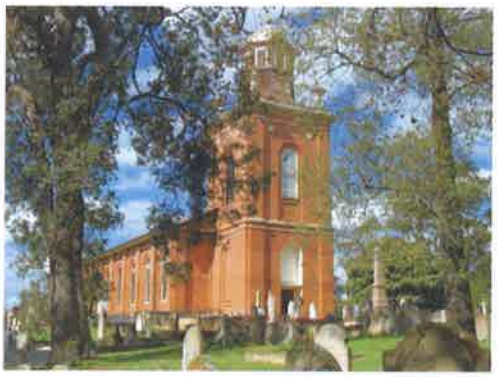
GADARA WILDFLOWERS FARM OPEN DAY
Sunday 1 October at 3401 Bells Line of Rd, Berambing NSW 2758
10.30am – 3.00pm
This local plantation has around 1,000 waratah plants including the unusual white waratah and is only open to visitors for one day during the Wild About Waratahs Festival. Cost: Gold coin donation.

SPRING BIRD WALK & TALK
Saturday 21 October, meet in the Wollemi Room
8am – 11am
Join birding guide Carol Probets on a morning walk to see some of the Garden's beautiful birds and learn about their habits. Cost: $30 per person. Bookings essential at:
www.bluemountainsbotanicgarden.com.au/What-s-On

Celebrating 200 Years – St Matthews, Windsor

The 200th Celebrations of St Matthews Anglican Church Windsor, 1817-2017, is set to hold a huge birthday bash!! The birthday program will include the following events:

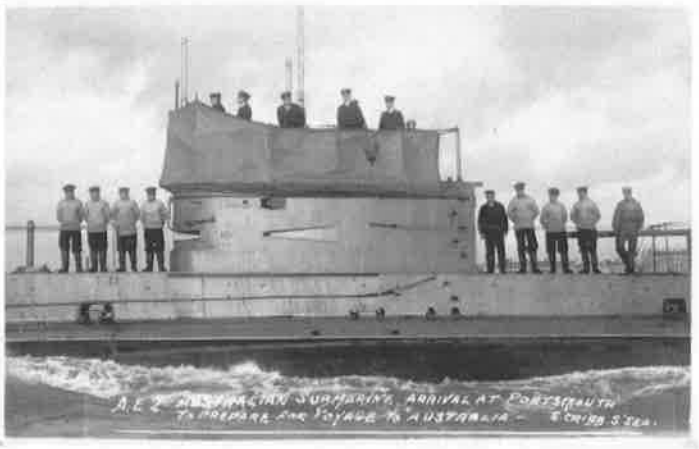
- 11 October 2017 – Wednesday School Church Service (by invitation only, invitations issued through the local district schools).
- 14 October – Saturday Big Birthday Bash, McQuade Park - Community and Family Celebrations in the Park in Windsor. All welcome. This will be a buzz for all ages, and a great chance for families to come together. Includes RAAF flyover, entertainment, food, history and family history, stalls tours and reenactments. All displays will be free.
- 15 October – Sunday Church Service and Celebration, with special guests, musical highlights and historical displays.



The celebrated publication *St Matthew's Windsor: an Anglican Landmark celebrating 200 years*, by Ian Jack and Jan Barkey-Jack, will be available from the church in hard copy at **$49.95. This book received a prestigious "Highly Commended" award in the recent Research** and Investigation section of the National Trust of Australia (NSW), Australian Heritage Festival 2017. Soft cover is also available from the church, Hawkesbury Regional Museum **and Wiseman's Book Shop, Richmond, for $29.95.**
For more information about the Church's Bicentenary and its celebrations, please contact St Matthew's Anglican Church, 1 Moses Street, Windsor
Ph: 02 4577 3193
Email: bicentenary@windsoranglican.asn.au

War at Sea – The Navy in WW I

Over one hundred years ago, on 14 September 1914, Australia's first submarine AE1 disappeared while patrolling the seas near present day New Guinea. No trace of the vessel or the 35 crew has ever been found.



This story is now being told in *War at Sea – the Navy in WWI*, an eight panel exhibition at Hawkesbury Central Library, Windsor, on tour from the Australian National Maritime Museum. This panel exhibition draws on the personal accounts of Navy service staff through their diaries, mementoes, ship's logs and letters home, to tell their incredible stories of bravery and sacrifice amidst the drudgery of life at sea, patrolling, blockading and escorting troopships.
The free exhibition runs from Tuesday, 8 August to Friday, 29 September, during opening hours, at Hawkesbury Central Library, 300 George Street, Windsor.

www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au
Ph: 02 4560 4460

Glenbrook Park update

Current and upcoming works in Glenbrook Park, as at 1 August 2017:

- ***Park Street Frontage***: Works have commenced on opening up the lawn area in front of the Country Women's Association building. Turf should be laid this week or next and should be well established in time for the Spring Fair.
- ***Investigative excavation***: Next week a series of test pits will be dug across the park to inform the upcoming construction work. The information is required before works can proceed. Around 8 test pits are to be dug to understand what footings are needed for the VIC expansion, the carpark works, and the shade sails are to be installed in the playground. A separate investigative trench will be dug across what is considered to be the Cox's Road alignment. It is hoped to discover whether there are any traces, or not, of the original road. All excavations will be monitored by an archaeologist. All excavations will be backfilled as soon as possible.
- ***Playground construction***: Tenders have closed for the construction of the new junior accessible playground to replace the existing junior playground. It is expected to appoint the contractor at the August Council meeting. Work should commence in September and is scheduled for completion before the Christmas school holidays.
- Some children's events will be held in the park during the construction phase to offset the unavailability of the playground. The senior playground and the oval will still be available for use.

Elizabeth Dudley-Bestow, Principal Landscape Architect
Ph: 02 4780 5784
Email: edudleybestow@bmcc.nsw.gov.au

Seminar: Settling the Blue Mountains

Blue Mountains Family History Society presents this interesting seminar on Saturday 9th September 2017, at the Springwood Baptist Church Hall, 313 Macquarie Road, Springwood.

Presenters will include:

- Brian Fox: Development of the mountain villages.
- Doug Knowles: Blue Mountains tunnels, railways, roads and bridges.
- John Low: Travelling to Wonderland: Coach Services from the Blue Mountains to Jenolan Caves in the Pre-Motor Era.
- Ken Goodlet: Woodford Academy, when the building was an inn.

Jim Low will provide entertainment after lunch.

Hotel Mt Victoria

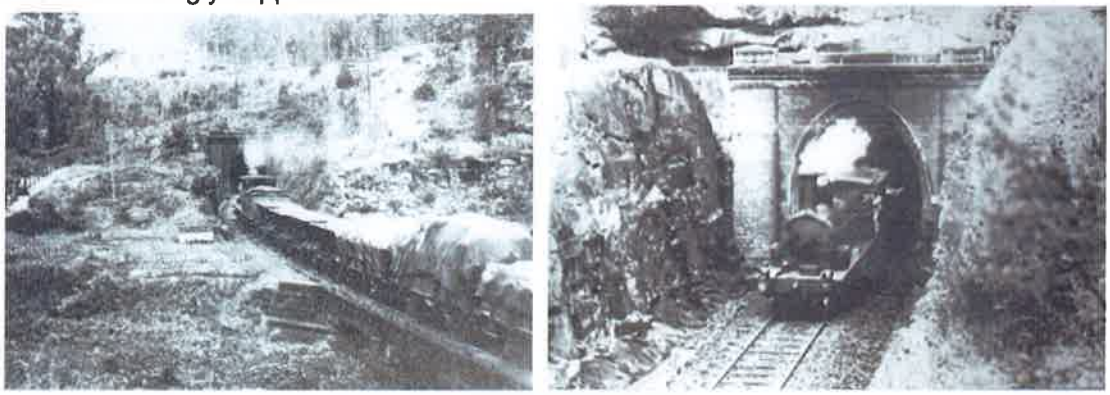
Woodford Academy

Bathurst Rd, Katoomba

The cost is $40.00 per person, and this includes morning tea and lunch. It is 9.15am for a 9.30am start, and goes until 3.30-4pm.
Early bookings are advised and bookings can be received up to Friday 1 September 2017. Places are limited due to hall space, and bookings may be made at a General Meeting of the group, in the family history section of the Springwood Library, or post a cheque to the Family History Society, PO Box 97, Springwood 2777.
For further information and the application slip:
xploretree@yahoo.com.au
bmfhsweb@gmail.com

Lapstone Tunnel Clean-up - update

Further to the BMACHO lead article in Newsletter No. 45 July-August 2016, and in regard to the Disused Lapstone Tunnel (former mushroom farm), the Blue Mountains Conservation Society has contacted the Environment Protection Authority (EPA), making a formal complaint about pollution at the site, providing BMACHO with a copy of their submission. Although a number of other societies and stakeholders have already been involved in consultation regarding the clean-up and future use of the tunnel, the Society's concerns are still to be strongly supported.



Western portal in use

The group are concerned about the ongoing use of the tunnel for storage of mushroom compost and associated waste, and the resulting possible pollution of nearby waterways and groundwater. To date the Society has been advised that the Dept of Lands cannot identify whether the waste and other material was left by the immediate past leaseholder, or by prior leaseholders.
In their submission to the EPA, the Society acknowledge that significant progress has been made with site clean-up including removal of onsite amenities, sheds, chemicals storage

facilities, compost waste and machinery, weed removal and site regeneration, and the efforts of the Dept are appreciated. However, they are still concerned about illegal access, graffiti, lack of health warning signage and camera surveillance, the remaining old machinery and rubbish, the continued weed problem, soil contamination, and the unknown extent of contaminated material remaining inside the tunnel.
Attempts by the Dept for clean-up funding for 2017/18 have been unsuccessful, and no other funds have been allocated to the site. The Society feel that this is unsatisfactory.
They have requested that the EPA investigate the inside of the tunnel to ascertain the extent of contamination, and establish whether the tunnel site pollution is resulting in pollution of nearby waterways and groundwater. They have requested a clean-up notice to be issued to the Dept, and that the Dept be required to undertake soil contamination testing and secure the site. *Patsy Moppett*

These concerns are forwarded to BMACHO readers for information.

Blue Mountains Conservation Society can be contacted at:
Blue Mountains Conservation Society In., PO Box 29, Wentworth Falls 2782
Email: bmcs@bluemountains.org.au
Ph: 02 4757 1872 (unattended)

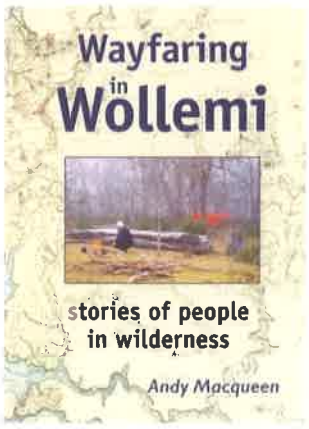
Rex Stubbs OAM Commemorative History Symposium 2017

The Rex Stubbs OAM Commemorative History Symposium 2017 will be held on Saturday 9 September 2017, at the Tebbutt Room, Deerubin Centre, 300 George Street, Windsor. It will run from 9.30am to 4.30pm, and the symposium speakers will include:

- Dr Tanya Evans, Senior Lecturer, Dept of Modern History, Macquarie University, and Director of the Centre for Applied History.
- Courtney Page-Allen & Dr Rebecca Fleming, Dept of Veterans Affairs.
- Christine Fenton, Online Manager, National Centre of Biography, Australian University.
- Suzanne Holohan, General Manager, Royal Australian Historical Society.
- Margot Stuart, Museum Programs and Collections Coordinator, Museums & Galleries of NSW.
- Michelle Nicholls, Local History Librarian, Hawkesbury City Council.

The Symposium will include an information session where groups can provide updates on their activities, a light lunch, and information stalls.
Contact the following for bookings by 1 September 2017:
pcharlton@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au
Ph: 02 4560 4434
www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au

Book Launch : Wayfaring in Wollemi - stories of people in wilderness



This fabulous and fascinating publication is the latest by author Andy Macqueen. The book describes stories of 28 explorers, surveyors, wanderers, cattlemen, would-be developers, adventurers and conservationists who each spent a part of their life in the Wollemi, the largest declared Wilderness in NSW. What took them there and what did they get up to? Did the experience change their lives? The author follows their footsteps through the gorges, over the mountains and into the hideaways. *Andy Macqueen*

The launch will take place on Sunday 22 October 2017, at 10.30am - morning tea supplied - at the Education Centre, Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mount Tomah.
Hardback • 352 pages • 140 maps & images • RRP $40

The event will be hosted by the Colong Foundation,
Please RSVP andymacqueen@gmail.com

Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail Update!

BMACHO continues to promote the Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail and members' upcoming events. BMACHO have reprinted the Heritage Trail brochure which has now been distributed. During 2017 BMACHO are holding a competition to encourage visitation to Trail participant properties, and the competition entry forms are incorporated into the brochure.

Visitors to any of the participating venues as identified on the Trail brochure can either answer the set out questions or obtain a stamp showing they have been to a venue. BMACHO will hold a prize draw approximately every six months. Information with regard to the competition is available on the Trail website (see below).

Westpac

If you are a member and you would like further information, or if you would like to become a member, please email the BMACHO Secretary at committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au

For general information about BMACHO and the Trail, see heritagedrive.com.au or www.facebook.com/GBMHeritageTrail

To find out more about BMACHO visit www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

Registered office: 1/19 Stypandra Place, Springwood 2777. (02) 4751 5834
Email: committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au or j.koperberg@bigpond.com
Website: www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au **ABN**: 53 994 839 952

The organisation: Blue Mountains Association of Cultural & Heritage Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 after local historical and heritage societies and individuals recognised the need for the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the local government area (LGA) of Blue Mountains City Council. The constituency now embraces but is not limited to, the LGAs of Blue Mountains, Lithgow, Hawkesbury and Penrith. BMACHO membership includes historical and heritage groups, museums, commercial enterprises with an historical or heritage component in its core business, local government (local studies units, library collections) and a limited number of individual members by invitation such as but not necessarily academics. The objectives of the organisation are:

1. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage
2. To encourage and assist cultural heritage
3. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations.

One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

Affiliations: BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society and is affiliated with the Better Planning Network.

Publications: BMACHO's official newsletter ***Heritage*** is edited by Patsy Moppett. The annual refereed *Blue Mountains History Journal* is edited by Dr Peter Rickwood and occasional papers are published from time to time.

Membership: The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mt Tomah; Blue Mountains City Library; Blue Mountains Cultural Heritage Centre; Blue Mountain Education & Research Trust; Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc; Blue Mountains Historical Society; Bygone Beautys Treasured Teapot Museum and Tearooms; City of Lithgow Mining Museum Inc; Colo Shire Family History Group; Eskbank Rail Heritage Centre; Everglades Historic House & Gardens; Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc; Hartley Valley District Progress Association; Hawkesbury Historical Society Inc; Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc; Leuralla NSW Toy & Railway Museum; Lithgow & District Family History Society Inc; Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies; Mt Victoria & District Historical Society Inc; Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine Historical Society Inc (including Turkish Bath Museum); National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Blue Mountains Branch; National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Lithgow Branch; Nepean District Historical Society Inc; Norman Lindsay Gallery and Museum; Paragon Cafe, Katoomba; Scenic World Blue Mountains Limited; Springwood Historical Society Inc; Springwood Historians Inc; Transport Signal Communication Museum Inc; Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Heritage Museum, Woodford Academy Management Committee, Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd. The following are individual members: Wendy Blaxland, Fiona Burn, Ray Christison, Dr Wayne Hanley, Associate Professor Ian Jack, Ian Milliss, Patsy Moppett, Keith Painter and Dr Peter Rickwood.

Committee: The management committee for 2016-2017 (from April 2016) is: Patsy Moppett (President and ***Heritage*** Newsletter Editor), Ian Jack (Vice President), Jan Koperberg (Secretary), Philip Hammon (Treasurer), Jan Koperberg (web sites), Dick Morony (Public Officer/Membership Secretary/ Calendar Editor), Suzanne Smith (Event and Venue Co-ordinators), Fiona Burn, Peter Brownlee and Roy Bennett.
Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail sub-committee: Peter Brownlee, Fiona Burn, Jan Koperberg, Suzanne Smith, & Lynn Collins, Museums and Galleries Adviser.

Disclaimer: views and opinions expressed in Heritage originate from many sources and contributors. Every effort is taken to ensure accuracy of material. Content does not necessarily represent or reflect the views and opinions of BMACHO, its committee or its members. If errors are found feedback is most welcome.

Heritage

Newsletter of the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc

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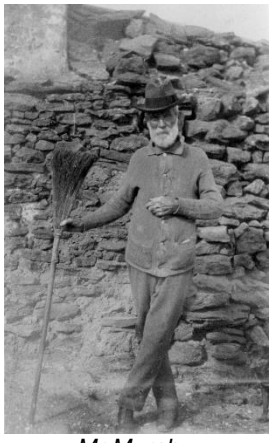
Mr Murphy of Hat Hill

William Andrew Murphy was born in 1846 in the Maitland area of New South Wales. Late in his life, he lived near Hat Hill at Blackheath in the Blue Mountains. This would have been from around 1913 to 1925. Hat Hill was so named because it looks rather like an old felt hat.

Mr Murphy built a small dwelling and soon the local animals and birds began regular evening visits to scavenge food from him. It was not long before people heard about this. On Sundays a local bus began driving people out to Hat Hill to watch quietly as Mr Murphy fed the wildlife.



Mr Murphy

Mr Murphy's hut at Hat Hill, Blackheath

Unfortunately, a bushfire came through this area in either 1918 or 1919 and Mr Murphy's home was destroyed. After the fire had passed, Mr Murphy was found underneath a small waterfall at the back of his property. Local people helped the old man to rebuild his house. They also gave him a horse to ride. However, the shock he must have suffered during the fire meant that things at Hat Hill could never be the same for him again.

The last year or more of his life was spent at West Kogarah at the home of a friend, Mrs Helen Drain. He died there on 30 November 1927 at the age of 81. On his death certificate, his occupation is "carpenter" and he apparently never married. Reference is made to his former residence, "late of Blackheath". He was buried on 2 December 1927 in the Roman Catholic section of Woronora Cemetery.

I visited the cemetery at Woronora in August 2004. Thankfully I was given the names of neighbouring graves at the administration office, for I soon discovered that Mr Murphy's grave was unmarked. I had hoped a gravestone might have provided more

information. The elation felt at the realisation that I was standing next to his final resting place surpassed any initial feelings of disappointment. As I stood under the shady trees I wondered how many others had made this pilgrimage to his grave during the last 75 years.

Remains of Mr Murphy's hut at Hat Hill, Blackheath

Most of the information I know about Mr Murphy comes from the recollections of Jack and Ted Harris. In the early 1980's they were asked to record some of their memories of the Blackheath area. William Murphy obviously created a lasting impression for the brothers. They clearly remembered the old gentleman who, over sixty years ago, had lived at the end of their road when they were children.
In July 1984, after listening to the Harris brothers' recording in the Blue Mountains Oral History Collection, I wrote a song about Mr Murphy. Some years later photographs of Mr Murphy and his home were uncovered.
Sections of the stone walls of Mr Murphy's abandoned home can still be found in the bushland at Hat Hill. I have visited these ruins a number of times since writing the song. The view to the east extends as far as the Sydney skyline. It is a place made special for me by Mr Murphy's story. A story of celebration and loss, his association with this place leaves many questions unanswered. I often wonder about the events of his life and what motivated him to live in such an isolated part of the Blue Mountains. Perhaps in the future, as I keep singing my song, I will continue to discover more about him.
And despite his unmarked gravesite at Woronora, for me the ruins of his Hat Hill home serve as his monument. The ruins are slowly being reclaimed by the surrounding bush. Nature is seeing to it that this place will remain undisturbed and eventually return to how it was when Mr Murphy first arrived. *Jim Low*

SONG LYRICS
Mr Murphy

Chorus:
Old Mr Murphy's a friend to all
Especially the animals, large and small
Especially the animals, large and small.
Old Mr Murphy lives all alone.

At the bottom of a hill in a house of stone
A house that he built from the things around
The soil, the stones and the timber he found.
Each day to Blackheath he walks the track
For his daily supplies, then he's heading back
A smile or a greeting along the way
"How y' keeping, Mr Murphy?" and the odd "G'day".

His blue eyes pierce the fading light
He starts the fire and prepares for night
Then knocks his old pipe on his dusty old heel
And checks the billy and prods at his meal.
A whistle is heard and the silence ends

It's old Mr Murphy calling his friends
In the evening shadows the bush comes alive
As the animals and birds begin to arrive.

There's food for all creatures - the Gang Gang and quail
Brown wallabies and possums and the willy wagtail
The old man smiles broadly, his teeth displayed
As he stares at the sanctuary his kindness has made.
On Sunday the tourists would come to his door
And the people would marvel at the things they saw
A kind old man with snowy hair
Treating the animals with so much care.

Then the bushfires came and his home was destroyed
He lost the place that he once enjoyed
He returned for a while but it wasn't as before
He was taken away and heard of no more. *© Jim Low*

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Food for thought ..... Editor's note

The recent 2017 RAHS Conference was, as usual, a resounding success! Everyone left Cowra on information overload, knowing so much more about Cowra itself, the Prisoner of War Camp, the war cemetery and the Japanese Gardens, amongst other things!
However, one of the most useful agenda items was the Business Session, which provided a handout asking questions pertinent to history/family history groups and museums, such as, should groups charge entry fees, ideas for gathering revenue, ensuring submissions on heritage matters have an impact, should your organization register for GST, the best way to manage ISBN & ISSN numbers, and the necessity for Working With Children checks.

BMACHO Secretary Jan Koperberg has emailed out the information sheet to BMACHO email contacts. However if anyone missed out, please feel free to contact BMACHO and a copy can be sent.
In particular, and relevant to the various correspondences which come across the BMACHO desk, is the subject of making a submission, and making sure your submission, whether it is on a heritage listing, other heritage issue, or on any other topic for that matter, has an impact.
We are all, as groups or individuals, asked to comment on things from time to time, and the preparation of a submission can be very time consuming. It is a pity to spend so much time preparing correspondence and supporting documentation, only to find it is relegated to the shelf and never read.
Bruce Baskerville, with considerable experience in submitting submissions, but also receiving and assessing submissions, provided some advice to ensure your submission counts. The hints are regarding heritage submissions, but could be carried across into any submission situation:
What works:

- Focus on history and historical significance, and play to your strengths. You are talking about significance of a place, emphasize this.
- Keep it short – you should be able to say on one page why a place is important enough to be listed – precision shows you know what you are talking about.
- Begin with the sentence "Harriett's Hut is significant and should be listed because ….."
- Be polite, use plain English, be helpful – offer to provide further information if requested.
- Be regularly engaged with Council's heritage advisor or committee – support them as ongoing friends or allies.
- Cherish (loudly) local heritage and history, challenge those who say "it's only local" as if that means it doesn't really matter.

What doesn't work:

- Overwhelming with too much information – it just won't be read.
- Bundling together lots of papers and pictures and expecting someone else to just "get" the point you want to make.
- Heckling, badgering, being equivocal or pointing out the serial failures of the local council to take heritage seriously (even if it might be true!)
- Not taking time to find out who matters in making LEP listing [and planning] decisions, and only finding out who is council's heritage officer at the last minute [and thereby making last minute inaccurate submissions].
- Failing to keep up to date with Council notices in local papers or on Council's website advertising changes to LEP lists, changing public land classifications, etc.

Careful consideration enables you to have an opportunity to provide additional historical information, suggest further historical values and significance, or achieve more accurate names or curtilage boundaries, but not necessarily in the first submission.
Polite persistence supported by verifiable historical research has worked for the RAHS for many years.

*Bruce Baskerville is an independent public historian, has been a Senior Heritage Officer with the NSW Heritage Office, is a Royal Australian Historical Society Council Councillor, and been involved in the Professional Historians' Association in NSW & ACT Management Committee (Secretary, Treasurer, President, Chair**),** History Council of NSW Management Committee (Treasurer, Councillor), and The Australian Heraldry Society Management Committee (Deputy President, President and Editor). Bruce was a judge for the NSW Premier's History Prize in 2000, and for the National Trust Heritage Awards in 2008, being awarded a Centenary of Federation Medal in 2002, and was elected a Fellow of the Federation of Australian Historical Societies in 2011. Amongst other things!!*

The Village of Brasfort

The following articles posted in the Sydney Morning Herald in 1881 signalled the Crown disposal of land (some 80 lots this day) in the Village of Brasfort:

> *Department of Lands, Sydney*
> *November 11, 1881*
>
> *L A N D S A L E*
>
> *Attention is called to a sale of Crown Lands, to be held at the Village of Brasfort, Wentworth Falls (late Weatherboard) – on the 17th DECEMBER 1881, comprising Lands, County of Cook, Parish of Jamison.*
>
> *TOWN LOTS*
>
> *In the Village of Brasfort (at Wentworth Falls) fronting Armstrong, Parkes, Backhouse, Fletcher and Wentworth Streets, and Pritchard, Day, Cascade, Boomara, Wilson and Jamison Streets. For further particulars see Gazette of November 10, 1881, No. 449 at Police Office or Local Land Office.*
> *Lithographs price shilling each showing the land for sale, can be obtained at the Land Offices, Penrith and Hartley, and the Surveyor-General's Office, Sydney.*
>
> *JAMES HOSKINS*

> *Department of Lands, Sydney*
> *November 17, 1881*
> *ATTENTION IS CALLED to a sale of CROWN LANDS. TO BE HELD ON THE GROUND, at the VILLAGE OF BRASFORT on SATURDAY, 17TH DECEMBER NEXT, at two o'clock p.p., Comprising lands in the Parish of Jamisson, County of Cook, as per the schedule appended. The VILLAGE OF BRASFORT EXTENDS FROM THE Wentworth Falls (late Weatherboard) Railway Station to the Falls.*
> *LITHOGRAPHS (price one shilling each), showing the land for sale, can be obtained at the Land Offices at Penrith and Hartley, and at the Surveyor-General's Office, Sydney.*
>
> *JAMES HOSKINS*

Early beginnings

Although the streets and lots were soon settled, the name of Brasfort did not survive progress in the development of the town of Wentworth Falls.

Wentworth Falls was barely in existence in terms of subdivision as a village until well after the coming of the railway. Prior to this there were a handful of farming families in the vicinity, teamsters along the western road, which then was what we know as Blaxland Road, and then railway gangs from 1863, who were served for many years by the Weatherboard Inn until the 1860s. The Weatherboard Hut was set up by Cox in 1814, and the Inn in the 1820s. Robyn Ridge, in her book "Once Upon a Time in History", notes that Governor Macquarie renamed the waterfalls "Campbell's Cataract", after his secretary, but "Weatherboard" persisted for some time.

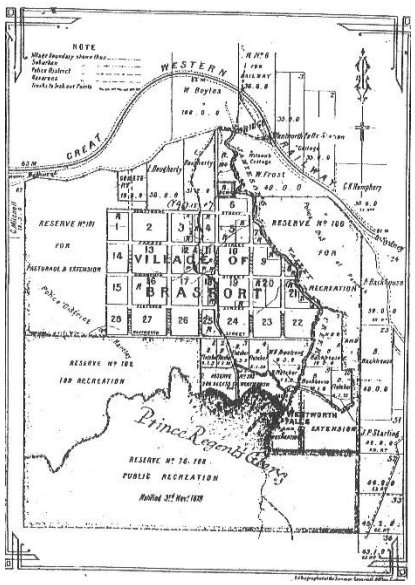
Once the government chose the Nepean Valley for the city's new water supply, things began to change and restrictions on residential development in the Blue Mountains were removed. The town name was changed from Weatherboard to Wentworth Falls to remember William Charles Wentworth of explorer fame.

Once the rail came through, Sydney inhabitants began to seek holiday accommodation and mountain retreats, hotels, boarding houses, holiday houses, services and guest houses sprang up. Social reformers in Sydney were renouncing the unhealthy living conditions in the city, and people sought access to the mountains and the pure mountain air via the railway.

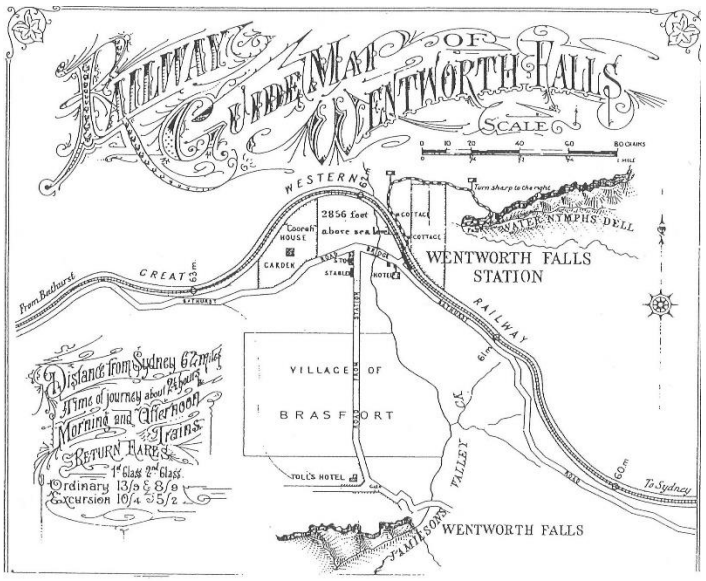
Brasfort is gazetted

However, in between Weatherboard and Wentworth Falls, the town had another name – Brasfort. In 1881 the Village of Brasfort was set out in a grid pattern of 28 sections on some 24 hectares (61 acres) along and around what we now know as Falls Road, to the south of the current Great Western Highway, and gazetted in 1885. The subdivision allowed for a buffer along Armstrong Street and along the highway. Government reserves were included

and in 1889 the cemetery reserve was separated out; but not all of the gazetted streets were formed at first.

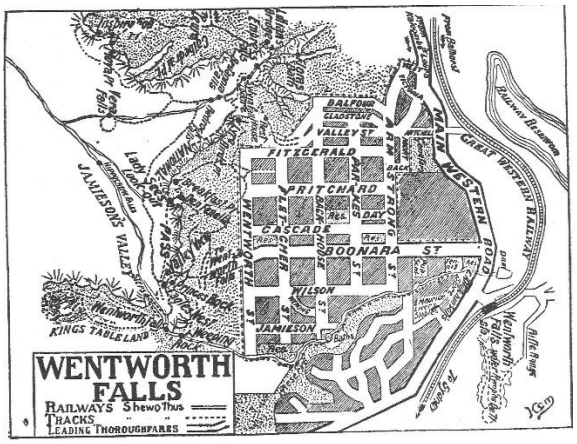


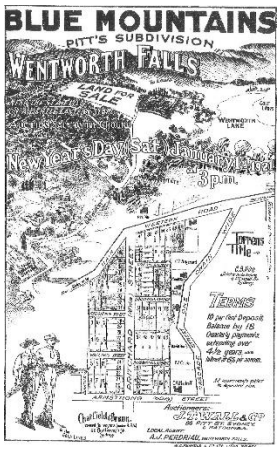
1887



1894

By 1889 Wentworth Falls consisted of about forty homes, with a population of about 150 people. The school was erected in 1887 and Peter Mulheran was running his Mount Allen Hotel, which included livery stables. This hotel became a boarding house and then a private residence. He later built a boarding house in Wilson Street, called “Rockwall”.
Brasfort however, although it was proclaimed a village in 1885, was absorbed into Wentworth Falls in 1896, even though by 1892 it already had 24 homes erected. These residences within the subdivision served professional people from Sydney as mountain holiday homes.
Elsewhere, settlement was by local workers on the railway and on farms, and it was these who became the first permanent residents of Wentworth Falls.





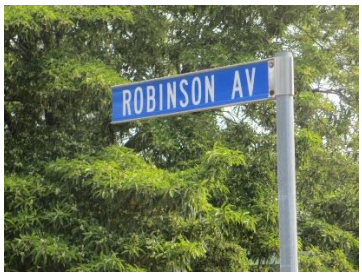
Over time, further subdivision within the village, with elaborate invitations to mountain living!

Early development

In Brasfort, a general store was established on the corner of Boonara Road (now Falls Road) by Thomas Cale in 1887 and the Highway. A second general store was opened on the highway between the hotel and the creek. Land was reserved for future public buildings, but few were developed, and were eventually sold off. The corner of Armstrong and Robinson/Cascade Streets was dedicated for a Mechanics Institute in 1899, and a School of Arts was erected there in 1902.

In the 1890s Joseph Toll built a hotel, Toll's Hotel on Falls Road. In 1891 he bought Mt Allen Hotel and transferred its licence to his new Wentworth Hotel, which burnt down in 1932.The Holy Trinity Church was built on Falls Road in 1888-89. Prior to this services were held in Cale's store. Other churches included the original Catholic and Presbyterian churches.
The railway had been surveyed in 1862 and reserves for platforms and station were created throughout the mountains soon after. The reserve was created at Weatherboard in 1866, and the platform was built in 1867, retaining a substantial portion of land around it. This reserve was not released until 1906, which inhibited development, particularly a commercial precinct, which did not take off until 1910. Eventually the reserve was subdivided into residential lots which included parks and recreation areas.
By 1900 most of the population still lived in Brasfort, but following WW1 the move was more to the north into what we know as Wentworth Falls. By the time the commercial area of today was established, the community's means of transport had turned again, and there was a shift away from rail to road, and the upgrading of the highway took place over time.

Land ownership and streets
The land which encompassed Brasfort was originally "owned" by Walter D. Armstrong a draftsman in the Lands Department (probably leased from the Crown), from whose name the village received its name: a French adaptation, "bras" meaning arm and "fort" meaning strong, or the Saxon "strongitharm". The name was originally given to the gully into which Falls Road dips beyond Armstrong Street.



The streets were named after prominent local people who had purchased land in the subdivision at the time. Benjamin Backhouse was a prominent Sydney architect and William Pritchard was a Sydney auctioneer and real estate agent, and others included Henry Parkes, Horden brothers, George and Robert Pitt, John McLaughlin, Captain John Charles Smith of Goodlet and Smith, and Captain James Somerville Murray. The Murrays built homes for themselves as well as rental houses, and donated land for Murray Park.
Other early Brasfort Village landowners included Edward Dougherty and David Davis.

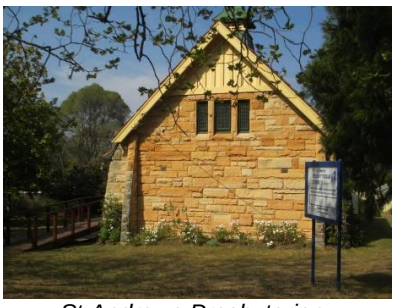
Early significant homes
("**Davisville**"). "Davisville", on Falls Road, was purchased by the YWCA in 1920 and later by the Anglican Church. It was located on part of the original land grant in the area to Doherty in 1857. Davis was a Sydney builder.
The property "**Eurona**" was first bought in 1881 in Brasfort by John Hawksford, and the Federation house was built by Sydney merchant Arthur Pearce in 1900. It was later used by the Sisters of Mercy as their mountain retreat for some 50 years.
Walter Armstrong built "**Green Gables"** (formerly named "**Gila**", and later "**Minniewanka**") in about 1880 on Railway Parade. This land was originally fronting the railway to the south, and was granted to Robert Stubbs, Thomas Boland, David Fletcher (a Sydney dentist) and Walter Armstrong. The land was immediately subdivided for the four, with Armstrong maintaining his share whilst also being instrumental in the development of the main village. The house was named "Green Gables" in 1919 by the then owner William Wood, and has been rebuilt and extended over time, passing through many hands. An Anglican minister associated with the Hordern empire held the house for from 1930 to 1952, when it was bought by the Mather family, who retained ownership until 2003.

Verna

Etheldale

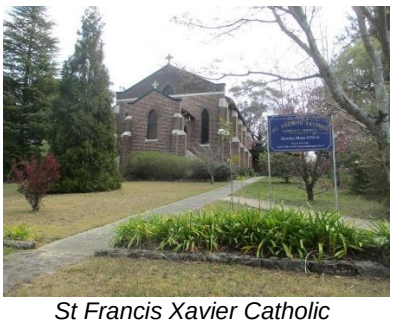
Inglewood

"Verna" is located on the Great Western Highway, and was built in the late 1890s by John Farrell of Manly, or his daughters, and was bought in 1895 by Dora (Dolly) Boulton. The house was originally known as **"Clunes**", and the land was subdivided in 1900, and sold to Rev E Claydon and the Anglican church. Later, the Claydon family used the place as a mountain holiday home, and it has had a number of owners since then.
"Inglewood" is located in Pritchard Street, and was built between 1880-1890. The house was shown on a subdivision plan of 1912, although significant changes have occurred to the building since then. It was owned by the Murphy family for 99 years until it was sold in 1992.
"Etheldale" is located in Falls Road, (formerly Boonara Street), and is a significant home, claiming associations with prominent families such as the Heney-Gullett family of journalistic and literary distinction, and with General Stewart an early Bathurst settler, and his descendants. Dr Charles McKay first bought the land, but sold it to David Davis in 1889 without developing it. In 1919 Davis sold to Amy Heney, and she and her husband built the house, naming it "**Lymdale**". They moved to Queensland only a few years later, selling the property to the Stewarts. A number of lots were added to the property over the next 10 years, to enhance the garden. On one allotment was built the cottage **"Amiens",** by the Stewarts. In 1962 "Lymdale" was sold to Derek Howlett, an archaeologist. In 1977 Howlett sold to Margaret Ethel Henderson, who renamed the property "Etheldale". In 1987 it was bought by James Meadows and Marlie Rendel.
Another mountain residence was "**Raleighville"**, home of the summer residence of the Simmons family. This home burnt to the ground in August 1899.
Joseph Bowes built **"Strathmore",** and the Reverend Stephen Childe built "**Chalet Fontanelle**" which was changed to "**Whispering Pines**".
Early boarding houses included **"Berry Lodge"** in Pritchard Street, **"The Pines"** in Boonara Street, and **"Rotorua"** in Pritchard Street. CW Medcalf was a carpenter who built several of the houses west of the Holy Trinity Church in Armstrong Street in the 1880s.



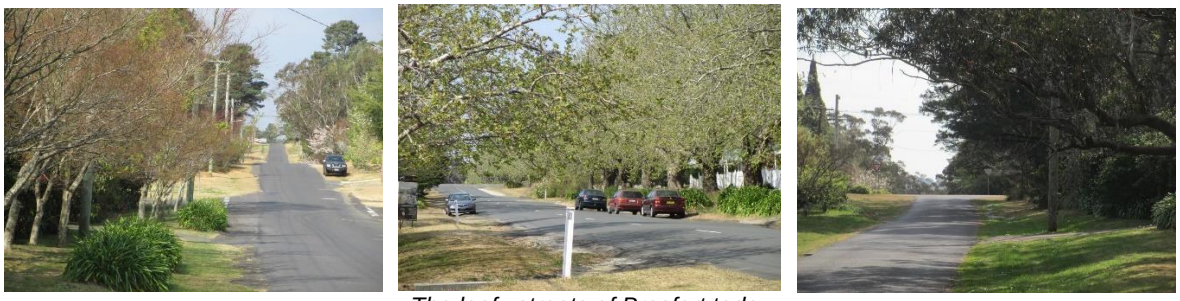
St Andrews Presbyterian

Holy Trinity Anglican



St Francis Xavier Catholic

Brasfort today
There are many other significant homes and tree lined streetscapes within the Brasfort Village area, which demonstrate the 19th century ideal of a mountain escape on spacious grounds, within reach of the rail line, the Falls, and the beginnings of the small commercial centre and other services. Activities included flower and vegetable gardens, orchards, dairies and poultry, all of which demonstrated a need to be self-sufficient until the development of the railway enabled better access to markets in Sydney.



The leafy streets of Brasfort today

Wentworth Falls has therefore had two previous lives, as the simple Weatherboard, and then the residential estate of Brasfort. The changing modes of transport and servicing did the most to alter the character of the town we know today. The Weatherboard name is familiar to many, with its associations to William Cox and the building of the first road. The name Brasfort, however, has faded in familiarity especially for the younger generation, and to folk from beyond the mountains who were not aware of its existence.

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Maxwell's Hut, Burragorang Valley

Chris Banffy of NSW National Parks is heading a restoration team for Billy Maxwell's Hut in the Burragorang Valley.
The hut, built in 1925 using the methods of his father William Maxwell, and expanded over time by William (Billy) Maxwell, has been abandoned since 1943.
A very detailed document by Ian Jack is available at:
http://www.asha.org.au/pdf/australasian_historical_archaeology/27_04_Jack.pdf
The hut is well documented because of a shooting accident on Boxing Day of 1926, where Alan Crago was shot, and his kidney damaged. A hospital was set up in Maxwell's Hut and photographed by Horace Milton.
Because of this detailed documentation, Chris believes he has a good case to have the hut restored, and has formed a committee to raise funds for the project.
So far there has been considerable work done to protect the remaining timbers from white ants, and some protection of remnant timbers from the hut, and an enclosing fence has been erected to unsuccessfully keep the wombats out and stop them from undermining the foundations.

Maxwell's hut 2017

Some of the locals

Site visit April 2017

Chris hopes to restore the hut to a habitable state, and have it used by bushwalkers, using a booking system. On 5th April 2017 I visited the hut with Chris, Jan Koperberg, and Ian Jack his wife Jan. It stands in a large paddock frequented by kangaroos, wombats and echidnas.
Philip Hammon

The search for the recovery road, Katoomba coal mine

Once again, Phil Hammon has been analysing old photographs! However, this time he follows it up with some ground truthing

"The search for the Recovery Road began with the finding of this photo in MAAS website which showed in the far background, J B Norths house Essendene, and a small shed at the top of the Tramway.

I had seen references to it but never took it seriously, as I had no idea where it was or how it could work. My mother had told me tales of sliding down the "mullock heaps" on sheets of galvanised iron when she was a child, so I knew that they had existed. The only other reference was a mention in Bennett's paper of the crews building the Catalina racetrack coming across heavy timbers in this area and assuming that they were something to do with the tramway. However, searching Google Earth and SIX Maps for land boundaries of the tramway at its northern end, the road which runs west from the intersection of Kulgoa and Gundar Street in the 1943 aerial photos of the area looked like it could be a suitable candidate, as it curves under the hill in what would be just in the right place.

The coal and shale that was brought up the tramway from the top of the incline, at what today is the Scenic Railway, was tipped across screens, which sized the coal and dropped it into bins for loading into rail wagons. If the bins were full or the coal was oversized it passed across the top of the screens and went into the bypass chutes. At present I have no detail on these chutes, be they wooden troughs or simply dividing fences on the ground, but they were needed to separate, shale from coal, and to feed a loading chute at the bottom.

A site survey on 29 May 2017 with Patrick Leonard and myself, armed with the trusty Garmin GPS, followed the road from Kulgoa St. There is a steel gate across the road with a BMCC padlock. It is obviously a well made road, cut and benched across the hillside, sloping gently downhill, and following the side of the hill around towards the NW. My conversations with "horsey" people had told me of the necessity for a turning circle for the horse and cart to turn around, then a means of backing the cart under the chute. Horses don't back carts very well, especially downhill!

Sure enough there is a turning circle 10-12 metres in diameter with the remains of a hitching post in its centre. From here the road slopes more steeply into the bottom of a small waterfall and terminates.

It seems to me that the 3 metre high cliff formed by the waterfall was perfect to give the loading chute some elevation, and allow the coal to slide into the dray. I conclude that the driver would bring the cart to the turning circle, turn it around, unhitch the horse and tie him to the hitching post, then manually walk the dray downhill to run up against the stop under the end of the chute. He then brings the horse down, turns him, and backs him into the shafts.

The dray is then loaded from the chute, and the horse pulls the dray all the way around the recovery road, into Gundar St, up onto the highway,and around to the top of the screens where the coal or shale was again screened. I am assuming that the large lumps of coal and shale which had bypassed the screens, were manually broken down whilst lying on the ground awaiting reloading.

Picture from 1943 SIX Maps showing the remains of the Recovery Road

Patrick under the loading chute for the tip dray

Round footing for a post beam, part of loading chute

Coal and shale recovered from the creek bed

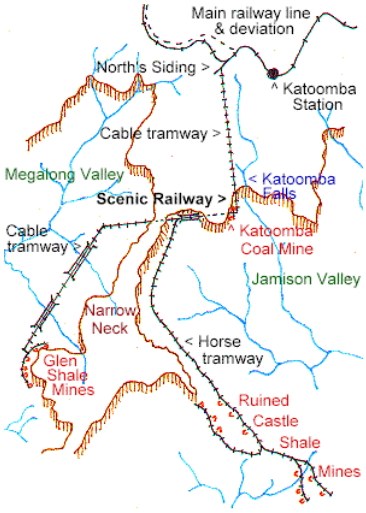
Post hole recess, with small objects placed in it

Remains of an iron box up on the bank

Two post holes above creek bed

There were the remains of an iron box on the bank, perhaps formerly a horse feed or water trough. There were two post holes on the slope 2 metres apart, 10 metres above the creek bed, they appear to be post hole footings, and have recently been used by animals, evidenced by the pile of fresh earth outside the holes.
Our explorations carried us up to the railway siding, which we followed to the south west. I was looking to prove or disprove the statement from Bennett's paper that the tramway went over the railway siding on a bridge. It is quite obvious, from the earthworks that the tramway passed under the NSWGR rails. The tramway only being 12ft wide, and the skips 3ft high, it was a not a long span for standard gauge rail.

The hold down bolt for the return wheel of tramway



Katoomba mining tramlines

This also answered another question, on how were the rail trucks moved along under the chutes as they were being loaded, then moved to await pickup by a locomotive. This is answered by the siding being on a slight gradient, the locomotive pushing the empty trucks right up the siding, then individual trucks being rolled back down the slope using sprags and pinchbars, to be loaded.
Now proceeding up the tramway to the North, looking for the site of the shed that can be seen in the first photograph. There has been a lot of site disturbance by the RFS, cutting up the large pine tree logs that were growing on the site from John Britty North's time, but we did manage to fine one 1 1/4" diameter hold down bolt, which probably held the return wheel for the tramway. There is also a substantial concrete footing here, which has coal and goolies for aggregate dating it to the 1880's." *Philip Hammon*

The Technical Side

Heritage Gardens

Creation of a garden takes time, and its establishment and development over time demonstrate the vision of the designer. To reach a mature state may take decades, but the garden by then may have reached a stage when it requires redevelopment, adaptation, amendment, when its original perceived character is altering and it needs reinvigorating. This redevelopment may require more regular maintenance than the maintenance of the building/s around which the garden sits.

Leuralla, Leura

Paul Sorensen 1936

Everglades, Leura

However, events and landuses that created the site took place in a certain physical environment. The investigation of the history of the site, the assessment of the significance and a review of events which have shaped the place over time, may enable the current owner to decide how to undertake future land management.
The conservation, care and restoration of a heritage garden will always follow some basic principles:

1. ***Condition assessment:***

The curtilage around the built elements is integral to the heritage significance of the items, and this is usually the garden setting. Assess the existing nature and condition of the garden, describing it through drawings, plans, maps and photographs. Any description will include buildings, works, relics, trees or places and their setting. Records should note contours, species and species maturity, and location, height and foliage cover, location and nature of features such as grassed areas and garden bed form, cottage gardens, hedging, tree avenues, water features, tennis courts, garden edging, orchards and vegetable gardens, gates and fencing, paths and patios, retaining walls, pergolas and statuary.
Note other features such as the nature and location of services. Take photographs, and use aerial photography. Identify areas which might require urgent attention – stabilization, weeds, tree surgery, impacts from stock grazing, plants which are impacting upon building stability, and areas of erosion.

2. ***Historical research:***

Carry out historical research based on the physical and documentary evidence available. Your research may relate to soil types, and condition, regional climate, and access to light, historical research of the property itself, the buildings and the owners. Analysis of old photographs, sketches and paintings, reviewing oral histories and inventory sheets will assist, as well as consultation with bodies such as the Australian Garden History Society, and the various Botanic Gardens. Investigate if significant people such as Paul Sorensen were connected to the garden, to obtain some insight as to its original establishment.
This site investigation may result in the discovery of archaeological remains, former outbuildings and /or relics. These should be documented, especially where the garden is of known significance, and should involve minimal excavation until an archaeologist can be brought on site.

3. ***Significant values and constraints:***

Prioritise what is important about a surviving garden. What is it about the garden which gives it its significance, what was the original concept and character? It may be the garden design, the context, the trees, mature plantings or stone walling, heritage associations such as with people, buildings or events, or a rare surviving example of a garden type or period of time. The place may contain research value in terms of plants or plant remains of historical and horticultural value.
Determine what features should be incorporated into the restored garden. Prepare a policy for the ongoing conservation and restoration of the garden. Identify the constraints such as budget, climate, zoning, significance, encroaching landuses, road widening and service upgrades. Consider risks to neighbouring properties, and also to public access to the garden, such as limb/tree fall or root invasion.

4. Prepare the management documents:

From the above research and analysis, a statement of significance should be prepared for future planning and development.
Undertake preparation of plans and heritage management documents for construction and ongoing maintenance. The plans and heritage management documents should show the existing condition of the garden, the research undertaken, and allowance made for limiting criteria such as servicing and costing.
Original curtilage of the property should be plotted, and the remaining area available for restoration defined.
It should include a planting scheme, and garden layout and planting/maintenance calendar, looking for appropriate species where original ones are unavailable. Some species might be obtained over time, and be subject to development in nurseries. Cuttings and seeds from other similar period gardens are an option, as is propagation on site where species can be cultivated for replacement.
Where gardens are open for public inspection, a range of other measures may have to be set down in regard to public safety, signage, insurance, amenities and parking.
Critically, the heritage management documents should be regularly reviewed and amended to reflect changes over time.

Conclusions:

Gardens are organic, plants grow, climate and landuses changes and species die. Many aspects cause change over time, such as the setting, light and shade, growth of species and views, landuse change, subdivision, disaster such as fire or flood, change of ownership, zoning laws, bad management and neglect.
Heritage garden restoration may come down to attempting to recreate the original character, style and personality of the garden, rather than repetition of the original garden per se. There is also a difference in outlook and planning if the garden is a remnant bushland pocket, or it is a broadly exotic garden.

Norman Lindsay garden, Faulconbridge

Lidsdale House, Lithgow

Hoskins Church, Lithgow

Although for substantial restoration it is preferable to have the works overseen by a landscape architect along with knowledgeable horticulturalists, most gardens were created by the former occupants of the property, and the current occupants are usually most capable of managing and carrying out restoration work themselves, with guidance and research.

The changes in the garden must be accepted, although the function of the garden may not have changed. Management techniques might include reducing flower beds, and using low maintenance species etc, and it is important to retain evidence of the changes you make. Mowing, pruning and weeding take time, and the original garden may have had the benefit of paid help to assist, so time saving techniques and low cost may be paramount.
Above all, monitor seasonal changes, and hasten slowly. Have patience and undertake observation to understand the place and how it has changed over time. It is said we are but land managers not land owners, and the continuity may not benefit us directly now, but be a garden for future generations to enjoy. It may have taken 50 years for the garden to mature, and the new restoration work may not mature for another 50 years! So the restoration process is not a stop/start activity, rather than a continual process of adaptation to change over time.

The above is a very brief description of techniques which might be applied to heritage garden restoration.
HOWEVER! This is only the start of information which is out there to help you with your project. The following references are highly recommended as well.
In addition, the ***BMACHO Conference 2018*** will feature keynote speaker ***Stuart Read*** from the Department of Environment and Heritage, NSW Heritage Branch. Stuart will present an address on "Succession Planting", which is expected to be a thorough and informed account of how to proceed with the task of heritage restoration. So save the date, ***12 May 2018 at Mount Victoria Manor, Mount Victoria.***

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Community events & updates

Thank you, Scott Pollock!

Scott Pollock, former Manager of Everglades Historic House and Gardens, served on the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations (BMACHO) committee from 2013. During that time Scott helped launch and maintain the Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail and managed our website. Scott did not accept nomination for the committee in March 2017, but he did remain on the Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail sub-committee.

GBM Heritage Trail launch

At Everglades

Scott leads the BMACHO group

Before James Fairfax died in January 2017 at the age of 83, he bequeathed to the National Trust his sumptuous Victorian estate, Retford Park, in the NSW Southern Highlands, to be opened as a house museum.
Scott has now been appointed Manager of Retford Park at Bowral, by the National Trust of Australia (NSW), and has moved to Bowral. This is the National Trust's gain and BMACHO's loss.
We wish to thank Scott sincerely for all the enthusiastic help and support provided during his time with BMACHO and we wish him all the very best for his new appointment.
The new Manager of Everglades Historic House and Gardens is the former head gardener, Guy McIlrath. *Jan Koperberg*

St Thomas Anglican Church, Hampton

St Thomas Anglican Church Hampton will celebrate its 120th Anniversary on Sunday 12th November 2017. Hampton is an area rich in the history of pioneer farmers and timber cutters dating back to the 1840s. For many years there was no Anglican Church. In 1813 only eight kilometres up the Hampton Road from the site later chosen for the church, Deputy Surveyor George Evans was the first known European to have crossed the Great Divide. In 1892 The Rev Thomas J Heffernan from Mt Victoria was ministering to parishioners at Hampton and arranged for a site for a church to be donated. The donor was P H Chauncy, the land being a subsection of one of the Wilson family paddocks now on Wicketty War Road.

Hampton Church 2017

Rev. Heffernan's father, Rev W Heffernan, laid a foundation stone on 9 November 1897 but building did not begin until 1905. Using stone quarried at Norman Lea on the Hampton/Rydal Road by Macarthur, and cut by local stonemason, Billy Boyd, the contractor E Cooke of Jenolan Caves and the foreman, D Chalmers, completed the church early in 1907. The wife of the donor Mrs Chauncy was presented with "a beautiful gold brooch, set with pearls and sapphires" when Canon Boyce opened the church on 23 February 1907. The hall adjacent was opened on 8 March 1964, donated by Mr and Mrs J Finlay and in the same year the church was finally cleared of debt and consecrated. It is now part of the Parish of Blackheath administered by the Anglican Diocese of Sydney but also cared for by Oberon ministers and lay ministers who officiate at the services.
Sadly congregations are dwindling; but the sense of heritage remains with the early endeavours to establish schools, places of worship etc in our villages, the hotels of necessity getting there first! Many families here are fifth generation - the same names on the same properties and roads.
The celebration will commence at 11.30am, and will be followed by refreshments. All are welcome to revisit and share old friendships and memories with the congregation.
Celia Ravisi

For further information contact Celia at: cerav@bigpond.com

Glenbrook History Walks – 2018

Planning ahead, the Glenbrook group has their programme for next year all sorted. Book in early!

GLENBROOK & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY Inc.

'HISTORY WALKS' PROGRAMME for 2018.

All on Saturdays: Walks led by Doug. Knowles & Team.

March 3rd:	**9.00am**	**"Glenbrook Lagoon Precinct."** Early campside and railway dam construction 1880 for Water Supply to Glenbrook Station.
24th:	**9.00am**	**"The Descent to the West:"** Mt. York : Three short return walks on the three most historic roads to the West: Cox's Pass 1815: Lawsons Road 1822 and newest: Berghofer's Pass 1909. Includes Tea/coffee, biscuits. **Special Walk: $12.00 Adults.**
April 14th:	**9.00am**	**"Faulconbridge Steam Sawmill Site."** Engine remnants and other relics. Operated 1914-1925.
May 5th:	**1.30pm**	**"The Mountains Murders."** Captain Lee Weller's grave site and rock in scriptions.
26th:	**1.30pm**	**"Cox's Road."** Walk along a section of this historic road following the ridge top from Linden to Woodford Trig.
June 9th:	**1.30pm**	**"Lapstone Construction Railway." 1910--1913** and east portal of Lapstone Hill Tunnel 1892.
23rd:	**1.30pm**	**"Duck Hole--Glenbrook Creek."** Old Roadway construction and pump site for railway water supply to old Glenbrook Station.
July 14th:	**1.30pm**	**"Dunn's Steam Sawmill Site" and earth dam.** Brookside Creek, Lennox Bridge and the old stone quarry.
Aug. 4th:	**9.00am**	**"Bull's Creek."** Railway relics:- Stone dam and steam pump relics.
Sept. 1st:	**9.00am**	**"Eastern Zig Zag Railway 1867"** and the first improvement: The Lapstone Hill Tunnel route. 1892.
Sept. 29th:	**9.00am**	**"Glenbrook Heritage Walk."** Historic sites, houses and West Portal of Lapstone Hill Tunnel--1892. **(Last Walk for the year.)**

Adults: $10 (Except for Special Walk.) **Accompanied Children under 16yrs. Free**

BOOKINGS are ESSENTIAL: Phone Doug on **4751 3275**. Please allow the phone to ring longer than usual, for details re meeting place, time and grade of walk. Good walking shoes are essential. Please bring a hat and drinking water. (No dogs please.)

BAD WEATHER ON THE DAY: Excessive wind or rain could cause cancellation due to hazardous conditions.

The Great Western Walk

Four years ago, Dr David Goldney asked fellow ecologist, Wyn Jones, to be involved in creating the Great Western Walk across the World Heritage Listed Blue Mountains from Emu Ford on the Nepean River at Emu Plains to Bathurst, NSW.

It is a 200km walk that follows (as near as possible) the 1814-1815 Cox's Road, commissioned by Governor Lachlan Macquarie, and built by William Cox and his team of convicts over six months.

David Goldney's publication, Cox's Road Dreaming Guide Book", produced in 2015 by David Goldney and Greening Bathurst, which won the 2017 Chifley Heritage Award in May, is still being distributed widely and the sub-title is "History With Your Boots On".

The 100-page book provides information about 116 sites and their natural and cultural significance. It brings together stories of the three Aboriginal nations (the Dharug, Gundungurra and Wiradjuri) who first walked the land and held their meetings on the ridges of the Blue Mountains. It also tells the stories of the Europeans, and the flora and fauna of the region.

Emu Plains

Bathurst

Paintings by John Lewin naturalist and artist (1770-1819)

The Great Western Walk is planning to start from the new Green Bridge being built over the Nepean River at Penrith, which is expected to open in 2018.
The whole walk will take about two weeks for people with moderate fitness. However, it has been designed to cater for all levels of fitness and interest. People will be able to slip in and out at various sections, using assisted transport. Wyn Jones said it would take about one week from Emu Plains to Mount York, and one week from Mount York to Bathurst.
The walk winds through wilderness, urban, village and rural environments. It travels across sandstone and granite country. It includes great views, east and west flowing rivers, hanging swamps and waterfalls, where Aboriginals sourced the grasses they ground for their food.
It will be a good opportunity for people to slow down and reconnect with nature, history, culture, local communities and themselves.
To complete the project, signage needs to be put up, pathways cleared, legal access obtained through private owned land west of Mount York, Council support sought to maintain the tracks and most importantly funding found for the project. All of this seems like an impossible dream, but the Great Western Walk committee hopes to launch the first stage of the walk, ie. from Penrith to Glenbrook, at the time of the opening of the Green bridge for pedestrians and cyclists.
Dame Marie Bashir AD,CVO has become the Patron, brochures are being produced, the support of politicians sought and funding is being sourced. *Jan Koperberg*

Cox's Road Dreaming Website: http://coxsroaddreaming.org.au
Email: coxsroaddreaming@gmail.com
Or email for a brochure to David Goldney, Chair, Greening Bathurst Bicentennial Sub-committee, Adjunct Professor, Charles Sturt University dgoldney@bigpond.net.au

Changing of the guard

BMACHO would like to offer congratulations to several member groups on the recent election of their new committees.
The incoming committees are comprised as follows:

Mount Victoria & District Historical Society 2017-18

President: Tim Jones
Vice-President: Geoff Bates
Treasurer: Jack Thompson
Minute Secretary: Peter Lammiman
Committee:
Jean Winston, Roy Bennett, Stephen Davis, Cheryl Bawhey

Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society 2017 - 2018

President – David Griffiths
Vice-President – Steve Rawling
Treasurer – Pat O'Toole
Secretary – Marguerite Wyborn

Committee:

Suzanne Smith – Millstone Newsletter
Jenny Griffiths – Digital Archivist
Deborah Hallam

Colo Shire Family History Group 2017 – 2018

President – Carolynne Cooper
Vice-President – Paul McDonald
Treasurer – Joy Shepherd
Secretary – Neil Renaud

Committee:

Wanda Deacon
Carol Roberts (Grants Officer)
Jill Renaud (Public Officer)
Chris Upton (Newsletter Editor)

It is understood that Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Heritage Museum and Mt Wilson/Mt Irvine Historical Society will both be undertaking their Annual General Meetings in the coming weeks.

Patsy Moppett

Crossing the Divide - George Evans Memorial sign

[George Evans (1780-1852) (surveyor, explorer, artist, draftsman)]

The conventional line taught to most of us at school was that a bloke called Blaxland, accompanied by Lawson and Wentworth (BLW), found the way to the west. Not so. They may have paved the way across the difficulties of the sandstone plateau, but they ended their exploration short of the Great Dividing Range. The real honours went to another fellow, George W Evans, who retraced the route of the BLW expedition some five months after the earlier party's return. George successfully crossed the watershed of the Great Dividing Range near Mt Cheetham just South of Rydal on 30th November 1813.

Evans' reason for undertaking his trip was not in the interest of personal gain, the often-speculated motivation for Blaxland. Evans, acting in the public interest, under the direction of Governor Macquarie, was to explore to the west of BLW's endpoint and to cross the watershed. Taking as a guide James Byrne, one of the BLW expedition's members, Evans arrived on 25th November 2013 at the distinctive hill that represented the terminus of the BLW expedition, naming that hill Mt Blaxland. Five days later, after an arduous few days negotiating the steep country up onto the line of the Great Dividing Range, Evans crested the range and crossed into the western watershed and down to the Fish River. The first European to cross the Divide and enter the territory of the Wiradjuri people.

From this point on, Evans' journal of the trip reads with an ascending excitement about a land of true plenty, a land that progressively got richer; the grass more sumptuous, the wildlife more prolific and the fish and fishing beyond belief. "Nothing can exceed the fine appearance of this country" he extols in his journal on Wednesday 22nd December 1813, as they returned from the end point of their journey somewhere near present day Molong.

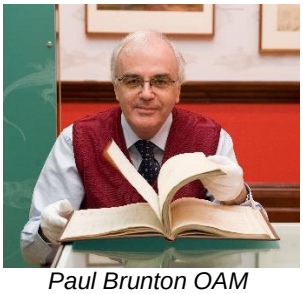
This was the pinnacle of Evans' early achievements. After this journey Evans settled in Tasmania but was regularly recalled by Macquarie, first to accompany Governor Macquarie and his party to the site of present day Bathurst in 1815 and then to accompany the Surveyor John Oxley as second in command in expanding the known horizon of the Colony northwest from Bathurst. Subsequently, Evans sold up in Tasmania and returned to England

before coming back to Australia where he conducted a retail business before joining the Kings School in Parramatta as an art teacher, ultimately retiring to Tasmania.
Back in 1963, the Lithgow Historical Society took an enlightened decision to erect a small monument on Hampton Road incorporating a plaque acknowledging Evans and the members of his party. Building on an original idea of Hampton resident, Ian Litchfield, this memorial is now being enhanced with an interpretive sign that incorporates a copy of the map that Evans created in 1813 showing the precise line of his survey, a brief biography of Evans and a summary of other earlier attempts to reach the inland. *Ramsay Moodie*

George Evans, with a party of five, two freemen and three convicts, was the first European to cross the Great Dividing Range NSW on November 30th 1813. The site is marked on the Hampton Road near Rydal NSW.
An illustrated interpretive sign acknowledging this achievement will be dedicated on November 25th 2017 at 10.30am.

George Evans

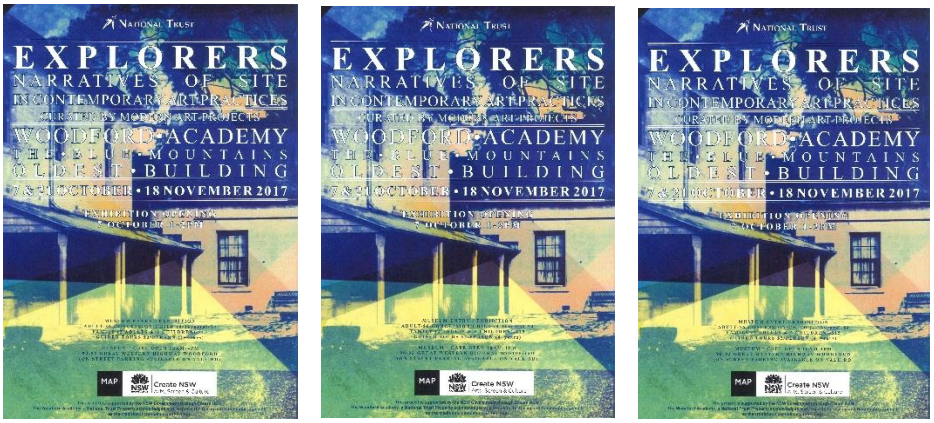
Evans Memorial, Bathurst


Paul Brunton OAM

GUEST SPEAKER: Paul Brunton OAM FAHA Emeritus Curator of the State Library.
DATE: Saturday November 25th 2017 at 10.30am.
SITE: The Evans Crossing Memorial, Antonio Reserve next to 1202 Hampton Road, 16km from the Great Western Highway, Lithgow. Turn off at Magpie Hollow Road, Lithgow, OR travel 12km from the Hampton Halfway Hotel.
Morning Tea is optional, with a gold coin donation, at *Bark Ridge* at 11.30am, 707 Hampton Road. BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL for morning tea.
For details, bookings and a map contact: Lithgow Regional Branch of the National Trust (NSW): Ph: 02 6359 3109 or Celia Ravisi at cerav@bigpond.com

The interpretive sign is funded by Bill Hoolihan of Rydal, Lithgow Regional Branch of the National Trust (NSW) & Lithgow City Council. *Celia Ravisi*

Exhibition: Explorers: Narratives of Site in Contemporary Art Practices
The current exhibition at **Woodford Academy** is to be featured again on the Academy open day of 18 November 2017, following its viewings on the open days of 7 and 21st October. "The idea of "exploration'" has been a strong narrative associated with the Blue Mountains and predominant discourses on colonialist Australia. Artists and curators will explore other, lesser-known narratives, including pre-colonial perspectives and traditional cultural stories, historic accounts and urban myths. "Explorers: Narratives of Site in Contemporary Art Practices" is an extended, multilayered, accumulative exhibition project where new artists and new and altered works are added over the duration of the show. This layering of narratives, through the accumulation of work in the space, mirrors the complex, layered and overlapping narratives of the historic Woodford Academy site."



The exhibition is curated by Modern Art Projects Blue Mountains Beata Geyer and Mahalya Middlemist, and includes many exhibiting artists.
More information about the exhibition program is available at
www.explorersnarrativesofsite.org and *www.modernartprojects.org*
"Explorers: Narratives of Site in Contemporary Art Practices" project is supported by the NSW Government through Create NSW.

Museum Entry & Exhibition
Adults $6, Concession/Child (4-16yrs) $4, Family $15 (2 adults, 2 children)
Guided Tours - $2/Person (4+years)
Woodford Academy 90-92 Great Western Highway, Woodford
(on street parking available on Vale Rd)

Collections MOZAiC software

A request has been directed to BMACHO to inquire of members whether organisations have Collections MOSAiC software installed and if it is used regularly. If yes, would they be prepared to demonstrate its use. *Stephen Davis, BMHS and MV DHS.*

"Collections MOZAiC is a collections management system that is simple enough to use for anyone, affordable enough for everyone, sophisticated enough for the most discerning and flexible enough to suit collections of any size.
Fully searchable data, with built-in and user-definable reports and data export functions. Pre-loaded with industry standard validation lists, but fully customizable by yourself.

An internet connection is not required, but if available, your collection data can be easily uploaded to the internet for searching by the public (or just your staff)."

Responses can be directed to BMACHO.

People moving on

BMACHO has been advised in recent weeks of two people who are set to open new chapters in their lives, moving away from their Blue Mountains associations from previous times.
Rosemary Weaver, editor of The Arms Chronicles, and Vice President of the Nepean District Historical Society, leaves Emu Plains and the Arms of Australia Museum group to head north, and thanks everyone for their support and kinds words regarding the Chronicles over the past 107 issues. It is to be hoped that the newsletter will continue on under new management within the group, carrying on where Rosemary has left off.

Lynn Collins, Museums Advisor Blue Mountains City Council and formerly advisor to Lithgow City Council, has decided to up stumps and leave his museums advisory role. He intends to pursue his writing and painting, and tending to a boy now heading towards 8 years old. Sounds like he will have his hands full! Lynn will be sorely missed by many, and BMACHO will feel the loss from his valuable input on our GBM Heritage Trail Committee. BMACHO wishes them both well, and hope they will experience deserved satisfaction from their new experiences, and hope they stay in touch with their former heritage communities.

BMACHO receives RAHS Create NSW Cultural Heritage Grant

BMACHO were recent recipients of a 2017 Create NSW Cultural Heritage Grant from the Royal Australian Historical Society. The Grants were presented to recipients at the recent RAHS Conference in Cowra. BMACHO received a grant of $800.00 towards the publication of the 2018 issue of the Blue Mountains History Journal.

"The program is designed to facilitate the dissemination of local Australian stories, expression of the diversity of Australian culture as it impacts on communities, and to highlight and localise pivotal Australian historical events and issues." RAHS

Presentation by RHAS President Associate Professor Carol Liston to Jan Koperberg

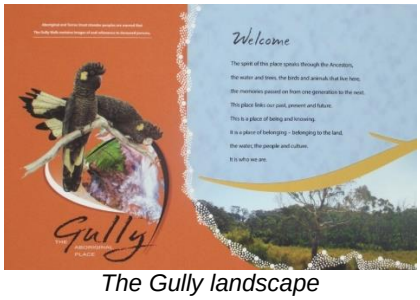
BMACHO was ably represented by Secretary Jan Koperberg, who received the grant on our behalf. *Patsy Moppett*

BMACHO Conference 2018: Heritage Landscapes

Plans are well under way for the 2018 Conference, *"Heritage Landscapes*". The Conference will be held on Saturday 12 May 2018, at Mount Victoria Manor, 11 Montgomery Street, Mount Victoria.

Most speakers have been confirmed and the Committee is quite excited about the quality of input that we are anticipating being presented. The key note address will be on the subject of "Succession Planting", a topic dear to the hearts, and a worry to the planning, of anyone with a heritage listed or significant garden. What happens when certain species, trees or shrubs die? What happens when alternate landuses begin to compete with and threaten the character of the particular landscape? How do you move on to retain the significance of the landscape?

Mt Wilson landscape



The Gully landscape

Eurama landscape

Other subjects include Mt Wilson Gardens, The Blue Labyrinth, The Gully, "Eurama", Sorensen gardens, and Woodford Reserve. Each of these landscapes is precious for very different and significant reasons, and how to perpetuate that is always a challenge. Accommodation for the Conference is available within Mount Victoria and at the Manor, and train access takes you to within walking distance of the venue. Trade tables will be available. Costs and booking details will be published in the New Year via the BMACHO website and within the first Newsletter issues of 2018. *Patsy Moppett*

Position available – Honorary Auditor

Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc (BMACHO) is seeking administrative assistance.

Prior to 2013, BMACHO were able to apply for funding for administrative expenses from the Federal Government's Grants for Voluntary Environment, Sustainability and Heritage Organizations (GVESHO), but this funding was discontinued with the 2013-2014 round of funding.

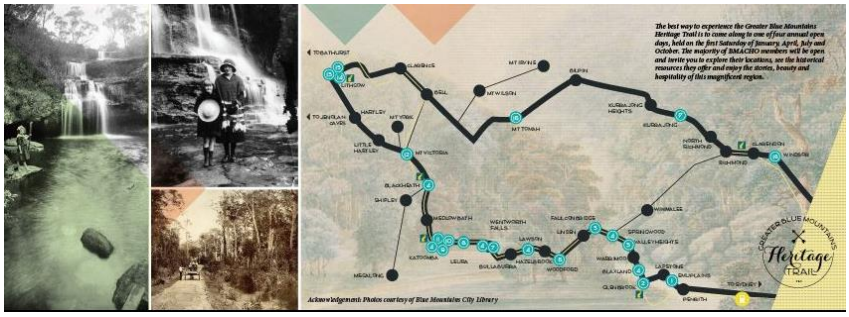
Blue Mountains City Council recently provided a $400.00 Community Assistance Donation, which was much appreciated and helpful.

However, BMACHO is wondering if there is an accountant available who is prepared to act annually in an honorary capacity to provide the annual financial report. The BMACHO financial year ends on 31 December. *Jan Koperberg*

Responses and inquiries may be directed to the Secretary, Jan Koperberg, on:
committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au
j.koperberg@bigpond.com
Or phone: 0410 198 737

Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail Update

Westpac
Australia's First Bank



BMACHO continues to promote the Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail and members' upcoming events. BMACHO have reprinted the Heritage Trail brochure which has now been distributed. During 2017 BMACHO are holding a competition to encourage visitation to Trail participant properties, and the competition entry forms are incorporated into the brochure.

Visitors to any of the participating venues as identified on the Trail brochure can either answer the set-out questions or obtain a stamp showing they have been to a venue. BMACHO will hold a prize draw approximately every six months.

So - Heritage with Altitude!!

The Trail is an ideal activity for the kids and grandkids, be it in the school holidays or any weekend! Collect the Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail brochure with the "Passport Competition and entry for" insert, and discover artifacts with altitude!

Great prizes to be won and the next draw will be December 2017. Check our website http://heritagedrive.com.au for the brochure, form and list of prizes, or collect the brochure and insert from visitor centres at Glenbrook, Katoomba, Lithgow, Clarendon, Bathurst, Oberon, and Orange. Trail participants will also have brochures and forms available. Email committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au if you would like a brochure and form posted to you.

If you are a member and you would like further information, or if you would like to become a member, please email the BMACHO Secretary at committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au

For general information about BMACHO and the Trail, see heritagedrive.com.au or www.facebook.com/GBMHeritageTrail

To find out more about BMACHO visit www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au

Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

Registered office: 1/19 Stypandra Place, Springwood 2777. (02) 4751 5834
Email: committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au or j.koperberg@bigpond.com
Website: www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au **ABN**: 53 994 839 952

The organisation: Blue Mountains Association of Cultural & Heritage Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 after local historical and heritage societies and individuals recognised the need for the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the local government area (LGA) of Blue Mountains City Council. The constituency now embraces but is not limited to, the LGAs of Blue Mountains, Lithgow, Hawkesbury and Penrith. BMACHO membership includes historical and heritage groups, museums, commercial enterprises with an historical or heritage component in its core business, local government (local studies units, library collections) and a limited number of individual members by invitation such as but not necessarily academics. The objectives of the organisation are:

1. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage
2. To encourage and assist cultural heritage
3. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations.

One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

Affiliations: BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society and is affiliated with the Better Planning Network.

Publications: BMACHO's official newsletter ***Heritage*** is edited by Patsy Moppett. The annual refereed *Blue Mountains History Journal* is edited by Dr Peter Rickwood and occasional papers are published from time to time.

Membership: The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mt Tomah; Blue Mountains City Library; Blue Mountains Cultural Heritage Centre; Blue Mountain Education & Research Trust; Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc; Blue Mountains Historical Society; Bygone Beautys Treasured Teapot Museum and Tearooms; City of Lithgow Mining Museum Inc; Colo Shire Family History Group; Eskbank Rail Heritage Centre; Everglades Historic House & Gardens; Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc; Hartley Valley District Progress Association; Hawkesbury Historical Society Inc; Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc; Leuralla NSW Toy & Railway Museum; Lithgow & District Family History Society Inc; Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies; Mt Victoria & District Historical Society Inc; Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine Historical Society Inc (including Turkish Bath Museum); National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Blue Mountains Branch; National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Lithgow Branch; Nepean District Historical Society Inc; Norman Lindsay Gallery and Museum; Paragon Cafe, Katoomba; Scenic World Blue Mountains Limited; Springwood Historical Society Inc; Springwood Historians Inc; Transport Signal Communication Museum Inc; Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Heritage Museum, Woodford Academy Management Committee, Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd. The following are individual members: Wendy Blaxland, Fiona Burn, Ray Christison, Dr Wayne Hanley, Associate Professor Ian Jack, Ian Milliss, Patsy Moppett, Keith Painter and Dr Peter Rickwood.

Committee: The management committee for 2016-2017 (from April 2016) is: Patsy Moppett (President and ***Heritage*** Newsletter Editor), Ian Jack (Vice President), Jan Koperberg (Secretary), Philip Hammon (Treasurer), Jan Koperberg (web sites), Dick Morony (Public Officer/Membership Secretary/ Calendar Editor), Suzanne Smith (Events and Venue Co-ordinator), Fiona Burn, Peter Brownlee and Roy Bennett.
Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail sub-committee: Peter Brownlee, Fiona Burn, Jan Koperberg, Suzanne Smith, & Lynn Collins, Museums and Galleries Adviser.

Disclaimer: views and opinions expressed in Heritage originate from many sources and contributors. Every effort is taken to ensure accuracy of material. Content does not necessarily represent or reflect the views and opinions of BMACHO, its committee or its members. If errors are found feedback is most welcome.

Heritage

Newsletter of the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc

January-February 2018 *ISSUE 54*

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Carlon's Farm, Green Gully, Megalong Valley

From 1788 all land in the colony was owned by the Crown. In 1824 Surveyor Hoddle undertook surveys for the colony, and in 1832 the first parish map was drawn up.
Then in 1861 conditional purchase was introduced to distribute Crown land. This enabled land to be taken up after improvements had been made to a farm, which could include slab huts, yards, sheds etc
Combined with the land distribution and settlement patterns, the isolation of Burragorang and Megalong Valleys served to produce a hardy breed of people who survived in trying times, making do with what materials they had to hand to provide for their families.
Carlon's farm, Green Gully is one of the earliest farms in the Megalong, and the remains of former buildings and other infrastructure can still be seen.

Green Gully Farm House

The Carlon (Carolan) family was one of the first to settle in both Valleys and the following is a brief description of settlement there and the beginnings of Green Gully, with a view to place in context why it is vital that the remaining features of the farm be preserved for future generations.

Burragorang Valley

Bryan Carolan was born in Ireland in 1780. He eventually married Ann Reilly. However, in 1820 Thomas O'Reilly and Bryan Carolan were transported from Ireland, being convicted of

conspiracy to murder against the British. They both served John Jamison at Emu Plains for about 15 years, after which they settled in Burragorang Valley. In 1828 Ann and their two children Patrick and Margaret followed him out from Ireland. He received his ticket of leave the same year, and in 1835 he received his conditional pardon.
The centres of Upper and Lower Burragorang and Cox's River settlement began in 1828. Bryan's name morphed to become Carlon, but Carlons were still not listed in the 1828 census at Upper Burragorang. Once established, the Carlons cultivated the river flats, and then later selected them.
Young Patrick had been born in 1807, and Margaret was born in 1811. In 1831 at age 24 Patrick bought 80 acres in Burragorang Valley, as surveyed by Surveyor Elliott. The deeds however were not issued until 1838. He also purchased 820 acres in 1835, and then purchased some 2,000 acres from John Campbell.
In 1837 Patrick married Mary Ann Purcell. They had 7 boys and one girl, commencing the Carlon family dynasty.
The original 80 acres became known as Carlon Town, and all the good land in the Valley was selected by the 1870s. The next land to be taken up was the talus slopes below the cliff lined rim of the Valley.
The first crop of any kind in the Valley was planted by John Lacey 1829, and the first wheeled vehicle in Burragorang Valley was actually built there by Patrick Carlon. Patrick Carlon and his son Bernard had taken the first wheeled vehicle into the valley, a dray lowered by ropes from the old pack horse track over the cliff side, the "Jump Down".
The first wheat crop grown in the Upper Burragorang was by Patrick Carlon and his father Bryan, and the first crop grown at Lower Coxs River was by George Pearce. Aboriginal elder William Russell recalls that Michael Quig also grew wheat in the Upper Burragorang about the same time.
Carlon Town, Portion 19 Parish of Nattai, was a central area of the Burragorang settlement, where Patrick & Joseph Carlon had their residences. From Patrick's land 3 acres were taken for a school site, church, residence and burial ground, as Central Burragorang. A post office was put at Mick Carlon's for a time. Mrs Patrick Carlon was to have had the post office located at her residence in 1906, but it remained at the old site.
Catholic mass was first held in the home of Patrick Carlon in 1833. In 1839 the Archbishop actually held mass on the Carlon farmhouse verandah! A church was called for by 1839, and a stone church was built on Carlon's 80 acres, which was used until 1957 when the valley was flooded. Patrick died in 1883 leaving some eleven properties to his seven sons.

Burragorang Valley after the flooding – from Nattai Lookout

Patrick's son Bernard Carlon was born in 1841. Bernard and his father Patrick were always on good terms with the Aboriginal people, and Bernard was reputed for treating ill people.

Bernard Carlon was very active in the settlement of the Valley. He and others obtained permission in 1893 to search for silver and lead near The Peaks. In 1919 he requested a money order service for the post office, but this was refused.
The Carlons were all educated as their parents were educated. Many other children suffered as their parents were not educated and they had little access to schools, with having to help out on the farm being a higher priority than an education.
Bernard and his wife Mary, settled in at Burragorang, and had nine children – Bernard, Francis, Patrick Luke, Margaret, the twins Norbert and Mary Anne, Teresa, Alphonsus and Agatha. Their daughter Teresa was a teacher.
The elder Bernard was blind in later years and was known as the *grand old man of Burragorang*. He died in 1925.
In 1907 lots were sold at the Yerranderie township, and Bernard's son Norbert Carlon bought Lot 73 on Taylor Street.
A new school site was pegged in 1915 for a school at Portion 109 Parish of Nattai, on land owned by the younger Bernard and Alphonso Carlon, facing the main road. It was built by 1917. The Upper Burragorang school was then closed.
A Mr. T Carlon had a store at the Yerranderie mines and Carlons also ran a boarding house.
The Upper Burragorang had wider river flats and better access to Camden, therefore the settlers were able to build a better style of housing. They were always conscious and proud of their convict heritage.
The Carlons remained in the Burragorang Valley until 1957 when the valley was flooded to form Warragamba Dam. Eight generations of the family were spread across the district. Over time, many moved further afield to Megalong Valley, but there have always been close links between the two valleys.

Megalong Valley

There are various routes between the Burragorang Valley and Megalong Valley, mainly based on old Aboriginal trails, and the two valleys are closely linked through people, industry and history.

Megalong Valley from the Hydro Majestic, Medlow Bath

1818 saw Thomas Jones, a naturalist, looking for horticultural specimens in both valleys. In The first official settlement in Megalong was undertaken in 1838, when the first survey there was done by W Davidson for George Aspinall.
The first landuses in Megalong were agricultural, with guesthouses and timber supplementing incomes. The guest houses catered for the bushwalkers and trail riders who later frequented the valley throughout the year.
In 1866 European access into the valley was from Hartley. There was an Aboriginal track from Blackheath, Megalong Road and Nellies Glen from Katoomba, and via Devil's Hole and Redledge Pass.

There would have been squatters in Megalong Valley before the first land grant by Norton in 1824. By the time the coal and oil shale seams were mapped in 1865, the first land was taken up by George Aspinal. Miners were brought in from Joadja in 1890 by the company AKO & M, and a road to the mine was constructed in the 1890s. Blacks Ladder had been a former tenuous access route for the fit and healthy, a former Aboriginal route.
Kerosine shale was discovered in Nellie's Glen in 1870, and in 1885 JB North started shale mining.
In 1884 a search was carried out to find a horse track from Katoomba to Jenolan Caves. When completed it became known as the Six-Foot Track. The south end of Megalong Valley obtained access from Megalong Valley Road.
The population grew, and a hotel, butcher, general store, bakery, billiards room, boarding house, post office and public hall were established. Once the mines closed in 1904, all buildings were demolished and removed to Katoomba.
A village was established near the Diamond Creek/Megalong Creek junction, with a hotel, stables and vegetable garden. A school was located on England's property near where Nellies Glen road goes to Megalong Creek. It was moved to the Nellies Glen mining village. There were no police, but in 1893 there were some 70 children at the school. In 1892 the post office was operated from the Megalong store by Elizabeth James, and the timber industry had begun to thrive with timber needed for fuel, heating and mining.
Development was generally close to the track.
Early settling families included Boyd, Tolhurst, Duff, Duncan, Carlon, Kirby, Grady, Ward and Gracey.

Green Gully

The Carlon family's property Green Gully was first selected in the 1890s by Mr Tolhurst, having been surveyed by Mr Chapman in 1891. Tolhurst forfeited his selection in 1905, although the site was first known as Green Gully in 1903.
Green Gully is on Portions 44 and 45, and was known as Green Gully from the 1890s, bounded by Galong Creek to the north and Carlons Ridge to the south.

Carlon family at Green Gully 1908

Family at Green Gully

At New Year in 1903, following a serious drought in 1902, a bad bushfire hit the valley, burning most of the timber houses. Following the fire some people left the valley, but many remained, and houses were replaced. A road was opened to Blackheath via Blackheath Glen, and the next generation of houses were built of sawn timber and pise earth walls. Then in 1905 there was a rabbit plague.
Green Gully was leased by Bernard Carlon in 1908 at age 67, and then sold to his son Norbert. Norbert and his sister Teresa were the only children left at home by this stage. Patrick and Phillip Carlon were pound keepers, Joseph kept a slaughterhouse, and Bernard C Carlon was an auctioneer.

Norbert and Alice Carlon (second and third from right) and bushwalkers 1937

Bernard and Norbert built the wattle and daub house, Green Gully, in 1908 and both lived there. Norbert lived there until his death in 1958, his wife Alice remaining there until 1976, when she moved to live with her daughter. She died in 1986.

In the 1920s motor cars were on the scene, and tourism began along with the activities from the Hydro Majestic. But even by 1956 there was no road down to Green Gully, and their supplies were left at the top of the hill and brought down to the house on horseback or sulky. Electricity was achieved in 1966.

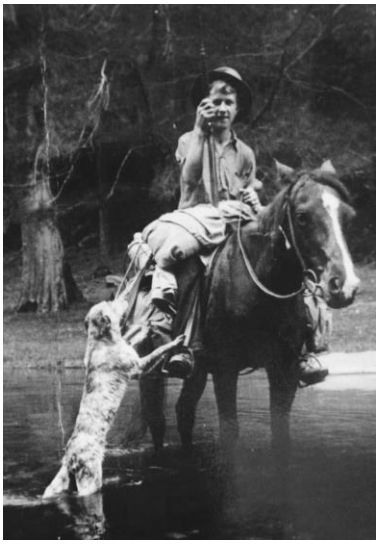
Although it had commenced long beforehand, serious bushwalking in the Valley did not commence until after WW2, including walkers such as Miles Dunphy. A drought came again after WW2, and tree lopping was used for feed. Bushwalkers at the time appealed to Norbert to influence the cattlemen to reduce the cutting, as tree loss was causing erosion and diversion of riverbeds of the Upper Wollondilly River.

Both Carlons Farm in Green Gully and the Packsaddlers below Carlons Saddle were frequented by bushwalkers and became popular camping and stop-over points on Galong Creek.

Norbert's son Bert, and his wife Norma, commenced their horse riding concern with Packsaddlers in 1963. Their house was at the rear of Alice's where they had settled in 1960. Both Norma and Alice had cared for the survivors of the Oonagh Kennedy tragedy in 1967, in Alice's little house.

Bert Carlon had been born to Norbert and Alice Carlon in 1924. He carried on a tradition begun by his father Norbert, in hosting the walkers and horse riders at Packsaddlers. He was a known story teller. He was known to say that a damper was not worth the eating until it was 3 weeks old. He made regular visits back to Burragorang Valley along the Coxs River to visit family.

Most of the work was done by the women, mainly Alice and her daughter Bernadette. Bernard O'Reilly described Green Gully as "*A peaceful, forgotten little pocket amongst the wild ranges over beyond Megalong*", where he frequently visited as a child, sleeping on the earth floored verandah, and visiting every time he was back in the district in later years.



A young Bert Carlon

Bert and Norma Carlon 1950s

National Parks and Wildlife Service

Green Gully was purchased by the National Parks and Wildlife Service in 1998, and this brought Green Gully within the Blue Mountains National Park. The Carlons Creek Bushcare Group – Megalong Valley, is based at Green Gully, and was formed in 2006, and Blue Mountains City Council has the entire site listed as a heritage item of local significance. The NPWS had a Conservation Management Plan (CMP) drawn up in 2001 to identify several houses in the vicinity of Green Gully, including Alice and Norbert's house, known as Carlon's Farmhouse, built in 1908. Norma and Bert Carlon built nearby in the 1960s. Norbert and Alice's house is described as a rammed earth building of solid construction, a vernacular farmhouse with associated kitchen gardens, erected to replace a former slab building on the site, destroyed in the 1903 bushfire. Originally the house contained 3 rooms, a living room and 2 bedrooms. By the late 1930s the bushwalking clientele necessitated the construction of a boys' bedroom and a girls' bedroom (strict segregation back then). The house then had 5 bedrooms, a living room, a kitchen in the rear courtyard, an external slab bath house and front and rear verandahs. The bedrooms served both the family and as guest rooms over time.

Construction techniques, Green Gully

It was not a traditional rammed earth building, having a timber stud frame with window/door openings. The construction was uncommon in NSW, but common in South Australia, where it was known as "pug and pine". The front wall was clad in weatherboards, facing north. Uncommon materials for the time included corrugated iron, glass, it had a water tank and the weatherboards. The yard contained a kitchen garden and orchard, and cottage gardens.

The CMP refers to the building in 2001 as a ruined house in a cultural landscape, already in a “ruinous state”, and notes the weatherboards having been still in place in 1960.

Side and rear additions – bathroom, kitchen

Photographs taken during the Kennedy tragedy in 1967 show the weatherboards still in place then, but they have since either been removed or have rotted away. Bert had partly dismantled the front verandah, and then fell ill, carrying out no further work.
The CMP outlines the significance of the place as follows:

- Green Gully is an integral part of the history of the Carlon and O’Reilly family history.
- There were numerous Aboriginal tracks passing through Green Gully.
- Aesthetically, the vistas from the place are spectacular, and the garden plantings are typical of Megalong farmhouses after the 1903 bushfire.
- The family connections and the cultural landscape are significant.
- The site provides an understanding of the land “selection” process, and the operation of self-sufficiency that existed during early settlement.
- It is a rare example of this architectural construction.
- Its principle characteristics demonstrate a representative example of construction after the bushfire.

Green Gully was a gateway to the Megalong and Burragorang Valleys, a cultural interface, and a place of regional significance. Five generations of Carlons occupied the valleys, from the start of exploration and mapping, through to the decline of cattle and the commencement of the conservation movement, and its purchase in 1998 by NPWS. They used very particular building techniques and materials, particularly after the 1903 bushfire.

Internal wattle and daub

Green Gully setting

The CMP provides policies for the long-term conservation of the significant fabric of the dwelling and the cultural significance, with no emphasis on an actual reuse of the building, and the impact of any works on the place having to be carefully considered.

Any actual reuse of the building would have to consider the National Construction Code and the Disability Discrimination Act, for fire and access. Access to the building must be suitably managed. Where it is only being used for interpretive purposes, upgrading is not required to be undertaken as it would destroy the fabric of the place.
It is noted by the CMP that any activities on the site have the potential to impact on the National Park itself, and that access to any historic places in the NPWS estate is on a priority basis. They must determine the condition of the place, threats to conservation, and the sustainability of the place for interpretation. The place should be monitored, information collection should be ongoing, and the S170 register updated (Heritage Act – s.170 NSW agency heritage register).
The CMP is to be reviewed every 5 years or when new information requires a policy change.
The CMP claimed that the Carlon family have been liaising with NPWS ever since the NPWS purchase of the place, and regular meetings were taking place. It is unknown if this still occurs.
Section 4.1, p.134 of the CMP provides that:

- NPWS should ensure the site remains publically available.
- NPWS should increase public awareness.
- Green Gully should continue to be used as a track head.
- Additional infrastructure in BMNP should not detract from the significance of the place.
- All fabric should be retained and enhanced. The buildings should be repaired for interpretation, with traditional materials.
- Regular maintenance inspections should be undertaken, and preventative maintenance and repair undertaken when required.
- Staff should have a thorough knowledge and understanding of the site.
- The potential for future use by NPWS through interpretive programs, for field studies and other cultural tours, and for interpretation of/with the Aboriginal community, should be explored.
- The CMP contains an implementation program for the immediate, short, medium and long terms, and for any ongoing works.

Conclusion

The site is currently unfenced and quite accessible, although in an overgrown, weathered and possibly unstable state. Many garden elements are evident, as are construction techniques and associated outbuildings and primitive infrastructure.
Much as BMACHO realise that we cannot save every heritage item or place, this site and its curtilage seem to represent a very particular part of the history of western settlement, and should at least be stabilized, contained and interpreted.
BMACHO has forwarded correspondence to the Department of Environment and Heritage (NPWS) in early November 2017 to ascertain the current status of both the CMP and the cottage at Green Gully, and is yet to receive a response. *Patsy Moppett*

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Food for thought ..... Editor's note

Helping each other

Whilst the former Museums Advisor to Blue Mountains and Lithgow Councils, Lynn Collins, has hung up his hat and headed for greener pastures, he has left the museum community with some things to think about.

Lynn contacted BMACHO seeking feedback from the BMACHO membership with regard to specialist needs of museums in the region. Lynn sought to gauge the concerns of cultural heritage agencies, and how they might liaise with both BMACHO and Blue Mountains City Council, with a view to augmenting and improving the effectiveness of BMACHO as an umbrella organization.

Although BMCC has commenced the process of seeking a replacement Museums Advisor, Lynn will be more than happy to assist his successor.

Some of his recommendations include:

1. An examination of cultural heritage agency archives, looking at better management, preservation and improved access.
2. Auditing cultural heritage groups' (and other community groups?) current and future needs for secure, safe, accessible shared repository.
3. Thoughts on staffing of cultural agencies like museums, notably in regard to:
    - Coordination of volunteers;
    - Expert assistance Council staff may be able to offer;
    - Advice on caring for heritage properties occupied by heritage/community groups;
    - A safety audit of places used by workers and visitors.
4. Ideas on the improved presentation and marketing of cultural heritage collections via eg
    - Ensuring museum representatives are consulted and included in cultural heritage forums;

- Ensuring collections are promoted and showcased;
- Updating and active promotion via Visitor Information Centres and web-sites;
- A small grants system for research and creative 3D interpretations of Blue Mountains history for the public arena including museums;
- Employing expertise in fashioning destinations and projects using museum collections that refer directly to the education curriculum, and fostering their use by schools.

Only one response was received to Lynn's request for feedback, but it emphasized the vital part that BMACHO could (and does) play in the coordination and dissemination of information relating to heritage issues.

Workshopping the issues

BMACHO held a workshop in 2015 on succession planning, which was well attended, as was this year's Trove workshop. These subjects alone apply to all community groups, not just museums, and BMACHO continues to provide a forum for the sharing of many other ideas and information, with other workshops being considered for next year.

One example in recent months has been the use of freezers in museums for the stabilization of objects. The acquisition of a freezer by one member group was considered, and feedback from another member organization was able to provide information as to how to go about it. The current situation being experienced by Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine Historical Society, as documented in this Newsletter, is a classic example of how spreading the word leads to the inflow of ideas for solving a problem.

BMACHO would encourage member organisations to share their successes as well as their dramas with the wider community through the conduit of BMACHO. You never know who you might be able to help, or who may be able to help you.

BMACHO will continue to liaise with local groups, Blue Mountains City Council and relevant State agencies on matters of common concern, and welcomes requests for help and assistance at any time. BMACHO may not have the answers, but would endeavor to refer the matter to whoever may be able to assist.

Crisis at Mt Wilson

The Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine Historical Society archives have been stored and accessed in the former Mt Wilson primary school building for many years. Built in 1891, the school outlasted the ups and downs of changing populations and world affairs of WWI and WW2, finally closing in 1983, and was dedicated by the Minister for Education as an Adult Education Centre in 1988. Scholars were housed in the adjoining school residence, while the school room was used as a conference centre with seminar rooms attached. The school building has proven to be a successful research centre, and has enabled the retention and conservation of many priceless documents and photographs from the history of that area.

In October 2017, Stephen Dean from the Study Centre Council presented a report to the Historical Society committee concerning the state of the building. The information was then confirmed to the Historical Society by Joe Montano, Chair of the Mount Wilson Study Centre Inc.

Mount Wilson Study Centre

Village entry signage

Unfortunately, there has now been structural damage to the building by termites which will need to be repaired. The reports provided to date indicate that "*the subfloor areas of the former school building have suffered significant degradation as a result of the combined effects of historical and current termite activity, dry rot, settlement of piers and age. The conclusion that has been reached is that the school house is no longer safe for occupation."*
The school building had been closed and no further bookings taken. It is expected that the building will be out of use for quite some time. Joe expressed concern not just for the building but for the Society's collection. Subsequently, the building has been stabilised and the Society has been granted permission to remain in the building in the short term.
The building is owned by the NSW Department of Education. However, the Department has advised that it is not prepared to do anything to repair the damage, even though the Study Centre is listed on the Heritage Act Section 170 State agency heritage register.
A termite inspection had been undertaken, a building report prepared, and termite baits have been placed around the building at a cost of $6,200.00.
Thus, the Study Centre Council is left with the responsibility. There was some suggestion that the Mt Wilson Progress Association would assist but that is uncertain.
A recent funding application under the Community Heritage Grants to digitise the collection was unsuccessful, as the collection was deemed of only local or regional significance, not national significance. Now the local community must develop alternative plans to raise funds for the building's structural repairs.
The Society itself, needs to determine interim measures that will allow them to store and use the archives, and also gain access to the collection for when external researchers want to use and view material. At present members of the MW&MI Historical Society will need to sign an indemnity form which will be drawn up by the Study Centre Council. Added to that is the question of where researchers can work, and also for those who need to sort the collection, which requires attention urgently. The temporary solution is that they hire the Village Hall from Blue Mountains City Council for which the cost would be $15.00 per hour, as opposed to $30.00 per hour for others.
The principle issues faced include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Accessing the archives for both Society members and researchers.
- Security of the building and the collection.
- Establishing a suitable library storage area and a work area.
- Seeking funding to address the various issues eg. BMCC heritage assistance program.
- Establishing suitable conditions (temperature and humidity) under which to store the collection in the short and long term.
- The possible use in the short term of a container for storage and the issue of where to locate it.
- The possibility of a shared storage arrangement.
- Retaining the collection in Mt Wilson or Mt Irvine.

The archives are not fully digitised, and as a result, in case of fire, the Society may lose their treasured resource. The bulk of the collection amounts to about what would fit into a single garage.

At the recent Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine Historical Society AGM, BMACHO Vice President Ian Jack addressed the group to make suggestions and provide BMACHO support. Several members of BMACHO were then able to view the collection in situ, where it is stored in two rooms being the closed in front verandah of the former school building. The archives section of the collection is the least affected by insect invasion, due to any careful labelling and storage which has occurred to date. Filing cabinets have been used, but much remains in storage boxes and lever arch folders on open shelves.

The collection – photographs courtesy of Dr Peter Rickwood

The use of a refrigerated storage container, suitably acclimatised, has been suggested, but the location of such a structure is an issue. BMACHO Treasurer Phil Hammon has sourced some container quotes for reference purposes. The Mt Wilson community appears to be generally reluctant to consider the location of containers within their local area.

The Society is encouraged to contact the Department of Education to remind them of their responsibilities for repairs and maintenance, and also to liaise with Blue Mountains City Council to discuss temporary storage arrangements, waivers in rental fees etc to assist in the short term. BMACHO have offered to provide the Society and also the Study Centre Council with letters of support where needed, for both the building restoration and the safety of the collection.

Consultation has commenced with the Blue Mountains Historical Society to discuss options for short term housing of the collection at Hobbys Reach and Mt Victoria respectively, and a sympathetic response has been received from both organisations. However, until BMHS undertake their own planned collection storage review in 2018, it is unknown what space would be available on that site.

