

Founded 1960

BERRIMA DISTRICT HISTORICAL & FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC

NEWSLETTER
No 412 November

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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. OPEN: Saturdays, Sundays, NSW Public and School Holidays (except Good Friday, Christmas Day and Boxing Day) 10.00 am to 4.00 pm.
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 \$5.00 – Single \$20.00 – Family \$33.00.
AFFILIATIONS:	Royal Australian Historical Society, NSW Association of Family History Societies, Museums Australia Inc & Regional Chapter.

GENERAL MONTHLY MEETING & AGM

NOVEMBER MEETING:	Thursday, 26 November 2009 at 5:00pm
VENUE:	Society Research Centre, Old Council Chambers Building, Bowral Road, Mittagong
TOPIC:	AGM and General Meeting
SUPPER:	To be served after the meeting - Members - please bring a plate or a donation
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JANUARY MEETING:	Thursday, 28 January 2010 at 5:00pm
VENUE:	Society Research Centre, Old Council Chambers Building, Bowral Road, Mittagong
TOPIC:	General Meeting
SUPPER:	To be served after the meeting - Members - please bring a plate or a donation

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And more ...





Merry Christmas Happy New Year



This is our last newsletter for 2009. The next newsletter will arrive in your letterbox in January 2010, and the January general meeting is on **28 January 2010**.

The Berrima District Historical and Family History Society wishes to take this opportunity to extend to all our members, a merry Christmas, and a very safe and happy New Year. We look forward to welcoming you back - renewed, relaxed, and ready for 2009.

CHRISTMAS CLOSING DATES

Historical Society Archives

Closed Dec 8, 2009

Open Jan 11, 2010

Berrima District Museum

Market Place, Berrima

Open 10:00 am to 4:00 pm 7 days a week during school holidays, commencing on 27 December 2009 and concluding on 26 January 2010.

AGM

WHEN:
26 November 2009
5:00 pm

WHERE:
Historical Society, Mittagong

It is almost time for our Annual General Meeting in November. As is usual, some people will not be nominating again this year for their positions. Please consider nominating yourself for a position that may interest you or how you can help.

EVENTS CALENDER 2009

NOVEMBER

- 1 Office bearer nominations due
- 1 Notices of motion due
- 12 Management Committee Meeting
- 26 **Monthly & AGM Meeting**
- 27 **Christmas Dinner**

DECEMBER

- 8 **Archives close** at 4:00 pm for Christmas break.
- 10 Management Committee Meeting
- 19 School holidays commence
- 24 No General Monthly Meeting
- 27 Society Museum Open Daily 10:00 am - 4:00 pm until 26 January 2006.

JANUARY

- 12 **Archives reopen after Christmas**
- 14 Management Committee Meeting
- 26 Society Museum open Weekends and Holidays
- 28 Monthly General Meeting - Talk - *Topic TBA*

CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEA

Do you have a bookworm in the family, or maybe someone who enjoys history?

Drop into the society and view the extensive selection of books we have available to keep members of your family amused these holidays.

NEWSLETTER

Newsletter Deadline is **1st** of every month. It may be necessary to hold submissions after this date till the following month.

RESEARCH FEES

The research fee for non-members:

\$15.00 per hour or part thereof for telephone and postal enquiries.

\$5.00 per hour or part thereof for enquirers who attend the archives and carry out their own research.

ARCHIVES OPENING HOURS

Opening hours are as follows:

Monday 10:00 am - 4:00 pm
Tuesday 10:00 am - 4:00 pm
Saturday 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

BERRIMA DISTRICT MUSEUM

Market Place, Berrima
Near the bridge

OPENING HOURS

10 am - 4 pm.
Weekends, Public Holidays and
NSW School Holidays.
Closed Good Friday, Christmas
Day and Boxing Day.
Groups also welcome at other
times by arrangement.
Please telephone Bob or Gloria
on 4889 4405

John Simons' Dedication Ceremony

Members of the society are invited to attend the dedication of a memorial plaque that commemorates the life of John Simons. This will be held in the grounds of the museum on Saturday 14 November at 4:30pm.

The plaque accompanies a claret ash *Fraxinus 'Raywoodii'* planted as a memorial to John.



While Archivist of the society, John devoted many years of research into the story of the German mariners interned at Berrima during World War One. This culminated in the publication of his book *Prisoners in Arcady* and formed the basis of the museum exhibition that opened in February.

