

# The Oaks Historical Society Inc

Est. May 1979

The Oaks Historical Society Inc.  
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## Wollondilly Heritage Centre & Museum

### Newsletter

JAN/FEB 2015

# Foundation Day

Researched by Ray Gill



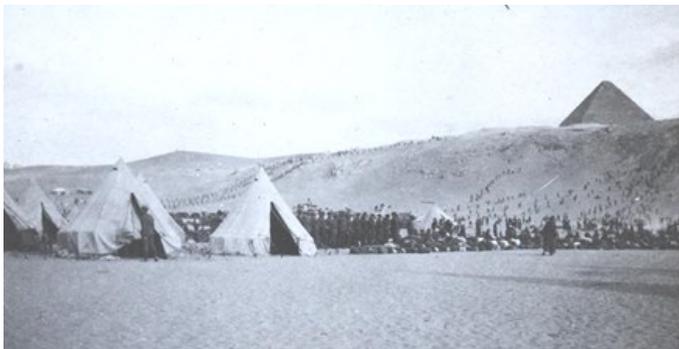
During the First World War Australia Day was held on 30<sup>th</sup> June and at that time the 26<sup>th</sup> January was known as Foundation Day. So on **Australia Day** as we know it, soldiers from this

district were scattered far and wide in WWI.

From my research I have found the First Australian Light Horse brigade was encamped in Egypt and the men were busy training in preparation for deployment. Records show the First Australian Light Horse regiment with Frank Henderson Paul #395 who trained with the 9<sup>th</sup> Light Horse Camden, George Iley Dunn #405 from Spring Creek and Charles Frederick Squelch #506 from The Oaks encamped just outside Cairo.

The 1<sup>st</sup> Field Company Engineers were in **Mena Camp**, Egypt and Walter Joseph Blattman #178 of Oakdale and Reginald Theodore Jessop #177 of Katoomba [born at Cox's River] took part in the daily routine of training in musketry, general field works, instruction in girder bridge building and attending lectures in demolition techniques.

The 7<sup>th</sup> Australian Light Horse has St Clair Low #134 as one of its troopers and he is found in transit via ship from Colombo, Ceylon to the Suez. Egypt. On board



they trained in musketry.

James Henry Neve #866 a member of the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion also encamped at **Mena**,



George Iley DUNN



undergoing Battalion training in 30 yard musketry and attack practice with blank ammunition.

John Wasson #450 was with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Light Horse and is part of the 1<sup>st</sup> ALH brigade. They camped just outside Cairo and training with the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> ALH as well as

manning the brigade defences.

Harold William Williams #543

(worked for Mrs Smart of Brownlow Hill) of the 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion B Company trained as per the 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade daily orders in conjunction with 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> battalion's Mena Camp Egypt. **Photo from Museums Victoria**



**THIRLMERE STEAM FESTIVAL — SUNDAY, 1ST MARCH**

President: Trish Hill (02) 4657 1129 ■ Editor: Jenny Wood ■ Treasurer / Bookings: Maureen Whyte (02) 4657 1224

# President's Report

by Trish Hill



Happy New Year to all. I hope the break has reinvigorated everyone, especially our volunteers.

Early in January under Jim's guidance our capable team of builders and labourers began work in the Drill hall on the WW1 cabinet. They put in several labour intensive days and have done a remarkable job so far, completing the cabinet, painting and installing the lights.

Installation of the glass front will be done in the coming weeks however the hall was ready for Australia Day to screen 'The Man from Cox's River', which was a great success with a packed hall. Congratulations Doreen and Ben for a great start to our year. Also to Louisa, Betty, Jan and Aileen who worked our Australia Day stall in Picton.

Jim Whyte, Ray Gill, Kevin Wintle, Ben Lyon, John Hyland, John Hickey, John Mainwaring and Peter Lyons have all given freely of their time to this project. Thank you for a great job.

John Mainwaring has been busy over the last few months propagating plants and has a selection on the entry verandah with sales already underway and profits directed to the building fund.

Council has advertised the list of suggested street names for the new subdivision off Montpelier Drive, The Oaks. Our Strategic Plan review is scheduled for Monday, 16 February at 6.30pm. See back page for more detail.



Covering the windows and door on the northern wall

Below: Static display until we develop our WWI display



All painted and lit—job done! Waiting on laminated glass installation by the other professionals.

