

HERITAGE

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

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2011

ISSUE No. 18

Cox's Road remnants to be listed on State Heritage Register

Earlier this year the NSW Heritage Office concluded it will list representative portions of Cox's Road as part of the 1813 bicentennial celebrations of the crossing of the Blue Mountains in recognition of the importance of the road in the history of opening up western NSW.

In April 2011 the NSW Heritage Office notified the Cox Road Project Committee, the nomination for listing of the Cox's Road on the State Heritage Register under the Heritage Act 1977 had been successful.

The Listings Committee advised that it was very enthusiastic about the proposal and considers the route a significant part of NSW's history and heritage.

After considering its options the committee concluded that listing of representative portions of Cox's Road would be undertaken as part of the 1813 bicentennial celebrations.

This will require further extensive consultation with owners and other relevant stakeholders.

At least since the 1960s it has been acknowledged that there are significant remnants of the original



Road formation carved as kerbed carriageway along the Woodford Ridge near the Woodford Trig.



Retaining wall on a deviation of the Cox's Road off the end of Cut Hill Road, Sodwalls, near Tarana.

colonial Cox's Road all along the Great Western Highway through the Blue Mountains and in the Lithgow and Bathurst local government areas.

Very little of the alignment has been recognised for its significance by any of the relevant local government bodies.

The Cox's Road Steering Committee was formed in July 2006 to look at long term objectives and mechanisms to preserve the 1814 Cox's Road alignment between Emu Plains and the Blue Mountains and Bathurst.

Convenor of the committee, Patsy Moppett has told *HERITAGE*, the committee was formed with delegates from the Lithgow, Blue Mountains and Bathurst branches of the National Trust, and operates under the auspices of the Trust as an informal committee.

"The committee sought to eventually establish a heritage walk or trail over parts of this route through some of the most beautiful countryside in Australia, and is currently seeking to have the remnants of the road listed on the State Heritage Register.

"The committee originally sourced input from various persons who had carried out research work on the Cox's Road including Alan Carey and Kevin Boole of the Land & Property Management Authority (LPMA), Siobhan Lavelle of NSW Heritage Office, Grace Karskens (Cox's Road Trust) and Bill Evans (RTA). These people still have associations with the committee.

"The committee's main objective is to facilitate the identification, conservation and management of the Cox's Road, Ms Moppett said.

Continued page 3

Contents.....
HERITAGE
November--December

- *P1 Cox's Road remnants to be listed on State Heritage Register
- *P2 Industrial heritage the Cinderella of cultural heritage
- *P3 Heritage advisory committee named
- *P4 Powerhouse curator to present fashions at Blue Mountains History conference
- *P4 Norman Lindsay's *Novel Drawings* exhibition
- *P5 Naval comrades give 'Inflexible' sailor fitting burial
- *P7 The Robert Howard Memorial Award
- *P8 Govett's 'Leap' debunked as a myth
- *P9 *Life and practice* art at Eveglades
- *P10 Caroline Mallett in her own right
- *P12 New Windsor bridge proposal
- *P13 Mine owners gift to Lithgow heritage
- *P14 New Guinea life created interest in cultural values
- *P15 Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society has new president
- *P16 Grants workshop
- *P16 Land records workshop well attended
- *P17 Louise Markus first to support conference
- *P17 Professor Ian Jack to open conference
- *P17 Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Centre
- *P18 Santa to arrive by steam tram
- *P18 New members
- *P19 BlueMountains History Journal
- *P20 First Waltzing Matilda manuscript on show as National Library unveils some of its treasures
- *P21 Western crossing commemoration
- *P22 Australia's first hospital celebrates 200 years



An opinion from the editor.....
Industrial heritage
the Cinderella of
cultural heritage

Industrial or engineering heritage because it usually has neither charm nor beauty is often seen as the Cinderella of our cultural heritage.

Industry is an important part of our cultural heritage. As well as having obvious heritage value, it can:

- * demonstrate stages of technological development;
- * aid understanding of the history of society and the influences on its growth and development;
- * demonstrate the nature of work and changes in working conditions and practices.

Around the nation there are steelworks, power stations, transport systems and other works built for specific uses now lying neglected and decaying.

These structures once held and sometimes still do hide machinery and other industrial objects and systems, but because of their concealment within a building and the fact that they are worn out they tend to be discarded; their heritage value easily overlooked.

Industrial heritage in the field of agriculture fares a little better, primarily because those on the land tend to place a greater value on heritage and as a result many towns conserve farm machinery, its manuals of use and other knowledge, in local museums.

Once the purpose is no longer required there may be little other use for the items; a smelting furnace can be used for little else than smelting.

Regrettably, this means, materials and the skills to create and construct the works may disappear, along with the knowledge to conserve them. For example, riveted steam boilers are now difficult to maintain because the appropriate trade skills are becoming rare.

Engineers Australia, the National Trust of Australia RAHS and several other bodies in Australia have recognised the importance of industrial heritage as part of Australia's social history.

While a great deal of potential for conservation and restoration of industrial heritage is being lost around the nation, this is not the case within the Blue Mountains-Lithgow regions.

In this region there are at least four good examples of where industrial heritage is being brought into adaptive re-use and the efforts of those involved, who are mainly volunteers with these challenging projects need to be applauded.

The first is the scenic railway at Scenic World, Katoomba where the Hammon family have not only created the infrastructure for a major tourist attraction around the steep incline railway that hauled the coal and oil shale mined in the Jamison Valley, but they have collected and conserved a wide range of implements, cables etc. associated with mining in the region. To this can be added the outstanding Philip Hammon and Philip Pells book *The Burning Mists of Time – A technological and Social History of Mining at Katoomba*.

Next and no less significant in its scope is the Lithgow State Mine Heritage Park and Railway run by a non-profit body. After taking control of the site City of Greater Lithgow Mining Museum Inc. began restorations and started to gather artifacts and stories.

The museum is working to tell the stories of the mine's workers and their industry. The organisation has published a number of books well researched and written by Ray Christenson about the western coalfields and the men and women who lived and worked these mines. The mine owners Dick Austen and Angelo Butta who donated the site of the former Lithgow State Coal Mine to the people of Lithgow also need recognition for their contribution to the region's heritage.

The other two outstanding contributions to the preservation of industrial heritage are the operators of the Valley Heights Rail Museum and the Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd.

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

Local government asked to include Cox's Road in future heritage reviews

Continued from page 1

The steering committee became the Cox's Road Project Committee in 2008 and has sought support from the Blue Mountains, Lithgow, Oberon, Penrith and Bathurst councils.

"We have asked them to consider inclusion of the Cox's Road for heritage listing in future reviews of the various councils' local environmental plans (LEPs), and referral to the committee of any development applications or other proposals in the five LGAs, so that the committee may make comment in the context of the project objectives.

"The assessment process has highlighted many features of the establishment of the heritage trail, which provide challenges to inception and management of each site, and present restrictive criteria upon which to base future site interpretation.

"This includes the fact that many sites are on private land, and on-going access is all but non-existent.

"Sites on public land are the most obvious ones to be exploited by the project, but must be in accordance with local and state agency liability restrictions and safety of the public, at the same time making the sites available and able to be interpreted by future generations, with minimal agency management.



A view of the stone cutting and carriageway at the beginning of the descent from Mt York to Hartley Vale on the original Cox's Road. Railing that used to stretch across the drop to the rock in the background, was erected to keep the stock on the road. Photograph courtesy Jan Koperberg

"Over the next few months our committee will be undertaking workshops to investigate these representative portions with the assistance of members of the community in each precinct, commencing in November 2011.

"Once the final listing is established, this should open the funding doors to resources and finance to employ a project manager in a similar format to the Great North Road Project. Our task would then pass to that person.

"The committee acknowledges the assistance of a large number of people, without whose assistance the research, actions and outcomes could not be achieved.

"These include: Kevin Boole, Grace Karskens, Alan Carey, Col Roberts, Leonie Knapman, Siobhan Lavelle, Kevin Webb and Lyn Wood, Kerry Bartlett, Bill Evans, Nicole Secomb, Alan Bardsley, Bill Evans and BMACHO's inaugural president, John Leary," Ms Moppett said.



Cox's Road descent at Mt York

Blue Mountains heritage advisory committee named

Blue Mountains City Council at its last meeting endorsed the nomination of 10 community members to its heritage advisory committee. They are:

*Dr Naomi Parry a former Lithgow City Council cultural development officer and resident of Katoomba,
*David Turner deputy chairman National Trust of Australia (Blue Mountains Branch of Katoomba,
*Ron Powell an architect and landscape architect of Leura,
*Juliana Swatko a lecturer in photography and design UWS of Woodford,

*John Leary, OAM, past president of BMACHO, past chair Friends of Woodford Academy of Woodford,
*Pamela Smith, president BMACHO of Springwood,
*Shirley Evans, member of Blue Mountains Family History Society and Springwood Historians of Winmalee,
*Suzanne Mitchell a member of Professional Historians Society and RAHS of Springwood,
*Kate Matthews historian of Warrimoo,
*Fiona Carruthers member of Mt Wilson Historical Society of Mt Wilson.

Powerhouse curator to present fashions at Blue Mountains History conference

A POWERHOUSE MUSEUM curator Glynis Jones has accepted an invitation to be presenter of textiles and fashions in the early colonial era at the Blue Mountains History conference being planned for October 2012 in the heritage listed Carrington Hotel, Katoomba.

Glynis is a curator in the design & society department of the Powerhouse Museum with responsibility for the museum's holdings of fashion and dress.

She looks after a very diverse collection area covering men's, women's and children's clothing and accessories ranging from elaborate 18th century embroidered waistcoats to the work of contemporary international and Australian fashion labels including Louis Vuitton, Akira Isogawa and Romance Was Born.

