

Heritage

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Heritage Organisations Inc*

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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

Sydney's colonial quarries – a stoney history

A bridge at Pymont

The first Pymont Bridge was built across Darling Harbour and opened on 17th March 1858. It was a low wooden structure with a manually operated iron centre 'swing panel' to allow ships to pass. In the first two weeks 20,000 pedestrians paid a one penny toll to cross, as levied by the Pymont Bridge Company. It was also crossed by "932 carts and drays, 43 gigs, 17 carriages and 125 horse and rider." The toll was abolished in 1884 when the NSW government bought the bridge from the Pymont Bridge Company.



Pymont Bridge 1874



Pymont Bridge 1898

A new bridge was touted as early as 1891, but the depression of the 1890s delayed any serious consideration. In 1894 some twenty six designs were considered, a scheme was chosen and the first foundations were finally laid on 6th September 1899. The new Pymont Bridge opened on 28th June 1902 and had taken 33 months to build. It became the main route west out of Sydney, being completed in time to welcome the first motor cars. It was designed by Percy Allan, Engineer-in-charge of bridge design, and had one of the largest swing spans in the world at the time of its construction. It was one of the



Congestion on the old bridge



The old bridge

first to be powered by electricity. As a young engineer, J.J.C. Bradfield helped design the sandstone abutment walls at each end, which were recorded as being of Hawkesbury sandstone. The Jones and Pymont Bay Quarries at Pirrama Road, Pymont were the source of the stone.



New Pymont Bridge under construction 1902

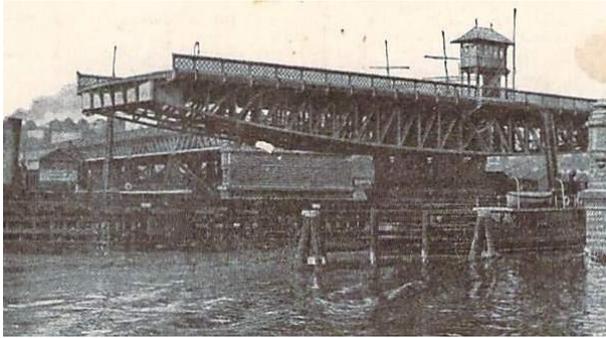


Traffic by 1907

As part of the construction of the western distributor project in 1980, the eastern abutment of Pymont Bridge was demolished and redirected. A year later, the western distributor viaduct to King Street was completed across the eastern end of Pymont Bridge, the temporary access ramp from the bridge to the viaduct was removed, and the bridge was permanently closed to traffic.

Stone fixtures from the bridge were dismantled as workmen pulled down the eastern side of the old bridge to allow work to proceed. Historic sandstone pieces dating back to the late 1800's were placed in storage for many years. In later years the pieces were to be showcased in the Blue Mountains under a concept by WestConnex, to be reused by the National Parks and Wildlife Service in building and maintaining walking tracks and other infrastructure including the heritage listed walking tracks in Blue Mountains National Park. In addition, a massive spiral of sandstone blocks was embedded into the earth of the Tarpeian Way, adjacent to Macquarie Street in Sydney, which incorporated relics from demolished buildings and structures such as the Pymont Bridge.

The Government ordered the Bridge to be demolished, but organisations including the City of Sydney Council and the Institution of Engineers Australia prevailed upon the government to revoke this decision and conserve the bridge. In 1984 the Pymont Bridge was restored, with the swing span in full working order, and incorporated as a pedestrian bridge in the redevelopment of Darling Harbour, and the Bridge was re-opened to pedestrian traffic in 1988. A section of the Monorail was built across the bridge at this time but was removed in 2013.



Bridge open for water traffic



Dismantling 1980

The Bridge is supported on a base made from mass concrete and Hawkesbury sandstone. It is still driven by the original electric motors, and remains in operation, opening to a schedule managed by the Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority.

Because of its significance as one of the largest and earliest electrically operated swing bridges in the world Pyrmont Bridge was declared a National Engineering Landmark in 1992.

Sources of stone in Sydney

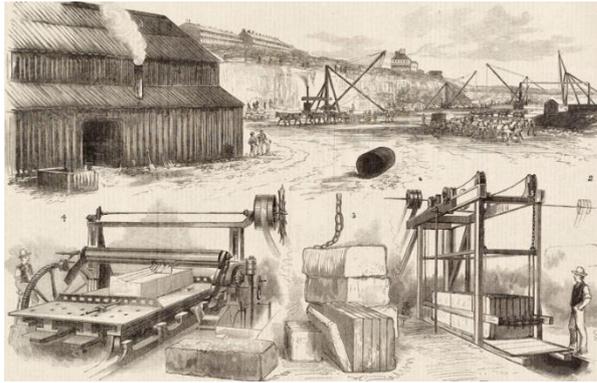
So, what of the sandstone which was used to build the bridge, and indeed what were the sources of sandstone for the construction of early buildings of Sydney town?

Records of which early buildings were erected from which stone quarries no longer exist in many cases, and likewise there are no surviving records as to when quarrying at the various early sites around Sydney began and ceased. As a consequence we can only guess where the stone for each early building came from. However, it is certain that the stone for the buildings would have been quarried locally, as it was in plenteous supply and there are no records or indications that sandstone was brought in from other sites around Sydney. Few of the buildings from this era survive, particularly those built by the Government for its own use around 1800.



Quarrying in early Sydney

In 1816, Governor Macquarie sought to create a passage through the rock face to join the east and west sides of The Rocks community. The program was cast aside until 1843 when convict chain gangs began to cut the rock face with whatever hand tools could be found. The Argyle cut was completed in 1864. The rubble from the cut was used to construct many of The Rocks' stone buildings of the era.



