

NEW TRAVELLING EXHIBITION

on tour from the

National Maritime Museum, Sydney

August 1st - Sept 12th

*'Remarkable: Stories of
Australians and their boats'*



COME ALONG AND CELEBRATE

your Society's achievements through the year.

Member Special Meeting and AGM July 31 2021

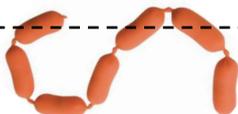
Venue: Museum Courtroom. Please mask and comply with applicable COVID precautions.

10am. Members called to a special meeting to review proposed changes to update the **Society's Constitution**. A summary of proposed changes has been mailed to all members, and can be viewed for comparison with the current document by downloading from the website, at the museum beforehand, or on the day.

10.45 (approx.) Annual Executive Reports & Election

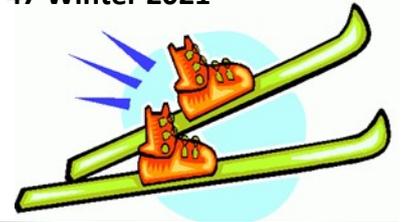
Committee members stand down, all positions declared vacant and elections proceed for the 2021-22 financial year. **Returning Officer: David Ashford**

12 noon – Relax and enjoy a BBQ provided by the Society. Please bring a small plate of goodies to share.



PASTIMES

Newsletter of the Clyde River and Batemans Bay Historical Society Inc
Issue No. 47 Winter 2021



What's Inside...

Articles

Victorian Ceiling-walkers

Pins : a humble history

Spending a Penny (Arcade)

Radio Thrillers

Mogo Cemetery from the work of our Mogo History Group.

Military History

NAIDOC week announcement of an AWM Indigenous hub

From Our Archives

Ryan family celebration

Temporary Exhibition

Hat'titude

Behind the Scenes

Current projects

Rural Shed display

Grant funding

STEAM

Birdlife Australia 120 Years

Emu

Society News

AGM

Congratulations Ted and Myf

Welcome new members

Lapidary Club News

General Meeting

River of Art Festival

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which we live and work, the Walbunja people of the Yuin nation, and show our respect to Elders past and present.

Society News



Congratulations

to member Myf Thompson for receiving the Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) in the Queen's Birthday Honours List 2021 for services to the Batemans Bay Community.

Myf has volunteered with Seniors groups, in performing arts, and is an active advocate on heritage issues. Myf is currently Hon Curator at our Museum.

Congratulations to member Ted Richards of Batemans Bay. Ted is a documentary photographer whose artistry has featured at the Museum in exhibitions, workshops and artefact catalogues. We are delighted that as a result of Ted's work for our bushfire retrospective last November entitled 'This Place, That Time', Ted was invited to contribute to the Australian National Maritime Museum's key display on bushfire effects. Available to view at the Maritime Museum until November 2021, it illustrates, once again, how a small community museum can contribute on the national stage.

ScienceTechnologyEnvironmentArtsMaths BirdLife Australia Marks 120 Years

1st July 2021 was an auspicious day in the history of BirdLife Australia — the anniversary of the inauguration of one of its predecessor organisations, the Royal Australasian Ornithologists Union, or RAOU. And 1 July 2021 was even more special, as it marked its 120th anniversary.

Although the RAOU was primarily set up as a research organisation, it quickly incorporated conservation actions into its domain. *The catalyst for this was the booming plume as fashion trade, which annihilated egret colonies around the country.* Hats flowed with ostrich and egret plumes, entire birds of paradise or sets of tiny, jewel-coloured hummingbirds, each wired separately so that they bobbed about as their wearer walked.

The RAOU campaigned long and hard to have the plume trade abolished. Thanks to loud voices like theirs, this insidious trade was eventually banned. It was its first conservation success, and they've never looked back!

<https://birdlife.org.au>



Speaking of the Emu ...

