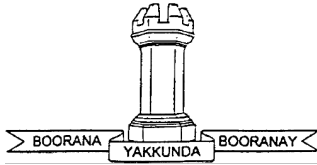


TURRET TALK

The Newsletter of the

Blacktown and District Historical Society Inc.

PO Box 500, Blacktown NSW 2148



President: Sharyn Wicks 9622 8309
Minutes Secretary: Margaret Wilson 9631 6872
Treasurer: Graham Wicks 9622 8309

EDITION 418 – SEPTEMBER 2017

The next General Meeting of the society will be held on **Monday, 4th September, 2017** at **7.30pm.** in the Craft Room at **The Bungarribee Hub.** For those of you who may not know, the Bungarribee Hub is located off Steeltrap Drive, in the Bungarribee Estate off Doonside Road. There are traffic lights at the entrance roughly opposite Douglas Road and there is some public art in the landscaped gardens. ie tall red posts which represent the old post and rail fences around the original property and three dark horses which may be hard to see at night. All the streets in this section of Bungarribee are named after race horses bred when the Bungarribee Farm property was a horse stud in the nineteenth century. To reach The Hub, follow Steeltrap Drive around until you see a bridge with tall red lit up poles. Do not cross the bridge but turn sharply right onto Sir Hercules Parade. Keep going down this street until you see The Hub building in front of you to your left. There is plenty of parking and a walking ramp for those who need it.

Our speaker on the night will be **Jill Finch.** Jill is the President of The Prospect Heritage Trust and also the President of The Friends of St. Bartholomew's. Her presentation will be called ***St. Bartholomew's: the church and cemetery.*** I recently heard Jill give this talk at the Cumberland Library for Family History Month and learnt a lot. No one knows Prospect and St. Bartholomew's as well as Jill Finch. It will be well worth your efforts to come out in the cold to hear this one!

Our next excursion will be a trip to **Annandale** with professional guide, Marghanita da Cruz, on **Sunday, 17th September.** We will arrive 10.30am to view the State Heritage Listed 1889 Sandstone Hunter Baillie Memorial Presbyterian Church at the corner of Collins and Johnston Streets, Annandale, where we will meet Marghanita, a local historian and tour guide who will give us a history of the church and Annandale. Morning tea will be taken at 11am in the Café on Johnston Street then at 11.30am we will board our bus for the tour of the Annandale Conservation Area including Heritage Listed Johnston Street. Lunch will be enjoyed at the Empire Hotel. Great atmosphere! The cost for the tour is **\$30pp.** And you can sleep in a bit in this cold weather because we will be leaving Blacktown City Council car-park at **9.30am.** I still have two seats available on the bus if anyone else would like to come to Annandale. **Call me on 9622 8309 ASAP.**

The **Blacktown Seniors Choir** will be presenting a Charity Concert for the Cancer Council on **Sunday, 24th September, 2017 at 2pm.** in the Blacktown Workers Club Ballroom, Campbell Street, Blacktown. This will be a "real feel good" occasion to relax

and enjoy an afternoon of cheerful music. **Entry: \$10 adults and \$5 children.** Contact: **Ken Freeman 0407 288 831** for more information. Ken and Marj Freeman are B&DHS members and work tirelessly for many charity groups in Blacktown. Having heard this group sing on many occasions, I highly recommend this concert and you will be helping a good cause as well.

Blacktown & District Historical Society became a member of **The Friends of the Female Factory group** after Ann Mathews and Beth Matthews spoke to us at our July General Meeting. There will be a **Riot Day at the Factory on Friday, 27th October, 2017, 10am – 3pm.** at the Cumberland Hospital, Fleet Street, North Parramatta. It will be street parking only but there is a free shuttle bus from Parramatta Station to the Parramatta Leagues Club bus stop. Then take a short walk up to Fennel Street and left down to Fleet Street. Enter by the second gate on the left.

Entry is a gold coin. TOUR BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL!

Events schedule:

10am. Registration.

10.30am – Morning tours.

10am – 3pm – Exhibition *Herstory: Another chapter unfolds.*

Sire archaeology (Casey & Lowe) - display

1pm – 2pm Lunch – bring a picnic. Tea and coffee are available.

1.30pm. – Afternoon tours.

This event is proudly sponsored by Tour bookings: **EVENTBRITE online bookings OPENS 1st September, 2017.** <https://www.facebook.com/events/469021826787685>

The society has many members currently experiencing bad health in the past month. Graham and I visited Jim Bostock in Rehab at Westmead Private after his heart surgery and Sharon Lamb has had a very serious back operation and is in Rehab at HSS at Bella Vista. Merilena Cruz is undergoing radiation and June Perkins is very ill. So many of our members are suffering from the usual Winter ailments. Take care and keep warm.

Regarding our little “competition” about who in our membership has been married the longest. I am very pleased to inform you that **Noel and Bette Wilson from Rollands Plains have been married for 67 years.** Congratulations Noel and Bette! Bette sent me a *Parramatta Argus* newspaper article about their marriage at the Girraween Methodist Church in 1950. Noel is now 91 years old and Bette will be 88 in November. They had a poultry farm in Seven Hills before moving up to Rollands Plains. Both are still active in community events and living at home. They have many descendants including several great grandchildren. Local members **Don and Rita Roberts have been married 53 years.** They are active members in the society enjoying our meetings and tours. Several couples are coming up to their 50th Anniversaries in the next three years.

Sharyn Wicks.

President.

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