## Harold Earl DUNN - 2638

Harold Earl was born on the 3rd June 1896 at Camden to Thomas Mellanby Dunn and his wife Florentine Dorothea. Along with his siblings Gladys, Elliot, Neville, Freida, Lurline and Ada they grew up in the era of Australia's involvement in the Boer War. Following federation the government set about to build a united defence force to better protect this nation.

Harold had been involved with the 21st Infantry prior to the declaration of war on 4th August 1914 and the following year with his father's consent, he volunteered. Leaving his job as a carpenter he enlisted on 1st September 1915 in the RAS Showground, Sydney where he was assigned to the 7th Field Company Engineers as a driver. They embarked on the HMAT *Suffolk* A23 at Sydney on 30th November bound for France via Egypt and England. Changing ships in Egypt they departed Alexandria on the *Minneapolis* on 14 March 1916 arriving Marseilles in France five days later. From there he was sent to the Western Front in France bordering on Belgium.

On 11th August 1918, one month after being promoted to 2nd corporal, he was wounded in action with a gunshot wound to the left leg. Upon being sent to the 9th General Hospital in Rouen his leg was amputated below the knee. Then invalided back to England to await his passage home.

Leaving England on the 15th March 1919 aboard the HMAT *Dunluce Castle* he returned to Australia via Alexandria. On the 16th March 1919 he was mentioned in dispatches to Sir Douglas Haig by his superior officer as "deserving of special mention". For his part in the Great War he received the British War medal, Victory medal and the 1914/15 Star.

In 1920, shortly after returning home, he married Lily Harris in Goulburn, New South Wales. On 12 July 1982 he passed away at Kellyville and was buried at the Castlebrook Memorial Park in Rouse Hill.

Contributed by **Peter Tacon, Cherside, Brisbane QLD**  
Peter Tacon is a Grandson of George Iley Dunn  
Harold Dunn is George Iley's cousin



George Iley DUNN



We look forward to other contributors with their personal photos and stories. Thanks Peter. EDITOR

# Family History & Local Archive Research Corner

by Sue Davis Family Historian/Archivist



Welcome to 2015!

We have already had our first person in to research and I am sure there will be others closely following. In researching family or local history you never know where your leads will come from as they are not always laid out in a family history file. After my placement at the State Records, late last year, we were determined to follow up my husband's paternal grandfather who we only knew as having been a teacher in his working life.

At the State Records I was able to access his probate papers, including his will, and his teaching career record. On a return visit in January we have now seen letters in his handwriting and finally the first photograph my husband had ever seen of his grandfather – in a class photo while teaching at Menai Public School. Finally we can build some information about this man who is only 2 generations away.

The latest edition of *Inside History* quotes, Gail Davis, Senior Archivist Research and Publications at State Records, with **some top tips in searching wills** that I thought readers might find useful:

1. Can't find the will? Search probate packets which may also contain the will (at State Records)
2. No probate packet? Look in Deceased Estate Files for 1880s-1958.
3. Still can't find the will? Some estates were not settled until many years after the owner's death.
4. Maybe the ancestor died without leaving a will? Check Index to Intestate Estates 1821-1910.

For more information...check the wills of spouses, parents or children to see how circumstances changed in families from generation to generation.

Happy searching!

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## Marketing Officers Report

by Louisa Singleman



### FEBRUARY 2015 BUS TOUR REPORT

2015 is upon us already and so far we have ten groups booked so this will be a fantastic beginning to 2015. Ian Welsh is organising a Truckies Reunion for Saturday, 2nd May and this will be an interesting event. We are providing a BBQ lunch for the event so if you can help, give Trish a ring on 0432 689 034. If you are interested in being a speaker for a bus tour there will be an opportunity for some training in the near future. Also if you would like to be involved in helping prepare the morning teas for the bus tours I would love to hear from you. My phone number is 4680 8358 or mobile 0408 669 287. Every little bit of help is greatly appreciated.

### AUSTRALIA DAY 2015

By the time this newsletter goes to print Australia Day will have been over so here's hoping it went off as planned. The Oaks Historical Society is as usual having a stall at the Australia Day celebration in the Picton Botanic Garden. This event is conducted by the Wollondilly Shire Council and each year it is a wonderful and well organised ceremony. Thanks to Betty Villy, Jan Noakes and Aileen Davis who will assist me on the day and to any other members who came along to lend a hand. We intend to distribute free entries to the museum on the day to all those who approach our stall and we hope some of them enjoyed their visit.

