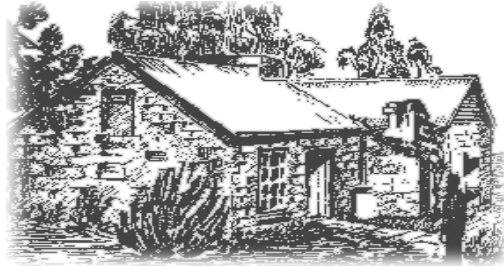


# COORANBEAN COURIER




HENRY KENDALL COTTAGE  
WEST GOSFORD CIRCA 1836

## NEWSLETTER OF THE BRISBANE WATER HISTORICAL SOCIETY



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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 & Galleries of NSW – National Trust

*Disability Access : Free Parking*

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### **AROUND THE GROUNDS**

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Supported by ...



## **AROUND THE GROUNDS**

### ***VALE***

We were all very shocked and saddened by the sudden death of Danny Benwell. Danny was very well liked and respected by members and friends and we're all going to miss him greatly. Our deepest condolences go to David and Kate and our thoughts are with them.

### ***ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING***

We had an excellent attendance at our AGM this year. It was really pleasing to see so many of our members there; thank you for attending. Our Guest Speaker was Helen Smith, On-Air Presenter of Radio 50 Plus. Helen gave a really entertaining and interesting talk.

Election of our Committee for 2017 was carried out and we thank Geoff Lewis of Gosford Blue Waters Probus for kindly consenting to be our Scrutineer again this year.

All positions were declared vacant and the newly elected Committee is as follows:

President	Sue Chidgey
Senior Vice President	Margaret Pearce
Vice Presidents (2)	Shirley Rider and Peter Rea
Secretary	Terrie Stoyel
Treasurer	Cheryl Remfry
Committee (3)	Sandra Hunt-Sharman
	Dora Rea
	Fiona McLennan

### ***Appointments***

Charles Gosford, Earl of Gosford, is presently our Patron and will continue in this role.

Maxine Andronicos of Taperell Rutledge, Lawyers, will continue as our Honorary Solicitor.

A. C. Westbury B.Com. CPA will continue as our Honorary Auditor.

Jim O'Harae has been appointed as our Public Officer.

The following members will continue in these roles:

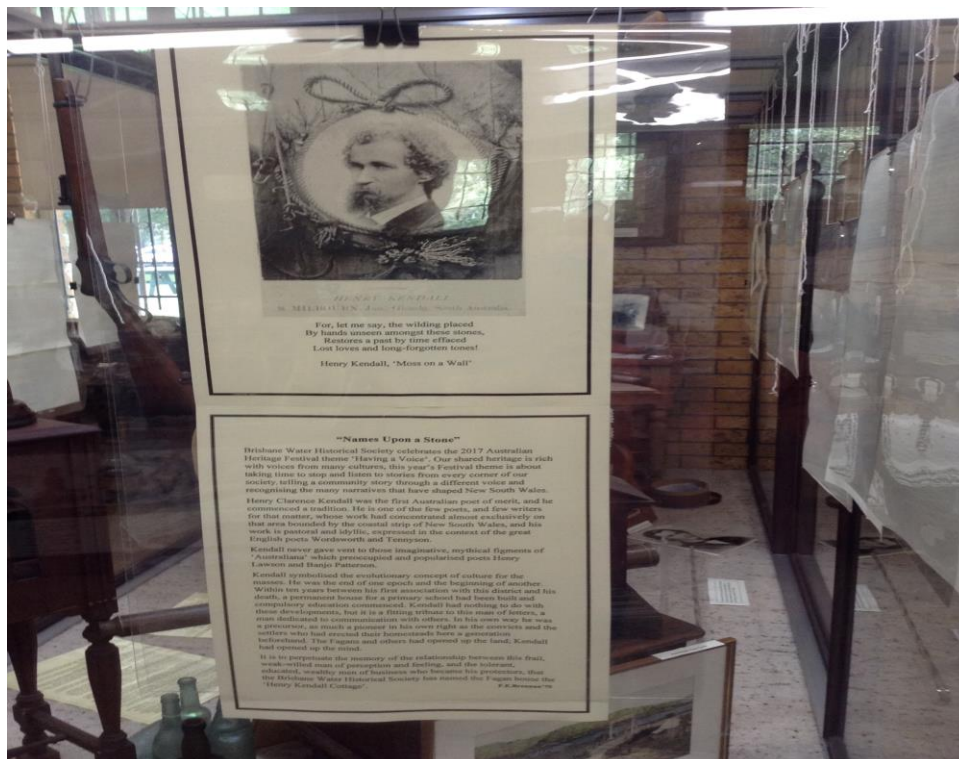
Kreenah Yelds - Curator  
 Margaret Pearce - Publicity Officer & Duty Roster Officer  
 Shirley Rider - Newsletter Editor & Group Bookings Officer  
 Margareta Tauni - Hospitality Officers  
 and Kathleen Ness

## **AUSTRALIAN HERITAGE FESTIVAL**

Celebrating the 2017 National Trust Australian Heritage Festival, "Having a Voice", BWHS presents ***Names Upon a Stone***, an exhibition that explores the life of Henry Kendall and how he found true friendship.