1. Contrary to popular belief, the name 'emu' is not an Indigenous one, but is derived from the Portuguese word *ema*, which refers to any long-necked bird.
2. Most birds have feathers of different shapes, reflecting their different functions (flight feathers, for example), but an Emu's feathers are all the same shape, and serve only to insulate and camouflage the bird.
3. Female Emus can lay a dozen or more eggs in a clutch, but they take no part in incubating them or raising the young; the male Emu undertakes both these roles; the young stay with him for months after hatching.
4. With a diet primarily comprising fruits and seeds, Emus play an important role in dispersing seeds across the landscape.



5. In 1932, a battalion of soldiers (armed with machine guns) were engaged to control Emu numbers around Campion, a Wheatbelt town in Western Australia.

However, the Emus adopted 'guerrilla' tactics which repeatedly flummoxed the soldiers' military capabilities, resulting in few casualties on either side. The Diggers eventually withdrew, defeated, handing victory in the 'Emu War' to the Emus!

HAT'TITUDE—A NEW EXHIBITION

Cock your hat ... angles are attitude

frank sinatra

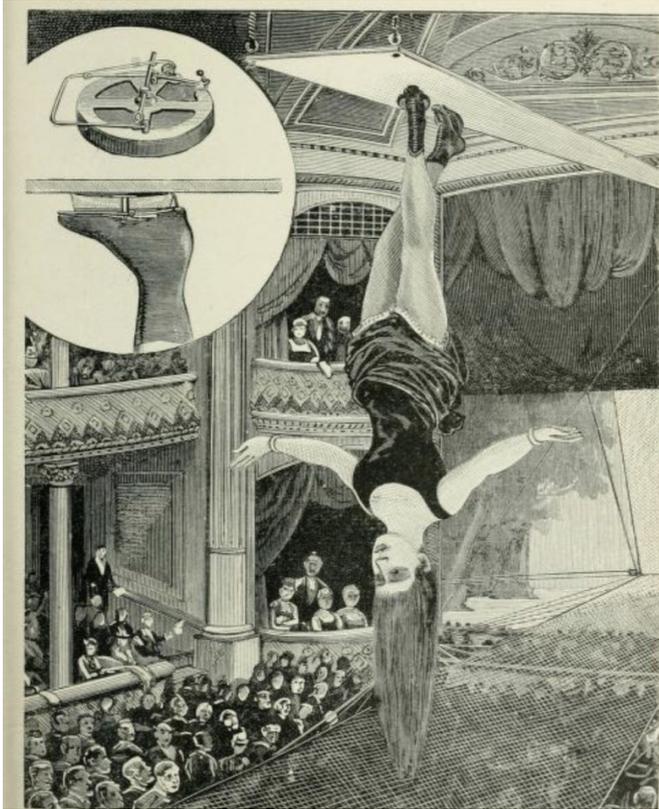
We have a broad costume collection, and it is always a pleasure to bring out objects that by their nature are tucked carefully away.

Members Joan, Jude and Myf have enjoyed themselves sourcing content and designing a new exhibition in our temporary display space.

Here, we celebrate over 80 years of society's fashion trends in headwear from practical to preposterous.



MAKES YOUR HEAD SPIN



Aimée, the Human Fly
Magic: Stage Illusions and Scientific Diversions,
published 1897.

www.weirdhistorian.com

The circus arts have produced countless creative and innovative performers, from fire eaters and animal trainers to human cannonballs. But among the most unique acts were the Victorian-era ceiling walkers. People walking upside-down, on the ceiling. Like a gecko.

The performer featured here is Aimée, The Human Fly. She'd begin her act by sitting on the trapeze and facing the audience, as any trapeze artist might do. Then, she'd roll back and raise her legs up until they reached a 24-foot board suspended from the ceiling. Armed with pneumatic attachments on the soles of her shoes, she'd attach her feet to the board and leave the minimal safety of the trapeze. With her head and hair hanging downward, she'd take steady suction-cupped steps backward and walk the length of the board, then turn and head back.

