



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 561 July 2023



From the President's Desk

A very successful June luncheon was recently held at the Exeter village hall. The positive feedback from the event has prompted us to consider holding our December luncheon at the same venue.

Our monthly Family History Group meeting was held recently with 24 members attending. A presentation by researcher Frank Mitchell provided us with a better understanding of the emigration schemes in existence during the 19th century. Thanks to Frank for his presentation and to Denise Mackey for arranging and coordinating these meetings.

Our July general meeting guest speaker, Martyn Killian, will be telling us about how to use the Museums of History NSW website and about accessing records in the NSW State Archives, which will be of great interest to many of us who have travelled to Kingswood to do physical research. More information is on page 3.

Also on page 3 you can read the background to the new digital module at Berrima Museum featuring the story of Claude and Isobel Crowe from Berrima Bridge Nurseries, curated by Bud Townsing. It is an addition to our exhibition of the Gardens and Landscapes of the Southern Highlands which is proving very popular. The

Museum is experiencing a steady influx of community groups ranging from school students to senior citizens.

Archie Moore, father of Bruce, lived a remarkable early life, at first in Wildes Meadow, moving to Sydney at the age of 14 to work and follow a musical passion. This is a fascinating story about a wonderful adventure this young man undertook. Incidentally, the Moore family proves that musical talent is indeed inherited with Bruce, his son and grandchildren all following in Archie's footsteps. Archie's story is on pages 4 and 5.

On pages 6 and 7 information is provided by Society and Local Planning Member Dennis McManus on the submission of their Wingecarribee Heritage Study 2021/23, a project so large it took almost three years to complete.

Congratulations to the Panel and Wingecarribee Shire Council staff for all their hard work and finally the recognition and acceptance of their submission as another step in the process of listing some, or all, of these properties.

Philip continues with part 4 of a history of our local dairying industry which shows how important the industry was, not only to the local market but also in the Sydney and London markets.

Ian Mackey

GENERAL MONTHLY MEETINGS and EVENTS

JULY 2023

Speaker

Thursday 27 July at 2:00pm

Martyn Killian, Chief Operating Officer, Museums of History NSW, with a talk on using the MHNSW website for archives research

AUGUST 2023

Speaker

Thursday 24 August at 2:00pm

Linda Emery: the Irish Catholics of Berrima and their Pugin church

AFTERNOON TEA is served following the speaker

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



Moore Memorable Musings



NONSENSE SONG LYRICS

How many times have we listened to a song without understanding the words?

It's not uncommon to hear made-up words to popular songs. There were several songs which were best-sellers during the depression. Here's one:

1931 - "He won't eat his birdseed, it's really a sin. He won't sing a thing without his drop of gin. My canary has circles under his eyes."

During WW2 this pop song was played extensively. It also kept the enemy Japanese codebreakers occupied, thinking it was some sort of secret allied message.

1943 - "Mairzy doats and dozy doats and liddle lamzy divey A kiddley divey too, wooden shoe?"

Television personality, Perry Como helped popularise this one, cleverly disguised as an Italian lullaby. This song sold millions of records.

1947 - "Chi-baba, Chi-baba, Chihuahua Enjilava kooka la goomba, Chi-baba, Chi-baba, Chihuahua. My bambino go to sleep".

The Goons (Spike Milligan, Peter Sellers and Harry Secombe) were crazy comedians who had a regular

show on BBC radio that had a passionate fan club (including myself.)

1955 - "Ying tong ying tong ying tong ying tong yiddle I po, yiddle I po".

Another one of Spike's nonsense songs was "I'm walking backwards for Christmas, across the Irish Sea."

Followed by "A Russian Love Song" with Igor Blimey & his band.

The ever-popular Beatles often threw in meaningless words/phrases into their songs.

1967 - "I am the egg man. They are the egg men. I am the walrus. Goo goo g'joob.

Semolina pilchards, climbing up the Eiffel Tower...."

