

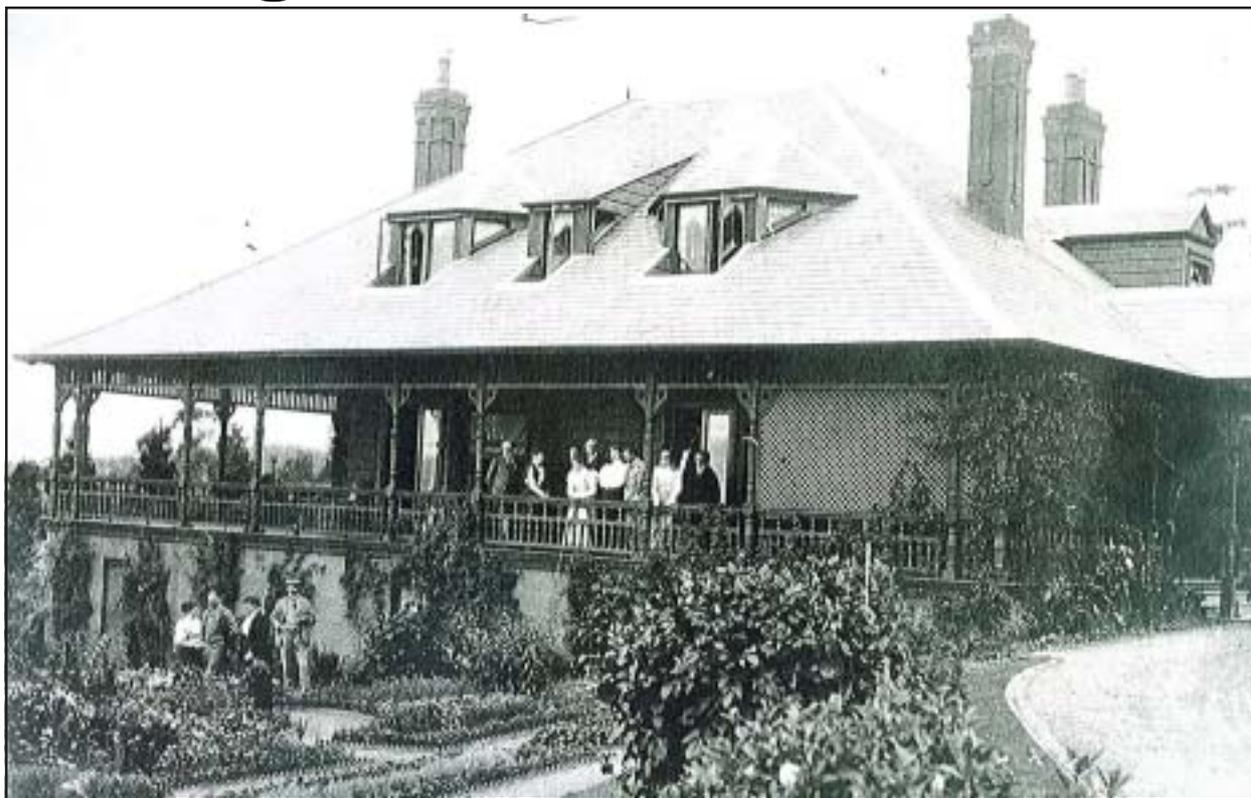
HERITAGE

NEWSLETTER OF THE BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION
OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS

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Heritage celebrated at Lilianfels



"Katoomba will in the future be historic from having as a resident one eminent Chief Justice, Sir Frederick Darley and his family at Lilianfels. Sir Frederick has spared no pains in laying the foundation of a fine garden and is said to have trenched a large portion of his property in order to grow fruit successfully." Illustrated Sydney News 1890

From the period in which this article excerpt was published in the *Sydney News* 1890 to the current day, Lilianfels has enjoyed a prestigious and historically important past that today, thankfully, is not lost but protected and moreover, truly celebrated. The original owner, Sir Frederick Darley, it is believed would be more than gratified to learn.

Sir Frederick Matthew Darley was born on September 18, 1830 in Dublin, Ireland. The first child of Henry Darley of Wingfield, Bray County Wicklow and his wife Maria Louise nee West.

At Hunsdon, Hertfordshire on December 13, 1860, Darley married

Lucy Forest Brown, from Melbourne, a daughter of Captain Sylvester Brown (master mariner) and his wife Eliza Angell nee Alexander.

The novelist, T A Brown(e) who was to become a well known author in Australia writing the bush ranging classic "Robbery Under Arms" as Rolf Boldrewood, was the eldest brother of Lucy. It was while travelling with her brother to England that she originally met Sir Frederick.

Darley and his wife came to Australia in 1862, on the advice of Sir Alfred Stephen (the Chief Justice of NSW) who convinced him that he would further his career in the

colony. Sir Frederick was knighted in 1887 and served five times as the Lieutenant Governor of NSW. The longest and most important being from January 24, 1900 to May 27, 1902, spanning the creation of the Commonwealth of Australia in 1901.

In August 1888, Sir Frederick Darley purchased more than 11 acres of land adjacent to Echo Point in Katoomba and enlisted Varney Parkes, the architect son of close friend, Sir Henry Parkes to design Lilianfels as a summer home.

Pictured above Sir Frederick and Lady Darley, family and friends with NSW State Governor Duff and Lady Duff on the verandah of Lilianfels in 1893.

Continued on page 2

Lilianfels of yesteryear restored

The Darleys had seven children, six daughters and two sons and it was Lilian, who died at age 22 suffering tuberculosis, for whom the Katoomba property was named: the ending 'fels' is German meaning, 'rocky ground'.

During the years in which Sir Frederick and Lady Darley resided near Echo Point, nearly every noted visitor to Australia accepted their hospitality and enjoyed the magnificent outlook.

Royalty, vice-royalty and princes of statesmanship, jurisprudence, science and art came in turn to view the mountains from the magnificent vantage point of Lilianfels.

Before his death, Sir Frederick sold Lilianfels in October 1908 to George Begg Vickery on a walk out, walk in basis. Vickery was a partner in E. Vickery & Sons, merchants and colliery proprietors who owned warehouses in Sydney, the Coal Cliff and Mount Keira coal mines near Wollongong.

Like the Darleys, the Vickers maintained Lilianfels as a summer residence. Joyce Vickery, one of George's daughters, became a well known and distinguished botanist attached to the Herbarium of the Sydney Royal Botanic Gardens.

Lilianfels was sold by George Vickery in March 1912 to Mr Albert A Kemp of Sydney. This was to be the first time that Lilianfels was used as a permanent residence, Mr Kemp and his wife Eliza Jane were



Dine indoors or on Darley's balcony. Darley's Restaurant, boasts richly appointed fittings, stained glass windows, open fireplaces and magnificent views

prominent in the activities of the Presbyterian Church and the Red Cross in Katoomba. They opened the grounds to the public for fetes and charitable fundraising.

Between 1915 and 1920, the Kemps subdivided and sold about 2 acres of the land parcel, and in November 1920 sold the remaining property to the Hon James Joynton Smith Trust.

Again, the land was subdivided into separate lots, sold by auction on January 26, 1921. Lilianfels was retained on approximately 2 acres of land.

A Sydney manufacturer, Samuel George Baker, bought Lilianfels in 1923 and between this time to around 1952, he leased the property to various people as a guest house.

Lilianfels quickly became a popular Blue Mountains retreat with many guests returning year after year for their annual holiday.

Baker sold Lilianfels in 1952 to Wladislaw Ujma, a Polish water construction engineer who continued to lease Lilianfels as a guest house.

After his death in 1964, the property was passed to his wife, Zofia who, unfortunately, had little funds for upkeep and both the house and grounds fell into a state of disrepair.

