

Bowral



Mittagong



Berrima



Moss Vale

BERRIMA DISTRICT HISTORICAL & FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY Inc.

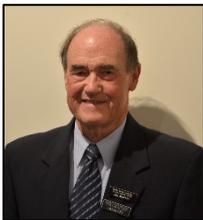
Founded 1960

Located in the Wingecarribee Shire,
Southern Highlands of NSW

ABN 29 362 616 937

NEWSLETTER

No 507 July 2018



From the President's Desk

Amid great secrecy, a gathering of 25 people assembled at the Berrima Museum on Friday 15 June for the announcement of the result of our application to the Regional Cultural Investment Fund for a grant to

renovate the Kline and Prisoners in Arcady rooms and the establishment of a Digital Gallery.

Assembled were the NSW Minister for the Arts, The Hon. Don Harwin MLC, and the Member for Goulburn, the Hon. Pru Goward MP, Councillor Larry Whipper representing Wingecarribee Shire Council, Committee members and guests.

The Minister spoke at length about how the Government was providing grant funding to rural and regional areas so that Societies like ours can afford to carry out renovations and other works that we would not otherwise be able to contemplate.

The grant, of course was successful with the Minister filling out and presenting a replica cheque to the Society for \$113,268 (see photo page 2).

This grant is a matching grant and represents 50% of the total project cost with the Society responsible for raising the balance of the funds.

Another grant was submitted to Create NSW Arts and Culture Projects for the Story of Wine in the Southern Highlands. This grant was unsuccessful. The project was a partnership between the Society and the Southern Highlands Food & Wine Association and local wineries to write the story to screen in the digital gallery and produce a booklet. After consultation with the Association it was agreed to proceed with the project with support from the Association and wineries. To date \$32,000 has been pledged with more funding required to fully finance this project.

To enable this and other pledged funds to be received and receipted the Society is in the process of applying for tax deductible status. In the future Society members and the general public will be able to donate to any of our projects and receive a tax deductible receipt for donations over \$2.

Ian Mackey

GENERAL MONTHLY MEETINGS

JULY 2018:

Thursday 26 July at 12:00 for 12:30pm

Winter Luncheon at Bowral Golf Club

GUEST SPEAKER:

Kim Eberhard, Westpac's head of historical services

AUGUST 2018:

Thursday 23 August at 2:00pm

SPEAKER:

Ros Dale will give a presentation about her new book

AFTERNOON TEA is served following the speaker.

Members please bring a plate or a donation.

NOTE: on the first Wednesday each month, at 1pm
the **Family History Interest Group** meets at the Mittagong Archives



Senior Vice-President's Column



Bruce Moore Malapropisms

The mistaken use of a word in place of a similar-sounding one, often with an amusing

effect. Here are some examples:

From Church records:

One must see the Sixteenth Chapel in the Vatican

Bring your electric girdles for a pancake supper

Let us entertain you with gracious hostility

We pray for father, his son and the holy goat

After the church service prayer and medication will follow

There's that renowned Biblical couple Sampson & Delightful

When he got his hair cut he went off to the Philippines

Our dance classes will teach the flamingo

Overheard in a Pharmacy:

I always wake up with blocked sciences

Something for my very close veins

Would you please fill this description?

I'd like a pack of 12 condiments please

Heard at home:

I believe he is our poet lorikeet

Bach had 2 wives, 20 children and often practised on the spinster

I prefer to order a decapitated coffee

Some sailors drink themselves into Bolivia

"The world is your lobster, my son"

She is so well spoken she must have had electrocution lessons

Now for some grandkids doozies:

"Somewhere over the rainbow, weigh a pie..." (Way up high)

"I'm Erica" (America's National Anthem)

"May I have a cup of Chino, please?"

"Also can I have a cop cake?"

"Harpie bird day to you"

Finally, our National Anthem:

"Australian's all let us ring Joyce..."

"A fence, Australia flag!" (Advance Australia fair).

Berrima District Museum

THE STORY CENTRE

Please note that the museum is now open at least 5 days a week

MUSEUM OPEN: 10am to 4pm

WEDNESDAY TO SUNDAY

and every day during NSW school holidays and on public holidays.

Groups welcome at other times by arrangement. Ph John 4872 1660.