So, for the moment the Society is not faced with urgently finding a suitable place to store the archives. However, when the building repairs commence, if ever, the society will have to vacate. A long-term solution must be determined.

The Royal Australian Historical Society has been contacted, and BMCC's Heritage Advisor Christo Aitkin is aware of the situation, as is the former Museums Advisor, Lynn Collins. Other local community organisations at Mt Wilson are aware of the problem. Christo has requested access to the report on the structural/termite damage.

The Society has approached the local State member Trish Doyle for support, and it will also require further consultation with the Study Centre Council itself.

A working bee on the first weekend on 3-4 February 2018 will be held in the Village Hall, to sort the archives, and undertake any culling required. A Committee meeting before this will determine the best way to approach this exercise. It has been recommended that insect bombs be utilised in the rooms prior to the working bee to ensure the confidence and safety of volunteers.

BMACHO members are asked if there are any volunteers willing to assist on the day.

For further information contact BMACHO.

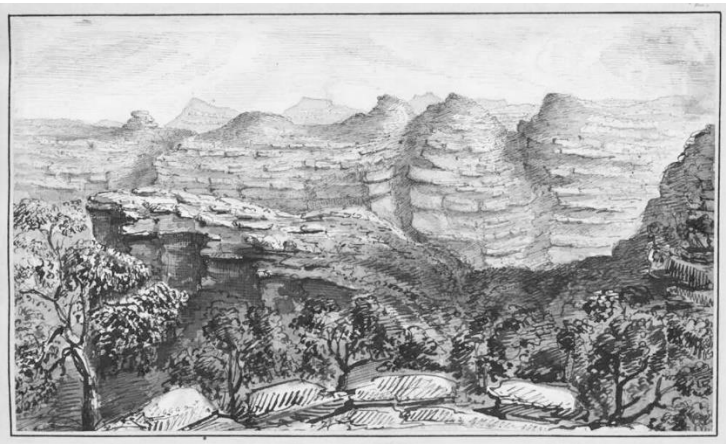
More recently, a proposal has been recommended by the NSW Heritage Office staff that a co-design group be formed to establish a way forward to seek funding and undertake actions to restore the buildings. The group would include representatives from the Mt Wilson and Mt

Irvine Historical society, Mt Wilson RFS, Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine Progress Association, Mt Wilson Study Centre Council and the Heritage Office of NSW. *Patsy Moppett*

References:
The above information is sourced from conversations and emails from various concerned sources who have contributed to a lively and productive discussion on the subject. These include: Mary Reynolds, Jan Koperberg, Professor Ian Jack, Dr Peter Rickwood, Stephen Dean, Joe Montano, Christo Aitken, Stefan Indyka, Dr Carol Liston, Des Barratt, Phil Hammon, Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine Historical Society, Mount Wilson Study Centre, Mt Victoria & District Historical Society & Blue Mountains Historical Society.

Book Review: "Wayfaring in Wollemi: stories of people in wilderness"

The Wollemi Wilderness is the largest declared wilderness in the state. At 4,250 square kilometres, it extends more or less from the Bell Range to the Hunter Valley. It occupies a substantial portion of the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area, and lies largely within the area once generally considered to be the Blue Mountains.
In 1904 a gent by the unfortunate name of Cecil Poole set off from Putty in a bid to reach the Capertee Valley, crossing what is now the Wollemi. He was trying to find a tortuous path purportedly used to take a prize bull to market by the McLean family, back in the 1870s. Perhaps the most enduring outcome of his failed adventure - aside from his colourful account of the experience - was a patriotic poem that was published in "The Bulletin" a few weeks later. It was evidently inspired by the remarkable view he enjoyed while standing on Gospers Mountain, at the Wollemi's geographic centre.

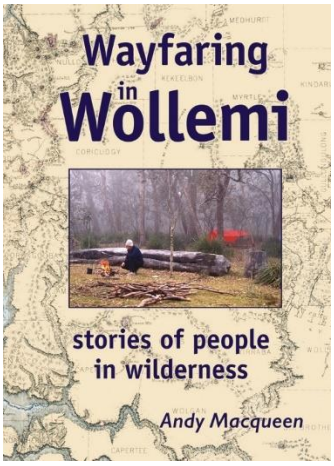


Govett's "Scenery of the Blue Mountains"

Geologist, Joseph Carne

Poole spent most of his adult life wandering the Australian bush, plying his trade as a phrenologist and writing articles for rural newspapers as he went. Some of those articles suggest he was quite eccentric to say the least. He wasn't mad though. Poole had advanced views on conservation for his time, and wrote at length on how land clearing and farming practices were degrading the land. And he spoke up for women, railing about their lot in life and the evil effects of their husbands' heavy drinking.
Around the same time as Poole's Wollemi adventure, geologist Joseph Carne was wandering the Wollemi extensively, seeking out and mapping the myriad volcanic mountains and "holes". He was supposed to be mapping the coalfields at the time, and his interest in what he called the "veritable oases" of the Wollemi seems to have arisen from his love of the place.
Poole's and Carne's stories are just two of 28 told in "Wayfaring in Wollemi". The other "wayfarers" variously include explorers, colonial surveyors, cattlemen, railway and dam builders, soldiers, bushwalkers and conservationists. They all spent a part of their life in the

Wollemi, for one reason or another. Some hated it, some loved it. Some could only see it as a target for exploitation while others spent their lives in the cause to conserve it.
Take William Govett, of Govetts Leap fame. In 1833 he was sent by Major Mitchell to survey all the country between Bell and the Colo. He ran into all manner of difficulties, ultimately finding the country inaccessible. Rather than admit defeat, Govett faked his work, and his resulting imaginary mapping was not exposed for another century. Mitchell didn't know of the deceit but may have been suspicious: Govett was sacked soon afterwards. Govett no doubt had that part of the mountains in mind when he later wrote this appraisal:
"It will remain forever, as it is now, a desolate and uninhabited region, where even the animals are seldom seen, where nature itself has been rendered defective, and useless both to man and beast, and where the observer would exclaim and feel, that He who made these mountains alone can declare their use."
The person who finally corrected Govett's work was Army surveyor Hugh Clews. He had difficulties too, but he revelled in them. He loved the bush.



Poole's Canyon

If George Townsend had had his way back in the 1880s, a railway would today be snaking its way up the nearly 100 kilometres of the Colo and Capertee River gorges: a great railway journey of the world indeed. Unfortunately, Townsend was so obsessed with the project that he was in denial about the enormous technical difficulties and expense involved. He was into grand schemes, among other things publishing a book expounding his plan to drought-proof all of NSW.
A few years later a man named John Cotton was behind a hare-brained plan to dam the Colo with logs, and flood all the "useless" country. Had the railway or the dam perchance materialised, we would not now have the rip-roaring tales of wilderness adventure also to be found in the book.
Then there's Bob O'Neill, Vietnam veteran, renowned Oxford professor of the history of war, and now Blue Mountains resident. The book tells the story of O'Neill's role in the enormous army exercises which took place in the Wollemi in the sixties - and also reveals how the experience changed his life.
O'Neill is not alone. Another of the book's wayfarers, Haydn Washington, has spent his life saving the Wollemi and other wild places, and can trace his endeavours and world view back to a life-changing experience on the Colo River in 1974.
Another wayfarer in the book is the author himself. Andy Macqueen has spent much of the last 20 years literally following his subjects through the wilderness. In the course of his efforts to "get inside their heads" he tells some of his own story, and reveals his personal attachment to the country. Thus, the book not only provides a rich history of fascinating people – and the cultural history of the Wollemi in general – but also stands as piece of very personal nature writing. *Andy Macqueen*

Beautifully presented, "Wayfaring in Wollemi" has 352 pages, 140 images and maps, and a hard cover. It is available for $40 from Blue Mountains bookshops and (post-free in Australia) from the author at andymacqueen@gmail.com

Caption notes

- *The author's companions camped in the tracks of Cecil Poole on a tributary of Coorongooba Creek. Poole referred to the spot as a "true canyon", possibly the first application of the word "canyon" to such a place.*
- *Geologist Joseph Carne (Carne family papers, National Library of Australia)*
- *William Govett's "Scenery of the Blue Mountains" (National Library of Australia). The scenery depicted is strongly reminiscent of the Wollemi country that was his downfall.*

The Technical Side

Bespoke Shoemaker

A bespoke shoemaker makes custom made footwear, bespoke meaning spoken for, to speak for something, or custom-made. The shoes are usually made for a particular person or for a particular event. "Bespoken" means ordered, commissioned, arranged for, and was first cited from 1607.

Early shoes – Celtic, tribal, Scandinavian

Shoes, as such, date back to the Egyptions, the Chines and other early civilisation, and were often simply a piece of plaited grass or rawhide strapped to the feet. The actual fitting or comfort of footwear was not considered until the 1850s. In the 1840's the rolling machine and the sewing machine revolutionised shoe making. Once technology came, the need for handmade shoes was reduced.

In the workshop

Shaping the last

At the end of the Middle Ages round and square toes shapes became popular. During the reign of Henry VIII shoes could be 6 inches wide and were known as foot bags.
As with many of the early trades, techniques were passed down from master to student through apprenticeships, and years of practice were needed to learn the craft.
Nowadays, training is carried out in colleges and universities and the manufacture is mostly by machine.
The principle tools of the trade included:

- Last – the wooden model of the foot.
- Awl – a tool to poke a hole in the fabric.
- Clans – a clamp held between the knees to hold the work.
- Die – a sharp knife for cutting sizes and shapes of leather.
- Long stick – a tool for rubbing the surface of the outer sole after founding and tacking.
- Paring knife – a sharp knife to trim away excess leather.
- Pincers – pliers used to pull through a reluctant needle when stitching.
- Punch – a tool for making holes in leather.
- Shears – a large pair of scissors for cutting leather.
- Tranchet – a form of French clicking knife held along the arm.

The feet are measured and a last for each foot is created. Paper templates transfer the design to the leather, which is then stitched with lining and stiffening. The uppers are attached to the sole, and the heel built up to the required height. The bespoke maker's label is attached to the insole, and the shoe polished.

Modern hand-crafted shoes

At the first fitting, the customer tries a prototype pair of shoes made in an inexpensive leather and the shoemaker checks if anything needs to be changed. If so, the changes are applied to the lasts and the shoes are created with a precious leather. After the final lasts are created, the customer can order more pairs of shoes without more measurements and fittings.
It is noted that a bespoke shoemaker is different to a cobbler, who is a person who mends and repairs shoes. The difference between the two trades was once considered so vast, it was a serious insult to call a shoemaker a cobbler (the latter of which is a term that also means to work clumsily or bungle).
The modern form of bespoke, orthopaedics, involves making shoes especially for people with special needs, or for stage or screen shows. There are still small teams of shoe designers, shoemakers and leather artisans committed to making comfortable and stylish shoes or leather accessories to particular requirements. *Patsy Moppett*

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Community events & updates

George W Evans Monument Unveiled

On Saturday 26 November 2017, the Lithgow Regional Branch of the National Trust (NSW) unveiled a new interpretive sign at The Evans Crossing Monument on Antonio Reserve, next to 1202 Hampton Road, near Rydal, NSW. This was to acknowledge the achievement of George W Evans (1780-1852): surveyor, explorer, artist and draftsman, who with a party of five, was the first European to cross the Great Dividing Range NSW on 30th November 1813. Paul Brunton OAM FAHA, Emeritus Curator of the State Library of NSW, unveiled the sign, ably assisted by a local school boy. Paul then gave a presentation on the life of George W Evans.

Memorial plaque 1963

New interpretive Sign unveiled

The new sign was funded by Lithgow Regional Branch of the National Trust (NSW), Lithgow City Council and Bill Hoolihan of Rydal.
An earlier monument had been erected in the grounds of 1202 Hampton Road, when this building was the school. It is now a home and the monument had been moved some time ago to Antonio Reserve. This earlier monument was erected by the Lithgow District Historical Society in 1962, and reads:

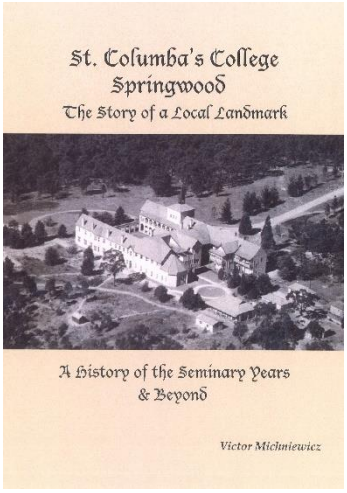
"IN THIS VICINITY
THE FIRST CROSSING
OF THE MAIN DIVIDE
WAS MADE ON NOVEMBER 29 1813
BY
DEPUTY SURVEYOR GEORGE WILLIAM EVANS
WITH
RICHARD LEWIS, JAMES BURNE, JOHN COOGAN,
JOHN GROVER, JOHN TIGHE
LITHGOW DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY
1963"

Jan Koperberg

Book Review: St. Columba's College, Springwood - The Story of a Local Landmark

A History of the Seminary Years & Beyond - Victor Michniewicz

St. Columba's College is a landmark that is well known not only to Springwood locals but also to many residents of the central Blue Mountains. The choice of Springwood as the location of the Catholic Church's first minor seminary in Australia was not only important for the Catholic community, but also for what the establishment of the seminary would bring to the local community. The purchase of the property by the Church would have a significant influence upon the way in which north Springwood (later Winmalee) developed.



Established in the early 20th century, St. Columba's College would draw students from across Australia. For well over half a century, it would continue to grow until, over the space of a few short years, student numbers declined and in 1977 the seminary doors would close only to re-open just one year later as a Catholic high school.
The book is based entirely on historical facts that have primary sources as their foundation. The true story of St Columba's is a fascinating and complex one, so important from a local history perspective.
This is the story of that institution - its establishment, development and the nature of daily life for those that passed through its gates. *Victor Michniewicz*

The book is now available for $40.00 plus postage. Contact Victor at emailofvictor@gmail.au

Bathurst Heritage Trades Trail 2018

Bathurst Heritage Trades Trail is a Bathurst Regional Council initiative supported by a number of community heritage and history groups including Bathurst District Historical Society, Bathurst Heritage Network, The National Trust, Bathurst Bead & Wire Craft Guild, Bathurst Embroidery Guild and the Bathurst Family History Group. It will take place during Bathurst Heritage Week, on the 12th and 13th of May 2018, and will feature heritage trades in a number of heritage buildings and precincts around Bathurst.

It is aimed at increasing public awareness of heritage for locals and visitors. It is a not-for-profit community activity, and venues will be managed and manned by volunteers.
The Heritage Trades concept will be based around a number of heritage locations, each showcasing genuine heritage artisan trades in Bathurst heritage buildings or precincts over two days, as part of Bathurst Heritage Week, Bathurst Autumn Colours and the National Trust Australian Heritage Festival.
The locations planned at this stage are as follows:

1. **Convict Women** - an exhibition with a focus on food and food preparation at Chifley Home – a smaller space, but with the attraction of the house museum of our famous Prime Minister.
2. **Soft trades** - in the 1837 Uniting Church Hall in William Street – a great heritage venue with excellent large space and a full commercial kitchen. Spinning and weaving, crocheting, knitting, embroidery, lacemaking, felting, quilting and other soft trades, including workshops - living heritage.
3. **Restoration trades** - at the 1856 Tremain's Mill eg. pole wood lathe, adze wood shaping, found bush timber furniture, cedar furniture restoration, violin making, decorative joiner, cane furniture restorer, live traditional music and food. Tremain's is a proven event drawcard space in a heritage precinct.
4. **Farm trades** - at the Agricultural Research Farm Square eg. blacksmithing, farrier, wheelwright, winemaking, beekeeping, whips, steam engines, sadler, with a bush BBQ and corn on the cob. The Ag Station is heritage listed by Bathurst Council and has numerous heritage buildings to showcase, including a blacksmiths shop, stables, and (blade) shearing shed.
5. **Wedding Dresses** - at the Bathurst Memorial Entertainment Centre. A display and workshops concerning Australian wedding dresses and wedding paraphernalia from across two centuries.
6. **Other Venues** may be added.

The concept is that each exhibitor will showcase their skill by actually working on an example so that people can gain an understanding of the trade or craft. They would particularly like to encourage hands-on activities and workshops.
Potential craft/trades people are currently being asked to submit an expression of interest in showcasing their traditional trade or craft skills at one of the elements of "The Trail". The organisers are particularly interested in people who can demonstrate and discuss their trade with the public. There is no charge to demonstrators, and they can sell their products as well without any commission. Exhibitors who only sell their product and do not demonstrate are not encouraged, and will be required to pay a fee to participate, as will food vendors.
The Trail would run from 10.00am to 4.00pm both days, with set up possible on the Friday afternoon immediately before, with dispersal on the Monday morning after.
The organisers would be responsible for all logistics, professional OH&S risk assessment, all set up, running and clean up, portable toilets, small marquees and traffic management.
Marketing is being undertaken extensively, particularly via online and social media channels. The event is intended as a visitor attracting occasion, as well as for engagement with the local community. Marketing and promotion is being carried out by Bathurst Regional Council, and the individual community groups involved. They would encourage demonstrators to promote the event through their Trade or Craft organisation, and their network of contacts. Sharing from Council's Facebook page is a powerful way to spread the word.
The organisers would like to know as soon as possible what facilities and equipment would be needed so that these can be arranged before the event. If you are an Agricultural Trade or an outdoors trade, they would encourage you to bring your own gazebo and tables etc.
The organisers have a tight timetable to bring the event together and they hope you will be able to confirm at an early date. Each venue is organised and managed by a team from Bathurst community groups. Each team is responsible for locating, booking and managing the

talent for their location and bump in/out, and manning their entrance. Some locations will have live traditional music and food. The venues are ticketed as one & sold through Council facilities and on site. *Sandy Bathgate*

For any queries contact the organisers at heritagebathurst@gmail.com
Facebook and video at Bathurst Heritage Trades Trail ….
https://www.dropbox.com/sh/c75vg73bn4v8wgl/AABaOngls1JApY_2B2eMP_zha?dl=0

PROJECTDOCUMENT: Enquiries/Inquiries - Perspectives on War

An invitation has been issued to Blue Mountains communities to contribute photographic and written documents from WW2 and post WW2 for inclusion in a significant exhibition *Perspectives on War*, to be held at the Woodford Academy in 2018 and the Blue Mountains Cultural Centre, Katoomba during 2019.
The Project is an ongoing research based contemporary art exhibition project situated in the Blue Mountains, NSW. It was established in 2015 by Blue Mountains Artist /Curator Vivienne Dadour to investigate and respond to public and private archives concerning the complexities of identity and place in the Blue Mountains Region, NSW, during WW2 and Post WW2, -to coincide with the 80th year anniversary of the commencement of WW2.

From 2016-17, Dadour extended the project concept to include Blue Mountain artists, writers, historians and local community groups to collaborate in developing work for exhibition that referenced *The Historical Landscape and/or The Political Landscape WW2 and Post WW2,* in the Blue Mountains, NSW.

In 2017 exhibition proposals were accepted by-

1.Woodford Academy, Woodford, NSW.

- *The Woodford Files 1940-50.* May-July 2018.

The Woodford Files 1940-50 is an exhibition developed in collaboration with Local Blue Mountain Historians that references a collection of handwritten letters from WW2 and located in the Woodford Academy archives. To coincide with Heritage Week a series of artworks by artist Vivienne Dadour that references this collection of letters, will explore the margins of photography and the archive to construct interplay between memory, history, text, and photo/digital imagery, throughout the Academy.

*2.*Blue Mountains Cultural Centre. Katoomba, NSW.

- Contemporary *Art and War,* August-September 2019.

This exhibition is a collaborative, interdisciplinary, contemporary art project that includes invited Blue Mountain artists, writers, historians and community groups to participate in an exhibition at the Blue Mountains Cultural Centre, Katoomba from August-September 2019- coinciding with the 80th year anniversary of the commencement WW2. Invited participants are: Vivienne Dadour visual artist /curator, community collaborator. Anne Graham, conceptual installation artist. Fiona Davies conceptual installation artist. Sean O'Keeffe film maker, visual artist. Chris Tobin, Blue Mountains Indigenous artist and historian. Ken Goodlet, local historian and writer. Various Blue Mountains community groups, individuals and National organizations. E.g., RSL, Red Cross, The Australian Lebanese Historical Society and other groups representing migrants to the Blue Mountains, Blue Mountains Indigenous groups, Women's land Army and Women Ambulance drivers, Blue Mountain's Hostels, Factories and Hospitals and Heritage organizations -will be invited to contribute personal WW2 and post WW2 archives/memorabilia for inclusion in the exhibition to form a pictorial wall of remembrance.
Intrinsic to the artistic vision of the project is the facilitation of a deep engagement with the historical and political landscape of the Blue Mountains during WW2 and post WW2. Blue Mountains community members are invited to contribute personal WW2 and post WW2 photographic and written documents for inclusion in the exhibition. Contributions will be copied to form a pictorial display as part of the exhibition within the gallery.
For further information please contact Vivienne Dadour
Email: research@projectdocument.com.au
Web: www.viviennedadour.com

Changing of the guard

BMACHO would like to offer congratulations to further member groups on the recent election of their new committees.
The incoming committees are comprised as follows:

Springwood Historical Society 2017-18

President: Peter Chin
Vice-president: Sue Fulton
Secretary: Dick Morony
Treasurer: Sara Matthews

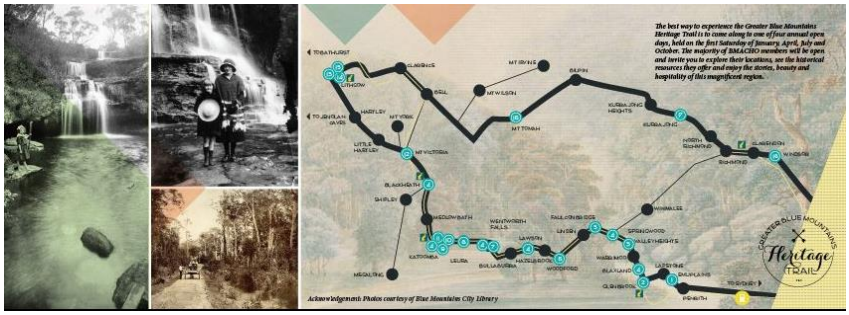
The Executive remains the same as last year.

Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Heritage Museum 2017-18

Chairman: Henk Luf
Secretary: Ross Stenning
Treasurer: John Carter
Publicity Manager: Keith Ward
Retail Manager: Steve Corrigan
Building Restoration Manager: Dave Grove
Building Services Manager: Ted Dickson
Grounds Maintenance Manager: Stephen Dive
Workshop Manager: Terry Matchett
Membership Officer: Jeff Russell
Large Exhibits Manager: Vacant - *(Henk Luf substituting)*
Small Exhibits Curator: Mike Pensini
Model Railway Manager: Ray Beharrell
Perway Manager: Vacant

Patsy Moppett

Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail Update



BMACHO continues to promote the Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail and members' upcoming events. BMACHO have reprinted the Heritage Trail brochure which has now been distributed to visitors' centres across the region. During 2017-18 BMACHO are holding a competition to encourage visitation to Trail participant properties, and the competition entry forms are incorporated into the brochure.
Visitors to any of the participating venues as identified on the Trail brochure can either answer the set-out questions or obtain a stamp showing they have been to a venue. BMACHO will hold a prize draw approximately every six months.

So - Heritage with Altitude!!

The Trail is an ideal activity for the kids and grandkids, be it in the school holidays or any weekend! Collect the Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail brochure with the "Passport Competition and entry form" insert, and discover artifacts with altitude!
Great prizes to be won and the next draw will be in January 2018. Check our website http://heritagedrive.com.au for the brochure, form and list of prizes, or collect the brochure and insert from visitor centres at Glenbrook, Katoomba, Lithgow, Clarendon, Bathurst, Oberon, and Orange. Trail participants will also have brochures and forms available. Email committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au if you would like a brochure and form posted to you.

If you are a member and you would like further information, or if you would like to become a member, please email the BMACHO Secretary at committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au

For general information about BMACHO and the Trail, see heritagedrive.com.au or www.facebook.com/GBMHeritageTrail

To find out more about BMACHO visit www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

Registered office: 1/19 Stypandra Place, Springwood 2777. (02) 4751 5834
Email: committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au or j.koperberg@bigpond.com
Website: www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au **ABN**: 53 994 839 952

The organisation: Blue Mountains Association of Cultural & Heritage Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 after local historical and heritage societies and individuals recognised the need for the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the local government area (LGA) of Blue Mountains City Council. The constituency now embraces but is not limited to, the LGAs of Blue Mountains, Lithgow, Hawkesbury and Penrith. BMACHO membership includes historical and heritage groups, museums, commercial enterprises with an historical or heritage component in its core business, local government (local studies units, library collections) and a limited number of individual members by invitation such as but not necessarily academics. The objectives of the organisation are:

1. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage
2. To encourage and assist cultural heritage
3. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations.

One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

Affiliations: BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society and is affiliated with the Better Planning Network.

Publications: BMACHO's official newsletter ***Heritage*** is edited by Patsy Moppett. The annual refereed *Blue Mountains History Journal* is edited by Dr Peter Rickwood and occasional papers are published from time to time.

Membership: The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mt Tomah; Blue Mountains City Library; Blue Mountains Cultural Heritage Centre; Blue Mountain Education & Research Trust; Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc; Blue Mountains Historical Society; Bygone Beautys Treasured Teapot Museum and Tearooms; City of Lithgow Mining Museum Inc; Colo Shire Family History Group; Eskbank Rail Heritage Centre; Everglades Historic House & Gardens; Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc; Hartley Valley District Progress Association; Hawkesbury Historical Society Inc; Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc; Leuralla NSW Toy & Railway Museum; Lithgow & District Family History Society Inc; Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies; Mt Victoria & District Historical Society Inc; Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine Historical Society Inc (including Turkish Bath Museum); National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Blue Mountains Branch; National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Lithgow Branch; Nepean District Historical Society Inc; Norman Lindsay Gallery and Museum; Paragon Cafe, Katoomba; Scenic World Blue Mountains Limited; Springwood Historical Society Inc; Springwood Historians Inc; Transport Signal Communication Museum Inc; Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Heritage Museum, Woodford Academy Management Committee, Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd. The following are individual members: Wendy Blaxland, Fiona Burn, Ray Christison, Dr Wayne Hanley, Associate Professor Ian Jack, Ian Milliss, Patsy Moppett, Keith Painter and Dr Peter Rickwood.

Committee: The management committee for 2017-2018 (from March 2017) is: Patsy Moppett (President and ***Heritage*** Newsletter Editor), Ian Jack (Vice President), Jan Koperberg (Secretary), Philip Hammon (Treasurer), Jan Koperberg (web sites), Dick Morony (Public Officer/Membership Secretary/ Calendar Editor), Suzanne Smith (Events and Venue Co-ordinator), Fiona Burn, Peter Brownlee and Roy Bennett.
Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail sub-committee: Peter Brownlee, Fiona Burn, Jan Koperberg and Suzanne Smith.
Blue Mountains History Conference 2018 sub-committee: Summar Hipworth, Ian Jack, Jan Koperberg and Patsy Moppett.

Disclaimer: views and opinions expressed in Heritage originate from many sources and contributors. Every effort is taken to ensure accuracy of material. Content does not necessarily represent or reflect the views and opinions of BMACHO, its committee or its members. If errors are found feedback is most welcome.

Heritage

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Tasman Island Lighthouse, Tasmania

Light houses have fascinated people for decades and originally served a vital part in the safety of sea and coastal navigation around Australia from early colonial days.

The Tasman Island Lighthouse is on Tasman Island off the coast of south eastern Tasmania, and is one of the most isolated lighthouses in Australia. It was built in 1906, automated in 1976 and demanned in 1977. It was the last of the manned lights to be built in Tasmania.

The 29m high lighthouse is one of the highest lighthouses in Australia and marked the final turning point for yachts in the Sydney-Hobart race. The island is separated from nearby Cape Pillar by the narrow Tasman Passage, which is less than 500m wide. It was one of the more isolated lightstations and for many keepers was not a popular posting.

Tasman Island Lighthouse and cottages

As early as 1885 discussions were held about the possibility of a lighthouse in the vicinity of Cape Pillar. After discounting nearby mainland sites, a site inspection was made to Tasman Island. Despite a recommendation in 1886 that construction should proceed, approval was not given until 1903.

Plans were drawn up by Huckson & Hutchison and a prefabricated cast-iron tower and 1st Order lens were shipped out from England. The components of the cast iron lighthouse were hauled piece by piece up the 250m high cliffs before assembly, some parts taking up to eight hours to reach the construction site.

The difficulties of working in such a precipitous location were highlighted when two members of the Marine Board fell in while attempting a landing. Despite this, builders Henriksen & Knutsen commenced construction in January 1904.
Three keeper's cottages were built of solid brick, with sheds for wood and coal under the same roof for protection from the wild weather. The first superintendent was George Johnston who arrived on Tasman Island in December 1905 and already had vegetable gardens growing by the time the light was officially opened on 2nd April 1906.

1910

1968

2015

The nature of most light house sites is their isolation and their vulnerability to the whims of climate and weather. This light house and its associated infrastructure certainly had their fair share of drama. There were problems with the lamp mantle which regularly fractured due to the swaying of the top of the tower in strong winds. During a storm in 1919, verandahs and fences were blown away, water tanks blown off their stands and out-buildings shifted off their foundations. The winds were so strong that the vibrations in the lantern room destroyed five mantles and two pounds of mercury jumped out of the race and had to be replaced.
Once thickly forested, Tasman Island was almost bare soon after establishment of the lighthouse due to cutting timber for firewood, and this compounded the impacts of strong winds across the island.
Much of the island was originally grazed with flocks of up to 500 sheep, cattle, pigs and goats. However, stock regularly disappeared down the various sink-holes and clefts on the island, never to be seen again. Today, the native vegetation is returning, with pockets of small trees and shrubs appearing in more sheltered areas.

A truly spectacular landscape

Access to such a remote light station was always difficult. Seas were frequently too rough for supply ships to approach the island. Landings were originally made on the north-west side of the island where a track known as the zigzag was built. Then a landing platform was constructed on the more sheltered north-east corner of the island with a crane operated by a steam-driven donkey engine. Today, access to the island is much easier by helicopter.
Some interesting facts:

- For the first 20 years pigeons provided a link with the Tasmanian mainland. However, the birds were so well fed that they were often reluctant to leave the island!
- Because of the isolation, most women left the island to give birth. However, in 1920 a daughter was born to the lighthouse keeper and his wife, nursed by a Nurse Cleary.
- In their remote location the keepers on Tasman Island were vulnerable to infections, and medical help was often unable to be obtained.
- During the war years the job of lighthouse keeping was considered a reserved occupation and keepers were not permitted to enlist.
- A major accident occurred in 1927. Rigger, William Groombridge was killed and Joseph Patterson was seriously injured when a crane, being installed on the landing, collapsed without warning. The body of the dead man was thrown into the sea and never recovered. With no direct communication with Hobart it took until the next day to get medical help for the injured man and another day to get him to Hobart for treatment.
- Unlike many other Tasmanian lightstations, there are no European graves on the island.

In the years following the automation of the lighthouse and removal of lightkeepers, the unoccupied buildings deteriorated badly. However, with dedicated work by the volunteer group *Friends of Tasman Island*, this trend is now being reversed. Formed in 2005, the *Friends of Tasman Island*, work in partnership with the Tasmanian Parks & Wildlife Service, conducting work programs on the island about three times each year. They have a membership of committed volunteers and supporters who focus on the restoration of both the cultural heritage and natural environment on the island.
Access by sea continues to be very difficult. The haulage route is no longer operational and tracks up the 250 metre cliffs are overgrown. A permit to land by helicopter must be obtained from the Tasmanian Parks & Wildlife Service and no commercial accommodation is available on the island, although tours are available.

The 2015 plaque

Original lens

A bronze plaque was erected in 2015 to commemorate lighthouse keepers and their families for their contribution to maritime safety in the Tasman Island region from 1906 to 1976.
The island is now part of the Tasman National Park, and the lighthouse and associated structures, such as the keepers' cottages, are listed on Australia's Register of the National Estate.

The original first order Fresnel lens by Chance Brotherscan be seen on display at the Australian National Maritime Museum in Sydney, and the original lantern is stored at the Maritime Museum of Tasmania in Hobart. *Patsy Moppett*

References:
Wikipedia: Tasman Island Lighthouse
http://www.wildcaretas.org.au/groups_details/tasman_island

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Food for thought ..... Editor's note

Back through the archives

In February 2009 the then President of BMACHO, John Leary OAM, launched the first edition of BMACHO'S Newsletter HERITAGE. His Editorial highlighted the need for communication and dissemination of information within the heritage world, and his words seem to be still pertinent today.
The current committee can stand testament to the aspirations expressed then, that the Newsletter would be widely spread and that communications since then have definitely come a long way, in part a credit to the work of previous BMACHO committees.
Bearing in mind that the mentioned MPs involved may have changed, that Editorial is repeated below in memory of John, and to demonstrate how far we have come in the wider Blue Mountains heritage community. *Patsy Moppett*

John Jeary OAM

Issue No. 1

Issue No. 2

Issue No. 3

From the president's pen.....NEED FOR IMPROVED COMMUNICATIONS

Some time ago, the committee of BMACHO identified as a major issue, the need to improve communications in the local heritage sector.

Across a broad range of issues it was considered that various organisations were not sharing information which could not only make their operations more effective, but would also make life easier and more pleasant in the bid to achieve goals of conserving, researching, recording, preserving and promoting our heritage.

The executive has spent considerable energy and time, with some success, in opening up communication with Blue Mountains City Council, the former Federal Member for Macquarie, Kerry Bartlett, the State Member for Blue Mountains and now the Federal Member, the Hon. Bob Debus and the new Member for Blue Mountains, Phil Koperberg.

In discussions with these community leaders they have generally displayed more than a cursory interest and knowledge of the diversity of heritage in the Blue Mountains, Lithgow and Hawkesbury regions.

However, what they were not aware of was the large number of individuals, which includes amateur enthusiasts, academics and professionals who are active within the local heritage sector. Community leaders have accepted the need to improve two-way communication and BMACHO's executive has seen some tangible improvement at government level. Many of those active in the heritage sector appear to have operated in isolation for many years — sometimes, totally unaware of the importance they play in the fabric of Australian society.

For more than five decades of societies in this region have been party to hosting most informative historic talks and presentations and yet there has been very little done in the way of publishing these interesting dissertations.

There have been some excellent books produced by local authors on very well researched material, but little effort in promoting these publications. Even some of the newsletters which have been produced are in their own right worthy of commendation as sound historical documents. While there is an urgent need to promote publications in print, there is an even greater need to share information between like organisations. It is imperative that organisations, if they are to succeed in maintaining membership, become more proactive in selling their group to the public. One of the best ways of doing this is to communicate and share ideas with like-minded bodies.

To participate in the process of improving communications, BMACHO's executive has initiated this Newsletter, HERITAGE, which it is proposed to publish every couple of months. The newsletter is designed to reach as many individuals as possible. Too often communications addressed to busy secretaries do not seem to go any further down the line. It is hoped that secretaries on receipt of HERITAGE on their e-mail will simply forward it on to those members who have registered their e-mail. Hopefully those who do not have e-mail will be provided with hard copies by other members of their organisation.

John K Leary, OAM – President and Newsletter Editor, Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations (BMACHO)

Blue Mountains Historical Archives Storage

Following on from the article in the last BMACHO Newsletter (January-February 2018) relating to Mount Wilson's predicament on archive storage, comments have been received from Woodford Academy on their situation, and on the matter generally.

Woodford advise that due to the receipt of grants in 2017 the Academy has been able to undertake much needed collection management of their historical archives which were until recently stored on site. This process resulted in the archives being removed for urgent pest treatment and the services of Kate O'Neill were very much appreciated during the packing of the collection.

Due to poor climate control at the Woodford Academy, the archives are now held at the James Fairfax & National Trust property, Retford Park, Bowral, (where there is a specialized climate controlled storage facility), until such time as appropriate storage can be arranged at the Academy. The containers and an adjacent cottage were utilized by James Fairfax to hold furniture and paintings he brought back from Europe. They are lockable, powered, and the climate keeps temperatures inside remarkably stable.

Concerns have been raised generally in recent years however, about the loss of many local historical artefacts from the mountains. Whilst the Academy is sorry that the archives had to leave the mountains, Rae Clapshaw of the Academy advises that they are safe and in a clean environment, constantly monitored by data loggers and people living on site.

Access is restricted but not impossible. Thursday has worked out as the most suitable day and it is a matter of targeting your research, packing some lunch and travelling to Bowral. Academy volunteers take cameras, computers, scanners and other equipment, and work chairs and tables are provided.

Archive storage – Windsor

Archive storage – Retford

In regard to treatment of artifacts when freezing facilities are available, advice from Mt Victoria Historical Society Museum notes that freezing for borers was undertaken of some items for eight days, and the problem has returned. Advice from a Hobart conservator to members now suggests that freezing times should be closer to three weeks. So there is a lot of inaccurate and mis-information around.

A number of organisations, including BMACHO, have taken it upon themselves to investigate as to whether there are any other local appropriate storage facilities in the Blue Mountains local government area, as they and/or their members are struggling with the same issue. In doing this, to date it has been found that there was no known space available, at this stage.

In undertaking research for Mount Wilson, BMACHO established that funding opportunities were limited for small regional organisations due to the criteria set in those funding programs, and that larger organizations appeared to be able to comply more easily.

BMACHO also undertook research into the cost of climate controlled storage units, finding that there is a range available. However, with the situation being that many organisations are located in heritage buildings on small sites, there is no space on site for a storage container to be located, the costs of such containers may be prohibitive, and there is often a local

government Development Control Plan which prevents the location of storage containers on the site due to heritage issues and visual amenity! A catch-22 situation.
BMACHO also established that both long and short term solutions may be required for an organisation, depending upon their individual circumstances, along with opportunities for multiple user facilities. Access to the collections once archived is a part of the issue, if located off site.

Storage solutions

At its recent committee meeting at Mt Tomah, BMACHO discussed the issue with Rae Clapshaw of the Woodford Academy, who explained the access process as described above. She did emphasize that the Academy is lucky to be a National Trust property, and therefore have a large support system in place. They still need to find funding for remedial work at the Academy before the archives can return. They realise they are custodians of the collection and that they must be preserved for the future.
The State government has been undertaking an online community/industry survey of cultural infrastructure needs, and such survey closed on 11th February 2018. The Cultural Infrastructure Program Management Office (CIPMO) was seeking feedback from the community and sector about arts and cultural spaces in NSW. In April 2017, the CIPMO in the Arts, Screen & Culture Division was established to provide a coordinated response to the planning and delivery of cultural infrastructure in NSW.
The Academy in their submission has included the need for accessible, appropriate historical archives storage. Woodford have suggested that there may be a local government solution, and that perhaps BMCC should undertake a similar such review. An email with regard to this survey was distributed to BMACHO members on 8th January 2018.
This Office, one of the first of its kind, works in partnership with Create NSW to ensure appropriate infrastructure facilities are developed and maintained to support the growing arts and cultural sector across metropolitan and regional NSW.
The Office can be contacted at their email address: *ci@arts.nsw.gov.au* It is unknown when the results of the survey will be published, but the aim is to draw up a Cultural Infrastructure Plan resulting, it is hoped, in funding opportunities. It must be understood though, that this will take time.
In the meantime, BMACHO would encourage members and the wider community to "have their say" and make it know also to local authorities of the issues which particularly relate to Blue Mountains' organisations.
Feedback to BMACHO is always encouraged on issues such as this, within the bounds of the BMACHO aim, to foster and support cultural heritage activities related to the Greater Blue Mountains and beyond, through the sharing of experiences for a greater good.

Patsy Moppett

Moorecourt and Springwood Ladies' College, Springwood

Moorecourt was a mansion constructed in 1876 by Charles Moore, former Lord Mayor of Sydney, which became the Springwood Ladies' College in 1897, following Moore's death in 1895.
Moore was born in Ireland in 1820, and sailed for Australia in 1849. He had been apprenticed to his brother in the drapery business, and arrived with a shipload of drapery

which he sold in Adelaide. He went to Melbourne and then on to Sydney, where he set up a drapery business, and then went on to auctioneering.
In 1854 he married Sarah Jane Wilcox, and built a substantial home at Coogee in 1860.
He was mayor of Randwick Municipal Council in 1863, and was then elected to Sydney City Council. There he was Mayor from 1867-69. He became known as an improver, undertaking reclamation projects to utilize swampy land, covering the Tank Stream, establishing a number of public buildings, and developing Sydney Common which was to become Moore Park.
He refused to receive a Mayoral salary and in spite of his improvement works, was often criticized. In 1869 he resigned and went to Europe, returning in 1871, where he was Mayor again until 1886.

Charles Moore

Moorecourt

In 1876 he built Moorecourt at Springwood, and moved there in 1880. Soon after, Sarah died, having had no children. In 1883 Moore married a widow Annie Hill Montgomery in Ireland, during another trip to Europe. He remained childless, and died at Parramatta on 4 July 1895, being buried at Emu Plains Cemetery.
Moorecourt was built on a site to the northern side of the Great Western Highway between Springwood and Faulconbridge. The site falls away from the highway to a creek at the centre and rising again (to the present-day swimming pool) at the north. The mansion was demolished in 1858 and the south side of the park has now been cleared and landscaped adjacent to the highway, where there is an asphalt paved carpark and play area. Bench style tables and seats provide picnic facilities, in what is now called Buttenshaw Park. The Blue Mountains Shire Council acquired the land for recreational purposes in 1939 through the actions of a former Minister for Lands, E.A. Buttenshaw. The removal of the gateposts from Moorecourt when the house was demolished in 1958 was organised by the Springwood Historical Society.
A pair of sandstone gateposts in Buttenshaw Park mark the beginning of a wisteria walkway through the Park, relocated following the demolition of Moorecourt. Informal planting beds, partly planted with roses, are located to the northeast of the gateposts.
The Moorecourt gateposts are large square dressed sandstone posts with astragals and pyramidal caps. The Moore family crest carved on the posts has the motto *"PERSEVERANDO ET CAVENDO".* (By Never Giving Up and Taking Care). The crest is located on the east face of the northern gatepost and the west face of the southern gatepost. The northern gatepost has been set on a plinth at a higher level than the southern gatepost.

Moorecourt

Gateposts, Buttenshaw Park

Memorial Plaque

A memorial plaque reads:

These gates are re-erected
from "Moorecourt" Springwood
Residence of Charles Moore
Mayor of Sydney 1867-69
M.L.A. East Sydney 1874 M.C.L. 1880-1895
Moorecourt built 1876 Demolished 1858
Springwood Historical Society

Moore had originally acquired some of the sandstone building blocks used in Moorecourt from the convict lockup on Pulpit Hill west of Katoomba, which dated from the 1820s. Originally constructed as a single storey country style residence, two storey additions were added to the rear at a later date. Extensive gardens were established with ponds, pathways, orchards and kitchen gardens.

After Moore's death in 1895, the residence became the home of Springwood Ladies College. Established in 1897, it was one of several private ladies' colleges in the Blue Mountains, which lent a colour and eccentricity to Australian education which is gradually fading in memories. Once the dominance of State and religious schools came to the fore, private schools almost disappeared. These private schools were reputed to possess exceptional advantages for young ladies desiring to complete their education.

Gate post detail

Springwood Ladies College

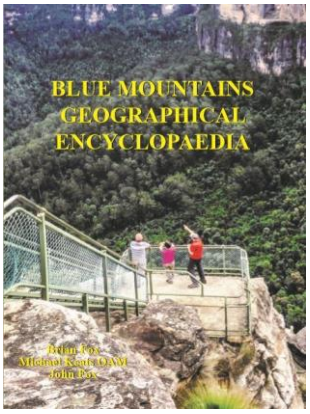
The longest serving proprietor and headmistress of the Springwood Ladies' College was Mademoiselle Mignon Durand, who transferred her Ladies Grammar School in Newcastle in the 1920s. She stamped her personality on the place, and her name became synonymous with the school. She was short, dark haired and of unremarkable appearance, but she knew how to dress, being stylish and elegant. She produced women of grace, courtesy and refinement. College life was one of order and Spartan comfort. The spacious and well-laid-out grounds surrounding the college enable students to enjoy outdoor exercises to their heart's content, thus acquiring a physique not obtainable in less favoured colleges.

References:
Charles Moore, January-February issue of HERITAGE No. 25, John Leary OAM,
Moore, Charles (1820-1895), Australian Dictionary of Biography, Mark Lyons
Moore, Charles, Dictionary of Sydney, Terri McCormack 2012
Buttenshaw Park & Sandstone Gate Posts, Office of Environment & Heritage 1999
Pictorial Memories Blue Mountains, John Low 1991

Book Launch : Blue Mountains Geographical Encyclopaedia

The launch of this much awaited publication is set to take place at Hobbys Reach, Wentworth Falls, on Monday 26 March 2018, at 10am for 10:30am.

It was February 2017 when Brian Fox spoke on maps of the Blue Mountains at Hobbys reach where he also gave an invitation to anyone to help and contribute to this huge place names project, a number of our members are to be thanked for their contribution to this project.



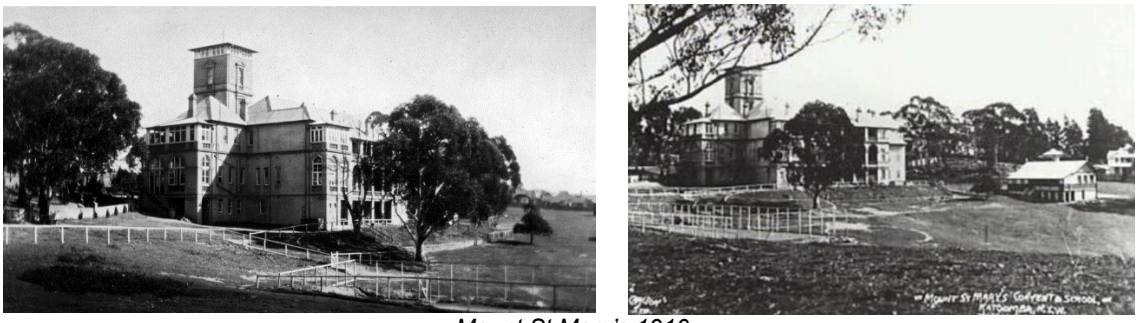
Between the Nepean River and Mount Victoria is sandwiched over 200 years of European history and thousands of years of Aboriginal heritage, some 2700 names have been applied to the places in between. This book is about those names, the men and women who named them, why and when they did.
Lead author Brian Fox has been on the job for over 20 years, systematically collecting and documenting every fact and every event. Researching and honing the text has been the role of co-authors John Fox and Michael Keats respectively.
A tome of 544 pages, full colour, hard cover with dust jacket. It includes 180 colour photographs, 70 of different waterfalls.
This text is a must for every person interested in the Blue Mountains whether they are a resident, bushwalker, teacher, history buff or curious visitor, and follows on the heels of the first of Brian's geographical research book, A Geographical Dictionary of the Blue Mountains .
The new book will be on sale for $50.00, and Brian asks to be contacted if you require more information. If you are unable to attend the book launch and would like to purchase a copy, this can be organised by an email or phone call.

Brian Fox
Ph: 6332 2590 Mob: 0407 067 081
Email: brianandelaine@aapt.net.au

Mount St Mary's College and Convent, Katoomba

A wander around Civic Place at Katoomba takes you past an intriguing building, surrounded by vegetation, which was once the Mount St Mary's College and Convent, a building of State significance, listed on the NSW State Heritage Register in 2003. The Renaissance Action Group lobbied for this listing.
The place is significant due to its connection with education from 1909 to the 1990s, and in particular with the Congregation of the Sisters of Charity in Australia. It comprises an imposing complex of ecclesiastical buildings on a sloping site, dominated by the impressive, highly visible tower.
In the late 1890s the Sisters of Charity rented a small cottage, a former guest house in Katoomba Street, near the Catholic Church, as a place of respite for weary nuns. At the same time they realized a Catholic school was needed, and they opened a small college in 1901. They bought the adjoining house when student numbers rose, and joined them by a covered passageway.
Numbers increased again and they sought a larger site. The place chosen was located on a 1.6ha site on the northern side of the railway line, and with a northerly aspect. The entrance

was on the southern façade, and included a formal garden, now overgrown, and a courtyard with vehicular access.



Mount St Mary's 1910

The land was originally part of the Frank Grimley subdivision, and Lots 26-35 were bought by the Sisters of Charity in 1907. It was open paddocks with some mature eucalypts. In 1908 an additional 1.2ha was purchased from Grimley including orchards and vegetable gardens. The gardens established were extensive, and included low stone garden walls, terraces, ornamental trees and shrubs, paths and steps, urns, fountains, grotto and gazebo. It featured both exotic and native species, including orchards. The grounds had basketball and tennis courts.

The convent/college construction commenced in 1909 with the convent and college building, and the builder was Michael Byrne. It was designed by Nagle (James) and Nurzey, who became known as Henry E Budden & Nagle. The foundation stone was laid by Cardinal Moran in April 1909. It was completed quickly and by February 1910 boarding school students were being accepted.

In 1923 the College carried out a subdivision and sold off several blocks including its tennis courts, and also sold "The Rocks" cottage. The cottage "The Rocks" had been in the south west corner, and it had been relocated to the north east corner of the land.

In 1926 Mount St Mary's celebrated its silver jubilee, which resulted in the construction of the grotto. Some of the balconies at ground and first floor levels were infilled.

The school became a local landmark and a model of Catholic education, and with its attractive climate, attracted students from interstate and overseas.

Mount St Mary's 1984

In 1932 a reunion was held, synchronizing with the opening of the Harbour Bridge, as many ex-pupils would be in Sydney for that event. The local community heartily supported the

event, assisting in attending to the catering. Reverend Vaughan presided over lunch in the large college dining hall, decorated for the occasion. A concert was then held in the college concert hall, followed by a meeting of the students Ex-students' Union.
In 1941 the college provided refuge for the inmates and staff of St Vincent's Convent from Sydney when the Harbour was considered unsafe. The mountains were considered safe and an increase in student numbers occurred. In 1946 there were convent extensions, both internally and externally, to accommodate the increase in student numbers. This included a four storey extension at right angles to the original school building. In the 1950s a primary school bungalow was added to the site.

In 1957 The college and convent provided a temporary home for sisters and juniors from Leura and other community members left homeless by the terrible fires of that year.
In the 1960s the science block was added, and Mount St Mary's became a regional girl's school, and also became co-educational, taking boys from St Bernard's College which had just closed.

Covered walkway

Renaissance Centre 2014

However, due to declining enrolments the school finally closed in 1974. The premises were then to be a centre for religious and training purposes, which occurred until 1984 when a fire order was placed on the building and the school was closed. As the costs of upgrade were prohibitive, the Church sold the property in 1985. It was purchased by John and Pamela Patterson and L Donivito, with the intention of turning the place into a tourist and cultural centre, housing 30 craft areas, shops, studios, galleries, performance and teaching areas. Extensive alterations were carried out to create the Renaissance Centre, which included a kiosk and walkway from Civic Place, into a restaurant and cultural centre. The Centre was opened in 1987, as a transformation of the historic building into a multi-functional community and tourist centre. Stage 2 would have seen the building of a motel and entertainment centre with a 500 seat theatre. The center was to house the Penzig Collection of relics of Australia's bush ranging past, and the Trantor Museum of local history and colonial artifacts.

Mount St Mary's College and Convent buildings 2017

Mount St Mary's College and Convent buildings 2017

However, the property was sold in 1992 to Crestown P/L, and despite the restoration and goodwill, tenants began to leave the premises, and it has been vacant ever since. Some discussions were held about 2001 for the building to be used as a tertiary institution for a university campus, but this did not eventuate. The building did have development approval for restoration and the construction of 122 apartments, however this DA lapsed.
Some of the original landscaping is still evident, although much over grown, and extensive vandalism has occurred across the site and in the building complex. Fires in the building in 2003 and 2010 have taken their toll. It was listed for sale in 2009 and in 2012, but did not sell.
Many old buildings such as this have their mysteries, and Mount St Mary's is not without its own. The tunnels, "the dungeon", were supposedly under the school and have puzzled people for many years. The Edge Theatre sits within what would have been the grounds of the school, on the playing fields. The tunnel went from the playing fields, or maybe from in the vicinity of the music room, due east under the railway line, to emerge in what is now inside a private residence on the eastern side, although all bricked up. There was a doorway bricked up at the railway station too. The purpose and size of the tunnel is puzzling, but it is thought it was probably an air raid shelter for WWII.
There is also supposed to a ghost nun who wanders the lonely, dark halls of the upper dormitory! *Patsy Moppett*

References:
Mount St Mary's College and Convent, Office of Environment and Heritage 2003
www.stbernardskatoomba.com.au
www.askroz.com.au/blog/mount-st-marys-college-and-convent-katoomba
www.hauntedauckland.com/site/mount-st-marys-college-convent-katoomba
National Library of Australia: Freeman's Journal 14 April 1932

The Technical Side

Nissan Huts

Farm sheds can take on a wide variety of shapes and sizes. Many are built from scratch as new buildings, but the nature of farming over the years is that a great many others are reused buildings, relocated buildings, built from second hand materials and generally constructed from whatever materials the landowner had at hand. Making do was the name of the game. One particular structure that has been reused across Australia is the Nissan hut, sometimes called an igloo. Nissen huts have also been utilised for other purposes such as one converted to a church at Port Lincoln, South Australia, warehouses at Wyong NSW, migrant workers huts at Balgownie NSW, munition stores in Darwin, Northern Territory, Snowy Mountains huts, hangers, railway workshops and many converted to the ubiquitous wool or machinery shed across Australia.

Colonel Peter Nissen

Building sale advertisement

During World War I Major Peter Nissen of the 29th Company Royal Engineers, began to experiment with hut design. The need for the hut was dictated by a demand mainly for accommodation, but also for bomb/ammunition and material stores, machinery stores and administration buildings. War use demanded that they be made of economical materials due to shortages during the war, and also that they be portable and compact to transport, particularly by ship. This resulted in a simple form which was quick and easy to erect and pull down. The world record for erection was 1 hour and 27 minutes!

Shearing shed interior

Derelict hut

The semi cylindrical shape was derived from a drill shed roof at Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario. A number of prototypes were made, and many reviews undertaken of the design before production commenced in 1916. The design was patented in the UK. During World War I over 100,000 were made by Nissen Buildings Ltd. Production waned between wars but was revived in 1939. A number of similar shaped hut types were developed such as the Romney in the UK and the Quonset in the USA.

As wartime accommodation the huts were cold and draughty or stuffy, hot and humid. They were also used for accommodation on construction sites, and a two-storey version was marketed by Nissen-Petren Ltd. Nissen received the royalties from the British government for the original huts made during the war, but only for their sale after the war. For the project Nissen received a Distinguished Services Order (DSO).

Articles appeared on how to convert the buildings for domestic use, but this was not a success. Despite the low cost, the hut was not a house, and had none of the status of a house. Also, the use of the internal space was not conducive to the placement of conventional furniture. One wonders how the construction would be adapted in the current age, when alternate building design is all the rage.

Under construction 1916

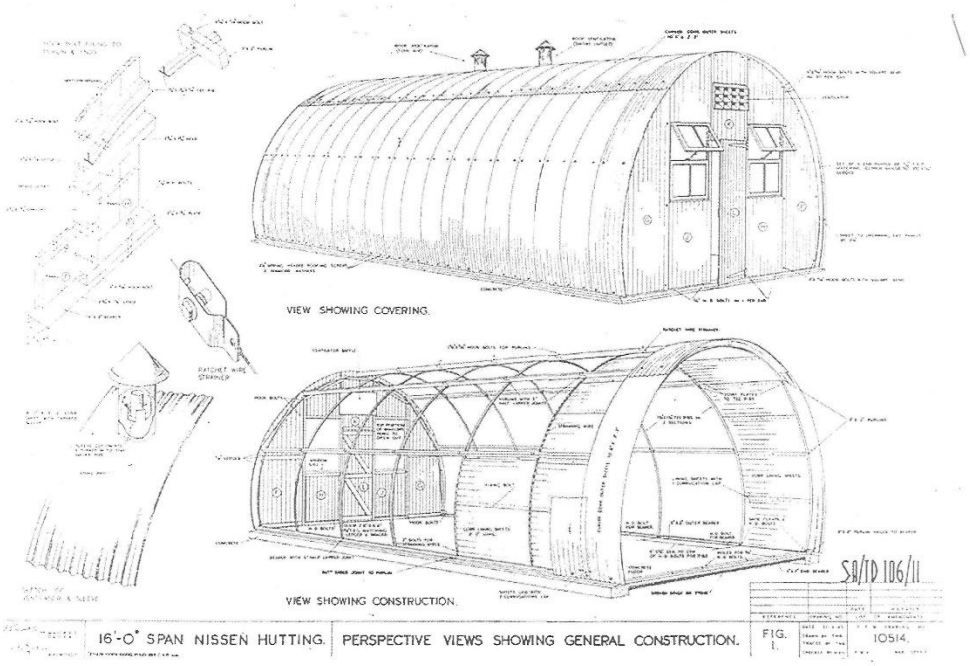
Church conversion, Port Lincoln

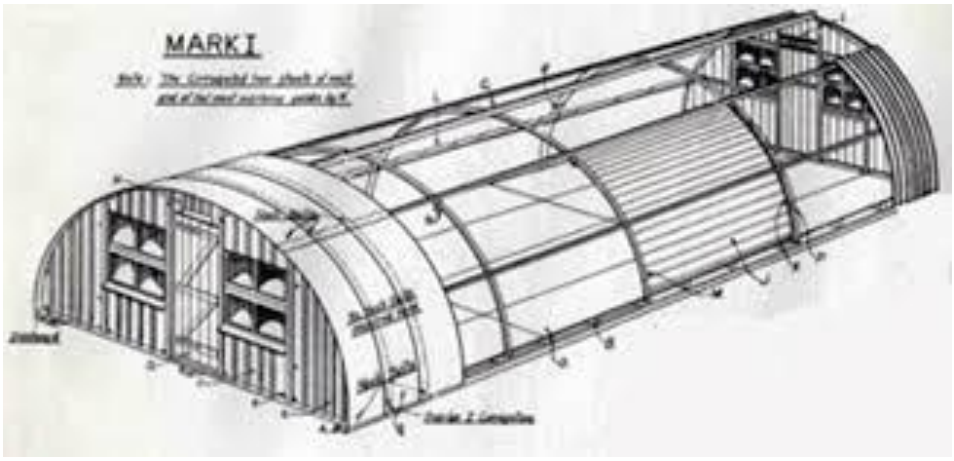
Accommodation – Perthshire

POW accommodation

A large number were constructed in Australia after WW II at Newcastle, to provide cheap, ready made housing for post-war British migrant families Many were subsequently demolished after their original purpose ceased, but the remainder were refurbished, improved and extended over time.

The Nissen hut is made from a sheet of metal bent into a half cylinder and planted into the ground with its axis horizontal. The sheets were attached to wooden purlins, and spiking plates at the end of each floor joist. The purlins were attached to T-shaped ribs, which were bolted to the floor. During construction, straining wires were utilised, although these were not in the original design. Interior lining, if there was any, could have been corrugated iron or Masonite.





Basic construction

The internal height (radius) was 8 feet and the floor was 15 feet 10 inches. The building was rested on stumps and the floor was tongue and groove timber. Buildings at East Hills and Villawood in Sydney had concrete floors. Farm buildings often had earth floors. Either end of the building was closed in by a wooden frame clad in weatherboards, bricks or corrugated iron. Windows and doors were added where required. *Patsy Moppett*

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Farm shed at Sheep & Cattle Drome, Bathurst

Machinery shed near Bathurst

References:
Nissen hut, Wikipedia
Lightning Ridge woolshed, Ray Christison 2012
www.nissenbuildings.com
Save Nissen town, Sydney Morning Herald, John Huxley, 14 March 2009

Community events & updates

Tour: Land & Property Information , Bathurst

BMACHO is to undertake a tour of Spatial Services at Land and Property Information (LPI), Bathurst on Thursday 15th March 2018. BMACHO will hire the Blue Mountains City Council Access Bus for travel, seating about 20.
Much has changed at LPI since BMACHO last toured in 2010. The innovation, advances in technology and projects being undertaken right across the organisation will resonate with mapping and surveying enthusiasts.

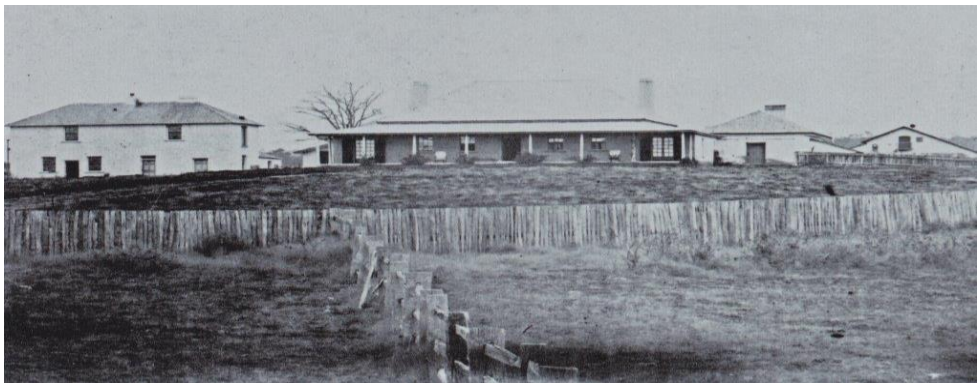
NSW GOVERNMENT Spatial Services

Spatial Services implements and monitors standards for the survey industry in NSW. Spatial Services is the official source of land information for NSW, maintaining a digital cadastre map and a digital topographical map of the State. It also provides aerial photography, satellite imagery, addressing information, touring maps and a unique customised mapping service that tailors spatial information to meet specific needs.
The tour is due to arrive at Bathurst at 10am and will be provided with morning tea. The group will be divided into two smaller groups and the Spatial Services Managers will take groups to the various business areas.
A light lunch of sandwiches will be provided, dietary requirements withstanding, and the tour will conclude about 3.30pm.
The bus will pick up from Springwood and along the highway where required. Times are to be advised.
This tour will book up quickly and BMACHO can only take the number of persons who can be seated on the bus. **Bookings should be made by 7 March 2018**. Once numbers are confirmed for the bus, the final cost and travel times will be determined, but cost should be in the order of $15.00. *Jan Koperberg*

For inquiries and bookings:
Email: www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au

Open Day at "Macquarie", O'Connell

On 24 March 2018 the former Governor of New South Wales, Professor The Honourable **Dame Marie Bashir AD CVO**, patron of the Macquarie Society will **at 11.00 a.m**. formally unveil a plaque to commemorate the restoration of the two storey convict barracks (circa 1820-1822). The homestead at "Macquarie" (circa 1820–1822) has also been restored and the formal rooms will be open for viewing.



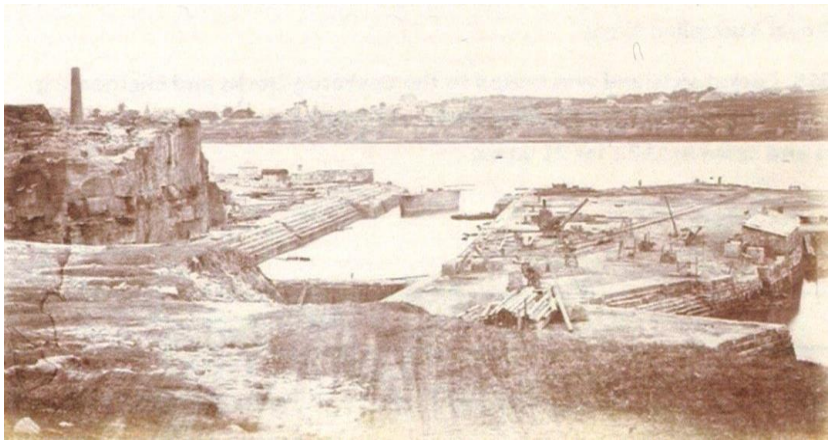
"Macquarie " 1863 Photograph courtesy of the Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW – Icely Family Albums

Circumstantial evidence supports the assertion "Macquarie", containing the original 1000 acre land grant to Lieutenant William Lawson by Governor Lachlan Macquarie as Lawson's reward for his contribution in finding a way across the Blue Mountains, is the oldest farm and oldest continuing residence west of the Great Divide. In its 200 years of European history "Macquarie" has only had two owners prior to the Hennessy family, namely, the Lawson and McKibbin families. Accordingly, it remains remarkably unaltered.
"Macquarie" is situated approximately 12 kilometres south east of Bathurst on the O'Connell Road and approximately 8 kilometres from the Great Western Highway.
The property will be open from 10.30am to 2.30pm, at 3397 O'Connell Road, O'Connell (south east of Bathurst).
Refreshments will be available. It would be appreciated if visitors would bring their own folding picnic chairs. Limited seating will be provided.
Entry fee: $10pp (Concessions for families, children and seniors). Net proceeds raised on the day will be donated to the Bathurst Community Op Shop. *Paul Hennessy*

To assist with catering it would be helpful if you could ***RSVP by 7 March, 2018 to:***
Paul & Bonny Hennessy
"Macquarie" 3397 O'Connell Road
O'Connell NSW 2795
Email: bonnyhen@bigpond.net.au
Telephone: Bonny - 0405 442 025, or Paul - 0405 442 026

Historical Tour of Cockatoo Island

Colo Shire Family History Group are holding a tour of the historic Cockatoo Island on Tuesday 27th March 2018.
In 1839 the Island was chosen as the site of a new penal establishment by the Governor of the colony of New South Wales, Sir George Gipps. Between 1839 and 1869 the Island was used as a convict prison. Initially, prisoners were transferred to Cockatoo Island from Norfolk Island, and were employed constructing their barracks and rock-cut silos for storing the colony's grain supply.



Dry dock 1872

In 1869 the convicts were relocated to Darlinghurst Goal and the prison complex became the Industrial School for Girls and also a Reformatory. In 1871, the name Cockatoo Island was dropped in favour of Biloela.
Ship building began on Cockatoo Island in 1870. In 1913, Cockatoo Island was transferred to the Commonwealth Government to become the Naval Dockyard of the Royal Australian Navy.
In 1933, Cockatoo Island was leased to the Cockatoo Docks and Engineering Company Limited for 21 years. The lease was renewed in 1954 for a further 20 years and again in 1972 for 21 years.

Itinerary:

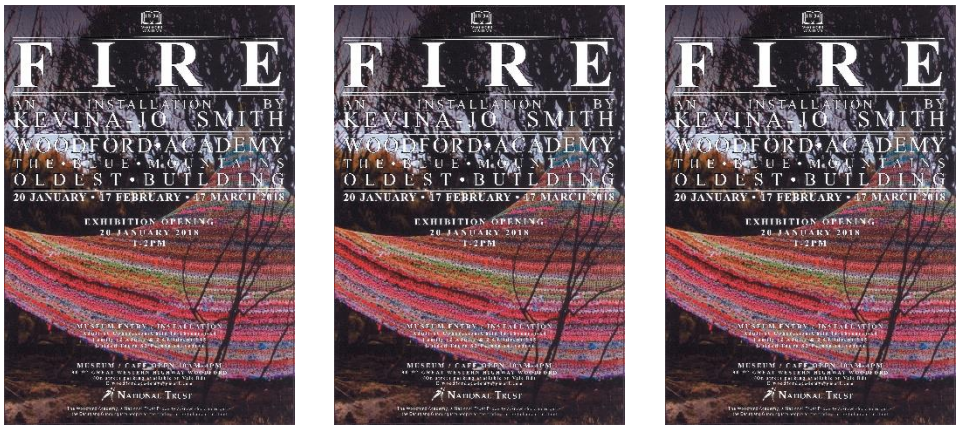
- A train will leave Richmond Railway Station at 7.41am, arriving at Central at 9am, then change trains for Circular Quay.
- The Ferry for Cockatoo Island leaves at 9.45am and arrives at 10.14am, to meet the tour guide at the visitors centre at 10.40am to start the tour.
- After the tour you may look around at your leisure.
- It is recommended that you bring the following items with you: water bottle, hat & sun screen, wet weather gear, enclosed shoes and lunch.

Cost is $16.00 for the tour. This does not include ferry or train to Circular Quay. Money is payable to Colo Shire Family History Group, posting cheques to PO Box 206 Richmond NSW 2753.

For inquiries and bookings: Neil Renaud Ph: 0423 157 089 or Joy Shepherd Ph: 02 4588 5867
Bank details provided by the Group upon request.

Exhibition: Fire: a site-specific installation

The Woodford Academy Management Committee launched "*Fire: a site-specific installation*" by Blue Mountains artist Kevina-Jo Smith on Saturday 20th January 2018. The exhibition was also available on 17th February 2018, and there is one day left to run on 17th March 2018. The installation engages with concerns of climate change and the bushfire season in the Blue Mountains, and responds to investigations of the Academy's collection of research by historical guests, researchers, artists and the local indigenous community, the Darug and Gundungurra people, who have provided records of documenting bushfire in the past, through written word and illustration.



Smith's artwork emerges from her collection and reuse of consumer by-product materials. Her process is a tribute to the natural world and a ritual against its destruction. Her work explores shelter, environments and cultural climates, through both exhibited works and the lived process behind those pieces. *Elizabeth Burgess*

Museum Entry & Exhibition:
Adults $6, Concession/Child (4-16yrs) $4, Family $15 (2 adults, 2 children)
Guided Tours - $2/Person (4+years)
Woodford Academy 90-92 Great Western Highway, Woodford
(on street parking available on Vale Rd)
Hours 10am-4pm
Contact: woodfordacademy@gmail.com

Reminder: Exhibition at Mount Victoria Museum

There will be an exhibition marking the 150th anniversary of the railway to Mount Victoria, at the Mount Victoria & District Historical Society's Museum, commencing on 5th May 2018. The event commemorates the Governor's arrival by train on 1st May 1868 to declare the line open.

The exhibition takes the form of a photographic display relating to the railway and text describing the impact over the years of the railway to the village of One Tree Hill, as Mount Victoria was originally known. Various other attractions will be staged, such as shingle splitting on site and a poetry recital relating to trains.

The official exhibition opening by Trish Doyle will be held at 11.15 am. Champagne and nibbles will be provided.

Bring the family to share the fun! The museum will be open at 12 noon to 3pm for its usual session charging $5 adults and $1 per child. *Jean Winston*

Please contact Jean Winston on 02 4782 7866 for further details.
Regular Opening Hours: Weekends, public & school holidays from 12 noon to 3pm.
Closed Christmas Day and Good Friday.
Guided groups and coach parties can be accommodated at other times by contacting the Curator or Publicity Officer. www.mountvictoriamuseum.info

The Museum is located at the back of the Mount Victoria Railway Station at Station Street, Mt Victoria.

New Mountains Museum Advisor

A new museums Advisor has now been appointed by Blue Mountains City Council, to replace Lynn Collins.
Gay Hendriksen is a local based at Blaxland, and familiar with the special nature of the Blue Mountains and the many and varied communities which make up the mountains region. Some of you may have already met Gay and she may have already visited some of your museums and heritage/cultural organisations in the area.

Gay has said she firstly wishes to become familiar as quickly as possible with what each museum or organisation does, their custodianship of collections, their vision for their special places and their needs and challenges, so that she can be of best use under her role. She says it is a special thing being part of this kind of network, ensuring the tangible and intangible heritage survives, sharing the passion, the stories, the object and site histories the interpretations and the knowledge.
We look forward to working with Gay in the greater Blue Mountains region. *Patsy Moppett*

Contacts:
Gay Hendriksen,
Founding Partner
The Rowan Tree Heritage and Cultural Services
rowantree.hc@gmail.com
Ph: 0447 189 137

Yvonne Jenkins Memorial Award 2018

This award is held annually in memory of Yvonne Jenkins OAM, from Rydal, whose vision was to found the Lithgow and District Family History Society and was well known for her work as an author, artist and family and local historian.
The essay title for the Award, announced during 2017, is "*A Favourite Family Heirloom I have, or would like to have"*. The winner of the Award will be announced on Saturday 19th August 2018.

Yvonne Jenkins

Heirlooms…….

The Award is in the form of a certificate and free membership of the Lithgow & District Family History Society Inc, for the following year. Entry is open to members and non-members of the LDFHS and is to be in the form of a short essay (not to exceed 1,000 words).
Entries close on 30th April 2018.
Further details about the competition are available on the Society's website and Facebook page, email or may be obtained by writing to the Secretary, PO Box 516, Lithgow NSW 2790.

Patsy Moppett

Email: ldfhs@lisp.com.au
Website: www.lisp.com.au/~ldfhs/

Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Heritage Museum

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT: MAJOR WORKS: MUSEUM CLOSED FOR MINIMUM OF FOUR WEEKS FOR ESSENTIAL INFRASTRUCTURE WORK

The Museum management reluctantly advise that due to the commencement of major works starting from Monday 12th February 2018, the Museum will be CLOSED to the Public until Sunday 25th March 2018.

The scheduled Public Open Days that were to be held on Sunday 25th February & Sunday 11th March have been CANCELLED.
The works are required to address the following:

- Reduction of injuries as a result of trips and falls.
- Improve accessibility across the site for the general public and those with mobility issues.
- Increase undercover storage for railway exhibits.
- Restoration of the Roundhouse forecourt area.

The works will enable a much better and safer Museum for everyone, visitors and staff alike.

Patsy Moppett

Check their website for further information.

Errors

A correction is offered on the advice of a reader with regard to a photograph printed in the January-February Newsletter, Issue 54, page 5, on Carlon's Farm, Green Gully. Megalong

Valley. The photograph is of a group of bushwalkers, the T.I.G.E.R. walkers – that being an anagram of their names, the ultra walking athletes of the day.
The error lies in that the woman, third from the right, is in fact not Alice Carlon, but Dot English, the famous "barefoot bushwalker"!
The other "error" mentioned was that the article stated that serious bushwalking did not start until after WW2. It is acknowledged that very serious walkers such as Miles Dunphy were out and about long before WW2. Perhaps the information provided in the research material referenced related to the publicity afforded bushwalking back before the war, given that the extremities of many of their extraordinary exploits have only come to light since the war. BMACHO apologises for these inaccuracies.
Recording history will always be a work in progress. Any corrections, additions, or incidental information is always welcome. *Patsy Moppett*

Blue Mountains Historical Society Activities 2018

BMHS have planned an interesting range of speakers at Tarella, Hobbys Reach, for the first part of 2018, as follows:

3 March 2018 - McLaughlin Lecture
- Speaker: Phil Hammon – *Bleichert before and after*

7 April 2018 – AGM
- Speaker: Max Hill – *Living in the Kedumba Valley*

5 May 2018 – Monthly Meeting
- Speaker: Magda Cawthorme – *Hidden History of the Blue Mountains*

2 June 2018 - Monthly Meeting
- Speaker: Sue Castrique – *Convict History of Cockatoo Island 1839-1869*

Tarella cottage museum

Monthly excursions are also held and details will be provided in a full calendar of events on the Blue Mountains Historical Society website as they come to hand, so stay tuned!

www.bluemountainshistory.com

BMACHO Conference 2018: Heritage Landscapes

Book in now for the 2018 Conference, *"Heritage Landscapes*". The Conference will be held on Saturday 12th May 2018, at Mount Victoria Manor, 11 Montgomery Street, Mount Victoria. Take advantage of the $60.00, ***early bird registration***, up to 12th March 2018. The cost will be $70 for registrations from 13th March to 30th April 2018.This registration fee covers individual attendance at the conference, morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea.
Speakers have been confirmed, and a few changes made to the topics to be covered on the day:

- Keynote Speaker – Stuart Read, Office of Environment & Heritage: "Landscape and garden-themed trails as Blue Mountains lure".
- Colleen Morris: Heritage consultant: "Sorensen Gardens".

- Associate Professor Ian Jack, Senior Fellow and Archivist, St Andrew's College, University of Sydney: "Eurama and the nearby Parkes property at Faulconbridge".
- Kate O'Neill: Woodford Academy Management Committee: "Woodford Reserve 1830-2018: as good as the most capricious taste could desire".
- Mary Reynolds: Mount Wilson & Mount Irvine Historical Society: "Mount Wilson Gardens".
- Aunty Sharyn Halls: Gundungurra elder and member of the Gundungurra Aboriginal Heritage Association: "The Gully & Gundungurra Country".
- Bruce Cameron, historian & author: "The Blue Labyrinth".

The Conference is Proudly sponsored by Scenic World Shared

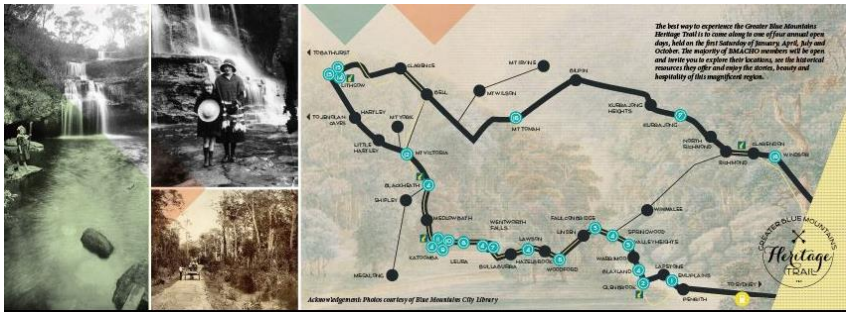
Registration is from 8.45am and the Conference concludes at 4.30pm.
Accommodation is available within Mount Victoria and at the Manor, and train access takes you to within walking distance of the venue. Trade tables will be available.

Full costs, program and booking details can be found on the BMACHO website.

Patsy Moppett

Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail Update

Westpac
Australia's First Bank



BMACHO continues to promote the Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail and members' upcoming events. BMACHO have reprinted the Heritage Trail brochure which has now been distributed to visitors' centres across the region. During 2017-18 BMACHO are holding a competition to encourage visitation to Trail participant properties, and the competition entry forms are incorporated into the brochure.
Visitors to any of the participating venues as identified on the Trail brochure can either answer the set-out questions or obtain a stamp showing they have been to a venue.
BMACHO will hold a prize draw approximately every six months.

So - Heritage with Altitude!!

The Trail is an ideal activity for the kids and grandkids, be it in the school holidays or any weekend! Collect the Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail brochure with the "Passport Competition and entry form" insert, and discover artifacts with altitude!
Great prizes to be won. Check our website http://heritagedrive.com.au for the brochure, form and list of prizes, or collect the brochure and insert from visitor centres at Glenbrook, Katoomba, Lithgow, Clarendon, Bathurst, Oberon, and Orange. Trail participants will also have brochures and forms available.

Email committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au if you would like a brochure and form posted to you.
If you are a member and you would like further information, or if you would like to become a member, please email the BMACHO Secretary at committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au
For general information about BMACHO and the Trail, see heritagedrive.com.au or www.facebook.com/GBMHeritageTrail
To find out more about BMACHO visit www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

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Email: committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au or j.koperberg@bigpond.com
Website: www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au **ABN**: 53 994 839 952

The organisation: Blue Mountains Association of Cultural & Heritage Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 after local historical and heritage societies and individuals recognised the need for the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the local government area (LGA) of Blue Mountains City Council. The constituency now embraces but is not limited to, the LGAs of Blue Mountains, Lithgow, Hawkesbury and Penrith. BMACHO membership includes historical and heritage groups, museums, commercial enterprises with an historical or heritage component in its core business, local government (local studies units, library collections) and a limited number of individual members by invitation such as but not necessarily academics. The objectives of the organisation are:

1. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage
2. To encourage and assist cultural heritage
3. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations.

One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

Affiliations: BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society and is affiliated with the Better Planning Network.

Publications: BMACHO's official newsletter ***Heritage*** is edited by Patsy Moppett. The annual refereed *Blue Mountains History Journal* is edited by Dr Peter Rickwood and occasional papers are published from time to time.

Membership: The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mt Tomah; Blue Mountains City Library; Blue Mountains Cultural Heritage Centre; Blue Mountain Education & Research Trust; Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc; Blue Mountains Historical Society; Bygone Beautys Treasured Teapot Museum and Tearooms; City of Lithgow Mining Museum Inc; Colo Shire Family History Group; Eskbank Rail Heritage Centre; Everglades Historic House & Gardens; Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc; Hartley Valley District Progress Association; Hawkesbury Historical Society Inc; Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc; Leuralla NSW Toy & Railway Museum; Lithgow & District Family History Society Inc; Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies; Mt Victoria & District Historical Society Inc; Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine Historical Society Inc (including Turkish Bath Museum); National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Blue Mountains Branch; National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Lithgow Branch; Nepean District Historical Society Inc; Norman Lindsay Gallery and Museum; Paragon Cafe, Katoomba; Scenic World Blue Mountains Limited; Springwood Historical Society Inc; Springwood Historians Inc; Transport Signal Communication Museum Inc; Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Heritage Museum, Woodford Academy Management Committee, Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd. The following are individual members: Wendy Blaxland, Fiona Burn, Ray Christison, Dr Wayne Hanley, Associate Professor Ian Jack, Ian Milliss, Patsy Moppett, Keith Painter and Dr Peter Rickwood.

Committee: The management committee for 2017-2018 (from March 2017) is: Patsy Moppett (President and ***Heritage*** Newsletter Editor), Ian Jack (Vice President), Jan Koperberg (Secretary), Philip Hammon (Treasurer), Jan Koperberg (web sites), Dick Morony (Public Officer/Membership Secretary/ Calendar Editor), Suzanne Smith (Events and Venue Co-ordinator), Fiona Burn, Peter Brownlee and Roy Bennett.
Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail sub-committee: Peter Brownlee, Fiona Burn, Jan Koperberg and Suzanne Smith.
Blue Mountains History Conference 2018 sub-committee: Summar Hipworth, Ian Jack, Jan Koperberg and Patsy Moppett.

Disclaimer: views and opinions expressed in Heritage originate from many sources and contributors. Every effort is taken to ensure accuracy of material. Content does not necessarily represent or reflect the views and opinions of BMACHO, its committee or its members. If errors are found feedback is most welcome.

Heritage

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Tasman Island Lighthouse, Tasmania

Light houses have fascinated people for decades and originally served a vital part in the safety of sea and coastal navigation around Australia from early colonial days.

The Tasman Island Lighthouse is on Tasman Island off the coast of south eastern Tasmania, and is one of the most isolated lighthouses in Australia. It was built in 1906, automated in 1976 and demanned in 1977. It was the last of the manned lights to be built in Tasmania.

The 29m high lighthouse is one of the highest lighthouses in Australia and marked the final turning point for yachts in the Sydney-Hobart race. The island is separated from nearby Cape Pillar by the narrow Tasman Passage, which is less than 500m wide. It was one of the more isolated lightstations and for many keepers was not a popular posting.

Tasman Island Lighthouse and cottages

As early as 1885 discussions were held about the possibility of a lighthouse in the vicinity of Cape Pillar. After discounting nearby mainland sites, a site inspection was made to Tasman Island. Despite a recommendation in 1886 that construction should proceed, approval was not given until 1903.

Plans were drawn up by Huckson & Hutchison and a prefabricated cast-iron tower and 1st Order lens were shipped out from England. The components of the cast iron lighthouse were hauled piece by piece up the 250m high cliffs before assembly, some parts taking up to eight hours to reach the construction site.

The difficulties of working in such a precipitous location were highlighted when two members of the Marine Board fell in while attempting a landing. Despite this, builders Henriksen & Knutsen commenced construction in January 1904.
Three keeper's cottages were built of solid brick, with sheds for wood and coal under the same roof for protection from the wild weather. The first superintendent was George Johnston who arrived on Tasman Island in December 1905 and already had vegetable gardens growing by the time the light was officially opened on 2nd April 1906.

1910

1968

2015

The nature of most light house sites is their isolation and their vulnerability to the whims of climate and weather. This light house and its associated infrastructure certainly had their fair share of drama. There were problems with the lamp mantle which regularly fractured due to the swaying of the top of the tower in strong winds. During a storm in 1919, verandahs and fences were blown away, water tanks blown off their stands and out-buildings shifted off their foundations. The winds were so strong that the vibrations in the lantern room destroyed five mantles and two pounds of mercury jumped out of the race and had to be replaced.
Once thickly forested, Tasman Island was almost bare soon after establishment of the lighthouse due to cutting timber for firewood, and this compounded the impacts of strong winds across the island.
Much of the island was originally grazed with flocks of up to 500 sheep, cattle, pigs and goats. However, stock regularly disappeared down the various sink-holes and clefts on the island, never to be seen again. Today, the native vegetation is returning, with pockets of small trees and shrubs appearing in more sheltered areas.

A truly spectacular landscape

Access to such a remote light station was always difficult. Seas were frequently too rough for supply ships to approach the island. Landings were originally made on the north-west side of the island where a track known as the zigzag was built. Then a landing platform was constructed on the more sheltered north-east corner of the island with a crane operated by a steam-driven donkey engine. Today, access to the island is much easier by helicopter.
Some interesting facts:

- For the first 20 years pigeons provided a link with the Tasmanian mainland. However, the birds were so well fed that they were often reluctant to leave the island!
- Because of the isolation, most women left the island to give birth. However, in 1920 a daughter was born to the lighthouse keeper and his wife, nursed by a Nurse Cleary.
- In their remote location the keepers on Tasman Island were vulnerable to infections, and medical help was often unable to be obtained.
- During the war years the job of lighthouse keeping was considered a reserved occupation and keepers were not permitted to enlist.
- A major accident occurred in 1927. Rigger, William Groombridge was killed and Joseph Patterson was seriously injured when a crane, being installed on the landing, collapsed without warning. The body of the dead man was thrown into the sea and never recovered. With no direct communication with Hobart it took until the next day to get medical help for the injured man and another day to get him to Hobart for treatment.
- Unlike many other Tasmanian lightstations, there are no European graves on the island.

In the years following the automation of the lighthouse and removal of lightkeepers, the unoccupied buildings deteriorated badly. However, with dedicated work by the volunteer group *Friends of Tasman Island*, this trend is now being reversed. Formed in 2005, the *Friends of Tasman Island*, work in partnership with the Tasmanian Parks & Wildlife Service, conducting work programs on the island about three times each year. They have a membership of committed volunteers and supporters who focus on the restoration of both the cultural heritage and natural environment on the island.
Access by sea continues to be very difficult. The haulage route is no longer operational and tracks up the 250 metre cliffs are overgrown. A permit to land by helicopter must be obtained from the Tasmanian Parks & Wildlife Service and no commercial accommodation is available on the island, although tours are available.

The 2015 plaque

Original lens

A bronze plaque was erected in 2015 to commemorate lighthouse keepers and their families for their contribution to maritime safety in the Tasman Island region from 1906 to 1976.
The island is now part of the Tasman National Park, and the lighthouse and associated structures, such as the keepers' cottages, are listed on Australia's Register of the National Estate.

The original first order Fresnel lens by Chance Brotherscan be seen on display at the Australian National Maritime Museum in Sydney, and the original lantern is stored at the Maritime Museum of Tasmania in Hobart. *Patsy Moppett*

References:
Wikipedia: Tasman Island Lighthouse
http://www.wildcaretas.org.au/groups_details/tasman_island

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Food for thought ..... Editor's note

Back through the archives

In February 2009 the then President of BMACHO, John Leary OAM, launched the first edition of BMACHO'S Newsletter HERITAGE. His Editorial highlighted the need for communication and dissemination of information within the heritage world, and his words seem to be still pertinent today.
The current committee can stand testament to the aspirations expressed then, that the Newsletter would be widely spread and that communications since then have definitely come a long way, in part a credit to the work of previous BMACHO committees.
Bearing in mind that the mentioned MPs involved may have changed, that Editorial is repeated below in memory of John, and to demonstrate how far we have come in the wider Blue Mountains heritage community. *Patsy Moppett*

John Jeary OAM

Issue No. 1

Issue No. 2

Issue No. 3

From the president's pen.....NEED FOR IMPROVED COMMUNICATIONS

Some time ago, the committee of BMACHO identified as a major issue, the need to improve communications in the local heritage sector.

Across a broad range of issues it was considered that various organisations were not sharing information which could not only make their operations more effective, but would also make life easier and more pleasant in the bid to achieve goals of conserving, researching, recording, preserving and promoting our heritage.

The executive has spent considerable energy and time, with some success, in opening up communication with Blue Mountains City Council, the former Federal Member for Macquarie, Kerry Bartlett, the State Member for Blue Mountains and now the Federal Member, the Hon. Bob Debus and the new Member for Blue Mountains, Phil Koperberg.

In discussions with these community leaders they have generally displayed more than a cursory interest and knowledge of the diversity of heritage in the Blue Mountains, Lithgow and Hawkesbury regions.

However, what they were not aware of was the large number of individuals, which includes amateur enthusiasts, academics and professionals who are active within the local heritage sector. Community leaders have accepted the need to improve two-way communication and BMACHO's executive has seen some tangible improvement at government level. Many of those active in the heritage sector appear to have operated in isolation for many years — sometimes, totally unaware of the importance they play in the fabric of Australian society.

For more than five decades of societies in this region have been party to hosting most informative historic talks and presentations and yet there has been very little done in the way of publishing these interesting dissertations.

There have been some excellent books produced by local authors on very well researched material, but little effort in promoting these publications. Even some of the newsletters which have been produced are in their own right worthy of commendation as sound historical documents. While there is an urgent need to promote publications in print, there is an even greater need to share information between like organisations. It is imperative that organisations, if they are to succeed in maintaining membership, become more proactive in selling their group to the public. One of the best ways of doing this is to communicate and share ideas with like-minded bodies.

To participate in the process of improving communications, BMACHO's executive has initiated this Newsletter, HERITAGE, which it is proposed to publish every couple of months. The newsletter is designed to reach as many individuals as possible. Too often communications addressed to busy secretaries do not seem to go any further down the line. It is hoped that secretaries on receipt of HERITAGE on their e-mail will simply forward it on to those members who have registered their e-mail. Hopefully those who do not have e-mail will be provided with hard copies by other members of their organisation.

John K Leary, OAM – President and Newsletter Editor, Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations (BMACHO)

Blue Mountains Historical Archives Storage

Following on from the article in the last BMACHO Newsletter (January-February 2018) relating to Mount Wilson's predicament on archive storage, comments have been received from Woodford Academy on their situation, and on the matter generally.

Woodford advise that due to the receipt of grants in 2017 the Academy has been able to undertake much needed collection management of their historical archives which were until recently stored on site. This process resulted in the archives being removed for urgent pest treatment and the services of Kate O'Neill were very much appreciated during the packing of the collection.

Due to poor climate control at the Woodford Academy, the archives are now held at the James Fairfax & National Trust property, Retford Park, Bowral, (where there is a specialized climate controlled storage facility), until such time as appropriate storage can be arranged at the Academy. The containers and an adjacent cottage were utilized by James Fairfax to hold furniture and paintings he brought back from Europe. They are lockable, powered, and the climate keeps temperatures inside remarkably stable.

Concerns have been raised generally in recent years however, about the loss of many local historical artefacts from the mountains. Whilst the Academy is sorry that the archives had to leave the mountains, Rae Clapshaw of the Academy advises that they are safe and in a clean environment, constantly monitored by data loggers and people living on site.

Access is restricted but not impossible. Thursday has worked out as the most suitable day and it is a matter of targeting your research, packing some lunch and travelling to Bowral. Academy volunteers take cameras, computers, scanners and other equipment, and work chairs and tables are provided.

Archive storage – Windsor

Archive storage – Retford

In regard to treatment of artifacts when freezing facilities are available, advice from Mt Victoria Historical Society Museum notes that freezing for borers was undertaken of some items for eight days, and the problem has returned. Advice from a Hobart conservator to members now suggests that freezing times should be closer to three weeks. So there is a lot of inaccurate and mis-information around.

A number of organisations, including BMACHO, have taken it upon themselves to investigate as to whether there are any other local appropriate storage facilities in the Blue Mountains local government area, as they and/or their members are struggling with the same issue. In doing this, to date it has been found that there was no known space available, at this stage.

In undertaking research for Mount Wilson, BMACHO established that funding opportunities were limited for small regional organisations due to the criteria set in those funding programs, and that larger organizations appeared to be able to comply more easily.

BMACHO also undertook research into the cost of climate controlled storage units, finding that there is a range available. However, with the situation being that many organisations are located in heritage buildings on small sites, there is no space on site for a storage container to be located, the costs of such containers may be prohibitive, and there is often a local

government Development Control Plan which prevents the location of storage containers on the site due to heritage issues and visual amenity! A catch-22 situation.
BMACHO also established that both long and short term solutions may be required for an organisation, depending upon their individual circumstances, along with opportunities for multiple user facilities. Access to the collections once archived is a part of the issue, if located off site.

Storage solutions

At its recent committee meeting at Mt Tomah, BMACHO discussed the issue with Rae Clapshaw of the Woodford Academy, who explained the access process as described above. She did emphasize that the Academy is lucky to be a National Trust property, and therefore have a large support system in place. They still need to find funding for remedial work at the Academy before the archives can return. They realise they are custodians of the collection and that they must be preserved for the future.
The State government has been undertaking an online community/industry survey of cultural infrastructure needs, and such survey closed on 11th February 2018. The Cultural Infrastructure Program Management Office (CIPMO) was seeking feedback from the community and sector about arts and cultural spaces in NSW. In April 2017, the CIPMO in the Arts, Screen & Culture Division was established to provide a coordinated response to the planning and delivery of cultural infrastructure in NSW.
The Academy in their submission has included the need for accessible, appropriate historical archives storage. Woodford have suggested that there may be a local government solution, and that perhaps BMCC should undertake a similar such review. An email with regard to this survey was distributed to BMACHO members on 8th January 2018.
This Office, one of the first of its kind, works in partnership with Create NSW to ensure appropriate infrastructure facilities are developed and maintained to support the growing arts and cultural sector across metropolitan and regional NSW.
The Office can be contacted at their email address: *ci@arts.nsw.gov.au* It is unknown when the results of the survey will be published, but the aim is to draw up a Cultural Infrastructure Plan resulting, it is hoped, in funding opportunities. It must be understood though, that this will take time.
In the meantime, BMACHO would encourage members and the wider community to "have their say" and make it know also to local authorities of the issues which particularly relate to Blue Mountains' organisations.
Feedback to BMACHO is always encouraged on issues such as this, within the bounds of the BMACHO aim, to foster and support cultural heritage activities related to the Greater Blue Mountains and beyond, through the sharing of experiences for a greater good.

Patsy Moppett

Moorecourt and Springwood Ladies' College, Springwood

Moorecourt was a mansion constructed in 1876 by Charles Moore, former Lord Mayor of Sydney, which became the Springwood Ladies' College in 1897, following Moore's death in 1895.
Moore was born in Ireland in 1820, and sailed for Australia in 1849. He had been apprenticed to his brother in the drapery business, and arrived with a shipload of drapery

which he sold in Adelaide. He went to Melbourne and then on to Sydney, where he set up a drapery business, and then went on to auctioneering.
In 1854 he married Sarah Jane Wilcox, and built a substantial home at Coogee in 1860.
He was mayor of Randwick Municipal Council in 1863, and was then elected to Sydney City Council. There he was Mayor from 1867-69. He became known as an improver, undertaking reclamation projects to utilize swampy land, covering the Tank Stream, establishing a number of public buildings, and developing Sydney Common which was to become Moore Park.
He refused to receive a Mayoral salary and in spite of his improvement works, was often criticized. In 1869 he resigned and went to Europe, returning in 1871, where he was Mayor again until 1886.

Charles Moore

Moorecourt

In 1876 he built Moorecourt at Springwood, and moved there in 1880. Soon after, Sarah died, having had no children. In 1883 Moore married a widow Annie Hill Montgomery in Ireland, during another trip to Europe. He remained childless, and died at Parramatta on 4 July 1895, being buried at Emu Plains Cemetery.
Moorecourt was built on a site to the northern side of the Great Western Highway between Springwood and Faulconbridge. The site falls away from the highway to a creek at the centre and rising again (to the present-day swimming pool) at the north. The mansion was demolished in 1858 and the south side of the park has now been cleared and landscaped adjacent to the highway, where there is an asphalt paved carpark and play area. Bench style tables and seats provide picnic facilities, in what is now called Buttenshaw Park. The Blue Mountains Shire Council acquired the land for recreational purposes in 1939 through the actions of a former Minister for Lands, E.A. Buttenshaw. The removal of the gateposts from Moorecourt when the house was demolished in 1958 was organised by the Springwood Historical Society.
A pair of sandstone gateposts in Buttenshaw Park mark the beginning of a wisteria walkway through the Park, relocated following the demolition of Moorecourt. Informal planting beds, partly planted with roses, are located to the northeast of the gateposts.
The Moorecourt gateposts are large square dressed sandstone posts with astragals and pyramidal caps. The Moore family crest carved on the posts has the motto *"PERSEVERANDO ET CAVENDO".* (By Never Giving Up and Taking Care). The crest is located on the east face of the northern gatepost and the west face of the southern gatepost. The northern gatepost has been set on a plinth at a higher level than the southern gatepost.

Moorecourt

Gateposts, Buttenshaw Park

Memorial Plaque

A memorial plaque reads:

These gates are re-erected
from "Moorecourt" Springwood
Residence of Charles Moore
Mayor of Sydney 1867-69
M.L.A. East Sydney 1874 M.C.L. 1880-1895
Moorecourt built 1876 Demolished 1858
Springwood Historical Society

Moore had originally acquired some of the sandstone building blocks used in Moorecourt from the convict lockup on Pulpit Hill west of Katoomba, which dated from the 1820s. Originally constructed as a single storey country style residence, two storey additions were added to the rear at a later date. Extensive gardens were established with ponds, pathways, orchards and kitchen gardens.

After Moore's death in 1895, the residence became the home of Springwood Ladies College. Established in 1897, it was one of several private ladies' colleges in the Blue Mountains, which lent a colour and eccentricity to Australian education which is gradually fading in memories. Once the dominance of State and religious schools came to the fore, private schools almost disappeared. These private schools were reputed to possess exceptional advantages for young ladies desiring to complete their education.

Gate post detail

Springwood Ladies College

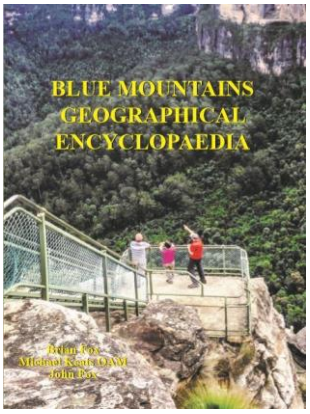
The longest serving proprietor and headmistress of the Springwood Ladies' College was Mademoiselle Mignon Durand, who transferred her Ladies Grammar School in Newcastle in the 1920s. She stamped her personality on the place, and her name became synonymous with the school. She was short, dark haired and of unremarkable appearance, but she knew how to dress, being stylish and elegant. She produced women of grace, courtesy and refinement. College life was one of order and Spartan comfort. The spacious and well-laid-out grounds surrounding the college enable students to enjoy outdoor exercises to their heart's content, thus acquiring a physique not obtainable in less favoured colleges.

References:
Charles Moore, January-February issue of HERITAGE No. 25, John Leary OAM,
Moore, Charles (1820-1895), Australian Dictionary of Biography, Mark Lyons
Moore, Charles, Dictionary of Sydney, Terri McCormack 2012
Buttenshaw Park & Sandstone Gate Posts, Office of Environment & Heritage 1999
Pictorial Memories Blue Mountains, John Low 1991

Book Launch : Blue Mountains Geographical Encyclopaedia

The launch of this much awaited publication is set to take place at Hobbys Reach, Wentworth Falls, on Monday 26 March 2018, at 10am for 10:30am.

It was February 2017 when Brian Fox spoke on maps of the Blue Mountains at Hobbys reach where he also gave an invitation to anyone to help and contribute to this huge place names project, a number of our members are to be thanked for their contribution to this project.