### THIRLMERE STEAM FESTIVAL—SUNDAY, 1ST MARCH ..... URGENT REQUEST

This year I will be away on holidays so we will need volunteers to take on the responsibility to take the gazebo, table, books and other items to this event. Could you let me know if you are available on the day so we can get organised as quickly as possible.

### FUND RAISING

If you have a good idea for some fundraising this year to assist the building fund please speak up. All ideas are worth considering so don't be shy.

### FAMILY HISTORY WORKSHOP

Aileen Davis and I have all the intentions in the world of writing our family history BUT we are great procrastinators and never get around to doing it. So we have decided to put our heads together once a month on a Friday morning and try and put pen to paper. Your family does NOT have to come from Wollondilly. You may have relatives who lived overseas or came from another area. If you would like to join us ring me on 4680 8358 or 0408 669 287. Let's get started. Our first workshop will be Friday, 20th February from 9.30 to 12 noon. ■

# What Happened to our Koalas?

Two part story researched by Doreen Lyon

The National Parks & Wildlife Service are considering creating a Koala Park to preserve what is left of our koalas. Local councils are monitoring koala locations and movements in order to preserve the species. But how much do we know about the presence of koalas in Wollondilly?

This is some documented material I have recently discovered from the archives of the Wollondilly Heritage Centre & online.

**1798:** The first mention of the koala was by John Price, Manuscript journal. Mention only of an animal seen near Bar-Mittagong, south-west of Sydney.

**1802:** Colo or monkey? Ensign Francis Barrallier's 9 November manuscript/journal mentions only parts of a dead animal seen and collected south-west of Sydney, in the area of the Nepean River. [Michael Organ BSc Dip Arch Admin Archivist, University of Wollongong]

**1803:** "A new and remarkable species of *Didelphis* has been lately brought in from southward of Botany Bay. It is called by the natives cooloo or coola, and most nearly approaches to the wombat, from which it differs in the number of its teeth and in several other circumstances. The Governor, I learn, sends a drawing made by Mr Lewin. Mr Bauer cannot on so short a notice finish the more accurate one he has taken. The necessity of sending my description, which is very imperfect, as the animal will not submit to be closely inspected, and I have had no opportunity of dissecting one, is in a great measure superseded by Mr Truman having purchas'd a pair, which from their present healthy appearance, will probably reach England alive, or if not, will be preserv'd for anatomical ' letter written during September 1803 by Robert Brown to Sir Joseph Banks, [Michael Organ BSc Dip Arch Admin Archivist, University of Wollongong]

**1836:** On the animals called "monkeys" in New South Wales by William Romain Govatt in, The Saturday Magazine, London, 9 (288), 31 December 1836. Detailed description plus engraved sketch of a Koala on a tree. [Koala ].

**1861 - 'Bush Wanderings of a Naturalist'** by Horatio William Wheelwright, professional hunter in Victoria and - advocated Australia Felix as a fine place for shooting small game but at the same time cautions that indiscriminate hunting will soon exterminate most of the birds and small animals. Describes koalas as poor game to shoot but make reasonable eating, popular with Aborigines.

**1883-1899?:** Sydney Bellingham describes hunting in the Blue Mountains in his book *Ten years with the Palette, Shot Gun & Rifle on the Blue Mountains*, in which he gives detailed advice on location and availability of local game including Koalas which he describes as 'poor sport' but that the fur 'makes a good rug' he also states that 'native bears are dying out very fast in some districts. I have seen them lying about the bush day after day in some places'.

**1886:** Goulburn Herald, Aug 28 1886, *Essays, Sketches on Hunting the Koala*. .... Another surprising fact concerning these bears is their apparent insensibility to pain. The Australian bear is not a savage animal nor very dangerous, and I rightly believe that these brown bears have less feeling at all than any other animal with which I am acquainted.... They wince not when wounded with B or BB shot, neither do their eyes express any sign of the body being hurt.... Altogether I have collected some sixty or seventy bear skins, and have learned the flesher's art of skinning and pegging out, an accomplishment which, I fear, begins and ends with my present experience. Yet as half a bullock is better than no beef, so kill-



John Lewin, [Koala and young], watercolour on paper, 1803, Mitchell Library [ML896](#), Sydney

ing koalas is better than getting no game at all.

