

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,
No. 12 Phone: (02) 4325 2270
Website: www.henrykendallcottage.org.au

December
2020



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 Galleries Australia (MGA) - Museum Galleries (MGNSW) – National Trust

Accessible Parking : Free Parking

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WELCOME EVERYONE!

This is our last Courier for 2020 so we take this opportunity to wish all our Members and Friends an enjoyable Christmas and a Happy and safe New Year.

It has certainly been an eventful year and we're probably all glad to wave goodbye to it. However, we are surviving and we hope that 2021 will see a successful vaccination program and a more settled and happier year - things seem to be pointing that way.

Visitors are starting to arrive and Groups are starting to book for future visits. It's nice to see familiar faces and visitors in the museum and cottage and enjoying our lovely grounds.

It's still necessary to follow our Safety Plan so keep up the good work.

SAFETY PLAN

With the Museum and Cottage now open to visitors, 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.

Due to COVID restrictions, limited tours and school groups can make bookings with our Booking Officer, Shirley Rider: rider@smartchat.net.au

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.

Safety Plan (cont'd)**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
Cottage	5 people
Kitchen/Reception	2 people
Maitland Table	3 people
Entry/Waiting	5 people
Archive/Back Office	1 person
Slab Shed	3 people

70TH ANNIVERSARY - Current Exhibition still on Display in Museum until 30th January 2021.

**Celebrating the 70th Anniversary of Brisbane Water
Historical Society Inc.**

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Our Christmas Party is cancelled this year due to COVID-19. Instead a Christmas Party in July (2021) will be organised.

CHRISTMAS OPENING HOURS

Here's another reminder about our Opening Hours for Christmas 2020.

Closed Thursday 24th of December 2020 until Friday 1st of January 2021 inclusive - Re-open Saturday 2nd January 2021.

SNIPPETS

Membership Renewals 2021

From December you can renew your membership for next year and we appreciate your support. Enclosed with this newsletter is a Membership Renewal letter which contains details and various methods of payment of your membership fee. This year we offer card payments through our point-of-sale system which was installed earlier this year.

Attached is the Membership Renewal Letter.

Rotary Club Raffle

Yes, it's on again this year! Fantastic prizes are -

- 1st prize - \$3000 in Cash donated by *Mingara Recreation Club*)
- 2nd Prize - Set of 3 *Tosca Luggage* value \$700 - donated by
helloworld Travel Bateau Bay
- 3rd Prize - Accommodation & Breakfast for 2 adults from *The Clan Terrigal*
- 4th Prize - \$150 Voucher from *Gem Design Jewellers, The Entrance*
- 5th & 6th Prize - \$50 Voucher from *Bunnings Warehouse*

Tickets may be obtained from HK Museum during opening hours.

TV

Quite a lot of repeats and not a great deal to get excited about except for that wonderful program that was on the ABC on December 4 & 5, - ***Reef Live (part 1 and part 2)*** - about our beautiful Great Barrier Reef and the mass coral spawning. Fantastic photography.

And there were two other great programs on the ABC - ***Attenborough at 90 ...*** What an Incredible man - what an incredible life he has had!

The other good program was the thought-provoking and somewhat disturbing ***Extinction with David Attenborough***. Very well done - hope you were able to see these wonderful shows but if you missed them I'm sure they will be repeated or on IView or somewhere. (Thank goodness for the ABC!)

(If anyone has any interesting Snippets - anecdotes, funny stories or jokes - email them to me for the Newsletter. Thanks ... Shirley)

Here are a couple of interesting little Snippets from our **Cooranbean Courier** of October 2005 -

"Maitland" Bell

A recent visitor to Henry Kendall Cottage and Museum was Ray Sheldrick, of Tyalgum, NSW. He is the grandson of John and Josie Wall, whose photo is in the Maitland wreck glass display cabinet. They lived at what is now known as Maitland Bay and had 9 children., John and Josie built the old shop at the top of the walk. When the SS "Maitland" was wrecked they salvaged the bell from the wreck site, eventually getting it to the top of the path. Thankfully they resisted offers to buy the bell for scrap or other uses and the bell is now in our Museum; a replica is at the top of the path.

Kendall's Glen

Several towns in New South Wales make claim to the Australian poet, Henry Kendall, including one which bears his name. At Kendall, then called Camden Haven, Henry worked in the employ of the Fagan brothers, formerly of Gosford. During 1873-75 he stayed with the Fagan family in their sandstone cottage on the banks of Coorumbine Creek.