Paradise quarry 1883



Paradise quarry

The hillsides on both sides of Kent Street, Millers Point, were also major source of sandstone for buildings constructed during the Macquarie period and in late colonial eras. A team of quarrymen was brought out from Scotland by Presbyterian minister Rev. Dr. John Dunmore Lang in 1831 and quarrying continued to be used from here until the early 1860s. Quarrying would have taken place all the way along the line of Windmill Street as well, and it is likely that the street itself was created out of abandoned quarries from as early as 1790 until such time as the major buildings in the area had been completed. Unfortunately, of these, only the Man O'War Steps survive today, and the largest of these buildings would have been Fort Macquarie. The hole left by quarrying became known as the Tarpeian Way. Early recorded Sydney quarries included the following:

Quarry name	Buildings erected from its sandstone
Argyle Cut, The Rocks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seawall and landfill around Farm Cove (1848 - 1879) • Campbell's Storehouses (1839, 1861, 1890)
Kent Street	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hero of Waterloo, Millers Point (1844) • The Garrison Church, Millers Point (1840) • Lord Nelson Hotel, Millers Point (1836) • The Judge's House, Kent St (1821-22)
Windmill Street	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hero of Waterloo Hotel, Millers Point (1844)* • Former Shipwrights Arms, Millers Point (1840)
The Tarpeian Way	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Man O'War Steps, Farm Cove (1810-20) • Fort Macquarie (1820-21):
George Street	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Argyle Stores (1826 onwards) • Campbell's Storehouse, Circular Quay West* • Merchants House (former Counting House), The Rocks (1848)
Thrupps Point, Cremorne	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fort Dennison (1855) • Ballast for ships returning to England

**It is noted that sometimes rock was sourced from several quarries for the same building.*

But by 1850 most of the smaller quarry sites around the colony were exhausted, and quarries around the Pymont area then came into their own, the stone having been found to be much harder rock which did not erode and crumble as easily. This source of stone flourished from the 1840s to the 1940s and transformed the local landscape.

The local quarry masters, including Charles Saunders, brought stonemasons from Scotland and elsewhere, to operate the most up-to-date machinery. The main quarries were *Paradise*, *Purgatory* and *Hell Hole*, named by the stone masons who worked them. *Hell Hole* was named after a deep excavation to the bottom of the main block, twenty feet (six metres) below street level. Many of the public buildings familiar to us today were built from Pymont stone.

The most well known quarries were as follows, the outlines of which may often still be visible today:

Quarry name	Buildings erected from its sandstone
Wattle Street, between Macarthur & Quarry Streets, Ultimo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treasury Building, Macquarie Street, (1849) • Australian Museum, College Street • Colonial Secretary's Office, Macquarie Street, (1869) • University of Sydney Great Hall and Main Quadrangle, Library and Lecture Block (1855-59)
Purgatory: Wattle St between Quarry & Fig Streets, Ultimo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Customs House, Alfred Street (1887; 1897; 1900) • General Post Office (Pitt Street Section), (1881) • Burns Philp Building, Bridge Street (1901)
Hell Hole: Wattle Street between Fig St & Pymont Bridge Rd, Pymont	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Customs House, Alfred Street (1887)* • Redfern Mortuary Station, Regent Street (1868) • Court House, Police and Justice Museum, Cnr Phillip & Alfred Streets (1884-86)
Half Way: between Miller St & Pymont Bridge Rd, Pymont	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treasury Building, Macquarie Street (1849)* • Queen Victoria Building, George Street (1898) • Sydney Town Hall, George Street (1869-89) • Georgian Terrace, Harris St, Pymont
Paradise: north of Bank St in and around Saunders & Jones Sts, Pymont	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bank of New South Wales, George St, Broadway (1894) • Sydney Town Hall, George Street (1869-89)* • Central Railway Station, Eddy Ave, Broadway (1908) • St Mary's Cathedral, Cathedral Street (1882):
CSR refinery site & Elizabeth Bay: Pymont north	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CSR Refinery Site: (from 1855) • Lands Department Building, Bridge St (1877-90) (1894) • General Post Office, Martin Place (1864-87) • New South Wales Club, Bligh Street (1884-87) • Terrace, Union St, Pymont • Pymont Post Office, Harris St, Pymont: (from 1901)
Jones & Pymont Bay: Pirrama Rd, Pymont	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lands Department Building, Bridge St (1877-90) (1894)* • Mitchell Library, Shakespeare Place (1905-10) • Art Gallery of NSW, Art Gallery Road (1896-1908) • Land Titles Office, Prince Albert Road (1908-13) • Pymont Bridge, Pymont Bridge Rd, Pymont (1902)

*1 It is noted that sometimes rock was sourced from several quarries for the same building.

By 1852 there were 15 quarries being worked in the Pymont area. In 1855 Edmund Blackett took over as Colonial Architect and insisted that all stone came from the Pymont quarries, and this became the material preferred, with Charles Saunders being the favoured supplier. The appointment of John Barnet as Colonial Architect in 1862 saw a boom in public building construction. Barnet hired John Young to supervise projects, but Young soon found himself out of his depth and turned to Charles Saunders.



Elizabeth Bay quarry site 1992



Jones Bay quarry site 1986



Pymont Bay quarry site



Kent Street quarry site

Charles Saunders, entrepreneur and stonemason, was born in Devon in 1824, and brought his family to Sydney in 1852, soon after gold was discovered in NSW.

Charles' son Robert also stepped into the business and the company brought stonemasons from Scotland and elsewhere to operate the most up-to-date machinery. Robert began introducing new technologies which led to the re-opening of many quarries which had been abandoned where all the rock to ground level had been extracted. By using steam-powered cranes and specially imported sawing machines with steam driven iron blades, Saunders was able to extract the harder stone found below ground level from the abandoned sites. St Paul's Cathedral in Melbourne and public buildings in New Zealand, Fiji and Canada also used Pymont sandstone. A thriving trade was also had with window sills, door steps and kerbstones, along with providing stone for nearly 50 workmen's houses and shops in Pymont.

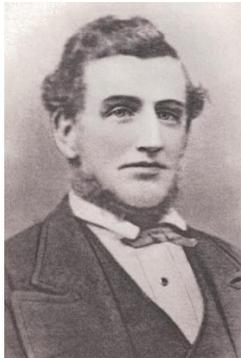
By the beginning of the 1880s, Saunders had abandoned quarrying sites on the western side of the peninsular and he moved on to the harder stone to the north, leaving gaping holes in the landscape which filled with stagnant water. Eventually he worked practically the whole of the north east end of the peninsula. However, the activities of Pymont's quarrymen began to lessen as steel and concrete became the preferred building materials and industry quickly enveloped Pymont. Saunders' last major quarrying project was the levelling of Glebe Island to make way for grain silos.