'.....Gwen Silvey, the then research officer of Blue Mountains Historical Society saw the plight of Zofia.....'

Thankfully, Mrs Gwen Silvey, OAM the then research officer of the Blue Mountains Historical Society, saw the plight of Zofia and rallied for the Heritage Section of the Department of Environment and Planning to place a conservation order on the house and grounds under the Heritage Act (Gazetted July 27, 1984), along with a classification by the National Trust.

A grant was made for the restoration of the roof and other stabilising repairs. **Continue page 3**



Darley's house balcony circa 1893

Lilianfels today -- a heritage indulgence

Lilianfels was purchased in December 1987 by an Australian company, Derani Pty Ltd, which immediately addressed the security of the house and the restoration of the grounds by hiring caretaker and qualified horticulturist, Colin Slade.

Under his care and expertise, the gardens were restored and with new owners Nara, purchasing Lilianfels in 1992, the plans for a country-style guest house on the adjoining property, was quickly undertaken.

The new complex's architect, Ron Edgar took many features of the old Lilianfels House and incorporated it into the new Country House with both the ceiling structure of many rooms and the roof line echoing the shape and form of the original summer home.

Orient-Express purchased Lilianfels in 2000 and the company, along with the hotel manager, Grant Raubenheimer, are committed to the protection and celebration of Lilianfels' heritage while promoting the property as a premier luxury property within the World Heritage listed Blue Mountains area.

Today, the Country House consists of: 81 guest rooms and 4 suites with a 19th century-styled décor, reading room, billiards room, lobby lounge overlooking the Jamison Valley, Darley's restaurant located within the original summer home, indoor



and outdoor swimming pools, tennis court and a spa and health club featuring a herbal bath, which is the original deep sided bath taken from Lilianfels House during the restoration with the words 'Macfarlane Patent, Glasgow' engraved on the side.

From December 1, Lilianfels will host a weekly 'historical high tea' which will offer guests the chance to join a guided tour to learn about the property's history following the old historic Garden Amble route. The tour ends with an indulgent high tea in the lounge of the Country House.

For more information about Lilianfels or the new Historical High Teas, please visit www.lilianfels.com.au

HERITAGE is grateful to Grant Raubenheimer, Hotel Manager at Lilianfels who with Ms Kim Salt, Orient Express' Marketing Communications Manager (Australia) has provided us with material and images for this article. Mr Raubenheimer has been in the hospitality industry for 25 years and is a great believer in the importance of the preservation of past eras, as well as protecting our own current story for our children's children to admire and enjoy as much as we do and have done.

At Lilianfels, Grant has a philosophy of delivering guests with a truly unique experience and the hotel's heritage coupled with the convenience of modern



Grant Raubenheimer technology and attentive staff make this possible. Lilianfels is a founding member of BMACHO.

MINISTERS' COUNCIL CUTS COLLECTION FUNDING

The Cultural Ministers Council has decided funding of the Collections Council of Australia will cease in June 2010.

Established by the Cultural Ministers Council in 2004, the Collections Council has worked to bring the collections sector - archives, galleries, libraries and museums - together.

Last month it released plans to develop and promote a new model for sustainable scientific and cultural collections in Australia.

The Collections Council's chair, Noel Turnbull, said that abolishing the CCA would not help solve significant fundamental problems facing the collections sector.

The Collections Council's operations over four and half years with its four person staff have been supported by the Cultural Ministers' Council and the Australian Government with grants totalling \$2.1 million.

Mr Turnbull said: "Australia's Arts Ministers say they won't spend \$500,000 on keeping the Collections Council going, yet our equivalent organisation in Norway, a country smaller in area and population than Australia, has 70 employees and an annual budget of 23.5 million Euros."



From the president's pen.....

HERITAGE PHILANTHROPY

The heritage sector is constantly on the alert for threats to Australia's built heritage and hopefully, the "midnight bulldozing tactics" of developers is now something in the past.

But the threat today is lack of funding which if not arrested will see more and more properties fall as they decay and become piles of sandstone rubble or termite eaten timbers turned to dust.

While government in recent years has contributed towards the cost of acquiring, restoring and maintaining some heritage properties, there is still a dearth of funding available from the public purse.

One of the exceptions perhaps is the iconic group of 10 or so historic buildings under the management of the NSW Government funded Historic Houses Trust which has a respectable income from the State Government (\$19.3 million in 2007-8) supplemented by limited resources from philanthropists.

By comparison the National Trust of Australia (NSW) with ownership

of 38 priceless properties across NSW including three in the Blue Mountains has no ongoing government funding relying mainly on bequests, membership, partnership sponsors and fund raising by an army of volunteers.

Very occasionally, the corporate sector comes along as has happened at Lillianfels now owned by Orient-Express, where vast sums of money have been spent to conserve the historic and original homestead built for the sixth Chief Justice of NSW in 1889.

In nearby Wolgan Valley rich in historical and environmental significance, the \$125 million Emirates Resort has through its conservation management plan taken its architectural cue from a nearby homestead built in 1832, which has been restored. Charles Darwin was a visitor to the property in 1836.

It could be argued that both developments although available to the public have limited access because of commercial restraints. But what is undeniable is that without funding from these

corporate groups this conservation would have been of a lesser quality.

Some fund raising and donations is tax deductible but this is not sufficient to encourage large scale support from developers and the entrepreneurs.

In other parts of the world, notably Britain and USA there is a different approach to heritage funding. In these countries the community through the corporate sector and philanthropists plays a much bigger part in funding conservation.

But the key to this overseas success seems to be in a better system of tax relief for heritage conservation.

The recently released Productivity Commission's draft report, *Contribution of the Not-for-Profit Sector* claims there has been a considerable growth in corporate philanthropy in Australia in recent years.

It is perhaps time that the heritage sector started to engage the Federal Government in debate as to how government support such as taxation breaks might see an increase of this philanthropic support being directed to the conservation of Australia's built, natural and cultural heritage.

**John Leary, OAM - President,
Blue Mountains Association of
Cultural Heritage Organisations**

VISITORS TO MUSEUMS AND HISTORIC VENUES: ARE THEY WORTH IT?

The Journal of the Museums Association in the United Kingdom is a mine of interesting information on what is going on in the museum field.

The February edition was no exception. It contained a summary of a survey of visitors to English museums, broken down by city and region.

I was fascinated to learn that more than half the population of England visit museums at least once each year. The borough of Kensington and Chelsea in London was the top-scorer at 77.8%.

Even the worst, Barking and Dagenham, to the east of London scored 36.6%. The figures for other Western European countries and for North America would I am sure be comparable.

Tourism Australia produces annual figures on our cultural and heritage visitors. These comprise 52% of the total overseas visitors and the top two cultural and heritage activities, for both overseas and domestic Australian visitors, were visiting museums and art galleries and visiting heritage buildings, sites or monuments.

In 2008, these overseas visitors spent \$17 billion in the course of their visits.

Obviously, museums and other heritage venues are popular with international visitors and are of substantial financial benefit to Australia.

Perhaps we should be giving more thought to the economic potential of sites and museums.



Barrie Reynolds

DIRECTOR OF HERITAGE TO SPEAK AT BMACHO MEETING THIS MONTH

Director of NSW Heritage Branch, Petula Samios has accepted an invitation to be the guest speaker at a special meeting of BMACHO to be held on Friday, November 20.

The meeting will be held at the Glenbrook Bowling Club commencing at 2pm. A charge of \$10 per person will be made to cover the cost of afternoon tea. Bookings are advisable and cheques made payable to BMACHO should be mailed to Barrie Reynolds, 40 Hume Avenue, Wentworth Falls 2782 before November 13.

Ms Samios will speak on the workings of the Heritage Branch and where it fits within the Planning Department. She will also speak on recent changes to the Heritage Act.

