Heritage

Newsletter of the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc

July-August 2021 ISSUE 75 ISSN 2203-4366

Acknowledgement of Country

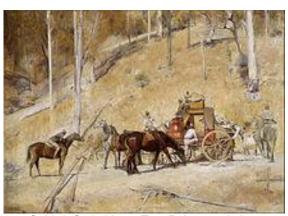
BMACHO acknowledges and pays respect to the past, present and future Traditional Custodians and Elders of this nation and the continuation of cultural, spiritual and educational practices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

The Bushranging Act of 1830

In a state of desperation due to the crime rate in the colony of NSW the *Bushranging Act* of 1830 was legislated. A bushranger was initially defined as an escaped convict who took refuge in the Australian bush, but this was later broadened to be any criminal living in the bush and subsisting by robbery with violence. However, in practice the wording of the Act came to be interpreted as something quite beyond this definition.



Troopers bail up Captain Moonlight 1879



Cobb & Co holdup - Tom Roberts painting

In 1839 the press acknowledged that the legislation was quite necessary and warranted, but it was realized that it would be subject to abuse by malicious or ignorant lawmen, because it relied upon a reasonable ground of suspicion, before any apprehension could be undertaken. External appearances could be deceiving and criminals often set themselves up as respectable looking citizens, quite defying the sensibilities of any righteous policeman. On the other hand, the legislation did not prevent the local constable from arresting whomever he pleased, making for unnecessary angst on the part of the not-guilty party, and only sometimes was the constable dismissed for his pains. It was often reliant upon the local magistrate to define the circumstances which could exist around the reasonable grounds of suspicion.

The Act gave the police powers to arrest any person on the mere suspicion that he or she was illegally at large, with the onus of proof on the person arrested. Police were also given the power to search for stolen goods or evidence of harbouring criminals. Any persons

found on the roads while armed could be treated in the same way, with the same reversal of the usual onus of proof. Those convicted of robbery or of plundering dwelling houses with force were to be executed on the next day but two after sentencing. All persons convicted of murder were to be executed on the next day but only after sentence was passed, unless that day were a Sunday, in which case the execution was to be held on the Monday.

The Act was widely resented, and its legality questioned. It was drafted by Chief Justice Forbes who said that he had cooperated fully with the governor's legislative program, to the extent of allowing legislation to be enacted which armed the government with larger powers than were known to any other colonies.

The initial Act was in force for a limited period, and at first there was no suggestion of its being at odds with English law. However, there was a challenge on one of its renewals when Forbes and Governor Darling thought it valid, while others thought it *repugnant to the liberty of English law*. The Act was not an immediate success, as Governor Darling was still complaining about the frequency of bushranging.

Despite these misgivings the Act was renewed from time to time up until 1853, and frequent proclamations were issued offering gratuities to convicts who should assist in apprehending bushrangers. The authorities had good and sufficient reason to know that rogues would, without scruple, "sell" their fellows for the sake of personal gain.

Provisions of The Bushranging Act of 1830

Citation: The Bushranging Act (1830), 2 Geo. IV. c. 10.

An Act to suppress Robbery and Housebreaking and the Harbouring of Robbers and Housebreakers

WHEREAS the crimes of robbery and housebreaking have increased to an alarming degree and it is become necessary to restrain the same, as much as possible, by temporary provisions, suited to the emergency of the occasion: Be it therefore enacted, That it shall be lawful for any person whatsoever, having reasonable cause to suspect and believe any other person to be a transported felon, unlawfully at large, immediately by himself, or with the assistance of other persons, and without a warrant for such purpose, to apprehend, or cause to be apprehended every such suspected person, and him to take or cause to be taken before any Justice of the Peace of the Colony, for examination as hereinafter provided.

<u>II.</u> And be it further enacted, That every suspected person who shall be taken before any Justice of the Peace as aforesaid, shall be obliged to prove, to the reasonable satisfaction of such Justice, that he is not a felon under sentence of transportation; and, in default of such proof, such Justice of the Peace may cause such person to be detained in safe custody until it can be proved whether he is a transported felon or free; and, in every such case, the proof of being free shall be upon the person alleging himself to be free: Provided always, that every such Justice of the Peace may, in his discretion, cause every such suspected person to be securely removed to Sydney, to be there examined and dealt with in like manner as aforesaid.

<u>III.</u> And be it further enacted, That every person whatsoever who shall be found on the roads, or in any other part of the said Colony, with fire-arms or other instruments of a violent nature in his possession, under circumstances affording reasonable ground for suspecting that such a person may be or intend to be a robber, every such suspected person shall be liable to be apprehended and taken before a Justice of the Peace in like manner, and be dealt with in all respects as hereinbefore is provided, in reference to persons suspected of being transported felons unlawfully at large; and, in every such case, the proof that such fire-arms, or other instruments of a violent nature, were not intended for an illegal purpose, shall be upon the person in whose possession the same shall be found as aforesaid.

<u>IV</u>. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for any person having reasonable cause for suspecting and believing that any other person may have fire-arms, or other instrument of a deadly nature, concealed about his person, to search or cause to be searched every such suspected person; and, in case of discovering any such fire-arms, or other instrument of a violent nature, to apprehend or cause to be apprehended such person, and to take him before any Justice of the Peace, to be dealt with in all respects as hereinbefore is provided, in reference to persons found with fire-arms, or other weapons, in their possession.

<u>V.</u> And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for any Justice of the Peace, having credible information that any robbers or housebreakers are concealed or harboured in the county or district wherein such Justice of the Peace shall be or reside, to grant a general search warrant to any one or

more constables, to search any dwelling-house or tenement, or other place within or reputed to be within such county or district; and it shall be lawful for such constable or constables, in virtue of such general warrant, to break enter and search, by day or by night, any such dwelling house, tenement, or other place within or reputed to be within such county or district, and to apprehend or cause to be apprehended every person whom such constable or constables shall have reasonable cause for suspecting and believing to be a robber or housebreaker, and to seize and secure all fire-arms, and other arms or instruments of a violent nature, and all goods and chattels which such constable or constables shall have reasonable ground for suspecting and believing to be stolen; and also to apprehend all persons found in or about any such dwelling-house or tenement, or other place, and whom such constable or constables shall have reasonable grounds for suspecting and believing to have, harbour and conceal any such robbers and housebreakers as aforesaid; and all persons, arms, goods and chattels, so found, seized, and apprehended as aforesaid, shall, by such constable or constables be forthwith taken before a Justice of the Peace for examination, and to be further dealt with according to law.