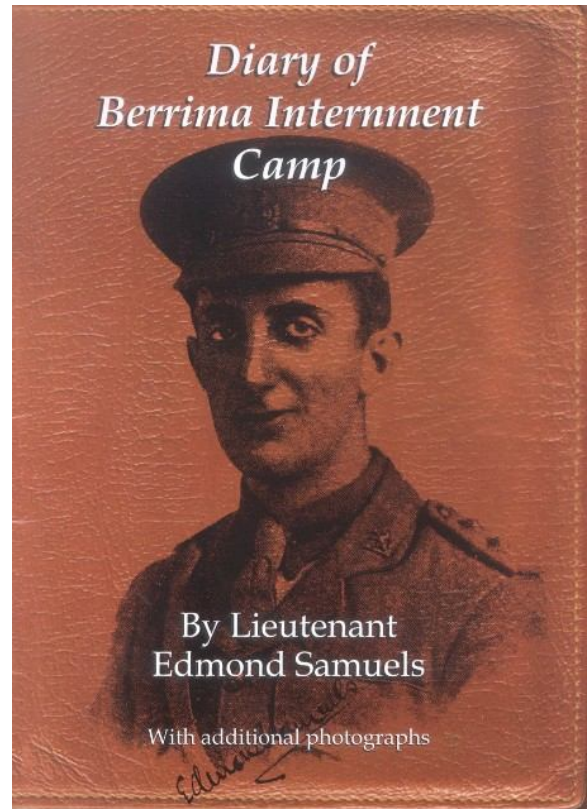
John was an Honorary Life Member of the society.

Members are invited to join

with John's family for this memorial occasion. Light refreshments will be served after the ceremony.

Please RSVP by Tuesday 10 November to Philip on 4883 7862.

New edition of Society publication now available for sale

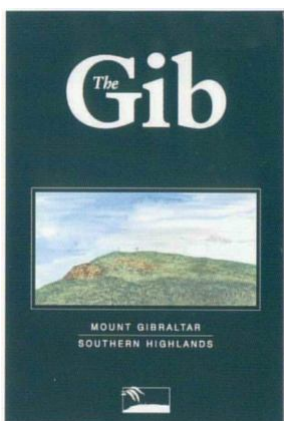


"At the instigation of many of my friends and brother officers I have compiled this work, faithfully depicting the existence and conditions under which the people interned in Australian Concentration Camps lived."

- Edmond Samuels

MT GIBRALTAR PUBLICATION

Jane Lemann



We are very pleased to let you know that our book **The Gib: Mount Gibraltar Southern Highlands** is being reprinted with funds provided by the Hawkesbury-Nepean Catchment Management Authority. The first edition sold out in 2007 so this provides another opportunity for readers to acquire this handsome award winning book. It will be available from local Southern

Highlands bookshops and Wingecarribee Shire Council outlets in late November 2009. Proceeds will go to the Mount Gibraltar Reserve Restoration Project.

Mount Gibraltar Book Project, PO Box 981 Bowral NSW 2576

This booklet is a third reprint of the Berrima chapter from Lieutenant Samuels' book *"An Illustrated Diary of Australian Internment Camps"* first published in 1919. It retains the original text and most of the photographs of the 'diary' but, resulting from more recent research by Dr John Simons, substitutes some photos and adds others more apposite to Berrima than hitherto.

This third edition has a more appealing wrap-around colour cover with a facsimile of the original cover reproduced on the inside of the new edition.

As well, the new edition includes a brief story, with illustrations, of the dugout canoe *Störtebeker*, made by the German internees at Berrima and which featured prominently in their regattas on the river. The canoe was salvaged in 1978 after the Berrima County Council Noxious Weed Inspector stumbled across it half buried in a sand bank.

This new edition of the Samuels' booklet is available for purchase from our website, at the Museum and at the Archives for \$6.

Don't miss the bus to Bundanoon !!

YOUR PERSONAL INVITATION

to participate in a coach trip to visit Bundanoon

This day trip by small coach to Bundanoon is proposed for Wednesday 17 February next year.

On arrival in Bundanoon our first stop will be the Bundanoon History Group's Railway Shed to inspect their display of historical photos and artefacts.

A member of the History Group will then take us on a guided tour of the many interesting features of the town. This will include a stop at Jackman's cottage, the oldest residence in Bundanoon and still in use as a dwelling, situated in a picturesque country lane.

Lunch will be served at the comfortable CWA premises in town and consist of a ploughman's lunch along with tea/coffee and cakes, all provided fresh and home-cooked by the members of the local CWA.

After lunch we will go to the Bundanoon Sandstone Quarry for a guided tour of the works, which have been in continual operation since the 1860s, producing high quality sandstone that has featured in many prominent buildings in NSW and as retaining walls at the new Parliament House in Canberra.



Bundanoon sandstone quarry in use in the late 1800s.

Cost and Booking

The tour with lunch included will cost \$25 per person.

Seating on the coach is limited so to secure your place you will need to add your name to the list held at the Archives, either in person or by phone.

Your Pick-up Arrangements:

9:30am at **Mittagong** railway station

9:45am at **Bowral** swimming pool

10:00am at **Moss Vale** Services Club.

A tribute to Jim Wood

by Bob and Gloria Williams

It was with great sadness that we learnt of the passing of Jim Wood on 3 October 2009.

Jim and his wife Greta joined the society in November 1987. They were both members of the museum committee in 1989. Jim remained on the committee and was the museum's treasurer in 1994 and 1995. When the society became incorporated there could only be one treasurer and the position of Museum Treasurer was discontinued. Jim was Vice President of the society in 1995 and 1996.

