

Heritage

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Acknowledgement of Country

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

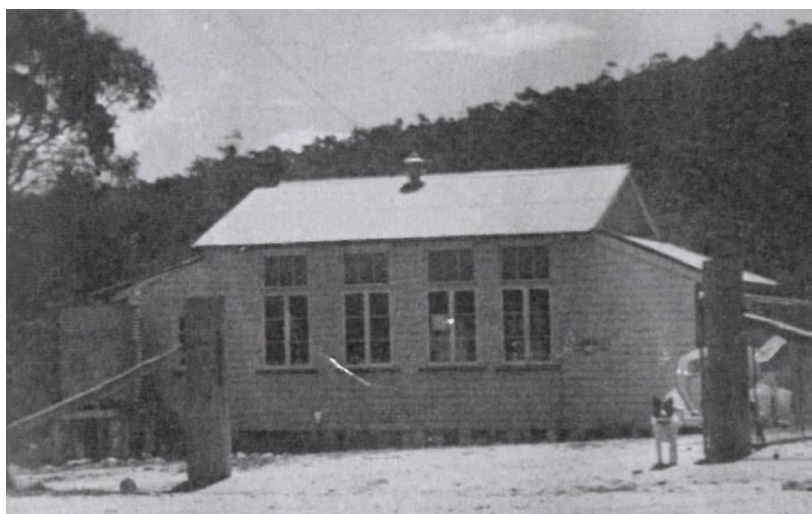
Old things - artifacts

On a recent bushwalk I came across some interesting finds near an old mine site. Such sites often contain a hoard of artifacts which tell us something about the site and its history. They also tell us about what other factors contributed to earlier histories of the area and the colony of New South Wales in general.

To unearth an old bottle or piece of metal which still retains the manufacturer's details is a prime way to open these doors to further knowledge. In this instance I found two unrelated glass objects and research unearthed some interesting details.

Tyldesley

The Tyldesley coal mine was located near Cullen Bullen to the north west of Lithgow and the mine dated from about 1904 to the mid 1900s. It began as the Great Western (1904-1914) and then the Invicta (1914-1916), before it assumed the name of Tyldesley in 1916. It ran until about 1960, bar a shutdown period in the 1930s. It was operated under the Tyldesley name by Coronation Coal from 1939 and was one of many mines operating in the Cullen Bullen area during this period. It was exceptional in that a village developed adjacent to the mine.



Tyldesley Public School 1960s

The bagtown village and the mine are long gone, and other mine workings now cover the Tyldesley leases. The village site is largely engulfed within those workings and little remains except a number of large radiata pines which mark the site.

The village first grew around the Great Western mine and had few services, relying on Cullen Bullen for most things, such as a hotel, theatre, police station and larger shops. Tyldesley itself had a school (1922-1942, 1944-1963), a post office (1923-1956), a shop and a number of houses/huts. Residents lived on company land as tenants-at-will and had no title to their land, with a maximum number of about 200. Although electricity had been available to the mine from about 1923, it was not made available for domestic purposes until 1942. As mining wound down the village slowly faded as people moved away, the last to leave being in the 1980s.

The mine and village were connected by rail to the Cullen Bullen railway station for transport of product, and the main Wallerawang-Gwabegar rail line still runs past the old site. A walking track connected residents to Cullen Bullen. Once the mine ceased, workers were employed by the various other mining operations in the area.

The mine site has restricted access, but wandering the railway access track along the mine boundary can still reveal much. The fact that there was a village there provides the opportunity to find day to day objects amongst the rubble and coal waste dumped here and there. Thus my finds!

W & A GILBEY pocket gin bottle

This little bottle is in perfect condition (once the mud was removed!) and stands about 24cm high. It would have had a red bakelite screw top lid although earlier ones had a cork stopper, and dates to about the 1920s. What every miner had in his back pocket?



Pocket gin bottle - rear



Inscription along lower rear

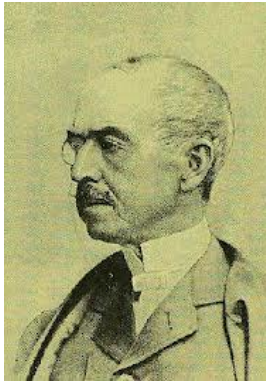


Front label positioning

The front of the bottle is flat with vertical ridging, while the rear is slightly curved inward and with the same vertical ridging, to accommodate a comfortable hand hold. On the lower rear the makers' details says: *Property of W & A Gilbey Ltd*. The front of the bottle would have held a label of some kind describing the contents – gin. So, who were *W and A Gilbey* and how did their product come to be there?

Walter and Albert Gilbey

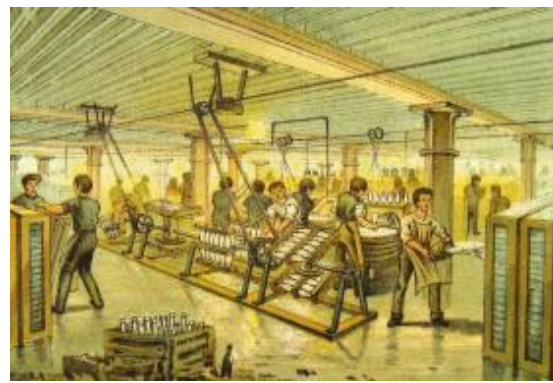
One Henry Gilbey was an innkeeper at the Bell Inn and then the Red Lion Inn and also ran a passenger stagecoach service in Stansted, London around 1800. He was married to Elizabeth Bailey. They had seven children, and their eldest son Henry Parry Gilbey became a wholesale wine merchant. Henry senior died when his second son Walter was only 11 years old. When Walter was aged 26 and his younger brother Alfred was aged 24, after their return from the Crimean War in 1857, and on the advice of their older brother, they together established a small cellar in London where they sold port, sherry and brandy. Then, with a friend Henry Gold, they started the Gilbey company. With advertisements in the local papers their enterprise thrived to the extent they were able to open a branch in Dublin.



Sir Walter Gilbey



Bakelite lid



Bottle washing room, Camden Town 1870s

They first established as importers of wine from South Africa to serve a growing mass market, were associated with Camden Goods Depot (UK) for about 100 years and became the major employer in the area as well as the largest drinks firm in the world. In 1872 they expanded further by opening a gin distillery, and fifteen years later, their first Scotch whisky distillery.

In 1893 Walter Gilbey was made a baronet and the business became W & A Gilbey Ltd., with the newly made Sir Walter appointed as chairman. Walter Gilbey was a philanthropist and businessman with many interests and pursuits. He was a breeder of and writer on horses, a keen horticulturalist and agriculturalist, turning his orcharding to include the establishment of a jam production factory in 1893. He also grew lavender and mint. In 1868 he became Lord of the Manor of Bishop Stortford, in 1906 he was appointed a Deputy Lieutenant of Essex and was also a Justice of the Peace (a local law judge). He had married Ellen Parish in 1858 and when he died in 1914 aged 83, he left eight children, with Ellen having died in 1896. His eldest son became Sir Walter Henry Gilbey, and went on to gain the chairmanship of W & A Gilbey Ltd and succeeded as the second baronet. His brother Albert Gilbey is less well known but not less important to the firm. He and another partner James Blyth toured Europe extensively, buying and shipping wines to England for bottling. Their excursions were so entrenched in the business that three of the Gilbey family married into Spanish wine firms and soon their wines too were on the Gilbey lists.