<u>VI</u>. And where it is expedient that robbers and housebreakers should be tried and punished as speedily as may be consistent with the ends of justice; Be it therefore further enacted, That all persons who shall be fully committed for the crime of robbery, or of entering and plundering any dwellinghouse, with arms and violence, shall be brought to trial as soon as possible; and being lawfully convicted of any such crime, and sentenced to suffer death, shall be executed according to law on the day next but two after sentence passed, unless the same shall happen to be Sunday, and in that case, on the Monday following; and such sentence shall be passed immediately after the conviction of such offender, unless the Court or Judge shall see reasonable cause for postponing the same.

<u>VII</u>. And be it further enacted, That every person who shall be found with any fire-arms, or other instrument of a violent nature, in his possession, and shall not prove to the satisfaction of such Justice of the Peace as aforesaid, that the same was or were not intended to be illegally used, as hereinbefore is provided, shall be deemed to be guilty of a high misdemeanor, and being thereof lawfully convicted, shall be liable, at the discretion of the Court, to be imprisoned for any time not exceeding three years.

<u>VIII.</u> And for the more effectual enforcing of this law or ordinance, be it further enacted, That all His Majesty's subjects shall be liable to be called upon to aid and assist any constable or other person in executing and enforcing the several provisions thereof; and every person who shall be so called upon to aid and assist, and shall refuse and neglect so to do, shall be liable to a fine not exceeding five pounds, to be recovered and levied in a summary manner, before any Justice of the Peace, over and above any other punishment to which such person shall be liable by law.

<u>IX.</u> And be it further enacted, That if any action or suit shall be brought against any Justice of the Peace, Constable, or other person or persons, for any Act or thing since the tenth day of this instant month of April, or at any time during the continuance of this Act, done, in furtherance of the objects, or in pursuance of the provisions of this law or ordinance, the defendant or defendants, in every such action or suit, may plead the general issue, and may give this Act and the special matter in evidence at any trial to be had thereupon; and if the verdict shall be for the defendant or defendants in any such action or suit, or if the plaintiff or plaintiffs be nonsuited, or discontinue his or her, or their action or suit, after the defendant or defendants shall have appeared, or if upon demurrer, judgment shall be given against plaintiff or plaintiffs, the defendant or defendants shall have treble costs and shall have like remedy for the same, as any other defendant or defendants hath or have in any other case to recover costs by law.

<u>X.</u> And be it further enacted, That this Law or Ordinance shall continue in force for two years from the passing and publication thereof.

The Act gave dangerous powers to the law and to the public in general. An example given by the *Sydney Monitor and Commercial Advertiser* in 1839 demonstrates how authorities could take things into their own hands, and unfortunately the Act served to make matters worse.

In the incident, a free immigrant Frederick Turner, having worked several jobs in Hobart and then Sydney was employed as a waiter at the Goulburn Inn. One day whilst standing at his master's door he was approached by a mounted policeman. He was asked to show his credentials, which he did. The policeman was dissatisfied and took him into custody at the nearby watch house. The next few weeks were traumatic as Turner was moved from place to place claimed to be a runaway from Hyde Park. His hair was cropped, and he was placed

in a cell and handcuffed to several convicts. After a fortnight they were marched to Bargo watch house where they were actually chained to the floor. From there they were marched the next day to Stonequarry (Picton), a day later to the Cowpastures (Camden) for two nights and from there to Campbelltown. By this time, he was guite emaciated, and after two days there and still on meagre rations they were sent on to Liverpool, and thence to Parramatta. The prisoners were then put into a boat and taken to Sydney's Hyde Park barracks where Turner was examined. The authorities could find no runaways of his description and he was told that he would need to find someone to verify his identity. After two weeks he made contact with a fellow passenger, Mrs Collins, whom he had met on his early boat trip up from Hobart. She was able to identify him, and he was released, but with no money and no means of support. Whilst wandering around looking for work he was again accosted by the police. Luckily, they believed his story and did not detain him. He eventually obtained work through Mr Collins.









Captain Moonlight

Captain Thunderbolt

Frank Lowry

A new centralized police force was established in 1862 in an endeavour to overcome the shortcomings of the previous system. However, although the officers of the new force were the equivalent of officers in the military, of the thirty-five appointed, only thirteen had previous policing experience. As bushranging continued to escalate in the 1860s, the NSW government passed a bill, the Felons Apprehension Act 1865, that effectively allowed anyone to shoot outlawed bushrangers on sight. Was this going from bad to worse? The Bushranging Act may have served to detain and process bushrangers and others of ill repute. However, as can be seen above there were many innocent victims of the system, brought down through the vindictive nature of local constabulary who simply didn't like the look of them. The Act gave these authorities something to fall back on when the victim was found to be innocent.

It has been suggested that the militaristic policing of the Bushranging Act contributed to a strong resentment against the State and its protectors which is still evident in Australian society today. Patsy Moppett

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Food for thought Editor's note

So much to share in *Heritage* this edition!

We report on the very successful BMACHO History Conference held recently in Lithgow. After COVID lockdowns it was so wonderful to see opportunities for networking open up again. Just watching the interaction between attendees during the breaks made the conference worthwhile, quite apart from the outstanding speakers celebrating a conference dedicated to Professor Ian Jack, former BMACHO President.

We look at funding, awards, consultation on the Cemeteries Strategic Plan for the Blue Mountains, book reviews and more.

The overarching matter relevant to all spheres of the heritage world in NSW however, is the NSW government's *Review of the NSW Heritage Act 1977.*

This legislation is now approaching some 45 years old and in serious need of revision. In May 2021 the NSW government announced a major review of the Act and the NSW heritage regulatory system in general, along with heritage aspects of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

NSW has the second oldest state heritage legislation in Australia. The *Heritage Act 1977* was first introduced in response to widespread community concern that heritage was coming under increasing threat from overdevelopment. With regard for the Burra Charter, the Act was initially designed to halt this increasing loss of heritage. Since its introduction, the Act has been amended to reflect changing circumstances in a limited way. It was established in 1977 during a period of green bans and activism to urgently preserve heritage items and was last reviewed in 2007. No significant reforms have been undertaken since 1999.