The museum also holds important designer archives from Jenny Kee and Linda Jackson including original artwork for textiles and garments, stunning fashion photography and even business records.

In addition there are significant manufacturer's archives from Speedo which document the evolution of competitive swimwear from the racer back woolen Speedos of the 1930s to today's high tech suits.

Through filmed interviews and photography Glynis has been collecting and documenting the richness and diversity of subcultural and alternative dressing in Australia, from Mods to Metalheads and Goths to DIY punks.

In 2006 Glynis developed the popular online *Electronic Swatchbook* project, a public domain archive of high resolution images of fabric swatches from the museum's collection.

Over 900 swatches have been made available in digital form to be used freely by fashion and textile designers, graphic designers and students- <http://www.powerhousemuseum.com/electronicswatchbook/>



Glynis Jones with some of her favourite things from the museum's collection including the first pair of elastic sided boots invented by Joseph Sparkes Hall in 1837, photograph entitled 'Craig' by Ilana Rose, 1992 and a 1950s cocktail dress by Jacques Fath. Photograph by Sotha Bourn

Glynis has curated a number of exhibitions including *Frock Stars: Inside Australian Fashion Week (2010)* exploring the history, purpose, highlights, controversies and achievements of Australian Fashion Week to *Sourcing the Muse (2002)* in which she invited eight Australian designers to look through the museum's textile and dress collection and select items to use as a source of inspiration for a new work; providing a fascinating insight to the designers creative process.

Glynis has also contributed to various publications including *Subcultural and alternative style in Australia* for the *The Berg Encyclopedia of World dress and Fashion (2010)* and *Jenny Kee and Linda Jackson for Yesterday's Tomorrows, The Powerhouse Museum and its precursors 1880-2005* (Powerhouse Publishing in association with UNSW Press 2005).

Norman Lindsay's Novel Drawings exhibition

Over a period of 55 years Norman Lindsay wrote 14 novels many of which he also illustrated.

Novel Drawings — original book illustrations by Norman Lindsay an exhibition of the works will run until the end of December at the Norman Lindsay Gallery, Faulconbridge.

Lindsay considered his fiction writing a diversion from the serious

business of his art making and enjoyed embellishing his novels with lively drawings purely for his own and the reader's enjoyment.

The exhibition includes over 50 pen and ink or wash that will appeal to all ages.

The exhibition is free with normal gallery admission.

Naval comrades give 'Inflexible' sailor a fitting burial at Katoomba

by Jan Koperberg

Thomas Dixon, RN, d.o.b. July 24, 1892, Byker, Northumberland, UK

IN SEPTEMBER 2007 I received an email from Heather Smeatom, who lives in Newcastle-upon-Tyne, England. She was researching her family tree and had found that her great-uncle Thomas Dixon was buried in Katoomba Cemetery in the Blue Mountains region of Australia.

Tom had served in the Royal Navy and his RN Records state that he was medically discharged from the Royal Navy in 1920 and spent nearly two years in Wentworth [Falls] Sanatorium in New South Wales, where he died on November 29, 1921.

Heather had obtained death details from NSW BMD Registry and had also obtained details of his burial from the Blue Mountains City Council Cemetery Register, which states that he is buried in Katoomba Cemetery, in Section KPR1, Row 1, Plot 15. Heather had tried, without success, to discover if any photographs of Katoomba Cemetery were available, perhaps location maps of the graves and also if the grave is (or was) marked.

I checked the Wood Coffill (Katoomba) Burial Index 1916 to 1945, Volume 1 and found the following entry:

Deceased: DIXON, Thomas Mr
Identification No: 589

Date of Death: Wednesday, 30 November

Age at Death: 30 yrs

Date of Burial: Thursday, 1 December 1921

Place of Burial: Katoomba

Religion: PR

Cemetery Section: 1

Plot Details: 15

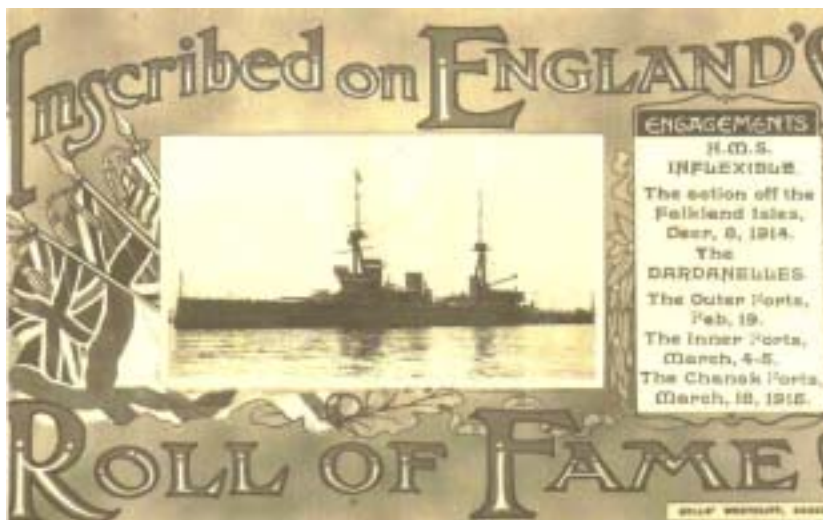
Minister: Mackie

Informant: La Touche Medical Supt

Address of Informant: Bodington, Wentworth Falls

Other details: (none)

Vehicles: 2 horse hearse only (OPBM Vol 11) ¹.



The postcard recording events up to 1915 in which the HMS Inflexible participated. The Inflexible launched in 1907 saw considerable action in World War 1 but was deemed obsolete in 1921 and sold for scrap.

I then checked another publication, *Our Past Blue Mountaineers*, Vol XI and found the following entry for Tom:

"DIXON Thomas Katoomba, Presbyterian, Old Section, Row 1, No 15.

Scrolled grey marble headstone on sandstone surround, with white pebbled deck

'IN LOVING MEMORY OF
THOMAS DIXON R.N.
DIED 29th NOV. 1921
AGED 30 YEARS

(Engraving of ships anchor)

"FAITHFUL UNTO DEATH"

ERECTED BY HIS SHIPMATES OF
H.M.A.S. MELBOURNE AND
H.M.A.S. SYDNEY².

DIXON THOMAS: Tom was an ex-leading stoker on HMAS *Sydney*, who was a patient at Bodington Hospital, Wentworth Falls.

He had been there only six days as a TB patient when he died.

By some misunderstanding there was no official naval funeral party, so that several other naval inmates at Bodington attended the graveside.

They were Petty Officer Anderson and AB Hanley of HMAS *Torrens*, Stoker Malone of HMAS *Brisbane* and Signalman Wallace of HMAS *Australia*.

I went to Katoomba Cemetery, found the grave, and although worn, I photographed it for Heather, close up and at a distance, to show that Tom's grave is nestled under a tree.

Heather was very touched that Tom's shipmates had seen fit to give him a decent burial and to pay for a headstone and surround (the white pebbles are no longer there).

She wrote again in February 2008 to say that she had just returned to her research after a long break and thought she would write.

A cousin had come over from France a few weeks previously and had brought a letter and postcard from Tom, which she had found in a box of archives belonging to their second cousin. She was thrilled and thought it was a lovely letter, and attached a copy for me.

The postcard records, 'Engagements H.M.S. Inflexible. The action off the Falkland Isles, Decr, 8, 1914, The Dardanelles. The Outer Ports, Feb, 19. The Inner Ports, March, 4-5. The Chanak Ports, March, 18, 1915.'

Continued page 6

Continued from page 5

Unfortunately the letter is not dated and the postmark on the envelope is not clear, but the postcard records events up to 1915, listed above, and Tom's Naval Record states that he served on HMS *Inflexible* between 1915 and 1919, so it is difficult to know exactly when it would have been sent.

The second cousin was born in 1907, so Heather thinks that perhaps it was sent around 1917/1918, when the cousin would have been around 10 years old.

The letter was from '6 Mess, HMS. *Inflexible*, C/o G.P.O., London states: Dear Norah
I am just writing you a few lines to let you know that I am still thinking of you. And I hope you are behaving (sic) yourself while I am away, and when I come home again I will come and see you. I am sending you in this letter a photo of my ship. Well I cannot tell you any news, as I am not allowed to [because of war censorship]. I hope this letter finds you a good little girl, and give my best respect to all, as I am keeping fairly well.
Your Sailor, Tom, xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx.'

'... a box containing dozens of old photos...'

In the same box among dozens of photographs, there were two of a young man in naval uniform and Heather was hoping that they were photographs of Tom, but she had been unable to confirm.

She was trying to discover if the uniform he was wearing would have been the type Tom would have worn during his time in the Royal Navy, but had not been successful.

The only thing she could come up with is a picture of the badge on his cap, which apparently is a RN petty officer's bullion cap badge.



The Dixon family which includes Tom in his naval uniform

This lead Heather to believe that it was not a photograph of Tom, as the last entry on his Royal Navy record states that he was a leading stoker, and there is no reference to him being a petty officer.

She had not given up hope altogether and thought it would be wonderful if it was Tom.

I received a copy of the 'Date and Period of Engagement' from Heather, which had a notation in the Remarks' - RAN agreement 2 years from January 12, 1920.

I looked up the National Archives of Australia for Navy Personnel 1911-1979, trawled through and found Tom's Record of Service. (Petty Officers and Men), stating he was "lent" from RN from January 12, 1920, which stated he had been on the *Melbourne* and the *Sydney*, which I referred to Heather.³

Heather wrote again in August 2008 wanting to share some wonderful news.

Her uncle, who is 88, had rung to say that while clearing out some of her aunt's things, he found some old family photographs and wondered if she would like to have a look at them.