1968 - "Ob-la-di ob-la-da life goes on bra, la-la how their life goes on..."

Many of the Beatles' words were confusing, but they somehow worked in time with the music.

One more disco song of the 1970s by K C & the Sunshine Band was "Shake shake shake, shake your booty".

Wow, there's some scholarly, mind-blowing lyrics!

In 1998 there was Queen's famous Bohemian Rhapsody.

It was lead singer Freddie Mercury's favourite and inspired the hit movie of 2018.

To this day, no one is yet able to decipher what the song is about!

Bruce Moore

'The Mill' Tour FULLY BOOKED

The response from members to join The Mill tour has been phenomenal and it is fully booked. So, this is just a reminder that the tour is on Thursday 20 July and those attending need to have arrived by 10:30am.



The Mill is located at Moss Vale on the corner of Throsby Park Rd and Illawarra Highway, parking best on Throsby Park Rd. Entry to property is through gates on Throsby Park Rd.

BERRIMA DISTRICT MUSEUM

1a Market Place cnr Bryan St, Berrima

OPEN: FRIDAY to SUNDAY

10.00am to 3.00pm

throughout the year including school and public holiday periods.

Groups welcome at other times by arrangement. Ph John 0434 623 402

Museum: Phone 4877 1130 or email bdmuseum@bigpond.com



The Australian Commonwealth Band in concert at Wellington, New Zealand, in 1926. Seated second from left with cornet is Archie Moore, who grew up locally at Wildes Meadow. *His story is on pages 4 & 5.*

Genealogist is our July meeting speaker

USING THE MUSEUMS OF HISTORY NSW WEBSITE

A presentation by Martyn Killion

BDHS General Meeting on Thursday 27 July

Come along to hear Martyn and learn about how to use the Museums of History NSW website for your historical research, particularly in finding material in the State Archives Collection.

Martyn Killion is currently the Chief Operating Officer at Museums of History NSW.

Appointed to the position in April 2023, he provides executive leadership and direction across

Corporate Services, Commercial Services, Museum Operations and Visitor Services, Programming, Production and Audience, Projects, Strategy and External Relations.

Martyn has over 35 years' experience in the NSW Public Sector, most recently as the Director, Collections for Museums of History NSW.

Martyn's experience includes over 30 years of association with the NSW State Archives Collection and extensive government experience in the arts, having worked in a number of roles at Arts NSW (now Create NSW) and other cultural institutions.

Many of our BDHS members will know Martyn Killion through his work at NSW State Archives and how helpful he was to many of us in our research.

With Heather Garnsey from the Society of Australian Genealogists, Martyn indexed the records of the Sydney Benevolent Society which have been so useful to historians.

He is a Vice Patron and Fellow of the Society of Australian Genealogists and has served as President (twice), Vice-President, Education Convenor, Honorary Archivist and Honorary Librarian.

He has also been President of the Australasian Federation of Family History Organisations and NSW representative of the Australasian Association of Genealogists and Record Agents.



New edition of *Life Behind the Bar*

A new edition of *Life Behind the Bar: Inns and Hotels in the Southern Highlands 1824-1924* is now available at the same price of \$30. In last month's newsletter we advised that the 2014 BDHS publication had sold out and was being updated ready for the reprint.

Researched and written by our member Shylie Brown (pictured), the book provides a full listing and description on the more than 450 local inn and hotel licensees and families who operated the establishments between 1824 and 1924. In the light of new information available since the first print, Shylie has made updates to the text and listings for the new edition, and the maps and photographs have been enhanced.

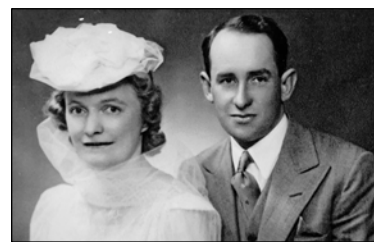


Crowe's added to museum exhibition

In February 2023 we advised that Bud Townsing was creating a new module to be added to the *Gardens and Landscapes of the Southern Highlands* exhibition in the Williams Gallery at Berrima District Museum.