The Discussion paper issued for consideration under the current Review states thatthe Act is now widely considered to be out-of-step with trends in heritage conservation and land use planning and development. It reflects an outdated reliance on prescriptive regulatory measures and compliance mechanisms to achieve its objectives, and is generally considered onerous, procedurally complex and adversarial to adaptive reuse.

Generally, the Review will encompass proposals for initiatives to encourage investment in heritage conservation, improvements to heritage compliance and enforcement provisions,

and the streamlining of heritage processes, resulting in a heritage system that is modern and effective as well as one that reflects best-practice ways of recognising, conserving, re-using and celebrating the important heritage of NSW.

To assist public consultation and community input, the NSW Government has published the Discussion Paper which reflects on the current heritage system, considers some alternatives and poses some questions to assist with public consultation.

The *Terms of Reference* state that the Standing Committee inquire into and report on the Heritage Act 1977 (NSW) (the Act), with particular reference to:

- (a) the need for legislative change to deliver a heritage system that is modern, effective and reflects best practice heritage conservation, activation and celebration
- (b) the adequacy of the Act in meeting the needs of customers and the community and the protection of heritage
- (c) how the Act could more effectively intersect with related legislation, such as heritage elements of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 and the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974
- (d) the issues raised and focus questions posed in the Government's Discussion Paper, in particular:
 - (i) a category approach to heritage listing to allow for more nuanced and targeted recognition and protection of the diversity of State significant heritage items.
 - (ii) consideration of new supports to encourage heritage ownership, conservation, adaptive reuse, activation and investment
 - (iii) improvements to heritage compliance and enforcement provisions
 - (iv) streamlining heritage processes (e) any other related matter.

Community observations through the RAHS to date include concerns for:

- The need to address Aboriginal heritage management.
- How heritage places can still be protected, with conflicts in different planning legislation.
- The skillset and make-up of the Heritage Council of NSW to best represent the interests of the community and heritage owners.
- The resources and support needed within Government departments to administer the Act.
- Ensuring local heritage places are also protected, and that any proposed changes to heritage listings account for multiple heritage values.
- A need for more funding to support research into regional heritage places that will support the case for adding them to heritage lists.

An Upper House Committee will hear from a variety of stakeholders and is currently accepting submissions. Interested parties, including the local community, are invited to have their say by lodging a submission through the Committee website by **Sunday 27th June 2021**. For information about the inquiry, including the Discussion Paper, Committee membership and the Terms of Reference, please visit the Committee website:

Website: Review of the Heritage Act 1977 (nsw.gov.au) (Control + click to follow link) Email: socialissues@parliament.nsw.gov.au

Hearings will subsequently be held on 2nd and 6th August 2021 at Parliament House, Sydney.

The Rawleigh Man

The Rawleigh man was an icon of our youth, and the name is one of the most well-known and recognised throughout the world.

William Thomas Rawleigh was a businessman and politician in the state of Illinois, USA. He was born on a farm in 1870 in Mineral Point, Wisconsin, to Charles David and Sarah Malinda Rawleigh. The eldest of a large family it was clear from an early age that his future would not be in farming.





W T Rawleigh

His career began at the age of around 9, selling ink to schoolmates and country storekeepers, having made the ink himself, bottling and labelling it. By the age of 17 he had turned his mother's kitchen into a part-time factory making his medications, until he could get enough money together to rent a small building. Many medicines were made, bottled and labelled in the Rawleigh family home. A year later in 1889 he set a goal for himself and, with only \$15, a borrowed horse called Bill, a mortgaged buggy and four types of medicines, he set out on the road, determined to become a successful businessman. In 1895 Rawleigh founded the Dr. Blair Medical Company which later became known as the W. T. Rawleigh Medical Company. By 1914 the W.T. Rawleigh company was recognised as one of the greatest manufacturers and distributors of over 100 household products. Rawleigh products arrived in Australia in 1928, when the Company opened a factory in Melbourne at Brunswick and began manufacturing and distribution. They opened in New Zealand in 1931. In 1938, a manual was published, Rawleigh Methods - A Guide Book for Rawleigh Dealers, complete with scripts and practices to follow when selling the products. The well-dressed Rawleigh men would load the products into their horse drawn buggies, or in later years vans, and travel both city and country roads selling the products. Their leather suitcase was always crammed with every cure from headache to head lice, carefully

secured, as the case opened out like a fan. Mothers would sometimes purchase menthol

antiseptic cream in a tin, suitable for every use from bites to bed sores.









The main product was advertised as the best-selling salve or ointment *suitable for man or beast*, but the Rawleigh man also had things like vanilla essence, cochineal and food colouring, spices, and vitamins. There were other products too like sewing and darning needles and thread, and rolls of ribbon sold by the foot for hair ribbons and sewing machine oil

In time the Rawleigh Good Health Guide, Almanac and Cookbook was issued. It was a guide for the whole family – men, women and children and the range of Rawleigh products came to accommodate the different needs of both sexes.

In the 1930s the Rawleigh man made his way into the Blue Mountains. In 1934 the Katoomba Daily advertised that the Rawleigh man would soon be available to residents of Katoomba and Blackheath, as elsewhere in NSW. Watch for the Rawleigh man! Wait for the Rawleigh man! The Daily reported that:

Blue Mountains residents will be interested to learn that a branch of the huge Rawleigh Good Health Service will shortly be opened in Katoomba, and an intensive good health campaign inaugurated., with service and economy as its main features. There are few householders who have not heard of this firm's extensive operations, for it is the largest institution of its kind in the world, and the oldest established. Its activities are worldwide, and it carries the case of good health products and household necessities into every home. Local newspapers often announced the establishment of the business in their area. The Richmond and Windsor Gazette advertised in 1940 for a representative to sell Rawleigh's well known products in that district. The Nepean Times in 1955 reported that the business was open in Penrith and part-Blue Mountains City, and they were offering full time work fora dependable man with a car.

