

Heritage

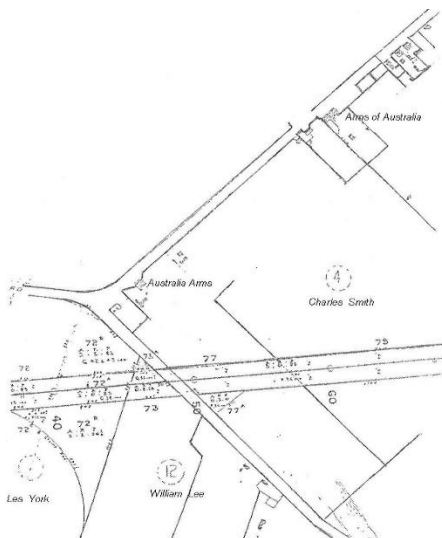
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Former Australian Arms Inn, Emu Plains Post Office

The inn is on the corner of the Great Western Highway and the Old Bathurst Road, at Emu Plains. The township of Emu was renamed Emu Plains in 1882. The date of construction of the original building is unknown. However it was the rival of several other inns along the road to Bathurst between the Nepean River and the foot of Lapstone Hill.



Early plans showing location of the two inns

Prior to 1850 the owner was Charles Smith, who bought the property in 1833. Ten months later Smith sold it to John Grant in 1834. The Grants did not live there but leased it out. Neither Smith nor Grant had a publican's license. Little is known about the building before 1850. Maps of the periods show no buildings before 1845, although Grant advertised an inn for lease on the land in 1844, and it was possibly on the site as early as 1841.



Old Post Office, Emu Plains

In 1844 it was known as the Travellers Inn, and was leased by a John Mortimer, rented from John Grant of "Lowther Park", Hartley.

It is not to be confused with the Arms of Australia Inn (now a museum) built by John Mortimer in 1841, and leased by Robert Beatson from 1850, at the corner of the Great Western Highway and Gardenia Avenue. The original name was the Australian Arms, and when Beatson left he went down the road to the old post office building and it is suggested he took the name and license with him in 1955. A railway map of about 1863 shows both inns.

Beatson leased the second inn from Grant until 1859. He died in 1869 and the inn closed. His family lived on in the building. It was operated as an inn for at least 17 years. There remains some conjecture in regard to the early licensing and operation of the two inns. The owner of the building, John Grant, was the son of an Irish Catholic tenant farmer. He was convicted of attempted murder in 1810 in Ireland and transported on the ship "Providence" for life to New South Wales in 1811.

He married Jane O'Brien in 1814 and they had three children. He worked for William Redfern, and in 1820 he received his pardon. He commenced applications for land grants, first at Minto and then at the Vale of Clwydd near Mount York. He acquired land on the Cox's River at Hartley and built his "Moyne" dwelling there in 1823. Sadly Jane died in 1826. That commenced an extraordinary accumulation of land by Grant across the colony, with abundant increases in land, stock and capital over the next few years.



Moyne, Hartley



Lowther Park, Hartley

By 1828 he had more assets than any other Irish Catholic in the colony. During 1833 he began to apply for land to be put up for auction at Emu, Springwood and Blackheath. At Emu he bought allotments 3 and 7, the nearest to the Pilgrim Inn. Grant was also recorded as

having half an acre at Emu. During this period he would have purchased the inn property from Charles Smith.

He married a second time to Elizabeth West in 1833, and bought the property adjoining "Moyne", "Lowther Park", in 1839 from John Wood. Wood had been accused of murdering a female servant and burying her body in the cellar. He sold the property and left the district. Grant lived at "Lowther Park" until 1859, making frequent visits to his considerable holdings on the Belubula, particularly "Merriganowry". He died in 1866 and was buried on the western property.



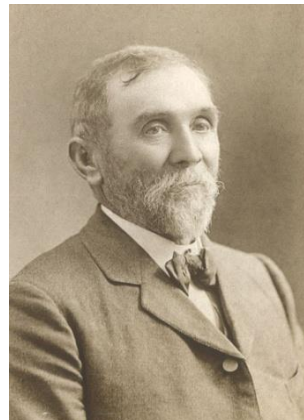
John Grant (Snr)



Elizabeth Grant (West)



*Grave of John Grant (Snr)
Merriganowrie*



John Grant (Jnr)



Julia Grant (Finn)

Grant had made his will in 1852 when he turned 60. He owned a lot of land, capital and possessions and he wanted to provide for Elizabeth and his ten surviving children. In his will, Grant provided for Elizabeth and seven of the children, the older three being adults and married. His personal possessions were left to Elizabeth, and the lands and capital assets were divided between Elizabeth and the children. One land parcel was 39 $\frac{3}{4}$ acres at Emu Plains, which would have contained the inn.

The inn site passed to Grant's son John, who retained it until his death in 1906. It was then transferred to his daughter Ellen (Coghlin) who sold it in 1914.

A number of other families have had an association with the building – Beatson, Turnbull and McKellar.



Old Post Office, Emu Plains

The building is described in detail by G. Gyford as having timber floors, three fireplaces on the ground floor, 7 rooms on the ground floor and 6 rooms on the first floor. The core of the ground floor has stone walls, and the remainder, added later in 1880-1890, is mostly weatherboard, with some brick. Further changes were made to the buildings verandahs and chimneys in the 1920s.



Old Post Office sketch by Gifford Eardely 1974

There were also three slab buildings on the site, a well, fodder stores, silos, cow bails and kitchen gardens.

Over time the building has been painted over with stucco and whitewash, operating as a post office for some 53 years. In 1967 it still functioned as a post office, run by Miss McKellar. She still owned the building in 1974. A fire in the building caused damage and although the building has been restored, it has been vacant ever since. It has belonged to Penrith City Council since 1983.

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Index

Former Australian Arms Inn, Emu Plains Post Office	1
Editor's Note	5
A Short History of Flower Shows in NSW	10
Succession Planning.....	14
The Oriental Hotel, Springwood, and the Lawson Family.....	16
The Technical Side – Salt Attack & Rising Damp.....	18
Lennox Bridge to be refurbished	20
The Paragon SHR Gazettal	20
The Cox's Road SHR Gazettal.....	21
Hartley Commemorates – Correcting the Record	22
Glenroy Crossing	24
Heritage Roadshow	24
Flag Staff, Bathurst	25
Crossing	25



Food for thought Editor's note

Highway Safety Upgrades – Mount Victoria

BMACHO has recently been approached by a couple of members of the Mount Victoria community in regard to the proposed Roads and Maritime Services (RMS) safety upgrades to the Great Western Highway through the village. These residents request that BMACHO take a stand and make a statement on perceived adverse impacts of the RMS proposals on the village. It has been suggested that we should take an interest and speak out about anything which affects the heritage environs, and that we should, as an entity, register either the urgency of the situation at Mount Victoria, or acknowledge the opportunity presented by a proposed alternate scheme (by a local architect) and other creative ideas advanced by local residents and heritage experts.

