

Nepean District Historical Society

January 2020 - Bulletin No 17

Welcome to the NDHS monthly bulletin which will keep you posted on what's happening during the month.

Acknowledgement to country

We would like to acknowledge the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the land on which this newsletter is being produced; Emu Plains, which is the traditional land of the Darug people. I pay respect to Elders past, present and emerging and I recognise their continuing connection to land, water and community.

January Meeting



Our travellers, Tony and Paul

At our meeting on the 18th, members will be treated to an amazing photographic journey through the Middle East.

The presenters that Richard Nutt has managed to book for us are experienced travellers.

Lucky for the Society they are already amongst us!

They will be reminiscing about their travels from last year on their six week holiday.

These guys will take you through the land of Israel where they visited the ancient historical site of Masada, then on to Jordan visiting Petra, then finally to Egypt starting in Cairo with the pyramids and other ancient sites as well as the Antiquities Museum, then on a boat trip up the Nile to Upper Egypt to visit more amazing ancient places. A marvellous experience not to be missed.

Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 15th January

Opal Gang - Devonshire Tea

Saturday 18th January

NDHS Meeting

Sunday 26th January

Australia Day – NDHS at Glenbrook

Monday 27th January

Australia Day

(Arms of Australia Inn closed)

Wednesday 19th February

355 Committee Meeting

Saturday 22nd February

NDHS Meeting & NDHS AGM

Bookstall

Many thanks to those members who volunteered to man the bookstall in December at Southlands Shopping Centre.

It was an incredible fundraiser for the Society resulting in a benefit to the NDHS of \$1,100.

Special thanks to Reg Menz, Chris Welsh, Harry May, Bronwyn & Phillip Braham, Ted Nowak, Beth Moore and Richard Nutt, who gave up their time to be available for this Event.



Fascinating

In 2019 February had four Sundays, four Mondays, four Tuesdays, four Wednesdays, four Thursdays, four Fridays and four Saturdays. This occurs every 832 years.

Five Saturdays in February occurs every time a leap year starts on a Thursday.

It occurs 13 times in a 400 year period, or 3.25% of the time.

The last time this occurred was 2004 and the next time will be in 2032.

This Month in...

- 1788** - 26 January - Arrival of the First Fleet - The British established a settlement at Sydney Harbour in Australia as 11 ships with 778 convicts arrived, setting up a penal colony to relieve overcrowded prisons in England. Governor Phillip raised the British flag in Sydney Cove.
- 1808** - 26 January - Arrest of Governor Bligh by Rum Corps. Rev. Henry Fulton was present in support in Governor Bligh.
- 1814** - 24 January - John Best, Superintendent of Convicts at Norfolk Island, was granted 470 acres south of the Great Western Road and east of the Woodriff estate, known as Hornesywood Estate.
- 1815** - 14 January - William Cox completed the first road from Emu Plains to Bathurst, after only six months work, it was built through Woodriff grant.
- 1817** - 18 January John Jamison received a grant of 1500 acres, Enfield Farm, south-east of his original holding, which was a grant to his father.
- 1818** - January - Toll levied at Emu Ford for Bathurst travellers.
4 January - James "Toby" Ryan was born at Castlereagh. Toby Ryan was a very colourful Penrith identity and became the Member for Nepean. He died in 1874.
- 1824** - 1 January - First horse race in Penrith, organized by Sir John Jamison, was run between Peach Tree Creek and Parker Street.
- 1827** - 21 January - The whole of Australia was claimed as British territory when Major Edmund Lockyer formally annexed the western portion in a ceremony at King George Sound.
- 1828** - 8 January - John Tindale purchased John Best's grant and built Hornseywood (near Penrith High School).
- 1829** - 31 January - John Norton of Fairlight, Mulgoa, died.
- 1856** - 1 January - Van Diemen's Land name changed to Tasmania.
2 January - First traffic bridge over the Nepean River opened. It was washed away in a flood the following year.
- 1857** - 1 January - Post Office established at Luddenham, later renamed Bringelly.
- 1858** - 28 January - John Single of Nepean Park died. Single, a free settler, built his home by the river at Castlereagh in 1822. The house is still standing but is privately owned.
- 1863** - 18 January - The railway line from (Crossroads) Kingswood to Penrith opened.
- 1878** - 25 January - Bringelly Public School opened.
30 January - Emu Plains Railway Disaster, A Katoomba train carrying kerosene shale collided with the up train on the single track at Emu Plains. Three crewmen were killed and two others badly injured.
- 1885** - 26 January - The new St Joseph's Convent School official opening which replaced the old school.
- 1890** - 11 January - Sergeant James Beatty of Penrith Police was murdered while on duty in High Street.
- 1893** - 6 January - Police Station opened at Mulgoa. The building is now a restaurant.