There was a photograph of the Dixon family, which included Tom. She said at last she could put a face to the name and such a handsome, young man.

She thinks the photograph would have been taken around 1910/11, when Tom was about 18 years old and is in pretty good condition, considering its age and the fact that it had been stored away in a box for such a long time.

She attached the photo and Tom is in his Royal Navy uniform.

Heather's grandmother (Annie) is standing at the back with Tom and their younger brother (George Dixon Jnr) is seated on the right.

They are pictured with their father (George Dixon Snr) and their step-mother (Mary). (Tom's mother had died when he was six years). The rest of the children are their half brothers and sisters (l-r) Mary, Ellen and Robert, but Heather did not know the name of the little boy next to his mother and did not even know of his existence.

What made this photograph special for Heather was a story her grandmother had told her when she was young, about the family photograph she had taken when she was about 16/17 years old.

She had arrived at the studio and removed her hat.

Her step-mother slapped her and called her a name because she had tied a scarlet ribbon in the back of her hair. Heather smiled back at her grandmother when she saw the offending ribbon.

Continued page 7

The Robert Howard Memorial Award

Robert Grove Howard 1924 – 1995

The Bob Howard Award for 2010 has been won by Vicki Wilson, for her article "Private Joseph Harold Nevill, Service No. 269", published in *The Explorers' Tree*, No. 83, June 2010 and was awarded to Vicki at the September 2011 Blue Mountains Family History Society (BMFHS) general meeting.

Vicki's name is now on the shield in the family history society section of Springwood Library.

The competition was judged by Lorraine Stacker, library services, Penrith City Library and member of Nepean Family History Society Inc.

Background to the Award

When Bob Howard died on May 10, 1995, the late Colin Slade was president of Blue Mountains Family History Society.

He was asked to deliver a eulogy at Bob's funeral.

In *The Explorers' Tree* magazine, No. 35, August 1995, Colin wrote that he was delivering the eulogy as a friend, rather than as president of the society.

He and other members of the society were there to pay their last respects, offer their heartfelt empathy and understanding to his wife, Pat and other members of the Howard family and to say farewell to a much loved and respected friend.

Bob was a foundation member of the society, which was inaugurated in 1986 and he enthusiastically participated in working bees and fund raising activities.

Bob wrote many and varied articles for *The Explorers' Tree* magazine. Colin Slade noted that it was very hard to remember an issue that didn't have a Howard article.

Bob was co-opted to the committee in 1988 as cemetery officer, attending most cemetery transcription days and was responsible for compiling data for the cemetery publications, which became a consuming passion.

Bob was also treasurer from 1989 for two years.



Pictured while in Fromelles, Vickie Wilson and the Duchess of Cornwall

Bob would spend many hours in the Springwood Library, looking through the microfilms of the old local newspapers to glean any information to add to the cemetery transcriptions.

These publications were well respected and sold well, stamped with that little extra, "the Howard touch".

In 1991 Bob Howard and Don Wilson, were awarded the well-earned honour of becoming the first life members of the society.

In his eulogy, Colin Slade said: "Indeed it is an honour for the society, as Bob's wishes were for donations to be given to the society in lieu of flowers; and I will propose that an annual memorial award and trophy for research be set up."

A judging committee of three was formed to judge the best researched article for each year, from *The Explorers' Tree* magazine and John Low, (historian, former BMCC Local Studies Librarian), was on the original committee.

BMFHS minutes of general meeting December 11, 1995, Jennifer Burrell, representing the judging panel for the Bob Howard Award for 1995, read the judges report, commended Carol Bailey as editor for maintaining the newsletter's high standard, and announced the

winning article: "Names In Genealogy" by Audrey King.

BMFHS minutes of the general meeting February 12, 1996 note that the Bob Howard Award shield is now hanging in the library.

Contributed by Jan Koperberg, President, Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc.

Search for "Inflexible" sailor

Continued from page 6
Heather is still plodding on with her research, although does not get to spend as much time as she would like, and we still send photos of our coat-hanger bridges to one another at Christmas time, Heather's of the Newcastle upon Tyne bridge and mine of the Sydney Harbour bridge.

Sources:

¹Wood Coffill (Katoomba) Burial Index 1916 to 1945, Volume 1, published by Blue Mountains Family History Society, ISBN 09756788 2 5

²Our Past Blue Mountaineers, Vol XI, published by Blue Mountains Family History Society, ISBN 0 646 24216 4

³National Archives of Australia, Navy Personnel Records, 1911-1979, Series A6770, Digital Image with barcode 4416473

Govett's 'Leap' debunked as a myth

THE STORY OF GOVETT and his 'leap' belongs more to mythology than to fact.

It is claimed that a bushranger named Govett, being chased by the police, spurred his horse on and died rather than surrender as he disappeared off the waterfall which drops 450 m into the Grose Valley.

Unfortunately, even though the story deserves to become part of Australian history Govett's Leap was named after William Romaine Govett, a young surveyor who arrived in Sydney in 1827, spent many years surveying the Blue Mountains and the Hawkesbury area, and returned to England in 1834 after the government had reduced his surveying establishment.

The evidence for the 'leap' being simply named after Govett the surveyor is overwhelming.

Coming now to the word "leap". The word "leap" is Scottish for waterfall or cataract.

In the early 1830s the Three Sisters were known as Govett's Point, suggesting that he was well known and admired in the area.



The view from Govett's Leap looking towards Govett's Creek and the Grose Valley with its spectacular sandstone cliffs.

In a letter to the editor of *The Sydney Morning Herald* of April 24, 1930 the correspondent B.A.R. suggested the bushranger story under the heading 'The Blue Mountains' had erroneously appeared in a by then defunct Sydney weekly newspaper, more than 45 years earlier.

In 1835, by then back in England, Govett wrote in the *Saturday Magazine*: 'The bold broken nature of the country on either side is particularly grand, and the streams which at first commence in swamps

soon make their way into inaccessible gullies, until they arrive at the cliffs of the main channel where they fall in cascades... The most remarkable of these cascades is the one near the Weatherboarded Hut and that which falls into the head of the Grose River, which the surveyor general named 'Govett's leap' from the circumstances of my first having come upon the spot when surveying with Mr Rusden.'

And therein lies another mystery. In the *Saturday Magazine* article, Govett himself places Govett's Leap clearly in the correct area, above Govett's Creek and the Grose Valley near Blackheath, but the reference to the Weatherboarded Hut means one of two things.

Either Govett in his writing was confusing the Weatherboard Hut near Wentworth Falls or there was at the time of his surveying a weatherboarded hut near Govett's Leap.

William Romaine Govett (1807-1848), surveyor, was born at Tiverton, Devon, England, the third son of John Govett, surgeon, and his wife Susanna Price, née Owen. He was at Blundell's School, Tiverton, from 1817 to 1820.

He was appointed assistant surveyor in the Surveyor-General's Department of New South Wales on July 10, 1827 at £240 a year, reached Sydney in the *Asia* next December and began work on (Sir) Thomas Mitchell's staff.

Part of his work included surveying on the old Bathurst road, during which he discovered Govett's Leap in the Blue Mountains, which was named by Mitchell in his honour.

Mitchell was pleased with Govett and described him in a report on the department in 1832 as a wild young man who needed control, who had come to the colony ignorant of surveying but with much natural



William Romaine Govett, dry plate photograph courtesy Image courtesy Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW [Original: DG 223]

Continued page 9

Continued from page 8

talent had become perhaps the ablest delineator of ground in the department, and who was remarkably clever at dealing with unexplored country.

‘...the ablest delineator of ground...’

In February 1829, Govett was sent to the Hawkesbury River, where many farms required measurement, but in 1833 his career ended abruptly when the department was reduced.

Govett returned to England in the *Ann* in March 1834 with a letter of recommendation from Mitchell to the British government.

After his return to England, Govett lived at Tiverton, where he wrote several articles on New South Wales which were published in the *Saturday Magazine* between May 7, 1836 and September 2, 1837 under the title ‘Sketches of New South Wales’.



Like so many of the early explorers and adventurers who worked in the early days of the colony, Govett appears to have been an accomplished artist with many of his works being published and a substantial collection of his works in the State Library of NSW and the National Library of Australia. This ink on verso drawing titled View of the Grose River from a cataract named Govett's Leap by Govett is reproduced courtesy of National Library of Australia nla –an3364840

They dealt with such topics as the nature of the country he had helped

to survey, the habits of the Aboriginals, and life in Sydney; they were illustrated with twelve paintings by Govett, which were later advertised for sale by G. Michelmore & Co.

Govett appears to have undergone a personal crisis after his return and repented of his wild early life, but although he considered going abroad again and making a fresh beginning he did not live long and died on August 22, 1848 in London.

Material for this article sourced and compiled by John Leary, OAM. I also thank, Jan Koperberg for her continued assistance in sourcing images from the NSW State Library, the National Library of Australia and elsewhere. jkl

REFERENCES

1. Parsons, Vivienne, ‘Govett, William Romaine (1807-1848)’, *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, National Centre of Biography, Australian National University, <http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/govett-william-romaine-2115/text2671>, accessed 1 October 2011.
2. *Sydney Morning Herald*, August 15, 2007.
3. <http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/18223449>.

Life and Practice art at Everglades

AN ART EXHIBITION, *Life and Practice* featuring the works of Jurgis Miksevicius will be staged at Everglades House and Gardens, Leura between Sunday, November 20 2011 and Saturday January 28, 2012

This solo exhibition surveys examples of his extraordinary body of work which shows but a glimpse of the artist's legacy.

It is the life-gift of a creative individual who came to Australia as a young man escaping the horrors of war and violent dislocation from his homeland, Lithuania.

Woven into the display of Jurgis Miksevicius' paintings and drawings is a narrative of aspects of his life and creative process.

