

# *Heritage*

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Heritage Organisations Inc*

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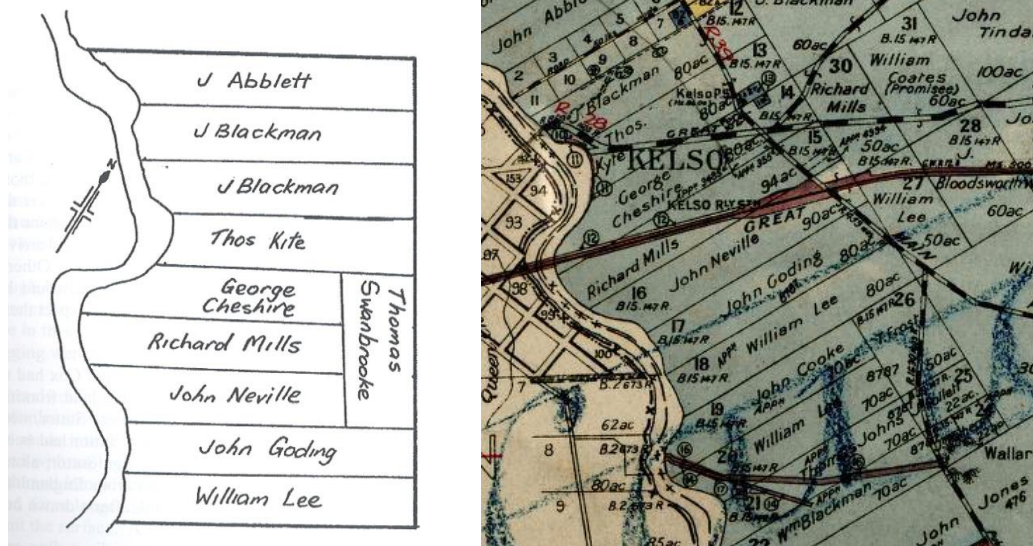
*The King William Inn 1870, known by then as the Carriers' Arms*

## ***King William IV Inn, Lee Street, Kelso***

In 1828 the settlement of Sydney was governed for a short time by Major-General Stewart. Bathurst was growing strongly under the squatters who took the leading life in the colonial times, and development of self government was carefully managed by them. In 1828 a council formed from this powerful squatting class and was empowered to even veto the Governor's decisions, if they so wanted. With this background it was natural that it was the squatters who were the principal builders of the buildings that have survived from that period in Bathurst.

Before this, Governor Lachlan Macquarie was recognized as a man who gave credit to settlers for their hard work, and the part they played in opening up the new settlement. He often rewarded their good conduct with tickets-of-leave and free pardons, and Governor Brisbane had followed his example. During the rule of Governor Brisbane, Charles William Wall was appointed to manage the settlement at Bathurst. (1827-28). Governor Wall continued to govern the settlement until the arrival of Major General Stewart of Mount Pleasant, Bathurst, two years later (1828).

The diary of Governor Macquarie records on 2 February 1818, that he had inspected ten settlers for Bathurst, and that he had agreed to grant each 50 acres of land, a servant, a cow, four bushels of wheat, and an allotment in the new town, and to provide them for twelve months from the King's stores. These men were William Lee, Richard Mills, Thomas Kite, Thomas Swanbrooke, George Cheshire, John Abbott, John Blackman and his brother James, John Neville and John Goding.



*Original land grants – Parish of Kelso*

Early buildings of the period included the original portions of the 1830's homesteads of Walmer, Westbourne, Blackdown, Alloway Bank, Ardsley, Mount Pleasant, Rainham (1833), and closer to the urban centre: Kelsoville, the Holy Trinity Church (1835), and the King William Inn (1835) at Kelso.

The original King William IV Inn building was constructed in 1831 by Richard Mills as an inn, the third licensed hotel on the Bathurst Plains. The first was Thomas Kite's "Dun Cow Inn" near Woolstone House, from 1828 to 1835. Mills' inn is situated on Lee Street at Kelso on what was originally the main approach road to Bathurst, the Lockyer's Line of Road, which came in from O'Connell and Lagoon. This road was surveyed by Major Edmund Lockyer, the principal surveyor of roads and bridges under Governor Darling. Major Thomas Mitchell's road, now the Great Western Highway, superseded this road in the 1830s. Kelso was also the initial settlement area.

Richard Leveret Mills was born in Wales in 1780. He was transported to Australia as a convict in 1800 on the "Royal Admiral" and became a servant to David Langley of Richmond. Langley had come to Australia with his wife and three daughters in 1803, and Mills was assigned in 1804. Langley was superintendent of blacksmiths in the colony from 1806. In 1811 his daughter Ann Bella married their convict servant. Richard Mills successfully managed the Langley estate in Richmond while Langley managed other business in Sydney.

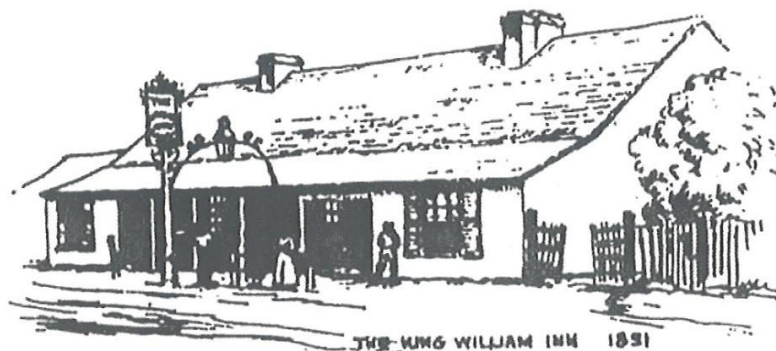
His skills as a farmer were recognized in the land grant from Governor Macquarie. He had married Ann Langley in Sydney in 1811, and in all they had nine children between 1807 and 1830. Ann was born in London in 1792. The Mills family came to Bathurst at a time when

times were extremely difficult as there were few tracks, no shops and businesses and little labour available.

Soon after settling in the Bathurst district Ann Mills had given birth to her sixth child, George Bathurst Mills, in 1819. He was the first white child born west of the mountains. In 1823 Sir Thomas Brisbane had, upon application from Richard Mills, granted this child a block of land in the new settlement to commemorate the occasion. This land extended to the east from the top of Richard Mills' original grant. By 1844 Mills owned 144 acres of land.

Richard and Ann Mills were in turn themselves assigned convicts to work for them. This included one Edward Gates, who was given the job of painting the inn. Edward Gates later established the first coach building works in the area in 1840, having married Mills' daughter Nancy in 1839. Mills always showed great compassion for many of the convict workers, having been one himself. He assisted Gates with finance and allowed the construction of his daughter's first home on his land.

The Mills' had been quite progressive in support they gave to the establishment of a Bathurst Independent Academy school in Kelso around 1927. Mills had offered to rent land for the school, and was a subscriber, wanting a better education for his children. He was concerned about the education of children of convicts, ex-convicts and orphans. It is unsure whether the school was ever established.



