

GLENBROOK POINTS

Newsletter of Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc.



POINTSMAN'S COTTAGE

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

GLENBROOK PUBLIC SCHOOL 125 YRS 1892-2017

On Saturday 9th September the G.&D.H. Society hosted a function to celebrate the 125^h anniversary of Glenbrook P.School. Our guests visited the museum and then gathered at the new School for further celebrations. The birthday cake was cut by 2 students from the 1935 class, April Hersey (nee Wright) and Val Imrie (nee Parton)

.See report & photos inside



MUSEUM..... CELEBRATION DAY



CUTTING OF CAKE 125 yrs APRIL & VAL

PAM'S PAGE

HISTORY GLENBROOK LAGOON



1. GLENBROOK LAGOON c 1900's

On the 12th May 1813 Blaxland, Wentworth and Lawson left the ford at Emu Plains in an effort to find a way across the Blue Mountains. Blaxland noted in his diary that a good supply of water was discovered at the lagoon in what was to become Glenbrook.

On 11th July 1814 William Cox, as a road builder, arrived at the lagoon with a team of convicts, they built a store room on the Western side of the lagoon. In 1815 a Corporal and 3 Privates were stationed here and the post now consisted of a good log hut with two rooms, the building also had a fine fireplace. The soldiers were stationed here to check the permits of travellers passing by, as a permit was required to pass the lagoon, the soldiers had enclosed a small parcel of land as a garden. William Cox mentioned that this was the last place after leaving Emu Plains where grass and clean water were available.

1867 John Whitton built the Lapstone Zig-zag railway, the engines were only small and needed to take on water after climbing the escarpment, so a water tank was built near what is now the intersection of Hare St & Highway. He also built a wall to dam the lagoon on the Eastern side at what is now known as "Frog Hollow". This was needed to increase the capacity of the lagoon and gravity feed water to the water tank. From 1877 to 1884 there was a severe drought and the lagoon was almost dry. Water was pumped from the Duck hole, in Glenbrook Creek, to the lagoon.

On 1896 Frank Butler arrived in Glenbrook by train, he asked the station master where to obtain supplies and where was a good camping site. He was advised to obtain supplies at Howlett's store in Wascoe St and to camp at the lagoon. This action was the beginning of the end of Frank Butler's reign

as he was later to be hung as a murderer. (EDITOR:- for more details of the Weller murders refer to "Glenbrook & District, A History" Chapter V "The Weller Murder" written by Nell Aston. Book is available \$25 from The Society).



2. ELLIS PROPERTY AT LAGOON c 1948

c1940 Bill and Alice (Dolly) Ellis built a small one room cottage, and operated a nursery, on land between Hayment St and lagoon, later in 1947 the cottage was enlarged and a separate cement brick structure built. Remains of this building can be seen today

The Girl Guides and Boy Scouts during the 1980's used the lagoon to practice their canoeing skills. For many years the Glenbrook/Lapstone Rural Fire Service would fill their tankers from

the lagoon during bush fires as indeed even today, helicopters now fill their buckets with water for fire bombing.



3. RURAL FIRE SERVICE at LAGOON



4. SCOUTS on the LAGOON c 1980's



Glenbrook Lagoon has undergone a rejuvenation and has been cleared of weeds.

Picture: MATTHEW SULLIVAN

Ian Paterson

NOXIOUS WEEDS ARE WELL ON THE WAY OUT

GLENBROOK Lagoon looks to have been given a new lease of life.

New measures to control weeds and prevent pollutants entering the lagoon have revitalised the rare upland body of water.

The lagoon, which provides a habitat for 29 native species of flora and 16 native

aquatic fauna species, is one of only three of its kind in Hawkesbury-Nepean river system and has been plagued by stormwater pollution and noxious aquatic weeds.

Since 2006, Blue Mountains Council has used specialised aquatic herbicide to eradicate the salvinia and cabomba weeds from the la-

goon, revitalised surrounding bushland and installed gross-pollutant traps.

Ninety-nine per cent of salvinia has been removed and after one year of treatment for cabomba there has been no sign of the weed or any regrowth.

The council warned that it was too soon to suggest

eradication of the weeds and said it will continue to monitor the lagoon to ensure the weed is not re-established.

A council report noted that simple actions such as using harsh cleaning chemicals, feeding the ducks and not cleaning up pets droppings are capable of upsetting the environment.



Tracey Williams plant native grasses in a bi-filtration channel at Glenbrook Lagoon.

5. THIS PRESS RELEASE WAS TITLED "TIDE TURNING FOR LAGOON"

The lagoon, for many years, was covered with a nasty weed, but with much thanks to the B.M.C.C. the weed was eradicated and now is looking wonderful. It is home to many water birds and native trees on this lovely stretch of water.

