

Bundanoon History Group

Monthly Newsletter

August 2023



ARCHIVES GROUP REPORT

July 2023

From the President

I would encourage you to look at the Bundanoon History Group website. Each month I receive an email from Robert Seckington advising me of the latest updates to the page. You will find three 8mm films of the Bundanoon Primary School. Not only are they entertaining but you may recognise someone you know!

Lots to read this month, especially the article from Carol about the Planning Proposal for Heritage Listings for Wingecarribee.

It's not too late to book for next Saturday's Trivia night at the Bundanoon Club. There are lots of spaces left and the promise of a good night to be had by all.

There is also the opportunity to join us at Goulburn Station for a tour of the station buildings. You will need to book your train ticket on the 9.06 Canberra train.

Looking forward to seeing you at the meeting on Monday where our guest speaker is Gary Barnsley and our member Loray Freeman will speak about her ancestor who was a Bundanoon local.

Amy

Public Enquiries

- Beryl completed the research on the cemeteries in Bundanoon for a self-guided tour for a guest at Highball House in July.
- Received a request for info and the location of the Collins & Ringwood collieries. Beryl sent them a link to the coal mine video.
- Beryl received an enquiry about the possibility of putting a plaque on a seat outside the Good Yarn to celebrate Ross Council's 100th birthday year. This has been referred to the BHG Committee.
- Carol researched and responded to an enquiry about protecting the rock structures at 'Spring Hill' property. The enquirer indicated these may have been built by Italian POWs who may or may not have worked at 'Spring Hill' during the Second World War. After researching this, Carol advised the enquirer that we didn't have any information about the matters she raised but that we would appreciate it if they could contribute any further information to us.

Movies

- Beryl received a request from Cecily Chillick for a movie to be part of the Bundanoon School celebrations. Subsequently, Beryl has commenced creating a short movie.

President: Amy Press **Vice President:** David Brennen **Secretary:** Steve Press **Treasurer:** David le Cheminant

Committee: Ralph Clark, Dianne Gray, Kerri Goulding, Beryl Seckington, Don Gray, Graham Morgan **Webmaster:** Robert Seckington

BHG Bank details: BSB: 641 800 Account: 017104781 Ref: (your name or reference) **Website:** www.bundanoonhistory.org.au

The views expressed by the editor or individual contributors do not necessarily represent the views of the committee or membership.

Other Research

- Beryl completed researching David Davies.
- Both Beryl and Carol researched house at 47-49 Railway Avenue, next door to the CWA rooms.
- Beryl also completed research on 30 Erith Street.

Heritage Matters

- Carol has noted that the Planning Proposal for heritage listing of those items in the Southern Highlands not yet listed (more than 450 items) has been approved by Council. They will now liaise and consult with relevant landowners. Letters of advice will then be sent to relevant community and local history groups. Proposed listings will then be open for public comment via the Council's website.
- Carol further advised that Council also adopted the following resolution:

“THAT: The Study Team and other volunteer contributors be acknowledged and thanked for their significant contribution in research, photography and compilation of the information contained in the Wingecarribee Community Heritage Study 2021-23”

Members of the Bundanoon History Group Archives Team were among those who contributed information to the Study on Bundanoon places.

Ian Smith
Convenor,
Archives Group

WINGECARRIBEE SHIRE COUNCIL COMMUNITY HERITAGE STUDY 2021-23

This Heritage Study is the third major heritage study undertaken for the Wingecarribee Shire. The first two Heritage Studies, in 1991 and 2009, were completed for Council by consultants, with input from the community, but both were primarily top-down studies. In the 2009 Heritage Study, 341 properties were recommended for heritage listing. However, Council only endorsed 81 of these in 2012, as the owners of the remaining properties either objected to the proposed listing or did not respond to Council's letters proposing to list their property.

The current Heritage Study was conducted by a Study Team comprising Council's then Heritage Advisory Committee and commenced in 2021. The Study Team agreed to review the justification for listing those places that had been identified but not approved for listing in 2012, including a more thorough heritage assessment of each item. It was also recognised that a number of additional potential heritage items and heritage conservation areas should be included in any re-examination.

The Heritage Advisory Committee members who collectively formed the Study Team comprised a representative each from the Berrima District Historical and Family History Society, the Southern Highlands Branch of the Australian Garden History Society and the Southern Highlands Branch of the National Trust of Australia, as well as a local heritage architect, a local landscape designer and heritage consultant, and retired heritage officer, Dennis McManus. All were involved in research, field work, documentation and assessment of potential heritage items that formed this current Study.