Ms Samios has worked for the

Department of Planning for nearly 30 years in variety of roles and functions: regional planning, property and development, urban consolidation, heritage, executive support, planning co-ordination, policy and strategic development.

Prior to her joining the Heritage Branch in March 2008, she was the Director of Metropolitan Strategy Development which oversaw the implementation of the Metropolitan Strategy and the production of the ten metropolitan subregional strategies, and implementation of Senior Living SEPP, SEPP 70 and SEPP 10. She also held regional director positions in the Sydney North regional team and the Sydney East regional team.

Her current focus has been to integrate the former Heritage Office into the Department of Planning

ensuring that there is a strong synergy between heritage and planning.

The Branch is also working closely with the regional planning Branches and the assessment teams which are responsible for the Part 3A applications.

A new Thematic Listings program has been initiated with a strong focus for identifying new items on the State Heritage Register which are part of NSW history.

Ms Samios is also responsible for overseeing the recent amendments to the Heritage Act.

This is the second in a series of public lectures on Heritage policies, organised by the BMACHO.

Heritage minister promised by Coalition

A promise to give heritage matters an independent voice in a future Coalition State government was well received by about 30 members of the heritage sector who attended a recent meeting at Wentworth Falls.

The Shadow Minister for Climate Change and Environmental Sustainability, Catherine Cusack, MLC said a Coalition government in NSW would appoint a minister for heritage separate from the minister for planning and the minister for environment and climate change.

"We will also move the Heritage Council out of the Department of Planning where its voice is silenced.

"Our positive, practical plans will empower communities and ensure heritage issues receive the strong advocacy they deserve."

Ms Cusack was the first of a number of politicians from all parties to be invited by BMACHO to speak about their policies on heritage and hear first-hand about local heritage concerns.

The association has embarked on a program to better inform the community and government at all

levels about the need for a more strategic approach to preservation and conservation of Australia's cultural heritage.

"The Blue Mountains has a beautiful inheritance of natural, built and cultural heritage — we need to make sure the heritage of places like the Blue Mountains has an advocate in cabinet," Ms Cusack told the meeting.

"Heritage items are today and tomorrow's links to our community's yesterday.

"Conserving them and experiencing them connects our community and future communities to our history — and we are culturally and educationally richer for it.

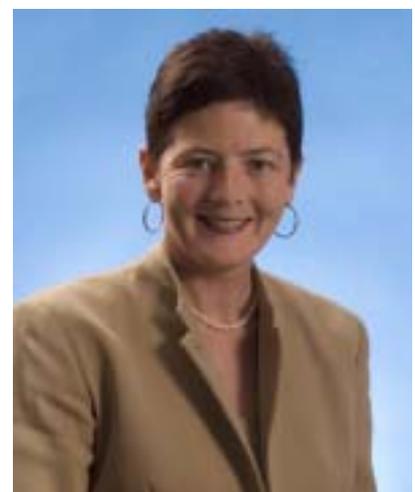
"Currently the cause of heritage conservation lacks an independent advocate within government."

In 2007, the Heritage Office was relocated into the Department of Planning compounding the conflict of interest faced by the planning minister and adding to the perceived lack of independence surrounding heritage conservation in NSW.

With one exception, every other state and territory ensures heritage has an advocate at the cabinet table by appointing someone other than the minister for planning as the minister responsible for heritage.

In most jurisdictions, including federally, heritage is located within the environment portfolio.

The NSW Liberal Nationals have promised to ensure that heritage conservation will be given a strong voice in government and strength through Independence.



Catherine Cusack, MLC

CUSTOMS IN THE BLUE MOUNTAINS

by Peter Chinn

Mention customs to anyone and they'll automatically connect with the modern image of the organisation so successfully portrayed in the television series "Border Security".

Control of our borders and economic zone to prevent smuggling and entry of illegal immigrants is undoubtedly the principal function of the organisation which is now known as the Australian Customs and Border Protection Service but up until fairly recent times there were many other operational responsibilities away from the traditional customs areas of seaports and airports. One such was excise.

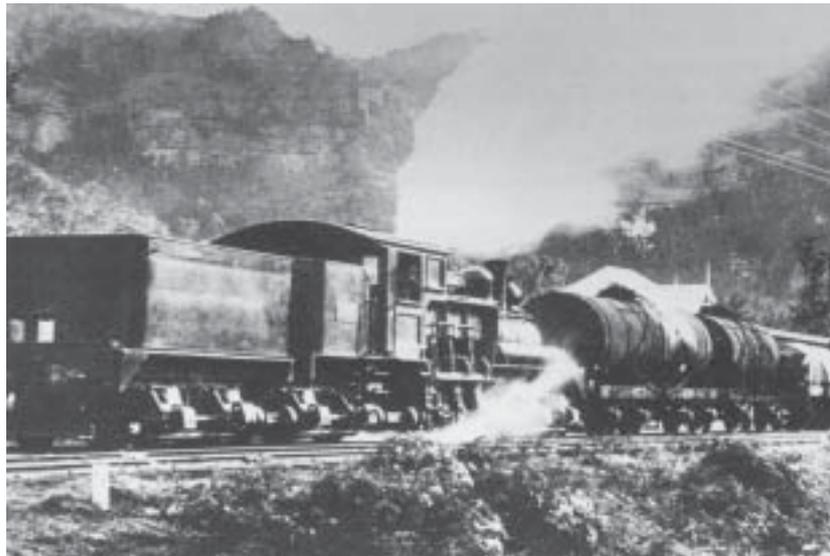
Excise, at least so far as Australia is concerned, has its origins in England when it was introduced as a temporary tax to help fund the Civil War in the 1640s. Samuel Johnson, in his 1755 dictionary described excise as: 'A hateful tax levied upon commodities, and adjudged not by the common judges of property, but by wretches hired by those to whom excise is paid.'

Excise is a duty levied on certain locally-produced goods intended for home consumption. The main sources of this revenue today are petroleum products, beer, spirits and tobacco but in times past it was also payable on coal, playing cards, matches and sugar – to name but a few items – indeed a motley assortment.

The collection of customs and excise duties has commonly been the responsibility of the one government agency in many countries of the world including Australia until 1998 when the excise function was transferred to the Australian Taxation Office.

In the United Kingdom, Australia's sister organisation was Her Majesty's Customs and Excise and in Australia excise was specifically acknowledged in the title from 1956 to 1975: the Department of Customs and Excise.

In Australia, until about forty years ago, goods subject to customs or



A steam engine pulls tankers of fuel oil from Newnes shale oil refinery on the Wolan Valley railway line circa 1910. Photograph courtesy Peter Chinn.

excise duties were under the physical control of officers of the Customs Department. Premises where customable goods were kept or excisable goods were manufactured were required to be licensed in accordance with the relevant acts and regulations.

If an importer did not wish to immediately pay customs duty at the time of importation the goods would go into a bonded warehouse where a customs officer, known as "locker" was stationed. This officer kept the keys and controlled all the secured areas of the bond (as these premises are known) and would release the goods when duty was paid.

In establishments producing excisable goods such as breweries, distilleries and oil refineries there was an excise officer, similarly having custody of the keys to all storage places, who would authorise release of goods when duty was paid.

Which is by way of introduction to the reason for the stationing of a customs officer at Newnes Junction, near Bell, in the early 1940s.

In 1938 with war on the horizon the Commonwealth and New South Wales governments saw the need for ensuring local supplies of fuel oil and backed National Oil Pty. Ltd. in their project to establish an oil refinery in the Capertee Valley.

Petroleum products were to be extracted from the abundant shale deposits found there, as had been previously been done at the large refinery in the adjacent Wolgan Valley at Newnes which had finally ceased production in 1934.

A town – Glen Davis - was established in the Capertee Valley and the refinery built, commencing operations in 1940.

