

# HERITAGE

NEWSLETTER OF THE BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION  
OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

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## *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.<sup>1</sup>

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.

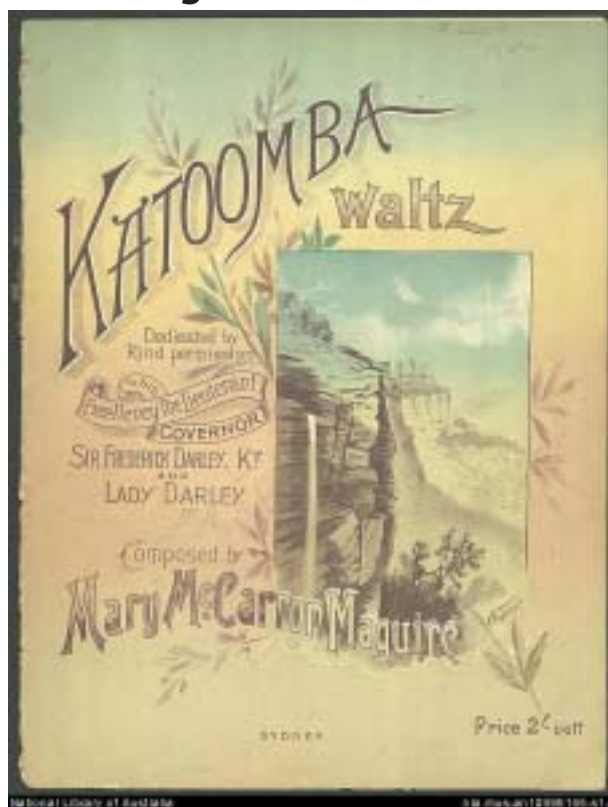
Published in 1895, *The Katoomba Waltz* was first performed at Government House in Sydney and was performed at the Tivoli Theatre in August 1895. The music was added to the repertoire of the NSW Artillery Regiment Band.

*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 *Commonwealth* 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.<sup>2</sup>

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.

**Continued page 4**

**Contents.....**  
**HERITAGE**  
**July - August 2011**

- \* P1 *The Katoomba Waltz* dedicated to an early chief justice
- \* P2 Council's call for public participation in heritage advisory role welcomed
- \* P3 Local history blog
- \* P3 Grant awarded to BMACHO
- \* P3 Telstra grant for workshops
- \* P5 Evans opened the way to the west
- \* P9 What would you keep in an empty jar?



- \* P11 Dear old golden rules days
- \* P13 Crumbled chimney stack only reminder of Polar explorer who lived in Woodford
- \* P14 Special days in World War 1
- \* P16 Historic 1880s Carrington Hotel to be venue for BM history conference
- \* P16 Jean Arthur in BM Hospital
- \* P17 School of Arts or Mechanics Institutes have their origin in early 19th century



- \* P18 Council explains LEP processes
- \* P20 Heritage briefs around the world
- \* P21 The Domesday Book



*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 *Journal* and major workshops.

Overall, BMACHO has a sound record (80%) of success in its grant applications.

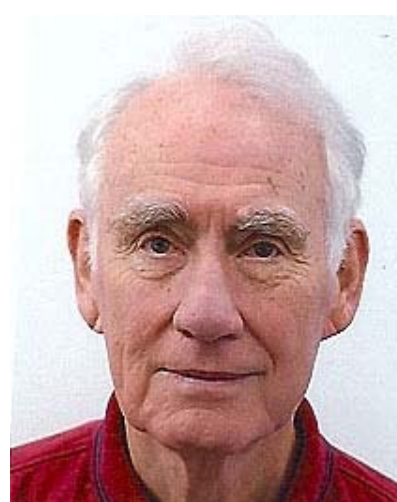
This year it has applied for two new project grants that would enable it to serve its membership more effectively and to contribute even more to heritage work in the region.

