




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 570 May 2024

From the President's Desk



*ON THIS HALLOWED DAY
Here we gather on this hallowed day
to pay our respects on ANZAC Day
Aussies and Kiwi's we gather as one
And remember the fallen at the rising sun*

This first verse of Stewart Elliot's poem describes those gatherings of our neighbours of all ages standing in respectful silence as we remembered those who paid the ultimate price. On our behalf volunteers Carolyn Dougherty laid a wreath at the Mittagong service, David Baxter at Moss Vale and Linda Emery was at Exeter while the Bowral organisers elected to receive a copy of Linda's 'Pictorial History of the Southern Highlands' for donation to a local school.

Thank you also to Denyse Barker and Linda for making those wreaths, giving our offerings a personal touch.

The following day around 120 guests gathered at our museum to celebrate the life of Harlan Hall whose accomplishments both on behalf of our Society and beyond were described in our April edition. Following her husband's wishes Lyn and Museum Manager John Schweers alongside many of our regular volunteers prepared the venue to welcome over one hundred guests, many of whom had travelled interstate.

With every seat in the spacious Williams Gallery occupied, others sat in the next room while many settled down to watch proceedings on the large screen set up on the sun-soaked veranda.

Harlan's Remembrance was an uplifting experience and is summed up so well by the words of our museum volunteer Vanessa Dagleish which accompany the photo on page 2.

A massive thank you Harlan and Lyn from everyone for being such a formidable team whose talents, commitment and vision have done so very much to encourage a love of local history and appreciation of lives lived through the artifacts they left for us.

Early April saw a group of local historians from Bundanoon History Group enjoy the hospitality of our museum. An opportunity to compare notes and share memories prompted by the displays and objects of particular interest.

The month's end had a group of our members hit the Heritage Trail alongside those of Marulan & District Historical Society whose event gave us access to the *Arthursleigh* and *Lockyersleigh* properties. Both of significant historical significance.

Dr Connie Lord, an experienced volunteer at Berrima, has accepted an invitation to join the Museum Sub Committee. Connie has extensive knowledge of Egyptian history and experience of working in higher education and is a welcome addition to the team.

Stuart Handley

GENERAL MONTHLY MEETINGS and EVENTS

MAY 2024

Thursday 23 May at 2:00pm

Researcher Heather Garnsey with a history of Sydney's colonial Benevolent Asylums and their useful records

AFTERNOON TEA is served following the speaker

JUNE 2024

Thursday 27 June at 12:00 for 12:30pm

Our Mid-Year Luncheon at Dormie House, Moss Vale

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

Moore Memorable Musings



FOOD MEASURES

After spending a couple of wet days reading, writing and finally giving into turning on the daytime Tele, I was

visually bombarded with cooking shows on one station.

First came Jamie's Cheap Eats, then Rick's Fish from the Med, followed by Lidia's Cook like an Italian. Not to mention an Israeli chef with the unpronounceable name of Yotam Assaf Ottolenghi who cooks Middle Eastern food.

I'm getting a giggle from their 'chef-fie' names like Maggie Beer, Karen Martini, Mary Berry, Gabriel Gaté, Ian Parmigiana, Jamie Olive(r). Where is Captain Cook when you need him?

Surprisingly, I was amazed that these professional cooks use measurements like Glug, Splash, Dollop, Pinch, Scoop, Slurp, etc.

This takes me back to Grandma's recipes, her good old Aussie standbys such as Casserole, Spaghetti Bolognese and Macaroni Cheese. Believe it or not, in her old recipe book exists amounts that spell out pinch, drop and even a handful!

In this world of P.C. exactness and correctness, there lurks a surprise for us all.

Now here's the surprise. After extensive research, these seemingly obscure measurements have been recorded (by the measuring police) and are listed as real.

Beginning with a smidgen = $1/64$ of a teaspoonful

Two smidgens = One drop = $1/32$ tsp.

Two drops = one pinch = $1/16$ tsp.

Two pinches = one drizzle = one dash = $1/8$ tsp.