During their time with the museum Jim and Greta did 'duty' or front-of-house together. They enjoyed chatting with visitors and explaining the objects on display, particularly to the children. Some of their own grandchildren lived overseas.

Jim's beloved Greta passed away in March 2006. They had been married for sixty seven years and had known each other for another ten, having been childhood sweethearts.

Jim continued living independently until shortly before his death. He was ninety seven years young.

Jim was a member of the Masonic Lodge. Early this year the Grand Master wasn't able to complete his term and Jim took over that role. He said he must have been the oldest Grand Master in New South Wales.

Jim and Greta had four children, eleven grandchildren and six great grandchildren.

A large gathering of family and friends, including around forty members of the Masonic Lodge and several members of our society, farewelled Jim at St Jukes Church, Bowral on 14 October.

Jim Wood was a true gentleman.

Grasshoppers

The Four Mails Friday 30 October 1953

Grasshoppers, which are causing devastation in parts of New South Wales, have made their appearance in this district. Three separate colonies of them have been found on the "Woodlands" property of Mr. W. Cupitt. It is also reported that they have made their appearance at Glenquarry.

Mr Donaldson

The Four Mails Friday 31 July 1953

Mr. Donaldson, headmaster of Lower Mittagong School, has been notified of his transfer to Culcairn.

BOYD DISASTER 200th ANNIVERSARY

At the beginning of December 1809 the ship "General Boyd", sailing from Sydney, called at the Bay of Islands in New Zealand. To avenge what they saw as an affront to tribal honour, Maoris killed and ritually cannibalised almost everyone on board and the ship was set on fire.

It is not now known who all the approximately 70 victims were. But one victim was Anne Glossop, wife of First Fleeter William Broughton. Their infant daughter, Betsey Broughton (later Mrs Charles Throsby) was one of only four survivors, the others being Mrs Ann Morley, her infant daughter Mary and cabin boy Thomas Davis.

To commemorate the disaster, there will be a small event in Sydney on Sunday 29th November 2009. Arrangements had been made to have special prayers included in the services at St James's Church, King Street Sydney on the that day, for family members to read the lessons at 11am Choral Eucharist and for an article in the weekly parish leaflet. A buffet lunch will follow the service at the Hyde Park Barracks Restaurant at the cost of \$35.00 per head.

Anyone with interest in the event is welcome to attend. Please email mailto:boydcommemoration@gmail.com or phone John Gooch (02) 4324 0140 to register your interest in attending or if you have information about other victims.



The *Boyd* Incident.

In December 1809 the brigantine *General Boyd* was anchored in Whangaroa harbour where it had arrived from Port Jackson. It was attacked by a group of Maori who killed most of the crew and passengers in retaliation for the captain's mistreatment of a young local chief.

The well-known incident surrounding the *Boyd* had far-reaching effects. It delayed the establishment of the first Christian Mission in New Zealand, cemented ideas about New Zealand as the 'Cannibal Isles', and challenged the notion of the Maori as 'noble savages'. European whalers avenged the attack, which led to many more Maori deaths and sparked intertribal warfare in the region.

The *Boyd* left Port Jackson, (Sydney) under Captain John Thompson, and arrived in Whangaroa early in December, 1809, to take on board timber spars of local kauri trees. Their final destination was England. The Captain was sailing to Whangaroa for the first time, and was probably only the second or third European ship ever to go there.

There were approximately seventy people on board. Among those passengers known were Ann Morley and her infant daughter Mary, Ann Glassop and her two year old

daughter Elizabeth Broughton, Katherine Bourke (or Rourke), R.W. Wrather, James Moore, Captain Burnside's, John Budden, Robert Thomas, Mordica Marks, John Petty, Thomas Martin, William Allen, John Thomas, William Mahoney and Dennis Desmond.

On board also was a Maori named Te Ara (also known as George), returning to Whangaroa, his home. Te Ara, son of a chief, was expected to work his passage as a seaman, but he refused, either because he was ill as he claimed, or because he considered the work beneath him as son of a chief, as the seamen claimed. For whatever reasons, in time he was flogged and denied food during the voyage. On his arrival home, he told of the voyage and his kin, believing him to have been mistreated, demanded revenge. A shore party was attacked, killed and eaten, and the ship was ultimately attacked while moored in the harbour. Only four of the seventy people on board survived.

News of the incident reached the Bay of Islands and three weeks later the crew of the *City of Edinburgh*, led by Captain Alexander Berry, arrived to rescue the survivors of the tragedy. A Maori chief accompanied the European force, and he negotiated the return of Anne Morley, her baby and Thom Davis. Hostages were taken to secure the release of Betsey Broughton, and after a short delay she too was returned to the rescue party.

The cabin boy Thom Davis, was later lost at sea. Mrs. Morley, who had placed herself in the protection of one of the chiefs, was later rescued by the women, but later died at sea on the return journey. Her infant, Mary, and two year old Betsey Broughton were eventually brought back to Australia. Betsey later married Charles Throsby gave birth to 17 children, and died on 14th January 1891, aged 84.

Some Maoris claim the *Boyd* was attacked because the Captain was bad, whalers blamed Te Pahi, a Maori chief who had tried to save the crew and passengers. The result was civil war in the region which lingered many years.

