

*** Seniors Festival Event “Smoko”
FREE FRIDAY FEB 10th See Page 2**

NEW Temporary Displays Welcome in 2023



In our Courtroom Something Old, Something New, Blue ...

and a little weird, too. A chance to bring out vintage bridal items from our textiles collection, and add a literary reference to the mix.

In our Models and Miniatures Room

“Barbie’s World” courtesy of new member Jen-Cat who has curated this exhibit from her lifelong Barbie doll collection.

Barbie is a toy marketing phenomenon and its controversies, too, makes fascinating viewing—if you can tear yourself away from the colourfully themed ‘windows’ into Barbie’s empire of commodity consumption.

The display is themed by ‘rooms’ featuring Barbie in different personas from career girl to surfer, horse rider to glamorous celebrity, and everything in between.



Mattel has estimated that over a billion Barbie dolls have been sold worldwide in over 150 countries, and claims that three Barbie dolls are sold every second.

How many objects do you have to acquire before it becomes a Collection? Three? Thirty? A hundred?

Newsletter of the Clyde River and
Batemans Bay Historical Society Inc.
Issue No. 52 Summer 2022/3



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Best Bib and Tucker means to dress in your finest. Still used today, the term dates from the late 17th century when it originally referred to a fashionable item of ladies’ clothing. The bib was a decorative item similar to that we place on a child today. The tucker was a piece of lace worn underneath and tucked into the neck, hanging over neck and shoulders. The term gradually extended to men, also.

From Bees’ Knees and Barmy Armies by Harry Oliver

Walawaani to our readers. *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.*

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



Seniors Festival Event— February 10th 2023

The Society always contributes a free event to this annual Festival.

FRIDAY FEB 10th 9.45 for 10am-11am

By crikey, a bonza time to be had by all

as we open up the grounds for a

'Campfire Smoko' serving up Colonial songs, poems and yarns with damper, scones and billy tea.

Entertainment by members of the wonderful
Bay Theatre Players

Numbers are limited please **book early** 0244 721635 or secretary@batemansbayheritagemuseum.com

HMS Implacable - Mystery Visit Solved?

Long time supporter and Bay author Richard Gorrell, has emailed thus:

I have for quite some years, been in search of documentary evidence of the momentous visit of the WWII British aircraft carrier *HMS Implacable* and its supporting fleet to Bateman's Bay. I put the question to **Paul Helmore**, my friend from childhood in the Bay in the 1940s. Paul a retired Ulladulla Harbourmaster living in Milton, spent the night on the Internet and somehow came up with an unlikely letter from a cook on the vessel, to his girlfriend in Sydney. It appears that some visitors from the Bay had caught him with his pants down on the way to the showers. This provides us with a delightful slapstick tale and **(my interpretation) the likely dates of Saturday 23 and Sunday 24 February 1946 for the ship's visit.** This is Paul's source –

Kurrajong-Comileroy Historical Society—Letter #10. 25th February 1946 Margaret & Ken Tye (RN)

Dear Margaret.

Well, I'm adrift in writing again, I don't seem to be able to catch up with myself this trip. I must still be in Sydney, I haven't even washed the clothes I wore in Sydney, my suit is still un-pressed, in fact everything is 'topsy turvy'.

I haven't heard from you as yet, and we are going to sea today, so it will be a day or two before any more mail comes on board. **During these last two days in Batemans Bay**, there have been two lots of mail from U.K.

Talk about panic. I was in the biggest flat spin yesterday. To start with, I got my head down on a form in the mess from about one till four, when I woke up, I had a mouth like a rusty can and a face like a busted boot, and felt worse than that. So, I staggered to my locker, took off what clothes I had on, got my soap & towel etc, and made off for the washroom, about fifteen yards away. I must have been three quarters unconscious, because I clean forgot that **'Visitors' were being brought aboard from Batemans Bay**, the rest, you can imagine, I dived for the first door which happened to be the ships bakery, the Chief baker just happened to be stood behind the door as I burst it open, now as a rule the Chief Baker is a quiet chap who says very little to anyone. But for ten minutes yesterday the air changed colour about a dozen or more times, what he said didn't say wasn't worth saying believe me, at least it woke me up. Not half.

Yours, Ken.

Richard is keen to obtain any anecdotes, photos, etc of this visit which must have caused a huge stir in the town. If you can help please forward details to Myf at the Museum who will pass on.

Life's better when you're laughing.