Charles Saunders built the Quarryman's Arms, and his expanding family lived there until the 1870s when they moved to Clifton Villa in Harris Street, where he lived until his death in 1893.

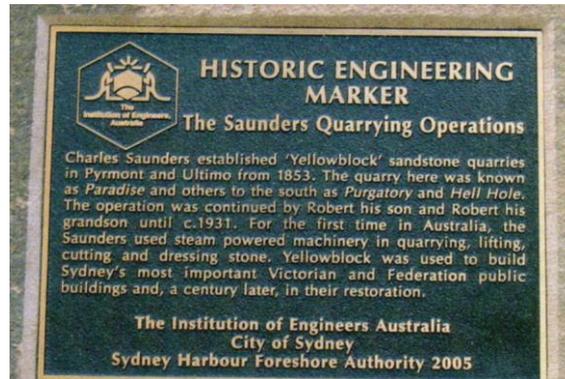
Wattle Street quarry was worked by Charles Saunders and Robert as a successful business for almost 50 years, until Robert passed it over to the McCredie brothers, Robert, Thomas and John*², who had been purchasing sandstone from Saunders.

In 1868 Thomas McCredie had taken on a lease on a parcel of land that Edward Macarthur had failed to sell and began quarrying stone for his building projects. McCredie brothers first expanded their quarries, but soon shifted their focus from quarrying to building. As John and Robert McCredie moved on, Thomas brought in his brothers William, Alexander and Andrew.

McCredie brothers also sourced high quality granite from Moruya for some of their building works, including the General Post Office extension and the pedestal in King Street which holds the statue of Queen Victoria.



Charles Saunders



Robert Saunders

Part of Alfred Street was renamed in 1875 after the numerous McCredie brothers who lived and worked there as builders and quarry masters from the 1860's. The street closed in the 1950's and was subsumed within the CSR site.

Abandoned quarries left a lunar landscape of shallow and deep pits, bounded by steep escarpments. The cutting and transport of sandstone blocks, and the smoke from the foundries made it very clear that Pymont was heavily industrialised. It was also densely populated, as workers in these industries (and in the port and the railway which reached Darling Harbour in 1856) had to live in ramshackle cottages within walking distance of work. Some early examples of long gone stonemasonry have been reclaimed and form a spiral of sandstone blocks embedded into the Tarpeian Way, as previously mentioned. The feature consists of relics from demolished buildings and structures such as the Pymont Bridge, carved and embellished by stonemasons but now darkened with age and scarred from use. Once quarried for the city's early sandstone buildings and to provide fill for the creation of Circular Quay, the Tarpeian Way is now a thin veneer of earth covering the Sydney Harbour Tunnel.



James Barnet



Walter Vernon



Trade Union banner

In most instances the early significant buildings of the colony have been attributed to architects James Barnet and Edmund Blackett, and others such as Francis Greenway, Mortimer Lewis and Walter Vernon. However, the actual work was carried out by the stonemasons and their teams, whose names often were not recorded. Some of these architects were not easy to work for such as Greenway, so stonemasons like Saunders, McCredie and John Howie did not have it easy.

The skilled stone masons who worked these quarries formed Australia's first effective trade unions. Many workers banded together for mutual support, so the Friendly Society of Operative Stonemasons of NSW formed in 1853. Pymont quarry masters recruited skilled

men, many of them from Scotland, and became the first Australian union – perhaps the first in the world – to win the eight hour day.

Patsy Moppett

**2 It is noted that John Howie [see Heritage Newsletter No 89, November December 2023 page 4] worked for the McCredie brothers followed by his employment by James Barnet, Colonial Architect, as Clerk of Works.*

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From the Editor

So herewith we present the 90th edition of the BMACHO *Heritage* Newsletter! Issue No.1 was issued in January-February 2009 by the BMACHO Committee and John K Leary, OAM - President and Newsletter Editor, who passed away in July 2014. In his first Editorial, John explained the initiative for commencing the publication of *Heritage*:

Some time ago, the committee of BMACHO identified as a major issue, the need to improve communications in the local heritage sector. Across a broad range of issues it was considered that various organisations were not sharing information which could not only make their operations more effective, but would also make life easier and more pleasant in the bid to achieve goals of conserving, researching, recording, preserving and promoting our heritage

..... While there is an urgent need to promote publications in print, there is an even greater need to share information between like organisations. It is imperative that organisations, if they are to succeed in maintaining membership, become more proactive in selling their group to the public. One of the best ways of doing this is to communicate and share ideas with like minded bodies To participate in the process of improving communications, BMACHO's executive has initiated this newsletter, HERITAGE which currently it is proposed to publish every couple of months. The newsletter is designed to reach as many individuals as possible

..... It is hoped that secretaries on receipt of HERITAGE on their e-mail will simply forward it on to those members who have registered their e-mail. Hopefully those who do not have e-mail will be provided with hard copies by other members of their organisation.

A lot of water has passed under the bridge since then, and now some 15 years later, the current Committee feels as though we have continued to carry out John's vision for community engagement. Each Edition contains contributions from across the Blue Mountains heritage community, sharing their activities and experiences. In addition, articles of relevance to Blue Mountains heritage but also from the wider heritage community have been provided for the interest of readers.

Personally, I have been involved as Editor since John's passing (July-August 2014 Issue No 33) and have found it to be an educational and rewarding experience. I look forward to continuing in this role as long as BMACHO as an organisation supports the initiative.

So, readers can expect some interesting reading in this issue, taking a fresh look around Sydney and the Blue Mountains through articles and news regarding member activities. Look out for funding opportunities, community engagement projects by Blue Mountains City Council, Lithgow and the Hawkesbury, updates on society activities and the Blue Plaque project.

The Committee wish everyone a happy, safe and healthy New Year for 2024!

Layers of history - St Thomas Aquinas Church, Winmalee [Springwood]

The Blue Mountains Gazette published the following on Wednesday 6th March 1996:

Official Opening St Thomas Aquinas Church, Hawkesbury Road, Winmalee [Springwood]

10th March 2pm

The Archbishop of Parramatta, Bishop Bede Heather, will officially open Springwood's new St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church on Sunday, March 10. The new church is the fourth place of worship for the Springwood Catholics. The first Catholic Church was situated in what is now Rest Park, and was dedicated in 1891.

