

COORANBEAN COURIER



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HENRY KENDALL COTTAGE
WEST GOSFORD CIRCA 1836

NEWSLETTER OF THE BRISBANE WATER HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Vol. 38 Postal Address: 25- 27 Henry Kendall St., West Gosford, August
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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

Disability Access : Free Parking

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Winter Gathering – Report

We had a pleasant afternoon for our Winter Gathering on 15th July with an interesting talk by Guest Speaker Brian Madden. His topic was on the theme of the 75th commemoration of WWII, focusing on Sydney's wartime hospitals at Herne Bay.

We have a copy of Brian's book on CD, *Herne Bay : Sydney's Wartime Hospitals at Riverwood*, in our archives library. This may be borrowed by members in the usual way and it provides quite an interesting read. It covers the American wartime hospitals at Herne Bay, with staff from John Hopkins University Hospital in Baltimore; departing from the site in July 1944. The site remained vacant until it was occupied as a camp for troops on leave from units in the tropics. The last area to be transferred from the US Army control to the Australian Army was in April 1945. Certain areas were occupied by the Royal Navy when Britain returned to the Pacific in 1944. After the Royal Navy vacated the site in 1946, it was handed over to the Housing Commission of NSW for Emergency Housing.

The Depression of the 1930s and lack of home building in the war years resulted in a severe housing shortage. After WWII was over, in 1946 it became a Community Housing Centre, providing emergency accommodation. The buildings were progressively dismantled over the next few years as better accommodation was gradually built and many of the buildings were sold off. Of the two remaining, one is at Riverwood, used as an Air League hall we believe, but the other one is most interesting in that it was transported in pieces and re-erected at Patonga as a public hall about 1960 and is still giving good service.

A nice lunch of delicious soups (made by Margareta Tauni) and rolls was enjoyed by members and friends.

New Members

Welcome to new members Peter and Dora Rea, and Lou Foster. Hope your time with us is interesting and enjoyable. If you have any questions just ask – other members are only too willing to help.

Remembrance

We remember the Death of Henry Kendall on August 1, 1882.

100 years since WWI commenced on August 4, 1914.

Cockatoo Island Visit – Friday. 29 August 2014

Don't forget our upcoming trip to Cockatoo Island. We had arranged to go in October last year but had to postpone it due to the dreadfully hot, windy day. However, we are trying again so here's hoping the weather is kinder this year! Some information about Cockatoo Island was published in the Cooranbean Courier for October 2013 and here are the details again:

We will be travelling by train and Ferry.

We will catch the Ferry at Circular Quay at 10.07 departing from Wharf 5 (the wharf can sometimes change so check when you get to the Quay)

To meet this Ferry, we plan to get the train that starts at Gosford at 7.45.

This has 3 advantages - we are more likely to get a seat
- it stops at Point Clare where parking is a bit easier than Gosford
- it arrives at Central in plenty of time to connect with a train to the Quay

We will use the second front carriage (not a quiet carriage).

If this train is not convenient for you, please make your own arrangements to meet us at the Quay, just before 10.00am

Morning Tea

There is a café just near the wharf on Cockatoo Island so we will stop for Morning Tea when we get off the Ferry. Morning Tea and Lunch at your own expense.

On the Island

There is no charge for entry.

They do not have guided tours. However audio tours with headset are available at the information centre for \$5 single or \$8 shared between 2.

Let Margaret know if you want these as, if there are more than 15, we may need to book. 1 ½ hours

Alternatively, for free you can get self-guided tour brochures for:

Convict Trail 1 ½ hours

Maritime Trail “

Highlights “

In-Depth 2 ½ hours

There are a couple of places to buy food and plenty of places to sit and rest if needed.

In order to be home around 5pm, we will need to get the 2.40pm Ferry back to the Quay

Please ring **Margaret Pearce – 4384 3271** – if you are able to come.



On Cockatoo Island you will find unique remnants of the island's history that include solitary prison cells, hand carved silos, a guardhouse and convict workshops.

The island was also an industrial school, a reformatory and operated as a convict penal establishment between 1839 and 1869.

Cockatoo Island was also the site of one of Australia's biggest shipyards, operating between 1857 and 1991. The first of its two dry docks was built by convicts.

Cockatoo Island contains the nation's most extensive and varied record of shipbuilding and has the potential to enhance our understanding of maritime and heavy industrial processes in Australia from the mid-19th century.

Ref: [Wikipedia: the free encyclopedia](#) : [Aust. Govt, Sydney Harbour Federation Trust](#)

BBQ

Our new electric BBQ has been received and will be installed soon. We'll keep you informed.

The concrete slabs have been laid for our new outdoor benches and tables. These have also been received and will be installed soon too. They're sure to be well used.

New Acquisitions

Copies are now available of ***Wreck of the Maitland : ... a scene to make the angels weep*** by Geoffrey Potter on behalf of Gosford City Council. Geoff is the Local Studies Librarian at Gosford City Library and he has written an enthralling book. It's an important work of local history. I have just finished reading it and really recommend it. Copies are available from our front office for \$35.00

Street Stall

Our Annual Street Stall is coming up in October. If you haven't already begun, could you start collecting items that would be suitable for sale. This is a good fundraiser for the Society and we hope to do even better than the successful one we had last year. It was an uncomfortably hot day last year but hopefully the weather will be kinder to us this time.

As we have a bit of a space problem in Storeroom 2 at the moment it would be appreciated if you could find a corner in your garage or spare room to store things and bring them to the Museum closer to the day. But please start collecting now so we can make this a really good day.