As Glen Davis was remote from the nearest railhead on the Mudgee line, fuel was pumped 65 kilometres to storage tanks at Newnes Junction via a five centimetre pipeline that ran from the refinery across the mountain range to the site of the abandoned Newnes refinery and then along the route of the long-disused Wolgan Valley railway line.

At Newnes Junction there were two 2,000,000 gallon tanks as well as several smaller tanks where fuel was stored until shipped to Sydney by rail tank wagons. During World War II five armed soldiers guarded this facility.

It appears that the need for the military presence was not dictated by the threat of imminent Japanese invasion of this remote place but because of previous attempts (and some successes) by thieves tapping into the pipeline to steal the precious rationed fuel.

Customs officer at Newnes Junction

However, ultimate control of under bond fuel lay with the Department of Trade and Customs not only to ensure that the correct duties were collected but also in enforcement of the wartime regulations governing the rationing of petroleum products.

For these reasons the bulk storage facility at Newnes Junction was licensed as a warehouse under the Customs Act and a locker had to be stationed there.

Nowadays, Newnes Junction consists of the old railway station, officially abandoned as a station, without any identifying signage but which seems to serve some control function in relation to the nearby heavily-used coal-loading loop line. There are one or two houses in the nearby road and it would seem that the situation has probably not altered much over all the years. It could be scarcely called a settlement.

The early years for the Customs officer stationed at Newnes Junction could only be described as "Spartan" from reports contained in official records. Early in 1942 the officer was impelled to request the Collector of Customs (chief officer of Customs for NSW) for provision of a departmental residence.

The bureaucratic protocol of the time necessitated the Collector's representations to the Comptroller-General of Customs in Canberra for approval.

The Collector reported on the locker's deplorable situation as follows: '...first he had to camp, then he got board for a period and later obtained a furnished house, which he has had to vacate as the owner has returned to Newnes Junction.'

Added to this the locker's wife had been obliged to return to Sydney to live alone as their son had been called up for military service.

Not surprisingly, due to the exigencies of the war effort, no action was taken to improve the locker's accommodation there in 1942 or indeed during the succeeding years of the war.

Subsequently, in a document dated August 2, 1945 relating to Post War Public Works and proposing the provision of accommodation at Newnes Junction the officer in charge of Customs warehouses had this to say: 'The climate of Newnes Junction is one of extremes from exceptionally cold weather in the winter to very hot days in the summer.

'During the summer months blowflies and other flies and mosquitoes are very prevalent and gauze protection to windows is essential.

'The bond [licensed warehouse] is situated at a small siding in the bush about 12 miles from Mt. Victoria and 8 from Lithgow with a very limited train service to either

shopping centre... electric light and power are available but as storms are a frequent occurrence during some seasons the power service sometimes breaks down and recourse would have to be made to fuel stoves and fire places for cooking and warmth.

'If slow combustion heaters were provided instead of fire places for warmth provision would have to be made for coke supplies.

'With no fuel merchants in close proximity and firewood scarce and hard to collect an officer would find it difficult but not absolutely impossible to obtain necessary supplies of fuel.'

The file also noted: '...the bond is situated at an altitude of 3500 feet and weather conditions run to extremes. If an officer is to be stationed at such an isolated place, a fair degree of comfort is essential.'

Petrol rationing was abolished when the Menzies Government was elected in 1949 and the need for heavily subsidised local fuel declined in the face of free availability of the imported product.

The government withdrew its assistance to Glen Davis refinery and amid considerable controversy the operation closed in 1952.

Today, Newnes Junction in its splendid isolation and anonymity slumbers on. There are no old local identities around to tell tales of the customs officer unlocking fuel tanks, checking the loaded rail tank wagons or complaining about blowflies and mosquitoes.

Peter Chinn is President of the Springwood Historical Society Inc and author of "The Thin Blue and Red Line" - A history of the military and police presence in the Blue Mountains between the Nepean and Cox's Rivers 1814-2005.

After a 40 year career with Customs, Peter retired then soon after returned as History Officer for Australian Customs and Border Protection Service where he now works part time.



*Newnes railway station circa 1938, after the line had closed.
Photograph courtesy Peter Chinn.*

ANZAC HERO GET NEW HEADSTONE

The Lawson Cemetery grave of Henry James Hunter a World War 1 veteran is to be re-dedicated with the headstone reflecting his war service record service.

Recently members of the Blue Mountains Family History Society, Lynne Tocher and Suzanne Voytas were involved with the project of updating the cemetery records at the Lawson Public Cemetery.

While checking data they came across a badly neglected grave and the inscription on the headstone stated that the person was an ANZAC. There was no official emblem displayed and the researchers felt that if the person was an ANZAC he deserved a better memorial.

When they contacted the Office of the Australian War Graves Commission, they were told that before any work could be done to restore the grave, it was necessary to find any living descendants and obtain their permission.

For family history researchers that was easy.



It was found that Henry James Hunter had three grandchildren. Sadly his descendants were not aware of their grandfather, let alone any knowledge of his World War 1 service record.

Henry James Hunter enlisted on September 24, 1914 at the age of 46 years and his service number was 1066, with a rank of private. His unit 1st Battalion, C Company embarked from Sydney on Transport A19 Afric on October, 18 1914.

Henry James Hunter was at Gallipoli on April 25, 1915 and was evacuated from Lone Pine August 16, 1915 suffering from fever and pulmonary TB.

In December 1915 he was discharged cured from hospital and in May 1916 he joined the 1st ANZAC Entrenching Battalion serving with this unit at the Somme, near Ypres.

While serving with this unit he received the Meritorious Service Medal. The citation read:-

For devotion to duty and disregard of personal safety during intermittent shelling of Bapaume for two months and energetic meritorious service in the organization of a) Brickfields area, b) Bapaume area, c) Blequin area, and d) Reinforcement Camps area. His conduct and bearing in the A.I.F. since September 1914 has set a fine example.



He was promoted several times in the field and was Temporary Regimental Sergeant Major when he applied for discharge. On his return to Australia he was discharged on June 6, 1918 with the rank of corporal.

Henry James Hunter was living at Linden Lodge, Linden when he died on November 16, 1923.

The Office of the Australian War Graves Commission found that he met the criteria to have his grave maintained by the department.

On November 7, 2009, the grave will be rededicated, with his grandchildren and great grandchildren present. One person will be travelling from Alice Springs, NT.

Pictured above is a plaque bearing the AIF Rising Sun badge and the inscription 1066 [his army service No.] Corporal HJ Hunter 1 ANZAC Entrenching Battalion 16 November 1923 Age 53 has been set in the headstone. Pictured at left the original grave. Photographs John Leary, OAM and Lynne Tocher.

Peter Stanbury volunteers for Cambodian museum work

BMACHO committee member, Dr Peter Stanbury, recently spent over two months working in the National Museum of Cambodia in Phnom Penh as a volunteer in the Australian Business Volunteers scheme (see website <http://www.abv.org.au/>).

One of his tasks was to assess and provide conservation advice about their photographic collections. These consist of about 4000 glass negatives of whole plate size dating from about 1890 - 1920; 5000 2 1/4 square film negatives dating from 1930 - 50 and many thousands of prints.

The glass in the glass plates appeared to be breaking down. On some of the plates a white powdery substance was being deposited and many other plates appeared damp.

Both manifestations appeared on the glass side; by and large the emulsion side was not affected. The plates had been stored horizontally in boxes containing about 8 - 12 plates.



Pictured is Dr Stanbury stacking the glass plates, cleaned, rewrapped and boxed.