Two drizzles = a tad = $1/4$ teaspoonful

Two tads = a splash = $1/2$ a teaspoonful

Two splashes = one teaspoonful

One sprinkle is somewhere in the middle, between $1/6$ and $1/4$ teaspoonful for those who are still awake.

Now we are getting to the serious end of the recipe.

One dollop = one tablespoonful = 4 teaspoonsful in Aussie language

Two dollops = one Glug

Two Glugs = one scoop

After lunch I looked at my plate. There was nothing left.

Not even a skerrick!

Bruce Moore

BERRIMA DISTRICT MUSEUM

1a Marketplace cnr Bryan St, Berrima

OPEN: FRIDAY to SUNDAY

10.00am to 3.00pm

throughout the year including school and public holiday periods. Closed Christmas Eve, Christmas Day.

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

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

Managed and operated by members of our Society who volunteer their time and expertise.

Archives' opening hours

Monday 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

Tuesday 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

Saturday 10:00 am – 1:00 pm

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



On Friday, 26 April, the Williams Gallery at Berrima District Museum was the venue for a celebration of the life of the late Harlan Hall. It was a loving, heartfelt and positive remembrance for a well-lived life – the last part of which has greatly benefited our museum. Lyn Hall's organisational skills ensured that the event was a great success.

May General Meeting Speaker

HEATHER GARNSEY

A TRIANGLE OF CARE IN COLONIAL NSW

The Sydney Benevolent Asylum opened in 1818 and helped the aged, destitute and deserted. Throughout the 19th century countless people who had fallen on hard times, including ex-convicts, deserted wives and abandoned children turned to it for help as did many young women about to give birth. Its surviving records are a genealogical treasure trove and can also give valuable research leads into institutions such as the Randwick Asylum for Destitute Children and the Liverpool Asylum for Destitute Men.

This session will look at the history of the Benevolent Asylum, its relationship to Liverpool and Randwick Asylums, and demonstrate how useful its records can be for family historians.



Heather Garnsey worked as the Executive Officer of the Society of Australian Genealogists for 35 years and has spoken at seminars and conferences throughout Australia.

She co-indexed 78,000 entries from the Registers of Admission & Discharge for the Sydney Benevolent Asylum from 1857-1900, giving researchers easy access for the first time to these records.

She was recognised with the AFFHO Award for Meritorious Service to Family History in 2015 and is an Honorary Member and Fellow of the SAG.

After retiring in February 2020, she is enjoying having time to research her own family history.

This talk is a must for all those interested in family history research. The meeting will be held as usual upstairs at our Mittagong Research Centre/Archives on Thursday 23 May starting at 2:00pm.

Mid-Year Luncheon on 27 June

Dormie House at Moss Vale is this year's venue for our annual mid-year luncheon on Thursday 27 June. Cost is \$55 per head.

Associate Professor Dr Carol Liston will be the guest speaker with a presentation on Convict Women.

There will be a two-course meal of main and dessert, along with the usual special attractions including door prize and raffle. Members and their guests are welcome. You need to book and pay beforehand, so please let us know to add you to the attendance list and either pay in person at the Mittagong archives or make direct payment into our account: BSB 633 000 (Bendigo Bank), Acct 200107100 and please ensure that your initial and surname are used as reference.

Overlooking Moss Vale Golf Course, Dormie House is an elegant 1930s guesthouse, restaurant and bar.



Golfers on the green in front of Dormie House in 1934

The Dormie House website provides a brief history, including the following: In the early 1900s, Moss Vale Golf Club laid its roots, setting the stage for a sporting legacy. Then, in the 1930s, Dormie House became an exciting addition, offering a haven for guests, just like its name suggests. Designed by architect Mr Stanfield and brought to life by Messrs Alf Stephens and Son, Dormie House showcases classic architecture and charm. Through the years, it served as a beloved guesthouse until the club reclaimed it in 1974.

Dormie House stands today as a testament to the past, blending historical charm with modern comforts. The Club is in the process of refreshing its beloved hotel in a staged renovation. Some of the guestrooms have already been refurbished, there is a new deck and slowly but surely the rest of the guestrooms and hotel, including the bar and restaurant, will be updated.



