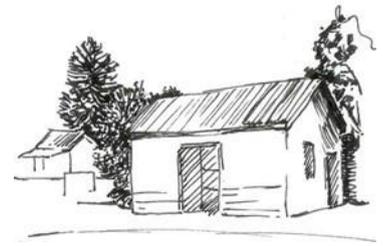


# Bundanoon History Group

## Monthly Newsletter

August 2020



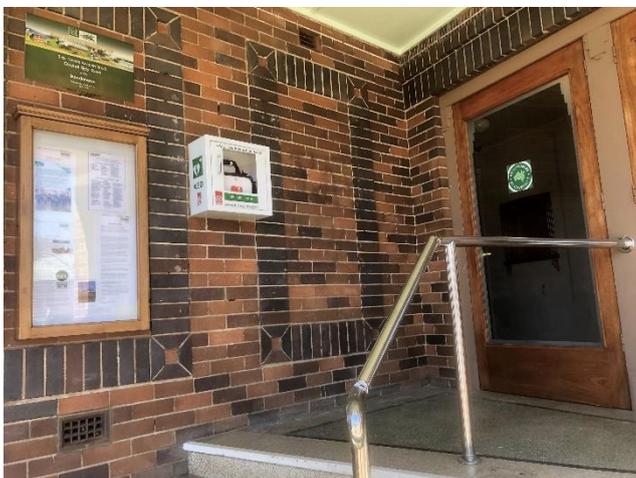
### From the President

Hello everyone. Recently the Bundanoon Hotel, Solar Springs, The Pill Factory and Youth Hostel have all undergone major renovations to cater for our 21<sup>st</sup> century Tourists, whilst post Covid lockdown has driven a resurgence of people escaping the cities to enjoy the freedom and space we have here in Bundanoon.

*In this Newsletter* I have included a few historical snippets on the Tourist industry in Bundanoon over the past 100 years - they provide an interesting contrast to the present day.

Our other main story is from Philip Morton and describes the major derailment at the Bundanoon Station in November 1955.

*Heritage Matters* - I imagine most will by now have seen the new defibrillator outside the Memorial Hall but just in case you haven't, here's a pic below – thanks to the BCA Newsletter.



Some will say the siting of the defibrillator compromises the heritage of the Soldiers Memorial Hall. However, the BHG and the BCA did consult on the matter, as well as involving the Heritage Officer at Council. The Hall was judged to be in a prime position in an emergency where anyone could access it at any time. The entrance to the Hall already had the non-heritage BCA-notice case attached and the defibrillator was fixed in such a way as to not damage the Hall brickwork.

Sadly, the Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute documents that over 15,000 Australians suffer a cardiac arrest outside of hospital every year, but only 10% survive. Hence those first 3-5 minutes immediately following an arrest and before First Response arrives are absolutely key to survival. The defibrillator is easy to use and talks you through the process.

Best wishes and keep well, David

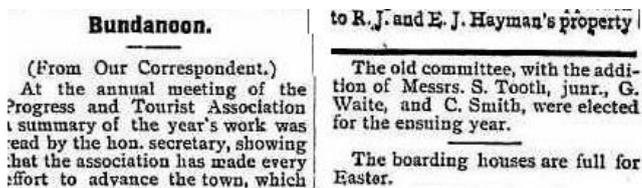
Email: [david.brennen@yahoo.com](mailto:david.brennen@yahoo.com)  
Tel: 0432 608 47

### Coming Events

**Mon 7 Sep 10.00am:** BHG Monthly Meeting at the Bundanoon Social Club. Guest speaker: Harvey Grennan, ex Sydney Morning Herald journalist. As per last month, members must book in advance with Irene Brewster (Graham has no internet service at the moment) Tel. 4883 7214; or email: [brew.irene@bigpond.com](mailto:brew.irene@bigpond.com)

**The Bundanoon Progress & Tourist Association, in 1912**

*There have been several organisations across the years focused on getting the best for our village, much like the role of the BCA today. The following article appeared in the Scrutineer and the Berrima District newspaper on Saturday 30 March 1912, page 2 and is extracted from Trove. Interesting that over 100 years ago they were fighting the battle for more trains to Bundanoon, much like we are today.*