Gilbey gin production did not commence in Australia until the 1930s. Gin was first introduced into England from Holland in the 1690s. It was far cheaper than wine or brandy and more easily distilled, making it a common brew for many people struggling to survive in the squalor of urban living in the eighteenth century.

In the early 1880s a former employee, Fred Collins, emigrated to Australia and the Gilbey brothers utilized him to establish their business in Australia and New Zealand. They constructed a four storey distillery in Melbourne (Moorabbin), although they faced early opposition in the neighbourhood from temperance groups. An official opening was held in November 1937. The company expanded to include Australian whiskies, liqueurs, Jim Beam Bourbon, Hennessy Brandy and Smirnoff Vodka.



Moorabbin 1940s



Moorabbin 1999

In 1983 Gilbey's merged with Castlemaine Toohey's and Lion breweries of New Zealand to form a marketing company known as Swift and Moore. Struggling to compete with imported brands the company relocated to New Zealand in 1985 and the distillery building was threatened with demolition in 1994. The building underwent a heritage assessment after an Interim Heritage Order was obtained but was not deemed worthy of State listing. It was demolished in 2000.

Wellcome Chemical Works bottle base

The second artifact is the almost square base (8cm x 7cm) of a brown glass bottle with the inscription *Wellcome Chemical works* inscribed on it. This item might be dated to the 1940s but without the remains of the bottle it is hard to tell.

There are quite a number of substances which the bottle may have contained, but commonly it would have been a pharmaceutical of some kind.



Base of glass bottle with inscription

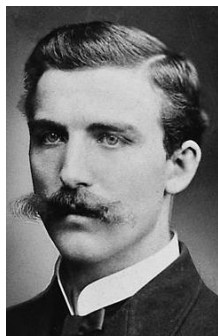
Henry Solomon Wellcome and the Wellcome Chemical Company

Henry Solomon Wellcome was an equally interesting personality and successful businessman. He was born in the USA in 1853 to Rev. S. C. Wellcome and Mary Curtis Wellcome. His father was an itinerant missionary who travelled and preached in a covered wagon, and a strong member of the Second Adventist Church, as were two of his uncles. Henry had an early interest in medicine, particularly marketing, and studied chemistry and pharmacy. His first product, at the age of 16, was invisible ink (in fact just lemon juice). He had a strict religious upbringing, particularly with respect to the temperance movement, and he was a freemason.

During his family's travels across the countryside he saw many a maltreatment of the Indian population and developed an affinity for their welfare. After graduation he moved to New York and worked in a pharmacy attached to his uncle's medical practice, but also travelled to South America as a pharmaceutical salesman, studying the Peruvian cultivation and production of cinchona and quinine, having a particular interest in tropical medicine.



1870s (rear left)



1880



1906

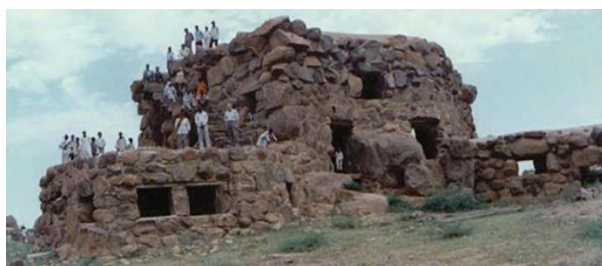


1913 in Sudan

Henry Solomon Wellcome

Henry Wellcome moved to England in 1880, the land of his ancestors, where he established a pharmaceutical company, Burroughs Wellcome & Company, with Silas Mainville Burroughs. Burroughs, a college friend, had invited him over to join him in the partnership. They made fine chemicals, alkaloids, and other medicinal products and they introduced the selling of medicine in tablet form to England under the 1884 American trademark "Tabloid", when previously, medicines had been sold mostly as powders or liquids. Burroughs and Wellcome also introduced direct marketing to doctors, giving them free samples. They began manufacturing in 1882, and in 1884 the factory site at Bell Lane Wharf at Wandsworth was opened. By 1888 this site was too small and another, the former Phoenix Paper Mills in Dartford, was taken up. From its beginnings it had a tabloid manufacturing department, a pharmaceutical department and a chemical department. An analytical department was established from 1897.

In 1895, Burroughs died suddenly of pleurisy, aged 48, leaving the company in the hands of Wellcome. It flourished and Wellcome set up several related research laboratories in Kent from 1896. He also set up research centres in Khartoum after Kitchener reclaimed Egypt for Britain, and then spent 10 years in the Sudan. He was a keen archaeologist, also interested in ethnology and mythology and their bearing on the history of medicine. He spent many years digging at Jebel Moya, Sudan, in 1900 to 1901, hiring 4000 people to excavate. To absorb excess labour, Wellcome started work on a huge megalithic building constructed of huge boulders, which he named the House of Boulders. He built water reservoirs and incinerators for the local communities and was one of the first investigators to use kite aerial photography on an archaeological site. Wellcome's extensive museum collection is now managed by the Science Museum, London, and has been in their care since 1976.



House of Boulders, Sudan



Stone incinerator

In 1901, Wellcome married Gwendoline Maud Syrie Barnardo, a daughter of orphanage founder Thomas John Barnardo. They had one child, Henry Mounteney Wellcome, born in 1903, who was sent to foster parents at the age of about three. He was considered to be sickly at the time, and his parents were spending much time travelling. They separated in 1909.

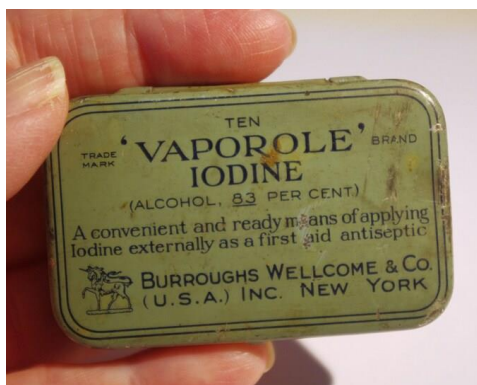
In 1910, Wellcome became a British subject, and in 1928, he was made an Honorary Vice-President of the Society for Nautical Research. In 1924, Wellcome consolidated all his commercial and non-commercial activities in one holding company, The Wellcome Foundation Ltd., which is now one of the world's largest private biomedical charities. He was appointed a Knight Bachelor in 1932, was made an Honorary Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons of England in the same year and was a member of many other societies. He died of pneumonia in The London Clinic in 1936, aged 82, after an operation. On his death, the Wellcome Trust was established. Towards the end of the 20th century, the Wellcome Trust decided to sell the company, which is now part of GlaxoSmithKline and no longer has any ownership or governance relationship with Wellcome.

Wellcome had a passion for collecting medically related artifacts, and a love of the history of medicine, aiming to create a Museum of Man. He bought for his collection anything related to medicine, including Napoleon's toothbrush. By the time of his death, there were 125,000 medical objects in the collection, of over one million total. Most of the non-medical objects were dispersed after his death. Successful products from his business years included the first leukaemia drug, immune suppressants for organ transplants, and antivirals such as AZT, the first drug approved to treat HIV.

As a result of the world-wide connections which the character of his business gave him, and the many contributions he had made towards the advancement of medical science, Wellcome became acquainted with most of the prominent medical men on both sides of the Atlantic, and with many of them he was on terms of friendship. He had an extensive empire, with branches in many parts of the world, and he had established museums and laboratories which drew their resources from the profits of the business. It became his concern to arrange for the continuance of all these organizations after his death, when he left all his wealth to science.