UNESCO Australian *Memory of the World* Register contribution

Congratulations are due to Lois Sabine of Springwood who after beavering away for over a year on a project, on October 16, 2009, saw it added to the UNESCO Australian *Memory of the World* Register where it will accompany just 30 carefully selected items including James Cook's *Endeavour* Journal and the Mabo case manuscripts. (http://www.amw.org.au/register/amw_reg06.htm)

Working full-time for the Department of Lands, Lois has indexed the 'Old Register 1-9' which are nine volumes of assorted records of agreements made between 1798 and 1825.

Those agreements range through sales of land, division of property between individuals, powers of attorney, promissory notes, sales of articles including live-stock and crops, hire of ships, building contracts, leases, apprenticeships as well as pre-nuptial and separation agreements.

President of Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc., Dr Peter Rickwood in alerting **HERITAGE** to Ms Sabine's achievement said, "What a variety and all to be found



Image No. 1 is from Book 5, Page 10, Entries 402 to 404 are from 1811 and include a bill of Sale, Bargain and Sale and a Deed of Gift from William Packer to his son William James Packer.

Reproduced with the permission of Land and Property Management Authority.

Lois Sabine is a member of the Blue Mountains Historical Society, the Society of Australian Genealogists and the NSW Writers Centre.

She has worked weekly for the past 8 years as a volunteer indexing all kinds of records at the City of Sydney Archives. In addition for the past seven years she has volunteered at State Records at Kingswood working on Soldier Settlement Records.

Lois does research for others. Lois has recently concluded the very large index for Jan'Barkley Jack's new book "Hawkesbury Revealed" which has just been launched.

When the City of Sydney Council boundaries were extended Shirley Fitzgerald's book "Sydney's Streets" became out of date.

Lois was invited to research and index all of the additional suburbs.



Lois Sabine

This work is now available on the council website.

It was due to her connection with that publication that the Dept of Lands became aware of her work and asked her to do the index for the Old Registers.

within a single DVD containing pdf files of indexes and images of scanned pages from the original registers.

"What a treasure trove for historians interested in the founding years of the Colony! Moreover, the files can be electronically searched for a particular person – maybe an ancestor!" , said Dr Rickwood

Ms Sabine said, when she was asked by the Department of Lands to create an entirely new and complete index for these most important historical records she was thrilled.

"The original index was misplaced when the Old Register was transferred from the custody of the Supreme Court to the re-established office of the Registrar General in 1857.

"Despite the Registers being thought of as showing land transactions only, I was aware of the wealth of other personal information concerning the lives of

our earliest settlers held within them.

"Almost a year later, on completion of my work transcribing and indexing the entries from the original registers, the work was transformed by the Department of Lands into a searchable DVD, covering registration dates which range from 1802 to 1825.

"It is important to note that the dates in the Register are those of document registration only, not necessarily the date on which the agreement took place which could be years earlier."

The DVD is in two parts. Part one is the index to the complete nine volumes. Part two repeats the index, but a click on the entry slowly reveals the image of the original page.

Index columns 'From', 'To' and 'Details' are listed alphabetically. To get an overview of the wealth of information available, a search of the 'Details' column will be found very rewarding. All streets, townships and locations are listed.

Australian *Memory of the World* Register

Continued from page 9

Slotted in between are Affidavits, Agreements, Arbitrations Bonds, Articles of Agreements, Assignments, Debts, Deeds of Trust, Letters and Powers of Attorney, Gifts, Indenture of Apprenticeships, Marriage and Separation Agreements, Promissory Notes, Sealing, Shipping, with all Public Houses easily found under 'Sign of —'

While many of the entries are connected to land, the following entries are some of the more personal examples.

Agreements. William Nash agreed to give Eleanor Logan one half of all that he possessed in this country. Bk 1, P 154, entry 1177.

Bonds. Edward Wills signed a Bond to William Bennett for Wills to keep the peace. Bk 1, P 83, entry 426.

Debt. William Gore, Provost Marshall, sold John Bowman's farm Archerfield to John Reddington for debt. Bk 5, P 230, entry 998.

Gifts. Thomas Rickerby gave to his godson William Gray an allotment of land of 054½ rods, part of Catherine Farm [Windsor]. It was to be held in Trust by William's father John Gray until William's maturity. Bk 8, P 29, entry 39.

John Coffee gave to Ann Kinsela No 4 Cumberland Street, skillion and ground on condition that she did not annoy him. Bk 5, P 248, entry 1047.

Indenture of Apprenticeships. These were given for blacksmiths, cabinet makers, pipe makers, rope makers, seamen, shipwrights, shoemakers, engineers, wheelwrights and navigators.

Marriage Agreements. Thomas Broadhurst acted as Trustee for Sarah Packer, widow, to make arrangements for her to retain her property left to her by her late husband William upon her marriage to Robert Waples. Bk 8, P 161, entry 237.

Marriage Separations. Trustees for Robert Waples and Trustees for Sarah Waples [nee Packer]



Image No 2 is from Book 1, Page 76, entries 358 to 365. They include Agreements, a Will, Power of Attorney and an Assignment to sell a house.

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arranged for her to regain her dwelling house and coach house occupied by Sarah prior to her marriage to Waples. Bk 8, P 294, entry 469.

Power of Attorney. Eber Bunker gave Margaret Bunker and William Broughton Power of Attorney to be used in the case of Eber Bunker's death. Bk 6, P 24, entry 1335.

Shipping. William Freeman was engaged by Henry Kable & Co as a cooper to King Island in the schooner Governor King to cooper for 300 tons of oil. Bk 1. P 63a. entry 289

Wills. Joseph Hatton bequeathed his wife Rosamond Hatton one shilling. His Jones Farm of 30 acres at Kissing Point together with the house, goods & chattels and stock he left to Ann Smith. Bk 9, P 69, entry 113.

Lois Sabine writes, "If my school history lessons had been based on the stories in the Registers, I would not have been numb with boredom.

"The entries reflect everything in an emerging, stratified society containing violence, greed, guilt, matrimonial infidelities, family love and separation, sudden death, oh yes, and land.

"Recognition of the Old Register One to Nine for inclusion for inscription on the UNESCO Australian *Memory of the World* Register shows these records, at last fully revealed, to be of national and international importance.

"A copy of the DVD should be in every local library, historical society, family history society, university library, and school library," Ms Sabine said.



Pictured from left: Lois Sabine, Tony Kelly, NSW Minister for Lands with Madi Maclean and Nicola Forbes, both from the Land and Property Management Authority on the presentation of the inscription of The Old Register One to Nine to the UNESCO Memory of the World Register.

Hawkesbury Settlement Revealed

by Jan Barkley-Jack

Thousands of present-day Australians, including many in the Blue Mountains, trace their forebears to the early farmers on the banks of the Upper Hawkesbury River.

The European settlement there, known initially as the District of Mulgrave Place, began in the eighteenth century.

In my latest book I seek to transport readers to an intimate experience of that first decade.

Hawkesbury Settlement Revealed: a new look at Australia's third mainland settlement, 1793-1802 is a re-evaluation of the early Hawkesbury farms, dismantling the cultural bias evident in most of the contemporary chroniclers.

As I explore the conventional contention that the settlers as a group created and earned their own notoriety, the stereotypical image of them as lazy, lawless drunkards is severely modified.

Exciting new material from witness statements in court cases, from land transaction records and from the settlers' own writings has been used to produce an original and at times startling re-evaluation.

The evidence used comprehensively for the first time allows the people to inhabit the book's pages and to emerge as personalities, a lively and for the most part likeable parade, in which the achievements of high-flying transportees stand alongside those of the ordinary impoverished ex-convicts and free settlers.

Characters can be given, for example, to the eleven, hitherto invisible female landholders. One of their number, Sarah Cooley, was at home both in Sydney and on the Hawkesbury.

She emerges not just as the long-time partner of the military commandant, Neil McKellar, but also as the person who ran McKellar's farm, raised their children and made wide and astute business dealings.