This church was too small by 1919, and a new St Thomas Aquinas was blessed and opened on the corner of Macquarie and Hawkesbury Roads.

A big growth in the number of Catholics in the area saw this church also become too small by the 1980s. In 1989 church services were temporarily moved to St Columba's Chapel.

This 'temporary' move ended last year, when parishioners moved into the new church to allow the chapel to be converted into a library for the high school.

Through the face and inspiration of Father Michael McGloin the Catholic community rallied to support the building of the new church.

The first mass in the new church was held on Sunday, December 10 last year.

Special thanks goes [sic] to the parishioners who supported the new church throughout all its phases and to Mr Horace Rapisarda for his co-ordination work and original design. Thanks also go to J.M. Coyle Builders for their excellent workmanship and co-operation during the church's construction, and to Father Michael whose guidance made the church a reality.

St Thomas's Church began its days as a humble weatherboard building in Rest Park in Macquarie Road at Springwood, constructed in 1891 and dedicated the following year. It

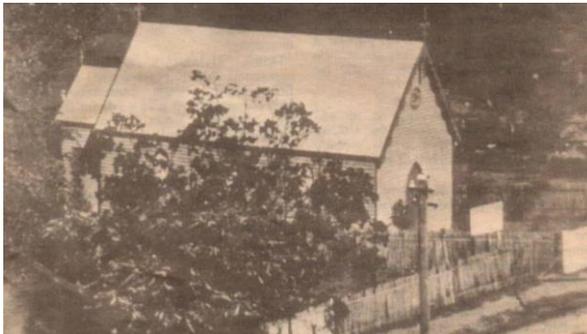
catered for 48-50 people. Previously the Catholic community had been without a church, services being held from as early as 1845 in Boland's Inn on Ferguson Road (also known as the Springwood Inn) and in other local buildings such as the police station, although the Parish of Penrith had been established in 1835. From 1890 to 1907 the church became a part of the Blue Mountains Parish, and now falls under the Parish of Parramatta.



Boland's Inn or Springwood Inn

Boland's Inn was the site of the first military stockade from 1833 in the locality associated with the use of the old road to Bathurst. Thomas Boland acquired the site in 1845 complete with existing buildings, which he proceeded to convert to an inn. He retained the inn until 1870, selling it on to become a guesthouse known as *Loorana*. It remained a guesthouse under various owners until it was demolished in 1939. A cottage was built on the site which too was demolished in 2002.

The old weatherboard church of 1891 was constructed through the donation of land and funds from the Boland family. However, it soon became too small for the expanding Catholic community and a new site was acquired on Macquarie Road from the estate of the Frazers of *Silva Plana* in 1918. The old weatherboard church and its site were acquired by Council as a reserve, Rest Park.



Old 1891 church in Rest Park and then after relocation



Brick church under construction 1919



In use 1930s

A new brick church was built in 1919 on the Macquarie Road site to a design by the architect Bartholomew Moriarty (a former convict and Fenian, convicted of treason-felony and sentenced to seven years servitude for his part in the Cork rising of 1867). The 1891 church was moved from Rest Park to the new site and re-erected beside the new church to serve as a hall. A school was also built on the site which operated from 1921 to 1976. In 1986 Rev Michael McGloin moved the old parish and the old 1891 church to the St Columba's Seminary site on Hawkesbury Road and in 1992 a retirement community, Aquinas Court, opened on the old site around the former 1919 church. Originally built as a seminary in 1909, the Hawkesbury Road establishment had been closed in 1977 and reopened as a high school in 1979.



Early sketch of the 1919 church



As it is today

The 1919 church has now become largely a community centre for the residents of Aquinas Court. The stone retaining wall around two sides of the perimeter of the corner block on Macquarie Road was erected in 1947.

The sandstone walls to the front steps are embellished with tall bronze lanterns contemporary with the church. On the sides of the steps are carved stones with the words "ST THOMAS AQUINAS - THE ANGELS' GUARDIAN". The foundation stone of this the second St Thomas Aquinas Church reads:

*To the Glory of God
In honour of St Thomas Aquinas
The Angels' Guardian*

The stone was blessed by Michael Kelly, Archbishop of Sydney, on 11th May 1919.

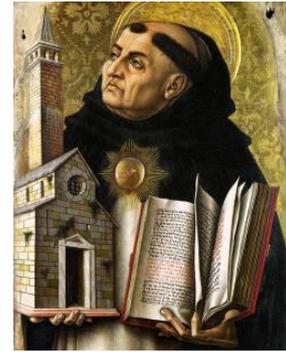
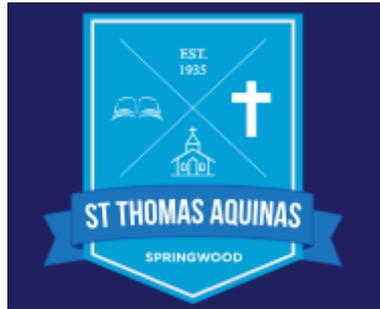


Rev Michael McGloin and his new church



St Thomas Aquinas church today

Once again the parish community outgrew their church and the new church of St Thomas Aquinas was constructed in 1995 on the Hawkesbury Road site in the grounds of St Columba's, opening in 1996.



St Thomas Aquinas was an Italian Dominican friar and priest, an influential philosopher and theologian, and a jurist in the tradition of scholasticism from the county of Aquino in the Kingdom of Sicily.

Patsy Moppett

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The Pardoned Fenian convicts: 1987, KW Amos Chapter 8

Map of Australia and Water Features, Wilson Park, Lawson

Wilson Park at Lawson is across the road from the Lawson pool. Within the Park is a large, much loved concrete map of Australia, a small bridge and associated water features. The map was constructed in the 1930s at a precise scale of 75 miles to 1 foot. The map was designed by then Shire President, Percy Wilson and authenticated by Professor J McDonald Holmes, Department of Geography, Sydney University.

