

The Hambleton Herald

Newsletter of the
Parramatta & District Historical Society Inc.

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Volume 33, Issue 10

OCTOBER, 2016

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Minute Secretary	Paul Bowyer	9614 5583	Function	Barbara Keighran	9896 5227
Treasurer	Ken Smith	9871 4155	Guides Co-ordinator	Trevor Patrick	9654 2224

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 1st Oct. Sat., 1:30 pm **Family History Group Meeting** at Hambleton Coach House
Members' Research
- 10th Oct. Mon., 10-12 pm **Walking Tour—Heritage Pubs of Parramatta** (details attached).
- 11th Oct. Tue., 7:00 pm Council Meeting at Hambleton Coach House.
- 14th-16th Oct. (Fri-Sun) **Coo-ee Western NSW Tour**
- 19th Oct. Wed., 7:30 pm **General Meeting & James Jervis Memorial Lecture** at Burnside Public School Hall—Speaker—*Carol Liston*—Topic—*Beyond the Factory Walls*
- 29th Oct. Sat., 2-6 pm **Parramatta Day celebration** at Hambleton Cottage
- 30th Oct. Sun., 2:00 pm **Guides Afternoon Tea** at Hambleton Cottage.
- 5th Nov. Sat., 9:30 am **Family History Group Seminar** at Hambleton Coach House
Topic—*Exploring SAG's pictorial collection*—Speaker—*Ralph Hawkins*
11:00 am Topic—*Building Hyde Park Barracks*—Speaker—*Ralph Hawkins*
(cost: \$10)
1:30 pm Meeting & Members Talks
- 8th Nov. Tue., 7:00 pm Council meeting at Hambleton Coach House.
- 16th Nov. Wed., 7:30 pm **General Meeting and Lecture** at Burnside Public School Hall
Topic—*Restoration of the James Craig 1874*—Speaker—*Jonathon Brandon*.
- 26th Nov. Sat., 6:00 pm **Society Christmas Party** at Hambleton Cottage



SOCIETY LIBRARY and RESEARCH CENTRE at Hambleton Cottage
will be open most Tuesdays (check dates on 9871 3658).

HAMBLEDON COTTAGE is open to the public on Thursdays, Fridays,
Saturdays & Sundays, 11.00 am to 4.00 pm and for Groups by appointment.

President's Comments, October 2016

Firstly, I note that this month's Hambledon Herald includes many opportunities for members to become involved in the activities of the Society. I encourage everyone to read through the opportunities featured throughout the newsletter and then take the next step – commit to joining in on at least one of the activities offered. In particular I would encourage you to attend the Annual James Jervis Memorial Lecture which replaces the October meeting of the Society on 19 October.

Congratulations to David Shakespeare for yet another highly successful History Day at Hambledon Cottage. This year's theme was *Neighbours/Local Heroes* and was well received and interpreted by students from the nine local schools that participated. Official guests, Commodore Lee Goddard and former City Councillor Lorraine Wearne commented on the high quality of research and the presentation skills of the students. It was reassuring to see a significant number of members and parents attend the event to support and share the stories performed by the students. The band from North Parramatta and the choir from Parramatta were most impressive and showed that the musical talent in our schools is of the highest quality.



It has been pleasing to see strong support for our recent excursions and tours. Recently, over fifty members have attended our excursions to Hunters Hill and the Southern Highlands. In respect to these I would like to thank Kerima-Gae Topp and Judith Dunn respectively for their generosity in providing their expertise and time to plan and conduct these tours at no cost to the Society. Please consider joining us on our new walking tour *Heritage Pubs of Parramatta*, 10 October (see brochure attached). **The Society's** attention has been drawn to the application to Council to rezone the land immediately behind the Cottage, 2a Gregory Place. The rezoning application is to allow high rise mixed residential and commercial development. The possibility of high rise towers on our doorstep is probably inevitable but we will need to be vigilant and argue strongly to minimise any negative impacts that such development may bring. Please be ready for our "call to arms".

To end on a more positive note, congratulations to **Margaret Smith** for receiving the Parramatta Rotary Community Service Award - *in grateful appreciation for your long and outstanding dedication and service to the Parramatta Community and Parramatta and District Historical Society.*

Brian Powyer, President

FUNCTIONS

Guides Afternoon Tea

Please note that the date of the Guides Afternoon Tea has had to be altered to **Sunday 30th October** due to celebrations for Parramatta Day being held at Hambledon Cottage on 29th October. Invitations will be sent separately to all current and former guides.