In addition to the input of the Study Team, numerous local community members were involved in providing information for this Study. These included former BHG member, Bud Townsing (now in Bowral). Members of Bundanoon History Group's Archives Team, David Brennen, Caroline Cosgrove, Ian Smith, Beryl Seckington and Andrew Pardoe (former Team member), assisted with information on places in Bundanoon.

The bulk of the field work, online research and documentation for this Study, as well as coordination of input from local community members, was performed by Dennis McManus. Apart from the work undertaken by Council staff (in particular Heritage Planner, Sarah Farnese), all of the work for this Study has been done on a voluntary basis, at no cost to Council.

The Study looked at some 600 sites in the Shire and 16 new and expanded landscape and expanded landscape and conservation areas. It recommended the listing of over 450 of these sites and 14 areas.

The study was endorsed by the Wingecarribee Local Planning Panel on June 29, 2023, and a motion to progress it was passed at the Council Meeting of July 19, 2023. Council staff will now send consultation letters to individual property owners that will include all the information that has been provided for listing their property. In addition, an independent peer review will be carried out at this time, prior to finalisation of the Study.

Following this, approved items will go on public exhibition. The council will send letters to community and history groups, including Bundanoon History Group, advising those places to be heritage listed, and will make information available for download on the Your Say Wingecarribee

website. An update on progress will be advised in a future BHG Newsletter.

Note that current heritage-listed places are itemised in the Wingecarribee Local Environmental Plan (LEP) 2010.

Caroline Cosgrove

Community Assistance Grant



The History Group was recently awarded a grant of \$2,670 to assist us renew the flooring of the Old Goods Shed. Our President and Secretary went along to the council's presentation ceremony on 2nd August to accept the certificate along with all the other recipients of the grants. The new floor covering will be installed when our landlord The Australian Rail Track Corporation (ARTC) installs a new roof.

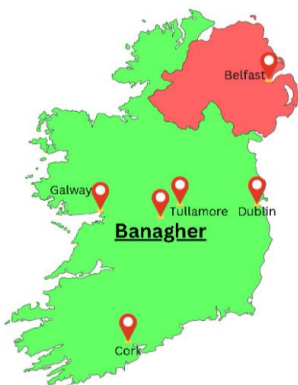


A Trip To The Centre of Ireland in Search of Family Roots

By Steve Press

I recently undertook a trip to the village of Banagher in County Offaly in Ireland to visit the place from which my ancestors emigrated in 1865.

Banagher sits in the very centre of Ireland, about as far from the sea that you can get in Ireland and about 40km southeast of Tullamore – the county town and location of the Tullamore D.E.W. whisky distillery. Getting to Banagher by



public transport meant travelling to Tullamore by train and then getting a bus for about an hour to arrive at Banagher.

Banagher is on the Shannon River (Ireland's longest river) and was in the past a strategic river crossing.

It was the site of several battles between the Cromwell forces and Catholics in the mid -17th century. In the late 18th and early 19th century the British feared an invasion of Ireland by the French coming up the Shannon from Galway and they constructed a Martello Tower on the river at Banagher. The tower and earlier "Cromwell Castle" are both still in Banagher and although you can't visit them you can walk around them.

Banagher is a small village, with a population just under 2,000. It's main street which has hardly changed since my ancestors Patrick and Catherine Lantry left in 1865. The main street stretches higgledy-piggledy up the hill from the Shannon with many vacant shops and deserted hotels. It does have a brand-new marina down at the river used for boats undertaking cruises along the



rivers and canals of Ireland. Banagher's main street is a conservation area and development has been limited. Prior to going to Ireland, I was able to purchase an Historical Guide to the Town from [The Offaly Historical Society](#) which outlines the history of all the buildings in the main street.

When we went to Banagher we were able to walk along the street and understand the streetscape by reference to the book, which was written in 1985. Absolutely nothing had changed in the streetscape since then. Also, from The Offaly Historical Society I was also able to obtain a book containing details of the graves in the old Catholic cemetery (St Rynaghs), which contained pictures of Lantry graves going back many years prior to my ancestors migration to Australia. We arrived at the locked gates to the old cemetery where we saw a handwritten notice with names and phone numbers to call to get the code to open the gate, which we successfully did. The graveyard was overgrown but a handy diagram on the wall showed us where the Lantry graves were, and it was an emotional experience for me to stand by the graves of long-ago ancestors.