This is further illustrated by interior photos of his home of 50 years decorated with extraordinary murals; photos of his studios and pieces of furniture



The Student 1958 oil on hardboard 78 x 63 cm

Art works will be for sale. Dates: November 20, 2011 – January 28, 2012 (closed December 18 – January 6). Gallery hours: Thursday – Sunday, 11am – 4pm and by appointment

Cost: Free NT Members / \$8 Adult / \$6 Concession / \$4 Child.
Enquiries: (02) 4784 1938

Caroline (Cara) Mallett: in her own right

By Pamela Smith - Springwood Historians

THE DIGITISATION and availability online of national newspapers, as well as magazines like the *Australian Women's Weekly*, are providing family and social historians with a clearer picture of past events. Thus, it is through this medium that we have a more personal view of the appointment of Cara Mallett to Hurlstone Women's Training School. In 1882, the *Sydney Morning Herald* published correspondence written by Sir Henry Parkes, and the Right Hon A.J Mundella MP who recommended Cara for the appointment.¹ This is the story of a remarkable woman who has been described as one of the earliest 'forward thinking' educators to come to this country in the 19th century.

The Reverend JB Faunthorpe, who was principal of Whitelands (the college Cara trained at prior to her Australian position) gave her a glowing reference as did the Inspector of Training Colleges in England, Canon Warburton.

The two gentlemen considered she was highly capable and Mundella, an English minister of parliament, suggested that although young, Cara possessed a better knowledge of 'modern' teaching methods than older teachers long in the profession.²

In her short career Cara had earned a first class Archbishop's certificate for religious knowledge, a first class certificate for advanced botany, a second class advanced certificate for physical geography, a full drawing certificate, first class advanced animal physiology, a first class merit certificate and the Lady Sudely prize for proficiency in domestic sanitation and a certificate from the St John's Ambulance Association.³

Faunthorpe stated, in his testimonial, that she was an excellent teacher, disciplinarian and manager, with some knowledge of the kindergarten system.⁴ He also mentioned that Cara had more than a fair knowledge of Greek, Latin and French.⁵

The testimonials however also illustrated their regret at losing such a talented teacher. Another letter written by Saul Samuel, agent-general, stated that a berth had been secured for Miss Cara Mallett on the *Potosi* which sailed from England on the October 5, 1882.⁶

Eventful that voyage would prove to be because it was aboard the *Potosi* that Cara first encountered Tannant William Edgeworth David

(later Sir) who of course was her future husband.⁷

Cara began life as Caroline Martha Mallett. She was born April 26, 1856 at Southwold, Suffolk in England and was the daughter of fisherman, Samuel Mallett and wife Pamela (nee Wright).⁸

Cara, as she preferred to be called, is said to have been orphaned at a young age and then raised by her grandmother.⁹

However, the 1871 census for England showed that at the age of 14, Cara was living with George and Mary Hurr.¹⁰

George was also a Suffolk fisherman and the census noted she was the couple's niece. She was a pupil teacher.¹¹

Jennifer Horsfield, who explored Cara's life in some detail, suggested Cara exemplified what 'women could achieve' when they were 'empowered by education'.¹²

Horsfield confirmed that Cara, with an annual salary of £300, became 'one of the colony's first independent, highly qualified professional women'.¹³

As an avowal of her standing she was accepted into the Royal College of Preceptors in 1884, which allowed her to 'use the initials MRCP after her name'.¹⁴

Horsfield saw this event as not insignificant in a colony that remained wedded to the idea that a 'British stamp of approval' was the ideal.¹⁵

Cara proved to be a formidable principal and her active pursuit of higher standards and better training for student teachers often led to

conflict with senior bureaucrats in the Department of Public Instruction.¹⁶

Horsfield suggested Cara was both outspoken and innovative and promoted Friedrich Froebel's radical kindergarten theories for teaching young children.

It is easy to see why Cara was impressed with German educator Friedrich Froebel (1782-1852) because he was quoted as saying:

"The destiny of nations lies far more in the hands of women, the mothers, than in the possessors of power, or those of innovators who for the most part do not understand themselves. We must cultivate women, who are the educators of the human race, else the new generation cannot accomplish its task."

Froebel's methods had an appeal to forward thinking educators like Cara because 'play' was considered as vital as more structured activities in the education of small children.¹⁷

Froebel even suggested that childhood play was the 'highest expression of human development' because it allowed the 'free expression of the child's soul'.¹⁸ Froebel was not interested in turning out clones but in the 'wholeness' of the individual.¹⁹

Cara embraced Froebel's enlightened teaching methods and opposed rote learning which was taught by most teachers in the 'Victorian-era'.²⁰

Froebel's methods are still being used to this day. While Cara was a strong advocate for the school curriculum to include the teaching of practical and domestic arts, she was equally supportive of girls being taught science.²¹

Continued page 11

Continued from page 10

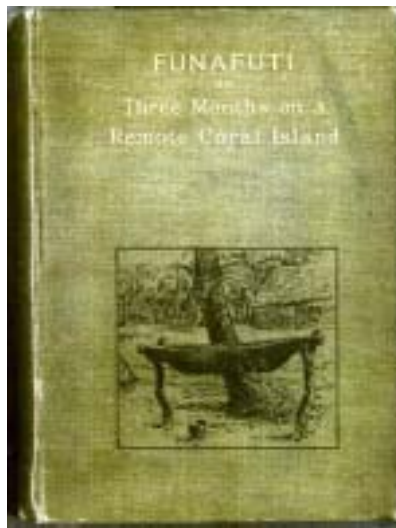
When Cara married mining surveyor, TW Edgeworth David, in 1885 she was required, as was the unequal tradition then, to resign her Hurlstone position.²²

Horsfield implied that Cara's early married life, while dedicated to raising three young children, was somewhat lonely in many respects because her husband travelled frequently to 'far-flung geological field camps.'²³

However, Carol Cantrell painted rather a different story by suggesting that Cara and the children often accompanied Edgeworth David.²⁴

Cantrell described a trip they made to Funafuti in 1897, where Cara forged a friendship with locals while suffering the discomfort of 'rain, mouldy clothes and lack of privacy' quite cheerfully²⁵

This trip obviously provided the material for *Mission work in Funafuti*, which Cara wrote when she returned home.²⁶



Life gained a more normal pace after Edgeworth David was appointed Professor of Geology at the University of Sydney in 1891.²⁷

The couple explored their own social and educational projects but equally, were at the centre of a 'group of liberal intellectuals who dominated Sydney's cultural life.'²⁸

Thus, the Edgeworth David's could count among their friends people like William Windeyer and his feminist-campaigner wife, Mary; and Professors Scott, Anderson and

During World War 1 Cara turned the David's Woodford cottage into a convalescent home for soldiers

MacCallum (academics from the University of Sydney).

The group founded the Australian Home Reading Union (AHRU) in 1892 that aimed to provide courses in science, history and general literature for people who had an interest but otherwise lacked higher education.²⁹

The AHRU failed in its bid to attract the interest of working class people who, according to Horsfield, considered it was a club for the 'rich and privileged.'³⁰

Together with friends like Louisa MacDonald (the first principal of the University Women's College) and feminist, Maybanke Wolstenholme, Cara supported the setting up of free kindergartens in the inner city.³¹

Cara put her skills to good use in the early decades of the twentieth-century when she lectured on topics like 'Foreign missions & the effect they had on natives,' 'National Efficiency,' and 'Women War Workers.'³²

Newspapers of the day confirm that she was involved with the 'Women's Prohibition Movement' which was a body formed from the amalgamation of the 'Women's Christian Temperance Union' and other like societies.³³

As president Cara addressed a large gathering at Katoomba in August 1920.³⁴ She stated that 'they had been unable to lift the dead weight of apathy from the general public' when she addressed another gathering later that same year.³⁵

It is not clear whether they took up a suggestion made at that meeting that in order to rouse the apathy the ladies should go about ringing bells while carrying large placards declaring the benefits of Prohibition.

When the 'Wattle Day League' formed c1910, Cara and feminist

campaigner, Rose Scott, became the vice presidents.³⁶

The League president was Joseph Henry Maiden who was director of Sydney's Botanical Gardens.

Among other organisations Maiden was one-time president of the Linnean Society 1901-2; president of the Royal Australian Historical Society 1905-07 and president of the Horticultural Society 1903-17.

The objective of the Wattle League, in its formative years, was to instil a sense of national pride and patriotism for their country in Australian citizens.

Rose Scott's tireless campaign to improve women and children's rights also inspired Cara to become a devoted advocate.

Cara founded her own branch of the 'Women's Political Educational League,' begun by Scott in 1904, in an effort to alert women to their new responsibilities after gaining the vote.³⁷

Edith Fry (1858-1940) another devotee of the Women's League was related to Woodford Academy principal John McManamey.

During World War One Cara turned the David's Woodford cottage (*Tyn-y-coed*) into a Red Cross convalescent home for soldiers.³⁸

She was president of the 'Women's National Movement,' which aimed at social reform, like sex education for young children and the eradication of venereal disease.

Cara, given her involvement with the 'Women's Prohibition Movement', strongly supported prohibition and endorsed any measure to bring about six-o'clock closing.³⁹

Continued on page 12

Sir Edgeworth's testimony to his wife, Lady Cara

Continued from page 11

Cara was divisional commander (1920) and then State commander (1928-38) of the NSW branch of the Girl Guides and organised the purchase of *Glengarry* at Turramurra for use as training headquarters.⁴⁰

This amazing woman spun fleece into wool to knit hundreds of socks for World War Two servicemen and she even had a hybrid tea rose named in her honour.⁴¹

Edgeworth David once said of his wife 'Whatever success I may have achieved in life is due chiefly to my wife.'⁴²

That testimony, glowing as it might be, only sums up a portion of the important contributions made by Cara or Lady Edgeworth David.