Rawleigh's early success was built on providing everyday no nonsense products, particularly to people in rural areas who did not have ready access to them. The products were selected to appeal to mothers at home as very few men would have been at home during the day. The prices of the products were in a range that allowed the housewife to be able to purchase them with left over money from her weekly grocery shopping.

Early on Rawleigh knew that most people were not familiar with his goods or his name and realised that leaving his products with his customers for trial would later produce good sales. He was certain that they would use the product, like it, and buy more. The *time and trial* system was the forerunner of the Rawleigh Guarantee of Satisfaction. W.T. Rawleigh was amongst the first manufacturers to offer a free trial and guarantee that unless absolutely satisfied, there would be no sale. This approach and his dependable and honest nature won him many repeat customers.

To meet the need of scientific advancement, W.T. Rawleigh built the company's first analytical laboratory back in 1898. To cope with the growth of the company, this laboratory was enlarged numerous times. Rawleigh products needed to be scientifically made, reliable and of a higher than usual quality. They were made from raw materials in the Rawleigh factory so the company would know that the consistency and quality were correct. This philosophy was what the Rawleigh company was founded on. In 1922 over twenty million customers admitted the Rawleigh man into their homes.

As the company expanded, the building which had been purchased only a few years previously quickly became inadequate to house the ever-growing business. In 1906 the floor space of Rawleigh buildings was measured by acres, their workforce was numbered in the thousands. By 1908 the factory floor space was sixty times larger than nine years previously. Rawleigh's business was involved in the total supply chain from sourcing raw materials to distribution of manufactured products. It manufactured its own packaging and labelling materials, had a bottle manufacturing factory in Freeport, and even produced carriages that his future salesmen would use to sell his merchandise.

The Rawleigh man who delivered the Rawleigh products directly from the Rawleigh factories to the homeowner was not an agent but was the sole owner and operator of their business. For him to be successful he needed to be honest, industrious dependable and attentive to his business. He was required to be courteous, honest in all of his dealings with his

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customers and the Rawleigh company, correct in his habits and give careful attention to all of the details of his business.





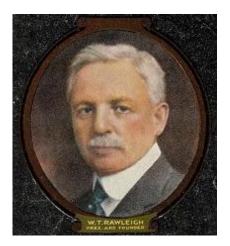




By 1910, William T Rawleigh became the most important person in Freeport. He edited his own newspaper, was elected Freeport Mayor and later was elected as a Member of the Illinois House of Representatives. Rawleigh believed that scientific research was important to his business and to his customers. He reported the scientific facts that he discovered and provided aid to the community by supporting legislative action in the interest of the public. He visited each country which carried his products and his art and sculpture collection, sourced during his world-wide travels, is the basis of what is now the Freeport Art Museum. By 1912 Rawleigh had become a serious player in the new American cosmetics industry and by 1916 his range of beauty products included talcum powder, complexion powder, cold cream and face lotion.

On a personal level, in 1890 he had married Minnie Bell Trevillian, but they were divorced in 1917. They had three children, Anna May born in 1892, Wilber Thomas, born in 1896, and Lucille, born in 1907. In 1923 he remarried to Marguerite Schnider.

William Thomas Rawleigh died in 1951 at Freeport, Illinois, and was buried in Oakland Cemetery. But his company and his name continued on until it was acquired in 1989, by Harry Hersey and merged with his company Golden Pride International. This company now specializes in the manufacture and sale of natural health products, weight loss, home remedies and specialty foods.





The name Rawleigh was and still is synonymous with service and quality products, through its two basic principles:

- To sell quality products direct to consumers.
- To provide a profitable independent business.

Today Rawleigh as a company still take their products to the consumer in Australia via Rawleigh Distributors and all of Rawleigh's products are either manufactured under license or sourced specifically for the company in Australia and New Zealand.

Patsy Moppett

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A shop with many lives

Before the establishment of the village of Bullaburra much of the land in the locality was owned by Sir Henry Parkes, who had named the area the Village of Colridge. This included Portion 64 Parish of Jamison, the location of the current Cooranga Street with the former general store on the corner.

The area was subdivided by Arthur Rickard in the 1920s and Rickard named it Bullaburra, meaning *blue sky* or *fine weather*. The railway station opened on 16th February 1925 at the expense of Arthur Rickard and Co to service that company's local land subdivision. In April 1925 a tender was accepted by Messrs HE Ross and Rowe, architects, from Messrs Knight and Cooper builders, for a new brick store at Bullaburra for Arthur Rickard and Co. The store appears to have been occupied at first in 1926 by a Mr. Fletcher, a WWI veteran formerly of Faulconbridge, who died soon after.

Even though there was a DMR camp for workers opposite Genevieve Road in Eungella Park, the store never paid very well in the early days.

In 1929 it was owned by a Mr. Wigan, and by 1932 the shop was reported *busy as a bee* while the village was *making steady headway towards improvement*, with log cabins being a feature.



Extract of Parish of Jamison





930 1983

In 1939 the store was taken over by Margery Anderson, who was a community leader and Councillor. Anderson Street is named for her. Meetings of the Bullaburra and District Progress Association were held at her residence at the Bullaburra store in 1943. In 1944 the proprietor of the shop was reported as being Mr Reynolds. Subsequent owners were Rodders and Swinbourne amongst others.

The store was always the centre of the community, being the post office, grocer, newsagent, greengrocer, and general goods store. Being open from 6am to 8pm every day, one could leave a shopping list, and have the goods delivered, as was often the way in those early days.





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This general use ceased in the 1970s, and it became a takeaway shop with a few groceries. It subsequently closed in the early 1980s.

Since then, it has had a number of uses including crafts, antiques, furniture, secondhand goods and Porters Paints. It stood vacant for a time during the recent highway upgrading road works.









Today the shop is occupied by Now & Zen, landscape consultants.

Patsy Moppett

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That Magic World of Fairies - Coal Fairies

In John Low's recent publication, Blue Mountains Byways, I came across a reference to *coal fairies*. Not having come across these creatures before of course I had to investigate! These elusive peoples have been referred to as the *swart* (dark, swarthy) *fairies of the mine*, or *industrial elves*, and there is evidence for fairies being just as active as humans in extracting the earth's resources, being very intimately connected to the mineral riches of the earth. The British Fairies website gives a comprehensive and fascinating rundown.