Membership Details

Please note that all membership enquiries and changes of address details should be addressed to:

The Membership Secretary
c/- the Society's postal address
or email: bdhsarchives@gmail.com

Our Winter Luncheon 26 July

A reminder that our annual Winter Luncheon is on Thursday, 26 July at Bowral Golf Club, where last year's gathering was such a success.

The Club will provide a delicious 'Christmas in July' style meal and there will be the usual ticket prizes and raffle. The cost is \$40 a head. For bookings and payment contact the archives by no later than 20 July.

Westpac's head of historical services, Kim Eberhard will be guest speaker. Westpac has a long and proud history as Australia's first and oldest bank.

It was established in 1817 as the Bank of New South Wales under a charter of incorporation provided by Governor Lachlan Macquarie.

As head of historical services, Kim has responsibility for managing the bank's corporate archives – the largest privately held archives in the Southern Hemisphere.

Prior to joining Westpac in 2015, Kim has held a number of archivist and research roles, and was President of the Australian Society of Archivists.

Kim will provide a 'show and tell' style presentation about the Westpac archives – its history, the scope of its collection and uses today. She will also talk about the bank's connection to William Hutchinson, one of the larger landholders in the Berrima District from the early 1820s, who was involved in the establishment of the Bank of NSW and a director.



William Hutchinson



BDH&FHS President Ian Mackey, Harlan Hall, Pru Goward and Don Harwin MLC, NSW Minister for the Arts, holding the replica cheque at Berrima Museum.

150th Celebrations of rail to Marulan

Events at Bundanoon, Marulan on 5 August

The Great Southern Railway was built in sections from Picton to Goulburn during the 1860s. Sutton Forest Station (later renamed Moss Vale) was the terminus from December 1867 while construction of the remaining sections of rail continued.

Once works were completed to Marulan in August 1868, services were extended to Marulan Station, the line passing through the area where today's Wingecarribee Shire southern villages developed.

It is thus the turn this August of residents at Exeter, Bundanoon, Penrose, Wingello, Tallong and Marulan to mark the 150th anniversary of rail services through their area, which brought increased settlement.

Bundanoon History Group, Community Association and Marulan & District Historical Society will hold celebratory events on Sunday 5 August, 2018.

At Bundanoon

10:30am: Official opening of refurbished heritage-listed station. From 10:30am to 2:30pm:

- Restored station rooms and Old Goods Shed open for inspection
- The Signal Box will be manned by former Bundanoon signalmen
- Displays of historic railway artefacts, historic photographs and vintage cars
- Prize for best period costume
- Highland Pipes & Drums, Bundanoon Bush Band
- Bundanoon Makers' Market and Lions sausage sizzle.

At Marulan

12:15pm: Official tree planting and plaque unveiling

From 10:30am to 3:00pm:

- Displays of old photographs, railway memorabilia & antique machinery
- Operating model steam engine and model railway
- Jumping Castle, Food and Market stalls, coffee cart, RSL Youth Choir
- Commemorative booklet on stations Penrose to Marulan

Extra trains to link celebrations:

Bundanoon to Marulan:

7:43am, 10:13am, 11:43am, 1:43pm

Marulan to Bundanoon:

8:54am, 11:37am, 1:23pm, 3:28pm

In regard to the refurbishment of Bundanoon Station, currently being undertaken, it came about that "all the stars aligned" after Bundanoon History Group members, when first planning for the 150th event, approached Paul Daly, Stationmaster Moss Vale and stations to Marulan. The Rail Heritage section of Sydney Trains (with responsibility for locations throughout the State) were aware that the centrally located station complex at Bundanoon had significant heritage features and was due for refurbishment. The Rail Heritage CEO gained funds for this and works were fast-tracked to be ready for the event in August.

On 5 August, dignitaries will arrive by special train at 10.15am for the Official Opening of the refurbished heritage-listed station. The opening ceremony will be performed by Howard Collins, Chief Executive Sydney Trains and NSW Trainlink.

A brief history of the line to Marulan

The first three sections of the Great Southern Railway, from Picton to Nattai, were completed to Mittagong Station by February 1867. From there, Section 4 required a tunnel through Mt Gibraltar to take the line to Bowral Station, and ended at the Wingecarribee River. Section 5 included a viaduct over the river and a 10-mile length of track, half-way along which Sutton Forest Station (Moss Vale) was built, and ended at Henry Badgery's residence 'Vine Lodge' (Exeter), where a station opened in 1878.