ENDNOTES

¹ *Sydney Morning Herald*, 30 October 1882, p. 5, copies of correspondence Parkes & Mundella, testimonials & correspondence from Mallett to Mundella, reference from Rev. J.B. Faunthorpe Principal of Whitelands College to Sir Henry Parkes, reference from Mrs. Newton, Superintendent Whitelands College & Miss Kate Stanley, Governess of Whitelands College, correspondence from Mallett to Parkes, Saul Samuel to Colonial Secretary.

² *Sydney Morning Herald*, Mundella to Parkes (3).

³ *Sydney Morning Herald*, copy of reports.

⁴ *Sydney Morning Herald*, testimonial Rev.JB Faunthorpe.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ *Sydney Morning Herald*, Saul Samuel to Colonial Secretary. University Press, Volume 13, 1993, pp. 575-576.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ English Census records, 1871 Southwold Suffolk.

¹¹ Ibid.

¹² Jennifer Horsfield, 'Cara David A Forgotten Feminist,' in *The National Library Magazine*, Vol. 3, No. 1, March 2011, p. 24.

¹³ Ibid.

¹⁴ Ibid.

¹⁵ Ibid.

¹⁶ Ibid.

¹⁷ Froebel Web, 'Friedrich Froebel created Kindergarten,' <http://www.froebelweb.org/>, updated regularly, accessed 24.7.2011.

¹⁸ Ibid.

¹⁹ Ibid.

²⁰ Jennifer Horsfield.

²¹ Ibid.

²² Ibid.

²³ Ibid.

²⁴ Carol Cantwell.

²⁵ Ibid.

²⁶ Ibid.

²⁷ Jennifer Horsfield.

²⁸ Ibid.

²⁹ Ibid.

³⁰ Ibid.

³¹ Ibid.

³² *Sydney Morning Herald*, 7.8.1900, p. 9; 9.11.1915, p. 5; 31.7.1920, p. 15.

³³ *Sydney Morning Herald*, 10.7.1920, p. 13.

³⁴ Ibid, 27.9.1920, p. 4.

³⁵ *Sydney Morning Herald*, Prohibition, Women Fighters, Picturesque Ideas For the Campaign, 24.11.1920, p. 10.

³⁶ Ibid, 2.9.1914, p. 8.

³⁷ Jennifer Horsfield.

³⁸ Carol Cantrell

³⁹ Ibid.

⁴⁰ Ibid.

⁴¹ *Australian Women's Weekly*, 27.6.1942.

⁴² Carol Cantrell.

About the author

THE AUTHOR of this article, Pamela Smith's interest in the suffragette movement and early feminism was initiated when she first became aware that women, and their role in the national narrative, had largely been ignored until the rise of the feminist movement in Australia in the 1970s.



Pamela Smith

Since then she has endeavoured to do her small part by writing women back into Blue Mountains history. She carried out extensive research and presented a thesis on the women (and men) that operated early private venture schools in the Blue Mountains. Currently, she is interested in the women who contributed in the early years of local government in the Blue Mountains. Pamela is currently the president of the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations (BMACHO)

New Windsor bridge proposal

THE RAHS WOULD LIKE to inform members of a current issue surrounding Thompson Square at Windsor that has proved to be a cause for concern.

The RAHS regards Thompson Square as a significant heritage and historic landmark and is deeply alarmed by any Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA) bridge proposals which would affect it.

Thompson Square was established in the 18th century, making it the oldest urban space in Australia.

Thompson Square also has significant links to Governor Macquarie, who gave the space a new name and appearance when he created Windsor as one of his five planned towns along the Hawkesbury-Nepean.

The Council of the RAHS has sent a letter to the RTA raising concerns regarding the current preferred option (Option 1). Option 1 involves a high level bridge 35 metres downstream of the existing bridge.

Individuals and societies are being encouraged to support the RAHS's stand against the new Windsor Bridge proposal to contact the Roads and Traffic Authority at Windsor_Bridge@rta.nsw.gov.au

**Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine
Historical Society Inc.
ANNUAL GENERAL
MEETING
Saturday November 5,
2011 at 10.30am**

Mine owners gift to Lithgow heritage

by Ray Christison

IN 1990 COAL MINING entrepreneurs Dick Austen and Angelo Butta donated the site of the former Lithgow State Coal Mine to the people of Lithgow.

The City of Greater Lithgow Mining Museum Incorporated was formed to develop a mining museum in the complex of buildings on the site.

The museum's volunteers have restored industrial buildings, undertaken complete replacement of electrical and plumbing services on the four hectare site, fought bushfires, undertaken major environmental and flood mitigation projects, gathered Australia's most comprehensive collection of coal mining artefacts, developed interpretive displays, hosted tens of thousands of visitors, published three coal mining histories and articulated a vision for regional heritage tourism.

The Lithgow State Coal Mine was the first colliery developed by the New South Wales Government after the passage of enabling legislation in 1912.

After a faltering start the mine rapidly developed into one of the largest collieries in the state.

During the 1920s shafts were sunk, massive brick buildings constructed to house workshops, a power house and stables, and a large coal handling plant and weatherboard office were built.

By 1930 over 700 men were working at the mine.

The mine was intended to be an industry leader in the application of technology and the development of good working conditions.

It supplied coal to the NSW Department of Railways and its product was railed across the western districts of New South Wales.

Small coal, unusable in railway locomotives, was sent across the gully to the Lithgow Power Station.

This power station, constructed in 1927, supplied electricity from Lawson to Wellington.

During the 1920s the mine became a pivotal point of the Miners' Federation of Australia Militant Minority Movement.

This activist group was led by Communist miners Bill Orr and Charlie Nelson.

These men met at the State Mine and it was here that they recruited young miners like Alfred Airey to the Communist cause.

Alfred, having studied at the Lenin School in Moscow and taken the Communist Party name Jack Blake, became one of the key leaders of the Communist Party of Australia between the 1930s and 1950s.

Bill Orr and Charlie Nelson became leaders of the Miners' Federation. Together they raised the morale of embattled mine workers and helped set new workplace standards for the coal industry.

As the State Mine struggled through the Great Depression its workers developed strong co-operative and social ventures.

The rich social life of the colliery included a brass band, football teams, a ladies' auxiliary, a bodybuilders' club, a boxing club and numerous other social groups.

The mine's blacksmith boxers became legendary. Blacksmith's striker Billy Boyce represented Australia in the 1948 Olympics.

The colliery's workers recalled a strong bond of comradeship that developed in the mine's vast underground workings.

Like all coalminers they knew the wonder of working in the depths of the earth, feeling it move and pulse as they worked to hew the coal.

They experienced the drama of rescuing mates from roof falls and dealing with the effects of mechanical accidents.

They volunteered to fight bushfires, to search for children lost in the bush and rallied to support the families of men killed in other pits.

In July 1964, on the day the Beatles landed in Sydney, heavy rains led to the flooding of a number of abandoned collieries in Lithgow.

As the flooding continued the State Coal Mine came under increasing threat.

Continued page 14



Lithgow State Mine, 1920. Photograph

Mine closure comes with decline in steam locomotion

Continued from page 14 The closure of the Lithgow Power Station four years earlier and the decline of steam locomotion on the NSW Government Railways had severely affected the mine's viability.

The decision was taken to close the mine and its shafts were finally sealed on October 13, 1964.

Following closure much of the mine's surface infrastructure was demolished leaving only the workshop, former power house (later used as a bath house), office building and powder magazines standing.

Many of these buildings were used as storage and the office building was rented as a dwelling.

After taking control of the site, City of Greater Lithgow Mining Museum Inc. began restorations and started to gather artefacts and stories.

The museum is working to tell the stories of the mine's workers and their industry.

A director of the City of Greater Lithgow Mining Museum, Ray Chistison said, "We have worked with the buildings, respecting their integrity while enhancing their capabilities.

"The massive scale of buildings such as the former power house has allowed us to host major community events, festivals and celebrations."



Union banners exhibition 2009



Lithgow State Mine, 1950s. Photograph

New Guinea life created interest in cultural values

THE NEW CULTURAL development officer for Lithgow City Council, Wendy Hawkes interest in culture began as a child when she moved with her family to Papua New Guinea and spent her childhood and teenage years amongst a culture that values art, dance and music highly.

Returning to Australia at the end of high school she completed a teaching degree and has taught in the Blue Mountains and Lithgow areas since 2001.

Wendy began her Masters of Art Administration in 2006 at the College of Fine Arts, UNSW when she realised she wanted to pursue a career helping others enjoy art as much as she does.

Wendy was especially interested in rural areas as that is where she enjoys living the most. She moved to Lithgow 3 years ago and added a love of history to her love of art as she began exploring the area with the local photographic group.

"Beginning my new career as cultural development officer at Lithgow City Council is a fantastic opportunity as it allows me to fulfill my ambition of helping others access culture and history, either by creating it or experiencing it, while being surrounded by culture and history myself," Wendy said.



Wendy Hawkes

"Eskbank House and Museum, at which I will be based part of the time, is an excellent venue for storing knowledge and history and from which to share it.

"I hope to make Eskbank House and Museum a place that the community calls home and in which it feels a real sense of ownership as well as a place people like to come to visit from outside Lithgow. I look forward to forming links with other community cultural organisations.

"There are other exciting cultural projects outside the museum that I will be involved in and I am very much looking forward to sharing in the exciting cultural future of Lithgow," said Wendy.

Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society has new president

A country boy who always wanted to be a steam train driver and ended up being the curator of a rail museum has recently been elected as the president of Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society following the retirement of Frank Holland.