The suggestion is made that BMACHO silence to date has made it to some extent party to a collective failure of political will and imagination, and that future generations may well hold BMACHO responsible for it. It is also suggested that had BMACHO joined with Blue Mountains City Council previously, the State government and the RMS may have undertaken a more timely and proper evaluation of this alternate scheme.

Who is BMACHO?

BMACHO is made up of representatives of many local history based organisations. BMACHO seeks to take every opportunity to bring together these member groups to share information and promote culture and heritage throughout the greater Blue Mountains area and beyond. Our diverse membership uniquely blends the skills and resources of historical, cultural and heritage groups, major tourist attractions, gardens and galleries. To quote from the BMACHO website:

“BMACHO, the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Incorporated, was established in 2006 to support the work of the numerous organisations in the cultural heritage field in the Blue Mountains. In recent years, it has expanded to include neighbouring districts such as Lithgow, Penrith and the Hawkesbury.

Our Member Organisations consist of societies, museums, archives, businesses, gardens and institutions. Together, these represent over 1,500-2,000 local residents. In addition there are a limited number of Individual Members to support its work. These are invited professionals who make a significant contribution to the heritage sector in the region. BMACHO provides communication and information across the sector, and training and professional advice for its members. It has its own newsletter, e-journal and website and carries out research on aspects of local heritage, such as its region-wide review of the local heritage sites to document any changes. It is rapidly building effective information heritage services for the benefit of residents and visitors alike. BMACHO has been a strong and successful advocate on heritage matters at local government level.”

Former President, John Leary stated in 2013 that the “Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Organisations Inc (BMACHO) was established in early 2006 following a unanimous response to a proposal from Professor Barrie Reynolds at the 2004 Blue Mountains Local History Conference (sponsored by Blue Mountains City Council) which sought the creation of a local heritage strategy for the city”.

The objectives of the organisation include:

- The raising of public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage;
- The encouragement and provision of assistance with cultural heritage activities organised by member organisations;
- The initiation and support of cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations;
- To give a combined ‘voice’ on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

Background

In recent months BMACHO has been made aware of plans by the NSW Roads and Maritime Services to continue the Great Western Highway upgrades towards the west with work commencing at Mount Victoria in mid-2015. Concern has been expressed that BMACHO has not joined with the combined voice of the community in approaches to government that the proposed works may not be appropriate at Mount Victoria in terms of the heritage significance of the village.



Victoria Falls Road to Harley Street

Until this time, BMACHO was not aware of the strong feeling within the village in regard to the proposed changes, and when approached by a member of the community to endorse a petition for a moratorium on the matter, as well as consideration of an alternate scheme by architect Peter Buckwell, BMACHO has issued the following statement:

“The Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations wishes to remain impartial when there is a difference of opinion amongst bodies within one locality. BMACHO will not, therefore, be a signatory to the proposed petition in relation to the “Buckwell Scheme” in Mount Victoria”.

In saying this, BMACHO is still in a position to raise public awareness and provide information to the community in regard to the significant changes which are proposed by the State government, via NSW Roads and Maritime Services (RMS), so that informed decisions can be made by member associations and residents.

Following extensive research by BMACHO on the information available, the following comments are provided to readers.

Mount Victoria

The Federal and State governments have provided some \$250 million in funding to improve safety and travel conditions along the Great Western Highway between Katoomba and Lithgow. Originally major works were proposed which included dramatic infrastructure and road construction to bypass the village. However, changes in government and policy, and obviously economics, has resulted in a move for safety upgrades along the highway in the short term.

The RMS sought feedback from the community in 2011 in regard to the formulation of options for treatment of the highway to improve safety for all road users in Mount Victoria and cater for a mix of motorists, cyclists and pedestrians. The solution had to be sensitive to the area's natural and cultural environment and to local communities. And it had to maintain the integrity and qualities of Mount Victoria as a village in the greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area.

The works would be over a 2.3km section of the Great Western Highway, divided into three distinct sections. Some 21 options were subsequently formulated through community feedback for various works to occur between Katoomba and Lithgow. These were then considered in 2012 against criteria including many factors, and in particular affording protection for heritage items, landscape character and visual impact. It was emphasized that most impact would be temporary.



Darling Causeway/Railway Station



Harley Street/Station Street

The options were displayed from 8 October 2012 until 26 October 2012, staffed displays were held, it was publicised on the RMS website, and some 7,500 residents from Mount Victoria to Lithgow were notified by letter drop. In all 41 responses were received, with none from State agencies, including Blue Mountains City Council.

In early 2013 RMS selected a preferred option which would best meet the proposal objectives in terms of safety and future traffic flows, and the best balance between technical, environmental, social and economic benefits and costs. In November 2013 RMS released a Review of Environmental Factors (REF) under the *Environmental Planning & Assessment Regulation 2000*, for these road safety upgrades through Mount Victoria village.

The REF was placed on public exhibition from 25 November 2013 and 7 February 2014, and comments closed on 7 February 2014, although submissions were received up until 21 February.

It is noted that the document was available in hard copy for viewing at a number of locations, including the Mount Victoria General Store and newsagency. It was also on the RMS website and in the local press.

Following community feedback, some 106 submissions were received, four being from agencies. Two alternate options were developed for the section of the highway from Kanimbla Valley Road to Fairy Dell Road at Mount Victoria. Comments were sought from the community on these options. A Newsletter was issued to residents in July 2014.

It was emphasised that all submissions would go into a submissions report to be placed on the RMS website, and that consultation would be ongoing during the detailed design and construction phases of the proposal.

The Submissions Report was prepared detailing the feedback received and showing how it was addressed in finalising the REF.

These RMS documents are available on the RMS website www.rms.nsw.gov.au, along with regular updates and fact sheets.

The REF documented a number of aspects of the proposal including its need and the options considered, the statutory and planning framework, community and stakeholder consultation processes. It then looked at environmental impacts, including biodiversity, land use, property and socio-economic issues, non-Aboriginal heritage, hydrology and water quality, noise and vibration. It then set down the justification and conclusions for the project. These are standard criteria for an REF to consider.



Great Western Highway/Station Street



Railway bridge

The REF acknowledged the Mount Victoria Urban Conservation Area, and a number of heritage items which may potentially be affected by the proposal. It suggested that the proposal would not have any direct impacts on listed heritage items within the study area. It did suggest indirect visual impacts and impacts from vibration may occur during construction, and that these are not considered to be significant and would be managed during construction through the application of mitigation measures.

Later in the REF it states that the upgraded highway would have no direct impact on heritage items or associated curtilages, and that in general, there would be a visual improvement along most sections of the highway through the village. Environmental safeguards are set down including retaining and/or “replanting” trees, sandstone faces on retaining walls, culvert protection, construction site management, tool box talks to highlight heritage significance, and the salvaging of sandstone kerbing for reuse elsewhere.

It is noted that the submission from the NSW Heritage Council recommended that all recommendations in the RMS report be undertaken.

