

Heritage

*Newsletter of the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural
Heritage Organisations Inc*

November-December 2021

ISSUE 77

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.

Blackheath's 'Old Cemetery' and its graves

The original burial ground for the Blackheath Stockade was a plot of land 150 x 150 links (30.2 x 30.2 m) on the north side of what is now Railway Avenue, Blackheath (**Figure 1**), so near to, but west of, the Railway Station (**Figure 2**). It ceased to serve its original purpose when the Stockade was closed in 1849 but local residents continued to use it for about fifty years as it was the only cemetery in the area.



A West side: Photo Peter Rickwood (2021)



East side **B**: Photo Peter Rickwood (2010)
The NE corner is at the middle of the red shipping container (see **Figure 3**)

Figure 1: Stockade cemetery, Railway Avenue, Blackheath

A newspaper article published in 1880 provided a short description of the Old Cemetery: "On the opposite side of the platform at one time stood a government stockade, and a few yards from the spot may still be seen a sad record of the first road-makers over the Blue Mountains, in the shape of the neglected graves of those who died at the stockade."³ The description was accompanied by an imaginative sketch (**Figure 3**) showing a background of cliffs which are not visible from Railway Avenue as can be readily verified today from the higher vantage point on the nearby Railway bridge.

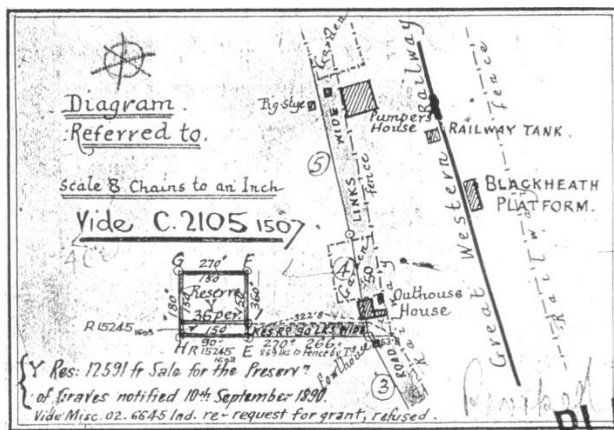


Figure 2: Original survey plan: Chapman 1904

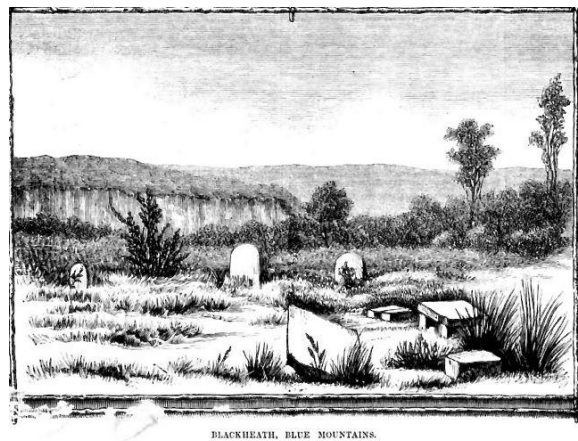
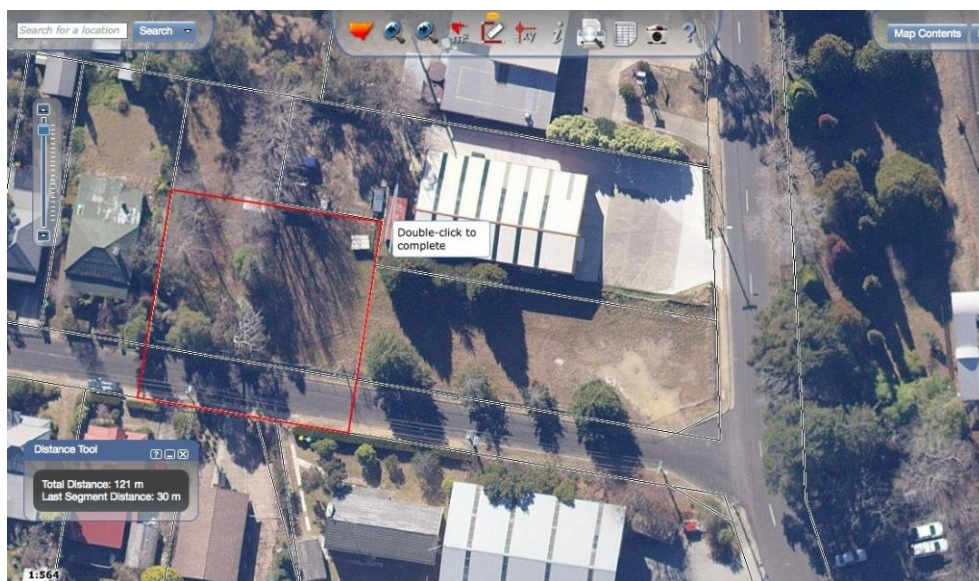


Figure 3. 1880 sketch of the Old Cemetery: Anonymous



SixMaps © Spatial Services 2021

Figure 4: Aerial Photograph with the former Cemetery outlined in RED.

In 1889 it was reported that:

*"The burial-ground is in a rather neglected state. On one grave a comparatively new headstone is broken down. Some of the gravestones bear old inscriptions, as far back as 1846 when the convict stockade was at Blackheath; one is that of a private soldier who belonged to the 11th. Regiment and there are other graves of recent date."*⁴

Following a request from the Blackheath Progress Committee⁵, 11 acres (c.4.5 ha) of land east of the railway line was set aside for a new cemetery⁶ and was dedicated on 9th August 1887⁷. That gave justification for the closure of the 'Old Cemetery' in about 1889⁸ although locals continued to use it (e.g. Reference ⁹). Closure brought the need for secure fencing, and a "pig proof four railed fence" was specified by a "government official", to the amazement of he whose *nom de plume* was Diogenes¹⁰. But a contract was let to a Mr. Nicholson¹¹ and within a month the fence was finished¹². Next gates were erected but the gap below them was too great, "Therefore a "pig proof fence" becomes an anomaly."¹³

Then in 1898 a correspondent to a newspaper wrote a favourable comment:

*"On the opposite side of the line, and quite close to it, a well-kept old cemetery can be seen."*¹⁴

But in December 1900 the Blackheath Progress Committee started to take an interest:

*"Efforts are to be made to have the old stockade burial ground done away with and bodies reinterred at the general cemetery. *"*¹⁵. [*located beside the Great Western Highway a short distance north of central Blackheath.]

In March 1901 they took up *"the matter of extending the lane from the Railway through the old cemetery"*¹⁶ *"and to ask the Government, ... , to remove two graves and give a strip of land to enable a road to be got through,...."*¹⁷.

By June 1901 *"the old cemetery, ... had been closed for about 12 years"*¹⁸.

and in July the Lands Department asked the committee *"to find out the relatives of those buried at the old cemetery"*¹⁹, a near impossible task as it seems to have been because three years later the Lands Department advertised for *"relations or friends"* of the deceased to contact them²⁰. Those interred in the specified two graves were probably British born soldiers although another opinion was that *"the graves (contained) several British soldiers and a number of convicts"*²¹.

