

HERITAGE

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Heritage of mountain villages sacrificed for highway progress

MANY older residents of the Blue Mountains are lamenting the continual erosion of the unique character of the villages that developed along the Great Western Highway in the last 150 years.

The heritage landscape has been swallowed up as the ribbon of highway under construction for several decades presses on to the west. It is only the historians and those long-time residents of the mountains who can recall the unique character which was once the Blue Mountains

Pictured at right are Joseph (left) and Florence (centre) Taggett outside their wood carrier and saw bench business in Hazelbrook, circa. early 1920s.

Born in Somerset in about 1881, Joseph migrated in 1911, served as a dispatch runner in World War I and purchased his home, 'Oakura' in Woodford in June 1920. The second location of his woodcutting business was near the present Hazelbrook service station where



this photograph seems to have been taken.

In a small mountains economy, survival meant multi-skilling, so woodcutting, construction of the dam wall at Hazelbrook in 1928 and general building were amongst his accomplishments.

When working as a garage attendant, this immensely strong

man would as a joke lift a car's back wheels off the ground as patrons were starting their cars.

Public spirited, in 1923 Joseph was elected a lieutenant of the newly-formed Woodford Bushfire Brigade.

He died in 1939, the wood site being then sold to become a service station. **Photograph --- Ken Goodlet collection**

BMACHO History conference success

THE BLUE Mountains History conference 2012 held in the heritage Carrington Hotel, Katoomba was by all measures an outstanding success.

Organised by the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) the conference was attended by almost 100 participants.

BMACHO president, Pamela Smith reminded those present that BMACHO had been formed as a result of a suggestion by Professor Barrie Reynolds at an earlier conference at the Carrington and it

was most appropriate that the organisation's first conference be held at this venue.

Attendees were exposed to a smorgasbord of speakers the conference opening address being given by former long-time president of the Royal Australian Historical Society, Associate Professor R Ian Jack.

In his address titled *Colonial society and beyond* (which is published in full on pages 4-7 of this edition of *HERITAGE*), Ian said "...a conference like this is another,

necessary, dimension to BMACHO's activities, because it brings together more than 100 like-minded people to listen to papers, to meet other historians and, most of all, simply to talk during the all-important periods of tea and lunch.

"The real action takes place in the Carrington's dining-room. This has been happening in this great hotel ever since 1883 although the context has perhaps shifted over the years: I hope that the deals done today will be less dodgy than some of those in the past," Ian said.

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An opinion from the editor.....

Heritage appears to go missing from proposed NSW planning reforms

THE NSW state government is proposing legislation to remove the rights of individuals under the guise of streamlining the planning process.

What that means is making it easier to get developments approved by removing community consultation from the approval process.

The proposed legislation which has been outlined in a government green paper, *A New Planning System for NSW* will remove the right of communities to have a say in development proposals and planning matters directly affecting their lives. It will also diminish the role of elected councillors.

It will permit 'Enterprise Zones' with no planning controls to be imposed over entire suburbs or local government areas. It will not protect the environment or the heritage.

For years it has been accepted that the role of planning is to balance the needs of the community and the environment with those of the private interests of developers.

Now the government is proposing to enact a planning system that puts the developers' needs and interests above those of the community and the environment.

The O'Farrell government came to power with a promise to return planning powers to the community but it is clear the reform processes have been captured by the same interests that gave us the notorious Part 3A under the previous government.

Local heritage consultant architect Margi Fallon has produced a timely article which appears on page 14 of *HERITAGE* and her views and recommended actions are extremely pertinent.

Ms Fallon in her article states: "...over the past 10 years the heritage branch has been decimated by the removal of staff to the planning department and

then the separation of the heritage branch from the planning department.

"Their statutory status has been greatly reduced, and staffing has reduced their capacity to train and support the heritage protection industry."

The winding back of the status of the heritage branch has been of concern to heritage groups for sometime and to see further degeneration of this authority was not what was expected from the promises made by the O'Farrell government when in opposition.

The public should voice their concern in letters to local state members, Premier Barry O'Farrell and Planning Minister Brad Hazzard even though the closing date for official submissions has passed.

Margi Fallon's article is recommended as required reading for all interested in the preservation of our heritage and the retention of individual's rights to have a say on planning matters directly affecting their lives.

CONGRATULATIONS

IT IS always good to be able to congratulate someone who receives an award for excellence and on this occasion as editor of *HERITAGE*, I applaud the efforts of BMACHO individual member Ian Milliss and his associate Dr Lucas Ihlein who have won the Fremantle Arts Centre Print Award regarded as Australia's most prestigious award.

Primarily it is an award for art, but the subject of the collaborative work, *Yeoman's Project* (see page 11 brings a new dimension to the pursuits of BMACHO; it introduces through commercial graphics the history and heritage of agriculture and of topographical mapping.

It must be of interest that a farming system on the property Nevallan at nearby North Richmond is being considered for state heritage listing.

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

CENTENARY OF LOCOMOTIVE DEPOT

VALLEY HEIGHTS locomotive depot will celebrate its centenary in 2014.

In 1988, the Valley Heights Locomotive Depot was closed after 75 years of faithful railway service.

The locomotive depot proudly stands today housing a local heritage museum, thanks to the efforts of local volunteers over the course of last 24 years.

Now in its 99th year, planning is well underway to celebrate its 100th anniversary, a milestone that was doubtful back in 1988.

Some of the proposed events planned include:

- *an official opening for the celebrations with a special train;
- *visits by steam locomotives
- local steam shuttles
- *themed days for historical societies.

These plans albeit in its early stages, are very much subject to financial support from the community and are subject to



At the inaugural Trains, Trams and T's event at the Valley Heights Loco Depot Heritage Museum early this year, museum volunteers, tram crews and visitors came dressed for the occasion. The event was held to showcase transport in the 1920s. Photograph Andrew Tester

change. Committee member of the museum, Andrew Tester said, it would be great if members of BMACHO could support these

celebrations, the details of which will be published in the pages of *HERITAGE* during 2013.

Colonial past and public history

THE KEYNOTE speaker, at last month's Blue Mountains History conference was Professor Paul Ashton (pictured below) who took as his topic *Colonial past and public history*.

"Public history can be broadly defined, as Paula Hamilton and I have defined it, 'as a diverse set of practices that communicate and engage with historical meanings in public arenas'.

"As the British-based historian Ludmilla Jordanova reminds us in her wonderful book *History in Practice*, 'we should remember that the state, which in many countries



plays a major role in funding institutions such as archives and museums, lies at the heart of public history.'

"Public history also concerns memory. There are numerous ways in which memories are constructed, reproduced and circulated. Nancy Woods' book *Vectors of Memory: Legacies of Memory in Post War Europe* (Berg 1999) investigates conduits of memorial activity in the twentieth century.

"But we can apply this concept of vectors of memory to public history in colonial times.

"Take maps for example. These documents were not simply finding aids.

"They were often comprehensive recordings of places, circulating in cultures in different ways and reinforcing a sense of place in the public imagining.

"They showed patterns of development and often the

dynamics underpinning change and growth.

"Value systems can also be read in maps. Monuments and memorials, public landscapes, processions, rituals of 'social integration', art galleries, museums and official histories also became vectors of memory.

"They became part of a process described in the second half of the twentieth century by Donald Horne as 'the great drama, endlessly playing... of maintaining definitions of the nation and its social orders'.

"During the nineteenth century and beyond, however, this great drama was ultimately an imperial, masculine narrative." Professor Ashton said.

Paul is the co-director of the Australian Centre for Public History and the Centre for Creative Practice and Cultural Economy & Professor of Public History at the University of Technology, Sydney.

Colonial society and beyond

THE following is the text of an address by Associate Professor Ian Jack who officially opened the Blue Mountains History conference organised by the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Organisations on October 20.

'It is a great pleasure to make some introductory remarks at this conference.

The Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations is delighted that so many folk interested in the history and heritage of the mountains have found their way to Katoomba today.

BMACHO is still a very young society beside the Springwood Historical Society, the Blue Mountains Historical Society at Wentworth Falls, the Mount Victoria Historical Society and the Mount Wilson and Mount Irvine Historical Society.

But thanks to John Leary, Jan Koperberg, Pamela Smith and co-founders, Barrie Reynolds and Peter Stanbury, BMACHO has achieved a great deal in its overview role within the historical community beyond the Monocline, through John Leary's splendid *HERITAGE* newsletter, Peter Rickwood's thoroughly refereed *Blue Mountains History Journal* or the occasional general meetings organised at various venues.

And it has tried to obtain state and commonwealth funding to enhance

public understanding of the area: not least, in 2006, it combined with the National Trust to seek real money, seven figures of money, to 'Rediscover our Heritage in the Blue Mountains'.

That has not happened but a helpful relationship with Telstra has funded a series of appropriate workshops this year. A lot of mountain water has passed under the BMACHO bridge over the last few years.

But a conference like this is another, necessary, dimension to BMACHO's activities, because it brings together more than 100 like-minded people to listen to papers, to meet other historians and, most of all, simply to talk during the all-important periods of tea and lunch.

The real action takes place in the Carrington's dining-room. This has been happening in this great hotel ever since 1883 although the context has perhaps shifted over the years: I hope that the deals done today will be less dodgy than some of those in the past.

The Carrington is very strategically sited. Katoomba is a natural place to foregather.

Ever since the railway penetrated the mountains a century and a half ago, Europeans have been tempted to come on up here; an affordable touristic pilgrimage and Katoomba-Leura soon developed a remarkable concentration of guest-houses, over a hundred in their heyday.



Associate Professor Ian Jack

If we had held this conference a hundred years ago, each of you could have stayed in a separate guesthouse tonight.

But to congregate in the vicinity of Katoomba is not just a European phenomenon at all. This has always been a place of meetings.

We may call our function today a conference, for that is the fashionable term with overtones of tax-deductibility, but in reality we are just continuing an age-old tradition of meeting in the Mountains.

The Mountain plateau had been for millennia an area where Aboriginal people from different language groups, Darug, Gundungarra, Wiradjuri, had met, long before the Weatherboard Inn was dispensing dubious hospitality, long before Katoomba Street and Lurline Street were lined with accommodation houses, and before the Three Sisters took on a Europeanised mythology created by Mel Ward in 1949.

As Martin Thomas reminded us in his marvellous book, *The Artificial Horizon: Imagining the Blue Mountains*, the legend of the Three Sisters as articulated by Ward and his successors is in fact 'an especially revealing text in the dreamwork of imperialism..., a fragment from an extensive mythological order, emerging from a region ... which always, it seems, has been a privileged place for marvel and speculation' (p.155).

So we are here like others before us over the last 30,000 or 40,000 years, to marvel and speculate.

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Grand dining room of Katoomba's Carrington Hotel

'Like a handshake across the centuries'

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To see the mountains as a barrier was a very European construct. At first the Mountains seemed a handy prison wall to the west of the Cumberland Plain's distributed penal station.

In a quite different way, to Aboriginal people the Blue Mountains were a self-evident demarcator, where various language groups had a fluid boundary, but that said, the Mountains were not so much a divider as a meeting-place.

The name, the Great Dividing Range, is profoundly revealing of one type of European outlook.

There was another, simultaneous outlook, however, for the name 'Great Dividing Range' is the antithesis of the romance and gum-laden exhalation of the term 'Blue Mountains'.

But for the folk who had been enjoying the area for many millennia, the Wiradjuri, the Gundungurra and the Darug people, the Mountains were not a divide at all, but a natural point of contact.

The mountains lay on the periphery of several indigenous language groups and trade routes inevitably led across the plateau.

Father Eugene Stockton, the much-loved priestly archaeologist of Lawson, recalled how he came to Aboriginal studies in the Mountains.