'Saunderson's Farm. Looking down the River', engraving by William Lowry, apparently from original by Thomas Watling, in D. Collins, *An Account of the English Colony in New South Wales vol.1, 1798. This is the only picture of 1794 Hawkesbury farms in existence, thought to have been sketched in 1795 or 1796. By courtesy of Royal Australian Historical Society.*

Sarah developed the highest profile of all the early Hawkesbury female ex-convicts.

Part of the local significance of Margaret Catchpole (a well-known name) and the less familiar Sarah Cobcroft and Ann Blady comes from their role as midwives, while Mary Archer deserves to be remembered for her bravery in speaking out against the European men who murdered two Aboriginal youths.

The instability and violence which arose from the new European farms impinging on Aboriginal lands and traditional food supplies created threats for the Indigenous people and settlers alike.

The women of both cultures knew fear while also displaying fortitude, and many cases of both Indigenous people and European settlers showing humanity and compassion have been documented.

Recurrent floods created misery. William Aspinall wrote of his family being left 'helpless spectators only of our stacks, barns, houses and stock swimming down the current'. Patrick Hynes had had 'to go in Debt to seed and crop his ground ... and before ...[he] could Discharge his Debt all ... would be swept away ... his grain, pigs, fowls, his furniture, Beds, Bedding and wearing Aperal'.

Careful selection of coloured prints and modern photographs illustrate graphically how these and other farms were periodically almost totally submerged under the flood waters.

Yet despite adversity, 58% of the earliest settler families were still farming on the Hawkesbury as the first decade of the nineteenth century dawned and over 70% were cultivating at least the six acres that constituted John Macarthur's definition of a sustainable family farm.

I have resurrected a forgotten ex-convict, the most successful of all the early Hawkesbury settlers, John Stogdell, rich in his own right, who was the agent for the powerful Commissary General, John Palmer.

Stogdell met an untimely end in the 1801 flood, but he had already established consolidated farms previously thought impossibly grand for the early frontier and had also supervised the completion of Palmer's handsome Sydney estate of 'Woollomooloo'.

One hundred pages of court proceedings have revealed all this in startling detail, which is presented as a separate case study.

Continued page 12

Hawkesbury Settlement Revealed

Continued from page 11

The emancipist John Harris may have escaped floods but he did not escape the wrath of another military commandant, Anthony Fenn Kemp.

Harris set his dogs on trespassing pigs belonging to the irascible commandant and later in court claimed to be a 'free man ... and a Citizen of the World', using the terminology of the French Revolution.

Samuel Marsden's evidence is shown to have kept Harris's good character intact, whilst demonstrating that early Hawkesbury politics were more sophisticated than is currently believed.

One of the features of this book is the full and detailed listing, including map locations, of the land promised in 1794 to 1796, tied to appendices which recite every land title granted in the district up to 1802.

To illustrate the localised domain of these first Hawkesburyites, I have ransacked the drawings, paintings and prints surviving from the period before 1820 and especially before 1805.



Detail of 'A View of Part of the Town of Windsor', drawn and engraved by Philip Slager or Slaeger, published by Absalom West, Sydney 4 June 1813. The detail shows retailing activity and delivery of stores in what is now Thompson Square, Windsor, typical of the river trade on the Upper Hawkesbury in the 1790s. The cottage is likely to have been occupied by Andrew Thompson up to 1800. Taken from the author's copy of the original print.

Modern digital technology makes it possible for the first time to make legible enlargements of tiny incidental images of individual farm buildings and ordinary people going about their work in the first two decades of settlement.

The illustrations in the book are unhackneyed and are presented in colour wherever appropriate.

They are an important part of the revelation of the earliest Hawkesbury settlement.

The author - Jan Barkley-Jack, BA (Hons)

Jan Barkley Jack, BA (Hons) is a historian who was educated in Sydney and at the University of New England, obtaining a major in both history and archaeology in her degree.

She co-authored the Hawkesbury City Council's Bicentennial history and has written articles and chapters in publications on a variety of historical topics relating to the Hawkesbury and other areas.

As a resident of Windsor, she has been actively involved there in promoting history through being on Hawkesbury Historical Society, National Trust and Hawkesbury City Council Heritage and celebration committees, and as Hon. Curator of Hawkesbury Museum between the mid-1980s

and 2001 (unofficially carrying out that role for ten years previously). Jan has presented Community Link courses for the University of Western Sydney and was a recipient of a Commonwealth Centenary Medal in 2003 for 'service to the community through the history and heritage of the Hawkesbury'.

In 2005 she was an advisor to SBS Television on historical content in their Living History series 'The Colony'. For her current PhD, being undertaken with the University of Western Sydney, she is seeking to extend understanding of the dynamics of early farming settlement in New South Wales, especially in frontier districts like the Hawkesbury, in the years that led up to the Macquarie period.

MAP CARE AND CONSERVATION

Plans are now well advanced for a workshop to be held at the Land and Property Management Authority of NSW at Bathurst on Friday, February 19, 2010.

The workshop will look at the techniques for restoring damaged maps, and methods of storing and cataloguing maps.

Participants in the workshop will visit the scanning and restoration area, cadastral, topographic and surveying sections.

Time will be spent in the graphic services section which includes bookbinding, digital imagery and pre digital mapping.

Participants will also see the latest technology and glimpse of historical map making.

Railway station home for Mt Victoria Historical Society's museum

Historical societies often are located in heritage buildings and some even end up in railway properties, which is the case for Mt Victoria Historical Society Inc. which has operated a museum in the former railway dining and refreshment rooms part of the Mt Victoria railway station for almost 40 years.

The station building itself is a heritage listed building, and collected railway material is nationally significant

It is one of the few sandstone buildings of State Rail. It was opened in 1868 as a very small station, and significant additions built in 1872, 1884 including the first floor, and 1911.

Numerous photographs and research material are held of staff, and stories documented of their work and social life. At least four people still living in the village, worked when they were young, in the dining rooms.

Early freight was sent to Sydney for supplies and export - livestock, meat, and wool, because the early mountain roads were too steep for trucks so animals were herded up to Mt Victoria.

In 1971 the historical society opened its museum under a lease agreement with State Rail.

More recently the old manager's flat on the first floor and the old ground floor kitchen have been added to the lease. All society activities, monthly meetings etc. are held on these premises.

The society, then named Mt York Historical Society was formed in 1966 by residents of the Blue Mountains villages of Mt Victoria, Blackheath and Hartley.

The collections were initially housed in members' homes, where regular meetings were held, often with a guest speaker.

For a time some were also held in Mr Rienits Private School in Montgomery St, Mt Victoria which

may have been called, *Glen Ogie* by then.

Outings to places of local interest were organised. In the late 1960s the name was changed to Mt Victoria Historical Society, following confusion with the Mt York Natural History Museum which operated in the "Kiosk" building at Mt York.

The railway station premises have provided the museum with a range of room sizes. The dining room has mostly glass display cabinets, vertical and horizontal, for smaller items and documents. The large refreshment room has been used for a wide range of medium to large objects from farm machinery, tools, horse buggy, furniture display etc. arranged in subject groups.

There are 11 smaller rooms, most used for displays and most of these have a specific theme; - Mel Ward Natural History; Photographic - items and notable photographers pictures; Gowns; Trains; Mt Victoria; Osborne Ladies College Blackheath - Ron Brasier collection and the Old- time school room.

The collections include; about 2600 artefacts 350 books 700 historic photographs, of which 500 are

copied and are organised in folders, 230 framed pictures, 260 research files, 160 maps, survey plans, drawings etc.

The old kitchen which has been only recently cleared out by State Rail is currently being set up for research.

Some years ago curators embarked on spread-sheet data entries for much of the accession collection - some 1700 items each under approx 20 headings- donor, origin, details; and much of the photographic collection - some 500, again under numerous headings.