The module, featuring the story of Claude and Isobel Crowe and Berrima Bridge Nursery, is now on display and is well worth re-visiting the museum to view it.

Claude Crowe was born in 1914 and began his career in horticulture as a gardener at Albury. In 1938 he moved to Sydney to join Anderson & Co, a nursery at Summer Hill where he met his future wife, Isobel. In 1942 Claude was sent to Berrima to work in the company's nursery. In mid-1943 he and Isobel married and opted to start their own nursery at 38 Jellore St.



Influence on the local landscape: their nursery was unique for the strong relationship that developed between Claude and his customers. Compared to other local nurseries, the Crowe's was by far the most respected due to their horticultural knowledge and the time Claude spent with each customer to ensure they had exactly the right plants. Local projects undertaken included many private and public gardens. Their influence locally extended over 50 years of doing business and ensured the diversity of plants and tree cover throughout the district.

Archie and his well-travelled cornet

Born at Wildes Meadow in April 1902, Archie Moore was the grandson of local pioneers John & Margaret Moore, who had settled as farmers at Burrawang in 1862 with three children, having emigrated from County Antrim, Ireland.

Shortly after arrival, another son Matthew Moore was born. He grew up on the farm and eventually managed the property. Matt was the fiddle player in a band playing at an Annual Ball in Burrawang where he met the very pretty Lucy Barber, a girl who lived in the Manchester Square locality near Moss Vale. Shortly after they married and raised four children.

Their third child was Archie Matthew, born in 1902. At age 14 he left the family farm to begin a career with the NSWGR, "The Railways" as it was known. A year before that, in 1915, Archie had witnessed the Kangaroo Recruitment March passing through Moss Vale and Bowral which had begun in Wagga Wagga and ended in Sydney, a distance of nearly 600 kms. It was led by a young cornet player named Dicky Porter who immediately set alight inspiration in Archie which he said he never forgot.

Archie approached George Vincent, the then well-known Bowral bandmaster/musician, requesting to be taught how to play a wind instrument. George couldn't offer a cornet, instead lending Archie a flugel horn to take home and practice. After several lessons, Archie was hooked! He saved enough money working as a porter at Picton Station to buy his own second-hand, battered old cornet and maintained a connection with George Vincent for lessons each weekend.

The railways promoted Archie to Sydney's Central Station as a clerk around 1920. He lived with his brother Clarence Moore, who by then had become a professional musician and piano teacher. Clarrie encouraged Archie to continue playing his cornet and take more lessons at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music. In 1922 Archie was selected by its director of music, Dr William Orchard, to play in the orchestra at the Conservatorium, and in his spare time he played with various bands at picture theatres where silent movies were shown.

The following year he was posted to Lismore by the Railways and then to Grafton where the main line was being linked to the Grafton-Murwillumbah line.

Having been headhunted by the top brass at the Conservatorium, in 1925 Archie was selected along with thirty other brass instrumentalists from around

the country to form a new National Brass Band under the baton of Albert Baile, who at the time was a widely known Newcastle-based conductor.

The average age of the selected players was 22 years and included famous soloists such as Arthur Stender and Alf Paxton from Victoria, and Harold Hewson from Queensland.

Archie (pictured) was aged 23 years. The band members quickly got to know each other as they rehearsed before touring the NSW South Coast.



Australian Commonwealth Band World Tour 1925-27

Then began Archie's trip of a lifetime. The band first visited New Zealand's north and south islands giving concerts almost daily to audiences numbering over 30,000. After a successful tour, they sailed back to Melbourne and went by train to Adelaide, Broken Hill, Perth and finally Albany. From there they set sail for South Africa in the wake of the Anzacs, 10 years prior. Coincidentally, their full-dress uniform was a copy of the notorious Australian Light Horse, complete with slouch hat and emu feathers. They looked and dressed as if ready for war! Friendships were firmly made, and a quartet made up of Archie's pals Alf, Harold and George Robertson entertained passengers on board ship in their spare time.



