

Heritage

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Heritage Organisations Inc*

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Southern Cloud – lost, found and remembered

Australia's worst civil aviation disaster (of the time) and greatest air mystery occurred on 21 March 1931. The aircraft was an Avro 618 Ten (licensed built as a Fokker F-VII), one of five, three engine aircraft flying daily services between Australian cities for Australian National Airways (ANA). ANA had been founded by aviation pioneers Charles Kingsford Smith and Charles Ulm.



Southern Cloud



Travis Shortridge (right)



Southern Cloud and friends

The aircraft carried the pilot Travis Shortridge, the co-pilot Charlie Dunnell, and six passengers: accountant Bill O'Reilly, first timer Clara Stockes, theatre producer Charles Clyde Hood, businessman Hubert Farrell, engineer Julian Margules and holiday maker Elsie Glasgow. Travis Shortridge and Charlie Dunnell were WWI veterans.

The plane disappeared without a trace on a routine flight between Sydney & Melbourne and a large search failed to find the whereabouts of the aircraft or the occupants.

The plane had left Sydney in the morning. However, during the day the forecast changed from "windy and rainy" to cyclonic conditions over the Australian Alps. The plane had no radio so the information could not be relayed.

Unfortunately, ANA lost another aircraft that same year in Malaya, and the airline closed down.

An exhaustive search by the Civil Aviation Branch of the Department of Defence, private pilots, RAAF personnel, Kingsford Smith and Ulm, other ANA pilots, and ground parties, failed to find the remains.

An official inquiry was held and could not determine the cause of the disaster, apart from the weather conditions. However, one of the recommendations of the inquiry was that radios and qualified operators be made compulsory in regular passenger services, and weather forecasting improved. Thus, the Southern Cloud helped create safer air travel for all Australians, but at a huge cost.



Matthew Higgins at crash site



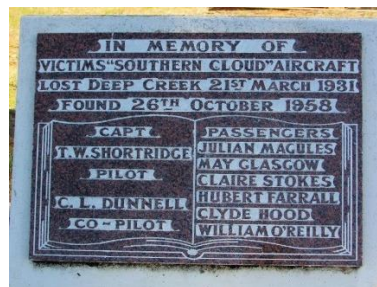
Crash remains



Lions Club Plaque, Cooma

Twenty seven years later the crash site was found by Tom Sonter, a carpenter on the Snowy Mountains Hydro-Electric Scheme. He had been born only 9 months after the crash and had never heard of it. He was climbing on a mountain top at the north east end of the Toolong Range in October 1958, when he came upon a mound of earth which was a different colour to the surrounding landscape. He found shapeless twisted and bent pieces of metal. It was the plane. He took some pieces with him and a few days later led police and civil aviation experts to the site. They scraped away the earth and found the brass plate which read "Avrotype XDWG NO P1131".

Various theories arose as to what had occurred in 1931. The weather and the plane speed (from observations by residents along the route) were analyzed, as well as fuel carried, right down to the time on the broken watch of one of the passengers.



Cooma Cemetery

On December 11 1960 a burial service was held for the occupants of the aircraft in a common grave in Cooma's cemetery. Today little is left of the plane, the site has been cleared and tourists can climb to the site to see the few tangled remains. It is on a heavily wooded steep hillside, which is burnt out by bushfires from time to time, extremely rugged and named "World's End".



Cooma Memorial



Tumbarumba Memorial

In 1962 a memorial was erected in Cooma to the crash victims and all pioneers of aviation. Concrete wings provide the roof to a memorial alcove which encloses the memorial and the recovered engine parts and other historic relics. Another memorial was erected at Tumbarumba.

In 2006 another relic was presented to the Museum of Australia, a clock from the aircraft's instrument panel from the crash site in 1958. Matthew Higgins from the Museum was pleased to add the item to the Museum's collection of air-related objects. *Patsy Moppett*

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Index

Southern Cloud	1
Editorial - memories	3
Atkinson – a talented pioneering family	4
Hoskins Memorial Presbyterian Church	8
Browntown, Mt Victoria	10
The Tinsmith	12
Glenbrook Walks 2017	13
BMACHO Arts NSW 2016 Cultural Grant Award	14
Windsor Bridge Update	15
Greater Sydney Commission District Plans	16
National Trust Blue Mountains Award Winners	17
Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail Update	17



Food for thought Editor's note

Memories – we all have them, and we preserve them (or don't) in many different ways. Whether it is memory of a building, a place, or personal memories of people the recording of the past means different things to different people.

Trauma will trigger grief, but this mellows into precious recollection. The horror of the aftermath of the New Zealand earth quakes in 2010 for example, presented the loss of not just human life, but also the loss of buildings linked to the country's heritage, crumbled to the ground. WWI and WWII laid waste whole towns and cities, stunning cathedrals and local community edifices alike. Disasters of all kinds may result in the loss of similar tangible evidence of our history.

We cannot rebuild history, or bring the people back, but we can undertake the rebuilding, and the construction of memorials and plaques, the writing of publications, the posting of precious words on social media, and so on. Some people will simply treasure their memories in their hearts.

Some of the articles in this issue of *Heritage* present ways in which the relevant community set about preserving their recollections.

The loss of the Southern Cloud (page 1) in southern NSW in 1931 was devastating for both the families of those lost and for the airline company. The drama was made worse by the fact that the plane was not found. Imagine the relief years later in 1958 when the wreckage was found, and the families were able to lay their loved ones to rest and also to construction of memorials to ensure that they were never lost again.