**1887-1889:** The Katoomba Shooting Excursion & Fishing Club established at Katoomba College with Sid Bellingham as head Ranger who also became the taxidermist for the Museum of Natural History in Katoomba.

**1891:** £50,000 paid for skins of 871 emus, over one million marsupials, 65,000 hares and rabbits, 11,350 dingoes, 3,502 eaglehawks, and some other marsupials" Frederick Afalo in *'A Sketch of the Natural History of Australia'*.

**1893:** Visit by Franz Ferdinand to Australia on May 16. The heir to the throne of Austria-Hungary had shot his way across India, Ceylon and Java before turning the attention of his guns on New South Wales. The next day a special train was commissioned, serving both as transport and accommodation. When the curtains were parted on the royal carriage on the morning of May 18, the archduke awoke to find himself in Narromine, 40km west of Dubbo. There he was entrusted to the care and hunting instincts of local squatter Frank Mack. The fun began in Mack's carriage on the way to the farm, when the archduke spotted, and promptly dispatched, three colourful birds. Then, and with the help of greyhounds the train had collected in Bathurst, the archduke sighted his first marsupial quarry - kangaroos..... local farmers on horseback kindly drove ever more kangaroos towards the archduke. Their efforts were richly rewarded when, after quite a chase, an emu was added to the royal collection. **The next day the train took the southern line**, allowing its passengers to inspect the abattoir and meat-canning factory at Auburn before the journey continued to Moss Vale. The archduke's host there, a certain Mr Badgery, soon cottoned on to the Austrian's fondness for Australian fauna. Having collected his guest from the station, Badgery thoughtfully halted the carriage under some trees and gestured to a round shape huddled in one of the branches. What transpired was recorded in the archduke's diary in his own words: "Without being clear about what kind of animal it was, I fired a decent load of shot at it. Although I had obviously hit the target pretty well, because a lot of fur flew from its thick, grey coat, the shot produced little effect. The animal simply clung more tightly to the branch and did not appear to be finished off until the third shot, without having stirred itself noticeably. We were just about to send someone up the tree when suddenly the animal fell onto the road, and I was now able to identify it as the so called Australian Bear (*Phascolarctus cinereus*). It belonged to the family of marsupials, and in its exterior appearance is reminiscent of a small bear. The animal I killed was carrying a young one, which fell out of the pouch during the fall from the tree.

"One distinctive feature of the Australian Bear is its sluggishness and apathy; its only talent is climbing, but even this it does with astonishing slowness. Some time later we tried to coax a bear hanging quite low on a tree into fleeing or at least climbing quickly by yelling and making noise, but for a long time it took no notice at all of us, until finally turning its head away casually, climbing upward a few centimetres and then remaining restfully on the branch, until eventually I shot him down.

Continued next month ....

# Opening of Waley Home

**Camden News April 1920 (article incomplete)**

Mowbray Park, now known as The Waley Red Cross Home, was officially opened by His Excellency the Governor General on Wednesday, 5th March. This splendid home is the gift of Captain and Mrs Waley and consists of 170 acres of rich agricultural land and situate within an easy distance of Picton Railway Station. Cpt Waley in presenting the Home on behalf of his wife, spoke of the pleasure it afforded them both in being able to do so, as it in some measure repayed [sic] the soldiers for what they had done for the community at large.

His Excellency in replying said what a noble gift Mrs Waley's was, and also remarked how hard it was for any woman to give her home up, and when later one was privileged to see the interior of "Waley Home", they marvelled at his unselfishness in giving up such a home. [Cpt Waley gave the house to his wife for her birthday around 1910.]

Mr Ashton, chairman of Convalescent homes and Hospitals, moved a vote of thanks to His Excellency and Lady Helen for performing the opening ceremony. During Mr Ashton's speech a VAD presented Lady Helen Munro Ferguson [sic] with a bouquet of pink roses tied with pink streamers.



The grounds of Waley Home are suitably adapted for soldiers suffering from shellshock and other nerve troubles, for here one may have quietness but not loneliness as the view is simply superb and one of brightness. Nature can work her sweet will in such surroundings.