Protestant Hall, Wildes Meadow

Linda Emery

A recent research enquiry sparked our interest at the archives in the history of a sandstone building in Belmore Falls Road, Wilde's Meadow known as the Protestant Hall, but now a private residence.

The passing of the Robertson Land Act in 1861 led to the opening up of the land at Burrawang for free selectors and several families from Jamberoo and Kiama were among the first to take advantage of the opportunity to acquire their own land. Among them were Irish Protestants Edward Moses and John McClintock. In 1862, Edward Moses selected 150 acres at Wilde's Meadow as a Conditional Purchase from The Crown and it was on this land, Portion 31, Parish of Yarrowa, that the Protestant Hall was built.

Edward Moses was born in 1812 in County Tyrone, Ireland. He arrived in NSW with his wife Ann, also from Co Tyrone, on the ship *Broom* in 1842 and after several years on the Central Coast of NSW had settled at Jamberoo by 1856. John McClintock from County Donegal arrived in Sydney as a 23-year-old in 1841 and had found his way to Wollongong by 1851 where he married Jane Curry, another immigrant from Tyrone. They later moved to Kiama and in the late 1860s took up land in Burrawang.

Edward Moses and John McClintock were instrumental in the establishment of a Loyal Orange Lodge in Burrawang. The Loyal Orange Institution is a Protestant fraternal order founded in Ulster, Ireland in 1795 to maintain the Protestant Ascendancy in Ireland and to celebrate the civil and religious privileges conferred on Protestants by William of Orange, who became King of England, Scotland and Ireland in 1688.

The first lodge of the institution was established in New South Wales in 1845. The Burrawang Lodge was the 80th lodge in the state and was officially opened on 18th May 1872 by the Grand Secretary of the Lodge, Brother W.H. Davies who had travelled from Sydney with several other brethren. The meeting was held at John Cullen's hotel and attended by between thirty and forty brothers.¹

The monthly meetings were initially held at John Cullen's Commercial Hotel in Burrawang on the first Wednesday before the full moon, the light of the moon giving members a safer journey to and from their destination. At this time, the Burrawang Lodge was the only Loyal Orange Lodge in the Southern Highlands.²

The Protestant Standard (Sydney, NSW: 1869 - 1895) / Sat 12 Jul 1873 / Page 1 /

No. 80, Burrawang,
MEETS at Bro. John Cullens', at 7 o'clock, on the
FIRST WEDNESDAY before the full moon.
JOHN LITTLE, W.M. H. CHITTICK, Sec.

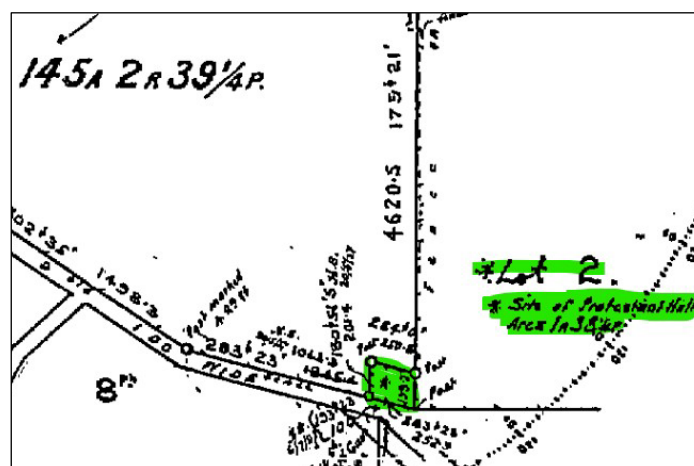
On 11th July 1873 the Burrawang Lodge held its first major celebration, a dinner to mark 'The Glorious Twelfth'. The 12th July, also called Orangemen's Day, celebrates the victory of Protestant King William of Orange over Catholic King James II at the Battle of the Boyne and was a key date in the calendar of Loyal Orange Lodges. In Burrawang, the dinner was attended by about 100 people – "brethren, wives, sweethearts and friends".³

The Lodge was clearly successful and the members set about building their own premises. Edward Moses made a corner of his land available and by October 1874 the Protestant Hall was completed.