PERMANENT EXHIBIT

Launch of 'Crossing the Clyde'

The Courtroom was packed with members and guests to mark the launch of this new permanent exhibition in the grounds of our Museum.

Our sincere thanks to Cllr Amber Schutz for opening the event.

Also in attendance, Deputy Mayor Alison Worthington, daughter-in-law of Cynthia Hill, who many will recall as former Society president and current life member.

Hon Curator Myf Thompson was invited to present a video on the Bridge project to the **Powerhouse Museum's Regional Stakeholders Conference in Sydney.**, followed by a Q&A session for attendees present and online.

Warmly received, the 5 minute video was created by local Len Glasser of LensVision, and featured members of the Society and our Museum Advisor Lynn Collins describing the process whereby the project was created.

Bay Post, Nov 23 2022



TOURING EXHIBITION A RARE OPPORTUNITY

As a direct result of our appearance at the Regional Stakeholder's Forum, we were approached by the Australian Museum offering us the touring exhibit "Gould's Birds", a 3m x 3m external display in an LED lit cube format. A 'feather' in our cap as other venues have regional status, and to date we are the only Volunteer run Museum to be so honoured. Due end 2023.

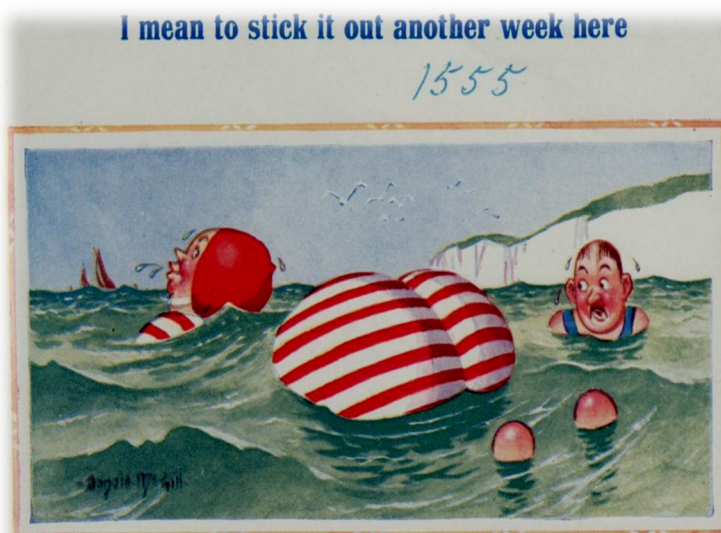
As our small Society has proved time and time again, the harder you work the 'luckier' you get.

POSTCARDS first became popular at the end of the Nineteenth Century when final permission was given for them to be sent through the post. And it wasn't long before they started getting a bit racy. By the 1930s saucy postcards, particularly at the seaside became all the rage. Cartoons featuring stereotypical characters of the vicar, the drunk, the "henpecked" husband, the very large wife, the outrageously endowed blonde, all captioned with a liberal smattering of bawdy innuendo.

In England, the most popular creator of Saucy postcards was **Donald McGill**, and he's still the most collectible. At one time his work

was banned from sale but they were basically just vulgar. Your editor grew up in a seaside town in the early 1950s where they were widely displayed mixed in with views of the beach and local attractions.

The Saucies gradually died out as community values changed, but they remain highly sought after by collectors.



'The road to success is always under construction.'

BEHIND THE SCENES

WE WELCOME OUR VERY FIRST PAID MEMBER

Thanks to a substantial grant from Create NSW, we have been able to acquire the professional part-time services of MARCO CATTANEO as project manager overseeing our change in collection and exhibition focus from social history to local maritime heritage. Marco has lived in the Bay for several years, and in his first few weeks has already contributed well beyond what the contract requires. Marco has a personal interest in the development of Artificial Intelligence and its potential for enhancing the visitor experience.

But that's down the track for us. Initially, to try to increase the amount of extra content accessible, we plan the use of tools such as QR codes and apps to be downloaded onto smartphones. Marco's experience will be essential in terms of volunteer training and IT advice.



Covered Meeting Place We're delighted to advise we've purchased a semi permanent gazebo which will cover the small lawn area outside our Dairy Shed. This will provide protection for catered events, coach groups, child play and similar activities, such as our friends from Lapidary who run regular workshops on the Museum grounds.