Waley Home contains [of] over 20 rooms and every convenience is met with, it has its own electric light, and hot and cold water pipes are laid on right through the building. The conservatory is well worth a visit, as also is the grounds. On entering the building the first thing that one notices is the simple grandeur of all the appointments, our notice was at once directed to the number of donations from all parts of this district. The hall stand was a gift of the "Gum Blossoms", Cobbitty. The first ward is the "Honour Ward", three beds from Menangle, Picton and The Oaks.

The "Eileen Cecil's Ward", five beds, which are donated from Eunette and Jean Waley, donated by Flight Sergt R G Waley, AIF; Cobbitty Patriotic Workers; The Oaks Red Cross Society; Picton Red Cross Society and the 30th Battalion AIF Comfort Fund. The "Frensham Ward", one bed donated by children from Mittagong Public School and one by the mistresses of the same school. The "Picton Ward", three beds donated by Picton Branch Red Cross Society; by the children of William and Mary Antill, Abbotsford, Picton; and by Brig, General F Lassetter, C B to

Jean Hassal Antill, Jarvisfield, Picton. The "Hort-Brown Ward", one bed donated by Therese Hort-Brown by her children through the Picton Red Cross Society; The Camden Red Cross Society's Ward", eight beds donated by the Camden Red Cross Society.

Three beds were also donated by the Picton War Chest. There is a beautiful library billiard room, gifts from Captain Waley to the soldiers; also a rest room, three dining rooms, matron's and nurses' (2) and VADs (3).

In the billiard room there is a piano, the gift of the Picton and Camden Red Cross Societies, also an organ and gramophone. The staff consist[ing] of a matron, sister and three VADs are to come from Camden, Picton, The Oaks and Menangle. ■ SMH 4 Dec 1936

CALD. FRIDAY, DECEMBER

## BARNARDO HOMES.

### 38 CHILDREN FROM BRITAIN.

#### WELCOME TO N.S.W.

The Lieutenant-Governor and Lady Street gave an official welcome at Government House yesterday to 20 boys and 18 girls from the Dr. Barnardo Homes, who arrived in the morning by the Otranto. Later, the children were given refreshments at the Botanic Gardens.

Sir Philip and Lady Street spoke to each of the children, after they had been introduced to them by Sir Arthur Rickard, chairman of the Dr. Barnardo Movement in New South Wales.

The Lieutenant-Governor, in a short address, gave the children a warm welcome to New South Wales, and expressed the hope that they would be happy in their new life, and would grow up to be contented and prosperous citizens of a great new country.

In the afternoon the boys were taken to the Barnardo Farm at Picton, where they will be educated and trained in farm work until they attain the age of 15 years. They will then be placed in suitable rural employment. The girls were taken to the Barnardo Home for Girls, at Ashfield, where they soon made friends with other girls previously brought out from England. The girls will be educated and trained in domestic science, after which they will be placed in employment in private homes.

Passengers on the Otranto praised the behaviour of the children on the voyage from London.

The arrival of this party brings the total number of children brought to New South Wales since the launching of the Barnardo movement in this State in 1921 to 812 boys and 484 girls. All who have reached the employable age have been placed in situations. The local committee, with the sanction and co-operation of the Government, hopes to continue the flow of children from Britain to New South Wales at the rate of about 50 a year.

# TOHS 2014 Christmas Party

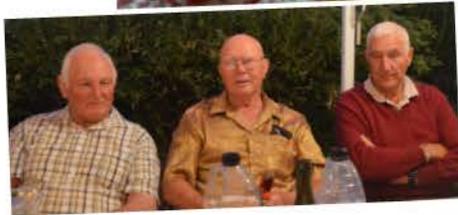
The colonial theme was taken up dress wise by some guests and the outdoor games went down well despite the rain. Between showers we enjoyed watching the old game of metal hoop rolling up the hill and played at quoits and horseshoe throwing. The hoops and horseshoes were supplied by our friendly blacksmith, Ray Lincoln and quoits by Kevin Wintle.