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](mailto: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](mailto: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

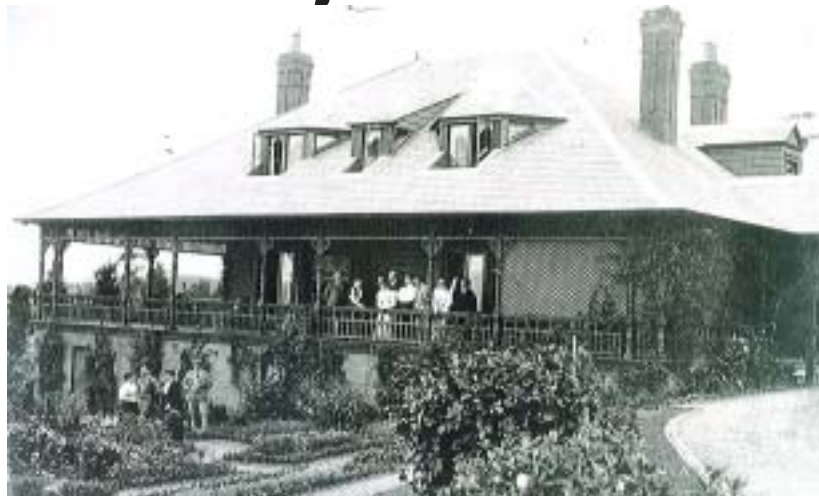
## Continued from page 1

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.<sup>3</sup>

### Footnotes

<sup>1</sup> Ackland, Richard, *The Sydney Morning Herald* May 6, 2011

<sup>2</sup> Leves, Kerry *Blue Mountains – Pictorial Memories* by John Low

<sup>3</sup> *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 uncontested 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 20<sup>th</sup> 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."*<sup>1</sup>

***"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.<sup>2</sup>

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 Diemen'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.<sup>3</sup>

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.<sup>4</sup>

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 Diemen's Land ca.1819", a watercolour by William 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 Dixon 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.<sup>5</sup>

## 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 200<sup>th</sup> 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.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>7</sup>.

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 trigonometrical 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, Perth City Council, Land and Property Management Authority and Institution of Surveyors NSW<sup>8</sup>.

The Seniors Group, Institution of Surveyors NSW Inc. conducted a



**Mike Rutledge chairman and Graham Hunt, survey monuments curator, Seniors Group Institute of Surveyors NSW Inc. at the recent unveiling of the Lapstone pillar.**

ceremony at the Lapstone pillar in May 2011 to mark the restoration of the 14 pillars.

## FOOTNOTES

<sup>1</sup>. General Order 12 February 1814

<sup>2</sup>. Lowe, David (1994). "Chapter 1. Winddradyne of the Wiradjuri".

*Forgotten Rebels: Black Australians Who Fought Back*. Sydney: ICS and Associates Pty Ltd. pp. 4–9. [http://www.acr.net.au/~davidandjane/frebel\\_20000416.pdf](http://www.acr.net.au/~davidandjane/frebel_20000416.pdf).

<sup>3</sup>. Australian Dictionary of Biography – Online edition, Evans George William (1780 – 1852) <http://adbonline.anu.edu.au/biogs/A000103430b.htm>

<sup>4</sup>. *ibid.*

<sup>5</sup>. *ibid.*

<sup>6</sup>. *Footsteps in Time – A road across the mountains brochure*

<sup>7</sup>. *ibid.*

<sup>8</sup>. Hunt, Graham (2011) survey monuments curator, Seniors Group, ISNSW Inc. - *George William Evans (1780 – 1852)* a briefing paper.

The assistance 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.



**"Sydney from the western side of the Cove ca.1803" a watercolour by William George Evans. Reproduced with permission of State Library of NSW. XV1/1803/1**



# What would you keep in an empty jar?

by Dr Peter Stanbury, OAM

CHRISTOPHER ROBIN'S friend, Eeyore, 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?



*This jar shows an internal niche at its opening*



*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?

# 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?

## 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.



***At the top of this jar there is an external niche***



# 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.

## References

- \* *The Journal of the Women's College*, Vol. 26 No. 1, winter 2010-11-09, p. 8.
- \* T.G. Vallance & D.F. Branagan, 'David, Sir Tannatt William Edgeworth (1858-1934),' *The Australian Dictionary of Biography*, Volume 8, Melbourne University Press, 1981, pp 218-221.
- \* Ken Goodlet, *Hazelbrook & Woodford*, Ken Goodlet, 2006, p 40.
- \* *The Argus*, 29.8.1934.
- \* Jennifer Carter, *Portrait of a Lady: Caroline Martha David*, National Library of Australia, September 2002, Vol. XII No. 12.
- \* *Daily Telegraph* image

# 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<sup>1</sup>, 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<sup>2</sup>, but seven weeks earlier in Victoria on March 26, 1915<sup>3</sup> and also in Tasmania<sup>4</sup>; in South Melbourne it was called Belgian

Rose Day and reputedly was held on April 8, 1915<sup>5</sup>. 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.