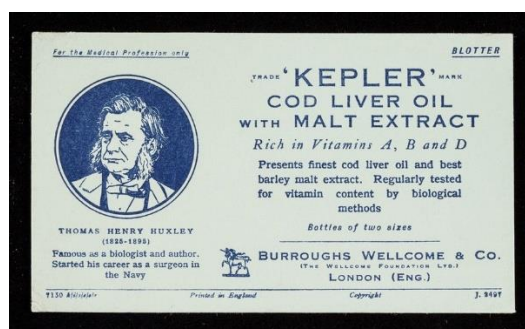
Hazeline for skin care



First aid antiseptic



Tabloid product



Cod liver oil for everything



Coming back to the early company and its pharmaceutical products and how this might relate to the artifact found at Tyldesley, the Wellcome brand was responsible for the preparation and packing of many basic pharmaceutical items which we might still see on the shelves today which assist in our day to day health care and treatment. This included Kepler (cod liver oil), dressings, pastilles, capsules, Hazeline branded products (skin care), Hypoloid (a pituitary extract) and Vaporole (smelling salts). Our bottle base is highly likely to be from a cod liver oil bottle. Cod liver oil was a very common cure-all, but in the mining community it would probably have been used for inflammation and pain caused by rheumatoid arthritis in the mine employees, given the conditions in which they worked. In addition, children would have benefited by it for general well being where doctors were usually inaccessible in such an isolated place.

Conclusion

So, the timing of the opening of the Gilbeys' Melbourne distillery in 1937 and the lifespan of the village of Tyldesley from 1916 to the mid 1900s tie in together. And the long-term importation of Wellcome products more than covers the Tyldesley time frame. It was a poor and struggling community who were able to take advantage of the cheaper brands of alcohol available from firms such as Gilbeys, and Wellcome products were readily and cheaply available for their everyday ills at Cullen Bullen. The chairmen of these firms could never have imagined that their products would find their way to the small and isolated mining village of Tyldesley and others like it in the western districts of NSW and Victoria.

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From the Editor

History and heritage are always about 'old things', so this issue is no different and provides a range of old things from artifacts to people, bush tracks to trains!

Once again I have been fossicking around in the bush picking up bits and pieces of interesting things. On his wanderings Brian Fox has done the same, finding the wonderful stone steps at Wentworth Falls. Whenever these tangible pieces of history are investigated it always comes down to people like Henry Wellcome and Walter Gilbey, William Lees and Henry Barton who made things happen. Read on to find out who these people were.

Peter Rickwood and Joan Steele have uncovered another mystery for us to consider, and a future paper may tell us more about Robert Henry Reynolds, filling in some of the gaps in the information which has so far been uncovered about this intrepid soldier.

Trains keep puffing along, with feedback on the inaugural Blue Mountains Steam Fest held back in July, and some model railway fun over the next few weeks at Valley Heights and Oberon.

Funding opportunities are also still around so we hope you can take advantage of the BMCC Heritage Assistance program.

And as for growing cotton at Winmalee – who would have thought!! One Crawford Vaughan may have had other ideas for a while!

The Mt Wilson Historic Walk App is set to get everyone out and about in the coming spring! And what a spectacular place to spend a day, or more! And once on the road, be armed with a copy of the BMACHO Heritage Trail brochure (from your local Visitor Information Centre), and head on out along the Heritage track. The Trail takes you from Penrith through the Blue Mountains and out to Hartley and Lithgow, returning via Mt Wilson, Mt Tomah, Kurrajong, Richmond and Windsor – certainly more than a day trip! You would have the opportunity to

visit three National Trust properties, museums and Scenic World, gardens and historic houses and churches. The brochure outlines places to eat and to stay and provides some information on landscape features such as lookouts and walking tracks, tours and village walks.

History Week is coming up with some more spring activities under the theme *Voices from the Past*, which will provide a chance for engagement with the histories of those who were often voiceless in the past such as women, migrants, workers, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, if we would but listen.

So being inundated with opportunities, we hope this issue inspires an urge this spring to investigate beyond the obvious, observe and listen to what is happening around us and learn from the past. Happy wanderings at this special time of year!

Growing cotton at Winmalee

A significant personage in South Australian politics once considered establishing a cotton industry at Winmalee. Such gentleman was Crawford Vaughan.

A political life

Crawford Vaughan was an Australian politician, and the Premier of South Australia from 1915 to 1917. He was a member of the South Australian House of Assembly from 1905 to 1918, representing Torrens and then Sturt. He was elected for the United Labor Party, and served as Treasurer in the Verran government, succeeded Verran as Labor leader in 1913, and was elected Premier after the Labor victory at the 1915 state election.

Unusually young for a premier at age around 40, he held the portfolios of treasurer and minister of education and dominated the government. His brother, John Vaughan, became his Attorney-General.



Hon Crawford Vaughan



Crawford Vaughan and colleagues when Premier of SA 1916

His government made improvements to the education system by restructuring the department's senior bureaucracy, by extending the years of compulsory school attendance and by providing better facilities for the intellectually and physically disabled. The government enabled women to serve in the police force and as justices of the peace, while it also improved workers' access to the arbitration system and diminished the court's punitive powers against trade unions. It was known for legislation introduced in 1915-16 which established war service land and housing schemes, in addition to a wheat pool. A less popular move was a law designed to close Lutheran primary schools, thus discriminating against South Australians of German origin.

Vaughan's career was curtailed by the 1916-17 Labor split over conscription in World War I. He was defeated at the 1918 election after launching a last-minute campaign as an independent candidate. Vaughan continued in office until heading a minority government of the splinter National Party. The National Party then went into coalition, with Vaughan serving under Archibald Peake as junior instead of senior partner.

Following his departure from office, Crawford Vaughan spent most of his remaining term overseas. He accepted an invitation from the government of the United States of America to lecture to industrialists in that country on their duty to support the war effort. Vaughan remained in the US throughout 1918, at first attached to Lord Reading's British War Mission to the United States and later as an honorary representative of the Australian government. He spoke at meetings across several States and met President Wilson. In 1920 he delivered the Lowell lectures at Boston, on Australian industrial legislation. The next year Vaughan was a delegate of the English-Speaking Union at the Paris peace conference; he then lectured in Britain and travelled in Europe.

Personal life

Crawford Vaughan was born on 14th July 1874 in Adelaide, the eldest son of Alfred Vaughan, civil servant and government lithographer, and his wife Louisa, née Williams, being one of seven children. Crawford's grandfather had been part of the Chartists - a working class movement for political reform – and it was Richard Vaughan who founded the East End Markets in Adelaide in 1860. From Norwood and Marryatville public schools, Crawford attended Prince Alfred College in 1888-89. Following his schooling for four years he was employed by Elder Smith & Co Ltd. He ventured briefly to the Western Australian goldfields, and then returned to Adelaide where he was employed by the Crown Lands Department and was at one stage attached to the survey department.

Then commencing his clerical career, he practised freelance journalism in the late 1890s. A clever writer, Vaughan edited the radical newspaper *Quiz* in 1899-1904. His writings showed opposition to the British cause in the South African War. His publication operated on the lines of reform, but eventually found that it was news, not views, that was the key to a newspapers' success. He went on to join the staff of other newspapers in Adelaide.

As a Unitarian, he married Evelyn Maria Goode on 8th June 1906 at Norwood, a novelist and member of the Women's Non-Party Political Association.