Blue Mountains City Council submission was partly based upon a report by their Heritage Advisor in regard to heritage considerations. Their concerns related to safety and the status of the highway, clarification of the scope and scale of the development, requests for detailed design plans including intersections, asset maintenance, pedestrian and cyclist access, heritage and landscape character and visual amenity impacts, and vegetation removal.

The design phase has been underway during the second half of 2014, with key changes considered including:

- Reduction in the size of a retaining wall opposite Harley Street.
- Sandstone facing on retaining walls east of Hooper Street.
- Narrowing of the service road.
- Removal of water basins.

The relevance of sections in the BMCC Heritage Advisor’s report therefore, must now be balanced against these changes.



Hooper Street/Great Western Highway



Mt Piddington Road/Great Western Highway

Moving forward

It may be that the alternate plan for Mount Victoria has been around for a year or so. However BMACHO has only recently been made aware of its existence by two local residents, and certainly not by any of its member organisations.

There is no doubt that Mount Victoria is unique in its heritage village character and aesthetic appeal. This is acknowledged by everyone including the RMS. However, it is also acknowledged that the evaluation of visual and heritage character and impact is often a very subjective matter.

It should be remembered when considering the effect of the proposals on creating a physically divided community, that the road came first! William Cox built a road across the mountains for Governor Lachlan Macquarie and the people followed, building either side of the road from day one. What we see today is a further set of “deviations”, added to a myriad of changes that have gone before, from Emu Plains through to the Hartley Valley and beyond. To think these changes are different is short sighted. We are still trying to provide access through from Sydney to the west, and in increasing volumes.

How the State government goes about this, the detail, will often come down to community awareness and education. Legislation sets down an authority’s responsibilities with regard to community consultation. Above and beyond this is community awareness and the community knowing when and how to respond to matters such as the current situation at Mount Victoria. How that community comes together and presents its case is imperative upon its credibility to authorities in the planning stages of a development or project, and its ability to make itself heard.

BMACHO does not intend to make representations to politicians or authorities on this matter. This is no passive acceptance of the current RMS proposals by BMACHO, as we urge our member organisations and readers to make themselves aware of situations in their respective communities and do the research, to form educated, unbiased and responsible opinions, and have the courage to make informed representation where appropriate. BMACHO support all efforts to make allowance for heritage significance but acknowledge that compromise is required, evaluation can be subjective, and that hard decisions have to be made on both sides.

We urge our member organisations and readers to attend to the following references for further information on this matter where required.

Patsy Moppett

Queries to Roads and Maritime Services can be directed to:

- *Ph: 1800 035 733*
- *Email: K2Lupgrade@rms.nsw.gov.au*
- *Postal: K2L Great Western Highway Upgrade, Reply Paid 87115, Lane Cove, NSW 1595*

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A Short History of Flower Shows in New South Wales

Blue Mountains people have always been garden lovers – their own and other peoples’ – and flower shows were certain to be popular.

On 26th October, 1889, the *Nepean Times* triumphantly announced “*Springwood to the fore. We are going to have a real flower show about the beginning of next month*”. The paper also claimed, “*Our climate is well adapted to flower culture. We certainly are a month later with most flowers in the neighbourhood of Sydney, but we make up for it in the vigour of growth with half the attention required for them.*”

The organising committee comprised William Rayner, General Store Keeper and owner of the Evandale Nursery; Robert Anderson, School Master; John Illingworth, Policeman; and Lancelot Iredale Brennand, of Valley Heights, Superintendent of the Colonial Stores Department in Sydney. Money raised was to be in aid of the Public School Picnic Fund.

The Show was held on the Prince of Wales’ birthday and large numbers of tourists arrived by train to see the school room lavishly decorated with flags and flowers. The little room was somewhat small for such a vast array of floral exhibits.

S.E. Lees, M.L.A. for Nepean and James Inglis, Minister for Public Instruction arrived by train, Mr Inglis bearing a box of roses from his own garden in Strathfield. He was lavish in his praise of the Show and of the wonderful refreshments, including home-made ice cream served in a refreshment tent. Flowers exhibited included wild flowers, roses, lilies, pansies, foxgloves, honeysuckle, ferns and palms and the perfume was wondrous. Stalls displayed bouquets of various kinds. Although the weather was quite hot the flowers were kept fresh into the evening by the use of a large syringe. A profit of £20 was made with £15 worth of expenses.

The organisers were encouraged to stage another Flower Show on the Prince of Wales birthday the following year. This time it was held in one of Mrs John Frazer’s paddocks at *Silva Plana*. It was an elevated site and close to the main road. A bush house was erected giving plenty of room to display the exhibits. A large marquee behind the bush house held the refreshments, said by the *Nepean Times* to be “*a tempting assortment of eatables and drinkables - temperance of course.*” This time £30 was raised for the Public School Picnic and Library Funds. It is interesting to note that James Clay, gardener to the Hon. Charles Moore, and later head gardener to Sir James Fairfax, was a consistent prize winner.

A FLOWER SHOW
 in aid of the
Public School Picnic Fund,
 will be held in the
PUBLIC SCHOOL, SPRINGWOOD,
 ON
Saturday, Nov. 9th, 1889.
COMMITTEE:
 Messrs. W. J. Rayner, E. I. Brennand, J. Illingworth and R. Anderson.
JUDGES:
 Messrs. H. C. L. Anderson and Walker.
THE SHOW will be formally opened at noon by
MR. JAMES INGLIS, late Minister for Public Instruction, and remain open till 9 p.m.
Admission to Show — One Shilling;
Children under 15, Sixpence.
 N.B.—Refreshments Provided at Reasonable Rates.
Napier Times
 9/11/1889
 R. ANDERSON,
 Hon. Sec. Springwood.

Springwood 1889



Chelsea, UK 1931

These Springwood Flower Shows were quite modest compared with one held in Penrith in September, 1887. Money was needed to build a Presbyterian manse and to pay the debt on the Wesleyan Church, and the two parishes formed a committee to organise a wild flower show. This type of show was very popular in Sydney, but more about that later. After much discussion the Penrith Committee decided to show not only wild flowers but every class of flower. Many donations of flowers and fruit were received from every part of the district, but also from Messrs Shepherd & Co. of the Darling Nursery in Sydney and from their growing and cultivation property, *Chatsworth*, situated two miles from Rooty Hill between Eastern Creek and Ropes Creek. Springwood folk also contributed – Mrs Hoare from *Homedale*, the Hon Charles Moore and William Rayner whose family were Penrith residents and devout Wesleyans gave a lovely collection of flowers of every description.