6. UNKNOWN, BILL & ALICE (DOLLY) ELLIS, ALICE snr. ETHEL & WILLIAM BROWN 1953 LAGOON BUILDINGS

Photographs courtesy

1,3,4,5 Tim Miers
& 2. 6. Bruce Palmer



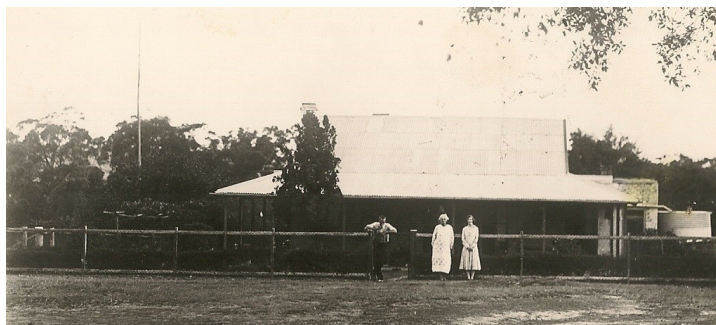
REPORT FROM NEPEAN TIMES THURSDAY 10TH MAY 1962

£27,000 School Open at Glenbrook

More than 500 people attended the official opening of the new Glenbrook Public School, Saturday 5th May, by district inspector of schools, Mr F. Astle

Mr Astle pointed out that the high cost of education, approx £12 per week per person, had no immediate financial return, but resulted in high human quality. This quality was evident particularly in teachers, in the buildings and other facilities provided. The new school in Woodville Rd (formerly Brook St) cost approximately £27,000 (\$52,000). It comprises four classrooms, principals office, store room and toilet facilities.

Site of the school is the former Woods' Estate, of which many of the ornamental trees have been retained. Facilities at the school have been designed to cater for an ultimate enrolment of 800. Present enrolment is 390. The former school in Ross St is still being used for the Infants Dept. The Dept. has plans to build four more classrooms on the new site in 1963. The new school was built by Iron & Hughes Pty Ltd.



**"WOODVILLE" WOODS' ESTATE
BROOK ST. GLENBROOK**

Introducing the principal, Mr Arthur Murphy, President of the P. & C. Association, Mr Les Chin, said the function on Saturday celebrated three occasions. 1. The official opening of the building 2. The 70th birthday of the School 3. The holding of the 12th annual fete by the P. & C. Association. Briefly tracing the history of the school, Mr Murphy said the first teacher was appointed on April 26 1892: the first building cost £80 (\$160), the brick building in Ross St was erected in 1911 and extended in 1932.

Mr Murphy's first roll numbered 78 in 1951 and the attendance had more quadrupled in 10 years to its present 390. Mrs T. Somers, the oldest pupil present, who was the eldest daughter of Mrs E.J. Nolan of explorers Rd Glenbrook, who attended the school in 1905, was given the honour of cutting the birthday cake to mark the school's 70th anniversary.



GLENBROOK 1927...STUDENTS MENTIONED MAY BE IN THIS GROUP? W. ROWLAND HEADMASTER

Government architect, Mr E. Farmer, who designed the school and was present at the opening, has a special association with the school. His wife, formerly Dorothy Gibb, attended the school in 1924. Other former pupils present included, Mrs Masie Thoms (nee Hawkins) who attended in 1924 and John Venn 1923. Two of the oldest former pupils still living in Glenbrook, Mr Wilfred Heile and Miss Ruby Hunter, were unable to attend.

A former headmaster, Mr P Waterhouse was present and the list of former principals since inception comprises, 1892 Miss Sylvia Hall, 1894 William Kessel, 1900 C. B. Hunphrey, 1912 F. MacPherson, 1916 William Worth, 1927 William Rowland, 1938 Ernest Taylor, 1939 David Dugeon, 1941 P. Waterhouse, 1948 Clive Leonard, 1951 A. C. Murphy. Official party also included Dep Mayor Ald W. Sadler, Mr Bernard Dean M.L.A., Rev F. Clark, Rev B. Dooley, Miss Vera Nolan,

125 yrs GLENBROOK PUBLIC SCHOOL CELEBRATIONS 1892-2017 held at Museum Ross St & School Woodville Rd

145 guests attended the function which started at the museum at 11.30 a.m with a large display of school memorabilia which consisted of a photographic display and a student book display from the 1990's. The small building was full of guests at all times and full with conversation. The museum closed at 2 p.m. and guests assembled at the school hall in Woodville Rd.

Outside the hall was a further display of 100+ school class photographs from 1900's to 1970's. At 2.30 p.m. inside the hall, the school band commenced the programme and was followed by the school choir. President Joan Peard welcomed the guests and Kevin Frappell took over as MC. Joan was first of the rank with presentations and spoke of the 1st school in Green St. The funds to build the school, £80 being raised by the small community and commencing with 40 pupils. Elizabeth Saxton spoke on the origin of the G. & D. Historical Society and it's association with the school.

Peter Berry, who commenced school in 1954, was the 3rd of six Berry's to attend the school, all of which became school captains. He remarked that "the legendary Arthur C. Murphy made us extremely proud of our school" and was inspired by the school motto "Knowledge & Power". He finished with a rendition of the school song, ably accompanied by John Potter, Greg Berry Neil Whitton & John Williams, this brought great applause from the audience, many of whom had joined in.