After a lull in updating the data, this has been re-commenced. Material held relates primarily, but not exclusively to the villages and area between Katoomba and Hartley.

It has been suggested the collection is significant it being possibly, the only collection recording the exploration, surveying and building of the first roads and railway across the Blue Mountains.

It is significant in encompassing the story of convict labour, the development of farms, villages and towns, and the extensive number of
Continued page 14



A phaeton (buggy) circa early 1900s. This carriage is 2-seater, pulled by two horse for light duties in country or town.

The volcanic geology of Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine

Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine Historical Society Inc. will hold its annual general meeting on Saturday, November 14, 2009 at the Mt Wilson Village Hall, The Avenue, Mt Wilson, to which members and friends are invited.

The guest speaker will be Dr Peter Rickwood who arguably knows more than anyone about the geology of the Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine area.

"A connection with Mt Wilson commenced shortly after buying a house at Blackheath in 1979," says Dr Peter Rickwood

"Our neighbour was the daughter of Peter and Johnny Kirk and they were quickly 'adopted' by our children as surrogate grandparents in lieu of the real ones who were resident in England and seldom seen.

"Accordingly visits to Mt Wilson became frequent and Peter verbally directed me to various places to get samples of basalt.

"Revision of the geology courses at UNSW in the late 1970s brought to me the need to find a field area for the Year 4 students who needed to get samples for a geochemistry project.

"What better than to take them to a place that I was starting to know quite well so in 1981 the first group collected from sites ranging from Mt Hay to Mt Tootie.

"Later the groups worked at either Mt Wilson or Mt Irvine and the collecting became an annual event until 1997 when I retired.

"The students worked in small groups of 3 or 4 and each group was accompanied by a qualified geologist; on many occasions Bill Smart also accompanied one of the groups and his guidance to concealed access routes was invaluable.

"While the students were still investigating these rocks it was not possible to write up the outcome of

their various projects and since then a book on Blackheath and other topics of historical research have not given me adequate time to mull over this material - until now!

"The talk will dwell on the volcanic geology of the area and the wonderful welcome given to the students by many of the landowners," said Peter.

Dr Rickwood is a visiting senior research fellow at the School of Biological, Earth & Environmental

Science at the University of NSW and president of the Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc.

Morning tea will be served at 10.30am, the annual meeting will commence at 11am followed by an address by Dr Rickwood. A light lunch will be served following the presentation.

For catering purposes please advise Mary Reynolds 4756 2006 Florence Smart 4756 2063 or Helen Cardy 9871 3661 or e-mail westring@bigpond.com

Mt Victoria station museum home to bush tools

Continued from page 13

early agricultural implements. Most of these were gifted from the descendents of people who made and used them, and individual accounts have also been recorded.

After the first convict colony was established in Sydney, early farming for food was started on the Sydney basin plains, (often unsuccessful) and travel beyond not encouraged or allowed without permission.

The Blue Mountains were a natural barrier welcomed by authority, especially for the convicts. When food became a problem, farm animals began arriving, broader

plains with better soil was needed and explorers, surveyors including Wentworth, Blaxland, Lawson, Evans came to Mt Victoria, and nearby.

Information for this article has been provided by Roy Bennett, curator of the Mt Victoria Historical Society Museum.

Roy moved from Sydney to Mt Victoria about 4 years ago soon after joining the society, its committee and became its voluntary curator 2 or 3 years ago. Most of the information comes from an application he prepared for an application for a National Library Special Significance grant.



Bush saws and other farm tools used in timber getting and land clearing.

Tyldesley the village that disappeared

The spine of the Great Dividing Range leading north from Wallerawang to Mudgee is rich in minerals. Since the late 19th century the region along the "Mudgee Line" has seen gold, coal and oil shale mining, limestone quarrying, and the manufacture of petroleum products and cement. Following the construction of the Wallerawang to Mudgee branch line railway from the early 1880s coal mining commenced at various places including Cullen Bullen.

Between 1888 and 1960 the area around Cullen Bullen hosted six underground coal mines. Two of these mines, Tyldesley and Invincible were major producers and employers in the early to mid 20th century. To alleviate coal shortages experienced immediately after World War II the Joint Coal Board encouraged the development of open cut coal mining in the area. The open cut mines were worked by the army and air force during the 1949 coal strike.

The village of Tyldesley grew around the headworks of the Great Western Colliery and its successor Tyldesley Colliery from 1904.

Like many coal communities the village consisted of shanties built on colliery land using a mixture of traditional building methods such as wattle and daub and found materials including sacking, kerosene tins and explosives boxes.

Tyldesley Colliery ceased operation in 1960 and the village was largely abandoned by the mid 1960s. Little remained of the village by the time a new open cut mine was developed on the site from 2001. The village has all but disappeared from the landscape.

The City of Greater Lithgow Mining Museum Inc is preparing to print Ray Christison's latest book on the history of coalmining in the Western Coalfield. This book will be in a similar format to *Lithgow State Coal Mine a pictorial history* published in May this year.

The book uses a mixture of historical records, newspaper reports and the memories of former residents to present the story of



Pictured is water bailer, Harry McAlpine, colliery engineer, James Wilson and the colliery dog Rex at Tyldesley in the early 1950s. Harry and his wife Annie also ran the post office and general store at Tyldesley.

coal mining around Cullen Bullen and Tyldesley. The book is illustrated with 19 maps and plans, and over 70 photographs of the district's mines and the village of Tyldesley.

The new book, focuses on the story of the Great Western/Tyldesley Colliery that operated from 1904 to 1960 and the village that grew around the mine's headworks.

It also includes a brief history of the neighbouring village of Cullen Bullen and the collieries that operated in the Cullen Bullen district, including:

Cullen Bullen Colliery 1888-1900, Shepherd and Massey's Mine 1888, Invincible Colliery 1905-1957, Renown Colliery 1921-1929, 1940-1954, Invincible No.2 Colliery 1925-1931, Ben Bullen Colliery 1926-1929, Wattle Mount Colliery 1929, 1949-1950s, Ben Bullen Open Cut 1946-1955, Red Springs Open Cut 1947-1955, Cullen Main Open Cut 1948-1952, Beaumaris Open Cut 1949-1953.

It is planned to release the book by November 30, 2009.

The City of Greater Lithgow Mining Museum is offering a pre-publication discount for orders placed before this date.

Pre-publication order form and a reseller order form can be downloaded from the City of Greater Lithgow Mining Museum website www.statemine.org.au

BULL'S CAMP MYTHS DEBUNKED

When Major Thomas Mitchell began his road deviation works a depot was set up in the 1830s at a site known as Twenty-Mile Hollow [now Woodford]. Convicts engaged in road construction were camped here, as well as their military guards.

In 1842 Captain Bull was placed in charge of the camp. Two store rooms were excavated in the soft sandstone; these were not cells, as the popular notion has it.

Nor were parallel grooves in the nearby rock surface cut to give the flagellator a foothold [or to drain away the blood of the convict being flogged]; they were on a path to a nearby kitchen and were most likely put there to prevent slipping on the sloping rock surface. *Source: Places of Historic Interest on the Blue Mountains published by the Springwood Historical Society from data provided the Society's researcher Allan Searle 1977.*

ADVENTURE CHALLENGE

Everglades at Leura and the Norman Lindsay Gallery at Faulconbridge are among National Trust of Australia (NSW) properties participating in the Premier's Adventure Challenge.

The idea of the challenge is to encourage children and their families to visit and enjoy the state's museums and galleries which will provide free entry to primary students participating on weekends, public and school holidays until January 27, 2010.

Their adventure begins when they pick up their free Kid's Adventure Passport from any participating museum or gallery in NSW.

They can then explore the many treasures found within the listed properties.

