

TURRET TALK

The Newsletter of the

Blacktown and District Historical Society Inc.

PO Box 500, Blacktown NSW 2148



President :	John Horne	9920 0111
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Treasurer:	Graham Wicks	9622 8309

EDITION 423 – MARCH 2018

The next General Meeting of the society will be held on **Monday, 5th March, 2018** 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 guest speaker will be the **Vice President of our society, Neil Smith**. Neil is a popular speaker with our members especially when he brings along one of his collections. His talk is entitled '**Belts, Buckles, Buttons and Badges**'. Neil tells me that his relics are from the Bronze Age, Roman times, medieval times, the American Civil War and Australian Colonialism. So, be sure to be there early so as not to miss this one.

The first excursion for 2018 will be on **Sunday, 18th March**, a boat cruise of the Brisbane Waters on the Lady Kendall leaving Gosford Wharf at 10am. Morning tea will be taken on the boat and lunch is Fish & Chips on the boat as well. We will return to the wharf at 12.45pm and then visit the Henry Kendall Cottage and Historical Museum for a talk and guided tour. The cottage was once the home of pioneer poet Henry Kendall. The cost for the excursion is **\$45pp**. Please let me remind you that this trip is an early start from the Blacktown City Council carpark **at 8am**. This will give us plenty of time to reach our destination for 10am.

Why don't you celebrate **International Women's Day at Bella Vista Farm?** To be held on **Thursday, 8th March, 2-4pm. Admission \$10pp**. Proceeds to Ovarian Cancer Research. The guest speaker will be **Associate Professor Carol Liston**, AO, BA (HONS) PhD, FRAS. Her topic is 'Crimes of Convict Women'. "Carol is currently deeply into research of the Female Factory so she has an in depth knowledge of this subject. She is also a lively and entertaining speaker as you all know". (as written by Judith Dunn). Afternoon tea will be served after Carol's talk. Inquiries:

Val - 0408 027 516 or Carolyn – 0410 680 043 or email friends.bellavistafarm@gmail.com Payment can be made at the gate.

Another date to mark in your calendars and diaries is **23 April, 6 -7.30pm** at the Max Webber Library. Jan Herivel will be speaking on WW1 memorials, Hazel Magann will be speaking on RAAF at Mt. Druitt and John Horne on Aviation with focus on Nirimba. These talks are to commemorate the centenary of the end of World War One. I will have more details for you in the April newsletter.

RIXON/GOODWIN Descendants of James Rixon and Amelia Goodwin are invited to gather at St. Matthews Church Parish Centre, Windsor NSW on **20th May, 2018, 10am – 4pm**. For further information contact: Joye Rixon Walsh joye_walsh@yahoo.com
Timespan Journal of the Nepean Family History Society Inc. No. 149 Dec. 2017, p. 29.

For our train enthusiasts: Locomotive 3526 will be unveiled on **Saturday, 3 March** at the annual **Thirlmere Festival of Steam**. THNSW members are encouraged to join in at 11am and be one of the first to see 3526 steam its way out of the workshop onto the roundhouse turntable for the first time in its fresh coat of paint. This unveiling ends a long but successful 5 year restoration by current and former THNSW staff and volunteers. Locomotive 3526 will remain in steam and on display for the duration of the Festival along with 3642 offering driver's cab visits, while 2705 and 3016 will double head our steam train shuttles throughout the weekend. (*Transport Heritage NSW-Members News*)

For those members that do not know, our regular bus driver, **Paul Keighran**, was diagnosed with Leukemia earlier this year. Paul has been our excursion driver for many years now, giving his only day off for the week to drive for Blacktown & District Historical Society five times a year and for this we will always be grateful. Please keep Paul in your thoughts and prayers while he undergoes treatment.

Jack Brook is recovering at home after being in hospital for suffering a stroke. Best wishes for a speedy recovery, Jack.

And it is with great sadness that I inform you of the passing of our oldest member, **Norma Dawson**, on 29th November, 2017. Norma was 96 years and eight months old. Past B&DHS Committee Member and a Director of the First Fleeters Fellowship, Sharon Lamb, is her daughter. Norma is recorded as being the oldest descendant of First Fleeters Henry Kable and Susannah Holmes. She was very proud of this record. The society's committee and members send our condolences to Norma's family and especially Sharon and Bob Lamb.

Sharyn Wicks.

Secretary.

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