In March 1810 an attack was staged by sailors of 5 whaling vessels on Chief Te Pahi's village, whom they erroneously thought had been a perpetrator of the *Boyd* massacre. In the attack, sixty Maori and one sailor died and Te Pahi fled to Whangaroa, wounded. There he was killed by Maori.

In 1814, Samuel Marsden attempted reconciliation between the chiefs from Whangaroa and the Bay of Islands. Marsden wrote after exchanging gifts and initiating discussion between both parties: "Each chief saluted the other, and then went around to each other pressing their noses together. They assured him that they would not harm another European in the future."

Regardless of the success or otherwise of Marsden's efforts, conflict continued between the Maoris and the Europeans for many years after.

References:

- **Berry Papers**, Volume 25 tt12/41838 MI
- **New Zealand Electronic Text Centre**, from Tasman to Marsden, Chapter X The Massacre of the Boyd 1809-1810.
- **New Zealand Electronic Text Centre**, The New Zealand Railways Magazine, Volume 14, issue (October 2, 1939).
- **Roxburgh, Rachel, 1989, Throsby Park: an account of the Throsby family in Australia, 1802-1940.** NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service.
- **Supporters of Throsby Park, Moss Vale, November 2007**, Elizabeth Isabella (Betsey)
- **Homabrook, Judith Sidney, M.A.**, National Archives Wellington.
- **The Boyd Incident - a frontier of aot? NZHistory.net.nz**, New Zealand History online.

Down Memory Lane

Part three in a series of three articles

A collection of memories, people, times, and some tales as told to John McColgan



Mr and Mrs John McColgan attend the opening of Oxley Mall in Bowral. Photo from the *Southern Highland News*, April 3, 1981.

John is a historian who resided for many years in the Highlands and was an active member of our Society. He published several local history books and contributed many articles to this newsletter and to the local press. John is retired now and lives on the Central Coast.

Making do during the depression years

We learnt at an early age that if you wanted money for something, you had to earn it. Not only that, but you accepted the fact you had to work and "pull your weight" (my mother's expression) around the home.

There were no hot water systems or washing machines in those days. Clothes were boiled in the copper for washing in the tubs, and baths were normally hot water carried in from the stove, or the use of a "chip heater". Melrose had an unusual system we thought was "first class". The large copper was built in the end of the laundry and it had a pipe in the bottom which ran through the wall for filling the bath. No chip heater required.

Our job was to stoke the copper for all the baths for the boarders, but I don't remember it as being anything

but a lot of fun. With just the light from the copper fire (no electric light in the laundry), we used to talk, play, tell ghost stories, and generally have a good time, in between refilling the water level in the copper from the top, and chucking a bit of wood in the fireplace when needed.

The only fly in the ointment with this otherwise smooth set-up was that it required a regular supply of wood for both the copper and the kitchen stove, and this meant a bit of effort.

We used to go up to the bush called Stokes' Paddock on the south side of the railway line about half a mile towards Bowral, and cut a couple of small dead wattles or branches and drag them home. We used to call it dragging brambles. The journey down Railway Parade, under the subway, and up the back lane to home always seemed to be miles.

During school holidays we sometimes made a day of it up the bush cutting wood. Mum brought sandwiches and we boiled the Billy. Everyone just cut and piled wood in heaps beside the track. This enabled us to get wood that was too heavy to drag home because we paid old Bill Worner a few shillings to bring his Chev truck later in the day to carry it home and throw it over the back fence, with us doing the loading and unloading.

Collecting bottles was the favourite pastime of kids for earning money. Beer and wine bottles were bought by the local bottle merchant, and cordial bottles had a deposit on them, making them worth collecting. So were bones (which were ground for fertilizer). Dealers who bought them were known as "bag, bottle, and bone merchants".

Kids would snap up any odd job to earn some money. I can remember exercising a bloke's greyhound every afternoon after school, for the princely sum of sixpence (5c.) a WEEK.

As you got a bit older, there was always Jim Beaumont's market garden below Bessemer Street.



Jim would work any able-bodied kid (including myself) all day Saturday, weeding, planting, loading pumpkins, melons, or whatever without a break. At the end of the day he had another less endearing habit. He never paid any kid on the spot. You had to come back to the house after tea, for your money.

He then made a point of ignoring and making us kids sit on the edge of the back verandah while he leisurely ate his evening meal in the kitchen with his back to us through the open door, before finally coming out like "King Dick" to pay the kids their hard-earned "two bob" (20c) for the day's work. I will never understand his motivation for this regular and unnecessary performance.



Although things never returned to prosperity after the Depression during the 1930s, prior to the war they did begin to improve slowly. It was still a struggle, but there was a definite improvement as far as earning a few shillings with a bit more money

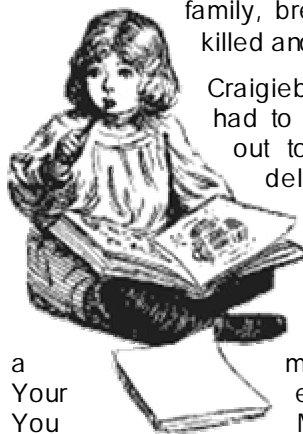
circulating. Anybody who was a child during the 1930s knew that when school hours were over, you did whatever job people would pay you for.