## 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.

The article first appeared in the Blue Mountains Historical Society's newsletter *Hobby's Outreach* Volume 23 Number 2 - June-July 2011

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.)

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> *Sydney Morning Herald* 17 May 1915, p.8, col.8.

<sup>3</sup> *Kalgoorlie Western Argus*, March 30, 1915, p.8, col.1.

<sup>4</sup> *The Mercury*, 26 March 26, 1915, p.4, col.3 & March 27, 1915, p.7, col.3. <sup>5</sup> *The Argus*, July 8, 1916, p.20, col.8.



**Australian troops resting from the battle in Peronne (Somme) during World War 1. Image courtesy Australian War Memorial.**



## 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	<i>BME</i> 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	<i>BME</i> 30 Jul 1915, p.4 col.2 etc.
4 Nov 1915		Allies Day		<i>SMH</i> 5 Nov 1915, p.4, col.2.
19 Nov 1915		Allies Day	Leura	<i>BME</i> 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	<i>BME</i> 7 Jul 1916, p.3, col. 2.
15 Dec 1916	Repatriation Day			
23 Feb 1917		Win-the-War Day	Katoomba	<i>BME</i> 23 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	<i>BME</i> 20 Jul 1917, p.4., col.4; p.6, cols.2-3.
28 Sep 1917		War Chest Day	Leura, Lawson & Hazelbrook; Sydney	<i>BME</i> 7 Sep 1917, p.2., col. 3; 21 Sep 1917, p.4 col. 3; 5 Oct 1917, p.3, col.4
29 Sep 1917		War Chest Day	Katoomba	<i>BME</i> 7 Sep 1917, p.2, col.3.
6 Apr 1918		Red Cross Day	Medlow Bath	<i>BME</i> 26 Apr 1918, p.4, col. 3.
24 Apr 1918		Red Cross Day	Leura	<i>BME</i> 10 May 1918, p.4, col.4
c. 4 May 1918	c. 4 May 1918	Red Cross Day	Blackheath, Glenbrook, Mt Victoria	<i>BME</i> 12 Apr 1918, p.5, col. 4; <i>SMH</i> 8 May 1918 p.10, col. 6
29 Jun 1918		Italy or Italian Day	Katoomba	<i>BME</i> 28 Jun 1918, p.2, col. 4; 5 Jul 1918, p.2. col. 4.
14 Jul 1918		France's Day	Katoomba	<i>BME</i> 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	<i>BME</i> 20 Sep 1918, p.1, col. 2
1 Nov 1918	Jack's Day		Katoomba, Leura, Wentworth Falls	<i>BME</i> 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	<i>BME</i> 1 Nov 1918, p.4, col. 4; 8 Nov 1918, p. 4, col. 3.
5 Nov 1918		Jack's Day	Blackheath	<i>BME</i> 8 Nov 1918, p. 4, col. 3.
30 Nov 1918		War Chest Day	Katoomba, Leura, Wentworth Falls	<i>BME</i> 22 Nov 1918, p. 3, col. 4; 29 Nov 1918, p.3, col. 3; p.5, col.6; 6 Dec 1918, p.1, col. 5; p. .6, col.3.
Key:		Jack's Day = Sailors' Day		<i>BME</i> = Blue Mountain Echo <i>SMH</i> = 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 will 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](mailto: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 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 20<sup>th</sup> 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."<sup>1</sup>

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.<sup>2</sup>

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.<sup>3</sup>

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.<sup>4</sup>



*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 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.

## 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

The Dictionary of Sydney,

[www.dictionaryofsydney.org](http://www.dictionaryofsydney.org)

<sup>2</sup> *Nepean Times*, 31.8.1901.

<sup>3</sup> Booklet in the ownership of the late Ern Lesslie.

<sup>4</sup> *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](http://www.springwoodhistorians.blogspot.com)



**Heritage listed site ... Lennox Bridge, Glenbrook**



**Heritage listed site ... Norman Lindsay Gallery and gardens, Faulconbridge**

**Continued page 19**

# 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<sup>1</sup>.

"...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<sup>2</sup>.

## References

<sup>1</sup> [www.domesdaybook.co.uk/](http://www.domesdaybook.co.uk/)

<sup>2</sup> [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Domesday\\_Book](http://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.