A big thank you to our very own photographer, Robin Gill for these great pics



The guys and the gals about to start in the one minute walk



Bruce Cameron is our guest speaker at the March Meeting and we will have limited copies of his book available for purchase—A History of the Blue Labyrinth

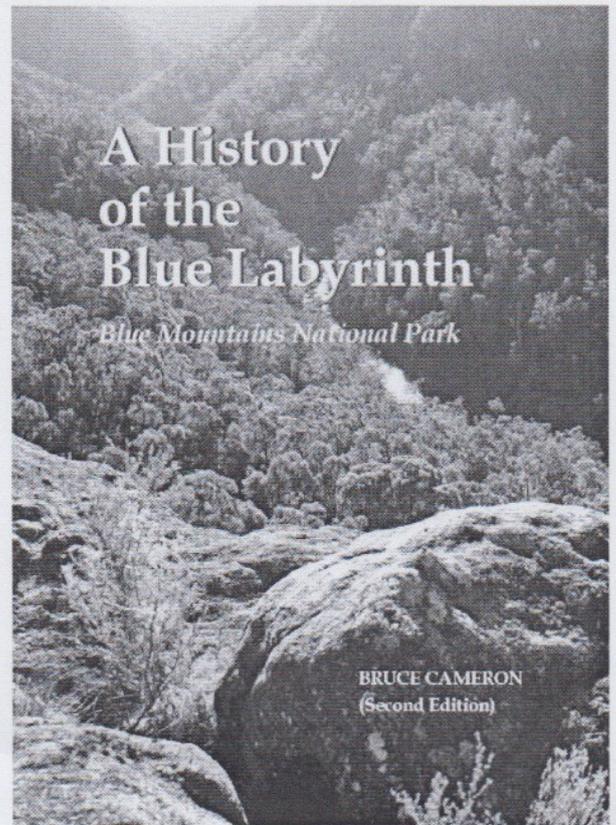
# A History of the Blue Labyrinth

*Blue Mountains National Park*

Bruce Cameron  
(Second Edition)

*352 pages with  
Hard Cover, Section Sewn  
127 pages in 4 colour and  
225 pages black and white*

*Photographs and editorial  
showcasing some of the  
magnificent scenery and history of the  
Blue Labyrinth in the Blue Mountains.*



THE BLUE LABYRINTH is the tract of land between the Blue Mountains townships of Wentworth Falls and Glenbrook, stretching south almost to the stored water of Warragamba Dam, and then east to the Nepean Gorge. It is part of the Blue Mountains National Park, which in total covers almost 216 000 hectares of mountain plateau between the coastal lowlands and the Great Dividing Range. The Blue Labyrinth is included in the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area. The eastern edge of the Blue Labyrinth is on the suburban fringe of Sydney, and is around 50 kilometres from the centre of the city.

*Bruce Cameron*

This is a place forgotten to many, hovering vaguely on the edge of perception for some, known and loved by a few. But it was not always so. Thousands of years before the Blue Labyrinth was bypassed by suburbia, it was roamed by the first Australians: the land was a larder, a hardware store, a school, a cathedral ... and a home. In what seems to us today a difficult landscape, more than a thousand sites prove that Aboriginal people knew every rocky knoll, every pool, creek and crevice. The many strands of human endeavour explored in this book lie like morning mist across the maze of valleys, but add immeasurable layers of meaning to the beautiful, intriguing Blue Labyrinth. We desperately need such places for nourishment and renewal ... and redemption.

*Ian Brown*

Bruce Cameron's book is a work of love. Its trove embraces the broad sweep of the Labyrinth. Not just as you would see laid out on a map: the prose hints at the butcherbird's song beyond the fence, and from that moment back, to ancient floods from melting ice that scoured distant lands long since displaced, laying down the matrix of sandstone at our feet. But the strength of Bruce's book lies in its sympathetic view of human movement across the Labyrinth, where black and white gain complex shades of meaning and interaction.

Read this book and look up, find a place within the horizon it describes.

*Tom Williams*



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[www.bmert.org](http://www.bmert.org)

ABN 28 284 312 624

# Volunteer Weekend Roster

FEBRUARY 2015	
Sunday, 1 February	Louisa & Doreen
Saturday, 7th	WORKING BEE
Sunday, 8th	Trish & Kevin
Saturday, 14th	Colleen & June
Sunday, 15th	Vivian & Bob
Saturday, 21st	Jan & Jenny
Sunday, 22nd	Allen & Ian
Saturday, 28th	Laurette & Phil
Sunday, 1st March	Marie & Betty

## Update of Strategic Plan

Monday, 16 February brainstorming workshop for opportunities to update our operating plan at 6.30pm (supper /nibbles included)