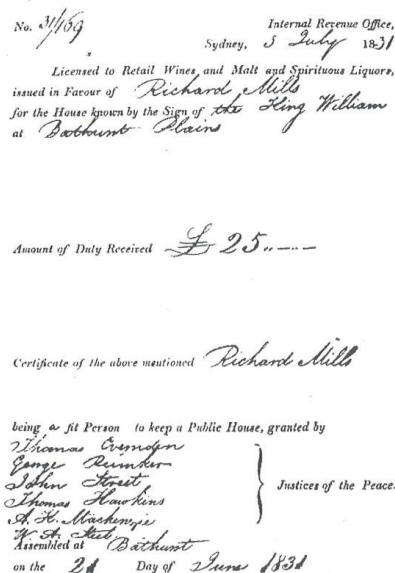
By 1831 Richard and his wife Ann lived in a thatched sod construction house, on the Kelso side of the Macquarie River, and were growing wheat. The house design was based on Ann Mills' parents home in England. The original structure of four rooms was constructed of local clay, with the walls about eighteen inches thick. A fire place was constructed in one of the back rooms, probably Ann's kitchen. A bricked bread oven was constructed at some stage. A well had been dug near the building which supplied all the water that the family required, and later for the guests at the inn. The roof was constructed of saplings and wood shingles. They extended the cottage over the next few years and a separate laundry was added. A wood shed was erected at the rear. By 1828 Mills had 95 acres. In 1831 he decided to convert part of the house into a wattle and daub, shingle roofed inn, the King William Inn, the licensee being Richard Mills. Part of Richard Mills' land was also offered for auction adjacent to the newly established Kelso Railway Station in 1875. Mills was licensed to sell wines, malt and spirituous liquors, the license costing 25 pounds.

Gable additions were made at each end in the Federation period. The building was a single storey colonial Georgian inn of stuccoed brick under a hipped and gabled iron roof, somewhat altered from its original form in Victorian times. The recessed bull nose verandah is set between gabled wings with segmented arched easement windows. It was 40 feet wide across the front, excluding the wings on either side. The main door opened onto a narrow hallway, with a room leading off either side. The room to the left was the parlour which also had a fireplace for the comfort of patrons. The ceilings were quite high. The additions and alterations were done by James Vincent, the brother in law of John Neville, also an original settler in the area. Vincent had been involved in building at the Langley's estate at Richmond.

The two long wings, extending a few feet beyond the front of the original house, required the roof to be altered to accommodate the water shed. A verandah extended over the front of the original home. The extension roofs were shingled, and constructed of locally made bricks. Several six paned windows were used, probably with shutters. The wing on the right was probably initially, the children's bedroom.

A large rectangular two storey brick coach house and barn with shingle roof and window arches and doorways was constructed for use by the Mills family, as well as patrons of the inn. The ground floor held the carriages and horses and the top floor held the fodder and the coachman's quarters. This building was demolished in 1962.

Mills sold the inn and moved to Mudgee in 1835, where his sons had inns. Richard Mills died in 1850 and is buried in the Holy Trinity Church cemetery in Kelso. Ann died in 1875 is buried at Mudgee, where they had the property "Enfield", in later years.



Richard Mills' liquor license 1834



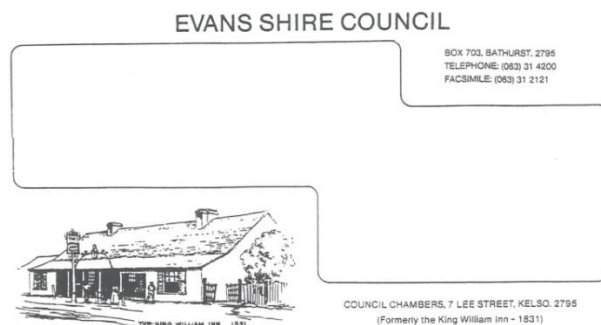
Grave of Richard Mills at Kelso

When Richard Mills moved to Mudgee, the inn was purchased by William Boyles, and renamed the Traveller's Inn. Boyles left the district in 1840, and the building was not licensed for some years. In about 1865 William Conwell was the publican until the inn was bought by George Robert Matthews 1869. By this time a number of shops were established between the inn and the railway line, and there were five small cottages at the rear of the inn.



Matthews changed the name of the premises to the Carrier's Arms in 1870. In 1872 the place was known as the Sportsman's Arms Hotel. Although Matthews was bankrupt in 1879 he retained the hotel until 1882. He died in 1902.

From 1883 to 1885 the hotel was run by licensee Robert Norris. From 1886 Thomas Brewer took it over. By 1891 the hotel was run by Robert McCleery, leasing it from Brewer. In 1892 William Sims Peers leased the business from Brewer. In 1894 the Sportsman's Arms was destroyed by fire. Repairs were carried out and the premises reopened in 1895 by W G Mitten as the Royal Hotel. Mitten retired in 1899 and the hotel was then run by Archibald Wells until 1902. The last publican was William Baker IN 1903. The property was auctioned in 1906, and in 1908 the Turon Shire opened their office there, holding their first meeting in May.

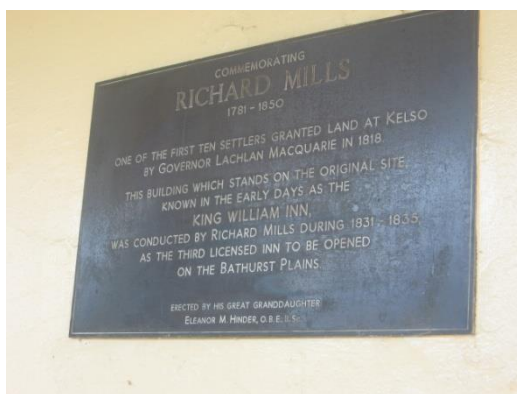


*ESC letterhead*

In 1977 a local government amalgamation took place and the Turon Shire was amalgamated with the Abercrombie Shire to form the Evans Shire Council, which retained the building as its offices. During this period a number of extensions were carried out to the northern end of the building to accommodate office space, and the various engineering depot buildings were constructed at the rear. The image of the old inn was used on the Evans letter head. The building was shared by the Rural Fire Service and the Upper Macquarie County Council weeds authority. The Evans Arts Council has utilized the building for storage and meetings, exhibitions and workshops since the 1980s.



*Former Evans Shire Council Chambers*



*Plaque on front of building*



*Former ESC building showing office extensions*

A further local government amalgamation occurred in 2004, when Evans Shire Council was dissolved and the majority of the Shire came under the Bathurst Regional Council. The former council chambers were no longer required.

Today the building is still occupied by the RFS and the Upper Macquarie in the older section. The more recent northern section is now occupied by Bathurst Family Day Care.

*Compiled by Patsy Moppett*

#### **References:**

*Bathurst Regional Heritage Inventory  
Former Evans Shire Council letterhead page  
Dawning of a township, Denis Chamberlain 1997  
Kelso Village, Book 1, Alan McCrae & Carol Churches  
NSW Dept of Lands*

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### ***Family History Month, Lithgow***

Family History Month in Lithgow was celebrated in August by an interesting day in August at the Lithgow Library Learning Centre when four local historians talked about their own families.