Following his political career, he became Secretary of the British-American Co-operation Movement for world peace, and he was briefly secretary of the Professional Businessmen's Association of New South Wales. In time he took up temperance work, a long term interest. His wife Evelyn and their daughter Madelaine had accompanied him for a year during his overseas travel. Upon their return they settled at Gordon, Killara and then Springwood. Vaughan lived mainly in Sydney from 1920 where he dabbled in business as managing director (1921-24) of the British-Australian Cotton-Growing Association. After his overseas travelling he had become interested in the development of the cotton industry in Australia, with which he was prominently associated. In 1921 he was elected managing director of the British Cotton Growing Association.

At the end of April 1923 Vaughan joined a delegation inspecting a cotton ginning plant and cotton properties near Gladstone, Queensland. Vaughan advised on fallowing and planting, harvest and ginning, especially in relation to changing climatic conditions. He elaborated on thriving cotton activities at Penrith, Wagga and on the Murray River in NSW.

Local protests were raised the following year by growers who objected to Vaughan's moves to have ratooning in cotton crops banned, due to risk of parasites. [Ratooning is an ancient method of propagation in which subterranean buds on the stubble (the part of plant left underground after harvesting) give rise to a new crop stand, which is usually referred to as the 'ratoon' or the 'stubble crop' as opposed to 'plant crop', which is raised from seeds or seedlings]. The criticisms were directed against overseas 'experts' coming into Australia and trying to advise the Australian industry based on American knowhow.

The *Northern Territory Times and Gazette* reported one critic as saying:

..... New and more fearsome ones [parasites] in the shape of so called experts are being abundantly imported and their presence, according to some of the experienced growers is a bigger menace to the industry than the pink and other worms combined.

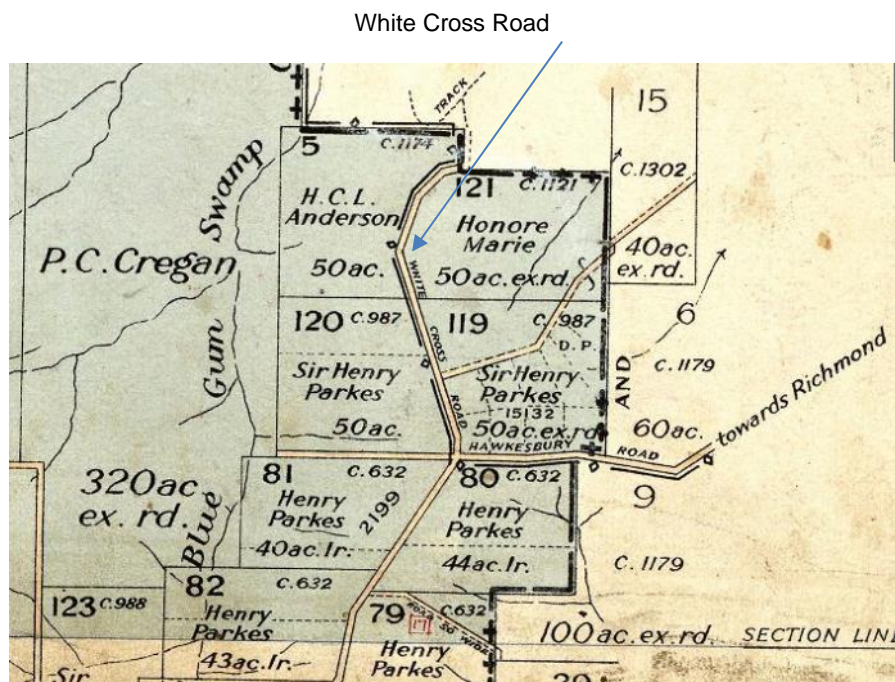
He had unsuccessfully contested the NSW Legislative Assembly seat of Ryde as a member of the Progressive Party in 1925, and in 1927 he had been the Nationalist candidate for Hartley, when his first wife Evelyn passed away. He was found lecturing in Cowra in 1929 to various meetings arranged by churches in regard to the pending Liquor Bill about to go before parliament, and in the early 1930s he became involved in several unremunerative gold-mining ventures.

The *Carcoar Chronicle* described him in 1929 as:

.... a clerical man. His manner in speaking is somewhat peculiar. First he keeps his eyes to his paper with a pronounced stoop forward. As he warms to his subject he gradually assumes a straight pose until near the end of his address he stands as stiff as a guardsman on parade.

Some years after Evelyn's death, Vaughan married Millicent Fanny Preston Stanley (first woman member of Parliament in NSW) on 29th May 1934 at St John's Church, Toorak, Melbourne.

During 1933-35 he was chief leader-writer for the *Adelaide News*. He also wrote radio plays and books, publishing *Golden Wattle Time* (Sydney, 1942), a fictional account of Adam Lindsay Gordon's life, and *The Last of Captain Bligh* (London, 1950). Survived by his second wife and by the daughter, Madeleine, of his first marriage, Vaughan died at Elizabeth Bay, Sydney, on 15th December 1947. After a state funeral in Adelaide, he was buried with Anglican rites in Centennial Park cemetery.



Portion 81 Parish of Coomassie 1930

North Springwood - Winmalee

Crawford Vaughan had bought into property at what was then North Springwood, purchasing a part of Portion 81 Parish Coomassie, where a William McCreadie owned and had settled on land on the western side of White Cross Road at the corner of Shelton Avenue.

Prior to the 1970s North Springwood, sometimes known locally as White Cross, was largely a rural area. The settlement gradually developed from early colonial days north along the Hawkesbury Ridge. Gregory Blaxland noted an early faint track made by Europeans, Hamilton Hume noted a track along the ridge from the river to Springwood, and then and later in 1856 a W Jevons followed the path where he found deserted huts and tents. Early survey began in 1831 and by 1870 many portions were taken up. Early holdings were large and included Silva Plana and Euchora, Elmhurst and Heatherbrae. Land uses included timber milling of the forests that covered the ridge, citrus orchards, vineyards, nurseries and horticulture, dairying and experimental cropping. There was scattered development of services such as inns and coach houses, stores, churches and little schools, holiday accommodation and other small businesses.

However, Winmalee itself was finally officially established as an independent town on 28th April 1972, following much wrangling over names – North Springwood, White Cross and Winmalee.



Original McCreadies



Newgrove 2017

In the late 1800s a cottage had been built on part of Portion 81 Parish of Coomassie by William McCreadie. The land had been part of the Henry Parkes grant of several portions in this vicinity.

McCreadie established a property called *Newgrove*, erecting a colonial style cottage. It was later to be known as *The Grange*, and was typical of a Victorian Georgian style house, used for a time as a private school and as a poultry farm. In the early 1900s a new cottage was built in front of the first one and retained the name *Newgrove*. The two buildings were used as one unit until the property was sold for the development of the existing Winmalee shopping complex. Ultimately the original cottage fell into such a state of disrepair that it was demolished. The second cottage, which still stands to the north of the shopping complex, is currently used as a beauty salon, and is noted as a significant country house. When the property was originally developed a group of Bunya pines was planted and these are now the magnificent trees retained in the shopping centre grounds and nearby.

In the late 1920s and early 1930s a Miss Temple conducted a special school for handicapped children in the building, naming it Moresland Special School, but this establishment later moved to Linden.

In later years *The Grange* was owned by the Walsh family who ran a poultry farm. The property was eventually sold to the developers of the shopping centre.

The remaining cottage is described on the BMCC Heritage Inventory Sheet as a symmetrical single storey hipped roof cottage facing east with an encircling single sloped verandah which is broken back to the main roof. The house is set well back from White Cross Road, suggesting its original larger grounds. The house is entered through a pair of gunbarrel French doors with segmental arched panes and a fanlight, and double hung windows either

side of the French doors. The verandah has stop chamfered columns and beams, and the roof is corrugated steel. A single brick chimney is corbelled and has glazed pots. The house stands on sandstone piers.

