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Macleay River Historical Society

NEWSLETTER

August, 2014

Number 8

PRESIDENT REPORT

Sadly we are losing Peggy Gould who is moving away from the district to be closer to family. Peggy is one of our most experienced researchers and we hope to hold a suitable function further down the track.

We welcome Dianne Nolan to the Research Team. Dianne started volunteering for us last year and will bring valuable skills to this important area.

Thanks to all who helped with our Fun Day on 5 July, which was a great success. Our Education Officer, Lee Hoinville, has come up with some other ideas for future events and I am asking for comments on these. A survey of respondents found that the most effective way of advertising was via handbills although the Macleay Argus gave us good coverage over several editions.

A further Fun Day is proposed for November in conjunction with a display to be mounted by the Kempsey Spinners and Weavers.

We were unsuccessful in gaining Deductible Gift Recipient Status with the ATO – we do not have a governing body comprised of people with a degree of responsibility to the public, and we are not a dedicated public museum.

The application for a Community Building Partnership Grant to cover additional costs for the shed was submitted on time. We should find out later this month if we were successful for the Clubs Grant we submitted earlier this year which hopefully will cover the major cost of our shed.

Kempsey Shire Council has assisted our shed application with a drainage plan, and we are now to submit a modified consent application to complete the development application process.

As promised, we are including in this Newsletter an excellent article on Place Names by Michelle Nichols of Hawkesbury City Council

Library. This will be part of a series of occasional articles to assist members and readers in family history and historical research.

Phil Lee
President and Editor

RESEARCH REPORT

Louise enquired about John Marshall (Templeman). He is the adopted son of John and Margaret Marshall and Louise has no information on him.

Ken wanted information on private hospitals in Kempsey, which Ruth provided.

Brian Humphries wanted gravesite details for Edward Ball and Ann Ball and the grave details of any relatives buried nearby.

Barrie sent an email regarding his aboriginal background from his great great grandmother's side and the Euroka Chapman family. John Chapman, convict and William Chapman, the first in the area, rejoined in Australia from England

Phil Lee and Ruth Woodward responded to Council's letter regarding the renaming of Hillview Drive, West End, Yarravel. After searching Parish maps, they found that section of the road was near in Lieutenant Charles Steele's property, "Yarraval". The name Steele was used for the naming of Steeles Creek Road; instead, they suggested the use of Ferrier after John Ferrier, shipbuilder, who took over the property from Steele.

Warwick and Pam Grace donated a document "The Grace's Fruit Shop/Café/Restaurant 1870s – 1920s", which Warwick prepared. James Bannister Grace from Wiltshire, England built the greengrocery shop in Belgrave Street in the 1870s; it later became Refreshment Rooms. In March 1922, W J Devine took over the business, followed one year later by the Mottee Brothers, before becoming Lou's Café as it is today.

Louise is still trying to find more information on John Edward (Templeman) Marshall, adopted son of John and Margaret Marshall. She noticed P Brown and W Brown were witnesses on Margaret Marshall's death certificate and wondered if we could trace them to see what connection they had with the family. That resulted in a dead end also.

Megan wrote enquiring about her mother's family, Marriott. Her aunt has told her about Frederick John Marriott and his wife, Maud Mary (nee Bowen). Frederick's grandparents came to Kempsey; it was here that Frederick and Maud married. Maud left Kempsey

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following the death of Frederick in 1914 and she reared her three children with the help of the Bowen family in Granville.

Megan has no information about the family in Kempsey; their occupations, social life and where they lived. Her aunt has no photos at all of the family Maud left behind and no idea of what they look like. Although we do hold some photographs of the Marriott family, they are mostly unidentified, but Phil may have found a photograph of Frederick's brother. Dianne Nolan was introduced into the Research Dept with this enquiry, assisted by Phil.

Sam, a Public Health student at James Cook University, came in to use Joan Steffensen's Aboriginal History files to research Aboriginal and Torres Strait health.

On the first of August Dan requested research on the subject of Mr John Charles, a herbalist connected with the Macleay area during 1905-1909. Peggy found reference to John Charles moving to more commodious premises in River Street, Kempsey (MA 12/02/1910) and the death notice and undertaker's name (MA 25/11/1910) but further information about the undertaker were not found within the MRHS files.

