

Founded 1960

BERRIMA DISTRICT HISTORICAL & FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC

NEWSLETTER
No 417 May 2010

PO Box 131 Mittagong NSW 2575 Telephone / Fax 0248 722 169

Website: www.berrimadistricthistoricalsociety.org.au

Email: bdhsarchives@acenet.com.au

ABN 29 362 616 937

PATRON:	Mayor of Wingecarribee Shire Council: Councillor Duncan Gair		
President:	Mr Ken REID	4622 5028	kandjreid@viceroygilead.com
Snr Vice President:	Miss Judith GREEN	4861 1926	
Jnr Vice President:	Mrs Leonie KNAPMAN	4871 1804	
Hon Secretary:	Mr Philip Morton	4883 7862	
Hon Treasurer:	Mrs Jan Reid	4622 5028	
Archivist:	Mrs Linda EMERY	4883 4271	
Curator - Museum:	Mr Bob WILLIAMS	4889 4405	
Editor	Ms Lavinia FORD	4869 4038	lavinias@aapt.net.au
Research Officer	Mr Max ROGERS	4861 3526	robert.rogers2@bigpond.com



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

MAY MEETING: Thursday 27 May 2010 at 7:30pm
VENUE: Society Research Centre, Old Council Chambers Building,
Bowral Road, Mittagong

Our guest speaker will precede the general meeting.

GUEST SPEAKER: Kim Phillips
TOPIC: "Spirits of Gallipoli" - Genealogist Kim Phillips will speak on a project about the AIF men who never left Gallipoli's shores. Photos and movies of the Gallipoli cemeteries included.

SUPPER: To be served after the meeting - Members - please bring a plate or a donation.

JUNE LUNCHEON MEETING:
Thursday 24 June 2010 at 12:00pm
'Celebration of the 50th Anniversary'
of the founding of the Berrima District Historical Society
at Mittagong Golf Club, Hume Highway, Mittagong

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DIARY DATES

2010

MAY

- 9 Mothers Day
- 13 Management Committee Meeting
- 27 Monthly General Meeting - Talk by Kim Phillips *The Spirits of Gallipoli*

JUNE

- 10 Management Committee Meeting
- 24 Monthly General Meeting - **Luncheon**

JULY

- 3 - 19 School holidays
- 8 Management Committee Meeting
- 22 Monthly General Meeting

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 Public 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



Founded 1960

JOIN US

in celebrating the Society's 50th Anniversary

at the

JUNE LUNCHEON

to be held at the Mittagong Golf Club

on Thursday 24 June

12:00 for 12:30 pm

A three-course luncheon will be served
and
Orange juice and tea/coffee will be provided

Cost per head is \$30

Please book and pay at the Archives as soon as possible

May Guest Speaker - Kim Phillips "The Spirits of Gallipoli" Project

Genealogist Kim Phillips will speak at the May General Meeting on a project about the 7,249 men of the AIF who never left Gallipoli's shores.

The project aims to gather as much information as possible about each of the men.



Should any local people have ancestors buried at Gallipoli, this is an opportunity to review the information so far gathered. Kim's presentation will include photos and movies of the Gallipoli cemeteries and peninsula in general.

For the past 9 years, Kim Phillips has spent her spare time on the **Spirits of Gallipoli** project, trying to find as much information as possible about the men of the first AIF (our First Anzacs), who are either buried or commemorated at Gallipoli. Details about the project can be found at www.spirits-of-gallipoli.com

In late May 2009, Kim and 11 other self-funded enthusiasts made their way to Gallipoli, to photograph all the headstones, memorials and cemeteries. These photos now form part of the large amount of information held by the project, on the men.

Kim has served on the Committee of the Australian Jewish Genealogical Society (AJGS) since 1998 and has given presentations in 2006 at the NSW & ACT Association of Family History Societies Annual Conference; 2004 at the 24th International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies in Jerusalem; 1999 and 2001 Society of Australian Genealogists Annual Conferences; Botany Bay Family History Society; Blue Mountains Family History Society Annual Conference; Coffs Harbour Annual Genealogy Conference and Ryde District Family History Society. She has led workshops at the Society of Australian Genealogists and Central Coast Genealogical Society.

The Project

It hopes to provide details of available information on the men of the AIF who are either buried or commemorated at Gallipoli

The project will provide details of sources, including reference books, newspapers and general sources where photos and information on the men can be found.