Significance and conclusion

The McCreadie property is significant to our story in that in January 1924 McCreadie's property was sold to Crawford Vaughan. Given his interest in the development of cotton around this time in his life, the *Blue Mountain Echo* was quite justified in speculating that there was the possibility of a new industry development for North Springwood.

In 1925 the *Blue Mountain Echo* reported:

The announcement that Mr Crawford Vaughan, former Premier of South Australia, has taken a farm at North Springwood has given rise to considerable speculation, by the fact that, for some years past, he has been engaged in promoting the activities of cotton in Australia, on behalf of overseas interests. Whether Mr Vaughan intends to experiment with cotton-growing on his newly acquired property is not known; but should he do so, and the results are satisfactory, there are possibilities of creating an important industry for the district in that direction.

The property was some 13ha (33 acres) when settled by McCreadie and it would be reasonable to assume that this is what Vaughan purchased. The cottage on the land would have been occupied from time to time by Vaughan but his main interests were directed elsewhere in Sydney.

However, following his and the British Cotton Association's reception in the Northern Territory, given that he obviously still had political aspirations in Ryde and at Hartley, and that his background was never connected to the land, it is doubtful that Vaughan ever developed any such industry at North Springwood.

It was not a large property but it is comforting to think that his assessment of the cotton industry was such that he felt justified in choosing a property where he thought the climate and soils may have been conducive to the establishment of cotton in the Blue Mountains. The *Blue Mountain Echo* certainly lived in hope!

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Walking Track off Iris Street, Wentworth Falls

Brian Fox shares his latest excursion into the Blue Mountain wilds:

Bushwalking any new area is special. I had heard about an old track and steps off Iris Street, Wentworth Falls, but had never checked them out. So, on one of my Monday walks in July 2023 and with permission from the landowner as they are on private land, I led a group to investigate.

Towards the end of Iris Street on the eastern side there is a 200 metre length of zig zag walking track bordered by stone flagging and several stone staircases lead to a shelter cave and small waterfall.

Clearing away the age-old debris of leaf litter revealed that this track and steps was lovingly and painstakingly constructed. As an author of Blue Mountain place names, the questions arising were when, why and who!



This area of land (Parish of Jamison, Portion 44, 40.3 acres) was originally purchased by Sir Henry Parkes in March 1878. Parkes had owned huge parcels of land on the Blue Mountains, and on more than one occasion he went bankrupt.

The second purchaser of Portion 44 was William Joseph Lees (1880-1964) who brought the 40.3 acres on 28th October 1910. (Lees had also purchased the adjoining two Portions, totalling 92 acres.)

In 1911 Lees submitted a subdivision, called Iris Estate to Council in which he had subdivided his land into Sections A to G each of which contained a number of allotments, totalling over 100 lots. From 1912 to 1920 he sold the majority of the lots. More on Section C, in which the old track is located, can be read later in this narrative.

William Lees was born in the NSW country town of Wialda on 13th August 1880. A few years later the family moved to Hay and later William moved to Mount Victoria where he married Isabell Sarah Eleanor Russell in September 1902.

In 1910 his occupation was listed as the Mount Victoria Refreshment Rooms Keeper. The 1913 electoral roll recorded him as boarding house keeper at Mount Victoria. No doubt in selling parts of his land at Wentworth Falls and subdividing his land in 1911, this gave him the capital to upgrade his occupations and a change in marital life, as his marriage to Isabella ended in divorce in 1915.

By 1929 he was described as a prominent citizen of Mount Victoria, proprietor of the Hotel Imperial and Hotel Mount Victoria. At the age of 46, on the 12th June 1926 at Christ Church, Lavender Bay, North Sydney his second marriage was undertaken to Marjorie Bene Waller. In December 1928 he was elected as a Blue Mountains Shire Councillor, a position he held until December 1941.

It was during his tenure as a Councillor that a 66kV transmission line was constructed from Lawson to Mount Victoria, along with a walking track following the transmission line, known as *Bruces Walk*, officially opened on 21st November 1931.

It appears that William Lees, being a Blue Mountains Shire Councillor, had quite an influence with *Bruces Walk*, especially as a section of the track was on land that he owned. So, it

comes as no surprise that a lookout at the eastern end of Lawson View Road was named *Lees View*, and a road joining Lawson View Road is *Lees Avenue*, named in 1911. But it is Section C, Lot 3 in Iris Street of just over 4 acres in which the old track work and steps are located that is intriguing. William Lees lived in Mount Victoria; Iris Estate was just one of his many land dealings. Our most likely contender for the construction of the beautiful track work and staircases was Henry John Barton (1891-1970), who was listed as a resident of Wentworth Falls and occupation as labourer. He purchased the land in question on 15th May 1935 before reselling in May 1940.

My thanks goes to John Dando, who gained permission for our walking group to explore this old trackwork. Also, a thank you to my brother John who helped in the research of this article, accessing the relevant Electoral Rolls and SMH archives. Brian Fox

References

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Ryerson Index

The Military Activities of Robert Henry Reynolds, a 19th century resident of Blackheath

Abstract

The onetime resident of Blackheath, Robert H Reynolds, started life on the eastern border of Wales, joined the British Army when aged 18 and served for over 12 years. His much-lauded military career has been investigated.



Sergeant 33rd Foot (post Nov 1854)
Betteridge family collection



Staff Sgt, 12th Rgt of Foot



Captain 6th Infantry Rgt.
(Australian Rifles)(post April 1897)

Figure 1: Robert Henry Reynolds (26th January 1834 – 12th November 1913)

[In relation to the second image above, the Australian War Memorial warn: "Note that the image is reversed; the tunic should button the other way and sash sit on the right shoulder". Accordingly, that photograph has been reversed above as, for the same reason, has the third image. Likewise, the first image has been reversed to make the chevrons appear on the right arm and the buttoning to match that in images 2 & 3.]

Introduction

Robert Henry Reynolds (**Figure 1**) was baptised in Bwlch Trewyn, near Abergavenny, Wales on 26th January 1834 so maybe he was born earlier in that month. But nothing is known of his childhood and education. When the 1851 Census was taken in Wales R.H. Reynolds was stated to be 17 and had the occupation of butcher.

[N.B. Information about the military service of R.H. Reynolds given in primary military records has been deemed to be more reliable than accounts given in secondary sources such as References¹³ or ¹⁴ or ¹⁵ the last of that trio being based on Reference ¹⁶ – see separate reference document]

At the age of 18 (based on his baptismal date) he enlisted in the Army on 28th October 1852 (calculated from his length of service and the 1865 date of discharge).

Promotions

From 28th October 1852 Reynolds was a private in the 73rd Foot, and on 7th June 1854 he was promoted corporal, at which rank he served until transferred to the 33rd Foot. He was promoted to Sergeant on 28th November 1854 and served at that rank until discharged on 16th September 1857.

War against Russia was declared in 1854 and his Regiment was shipped to Sevastopol in the Crimea where British troops landed on 14th September 1854. Major battles were fought at Alma (20th September), Balaklava (25th October) and Inkerman (5th November).

In action, he was wounded on 26th October 1854 and was awarded the Crimea Medal with Alma Clasp (**Figure 2**). Printed in a newspaper was:

‘Color-sergeant Robert Henry Reynolds, of the 33rd or Duke of Wellington’s Regiment of Infantry, arrived in Newport, yesterday, from Bristol. The sergeant has been three years in the service, and is only 21 years old. Sergeant Reynolds’ company was one of the companies that charged up the “dreaded hill” of Alma. He was the only sergeant that escaped. He fought bravely at Inkermann (sic), and came out unwounded; but the starvation and trench work of the terrible winter that followed, brought him to the hospital of Scutari’.