The Progress Committee became more ambitious in August 1902 and were seeking *"the removal of the remains from the old cemetery"*²², no longer just two graves. Two years later the Under Secretary for the Department of Lands wrote:

*"no objection will be raised by this Department to the Progress Committee removing the remains to the general cemetery at its own cost, ... Upon the work of removal being completed, action will be taken by the Department to extend the 30 links (6.04 m) lane westerly along the southern boundary of the burial ground, and to sell the balance of the land at auction."*²³.

Then in June 1904 tenders were invited to undertake the exhumations²⁴ and of thirteen tenders that from a Mr. Burnett²⁵ or Mr G.W. Bennett²⁶ was accepted. With hand tools it would have been an arduous task as the interred were said to have been buried: *"some eight feet deep"*²⁷.

That work started in June²⁸ yet incredulously on 22 July 1904 it was reported that: *"Mr. Bennett has finished his contract for removal of remains from the old cemetery"*²⁹.

It was not explicitly stated, but it can be assumed, that he had moved both the grave markers and all of the human remains to the unoccupied north east corner (**Figure 5**) of the general cemetery.

An account of the exhumations recorded:

*"...some 25 graves have already been opened. Nothing of very great interest has so far resulted, skulls and a few bones being the things found generally, the coffins being decayed. In one instance a pair of boots with the leg bones were found and in another grave parts of a man's braces were found with the bones, in a partly decayed coffin proving that the persons had been buried with parts of their clothes. The graves of soldiers who were over the convicts at the Blackheath stockade on being opened showed that they had been buried in sheets of bark and very little of their remains were left.."*³⁰.

The final tally was that 35 bodies had been interred and *"all the large stone slabs which capped the soldiers' graves were found to be in splendid order."*³¹ Yet only one of those slabs is now known to exist - that of Robert Crawford (**Figure 9**). Apart from those whose graves have headstones, the names of many of the other individuals who were exhumed are not known and the reports made at the time convey that when dug up after *"some 50 to 60 years"*³² many remains were not identifiable. But as evidence of only 10 graves has been found at the north east corner of the general cemetery it is evident that other human remains, from unmarked locations in the old cemetery, were also taken to that area.

A poorly maintained path through the bush is signposted *"To the grave (sic) of Stockade soldiers and others"*. There in 2021 we have found five graves with vertical headstones engraved with the names of William Evans (**Figure 6**), Samuel Jones, John Carroll, Thomas Head and Oliver Biles (**Figure 7**).



Figure 5: Overview of graves removed from the 'Old Cemetery'; view to the South, towards the entrance of the General Cemetery: Photo Peter Rickwood (2021)



Figure 6: W. Evans



Figure 7: Graves of S. Jones, J. Carroll, T. Head and O. Biles
Photos Peter Rickwood (2021)



Figure 8: The grave of Robert Crawford, who died at the Blackheath Stockade in 1849
Photo: Peter Rickwood (2021)

There is one 'table' grave covered by a large horizontal 'ledger'³³ slab (192 x 92 cm) (**Figure 8**) engraved with the name Robert Crawford³⁴ but lichen covering and erosion have made the words barely legible now.

The locations of those graves are shown on **Figure 9**.

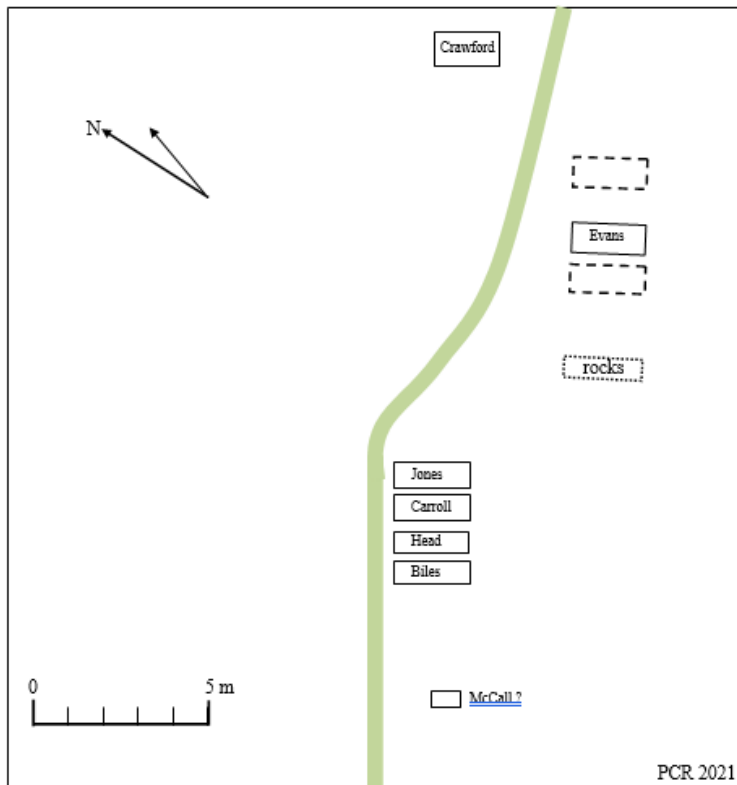


Figure 9: Plan of graves installed in the NE corner of the General Cemetery after being removed from the 'Old Cemetery' in 1904.

The names on the headstones relocated to the General Cemetery were inaccurately and incompletely recorded by both Bowden³⁵ in 1976 and BMFHS (Blue Mountains Family History Society) in 1989³⁶ yet in those years the engravings should have been clearer than they are in 2021. In the order that the headstones now stand, left to right (*i.e.* east to west), they are engraved thus:



Figure 10: Evans footstone 'W.E. 1883': Photo Peter Rickwood (2021)

Sacred to the memory of William Evans who met his death by accident at the Katoomba Coal Mine December 12 1883 aged 36 years
There is a footstone too with minimal engravings (**Figure 10**).

To the memory of Samuel Jones who departed this life at Blackheath Stockade on the 16 June 1845 aged 27 years

The Convict Death Register³⁷ gives 22 August 1844 for that death but surely that has been wrongly recorded and should be 22 August 1845 or else it is a date for another event in Jones' life.

To the memory of John Carroll

who departed this life at Blackheath Stockade on this illegible March 1845 aged 51 years
(In some lighting conditions the second L in Carroll is hard to discern now - **Figure 11A.**)
Bowden, BMFS & the Heritage Inventory give 6 March 1845³⁸.



Figure 11: Headstone details: Photos: Peter Rickwood (2021)

To the memory of Thomas Head who departed this life at Blackheath Stockade on the illegible

November 1846 aged illegible years

(Bowden, BMFHS & Heritage Inventory³⁹ give the day as 19 but it is 29⁴⁰, but BMFHS & Heritage Inventory⁴¹ give 25.

Sacred to the memory of Oliver Biles who died 19th November 1884 aged 15 months. We miss thee

And in the bottom right hand corner is the name of the monumental mason: G. Hamilton Katoomba (**Figure 11B**). Fortunately such commercial inscriptions on the front of headstones are rare as they detract from the solemnity of the details of the deceased.

The engraved words on the grave markers for Jones, Carroll, Head and Crawford indicate that they were connected with the Blackheath Stockade. Jones and Head are listed in the Convict Death Register⁴² but Carroll is also thought to have been a prisoner. However, Robert Crawford was a soldier in the 11th Regiment⁴³.

The "*List of prisoners attached to the Blackheath Stockade 18 April 1848*" recorded 88 names⁴⁴ but it post dated the deaths of Jones & Carroll in 1845 and Head in 1846. None of the names in that list appear on headstones that still exist but the remains of some of those men MAY be buried hereabouts in unmarked ground. That audit pre-dated the arrival of Crawford with the 11th Regiment on 14 August 1848⁴⁵.