There are reputed to be two principal industrial activities in which these elves are involved, metal working and mining. The fairies mine for both coal and ores and have been associated with the tin mines of the southwest of England, the lead mines in Shropshire and with the copper mines of Cumberland and North Yorkshire.

There are two principal types of mine fairy - the knockers of SW England and the goblins in the coal and metal ore mines of Wales. Another named mine spirit is the Blue-Cap of the Northumberland coal mines, a very strong being who moved the wheeled coal tubs on the underground railways; and the Cutty Soams who were mine bogles, known for their vengeful mischief which included such pranks as cutting the traces (soams) of the underground coal wagons.





Artists' impressions - of course!

The knockers and goblins are very hard-working sprites who are frequently heard but very seldom seen; the sounds of their picks, their wheelbarrows and the falls of stone they cause is heard deep in mines. Occasionally they may be spotted working or lounging near the entrances to mines and those who have seen them (and there are many sightings recorded) describe beings the size of a one or two-year-old child (about eighteen inches high), with large heads and ugly old men's faces, dressed just like human miners. The Blue Cap apparently has no physical form, but his presence is indicated by a light blue flame which settles on the wagons he moves.

The mine fairies have tiny tools and equipment matching that of the human miners, and they labour tirelessly - digging, transporting and winding their coal and ore to the surface. These mine elves "busy themselves chiefly in imitating the operations men ... these seem to laugh, to be cloathed like workmen, to dig the earth, and to do many things they do not, mocking sometimes the workmen but seldome or never hurting them."

Once a new mine has been started, through their tapping underground the fairies point the way to mineral riches. They will also warn of impending disaster - often by making three distinct knocks against the rock. Generally, then, their presence is welcomed by miners. Their noises are not found alarming, and it's said to be good luck to see the fairies dancing in the adit of a mine.

As with all supernatural helpers, the knockers are averse to humans being too inquisitive. Although the sounds of their work indicate how and where to dig, if miners stop their work to listen to the knockers, the fairies will also cease their work. If they're spied upon, they may pelt stones at the onlookers or simply vanish. The sounds of their excavations may point to rich veins of ore, or they may just be mischievous and trying to mislead.







Cornish knocker

Blue Cap

Gnome

As with many fairy types, those who offend them or try to take advantage of them will be punished and those miners who betray the source of their good fortune will lose the knockers' favour. At the same time, they claimed a share of human property. This might just be a small portion of the miners' food or of their candle tallow.

Generally, the two co-exist without man needing to seek ways to disperse the coal fairies. However, fairies from other realms of existence present threats to man and his wellbeing. A study of folklore reveals that a range of objects, many of them extremely ordinary, have been found to be efficacious as charms that ward off or repel fairy harm. Ian Evans has shown us the impacts of witches and spirits in the superstitions of Farm Magic (BMACHO Heritage Newsletters March-April 2015 No. 37, and Sept-Oct 2018 No. 58).

Most objects fall into several broad categories, although most of them are natural materials. Where fairies appear in other spheres of human interaction, a number of commonly occurring rocks and such like substances seem to dispel the fairy presence. Iron is by far the most famous of these, being effective in any shape - whether a knife, a horseshoe, a pin or needle, pairs of tongs or the bolt of a door, but other less well-known (yet equally potent) materials include:

- A hot coal thrown in a vat of brewing ale, which will prevent the fairies spoiling it.
- Burning coals carried by travellers will prevent them being misled or abducted during their journey.
- Amber beads sewn into a child's clothes will prevent the child's abduction.
- Salt will certainly drive off the fairies, scattered around or put into foodstuffs that you don't want stolen.
- A rather well-known object is the so-called adder stone or hag stone, a naturally holed stone that could be worn around the neck to protect an individual or it might be hung over a byre or stable to safeguard the livestock.

Plants, charms, animal products like bones, wells and well water, cloth and religious items were used in various situations to stave off the fairies, together with old boots, dead cats, together with carvings on lintels or over fireplaces.





Adder stones or hag stones



Superstition has and still does play an important role in the beliefs and day to day activities of cultures across the world. It is not to be discounted due to the strength of the beliefs and the comfort and security that communities derive from knowing there is another attainable world out there which, for good or bad, guides their daily lives. Fairies to some can be more tangible than a higher God or supreme being.

Academics, professionals and religious leaders may try to write these beliefs off with science, but sometimes the folklore is so deeply ingrained that it will never be erased which is special!

Patsy Moppett

References:

www.britishfairies.wordpress.com

Tasmanian Magic Research Project, Second Field Season Report 2018, Ian Evans et al http://www.abc.net.au/landline/content/2014/s4105115.htm
Wikipedia

Book Review: The Hawkesbury Development Company LtdBy Joy Shepherd



A new book The Hawkesbury Development Company Limited was recently launched at Kurrajong Hills on 24th April 2021. This is the story of the pioneering of electricity in the old Colo Shire and Castlereagh Municipality by a private company from 1934 to 1965. The catastrophic floods of 1961 and 1964 in the Hawkesbury led to the demise of the Company and the takeover by Prospect County Council. The author was privileged to work there in her first job from 1958 to 1965. Nothing previously has been written about it, the story of its inception by a Gravel Company, the tenacity of those directing it and the pure hard work and guts of the workers who made it all happen. The book tells the history, plus the stories of some of the people involved. It is a story that has never been told before. The Foreword is written by former Premier Barrie Unsworth, who was their ETU man at the time. Barrie also attended the launch, and spoke, giving the book high praise. It is beautifully illustrated and printed on high quality paper and is 150 pages in length. It is available through the Colo Shire Family History Group.

Joy Shepherd Vice President Colo Shire Family History Group Inc

Cost: Financial Members \$27.00. Non Members \$30.00. Postage & handling \$10 for 1, \$14 for 2 or 3. Enquiries to Joy Shepherd Ph: 0417 029 685, or to Nell Ph: 0423 157 089 Email: joyshep1@bigpond.com

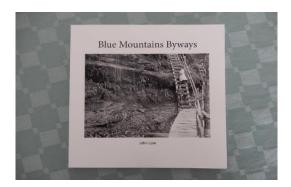
Book Review: Blue Mountains Byways

By John Low

One would not have though it possible to present the full gamut of Blue Mountains life in a single small publication. However, John Low has achieved this and more in his latest book

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Blue Mountains Byways. He provides a wide cross section of places, people, events and little-known facts about familiar places - the lost and found, the origin of names, the concealed places, the follies and scandals. He revives much that has been forgotten in the annuls of time: lost graves and secret places, legends myths and facts, disasters, escapes, loves declared and loves lost.