Mrs Squires lent her steam launch to collect flowers from the river and a marquee capable of holding 500 people was hired from Sydney. It must have been a wonderful sight to see being decorated, not only with pot plants, ferns fruit and floral exhibits, but with all manner of exotica. People were thanked for lending or donating the following items:

A ship in a case, shells and curios, statuary, pictures, a rustic moss cottage, a model ship, dried ferns in a case, drawings and memorial of the 1851 Exhibition, picture made from native pine cones, fern gypsy tables, an albatross in a glass case, a pelican, paper flowers, toys, a singing canary, a stag's head, a second stag's head, splashwork, various food stuffs for the refreshments, as well as timber and iron (possibly for the construction of the stalls).

Sir Henry Parkes had been expected to open the Show but had been double booked (he was opening an aquarium at Bondi) so Mr James Inglis, accompanied by Mr S.E. Lees, performed this important duty. Mr Inglis had carried out this task at a large number of functions and, despite being a witty and skilled speaker, referred to them privately as "pestilential bazaars". Entertainment in the evening was provided by the Excelsior String Band and the Juvenile Band. More than £120 was raised.



Kempsey



Sydney Royal

This was the second Penrith Flower Show. Their first ever show was organised by the Penrith Pride of the Forest Lodge, Ancient Order of the Druids, in April, 1887, to raise funds to be shared by the Lodge and the Bulli Relief Fund. There had been a massive gas explosion in a Bulli Colliery earlier in the year killing 81 men.

The Nepean Times was very enthusiastic about the long term benefits of the Shows saying that it “*will likely do more good to horticultural interests of our district than they ever thought of*” and it would have “*the purpose of bringing our farmers and gardeners (sic) to vie with each other than they ever thought of.*”

Neither Flower Show had a competitive element with prizes awarded. The display was the thing.

It is interesting to follow the impetus or motivation behind these early flower shows – raising funds for churches and schools, organising a delightful social event in the days when people made their own entertainment, but also having an economic rationale. Another aspect, social welfare, was raised in Parramatta on the occasion of establishing a Horticultural Society, reported by the *Sydney Morning Herald*, 22nd November, 1875. The chairman was the Rev. W.J. Gunther, who had been a curate at St Georges, Bloomsbury, England. There, he said, they had a working man’s flower show which was taken up in other areas and had “*proved interesting and beneficial to the people.*” He went on to say “*there were prizes to be competed for by working men, others for the National Schools, the Ragged Schools, and the dwellers in the Mews.*”

In Sydney, the Floral and Horticultural Society organised competitive flower shows in the 1840s as a way of promoting the advancement of horticultural and floricultural skill. The early shows were held in the Market Shed in Sydney and attracted a wide variety of entries of flowers, fruit, vegetables and what was called “colonial manufactures”. It is interesting to note what was exhibited.

At this time the well-off citizens of the Colony were building grand homes and employing gardeners to create lovely surroundings to set them in. Flower Shows were very popular. The elite of the Colony, including the Governor and his lady, dressed in their best and enjoyed a social occasion where they could mingle, get inspiration for their gardens and enjoy the entertainment in the form of music provided by various bands.

The *Sydney Morning Herald*, 25th February, 1847, commented “*that a great portion of the really respectable inhabitants never fail to attend. It is one of the social and patriotic duties they can perform, and at the same time enjoy the gratification of a refined taste. Public countenance can never be more appropriately bestowed than in the patronage of those pursuits which develop the resources of the land we live in, contribute to the comfort of our fellow citizens, and which have withal, a humanising and beneficial influence on the character and conduct of the community at large.*”

The successful exhibitors were frequently the proprietors of garden nurseries. The three earliest nurseries in Sydney were established by:

1. Thomas Shepherd, a professional English gardener, who was encouraged to set up a nursery in Chippendale by Governor Ralph Darling and who called it the Darling Nursery. His propagating and growing nursery was *Chatsworth* at Rooty Hill which was mentioned earlier. He died in 1835 but his family continued his work with the help of Robert Henderson, also a nurseryman.
2. Robert Henderson whose Camellia Grove Nursery was in Newtown. One of his specialities was roses.
3. John Baptist, of Portuguese nationality, who did not start out as a gardener, but a servant, arrived in the Colony as a steerage passenger with his wife on the “*Swiftsure*” in 1829. He came in the employ of Captain Charles Wilson who had been appointed Director of Public Works but lost his position after 18 months. Baptist then opened a butcher’s shop with ex-convict, Ned Shackley. They branched out into market gardening and supplying floral arrangements for weddings and funerals. Baptist bought 36 acres in Bourke St, Redfern (where Redfern Police Station now is)

and established a nursery while continuing with the market garden. It was called Baptist's Garden or simply the Gardens – a lovely place with a running stream, a fernery, aviaries and fountains with both imported and locally propagated plants. One of his specialities was camellias. He also propagated native plants and had a thriving export business. The fountain was given to the Trustees of Hyde Park in 1888 and has been recently restored.

William Macarthur, youngest son of John and Elizabeth Macarthur, was also a frequent exhibitor specialising in wines and spirits. He was a botanist and horticulturist credited with introducing camellias into the country and he and his brother, James, established vineyards and made excellent wines and spirits at Camden Park.

Flower Shows continued to flourish, not only in Sydney, but in the suburbs and the country regions, proving to be a delightful way of raising funds for schools and churches. There were changes, of course. Sydney in 1879 hosted a flower, dog and poultry show in the Agricultural Hall. The dogs were exhibited outside but the poultry (including pigeons) shared the hall with the flowers. One wonders what odours assailed the nostrils of the visitors.

In 1894 Camden held a Flower Show in aid of the Carrington Centennial Hospital. It featured Mr F.A. Downes' magnificent collection of chrysanthemums and cyclamens. The same year Queanbeyan held a competitive chrysanthemum show for the Presbyterian Church. Canowindra and Carcoar also held chrysanthemum shows and Carcoar's show was followed by a well-attended "bread-and-butter" dance. Mudgee Horticultural Society staged an autumn show which was judged by Mr T.E. Horton of Sydney. A John Henry Horton was head gardener to Miss Eadith Walker, Concord, Sydney). Deniliquin, Milton, Kiama and Inverell all had Spring Shows, St Marys had a horticultural and art show and Moama staged a rose show.

These shows were still very social occasions, particularly in the city. The *Australian Town and Country Journal*, 21st February, 1897, devoted more space describing the outfits worn by the female visitors than to the exhibits. One outfit took my fancy: "A very pretty dress was worn by a young lady of striped washing material, the colors – art-green, red and a shade of art-pink; her hat was of the present flat shape, and was trimmed with golden poppies, bows of black velvet, and a little gold tulle."

Show organisers were prepared to go to extreme lengths to create beautiful and novel events. Halls were profusely decorated with garlands, grasses, ferns and pot plants and entertainment in the form of bands and vocal presentations were popular. Flowers were not the only exhibits. Gift stalls were set up with posies, baskets of fruit and vegetables, table decorations and gifts to entice visitors to spend their money. The *Australian Town and Country Journal*, 3rd October, 1885, published a "description of novel attractions". One idea was to set up a gypsy encampment – perhaps a caravan set up over 4 cart wheels with steps at the entrance. It should, the writer said, be gaudily decorated with the vendors (who should be attractive) dressed as gypsies selling trinkets and cheap toys, telling fortunes and even preparing tea or soup over an outdoor fire. "Cigars, pipes and tobacco would always find a ready sale among the male visitors who always flock into odd places."