Aimée was daring, but she wasn't crazy. A safety net below was reportedly needed on frequent occasions. Some performers walked directly on the ceiling; marble was fine but plaster could, and did, give way. Where were the OH&S regs?

Delighted to advise that after an extended period of closure, we can announce the opening of our permanent **Rural Shed display**. This has been assisted by funding from Eurobodalla Shire Council under its annual allocation to Shire historical societies. The Society sincerely appreciates the extra funds offered acknowledging the 2019-2020 period of closure and reduced visitation.

Many thanks to our men's team for their work in creating the display, including 'teat' gloves.

Growing and Transporting



MILITARY HISTORY

WWW.AWM.GOV.AU/INDIGENOUS

Announced during NAIDOC week 2021, the Australian War Memorial has a new Indigenous hub online. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have a long tradition of fighting for Country, and continue to serve with honour among our military forces. They have also worked in ancillary, industry, and other home-front activities, and their communities have been thrust into the front line of war. This new page links you to some of the Australian War Memorial's resources related to the wartime experiences of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

This hub has been created to provide information about people of Indigenous descent who enlisted for service in conflicts including the Boer war, the First World War, the Second World War, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War.

PINS—A HUMBLE HISTORY

Picked up this little gilt china beauty for \$5.00 at the Salvo's shop. Purchased for the Collection as it comes with the story of a housewife's ancient privilege..



Archaeological evidence suggests that curved sewing pins have been used for over four thousand years. A pinner's Guild, (meaning a specialist occupation), was first established in London in 1356.

The term 'pin money' seems to have been derived from an **ancient tax** in France for providing the Queen with pins, and historically applied by us to married women, being a small sum with which **the husband is not to interfere**. Literally, it is a small sum that can be spent on inessentials.

TRIVIA The **push pin** was invented in 1900 by **Edwin Moore** and quickly became a success. These pins are also called "**map pins**" and are distinguished by having an easy to grip head. **Walter Hunt** invented the **safety pin** by forming an eight-inch brass pin into a bent pin with a spring and guard. He sold the rights to his invention to pay a debt to a friend, not knowing that he could have made a fortune.



FROM THE ARCHIVES



Can you help us with names? The caption says "Nelligen ferry, 1947, going to Granny Ryan's 90th and Mary Ryan's 21st."

DYNO-WHEEL Drives New MOTOR BUS

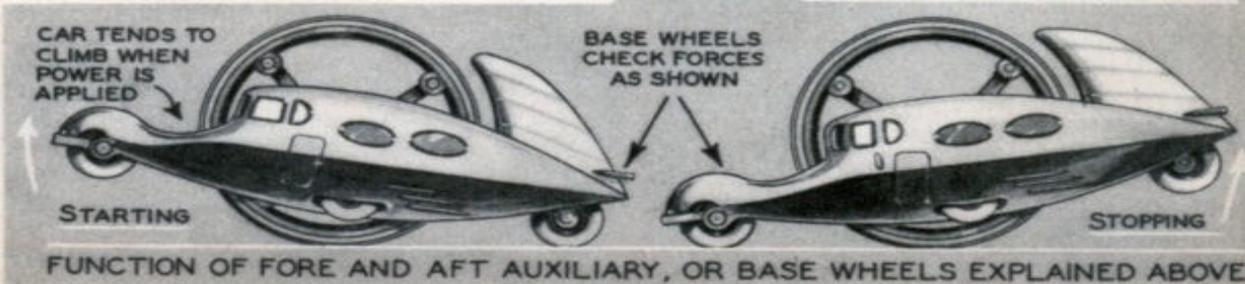
Rolling along on a single huge wheel, this motor bus combines safety with high speed.



by VICTOR J. PESEK

PPROMISING to revolutionize the field of motor transportation, the new Dyno-Wheel bus operates upon practically the same principle as the tiny "Dynasphere" auto which was successfully built by Dr. J. A. Purves of Taunton, England, some years ago.

A single huge drum wheel supports the car at high speeds. Control wheels on either side are raised or lowered in response to the steering gear, to tip the bus slightly and change the direction of travel. Small fore and aft wheels come into action only when stopping or starting. A stabilizing fin keeps the car level at high speeds.