He is John Cooper who was born on the Richmond River in 1938 the product of a dairy farmer and his wife.

John's mother contracted Parkinson Disease after his birth and spent many months at a time in hospital until her passing in 1950.

John recalls that following his mother's death, his two sisters and he spent some years with their grandparents before returning to the farm to help his father on the dairy.

"I used to milk the cows before riding five miles to school at Woodburn," John told **HERITAGE**.

"I never excelled at school and on New Year's Eve 1955 departed the bush for Sydney.

"I lived with my Auntie Bid (my mum's sister) and joined the railways on January 6, 1955. I wanted to be a steam train driver but in 1958 was struck down with tuberculosis which put me in hospital for 13 months.

"By this time I had not long been married. After returning to work in January 1960, I was put on light duties and later became a shunter.

"In January 1961 I had an accident shunting and lost four of my toes with another year unable to work."

In 1970 he was elected a director of the Railway Credit Union, holding that position until 2008.

In the time he was a director the organisation went from the Railway Staff Credit Union with assets of about \$600,000 to Encompass Credit Union with assets of over \$230 million.

He also became involved with the proposal to create a steam tourist railway on the original great Zig Zag Railway formation.

He was a founding member and the first chairman of Zig Zag Railway Co-op Limited holding that position for over ten years.

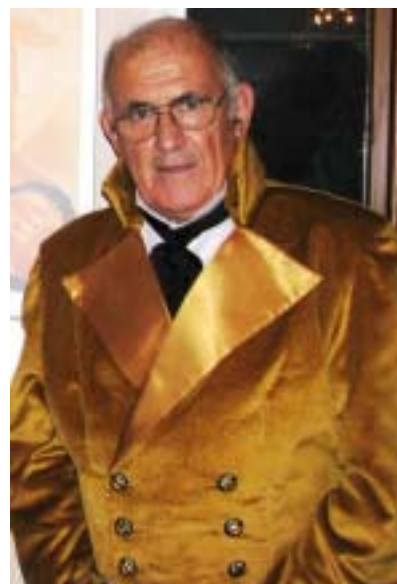
"I have also been chairman of the Australian Railway Preservation Society and on the committee of management of the Co op Federation of Australia.

"I have three children two of them have the same disease, Motor Neuron that took their mother in 1981. My son Peter passed away last year and his sister Donna is in a very advanced state.

"I remarried in 1996 to my now wife, Carolynne whom I met through the railway movement. "

John founded the Transport Signal & Communications Museum (TSCM) in 1990 at Cabramatta.

Carolynne joined the museum back then and they have worked together over the years in the restoration and the setting up of the museum which is now on their Kurrajong property.



John Cooper dressed as Richard Fitzgerald a convict, public servant and settler when he attended the formal dinner to celebrate 200 years since the visit of Governor Macquarie to Kurrajong in 2010. Lachlan Macquarie recognised Fitzgerald for his ability and praised the 'zeal, vigilance and integrity' of this 'most honest upright man'.

John is now the curator of TSCM and Carolynne is secretary, and he says they have a terrific committee which is now working towards the re opening of TSCM to the public by October 2012.

John and Carolynne are both president and secretary of the Australasian Telephone Collectors Society and have held those positions for some years. Carolynne has been on the Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society committee since 2008 and also is the coordinator of the family history group.

John says his position within Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society is very much to support the many dedicated members who are compiling family trees and the history of the early settlers of the local area.

"The Hawkesbury is indeed extremely rich in the very early days of our colony. After listening to our past president Frank Holland stating prior to his moving to Kurrajong he had shown no great interest in early history, so my view is if he can do it then possibly I can," said the new president, John Cooper.

Bob Clarke re- elected as chairman National Trust - Blue Mountains Branch

The popular Bob Clarke has been re-elected as chairman, National Trust - Blue Mountains Branch.

Other members of the committee include Rhona Leach (vice chair), John Partridge (secretary), Liz van Reyswoud (treasurer), David Donald Turner (heritage and advocacy adviser), Sandra

Partridge (bookings and assistant treasurer), Bronwyn Mansfield (newsletter), Sarah Wray (catering), Elizabeth Saxton (assistant secretary), John Dikeman (walks co-ordinator), Laurel Anthony (functions) and Michael Blakeney (data base officer).

Grants workshop success

A very successful BMACHO workshop was conducted last month with the aim of encouraging a higher standard of grant applications.

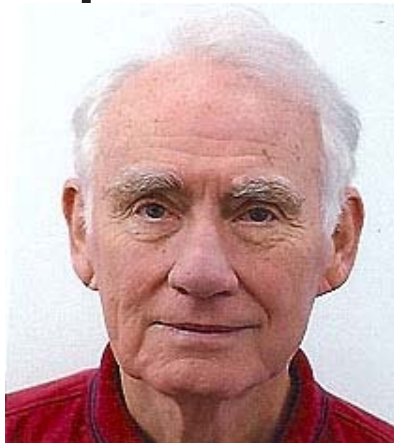
The seminar held at the Blue Mountains Historical Society's Hobby's Reach at Wentworth Falls was designed to give basic practical advice to the grants officers of (primarily heritage) societies and organisations.

The workshop designed and conducted by BMACHO's grants officer, Prof Barrie Reynolds focused on administrative and equipment grant programs that involve an actual application form.

"The principles expounded would, however, also be of help for capital, sponsorship and 'political' grant submissions.

"Topics covered were the planning and preparation involved prior to application, the completion of the application forms themselves and the aftermath: the handling of the project and legal and other responsibilities relating to a grant," Barrie said.

Some 21 participants attending from the following 10 BMACHO organisations: Blue Mountains Historical Society, Glenbrook Historical Society, Springwood Historical Society, Springwood Historians, Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society, Valley Heights Railway Museum, Blue Mountains Family History Society, Lithgow Family History Society, Blue Mountains Branch of National Trust, Lithgow Branch National Trust ; as well as six other non-BMACHO groups: Blue Mountains Probus, Cox's Road Project Committee,



Barrie Reynolds

Nepean Family History Society, Hartley District Progress Association, Blue Mountains, Wildplant Rescue and The Writers Room.

Barrie Reynolds has offered to comment on any draft applications that the participants plan to make.

He also said it is hoped to conduct the seminar again in Lithgow.

The occasion gave opportunities to encourage interest in the *Easy Grants* newsletter distributed online by BMACHO and the series of four workshops on the use of the internet for heritage purposes planned for early 2012.

These intended workshops are supported by a generous grant from the Telstra Connected Seniors Grant Program.

For further information on the proposed or expressions of interest in attending the Telstra internet workshop, e-mail: committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au or go to the BMACHO contacts page on the website, www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au

LAND RECORDS WORKSHOP WELL ATTENDED

The Land Records workshop held at Blue Mountains Historical Society's Hobby's Reach Research Rooms on Sunday, October 16, 2011, was well attended, by members of societies from all over the Blue Mountains.

The workshop was designed for local and family historians

Lesley Muir and Carol Liston, on behalf of the RAHS, have presented this workshop to historians and members of its affiliated societies, in locations across NSW, due to the generosity of a benefactor, who believes in the importance of community history.

There was a large amount of information to digest in one afternoon, but most enthusiasts purchased a copy of the presentation on a RAHS USB stick, and no doubt will be spending many hours online.

BMACHO would like to thank the RAHS and Lesley and Carol for giving up their Sunday afternoon, to bring the presentation to the Blue Mountains.

Thank you also to Blue Mountains Historical Society for the use of their premises.

Contributed by Jan Koperberg
Secretary BMACHO

Remembrance Day high tea at Woodford Academy

Following a minutes silence to commemorate Remembrance Day - at 11am on Friday, November 11, a high tea will be held in the house and grounds of Woodford Academy.

Enjoy a delicious home cooked high tea, with a variety of teas and coffee on offer.

Have a look around the house and grounds of this historic property.

Once an inn, it progressed to a private home, a guest house and then an exclusive boy's boarding school.

Astronomers from all over Australia came to view the Transit of Venus from here in 1874.

Cost \$25 for entry and high tea. For enquiries Marilyn Wright (02) 4758 7809.



Woodford Academy

Louise Markus first to support conference

LOUISE MARKUS MP, the Federal Member for Macquarie is the first person to come forward and financially support the 2012 Blue Mountains History Conference – *Colonial Society* to be held at the heritage listed Carrington Hotel Katoomba.



Louise Markus, MP

The organising committee has so far concentrated its efforts in finding interesting and some of the

country's top heritage experts to be speakers at the conference.

The committee last month started to look for sponsors and Mrs Markus was the first to come forward and undertake the printing of the brochure needed to promote the conference.

John Leary, OAM, the former president of the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) in welcoming Louise's support said that since she had become the local member, Mrs Markus had shown considerable interest in the work of BMACHO and the heritage of this region.

"I am delighted to be able to support the great work the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations does in promoting the heritage of the region," Louise Markus said.

Anyone interested in becoming a sponsor of the 2012 History Conference is asked to contact John Leary at johnnanette@optusnet.com.au or telephone 4758 8584.

Professor Ian Jack to open conference

A CONSUMMATE SCHOLAR, and a man who has devoted a large part of his professional life to working with volunteers in the history and heritage sector, Associate Professor R. Ian Jack, MA, PhD, FRHistS, FRAHS has accepted an invitation to officially open the Blue Mountains Heritage Conference 2012.

Dr Jack last year stood down after 11 years in office as president of the Royal Australian Historical Society.

Former president of BMACHO, John Leary, OAM, said, "Ian's clarity of mind and communications are recognised and admired not only at academic institutions such as the University of Sydney, but throughout Australia by all levels of the heritage and history sector.

"Ian has a talent for encouraging others to engage in activities which



enhance the conservation and preservation of heritage and is able to summarize a range of opinions and views with precision and insight.