#### ***Christison***

Ray Christison is an archaeologist and heritage consultant in rural and regional NSW. He is also an author and museum director, and is an individual member of BMACHO.

Ray related details about his great grandfather, John Hampton Christison. John was born in Scotland in 1858. He trained as a dancer from the age of 7. He valued the arts and travelled widely, being renowned for his dancing prowess and his teaching skill. He went to sea in 1875, working for the Commission Agent and making his way to Australia. He married Sophia in Maitland in 1880, and ran dance classes in Clarence Town.

He ran into financial difficulties in 1883 and returned alone to Scotland, where he entered and won several dancing contests, thereby re-establishing himself financially. He returned to Australia but continued living the high life, falling bankrupt again in 1889. He returned to Scotland again, this time with Sophia and their five children.

Sophia then stumbled upon information relating to John's numerous extra marital affairs and they were subsequently divorced. He moved to Mittagong, acquiring property. In 1900 he joined the NSW Mounted Rifles and went to South Africa, where he was wounded and

returned home. He was not able to dance for some time, and remarried Mary Moore in 1909. By 1914 he was back in Sydney and dancing, where he held classes until 1923, when he died of a cerebral haemorrhage aged 63. *Ray Christison*



*JH Christison*



*Francis Langdon*

### ***Langdon***

Mark Langdon described three brothers who joined up for World War II at the same time and place and did their training in three different countries. Mark is a regular participant in the Lithgow Library Learning Centre's activities and is an accomplished author.

His father Lesley trained in Darwin as a gunner but flew in 11<sup>th</sup> Squadron in Catalina aircraft, doing operations and mine laying. He finished up a wireless leader in 1943, and in air sea rescue from 1945. He was discharged in 1945 as a flying officer.

His uncle Norman entered the RAAF in 1940. He went to Rhodesia and then the UK following operations training. He entered 210 squadron, flying Catalinas in the Battle of the Atlantic. In 1945 he was in Darwin in air sea rescue, and then in administration.

Mark's uncle Francis (Frank) also entered the RAAF in 1942. He entered the militia as an anti tank gunner, but was removed to the RAAF as a navigator in Lancaster's. He went to Canada and the UK, and then into 463 Squadron in a Lancaster in 1944. He was shot down and killed flying the Bergen Uboat pens in late 1944, and has no grave. *Mark Langdon*

### ***Griffiths/Carroll***

Tony Griffiths is a retired Engineer with an interest in Australian and family history. He commenced his family history research in the 1960s. The family was found to be involved in the trade union movement, in the internal employees union at the Lithgow Small Arms Factory. He has written several books on the SAF.

Tony elaborated on his research into his Griffiths/Carroll heritage from Ireland, always being told there were no convicts!

The Carroll family came from near Tipperary in Ireland and on a trip to the UK Tony managed to track down some distant cousins. He also met his wife Lilian!

The Griffiths were traced back to a Michael Griffin and his wife Ellenor. He found that Michael and Ellenor were actually transported for 7 years in 1827 for stealing furniture from their employer, John Gibbs, as the man owed them money. Michael was assigned to Archibald Bell at Windsor, and Ellenor and her sister Mary joined him there in 1828. In time Michael changed their name to Griffiths.

Whilst in Ireland, Tony managed to locate the prison where Ellenor and Mary were detained whilst awaiting transportation, and even the cell where they were held, evidenced by their names scratched in the wall!

The family was traced back to Kurrajong, and also to the Sodwalls/Hartley area, where they found the family farm and family graves at Rydal cemetery. The gravestone of Ellenor Griffiths was found and restored.

Tony also played a moving video re-enactment of Michael and Ellenor's story by a group of primary school students from North Cork. *Tony Griffiths*



*Griffiths family 1916*



*Sarah Ann King 1862*

### ***Hillier/King/Osborn/Frankcom***

Vicki Hartley is a Lithgow local with a strong interest in her family history, and also assists others in discovering their own ancestors and stories. This only commenced in 2000 when her father passed away. By googling all four family names in the one search Vicki unearthed a treasure of research already carried out by a family member in the UK. The investigation took her to the tiny village of West Littleton in Gloucestershire, which it was found had not changed much in over 400 years. The area consisted of mainly eight families, and Vicki is descended from four of those.

Excavations in 1968 found skeletons on the site dating back to 977BC, together with bronze spearheads dating to 1200 and 1000 BC. They were best examples of pre historic skeletons ever found in Britain. The local church of St James and its churchyard contain memorials to the Frankom, Hillier and Osborne families.

Through the research Vicki managed to trace her great great grandmother Sarah Ann King, nee Hillier. The research showed that Sarah's lineage could be traced back to Francis Francombe, Vicki's eight times great grandfather, whose money saved William of Cavendish, the Duke of Newcastle, from bankruptcy around 1637!

Combined with other research, Vicki can now trace 15 generations of her family! *Vicki Hartley*

For further information regarding events at the Lithgow Library Learning Centre see [www.lithgow.nsw.gov.au](http://www.lithgow.nsw.gov.au)





## ***Food for thought ..... Editor's note***

**Carpe diem** - literally speaking - "seize the day"! Take every opportunity, and don't put all your trust in tomorrow.

Do we really realise how lucky we are in the opportunities that avail us to experience history today? Everywhere we turn, there are community groups and individuals offering experiences through seminars, collections, tours and publications about our past.

Family history groups and historical societies, museums individuals and tourist organisations abound throughout the country, where dedicated members "work" to collect, store and disseminate information about where we came from, how we reached these shores and how Australia developed from a simple colony to the nation we know today. I say "work" because to them it is often not work but a labour of love.

With the passing of John Leary OAM, it would seem timely to look back and see where we of BMACHO have come from in fostering these opportunities. BMACHO commenced in 2006 with the aim to foster and support cultural heritage activities related to the Blue Mountains. To revisit the Objects of the Constitution:

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



BMACHO seeks to take every opportunity to bring together many groups to share information and promote culture and heritage throughout the greater Blue Mountains area and beyond. In light of this the most current initiative is our Heritage Trail project. Our diverse membership uniquely blends the skills and resources of historical, cultural and heritage groups, major tourist attractions, gardens and galleries. We need to promote our collective skills and assets to the widest possible audience.

BMACHO is taking up the challenge and is producing a high quality Heritage Trail leaflet and trail map for distribution through Visitors' Centres, historical societies, family history societies and museums, with contribution from BMACHO members. In addition, a dedicated website which presents the map and detailed contacts, for all BMACHO members, is also envisaged, in due course.

The Heritage Trail would incorporate open days for BMACHO member groups perhaps quarterly, proceeding along the Great Western Highway from Emu Plains to Lithgow, and up the Bells Line of Road from the Hawkesbury to Lithgow. If visitors can see the premises open on the Common Open Days, they can plan a trail that is comfortable for them to travel in a day.

Not every member group has premises, but those without may be able to use a hall or library to facilitate visitors. Even if a member is not able to participate in the Common Open Days, they can list their opening hours on the leaflet.