Then came the passion for Wild Flower Shows.....

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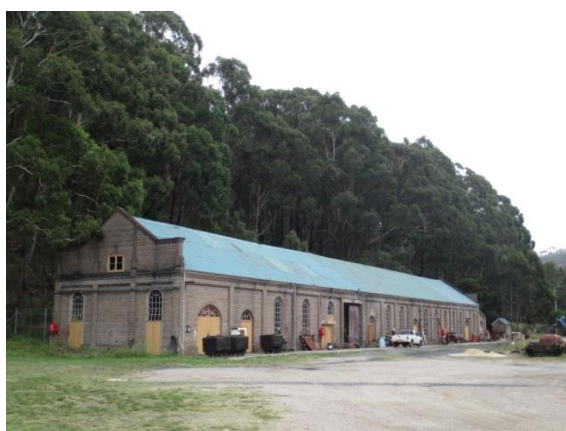
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Wikipedia - William Macarthur's biography

Succession Planning

The Succession Planning Workshop held by BMACHO in February at the Lithgow Mining Museum provided an opportunity for **organisations and committees to find out the many ways to make their tasks easier and more effective and ensure their volunteers get the most out of their roles.** (See *Heritage* January-February p.14). The day commenced with a tour of the museum site.



Lithgow Mining Museum workshops

BMACHO Vice President Ian Jack opened the proceedings. Those few who were able to attend were treated to very worthwhile presentations by the speakers, Emeritus Professor David Carment, Ray Christison, Lynn Collins and Tamara Lavrencic. Both David and Ray spoke about their experiences in being on committees and their approaches to the success of their various organisations.

David Carment: David reviewed the principles set down by Museums and Galleries of NSW to assist organisations in their operations. He emphasized the importance of valuing the work of volunteers and encouraging their involvement, dealing with aging membership and finding people to fit the committee positions. Inclusion of fixed terms for positions and seeking people who have something to offer, may be key solutions. Utilization of social media and sharing the load, are also ways to relieve the pressure. People have less and less time to be involved and to carry out the myriad of tasks required in a committee these days.

Ray Christison: Ray cover the topic under five headings, as follows:

- What is succession planning – finding people to fill key positions on a committee to sustain the required functions of the group. In particular, finding a leader who will identify the problems and work to solve them. Ray quoted from Ben Chifley, “Rookwood is full of people who were indispensable”.
- Roles – the roles in a committee range from a leader, administration, program management, tour guides, site/building management, museum development. The task is finding suitable people who can do each of these jobs.



BMACHO Vice President Ian Jack addresses the group

- Plan for the future – the problem is broken down, deciding who does what. Divide the position and delegate tasks. The tasks can be carried out by volunteers, casual staff or contractors.
- Attracting volunteers – the vision should be articulated. Sensible business planning should be undertaken, obtaining recognition for the organisation, creating a positive and creative environment for volunteers. Sometimes the facilities can be difficult for volunteers eg. heat/cold. Anticipate the benefits of participation. Network within the community. Keep exhibitions fresh, undertake projects that renew/maintain interest, for both volunteers and visitors.
- Alternatives – use contractors for some tasks if possible. Identify roles and cash flow, sponsors and compliances with legislation. Expand the capabilities of the group and possible use a business model. Make use of existing assets such as publications, local businesses, social media. Decide how to access different sectors of the community and have a clear vision. Have a vision statement, and communicate effectively.

Lyn Collins: Lyn summarised their comments and went on to highlight the salient points relating to continuity, role sharing, rotation of positions, reviewing the provisions of the relevant constitution, employing outside expertise, the importance of having a strategy and undertaking social events, and redefining the tasks and roles required. He emphasised the social benefits and the sustainability of committees.

Tamara Lavrencic: Tamara was visiting from the Museums and Galleries of NSW, and explained the Standards Program. It operates for some 10 months of the year and has a regional bias. It is an opportunity to seek assistance for surveying collections, management, engaging visitors, caring for the collection. An independent reviewer is sent out to each museum. They act as mentor to the museum management. Many resources are available, including risk management, grants, setting up a website, and an advisory service. It provides an opportunity for self review against the national standard.

Editor's comment: It would appear that we need to take time out of our busy schedules to find the time to help ourselves. It is strongly recommended that all organisations seek out the *Principles for the Recognition of Volunteers* for a review. Organisations that adopt the principles would be sending out a clear signal to current and potential volunteers that their contributions are valued. (www.volunteering.nsw.gov.au).

Patsy Moppett

Also *Volunteer Succession Planning – a “How-to” Guide*, Museums and Galleries of NSW (www.mgns.org.au)

The NSW Department of Environment and Community’s web site provides much information in regard to working with corporations, supporting volunteers, running an organisation, and promoting an organisation.

If anyone is interested in repeating this workshop, please contact BMACHO with suggestions for numbers of attendees and venues. (www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au)

The Oriental Hotel, Springwood, and the Lawson Family

Possible redevelopment of the Oriental Hotel, Springwood, and the adjacent area in Raymond Road is an object of current concern. The entire area south of Macquarie Road to the east of the railway station was originally owned by Frank Raymond, who gained formal title to the 80 acres in 1878, although he had been occupying it since the 1860s.¹



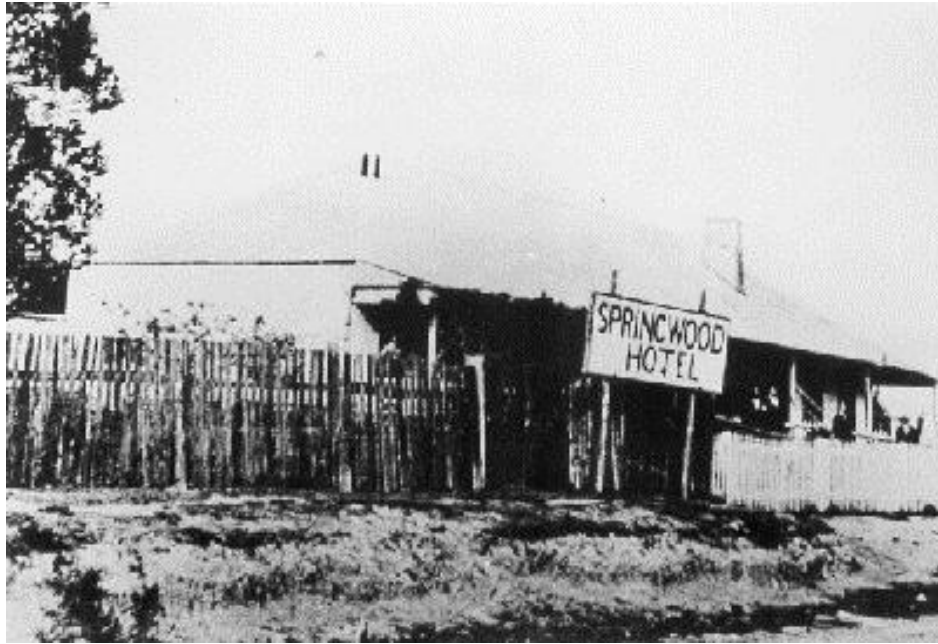
Parish Map of Magdala, County of Cook, 1909 showing Frank Raymond’s grant, Portion 2A (formerly Portion 52)

In the 1870s Raymond built the single storey Springwood Hotel on the site of the later oriental, but left for Sydney in the 1880s to become a professional photographer, in Waterloo and Marrickville².