Join us for our Heritage Festival Open Day on Saturday 22nd April from 10.30 am, with guest speaker at 11.00 am, Michael Wilding, Emeritus Professor of English and Australian Literature, University of Sydney, and author of ***Wild Bleak Bohemia: Marcus Clarke, Adam Lindsay Gordon and Henry Kendall***. Light lunch and refreshments to follow. Book will be available for purchase at the Museum. Exhibition runs until 31st May.

**All welcome. Do join us if you can!**  
***Names Upon a Stone Display - Henry Kendall***



## ***CDS - AUSTRALIAN MUSIC***

As reported previously Tricia Scott graciously donated a CD player to BWHS so we would be very appreciative of any CDs of Australian music that you don't require any more, so we can play them in the Museum.

## ***INTERNATIONAL WOMEN' DAY***

Even though there was quite a lot of rain, even some torrential downpours, this event still went ahead. Instead of stalls in the Hive, tables were scattered throughout Erina Fair and quite a lot of people attended despite the rain. Sue, Edith, Margaret, Fiona, Shirley, Peter and Dora attended to manage our table, and Peter also displayed his model of the SS Maitland. There was still quite a bit of interest from the passers-by.

## ***HAPPY 90th BIRTHDAY***

*An especially Happy 90th Birthday to a very respected and well-liked member of BWHS - Frank Courts. Very Best Wishes for many more good years Frank!*

## ***NEW MEMBERS***

Welcome to new members Robyn Fortescue, Madeliene Henry, Nikolas Banjevic, Michael Lynch, Elizabeth Brennan, and Joy Cooper. We hope you enjoy your time with us and that you find it interesting and informative.

## ***PROGRAM 2017 (check the Newsletter each month for updates)***

<i>April</i>	22	Saturday	Heritage Festival Open Day - Theme - "Having a Voice". From 10.30 for 11.00. Guest Speaker : Michael Wilding - Light Lunch
			<b><i>Exhibition runs 1st March until 31st May</i></b>
<i>May</i>	25	Thursday	- CWA Conference Tour Group - Afternoon Tea
<i>June</i>			- Outing - (destination and date tba)
<i>July</i>	15	Saturday	- Winter Gathering - Soup and Rolls Guest Speaker tba
<i>August</i>			- Outing (destination and date tba)
<i>September</i>			- History Week
<i>October</i>			- Outing (destination and date tba)
<i>November</i>			- Spring Gathering - Guest Speaker
<i>December</i>			- Birthday/Christmas Party

## ***SUBSCRIPTIONS***

**Anyone who has forgotten to renew their subscription, it is Now Due!**

Sorry but no more Couriers after this issue if you haven't renewed your Subscription! Please let us know if you want to change the type of copy you currently receive (email or paper).

## ***KREENAH'S REPORT***

A recent mystery item competition on our Facebook page was a big hit and we found a happy winner – Big Thanks to Fiona, Terrie and Kreenah for organising it - let's hope a regular guessing competition will continue !

Recently we applied for a M&G NSW small project funding grant for much needed exhibition display panels and wheel frames for the enormous old cabinets in the museum (they seem to get heavier with age!) – let's hope we are successful as it will make a big difference to the way we present our wonderful local history.

We are currently waiting to hear if funding that we have applied for will be available to us from the federal government for a replacement laptop to keep our huge collection database running, and to hear if we have been successful in gaining funding from Central Coast Council for urgent works to continue on the beautiful old Cottage.

## ***ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS***

Entertainment Books are available for sale at \$65 each. These books give 100s of discounts for local take-aways, cafes and restaurants; retail shops like Coles; dry cleaners; local tourist attractions; movies; game venues etc. This book is an ideal way to save 100s of dollars. The book can be used from now until June 1, 2018. It would make a brilliant birthday or Mother's Day present too. The museum will make \$13 from each purchase. Please phone 0422 565 097 if you would like to purchase a book or if you would like further details.

## ***WELFARE***

One of our Hospitality Officers, Kathleen Ness, is having a month off for medical reasons. Hope all goes well Kathleen and we look forward to your being 'back on deck' in due course.