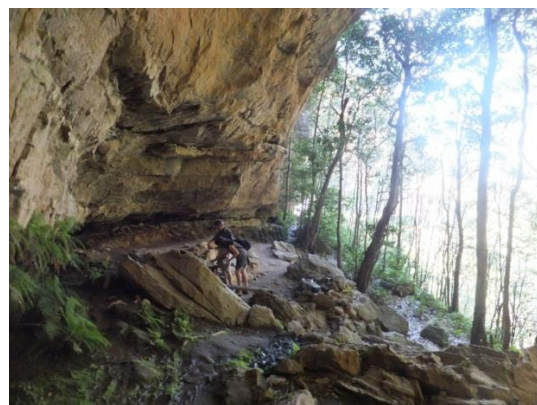
*View from top of Six Foot Track*



*Hanging Rock, Baltzer's Lookout*



*A local along Jamison Creek*



*Darks Cave*

Funding is to be generated through corporate sponsorship and through participant's participation fees. The launch of the project should be later in early 2015.

In the meantime, BMACHO will continue to collect and share information and events through this Newsletter. News items are always welcome, from the smallest note to articles in the order of 1500 words. Photographs will always help to illustrate the story and should be sent as separate files. Please direct any items to the editor [pmoppett@gmail.com](mailto:pmoppett@gmail.com) or to the secretary [jkoperberg@bigpond.com](mailto:jkoperberg@bigpond.com)

*Patsy Moppett  
Heritage Newsletter Editor  
Blue Mountains Association of Cultural & Heritage Organisations Inc*

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**John Kenneth Leary OAM (1934-2014)**



The BMACHO group and the wider community is mourning the loss of John Kenneth Leary, OAM, former President and *Heritage* Editor. Under his chairmanship of BMACHO (the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural and Heritage Organisations), he has steered this Association into maturity, but he has also initiated, edited and produced the magazine *Heritage*. *Heritage* has been a remarkable achievement, each new issue being eagerly awaited by the community and now being read by a thousand and more readers.

John Leary served in the 1960s on the Berrima Court House Trust that was responsible for the restoration of this historic property and which later became a major tourist attraction for the Southern Highlands.

John had wide ranging experience and an impact on local heritage and community matters in various districts; a fact that was recognized by the award of the Order of Australia Medal (OAM) in 2003 for community service in particular to the agricultural movement and the various exchanges including recognizing two multi-million dollar cultural 'cultural exchanges' between Australia and Japan through the sister cities movement.

John Leary's career as a professional journalist meant he had worked on metropolitan daily newspapers, and as managing editor on several regional and country newspapers including the Berrima District Post which then had a tri weekly publication; the Goulburn Evening Post, a daily; and Gilgandra newspapers which produced a number of regional papers. He at one time owned a small Sydney based suburban newspaper and publisher of magazines.

John Leary served as an elected member of Campbelltown City Council including a term as Mayor, and member of a Regional Council; senior member of Council staff and a consultant in the field of corporate, government and community relations to two major metropolitan local government units.

John Leary always presented a balanced view over a wide range of subjects after careful consideration and appreciation of conflicting differing points of view. He was able to summarise concisely and with positive strength of feeling in a manner that did not offend.

His additional experience includes 25 years as the president of Campbelltown City Show Society, one of the four largest agricultural shows in Australia outside a capital city. John was a member for nearly 10 years of the Agricultural Societies Council of NSW, the peak umbrella recognizing 204 agricultural shows in NSW.

Since the 1940s he was interested in the heritage walking tracks in the Blue Mountains and Middle Harbour areas. His exploration of these between the 1940s and early 1960s led to an association with the National Trust (NSW). More recently he was Chair of the Friends of Woodford (over four years) and was awarded the Trust's meritorious service for volunteers medal.

John Leary was recognized by the NSW government, in 2007 by being given a certificate of appreciation, "recognizing outstanding contribution to heritage conservation in NSW".

His ability to communicate was evidenced by his large number of friends of sometimes opposing views and his skill in distilling a problem into one or more practical solutions.

John was a consummate speaker and his presentations were listened to with rapt attention.

As President of BMACHO, and their representative on the BMCC heritage committee, he readily understood Council's points of view, those of the heritage community and those expressed, sometimes somewhat obliquely, by the general members of the public.

John leaves behind wife Nanette, and children Richard, Tanya and David Leary and their families.

*Adapted from a statement by Peter Stanbury OAM*

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## ***AE1 and AE2 Australia Navy Submarines***

Further to the article on the AE1 and AE2 in the July-August issue of *Heritage*, Steve Norton of the Canal Reserve Action Group at Prospect/Holroyd has offered to share his family connections to the event, as follows.

This is a story that begins in 1764....

Thomas Kidner who was born in the year 1764 in Bristol, Somerset, England. When Thomas was eighteen he stole 4 pieces of Irish Linen. He was tried and convicted in the Bristol Court on the 30 October 1782 and sentenced to transportation to Australia for seven years. He was kept in gaol until early 1786 when he was transferred to the prison hulk "Censor". He spent a number of years on this ship before he was transferred to the "Alexander" on the 6<sup>th</sup> January 1787. The "Alexander" sailed for Botany Bay on the 13 May 1787 and arrived on the 26 January 1788.

So began Thomas's life in Australia. A life that would see him transported to Norfolk Island on the 11 November 1789, where he met a convict named Jane Whiting. Jane was born in 1755 in Westminster Middlesex England. Thomas and Jane married on the 5 November 1791 on Norfolk Island.

Thomas and Jane had two children, Thomas and Ann. Thomas was born on the 30 May 1795 on Norfolk Island. Ann was born on Norfolk Island on the 14 October 1798. The family sailed to Van Diemens Land (later named Tasmania) on the 15 October 1805 on the ship "Lord Nelson".

Thomas jnr. married Elizabeth Burkett in Van Diemens Land on the 7 January 1822 in Hobart Van Diemens Land. Thomas and Elizabeth had eight children, all born in Van Diemens Land. Their second child, Elizabeth was born on the 26 October 1824.

Elizabeth Kidner married Francis Bidolph (Biddulph) on the 6 August 1842 in Van Diemens Land. Elizabeth and Francis Bidolph had 11 children, all born in Van Diemens Land.

Their sixth child, David Bidolph was born on the 14 April 1853 in Van Diemens land.



David Bidolph married Mary Ann Driscoll on the 10 June 1879 in Tasmania. David and Mary Bidolph had eight children, all born in Tasmania.

Their sixth child, Henry Thomas Bidolph, was born in Park Street Hobart Tasmania on the 3rd October 1893.

On the 12 July 1912, at the age of 18 he enlisted in the Royal Australian Navy in Melbourne Victoria under the name Thomas Henry Bidolph for a 5 year stint. Thomas Henry was Steve Norton's grandfather.

In 1909 the English Admiralty had proposed the creation of a Pacific fleet consisting of three fleet units to be operated by imperial forces in the Pacific region. Each fleet unit would be built around a battle-cruiser, supported by several light cruisers. One of these fleets would comprise the Royal Australian Navy (RAN). With the Australian Government agreeing to this concept, work commenced on the ships.

