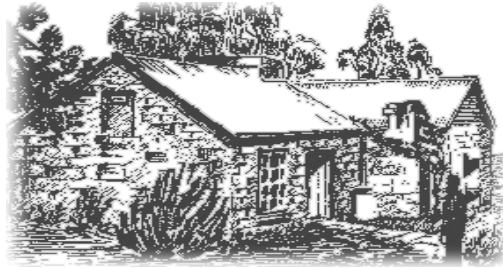


COORANBEAN COURIER



RED COW INN COORANBEAN

HENRY KENDALL COTTAGE
WEST GOSFORD CIRCA 1836

NEWSLETTER OF THE BRISBANE WATER HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Vol. 40 Postal Address: 25- 27 Henry Kendall St., West Gosford, 2250 October
No. 10 Phone: (02) 4325 2270 2016
Internet: www.henrykendallcottage.org.au email: info@henrykendallcottage.org.au

BRISBANE WATER HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.

Founded 1950

Henry Kendall Cottage and Historical Museum

Affiliated with Royal Australian Historical Society -
Museums Museum & Galleries of NSW - National Trust

Disability Access : Free Parking

What's in this Newsletter

AROUND THE GROUNDS

- Welfare : Signage : Photography in Museum : Standards Review: FAHS : History Week : ABC p2
- Twilight Tour : p3,4
- Group Bookings : Roster : New Members p4
- Program p5
- Henry Lawson p6
- WWII Airstrip p7
- Committee p8

Welfare

Margaret Pearce is recovering from a bad dose of flu. Hope we see you soon Margaret. The flu also visited Ron Pearce so best wishes to Ron too. We hope that all our other members who haven't been well are now on the road to recovery.

Signage

Quotes have been obtained for an additional sign at the entrance to our Grounds, clarifying that the Grounds are open for inspection daily from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm and the committee decided to accept the quote from Gosford Signs (Barney Waters).

Photography in Museum

Following our recent meeting with MGNSW the committee has decided to remove the ban on photographs but request no flash photography.

Museums and Galleries NSW - Standards Review Meeting

Central Coast Council gave us a Grant to cover the full amount of this Review with MGNSW for which we are duly thankful. There will be a further meeting with MGNSW on 7th October, at 10.00 (pack a sandwich). This discussion will give us the chance to outline an 'Action Plan' and what we aim to achieve in the short-term and down the track, in preparation for their site visit on 4th November.

Federation of Australian Historical Societies

Bernadette Flynn of FAHS interviewed Edith and Shirley for an article to appear in their Journal. It was a very enjoyable discussion and we look forward to seeing the finished article.

History Week

History Week Open Day, Saturday, 10th September. This acknowledged the invaluable work of the Country Women's Association of NSW, Northumberland Group, with the '**More Than Tea and Scones**' exhibition. This day went very well. A lot of CWA people attended and they enjoyed the exhibition that was officially opened by David Mehan, State MP for Terrigal. The CWA Ladies supplied a lovely Devonshire Morning Tea followed by an interesting talk by Lyn Braico of the CWA. Lunch was provided by BWHS members.

Tune in to ABC Central Coast 92.5 FM on Wednesday 12th October from 8.30 am to hear an interview with Kendall Holbert, about his wonderful memoir "**Footprints**" and his life growing up on Brisbane Water in the 1930s. Mr. Holbert's memoir is a rare and unique glimpse into those days. We are very fortunate to have this handwritten memoir and beautiful hand-drawn artworks within BWHS' permanent collection.

Twilight Tour – Cub Scouts

David Benwell supervised this tour by Gosford Cub Scouts and their parents on Thursday, 15th September and we are delighted to include David's report here :

“We had a great evening on Thursday 15th September, when I was joined by 15-20 Gosford Cubs, parents and leaders for the cubs to earn their local history badge. I arrived at the Cottage early straight from work to do some setting up. I had a good fire going and set up lanterns and candles throughout the Cottage, which gave an instant atmosphere with very little effort. I then changed into an outfit to look the part and come sunset (which was beautiful) the wind had completely dropped and made for a very nice evening.

The kids started to arrive from about 6 pm onwards, just on dark, full of energy, most heading straight for the fire, some wandered around with their parents checking out the place, most had not been to the cottage and museum before so we just mingled until all had arrived. The tour started at 6.30 around the fire with “welcome to country” and Acknowledgement of Traditional Custodians of the land and some basic questions to the kids about Captain Cook and the First Fleet, and I got some very interesting and funny answers (kids say some funny things).