## ***LANTERNS***

Bunnings very kindly gave us some very useful and attractive lanterns to use in the cottage when we were recently without lights They looked really nice, very atmospheric! We'll use them again.

## **NARARA**

Quite a few of our members reside in Narara so I think it's about time we featured Narara in our *Place Names* segment.

*"Narara is an aboriginal word meaning rib or rib bones. It was first spelt "Nar-ra-ra," the repetition of the "ra" sound giving it an emphasis to mean **The** rib or **The** special rib. It can also mean "black snake", which is thin and rib-like.*

*The first pioneer settler at Narara was Frederick Augustus Hely who received a 1,340 acre grant of land adjoining the Government Reserve at Narara in 1824. Hely occupied many important positions in the colony but he had a love of the land and came as often as possible to his farm which he called "Wyoming". At one stage he owned the whole of the Narara Valley down to the township Reserve at Gosford as he bought all the adjacent land from various settlers.*

*To Hely must go credit for pioneering many of the crops tried here, including citrus, tobacco, vines, wheat, maize, onions, potatoes, etc. as the early settlers did not know which crops would grow in their new country. His sudden death in Sydney on 8th September, 1836, at the age of 42 was a sad loss for the district.*

*There was deep-water mooring at the head of Narara Creek and many vessels, both sail and steam, constantly traded there. In 1866 Captain Christopher Columbus Fry sailed up Narara Creek in his schooner "The Venus" to found a store and trading post.*

*After construction of the railway bridge and Fagan's Bridge across Narara Creek the masts on the **Venus** were placed on hinges at deck level so that they could be lowered to pass under the bridges.*

*The **Venus** continued to sail up Narara Creek until 1901 and was the last sailing vessel to trade on the Brisbane Water".*

*(Ref: **Place Names of the Central Coast : origins and Meanings.** - Eileen Pratt, 1978.)*

Some more about **Narara** -

Present day Narara Valley or Narara/Niagara Park was Hogan's Brush, mentioned in **Agnes Fagan's Diary**. Subdivision of Hogan's Brush started in the 1880s, about the time of Agnes' Diary. It also appears to be the place that Henry Kendall wrote of in much of his poetry such as **Names Upon a Stone** "Narrara of the waterfalls, the darling of the hills ...". This is Agnes' description of Hogan's Brush :

*"After breakfasting we drove up to Hogan's Brush, beyond the head of Narrara Creek and how shall I describe it ... as one drove along the immense trees seemed to form a canopy over us, to look up one is*

**NARARA (cont'd)**

*amazed at the heights and then the great masses of staghorn ferns hanging from their branches surprised me, birds of all kinds flying and chirping around the trees, ferns of all kinds growing beneath your feet, truly you feel reluctant to tread upon them, here there is no dust, a clear stream of water runs through the bush in some places much wider than others, the tree ferns and palms quite dazed me for I never had any idea they grew to such magnitude ..."*

*(What an absolutely beautiful place Hogan's Brush must have been.)*

*Shirley, NL Ed.*

**GROUP BOOKINGS (April and May)**

April	11	Tue.	tba	Radiance of the Sea	no. tba
April	24	Mon.	2.00	Blacktown Older Women's	Network
April	29	Sat.	10.00-3.00	Home Schooling Group	
April	tba	Tentative Booking		Northland Coaches	
May	2 & 4	Tue. & Thu.		Point Clare P/School	
May	25	Thu.	Afternoon Tea	CWA Conference Tour Group	
May	27	Sat.	10.00-3.00	Home Schooling Group	

A list of Bookings is in our Front Office and is progressively updated. Our Duty Roster Officer, Margaret Pearce, will advise members on duty.

**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 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 Shirley or Edith if Margaret is unavailable) to advise of this. Please do not be late unless you advise Margaret or your duty partner.***

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.

**STOP PRESS !!!! Volunteers needed for 4Villages Walk on Saturday May 6th. Call Sandy - 04 08944102. Thanks.**

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<b>PATRON:</b>	Charles Gosford	The Earl of Gosford
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<b>PRESIDENT:</b>	Sue Chidgey	..... 04 22565097 sue.chidgey@outlook.com
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<b>CURATOR:</b>	Kreenah Yelds	..... 04 09664325 kreenahyelds@bigpond.com

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<b>AUDITOR:</b>	A C Westbury
<b>HONORARY SOLICITOR:</b>	Maxine Andronicos Taperell Rutledge, Lawyers

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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 which is open for inspection every Saturday, Sunday and Wednesday from 10.00am to 3.00pm.

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 Museum Complex, West Gosford.

**NEW MEMBERS ALWAYS WELCOME!!!!**

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