Phil's search of the Macleay Chronicle found 14 document items useful in the results. A further search of the Macleay Argus for the period found 14 more document items of use. In total 42 items were found on John Charles. A new file on "Medical Practitioners - Herbalists" will be created following this research.

On July 1, Bernadette requested information on the name of the wife of Cornelius O'Sullivan of Pee Dee station. Although research was not formally undertaken a copy of one document was provided.

Research on the year 1852 was initiated by Dianne and will progress over coming months to bring archival information from E C Merewether's Letter book and other documents into a story about that time period.

Maggie from Stuarts Point phoned looking for a home for a letter written by a member of the Ramsay family, and asking if we could search for other family members still in the area who would like it. Val Miles spoke to several Ramsays she knew of but they were not related. We finally received the letter which we will copy for our records and save the original in hope of finding a family member to pass it on to. The letter was by Private James Ramsay of the AIF written in the Middle East in 1941, one year before he was killed in action in New Guinea. Pte Ramsay is remembered in the "Streets of Honour" programme.

Our Affiliations

Australasian Federation of Family History Organisations
Australasian Telephone Collector's Society Inc
Australian National Maritime Museum
Historic Houses Trust
Macleay Valley Coast Tourism
Museums Australia
Museums and Galleries NSW
Royal Australian Historical Society

Leslee was researching the Edwards family of Austral Eden and Peter Ryan is handling that enquiry.

Carol, daughter of Henry Ernest Sullivan who made the *Fairy Queen* model ship, sent us an autobiography of her father. Born in Smithtown in 1895, Henry Sullivan later moved with his family to Arakoon House. He enlisted in the Light Horse during World War 1 and served in Palestine. The autobiography provides much background for a significance assessment of the *Fairy Queen* model and could be the subject of a future Journal.

Jane Smith allowed the Society to copy her story about her husband, Tom's, family history in the document, "The Smith Lines". There are only three originals in existence, one in England, and two in Queensland. So, having one in Kempsey will be of value given this was Tom's birthplace.

Peggy Gould and Dianne Nolan

Photography Report

Our new Flip-Pal scanner has been received and put into action. It was purchased with a generous donation from Kempsey West Rotary along with another twenty years of NSW Government Gazettes on CD-ROM. Flip scanning allows photos in an album or frame to be scanned, larger items can be scanned in sections and the resulting images to be "stitched" using the special software.

Richard and Michael have finished putting together a lot of photos and news articles on CD-Rom for Geoff Gill concerning the history of the Macleay District Motorcycle Club. They are celebrating their fiftieth anniversary later this year.

Among the archives of the Macleay Argus we received a box of file photographs of local identities from the sixties and seventies, along with large quantities of colour photographs from around fifteen years ago.

August has been another busy month. Our 'in-house' publication of Early Photographers is growing daily with Debbie's tireless effort, meticulously scanning the digitised newspapers, and selecting paragraphs and advertisements. We hadn't chosen a cut-off date for our photographers but now that we are so involved with it, it would be hard to set one.

Earl McNeil took over his father's studio more than 60 years ago and Mrs Charlesworth closed it in c.1968 – even that is at least 46 years ago. We thought we might as well include the few that came after her so we are scratching for names and information. We think Gerald Officer was the last although there was a photographer in Clyde Street a few years ago: if we can track her down she probably was the most recent. We are endeavouring to locate anyone in the family of Ernest Robinson who ran Robin Studios from 1946 and have written to our last known contact in 1995, hoping she is still at the same address. Keith McIntosh is another we have no information on. Any suggestions would be gratefully received.

When Ross Lane, recently allowed us to copy many family photographs and papers relevant to the Lane/Bennett family history he mentioned that he would like the history of the Pharmacy to be put together in a small publication. In 1902, the business was run by his grandfather Charles Andres Lane (who actually took over from his brother-in-law John Watt), continued by his father Mr. Colin Bennett Lane, and then by Ross himself.

As the only son of C.B. Lane, Ross holds the family papers. He has a most magnificent collection of glass bottles used in the pharmacy of which we have photographs and some other brass items used in those early days too. Amongst the papers, there is a collection of Prescription books used by Ross' grandfather Charles, the earliest being 1880. "Recipes" are the ingredients and doses prescribed for a customer's illness or condition. The Recipe books are flood damaged but still contain an index to the patients treated, the medicines prescribed, the cost and the doctor treating the patient.