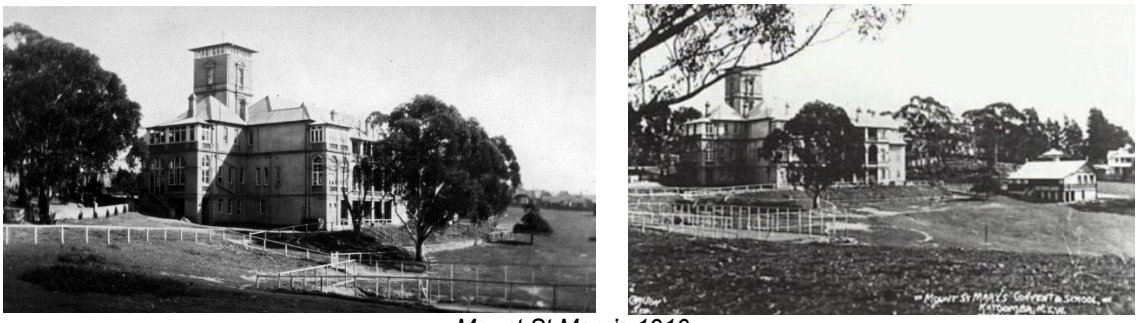
Between the Nepean River and Mount Victoria is sandwiched over 200 years of European history and thousands of years of Aboriginal heritage, some 2700 names have been applied to the places in between. This book is about those names, the men and women who named them, why and when they did.
Lead author Brian Fox has been on the job for over 20 years, systematically collecting and documenting every fact and every event. Researching and honing the text has been the role of co-authors John Fox and Michael Keats respectively.
A tome of 544 pages, full colour, hard cover with dust jacket. It includes 180 colour photographs, 70 of different waterfalls.
This text is a must for every person interested in the Blue Mountains whether they are a resident, bushwalker, teacher, history buff or curious visitor, and follows on the heels of the first of Brian's geographical research book, A Geographical Dictionary of the Blue Mountains .
The new book will be on sale for $50.00, and Brian asks to be contacted if you require more information. If you are unable to attend the book launch and would like to purchase a copy, this can be organised by an email or phone call.

Brian Fox
Ph: 6332 2590 Mob: 0407 067 081
Email: brianandelaine@aapt.net.au

Mount St Mary's College and Convent, Katoomba

A wander around Civic Place at Katoomba takes you past an intriguing building, surrounded by vegetation, which was once the Mount St Mary's College and Convent, a building of State significance, listed on the NSW State Heritage Register in 2003. The Renaissance Action Group lobbied for this listing.
The place is significant due to its connection with education from 1909 to the 1990s, and in particular with the Congregation of the Sisters of Charity in Australia. It comprises an imposing complex of ecclesiastical buildings on a sloping site, dominated by the impressive, highly visible tower.
In the late 1890s the Sisters of Charity rented a small cottage, a former guest house in Katoomba Street, near the Catholic Church, as a place of respite for weary nuns. At the same time they realized a Catholic school was needed, and they opened a small college in 1901. They bought the adjoining house when student numbers rose, and joined them by a covered passageway.
Numbers increased again and they sought a larger site. The place chosen was located on a 1.6ha site on the northern side of the railway line, and with a northerly aspect. The entrance

was on the southern façade, and included a formal garden, now overgrown, and a courtyard with vehicular access.



Mount St Mary's 1910

The land was originally part of the Frank Grimley subdivision, and Lots 26-35 were bought by the Sisters of Charity in 1907. It was open paddocks with some mature eucalypts. In 1908 an additional 1.2ha was purchased from Grimley including orchards and vegetable gardens. The gardens established were extensive, and included low stone garden walls, terraces, ornamental trees and shrubs, paths and steps, urns, fountains, grotto and gazebo. It featured both exotic and native species, including orchards. The grounds had basketball and tennis courts.

The convent/college construction commenced in 1909 with the convent and college building, and the builder was Michael Byrne. It was designed by Nagle (James) and Nurzey, who became known as Henry E Budden & Nagle. The foundation stone was laid by Cardinal Moran in April 1909. It was completed quickly and by February 1910 boarding school students were being accepted.

In 1923 the College carried out a subdivision and sold off several blocks including its tennis courts, and also sold "The Rocks" cottage. The cottage "The Rocks" had been in the south west corner, and it had been relocated to the north east corner of the land.

In 1926 Mount St Mary's celebrated its silver jubilee, which resulted in the construction of the grotto. Some of the balconies at ground and first floor levels were infilled.

The school became a local landmark and a model of Catholic education, and with its attractive climate, attracted students from interstate and overseas.

Mount St Mary's 1984

In 1932 a reunion was held, synchronizing with the opening of the Harbour Bridge, as many ex-pupils would be in Sydney for that event. The local community heartily supported the

event, assisting in attending to the catering. Reverend Vaughan presided over lunch in the large college dining hall, decorated for the occasion. A concert was then held in the college concert hall, followed by a meeting of the students Ex-students' Union.
In 1941 the college provided refuge for the inmates and staff of St Vincent's Convent from Sydney when the Harbour was considered unsafe. The mountains were considered safe and an increase in student numbers occurred. In 1946 there were convent extensions, both internally and externally, to accommodate the increase in student numbers. This included a four storey extension at right angles to the original school building. In the 1950s a primary school bungalow was added to the site.

In 1957 The college and convent provided a temporary home for sisters and juniors from Leura and other community members left homeless by the terrible fires of that year.
In the 1960s the science block was added, and Mount St Mary's became a regional girl's school, and also became co-educational, taking boys from St Bernard's College which had just closed.

Covered walkway

Renaissance Centre 2014

However, due to declining enrolments the school finally closed in 1974. The premises were then to be a centre for religious and training purposes, which occurred until 1984 when a fire order was placed on the building and the school was closed. As the costs of upgrade were prohibitive, the Church sold the property in 1985. It was purchased by John and Pamela Patterson and L Donivito, with the intention of turning the place into a tourist and cultural centre, housing 30 craft areas, shops, studios, galleries, performance and teaching areas. Extensive alterations were carried out to create the Renaissance Centre, which included a kiosk and walkway from Civic Place, into a restaurant and cultural centre. The Centre was opened in 1987, as a transformation of the historic building into a multi-functional community and tourist centre. Stage 2 would have seen the building of a motel and entertainment centre with a 500 seat theatre. The center was to house the Penzig Collection of relics of Australia's bush ranging past, and the Trantor Museum of local history and colonial artifacts.

Mount St Mary's College and Convent buildings 2017

Mount St Mary's College and Convent buildings 2017

However, the property was sold in 1992 to Crestown P/L, and despite the restoration and goodwill, tenants began to leave the premises, and it has been vacant ever since. Some discussions were held about 2001 for the building to be used as a tertiary institution for a university campus, but this did not eventuate. The building did have development approval for restoration and the construction of 122 apartments, however this DA lapsed.
Some of the original landscaping is still evident, although much over grown, and extensive vandalism has occurred across the site and in the building complex. Fires in the building in 2003 and 2010 have taken their toll. It was listed for sale in 2009 and in 2012, but did not sell.
Many old buildings such as this have their mysteries, and Mount St Mary's is not without its own. The tunnels, "the dungeon", were supposedly under the school and have puzzled people for many years. The Edge Theatre sits within what would have been the grounds of the school, on the playing fields. The tunnel went from the playing fields, or maybe from in the vicinity of the music room, due east under the railway line, to emerge in what is now inside a private residence on the eastern side, although all bricked up. There was a doorway bricked up at the railway station too. The purpose and size of the tunnel is puzzling, but it is thought it was probably an air raid shelter for WWII.
There is also supposed to a ghost nun who wanders the lonely, dark halls of the upper dormitory! *Patsy Moppett*

References:
Mount St Mary's College and Convent, Office of Environment and Heritage 2003
www.stbernardskatoomba.com.au
www.askroz.com.au/blog/mount-st-marys-college-and-convent-katoomba
www.hauntedauckland.com/site/mount-st-marys-college-convent-katoomba
National Library of Australia: Freeman's Journal 14 April 1932

The Technical Side

Nissan Huts

Farm sheds can take on a wide variety of shapes and sizes. Many are built from scratch as new buildings, but the nature of farming over the years is that a great many others are reused buildings, relocated buildings, built from second hand materials and generally constructed from whatever materials the landowner had at hand. Making do was the name of the game. One particular structure that has been reused across Australia is the Nissan hut, sometimes called an igloo. Nissen huts have also been utilised for other purposes such as one converted to a church at Port Lincoln, South Australia, warehouses at Wyong NSW, migrant workers huts at Balgownie NSW, munition stores in Darwin, Northern Territory, Snowy Mountains huts, hangers, railway workshops and many converted to the ubiquitous wool or machinery shed across Australia.

Colonel Peter Nissen

Building sale advertisement

During World War I Major Peter Nissen of the 29th Company Royal Engineers, began to experiment with hut design. The need for the hut was dictated by a demand mainly for accommodation, but also for bomb/ammunition and material stores, machinery stores and administration buildings. War use demanded that they be made of economical materials due to shortages during the war, and also that they be portable and compact to transport, particularly by ship. This resulted in a simple form which was quick and easy to erect and pull down. The world record for erection was 1 hour and 27 minutes!

Shearing shed interior

Derelict hut

The semi cylindrical shape was derived from a drill shed roof at Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario. A number of prototypes were made, and many reviews undertaken of the design before production commenced in 1916. The design was patented in the UK. During World War I over 100,000 were made by Nissen Buildings Ltd. Production waned between wars but was revived in 1939. A number of similar shaped hut types were developed such as the Romney in the UK and the Quonset in the USA.

As wartime accommodation the huts were cold and draughty or stuffy, hot and humid. They were also used for accommodation on construction sites, and a two-storey version was marketed by Nissen-Petren Ltd. Nissen received the royalties from the British government for the original huts made during the war, but only for their sale after the war. For the project Nissen received a Distinguished Services Order (DSO).

Articles appeared on how to convert the buildings for domestic use, but this was not a success. Despite the low cost, the hut was not a house, and had none of the status of a house. Also, the use of the internal space was not conducive to the placement of conventional furniture. One wonders how the construction would be adapted in the current age, when alternate building design is all the rage.

Under construction 1916

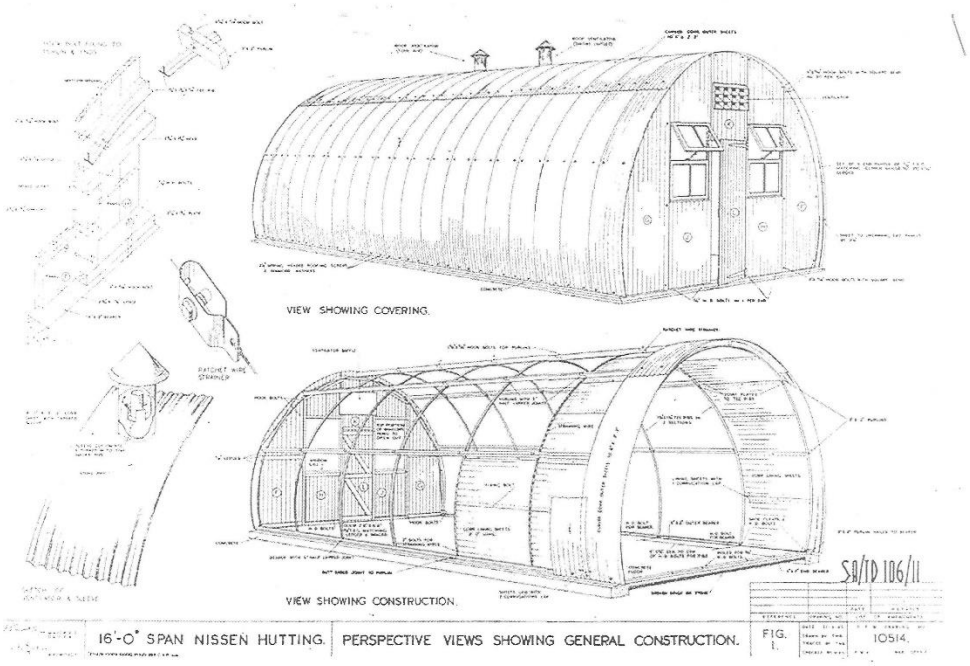
Church conversion, Port Lincoln

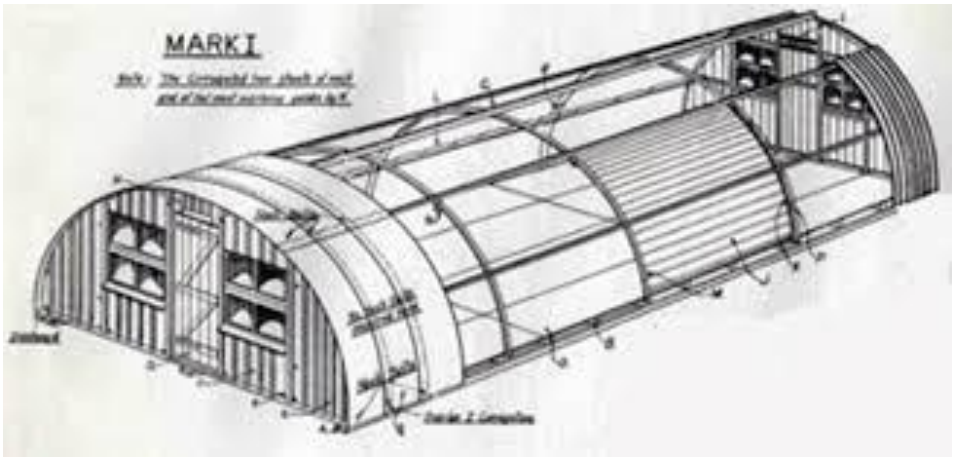
Accommodation – Perthshire

POW accommodation

A large number were constructed in Australia after WW II at Newcastle, to provide cheap, ready made housing for post-war British migrant families Many were subsequently demolished after their original purpose ceased, but the remainder were refurbished, improved and extended over time.

The Nissen hut is made from a sheet of metal bent into a half cylinder and planted into the ground with its axis horizontal. The sheets were attached to wooden purlins, and spiking plates at the end of each floor joist. The purlins were attached to T-shaped ribs, which were bolted to the floor. During construction, straining wires were utilised, although these were not in the original design. Interior lining, if there was any, could have been corrugated iron or Masonite.





Basic construction

The internal height (radius) was 8 feet and the floor was 15 feet 10 inches. The building was rested on stumps and the floor was tongue and groove timber. Buildings at East Hills and Villawood in Sydney had concrete floors. Farm buildings often had earth floors. Either end of the building was closed in by a wooden frame clad in weatherboards, bricks or corrugated iron. Windows and doors were added where required. *Patsy Moppett*

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Farm shed at Sheep & Cattle Drome, Bathurst

Machinery shed near Bathurst

References:
Nissen hut, Wikipedia
Lightning Ridge woolshed, Ray Christison 2012
www.nissenbuildings.com
Save Nissen town, Sydney Morning Herald, John Huxley, 14 March 2009

Community events & updates

Tour: Land & Property Information , Bathurst

BMACHO is to undertake a tour of Spatial Services at Land and Property Information (LPI), Bathurst on Thursday 15th March 2018. BMACHO will hire the Blue Mountains City Council Access Bus for travel, seating about 20.
Much has changed at LPI since BMACHO last toured in 2010. The innovation, advances in technology and projects being undertaken right across the organisation will resonate with mapping and surveying enthusiasts.

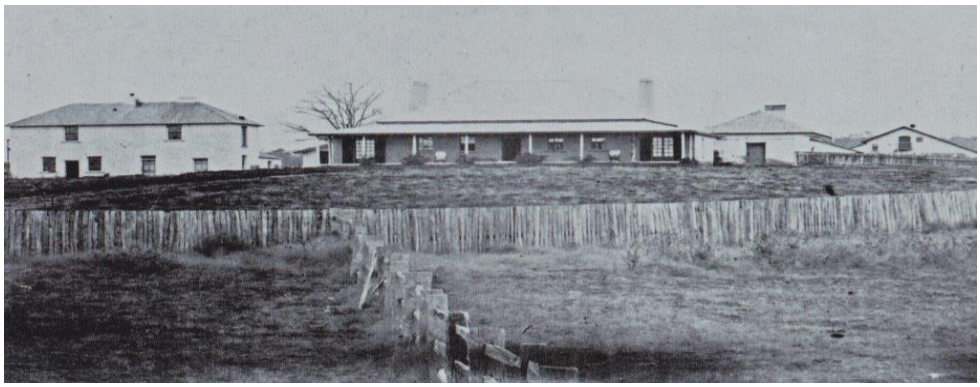
NSW GOVERNMENT Spatial Services

Spatial Services implements and monitors standards for the survey industry in NSW. Spatial Services is the official source of land information for NSW, maintaining a digital cadastre map and a digital topographical map of the State. It also provides aerial photography, satellite imagery, addressing information, touring maps and a unique customised mapping service that tailors spatial information to meet specific needs.
The tour is due to arrive at Bathurst at 10am and will be provided with morning tea. The group will be divided into two smaller groups and the Spatial Services Managers will take groups to the various business areas.
A light lunch of sandwiches will be provided, dietary requirements withstanding, and the tour will conclude about 3.30pm.
The bus will pick up from Springwood and along the highway where required. Times are to be advised.
This tour will book up quickly and BMACHO can only take the number of persons who can be seated on the bus. **Bookings should be made by 7 March 2018**. Once numbers are confirmed for the bus, the final cost and travel times will be determined, but cost should be in the order of $15.00. *Jan Koperberg*

For inquiries and bookings:
Email: www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au

Open Day at "Macquarie", O'Connell

On 24 March 2018 the former Governor of New South Wales, Professor The Honourable **Dame Marie Bashir AD CVO**, patron of the Macquarie Society will **at 11.00 a.m**. formally unveil a plaque to commemorate the restoration of the two storey convict barracks (circa 1820-1822). The homestead at "Macquarie" (circa 1820–1822) has also been restored and the formal rooms will be open for viewing.



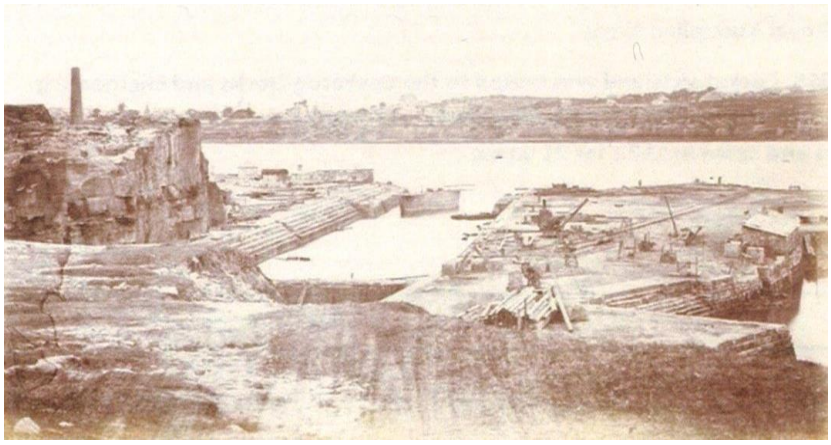
"Macquarie " 1863 Photograph courtesy of the Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW – Icely Family Albums

Circumstantial evidence supports the assertion "Macquarie", containing the original 1000 acre land grant to Lieutenant William Lawson by Governor Lachlan Macquarie as Lawson's reward for his contribution in finding a way across the Blue Mountains, is the oldest farm and oldest continuing residence west of the Great Divide. In its 200 years of European history "Macquarie" has only had two owners prior to the Hennessy family, namely, the Lawson and McKibbin families. Accordingly, it remains remarkably unaltered.
"Macquarie" is situated approximately 12 kilometres south east of Bathurst on the O'Connell Road and approximately 8 kilometres from the Great Western Highway.
The property will be open from 10.30am to 2.30pm, at 3397 O'Connell Road, O'Connell (south east of Bathurst).
Refreshments will be available. It would be appreciated if visitors would bring their own folding picnic chairs. Limited seating will be provided.
Entry fee: $10pp (Concessions for families, children and seniors). Net proceeds raised on the day will be donated to the Bathurst Community Op Shop. *Paul Hennessy*

To assist with catering it would be helpful if you could ***RSVP by 7 March, 2018 to:***
Paul & Bonny Hennessy
"Macquarie" 3397 O'Connell Road
O'Connell NSW 2795
Email: bonnyhen@bigpond.net.au
Telephone: Bonny - 0405 442 025, or Paul - 0405 442 026

Historical Tour of Cockatoo Island

Colo Shire Family History Group are holding a tour of the historic Cockatoo Island on Tuesday 27th March 2018.
In 1839 the Island was chosen as the site of a new penal establishment by the Governor of the colony of New South Wales, Sir George Gipps. Between 1839 and 1869 the Island was used as a convict prison. Initially, prisoners were transferred to Cockatoo Island from Norfolk Island, and were employed constructing their barracks and rock-cut silos for storing the colony's grain supply.



Dry dock 1872

In 1869 the convicts were relocated to Darlinghurst Goal and the prison complex became the Industrial School for Girls and also a Reformatory. In 1871, the name Cockatoo Island was dropped in favour of Biloela.
Ship building began on Cockatoo Island in 1870. In 1913, Cockatoo Island was transferred to the Commonwealth Government to become the Naval Dockyard of the Royal Australian Navy.
In 1933, Cockatoo Island was leased to the Cockatoo Docks and Engineering Company Limited for 21 years. The lease was renewed in 1954 for a further 20 years and again in 1972 for 21 years.

Itinerary:

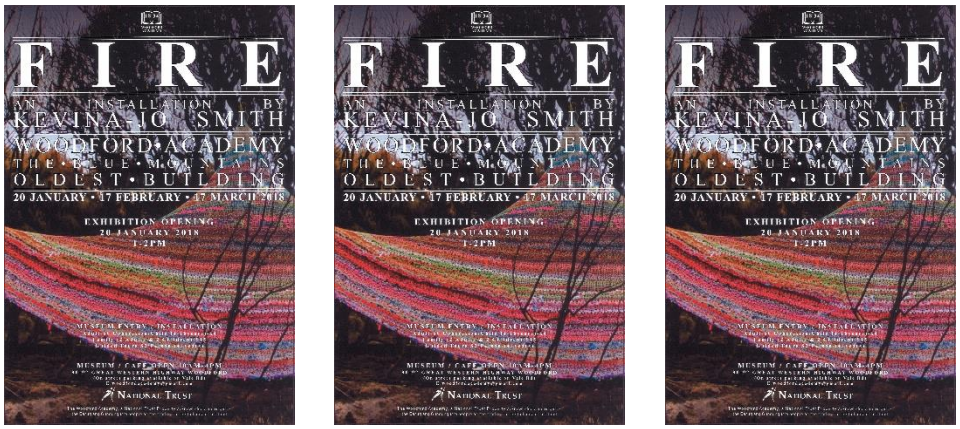
- A train will leave Richmond Railway Station at 7.41am, arriving at Central at 9am, then change trains for Circular Quay.
- The Ferry for Cockatoo Island leaves at 9.45am and arrives at 10.14am, to meet the tour guide at the visitors centre at 10.40am to start the tour.
- After the tour you may look around at your leisure.
- It is recommended that you bring the following items with you: water bottle, hat & sun screen, wet weather gear, enclosed shoes and lunch.

Cost is $16.00 for the tour. This does not include ferry or train to Circular Quay. Money is payable to Colo Shire Family History Group, posting cheques to PO Box 206 Richmond NSW 2753.

For inquiries and bookings: Neil Renaud Ph: 0423 157 089 or Joy Shepherd Ph: 02 4588 5867
Bank details provided by the Group upon request.

Exhibition: Fire: a site-specific installation

The Woodford Academy Management Committee launched "*Fire: a site-specific installation*" by Blue Mountains artist Kevina-Jo Smith on Saturday 20th January 2018. The exhibition was also available on 17th February 2018, and there is one day left to run on 17th March 2018. The installation engages with concerns of climate change and the bushfire season in the Blue Mountains, and responds to investigations of the Academy's collection of research by historical guests, researchers, artists and the local indigenous community, the Darug and Gundungurra people, who have provided records of documenting bushfire in the past, through written word and illustration.



Smith's artwork emerges from her collection and reuse of consumer by-product materials. Her process is a tribute to the natural world and a ritual against its destruction. Her work explores shelter, environments and cultural climates, through both exhibited works and the lived process behind those pieces. *Elizabeth Burgess*

Museum Entry & Exhibition:
Adults $6, Concession/Child (4-16yrs) $4, Family $15 (2 adults, 2 children)
Guided Tours - $2/Person (4+years)
Woodford Academy 90-92 Great Western Highway, Woodford
(on street parking available on Vale Rd)
Hours 10am-4pm
Contact: woodfordacademy@gmail.com

Reminder: Exhibition at Mount Victoria Museum

There will be an exhibition marking the 150th anniversary of the railway to Mount Victoria, at the Mount Victoria & District Historical Society's Museum, commencing on 5th May 2018. The event commemorates the Governor's arrival by train on 1st May 1868 to declare the line open.

The exhibition takes the form of a photographic display relating to the railway and text describing the impact over the years of the railway to the village of One Tree Hill, as Mount Victoria was originally known. Various other attractions will be staged, such as shingle splitting on site and a poetry recital relating to trains.

The official exhibition opening by Trish Doyle will be held at 11.15 am. Champagne and nibbles will be provided.

Bring the family to share the fun! The museum will be open at 12 noon to 3pm for its usual session charging $5 adults and $1 per child. *Jean Winston*

Please contact Jean Winston on 02 4782 7866 for further details.
Regular Opening Hours: Weekends, public & school holidays from 12 noon to 3pm.
Closed Christmas Day and Good Friday.
Guided groups and coach parties can be accommodated at other times by contacting the Curator or Publicity Officer. www.mountvictoriamuseum.info

The Museum is located at the back of the Mount Victoria Railway Station at Station Street, Mt Victoria.

New Mountains Museum Advisor

A new museums Advisor has now been appointed by Blue Mountains City Council, to replace Lynn Collins.
Gay Hendriksen is a local based at Blaxland, and familiar with the special nature of the Blue Mountains and the many and varied communities which make up the mountains region. Some of you may have already met Gay and she may have already visited some of your museums and heritage/cultural organisations in the area.

Gay has said she firstly wishes to become familiar as quickly as possible with what each museum or organisation does, their custodianship of collections, their vision for their special places and their needs and challenges, so that she can be of best use under her role. She says it is a special thing being part of this kind of network, ensuring the tangible and intangible heritage survives, sharing the passion, the stories, the object and site histories the interpretations and the knowledge.
We look forward to working with Gay in the greater Blue Mountains region. *Patsy Moppett*

Contacts:
Gay Hendriksen,
Founding Partner
The Rowan Tree Heritage and Cultural Services
rowantree.hc@gmail.com
Ph: 0447 189 137

Yvonne Jenkins Memorial Award 2018

This award is held annually in memory of Yvonne Jenkins OAM, from Rydal, whose vision was to found the Lithgow and District Family History Society and was well known for her work as an author, artist and family and local historian.
The essay title for the Award, announced during 2017, is "*A Favourite Family Heirloom I have, or would like to have"*. The winner of the Award will be announced on Saturday 19th August 2018.

Yvonne Jenkins

Heirlooms…….

The Award is in the form of a certificate and free membership of the Lithgow & District Family History Society Inc, for the following year. Entry is open to members and non-members of the LDFHS and is to be in the form of a short essay (not to exceed 1,000 words).
Entries close on 30th April 2018.
Further details about the competition are available on the Society's website and Facebook page, email or may be obtained by writing to the Secretary, PO Box 516, Lithgow NSW 2790.

Patsy Moppett

Email: ldfhs@lisp.com.au
Website: www.lisp.com.au/~ldfhs/

Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Heritage Museum

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT: MAJOR WORKS: MUSEUM CLOSED FOR MINIMUM OF FOUR WEEKS FOR ESSENTIAL INFRASTRUCTURE WORK

The Museum management reluctantly advise that due to the commencement of major works starting from Monday 12th February 2018, the Museum will be CLOSED to the Public until Sunday 25th March 2018.

The scheduled Public Open Days that were to be held on Sunday 25th February & Sunday 11th March have been CANCELLED.
The works are required to address the following:

- Reduction of injuries as a result of trips and falls.
- Improve accessibility across the site for the general public and those with mobility issues.
- Increase undercover storage for railway exhibits.
- Restoration of the Roundhouse forecourt area.

The works will enable a much better and safer Museum for everyone, visitors and staff alike.

Patsy Moppett

Check their website for further information.

Errors

A correction is offered on the advice of a reader with regard to a photograph printed in the January-February Newsletter, Issue 54, page 5, on Carlon's Farm, Green Gully. Megalong

Valley. The photograph is of a group of bushwalkers, the T.I.G.E.R. walkers – that being an anagram of their names, the ultra walking athletes of the day.
The error lies in that the woman, third from the right, is in fact not Alice Carlon, but Dot English, the famous "barefoot bushwalker"!
The other "error" mentioned was that the article stated that serious bushwalking did not start until after WW2. It is acknowledged that very serious walkers such as Miles Dunphy were out and about long before WW2. Perhaps the information provided in the research material referenced related to the publicity afforded bushwalking back before the war, given that the extremities of many of their extraordinary exploits have only come to light since the war. BMACHO apologises for these inaccuracies.
Recording history will always be a work in progress. Any corrections, additions, or incidental information is always welcome. *Patsy Moppett*

Blue Mountains Historical Society Activities 2018

BMHS have planned an interesting range of speakers at Tarella, Hobbys Reach, for the first part of 2018, as follows:

3 March 2018 - McLaughlin Lecture
- Speaker: Phil Hammon – *Bleichert before and after*

7 April 2018 – AGM
- Speaker: Max Hill – *Living in the Kedumba Valley*

5 May 2018 – Monthly Meeting
- Speaker: Magda Cawthorme – *Hidden History of the Blue Mountains*

2 June 2018 - Monthly Meeting
- Speaker: Sue Castrique – *Convict History of Cockatoo Island 1839-1869*

Tarella cottage museum

Monthly excursions are also held and details will be provided in a full calendar of events on the Blue Mountains Historical Society website as they come to hand, so stay tuned!

www.bluemountainshistory.com

BMACHO Conference 2018: Heritage Landscapes

Book in now for the 2018 Conference, *"Heritage Landscapes*". The Conference will be held on Saturday 12th May 2018, at Mount Victoria Manor, 11 Montgomery Street, Mount Victoria. Take advantage of the $60.00, ***early bird registration***, up to 12th March 2018. The cost will be $70 for registrations from 13th March to 30th April 2018.This registration fee covers individual attendance at the conference, morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea.
Speakers have been confirmed, and a few changes made to the topics to be covered on the day:

- Keynote Speaker – Stuart Read, Office of Environment & Heritage: "Landscape and garden-themed trails as Blue Mountains lure".
- Colleen Morris: Heritage consultant: "Sorensen Gardens".

- Associate Professor Ian Jack, Senior Fellow and Archivist, St Andrew's College, University of Sydney: "Eurama and the nearby Parkes property at Faulconbridge".
- Kate O'Neill: Woodford Academy Management Committee: "Woodford Reserve 1830-2018: as good as the most capricious taste could desire".
- Mary Reynolds: Mount Wilson & Mount Irvine Historical Society: "Mount Wilson Gardens".
- Aunty Sharyn Halls: Gundungurra elder and member of the Gundungurra Aboriginal Heritage Association: "The Gully & Gundungurra Country".
- Bruce Cameron, historian & author: "The Blue Labyrinth".

The Conference is Proudly sponsored by Scenic World Shared

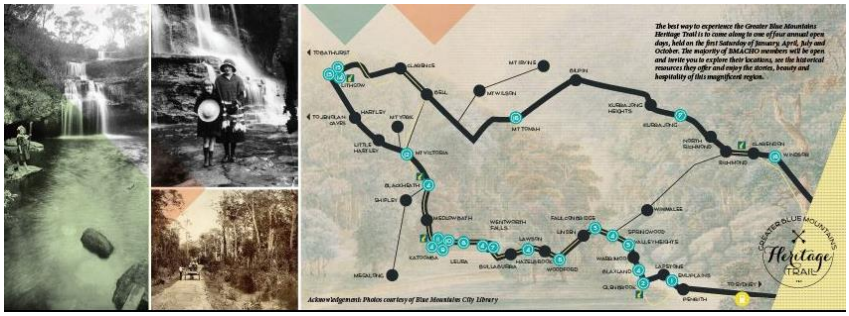
Registration is from 8.45am and the Conference concludes at 4.30pm.
Accommodation is available within Mount Victoria and at the Manor, and train access takes you to within walking distance of the venue. Trade tables will be available.

Full costs, program and booking details can be found on the BMACHO website.

Patsy Moppett

Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail Update

Westpac
Australia's First Bank



BMACHO continues to promote the Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail and members' upcoming events. BMACHO have reprinted the Heritage Trail brochure which has now been distributed to visitors' centres across the region. During 2017-18 BMACHO are holding a competition to encourage visitation to Trail participant properties, and the competition entry forms are incorporated into the brochure.
Visitors to any of the participating venues as identified on the Trail brochure can either answer the set-out questions or obtain a stamp showing they have been to a venue.
BMACHO will hold a prize draw approximately every six months.

So - Heritage with Altitude!!

The Trail is an ideal activity for the kids and grandkids, be it in the school holidays or any weekend! Collect the Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail brochure with the "Passport Competition and entry form" insert, and discover artifacts with altitude!
Great prizes to be won. Check our website http://heritagedrive.com.au for the brochure, form and list of prizes, or collect the brochure and insert from visitor centres at Glenbrook, Katoomba, Lithgow, Clarendon, Bathurst, Oberon, and Orange. Trail participants will also have brochures and forms available.

Email committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au if you would like a brochure and form posted to you.
If you are a member and you would like further information, or if you would like to become a member, please email the BMACHO Secretary at committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au
For general information about BMACHO and the Trail, see heritagedrive.com.au or www.facebook.com/GBMHeritageTrail
To find out more about BMACHO visit www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

Registered office: 1/19 Stypandra Place, Springwood 2777. (02) 4751 5834
Email: committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au or j.koperberg@bigpond.com
Website: www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au **ABN**: 53 994 839 952

The organisation: Blue Mountains Association of Cultural & Heritage Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 after local historical and heritage societies and individuals recognised the need for the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the local government area (LGA) of Blue Mountains City Council. The constituency now embraces but is not limited to, the LGAs of Blue Mountains, Lithgow, Hawkesbury and Penrith. BMACHO membership includes historical and heritage groups, museums, commercial enterprises with an historical or heritage component in its core business, local government (local studies units, library collections) and a limited number of individual members by invitation such as but not necessarily academics. The objectives of the organisation are:

1. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage
2. To encourage and assist cultural heritage
3. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations.

One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

Affiliations: BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society and is affiliated with the Better Planning Network.

Publications: BMACHO's official newsletter ***Heritage*** is edited by Patsy Moppett. The annual refereed *Blue Mountains History Journal* is edited by Dr Peter Rickwood and occasional papers are published from time to time.

Membership: The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mt Tomah; Blue Mountains City Library; Blue Mountains Cultural Heritage Centre; Blue Mountain Education & Research Trust; Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc; Blue Mountains Historical Society; Bygone Beautys Treasured Teapot Museum and Tearooms; City of Lithgow Mining Museum Inc; Colo Shire Family History Group; Eskbank Rail Heritage Centre; Everglades Historic House & Gardens; Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc; Hartley Valley District Progress Association; Hawkesbury Historical Society Inc; Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc; Leuralla NSW Toy & Railway Museum; Lithgow & District Family History Society Inc; Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies; Mt Victoria & District Historical Society Inc; Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine Historical Society Inc (including Turkish Bath Museum); National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Blue Mountains Branch; National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Lithgow Branch; Nepean District Historical Society Inc; Norman Lindsay Gallery and Museum; Paragon Cafe, Katoomba; Scenic World Blue Mountains Limited; Springwood Historical Society Inc; Springwood Historians Inc; Transport Signal Communication Museum Inc; Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Heritage Museum, Woodford Academy Management Committee, Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd. The following are individual members: Wendy Blaxland, Fiona Burn, Ray Christison, Dr Wayne Hanley, Associate Professor Ian Jack, Ian Milliss, Patsy Moppett, Keith Painter and Dr Peter Rickwood.

Committee: The management committee for 2017-2018 (from March 2017) is: Patsy Moppett (President and ***Heritage*** Newsletter Editor), Ian Jack (Vice President), Jan Koperberg (Secretary), Philip Hammon (Treasurer), Jan Koperberg (web sites), Dick Morony (Public Officer/Membership Secretary/ Calendar Editor), Suzanne Smith (Events and Venue Co-ordinator), Fiona Burn, Peter Brownlee and Roy Bennett.
Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail sub-committee: Peter Brownlee, Fiona Burn, Jan Koperberg and Suzanne Smith.
Blue Mountains History Conference 2018 sub-committee: Summar Hipworth, Ian Jack, Jan Koperberg and Patsy Moppett.

Disclaimer: views and opinions expressed in Heritage originate from many sources and contributors. Every effort is taken to ensure accuracy of material. Content does not necessarily represent or reflect the views and opinions of BMACHO, its committee or its members. If errors are found feedback is most welcome.

Heritage

Newsletter of the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc

May-June 2018 *ISSUE 56*

ISSN 2203-4366

Hadley Park, Castlereagh

The Heritage Council of NSW considers nominations for listing on the State Heritage Register based on an assessment of heritage significance and taking into account any submissions received from the public. Section 33 (3) of the NSW Heritage Act 1977 requires that the Heritage Council must be of the view that the item is of State heritage significance before it makes a recommendation to the Minister.

Upon receipt of a recommendation for listing from the Heritage Council of NSW it is the Minister for Heritage who has to consider that recommendation and decide whether or not to direct the listing of the item on the State Heritage Register under Section 32 (1) of the Heritage Act.

Hadley Park, Castereagh

One such item currently under consideration is Hadley Park, Castlereagh. Castlereagh was one of the five Macquarie towns proclaimed by Governor Lachlan Macquarie in 1810. Hadley Park was the earliest known European settlement in this location at the time. Charles Hadley acquired land at Castlereagh and his home, possibly the small adjacent weatherboard cottage, was erected in about 1806. The main house may have been built nearer to 1801 and still stands today.

Hadley Park is located on one of the 31 grants given out by Governor King in the Castlereagh (Mulgrave Place) area. Most of the grants had river frontages, and had a regular north-south orientation. They ranged from 70 to 160 acres, and the size reflected

social status and family size. The 89 acre block was originally granted to Martin Mentz (Mintz/Mince) in 1803. He cleared and cultivated the land, living on the property.
Charles Hadley was a convict, who arrived on the *Matilda* in the Third Fleet in 1791. He obtained his pardon, and returned to England, arriving back in 1806. In 1806 Mentz leased 30 acres to Charles Hadley.
In 1812 Hadley married Sarah Phillips, with whom he already had a son (Charles Jnr). By 1812 they had seven more children. Hadley had developed his farm, and was supplying meat to the depot at Emu Plains. He had a publican's licence as early as 1817, for his premises "The First and Last" (location unknown).
By 1821 he had accumulated 300 acres, and he became involved in the local community.
In 1827 Sarah left him for a neighbour, John Griffiths, leaving Charles with 9 children.
Charles died the following year. He left Hadley Park to his son Charles, who maintained the property until his death in 1891.
The property withstood numerous floods during the 19th century, including one in 1864, and the notorious 1867 event, which washed away all Charles Jnr's furniture and household goods.

Early main dwelling

Contemporary deterioration

Charles Jnr died in 1891 and his wife died a few days later, both of influenza. The property then passed to their son-in-law, William Alvan Hadley Childs, the husband of their daughter Louisa Matilda Hadley. In 1892 the property was noted as having a brick house of seven rooms, a barn, stable and outbuildings, all in a dilapidated condition.
William and Louisa's son William Charles was the owner in 1898. A number of lots had been sold off by Charles Hadley under his will, and young William set about purchasing them back, bringing the property back to 80 acres. He then ran the property as a successful dairy farm.
Upon his death in 1950, his son William George inherited the southern part, and his daughters, Elsa and Hannah, the northern part (44 acres) which included the main house.
Between 1940 and 1961 a few improvements were made including a hay shed and orchards. The orchards were removed by 1978.
Elsa and Hannah owned Hadley Park until 1972, when it was sold to a sand and gravel quarry company, who quarried the western sector.
Hadley Park's ownership was passed down through the generations of descendants of the Hadley and Hadley Childs families for over 150 years.
Jacqueline Flower, a sixth-generation descendant of Charles Hadley, was the last person to live in the property in 2008. She lived in a cottage on the site from 1996.
The Penrith Lakes Development Corporation took ownership in 1998, and commenced sand mining, The dwelling and farm buildings have since remained unoccupied.
Today it comprises a farm house, several farm buildings and a garden, within a rural landscape, which includes the lakes scheme on the Nepean River floodplain. The main features are located on the original 1803 lot, and the eastern section was quarried and then flooded as part of Lake Burralow. The western section slopes down to Cranebrook Creek.

In 2010-2011 the Penrith Lakes Development Corporation (PLDC) undertook extensive works to stabilise the premises, under the direction of reputable heritage practitioners, with the support of the NSW Heritage Office.

A significant rural landscape

In 2013 a Conservation Management Plan was drawn up by Godden Mackay Logan, on behalf of the PLDC.
Today the property is not listed on Schedule 5 of the Penrith Local Environmental Plan.
The site was opened to the public in early 2018, and many people were able to view the site and its remarkable collection of intact buildings.
Recently the State Government has started a process to list the Hadley Park precinct on the State Heritage Register. Penrith State Liberal MP Stuart Ayres urged the community to make submissions in support of the listing to the NSW Heritage Council.
"Anyone with an interest in our history and in preserving this important property is encouraged to make their submission before the cut off," he said.
Submissions closed on Monday, 5 March 2018, and the community awaits the results of the State government's deliberations.

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Food for thought ..... Editor's note

We have been able to present plenty of "food for thought" in this issue! From the historic home of Charles Hadley at Castlereagh, to catering on the early railways in NSW, travelling to Jenolan Caves in the early 1900s, and looking at the preservation of moveable (movable?) heritage, we hope we have your interests covered.
And because it is autumn, a wide range of events are being held to commemorate our history and heritage. Only a few are listed here due to space constraints!
In particular, the subject of moveable heritage is covered in a broad fashion, but the matter is a very involved and emotive one. We have touched briefly on the legal aspects of the preservation process, but every community organisation or individual should be aware of the implications of NOT getting it right. It is a shame that heritage ownership must be subjected to the intense interpretation and investigation that can occur, where past owners and land managers have not accurately recorded, or been aware of, the details around lease and purchase of property and building contents, and accessioning activities.
We can only learn from current experiences, and know that history should be shared in a way that is accessible to the whole community, without encumbrances which might necessitate removal of objects from their contexts, or total destruction of objects or collections.
It is to be hoped that the collectors of this world, be it individuals or groups, continue to accurately collate (as far as possible) information about singular items and collections, together with associated provenance, conveying the significance of those artifacts and their stories through to future generations.
We encourage BMACHO members to regularly review the documentation of their items and collections, utilizing formal auditing processes where funding permits, and ensure that all bases and scenarios are covered as much as possible.

Getting a Bite to Eat on NSW Rail

Overview

If the description by John Rae, Commissioner for the New South Wales Government Railways (NSWGR) in 1871 is anything to go by, early railway food services were most unsatisfactory …. *"the keepers of what are facetiously termed refreshment rooms on our Railways are little more than apple stall holders and vendors of lollypops and stale pastry, serving out junks of sandwiches and messes of tea and coffee to their customers without any regard to their accommodation or comfort"*.
Obviously the only way was up.
The NSWGR had fallen behind the railway systems of other colonies in the provision of refreshments for passengers. Inspired by the facilities he had seen in Britain and Europe, Commissioner Rae decided to improve the situation and succeeded. The first station restaurants were leased to private operators and opened at Mittagong and Mt Victoria in 1873, followed by Central Station in 1874. The operators were licensed to provide hot beverages, hot and cold meals, and take-away baskets for consumption during the journey.
Temperance Societies were alarmed at the suggestion that alcohol may be available, which they asserted had caused many railway accidents in Britain. They successfully petitioned Parliament on the subject for a time.

Casino Railway Refreshment Room in 1947
Source: NSW State Archives

Following considerable pressure over decades to improve the standards of catering, a Railway Refreshment Room (RRR) service was established in 1916. The NSWGR took control from private operators and all the outlets were linked to a network of operations. Local businesses were initially upset as provisions once purchased from the neighbouring township were frequently brought in from Sydney.

Passengers had to wait another ten years before they were able to experience on-board train dining with a service which commenced on limited lines from 1926.

Eventually there would be a total of 52 'ref' rooms across New South Wales, serving hot grills, soup, sandwiches, cold meats and salads, a range of beverages and the ubiquitous railway pies.

Already, from 1906, the thousands of people who passed through Central Station had a range of options. They could ascend the grand staircase to the elegant Dining Room to enjoy high class silver service or enter The Grill Room downstairs, which later became the cafeteria.

Milk shakes, hot aerated milk, fountain drinks and aerated waters were available from milk bars and kiosks on the Main Assembly Platform and on the Eddy Avenue concourse.

Passengers short of time could order food hampers ahead of their journey and collect them for a small fee, which included a deposit for the crockery and cutlery – no sign of plastic.

For last-minute decisions, there were Basket Boys carrying large cane containers over their shoulders, walking the platforms selling snacks, sandwiches, sweets and ice creams amongst the cacophony of whistles, hissing steam and milling crowds.

From the early 20th century, platform buffet trolleys usually staffed by women were laden with urns serving piping hot tea and coffee plus fresh sandwiches, cakes and confectionery.

Today, these are gone and all food outlets at Central are run by the private sector. Automatic vending machines and 'fast food' outlets have replaced the 'basket boys', platform kiosks and buffet trolleys.

Quenching the thirst

In the first days of rail travel in NSW from 1855, passengers carried their own supplies of water or waited until their train stopped at a station where they could fill containers from water tanks. Subsequently, water was carried in canvas bags suspended on the outside of carriages and kept cool through the transfer of heat during evaporation. However, this ‘facility’ wasn’t popular as much of the water was lost through spillage, it tasted of dust and

grime, and the contents had to be shared amongst fellow passengers. It wasn't until 1914 that contractors were appointed to supply large blocks of ice for the station railway water tanks so that the water for refilling the bottles could be kept cool.
The first glass water bottles and tumblers were introduced into passenger compartments in 1892. They were filled at Central Station and replenished by staff at country stations along mail and mainline routes. Still, it must have been a nightmare for public health authorities trying to stop the spread of disease.
Prior to this in 1883, despite the vigorous campaigns of the Temperance Movement, the sale of alcohol to bona fide railway travellers stopping at Refreshment Rooms with liquor licenses was introduced. The range of wines, beers and spirits was extensive, each carefully measured out by bar staff into a range of specially marked glassware to restrict hurried over-imbibing and ensure fair value.

Railway Refreshment Rooms

A common factor among RRRs was steaming teapots, filled from heated urns, to keep up the supply to thirsty passengers. In on-board sleeping cars, an early morning 'cuppa' was delivered to passengers by the Conductor or Car Attendant.
There were fewer coffee drinkers than today and they had little choice but tentatively sipping on scalding milk coffee frequently flavoured with liquid chicory essence.

Mt Victoria RRR Museum Display
Source: Mt Victoria & District Historical Society Museum

Wynyard Buffet style RRR 1936
Source: NSW State Archives

Five different categories of RRRs offered combinations of liquor bar, counter service and full dining room meals depending on the size of the station and the volume of travelling public. The RRRs at larger stations even had their own poultry yards.
The menu choices of hearty home-style fare were standard across the State. It was all very traditional English-style with no suggestion of any Asian-style or Mediterranean influences. For breakfast, a set table meal included porridge, ham and eggs, grills or cutlets, fish, toast with preserves or marmalade with tea, coffee or a glass of milk.
Counter lunches included pork sausages and mashed potatoes, haricot chops, steak and kidney pies and vegetables, salads with tea, coffee or milk. Sandwiches, scones, meat pies, cakes, pastries and beverages could be purchased over the counter.
Dinner patrons enjoyed hot soup, a choice of fish, poultry or a hot roast joint of meat, followed by pudding and pastry. An extensive range of cigarettes and cigars, which could be smoked on board in designated carriages, could also be purchased.
The last RRR to open was at Wynyard Station in 1932, distinguished by an elegant Art Deco interior, air-conditioning and kitchens where meals could be prepared in full view of the public.

A plethora of choice

Railway Refreshment Rooms (RRR) were often located where the engines had to take on coal and water or change or add locomotives. Serving three-course meals to a trainload of hungry passengers whose eating time was determined by timetables and trains which could not wait for the last diners to finish their meal, was challenging.

At the smaller stations, trains might stop for 8-10 minutes, with a flurry of activity for staff. At larger stations, staff had 30 minutes to serve a room full of diners with 3 course meals or light refreshments at the counter bar.
I travelled back from a trip to the Snowy Mountains in winter as a teenager in the Scouts by the night mail train from Cooma to Sydney when the refreshment room staff were overwhelmed with numbers and sold us cold pies to munch as we huddled in the FS car for a long tedious steam journey to Goulburn and then diesel to Central. The cold pies made it seem much longer.
Meanwhile, a bell would be rung in the Railway Refreshment Rooms 10 minutes before the train departed - then it was time to wash-up and set tables before the next train would arrive. Staff would be informed by telegraph wire in advance of the numbers on board the next train to ensure they had enough meals ready to be served.
Despite the hustle and bustle, the dining room tables were often elegantly set with white linen and silver plated cutlery and tea sets. The refreshment rooms generally had a welcoming, sedate, homely atmosphere between the rushes with vases of fresh flowers and bowls of fruit on the tables and side boards. However, at Moss Vale Station the Governor had a large ornate private dining room.
Nevertheless, the kitchens were a hive of activity from pre-dawn until the departure of the last train for the evening. A busy RRR might have a complement of chef, second cook, pastry, pudding or sweets cook, pie-maker or roll-baker, third or relief cook, second pastry cook, grill or stove cook, fish cook and a vegetable cook; assisted by stewards and waiters, and kitchen hands, scullery staff and young 'usefuls' for odd jobs. In the absence of today's high standards of food training, skills were acquired through apprenticeship and on-the-job training.
RRR kitchen staff were complemented by service workers, many of whom were women. There was a manager, head and assistant head girls, barmaids, dining room waitresses, pantry maids, counter hands, housemaids and buffet girls.
Conditions for the women, many of whom worked in partnership with spouses or other family members, were unsatisfactory. Not only did most earn only half the wage of their male equivalent, they had almost no job security and were forced to work part-time on broken shifts, and sometimes with as little as three hours off a day. They were often the first to be retrenched.
As far as staff dress, late 19th century RRR cooks and waitresses wore caps and serge tunics reminiscent of nursing uniforms. From the 1920s, the uniforms were inspired by 'diner' styles as seen in American magazines and movies featuring subdued colours and jaunty caps and headpieces.
In the austere war years of the 1940s and rationing, green cotton 'wrap' style dresses were introduced for easy care and wear.
From the 1950s, the benchmark for women’s uniforms were set by airline hostess styles, with mix and match combinations for a corporate, sometimes almost military look, in a range of bright colours.
This style of uniform was worn by the female crew when Buffet Dining Cars were introduced in 1950 on the new eight-car air conditioned Riverina Express. The following year the same service was added to the Northern Tablelands Expresses.
The role of RRRs had been gradually changing after the War as it had become increasingly difficult to recruit suitable staff. Table service was replaced by counter service and set menus were encouraged in response to tighter timetabling. Modern kiosks were introduced at a number of suburban stations.
However, by the mid-fifties with the rapid uptake of dieselisation, several RRRs were closed, others were modified to exclude table accommodation, and some were leased to private enterprise as they had originally started in the 1870s. Eventually all cost-inefficient rooms and catering services on board trains were closed.
In 1962 the women’s uniforms changed again. Dorothy Darke from the Australian Women's Weekly designed bright new turquoise blue cotton shirtmaker dresses, worn with

monogrammed forage style caps. Ten years later, she updated the look with a vibrant jade uniform featuring gold buttons and embroidered with the initials for the new Trading and Catering Services.
It was an era of constant name and image changes in the Railways. So, the ‘new’ uniforms were soon replaced with grey and blue uniforms to match the Public Transport Commission's livery for trains, buses and ferries and the job title changed from waitress to stewardess.
In 1980, the look changed again with the uniforms streamlined and coloured maroon and cream to match the new 'candy' livery of orange, dark red and white for State Rail.
No matter what the style, a strict dress code was enforced. Nail polish, high heeled shoes and non-regulation hair styles were strictly forbidden and jewellery restricted to watches and wedding rings.
There was a distinct military air, with a small badge worn to identify the job title. Seniority was denoted by bars on shoulder epaulettes. Trousers were not introduced as a uniform option for women until the 1980s.
Male uniforms in the Catering Division usually reflected the standard on-board train crew styles of the eras.
The service crew on board trains had few opportunities to prepare individual meals for à la carte dining owing to limited space for food storage and preparation. Time was short too, with set dining shift times allocated to passengers so menus offered only a small selection within each course.

Monogramed RRR cutlery and crockery display
Source: Mt Victoria & District Historical Society Museum

Wynyard Subway RRR
Source: State Archives

Made to last

Early railway china was manufactured locally at first, and then imported from large potteries in England, which produced tough, hard-wearing glazed earthenware and ironstone ceramics.
While monogrammed china, silverware and cutlery in Railway Refreshment Rooms added an air of distinction to the dining experience the logo was more likely intended as a security measure. Each piece was marked with a transfer printed monogram, incorporating a crown, with the letters RRR within a belted garter inscribed NSWGR.
This insignia was updated in 1962 when the abbreviation for RRR was replaced by TCS (for Trading and Catering Services).
A thoroughly modern look which departed from the use of a monogram, was chosen for the china for the all first class Southern Aurora, introduced in 1962 and the Indian Pacific in 1970. Some items were designed to reduce spillage during travel over bumpy sections of track, like the bowl shaped tea cup. On other routes, drivers would reduce speed to avoid the soup from being spilt during service.

Railway Kitchens

The heart of the railway food operation for the NSWGR was underneath Central Station. Here, deliveries of fresh produce would be made from Eddy Avenue and taken on trolleys to

the enormous industrial kitchens where a range of savoury and sweet food was prepared by an army of cooks and pastry cooks. From there it would be packed in large baskets and loaded onto trains for delivery to refreshment rooms across the State and to the railway workshops at Chullora where staff would be fed each day.
The scale of the operation was enormous. In 1942, 2,316,000 meat pies, 700 tons of meat, 100 tons of sausages, 42 tons of ham, 30 tons of bacon, 454 tons of potatoes, 92 tons of butter, 300,000 loaves of bread, 37,000lbs of tea, 36,000 lbs of coffee and 250,000 gallons of milk were distributed from Central.

Kitchen stove at Blayney Railway Station 2018
Source: Patsy Moppett

Railway kitchens across the State were equipped with huge coal-fired stoves for cooking and heating the water for the boilers. Large blocks of ice for keeping fresh meat, fish, vegetables, butter and milk cold would be sent regularly from Sydney, packed in sawdust and potato or wheat bags for insulation. Later, gas refrigeration was provided to keep food cool.
To improve productivity and efficiency, Railway Refreshment Rooms were phased out from the 1950s and replaced with on-board dining facilities on country routes. BS-class carriages built in the 1930s were converted and fitted with a food preparation area at one end, complete with gas refrigerator, ice cream cooler, hot water urns, a stainless-steel sink, pie warmer and shelves for crockery and cutlery. Passengers could dine in the wide servery space which was fitted with a curved counter and fixed stools or take food back to their seats. The Canberra Railway Museum had such a converted car in its fleet.

Catering during World War 2

During World War 2, all aspects of railway catering were under enormous continuous pressure for six years. Just the troop trains, which usually ran at night, carried 5,609,000 personnel. In one 36-hour period, 27 special troop trains arrived and departed Sydney for Brisbane and Melbourne during which time 26,850 meals were served.
After the War, in 1947, the NSWGR reported serving over 8,500,000 meals and light refreshments in its 52 Railway Refreshment Rooms. Another 1,500,000 meals were provided at country stations across the State by railway and volunteer staff - a total of over 10 million meals!

Mobile Buffet Trolley

Mobile buffet trolleys were introduced for the convenience of passengers to provide cool drinks, hot tea and coffee, sandwiches and sweets on the platform. They were also trialled at some country stations, including Albury and Moss Vale, to assist women travelling with young children and those who did not wish to leave the train to purchase food and drink.

A mobile tea and light refreshment buffet was introduced on to the steam platforms at Central Railway Station in 1948. Buffet dining cars were inaugurated in 1950 when they were added to the new eight-car Riverina Express.

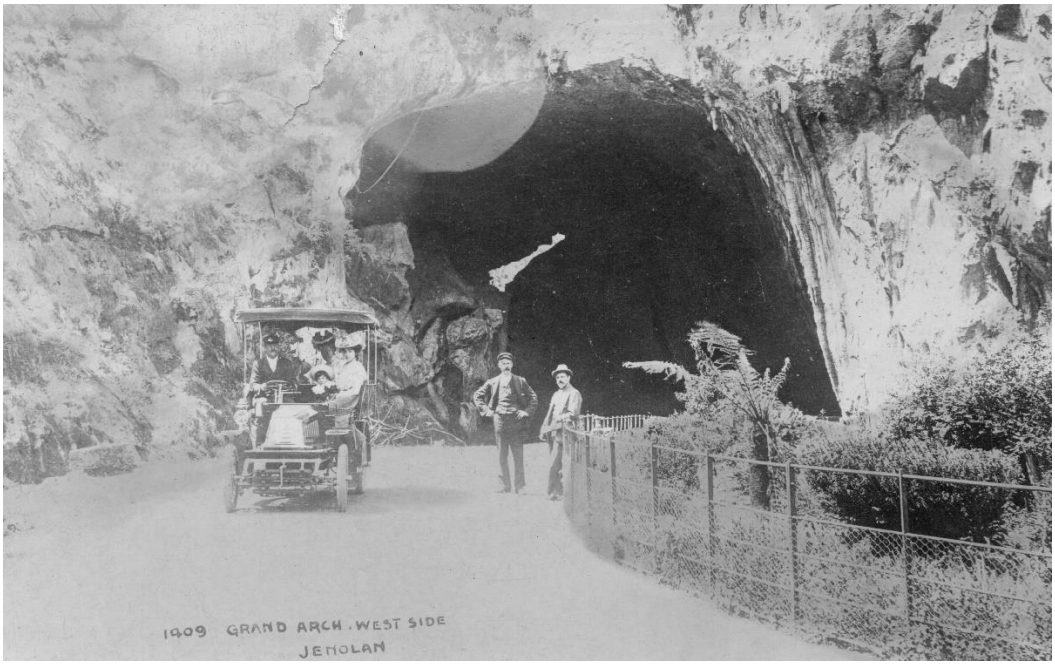
Central Station RRR Milk Bar in 1946, and Central station mobile buffet service 1948 with staff still wearing wartime wraps uniforms
Source: State Archives

In the Post-War period, the role of the Refreshment Rooms gradually changed. Table service was replaced by counter service, set menus were encouraged for time economies and in the mid to late 1950s, some rooms closed and others were leased to private enterprise.
The demise of the overnight mail train services, an increase in road and air travel and cost-cutting reviews eventually spelt the end for the RRRs. They were progressively closed from the mid-1950s, with Junee and Dubbo being the last to survive into the 1990s. It also meant the end of the hotel accommodation associated with RRRs at major junctions and interchanges. The first of these had opened at Junee and Werris Creek in 1885, followed by others at Newcastle, Wollongong, Moss Vale, Muswellbrook, Wellington and Yass Junction. By the mid-1980s, they had all closed. *Garry Reynolds*

A portion of this research has been based on the Food-to-Go Exhibition held at Central Railway Station in 2012.

The first car to reach Jenolan Caves?

I decided to write this article after reading Robyne Ridge's article "On the road to Jenolan Caves" in the *Blue Mountains Review* issue of 14 February 2018. The article included a reproduction of a postcard by Charles Kerry, showing an early model car outside the western entrance to the Grand Arch. This photo is one of the most commonly reproduced images connected with Jenolan Caves. There is no date on the photo, and it has been published with various dates estimated between 1903 and 1909. It has been claimed to be a photo of the first car to reach Jenolan Caves. None of the captions accompanying reproductions of this photo have ever named all the people in the picture.
The car in the photo [below] was probably imported by Mark Foy in early February 1903. Foy arrived back in Sydney, after a nine months overseas tour, on the "Friederich der Grosse" on 8 February 1903. The *Sydney Morning Herald* reported: "Mr Foy is importing three motor cars of the De Dion make. Two of these he will use in his business, and the other will be reserved for pleasure. The cars are of eight horse-power, which Mr Foy considers sufficient for the roads in Australia."



For many years the only reference to the earliest known car trip to Jenolan was the article by Ward Havard, "The Romance of Jenolan Caves", first published in 1933. Havard states: "Early in June 1903, Mr Mark Foy conducted a party in two motor cars from Blackheath. After delay occasioned by boggy roads and a mechanical defect in one car, the first car - an eight horse-power single cylinder De Dion, driven Mr B. Beckman - reached the Caves at 8 p.m., having left Blackheath at 11 a.m."

The only contemporary accounts of this trip I have found on Trove are from the *Lithgow Mercury* of Friday, 12 June 1903. These are reproduced below.

Jenolan Caves. A Motor Trip.

From our own Correspondent.

"Mr Mark Foy conducted a party of nine persons in two motor cars from Blackheath to Jenolan Caves, arriving here about 9 o'clock on Wednesday night. The trip was merely a trial one, and, considering the bad state of the roads at present, it was a decided success. The party left again the following morning for Blackheath, where they expected to arrive early in the afternoon. Although Mr Foy was quite satisfied with his run out, he is of opinion that motors of a little more power would be required to comfortably negotiate the steep pinches along the road between Mount Victoria and the Caves. Along the road in various places during yesterday's trip Mr Foy said that the wheels were buried to a depth of from 6 in. to 8 in. in the mud, so that the task can better be imagined than described."

Mount Victoria.

"Two motor-cars passed through on Wednesday from the Ivanhoe hotel for the Jenolan Caves, intending to return the same night to dinner at Blackheath. They contained in all some seven passengers."

A later article appeared in the *Lithgow Mercury* issue of 23 June 1903.

The Recent Motor Trip.

"To the Editor.

Sir - Re the experiment of a motor trip to the Jenolan Caves, you say in your journal that it was a very successful trip. I should like you to allow me space to flatly contradict that statement, as it was a complete failure, as the cars left Blackheath about 9 a.m. and reached the Caves about 9:30 p.m., the road being strewn with bushes in different parts to help progress. On the return journey one completely broke down, and remained at the Half-way House [at Hampton] for the fowls to roost on. As your report is likely to do me harm in my business, I would like you to do me the favour to insert what I have written to you - yours, etc.,

G.H. Cooper." June 18.
George Hubbard Cooper took tourists in horse-drawn coaches from his Grand Hotel at Mount Victoria to Jenolan Caves. Although motor cars did eventually "harm" his business, because the early cars were more expensive and less reliable than the coach trips, he was able to continue in business until his death in 1917.
Havard's article and the *Lithgow Mercury* articles have differences in such details as the departure and arrival times, and the newspaper articles do not mention the name of the driver or the makes of the cars. It is likely that Havard obtained information about the trip directly from Beckman, who was working as a guide at Jenolan Caves at the same time as him.
Summarising the information in these articles suggests that two cars left the Ivanhoe hotel at Blackheath at some time between 9 and 11 am, on Wednesday, 10 June, intending to return the same day to Blackheath, and arrived at the Caves at some time between 8 and 9.30 pm. The cars left the Caves the next morning, with only one making it back to Blackheath.
This well-known photograph has often been claimed to show the first car to reach Jenolan Caves. It should be noted that none of the articles quoted above claim that this journey by Mark Foy was the first car trip to the Caves, although Mark Foy was quoted as saying that it was "merely a trial".
Many readers will recall the exhibition entitled "The Air Up There. Vintage Tourism in the Blue Mountains" at the Blue Mountains Cultural Centre, which opened in December 2013. There was a gigantic reproduction of this photo, several metres tall, in the exhibition, beside a restored 1902 de Dion Bouton car loaned by Kevin Boardman. I was told by Boardman that the car in the photo and his restored model were of the same vintage.
On 7 September 1910 Mark Foy auctioned 15 cars, as he was intending to live overseas for some years. Car number 11 in the sale was:
"The Old Blue De Dion, "Old Bluey" as she was called, but she is now a new Bluey, being, you might say, a new Car.
Gentlemen, this Car was originally imported for a parcel delivery car by Mark Foy a great many years ago - but was never used for such. She was fitted with a body to carry 6 persons, and was absolutely the first motor car to run from the Blue Mountains to the Caves, and this Car did this work for years. The body is still to be had if wanted for any passenger service, and will be sold separately after the Car is sold; also her original parcel delivery body.
What an advertisement for Messrs De Dion Bouton this Car has been in Australia, and she pulls like a bulldog."
The car sold for £50.
Many years later, in July 1936, an article appeared in the *Lithgow Mercury* and *Katoomba Daily* with details about early motoring in the Blue Mountains. After a claim that Mr John Durie was the first to cross the Blue Mountains by car, the article concluded: "… Mr Mark Foy had cars running from Medlow Bath to the Caves at the time. Mr Bert Beckman, one of the guides at the Caves was the first man to drive a car down to Jenolan."
I copied the back of Mark Foy's own copy of this photo, owned by his granddaughter Mary Shaw, which had these words on the back, in his handwriting (reproduced in the original spelling):
"Lizzie, Mark junr 3 yrs and Sue Baxter. I think Roderiguz in car at Grand Arch Cave Jenolan. This was a very nice car. I called her the firefly she was some unknown make - not a de Dion."
Some years later, in a more shaky hand, Foy added the following comments: "about 3rd or 4th car in Australia. Lovely Car - I don't know what happened to it. Mr Roderigo leaning on fence, he was from Blackheath."
Most historians would think that you couldn't get a better primary source than the written words of someone who was actually on the trip. Unfortunately, there are mistakes in Foy's memories. Mark Foy Jr was born in January 1898, making him 5½ years old in mid-1903. Thomas Rodriguez is not in the photo. The car is definitely a 1902 model de Dion.

At this point, it will be of interest to identify the people in the picture.
The driver of the car is indeed “Bert” Beckman, as there are a number of other photos of him driving Foy’s cars. He was Axel Burnett Beckman (1881-1951), who married Rebecca Haslop in 1907 while still employed by Foy, and later became a guide at Jenolan Caves. Also in the front seat is Susan Baxter. Mary Shaw described her as an actress, but I could only find one record of her on Trove, in an amateur performance in Burwood in 1905. She may be the Susan J. Baxter born in Carcoar in 1877. Between them is Mark Francis Foy Jr (1898-1961). He was born out of wedlock in England while Mark Foy senior was still married to his first wife Annie née Davey. At the time of his son’s birth, Mark was waiting for approval from the Pope for an annulment of his first marriage on the grounds of non-consummation. When this, and his civil divorce, came through, he married ‘Lizzie’ in 1900. It is interesting that Mark Foy estimated his son’s age in the picture as three. If it was taken in 1903, it was actually three years since his marriage to Elizabeth, but over five years since Mark junior’s birth. It is possible that Mark and Elizabeth concealed the true year of their son’s birth to avoid scandal. Elizabeth, née Tweedie (1863-1940) is seated in the rear, wearing her customary large hat. Beside her, in the shadows, is another unidentified woman.
Standing on the road are two cave guides, James Carvosso (“Voss”) Wiburd (1866-1942), and John (“Jack”) Edwards (1866-1908), who is leaning on the fence. Both started working at Jenolan in 1885. Wiburd is wearing his official uniform, but Edwards is in casual clothing, and probably came to see the novel sight of the car.
If in fact this photo is of Mark Foy’s party’s return to Blackheath on Thursday 11 June 1903, it is a posed recreation of the arrival late at night on the day before, as it is taken on the west side of the Grand Arch, with the car facing west. It may have been just luck that there was a photographer at Jenolan that morning. Although Charles Kerry visited the Caves regularly, there is no indication that Mark Foy gave warning of his arrival to Kerry or one of his photographers.
Only three weeks after Foy’s trip on 10 June, it was announced that Rodriguez had “obtained a licence for a motor car to run between Blackheath and the Caves. He has already made several trips, and accomplished the run in four hours.” Rodriguez’ “Mountain Motor-car Company” was officially opened in late September 1903. It had two x 9 horsepower De Dions, each with seating for six people. The return fare between Blackheath and Jenolan Caves was 30 shillings. When accommodation and meals at the Caves, and cave inspection fees were added, a trip to Jenolan Caves was not affordable for working class people. At that time, a workman’s wage was about 42 shillings per week. George Cooper at Mt Victoria took a different approach, offering a five-day package tour. This included the return train fare from Sydney, return horse-drawn coach fares, two nights at the Grand Hotel, two overnight stays at Jenolan Caves House and three cave inspections for £3.12 shillings (i.e. 72 shillings). A more expensive option added a half day trip from Mount Victoria to Govett’s Leap, Katoomba and Wentworth Falls, with lunch at Toll’s Hotel, for a total of 84 shillings. Rodriguez must have decided to go “head-to-head” with Cooper and, in 1905, offered a similar package including car travel (with only one night at Jenolan) for a little under 74 shillings.

Early Ivanhoe Hotel

Early Hydro Majestic

Rodriguez' business was initially successful, and he ordered two new 20 horsepower cars from England. In mid-1904 Mark Foy offered him the job of manager at the Hydro Majestic. Rodriguez was probably overcommitted in trying to run the Hydro, his own Ivanhoe Hotel and the car transport businesses of both hotels. There was an obvious conflict of interests, with Rodriguez expected to manage Mark Foy's own fleet of cars commuting to Jenolan Caves as well as his own cars based at the Ivanhoe competing with them. Rodriguez' car transport business folded in about 1906.

Does the photo on the postcard actually show the first motor car to reach Jenolan Caves? None of the contemporary newspaper articles claimed that the car trip on 10 June 1903 was the first. It is interesting that Mark Foy did not claim this in his annotation on the back of the postcard. His statement about "Old Bluey" in 1910, that it "was absolutely the first Motor Car to run from the Blue Mountains to the Caves" is ambiguous. It may have been the first car to run a regular scheduled service from the Blue Mountains, but not necessarily the first car to ever reach the Caves.

It does seem a coincidence that there was a photographer at Jenolan Caves when he arrived on 10 June 1903, especially as Charles Kerry's branch studio did not open at the Caves until 1904. The souvenir booklet, detailing the products available from the studio, and published by Kerry in 1904 features the photo of Foy's car on the cover. Elery Hamilton-Smith, the expert on the history of photography at Jenolan Caves, puts the date of publication of the postcard at 1905, as it has a 'divided back' (a line separating correspondence and the address) which was only allowed by the postal authorities from 1905. Of course, the photo could have been taken earlier than this.

Until a contemporary article listing the passengers on the 10-11 June 1903 trip is located, it cannot be assumed that the photo on the postcard was taken on this day. Look at how lightly clad the passengers are in the open cabin. If it was winter they would be wearing overcoats and scarves. Would Mark Foy have taken his wife and young son and two other women on the very first car trip to Jenolan Caves? There is no definitive evidence that the car shown was the first to reach Jenolan Caves. Although Mark Foy's memory was muddled by the time he wrote on the back of the postcard, it is possible that the first car to reach the Caves was his "Firefly", not a De Dion. The photo could have been taken during one of the "several" trial runs by Rodriguez in the three weeks after 10 June, or at any time before the opening of his motor transport company in September. Alternatively, the photo could have been taken in the spring of 1904, when regular services were arriving from the Hydro Majestic and there was more likelihood of a Kerry company photographer being on site. *Jim Smith*

Acknowledgement: Thanks is due to the late Elery Hamilton-Smith for his assistance with this research.

References available upon request.

The Technical Side

Moveable (Movable) Heritage

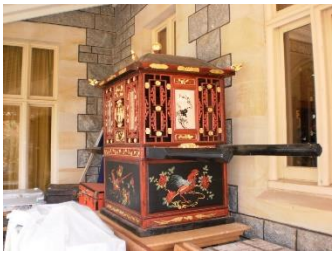
Of late, and in conjunction with the matter of archiving, comes consideration and concern for the preservation and conservation of moveable heritage. But what is moveable heritage? This can be used to define any natural or manufactured object of heritage significance. It is portable, therefore easily sold off, relocated or thrown away. Moveable heritage items may not be valued by the next generation or another culture so it is vulnerable to loss, damage or destruction, theft and disposal.

It may include jewelry, china, furniture, correspondences, photographs, vehicles, museum collections and objects, industrial, agricultural and commercial machinery, but does not include archaeological relics found under water or underground.

The critical thing for collection managers and owners is firstly to recognize whether an object or collection has significance. This can be a very subjective and emotional exercise.

Although every object cannot be preserved, an item's significance should first be assessed

within its context, and with regard to its importance to associated people and places. Once an item is removed from its context its significance is markedly reduced. However, sometimes it is necessary to remove an object from its location to undertake preservation, such as where threatened by eg. demolition or by coastal wave activity.



Abercrombie House

Ben Chifley Home

Millthorpe Museum

Therefore, whether the item or collection is to be removed or not, it is imperative to document the particulars of the object or collection, such as location, arrangement, details of manufacture, ownership and use. We need to document how and where the object was used, who owned it and any stories relating to its use and/or operation. This assists in retaining the history of both the object and the location. The provenance of the item is just as important as the object itself.

Methods which can assist in this include:

- Photographing the item and its location/context.
- Make up an inventory of the items in a collection, recording their relationships to people and places.
- Undertake oral histories with reference to the item and its context.
- Research the local history and historical changes in the locality.
- Examine and document the condition of the object.

Finally, based on the above, make an assessment of significance of the object or collection and prepare a conservation management plan (CMP).

Until such time as funding is available to undertake both the CMP and its recommendations, ensure that the object or collection is secure from pests and the elements, retained in context where possible. This is a matter which has arisen at both Mt Wilson and Woodford in recent months, and those communities have sought to undertake suitable measures to protect their paper collections. Where adaptive reuse is proposed to a building or place, some articles, architectural features etc may need to be removed and appropriately stored, in conjunction with advice from a suitable conservator and or museum. In addition, the role of private individuals and community custodians in caring for moveable heritage should also be recognized. The documentation of moveable items and collections is a critical aspect of the process.

When an item is listed on a heritage schedule, be it local, State or National, the accompanying inventory sheet should be clear and concise as to what is significant about the object and what is not. Inadequate descriptions on an inventory sheet will threaten the ability of authorities and legal entities to afford the item or collection appropriate protection. As well, during the processes of property transfer/lease or museum accessioning, it is critical to clearly detail each stakeholders rights and expectations. Otherwise, misconceptions and significant costs and angst will arise for all parties during the resolution process to establish each stakeholder's rights, such as is currently occurring in relation to the Paragon Café at Katoomba.

Faulconbridge

Lawson

Paragon interior

Education of the community is a key principle to protecting moveable heritage, as both the community and individuals play a significant part in managing and interpreting all cultural heritage. Community access and interpretation should be encouraged wherever possible, to pass on the significance of an item or collection from one generation or culture to the next.
In NSW, legislative protection can be achieved under various legislations, including the *Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979,* the *NSW Heritage Amendment Act 1998*, and the *Protection of Moveable Cultural Heritage Act 1986.*
In addition, grant funding programs are available at all levels of government for both groups and individuals, but will vary according to the criteria, available budgeting allocations, and listing status.

Patsy Moppett

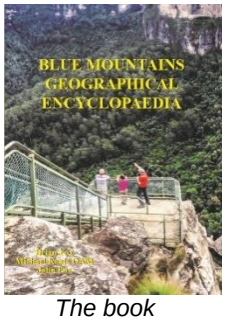
References:
Movable Heritage Principles, NSW Heritage Office 2000
Objects in their place, NSW Heritage Office 1999
What is moveable heritage and why is it important? Office of Environment & Heritage 2016
www.migrationheritage.nsw.gov.au

Community events & updates

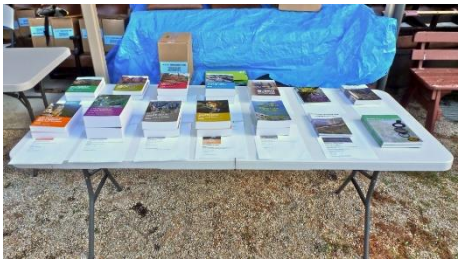
Book Launch : Blue Mountains Geographical Encyclopaedia

As flagged in the March-April edition of the BMACHO Newsletter, the launch of this book took place at Hobbys Reach, Wentworth Falls, on Monday 26 March 2018.
Peter Rickwood attended, and provides this account:
"At 8.30am Alan Foster opened up the premises and at 8.40am the authors arrived with vast quantities of their books, (one sold to a walk-in customer only 5 minutes after we arrived) - yes plural as they also had the intent of marketing their series on The Gardens of Stone National Park and Beyond. I arrived at 8.55am to find tables already set up in the area outside of the lecture room with John Fox and Michael Keats about to unpack books from numerous boxes. Brian was inside working with Alan on the electronic equipment. Also, inside the building were Jenny Keats and Jenny Fox who had the kitchen tasks well under control and were about to set up tables and plates of cakes etc. So all seemed under control and there was still an hour to go ! But there was a cold wind so we were a bit concerned about those who were to man the tables outside.
It was not long before droves of Fox relatives arrived to increase the work force and almost all did - the exception being the 92 year-old father of Brian and John Fox.
Tea and coffee was being served long before the appointed hour of 10.00am and by then some persons had occupied seats in the lecture room and others had marked where they intended to sit. Proceedings were commenced promptly at 10.30am by which time the hall was almost full - a wonderful response for a Monday. And most of the people therein were clutching newly purchased copies of the *Blue Mountains Geographical Encyclopaedia*.

The buyers



The book



The enticements

My introduction was short - as had been directed - and then Brian Fox took over. Towards the end of his "talk" he asked each of his co-authors "Dorothy Dix" questions to get them to participate. Not satisfied with quizzing his colleagues he then posed questions to the audience, mostly about names of places in the Blue Mountains, and rewarded responders with small gifts which were thrown in the right direction but did not always reach the respondent. It was an amusing episode and informative too.
I closed the session at 11.10am and thereafter sales continued under the control of family members as Brian, Michael and John were engaged in discussions with various attendees for another hour or so.
I cannot comment about the success of the sales but money seemed to be being handed over continually before and after the formal presentation so I guess it went well. Indeed, each of the authors commented later about their satisfaction with the way things had gone. But to the book *Blue Mountains Geographical Encyclopaedia*. No, it is not a 'good read', and was never intended to be, but it is an incredibly useful resource into which to dip from time to time. During a visit to Spatial Services in Bathurst earlier in the month the leader of the Geographical Names Board commented that he was waiting to get a copy, so what better endorsement do you want?" *Peter Rickwood*
The new book is on sale for $50.00, and Brian asks to be contacted if you require more information. If you would like to purchase a copy, this can be organised by an email or phone call.

Authors: Fox, B., Keats, M. and. Fox. J. (2018) Blue Mountains Geographical Encyclopaedia. Keats Holdings Pty. Ltd. 544pp.

Brian Fox
Ph: 6332 2590 Mob: 0407 067 081
Email: brianandelaine@aapt.net.au

Tour - Passion: Francis Greenway's Windsor & Liverpool

On Saturday 5th May 2018 Hawkesbury Historical Society is holding a car-tour, being a tour of features of Francis Greenway's Windsor and Liverpool. The tour will be led by historians and authors Jan Barkley-Jack and Ian Jack.

Thompson's Square

Although Francis Greenway came to NSW as a convicted forger and died in obscurity, he brought distinction to Australian colonial architecture. Windsor and Liverpool are the two of Macquarie's country towns which retain rare public works designed by Greenway.

The tour includes the site of the large wharf in Thompson Square redesigned by Greenway after the 1817 floods, and detailed inspections of St Matthew's Anglican Church Windsor, the Rectory and Stables, Windsor Courthouse, St Luke's Anglican Church, Liverpool and externally, old Liverpool Hospital.

St Matthew's

Windsor Court House

St Luke's

The tour will begin at 9.45am in Thompson Square, George Street, Windsor and end at 4.00pm at the Burial Ground, Liverpool.
Book individually: $25 per person (we can arrange transport), or by car group: $50 per car (no more than 5 people). Bookings are essential. Buy/bring own food.

Bookings are online via EVENTBRITE: https://www.eventbrite.com.au
OR by cheque to PO Box 293, Windsor 2756

Inquiries: secretaryhawkesburyhistory@gmail.com
OR phone the Treasurer: (02) 9659 4103

FAHS - last minute reprieve

The Federation of Australian Historical Societies was established in 1977 to communicate with governments and public officials to inform them about issues affecting historical societies and museums, and to advocate the interests of historical societies and museums. It provides members with access to a variety of guides and training materials to assist their operations historical societies, including guides to heritage identification and protection, heritage tourism, cultural landscapes, writing and publishing local history, disaster planning and recovery, local history and schools' curriculums. In addition, the FAHS publishes an E-Bulletin, and a Newsletter.

Federation of Australian Historical Societies Inc.

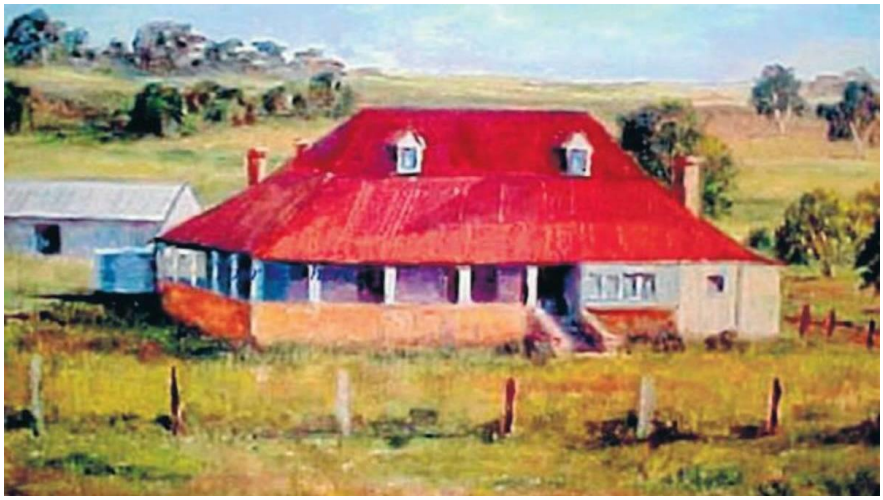
Recently the Commonwealth government announced that they would no longer support the FAHS or any other forms of voluntary community heritage. The implications for staffing, publications, training, conservation and research for FAHS were going to be significant.
A cry for help was issued to the community to lend support to the plea for ongoing funding. However, a last minute reprieve was found and Minister Frydenberg announced an amount of $80,000 would be allocated to the group. Timing and outlay is not as yet clear, and updates will be provided on the FAHS website.
For those people already preparing submissions of support, the FAHS has asked that they be held over for now. *Patsy Moppett*

www.history.org.au

Moyne Cemetery Conservation, Hartley

The historic Moyne Farm cemetery at Little Hartley near Lithgow will be preserved and made accessible to the public with help from a grant of $80,000 from the NSW Government's Heritage Near Me Program.

Member for Bathurst Paul Toole said the project would enhance public appreciation of the historic cemetery.



A painting of the historic Moyne Farm by Yvonne Jenkins, courtesy of Francis Owens

"Moyne Farm was believed to be the first farm house built over the mountains and the cemetery contains several graves dating from the 1830s," Mr Toole said.

"This project will see the cemetery undergoing work including monument repairs, fencing, development of a conservation management strategy and, in conjunction with the Lithgow Branch of the National Trust, a plan for ongoing public access and interpretation of the cemetery.

"The project will also use ground penetrating radar to determine the number of burials onsite."

Mr Toole said this funding is from the Heritage Near Me program's Local Heritage Strategic Project grants, which aims to support local communities to enhance and protect their local heritage assets.

The grants are awarded to owners and managers of local heritage items and community groups.

For more information on the Heritage Near Me Program, including available grants visit www.environment.nsw.gov.au/heritage-near-me.

Tour: Land & Property Information, Bathurst

As previously publicised, BMACHO undertook a tour of Spatial Services at Bathurst on Thursday 15th March 2018.

Much has changed since BMACHO last toured in 2010. The innovation, advances in technology and projects which have been undertaken right across the organisation dazzled attendees.

In depth explanations

The tour group

Photographs courtesy of Keith Ward, Valley Heights

Spatial Services implements and monitors standards for the survey industry in NSW, and is the official source of land information for NSW, maintaining a digital cadastre map and a digital topographical map of the State. It also provides aerial photography, satellite imagery, addressing information, touring maps and a unique customised mapping service that tailors spatial information to meet specific needs.

The group arrived at 10am to receive morning tea, and then a welcome from senior staff. A tour was conducted of each section beginning with Survey Services, Cadastral Spatial Programs, Geographical Names Board, and Digital Services. After lunch the group were shown through Environmental Spatial Data Programs, Administrative Spatial DATA Programs, and Service Delivery. A Q&A session finished the day at 3.30pm.

The tour was an eye opener for most visitors, and we viewed fascinating old charts and survey equipment, learnt about historical parish map interpretation, geographical place naming, the scanning and digital recording of colonial manuscripts and title documents, the use of drones in modern land surveying and interpretation, printing services, plan/document /book restoration, as well as the administrative side of it all.

We came to realise the enormity of what goes on in the unimposing building on Panorama Avenue, and the vast number of people beavering away in there, to produce documents we find on line and take for granted in our research projects.

We also came to realise how passionate the speaker from each section was about their own particular area of expertise, and how the combined passion of the sections goes to making Spatial Services the valuable community service it is.

We were encouraged to visit again, so we envisage that BMACHO will repeat this excursion.

Patsy Moppett

Lithgow Blast Furnace Heritage Park – OFFICIAL OPENING

To mark the completion of the upgrade works and the re-opening of this iconic heritage site for public use, an event is being held on the site on Saturday 12th May 2018. The opening coincides with the first night of the LithGlow Heritage Festival Light Show that will showcase the Blast Furnace by night.

The event will be opened by Ray Christison, President of the City of Greater Lithgow Mining Museum, and a historical archaeologist.

The upgrading works commenced in 2014/2015 and involved two stages:

- Stage 1: Repair and remediation works to remaining brick ruins
- Stage 2: Masterplan works, to provide safe and accessible visitor access, together with a new interpretive strategy.

The event will commence at 4pm with a welcome and site inspection. The official opening and speeches will be at 4.30pm, and entertainment by *Celtic Heart* will delight attendees. The Light Show is scheduled for 5.30pm to 10pm on the night. *Matthew Johnson*
RSVP by 4th May 2018 to:
matthew.johnson@lithogow.nsw.gov.au
The site is located on Inch Street, Lithgow. Parking for official attendees will be available on site.

BMACHO Conference 2018: Heritage Landscapes

Book in now for the 2018 Conference, *"Heritage Landscapes*". The Conference will be held on Saturday 12th May 2018, at Mount Victoria Manor, 11 Montgomery Street, Mount Victoria. The cost will be $70 for registrations from 13th March to 30th April 2018.This registration fee covers individual attendance at the conference, morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea. Speakers have been confirmed, and the topics to be covered on the day include:

- Keynote Speaker – Stuart Read, Office of Environment & Heritage: "Landscape and garden-themed trails as Blue Mountains lure".
- Colleen Morris: Heritage consultant: "Sorensen Gardens".
- Associate Professor Ian Jack, Senior Fellow and Archivist, St Andrew's College, University of Sydney: "Eurama and the nearby Parkes property at Faulconbridge".
- Kate O'Neill: Woodford Academy Management Committee: "Woodford Reserve 1830-2018: as good as the most capricious taste could desire".
- Mary Reynolds: Mount Wilson & Mount Irvine Historical Society: "Mount Wilson Gardens".
- Aunty Sharyn Halls: Gundungurra elder and member of the Gundungurra Aboriginal Heritage Association: "The Gully & Gundungurra Country".
- Bruce Cameron, historian & author: "The Blue Labyrinth".

The Conference is Proudly sponsored by Scenic World Shared

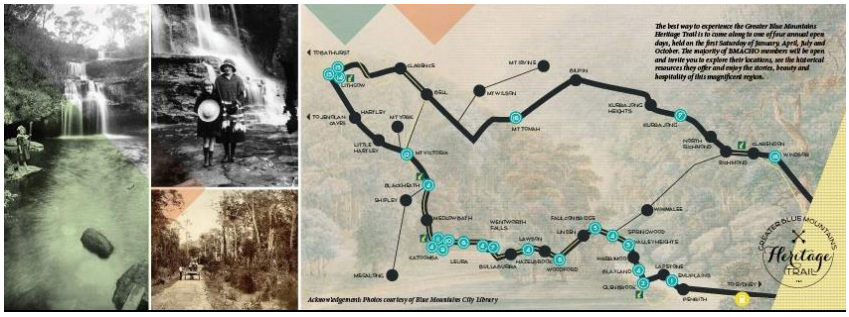
Registration is from 8.45am and the Conference concludes at 4.30pm.

Accommodation is available within Mount Victoria and at the Manor, and train access takes you to within walking distance of the venue. Trade tables will be available.

Full costs, program and booking details can be found on the BMACHO website.

Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail Update

Westpac
Australia's First Bank



BMACHO continues to promote the Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail and members' upcoming events. BMACHO have reprinted the Heritage Trail brochure which has now been distributed to visitors' centres across the region.

Heritage with Altitude!!

The Trail is an ideal activity for the kids and grandkids, be it in the school holidays or any weekend! Collect the Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail brochure at participating venues and Visitor Information Centres.

If you are a member and you would like further information, or if you would like to become a member, please email the BMACHO Secretary at committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au
For general information about BMACHO and the Trail, see heritagedrive.com.au or www.facebook.com/GBMHeritageTrail
To find out more about BMACHO visit www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au

BMACHO Committee 2018-2019

BMACHO presents your Committee for the coming twelve months as follows:

- President: Patsy Moppett (Individual Member)
- Vice-President: Ian Jack (Individual Member, and President of Hawkesbury Historical Society)
- Treasurer: Philip Hammon (Individual Member)
- Secretary: Fiona Burn (Individual Member)

Elected to the Committee were Roy Bennett, Rae Clapshaw, Summar Hipworth, Jan Koperberg, Dick Morony and Suzanne Smith.

Note 1: The tasks of the secretarial role will be carried out through Fiona, she being the minute secretary, with Jan Koperberg being the correspondence secretary and webmaster.
Note 2: Subcommittee memberships are set down on the last page of this Newsletter.

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

Registered office: 1/19 Stypandra Place, Springwood 2777. (02) 4751 5834
Email: committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au or j.koperberg@bigpond.com
Website: www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au **ABN**: 53 994 839 952

The organisation: Blue Mountains Association of Cultural & Heritage Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 after local historical and heritage societies and individuals recognised the need for the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the local government area (LGA) of Blue Mountains City Council. The constituency now embraces but is not limited to, the LGAs of Blue Mountains, Lithgow, Hawkesbury and Penrith. BMACHO membership includes historical and heritage groups, museums, commercial enterprises with an historical or heritage component in its core business, local government (local studies units, library collections) and a limited number of individual members by invitation such as but not necessarily academics. The objectives of the organisation are:

1. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage
2. To encourage and assist cultural heritage
3. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations.

One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

Affiliations: BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society.

Publications: BMACHO's official newsletter ***Heritage*** is edited by Patsy Moppett. The annual refereed *Blue Mountains History Journal* is edited by Dr Peter Rickwood and occasional papers are published from time to time.

Membership: The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mt Tomah; Blue Mountains City Library; Blue Mountains Cultural Heritage Centre; Blue Mountain Education & Research Trust; Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc; Blue Mountains Historical Society; Bygone Beautys Treasured Teapot Museum and Tearooms; City of Lithgow Mining Museum Inc; Colo Shire Family History Group; Eskbank Rail Heritage Centre; Everglades Historic House & Gardens; Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc; Hartley Valley District Progress Association; Hawkesbury Historical Society Inc; Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc; Leuralla NSW Toy & Railway Museum; Lithgow & District Family History Society Inc; Lithgow – Eskbank House Museum and Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies; Mt Victoria & District Historical Society Inc; Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine Historical Society Inc (including Turkish Bath Museum); National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Blue Mountains Branch; National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Lithgow Branch; Nepean District Historical Society Inc; Norman Lindsay Gallery and Museum; Paragon Cafe, Katoomba; Scenic World Blue Mountains Limited; Springwood Historical Society Inc; Springwood Historians Inc; Transport Signal Communication Museum Inc; Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Heritage Museum, Woodford Academy Management Committee, Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd.
The following are individual members: Wendy Blaxland, Fiona Burn, Ray Christison, Dr Wayne Hanley, Associate Professor Ian Jack, Ian Milliss, Patsy Moppett, Keith Painter, and Dr Peter Rickwood.

Committee: The management committee for 2017-2018 (from March 2017) is: Patsy Moppett (President and ***Heritage*** Newsletter Editor), Ian Jack (Vice President), Fiona Burn (Secretary), Philip Hammon (Treasurer), Dick Morony (Public Officer/Membership Secretary/ Calendar Editor), Suzanne Smith (Events and Venue Co-ordinator),Jan Koperberg, Summar Hipworth, Rae Clapshaw and Roy Bennett.
Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail sub-committee: Fiona Burn, Jan Koperberg, Rae Clapshaw and Suzanne Smith, with guest member Gay Hendrickson.
Blue Mountains History Conference 2018 sub-committee: Summar Hipworth, Ian Jack, Jan Koperberg and Patsy Moppett.

Disclaimer: views and opinions expressed in Heritage originate from many sources and contributors. Every effort is taken to ensure accuracy of material. Content does not necessarily represent or reflect the views and opinions of BMACHO, its committee or its members. If errors are found feedback is most welcome.

Heritage

Newsletter of the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc

May-June 2018 *ISSUE 56*

ISSN 2203-4366

Hadley Park, Castlereagh

The Heritage Council of NSW considers nominations for listing on the State Heritage Register based on an assessment of heritage significance and taking into account any submissions received from the public. Section 33 (3) of the NSW Heritage Act 1977 requires that the Heritage Council must be of the view that the item is of State heritage significance before it makes a recommendation to the Minister.

Upon receipt of a recommendation for listing from the Heritage Council of NSW it is the Minister for Heritage who has to consider that recommendation and decide whether or not to direct the listing of the item on the State Heritage Register under Section 32 (1) of the Heritage Act.

Hadley Park, Castereagh

One such item currently under consideration is Hadley Park, Castlereagh. Castlereagh was one of the five Macquarie towns proclaimed by Governor Lachlan Macquarie in 1810. Hadley Park was the earliest known European settlement in this location at the time. Charles Hadley acquired land at Castlereagh and his home, possibly the small adjacent weatherboard cottage, was erected in about 1806. The main house may have been built nearer to 1801 and still stands today.

Hadley Park is located on one of the 31 grants given out by Governor King in the Castlereagh (Mulgrave Place) area. Most of the grants had river frontages, and had a regular north-south orientation. They ranged from 70 to 160 acres, and the size reflected

social status and family size. The 89 acre block was originally granted to Martin Mentz (Mintz/Mince) in 1803. He cleared and cultivated the land, living on the property.
Charles Hadley was a convict, who arrived on the *Matilda* in the Third Fleet in 1791. He obtained his pardon, and returned to England, arriving back in 1806. In 1806 Mentz leased 30 acres to Charles Hadley.
In 1812 Hadley married Sarah Phillips, with whom he already had a son (Charles Jnr). By 1812 they had seven more children. Hadley had developed his farm, and was supplying meat to the depot at Emu Plains. He had a publican's licence as early as 1817, for his premises "The First and Last" (location unknown).
By 1821 he had accumulated 300 acres, and he became involved in the local community.
In 1827 Sarah left him for a neighbour, John Griffiths, leaving Charles with 9 children.
Charles died the following year. He left Hadley Park to his son Charles, who maintained the property until his death in 1891.
The property withstood numerous floods during the 19th century, including one in 1864, and the notorious 1867 event, which washed away all Charles Jnr's furniture and household goods.

Early main dwelling

Contemporary deterioration

Charles Jnr died in 1891 and his wife died a few days later, both of influenza. The property then passed to their son-in-law, William Alvan Hadley Childs, the husband of their daughter Louisa Matilda Hadley. In 1892 the property was noted as having a brick house of seven rooms, a barn, stable and outbuildings, all in a dilapidated condition.
William and Louisa's son William Charles was the owner in 1898. A number of lots had been sold off by Charles Hadley under his will, and young William set about purchasing them back, bringing the property back to 80 acres. He then ran the property as a successful dairy farm.
Upon his death in 1950, his son William George inherited the southern part, and his daughters, Elsa and Hannah, the northern part (44 acres) which included the main house.
Between 1940 and 1961 a few improvements were made including a hay shed and orchards. The orchards were removed by 1978.
Elsa and Hannah owned Hadley Park until 1972, when it was sold to a sand and gravel quarry company, who quarried the western sector.
Hadley Park's ownership was passed down through the generations of descendants of the Hadley and Hadley Childs families for over 150 years.
Jacqueline Flower, a sixth-generation descendant of Charles Hadley, was the last person to live in the property in 2008. She lived in a cottage on the site from 1996.
The Penrith Lakes Development Corporation took ownership in 1998, and commenced sand mining, The dwelling and farm buildings have since remained unoccupied.
Today it comprises a farm house, several farm buildings and a garden, within a rural landscape, which includes the lakes scheme on the Nepean River floodplain. The main features are located on the original 1803 lot, and the eastern section was quarried and then flooded as part of Lake Burralow. The western section slopes down to Cranebrook Creek.

In 2010-2011 the Penrith Lakes Development Corporation (PLDC) undertook extensive works to stabilise the premises, under the direction of reputable heritage practitioners, with the support of the NSW Heritage Office.

A significant rural landscape

In 2013 a Conservation Management Plan was drawn up by Godden Mackay Logan, on behalf of the PLDC.
Today the property is not listed on Schedule 5 of the Penrith Local Environmental Plan.
The site was opened to the public in early 2018, and many people were able to view the site and its remarkable collection of intact buildings.
Recently the State Government has started a process to list the Hadley Park precinct on the State Heritage Register. Penrith State Liberal MP Stuart Ayres urged the community to make submissions in support of the listing to the NSW Heritage Council.
"Anyone with an interest in our history and in preserving this important property is encouraged to make their submission before the cut off," he said.
Submissions closed on Monday, 5 March 2018, and the community awaits the results of the State government's deliberations.

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Food for thought ..... Editor's note

We have been able to present plenty of "food for thought" in this issue! From the historic home of Charles Hadley at Castlereagh, to catering on the early railways in NSW, travelling to Jenolan Caves in the early 1900s, and looking at the preservation of moveable (movable?) heritage, we hope we have your interests covered.
And because it is autumn, a wide range of events are being held to commemorate our history and heritage. Only a few are listed here due to space constraints!
In particular, the subject of moveable heritage is covered in a broad fashion, but the matter is a very involved and emotive one. We have touched briefly on the legal aspects of the preservation process, but every community organisation or individual should be aware of the implications of NOT getting it right. It is a shame that heritage ownership must be subjected to the intense interpretation and investigation that can occur, where past owners and land managers have not accurately recorded, or been aware of, the details around lease and purchase of property and building contents, and accessioning activities.
We can only learn from current experiences, and know that history should be shared in a way that is accessible to the whole community, without encumbrances which might necessitate removal of objects from their contexts, or total destruction of objects or collections.
It is to be hoped that the collectors of this world, be it individuals or groups, continue to accurately collate (as far as possible) information about singular items and collections, together with associated provenance, conveying the significance of those artifacts and their stories through to future generations.
We encourage BMACHO members to regularly review the documentation of their items and collections, utilizing formal auditing processes where funding permits, and ensure that all bases and scenarios are covered as much as possible.