This means the jobs were many and varied, but no doubt anyone in my own age group, would have gone through similar experiences. Some of the jobs I have done as a boy are as follows:-

- Early morning paper delivery on a pushbike
- Worked in a market garden
- Delivered parcels of meat on a pushbike on Saturday mornings for Cupitt's butchery
- Assisted Stan Lake on bread delivery in school holidays
- Worked on early morning milk run with Tom Waite
- Worked after school with a Kelloggs representative distributing small sample packets of Corn Flakes and Rice Bubbles. Looking back on it, that must have been when American firm Kelloggs launched their product in Australia. The pay was good, even if it was a 'once only' job. Six shillings for three hours after school.
- Regular cleaning of poultry farm pens every Saturday for Miss Judd on Oxley Drive
- Picking loganberries off our vines at Melrose and selling them round the neighbourhood
- Exercising greyhounds
- Growing vegetables to sell them round the neighbourhood

- Delivered telegrams on a pushbike Saturday afternoons, as a teenager
- Trapping a few rabbits to sell or eat occasionally.

Of course this doesn't include collecting bottles and bones for selling to the dealer, or joint efforts on behalf of the family, breeding Muscovy ducks which we killed and dressed before sale.



Craigieburn Hotel took all the ducks we had to sell, but it meant a pushbike ride out to Centennial Road in Bowral to deliver them.

The luck of the Irish

a
Your
You
education.

There is one thing you learn from mother of Irish/Catholic descent. education is the first consideration. MUST go to school and get a good

You think she MAY forgive you for lots of things, but wagging school would be the ULTIMATE crime for which there is no forgiveness.

In retrospect, I realise my mother was only one or two generations away from the Irish Penal Laws back in Ireland where the English made it a crime carrying heavy penalties to educate anyone of Irish/Catholic descent.

She often said the only thing she could give us in life was a decent upbringing, and a good education, and that she did, God bless her. I only hope that being her children we prove by our own lives that her hard work and sacrifices were worth it.

Our thanks must go to John for sharing his interesting glimpses into life as seen by one growing up in the Southern Highlands.



Additional Information

John recently wrote to as and says:

I would like to thank you for the write-up of earlier Mittagong by myself and would like to add a little item I apparently missed mentioning in regard to Fig. 8 Home Hardware building.

The block was indeed a vacant paddock when I first moved from Moss Vale to Mittagong, but I should have mentioned that in the latter 1930s, a Mittagong resident and mechanic Mr Cliff Cole bought it and built a Service Station and repair shop which operated for many years, of which the frontage of the building (with the 'Home' sign) was also a part of the driveway setup to the petrol bowsers, and he also built a very large repair shed at the rear side. it is probably a considerable part of the existing building exterior, but of course it would have been enlarged by Home Hardware over the years.

John McColgan

Museum wins prestigious IMAGinE award

The "Prisoners in Arcady" exhibition based on Dr. John Simons' book has been recognised with an award in the **2009 IMAGinE awards**, an initiative of Museums & Galleries NSW, Museums Australia (NSW & ACT) and Regional & Public Galleries NSW.

The museum exhibition won the Organisation Award for Exhibitions by a volunteer organisation.

Representatives of galleries and museums from metropolitan and regional NSW and the ACT gathered at the Australian National Maritime Museum in Sydney on the evening of 17 October for the presentation of the awards.

Celebrity host Peter Berner added an element of humour to the cocktail event which saw over 100 arts volunteers and professionals from across the State come together to acknowledge their peers.



Lyn and Harlan Hall, Berrima District Museum with Peter Berner (centre). Photo by Fiora Sacco.

Now in their second year, the IMAGinE awards celebrate the achievements of both the professional and volunteer-run museums and galleries in NSW and the ACT and those who work within them.

Five categories of awards include for collection management, exhibitions and education, as well as awards for excellence.

Museum volunteers Lyn and Harlan Hall attended the awards event and accepted the award on behalf of the Berrima District Historical & Family History Society's museum at Berrima.

"These awards are a fantastic way to highlight the vital role that museums and galleries play in the cultural life of their communities and as custodians of the cultural material that defines us all", said Maisy Stapleton, CEO of Museums & Galleries NSW.

PRESIDENT REPORT

Ken Reid

Another Society year has passed with what one feels was with some rapidity. Once again it with pleasure that I present the President's Report for the year 2008 - 2009, the last in my current term.

Firstly, I must thank all our wonderful volunteers, both at the Archives and the Museum - you all perform your duties with great vigour, patience, hard work, tolerance and I hope, much satisfaction.

I also sincerely thank the Management Committee for their dedication, enthusiasm and commitment to keep the Society moving forward. Your efforts ensure the smooth running of the Society. Thank you also to the Museum Management Committee and Curator Bob Williams in running and maintaining the museum to an award winning standard - congratulations on achieving your award of "Excellence".