Departing Australia 1925

The first stop after leaving Australia was Durban in South Africa, where the Railways donated a buffet car and sleeping carriage to be hooked onto the local and regional trains during their tour. This month-long

African tour was a round trip visiting and playing in Pretoria, Johannesburg then down to Cape Town where a ship was waiting to take them to England.



The Band's carriage in South Africa

On arrival in London, the band toured mainly in the north of England, where brass bands were plentiful, playing once or twice daily to large crowds. The locals heaped praise on these eager young Aussie lads. The band was also preparing for the British Open Band Competition held in September at Manchester.

After many rehearsals, the Australian band was drawn 17th to play before thousands of fans. Their performance gave them 4th place overall, with the UK Colliery bands taking out the first three places. As an Australian Brass Band had come first two years beforehand, the 1926 Band hoped to do likewise to keep the flag flying, but it was not to be. In order to lick their wounds, the members were given a few days off. Archie and some of the boys took the train/ferry/train to Paris for a break.

After nearly four months in England, it was then time to head for Canada on the ship *SS Montclare*, a Canadian Pacific liner, that left Liverpool in mid-September and took a week to reach Quebec. The band spent several weeks touring the east and playing at Radio City in Rochester, New York. In Vancouver, after 3 months in North America, they boarded the *RMS Aorangi* bound for Hawaii, Fiji and again New Zealand where they played to large audiences receiving rousing receptions.

The players were getting quite homesick by then and could not wait to arrive back in Sydney, where there was just enough time to greet their folks before being whisked off to play another concert, this time in Orange, NSW. By May 1927, Archie decided that another tour would be too much to ask the Railways leave for, so he regretfully resigned.

After returning to clerical duties with the Railways, Archie joined the Bondi Beach Band (known for its concerts on the weekends plus suburban street marches). They were playing past Croydon shops

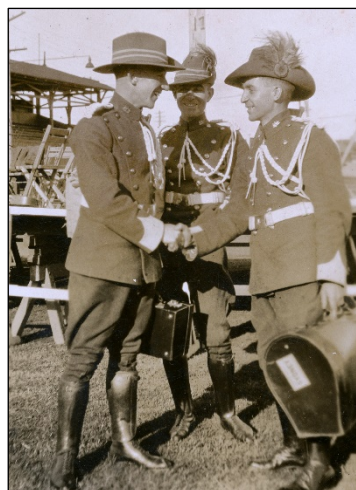
sometime in 1930 when spied on by the Chemist's daughter, Dalas Molly Carpenter, who went weak at the knees seeing Archie and listening to the band. So began a courtship that was to last until their marriage in St Stephen's Church, Macquarie St, in July 1935.

Not long afterwards Archie was transferred to Orange where they lived until the outbreak of war. Their first child Bruce arrived in 1939, just as Archie was sent to Werris Creek to supervise the movement of troop trains from the south to north Queensland. A daughter Lynette was born there in 1943 and to entertain themselves, Archie and Dalas often had soirees (Archie on cornet and Dalas on piano.)

Young Bruce loved to hear them playing and this inspired him to learn the piano. After the war, in 1947 Archie was transferred to Central Station, Sydney and worked as a clerk under the big clock until retiring in 1963. The family lived in Strathfield. Archie played with the Railway Institute Orchestra during the 1950s and, at age 11, Bruce was given a gig to play a concerto with the Orchestra and Dad.

Archie always cherished the memory of his childhood at Wildes Meadow in the Southern Highlands and occasionally revisited to see old friends in the area. In his later years, he and son Bruce were wandering around the Burrawang cemetery and by coincidence rediscovered the Moore family plot with headstones still clearly visible. Archie made it known that he wished to be buried alongside his relatives there. When he died in 1990, this wish was granted.