Getting a Bite to Eat on NSW Rail

Overview

If the description by John Rae, Commissioner for the New South Wales Government Railways (NSWGR) in 1871 is anything to go by, early railway food services were most unsatisfactory …. *"the keepers of what are facetiously termed refreshment rooms on our Railways are little more than apple stall holders and vendors of lollypops and stale pastry, serving out junks of sandwiches and messes of tea and coffee to their customers without any regard to their accommodation or comfort"*.
Obviously the only way was up.
The NSWGR had fallen behind the railway systems of other colonies in the provision of refreshments for passengers. Inspired by the facilities he had seen in Britain and Europe, Commissioner Rae decided to improve the situation and succeeded. The first station restaurants were leased to private operators and opened at Mittagong and Mt Victoria in 1873, followed by Central Station in 1874. The operators were licensed to provide hot beverages, hot and cold meals, and take-away baskets for consumption during the journey.
Temperance Societies were alarmed at the suggestion that alcohol may be available, which they asserted had caused many railway accidents in Britain. They successfully petitioned Parliament on the subject for a time.

Casino Railway Refreshment Room in 1947
Source: NSW State Archives

Following considerable pressure over decades to improve the standards of catering, a Railway Refreshment Room (RRR) service was established in 1916. The NSWGR took control from private operators and all the outlets were linked to a network of operations. Local businesses were initially upset as provisions once purchased from the neighbouring township were frequently brought in from Sydney.

Passengers had to wait another ten years before they were able to experience on-board train dining with a service which commenced on limited lines from 1926.

Eventually there would be a total of 52 'ref' rooms across New South Wales, serving hot grills, soup, sandwiches, cold meats and salads, a range of beverages and the ubiquitous railway pies.

Already, from 1906, the thousands of people who passed through Central Station had a range of options. They could ascend the grand staircase to the elegant Dining Room to enjoy high class silver service or enter The Grill Room downstairs, which later became the cafeteria.

Milk shakes, hot aerated milk, fountain drinks and aerated waters were available from milk bars and kiosks on the Main Assembly Platform and on the Eddy Avenue concourse.

Passengers short of time could order food hampers ahead of their journey and collect them for a small fee, which included a deposit for the crockery and cutlery – no sign of plastic.

For last-minute decisions, there were Basket Boys carrying large cane containers over their shoulders, walking the platforms selling snacks, sandwiches, sweets and ice creams amongst the cacophony of whistles, hissing steam and milling crowds.

From the early 20th century, platform buffet trolleys usually staffed by women were laden with urns serving piping hot tea and coffee plus fresh sandwiches, cakes and confectionery.

Today, these are gone and all food outlets at Central are run by the private sector. Automatic vending machines and 'fast food' outlets have replaced the 'basket boys', platform kiosks and buffet trolleys.

Quenching the thirst

In the first days of rail travel in NSW from 1855, passengers carried their own supplies of water or waited until their train stopped at a station where they could fill containers from water tanks. Subsequently, water was carried in canvas bags suspended on the outside of carriages and kept cool through the transfer of heat during evaporation. However, this ‘facility’ wasn’t popular as much of the water was lost through spillage, it tasted of dust and

grime, and the contents had to be shared amongst fellow passengers. It wasn't until 1914 that contractors were appointed to supply large blocks of ice for the station railway water tanks so that the water for refilling the bottles could be kept cool.
The first glass water bottles and tumblers were introduced into passenger compartments in 1892. They were filled at Central Station and replenished by staff at country stations along mail and mainline routes. Still, it must have been a nightmare for public health authorities trying to stop the spread of disease.
Prior to this in 1883, despite the vigorous campaigns of the Temperance Movement, the sale of alcohol to bona fide railway travellers stopping at Refreshment Rooms with liquor licenses was introduced. The range of wines, beers and spirits was extensive, each carefully measured out by bar staff into a range of specially marked glassware to restrict hurried over-imbibing and ensure fair value.

Railway Refreshment Rooms

A common factor among RRRs was steaming teapots, filled from heated urns, to keep up the supply to thirsty passengers. In on-board sleeping cars, an early morning 'cuppa' was delivered to passengers by the Conductor or Car Attendant.
There were fewer coffee drinkers than today and they had little choice but tentatively sipping on scalding milk coffee frequently flavoured with liquid chicory essence.

Mt Victoria RRR Museum Display
Source: Mt Victoria & District Historical Society Museum

Wynyard Buffet style RRR 1936
Source: NSW State Archives

Five different categories of RRRs offered combinations of liquor bar, counter service and full dining room meals depending on the size of the station and the volume of travelling public. The RRRs at larger stations even had their own poultry yards.
The menu choices of hearty home-style fare were standard across the State. It was all very traditional English-style with no suggestion of any Asian-style or Mediterranean influences. For breakfast, a set table meal included porridge, ham and eggs, grills or cutlets, fish, toast with preserves or marmalade with tea, coffee or a glass of milk.
Counter lunches included pork sausages and mashed potatoes, haricot chops, steak and kidney pies and vegetables, salads with tea, coffee or milk. Sandwiches, scones, meat pies, cakes, pastries and beverages could be purchased over the counter.
Dinner patrons enjoyed hot soup, a choice of fish, poultry or a hot roast joint of meat, followed by pudding and pastry. An extensive range of cigarettes and cigars, which could be smoked on board in designated carriages, could also be purchased.
The last RRR to open was at Wynyard Station in 1932, distinguished by an elegant Art Deco interior, air-conditioning and kitchens where meals could be prepared in full view of the public.

A plethora of choice

Railway Refreshment Rooms (RRR) were often located where the engines had to take on coal and water or change or add locomotives. Serving three-course meals to a trainload of hungry passengers whose eating time was determined by timetables and trains which could not wait for the last diners to finish their meal, was challenging.

At the smaller stations, trains might stop for 8-10 minutes, with a flurry of activity for staff. At larger stations, staff had 30 minutes to serve a room full of diners with 3 course meals or light refreshments at the counter bar.
I travelled back from a trip to the Snowy Mountains in winter as a teenager in the Scouts by the night mail train from Cooma to Sydney when the refreshment room staff were overwhelmed with numbers and sold us cold pies to munch as we huddled in the FS car for a long tedious steam journey to Goulburn and then diesel to Central. The cold pies made it seem much longer.
Meanwhile, a bell would be rung in the Railway Refreshment Rooms 10 minutes before the train departed - then it was time to wash-up and set tables before the next train would arrive. Staff would be informed by telegraph wire in advance of the numbers on board the next train to ensure they had enough meals ready to be served.
Despite the hustle and bustle, the dining room tables were often elegantly set with white linen and silver plated cutlery and tea sets. The refreshment rooms generally had a welcoming, sedate, homely atmosphere between the rushes with vases of fresh flowers and bowls of fruit on the tables and side boards. However, at Moss Vale Station the Governor had a large ornate private dining room.
Nevertheless, the kitchens were a hive of activity from pre-dawn until the departure of the last train for the evening. A busy RRR might have a complement of chef, second cook, pastry, pudding or sweets cook, pie-maker or roll-baker, third or relief cook, second pastry cook, grill or stove cook, fish cook and a vegetable cook; assisted by stewards and waiters, and kitchen hands, scullery staff and young 'usefuls' for odd jobs. In the absence of today's high standards of food training, skills were acquired through apprenticeship and on-the-job training.
RRR kitchen staff were complemented by service workers, many of whom were women. There was a manager, head and assistant head girls, barmaids, dining room waitresses, pantry maids, counter hands, housemaids and buffet girls.
Conditions for the women, many of whom worked in partnership with spouses or other family members, were unsatisfactory. Not only did most earn only half the wage of their male equivalent, they had almost no job security and were forced to work part-time on broken shifts, and sometimes with as little as three hours off a day. They were often the first to be retrenched.
As far as staff dress, late 19th century RRR cooks and waitresses wore caps and serge tunics reminiscent of nursing uniforms. From the 1920s, the uniforms were inspired by 'diner' styles as seen in American magazines and movies featuring subdued colours and jaunty caps and headpieces.
In the austere war years of the 1940s and rationing, green cotton 'wrap' style dresses were introduced for easy care and wear.
From the 1950s, the benchmark for women’s uniforms were set by airline hostess styles, with mix and match combinations for a corporate, sometimes almost military look, in a range of bright colours.
This style of uniform was worn by the female crew when Buffet Dining Cars were introduced in 1950 on the new eight-car air conditioned Riverina Express. The following year the same service was added to the Northern Tablelands Expresses.
The role of RRRs had been gradually changing after the War as it had become increasingly difficult to recruit suitable staff. Table service was replaced by counter service and set menus were encouraged in response to tighter timetabling. Modern kiosks were introduced at a number of suburban stations.
However, by the mid-fifties with the rapid uptake of dieselisation, several RRRs were closed, others were modified to exclude table accommodation, and some were leased to private enterprise as they had originally started in the 1870s. Eventually all cost-inefficient rooms and catering services on board trains were closed.
In 1962 the women’s uniforms changed again. Dorothy Darke from the Australian Women's Weekly designed bright new turquoise blue cotton shirtmaker dresses, worn with

monogrammed forage style caps. Ten years later, she updated the look with a vibrant jade uniform featuring gold buttons and embroidered with the initials for the new Trading and Catering Services.
It was an era of constant name and image changes in the Railways. So, the ‘new’ uniforms were soon replaced with grey and blue uniforms to match the Public Transport Commission's livery for trains, buses and ferries and the job title changed from waitress to stewardess.
In 1980, the look changed again with the uniforms streamlined and coloured maroon and cream to match the new 'candy' livery of orange, dark red and white for State Rail.
No matter what the style, a strict dress code was enforced. Nail polish, high heeled shoes and non-regulation hair styles were strictly forbidden and jewellery restricted to watches and wedding rings.
There was a distinct military air, with a small badge worn to identify the job title. Seniority was denoted by bars on shoulder epaulettes. Trousers were not introduced as a uniform option for women until the 1980s.
Male uniforms in the Catering Division usually reflected the standard on-board train crew styles of the eras.
The service crew on board trains had few opportunities to prepare individual meals for à la carte dining owing to limited space for food storage and preparation. Time was short too, with set dining shift times allocated to passengers so menus offered only a small selection within each course.

Monogramed RRR cutlery and crockery display
Source: Mt Victoria & District Historical Society Museum

Wynyard Subway RRR
Source: State Archives

Made to last

Early railway china was manufactured locally at first, and then imported from large potteries in England, which produced tough, hard-wearing glazed earthenware and ironstone ceramics.
While monogrammed china, silverware and cutlery in Railway Refreshment Rooms added an air of distinction to the dining experience the logo was more likely intended as a security measure. Each piece was marked with a transfer printed monogram, incorporating a crown, with the letters RRR within a belted garter inscribed NSWGR.
This insignia was updated in 1962 when the abbreviation for RRR was replaced by TCS (for Trading and Catering Services).
A thoroughly modern look which departed from the use of a monogram, was chosen for the china for the all first class Southern Aurora, introduced in 1962 and the Indian Pacific in 1970. Some items were designed to reduce spillage during travel over bumpy sections of track, like the bowl shaped tea cup. On other routes, drivers would reduce speed to avoid the soup from being spilt during service.

Railway Kitchens

The heart of the railway food operation for the NSWGR was underneath Central Station. Here, deliveries of fresh produce would be made from Eddy Avenue and taken on trolleys to

the enormous industrial kitchens where a range of savoury and sweet food was prepared by an army of cooks and pastry cooks. From there it would be packed in large baskets and loaded onto trains for delivery to refreshment rooms across the State and to the railway workshops at Chullora where staff would be fed each day.
The scale of the operation was enormous. In 1942, 2,316,000 meat pies, 700 tons of meat, 100 tons of sausages, 42 tons of ham, 30 tons of bacon, 454 tons of potatoes, 92 tons of butter, 300,000 loaves of bread, 37,000lbs of tea, 36,000 lbs of coffee and 250,000 gallons of milk were distributed from Central.

Kitchen stove at Blayney Railway Station 2018
Source: Patsy Moppett

Railway kitchens across the State were equipped with huge coal-fired stoves for cooking and heating the water for the boilers. Large blocks of ice for keeping fresh meat, fish, vegetables, butter and milk cold would be sent regularly from Sydney, packed in sawdust and potato or wheat bags for insulation. Later, gas refrigeration was provided to keep food cool.
To improve productivity and efficiency, Railway Refreshment Rooms were phased out from the 1950s and replaced with on-board dining facilities on country routes. BS-class carriages built in the 1930s were converted and fitted with a food preparation area at one end, complete with gas refrigerator, ice cream cooler, hot water urns, a stainless-steel sink, pie warmer and shelves for crockery and cutlery. Passengers could dine in the wide servery space which was fitted with a curved counter and fixed stools or take food back to their seats. The Canberra Railway Museum had such a converted car in its fleet.

Catering during World War 2

During World War 2, all aspects of railway catering were under enormous continuous pressure for six years. Just the troop trains, which usually ran at night, carried 5,609,000 personnel. In one 36-hour period, 27 special troop trains arrived and departed Sydney for Brisbane and Melbourne during which time 26,850 meals were served.
After the War, in 1947, the NSWGR reported serving over 8,500,000 meals and light refreshments in its 52 Railway Refreshment Rooms. Another 1,500,000 meals were provided at country stations across the State by railway and volunteer staff - a total of over 10 million meals!

Mobile Buffet Trolley

Mobile buffet trolleys were introduced for the convenience of passengers to provide cool drinks, hot tea and coffee, sandwiches and sweets on the platform. They were also trialled at some country stations, including Albury and Moss Vale, to assist women travelling with young children and those who did not wish to leave the train to purchase food and drink.

A mobile tea and light refreshment buffet was introduced on to the steam platforms at Central Railway Station in 1948. Buffet dining cars were inaugurated in 1950 when they were added to the new eight-car Riverina Express.

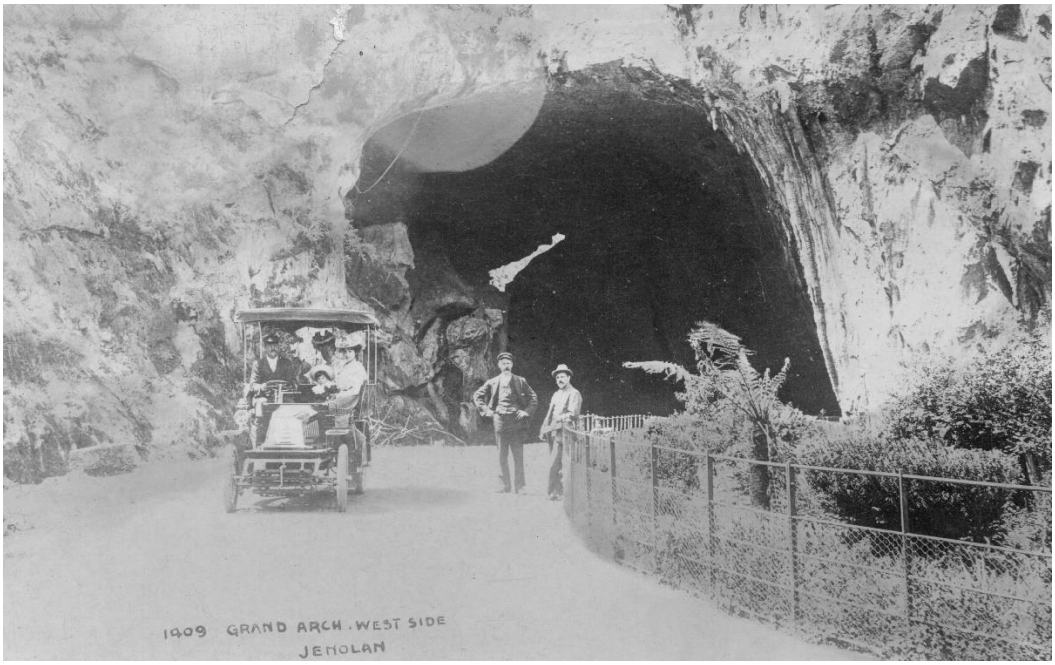
Central Station RRR Milk Bar in 1946, and Central station mobile buffet service 1948 with staff still wearing wartime wraps uniforms
Source: State Archives

In the Post-War period, the role of the Refreshment Rooms gradually changed. Table service was replaced by counter service, set menus were encouraged for time economies and in the mid to late 1950s, some rooms closed and others were leased to private enterprise.
The demise of the overnight mail train services, an increase in road and air travel and cost-cutting reviews eventually spelt the end for the RRRs. They were progressively closed from the mid-1950s, with Junee and Dubbo being the last to survive into the 1990s. It also meant the end of the hotel accommodation associated with RRRs at major junctions and interchanges. The first of these had opened at Junee and Werris Creek in 1885, followed by others at Newcastle, Wollongong, Moss Vale, Muswellbrook, Wellington and Yass Junction. By the mid-1980s, they had all closed. *Garry Reynolds*

A portion of this research has been based on the Food-to-Go Exhibition held at Central Railway Station in 2012.

The first car to reach Jenolan Caves?

I decided to write this article after reading Robyne Ridge's article "On the road to Jenolan Caves" in the *Blue Mountains Review* issue of 14 February 2018. The article included a reproduction of a postcard by Charles Kerry, showing an early model car outside the western entrance to the Grand Arch. This photo is one of the most commonly reproduced images connected with Jenolan Caves. There is no date on the photo, and it has been published with various dates estimated between 1903 and 1909. It has been claimed to be a photo of the first car to reach Jenolan Caves. None of the captions accompanying reproductions of this photo have ever named all the people in the picture.
The car in the photo [below] was probably imported by Mark Foy in early February 1903. Foy arrived back in Sydney, after a nine months overseas tour, on the "Friederich der Grosse" on 8 February 1903. The *Sydney Morning Herald* reported: "Mr Foy is importing three motor cars of the De Dion make. Two of these he will use in his business, and the other will be reserved for pleasure. The cars are of eight horse-power, which Mr Foy considers sufficient for the roads in Australia."



For many years the only reference to the earliest known car trip to Jenolan was the article by Ward Havard, "The Romance of Jenolan Caves", first published in 1933. Havard states: "Early in June 1903, Mr Mark Foy conducted a party in two motor cars from Blackheath. After delay occasioned by boggy roads and a mechanical defect in one car, the first car - an eight horse-power single cylinder De Dion, driven Mr B. Beckman - reached the Caves at 8 p.m., having left Blackheath at 11 a.m."

The only contemporary accounts of this trip I have found on Trove are from the *Lithgow Mercury* of Friday, 12 June 1903. These are reproduced below.

Jenolan Caves. A Motor Trip.

From our own Correspondent.

"Mr Mark Foy conducted a party of nine persons in two motor cars from Blackheath to Jenolan Caves, arriving here about 9 o'clock on Wednesday night. The trip was merely a trial one, and, considering the bad state of the roads at present, it was a decided success. The party left again the following morning for Blackheath, where they expected to arrive early in the afternoon. Although Mr Foy was quite satisfied with his run out, he is of opinion that motors of a little more power would be required to comfortably negotiate the steep pinches along the road between Mount Victoria and the Caves. Along the road in various places during yesterday's trip Mr Foy said that the wheels were buried to a depth of from 6 in. to 8 in. in the mud, so that the task can better be imagined than described."

Mount Victoria.

"Two motor-cars passed through on Wednesday from the Ivanhoe hotel for the Jenolan Caves, intending to return the same night to dinner at Blackheath. They contained in all some seven passengers."

A later article appeared in the *Lithgow Mercury* issue of 23 June 1903.

The Recent Motor Trip.

"To the Editor.

Sir - Re the experiment of a motor trip to the Jenolan Caves, you say in your journal that it was a very successful trip. I should like you to allow me space to flatly contradict that statement, as it was a complete failure, as the cars left Blackheath about 9 a.m. and reached the Caves about 9:30 p.m., the road being strewn with bushes in different parts to help progress. On the return journey one completely broke down, and remained at the Half-way House [at Hampton] for the fowls to roost on. As your report is likely to do me harm in my business, I would like you to do me the favour to insert what I have written to you - yours, etc.,

G.H. Cooper." June 18.
George Hubbard Cooper took tourists in horse-drawn coaches from his Grand Hotel at Mount Victoria to Jenolan Caves. Although motor cars did eventually "harm" his business, because the early cars were more expensive and less reliable than the coach trips, he was able to continue in business until his death in 1917.
Havard's article and the *Lithgow Mercury* articles have differences in such details as the departure and arrival times, and the newspaper articles do not mention the name of the driver or the makes of the cars. It is likely that Havard obtained information about the trip directly from Beckman, who was working as a guide at Jenolan Caves at the same time as him.
Summarising the information in these articles suggests that two cars left the Ivanhoe hotel at Blackheath at some time between 9 and 11 am, on Wednesday, 10 June, intending to return the same day to Blackheath, and arrived at the Caves at some time between 8 and 9.30 pm. The cars left the Caves the next morning, with only one making it back to Blackheath.
This well-known photograph has often been claimed to show the first car to reach Jenolan Caves. It should be noted that none of the articles quoted above claim that this journey by Mark Foy was the first car trip to the Caves, although Mark Foy was quoted as saying that it was "merely a trial".
Many readers will recall the exhibition entitled "The Air Up There. Vintage Tourism in the Blue Mountains" at the Blue Mountains Cultural Centre, which opened in December 2013. There was a gigantic reproduction of this photo, several metres tall, in the exhibition, beside a restored 1902 de Dion Bouton car loaned by Kevin Boardman. I was told by Boardman that the car in the photo and his restored model were of the same vintage.
On 7 September 1910 Mark Foy auctioned 15 cars, as he was intending to live overseas for some years. Car number 11 in the sale was:
"The Old Blue De Dion, "Old Bluey" as she was called, but she is now a new Bluey, being, you might say, a new Car.
Gentlemen, this Car was originally imported for a parcel delivery car by Mark Foy a great many years ago - but was never used for such. She was fitted with a body to carry 6 persons, and was absolutely the first motor car to run from the Blue Mountains to the Caves, and this Car did this work for years. The body is still to be had if wanted for any passenger service, and will be sold separately after the Car is sold; also her original parcel delivery body.
What an advertisement for Messrs De Dion Bouton this Car has been in Australia, and she pulls like a bulldog."
The car sold for £50.
Many years later, in July 1936, an article appeared in the *Lithgow Mercury* and *Katoomba Daily* with details about early motoring in the Blue Mountains. After a claim that Mr John Durie was the first to cross the Blue Mountains by car, the article concluded: "… Mr Mark Foy had cars running from Medlow Bath to the Caves at the time. Mr Bert Beckman, one of the guides at the Caves was the first man to drive a car down to Jenolan."
I copied the back of Mark Foy's own copy of this photo, owned by his granddaughter Mary Shaw, which had these words on the back, in his handwriting (reproduced in the original spelling):
"Lizzie, Mark junr 3 yrs and Sue Baxter. I think Roderiguz in car at Grand Arch Cave Jenolan. This was a very nice car. I called her the firefly she was some unknown make - not a de Dion."
Some years later, in a more shaky hand, Foy added the following comments: "about 3rd or 4th car in Australia. Lovely Car - I don't know what happened to it. Mr Roderigo leaning on fence, he was from Blackheath."
Most historians would think that you couldn't get a better primary source than the written words of someone who was actually on the trip. Unfortunately, there are mistakes in Foy's memories. Mark Foy Jr was born in January 1898, making him 5½ years old in mid-1903. Thomas Rodriguez is not in the photo. The car is definitely a 1902 model de Dion.

At this point, it will be of interest to identify the people in the picture.
The driver of the car is indeed “Bert” Beckman, as there are a number of other photos of him driving Foy’s cars. He was Axel Burnett Beckman (1881-1951), who married Rebecca Haslop in 1907 while still employed by Foy, and later became a guide at Jenolan Caves. Also in the front seat is Susan Baxter. Mary Shaw described her as an actress, but I could only find one record of her on Trove, in an amateur performance in Burwood in 1905. She may be the Susan J. Baxter born in Carcoar in 1877. Between them is Mark Francis Foy Jr (1898-1961). He was born out of wedlock in England while Mark Foy senior was still married to his first wife Annie née Davey. At the time of his son’s birth, Mark was waiting for approval from the Pope for an annulment of his first marriage on the grounds of non-consummation. When this, and his civil divorce, came through, he married ‘Lizzie’ in 1900. It is interesting that Mark Foy estimated his son’s age in the picture as three. If it was taken in 1903, it was actually three years since his marriage to Elizabeth, but over five years since Mark junior’s birth. It is possible that Mark and Elizabeth concealed the true year of their son’s birth to avoid scandal. Elizabeth, née Tweedie (1863-1940) is seated in the rear, wearing her customary large hat. Beside her, in the shadows, is another unidentified woman.
Standing on the road are two cave guides, James Carvosso (“Voss”) Wiburd (1866-1942), and John (“Jack”) Edwards (1866-1908), who is leaning on the fence. Both started working at Jenolan in 1885. Wiburd is wearing his official uniform, but Edwards is in casual clothing, and probably came to see the novel sight of the car.
If in fact this photo is of Mark Foy’s party’s return to Blackheath on Thursday 11 June 1903, it is a posed recreation of the arrival late at night on the day before, as it is taken on the west side of the Grand Arch, with the car facing west. It may have been just luck that there was a photographer at Jenolan that morning. Although Charles Kerry visited the Caves regularly, there is no indication that Mark Foy gave warning of his arrival to Kerry or one of his photographers.
Only three weeks after Foy’s trip on 10 June, it was announced that Rodriguez had “obtained a licence for a motor car to run between Blackheath and the Caves. He has already made several trips, and accomplished the run in four hours.” Rodriguez’ “Mountain Motor-car Company” was officially opened in late September 1903. It had two x 9 horsepower De Dions, each with seating for six people. The return fare between Blackheath and Jenolan Caves was 30 shillings. When accommodation and meals at the Caves, and cave inspection fees were added, a trip to Jenolan Caves was not affordable for working class people. At that time, a workman’s wage was about 42 shillings per week. George Cooper at Mt Victoria took a different approach, offering a five-day package tour. This included the return train fare from Sydney, return horse-drawn coach fares, two nights at the Grand Hotel, two overnight stays at Jenolan Caves House and three cave inspections for £3.12 shillings (i.e. 72 shillings). A more expensive option added a half day trip from Mount Victoria to Govett’s Leap, Katoomba and Wentworth Falls, with lunch at Toll’s Hotel, for a total of 84 shillings. Rodriguez must have decided to go “head-to-head” with Cooper and, in 1905, offered a similar package including car travel (with only one night at Jenolan) for a little under 74 shillings.

Early Ivanhoe Hotel

Early Hydro Majestic

Rodriguez' business was initially successful, and he ordered two new 20 horsepower cars from England. In mid-1904 Mark Foy offered him the job of manager at the Hydro Majestic. Rodriguez was probably overcommitted in trying to run the Hydro, his own Ivanhoe Hotel and the car transport businesses of both hotels. There was an obvious conflict of interests, with Rodriguez expected to manage Mark Foy's own fleet of cars commuting to Jenolan Caves as well as his own cars based at the Ivanhoe competing with them. Rodriguez' car transport business folded in about 1906.

Does the photo on the postcard actually show the first motor car to reach Jenolan Caves? None of the contemporary newspaper articles claimed that the car trip on 10 June 1903 was the first. It is interesting that Mark Foy did not claim this in his annotation on the back of the postcard. His statement about "Old Bluey" in 1910, that it "was absolutely the first Motor Car to run from the Blue Mountains to the Caves" is ambiguous. It may have been the first car to run a regular scheduled service from the Blue Mountains, but not necessarily the first car to ever reach the Caves.

It does seem a coincidence that there was a photographer at Jenolan Caves when he arrived on 10 June 1903, especially as Charles Kerry's branch studio did not open at the Caves until 1904. The souvenir booklet, detailing the products available from the studio, and published by Kerry in 1904 features the photo of Foy's car on the cover. Elery Hamilton-Smith, the expert on the history of photography at Jenolan Caves, puts the date of publication of the postcard at 1905, as it has a 'divided back' (a line separating correspondence and the address) which was only allowed by the postal authorities from 1905. Of course, the photo could have been taken earlier than this.

Until a contemporary article listing the passengers on the 10-11 June 1903 trip is located, it cannot be assumed that the photo on the postcard was taken on this day. Look at how lightly clad the passengers are in the open cabin. If it was winter they would be wearing overcoats and scarves. Would Mark Foy have taken his wife and young son and two other women on the very first car trip to Jenolan Caves? There is no definitive evidence that the car shown was the first to reach Jenolan Caves. Although Mark Foy's memory was muddled by the time he wrote on the back of the postcard, it is possible that the first car to reach the Caves was his "Firefly", not a De Dion. The photo could have been taken during one of the "several" trial runs by Rodriguez in the three weeks after 10 June, or at any time before the opening of his motor transport company in September. Alternatively, the photo could have been taken in the spring of 1904, when regular services were arriving from the Hydro Majestic and there was more likelihood of a Kerry company photographer being on site. *Jim Smith*

Acknowledgement: Thanks is due to the late Elery Hamilton-Smith for his assistance with this research.

References available upon request.

The Technical Side

Moveable (Movable) Heritage

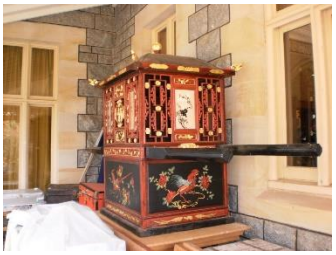
Of late, and in conjunction with the matter of archiving, comes consideration and concern for the preservation and conservation of moveable heritage. But what is moveable heritage? This can be used to define any natural or manufactured object of heritage significance. It is portable, therefore easily sold off, relocated or thrown away. Moveable heritage items may not be valued by the next generation or another culture so it is vulnerable to loss, damage or destruction, theft and disposal.

It may include jewelry, china, furniture, correspondences, photographs, vehicles, museum collections and objects, industrial, agricultural and commercial machinery, but does not include archaeological relics found under water or underground.

The critical thing for collection managers and owners is firstly to recognize whether an object or collection has significance. This can be a very subjective and emotional exercise.

Although every object cannot be preserved, an item's significance should first be assessed

within its context, and with regard to its importance to associated people and places. Once an item is removed from its context its significance is markedly reduced. However, sometimes it is necessary to remove an object from its location to undertake preservation, such as where threatened by eg. demolition or by coastal wave activity.



Abercrombie House

Ben Chifley Home

Millthorpe Museum

Therefore, whether the item or collection is to be removed or not, it is imperative to document the particulars of the object or collection, such as location, arrangement, details of manufacture, ownership and use. We need to document how and where the object was used, who owned it and any stories relating to its use and/or operation. This assists in retaining the history of both the object and the location. The provenance of the item is just as important as the object itself.

Methods which can assist in this include:

- Photographing the item and its location/context.
- Make up an inventory of the items in a collection, recording their relationships to people and places.
- Undertake oral histories with reference to the item and its context.
- Research the local history and historical changes in the locality.
- Examine and document the condition of the object.

Finally, based on the above, make an assessment of significance of the object or collection and prepare a conservation management plan (CMP).

Until such time as funding is available to undertake both the CMP and its recommendations, ensure that the object or collection is secure from pests and the elements, retained in context where possible. This is a matter which has arisen at both Mt Wilson and Woodford in recent months, and those communities have sought to undertake suitable measures to protect their paper collections. Where adaptive reuse is proposed to a building or place, some articles, architectural features etc may need to be removed and appropriately stored, in conjunction with advice from a suitable conservator and or museum. In addition, the role of private individuals and community custodians in caring for moveable heritage should also be recognized. The documentation of moveable items and collections is a critical aspect of the process.

When an item is listed on a heritage schedule, be it local, State or National, the accompanying inventory sheet should be clear and concise as to what is significant about the object and what is not. Inadequate descriptions on an inventory sheet will threaten the ability of authorities and legal entities to afford the item or collection appropriate protection. As well, during the processes of property transfer/lease or museum accessioning, it is critical to clearly detail each stakeholders rights and expectations. Otherwise, misconceptions and significant costs and angst will arise for all parties during the resolution process to establish each stakeholder's rights, such as is currently occurring in relation to the Paragon Café at Katoomba.

Faulconbridge

Lawson

Paragon interior

Education of the community is a key principle to protecting moveable heritage, as both the community and individuals play a significant part in managing and interpreting all cultural heritage. Community access and interpretation should be encouraged wherever possible, to pass on the significance of an item or collection from one generation or culture to the next.
In NSW, legislative protection can be achieved under various legislations, including the *Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979,* the *NSW Heritage Amendment Act 1998*, and the *Protection of Moveable Cultural Heritage Act 1986.*
In addition, grant funding programs are available at all levels of government for both groups and individuals, but will vary according to the criteria, available budgeting allocations, and listing status.

Patsy Moppett

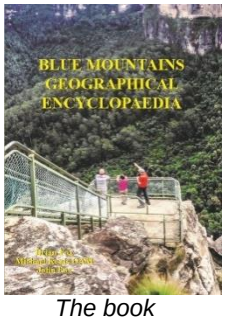
References:
Movable Heritage Principles, NSW Heritage Office 2000
Objects in their place, NSW Heritage Office 1999
What is moveable heritage and why is it important? Office of Environment & Heritage 2016
www.migrationheritage.nsw.gov.au

Community events & updates

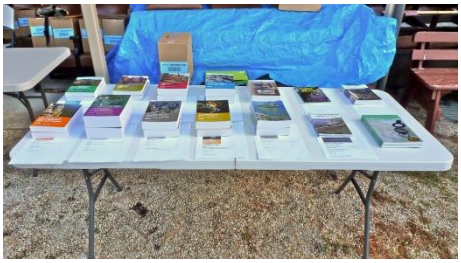
Book Launch : Blue Mountains Geographical Encyclopaedia

As flagged in the March-April edition of the BMACHO Newsletter, the launch of this book took place at Hobbys Reach, Wentworth Falls, on Monday 26 March 2018.
Peter Rickwood attended, and provides this account:
"At 8.30am Alan Foster opened up the premises and at 8.40am the authors arrived with vast quantities of their books, (one sold to a walk-in customer only 5 minutes after we arrived) - yes plural as they also had the intent of marketing their series on The Gardens of Stone National Park and Beyond. I arrived at 8.55am to find tables already set up in the area outside of the lecture room with John Fox and Michael Keats about to unpack books from numerous boxes. Brian was inside working with Alan on the electronic equipment. Also, inside the building were Jenny Keats and Jenny Fox who had the kitchen tasks well under control and were about to set up tables and plates of cakes etc. So all seemed under control and there was still an hour to go ! But there was a cold wind so we were a bit concerned about those who were to man the tables outside.
It was not long before droves of Fox relatives arrived to increase the work force and almost all did - the exception being the 92 year-old father of Brian and John Fox.
Tea and coffee was being served long before the appointed hour of 10.00am and by then some persons had occupied seats in the lecture room and others had marked where they intended to sit. Proceedings were commenced promptly at 10.30am by which time the hall was almost full - a wonderful response for a Monday. And most of the people therein were clutching newly purchased copies of the *Blue Mountains Geographical Encyclopaedia*.

The buyers



The book



The enticements

My introduction was short - as had been directed - and then Brian Fox took over. Towards the end of his "talk" he asked each of his co-authors "Dorothy Dix" questions to get them to participate. Not satisfied with quizzing his colleagues he then posed questions to the audience, mostly about names of places in the Blue Mountains, and rewarded responders with small gifts which were thrown in the right direction but did not always reach the respondent. It was an amusing episode and informative too.
I closed the session at 11.10am and thereafter sales continued under the control of family members as Brian, Michael and John were engaged in discussions with various attendees for another hour or so.
I cannot comment about the success of the sales but money seemed to be being handed over continually before and after the formal presentation so I guess it went well. Indeed, each of the authors commented later about their satisfaction with the way things had gone. But to the book *Blue Mountains Geographical Encyclopaedia*. No, it is not a 'good read', and was never intended to be, but it is an incredibly useful resource into which to dip from time to time. During a visit to Spatial Services in Bathurst earlier in the month the leader of the Geographical Names Board commented that he was waiting to get a copy, so what better endorsement do you want?" *Peter Rickwood*
The new book is on sale for $50.00, and Brian asks to be contacted if you require more information. If you would like to purchase a copy, this can be organised by an email or phone call.

Authors: Fox, B., Keats, M. and. Fox. J. (2018) Blue Mountains Geographical Encyclopaedia. Keats Holdings Pty. Ltd. 544pp.

Brian Fox
Ph: 6332 2590 Mob: 0407 067 081
Email: brianandelaine@aapt.net.au

Tour - Passion: Francis Greenway's Windsor & Liverpool

On Saturday 5th May 2018 Hawkesbury Historical Society is holding a car-tour, being a tour of features of Francis Greenway's Windsor and Liverpool. The tour will be led by historians and authors Jan Barkley-Jack and Ian Jack.

Thompson's Square

Although Francis Greenway came to NSW as a convicted forger and died in obscurity, he brought distinction to Australian colonial architecture. Windsor and Liverpool are the two of Macquarie's country towns which retain rare public works designed by Greenway.

The tour includes the site of the large wharf in Thompson Square redesigned by Greenway after the 1817 floods, and detailed inspections of St Matthew's Anglican Church Windsor, the Rectory and Stables, Windsor Courthouse, St Luke's Anglican Church, Liverpool and externally, old Liverpool Hospital.

St Matthew's

Windsor Court House

St Luke's

The tour will begin at 9.45am in Thompson Square, George Street, Windsor and end at 4.00pm at the Burial Ground, Liverpool.
Book individually: $25 per person (we can arrange transport), or by car group: $50 per car (no more than 5 people). Bookings are essential. Buy/bring own food.

Bookings are online via EVENTBRITE: https://www.eventbrite.com.au
OR by cheque to PO Box 293, Windsor 2756

Inquiries: secretaryhawkesburyhistory@gmail.com
OR phone the Treasurer: (02) 9659 4103

FAHS - last minute reprieve

The Federation of Australian Historical Societies was established in 1977 to communicate with governments and public officials to inform them about issues affecting historical societies and museums, and to advocate the interests of historical societies and museums. It provides members with access to a variety of guides and training materials to assist their operations historical societies, including guides to heritage identification and protection, heritage tourism, cultural landscapes, writing and publishing local history, disaster planning and recovery, local history and schools' curriculums. In addition, the FAHS publishes an E-Bulletin, and a Newsletter.

Federation of Australian Historical Societies Inc.

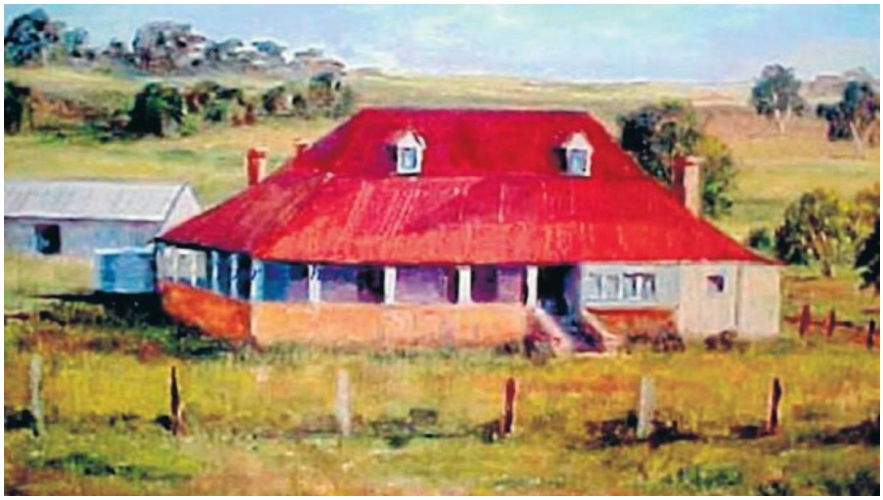
Recently the Commonwealth government announced that they would no longer support the FAHS or any other forms of voluntary community heritage. The implications for staffing, publications, training, conservation and research for FAHS were going to be significant.
A cry for help was issued to the community to lend support to the plea for ongoing funding. However, a last minute reprieve was found and Minister Frydenberg announced an amount of $80,000 would be allocated to the group. Timing and outlay is not as yet clear, and updates will be provided on the FAHS website.
For those people already preparing submissions of support, the FAHS has asked that they be held over for now. *Patsy Moppett*

www.history.org.au

Moyne Cemetery Conservation, Hartley

The historic Moyne Farm cemetery at Little Hartley near Lithgow will be preserved and made accessible to the public with help from a grant of $80,000 from the NSW Government's Heritage Near Me Program.

Member for Bathurst Paul Toole said the project would enhance public appreciation of the historic cemetery.



A painting of the historic Moyne Farm by Yvonne Jenkins, courtesy of Francis Owens

"Moyne Farm was believed to be the first farm house built over the mountains and the cemetery contains several graves dating from the 1830s," Mr Toole said.

"This project will see the cemetery undergoing work including monument repairs, fencing, development of a conservation management strategy and, in conjunction with the Lithgow Branch of the National Trust, a plan for ongoing public access and interpretation of the cemetery.

"The project will also use ground penetrating radar to determine the number of burials onsite."

Mr Toole said this funding is from the Heritage Near Me program's Local Heritage Strategic Project grants, which aims to support local communities to enhance and protect their local heritage assets.

The grants are awarded to owners and managers of local heritage items and community groups.

For more information on the Heritage Near Me Program, including available grants visit www.environment.nsw.gov.au/heritage-near-me.

Tour: Land & Property Information, Bathurst

As previously publicised, BMACHO undertook a tour of Spatial Services at Bathurst on Thursday 15th March 2018.

Much has changed since BMACHO last toured in 2010. The innovation, advances in technology and projects which have been undertaken right across the organisation dazzled attendees.

In depth explanations

The tour group

Photographs courtesy of Keith Ward, Valley Heights

Spatial Services implements and monitors standards for the survey industry in NSW, and is the official source of land information for NSW, maintaining a digital cadastre map and a digital topographical map of the State. It also provides aerial photography, satellite imagery, addressing information, touring maps and a unique customised mapping service that tailors spatial information to meet specific needs.

The group arrived at 10am to receive morning tea, and then a welcome from senior staff. A tour was conducted of each section beginning with Survey Services, Cadastral Spatial Programs, Geographical Names Board, and Digital Services. After lunch the group were shown through Environmental Spatial Data Programs, Administrative Spatial DATA Programs, and Service Delivery. A Q&A session finished the day at 3.30pm.

The tour was an eye opener for most visitors, and we viewed fascinating old charts and survey equipment, learnt about historical parish map interpretation, geographical place naming, the scanning and digital recording of colonial manuscripts and title documents, the use of drones in modern land surveying and interpretation, printing services, plan/document /book restoration, as well as the administrative side of it all.

We came to realise the enormity of what goes on in the unimposing building on Panorama Avenue, and the vast number of people beavering away in there, to produce documents we find on line and take for granted in our research projects.

We also came to realise how passionate the speaker from each section was about their own particular area of expertise, and how the combined passion of the sections goes to making Spatial Services the valuable community service it is.

We were encouraged to visit again, so we envisage that BMACHO will repeat this excursion.

Patsy Moppett

Lithgow Blast Furnace Heritage Park – OFFICIAL OPENING

To mark the completion of the upgrade works and the re-opening of this iconic heritage site for public use, an event is being held on the site on Saturday 12th May 2018. The opening coincides with the first night of the LithGlow Heritage Festival Light Show that will showcase the Blast Furnace by night.

The event will be opened by Ray Christison, President of the City of Greater Lithgow Mining Museum, and a historical archaeologist.

The upgrading works commenced in 2014/2015 and involved two stages:

- Stage 1: Repair and remediation works to remaining brick ruins
- Stage 2: Masterplan works, to provide safe and accessible visitor access, together with a new interpretive strategy.

The event will commence at 4pm with a welcome and site inspection. The official opening and speeches will be at 4.30pm, and entertainment by *Celtic Heart* will delight attendees. The Light Show is scheduled for 5.30pm to 10pm on the night. *Matthew Johnson*
RSVP by 4th May 2018 to:
matthew.johnson@lithogow.nsw.gov.au
The site is located on Inch Street, Lithgow. Parking for official attendees will be available on site.

BMACHO Conference 2018: Heritage Landscapes

Book in now for the 2018 Conference, *"Heritage Landscapes*". The Conference will be held on Saturday 12th May 2018, at Mount Victoria Manor, 11 Montgomery Street, Mount Victoria. The cost will be $70 for registrations from 13th March to 30th April 2018.This registration fee covers individual attendance at the conference, morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea. Speakers have been confirmed, and the topics to be covered on the day include:

- Keynote Speaker – Stuart Read, Office of Environment & Heritage: "Landscape and garden-themed trails as Blue Mountains lure".
- Colleen Morris: Heritage consultant: "Sorensen Gardens".
- Associate Professor Ian Jack, Senior Fellow and Archivist, St Andrew's College, University of Sydney: "Eurama and the nearby Parkes property at Faulconbridge".
- Kate O'Neill: Woodford Academy Management Committee: "Woodford Reserve 1830-2018: as good as the most capricious taste could desire".
- Mary Reynolds: Mount Wilson & Mount Irvine Historical Society: "Mount Wilson Gardens".
- Aunty Sharyn Halls: Gundungurra elder and member of the Gundungurra Aboriginal Heritage Association: "The Gully & Gundungurra Country".
- Bruce Cameron, historian & author: "The Blue Labyrinth".

The Conference is Proudly sponsored by Scenic World Shared

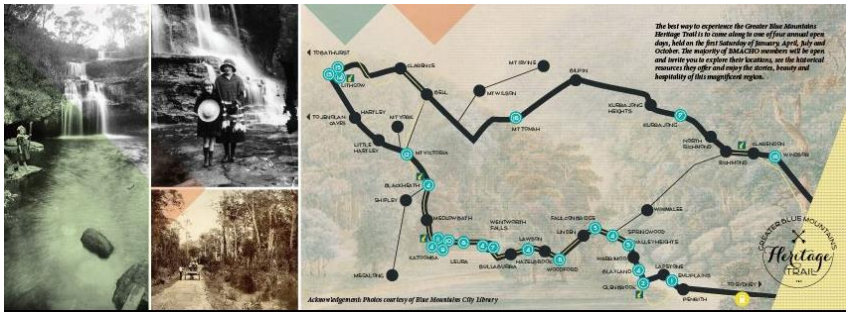
Registration is from 8.45am and the Conference concludes at 4.30pm.

Accommodation is available within Mount Victoria and at the Manor, and train access takes you to within walking distance of the venue. Trade tables will be available.

Full costs, program and booking details can be found on the BMACHO website.

Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail Update

Westpac
Australia's First Bank



BMACHO continues to promote the Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail and members' upcoming events. BMACHO have reprinted the Heritage Trail brochure which has now been distributed to visitors' centres across the region.

Heritage with Altitude!!

The Trail is an ideal activity for the kids and grandkids, be it in the school holidays or any weekend! Collect the Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail brochure at participating venues and Visitor Information Centres.

If you are a member and you would like further information, or if you would like to become a member, please email the BMACHO Secretary at committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au
For general information about BMACHO and the Trail, see heritagedrive.com.au or www.facebook.com/GBMHeritageTrail
To find out more about BMACHO visit www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au

BMACHO Committee 2018-2019

BMACHO presents your Committee for the coming twelve months as follows:

- President: Patsy Moppett (Individual Member)
- Vice-President: Ian Jack (Individual Member, and President of Hawkesbury Historical Society)
- Treasurer: Philip Hammon (Individual Member)
- Secretary: Fiona Burn (Individual Member)

Elected to the Committee were Roy Bennett, Rae Clapshaw, Summar Hipworth, Jan Koperberg, Dick Morony and Suzanne Smith.

Note 1: The tasks of the secretarial role will be carried out through Fiona, she being the minute secretary, with Jan Koperberg being the correspondence secretary and webmaster.
Note 2: Subcommittee memberships are set down on the last page of this Newsletter.

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

Registered office: 1/19 Stypandra Place, Springwood 2777. (02) 4751 5834
Email: committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au or j.koperberg@bigpond.com
Website: www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au **ABN**: 53 994 839 952

The organisation: Blue Mountains Association of Cultural & Heritage Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 after local historical and heritage societies and individuals recognised the need for the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the local government area (LGA) of Blue Mountains City Council. The constituency now embraces but is not limited to, the LGAs of Blue Mountains, Lithgow, Hawkesbury and Penrith. BMACHO membership includes historical and heritage groups, museums, commercial enterprises with an historical or heritage component in its core business, local government (local studies units, library collections) and a limited number of individual members by invitation such as but not necessarily academics. The objectives of the organisation are:

1. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage
2. To encourage and assist cultural heritage
3. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations.

One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

Affiliations: BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society.

Publications: BMACHO's official newsletter ***Heritage*** is edited by Patsy Moppett. The annual refereed *Blue Mountains History Journal* is edited by Dr Peter Rickwood and occasional papers are published from time to time.

Membership: The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mt Tomah; Blue Mountains City Library; Blue Mountains Cultural Heritage Centre; Blue Mountain Education & Research Trust; Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc; Blue Mountains Historical Society; Bygone Beautys Treasured Teapot Museum and Tearooms; City of Lithgow Mining Museum Inc; Colo Shire Family History Group; Eskbank Rail Heritage Centre; Everglades Historic House & Gardens; Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc; Hartley Valley District Progress Association; Hawkesbury Historical Society Inc; Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc; Leuralla NSW Toy & Railway Museum; Lithgow & District Family History Society Inc; Lithgow – Eskbank House Museum and Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies; Mt Victoria & District Historical Society Inc; Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine Historical Society Inc (including Turkish Bath Museum); National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Blue Mountains Branch; National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Lithgow Branch; Nepean District Historical Society Inc; Norman Lindsay Gallery and Museum; Paragon Cafe, Katoomba; Scenic World Blue Mountains Limited; Springwood Historical Society Inc; Springwood Historians Inc; Transport Signal Communication Museum Inc; Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Heritage Museum, Woodford Academy Management Committee, Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd.
The following are individual members: Wendy Blaxland, Fiona Burn, Ray Christison, Dr Wayne Hanley, Associate Professor Ian Jack, Ian Milliss, Patsy Moppett, Keith Painter, and Dr Peter Rickwood.

Committee: The management committee for 2017-2018 (from March 2017) is: Patsy Moppett (President and ***Heritage*** Newsletter Editor), Ian Jack (Vice President), Fiona Burn (Secretary), Philip Hammon (Treasurer), Dick Morony (Public Officer/Membership Secretary/ Calendar Editor), Suzanne Smith (Events and Venue Co-ordinator),Jan Koperberg, Summar Hipworth, Rae Clapshaw and Roy Bennett.
Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail sub-committee: Fiona Burn, Jan Koperberg, Rae Clapshaw and Suzanne Smith, with guest member Gay Hendrickson.
Blue Mountains History Conference 2018 sub-committee: Summar Hipworth, Ian Jack, Jan Koperberg and Patsy Moppett.

Disclaimer: views and opinions expressed in Heritage originate from many sources and contributors. Every effort is taken to ensure accuracy of material. Content does not necessarily represent or reflect the views and opinions of BMACHO, its committee or its members. If errors are found feedback is most welcome.

Heritage

Newsletter of the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc

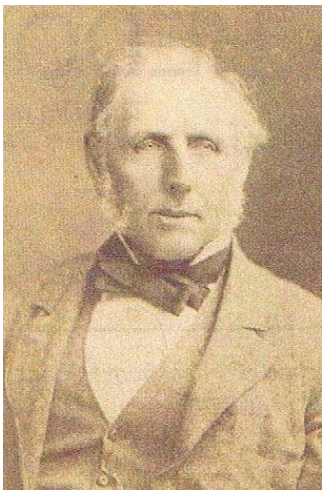
July-August 2018 *ISSUE 57*

ISSN 2203-4366

Edward Gell, an Architect of the Colony

Edward Gell was the fourth child of Edward Gell (1790-1819) and Elizabeth Pickering (1788-1875), of Hedon, Yorkshire. Edward Snr and Elizabeth were married at Hedon in 1809. Young Edward was born there in 1818 and baptized at Hedon on 7 November 1818. Edward Snr was a mariner. By 1841 Elizabeth was a widow.

Young Edward received his education in England, studying and then practicing architecture. A Gell sketchbook dated 1846 showed he was a keen follower of architecture, and had a great skill for drawing. In particular, he sketched church buildings, and was obviously heavily influenced by the Gothic Revival work of A W Pugin. His notes also showed that he was doing some sort of project management, in the ordering of building materials, as a foreman or clerk of works.



Edward Gell

St Michael's & St John's Cathedral, Bathurst

Young Edward emigrated to Australia in 1857 as a single man. He was contracted to build St Michael's and St John's Catholic Church in Bathurst, which was eventually elevated to cathedral status. Many of the mouldings were carved by Gell himself, so he may originally have had some stone mason training.

In 1861 he married Elizabeth Haseldon at St Michael's and St John's. They had some seven children four of whom survived infancy.

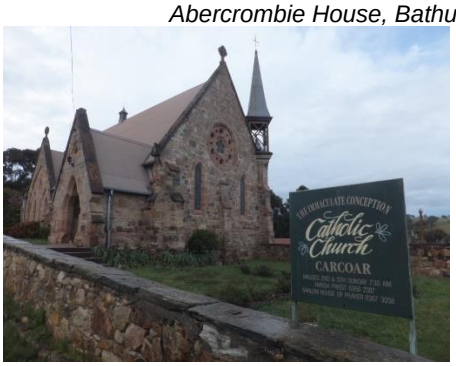
When the first Mayor of Bathurst, Richard Young Cousins was elected in 1863, Gell was a local architect, and was hired as town surveyor. He supervised building and construction work within the new municipality and remained in this position until 1866, when he was replaced by F W Holland.

Gell lived in Bathurst for some 25 years and despite some controversy, was Mayor of Bathurst in 1867, a member of Council during the period 1864 through to 1873, and was heavily involved in the establishment of public buildings such as the hospital, schools and the town hall.
During the 1860s and 1870s he designed many schools, shops, colleges, cottages and parsonages, and from 1871, many stately homes.

St Stanislaus College, Bathurst

Abercrombie House, Bathurst

Bathampton, near Bathurst



Catholic Church, Carcoar

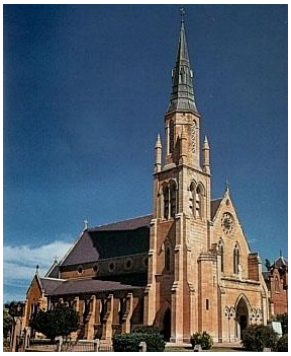
Logan Brae, Bathurst

Catholic Church, Dubbo

St John's Anglican Church, Georges Plains

St Mary's Catholic Church, Kirkconnell

Catholic Church, Rockley



Catholic Church, Mudgee

From 1858 to 1880 Gell designed some 154 buildings in the central west of NSW, his main client being the Catholic Church. In Rockley, south of Bathurst, he also designed the Anglican church. At Moorilda he designed the Presbyterian church of St Andrews.
Other significant buildings at Bathurst included Abercrombie House, St Stanislaus College, Busby's Logan Brae, pavilions and landscaping at the Bathurst Showground, Bathurst hospital, the Bathurst School of Arts and Bathurst railway station.
He became engaged in mining ventures, mainly gold and copper, and was a co-founder of the Lithgow Valley Colliery (LVC) in 1871, with T Wilton and P Higgins. Gell and his family moved permanently to Lithgow in 1881, where he designed buildings associated with the mine, and employee housing. His own dwelling on Lithgow Street still stands and is retained as a private home. It was named St Helen's, and built as a suitably impressive house for the general manager of LVC. Edward Gell designed the Lithgow Street residence in about 1875, and it was completed by 1877, when the Bathurst Times described the house as "that little gem of Gothic architecture".

St Helen's, Lithgow Street

Lithgow Valley Colliery

After Gell's death the history of occupancy is not known. After being sold by LVC, the house became a restaurant in the mid-1980s, was unoccupied for a time, and it is now a private residence.
In the 1890s his son Edward was sent to England for his education, and he became a Catholic priest in 1894. He returned to Australia and settled into the parish around St Charles Borromeo Church at Ryde, Sydney. He remained there for some 42 years and his family is remembered in a stained-glass window in the church. The original church was replaced, and the new church design influenced by Father Gell's architectural influence from his own father, in attention to a Pugin style.
Ill health saw him relocate to Sydney in 1898, where he died a year later.

Patsy Moppett

Book Review: Building Bathurst 1815-1915 by Graham Lupp

While undertaking his architectural studies in the late 1960s, Graham Lupp completed an ungraduated *architectural* honour's thesis on Edward Gell, major architect in Bathurst in the late 1800s.

During his research he discovered Gell was a remarkable man who had designed many of Bathurst's finest buildings, along with many others across the Central West. Gell would become a lifelong obsession for Lupp and a central character in his current publication.

His debut book set, *Building Bathurst 1815-1915,* is a definitive architectural history of the built heritage of Australia's oldest European inland settlement, and a biographic history about the architects and builders in the central western region.

Graham Lupp and his debut publication

Building Bathurst 1815-1915 is a limited edition with only 1500 copies printed, numbered and signed by Lupp. The two-volume book has a combined 844 pages featuring 1172 images, and while it took Mr Lupp five years to write, it features photos and information he has collated for decades. *Patsy Moppett*

It is available for purchase though Bathurst Regional Council's Civic Centre or by contacting Graham Lupp direct.
Email: enquiries@grahamlupp.com.au

References:
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A History of Bathurst, Volume 2, From Settlement to City, Theo Barker 1998
Bathurst Sketchbook, Stephen Pile & Judith Webb 1975
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Aldine centennial History of NSW 1888

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Food for thought ..... Editor's note

Heritage Division News

Macquarie Homestead

Following on from a previous article in the BMACHO Newsletter, it is noted that a particular property has now been recognised for listing on the State Heritage Register.

- **Macquarie Homestead Group, 3397 O'Connell Road, O'Connell** – BMACHO Newsletter No. 55, March-April 2018 reported on the open day at Macquarie Homestead.

In accordance with section 33(1)(e) of the *Heritage Act 1977 (NSW)*, the Heritage Council of NSW has resolved to recommend listing the item on the State Heritage Register (SHR) to the Minister for Heritage. The recommendation was resolved at the NSW Heritage Council meeting of 7 June 2018.

Macquarie residence and convict barracks 2017

The recommendation was made after consideration of a report prepared by the Heritage Division, Office of Environment & Heritage (OEH) which included submissions received from affected parties and members of the public.

Once the Minister has considered the Heritage Council's recommendation and made a decision whether or not to list the item on the SHR, further notification will be provided of that decision.
It is pleasing to see the property obtain the recognition that it deserves, opening up doors for funding and other assistance opportunities to aid in its conservation.

Hedgerows
In an earlier BMACHO Newsletter No.45 (July-August 2016), an article was printed on hedgerows. Now you have the chance to have a go at this ancient craft yourselves. Stuart Read of the NSW Heritage Division has passed on the following information:
A rare mainland workshop, the opportunity to learn how to "lay" a traditional hedge – i.e. cut/tilt/prop and 'weave' it to make it stock-proof.
Once layed hedges defined paddocks and fields, after shepherds and labourers rushed off to goldfields, and labour to herd the flocks or protect the crops was scarce. It was used before fencing wire arrived (1850s) and fencing became cheaper.
The workshop will be held at gorgeous *Oldbury*, a State Heritage listed farmhouse a parkland in Sutton Forest, Southern Highlands, on 21 July from 10:00 am - 3:00 pm. The cost is $75.00.

James and his craft

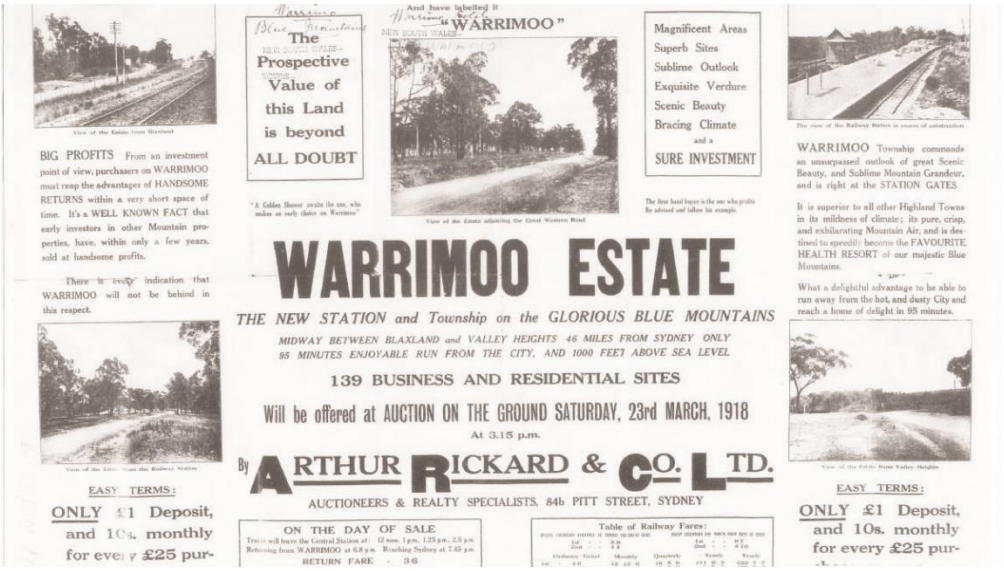
Learn from a master, James Boxhall, who has been laying hedges for 14 years, and enjoy seeing beautifully-laid old and young hedges. Theory & practical workshops are led by James, from '*Sticks and Stones*', who learnt the craft from expert Karl Liebscher, a professional hedge layer from Shropshire, England. James has competed in the National Hedge Laying Championships (UK), becoming the first person from outside of Europe to do so.
According to James a multitude of types of plants can be used for laying hedges including hazel, hawthorn, ash, elm, crab apple, plums and the list goes on. They provide aesthetically appealing, stock proof plantings and can add attraction to any garden.
More information is available about *Oldbury* itself on the Heritage Division database.
Numbers are limited so be quick!

Workshop bookings and information are available at:
www.shbg.com.au/event/hedge-laying-workshop (Southern Highlands Botanic Garden)
Phone: 02 4861 4899

Editor: So, heritage conservation and the retention of old trades is still alive and well in the heritage world!
The sharing of information such as this by the Heritage Division is much appreciated and BMACHO will continue to pass on news on conservation and preservation projects as it comes to hand.

Warrimoo Railway Station (former the Karabar level crossing)
In March 2018 Warrimoo railway station celebrated its 10th birthday! NSW Train Link celebrated the day by holding a morning tea hosted by the local rail staff. A display of historical photographs and plans of Warrimoo's railway history was exhibited at the time.

Located on the Main Western Line, which had gone through in 1867, the Warrimoo station was opened on 9 March 1918 as part of Arthur Rickard's "Warrimoo Estate", the auction of which was held on 23rd March. The Estate was bounded by the Main Western Road, The Boulevard and The Avenue.



The station had two passenger platforms, four station buildings, two signal boxes, two goods sidings, a level crossing, three overbridges and a crossing loop!
As with most of his estates, Rickard realized the importance of the rail connection to provide access for new residents to Sydney and to the west. One of the platforms, the waiting shed, a footbridge and a goods siding were built at his own expense, later being reimbursed by the government when it was proven that there was to be enough patronage to warrant government purchase.
The location was originally known as Karabar. Karabar was the site of No.3 level crossing, and a sandstone gate keeper's house where the railway crossed the Main Western Road, to the west of the present overbridge. The level crossing was meant to serve a new Richardson & Wrench subdivision named "Karabar Estate".
In 1881 a platform called "Karabar" was opened on the Sydney side of the level crossing but was closed in 1897 due to the lack of patronage.
Rickard proposed the change of name to "Warrimoo" by running a competition to select a new name for his proposed estate. John Low records that the winning entry suggested the name "warrimoo", an Aboriginal word (not local) meaning "eagle".

The first waiting shed about 1930

In later years

The first platform had a small brick unattended waiting shed which was later divided in half for a ticket office. The original 1918 waiting shed was destroyed in the 1951 bushfires, and the current brick station building was erected in its place in 1957. Internally the building's original floor layout has been modified and consists of a combined ticket office and station master's room, male and female toilets, waiting room and a store, on a linear floor plan.

A pedestrian bridge was built in 1917 to provide access to the station and in 1990 alterations were made. The pedestrian bridge's twin beam construction is typical of NSWGR practice. Since 1990, some of the components of the bridge, except the steel structure, have been replaced. The goods siding was closed in 1956.

Warrimoo Railway Station today

Warrimoo was also the site of the 1930 fatal derailment of a Sydney-bound passenger train where the driver and fireman on the leading engine were killed. The train had consisted of two steam locomotives along with eight carriages filled with passengers and a brake van. It left Mount Victoria headed for Sydney Central on the morning of 27th January. It had been lightly raining.

All rail lines leading to Sydney are known as "up" lines, and all those leading away are "down" lines, regardless of whether the train is going uphill or down. In this instance, and due to a previous incident, the particular train was on the "down" line, with the points supposedly adjusted to suit the situation, and travelling quite slowly.

The first engine passed safely over the catch-points about 450 metres on the Sydney side of Warrimoo, but the second engine fouled the points and left the rails. The heavy locomotive surged forward and then lurched to the right and "nose-dived" over a 5m embankment.

The derailment and retrieval

The crew of this engine leapt clear, and were uninjured, but the second engine's dive down the embankment threw the leading locomotive off the rails and caused it to turn over on its side with portion of it projecting over the brink of the embankment. The driver Harold Hanna and the fireman Edward Smith, both of Springwood, were pinned down by the twisted ironwork, and were killed instantly. A young porter was thrown clear, with severe injuries. The carriages were unaffected and passengers uninjured, apart from shock and bruising. The porter, Joe McGarrity, later lost his arm due to his injuries.

At the inquest the Coroner found that a fettler and a flagman were guilty of culpable negligence for not locking the points in place and not signalling that the points were open, to the oncoming train. Their supervisor was severely reprimanded for the casual manner in

which he supervised the work of the other two men, who appear to have avoided custodial sentence.
So, despite its humble beginnings as an 1800s rail siding, the opening of Warrimoo station in 1918 and the establishment of the Rickard estate, were the commencement of Warrimoo village as we know it today. *Patsy Moppett*

References:
Blue Mountains Gazette, 27 February 2018
Wikipedia – Warrimoo Railway Station
Warrimoo History – blog about the history of Warrimoo and its people - the Warrimoo Train Smash—1930
Origin of Blue Mountains Town Names, John Low
Inventory Sheet – Warrimoo Railway Station Group, NSW Dept of Environment & Heritage

Pulpit Hill, Katoomba

The Conservation Management Plan (CMP) for Pulpit Hill, Katoomba, (Godden McKay Logan Pty Ltd 2012), which includes the explorer's tree, natural flora and fauna, convict graves, colonial roads, and signs of early indigenous and colonial settlement, incorporated a recommendation: "*to ensure opportunities for community engagement, appreciation and enjoyment of the significant heritage values are provided at Pulpit Hill*".

Edgar Church grave

Six Foot Track

Explorers Tree 1886

In February 2018, Blue Mountains City Council Heritage Adviser, Christo Aitken, reiterated actions from the CMP, with a view to seeking funding under the OEH Heritage Near Me – Activation Grants 2018-19. His comments were as follows:

- Undertake a review the original CMP and it recommendations.
- Organise a public open day at Pulpit Hill to present the findings of the review and to provide an opportunity to draw together new material and comment from the community to include in the Review.
- Stabilize the Explorer's Tree to ensure safety and conservation of its significant values.
- Develop an Interpretation Plan that brings together the multi-layered Colonial and Indigenous history of the place.
- Implement the plan together with an interpretative trail on Pulpit Hill that showcases the key historic elements with appropriate public access, signage, fencing and landscaping.
- Develop a Masterplan for Pulpit Hill to guide the way forward, particularly addressing sensitive issues, such as the Explorer's Tree and its remnant fabric.

It is understood that Council is primarily looking towards facilitating the stabilisation of the Explorers' Tree through improved fencing, with a focus on an inclusive and comprehensive interpretation plan being developed for the Pulpit Hill Precinct, to ensure the conservation of the significant multi-layered colonial and indigenous history of the place.

This would conserve the heritage values of the area, showcase the key historic elements with appropriate public access, signage, fencing and landscaping and make the site more appealing to visitors.
Progress on this action for funding will be provided by BMACHO as it comes to hand.

Patsy Moppett

References
Submission by Christo Aitkin, 15 February 2018
Draft Heritage Data Form: Pulpit Hill and environs 2016, Blue Mountains City Council
Letter to Office of Environment and Heritage, BMACHO 17 April 2018

Windsor Barrel Drain (1814) Discovery

The Royal Australian Historical Society recently reported on the progress of the ongoing archaeological works at Thompson Square, Windsor, in relation to the State government proposal to demolish the existing bridge over the Hawkesbury River and to build a new bridge structure in its place.
Associate Professor Carol Liston AO submitted a statement to the NSW Legislative Council on behalf of the RAHS, with an overview of the site's significance:
Thompson Square is of outstanding historical and heritage importance because it is the only original surviving foundation site for eighteenth century European settlement in Australia. This space, adjacent to the Hawkesbury River landing place, provided structure to an emerging village and farming settlement. Neither the settlement at Sydney Cove nor at Parramatta developed around a central focus space, despite the importance of their waterfront locations.
In January 1795 Acting Governor William Patterson authorized use of the area as the government precinct. Around its edges, a wharf and storehouse were built, followed by a granary and soldiers' barracks. As the settlement developed other official buildings surrounded the precinct providing accommodation for officials (including the governor), a watch house, and later a school and church. When Governor Macquarie formally proclaimed the town in 1810 the existing square was incorporated into the formal town plan as the first designed urban space. The investment of expensive drainage works confirmed its importance as a function hub of the settlement.
In late 2017 a significant discovery was made by Roads and Maritime Services adjacent to the existing bridge and landing place at Thompson Square. The man-sized brick barrel drains appear to be the oldest government infrastructure in Australia, the earliest example of brickwork used in drainage works, dating back to 1814 and the early colony of New South Wales.

Windsor brick barrel drain

Calls have been made by Members of Parliament, the community and by experts in the field to retain the drains in situ, rather than attempt to salvage them and restore them, subject to intensive assessment and evaluation. The discovery lends further weight to the proposed Windsor Bridge Replacement Project, and calls to have any new bridge located in a more suitable site further along the river.
Also known as "smugglers' tunnels, the tunnels were convict built, using sun dried bricks, due to the lack of brick kilns at the site at the time. It has been suggested that the drains

would have tourist potential, but more significantly it is imperative to preserve this heritage feature which is unique and rare, not destroy or hide it.
Roads and Maritime Services had previously engaged professional archaeologists to excavate the north eastern section of Thompson Square to record and document any heritage artefacts found within the area. During the excavation, archaeological crews discovered the brick barrel drain in a hand-dug test pit near the river. Most of the brick drain was found intact, although one end was found to be eroded and partially washed away. Roads and Maritime Services has advised that it has now developed a way to protect and preserve the brick drain in place, and not remove it. They advise that further archaeological studies are under way to record any additional archaeological finds and preserve the historical significance of the site.

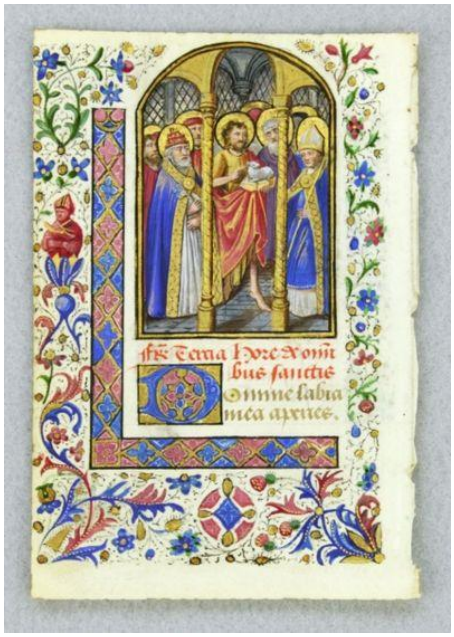
Example of brick barrel drain features

However, they still maintain that their new bridge will provide a safe and reliable crossing across the Hawkesbury River at Windsor, without impacting upon the heritage of the Thompson Square precinct. *Patsy Moppett*

References:
RAHS ENewsletter April 2018
Hawkesbury Gazette 18 January 2018
Hawkesbury Gazette 22 February 2018
Roads and Maritime Services 21 February 2018

The Technical Side
Vellum & parchment

The term parchment is a general term for an animal skin which has been prepared for writing or printing and has been made for centuries. It is usually calf, goat, or sheep skin. Parchment (*pergamenum* in Latin) derives its name from the city of Pergamon, (via the French *parchemin*).
Vellum is a finer quality material, prepared from animal skin or membrane also used as a material for writing on. The term is derived from the Latin word *vitulinum* meaning "made from calf", leading to the Old French velin for "calfskin".
Writing on prepared animal skins had a long history. Some Egyptian Fourth Dynasty texts were written on vellum and parchment. Though the Assyrians and the Babylonians utilised clay tablets, they also wrote on parchment and vellum from the 5th and 6th century BC onward.
Scribes carved the first writing on wet clay tablets, but soon after that, about 3000 BC, the Egyptians invented papyrus, and by about 500 BC most people in West Asia and the Mediterranean used papyrus for writing.
Subsequently, vellum and parchment were invented under the patronage of Eumenes of Pergamum, as a substitute for papyrus, which was temporarily not being exported from Alexandria.



Early Latin manuscript

German book binding WW1

In the Middle Ages, calfskin and split sheepskin were the most common materials for making parchment and vellum in England and France, while goatskin was more common in Italy. The heyday of parchment use was during the medieval period, but there has been a growing revival of its use among contemporary artists since the late 20th century. Although it never stopped being used (primarily for governmental documents and diplomas) it had ceased to be a primary choice by the end of 15th century Renaissance. This was partly due to its expense and partly due to its unusual working properties.

Dutch portrait on vellum

Land deed on vellum

During the seventh through the ninth centuries, many earlier parchment manuscripts were scrubbed and scoured to be ready for rewriting, and often the earlier writing can still be read. These recycled parchments are called palimpsests.

The process

Parchment is prepared from pelt, i.e., wet, unhaired, and limed skin, simply by drying at ordinary temperatures under tension, most commonly on a wooden frame known as a stretching frame.

The stretching frame

After being flayed, the skin is soaked in water for about one day. This removes blood and grime from the skin and prepares it for a dehairing liquor. The dehairing liquor was originally made of rotted, or fermented, vegetable matter, like beer or other liquors, but by the Middle Ages an unhairing bath included lime.
Today, the lime solution is occasionally sharpened by the use of sodium sulfide. The liquor bath would have been in wooden or stone vats and the hides stirred with a long wooden pole to avoid contact with the alkaline solution. Sometimes the skins would stay in the unhairing bath for eight or more days depending upon how concentrated and how warm the solution was kept - unhairing could take up to twice as long in winter. The vat was stirred two or three times a day to ensure the solution's deep and uniform penetration. Replacing the lime water bath also sped the process up. However, if the skins were soaked in the liquor too long, they would be weakened and not able to stand the stretching required for parchment.
After soaking in water to make the skins workable, the skins were placed on a stretching frame. A simple frame with nails would work well in stretching the pelts. The skins could be attached by wrapping small, smooth rocks in the skins with rope or leather strips.
Both sides would be left open to the air, so they could be scraped with a sharp, semi-lunar knife to remove the last of the hair and get the skin to the right thickness. The skins, which were made almost entirely of collagen, would form a natural glue while drying and once taken off the frame they would keep their form. The stretching allowed the fibres to become aligned running parallel to the grain.
It is recorded that the process was/is a very smelly one!!

Uses

Vellum and parchment have been used since the earliest times, and still find uses today amongst artists, scribes and bookbinders. Though now costly to produce, it remains one of the most durable of library materials. Vellum – a material that would otherwise go to waste – was used to print the Magna Carta, the Domesday Book and thousands of other historical documents.

The Magna Carta

Map on vellum

Modern book binding

Vellum was and is commonly used in bookbinding. It could be used to cover a wooden or cardboard core or alone without any backing. Many vellum bindings are simple and undecorated. Vellum was often used to cover less-valuable or common books.
Recent moves by the House of Lords in the UK are noted, where they seek to abandon vellum on the grounds that it is too expensive, and revert to archival paper that is said to last up to 500 years. In comparison, vellum keeps forever.

References:
Richard Norman, Eden Workshops
Wikipedia – vellum
The New Antiquarian – Antiquarian Book Seller Association of America
The Telegraph, 2017 (UK)
www.abaa.org/blog/post/the-history-of-vellum-and-parchment
www.newworldencyclopedia.org

Community events & updates

Scottish Heritage of Lithgow

The 2018 National Trust Heritage Festival theme,*" Our Culture Our Story",* acknowledged the contribution of those who have enriched our heritage.
Lithgow Regional Branch of the National Trust Australia (NSW) presented the Scottish Heritage of Lithgow: *"The Scots of the Lithgow District in the 19th Century",* at a lecture by Professor Ian Jack, Senior Fellow and archivist at St Andrew's College within the University of Sydney, on 13th May 2018 at the Bowenfels Presbyterian Church Hall, Lithgow.

Master of Ceremonies Danny Whitty

Professor Ian Jack

The presentation, led by Master of Ceremonies Danny Whitty, was a fascinating account by Professor Ian Jack, of the three main leaders in the settlement and development of Lithgow, Andrew Brown, Thomas Brown and Colin Stewart. These three very different characters

provided diverging but complementary contributions during the 19th Century, as Lithgow changed from a pastoral community to a major industrial town.
The event was accompanied by John Cambridge on the bagpipes and Pat Connell with some moving and popular Scottish songs.
Photographs and displays illustrated their story, including details about the Scottish founding fathers, their homes and families; pastoral heritage; early enterprises and industries; woollen mills artefacts; pottery and stonemasonry.

Cooerwul House

Eskbank House

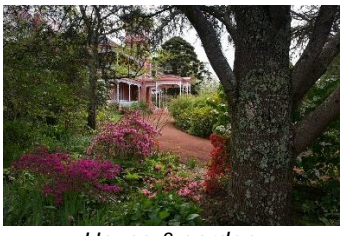
A wonderful and fitting Scottish afternoon tea was provided with music. Visitors were also able to view the Bowenfels Church and the replica of Christina Brown's quilt.

Patsy Moppett

Retford Park, Bowral

James Fairfax AC has always believed that Retford Park should be preserved for the enjoyment and benefit of future generations, particularly those of the local district. On 19th April 2016 and in fulfilment of his ambition, Mr. Fairfax gifted his historic Retford Park home to the National Trust of Australia (NSW). It was in August 2017 that the National Trust officially took control of the property.
On the weekend of the 4th and 5th August 2018, the house and gardens of Retford Park will be once again opened to the public. Retford Park is a place of great heritage significance. Its European history extends back to grants of land promised to Edward Riley senior by Governor Macquarie in 1821.

Dining room



House & garden

Sitting room

The house was built in 1887 by Samuel Hordern (1849-1909) merchant and stockbreeder, and his wife Jane, nee Booth. The house at Retford Park (designed by Albert Bond) is set on a low rise, a grand rendered brick Italianate style residence. It was in 1964 that James Fairfax bought the property and started to turn it from an agricultural property to a gentleman's residence. The house has become a treasure trove of pieces Fairfax collected over the years. Having been in his caring hands for over 50 years, both the house the garden is a delight to wonder through. A surprise at every corner.

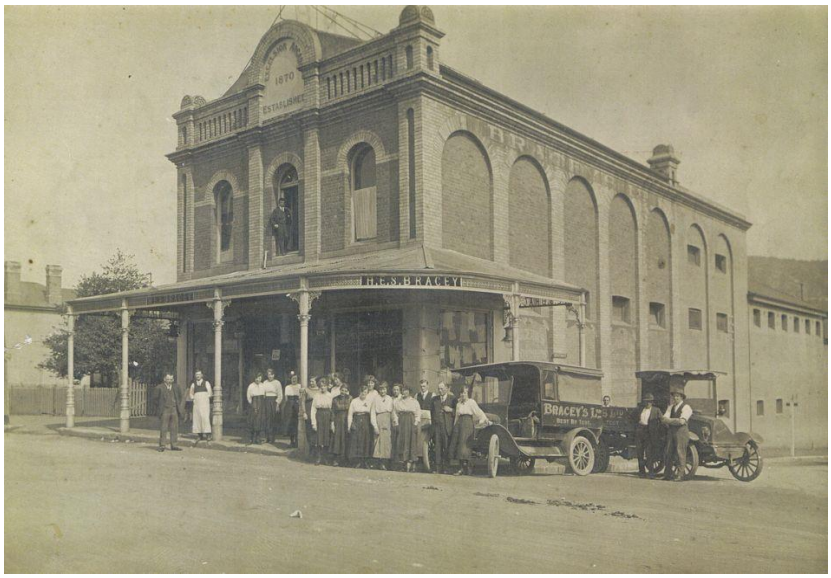
National Trust of Australia (NSW)

IMPORTANT - HOUSE TOURS: Due to the popularity of the house tours, bookings are essential. There will be four tours per day. 10.30am, 11.30am, 1.30pm and 2.30pm. There will be a maximum number of 20 people per tour.
House and garden: BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL: Adult - $25 Concession - $18 Child - $10 National Trust members - $15
Garden Only: No bookings needed Adult - $15 Concession - $12 Child - $5 National Trust Members: Free

Contacts: Phone: (02) 4861 1933
Email: retfordpark@nationaltrust.com.au

Faces Behind the Facades

The Lithgow and District Family History Society's ongoing project relating to the history of individuals who operated businesses in days gone by in Main Street, Lithgow, is proving fascinating. Many interesting and informative stories have been revealed which help inform us of the people who shaped Main Street and the history of the region, by their participation in community organisations and government.



Bracey's Store, Main Street

Large scale window vinyls are on display in relevant business windows in Main Street, which would include narratives capturing the stories of individuals, historic portraits and images of the original building facades.
A brochure has been produced which includes a local map of the location of the panels, with some ten premises listed so far. Businesses include S H Gannon's Eskbank Store, F R Eather's Butchery, James Padley's store, Porter's Pharmacy, James Walker's Pure Food Store and Durie Bros Rubber Works. *Patsy Moppett*

Further information may be obtained from the Society:
Post: PO Box 516, Lithgow 2790
Ph: 02 6353 1089
Email: secretarty@gmail.com.au
www.ldfhs.org.au

Archive storage

Following discussions with regard to archive storage over the last few months, BMACHO are looking to compile a list of historical societies/family history societies/museums/galleries/archives who might have inadequate storage facilities, in order to seek a way to have collections/archives stored in climate controlled, acid free conditions. It was felt by the BMACHO Committee that it would be appropriate, and the heritage community would be more likely to gain assistance for such a facility, for some sort of application for funding on a regional basis. BMACHO members are in four local government areas, Penrith (Arms of Australia Inn at Emu Plains), Blue Mountains, Lithgow and Hawkesbury. BMACHO are therefore asking our members in this region, not just the Blue Mountains, to provide information if they have archiving concerns.
Recently the Woodford Academy Management Committee found it necessary to move their archives to another National Trust property in the Southern Highlands, which means their

archives are no longer easily accessible. BMACHO realise that many other organisations find the need to store their archives or part of their collections externally.
If you would be interested in providing feedback in this regard, please advise the approximate cubic meterage you would require (or other measurement), and any other relevant comments, by 31 July 2018. This gives time for discussion at a Committee meeting.

Jan Koperberg, correspondence secretary

Rex Stubbs Symposium 2018

Hawkesbury Regional Museum has been chosen as the venue for this year's Rex Stubbs Symposium to be held on Saturday 25 August 2018. Much advice and many suggestions have been received on how to make the day better than previous years!
This year, it is proposed to have two guest speakers:

- Kate Gahan, historian and curator of Food Bowl Farming, and
- Deborah Vaughan, head of regional partnerships at MAAS.

As part of the morning, organisers would also like to invite each attendee group to give a brief talk on what they're working on/points of interest.

Dr Rex Stubbs

Hawkesbury Regional Museum

After lunch it is hoped that history stalls/groups could set up in the museum grounds (similar to the ten-year anniversary day – with some entertainment). So, they could all encourage museum visitors and members of the public to engage and learn.
If you would like the organisers to put stall space aside for you, please let them know ASAP, so they can include you in the program.
They will be sending out invitations and program information as soon as they can.

Kathleen von Witt

Kathleen von Witt, Gallery and Museum Director, Hawkesbury City Council
Phone: 02 4560 4440
Email: To: kathleen.vonwitt@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au

Annual Historical Festival and Open Day, Emu Plains

The Nepean District Historical Society will be holding its Annual Historical Festival and Open Day at the Arms of Australia Inn Museum on Sunday 15 July 2018 at the Museum at Emu Plains, from 9am to 3pm.
Displays and activities will include:

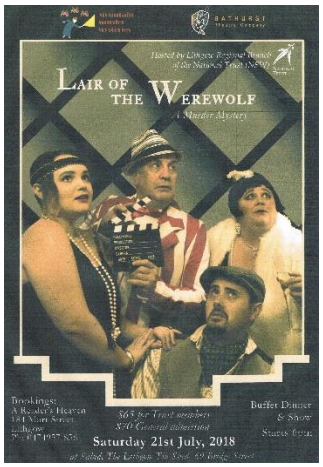
- NSW Corps of Marines Re-enactments
- Merry-go-round and jumping castle
- Old fashioned school room
- Light horse regiment
- Animals and pony rides
- Displays, music, food, stalls

The Museum is located on the corner of the Great Western Highway and Gardenia Avenue, Emu Plains. Admission is free. *Trish Montgomery*

For more information contact the museum:
Ph: 02 4735 4394
Email: info@armsofaustraliainn.org.au

National Trust Event – Werewolves and pit ponies?

At 6pm on Saturday 21st July 2018 Lithgow Branch of the National Trust presents another fun interactive whodunit buffet dinner and show in a heritage 1880s venue. Mountain Murder Mysteries & Bathurst Theatre Company combine to thrill with *"The Lair of the Werewolf",* directed by Hampton resident and actress Melissa Docker (Star of TV mini-series, "Fields of Fire"). The event will be held at 6pm at the Tin Shed in Bridge Street, Lithgow. The hosts will tickle your taste buds, with a unique blend of wood fired pizza and tapas. Suggested dress - 1920s, prizes for best dressed.

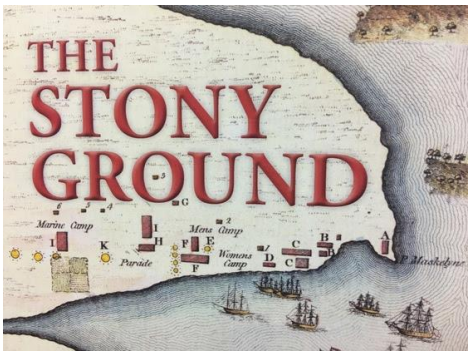


The Tin Shed (Salud) in Bridge Street was a produce warehouse going back to the 1880s, when a rail line brought goods up from the station and pit ponies were stabled behind it, the stables being only recently demolished. The restaurant is following a pleasing Lithgow trend of reinventing heritage buildings into performance spaces, some incorporating cafes and art galleries.
Lithgow National Trust raises funds for local heritage projects & signage and contributes to the restoration and maintenance of heritage properties in NSW. Our last Whodunit at the Brewery was enjoyed by all!
"The Lair of the Werewolf" would make a night out for a birthday, special occasion, or a fun way to support the Trust's activities in your area! *Celia Ravisi*
Cost: $70 general admission, $65 National Trust members

Bookings can be made at:
A Readers Heaven Bookshop, 184 Mort Street, Lithgow
Phone: 0474 957 856
Celia Ravesi – NT Secretary: 02 6359-3109

James Ruse - convict, farmer settler: Tour and book launch

James Ruse was a Cornish farmer who was reprieved from the hangman's noose and transported on the First Fleet in 1788. He was reputedly the first prisoner ashore, carrying an officer on his back. He went on to become the first ex-convict to be granted land and the first settler to become self-sufficient.



The Hawkesbury

These remarkable achievements are to be celebrated on Sunday 8 July 2018 at Windsor and Pitt Town with a tour of sites associated with Ruse, and sites farmed by him around Pitt Town and the peninsula area of Windsor, taking in some of the most beautiful and historic parts of the district. The tour will also include information and sites relevant to Ruse's time in the Hawkesbury, such as floods and other significant happenings.

The tour will be conducted by Hawkesbury Valley Heritage Tours and will take place from 10am to 12.30pm. The cost will be $20 per person.

The tour will be followed at 1.30pm by the launch of the book "*The Stony Ground*". UK based writer Michael Crowley describes the life of Australia's most symbolic convict using Ruse's own voice. His narrative carries us from his impoverished life in Cornwall to plot number one at the Hawkesbury, and beyond.

The launch is free, but bookings are essential, and light refreshments will be served.

Contact the Hawkesbury Museum, 8 Baker Street, Windsor
Phone: Prue Charlton 02 4560 4655
museum@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au
prue.charlton@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au

Transport Heritage Grants Program – now open

This program is a NSW Government funded program, administered by the Royal Australian Historical Society (RAHS), with the support of Transport Heritage NSW (THNSW).

The Program is run on an annual basis and supports organisations and individuals to preserve, explore and promote the history of land-based mass transport in NSW.

The program can fund projects in the following categories:

- Restoration, reconstruction or preservation of a heritage transport item.

- Education, publication or interpretation of an event, item/s or person/s that will promote heritage transport.
- Study, consultation, report or review that will assist in managing a heritage transport place or item.

Applicants can apply for grants of up to $15,000, and one grant of $50,000.
The closing date is 7 August 2018.

The 2018 Guidelines, Application Form and further information are now available from:
Royal Australian Historical Society https://www.rahs.org.au/grants/transport-heritage-grants-program/
If you need further information, contact the RAHS Grants Officer grants@rahs.org.au

BMACHO Conference 2018 - Report

The 2018 BMACHO Conference, *"Heritage Landscapes*" was held on Saturday 12th May 2018, at Mount Victoria Manor, 11 Montgomery Street, Mount Victoria.
Master of Ceremonies was Bruce Ferrier, and speakers included keynote speaker Stuart Read, Office of Environment & Heritage; Colleen Morris: Heritage consultant; Associate Professor Ian Jack, Senior Fellow and Archivist, St Andrew's College, University of Sydney; Kate O'Neill: Woodford Academy Management Committee; Mary Reynolds: Mount Wilson & Mount Irvine Historical Society; and Bruce Cameron, historian & author.
Aunty Sharyn Halls, Gundungurra elder and member of the Gundungurra Aboriginal Heritage Association, made her apologies as she was unable to attend and give her presentation on "The Gully and Gundungurra Country".

John Low, Robyne Ridge & Keith Painter

Attendees in deep discussion

BMACHO correspondence Secretary Jan Koperberg reports that there have been many positive comments via email and by word, about the speakers, the venue, the catering and the conference in general, including the following:

- Robyne Ridge, Vice President and Publicity Officer of Blue Mountains Historical Society:
  Just a quick thank you to you and to all who organised the Conference. What a lovely venue! The talks were all very interesting especially the key note speaker…….. felt he had some very interesting ideas re our tourism potential. Food was great - best conference food I've had!! Designed for the gold day it was. Finally, thanks for the trade table. We actually sold six books (which I didn't expect) but I learnt a lot from observing the others too.
  Robyne later found after reconciliation, that she had sold seven books – she was very pleased!

- Guy McIlrath, Manager, Everglades Historic House & Gardens:
  Thank you for a very interesting & well-run conference on Saturday – I am happy I was able to attend.

- Suzanne Smith, Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society and BMACHO Committee:
  Thank you for an enjoyable Friday evening, along with all the work which contributed to the success of the event. Thank you to the other members of the organising committee group, Summar and Ian. Also, an acknowledgement to Phil (recording) and Scenic World. Thought the conference was top class and speakers most interesting. Kate O'Neill's talk with the historical timeline of the Woodford Reserve ownership and transition use, I found interesting. Mary Reynolds and Ian Jack were certainly very entertaining, their respective personalities and humour shining through their interesting topics. But must say all speakers shared topics of great interest. From the feedback received over the day everyone was equally engaged in the topics. Top class hats off to Denise, Garry and staff, for excellent facilitation of the conference event, food, warmth and overall attention to any needs of the BMACHO group. The Mt Vic Manor was a most suitable venue.

- Julie O'Keeffe, Secretary, Friends of the Paragon and Blue Mountains Historical Society Member:
  Thank you to everyone involved in organising such a splendid conference – all speakers were excellent and very interesting. The venue is brilliant and the food for the day was simply super delicious!!! Looking forward to the 2020 conference!!

- Dick Morony, Secretary of Springwood Historical Society and BMACHO Management Committee Member:
  I thought it was a nice venue and the catering was the best of any conference/seminar/course I have attended. Although I am not a dedicated garden aficionado I enjoyed the talks; they didn't seem too long to me …….

- Sara Riley, Blue Mountains City Council:
  Thanks for Saturday, it was a really lovely day. It was good to meet Stuart, who I interviewed in my masters, and to meet Colleen who I had heard so much about …… a great venue too. And a really interesting cross-section of talks. Congratulations on a really successful conference.

- Celia Ravesi, Lithgow Regional Branch of the National Trust:
  Thank you very much for a well-organized and very interesting conference for BMACHO on Saturday 12th May at the Manor House Mt Victoria. The variety of speakers was excellent, and we were privileged to have all of them, particularly the ageless Mary Reynolds to show the late Libby Raines' photographs of Mt Wilson gardens. And the opportunity to hear Dr Ian Jack. twice in one weekend.
  Thank you allowing us to have an information stand for our Lithgow National Trust Branch. That was a good networking opportunity to meet some National Trust Representatives from the Mountains I had not met before. The lunch provided by the Manor House was delicious! Congratulations again, and we do appreciate receiving your Newsletter online on a regular basis.

Master of Ceremonies, Bruce Ferrier

Keynote speaker, Stuart Read

- Kate O'Neill, Woodford Academy:

Thank you to BMACHO for organising the Blue Mountains History Conference and for giving me the opportunity to speak about the Woodford Reserve. I greatly enjoyed the talks and appreciated the opportunity to meet with the other speakers and many key people in the heritage community. It was a very apt location with so much history of its own, and a nice connection to the Academy. I look forward to other events of this kind.

- Roy Bennett, Mount Victoria & District Historical Society:

Well done for the Conference reports…..good reading and good to read others feedback.
I enjoyed it more than expected, as in addition to the presentations, there were often comments, subjects, etc that give ideas .eg marketing comes to mind.
I guess that's how we get extra benefits from conferences.

Raffle winners on the day were:

- Jessica Lawn with Blue F 06
- Suzanne Mitchell with Blue F 39
- Mary Reynolds with Blue F 29

Comments: Although, as in most events such as this, we acknowledge there were the usual IT and conference management problems, which we have listed for considerations at future subcommittee meetings, to be addressed at future events.
We certainly appreciated the efforts made by the Manor operators, who made every effort to make the venue suitable to our needs.

Mary Reynolds

Associate Professor Ian Jack

Colleen Morris

Photographs courtesy of Carolynne Cooper

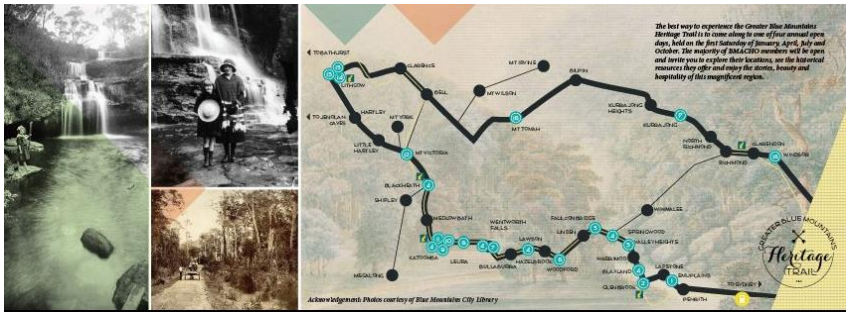
In conclusion, the presentations by the speakers were well received. The venue and catering provided by the Mount Victoria Manor and the warmth on a cold day, was very much appreciated.

All the speakers, the MC and the IT person have been emailed and thanked, as have Denise and Gary at the Mount Victoria Manor. Bruce Cameron has offered BMACHO copies of his book 'The Blue Labyrinth' to use for future event prizes.
A special thank you to Philip Hammon for recording the conference.

Jan Koperberg & Patsy Moppett

The Conference was Proudly sponsored by Scenic World Shared

Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail Update



BMACHO continues to promote the Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail and members' upcoming events. BMACHO have reprinted the Heritage Trail brochure which has now been distributed to visitors' centres across the region.

Heritage with Altitude!!

The Trail is an ideal activity for the kids and grandkids, be it in the school holidays or any weekend! Collect the Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail brochure at participating venues and Visitor Information Centres.

If you are a member and you would like further information, or if you would like to become a member, please email the BMACHO Secretary at committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au
For general information about BMACHO and the Trail, see heritagedrive.com.au or www.facebook.com/GBMHeritageTrail
To find out more about BMACHO visit www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au

Blue Mountains winter

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

Registered office: 1/19 Stypandra Place, Springwood 2777. (02) 4751 5834
Email: committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au or j.koperberg@bigpond.com
Website: www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au **ABN**: 53 994 839 952

The organisation: Blue Mountains Association of Cultural & Heritage Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 after local historical and heritage societies and individuals recognised the need for the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the local government area (LGA) of Blue Mountains City Council. The constituency now embraces but is not limited to, the LGAs of Blue Mountains, Lithgow, Hawkesbury and Penrith. BMACHO membership includes historical and heritage groups, museums, commercial enterprises with an historical or heritage component in its core business, local government (local studies units, library collections) and a limited number of individual members by invitation such as but not necessarily academics. The objectives of the organisation are:

1. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage
2. To encourage and assist cultural heritage
3. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations.

One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

Affiliations: BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society.

Publications: BMACHO's official newsletter ***Heritage*** is edited by Patsy Moppett. The annual refereed *Blue Mountains History Journal* is edited by Dr Peter Rickwood and occasional papers are published from time to time.

Membership: The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mt Tomah; Blue Mountains City Library; Blue Mountains Cultural Heritage Centre; Blue Mountain Education & Research Trust; Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc; Blue Mountains Historical Society; Bygone Beautys Treasured Teapot Museum and Tearooms; City of Lithgow Mining Museum Inc; Colo Shire Family History Group; Eskbank Rail Heritage Centre; Everglades Historic House & Gardens; Friends of the Paragon Inc; Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc; Hartley District Progress Association; Hawkesbury Historical Society Inc; Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc; Leuralla NSW Toy & Railway Museum; Lithgow & District Family History Society Inc; Lithgow – Eskbank House Museum and Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies; Mt Victoria & District Historical Society Inc; Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine Historical Society Inc (including Turkish Bath Museum); National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Blue Mountains Branch; National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Lithgow Branch; Nepean District Historical Society Inc; Norman Lindsay Gallery and Museum; Scenic World Blue Mountains Limited; Springwood Historical Society Inc; Springwood Historians Inc; Transport Signal Communication Museum Inc; Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Heritage Museum, Woodford Academy Management Committee, Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd.
The following are individual members: Wendy Blaxland, Fiona Burn, Ray Christison, Dr Wayne Hanley, Associate Professor Ian Jack, Ian Milliss, Patsy Moppett, Keith Painter, Philip Hammon and Dr Peter Rickwood.

Committee: The management committee for 2017-2018 (from March 2017) is: Patsy Moppett (President and ***Heritage*** Newsletter Editor), Ian Jack (Vice President), Fiona Burn (Secretary), Philip Hammon (Treasurer), Dick Morony (Public Officer/Membership Secretary/ Calendar Editor), Suzanne Smith (Events and Venue Co-ordinator), Jan Koperberg (Correspondence Secretary), Summar Hipworth, Rae Clapshaw and Roy Bennett.
Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail sub-committee: Fiona Burn, Jan Koperberg, Rae Clapshaw and Suzanne Smith, with guest member Gay Hendrikson.
Blue Mountains History Conference 2018 sub-committee: Summar Hipworth, Ian Jack, Jan Koperberg and Patsy Moppett.