The Families

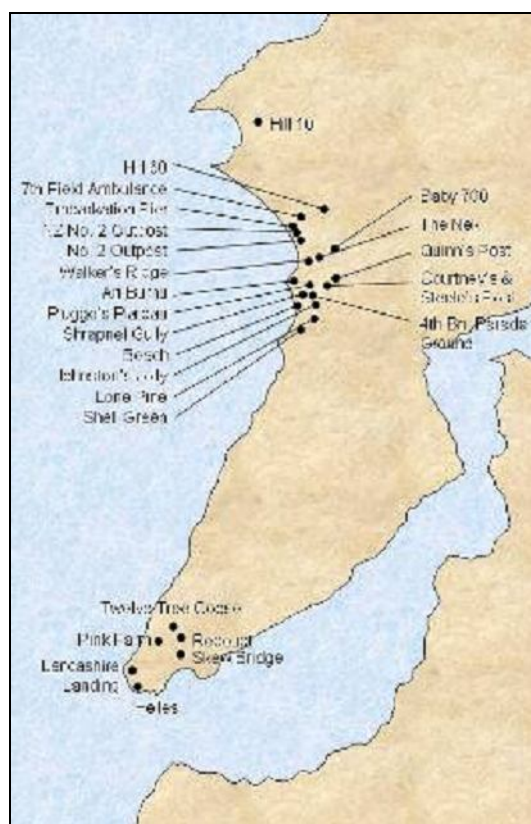
This is a list of names of known family members for those soldiers for whom information is given on this site. The database will ultimately include the names of all known family members for the men at Gallipoli.

Females are listed under both maiden and married names, where known, and appropriate.

The Anzac spirit is often discussed and debated. This project does not address the history of the campaign, military strategies or the "mateship" ethic. It looks at family aspects so that interested and related people can connect with these men.

It aims to develop the soldiers as men, personalising them - as part of peoples' families, as individuals.

This project does **not** duplicate the great work done by the Australian War Memorial (www.awm.gov.au), the National Archives of Australia (www.naa.gov.au) or by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission (www.cwgc.org) in making information on the servicemen readily available.



Map of the cemeteries at Gallipoli
(from project website)

Society Management Committee member profile

Philip Morton

Born at Waverley in Sydney's eastern suburbs in August 1950, Philip was all set for life in the big city. However before a year was up, his father was sent by OPSM to open a branch in Albury. It was a shock, particularly for Philip's mum, who never knew such winters until she moved to where the Hume Highway crossed the Murray River.



The highlight of the year was the big trip back up to Sydney. Every January the family headed off on the arduous 12-hour drive with their father Harry at the wheel.

Philip found it a dull journey until, once passed Goulburn, they entered the more picturesque stretch from Berrima to Bargo and then Picton to Camden, where a rest was had at relatives in Narellan.

Childhood memories must have had some influence on his decision to move out of Sydney in 2001 and start a new life as a resident of the Highlands and the proud new owner of a quaint Bundanoon cottage.

Prior to that Philip had a career as an in-house publisher for major Sydney CBD firms, having started as a proof reader on the Border Mail, in Albury, back in the 1970s. This was after he had dropped out of a BA degree course half-way through at the ANU in Canberra – the lure of the real world beckoned him away from Psychology, Sociology and Anthropology.

He travelled around Australia then for several years being among other things a seasonal grape picker, food preparer and dish washer, loader of bags of cement (in the heat of Darwin!). He opened the very successful Umbrella second-hand record shop in Adelaide with a friend, but as always moved on to explore new pastures.

In searching out the old Hume Highway through Berrima in 2007, the discovery of the Society's museum tucked away near the bridge led to his signing on as a volunteer. Bob and Gloria showed him how to do duty and he helped Lyn Hall with proof reading the *Prisoners in Arcady* exhibition story boards.

In November 2008 Philip became a member of the Museum sub-committee. During 2009 he researched material for the museum's *Early Industries* exhibition that was turned into a classy visual display by Lyn and Bob.

Taking on the role of Publicity Officer during 2009 was the next challenge with the Society and he was accepted onto the Management Committee. Now he also acts as Hon. Secretary as well as helping at the archives with research and front-desk activities.

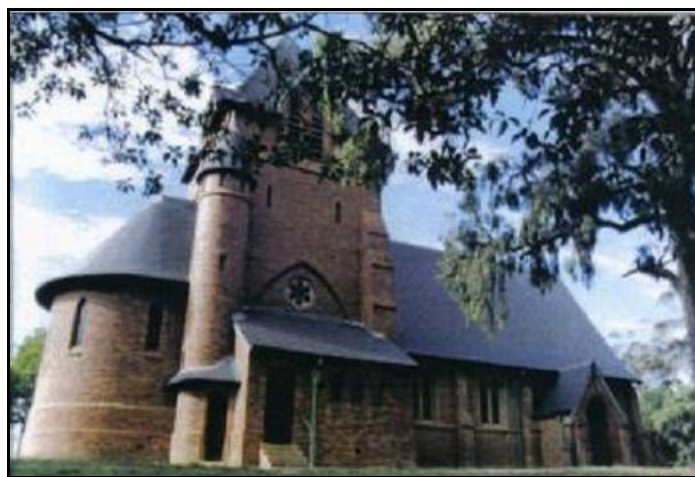
Menangle's Marvellous Medieval Church

Several society members recently joined in with a bus tour to Menangle and Picton conducted by the Bundanoon History Group.