Protestant Hall at Wildes Meadow

Built of sandstone with a galvanised iron roof, the dimensions accorded with the requirements and regulations of the Lodge. The members of the lodge were responsible for the building materials and labour for the building, Edward Moses supplying the stone and John McClintock and others the timber and lime.⁴



It was customary for Orangemen to name their halls the 'Protestant Hall'. They were not associated with a particular church, so were not church halls, although the lodges had strong Christian foundations with members of the clergy of all protestant faiths becoming members.

The Loyal Orange Hall in Burrawang was opened on Wednesday 21st October 1874 with a Tea Meeting and Soiree attended by locals as well as Lodge members from Sydney including the Grandmaster Stephen Goold and Irish-born Rev Joseph Barnier and Rev Dr Zachary Barry, both high officer holders in the Loyal Orange Institution.⁵



In 1875 another Protestant group, The Royal Black Association of Ireland, was formed in Burrawang. Although they were separate institutions the society was formed from Orangemen and anyone wishing to be admitted to the Royal Black Institution had first to be a member of an Orange Order Lodge. The membership of both groups in Burrawang was virtually the same and both used the Protestant Hall for meetings.

It was intended that the hall be used for all Protestant purposes, such as preaching, Sunday Schools and meetings, when not required by the Lodge. During the 1880s, the Lodge continued to grow and held annual 12th July celebrations in the hall. By the early 1900s, two new lodges had been formed in Robertson – No 214 'Work and Win' and No 337 'Lily of the Valley' (a Ladies Lodge) and the three groups held joint socials in the School of Arts in Robertson and Carrington Hall in Wilde's Meadow.⁶ By this time the lodge was known as the Wilde's Meadow-Burrawang No 80 Loyal Orange Lodge. After 1915, there are no newspaper reports of the Wilde's Meadow-Burrawang Lodge and it seems likely that the Lodge closed around this time.

In 1926, a survey by Henry Sheaffe of Bowral showed the land on which the Protestant Hall stood as Lot 2 in a subdivision plan of Portion 31, Deposited Plan No 317716. After being farmed by Edward Moses and his son Robert Wilson Moses since 1862, Portion 31

was acquired as a Crown Grant by Conditional Purchase in October 1926 by the National Mutual Life Association of Australasia.⁷ They immediately sold off the land to Mary Sophia and William Robert Porter of East Kangaloon who in 1938 transferred the Protestant Hall on Lot 2 to Harry Carlton Moses for the nominal figure of ten shillings. Harry Moses was the grandson of Edward Moses, one of the founders of the Loyal Orange Lodge and builder of the Protestant Hall.

It appears that the Porters acknowledged this relationship by passing the land and building to Harry Moses. Further research into the history of the Lodge may clarify the nature of his ownership – whether it was his personal estate or vested in the Lodge.



Moses farm in 1930s

In 1946, Harry Moses sold the property to Walter Cecil and Madge Eileen Jones of Wilde's Meadow and it appears the building was used by them as a residence. In 1974 Mrs Jean Broinowski purchased it and undertook renovations and a substantial extension. The Protestant Hall (as pictured below) is now a high-end Air Bnb.



Endnotes

- 1 Protestant Standard, 1 Jun 1872
- 2 Protestant Standard, 19 Jul 1873 p2.
- 3 Goulburn Herald, 23 Jul 1873 p2.
- 4 Protestant Standard, 7 Nov 1874 p.3
- 5 Protestant Standard, 17 Oct 1874, p.8
- 6 Robertson Advocate, 18 Jul 1905 p.2; 11 Sep 1914, p.2
- 7 Crown Grant to National Mutual Life Assoc, V 3923 F 237

New book in our Townsing Collection

Frequent mention has been made in this newsletter of member Bud Townsing, who in 2021 curated the *Gardens and Landscapes of the Southern Highlands, Then & Now* exhibition at our museum, assembled in conjunction with the Southern Highlands Branch of the Australian Garden History Society. In November 2021 he was elected to the Museum Sub-committee.