Feel for Mrs Atkinson (page 4) when her husband James was taken from her at only 39 years of age, with 4 young children to care for. She chose to deny the community the consent to erect a public memorial in his memory. She had to deal with it in her own way.

The community was left to deal with it through heart felt obituaries and articles which acclaimed his popularity and achievements. He was not forgotten.

The Charles Hoskins Memorial Church in Lithgow (page 8) is an awe-inspiring memorial to a lost son. Several stained-glass windows in the church commemorate the lives of two daughters also lost, as well as the man himself. Hoskins commissioned the church but did not live to see it completed. His wife then sought to use the work as a memorial to her family. The resilience of communities who, following a natural disaster or any other grave occurrence, completely rebuild a town or a city, or set about turning their lives in a different direction, is a tribute to their solidarity and determination, their resilience and their passion, such that the memory of that fateful day will not weigh them down.

Not everyone can deal with the situation with success, but the representations we present in *Heritage* seek to show how the wider community has attempted to conserve and preserve the memory of their history and heritage, their forebears and ancestors, the message being how often simple human nature drags us back to reality and moves us on.

Atkinson - a talented pioneering family

James Atkinson was born in 1795 at his father's farm "Oldbury" in West Kent near Mereworth and Ightham.

James' parents came from Yorkshire and had a well-run farm which influenced James later in life. At 16 he worked at the naval dockyard at Deptford, where he stayed for 9 years, meeting two other merchants. The three decided to emigrate to Australia. The merchants, Alexander Berry and Edward Wollstencroft, left first in early 1819 and James followed later in the year in the ship "Saracen". He arrived in May 1820 and obtained a job as Principal Clerk at the Colonials Secretary's Office. He explored the colony before applying for a land grant of 324 acres near Sutton Forest which he called "Oldbury", and an additional grant of 283 acres which he called "Mereworth", 140km south of Sydney.



Early "Oldbury"



"Oldbury"

He moved to "Oldbury" in 1822 and increased his grant to 809 hectares, commencing his farming career. His brother John arrived in 1823 and took over the "Mereworth" name, and obtained his own grant of 809 hectares, running horses and cattle. The Mereworth house had a long history, with John converting it into the Kentish Arms in 1836. It later became a dwelling again in 1867 when the southern railway caused it to cease trading. It was demolished in 1918 to make way for the Great Southern Road (the Hume Highway).

In 1825 James Atkinson sailed to England, where he published a book, *"An Account of the State of Agriculture and Grazing in New South Wales"*, to provide prospective settlers with practical information.

James, aged 33, married Charlotte Waring in 1827 at St Paul's at Cobbitty. Charlotte had come to the colony in 1826 to serve as a governess to the family of Hannibal Hawkins Macarthur. After her marriage to James, they settled at "Oldbury". They had four children, Caroline Louisa, Emily Jane, Charlotte Elizabeth and James John. The well educated Charlotte was the author of Australia's earliest known children's book, *"A Mother's Offering*

to her Children: By a Lady, Long Resident in New South Wales", In 1841. The book was published by George Evans (former surveyor), come book seller and stationer. Charlotte also created a book of illustrations with pen, ink and watercolour drawings as a gift to her daughter Emily Jane on her 13th birthday in 1843, reflecting her study with John Glover back in England. The book demonstrates her interest as a naturalist, her English background and also her feeling for Aboriginal people at "Oldbury". James interested himself in the development of the district and was also on the local bench of magistrates. He was involved in the Agricultural and Horticultural Society, and held annual ploughing matches on his property. He published other books, encouraged farmers to operate their own stills, and erected the first windmill in the district in 1827. In 1830 he introduced the first water mill. The first residential lot in Berrima was surveyed for James Atkinson. He had input into the location of road routes through the area, and to the location of Bong Bong village.

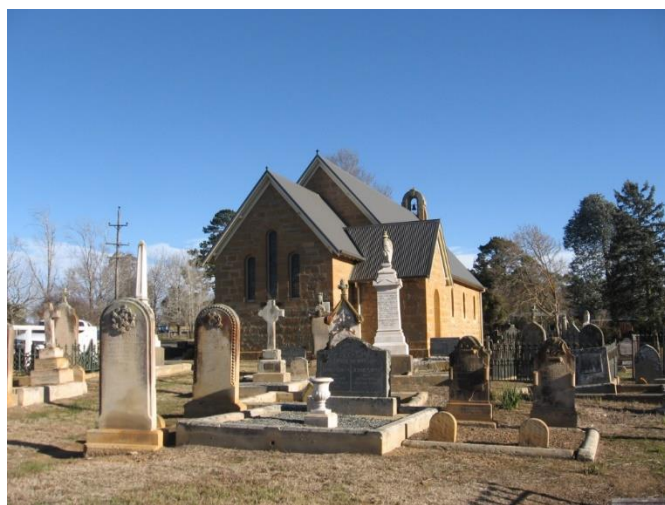


"Oldbury"

James Atkinson Esq., JP, died in 1834 soon after the birth of their fourth child, Caroline Louisa, at his estate at Sutton Forest, aged 39, after a painful and lingering illness. His obituary described him as a *"gentleman of great energy and considerable talent, and his frugality and economy on his farm operated as a most useful example in this Colony"*.