Twenty years ago, in his influential book, *Blue Mountains Dreaming*, he told how 'As a teenager I began to find stones which did not belong to the geology of the area.' (p.5)



Australian Aboriginal flaked stone tools. Image courtesy NSW Office of Environment and Heritage

These stones are the physical evidence of Aboriginal trade routes and habits of exchange. Eugene went on to coin a very telling phrase. 'Holding a stone tool in my hand [he wrote] I wondered at the last hand to grasp it: it was like a handshake across the centuries.' (p.5)

'A handshake across the centuries'. I do wish that I had thought of that phrase, for it is a warm and friendly evocation of how historians should respond to any physical evidence of any human activity, of any period.

We should all be shaking hands across the centuries in response to all the variety of cultural heritage which surrounds us. It is an essential part of historical discourse.

And it helps to remind us that there is no wilderness. The Blue Mountains National Park which is all around us here was given World Heritage status because of its natural qualities.

But there is no part of the World Heritage area which has remained untrodden by human beings over many millennia.

Even in the remotest gorges of the Wollangambe, where the Wollemi Pine was found with such fanfare, even there you find Aboriginal art-sites.

Here at Katoomba, Jamison Valley is not just a wonderful environment: it is still a place full of relics of European coal-miners and oil-shale workers, relics which the Hammon family has skilfully used to enhance the cultural value of a trip on the Scenic Railway.

And over the last century and a half, thousands of steps have been cut into the living rock-faces at the edge of this plateau some for miners but more for tourists.

All these Mountain features, and hundreds more like them, have been created or modified by people over tens of thousands of years.

This is not just a miracle of nature: it is nature moderated by men and women.

So there are many, many hands which we should all wish to grasp, wherever we go in the Mountains and whatever historical curiosity we may happen to have.



Aboriginal hand stencils in the Red Hand Cave near Glenbrook

All sorts of things may excite our curiosity: an ochred hand, or a powder-magazine beside a convict road, or an elegant stone culvert, or remnant plantings on an abandoned country retreat, or, one of my favourites, a mine-adit cut horizontally into the talus from a narrow ledge where lyre-birds display and the archaeologists try not to lose their tools or their colleagues down the 300-metre drop into the Grose Valley.

All this suggests that there is no neat chronological divide.

Long before Lawson, Wentworth and Blaxland, there was widespread Aboriginal knowledge of how to attain the table-top from the plains and valleys on all sides, not just from the coastal plain, but also from the north and south and west.

There was detailed information about how to cross the climactic landscape of the table-top without falling down a precipice or leaping down a waterfall like the mythologically transformed Mr Govett.

For everyone on the mountains, indigenous or European, travel in the region was at bottom a 'negotiation with the perpendicular', in Martin Thomas's quizzical phrase.

But for the indigenous people it was country like any other, and the mountains with their abysses had their fair share of Dreamtime stories of ancestral creation, skilfully interpreted in the past two decades by Jim Smith.

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To the Europeans the Mountains were for a long time an infernal nuisance full of 'impassable chasms', with the plateau an arid and unattractive area to hurry across to get to the other side.

It was only gradually in the nineteenth century that the mystique of the Sublime gathered force and, as Kate Hartig felicitously observed: 'the aesthetic appraisal of the mountain landscape was cloaked in a romantic image and was expressed by sentiments of exaltation and delight.'

The grand concept of the Sublime in the nineteenth century fostered an appreciation of the savagely scenic.

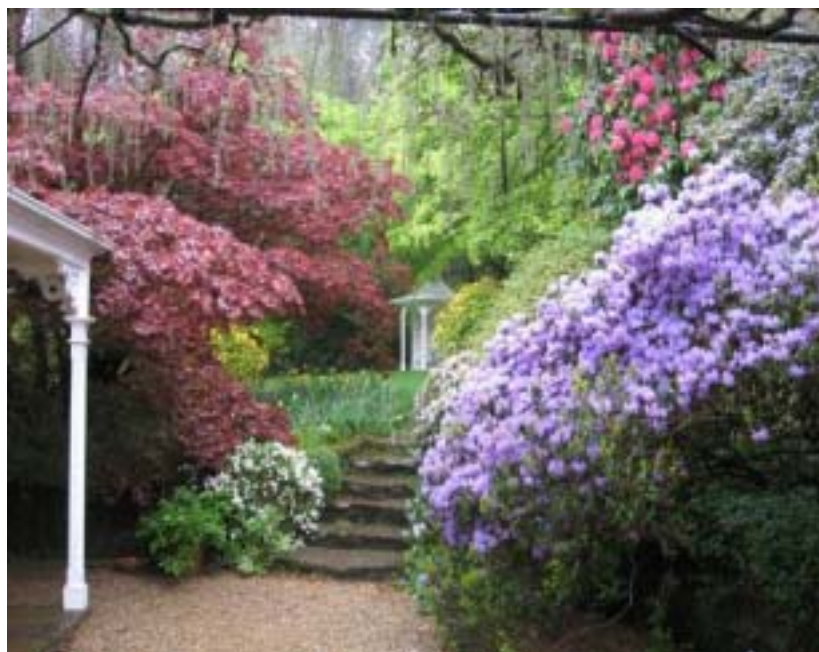
In Europe, the Alps ceased to be a confounded nuisance for travellers to surmount and became instead somewhere to walk, to climb, to sketch, to admire. It is one aspect of the invention of the holiday.

Once it was known in the 1810s that there was another side to the Blue Mountains, leading to promising plains for European animals to graze and erode, the stretch from Glenbrook to Mount Victoria was seen primarily as a hazardous intermission between the good grazing on the Cumberland Plain and the next accessible patch in Hartley Vale.

And in that intermission there was precious little for animals or people to eat or drink. This perception took half a century to moderate. The Mountains road was still 'dreary and desolate' to Louisa Meredith in 1839.

What happened in the Blue Mountains, as elsewhere in the course of the nineteenth century, is a very European realisation that, while a road may very well have been constructed to lead from A to B and that one ventured on that road at A with the sole wish to reach B as safely and expeditiously as possible, nonetheless there may be pleasures to be found along the way of which one had not dreamt.

It is not quite the world where 'It is better to travel hopefully than to arrive', but it is a world where new possibilities and new realisations were gradually opened up.



The gardens at Nooroo, Mt Wilson - the summerhouse framed by wisteria, maples and rhododendrons

So mountain retreats sprang up, often in spectacular situations, like Yester Grange at Wentworth Falls or Eurama at Faulconbridge, cool places for the well-to-do to escape the discomfort of summer weather in Sydney or Newcastle.

Two became recognisable hill stations in the pattern of the Indian raj: these were Mount Wilson and Kurrajong Heights.

And country retreats and hill stations called for gardens, like those which Silas Clifford-Smith will be talking about this morning. And this is true not only of the hill-stations; it is equally true of the later gardens, symbolised in the twentieth century by the work of Paul Sorensen, that ambivalent icon.

Many of these gardens, and their successors, are now on display every year as part of such things as the Leura Festival. They are no less manicured and have created no less ruthless clearings of the environment within throwing distance of the World Heritage park.

That does not mean that I do not admire them nor that I do not recommend many of them for heritage listing, often at a state-wide level of significance.

But there is a tight-rope to walk when weighing up just what has been the impact of some of these

gardens on the heritage values of the Mountains.

...the irony of classic gardens which we love so much at Mt Wilson...

It always strike me as an irony that the classic gardens which we all love so much at Mount Wilson are in fact exotic importations created by the deliberate destruction of the rich natural vegetation of the basalt cap, with its rain-forest and tree-fern under-storey.

The character of Mount Wilson is complex, just as its Indian counterpart, Simla, is complex, for reasons both similar and dissimilar. Neither has a simple, uncomplicated relationship between the original environment and the modified.

And because each has a seasonal occupation by the wealthy professional folk who need to escape hot and humid cities, each has also a different sort of permanent resident, those who take care of the estates and form their own very different community throughout the year.

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There is an analogue in the service-providers, living all the year round in the towns and villages which grew up along the railway line from the 1870s onwards.

The mountains are gearing up, however, in 2012, not for a celebration of the Sublime, nor of the long-term impact of mass tourism, but for a full-blooded dedication to European events of two hundred years ago.

This conference is a forerunner to an extraordinary three years of events designed to examine afresh the European crossing of the Mountains in stages through 1813, 1814 and 1815.

A Western Crossing Committee, formed by the Royal Australian Historical Society and strongly supported by BMACHO, has been instrumental in bringing together a wide variety of societies, groups and local council agencies from Penrith and Richmond and Kurrajong in the east through all the villages and towns along the Great Western Highway and Bells Line of Road right out to Bathurst in the west, so that there is a common sharing of information about all the multifarious activities which are planned.

The commonality of interest among the local government areas of Hawkesbury, Penrith, Blue Mountains, Lithgow, Oberon and Bathurst has never been so clearly articulated and has produced significant by-products such as the linking of the tourist bodies in Blue Mountains City, Lithgow City and Oberon Shire.

No less than the Three Sisters, the Western Crossing has acquired its own mythology. This is neatly enshrined in a tangible shrine here in Katoomba, the so-called Explorers' Tree, which, as Siobhan Lavelle has so deftly demonstrated, has a remarkable amount to say about almost everything in the last 200 years, from the Dauntless Three, through Evans the surveyor and Cox the entrepreneur, through the convicts who constructed and maintained the changing lines of the western road, to the tourist revolution and its corollary, the service providers, and ultimately the dormitory suburb.

If you have not yet read Siobhan's article in the *Journal of the Royal Australian Historical Society* in 2003 entitled 'A Tree and a Legend: the making of past and place in the Blue Mountains', you should do so, for it fully lives up to Siobhan's claim that:

The Explorers' Tree provides an historic case study of interest in its demonstration of place creation, recognition and acceptance, and also the role of place as marker of national and local identity.

And place is so essential a part of Mountain studies.

Siobhan successfully shows how different observers over 150 years have had widely divergent reactions to the legendary tree, indeed making a rather ordinary *eucalyptus oreades* into a legendary tree. And these contrasting views among observers have a certain equation with whether the observer is a local or not.

These are big questions which should resonate on sites other than the Explorers' Tree: they have certainly been resonating recently in yet another reappraisal of the alleged convict graves situated just above the Explorers' Tree on Pulpit Hill: we are now down to only one, but that is the earliest convict grave on the Mountains, described by French explorers in the 1820s and probably on the site located recently by ground-penetrating radar.

There are so many topics, great and small, which still have the capacity to provide fodder for conferences and symposia held here in the Mountains. Today the organisers have brought together a cross-section of interests. The early colonial period bookends the talks, with a Professor of Public History, Paul Ashton, at one end and Glynis Jones, a curator of textiles and clothing at the other.



The Explorers Tree, Katoomba ca 1875. Charles Bayliss National Library of Australia vn4192094

Gardens get their due in a nineteenth-century context wider than the Mountains from Silas Clifford-Smith, well-known hereabouts for his work in the gardens at the Norman Lindsay gallery.

The mountains have also had a significant role in literary inspiration. John Low, who was inspirational in earlier conferences here at the Carrington, was for many years the local studies librarian at Springwood. One of his significant achievements there was the accumulation of a first-rate collection of literary works of fiction relating in some way to the mountains.

The shelves of these hard-to-find novels caught my eye the first time I browsed in John's domain at Springwood and the collection deserves more recognition, particularly because of the renewed success of the writers' centre at Eleanor Dark's old home of Varuna, here in Katoomba.

So it was a happy inspiration to invite Jill Roe to come and distil from her comprehensive knowledge of Miles Franklin a paper on Miles's Mountain Mates. And we close one phase of the proceedings with a closer look at our surroundings here in the Carrington conducted by the in-house historian, Paul Innes.

Mudgee Colonial Inn Museum a part of the town's heritage

by John Broadley --- president Mudgee Historical Society

THERE are few historical societies in Australia which can claim to ownership of part of a town's rich heritage.

The site of the Colonial Inn Museum, headquarters of the Mudgee Historical Society, is situated on part of one of Mudgee's most historic land grants: Portion 181 of the Parish of Mudgee in the County of Wellington, a crown grant of 995 acres which was registered in 1835 to Mudgee pioneer, George Cox.

Although the site contains numerous buildings from various periods, the main museum building dates from the mid 1850s and is one of Mudgee's oldest.