Events

Kreenah and Shirley attended the Community Development Grants Celebration Evening at Gosford City Council Chambers, held to congratulate recipients of the 2014 Grants. The ceremony included a short DVD of the 2013 Grant recipients, including Edith and Kreenah, acknowledging on behalf of BWHS the Grant enabling us to have our wonderful Quattrosesquicentenary day in April. A light supper followed, allowing a bit of socializing.

Tricia and Shirley attended the Volunteering Central Coast Information Session at Niagara Park on August 4. To keep our volunteers up to date. Workcover representatives discussed the new Work Health and Safety Act 2011 and Volunteers.

Cleaning

We are still looking for cleaner/s for our museum and cottage so would any aspiring volunteer cleaner/s please contact Edith if you can offer your services! Perhaps a couple of friends could do it together – more fun that way! In the meantime would members please help to keep the museum, toilets and cottage dusted and clean. Lots of little bits add up to a whole so any help would be very much appreciated. We've all seen dusty and dirty museums over the years and we don't want ours to go that way. Thanks heaps (in anticipation) everyone!

Group Bookings – August to October

| DATE | DAY | TIME | PLACE | ATTENDING |
|---------|-------|-------|--|----------------------------------|
| Aug. 2 | Sat. | 10.00 | Wyoming Lions Club | 20-25 visitors |
| Aug. 6 | Wed. | 2.00 | Stuart Coaches | 40 visitors |
| Aug. 10 | Sun. | 12.00 | CC Antique & Classic Motor Car Club – <i>Picnic in grounds first</i> | 20 (?) cars unknown until day |
| Aug. 13 | Wed. | 9.00 | Coastal Liners (Elderslie Retirement Village) | 20 seniors |
| Aug. 16 | Sat. | 9.00 | Narara P/S Teachers | 20 visitors |
| Aug. 19 | Tue. | 10.30 | Bronte Probus | 20-30 visitors |
| Aug. 20 | Wed. | 10.30 | Blue Mountains Bus Co - <i>Introductory Talk</i> | 30-40 visitors |
| Aug. 25 | Mon. | 12.00 | Terranova Tours | 40 visitors |
| Sept.10 | Wed. | 11.30 | Coast Christian School | 27 students + G/parents |
| Sept.19 | Fri. | 12.00 | Terranova Tours | 40 visitors |
| Sept.22 | Mon. | 10.00 | Westside View Club (<i>Urn required for M/Tea – Staying for lunch in the Grounds</i>) | 20 visitors |
| Oct. 3 | Fri. | 12.00 | Terranova Tours | 40 visitors |
| Oct. 8 | Thur. | 11.45 | Cardwell Coaches | 30 visitors |
| Oct. 17 | Fri. | 12.00 | Terranova Tours | 40 visitors |
| Oct. 28 | Tue. | TBA | Wamberal Garden Club | 10 visitors – <i>Urn</i> |
| Oct. 29 | Wed. | 9.15 | Rhapsody of the Sea (A&K) | TBA |
| Oct. 31 | Fri. | 12.00 | Terranova Tours | 40 visitors |

Roster

If you wish to go on the Duty Roster please let Margaret know (4384 3271). You would be with experienced members for your first few duty days and then always with one or two others. Members find it interesting and a nice little social occasion.

Museum Duty

Would Duty Members please confirm with Margaret Pearce, our Duty Roster Officer, when they are on duty. Upcoming Tours are published in the Newsletter but this is issued monthly, usually on the first Wednesday of the month. Group Bookings can still come in or be altered after that date. A list of Bookings is in our Front Office and is progressively updated. Please make sure that if you suddenly find that you can't do your museum duty you contact Margaret (or Shirley if Margaret is unavailable) to advise of this. It only takes a phone call! If a Duty Member just doesn't arrive it means having to try to contact that member and/or then having to organize another member to fill in.

Welfare

To anyone not feeling well, we wish you a speedy recovery.

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| <u>PROGRAM 2014 :</u> | <i>Please check the Newsletter for updates</i> |
| AUG – Fri. 29 | <i>Cockatoo Island Outing – see details page 3.</i> |
| SEPT – Sat.-Sun. 6-14 | <i>History Week – Theme : “The Great War : - the Honour Roll”</i> |
| OCT - Thur. 2 | <i>Street Stall \]</i> |
| OCT - tba | <i>Outing : tba</i> |
| NOV – Tue. 18 1.00 | <i>Spring Gathering</i> |
| DEC - Tue. 9 12.00 | <i>Christmas/Birthday Party</i> |

History Week

***The Great War : the Honour Roll - Saturday, 13 September 2014,
11.00 am to 2.00 pm.***

The Honour Roll appears across our country and recognizes those who bravely fought for freedom and the many loved ones who selflessly gave their lives for their homeland.

We will be holding an Open Day at our museum in recognition of the History Council of NSW 2014 History Week theme “The Great War”. E/Professor Richard Waterhouse will be delivering a lecture that focusses both on the role of the AIF and on the consequences of the War for Australia.

A new display will be erected in the museum in early September commemorating the beginning of WWI so our Fagan display in the big showcase will be pulled down at the end of August.

Open Day is free and includes History Talks, light lunch and refreshments.

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| PATRONS: | Charles Gosford, The Earl of Gosford | and | Lawrie McMcKinna, Mayor of Gosford City |
|-----------------|---|-----|--|

| | | | |
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|----------------------------|------------------|-----------|--|
| AUDITOR: | Mr. A C Westbury | | |
| HONORARY SOLICITOR: | Mr. W Rutledge | 4323 3333 | |

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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