

# COORANBEAN COURIER



RED COW INN COORANBEAN  
HENRY KENDALL COTTAGE  
WEST GOSFORD CIRCA 1836

## NEWSLETTER OF THE BRISBANE WATER HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Vol. 43 Postal Address: 25- 27 Henry Kendall St., West Gosford,  
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September  
2020

### BRISBANE WATER HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.

Founded 1950

### Henry Kendall Cottage and Historical Museum

Affiliated with Royal Australian Historical Society -  
Museums Galleries Australia (MGA) - Museum Galleries (MGNSW) – National Trust

Disability Access : Free Parking

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## **WELCOME EVERYONE!**

The weather is getting a little warmer, it's lighter earlier, sunset's a little later, and birds are a little noisier - Spring is on the way!

## **SAFETY PLAN**

With the Museum and Cottage re-opening this month, protecting the health of our visitors and volunteers is paramount and we have implemented a Safety Plan covering a range of hygiene and physical distancing measures in accordance with the NSW Government's Public Health Order (No 3) 2020. A copy of the plan is available at Reception.

### **Entry**

We are limiting the number of visitors to each section of the premises and you are asked to follow signage to maintain 4 square metres of space for each person. Signage will be displayed at each building entrance and internal area advising of the maximum capacity allowed. Please note that as a condition of entry, we are required to record the contact details of all visitors to assist with contact tracing in the event of a confirmed case of COVID-19. You are asked to record your name and email or phone details in the log book on entry. The information will be held according to relevant privacy law requirements.

### **Cleaning**

General cleaning is undertaken daily on days when site is open to visitors and high touch areas cleaned frequently during the day.

### **Hand Washing and Sanitising**

Soap and paper towels are provided in the toilets for visitor use. Hand sanitisers are available at entry points and inside the buildings.

### **Staying at a safe distance**

Social distancing rules will be in place throughout the site. Please keep everyone safe by staying at least 1.5 metres distance from others at all times.

### **Offering contactless payment**

We are encouraging contactless payments as much as possible, so please bring a credit or debit card to pay for entry, membership and any on-site purchases.

### **Compliance**

Please comply with any directions from volunteers on duty.

Richard has supplied the following rules to obey at the Museum/Cottage.

Maximum Capacity for each area, based on 4 sq.mtrs per person	
Museum	10 people
Kitchen/Reception	2 people
Maitland Table	3 people
Entry/Waiting	5 people
Archive/Back Office	1 person
Slab Shed	3 people

**WELFARE**

Our hard-working Committee Member, Edith, has been a little "under the weather". Very best wishes for a speedy recovery Edith.

**SNIPPETS****New Refrigerator**

Big thanks go to Central Coast Council for their support and the Grant we received for the purchase of the nice new shiny stainless steel fridge now residing in our kitchen. So now Cold water is available again at Reception for \$1 a bottle. Next time you're passing have a little look.

**COMMITTEE MEETING**

Our Committee held another successful Zoom Meeting on Tuesday, 8th September. We're getting "old hands" at this now!

## **PAST EVENTS : 5 YEARS AGO (2005)**

### **BWHS - Our Committee:**

President - Glenys Hill : Snr Vice President - Margaret Pearce : Vice-Presidents - Ruth Logan, Shirley Rider : Secretary - Bob Rider : Treasurer - Roma McAlister : Committee - Fred Koch, Lois Fry, Lionel Fry. Our Mayor was Malcolm Brooks.

Appointments - Curator - Elaine Fry : Public Officer - Ron Pearce : Publicity Officer - Margaret Pearce : Newsletter Editor - Shirley Rider.

Events: About 25 members attended our event "Pottage, Poetry and Patter". Bob Rider and John Hill entertained us with some of their original verse and other members presented a variety of poetry from our very own poet Henry Kendall, as well as Banjo Paterson, Edward Dally and others. The 'Pottage' included a variety of soups and there was plenty of 'patter'! A very successful enjoyable day.

We had a well-patronised Bunnings BBQ. The Guest Speaker at our General Meeting was Marie Riley who spoke about McMaster's Beach.

In conjunction with Central Coast Tourism we held a Promotional Afternoon Tea at the Cottage and invited representatives from local B & Bs and other accommodation properties.

History Week was on from 26th September to 9th October with a full display on Pearl Beach, presented by Kay Williams.

A Jazz Day was planned for October, and a visit to Bare Island and La Perouse Museum were planned for November.

Our Newsletter included a very interesting further episode by Geoff Potter, Local History Librarian, of "Fair Wyoming : a short history of the suburb".

So there was plenty going on in September 2005.