In 1911, historian Frank Walker recorded the '*epitaphs*' on the few headstones^{46 & 47} which had

"stood for many years at the side of the main Western Road, close to Blackheath Railway Station"

and survived the move from the Stockade cemetery to the later General Cemetery⁴⁸.

[Walker was inaccurate because the Railway line is between the site of the '*Old Cemetery*' and the Great Western Highway.]

One of the inscriptions on these headstones he transcribed as:

*"To the memory of Samuel Jones, who departed this life at Blackheath Stockade, on the 16th of June 1845, aged 27 years."*⁴⁹

- which is reasonably correct. However, Walker^{50 & 51} later gave the date as "10th of June 1846" but that year is wrong and the day number on the headstone looks more like 16th.

Separate is the horizontal slab (table grave) on which few words can be discerned with ease now but thirty years ago were transcribed⁵² as:

"Sacred to the memory of Robert Crawford – 1849 Blackheath Stockade."

Even with the persuasion of those words, it now seems only possible to detect (**Figure 8**):

Sacred to the memory of Robert Crawford – Blackheath

The form of Crawford's grave corresponds with those identified during exhumation in 1904 to be of soldiers⁵³ but possibly he was still just a private when he died⁵⁴ which surprises in view of the size of the grave.

Isabel Bowden wrote

*"... the headstones removed from the old stockade burial ground to the north side of the present public cemetery do not bear the names of the men of the regiment and they may well be those of some of the convicts."*⁵⁵

A confusing statement in part possibly intending to convey that the Regiment numbers are not stated on the headstones and attributing all of the names to convicts was wrong.

The headstones of Evans and Biles are in the best condition and have a similar style and quality of lettering, recording deaths in 1883 and 1884 respectively.

*"The later 1880s headstone is also semicircular topped. It commemorates Oliver Biles, died 1884, aged 15 months. The headstone was by the mason, G Hamilton, Katoomba."*⁵⁶

The lettering on the earlier set of headstones to Jones, Carroll and Head is not so neat as that relating to Biles nevertheless those words were engraved by somebody with some of the skills of a monumental mason. But nobody based at the Stockade in the 1840s was formally appointed to that task, however there were convicts who were masons and who would have quarried the sandstone locally and prepared it for headstone purpose. Most probably it was one of them who engraved those headstones and possibly a different man engraved the slab for Robert Carroll to account for the lesser quality of the lettering - but that is conjecture. Expanding those thoughts, it is unlikely that non-professional engravers would have had time to prepare headstones for all 35 of the graves reported to have been in the 'Old Cemetery'. Hence that would account for there being so few headstones that were available to be taken to the General Cemetery.

Also commemorated on headstones are two civilians with no connection to the Stockade having died far too long after it closed in April 1849 (i.e. William Evans, a miner killed in 1883 (**Figure 6**), and Oliver Biles (**Figure 7** far right), a 15 month old baby who died in 1884).

There is just one unmarked grave of a size that could only accommodate a child (**Figure 12**); it is not visible in **Figure 5** but its position is shown on the plan of this site (**Figure 9**) as the first grave encountered on the right of the path leading to the cluster of graves. It seems to be unmarked but being 85 cm in length it is highly probable to be the resting place of the baker's daughter, Annie McCall, who died⁵⁷ aged 2 years and 4 months. Initially she was interred in the 'Old Cemetery'⁵⁸ and her grave would have been the most recent of those in that cemetery when exhumations occurred in 1904. Annie would have been c. 82-90 cm in length⁵⁹ so her body would have fitted into this small unmarked grave. At the inquest it was revealed that she died from "effects of scalds accidentally received" (**Figure 13**) and she succumbed to her injuries later that same day 10th July 1890⁶⁰. Birth and death records for Annie only give the initial I for her second name⁶¹, however the report of the inquest on her death reveals that it was Isabel⁶² (**Figure 13**).

The 1989 compilation of details of the graves in Blackheath Cemetery⁶³ records that Row 1 plot 5 of the Church of England section is the grave of **Jane McCall**⁶⁴. Those details are followed by an entry for an **Annie Elizabeth McCall** who was "bur. 12 - 7 - 1890" but there is no known record of an Annie Elizabeth McCall. That burial date is identical to that of the funeral of Annie Isabel McCall⁶⁵ so it would seem to suggest that the wrong second name had been inserted. However there is no proof that the grave of Jane McCall was re-opened



| No. | Date when erected | Gravestone or Monument | When built | Date | Name of Deceased | Age | Where Born | Locality of Death | Worked or Studied | Club or Property owned by Deceased |
|------|-------------------|------------------------|------------|------|---------------------|-----|------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1771 | 1888 | S. H. McCall | Blackheath | 1888 | Annie Isabel McCall | 14 | Blackheath | Blackheath | Attended school at Blackheath | Nil |

Figure 12. Infant sized grave, probably of Annie McCall (March 1888 - 10 July 1890)
Photo Peter Rickwood (2021)

and the remains of a young child were placed alongside her. Moreover:

- when in 1904 the remains buried in the Old Cemetery were exhumed⁶⁶ those of Annie would have been included and when re-interment was made in the north-east section of the General Cemetery it is highly unlikely that the remains of Annie Isabel would have been treated differently.
- only one infant grave is known to have been in the old cemetery and there is only one grave in the north-east section of the General Cemetery to accommodate small remains, hence most probably it contains those of Annie Isabel McCall.
- that infant Annie McCall was buried in the Old Cemetery is certain⁶⁷ but there is no record of a headstone having been erected. So when the exhumation occurred in 1904 the remains buried 14 years previously may have been '*identified*' as those of Annie McCall by a Blackheath resident with a memory of the funeral in 1890 which "*was attended by a large number of people, especially little ones ...*"⁶⁸.

Both of her parents were still alive in 1904 but neither of them would have named her incorrectly as Annie Elizabeth hence it seems likely to have been someone else but Isabel and Elizabeth sound so different that a mishearing is improbable.

- at death Janet was of an age (19) to have been able to follow a religion different from that of her staunch non-conformist parents⁶⁹ but Annie at the age of 2 years and 4 months most certainly was not. It is remotely possible that their parents may have agreed to Annie's remains being placed with those of her sister in a Church of England plot, but due to their firm beliefs that is unlikely despite that being the only McCall grave in Blackheath Cemetery in 1904.

Although that '*evidence*' is partly circumstantial it does lead one to conclude that the second part of that BMFHS entry⁷⁰ is misleading.

An earlier infant mortality was the publican's daughter Emma Butts who died in Govett's Leap Hotel on 8 December 1878 aged 4 months⁷¹ and would have been c. 60 cm in length. Where she is buried is not known but the site is likely to have been local.

Puzzle

Close to the grave of William Evans there are three (?) unmarked adult graves bringing the total of discernible plots to 10. But exhumed in 1904 were another 25 persons so where were their remains re-buried ?

Peter C. Rickwood & Joan E Steele

References: See references in separate attachment.