Records indicate that it was carved out of natural rock by a local builder, Frank Higgison (who was later died as a POW in Sandakan, North Borneo). The map accurately included capital cities, state boundaries, rivers, and mountain ranges. The map was surrounded by water and the colours used on the map responded to regulation colours in school atlases. The map and associated water features were unveiled on 12th May 1932 during an event attended by local dignitaries and 100 school children from the nearby Stratford Girls School. An impressive photo was taken with the school children, residents, and attending dignitaries who gathered around the map and the bridge.



Before restoration



After restoration

Photos: Blue Mountains City Council

Over the years the map and water features deteriorated extensively. The colours were no longer visible on the map and the surrounding water was choked with weeds. About ten years ago concerned residents signed a petition to save the map and water features. Restoration was delayed by COVID, and the first restoration was destroyed by floods. However, a good result did eventuate, and restoration was completed in 2023.

The new works include bridge repairs, stonework and channel restoration, cleaning of the map, (where no chemicals were used), ground water management and interpretive signage. The colours on the map have only been cleaned with water and no further colouring has been added to the original. The works cost Blue Mountains City Council \$100,000 and the map is now listed on the Local Environment Plan.

The restoration work was launched on 28th October 2023 by Mayor Mark Greenhill OAM along with Deputy Mayor Romola Hollywood, other councillors, the council staff who lead the restoration work and interested residents. The historic photo from the opening event in 1932 was recreated, this time in colour. Unfortunately, the number of children present in 2023 did not exceed the number in the original photo taken in 1932.



*Photograph recreation 2023
Photo: Blue Mountains City Council*

The map is fragile, and visitors are asked not to step onto it so that it remains the rare surviving example of a larger scale map integrated into a public recreation reserve.

Jan Koperberg

PLEASE NOTE THE CLOSING DATE FOR ARTICLES AND NOTIFICATIONS TO THE EDITOR FOR THE MARCH-APRIL 2024 ISSUE OF HERITAGE IS MONDAY 26th FEBRUARY 2023

Community events & updates

Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine Historical Society Update

The Mount Wilson & Mount Irvine Historical Society held their 25th Annual General Meeting on Saturday 18th November 2023 in the Mount Irvine Public Hall, as the Mt Wilson Village Hall was unavailable due to pending building works. Now that COVID19 has abated to a large extent, the Society is able return to a more traditional schedule for the AGM by holding it in the latter part of the year.



There were 19 who attended the meeting, and 23 apologies were received. Malcolm Reynolds was elected president and Public Officer. The secretary role was not filled, but the elected treasurer was David Howell. The Vice President role was not filled, and they elected a management committee of six members, which included the President.

There was much interesting discussion around the Society's dire financial position, and a couple of fundraising events have now been planned to assist in this regard. The Society continues to face challenges regarding membership and raising income to meet ever increasing costs, and they agreed to raise entry fees to the museum and to review charges on their books and other merchandise. They also noted that in today's cashless society they need to find an electronic payment option.

Many readers will not be aware that Wendy Smart of *Wynstay*, passed away very suddenly this year after a brave fight with cancer. This was a great shock to the community and the Society. The Society's condolences and best wishes were extended to all her family for this sad loss. The Society is approaching the end of the 26th year of their 50-year lease of the Turkish Bath Museum from the family. Therefore, at the meeting, Malcolm Reynolds provided a brief talk on the early history of the Wynne family who built *Wynstay*, the text being taken from information written by a member of the family, Irene Wynne.

The Mt Wilson Village Walk Project has now been officially launched, as previously reported by BMACHO. The finished product is very professional, and all credit and thanks need to go to the project committee. This has involved building an online application with a historical narrative complete with images for each designated historical building and location in Mt Wilson. Purchase of the app can be made through Apple or Google at below links for \$3.99.

<https://apps.apple.com/au/app/mt-wilson-historic-walk/id6447495972>

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/developer?id=Mt+Wilson+and+Mt+Irvine+Historical+Society>

The Society very gratefully accepted a gift from St George's Church at Mt Wilson earlier this year of documents dating back to the original building of the church in 1916. Thanks went to Helen Freeman and the church committee for this generous gift.

At the meeting Malcolm Reynolds included a brief history of the Turkish Bath Museum and will arrange a guest speaker for future meetings/events.

The group have gained some wonderful new members this year and interested people are always welcome to attend future meetings. The Society would be grateful for any ideas they may have to share on suggested future events, fundraising and the society and its future.

Further information regarding the Society may be obtained from Malcolm Reynolds at malcolmreynolds1961@gmail.com

Malcolm Reynolds

Beryl McLaughlin's Blue Plaque

In November 2023, the Blue Mountains Historical Society was advised that Beryl McLaughlin, the Society's benefactor, was to be remembered with a Blue Plaque. This was one of fourteen offered in 2023, and the first in the Blue Mountains.

Blue Plaques NSW "*connects the ordinary person to the hidden history and heritage of NSW.*" The Government program was commenced in 2022 and has already honoured people like Caroline Chisholm and Albert "Tibby" Cotter. The award of a Blue Plaque is based on the assessment of applications by a panel of independent historians.

In 2023, a second round of Blue Plaque applications was offered. After examining the criteria and reading the information about the successful 2022 Blue Plaques, the Blue Mountains Historical Society decided to apply for a Blue Plaque for Beryl McLaughlin, 1888-1988.

Why Beryl?

Beryl's story is that of an indomitable woman who overcame the obstacles faced by many women in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries to gain not one but two university degrees. She first taught science to teenage girls then practised as an architect for ten years, until the Depression intervened. Like many women who had lost loved ones in World War I, she never married. In World War II, she diligently worked on the Home Front, plane-spotting and making camouflage netting.

Her life is not unique; others pushed at the edges of expectations, as Beryl did. Of the sixteen graduates in science in her year, six were women. Nine students graduated from the foundation class in architecture offered by the University of Sydney including Beryl and two other women. Many other women lost brothers and fiancées in World War I; some married other men; others remained single.



Beryl Mary McLaughlin

We cannot honour all these women, but Beryl does represent them all. The Blue Mountains Historical Society honours her memory because of what she did, for the Society, for Wentworth Falls and for history in the mountains.