The graveyard also had the ruins of the old St Rynaghs church which was too dangerous to enter but

further up the road we were able to visit the "new" church, also St Rynagh's but built in 1826, almost 30 years prior to my ancestors leaving which probably means they attended mass in this church.

I don't know why Patrick and Catherine Lantry left Ireland for Australia. The Irish famine had been in the second half of the 1840s and my ancestors didn't migrate until the mid- 1860s. Many Irish people migrated to Australia and my family chose the lower Hunter Valley near Maitland, so its possible many of their Irish friends and family settled

there. The Galway clearances after the Irish famine and the repeal of the Corn Laws which decimated corn growing couldn't have helped and Banagher and Offaly in general went into decline.

Going to Banagher was an exciting side adventure on our trip to Ireland. It's certainly not a town on the main tourist routes but for me at least it was a wonderful place to visit and especially interesting as it had changed so little in the 170 years since my ancestors left for Australia.



The People Have Songs – a message from The Bundanoon Folk Festival



Dear Friend of Bundanoon Folk Festival

As you are aware, the very first Bundanoon Folk Festival will be held this year on 24-26 November. If you are not living within 70km of Bundanoon, you

may not be interested in this information but someone you know may well be, so please read on.

To celebrate the grassroots nature of folk music, the Festival is hosting a collaborative community music project called The People Have Songs. With tunes and words contributed by poets and musicians, it will create a totally new, original work that speaks of Bundanoon and surrounds, of its people and events past and present, special places and natural environment. The work will include song, dance, instrumental and spoken word performance – so we are seeking local singers, dancers, instrumentalists and spoken word performers to participate.

The work will be rehearsed by performers in Bundanoon in the weeks leading up to the Festival from 29 September and in two workshops at the Festival, culminating in a performance in the closing concert on Sunday 26 November. A limited number of season tickets will be available to participants in this project.

We are inviting people who are interested in being a part of this unique event to register their interest by completing and submitting the form here

[PARTICIPATE - THE PEOPLE HAVE SONGS — Bundanoon Folk Festival](#)

When you hit the Submit button your responses will be automatically entered in our database will acknowledge receipt of your registration by email. You can send your queries to me at: bffestival.projects@gmail.com.

Commission on EFTPOS transactions Through the Square Terminal



As more of our members go cashless, we have had to reassess whether the BHG can continue to absorb the commission

SQUARE charges us on transactions.

At the last committee meeting, the committee resolved to pass on the 1.9% commission on EFTPOS transactions. The alternative to not being charged the commission is to direct credit funds to the group's bank account, on which no commission is charged.

Feel free to forward this invitation to anyone you know who might be interested and available. This is an exciting way to support your local Festival and be part of building something new and fabulous in your community.

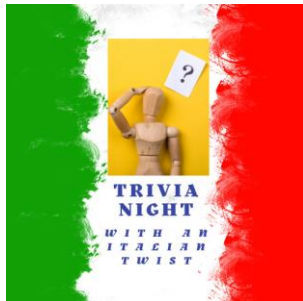
We are really looking forward to working with you! cheers

Dallas
Dallas de Brabander
Deputy Convenor, Bundanoon Folk Festival



Trivia Night Saturday 12th August at 7pm

Trivia Night – we are holding a fund-raising Trivia Night at The Bundanoon Club at 7pm on Saturday 12th August. The cost is \$30, of which



\$10 is donated to the History Group and supper is served. Attendees are welcome to come dressed in an Italian theme (or not) and there will be prizes for the best dressed and the best decorated table.

Form a team or email me at historygroupbundanoon@gmail.com and I'll allocate you to a team. Tickets can be purchased at our monthly meeting or better still through TryBooking at <https://www.trybooking.com/CJEKQ>

Goulburn Trip Thursday 17th August



As previously advised our next excursion is to Goulburn by train. The date is Thursday August 17. It is up to individual members to book their own tickets with Transport NSW, which must be done online.

We will catch the 9.06am service from Bundanoon and return at 1.16pm, getting home at 2.00pm. The trip will be led by Andrew Killingsworth, heritage officer with NSW Trains, so it is a special privilege. We will have access to the normally locked room on the no 2 platform. (This involves using stairs up and over the line.)