"He is a prolific researcher and writer of Australian history.

"Dr Jack has been and remains, an active exponent and promoter of Australian history and of heritage of the built environment," John Leary said.

Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Centre

The Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mount Tomah has opened a new 155 square metre exhibition centre to help visitors enjoy a heightened experience and understanding of the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area.

Visitors will be excited and inspired by this world-class attraction. Visitors may engage in a virtual journey through the canyons and ridges of 1,000,000 hectares of wilderness.

These inaccessible treasures may be experienced in the comfort of the exhibition centre, leaving these remote wilderness areas protected and intact.

Through the display, visitors can marvel at plant and animal diversity, experience the 14,000 years of Aboriginal culture that so lightly touched the land and understand the long geological forces which have shaped this wonderland.

The experience is hands-on with activity based learning suitable for all ages and languages.

Groups will be provided with opportunities to revel in this virtual wilderness and then walk through the 28 hectare Botanic Garden showcasing many of the rare plants of the World Heritage Area.

The centre has a gentle educational message promoting minimum impact eco-tourism and



Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mount Tomah is a foundation member of BMACHO

Welcome to new members

BMACHO welcomes the Eskbank Rail Heritage Centre at Lithgow as a new member.

The Eskbank Railway precinct is of state significance as an early railway precinct, important in the course of NSW's history because of its key role in the industrial development of the Lithgow Valley.

Meanwhile, the National Trust of Australia (NSW) has appointed a management committee for its Woodford Academy property and BMACHO now welcomes the Woodford Academy Management Committee to full membership.

Woodford Academy is the oldest surviving property in the Blue Mountains.

Woodford Academy open to public

WOODFORD ACADEMY will be open to the public on November 11, 19 and January 21 between 10am and 4pm

This National Trust property reflects its colourful history from its earliest days as an inn, to its years as a model boys' school.

Enjoy the special atmosphere of the property which includes a fine example of a colonial kitchen and rare segmented arch over the fireplace (pictured below, photograph by John Leary 2007)

Then relax over a home-made morning tea on the balcony with its Blue Mountains vistas.

Cost: Free NT Members / \$6 Adults / \$4 Concession / \$3 Child Enquiries: Marilyn Wright (02) 4758 7809



Santa to arrive by steam tram



SANTA WILL ARRIVE EARLY in the Blue Mountains when aboard the heritage steam tram 103A he makes his appearance at the Valley Heights Rail Museum on Sundays November 27 and December 11.

Santa will arrive on both days at 11am and then later at 2pm.

He will have the usual bag of goodies for the children and looks forward to having his photograph taken with young children by mums and dads who bring their cameras.

Morning and afternoon tea will be available.

As a special treat on Sunday November 27 the NSW Railway Band will perform between 10.30am and 2.30pm.

Standard entrance charges will apply. For further information (02) 4751 4638 or www.infoblue-mountains.net.au/locdepot

Bradman scored a century for Blackheath

80 years ago this month, Don Bradman played for Blackheath against the Lithgow Pottery XI scoring an amazing century off three overs.

In a new book to commemorate the anniversary, the historian Ronald Cardwell and Irene McKilligan, the daughter of one of Bradman's team mates that day, have uncovered new material about Bradman's visit to the Blue Mountains.

Bradman had been invited to play for Blackheath in a game on November 2, 1931, by Oscar Wendell Bill, a journalist and former NSW player.

The 'Blackheath bat', which Bradman broke two months after the local game, became a

significant item of memorabilia after he gave it to Blackheath mayor, Peter Sutton.

The bat is now displayed in the Bradman Museum in Bowral after a chequered history during which it lived in Blackheath council chambers, survived a burglary and resurfaced in the Blackheath Bowling Club.

Lithgow coalminer and opening batsman Bob Nicholson, a baritone singer so impressed Bradman, at a post match concert that the 'Don' invited him to sing at his wedding

Bradman at Blackheath is published by The Cricket Publishing Company.

BRAIN STORMING AT SPRINGWOOD

A brain storming sessions for presidents, members of executives, committee members or those wishing to stand for positions on committees will be conducting on Tuesday, November 8.

The activity will commence at 9am in the Frazer Memorial Presbyterian Hall, Macquarie Street, Springwood.

This session will be facilitated by Doug Knowles, a committee member of Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations and currently president of Glenbrook & District Historical Society.

Ideas will be put forward, questions asked, and hopefully answered, but if answers are not forthcoming on the day, they will be sought.

Anyone wishing to attend, should contact BMACHO's secretary, Jan Koperberg by phone 02 4754 1544 or j.koperberg@bigpond.com



Doug Knowles

INTERESTING NEWSLETTERS

HERITAGE's editor receives regularly a number of first class newsletters from societies and corporations within the heritage sector. Sometimes a really good item of news or a well researched article deserving of a wider publicity is to be found in these newsletters.

If your newsletter is not being sent to the editor of **HERITAGE** he would appreciate receiving a copy, either by e-mail to johnnanette@optusnet.com.au or by post to John Leary, OAM, 31 Lysiana Road, WOODFORD 2778.

BLUE MOUNTAINS HISTORY JOURNAL

ISSUE 2 of the *Blue Mountains History Journal* is now available on the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisation Inc. website (www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au) and may be down-loaded for private use without charge. It can also be purchased in hard copy.

ISSUE 2 contains articles by distinguished local historians from the Blue Mountains:

- * *The Martindale Family and the Sketchbook of Mary Elizabeth Martindale* by John Low
- * *Over a Century of Worship at Medlow Bath* by Clair Isbister, Robert King and Peter Rickwood
- * *A History of the Postal and Telephone Services of Mount Wilson* by Mary Reynolds
- * *A Secret Army in the Blue Mountains?* by Pamela Smith

ISSUE 2 is 58 pages in length and profusely illustrated with 67 historical prints, maps and plans. Many of the prints are in colour. A limited number of hard copies are available post-free, for \$27 each. Interested readers are invited to send their cheques (made payable to BMACHO) to The Secretary, Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Incorporated, 14 Burrall Street, Winmalee, NSW 2777, before **20 November 2007**.

A few copies of the Inaugural ISSUE 1 of the Journal are also available (price \$27 post free).

This contains four articles:

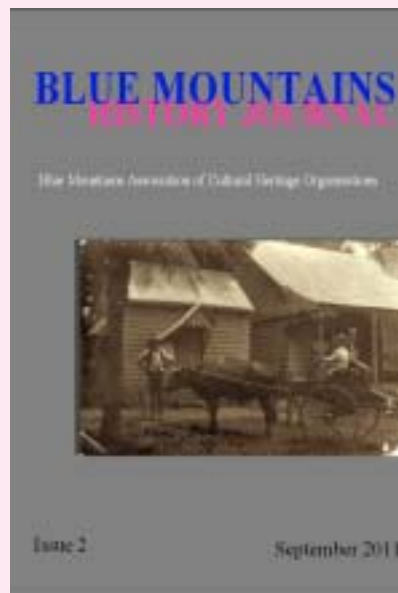
- * *North Springwood in the Nineteenth Century: the site of St. Columba's Seminary and High School* by Ian Jack
- * *Joseph Hay: One of Lawson's Pioneers* by Brian Fox
- * *Dr William Bell (1815-1871): Experiences of a 19th Century Doctor on either side of the Blue Mountains* by Lois Sabine
- * *Aboriginal Prehistory of the Blue Mountains* by Eugene Stockton



ISSUE 1 is 44 pages in length and illustrated with 26 historical prints, many in colour, tables, plans and other illustrations.

Enquiries for further information and expressions of interest in submitting manuscripts for publication are welcomed by the Journal editor (Dr. Peter Rickwood) through the Association's website.

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INCORPORATED



First Waltzing Matilda manuscript on show as National Library unveils some of its treasures

THE NATIONAL LIBRARY of Australia in Canberra has unveiled a new permanent gallery showcasing some of the treasures of its collection.

The Treasures Gallery brings some of the library's valuable gems out of the vaults, with some on show for the first time.

It is an eclectic display including rare manuscripts and Captain James Cook's Endeavour journal, along with Doncker's exquisite atlas, that pre-dates Abel Tasman, showing a very different map of Australia.

There is a handwritten letter from Jane Austen to her sister Cassandra, William Bligh's notebook listing the bounty mutineers, and the original Waltzing Matilda manuscript.

There are also some very unexpected items. When a box of writer, Patrick White's notebooks was donated to the library, the curators found his reading glasses and beret inside.

Beside them are Jorn Utzon's original models for the sails of the Sydney Opera House.

Exhibitions director Nat Williams says the diverse collection highlights different aspects of Australia's history.

"We're an interesting country. We've been faced with all sorts of dilemmas. People have been courageous, they've explored, they've invented, they've innovated, they've advocated - they've done an extraordinary sort of range of things," he said.

"A lot of those things are reflected in here, from the first draft of Waltzing Matilda to Edward Mabo's papers.

"People can walk in, and in half an hour or an hour, walk around this gallery here and get a real sense of what Australia's about and how it's come to be where it is now."

The National Library has more than 12 million items in its collection, and the new gallery will constantly change to reflect that.

About every 16 weeks the library will turn the pages in some of the books and some of the sensitive items will be replaced with other items that cannot be on display for long periods of time.

There is still something about the one-off that really speaks to people," said curator Susannah Helman.

"People want to come and see the original thing, they want to come and see people's handwriting, they want to come and see something that's unique.

Pictured at left is the original Waltzing Matilda manuscript



A page in Australia's heritage - James Cook's journal. Image courtesy National Library of Australia nla.ms-ms1-s256r

"That's part of our culture I think, as humans, to marvel at what people have created and what people have been able to achieve."