Now being completely dark we moved into the Cottage which looked fantastic. I spoke about convicts, pioneers and their day to day lives without the modern day things that we take for granted today; no electricity or phones. I think the kids were a bit shocked - most had their own mobiles and were using them as torches. We then moved about the candlelit cottage talking about the Fagans and Adcock etc. Some of the kids were a bit spooked by the main bedroom, one saying he'd seen the mannequin and doll move. At one point the kids asked me to turn the ‘real lights’ on. I replied “I would soon but I don't want to kill the mood right now”; a reply from one of the kids was “what's a ‘mood’” which resulted in bursts of laughter from parents and myself. Some other questions I was asked were “do you live here” and “do you own this place”? Once I turned the ‘real lights’ on the kids had to fill out a question sheet with eleven questions on it in order to earn their local history badge, all relating to items of local significance within the cottage and museum. One example was the question “What does ‘9 ‘F.A.H’ on the foundation stand for.....?” The kids had a ball finding the answers to their questions, some more interested than others.

Twilight Tour Report (cont'd)

After all the hard work was done the evening wrapped up with roasted marshmallows around the fire which all the kids enjoyed. Everyone said they had a great evening and the kids gave me some sort of 'Cub thank you'. Some of the parents said I had done a good job just to get the kids to shut up for 5 minutes and listen; not that easy they tell me. I think it was a very successful night and easy to do. The Cubs gave a fifty dollar donation and we finished about 8.00 pm.

The cottage lends itself to night-time activity very easily and I had a ball doing it. I think there is a lot of potential in hosting evening events and may be this is something we could look to do more of in the future as it gives people a completely different outlook and a feeling of atmosphere.

Group Bookings

Oct. 18	Tue.	10.00	Kariong P/School	Group 1*	83 students
Oct. 20	Thu.	9.30	Terranova Holidays		30 visitors
Oct. 23	Sun.	10.15	Topp Tours	G/Tour & BBQ	25-30 visitors
Oct. 25	Tue.	10.00	Kariong P/School	Group 2*	83 students
Nov. 15	Tue.	11.30	Terranova Holidays		30 visitors
Nov. 16	Wed.	3.30	Shellharbour Coaches		50 visitors
Dec. 21	Wed.	11.30	Terranova Holidays		No. tba
Dec. 23	Fri.	11.45	Cardwell Coaches		30 visitors

Roster

A list of Bookings is in our Front Office and is progressively updated.

Our Duty Roster Officer, Margaret Pearce, will advise those members on the Duty Roster. If you wish to go on the Roster please let Margaret know (4384 3271) and would Duty Members please confirm with Margaret when they are on duty.

Please make sure that if you suddenly find that you can't do your museum duty you contact Margaret (or Edith or Shirley).

New Members

We welcome new members Mary Melehan, Karen Askew and Susan Fletcher. We hope you have an interesting enjoyable time with BWHS. New members Bob and Kath Daniels, Terrie and Brian Stoyel have previously been welcomed and they have been working in the Grounds under the direction of Frank Courts. We want to thank them for their help. They already have had an impact assisting John Rousch and Frank. John has been freed up to move things, thin out etc. and our Grounds look really tidy and cared for.

PROGRAM**October – 28th Outing – Hawkesbury River Cruise.**

This is a very enjoyable & interesting cruise and thoroughly recommended.

“It is a trip on the ferry **Sorrento** down the Hawkesbury featuring an on-board TV with graphics, photographs and videos of working models and live commentary while visiting historic sites such as the wreck of WWI warship HMAS Swan and the defence site for the WWII river mine field.” There’s also some interesting commentary as we go under the Hawkesbury River bridges. Peter Rea has kindly offered to do this popular cruise for us for only \$25 per person including Morning Tea.

We will make our own way to Patonga - the boat will leave at 9.00 sharp. Meet at HK Cottage at 8.00 where we can car pool if necessary. Our cruise will be back at Patonga about 1.00 where we can have lunch. You can bring your own or you can buy it when we get back to Patonga. Fish and Chips are available or you can reserve a more expensive lunch at the Hotel.

Invitations to join us on this cruise have been sent to Family History, Dharug & Lower Hawkesbury H/S, Alison Homestead and Norah Head Lighthouse.

October – 7th 10.00 **BWHS** Team discussion on MGNSW Standards Program currently in progress, to prepare for Meeting with MGNSW. All Members welcome, (pack a sandwich).

November – 4th 10.00 - **MGNSW Reviewers** – 3rd and final Visit re Standards Program. Together we will discuss our aims and formulate a strategic plan for BWHS. All Members welcome, light lunch and refreshments served.

