

GLENBROOK POINTS

NEWSLETTER OF GLENBROOK & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.



POINTSMAN'S COTTAGE

APRIL- MAY '16

Postal address P.O. Box 38 Glenbrook NSW 2773

Contacts: President Joan Peard 0414 605 482 or Secretary Neil McGlashan 4739 9864

Meetings 3rd Wednesday monthly at 1.30 pm (except Dec-Jan) Glenbrook Guides Hall
cnr Hare & Moore Sts Glenbrook

"History Walks" 2016 Programme ALL on SATURDAYS

Walks led by Doug Knowles & Frank Bowman

- April 23rd 1.30pm "Duck Hole--Glenbrook Creek." Old Roadway construction and pump site for railway water supply.
- May 14th 1.30pm "The Mountains Murders. Captain Lee Weller's grave site and rock inscriptions
- June 4th 1.30pm "Lapstone Construction Railway" 1910--1913 and east portal of Lapstone tunnel 1892.
25th 1.30pm "Cox's Road." Walk along a section of this historic road following the ridge-top from Linden to Woodford Trig.
- July 9th 1.30pm "Dunn's Steam Sawmill Site" and earth dam. Brookside Creek, Lennox Bridge and the old stone quarry.
30th 1.30pm "Glenbrook Lagoon Precinct." Early campsite and railway dam construction 1880.
- August 13th 9.00am "Faulconbridge steam sawmill site" Engine remnants and other relics operated 1914--1925. Long walk-steep climb: Allow 3 ½ to 4 hrs.
- September 10th 9.00am "Glenbrook Discovery Heritage Walk" Historic sites, houses and West Portal of Lapstone Tunnel--1892. (Last Walk for the year.)

ADULTS: 8.00 ea. Children under 16yrs. Free-but must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. (No dogs please.) BOOKINGS are ESSENTIAL: Phone Doug. on 4751 3275 for details re meeting place, time and grade of walk. Good walking shoes are essential. Please bring a hat and drinking water. BAD WEATHER ON DAY: excessive wind & rain could cause cancellation due to hazedous conditions.

THE GLENBROOK PIONEERS WALL



GLENBROOK PIONEERS WALL



The "Glenbrook Pioneers Wall", situated adjacent to and part of "Glenbrook Information Centre", was officially opened 20th May 2008. This was a project of the G & D Historical Society and was quite a few years in the making. The purpose of this wall was to recognise the contribution that many of the older families contributed to the formation of the village. The criteria for the first selections was to be in residence prior to 1940, in fact the Hamment Family commenced in 1860. The wall was to be constructed of stone with aluminium plates so as to remain in perpetuity, and also to be readily accessible to the public. The area selected was adjacent to the information centre and with the assistance of BMCC the project was completed. More names have been added to the wall.

The two flags displayed on the wall have historical interest. The red 150th centenary flag was embroidered by Mrs Blundell & Mrs Latimer and listed all the residents who had contributed funds to rebuild the School of Arts (now Community Centre). The original building had been destroyed by fire. This flag is on display in the Museum. The blue flag was embroidered by Mrs Jenny Moore and listed all residents who had contributed funds towards publishing the Glenbrook History book. The book is still in print and reproduction is self funding. This flag is on display in the CWA building.

Group photograph of all members present at the opening.



From the Secretary's Desk

Doug - Re Skarratt artifacts to try to get them back into Glenbrook. Skarratt boys stopped a train derailment in 1906 and were presented with watches. One watch is with Springwood History Society. Have a letter from John Skarratt to Springwood History Society for it to be re-assigned to us because it can be displayed in the Museum. It does not belong to BMCC but to Springwood History Society. We already have other Skarratt facts. Watch would be with Local Studies Office.

Lyn van Bonkhorst from the Nolan Family sent us a copy of her book, for the library, called "Sitting with Mum".

Pam T. - Re Lennox Bridge Mitchell's Pass Re the 2 blank spaces where plaques used to be. Pam showed photographs of the stone wall where they were in the rock face before you turn left to go down. We have the inscription from 1982 when the bridge was reopened. We should go ahead with replacement plastic, Perspex plaques like we did on the highway for Garlick Parade and replace them. Looks like Bronze but not worth any money to take. Someone took the old ones because they were bronze.

Elizabeth - Glenbrook Park planning committee. Park Gazetted in 1896 for Public Recreation Tim, Pam T. and I met with the Conservation Architect and Heritage Advisor Christo Aitken who is consulting to BMCC. We went with old photos, old artifacts to show him and discussed old building sites.

Bus Shelter: Joan update - all the painting has gone as it was peeling it has all been stripped back and sandblasted. I spoke with Mark Greenhill on Monday. He was going to talk to the General Manager and will get back to me. Jayne will be compensated for the work she has already done. She will starting again and has asked to use different paint that should last forever. An anti graffiti paint under the surface probably has caused the problem.

Joan - Museum Agreement - met with Cathy Assistant Principal at Springwood High School last Friday on 12th of February. Given a copy of agreement from 1 February 2016 to 20 December 2016. I said we are not active in December and January. Needs to be renewed each year. No cost as we are a Community and Non Profit organisation.