In 1890 the half century of Lawson domination of that end of Springwood began, when James Lawson bought the eastern 60 acres from Raymond. Lawson was a prosperous Scottish cabinet maker and furniture dealer, born in Greenock in 1836, arriving in Australia in 1855. Springwood Hotel and its outbuildings were the only existing buildings on the 60 acres, at its western end. Further east there was a substantial orchard and flower garden. Lawson immediately rebuilt Raymond’s hotel and created a grander two storey hotel, with an extensive cellar, and renamed it the Hotel Oriental in 1991, that being the main fabric of the present building.

Between the hotel and the orchard Lawson proceeded to build his own elegant country retreat. This was “Braemar”, 102-104 Macquarie Road, now very suitably housing the Local Studies section of the Blue Mountains City Library.

James Lawson and his wife Emma Glen, did not live in “Braemar” for long and by 1895 had built a new retirement residence adjacent to the east, which they wittily called “Glen Lawson”, now “Danebury”, 100 Macquarie Road. The Lawsons lived at “Glen Lawson” until their deaths in 1926, while “Braemar” was leased for a variety of purposes³.



Springwood Hotel 1878



*The Hotel Oriental in the 1920s,
Blue Mountains City Library, Local Studies, Springwood, photograph 204*

Very early in the twentieth century, the Raymond orchard and flower garden were absorbed into new residential blocks for the family of James Lawson. His second son, William Maxwell Lawson, built "The Knoll", 86-88 Macquarie Road, while a widowed daughter of James occupied "Caberfeagh", 94-96 Macquarie Road. The space between "The Knoll" and "Caberfeagh" was filled after James Lawson's death when the land was sold by William Maxwell Lawson and the new owner built "Nirvana". 90-92 Macquarie Road, in 1934. The Oriental remained in Lawson ownership until after World War II. Staunch Presbyterians, the Lawsons made the hotel available to the church's Burnside Homes in North Parramatta as a wartime evacuation centre for 94 of the disadvantaged boys. The licensed premises did not close but moved across to the other side of Macquarie Road.



Oriental Hotel 1960



Oriental Hotel 2015

William Lawson also surrendered his own home, “Glen Lawson”, to the administration of the Burnside evacuees.

This eastern end of Springwood ceased to be a Lawson precinct after the war and the hotel and houses were gradually sold off. The alterations to the Oriental which are familiar today were largely done by new owners in the 1960s and again in the mid 1990s. The Lawson houses constitute an outstanding suite in modern Springwood. The enclave, moreover, still looks out to the north over open land, thanks to the other major Presbyterian landholders, the Frazers, who chose not to build on their holdings along the northern side of Macquarie Road.

There are significant environmental and heritage issues to be weighed when decisions about redevelopment of the Oriental site are placed before the Blue Mountains City Council.

Associate Professor Ian Jack

References:

¹ *Springwood Historians, The Making of a Mountain Community: a Biographical Dictionary of the Springwood District, authors, Springwood 2002, pp.269-270; Land Titles Office, vol.346 fo.120.*

² *Springwood Historians, Making of a Mountain Community, p.270; Alan Davies and Peter Stanbury, The Mechanical Eye in Australia: Photography, 1841-1900, Oxford University Press, Melbourne, p.216*

³ *John Low and Helen Halliwell, Braemar, 1892-1992, Braemar Management Committee, Springwood, 1992, pp.5-6.*

⁴ *Blue mountain Heritage inventory, SP 022 023, 029, 053, 054, 056*

⁵ *Florence C. Fleming, ‘Caring for Kids’, Legacy Torchlight, 37 ii, October 1995, p.4; John Maddock, The Frazer Memorial Presbyterian Church: a History, Springwood Historical Society, Springwood, 2nd ed. 1995, pp.6-47.*

⁶*Blue Mountains City Library, Local Studies, ‘Oriental’ file.*

The Technical Side

Salt attack & rising damp

This process in heritage buildings must be understood to prevent onset of the problem and to address buildings already affected. The two are separate but interrelated. And both must be dealt with.

Rising damp is caused by capillary suction of water into the fine pores or voids that occur in all masonry materials. Water is drawn from the soil and today we utilise a damp proof course to prevent rising damp. Early masonry buildings were often built directly onto the ground, or on stone footings.

Salt attack is the decay of masonry materials such as stone, brick and mortar by soluble salts forming crystals within the pores of the masonry. The salts come from the soils and as the moisture evaporates salts are left behind. Masonry reacts with the crystals and crumbles away, or “melts”.

Walls must be able to “breathe” with heating and cooling of the surrounding air. In humid conditions condensation can occur within the wall causing moisture to accumulate. If

coatings are applied that prevent breathing, the wall remains damp, even in dry weather, and becomes weak and fragile under the outer coating.



Peeling whitewash on brick wall



Salt rising through floor

Signs of rising damp and salt attack can include blistering of paint, fretting of mortar and or brickwork, decaying plaster and

The problems should be accurately diagnosed. The building should be efficiently and effectively drained to prevent moisture impact, and underfloor ventilation undertaken where possible, particularly in the event of storms, floods, drought etc. Mild damp can be treated by using weak mortars which are replaced regularly. Excessive salt can be removed easily with a brush or vacuum.

It is imperative then to undertake regular monitoring and maintenance to protect a building, and inserting damp proof courses after salt removal where possible.

Although most buildings in Australia are under 200 years old, it is still imperative to assist buildings to last beyond this.



Decimated headstones in rural cemetery



There are many ways of preventing and dealing with rising damp and salt attack, and experts in the field who utilise up to date techniques and equipment. Small changes in management can make a world of difference when teamed with ongoing monitoring.