Disclaimer: views and opinions expressed in Heritage originate from many sources and contributors. Every effort is taken to ensure accuracy of material. Content does not necessarily represent or reflect the views and opinions of BMACHO, its committee or its members. If errors are found feedback is most welcome.

Heritage

Newsletter of the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc

July-August 2018 *ISSUE 57*

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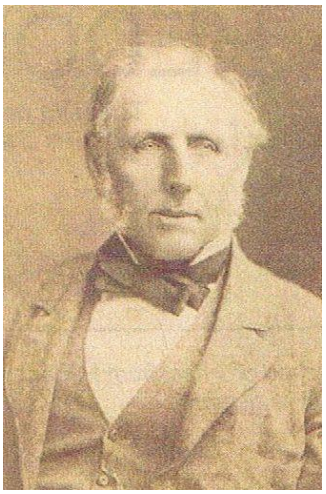
Edward Gell, an Architect of the Colony

Edward Gell was the fourth child of Edward Gell (1790-1819) and Elizabeth Pickering (1788-1875), of Hedon, Yorkshire. Edward Snr and Elizabeth were married at Hedon in 1809. Young Edward was born there in 1818 and baptized at Hedon on 7 November 1818. Edward Snr was a mariner. By 1841 Elizabeth was a widow.

Young Edward received his education in England, studying and then practicing architecture. A Gell sketchbook dated 1846 showed he was a keen follower of architecture, and had a great skill for drawing. In particular, he sketched church buildings, and was obviously heavily influenced by the Gothic Revival work of A W Pugin. His notes also showed that he was doing some sort of project management, in the ordering of building materials, as a foreman or clerk of works.



Edward Gell

St Michael's & St John's Cathedral, Bathurst

Young Edward emigrated to Australia in 1857 as a single man. He was contracted to build St Michael's and St John's Catholic Church in Bathurst, which was eventually elevated to cathedral status. Many of the mouldings were carved by Gell himself, so he may originally have had some stone mason training.

In 1861 he married Elizabeth Haseldon at St Michael's and St John's. They had some seven children four of whom survived infancy.

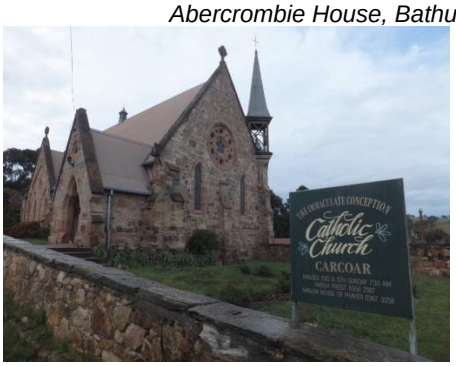
When the first Mayor of Bathurst, Richard Young Cousins was elected in 1863, Gell was a local architect, and was hired as town surveyor. He supervised building and construction work within the new municipality and remained in this position until 1866, when he was replaced by F W Holland.

Gell lived in Bathurst for some 25 years and despite some controversy, was Mayor of Bathurst in 1867, a member of Council during the period 1864 through to 1873, and was heavily involved in the establishment of public buildings such as the hospital, schools and the town hall.
During the 1860s and 1870s he designed many schools, shops, colleges, cottages and parsonages, and from 1871, many stately homes.

St Stanislaus College, Bathurst

Abercrombie House, Bathurst

Bathampton, near Bathurst



Catholic Church, Carcoar

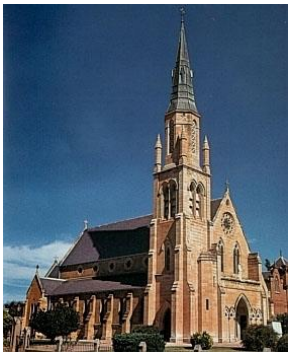
Logan Brae, Bathurst

Catholic Church, Dubbo

St John's Anglican Church, Georges Plains

St Mary's Catholic Church, Kirkconnell

Catholic Church, Rockley



Catholic Church, Mudgee

From 1858 to 1880 Gell designed some 154 buildings in the central west of NSW, his main client being the Catholic Church. In Rockley, south of Bathurst, he also designed the Anglican church. At Moorilda he designed the Presbyterian church of St Andrews.
Other significant buildings at Bathurst included Abercrombie House, St Stanislaus College, Busby's Logan Brae, pavilions and landscaping at the Bathurst Showground, Bathurst hospital, the Bathurst School of Arts and Bathurst railway station.
He became engaged in mining ventures, mainly gold and copper, and was a co-founder of the Lithgow Valley Colliery (LVC) in 1871, with T Wilton and P Higgins. Gell and his family moved permanently to Lithgow in 1881, where he designed buildings associated with the mine, and employee housing. His own dwelling on Lithgow Street still stands and is retained as a private home. It was named St Helen's, and built as a suitably impressive house for the general manager of LVC. Edward Gell designed the Lithgow Street residence in about 1875, and it was completed by 1877, when the Bathurst Times described the house as "that little gem of Gothic architecture".

St Helen's, Lithgow Street

Lithgow Valley Colliery

After Gell's death the history of occupancy is not known. After being sold by LVC, the house became a restaurant in the mid-1980s, was unoccupied for a time, and it is now a private residence.
In the 1890s his son Edward was sent to England for his education, and he became a Catholic priest in 1894. He returned to Australia and settled into the parish around St Charles Borromeo Church at Ryde, Sydney. He remained there for some 42 years and his family is remembered in a stained-glass window in the church. The original church was replaced, and the new church design influenced by Father Gell's architectural influence from his own father, in attention to a Pugin style.
Ill health saw him relocate to Sydney in 1898, where he died a year later.

Patsy Moppett

Book Review: Building Bathurst 1815-1915 by Graham Lupp

While undertaking his architectural studies in the late 1960s, Graham Lupp completed an ungraduated *architectural* honour's thesis on Edward Gell, major architect in Bathurst in the late 1800s.

During his research he discovered Gell was a remarkable man who had designed many of Bathurst's finest buildings, along with many others across the Central West. Gell would become a lifelong obsession for Lupp and a central character in his current publication.

His debut book set, *Building Bathurst 1815-1915,* is a definitive architectural history of the built heritage of Australia's oldest European inland settlement, and a biographic history about the architects and builders in the central western region.

Graham Lupp and his debut publication

Building Bathurst 1815-1915 is a limited edition with only 1500 copies printed, numbered and signed by Lupp. The two-volume book has a combined 844 pages featuring 1172 images, and while it took Mr Lupp five years to write, it features photos and information he has collated for decades. *Patsy Moppett*

It is available for purchase though Bathurst Regional Council's Civic Centre or by contacting Graham Lupp direct.
Email: enquiries@grahamlupp.com.au

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Aldine centennial History of NSW 1888

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Food for thought ..... Editor's note

Heritage Division News

Macquarie Homestead

Following on from a previous article in the BMACHO Newsletter, it is noted that a particular property has now been recognised for listing on the State Heritage Register.

- **Macquarie Homestead Group, 3397 O'Connell Road, O'Connell** – BMACHO Newsletter No. 55, March-April 2018 reported on the open day at Macquarie Homestead.

In accordance with section 33(1)(e) of the *Heritage Act 1977 (NSW)*, the Heritage Council of NSW has resolved to recommend listing the item on the State Heritage Register (SHR) to the Minister for Heritage. The recommendation was resolved at the NSW Heritage Council meeting of 7 June 2018.

Macquarie residence and convict barracks 2017

The recommendation was made after consideration of a report prepared by the Heritage Division, Office of Environment & Heritage (OEH) which included submissions received from affected parties and members of the public.

Once the Minister has considered the Heritage Council's recommendation and made a decision whether or not to list the item on the SHR, further notification will be provided of that decision.
It is pleasing to see the property obtain the recognition that it deserves, opening up doors for funding and other assistance opportunities to aid in its conservation.

Hedgerows
In an earlier BMACHO Newsletter No.45 (July-August 2016), an article was printed on hedgerows. Now you have the chance to have a go at this ancient craft yourselves. Stuart Read of the NSW Heritage Division has passed on the following information:
A rare mainland workshop, the opportunity to learn how to "lay" a traditional hedge – i.e. cut/tilt/prop and 'weave' it to make it stock-proof.
Once layed hedges defined paddocks and fields, after shepherds and labourers rushed off to goldfields, and labour to herd the flocks or protect the crops was scarce. It was used before fencing wire arrived (1850s) and fencing became cheaper.
The workshop will be held at gorgeous *Oldbury*, a State Heritage listed farmhouse a parkland in Sutton Forest, Southern Highlands, on 21 July from 10:00 am - 3:00 pm. The cost is $75.00.

James and his craft

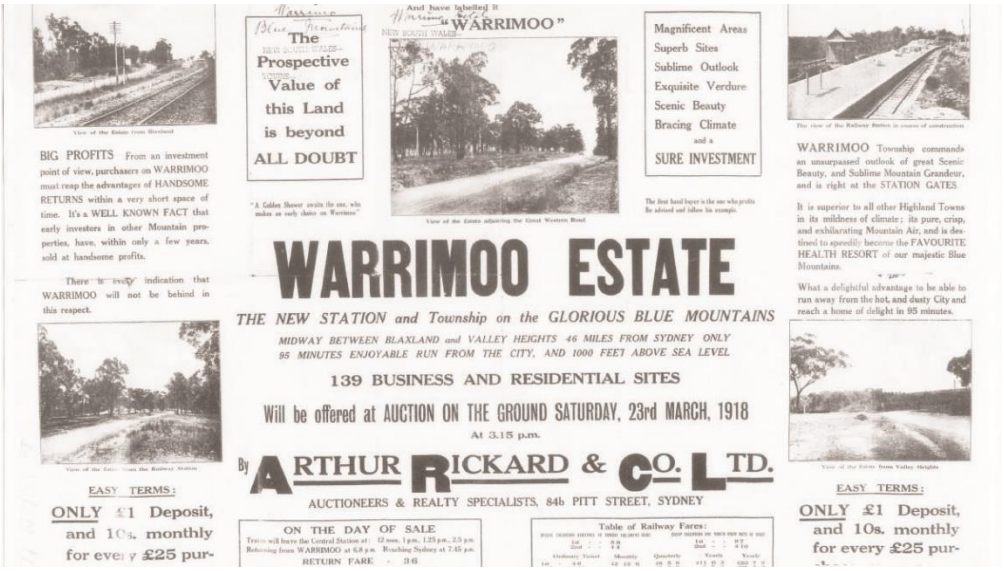
Learn from a master, James Boxhall, who has been laying hedges for 14 years, and enjoy seeing beautifully-laid old and young hedges. Theory & practical workshops are led by James, from '*Sticks and Stones*', who learnt the craft from expert Karl Liebscher, a professional hedge layer from Shropshire, England. James has competed in the National Hedge Laying Championships (UK), becoming the first person from outside of Europe to do so.
According to James a multitude of types of plants can be used for laying hedges including hazel, hawthorn, ash, elm, crab apple, plums and the list goes on. They provide aesthetically appealing, stock proof plantings and can add attraction to any garden.
More information is available about *Oldbury* itself on the Heritage Division database.
Numbers are limited so be quick!

Workshop bookings and information are available at:
www.shbg.com.au/event/hedge-laying-workshop (Southern Highlands Botanic Garden)
Phone: 02 4861 4899

Editor: So, heritage conservation and the retention of old trades is still alive and well in the heritage world!
The sharing of information such as this by the Heritage Division is much appreciated and BMACHO will continue to pass on news on conservation and preservation projects as it comes to hand.

Warrimoo Railway Station (former the Karabar level crossing)
In March 2018 Warrimoo railway station celebrated its 10th birthday! NSW Train Link celebrated the day by holding a morning tea hosted by the local rail staff. A display of historical photographs and plans of Warrimoo's railway history was exhibited at the time.

Located on the Main Western Line, which had gone through in 1867, the Warrimoo station was opened on 9 March 1918 as part of Arthur Rickard's "Warrimoo Estate", the auction of which was held on 23rd March. The Estate was bounded by the Main Western Road, The Boulevard and The Avenue.



The station had two passenger platforms, four station buildings, two signal boxes, two goods sidings, a level crossing, three overbridges and a crossing loop!
As with most of his estates, Rickard realized the importance of the rail connection to provide access for new residents to Sydney and to the west. One of the platforms, the waiting shed, a footbridge and a goods siding were built at his own expense, later being reimbursed by the government when it was proven that there was to be enough patronage to warrant government purchase.
The location was originally known as Karabar. Karabar was the site of No.3 level crossing, and a sandstone gate keeper's house where the railway crossed the Main Western Road, to the west of the present overbridge. The level crossing was meant to serve a new Richardson & Wrench subdivision named "Karabar Estate".
In 1881 a platform called "Karabar" was opened on the Sydney side of the level crossing but was closed in 1897 due to the lack of patronage.
Rickard proposed the change of name to "Warrimoo" by running a competition to select a new name for his proposed estate. John Low records that the winning entry suggested the name "warrimoo", an Aboriginal word (not local) meaning "eagle".

The first waiting shed about 1930

In later years

The first platform had a small brick unattended waiting shed which was later divided in half for a ticket office. The original 1918 waiting shed was destroyed in the 1951 bushfires, and the current brick station building was erected in its place in 1957. Internally the building's original floor layout has been modified and consists of a combined ticket office and station master's room, male and female toilets, waiting room and a store, on a linear floor plan.

A pedestrian bridge was built in 1917 to provide access to the station and in 1990 alterations were made. The pedestrian bridge's twin beam construction is typical of NSWGR practice. Since 1990, some of the components of the bridge, except the steel structure, have been replaced. The goods siding was closed in 1956.

Warrimoo Railway Station today

Warrimoo was also the site of the 1930 fatal derailment of a Sydney-bound passenger train where the driver and fireman on the leading engine were killed. The train had consisted of two steam locomotives along with eight carriages filled with passengers and a brake van. It left Mount Victoria headed for Sydney Central on the morning of 27th January. It had been lightly raining.

All rail lines leading to Sydney are known as "up" lines, and all those leading away are "down" lines, regardless of whether the train is going uphill or down. In this instance, and due to a previous incident, the particular train was on the "down" line, with the points supposedly adjusted to suit the situation, and travelling quite slowly.

The first engine passed safely over the catch-points about 450 metres on the Sydney side of Warrimoo, but the second engine fouled the points and left the rails. The heavy locomotive surged forward and then lurched to the right and "nose-dived" over a 5m embankment.

The derailment and retrieval

The crew of this engine leapt clear, and were uninjured, but the second engine's dive down the embankment threw the leading locomotive off the rails and caused it to turn over on its side with portion of it projecting over the brink of the embankment. The driver Harold Hanna and the fireman Edward Smith, both of Springwood, were pinned down by the twisted ironwork, and were killed instantly. A young porter was thrown clear, with severe injuries. The carriages were unaffected and passengers uninjured, apart from shock and bruising. The porter, Joe McGarrity, later lost his arm due to his injuries.

At the inquest the Coroner found that a fettler and a flagman were guilty of culpable negligence for not locking the points in place and not signalling that the points were open, to the oncoming train. Their supervisor was severely reprimanded for the casual manner in

which he supervised the work of the other two men, who appear to have avoided custodial sentence.
So, despite its humble beginnings as an 1800s rail siding, the opening of Warrimoo station in 1918 and the establishment of the Rickard estate, were the commencement of Warrimoo village as we know it today. *Patsy Moppett*

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Inventory Sheet – Warrimoo Railway Station Group, NSW Dept of Environment & Heritage

Pulpit Hill, Katoomba

The Conservation Management Plan (CMP) for Pulpit Hill, Katoomba, (Godden McKay Logan Pty Ltd 2012), which includes the explorer's tree, natural flora and fauna, convict graves, colonial roads, and signs of early indigenous and colonial settlement, incorporated a recommendation: "*to ensure opportunities for community engagement, appreciation and enjoyment of the significant heritage values are provided at Pulpit Hill*".

Edgar Church grave

Six Foot Track

Explorers Tree 1886

In February 2018, Blue Mountains City Council Heritage Adviser, Christo Aitken, reiterated actions from the CMP, with a view to seeking funding under the OEH Heritage Near Me – Activation Grants 2018-19. His comments were as follows:

- Undertake a review the original CMP and it recommendations.
- Organise a public open day at Pulpit Hill to present the findings of the review and to provide an opportunity to draw together new material and comment from the community to include in the Review.
- Stabilize the Explorer's Tree to ensure safety and conservation of its significant values.
- Develop an Interpretation Plan that brings together the multi-layered Colonial and Indigenous history of the place.
- Implement the plan together with an interpretative trail on Pulpit Hill that showcases the key historic elements with appropriate public access, signage, fencing and landscaping.
- Develop a Masterplan for Pulpit Hill to guide the way forward, particularly addressing sensitive issues, such as the Explorer's Tree and its remnant fabric.

It is understood that Council is primarily looking towards facilitating the stabilisation of the Explorers' Tree through improved fencing, with a focus on an inclusive and comprehensive interpretation plan being developed for the Pulpit Hill Precinct, to ensure the conservation of the significant multi-layered colonial and indigenous history of the place.

This would conserve the heritage values of the area, showcase the key historic elements with appropriate public access, signage, fencing and landscaping and make the site more appealing to visitors.
Progress on this action for funding will be provided by BMACHO as it comes to hand.

Patsy Moppett

References
Submission by Christo Aitkin, 15 February 2018
Draft Heritage Data Form: Pulpit Hill and environs 2016, Blue Mountains City Council
Letter to Office of Environment and Heritage, BMACHO 17 April 2018

Windsor Barrel Drain (1814) Discovery

The Royal Australian Historical Society recently reported on the progress of the ongoing archaeological works at Thompson Square, Windsor, in relation to the State government proposal to demolish the existing bridge over the Hawkesbury River and to build a new bridge structure in its place.
Associate Professor Carol Liston AO submitted a statement to the NSW Legislative Council on behalf of the RAHS, with an overview of the site's significance:
Thompson Square is of outstanding historical and heritage importance because it is the only original surviving foundation site for eighteenth century European settlement in Australia. This space, adjacent to the Hawkesbury River landing place, provided structure to an emerging village and farming settlement. Neither the settlement at Sydney Cove nor at Parramatta developed around a central focus space, despite the importance of their waterfront locations.
In January 1795 Acting Governor William Patterson authorized use of the area as the government precinct. Around its edges, a wharf and storehouse were built, followed by a granary and soldiers' barracks. As the settlement developed other official buildings surrounded the precinct providing accommodation for officials (including the governor), a watch house, and later a school and church. When Governor Macquarie formally proclaimed the town in 1810 the existing square was incorporated into the formal town plan as the first designed urban space. The investment of expensive drainage works confirmed its importance as a function hub of the settlement.
In late 2017 a significant discovery was made by Roads and Maritime Services adjacent to the existing bridge and landing place at Thompson Square. The man-sized brick barrel drains appear to be the oldest government infrastructure in Australia, the earliest example of brickwork used in drainage works, dating back to 1814 and the early colony of New South Wales.

Windsor brick barrel drain

Calls have been made by Members of Parliament, the community and by experts in the field to retain the drains in situ, rather than attempt to salvage them and restore them, subject to intensive assessment and evaluation. The discovery lends further weight to the proposed Windsor Bridge Replacement Project, and calls to have any new bridge located in a more suitable site further along the river.
Also known as "smugglers' tunnels, the tunnels were convict built, using sun dried bricks, due to the lack of brick kilns at the site at the time. It has been suggested that the drains

would have tourist potential, but more significantly it is imperative to preserve this heritage feature which is unique and rare, not destroy or hide it.
Roads and Maritime Services had previously engaged professional archaeologists to excavate the north eastern section of Thompson Square to record and document any heritage artefacts found within the area. During the excavation, archaeological crews discovered the brick barrel drain in a hand-dug test pit near the river. Most of the brick drain was found intact, although one end was found to be eroded and partially washed away. Roads and Maritime Services has advised that it has now developed a way to protect and preserve the brick drain in place, and not remove it. They advise that further archaeological studies are under way to record any additional archaeological finds and preserve the historical significance of the site.

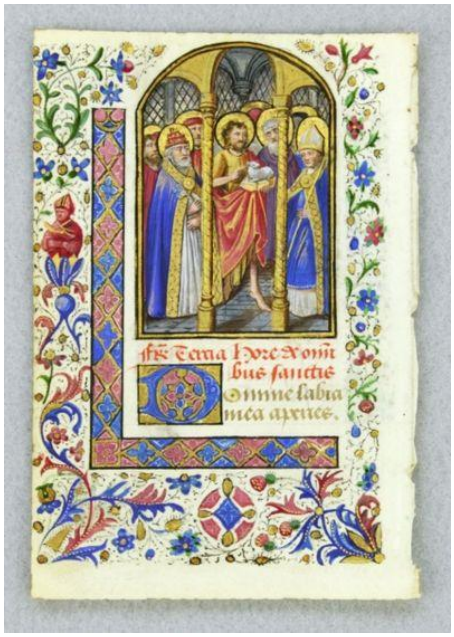
Example of brick barrel drain features

However, they still maintain that their new bridge will provide a safe and reliable crossing across the Hawkesbury River at Windsor, without impacting upon the heritage of the Thompson Square precinct. *Patsy Moppett*

References:
RAHS ENewsletter April 2018
Hawkesbury Gazette 18 January 2018
Hawkesbury Gazette 22 February 2018
Roads and Maritime Services 21 February 2018

The Technical Side
Vellum & parchment

The term parchment is a general term for an animal skin which has been prepared for writing or printing and has been made for centuries. It is usually calf, goat, or sheep skin. Parchment (*pergamenum* in Latin) derives its name from the city of Pergamon, (via the French *parchemin*).
Vellum is a finer quality material, prepared from animal skin or membrane also used as a material for writing on. The term is derived from the Latin word *vitulinum* meaning "made from calf", leading to the Old French velin for "calfskin".
Writing on prepared animal skins had a long history. Some Egyptian Fourth Dynasty texts were written on vellum and parchment. Though the Assyrians and the Babylonians utilised clay tablets, they also wrote on parchment and vellum from the 5th and 6th century BC onward.
Scribes carved the first writing on wet clay tablets, but soon after that, about 3000 BC, the Egyptians invented papyrus, and by about 500 BC most people in West Asia and the Mediterranean used papyrus for writing.
Subsequently, vellum and parchment were invented under the patronage of Eumenes of Pergamum, as a substitute for papyrus, which was temporarily not being exported from Alexandria.



Early Latin manuscript

German book binding WW1

In the Middle Ages, calfskin and split sheepskin were the most common materials for making parchment and vellum in England and France, while goatskin was more common in Italy. The heyday of parchment use was during the medieval period, but there has been a growing revival of its use among contemporary artists since the late 20th century. Although it never stopped being used (primarily for governmental documents and diplomas) it had ceased to be a primary choice by the end of 15th century Renaissance. This was partly due to its expense and partly due to its unusual working properties.

Dutch portrait on vellum

Land deed on vellum

During the seventh through the ninth centuries, many earlier parchment manuscripts were scrubbed and scoured to be ready for rewriting, and often the earlier writing can still be read. These recycled parchments are called palimpsests.

The process

Parchment is prepared from pelt, i.e., wet, unhaired, and limed skin, simply by drying at ordinary temperatures under tension, most commonly on a wooden frame known as a stretching frame.

The stretching frame

After being flayed, the skin is soaked in water for about one day. This removes blood and grime from the skin and prepares it for a dehairing liquor. The dehairing liquor was originally made of rotted, or fermented, vegetable matter, like beer or other liquors, but by the Middle Ages an unhairing bath included lime.
Today, the lime solution is occasionally sharpened by the use of sodium sulfide. The liquor bath would have been in wooden or stone vats and the hides stirred with a long wooden pole to avoid contact with the alkaline solution. Sometimes the skins would stay in the unhairing bath for eight or more days depending upon how concentrated and how warm the solution was kept - unhairing could take up to twice as long in winter. The vat was stirred two or three times a day to ensure the solution's deep and uniform penetration. Replacing the lime water bath also sped the process up. However, if the skins were soaked in the liquor too long, they would be weakened and not able to stand the stretching required for parchment.
After soaking in water to make the skins workable, the skins were placed on a stretching frame. A simple frame with nails would work well in stretching the pelts. The skins could be attached by wrapping small, smooth rocks in the skins with rope or leather strips.
Both sides would be left open to the air, so they could be scraped with a sharp, semi-lunar knife to remove the last of the hair and get the skin to the right thickness. The skins, which were made almost entirely of collagen, would form a natural glue while drying and once taken off the frame they would keep their form. The stretching allowed the fibres to become aligned running parallel to the grain.
It is recorded that the process was/is a very smelly one!!

Uses

Vellum and parchment have been used since the earliest times, and still find uses today amongst artists, scribes and bookbinders. Though now costly to produce, it remains one of the most durable of library materials. Vellum – a material that would otherwise go to waste – was used to print the Magna Carta, the Domesday Book and thousands of other historical documents.

The Magna Carta

Map on vellum

Modern book binding

Vellum was and is commonly used in bookbinding. It could be used to cover a wooden or cardboard core or alone without any backing. Many vellum bindings are simple and undecorated. Vellum was often used to cover less-valuable or common books.
Recent moves by the House of Lords in the UK are noted, where they seek to abandon vellum on the grounds that it is too expensive, and revert to archival paper that is said to last up to 500 years. In comparison, vellum keeps forever.

References:
Richard Norman, Eden Workshops
Wikipedia – vellum
The New Antiquarian – Antiquarian Book Seller Association of America
The Telegraph, 2017 (UK)
www.abaa.org/blog/post/the-history-of-vellum-and-parchment
www.newworldencyclopedia.org

Community events & updates

Scottish Heritage of Lithgow

The 2018 National Trust Heritage Festival theme,*" Our Culture Our Story",* acknowledged the contribution of those who have enriched our heritage.
Lithgow Regional Branch of the National Trust Australia (NSW) presented the Scottish Heritage of Lithgow: *"The Scots of the Lithgow District in the 19th Century",* at a lecture by Professor Ian Jack, Senior Fellow and archivist at St Andrew's College within the University of Sydney, on 13th May 2018 at the Bowenfels Presbyterian Church Hall, Lithgow.

Master of Ceremonies Danny Whitty

Professor Ian Jack

The presentation, led by Master of Ceremonies Danny Whitty, was a fascinating account by Professor Ian Jack, of the three main leaders in the settlement and development of Lithgow, Andrew Brown, Thomas Brown and Colin Stewart. These three very different characters

provided diverging but complementary contributions during the 19th Century, as Lithgow changed from a pastoral community to a major industrial town.
The event was accompanied by John Cambridge on the bagpipes and Pat Connell with some moving and popular Scottish songs.
Photographs and displays illustrated their story, including details about the Scottish founding fathers, their homes and families; pastoral heritage; early enterprises and industries; woollen mills artefacts; pottery and stonemasonry.

Cooerwul House

Eskbank House

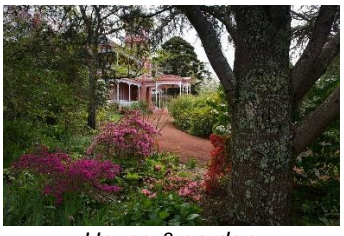
A wonderful and fitting Scottish afternoon tea was provided with music. Visitors were also able to view the Bowenfels Church and the replica of Christina Brown's quilt.

Patsy Moppett

Retford Park, Bowral

James Fairfax AC has always believed that Retford Park should be preserved for the enjoyment and benefit of future generations, particularly those of the local district. On 19th April 2016 and in fulfilment of his ambition, Mr. Fairfax gifted his historic Retford Park home to the National Trust of Australia (NSW). It was in August 2017 that the National Trust officially took control of the property.
On the weekend of the 4th and 5th August 2018, the house and gardens of Retford Park will be once again opened to the public. Retford Park is a place of great heritage significance. Its European history extends back to grants of land promised to Edward Riley senior by Governor Macquarie in 1821.

Dining room



House & garden

Sitting room

The house was built in 1887 by Samuel Hordern (1849-1909) merchant and stockbreeder, and his wife Jane, nee Booth. The house at Retford Park (designed by Albert Bond) is set on a low rise, a grand rendered brick Italianate style residence. It was in 1964 that James Fairfax bought the property and started to turn it from an agricultural property to a gentleman's residence. The house has become a treasure trove of pieces Fairfax collected over the years. Having been in his caring hands for over 50 years, both the house the garden is a delight to wonder through. A surprise at every corner.

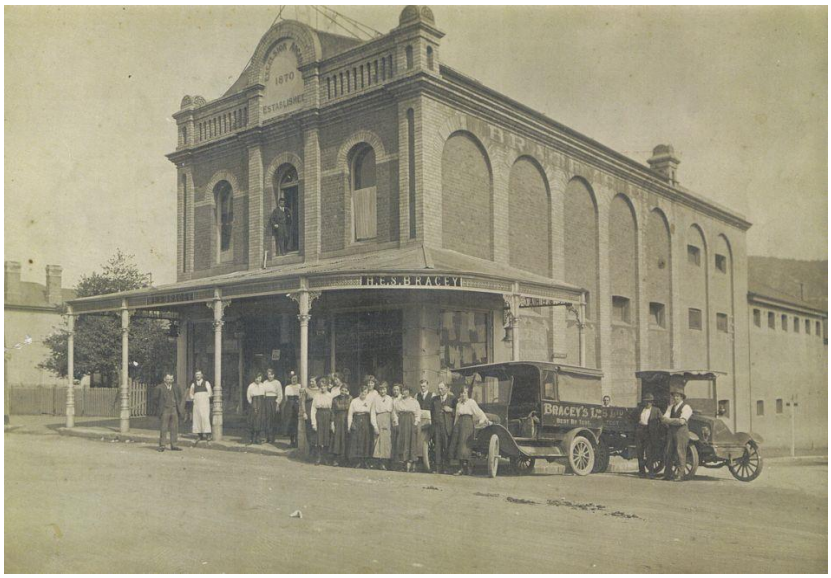
National Trust of Australia (NSW)

IMPORTANT - HOUSE TOURS: Due to the popularity of the house tours, bookings are essential. There will be four tours per day. 10.30am, 11.30am, 1.30pm and 2.30pm. There will be a maximum number of 20 people per tour.
House and garden: BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL: Adult - $25 Concession - $18 Child - $10 National Trust members - $15
Garden Only: No bookings needed Adult - $15 Concession - $12 Child - $5 National Trust Members: Free

Contacts: Phone: (02) 4861 1933
Email: retfordpark@nationaltrust.com.au

Faces Behind the Facades

The Lithgow and District Family History Society's ongoing project relating to the history of individuals who operated businesses in days gone by in Main Street, Lithgow, is proving fascinating. Many interesting and informative stories have been revealed which help inform us of the people who shaped Main Street and the history of the region, by their participation in community organisations and government.



Bracey's Store, Main Street

Large scale window vinyls are on display in relevant business windows in Main Street, which would include narratives capturing the stories of individuals, historic portraits and images of the original building facades.
A brochure has been produced which includes a local map of the location of the panels, with some ten premises listed so far. Businesses include S H Gannon's Eskbank Store, F R Eather's Butchery, James Padley's store, Porter's Pharmacy, James Walker's Pure Food Store and Durie Bros Rubber Works. *Patsy Moppett*

Further information may be obtained from the Society:
Post: PO Box 516, Lithgow 2790
Ph: 02 6353 1089
Email: secretarty@gmail.com.au
www.ldfhs.org.au

Archive storage

Following discussions with regard to archive storage over the last few months, BMACHO are looking to compile a list of historical societies/family history societies/museums/galleries/archives who might have inadequate storage facilities, in order to seek a way to have collections/archives stored in climate controlled, acid free conditions. It was felt by the BMACHO Committee that it would be appropriate, and the heritage community would be more likely to gain assistance for such a facility, for some sort of application for funding on a regional basis. BMACHO members are in four local government areas, Penrith (Arms of Australia Inn at Emu Plains), Blue Mountains, Lithgow and Hawkesbury. BMACHO are therefore asking our members in this region, not just the Blue Mountains, to provide information if they have archiving concerns.
Recently the Woodford Academy Management Committee found it necessary to move their archives to another National Trust property in the Southern Highlands, which means their

archives are no longer easily accessible. BMACHO realise that many other organisations find the need to store their archives or part of their collections externally.
If you would be interested in providing feedback in this regard, please advise the approximate cubic meterage you would require (or other measurement), and any other relevant comments, by 31 July 2018. This gives time for discussion at a Committee meeting.

Jan Koperberg, correspondence secretary

Rex Stubbs Symposium 2018

Hawkesbury Regional Museum has been chosen as the venue for this year's Rex Stubbs Symposium to be held on Saturday 25 August 2018. Much advice and many suggestions have been received on how to make the day better than previous years!
This year, it is proposed to have two guest speakers:

- Kate Gahan, historian and curator of Food Bowl Farming, and
- Deborah Vaughan, head of regional partnerships at MAAS.

As part of the morning, organisers would also like to invite each attendee group to give a brief talk on what they're working on/points of interest.

Dr Rex Stubbs

Hawkesbury Regional Museum

After lunch it is hoped that history stalls/groups could set up in the museum grounds (similar to the ten-year anniversary day – with some entertainment). So, they could all encourage museum visitors and members of the public to engage and learn.
If you would like the organisers to put stall space aside for you, please let them know ASAP, so they can include you in the program.
They will be sending out invitations and program information as soon as they can.

Kathleen von Witt

Kathleen von Witt, Gallery and Museum Director, Hawkesbury City Council
Phone: 02 4560 4440
Email: To: kathleen.vonwitt@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au

Annual Historical Festival and Open Day, Emu Plains

The Nepean District Historical Society will be holding its Annual Historical Festival and Open Day at the Arms of Australia Inn Museum on Sunday 15 July 2018 at the Museum at Emu Plains, from 9am to 3pm.
Displays and activities will include:

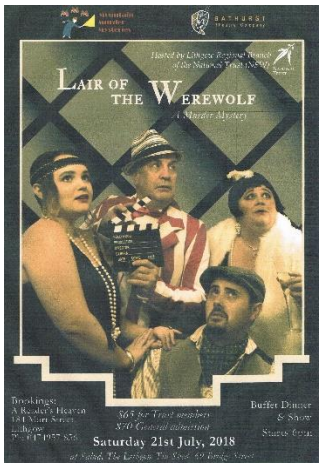
- NSW Corps of Marines Re-enactments
- Merry-go-round and jumping castle
- Old fashioned school room
- Light horse regiment
- Animals and pony rides
- Displays, music, food, stalls

The Museum is located on the corner of the Great Western Highway and Gardenia Avenue, Emu Plains. Admission is free. *Trish Montgomery*

For more information contact the museum:
Ph: 02 4735 4394
Email: info@armsofaustraliainn.org.au

National Trust Event – Werewolves and pit ponies?

At 6pm on Saturday 21st July 2018 Lithgow Branch of the National Trust presents another fun interactive whodunit buffet dinner and show in a heritage 1880s venue. Mountain Murder Mysteries & Bathurst Theatre Company combine to thrill with *"The Lair of the Werewolf",* directed by Hampton resident and actress Melissa Docker (Star of TV mini-series, "Fields of Fire"). The event will be held at 6pm at the Tin Shed in Bridge Street, Lithgow. The hosts will tickle your taste buds, with a unique blend of wood fired pizza and tapas. Suggested dress - 1920s, prizes for best dressed.

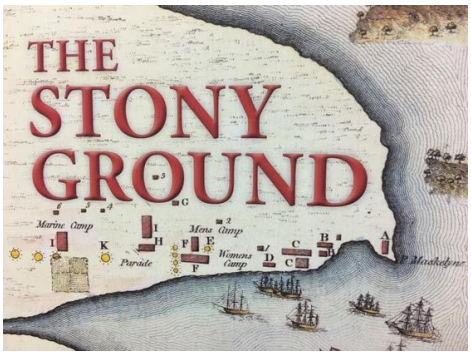


The Tin Shed (Salud) in Bridge Street was a produce warehouse going back to the 1880s, when a rail line brought goods up from the station and pit ponies were stabled behind it, the stables being only recently demolished. The restaurant is following a pleasing Lithgow trend of reinventing heritage buildings into performance spaces, some incorporating cafes and art galleries.
Lithgow National Trust raises funds for local heritage projects & signage and contributes to the restoration and maintenance of heritage properties in NSW. Our last Whodunit at the Brewery was enjoyed by all!
"The Lair of the Werewolf" would make a night out for a birthday, special occasion, or a fun way to support the Trust's activities in your area! *Celia Ravisi*
Cost: $70 general admission, $65 National Trust members

Bookings can be made at:
A Readers Heaven Bookshop, 184 Mort Street, Lithgow
Phone: 0474 957 856
Celia Ravesi – NT Secretary: 02 6359-3109

James Ruse - convict, farmer settler: Tour and book launch

James Ruse was a Cornish farmer who was reprieved from the hangman's noose and transported on the First Fleet in 1788. He was reputedly the first prisoner ashore, carrying an officer on his back. He went on to become the first ex-convict to be granted land and the first settler to become self-sufficient.



The Hawkesbury

These remarkable achievements are to be celebrated on Sunday 8 July 2018 at Windsor and Pitt Town with a tour of sites associated with Ruse, and sites farmed by him around Pitt Town and the peninsula area of Windsor, taking in some of the most beautiful and historic parts of the district. The tour will also include information and sites relevant to Ruse's time in the Hawkesbury, such as floods and other significant happenings.

The tour will be conducted by Hawkesbury Valley Heritage Tours and will take place from 10am to 12.30pm. The cost will be $20 per person.

The tour will be followed at 1.30pm by the launch of the book "*The Stony Ground*". UK based writer Michael Crowley describes the life of Australia's most symbolic convict using Ruse's own voice. His narrative carries us from his impoverished life in Cornwall to plot number one at the Hawkesbury, and beyond.

The launch is free, but bookings are essential, and light refreshments will be served.

Contact the Hawkesbury Museum, 8 Baker Street, Windsor
Phone: Prue Charlton 02 4560 4655
museum@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au
prue.charlton@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au

Transport Heritage Grants Program – now open

This program is a NSW Government funded program, administered by the Royal Australian Historical Society (RAHS), with the support of Transport Heritage NSW (THNSW).

The Program is run on an annual basis and supports organisations and individuals to preserve, explore and promote the history of land-based mass transport in NSW.

The program can fund projects in the following categories:

- Restoration, reconstruction or preservation of a heritage transport item.

- Education, publication or interpretation of an event, item/s or person/s that will promote heritage transport.
- Study, consultation, report or review that will assist in managing a heritage transport place or item.

Applicants can apply for grants of up to $15,000, and one grant of $50,000.
The closing date is 7 August 2018.

The 2018 Guidelines, Application Form and further information are now available from:
Royal Australian Historical Society https://www.rahs.org.au/grants/transport-heritage-grants-program/
If you need further information, contact the RAHS Grants Officer grants@rahs.org.au

BMACHO Conference 2018 - Report

The 2018 BMACHO Conference, *"Heritage Landscapes*" was held on Saturday 12th May 2018, at Mount Victoria Manor, 11 Montgomery Street, Mount Victoria.
Master of Ceremonies was Bruce Ferrier, and speakers included keynote speaker Stuart Read, Office of Environment & Heritage; Colleen Morris: Heritage consultant; Associate Professor Ian Jack, Senior Fellow and Archivist, St Andrew's College, University of Sydney; Kate O'Neill: Woodford Academy Management Committee; Mary Reynolds: Mount Wilson & Mount Irvine Historical Society; and Bruce Cameron, historian & author.
Aunty Sharyn Halls, Gundungurra elder and member of the Gundungurra Aboriginal Heritage Association, made her apologies as she was unable to attend and give her presentation on "The Gully and Gundungurra Country".

John Low, Robyne Ridge & Keith Painter

Attendees in deep discussion

BMACHO correspondence Secretary Jan Koperberg reports that there have been many positive comments via email and by word, about the speakers, the venue, the catering and the conference in general, including the following:

- Robyne Ridge, Vice President and Publicity Officer of Blue Mountains Historical Society:
  Just a quick thank you to you and to all who organised the Conference. What a lovely venue! The talks were all very interesting especially the key note speaker…….. felt he had some very interesting ideas re our tourism potential. Food was great - best conference food I've had!! Designed for the gold day it was. Finally, thanks for the trade table. We actually sold six books (which I didn't expect) but I learnt a lot from observing the others too.
  Robyne later found after reconciliation, that she had sold seven books – she was very pleased!

- Guy McIlrath, Manager, Everglades Historic House & Gardens:
  Thank you for a very interesting & well-run conference on Saturday – I am happy I was able to attend.

- Suzanne Smith, Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society and BMACHO Committee:
  Thank you for an enjoyable Friday evening, along with all the work which contributed to the success of the event. Thank you to the other members of the organising committee group, Summar and Ian. Also, an acknowledgement to Phil (recording) and Scenic World. Thought the conference was top class and speakers most interesting. Kate O'Neill's talk with the historical timeline of the Woodford Reserve ownership and transition use, I found interesting. Mary Reynolds and Ian Jack were certainly very entertaining, their respective personalities and humour shining through their interesting topics. But must say all speakers shared topics of great interest. From the feedback received over the day everyone was equally engaged in the topics. Top class hats off to Denise, Garry and staff, for excellent facilitation of the conference event, food, warmth and overall attention to any needs of the BMACHO group. The Mt Vic Manor was a most suitable venue.

- Julie O'Keeffe, Secretary, Friends of the Paragon and Blue Mountains Historical Society Member:
  Thank you to everyone involved in organising such a splendid conference – all speakers were excellent and very interesting. The venue is brilliant and the food for the day was simply super delicious!!! Looking forward to the 2020 conference!!

- Dick Morony, Secretary of Springwood Historical Society and BMACHO Management Committee Member:
  I thought it was a nice venue and the catering was the best of any conference/seminar/course I have attended. Although I am not a dedicated garden aficionado I enjoyed the talks; they didn't seem too long to me …….

- Sara Riley, Blue Mountains City Council:
  Thanks for Saturday, it was a really lovely day. It was good to meet Stuart, who I interviewed in my masters, and to meet Colleen who I had heard so much about …… a great venue too. And a really interesting cross-section of talks. Congratulations on a really successful conference.

- Celia Ravesi, Lithgow Regional Branch of the National Trust:
  Thank you very much for a well-organized and very interesting conference for BMACHO on Saturday 12th May at the Manor House Mt Victoria. The variety of speakers was excellent, and we were privileged to have all of them, particularly the ageless Mary Reynolds to show the late Libby Raines' photographs of Mt Wilson gardens. And the opportunity to hear Dr Ian Jack. twice in one weekend.
  Thank you allowing us to have an information stand for our Lithgow National Trust Branch. That was a good networking opportunity to meet some National Trust Representatives from the Mountains I had not met before. The lunch provided by the Manor House was delicious! Congratulations again, and we do appreciate receiving your Newsletter online on a regular basis.

Master of Ceremonies, Bruce Ferrier

Keynote speaker, Stuart Read

- Kate O'Neill, Woodford Academy:

Thank you to BMACHO for organising the Blue Mountains History Conference and for giving me the opportunity to speak about the Woodford Reserve. I greatly enjoyed the talks and appreciated the opportunity to meet with the other speakers and many key people in the heritage community. It was a very apt location with so much history of its own, and a nice connection to the Academy. I look forward to other events of this kind.

- Roy Bennett, Mount Victoria & District Historical Society:

Well done for the Conference reports…..good reading and good to read others feedback.
I enjoyed it more than expected, as in addition to the presentations, there were often comments, subjects, etc that give ideas .eg marketing comes to mind.
I guess that's how we get extra benefits from conferences.

Raffle winners on the day were:

- Jessica Lawn with Blue F 06
- Suzanne Mitchell with Blue F 39
- Mary Reynolds with Blue F 29

Comments: Although, as in most events such as this, we acknowledge there were the usual IT and conference management problems, which we have listed for considerations at future subcommittee meetings, to be addressed at future events.
We certainly appreciated the efforts made by the Manor operators, who made every effort to make the venue suitable to our needs.

Mary Reynolds

Associate Professor Ian Jack

Colleen Morris

Photographs courtesy of Carolynne Cooper

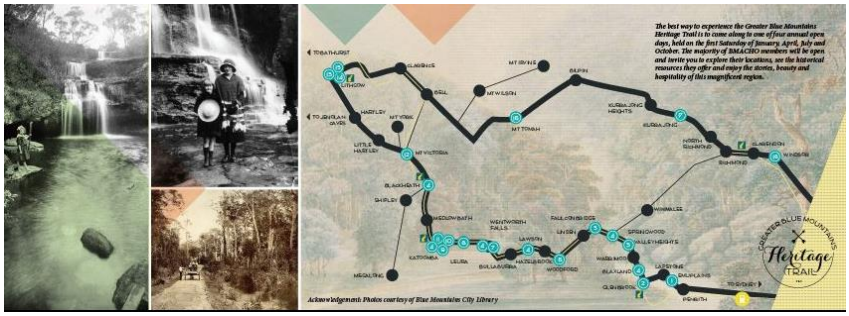
In conclusion, the presentations by the speakers were well received. The venue and catering provided by the Mount Victoria Manor and the warmth on a cold day, was very much appreciated.

All the speakers, the MC and the IT person have been emailed and thanked, as have Denise and Gary at the Mount Victoria Manor. Bruce Cameron has offered BMACHO copies of his book 'The Blue Labyrinth' to use for future event prizes.
A special thank you to Philip Hammon for recording the conference.

Jan Koperberg & Patsy Moppett

The Conference was Proudly sponsored by Scenic World Shared

Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail Update



BMACHO continues to promote the Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail and members' upcoming events. BMACHO have reprinted the Heritage Trail brochure which has now been distributed to visitors' centres across the region.

Heritage with Altitude!!

The Trail is an ideal activity for the kids and grandkids, be it in the school holidays or any weekend! Collect the Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail brochure at participating venues and Visitor Information Centres.

If you are a member and you would like further information, or if you would like to become a member, please email the BMACHO Secretary at committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au
For general information about BMACHO and the Trail, see heritagedrive.com.au or www.facebook.com/GBMHeritageTrail
To find out more about BMACHO visit www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au

Blue Mountains winter

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

Registered office: 1/19 Stypandra Place, Springwood 2777. (02) 4751 5834
Email: committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au or j.koperberg@bigpond.com
Website: www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au **ABN**: 53 994 839 952

The organisation: Blue Mountains Association of Cultural & Heritage Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 after local historical and heritage societies and individuals recognised the need for the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the local government area (LGA) of Blue Mountains City Council. The constituency now embraces but is not limited to, the LGAs of Blue Mountains, Lithgow, Hawkesbury and Penrith. BMACHO membership includes historical and heritage groups, museums, commercial enterprises with an historical or heritage component in its core business, local government (local studies units, library collections) and a limited number of individual members by invitation such as but not necessarily academics. The objectives of the organisation are:

1. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage
2. To encourage and assist cultural heritage
3. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations.

One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

Affiliations: BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society.

Publications: BMACHO's official newsletter ***Heritage*** is edited by Patsy Moppett. The annual refereed *Blue Mountains History Journal* is edited by Dr Peter Rickwood and occasional papers are published from time to time.

Membership: The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mt Tomah; Blue Mountains City Library; Blue Mountains Cultural Heritage Centre; Blue Mountain Education & Research Trust; Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc; Blue Mountains Historical Society; Bygone Beautys Treasured Teapot Museum and Tearooms; City of Lithgow Mining Museum Inc; Colo Shire Family History Group; Eskbank Rail Heritage Centre; Everglades Historic House & Gardens; Friends of the Paragon Inc; Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc; Hartley District Progress Association; Hawkesbury Historical Society Inc; Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc; Leuralla NSW Toy & Railway Museum; Lithgow & District Family History Society Inc; Lithgow – Eskbank House Museum and Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies; Mt Victoria & District Historical Society Inc; Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine Historical Society Inc (including Turkish Bath Museum); National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Blue Mountains Branch; National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Lithgow Branch; Nepean District Historical Society Inc; Norman Lindsay Gallery and Museum; Scenic World Blue Mountains Limited; Springwood Historical Society Inc; Springwood Historians Inc; Transport Signal Communication Museum Inc; Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Heritage Museum, Woodford Academy Management Committee, Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd.
The following are individual members: Wendy Blaxland, Fiona Burn, Ray Christison, Dr Wayne Hanley, Associate Professor Ian Jack, Ian Milliss, Patsy Moppett, Keith Painter, Philip Hammon and Dr Peter Rickwood.

Committee: The management committee for 2017-2018 (from March 2017) is: Patsy Moppett (President and ***Heritage*** Newsletter Editor), Ian Jack (Vice President), Fiona Burn (Secretary), Philip Hammon (Treasurer), Dick Morony (Public Officer/Membership Secretary/ Calendar Editor), Suzanne Smith (Events and Venue Co-ordinator), Jan Koperberg (Correspondence Secretary), Summar Hipworth, Rae Clapshaw and Roy Bennett.
Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail sub-committee: Fiona Burn, Jan Koperberg, Rae Clapshaw and Suzanne Smith, with guest member Gay Hendrikson.
Blue Mountains History Conference 2018 sub-committee: Summar Hipworth, Ian Jack, Jan Koperberg and Patsy Moppett.

Disclaimer: views and opinions expressed in Heritage originate from many sources and contributors. Every effort is taken to ensure accuracy of material. Content does not necessarily represent or reflect the views and opinions of BMACHO, its committee or its members. If errors are found feedback is most welcome.

Heritage

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Tasmanian Magic Research Project

Further to the Heritage Newsletter article in issue No.37 of March-April 2015, on "Farm Magic", historian Dr Ian Evans has provided an update on the second field season in January 2018 for the Tasmanian Magic Research Project. This Project is funded by the University of Hertfordshire, The UK Vernacular Architecture Group and Steven G. Sharman, and was established to find and record evidence of the material culture of magic in Tasmania during the nineteenth century.

Magic left no contemporary documentary record but its role in the lives of Tasmanians is evident in the evil-averting (apotropaic) marks on their houses and other structures and in objects concealed in buildings. Concealed objects including shoes and garments have been found in houses and other buildings in many locations throughout Tasmania.

Project site visits occurred every day between 6th January and 27th January 2018, with the exception of Thursday, 18th January. Evidence of magic in the form of evil-averting marks and practices was found at various locations throughout both survey areas in the northern and southern midlands. Sufficient evidence was gathered to enable some conclusions to be reached. It appears that there is no single form of evil-averting magic practiced throughout Tasmania, but particular groups within the community practiced their own varieties of magic that they found to be widespread.

Flame burn mark

Mummified cat

Old boot

Hexafoil

Director, Dr Ian Evans reported that:

……. this season's work of the Tasmanian Magic Research Project has been uploaded to Academia.edu and is available for download now.

The team consisted of Tully Brookes, location scout, Steve Dunbar, photographer, Vanessa Grant and myself. Ruth Hazeleton placed progress reports on social media, including Facebook.

We spent the whole of January visiting rural properties in Tasmania's northern midlands. Our work was supported by the University of Hertfordshire, the UK Vernacular Architecture Group and by Steven Sharman. We owe a debt of gratitude to the property owners who welcomed us and made their property available for research.

We inspected stables, barns, woolsheds, mills and a number of unusual buildings. These included a cider house and a squab house where pigeons were raised as an emergency food source. We also looked for a leech pit in which injured horses were placed to enable leeches to suck congested blood from their bruised limbs and bodies. The leech pit, not relevant to the main aim of the Project but too interesting to ignore, had unfortunately been filled in.

But evidence of the use of magic by British colonists was found and interesting conclusions arrived at. We now know that various groups within the community practised their own individual varieties of magic.

Builders placed shoes, garments and occasionally cats in voids in houses and other buildings under construction to lure evil beings from the underworld away from the human occupants of the buildings.

The professionals who managed the stables on the larger estates burnt candle-flame shaped marks on the stalls, the purpose of which appears to have been to inoculate these buildings against fire. Burn marks were not found in mum-and-dad stables on smaller properties.

We also noted the use of X marks on hinges made by blacksmiths. A good number of the larger properties had their own blacksmith's shop so it would appear that the use of the letter X on hinges in buildings used for storage or preparation of food was common among blacksmiths.

It's reasonable to suspect that there were other groups within 19th century communities who had their own varieties of magical rituals.

We have not yet been able to positively identify the practitioners known as cunning men and cunning women in Tasmania but strongly suspect their presence here, albeit one with a very low profile.

This concludes research in the midlands of Tasmania. The Project has been successful and has achieved its objective.

While fieldwork has been confined to Tasmania there is every reason to believe that magic was used in the same way throughout the Australian colonies. Until very recently Australia was thought to be a desert as far as the practice of magic in the 19th century was concerned. This belief has now been discredited.

Previous research into magic in Australia was confined to the contemporary documentary archive. There is nothing to be found there. The evidence was written on the houses and other buildings constructed by European settlers and can still be seen on those buildings today.

Ian Evans with examples of protective marks

The Tasmanian Magic Research Project had its first field trips in 2017, the idea originating from conversations Dr Evans had with some friends in the United Kingdom.

The Project's surveys of Tasmania are expected to produce results that will be applicable Australia-wide and of international significance. The protection symbols, which include hexafoils, deliberate candle burn marks, and clothing and shoes concealed in voids in buildings were used in the UK for centuries.
Dr Evans told The Examiner that it
"……. was common practice for builders, to conceal clothing, shoes and other items into voids in houses. Dead cats were used, for unknown reasons, when builders couldn't get access to the house's new owners' garments or shoes to place into the void. Common places to find garments or cats include underneath the front step, in the chimney or under the hearth. The most notable discovery, of 39 concealed shoes and a variety of other objects, was found at Woodbury, north of Oatlands……"
Subsequently Dr Evans had had inquiries from other states, including a recent one from Galong NSW.
The group is looking for volunteer researchers with expertise in photography (and their own cameras) as well as people who can do measured drawings of buildings where marks have been identified.
They are also seeking funding - please contact them if you can offer assistance.

For further information contact Dr. Ian Evans evansthebook@gmail.com

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Food for thought ..... Editor's note

BMACHO continues to promote the Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail, and you are encouraged to provide feedback and input into the pending review of the Trail operation, which will result in the issue of the third brochure in 2019.

The Trail was initiated in 2015, the brainchild of BMACHO member Richard Woolley and the previous BMACHO President John Leary, (both deceased), to promote the history and cultural heritage of the region, together with the resources of BMACHO members.
A new brochure is issued every two years, the contents of which are reviewed with each issue. In terms of BMACHO member participants, features include the listing of "Hidden Gems" and places to eat and stay.
"Accessible by road or partly by rail, the Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail offers historically minded visitors the opportunity to explore these important resources, as well as the spectacular scenery, through the historical societies, family history societies, museums, galleries, historic gardens and historic businesses that appear on the GBMHT brochure".
So, if the Trail has worked for you, we would like to know how and why. If it has had little impact, this information too, is a valuable insight into how the wider community sees our Trail and our Region.
It may be appropriate, early in 2019, to hold a workshop for Trail participants, to discuss the various issues, good or bad.
Please advise BMACHO of your thoughts on this matter within the next few months, to enable a thorough review of the worth of the project for 2019.

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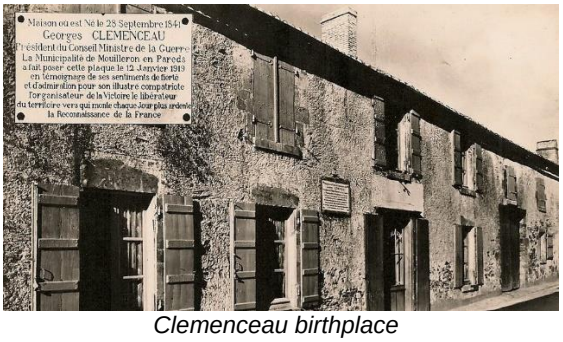
heritagedrive.com.au

Georges Benjamin Clemenceau – "Father of Victory"

The recently held Tour de France commenced Stage 2 in the village of Mouilleron-Saint-Germain. Commentators noted that the Tour did this to honour the memory of Georges Clemenceau who was born and is buried here. The town has a museum dedicated to Clemenceau and another famous son of Mouilleron, Jean de Lattre de Tassigny (a French General in North Africa and involved in the invasion of the south of France in August 1944, during World War II). Mouilleron-Saint-Germain is the result of a fusion in 2016 of two communes, called Mouilleron-en-Pareds and Saint-Germain-l'Aiguiller. The main town is Mouilleron-en-Pareds. So, who was Georges Clemenceau?
Georges Benjamin Clemenceau was a French statesman, politician, physician and journalist, who became the Prime Minister of France during World War I. He first held office from 1906 to 1909, and then was elected again from 1917 to 1920. He was one of the principal architects of the Treaty of Versailles at the Paris Peace Conference of 1919. He was nicknamed the *Father of Victory* or *The Tiger* and took a harsh position against the defeated Germany, and the stand which he felt France should take.

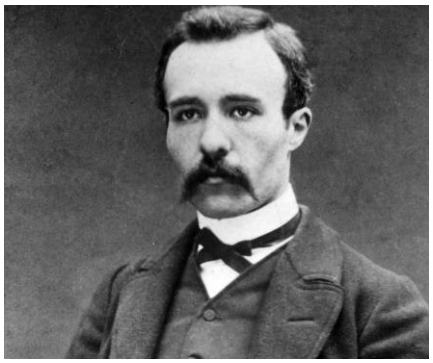
Mouilleron-en-Pareds, Vendee



Clemenceau birthplace

Clemenceau was a native of the Vendée region, born in 1841 to his physician father Benjamin Clemenceau and his mother Sophie Eucharie Gautrea, at Mouilleron-en-Pareds. During his youth Georges studied in the Lycée in Nantes, and then went to Paris to study medicine. He received his Doctor of Medicine in 1865, founded several literary magazines, and wrote many articles, most of which attacked the imperial regime of Napoleon III.

Clemenceau and others founded a journal, *Le Travail ("Work"),* which expressed views that were to characterize his future political actions. It was seized by the police, and Clemenceau was imprisoned for 73 days. Upon his release, he started a new paper, *Le Matin ("Morning"),* which was in turn seized by the authorities. Clemenceau soon left France for the United States when the imperial agents began cracking down on dissidents.

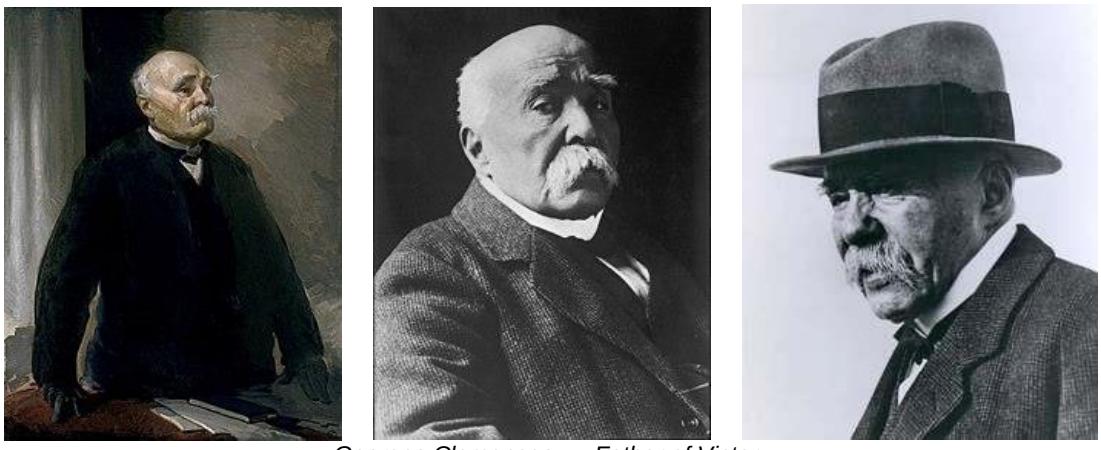


Georges Clemenceau – political activist

He worked in New York in the years 1865-69, following the American Civil War. He maintained a medical practice but spent much of his time on political journalism for a Parisian newspaper. He taught French at the home of Calvin Rood in Great Barrington, Massachusetts, and taught at a private girls' school in Stamford, Connecticut. In 1869, he married one of his students, Mary Eliza Plummer. She was the daughter of William Kelly Plummer and wife Harriet A. Taylor. Georges and Mary had three children together, two daughters and a son, before the marriage ended in a contentious divorce.
Clemenceau returned to Paris after the French defeat at the Battle of Sedan in 1870 during the Franco-Prussian War and the fall of the Second French Empire.
In 1876 Clemenceau returned to national politics and was elected to the Chamber of Deputies. His highly individual debating style, marked by a caustic wit, soon won him undisputed leadership of the radicals. Clemenceau possessed a genius for destructive criticism and won the appellation of the "*Tiger*" for his role in destroying Cabinets.
His hostility to the Franco-Russian Alliance so increased his unpopularity that in the French legislative elections of 1893, he was defeated for his seat in the Chamber of Deputies, after having held it continuously since 1876. After this defeat, Clemenceau confined his political activities to journalism for nearly a decade.
The miners' strike in the Pas de Calais after the Courrières mine disaster, which resulted in the death of more than one thousand persons, threatened widespread disorder in May 1906. Clemenceau had remained in the Chamber of Deputies, ordering the military against the strikers and repressing a wine-growers' strike in the Languedoc-Roussillon region. Clemenceau's speech to the Chamber of Deputies positioned him as the strong man of the day in French politics. When the Sarrien ministry resigned in October, Clemenceau became premier.
Clemenceau was defeated on 20 July 1909 in a discussion in the Chamber of Deputies on the state of the navy. Between 1909 and 1912, Clemenceau dedicated his time to travel, conferences and the treatment of an illness of his own, travelling to South America in 1910, to Brazil, Uruguay and Argentina.
At the outbreak of World War I in France in August 1914, Clemenceau's newspaper was one of the first to be censored by the government. He criticized the government for its lack of transparency and its ineffectiveness, while defending the patriotic union sacrée against the German Empire, and wielded considerable political influence.
In November 1917, at one of the darkest hours for the French war effort in World War I, Clemenceau was again appointed Prime Minister. Unlike his predecessors, he discouraged internal disagreement and called for peace among the senior politicians. This was a first, or at least for France.

Georges Clemenceau – Prime Minister of France – The Tiger

Clemenceau was also well received by the media, because they felt that France was in need of strong leadership. It was widely recognized that throughout the war he was never discouraged and never stopped believing that France could achieve total victory.
He made numerous visits to the front lines, risking his own life by insulting and threatening the German soldiers in person directly from the trenches. These visits, his speeches, and his verbal threats directly to the enemy impressed the soldiers and contributed to Clemenceau's title "*Père la Victoire" (Father of Victory).*
At the Paris Peace Conference of February 1919 it was decided that since the Conference was being held in France, Clemenceau would be the most appropriate President. He also spoke both English and French, the official languages of the Conference.
During the Conference an assassination attempt was made on Clemenceau by a disgruntled Frenchman, and the shot fired hit him between the ribs, just missing his vital organs. Too dangerous to remove, the bullet remained with him for the rest of his life.
The Treaty of Versailles was signed later that year in June 1919, and Clemenceau had to defend the Treaty against critics who viewed the compromises Clemenceau had negotiated as inadequate for French national interests. Clemenceau's main speech on the Treaty was delivered in September. He said that he knew the treaty was not perfect, but that the war had been fought by a coalition and therefore the treaty would express the lowest common denominator of those involved.
In 1919 France adopted a new electoral system. Clemenceau resigned as Prime Minister as soon as the presidential election was held in 1920 and took no further part in politics.
Clemenceau believed in human perfectibility through scientific knowledge and moral effort. He firmly upheld liberty and natural rights and was influenced by the ideas of Auguste Comte, J. S. Mill, and Charles Darwin.



Georges Clemenceau – Father of Victory

He continued writing travelling and lecturing and wrote his memoirs. His interests however were not confined to politics and journalism. Clemenceau was a close friend of the artist Claude Monet. He knew the importance of exercise and practiced fencing every morning

even when he was an old man. He also took an intense interest in Japanese art, especially Japanese ceramics, and amassed a large collection of pieces.
Georges Benjamin Clemenceau died in Paris on 24 November 1929 aged 88 and was buried at Mouchamps. His memoirs of the war and the peace settlement were published after his death.
Some of his quotes for thought:
"I'm more interested in the lives of those who failed because it shows they tried to beat their limits."
"It's better to lose than to win on the same side as villains".

Patsy Moppett

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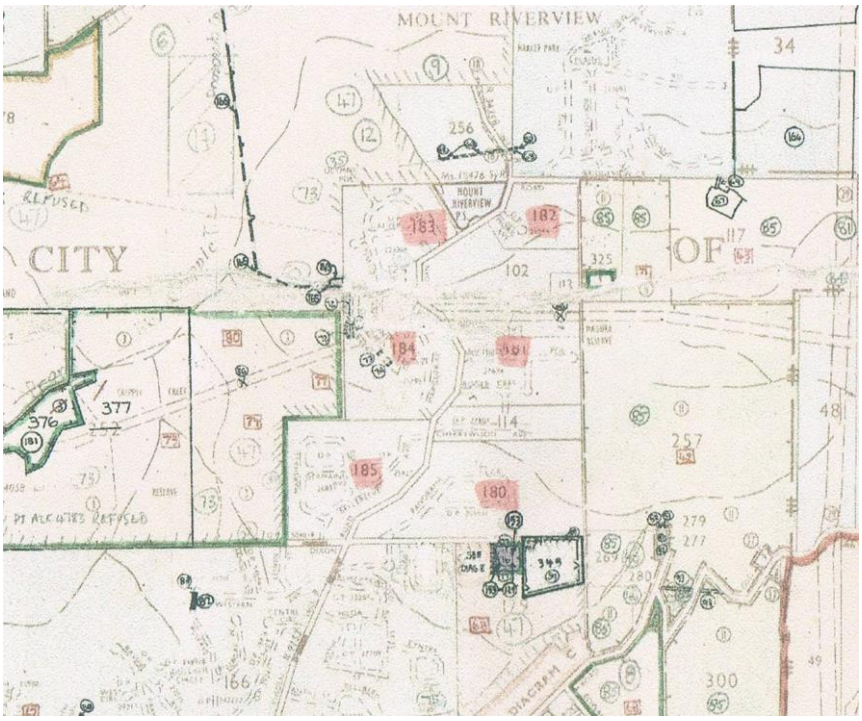
Origins of Mt Riverview

Mt Riverview is located to the north east of Blaxland, and to the north of Glenbrook, on the edge of the Blue Mountains escarpment to the west of the Nepean River, overlooking Emu Plains and Penrith. Today it is a residential town which offers walking opportunities through its various recreational reserves, including Harley Park, walking tracks to Winmalee and lookouts with beautiful scenic views. It also features a small shopping centre, a school, tennis court, woodcraft centre, churches, fire brigade and other community facilities.
However, the locality had remained untouched Crown land until 1907, when it was subdivided into six lots (180 to 185) varying in size from 35 acres to 52 acres. In 1908 Riverview Lookout was featured on early maps, but land in the area was not offered up for sale until 1920.
The first block of land was not sold until then and was acquired by Mr. Chas R Grandquist (Lot 181). In 1923 the last lot of land was purchased (Lot 184).



Extract of Parish of Strathdon

- Lot 180 – GC Singleton

- Lot 181 - Chas R Grandquist
- Lot 182 - BF Cummins, then Ferguson & Hall
- Lot 183 – Tomkins, then Blue Mountains City Council
- Lot 184 - F.T. Buxell, then CM Curvers
- Lot 185 – Henry Leahy

As early as 1914, according to a map from that year, an area was classified as a "Special Area being held for Returned Soldiers". The gully to the west of Blackbutt Circle was deemed suitable land for returned soldiers to undertake beekeeping activities.
Bernhard Cummins was also one of the first purchasers in the 1920s. He set up a lookout in a tree on his property at the end of what is now Bunbinla Avenue, which he named Mount Riverview Lookout. For a small cost, visitors could climb the tree via a set of steps/stairs and obtain a view over the Penrith and Emu Plains Valley. He also ran a tearoom and art gallery nearby. However, the complex was destroyed by fires in 1944. The location is now the site of the scout hall.
The Crown land adjoining Cummings property was declared "for public recreation." Cummins then sold the land in 1952 to a trust for the All Services Welfare Society, with a view to creating the Mt Riverview Village, for ex-servicemen, women, and their families. The village was to be a showpiece built over about 5 years, incorporating a community centre, school, two churches, 14 shops, a club, service station, and kindergarten, as well as 800 houses in a residential area. Each house would have a half acre of land and the streets would be lined with orange trees and feature dry stone walls. As the project had the backing of the Legion, blocks of land were keenly sought after in the new estate. This plan did not eventuate, as the owner of the land, Ian Ferguson, was declared bankrupt. Any people who had paid money for the land already had nothing to show for their purchase.
Bellereeve Avenue was established and building lots developed in 1953, Marshall Road and Germaine Road in 1955. In 1956, the development from the southern side of Bunbinla Avenue to Cherrywood Avenue took place. In 1957, Anthony Avenue and Marguerite Avenue were created. Marguerite Avenue was named after the wife of John Curvers, a Dutchman who owned the land at the time. Panorama Crescent and Dixon Road followed in 1960, and Curvers Drive in 1961.
In the early 1960s Charles Degotardi purchased and subdivided land he called the Grandview Estate, which was completed in September 1964. It involved all of the development north of Rusden Road, including Emu Plains Road and Grandview Drive.
In 1976 the establishment of the Blackbutt Circle Estate took place, a part of which the Department of Education purchased for the school.

Harley Park

View over Penrith Valley

The main purchase of school property was made in September 1959, when the Blue Mountains City Council purchased Lot 183 from Clive and Errol Tompkins, sons of the original owner. The Council sold a portion of this land to the Department of Education in February 1962 for a future school site, although the school was not built until 1971. It operated from then but was not officially opened until 1974. The remaining portion of land

was subdivided by the Council in 1964, making provision for shops, a water tower, recreation facilities and community services, and developing the remainder for housing.

Decorated water tower

Mt Riverview School

The town name was not gazetted until 1964. This followed an appeal by the local progress association to Blue Mountains City Council, before which the town was considered as part of Blaxland.

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Blue Mountain Education & Resource Trust, Lawson

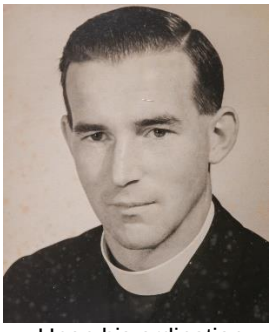
The Blue Mountain Education and Resource Trust was established in 2008 by the Rev Fr Eugene Stockton, based at Lawson, the original "Blue Mountain". The name, Blue Mountain [singular], was taken from the original name for the village of Lawson, where Fr Stockton grew up.

The Trust was set up to advance matters of religious enquiry, religious studies, Aboriginal studies, education and research for the local community and the Australian community at large. The logo of the Trust is a stylised representation of an engraving of concentric circles carved by Aboriginal people found at Woodford.
The objects of the Trust include:
1. To review and continue the research initiated by Fr Stockton in religious studies, Aboriginal studies and archaeology.
2. An emphasis on arousing awareness and collaborative participation to:

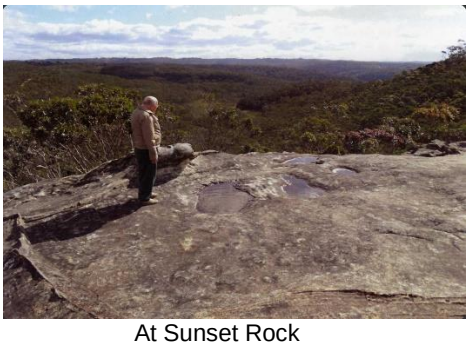
- Disseminate knowledge and ideas on the above and related topics.
- To host forums, talks and conferences for the advancement of matters of religious and social concern. Engage in interfaith, cross-cultural and interdisciplinary dialogue.
- Publish talks, papers and books, especially those whose authors are members of, or working with the local community.

Eugene Stockton is the Founder and Chairperson for the Trust, and is a priest-archaeologist, still living at Lawson. As a priest of the Diocese of Parramatta (NSW), he was a longtime seminary lecturer and served in parish, university and Aboriginal ministries. He has degrees in Divinity, Philosophy and Sacred Scripture. As an archaeologist he has engaged in

excavations and surveys in many parts of the Middle East and Australia. These varied interests have led to many publications, especially in the pursuit of an Australian spirituality. Born in 1934, Eugene is named for his mother's former employer, St Columba's Rector, Monsignor Eugene Brauer. His father had died soon after his birth, and his mother worked to raise her children. As a child Eugene spent many hours exploring the bush near his home, from whence his love of archaeology and Aboriginal culture arose. He became a regular member of archaeological digs, gaining valuable experience. By the time he was ordained into the priesthood in he was conducting his own digs.


Upon his ordination

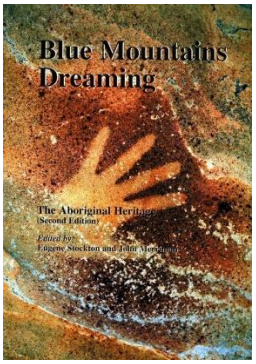
In more recent years

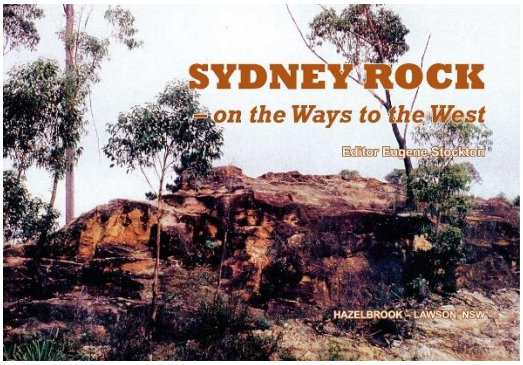

At Sunset Rock

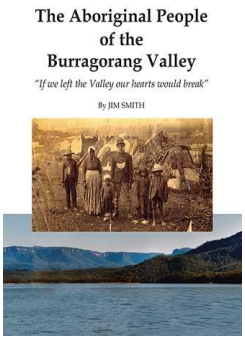
In later years he studied at St Columba's Minor Seminary in Springwood, and at St Patrick's Seminary near Manly. He was ordained in St Mary's Cathedral on 8 March 1958.He worked as Aboriginal Chaplain in the Archdiocese of Sydney and became interested in Aboriginal spiritualty and history, directing his talents to the study of local archaeology.
An early publication was "Blue Mountains Dreaming". Others include:

- "Arabian Cult Stones" 1982, Landmarks;
- "A Spiritual Search in a Southern Land" 1990;
- "The Aboriginal gift: Spirituality for a Nation" 1995;
- "Aboriginal Church Paintings" 2010;
- "Sydney Rock – on the Ways to the West"; and
- "This Tortuous Ridge – Lawson to Linden".

The Trust also publishes books for others such as "The Aboriginal people of the Burragorang Valley" 2016 by Jim Smith.







Following 60 years in the Ministry, Eugene now lives in the house he built for his mother 50 years ago and enjoys the company of his family and friends who still live in the district, retired in the same area in which he grew up, although limiting his forays into mainstream life.
He retired in order to live the life of a "hermit", a life of key times of silence and solitude in prayer, not necessarily living away from the world.
Today he now spends most of his time expressing this through writing. His latest book is "The Deep Within: Towards an Archetypal Theology".

He is an advocate for care for the earth and the environment, leading meditation days in the Blue Mountains, when participants spend time in the bush reflecting on their relationship with God and the natural world.
The Secretary and Executive Officer for the Trust is Allan Walsh. Allan has had a lifetime involvement in the printing and publishing industry and in his retirement devotes much of his time, energy and skills to the work of the Trust — from the design, typesetting and layout of our books to handling orders and queries from customers. Allan is the person to contact with queries about the Trust.
Maureen Anderson is the Treasurer, Brian Coyne is the Webmaster and Online Editor, and Laurie Woods is a Trustee.

The Registered Office of the Trust is at 254 Great Western Highway, Lawson, NSW Australia 2783.
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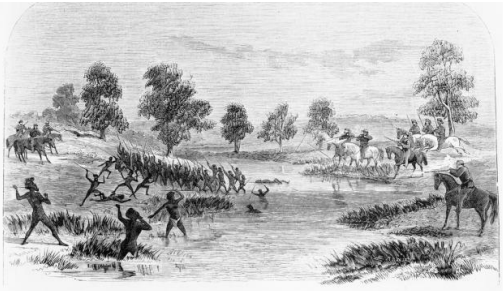
www.catholicearthcare.org
Wikipedia – Eugene Stockton
www.citydesert.wordpress.com
Indiana Jones of Priesthood, Jordan Grantham, Blue Mountains Review, 14 March 2018

Massacres Mapping: University of Newcastle

More than 150 Aboriginal and Torres Strait islander massacres that are alleged to have occurred during the spread of settlement in Australia are now documented in an online digital map, created by University of Newcastle researchers in 2017.
The online tool records the massacre site locations, available details of the individual massacres and the sources corroborating evidence of the massacres. The study initially covered frontier violence that occurred from the arrival of the first fleet in 1788 to the colonisation of the Northern Territory, South Australia and remote Queensland up to 1930.
Developed by University of Newcastle historian, Professor Lyndall Ryan, a member of the Centre for 21st Century Humanities and the Centre for the History of Violence, the map is a significant step in the recognition of the periods of violence in Australia's history.
"*The biggest argument in the scholarship of massacre is 'how do we know it happened?"* Professor Ryan said.
Most massacres took place in secret and were designed to not be discovered, so finding evidence of them is a major challenge. This digital tool brings significant historical information out of the depths of archives, bringing it to life in an accessible and visual format. With this map we've developed a template to identify massacres and a process to corroborate disparate sources. They include settler diaries, newspaper reports, Aboriginal evidence and archives from State and Federal repositories. The map pulls the sources together to form a coherent list of frontier massacres spanning 80 years across Eastern Australia.
The project was funded over a four year period by an Australian Research Council (ARC) grant investigating violence on the Australian Colonial Frontier, 1788-1960.
In 2017 Professor Ryan said:
So far we have mapped Tasmania, Victoria, most of NSW and Queensland and have about 150 massacres listed at present. It's likely to end up being more than 200 across an 80-year period from settlement to 1872 as we progress the map further.
There were more than 60 massacres in Victoria across 15 years; and 30 massacres along the NSW/Queensland border between 1840 to 1850. The map shows there were very intense periods of violence in particular regions. We are still working on mapping the rest of Australia and hope to have that complete within two years.

The publicly available map is to be found at:
https://c21ch.newcastle.edu.au/colonialmassacres
The website is also a contact point for the public to contribute historical information they may have about massacres to the project.
Professor Ryan explained further:
At present it's a preliminary list as we expect to find more massacres as people come forward with more evidence …….. In Australia very few perpetrators were brought to justice. I'm a historian so it's not my intention to bring people to justice with this map. However, we do know the impact of massacre reverberates across the generations. When I visit Aboriginal communities today the first thing they do is take you to the massacre site.

The University now reports that as of July 2018 the number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander massacres verified and recorded on the online digital map has risen to 240, following an influx of valuable information and evidence from regional communities around Australia.
The response from the Australian public had been overwhelmingly positive since the launch of stage one of the research project in 2017.
Professor Ryan comments that:
The high level of community interest and engagement comes from regional Australia, where most of the incidents took place, suggesting that people in the regions really do want to know what happened …… It's important to document these incidents because they resolve the long standing question: how violent was the colonial frontier? The map shows that massacre was widespread and affected hundreds of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.
Massacres of Aboriginal people were typically carried out by hunting parties of soldiers, armed settlers, mounted police and/or native police with six to 40 men in each party, averaging eight to 10 men.
The evidence has found that characteristics of massacres varied by time and place, and the weapons used were swords, pistols, muskets, bayonets, cannons, carbines, repeating rifles and strychnine poison. Aboriginal peoples' weapons were spears, waddies and hatchets.
Some Aboriginal communities asked the researchers not to pinpoint the exact location of where their ancestors were killed, so the map records an approximate site instead.
The research team found many major massacres happened alongside rivers, but some battle sites are now under dams, reservoirs and weirs.
Professor Ryan said.
That's where the majority of Aboriginal people were, that was where the good pastoral land was and that's where the settlers wanted to be.
Ian Evans (OAM, PhD) historian, makes comments and offers an alternative point of view to the news coming from the University of Newcastle's massacre map.
The way in which the map's records have been set up has produced a shocking result. I cannot speak for the whole of Australia on this matter but I do have some knowledge of the circumstances in Tasmania in the first half of the 19th century.



Artist's impression: Rufus River 1841

Artist's impression: Musgrave Range 1879

A brief examination of other events recorded on the map reveals that it is not a reasonable and nuanced depiction of conflict between Aborigines and Europeans in the 19th century. The map throws all responsibility for Aboriginal deaths onto European settlers and the Colonial administration. An independent audit should be arranged to check the validity of the map's claims …….. There was bitter conflict and there were atrocities on both sides.

Patsy Moppett

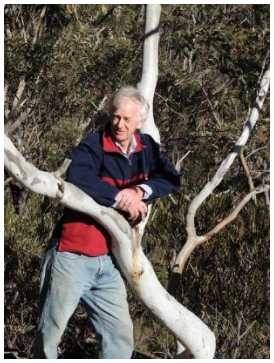
Editor's note: There has been some considerable discussion online about this Project, and the accuracy and intentions of its findings. Readers are advised to research the discussion and form their own opinions. One way to assist in the authentication of the Project results is to contribute to the information collected to date, as suggested by the research team.
The research team welcomes suggestions for additions or modifications to the site, the data and the map. People can visit the website and click the contact tab, where they can provide details via a form; or they can email colonialfrontier@newcastle.edu.au and attach any relevant documents.

References:
www.newcastle.edu.au 2017& 2018
Ian Evans email to NSWheritagenetwork@groups.io 28 July 2018
New map records massacres of Aboriginal people in Frontier Wars: ABC News, Bridget Brennan 5 July 2017
History or Propaganda: www.groups.google.com

Book Launch: Padley of the Pedestal – James McMillan Padley

A launch of "*Padley of the Pedestal - James McMillan Padley*", by local author Keith Painter, will be held at 3pm on Friday 19th October 2018 at Lithgow Library Learning Centre.
It will be followed the next day by a rededication of the restored Padley monument at Hassans Walls Lookout, on the morning of Saturday 20th October 2018. (The 20th will be the centenary of the death of James Padley.)
Some descendants of James's brother George (the only one who had children) will be attending.

James Padley



The author

Padley Pedestal

James McMillan Padley was the driving force behind the Lithgow Progress Association in the early 1900s and the chief instigator of development of visitor facilities at Hassans Walls Lookout. He had a furniture shop in Lithgow from 1902 until his death in 1918.

Further information should be available by mid-September and will be distributed by BMACHO. You can also contact the Library, or the author at greatguides@mountainmistbooks.com

The Technical Side
Allowing old buildings to "breathe"

Modern buildings rely on impervious outer layers to exclude moisture, or other barriers which prevent moisture entering the fabric and creating damage.
In old buildings, the cobb, bricks or stones were generally bonded with weak and porous mortars made of lime/sand, earth, or earth/lime mortars. External walls constructed with these materials were rendered with lime render, and then often limewashed so the structure was able to "breathe". When it rained, moisture was absorbed a few millimetres into the external surface but was able to evaporate when the rain stopped, helped by the drying effects of the sun and wind. The surface had a rough texture which maximised the surface area and increased evaporation.
The "breathing" amounts simply to the action of moisture entering the wall which should be able to evaporate.
Thatched roofs over mud walls were built to direct water away from the building, and the construction materials could take in and let out moisture due to their mature, as long as the building location was on a well-drained site.
Tiles, shingles and slate roofs allowed for the movement of air between each component to allow for drying and movement.
Internally, walls were plastered with lime and finished with simple breathable paints. The limewash could be decorated with natural pigments. Any excess internal humidity was dispersed via chimneys, vents or simply draughts, or absorbed by the breathable surfaces.
In addition, a kitchen stove or open fire burnt from autumn until spring, drawing air through the home and keeping internal surfaces dry. Provided the building was maintained, the structure remained essentially dry.

In recent times builders have tried to apply modern techniques to breathing structures on traditional buildings. These cement renders, plastic paints, waterproof sealants, damp proof membranes and insulation materials, where suitable for contemporary buildings, can act as a barrier to the older building's natural ability to breathe. The mix of technologies traps water within porous materials and exacerbates the very problems that they are trying to resolve.
A certain amount of moisture in an old wall is acceptable, simply because it can evaporate away easily. However, if moisture increases excessively within a masonry wall, the likelihood of decay also increases. Timbers can occur in solid masonry walls as lintels over windows or doorways, as beams or joist ends etc. If the moisture content increases within these timber elements it can become subject to wet and dry rot. In the masonry the mortar will also become susceptible if the moisture levels persist.

When repairing an old building, such techniques should be understood to obtain a successful outcome:

- Paint systems and external renders – must be able to allow moisture through but also allow it to evaporate. Sometimes this may result in a breakdown of the surface finish and require re painting/rendering. Sacrificial renders and paints are used in this instance, which need regular monitoring and replacement. Generally, no synthetic modern materials should be applied to the masonry or plaster surfaces of historic buildings.
- Pointing - If an old wall is repointed with a modern cement mortar, water will still be able to penetrate the wall through the masonry or cracks in the mortar but will be unable to evaporate back through the mortar and will be forced back out through the face of the masonry. This can lead to an increased decay of the masonry. A soft lime mortar with lower strength to the masonry should be used for pointing. The mortar will decay and may appear to be sacrificial, but it is cheaper and easier to re-point at intervals with the lime mortar rather than having to replace whole bricks or blocks of stone.
- Internal plaster and finishes - if the exterior surface of a building is sealed to prevent moisture intrusion, and the internal surface has been left with the original lime plaster then moisture which is unable to evaporate to the outside will find its way internally with an increase in dampness and humidity, which has a cooling effect and represents a considerable heat loss. If the internal wall is also sealed this will only act to further trap moisture and either force it further upwards in the building affecting the plaster above, or down to affect foundations.

Other instances where dampness and moisture is able to build up against or within a wall include where soil or leaves have built up above the floor level and dampness can be transmitted into the wall and into the house; hard-surfaced paths which allow rain to splash up the wall or which trap damp in the soil near the wall; and broken, leaking or blocked rainwater pipes which continually wet the wall and adjacent ground surface. It can often be a simple matter to level soil, remove litter, and fix the stormwater fixtures.

Under normal circumstances, old buildings will work well if they are maintained in the same way as they were constructed. All external and internal finished should be permeable. Where the application of impermeable finished has been undertaken, and once deterioration is observed, remedial action is required which may involve the removal of such materials and replacement with porous surface treatments. This must be undertaken with care to avoid further damage to the building, and compromises may be required. Paints can be scraped off carefully, renders can be chipped off in small sections, mortars can sometimes be cut out. All these techniques risk damage to the main masonry fabric. Where a complete replacement is not possible the wall should be kept as dry as possible and well ventilated to prevent moisture entering between the external and internal surfaces.

If you are dealing with an old building, professional advice is readily available from a variety of publications, and suitably qualified architects, builders and tradesmen, experienced in the restoration of historic buildings.

Patsy Moppett

References:
The Maintenance of Heritage Assets, Information Sheet 2.3, The Need for Old Buildings to Breathe, The Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings, London 1986
www.huntwriter.com/breathability-in-buildings
www.taliesin-conservation.com
www.oldhouse.info

Community events & updates

Successful grant funding

On Monday, 13 August 2018 Blue Mountains based Member of the Legislative Council Shayne Mallard MP announced that the Blue Mountains region has been the successful recipient of four key heritage grants in the NSW Government "Heritage Near Me Activation Grants", saying:
"The four grants valued at $375,000 are for projects including conservation of the Explorers Tree at Katoomba, the Woodford Reserve at Woodford, restoration of old Mt Wilson Public School and opening the heritage building on Parke St Katoomba, which all represent important elements of the local heritage that can now be preserved for future generations."

The projects are elaborated upon as follows:

- **Project Name: Pulpit Hill Precinct (including Explorers Tree) Interpretation Project**: The Pulpit Hill Precinct contains the "Explorer's marked tree", convict grave stone arrangements and natural area landscape values. This Interpretation Project will ensure opportunities for community engagement, appreciation and enjoyment of the significant heritage values which are provided at Pulpit Hill, with a focus on conservation of the significance elements. Total approved: $100,000.00.
- **Project Name: Woodford Reserve and Grounds – Interpretation, Access and Conservation**: Woodford Reserve has significant European, Aboriginal and landscape values - this project will change people's perception of this place with appropriate access which has not been available, with a comprehensive interpretation of the Reserve and its immediate environs fragmented through subdivision and with conservation of its highly significant elements. Total Approved: $75,000.00.
- **Project Name: Restoration of Old Mt Wilson School**: The undertaking of urgent structural repairs to conserve the historic buildings of the Old Mt Wilson School (home of the Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine Historical Society archives) and to ensure safe public access and new adaptive uses as part of the Mt Wilson Community Precinct. Restoration works will provide increased community amenities and access to heritage space. Total Approved: $100,000.00.
- **Project Name: Mountain Culture opens in heritage building on Parke St, Katoomba**: Open a heritage building to the public as a community space in Katoomba, located in the UNESCO World Heritage Blue Mountains, giving the town the opportunity to further cement itself as a tourist destination, with the building supported economically by a microbrewery, restaurant and art space. Total Approved: $100,000.00.

HERITAGE NEAR ME

Mr Mallard said: *"By encouraging the community to use and enjoy our heritage places we ensure they are valued and protected for future generations".*
This year marks the third round of Heritage Near Me Activation Grants. Over the three years, a total of $8 million has been awarded to support 107 local heritage projects across the state.
BMACHO wrote supporting letters for the first three of the above grants, and congratulates all four recipients, wishing them well in their endeavours. *Patsy Moppett*

History Week 2018

History Week is the annual, state-wide celebration of history organised by the History Council of New South Wales (HCNSW). Initiated by the HCNSW in 1997, History Week is a fantastic opportunity for member organisations, large and small, throughout NSW to engage and educate the community about the vitality, diversity and meaning of history and its practice.
The History Council of NSW's flagship festival, History Week 2018: *Life and Death* (1-9 September), will explore life's defining moments and the impact of death on communities across time.
The theme of *Life and Death* will include:

- life's milestones and how different cultures come to terms with death.
- how we commemorate people's lives.
- what rituals and burial practices reveal about our relationship with and understanding of life and death.
- how death has been feared, used as a form of punishment and shattered communities.
- how communities have rebuilt after loss, shared stories across generations and inspired remembrance and creative expression.

In 2018, History Week commences on 31 August with the NSW Premier's History Awards**.** Another feature event is the Annual History Lecture and Awards on the night of 4 September. Overall, there are close to 100 events being staged throughout NSW in History Week.
Blue Mountains events include:
Hidden in Plain View: The Aboriginal people of coastal Sydney: Saturday 1 September 2018, Blackheath Public School Hall:
Aboriginal peoples did not disappear or die out after European arrival in 1788, but they were left out of historical narratives. Historian and archaeologist Dr Paul Irish discusses this poorly understood period of history and brings Aboriginal lives and culture back into view.
The Final Journey: making tracks to the last station: 8-9 September 2018, Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Heritage Museum.
Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Heritage Museum has a number of special activities and exhibits to coincide with History Week 2018: exhibits on transportation of the deceased, themed photographic displays, other related exhibits, local stories and 20 minute steam train rides.

Patsy Moppett

The complete interactive program of History Week events is available on the History Council website: www.events.historyweek.com.au

Mount St Marys, Katoomba - update

Further to BMACHO's article on Mount St Mary's at Katoomba, Newsletter No. 55, March-April 2018, this significant property is once again on the market.
Commercial Real Estate declares: "…. *it has been vacant for the last two decades and has become popular among abandoned-building enthusiasts and vandals*."
The current owner acquired the property in 2014 and has apparently made efforts to restore the building and preserve some of its historic features.
Although there have been numerous attempts to sell the site in recent years, no success has been forthcoming. A development consent had previously been approved through Blue Mountains City Council for the restoration of the existing building and construction of 122 apartments, however this has now lapsed.

Listed on the Blue Mountains Local Environmental Plan 2015, Schedule 5, and the NSW State Heritage Register, the inventory sheet states:
"The physical location, expansive modified landscape setting, and imposing complex of ecclesiastical buildings dominated by a tower, lends Mount St Mary's great aesthetic significance in the cultural landscapes of the Blue Mountains. It remains a visually significant landmark at the eastern gateway to Katoomba and has great social significance for the former religious community, students, and wider Blue Mountains communities."
It is to be hoped that a buyer will be forthcoming in the near future to develop this significant feature of Katoomba's history. *Patsy Moppett*

References
Historic Former Blue Mountains School on market for more than $7.1 million, Denham Sadler, Commercial Real Estate, 3 August 2018
Inventory Sheet: Mount St Mary's Collage & Convent, NSW Dept of Environment & Heritage, February 2018

Fernhill, Mulgoa - update

Further to the BMACHO article on Fernhill at Mulgoa, Newsletter issue No. 51, July-August 2017, an update is provided on the development of the property.
As is known, Rookwood General Cemeteries Reserve Trust had taken up an option to development the 384-hectare site into a cemetery to replace the current Rookwood Cemetery.
However, it seems that the Trust has had to walk away from the deal after failing to gain loan and Ministerial approval within its due diligence period.

The Rookwood Trust had agreed to purchase the historic Mulgoa property in March 2018 for $30 million, but their conditional offer lapsed, relating also to Penrith City Council's concerns of the impact of a cemetery on the heritage landscape surrounding the 1840s-built mansion. In a recent statement Rookwood General Cemeteries Reserve Trust chief executive George Simpson said "*with no formal approval from the Minister at this time RGCRT is unable to proceed with the purchase of the Fernhill estate.*
The Trust itself had originally stated that they were not going ahead if the community did not want a cemetery at Fernhill, and the project would be dropped".

The estate is more recently best known as the former home of property tycoon Warren Anderson before bankruptcy forced him out and the keys were handed over in 2011 to his financier Angas Securities. Anderson told The Australian he had written letters to politicians at all levels of government in an effort to save the estate from being turned into a cemetery.
In the meantime, the NSW government has purchased the site for $27.25 million. The government is yet to announce what they plan to do with the property or which state department will manage it.
A spokesperson from the Department of Planning and Environment said the Department needed to assess legislative and management changes required to enable it to be opened to public access.
"The Department of Planning and Environment will work to find an appropriate state agency to develop the management plans necessary to open the site for public access," the spokesman said.
The local community, through the Mulgoa Progress Association and Warren Anderson, have applauded this public ownership move.
The RGCRT will now need to find another suitable area large enough for their and Sydney's future needs.
It will be a nervous wait on the government's intentions for the place, given the green light given to the Badgery's Creek airport, and the subsequent residential and transport demands of such a proposal in the western Sydney area. *Patsy Moppett*

References:
NSW Government buys Historic Fernhill Estate at Mulgoa, once slated to become Cemetery, for $27 Million: Lucy Macken, Domain Real Estate, 16 March 2018
Ailing Angas loses yet another Fernhill, Mulgoa buyer: staff reporter, The Australian, 26 October 2017

National Trust of Australia - Blue Mountains Branch

The Blue Mountains Branch of the National Trust covers an area stretching from Lapstone to Mt Victoria. The Branch Committee is elected each year at the AGM and currently comprises thirteen members, including the Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer. All these people are volunteers, who give their time furthering the aim of the National Trust to "*preserve our natural and built heritage*". The tasks which they carry out towards this aim are many and varied including taking the necessary action in response to developments in the Blue Mountains which may threaten that heritage. They organise activities with an historical or heritage theme such as walks and bus trips, and undertake fund raising street stalls, which also provide social opportunities for members. These activities also raise funds for the Trust.

The funds raised from these activities are used to support the Trust's three Blue Mountains properties, Everglades Historic House and Gardens, the Woodford Academy and Norman Lindsay Gallery, as well as the general activities of the Trust. The group welcomes volunteers willing to serve on their committee, to help with the organising of their various activities, and encourages members and the community to attend their functions.
Some activities planned for the coming months include:

- HAWKESBURY ARTIST'S TRAIL - DAY BUS TRIP: Saturday 22nd September.
- TOUR TO MAITLAND, MORPETH AND SURROUNDS: Tuesday 6th November to Thursday 8th November.
- NORMAN LINDSAY GALLERY: Puddin' Day, Sunday 14th October.

For more information on their activities or to join the committee please email bmnt1814@gmail.com or contact Rhona on 02 4757 2424.

Blue Mountains Cultural Centre

Exhibition: Blue Mountains Botanica

View exhibitions and join them for a diverse program of storytelling, workshops, walks & talks at the Blue Mountains Cultural Centre and Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mt Tomah. Developed in partnership with the Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain Trust *Blue Mountains Botanica* delves into the history of botanical exploration of the Blue Mountains and features historical botanical illustrations, plant specimens and archival material drawn from the National Herbarium of NSW, the Daniel Solander Library and the Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mount Tomah.
25 August – 14 October 2018

For further information on the program, contact:
Email: rstibbard@bmcc.nsw.gov.au>
www.bluemountainsculturalcentre.com.au

Conservation Management Strategy for Section of Cox's Road

Blue Mountains City Council announced recently that a Conservation Management Strategy (CMS) has been completed for a significant section of the historic Cox's Road at Linden. The Strategy sets out a framework for the appropriate care, conservation and ongoing use of remnants of the Road, to minimize day to day threats.
This part of the route lies between bushland and the rear yards of private properties and has provided access into natural areas such as the Paradise Pool and other bushland features. However, it has also presented privacy and security issues for adjacent residents.
The CMS will guide future activities in the vicinity, including the development of an interpretation plan, archival recording of historic fabric, and re-routing the existing bush access trail. This will enable protection of the remaining historic features of the Cox's Road, whilst retaining safe and environmentally appropriate access to the bushland sites and protecting the privacy and security of nearby residents.

The sensitivities of the Aboriginal community regarding the role the road played in the European occupation of the Blue Mountains will be recognized, and thorough consultation undertaken.
Council worked with the Blue Mountains Region of NPWS, the NSW Rural Fire Service, Traditional Owners, other State agencies, along with the Linden Residents' Association, to develop the Strategy.

Stakeholders celebrate the recognition of the significance of Cox's Road in a CMP

Remnants of this Linden section of the Cox's Road route

The Conservation Management Strategy was supported by a $10,000 grant from the NSW Office of Environment & Heritage and the NSW Heritage Council, with Council contributing about $15,000 towards the Plan. *Patsy Moppett*

References:
www.bluemountainsaustralia.com
www.bmcc.nsw.gov.au

BMACHO Workshops

BMACHO has recently received funding from Blue Mountains City Council to hold workshops during the coming 6 months and has sought to determine topics which might benefit members relating to their group activities, records and collections, successfully addressing the positives and negatives of the BMACHO membership.

The committee has resolved to hold the first workshop on 24 October 2018 at Wentworth Falls, dealing with *"Archival appraisal and description",* and a more formal announcement will be confirmed after our Committee Meeting on 3rd September 2018.
We are aware that a number of our members are very keen to hold a "*Practical writing of grant applications*" workshop and this is being considered.
In general, and to date, the following topics have been suggested:

- Archival appraisal and description
- The practical side of writing grant applications
- Cataloguing/managing records and collections
- Accessioning
- Assessing the significance of collections
- Storage of records and collections
- "Connecting up" - for not-for-profit member organisations, who may benefit from significant discounts. Establishing and managing your website.
- The Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail - how it can be managed better to benefit members.
- Sharing of positive and successful methodologies with other member organisations.

BMACHO is now seeking feedback from members on the following questions:

- What topic do you find most beneficial?
- What services are missing?
- Where does your organisation struggle?
- What are the main heritage concerns with regard to your records or collections?
- Do you have any positive experiences to share which might assist other organisations? Do any of these experiences fit into the suggested workshop themes?

Places in each workshop will be limited, and preference for attendance will be for the BMACHO membership. However, the public will also be welcome should numbers allow.
Through these workshops, BMACHO is hoping to complement the workshops currently planned by Blue Mountains City Council's museums advisory Service (see below).