Inventions, June, 1935

Novel, but it failed, as you probably guessed. 87

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS to the intriguing, enriching and challenging world of Museum life through research like the above.



COLLEEN KENNINGTON VASSANA RICHARDS NAOMI ANDERSON

Spending a Penny

I remember as a child walking to the end of Southend-on-Sea pleasure pier, putting a penny in the Mutoscope to set off "The Laughing Policeman". Then another penny to view a sinking ship, reserving my last penny for the ladies lavatory (it was a very long pier).

Mutoscopes are coin-operated. The patron views the cards through a single lens enclosed by a hood, similar to the viewing hood of a stereoscope. The cards are generally lit electrically, but the reel is driven by means of a geared-down hand crank. Each machine holds only a single reel and is dedicated to the presentation of a single short subject, described by a poster affixed to the machine. (Thanks, Wikipedia).

Working on the same principle as the flipbook, the individual image frames are conventional black-and-white, silver-based photographic prints on tough, flexible opaque cards. Rather than being bound into a booklet, the cards are attached to a circular core, similar to a huge Rolodex. A reel typically holds about 850 cards, giving a viewing time of about one minute.

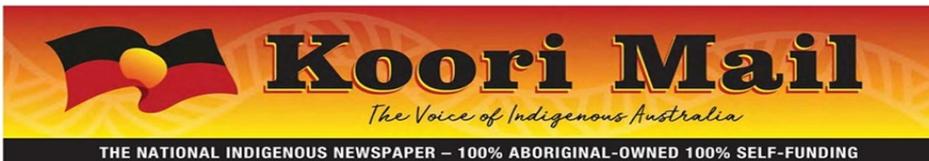
As a teenager I moved on from Mutoscope to the glittering lights of an Amusement Arcade, which was no longer a penny but promised a more interactive experience by telling my fortune, demonstrating how strong or romantic I was, and offering a range of 'cool' vending machines.

Then the video arcade, first introduced into their heyday of the 1980s, where I could kill aliens. Today, I can drive a Formula 1 car with Sensurround sound effects. Who knew!

Want to know more? There's a museum for everything.

The International Arcade Museum: (arcade-museum.com)

Myf Thompson



www.koorimail.com

We congratulate the **The Koori Mail** for celebrating its 30th birthday earlier this year.

Bundjalung (Nyangbal/Arakwal) and Dunghutti woman Ms Naomi Moran credits **Walbunja man Owen Carriage** with originally helping to establish the newspaper 30 years ago.

General Manager Ms Maxwell said, Mr Carriage "had been spending some time at the Tent Embassy in the wake of the black deaths in custody royal commission." She said during that time Mr Carriage and pastor Frank Roberts, a Bundjalung man and well-known community leader, "were so disappointed" in the mainstream coverage of Indigenous affairs.

"Pastor Frank had a dream to start an Aboriginal newspaper and so they did. It must have taken so much courage and strength to jump into this unknown," she said.

The first edition of the newspaper was published in 1991. 100 per cent Aboriginal-owned and self-funded fast forward to today, and the *Koori Mail* has a staff of 12, with correspondents in every state and territory in the country.

Available in hard copy or download. Copies are also held at Hanging Rock library.

DOLLS AND NIGHT LIGHTS

Metti was an Adelaide-based Australian toy company formed in 1968. They manufactured Australian dolls, and what is of interest to us at the Museum is that beside blonde and blue eyed styles, they modelled several ethnicities, including Aboriginal, and Papua New Guinea tribal costumed dolls.



One of their most popular models was **Bindi**, an aboriginal baby doll with curved legs so she can sit or lie down. They are anatomically correct - again, uncommon. They are fully articulated, and to handle, their vinyl rubber bodies are quite malleable. Their face modelling is very engaging with real character. Their eyes open and shut, with long eyelashes. Their hair was usually either painted or rooted. They came in several sizes from small baby with curled legs to standup toddler.