Agreement is for 9am - 4 pm any Saturday including school holidays. 4pm -6pm any Wednesday as needed. When our Insurance Policy is renewed from 21 April 2016 Springwood High School requires a copy of the renewed policy . **Mary - 2 possible trips** - 1... is to **Brush Farm**. Location: Marsden Road, Eastwood, NSW 2122 Constructed: 1794-1894 Heritage Listing has - *Built in 1820 by Gregory Blaxland, Brush Farm is one of the oldest buildings in New South Wales. This imposing two-storey mansion has recently been restored to its former glory by the City of Ryde.* At least 10 people showed an interest. ...2 is to **Eskbank House** - Lithgow

Joan - received railway book from John Parker for Museum on Steam Trains through the Blue Mountains. **Trish Murnane** is writing **Jubilee History of St Finbar's** and

will finish next month and we can use excerpts in our Newsletter etc



A Brief History of Ulinbawn

Courtesy David Payne

In 1870 John Lucas purchased 10 acres of crown land at Lapstone Hill adjacent to his 1867 purchase of 45 acres. The boundary between these properties was the northern side of the abandoned Cox's Road alignment and they were also bounded by the top road of the Lapstone Zig Zag railway as it climbed its way up the escarpment.

Lucas was a builder, contractor, innkeeper, magistrate and prominent politician. He had three modest "villas" constructed along the line of the ridge, these were named Logie, Ulinbawn and Lucasville. No doubt his interest was in speculative development of this locality which became known as Lucasville. Lucas had a subdivision of his properties drawn up in the 1880s but the blocks took a long time to sell. This subdivision created Knapsack Street.

Sir Alfred Stephen MLC requested "that a platform be erected at a spot known as Breakfast Point for special excursion trains and that tables be erected and four trees cut down". It was opened in 1877. More likely it was intended to benefit Lucas and to serve the subdivision. A more substantial platform called Lucasville was later constructed and superseded Breakfast Point. The

Zig Zag line was abandoned in 1892.

The early history of Ulinbawn is uncertain but it appears to have been built originally as a modest stone cottage in the 1870s and used by the Lucas family and/or tenanted to unknown persons. It is speculated that the name Ulinbawn indicates a likely link to the Doyle family who built a house called Ulinbawn in about 1812 at Sackville Reach naming it after their family home in County Wicklow, Ireland.



Ulinbawn c1950

There is no description of the original 1870s appearance of the house but there are a number of clues in the current house that give reason to believe that it may have been similar in style to the residence Lucasville, except that it was built of stone.

George and Mary Yeomans acquired 3 subdivided portions of the 10 acre property from Lucas in 1883. Their house was described in 1885 as a "comfortable dwelling" and had been extended about that time to its current footprint. Railwaymen called the horseshoe curve in the line "Yeoman's Corner".

At the time that they purchased, the Yeomans must have considered the style of the house to be already dated. When they rebuilt and extended the house about 1884 they relocated original features such as the front door and French windows to the rear of the house and they added the large floor to ceiling sash windows to the east and north aspects.

Close neighbours of the Yeomans in the 1880s included John Lucas at Lucasville, William

Lovel Davis (MLA) at Mountside, Captain Charles Smith at Logie, and Randolph Want (solicitor). There was an enclave of notable persons of the time establishing their country residences in the Lucasville locality.

The painter, Arthur Streeton, when residing in Glenbrook in 1891, painted and sketched nearby scenes, he described Mr Yeomans in a letter as "a squatter living here - by nature and religion a naturalist - is very nice to me - dined with them on Sunday - very nice people".

George Yeomans came from a family of land owners in the Walgett area, he



Ulinbawn 2016

was of the "squattocracy" and had previously worked as a station overseer. The Yeomans rented the house to the Skarratts from about 1906.

From 1918 the property was owned for a period of more than 50 years by the Skarratt family and rented out to a number of families. Past residents have included members of the Skarratt, Wall, Durham, Bennett, White, McCleave, Stobie, Hussey, Dent and other families.

During the mid 1920s, the house became the 'Collegiate School' and was under the stern discipline of the headmaster Mr Garnet Swift Durham. Up to about 20 pupils attended, mostly

boarders who slept on the side verandah. At times the house was used to billet RAAF personnel working at the nearby base.

The Cordin family rented briefly in 1964 and Ann said that she cried when she first moved in when she saw the state the house was in. It was barely habitable. Following this long period of neglect, the Skarratts subdivided and sold the property in the 1960s. The Edmonds family substantially renovated and extended the house in 1973 to its present form adding the upstairs rooms, staircase, pool and garage.

The story of Ulinbawn may be thought of as the story of three houses. There was the original 1870s cottage, of which so little is known; then the more substantial residence as reconstructed about 1884 for George and Mary Yeomans; and, more recently, the renovations made by the Edmonds in 1973.

Ulinbawn has survived damage from bushfires, termites and neglect and is today a comfortable home with a colourful history. The story of Ulinbawn includes numerous contradictions and mysteries that may never be resolved and will continue to intrigue.

GLENBROOK & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY Inc.

OFFICE BEARERS 2015-2016

President	Joan Peard	0414605482
Vice- Presidents	Kevin Frappell	Grant Holmes
Secretary /Treasurer	Neil McGlashan	Chief Historian Tim Miers
Committee	Tim Miers	Doug Knowles Pam Thompson

**Glenbrook & D.H. Society Museum is situated within Old Glenbrook Infants School, Ross St.
Entrance via Park or Ross Sts Museum is open every 1st & 3rd Saturdays
9 am to 1 pm. Entrance FREE**



**CAN YOU ASSIST?
FUNCTION...DATE.... NAMES
VENUE IS SCHOOL OF ARTS**