Members who filled other positions in the Society carried out their duties with great expertise, maintaining the high level of assistance offered to those seeking to use or obtain information from our archives. Thank you all for work well done.

This year has again seen many improvements and upgrading of our computer needs, including two second-hand replacement printer/readers which were badly needed to carry on our research activity. We are still intending to purchase a brand new up-to-the-minute printer/reader when our Special Purpose funds allow. Our Web site, which is maintained by Linda Emery, is proving to be a great asset for the Society - many thanks Linda for the effort you put into this project.

Sadly, we have had to say "goodbye" to several members this year. Their work in improving and moving the Society forward is very much appreciated, and has helped to achieve the high standard that our Society enjoys.

Thank you to our supporters who have assisted the society with donations and grants, and a very special acknowledgement of Wingecarribee Shire Council's ongoing support. We would find it very hard to continue our work without their generous assistance.

Thank you to the speakers at our monthly general meetings. A wide range of topics was again covered this year which proved both educational and interesting to all.

The Society held three displays at the Highlands Marketplace this year, which proved very successful and created a great deal of interest in photographs from our collection and generated sales of our publications. Thank-you to the small band of volunteers who erected, manned and removed the displays and to the local retailers who donated prizes for the Fathers Day raffle. It has been planned to hold another display nearer Christmas and I hope that this proves as successful as the previous three - but we need more volunteers please!

Due to family commitments, Jan Alcock retired recently from the Publication Officer's position. Sally Ross's offer to fill this vacancy was accepted by the Management Committee. Also John Cranney resigned as Secretary

(again due to family and work commitments), and Glenda Miskelly kindly accepted this role until the AGM. Many thanks for your efforts.

By-Laws of the Society will have been considered by members at a Special General Meeting. A sub-committee reviewed the existing Constitution, and drew up a new set of By-Laws, which with any amendments considered necessary and accepted by members will replace the current Constitution.

Another area for consideration of members is the starting times for our General Meetings. Your suggestions would be very much appreciated.

Other Reports will, I am sure, cover other aspects of the Society's activities during the year, so I will not attempt to report on these, other than to say another "thank you" to those presenting these reports for your efforts during the year.

It has been an Honour to have served as President again this year and I wish all members Best Wishes for the coming year and a happy and safe Christmas.

ARCHIVISTS REPORT

Linda Emery

2009 has been a particularly rewarding year at the archives, with a number of goals achieved and special projects in progress. We had close to 40 accessions of photographs, books, documents and collections.

The most pleasing of these has been gaining access to the Badgery Collection of letters, papers and photographs dating back as far as the 1830s. The Badgery family of Exeter allowed us to copy all their photographs (some 450 images) many of which are rare images of farm and station life in the district during the 1870s and 1880s. We are in the process of copying some of the voluminous correspondence and documents in the collection. The family also made a very generous donation of \$5,000 to the archives from the Estate of the late Joan Badgery to assist us in the work we do in preserving and caring for the precious resources in the archives. We would like to acknowledge their generosity once again and thank them for their wonderful support.

We had several fund-raising activities during the year to raise money for a new microfilm printer/reader. Our old machine completely gave up early in the year and with a price tag of \$18,000 to \$20,000, a new machine was well out of reach. We were fortunate to hear of two ex-library printer/readers that became available, which we were able to purchase for a \$1,000 each and with the addition of an extra lens, we are now up and running again. The machines are in excellent condition and should see us well into the future, by which time we hope to have enough money put aside to upgrade. With digitisation of records becoming cheaper and more widespread, who knows what our future needs may be.

The major project in the archives this year has been digitising and cataloguing the photographic collection. This is moving ahead really well, thanks to a dedicated band of volunteers who are chipping away at this monumental task.

I would particularly like to thank all the volunteers who come to the archives on the three days a week that we open to the public and other days during the week when they work on research projects, indexing, cleaning and general administration:

Jan Alcock	Denise and Allan Barker
David Baxter	Linda Berry
Shylie Brown	John Bunt
Marie Chalker	Jason Ciprian
Carolyn Dougherty	Peg Harvey
Leonie and Greg Knapman	Denise and Ian Mackey
Bruce Moore	Philip Morton
Carol Nolan	Nancy Reynolds
Sally Ross	Max Rogers

Members who feel they would like to join us in the work we do, even if it is only for a few hours, would be very welcome. Please give me a ring or come in and see me.

MUSEUM REPORT

Bob Williams

What a year! It began on a high note in late October 2008 when the museum was awarded the 2008 Southern Highlands Business Award for Excellence in an Attraction.

The exhibition 'Prisoners in Arcady', the story of German internees in Berrima, WW1, was officially opened in February by the Consul General of the Federal Republic of Germany.

Win Smith, past society Treasurer and retired museum volunteer, committee member and dedicated museum worker, passed away in March.

Sadly, in May, John Simons, Hon Life Member of the society and author of 'Prisoners in Arcady' passed away. He has left a wonderful legacy for the society and its museum.