BMACHO Committee

Feedback can be provided via the BMACHO email address: bmacho.heritage@gmail.com

Blue Mountains Workshop: Muse

Responding to interests and concerns expressed during this year through meetings, visits, current status review and emails Gay Hendriksen, Museums Advisor to Blue Mountains City Council, has developed what she hopes will be a useful practical workshop series - *Muse.*

The free *Muse* workshop series is part of the museum advisor service provided by Blue Mountains City Council and Museums & Galleries NSW.
The series will provide tools, resources and skills development for regional museums, archives, library and gallery sector in the Blue Mountains.
To be eligible for this program you need to be a member of a regional museum, archive, library and gallery or associated organisation in the Blue Mountains region.

The first workshop day will be jam packed, to be held on Tuesday 11th September 2018 starting at 9am at 30 Parke Street, Katoomba:

- Brad Moore, BMCC Aboriginal Liason officer will give a brief overview of Council's perspective,
- Elizabeth Hadlow, senior conservator at State archives will be talking paper conservation,
- Kate Chidlow, Conservator at MAAS will talk textile conservation, storage and display and
- Gay will follow up with Registration and cataloguing, looking at the EHive online tool.

This will be followed by a plenary and information share which was so successful at the meet and greet earlier in the year.
The sessions are limited in number so if you don't make it to the list please email Gay and she will put you on the waiting list.

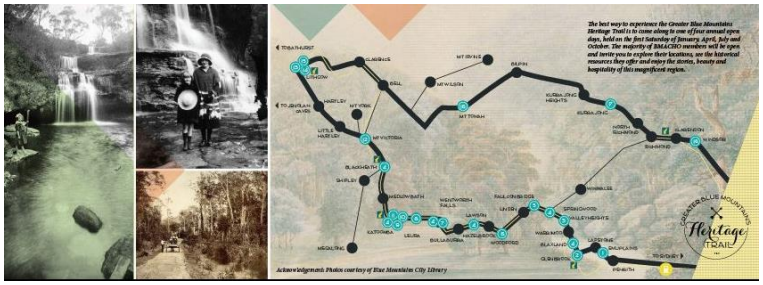
Note: a further workshop is scheduled for 6th November 2018. Information will be available from Gay closer to the date.

Information on the morning program:
https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/muse-museum-advisory-workshop-seminar-program-tickets-49273789230
Information on the afternoon program:
https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/muse-museum-advisory-workshop-online-registration-and-cataloguing-tickets-49460588953
Plenary session:
https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/muse-plenary-session-tickets-49497414098

Gay Hendriksen, The Rowan Tree Heritage and Cultural Services
www.therowantree.com.au

Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail Update

Westpac
Australia's First Bank



BMACHO continues to promote the Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail and members' upcoming events. BMACHO reprinted the Heritage Trail brochure in 2017 which was distributed to visitors' centres across the region.

Heritage with Altitude!!

The Trail is an ideal activity for the kids and grandkids, be it in the school holidays or any weekend! Collect the Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail brochure at participating venues and Visitor Information Centres.
BMACHO is planning a review of the operation of the Trail over the coming months, with a view to the issue of the next brochure in 2019. Your feedback will be most welcome – see Editorial on page 3.

If you are a member and you would like further information, or if you would like to become a member, please email the BMACHO Secretary at committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au

For general information about BMACHO and the Trail, see heritagedrive.com.au or www.facebook.com/GBMHeritageTrail
To find out more about BMACHO visit www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

Registered office: 1/19 Stypandra Place, Springwood 2777. (02) 4751 5834
Email: committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au or j.koperberg@bigpond.com
Website: www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au **ABN**: 53 994 839 952

The organisation: Blue Mountains Association of Cultural & Heritage Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 after local historical and heritage societies and individuals recognised the need for the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the local government area (LGA) of Blue Mountains City Council. The constituency now embraces but is not limited to, the LGAs of Blue Mountains, Lithgow, Hawkesbury and Penrith. BMACHO membership includes historical and heritage groups, museums, commercial enterprises with an historical or heritage component in its core business, local government (local studies units, library collections) and a limited number of individual members by invitation such as but not necessarily academics. The objectives of the organisation are:

1. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage
2. To encourage and assist cultural heritage
3. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations.

One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

Affiliations: BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society.

Publications: BMACHO's official newsletter ***Heritage*** is edited by Patsy Moppett. The annual refereed *Blue Mountains History Journal* is edited by Dr Peter Rickwood and occasional papers are published from time to time.

Membership: The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mt Tomah; Blue Mountains City Library; Blue Mountains Cultural Heritage Centre; Blue Mountain Education & Research Trust; Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc; Blue Mountains Historical Society; Bygone Beautys Treasured Teapot Museum and Tearooms; City of Lithgow Mining Museum Inc; Colo Shire Family History Group; Eskbank Rail Heritage Centre; Everglades Historic House & Gardens; Friends of the Paragon Inc; Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc; Hartley District Progress Association; Hawkesbury Historical Society Inc; Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc; Leuralla NSW Toy & Railway Museum; Lithgow & District Family History Society Inc; Lithgow – Eskbank House Museum and Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies; Mt Victoria & District Historical Society Inc; Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine Historical Society Inc (including Turkish Bath Museum); National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Blue Mountains Branch; National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Lithgow Branch; Nepean District Historical Society Inc; Norman Lindsay Gallery and Museum; Scenic World Blue Mountains Limited; Springwood Historical Society Inc; Transport Signal Communication Museum Inc; Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Heritage Museum, Woodford Academy Management Committee, Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd. The following are individual members: Wendy Blaxland, Fiona Burn, Ray Christison, Dr Wayne Hanley, Associate Professor Ian Jack, Ian Milliss, Patsy Moppett, Keith Painter, Philip Hammon and Dr Peter Rickwood.

Committee: The management committee for 2018-2019 (from March 2018) is: Patsy Moppett (President and ***Heritage*** Newsletter Editor), Ian Jack (Vice President), Fiona Burn (Secretary), Philip Hammon (Treasurer), Dick Morony (Public Officer/Membership Secretary/ Calendar Editor), Suzanne Smith (Events and Venue Co-ordinator), Jan Koperberg (Correspondence Secretary), Summar Hipworth, Rae Clapshaw and Roy Bennett. Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail sub-committee: Fiona Burn, Jan Koperberg, Rae Clapshaw and Suzanne Smith, with guest member Gay Hendrikson.
Blue Mountains History Conference 2018 sub-committee: Summar Hipworth, Ian Jack, Jan Koperberg and Patsy Moppett.

Disclaimer: views and opinions expressed in Heritage originate from many sources and contributors. Every effort is taken to ensure accuracy of material. Content does not necessarily represent or reflect the views and opinions of BMACHO, its committee or its members. If errors are found feedback is most welcome.

Heritage

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Tasmanian Magic Research Project

Further to the Heritage Newsletter article in issue No.37 of March-April 2015, on "Farm Magic", historian Dr Ian Evans has provided an update on the second field season in January 2018 for the Tasmanian Magic Research Project. This Project is funded by the University of Hertfordshire, The UK Vernacular Architecture Group and Steven G. Sharman, and was established to find and record evidence of the material culture of magic in Tasmania during the nineteenth century.

Magic left no contemporary documentary record but its role in the lives of Tasmanians is evident in the evil-averting (apotropaic) marks on their houses and other structures and in objects concealed in buildings. Concealed objects including shoes and garments have been found in houses and other buildings in many locations throughout Tasmania.

Project site visits occurred every day between 6th January and 27th January 2018, with the exception of Thursday, 18th January. Evidence of magic in the form of evil-averting marks and practices was found at various locations throughout both survey areas in the northern and southern midlands. Sufficient evidence was gathered to enable some conclusions to be reached. It appears that there is no single form of evil-averting magic practiced throughout Tasmania, but particular groups within the community practiced their own varieties of magic that they found to be widespread.

Flame burn mark

Mummified cat

Old boot

Hexafoil

Director, Dr Ian Evans reported that:

……. this season's work of the Tasmanian Magic Research Project has been uploaded to Academia.edu and is available for download now.

The team consisted of Tully Brookes, location scout, Steve Dunbar, photographer, Vanessa Grant and myself. Ruth Hazeleton placed progress reports on social media, including Facebook.

We spent the whole of January visiting rural properties in Tasmania's northern midlands. Our work was supported by the University of Hertfordshire, the UK Vernacular Architecture Group and by Steven Sharman. We owe a debt of gratitude to the property owners who welcomed us and made their property available for research.

We inspected stables, barns, woolsheds, mills and a number of unusual buildings. These included a cider house and a squab house where pigeons were raised as an emergency food source. We also looked for a leech pit in which injured horses were placed to enable leeches to suck congested blood from their bruised limbs and bodies. The leech pit, not relevant to the main aim of the Project but too interesting to ignore, had unfortunately been filled in.

But evidence of the use of magic by British colonists was found and interesting conclusions arrived at. We now know that various groups within the community practised their own individual varieties of magic.

Builders placed shoes, garments and occasionally cats in voids in houses and other buildings under construction to lure evil beings from the underworld away from the human occupants of the buildings.

The professionals who managed the stables on the larger estates burnt candle-flame shaped marks on the stalls, the purpose of which appears to have been to inoculate these buildings against fire. Burn marks were not found in mum-and-dad stables on smaller properties.

We also noted the use of X marks on hinges made by blacksmiths. A good number of the larger properties had their own blacksmith's shop so it would appear that the use of the letter X on hinges in buildings used for storage or preparation of food was common among blacksmiths.

It's reasonable to suspect that there were other groups within 19th century communities who had their own varieties of magical rituals.

We have not yet been able to positively identify the practitioners known as cunning men and cunning women in Tasmania but strongly suspect their presence here, albeit one with a very low profile.

This concludes research in the midlands of Tasmania. The Project has been successful and has achieved its objective.

While fieldwork has been confined to Tasmania there is every reason to believe that magic was used in the same way throughout the Australian colonies. Until very recently Australia was thought to be a desert as far as the practice of magic in the 19th century was concerned. This belief has now been discredited.

Previous research into magic in Australia was confined to the contemporary documentary archive. There is nothing to be found there. The evidence was written on the houses and other buildings constructed by European settlers and can still be seen on those buildings today.

Ian Evans with examples of protective marks

The Tasmanian Magic Research Project had its first field trips in 2017, the idea originating from conversations Dr Evans had with some friends in the United Kingdom.

The Project's surveys of Tasmania are expected to produce results that will be applicable Australia-wide and of international significance. The protection symbols, which include hexafoils, deliberate candle burn marks, and clothing and shoes concealed in voids in buildings were used in the UK for centuries.
Dr Evans told The Examiner that it
"……. was common practice for builders, to conceal clothing, shoes and other items into voids in houses. Dead cats were used, for unknown reasons, when builders couldn't get access to the house's new owners' garments or shoes to place into the void. Common places to find garments or cats include underneath the front step, in the chimney or under the hearth. The most notable discovery, of 39 concealed shoes and a variety of other objects, was found at Woodbury, north of Oatlands……"
Subsequently Dr Evans had had inquiries from other states, including a recent one from Galong NSW.
The group is looking for volunteer researchers with expertise in photography (and their own cameras) as well as people who can do measured drawings of buildings where marks have been identified.
They are also seeking funding - please contact them if you can offer assistance.

For further information contact Dr. Ian Evans evansthebook@gmail.com

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Food for thought ..... Editor's note

BMACHO continues to promote the Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail, and you are encouraged to provide feedback and input into the pending review of the Trail operation, which will result in the issue of the third brochure in 2019.

The Trail was initiated in 2015, the brainchild of BMACHO member Richard Woolley and the previous BMACHO President John Leary, (both deceased), to promote the history and cultural heritage of the region, together with the resources of BMACHO members.
A new brochure is issued every two years, the contents of which are reviewed with each issue. In terms of BMACHO member participants, features include the listing of "Hidden Gems" and places to eat and stay.
"Accessible by road or partly by rail, the Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail offers historically minded visitors the opportunity to explore these important resources, as well as the spectacular scenery, through the historical societies, family history societies, museums, galleries, historic gardens and historic businesses that appear on the GBMHT brochure".
So, if the Trail has worked for you, we would like to know how and why. If it has had little impact, this information too, is a valuable insight into how the wider community sees our Trail and our Region.
It may be appropriate, early in 2019, to hold a workshop for Trail participants, to discuss the various issues, good or bad.
Please advise BMACHO of your thoughts on this matter within the next few months, to enable a thorough review of the worth of the project for 2019.

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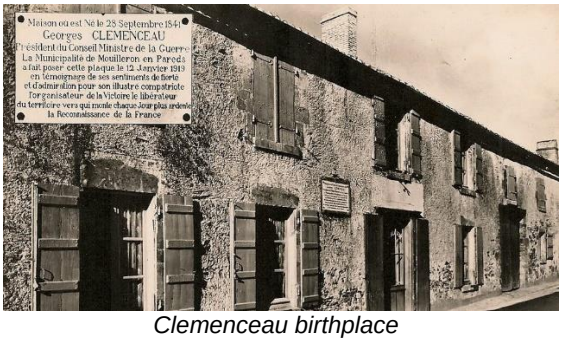
heritagedrive.com.au

Georges Benjamin Clemenceau – "Father of Victory"

The recently held Tour de France commenced Stage 2 in the village of Mouilleron-Saint-Germain. Commentators noted that the Tour did this to honour the memory of Georges Clemenceau who was born and is buried here. The town has a museum dedicated to Clemenceau and another famous son of Mouilleron, Jean de Lattre de Tassigny (a French General in North Africa and involved in the invasion of the south of France in August 1944, during World War II). Mouilleron-Saint-Germain is the result of a fusion in 2016 of two communes, called Mouilleron-en-Pareds and Saint-Germain-l'Aiguiller. The main town is Mouilleron-en-Pareds. So, who was Georges Clemenceau?
Georges Benjamin Clemenceau was a French statesman, politician, physician and journalist, who became the Prime Minister of France during World War I. He first held office from 1906 to 1909, and then was elected again from 1917 to 1920. He was one of the principal architects of the Treaty of Versailles at the Paris Peace Conference of 1919. He was nicknamed the *Father of Victory* or *The Tiger* and took a harsh position against the defeated Germany, and the stand which he felt France should take.

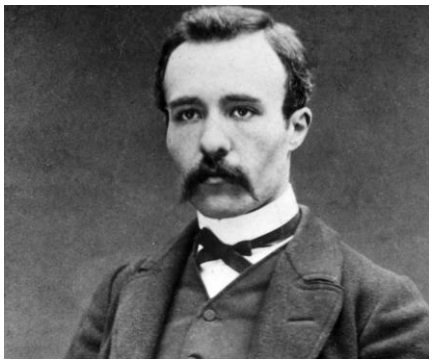
Mouilleron-en-Pareds, Vendee



Clemenceau birthplace

Clemenceau was a native of the Vendée region, born in 1841 to his physician father Benjamin Clemenceau and his mother Sophie Eucharie Gautrea, at Mouilleron-en-Pareds. During his youth Georges studied in the Lycée in Nantes, and then went to Paris to study medicine. He received his Doctor of Medicine in 1865, founded several literary magazines, and wrote many articles, most of which attacked the imperial regime of Napoleon III.

Clemenceau and others founded a journal, *Le Travail ("Work"),* which expressed views that were to characterize his future political actions. It was seized by the police, and Clemenceau was imprisoned for 73 days. Upon his release, he started a new paper, *Le Matin ("Morning"),* which was in turn seized by the authorities. Clemenceau soon left France for the United States when the imperial agents began cracking down on dissidents.

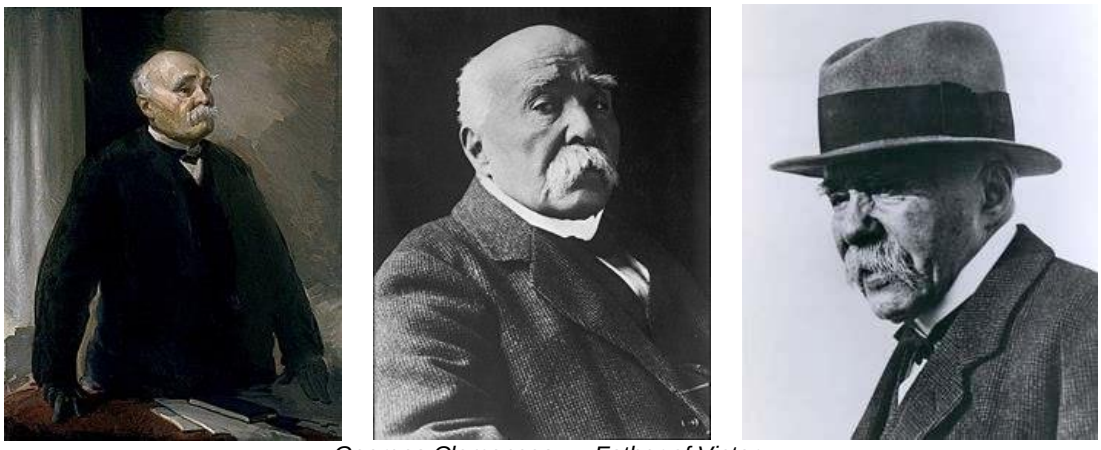


Georges Clemenceau – political activist

He worked in New York in the years 1865-69, following the American Civil War. He maintained a medical practice but spent much of his time on political journalism for a Parisian newspaper. He taught French at the home of Calvin Rood in Great Barrington, Massachusetts, and taught at a private girls' school in Stamford, Connecticut. In 1869, he married one of his students, Mary Eliza Plummer. She was the daughter of William Kelly Plummer and wife Harriet A. Taylor. Georges and Mary had three children together, two daughters and a son, before the marriage ended in a contentious divorce.
Clemenceau returned to Paris after the French defeat at the Battle of Sedan in 1870 during the Franco-Prussian War and the fall of the Second French Empire.
In 1876 Clemenceau returned to national politics and was elected to the Chamber of Deputies. His highly individual debating style, marked by a caustic wit, soon won him undisputed leadership of the radicals. Clemenceau possessed a genius for destructive criticism and won the appellation of the "*Tiger*" for his role in destroying Cabinets.
His hostility to the Franco-Russian Alliance so increased his unpopularity that in the French legislative elections of 1893, he was defeated for his seat in the Chamber of Deputies, after having held it continuously since 1876. After this defeat, Clemenceau confined his political activities to journalism for nearly a decade.
The miners' strike in the Pas de Calais after the Courrières mine disaster, which resulted in the death of more than one thousand persons, threatened widespread disorder in May 1906. Clemenceau had remained in the Chamber of Deputies, ordering the military against the strikers and repressing a wine-growers' strike in the Languedoc-Roussillon region. Clemenceau's speech to the Chamber of Deputies positioned him as the strong man of the day in French politics. When the Sarrien ministry resigned in October, Clemenceau became premier.
Clemenceau was defeated on 20 July 1909 in a discussion in the Chamber of Deputies on the state of the navy. Between 1909 and 1912, Clemenceau dedicated his time to travel, conferences and the treatment of an illness of his own, travelling to South America in 1910, to Brazil, Uruguay and Argentina.
At the outbreak of World War I in France in August 1914, Clemenceau's newspaper was one of the first to be censored by the government. He criticized the government for its lack of transparency and its ineffectiveness, while defending the patriotic union sacrée against the German Empire, and wielded considerable political influence.
In November 1917, at one of the darkest hours for the French war effort in World War I, Clemenceau was again appointed Prime Minister. Unlike his predecessors, he discouraged internal disagreement and called for peace among the senior politicians. This was a first, or at least for France.

Georges Clemenceau – Prime Minister of France – The Tiger

Clemenceau was also well received by the media, because they felt that France was in need of strong leadership. It was widely recognized that throughout the war he was never discouraged and never stopped believing that France could achieve total victory.
He made numerous visits to the front lines, risking his own life by insulting and threatening the German soldiers in person directly from the trenches. These visits, his speeches, and his verbal threats directly to the enemy impressed the soldiers and contributed to Clemenceau's title "*Père la Victoire" (Father of Victory).*
At the Paris Peace Conference of February 1919 it was decided that since the Conference was being held in France, Clemenceau would be the most appropriate President. He also spoke both English and French, the official languages of the Conference.
During the Conference an assassination attempt was made on Clemenceau by a disgruntled Frenchman, and the shot fired hit him between the ribs, just missing his vital organs. Too dangerous to remove, the bullet remained with him for the rest of his life.
The Treaty of Versailles was signed later that year in June 1919, and Clemenceau had to defend the Treaty against critics who viewed the compromises Clemenceau had negotiated as inadequate for French national interests. Clemenceau's main speech on the Treaty was delivered in September. He said that he knew the treaty was not perfect, but that the war had been fought by a coalition and therefore the treaty would express the lowest common denominator of those involved.
In 1919 France adopted a new electoral system. Clemenceau resigned as Prime Minister as soon as the presidential election was held in 1920 and took no further part in politics.
Clemenceau believed in human perfectibility through scientific knowledge and moral effort. He firmly upheld liberty and natural rights and was influenced by the ideas of Auguste Comte, J. S. Mill, and Charles Darwin.



Georges Clemenceau – Father of Victory

He continued writing travelling and lecturing and wrote his memoirs. His interests however were not confined to politics and journalism. Clemenceau was a close friend of the artist Claude Monet. He knew the importance of exercise and practiced fencing every morning

even when he was an old man. He also took an intense interest in Japanese art, especially Japanese ceramics, and amassed a large collection of pieces.
Georges Benjamin Clemenceau died in Paris on 24 November 1929 aged 88 and was buried at Mouchamps. His memoirs of the war and the peace settlement were published after his death.
Some of his quotes for thought:
"I'm more interested in the lives of those who failed because it shows they tried to beat their limits."
"It's better to lose than to win on the same side as villains".

Patsy Moppett

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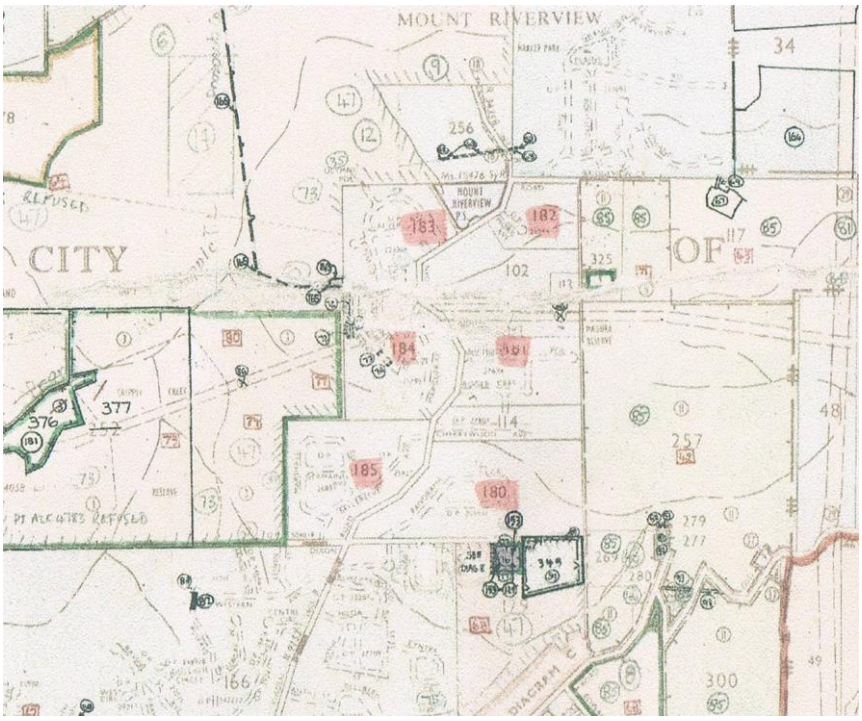
Origins of Mt Riverview

Mt Riverview is located to the north east of Blaxland, and to the north of Glenbrook, on the edge of the Blue Mountains escarpment to the west of the Nepean River, overlooking Emu Plains and Penrith. Today it is a residential town which offers walking opportunities through its various recreational reserves, including Harley Park, walking tracks to Winmalee and lookouts with beautiful scenic views. It also features a small shopping centre, a school, tennis court, woodcraft centre, churches, fire brigade and other community facilities.
However, the locality had remained untouched Crown land until 1907, when it was subdivided into six lots (180 to 185) varying in size from 35 acres to 52 acres. In 1908 Riverview Lookout was featured on early maps, but land in the area was not offered up for sale until 1920.
The first block of land was not sold until then and was acquired by Mr. Chas R Grandquist (Lot 181). In 1923 the last lot of land was purchased (Lot 184).



Extract of Parish of Strathdon

- Lot 180 – GC Singleton

- Lot 181 - Chas R Grandquist
- Lot 182 - BF Cummins, then Ferguson & Hall
- Lot 183 – Tomkins, then Blue Mountains City Council
- Lot 184 - F.T. Buxell, then CM Curvers
- Lot 185 – Henry Leahy

As early as 1914, according to a map from that year, an area was classified as a "Special Area being held for Returned Soldiers". The gully to the west of Blackbutt Circle was deemed suitable land for returned soldiers to undertake beekeeping activities.
Bernhard Cummins was also one of the first purchasers in the 1920s. He set up a lookout in a tree on his property at the end of what is now Bunbinla Avenue, which he named Mount Riverview Lookout. For a small cost, visitors could climb the tree via a set of steps/stairs and obtain a view over the Penrith and Emu Plains Valley. He also ran a tearoom and art gallery nearby. However, the complex was destroyed by fires in 1944. The location is now the site of the scout hall.
The Crown land adjoining Cummings property was declared "for public recreation." Cummins then sold the land in 1952 to a trust for the All Services Welfare Society, with a view to creating the Mt Riverview Village, for ex-servicemen, women, and their families. The village was to be a showpiece built over about 5 years, incorporating a community centre, school, two churches, 14 shops, a club, service station, and kindergarten, as well as 800 houses in a residential area. Each house would have a half acre of land and the streets would be lined with orange trees and feature dry stone walls. As the project had the backing of the Legion, blocks of land were keenly sought after in the new estate. This plan did not eventuate, as the owner of the land, Ian Ferguson, was declared bankrupt. Any people who had paid money for the land already had nothing to show for their purchase.
Bellereeve Avenue was established and building lots developed in 1953, Marshall Road and Germaine Road in 1955. In 1956, the development from the southern side of Bunbinla Avenue to Cherrywood Avenue took place. In 1957, Anthony Avenue and Marguerite Avenue were created. Marguerite Avenue was named after the wife of John Curvers, a Dutchman who owned the land at the time. Panorama Crescent and Dixon Road followed in 1960, and Curvers Drive in 1961.
In the early 1960s Charles Degotardi purchased and subdivided land he called the Grandview Estate, which was completed in September 1964. It involved all of the development north of Rusden Road, including Emu Plains Road and Grandview Drive.
In 1976 the establishment of the Blackbutt Circle Estate took place, a part of which the Department of Education purchased for the school.

Harley Park

View over Penrith Valley

The main purchase of school property was made in September 1959, when the Blue Mountains City Council purchased Lot 183 from Clive and Errol Tompkins, sons of the original owner. The Council sold a portion of this land to the Department of Education in February 1962 for a future school site, although the school was not built until 1971. It operated from then but was not officially opened until 1974. The remaining portion of land

was subdivided by the Council in 1964, making provision for shops, a water tower, recreation facilities and community services, and developing the remainder for housing.

Decorated water tower

Mt Riverview School

The town name was not gazetted until 1964. This followed an appeal by the local progress association to Blue Mountains City Council, before which the town was considered as part of Blaxland.

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Blue Mountain Education & Resource Trust, Lawson

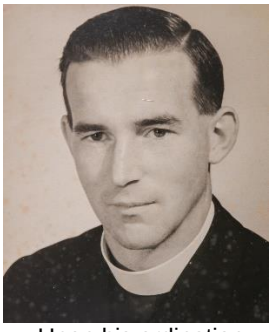
The Blue Mountain Education and Resource Trust was established in 2008 by the Rev Fr Eugene Stockton, based at Lawson, the original "Blue Mountain". The name, Blue Mountain [singular], was taken from the original name for the village of Lawson, where Fr Stockton grew up.

The Trust was set up to advance matters of religious enquiry, religious studies, Aboriginal studies, education and research for the local community and the Australian community at large. The logo of the Trust is a stylised representation of an engraving of concentric circles carved by Aboriginal people found at Woodford.
The objects of the Trust include:
1. To review and continue the research initiated by Fr Stockton in religious studies, Aboriginal studies and archaeology.
2. An emphasis on arousing awareness and collaborative participation to:

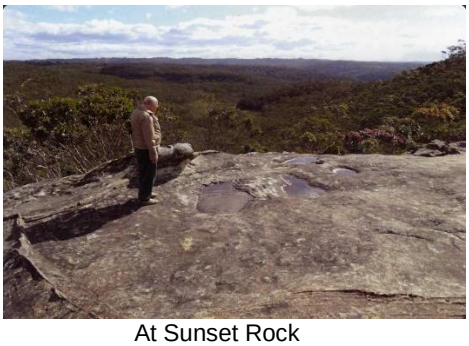
- Disseminate knowledge and ideas on the above and related topics.
- To host forums, talks and conferences for the advancement of matters of religious and social concern. Engage in interfaith, cross-cultural and interdisciplinary dialogue.
- Publish talks, papers and books, especially those whose authors are members of, or working with the local community.

Eugene Stockton is the Founder and Chairperson for the Trust, and is a priest-archaeologist, still living at Lawson. As a priest of the Diocese of Parramatta (NSW), he was a longtime seminary lecturer and served in parish, university and Aboriginal ministries. He has degrees in Divinity, Philosophy and Sacred Scripture. As an archaeologist he has engaged in

excavations and surveys in many parts of the Middle East and Australia. These varied interests have led to many publications, especially in the pursuit of an Australian spirituality. Born in 1934, Eugene is named for his mother's former employer, St Columba's Rector, Monsignor Eugene Brauer. His father had died soon after his birth, and his mother worked to raise her children. As a child Eugene spent many hours exploring the bush near his home, from whence his love of archaeology and Aboriginal culture arose. He became a regular member of archaeological digs, gaining valuable experience. By the time he was ordained into the priesthood in he was conducting his own digs.


Upon his ordination

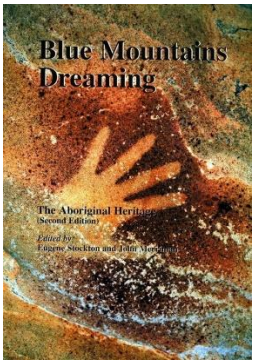
In more recent years

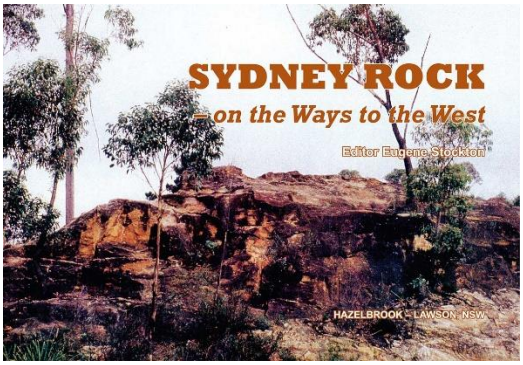

At Sunset Rock

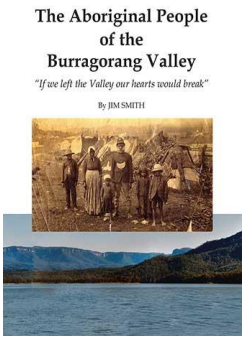
In later years he studied at St Columba's Minor Seminary in Springwood, and at St Patrick's Seminary near Manly. He was ordained in St Mary's Cathedral on 8 March 1958.He worked as Aboriginal Chaplain in the Archdiocese of Sydney and became interested in Aboriginal spiritualty and history, directing his talents to the study of local archaeology.
An early publication was "Blue Mountains Dreaming". Others include:

- "Arabian Cult Stones" 1982, Landmarks;
- "A Spiritual Search in a Southern Land" 1990;
- "The Aboriginal gift: Spirituality for a Nation" 1995;
- "Aboriginal Church Paintings" 2010;
- "Sydney Rock – on the Ways to the West"; and
- "This Tortuous Ridge – Lawson to Linden".

The Trust also publishes books for others such as "The Aboriginal people of the Burragorang Valley" 2016 by Jim Smith.







Following 60 years in the Ministry, Eugene now lives in the house he built for his mother 50 years ago and enjoys the company of his family and friends who still live in the district, retired in the same area in which he grew up, although limiting his forays into mainstream life.
He retired in order to live the life of a "hermit", a life of key times of silence and solitude in prayer, not necessarily living away from the world.
Today he now spends most of his time expressing this through writing. His latest book is "The Deep Within: Towards an Archetypal Theology".

He is an advocate for care for the earth and the environment, leading meditation days in the Blue Mountains, when participants spend time in the bush reflecting on their relationship with God and the natural world.
The Secretary and Executive Officer for the Trust is Allan Walsh. Allan has had a lifetime involvement in the printing and publishing industry and in his retirement devotes much of his time, energy and skills to the work of the Trust — from the design, typesetting and layout of our books to handling orders and queries from customers. Allan is the person to contact with queries about the Trust.
Maureen Anderson is the Treasurer, Brian Coyne is the Webmaster and Online Editor, and Laurie Woods is a Trustee.

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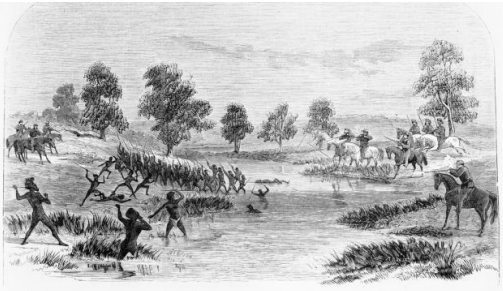
Massacres Mapping: University of Newcastle

More than 150 Aboriginal and Torres Strait islander massacres that are alleged to have occurred during the spread of settlement in Australia are now documented in an online digital map, created by University of Newcastle researchers in 2017.
The online tool records the massacre site locations, available details of the individual massacres and the sources corroborating evidence of the massacres. The study initially covered frontier violence that occurred from the arrival of the first fleet in 1788 to the colonisation of the Northern Territory, South Australia and remote Queensland up to 1930.
Developed by University of Newcastle historian, Professor Lyndall Ryan, a member of the Centre for 21st Century Humanities and the Centre for the History of Violence, the map is a significant step in the recognition of the periods of violence in Australia's history.
"*The biggest argument in the scholarship of massacre is 'how do we know it happened?"* Professor Ryan said.
Most massacres took place in secret and were designed to not be discovered, so finding evidence of them is a major challenge. This digital tool brings significant historical information out of the depths of archives, bringing it to life in an accessible and visual format. With this map we've developed a template to identify massacres and a process to corroborate disparate sources. They include settler diaries, newspaper reports, Aboriginal evidence and archives from State and Federal repositories. The map pulls the sources together to form a coherent list of frontier massacres spanning 80 years across Eastern Australia.
The project was funded over a four year period by an Australian Research Council (ARC) grant investigating violence on the Australian Colonial Frontier, 1788-1960.
In 2017 Professor Ryan said:
So far we have mapped Tasmania, Victoria, most of NSW and Queensland and have about 150 massacres listed at present. It's likely to end up being more than 200 across an 80-year period from settlement to 1872 as we progress the map further.
There were more than 60 massacres in Victoria across 15 years; and 30 massacres along the NSW/Queensland border between 1840 to 1850. The map shows there were very intense periods of violence in particular regions. We are still working on mapping the rest of Australia and hope to have that complete within two years.

The publicly available map is to be found at:
https://c21ch.newcastle.edu.au/colonialmassacres
The website is also a contact point for the public to contribute historical information they may have about massacres to the project.
Professor Ryan explained further:
At present it's a preliminary list as we expect to find more massacres as people come forward with more evidence …….. In Australia very few perpetrators were brought to justice. I'm a historian so it's not my intention to bring people to justice with this map. However, we do know the impact of massacre reverberates across the generations. When I visit Aboriginal communities today the first thing they do is take you to the massacre site.

The University now reports that as of July 2018 the number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander massacres verified and recorded on the online digital map has risen to 240, following an influx of valuable information and evidence from regional communities around Australia.
The response from the Australian public had been overwhelmingly positive since the launch of stage one of the research project in 2017.
Professor Ryan comments that:
The high level of community interest and engagement comes from regional Australia, where most of the incidents took place, suggesting that people in the regions really do want to know what happened …… It's important to document these incidents because they resolve the long standing question: how violent was the colonial frontier? The map shows that massacre was widespread and affected hundreds of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.
Massacres of Aboriginal people were typically carried out by hunting parties of soldiers, armed settlers, mounted police and/or native police with six to 40 men in each party, averaging eight to 10 men.
The evidence has found that characteristics of massacres varied by time and place, and the weapons used were swords, pistols, muskets, bayonets, cannons, carbines, repeating rifles and strychnine poison. Aboriginal peoples' weapons were spears, waddies and hatchets.
Some Aboriginal communities asked the researchers not to pinpoint the exact location of where their ancestors were killed, so the map records an approximate site instead.
The research team found many major massacres happened alongside rivers, but some battle sites are now under dams, reservoirs and weirs.
Professor Ryan said.
That's where the majority of Aboriginal people were, that was where the good pastoral land was and that's where the settlers wanted to be.
Ian Evans (OAM, PhD) historian, makes comments and offers an alternative point of view to the news coming from the University of Newcastle's massacre map.
The way in which the map's records have been set up has produced a shocking result. I cannot speak for the whole of Australia on this matter but I do have some knowledge of the circumstances in Tasmania in the first half of the 19th century.



Artist's impression: Rufus River 1841

Artist's impression: Musgrave Range 1879

A brief examination of other events recorded on the map reveals that it is not a reasonable and nuanced depiction of conflict between Aborigines and Europeans in the 19th century. The map throws all responsibility for Aboriginal deaths onto European settlers and the Colonial administration. An independent audit should be arranged to check the validity of the map's claims …….. There was bitter conflict and there were atrocities on both sides.

Patsy Moppett

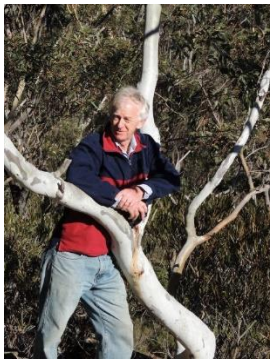
Editor's note: There has been some considerable discussion online about this Project, and the accuracy and intentions of its findings. Readers are advised to research the discussion and form their own opinions. One way to assist in the authentication of the Project results is to contribute to the information collected to date, as suggested by the research team.
The research team welcomes suggestions for additions or modifications to the site, the data and the map. People can visit the website and click the contact tab, where they can provide details via a form; or they can email colonialfrontier@newcastle.edu.au and attach any relevant documents.

References:
www.newcastle.edu.au 2017& 2018
Ian Evans email to NSWheritagenetwork@groups.io 28 July 2018
New map records massacres of Aboriginal people in Frontier Wars: ABC News, Bridget Brennan 5 July 2017
History or Propaganda: www.groups.google.com

Book Launch: Padley of the Pedestal – James McMillan Padley

A launch of "*Padley of the Pedestal - James McMillan Padley*", by local author Keith Painter, will be held at 3pm on Friday 19th October 2018 at Lithgow Library Learning Centre.
It will be followed the next day by a rededication of the restored Padley monument at Hassans Walls Lookout, on the morning of Saturday 20th October 2018. (The 20th will be the centenary of the death of James Padley.)
Some descendants of James's brother George (the only one who had children) will be attending.

James Padley



The author

Padley Pedestal

James McMillan Padley was the driving force behind the Lithgow Progress Association in the early 1900s and the chief instigator of development of visitor facilities at Hassans Walls Lookout. He had a furniture shop in Lithgow from 1902 until his death in 1918.

Further information should be available by mid-September and will be distributed by BMACHO. You can also contact the Library, or the author at greatguides@mountainmistbooks.com

The Technical Side
Allowing old buildings to "breathe"

Modern buildings rely on impervious outer layers to exclude moisture, or other barriers which prevent moisture entering the fabric and creating damage.
In old buildings, the cobb, bricks or stones were generally bonded with weak and porous mortars made of lime/sand, earth, or earth/lime mortars. External walls constructed with these materials were rendered with lime render, and then often limewashed so the structure was able to "breathe". When it rained, moisture was absorbed a few millimetres into the external surface but was able to evaporate when the rain stopped, helped by the drying effects of the sun and wind. The surface had a rough texture which maximised the surface area and increased evaporation.
The "breathing" amounts simply to the action of moisture entering the wall which should be able to evaporate.
Thatched roofs over mud walls were built to direct water away from the building, and the construction materials could take in and let out moisture due to their mature, as long as the building location was on a well-drained site.
Tiles, shingles and slate roofs allowed for the movement of air between each component to allow for drying and movement.
Internally, walls were plastered with lime and finished with simple breathable paints. The limewash could be decorated with natural pigments. Any excess internal humidity was dispersed via chimneys, vents or simply draughts, or absorbed by the breathable surfaces.
In addition, a kitchen stove or open fire burnt from autumn until spring, drawing air through the home and keeping internal surfaces dry. Provided the building was maintained, the structure remained essentially dry.

In recent times builders have tried to apply modern techniques to breathing structures on traditional buildings. These cement renders, plastic paints, waterproof sealants, damp proof membranes and insulation materials, where suitable for contemporary buildings, can act as a barrier to the older building's natural ability to breathe. The mix of technologies traps water within porous materials and exacerbates the very problems that they are trying to resolve.
A certain amount of moisture in an old wall is acceptable, simply because it can evaporate away easily. However, if moisture increases excessively within a masonry wall, the likelihood of decay also increases. Timbers can occur in solid masonry walls as lintels over windows or doorways, as beams or joist ends etc. If the moisture content increases within these timber elements it can become subject to wet and dry rot. In the masonry the mortar will also become susceptible if the moisture levels persist.

When repairing an old building, such techniques should be understood to obtain a successful outcome:

- Paint systems and external renders – must be able to allow moisture through but also allow it to evaporate. Sometimes this may result in a breakdown of the surface finish and require re painting/rendering. Sacrificial renders and paints are used in this instance, which need regular monitoring and replacement. Generally, no synthetic modern materials should be applied to the masonry or plaster surfaces of historic buildings.
- Pointing - If an old wall is repointed with a modern cement mortar, water will still be able to penetrate the wall through the masonry or cracks in the mortar but will be unable to evaporate back through the mortar and will be forced back out through the face of the masonry. This can lead to an increased decay of the masonry. A soft lime mortar with lower strength to the masonry should be used for pointing. The mortar will decay and may appear to be sacrificial, but it is cheaper and easier to re-point at intervals with the lime mortar rather than having to replace whole bricks or blocks of stone.
- Internal plaster and finishes - if the exterior surface of a building is sealed to prevent moisture intrusion, and the internal surface has been left with the original lime plaster then moisture which is unable to evaporate to the outside will find its way internally with an increase in dampness and humidity, which has a cooling effect and represents a considerable heat loss. If the internal wall is also sealed this will only act to further trap moisture and either force it further upwards in the building affecting the plaster above, or down to affect foundations.

Other instances where dampness and moisture is able to build up against or within a wall include where soil or leaves have built up above the floor level and dampness can be transmitted into the wall and into the house; hard-surfaced paths which allow rain to splash up the wall or which trap damp in the soil near the wall; and broken, leaking or blocked rainwater pipes which continually wet the wall and adjacent ground surface. It can often be a simple matter to level soil, remove litter, and fix the stormwater fixtures.

Under normal circumstances, old buildings will work well if they are maintained in the same way as they were constructed. All external and internal finished should be permeable. Where the application of impermeable finished has been undertaken, and once deterioration is observed, remedial action is required which may involve the removal of such materials and replacement with porous surface treatments. This must be undertaken with care to avoid further damage to the building, and compromises may be required. Paints can be scraped off carefully, renders can be chipped off in small sections, mortars can sometimes be cut out. All these techniques risk damage to the main masonry fabric. Where a complete replacement is not possible the wall should be kept as dry as possible and well ventilated to prevent moisture entering between the external and internal surfaces.

If you are dealing with an old building, professional advice is readily available from a variety of publications, and suitably qualified architects, builders and tradesmen, experienced in the restoration of historic buildings.

Patsy Moppett

References:
The Maintenance of Heritage Assets, Information Sheet 2.3, The Need for Old Buildings to Breathe, The Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings, London 1986
www.huntwriter.com/breathability-in-buildings
www.taliesin-conservation.com
www.oldhouse.info

Community events & updates

Successful grant funding

On Monday, 13 August 2018 Blue Mountains based Member of the Legislative Council Shayne Mallard MP announced that the Blue Mountains region has been the successful recipient of four key heritage grants in the NSW Government "Heritage Near Me Activation Grants", saying:
"The four grants valued at $375,000 are for projects including conservation of the Explorers Tree at Katoomba, the Woodford Reserve at Woodford, restoration of old Mt Wilson Public School and opening the heritage building on Parke St Katoomba, which all represent important elements of the local heritage that can now be preserved for future generations."

The projects are elaborated upon as follows:

- **Project Name: Pulpit Hill Precinct (including Explorers Tree) Interpretation Project**: The Pulpit Hill Precinct contains the "Explorer's marked tree", convict grave stone arrangements and natural area landscape values. This Interpretation Project will ensure opportunities for community engagement, appreciation and enjoyment of the significant heritage values which are provided at Pulpit Hill, with a focus on conservation of the significance elements. Total approved: $100,000.00.
- **Project Name: Woodford Reserve and Grounds – Interpretation, Access and Conservation**: Woodford Reserve has significant European, Aboriginal and landscape values - this project will change people's perception of this place with appropriate access which has not been available, with a comprehensive interpretation of the Reserve and its immediate environs fragmented through subdivision and with conservation of its highly significant elements. Total Approved: $75,000.00.
- **Project Name: Restoration of Old Mt Wilson School**: The undertaking of urgent structural repairs to conserve the historic buildings of the Old Mt Wilson School (home of the Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine Historical Society archives) and to ensure safe public access and new adaptive uses as part of the Mt Wilson Community Precinct. Restoration works will provide increased community amenities and access to heritage space. Total Approved: $100,000.00.
- **Project Name: Mountain Culture opens in heritage building on Parke St, Katoomba**: Open a heritage building to the public as a community space in Katoomba, located in the UNESCO World Heritage Blue Mountains, giving the town the opportunity to further cement itself as a tourist destination, with the building supported economically by a microbrewery, restaurant and art space. Total Approved: $100,000.00.

HERITAGE NEAR ME

Mr Mallard said: *"By encouraging the community to use and enjoy our heritage places we ensure they are valued and protected for future generations".*
This year marks the third round of Heritage Near Me Activation Grants. Over the three years, a total of $8 million has been awarded to support 107 local heritage projects across the state.
BMACHO wrote supporting letters for the first three of the above grants, and congratulates all four recipients, wishing them well in their endeavours. *Patsy Moppett*

History Week 2018

History Week is the annual, state-wide celebration of history organised by the History Council of New South Wales (HCNSW). Initiated by the HCNSW in 1997, History Week is a fantastic opportunity for member organisations, large and small, throughout NSW to engage and educate the community about the vitality, diversity and meaning of history and its practice.
The History Council of NSW's flagship festival, History Week 2018: *Life and Death* (1-9 September), will explore life's defining moments and the impact of death on communities across time.
The theme of *Life and Death* will include:

- life's milestones and how different cultures come to terms with death.
- how we commemorate people's lives.
- what rituals and burial practices reveal about our relationship with and understanding of life and death.
- how death has been feared, used as a form of punishment and shattered communities.
- how communities have rebuilt after loss, shared stories across generations and inspired remembrance and creative expression.

In 2018, History Week commences on 31 August with the NSW Premier's History Awards**.** Another feature event is the Annual History Lecture and Awards on the night of 4 September. Overall, there are close to 100 events being staged throughout NSW in History Week.
Blue Mountains events include:
Hidden in Plain View: The Aboriginal people of coastal Sydney: Saturday 1 September 2018, Blackheath Public School Hall:
Aboriginal peoples did not disappear or die out after European arrival in 1788, but they were left out of historical narratives. Historian and archaeologist Dr Paul Irish discusses this poorly understood period of history and brings Aboriginal lives and culture back into view.
The Final Journey: making tracks to the last station: 8-9 September 2018, Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Heritage Museum.
Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Heritage Museum has a number of special activities and exhibits to coincide with History Week 2018: exhibits on transportation of the deceased, themed photographic displays, other related exhibits, local stories and 20 minute steam train rides.

Patsy Moppett

The complete interactive program of History Week events is available on the History Council website: www.events.historyweek.com.au

Mount St Marys, Katoomba - update

Further to BMACHO's article on Mount St Mary's at Katoomba, Newsletter No. 55, March-April 2018, this significant property is once again on the market.
Commercial Real Estate declares: "…. *it has been vacant for the last two decades and has become popular among abandoned-building enthusiasts and vandals*."
The current owner acquired the property in 2014 and has apparently made efforts to restore the building and preserve some of its historic features.
Although there have been numerous attempts to sell the site in recent years, no success has been forthcoming. A development consent had previously been approved through Blue Mountains City Council for the restoration of the existing building and construction of 122 apartments, however this has now lapsed.

Listed on the Blue Mountains Local Environmental Plan 2015, Schedule 5, and the NSW State Heritage Register, the inventory sheet states:
"The physical location, expansive modified landscape setting, and imposing complex of ecclesiastical buildings dominated by a tower, lends Mount St Mary's great aesthetic significance in the cultural landscapes of the Blue Mountains. It remains a visually significant landmark at the eastern gateway to Katoomba and has great social significance for the former religious community, students, and wider Blue Mountains communities."
It is to be hoped that a buyer will be forthcoming in the near future to develop this significant feature of Katoomba's history. *Patsy Moppett*

References
Historic Former Blue Mountains School on market for more than $7.1 million, Denham Sadler, Commercial Real Estate, 3 August 2018
Inventory Sheet: Mount St Mary's Collage & Convent, NSW Dept of Environment & Heritage, February 2018

Fernhill, Mulgoa - update

Further to the BMACHO article on Fernhill at Mulgoa, Newsletter issue No. 51, July-August 2017, an update is provided on the development of the property.
As is known, Rookwood General Cemeteries Reserve Trust had taken up an option to development the 384-hectare site into a cemetery to replace the current Rookwood Cemetery.
However, it seems that the Trust has had to walk away from the deal after failing to gain loan and Ministerial approval within its due diligence period.

The Rookwood Trust had agreed to purchase the historic Mulgoa property in March 2018 for $30 million, but their conditional offer lapsed, relating also to Penrith City Council's concerns of the impact of a cemetery on the heritage landscape surrounding the 1840s-built mansion. In a recent statement Rookwood General Cemeteries Reserve Trust chief executive George Simpson said "*with no formal approval from the Minister at this time RGCRT is unable to proceed with the purchase of the Fernhill estate.*
The Trust itself had originally stated that they were not going ahead if the community did not want a cemetery at Fernhill, and the project would be dropped".

The estate is more recently best known as the former home of property tycoon Warren Anderson before bankruptcy forced him out and the keys were handed over in 2011 to his financier Angas Securities. Anderson told The Australian he had written letters to politicians at all levels of government in an effort to save the estate from being turned into a cemetery.
In the meantime, the NSW government has purchased the site for $27.25 million. The government is yet to announce what they plan to do with the property or which state department will manage it.
A spokesperson from the Department of Planning and Environment said the Department needed to assess legislative and management changes required to enable it to be opened to public access.
"The Department of Planning and Environment will work to find an appropriate state agency to develop the management plans necessary to open the site for public access," the spokesman said.
The local community, through the Mulgoa Progress Association and Warren Anderson, have applauded this public ownership move.
The RGCRT will now need to find another suitable area large enough for their and Sydney's future needs.
It will be a nervous wait on the government's intentions for the place, given the green light given to the Badgery's Creek airport, and the subsequent residential and transport demands of such a proposal in the western Sydney area. *Patsy Moppett*

References:
NSW Government buys Historic Fernhill Estate at Mulgoa, once slated to become Cemetery, for $27 Million: Lucy Macken, Domain Real Estate, 16 March 2018
Ailing Angas loses yet another Fernhill, Mulgoa buyer: staff reporter, The Australian, 26 October 2017

National Trust of Australia - Blue Mountains Branch

The Blue Mountains Branch of the National Trust covers an area stretching from Lapstone to Mt Victoria. The Branch Committee is elected each year at the AGM and currently comprises thirteen members, including the Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer. All these people are volunteers, who give their time furthering the aim of the National Trust to "*preserve our natural and built heritage*". The tasks which they carry out towards this aim are many and varied including taking the necessary action in response to developments in the Blue Mountains which may threaten that heritage. They organise activities with an historical or heritage theme such as walks and bus trips, and undertake fund raising street stalls, which also provide social opportunities for members. These activities also raise funds for the Trust.

The funds raised from these activities are used to support the Trust's three Blue Mountains properties, Everglades Historic House and Gardens, the Woodford Academy and Norman Lindsay Gallery, as well as the general activities of the Trust. The group welcomes volunteers willing to serve on their committee, to help with the organising of their various activities, and encourages members and the community to attend their functions.
Some activities planned for the coming months include:

- HAWKESBURY ARTIST'S TRAIL - DAY BUS TRIP: Saturday 22nd September.
- TOUR TO MAITLAND, MORPETH AND SURROUNDS: Tuesday 6th November to Thursday 8th November.
- NORMAN LINDSAY GALLERY: Puddin' Day, Sunday 14th October.

For more information on their activities or to join the committee please email bmnt1814@gmail.com or contact Rhona on 02 4757 2424.

Blue Mountains Cultural Centre

Exhibition: Blue Mountains Botanica

View exhibitions and join them for a diverse program of storytelling, workshops, walks & talks at the Blue Mountains Cultural Centre and Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mt Tomah. Developed in partnership with the Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain Trust *Blue Mountains Botanica* delves into the history of botanical exploration of the Blue Mountains and features historical botanical illustrations, plant specimens and archival material drawn from the National Herbarium of NSW, the Daniel Solander Library and the Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mount Tomah.
25 August – 14 October 2018

For further information on the program, contact:
Email: rstibbard@bmcc.nsw.gov.au>
www.bluemountainsculturalcentre.com.au

Conservation Management Strategy for Section of Cox's Road

Blue Mountains City Council announced recently that a Conservation Management Strategy (CMS) has been completed for a significant section of the historic Cox's Road at Linden. The Strategy sets out a framework for the appropriate care, conservation and ongoing use of remnants of the Road, to minimize day to day threats.
This part of the route lies between bushland and the rear yards of private properties and has provided access into natural areas such as the Paradise Pool and other bushland features. However, it has also presented privacy and security issues for adjacent residents.
The CMS will guide future activities in the vicinity, including the development of an interpretation plan, archival recording of historic fabric, and re-routing the existing bush access trail. This will enable protection of the remaining historic features of the Cox's Road, whilst retaining safe and environmentally appropriate access to the bushland sites and protecting the privacy and security of nearby residents.

The sensitivities of the Aboriginal community regarding the role the road played in the European occupation of the Blue Mountains will be recognized, and thorough consultation undertaken.
Council worked with the Blue Mountains Region of NPWS, the NSW Rural Fire Service, Traditional Owners, other State agencies, along with the Linden Residents' Association, to develop the Strategy.

Stakeholders celebrate the recognition of the significance of Cox's Road in a CMP

Remnants of this Linden section of the Cox's Road route

The Conservation Management Strategy was supported by a $10,000 grant from the NSW Office of Environment & Heritage and the NSW Heritage Council, with Council contributing about $15,000 towards the Plan. *Patsy Moppett*

References:
www.bluemountainsaustralia.com
www.bmcc.nsw.gov.au

BMACHO Workshops

BMACHO has recently received funding from Blue Mountains City Council to hold workshops during the coming 6 months and has sought to determine topics which might benefit members relating to their group activities, records and collections, successfully addressing the positives and negatives of the BMACHO membership.

The committee has resolved to hold the first workshop on 24 October 2018 at Wentworth Falls, dealing with *"Archival appraisal and description",* and a more formal announcement will be confirmed after our Committee Meeting on 3rd September 2018.
We are aware that a number of our members are very keen to hold a "*Practical writing of grant applications*" workshop and this is being considered.
In general, and to date, the following topics have been suggested:

- Archival appraisal and description
- The practical side of writing grant applications
- Cataloguing/managing records and collections
- Accessioning
- Assessing the significance of collections
- Storage of records and collections
- "Connecting up" - for not-for-profit member organisations, who may benefit from significant discounts. Establishing and managing your website.
- The Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail - how it can be managed better to benefit members.
- Sharing of positive and successful methodologies with other member organisations.

BMACHO is now seeking feedback from members on the following questions:

- What topic do you find most beneficial?
- What services are missing?
- Where does your organisation struggle?
- What are the main heritage concerns with regard to your records or collections?
- Do you have any positive experiences to share which might assist other organisations? Do any of these experiences fit into the suggested workshop themes?

Places in each workshop will be limited, and preference for attendance will be for the BMACHO membership. However, the public will also be welcome should numbers allow.
Through these workshops, BMACHO is hoping to complement the workshops currently planned by Blue Mountains City Council's museums advisory Service (see below).

BMACHO Committee

Feedback can be provided via the BMACHO email address: bmacho.heritage@gmail.com

Blue Mountains Workshop: Muse

Responding to interests and concerns expressed during this year through meetings, visits, current status review and emails Gay Hendriksen, Museums Advisor to Blue Mountains City Council, has developed what she hopes will be a useful practical workshop series - *Muse.*

The free *Muse* workshop series is part of the museum advisor service provided by Blue Mountains City Council and Museums & Galleries NSW.
The series will provide tools, resources and skills development for regional museums, archives, library and gallery sector in the Blue Mountains.
To be eligible for this program you need to be a member of a regional museum, archive, library and gallery or associated organisation in the Blue Mountains region.

The first workshop day will be jam packed, to be held on Tuesday 11th September 2018 starting at 9am at 30 Parke Street, Katoomba:

- Brad Moore, BMCC Aboriginal Liason officer will give a brief overview of Council's perspective,
- Elizabeth Hadlow, senior conservator at State archives will be talking paper conservation,
- Kate Chidlow, Conservator at MAAS will talk textile conservation, storage and display and
- Gay will follow up with Registration and cataloguing, looking at the EHive online tool.

This will be followed by a plenary and information share which was so successful at the meet and greet earlier in the year.
The sessions are limited in number so if you don't make it to the list please email Gay and she will put you on the waiting list.

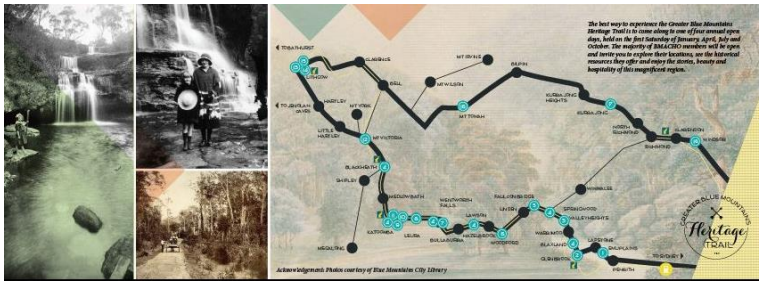
Note: a further workshop is scheduled for 6th November 2018. Information will be available from Gay closer to the date.

Information on the morning program:
https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/muse-museum-advisory-workshop-seminar-program-tickets-49273789230
Information on the afternoon program:
https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/muse-museum-advisory-workshop-online-registration-and-cataloguing-tickets-49460588953
Plenary session:
https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/muse-plenary-session-tickets-49497414098

Gay Hendriksen, The Rowan Tree Heritage and Cultural Services
www.therowantree.com.au

Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail Update

Westpac
Australia's First Bank



BMACHO continues to promote the Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail and members' upcoming events. BMACHO reprinted the Heritage Trail brochure in 2017 which was distributed to visitors' centres across the region.

Heritage with Altitude!!

The Trail is an ideal activity for the kids and grandkids, be it in the school holidays or any weekend! Collect the Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail brochure at participating venues and Visitor Information Centres.
BMACHO is planning a review of the operation of the Trail over the coming months, with a view to the issue of the next brochure in 2019. Your feedback will be most welcome – see Editorial on page 3.

If you are a member and you would like further information, or if you would like to become a member, please email the BMACHO Secretary at committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au

For general information about BMACHO and the Trail, see heritagedrive.com.au or www.facebook.com/GBMHeritageTrail
To find out more about BMACHO visit www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

Registered office: 1/19 Stypandra Place, Springwood 2777. (02) 4751 5834
Email: committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au or j.koperberg@bigpond.com
Website: www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au **ABN**: 53 994 839 952

The organisation: Blue Mountains Association of Cultural & Heritage Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 after local historical and heritage societies and individuals recognised the need for the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the local government area (LGA) of Blue Mountains City Council. The constituency now embraces but is not limited to, the LGAs of Blue Mountains, Lithgow, Hawkesbury and Penrith. BMACHO membership includes historical and heritage groups, museums, commercial enterprises with an historical or heritage component in its core business, local government (local studies units, library collections) and a limited number of individual members by invitation such as but not necessarily academics. The objectives of the organisation are:

1. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage
2. To encourage and assist cultural heritage
3. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations.

One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

Affiliations: BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society.

Publications: BMACHO's official newsletter ***Heritage*** is edited by Patsy Moppett. The annual refereed *Blue Mountains History Journal* is edited by Dr Peter Rickwood and occasional papers are published from time to time.

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Heritage

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The Windmill in Australia

In Australia, the windmill is a rural icon, associated with agriculture, the outback and the arid Australian landscape. But its origins go way back into antiquity, and in many countries in Europe they are conserved as a museum object or heritage item rather than a working machine.

A windmill is a machine that converts the energy of wind into usable energy by means of rotating vanes called sails or blades. Centuries ago, windmills were used to mill grain, pump water, or both. The majority of modern windmills take the form of wind turbines used to generate electricity, or wind pumps used to pump water, either for land drainage or to extract groundwater.

Colonial Sydney

Early development

The Greek engineer Heron of Alexandria in the first century presents the earliest known instance of using a wind-driven wheel to power a machine. Another early example of a wind-driven wheel was the prayer wheel, which has been used in Tibet and China since the fourth century.

Although "sails" had been used to move ships at sea, it was the Persians who converted the use of wind for grinding grain between 500 and 900 A.D. They attached several "sails" to a vertical shaft that was connected to a grind-stone or pump, housed in a building.

Although early windmills were mounted horizontally, it was eventually developed into a vertical tower structure, as in Persia. By mounting the mill this way, the sails were able to

rotate to face the wind direction - an essential requirement for windmills to operate economically where wind directions are variable.
Wind pumps were used to pump water since at least the 9th century in what is now Afghanistan, and in Iran and Pakistan. The use of wind pumps became widespread across the Muslim world and later spread to China and India.
Windmills first appeared in Europe at about the time of the Crusades (1096-1270) but the design was different to the Persian model. By the end of the 13th century the mill body was being made of masonry, being common in Great Britain and English-speaking countries of the former British Empire, Denmark, and Germany but rare in other places. By the 14th century windmills became popular in Europe, where the total number of wind-powered mills was estimated to have been around 200,000 at the peak in 1850, which is modest compared to some 500,000 waterwheels. Water windmills were applied in regions where there was too little water, where rivers froze in winter and in flat lands where the flow of the river was too slow to provide the required power.

Spain

Netherlands

USA

Windmills were later used extensively in Europe, particularly in the Netherlands and the East Anglia area of Great Britain, from the late Middle Ages onwards, to drain land for agricultural or building purposes. It is said that “windmills built the Netherlands”, where they were used to pump water from the land into canals that took the water back to the sea. Without these windmills, parts of the Netherlands would still be flooded, and farmers would never have grown fruit, vegetables and tulips.
However, the industrial revolution saw wind and water power replaced by steam as the primary industrial energy source, and eventually by internal combustion engines. In recent years windmill technology is making a comeback and the wind turbine is being touted as an important alternative to the use of fossil fuels in the future.
The windmill as we know it in Australia, the American windmill, or wind engine, was invented by the American Daniel Halladay in 1854 and was used mostly for lifting water from wells. Larger versions were also used for sawing wood, chopping hay, and shelling and grinding grain. In early California and some other states, the windmill was part of a self-contained domestic water system which included a hand-dug well and a wooden water tower supporting a redwood tank enclosed by wooden siding known as a tankhouse. During the late 19th century steel blades and steel towers replaced wooden construction.
These wind pumps were and are still used extensively on agricultural properties in the United States, Canada, Southern Africa, and Australia. They feature a large number of blades, so they turn slowly with considerable torque in low winds and are self-regulating in high winds. A tower-top gearbox and crankshaft convert the rotary motion into reciprocating strokes carried downward through a rod to the pump cylinder below.

Colonial Sydney

Colonial windmills were depicted on many early paintings of the day. The tallest structures around Sydney Cove were windmills which has resulted in few physical remains. Yet their presence left a lasting legacy in early colonial landscape art and the minds and hearts of many contemporaries.

Mill Hill 1797

Government Domain 1836

The first windmills were sought to grind grain for the colony. Parts were sent for from England and the first government windmill, a stone structure, was erected in 1797 on Flagstaff Hill or Windmill Hill (now Observatory Hill). It soon fell into disrepair. A second windmill, known as the military windmill, was built in 1798 on the site where Clarence Street now crosses the top of Grosvenor Street. However, a violent three-day storm ravaged Sydney in June 1799 and this windmill was destroyed. It was slowly repaired and served the colony until about 1840.

A third windmill was built in 1806 by Nathanial Lucas, near the site where Fort Street public school now stands. This mill was a large wooden structure, known as the wooden government mill.

The demand for flour for bread soon meant that private windmills overtook the government ones. During the early nineteenth century, windmills dotted the entire Sydney landscape, all the way from The Rocks to Parramatta.

Yet with the march of industrial progress that characterised the mid to late nineteenth century, steam and coal power increasingly began to take over and the picturesque sails of Sydney's windmills gradually disappeared from the skyline. They were dismantled, and the various parts reused in the building of other structures, so there are few remains. One at Mill Hill Road, Waverley was a wooden post mill and operated from 1846 until it was levelled to the ground in 1878. It was probably the last Sydney mill in existence.

A few stones of one windmill under the stage at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music were discovered during archaeological excavations in the 1990s. Stone from Hyndes mill, the largest mill in Darlinghurst, was later reused to build Beare's Stairs in Caldwell Street. The stone from Thomas Barker's windmill was used to build two terrace houses in Kellet Street, Kings Cross which remain today on the corner of Kellet Lane.

The Australian icon

Australia with its vast rural areas is still a stronghold of this inexpensive low maintenance method of watering stock and moving water for irrigation.

Windmills as we know them appeared in Australia in the later part of the 1800's. The first to appear were the large European type windmills used for milling purposes but unfortunately, they were too expensive to build and not suited to providing water in the outback. A cheaper, less powerful windmill was required to water to stock, farms, goldfields and emerging country towns.

The windmill gradually disappeared from the urban landscape as its purpose to grind grain was over taken by other production processes using steam and coal.
However, for rural people, for stock and crops to survive in the harsh arid conditions of Australia, a continuous supply of water was required, and it was the windmill that provided a permanent water supply to the early settlers of Australia, as it could be constructed on site using hand tools.
Windmills are still constructed today for water supply purposes. Originally there were several well-known manufacturers, including the following:

- ***Alston:***

James Alston was born in 1850 at Southwark, England, and arrived in Australia with his parents in 1861. He served a four year apprenticeship in the iron trade. As a young man, in the early 1880's, James Alston set himself up in business as a blacksmith and agricultural machine manufacturer in the town of Warrnambool on the south-west coast of Victoria. In 1886, he patented an all metal mill with a modern type, multi-sailed wheel. After moving to Melbourne in the late 1990's, improvements and innovations to the Alston windmill continued.

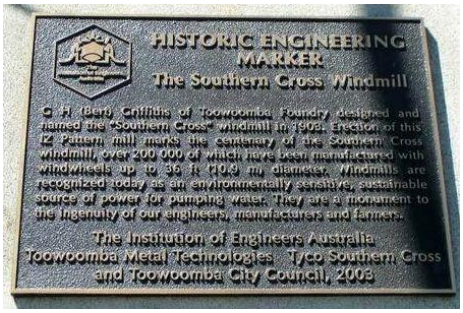
Alston was a prolific inventor. His last known patents for improvements to windmills were issued in the mid 1930's. At that time, James Alston must have been around 85 years of age.
Alston's, for much of the life of the company until the outbreak of World War II, held the lion's share of the Australian windmill market and also exported to countries such as China, India and parts of Africa.
However, James Alston died in 1943, and without his guiding hand at the helm, the firm of James Alston and Sons Pty. Ltd. went into gradual decline, plagued by a post-war shortage of steel and inhibited by rather outmoded designs. By the late 1950's the firm was almost non-operational and ended in bankruptcy about 1960. The vacuum left by flagging Alston sales was filled rapidly by more modern types of windmills, such as Southern Cross, Comet and Metters.

- ***Southern Cross:***

In 1871 George Griffiths set up a mechanical workshop in Toowoomba thus starting what is now the Southern Cross Group of Engineering Companies. His first wooden framed windmills were built in 1876, trading as Southern Cross Windmills from 1903. Between 1876 and 1884 these simple direct acting windmills were made in several sizes up to 16ft in diameter. A range of both geared and direct action self-oiling mills is in production to this day. By 1990 more than 200,000 had been produced, the majority for use in rural Australia where they have become an indelible feature of our landscape.
In 1893, during the depression and flood, Mr J A (Alfred) Griffiths designed the "Zephyr" windmill. Although there had been some previously made in the United States of America, this was the first geared windmill made in Australia. As well as being geared for easier starting, the Zephyr had a wheel on the upwind side of the tower but was still of wooden construction.

Southern Cross

Alfred Griffiths



Plaque at Toowoomba

After noting that his windmills were not as effective as the American models, he designed a new mill and in 1903, the Toowoomba factory sold its first commercial windmill under the trade name the "Southern Cross". Designed by A Griffiths, they were simple, robust and relatively cheap. They became one of the best known and sold windmills in Australia. Up until 1992, each mill was stamped with a unique serial number. From 1992 onwards, each mill is stamped with a number that identified the day, month, year and the mill number assembled on that day.

- ***Comet:***

Comet specialised in the design and manufacture of windmill pumping plants for outback Australia. Mr Sidney Williams (1851-1936), the original founder of Comet Windmills, manufactured a diverse range of rural products. He founded the Sidney Williams & Company in 1879 in Rockhampton. Williams recognised that wind is the greatest natural source of energy and that it is freely available day and night.
Their engineering works at Dulwich Hill was the largest and most-up-to-date windmill factory in Australia at the time. In 1920, the Government introduced contracting for windmill pumping plants, which was to run for the following 30 years. This included for railways, councils, the Water Commission, stock routes, etc. In the Northern Territory, Comet pumping plants were the sole choice on all major stock routes and were the predominant force in all other states for other Government contracts.

Sid Williams

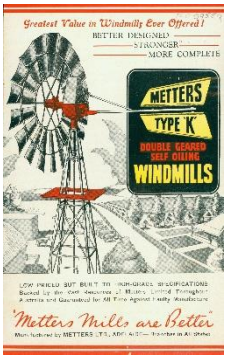
COMET
WINDMILLS AUSTRALIA
SINCE 1879

In the 1940's the firm manufactured guns and equipment for World War II. Comet's Sidney Williams and most other manufacturers were ordered to undertake the manufacture of items for the defence industry. These items included brake drums or bogey wheel castings for tanks and armoured carriers, steel frame army huts principally for the New Guinea campaign. High precision gauges & jigs were made in a specially built and equipped annexe at Dulwich Hill for the small arms factory at Lithgow, and for Comet Mills to equip stock routes in the Northern Territory in support of the beef industry.
Comet made a range of windmills and pumps, and made corrugated tanks, tank stands, sheep jetters, steel frame buildings, steel dips, fire ploughs, saw benches, winches.
The company survived two World Wars, the Depression and subsequent economic recessions. They became known as Australia's leading mill and have been referred to as "the Rolls Royce of Windmills".
In the early 2000's Comet Windmills Australia relocated from Dulwich Hill to Macksville on the mid north coast of NSW, where they continue to manufacture windmills and have also

diversified into construction of towers for modern renewable energy power and storage technology.

- ***Metters:***

In the late 1800's Fred Metters, son of an English migrant, set up a factory in Adelaide making fuel stoves. The business thrived and eventually he had factories in Sydney (1902) and Perth (1896). In 1907 Metter sold his interests to his partner Henry Spring and Metters Limited was formed. During WW I the range of products produced by the firm included gas and fuel stoves, domestic appliances, agricultural machinery, water tanks, grave markers, and cooking appliances for the armed forces. By 1927 they were also making windmills. They made a range of windmills from the 1930s, some quite different from the conventional ones, in a range of sizes, the most common being the Metters K and Metters M models. They exported windmills as far away as Cyprus, built in Adelaide and Perth. In later years they were the subject of a series of takeovers by other companies.



The company expanded enormously over the next decades to include the manufacture of bathtubs, televisions, pipes and pipe fittings, eventually moving over to include the use of plastics in product development in the 1960's.

Conclusion: Of course, wind turbines are the way of the future, seeking renewable energy for electricity generation, and a number of factors have resulted in a decrease for the demand for windmills generally.

In spite of alternative pumping systems and the introduction of water schemes, the fact that windmills were well constructed and proved to be very reliable, means that some windmills built over 50 years ago are still operating and still pumping water up from under the ground today! However, only a handful of Australian windmill manufacturers exist today.

Windmills now hold an iconic status in Australian culture, symbolising triumph over natural barriers by the early settlers.

The way of the past

Across the extensive and sparsely populated pastoral regions of the continent, windmills still often stand tall, asserting settler ingenuity and perseverance in the harsh Australian landscape. Even the skeleton of a disused and damaged windmill still captures the imagination.

Patsy Moppett

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Food for thought ..... Editor's note

In October and November 2018, with thoughts of the 100th anniversary of World War 1, the Blue Mountains Art Gallery is holding an exhibition *"to take the viewer on an experiential journey of remembrance, and a search for meaning beyond myth and memory".*
No matter who you are, thoughts of the Great War and its aftermath will hold significant and often personal meaning.
Penrith City Library also seeks to remember the contribution made by service men and women with an evening filled with information sharing, remembrance and storytelling. This special evening event will be their way to pay tribute to the five years of service to the country by local men and women.
When men and women set off to serve their country on the stage of war, they knew they would meet adversity. Those at home also knew that their loved ones may face danger and may never return. However, in the heroism of the time and the passion for monarch & country, they went, putting aside their fears to fight for the people and the land they loved. The aftermath was not considered apart from the thought of freedom.
The soldiers on the battlefront thought constantly of home, and their return to family and friends. Those at home looked forward to the day of return. Neither one realised just how much this conflict would change the world and themselves.
Communications between home and the front were limited and news travelled slowly. Each only saw the war from within the context of their personal circumstances, and through what the government and the media would allow.
It is in hindsight that information on the total conflict gradually emerged, and much of the full horror of that war is now known.

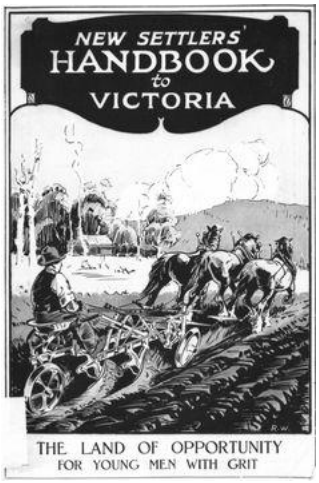
This was a war that changed the known world, from governments down to individuals. The soldiers came home expecting to see their world as they left it, as they had been dreaming of in the trenches. It was not the same. Those at home welcomed their loved ones home, those who did return, with open arms. But they were not the same people who left a few months or years before.
Once it was realised that the returned servicemen and women were often traumatised, mentally and/or physically, everyone sought to provide for some form of rehabilitation. Sometimes it worked, sometimes it didn't.
The Soldier Settlement Schemes were a government attempt to play a part in this rehabilitation. The added problems for servicemen that arose could not be envisaged by the well-meaning leaders of the time. But at least they tried. And learning from the mistakes made, the same extremity of frustration was not repeated after WW II.
There will be any number of events across the country in the coming weeks which will seek to turn our thoughts to the memory of those who fought and the many who died that we could be free. To experience just one of these activities would be to acknowledge that we still care and hold great regard and respect what they did for us.

Lest we forget

Soldier Settlement Schemes

Following World War I Australia's Prime Minister Billy Hughes promised that post-war Australia would be *"a land fit for heroes"*. As part of a larger economic plan aimed to boost the post-war economy through the development of Australia's rural sector, several Repatriation Acts were passed in parliaments across Australia. These were also called the Soldier Settlement Schemes.
Settlement plans initially began during World War I, with South Australia first enacting legislation in 1915. NSW followed in 2016 and Victoria in 2017, as the schemes gained impetus across Australia. The Commonwealth Government's role was to select and acquire land whilst the State government authorities would process applications and grant land allotments. Each Australian state government felt the importance of providing a source of income for returning soldiers as well as recognising the personal and family sacrifices made by them. Crown land was used where possible, but much land was acquired. By 1924, just over 24 million acres (97,000 km²) had been acquired or allocated. Of this nearly 6.3 million acres (25,000 km²) was purchased and 18 million acres (73,000 km²) was Crown land set aside. Some 23.2 million acres (93,900 km²) had been allotted 23,367 farms across Australia.
Billy Hughes felt he needed to provide the soldiers with a stable country and a job. But Australia had changed as a result of the war: women held down many jobs which would normally have been held by men in peacetime although were paid much less. They had developed skills during the war which served them well after, and the returned soldiers were

for the most part unskilled even for basic work. The world was in recession and machines had replaced many operations previously carried out manually.



LAND
FOR
RETURNED SOLDIERS

IT is proposed to make available certain areas for the special purpose of providing for returned soldiers. Arrangements have been made for setting apart an area of about 250,000 acres in the Wyalong-Hillston country, which will be served by new railways.

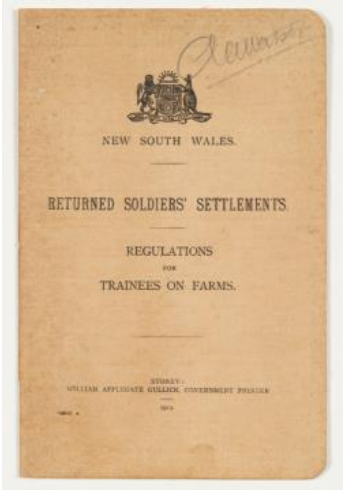
The bulk of this land is suitable for wheat growing under modern up-to-date farming conditions. Further similar areas elsewhere will also be made available. In addition, the Land Boards throughout the State will be authorised to give preference to returned soldiers in ballots for any ordinary Crown lands which may from time to time become available.

In order that the extent of this preference may be understood, I may say I anticipate that 2,000,000 acres will be made available during the financial year ending 30th June, 1916. In addition, large areas will be thrown open for selection in subsequent years. Much of this land will be suitable for wheat growing and dairying.

It is further proposed to take similar action as regards farms in the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area. A number of farms will be set apart exclusively for returned soldiers, and the Commissioner will give preference to returned soldiers in respect of other farms made available for ordinary applications.

The whole policy of the Lands Department will be governed by an anxiety to give compensating advantages wherever possible to men who risk their lives in the service of the Empire.

W. G. ASHFORD,
Minister for Lands.


NEW SOUTH WALES.

RETURNED SOLDIERS' SETTLEMENTS.

REGULATIONS
FOR
TRAINEES ON FARMS.

Even the already employed working classes objected to the preferential employment of soldiers in the workforce. The socialist movements which arose after the war were abhorrent to the soldiers who had fought to save their country and their flag.

A *"quiet life in the country"* was what post-WWI governments planned for wounded and returning soldiers, but historians generally agree that the soldier-settlement schemes were largely a failure. The program saw the creation of around 23,000 farms nation-wide across 9 million hectares. The schemes granted returned soldiers small parcels of farming land but didn't offer the hard-won peace many servicemen had hoped for.

University of New England Lecturer Dr Nathan Wise said while governments put training and job opportunities in place for returned soldiers, they set many up for failure as a result of a lack of infrastructure and the offer of small and unviable parcels of the land. *"As early as 1915 the idea was being developed that they'll try and re-settle soldiers on the land…..It was believed that after experiencing horrific warfare they could return to the land and enjoy a peaceful and rural lifestyle which would be better for their body and their mind."* At the same time there was a belief that in the post-war years there would be a need to increase

Australian production agriculturally and so these soldiers could continue to contribute to the nation economically.

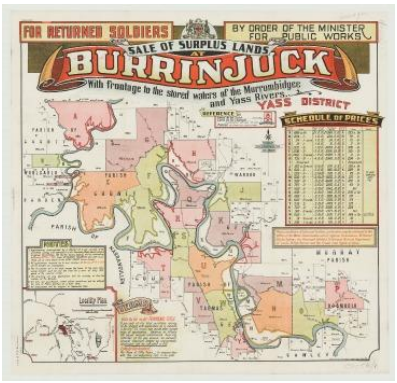
However, many soldiers were not farmers, the blocks were too small and farms were often created in areas not suited to agriculture (bad soils, steep and rocky). Wheat prices dropped soon after the war and a drought hit in 1918. It meant a life of severe poverty for the soldiers and their families who settled in those districts. Poverty, low agricultural prices and a lack of farming skills were not the only hurdles which first-time farmers were confronted. Many had lost limbs or suffered other major injuries during the war that made farming near impossible. The Western Australian government settled more than 5000 returned soldiers, many from the British Army, on farms. By 1929, just over 3500 remained on the land. Difficulties encountered by soldier settlers across Australia during the 1920s sparked a Commonwealth investigation to account for losses. In 1929 Justice Pike identified the main causes of settler failure as a lack of capital and land, settler unsuitability, and falling prices for agricultural produce.

By 1928, one-third of the soldiers gave up and returned to the city - and unemployment. The government lost £25 million.

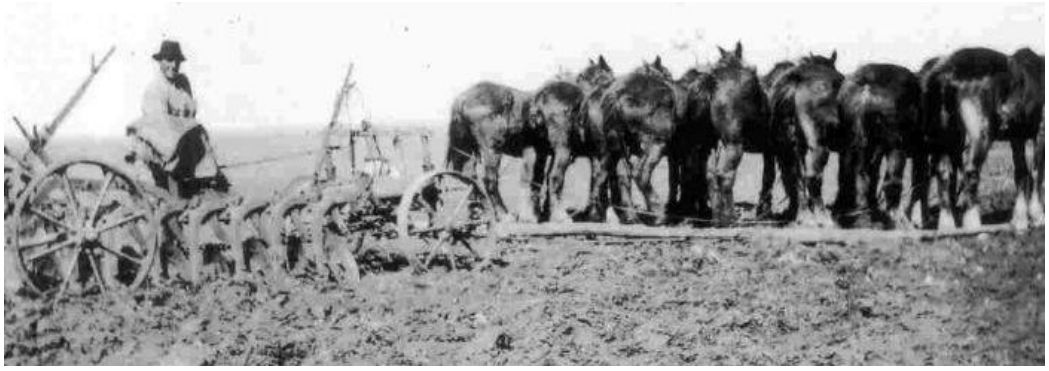
Although the settlers endeavoured to support each other, it was the onset of the Depression in 1929 that was the nail in the coffin for many. A report by the Royal Commission on Soldier Settlement as early as 1925, acknowledged major faults in the program, but struggled to find a solution that would benefit all soldiers due to the diversity of the scheme. Legislative amendments could not halt the deteriorating retention rate, and in 1926 the Royal Commission found fault with major elements of the scheme, concluding that it was doomed by too lenient qualification rules, unworkable financial obligations and undue political influence. Little practical was done after 1926 apart from shoring up the remaining settlers, but failures continued. In 1929, a survey of soldier land settlement found that in Tasmania only 777 out of 1976 settlers retained their properties – a failure rate of 61 percent, the worst in Australia. Financial losses were extremely heavy, and the Depression compounded the problems.

The rules for settlement were set down. In most cases Crown land was set apart for returning soldiers who, in order to buy or lease such a block, were required to be certified as

qualified and to remain in residence on that land for 5 years. In this way remote rural areas set aside for such settlement were guaranteed a population expansion which remained to increase infrastructure in the area.
Those eligible to apply for land were ex-service personnel including women from the Australian Army Nursing Service (AANS) with at least six months war service. Despite being legally able to take up land, there is evidence that women were not openly encouraged to do so. Applicants were required to place a tender with the Department of Lands with successful applications being decided by ballot system.
The land was available to the soldiers on affordable terms and they could also receive advances of money to make improvements to the land and purchase seeds and equipment. Soldiers who were successful in gaining such a block of land had the opportunity to start a farming life in a number of rural activities including wool, dairy, cattle, pigs, fruit, fodder and grain. These initial land allotments resulted in triumph for some and despair for others. Indeed, specifically following World War I, in some cases these new farmers, unable to cope with the climatic variances of Australia and devoid of the capital to increase stock or quality of life, simply walked off the land back to the large towns and cities from whence they had come.
The story for 1,500 of the 5,000 soldier settlers in NSW who, crippled by falling agricultural prices and the looming Great Depression, was that they surrendered their blocks. Although the scheme was ultimately deemed a failure, and widely criticised for bringing further hardship to veterans, there were a few individual stories of triumph. Often, the soldier farmers who managed to hang on to their land benefited from those who walked away, in taking up abandoned allotments and consolidating the properties into something more viable, such as Edgeroi Station near Narrabri.
During the 1920s the experience of the soldiers was mixed - many soldiers could not find good jobs and some soldiers who took up the government's offer of settlement in the country met with disappointment. The soldiers had returned to a changed society where women took new social liberties, opposition to war had appeared, and the soldiers' role in Australia was no longer clear. Ultimately, the returned soldiers became part of the Australian workforce which had difficulty securing improvements in their working conditions during this period.
The procedure of supporting such soldiers was repeated after World War II with all Australian State governments using the previous and amended forms of such acts of parliament to reinvigorate the program for a new generation of returned soldiers.
The report on land settlement by the Rural Reconstruction Commission in the early 1940's enumerated factors that led to the "*settlement disasters*" after World War I: lack of farm management skills on the part of many settlers, inadequate advisory services, excessive prices for stock and equipment, the fall in commodity prices in 1920–24, poor quality of Crown lands, over-valuation of properties, inadequate farm sizes, heavy capital debt and interest burdens, and unsatisfactory Commonwealth–State relations.
The RSL (formed originally in 1916), favoured leasehold tenure, whereas the Commission considered that freehold would provide settlers with the incentive to develop their holdings. In its second report, presented to the government in January 1944, the Commission stated



that Commonwealth involvement in soldier settlement was inevitable, due to repatriation and financial aspects. The role of the States should be to select the land and the settlers, and assist in administration, while the Commonwealth should assess production requirements in relation to market prospects and decide which plans were feasible. It proposed that there be a Commonwealth Investigating Authority, with the power of veto over State settlement plans, and a Commonwealth Financial Authority, attached to the Commonwealth Bank.
The success of the program increased after World War II when the infrastructure required for these new farmers was improved as a direct result of learning from the mistakes that came during and after the first attempts at such settlement. After World War II Soldier Settlement was also more successful aided by better policy decisions, more arable land and a booming economy that provided greater returns on rural production.
A more modest and closely managed scheme was embarked upon with more stringent qualifications. By the 1960s some 28 percent of the 551 post-Second World War settlers in Tasmania had “failed” due to poor administration and under-funding, but overall this scheme was more successful.



Ultimately, and following much debate amongst stakeholders, the War Service Land Settlement Scheme provided farms in every State to about 12,000 returned soldiers from 1949, compared with more than 37,000 who acquired farms in the years after World War I. In general, the efforts of government and its advisers to avoid the mistakes of the past were successful. By providing more comprehensive training, greater care in the selection and subdivision of land, and funding on a much larger scale, they ensured that most soldier settlers remained on the land and achieved a reasonable standard of living.
Although the failure rate was much lower, the re-establishment of this relatively small number of servicemen had been costly for governments. By 1976 the Commonwealth and State governments had written off the current equivalent of more than $500 million on the War Service Land Settlement Scheme.
Funded by the Australian Research Council, Monash University and the University of New England, a website was created in 2011 dedicated to the memory of Soldier Settlement in NSW. Although the project is currently on hold, it intends to examine the history of soldier settlement in NSW reclaiming a virtually untouched field in the State’s environmental, social, political and cultural history. It will record the forgotten stories of a generation of men and women who survived the Great War and restore history to the communities that made it.

Patsy Moppett

See www.soldiersettlement.records.nsw.gov.au

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First World War veterans faced 'ongoing battle' with farm resettlement scheme: NSW Country Hour, November 2014
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From Gallipoli to Australian farms: Soldier settler success and failure and contribution to the future of agriculture, ABC Rural April 2015
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www.guides.naa.gov.au Chapter 8: Land of Opportunity: Australia's post-war reconstruction
A Land Fit for Heroes? Australian Research Council project 2011

Hammons Holdings wins Bridge Climb

The Sydney Harbour Bridge climb will change hands for the first time, after its long-term operator, BridgeClimb Sydney, lost its bid for a new twenty year contract. Hammons Holdings Pty Ltd, the operator of Scenic World in the Blue Mountains has won the contract, as announced by Roads & Maritime Services on 15th June 2018. Thirteen expressions of interest had been received from Australian and international tenderers of the highest quality and reputation.

BridgeClimb Sydney chairman and founder Paul Cave started the business after helping to organise a bridge climb for an international business convention. Since Mr Cave's BridgeClimb began guiding people over the arch in 1998, 4 million people from more than 140 countries have climbed the Harbour Bridge.

Since then BridgeClimb has established itself as an integral part of the Sydney scene. They love the Bridge and have celebrated its key milestones with Bridge workers, descendants of chief engineer JJC Bradfield, and Sydneysiders alike.

BridgeClimb Sydney

Other companies to lose out to Hammons included Merlin Entertainments, Anytime Fitness, Dreamworld, Belgravia Leisure, and a Queensland company that operates a zip line beside Cairns' Skyrail gondola.

Hammons Holdings acknowledged the pioneering work of Paul Cave in developing the bridge into a popular tourist destination and look forward to working in partnership with the Government to build on that work.

Hammons Holdings director David Hammon said his company would expand opportunities for international, interstate and local visitors, including looking at ways to make new climbs on the bridge, and initiating ways that people might experience the history and the story of the bridge. He advised:

"Underpinning our vision for the bridge is the idea of improving accessibility for the public and bringing it to life with new technology, so that more visitors can experience this iconic landmark in a safe and sustainable way. We also see potential to link the Blue Mountains and Sydney Harbour Bridge as tourist destinations, boosting the flow of visitors from one to the other and creating economic opportunities for western Sydney and the state in the process."

Hammons Holdings P/L is a three generation family business with a long history and highly successful tourism track record in the Blue Mountains at Scenic World. They have been operating Scenic World for more than 73 years. With a strong safety record achieved in a challenging outdoor environment, Scenic World is now Australia's most-visited privately-

owned attraction, hosting more than one million visitors annually, 60% of whom are international visitors.

David & Anthea Hammon

David & Anthea with their father Phillip

Hammons Holdings is also an early-stage investor in Sydney Zoo in Western Sydney. The Sydney Harbour Bridge appointment positions the company to create a corridor of iconic visitor experiences spanning the Bridge, Sydney Zoo and Scenic World.
They have issued a statement saying:
"We are delighted to have been recently selected by the NSW government as the new operator of Sydney Harbour Bridge Tourism Activities from 1 October 2018."
The appointment marks a major step forward for Hammons Holdings and Scenic World, led by Blue Mountains-based siblings Anthea and David Hammon.
David Hammon stated:
"As third generation leaders in family business, Anthea and I have lived and breathed attractions from a young age. We've been surrounded by talented experts who have helped us to evolve the business and break new ground, and we're looking forward to continuing that journey into the future."
Scenic World managing director Anthea Hammon added:
The appointment was well aligned with Hammons Holdings' long-term vision to invest in the tourism sector and open up a corridor of iconic tourism experiences in Western Sydney, spanning the Bridge, Scenic World and Sydney Zoo in which Hammons Holdings is an early stage investor.
It's an honour to have the opportunity to showcase our skills in innovation and customer experience on a broader level, extending our efforts to showcase NSW to visitors from near and far."
Hammons Holdings emphasize that tickets to climb the bridge purchased before 1 October 2018 will remain valid for the date booked. *Patsy Moppett*

Customers can contact Hammons Holdings for more information:
Phone: 1800 955 000
www.hammonsholdings.com.au

References:
ABC News: www.abc.com.au Sydney Harbour Bridge Climb awarded to Hammon Holdings for next 20 years, 15 June 2018
Scenic World owners win rights to Sydney Harbour Bridge Tourism Activities: Blue Mountains Gazette, 15 June 2018
Wealthy business owner's hold on Harbour Bridge climb broken, Sydney Morning Herald, 15 June 2018
www.sefiani.com.au
www.bridgeclimb.com.au

Razor slashing incident at Mt. Victoria, 1932

Stephen Davis of Mt Victoria & District Historical Society has been delving into local records at Mt Victoria and provides the following account of this gruesome incident:

"Further to last month's C.A.R.A. report regarding historical titbits recorded in the museum's diary, one was dated March/April 2006. It concerned a George Whitfield claiming his father was a mounted policeman stationed at Mt. Victoria. Well, I got busy using *Trove* and found four articles naming a Constable V.O. Whitfield involved in a peculiar case in 1932. A summary of this case follows":

A couple consisting of Eric Arthur Stanton, 30/32, labourer/shearer, and Madeline Ada Bayliss, 18, housemaid, had been living as man and wife for 8 months, having been unable to marry, as neither could find employment (remember 1932 was a year of the Great Depression). The pair travelled by train from Glen Innes to Sydney without paying their fares (jumping the rattler as it was termed at the time). From Sydney they continued their journey by train to Penrith, this time paying their fares. Apparently, they slept overnight in a carriage as they were awakened by it's moving the next morning. After arrival at Mt. Victoria (the Caves Express, maybe?), the couple camped on a vacant allotment near Jersey St. in the township.

About 1.30 pm on July 13th, Constable V.O. Whitfield was called to this allotment. A quarrel had apparently broken out between the couple with Stanton accusing Bayliss of having an "improper relationship" with his (Stanton's) stepfather.

However, Constable Whitfield received another call about 9 pm of the same day to go along the Bell Road (now called Darling Causeway) to a spot three-quarters of a mile from the police station at Mt. Victoria. Constable Whitfield found the girl's face covered in blood, and Stanton was bleeding freely from incised wounds to the throat. Upon inquiring, Bayliss said that Stanton had "did his block" slashing her with a razor and then cut his own throat.

Both were taken to the Blue Mountains District Anzac Hospital, where Dr. R. W. Richards inserted 27 stitches in Bayliss's face. Subsequently the case was brought before Katoomba Police Court where Stanton was charged with maliciously wounding Madeline Ada Bayliss.

The case got mentioned in the *Sydney Truth* with the headline and opening paragraph of:

> *AWEFUL RAZOR SLASHING*
> *Man Under Arrest...*
> *The mountain township of Mount Victoria has had the serenity of its daily life rudely disturbed by an allegedly attempted murder and suicide....*

Stanton was committed for trial at Parramatta Quarter Sessions for 4th October with bail being allowed, with surety of £40 each. The defendant was informed of the Poor Prisoners Defence Act.

At the following trial there was a minor sensation, and I quote *Sydney Morning Herald's* account of the hearing:

> *HYSTERICAL GIRL CARRIED OUT OF COURT*
> *Effort to Save Man from Gaol*
>
> *There were dramatic moments with a climax of a screaming girl being carried from the court by two policemen at the Parramatta Quarters Sessions....*
>
> *Bayliss tried to retract her statements made at the previous police court as being untrue, saying to the Crown Prosecutor, Mr. Berne, 'I won't answer any more questions'. Judge Tomson responded with, 'You will answer as I direct. Do you want to be punished for contempt of court? Well, then I warn you.'*
>
> *Later, Bayliss said, 'I love him (Stanton), I want to marry him and be happy.'*
>
> *Stanton was sentenced by his honour to three years imprisonment labour (there were three previous convictions for assaulting police). At this point Bayliss threw herself on the floor and screamed, 'You won't take him to gaol, You won't! You won't!'. She continued to cry out between sobs, as two policemen picked her up and carried her outside.*

V.O. Whitfield was also mentioned in other more mundane cases such as burglaries etc., but the above account was the most colourful encountered so far involving the Constable.

Stephen Davis

References:
Katoomba Daily, 2nd August 1932, p.1, http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article190129099
Truth, Syd., NSW, 17th July 1932, p.16, http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article169141256
Lithgow Mercury, 5th October 1932, p.2, http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article219681714
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The Technical Side

The Apothecary

The Apothecary is a very early profession known by a number of names including pharmacist, chemist, Doctor of Pharmacy, druggist, or simply doctor. The general practitioner and the pharmacist share a common ancestor in the apothecary.
The term “apothecary” derives from the Greek word for a repository or storehouse and is the science and technique of preparing and dispensing drugs, linking health sciences with chemical sciences, aiming to ensure the safe and effective use of pharmaceutical drugs.
Early man learnt methods to relieve the symptoms of illness and injury through trial and error and passed this knowledge on to others. Although early man’s methods were crude, many of today's medicines spring from sources as simple and elementary as those which were within reach back then.

Babylon in ancient Mesopotamia, provides the earliest known record of the practice of the art of the pharmacist or apothecary. Practitioners of about 2600 B.C. were priest, pharmacist and physician, all in one. Medical texts on clay tablets recorded the symptoms of illness, the prescription and directions for compounding, then an invocation to the gods.
Chinese Emperor Shen Nung (about 2000 B.C.) sought out and investigated the medicinal value of several hundred herbs and is reputed to have tested many of them on himself.
Egyptian medicine dates from about 2900 B.C., with the best known and most important pharmaceutical record being the "Papyrus Ebers" (1500 B.C.), a collection of 800 prescriptions, mentioning 700 drugs.
Similarly, the ancient Greeks and Romans are recorded as being heavily involved in the treatment of illness, injury and disease, and their methods are well documented.
Galen (130-200 A.D.) practiced and taught both pharmacy and medicine in Rome, and his principles for preparing and compounding medicines ruled in the Western world for 1,500 years. His name is still associated with that class of pharmaceuticals compounded by mechanical means.
During the Middle Ages remnants of western knowledge were preserved in monasteries (fifth to twelfth centuries). The monks are known to have been taught in the cloisters as early as the seventh century, and gathered herbs in the field, or raised them in their own herb gardens. They often grew perishable medicinal crops close at hand in a courtyard so that they could make fresh preparations and extractions. These they prepared according to the art of the apothecary for the benefit of the sick and injured.

In some trades, skills and knowledge were secret, and little about them has been published. For the apothecary's trade, there were textbooks, and many survive. The pharmacopoeias were official registers describing the properties, preparation, and use of drugs and other medicines. By the nineteenth century, pharmacopoeia had replaced the herbals that had provided both medical and gardening information since the Middle Ages.

In its investigation of herbal and chemical ingredients, the work of the apothecary may be regarded as a precursor of the modern sciences of chemistry and pharmacology, prior to the formulation of scientific methods.
In addition to dispensing herbs and medicine, the apothecary offered general medical advice and a range of services that are now performed by other specialist practitioners. Apothecary shops sold ingredients and medicines they prepared to other medical practitioners, as well as dispensing them to patients. Eventually the job of medical diagnosis and medicine preparation was separated out into independent professions.
Apothecaries used their own measurement system to provide precise weighing of small quantities, and dispensed poisons as well as medicines, when, as is still the case, medicines could be either beneficial or harmful if inappropriately used. Protective methods to prevent accidental ingestion of poisons included the use of specially shaped containers for potentially poisonous substances.
Many recipes included herbs, minerals, and pieces of animals (meats, fats, skins) that were ingested, made into paste for external use, or used as aromatherapy. Trial and error were the main source or finding successful remedies, as little was known about the chemistry of why certain treatments worked.
The scope of pharmacy practice now includes more traditional roles such as compounding and dispensing medications, as well as community, hospital, clinical, ambulatory care consultant, internet, veterinary, nuclear, military and specialty. Pharmacists, therefore, just like the original apothecary or herbalist, are the experts on drug therapy and are the primary health professionals who optimize use of medication for the benefit of their patients.