Scrutineer Newspaper cutting - expanded text below

At the annual meeting of the Progress and Tourist Association a summary of the year's work was read by the hon. secretary, showing that the association has made every effort to advance the town, which will be seen from the following work that it has been instrumental in having carried out:

- Clearing land slide on deviation road to the Gullies, repairing trucking yards, getting Federal polling booth at the post office for visitors instead of having to go to Moss Vale, also for appointing a local presiding officer at Federal elections;
- having a telephone bureau at the post office granted ;
- co-operating with other associations and councils in getting the excursion tickets reverted to the old way ;
- asking for metal off old road at back of cemetery carted on to the new road with the result that the new portion of the road is to be metalled but with new metal ; having ornamental trees planted in Erith street;
- writing to the railway department re

allowing trains to stand across the public road ; trying to get the 5.15 p.m. train to Moss Vale extended to Bundanoon and included in the summer timetable writing to the department re 6.40 p.m. mixed train from Moss Vale to Goulburn not having any lights;

- writing to the Postmaster- General re cutting In telephone line, Sydney to Goulburn granted, but since refused by the present Minister; making an effort to get one of the banks to open a weekly branch at Bundanoon ;
- obtaining a public rubbish tip tor the town ;
- trying to get the Sunday evening train to start from Bundanoon for Sydney ;
- co-operating with Goulburn to get the 5.15 p.m. train extended to Goulburn ; writing to the Commissioners re No. 79 train when running to pick up passengers between Bundanoon and Goulburn; writing re a loading stage at Bundanoon yards, which was refused;
- writing to Postmaster-General for a late fee letter box at the station, which was refused;
- writing to the Minister for Education for a small portion of the school ground for the purpose of erecting a School of Arts, which was refused ;
- co-operating with Goulburn to get the tourist area extended to Goulburn, which was refused ;
- having subscription lists placed in boarding houses in order to raise funds towards erecting a 1000 candle power lamp near the railway station ;
- writing to the council re approach to R. J. and E. J. Hayman's property

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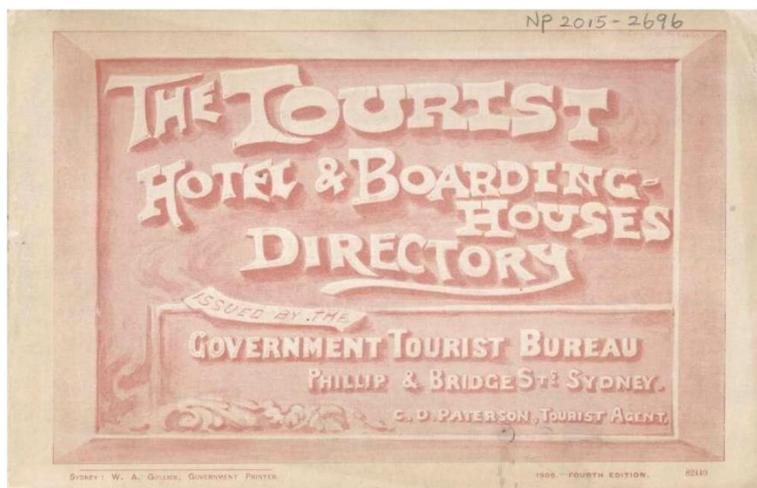
The old committee, with the addition of Messrs. S. Tooth, jnr., G. Waite, and C. Smith, were elected for the ensuing year.

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The boarding houses are full for Easter.

**Bundanoon Hotel and Boarding Houses Directory - 1906**

From the NSW Tourist Bureau Directory for 1906. It appears that there were Tourist Associations throughout NSW, and the Tourist Association Rooms for Bundanoon were at W. A. Nicholas' Pill Factory. It may be that Nicholas was the one who initiated it for Bundanoon. All extracted from Trove.