The Society hosted members of ROTARY BATEMANBS BAY on 19th January. This chapter has been a stalwart supporter of our aims to preserve local heritage. For example, it generously donated the proceeds of its fundraising efforts on the opening of the new Bridge to assist us in the purchase of the Crossing the Clyde exhibition venue. It was a pleasure providing facilities for their dinner social BBQ. rotarybbay.org.au



KNOW YOUR SPORTY CARS? On Friday February 10th, around 10am, we welcome a visit by members of the Eurobodalla MX5 Club. Come and admire.

St Bernard's Mothers Club, 1985

Holiday Cookbook—Recipes for special occasions

AUSTRALIA DAY

Vegemite Cheese Log Roll by Sue McCosker

- 1 small packet Philly cheese
- 2 tspns Vegemite
- Mixed nuts, sultanas
- 2 tblspoons chopped apricots
- Flaked almonds

Beat cheese until smooth, add Vegemite, nuts and dried fruit. Mix well. Roll mixture into log shape and cover with flaked almonds.

Chill well.

NEW YEAR

"Bay Salad" by Anne Wain

- 1 pawpaw
- 1-2 avocados
- 2-3 kiwi fruit
- 2 apples
- 2-3 oranges
- 1 onion

Dressing: 2 tblspn oil, 3-4 passionfruit, juice of 1 lemon and 1 orange.

Thinly slice onion and scatter over fruit.

Chill well.

PROCEEDS of book used to purchase desks and chairs for our school.

Hospitality is about connection, not perfection.

Politics-Rage-Social Commentary-Opinions

Did you know that until 1967 Talk Back radio was illegal?

Telecommunications regulations introduced in **1905** prohibited the recording or broadcast of telephone conversations. (A privacy concept incomprehensible to modern mobile phone users in public spaces).

The introduction of television in 1956 forced radio to innovate and develop unique programming. Radio had the advantage of appearing instantaneous, and one niche that radio carved out for itself was the 'talk back.'

That 'voice of the people' came to be epitomised by presenters like John Laws and Alan Jones. And, of course, the radio jingle made a fortune for some of those recognizable voices.



Nostalgic? The brain develops fastest between the ages of 12 and 22, so songs heard during this time have stronger positive links and more intense memories. That's why those vintage radio jingles from your youth continue to stick in your brain. Positive connections with songs or jingles release pleasurable chemicals in the brain like dopamine, oxytocin, and serotonin, which makes jingles even more meaningful.

"I like Aeroplane jelly—Aeroplane jelly for me". Can you sing the rest? What about 'Louie the Fly'?"

ABC—90 Years of Broadcasting Cricket

That players could one day challenge umpiring decisions via a video review system would seem amazing to cricket fans of 90 years ago. With all the vision, instant replays and even decision review systems that form part of today's cricket coverage on radio and television, it's hard to believe at one point cricket commentators **made up entire overs**.

"The radio murmurs with a commentator running through the placement of the field before describing the bowler steaming in to release a delivery defended for no run.

Everything is expressed in intricate detail — except the **whole** description is entirely fabricated.

Many would be familiar with the 'revelation' that on early radio awaiting cabled news, a tapped pencil on a wooden block replicated bat on ball when shortwave radio wasn't up to direct broadcasts from the UK. Cables arrived at the end of each over, but only detailed the shots where batsmen had made runs. Any *dot* balls were filled by the ABC commentator with a bit of imagination. "He's adjusting his gloves....having trouble with the strap on his pad."

That was one way to buy time, but other sound of their avenues were needed when the delays were lengthier. *"The best way when the cables broke down was to whip in a few maiden overs,"* former commentator Bernard Kerr said.

This made it clear to some that the broadcasts were *not* coming directly from England, but historian Frazer Andrews said this style of commentary fit into what was popular entertainment 90 years ago.

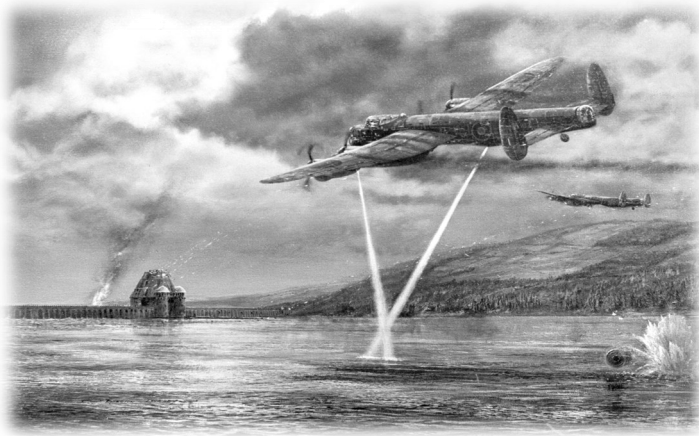
"In this period of time, radio dramas were becoming a staple fare. And so people were used to dramatic stories," he said.