November – 15th 10.00-2.00 *Volunteering Central Coast* – BWHS will have a stall. Tricia with some helpers will run the stall.

November - 19th 1.00 Spring Gathering

End of November Change of Exhibition Display

December 3rd 10.00-2.00 CWA Christmas Market – Woy Woy

December - 13th 11.00 *Christmas/Birthday* function– HK Grounds

Our **Christmas/Birthday function** will be held in our Grounds as usual on the second Tuesday in December. Barry’s Spit Roast is suggested for the catering and soon we will be considering menus, as well as entertainment.

There will not be a Committee Meeting in December.

Henry Lawson died 2nd September 1922

To remember Henry Lawson's death in September I'm including one of his poems. He was a prolific writer of bush poetry, short stories and sketches, and featured on our older paper \$10 note. Our library has books of Henry Lawson's works and of course there is plenty of information about him and his works on Google.

OLD PORTRAITS

*Though you tramp the wide land over,
Though you sail in many climes,
There is nothing half so precious
As the portraits of old times*

*Of old Grandfather and Granny
In the clothes that then were worn;
Of the house that knew our boyhood,
Or the hut where we were born.*

*Of our parents, stiff and staring,
In some portrait-taker's den.
On the morning of their wedding -
God, they've seen some times since then!*

*O they wake the dead within us,
And they bring us back at last
To the courage of our fathers
And the best part of the past.*

.... Henry Lawson

World War II Airstrip

..... Shirley (ed.)

Did you see the article in the Express Advocate recently about the WWII airstrip lying under the neglected Trafalgar Park at Umina?

After the war ended this airstrip was used sometimes for joy flights. It's quite an interesting little article (see our Notice Board) and it brought back a few memories for me. My brother had been in the RAAF during WWII and my father had been at Mascot when Smithy landed from some of his flights so they were very aeronautically minded!

During our annual holiday at Booker Bay about 1946-47 my family went for a joy flight from this airstrip. I was about 12 and it was my first flight.

The plane was an Avro Anson, carrying about 4-6 people I think and my brother of course headed for the seat alongside the pilot. The pilot overheard my wish that I could sit there too so he asked my brother would he mind sharing his seat with the excited young girl down the back (me).

There was good vision from the front seat and I've never forgotten that flight - I can still see the sandbanks and sparkling blue water around Umina and Ettalong.



The Anson, known affectionately as "Faithful Annie", has a special place in RAAF history as more of them – 1,028 – were operated by the Service than any other type. It was also the RAAF's first low-wing monoplane, the first with a retractable undercarriage and with an enclosed gun turret.

(©2009 Australian Museum)

(And my first flight was in one! ... Ed.)

PATRON: Charles Gosford The Earl of Gosford

PRESIDENT: Norman Allen 4322 8228
karadubh@gmail.com

SNR VICE PRESIDENT & PUBLICITY OFFICER: Margaret Pearce 4384 3271
 rpearce31@bigpond.com

VICE PRESIDENT & NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Shirley Rider 4322 2911 0415 685468
 rider@smartchat.net.au

VICE PRESIDENT: Peter Rea 4369 2786 0438 417739
 panda_@iprimus.com.au

TREASURER: Brian James 0406 213172
 futures_84@hotmail.com

SECRETARY: Secretarial Team Edith Campbell and
 Shirley Rider

COMMITTEE MEMBER: Edith Campbell 4329 5212
 e.cam@bigpond.com

COMMITTEE MEMBER: Tricia Scott 0408 117161
 neville.scott6@bigpond.com

COMMITTEE MEMBER: Sandra Hunt-Sharman 0408 944102
 sandyhs@sydney.net

CURATOR: Kreenah Yelds 0409 664325
 kreenahyelds@bigpond.com

PUBLIC OFFICER: Fiona McLennan 0419 251290
 fjmcl@outlook.com

AUDITOR: A C Westbury

HONORARY SOLICITOR: Maxine Andronicos Taperell Rutledge, Lawyers

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. Our Grounds are open every day from 10.00 to 4.00 for visitors to stroll around and view our outdoor exhibits. The Society's Meetings are held in the Henry Kendall Cottage and Historical Museum Complex, West Gosford.

NEW MEMBERS ALWAYS WELCOME!

COPYRIGHT: Articles from this Newsletter may be reprinted by other groups without permission, providing acknowledgement is made of the original source and author, unless they are specifically marked copyright. **DISCLAIMER:** Whilst every effort is made to check the accuracy of articles published in this Newsletter, the Society accepts no responsibility for errors and the views expressed are not necessarily those of the Society.