SOCIETY COUNCIL ELECTIONS

The time has come once again to elect the people who you wish to run the Society for the next two years (2017 and 2018). The elections will take place at our General Meeting on Wednesday 16 November 2016, with the new team taking office from 1 January 2017.

All members who wish to become more involved in Society activities and to apply their skills to its operations are encouraged to offer themselves for nomination.

The Nomination Forms are included in this issue of the Hambledon Herald. Please consider nominating to take on a role to help the Society. Your help would be appreciated.

Nominations, signed by the Nominee, Proposer and Seconder, are to be received by the Secretary no later than 5pm on Tuesday 8 November 2016.

BI-ANNUAL SURVEY OF MEMBERS

As you may recall, a Member Survey has been conducted at two yearly intervals to seek input from members about various aspects of the Society's activities.

The new Strategic Plan and Budget for 2017 and 2018 will be prepared in the next few months, so members are once again invited to provide any suggestions or comments for consideration.

The Survey Form is also included in this issue of the Hambledon Herald. It should be returned to the Secretary no later than 16 November 2016. Also, a box will be available at the October and November General Meetings for this purpose.

Why not try to influence Society activities - please take a few minutes and complete the survey.

HAVE YOUR SAY !! THIS IS YOUR CHANCE

RAHS ANNUAL CONFERENCE

"Times Are A-Changing – History and Innovation" is the theme for this year's RAHS annual conference, being held at **Centro CBD, 28 Stewart Street, Wollongong on Saturday 22 and Sunday 23 October.**

You will be able to explore the impact of our changing times and enjoy the company of like-minded members. For further details and bookings, please visit the RAHS website www.rahs.org.au or contact the RAHS (9247-8001) or Ken Smith (9871-4155).

Society Events and News

Hambledon Cottage Museum under threat

At the moment there are not enough volunteer guides to keep the cottage open. Two volunteer guides need to be at the cottage on any specific day and we do not have a sufficient reserve to fill positions when someone is sick or goes on holidays.

A guide is a society member who loves local history and Hambledon Cottage, and enjoys recounting some of the stories gained through visiting the cottage and listening to other guides.

The October IMAG tourism magazine asks the question of its readers -

"Why is there a carved wooden pineapple in the bedroom"? And offers the answer 'Come on a guided tour and all will be revealed'. You do not need to wait - the carved wooden pineapple is a feature of the woodwork of the beautiful four poster bed in the bedroom and is a measure of the carving skill of the men who made the bed in 1840s.

"Why is a soldier riding a horse in the dining room?" Is another question a Hambledon Cottage guide can answer. Sir Edward Macarthur, seated on his horse, is the portrait hanging on the wall and depicts his official position as commander of British troops defending the colony of New South Wales in 1850s

Please consider joining the team of volunteer guides and help the Society expand the knowledge and appreciation of our Australian heritage. As a beginner guide you will build your knowledge steadily as you join visitors being conducted through the cottage.

Phone me on 9654-2224 or email trevorp04@gmail.com to explore this interesting way to give your services to the Society and our visitors to Hambledon Cottage Museum.

Trevor Patrick, Guide co-ordinator

Tour News

Vacancies still exist on the three day Central Western NSW Tour. Please contact Ken Smith (9871 4155) to book or receive information on the Central Western Tour.

A new walking tour of the Heritage Pubs of Parramatta is planned for Monday 10 October 10.00am to 12.00pm. Please contact Brian Powyer (9686 1873) to book or receive further information. Details attached.

Brian Powyer, Tour Coordinator

The James Jervis Memorial Lecture will be held in the **Burnside Public School Hall, 1 Masons Drive (corner of Pennant Hills Road), North Parramatta**, on Wed., 19th October 2016, at 7.30 pm. All members are invited to attend and the Society welcomes visitors interested in Australian history.