Extract from <https://www.abc.net.au/radio/programs/everlasting-summer/synthetic-cricket>



"The aim of English cricket is, in fact, to beat Australia." Jim Laker

MILITARY HISTORY



George 'JOHNNY' JOHNSON 1921-2022

Squadron Leader George Leonard Johnson, MBE, DFM, has died in England aged 101.

The **British Royal Air Force officer** was the last surviving original member of No. 617 Squadron RAF and of Operation Chastise, the "**Dambusters**" raid of 1943 valley dams in May 1943; the drama re-enacted in films and stories many times since.

Johnson was the bomb-aimer in the crew of American Flight Lieutenant Joe McCarthy, DFC, who had joined the Royal Canadian Air Force before the USA had entered the war. On May 16, 1943, 19 crews of No 617 Squadron were briefed for Operation Chastise, a low-level attack to drop Barnes Wallis's revolutionary "bouncing bomb" on three dams in the Ruhr. McCarthy's crew was one of five assigned to attack the Sorpe Dam.

As their Lancaster engines started, McCarthy's crew discovered a technical fault and had to switch planes. Taking off 35 minutes late from RAF Scampton, near Lincoln, they crossed the Dutch island of Vlieland at a very low level just before midnight. One aircraft had to return after hitting the sea and losing its bomb, and a second was damaged by German gunners and also had to return. Two more were shot down, leaving the McCarthy crew as the only survivors tasked to attack the Sorpe.

A thick mist made navigation at 100 feet difficult but, once the crew had found the target, McCarthy set up an attack along its length. Hills either side of the dam made the bombing run particularly difficult and McCarthy had to dive the heavy bomber to 60 feet and level out for a few seconds before climbing out to avoid hills on the other side of the valley. The responsibility for a successful attack then rested with Johnson, the bomb-aimer.

The crew made repeated runs to get the speed and height correct and it was not until the 10th attempt that Johnson was satisfied; he released the bomb but the explosion from the direct hit was insufficient to break the dam's huge earth wall. They retraced their steps across Germany and the Netherlands and landed back at base.

The two primary targets, the Mohne and the Eder dams, were breached, but eight of the 19 Lancasters failed to return, with the loss of 53 aircrew. There were many gallantry awards for the crews, including the Victoria Cross for the leader, Wing Commander Guy Gibson, a Distinguished Service Order (DSO) for McCarthy and the **Distinguished Flying Medal (DFM) for Johnson.**

Following the raid, Johnson went on to fly another 19 bombing operations and was commissioned. McCarthy became one of the key leaders under the new CO, Wing Commander Leonard Cheshire, described by Johnson as "the best commander I ever served under".

Extract reprinted from the obituary, *The Telegraph*, 08-12-2022.



There are times when you devote yourself to a higher cause than personal safety.

John Glenn

MILITARY HISTORY

AWM: The Handkerchief Project

The Memorial has recently acquired 43 embroidered handkerchiefs exchanged between women in Australia and Afghanistan.

This arts exchange project was between artists in Australia and women undertaking literacy and vocational classes at the Organisation of Promotion Afghan Women's Capabilities (OPAWC) in Kabul 2018. Handkerchiefs were selected as easily transportable objects that could support different media, including print making and embroidery.

The artists provided images for Afghan women to interpret as they wished, and embroider their comments on the piece. "The objective of the project was to use artistic practice to support women in Afghanistan in their quest to acquire and use literacy skills."



Handkerchiefs are personal objects, often kept close to the body. They can be mementos from loved ones and can often bring back memories of an elderly parent or relative who always had one on hand. I come from a generation before the ubiquitous paper tissue when ...

Mum would spit on her hanky and wipe your grubby face. So humiliating.

Mum would ask if you had a clean hanky before you left the house.

Mum ironed my dad's handkerchiefs into neat squares.

Men were expected to carry a handkerchief for wiping feminine tears.

A hanky could be tucked in your knickers... along with a penny pocket for the toilet.

Elderly relatives embroidered hankies as gifts.