On 21st August 1946, the inaugural meeting of the Blue Mountains Historical Society was held in the Blue Mountains County Council headquarters. By 1949, the Blue Mountains City Council was providing the Society with a room for meetings, storage of materials and a museum and library, for a nominal rent. But by 1954 this room was inadequate and discussions for a museum were being held.

In November 1954, Beryl offered Tarella as a site for a possible museum and by mid-1955 meetings were taking place there.

Planning for the building of the museum then started. It met with problems faced by many who build in heritage areas, especially as they wanted to build a museum in a residential-zoned area, but eventually all objections were met and the museum was built and opened, despite bushfires, on Saturday 30th November 1968.

Beryl McLaughlin and her sister, Ida Lane, were able to enjoy their gift to the society and to the local community.

There were two other gifts. Shortly before her death, Beryl McLaughlin transferred to the Society the southern half of the property on which Tarella was situated. In her will she bequeathed sufficient money to renovate Tarella and to extend the existing museum building, helping to create a research centre.

The Society remembers and honours Beryl because of her life of service to the community and the donation that supports our history. The cottage, built in the 1890s, still stands today because of her vision. Children and adults can venture into a time-warp when they visit the Tarella Cottage Museum. The past comes vividly alive as we wander along the corridor, looking at the artefacts and thinking of how they lived in the past.



The McLaughlins at Tarella

References:

Photographs: Blue Mountains Historical Society.

Mums, Children and Mustard Gas: The Blue Mountains Goes to War: Joan Edwards, Blue Mountains Historical Society unpublished

A Golden Jubilee History 1946-1996: Alan Tierney, Blue Mountains Historical Society 2016

The McLaughlins of Tarella 1890-1988: Susan Warmbath, Blue Mountains Historical Society 2009

File notes compiled by members of Blue Mountains Historical Society

Woodford Academy History Day

The Woodford Academy volunteer community generously give their time, expertise and energy to support this National Trust property around study, family and paid employment commitments. Every single volunteer contribution is highly valued, and vital for the ongoing success of the Academy.



The Management Committee is therefore inviting all their volunteers to attend an intensive history day at the Academy, which will give an in-depth explanation of the diverse and complex story of the oldest group of colonial buildings in the Blue Mountains, with a multi-layered history stretching back to the 1830s. Features include the spectacular sandstone buildings, historic rooms, the stories of its many lives as a gentleman's residence, guest house, boarding school and now a museum and art space.

The Management Committee recently made a Meritorious Service Award presentation to long-standing volunteer gardener, Margaret Harrison, in thanks for her decades of service to the Woodford Academy. Margaret was among the early members of the Blue Mountains community who worked tirelessly to ensure the heritage building and its contents were preserved and continues to donate her time and skills to the upkeep and maintenance of the Academy grounds. Margaret welcomes anyone who might be keen to join her in the garden at the Academy every Wednesday and Saturday morning.

The history day event for volunteers will be held on Saturday 13th January 2024 from 10.30am to 4pm.

Contact the Management Committee for further information at: woodfordacademy@gmail.com

Community War Memorials Fund Round 2

The Office of Veterans Affairs has announced that applications are currently open online for Round 2 of the NSW Government's Community War Memorials Fund. Grants of up to \$10,000 are available to local councils and community groups to obtain specialist heritage advice or undertake physical conservation work on war memorials.

The NSW Government established the Community War Memorials Fund to help conserve, repair and protect war memorials across NSW. Since the establishment of the program in 2008, grants have been provided for a wide range of projects including conservation assessments, honour roll repair, war memorial cleaning and conservation work, arborist advice for war memorial trees, security measures for memorials, repairs to war memorial halls and improvements to the accessibility of memorials.

Two application rounds are run each year. The rounds open on Anzac Day and Remembrance Day.

Grant applications are assessed by the State War Memorials Committee, which is comprised of senior representatives of the Returned and Services League of Australia NSW Branch (RSL NSW), NSW Public Works, Heritage NSW and the NSW Office for Veterans Affairs.

Applications for Round 2 opened on 11th November 2023 and close on 11th February 2024.

Announcement of outcomes will be on about the 31st May 2024.

Round 1 included a grant of \$4,950 being awarded to Blue Mountains City Council for conservation works to the Wentworth Falls War Memorial, including cleaning of memorial and surrounding stonework.

Note: Please read the Round 2 2023/2024 CWMF Program Guidelines before starting your application. The CWMF Program Guidelines have been reviewed and updated for Round 2 2023/2024. Please disregard versions of the Program Guidelines accessed prior to 11 November 2023.

For questions about the funding opportunity please contact Liz Burge, Policy Officer, NSW Office for Veterans Affairs, Department of Community and Justice, from 8th January 2024:

Ph:02 8688 0676

Web: www.veterans.nsw.gov.au

Email: liz.burge@veterans.nsw.gov.au

Further information is also available at <https://www.veterans.nsw.gov.au/heritage/community-war-memorials-fund/>

Blue Mountains Historical Society - Tour of Katoomba

The *Katoomba Story Walking Tour* will occur on Thursday 8th February 2024. Attendees will meet at the Old Gearin Hotel (273 Great Western Highway, Katoomba) at 9.50 am for a 10.00 am departure. There is free parking in the adjacent railway commuter carpark.



Journey on this tour with Sue Collins of *Mountains Tales* through the story of the first 50 years of Katoomba, from small coal mining village to 'Honeymoon Capital' of Australia. Sue discusses Katoomba's early days from the late 1800's, to the beginning of World War Two.

Sue is the proud owner and operator of *Mountains Tales*, a local Blue Mountains business, and is excited to share its stories with both locals and visitors.

This is a social gathering for BM Historical Society members, partners and friends, involving a 1.5 km walk involved over two hours, stopping every 100m or so for a chat. The tour ends at the Carrington Hotel where the group will enjoy a Devonshire Tea.

The cost is \$44.00 per person, cash or EFTPOS. Minimum number required for the tour to take place is 12 guests, and the maximum number in the tour will be 20 guests. Book early! If you have any questions or to book, call Sue Collins (BMACHO member) on 0410 600 224 or email Sue on sue@mountaintales.com

Blue Mountains Historical Society Tour - Powering the Mountains

The BMHS's second excursion for 2024 is to be on Wednesday 21st February 2024. The event itinerary includes the Carrington Hotel power station, the powerhouse at North Katoomba, Mt Piper power station, Hampton Hotel, and the Hampton wind turbines. The Mt Piper tour is for one hour, and involves a few steps and going downwards only. There is a lift to ascend. People who may find this difficult may remain in their visitor's centre.