The Cottage was built near the tidal limit where boats might anchor and horses could cross. Higher up the creek, the she-oaks and paper-barks give way to blue-gums and bellbirds, and in a small patch of rainforest is "Kendall's Glen. It was here the poet found the inspiration for some of his well-known works.

On Christmas Day 1874, Henry Kendall carved his initials on a rock in the glen - an activity later immortalized in his poem 'Names Upon a Stone', written following the death of Peter Fagan. The initials of four of Fagan's sons: Peter Frances, William, Joseph, and George, are also carved on the rock.

... Until about 1900 the crossing of Narara Creek west of Gosford was made by a punt operated by the industrious Fagan family. A puntman could be summoned from their property by a loud 'coo-ee' which would be answered by the ringing of a bell. During his stay with the Fagans, Henry Kendall assisted in ferrying travellers across the creek. Today the speedy motorist crosses at the same place by way of Henry Kendall Bridge."

Do you remember these Popular Films in 2000

- How the Grinch Stole Christmas!
- Cast Away
- Mission: Impossible II
- Gladiator
- What Women Want
- The Perfect Storm
- Meet the Parents
- X-Men
- Scary Movie
- What Lies Beneath
- Erin Brockovich
- Billy Elliot

The theme music from ***Gladiator*** is especially beautiful.

Spanish Flu in 1919

My mother was a working girl in 1919 and she had to wear a mask when she caught the train or bus to work. They were asked or expected to stay home as much as possible, as well as other regulations. This is an excerpt from an article written by Dr Peter Hobbins (2020) a leading expert on the history of the "Spanish Flu" in Australia.

"There are some striking parallels between 2020 and 1919. ... During both pandemics, Australians were asked to abandon their normal lives to control the impact of the disease, he said. "Since there was no vaccine and no cure, we had to rely on quarantine supportive medical care and the goodwill of the community. Then, as now, those measures drastically affected people's jobs, family lives, worship and entertainment options." In 1919 up to 15,000 Australians died ... For a nation of five million people the impact was shocking."

Compare this with COVID-19 - there have been 27,987 cases and 908 people have died. Australia's present population is almost 28 million. You can do the maths. Needless to say, we're exceedingly thankful for modern medicine and the promise of the vaccines developed.

Here's another of Henry Kendall's lovely sonnets -

THE MUSE OF AUSTRALIA

*Where the pines with the eagles are nestled in rifts,
And the torrent leaps down to the surges,
I have followed her, clambering over the cliffs,
By the chasms and moon-haunted verges.
I know she is fair as the angels are fair,
For have I not caught a faint glimpse of her there;
A glimpse of her face and her glittering hair,
And a hand with the Harp of Australia?*

*I never can reach you, to hear the sweet voice
So full with the music of fountains!
Oh! when will you meet with that soul of your choice,
Who will lead you down here from the mountains?
A lyre-bird lit on a shimmering space;
It dazzled mine eyes and I turned from the place,
And wept in the dark for a glorious face,
And a hand with the Harp of Australia!*

(Notes

*The harp is a national emblem of the Irish,
from whom Kendall traced his heritage.*

1862)

*By Henry Kendall (From: Poems and Songs -
Sydney: J. R. Clarke, 1862*

PATRONS:	Charles Gosford Lisa Matthews	Earl Of Gosford Mayor - Central Coast Council
=====		
PRESIDENT:	Don 0412 920084 dona10@bigpond.com president@henrykendallcottage.org.au
SNR VICE-PRESIDENT & PUBLICITY OFFICER	Margaret 4384 3271
VICE-PRESIDENT & NEWSLETTER EDITOR:	Shirley 4322 2911 0415 685 468 rider@smartchat.net.au
VICE-PRESIDENT:	Sandy 0408 944102 sandyhs@sydney.net
SECRETARY:	Terrie 0481 544256 terrieandbrian@gmail.com
TREASURER:	Richard 0418 276263 treasurer@henrykendallcottage.org.au
COMMITTEE MEMBERS:	Fiona	
	Edith 4329 5212 e.cam@bigpond.com
	Tricia 0408 117161 neville.scott6@bigpond.com
CURATOR:	Kreenah	0409 664 325 kreenahyelds@bigpond.com
AUDITOR:		
HONORARY SOLICITOR:	Maxine Andronicos	Taperell Rutledge, Lawyers
PUBLIC OFFICER:	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.

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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