From there, Section 6 covered 17 miles, along which stations would open at Jordan's Crossing (later Bundanoon), Kareela, Penrose and Wingello, ending just short of Barber's Creek (later Tallong). Section 7 commenced at Barber's Creek viaduct and completed the last 26 miles to Goulburn.

Once the line was completed as far as Marulan, an official opening at Marulan Station was held on 6 August 1868, the birthday of the then Duke of Edinburgh. The *Sydney Morning Herald* reported that three special trains ran to Marulan, the first one loaded with politicians and official guests. A large crowd gathered and "aroused themselves to the importance of the occasion".



Marulan Railway Station in 1925

Arthur and Norah Cordeaux

Linda Emery

At Robertson, the Commercial Banking Company of Sydney operated a branch for almost 50 years before its closure in 1936 after which it became a private residence. The lovely building was recently sold and the new owners, members of the BDHS, have set about restoring the property.



Research at the archives has helped them establish the history of the building and the people associated with it, including the first manager of the CBC Bank in Robertson, Arthur Edward Cordeaux, a member of an important early colonial family associated with the Berrima District from the 1820s.

William Cordeaux (1792-1839) was the founder of the Cordeaux family in Australia. He grew up in Yorkshire only a few miles from Westow, the childhood home of John Oxley and the two families were undoubtedly known to each other, perhaps explaining how they came to have neighbouring properties in the Berrima district. In 1817 Cordeaux was appointed to the Commissariat Department in NSW and arrived in Australia in January 1818 to take up the post.

The Bendooley property at Berrima was originally granted to William Henry Moore, the brother of William Cordeaux's wife Ann, in 1821. Cordeaux also received land grants in the area in 1827 and 1828, the properties known as Wanganderry (the Aboriginal name for the area) and Bullio, both of which he had been using to depasture stock with the permission of the Governor since at least 1823.

He appears to have been managing both his own properties and those of William Moore. However, William Cordeaux's main property was at Leppington, where he and his family lived. William Cordeaux died in August 1839, by which time his son, William John Cordeaux, had taken over the running of the family interests in the Berrima district and was living at Bendooley.



Bendooley

William's son Arthur was born at Bendooley in July 1865, the sixth of ten children born to William and his wife Eliza. Educated at Sydney Grammar School, he followed in his elder brother's footsteps when he joined the Commercial Banking Co of Sydney in 1881. His first appointment was to the small town of Murrurundi, followed by three years as a teller at the Casino branch of the bank.

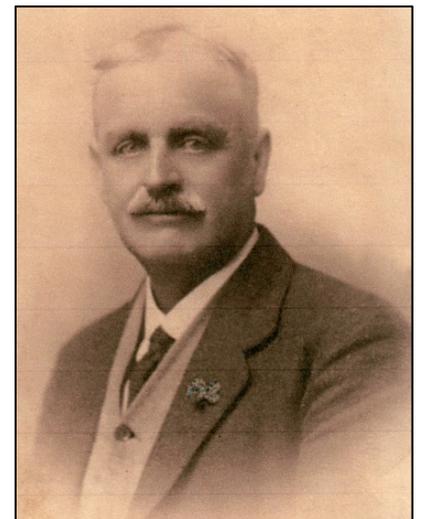
In 1887 Arthur left Casino to take up an appointment as manager of a new branch of the bank to be established in Robertson.

At the age of just 22, he was said to be the youngest manager in the CBC Bank. He acted as Honorary Secretary of the Robertson Agricultural Society and the Robertson Butter Factory for the two years he lived in the town.

In 1889 he resigned from the bank and returned to Berrima to manage the Cordeaux family properties for his father – Bendooley, Wanganderry and Bullio.

From 1902, after his mother Eliza died, Arthur rented the family property from his brother William who, as the eldest son, had inherited Bendooley after their father died in 1898.

Norah Medlicott was born in Sydney in 1883 to parents Richard and Louisa Medlicott who by 1885 had moved to Elmwood, a property on the Nowra Road at Moss Vale, where they spent the next ten years. Norah began nursing at Berrima District Cottage Hospital as a junior probationer in March 1901 and in February 1902 went to Sydney to complete her training at Sydney Hospital.



A strikingly beautiful young woman, described in the *Sydney Mail* as 'tall and graceful and exceedingly pretty', she captured the heart of the eligible 40 year old bachelor, Arthur Cordeaux.