George Cox and his younger brother Henry, sons of noted Hawkesbury settler and Blue Mountains road builder, William Cox, were pioneer settlers of Mudgee, establishing runs at Mudgee in February 1822.

They gradually accrued extensive landholdings on the southern banks of the Cudgong River which flows through the Mudgee valley, while Blue Mountains explorer Lieutenant William Lawson occupied the northern bank.

These three men were soon joined by Richard Rouse senior of Windsor, Robert Lowe of Bringelly and William Bowman of Windsor as pioneer settlers of the Mudgee district.

All were, however, largely absentee landowners, leaving their Mudgee lands in the charge of convict overseers until the next generation came of age.

As a result of the discovery of gold in 1851 at Louisa Creek, now Hargraves, near Mudgee, the population of the district increased dramatically, and the sleepy backwater village of Mudgee became a service centre for the surrounding goldfields.



A recent photograph of the Colonial Inn Museum

Industry developed – breweries, tanneries, foundries, flour mills - while many shops and hotels were built; remarkably, many buildings from this era remain, although most have undergone transformations.

From the early 1850s George Cox began to subdivide the south-eastern corner of Portion 181 which adjoined the western boundary of the town of Mudgee which had been proclaimed in 1838.

These subdivisions varied in size, but mostly comprised a few acres and were located along, or close to, Market Lane, the north-western entry to the town.

This area rapidly became a busy industrial and commercial centre to service the passing hordes on their way to and from the gold fields. Numerous shops, a soap factory, a foundry, a flour mill, wheelwrights and coach factories sprang up in the vicinity.

Several hotels were erected during the 1850s between the bend in what is now known as Market Street west and the site of Radio 2MG on Mudgee's north-western outskirts.

In 1853 George Cox sold a parcel of 8 acres of his grant to John Brooks for £5. This was a narrow portion of

land on the northern side of Market Lane immediately adjacent to the town boundary and ran down to the Cudgong River.

By 1856 John Brooks had constructed the existing building – in brick, two-storeyed, with a narrow cantilevered balcony on the front facade and two rear service wings - whose design suggests that it was intended for use as licensed premises.

The building was decidedly grander than many of the inns and hotels of the period outside of the town boundary.

On the ground floor the building's two front doors accessed the public bar on the right and the ladies' saloon or parlour on the left.

Segregated service of alcohol remained the norm until well into the twentieth century.

In 1857 John Brooks sold the property to George McQuiggan, who operated a hotel on the premises until 1861.

George McQuiggan was a prominent businessman with an extensive real estate portfolio in the burgeoning town.

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From 1861 to 1864 the building was leased to the Mudgee firm of Dickson & Burrows who operated a store on the premises.

From 1865 until 1923 the West End Hotel operated from the premises by numerous licensees under a variety of owners; in those days the licensee was not always necessarily the owner.

George McQuiggan died in 1874 and in 1880 his trustees conveyed the property to Thomas Wilton who in turn died in 1894.

In 1896 his executor and the executor of his daughter, Annie Hollis, who had died in 1895, conveyed the property to Joseph Mulley who had been licensee since 1890.

Joseph Mulley remained licensee until his death in 1903, when his widow Sarah took over the licence.

...not unusual for women to be licensees...

It was not unusual for women to be licensees, as there had been several female licensees in Mudgee during the 1800s; in fact, Sarah was the second female licensee of the West End Hotel, as Mrs James Dwane had been licensee from 1875 to 1877, succeeding her husband who had been licensee from 1871 to 1875.

In 1905 Sarah Mulley sold the property to Albert Gentle who held the licence until 1923 when the West End Hotel and numerous other hotels in the town and district were delicensed.

The building remained the Gentles' private residence until its sale to Rose Bowen in 1927, when it became a boarding house/flats; it was also reputedly used as "lying-in accommodation" for women from isolated areas awaiting birth.

In 1935, during the Great Depression, the mortgagee sold the property to Wilfred Roth, farmer of Bombira, Mudgee, and his wife, Alice Hazel Roth.



The West End Hotel circa 1880s

The Roths only held the property briefly, on selling in 1937 to Gibson Harland, farmer of Gilgandra, and his wife, Phoebe.

The Harlands retained the property until the late 1950s, by which time they had retired to Mudgee.

In 1958 they sold to Joyce Helena Cole, servicewoman, who in turn sold the property in 1966 to the Mudgee Historical Society for use as its headquarters and as a museum.

The Mudgee Historical Society had been formed in 1964 as an initiative of the Mudgee Rotary Club and originally occupied a few rooms in the recently-delicensed premises of the Post Office Hotel which was adapted for commercial and residential use.

In the early days of the Mudgee Historical Society many items were generously donated for exhibition and the museum quickly outgrew its limited space. Thus a search began to find suitable premises for a museum.

The society trustees selected four historic premises, but ultimately decided upon the former West End Hotel as being in the best condition and offering scope for expansion. Renamed the Colonial Inn Museum, the building remains to this day the offices of the Mudgee Historical Society Inc and is the core of its museum displays.

Remarkably, the old hotel building has undergone few changes since it was built circa 1856.

The original cantilevered balcony was replaced by a deep two-storeyed verandah in the late 1800s; the ironwork – verandah railing, posts and pillars bear the mark of Mudgee's Hansen foundry which started in the early 1880s in premises nearby.

Windows and doors are original and the floors and the majority of the lath and plaster ceilings are intact. The odd internal door and window have been inserted, moved or sealed and the occasional partition wall upstairs has been inserted or realigned.

Rooms had been added to the rear of the wings at various stages, and the previously-open space between the wings has been roofed over.

The building has adapted well to use as a museum. Its thick exterior walls mean that the building's interior has a relatively standard temperature all year round, ideal for the preservation of delicate items.

Several theme display rooms have been installed in rooms which originally served a particular function during its hotel period.

The entry is the original bar and it is set up as such, while the original parlour is accurately set up as a late nineteenth century parlour.

The hotel kitchen remains a late 19th/early 20th century kitchen, and this room in particular evokes many comments from visitors: "It's just like my Nanna's kitchen!"

Continued page 10

A “gozunder” that fascinated school children

Continued from page 9

Upstairs, one of the hotel bedrooms is furnished as a typical Victorian bedroom, along with a commode chair and a “gozunder” (these fascinate school children), while the long room at the front upstairs, which opens onto the verandah and which was used for dinners, meetings and dances, contains the original Mudgee Municipal mayoral desk and chair and councillors’ table and chairs; the long room also houses war memorabilia and a chemist display.

Other theme rooms within the original hotel building are a men’s room, a women’s room, a children’s room, “kept for best” room, handicraft room, and a room featuring early cameras and record players.

When the society bought the property it had been considerably reduced in size and all the old outbuildings – stables, outhouses, sheds – had been demolished.

Since then an adjoining block of land was purchased and a variety of buildings, all sympathetic in design and materials, have been erected or transported to the site.

These structures include a combined meeting room, kitchen and toilet block; a recreation of a vertical slab hip roofed cottage; a large gabled storage/display shed with skillions; and extensive skillion machinery and vehicle display sheds.

In 1996 a gabled, corrugated iron-clad former church was re-located to the site from South Mudgee for use as display space, especially to house the museum’s sizeable costumed doll collection; originally built in 1906 at Lue, a village to the south-east of Mudgee, the church had been previously moved in the 1930s into Mudgee.

More recently, a brand new curator’s storage and work shed and a blacksmith shop have been completed, the latter made solely from recycled material.

The Colonial Inn Museum and its grounds contain an enormous collection of 19th and early 20th century Australiana: domestic



A panorama of the west of Mudgee township in the late 1800s showing the West End soap factory in the foreground and at the top centre West End Hotel to the left of the bend in the unsealed road. Image courtesy Mudgee Historical Society Inc

implements, furniture, agricultural machinery, tools, horse-drawn vehicles and cars, and also holds substantial photographic and archival documents collections.

It is open seven days a week and is used extensively by local schools as an educational resource, and as a community meeting place for a number of organisations.

It is also a welcoming place for visits from local nursing homes, and for the last four years the Mudgee Historical Society Inc has hosted a courtesy morning tea for local senior citizens during National Seniors’ Week.

The Mudgee Historical Society Inc is solely a volunteer organisation which wholly owns its site and buildings and relies on the hard work of its volunteers and the generosity and support of its membership and the community to survive.

It is especially appreciative of the constant support of the Mid-Western Regional Council and its predecessor, the Mudgee Shire Council.

The Mudgee Historical Society Inc looks forward to celebrating the Golden anniversary of its establishment in 2014 and of its existence on site in 2016.

A Moment in Time exhibition at Hartley

AN IMAGES exhibition titled a *Moment in Time* will be conducted by Hartley District Progress Association in June 2013.

The exhibition will be staged in the Hartley historic site for two weeks either side of the Queens Birthday weekend.

A yet to be named Fair Day on June 1 has been diarised by the Governor of NSW and festivities on that day will run from 10am to 4pm.

There will be guided walks along the Cox’s Road in May and June.

These walks will vary in length and difficulty, limited to manageable numbers and only on sections of the original road where landholder’s permission can be obtained.

Hartley District Progress Association has a history conference scheduled for June 8, 2013.



Heritage farming project wins prestigious print award

IAN MILLISS pictured, an individual member of BMACHO and his associate Lucas Ihlein have recently been awarded the prestigious Fremantle Arts Centre Print Award, for their collaborative work *Yeoman's Project*.



Through a series of five prints, the art work explores the influence of Percival Alfred Yeomans, an Australian farmer and engineer whose research into sustainable agriculture continues to attract international acclaim.

Known best for his invention of the "Keyline System", Yeomans' enhancements to the practices of land cultivation won him the Prince Phillip Design Award in 1974.

Ian and Ihlein have been awarded the \$15,000 acquisitional prize, and Yeomans Project will become part of the City of Fremantle's permanent art collection.

The judges said of the winning entry, 'In a tight layering of concept and research and through the process of offset lithography, the series references land art, commercial graphics, agricultural advertising and the history of topographical mapping.'

The award has special local significance as Yobarnie and Nevallan at North Richmond are the two properties where Yeomans developed and refined his ideas.

Nevallan is still intact and currently under consideration for state heritage listing. Yobarnie has already been partly subdivided; dams destroyed and built on although large parts still remain intact.

by Ian Milliss

If you look to the south when driving up the Kurrajong Road from North Richmond just before you reach Kurmond you will overlook a farm with regular rows of tree belts and dams circling the hills.

This is the distinctive image of Nevallan, one of the first properties of the Australian agricultural innovator PA Yeomans.

Percival Alfred Yeomans (1904 - 1984) was an Australian inventor known for his "Keyline System" of farm design and management.

Beginning as a novice farmer shortly after World War 2, Yeomans applied his engineering and mining training to the degraded hillside

land outside Richmond that he took over when his brother-in-law who was managing the family owned property died in a bushfire.

He successfully combined water retention techniques and tilling patterns into an innovative form of organic farming designed to renew the eroded farmland by rapidly regenerating topsoil.

Keyline farming focuses on water flow patterns. The layout of farm dams, irrigation areas, roads, fences, farm buildings, tree lines and water storage are all structured to maximise retention and repeated recapture of run-off water on the farm.

Once rainfall water is captured it is used for irrigation but its flow is

controlled by a particular pattern of tilling based on the "keyline" which maximises absorption and pasture growth, effectively spreading the irregular rainfall patterns so common to Australia.

Yeomans' approach directly opposed the conventional wisdom of the time.

Collecting and storing large quantities of run off water on the farm itself for subsequent irrigation was virtually unheard of and was opposed by government soil conservation departments whose priority then (and still now to some extent) was encouraging rapid runoff into watercourses where the water is later resold down river to intensive irrigators.

His advocacy of tyned tillage equipment and a unique cultivation pattern to solve the ravages of erosion and increase soil fertility also conflicted with the simplistic approach of the agricultural chemical industry.

Yeomans later extended his analysis to urban landscape design as well.