Music played a major role in the life of Archie's family, and has permeated through to his grand-children, with Bruce's eldest boy and his wife (Matt and Jayne) both becoming professional musicians. As well, Archie's much-travelled cornet is still being used by his great grand-daughter Arkie Moore, who plays trumpet and cornet with the Willoughby Band and the Australian Youth Orchestra. The family's fine musical tradition lives on.



Severing connections in 1927, Archie on left

For those interested in reading more about the Australian Band's world tour, our BDHS researcher Frank has provided a list on Trove of articles, see trove.nla.gov.au/list/128368

Written by Bruce Moore,
editing by Philip Morton

Photos: Moore family

Good News Regarding Local Heritage

HERITAGE RECOGNITION AND PROTECTION IN WINGECARRIBEE SHIRE, 1 JULY 2023

Statement provided by Dennis McManus

On 29 June 2023 the Local Planning Panel approved of the Wingecarribee Heritage Study 2021-23 proceeding to consultation with owners and exhibition. This is a first and most important step towards the heritage listing of many unprotected items and landscapes in the Shire.

This statement has been prepared to inform residents about the Study which is the result of considerable work by heritage volunteers and council staff (and in particular Heritage Officer, Sarah Farnese) over almost 3 years. It now needs the informed support of the community to make it a reality.

The following are the main steps to be taken before formal heritage listing:

1. The Local Planning Panel resolution to the next Council meeting – expected Wednesday 19 July 2023.
2. If Council (Interim Administrator) approves, consultation letters will be sent to all owners. This is expected to commence in late July. Concurrently a peer review of the Heritage Study and consultation will commence. The form of this peer review is yet to be determined but likely to be by a consultant.
3. Public Exhibition, expected to commence in August.
4. Final report on items to be LEP listed will be presented to the Local Planning Panel and Council in the form of a formal Planning Proposal.
5. Final items to be LEP listed will be formally exhibited.
6. Gazettal proceedings to follow.

The approval by the Local Planning Panel means that the Heritage Study is on its way and the material in the report is now public knowledge. The Consultation Phase will enable all owners and the public to know the full list of recommended items and areas and this knowledge will itself provide some protection.

However, until such time as items are exhibited as “proposed heritage items” as in Step 5 no interim legal protection is afforded to the items.

Long term protection is provided when items are then LEP listed in Step 6.



The Study looked at some 600 sites in the Shire and 16 new and expanded landscape and expanded landscape and conservation areas. The Study has recommended the listing of over 460 of these sites and 14 areas and these will be made known at the Public Exhibition stage.

The documentation presented to the Local Planning Panel meeting of 29 June (but without the list of recommended items) is at <https://www.wsc.nsw.gov.au/development/wingecarribee-local-planning-panel>

An accessible 20-page copy of the main Study (again without the list of recommended items) is available by email from: dennis.mcmanus3@bigpond.com

The Study covers a diverse range of items. The following shortlist gives an indication of this coverage:

- A. Important items and areas not generally recognised e.g., in Kangaloon, Robertson and Welby.
- B. Places connected to persons or families of some note.
- C. Significant architect designed houses and other buildings including many from the Interwar period.
- D. Twenty-eight other grouped themes of heritage:
 - 1) Two significant double storey houses in the rare Arts and Crafts style.
 - 2) Buildings and structures by prominent Bowral Surveyor and Architect Henry Sheaffe (1873-1958)
 - 3) Three Gothic style houses in the Mount Road and Crago Lane area of Bowral.
 - 4) Many fine houses and other structures by prominent local builders Alf Stephens and Sons, the major builders in the Shire from 1886 to 1965.