The destroyers, HMA Ship's "Yarra" and "Parramatta" reached Australian waters in November 1910 and on the 10th July 1911 His Majesty King George V granted the title Royal Australian Navy to the Commonwealth Naval Forces.

In June 1912 a third destroyer, HMAS "Warrego" was commissioned at Sydney and in 1913 the battle cruiser HMAS "Australia" and the light cruisers HMAS "Melbourne" and "Sydney" arrived in Australian waters.

He was onboard HMAS "Sydney" on the 4 October 1913 when the Australian Fleet entered Sydney Harbour for the first time.

His service record shows that on the 2/10/1913 he was now an able bodied seaman and retained that rank until he left the RAN. His service record also shows that on the 31/12/1913 his character was deemed "very good" and his ability was "satisfactory". His service record further shows that on the 31/12/1914 his character was still deemed "very good" and his ability was "superior". On the 18/04/1915 his service record was still deemed "very good" and his ability was still "superior".

During his RAN service over the next three years he served on five ships, as well as in the London Depot in Great Britain.

While in the London Depot he underwent training and returned to Australia as a crew member of HMAS "Sydney". He took part in two events that are now part of Australia's naval history.

Firstly, he was on board HMAS "Sydney" when it and the other six ships of the RAN entered Sydney Harbour for the first time on the 4<sup>th</sup> October 1913. This was the birth of the Royal Australian Navy. A 100 year celebration occurred on the 4<sup>th</sup> October 2013 when 7 ships sailed into Sydney Harbour to commemorate the first entry. (Stephen Norton and his wife Judy were guests of Vice Admiral Ray Griggs at the celebrations on Garden Island).



*Thomas Henry Bidolph*



*"Sydney" escorts AE1 and AE2 into Cairns 14 May 1915*

Secondly he was on HMAS "Sydney" when she escorted two submarines from Singapore to Garden Island. At 7.30am on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 1914 Australia's first submarines, HMA AE1 and HMA AE2 left Portsmouth U.K. for Sydney with the escort ship HMS "Eclipse". The "Eclipse" escorted both submarines to Colombo, arriving on the 9<sup>th</sup> April 1914. AE1 & AE2 left Colombo with HMS "Yarmouth" at 6pm on the 14<sup>th</sup> April 1914 for the voyage to Singapore, arriving on the 21<sup>st</sup> April 1914.

AE1 & AE2 left Singapore on the 25<sup>th</sup> April 1914 with their escort HMAS "Sydney", stopping in Cairns on the 14<sup>th</sup> May 1914 before travelling to Sydney Harbour, arriving in Garden Island on the 24 May 1914. HMAS "Sydney" (1) escorted both submarines from Singapore to Sydney, stopping in Cairns. The NSW State library has a wonderful photograph on display of Sydney and both submarines. *Stephen Norton*

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### ***Lawson Station Master's Residence***

The former Lawson station master's residence adjacent to Lawson Railway Station has been given a reprieve. It was scheduled for demolition, along with a number of former railway workshops and ancillary buildings at the site on Loftus Street.

The brick & tile residence was constructed in 1896. Sydney Rail was refused a S60 application under the Heritage Act to the NSW Heritage Council to demolish the building. The rail depot site is under redevelopment to construct a new depot building, incorporating landscaping and more car parking. The refusal included recommendations to relocate the new maintenance depot and car park further west, thus saving the residence.



*2009*



*2014*



2014



2014

The residence is one of the last original elements of the railway precinct, from the days when Lawson was a railway town. It was occupied until the mid 1990s when it was abandoned due to cracking in the brickwork caused by vibration from major track work at the time.

In 2008 the buildings on the site included the District Engineers' Office and the associated stores and sheds, the station building (1902) and signal box (1921), out-of shed (1902), island platform (1902), side platform (c1879), pedestrian subway (1944), station master's residence (1896), electrical depot site, former District Engineer's Office (1956), workshops (1957), signals and earthworks depots, substation (1956), numerous water columns and tanks, many moveable items and landscape features. The site was noted with significant potential for archaeological investigation.

Numerous modifications have occurred to various aspects of the station and depot, some resulting from the substation fire in 2003. The original roof of the Station Master's residence, with an ornate ridge, was replaced at an unknown date. Internally all original fabric has been removed.

There was a halt at Lawson dating back to the beginning of the railway through the mountains in 1867. It bore the name "Blue Mountain" initially after Wilson's Blue Mountain Inn, 400m away. In 1879 when the station's name was changed, a brick platform and station building were added and this remained unchanged until 1902. Duplication of the line in 1902 brought a new island platform and station buildings in the Federation style.

Lawson became a significant stop over as locomotives took on water there.

The original station master's dwelling was constructed in 1880, and the current residence replaced it in 1896. The residence, many of which were built at this time, reflected the status of the proposed occupant. The Lawson residence is an example of the largest type that was used in the 1890-1914 period. It contained three bedrooms and the asymmetrical plan of the structure predates the wave of new residence, being first used in 1885.

The overall site is historically significant due to its continued rail use since 1880, with the Station Master's cottage demonstrating the custom of providing accommodation for railway staff and the importance of the station as a key terminus for locomotive facilities with its large number of water columns and tanks.

The residence has an unusual architectural style as it does not conform to any standard design, although it has similarities to a standard "J3" design. It is an excellent example of

simple architectural forms of other similar railway residences. With the loss of interior fabric the integrity is only moderate.

The rail authority indicates that they have no further need of the building at this stage. Therefore it remains for another use to be found for the building. It has been suggested that BMACHO or some similar organisation might utilise the building, together with other societies or organisations looking for permanent home, if a reasonable contract could be developed. This may give those groups a permanent premises to store archives, records and equipment, to hold meetings, seminars and workshops. If BMACHO were involved it would not mean that BMACHO would not continue to travel around to the members premises for committee meetings.

The site has had a statutory listing under the NSW Heritage S170 State agency heritage register as the Lawson Railway Station group, and footbridge, as updated in 2009, and was recognised within the Heritage and Conservation Register of the State Rail Authority of NSW 1993, and the State Rail Authority Heritage Register Study 1999.

At present BMACHO are considering it only as an option, and any other member groups within the community are encouraged to consider the possibility of some kind of sharing arrangement to provide an appropriate adaptive reuse for the building, to conserve its remaining integrity and retain the building in its historical context. *Compiled by Patsy Moppett*

*References:*

*Blue Mountains Gazette: 20 August 2014*

*Heritage database: NSW Heritage Office*

*BMACHO Minutes August 2014*

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## ***The Technical Side***

### ***Heritage Curtilage – what is it and why is it needed?***

Curtilage means “the area of land (including land covered by water) surrounding an item or area of heritage significance which is essential for retaining and integrating its heritage significance”. *Heritage Curtilages – NSW Heritage Office 1996.*

It is often defined by a site diagram, and it enables the community to retain, identify and interpret significance. It varies depending upon the purpose for which the place was established.

