

Bundanoon History Group

Monthly Newsletter

March 2022



Guest Editor: David le Cheminant

From the President

Hello everyone. A warm welcome to Autumn plus a regretful goodbye to the Summer we somehow never had.

The main news this month is that our BHG team has been busy working on the Bundanoon Heritage Day Tour for National Trust Members and guests on 23 March. The BHG members involved are Beryl Seckington, Carol Cosgrove, Cat Ayers, Amy Press, Ralph Clark, David Le Cheminant, Steve Press, Ian Smith, Gil Wheaton, Andrew Killingsworth (Sydney Trains), Peter Goulding and myself. We are writing scripts, organizing videos, curating displays, and some will act as guides. We see this as our first fundraiser for 2022 and a prototype for future fundraising tours. Full details of the Tour are included later in this Newsletter.

We expect a party of up to 60 people and a special lunch has been organized at the Bundanoon Social Club. Fingers crossed for fine weather.

The Old Goods Shed: Peter Goulding and Don Gray have just achieved the seemingly impossible. After 30 years of being tightly sealed, we slid open one of the main doors to the Shed.

We see this as another step towards increasing Shed visitor numbers, which declined sharply after the Sunday Market moved from the Soldiers' Memorial Hall up to the School. Having one of the doors open makes the Shed more visible with improved access for the public.



Well done, a great result!

AGM 7 March: After four years, I am standing down as President at the March AGM but looking forward, if elected, to stay on the Committee. It's been a most enjoyable time for me and a huge thanks to everyone for all your support.

I hope to see you at the meeting and shout if you are flooded in. I can arrange a pickup in my Tinny.

Best wishes and stay dry.
David

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National Trust Promotion for Bundanoon Heritage Day – Wednesday 23rd March 2022



This day out will be very interesting to a wide range of our members. We have teamed up with the Bundanoon History Group to show to you the rich heritage of the modern day village of Bundanoon, focussing on the village's Conservation area and heritage trail, as well as the railway station complex, Bundanoon Hotel and in the afternoon two special buildings, originally guest houses - the Old Pill Factory offering accommodation options for more than 30 people and Lynbrook, now Highball House continuing a long history of hospitality.

We will start the day at 10am, rendezvousing at the Anglican Church in Church Street with good parking in nearby roads and, after a briefing we'll divide into groups and set forth on our walking tour with our Bundanoon History Group guides.

We'll return to our cars for the short drive to lunch at the updated Bundanoon Club 70B Erith Street. When making your booking through Eventbrite you'll be asked to make a choice from the menu to facilitate a timely service - lunch is included in your ticket price.

After lunch we drive to two guesthouses for a most interesting tour of these buildings and their histories – they are now also available for holiday lettings.

Bookings close at **5pm on Monday 21st March** with limited tickets available. The event will go ahead, except in the most inclement weather.

(Editor's Note: BHG members are welcome to join the tour if there are spare places and can book via the Eventbrite link below.)

[Book via Eventbrite](#)

Archive Team Report

Ian Smith – Co-Ordinator

(editors note – this is a summary of the work done in the last month. It does not reflect all the work they have done)

The archives group met on the 25 February 2022, the first for the year. Matters discussed included: Bundanoon places for heritage matters (including the old Fairview guest house, Church Street, imminent development of *Spring Hill* property, and Nancy Kingsbury Reserve), heritage trail signage project, and kick-starting digitisation of the collection

National Trust Visit – Numerous zoom meetings and preparation of material including a 27 minute video to be shown to the visitors during lunch at the club.

Website – preparation by Beryl of a short movie that was uploaded onto the website in February.

Digitisation - Ian digitised collection folders S.H. 2.1 to S.H. 2.5. Beryl amended the collection database accordingly

Old Goods Shed Ian has reviewed and completed a draft revision of the contents of the FAQ folder from the Shed (this is used to assist with public enquiries on Shed opening days); other archive group member have provided valuable comments and input.

Oral History - Bushfire Project oral histories: Beryl has (1) extracted audio clips from some of the interviews. (2) downloaded files for archiving and copied these to the Digital Archive drive.