Figure 2: British Crimean War medal with Alma clasp, presumably like the one awarded to Reynolds

We have tried to get proof of all aspects of the Military Career of Robert Henry Reynolds as there is so much disinformation on the internet. Thus, it has been said that R.H. Reynolds was a veteran of the Crimean War earning the Crimean medal and clasp and the Turkish medal (issued 1855) with clasp, but no record has been located of an R. H. Reynolds even being awarded the Turkish medal. Moreover, in his will RHR wrote:

"I give and bequeath to my son Edgar my Crimea Medal, ..."

[singular] and surely he would have mentioned any second medal had he received one.

R.H. Reynolds was discharged on 16th September 1857 but almost immediately he was recalled on 18th September 1857 for General Service and posted to the Corps Permanent Instructors of Musketry as a 3rd Class Sergeant. He was stationed at Hythe, Kent, England for almost three years, until 2nd July 1860 during which he was aged 23-26.

[Contrary to that latter date he placed an advertisement in The Sydney Morning Herald on 10 January 1860 giving "Address R.H. Reynolds, 80 South Head Road" so he appears to have been in Sydney at the start of 1860.]

No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the Time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
269	October 22 nd 1857	Robert Henry Reynolds Mary Jane Richards	22 22	Bachelor Spinster	Instructor of Musketry —	Hythe Hythe	John Reynolds William Richards	Sergeant Major Baker

Married in the Parish Church according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Ch. by Licence by me Richard J. Formby Incumbent

This Marriage was solemnized between us, Robert Henry Reynolds and Mary Jane Richards in the Presence of us, William Richards and Mary Ann Richardson

Figure 3: 1857 Marriage Certificate

First marriage 1857

Robert Henry Reynolds was married to Mary Jane Richards on 22nd October 1857 at Hythe, Kent (**Figure 3**). No children resulted from that relationship and after 47 years a divorce decree *nisi* was granted to Mary on 8th June 1904 for his desertion.

Puzzling is when R. H. Reynolds travelled from England to Australia and on what vessel!

Promotions

He was promoted to 2nd Class Sergeant in NSW on 3rd July 1860 and posted to the 1st Battalion, 12th Regiment of Foot in Australia on 17th August 1860. He would seem not to have been accompanied by his wife Mary.

"Volunteer Corps, Robert Henry Reynolds, sergeant instructor of musketry. Date of 1st appointment: 15/10/1860, date of appointment: 10/02/1862. Annual salary 5 pounds.

Foot note entry:

Sergeant Instructor of Musketry, 12th Regiment, with rations, fuel, light, quarters and a Colonial allowance of 1s 3d per diem. To the 22nd of Sept. Gone to New Zealand."

So, from 22nd September 1862 R.H. Reynolds:

"served with the 1st Battalion of the H.M. 12th Regiment of Foot in the New Zealand war".

[Conflict in New Zealand raged for many years but that regiment served between 1860–1867 in the First Taranaki War, Invasion of the Waikato, Tauranga Campaign; the most likely event in which he was involved was the 3rd Maori War in 1863-1866.]

Undetermined are when he travelled from Australia to New Zealand and back to Australia and on what ships.

Second Marriage

When aged 28 and still in the Army, Robert (Henry) Reynolds married Margaret Ann Orr on 3rd May 1862 in Sydney but his second name was registered as William.

The divorce from his first wife was not finalised until 8 June 1904, so Robert Reynolds appears to have been a bigamist when he married Margaret Ann Orr in 1862 which may account for him having given the registrar a false second given name.

The progeny from that relationship amounted to seven boys and three girls.

His second wife, Margaret Anne Reynolds, died on 14th August 1905, two months after Robert's divorce was finalised so she did live long enough to have a legal marriage – albeit the duration of that legality was brief.

Discharge 1865

Robert Reynolds was discharged for a second time on 17th January 1865, being deemed medically unfit as a result of an injury sustained in 1855 when he fell off a parapet in the Crimea (**Figure 4**).

[Curiously that injury did not prevent him from re-enlisting in 1857!].

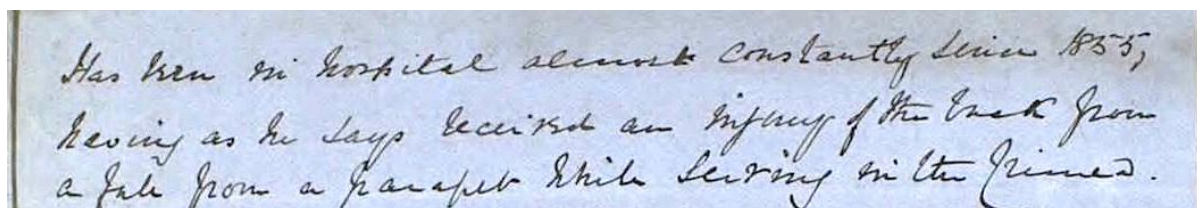


Figure 4: Record of the lasting effect of an injury sustained by a fall
(Source: ex British Army Service Records)

Sergeant R.H. Reynolds was in hospital "almost constantly since 1855" (**Figure 4**) and eventually his medical condition was assessed in Auckland, N.Z on 13th September 1864 and his "disability ... permanently incapacitates him from active duties", the discharge papers being signed in London on 17th January 1865 (**Figure 5**). By 13th September 1864 he had gained two good conduct badges but when they were awarded is not known.

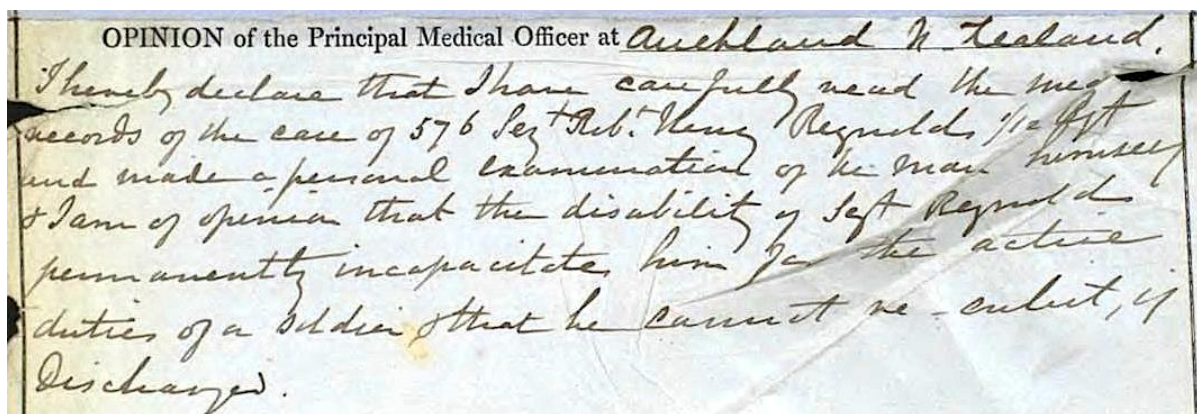


Figure 5: Record of medical examination in Auckland, N.Z leading to discharge.
(Source: ex British Army Service Records)

A W.O. Form 83 discharge paper dated in the margin "2/6/68" gives his age then as 35 years 3 months; that corresponds to a false birth date of March 1833.