JAMES JERVIS MEMORIAL LECTURE **19th October—*Beyond the Factory Walls: Women in the convict period in NSW—Dr Carol Liston***

The 2016 James Jervis Memorial Lecture will be delivered by Dr Carol Liston, Associate Professor of History at the University of Western Sydney and President Royal Australian Historical Society. Her lecture will commence at 7.30pm, on Wednesday, 19 October, at the Burnside Public School Hall, Cnr. Pennant Hills Road and Mason Drive, North Parramatta. The title of Carol's lecture is, *Beyond the Factory Walls: Women in the Convict Period in NSW*. The recent focus on the Parramatta Female Factory has drawn attention to the lives of convict women. However, many of the more colourful and tragic stories that relate to aspects of life in the Factory do not reflect the experiences of the majority of convict and emancipated women who made their lives in NSW, nor of their free mistresses with whom they lived and worked. This talk will look at some of these alternative experiences. Details attached.

16th November—Jonathon Brandon—*The restoration of the James Craig*

Last speaker for the year details will be given in next month's newsletter. I know marine history buffs will enjoy this interesting presentation from a representative of the Sydney Heritage Fleet.

Ilma Mckee, Speakers Convenor



Supper

Following the meeting, take time to socialize with the members and guests while enjoying beverages and biscuits served by Paul Bowyer and Margaret Smith.

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Family History Group

At our last meeting held on September 3 we were pleased to have Catherine Bishop as our Guest Speaker.

Catherine's talk was very lively with lots of interesting facts about women in business in the early days of the colony. It was surprising to hear how many women there were. She also had copies of her book "Minding her Own Business" for sale.

The meeting to be held on October 1 will be our annual members research afternoon. So come along and make use of the many books and journals that are available in the Coach House.

Also a reminder to everyone that a **Seminar** will be held on **Saturday, November 5** commencing at **9.30am** and finishing at 12 noon. **Ralph Hawkins** will be our Guest Speaker for both sessions. His first talk will be "Exploring SAG's Pictorial Collection" then at 11.00am he will present "Hyde Park Barracks". Morning tea will be provided and the *cost for the Seminar is \$10.00*. The Family History meeting will then follow at 1.30pm.

Elizabeth Byrum, Publicity Officer, PDHSFH

SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS TOUR SUNDAY 11TH SEPTEMBER 2016

On a perfect cloudless azure September Sunday members of the National Trust and the Society banded together for a tour of the delights of the Southern Highlands conducted by Judith Dunn and ably assisted by Brian Powyer. A full chatting bus augured well for a happy day. Judith's comments began with snippets of interest once we were further along the highway pointing out interesting historical facts which otherwise would have been unknown.

Our first stop at Mittagong for morning tea was the Fitzroy Inn (1835) a beautifully restored Colonial sandstone building in Georgian style of convict hewn sandstone and convict labour. The builder not only provided the sandstone also used convict labour for Berrima Jail but at the same time built the Fitzroy Inn from purloined stone. The Inn catered for travellers as a stop over on the Great South Road. It is situated on vast rambling acreage with a long rounded carriage way edged by a perfumed purple lilac hedge, with spring flowers dotting the lawn landscape. Our party was divided into a Devonshire morning tea then a tour and vice versa for the remainder. Although the Inn is modernised its ambience has not been lost and so a visit to the cellar and the old kitchen which still remains intact was conducted by the present owner. Built of solid sandstone blocks it housed a wine cellar, storage, pantry, kitchen and a lockup for overnight prisoners on their way to Berrima Jail. Most surprising was the kitchen area with a large open fireplace and where a very large open brim filled water well took up a fair amount of corner space. Suspended from the wooden floor rafter overhead was a very old timber ladder which went into the well for the kitchen maids to obtain the spring water for use in the kitchen. Berrima Jail (1839-2010) was built by convicts in leg-irons for bushrangers who preyed on the highways from Goulburn to Sydney as the young colony grew wealthier and people travelled further afield. Also constructed as a maximum security prison and at the time of closure it was the oldest correctional centre in Australia.

After that pleasant stopover we went to Hartzler Park for a quick look at the white cedar house once owned by Sir Robert Lucas Lucas-Tooth (1844-1915) of Tooth's Brewery fame. He also owned Kameruka Estate Bega and developed it into a fine property with cheese making from his prized Jersey herd. He was man of many talents, a philanthropist who spent the latter part of his life in England where he died suddenly of a stroke.