Ross recently came across some more prescription books. Not realising that he had already donated some to us, he contacted the University of Sydney to see if they were interested in them, and of course the Librarian in the Rare Book Library immediately said "yes" and arranged to pick them up. Fortunately Ross spoke with Debbie who reminded him that we had some of the Recipe Books and Ross has now decided to donate the rest of the books to the Museum so that we will have them all.

It would be great if such a fine display could have its own file like the Kemp files, it is too valuable to be in a cardboard box somewhere. When our shed is built and the museum is rearranged, it would be appropriate to find a space within the museum to display our dentist's chair, anything optical, medical bits and pieces and our own Lane's Chemist shop while Ross is still available to assist us in setting it up. It is probably a unique collection amongst regional museums as most would go to the major museums and in this case, it would have been the University of Sydney's Rare Book Library.

Jenni from Coffs Harbour called in looking at photographs of Kinchela Boys' Home. She is producing a documentary on Ian Lowe ('Crow') the poet and ex-Kinchela Boy for NITV. She was also pleased to find a photograph of her father Gerry Ellis, one of the first aboriginal life savers in NSW.

The Macleay Argus wanted photographs of some early Kempsey buildings to display at the annual Business Awards night. They were going to take photographs of the buildings today for a "then and now" comparison and have promised us copies of any new photos taken.

Wendy Bowles from Charles Sturt University contacted us via email re a photograph of former Kempsey police black tracker Ray Peckham, who assisted in the 1949 flood aftermath. Phil found the photo of Ray posed with Kempsey police in one of the special Macleay Chronicle-Macleay Argus flood issues. As a bonus, Debbie provided a photo of her father's 1949 West Kempsey football team which also had a photo of Ray in it. Ray later became an Aboriginal land rights campaigner and Wendy is writing his biography.

Mark from Melbourne sent us an email re photos of the Mayfair Theatre and wanted the history of some of the other theatres in Kempsey. He is sending us an order for some photos of the Theatres.

JUDY WATERS DEBBIE REYNOLDS PHIL LEE JOHN RUSSELL, RUSSELL MCKENZIE

MUSEUM REPORT

Donations in June included two oil paintings by Arthur Jebb a former sign writer who was instrumental in founding the scouting movement in Kempsey.

Donations in July included a Potts iron, and petrol iron. I was pleased to find in the storeroom a piece off the Sauer cedar tree, donated a couple of years ago by Cecil Chapman. I was afraid it had been lost.

We had a visit from Bill Duncan OAM who is organising re-enactments of the recruitment marches of 1915 for the ANZAC Centenary. I have said we will assist with research and possibly a publication to coincide with the events. I have found names of most of the thirty-two Kempsey recruits who enlisted in the North Coasters.

We are nearly through the M&G NSW Standards Programme 2014 with a mid-Programme Workshop attended on 9 August. Overall, we are already meeting most of the criteria and our problem area is lack of space for display and visitor access. This will be rectified when the shed is completed.

Donations in August included a superb model of Captain Magnus Thompson's first boat, the *Fairy Queen*. Magnus had carried the first shipment of wheat from Port Pirie to Sydney in 1873 for which he received a silver medal, which was also donated. Magnus settled on the Macleay after retiring from the sea shortly afterwards. The donor was Carol Carlisle whose father was the great nephew of Magnus. He built the model in 1971.

As part of our Society's commemoration of the Centenary of World War 1, I am donating some postal history items from my collection. There is a telegram announcing the assassination of Arch Duke Francis Ferdinand in July 1914, and two postcards addressed to the Austro-Hungarian Vice-Consul in Newcastle. The Austro-Hungarian Vice-Consul in Newcastle was a solicitor, Archibald Alois Rankin. Mr Rankin resigned shortly after the outbreak of the War and devoted a lifetime of work to the Royal Newcastle Hospital. The Newcastle suburb of Rankin Park was named after him.

Phil Lee



Pte Jim Ramsay



Self Portrait of Paul Dubotzki (MRHS)

Exploring our Collection – the Paul Dubotzki Painting

Paul Dubotzki was born in Ingolstadt, Bavaria in 1891 and later apprenticed as a photographer in that State. His talent as a photographer was recognised early in his career when in 1913 he was invited to accompany a scientific expedition to China as a photographer.