Index

| | |
|--|----|
| Blackheath's 'Old Cemetery' and its graves | 1 |
| Editorial | 9 |
| Sir Henry Browne Hayes – convict and gentleman | 10 |
| The Ritz, Leura | 12 |
| Protest Christmas Cards | 14 |
| Leuralla Toy & railway Museum | 17 |
| Exciting New World: Australian Life in the 1920s & 1930s | 18 |
| Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Heritage Museum Reopening | 19 |
| Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Heritage Museum AGM | 20 |
| Bathurst Remembers World War II: Exhibition 2021 | 20 |
| Bygone Beautys – Teapots and Things | 21 |
| Blue Plaques Program - behind every plaque, there is a story | 22 |
| Blue Mountains Historical Society Research Centre Reopens | 23 |
| Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail Update | 24 |



Food for thought Editor's note



So wonderful to be able to report this issue that most member venues are now opening up, and we encourage the public to explore visitation opportunities wherever possible, especially in this wonderful springtime weather!

An update from Heritage NSW (Department of Premier and Cabinet) in regard to the latest on the new Heritage Management System (HMS). This new digital system for lodging Heritage Act applications and searching heritage information, the Heritage Management System (HMS), has transformed the way customers access and engage with Heritage NSW services and heritage information.

The HMS has replaced previous systems and paper-based application processes. The goal is to have one coordinated online system that is easy to use, transparent and streamlined. The digital system has been designed for customers including State Heritage Register owners, industry and heritage professionals, and local and state government agencies. Through this system they are able to process applications and provide advice more efficiently.

Some of the key features include:

- ability to set up a secure login for access to applications.
- track progress of your applications via online workflows and a dashboard.
- receive emails at key stages of your application process.
- an interactive map which will allow you for the first time to search and view heritage spatially.

The HMS has also improved how NSW Heritage manage environmental heritage information across NSW. User Guides are available on the NSW Heritage website.

Further information may be available as follows:

Phone: 02 9873 8500

Email: heritagemailbox@environment.nsw.gov.au
Web: www.heritage.nsw.gov.au

So, stay in touch with how heritage is managed across the State and catch up on new State Heritage Register listings such as St Peter's Anglican Church Group - 384 Windsor Street, Richmond; the Harris Creek Rail Bridge - Heathcote Road, Holsworthy; the Goulburn Jewish Cemetery and Cultural Landscape; and *Maryland*, The Northern Road Bringelly. In addition, find out about the Heritage Forum, progress on the Heritage Act review, archaeological, indigenous and maritime projects, and standard exemptions and permits. So many heritage initiatives underway to assist the heritage community!

In the next issue of *Heritage* we hope to bring you an article on *Maryland* at Bringelly, a rural property associated with James Dickson and Thomas Barker, dated to before 1840.

We hope you enjoy our selection of Christmas reading and the BMACHO Committee wish you a safe, healthy and merry festive season!

Sir Henry Browne Hayes – convict and gentleman

Sir Henry Browne Hayes (1762-1832) was the son of Attiwell Hayes of Mount Vernon, Cork, Ireland, a wealthy brewer and miller. The young Henry Hayes was known for his irregular behaviour, but won an influential place in the community, becoming a captain in the South Cork militia and subsequently a sheriff. It was probably for services as a sheriff that he was knighted in 1790.

Sir Henry was involved in the one of the first transportations of Irish convicts to Australia. In 1791, Sir Henry Browne Hayes then as the sheriff of Cork and British Crown Agent, was ordered by his superiors to supervise the transport of a shipload of Irish convicts selected from 24 counties, on to the penal colony of New South Wales situated on the east coast of New Holland, as Australia was then called. Ironically, only a few years later Sir Henry himself was transported as a convict to NSW for having attempted to abduct then forcibly marry a wealthy Cork heiress for her inheritance.

Hayes was transported to NSW in 1797 for 7 years for kidnapping a Mary Pike, heiress to a fortune of £20,000. Hayes at this time was a widower with several children and was listed on the records as a *gentleman*. He had married his wife Elizabeth Smyth in 1783, but she died in 1794.



Sir Henry Browne Hayes



Mount Vernon, Cork



Sir Henry Browne Hayes

The Cumberland Argus printed a description of Sir Henry Browne Hayes at the time, *.....written by an unfriendly hand, wherein he is described as straight made, rather fresh coloured, a little pock marked, and brown hair, with remarkable whiskers; about five feet seven inches high and about forty years old.*

Hayes was a spender, living far beyond his means and sought to befriend Mary for her inheritance. Hayes arranged a meeting to meet Mary at her uncle's house. He then devised a way to have Mary visit her supposedly sick mother and she, together with her cousin Mary, set out for the visit. Along the way the carriage was stopped by masked men and Mary Hayes was dragged to another waiting carriage. Henry forced her to undergo a sham

marriage at his home at Mount Vernon, and after she rejected his advances he locked her in a room and fled. Soon afterwards she was rescued by her father.



Mary Pike



Artist's impression of the kidnapping

Immediately outlawed, Hayes went into hiding for a time but then for two years lived openly. By 1800 he considered it safe to offer himself for trial. This took place the next year, taking some three days and despite his confidence he was found guilty and sentenced to death, to be hanged at Hallows Green. The sentence was commuted to transportation for life, and he arrived in NSW on 6th July 1802 aboard the *Atlas*. Hayes paid for a privileged passage, which was as well for him, for the voyage was the worst in the history of transportation. During it he antagonized the surgeon, Thomas Jamison, which earned him six months imprisonment after his arrival, and his stay in NSW was noteworthy largely for his war against authority, which might have included the 1804 Castle Hill rising, and his continued defiance of Governor King earned Hayes time in Van Diemen's Land. King called him a *restless, troublesome character*.

He then lived at Vacluse, where he existed in remarkable style and freedom for a convict and was known for expressing sympathies with the deposed Governor William Bligh, for which he was sent to the Newcastle coal mines for eight months. As a result of petitioning by Bligh, together with the intercession of Sir Henry's eldest daughter Mary Jude to the Viceroy of Ireland the Duke of Rutland, as well as her charming of the Prince Regent George IV, Sir Henry was pardoned in 1812 and a pardon was made out by Bligh in 1809, subsequently honoured by Governor Macquarie. Hayes left for Ireland in December 1812 in the *Isabella*, surviving a shipwreck at the Falkland Islands. The ship was wrecked due to the captain being drunk, and when the boats were lowered to save the women, Sir Henry and his servant leapt onto a boat and rowed away. The crew and passengers were saved by an American vessel and taken to Long Island. Having made it to shore, Sir Henry carried on the journey to Ireland. He retired in Cork and died in 1832.

His first positive contribution to the colony was his attempt in 1803 to attempt to establish a Masonic Lodge and his meeting in 1803 is regarded as the foundation day of Freemasonry in Australia.

His second contribution was Vacluse House, the home he built near South Head, which passed to John Piper after Hayes' departure, and in 1829 it passed to William Charles Wentworth who considerably extended it.

Built in snake-infested country, Hayes had surrounded Vacluse House with a moat of turf which he had imported from Ireland, and which he believed would keep the reptiles at a safe distance. Curiously, the turf appeared to have had the desired effect.

A transcript from the 17th March 1810 in the Sydney Gazette article stated:

.... *Sir Henry Browne Hayes, a wealthy Irish convict was troubled by the many snakes that entered his beautiful new house, the first Vacluse House, to sun themselves on the window ledge of his bedroom. And to stop them from entering, Sir Henry encircled the house with*

imported Irish peat, in the belief, that Irish soil once blessed by St Patrick, still possessed the power to deter the Vacluse snakes from crawling over it.