Bud and his late wife Maureen had been long-term residents of Bundanoon where they prepared several exhibitions for display at Bundanoon History Group's Old Goods Shed. They both also developed a keen interest in early local photographers including W A ('Gus') Nicholas who had resided at Bundanoon.

The Townsings moved to Bowral in 2015, undertaking several more historical research projects before Maureen passed away suddenly in May 2020.

Bud and Maureen published seven fine-print quality 'on-demand' large size (27x32cm) books, each being research studies lavishly illustrated with photographs. These books have been donated to our Society and are kept at the archives, as listed below:

The Rundle Collection, 2014. A collection of photos of the Rundle family, Bundanoon. [Library REF. 13/271]

Travelling Photographers, 2015. An Album of Early Bundanoon and NSW Photographs. Sarah Nicholas, William Augustus Nicholas, George Henry Nicholas, Clara Louise Nicholas. [Held in Safe]

Martin Moore - Exeter's Imaginative Photographer, 2015. An Album of his photographs taken around Exeter and Bundanoon. [Held in Safe]

A brief history of Church and Edward Streets Bowral, 2016 [Held in Safe]

A brief history of St Jude Street, and part of Bowral Street, Bowral, 2017 [Library REF. 13/266]

A brief history of "Whitton's Farm" Windsor and the Eccleston Family of Lower Minto, 2019. Edward Whitton and Ann Slater of Windsor, William Whitton and Mary Ann Whitton of Windsor, Richard Barnes of Windsor and Minto etc. [Library REF. 01/218]

A brief history of Alf Stephens & Sons: Builders and Contractors, and Builders' Supply Merchants, 2020 [Held in Safe]

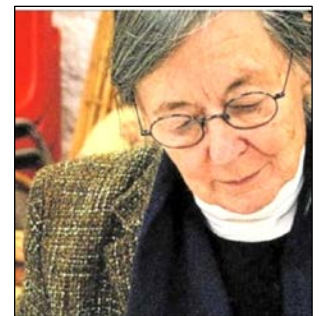
Earlier this year Bud was tidying up papers connected with various projects he and Maureen had worked on. He came across the 2010 Bundanoon Shops Project box and decided to turn the photographs and text of Maureen's extensive research into a book.

A copy of this latest book has recently been donated to the Society by Bud and has now been added to the Townsing Collection in the Safe.

The Bundanoon Shops Project 2010 by Maureen Townsing. Published 2024 by Bud Townsing.



The book is a photographic survey of Bundanoon's main street featuring past and present (2010) shop owners and the history of the buildings. The text, written by Maureen, records the history and uses of the town's shops, obtained from sources including Land Titles, early local newspapers, advertisements, BHG and BDHS archives, transcripts of the BHG Oral History project and several family histories. The book has not been updated with more recent history as Bud prefers it to be a permanent record of Maureen's work.



The text and illustrative 'then and now' photographs were used for an exhibition displayed in the Bundanoon Goods Shed on behalf of the Bundanoon History Group in 2010.

The photographs in the current book are, by and large, the same ones used in the 2010 Goods Shed exhibition and as later shown at an exhibition in the Wingecarribee Shire Council foyer.



Jenny Kena (left) with Maureen Townsing in the Foyer Gallery at Wingecarribee Shire Council in Moss Vale.

compiled by Philip Morton

A history of police at Bundanoon

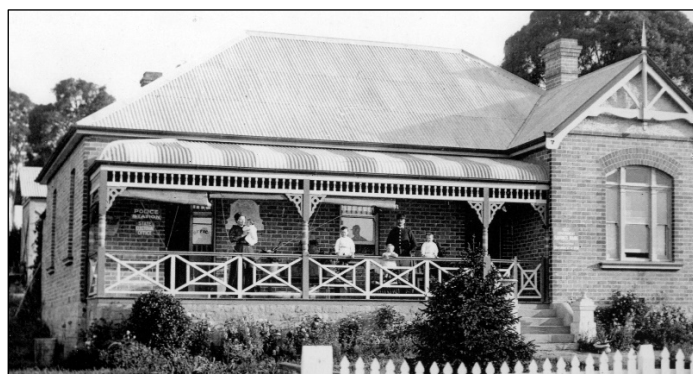
A history of local law and order infrastructure and organisation covering Berrima, Mittagong, Moss Vale and Bowral was provided in our February and March 2024 issues, based on a series compiled by members Philip Morton and Marg Muntz in 2017. The original series also included a history of local police stations at Bundanoon, Robertson and Burrawang. A history of Bundanoon's infrastructure follows here.