Grave of James Atkinson



All Saints Church & graveyard, Sutton Forest

The community sought to erect a public monument. It was reported that he was a character, "*in every way estimable, highly talented, and patriotic individual*". A proposal was put to Mrs Atkinson, and money was raised, but the lady declined the offer, although was very grateful. The money was returned to the various subscribers.

James was buried in the All Saints Anglican cemetery at Sutton Forest. The "Oldbury" homestead still stands today, a testimony to this remarkable pioneer settler.

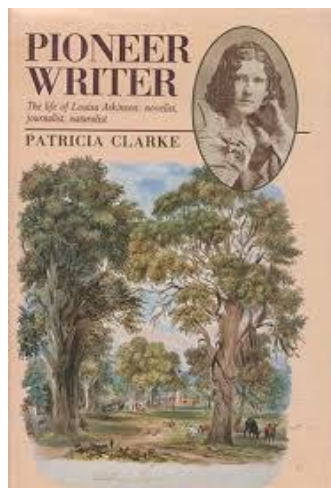
After James' death, Charlotte married "Oldbury" 's overseer, George Barton in 1836.

However, he had a history of alcoholism and violence, became insane, and was convicted of manslaughter in Bathurst in 1854. Charlotte separated from him and moved to Budgong, and then to Sydney in 1839, taking on the guardianship of her children in court in 1841, and subsequently their education. In her book "*A Mother's Offering....*", Charlotte used her own personal experiences and those of her children.

Charlotte lived at the house built by her, "Fernhurst" (now gone) with her daughter Louisa, at Kurrajong Heights, and then later returned to "Oldbury", where she died in 1867.

Their son James Atkinson, may also have been a farming pioneer, possibly at Moira Station in southern NSW, being the overseer of the station for 17 years.

Their daughter Charlotte lived to a ripe old age at Orange. Their daughter Emily Jane died at 24.



Louisa Atkinson



Caroline Louisa Waring Atkinson was born in 1834 at "Oldbury" not long before her father's death, to parents of considerable literary talents, as can be seen above.

Frail as a child with a heart defect, and under the influence of her mother, she developed a strong interest in geology, botany and zoology.

She herself became a novelist and journalist with a lifelong interest in the natural environment. Her first illustrated notes were published when she was 19, and she became the first woman in Australia to have a long running series of articles published in a major newspaper, in *The Illustrated News*, and had a regular column in the *Sydney Morning Herald* for over 10 years.

She lived briefly in Sydney and the Illawarra, and then at Kurrajong, where she collected botanic samples, which were sent to Rev Dr William Woolls and Baron Ferdinand von Mueller for identification. This resulted in her name being applied to a number of new species, including *Atkinsonia ligustrina*. In her articles, she often called for protection of the environment.

She was the first Australian-born woman to write and publish a book in 1857, *Gertrude, the immigrant: a tale of colonial life*. She developed a skill in taxidermy, and was also influential in dress reform, when she felt that a rambling naturalist might have difficulty with the long dresses of the day, and she expressed this feeling in her articles on practical fashion!

She was well known for her fiction writing, as a writer, illustrator, novelist and her botanical work, which included her sympathetic references to Australian Aborigines. She was

significant in the part played by women in natural science and journalism, giving a female perspective on colonial Australia in its urban growth and rural development.

Louisa was an advocate for fund raising which sought to investigate the ill-fated Leichardt expedition to inland Australia.

Louisa returned with her mother to "Oldbury" in 1869, where she married James Snowden Calvert, a survivor of the Leichardt expedition, who was also interested in botany. He was the manager of Cavan Station, near Yass. She died of heart disease at Swanton near Sutton Forest in 1872 soon after giving birth to a daughter, Louise Snowden Annie. She was buried in the family vault at All Saints Anglican cemetery, at Sutton Forest. Young Louisa grew up to marry a Mr Cosh.



An elderly Louisa

Louisa Atkinson's friend Rev Woolls composed a poem for his dedicatory sermon:

*"Yes, still she lives! Her lasting fame
Shall dwell in ATKINSONIA'S name
And long as Tomah loves to wear
Its leafy garlands – she is there".*

Her obituary described her as *"this excellent lady, who has been cut down like a flower in the midst of her days, highly distinguished for her literary and artistic attainments as well as for the Christian principles and expansive charity which made her career"*.

In 1979 The Kurrajong Heights Garden Club produced a tribute booklet on Louisa's life and work, to commemorate the occasion of the unveiling of a plaque in Powell Park at Kurrajong Heights.

"The Club thought it fitting that the memory of a woman of her calibre should not fall into complete oblivion The present inscription would place on record the fact that today's residents of the place where she spent so much fruitful time are not unmindful of her work".

Patsy Moppett

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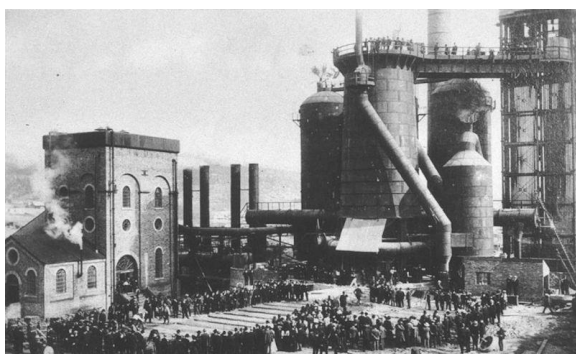
Louisa Atkinson of the Kurrajong, A Tribute, The Kurrajong Heights Garden Club (JM Smail) 1979

Hoskins Memorial Presbyterian Church – a tragic legacy

Charles Hoskins was a wealthy industrialist in Lithgow, having been the first man to establish successfully the iron and steel industry in Australia.