Now it was time to cut the cake, which had been topped with the plaque that originally came from the 100th anniversary cake, still in good condition. Two of the oldest students present, were asked to perform this function, April Hersey (nee Wright) 93yrs and Val Imrie (nee Parton) 92 yrs. Both attended the school in the same class 1935. Val replied first and said that



GUESTS AT MUSEUM



CLASS PHOTO DISPLAY AT SCHOOL



QUINTET:-John Potter, Greg Berry, Peter Berry, Neil Whitton, John Williams



**GLENBROOK CLASS 1935..... FRONT RIGHT
April Hersey(nee Wright) Val Imrie(nee Parton)**

the family had moved to Glenbrook 1931 in the height of the depression, life was very hard, many people were poor, but in small communities like Glenbrook, people helped people, and everyone survived the ordeal. April, who had commenced school 1929, spoke of her 1st teacher, Miss Love, and jockingly said that “every 2nd young man was in love with her”. Afternoon tea was now served with ample goodies for everyone, courtesy of "Trefoil" group catering..

Mayor, Ald. Mark Greenhill, replied on behalf of B.M.C.C. he said that “ *this school is the epicentre of the community, this is not just a celebration of the school, but a celebration of the community around it*” He thanked Joan & David Brown for making this day possible.



***PAM THOMPSON PRESENTS GIFT
TO DAVID BROWN***

David Brown, Principal, replied on behalf of the school. He talked about the school as it is today and the future of the school, he was very optimistic. The progress that had been made in buildings and structures, was explained in detail. Pam Thompson then presented the school with a framed pencil sketch of the 2nd school, the original sketch was made in 1992 by the late Kel Cameron, a local artist and resident of Glenbrook for many years. Pam elaborated on Kel's association with Glenbrook. Pres. Joan presented the school with a cheque for \$500 from the Society.

Hazel Caldwell, a retired teacher addressed all, and followed by Doug Knowles, a Past Pres of the Society, who gave an address on some features as a contractor for the school in the days of Percy Waterhouse and Arthur Murphy.

Pres Joan then introduced Jayne Shephard, who was the original artist to paint the mural on the “Blinky Bill” bus shelter 1992. This was a project of the 100 yrs anniversary and became an icon, not only in Glenbrook, but throughout the mountains. After the shelter was destroyed by a vehicle accident 2014, Jayne was commissioned by B.M.C.C. to restore the mural as close as possible to the original. This was completed 2017. Jayne spoke at length on the project, the trials and tribulations etc. She was presented with a gift for her work and in return presented the Society with the original sketches and plans, which had been approved by Council in 1992, also copies of the work performed by every child, & photographs that had helped in this project.....This wound up a very successful day.



***PRES. JOAN PEARD, APRIL HERSEY,
VAL EMRIE, KEVIN FRAPPELL***



***JAYNE SHEPHARD with
ORIGINAL PLANS 1992***



125 yrs CELEBRATION CAKE



**SCHOOL CHOIR SINGS at
FUNCTION**

From the Secretary's Desk



Election of offices for year 2017-18 was held on Wednesday 20th September and the following positions filled:-

President	Joan Peard	♦	Vice President (1)	Kevin Frappell
Vice President (2)	Doug Knowles	♦	Secretary/Treasurer	Neil Mcglashen
Committee	Pam Thompson...Denis Bainbridge...Ian Dingwell			
Publicity Officer	Anne Peters	♦	Catering	Pam Thompson Maureen Halford
Research	Bill Peard	♦	Social/Activities	Pam Pascoe
Librarian	Bill Peard	♦	Historian	Tim Miers
Museum Co-ordinaror	Doug Knowles	♦	Membership	Mary Knowles

Next meeting will have aguest speaker.Dick Morony.Subject is "Warrimoo". Afternoon tea will be served, please help with catering. **FROM** Pam Pascoe social activities:-A trip to the historical Carrington Hotel at Katoomba will be on Monday 26th February 2018. The tour commences at 10.30 a.m. lasting 90 mts. Cost is \$12 per person payable on the day. A train leaves Glenbrook at 9.19 a.m. We can also organise a community bus. There is an extra charge if we decide on that choice. We can arrange our own lunch, plenty of eating places. Please let me know asap if you will be attending phone 02 4739 3078 or e-mail pplinden@gmail.com



GLENBROOK & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY Inc.

President	Joan Peard	0414605482
Vice- Presidents	Kevin Frappell	Doug Knowles
Secretary /Treasurer	Neil McGlashan	Chief Historian Tim Miers
Committee	Pam Thompson	Denis Bainbridge Ian Dingwall

**Glenbrook & D.H. Society Museum is situated within Old Glenbrook
Infants school, Ross St. Entrance via Park or Ross Sts**

Museum is open

1st and 3rd Saturdays 9 am to 1.30 pm. Entrance FREE