- 5) Three pairs of two storey terraces in Bowral by the Grove building family who first arrived in Bowral in 1863.
- 6) Many heritage places especially noted for their gardens.
- 7) Three sites connected to renown landscape designer Paul Sorenson.
- 8) Seven community support funded buildings.
- 9) Six early and still operating churches.
- 10) A shop previously used as a church.
- 11) Four former churches now converted for residential use.
- 12) Four early residences which have served as post offices.
- 13) Four small early and now council-controlled cemeteries.
- 14) Two early residences which have served as private hospitals.
- 15) Seven places associated with acts of great generosity.
- 16) Two volunteer-built houses for World War I widows.
- 17) Two buildings affected by the 1961 Robertson Earthquake.
- 18) Five buildings now the centrepieces of four retirement village sites.
- 19) A rare two and half storey Arts and Crafts style house in Bowral owned by a succession of four women.
- 20) Four hotels of heritage interest.
- 21) Five sites of rare building construction technique.
- 22) Five government and two former government sites.
- 23) Three major industrial sites, all with connections to the 1920s.
- 24) Two sites in Robertson of great botanical interest.
- 25) Four sites with late 20th Century Sydney School of Architecture style buildings.
- 26) Four memorial sites – two in relation to World War I, one in relation to a much-loved local Doctor – Dr Guy Gurney, and one containing the gravesite of local engineering pioneer Sir William Tyree.
- 27) Sport as a recurring theme through many proposed items, including gymnastics in Bowral in the 1940s.
- 28) Two sites related to the Red Cross and World War II

A history of our dairy industry, Pt. 4i

By the 1890s, the local dairying industry was all set for a period of rapid growth into the 20th Century. This history will continue in next month's issue, while here below is an overview of the late 1890s period.

Local farmers' efforts in dairying developed into a thriving business from the 1870s such that, by the 1890s, those close to the railway at Bowral received good prices for their fresh milk, railed daily to Sydney by the Fresh Food & Ice Company (FF&I). Those who were in more distant localities mostly depended on making butter, and established small, jointly owned butter factories including at Wildes Meadow, Burrawang, Kangaloon, East Kangaloon, Glenquarry and Manchester Square, all on the district's east side.

As well, a group of farmers formed a co-operative to take control of production and marketing, known as the Berrima District Farm & Dairy Company from 1895. With Mr N H Throsby as Chairman, it supplied butter, eggs, bacon, cheese and other goods to its cold storage depot in Sydney, at 5% commission. Butter was obtained from the small factories as well as from its factories at Robertson and Mittagong.

The *Scrutineer* reported in 1895 that the company "has secured a 31 years' lease of the Robertson factory, the largest in the colony, and also a lease of the premises at Mittagong" formerly owned by FF&I. "The company has, besides doing a big local business, entered into the export trade, realising the highest price for the season of any NSW butter in the London market." The paper congratulated the producers on the stand they had made and increase in the price of their butter, resulting in great gain to the district.

When a small, hand-turned separator became available and installed on each farm, cream could then be transported in cans directly to the central factories, thus bypassing the smaller ones, which mostly closed. Farmers then had more time to improve their land and to comply with stricter dairy cleanliness regulations that came into law.

Some of the farmers left the local co-operative and provided cream to FF&I which sent it directly to Sydney. Although FF&I had ceased butter operations at the Mittagong factory, in 1890 it converted a butter factory it had established on Frank Badgery's Vine Lodge property, at Exeter, into a creamery that operated until 1932. The early directors included Messrs Nicholson, Williams, Hines and Ellsmore, prominent local farmers.

Compiled by Philip Morton to be continued

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 a general collection.
- MUSEUM:** Market Place, Berrima. Tel: 02 4877 1130. Email: bdmuseum@bigpond.com
AT PRESENT, OPEN: 10.00am to 3.00pm, Fridays to Sundays.
This includes during school and public holiday periods.
- 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, Museums Australia Inc and NSW Association of Family History Societies.

If undelivered return to:
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BERRIMA DISTRICT HISTORICAL & FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY Inc.

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Research Team	Frank MITCHELL, Carolyn DOUGHERTY and Janet BLACK		

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