Continued Page 12



Part of the Nevallan property at North Richmond

He argued that there is a local and global problem of mismanagement of both rain water and human effluent caused by poor landscape design.

...a “City Forest” scheme to process the nutrients of human waste...

He proposed a “City Forest” scheme to process the nutrients of human waste and slow rainwater flow, arguing that forests should be deliberately designed and grown as an intrinsic part of cities, a radical extension of his techniques for working on farmland.

Yeomans also designed and manufactured his own specialised ploughs and tynes, receiving The Prince Philip Design Award in 1974.

Yeomans’ ploughs work the subsoil by lifting the pasture surface and breaking up root systems without overturning the sod.

The deep surface furrows direct water into the subsoil, encouraging renewed root growth and making the ploughs particularly effective in regenerating degraded pasture.

Yeomans was energetically devoted to promoting his ideas through his several books, extensive education programs and field days.

From the 1950s onward his techniques were taken up by many farmers throughout Australia and ultimately worldwide.

In the 1970s they led to the development of the permaculture movement and also influenced other farming techniques such as the low tillage movement.

Yobarnie and Nevallan at North Richmond are the two properties where Yeomans developed and refined his ideas.

Unfortunately it has been difficult to get any recognition of the heritage significance of these properties, among the most historically important farming landscapes in the country particularly given the current focus on sustainable farming.

The properties were sold after Yeomans’ death and continued to operate for many years as dairy farms.

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WORKING

One of the 5 winning prints

Nevallan is still intact and currently under consideration for state heritage listing. Yobarnie has already been partly subdivided; dams destroyed and built on although large parts still remain intact.

But that is Yeomans’ work. Our investigation is itself now a part of art history.

In the early 1970s I worked with the Art Gallery of NSW to curate an exhibition on Yeomans as part of an ongoing art world discussion on the definition of art, artists and cultural activism.

I was advocating that artists were not defined by the manufacture of certain types of artefacts or media (eg painting) nor by their use of certain distribution mechanisms (eg galleries) but rather by their ability to generate adaptive cultural change using any available activity.

On that basis Yeomans represented a model for a new understanding of what an artist could be, a type of cultural innovator who used any means available to change the culture.

The exhibition was eventually cancelled by the last minute intervention of the Gallery’s Board of Trustees, despite the objections of the director and curators, on the basis that it was a trade show, not art.

Continued page 13



One of Yeomans’ ploughs

The Yeomans' project ... art, farming, history and more ...

Continued from page 12

While I moved on to explore similar ideas in other ways the trustee's action was one of many inappropriate interventions which resulted in the Art Gallery Act being changed in 1980 to remove their power over day to day activity in the institution.

In 2010 a young artist, Dr Lucas Ihlein, approached me about working with him to recreate this project for a 2011 exhibition on the influence of early conceptual art at the Australian Centre for Contemporary Art in Melbourne.

We received funding from the Australia Council and the revived project has taken a variety of forms, a blog <http://yeomansproject.com>, a series of prints (which recently won the 2012 Fremantle Arts Centre Print Award <http://yhoo.it/RaZZ91>), the display itself which included artefacts relating to Yeomans including one of his ploughs, a bus tour and a number of talks and conference appearances.

The multi disciplinary nature of the project illustrates the way disciplinary boundaries are currently dissolving. As the internet and social media open up the potential for cheap and widespread distribution and interaction the gatekeepers of previously discrete disciplines are being bypassed yet the disciplines themselves are being expanded and opened out to a broader range of practitioners, with varying results.

The Yeomans Project now has components that can be classified as history, art, farming, education, environmental activism, and a variety of other previously more clearly separated activities.

In a final irony the original exhibition has once again been scheduled for the Art Gallery of NSW in November 2013, only 38 years late.

The growth of gardens in the Blue Mountains

FIVE half-day (identical) seminars are being held over the weekend April 12-14, 2013 by Garden Clubs of Australia — Blue Mountains zone as part of the 200th anniversary of the 'Crossing of the Blue Mountains' by Blaxland, Lawson and Wentworth in 1813 celebrations

The seminars will cover the growth of gardening, within the historical establishment of the Blue Mountains, from pre-settlement times, through the early days of the developing towns and villages of the 19th and 20th centuries; to the spectacular and historic gardens of to-day.



Beginning with a look at indigenous native food plants (pre 1813 and to-day) and early market gardens, then on to how many of the 'estate' and 'resort' gardens were established, and then to the large number of quality residential gardens annually on display, the seminars conclude with a look at the challenges and opportunities confronting Blue Mountains gardeners, and gardeners generally, in the 21st century.

The seminars begin at Kurrajong on the evening of Friday, April 12 then Springwood and Wentworth Falls on Saturday 13 and conclude at Blackheath and Lithgow on Sunday 14 — giving Blue Mountains garden club members, residents, and visitors, a wide choice of venues and times to participate in the program.

There will be five high - profile speakers:

Bundeluk, of the Darug people: "Storyteller" — Bushtucker tradition indigenous plants, pre 1813 and to-day.

Associate Professor Ian Jack, Royal Australian Historical Society:

— Historical development of the Blue Mountains and its early gardens.

Alison Halliday, co-author of the best-selling publication *A Passion for Place, Gardens of the Blue Mountains* - Bells Line of Road gardens.

Angus Stewart, noted native plant breeder and presenter, ABC TV's "Gardening Australia" — Our Blue Mountain Gardens of To-day.

Jerry Coleby-Williams, Director - Seed Savers Foundation, and another prominent presenter of ABC TV's "Gardening Australia" program: — Into the Future – Challenges and Opportunities.

The seminars (each of 3 and a half hours duration) are open to the garden interested public on Saturday, April 13 at Springwood (8.30am – 12.30pm) and Wentworth Falls (2.30pm – 6.00pm) and the next day (Sunday) at Lithgow (2.30 – 6pm) all for a low cost of \$12, school students, free.

This is a unique opportunity to learn, from renowned speakers, of the development of Australian gardening from the early days to the present, and of what lies ahead for gardeners in the future.

Numbers are limited but early bookings can be made by telephoning mobile 0488-075-388 or by e-mail to cyberguy1@me.com.

Garden clubs with members wanting to attend should contact Central Blue Mountains Garden Club, P.O. Box 164, Lawson 2783, or ring Warren Boorman on (02) 4759 2149.

The seminars are an "1813 Crossing" scheduled event, part of extensive celebrations being held throughout the Blue Mountains region from 2013 to 2015, concluding with the 200th anniversary of Governor Macquarie's visit to "declare open" Bathurst, Australia's first inland settlement.

PROPOSED NSW PLANNING REFORMS OVERLOOK HERITAGE VALUE

By Margi Fallon Heritage Consultant Architect

MANY may be aware of the proposed *New Planning System for NSW* as outlined in the green paper released for public comment in July this year. Submissions for individuals closed on September 14 and for councils on October 5.

It was clear from many of the submissions that the proposed planning reforms will have a major effect on community consultation, design quality, environmental protection and heritage within the state.

The reforms are being developed with the primary aim of speeding up development in the state, with many risks attached.

Despite many reservations being expressed from community, environment, local government and heritage groups around the state, the government is proceeding quickly to the development of the white paper which will go before parliament for ratification early to mid next year.

OBJECTIVES OF THE PROPOSED PLANNING REFORMS

The key drivers of this reform are 'growth and development outcomes', and these will occur at the cost of quality, environment and good design. The removal of the word environment from the naming of the planning instruments is ominous.

The word "heritage" also barely appears in the green paper.

A stated objective of greater community involvement will not be met as this is proposed to be restricted to the strategic planning.

The general community will not be able to understand enough of the end result to be able to fully engage in strategic planning unless they are very honestly and clearly trained and consulted by highly trained professionals, with scale models of what will land on the ground as a result.

There needs to be community consultation at the development end of the process as well as the strategic end of the process.

An inverted triangle principal of planning, proposed by the Productivity Commission, sets the concept of a top down planning system rather than a merit based assessment system.

This will be difficult to achieve without a very careful and coordinated approach that enables the local and character needs to be addressed at the state level.

It is difficult to see how this can happen in reality.

The community is unlikely to engage at a state level, and will be more involved at a local level.

However, what is left to decide strategically at a local level will be pretty small as the state and regional plans will provide the framework through which the local planning can happen.

The streamlining of the planning process to remove or reduce the scope of merit based assessment of design will need to either be a very complex system of clearly defined code requirements to enable the "tick box " to provide for good outcomes, or it will create a proliferation of the lowest common denominator of design and urban outcomes.

The outcome of this will only be noticed when it is too late. (Noting that the majority of small to medium scale developments are not designed by design trained professionals.)

While the green paper appears to recognise local government, the regional and subregional system has the potential to remove the role and power of local government in planning.

This will not have a good outcome as NSW is a diverse culture and it will not be possible to adequately

cover urban, coastal, regional, outer west and other local areas from a state level concept.

The environment of NSW is diverse and the needs of the various communities are diverse.

The drivers and focus of these reforms are clearly based on Sydney urban growth and development issues and these issues are not as relevant in regional NSW.

What is relevant is decentralisation, and infrastructure. These are also included in the reforms and the implementation of the reforms with a greater focus on regional NSW will enable this issue to be potentially addressed.

The planned strategic management system of state to regional to subregional to local, will only work if the manning of the various offices at each level are located appropriately (ie regional and sub regional offices in their relevant regional areas, manned by regional professionals, not Sydney based ones.)

The manning of the "Independent" bodies suggested in the report is heavily weighted to the planning and developer profession.

However, for a good design outcome a broad range of professionals need to be involved in the strategic planning bodies including :

Heritage professionals, Aboriginal cultural professionals, environmental professionals, planning professionals, urban design professionals, and community representatives.

The last group -- community representatives, does at its heart need to involve local government councillors. I don't believe local community elected representatives can be removed from the consultative and decision making system. After all, that is what they have been elected to do -- advocate for the local community.

New system aimed at removing local government from planning

Continued from page 14

The proposed new system is heavily weighted to centralisation and standardisation of planning controls, removing the role of local government. To me this is a step toward council area amalgamations.

While there may be some efficiencies from going to regional councils it cannot deal with some of the more specific local area needs.

For example, the Blue Mountains is not a metropolitan area even though it is so close to Sydney – to amalgamate with say Penrith would be completely inappropriate as the issues of a World Heritage Area are completely different to the issues of a Sydney Plains suburban area.

It would be better to retain and expand the systems already in place which enable the local councils to remain independent, but enable some linking of services such as is provided by WESROC, or in the central west the WBC Strategic Alliance where Wellington, Blayney and Cabonne work together in some areas of service.

As a result of the speed with which these reforms seem to be travelling, a number of community groups have joined forces to form the Better Planning Network (BPN).

This group has been lobbying the government in a positive way to ensure the community and environment groups have a strategic say in the reforms.

Most recently they have been lobbying for an extended period for the consultation process for the white paper.

At present it is planned that the public consultation period will be for

three months over the Christmas period. However, there may be signs that this will be extended to six months through the lobbying of the BPN.

Check out the planning reforms process and get informed. It is happening quickly and we may lose many good things if it is not done properly.

The planning reforms and process for consultation can be viewed at : <http://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/a-new-planning-system-for-nsw>. You can also connect to the Better Planning Network at : <http://betterplanningnetwork.good.do> You can also continue to write to the planning department. Some of the issues that I have personally put to the Planning Department are :

1. THE HERITAGE BRANCH NEEDS TO BE REINSTATED AS A KEY PLAYER IN THE PLANNING SYSTEM. – over the past 10 years the heritage branch has been decimated by the removal of staff to the planning department and then the separation of the heritage branch from the planning department.

Their statutory status has been greatly reduced, and staffing has reduced their capacity to train and support the heritage protection industry.

2. ABORIGINAL HERITAGE CONSERVATION – also needs a greater role in planning. Currently planning concentrates on artefacts in the ground and a lot of heritage is being removed as part of destroy permits which seem not to protect the systems they should. Aboriginal cultural heritage officers need to be part of the strategic planning system – particularly in regional areas where there is a stronger connection to the indigenous past.