They were also given them, along with 4711 Eau de Cologne.



Not yet
diagnosed

Australian Psychiatric Casualties
During the Kokoda Campaign, 1942

DAVID WOOLLEY



Not yet diagnosed : Australian Psychiatric Casualties During the Kokoda Campaign, 1942.

This publication examines the incidence, nature and causes of psychological breakdowns suffered by Australian soldiers during the fighting along the **Kokoda Trail** in 1942. Based on extensive archival research, contemporary medical journals, and existing literature, David Woolley argues that the breakdowns suffered by Australian psychiatric casualties were likely more common than was officially reported or acknowledged at the time.

AWM offers this as a **free pdf** download, 89 pages, with photographs and maps.

www.awm.gov.au/shop/item/9781921353260

'Trauma creates change you don't choose.' Michelle Rosenthal

FROM THE VAULT



**The
R NEWSPAPER**
erving the
ODALLA COAST

• The Bay's Sue Hapwood with King Neptune and three funny faced mermaids. This picture sums up a colourful non-stop festival from the moment Alf Eager was crowned King Neptune last Friday evening, boiling over to Saturday's action packed day of events; almost too numerous to mention, all organised by the Batemans Bay's Neptune Festival committee, prominently featuring Sue Hapwood.

Our three clowns are: Liv Casbe, Colette Gier and Milan Smeek. More pictures inside.

Our 3 clown mermaids are **Liz Casbe, Collette Gier and Milan Smeek.**

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50c

NEPTUNE FESTIVAL—The Southern Star, Nov 1985

The Bay's **Susan Hapwood** [sic] with King Neptune and 3 funny faced mermaids. The photo sums up a colourful non-stop festival from the moment **Alf Eager** was crowned King Neptune last Friday evening, boiling over to Saturday's action-packed day of events almost too numerous to mention, all organised by the **Batemans Bay's Neptune Festival Committee**, prominently featuring Sue Hapgood.

BATEMANS BAY MALL STUDY

A series of meetings is planned for Batemans Bay to explain a proposal for a shopping mall in Orient St.

BUILDING PERMITS
During October, Eurobodalla Shire Council issued 72 permits for new buildings, valued in total at \$4.4 million.
This represents about a 5 percent rise on last year for the same month.

COUNCIL TO MEET EARLIER
Eurobodalla Shire Council will in future start its bi-monthly meetings at 9.30am instead of 3pm.
This results from a notice by Cr Innes and carried by a single vote.

PARKING
The study points out that a mall will take through traffic away from Orient St, and thus allow a full realisation of commercial potential.
Surveys have shown that at peak traffic periods, 60 to 80 percent of traffic travel Orient St without stopping.
The surveys also showed that adequate parking is available to compensate for the loss of parking in Orient St, but if it became necessary, there was room for parking development in Perry St.

The proposal has been outlined in detail to Eurobodalla Shire Council by Connybeare Morrison and Partners.
The Town Planning department will explain the proposal to interested groups as soon as venues and times can be arranged.
The meetings are expected to begin in early December.
In brief, the proposal suggests a complete closure of Orient St, to give exclusive pedestrian access to shops plus landscaping and footwalks to take advantage of the bay frontage.

Can we go back? Should we revisit a Neptune Festival in our town?

OBSERVATION POINT at Sunshine Bay

Some mighty changes to this cliff-top area in the last 15 months or so. Congratulations to the Council on the development of this viewing point with sensitive landscaping enabling access for all to enjoy.

We often take coach tours up there to view the coastline and add context to the story of Cook and later the Clyde. *Very good* to have it available again (particularly as coach parking at the foreshore is extremely difficult).

BTP's "Made It" BOOK LAUNCH

Sat Feb 11th 10.30am, Bay Playhouse

Bay Theatre Players started off in the Observation Pt Hall in 1990. Its move to Hughes St and construction of its own theatre combine with a long history of entertaining our community, recognised with the publication of "Made It", by long-time BTP supporter Heather Powell. Through these pages younger and new members can appreciate the artistic, cultural commitment which created this thriving theatre company. **ALL WELCOME.**

FREE ENTRY Bookings: janet.terry1@bigpond.com

"Without archives many stories of real people would be lost". Sara Sheridan

IN THE STARS

January is the perfect time to see the **Orion Nebula**, one of the most photographed objects in the night sky. Grab some binoculars or a telescope and look for the distinctive line of stars that make up Orion's belt (aka the base of the saucepan). The nebula, which is filled with burping baby stars, sits in the middle of the saucepan's handle.