Hartzler Park is now a Conference and Retreat Centre operated by the Catholic Church for those seeking wellness and health in tranquil surroundings to regain serenity and peace by pray and contemplation. Christ Church Bong Bong was built by the Charles Throsby (1777-1828) family in 1834. Charles Throsby was an Explorer, Grazer, Member of the Upper House, Naval Surgeon, and Settler.

He was worn down by debt and ill health when he committed suicide. The church was built in 1834 and still today remains in pristine condition. The organ is one of the few of its kind left in the world, the stain glass windows depict favourite flowers and the altar and rear windows depict religious scenes and a panelled wooden ceiling. The church still has an active congregation and a grave yard with noteworthy interments.

Our last place of interest was the Hillview Heritage Hotel once the summer retreat of sixteen Governors of NSW which hosted special regal visitors i.e.; Edward Prince of Wales and the Arch Duke Franz Ferdinand. It is situated on a commanding summit with majestic views and features an exceptionally long carriage way where they raced their horses. It is a very grand architecture with large rooms with sparse furniture surrounded by beautiful valleys and rivers, grazing cows and extensive views of Kangaroo Valley. The ambience of Hillview was spoiled by the modernistic paintings on every wall and the unusual sculptures which intruded on the grounds and serenity of Hillview. If walls could talk what wonderful tales of governmental decisions, illicit liaisons, intrigues and gossip and all forms of human behaviour. Do we really want to know? Fortunately Hillview is protected by a State Heritage order. Our last port of call Hambleton Cottage. Thank you Judith, Red Roses for once again providing us with an interesting tour and bringing back memories of the past and a thoroughly interesting and enjoyable day. Please can we do it again! Thanks must also go to Brian for smoothing the way over any humps through the day.

Ilma McKee

HISTORY CORNER

Early Residents of Parramatta-by Brian Powyer

Charles Whalan

Charles Whalan (Wayland) was born on 15 October 1772 in St Clements, Middlesex London. His parents were James Whalan and Mabel Bordeaux. He was sentenced for poaching on 5 July, 1787. He arrived in Sydney, 13 October 1791, aboard the *Albermerle*.

After serving the remainder of his sentence the well-educated Charles joined the NSW Corps on 14 June, 1793. He became Sergeant of the Governor's Bodyguard of Light Horse serving Governors Philip Gidley King and Lachlan Macquarie. It is believed that as a corporal he was in the detachment that pursued the convicts in the Castle Hill Uprising (1804). He transferred to the 73rd Regiment in 1810 and retired from active service in 1824.

On his departure from Australia, Governor Macquarie wrote the following reference for his orderly Sergeant:

I do hereby certify that the bearer, Sergeant Charles Whalan, has commanded The Governors guard of Light Horse during the whole period of my administration of this Government; that he has likewise served during the same period, now upwards of twelve years as my Confidential Orderly Sergeant; that his conduct in both situations has been peculiarly correct, honest, honourable, and faithful, never having had once occasion to find fault with him, or in the least degree to censure his conduct -I do further certify that sergt. Whalan is worthy of anything that can possibly be done for him and I accordingly recommend him most strongly to the favor, kindness and Patronage of His Excellency, the Governor in Chief for some situation under Government.

Charles married Elizabeth Berry who arrived in NSW on 11 March 1803, on the *Glatton*. She had been sentenced in Hertfordshire for 7 years for *having an unchristian attitude*. It is believed that Charles and Elizabeth were first married, in the drawing room of Government House Parramatta and were remarried St Phillips Sydney 19 March 1810. They had seven children: Mary (b 1804); James (b 1806); Charles (b 1811); Sarah (b 1814); Macquarie (b 1816); Campbell (b 1819) and John (b 1821).

Charles died on 18 April 1839 at *Macquarie Park* Prospect, NSW, and was buried at St John's Cemetery, Parramatta.

Source: The Lachlan & Elizabeth Macquarie Archive (LEMA), <http://www.mq.edu.au/macquarie-archive/lema/about.html>

Copy for the November 2016 Newsletter must reach the co-Editors, Chiu Poon or Man-Ling Yuen, C/- PDHS PO Box 1384 Parramatta 2124

BY 23rd October 2016- STOP PRESS News - phone the Editors, 9624-1063.

Email copy to parramattahist@tpg.com.au or manlingyuen57@hotmail.com

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