It could be a visual zone or a cultural landscape (which may contain many elements), and it enables management controls to be established specific to the place.

The diagram identifies lot boundaries, and can be used to reduce heritage curtilages, extend heritage curtilages, and to explain composite heritage curtilages such as heritage conservation areas.





*The Patrick House, Athol Street, Blayney*

This locally significant dwelling at Blayney, a two storey building with a northerly aspect over the town, now faces the prospect of a new dwelling next door. Although the new building will be cut into the site, views from and to the heritage premises will be compromised. The problem has arisen as not sufficient land was reserved around the heritage building when the subdivision was done. Although the significance of the heritage dwelling itself remains intact, its context and setting are compromised by surrounding contemporary residential development.

In the consideration of defining a curtilage a number of matters require consideration:

- Has the significance of the original relationship of the heritage item to its site and locality been conserved?
- Has an adequate setting for the heritage item been provided, enabling its heritage significance to be maintained?
- Have adequate visual catchments or corridors been provided to the heritage item from major viewing points and from the item to outside elements with which it has important visual or functional relationships?
- Are buffer areas required to screen the heritage item from visually unsympathetic development or to provide protection from vibration, traffic noise, pollution or vandalism

Specific matters which must be considered by heritage planners include historical allotments; design, style and taste; functional uses and interrelationships; visual links; scale; significant features; vegetation; archaeological features.

A number of statutory controls can be utilised to protect and manage the curtilage. This includes listing in a local environmental plan or development control plan using zoning or nomination of heritage conservation areas, or via an order under the Heritage Act 1977. There are various other pieces of legislation which afford protection such as the Local Government Act 1993, local policies and State ownership protection under the Heritage Act.

Non statutory controls such as conservation management plans specific to the site can also define a curtilage.

The High Court of Australia (*Royal Sydney Golf Club v Federal Commissioner of Taxation* 1955) defined curtilage as:

*Any building, whether it is a habitation or has some other use, may stand within a larger area of land which subserves the purpose of the building. The land surrounds the building because it actually or supposedly contributes to the enjoyment of the building or the fulfilment of its purposes.*

Of course curtilage applies not only to buildings, but heritage places in general. It is also to be balanced by the value of the land for other purposes. Sometimes the curtilage is defined by demand pressures for housing, and the attempt to fit as many dwelling lots into a subdivision as possible, leaving the heritage building isolated on a block of land ultimately located amongst contemporary housing.



*Carrington House*



*Tarella*

Sufficient curtilage has been retained around Carrington House at Katoomba to define its significance in the gardens in the forecourt area. The hilltop location assists in this regard.

The garden setting at Tarella at Wentworth Falls enables experience of the space to appreciate the original garden location and scale of the development. Although the meeting hall is located on the site, it is sufficiently removed to allow appreciation of the Tarella precinct.



*Woodford Academy*

With increasing encroachment from the Great Western Highway in front of the Woodford Academy, management of the building is still able to hang onto the surrounding garden setting. Together with suitable adaptive reuse of the place, little new building work has been required which might have compromised the heritage significance. Even cobbled walkways and garden features remain, together with the views into the bush at the rear of the precinct.

*Compiled by Patsy Moppett*

*References:*

*Heritage Information Series: Heritage & Development: A Lawyer's Perspective: NSW Heritage Office 2000*

*Heritage Curtilages: NSW Heritage Office 1996*

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## **Community events & updates**

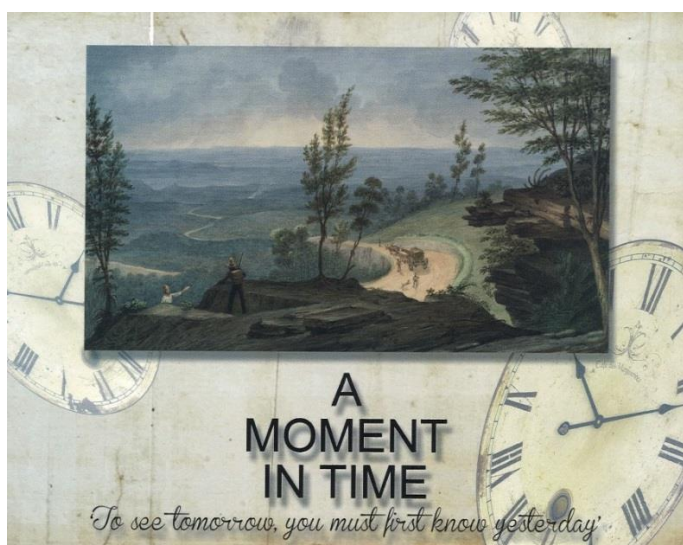
### **"A Moment in Time II" Exhibition**

The Exhibition returns to Hartley from 13 September to 12 October 2014. This exhibition by local historian Joan Kent is a "must see"!

The exhibition, curated by retired local historian Joan Kent, captures what existed before and what came shortly after the 1813 crossing of the Blue Mountains by Europeans.

It begins with a consideration of the rich and ancient geology of the landscape into which the explorers intruded, before exploring many aspects of the crossing story from the indigenous peoples whose country was being traversed, through the explorers, the road building and early settlement west of the Blue Mountains.

"A Moment in Time" builds on the original exhibition drawing widely on contemporary Cox's Road research to present a comprehensive vision of 'the road'.



Hartley District Progress Association Inc.  
and The Western Crossings Trust

## **Cox's Road Historic Walks**

1814 - 2014

Join our informed local guides on a walk in the beautiful Hartley Valley.

Traverse the original Cox's Road,  
from Mt York to Glenroy  
largely through private property,  
in the footsteps of William Cox  
and the Roadbuilding party.

**Full Day Walks - 2014**

- Sunday 21st Sept
- Wednesday 24th Sept
- Saturday 27th Sept
- Thursday 2nd Oct
- Saturday 4th Oct
- Friday 10th Oct

Details at [www.hartleyvalley.org.au](http://www.hartleyvalley.org.au)  
and click on "2014 Commemorations"

**\*\* Bookings Essential \*\***  
Register Early  
to secure your place

The exhibition was mounted by the Western Crossings Trust and attracted hundreds of visitors a day last year. It promises to be even more popular this year with its insightful look into the miracle of Cox's road to Bathurst.

The "A Moment in Time II" exhibition will be open on weekends between **13<sup>th</sup> September and 12<sup>th</sup> October** 10am to 4pm Mid Hartley Road, Hartley( just follow the signs).

In addition, there will be guided walks in the Hartley Valley in the footsteps of William Cox, as per the above flyer.

See the associated website [www.hartleyvalley.org.au](http://www.hartleyvalley.org.au)

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### **2014 RAHS State Annual History Conference**

This year the Conference will be held at Mittagong RSL, examining how history evolves over time and is always moving as we respond to new information that changes our understanding of the past.

Day one - learn about the histories of Mittagong and successful fund raising campaigns that will resonate with the broader history community.

Day two – hear advice on future directions for historical societies including developing advocacy, technology and collection management skills.