**PAST EVENTS : 10 YEARS AGO (2010)****BWHS - Our Committee:**

President - Shirley Rider : Snr Vice President - Elaine Fry : Vice-Presidents - Ros Ellis, Margaret Pearce : Treasurer - George Boettiger : Committee - Bob Rider, Norman Allen, Ingrid Rode. Our Mayor was Chris Holstein.

Appointments : Public Officer - Ros Ellis : Curator - Hannah Atkin : Publicity Officer - Margaret Pearce : Newsletter Editor - Shirley Rider.

We told Members about our holding a very interesting scrapbook that was compiled by Garnet Adcock, the second owner of Henry Kendall Cottage, and the founder of Jusfrute. A descendant of Garnet Adcock, Arthur Adcock, visited our complex in May to do some research and was 'blown away' by this scrapbook. Because of its fragile state now, arrangements were made for us to copy it. Jay Sider did the jpeg images on a CD, a copy for our library and also for Arthur.

A General Meeting was held on 21st September with a Guest Speaker from the National Archives. A 60th Birthday Function was being planned for December at the Yellow Piano

Four Group Tours and a School Excursion had been booked for September.

We featured a poem by Henry Lawson "The Good Old Concertina" with an accompanying article from Wikipedia, about the history of Concertinas. (There was a concertina in our music showcase in the Museum.)

**PAST EVENTS : TWENTY YEARS AGO ( 2000)****BWHS - Our Committee:**

President - Elaine Fry : Snr Vice President - Stan Fry : Vice-Presidents - Ruth Logan, Glenys Hill : Treasurer - Frank Chalk : Committee - Sylvia Marshall, Joan Dent, Yvonne Cobby : the positions of Secretary and Publicity Officer were still vacant. Gosford's Mayor was Tony Sansom.

Appointments - Newsletter Editor-Ruth Logan :Tours Officer-Harold Bryant: Research Officer-Helen Taylor : Street Stall Organiser-Winsome Andrews.

A Spring BBQ with Barry's Spit Roasts and including a fashion parade was planned for 5th September and a Street Stall at Gosford shopping centre was planned for 21st September. We used to have Working Bees on various topics frequently 20 years ago.

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## WATTLE DAY

Wattle Day was first celebrated on 1 September 1910 in Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide, but wattle wasn't officially declared as Australia's national floral emblem until 1988. In New South Wales, Wattle Day had been celebrated on 1 August but from 1992, 1 September was the agreed Wattle Day for all states and territories.

The wattle has inspired many Australian poets, including Henry Kendall and Adam Lindsay Gordon. It is very interesting to notice that one of the prettiest poems about our national flower was written by an English girl, Veronica Mason from Lancashire, who came to know and love the wattle, during her residence in Tasmania. Here is her poem (*which appeared in the Hobart Mercury in 1912. It's certainly been around for a while - my mother learnt it when she was at school.*)

### A WATTLE POEM

The bush was grey  
A week today  
(Olive-green and brown and grey)  
But now the spring has come this way,  
With blossoms for the wattle.

It seems to be  
A Fairy tree;  
It dances to a melody,  
And sings a little song to me  
(The graceful swaying wattle) :

See how it weaves  
Its feathery sheaves;  
Before the wind a maze it weaves,  
A misty whirl of powdery leaves -  
(The dainty, curtseying wattle):

Its boughs uplift  
An elfin gift ;  
A spray of yellow, downy drift,  
Through which the sunbeams shower and sift  
Their gold-dust o'er the wattle.

The bush was grey  
A week today  
(olive-green and brown and grey;  
But now its sunny all the way,  
For, oh! the spring has come to stay,  
With blossom for the wattle!



### **FOOD FOR THOUGHT**

Joan Patrick supplied this little poem written in 1869 and reprinted during the 1919 Spanish Flu pandemic. Seems quite relevant now doesn't it?

And people stayed at home      And read books  
And listened  
And they rested  
And didn't exercise  
And made art and played  
And learned new ways of being  
And stopped and listened  
More deeply  
Someone meditated, someone prayed  
Someone met their shadow  
And people began to think differently  
And people healed.  
And in the absence of people who  
Lived in ignorant ways  
Dangerous, meaningless and heartless  
The earth also began to heal  
And when the danger ended and  
People found themselves  
They grieved for the dead  
And made new choices  
And dreamed of new visions  
And created new ways of living  
And completely healed the earth  
Just as they were healed

**PATRONS: Charles Gosford  
Lisa Matthews - Mayor**

**Earl Of Gosford  
Central Coast Council**

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<b>PUBLIC OFFICER:</b>	Jim O'Harae		

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 that is open for inspection every Saturday, Sunday and Wednesday from 10.30am to 2.30pm.

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 am to 4.00pm 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!!!! 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.

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