Bushfire Archive - Beryl has downloaded these folders and added them to the digital archive drive:

- Administration and meetings

- Background documents
 - Maps
 - NSW independent expert inquiry-submissions
 - Presentations
 - grants and submissions
 - Excel spreadsheet - BHG Bushfire 2020
- Archive Project - Interview contact & tracking Master

Images Collection -Beryl reformatted and added new items to the photos database.

Archives Database - Ian processed 63 new collection items. Beryl added these and other information to the database.

Heritage Signs - Beryl has completed draft no.3 for the Tennis Club sign. She also looked at the design of a sign for the Hotel.

Following a request from David, Carol has liaised with Claudia Marvin re moving the Pill Factory heritage trail sign for the Pill Factory. Following Carol's reconnaissance the sign will now be on the Pill Factory side of Anzac Parade.

Heritage Matters - Carol continues to liaise with Dennis McManus (Wingecarribee Council) ref. heritage listing of sites in Bundanoon. Specifically, Carol checked the following website, referred by Dennis, with an aerial photo of Bundanoon from Destination NSW: <https://sydneyexpert.com/nsw-southern-highlands/>

Events Team

Ralph Clark -Co-Ordinator

Unfortunately our planned get-together at Gambell's Rest on March 1 had to be postponed until the weather got back to normal.

Instead, we have arranged something completely different - a self-drive outing to Penrose Park, the Pauline Fathers complex at Sutton Forest.

Penrose Park - 120 Hanging Rock Road, Sutton Forest - is the home of the Pauline Fathers, an order founded in Hungary in the 13th century. It is also the home of a replica of the famous Black

Madonna, an icon said to be painted by St Luke the Evangelist.

The original Black Madonna has been held by the Pauline Fathers since 1382 and resides at their mother-house at Jasna Gora in Poland.

Penrose Park with its imposing church was established as a shrine to Our Lady of Mercy in 1984 and of special interest are the many small international chapels since built by local immigrant communities from varied European cultures, each with its own national flavour and character.

These miniature chapels are well worth a look and there are extensive grounds in which to enjoy our picnic lunch.

We have arranged for one of the congregation to give our group a brief history of the order and the site.

Directions: 120 Hanging Park Rd, Sutton Forest.

Turn left onto the Hume Highway at Sally's Corner, drive almost 2kms then turn right into Hanging Rock Road. The turnoff is just past the rest area.

Time: 14th March - plan to arrive at 11.30am.

Arrangements: This time the function is completely BYO. We suggest you bring a picnic lunch, or grab something on the way, plus whatever refreshments you prefer.

Allow an hour to look around the buildings and grounds before lunch.

RSVP: Please let Ralph Clark (0418 265 529 or rlc2578@gmail.com) know you are coming.

Get involved – trust me - you will not regret it.

From the Editor

Why Join a Sub Committee?

The Bundanoon History Group was not even on the list of groups I was considering joining when we moved to Bundanoon.

Gardening group, BCA, local weaving groups – those were on my list, as was country walks, long lunches, and a little exploration of the area both near and far.

Now I have done some of these things, but the History Group was not on my ‘A’ list.

But I also started to talk to my neighbor David Brennen. And so I discovered that the History Group appears to be a very progressive group, do interesting visits, and have an impact in a number of ways on the local community.

And when I joined the committee I really came to appreciate just how important and interesting a number of projects that BHG are instigating are , both to the Bundanoon culture and to the groups future.

But why join a subcommittee? You would have heard every argument for this. For BHG the issues at present include:

- many hands make light work,
- succession planning
- continuation and development of some longer-term plans.

And trust me , I am no historian but I can contribute by being able to use excel, and also by being an outsider who is not afraid to ask a question.

So I look forward to seeing you all at the AGM, and consider being a member of any one of the special interest groups - or even the committee itself!

Joining the BHG was one of the best decisions I have made. And being on the committee is icing on the cake.

So thank you for letting me be part of the Bundanoon History Group.

Upcoming Events

March 14 – Pauline Monastery

March 18 - Berrima History Group Museum
Tours (sheets at next meeting)

July 13 – Yass Coach Trip

October 18-20 Junee Coach Trip