People such as Harry Phillips, Henry (Harry) Peckman and Louisa Meredith wind their way in and out of the narratives, providing a thread of connectivity, bringing the range of over 60 tales into an exquisite and compact chronicle of Blue Mountains history.

Although Low acknowledges faults and misdemeanors, he also celebrates the wild and the mysterious. He explores the relationship between the mountains and the valleys, and various journeys through, to and from the region, where mountain refuges provided then and now an escape from the humdrum of everyday life. He draws our attention to the place as a meeting of spirits past and present, a true *meeting of the waters*.

This book sits alongside and complements other works by Smith, Barrett, Stockton, Fox and Painter, providing a window into a partly forgotten world, reminding us that all is not lost. Some stories are told from under the shadow of a looming war, but others draw out the joy we experience from the more anecdotal classics of bushrangers, secret pools, aeroplanes, ghosts, dogs and coal fairies!!!

Sometimes you discover a work which brings it all together, and this is it. Since the Dreamtime the Blue Mountains has been a land of poets, writers and dreamers, celebrated in no small way by *Blue Mountains Byways.*Patsy Moppett

PLEASE NOTE THE CLOSING DATE FOR ARTICLES AND NOTIFICATIONS TO THE EDITOR FOR THE SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2021 ISSUE OF HERITAGE IS 25th AUGUST 2021

Community events & updates

BMACHO Blue Mountains History Conference 2021

The much-anticipated 2021 BMACHO History Conference, "Industrial Heritage" was held on Saturday 8th May 2021, at Lithgow Workman's Club (The Workies), at 3-7 Tank Street, Lithgow, having been held over from 2020. Given the postponement from 2020 the event was made all the more enjoyable and appreciated.

- Speakers were:
 - Ray Christison Keynote Speaker, The Inaugural Ian Jack Address: Ian Jack and Lithgow's Industrial Past – an inspiration to us all
 - Vaughan Bryers The Lithgow Brewery a zigzag history
 - Phil Hammon Searching for the Remains
 - Michael Keats Mugii Murum-ban State Conservation Area
 - David Mort Thomas Mort's picnic train to Lithgow first step in frozen food trade
 - Ray Christison Furnace, Fire & Forge

- Renzo Benedet The Lithgow Small Arms Factory the microcosm of precision engineering
- Keith Painter 1920s Chert Ventures at Mount Victoria
- Naomi Parry Being in itself probably the most important of all relics





Lithgow Workman's Club Millennium Room



Ray Christison, in clan tartan, delivers the Inaugural Ian Jack Address



Vaughan Bryers and the Zig Zag Brewery



David Mort and the frozen food picnic

Attendees were treated to an extravaganza of industrial history from Lithgow to Katoomba and places in between and beyond, from beer to picnics and frozen food, from rifles to rocks, from mining to rugged gorges and stunning pagodas. We were also reminded that the industrial landscape was not a pleasant environment, and that much blood, sweat, tragedy and tears went into the remains and ruins we see around us today.



Rod Stowe, BMACHO President, & Ron Powell



Ray Christison and Ian Milliss



John Brock and Kerima-Gae Topp



David Mort – sketch on the day by Tim Jones

BMACHO correspondence Secretary Jan Koperberg reports that there have been many positive comments via email and by word of mouth, about the speakers, the venue, the catering and the conference in general, including the following:

- thank you for providing all of the audience with an excellent day last Saturday in Lithgow. Venue was great, food delicious and talks terrific. Well done. We all loved it. It was absolutely worth the long trip.
- would like to thank you and the committee and organisers for looking after us at the conference. We were both impressed with the event.
- thank you for all the work you and your team put into last Saturday's history conference. I enjoyed it immensely and hope you felt, too, that it was a success. The speakers were all interesting and I learned a lot, especially about Lithgow which until recently was a bit of a blank I'm ashamed to say. The conference, too, was excellent for catching up with friends and colleagues I hadn't seen for some time. I'm already looking forward to the next one.
- I wanted to thank you for your efforts in bringing together such a diverse and interesting agenda for the Blue Mountains History Conference 2020/21. Few realise the effort it takes to bring an event such as this to a successful conclusion. You achieved that and deserve congratulations. You also did a great job in delivering the event. My party found the day interesting, engaging and informative. I was particularly impressed, and moved, by Ray's keynote address. He encapsulated lan's depth of interests, passionate commitment and exemplary research, whilst celebrating the generosity of spirit and essential humanity that so many who knew lan came to appreciate. It was a fitting tribute.

The BMACHO Committee certainly appreciated the efforts made by the Lithgow Workman's Club, who made every attempt to make the venue suitable to our needs. In conclusion, the presentations by the speakers were well received. The venue and catering provided by the Club and the warmth on a cool day, was very much appreciated.

All the speakers, the MC and the IT people have been emailed and thanked, as have staff at the Workies.

BMACHO now looks forward to its next conference in 2023!

BMACHO Committee

Blue Mountains Draft Cemeteries Strategic Plan

Blue Mountains City Council is seeking community feedback on the Draft Strategic Plan for BMCC Cemeteries until Friday, 9th July 2021. Council manages nine cemeteries which are all located on Crown land cemetery reserves. These cemeteries are located across the LGA in a range of rural, bushland and urban settings. Mayor, Councillor Mark Greenhill has advised that "The purpose of this Plan is to establish a strategic direction to guide the provision, management, operations and continued improvement of Council's cemeteries over the next 40-plus years".... The Strategic Plan includes an overall plan for provision of interment services, including:

- Forecasting projected needs for interment space over 40+ years.
- An assessment of the opportunities and constraints of existing cemeteries, particularly those relating to heritage-listed cemeteries and significant graves.
- An assessment of capacity of existing cemeteries.
- Options for management of cemeteries including those closed to burials.
- Implementation and resourcing plans to achieve and monitor success in achieving the recommendations.