North Katoomba



Hampton Halfway House



Mt Piper Power Station

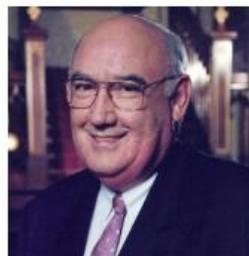
Our tour guide will be Paul Innes, and the cost is \$25 per person. There are no other costs except purchase of your own lunch. Tour numbers are limited to 20.

If you would like more information or to book, contact Chris Webber on mobile 0424 720 676 or via email yakarr@yahoo.com

Dr Rex Stubbs OAM History Symposium 2024

This annual symposium will be held on Saturday 17th February 2024 at the Tebbutt Room, Deerubbin Centre, 300 George Street, Windsor.

DR Rex
Stubbs OAM



The keynote speaker will be Stephen Gapps, public historian, and author with research interests in frontier histories. His presentation will focus on conflict in the early NSW colony, 1788 - 1817.

The symposium will include:

- Presentation on conservation and preservation
- Project updates from Hawkesbury City Council's Arts and Culture team
- Updates from historical societies and groups
- Networking opportunities for all attendees

This free annual history symposium is an information sharing and networking opportunity for members of all Hawkesbury Local Government Area historical societies and heritage groups, as well as those in immediate environs. It provides the opportunity for representatives of

these groups to broaden their knowledge of trends in local and family history, heritage and collection management and to hear about projects that other organisations are focusing on. The event recognises Dr Stubbs' commitment to the Hawkesbury community and aims to promote interest in the unique history of the area. The Rex Stubbs Symposium is named in commemoration of Emeritus Mayor, Dr Rex Stubbs OAM, who was first elected to Hawkesbury City Council in 1983. He held office for nearly 27 years and was their longest serving Councillor. Dr Rex Stubbs was a descendant of six generations of Hawkesbury families and had a keen interest in family history. Born in Pitt Town, he was a strong supporter of the area that he grew up in and was determined that the history of the Hawkesbury, in particular Pitt Town, be recorded and he wrote many books on the subject. Rex had an abiding and passionate interest in art, history and culture. He was a member of Hawkesbury Historical Society for nearly 30 years, holding the position of president 1992 - 2010.

In 2001 Councillor Stubbs was awarded an Order of Australia Medal for service to local government and the Hawkesbury community. He was awarded the honorary title of Emeritus Mayor, by the Local Government and Shires Association NSW in 2008 in recognition of his 10 terms as Mayor of Hawkesbury and one term as Deputy Mayor. He was also awarded the Outstanding Service Award for more than 20 years of service to local government.

This is an annual event that provides the opportunity for members of historical societies and heritage organisations in the Hawkesbury LGA, to broaden their knowledge of trends in local & family history, heritage & collection management and to hear from history allies.

Member Annual General Meetings 2023-2024

Mt Victoria & District Historical Society

Meeting held on 23rd September 2023 at the Museum

- President: Jack Thompson
- Vice President: Stephen Barnes
- Secretary: Brian Roby
- Treasurer: Stephen Tusler
- Committee: Tim Jones, Roy Bennett, Kay Graham, Simon Davies, Paul Gray

Blue Mountains Family History Society

Meeting held 10th November 2023

- President: Ann Krasny
- Vice-President: Anne Deverell
- Treasurer: Ian Kendall
- Secretary: Helen Allan
- Committee: Tanya Kirk, Christine Wenham and Alison Tissington

Friends of the Paragon

Meeting held 8th November 2023

- President: Rob Strange
- Vice-President: vacant
- Secretary: Carlene Martin
- Treasurer: Robert Trenchard-Smith
- Curator: Linsi Braith
- Committee: Hal Ginges, Julie O'Keeffe

National Trust Blue Mountains Branch

Meeting held 11th November 2023

- Chair: Rod Stowe
- Vice Chair: Robert Clarke
- Treasurer: Michael Austiss

- Secretary: Rob Strange
- Committee: Gay Hendriksen, Grant Holmes and Gay Sturgess

Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Heritage Museum

Meeting held 4th November 2023

- Chair: Alan Holley
- Secretary: Grant Robinson
- Treasurer: Serge Sequen
- Publicity Officer: Andrew Tester [pending]
- Membership Officer: Grant Robinson
- Building Restoration Manager: Ted Dickson
- Building Services Manager: Ted Dickson
- Grounds Maintenance Manager: Ted Dickson
- Per Way Maintenance Manager: Ted Dickson
- Retail Manager: Keith Ward
- Sequen Exhibits Manager: Mike Pensini
- Small Exhibits Curator: Mike Pensini
- Model Railway Manager: Mike Pensini
- Workshop Manager: Terry Matchett [pending]
- Planning and Development Manager: Alan Holley

Springwood Historical Society

Meeting held on Friday 17th November:

- President: Peter Chinn
- Vice-President: Doug Knowles
- Secretary: Dick Morony
- Treasurer: Jeff Moonie

Mount Wilson & Mount Irvine Historical Society

Meeting held on 18th November 2023 in the Mount Irvine Public Hall

- President: Malcolm Reynolds
- Vice President: Vacant
- Secretary: Vacant
- Treasurer: David Howell
- Public Officer: Malcolm Reynolds
- Information Officer: Des Barrett
- Committee: Des Barrett, Cheryl Dubois, David Howell, Peter Raines, Peter Resanceff, Malcolm Reynolds

Kurrajong - Comleroy Historical Society

Meeting held 25th September 2023:

- President: David Griffiths
- Vice President: Lesley Bobrige
- Secretary: Jennifer Griffiths
- Treasurer: Pat O'Toole
- Millstone Editor: Suzanne Smith
- Webmaster: David Griffiths
- Digital Archivist: Jenny Griffiths
- Family History: Valerie Birch
- Librarian/Accessions: Valerie Birch
- Public Officer: David Griffiths
- Grants Officer: Frank Holland
- Hon Auditor: Marilyn McCarthy

- Committee: Frank Holland, Valerie Holland, Deborah Hallam, Suzanne Smith, Peta Smith

Arms of Australia Inn, Emu Plains – Australia Day 2024

The Inn was once a staging post for travellers making the trip from Sydney over the Blue Mountains to Bathurst and on to the goldfields. Built in two sections, the first in 1826, it is one of the oldest buildings in Penrith, if not the oldest. Due to its colourful history, the Inn provides an interesting venue for tour groups, weddings photos, school tours and exhibitions. The museum contains artefacts that were either part of everyday life or were manufactured in the local area. The museum also has hundreds of photographs dating back to our earliest pioneers stored for future generations.