*Painting of Vacluse House
by GE Peacock 1846-50*



Vacluse House

After the kidnapping Mary Pike was forced to seek refuge at Bath in England. She never married and never recovered from the ordeal. She sadly became deranged and spent the rest of her life in a convalescent home. Her affairs were passed to the care of the courts and Mary Pike also died in Cork in 1832.

The kidnapping of Mary Pike was a matter of high community interest and following is one of the many epigrams published in Ireland at the time:

The fate of Sir Harry is sure a hard case; Unable in Cork to exhibit his face, Pursued by the brethren, proclaimed in the papers, Though his mighty misdeeds were mere boyish capers; Since Mercy, Light Goddess, revisits these climes, And rebels and traitors are pardon'd their crimes, Tho' different his guilt, let them all share alike, He was not United, and gave up his Pike.

References:

Hayes, Sir Henry Brown: Australian Dictionary of Biography: NS Lynravn 1966

www.convictrecords.com.au/convicts.hays/henry/55620

www.linkedin.com/pulse/trial-sir-henry-browne-hayes-kidnapping-mary-pike-cork-bill-holohan/

www.freesettlororfelon.com

Henry Browne Hayes: Wikipedia

Henry Browne Hayes: WikiTree www.wikitree.com/wiki/Hayes-16910

www.sirhenrybrownehayes.com/vacluse-house.html

The Story of Vacluse House: Charles H Bertie 1838

The Ritz, Leura

The Ritz is one of the earliest, one of the most grand and one of the longest lived of all Blue Mountains hotel establishments, including the Carrington (commenced 1882) and the Hydro Majestic (as a hotel from about 1903/4). Constructed from 1892, the Ritz has a unique character among these former Blue Mountains guesthouses, created by the use of gothic features such as steeply pitched roofs, chimneys, gables and dormers. While most of its interiors were lost upon its conversion to a nursing home in 1968, it retains much of its fine exterior detailing, particularly the variety of joinery, the generous verandahs, and the fine gardens which enhance the building, providing interesting views to and from the building. In the 1880s, a group of Katoomba and Sydney businessmen acquired the land at Leura and sought to build a first class coffee palace. Charles Lindeman opened the Leura Palace Hotel on 24th December 1892 and promptly applied for post office facilities at the hotel rather than at the railway station, where he was already acting as postmaster. The significance of the Palace was considerable in Leura, with capacity for some forty guests early in 1893, Leura being a settlement with less than two dozen permanent residents at that time.



Early days of the Ritz

Lindeman sold the hotel in 1894 to A.J. Craig, who moved to Leura, and established a successful real estate business as well as what he called the Coffee Palace. His wife sold the hotel in 1914 to Sarah Ellen Bloome, the wife of James Bloome, the licensee of the Hotel Alexander, on the highway. James left the Alexander and joined his wife at the Coffee Palace, by then renamed the Ritz.

The Bloomes redesigned the gardens, enlarged the croquet lawns, built the tennis court, and constructed garages and outbuildings on the site. They operated the premises for eighteen years.

Then from 1932 it was owned by Charles Steele for four years and was then sold to the McNivens. Two new houses were built by brothers John and Don McNiven, John McNiven's house becoming the Education Centre. The west wing was added in 1940, but then the premises was requisitioned as a convalescent home for servicemen. It reopened in 1946 for another twenty-two years as a major tourist hotel.

In 1968 The Ritz Hotel Pty Ltd converted the building to a nursing home, and it remained as such until its closure in 2017.

The main building of The Ritz is a large 2-3 storey complex of steeply pitched gabled roofs, long two storey verandahs, and attic rooms. The building has three main wings. Other buildings on the site include the boiler house, the Education Centre bungalow cottage, a laundry building, numerous sheds and a second single storey cottage. The landscaped garden is significant and dates back to the establishment of the hotel. Most important are the pines, cedars and rhododendrons, cherry laurels and lawns areas.

Following an audit in 2017, an authorised delegate of the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission determined that the nursing home did not meet 37 of the 44 expected outcomes of the Accreditation Standards. An authorised delegate of the CEO of the Australian Aged Care Quality Agency made a decision on 29th November 2017 to revoke the accreditation of the service, which expired on 18th December 2017. The nursing home, a locked facility for 148 high-care residents, was one of the very few nursing homes ever to be closed by the Australian Government.

Through pending redevelopment The Ritz is now set to become an up-market aged care home. The historic landmark building was sold late in 2019 to Pathways Residences, which plans to restore it to its former glory. The new owners have found that the interior and exterior of the premises had not previously been well maintained, and the buildings had not

provided a safe and secure environment. The company has a track record for repurposing grand old homes, with a successful transformation at various other locations across Sydney. A development application has now been lodged with Blue Mountains City Council for additions, alterations to the buildings and refurbishment of the site. It includes a Heritage Impact Statement (HIS) from John Outram Heritage and Design. The same consultant also prepared a Conservation Management Plan (CMP) for the site in 2020, together with a landscape study, which contain a detailed history of the place, a physical description of the site and its built and landscape elements, an assessment of significance, rankings of significance and conservation guidelines for the place. The proposal has had regard for this CMP.

The development will include the demolition of some aspects of the place, the laundry building, an infill wing, a modern extension, the education centre, a curved bay window to the hotel, and a chimney. The south and west wings would be rebuilt, set on new basements.

The original section of the hotel, including its second floor will be converted to aged care with a central entrance hall at the ground floor. The manager's residence will be converted to a wellness centre and offices. A new three storey development would be constructed (with basement level) to the south and west and the early buildings.

The gardens will be revitalized and access throughout the site arranged to suit the new development. This will include path layout and lawns, new garden structures and plantings. Some trees will be removed but the major plantings along the boundary will be largely retained. New pedestrian paths, a turning circle and fountain at the building entry would be constructed.

The driveway will be close to its current location and part of the former croquet lawn will remain. There are to be a series of circular paths to the east of the manager's residence with plantings all round. The garden levels will be largely retained but adjusted to the west to suit the lower levels of the new building. There is also landscaping and paving proposed to the new courts between the buildings. The embankments to the north and west will be retained. The HIS explains that the proposed works have been developed from the earliest stages in light of the CMP provisions and recommendations. It is felt that the design has responded positively in many regards but is at odds with the CMP in some areas.

The application was on exhibition on the Blue Mountains City Council web site until 19th October 2021, as DA X/1436/2021 203-223 Leura Mall, Leura. The application is now under assessment.

Patsy Moppett

References:

The Ritz and Interiors: Heritage Inventory Sheet: www.environment.nsw.gov.au

The Ritz Nursing Home: Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission, 20th November 2017

Failed nursing home loses accreditation: Jennie Curtin, Blue Mountains Gazette, 4th December 2017

Nursing Home Closure: The Ritz Nursing Home, Leura: Combined Pensioners and Superannuants Association (CPSA) 28 January 2018

Ritz ready to be revitalized: Jennie Curtin, Blue Mountains Gazette, 2nd June 2020

Proposed Aged Care Development at The Ritz, Heritage Impact Statement: August 2021

Protest Christmas Cards

The first known *Christmas card* was given to King James I of England (James VI of Scotland) in 1611. It was more like a large manuscript than a card as such.