3. THE STATE GOVERNMENTAL PLANNING OFFICE NEEDS TO BE STRENGTHENED – ie the strategic planning needs to be a governmental driven issue not a consultant driven issue.

The government needs to employ planners and heritage advisers and professionals that will be wholly focussed on the community and not split between working for both the

developer side of the equation and the community side of the equation.

4. THE DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING NEEDS TO BE DECENTRALISED – with the Regional Planning Board serviced by a regional planning office. That office would include planners, heritage, environmental and Aboriginal cultural professionals.

The regional planning offices need to be located in the regions they serve. (ie Bathurst /Orange, Grafton, Gosford, Newcastle, Dubbo, Nowra, Wagga, Albury, Armidale, Tamworth). The old buildings may still be there.

The author



Margaret Fallon BArch RAIA is principal architect of Integrated Design Associates.

Along with her experience in commercial, public and private design projects and construction management, Margaret has a keen interest in community and environmental design issues.

Margaret is a heritage consultant and has carried out a number of heritage studies in the Blue Mountains and central west of NSW.

A resident of Wentworth Falls, Margaret has held heritage advisor positions at Blacktown and Strathfield councils, as well as working for a short period of time at the NSW Heritage Branch.

The Cox's Road - Context of representative portions

THE COX'S Road Steering Committee was formed in July 2006 to look at long term objectives and mechanisms to preserve the 1814 Cox's Road alignment between Emu Plains and the Blue Mountains and Bathurst. The committee was formed with delegates from the Lithgow, Blue Mountains and Bathurst branches of the National Trust of Australia (NSW), and operates under the auspices of the Trust as an informal committee.

In April 2011 the NSW Heritage Office concluded it will list representative portions of Cox's Road as part of the 1813 bicentennial celebrations of the crossing of the Blue Mountains in recognition of the importance of the road in the history of opening up western NSW.

Cox's Road Project Committee (CRPC) convenor, and an individual member of BMACHO, Patsy Moppett pictured, has produced a series of articles for *HERITAGE* to provide some of the detail for each precinct of the road, this being the introduction to the series as well as the Emu Ford and Woodford precincts.



By Patsy Moppett

AS A follow up to a previous article on the Cox's Road in September 2011, it is timely that further information be shared in regard to the original road across the Blue Mountains that opened up the western region for the wider settlement of the New South Wales colony.

It is common knowledge that the Cox's Road was followed up in subsequent years by various other crossing routes and deviations, resulting in the Great Western Highway as we see it today. With increasing interest in the western crossings in general, the significance of the original crossing should be acknowledged.

After considering its options, the SHR committee concluded that listing of representative portions of Cox's Road would be undertaken as part of the 1813 bicentennial commemorations of the crossing of the Blue Mountains in recognition of the importance of the road in the history of opening up of western NSW.



This monument erected by the RAHS marks the location where Macquarie declared the site for Bathurst

The Cox's Road Project Committee (National Trust) (CRPC) made a submission for nomination of Cox's Road for listing on the SHR under the Heritage Act 1977 in 2010, to record and register the significance of the road.

The State Heritage Register Committee of the Heritage Council of NSW considered its options for listing all or part of the Cox's Road.

The SHR committee was very enthusiastic about the proposal and considered the route a significant part of NSW history and heritage.

It was understood that this would require extensive consultation with owners and other relevant stakeholders.

The significance of the road relates to its place within early colonial history and society.

Sophisticated technology had little part to play in the construction of the modest structures that enabled the opening up of western NSW, and the standards and practice of road engineering of the colonial period stand out.

The route traversed a rugged and inhospitable landscape, with minimal loss of life, with efficient and effective management of labour and equipment, demonstrating basic work patterns and skills.

The road construction was also associated with notable public figures of the time including Cox, Macquarie, Evans and Blaxland.

A report presented by Grace Karskens in 1988, *Cox's Way*, was carried out as a historical and archaeological study of William Cox's Road, which also touched on other early crossings of the Blue Mountains. ***Continued page 17***

Grace Karskens' study, first to bring together available surveys for whole road

Continued from page 16

Dr Karskens' report was prepared for the Cox's Road Trust, within the then NSW Department of Lands.

The study was the first which brought together available surveys, historical and archaeological data for the whole of the road. For ease of assessment, Karskens divided the route into precincts, within which one can identify specific significant remaining features of the original road.

As part of the initial submission to the Heritage Council, all of the precincts identified by Grace Karskens have been examined under the State Heritage Register criteria.

The Cox's Road Project Committee has now examined in more detail some representative portions of the road, to reinforce the data previously presented to the Heritage Council.

The choice of precincts does not suggest that other sites are less significant. However, the logistics of listing such a heritage feature as a road route present issues relating to land ownership, access, environmental impacts and so on.

Therefore the precincts that have been chosen for closer examination are identified as the least vulnerable.

Traditionally, the stony ridge tops at Linden and Woodford, and the Mount York Descent have been the most well-known features.

Little has been recorded in regard to the road beyond Mount York, or the other sections of the route through the mountains from the Nepean River.

Karskens' study examines the whole of the route from the Nepean River right through to the Bathurst plains, picking up and analysing all remaining features of the route, stopping short of more elaborate survey and archaeological investigation along less significant sections.

The CRPC has taken some of the major Karskens' precincts and elaborated on their significance. The detail documented would assist in the production of maps and brochures for both the 1813 bicentennial commemorations and for the actual listing process.

In 2011 the NSW Heritage Council and Heritage Office emphasised that they would like to consider promotion of the history and importance of the road through the publishing of articles and through relevant events over the following months.

Therefore it is my intention, through a series of articles during the course of the coming issues of *HERITAGE*, to provide some of the detail for each precinct, as follows:

- Emu Ford
- Woodford/Linden
- Caley's Repulse
- Mount York
- Mount Blaxland
- Fish River and beyond

The Emu Ford precinct

The Emu Ford precinct is located on the Nepean River at Penrith, just north of the existing weir. It was probably the first crossing of the river, even before William Cox set off in 1814.

It was utilised by Blaxland, Lawson and Wentworth, and subsequently by Surveyor Evans to access Emu Island, and what became the settlement of Emu in 1832.

Cox began the approaches in July 1814, the whole crossing construction taking only a couple of days.

A punt and ferries further to the south provided the formal replacement of the ford in later years but were subject to a toll, thus the ford remained in use as a means to avoid the toll for quite some time.

It is possible that people travelling to the west continued to use the crossing even up until the 1850s, but mapping of the 1860s showed no sign of the crossing.

Travellers had to negotiate the steep slopes near Peach Tree Creek until the first bridge was constructed in 1867, the Victoria Bridge.

Goods were usually transported across the river on horseback, and people were taken across by boat.

The subsequent development of the weir and Peach Tree Park has meant that the eastern approaches to the crossing are no longer evident.

The western side is not too disturbed but any evidence is overgrown. The narrowing of the river and the shallow stony crossing are still quite clear, near where a small side creek, Peach Tree Creek, enters the River from the east.

In her report "Cox's Way", Grace Karskens states that "*this precinct is a historically significant site, marking the starting point of the early mountain crossings and still illustrates the nature and problems of water crossings during the early nineteenth century*".

The following photographs document the remaining key features in the vicinity of the crossing:



Emu Ford site view to south west



Emu Ford site view to north west

“Nepean River; banks very steep on the east side”... William Cox July 18, 1814

Continued from page 17

The following extracts are taken from records of the time contained in *Fourteen Crossings of the Blue Mountains*.

Gregory Blaxland

Tuesday, May 11, 1813

“Mr. Gregory Blaxland, Mr. William Wentworth and Lieutenant Lawson took their departure to endeavour to explore the interior of the Country and to effect a passage over the Blue Mountains between the Western River and the River Grose.

They crossed the Nepean River at the ford on to Emu Island at four o'clock in the afternoon and proceeded by their Calculation two Miles through forest land and good grass, encamped at 5 o'clock at the foot of the first ridge of the Mountains”.

Assistant-Surveyor Evans

Friday November 19, 1813

“I directed the Provisions and other necessaries to be conveyed across the Nepean to the N.E. Point of Forest Land, commonly called Emu Island, which was done, and by the time everything was arranged Evening approached”.

William Cox July 18, 1814

“Began work at 10.00am to make a pass across the Nepean River; the banks very steep on the east side...”.

July 19, 1814

Finished the road down the right bank of the river. The swamp oak on Emu side very hard to cut and root. In the afternoon began our operations on Emu Plains”.

Major Henry Colden Antill (in company of His Excellency Governor and Mrs Macquarie) **April 26, 1815**

Sir John Jamieson...had requested we would breakfast at his farm ...situated on the banks of the Nepean, the horses and carriage were sent round to the ford while we were at breakfast, about a mile down the river, where they crossed and came up to the Government stockyard opposite to Sir John's, ...we all crossed in a boat and at 11 o'clock started from Emu Plains, ...”



Emu Ford by John Lewin courtesy State Library of NSW

LITHOGRAPHS – Record from Governor Macquarie's journey over Cox's Road in April 1815

John Lewin's (1770-1819) watercolour drawings of (Cox's Pass ca. 1815-1816) held at the State Library of New South Wales document parts of Cox's Pass. It was during this trip that Governor Macquarie proclaimed the site and settlement of Bathurst,

John William Lewin was primarily a natural history artist and collector.

In April 1815, Lewin accompanied Governor Macquarie's expedition over the Blue Mountains to assess the Bathurst Plains for agricultural and pastoral merit.

Lewin recorded the journey in 21 watercolour drawings, of which 15 are held in this series.

Among the group was Major Henry Colden Antill who made a deal with Lewin to provide a copy of his journal in exchange for copies of Lewin's watercolours. This set is the one that belonged to Antill.

References:

Fourteen Journeys Over The Blue Mountains of New South Wales 1813-1841 Collected and Edited by George Mackaness, Horwitz Publications Inc. Pty. Ltd 1965

Grace Karskens, *Cox's Way, Historical and Archaeological Study of Cox's Road and Early Crossings of the Blue Mountains*, NSW, 1988

www.penrithcity.nsw.gov.au
www.environment.nsw.gov.au/heritageapp

Continued page 19

Breakfast tour of historic chocolate factory

HERE is an opportunity to have a hot breakfast at The Paragon at Katoomba with a tour of the historical chocolate factory, Wednesday November 21, from 7.30 am to 9.00 am.

Organised by Biznet.

Check out the link for cost and booking information <http://www.biznet.org.au/event.asp?pid=10&id=284>

One of the best preserved sections of Cox's Road runs through Woodford

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Woodford Precinct

The Woodford precinct is located off the Great Western Highway opposite the end of Tollgate Drive, rising to pass behind the Woodford trig station and Rockcorry cottages.

It joins Taylor Road up until the entry of the track through the National Park back to Glenbrook.

The road here was superseded by the road along the existing Great Western Highway after 1835.

It conveys a sense of the conditions of travel at the time, together with indications of the deviations that occurred trying to avoid the original rough track made by Cox.

As the precinct is quite elongated, the features of the road are quite considerable, and the route is accompanied by numerous other tracks which could be early diversions.

The route is clearly defined by numerous sections of kerbs, cuttings, retaining walls and drains which run intermittently along the road.

The cuttings range from 4 to 40cm in height and up to 25m long and are partly on private land.

In places there are shallow gutters, curved to direct water away from the road.

Adjacent to the Woodford trig lays a particularly good section of kerbing.

There are low rough cuttings near the Rockcorry Cottages and low earthen embankments and retaining walls on Taylor Road.

At one point there is a carving in the rock face opposite the low retaining walls.

The pavement to the eastern end is uneven with large expanses of natural rock, now covered often in sandy, earth and gravel, or clay. The width varies from 12 ft to 20 ft.

Two sections of early retaining wall run along the eastern side of Taylor



An early retaining wall eastern side of a gravelled section of Taylor Road

Road where the road has a gravel surface in good condition.

One wall comprises up to 1m high of roughly shaped or simply faced stone, stacked with no particular coursing or jointing.