Coming to Australia from London in 1853 with his parents John and Wilmot Eliza Hoskins, the family first settled in Melbourne. After his father's death, young Charles and his family moved to Ballarat. In 1876 he joined his brother George in Sydney in a small successful engineering workshop.

In 1881 Charles married Emily Wallis. He helped to found the NSW Chamber of Manufacture in 1885, and became president of the Chamber in 1895. He was not a fan of trade unions, and he believed in freedom of contract and opposed a minimum wage. He was a leader in the Iron Trades Employers' Association of NSW, and prominent in the Employers' Federation of NSW in 1903.



Blast furnace 1907

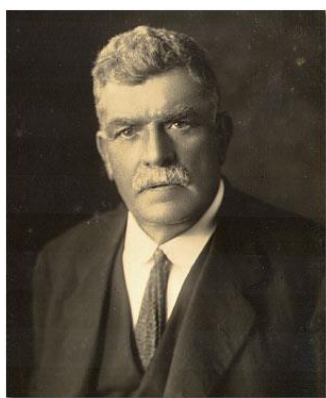


Blast furnace ruin 2015

G & C Hoskins P/L took over the Sandford ironworks in Lithgow in 1907, acquiring the blast furnace, iron and steel works, colliery, and leaseholds at Cadia and Carcoar.

In 1908 Charles moved his family to Lithgow, while George remained in Sydney. He then set about upgrading, despite it being in a difficult location for manufacture and marketing. He was an impatient employer and his efforts to enforce a contract day-labour system of wages resulted in a series of strikes, the major one being for 9 months in 1912.

The company flourished during WWI, and in 1919 he bought out his brother George, and the name of the company was changed to Hoskins Iron and Steel Co. Ltd. BHP slowly took over the industry in the early 1920s and Charles retired as manager in 1924.



Charles Hoskins



Police guard during strike in 1911 – Photo by H Mellor

His life seemed to be fraught with challenges, and this did not exclude his private life. In 1912 he had moved to Cadia Park, at Lawson, where he established a beautiful garden and a private zoo, with an intention to provide an improved climate for the health of his ailing grownup daughter Nellie, who subsequently died of tuberculosis in 1914. (See *Heritage* Newsletter March-April 2015 - Bullaburra). Another daughter Hilda, had died in 1912 in a level crossing accident at Eskroy.

In 1916 his eldest son, Guildford, died while repairing a generator, after an acetylene gas explosion at the Eskroy Park works, at the age of 29. As a consequence, Charles donated land and paid for, a parish hall and the Hoskins Memorial Presbyterian Church, on the corner of Bridge and Mort Streets in Lithgow, as a memorial to his son. Work began on the site in 1919, and the hall was completed in 1924, but the church was not completed until 1928, two years after Charles' death. Charles himself died in 1926, survived by his wife, two sons Cecil and Sidney, and three daughters.



Under construction 1928



Lithgow churches

However, even Emily did not live to see the opening, as she died five days before the opening ceremony. The ceremony was then conducted by Guildford's widow, Jeanie. The architect of the church was John Barr, and the supervising contractor was J Halliwell. The stonemasons were from Loveridge and Hudson, the gardens were laid out by Searle Brothers, and the building was opened in 1928, maintained by a family trust. The original church foundations had been laid for a building which could hold 1,000 people. Due to cost the project was changed so the church would seat 450 people. The foundations for the larger church lie beneath the current Sorensen gardens.

In 1938 the gardens were relaid by Paul Sorensen of Leura, under the guidance of Guildford's brother Cecil. A brick manse was built in 1977, about when the congregation elected to join the Uniting Church.



Hoskins Memorial Presbyterian Church and gardens 2016

The organ in the church is of particular note. It was built by WL Roberts of Adelaide in 1928, enlarged in 1935 by Hill, Norman and Beard (Aust) P/L, who rebuilt it in 1949. A further rebuild took place in 1961, and further work occurred again in 1972 and 1984. The result was that a Choir organ and the Great organ exist together in the church.

The windows in the church are dedicated to the sad family losses – to Hilda and Nellie, to Guildford and to Charles. Another window is dedicated to Cecil Hoskins' infant sons Charles and Eric, who also died in tragic circumstances.