On 11 March 1905, they married at St Simon and St Judes Church, Bowral in the presence of 'a large and fashionable gathering'. Norah wore a soft white chiffon muslin dress, with a traditional wreath headdress and a veil that her mother Louisa had worn when she married Richard Solomon Medlicott in England in 1882. The wedding reception was held at *Alameda* in Queen Street Bowral, the home of Norah's uncle John Bagot after which the newlyweds sailed on the RMS *Marmora* to spend their honeymoon in Hobart.

Until at least 1919 Arthur and Norah lived at Bendooley, where four of their five daughters were born, but by the end of 1920 they had sold and moved to Bowral to take up residence at Benderry in Merrigang Street. The name of the house was a contraction of Bendooley and Wanganderry, the two properties which had been in the Cordeaux family for a hundred years.



In about 1948 they sold Benderry and moved to a smaller house at 44 Merrigang Street which they named Dunmurry for the place of origin of the Australian branch of the Medlicott family – Dunmurry, Co Kildare, Ireland.

Arthur Cordeaux was a member of the Berrima District Hospital Committee from 1909-1911 and was a staunch supporter of the hospital.

Between 1922 and 1928 Arthur served as an Alderman on Bowral Municipal Council, gaining, along with Herbert Venables, the highest number of votes in 1925. He was for a time Secretary of Bowral Golf Club.

In 1930, Norah Cordeaux became the first woman to be elected to the board of Berrima District Hospital, having been nominated by the Mittagong Country Womens Association. Her association with the hospital had begun when she and Nurse Bedwell became the first probationers to be trained at the hospital.

During World War 2, she was President of the Womens Voluntary Service whose members undertook fundraising to provide comforts to soldiers. Norah was present at the laying of the foundation stone for the nurses' quarters in 1952, where she related the basic conditions at the hospital when she had begun her nursing career there.



Left: Benderry; above: Arthur and Norah Cordeaux with children at Bendooley.

Research Team Report

Carolyn Dougherty

The research team continues to be kept busy with numerous fascinating enquiries.

Recently a query regarding the whereabouts of a property named Echo Vale was received. The property was owned by the family in the late 19th century early 20th century. We located the property some 16 kilometres north west of Hill Top in a secluded valley in what is now part of the Nattai Wilderness Area now accessible only by a rough walking track, Starlight's Trail, which was the original dirt track by which the family moved their stock and produce to the nearest railway stations at Hill Top or Balmoral for transport on to Sydney markets.

Thanks to one of our members, John Murray, who had donated a collection of photos which included photos of Emmett's Hut and the surrounding area taken in 1952, we were able to provide early views of the area in question.

We were also able to tap into the vast knowledge of the area, proclaimed as the Nattai Wilderness Area following the flooding of the Burragorang Valley, held by another of our members, Maria Pozza.

Despite forwarding historical and current maps of the area and current aerial photos I knew I had failed to convey the remoteness of the area when the gentleman in question said he was well pleased with the research but could I please provide a street address so he and the family could travel to the site.

Another inquiry, received from a Queensland University academic, was about the early life of a now deceased staff member and once prominent female journalist. The person in question was said to have spent part of her childhood at Koyong School, Moss Vale and once again we could call on one of our members Narelle Bown for information. At the conclusion of our correspondence the academic stated that she envied me my job. I had to tell her that the wages were somewhat meagre and the entitlements few but that I did work with a great group of people and thoroughly enjoyed my 'employment'.

Another Queenslander, an emeritus professor, who spent a day with us in the Archives undertaking family tree research, stated that our Archives 'were what a Historical Society should be – open to the public with public access to information – and a repository of information relating to the local area'.

This gentleman had had a few negative experiences with other Historical Societies and was impressed with our organisation.

We are only as good as our hard working volunteers, both past and present, who have contributed so much over the years. Our current members are also a wonderful resource by way of their local knowledge as in the examples cited above.

About the Nattai Wilderness Area

The Nattai area is the traditional territory of the Dharawal and Gundangarra Aboriginal peoples. The Wollondilly and Burragorang valleys form a boundary or transition zone between the two.

History in the park

During the early period of European settlement, the Nattai area was a scene of exploration activity as colonists sought a way across the Blue Mountains. Some of the valleys were grazed as early as 1824 but it was not until 1827 that real settlement occurred. During the late 19th and early 20th centuries, lead and silver were mined near the town of Yerranderie. Coalmining and timber getting were also carried out. Tourism was an important factor until the flooding of the Burragorang valley.

