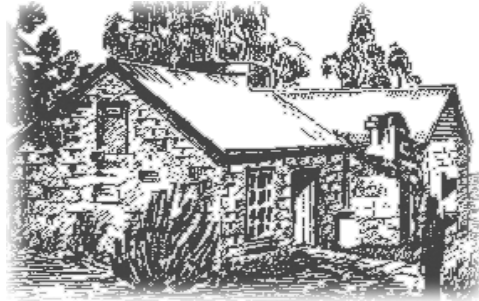


COORANBEAN COURIER



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HENRY KENDALL COTTAGE
WEST GOSFORD CIRCA 1836

NEWSLETTER OF THE BRISBANE WATER HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Vol. 36 Postal Address: 25- 27 Henry Kendall St., West Gosford, 2250 September
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BRISBANE WATER HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.

Founded 1950

Henry Kendall Cottage and Historical Museum

Affiliated with Royal Australian Historical Society -
Museums Australia-Museum and Galleries Foundation-National Trust

What's in this Newsletter?

Around the Grounds –

- Welfare : Outing : New Members p2
- Coming Events - Market - Street Stall – History Week p2,3
- White Weddings p4
- Bridal Display p5
- Museum Duty : Coach Bookings p6
- Program 2012 p7
- Committee p8
- ***Supported by Gosford RSL Leisure Living***

AROUND THE GROUNDS

Welfare

It's nice to see Margaret Pearce, Senior Vice-President and Publicity Officer, back on deck. Best wishes to any of our members recovering from the nasty cold type things that were visiting for a while.

Outing

Well, did we enjoy our Outing to Hyde Parks Barracks on Friday, 31st August? I certainly did. The tour of the Barracks was great. What an interesting place! Could have spent just about all day there! We had a nice comfortable coach ride with Coastal Liners, a Morning Tea stop at West Pymble, our Barracks Tour, Lunch at Paddington RSL, then a visit to The Rocks Discovery Centre - a really good day. Thanks to Margaret Pearce for arranging it all.

New Members

A big welcome to our recent New Members! Hope you enjoy being a volunteer with Henry Kendall Cottage.

Sandy Hunt-Sharman

Evelyn Synnott

Bennett Hunt-Sharman

Jo Watkins

Marilyn Smith

Henry Dunn

COMING EVENTS

Don't forget Beach Farm French Market on Saturday, September 8th! As we have done in previous years, we are having a table there with some artifacts, our monographs and postcards for sale, and general information about us. This is an extremely popular event and provides a great opportunity to present our 'face'. Getting there early is a good idea as parking in the streets is difficult. There is plenty of parking in Patrick Croke Park and it's only a short walk.

Street Stall

Items are coming in well for our ***Street Stall in October*** but we need more! Please leave any unwanted items of bric-a-brac, books, CDs, DVDs, plants, etc. at the museum - there is room still in our Storeroom 2 to keep them for the Stall. We want another successful Street Stall like we had last year so clear out those cupboards! De-clutter!

History Week –Saturday, Sept 8 - Sunday, Sept. 16, 10.30am

Preparations are moving along for History Week, the theme of which is **Threads – History and meaning of Clothes/Fashion.**

Our presentation is “**Here Comes the Bride!**” which will include a Guest Speaker, Madeline Sweeney of **The Cavalcade of History of Fashion**, and also a DVD from Grossman House, Maitland, showing some of their wonderful clothes collection. We have a new leaflet giving all the details of our display and **Special Day** on Wednesday, September 12th.

We had a visit from Sandra Hunt-Sharman with a beautiful wedding dress, which her mother, Jean Kirkness, wore in 1944. Sandy has offered to lend the wedding dress with some lovely photos of her mother and father on their wedding day for our **History Week** Display, for which we are really grateful. Sandy is also organising a loan of a Royal Marines uniform, similar to the uniform Sandy’s father wore on his wedding day.

Our Display will also include the wedding dress of Sarah Jane Hastings. She was the daughter of John Dunlop, brother of James Dunlop. Sarah Jane was married in her “best clothes”, before white wedding dresses came into fashion



“Best Clothes” wedding



Sarah Jane Hastings’ wedding dress

White Weddings

The history of the white wedding dress is credited to Queen Victoria in 1840. In her marriage to Prince Albert of Saxe-Coburg, Queen Victoria wore a beautiful white satin gown, with an 18 foot train carried over her arm. A wreath headdress of orange blossom and an exquisite lace veil was the crowning embellishment for this first bride of white. The wedding photo was published around the world and swiftly the white wedding gown became all the rage with high-society and wealthy nobility brides. Queen Victoria set a precedent that not only changed her century but has forever changed the world of wedding fashion as we know it. Interestingly, the pattern for Victoria's dress is said to have been purposely destroyed after completion to retain its uniqueness.

Only very rich people could afford to wear white because it was almost impossible to clean it. Before white became a symbol of virtue it was a symbol of great wealth. Brides around this time usually wore their best street clothes.