There are numerous technical guides available on the subject which make excellent references when trying to diagnose the problem and seek solutions. *Patsy Moppett*

References:

Salt Attack & Rising Damp, Technical Guide, David Young 2008

Rising Damp, Information Sheet 2.1, NSW Heritage Office 1998

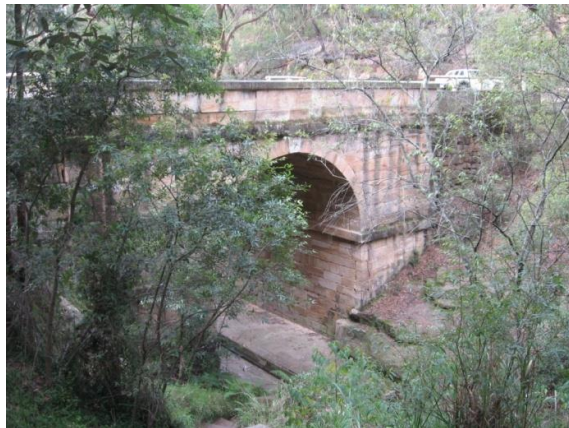
Community events & updates

Lennox Bridge to be refurbished

A State government grant has enabled this significant structure to have a much needed makeover and refurbishment. The funding will enable the removal of graffiti, strengthening of cracking in the stonework, installation of interpretive signage and also CCTV equipment. The works will enable on going conservation of the bridge and greater appreciation by the public of the historical significance of the bridge. The grant was awarded through the State government's Major Works Program, which is designed to assist owners and managers of State Heritage Register listed properties to restore and reuse their properties.



Lennox Bridge 1830s



Lennox Bridge 2010

The bridge is the oldest stone arch bridge on the Australian mainland, being constructed between 1832 and 1833. It was designed by Scottish stone mason David Lennox and constructed by convict labour.

Patsy Moppett

The Paragon SHR Gazettal

The Paragon, 63-69 Katoomba Street, Katoomba, was formally listed on the State Heritage Register on 5 March 2015 in Government Gazette No. 17. It was listed by the Minister for heritage, the Honourable Rob Stokes MP, on the recommendation of the Heritage Council of NSW, pursuant to Clause 37(1)(a) of the *Heritage Act 1977*.

The listing was undertaken due to the item's heritage significance to the people of the State of NSW. The details can be viewed on the State Heritage Register via the Heritage Division, Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) website at www.heritage.nsw.gov.au



Meeting to celebrate



Drinking straws c. 1940

BMACHO is delighted that the Paragon, the iconic Greek café in Katoomba, was gazetted on 5 March 2015 as an item on the State Heritage Register. Jan Koperberg has been

secretary to the incipient Friends of the Paragon and Ian Jack was a founding member of this group. Very substantial contributions to the nomination to the Heritage Council were made by Roy Lumby, President of the Twentieth-Century Heritage Society and an expert on Art Deco, and, on the historical side, by Ian Jack.

There was a small celebratory lunch at the Paragon on Saturday 28 March 2015 before the Annual General Meeting of BMACHO hosted by Robyn Parker, the dedicated lessee of the Paragon. The photograph shows those attending: from left to right, Fiona Burn (National Archives of Australia), Robyn Parker, David Rozenker (Twentieth-Century Heritage Society), Sara Reilly (Blue Mountains City Council); and on the opposing side of the table, Roy Lumby (Twentieth-Century Heritage Society), Patsy Hollis (editor of book on Paragon) and Jan Koperberg (BMACHO).

At the Annual General Meeting of BMACHO in March, Ian Jack made a presentation to Robyn Parker of two real straws taken from the Paragon in c.1940, which he had recently been given. One straw was still in its original paper wrapping, printed as an advertisement for the café. The inscription is only partly legible in the photograph. The complete text is:

*REAL HYGIENIC DRINKING STRAW
MADE IN FRANCE
THE PARAGON, Katoomba, Sole Agents for Australia*

The straws will be on display at the Paragon in future.

Associate Professor Ian Jack

The Cox's Road SHR Gazettal

A number of precincts of the Cox's Road were formally listed on the State Heritage Register on 25 March 2015 in Government Gazette No. 27. The sites were listed by the Minister for heritage, the Honourable Rob Stokes MP, on the recommendation of the Heritage Council of NSW, pursuant to Clause 37(1)(a) of the *Heritage Act 1977*.

The listing was undertaken due to the sites' heritage significance to the people of the State of NSW. The details can be viewed on the State Heritage Register via the Heritage Division, Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) website at www.heritage.nsw.gov.au

The formal listing was made as follows:

Cox's Road (1814–15) and Early Deviations (1820s) - Four Precincts within the Local Government Areas of Blue Mountains City and Lithgow City:

- Cox's Road and Early Deviations—Woodford, Appian Way Precinct
- Cox's Road and Early Deviations—Mount York, Cox's Pass Precinct
- Cox's Road and Early Deviations—Hartley, Clarence Hilly Range/Mount Blaxland Precinct
- Cox's Road and Early Deviations—Sodwalls, Fish River Descent Precinct



Mount Blaxland track, Hartley



Track below Mount York

The listing is a culmination of the work commenced in 2006 by John Wellings and the Cox's Road Project Committee, together with support from the community and the relevant local government bodies.

Patsy Moppett

Hartley Commemorates - Correcting the Record

On the South bank of the Macquarie River at Bathurst stands an obelisk bearing an inlaid marble plaque erected in 1930 by the Royal Australian Historical Society. It commemorates Sunday 7th May 1815, when Governor Lachlan Macquarie proclaimed the town of Bathurst. It then goes on to state "after which the first Divine Service west of the Blue Mountains was held". Truth is, it's wrong, Macquarie didn't conduct the first Divine Service west of the mountains in Bathurst. He did that in Hartley.



The Memorial at Bathurst

The Hartley District Progress Association in conjunction with The Macquarie Society is holding an event to commemorate and correct the record on this historical anomaly. On **Sunday April 26th** they are expecting a big crowd to see Governor Macquarie's military escort and their entourage, to hear Professor Dame Marie Bashir speak on Macquarie and Tim Mc Iver the Minister of St Johns at Hartley, celebrate Divine Service exactly as Macquarie would have in 1815. "This is an important historic event" said Ramsay Moodie the Chairman of the Hartley District Progress Association's organising committee "we are putting a peg in the ground with a troop of Red Coats to back us up – Hartley is where the first divine service was celebrated".



The Memorial at Glenroy, Hartley

With the day starting at 11 am the main proceedings commence at 2 o'clock sharp. "We are encouraging families to come from 11am so there is time to talk to the soldiers before they deliver their first volley in salute, on the arrival of Professor Dame Marie Bashir" explained Ramsay Moodie " the Hartley Fire brigade will be doing a sausage sizzle for lunch and the formal proceedings will commence at 2pm". They are doing all this in Butlers paddock on Jenolan caves road 4klms from the Great Western Highway junction, as Ramsay added " it's a very historic place, Mt Blaxland in front of us and Macquarie's campsite and Cox's road just below, plus there is lots of room for parking".