After the outbreak of war in August 1914, Paul had somehow made his way from Asia to South Australia where he was interned as an enemy alien. He was eventually transferred to internment camps at Holdsworth and later Trial Bay. Nearly 7,000 people of German descent were interned in New South Wales during World War 1.

Paul continued to pursue his photography interests in internment, and documented many scenes of camp life from 1915 to 1917. He not only ran a photographic business, but also excelled in painting and acting.

After the breakdown of her marriage in Sydney, Mrs Maud Swift brought her two young daughters, Adelaide and Pam, to South West Rocks to live. Maud's sister was the wife of Captain Charles Beach the captain of the *Yugilbar*. During the period of the German prison camp at Trial Bay, Maud used to take her daughters to Dr Herz, one of the internees, if they were sick.

After the German internees were relocated to Holdsworth in 1918, children including the Swift sisters started exploring around the cliffs and the environs of the Gaol. The area had many dugouts built by the prisoners. These earth-houses were places where the inmates could have privacy and quite away from the main body of men, to pursue their own interests. In one of these the children found a piano. Before the authorities had started to take away the possessions and destroy the buildings, Maud

Swift became interested in a painting that had been found in one of the dugouts. She had previously studied art at the school of Lister Lister. Maud took the painting, a self-portrait by a young man, back to her home and copied it, possibly with the intention of returning it one day.

After Maud's death in 1963, her daughters Adelaide Swift and Mrs Pam Casey, donated both the original and copy of the painting to the Macleay River Historical Society. They were later professionally restored, the conservator remarking that the painting had many of the characteristics of the German Expressionist School. Thirty years later the painting remained unidentified although it was thought to be the work of another internee, Kurt Wiese who later became famous as a cartoonist in America.

During a study of internment for the Migration Heritage Centre, Nadine Helmi became interested in Paul Dubotzki's photographic works and eventually tracked Paul's descendants in Germany where more glass plate negatives were discovered. One of the Dubotzki photographs captioned *Malshule* (Art School), has an almost identical self-portrait of Paul hanging on the wall in the background. By the time the Historic Houses Trust exhibition "The Enemy at Home" was mounted in 2011, it had become generally accepted that the portrait held by our Society (which was loaned for the Exhibition) was that of Paul Dubotzki.

The Dubotzki self-portrait is a relic of a little known era in history, when over 7,000 Germans were interned in New South Wales. It represents the creativity of the internees as they sought to overcome the boredom and isolation of their imprisonment. On 14 June 2014, the painting was loaned to Great Southern Television, who were shooting one of the episodes at Trial Bay for the second television series of Coast Australia, featuring Scottish archaeologist and historian Neil Oliver.

References

- Carey, Caroline 1993 *Tales of Trial Bay*
 Helmi, Nadine and Fischer, Gerhard 2011 *The Enemy at Home*
 MRHS Journal No. 92 June 1993 *The Unknown Artist: The portrait of the Internee*
 Scott, Ernest 1936 *Official History of Australia in the War of 1914-1918: Vol XI Australia During the War*

New Additions to our Library

- Recent additions to our library included the following:
 Australian History 1901 to 2001 As Seen Through Banknotes
 Citing Historical Sources (Noeline Kyle)
 Finding Florence, Maude, Matilda, Rose (Noeline Kyle)
 Forgotten Household Crafts (Donated by Peggy Gould)
 Fromelles; The Final Chapters (mention of Frederick Dyson of Lovelock Creek, the first soldier to be buried in the new Fromelles [Pheasant Wood] Military Cemetery)
 Gladys' Story – Farm Life on the Macleay* (Gladys Emms)
 Memories of Gladstone* (An early Garry Munday opus!)
 Nambucca Anzacs
 NSW Government Gazettes 1832-1840 (CD-ROM)
 NSW Government Gazettes 1851-1860 (CD-ROM)
 Scarlet and Tartan (Donated by Peggy Gould)
 The Australian Experience of War (Donated by Peggy Gould)
 The History of South West Rocks Public School 1897-1997* (Copied courtesy of South West Rocks Public School Library)
 The Smith Lines* (Copied courtesy of Jane Smith)
 *Indicates out of print