Highlights of the tour included Camden Park House, home of the Macarthur family, with the largest and most intact early colonial garden still in existence. Also the railway viaduct built at Picton in 1862 from local sandstone that has been in continual use ever since, is a wonder to behold.

However most worth bringing to the attention of members is the 1876 church with steeple on the hill at Menangle.

Many will know it as the steeple that can be seen in the distance from the train as it passes between Picton, Menangle and Douglas Park. It is worth closer inspection.



St. James Anglican Church at Menangle

According to information provided in the Menangle Anglican Parish History booklet, St. James was built during 1876 on a portion of land set aside by the Macarthur family on the crest of a hill overlooking Menangle. Mr. Thomas McBeath presented the successful tender to build and complete the new church according to plans and specifications for the sum of three hundred and twenty pounds.

The beautiful chancel surmounted by the belfry and steeple was added in 1898 with Sulman and Power being the architects. This addition was financed by Mrs. Elizabeth Macarthur Onslow in memory of her parents and husband and was after the design of an English church.

Claims that either Edmund Blacket or John Horbury Hunt designed the church have not been substantiated, but the chancel with its pyramid capped tower and semi-circular apse is definitely known to be the work of John Sulman.

The Menangle church bell was originally purchased for St. John's in Camden and moved to St. James in 1897, the year of Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee.

The interior which is finished in polished oak panelling is much admired and is probably without equal in any church of its size in the state, according to a report in the *Camden News* when the church was consecrated.

Major General Sir Granville Ryrie



Granville Ryrie (1919)

Major General the Honourable Sir Granville de Laune Ryrie (1865-1937) KCMG, CB, VD, 1st AIF, Commanding Officer 2 Australian Light Horse Brigade.

Ryrie was born at Michelago, New South Wales on 1 July 1865. The son of Alexander Ryrie and Charlotte, née Faunce, he married Mary Frances Gwendolyn McFarland on 18 February 1896.

Alexander Ryrie, a descendant of Stewart Ryrie of Caithness, Scotland, was a grazier and member of the New South Wales Legislative Assembly (1880-91) and of the Legislative Council (1892-1909).

Granville Ryrie was educated at Mittagong, NSW and the King's School, Parramatta.

In 1884 he began working as a jackeroo at *Goonal Station* near Moree where he learnt some of the Kamilaroi language from the local aboriginal stockmen, became an expert rider, shooter and an amateur heavy weight-boxing champion, before returning home to manage the family farm.

He enlisted in the NSW militia as a trooper and was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the 1st Australian Horse in 1898. During the Boer War he joined the Imperial Bushmen as a captain, arriving in South Africa in May 1900. In September 1900 he was wounded near Wonderfontein, before returning to Australia in June 1901.

After the Boer War, Ryrie began a new career as a politician, being elected to the NSW Legislative Assembly in April 1906.

Ryrie was appointed commander of the AIF's 2nd Light Horse Brigade on 17 September 1914. At Gallipoli, he was wounded by shrapnel in September 1915. In December 1918, Ryrie took command of the Anzac Mounted Division. In May 1919 he was promoted to Major General.

Returning to Australia, Ryrie resumed his political activities, serving as Assistant Minister of Defence in the Hughes cabinet from February 1920 to December 1921. From 1927 to 1932 he was High Commissioner to the United Kingdom, and represented Australia in the League of Nations.

He died in Sydney on 2 October 1932 and was buried at Michelago after a state service.

Ryrie was gregarious, blunt, and tough, accustomed to taking responsibility and making decisions.

Ryrie received the Commander of the Order of St Michael and St George (CMG) in 1916, Companion of the Order of the Bath (CB) in 1918, Knight Commander of the Order of St Michael and St George (KCMG) in 1919.



Brigadier General Granville Ryrie on his horse, "Plain Bill"
Photos courtesy of Australian War Memorial



Brigadier General Ryrie, followed by Sir John Monash, escorts the Prince of Wales.

A 1932 WS 30 cwt. Bedford Story

Gary and Dianne Deane from Repton, north of Sydney, recently visited us at the Archives and told us about their lovingly restored vehicle which spent time at Goulburn in the 1950s helping to soothe the thirst of locals by delivering for the brewery.

Prior to that, it worked for Kent Brewery at Broadway transporting their liquid gold to Sydney pubs.