The second wall is up to 210cm with neat squared large blocks with jointing and coursing.

Battering was attempted to stabilise the wall, and also heightening the embankment.

In her report *Cox's Way*, Grace Karskens states that the precinct is one of the best preserved and most intact sections of Cox's Road, presenting a graphic picture of the work done by Cox's men on the rocky outcrops and shelves of the ridge.

Photographs on this and the next page document key features of Cox's Road that is clearly visible.

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Photographic images on this and other pages accompanying the text of this article except where acknowledged with the caption have been taken by the author, Patsy Moppett.



Hand chiselled sandstone kerbing



Rock cutting east of trig station



Rockcorry road drain

Continued from page19

The Woodford precinct of the Cox's Road route does not feature highly in diaries of the period, mainly due to it being a largely featureless track along a narrow rocky ridge with little requirement for construction works.

However some small snippets are recorded. It should be noted that the Woodford precinct may also include the Caley's Repulse site, as documented by Allan Searle in his "*Historic Woodford and Linden*" 1980.

He believed that a site in the vicinity of the Woodford trig was a truer site which conformed to all written descriptions of it. However, in this report Caley's Repulse is not included, being treated in the history of the Road as a separate precinct.

'Woodford stretch not the most comfortable for travellers...'

The following extracts are taken from records of the time contained in *Fourteen Crossings of the Blue Mountains*, all observations being immediately followed by an approach to a "pile of stones".

It appears that the Woodford section of the road was not the most comfortable section for travellers!

Blaxland, Lawson and Wentworth - May, 18 1813 ...to Mark and Cut a passage for the Horses through the brush returned to their Camp – very tired and out of spirits –...along a very narrow ridge not more than fifteen or twenty yards over...

Assistant Surveyor Evans - November 21

...travelled on mostly Ridges overrun with Brush...

William Cox - August 18, 1814

...and just entered a scrub with stunted timber..... The stonemason went forward to examine a rocky ridge about three miles ahead, and on Monday he will go there to work to level them.



A portion of the Cox's Road near the Woodford trig where carved into the rock is a kerb on either side, both sides, a clear indication that Macquarie's order to Cox to build a road "so that two carriages may pass side by side" was adhered to by Cox.

Governor Lachlan Macquarie - April 27, 1815

...At a further distance of four miles a sudden change is perceived in the appearance of the timber and the quality of the soil – the former becoming stunted, and the latter barren and rocky. At this place the Country became altogether mountainous, and extremely rugged...

Major Henry Colden Antill - April 27, 1815

....Our Road was stony, and some very severe and short hills for the loaded carts.....

Quoy, Gaudichaud and Pellion – 1819

...Soon we saw the ground change and the road, although still well kept, became rather less easy on account of the inequality of the ground. The masses of sandstone show bare here almost everywhere; the vegetation is poor; and at the bottom of great valleys right and left, tower these vertical and natural insurmountable barriers, which caused the failure of so many enterprises to seek a passage through the Blue Mountains.

References:

Fourteen Journeys Over The Blue Mountains of New South Wales 1813-1841 Collected and Edited by George Mackaness, Horwitz Publications Inc Pty Ltd 1965

A Historical and Archaeological Study of Cox's Road and Early Crossings of the Blue Mountains, NSW, Grace Karskens 1988, for Crown Lands Office, Sydney

Historic Woodford and Linden 1980, Allan Searle

About the author

Patsy Moppett has worked as a town planner and heritage officer in local government in the central west of NSW for some 22 years, her work including management of heritage programs, heritage advisory service, heritage committee and local heritage funds.

She has also worked in private consulting, undertaking planning, heritage and environmental research and reporting. She has a Bachelor of Town Planning Degree and a Diploma in Conservation and Land Management, and has completed other courses related to heritage, planning law, property planning, the environment and permaculture.

Patsy undertakes history and heritage research and report writing, having written the book "*A History of Cow Flat*". She is currently working on a history of the Lower Turon goldfields, and various family history projects.

Patsy is convenor of the Cox's Road project Committee, which was formed to undertake the listing of the road on the State Heritage Register. Under this Committee she has assisted in the preparation of reporting for the NSW Heritage Office.

Oldest grave in the Blue Mountains

by Peter Chin --- president, Springwood Historical Society

PARTLY hidden in the shade of a large tree in a remote part of Springwood Cemetery is the grave of Private Francis Smith, one of the earliest known European to die and be interred in the Blue Mountains.

From the opening of the Western Road over the Mountains in 1815 until the late 1830s travellers were required to have a permit from the governor to travel to the west in the interest of controlling settlement in the Bathurst region.

To enforce this regulation small military posts, manned by three or four soldiers, were established at points along the road.

From November 1815 there was a post at Springwood somewhere in the vicinity of the present Macquarie monument in Macquarie Road which was relocated in 1833 to a site on what is now the Springwood Mews in Ferguson Road.

Private Francis Smith was a member of the 4th King's Own Regiment which was stationed in New South Wales from 1832 to 1837, and with probably three other soldiers manned the Springwood military post.

Smith had joined the regiment in 1813 and served in the Peninsula War, the war against the United States in 1814 and later in the West Indies before returning to England. He arrived in Sydney in 1832 and was located at various posts in Sydney and the Blue Mountains before coming to Springwood in January 1836.

Private Smith died at the Springwood post on May 5, 1836 from causes unrecorded. Because this was the only European settlement in the area he was buried in the bush near the post. A headstone bearing the following inscription was placed on the grave:

Sacred to the memory of
Francis Smith
Who died May 5th 1836
aged 43 years
having served
for 25 years
as a soldier in
H.M. The King's Own Regt.

In 1878, in response to a parliamentary enquiry, it was reported that a solitary soldier's grave was located near the site of the old military post but that the headstone "is broken and supported by a sapling."

Sad to relate, the headstone remains in that condition.

In 1886 Springwood Cemetery was established and the Church of England portion consecrated and in use by 1887.

It was probably not long after this that the remains of Francis Smith were exhumed and re interred in this section of the cemetery (grave No.91) and marked by the broken headstone and foot stone.

While Private Smith's grave lies almost forgotten in Springwood Cemetery a monument to the memory of this earliest of our European inhabitants was erected in the small park in the front of Springwood Civic Centre in May



*Private Smith's broken headstone which is now shaded under a tree in Springwood cemetery
Photograph by John Leary, October 2012*

1990 and unveiled by Brigadier DJ McLachlan, Commander of the 2nd Military District, assisted by 15 months old Nathan Dubber of Tweed Heads, Francis Smith's youngest direct descendant.

It is to be hoped that action will soon be taken to restore Private Smith's headstone since its broken condition was first recorded 134 years ago.

The King's Own Regiment

The Kings Own Regiment in which Pte Smith served was an infantry regiment of the line of the British Army, which served under various titles from 1680 to 1959.

Its lineage is continued today by the Duke of Lancaster's Regiment . It saw service for nearly three centuries. In 1751, after various name changes, the regiment was titled 4th (King's Own) Regiment of Foot. The regiment retained this title until 1881 when it became The

King's Own (Royal Lancaster Regiment). In 1921, it was re-designated The King's Own Royal Regiment (Lancaster).

After participating in every major conflict in the late 17th an 18th centuries the regiment saw colonial service in Australia from 1832 until 1837, being stationed variously at Tasmania, Sydney, Victoria ,South Australia, and the Swan River Colony under the command of Lieut. Colonel J. K. McKenzie.
Footnote --- John Leary, OAM

The Harold Kenneth Campbell monument

MOST PEOPLE who have driven along Great Western Highway on the west side of Blaxland will have noticed a vault like monument on a narrow strip of grassed land between the highway and Wilson Way.

Some may even have taken the trouble to visit the site to discover that it is a memorial to an individual soldier, one of the 61,513 Australian soldiers of the 1st AIF who lost their lives in the 'war to end all wars', the Great War later to become known as the First World War

The monument is a memorial to Harold Kenneth Campbell, who aged 19 years and 5 months, enlisted in the Australian Imperial Force on June 29, 1915.



His parents gave their written consent saying he had "been raised to fight for his King & Country".

His father, James Spink Campbell, of "Beverley", Blaxland, was named as next of kin. Harold's occupation was poultry farmer and James was a civil servant.

Harold fought at Pozieres as a private in the 3rd Battalion, sustained gunshot wounds to his knee and leg and died as a result of his wounds in the General Hospital, Rouen, on August 2, 1916. He is buried at St Sever Cemetery, Rouen.

On October 22, 1916 the Blaxland Progress Association requested permission to erect a Soldier's Memorial at the intersection of Railway Parade and Station Street, opposite the station in full view of passengers in passing trains.

Permission was granted. It was to be a stone or granite pedestal with a machine gun mounted on top.

The monument was unveiled in 1925 with about 200 people assembled.

Councillor Wilson made a speech in which he said that it would "stand for ever as a beacon for the boys of the future to do their duty as the fallen hero had done his".

The machine gun was one of a number of German guns seized in France. The monument was unveiled by Major General Sir

Charles Rosenthal, a local highly decorated soldier.

Councillor Wilson took the opportunity to collect donations to finish paying for the cost of the memorial.

In 1928 the Great Western Highway on the south side of the railway station was proclaimed as a main road and superseded Mitchell's Pass as the main western road. Consequently, it was decided to move the monument to Blaxland Park, a small park opposite Blaxland Public School.

In 1926 the Wilson Way over bridge intercepted the highway in line with Bridge Street but in the 1980s, when the highway was widened, it was altered to the present alignment.

This alienated the triangle piece of land where the monument now stands. The monument which has only been moved once retained its original fence until 1958

In 2001 the Blue Mountains City Council requested and received permission from the Minister for Land and Water Conservation to rename the park the Blaxland War Memorial Park.

Barbara Higginson had lobbied for this renaming and had been supported by the Blaxland and District Chamber of Commerce & Industry Inc who commented: "The war memorial is a significant part of the history of Blaxland and the Chamber of Commerce is mindful of

the importance of the memorial and the park to the township and the residents."

Over the years the plaque(s) and the gun on the monument have disappeared and the Blaxland – Glenbrook RSL Sub Branch who have assumed a de facto ownership of it have, with the help of the Blue Mountains City Council, organised restoration and refurbishment, replacing the plaque and repairing the little fence at the base.

CAMPBELL FAMILY BACKGROUND

It was quite unusual for a World War I memorial to be erected for a single fallen soldier. Honour boards and monuments in the Blue Mountains were erected in memory of numbers of men (and a few women).

Perhaps Harold was the only Blaxland man who enlisted. Four other men, born in Blaxland, were located in the World War I Nominal Roll; two enlisting in Cootamundra, one in Lithgow and one in Sydney, but nothing further is known about them.

Blaxland was a very small township and Harold would have been quite well known locally.

His parents, James and Edith, and sister, Edith, lived in a house called "Beverley" which was situated where the Blaxland Arcade is now located. The house was named after James' family home or rather property in Boorowa, NSW.

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James and Edith were active community and church workers. James was treasurer of the Urban Area and Progress Association for many years and he and Edith were strong supporters of St David's Church of England in Taringha Street.

They donated the block of land on which the church hall was built and they set up a memorial to their son, in the church. The church was destroyed in the 1968 bushfires.

...a very interesting and prestigious pedigree

James could claim a very interesting and prestigious pedigree. His maternal grandfather was Rowland Hassall, an early colonial preacher and farmer.

His paternal great great grandfather, William Campbell, was a colourful sea captain who owned a ship called the "Harrington".

He had trade connections with John Macarthur and settled in Australia after receiving a land grant of 2000 acres near Camden.

He named his property, "Harrington Park", and there is now a suburb with this name.

The homestead still stands and is being restored. The Fairfax family are thought to have been the last private owners.

The Hassall and Campbell family members married into other well known colonial families including the Antills (Captain Henry Antill was Governor Macquarie's ADC) of "Jarvisfield", Picton.

They also frequently married cousins so their family tree is scattered with the Campbell and Hassall surname.