Nattai National Park is a wild park with limited vehicle access and minimal visitor facilities. Of its 50,000 hectares, two thirds are declared wilderness. In a historic move, it was the first wilderness declared under Australia's first Wilderness Act, in 1991. The park owes its natural condition to rugged sandstone terrain with numerous clifflines, and to its earlier protection as part of the Warragamba Catchment Area.

The park occupies the south-eastern corner of the Blue Mountains plateau, between Lake Burragorang and the settled areas of the Southern Highlands. The park is open to self-contained bushwalkers, except for a 3 kilometre exclusion zone around the water storage. Other visitors can look into part of the area from Wollondilly Lookout on Wombeyan Caves Road.

Before Warragamba Dam was completed in 1960, Burragorang Valley on the beautiful Wollondilly River was a rich farming area, and had long been a productive part of the Gundungurra and Dharawal homelands. Almost completely surrounded by high cliffs backed by less fertile sandstone plateaus, the valley was often referred to as a Shangri-la. It was a crossroads for early bushwalkers, who would often walk in from the train at Thirlmere, following the

easy 'Couridjah Corridor' through Thirlmere Lakes, the tall forests of Blue Gum Creek and Little River.

Pioneer conservationist Myles Dunphy was one who passed that way. With some friends, it was he who in the 1930s developed the original and visionary proposal for a vast Blue Mountains national park stretching from Nattai towards the Hunter Valley. His great legacy was only achieved after nearly 70 years of effort by later generations of conservationists.

Myles Dunphy, Roy Rudder and Herb Gallop had formed the Mountain Trails Club, one of the earliest bushwalking clubs, in 1914. The club's certificate of membership said: You were not the first over the trail: leave the pleasant places along the way just as pleasant for those who will follow you.

This park is part of Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area. For more information, visit: www.worldheritage.org.au/resources/national-parks/nattai-np/ AND www.environment.nsw.gov.au

New books in the Library 2018

A brief history of St Jude Street, and part of Bowral Street, Bowral. Written and published by Maureen and Bud Townsing, Nov. 2017. REF.13/266 BOWRAL section.

Carlons Town: A history of the Carolan/Carlons Sept and related Irish pioneer families in NSW by Danian John Gleeson. Published 1998. REF. 01/113.

Servants' Stories: Life below stairs in their own words 1800-1950 by Michelle Higgs. Published 2015. REF. 07/93.

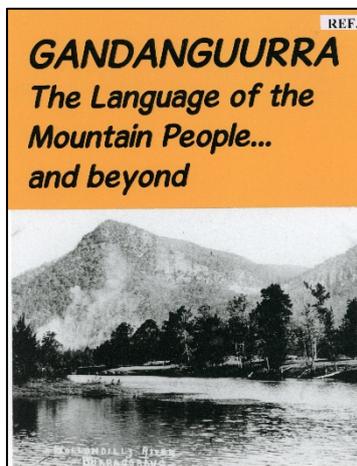
Tracing Your Servant Ancestors: A guide for family historians by Michelle Higgs. Published 2012. REF. 03/03-18.

Gandanguurra by Jim Barrett. REF. 12/32.

Illawarra & South Coast Aborigines 1770 – 1850. Compiled by Michael Organ. REF. 12/34.

Not to be removed from Library.

NSW Aboriginal Place Names and Euphonious Words, with their Meanings. Compiled by F. D. McCarthy. 4th Ed. 1963. REF. 03/06-5.



The Biggest Estate on Earth: How Aborigines Made Australia by Bill Gammage. Published 2011. REF. 12/33.

Tracking the Dragon: A guide for finding and assessing Chinese Australian heritage places. Produced by the Australian Heritage Commission 2002. REF. 03/01-69.

Accessing NSW Land Records Online by Terry Nunan 2018. This is the paper version of the Power Point presentation given by Terry at our March 2018 general meeting. REF. 03/05-12.

Australian Women at War. Patsy Adam-Smith. Published 1984. Shelf No. 35/78

Enid Lyons: Leading Lady to a Nation by Anne Henderson. Published 2008. Shelf No. 24/119.

The Crimes of the First Fleet Convicts by John Cobley. 1982 edition. REF. 03/01-68.