Patsy Moppett

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Hoskins Memorial Presbyterian Church, Dept of Environment and Heritage 1998

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Browntown, Mount Victoria

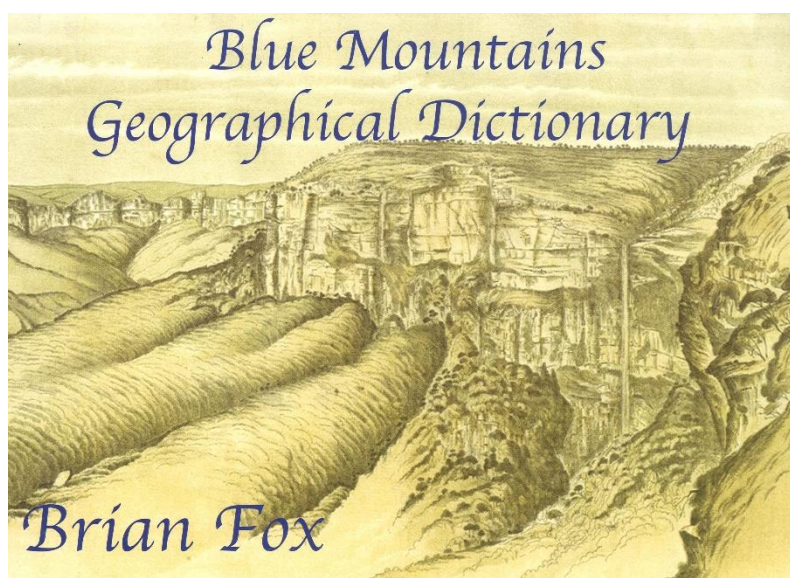
In 2006 the *Blue Mountains Geographical Dictionary* was published by Brian Fox. The book is a marvelous description of hundreds of place names within the Blue Mountains, detailing the location, origin and background to each name's meaning. This includes Browntown, the locality at Mount Victoria as documented in the BMACHO Newsletter of April-May 2016. Brian now has found more information with regard to the site, which will be set down in a revision of the publication. Brian offers the following comments:

"In the Heritage Newsletter of the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc. March / April 2016. Issue 43, p. 8, Patsy Moppett the editor posed the question and statement below:

What's in a Name – Browntown – which Mr Brown?

Browntown is located just south east of Mount Victoria on the Great Western Highway.

Today all that can be seen is the Browntown Oval, which accommodates sporting events such as football, cricket and archery. There is a clubhouse and amenities on the site, along with another of the George Evans' "Footsteps in Time" obelisks, establishing that the site was on the route of the original western crossing alignment. Evans surveyed this location on 31 December 1813.



It is over 10 years since the last (3rd edition) of the *Blue Mountains Geographical Dictionary* was published. It quickly sold out. Over subsequent years I have continued to receive requests asking whether there are any copies available for purchase. I have also been asked for more information regarding particular names.

A further revision has been on hold due to an extended and ongoing collaboration with Michael Keats as we researched and produced, "The Passes of Narrow Neck", "The Upper Grose Valley - Bushwalkers Business" and the eight book series "The Gardens of Stone National Park and beyond." I have also authored numerous articles for the *Blue Mountains History Journal*. During the period, I also released my book "Isaac Barrow, Blue Mountains Map Maker," which has also sold out.

Now along with co-authors, Michael Keats OAM and my brother John Fox who has lived at Blaxland for the last 40 years, 28 of them as a Maths teacher at Blaxland High School, work

has commenced on producing a revised and expanded 4th edition of the Blue Mountains Geographical Dictionary.

In an endeavour to ensure as many names as possible are included and the information about them is accurate I am requesting you, the reader for assistance. Should you have an earlier edition of the dictionary and have noted errors or omissions then please let me know so these can be corrected or added. If you have seen a name in any publication or new signage that you think should be brought to my attention, again please let me know. Please do not assume that I would have that information. A quick phone call, an email, or a letter and you can be part of this massive project.

Back to the name Browntown and the editor's query. Browntown is just one of more than 2,400 place name entries in the Dictionary.



Browntown Oval, Mt Victoria

Browntown was a locality name in the vicinity of Browntown Oval, Mount Victoria. Located 1.1km south east of Mount Victoria Railway Station. The name originates from the extended Brown family who lived in this area. Ellen Brown purchased 40 acres in the locality c1837. It is known that several other family members lived here including her son, William Henry (c1838-1912) and his wife Margaret (c1833-1923) along with their children, William Clement Brown (1862-1936), James and George.

The old locality name lives on with the name Browntown Oval, a recreation area between the Great Western Highway and Main Western Line (railway). This reserve was Gazetted on the 21st April 1880. The first trustees appointed were Charles William Pratt, George William Biles and John George Cousins. At present Browntown Oval is administered by the Blue Mountains City Council and zoned as Public Recreation and has an area of 2.88ha".

BMACHO will advise further when the new updated book is due for issue, and any updated information may be conveyed directly to Brian, or to BMACHO.

Note: Madga Cawthorne, in her recently released book Hidden Histories of the Blue Mountains, suggests that Browntown was named for an old farm known to have been in the area as far back as the 1860s.

Email: brianandelaine@aapt.net.au

Email: brian@bushexplorers.com.au

References:

Mount York Historical Society, Map of Mount Victoria, 1968.

The Katoomba Daily 2nd January 1937, p. 4.

Sydney Morning Herald 10th December 1923, p. 9.

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Hidden Histories of the Blue Mountains, Magda Cawthorne 2016

The Technical Side

The Tinsmith (fairy tapper)

As is suggested, this tradesman makes and repairs tinware, both industrial and domestic objects and containers, from sheets of steel coated with tin (tinplate). A tinker travelled the countryside repairing household utensils such as buckets, pots and pans.

Sometimes referred to as a whitesmith, he may work with tin, pewter, or other materials.

Unlike blacksmiths (who work mostly with hot metal), tinsmiths do the majority of their work on cold metal (although they might use a hearth to heat and help shape their raw materials). The term is also applied to metalworkers who do only finishing work – such as filing or polishing – on iron and other "black" metals.