James Spink Campbell was married twice, first to Gertrude Williams of Yass. She gave birth to a son,

William Douglas Adye Campbell in 1883 and died in the same year.

James married Edith Deacon at Ashfield in 1894 and they had two children – Harold and Edith.

Edith married John Back and they lived in Sydney for a time before moving back to live in "Beverley" in Blaxland in 1942. They had three children, Josephine, Kenneth and Shirley.

Kenneth became vice chancellor of James Cook University in Townsville.

He married Patricia Cummings, daughter of Regner Olaf Cummings, who was a noted tennis player during the Hopman era. They currently reside in Queensland.

After serving with the military forces in World War II, Josephine married Francis Clement Murray.

Shirley married veterinary surgeon Marcus Richard Edward Durand.

In the Hassall family tree on Ancestry.com James' second marriage and children are not recorded.

William, the son of his first marriage, is noted as the family historian. He died in 1966. Does this indicate a family disapproval of the second marriage? We don't know.

With his privileged family background and his position in the tiny Blaxland community he would have been well known and respected and his loss of a son would have been felt by all – hence the erection of a community memorial.

This article forms the basis of a report by Pamela Smith and Shirley Evans of Springwood Historians to Blue Mountains City Council's heritage advisory committee. Council has asked its heritage advisory committee to comment on a request to council by the Glenbrook-Blaxland Returned and Services League (RSL) Sub-Branch to relocate the monument from its existing location to within the grounds of Glenbrook Bowling Club.

RAFFLE PRIZE WINNERS

THE following are the results of the raffle conducted by BMACHO to raise funds to offset costs of the Blue Mountains History conference:

1st prize - Ticket No 0104 - Accommodation package at The Carrington won by Ian Milliss



The heritage listed Carrington Hotel, Katoomba

2nd prize - Ticket No 0288 - Gourmet picnic at Everglades, Leura – won by Tom Kent

3rd prize - Ticket No 0671 - 2 metre hand-knitted Alpaca scarf won by Beth Koperberg

4th prize - Ticket No 0605 - Basket from Hazelbrook Pharmacy won by Diana Jones

5th Prize - Ticket No 0264 - 2 tickets to Scenic World won by Jeff Smeaton

Managing your collection workshop

STATE Records in partnership with RAHS will conduct a regional workshop, *Managing Your Collection* on Saturday, November 24.

Being organised by BMACHO, the workshop will be held at Hobby's Reach the property of Blue Mountains Historical Society, 101 Blaxland Road, Wentworth Falls.

The workshop will commence at 10.30am and a cup of tea or coffee will be available from 10am.

Morning tea will be provided halfway through the workshop and a light lunch will be provided at 1.30pm.

Bookings are essential by e-mail to: j.koperberg@bigpond.com or phone to Jan Koperberg (02) 4754 1544.

HISTORIC HOUSES OF MUDGEE

MUDGEE-BASED historian and heritage consultant, John Broadley, earlier this year released his book *Historic Houses of Mudgee*.

The launch was held at historic Putta Bucca House, Mudgee, one of the 19 houses featured from Mudgee town and country.

Friend Dr Judy White of Belltrees, Scone, who also wrote the *Foreword* and who has connections to several of the houses featured, was guest speaker at the launch.

In the foreword, Dr White, AM writes "The book brings history alive".

John self-published the book which was a passionate personal quest.

Over twenty years he undertook all the research, took the photographs, did hundreds of line drawings by hand of the joinery, and acquired high-end desktop publishing skills to produce a print-ready document.

He identifies the site of each house, presents the ownership history, describes the exterior and interior in detail, and also treats the properties' outbuildings and gardens.

The stories of these houses are an intricate part of the history of the Mudgee district, one of the earliest settled areas (1822) west of the Blue Mountains.

Historic Houses of Mudgee will give its reader an intimate understanding of how Mudgee was settled and how it developed.

Historic Houses of Mudgee is available from the author at \$70.00 (plus \$15 for postage and packaging).

Contact: Address: 7 Oakfield Close,
Mudgee, NSW, 2850
Phone: 02. 6372 3365 or
0429 708 218.
Email:
jb@johnbroadleyheritage.com
Website: <http://johnbroadleyheritage.com>



Mudgee historian and heritage consultant, John Broadley introduces Dr Judy White of Belltrees, Scone at Putta Bucca House, Mudgee to launch his book, *Historic House of Mudgee*



*A painting of Binnawee homestead, by Sam Paine, which appears on the front cover of *Historic Homes of Mudgee**

Reflections on Blaxland's Blue Mountains expedition

1813: SOME reflections on Blaxland's Blue Mountains expedition is the title of a talk to be given by John Low, OAM at Mt Wilson later this month.

John's talk will follow the annual general meeting of the Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine Historical Society in the Village Hall on Saturday, November 10 commencing at 10.30am.

John was employed by the Blue Mountains City Library as a local history librarian in March 1982.

His task was to establish a local history collection. He secured a permanent appointment in September 1983 and stayed for the next 24 years providing a range of services to historians in the Blue Mountains and beyond

John, in the words of Professor Ian Jack, has "his own effortless mastery of so many unfamiliar corners of Mountains history, [which has] given him a special place in the affections of all right-minded scholars".

MONUMENTS AND MEMORIALS

by Shirley Evans - Springwood Historians

OF LATE I have been very concerned with monuments and memorials – specifically the Macquarie monument in Springwood and the Harold Campbell monument in Blaxland.

I have also been (very slowly) photographing monuments with the help of other members of Springwood Historians for a possible CD.

I have some books about monuments and I took up one of these and began to browse. The book was *Monuments and Memorials* edited by Beryl Henderson, published by the Royal Australian Historical Society in 1988 and funded by the NSW Bicentennial Council.

It lists monuments and memorials throughout NSW. Foundation stones, buildings and cemeteries are not included, all the information was contributed, and while there is a huge amount of information in this edition the need for a second volume was contemplated at the time of publication. Some of the monuments are illustrated in black and white.

While it is certainly not riveting reading I found it fascinating and soon began to read in depth rather than skimming.

Some memorials are very touching, particularly those from parents remembering children lost through sickness, accidents or in war.

They are mainly in churches and take the form of brass or marble tablets or plaques.

I haven't been able to find out the difference between a plaque and a tablet.

In this book the tablets seem to be mostly marble and the plaques brass but I can't be sure of this.

The other form of family tribute in churches is the stained glass window and there are many of these, particularly in memory of beloved parents.

Two very touching memorials are windows in memory of children who are now unknown.

One is in a Sydney church remembering "Wee Crissy" showing the Wise Virgins going out into the night with lamps lit.

The other one is in a Woollahra church in memory of "Ranee Ann", 1929-1933 – a set of three windows depicting "child themes".

A very sad monument to pioneer children was erected by the White Cliffs History Group in 1983 which stands in front of a small cemetery containing the graves of five children named Richardson.

They died between 1890 and 1892, and were thought probably to have died of heat exhaustion and bad water.

Predictably, many of the memorials in churches are to men of the cloth, church workers including a surprising number of choir masters and church benefactors.

There are also many memorials to those lost in disasters – mining

accidents, shipwrecks, bushfires and wars.

Of course many monuments are tributes to people we all know from history such as explorers, members of the royal family or political figures, and there are monuments that we know quite well but are ignorant of their story.

One such for me was the "Il Porcellino" fountain in Macquarie Street, Sydney at the entrance to Sydney Hospital.

This was sculpted in Florence and erected in 1968 by Marchese Fiaschi Torrigiani in memory of her brother and father, both of whom worked as honorary surgeons for Sydney Hospital, and also as a link of friendship between Italy and Australia.

It is a copy of a bronze work by Pietro Tacca which itself was inspired by an ancient Roman marble sculpture.

Monuments to animals are unsurprisingly frequent.

Annis and George Bills, great animal lovers, established a trust fund to provide horse troughs throughout the country and even overseas to give relief to thirsty horses and there are eleven of these listed. The Glenbrook trough is not listed.

A brass plaque in Sydney pays tribute to the part played by the Clydesdale horse in the development of Australia.

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Mare and foal, Scone



Matthew Flinder's cat Trim, NSW Library, Sydney



Il Porcellino, Sydney Hospital

Aboriginal people also remembered in Wauchope

Continued from page 25

A statue of a ram at the side of the Cobb Highway near the Wanganella Village acknowledges the debt owed to the merino by Australian people.

On a wall in the Sydney Botanic Gardens the members of the Desert Mounted Corps erected a large plaque dedicated to the gallant horses that carried them over the Sinai Desert into Palestine in 1915-1918.

Another which I think we would all know is a statue and brass plaque erected by the North Shore Historical Society outside the NSW State Library in honour of Matthew Flinders' beloved cat.

A surprising memorial was erected in 1970 on the Hume Highway, Bargo, commemorating the first recording by Europeans of the lyrebird and koala.

Tessa, the Guide dog is remembered in Stockton – a realistic bronze Labrador on her haunches complete with guide dog harness.



Tessa and monument, Stockton

Aboriginal people are remembered too.

In Wauchope there is a bronze plaque mounted on a block of local sandstone in memory of the Aborigines of the Hastings River.

On the lighthouse at Norah Head there is a monument to Bungaree acknowledging his great help in surveying the coastline near Norah Head.

One of the most spectacular looking monuments was erected in Bondi Junction to acknowledge the origins of the Surf Life Saving Movement.

It is built of reinforced concrete in the form of a wave which is about to break.

One of the sweetest is a brass plaque in a Woollahra church erected by the employees of John S Hunter in recognition of the happy relationship which always existed between them.

And one of the most exotic is a brass plaque in a Mittagong church in memory of Florence Alice Stewart Rawson, wife of Admiral Sir Harry Rawson (21st Governor of NSW 1902-1909), who died in 1905 and was buried in the Red Sea.

The entries are arranged geographically.

The Blue Mountains has surprisingly few entries with only two for Springwood and only one of the amazing number of monuments at Mt York.

The book, in a different sort of way, is an index to New South Wales' social history – social values, historic tragedies and pioneering achievements.

Further reading
HERITAGE newsletter
 Shirley Evans, *The Story Behind the Springwood Macquarie monument*, May-June, 2010
 John Leary, '...for the relief of horses and other dumb animals...' January-February, 2010
 Patsy Moppett, *Tribute to Bills horse Troughs*, September-October, 2012

GET INTO THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT

BLUE MOUNTAINS Branch of National Trust is having stalls at Leura on December 1 and Wentworth Falls on December 8, with a Christmas theme.

For more details contact Rhona Leach on 4757 2424

War Hero project launch

LITHGOW Family History Society will officially launch its *War Hero* project later this month.



The launch on Remembrance Day, Sunday November 11, will be held in the Club Lithgow (Bowling Club, 2c Lithgow Street, Lithgow with proceedings commencing at 2.30pm.

Guest speaker, Mr Joe Elkus from Springwood RSL Sub Branch will talk about his World War 2 recollections as a boy, of the midjet submarine attack on Sydney Harbour.

There will be a slide presentation by Helen Taylor of the *War Hero* project.

Also attending the function will be local resident Mr Ron Barker a son of "Digger" Walter Barker who served in the 6th Light Horse Battalion in World War 1.

Ron will bring to the launch for display, memorabilia brought home from Egypt by his father.

Cost of the afternoon including afternoon tea is \$10.

Members of the public are welcome to attend. RSVP to Helen Taylor (02) 63 557 231 or Lithgow & District Family History Society (02) 63 531 089, PO Box 516, Lithgow 2790

In brief.....

Valley Heights 2013 calendar

FOR MANY years the Springwood Historical Society has produced an annual calendar featuring interesting historic photographs of the local area from yesteryear.

This year the calendar will be a joint effort of Springwood Historical Society and Valley Heights Loco Depot Museum.

The 2013 calendar has now been released and features Valley Heights.

Valley Heights was chosen for this year's calendar to highlight the significance of Valley Heights Loco Depot in the lead up to its centenary celebrations in 2014.

The calendar is now available and retails at \$10 plus \$2 postage and package.