TELE-distance GRAPH-writing

You need to be of an older generation to understand the role this humble form of communication used to play in everyday life. And paying per word seems ridiculous in the era of the internet.

Once upon a time, the hand delivery of a telegram, a few words in block capitals (like anonymous poison pen letters) was a key communicator of news for good or otherwise. Wedding telegrams were traditionally read out by the best man: some humorous, some tasteless, some joyful. In war years delivery of a telegram to any civilian household held the dreaded possibility of death, capture, or missing in action.



Opened in 1887, *Moruya's handsome Post and Telegraph office is now a boutique guesthouse.*

Here's some background to a form of communication that once wielded such power.

Before the electrical telegraph there were other devices used to send messages. These include **optical telegraphs**, using smoke signals and beacons, and the **mechanical telegraph**. On 24 May 1844 Samuel Morse, inventor of the Morse code, went on to become founder of the first practical telegraph system.

In Australia, Samuel McGowen introduced morse code in 1853 with telegraph cables set up across the country by 1859. Australians proved enthusiastic adopters and at one point became the world's most frequent sender of telegrams. The continent was crossed from Port Augusta to Darwin by 1872. *This ambitious project finally connected to an English cable from Java, becoming Australia's first telecommunications link with the rest of the world.*

As technology advanced, wireless telegraphy enabled us to send messages over long distance using radios. The invention of the telephone rapidly replaced telegraph connections. However sending telegrams on important occasions persisted well into the 20th century.

When I sailed to Australia in 1967, my family sent *bon voyage* telegrams delivered to the ship – and I still have them. [Ed].

Pilfering Postboxes

Someone has been removing Postboxes that are mounted on posts with the idea (it is thought) of flogging them privately Online, possibly as garden ornaments. Those taken feature George V or George VI. Royal Post advises they have over 115,000 across the UK, but theft or damage is rare. So far, no one has targeted the far heavier red Pillarboxes!

Introduced in 1854 Postboxes were originally painted green and changed to red in 1874.



The Museum has a period street phone booth and postbox on display.

"The way we talk to our children becomes their inner voice." *Peggy O'Mara*

Round and About

National Museum, Canberra. Another blockbuster from NMA's partnership with the British Museum. ***Feared + Revered*** reveals feminine power through the ages, celebrating the power and diversity of female spiritual beings in cultural beliefs and traditions across the globe. Spanning 6 continents and 5000 years, it explores how goddesses, witches, demons, spirits and saints have shaped our understanding of the world.

Showing 8th December 2022 to 27 August 2023.

Pictured, society member Myf Thompson at the exhibition (neither feared nor revered, as yet).



The Australian Wooden Boat Festival, Hobart

This Festival hosts the largest and most spectacular collection of wooden boats in the southern hemisphere. **The replica *Duyfken**** will sail from Sydney to Hobart for the Festival, and be open to the public.

From humble beginnings in 1994 this now major event will celebrate with boats both afloat and ashore, exhibitions, films, music and demonstrations.

**Showing Hobart Waterfront 10th-13th February 2023
FREE**

**the first European vessel to make a recorded visit to the south land's shore in 1606.*



*Replica of the Duyfken (Dutch for Little Dove)
Image: Maitland Mercury*

Jervis Bay Maritime Museum & Gallery

The Science and Sea Gallery boasts one of the most significant collections of scientific instruments to be found anywhere in the southern hemisphere.

Started by surveyor and property developer Henry F. Halloran in 1890, and continued by his son Warren, the collection charts the story of Australia's exploration and the development of the Jervis Bay area from colonial times until the present.

The collection charts the chronological development of instruments that have shaped our world right up to the 21st century.

A permanent collection. Open: 10am - 4pm Daily
Woollamia Rd, Huskisson, NSW, 2540

Museum details: www.jervisbaymaritimemuseum.asn.au



Ian Hansen
Title: *'Surgeon George Bass, entering
Jervis Bay 10 Dec, 1797.*

"A smooth sea never made a skilful sailor."

FROM THE VAULT

Far be it from us to imply there were ever rip off merchants in Moruya, but we re-print an extract from an extensive and irate account of reaching the Araluen goldfields via Moruya.