The tinsmith's workshop



Tin goods

Tin smithing emerged after the Industrial Revolution in the 18th Century due to the ready availability of affordable sheet metal. It is now considered a rare trade because, like many trades, the items made are produced by machines, and often now made of plastic. It is an occupation that transforms things from the two dimension to three, giving form to the flat. The techniques of the trade were learnt through an apprenticeship with a master craftsman. Tinplate is hammered, bent, rolled, pulled and twisted into shape. Curving metal into domes was called plenishing. Cut metal was put through a roller to break the grain, and shapes are cut out, hammered and joined. The term "fairy tapper" is used sometimes, as the hammering is more like a small gentle tapping.

Items made included lanterns, scone cutters, candle lamps, pie plates, serviette rings, bowls, cutlery and containers. Larger items might include a hip bath or a phonograph sound trumpet.



An 18th Century workshop



Civil War soldier's mess kit

Pure tin is an expensive and soft metal and it is not practical to use it alone. However it can be alloyed with lead and copper to make pewter or alloyed with copper alone to produce bronze. Today's tinplate is mild steel electroplated with tin.

Tin wares were being produced in London by the 1630s, being known as Crooked Lane Wares (from the street where they were made). The *Worshipful Company of Tin Plate*

Workers were incorporated as a separate London Livery Company in 1670. However, tinplate workers were widespread.

Tools of the trade include:

- Bick iron – the anvil used to shape sharp curves.
- Jenny – a crimping tool to crease the metal.
- Firepot and soldering irons.
- Bossing stump & mallet – hollowed out tree stump to allow shaping the metal into a bowl or dome shape, by gentle tapping with the mallet.
- Stick – made of wood and used to flatten or turn metal.
- Punches and stamps – used to impress shape or cut metal.
- Tinsnips – straight or curves snips to cut metal sheet.
- Square faced cross peen hammer – used for shaping through light tapping. A variety of other hammers are also used.

The tinsmith has been plying his trade in America since 1720. Colonial tinsmiths used tinplate, wire, solder, and a few simple tools to produce their wares. When tinplate was finally produced in America in the early 19th century the products of the tinsmith became more widely available. They in turn saw an increase in demand and a need to speed up production. This brought about the development of many ingenious hand powered machines which sped up production and helped the tinsmith meet the demands for his products. The goods were "brought to market" by peddlers.

Patsy Moppett

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Community events & updates

Glenbrook Walks 2017 - be tempted!

Take a look at the walks planned by the Glenbrook & District Historical Society for 2017! Always something to be seen in this part of the mountains and beyond, and with this variety, there must be something for you.

- March 11: Glenbrook Lagoon Precinct - the first water supply for the 1867 railway.



Glenbrook Lagoon



Berghoffer's Pass

- March 25: Walks along the three Mt York tracks – Cox's, Lawsons, and Berghofer's.
- April 8: The Duckhole, Glenbrook Creek: original roadway built for access to the pump site for the railway water supply.
- May 6: Bull's Creek Dam – railway water supply – stone dam, pump site, pipeline relics.
- June 10: The Mountains Murders – Captain Lee Waller's murder site, first grave, rock inscriptions.
- July 8: Zig Zag A – eastern Zig Zag 1867 – Knapsack viaduct, Gatehouse No. 1.

- July 15: Zig Zag B – eastern Zig Zag – 1867 railway line, Lapstone Hill Tunnel, east portal only.



Tunnel portal

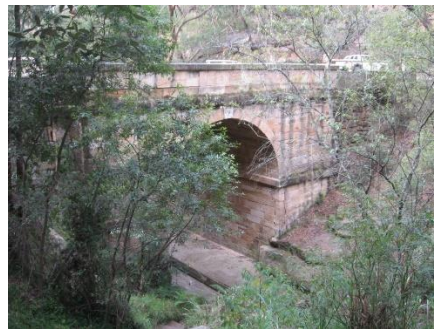


Knapsack Viaduct

- July 29: Lapstone Construction (temporary) Railway 1910-1913 – the route and eastern portal.
- August 26: Faulconbridge Steam Sawmill and incline railway.
- September 9: Lennox Bridge, Brookside Creek old quarry, Dunn's Mill relics, earth dam.



Lennox Bridge 1830



Lennox Bridge 2010

- October 7: Glenbrook Discovery – various sites.

Bookings essential via Doug Knowles Ph: 02 4751 3275.

BMACHO Arts NSW 2016 Cultural Grant Award

The Cultural Grants Program is an Arts NSW funding program administered by the Royal Australian Historical Society (RAHS) on behalf of the NSW Government. This Cultural Grants program assists historical research and publication of local, community and regional history projects. Arts NSW funding priorities can be found on its website, together with a list of grants awarded each year.

Projects should be relevant to understanding the history of NSW and its people and places. Grants of up to \$5000 support the work of historical research and publication undertaken by local historical societies and similar bodies across New South Wales. The projects should generally be able to be completed within 12 months. Applications may be made for more than one project.

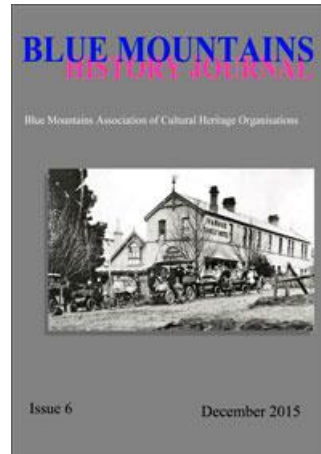
Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations (BMACHO) was successful in obtaining an Arts NSW 2016 Award.