In May the museum and archives volunteers celebrated National Volunteers Week with a special morning tea held at the archives.

In June a request by German parliamentarian Walter Kolbow and senior foreign policy advisor Martin Weiss for a private visit to the museum was happily arranged. Later in June, The German Ambassador and his wife made an unannounced visit to see the exhibition.

The Migration Heritage Centre at the Powerhouse Museum initiated the joint production of an eight page illustrated folder on the 'Prisoners in Arcady' exhibition. This is available at the museum.

The donation of a photograph of SS Berrima in Sydney Harbour, c 1914, was the catalyst for a small display.

In June we hosted a Tourism Southern Highlands 'After Hours' event. These monthly get-togethers over refreshments enable members to learn what Tourism Southern Highlands is planning and to network with fellow members.

We had delegates attend all three meetings of the Southern Highland and Illawarra Chapter of Museums Australia, hosted by member museums.

In August Bonnie Pierce, an Honorary Life Member of the society, past Hon Curator and diligent worker for the museum, passed away.

In September a new brochure was produced. Lyn Hall once again did the graphic art work and it looks great.

Jim Wood, past Vice President of the society, retired museum volunteer and committee member passed away in October.

In October Gloria and I attended Working Spaces 3 at St Clements Conference Centre at Galong. This was a weekend of workshops relating to best museum practice. Congratulations go to Glen Johns of the Lachlan Chapter of Museums Australia for organising this outstanding event. He is now planning Working Spaces 4.

In October we nominated the 'Prisoners in Arcady' exhibition, curated by Lyn Hall, in the iMAGine (inspiring museums and galleries in excellence) Awards. Lyn and Harlan Hall attended the presentation evening at the National Maritime Museum in Sydney. They were thrilled to accept the NSW/ACT award for an exhibition by a volunteer organisation. The large glass award and certificate sit in the cabinet at the museum, together with the Business Award received twelve months ago.

With no time to rest on our laurels we are now working on a new exhibition exploring early industries.

I sincerely thank the local media for its support during the year. ABC Illawarra, Highland FM and Radio 2ST along with Southern Highland News and Highlands Post provide the opportunity for us to take the museum to the people.

Finally I would like to thank the volunteers for the time and effort they devote to the museum. Your support is greatly appreciated.

PUBLICITY REPORT

Philip Morton

Since taking on the role of Publicity Officer in June this year I have attempted to carry on the fine work done by the previous incumbents. I have promoted the monthly meetings' guest speaker with posters around town, media coverage and articles in the newsletter.

Two history articles are now published in the *Southern Highland News* each month, keeping the profile of the society in the local public's eye. Several newsworthy items to do with the museum and the archives have been published in the local paper.

As it is also important to contribute to the awareness of members, I have maintained a supply of promotional and general interest material to the editor for our society newsletter.

I appreciate the help and guidance given me by the management committee and look forward to further opportunity for working together with society members to

advance the reputation and relevance of the museum and the historical and family history society in the Southern Highlands.

NEWSLETTER REPORT

Lavinia Ford

This newsletter is the last for 2009 and intrinsically marks ten years of my compiling the society's newsletters, a feat to swiftly come about.

Once more I would like to extend to each and every member my good wishes for a wonderful festive season, and a new year filled with satisfaction and accomplishment.

To the members who have made contributions towards the newsletter and assisted in getting the newsletter in the post I once more express my appreciation for your help.

I am always delighted to receive feedback from members, to hear that you enjoy reading the newsletter. Thank you to everyone who has taken the time to share with me.

Don't forget you can find other societies' journals in our library. They provide a vast array of tips and tricks as well as being very informative and interesting to read.

This year the number of newsletters being distributed has increased marginally. We distribute 254 newsletters to our 317 members, and a further 54 to other societies and legal deposits, giving a total of 308 newsletters, an increase of 5 from last year.

	Members	Newsletters
Honorary Life Members	4	3
Single Members	189	189
Family Members	123	61
Society Member	1	1
Student Members	-	-
	317	*254

Wingecarribee	185
NSW Country	27
NSW Metro	29
ACT	5
VIC	4
QLD	4
	*254

Legal Deposits	17
Other Societies	37
	54
	308



Based on figures for 2008, our Honorary Life membership has decreased by 1, due to the passing of Bonnie Pierce, reported in our October newsletter. Our single membership has decreased by 1 and family membership has increased by 7. Of those figures, Wingecarribee has increased 5, NSW Country has increased 3, NSW Metro has increased 1, ACT unchanged, Victoria unchanged, Queensland has decreased 3 and our New Zealand member didn't renew.

Based on 2007 figures Life membership decreased 1, Society and Student membership have not changed, Single membership has increased 10, and Family membership has increased 11.

As a matter of interest, the majority of members reside in the Wingecarribee (185) and is divided as follows: Bowral (55), Mittagong (54), Moss Vale (30), Bundanoon (13), Burradoo (6), Colo Vale (4), Hill Top (3), Berrima (3), Exeter (2), Burrawang (2), Avoca (2), Yerrinbool (1), Wingello (1), Willow Vale (1), Wildes Meadow (1), Sutton Forest (1), Mt Murray (1), Kangaroo Valley (1), Kangaloon (1), Canyonleigh (1), Aylmerton (1), Alpine (1).