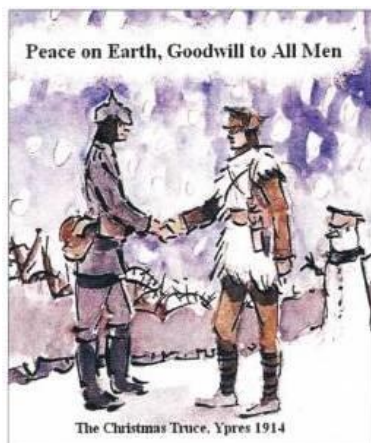
The custom of sending cards as we do today was started in the UK in 1843 by Sir Henry Cole. He was a senior civil servant who had helped set up the Post Office and wondered how the PO could be used more by ordinary people. The cards became popular in the UK when they could be posted in an unsealed envelope for one halfpenny – half the price of an ordinary letter. As printing methods improved, cards became even more popular and were produced in large numbers from about 1860.

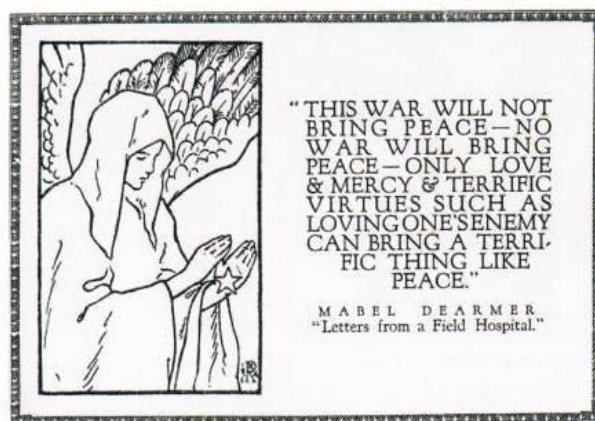
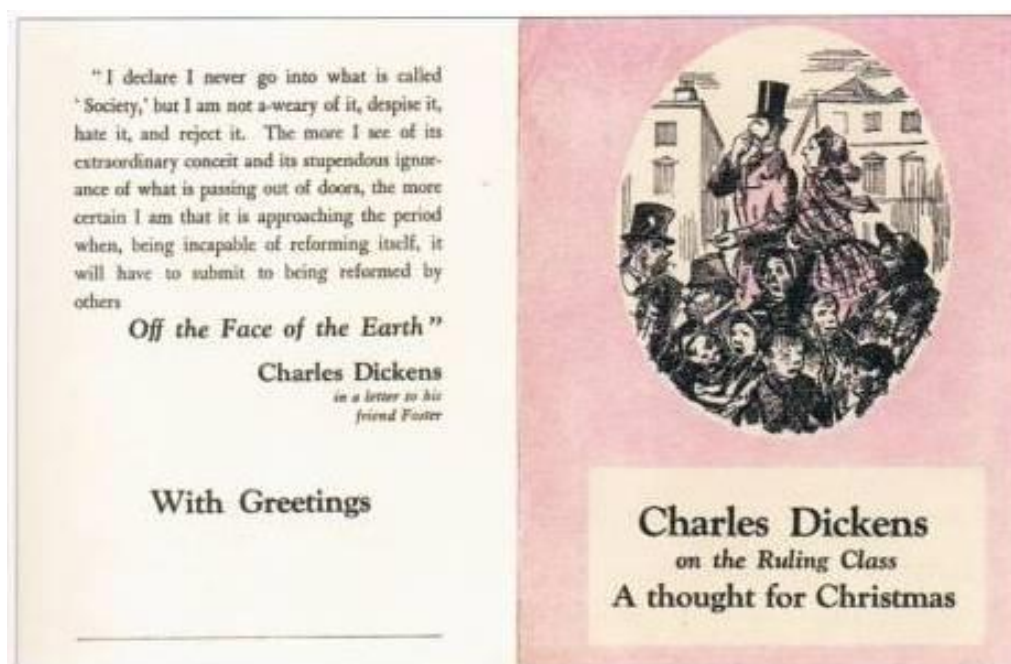
Christmas cards appeared in the US about the same time but were so expensive many people could not afford them. Home made cards became popular in the early 1900s, and

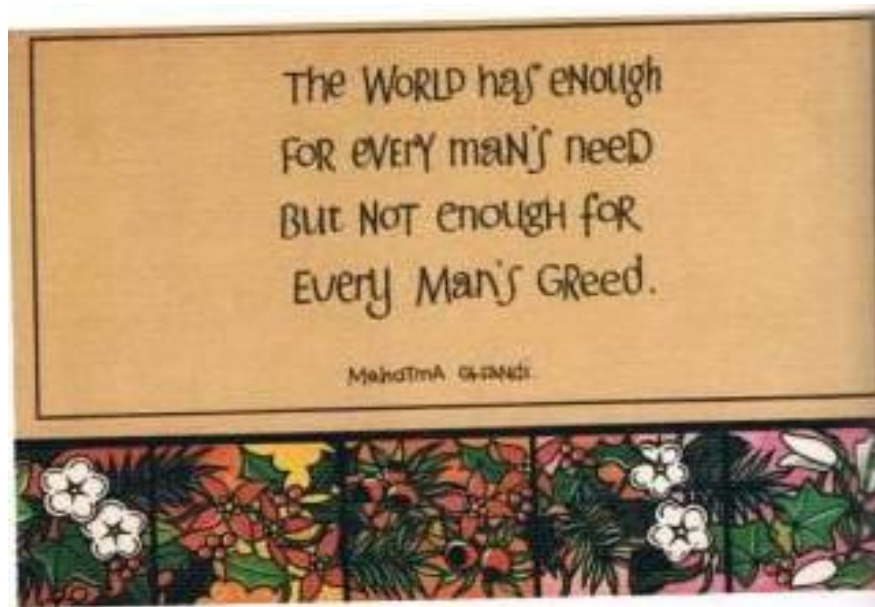
nowadays cards feature many different themes such as humour, winter pictures, the Nativity, Santa, landscapes or romantic scenes.

One theme in particular is singled out here, where despite the enduring themes of peace and goodwill, Christmas cards were also used by individuals and groups to depict political, industrial and social turmoil and circumstances, right back from when they first appeared in the 1840s. Many such cards produced were not specifically aimed at Christmas, and others were produced during the festive season to make a political point, or to show how such political or controversial unrest could be put aside at this time of year.

This article seeks to illustrate the phenomenon through pictures, many quite thought provoking.







The following are a few non-Christmas related protest cards:



Patsy Moppett

References:

Ghosts of Christmas protest past on show in Manchester: Mark Hannaby, 3rd December 2010

www.bbc.com/uk-wales-politics-11903325

Glad Tidings of Struggle and Strife: A History of Protest Christmas Cards: Llew and Pam Smith 2012

Glad Tidings of Struggle and Strife: A History of Protest Christmas Cards: Randell Brantley, Bristol

Radical History Group 27th October 2012

The History of Christmas Cards: www.whychristmas.com/customs/cards.shtml

PLEASE NOTE THE CLOSING DATE FOR ARTICLES AND NOTIFICATIONS TO THE EDITOR FOR THE JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2022 ISSUE OF HERITAGE IS 24 DECEMBER 2021

Community events & updates

Leuralla Toy & Railway Museum

Leuralla Toy & Railway Museum is the Southern Hemisphere's largest collection of toys, trains and associated memorabilia. Whether you're a family or a serious collector, the world class displays of 20th century toys, from Barbie, Popeye, Tintin and Alice in Wonderland will captivate and entertain. This collection is rated as one of the most important in the world and spans the early 1900s to the current day - with emphasis on the period from 1910 to 1960.