In 1924 a meeting was held in Penrith by Arthur Judges who saw the benefits of keeping items of Australian history alive for future generations. At the meeting a resolution was passed to form the Nepean District Historical Society. Another meeting was reported to elect the office bearers, but after that there is no further knowledge of this group. The Society was officially re-established the 12th of August 1947. It continued to operate from the private homes of members until 1971 when it was granted use of the old Arms of Australia Inn building that had been left in disrepair. Five years later, after extensive restoration and hard work, the Society relocated to the Inn and it has been the headquarters of the Society ever since. The Society collects information, photos and artefacts that were used, or relate to, the local Penrith and Nepean district.

Penrith City Council are responsible for all the buildings and the site itself and liaise closely with the Nepean District Historical Society Inc (NDHS) in the running of the museum. The site is also home to the NSW Corps of Marines who are a re-enactment group that portray First Fleet Marine (soldiers) life in the late 1700's.

So come along on **Thursday 26th January 2024** and share the experience of history at Emu Plains. There will be special displays, namely the old fashioned school room where you can write on slates, plus a tea room, sausage sizzle and soft drinks.

Open from 10am to 3pm. Entry is free.

Blue Mountains Heritage Forum - Heritage Around Us

Blue Mountains City Council are pleased to announce that its Heritage Advisory Committee is to host the inaugural *Blue Mountains Heritage Forum - 'Heritage Around Us'* on Saturday 27th April 2024 as part of the 2024 Australian Heritage Festival. The Forum will be hosted at

Blue Mountains Cultural Centre in Katoomba and will include a range of talks, panel discussions, exhibitions, Katoomba heritage walking tours and networking opportunities.

Activities

- Step into the past and shape the future of our local heritage at this Forum, aiming at heritage practitioners, heritage property owners and anyone with an interest in local heritage.
- Dive into captivating keynotes and panel discussions by heritage experts, uncover heritage architecture styles, hear about creative activation and adaptive re-use of Blue Mountains heritage sites, and learn how to research and care for your heritage property.
- Join one of their guided Katoomba heritage walking tours, and savour morning tea while networking and perusing displays and stalls from Blue Mountains Museums & Heritage Organisations.
- As part of the Forum a photography and drawing competition by local primary and high school students will be on exhibition.



Gracehill Lodge gates



Carrington verandah



Chelmsford Bridge

Program

A full program will be announced in early 2024. Entry will be free, but registration will be required as limited spaces are available. Registration will open closer to the Forum dates.

Stalls & displays

As part of this Forum, they are inviting local museums, historical societies and heritage organisations to participate in a showcase by hosting information stalls and displays. There will be a limited number of display tables available at no cost. They will be allocated at a 'first come, first serve' basis, so please register your interest asap via

EPSHeritageAdCommAdmin@bmcc.nsw.gov.au

Please provide a contact (name, email and phone) for your organisation that will be the point of contact for the Forum and note that they can only allocate one stall per organisation. Stalls consist of one function table at 90cm width and 160cm length and 2 chairs. Your displays can include information about your organisation, display of images, historical items, books and so forth. Please note that some wall space might be available, at the discretion of the Cultural Centre, to display posters, and 1 pop up banner per organisation can be displayed.

For further information contact:

Sabrina Roesner: The Blue Mountains City Council Heritage Team City Planning – Environment & Planning Services, Blue Mountains City Council

Phone: 02 4780 5000

Mail: Locked Bag 1005 Katoomba NSW 2780

Web: www.bmcc.nsw.gov.au

Blue Mountains City Council - Sustainable Blue Mountains 2050

Nearly 25 years ago, the Blue Mountains community came together to share ideas about their priorities for the future. This shaped the Blue Mountains Community Strategic Plan. The Plan reflected the shared vision, aspirations, and priorities for the future of the Blue Mountains and outlined how we would work together to achieve these goals. Blue Mountains

City Council is now celebrating what has been achieved over those years and visioning for the next 25 years to 2050.



Blue Mountains Mayor Mark Greenhill has said: “*Reflecting on what we have achieved and planning for our future are some of the most important things we can do. Good decisions are best made when we learn from the past and have a strong community endorsed vision of what we want to achieve.*”

Council feels there have been many positive milestones in the community in the past 25 years – from the listing of the Greater Blue Mountains as a World Heritage Area to the environmental management focus and the many upgrades to specific infrastructure including the opening of world-class cultural facilities in Katoomba and Springwood. But of course, there have also been many challenges for the community, including fires, floods and storms. Having a long term strategic vision and plan can support the Blue Mountains in influencing the allocation of resources by other levels of government and agencies, especially for major infrastructure, health and other facilities, improved accessibility and liveability outcomes, environmental management and disaster risk mitigation. Such a long term vision and plan would be reviewed every four years in close consultation with community.

In looking back over this period, BMCC are recognising the progress made by community, Council, other organisations and levels of government all working together.

BMCC again invited the community to be involved, and a survey was undertaken in November 2023 to establish visions and priorities for the future of the Blue Mountains. Responses will inform the review and update of the Community Strategic Plan, the highest level of planning undertaken by Council which guides all other Council plans and strategies. The campaign also included a survey, an online ‘tell us your story’ activity, and a photography competition with participants going into a prize draw.

For further information and to learn about future opportunities to participate in this project visit: yoursay.bmcc.nsw.gov.au/bluemountains2050

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 Ambermere 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 BMACHO 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://bluemountainsheritage.com.au>*



To all BMACHO members and friends for 2024!

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

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

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

Website: <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; 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: 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.