CONSERVATION REPORT

Sally Ross

Through the year the group has worked on maps in the Society's collection which needed cleaning, backing and where appropriate enclosing in Mylar sleeves. Currently we are working on a collection of maps which are old and fragile, belonging to the Badgery family. They need extra careful attention and work. One is flaking so badly we have decided not to try to mend it or back it. We use glue or paste for mending and the pressure of Mylar will cause the glue to seep through. We will just enclose it in Mylar, specially cut to fit, and seal it. I discussed our best option with a professional and she agreed this was the best course.

On Friday 16 to Sunday 18 October I attended Working Spaces3 run by the Lachlan Chapter of Museums & Galleries, held at St Clements Monastery, Galong. This was a workshop for museum volunteers, but several of the sessions were of benefit to the Archives, especially a session on old photographs. All the sessions were presented by experts from the National War Memorial, the National Gallery, the National Library and the National Archives. We all had many questions but because the sessions were so intensive, there was not much time for a Q&A session.

RESEARCH REPORT

Max Rogers

Another successful year for research. Write-in requests were strong as usual but email requests are now becoming the norm, with someone wanting information coming in by email every day. This of course can keep one busy, in most cases all correspondents received information, some a little, some were lucky and received quite a lot, in return some researchers have reciprocated by sending us information, this information has been placed in the relevant biog files. Some of the research inquiries that came in through year were: ANGEL, BAMFORD, BEER, BELL, CHAPMAN, DELBURN, DODD, GORDON, HORTON, LEWERY, McMAHON / HARTE, MURPHY, NAPIER, PARKER, RICHARDSON, WHITFIELD, WITT and of course it would not be a research year if we did not get several inquiries about the CUPITT family. There were inquirers not only wanting family information but also wanting something on where there descendants lived, a couple of these requests spring to mind; information was wanted on 'Strathmore' Bowral, 'Pomeroy Hall' Mittagong, Henry RICHARDSON'S

auction rooms at Moss Vale, 'Buena Vista' also of Moss Vale, Montague BEAK of 'ULSTER PARK' the BEERS' residence 'MT. GIBRATER' that became a 'Home for Under Nourished Girls' in 1928. 'FULLEDGE' is another Moss Vale residence that springs to mind; the DELBURNS lived there at one time. My thanks to Linda Emery, David Baxter, Tim McCartney for their help in tracking down information on some of these residences. Our film printer readers are now in steady demand and the purchase of these two film readers, they also print copy, has made the task of looking through and gathering items from our local newspapers a pleasure rather than a task. So that's it for this year.

TREASURERS REPORT

Jan Reid

It gives me a great deal of pleasure to present the Annual Financial Statements covering the year 1 October 2008 to 30 September 2009, for the information of members. This year saw me take over from Jan Alcock when it was necessary for her to resign from the position of Treasurer due to family commitments.

The accounts again show large items of expenditure which have been, or will be, an overall benefit to the Society. During the year we completed the extension and refurbishment of the *Prisoners in Arcady* exhibition at the Museum while at the Archives we replaced the non functioning microfilm printer/reader, purchased a laptop, placed a sign on the corner of the Archives building and commenced the archival storage of our photographic collection. During this year we received the funds of \$5,000 from the 2007/2008 Wingecarribee Shire Council grants programme towards the *Prisoners in Arcady* exhibition together with a donation of \$500 from this year's grants programme, which greatly assisted the storage project. A grant of \$2,600 received from DFHCSIA allowed us to purchase a new scanner/printer and vacuum cleaner at the archives. A bequest of \$5,000 from the Badgery Family will contribute to the safe storage of valuable papers which we anticipate will be received from the Family in the near future.

My thanks go to our auditors Ross Cowley & Co. who have again agreed to audit our accounts and endeavour to meet our very tight time frame.

My thanks also go to those members who contribute to the successful collection of funds from various sources throughout the Society - their efforts are greatly appreciated.

Wishing you
Bundles of
Christmas Joy

DIARY DATES

THURSDAY	12 NOV	Management Committee Meeting	9:30 pm at the Historical Society
THURSDAY	26 NOV	Monthly General Meeting	5:00 pm at the Historical Society
FRIDAY	27 NOV	Christmas Dinner	6:30 pm at The Scottish Arms
THURSDAY	10 DEC	Management Committee Meeting	9:30 pm at the Historical Society
TUESDAY	8 DEC	Archives close at 4:00 pm for Christmas break.	
SATURDAY	19 DEC	School holidays commence	
MONDAY	11 JAN	Archives reopen at 10:00 am following Christmas break	
THURSDAY	14 JAN	Management Committee Meeting	9:30 pm at the Historical Society
THURSDAY	28 JAN	Monthly General Meeting	5:00 pm at the Historical Society

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preserving and maintaining the history of the Southern Highlands.

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