Once the students have collected three stamps they can apply for an official certificate from the Premier's Department, which recognises their achievement.

For details on where to collect a passport and start the challenge go to www.arts.nsw.gov.au

All the president's pennies

One day in 1791 George Washington received a bill for 60 pounds, 1 shilling and 7 pence from his friend Dr James Craik.

The invoice ran to two pages:
*["Anodyne Pills for Breachy...
 Laxative pills for Ruth...sphylic
 Pills for Maria...oz
 Antiphlogistie Anodyne Tincture...
 Bleeding Charlotte.....oz 4
 Powdered Rhubarb... Extracting
 one of your Negroes tooth... A
 Mercurial Purge for Cook Jack..."]*

Washington was extraordinarily careful with his accounts detailing every penny in ledgers using double entry bookkeeping.

This brief glimpse is contained in what historians say is a vast cache of financial documents from the life of the first US president. Documenting lives of ordinary people – merchants, tradesmen,

Historic Mt. York cemetery

The Blue Mountains Family History Society's latest publication, *Historic Mount York Cemetery, Hartley Vale*, was launched on September 18, 2009 at the annual conference of the NSW & ACT Association of Family History Societies at Wyong. It is not the usual cemetery update, but a compilation from four known lists, no two of which are identical.

The cemetery dates from the early 1830s, on Pierce Collit's land, not far from the base of Lawson's Long Alley, the steep western descent from Mt. York.

President of the Blue Mountains Family History Society, Joan Edwards writes that the closed cemetery has a Lithgow LGA Heritage Order, and is controlled by the Hartley Vale and Mt Blaxland Trust. It is no longer on private land, but accessible on foot in daylight hours.

"Time, vandalism and neglect have played their part in destroying tangible evidence. Many burials were prior to civil registrations and not listed in NSW BDMs," claims Ms Edwards.

"Early burials include Pierce and Mary Collit, family members, local workers and travellers.

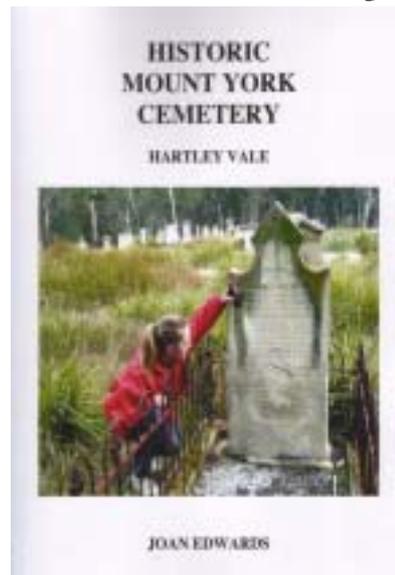
servants and slaves are scattered around institutions in the US. In most cases they have never been transcribed or published in accessible form.

That archival quandary lured 25 scholars, some of them 'forensic accountants' to Mt Vernon, recently for a workshop to plan how to get records on-line.

Joyce Chaplin, Harvard historian, said the papers offered a picture of "material culture".

Among the papers are chilling passages for the modern reader for example, Washington recorded buying, at public auction "*Ned a girl "Murria", "Old Abner" "a Wench Dinah" and her four children.*

As Washington aged, he was increasingly repulsed by slavery.
The Washington Times



Later many were families associated with the local shale oil mine."

One conference delegate provided evidence that one of her family was one of the unknown, unrecorded burials. "Hopefully with this publication, evidence of more of the unrecorded will be added to our knowledge," Ms Edwards stated.

The book of known burials includes inscriptions, some recorded 45 years ago and no longer legible, and illustrated with 50 B & W photos. It is available from the Blue Mountains Family History Society PO Box 97 Springwood 2777 or xploretree@yahoo.com.au. at a cost of \$20 plus postage.

BMACHO MEETING CO-ORDINATORS

The former secretary of Lithgow Branch National Trust, Lyn Fowler, and Doug Knowles of Glenbrook Historical Society both members of BMACHO's committee have taken on the role of meeting coordinators.

Secretary, Barrie Reynolds said this would spread the work load of the committee.

They will take on the administrative and management of meetings, such as annual general meeting, mid year meetings and various seminars and workshops. The selection of speakers will continue to be a responsibility of the whole committee.

National Trust registers industrial past

In a quiet show of support for the appreciation of Sydney's industrial heritage, the National Trust has added one of Sydney Harbour's mightiest tools to its register – an 85 year old shipyard crane.

The colossal machine spent much of its working life at the now-defunct Mort's Dockyard in Balmain, hauling ferries and World War 2 navy ships from the sea for repair, but was later moved to its present location on Goat Island.

Mort's Dock at Balmain was opened in 1856. Thomas Sutcliffe Mort came to Australia in 1838 as a clerk and soon became involved in a wide range of commerce. Among

these ventures was refrigerated transport of produce for which he built one of the earliest chilling works at Bowenfels near Lithgow.

The Trust listing coincides with calls for a return to harbour open spaces including Goat Island, to their pre-colonial state and the demolition of the industrial features.

The industrial heritage officer at the National Trust, Tony Brassil, said that there is always a tendency to see heritage in terms of its beauty.

"These are not necessarily things of classical beauty, but they certainly things of engineering beauty," Mr Brassil said.



A mighty tool the 85-year old shipyard crane

While a listing on the Trust's register has no legal force, Mr Brassil said he hoped it would underscore the crane's significance.

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

REGISTERED OFFICE 40 Hume Avenue, Wentworth Falls 2782

E-mail: bmacho.heritage@gmail.com

Website: www.bluemountains.heritage

THE ORGANISATION Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 following a unanimous response to a proposal from Prof. Barrie Reynolds at the 2004 Blue Mountains Local History Conference which sought from Blue Mountains City Council the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the city.

BMACHO in its constitution uses the definition: "Cultural heritage is all aspects of life of the peoples of the Blue Mountains which was later changed to cover Lithgow and the villages along the Bell's Line of Roads. It therefore involves the recording, preserving and interpreting of information in whatever form: documents, objects, recorded memories as well as buildings and sites."

The objectives of the organisation are

- i. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage.
- ii. To encourage and assist cultural heritage activities of member organisations.
- iii. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations.

One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact, to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

MEMBERSHIP The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains City Library, Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc., Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc., Blue Mountains Tourism Limited, Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute, Cudgegong Museums Group, Friends of Everglades, Friends of Norman Lindsay Gallery, Glenbrook & District Historical Society, Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc, Lilianfels Blue Mountains Resort, Lithgow Mining Museum, Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies, Lithgow Small Arms Factory Museum, Mid-Mountains Historical Society, Mid Western Regional Council Library, Mt Tomah Botanic Gardens, Mt Victoria and District Historical Society Inc., Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine History Society (including Turkish Bath Museum), Mudgee Historical Society, Mudgee Regional Library, National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Blue Mountains Branch (including Woodford Academy), National Trust of Australia (NSW) - Lithgow Branch), Scenic World – Blue Mountains Limited, Springwood & District Historical Society Inc., Springwood Historians, Two Centuries of Elegance, Valley Heights Locomotive Depot and Museum, Zig Zag Railway. The following are individual members: Wendy Carlson, Ray Christison, Ms Pamela Hubert, Associate Professor Ian Jack, Joan Kent, John Leary OAM, John Low, Professor Barrie Reynolds, and Dr Peter Stanbury OAM.

COMMITTEE The committee for 2009-10 is: John Leary, (president) Ian Jack (vice president), Barrie Reynolds (secretary), Kathie McMahon (treasurer), Jean Arthur, Ray Christison, Lyn Fowler, Doug Knowles, and Dick Morony (public officer), Peter Stanbury.

AUDITOR: Sue McMahon, B Comm CPA

AFFILIATIONS BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society Inc.

HERITAGE is BMACHO's official newsletter.