Trish Doyle, MP Blue Mountains, was pleased to see NSW government funding being awarded to a Blue Mountains organization. BMACHO has received the grant to facilitate publication of its *Blue Mountains History Journal Issue 7*.

Patsy Moppett



Trish Doyle, MP, & Jan Koperberg



Issue 6 December 2015

Note: For earlier issues of *Blue Mountains History Journals* see www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au

Windsor Bridge Update

A recent update from Roads and Maritime Services explains the background to the Windsor Bridge replacement project. It is planning to replace the existing 140 year old bridge with a new bridge (three lanes wide – two southbound and one northbound), some 35m downstream, across the Hawkesbury River.

This will require new approach roads and intersections, and incorporate landscaping. The existing bridge would then be removed, with the project expected to take 2 years to complete.



Artist's impression, looking north

This apparently provides an opportunity to unify the green space in Thompson's Square, by connecting the new bridge to Old Bridge Street, reducing the roads in the Square from three to two, and improving the connection of the Square to the river foreshore.

The RMS suggests the works are required to improve safety, improve traffic flow and efficiency, reduce the road footprint, unify the open space in Thompson's Square, increase flood immunity and give better pedestrian/cyclist access.

The traffic increase modelling was considered for the time period 2016 to 2026.

Archaeologists are involved in a detailed testing program required.

In early 2017 the RMS will invite community feedback on the proposed Urban Design and Landscaping Plan for the project.

Roads & Maritime Services

For further information visit Roads and Maritime's website www.rms.nsw.gov.au/windsorbridge

Phone: 1800 712 909

Email: Windsor_bridge@rms.nsw.gov.au

Post: Windsor Bridge Project, PO Box 973, Parramatta NSW 2124

Greater Sydney Commission – District Plans

The Greater Sydney Commission (GSC) was established in 2016 to undertake the bigger picture planning for Greater Sydney, under the District Commissioner, Sean O'Toole. Six draft District Plans have been developed by the GSC to undertake the bigger picture planning for Greater Sydney. Each Plan sets out the GSC's 20-year vision for each District. Planning currently occurs at State and local level. The NSW Government develops overarching plans that consider the growing population, employment and transport. Local government develops local environmental plans to identify how land can be used, including housing, business and recreation areas. The GSC seeks to bridge this gap with district level planning that connects local planning with the longer term metropolitan planning for Greater Sydney.

The District Plans cover Greater Sydney as follows:

- Central – City of Sydney, Burwood and Canada Bay, Randwick, Waverly, Woollahra.
- South – Kogarah, Broken Bay.
- North – North Sydney, Macquarie Park, Brooklyn.
- West Central – Blacktown, Paramatta.
- South West – Camden, Picton, Bargo, Liverpool, Western Sydney Airport.
- West – Blue Mountains, Hawkesbury, Penrith.

Of relevance to BMACHO readers, the GSC recognizes the West District's *"unique and rich tapestry of urban, rural and natural environments, combined with access to jobs, quality health care, education, recreation, cultural and natural experiences, creates a great quality of life for its communities"*. It also acknowledges Aboriginal heritage and the associated cultural significance.



Katoomba



Blackheath

The West District Plan would look at this area with a view to the natural landscape, major infrastructure investments, the Greater Penrith region, tourism potential, and the relationship of the area with the Western Sydney Airport.

The Plan sets out priorities and actions that will shape the District's future and guide policy decisions. These include:

- Protecting the district's natural landscape.
- Making it a connected place.
- Planning for a 21st Century aerotropolis.
- Creating a hub for international tourism.
- Providing access to jobs, goods and services.
- Creating a diversity of jobs for the next generation.
- Enhancing Greater Penrith as Sydney's western gateway.
- Encouraging a diversity in housing.
- Acknowledging culture and heritage underpin the sense of place and identity.

The draft District Plans move on from the current 2014 20-year plan, *A Plan for Growing Sydney*, and contribute to *Towards our Greater Sydney 2056*, a strategy for a metropolis of

three cities (Western City, Central City and Eastern City), which is productive, livable and sustainable.

Patsy Moppett

The full draft District Plans can be viewed at www.greater.sydney and inquiries made to:

Email: engagement@gsc.nsw.gov.au

Ph: 1800 617 681

Post: Greater Sydney Commission, Draft West District Plan, PO Box 257, Parramatta NSW 2124

National Trust Blue Mountains Award Winners

Scott Pollock, Manager of Everglades Historic House and Gardens in Leura, recently received a Meritorious Service Award at the National Trust of Australia (NSW) Annual General Meeting, on Saturday 25 November 2016. The award was presented to Scott by Clive Lucas, President of the National Trust of Australia (NSW). Scott is also a valued BMACHO committee member and the BMACHO webmaster.