In 1976 the Metti Company closed down, as many Australia toy companies were doing at that time, with too much competition from cheap imports to sustain toy manufacturing here. Two former Metti employees bought the business. Benny Coscia, who was the production manager. He decided that something had to be done to keep Australian made dolls available Benny and his wife, Antoinetta, who was one of the Metti hairdressers, purchased the business and renamed it **Netta**. Presumably after Antoinetta.

We can only locate new Netta Australia dolls up to the late 1990s, so it must have closed down.

From the late 1970s Netta also branched out into softly coloured PVC **squeaker toys, and nightlights** for children, rather charming rabbits with a carrot, a plump little train, that sort of theme. These vintage nightlights appear to be popular again, as practical today as 50 years ago.

Did you have nightlight? In the late 1940s I recall the smell and smoke of a tiny kerosene lamp by my bed.

RADIO THRILLERS – WERE YOU DAMAGED?

Community thought about video game related violence is not new. When radio reigned as the primary form of home entertainment during the early to mid-twentieth century, Australians enjoyed a wide variety of genres of radio plays and serials. One of the most popular genres was the '**thriller**' – encompassing crime, horror, fantasy and the supernatural.

The Argus reported (20 June 1940) that psychiatrists had diverging opinions on horror broadcasts, and while some said that '*blood and thunder and gangster and murder stuff*' heard over the radio could cause mass hysteria, others '*considered that some people get enjoyment out of them*'..

'Do parents realise the serious damage that may be done to the minds of their children by the horror story of the radio? One serial broadcast from a local station between 6 and 7pm for children could cause untold mischief to many an innocent child. This mental cruelty is worse than punching a child in the face' – CT Turnbull, Assistant Secretary of the Newcastle Young Men's Christian Assn *Newcastle Morning Herald*, 6 June 1941.

'A great deal of crime is committed throughout Australia. This is not less than we may expect, because every night when we listen to radio programs we hear of murders, or of detectives beating up people. Programs are punctuated by screams, and the children have no alternative but to listen to stories of crime ... It is tragic to hear in almost every home the sound of shooting, squeals, and screams, emanating from radio sets' New South Wales Labor Senator Stan Amour, 1946.

Radio actress Nell Stirling told the *Wireless Weekly* '*It seems to me this outcry from a certain section of the people is much the same as the protest against the wearing of shorts for tennis. To my way of thinking, if people don't want to listen to a thriller there are other stations to which they can tune in.*'



Chris Arneil NFSA©

BBHM MOGO HISTORY GROUP presents:
the only place where you can find equality— the cemetery.



Mogo General Cemetery is located about one kilometre south of the Village of Mogo, and fronts the Princes Highway. It is Crown land managed by Eurobodalla Shire Council. The site has been Heritage listed in the Eurobodalla Shire Councils Local Environmental Plan. (LEP.)

The majority of the land set aside for Cemetery purposes is still in its natural condition, being timbered apart from the small area that has been cleared for burials. No facilities exist on site, apart from a narrow bitumen road formation off the Princes Highway that services the current cleared site.

About 250 people are buried at the site and includes many local pioneering and Aboriginal families from the immediate area. The earliest interment was that of "Scotty" Kirkpatrick who was living nearby and passed away in 1897. He is buried in the Presbyterian section in an unmarked grave.

Previous to the cemetery being gazetted as a Cemetery in 1894, burials were either undertaken at the local Church sites, at Moruya and or on land owned and or occupied by the individual families living in the locality.

Gerald Augustus Pennfather, a Surveyor with the Lands Department who was stationed at Moruya at the time, surveyed the Cemetery on the 8th and 9th May 1893. A year later, it was Gazetted - (29th June 1894) as the Mogo General Cemetery. When originally surveyed, it covered 26 acres 1 Rood 0 Perches. - (10.62 ha.)

The Cemetery is divided into eight (8) allotments for the various denominations, it includes a Public road, which gives access to these allotments, and is surrounded by a large area set aside for Plantation.