In past years the historical society has largely produced this as a community service and those interested in history and heritage might like to support the society by purchasing a copy and/or promoting the sale of the calendar.

The calendar can be ordered on line at richardmorony@optusnet.com.au or atmuseum@optusnet.com.au."

Glenbrook Historical Society office bearers

AT THE recent annual general meeting of Glenbrook and District Historical Society, Doug Knowles was re-elected as president.

He may be contact by e-mail at: sunvalley5@bigpond.com or telephone (02) 4751 3275.

Former Blue Mountains City councillor, Kevin Frappell kevinfrappell@gmail.com (02) 4739 8718 has been elected as vice president.

Mary Knowles was elected as secretary and Elizabeth Saxton (02) 4739 1426 has been elected as treasurer.

State award for Kurrajong Family History Group



MEMBERS of the Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society - Family History Group are to receive one of a number of 2012 NSW Government Heritage Volunteer Awards.

The presentation is to be made later this month in Heritage Branch, Office of Environment and Heritage, Parramatta.

The group has been involved in heritage projects related to research and recording of family and local history; the provision of advice to members of the public in relation to family history research; and the digital archiving of photographs and other images of the Hawkesbury and surrounding district.

This work is slow and tedious and group members have spent a tremendous number of hours during the past 7 years developing this collection's archives.

Ultimately the archive will be of immense value to researchers, scholars and students. It will also be a valuable model for other historical societies and groups.

VALLEY HEIGHTS LOCO MUSEUM AGM

THE 21st annual general meeting of the Blue Mountains Division NSW Rail Transport Museum will be held on Saturday, November 10, at the Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Heritage Museum commencing at 1.30pm

Apologies can be tabled prior to the meeting by e-mail at atmuseum@optusnet.com.au

Pictured is Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society president, John Cooper advising the members of the Family History Group they have been recognised with the award.

L-R Wanda Deacon, Carolynne Cooper, Joy Shepherd and Valerie Birch.

Vintage and retro at Everglades

EVERGLADES will be hosting its second Vintage and Retro weekend on November 17 and 18.

This year, vintage and retro fashion parades will be featured. While the ladies relish the fashions of the 30s and 40s, the men can lust over polished vintage vehicles.

There's plenty of lush green lawns to sprawl over while watching your kids play hopscotch or quoits.

Everyone is being encouraged to dress the part.

Once you're done, you can learn to move and groove. All this and a lot more will be up for grabs.

Cost: Adult \$14, National Trust members \$10, concessions \$12, children \$8. family \$35.
Tickets/enquiries: 02 47841938



Lithgow Museums' Networking Group -- revealing the history of Lithgow

The Lithgow area is a hidden gem of history and heritage.

Visitors and locals alike can enjoy the history of one of the most fascinating areas in Australia through the many museums, historic sites and heritage organisations.

From Aboriginal history through to the history of the Small Arms Factory and from Hartley through to Glen Davis there are sites and museums to learn about Aboriginal, convict, mining, social, railway and factory history.

In March 2012 a group of museum and heritage organisation operators from the Lithgow LGA met at Eskbank House and Museum to have a chat about how they could help each other out.

From this initial gathering the Lithgow Museums' Networking Group was formed.

The group meets monthly and its aims are: educating each other to improve the quality of local museums, networking to promote each other's museums and share resources, co-operating to create a combined museum experience for visitors and sharing enthusiasm and to enjoy each other's company as museum and heritage enthusiasts.

A spokesperson for the group said it is exciting to be able to work together, take strength from each other and present a combined museums experience to visitors and locals.

There are 12 organisations in the group, some able to attend regularly others coming when they can or contributing via email, etc.

The groups include: Lithgow and District Family History Society (LDFHS), Lithgow Small Arms Factory Museum (LSAFM), Simmo's Museum, Eskbank House and Museum, Lithgow Library Learning Centre (LLLC), Lithgow State Mine Heritage Park, Lithgow State Mine Railway Ltd, Hartley Historical Village, Portland History Group, Rydal Village Association, Delta Expo and Newnes Pub.

Each organisation takes turns hosting the meetings and this has been an invaluable part of getting to know each other's museums and being able to share resources and promote other museums to visitors.

The group has participated in several group activities aimed at increasing visitor numbers to museums and generally get the word out that Lithgow's Heritage is amazing and worth a visit.

The first activity was an open day for many of the museums in the group on International Museums Day 2012. International Museums Day is in May and is celebrated by over 30,000 museums throughout the world.

With only a short time to organise and limited advertising most museums still saw an increase in visitation on the day of over 500 %.

The group has more plans for International Museums Day 2013 and also celebrating other international days like Volunteers Day 2012 with an afternoon tea for the wonderful volunteers in all these organisations.

The next group activity was a combined stall at Daffodils at Rydal. Photographs from the different organisations were displayed and

pamphlets and postcards were handed out along with the first Lithgow Heritage Newsletter outlining heritage events happening in September and October in the region.

The most rewarding part of the day was talking to people about the museums and history and hearing their stories of the area. Perhaps this is in fact the most rewarding part of running a museum in general.

The latest event was a stall at the "Back to Hartley" celebrations on Sunday, October 28, 2012. This time the display included a "What is it?" table with a variety of mysterious objects for people to ponder, a "Who is it?" display of historic photographs of Lithgow citizens with space for people to comment, displays from the museums and projected historical images of the Lithgow area. Participants said, the most interesting part of the stall was talking heritage and history and spending time with other museum enthusiasts.

For more information contact Eleanor Martin, Lithgow District Family and History Society ldfhs@lisp.com.au 0429 932 319.

***Contributed by Jan Saundercock
– Lithgow Family History Society***



Pictured are members of the group who attended the recent meeting at Simmo's Museum at Glen Davis. On the shelves in the background of the picture are old radios and other collectable on display at Simmo's

Western crossing commemoration 2013-15

great ideas - thoughts - just being talked about or it's really going to happen!

Background and purpose of Western Crossings Committee

The Western Crossing Committee was established several years ago as a sub-committee of the Royal Australian Historical Society following discussions by the then presidents of both RAHS and BMACHO.

National Trust of Australia (NSW) local branches had also been discussing ideas for special activities in 2013-15 as far back as a decade or more ago.

BMACHO continues to be a strong supporter of the Western Crossing Committee of the RAHS and acknowledges numerous other committees have been established along the route from Parramatta to Bathurst including by Penrith, Blue Mountains, Lithgow, Hawkesbury and Bathurst city councils as well as individuals, business and historical and heritage groups.

The RAHS Western Crossings Committee's purpose is to provide a consultative forum on activities relating to the commemoration of the bicentenary of the crossings of the Blue Mountains by:

- * Gregory Blaxland, William Lawson, and William Charles Wentworth in 1813;
- * George Evans in 1813;
- * William Cox and the road party in 1814 – 1815;
- * Indigenous people before, during and after white exploration and settlement;
- * Other persons including convicts who may have crossed the Blue Mountains before 1813 but not received recognition at the time.

The current chair of the Western Crossings Committee is Dr Anne-Maree Whitaker pictured who is also president of the RAHS.

---John Leary OAM

Grants for Macquarie monument and Private Smith's gravestone

Springwood Historians and the Springwood Historical Society decided that their special projects for the commemorations would be to work towards the rehabilitation/ restoration of the Macquarie monument in Macquarie Rd, Springwood and the grave of Francis Smith in the Springwood Cemetery.

We believe it is important to care for existing monuments and sites and to make their history more accessible to the public.

After the completion of thorough research by the two groups the state and federal government representatives and the Blue Mountains City Council were contacted and representatives from the groups met with council staff.

A council staff member has agreed that the Macquarie monument was of great historical significance and certainly in need of refurbishment and an interpretive sign.

Aircraft fly over

The brainchild of Philip Hammon is a flyover of a diverse range of aircraft as part of the celebrations on Saturday, May 25, 2013.

It is anticipated that Tiger Moths, a Super Constellation and an FA -18 will fly across the mountains to coincide with community events which will be organised at ovals and schools from where the aircraft can be viewed as they flyover.

The aircraft will land at Bathurst Airport where visitors can see the aircraft on the ground and meet pilots and crews.

It is hoped that RAAF, Navy and Army aircraft will also participate while the Royal Flying Doctor Service, RFS, Wespac Rescue and National Parks will also be invited.

A number of flying clubs have also been contacted.

Private Francis Smith who served in HM 4TH The King's Own Regiment is buried at the rear of Springwood Cemetery.

The old gravestone is damaged and the immediate environs untended.

Council agreed to apply for a grant on our behalf under the Federal Government's Community Heritage Program and the application was successful receiving \$2272.27 for the Macquarie Monument and \$2272.27 for the grave.

The grant funding under this program is being matched from Council Operation Plan funding for Cultural and Physical Assets for 2012-2013 which is allocated to the interpretation of cultural and physical assets and interpretive signage is going to be provided at both sites.

Events workshop

A Blue Mountains Crossings 2013-2015 events workshop will be conducted later this month.

The workshop under the auspices of Blue Mountains City Council will be conducted on Thursday, November 29, 2012 at the Mid Mountains Community Centre, New Street, Lawson between 9am and 1pm

An invitation is extended to all interested in the event to participate

This workshop will provide information about the Crossings, how to register an event, what events are being planned and how to encourage public participation.

RSVP by email crossings@bmcc.nsw.gov.au .For further information Kerrin O'Grady at Blue Mountains City Council on 4780 5659

For more information about Western Crossing events contact: www.bluemountainscrossings.com.au

RESPECTED *Sydney Morning Herald* political journalist, Peter Hartcher has alluded to the Australian parliament as a Punch and Judy show --- so *HERITAGE's* editor John Leary has looked to history and has discovered this violent puppet show celebrates 350 years of performance in 2012.

Punch made his earliest appearance in the 14th century in Italy, in the *Commedia dell'Arte* dramas, when he was Pulcinella.

Later, in France in the 16th century, he became Polichinelle, the "hunchbacked fool of French farce," and, in 17th century diaries and journals, he is seen in England as Punchinella, Mr. Punch, and finally, Punch.

Punch and Judy shows reached their greatest popularity in England in street shows, fairs, and small theatres during the 19th century. Until this time, the often-bawdy shows were directed to adult audiences, but now they had begun attracting more and more children.

350 years of Punch

Toy Punch and Judy shows began to appear. Like other toys, these playthings re-created in small scale the real-life delights of the world in which children lived.

Most of the puppets were made in Germany, hand-carved in wood or shaped with papier mache, with exaggerated features and colorful costumes, ranging generally from about 8" to 20" in height.

There were usually 6 to 12 figures in a set, though the number varied.

It's easy to see the appeal for children of the Punch and Judy shows – characters of all stripes, silly, nonsensical plots and dialogues, quaint, decorated, little stages. Often a live dog, Toby, sat in front of the stage with a ruff around his neck and a hat on.

Punch, could commit the most heinous of acts and get away with it! Throw the baby out of the window,

whack his wife with a big stick, kill off the authorities that come to take him to jail,

chase the ghost away, and, his greatest triumph, vanquish the devil himself, all with a merry grin. Pleased as Punch.

There was very little in the way of plot that the street watchers had to follow - Punch must contend with a shrewish wife and a screaming baby so he murders them both and is then forced to defend himself from the law officials and do-gooders who try to get him to the gallows.

The dialogues were passed on orally without much written down, but some authentic texts and scraps do exist.

SOURCE: *A history of Punch and Judy* by Judith Lile



BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

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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:

- 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.

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

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

Blue Mountains History Journal is edited by Dr Peter Rickwood.

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

COMMITTEE The committee for 2012-13 is: Pamela Smith (president), Ian Jack (vice president), Jan Koperberg (secretary), Judy Barham, Joan Kent, Doug Knowles, John Leary, Dick Morony (public officer), and Scott Pollock.

DISCLAIMER Views and opinions expressed in *HERITAGE* originate from many sources and contributors. Every effort is taken to ensure accuracy of material. Content does not necessarily represent or reflect the views and opinions of BMACHO, its committee or members. If errors are found feedback is most welcome.