Directions for historical societies, especially in succession planning is a timely theme in these days of falling patronage for some organisations, with all the work being left to a few.

See the RAHS web site for bookings. [www.rahs.org.au](http://www.rahs.org.au)

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### **Ali Khan Trader ..... and Indian Hawker**

Further to the article in the July-August edition of Heritage, Kathie McMahon-Nolf advises some additional information.

The photograph of Ali Khan was taken from the other side of the Bells Line of Road in 1905, but the guest house "Bellbird Echo" was not built until 1929. The McMahons did live opposite on the same spot as the guest house was built, in their house called "Luchenough".

Although the article refers to Indian Traders, the gypsy Ali Kahn was probably from Afghanistan, or that is how the oral history goes. *Kathie McMahon-Nolf*

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### **Hobby's Reach-Weatherboard-Wentworth Falls**

The community is invited to the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the naming of Hobby's Reach (now part of Blaxland Road). The anniversary occurs on 3 October 2014, and it will be celebrated on 4<sup>th</sup> October at Tarella, 99 Blaxland Road, Wentworth Falls, by the Blue Mountains Historical Society.

Thomas Hobby was in charge of this section of the 170km Cox's Road from Emu Plains to Bathurst.



The celebration will include:

- A special display about Thomas Hobby
- A talk at the BMHS Meeting on the part that Hobby played in the epic endeavour to build Cox's Road over the mountains.
- An open day at Tarella, the Society's 1890s cottage museum.
- Colonial music to match.

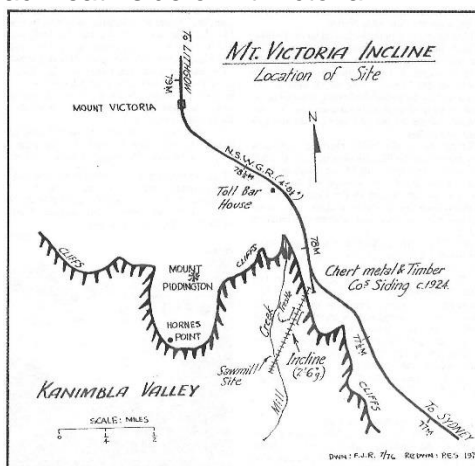
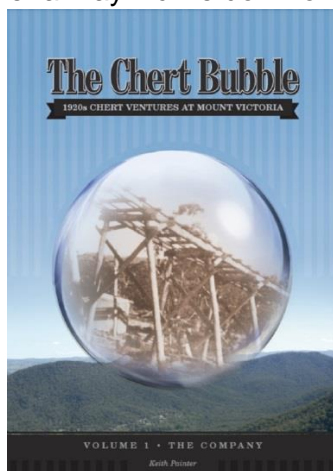
Join them to learn more about the village and the extensive variety of resources at the Blue Mountains Historical Society that are available to all with an interest in local history. Admission is free to all residents and refreshments will be on sale.

Enquiries to Ph: 02 4757 3824 or [www.bluemountainshistory.com](http://www.bluemountainshistory.com)

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### ***The Chert Bubble***

The Chert Incline Railway at Mt Victoria was built in the 1920s to haul chert from the Kanimbla Valley. Chert is a sedimentary rock used in road construction. The whole venture lasted less than 10 years from inception to closure, and very little can be seen today in the vicinity of the railway incline down on the Blackheath side of Mt Victoria.



The fascinating history of this little known venture has been brought to life by Bathurst author and guide Keith Painter, in his book "The Chert Bubble – 1920s Ventures at Mount Victoria".

Volume 1 is available from selected bookshops or from the publisher, Mountain Mist Books, at [www.mountainmistbooks.com](http://www.mountainmistbooks.com)

Volume 2 will follow in time, detailing the Blue Mountains Shire Council chert quarry above the lower part of Victoria Pass and the steam wagons they used to move the rock to their siding near Mt Victoria Station. A must read!

#### *References:*

*Blue Mountains Gazette: 20 August 2014*

*Chert Incline – Mt Victoria NSW by John Reid 1979*

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### ***Paragon Cafe, Katoomba***

This widely renowned cafe at Katoomba has received a significant boost to its future success with a funding grant under the Blue Mountains City Council's local heritage assistance fund program. This year Council has continued to support the restoration of

heritage properties, seeking to preserve these places which help to define the character and history of the Blue Mountains area and its people.

Robyn Parker, manager of this iconic property, has advised the Blue Mountains Gazette that she is putting the finishing touches on the restoration work to the historic Paragon Cafe in Katoomba Street. She has been able to replace lighting and curtains, restore the front tiles, and repaint the ceiling in parts of the building.

With the application for listing of the Paragon on the State Heritage Register currently underway, the work can only contribute to the integrity of the fabric of the place.

*References:*

*Blue Mountains Gazette: 20 August 2014*

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***Cox's Road – Taylor Road, Woodford roadworks***

The saga of Taylor Road is almost passed, with a solution which reaches a compromise between the purists wishing to retain the road in its original unsealed state, and the sealing of the road to reduce the impact of dust and road maintenance.



*The sealed Taylor Road in August 2014*

The maintenance of a 600m section this road became an issue in 2013 when Council scheduled the road to be sealed. The road is the route of one of the last remaining accessible remnants of the route of William Cox's 1814 road in this vicinity. The road verges contain many intact stone retaining walls and drains, which had already been partially covered or displaced by previous regular maintenance of the road.

Council sought to extend its works program, proposing sealing of the road for the health and safety of residents along the sometimes dusty road, to incorporate drainage measures. The works were paused to allow the community and archaeologists to investigate the condition and integrity of the road features.

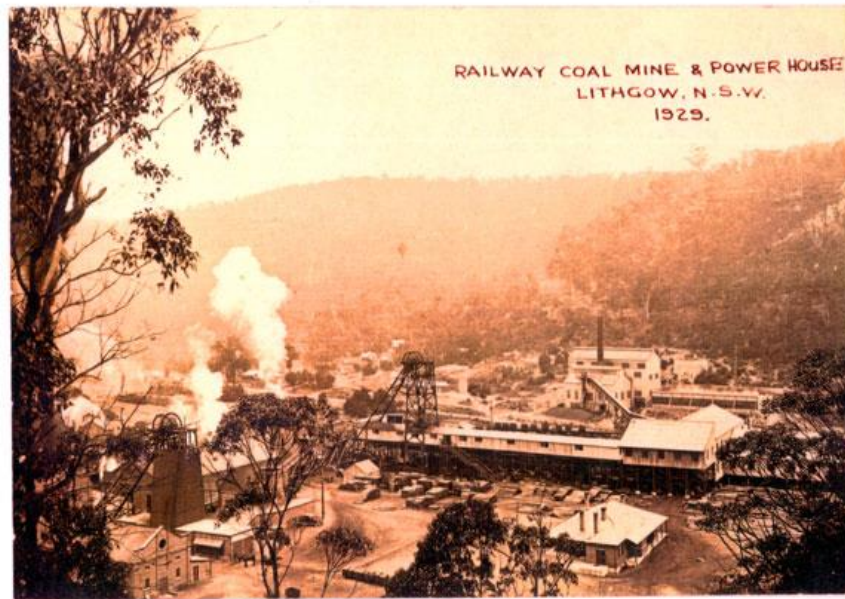
With the advice of Council's Heritage Advisor and the archaeologist, the road was sealed with a light coloured seal, and now at first glance appears as a gravel road.