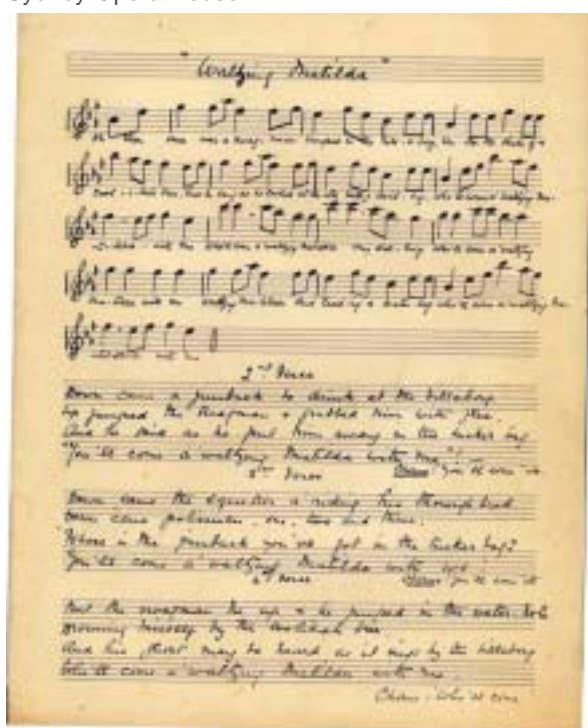
The \$7 million gallery has been 10 years in the making, with half of the funds coming from public donations. Mr Williams says visitors will appreciate the extensive collection.

"They're really enjoying it, they're finding it diverse, they're seeing the sort of richness of our collection which is boundless," he said.

"It really is one of the great collections in the world. It certainly documents Australian documentary heritage in an extraordinary way."

Alison Ramage

The purchase of the Endeavour journal of James Cook in 1923 is one of the most significant acquisitions made by the National Library of Australia. The journal covers the three-year voyage of the sailing ship Endeavour (1768 to 1771), captained by James Cook, when it circumnavigated the globe in the name of scientific advancement



Western crossing commemoration 2013-15

great ideas - thoughts - just being talked about or its really going to happen

A REPORT FROM PROFESSOR DAVID CARMENT, CHAIR WESTERN CROSSINGS COMMITTEE



THE ROYAL AUSTRALIAN Historical Society's (RAHS) Western Crossings Committee was established in 2010.

It provides a forum for the exchange of information and ideas on commemorating the bicentenary of the first crossings of the Blue Mountains, including the involvement of Aboriginal people, the 'three explorers' in 1813, the survey and construction of the first road across the Blue Mountains in 1813-1815, and Governor Macquarie's selection of the site of Bathurst in 1815.

All these events are of considerable and cumulative historical significance. The RAHS believes that commemorative projects ought to be of long-term benefit.

Meetings have been held at Sydney, Penrith, Woodford, Lithgow and Katoomba. The next meeting is at Emu Plains.

Participants in meetings represent community heritage and history associations, local governments, state government departments and Aboriginal traditional owners.

There was discussion at all meetings of proposals to interpret sections of the original Cox's Road.

At the Katoomba meeting on August 12, Bill Evans from the Roads and Traffic Authority gave a fascinating presentation on the heritage and history of surveying and road building in the Blue Mountains region, devoting special attention to the first road.

He showed and discussed rarely seen maps, photographs and survey books.

Bill offered during his presentation to show interested committee members Cox's Road near Woodford.

This inspection occurred on August 28, when a group of about 20 people walked to parts of the road that are still clearly visible and easily reached.

Also at Katoomba, I reported on my August 11 meeting with the Premier of New South Wales, Barry O'Farrell and the Member for Blue Mountains, Roza Sage,

The Premier expressed in principle support for a state coordinating committee similar to that formed for the Macquarie 2010 commemoration. I also argued for a special competitive grants program.

DAVID CARMENT

MACQUARIE MONUMENT SPRINGWOOD HISTORIANS

thought Lynn Collins' suggestion of "a small corner for a 'running sheet' of what folk from say Penrith or Parramatta to Bathurst are thinking of doing" for the Western Crossing Commemoration was an excellent idea so we would like to tell you of our project.

Springwood already has a Macquarie Monument (see *HERITAGE* Newsletter May/June, 2010) but we fear it is a neglected part of Springwood and indeed Blue Mountains and NSW history.

We decided to visit it individually and then meet to consider its problems. All except one of our members (and she lives in Glenbrook) knew where it was, had walked or driven past it many times and knew what it commemorated.

But we all agreed it was shabby, and, after talking to other people, mostly unnoticed.

Positioned on the site identified by the RAHS as Macquarie's camping place on his journey over Cox's road to Bathurst in 1815 and the site of the first Military Barracks in Springwood, it could be called the birthplace of Springwood.

So our project is to see it restored, refurbished and given more prominence.

The land on which it stands is owned by Blue Mountains City Council so our first step was to contact them. Patrick Williams, recreation coordinator met us at the monument and agreed that it was an important historic site with priorities for action being "the fences surrounding the monument and interpretation of the monument".

Other possibilities were "treating the existing plaque on the monument to resist weathering and providing directional signage to the site".

Council financing for this type of project in the 2012/3 financial year would have to be assessed against other identified projects and the total amount set aside was only \$15,000.

Obviously more money would be needed to see our project successfully completed. Our small group is not incorporated and unable to apply for grants so we are looking for partners.

As a further disappointment, on the new Springwood information sign erected on the Springwood Town Square, the monument is noted on the map simply as "monument"! Monument to what?

SHIRLEY EVANS

HOLEY DOLLAR AND DUMP

LOCAL businessman Tom Colless is trying to secure agreement for minting a holey dollar and



dump, to be issued to school children.

When the colony of New South Wales was founded, it soon had a lack of coinage. Governor Lachlan Macquarie took the initiative of using £10,000 in Spanish dollars sent by the British government to produce coins known as the holey dollar and the dump being the piece stamped from the centre.

Australia's first hospital celebrates 200 years

SYDNEY HOSPITAL Australia's first hospital celebrated 200 years last month on its Macquarie Street sites.

Sydney Hospital dates from the arrival of the First Fleet in 1788 and has been on its present site in Macquarie Street since 1811.

The oldest building now standing on the site is the Nightingale Building which dates from 1868, and the sandstone buildings on the Macquarie Street frontage, dating from 1894.

The new Clinical Services Building of the hospital was opened in 1996 and has been built to harmonise with the historic buildings on the site.

The complex of buildings provides an important monument to the history of medicine and nursing in Australia, and continues to provide high quality healthcare services.

The buildings facing Macquarie Street are an imposing group of high Victorian institutional buildings, which form an integral part of the historic streetscape of Macquarie Street, as well as being important to the early history of medicine in Australia.

But it is not the heritage buildings which attract most attention. It is a bronze boar.

Few people fail to notice him! People from all over the world have solemnly stood in Macquarie Street, Sydney and rubbed his nose, made a wish, dropped a coin in his basket and had a photograph taken standing near him.

His name is Il Porcellino. He is not a pig; he is a wild boar.

The original Il Porcellino statue is estimated to be over 500 years old, and was unearthed in Rome after having stood for over 100 years in the Uffizi Galleries in Florence.



The Sydney Hospital and Sydney Eye Hospital Il Porcellino, which is a copy of the original, was presented to the hospital in 1968 by the Marchessa Clarissa Torrigiani in memory of her father and brother – Dr Thomas Fiaschi who died in 1928 and Dr Piero Fiaschi who died in 1948. Both had been renowned surgeons at the Sydney hospital.

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

REGISTERED OFFICE 14 Bunnal Ave, Winmalee 2777
E-mail: jank@efel.com.au or bmacho.heritage@gmail.com
Website: www.bluemountains.heritage.com
ABN 53 994 839 952

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

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

The objectives of the organisation are:

- To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage.
- To encourage and assist cultural heritage activities of member organisations.
- To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations.

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

HERITAGE BMACHO's official newsletter is edited by John Leary, OAM.

Blue Mountains History Journal is edited by Dr Peter Rickwood.

MEMBERSHIP The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mount Tomah, Blue Mountains City Library, Blue Mountains Cultural Heritage Centre, Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc., Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc., Blue Mountains Tourism Limited, Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute, Cudgegong Museums Group Inc., Eskbank Rail Heritage Centre, Everglades Historic House & Gardens, Friends of Norman Lindsay Gallery, Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc., Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc., Lillianfels Blue Mountains Resort, Lithgow and District Family History Society Inc., Lithgow Mining Museum Inc., Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies, Lithgow Small Arms Factory Museum Inc, Mid-Mountains Historical Society Inc, Mt Victoria and District Historical Society Inc., Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine History Society Inc. (including Turkish Bath Museum), Mudgee Historical Society Inc., Mudgee Regional Library, National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Blue Mountains Branch, National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Lithgow Branch, Scenic World – Blue Mountains Limited, Springwood & District Historical Society Inc., Springwood Historians Inc., Transport Signal and Communication Museum Inc., The Darnell Collection Pty Ltd, Valley Heights Locomotive Depot and Museum, Woodford Academy Management Committee, Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd. The following are individual members: Ray Christison, Associate Professor Ian Jack, Joan Kent, John Leary OAM, John Low, Ian Milliss, Professor Barrie Reynolds, Dr Peter Rickwood and Dr Peter Stanbury OAM.

COMMITTEE The committee for 2011-12 is: Pamela Smith (president), Ian Jack (vice president), Jan Koperberg (secretary), Joan Kent (treasurer), Jean Arthur, Doug Knowles, John Leary, Dick Morony (public officer), Kathie McMahon-Nolf, Barrie Reynolds and Peter Stanbury.

HONORARY AUDITOR: Sue McMahon, B Comm CPA.

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