Sunday 30 April. We halt all this day at Cox's River on account of keeping the day holy. After breakfast I had all our servants and followers regularly paraded and mustered, and had Divine Service performed, the whole of our party being present. As Divine Service had been performed, the gentlemen of our party accompanied me on a ride to Mount Blaxland, leaving Mrs. Macquarie in camp. Mount Blax-

Extract from Macquarie's Diary

After formal welcomes, Professor Dame Marie Bashir will deliver the 2015 Macquarie Oration, the first of an annual series of talks on the virtues of Governor Macquarie, the fourth governor of New South Wales. Patrick Dodd the president of The Macquarie Society, who are partnering with the Hartley District Progress Association in the delivery of this event, said "Dame Marie is a noted Macquarie Scholar and she graciously accepted the role of Patron of our society when she was still the governor of New South Wales". He went on to explain "At our event in Hartley, I am told, Dame Marie will give us an insight into what she sees in Macquarie's attitudes and behaviour that have contributed to what we would regard today as our Australian Values".

This is an event not to be missed, if you want more information go to www.hartleyvalley.org.au. It's important that you book as this will ensure you get to enjoy a cup of tea with Dame Marie at the end of proceedings. To book call the Lithgow Visitors Information Centre on 1300 760 276.

Hartley District Progress Association

For more information Call:

Ramsay Moodie Ch HDPA Organising Committee - 02 6355 2259

Patrick Dodd, President Macquarie Society - 02 9487 3221

Glenroy Crossing

Glenroy Bicentenary Commemoration Committee invites you to attend a Divine Service by Reverend Tim McIver, Anglican Minister of St John's Hartley, and Oration on Governor Lachlan Macquarie by Dr Anne-Marie Whitaker, President of the Royal Australian Historical Society, on Thursday the 30th April 2015. The event would be followed by refreshments and site inspection at Glenroy.

The Divine Service and Oration commemorates the bicentenary of the First Divine Service west of the Blue Mountains, held at Glenroy on the 30th April 1815, in the presence of Governor Macquarie and Mrs Macquarie.

The event will take place between 12 noon and 2pm near the existing monument at Glenroy, Hartley.



Eliza Rodd grave



Glenroy Precinct

A site inspection of the location of the first two bridges built west of the Blue Mountains, the location of the Military Depot 1814, and the grave of Eliza Rodd, 1831, will take place after refreshments.

Please bring a chair, your lunch and coin donation to the event. Be prepared for inclement weather.

*Bradley and Rosemary Barber,
Glenroy Bicentenary Commemoration Committee*

Heritage Roadshow

The Baird government has recently allocated some \$28.5 million to conserving and protection local churches, old schools, and industrial and wartime relics. The NSW government will appoint a Heritage Roadshow Team (similar to the BBC series Antiques Roadshow, and Time Team) comprised of experts with skills in archaeology, history, heritage architecture, planning and Aboriginal culture. The Team would tour the State, encouraging residents to seek advice from them on the conservation of historical items and places. The Team would record historical information to protect important places and help local Councils improve skills amongst their heritage staff.

A pool of \$8 million for local communities or property owners to restore heritage items that aren't on the State Heritage Register, will be offered. A focus will be making heritage more accessible to the public through adaptive reuse and access/building/efficiency upgrades.

A pool of \$2 million will focus on energy efficiency.

A pool of \$6 million will be offered to local councils to improve technical advice for conservation.

Patsy Moppett

Flag Staff, Bathurst

A group of local Bathurst people are approaching the completion of a project to erect a new Flag Staff on the spot where Governor Lachlan Macquarie raised the flag to name the town of Bathurst on 7th May 1815. The event marked the earliest gateway to inland NSW and enabled development of the fledgling nation.

The Flag Staff marked the finishing point of the first road over the Blue Mountains built by William Cox, and was the official survey point for laying out the original plans of the Bathurst township.



Governor Lachlan Macquarie



Lewin's depiction of Bathurst

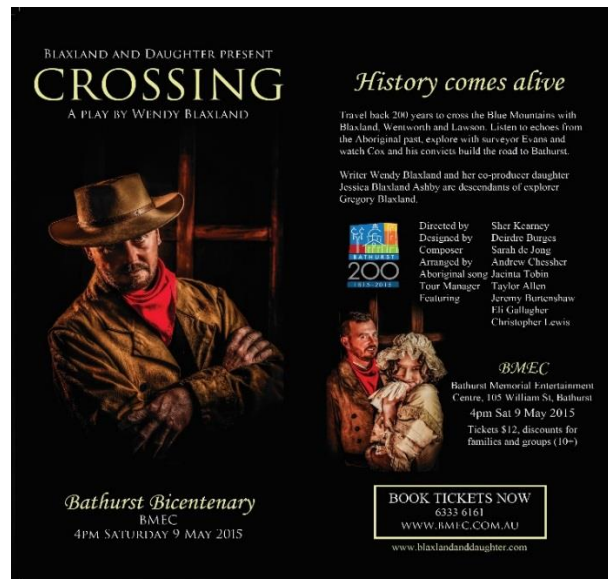
The Bathurst Bicentennial Colonial Fair Committee, under the auspices of the Bathurst District Historical Society, are planning two colonial fairs, one on Thursday 7th May (Proclamation Day) and one on 9th May 2015. A life-size slab hut has been completed and will be relocated to the site on the banks of the Macquarie River. Early costumes have been researched and numerous activities will be included at the fairs. *Patsy Moppett*
Further information is available from the Bathurst Visitors Centre.

Crossing

Bathurst's Bicentenary Celebrations are almost here! And one of the most eagerly awaited is the play **CROSSING**, a fun romp through the early crossings of the Blue Mountains, written specially for these three years of commemorations. **CROSSING** follows explorers Blaxland, Wentworth and Lawson, the aboriginals who have crossed the mountains for thousands of years, surveyors, roadbuilders and pioneer families across the mountains. Three energetic actors play forty different parts, and the action is interspersed with traditional and purpose-written songs. It will be performed at Bathurst's well-known Entertainment Centre at 4pm on Saturday 9th May, at the special discount price of \$12. Booking details are available at the Bathurst Memorial Entertainment Centre Ph: 6333 6161. Please forward this to anyone who might be interested in coming – and see you at the show!

Wendy Blaxland, www.wendyblaxland.com www.blaxlandanddaughter.com

19 Lisa Valley Close Wahroonga NSW 2076 AUSTRALIA ph +61 02 9489 4955, m 0411 071 273



BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

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Website: www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au

ABN: 53 994 839 952

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

1. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage
2. To encourage and assist cultural heritage
3. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations.

One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

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

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

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

The following are individual members: Ray Christison, Associate Professor Ian Jack, Joan Kent, John Low OAM, Ian Milliss, Patsy Moppett, Professor Barrie Reynolds, Fiona Burn, Dr Peter Rickwood and Dr Peter Stanbury OAM.

Committee: The management committee for 2015-2016 (from April 2015) is: Patsy Moppett (President and *Heritage* Newsletter editor), Ian Jack (vice president), Jan Koperberg (secretary), Ian Hammon (Treasurer), Roy Bennett (Grants Application Officer), Wendy Hawkes and Scott Pollock (web site), Dick Morony (Public Officer/Membership Secretary/ Calendar Editor), Suzanne Smith and Louise Vining (Events and Venue Co-ordinators).

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.