The **Roman Catholic Church** were the first religious group to be appointed Trustees of its allotment. This occurred on the 11th September 1894 when the Most Rev Patrick Francis Moran DD, the Very Rev John Joseph Carroll, the Rev Philip Cassidy and two locals, John Behinger and Richard Hellams were appointed, giving them the care control and management of Allotment 2 which comprised of 2 acres or 0.9 hectares.

The **Church of England** were the next to be appointed Trustees of their section. Charles Isen, Charles Berriman and Charles Carter were given this task on the 23rd October 1894 for Allotment 1 of 3 acres or 1.2ha, Bishop Chalmers of Goulburn consecrated its ground in 1899 when on a tour of the south coast.

The Wesleyans were the third religious group to be appointed when Richard Annetts, Levi Ison, Henry Annetts, Richard Barling and John Emmott were appointed on the 30th November 1894.

It was another two years before the **General Cemetery** area had anyone appointed to manage it. This occurred on the 1st July 1896 when Henry Annetts, Richard Barling, Charles Berriman, John Behinger and Richard Hellams were appointed.

The **Presbyterians** were appointed Trustees six months later on the 6th January 1897. The Trustees were David Frisken, John Burke, John McIntosh, the Moderator of the Presbyterian General Assembly, the Clerk of the General Assembly and the Minister of the Congregation for the time being.

To date, no evidence has been found that trustees were appointed for the **Jewish** section of the cemetery.

In recent years, the care control and management of the whole cemetery site has been removed from the various religious groups and placed under the control of Eurobodalla Shire Council.

Based on a standard grave size of 3' x 8', one acre of land will provide enough space for 1,815 graves.



Batemans Bay Lapidary Club

GENERAL MEETING July 28, 2021 at 12:00 pm – 3:00 pm at the Museum



After a very successful public workshop and display for Senior's Week, we are co-hosting a similar event in the Museum grounds as part of the Shire's **River of Art Festival**. **Our workshop 23rd Sept, 10am-12.30.**

The organisers said, "It will make a great addition to this year's program."

BEHIND THE SCENES

EMAIL CHANGE FROM 1ST AUGUST secretary@batemansbayheritagemuseum.com
general@batemansbayheritagemuseum.com
The oldcourthousemuseum address will still operate.

Some of our current Projects:

*Uploading photographs to the eHive Cloud system. *Re-design of website *Cataloguing artefacts
*DA etc for the new men's workshop * History of Mogo research *Planning for the storage, design and display of a 'Crossing the Clyde' permanent exhibit with the imminent arrival of demolished old bridge artefacts.

What goes around ... As this goes to print, we have been successful in receiving \$5000 from ClubsGrant NSW for some much needed external painting work (only \$80,000 to raise, now). We will employ a local tradie for this work. We have received funding to purchase a Dyson vacuum cleaner, freezer and air conditioner (from a local supplier) to replace ageing equipment. We successfully received funding for a dedicated desktop computer and monitor, purchased from a local store, for our Family Historian who has been using a barely adequate old laptop for years without complaint.

We are awaiting advice on applications before St Vincent de Paul for computer assistance for a Mogo project, and from Foundation for Regional and Rural Recovery for a professional workshop on volunteer management, to which, should we be successful, some 9 other local organisations will be invited.

OPENING HOURS We would love to extend our hours—but to do so will require members willing to commit to a roster. We need to spread the load from those who routinely volunteer 2-3 days a week most of the year. Can you help open **Monday, Friday and Saturday through January**, for instance? We cannot presently take advantage of this peak visitation period. 3 people a day are required to safely and efficiently operate, one being a 'floating' guide, one in the bookshops and one on reception. You'll be trained and buddied—it's not rocket science! All you need is a smile for a few rostered hours. Let us know if you are interested in helping out.

DONATIONS

We are so very grateful for the financial and in kind assistance offered by local businesses, no matter how small, because we are a business ourselves and times are hard. So, thank you again.