Clive Lucas & Scott Pollock



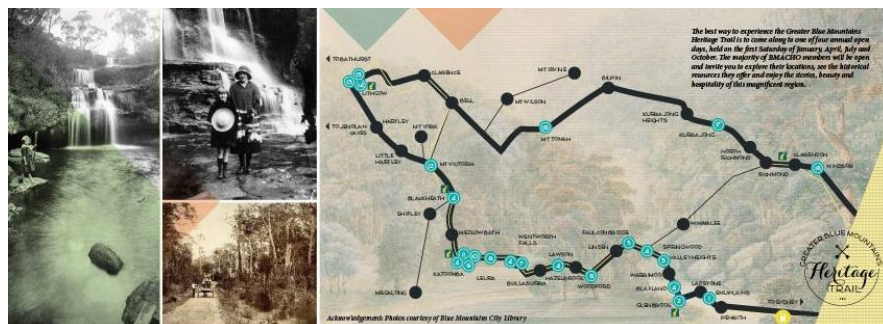
Award winners

Scott was the only staff member receiving an award. Other Award recipients were volunteers from Everglades, and also included Jenny Szemenyei from Woodford Academy and John Dikeman from the Blue Mountains Branch of the National Trust.

Reference:

Rhona Leach, Blue Mountains Branch National Trust (NSW)

Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail Update!



The Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail is no longer holding the common Open Days, and BMACHO continues to promote the Heritage Trail and members' upcoming events. BMACHO intend to reprint the Heritage Trail brochure early next year and have asked members if they wish to participate. For a reasonable cost, members can appear in the

reprint of the brochure, feature on the Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail website and have their events promoted on the website and Facebook page.

In 2017 BMACHO are organising a competition to encourage visitation to Trail participant properties. For this purpose, BMACHO are asking members to think of an artefact or item at their premises that can only be found by visiting. BMACHO will then list approximately 25 questions on a "Passport and Entry Form", which will be an insert to the brochure, and visitors can either answer the questions or obtain a stamp showing they have been to a venue. BMACHO will hold a prize draw approximately every six months. BMACHO already have offers of prizes for the competition.

Most organisations will be closed from now till the end of January, so BMACHO are asking if you have not already responded in regard to participation in the reprint by 17 February 2017, please do so as soon as possible. BMACHO would like to have the new brochure printed in March.

If you are a member and you would like to participate, or if you would like to become a member, please email the BMACHO Secretary at committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au

For general information about BMACHO and the Trail, see www.heritagedrive.com.au or www.facebook.com/GBMHeritageTrail



BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

Registered office: 1/19 Stypanandra Place, Springwood 2777. (02) 4751 5834

Email: committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au or j.koperberg@bigpond.com

Website: www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au

ABN: 53 994 839 952

The organisation: Blue Mountains Association of Cultural & Heritage Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 after local historical and heritage societies and individuals recognised the need for the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the local government area (LGA) of Blue Mountains City Council. The constituency now embraces but is not limited to, the LGAs of Blue Mountains, Lithgow, Hawkesbury, Penrith and Mudgee. BMACHO membership includes historical and heritage groups, museums, commercial enterprises with an historical or heritage component in its core business, local government (local studies units, library collections) and a limited number of individual members by invitation such as but not necessarily academics. The objectives of the organisation are:

1. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage
 2. To encourage and assist cultural heritage
 3. 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.

Affiliations: BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society and is affiliated with the Better Planning Network.

Publications: BMACHO's official newsletter *Heritage* is edited by Patsy Moppett. The annual refereed *Blue Mountains History Journal* is edited by Dr Peter Rickwood and occasional papers are published from time to time.

Membership: The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mt Tomah; Blue Mountains City Library; Blue Mountains Cultural Heritage Centre; Blue Mountain Education & Research Trust; Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc; Bygone Beautys Treasured Teapot Museum and Tearooms; City of Lithgow Mining Museum Inc; Day Fine Art; Eskbank Rail Heritage Centre; Everglades Historic House & Gardens; Norman Lindsay Gallery; Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc; Hartley Valley District Progress Association; Hawkesbury Historical Society Inc; Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc; Leurella NSW Toy & Railway Museum; Lithgow & District Family History Society Inc; Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies; Mt Victoria & District Historical Society Inc; Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine Historical Society Inc (including Turkish Bath Museum); National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Blue Mountains Branch; National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Lithgow Branch; Nepean District Historical Society Inc; Paragon Cafe, Katoomba; Scenic World Blue Mountains Limited; Springwood & District Historical Society Inc; Springwood Historians Inc; Transport Signal Communication Museum Inc; The Darnell Collection P/L; Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Heritage Museum, Woodford Academy Management Committee, Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd.

The following are individual members: Fiona Burn, Ray Christison, Wayne Hanley, Associate Professor Ian Jack, Joan Kent, Ian Milliss, Patsy Moppett and Dr Peter Rickwood.

Committee: The management committee for 2016-2017 (from April 2016) is: Patsy Moppett (President and *Heritage* Newsletter Editor), Ian Jack (Vice President), Jan Koperberg (Secretary), Philip Hammon (Treasurer), Scott Pollock and Wendy Hawkes (web site), Dick Morony (Public Officer/Membership Secretary/ Calendar Editor), Suzanne Smith and Laura Stinson (Events and Venue Co-ordinators) & Roy Bennett.

Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail sub-committee: Scott Pollock, Laura Stinson, Wendy Hawkes, Jan Koperberg & Lynn Collins, Museums Advisor.

Disclaimer: views and opinions expressed in *Heritage* originate from many sources and contributors. Every effort is taken to ensure accuracy of material. Content does not necessarily represent or reflect the views and opinions of BMACHO, its committee or its members. If errors are found feedback is most welcome.