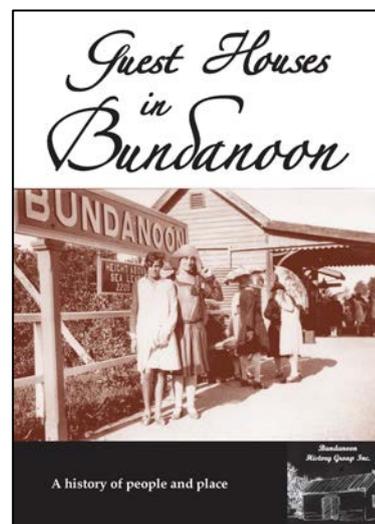
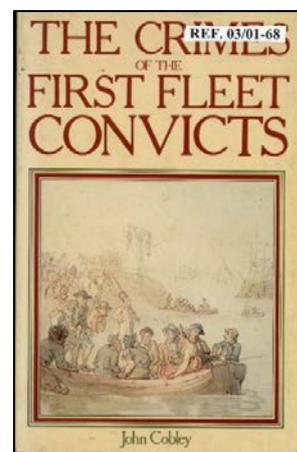
Some Windellama History by Tom Bryant. A Project of the Windellama Historical Society Inc. Published 2018. REF. 14/79.

Coachmen of the Nowra District: McTernan, Richards, Thorburn and the Others by Alan Clark. Published by Shoalhaven Historical Society 2018. Shelf No. 28/34.

Submission to Commission of Inquiry February 2000. Designated Development Proposal: Establish and Operate a Basalt Quarry by Concrete Quarries Pty Limited at Werai and Rockleigh Roads, Exeter, Wingecarribee Shire. Exeter Village Association Inc. REF. 13/270.

Guest Houses in Bundanoon: A history of people and place. 3rd ed. revised and enlarged. Published by Bundanoon History Group, 2017. REF. 13/219.

NOTE: Copies of this book are available for sale at the archives, our Berrima museum and from Bundanoon History Group.



Berrima District Historical & Family History Society Inc

PO Box 131 Mittagong NSW 2575 ☎ Telephone (02) 4872 2169

email: bdhsarchives@gmail.com ☎ web: www.berrimadistricthistoricalsociety.org.au

- ARCHIVES:** Cnr Old Hume Highway and Bowral Road, MITTAGONG.
OPEN: Mondays, Tuesdays 10am-4pm and Saturdays 10am-1pm. Closed Public Holidays.
Library collection contains reference books, journals and newsletters of other societies.
- MUSEUM:** Market Place, Berrima. Tel: 02 4877 1130. Email: bdmuseum@bigpond.com
OPEN: 10.00am to 4.00pm, Wednesdays to Sundays, and during school and public holidays.
Museum Committee: John Schweers (Manager), Harlan Hall (Project Manager), Lyn Hall (Graphics, Exhibitions), Sylvia Carless (Roster), Alan Hornsby, Harold Wall (Human Resources).
- MEMBERSHIP:** Any person wanting to join the Society may do so at any stage during the year by completing a form and paying the appropriate fee. Joining Fee \$10.00 – Single \$25.00 – Family \$35.00.
- AFFILIATIONS:** Royal Australian Historical Society, NSW Association of Family History Societies, Museums Australia Inc & Regional Chapter.

If undelivered return to:
Berrima District Historical & Family History Society Inc
PO Box 131
MITTAGONG NSW 2575
Berrima District Historical & Family History Society Inc
Newsletter
Print Post Approved
PP100001055

PRINT POST
100001055

POSTAGE
PAID
AUSTRALIA

BDH&FHS PATRON: Mayor of Wingecarribee Shire, Councillor Ken Halstead

President	Ian MACKEY
Snr Vice President	Bruce MOORE
Jnr Vice President	Linda EMERY
Hon Treasurer	Patricia Doris
Hon Secretary	Peg HARVEY
Archivist	Linda EMERY
Museum Manager	John SCHWEERS
Membership	Peg HARVEY
Newsletter Co-ordinator	Philip MORTON
Research Team	Carolyn DOUGHERTY, Janet BLACK and Frank MITCHELL
Conservation Team	Denise MACKEY, Roberta STOVE

Management Committee: President, Vice Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer and members Leonie Knapman, Denyse Barker, Philip Morton, Carolyn Dougherty, Denise Mackey, Jenny Frost, Ros Dale.