The displays are housed in an historic early 20th century mansion, set in lush, five hectare award-winning gardens filled with interactive displays and picturesque scenes. This historic home was completed just prior to World War I and is the second home on the site. The original home, built in the New England style in 1903 for independent businessman and big-game fishermen EP 'Harry' Andreas, was sadly lost to bushfire in 1909. The current grand Art Deco house was completed in 1912. The design of the home was influenced by Frank Lloyd Wright, and the building is heritage listed. It is displayed in its original state, including original paint finishes, furnishings, fixtures and fittings, including light switches and door furniture. The original decorative finishes are evident and all woodwork and carvings are French Polished. The home was built by local, skilled trades people who took great pride in their workmanship. All of the construction was carried out by hand. The timber work took two years to complete as the home was built in a pre-electric tool era and includes the wood panelling, sideboards, cabinets and even the dining room table and tulip motif chairs. The house was considered absolutely modern for its time and has a central vacuum cleaning system as well as an intercom system. From the 1980s it has been owned and operated by Andreas' grandson, Clive Evatt Jnr (dec) and his wife Elizabeth.



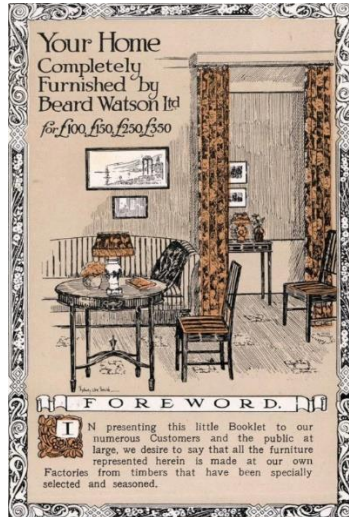
Leuralla reopened to the public post covid on October 11th and received 0 visitors!!!! They realise it will take a while for people to get out and about again and certainly hope to see numbers increase soon.

Leuralla Toy and Railway Museum is open daily 10am-5pm at 36 Olympian Pde, Leura. For more information go to:

www.toyandrailwaymuseum.com.au

Exciting New World: Australian Life in the 1920s and 1930s.

In lieu of the postponement of the RAHS Conference to 2022, the Royal Australian Historical Society is hosting a special online event on Saturday 6th November which will explore the *Exciting New World: Australian Life in the 1920s and 1930s*. The event will be staged across a morning and evening session and will appeal to anyone interested in Australia during the interwar years and anyone working with historical societies. Full details are on their website. The interwar years were decades of great change for Australia as people adjusted to a new way of life in a post-pandemic world. 100 years later, we are still in the midst of our own pandemic. Who knows what exciting new world lies in wait?



The morning session (10.30am-12.30pm) will be as follows:

- Graham Shirley: Changes to entertainment media and its impact.
- Scott MacArthur: 1920s architecture, including its aspirational and health-based aspects.
- Dr Anna Wong: The furnishing of Calthorpes' House from the Beard Watson catalogues.

The afternoon session (4.00pm – 6.00pm) will feature:

- President's Address
- Presentation of Certificates of Achievement
- Raffle prizes (retain your receipt for your chance to win)

Their popular Business Session will also make a return, providing an opportunity to discuss the management of historical societies.

Affiliate members who do book (or already have booked) will also be invited to advertise up to two recent book publications through their website. If you are interested in this offer, they would require a high-res image of the book, 100 word overview, and details/link on how to purchase it.

For further information and bookings visit: <https://www.rahs.org.au/event/exciting-new-world-australian-life-in-the-1920-1930>

Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Heritage Museum Reopening

Great News! The Museum's open days are set to recommence on Sunday 7th November. This is closely followed by 14th & 28th November, with Santa days on 4th, 5th, 11th & 12th December.

The Museum is inviting volunteers to return to the Museum to assist in preparing for the reopening and on the open days. They need plenty of help in the four weeks prior to the planned reopening on 7th November. There will be work teams rostered each Tuesday and Wednesday and some Saturdays, commencing NOW! There are many tasks on offer: grounds work (gardening, mowing, weeding, pruning); cleaning (shop, toilets, locomotives, carriages & other exhibits, roundhouse & other buildings); general duties.

Duties on Open Days may involve:

- Working in the shop, including food service and barista
- Checking visitors' tickets and COVID status before entry to the Museum
- Marshalling visitors about the Depot
- Ensuring safe COVID procedures
- Helping visitors find their way around
- Chatting about the roundhouse or exhibits
- Running one of our two model railways

- Parking attendants

Contact: Jeff Russell - Membership Officer Ph: 0414 764 178



Early promotional poster

Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Heritage Museum also announces that their 30th **Annual General Meeting** is to be held at 11:00am on Saturday 20th November at the Museum followed by an informal sausage sizzle. If you would like to attend you will need to book online or by phone (if you do not have internet access). Please do not plan on just turning up without booking. This process will help them with catering etc. as there is a limit of 60 members and guests plus 20 Committee and rostered volunteers. Their COVID safety plan protocols will be in place for the day.

To reserve your place please book online [AGM2020 for Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Heritage Museum \(infoblue mountains.net.au\)](#), or contact:

Membership Officer, Jeff Russell (0414 764 178).

If unanswered leave a message (name, address, phone number, and how many attending, as required by COVID rules).

Bookings close 10pm Thursday 18th November.

Bathurst Remembers World War II: Exhibition 2021



NEWEST DATE - Exhibition now from Friday 25th February to Monday 28th February 2022 - Open: 9am to 5pm

This event has had to change its exhibition dates a number of times, as previously reported in *Heritage*. Now all is ready for this mammoth event to be staged and the Exhibition will still be at the Bathurst Showground. All other arrangements and details remain the same.

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



Bygone Beautys – Teapots and Things

Many businesses have been closed due to covid but look forward to opening their doors very soon. At the writing of this article BMACHO member Bygone Beautys Treasured Teapot Collection at Leura was reopened on 14th October 2021.

The collection commenced over 30 years ago and began operating in 1992 when Maurice Cooper joined forces with Ron Hooper to expand the collection of amazing teapots, and other things!

Their Guide provides a range of tea facts and superstitions, histories and customs. Some extracts from the Guide are provided as follows:

Victorian Tea Superstitions:

- If two women should pour from the same pot, one of them will have a baby within the year;
- To put milk in your tea before the sugar is to cross the path of love, perhaps never to marry;
- To make tea stronger than usual, indicates a new friendship;
- Two teaspoons accidentally placed together on a saucer, points to a wedding or a pregnancy;
- To stir the tea in the pot anti clockwise will stir up trouble;
- To spill a little tea whilst making it is a lucky omen;
- Should the lid be accidentally left off the pot you may expect a stranger bearing ill tidings.
- Bring the teapot to the kettle, not the kettle to the teapot.

History of Tea

Tea is reported to have originated in China possibly as far back as the 3rd century BC. From China it made its way to Japan around 700-800 AD and went in and out of favour depending on Chinese and Japanese relations.

The Europeans brought tea to the continent around the 1600s with the Dutch and Portuguese trading with both China and Japan. It was also reported to have been introduced into Russia during this time.