## 2015 Supper Roster



February	All bring a plate
March	Robyn & Ray
April	Jan & Sue
May AGM	Louisa & Marie
June	Doreen & Ben
July	Maureen & Jim
August	Aileen & Pam
September	Shirley & Trish
October	Vivian & Pat Catt
November	Jenny & Pacita
December	All bring a plate

# News & Info

## HISTORY WORKSHOP

Saturday, 28 February 2015 in Young

Hosted by the RAHS in conjunction with Young Historical Society and the South West Regional Library Service, located at the Young Uniting Church Hall, Cloete Street, Young. Registration is from 9am

Guest speakers: Carol Liston—*Land titles records*  
Christine Yeats—*The WWI soldier's return: was it a land fit for heroes?*  
Mary Hutchison—*Capturing the memories of your community*  
Dr Terry Kass - *Life after Gold - From land title records to State Records*  
Suzanne Holohan—*Making the best use of social media for your society*

**Morning and afternoon tea and lunch provided Cost: \$10.00**

RSVP Friday 20 Feb on 6382 2248 or, youngmuseum@westnet.com.au

## FAREWELL TO CAMDEN MAYOR—THERESA TESTONI OAM

Theresa was 82 when she died at her home in Moss Vale on 5th January. She was remembered for her love of Camden and the Macarthur region and turning Gledswood Homestead at Catherine Field into an international tourist attraction as a working farm in the late 1980s and 1990s. She was a business woman, a community leader and a proud mother, grandmother and great grandmother.

## SENIORS WEEK 2015

at the Wollondilly Heritage Centre & Museum, the theme this year is

***Your Home when you first got married***

Monday, 16 March 2015 from 10am to 2pm

Light refreshments—Bookings required

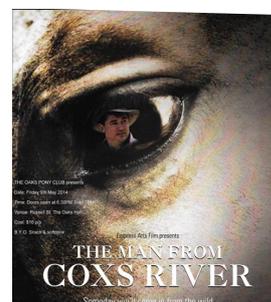
Come along and talk to us about where and how you lived when you first got married. Did you live in a tent, a garage, a house, a boat or with the in-laws? Tell us and be part of our next book.

Also, there is a book launch of last year's event,  
***Music & Memories of WWI***

## THE MAN FROM COXS RIVER DVD

The DVD's have arrived and are available for \$35. The movie runs for 84 minutes.

They make great gifts for anyone so order a copy and we will keep one aside for you.



**MONTHLY MEETINGS:** The Oaks Historical Society Inc. holds its meetings on the first Monday of each month (except January) at the Wollondilly Heritage Centre, 43 Edward Street, The Oaks starting at 7.00pm. **The next meeting will be held on Monday, 2nd March 2015.** Our patrons are Mr. Philip Costa and Mr. Richard Booth. The Oaks Historical Society Inc. takes no responsibility for the accuracy of the articles, papers or reviews that appear in this newsletter. The statements made or opinions expressed are not necessarily those of The Oaks Historical Society Inc. Copies of the Minutes are available at the Heritage Centre.

## STRATEGIC PLANNING REVIEW

16TH FEBRUARY 2015

We are in the final year of our current 3 year Strategic Plan. It is time to check that we are on track with our plans and not overloading our volunteers with too many extra ideas.

Our current plan has been successful in us working towards our building fund; developing fundraising opportunities; improved website; and training opportunities for volunteers .... to name a few.

Please join us for our 2015 Strategic Planning Review meeting on **Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> February at the Wollondilly Herit-**

**age Centre at 6.30pm** to discuss current and future plans. Light refreshments will be available so please let us know if you are coming for catering by contacting Sue Davis on phone 0414 703204 or email [tohs1988@bigpond.net.au](mailto:tohs1988@bigpond.net.au)

At this time we also check that our Mission Statement is what we still work towards. Currently it reads...

*Volunteers from The Oaks Historical Society Inc manage the Wollondilly Heritage Centre to collect, research and interpret the material culture and local history of the Wollondilly Shire and Burragorang Valley, in co-operation with other organisations and the community, to better appreciate the present by an increased understanding of the past.*

If undelivered, please return to:-

**The Oaks Historical Society Inc.**

**P O Box 6016 The Oaks NSW 2570**



2014 Christmas Party games