In total, Robert Henry Reynolds completed over 12 years of military service.

A report that he served in the "South African campaigns (1876-77)" may have been based on a newspaper article published in 1902 entitled "South African War. Volunteer Officers who Fought. Those who did not."; in the section "The names of officers who fought in the campaign are appended." He was listed thus "Sixth Regiment. – Captain R.H. Reynolds.". However no official record of that supposed service has not been found and:

- He was not made an honorary Captain until 1897.
- He would have been 42-43 so rather old for that activity!

- In those years he had to have been in Sydney in January 1876 to have sired a daughter born in October 1876, and in January 1878 for the conception of a son born in October 1878.
- He sold land in Glebe on 30 March 1876, but no reports have been found of him actually being in Sydney between, and including, April 1876 and December 1877.
- For electoral purposes he registered his address in those years to be Glebe Point Road, Glebe and then Parramatta Street, Glebe but that does not clarify whether he was there in person.

Land Owner

Staff at NSW State Records established that his army pay in his last few years of service was a daily 8/- but he would have been paid that only on the few days each week that he was needed. With that lowly pay and a family of five children to support, other ways to earn money most probably would have been sought and lecturing was one that we know he undertook.

In July 1863 town lots in Grafton went on sale and R.H. Reynolds bought four lots for a total cost of £62 16s 8d. He tried to sell those Grafton properties in September 1863. The deeds that relate to what are now 115 Powell Street & 15 Arthur Street were issued on 1st April 1864 to a Patrick Donaldson so those land parcels (section 90, Lot 10 & section 113, Lot 4) did sell but at that time the other two of those Grafton properties seemingly did not. His investments in parcels of land were extensive and included those in relation to coal mining in Leura and Katoomba. But he and his second wife also held titles to many residential lots in Blackheath and those to the west of the Railway Line became the "*Glen Ayr Estate*" which went to auction on 27th January 1894. On land owned by his wife Margaret Ann since 5th August 1891 her husband Robert Reynolds built a pair of semi-detached cottages in Station Street (now Nos.132-133) that he named *Boronia* (southern side) and *Glen Ayr* (northern side) and it was the latter that his family occupied for holidays; at some time in the 1920s they were combined and renamed *Braemar* which name is still current. The complex civilian life lead by Robert Henry Reynolds will be the subject of a separate paper.

In April 1897 a formal announcement from the Chief Secretary's Office proclaimed that:
"Robert Henry Reynolds, gentleman, to be Captain"

and a year later he was listed:

"to be Quartermaster with honorary rank of Captain" in the "Sixth (Volunteer) Infantry Regiment (Australian Rifles)"

His attachment to the Army continued until 1st September 1902 when many "*partially paid and volunteer officers*" were retired including "*6th Volunteer Infantry Regiment – Captain Robert Henry Reynolds.*"

Third Marriage

In his final year of life, on 17th May 1913 Robert Henry Reynolds married Leah Barden (her second marriage), boarding house keeper, at her residence, '*Linwood*', Lombard Street, Glebe Point, Sydney, according to the rites of the Methodist Church. At that address Robert Henry Reynolds died on 12th November 1913, aged 80 years and 9½ months. The claim that he had resided in Sydney for 60 years is not plausible as that would have meant an arrival in 1853, before the war in Crimea!

Postscript

Robert Henry Reynolds was a colourful character in his younger days even stooping to bigamy. Undoubtedly, he was an accomplished and brave soldier who earned the Crimea medal with Alma clasp and rose to the rank of Sergeant Instructor of Musketry and in later life became a Captain. Unfortunately accounts of his military career have been embellished

by others as there is no evidence that he was awarded the Turkish medal and nor that he served in South Africa.

Unknown so far are details of his first journey to Australia and of his travels to and from New Zealand. And puzzling is how during his military life he accrued sufficient finances to enable him in civilian life to engage in various forms of business.

Acknowledgements

Intermittently since May 2000, information about R.H. Reynolds and his descendants has been shared with his great-grandson Christopher Betteridge with the unstated expectation that Chris would eventually write a publishable account. But COVID-19 and other health issues intervened and prevented that being written before Chris died on 28th May 2023. The mass of detail about the extended family that had been gathered was excessive for the general reader so when Chris indicated the severity of his ailments we started to assemble items for a distillation of that knowledge. When we had created an account of Reynold's life until discharge from the army in 1865, we sent Chris a draft but sadly by then he was too unwell to comment so we do not know if he deemed it suitable for publication. This account incorporates some of the information received from the late Christopher Betteridge, and some most generously provided by Brian Fox two decades ago. We also wish to thank Gary Steele for technical assistance on many occasions. Joan E. Steele & Peter C. Rickwood

Note: References are listed in a separate document issued with this Newsletter.

PLEASE NOTE THE CLOSING DATE FOR ARTICLES AND NOTIFICATIONS TO THE EDITOR FOR THE NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2023 ISSUE OF HERITAGE is Friday 27th OCTOBER 2023

Community events & updates

History Week 2023

History is often about giving a voice to people and events from the past, or about listening for voices in the historical record and amplifying the voices of storytellers. At the current moment, a Voice for First Nations peoples is front and centre for all Australians in a referendum.



The History Week theme for 2023, *Voices from the Past*, is an opportunity to engage with the histories of those who were often voiceless in the past such as women, migrants, workers, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Sometimes these voices were once heard but now sit forgotten in archives. At other times they have been ignored or all but erased.

This History Week the History Council of NSW invites members to consider how we have – or haven't – listened to voices from the past.

Key dates and events:

- History Week: Saturday 2nd September to Sunday 10th September.
- The Annual History Lecture: Tuesday 5th September.

- The NSW Premier's History Awards: (an event run in partnership with the State Library of NSW) Thursday 7th September.

You and your organisation can take advantage of the week and promote your organisation by hosting an event that you create, by hosting a History speaker through their Speaker Connect program and/or attending the NSW Premier's History Awards at the State Library of NSW and the History Council's Annual History Lecture. Your event would form part of the HCNSW's media campaign and be promoted in the History Week 2023 Program Event Calendar on their website. If you record your event, they would also feature it on their YouTube channel.

Note: *History Week events are open to public audiences. However, all organisations or individuals wishing to host a History Week event or take part in the History Week Speaker Connect program must be current members of the History Council of NSW.*

For bookings and more info, visit the History Council's Events Calendar at www.historycouncilnsw.org.au

Eskbank House and Museum, Lithgow

Eskbank House & Museum has been successful in obtaining a 2023-2025 Caring for State Heritage Grant from the NSW Dept of Planning & Environment. The Grant of \$120,000 will be utilized on much needed maintenance and repair works at the premises.

The property was deeded in trust to Lithgow City Council in 1948, having been constructed in 1841-42 by Alexander Binning for Thomas Brown (1811 – 1889), local magistrate, politician and mining entrepreneur. It was the first residence in the Lithgow valley.



From 1948 it was developed as a period house and museum by local businessman Eric Bracey and the Lithgow and District Historical Society. It opened as a museum in 1966 and came into the care and control of Council in 2003. It is operated by Council with the support of volunteers as a heritage tourism attraction and local community space.

Having been successful applying for the grant, Council will match the amount, meaning a total of \$240,000 will be available for the proposed works. The works will include roofing replacement, building repairs, improved drainage, replacement of a timber balustrade at the stables, repair of timber doors, upgrade of non-compliant toilets, improved accessibility, and protection of sandstone flagging.