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In order to best plan for the future, Council has prepared the Plan to cover all nine cemeteries, acknowledging that each has its own particular heritage values and features. The Plan looks at the heritage of each cemetery, the existing vegetation that surrounds the cemeteries and the role that vegetation plays in the definition of the cemeteries as recognised entities. Major factors incorporated in the expansion plans are the retention of Threatened Ecological Communities, Endangered Ecological Communities and Scheduled Vegetation identified and protected through State or Local Government policies and Acts. In addition, onsite amenities and furniture will be reviewed, along with integration of burial information into a city-wide heritage and interpretive signage strategy. This strategy will have potential links (QR or other methods) to the Significant Graves Register and burial graves register, both on the BMCC website.

Consultation: The Draft Plan is on public exhibition until July 2021. Interested people are invited to review the Plan on Council's website and make submissions, which would close on **9**th **July 2021**.

History Week 2021

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History Week is the annual, state-wide celebration of History organised by the History Council of NSW and is set for **4**th **to 12**th **September 2021**. Registrations opened in early June, so there is still plenty of time to plan to attend some of the many events that will be scheduled. History Week is planned to be both an online and in-person series of events for 2021, having regard for COVID-19 Health considerations.



They want you to tell History Week audiences how histories can return to their roots to strengthen the way we connect and care for one another and our communities. You are encouraged to tell these stories through histories of particular interest to you. They encourage variety and diversity. You might ask yourself:

- What kind of histories do we most need in our world today to heal the past and usher in fresh hope and possibility for the future?
- What role might histories of place and environmental histories, social histories and histories from below play in this process?
- Are they histories of place and environment such as local, public, urban, architectural or environmental history?
- Or perhaps your focus is people, and you are drawn to family histories, Indigenous histories, fictional, cultural, social, medical or biographical history?

They want you to **re-think History from the Ground Up** and present your ideas in History Week 2021.

History Week 2021 will be a mixed medium festival, with online and/or in-person events encouraged.

This is your opportunity to share your latest passion, a long-term project or research that has moved you. Overall, there will be close to 100 events being staged throughout NSW in History Week 2021, many of which will be online for the first time ever.

Find out more on the History Council of NSW:

Website: https://historycouncilnsw.org.au/history-week-toplevel/history-week-2020/

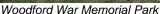
Phone: 0418 811 522

Email: programs@historycouncilnsw.org.au

Grants for war memorial conservation projects

Applications are now open to Round One of the NSW Government's Community War Memorials Fund 2021/22. Eligible organisations can apply online for grants of up to \$10,000 to protect, conserve or repair local war memorials across NSW.







Honour Avenue, Lawson

Since the establishment of the program in 2008, grants have been provided for a wide range of projects including conservation assessments, honour roll repair, war memorial cleaning and conservation work, arborist advice for war memorial trees, security measures for memorials, repairs to war memorial halls and improvements to the accessibility of memorials. Two application rounds are run each year. The rounds usually open on Anzac Day and again on Remembrance Day.

Applications for Round One close on Monday, 26th July 2021.

Grant applications are assessed by the State War Memorials Committee which is comprised of senior representatives of the Returned and Services League of Australia NSW Branch, Public Works Advisory (PWA), Heritage NSW and the NSW Office for Veterans Affairs. To apply, study the 2021/22 Program Guidelines before completing the online Community War Memorials Fund application. They also recommend you refer to *Caring for our war memorials guide* and *Photographing War Memorials guidelines*.

As an example, during the 2020/2021 program Lawson Honour Avenue Gardens received funding to have a conservation management plan prepared for Honour Avenue. Further information about the Community War Memorials Fund can be found on the NSW Office for Veterans Affairs website at https://www.veterans.nsw.gov.au/heritage/community-war-memorials-fund/

They have also created a toolkit that includes assets which can be uploaded to social media channels, websites and enewsletters to promote the funding opportunity. The toolkit can be accessed at https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1TtB2VpoXg40JFfZVTs49frMVniLzMflW

The National Trust of Australia (NSW) Heritage Awards 2021

The National Trust of Australia (NSW) President, Mr Neil Wykes, and the Board of Directors presented the National Trust Heritage Awards 2021 on 13th May, proudly supported by the NSW Government through the Heritage Council of NSW, at the heritage listed Doltone House, Jones Bay Wharf, 26-32 Pirrama Road, Pyrmont Point.





The National Trust is Australia's oldest and largest independent conservation organisation, founded in 1945. Their aim is to bring the heritage of NSW to life for future generations. They are a not-for profit community organisation, and in 2020 the National Trust celebrated its 75th Anniversary in NSW.

The 27th anniversary of the National Trust Heritage Awards is a highly anticipated signature event of the Australian Heritage Festival. The event reflected upon twelve months of outstanding innovations, conservation, advancement and stories of heritage in the built, cultural and natural environment, and the outstanding projects of individuals, groups and organisations who have preserved or promoted the beautiful heritage of NSW.

The event recognized the winning and highly commended projects for a range of awards, including Aboriginal Heritage, Conservation of Built Heritage, and three individual award winners who have been nominated for outstanding efforts in the field of heritage throughout their careers.

Amongst those short listed for their achievements from western Sydney and beyond were:

- Advocacy: Mulgoa Valley entered by Friends of Fernhill and Mulgoa Valley Inc.
- **Conservation: Built Heritage**: Restoration of Cathedral of St Michael and St John, Bathurst entered by Cathedral of St Michael and St John.

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- **Education and Interpretation**: Fairbridge Children's Park, Molong entered by Clouston Associates.
- Heritage Events, Exhibitions and Tours: Dennis Heritage Day entered by Museum of Fire.
- Heritage Events, Exhibitions and Tours: Old and New Histories entered by Orange Regional Museum.

Patsy Moppett

Bathurst Remembers World War II: Exhibition 2021



Marking VJ Day (victory over Japan Day) and the 75th Anniversary of the end of WWII, this exhibition will be held from Friday 13th August to Monday 16th August 2021. The four-day event will be open from 9am to 5pm each day and held in four pavilions at the

Bathurst Showground, Sydney Road. This WWII Exhibition will include:

- Snapshots of World War II 600 enlarged photos of soldiers in action, battlefields, training, the home front, Bathurst Army Camp, etc.
- There will also be the *Wall of Valour* over 130 enlarged photos of World War II Service Men and Women associated with Bathurst who enlisted and served.
- Guest Exhibitors will display over 3,000 military items and WW2 memorabilia, uniforms, a WWII model railway, military vehicles, medals, RAAF & POW items, a rustic military picture theatre, and more.