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***Lithgow State Coal Mine***

On 13<sup>th</sup> October 1964 the Downcast Shaft of the Lithgow State Coal Mine was sealed permanently. This marked the end of an enterprise that had operated since the dark years of the Great War.

The mine is significant as it was the first government coal mine opened in New South Wales in the 20<sup>th</sup> century and it also has an important place in industrial relations history of the Australian coalfields.



To recognise 50 years since the closure of the mine the City of Greater Lithgow Mining Museum Inc is hosting an informal luncheon in the State Mine Bath House from 11.30am on Saturday 18 October 2014.

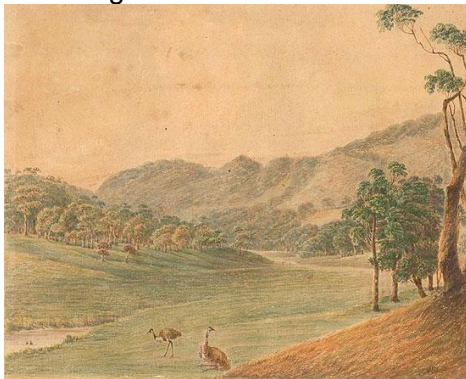
Guests of honour will include Paul Toole, MLA for Bathurst and Minister for Local Government, Maree Statham, Mayor of Lithgow, and Wayne McAndrew, General Vice-President, CFMEU Mining and Energy Division.

Former State Mine workers and their families are invited to attend. Entry would be by donation. Notification of attendance should be through the Mine's Facebook page, Lithgow State Mine Museum, or by contacting the museum on 02 6353 1513. *Ray Christison*

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### ***Sydney Valley Homestead***

The Homestead was built in 1826 by Robert Lowe in the Sydney Valley through which William Cox constructed his road to Bathurst. Robert Lowe received the grant of 2,000 acres of land and the service of 20 convicts by Governor Macquarie in recognition of his services as a magistrate for the Bathurst district.



*John Lewin's painting of the Valley*



*Sydney Valley homestead*



Ann Webb purchased the property in 1871 for her youngest son, Thomas Bernard Webb, and the Webb family descendants have continued to occupy the property ever since.

The Lithgow & District Family History Society Inc has arranged for the current owners Kevin Webb and Lynne Woods to conduct a tour of inspection of the handmade brick homestead and the old world cottage garden on Saturday 11 October 2014, be followed by Devonshire Morning tea.

The tour group will meet at the Tarana Hotel at 9 a.m. and following the tour there is an option to return to the Tarana Hotel for lunch, at your own expense.

The cost of the tour and morning tea is \$15 which must be paid before 5 October 2014 at Lithgow & District Family History Society Inc, Ewen Smith Memorial Hall, Cnr Tank & Donald Streets, Lithgow during the Resource Centre opening hours or by post to The Secretary, PO Box 516, Lithgow.

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### ***Repairs and Restorations to Heritage Properties***

**Blue Mountains City Council** with the aid of the NSW Heritage Division is offering funding to owners of heritage listed places to carry out sympathetic repairs or restorations. A total fund of approximately \$20,000.00 may be shared amongst a number of small eligible projects.

Applications are invited from owners of individual heritage buildings or buildings within a Heritage Conservation Area or Period Housing Area. Priority will be given to the repair and restoration of stonework, particularly sandstone, and to conservation works for historic buildings within the Central Katoomba Urban Conservation Area. However, a range of other projects will also be considered.

Grants are offered on a dollar for dollar basis with the successful applicants and must be completed by April 2015. For full details download the Local Heritage Places Fund Guidelines and Application Form. From

<http://www.bmcc.nsw.gov.au/sustainableliving/bluemountainslocalheritage/bluemountainslocalheritageplacesfund>

or contact Council on 02 4780 5740. On completion, email or post the applications to Council via the following contacts:

Email: [council@bmcc.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@bmcc.nsw.gov.au) or Annalisse Bentley [abentley@bmcc.nsw.gov.au](mailto:abentley@bmcc.nsw.gov.au)

Post: Locked Bag 1005, Katoomba NSW 2780

Fax: 02 4780 5555

**Applications close 5pm, Friday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2014.**

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## BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

**Registered office:** 1/19 Stypandra Place, Springwood 2777. (02) 4751 5834

**Email:** [committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au](mailto:committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au) or [j.koperberg@bigpond.com](mailto:j.koperberg@bigpond.com)

**Website:** [www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au](http://www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au)

**ABN:** 53 994 839 952

**The organisation:** Blue Mountains Association of Cultural & Heritage Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 after local historical and heritage societies and individuals recognised the need for the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the local government area (LGA) of Blue Mountains City Council. The constituency now embraces but is not limited to, the LGAs of Blue Mountains, Lithgow, Hawkesbury, Penrith and Mudgee. BMACHO membership includes historical and heritage groups, museums, commercial enterprises with an historical or heritage component in its core business, local government (local studies units, library collections) and a limited number of individual members by invitation such as but not necessarily academics. The objectives of the organisation are:

1. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage
2. To encourage and assist cultural heritage
3. 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 and is affiliated with the Better Planning Network.

**Publications:** BMACHO's official newsletter *Heritage* is edited by Patsy Moppett. The annual refereed *Blue Mountains History Journal* is edited by Dr Peter Rickwood and occasional papers are published from time to time.

**Membership:** The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mt Tomah; Blue Mountains City Library; Blue Mountains Cultural Heritage Centre; Blue Mountain Education & Research Trust; Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc; 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; Hawkesbury Historical Society Inc; Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc; Lithgow & District Family History Society Inc; Lithgow Mining Museum Inc; Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies; Lithgow Small Arms factory Museum Inc; Mt Victoria & District Historical Society Inc; Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine Historical Society Inc (including Turkish Bath Museum); Mudgee Historical Society Inc; National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Blue Mountains Branch; National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Lithgow Branch; Nepean District Historical Society Inc; Paragon Restaurant, Katoomba; Scenic World Blue Mountains Limited; Springwood & District Historical Society Inc; Springwood Historians Inc; Transport Signal Communication Museum Inc; The Darnell Collection P/L; 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 Low OAM, Ian Milliss, Patsy Moppett, Professor Barrie Reynolds, Dr Peter Rickwood and Dr Peter Stanbury OAM.

**Committee:** The management committee for 2014-2015 (from July 2014) is: Ian Jack (vice president & acting president), Jan Koperberg (secretary/acting treasurer), Roy Bennett, Wendy Hawkes and Scott Pollock (web site), Patsy Moppett (*Heritage* Newsletter editor), Dick Morony (public officer), Suzanne Smith, Richard Woolley (heritage trail co-ordinator).

**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 its members. If errors are found feedback is most welcome.