Blue Mountains Steam FunFest

On Saturday 8th July and Sunday 9th July 2023, the Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Heritage Museum and Valley Heights Steam Tramway presented the inaugural *Blue Mountains Steam FunFest*, with support from the Campbelltown Steam & Machinery Museum (CSMM) and the Model T Ford Club, at the Valley Heights Rail Museum. Activities included rides on both the Sydney Steam Tram 103A and trailer, and also on the Valley Heights Mixed, the first time ever that both ran in public operations on the same day.

Also on display was a range of steam powered machinery provided by the CSMM, and the Model T Ford Club had some cars on display.



Visitors enjoyed the day



..... joined by Trish Doyle MP and Cllr Mick Fell



The steam train



The steam tram



Model trains – an interest for all ages!

The model train installations were running, Museum displays and rolling stock were open for inspection, as well as the hot food trailer!

The event was well patronised, with good visitor numbers on both days. Trish Doyle MP and BM Councillor Mick Fell attended in support of the weekend, addressing the crowd and taking a ride along the tracks.

The Museum group hopes this will be an Annual Event in the calendar.

Model Railway Fun

So, if you are not totally over trains following our History Conference at Springwood in May and the subsequent Steam FunFest at Valley Heights in July, then perhaps the following springtime events will be of interest!

1. Roslyn's Model Railway, Valley Heights

A Public Open Day is to be held at this display on Saturday 16th (10am to 4pm) and Sunday 17th (10am to 1pm) of September 2023, at 39 Green Parade, Valley Heights.



Come and have a look at one of the largest model railways in the southern hemisphere! Cost of entry is by gold coin donation (\$1 or \$2) and all proceeds are going to Hospital Chaplaincy.

It is hoped that the display will be open twice a year, with the next open day being planned for March 2024.

For more information find them on facebook, or call/ text on:

Mobile: 0400 976 131

Phone: 02 4751 6161

2. Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway Museum

Oberon Tarana Heritage Railway Museum is currently celebrating 100 years of the Oberon Tarana branch line. As part of their activities they are holding a model railway exhibition on the October long weekend 30th September to 3rd October 2023.



It would be staged at the Malachi Gilmore Hall, 124 Oberon Street, Oberon, and will feature a number of displays including a model of the Tarana Oberon branch line set between from 1950s to the 1980s.

Opening times: Saturday 9am to 5pm, Sunday 10am to 4pm, Monday 9am to 5pm and Tuesday 9am to 4pm. Cost is \$10 each for adults, or for a family \$20.

For inquiries: www.othr.com.au

Blue Mountains City Council Local Heritage Assistance Fund 2023-24

Please be advised that the Local Heritage Assistance Fund (LHAF) 2023-24 is now open for applications until the 11th September 2023.

The Blue Mountains Local Heritage Assistance Fund provides small grants to local property owners, to enable them to undertake minor conservation works to heritage properties in the Blue Mountains. The LHAF is jointly funded by Blue Mountains City Council and the NSW

Government and provides dollar for dollar grant funding for minor conservation works on privately owned heritage properties.



The Fund will have a total of \$15,000 to award in 2023, and individual grants will be up to \$2,500 each. This new round of grants, which apply to the 2023/24 financial year, will direct funding towards heritage buildings that are listed as local heritage items and/or contributory buildings within heritage conservation areas listed in the Blue Mountains Local Environmental Plan (LEP).

Priority would be given to minor conservation works to buildings that are located within the main streets in town or village centres and/or will provide a public benefit to the community, such as conservation of the building frontage or enhancements visible from the street.

Consideration will also be given to the preparation of strategic heritage documents, such as conservation management strategies or heritage interpretation plans for heritage buildings under threat or in exceptional circumstances.

Please visit the website for further information and to access applications forms:

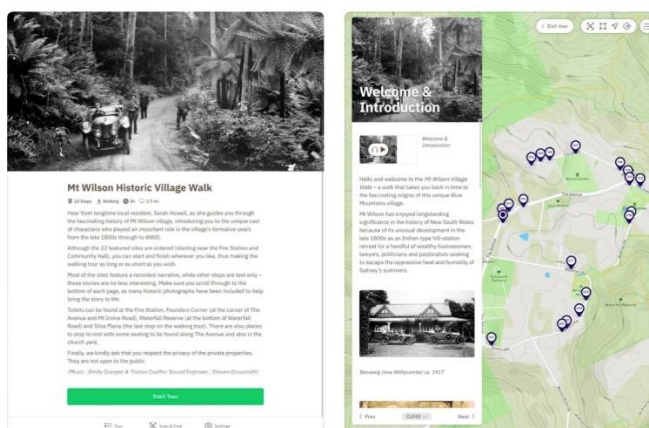
www.bmcc.nsw.gov.au/LAHF

Feel free to share this information with anyone that may be interested in applying for a grant.

Mt Wilson Historic Village Walk App

The Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine Historical Society Committee advises of the recent launch of their new *Mt Wilson Historic Village Walk App*, which may be of interest to BMACHO members and friends.

In summary, the App is a smartphone/tablet GPS-based audio-visual tour of Mt Wilson narrated by long-term resident, Sarah Howell. The App guides the user through the fascinating and often entertaining history of Mt Wilson village, introducing them to the unique cast of characters who played an important role in the village's formative years from the late 1800s through to WWII. The key features are that it is GPS-enabled, guiding the user from stop-to-stop, to 22 individual historical sites of interest, with 15 audio-recorded narratives, and includes historical photographs from the Historical Society's archives.



The App is available for download in both the Apple and GooglePlay stores. (Just search 'Mount Wilson' in either App store and it should appear near the top of the search results.) Development and publishing of the App was made possible by the FRRR's grants programme (Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal), so the community is very thankful to them for seeing the merit in funding this creation.

Inquiries may be directed to Peter Resanceff, Committee Member, Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine Historical Society on Ph 0419 288 823.

Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail Update

BMACHO continues to promote the Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail and members' upcoming events. The last of the 2019 brochures can still be collected at participating venues and Visitor Information Centres. The brochure is currently being reviewed and is not to be reissued until funds are available.

Reminder: It should be noted that due to a number of reasons such as Covid, fires and floods, some of the venues displayed on the current brochure may no longer be available. Two in particular are the Leuralla NSW Toy and Railway Museum at Leura and Ambergmere Restaurant at Little Hartley.

It should also be noted that Blue Mountain Education and Research Trust (BMERT) have changed their website and email address and although this cannot be updated as yet on the brochure, it has been updated on the Trail website (see below).

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>



Springtime in the Blue Mountains

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 City Library; 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; Eleanor Dark Foundation - Varuna Writers' House; Everglades Historic House & Gardens; Friends of the Paragon Inc; Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc; Hartley Historic Site, NPWS NSW; Hawkesbury Historical Society Inc; Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc; 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; Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Heritage Museum; Woodford Academy Management Committee; Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd.

The following are individual members: Wendy Blaxland, Fiona Burn, Philip Hammon, Dr Wayne Hanley, Gay Hendriksen, Ian Milliss, Patsy Moppett, Keith Painter, Dr Peter Rickwood, and Dr Robert Strange.

Committee: The management committee for 2023-2024 (from March 2023) is: Rod Stowe (President); Patsy Moppett (Vice President), Patsy Moppett (Secretary and Newsletter Editor), Philip Hammon (Treasurer), Dick Morony (Membership Secretary), Jan Koperberg (Public Officer/Correspondence Secretary/ Events and Venue Co-ordinator), Roy Bennett, Fiona Burn.

Finance sub-committee: Jan Koperberg, Fiona Burn, Ian Kendall.

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.