At the same time tea was making its way into England, and it spread from there to India. In these early days it was a most expensive commodity, costing up to a week's wages for some people, so was mostly taken by the more affluent members of society.

Tea Facts

- Tea is believed to have originated in China in the 3rd century BC.
- Japanese Tea Ceremonies commenced late in the 12th century.
- Charles II and his Queen, Catherine of Braganza, popularized tea in England during the 1600s.
- 1679 – the first London Tea Auctions.
- 1706 – Twinings of London set up shop.
- The British East India Company monopolized the tea trade between England and the East Indies until 1773.
- 1773 – the Boston Tea Party.
- 1830s – India commenced growing tea commercially.
- 1840 – Tea was introduced to Ceylon by Scot, James Taylor.
- 1908 – Tea bags were developed in America.

Tea – what they said

- What better way to suggest friendliness and to create it – than with a cup of tea: *J Grayson Luttrell*
- A woman is like a teabag. Its only when she's in hot water that you realise how strong she is: *Nancy Reagan*

- There are few hours in my life more agreeable than the hour dedicated to the ceremony known as afternoon tea; *Henry James*
- It's always tea time: *The Mad Hatter in Lewis Carroll's Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*
- If you are cold, tea will warm you; if you are too heated, it will cool you; if you are depressed, it will cheer you; if you are exhausted, it will calm you: *William Gladstone*.
- Love and scandal are the best sweeteners of tea: *Anonymous*.
- You can never get a cup of tea large enough or a book long enough to suit me: *CS Lewis*.
- Where there's tea, there's hope: *Sir Arthur W Pinero*.
- Tea – a drink, which relieves thirst and dissipates sorrow: *Anonymous*.



Bygone Beautys can be found at 20-22 Grose Street, Leura. You can contact them via the following:
 Phone: 02 4784 3117
 Fax: 02 4784 3078
 Email: info@bygonebeautys.com.au
 Web: www.bygonebeautys.com.au
 Also Facebook and Instagram



Blue Plaques Program - behind every plaque, there is a story



The Blue Plaques program by Heritage NSW aims to capture public interest and fascination in key personalities, events and places that are important to the stories of NSW. This recently announced NSW Government initiative fosters curiosity in our heritage by recognising the places, personalities and major events that matter to communities.

The Blue Plaques will recognise key sites and encourage people to explore their neighbourhood and other parts of NSW, connecting with the amazing people and stories that have shaped our state. The plaques will bring many of these histories and stories alive and engender a shared sense of belonging, identity and connection. In a post-COVID world, focusing on our local communities and nearby surroundings has never been more important. The essence of the Blue Plaques program is the storytelling. A digital story will be linked to each plaque. They are looking for stories that are interesting, fun, quirky along with more sombre stories that should not be forgotten as part of our history. The Blue Plaques will be inclusive of all cultures. They are looking for any inspiring and important stories that connect us with places and events involving for example (but not limited to): Aboriginal people, heritage, early European settlement, migrant heritage, social movements and change, wartime history, industrial advancements, arts and culture, sport, historic events that have shaped the story of your area and NSW, and stories of ordinary people who have done extraordinary things (your local heroes).

Communities across the state can now nominate heritage places linked to notable personalities and events for recognition as part of the NSW Blue Plaques program. Local Members of Parliament (MPs) or Members of the Legislative Council (MLCs) will be asking their communities to provide suggestions on sites which represent a significant story, person or event. The MPs and MLCs will then nominate these sites to Heritage NSW for a Blue Plaque.

The Minister responsible for Heritage Don Harwin said whether its buildings or people that have had an important impact, across NSW there are hidden gems with stories that deserve to be told. Mr Harwin said:

"Behind every plaque is a story. We want everyone to be involved in making suggestions to their local MP or MLC so we can recognise the people and places in history that matter most to local communities,"

MPs and MLCs have had until 31 October 2021 to submit their nominations to Heritage NSW for consideration.

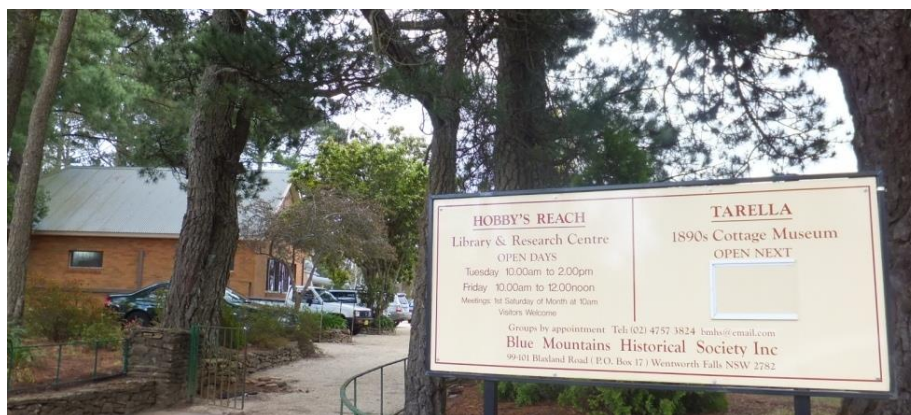
The plaque will be a 450mm circle (vitreous enamel on a metal base plate) installed directly onto a building, structure, wall, front fence, etc. The plaque text will have a maximum of 100 characters supplied by the nominator. The preference is to install the plaque on contemporary building fabric, rather than fabric that has heritage significance. With the appropriate development and heritage approvals, the latter will be considered if there is no other option.

All MPs will be notified in writing of the final selection, which will contribute to the first 200 plaques in NSW. Heritage NSW will coordinate installations of plaques with the nominated contact person. The plaque installations are expected to take place from October - December 2021.

For more information If you have any questions, please email Heritage NSW at blueplaques@dpc.nsw.gov.au or phone 02 9873 8620.

Blue Mountains Historical Society Research Centre Reopens

Fiona Burn, President of Blue Mountains Historical Society, has announced this week that the Hobby's Reach Research Centre will be re-opened from Tuesday 26th October. Their normal opening hours of Tuesday 10.00 am to 2.00pm and Friday 10.00am to 2.00pm will re-commence. The 4 sq m person capacity rules will once more be in place and new signage has been prominently displayed.



She advises that visitors be aware that in accordance with the NSW Public Health Orders to visit Hobby's Reach you will be required to show proof of full vaccination to enter and masks will be mandatory. The Management Committee Duty Officer will be monitoring vaccination status and the use of masks. They would request that you enter the Research Centre premises on arrival to show your Vaccination Certificate and to check in using the QR Code or by signing the Record of Attendance Sheet before visiting Tarella or other buildings on site. They will keep a record of those members who have shown their Vaccination Certificate so you will not need to do this on every visit.

Fiona Burn

For more information: bmhs@bluemountainshistory.com

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 has been slow following on from the recent corona virus lockdowns, and activities are of course limited. However, things are happening now and businesses opening up again! The Trail is normally an ideal activity for the kids and grandkids, be it in the school holidays or any weekend! The 2019 trail brochures can still be collected at participating venues and Visitor Information Centres which have remained open.

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 <http://heritagedrive.com.au> or www.facebook.com/GBMHeritageTrail

To find out more about BMACHO visit <http://bluemountainsheritage.com.au>



NSW Christmas Bush

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

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

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

Website: <http://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 Co-ordinator), 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.