Patsy Moppett

References:
A History of Pharmacy in Pictures, Washington State university, School of Pharmacy
Wikipedia: Pharmacy
Wikipedia: The Apothecary
CSIRO Australian Health Review 2009
A History of the Apothecary: The New Orleans Pharmacy Museum, GA Laufer 1997
*The Art and Mystery of the Apothecary**, by Robin Kipps,** Colonial Williamsburg Association: Journal Autumn 2006*
Encyclopaedia Britannica - Pharmacy

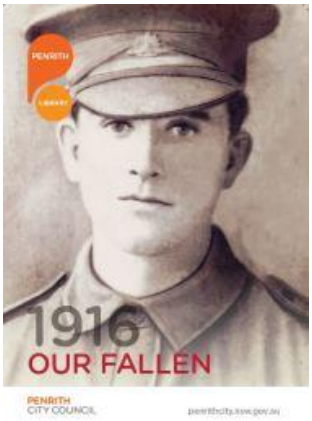
Community events & updates

Penrith City Library remembers the Great War - noble work recognised

Penrith City Library will remember the Great War in an evening of reflection to mark the end of the first World War 100 years ago. The evening will be filled with information sharing,

remembrance and storytelling. This special evening event will be their way to pay tribute to the five years of service to our country by our local men and women.
The evening will include: ·

- Talk by Steven Ford on researching a family's military history.
- Talk by Lorraine Stacker, Penrith Librarian, and the presentation of the final (1918) *Our Fallen* booklet to those present.
  Lorraine will also launch the Library's publication project *Noble work recognised: The City of Penrith remembers the Great War*. This publication will include the biographies of their fallen soldiers, the biographies of their local nurses who served in the war, selected biographies of those who returned, histories of local honor rolls and war memorials and soldier settlements.
- Talk by Dr Penny Stannard, NSW State Archives Senior Exhibitions Curator, on the *Windows into Wartime* exhibition that will be in Penrith Library from 24 October to 30 November 2018.



The event will be held on Wednesday 21 November 2018 – 6pm for 6.30pm, with supper on arrival.
This is a special evening not to be missed. Tickets ($5) went on sale from 22 October.

Lorraine Stacker

For further information contact the library on www.penrithhistory.com

Exhibition: Contemporary Gallipoli

Blue Mountains Cultural Centre 20 October – 25 November 2018
Coinciding with the 100th anniversary of the end of World War I, Blue Mountains City Art Gallery will showcase the touring exhibition *Contemporary Gallipoli*, an exhibition originally created to mark the ANZAC Centenary in April 2015, a Macquarie University Gallery Touring exhibition curated by Meredith Brice.
Contemporary Gallipoli includes a diverse array of new works created by both emerging and established artists from Canakkale, near the Gallipoli Peninsula, Turkey, and Australia, whose work unites to take the viewer on an experiential journey of remembrance, and a search for meaning beyond myth and memory.

MACQUARIE University

Community Programs: Saturday 3rd November from 11am: join artist and independent curator Meredith Brice on a multi-sensory experience of the *Contemporary Gallipoli* exhibition. This talk will be followed by a gallery performance of *Gallipoli Sensings* played by members of the Royal Australian Navy Band.

Blue Mountains Cultural Centre

Heritage Near Me – funding for earth buildings

The village of O'Connell near Bathurst has been a recent recipient of funding through the Heritage Near Me program, to go towards the conservation of O'Connell's earth building heritage.

The grant of $100,000.00 was announced by Bathurst MP Paul Toole. He advised that: *"It will implement a program of earth building conservation at a number of locations and will incorporate a training program for owners and managers and other interested industry professionals who work with earth architecture relating to these types of buildings. A heritage trail interpreting this significant aspect of local heritage will also be implemented."*

Mr Toole also said that the University of Sydney will use the buildings involved to explore the way it teaches its Masters of Heritage Conservation degree.

Two O'Connell examples of earth buildings which would come under the program are:

- Lindlegreen barn, owned by Vanessa & Brad Hargans, which has associations with the Hassall family (Rowland Hassall was appointed by Governor Macquarie as Superintendent of Government Stock in 1815; Thomas Hassall became Samuel Marsden's curate in Parramatta and in 1822 he married Marsden's eldest daughter Ann).
- A cottage owned by Gavin Christie on his property Yarrabin.

Lindlegreen barn

The unassuming Lindlegreen barn has been recognised as state significant and has been added to the State Heritage Register. It is believed to have been constructed around 1827 and demonstrates how traditional Welsh and English building techniques were utilized by colonists in rural NSW when other normal building materials, such as timber, were less unavailable.

Yarrabin cottage

The cob method of building uses a mixture of soil, clay, straw and water laid as a continuous course, trampled, then smoothed. Each course has to dry and set before the next is laid in a time-consuming but effective process. *Patsy Moppett*

Visit www.environment.nsw.gov.au/heritage-near-me for more information on the range of grant programs assisting local communities, owners and managers of heritage items.

References:
Unique O'Connell barn recognised for its significance to state: Western Advocate 6 September 2018
O'Connell receives $100,000 to protect local heritage: Bathurst City Life, 13 September 2018
The Lindlegreen barn: Dept of Environment & Heritage, 2018

Winter Magic Festival 2019

Winter Magic is the largest community event in the Blue Mountains and is a joyous celebration of creativity and community that attracts tens of thousands of people to Katoomba for a brilliant happening of art, creativity and performance. In 2019 the Festival is returning after a 12-month hiatus.

The Winter Magic Festival Association Incorporated is a not-for-profit organisation, run entirely by volunteers. Each year the Association elects a committee, which runs the Festival. The Committee, in collaboration with key stakeholders and community members, is planning for a magical 2019. There is a lot to do, and only a short time frame to do it in. They are now calling for expressions of interest from volunteers, performers, stallholders and all the other people who make the Festival happen.

Winter Magic attracts audiences and media from the entire Blue Mountains area, Sydney, the Central West, and beyond. Sponsorship means your name can reach thousands of people, both in the lead up and on the day itself. The best way to be involved in the Winter Magic Festival and to ensure its survival is to become a member of the Association.

If you would like to be a member of the Winter Magic Festival Association, or want to confirm your current membership, please email their secretary, Ian Dudley-Bestow, stating you would like to join, and he will explain how to deposit the funds necessary to secure your membership – it's the princely sum of $2! You'll get a warm glow from supporting this free event. *Winter Magic Festival Committee*

If you would like to more information about sponsoring Winter Magic 2019, please send any email enquiries to: sponsors@wintermagic.com.au

For general inquiries:
Address; PO Box 454, Katoomba NSW 2780
Phone: 0409 873 991
Secretary: admin@wintermagic.com.au

Exhibition: Dust – an exhibition about insects, collections and heritage buildings

The last artistic event of the Woodford Academy's 2018 program opened with a launch on Saturday 15 September 2018 at the Academy. It could be viewed on 20 October & will again be accessible on 17 November 2018.
The "Dust" exhibition brings together artists and museum professionals to explore the processes of collection care underway at the Blue Mountains' oldest colonial buildings, the Woodford Academy. In an Australian first, the Academy buildings will be progressively wrapped and left to "cook" over the coming summer, eradicating the infestation of insects that have taken up residence in the building and its collections.
"Dust" engages with the idea of collection care while at the same time examining the lives and activities of insects. Just like we do, insects seek the right conditions to thrive and grow; that they may nest in our precious memory-objects and spaces is of no consequence to them. Dust highlights the materiality of insect bodies, museum objects and heritage environments and gives expression to the productive and destructive forces inherent to human-insect relationships.

Flyer image credit: Ingeborg Hansen *Sketch: National Trust*
Silverfish, 2018. Screen print on paper. 56 x 76cm

Visual artists Erica Seccombe, Ingeborg Hansen, Freedom Wilson and writer, performer and all-round 'creatrix' Cat Jones join Sydney University Museum's Julie Taylor, Madeleine Snedden, Rachel Lawrence, Christopher Jones and Stuart Humphreys to present a suite of vibrant and fascinating audio and visual works that showcase the good, the bad and the ugly of the insect world. Developed by local Blue Mountains artist Jacqueline Spedding in conversation with Elizabeth Burgess from the Woodford Academy, "Dust" celebrates the work of Spedding's fellow artists and museum colleagues who have backgrounds in art and science, both professionally and creatively.
Museum Entry & Exhibition:

- Adults $6
- Concession/Child (4-16yrs) $4

- Family $15 (2 adults, 2 children)
- Guided Tours - $2/Person (4+years)

Woodford Academy: 90-92 Great Western Highway, Woodford (on street parking available on Vale Rd). Contact: woodfordacademy@gmail.com
As a volunteer managed property, all proceeds from Woodford Academy open days and events directly contributes to the conservation of the Blue Mountains oldest building

Elizabeth Burgess

Collaboration and Community

History Associate Professor Tanya Evans, Director of the Centre for Applied History at Macquarie University, would like to make contact with people who would be interested in contributing to a project of historical research focusing on the workers and families involved with mining in the Jamison Valley prior to World War I.

Tanya is particularly keen to involve local and family historians in her investigation of family and community relationships, and the lived experience of miners and their families at home and at work. All contributions will be duly acknowledged in publications arising from this project.
Tanya would be delighted to hear from anybody who would be willing to participate in this project by sharing the results of their own research in local or family history, passing on oral traditions, or providing access to photographs, diaries and family heirlooms.
Tanya and her colleague Professor Grace Karskens (U.N.S.W.), would be happy to talk further about the project at a meeting of your society.

Macquarie University

Tanya can be contacted by email at:
tanya.evans@mq.edu.au
Postal: MHPIR Arts, Level 2 The Australian Hearing Hub, 16 University Avenue, Macquarie University NSW 2109

Associate Professor Tanya Evans MRes
Director for MHIS Director, Centre for Applied History, Department of Modern History, Politics and International Relations, Macquarie University
President of the History Council of New South Wales.

The Knowledgeable Object Symposium and Training Workshop

This event will be held at the end of November 2018 over two days:

- Training workshop Tuesday 27 November.
- Symposium on Wednesday 28 November.

The symposium is a result of a Macquarie University learning and teaching strategic priorities project about connecting museum collections with curriculum. It will explore what it is that makes objects so valuable in educational and museum contexts. They will share what they have learnt but are also eager to hear from others interested in the subject.
They currently seek Expressions of Interest for oral presentations, workshops, panel discussions and poster presentations.
If you are interested, please submit an abstract (using their template) by Friday 5th October 2018. Registration for the event is free and opened in late September.
If you are interested or would like to know more, please email ahmuseum@mq.edu.au

The workshop is aimed at early career professionals and students working/ studying in education and the GLAM sector as well as teachers involved in the pilot project.
Registration (including full program details) opened in late September, and applicants will be expected to briefly explain why they wish to participate and what they expect to gain from the workshop.
There will be a selection process and to allow for hands-on and work in small groups, the workshop is limited to a maximum of 30 participants.
Registration fee: There is no fee for attending the workshop. Parking, food and drink during the day will also be provided. Participants, or their organisations, will be expected to cover any travel and accommodation costs.
When and Where: The workshop will be held on Tuesday 27th November 10am-4pm, at 10 Hadenfeld Ave, Macquarie University, NSW 2109.
If you are interested or would like to know more, please email ahmuseum@mq.edu.au
Anyone who has registered interest will be notified as soon as the program is finalised and the online registration is open.

Macquarie University

Reminder: BMACHO Workshop – Writing grant applications

BMACHO will be holding a Grant Applications workshop for members, with funding provided by the Blue Mountains City Council's Community Assistance Grant.

- When: February 2019 – details to be provided via email in November 2018.
- Where: Meeting Room at Blue Mountains Historical Society, 99 Blaxland Road, Wentworth Falls

This will be a full day workshop and morning tea and lunch will be provided. Places in the workshop will be limited, and preference for attendance will be for the BMACHO membership. However, the public will also be welcome should numbers allow.

BMACHO Committee

Attendance at the workshop is free, but please RSVP if you are attending, along with any dietary requirements. Inquiries:
Email: bmacho.heritage@gmail.com
Phone: 02 4751 5834, leaving a message if unanswered.

Changing of the guard

BMACHO would like to offer congratulations to member groups on the recent election of their new committees.
The incoming committees are comprised as follows:

Glenbrook & District Historical Society

President: Denis Bainbridge
Vice-presidents: Doug Knowles & Joan Peard
Secretary: Neil McGlashan
Treasurer: Anton von Schulenburg
Committee: Pam Thompson, Warren Page, Jan Dingwall
Librarian & Research: Bill Peard
Historian: Tim Miers
Public Officer: Kevin Frappel.

Mount Victoria & District Historical Society

Chairman: Tim K Jones
Vice President: Barbara Palmer
Secretary: Peter Lammiman
Treasurer: Jack Thompson
Committee: Stephen Davis, Jean Winston, Kay Graham, Roy Bennett.

Colo Shire Family History Group

President: Carolynne Cooper
Vice-president: Paul McDonald
Secretary: Neil Renaud
Treasurer: Joy Shepherd
Members: Wanda Deacon, Maree Windress, one vacancy.

Kurrajong Comleroy Historical Society

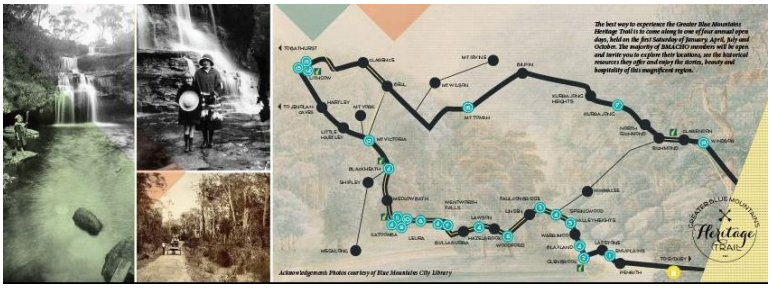
President: David Griffiths
Vice President: Steve Rawling

Secretary: Marguerite Wyborn
Treasurer: Pat O'Toole
Committee: Suzanne Smith, Jennifer Griffiths, Deborah Hallam, Terry Murray

Patsy Moppett

Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail Update

Westpac
Australia's First Bank



BMACHO continues to promote the Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail and members' upcoming events. BMACHO reprinted the Heritage Trail brochure in 2017 which was distributed to visitors' centres across the region.

Heritage with Altitude!!

The Trail is an ideal activity for the kids and grandkids, be it in the school holidays or any weekend! Collect the Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail brochure at participating venues and Visitor Information Centres.

BMACHO is planning a review of the operation of the Trail brochure over the coming months, with a view to the issue of the next brochure in 2019. Once again, your feedback will be most welcome!

If you are a member and you would like further information, or if you would like to become a member, please email the BMACHO Secretary at committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au
For general information about BMACHO and the Trail, see heritagedrive.com.au or www.facebook.com/GBMHeritageTrail
To find out more about BMACHO visit www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au

Merry Christmas and a happy & safe New Year to all!

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

Registered office: 1/19 Stypandra Place, Springwood 2777. (02) 4751 5834
Email: committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au or j.koperberg@bigpond.com
Website: www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au **ABN**: 53 994 839 952

The organisation: Blue Mountains Association of Cultural & Heritage Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 after local historical and heritage societies and individuals recognised the need for the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the local government area (LGA) of Blue Mountains City Council. The constituency now embraces but is not limited to, the LGAs of Blue Mountains, Lithgow, Hawkesbury and Penrith. BMACHO membership includes historical and heritage groups, museums, commercial enterprises with an historical or heritage component in its core business, local government (local studies units, library collections) and a limited number of individual members by invitation such as but not necessarily academics. The objectives of the organisation are:

1. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage
2. To encourage and assist cultural heritage
3. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations.

One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

Affiliations: BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society.

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Heritage

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The Windmill in Australia

In Australia, the windmill is a rural icon, associated with agriculture, the outback and the arid Australian landscape. But its origins go way back into antiquity, and in many countries in Europe they are conserved as a museum object or heritage item rather than a working machine.

A windmill is a machine that converts the energy of wind into usable energy by means of rotating vanes called sails or blades. Centuries ago, windmills were used to mill grain, pump water, or both. The majority of modern windmills take the form of wind turbines used to generate electricity, or wind pumps used to pump water, either for land drainage or to extract groundwater.

Colonial Sydney

Early development

The Greek engineer Heron of Alexandria in the first century presents the earliest known instance of using a wind-driven wheel to power a machine. Another early example of a wind-driven wheel was the prayer wheel, which has been used in Tibet and China since the fourth century.

Although "sails" had been used to move ships at sea, it was the Persians who converted the use of wind for grinding grain between 500 and 900 A.D. They attached several "sails" to a vertical shaft that was connected to a grind-stone or pump, housed in a building.

Although early windmills were mounted horizontally, it was eventually developed into a vertical tower structure, as in Persia. By mounting the mill this way, the sails were able to

rotate to face the wind direction - an essential requirement for windmills to operate economically where wind directions are variable.
Wind pumps were used to pump water since at least the 9th century in what is now Afghanistan, and in Iran and Pakistan. The use of wind pumps became widespread across the Muslim world and later spread to China and India.
Windmills first appeared in Europe at about the time of the Crusades (1096-1270) but the design was different to the Persian model. By the end of the 13th century the mill body was being made of masonry, being common in Great Britain and English-speaking countries of the former British Empire, Denmark, and Germany but rare in other places. By the 14th century windmills became popular in Europe, where the total number of wind-powered mills was estimated to have been around 200,000 at the peak in 1850, which is modest compared to some 500,000 waterwheels. Water windmills were applied in regions where there was too little water, where rivers froze in winter and in flat lands where the flow of the river was too slow to provide the required power.

Spain

Netherlands

USA

Windmills were later used extensively in Europe, particularly in the Netherlands and the East Anglia area of Great Britain, from the late Middle Ages onwards, to drain land for agricultural or building purposes. It is said that “windmills built the Netherlands”, where they were used to pump water from the land into canals that took the water back to the sea. Without these windmills, parts of the Netherlands would still be flooded, and farmers would never have grown fruit, vegetables and tulips.
However, the industrial revolution saw wind and water power replaced by steam as the primary industrial energy source, and eventually by internal combustion engines. In recent years windmill technology is making a comeback and the wind turbine is being touted as an important alternative to the use of fossil fuels in the future.
The windmill as we know it in Australia, the American windmill, or wind engine, was invented by the American Daniel Halladay in 1854 and was used mostly for lifting water from wells. Larger versions were also used for sawing wood, chopping hay, and shelling and grinding grain. In early California and some other states, the windmill was part of a self-contained domestic water system which included a hand-dug well and a wooden water tower supporting a redwood tank enclosed by wooden siding known as a tankhouse. During the late 19th century steel blades and steel towers replaced wooden construction.
These wind pumps were and are still used extensively on agricultural properties in the United States, Canada, Southern Africa, and Australia. They feature a large number of blades, so they turn slowly with considerable torque in low winds and are self-regulating in high winds. A tower-top gearbox and crankshaft convert the rotary motion into reciprocating strokes carried downward through a rod to the pump cylinder below.

Colonial Sydney

Colonial windmills were depicted on many early paintings of the day. The tallest structures around Sydney Cove were windmills which has resulted in few physical remains. Yet their presence left a lasting legacy in early colonial landscape art and the minds and hearts of many contemporaries.

Mill Hill 1797

Government Domain 1836

The first windmills were sought to grind grain for the colony. Parts were sent for from England and the first government windmill, a stone structure, was erected in 1797 on Flagstaff Hill or Windmill Hill (now Observatory Hill). It soon fell into disrepair. A second windmill, known as the military windmill, was built in 1798 on the site where Clarence Street now crosses the top of Grosvenor Street. However, a violent three-day storm ravaged Sydney in June 1799 and this windmill was destroyed. It was slowly repaired and served the colony until about 1840.

A third windmill was built in 1806 by Nathanial Lucas, near the site where Fort Street public school now stands. This mill was a large wooden structure, known as the wooden government mill.

The demand for flour for bread soon meant that private windmills overtook the government ones. During the early nineteenth century, windmills dotted the entire Sydney landscape, all the way from The Rocks to Parramatta.

Yet with the march of industrial progress that characterised the mid to late nineteenth century, steam and coal power increasingly began to take over and the picturesque sails of Sydney's windmills gradually disappeared from the skyline. They were dismantled, and the various parts reused in the building of other structures, so there are few remains. One at Mill Hill Road, Waverley was a wooden post mill and operated from 1846 until it was levelled to the ground in 1878. It was probably the last Sydney mill in existence.

A few stones of one windmill under the stage at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music were discovered during archaeological excavations in the 1990s. Stone from Hyndes mill, the largest mill in Darlinghurst, was later reused to build Beare's Stairs in Caldwell Street. The stone from Thomas Barker's windmill was used to build two terrace houses in Kellet Street, Kings Cross which remain today on the corner of Kellet Lane.

The Australian icon

Australia with its vast rural areas is still a stronghold of this inexpensive low maintenance method of watering stock and moving water for irrigation.

Windmills as we know them appeared in Australia in the later part of the 1800's. The first to appear were the large European type windmills used for milling purposes but unfortunately, they were too expensive to build and not suited to providing water in the outback. A cheaper, less powerful windmill was required to water to stock, farms, goldfields and emerging country towns.

The windmill gradually disappeared from the urban landscape as its purpose to grind grain was over taken by other production processes using steam and coal.
However, for rural people, for stock and crops to survive in the harsh arid conditions of Australia, a continuous supply of water was required, and it was the windmill that provided a permanent water supply to the early settlers of Australia, as it could be constructed on site using hand tools.
Windmills are still constructed today for water supply purposes. Originally there were several well-known manufacturers, including the following:

- ***Alston:***

James Alston was born in 1850 at Southwark, England, and arrived in Australia with his parents in 1861. He served a four year apprenticeship in the iron trade. As a young man, in the early 1880's, James Alston set himself up in business as a blacksmith and agricultural machine manufacturer in the town of Warrnambool on the south-west coast of Victoria. In 1886, he patented an all metal mill with a modern type, multi-sailed wheel. After moving to Melbourne in the late 1990's, improvements and innovations to the Alston windmill continued.

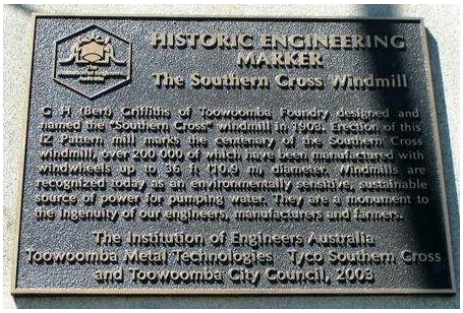
Alston was a prolific inventor. His last known patents for improvements to windmills were issued in the mid 1930's. At that time, James Alston must have been around 85 years of age.
Alston's, for much of the life of the company until the outbreak of World War II, held the lion's share of the Australian windmill market and also exported to countries such as China, India and parts of Africa.
However, James Alston died in 1943, and without his guiding hand at the helm, the firm of James Alston and Sons Pty. Ltd. went into gradual decline, plagued by a post-war shortage of steel and inhibited by rather outmoded designs. By the late 1950's the firm was almost non-operational and ended in bankruptcy about 1960. The vacuum left by flagging Alston sales was filled rapidly by more modern types of windmills, such as Southern Cross, Comet and Metters.

- ***Southern Cross:***

In 1871 George Griffiths set up a mechanical workshop in Toowoomba thus starting what is now the Southern Cross Group of Engineering Companies. His first wooden framed windmills were built in 1876, trading as Southern Cross Windmills from 1903. Between 1876 and 1884 these simple direct acting windmills were made in several sizes up to 16ft in diameter. A range of both geared and direct action self-oiling mills is in production to this day. By 1990 more than 200,000 had been produced, the majority for use in rural Australia where they have become an indelible feature of our landscape.
In 1893, during the depression and flood, Mr J A (Alfred) Griffiths designed the "Zephyr" windmill. Although there had been some previously made in the United States of America, this was the first geared windmill made in Australia. As well as being geared for easier starting, the Zephyr had a wheel on the upwind side of the tower but was still of wooden construction.

Southern Cross

Alfred Griffiths



Plaque at Toowoomba

After noting that his windmills were not as effective as the American models, he designed a new mill and in 1903, the Toowoomba factory sold its first commercial windmill under the trade name the "Southern Cross". Designed by A Griffiths, they were simple, robust and relatively cheap. They became one of the best known and sold windmills in Australia. Up until 1992, each mill was stamped with a unique serial number. From 1992 onwards, each mill is stamped with a number that identified the day, month, year and the mill number assembled on that day.

- ***Comet:***

Comet specialised in the design and manufacture of windmill pumping plants for outback Australia. Mr Sidney Williams (1851-1936), the original founder of Comet Windmills, manufactured a diverse range of rural products. He founded the Sidney Williams & Company in 1879 in Rockhampton. Williams recognised that wind is the greatest natural source of energy and that it is freely available day and night.
Their engineering works at Dulwich Hill was the largest and most-up-to-date windmill factory in Australia at the time. In 1920, the Government introduced contracting for windmill pumping plants, which was to run for the following 30 years. This included for railways, councils, the Water Commission, stock routes, etc. In the Northern Territory, Comet pumping plants were the sole choice on all major stock routes and were the predominant force in all other states for other Government contracts.

Sid Williams

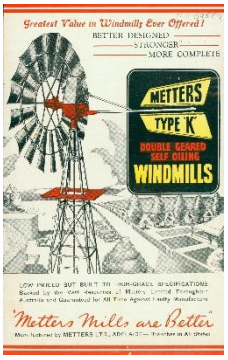
COMET
WINDMILLS AUSTRALIA
SINCE 1879

In the 1940's the firm manufactured guns and equipment for World War II. Comet's Sidney Williams and most other manufacturers were ordered to undertake the manufacture of items for the defence industry. These items included brake drums or bogey wheel castings for tanks and armoured carriers, steel frame army huts principally for the New Guinea campaign. High precision gauges & jigs were made in a specially built and equipped annexe at Dulwich Hill for the small arms factory at Lithgow, and for Comet Mills to equip stock routes in the Northern Territory in support of the beef industry.
Comet made a range of windmills and pumps, and made corrugated tanks, tank stands, sheep jetters, steel frame buildings, steel dips, fire ploughs, saw benches, winches.
The company survived two World Wars, the Depression and subsequent economic recessions. They became known as Australia's leading mill and have been referred to as "the Rolls Royce of Windmills".
In the early 2000's Comet Windmills Australia relocated from Dulwich Hill to Macksville on the mid north coast of NSW, where they continue to manufacture windmills and have also

diversified into construction of towers for modern renewable energy power and storage technology.

- ***Metters:***

In the late 1800's Fred Metters, son of an English migrant, set up a factory in Adelaide making fuel stoves. The business thrived and eventually he had factories in Sydney (1902) and Perth (1896). In 1907 Metter sold his interests to his partner Henry Spring and Metters Limited was formed. During WW I the range of products produced by the firm included gas and fuel stoves, domestic appliances, agricultural machinery, water tanks, grave markers, and cooking appliances for the armed forces. By 1927 they were also making windmills. They made a range of windmills from the 1930s, some quite different from the conventional ones, in a range of sizes, the most common being the Metters K and Metters M models. They exported windmills as far away as Cyprus, built in Adelaide and Perth. In later years they were the subject of a series of takeovers by other companies.



The company expanded enormously over the next decades to include the manufacture of bathtubs, televisions, pipes and pipe fittings, eventually moving over to include the use of plastics in product development in the 1960's.

Conclusion: Of course, wind turbines are the way of the future, seeking renewable energy for electricity generation, and a number of factors have resulted in a decrease for the demand for windmills generally.

In spite of alternative pumping systems and the introduction of water schemes, the fact that windmills were well constructed and proved to be very reliable, means that some windmills built over 50 years ago are still operating and still pumping water up from under the ground today! However, only a handful of Australian windmill manufacturers exist today.

Windmills now hold an iconic status in Australian culture, symbolising triumph over natural barriers by the early settlers.

The way of the past

Across the extensive and sparsely populated pastoral regions of the continent, windmills still often stand tall, asserting settler ingenuity and perseverance in the harsh Australian landscape. Even the skeleton of a disused and damaged windmill still captures the imagination.

Patsy Moppett

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Food for thought ..... Editor's note

In October and November 2018, with thoughts of the 100th anniversary of World War 1, the Blue Mountains Art Gallery is holding an exhibition *"to take the viewer on an experiential journey of remembrance, and a search for meaning beyond myth and memory".*
No matter who you are, thoughts of the Great War and its aftermath will hold significant and often personal meaning.
Penrith City Library also seeks to remember the contribution made by service men and women with an evening filled with information sharing, remembrance and storytelling. This special evening event will be their way to pay tribute to the five years of service to the country by local men and women.
When men and women set off to serve their country on the stage of war, they knew they would meet adversity. Those at home also knew that their loved ones may face danger and may never return. However, in the heroism of the time and the passion for monarch & country, they went, putting aside their fears to fight for the people and the land they loved. The aftermath was not considered apart from the thought of freedom.
The soldiers on the battlefront thought constantly of home, and their return to family and friends. Those at home looked forward to the day of return. Neither one realised just how much this conflict would change the world and themselves.
Communications between home and the front were limited and news travelled slowly. Each only saw the war from within the context of their personal circumstances, and through what the government and the media would allow.
It is in hindsight that information on the total conflict gradually emerged, and much of the full horror of that war is now known.

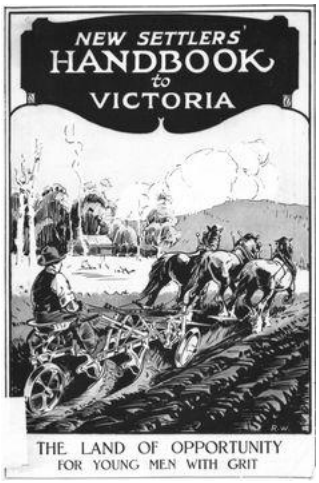
This was a war that changed the known world, from governments down to individuals. The soldiers came home expecting to see their world as they left it, as they had been dreaming of in the trenches. It was not the same. Those at home welcomed their loved ones home, those who did return, with open arms. But they were not the same people who left a few months or years before.
Once it was realised that the returned servicemen and women were often traumatised, mentally and/or physically, everyone sought to provide for some form of rehabilitation. Sometimes it worked, sometimes it didn't.
The Soldier Settlement Schemes were a government attempt to play a part in this rehabilitation. The added problems for servicemen that arose could not be envisaged by the well-meaning leaders of the time. But at least they tried. And learning from the mistakes made, the same extremity of frustration was not repeated after WW II.
There will be any number of events across the country in the coming weeks which will seek to turn our thoughts to the memory of those who fought and the many who died that we could be free. To experience just one of these activities would be to acknowledge that we still care and hold great regard and respect what they did for us.

Lest we forget

Soldier Settlement Schemes

Following World War I Australia's Prime Minister Billy Hughes promised that post-war Australia would be *"a land fit for heroes"*. As part of a larger economic plan aimed to boost the post-war economy through the development of Australia's rural sector, several Repatriation Acts were passed in parliaments across Australia. These were also called the Soldier Settlement Schemes.
Settlement plans initially began during World War I, with South Australia first enacting legislation in 1915. NSW followed in 2016 and Victoria in 2017, as the schemes gained impetus across Australia. The Commonwealth Government's role was to select and acquire land whilst the State government authorities would process applications and grant land allotments. Each Australian state government felt the importance of providing a source of income for returning soldiers as well as recognising the personal and family sacrifices made by them. Crown land was used where possible, but much land was acquired. By 1924, just over 24 million acres (97,000 km²) had been acquired or allocated. Of this nearly 6.3 million acres (25,000 km²) was purchased and 18 million acres (73,000 km²) was Crown land set aside. Some 23.2 million acres (93,900 km²) had been allotted 23,367 farms across Australia.
Billy Hughes felt he needed to provide the soldiers with a stable country and a job. But Australia had changed as a result of the war: women held down many jobs which would normally have been held by men in peacetime although were paid much less. They had developed skills during the war which served them well after, and the returned soldiers were

for the most part unskilled even for basic work. The world was in recession and machines had replaced many operations previously carried out manually.



LAND
FOR
RETURNED SOLDIERS

IT is proposed to make available certain areas for the special purpose of providing for returned soldiers. Arrangements have been made for setting apart an area of about 250,000 acres in the Wyalong-Hillston country, which will be served by new railways.

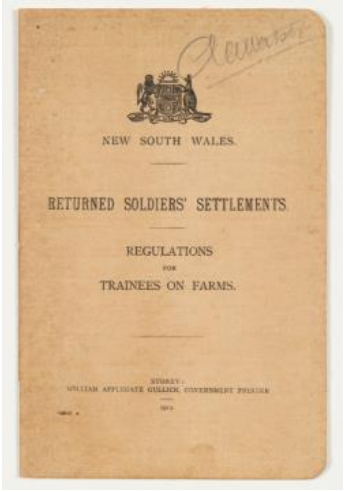
The bulk of this land is suitable for wheat growing under modern up-to-date farming conditions. Further similar areas elsewhere will also be made available. In addition, the Land Boards throughout the State will be authorised to give preference to returned soldiers in ballots for any ordinary Crown lands which may from time to time become available.

In order that the extent of this preference may be understood, I may say I anticipate that 2,000,000 acres will be made available during the financial year ending 30th June, 1916. In addition, large areas will be thrown open for selection in subsequent years. Much of this land will be suitable for wheat growing and dairying.

It is further proposed to take similar action as regards farms in the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area. A number of farms will be set apart exclusively for returned soldiers, and the Commissioner will give preference to returned soldiers in respect of other farms made available for ordinary applications.

The whole policy of the Lands Department will be governed by an anxiety to give compensating advantages wherever possible to men who risk their lives in the service of the Empire.

W. G. ASHFORD,
Minister for Lands.


NEW SOUTH WALES.

RETURNED SOLDIERS' SETTLEMENTS.

REGULATIONS
FOR
TRAINEES ON FARMS.

Even the already employed working classes objected to the preferential employment of soldiers in the workforce. The socialist movements which arose after the war were abhorrent to the soldiers who had fought to save their country and their flag.

A *"quiet life in the country"* was what post-WWI governments planned for wounded and returning soldiers, but historians generally agree that the soldier-settlement schemes were largely a failure. The program saw the creation of around 23,000 farms nation-wide across 9 million hectares. The schemes granted returned soldiers small parcels of farming land but didn't offer the hard-won peace many servicemen had hoped for.

University of New England Lecturer Dr Nathan Wise said while governments put training and job opportunities in place for returned soldiers, they set many up for failure as a result of a lack of infrastructure and the offer of small and unviable parcels of the land. *"As early as 1915 the idea was being developed that they'll try and re-settle soldiers on the land…..It was believed that after experiencing horrific warfare they could return to the land and enjoy a peaceful and rural lifestyle which would be better for their body and their mind."* At the same time there was a belief that in the post-war years there would be a need to increase

Australian production agriculturally and so these soldiers could continue to contribute to the nation economically.

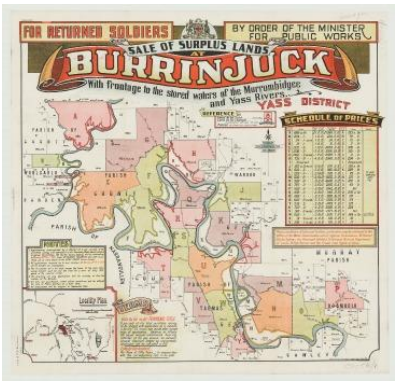
However, many soldiers were not farmers, the blocks were too small and farms were often created in areas not suited to agriculture (bad soils, steep and rocky). Wheat prices dropped soon after the war and a drought hit in 1918. It meant a life of severe poverty for the soldiers and their families who settled in those districts. Poverty, low agricultural prices and a lack of farming skills were not the only hurdles which first-time farmers were confronted. Many had lost limbs or suffered other major injuries during the war that made farming near impossible. The Western Australian government settled more than 5000 returned soldiers, many from the British Army, on farms. By 1929, just over 3500 remained on the land. Difficulties encountered by soldier settlers across Australia during the 1920s sparked a Commonwealth investigation to account for losses. In 1929 Justice Pike identified the main causes of settler failure as a lack of capital and land, settler unsuitability, and falling prices for agricultural produce.

By 1928, one-third of the soldiers gave up and returned to the city - and unemployment. The government lost £25 million.

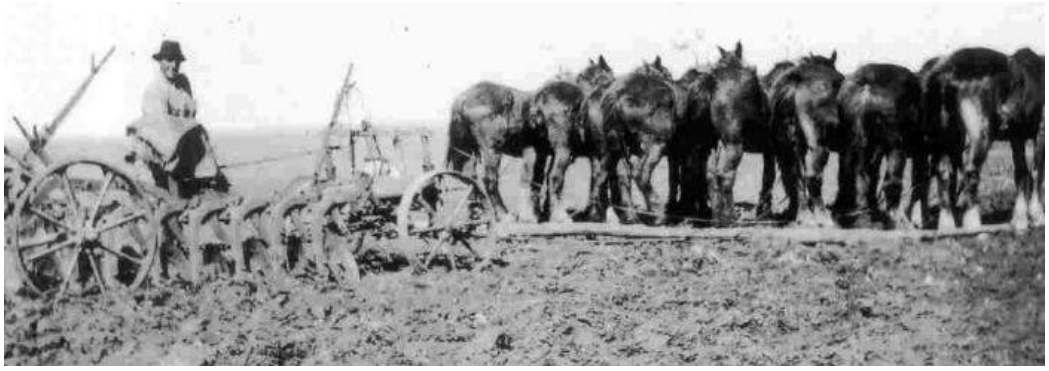
Although the settlers endeavoured to support each other, it was the onset of the Depression in 1929 that was the nail in the coffin for many. A report by the Royal Commission on Soldier Settlement as early as 1925, acknowledged major faults in the program, but struggled to find a solution that would benefit all soldiers due to the diversity of the scheme. Legislative amendments could not halt the deteriorating retention rate, and in 1926 the Royal Commission found fault with major elements of the scheme, concluding that it was doomed by too lenient qualification rules, unworkable financial obligations and undue political influence. Little practical was done after 1926 apart from shoring up the remaining settlers, but failures continued. In 1929, a survey of soldier land settlement found that in Tasmania only 777 out of 1976 settlers retained their properties – a failure rate of 61 percent, the worst in Australia. Financial losses were extremely heavy, and the Depression compounded the problems.

The rules for settlement were set down. In most cases Crown land was set apart for returning soldiers who, in order to buy or lease such a block, were required to be certified as

qualified and to remain in residence on that land for 5 years. In this way remote rural areas set aside for such settlement were guaranteed a population expansion which remained to increase infrastructure in the area.
Those eligible to apply for land were ex-service personnel including women from the Australian Army Nursing Service (AANS) with at least six months war service. Despite being legally able to take up land, there is evidence that women were not openly encouraged to do so. Applicants were required to place a tender with the Department of Lands with successful applications being decided by ballot system.
The land was available to the soldiers on affordable terms and they could also receive advances of money to make improvements to the land and purchase seeds and equipment. Soldiers who were successful in gaining such a block of land had the opportunity to start a farming life in a number of rural activities including wool, dairy, cattle, pigs, fruit, fodder and grain. These initial land allotments resulted in triumph for some and despair for others. Indeed, specifically following World War I, in some cases these new farmers, unable to cope with the climatic variances of Australia and devoid of the capital to increase stock or quality of life, simply walked off the land back to the large towns and cities from whence they had come.
The story for 1,500 of the 5,000 soldier settlers in NSW who, crippled by falling agricultural prices and the looming Great Depression, was that they surrendered their blocks. Although the scheme was ultimately deemed a failure, and widely criticised for bringing further hardship to veterans, there were a few individual stories of triumph. Often, the soldier farmers who managed to hang on to their land benefited from those who walked away, in taking up abandoned allotments and consolidating the properties into something more viable, such as Edgeroi Station near Narrabri.
During the 1920s the experience of the soldiers was mixed - many soldiers could not find good jobs and some soldiers who took up the government's offer of settlement in the country met with disappointment. The soldiers had returned to a changed society where women took new social liberties, opposition to war had appeared, and the soldiers' role in Australia was no longer clear. Ultimately, the returned soldiers became part of the Australian workforce which had difficulty securing improvements in their working conditions during this period.
The procedure of supporting such soldiers was repeated after World War II with all Australian State governments using the previous and amended forms of such acts of parliament to reinvigorate the program for a new generation of returned soldiers.
The report on land settlement by the Rural Reconstruction Commission in the early 1940's enumerated factors that led to the "*settlement disasters*" after World War I: lack of farm management skills on the part of many settlers, inadequate advisory services, excessive prices for stock and equipment, the fall in commodity prices in 1920–24, poor quality of Crown lands, over-valuation of properties, inadequate farm sizes, heavy capital debt and interest burdens, and unsatisfactory Commonwealth–State relations.
The RSL (formed originally in 1916), favoured leasehold tenure, whereas the Commission considered that freehold would provide settlers with the incentive to develop their holdings. In its second report, presented to the government in January 1944, the Commission stated



that Commonwealth involvement in soldier settlement was inevitable, due to repatriation and financial aspects. The role of the States should be to select the land and the settlers, and assist in administration, while the Commonwealth should assess production requirements in relation to market prospects and decide which plans were feasible. It proposed that there be a Commonwealth Investigating Authority, with the power of veto over State settlement plans, and a Commonwealth Financial Authority, attached to the Commonwealth Bank.
The success of the program increased after World War II when the infrastructure required for these new farmers was improved as a direct result of learning from the mistakes that came during and after the first attempts at such settlement. After World War II Soldier Settlement was also more successful aided by better policy decisions, more arable land and a booming economy that provided greater returns on rural production.
A more modest and closely managed scheme was embarked upon with more stringent qualifications. By the 1960s some 28 percent of the 551 post-Second World War settlers in Tasmania had “failed” due to poor administration and under-funding, but overall this scheme was more successful.



Ultimately, and following much debate amongst stakeholders, the War Service Land Settlement Scheme provided farms in every State to about 12,000 returned soldiers from 1949, compared with more than 37,000 who acquired farms in the years after World War I. In general, the efforts of government and its advisers to avoid the mistakes of the past were successful. By providing more comprehensive training, greater care in the selection and subdivision of land, and funding on a much larger scale, they ensured that most soldier settlers remained on the land and achieved a reasonable standard of living.
Although the failure rate was much lower, the re-establishment of this relatively small number of servicemen had been costly for governments. By 1976 the Commonwealth and State governments had written off the current equivalent of more than $500 million on the War Service Land Settlement Scheme.
Funded by the Australian Research Council, Monash University and the University of New England, a website was created in 2011 dedicated to the memory of Soldier Settlement in NSW. Although the project is currently on hold, it intends to examine the history of soldier settlement in NSW reclaiming a virtually untouched field in the State’s environmental, social, political and cultural history. It will record the forgotten stories of a generation of men and women who survived the Great War and restore history to the communities that made it.

Patsy Moppett

See www.soldiersettlement.records.nsw.gov.au

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First World War veterans faced 'ongoing battle' with farm resettlement scheme: NSW Country Hour, November 2014
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From Gallipoli to Australian farms: Soldier settler success and failure and contribution to the future of agriculture, ABC Rural April 2015
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www.guides.naa.gov.au Chapter 8: Land of Opportunity: Australia's post-war reconstruction
A Land Fit for Heroes? Australian Research Council project 2011

Hammons Holdings wins Bridge Climb

The Sydney Harbour Bridge climb will change hands for the first time, after its long-term operator, BridgeClimb Sydney, lost its bid for a new twenty year contract. Hammons Holdings Pty Ltd, the operator of Scenic World in the Blue Mountains has won the contract, as announced by Roads & Maritime Services on 15th June 2018. Thirteen expressions of interest had been received from Australian and international tenderers of the highest quality and reputation.

BridgeClimb Sydney chairman and founder Paul Cave started the business after helping to organise a bridge climb for an international business convention. Since Mr Cave's BridgeClimb began guiding people over the arch in 1998, 4 million people from more than 140 countries have climbed the Harbour Bridge.

Since then BridgeClimb has established itself as an integral part of the Sydney scene. They love the Bridge and have celebrated its key milestones with Bridge workers, descendants of chief engineer JJC Bradfield, and Sydneysiders alike.

BridgeClimb Sydney

Other companies to lose out to Hammons included Merlin Entertainments, Anytime Fitness, Dreamworld, Belgravia Leisure, and a Queensland company that operates a zip line beside Cairns' Skyrail gondola.

Hammons Holdings acknowledged the pioneering work of Paul Cave in developing the bridge into a popular tourist destination and look forward to working in partnership with the Government to build on that work.

Hammons Holdings director David Hammon said his company would expand opportunities for international, interstate and local visitors, including looking at ways to make new climbs on the bridge, and initiating ways that people might experience the history and the story of the bridge. He advised:

"Underpinning our vision for the bridge is the idea of improving accessibility for the public and bringing it to life with new technology, so that more visitors can experience this iconic landmark in a safe and sustainable way. We also see potential to link the Blue Mountains and Sydney Harbour Bridge as tourist destinations, boosting the flow of visitors from one to the other and creating economic opportunities for western Sydney and the state in the process."

Hammons Holdings P/L is a three generation family business with a long history and highly successful tourism track record in the Blue Mountains at Scenic World. They have been operating Scenic World for more than 73 years. With a strong safety record achieved in a challenging outdoor environment, Scenic World is now Australia's most-visited privately-

owned attraction, hosting more than one million visitors annually, 60% of whom are international visitors.

David & Anthea Hammon

David & Anthea with their father Phillip

Hammons Holdings is also an early-stage investor in Sydney Zoo in Western Sydney. The Sydney Harbour Bridge appointment positions the company to create a corridor of iconic visitor experiences spanning the Bridge, Sydney Zoo and Scenic World.
They have issued a statement saying:
"We are delighted to have been recently selected by the NSW government as the new operator of Sydney Harbour Bridge Tourism Activities from 1 October 2018."
The appointment marks a major step forward for Hammons Holdings and Scenic World, led by Blue Mountains-based siblings Anthea and David Hammon.
David Hammon stated:
"As third generation leaders in family business, Anthea and I have lived and breathed attractions from a young age. We've been surrounded by talented experts who have helped us to evolve the business and break new ground, and we're looking forward to continuing that journey into the future."
Scenic World managing director Anthea Hammon added:
The appointment was well aligned with Hammons Holdings' long-term vision to invest in the tourism sector and open up a corridor of iconic tourism experiences in Western Sydney, spanning the Bridge, Scenic World and Sydney Zoo in which Hammons Holdings is an early stage investor.
It's an honour to have the opportunity to showcase our skills in innovation and customer experience on a broader level, extending our efforts to showcase NSW to visitors from near and far."
Hammons Holdings emphasize that tickets to climb the bridge purchased before 1 October 2018 will remain valid for the date booked. *Patsy Moppett*

Customers can contact Hammons Holdings for more information:
Phone: 1800 955 000
www.hammonsholdings.com.au

References:
ABC News: www.abc.com.au Sydney Harbour Bridge Climb awarded to Hammon Holdings for next 20 years, 15 June 2018
Scenic World owners win rights to Sydney Harbour Bridge Tourism Activities: Blue Mountains Gazette, 15 June 2018
Wealthy business owner's hold on Harbour Bridge climb broken, Sydney Morning Herald, 15 June 2018
www.sefiani.com.au
www.bridgeclimb.com.au

Razor slashing incident at Mt. Victoria, 1932

Stephen Davis of Mt Victoria & District Historical Society has been delving into local records at Mt Victoria and provides the following account of this gruesome incident:

"Further to last month's C.A.R.A. report regarding historical titbits recorded in the museum's diary, one was dated March/April 2006. It concerned a George Whitfield claiming his father was a mounted policeman stationed at Mt. Victoria. Well, I got busy using *Trove* and found four articles naming a Constable V.O. Whitfield involved in a peculiar case in 1932. A summary of this case follows":

A couple consisting of Eric Arthur Stanton, 30/32, labourer/shearer, and Madeline Ada Bayliss, 18, housemaid, had been living as man and wife for 8 months, having been unable to marry, as neither could find employment (remember 1932 was a year of the Great Depression). The pair travelled by train from Glen Innes to Sydney without paying their fares (jumping the rattler as it was termed at the time). From Sydney they continued their journey by train to Penrith, this time paying their fares. Apparently, they slept overnight in a carriage as they were awakened by it's moving the next morning. After arrival at Mt. Victoria (the Caves Express, maybe?), the couple camped on a vacant allotment near Jersey St. in the township.

About 1.30 pm on July 13th, Constable V.O. Whitfield was called to this allotment. A quarrel had apparently broken out between the couple with Stanton accusing Bayliss of having an "improper relationship" with his (Stanton's) stepfather.

However, Constable Whitfield received another call about 9 pm of the same day to go along the Bell Road (now called Darling Causeway) to a spot three-quarters of a mile from the police station at Mt. Victoria. Constable Whitfield found the girl's face covered in blood, and Stanton was bleeding freely from incised wounds to the throat. Upon inquiring, Bayliss said that Stanton had "did his block" slashing her with a razor and then cut his own throat.

Both were taken to the Blue Mountains District Anzac Hospital, where Dr. R. W. Richards inserted 27 stitches in Bayliss's face. Subsequently the case was brought before Katoomba Police Court where Stanton was charged with maliciously wounding Madeline Ada Bayliss.

The case got mentioned in the *Sydney Truth* with the headline and opening paragraph of:

> *AWEFUL RAZOR SLASHING*
> *Man Under Arrest...*
> *The mountain township of Mount Victoria has had the serenity of its daily life rudely disturbed by an allegedly attempted murder and suicide....*

Stanton was committed for trial at Parramatta Quarter Sessions for 4th October with bail being allowed, with surety of £40 each. The defendant was informed of the Poor Prisoners Defence Act.

At the following trial there was a minor sensation, and I quote *Sydney Morning Herald's* account of the hearing:

> *HYSTERICAL GIRL CARRIED OUT OF COURT*
> *Effort to Save Man from Gaol*
>
> *There were dramatic moments with a climax of a screaming girl being carried from the court by two policemen at the Parramatta Quarters Sessions....*
>
> *Bayliss tried to retract her statements made at the previous police court as being untrue, saying to the Crown Prosecutor, Mr. Berne, 'I won't answer any more questions'. Judge Tomson responded with, 'You will answer as I direct. Do you want to be punished for contempt of court? Well, then I warn you.'*
>
> *Later, Bayliss said, 'I love him (Stanton), I want to marry him and be happy.'*
>
> *Stanton was sentenced by his honour to three years imprisonment labour (there were three previous convictions for assaulting police). At this point Bayliss threw herself on the floor and screamed, 'You won't take him to gaol, You won't! You won't!'. She continued to cry out between sobs, as two policemen picked her up and carried her outside.*

V.O. Whitfield was also mentioned in other more mundane cases such as burglaries etc., but the above account was the most colourful encountered so far involving the Constable.

Stephen Davis

References:
Katoomba Daily, 2nd August 1932, p.1, http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article190129099
Truth, Syd., NSW, 17th July 1932, p.16, http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article169141256
Lithgow Mercury, 5th October 1932, p.2, http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article219681714
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The Technical Side

The Apothecary

The Apothecary is a very early profession known by a number of names including pharmacist, chemist, Doctor of Pharmacy, druggist, or simply doctor. The general practitioner and the pharmacist share a common ancestor in the apothecary.
The term “apothecary” derives from the Greek word for a repository or storehouse and is the science and technique of preparing and dispensing drugs, linking health sciences with chemical sciences, aiming to ensure the safe and effective use of pharmaceutical drugs.
Early man learnt methods to relieve the symptoms of illness and injury through trial and error and passed this knowledge on to others. Although early man’s methods were crude, many of today's medicines spring from sources as simple and elementary as those which were within reach back then.

Babylon in ancient Mesopotamia, provides the earliest known record of the practice of the art of the pharmacist or apothecary. Practitioners of about 2600 B.C. were priest, pharmacist and physician, all in one. Medical texts on clay tablets recorded the symptoms of illness, the prescription and directions for compounding, then an invocation to the gods.
Chinese Emperor Shen Nung (about 2000 B.C.) sought out and investigated the medicinal value of several hundred herbs and is reputed to have tested many of them on himself.
Egyptian medicine dates from about 2900 B.C., with the best known and most important pharmaceutical record being the "Papyrus Ebers" (1500 B.C.), a collection of 800 prescriptions, mentioning 700 drugs.
Similarly, the ancient Greeks and Romans are recorded as being heavily involved in the treatment of illness, injury and disease, and their methods are well documented.
Galen (130-200 A.D.) practiced and taught both pharmacy and medicine in Rome, and his principles for preparing and compounding medicines ruled in the Western world for 1,500 years. His name is still associated with that class of pharmaceuticals compounded by mechanical means.
During the Middle Ages remnants of western knowledge were preserved in monasteries (fifth to twelfth centuries). The monks are known to have been taught in the cloisters as early as the seventh century, and gathered herbs in the field, or raised them in their own herb gardens. They often grew perishable medicinal crops close at hand in a courtyard so that they could make fresh preparations and extractions. These they prepared according to the art of the apothecary for the benefit of the sick and injured.

In some trades, skills and knowledge were secret, and little about them has been published. For the apothecary's trade, there were textbooks, and many survive. The pharmacopoeias were official registers describing the properties, preparation, and use of drugs and other medicines. By the nineteenth century, pharmacopoeia had replaced the herbals that had provided both medical and gardening information since the Middle Ages.

In its investigation of herbal and chemical ingredients, the work of the apothecary may be regarded as a precursor of the modern sciences of chemistry and pharmacology, prior to the formulation of scientific methods.
In addition to dispensing herbs and medicine, the apothecary offered general medical advice and a range of services that are now performed by other specialist practitioners. Apothecary shops sold ingredients and medicines they prepared to other medical practitioners, as well as dispensing them to patients. Eventually the job of medical diagnosis and medicine preparation was separated out into independent professions.
Apothecaries used their own measurement system to provide precise weighing of small quantities, and dispensed poisons as well as medicines, when, as is still the case, medicines could be either beneficial or harmful if inappropriately used. Protective methods to prevent accidental ingestion of poisons included the use of specially shaped containers for potentially poisonous substances.
Many recipes included herbs, minerals, and pieces of animals (meats, fats, skins) that were ingested, made into paste for external use, or used as aromatherapy. Trial and error were the main source or finding successful remedies, as little was known about the chemistry of why certain treatments worked.
The scope of pharmacy practice now includes more traditional roles such as compounding and dispensing medications, as well as community, hospital, clinical, ambulatory care consultant, internet, veterinary, nuclear, military and specialty. Pharmacists, therefore, just like the original apothecary or herbalist, are the experts on drug therapy and are the primary health professionals who optimize use of medication for the benefit of their patients.

Patsy Moppett

References:
A History of Pharmacy in Pictures, Washington State university, School of Pharmacy
Wikipedia: Pharmacy
Wikipedia: The Apothecary
CSIRO Australian Health Review 2009
A History of the Apothecary: The New Orleans Pharmacy Museum, GA Laufer 1997
*The Art and Mystery of the Apothecary**, by Robin Kipps,** Colonial Williamsburg Association: Journal Autumn 2006*
Encyclopaedia Britannica - Pharmacy

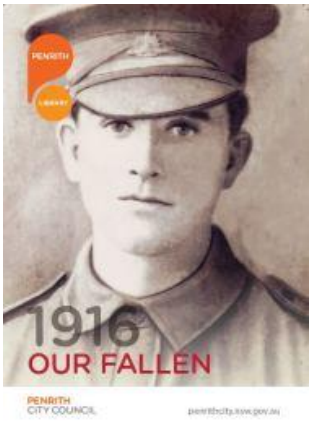
Community events & updates

Penrith City Library remembers the Great War - noble work recognised

Penrith City Library will remember the Great War in an evening of reflection to mark the end of the first World War 100 years ago. The evening will be filled with information sharing,

remembrance and storytelling. This special evening event will be their way to pay tribute to the five years of service to our country by our local men and women.
The evening will include: ·

- Talk by Steven Ford on researching a family's military history.
- Talk by Lorraine Stacker, Penrith Librarian, and the presentation of the final (1918) *Our Fallen* booklet to those present.
  Lorraine will also launch the Library's publication project *Noble work recognised: The City of Penrith remembers the Great War*. This publication will include the biographies of their fallen soldiers, the biographies of their local nurses who served in the war, selected biographies of those who returned, histories of local honor rolls and war memorials and soldier settlements.
- Talk by Dr Penny Stannard, NSW State Archives Senior Exhibitions Curator, on the *Windows into Wartime* exhibition that will be in Penrith Library from 24 October to 30 November 2018.



The event will be held on Wednesday 21 November 2018 – 6pm for 6.30pm, with supper on arrival.
This is a special evening not to be missed. Tickets ($5) went on sale from 22 October.

Lorraine Stacker

For further information contact the library on www.penrithhistory.com

Exhibition: Contemporary Gallipoli

Blue Mountains Cultural Centre 20 October – 25 November 2018
Coinciding with the 100th anniversary of the end of World War I, Blue Mountains City Art Gallery will showcase the touring exhibition *Contemporary Gallipoli*, an exhibition originally created to mark the ANZAC Centenary in April 2015, a Macquarie University Gallery Touring exhibition curated by Meredith Brice.
Contemporary Gallipoli includes a diverse array of new works created by both emerging and established artists from Canakkale, near the Gallipoli Peninsula, Turkey, and Australia, whose work unites to take the viewer on an experiential journey of remembrance, and a search for meaning beyond myth and memory.

MACQUARIE University

Community Programs: Saturday 3rd November from 11am: join artist and independent curator Meredith Brice on a multi-sensory experience of the *Contemporary Gallipoli* exhibition. This talk will be followed by a gallery performance of *Gallipoli Sensings* played by members of the Royal Australian Navy Band.

Blue Mountains Cultural Centre

Heritage Near Me – funding for earth buildings

The village of O'Connell near Bathurst has been a recent recipient of funding through the Heritage Near Me program, to go towards the conservation of O'Connell's earth building heritage.

The grant of $100,000.00 was announced by Bathurst MP Paul Toole. He advised that: *"It will implement a program of earth building conservation at a number of locations and will incorporate a training program for owners and managers and other interested industry professionals who work with earth architecture relating to these types of buildings. A heritage trail interpreting this significant aspect of local heritage will also be implemented."*

Mr Toole also said that the University of Sydney will use the buildings involved to explore the way it teaches its Masters of Heritage Conservation degree.

Two O'Connell examples of earth buildings which would come under the program are:

- Lindlegreen barn, owned by Vanessa & Brad Hargans, which has associations with the Hassall family (Rowland Hassall was appointed by Governor Macquarie as Superintendent of Government Stock in 1815; Thomas Hassall became Samuel Marsden's curate in Parramatta and in 1822 he married Marsden's eldest daughter Ann).
- A cottage owned by Gavin Christie on his property Yarrabin.

Lindlegreen barn

The unassuming Lindlegreen barn has been recognised as state significant and has been added to the State Heritage Register. It is believed to have been constructed around 1827 and demonstrates how traditional Welsh and English building techniques were utilized by colonists in rural NSW when other normal building materials, such as timber, were less unavailable.

Yarrabin cottage

The cob method of building uses a mixture of soil, clay, straw and water laid as a continuous course, trampled, then smoothed. Each course has to dry and set before the next is laid in a time-consuming but effective process. *Patsy Moppett*

Visit www.environment.nsw.gov.au/heritage-near-me for more information on the range of grant programs assisting local communities, owners and managers of heritage items.

References:
Unique O'Connell barn recognised for its significance to state: Western Advocate 6 September 2018
O'Connell receives $100,000 to protect local heritage: Bathurst City Life, 13 September 2018
The Lindlegreen barn: Dept of Environment & Heritage, 2018

Winter Magic Festival 2019

Winter Magic is the largest community event in the Blue Mountains and is a joyous celebration of creativity and community that attracts tens of thousands of people to Katoomba for a brilliant happening of art, creativity and performance. In 2019 the Festival is returning after a 12-month hiatus.

The Winter Magic Festival Association Incorporated is a not-for-profit organisation, run entirely by volunteers. Each year the Association elects a committee, which runs the Festival. The Committee, in collaboration with key stakeholders and community members, is planning for a magical 2019. There is a lot to do, and only a short time frame to do it in. They are now calling for expressions of interest from volunteers, performers, stallholders and all the other people who make the Festival happen.

Winter Magic attracts audiences and media from the entire Blue Mountains area, Sydney, the Central West, and beyond. Sponsorship means your name can reach thousands of people, both in the lead up and on the day itself. The best way to be involved in the Winter Magic Festival and to ensure its survival is to become a member of the Association.

If you would like to be a member of the Winter Magic Festival Association, or want to confirm your current membership, please email their secretary, Ian Dudley-Bestow, stating you would like to join, and he will explain how to deposit the funds necessary to secure your membership – it's the princely sum of $2! You'll get a warm glow from supporting this free event. *Winter Magic Festival Committee*

If you would like to more information about sponsoring Winter Magic 2019, please send any email enquiries to: sponsors@wintermagic.com.au

For general inquiries:
Address; PO Box 454, Katoomba NSW 2780
Phone: 0409 873 991
Secretary: admin@wintermagic.com.au

Exhibition: Dust – an exhibition about insects, collections and heritage buildings

The last artistic event of the Woodford Academy's 2018 program opened with a launch on Saturday 15 September 2018 at the Academy. It could be viewed on 20 October & will again be accessible on 17 November 2018.
The "Dust" exhibition brings together artists and museum professionals to explore the processes of collection care underway at the Blue Mountains' oldest colonial buildings, the Woodford Academy. In an Australian first, the Academy buildings will be progressively wrapped and left to "cook" over the coming summer, eradicating the infestation of insects that have taken up residence in the building and its collections.
"Dust" engages with the idea of collection care while at the same time examining the lives and activities of insects. Just like we do, insects seek the right conditions to thrive and grow; that they may nest in our precious memory-objects and spaces is of no consequence to them. Dust highlights the materiality of insect bodies, museum objects and heritage environments and gives expression to the productive and destructive forces inherent to human-insect relationships.

Flyer image credit: Ingeborg Hansen *Sketch: National Trust*
Silverfish, 2018. Screen print on paper. 56 x 76cm

Visual artists Erica Seccombe, Ingeborg Hansen, Freedom Wilson and writer, performer and all-round 'creatrix' Cat Jones join Sydney University Museum's Julie Taylor, Madeleine Snedden, Rachel Lawrence, Christopher Jones and Stuart Humphreys to present a suite of vibrant and fascinating audio and visual works that showcase the good, the bad and the ugly of the insect world. Developed by local Blue Mountains artist Jacqueline Spedding in conversation with Elizabeth Burgess from the Woodford Academy, "Dust" celebrates the work of Spedding's fellow artists and museum colleagues who have backgrounds in art and science, both professionally and creatively.
Museum Entry & Exhibition:

- Adults $6
- Concession/Child (4-16yrs) $4

- Family $15 (2 adults, 2 children)
- Guided Tours - $2/Person (4+years)

Woodford Academy: 90-92 Great Western Highway, Woodford (on street parking available on Vale Rd). Contact: woodfordacademy@gmail.com
As a volunteer managed property, all proceeds from Woodford Academy open days and events directly contributes to the conservation of the Blue Mountains oldest building

Elizabeth Burgess

Collaboration and Community

History Associate Professor Tanya Evans, Director of the Centre for Applied History at Macquarie University, would like to make contact with people who would be interested in contributing to a project of historical research focusing on the workers and families involved with mining in the Jamison Valley prior to World War I.

Tanya is particularly keen to involve local and family historians in her investigation of family and community relationships, and the lived experience of miners and their families at home and at work. All contributions will be duly acknowledged in publications arising from this project.
Tanya would be delighted to hear from anybody who would be willing to participate in this project by sharing the results of their own research in local or family history, passing on oral traditions, or providing access to photographs, diaries and family heirlooms.
Tanya and her colleague Professor Grace Karskens (U.N.S.W.), would be happy to talk further about the project at a meeting of your society.

Macquarie University

Tanya can be contacted by email at:
tanya.evans@mq.edu.au
Postal: MHPIR Arts, Level 2 The Australian Hearing Hub, 16 University Avenue, Macquarie University NSW 2109

Associate Professor Tanya Evans MRes
Director for MHIS Director, Centre for Applied History, Department of Modern History, Politics and International Relations, Macquarie University
President of the History Council of New South Wales.

The Knowledgeable Object Symposium and Training Workshop

This event will be held at the end of November 2018 over two days:

- Training workshop Tuesday 27 November.
- Symposium on Wednesday 28 November.

The symposium is a result of a Macquarie University learning and teaching strategic priorities project about connecting museum collections with curriculum. It will explore what it is that makes objects so valuable in educational and museum contexts. They will share what they have learnt but are also eager to hear from others interested in the subject.
They currently seek Expressions of Interest for oral presentations, workshops, panel discussions and poster presentations.
If you are interested, please submit an abstract (using their template) by Friday 5th October 2018. Registration for the event is free and opened in late September.
If you are interested or would like to know more, please email ahmuseum@mq.edu.au

The workshop is aimed at early career professionals and students working/ studying in education and the GLAM sector as well as teachers involved in the pilot project.
Registration (including full program details) opened in late September, and applicants will be expected to briefly explain why they wish to participate and what they expect to gain from the workshop.
There will be a selection process and to allow for hands-on and work in small groups, the workshop is limited to a maximum of 30 participants.
Registration fee: There is no fee for attending the workshop. Parking, food and drink during the day will also be provided. Participants, or their organisations, will be expected to cover any travel and accommodation costs.
When and Where: The workshop will be held on Tuesday 27th November 10am-4pm, at 10 Hadenfeld Ave, Macquarie University, NSW 2109.
If you are interested or would like to know more, please email ahmuseum@mq.edu.au
Anyone who has registered interest will be notified as soon as the program is finalised and the online registration is open.

Macquarie University

Reminder: BMACHO Workshop – Writing grant applications

BMACHO will be holding a Grant Applications workshop for members, with funding provided by the Blue Mountains City Council's Community Assistance Grant.

- When: February 2019 – details to be provided via email in November 2018.
- Where: Meeting Room at Blue Mountains Historical Society, 99 Blaxland Road, Wentworth Falls

This will be a full day workshop and morning tea and lunch will be provided. Places in the workshop will be limited, and preference for attendance will be for the BMACHO membership. However, the public will also be welcome should numbers allow.

BMACHO Committee

Attendance at the workshop is free, but please RSVP if you are attending, along with any dietary requirements. Inquiries:
Email: bmacho.heritage@gmail.com
Phone: 02 4751 5834, leaving a message if unanswered.

Changing of the guard

BMACHO would like to offer congratulations to member groups on the recent election of their new committees.
The incoming committees are comprised as follows:

Glenbrook & District Historical Society

President: Denis Bainbridge
Vice-presidents: Doug Knowles & Joan Peard
Secretary: Neil McGlashan
Treasurer: Anton von Schulenburg
Committee: Pam Thompson, Warren Page, Jan Dingwall
Librarian & Research: Bill Peard
Historian: Tim Miers
Public Officer: Kevin Frappel.

Mount Victoria & District Historical Society

Chairman: Tim K Jones
Vice President: Barbara Palmer
Secretary: Peter Lammiman
Treasurer: Jack Thompson
Committee: Stephen Davis, Jean Winston, Kay Graham, Roy Bennett.

Colo Shire Family History Group

President: Carolynne Cooper
Vice-president: Paul McDonald
Secretary: Neil Renaud
Treasurer: Joy Shepherd
Members: Wanda Deacon, Maree Windress, one vacancy.

Kurrajong Comleroy Historical Society

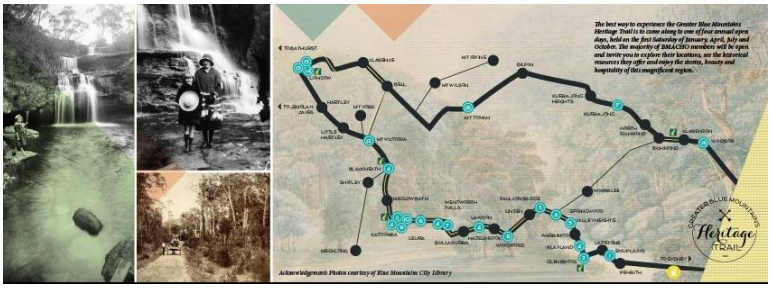
President: David Griffiths
Vice President: Steve Rawling

Secretary: Marguerite Wyborn
Treasurer: Pat O'Toole
Committee: Suzanne Smith, Jennifer Griffiths, Deborah Hallam, Terry Murray

Patsy Moppett

Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail Update

Westpac
Australia's First Bank



BMACHO continues to promote the Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail and members' upcoming events. BMACHO reprinted the Heritage Trail brochure in 2017 which was distributed to visitors' centres across the region.

Heritage with Altitude!!

The Trail is an ideal activity for the kids and grandkids, be it in the school holidays or any weekend! Collect the Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail brochure at participating venues and Visitor Information Centres.

BMACHO is planning a review of the operation of the Trail brochure over the coming months, with a view to the issue of the next brochure in 2019. Once again, your feedback will be most welcome!

If you are a member and you would like further information, or if you would like to become a member, please email the BMACHO Secretary at committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au
For general information about BMACHO and the Trail, see heritagedrive.com.au or www.facebook.com/GBMHeritageTrail
To find out more about BMACHO visit www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au

Merry Christmas and a happy & safe New Year to all!

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

Registered office: 1/19 Stypandra Place, Springwood 2777. (02) 4751 5834
Email: committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au or j.koperberg@bigpond.com
Website: www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au **ABN**: 53 994 839 952

The organisation: Blue Mountains Association of Cultural & Heritage Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 after local historical and heritage societies and individuals recognised the need for the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the local government area (LGA) of Blue Mountains City Council. The constituency now embraces but is not limited to, the LGAs of Blue Mountains, Lithgow, Hawkesbury and Penrith. BMACHO membership includes historical and heritage groups, museums, commercial enterprises with an historical or heritage component in its core business, local government (local studies units, library collections) and a limited number of individual members by invitation such as but not necessarily academics. The objectives of the organisation are:

1. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage
2. To encourage and assist cultural heritage
3. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations.

One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

Affiliations: BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society.

Publications: BMACHO's official newsletter ***Heritage*** is edited by Patsy Moppett. The annual refereed *Blue Mountains History Journal* is edited by Dr Peter Rickwood and occasional papers are published from time to time.

Membership: The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mt Tomah; Blue Mountains City Library; Blue Mountains Cultural Heritage Centre; Blue Mountain Education & Research Trust; Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc; Blue Mountains Historical Society; Bygone Beautys Treasured Teapot Museum and Tearooms; City of Lithgow Mining Museum Inc; Colo Shire Family History Group; Eskbank Rail Heritage Centre; Everglades Historic House & Gardens; Friends of the Paragon Inc; Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc; Hartley District Progress Association; Hawkesbury Historical Society Inc; Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc; Leuralla NSW Toy & Railway Museum; Lithgow & District Family History Society Inc; Lithgow – Eskbank House Museum and Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies; Mt Victoria & District Historical Society Inc; Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine Historical Society Inc (including Turkish Bath Museum); National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Blue Mountains Branch; National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Lithgow Branch; Nepean District Historical Society Inc; Norman Lindsay Gallery and Museum; Scenic World Blue Mountains

Limited; Springwood Historical Society Inc; Transport Signal Communication Museum Inc; Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Heritage Museum, Woodford Academy Management Committee, Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd. The following are individual members: Wendy Blaxland, Fiona Burn, Ray Christison, Dr Wayne Hanley, Associate Professor Ian Jack, Ian Milliss, Patsy Moppett, Keith Painter, Philip Hammon and Dr Peter Rickwood.

Committee: The management committee for 2018-2019 (from March 2018) is: Patsy Moppett (President and ***Heritage*** Newsletter Editor), Ian Jack (Vice President), Fiona Burn (Secretary), Philip Hammon (Treasurer), Dick Morony (Public Officer/Membership Secretary/ Calendar Editor), Suzanne Smith (Events and Venue Co-ordinator), Jan Koperberg (Correspondence Secretary), Summar Hipworth, Rae Clapshaw and Roy Bennett.
Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail sub-committee: Fiona Burn, Jan Koperberg, Rae Clapshaw and Suzanne Smith, with guest member Gay Hendrikson.
Blue Mountains History Conference 2018 sub-committee: Summar Hipworth, Ian Jack, Jan Koperberg and Patsy Moppett.

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Heritage

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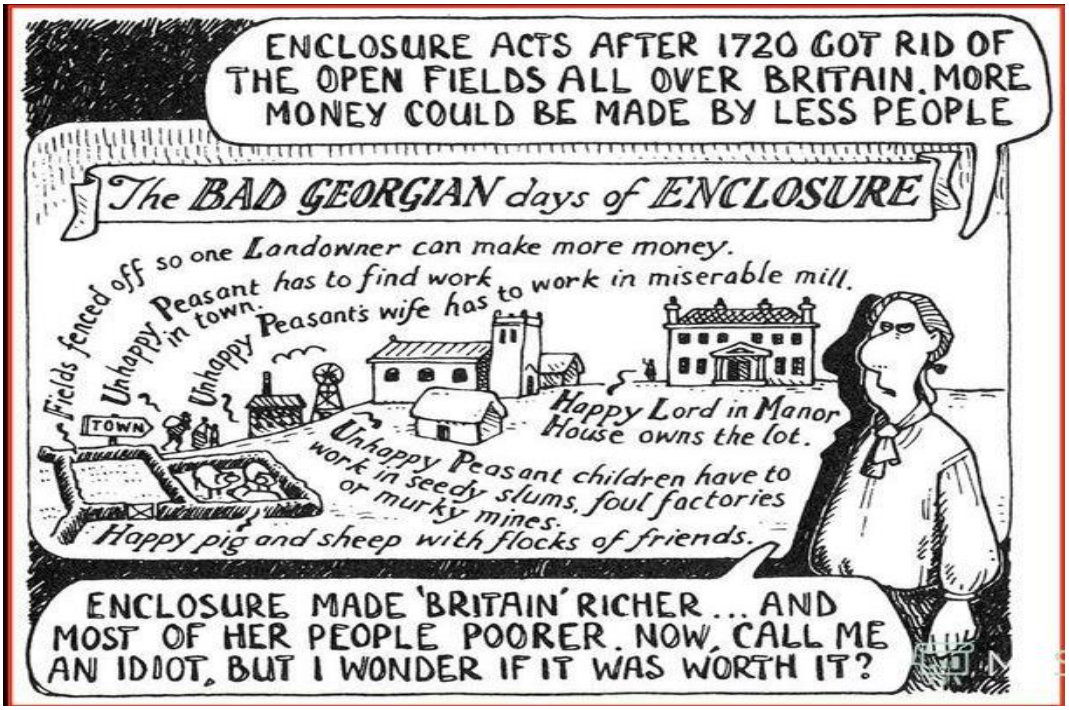
The Rebecca Riots

In the early 1700s, the industrial revolution in England resulted in, amongst other things, the significant "enclosure" movement. Enclosure (sometimes inclosure) was the legal process in England of consolidating or enclosing small landholdings into larger farms for the stated purpose of making them more productive. Once enclosed, use of the land became restricted to the owner, and it ceased to be common land for communal use.

Enclosures were regulated by Parliament and a separate Act of Enclosure was required for each village that wished to enclose its land. In 1801, Parliament passed a general Enclosure Act, which enabled any village, where three-quarters of the landowners agreed, to enclose its land.



However, the Enclosure Acts removed the prior rights of local people to utilise rural land they had often used for generations. Wealthy farmers bought land from small farmers, then benefited from economies of scale in farming huge tracts of land, at the same time paying low wages to tenant farmers and increasing taxes and other charges.

By the 1830s and 1840s the rural communities of England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales were in extreme poverty. In 1837 and 1838 the whole area suffered from poor harvests,

being worse in the south west, where atrocious seasons of rain forced farmers to buy corn at famine prices to feed themselves, their animals and their families, which further eroded what little capital they had. Farmers were faced with a drastic reduction in their income but had no financial relief in similar reductions in their expenses, mainly rents, tithes, county rates, poor rates and the turnpike tolls. Farm rents stayed mainly static, but the tithes, tolls and poor rates increased.

With the potato famine of 1843 massive numbers left the land if they could afford to and emigrated to other countries such as Australia or moved to the cities seeking work in the new industrial climate. Those who remained were trapped under oppressive landlords, and in dire straits. The coming of the railways made it easier to leave, but despite the migrations and emigrations, populations increased and it became harder to earn a decent livelihood. Churches were demanding tithes, and over their heads was also the position that if you did not have enough money to support yourself you had to go into one of the new workhouses where conditions were worse than for the worst paid labourer outside.

Seeing themselves as victims of tyranny and oppression some farmers and their workers took the law into their own hands to rid themselves of these unjust taxes. The first institutions to be attacked were the hated toll-gates.

In Wales one response to this tyranny was the Rebecca Riots. These took place between 1839 and 1843 in South and Mid Wales and were a series of protests by farmers and agricultural workers in response to perceived unfair taxation. The rioters, often men dressed as women, took their actions against toll-gates, as they were tangible representations of high taxes and tolls.

In the early 19th century many toll gates on the roads in Wales were operated by trusts comprised of wealthy landowners which were supposed to maintain and improve the roads, funding this from tolls. These men decided how much to charge and how many toll gates were to be built. However, many trusts charged extortionate tolls and diverted the money raised to other uses.

TABLE of TOLLS.

For every time they pass over this BRIDGE.

	s	d
For every Coach, Landau, Hearse, Chaise, Chair, or such like Carriages drawn by Six Horses, Mares, Geldings, or Mules	2	0
Ditto by Four Ditto	1	6
Ditto by Two Ditto	1	0
Ditto by One Ditto	0	6
For every Horse, Mule, Ass, pair of Oxen, Drawing or Harnessed to draw any Waggon, Cart, or such like carriage, for each Horse &	0	3
For a Horse, Mule, or Ass, laden or unladen and not drawing	0	3
For a Horse, Mule, or Ass carrying double	0	2
For an Ox, Cow, or neat cattle	0	1
For a Calf, Pig, Sheep, or lamb	0	0½
For every Horse, Mule Ass, or carriage going on the roads and not over the Bridge, half the said tolls.		
For every Foot passenger going over the Bridge	0	0½

N.B. This Bridge being private property every Officer or Soldier, whether on duty or not, is liable to pay toll for passing over as well as any Luggage waggon, Post coaches the Royal Family.

The farming community had suffered badly through poor harvests in the years preceding the protests, and tolls were one of the biggest expenses a local farmer faced. The charges levied to do even the simplest of things, such as taking animals and crops to market and bringing fertilisers back for the fields, threatened their livelihood and very existence.

In the late 1830s, a group of English toll-renters took over the region's trusts. The main issue was the exacting method of the toll collection and the big toll increases of side-bars. The side-bars were simple toll gates, away from the main trunk roads, placed strategically on by-roads to catch any traffic that had tried to bypass the main toll booths via side lanes. These side-bars particularly increased the cost dramatically of farmers carting lime to their fields which was needed as fertilizer or to counteract acidity in soil.

In 1839 a new tollgate at Efailwen was destroyed, an obvious target as it was situated on the road used by those carrying lime back from the coast. The Whitland Turnpike Trust rebuilt the gate, only for it to be destroyed again later in the year.

Thomas Rees was the first “Rebecca” and it was he who destroyed the tollgates at Yr Efail Wen in Carmarthenshire. Sometimes Rebecca would appear as an old blind woman who would stop at a toll-gate and say, “*My children, something is in my way*”, at which her “daughters” would appear and tear down the gates. As soon as the authorities replaced them, Rebecca and her daughters would return and tear them down again.
Early appearances of Rebecca were sporadic isolated outbursts, with the main rioting not beginning until the winter of 1842. The riots were mainly confined to the counties of Pembrokeshire, Cardiganshire and Carmarthenshire. Although these early uprisings were few and uncommon, they were the first appearance of mobs dressed in the guise of the daughters of Rebecca, dressed in women’s clothing and with their faces blackened.
The name “Rebecca” was said to be that of the mythical leader and her helpers and followers (daughters). The origin is said to be a verse in the Bible, Genesis 24:60 – *“And they blessed Rebekah and said unto her, Thou art our sister, be thou the mother of thousands of millions, and let thy seed possess the gate of those which hate them”.*

Another interpretation was that the clothes were borrowed from a local woman called Rebecca living at the foot of the Preseli Hills. The story says that this woman was an old maid and her clothes were borrowed because she was the only woman tall enough and large enough in the village whose clothing would fit men.
At first a small number of uprisings occurred, where the Rebeccas seized and destroyed some toll gates. A historic horn was used to gather the Rebeccas to meetings. It was not for another three years that further rioting occurred. In particular the side bars were targeted, and the rioters often brought up other general economic conditions with issues such as land rents. In 1843 a group of about 2,000 attacked one of the work houses. Troops were called in as riots became more violent.
Mass meetings were held to raise grievances like tithes, rents, the poor law and many other issues. There was also an attack on the workhouse in Carmarthen in 1843 and other violent actions when shots were fired. The riots caused at least one fatality. In 1843 in the village of Hendy, a young woman and gate keeper named Sarah Williams died. She had been warned beforehand that the rioters were on their way but refused to leave. On the night of her death she could be heard by a family living up the road, who had locked their doors from the rioters, shouting "*I know who you are*". Williams called for help at the house of John Thomas, a labourer, to extinguish a fire at the toll gate, but when she returned to the toll house, a shot was heard. Williams returned to the house of John Thomas and collapsed at the threshold of the house where she died.
From August 1843, local and open protest meetings were taking the place of riots, partly due to the farmers scaling back on violent activity, and also due to the increasing presence of troop. Another major factor that saw the riots reduce were the activities of a group of petty criminals masquerading as Rebecca.
In 1844 the Turnpikes, South Wales Act, to consolidate and amend the laws relating to turnpike trusts in Wales, was passed. Some rent reductions were achieved, the toll rates

were improved, destroyed toll-houses were rebuilt, and the protests prompted several reforms, including a Royal Commission into the question of toll roads.
Some rioters were caught and sentenced to transportation, and social conditions changed over the next decade. Improvements in the laws and the use of the railway eased many of the transport problems in west Wales. People could move more easily to find work and obtain provisions, and this helped reduce pressure in rural areas for jobs. The ending of the Corn Laws in 1846 and attempts in 1847 to make the Poor Law less cruel, also helped.

2014 re-enactment

Aberystwyth Southgate Tollhouse

The much hated tollgates then all but disappeared from the roads of South Wales for over 100 years, until they were reintroduced in 1966 to collect tolls for crossing the Severn Road Bridge, although this time it could be considered as a tax on the English for the privilege of crossing the border into Wales, as there is no charge in the other direction for the Welsh crossing into England!

Patsy Moppett

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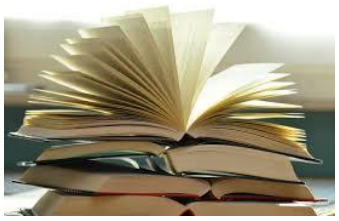
Food for thought ..... Editor's note

We commence the New Year with a riot! And go on to look at beautiful gardens in both public and private hands, and another riot (of colour) in stained glass over the centuries. We look at awards and funding, anniversaries and commemorations, a book launch and an exhibition, festivals and workshops. What an exciting heritage we have in this region!
And whilst we acknowledge the passing of a former member of the Richmond community in Ron Rozzoli, we welcome in new committees in other areas for 2019.
The new year promises to see the moving forward of the Zig Zag project at Lithgow, the celebration of Moyne Farm and its place in Hartley history, and more networking and workshopping on a number of fronts.
There is always something to see and do, and so many opportunities to broaden our horizons on the heritage world, all information being readily available on the internet. The internet plays a significant part in our heritage education and research, but never forget the ubiquitous BOOK!

Even when reading is impossible, the presence of books acquired produces such an ecstasy that the buying of more books than one can read is nothing less than the soul reaching towards infinity ….. we cherish books even if unread, their mere presence exudes comfort, their ready access reassurance.

A Edward Newton (1848-1940): American author, publisher, and avid book collector



Never a wiser word spoken!
So, put the feet up, take in this Newsletter, and reach for a book off the shelf to get you through the rest of the festive season and the summer heat!

Patsy Moppett

Milton Park & Retford Park, Bowral

Milton Park

The NSW government has recently advised that the Executive Director of the Heritage Division, as delegate of the Heritage Council of NSW resolved, on 16 June 2018, to give notice of the intention to consider listing Milton Park, Bowral, on the State Heritage Register in acknowledgement of its heritage significance to the people of New South Wales. This advice is in accordance with section 33(1)(a) of the Heritage Act 1977 (NSW). Any members of the community, owners, managers, organisations or other interested parties were invited to make a written submission regarding the proposed listing and significance of Milton Park by 7 August 2018.
Milton Park is an outstanding example of a hill station property in the Southern Highlands of New South Wales. The layout and remaining components of the former larger estate, including the homestead, gardens, extensive plantings of windbreaks and collection of outbuildings, form a cultural landscape of high aesthetic value. The gardens are significant in their own right, for their visual and stylistic characteristics. The house, cottages and stables

Milton Park house and gardens

were commenced construction by Anthony Hordern (1889-1970) from 1911, and the gardens originally established were greatly enhanced by Mary Hordern in the 1930's. The original architects were Morrow & De Putron, and new accommodation wings, designed by the architectural firm Phillip Cox and Partners, were added in the 1980's.
Milton Park is associated with Anthony (Tony) Hordern, a fourth-generation member of the Sydney retailing dynasty who founded the famous Anthony Hordern's stores. The gardens are part of the group of celebrated gardens created by the Hordern family, around their residences, in Sydney and the Southern Highlands. Milton Park was named after the town of Milton on the south coast which was founded by Hordern's maternal grandfather, John Booth.
The collection of early outbuildings and structures is significant in illustrating the development of the estate as a pastoral property and together with nearby Retford Park, is associated with the Hordern family's involvement with Royal Agricultural Show. The place is also significant for its association with the King Ranch company and development of the Santa Gertrudis cattle breed in Australia.
From 1960-1976 Milton Park was owned by King Ranch (Aust) P/L, although Peter Baillieu and his wife Edwina, a daughter of the Horderns, lived there from 1977 until 1984. In 1984 the property was sold and the then new owners, Drs Ron White and John Cooper initiated a program to establish the house as the centre of a country house hotel resort.

Estate plans held at Retford Park

Retford Park

BMACHO readers will recall the BMACHO article on Retford Park, Newsletter issue No. 57, July-August 2018.
Retford Park is also a historically significant property, erected in 1887 by Samuel Hordern (1849-1909) merchant and stockbreeder, and his wife Jane, nee Booth.
The property's European history extends back to grants of land promised to Edward Riley senior by Governor Macquarie in 1821. (The Riley family and their custodianship of land in the Wingecarribee district are separate a story in themselves). Originally known as Bloomfield (sometimes referred to as Broomfield), the property was subdivided by the Rileys

in 1880 and the first Samuel Hordern (second son of the abovementioned Anthony Hordern of Milton Park), co-proprietor of Anthony Hordern and Sons and one of the largest retail firms in Sydney at the time, bought 760 acres which he named Retford Park, a name linked to the home of his grandmother at Retford, Nottingham. That place was also utilised in the naming of Retford Hall at Darling Point, which had been built by his father, Anthony.
The grand rendered brick Italianate style residence at Retford Park was designed by architect Albert Bond and is set on a low rise. The eastern wing, added in 1907, was designed by the architects Morrow and De Putron.

Retford Park mansion and outbuildings

Together with his brother Anthony, Samuel Hordern established the significant Hordern empire, which included commercial and agricultural enterprises. After Samuel's death in 1909 the property was transferred to Samuel Hordern 2nd, Anthony Hordern and John Booth. In 1935 Samuel Hordern, the younger, became a joint owner, a tenant in common with the other three owners. In 1940 Anthony Hordern, the younger, also became a joint tenant of the property.
The property stayed in the Hordern family's hands until at least 1953 when it was sold to business associates, stockbroker Lennox Bode of Hordern, Utz and Bode and Stanley Walton. The family continued to live there and almost certainly retained a financial interest through company associations. Bode and Walton almost immediately transferred the holding to Kamilaroi Pty Ltd, later known as Gibraltar Pty Ltd.
In 1960 Sam Hordern died suddenly after a car accident, an event which lead to the departure of the Hordern family. The large garden had been developed by Lady Hordern, wife of Sir Samuel Hordern, in the 1930's.
In November 1963 King Ranch (Australia) Pty. Ltd., put the homestead portion of Retford Park up for auction, seeing it as surplus to their needs. The property consisted of the mansion, manager's residence, eight cottages, two horse stables, an enclosed round house, seven cattle stores with numerous adjoining yards. The considerable number of outbuildings and farm infrastructure have been retained and were structurally sound.
As it did not sell immediately, King Ranch undertook a subdivision, and Lot 2 of the subdivision was purchased by James Oswald Fairfax, of the newspaper publishing family, in November 1964. James Fairfax then started to turn it from an agricultural property to a gentleman's residence. James Fairfax, who had direct associations with the Fairfax publishing family business which was a major force in Australian publishing, was also recognised as an informed and active collector of art works of all kinds and Retford Park houses a considerable portion of his notable collection.
The building was remodelled in 1966 by English gardener, John Codrington, and a swimming pool and pavilion were added in 1969.
Fairfax then continued to enhance the buildings and their surrounds, including a complete repainting of the exterior of the mansion in 1994. Fairfax was a renowned collector with exceptional taste and the wealth to indulge his passion. Of significance at Retford Park is his collection which contains examples of antique furniture, glass, silver, porcelain, sculpture, bronze busts by Rodin and Epstein and a collection of contemporary Australian paintings. Initially Fairfax used the house on weekends and to entertain friends and business

Retford Park gardens

associates, and it eventually became his home and primary residence in the mid -1990s. The archives at Retford Park reveal that many well-known visitors have visited the place including Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowden of Great Britain, Princess Margaret of Hesse and the Rhine, and numerous artists, friends and associates from the business and art world. State and National Governors and current and former prime ministers have also been guests.

James Fairfax AC always believed that Retford Park should be preserved for the enjoyment and benefit of future generations, particularly those of the local district. In 2016 and in fulfilment of his ambition, Mr. Fairfax gifted his historic Retford Park home to the National Trust of Australia (NSW). It was in August 2017 that the National Trust officially took control of the property.

In recent years Fairfax was unable to travel having suffered a series of heart attacks. He passed away in January 2017. Fairfax Media CEO Greg Hywood stated "*His generous spirit and philanthropy has created a legacy that will continue to enrich the lives of Australians for many generations to come*."

Fairfax will be remembered as one of Australia's greatest patrons of the arts.

Patsy Moppett

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Blackheath Soldiers Memorial Park Master Plan

Blackheath Soldiers Memorial Park is located within the township of Blackheath in Blue Mountains NSW, approximately 115km west of Sydney. The Park is located approximately 500m from Blackheath shops on the northern side of the railway line, and is valued for its cultural heritage, social significance and abundant recreation opportunities.

Local indigenous people of the Darug tribal group are believed to have used this area as a camp site prior to European settlement, due to its reliable water supply and abundant wildlife. These natural water bodies were later used as dams collecting water for the railway and for the golf course between 1909 and 1914.

Undated

1957

1963

The Blackheath Park reserve was dedicated in 1888, and South Park in 1895. In 1919 following WWI the Memorial Park project began. James Dawes, superintendent of Centennial Park, came to Blackheath and carried out the initial planning of the area. The final layout of the park occurred under Blue Mountains Council Engineer, Mr. H.L. Swindlehurst, local nurseryman Mr. Kerslake, James Dawes and the Council Alderman. Blackheath volunteers who had enlisted were commemorated by the construction of pathways and the planting of rhododendrons, and the pool started construction in 1925. The pools and a duck pond were developed on top of the former railway dams which dated to 1883. Dressing pavilions and the entry area were erected in 1930, and the official opening was in 1931.

The memorial gates were constructed about the same time and reflect the consolidation of the whole reserve into what we know as the gardens today.

The unique play equipment was constructed in the 1960s and 1970s. Due to safety concerns these were removed for a time but are now reinstated.

Any master planning process for reserve management helps Blue Mountains City Council to prioritise projects that enhance the function, character and appearance of the park progressively as funding becomes available. In other words, the master plan will act like a “blueprint” for the park and will help guide Council's design and spending priorities into the future.

Amenities & pathways

Pool and pavilions

Wishing well

Community consultation is the first stage of the master plan process and is to simply gather ideas, opinions and suggestions. Once this stage of community consultation closes, designers will create an initial master plan proposal. There will be further consultation on the initial draft plan. Feedback will inform development of a final draft plan which will then be presented to the Council to be placed on public exhibition.

Playground

Shelter pavilion

Memorial Gates

The public exhibition stage allows for further rounds of community engagement with the project, with members of the public able to make submissions. These submissions will then be considered by Council and the necessary amendments made before final adoption. Council already has an adopted Plan of Management 2009 for the Park, which will continue to guide how the values and permitted uses of the park area are maintained and managed. To date the consultation process has been as follows:

- 10 October 2018 - Opening of Master Plan Community Ideas Consultation on BM Have Your Say.
- 25 October 2018 - Close of Tender for Hydrology Study of Blackheath Soldiers Memorial Park.
- 23 November 2018 - Close of Master Plan Community Ideas Consultation - BM Have Your Say.
- 6 December 2018 - A workshop was held to gather community feedback.

Contributions to this consultation are now closed for evaluation and review, and the Project team will report back on key outcomes, which will be documented at *haveyoursay*. This may include a summary of all contributions collected as well as recommendations for future action.

Council has now produced a set of Change Guidelines to examine ideas and options for the Park which were considered at the December workshop. Initially, matters such as accessibility, heritage and infrastructure, trees and water were identified. The project will be carried out in three phases:

1. Establish a set of Change Guidelines.
2. Undertake community consultation.
3. Prepare a heritage impact statement.

Initial works may include adaptation to the existing pools and the pool pavilion, upgrading of the existing play equipment and facilities, wheel chair access, succession planting and changes to existing creek lines.

Certain relevant legislation will be considered including local government LEPs and DCPs, bushfire, environmental, heritage, the Disability Discrimination Act 1992, the Crown Lands Act 1989 and the Crown Lands Management Act 2016.

The Change Guidelines identified a number of actions:

1. Timing, maintenance and budget for the works.
2. Doing as much as necessary but as little as possible, to protect the integrity of the Park's heritage and landscape value.
3. Undertake a Landscape Management Plan, incorporating a succession planting regime.
4. Undertake an Interpretation Strategy, incorporating signage.
5. Services and security upgrades and compliances.
6. Accessibility, pathways, pools and equipment.
7. Examination of drainage and water movement through the site in terms of obsolete infrastructure and affected creeklines.
8. Archival recording of the existing Park and any proposed works.

Other matters which may be examined under the Guidelines include:

- The path from the upper car park to the top of Gallipoli Steps is in need of upgrade particularly for mothers taking toddlers down to the pool.
- The recorded list of 77 men who served in WWI actually contains only 73 names, but trees were planted and had name plates for 76 men. This requires rectification.
- Examination and assessment of the play equipment for safety and stability. The metal features require repainting.

Further workshops are proposed as part of the consultation process, and BMACHO will attempt to provide updates as they come to hand.

Patsy Moppett

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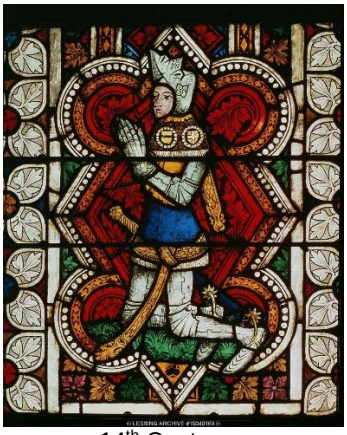
The Technical Side
Stained glass

Stained glass is simply the use of glass that has been coloured, by adding metallic salts during its manufacture. It has traditionally been used in churches and other significant religious buildings during its history, and more recently in commercial and residential buildings. Stained glass inspired the lives of the faithful through religious narratives in churches and cloisters, celebrated family and political ties in other public buildings, and even decorated the windows of private houses.

We take windows for granted, but there was a time when glass panes were too expensive for most people, and only in the late 1400s did glass panels become wider-spread, so that middle class and wealthy people could have them in their homes.

Stained glass has been produced since ancient times. Both the Egyptians and the Romans excelled at the manufacture of small colored glass objects. Phoenicia was also important in glass manufacture.

13th Century

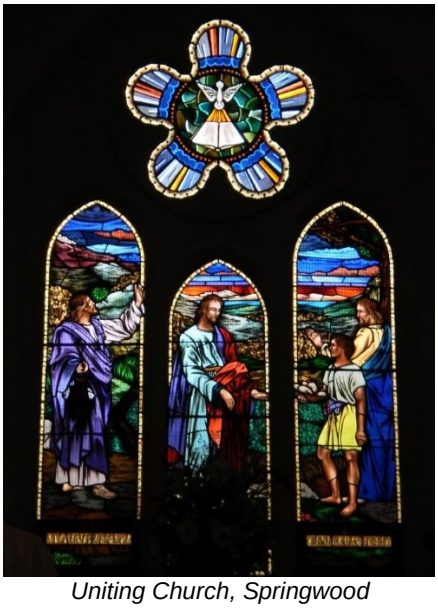

14th Century

17th Century

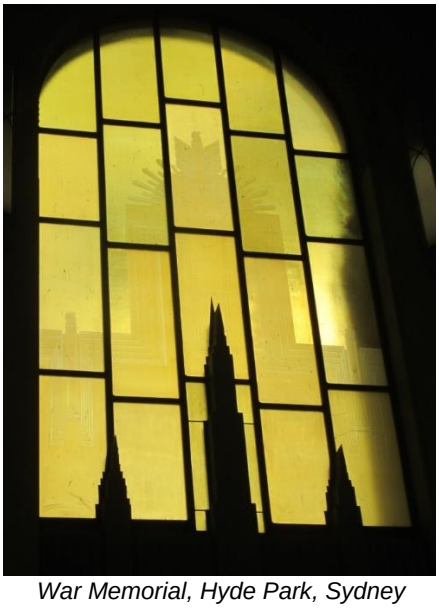
In early Christian churches of the 4th and 5th centuries, there are many remaining windows which are filled with ornate patterns of thinly-sliced alabaster set into wooden frames, giving a stained-glass like effect. Evidence of stained glass windows in churches and monasteries in Britain can be found as early as the 7th century, with the earliest known reference dates being from 675 AD. Hundreds of pieces of coloured glass and lead, dating back to the late 7th century, have been discovered on various sites. Stained glass, as an art form, reached its height in the Middle Ages.

The making of stained-glass windows has hardly changed since the 12th century. The first significant developments in the glass painter's craft appear to have been made in the early years of the 14th century. By the late 1400s glass became more affordable, and houses were increasingly fitted with clear glass windows, sometimes inset with small stained-glass panels. Glass in a range of previously unavailable secondary colours - smoky ambers, moss greens, and violet - became generally available for the first time. At the end of the 15th century a whole new range of vitreous enamels was developed, and by the middle of the 16th century the technique of painting in enamel colours on glass began to be of major importance.