So hopefully you will enjoy this tribute to a vehicle.

The Bedford started its life in Luton, England, and then it was exported to Australia and purchased by Tooth & Co. where it had the cab & body fitted, most likely by their own coach builders.

It spent its days there as a delivery truck transporting tasty beverage around Sydney, from the Kent Brewery at Broadway, with rego No KB-124.

From there it went to Goulburn Brewery with the job of delivering beer and Blue Bow soft drinks to local pubs and clubs.

About 1955, Mr Hedley Pearce Carman of Goulburn purchased the vehicle and it was used on his farm and to take produce to the markets, with rego number then being BCN-549. These plates were handed in on 4/4/1960 at Goulburn. It was used around the farm until being purchased in 1981 by Bill and Jenny Haalebos who took the vehicle to Canberra where Bill stripped it down.

They then shifted to Valla Beach where he started work on it but it sat under his house in many pieces until the current owners, the Deanes, purchased it on 11/10/2005.

All they got was a rolling chassis, a lot of pieces and some history documents. Work then began on rebuilding the cab, all timber and sorting out the pieces of the jig saw.

Gary wanted to keep it as original as possible, so with a couple of photos and slides plus the pieces he had, work began on rebuilding the cab, then all the metal body parts which were a bit ordinary, but with a lot of hours and help from a mate Robert Baer, who was a panel beater, the job finally was done. Work then turned to the timber tray which Gary built out of spotted gum, tallow wood and Douglas fir.

The reassembly was then started of all the bits. All the important wiring was changed to 12 volt system.

It was registered in February 2009. May this old Bedford travel many more miles.

Photos courtesy Gary Deane



A Letter to the Editor...

"The April Newsletter arrived here this morning and I soon noticed the photo and its caption on page 2.

The early name for the locality near the site of the later Berrima Junction was "Austermere", not "Austinmer". Before the Berrima colliery line and its connection with the Great Southern railway were opened on 22-12-1881, a little farther north of that point a tank had been installed by 21-4-1879 at Austermere (to water steam locomotives travelling along the main line).

Because the name was being confused with Austinmer on the Illawarra line, "Austermere" was changed by the Railways to "Bong Bong" on 1-10-1889, and remained as such until 27-1-1913. A small platform for Austermere (later Bong Bong) had been built on the Down (or eastern) side of the track.

Berrima Junction (near Austermere, but never given that name by the Railways) was renamed Medway Junction on 4-2-1927, but reverted to its original name in October of that year.

The facts set out above were provided by The Department of Railways Information Bureau (as it was then known in the 1960s).

The "Southern Highland News" article of 21-12-2009, reprinted on the Newsletter's page 7, clearly misled our editor with this incorrect statement in the article's second paragraph: "The junction was first called Austinmer, then Bong Bong and later changed again to Berrima Junction". Perhaps it could be corrected in a near-future Newsletter, thus restoring and maintaining historical accuracy, which I trust is our Society's desire.

Yours faithfully,
David Kemmis
Cowra NSW



CONFUSING NAMES JUNCTION: The old private rail line to Medway is shown here being reconnected to the main Southern Line in 1927 by the Southern Portland Cement Company near the locality originally known as Austermere.

Photo courtesy Jim Galloway

New Members

We extend a warm welcome to the following new members.

Here's to a long and happy association

Mrs Robyn **Arrowsmith**, Mittagong
Mrs Janet **Black**, Tallong
Mr Robert **Clarke**, Bowral
Mrs Samantha **Crothers**, Bowral
Mr Ken **Farquhar**, Bowral
Mrs Carole **Holmes**, Kangaroo Valley
Mrs Ria **McCosh**, Welby
Mrs Julie **Newing**, Mittagong
Mr Ken **Smith**, Rozelle
Mr Tim **Westley**, Mittagong

DIARY DATES

THURSDAY	13 MAY	Management Committee Meeting	
THURSDAY	27 MAY	Monthly General Meeting	7:30 pm at the Historical Society
THURSDAY	10 JUN	Management Committee Meeting	
THURSDAY	24 JUN	Monthly General Meeting - Luncheon	12:00 pm at <i>Mittagong Golf Club</i>
	3 - 19 JUL	School holidays	
THURSDAY	8 JUL	Management Committee Meeting	
THURSDAY	22 JUL	Monthly General Meeting	2:00 pm at the Historical Society

If undelivered return to:
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THE BERRIMA DISTRICT HISTORICAL AND FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

is proudly supported by the following organizations that encourage the work of our Society in collecting,
preserving and maintaining the history of the Southern Highlands.

*Brewsters Coffee House
Blue Circle Southern Cement
Fletchers Fotographics
Hypercet Printing
Mittagong Region Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Springetts Arcade*