Cover Page 1906 – The Tourist Hotel and Boarding Houses Directory

**Southern District—continued.**

Railway Station.	Name of Hotel or Boarding-house.	By whom kept.	Persons accommodated.	Charges.	
				Per day.	Per week.
<p><b>BUNDANOON, 2,205 feet (97 miles from Sydney),</b> is rapidly becoming a popular resort, both on account of the scenery and climate. The "Bundanoon Gullies" are among the grandest on the line, and are within a short distance of the station. There are many interesting and picturesque views locally. Vehicles are attached to most of the accommodation houses, and visitors are driven free when required.</p> <p>Tourist Association Rooms, W. A. Nicholas, Golden Cross, Bundanoon.</p>	<b>Hotel.</b>				
	Royal .....	Mrs. Tyler (see advt., p. 22).	20	6/- to 8/-	£1:5:0 to £2:2:0
	<b>Boarding-houses.</b>				
	Woodside .....	Mrs. Buckland ...	25	5/-	£1:5:0 to £1:10:0
	The Knoll .....	G. W. Osborn .....	8	5/-	£1:10:0
	Devonleigh .....	Miss Roberts .....	12	5/-	£1:10:0
	Fernfield .....	Wm. Grice .....	20	5/-	£1:10:0
	Summerhill .....	Alf. Grice ...	16	5/-	£1:5:0
	Spring Vale.....	Mrs. Gambell .....	25	4/-	£1:1:0
	Altona .....	Mrs. Calverley ...	18	5/-	£1:5:0
	Ivy Dale .....	Mrs. Fahey .....	6	4/-	£1:5:0
	Mountain Home.....	Mrs. Bearmann ...	6	4/-	£1:1:0
	Lynbrook .....	Mr. Joe Grice.....	20	4/- to 5/-	£1:5:0
	Hazeldean .....	Mrs. Tyler (see advt., p. 22).	16	5/-	£1:5:0
	Rose Villa .....	Mrs. E. Clout .....	9	4/-	£1:1:0
The Glen Farm .....	Mrs. F. W. Marsh	6	4/-	£1:1:0	
Mountain Home .....	Wm. Bearman ...	6	4/-	£1:1:0	
<b>KAREELA, 2,111ft. (102 miles from Sydney)</b>	.....	Mrs. Williams .....	8	4/-	£1:1:0

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Page 21 – 1906 Listed Hotel and Boarding Houses in Bundanoon

**“Bellevue Park” Bundanoon Guest House – 1950’s**

*Bellevue Park operated as a guest house from the 1930’s through until 1977. Here’s a card from the establishment defining the “Rules of*

*the House”. How times have changed – kids in bed by 8pm, no noise after 11pm and definitely no raiding of the other guests’ bedrooms or pillow fights. The property was built between 1914-16 and is now a private residence situated at the southern end of Penrose Road.*