In the Middle East, the glass industry of Syria continued during the Islamic period, the most important products being highly transparent colourless glass and gilded glass, rather than coloured glass. The production of coloured glass in Southwest Asia existed by the 8th century, at which time one alchemist gave some 46 recipes for producing coloured glass and described the technique of cutting glass into artificial gemstones.
Where stained glass was produced in Europe, the style evolving from the Gothic to the Classical, which is now well represented in Germany, Belgium and the Netherlands, despite the rise of Protestantism. In France, much glass of this period was produced at the Limoges factory, and in Italy at Murano, where stained glass and faceted lead crystal are often coupled together in the same window. The French Revolution however brought about the neglect or destruction of many windows in France.
Similarly, under the Reformation in England under Henry VIII, large numbers of medieval and Renaissance windows were smashed and replaced with plain glass. Few remain undamaged. With later waves of destruction, the traditional methods of working with stained glass died away and were not revived in England until the early 19th century.
Political disturbances in the mid-17th century created a scarcity of coloured glass throughout Europe, and gradually the traditional use of coloured glass was replaced by new techniques.
The Catholic revival in England in the early 19th century with its renewed interest in the medieval church, brought a revival of church building in the Gothic style, with the architectural movement led by Augustus Pugin. Many new churches were erected in large towns and many old churches were restored. This brought about a great demand for the revival of the art of stained glass window making.

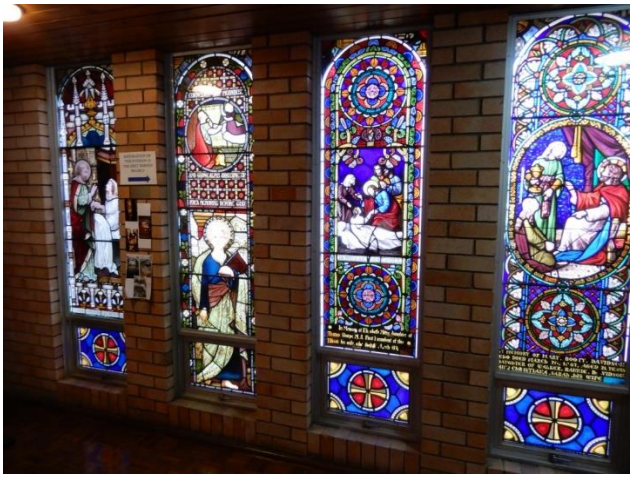


Uniting Church, Springwood



War Memorial, Hyde Park, Sydney

"*Stained glass windows*" refer to small pieces of glass arranged to form patterns or pictures, held together (traditionally) by strips of lead and supported by a rigid frame. The art of stained glass can be traced from such earlier art forms as mosaic and enamelling. From the mosaicist came the conception of composing images out of many separate pieces of coloured glass. Painted details and other stain were often used to enhance the design. The term stained glass is also applied to windows in which the colours have been painted onto the glass and then fused to the glass in a kiln.
The craft of making stained glass usually requires the skills to create a design/ picture in the first place, and then the engineering knowhow to assemble the design into an acceptable format.
The use of stained glass prevents outsiders looking into a building but allows the occupants to still receive a degree of light, albeit in a decorative way. The window must be weather proof and self supporting to last, and many have done so since at least the Middle Ages.

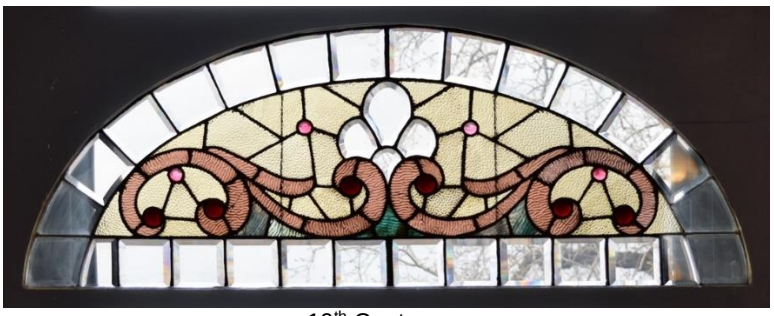


All Saints Cathedral, Bathurst

Turkish bath house, Mt Wilson

Factories were set up in medieval times to utilise silica to manufacture glass. Glass was coloured by adding metallic oxide powders or finely divided metals while it is in a molten state. Copper oxides produce green or bluish green, cobalt makes deep blue, and gold produces wine red and violet glass, manganese for purple, antimony for yellow, and iron for green. Much modern red glass is produced using copper, which is less expensive than gold and gives a brighter, more vermilion shade of red. Modern stained-glass artists now have a wide range of resources to use as well as the work of centuries of other artists to draw on as they continue the tradition.

19th Century



19th Century

A traditional narrative window has panels which relate a story. A figurative window could have rows of saints or dignitaries. Scriptural texts or mottoes are sometimes included and perhaps the names of the patrons or the person to whose memory the window is dedicated. In a window of a traditional type, it is usually left to the discretion of the designer to fill the surrounding areas with borders, floral motifs and canopies.

Details of faces, hair and hands can be painted onto the inner surface of the glass using a special glass paint which contains finely ground lead or copper filings, ground glass, gum arabic and a medium such as wine, vinegar or (traditionally) urine. The art of painting details became increasingly elaborate and reached its height in the early 20th century.

In the 16th century, a range of glass stains were introduced, most of them coloured by ground glass particles. They were a form of enamel, painted onto the glass. Once the glass is cut and painted, the pieces were assembled by slotting them into H-sectioned lead frames. All the joints were then soldered together, and the glass pieces prevented from rattling and the window made weatherproof by forcing a soft oily cement or mastic between the glass and the frames. In modern windows, copper foil is now sometimes used instead of lead.

Stained glass may be considered a technique akin to painting, but also as an art of painting with light. Whatever techniques or materials it may employ, its own most unique and

indispensable effects are always the product of colouring, refracting, obscuring, and fragmenting light.

Modern glass art

The most relevant questions to be answered upon examination and interpretation of a panel are:

- Who made the panel?
- Who or what event is it a memorial to?
- Who was the donor or patron?
- What is the relevance of any symbolism depicted?
- Are there any specific or unusual techniques utilised in the piece?
- Is there evidence of deterioration?

Select colleges and universities hold fine arts programs which teach the craft of stained glass making, and today working with stained glass is a very popular hobby.
The quality and craftsmanship of the stained glass work will vary over time dependant on the skills of the artists, the techniques available at the time and the interpretation taken on by the beholder. However, the highly skilled workmanship which goes into the making of a stained glass panel cannot be denied. *Patsy Moppett*

References:
Wikipedia: Stained glass
Stained glass: Robert Sowers, Encyclopaedia Britannica
Stained glass Australia: www.stainedglassaustralia.wordpress.com
www.khanacademy.org
www.stainedglassmuseum.com

Community events & updates

Moyne Farm, Little Hartley

National Trust 2019 Heritage Festival Premier Event

OPEN DAY: Sunday 5th May 2019

An open day will be held at Moyne Farm, Little Hartley on Sunday 5th May courtesy of the Di Falco Family and the Lithgow Branch of the National Trust. There will be a ceremony to rededicate the restored and heritage fenced 1826 graveyard and an event to celebrate the outstanding restoration of the 1820-22 homestead by its current owners, the Di Falco family. The day will include a presentation giving an insight into the detail of the house restoration and a chance to view the precious three-room Blakeley's Redgum slab cottage, that sits in the midst of the larger homestead building, the slab cottage walls having been preserved as a feature of the modernised building.

Moyne cemetery and farmhouse

Gates will open at 10am for formal proceedings to commence 11am. A detailed timetable of proceedings will be published on the Moyne Farm Open Day website at https://www.trybooking.com/ZZBH
A nominal charge of $10 per head is being levied to defray costs and cover the cost of a commemorative handout that visitors will receive on the day. Children are admitted free.

Ramsay Moodie

Enquiries to:
Celia Ravesi: Secretary, National Trust Lithgow Branch
Ph: 02 6359 3109
Email: cerave1@optusnet.com.au

Museums and Galleries of NSW - 2018 IMAGinE Awards

BMACHO would like to acknowledge and congratulate BMACHO member organisations who recently featured in the NSW Museums and Galleries 2018 IMAGinE Awards:

Mt Victoria *Hawkesbury*

CATEGORY: EXHIBITION PROJECTS – MUSEUMS
Volunteer organisations or organisations with 2 or less paid staff

Highly Commended

- **Mount Victoria & District Historical Society Museum**
  150th Anniversary of Railway in Mt Victoria Exhibition

Exploring themes beyond steam trains this exhibition uncovered a rich social history. The exhibition took the form of a photographic and multimedia display relating to the arrival of mechanised transport to the district and explored numerous themes including; the impact on Indigenous people, social history, industry, agriculture, architecture, tourism and education. Newly developed interactive elements included a touch screen display, digital projections and local oral history recordings.

CATEGORY: EXHIBITION PROJECTS – MUSEUMS
Small/medium organisations with 3 - 10 paid staff

Highly Commended

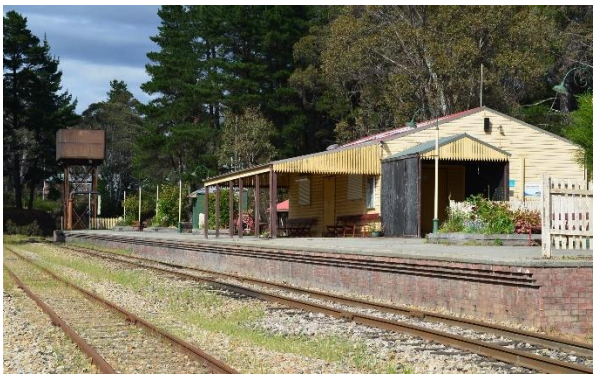
- **Hawkesbury Regional Museum**
  Food Bowl Farming: Migrants and Food Production in the Hawkesbury District 1794-1994

This exhibition traced the cultural history of food production in the Hawkesbury since 1794. It explored the lives of migrant farmers, patterns of land use and cultivation, buildings, tools and technology and the influence of cultural tradition and ethnicity on local farming. The exhibition* represented the first time an intensive research project has been undertaken to interpret and present the history of migration in the development of farming in the Hawkesbury district.

**It was noted that BMACHO member Kurrajong- Comleroy Historical Society was a partner in the Hawkesbury exhibition.*

Zig Zag Railway Restoration Funding

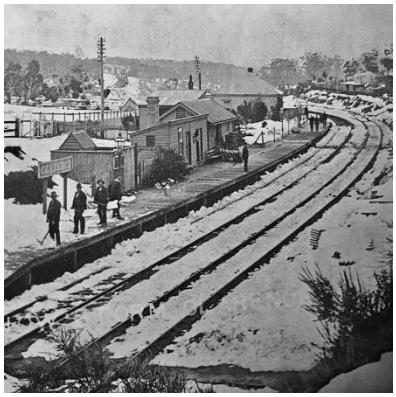
At a function on the site on 29 November 2018 the NSW Government announced a pledge of $2.3 million of NSW Government funding to restore and bolster the historic railway.



The iconic Zig Zag Railway in Lithgow will be brought back to life after many years of inactivity, vandalism and difficulties, and then the bushfires of 2013 when it was badly burned. The NSW Government has pledged $2.3 million towards restoring the much-loved tourism railway. Zig Zag Railway carriages, tracks and infrastructure suffered significant damage during the 2013 bushfire, which also destroyed 210 homes and damaged 150 others across the Blue Mountains in October 2013.

Premier Gladys Berejiklian, who was on hand for the announcement on Thursday 29th November as part of the recent NSW Cabinet's two-day tour of Bathurst and Lithgow, said the Zig Zag Railway was an important link to the state's rail history and this funding would open up the attraction to thousands of new tourists each year.

"Zig Zag was one of our state's greatest engineering feats, providing passage across the Blue Mountains and opening up regional NSW," Ms Berejiklian said. *"The redeveloped Zig Zag railway is expected to attract over 60,000 tourists to Lithgow each year. By helping restore this iconic railway, the NSW Liberals and Nationals Government is supporting jobs in Lithgow, boosting tourism across the Blue Mountains and strengthening the local economy."*



Station in 1910

The Zig Zag is a full size, narrow gauge railway located at Clarence, 10 km east of Lithgow in the Blue Mountains of NSW. Opened in 1869, the Zig Zag replaced animal-drawn carts, creating trade and commerce opportunities by reducing freight transport times from days to hours. The zig zag construction was constructed to transport people and produce from the western plains of NSW to Sydney and was replaced in 1910 by a ten tunnel deviation.
The trains, track and rollingstock have been maintained and operated by the Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd, a voluntary, "not for profit" co-operative.
The Zig Zag Railway ran tourist steam trains and rail motors between 1975 and 2012, and the co-operative is working hard to re-open the railway to passengers in late 2019.

Patsy Moppett

Zig Zag is a non-profit co-operative that relies on ticket sales and donations to keep the magic of steam alive. Your donation of $2 and above is tax deductible. Visit their website to make a donation.
www.zigzagrailway.com.au

Lawson Celebrates 90th Anniversary: Our Lady of the Nativity

The first of the celebrations took place on 9 September 2018 when students from the Our Lady of the Nativity (OLN) Catholic Primary School took part in a Mass celebrating the feast of Our Lady's birthday (September 8). The students presented a song at the conclusion of the liturgy to mark the event.
Then, on 21 October, the anniversary celebrations continued with the commemoration of the Laying of the Foundation Stone at Our Lady of the Nativity church on that day in 1928.
A Mass was followed by morning tea, a display of historical photos, and the taking of an official 90th anniversary photo of parishioners.

1928

2018

Chair of the Parish Management Team Leonard Blahut says it might be a surprise to some that the parish is holding anniversary events just 10 years out from the centenary, but it was seen as a good opportunity to galvanise the parish community and provide both opportunities for celebration and formation.
"It's always a good thing to celebrate your history and at the same time look to the future," says Leonard.

"It's a small community in Lawson and there is a kind of special bond or energy. The people are very generous, especially when it comes to appeals and that kind of thing".
The Catholics of Lawson were originally part of the Katoomba parish and started working towards having their own church in the 1890s, and in 1903 Cardinal Patrick Moran blessed and opened a small wooden building dedicated to Our Lady Help of Christians in Ridge Street, Lawson. It was later moved to the present behind the Church and served as a school and church until the present church was built.
The Foundation Stone of the new church was blessed and laid by His Eminence Cardinal Bonaventura Ceretti, Apostolic Delegate to Australia, on 21 October 1928. The completed church was blessed by Archbishop Michael Kelly on 7 April 1929 and Lawson became a separate parish with Fr Patrick Conway as the first parish priest.
More recently, the church was restored and refurbished after it was damaged by fire in May 2015.

Celebrations

Memorabilia

The 90th anniversary of the blessing of the foundation stone featured a display of photos from the big day in 1928, curated and presented by parishioner Allan Walsh.
"Over the years I've been involved in collecting some of these photos," Allan says. *"Now, they just seem to come my way. I haven't got all the history, but I've got some of it and it's good to be able to show them on these occasions."*
The celebrations at Lawson continued on Sunday 11 November when Bishop Vincent Long presided at the parish's 90th anniversary Mass.
"Back to OLN Lawson" 90th Anniversary Ball will be held on 6 April 2019 then on 7 April Mass to remember the Consecration and Blessing of the Church will be concelebrated by many of the priests who have been part of the Our Lady of the Nativity Lawson community over the years.
Parish Priest Fr Paul Slyney says the anniversary commemorations are a great opportunity for celebration in the small parish.
"It's a lovely community," he says. *"We always say that Lawson is the best-kept secret in the Diocese. People own their parish and really care for it."*

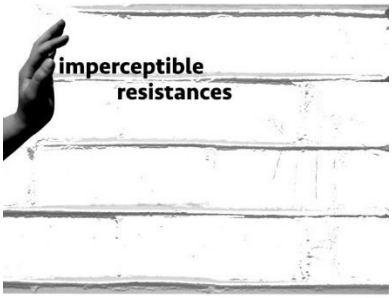
Allan Walsh

Parishioners and visitors are invited to share their stories of OLN to be published in the 90th Anniversary book. Send submissions to:

OLN Parish Office 254 Great Western Highway, Lawson 2783
Email: allan.walsh@exemail.com.au

Exhibition: Imperceptible Resistances

Modern Arts Projects Blue Mountains (MAPBM)
The pending exhibition at Everglades Historic House and Gardens 37 Everglades Avenue, Leura, is sure to catch the imagination of the wider heritage community with the thoughts it provokes.



Within the framework of contemporary politics of public space and conservation concerns, heritage sites remain places of resistance to development and change. Responding to site, contexts and wider theoretical concerns MAPBM artists explore their role in networked systems where they affect change through resistance.
This members' exhibition is curated by Lizzy Marshall.
Featured Artists: Vivienne Dadour, Frank Davey & Tess Rapa, Fiona Davies, Beata Geyer, Anne Graham, Danica Knezevic, Tom Loveday, Fleur MacDonald, Paul Mosig, Sean O'Keeffe, Naomi Oliver, Ebony Secombe, Rebecca Waterstone, Gianni Wise.

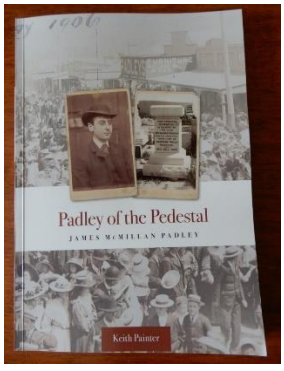
Everglades

- Exhibition Opening: Saturday 1st December 2018 2pm - 4pm
- Exhibition Details: 2nd - 23rd December Wednesday - Sunday 11am -3pm

For further information contact everglades@nationaltrust.com.au
Ph: 02 4784 1938

Book launch: Padley of the Pedestal – James McMillan Padley

This book launch was held at the Lithgow Library Learning Centre, on 19th October 2018, and was attended by a large group of family and friends of the author Keith Painter, as well as descendants of the Padley family.
It was followed the next day by a rededication of the restored Padley monument at Hassans Walls Lookout.
James Padley was one of seven children, most of whom did not marry. Some descendants of James's brother George were in attendance from Queensland, making the trip not just for the launch but also to hand over a collection of memorabilia which has been unearthed during the author's research.



James McMillan Padley was the driving force behind the Lithgow Progress Association in the early 1900s and the chief instigator of development of visitor facilities at Hassans Walls Lookout. He also had a furniture shop in Lithgow from 1902 until his death in 1918 and was renowned for being a tireless worker for the community. If there was a committee for some worthwhile activity Padley was on it! From Hassans Walls, to his Irish Terriers, to the Patriotic Committee to the Caledonian Society – Padley was there. But his reputation had

developed itself much earlier than his time at Lithgow and when he left the Windsor and Parkes communities in his previous lives, he was sorely missed in each town.
Stemming from his publication in 2017 on Hassan's Walls, Keith came to see the significance of James Padley's activities in Lithgow and seeks in this most recent book to remind the people of Lithgow of Padley's enormous role in the development of the town.
During the book launch we were introduced to the Padley descendants and told a little of the research measures undertaken by Keith to bring this most recent book together. The journey of his research experiences is a story in itself!
James Padley was often described as "indefatigable", and at the pedestal unveiling former Lithgow Mayor Stephen Lesley described Keith as the same in his search for the truth, and thanked Keith for bringing James Padley back to Lithgow. *Patsy Moppett*

The book is available at most local book stores in Bathurst, Lithgow and the Blue Mountains, and also from the author, Keith Painter:

Email: greatguides@mountainmistbooks.com

Post: Mountain Mist Books, 51 Nelson St, Raglan NSW 2795.

Saluting their Service Commemorations Program - Major Commemorative Grants

The Australian Government announced in November 2018 the commencement of the *Saluting their Service Commemorations Program* of funding. The objective of the Program is to preserve Australia's wartime heritage. It aims to involve people throughout the nation in a wide range of projects and activities that highlight the service and sacrifice of Australia's service personnel in wars, conflicts and peace operations, and to promote appreciation and understanding of the role that those who served have played in shaping the nation. Funding will be provided for state/territory or nationally significant commemorative activities which commemorate these aims.
Applications opened on 6 November 2018 and close at 2pm AEDT on 10 January 2019.
For further information about eligibility and how to apply, go to the Grant Round Application page of the Community Grants Hib website. Information about applying for this funding can also be found through GrantConnect (see below).

The following documents are available to assist your application or inquiries:

- Grant Opportunity Guidelines
- Questions and Answers
- Sponsored Organisation/Individual – Letter of Declaration Template
- Commonwealth Simple Grant Agreement Shell
- Commonwealth Grant Agreement Terms and Conditions

If you would like assistance or seek the Grant Opportunity documents, please call the Community Grants Hub Hotline on **1800 020 283** and/or contact:
support@communitygrants.gov.au
grantconnect@finance.org.au

Australian Government

Australian Heritage Festival 2019 – Connecting People, Places & the Past

The Australian Heritage Festival 2019 theme is *Connecting People, Places and the Past.* The Festival will bring to life all chapters of Australian culture and history, telling the stories of diverse and distinctive experiences that make up our communities.

Events across Australia will be held at historic buildings, landmarks, shipwrecks and sacred sites. The festival will bring together communities from all walks of life to recognise and celebrate heritage and culture through ceremony, song and dance, performance art, art in various media and artefacts, talks on books and stories, and guided tours of towns, places and spaces.

The Australian Heritage Festival is created with the vision of recognizing and celebrating the significance of our natural, historic and Indigenous heritage places and ensuring they are valued by Australians, protected for future generations and cared for by the community. The National Trust of Australia is proud to coordinate the Festival nationally, supported by funding from the Australian Government.

This year's festival will host an array of events across the nation from **18 April – 19 May 2019**.

Key dates for individuals and organisations holding events for the Festival include:

- 25 October: 2018: Registration for community events opens.
- February 2019: The Festival website goes live.
- 29 March 2019: Registration of events closes.
- 18 April 2019: Australian Heritage Festival opens.
- 19 May 2019: Australian Heritage Festival closes.
- 20 May 2019 – 20 June 2019: Evaluation of the Festival with event organisers and visitors from the community is carried out.

Download the Event Organisers' Toolkit today (*www.nationaltrust.org.au/ahf)* which outlines all you will need to complete your registration. Community events need to reflect the theme of the Festival. The National Trust will promote your event and provide support, as outlined in the Toolkit.

The National Trust of Australia look forward to welcoming Australians and international visitors to another year of the Australian Heritage Festival and the wonderful range of exhibitions, walking tours, films, expert talks, workshops, food fairs, guided tours of historical sites, ceremonies, demonstrations, special dinners and lunches this program has to offer. Let them connect you to *People, Places and the Past*.

National Trust of Australia

Vale Ronald Francis Rozzoli

In late 2018 the Hawkesbury community was saddened by the death of Ron Rozzoli, following a long and courageous fight for life. He passed away at home with his family around him, on 16th October 2018.

There was a private funeral for family and a Memorial Service was held in the Ron Rozzoli Room at the Richmond School of Arts.

Richmond School of Arts

Ronald Francis Rozzoli is remembered by his wife Margaret and family. Ron was a Life Member of the Richmond Literary Institute, School of Arts. One of the community rooms in the Deerubbin Centre at Windsor was named the Rozzoli Room in 2005 after Ron and his brother Kevin. Kevin represented the Hawkesbury electorate for 30 years.

The Rozzoli family came to the Hawkesbury in 1940. Ron's father Frank established a retail jewellery business in 1946 in Richmond. Frank Rozzoli was a member of the Horological Guild of Australia and also provided watch and clock repairs. His sons Ronald and Kevin were both State Apprenticeship winners in watchmaking. Rozzoli Jewellers were on what is now called Hawkesbury Valley Way (Windsor Road) in Richmond. Ron continued the family business from 1975 when his father died, until his retirement in 1995. He has always taken a keen interest in the local community, and was Honorary Secretary of Richmond School of Arts, from 1960 to 2003.

Ron & Margaret have been strong supportive members of the Kurrajong Comleroy Historical Society.

Patsy Moppett

Archives Appraisal and Description Workshop

This successful workshop was held at Hobby's Reach on 24th October 2018 and was well attended by about 23 people who came from all across the Blue Mountains as well as Colo and Kurrajong. The National Trust, Blue Mountains Historical Society and Charles Sturt University were also represented.

The principal presenter was Fiona Burn, former archiver researcher at the National Archives of Australia from 1983 to 2015. In retirement she works as a part time research officer, with short term contracts at the National Archives.

Fiona provided an introduction to archiving, outlining the difference between individual and organizational responsibilities, and their long-term moral and legal responsibilities. She put two questions which an archivist or an organization must ask:

- WHY do we retain these records?
- Why do WE retain these records?

The subtle difference was then explained. She indicated an excellent reference for every archivist, that being "Keeping Archives", the 2nd or 3rd Edition, and provided an extensive list of definitions relating to the topic.

Fiona then went on to discuss appraisal, providing a useful but general Appraisal Checklist, noting that the list would vary from archive to archive, providing examples of acquisition polices, and collection forms.

Fiona Burn

Professor Ian Jack

Professor Ian Jack, Senior Fellow and Archivist, St Andrew's College, University of Sydney, presented a case study on St Andrew's College.
Ian explained the arrangement of the college archives and indicated the reasoning as to how this listing worked for that particular archive.
A session was then held where actual archive material was provided by Fiona and Ian and inspected by the group, questions being posed as to archiving and handling.
Towards the close of the day, Gay Hendriksen, Museums and Galleries Advisor to Blue Mountains City Council, led a plenary session with the other two presenters where issues and queries resulting from the day were discussed.

Examining the material

Plenary session

A number of handouts were provided on the day, and the group provided vigorous discussion on the various topics, asking questions of the presenters about their own particular situations. The session also made suggestions as to topics for future workshops should the opportunity arise.
BMACHO advises that should anyone require any of the handouts, please contact BMACHO with your details and the material will be provided/emailed.
BMACHO thanked the presenters for their insights into the subject and attendees for coming along. They thanked Blue Mountains City Council for the funding opportunity to hold the workshops, and Blue Mountains Historical Society for the use of the venue. *Patsy Moppett*

BMACHO Workshop – Writing Grant Applications

BMACHO will be holding a Grant Applications workshop for members, with funding provided by the Blue Mountains City Council's Community Assistance Grant.

- When: 9.30am, Saturday 23rd February 2019.
- Where: Meeting Room at Blue Mountains Historical Society, 99 Blaxland Road, Wentworth Falls

Planning for this workshop is to be finalised, but email notification will be circulated in January 2019. Places in the workshop will be limited, and preference for attendance will be for the BMACHO membership. However, the public will also be welcome should numbers allow.

BMACHO Committee

Attendance at the workshop is free, but please RSVP if you are attending, along with any dietary requirements. Inquiries:
Email: bmacho.heritage@gmail.com
Phone: 02 4751 5834, leaving a message if unanswered.

2019 MUSE workshops:

Responding again to interests and concerns expressed during 2018 through meetings, visits, current status review and emails Gay Hendriksen, Museums Advisor to Blue Mountains City Council, will continue what she hopes will be the useful practical workshop series - *Muse.*
The free *Muse* workshop series is part of the museum advisor service provided by Blue Mountains City Council and Museums & Galleries NSW.
The series will provide tools, resources and skills development for regional museums, archives, library and gallery sector in the Blue Mountains.
To be eligible for this program you need to be a member of a regional museum, archive, library and gallery or associated organisation in the Blue Mountains region.
The sessions are limited in number so if you don't make it to the list please email Gay and she will put you on the waiting list.
The upcoming topics will include:

Workshop 1: Housekeeping - which will cover disaster planning, best practice museum administration - such as policy work (collection policies etc), volunteering rights and responsibilities.

Workshop 2: Significance Assessment, museum object cataloguing, and collection management.

Workshop dates are yet to be advised.

For further information:
Gay Hendriksen, The Rowan Tree Heritage and Cultural Services
www.therowantree.com.au

Changing of the guard

BMACHO would like to offer congratulations to member groups on the recent election of their new committees.
The incoming committees for 2018-2019 are comprised as follows:

Springwood Historical Society

President: Peter Chinn

Vice Presidents: Sue Fulton, Doug Knowles
Secretary: Dick Morony
Treasurer: Sara Matthews
Assistant Treasurer: Sue Fulton
Research Officer Peter Chinn
Assistant Research Officer: Nerida Russell.
Bulletin Editor: Dick Morony
Publicity Officer: Trish Browne

Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Heritage Museum

Chairman: Henk Luf
Secretary: Ross Stenning
Treasurer: John Carter
Publicity Manager: Keith Ward
Retail Manager: Andrew Tester
Building Restoration Manager: Dave Grove
Building Services Manager: Ted Dickson
Grounds Maintenance Manager: Stephen Corrigan
Workshop Manager: Terry Matchett
Membership Officer: Jeff Russell
Large Exhibits Manager: Bruce Coxon
Small Exhibits Curator: Mike Pensini
Model Railway Manager: Ray Beharrell
Perway Manager: Ted Dickson
Honorary Historian: Ted Dickson
Honorary Librarian: Andrew Tester
Planning & Development Manager: Vacant (new position)
Patrons: Mark Greenhill, Susan Templeman, Trish Doyle, Neil Cramm

Woodford Academy:

Chairperson: Elizabeth Burgess
Deputy Chair: Felicity Anderson
Secretary: Rae Clapshaw
Treasurer: Noel Burgess
Executive Members: Margaret Harrison, Kate O'Neill & Jenny Szemenyei

Hawkesbury Historical Society

President: Ian Jack
Senior Vice: President: Ted Brill
Vice President: Jan Barkley-Jack
Secretary/Public Officer: Neville Dehn
Treasurer: Heather Gillard
Auditor: Vacant
Publicity Officer: Vacant
Newsletter: Jan Redford
Web Administrator: Richard Gillard
Bookshop Manager: Heather Gillard
Committee Members: Rebecca Turnbull, Sean Flavin, Ellen Jordan, Richard Gillard
Publications Committee: Jan Redford, Jan Barkley-Jack, Rebecca Turnbull
HHS Collections Committee: Rebecca Turnbull, Carol Curruthers

Friends of The Paragon

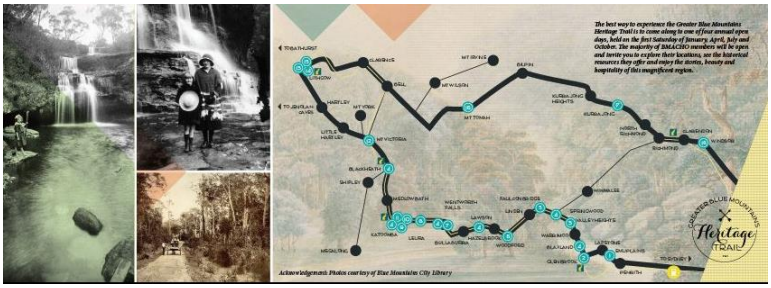
President: Robert Strange
Vice President: Ian Jack

Secretary: Julie O'Keeffe
Treasurer: Robert Trenchard-Smith
Curator: Linsi Braith
Communication & publicity: Carlene Martin
Honorary solicitor: Hal Ginges

Patsy Moppett

Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail Update

Westpac
Australia's First Bank



BMACHO continues to promote the Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail and members' upcoming events. BMACHO reprinted the Heritage Trail brochure in 2017 which was distributed to visitors' centres across the region.
The Trail is an ideal activity for the kids and grandkids, be it in the school holidays or any weekend! Collect the Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail brochure at participating venues and Visitor Information Centres.
BMACHO is planning a review of the operation of the Trail brochure over the coming months, with a view to the issue of a new and revised brochure in 2019. Once again, your feedback will be most welcome!

If you are a member and you would like further information, or if you would like to become a member, please email the BMACHO Secretary at committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au
For general information about the Trail, see heritagedrive.com.au or www.facebook.com/GBMHeritageTrail
To find out more about BMACHO visit www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

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The organisation: Blue Mountains Association of Cultural & Heritage Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 after local historical and heritage societies and individuals recognised the need for the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the local government area (LGA) of Blue Mountains City Council. The constituency now embraces but is not limited to, the LGAs of Blue Mountains, Lithgow, Hawkesbury and Penrith. BMACHO membership includes historical and heritage groups, museums, commercial enterprises with an historical or heritage component in its core business, local government (local studies units, library collections) and a limited number of individual members by invitation such as but not necessarily academics. The objectives of the organisation are:

1. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage
2. To encourage and assist cultural heritage
3. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations.

One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

Affiliations: BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society.

Publications: BMACHO's official newsletter ***Heritage*** is edited by Patsy Moppett. The annual refereed *Blue Mountains History Journal* is edited by Dr Peter Rickwood and occasional papers are published from time to time.

Membership: The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mt Tomah; Blue Mountains City Library; Blue Mountains Cultural Heritage Centre; Blue Mountain Education & Research Trust; Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc; Blue Mountains Historical Society; Bygone Beautys Treasured Teapot Museum and Tearooms; City of Lithgow Mining Museum Inc; Colo Shire Family History Group; Eskbank Rail Heritage Centre; Everglades Historic House & Gardens; Friends of the Paragon Inc; Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc; Hartley District Progress Association; Hawkesbury Historical Society Inc; Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc; Leuralla NSW Toy & Railway Museum; Lithgow & District Family History Society Inc; Lithgow – Eskbank House Museum and Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies; Mt Victoria & District Historical Society Inc; Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine Historical Society Inc (including Turkish Bath Museum); National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Blue Mountains Branch; National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Lithgow Branch; Nepean District Historical Society Inc; Norman Lindsay Gallery and Museum; Scenic World Blue Mountains Limited; Springwood Historical Society Inc; Transport Signal Communication Museum Inc; Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Heritage Museum, Woodford Academy Management Committee, Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd. The following are individual members: Wendy Blaxland, Fiona Burn, Ray Christison, Dr Wayne Hanley, Associate Professor Ian Jack, Ian Milliss, Patsy Moppett, Keith Painter, Philip Hammon and Dr Peter Rickwood.

Committee: The management committee for 2018-2019 (from March 2018) is: Patsy Moppett (President and ***Heritage*** Newsletter Editor), Ian Jack (Vice President), Fiona Burn (Secretary), Philip Hammon (Treasurer), Dick Morony (Public Officer/Membership Secretary/ Calendar Editor), Suzanne Smith (Events and Venue Co-ordinator), Jan Koperberg (Correspondence Secretary), Summar Hipworth, Rae Clapshaw and Roy Bennett. Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail sub-committee: Fiona Burn, Jan Koperberg, Rae Clapshaw and Suzanne Smith, with guest member Gay Hendriksen.
Blue Mountains History Conference 2018 sub-committee: Summar Hipworth, Ian Jack, Jan Koperberg and Patsy Moppett.

Disclaimer: views and opinions expressed in Heritage originate from many sources and contributors. Every effort is taken to ensure accuracy of material. Content does not necessarily represent or reflect the views and opinions of BMACHO, its committee or its members. If errors are found feedback is most welcome.

Heritage

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The Nine Standards

A group of drystone cairns dominate the skyline along a ridge a few miles south east of Kirkby Stephen, just outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park, in the Pennine Hills of England.

The Nine Standards, as they are known, some of which were originally more than four metres high, are on the line of the Coast to Coast Walk between Kirkby Stephen and Keld. Situated at a height of 650m, their original purpose is uncertain, but one possibility is that they marked the boundary between Westmorland and Swaledale.

At the summit of the locality is a trig point that marks the watershed divide across England. From this point, rivers flow west toward the Irish Sea and east toward the North Sea. The Nine Standards along the Ridge offer significant views to the north west, the south west, the west and south east. They are by far the most striking and popular landmark in this area, no matter what time of year you visit them.

The origin of the nine “stone men” or cairns is a mystery, and some of them are now in a perilous state, although some restoration repairs and rebuilding has been undertaken in recent times. It is a very exposed site and affected by all extremes of weather.

Interpretation of the site may lead one to imagine any number from seven to ten or even eleven cairns. In height, they vary from 2m to almost 4m. In shape they are mostly round and cylindrical, except the northernmost one which is square. One is pyramidal and another stepped. They extend in a line some 75m long, pointing roughly north-north-east.

It is amazing that they have never been allowed to fall apart completely, to collapse and disappear. People want to see them up there, in the belief perhaps that they keep watch

over the valley as they seem always to have done. Amazing also because we simply do not know who built them, when and why. It is said that they are very ancient and are marked on 18th century official and published maps. They are also found on an old hand drawn parchment sketch map of Swaledale.

One theory of local tradition is that they were constructed by the Roman army to look like troops from a distance. Another is that they were built to resemble an armed encampment that might deter invading Scots prior to the Union of the Crowns in 1603.
The cairns are mentioned as a prominent waypoint on over 30 parish and manorial boundary perambulations dating back almost 500 years. It is probable that they were used as waypoints and landmarks even earlier.
Finally, an Old Welsh document about events in the 6th century describes a crucial defeat of the invading Saxons by Britons in the mountains, northwest of York at a place called "toothed mountain", a vivid description of the Nine Standards.
So, there are good grounds for thinking that the Nine Standards have been on the Kirkby Stephen skyline certainly for over 500 years, probably for 800 years, and maybe for a great deal longer than that. But why are there nine? Are they boundary landmarks, signposts or burials?

One speculative study suggested some of the possibilities for their origins in the pre-Conquest period, extending back as far as the Bronze Age.
It is evident that there is no accepted archaeology to tell the story, and no one has so far taken a serious look at the Nine Standards. However, it can only be a matter of time before someone provides definitive answers to the many questions which are asked.
Or do we simply leave well alone and simply enjoy the romance of these ancient sentinels who stand guard over the landscape!

Patsy Moppett

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Food for thought ..... Editor's note

Rare Trades

This issue we publicise the Bathurst Heritage Trades Trail again (see page 17), after such a successful event in 2018. It will be staged on 18th and 19th May 2019.

BMACHO have been spreading the rare trades word for some time now, covering skills such as blacksmithing, dry stone walling, and many other such occupations. This issue we talk about the cordwainer, as opposed to the bespoke shoemaker covered in a previous issue. It is really exciting to know that people still value these trades, in a world that seems to try to do everything the quick and easy way. The value and quality of work carried out by the old methods cannot be denied, with items and structures lasting much longer than modern cheap imitations.

These events are aimed at increasing public awareness and showcasing arts and skills to enable people to obtain a better understanding of the trade or craft. Exhibitors are always happy to demonstrate their art and talk freely about the ins and outs of what they are doing. Rare Trades shows have been featured across Victoria and Queensland for many years. NSW is now getting on the bandwagon.

In this Rare Trades revival, exhibitors to the events come from across the Central West and Blue Mountains regions and beyond. Another similar event, which will include workshops, is planned for Portland NSW on 30-31 March 2019 (see page 16), being staged by the Aussie Leather Crafters organisation, and includes many other tradesmen and women.
So, place these dates in your autumn calendars and don't miss out!

ERRATA!
Newsletter No. 60, January-February 2019, Page 12 shows stained glass windows, and one in particular as being the Uniting Church, Springwood. However, it has been brought to the Editor's attention that this window is in fact in Christ Church, Springwood! The middle window is actually cracked in the top of the middle window near the face of the image of Jesus. Many thanks to the advisor, in making sure we get it right!!

Taxes, taxes, taxes ……

Last issue we looked at the riots caused by the toll gate taxes in Wales and mentioned that there were various other costs – taxes, tithes and charges, which drained already low incomes.
We complain today about taxes too and think we are hard done by. However, back in Georgian days there were some astonishing taxes which we would never experience and consider as ridiculous, which were simply levied to raise money which was misdirected to other purposes!
They had newspaper and perfume taxes, alcohol taxes and medicine taxes, which we can relate to now. But other more obscure taxes included the candle or beeswax tax, the beard tax, the window tax, the brick tax, the clock & watch tax, the hat tax, the playing card tax and the more dramatic tolerance tax!
The brick tax: This tax was introduced in England in 1784 as a means of helping to pay for the wars being fought in the American Colonies. Tax was paid at the rates of 4 shilling per thousand bricks. Tradesmen and developers found the way to reduce this tax was simple – make bigger bricks, so that you would use less! But the government simply changed its rules and stipulated a maximum size for a brick. This put some of the smaller companies out of business, and also meant that more timber was used as an alternative. The tax was finally abolished in 1850 as it was regarded as a detrimental tax to industrial development, at which point bricks became again the popular choice as a building material, and commercial brick makers began to proliferate throughout the country.
The candle or beeswax tax: From 1709 the English government created another tax on the making of candles, and the making of candles in the home was forbidden unless you held a licence and paid tax. As a result, rush lighting became used as this was exempt. Rushes were dipped in animal fat then left to harden; these could then be lit at both ends, they only provided light for a very brief period of time though, but they were tax free! Was this "burning the candle at both ends"? It can be imagined that many a house fire resulted from this practice.

It is said that Oliver Cromwell chided his wife for sewing by the light of two candles, blowing one out in horror at her extravagance.
This was one of the few times when you could save tax by sitting in the dark doing nothing! When the tax was finally repealed, candle makers celebrated by producing highly decorative candles, something still with us today.

The clock & watch tax: In an attempt to generate revenue for the country, in 1797 William Pitt imposed yet another tax – the clock tax. This tax required a payment of five shillings on every clock, even within a private home, two shillings and sixpence on pocket-watches of silver or other metal, and ten shillings on those of gold. This proved immensely unpopular and was scrapped after only nine months.

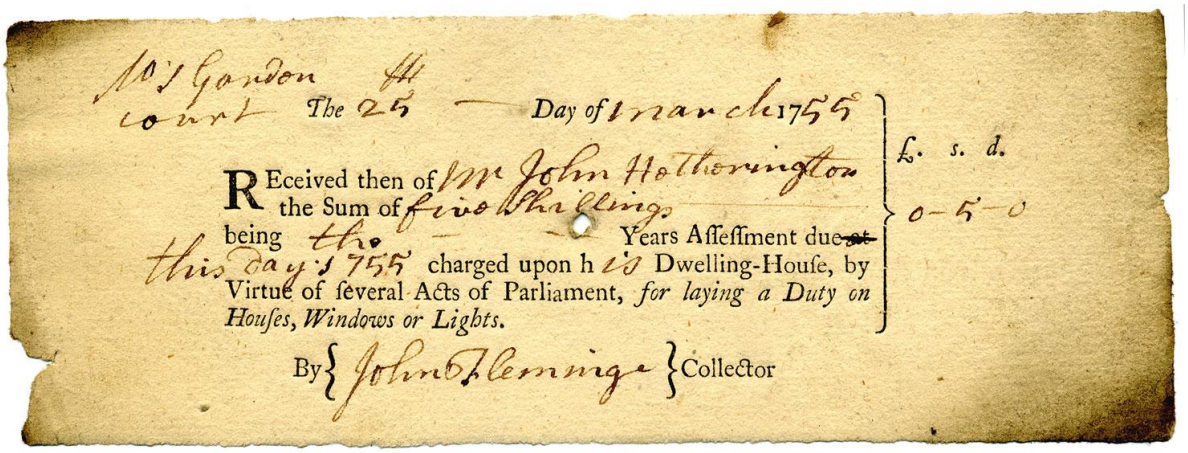
The hat tax: In 1784, the English government introduced a tax on hats, forcing manufacturers to buy a licence and put a revenue duty "stamp" inside each hat. Levied on men's hats the tax was introduced during the first ministry of Pitt the Younger and was designed to be a simple way of raising revenue for the government in a rough accordance with each person's relative wealth. It was supposed that the rich would have a large number of expensive hats, whereas the poor might have one cheap hat or none at all. Heavy fines were given to anyone, milliner or hat wearer, who failed to pay the hat tax. However, the death penalty was reserved for forgers of hat-tax revenue stamps!

The playing card tax: Playing-cards were seen by the rulers of England as a ready source of revenue, particularly when there were wars to be paid for. So, the makers and later the purchasers, paid a tax on each pack. Instances are recorded of taxes being raised in 1588, in 1628, during Queen Anne's reign, and from 1711 onwards, until the tax was finally abolished in 1960 (!) since by then it was more trouble to collect than it was worth. Playing cards was seen as addictive gambling and as such proved to be an easy source of income generation. In order to prevent tax avoidance, the ace of spades was held by customs and only issued once duty had been paid by the card maker.

Window tax: In 1696 there was a financial crisis across England created by a growing inflation caused by the many conflicts both in Ireland and on the continent. One of the forms of taxation created to help pay the debt was known as the Window Tax. The tax would be paid on a house of more than six windows. One way for a person to by-pass the tax was to brick up one or two windows over the stated six, even today on some older houses the bricked-up windows are still there. This tax pre-dated the Georgian period but continued throughout and after the Georgian period. There was a flat rate of two shillings per house but if you had over 20 windows was a colossal eight shillings! There were of course some exemptions such as people in receipt of parish relief. The tax was amended several times and often regarded as unfair and seen by some as a tax of light and air.

A costly construction

Bricking up


Mr Gordon
court The 25th Day of March 1755

REceived then of Mr John Hotherington the Sum of five Shillings being the Years Assessment due at this day 1755 charged upon h[is] Dwelling-House, by Virtue of several Acts of Parliament, *for laying a Duty on Houses, Windows or Lights.*

£. s. d.
0-5-0

By { John Flemings } Collector

When the United Kingdom of Great Britain came into being in 1707, the window tax continued, and was finally repealed in 1851.

The beard tax: In 1535, King Henry VIII of England, who wore a beard himself, introduced a tax on beards. The tax was a graduated tax, varying with the wearer's social position. His daughter, Elizabeth I of England, reintroduced the beard tax, taxing every beard of more than two weeks' growth, although it was poorly enforced.
A beard tax also applied in Russia. Archaeologists in Russia have recently stumbled upon a 1699 coin issued to mark compliance with the "Beard Tax," which Tsar Peter the Great had introduced the year before. Peter instituted the tax upon his return from a tour of Western Europe, where he saw few beards. Beards had fallen out of favor in Europe over the course of the 17th century.

King Henry VIII

Russian beard tax token

Peter the Great

To enforce the ban on beards, the tsar empowered police to forcibly and publicly shave those who refused to pay the tax. Resistance to going clean shaven was widespread with many believing that it was a religious requirement for a man to wear a beard. The tax levied depended upon the status of the bearded man. Those who paid the tax were required to carry a beard token. This was a copper or silver token with a Russian Eagle on the reverse and on the obverse the lower part of a face with nose, mouth, whiskers, and beard. Several different versions were minted between the issuance of the decree and its lifting in 1772, when many of the tokens were melted down and repurposed.
Tolerance tax: the tolerance tax was a tax that was levied against Jews of Hungary, then part of the Austrian Empire between 1747 and 1797. The tax was based on the German statute that a Jew was obliged to pay a certain tax to be "tolerated".
In 1747, during the reign of Empress Maria Theresa, the Jews of Hungary were taxed for the privilege of remaining in the empire and were threatened with expulsion if they did not pay. The Jews also had to pay heavier bridge and ferry tolls than the Christians. They were not allowed to live in Croatia and Slavonia, in Baranya and Heves Counties, or in several free royal towns and localities; nor might they visit the markets there.
The method of calculating the tolerance tax varied over time and location, according to the size of household, occupation, and income-producing assets.

In 1783, Emperor Joseph II, the son of Maria Theresa, allowed Jews to settle in Pest, while enacting a tolerance tax, which the Jews had to pay to the town.
After 1789, the Jews paid a tax on kosher meat, a marriage tax, and a tax on the synagogues and cemeteries.
In 1797, after the death of Joseph II, a candle tax was placed on Jewish religious candles. In Croatia, Slavonia, and Dalmatia, new rights were granted to Jews in 1840, but the "tolerance tax" remained in force. *Patsy Moppett*

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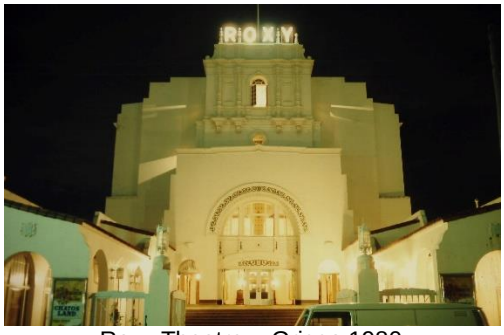
Roxy Theatre, Parramatta

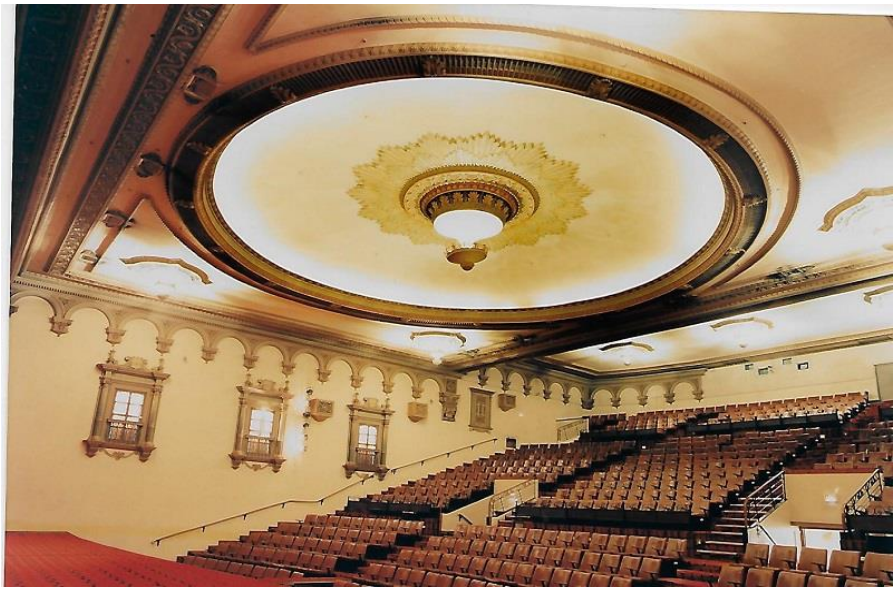
Parramatta's Spanish styled Roxy Theatre, with its magnificent arcaded forecourt, was opened in February 1930. Seating 2,000 people, it brought Parramatta to a standstill on its opening night as thousands thronged to see the new theatre.

Roxy Theatre – Adey 1980



Roxy Theatre – Griggs 1980

The Roxy is unique to Australia as a theatre building and is subject to five major heritage listings: the NSW State Heritage Register, the National Trust, the National Register of Australia, the Royal Institute of Architects and Parramatta City Council LEP.
To be listed on five such registers already makes it a unique, important, and irreplaceable heritage building, not only to Parramatta and Sydney but to the nation itself.
Hoyts acquired the Roxy in 1944 and operated it as their Parramatta flagship. In 1976 they subdivided it into three screens, in keeping with the economic viability of the time. The huge dress circle became the main auditorium, with two smaller cinemas built in the former stalls area. The latter involved the demolition of the huge and ornamental proscenium arch and some side wall grilles. While this was not desirable, it did at least allow the Roxy to have a new lease of life as a three screen cinema. Hoyts finally sold the Roxy in 1991, but continued to lease it back until 1995, when Village Roadshow took over. The Roxy closed as a cinema in 2002 and was converted to a hotel and restaurant.
The latter failed after several years and today the theatre stands disused. It is now the subject of a "*Concept Development Application*" which allows for a 33 storey commercial tower to be built behind and above the theatre, by demolishing the rear of the building from the dress circle back. The tower would be supported on legs driven through the side walls of the theatre, according to the DA. The Spanish foyers would become an entrance to the tower and its function rooms. The roof would be removed and replaced with a flat roof but retaining how much of the auditorium decoration is unclear. The existing 600 seat dress circle theatre would be retained.



Dress circle – Adey 1980

This "*concept*" claims that two function rooms and a 600 seat former cinema amounts to an entertainment centre for Parramatta. A 600 seat cinema is useless in today's world and Parramatta already has ten screens in the nearby Westfield. It is also useless as a comedy/concert venue, not having dressing rooms or back stage facilities. No parking facilities are provided for the function rooms.

The Concept DA has been refused by Parramatta City Council, the Heritage Council of NSW, and the Sydney Central Planning Panel. The developer has appealed to the Land and Environment Court, and a hearing will be held in March 2019.

It is the National Trust's position, and that of the Parramatta Branch and also other groups, that the Roxy be acquired from the developer in a land swap deal, to bring it into public ownership. This would be a win-win situation for all parties. The theatre should then be fully restored as a world class facility with 1,500 seats [by re-instating the stalls] and building a new stage and flytower. There are several examples of this in other Australian cities where the restored theatre has revitalised the area around it. Look at the magnificent Capitol Theatre in Sydney. Toowoomba took its derelict Empire Theatre, fully restored it as a live performance venue, and built two more live theatres adjacent. Subiaco in Perth has taken the Regal, a former cinema, and revamped it with a new stage and flytower. Newcastle restored its magnificent Civic Theatre with new stage facilities, and at present the 130 year old Victoria Theatre is about to be restored, which has been disused for some 30 years.

The Trust encourages the NSW State Government and Parramatta City Council to show vision and leadership and acquire this irreplaceable building for the people of Australia and restore it to world class performing arts standards. To build a 33 storey tower behind and above it would destroy this fabulous theatre and remove a once only opportunity to provide a performing arts centrepiece for Parramatta and the western suburbs.

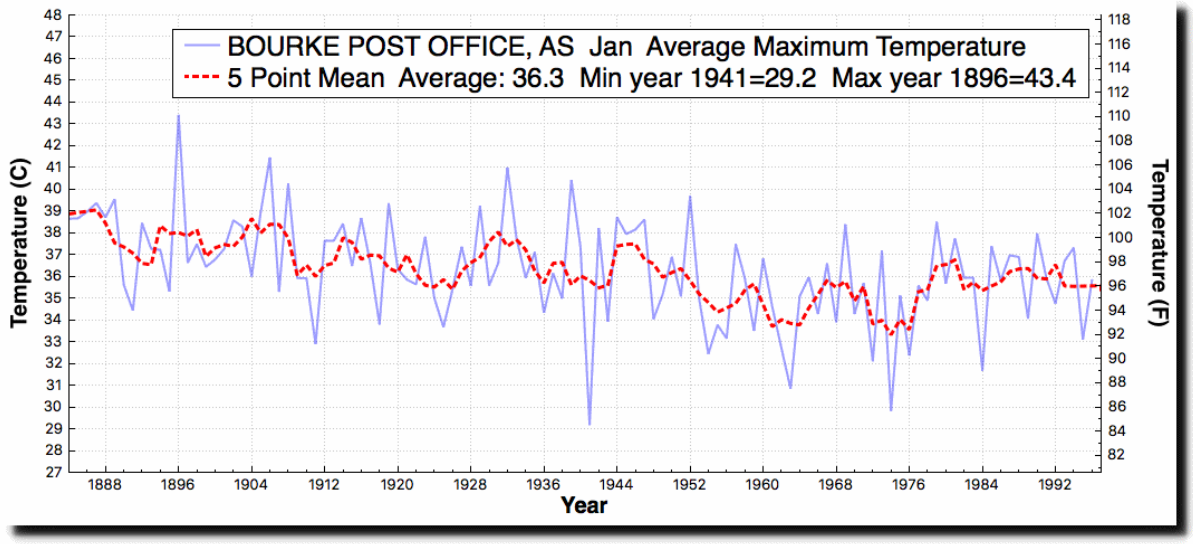
Les Tod, Deputy President of the Parramatta Branch of the National Trust

Heat Waves – part of our Australian heritage

As I sit in my stuffy office writing this Newsletter, struggling with the heat and trying to keep the inside air moving, at 28 degrees inside and 35 outside, my daughter emails me a news article from January 1896. Suddenly I feel quite cool!

Across the country that year a heat wave saw an extreme twenty four day period when temperatures hit 48 degrees centigrade. People fled the cities to the mountains on trains, the railways scheduling extra services at discount prices for those seeking relief from the heat. The maximum temperature was above 38.9 C degrees for over three weeks (100 degrees F equals 38 degrees C) and many people including children and elderly people died. Hospitals

were overcrowded, bushfires burned across the countryside and people were dropping dead in the streets.
During the 1896 heat wave some 435 deaths were recorded, 89% of them within New South Wales. Deaths also occurred in South Australia, Western Australia, Victoria and Queensland. Bourke, in NSW, lost 1.6% of its population to the heat: temperatures of 40℃ in the shade were already being recorded in October, mid-spring the year before.
The heat wave was described as one of the worst in living memory, commencing the second week of January. Although the level of heat measured is tempered by the methods of measurement available at the time, a temperature was recorded 119 degrees F in the shade at 2pm at Wilcannnia. Heat exhaustion and apoplexy took many, including infants.
The heat was sending people “insane”, leaving them helplessly wandering the streets before collapsing. Cattle, horses and sheep died by the hundreds as water tanks and dams dried up, and settlers’ homes were burnt by bushfires. The death toll continued to rise as the heatwave entered its fourth week.



Average Maximum Temperature at Bourke Post Office1884 to 1996

Reports came in from across the country, from as far afield as Perth and Kalgoorlie, Brisbane and Bourke. Some centres registered temperatures as follows:

- Geraldton: 125 degrees F.
- Brewarrinna: 116 degrees F.
- Bourke: 118 degrees F.
- Wilcannia: 118 degrees F.
- Carathool: 115 degrees F.
- Hay: 113 degrees F.
- Deniliquin: 105 degrees F.
- Windsor: 112 degrees F.
- Lyndhurst: 110 degrees F.
- Ungarie: 120 degrees F.

Water supply was running short and typhoid fever and kindred diseases became very prevalent, along with sunstroke and fever. At Nymagee the drinking water was condemned by doctors as being quite unfit to drink, and very conducive to hydatids.
At Lithgow coal mining was seriously interfered with, the furnaces being shut down owing to scarcity of water, throwing a lot of men out of employment. At Tamworth the maize was wilting and turning yellow. At Tenterfield grass and young crops were withering.
Most businesses across the colony had closed their doors, except for hotels, as residents laid low waiting for the heat wave to break.

The Perth "Daily News" reported the decision of Messrs Stevens and Wilkinson to close the pantomime season for a few days on account of the hot weather, which was generally approved by playgoers!

Wilcannia Hospital 1896

THE HEAT ON MARRA.

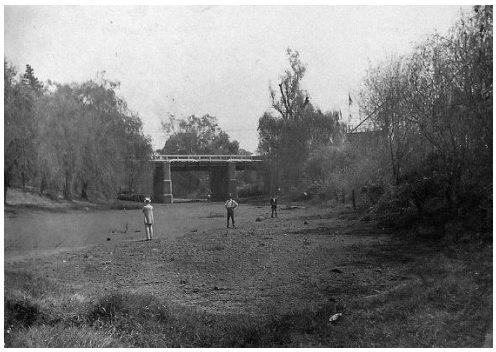
Mr. M. R. Dow writes from Marra station, River Darling, stating that the following figures indicate shade readings of the thermometer during January :—January 1, 110 degrees ; 2, 101 ; 3, 105 ; 4, 109 ; 5, 120 ; 6, 126 ; 7, 122 ; 8, 118 ; 9, 117 ; 10, 118 ; 11, 117 ; 12, 120 ; 13, 124 ; 14, 111 ; 15, 112 ; 16, 124 ; 17, 126 ; 18, 114 ; 19, 110 ; 20, 124 ; 21, 130 ; 22, 124 ; 23, 127 ; 24, 127 ; 25, 95 ; 26, 99 ; 27, 107 ; 28, 103 ; 29, 90 ; 30, 103 ; 31, 109. On several occasions during the month the glasses stood at 105 and 107 degrees at midnight and 1 a.m. The figures were the readings of three different glasses, which were hung in the front verandah at the Marra station, and were placed out from the wall on a frame to allow the air to get round them, thereby preventing the heat from the wall affecting the instruments.

Report from Marra Station

The Mayor of Perth (Mr H. J. Saunders) was commended on the rapidity with which he got through the business of the City Council. At the monthly meeting, the heat was almost unbearable, with the thermometer in the room registering over 100 degrees. Councillor George, however, did not consider that the dignity of a councillor should be upheld when the mercury was at boiling point. Before the meeting opened, he divested himself of his coat and waistcoat, unstrapped his braces, and “delivered himself of oratorical utterances in his shirt sleeves”. Before doing this, he appealed to the Mayor, who was tastefully dressed in an Indian officer's full evening costume, for permission to partially disrobe, and was given a hesitating, though diplomatic answer in the affirmative!

The Western Herald published a list of the temperatures from 1 January through to 28 January, which ranged from 102 degrees F to 120 degrees F. They also published a list of some 62 victims of the heat wave from 12 January, which included 3 children, two people whose Christian names were not known, and one victim whose name was totally unknown. Daily temperatures in parts of NSW in January and February can be up to 48 °C (118 °F). The highest maximum temperature was recorded as 50.7 °C (123.3 °F) at Oodnadatta on 2 January 1960, which is the highest official temperature recorded in Australia.

Bore drying up



Dry lagoon Wagga

Heat waves occur from time to time, and the government astronomer in 1897, having studied the Australian climate, estimated that they occur every 19 years. An extreme year occurred in 1878, and although 1897 was also bad, the astronomer could not deny that 1896 was the worst to date.

Heatwaves are Australia’s deadliest natural hazard, and nowadays authorities encourage vulnerable people to have plans to cope with extreme heat. Businesses also suffer

disruption, and most companies with employees working on machinery or outdoors report lower than normal productivity.
Dealing with the heat has become a part of our heritage in this country of exceptional climatic extremes. Australia has a long history of deadly heatwaves and records are available from episodes of extreme heat, reaching back as early as 1844. Although the temperatures today are not a lot different, the extent of heat waves have not been the same as 1896, and back in 1896 there were not the conveniences of air conditioning, and often no power to avail themselves of electric fans and other cooling devices. Water supplies were drying up and the remaining water became contaminated, and could not even be used for cooling. There was simply no escape, especially out west, and people simply succumbed.

Patsy Moppett

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Climate of Australia, Wikipedia

Chance of a lifetime to visit Moyne Farm, Little Hartley c1822

The story of John Grant, a nineteen-year-old Irish convict, makes an inspiring tale of luck, both good and bad, a classic example of the lifechanging opportunity that transportation represented for some of our earliest immigrants. This story is doubly enchanting, given its accessibility through the quality research and writings of Jacqueline Grant in *"Providence - The Life and Times of John Grant"* published in 1994, ISBN 0-646-17563-7 and shortly to be republished as a third edition.
Grant's story makes a fascinating read. His bad luck was to be convicted in a British controlled Ireland on trumped up attempted murder charges; his good luck and skill was in building a huge grazing empire on the Lachlan, despite fierce competition from "exclusives" equally eager to build their landholdings.
Assigned to Deputy Surgeon William Redfern, Grant built a strong friendship with Redfern and his wife Sarah and a useful link to power through Redfern's close association with Governor Macquarie. By 1817, Grant was Redfern's overseer, in 1819 he received his Ticket of Leave and by 1820 was moving cattle across the mountains both for Redfern and for himself. He acquired a land grant in the Kanimbla Valley, then known as the Vale of Clwydd, on which he built a cottage c1822 that he named Moyne Farm.

Moyne Farm tucked away in a valley at the junction of the three permanent creeks that first attracted John Grant to the site

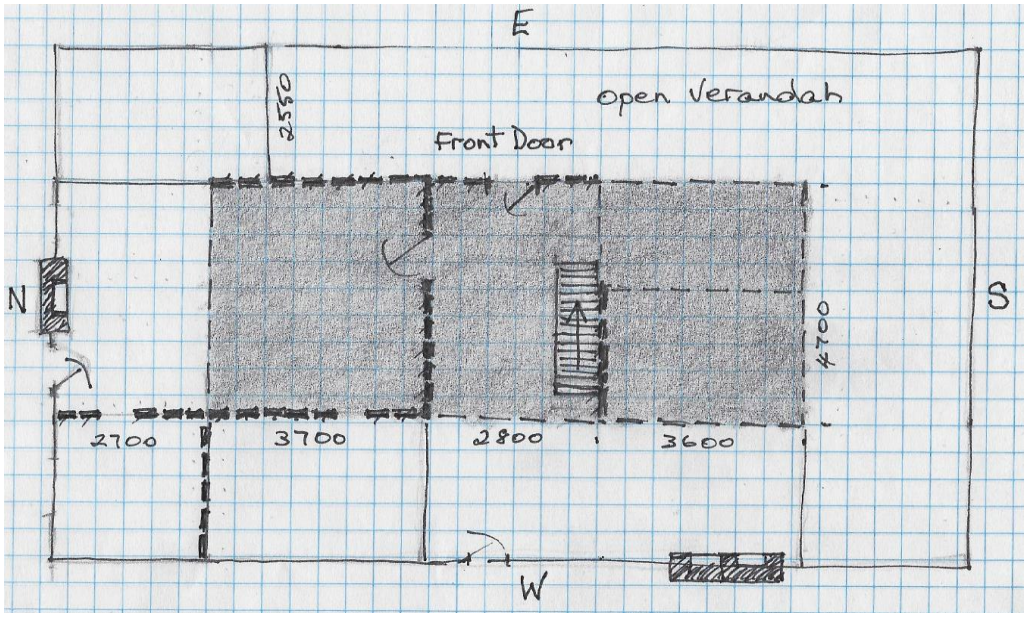
Moyne Farm homestead is one of the oldest buildings still standing west of the Blue Mountains. With the original three-room slab cottage largely still intact within the much

extended late 19th century building, it is undoubtedly the oldest timber building west of the mountains.

Recent times have seen restoration of the annexed c1826 Moyne Farm graveyard, courtesy of a grant from the NSW Government's Heritage Near Me program. Concurrently, a major renovation of the homestead has been undertaken by the Di Falco family, the farm's current owners. This project has seen the peeling away of years of addition and overlay to reveal the remains of the original convict-built cottage, complete with an attic in the roof cavity. It has resulted in the recovery of a building once in an advanced state of dilapidation, whilst preserving the features of its humble origins.

Measuring some thirty feet long and fifteen feet wide, the original structure has been extended all around by some nine feet, probably fairly soon after the completion of the original structure, leaving the original vertical slab-built cottage protected at the centre of the much larger building. This extension of the original cottage and the fact that the roof of the whole has been well maintained, has left the cottage at the heart of the building, intact as a remarkable example of convict craftmanship. According to Jaqueline Grant's research, Grant had five convicts assigned to him. One wonders how he was able to find such skill in that small team.

View along the western top plate showing the recessed wall slabs and the cross bearers secured by hardwood pegs through the eave board and showing the nine-inch eave overhang of the original slab walled cottage.



Sketch plan of the house with the original cottage footprint shaded. Emboldened wall indicates where original slab walls remain.

Its three rooms, two measuring some fifteen feet by twelve feet and a middle (corridor) room measuring fifteen feet by nine feet, were long ago gentrified, the walls being covered with much-painted, pine lining boards. Great was the surprise when the dilapidated lining boards were removed to reveal the original vertical slab building. Slabs uniformly two and a half inches thick and six to nine inches wide set into trenched top and bottom plates of some five-inch square slabs showing the dapple cut of an expert adze man, now exposed and burnished in the restored building.

This original cottage is extraordinary in its simplicity. The eaves extend a mere nine inches beyond the slab walls and there is no evidence of a verandah. The northern room shows a break in the top plate that was possibly the point where the chimney of a long-gone fireplace penetrated. In subsequent years, the surrounding “verandah like” extension was added, enclosed on three sides to make rooms around the perimeter. Three fireplaces and chimneys still stand in that enclosing outer perimeter wall.

The carpentry in the inner original building is memorable. The rectangle created by the top plates of the external wall have been precisely let into the rough timber, part round bearers that support the attic floor. The ends of these bearers have been squared off and let through a mortise in the eave board and secured with a hardwood peg. An unusual feature of the building is the dimension of the doors which are over six feet high.

During the 2019 Australian Heritage Festival, the Lithgow Branch of the National Trust, supported by the Di Falco family, will hold an Open Day to celebrate John Grant’s life and the story of Moyne Farm on 5 May 2019. Visitors will be able to watch a presentation on the recent renovation and view the completed works. They will hear speakers on John Grant and have an opportunity to inspect the cemetery and to attend a commemoration of the 1826 burial of Jane, John Grant’s first wife. The day will also include light entertainment and refreshments and lunch will be available for purchase provided by the local Hartley Rural Fire Service Canteen.

Book to attend this once in a lifetime opportunity by going to our Lithgow National Trust event booking website *“Moyne Farm Open Day*” at https://www.trybooking.com/ZZBH

A nominal entrance charge of $10 per adult will help to defray costs and entitle visitors who book online to receive a commemorative booklet as a keepsake of the day.

Ramsay Moodie

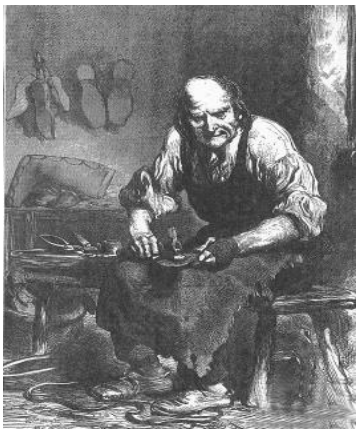
The Technical Side

The Cordwainer

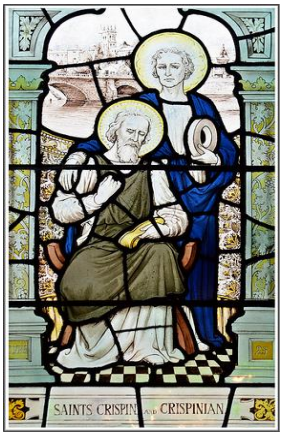
Back in the January-February issue No 54 of the Heritage Newsletter, we presented an article on the bespoke shoemaker, who made shoes to order. As opposed to this we now discuss the cordwainer, a tradesman who made new shoes from new leather. The cordwainer's trade is contrasted also with the cobbler's trade, who, according to a tradition in Britain, were restricted to repairing shoes using old leather.

The word stems from the Anglo-Norman *cordewaner*, or cordonnier, which entered the English language following the Norman invasion of 1066, and initially denoted a worker in cordwain or cordovan, the leather historically produced in Moorish Córdoba, Spain in the Middle Ages, made from the hide of the Musoli goat. Medieval cordovan leather was used for the highest quality shoes, but cordwainers also used domestically produced leathers and were not solely producers of luxury footwear. Since this date the term cordouan, or cordovan leather, has been applied to several varieties of leather. Today cordovan leather is a vegetable tanned horse "shell," and like the Medieval cordwain is used only for the highest quality shoes. The earliest attestation in English is a reference to Randolf se cordewanere, ca. 1100. The term is now considered obsolete except where it persists in the name of a trade-guild or company, or where otherwise employed by trade unions.

The early separate guilds held that cobblers were not permitted to work in new leather. Where a cobbler made shoes it was usually from old leather, going so far as to collect worn-out footwear, cut it apart, and remanufacture cheap shoes entirely from salvaged leather. The difference between the two trades was once considered so vast, it was a serious insult to call a shoemaker a cobbler (the latter of which, not so coincidentally, is a term that also means to work clumsily or bungle).



The shoemaking and cobbler trades were forced to merge around the beginning of the 19th century when the introduction of mass manufactured shoes left shoemakers out of work and having to accept lower paying repair jobs.
In London, the occupation of cordwainer was historically controlled by the guild of the Worshipful Company of Cordwainers. They were granted a royal charter of incorporation in 1439 but had received their first Ordinances in 1272. The ward of the City of London named Cordwainer is historically where most cordwainers lived and worked.
The first English cordwainers to arrive in America came in 1607 and settled in Jamestown, Virginia.
Cordwainers were also among the early settlers of Canada. In 14 June 1749, the newly appointed Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia, Edward Cornwallis, arrived in Canada in the *Sphinx*, and established a settlement in Canada which is now Halifax. When the thirteen transport ships following the *Sphinx* reached the harbour with the initial 2,576 British settlers, among them were nineteen cordwainers.
Shoemakers generally over time have shown a clear preference for the title cordwainer, conscious of the distinguished history and tradition it conveys. Today's cordwainer is no exception. The current generation of boot and shoemakers includes a growing number of tradesmen and tradeswomen, who having largely adopted traditional hand-sewn techniques supplemented by simple machines, continue to practice skills established centuries ago. In the face of declining domestic footwear production, it can easily be said that the future of this trade lies in its past and is being insured by the these modern cordwainers.



Saints Crispin & Crispinian

The patron saints of the cordwainer were Saints Crispin & Crispinian, born to a noble Roman family in the 3rd century AD. Crispin and Crispinian fled persecution for their faith, ending up at Soissons, where they preached Christianity to the Gauls whilst making shoes by night. While it is stated that they were twin brothers, that has not been positively proved.

They earned enough by their trade to support themselves and also to aid the poor. Their success attracted the ire of the governor of Belgic Gaul, who had them tortured and thrown into the river with millstones around their necks. Though they survived, they were beheaded later by the Emperor c. 285–286.

The feast day of Saints Crispin and Crispinian is 25 October. Although this feast was removed from the Roman Catholic Church's universal liturgical calendar following the Second Vatican Council, the two saints are still commemorated on that day in a recent edition of the Roman Church's martyrology.

In the sixth century a stately basilica was erected at Soissons over the graves of these saints, and St. Eligius, a famous goldsmith, made a costly shrine for the head of St. Crispinian.

They are the patron saints of cobblers, glove makers, lace makers, lace workers, leather workers, saddle makers, saddlers, shoemakers, tanners and weavers.

Patsy Moppett

References:
Cordwainer: Wikipedia
Crispin & Crispinian: Wikipedia
www.footfiles.com Difference between, cobblers, cordwainers and shoemakers
What is a cordwainer, The Honourable Cordwainers' Company

Community events & updates

Special History Workshop: Researching & Commemorating the "Spanish Flu"

This year commemorates the 100th anniversary of the peak year of the great, so-called, "Spanish Flu", which had a significant impact on the whole world, including Australia. The pneumonic influenza or "Spanish flu" pandemic that circled the world in 1918–19 left few communities untouched.

Join the Colo Shire Family History Group for a practical workshop, where they will review the bigger picture of the pandemic before considering how its impact might be commemorated locally. Participants will explore the value of local sites and collections in uncovering the flu's personal, social and enduring effects. They will then turn to practical outcomes: how you might transform your research into stories relevant to your community. From monuments and walking tours to websites and booklets, use this workshop to map out practical projects for the centenary year of 2019.

This workshop will be facilitated by Dr Peter Hobbins, a medical historian at the University of Sydney and a Councillor of the Royal Australian Historical Society. His recent book, *Stories from the Sandstone: Quarantine Inscriptions from Australia's Immigrant Past*, won the NSW Community and Regional History Prize in the 2017 Premier's History Awards.
They are inviting individuals and organisations to attend or send representatives (up to 3) to the event, both to hear what Peter can tell us and to take the next step of planning a follow up process (research, a publication, a presentation) to commemorate the specific impacts of the event in the Hawkesbury area.
The speaker and the Committee believe there is a wealth of information out there on the local effects of this momentous world-wide event. *Neil Renaud*
Date: Thursday 7 March 2019, starting at 10.00am
Venue: Hugh Williams Room, Hawkesbury Regional Museum (8 Baker St, Windsor)
RSVP by Monday 25 February 2019 (this workshop is <u>FREE</u>)

Please contact the Secretary, Neil Renaud, to book your place or obtain further details.
Neil Renaud Ph: 0423 157 089 or nrenaud@bigpond.com

Aussie Leather Crafters #4, Portland NSW

Aussie Leather Crafters is a not for profit community group with a charter of promoting leathercraft throughout the Australian community. They do this by having periodic gatherings where likeminded members get together to share their skills and promote their craft to others.
At *Aussie Leather Crafters# 4*, they plan to have demonstrations by some well-known Australian leathercrafters and leathercraft workshops for members and the general public. They have invited the knife makers and blacksmiths groups along with various other traditional craft groups to join them for the weekend to stage a family event for members, participants and the local surrounding communities. Demonstrations will be free to all vendors, participants, workshop participants, camping or entry ticket holders.

There will be leathercraft demonstrations and workshops, and other demonstrations include knife making & blacksmithing, bushcraft, wood working, Medieval archery and logo design.

The event will be open on 30th and 31st March 2019, and accessible to the public from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm both days, and onsite parking and camping will be available.
The venue for *Aussie Leathercrafters Gathering #4* is at The Foundations at Portland, 67 Williwa St Portland NSW 2847, which is the site of the old Portland Cement works. The site is currently being redeveloped, with Portland being just 20 minutes past Lithgow, and the gateway to the beautiful Central West region. *Ron Evans*

For tickets, vendor stalls or further information, contact Ron Evans aussieleathercrafters@gmail.com or Google *Tickets for Aussie Leather Crafters Gather #4*

2019 MUSE workshops:

Responding again to interests and concerns expressed during 2018 through meetings, visits, current status review and emails Gay Hendriksen, Museums Advisor to Blue Mountains City Council, will continue what she hopes will be the useful practical workshop series - *Muse.*
The free *Muse* workshop series is part of the museum advisor service provided by Blue Mountains City Council and Museums & Galleries NSW.
The series will provide tools, resources and skills development for regional museums, archives, library and gallery sector in the Blue Mountains.
To be eligible for this program you need to be a member of a regional museum, archive, library and gallery or associated organisation in the Blue Mountains region.
The sessions are limited in number so if you don't make it to the list please email Gay and she will put you on the waiting list.
The upcoming topics will include:

Workshop 1: Housekeeping - which will cover disaster planning, best practice museum administration - such as policy work (collection policies etc), volunteering rights and responsibilities.

Workshop 2: Significance Assessment, museum object cataloguing, and collection management.

Gay advises that a Museum Meet will be held on 5 March 2019 at the Cultural Centre at Katoomba (9am to 1pm), to look at what is happening over the coming year and have a catchup and information share - what do you have planned for the year, what things do you need help with, how can we help on projects etc.
The next Muse workshops will be on 7th May and 6th August 2019.

For further information contact:
Gay Hendriksen, The Rowan Tree Heritage and Cultural Services
www.therowantree.com.au

Bathurst Heritage Trades Trail 2019

Bathurst Heritage Trades Trail is a Bathurst Regional Council initiative supported by a number of community heritage and history groups including Bathurst District Historical Society, Bathurst Heritage Network, The National Trust, Bathurst Bead & Wire Craft Guild, Bathurst Embroidery Guild and the Bathurst Family History Group. It will take place during Bathurst Heritage Week, on the 18th and 19th of May 2019, and will feature heritage trades in a number of heritage buildings and precincts around Bathurst.
It is aimed at increasing public awareness of heritage for locals and visitors. It is a not-for-profit community activity, and venues will be managed and manned by volunteers.
The Heritage Trades concept will be based around several heritage locations, each showcasing genuine heritage artisan trades in Bathurst heritage buildings or precincts over two days, as part of Bathurst Heritage Week, Bathurst Autumn Colours and the National Trust Australian Heritage Festival.
See their Facebook page, *Bathurst Heritage Trades Trail,* which includes a video of the event.

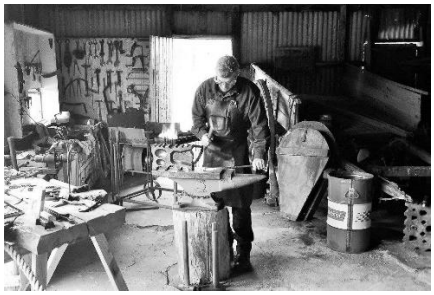
BATHURST

HERITAGE TRADES TRAIL

REDISCOVER

TRADITIONAL CRAFTSMANSHIP

The organising committee is inviting submission of expressions of interest in showcasing traditional trade or craft skills at one of the elements of the Trail. They are particularly interested in people who can demonstrate and discuss their trade with the public. There is no charge to demonstrators, and they can sell their products as well without any commission. Exhibitors who only sell their product and do not demonstrate are not encouraged and will be required to pay a fee to participate, as will food vendors.
The Trail runs from 10.00am to 4.00pm both days, with set up possible on the Friday afternoon immediately before and bump out on the Monday morning after.
The organising committee would be responsible for all logistics, a professional OH&S risk assessment, all set up, running and clean up, portable toilets, small marquees and traffic management.



Marketing is extensive, particularly via online and social media channels, as this is intended as a visitor attracting event in addition to engaging the local community. Marketing and promotion are carried out by Bathurst Regional Council, and the individual community groups involved. You are encouraged to promote the event through your Trade or Craft organisation, and your network of contacts. Sharing from their Facebook page is a powerful way to spread the word.
They would like to know as soon as possible what facilities and equipment you would need us to arrange for you, if any. If you are an Agricultural Trade or an outdoors trade, they would encourage you to bring your own gazebo and tables etc.
They have a tight timetable to bring the event together and encourage exhibitors to confirm at an early date. Please contact them at heritagebathurst@gmail.com in the first instance with any queries and issues.

Sandy Bathgate

For any queries contact the organisers at heritagebathurst@gmail.com
Facebook and video at Bathurst Heritage Trades Trail

Exhibition: An Aerial Disaster for John Brittany North

On Sunday 27th January 2019, the Blue Mountains Historical Society's 19th century cottage museum, *Tarella,* opened for viewing, being the first formal Open Day for 2019. *The Sun Room Gallery* provided a new exhibition to greet the new year, *An Aerial Disaster for John Britty North.*

The Bleichert Aerial Ropeway 1891

The exhibition displays artefacts related to the collapse of the Bleichert Aerial Ropeway at Katoomba in 1889 or January 1890. These artefacts and photographs are largely from the private collection of Philip Hammon, together with some photographs from the Blue Mountains Historical Society and display the ropeway and surrounds at the time of operation in the late 1800s.

The exhibition was also able to be viewed at the Open Day on Sunday 24th February 2019 and will still be available at the Open Day on Sunday 24th March 2019.

Robyne Ridge

Opening hours are from 10am to 3pm.
Entry charges to Tarella are $5.00 for adults and $2.00 for children.
Entry to the exhibition is free with entry to Tarella. Please note that they can only accept cash, as they have no card facilities.

Location: Hobby's Reach, 99 Blaxland Road, Wentworth Falls
Postal address: P.O. Box 17, Wentworth Falls NSW 2782
Phone: 02 4757 3824
Fax: 02 4757 3974
Email: bmhs@bluemountainshistory.com
Website: www.bluemountainshistory.com

History Week 2019 – Memory & Landscapes

History Week is the annual, state-wide celebration of history organised by the History Council of New South Wales (HCNSW). Initiated by the HCNSW in 1997, *History Week* is a fantastic opportunity for member organisations, large and small, throughout NSW to engage and educate the community about the vitality, diversity and meaning of history and its practice.

The History Council of NSW's festival, *History Week 2019*: *Memory & Landscapes* (30 August 2019 to 8th September 2019), will explore our relationship to landscapes through the ways that we remember and continue to interact with them.

The theme of *Memory & Landscapes* may include:

- Remembering where we come from
- Spiritual, physical, social and cultural connection to place
- Stories of travel & migration
- Creative or analytic depiction, interpretation or analysis
- Landscape as canvas, gallery and film set
- Landscape as a threat or a treat
- Agriculture, environment and land care
- Conflict, death, dispossession, murder, genocide
- Landscape then and now – changes over years, centuries and millennia
- Memory in landscapes – memorials and monuments
- Memorialisation

In 2019, *History Week* commences on 30 August with the NSW Premier's History Awards. Another feature event is the Annual History Lecture and Awards on the night of 3 September. Overall, there will be close to 100 events being staged throughout NSW in *History Week.*

Registrations for *History Week* 2019 are now open and close at 5pm on Friday, 14th June 2019.

You must be a member of the History Council of NSW to register an event for *History Week 2019*. Events must be relevant to the practice of history and the theme, *Memory and Landscapes*, and will be published at the discretion of the History Council. The event must take place during History Week 31st August - 8th September 2019.

Members apply through the HCNSW to host history events relating to the annual theme. Previous events have included talks and lectures, behind the scene tours and heritage trails, exhibitions and radio features, film festivals, open historic houses and gardens, book sales and launches. They encourage applicants to think creatively about the form their event will take.

In 2019, *History Week* will commence on 30 August with the *NSW Premier's History Awards* held at the State Library of New South Wales. This is followed by 9 days of events (Saturday 31 August – Sunday 8 September) that are staged by members for a general audience, all around NSW. These events are publicised by the History Council of NSW through their various platforms and channels, including an interactive program that allows attendees to sort events by content, genre and region.

Patsy Moppett

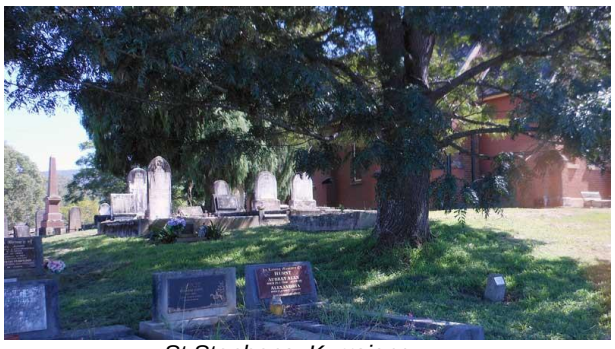
The complete interactive program of History Week events is available on the History Council website: www.events.historyweek.com.au

Vale Chris Upton

Just prior to Christmas 2018 Colo Shire Family History Group (CSFHG) suffered a great loss, with the death of their Editor, Chris Upton, aged just 59 years, who had been battling

illness for the past two years. In the last few months he had been travelling weekly for treatment, continuing with his fulltime occupation, producing the group's Newsletter and working hard on their next publication – *St Stephens Volume 4*.

Chris Upton

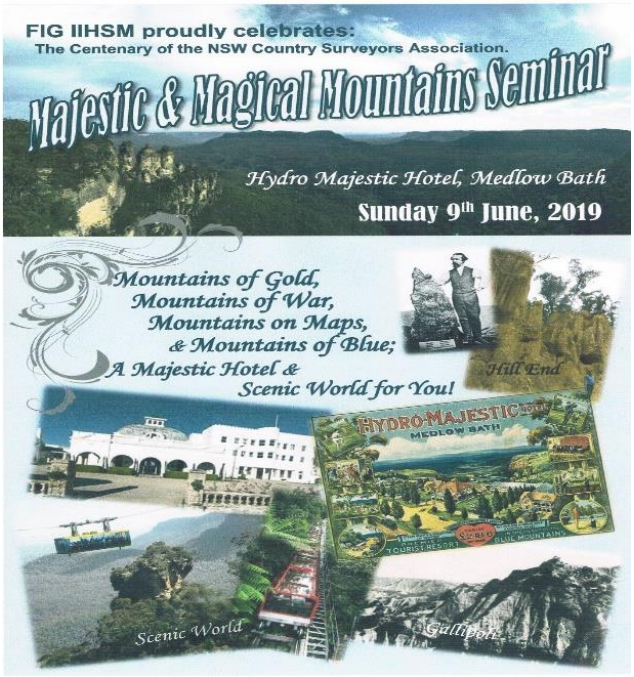


St Stephens, Kurrajong

Chris's parents were from two pioneer Hawkesbury families, the Uptons and the Robinsons. When Chris became Editor of a Newsletter for Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society, he soon became immersed in the local history. When CSFHG was formed as a separate group, Chris began producing their Newsletter from August 2016.
In recent years Chris has spent a lot of his time putting together the group's research and stories for the *St Stephens* Volumes. His attention to detail and accuracy is very well known, and he has worked well with the team of transcribers and tactfully kept them on the right path. The Secretary, Neil Renaud, recently wrote a history of Archibald Bell, once more with Chris's helpful assistance.
Chris will be sorely missed by all, and condolences go out to his brother Greg, Greg's wife Stephany and their three children.

Joy Shepherd CSFHG

FIG IIHSM Seminar – Majestic & Magical Mountains



2019 History Seminar Program

Venue: Majestic Ballroom, Hydro Majestic Hotel, Medlow Bath

Immerse yourself amongst the ambience of an elegant past to hear amazing tales of mountain surveying while gazing through the historic windows to be spellbound by the breath-taking wonderland of scenery! You will forget that it is winter outside while you enjoy a sumptuous repast alongside one of the fireplaces which have warmed their guests for over 110 years.

From 8am REGISTRATION & EARLY COFFEE

Full Day Chairman – John Brock

SESSION ONE: Surveyors Measuring History **Chair: Kerima-Gae Topp**

8.40am Welcome dignitaries & guests
8.50am Official Opening
9.10am Special Presentation: Gallipoli's Anzac Hero Surveyor: J.N. Murray, Land Surveyor – Mark Murray, Licensed Surveyor, (JNs grandson)
9.45am Highlights of the 100-year History of the N.S.W. Country Surveyors Association – Dr Terry Kass
10.20am .....MORNING TEA.....

SESSION TWO: Edging Towards the Mountains Pass **Chair: Phil Hayward**

10.50am William Dawes: Sydney's Star Surveyor Goes Up the Blue Mountains - John Brock
11.20am Blue Mountains to Bridgetown: The Life & Journeys of Barrallier – The Frenchman Who Almost Beat the Mountain Barrier – Andy McQueen
11.50am George Evans: Surveying King of the Mountains – Professor Ian Jack
12.20pm Three Surveyors of the Wollemi: Frederick D'Arcy, William Romaine Govett & Major Hugh Clews – Andy McQueen
12.50pm .....BUFFET LUNCH.....

SESSION THREE: Surveying the Road to Gold **Chair: Bob Harrison**

2.00pm Computer Modelling Mitchell's Majestic Map of the Nineteen Counties - Angus Scown
2.30pm Surveyors of Gold – Merlin's Magical Photo Collection Monument Project at Hill End – John Brock
2.50pm Surveyors Through the Eyes of a Non-Surveyor – Kerima-Gae Topp
3.20pm .....AFTERNOON TEA.....

SESSION FOUR: Scenic World & The Hydro Majestic **Chair: John Brock**

3.50pm Surveying Scenic World – Phil Hammon / Mark Bowler
4.20pm History of the Hydro Majestic Hotel – TBA
4.50pm Tours of the Hydro Majestic Hotel – various guides in groups of 30
5.50pm End – Browse Through the Museum
6.00pm – 8.00pm .....COCKTAIL PARTY.....

This seminar is not to be missed and is to be held at the Hydro Majestic Hotel, Medlow Bath, on Sunday 9 June 2019.
FIG is the *Federatione Internationale des Geometres* (translated from French as the International Federation of Surveyors founded in 1878 in Paris). The IIHSM is a permanent institution under the FIG called the International Institution for the History of Surveying and Measurement.

John Brock, Brock Surveys P/L

For further information and the booking form, contact John Brock:
Ph: 0414 910 898
Email: brocksurveys@bigpond.com
Postal address: Brock Surveys, PO Box 9159, Harris Park NSW 2150

History Walks Programme for 2019 - Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc.

All walks are on Saturdays, led by Doug Knowles & Team.

March 9th **9.00am** **"Lennox Bridge"** and the old stone quarry, Brookside Creek, Dunn's Steam Saw Mill relics, and earth dam.

30th **9.00am** **"The Descent to the West:"** Mt. York **:** Three short return walks on the three most historic roads to the West**:** Cox's Pass 1815, Lawsons Road 1822, and the newest road, Berghofer's Pass 1909.
Includes Tea/coffee, biscuits. **Special Walk: $12.00 Adults**

April 13th **9.00am** **"Eastern Zig Zag Railway"** This walk on the 1867 Zig Zag Railway & Knapsack Viaduct, also extends to the first improvement, the Lapstone Hill Tunnel 1892. [East Portal only,] and the wash-away section 1906.

May 11th **9.00am** **"Eastern Zig Zag Railway."** This walk is focussed on the Knapsack Gully stone viaduct and offers good photographic opportunities. Includes Gatehouse No. 1, 1867 and the Knapsack refuge sidings 1909.

June 8th 1.30pm "Duck Hole--Glenbrook Creek." Old roadway construction and pump site for railway water supply to old Glenbrook Station.

29th 1.30pm "The Mountains Murders." Captain Lee Weller's grave site and rock inscriptions.

July 13th **9.00am** **"Faulconbridge Steam Sawmill Site."** Engine remnants and other relics. Operated 1914-1925.

Aug. 10th **9.00am** **"Bull's Creek."** Railway relics: Stone dam and steam pump relics.

31st 1.30pm "Lapstone Construction Railway." 1910-1913 and east portal of Lapstone Hill Tunnel 1892.

Sept. 7th **9.00am** **"Glenbrook Lagoon Precinct."** Early campsite and railway dam construction 1880 for water supply to the first Glenbrook Station.

28th **9.00am** **"Glenbrook Heritage Walk."** Historic sites, houses and West Portal of Lapstone Hill Tunnel--1892. **(Last walk for the year.)**

Adults: $10 (Except for Special Walk.) **Accompanied Children under 16yrs free.**

BOOKINGS are ESSENTIAL:
For details re meeting place, time and grade of walk, phone Doug on **02 4751 3275**.
Please allow the phone to ring longer than usual.
Good walking shoes are essential. Please bring a hat and drinking water. (No dogs please.)

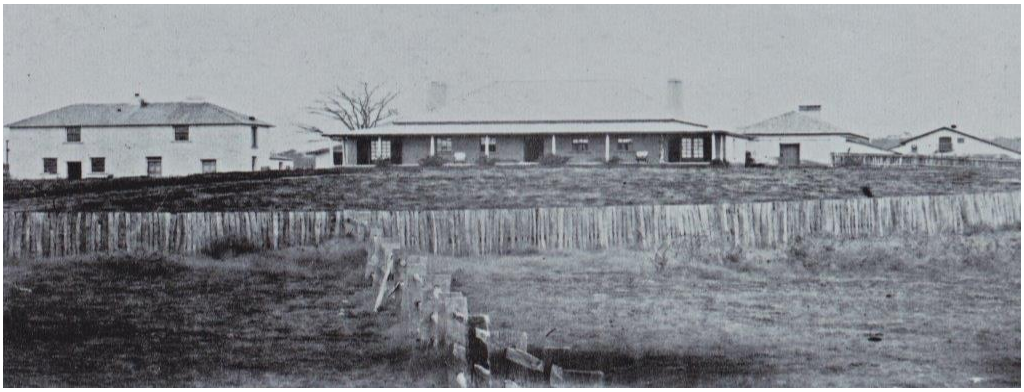
BAD WEATHER ON THE DAY: Excessive wind or rain could cause cancellation due to hazardous conditions.

"Macquarie" Open Weekend, O'Connell

Includes an exhibition in the convict barracks by "Mountains & Metal" of contemporary jewellery and silverware

Evidence supports the assertion that *"Macquarie",* containing the original 1000 acre land grant to Lieutenant William Lawson by Governor Lachlan Macquarie as Lawson's reward for his contribution in finding a way across the Blue Mountains, is the oldest farm and oldest continuing residence west of the Great Divide. In its 200 years of European history, *"Macquarie"* has only had two owners prior to the current owners, Paul and Bonnie Hennessy, namely, the Lawson family followed by the McKibbin family. Accordingly, it remains remarkably unaltered.

The work of *"Mountains & Metal"* will be on display for the weekend. This group of jewellers, silversmiths and artisans from the Blue Mountains and surroundings welcome you to view their work in this unique setting. All items are for sale – come and meet the artists.



"Macquarie" 1863.
Photograph courtesy of the Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW – Icely Family Albums

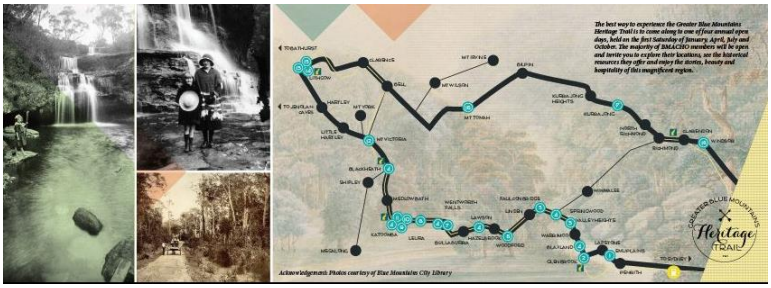
The event will take place on the weekend of 6, 7 April 2019 at "Macquarie", 3397 O'Connell Road, O'Connell, south east of Bathurst.
The property will be open from 10am to 3pm, commencing with a *Welcome to Country* each day.
"Macquarie" is situated approximately 12 kilometres south east of Bathurst on the O'Connell Road and approximately 8 km from the Great Western Highway.
Entry fee is $10per person, with a booklet included. Concessions are available for families, children and seniors.
Entry and refreshment proceeds will go to St Vincent de Paul Bathurst to distribute to drought affected farmers.
Tables and chairs will be set out on the lawns and refreshments will be available.

Paul & Bonny Hennessy

Further information is available from Paul & Bonnie:
email: bonnyhen@bigpond.net.au
Phone: Bonny 0405 442 025
Paul 0405 442 026

Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail Update

Westpac
Australia's First Bank



BMACHO continues to promote the Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail and members' upcoming events. BMACHO reprinted the Heritage Trail brochure in 2017 which was distributed to visitors' centres across the region.
The Trail is an ideal activity for the kids and grandkids, be it in the school holidays or any weekend! Collect the Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail brochure at participating venues and Visitor Information Centres.
BMACHO is currently undertaking a review of the operation of the Trail brochure over the coming months, with a view to the issue of a new and revised brochure in 2019. Once again, your feedback will be most welcome!
If you are a member and you would like further information, or if you would like to become a member, please email the BMACHO Secretary at committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au
For general information about BMACHO and the Trail, see heritagedrive.com.au or www.facebook.com/GBMHeritageTrail
To find out more about BMACHO visit www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

Registered office: 1/19 Stypandra Place, Springwood 2777. (02) 4751 5834
Email: committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au or j.koperberg@bigpond.com
Website: www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au **ABN**: 53 994 839 952

The organisation: Blue Mountains Association of Cultural & Heritage Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 after local historical and heritage societies and individuals recognised the need for the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the local government area (LGA) of Blue Mountains City Council. The constituency now embraces but is not limited to, the LGAs of Blue Mountains, Lithgow, Hawkesbury and Penrith. BMACHO membership includes historical and heritage groups, museums, commercial enterprises with an historical or heritage component in its core business, local government (local studies units, library collections) and a limited number of individual members by invitation such as but not necessarily academics. The objectives of the organisation are:

1. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage
2. To encourage and assist cultural heritage
3. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations.

One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

Affiliations: BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society.

Publications: BMACHO's official newsletter ***Heritage*** is edited by Patsy Moppett. The annual refereed *Blue Mountains History Journal* is edited by Dr Peter Rickwood and occasional papers are published from time to time.

Membership: The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mt Tomah; Blue Mountains City Library; Blue Mountains Cultural Heritage Centre; Blue Mountain Education & Research Trust; Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc; Blue Mountains Historical Society; Bygone Beautys Treasured Teapot Museum and Tearooms; City of Lithgow Mining Museum Inc; Colo Shire Family History Group; Eskbank Rail Heritage Centre; Everglades Historic House & Gardens; Friends of the Paragon Inc; Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc; Hartley District Progress Association; Hawkesbury Historical Society Inc; Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc; Leuralla NSW Toy & Railway Museum; Lithgow & District Family History Society Inc; Lithgow – Eskbank House Museum and Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies; Mt Victoria & District Historical Society Inc; Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine Historical Society Inc (including Turkish Bath Museum); National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Blue Mountains Branch; National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Lithgow Branch; Nepean District Historical Society Inc; Norman Lindsay Gallery and Museum; Scenic World Blue Mountains Limited; Springwood Historical Society Inc; Transport Signal Communication Museum Inc; Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Heritage Museum, Woodford Academy Management Committee, Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd. The following are individual members: Fiona Burn, Philip Hammon, Dr Wayne Hanley, Associate Professor Ian Jack, Ian Milliss, Patsy Moppett, Keith Painter and Dr Peter Rickwood.

Committee: The management committee for 2018-2019 (from March 2018) is: Patsy Moppett (President and ***Heritage*** Newsletter Editor), Ian Jack (Vice President), Fiona Burn (Secretary), Philip Hammon (Treasurer), Dick Morony (Public Officer/Membership Secretary/ Calendar Editor), Suzanne Smith (Events and Venue Co-ordinator), Jan Koperberg (Correspondence Secretary), Summar Hipworth, Rae Clapshaw and Roy Bennett.
Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail sub-committee: Fiona Burn, Jan Koperberg, Rae Clapshaw and Suzanne Smith, with guest member Gay Hendrikson.
Blue Mountains History Conference 2020 sub-committee: TBA

Disclaimer: views and opinions expressed in Heritage originate from many sources and contributors. Every effort is taken to ensure accuracy of material. Content does not necessarily represent or reflect the views and opinions of BMACHO, its committee or its members. If errors are found feedback is most welcome.