Supported by the Bathurst District Historical Society, Bathurst RSL Subbranch, Department of Veterans' Affairs, Bathurst Regional Council and the Bathurst Showground Land Manager.

For further details contact the Curator - Alan McRae on 02 6331 5404 or email amcrae@lisp.com.au

Congratulations to the following Committee for 2021, as the community seeks to catch up with AGMs previously held in obevance through the COVID situation:

Annual General Meeting – Woodford Academy Management Committee

Friday 13th May 2021, at the Academy.

Office Bearers:

Chair: Kate O'Neill
Deputy Chair: Beata Geyer
Minutes Secretary: Julie Stockton
Treasurer: Sue Henley

Currently no representative is available for the BMACHO Management Committee.

Recipients of 2021-23 NSW Government Heritage Grants

Some \$5.5 million was awarded in the latest round of the NSW Government's Heritage Grants Program. Funds were awarded to more than 220 projects to protect, manage and celebrate NSW's rich and diverse heritage. Heritage owners and custodians, local

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government and the community will be able to use the funds to deliver a broad range of heritage outcomes, including conservation and repair works, education programs and heritage interpretations. Funding was prioritised to support recovery and preparedness for natural disasters, with more than \$4.6m invested in 182 projects in affected areas.





St Matthews, Windsor

Mountain View, Richmond

Amongst those achieving funding for their achievements from the Blue Mountains and beyond were:

- Bathurst Regional Council Bathurst Street and Park Lamps Condition Assessment and Maintenance Plan.
- Mountain View (Durham Bowes), Richmond Conservation.
- Rylstone and District Historical Society Inc. Heritage Interpretation of the Bridge View Inn.
- St Matthews Anglican Parish Windsor St Matthews Bicentennial Conservation Works
- The National Trust of Australia (NSW) Internal/External Painting and Associated Conservation Works - Woodford Academy.

Patsy Moppett

Transport Heritage Grants 2021

The Transport Heritage Grants Program is a NSW Government funded program, administered by the Royal Australian Historical Society (RAHS), and supported by Transport Heritage NSW (THNSW). The grants program aims to help the NSW community rediscover the culture, the events and the people that have shaped transport in NSW in the past, as well as support the restoration and conservation of our valuable heritage assets. It runs on an annual basis to assist eligible organisations and individuals with rail, tram and bus-based heritage activities.







Mt Victoria

Zig Zag

Valley Heights

The Grants Program opened on Tuesday 15th June 2021, and can fund projects in the following categories:

- Restoration, reconstruction or preservation of a heritage transport item.
- Education, publication or interpretation of an event, item(s) or person(s) that will promote heritage transport.

A study, consultation, report or review that will assist in managing a heritage transport location or item.

Applicants can apply for grants of up to \$15,000 or \$50,000. Note that only one larger grant will be awarded each year. You must speak with RAHS before submitting an application for more than \$15,000.

Applications for the 2021 Transport Heritage Grants close 5:00pm Tuesday 10th August 2021

If you are interested in applying, the guidelines and application form are available on the RAHS website. Please contact Maryanne Byrne, the RAHS grants administrator, via grants@rahs.org.au should you have any queries regarding the program.

Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail Update

BMACHO continues to promote the Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail and members' upcoming events. At present participation in the Trail is slowly opening up following on from



the corona virus situation, although activities are of course limited. The Trail is normally an ideal activity for the kids and grandkids, be it in the school **Extrac** holidays or any weekend! The 2019 trail brochures can still be collected at participating venues and Visitor Information Centres which have remained

The Trail brochure is currently being reviewed and is due for reissue in 2022. Should any business wish to be considered for inclusion in the next brochure, as a place of accommodation or an eating house along the trail route, please contact BMACHO at committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au

If you are a member and you would like further information, or if you would like to become a member, please email BMACHO at committee @bluemountainsheritage.com.au For general information about BMACHO and the Trail, see heritagedrive.com.au or www.facebook.com/GBMHeritageTrail

To find out more about BMACHO visit www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

Registered office: 1/19 Stypandra 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 and Penrith. 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.

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 Mountain Education & Research Trust; Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mt Tomah; Blue Mountains City Library; Blue Mountains Cultural Heritage Centre; Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc; Blue Mountains Historical Society; Bygone Beautys Treasured Teapot Museum and Tearooms; City of Lithgow Mining Museum Inc; Colo Shire Family History Group; Everglades Historic House & Gardens; Friends of the Paragon Inc; Gang Gang Gallery, Lithgow; Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc; Hawkesbury Historical Society Inc; Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc; Leuralla NSW Toy & Railway Museum; Lithgow & District Family History Society Inc; Lithgow – Eskbank House Museum and 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; Norman Lindsay Gallery and Museum; Scenic World Blue Mountains Limited; Springwood Historical Society Inc; The Eleanor Dark Foundation Ltd; Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Heritage Museum; Woodford Academy Management Committee; Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd.

The following are individual members: Wendy Blaxland, Vaughan Bryers, Fiona Burn, Philip Hammon, Dr Wayne Hanley, Michael Keats, Ian Milliss, Patsy Moppett, Keith Painter, Barbara Palmer, Dr Peter Rickwood, and Dr Robert Strange.

Committee: The management committee for 2020-2021 (from March 2020) is: Rod Stowe (President); Patsy Moppett (Vice President and Newsletter Editor), Fiona Burn (Secretary), Philip Hammon (Treasurer), Dick Morony (Public Officer/Membership Secretary/ Calendar Editor), Suzanne Smith (Events and Venue Coordinator), Jan Koperberg (Correspondence Secretary), Roy Bennett.

Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail sub-committee: Fiona Burn, Jan Koperberg, Suzanne Smith. Blue Mountains History Conference sub-committee: Patsy Moppett, Jan Koperberg, Phil Hammon, Rod Stowe.

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.