Royal brides before Victoria usually chose "heavy brocaded gowns embroidered with white and silver thread," with red being a particularly popular color in Western Europe more generally. European and American brides had been wearing a plethora of colors, including blue, yellow, and practical colors like black, brown, or grey.

As accounts of Victoria's wedding spread across the Atlantic and throughout Europe elites followed her lead. Because of the limitations of laundering techniques, white dresses provided an opportunity for conspicuous consumption. They were favored primarily as a way to show the world that the bride's family was so wealthy and so firmly part of the leisure class that the bride would choose an elaborate dress that could be ruined by any sort of work or spill. The color white was also the color girls were required to wear at the time when they were presented to the court.

Reference: Wikipedia: The Gilded Cage (Internet)



Queen Victoria, 1840: Trendsetter In Wedding White

Bridal Display

Tracey Dillon and helpers are working very hard erecting the Bridal display for ***History Week*** and have uncovered some real ‘gems’; often quite lovely dresses from years past.

Members are bringing in many beautiful wedding photos for our display. These are being scanned so that we can then return the originals. There certainly have been some varied fashions in wedding clothes over the years and bouquets were so big back in the 1920s that they must have been quite heavy and difficult for the brides to carry.

These cascading bouquets were originally referred to as shower bouquets. Also known as a teardrop bouquet or trail bouquet. These replaced the fashion of posies around the time of 1910. This style became exaggerated by 1920, with much larger bouquets, so large they almost concealed the bride. They reached their peak from 1920 - 1930s until WWII.

Museum Duty

Please make sure that, if you suddenly find that you can't do your museum duty, you contact Margaret or Edith or another Committee Member to advise of this. It only takes a phone call!

We had a surprise visit on Friday, August 24th - from Woy Woy Community Centre, Seniors Education History Group. The coach of 12 visitors and driver didn't book so it was fortunate that Trish just 'dropped in'! Trish called on the nearest members, Bob and Shirley Rider, to come over to help and Tracey Dillon called in too, to work on the Bridal display. Tracey gave a little talk about HK Cottage as well so it all worked out.

We have had these little 'surprise visits' before and have managed to cope but have tactfully suggested that bookings be made.

Coach Bookings

Bookings are really improving. Hope they will continue to improve if the weather starts to warm up.

<i>DATE</i>	<i>DAY</i>	<i>TIME</i>	<i>PLACE</i>	<i>ATTENDING</i>
13 Sept.	Thurs.	11.00	Over 50 Services Club - Greeting and Talk	12 seniors
19 Sept.	Wed.	1.30	Treetops Resort	36 seniors
19 Sept.	Wed.	2.30	Kiama Tours	25 seniors
25 Sept.	Tues.	10.30	Adamstown Uniting Ch.	40 visitors
8 Oct.	Mon.	10.00	McMasters Beach Garden Club by car pool – Guide & urn	45 visitors
9 Oct.	Tues.	2.15	Green's North. Coaches	40 seniors
17 Oct.	Wed.	11.45	Cardwell Coaches	30 visitors
2 Nov.	Fri.	2.00	Terranova Tours	40 visitors
19 Nov.	Mon.	9.15	Rhapsody of the Sea	tba
23 Nov.	Fri.	10.15	Celebrity Millennium	tba
8 Dec.	Sat.	9.15	Rhapsody of the Sea	tba
29 Dec.	Sat.	2.45	Radiance of the Sun	tba

PROGRAM 2012

- September 8 Beach Farm French Market**
- September 8-16 History Week**
- Theme : Threads – History and meaning of Clothes/Fashion : “Here Comes the Bride!”
- September 12 Open Day – Presentation featuring Madeline Sweeney, “The Cavalcade of History of Fashion”**
- includes lunch
- October 26 Street Stall – Stall No. 2 William St Plaza**
Musical Afternoon – postponed until Feb. 2013
- November 18 Bush Poets**
- 20 Spring Gathering**
- December 10 Christmas/Birthday Gathering - HK Grounds**
More details later

Workshop

Edith and Shirley attended a Workshop on **Collection Management** conducted by State Archives. This was held at Kuring-gai Library and we found it very worthwhile. It was interesting and reinforced our knowledge of looking after our various Collections.

We brought back a print-out of this information which can be accessed in our Archives and interested Members should find some helpful hints. Just ask Edith or Shirley.

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PLEASE NOTE:

All correspondence should be forwarded to our actual street address of 25-27 Henry Kendall Street, West Gosford, 2250 - unless otherwise noted.

Brisbane Water Historical Society Inc. owns and maintains Henry Kendall Cottage and Historical Museum at 25-27 Henry Kendall Street, West Gosford, which is open for inspection every Saturday, Sunday and Wednesday from 10.00 am to 3.00 pm.

COACH / GROUP VISITS are always welcome, any time day or night, out of hours BY APPOINTMENT, Phone (02) 4325 2270

The Society's Meetings are held in the Henry Kendall Cottage and Museum Complex, West Gosford.

NEW MEMBERS ALWAYS WELCOME!!!!

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