After the Southern Railway opened through the district in the late 1860s, one of the townships to flourish was Bundanoon. It developed as a hub for nearby coal mines, sandstone quarries and sawmills. A hotel and numerous boarding houses near the railway station catered for visitors attracted by the healthy climate and picturesque natural sites. By the early 1900s in holiday periods the town's population would double when about 300 visitors came to stay. Policing and legal matters were supervised initially from Berrima and then from Moss Vale where, in 1880, a court and police precinct opened to serve the surrounding area.

Bundanoon was assigned its own mounted police constable in 1897, the first appointee being James White. As a police residence was not provided in the township, he rode out each day from Moss Vale. Presumably an office was leased for him at Bundanoon, but records do not provide any detail. Townspeople wanted a better arrangement and resident James Calverley provided a solution. From 1901 James and his wife Henrietta owned the *Bundanoon Emporium*, a substantial store and residence centrally located on Railway Avenue. They sold a wide variety of stock including drapery, boots, ironmongery, groceries and newspapers.

In negotiations with the Police Department, Calverley agreed to build a police station and residence at his expense on an elevated block that he owned fronting Railway Avenue near the shops. He would lease it to them for an extended period but intended to move in when eventually he retired from business. He also stipulated that they would have to build their own lock-up, as he wanted nothing to do with that.

In 1905 Calverley built a Queen Anne Federation style brick house with four bedrooms, large living room, dining room, kitchen and larder, featuring 10-foot-high ceilings, decorative archways and fireplaces. At one end of a wide front verandah was a large office, as specified by the Police Department, so that people coming to the station had somewhere to wait without having to enter the residence.



First Class Mounted Constable James White and his family were the first occupants of the stylish new building. Stables and a feed room for police horses were provided in the backyard. The lock-up was a portable wooden cell with an iron door and iron roof. One day in 1912, two inmates attempted to burn down the Bundanoon lock-up in order to escape and were charged with damage to a public building, the property of His Majesty the King.

An article about White appeared in the *Scrutineer* in November 1910: "For a month Constable White is absent on holidays. We miss his familiar trim figure, on foot or mounted on a splendid charger. Not that Bundanoon requires much policing. It is far too peaceful to need what, by the lay mind, is generally considered the chief duty of the officer in blue, viz walking about in leisurely fashion to hunt up petty or hardened offenders. If that were all Constable White's work, his position in Bundanoon would be a sinecure. Our readers would be amazed to hear how many duties fall to the lot of a country constable – a veritable medley. Clerk, inspector of many things, even an electoral officer, he has scarcely time to look for lawbreakers."

In 1930 James Calverley gave notice and terminated the lease of the police station. Once it was vacated, the Calverleys took up residence, renaming the property *Altona*. Still standing today at 31 Railway Avenue, *Altona* is one of the buildings covered by Maureen Towing in *The Bundanoon Shops Project 2010* book (see previous article) in which is provided more information about the property and its owners.

The police then relocated to a brick cottage leased on the corner of Anzac Parade and Church Street. It had a stable and forage room. A new station was built in 1936 on a spacious block in Anzac Parade bought by the Police Department. It comprised the residence for the Officer in Charge, the police office, two cells and an exercise yard. The stable building consisted of a garage, forage room and one stall. As part of Hume Local Area Command, the police station still serves the busy town of Bundanoon and surrounding area.

compiled by Philip Morton

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:** Marketplace, 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.

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BERRIMA DISTRICT HISTORICAL & FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY Inc.

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