<p><b>"Bellevue Park" :: Bundanoon</b>                  HUGH AKRIGG (Proprietor). Phone 7.</p> <p>★</p> <p>THIS GUEST HOUSE IS FOR YOUR ENJOYMENT AND PLEASURE, PLEASE TREAT IT WITH RESPECT</p> <p>★</p> <p>GUESTS ARE KINDLY REQUESTED TO COMPLY WITH THE FOLLOWING RULES:-</p> <p>ALL board is payable in advance, on arrival, for full time of booking.</p> <p>NO refunds will be made.</p> <p>ALL bedrooms to be vacated by 10 a.m. on day of departure, irrespective of time of arrival.</p> <p>★</p> <p><b>MEAL TIMES</b></p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td><b>EACH DAY</b></td> <td><b>SUNDAYS &amp; HOLIDAYS</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Breakfast - - - 8 a.m.</td> <td>Breakfast - - - 8 a.m.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lunch - - - - 1 p.m.</td> <td>Dinner - - - - 1 p.m.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dinner - - - - 6 p.m.</td> <td>Tea - - - - 6 p.m.</td> </tr> </table> <p>Guests are requested to be prompt at meal times.</p> <p>★</p> <p>7 a.m.—Early Morning Tea, if ordered, 1/6 per morning, 10/6 weekly.</p> <p>11 a.m., 4 p.m., 9 p.m.—Tea and Biscuits. 1/6 each per person.</p> <p>Use of Iron 1/- per half hour (minimum charge).</p> <p>Garage 7/- weekly.</p>		<b>EACH DAY</b>	<b>SUNDAYS &amp; HOLIDAYS</b>	Breakfast - - - 8 a.m.	Breakfast - - - 8 a.m.	Lunch - - - - 1 p.m.	Dinner - - - - 1 p.m.	Dinner - - - - 6 p.m.	Tea - - - - 6 p.m.	<p>Children are taken, provided they are well behaved, and do not annoy other guests.</p> <p>Children are to remain seated at meal times and must not carry food out of dining room.</p> <p>Children are not to run in the corridors, and are requested to place lolly papers and fruit skins in the tins provided. Please keep hands off walls, and shoes off bedspreads.</p> <p>Children are to be in bed by 8 p.m.</p> <p>ALL breakages and damages to be paid for.</p> <p>The proprietor accepts NO responsibility for money or valuables left in rooms, or for any accident which may occur.</p> <p>Guests are responsible for all items in their rooms.</p> <p>Guests are requested to make as little noise as possible after 11 p.m.</p> <p>RAIDING OF OTHER GUESTS' ROOMS, PILLOW FIGHTS, MOVING OF FURNITURE, BEDS DISMANTLED, CURTAINS OR BEDDING DISARRANGED, CONFETTI THROWING IN HOUSE OR VERANDAHS IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED.</p> <p>No parties allowed in bedrooms.</p> <p>Any chairs taken off the verandah to be replaced on verandah.</p> <p>Cushions are not to be taken from lounge room, or blankets, or any article from bedrooms or dining room.</p> <p>Dogs, crayons, chalks, plasticene, chewing gum, confetti and spirit lamps are not allowed on these premises.</p> <p>The Proprietor reserves the right to terminate the stay of any persons who breaks any of these above rules or makes a nuisance of himself in any way.</p>
<b>EACH DAY</b>	<b>SUNDAYS &amp; HOLIDAYS</b>									
Breakfast - - - 8 a.m.	Breakfast - - - 8 a.m.									
Lunch - - - - 1 p.m.	Dinner - - - - 1 p.m.									
Dinner - - - - 6 p.m.	Tea - - - - 6 p.m.									

**Havoc caused by derailment at Bundanoon in November 1955**

Article: Philip Morton

Photos: BHG

**TRAINS DELAYED.** *“When the axle of a truck broke at Bundanoon at 4:30am on Saturday the goods train of which it was a part tore up the permanent way and blocked both up and down lines. One of the rails was curved round in a complete semi-circle. Goods from several trucks*

*were strewn over the line and break down gangs from Goulburn and Sydney had a difficult task in making one line free for traffic. It was not until 8pm on Sunday that the line was fully repaired.”*

- the Southern Mail, 24 November, 1955

According to townspeople at the time, when the incident occurred the quiet pre-dawn of Bundanoon was shattered by what sounded like an earthquake or a bomb going off.

It was 19 November, 1955 and a heavily laden goods train approaching Bundanoon station from the north suddenly derailed.

Local resident Les Rundle was eight years old at the time and remembers being woken by the commotion. When he and his mates hoofed it down to the station they were amazed at the devastation.



**STATION ONLOOKERS:** Locals inspect the devastation

The Sydney Morning Herald was quick off the mark and the following day reported the incident in its Sunday issue of 20 November:

*“The main southern line was blocked yesterday when 10 trucks of a Goulburn-bound goods train were derailed at Bundanoon. Both sets of tracks at the station were damaged. One set was ripped up for 500 yards. The derailment occurred when one of the 39 trucks broke an axle at 4.30am. The truck was laden with blue metal which was strewn along the permanent way. Breakdown gangs from Goulburn and Sydney had cleared the line to Sydney shortly before 1pm. The first train to get through was the Riverina Express at 1pm, about two and a half hours late. Mrs J Sawtell, the wife of the Bundanoon police officer, said she had never seen anything like it.”*

Pat Turner, the stationmaster at Bundanoon from the 1960s, recalls that, as the wagons derailed, the engine and first wagons careered

along and up, smashing through the platforms. Stationmaster Harry West saw it coming and took off out the back window of the signal room without injury. No other persons were hurt but the lengthy disruptions inconvenienced many.



**MANGLED TRACK:** The clean-up was prompt



**HEAVY DUTY JOB:** Looking south, note the garage with NRMA signage on the left