To the Editor of the *People's Advocate*

Written by the express desire of several respectable 'inhabitants of this City', for the purpose of removing, the film from the eyes of gold seekers, and exposing the false representations made by interested, mercenary persons to mislead and gull the public.

"The wind remaining fine all night, we next morning, 17th, crossed the bar and entered the Moruya River, and anchored all night. Morning dawns, the mist of deception and falsehood begins to withdraw from before the eyes of the poor dupes from Sydney, and they see things as they *really* are, and not as they have been *represented* before leaving.

On landing yourself and property, which you must pay the owner of the punt for doing, you find yourself in that lovely 'hospitable' spot called Shannon View; here is a public house, a post office and shop, a stable or two, three or four slab huts, two or three cow houses, and a bundle of pig stys, hen roosts and stagnated water: several small craft on the river, without hands, everything on shore extremely dear, and every person, with one or two exceptions, ready with heart and hand to take advantage of the poor unfortunate gulls. [

When you naturally look round, and say, where are the drays and teams to take our things to the diggings, they turn round most innocently and say, "*Why, bless your heart, there are no teams with drays could go up the mountains, it is only pack horses that can take them to the diggings, and the cart horse can only take a hundred weight*".

At this, one will naturally stare, and ask how much they charge per hundred; when you are coolly told "£3." Now then comes the rob. If you have got the money and will send your things, they are put into a pair of scales and weighed, and for each hundred you must down with the £3, and no mistake, and if any poor devil has not the cash to do so, he must either carry what he can on his back all the way, or sell them to the land sharks for what they please to give him; these, I most solemnly pledge myself, are real facts, for which I am willing to such at any time, and can bring several respectable persons to witness.

And as one or two proofs of this, I advance the following: Mr. Boyce, of this city, formerly as Harbour Pilot, and owner of the Black Swan cutter, being led astray like many more, took with him some heavy articles, but of great usefulness in the bush; among which was a large Iron pot, for the purpose of cooking, &c.; for which he paid 15s. in Sydney, but finding on his landing that the pot would cost double that amount to have it conveyed to the diggings he offered it for 7s., when several of those honest gentlemen, after bantering him for some time and laughing at him, had the impudence to offer him half-a-crown, which so exasperated Mr. Boyce, that he took an axe and shivered the poor pot in a thousand pieces, thus disappointing those vultures of their prey."

Thomas Fennell, late R.N.

Letter to the Editor printed in *the People's Advocate and New South Wales Vindicator*, 15th Nov 1851.

The only thing worth stealing is a kiss from a sleeping child. *Joe Houldsworth*

PROJECTS: Some with a Hammer, some with a keyboard, all with a Cuppa

One of the key roles in a museum is technically updating archives so they are safer and more widely accessible, eg from old paper to digitised in the cloud.

We ask for volunteer/s to help digitise our older records which were typed or hand-written. It's a sit-down and scan job using simple technology. It's a wonderful way to get to know history of the district and its people. And in a pleasant environment, too. We also have simple research projects to follow up.

Age does weary them ... we urgently need able-bodied men and women to support our maintenance crew on Tuesday or Thursday. External cleaning, light construction, artefact conservation.

Hours very flexible to suit— we'll appreciate whatever time you can offer from two hours to whatever. Contact Lesley or Myf at the Museum on 4472 1635, Tues/Wed, to arrange a chat /call in to see ways **we can help you socialise whilst helping maintain local heritage for next generations.**



Your Book Emporium Awaits

Hundreds of volumes in the most popular categories. Lovingly displayed by Deb and Josh for you to browse on Tue/Wed/Thur 10am-3pm.

Book Donations always welcome and we want you to have the best: clean and no ratty paperbacks, please! Pass CDS and Videos to Vinnies who have the space to display.



Our next Bunnings Fundraising BBQ—February 18th

Under the direction of new team leader volunteer Ed Jansen, who kindly answered our call for help on these pages.

If you can help by being a 'relief' for two hours on the day our regular team would really appreciate it. BBQs are only quarterly!

BATEMANS BAY LAPIDARY CLUB

Our friends who have permanent display space at the Museum also meet weekly. Follow their adventures on Facebook for updates. Or contact via batemansbaylapidaryclub@gmail.com



VALE

The Society notes with sadness the passing in 2022 of Fran Trounson, Anita Ellison (Prior) Kim Hammond, and in January 2023 Anita Ruzala.

Our condolences once again to their family and many friends.



Acknowledging with thanks our Government Agency and Community Partners