- 1901** - January 1 - Australia becomes a Federation. The Commonwealth of Australia was founded as six former British colonies became six states with Edmund Barton as the first prime minister.
- 1918** – January - Soldier Darrell Fowler died of disease in Baghdad.
- 1919** - 1 January - Nurse Annie Major West was awarded the Royal Red Cross 2nd Class.
30 January - Public reception for returned soldiers at Nepean Picture Theatre.
- 1925** – 1 January – Penrith Primary School became Penrith Intermediate High School.
- 1929** – 4 January – St Paul's Rectory, Emu Plains was destroyed by fire. All church records were burnt.
29 January - First privately run aerial races in Australia held at Penrith aerodrome (Speedway).
- 1949** - 1 January - Penrith, Castlereagh, St. Marys and Mulgoa Shires were officially amalgamated to form the Municipality of Penrith.
- 1976** – 25 January – Death of Harold Corr, Penrith Town Clerk. He had worked for Penrith City Council, in different capacities, for 37 years.
28 January – Cambridge Park High School opened.
- 1977** – 18 January – Granville Train Disaster. The morning train from the Blue Mountains and Penrith to Sydney de-railed at Granville. Over 80 people were killed, many were from the Penrith district.
- 1981** - 19 January - Penrith District Tourist Information Centre opened to the public.
- 1985** – 29 January – Samuel Terry Primary School opened.
- 1986** – 28 January – McCarthy Catholic Senior High School, Emu Plains took in the first students.
- 1989** – 1 January – Nepean College of Advanced Education became an original network member of the University of Western Sydney.
- 1994** - 8 January - Penrith City Library opened for business in new Civic Centre as bushfires swept through the Penrith region.
- 2002** - January - Horrendous bushfires swept through Wallacia, Mulgoa, Glenmore Park, Emu Heights, Blue Mountains and Castlereagh.
- 2002** - 24 January - \$6.4 million grant from the State Government to contribute to the \$12 million upgrade of the Joan Sutherland Performing Arts Centre.

News Spot

- The Nepean Caring Hearts of Community Quilters, led by our member Margaret Collier, have been making and donating care packages for school children, pre schoolers and parents in drought affected areas in Western New South Wales.
- Glenbrook & District Historical Society History Walks. The 2020 Programme for these walks is available from the Secretary on request.
- The City of Liverpool and District Historical Society (Sydney) is seeking stories of inmates of the Liverpool Asylum for the Infirm and Destitute, otherwise known as the Liverpool Old Men's Asylum 1862 to 1933. If you had an ancestor with an interesting story please forward it to us for our records and for consideration for a proposed book with acknowledgement.
Contact: Glen op den Brouw glenop@yahoo.com

November Meeting

Guest Speaker at the meeting was Philip Hammon.

Philip had the most fascinating presentation of photos of the landscape before and after the establishment of the Scenic Railway, Skyway, Cableway and Walkway as it presents today.

The photos showed specific points of change from the 1880s to the present day.

While Scenic World has remained open during the current bushfire threats, (It was closed a couple of times) we seriously suggest that you check out their website or contact Scenic World first before visiting.

Riddle

I am clean when I am black and dirty when I am white. What am I?

Answer to last month's riddle.

Mailbox

2020 Membership Renewal

Membership Renewals are still being accepted.

2019 membership ended on the 31st December.

Payment can be made by way of cheque or cash only.

The AGM is on Saturday February 22nd 2020 and only paid up members can nominate for Committee positions.

Only financial members are entitled to vote.

Sunday Roster

19th January Harry and Craig

2nd February Ted and Richard

If you are available for a Sunday roster, please contact Harry May on 02 4732 1520.

Quote

Cheers to a new year and another chance for us to get it right.

Oprah Winfrey

Contacts

Email	info@armsofaustraliainn.org.au	
Telephone	During opening hours 02 4735 4394	
President	Craig Werner	0417 271 328
Vice President	Ken Wright	0407 473 530
Secretary	Trish Montgomery	0402 086 088
Treasurer/Public Officer	Harry May	02 4732 1520
Museum Manager	Ted Nowak	0451 035 185
Site Manager	Anthony Grainge	02 4731 2303
Business Manager	Carmel Heywood	
Ordinary Committee Member	Richard Nutt	0407 014 157
Heritage Advisory Rep	Beth Moore	02 4735 1734
Speakers	Richard Nutt	0407 014 157
Books, Photography	Anthony Grainge	02 4731 2303
Catering	Elsa Speechley	02 4721 4993
Lantern Tours	Craig Werner	0417 271 328
	or email: craigj10@bigpond.com	
Publicity	Lisa Finn Powell	0424 466 823
	or email: info@lisafinnpowell.com	

Please note that the inn alarm is now on.

If you can't make your duty day, please change with somebody who can.

Please remember to sign in the diary in the meeting room, and write any information in the diary pertinent to your time on duty.

Birthday Wishes to the following members

Chris, Rosemary, Margaret Denny, Lorna.

Raffle Prizes

Marie Viviani always needs raffle prizes, so if you can help in providing some, please take them to the inn.

Meetings

The NDHS meets on the 4th Saturday of each month with a guest speaker at 1pm on the premises, Cnr. of Great Western Highway & Gardenia St, Emu Plains.

Museum Opening Hours

Monday, Wednesday & Thursday 9am to 2pm
1st & 3rd Sunday 1pm to 4pm.

Contributions for the next Bulletin to - trishmontgomery1970@gmail.com