PLACE NAMES

Compiled by Michelle Nichols

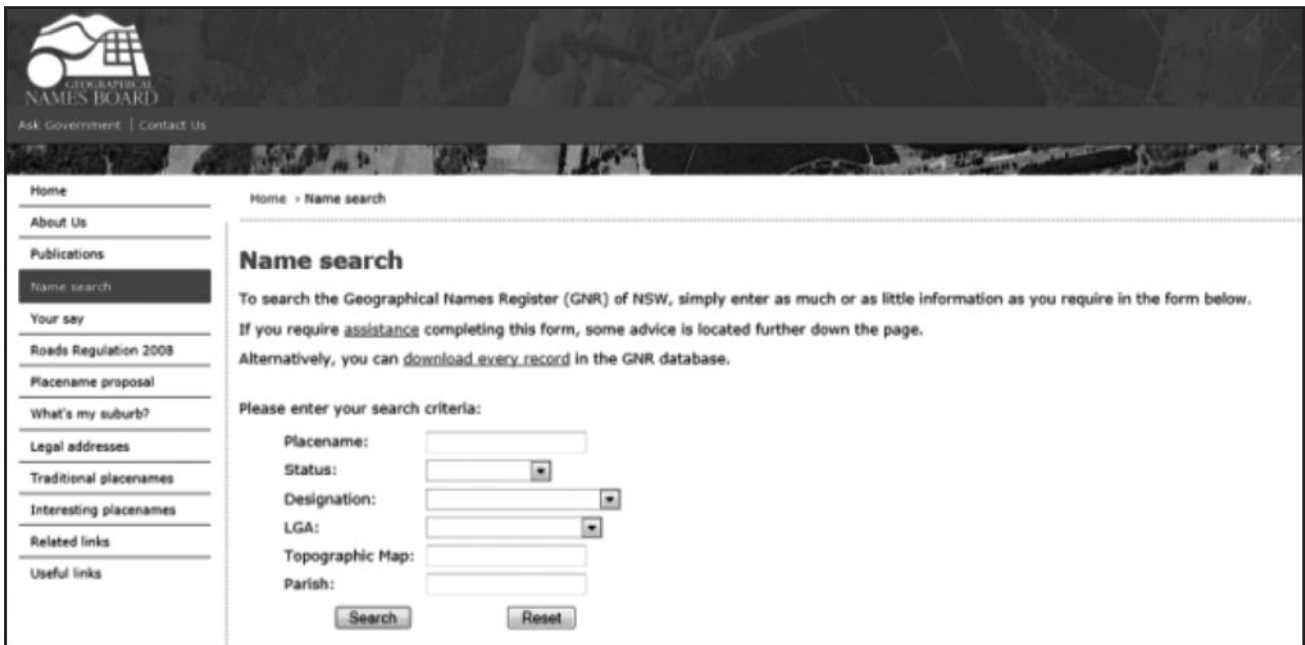
Researchers writing family and local history are often confused about the correct spelling of place names. The United Nations apparently realised the importance of standardised geographical names in the 1950s and the New South Wales Government established the *Geographical Names Act 1966*.¹

Another issue which can give grief to the family historian - is the correct use of apostrophes in place names. Did you know that Australian place names **do not** have apostrophes?

Did you know that Australian place names do not have apostrophes? Place names that originally contain an apostrophe are written with the apostrophe deleted

Place names that originally contained an apostrophe including Wiseman’s Ferry, Howe’s Valley, Rushcutter’s Bay have for some years been written with the apostrophe deleted, i.e. without the final - ‘s or -s’. This took place for consistency and “to facilitate the consistent matching and retrieval of placenames in database systems such as those used by the emergency services.”² You can read more about the Genitive Apostrophe in section 4.12 in the *Guidelines for the Consistent Use of Place Names* in a document prepared by the Committee for Geographical Names in Australia available at http://www.icsm.gov.au/cgna/consistent_pnames.pdf

The Geographical Names Board established the *Geographical Names Register (GNR)* which provides some very useful information. The correct spelling, the name of the Parish and County as well as the Local Government Area (LGA). Also included in the GNR is the Longitude and Latitude as well as a description and if known the origin of the place name. To search the Geographical Names Register (GNR) go to <http://www.gnb.nsw.gov.au/> (see below)



Geographical Names Register (GNR) <http://www.gnb.nsw.gov.au/>

¹ NSW legislation, New South Wales Government Retrieved 9. 12.2011 from <http://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/viewtop/inforce/act+13+1966+FIRST+0+N/>

² Genitive Apostrophe (4.12) in *Guidelines for the Consistent Use of Place Names* p. 6. Retrieved 9.12.2011 from http://www.icsm.gov.au/cgna/consistent_pnames.pdf

Below is an extract from the *Geographical Names Register* for Wisemans Ferry.

GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES REGISTER EXTRACT	
Reference:	65628
Placename:	Wisemans Ferry
Designation:	<u>Suburb</u>
Status:	<u>Assigned 10th September 2004</u>
GNB File:	GNB3707,3716,3896,353
LGA:	The Hills Shire
Approx.AGD66 Lat:	-33 23 00
Approx. AGD66 Long:	150 59 0
Approx. GDA94 Lat:	-33 22 54
Approx. GDA94 Long:	150 59 04
Topographic Map:	Lower Portland
1:100000 Map:	St Albans 9031
Parish:	Cornelia
County:	Cumberland
Description:	A village located on the Hawkesbury River about 11 km NE by E of Lower Portland and 9km north of Maroota Trig. Station. Boundaries within the Gosford Council area shown on map GNB3532. Boundaries within City of Hawkesbury shown on maps marked GNB3716 Boundaries within Shire of Hornsby shown on map marked GNB3707 Boundaries within the Baulkham Hills Council area shown on map GNB3896
Origin:	Solomon Wiseman (1777-1838) was given a lease here in 1826 on condition that government horses and property were carried free. ADB = <i>Australian Dictionary of Biography</i>
History:	Boundaries Hawkesbury Proposed 09-NOV-1998.
© Geographical Names Board of New South Wales	

Parish Maps

Parish maps are also useful for locating details about place names in NSW. Early editions of Parish Maps are available at various locations including State Records, local libraries as well as the Land & Property Information website and accessed via the *Parish Map Preservation Project* viewed at <http://parishmaps.lands.nsw.gov.au/pmap.html> These maps will eventually be available in as part of *Historical Land Records Viewer* see <http://images.maps.nsw.gov.au/terms/acceptTerms.htm> For more information about researching land and research strategies see http://www.lpi.nsw.gov.au/land_titles/historical_research An update on what is available online can be found at http://www.lpi.nsw.gov.au/land_titles/historical_records_online

Map Collections

A number of institutions have wonderful collections of maps. More and more of these are becoming available online. Some of these collections can be accessed as follows:

State Library of NSW <http://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/about/collections/maps/finding.html>

State Records www.records.nsw.gov.au

National Library of Australia <http://www.nla.gov.au/what-we-collect/maps> & <http://trove.nla.gov.au/map>

Google Maps

Google provides Google Maps which is very useful for family historians. Basically a map service covering the World that you view online at <http://maps.google.com.au/> Basic as well as custom maps are available as well as satellite images in many cases. You can obtain directions as well as finding out the distance between localities. You can locate where your ancestor lived and the location of the church they attended. Was it walking distance or would they have had to use another form of transport?



Street View of 13 Baker Street Windsor NSW Courtesy Google Maps.

Google Maps is also very useful for looking up the addresses of your relatives and using Street View, if it is available, to look at the current view of the street, see sample below.

To use **Street View**, drag the yellow man   on the zoom controls to a map location.



Street View of 13 Baker Street Windsor NSW Courtesy Google Maps.

A new version of Google Maps has recently been released and are more interactive. For more information about Google Maps, check out <http://www.google.com/maps/about/explore/> and also <https://support.google.com/maps/> Google Maps can be used for many other aspects of your research. If you do not like the new view you can return to the old Google Maps if you prefer. Go to the new Google Maps, and click the Help button in the bottom right corner. Click **Return to classic Google Maps**.

Other useful websites

Cora Num's Maps, Place Names & Land Records

<http://www.coraweb.com.au/mapsland.htm>

Atlas of New South Wales

<http://www.atlas.nsw.gov.au/>

ACT Planning & Land Authority -

http://apps.actpla.act.gov.au/actlic/places/search/originsSearch_new.htm

Northern Territory Land Information Systems - Place

names <http://www.ntlis.nt.gov.au/placenames/>

Natural Resources & Water Queensland - Place

names <http://www.nrw.qld.gov.au/property/place-names/>

Place Names Online, South Australian State

Gazetteer

<http://www.placenames.sa.gov.au/pno/index.phtml>

Nomenclature Board of Tasmania

<http://www.dpiw.tas.gov.au/inter.nsf/themenodes/JGAY-53N55m?open>

Land Victorian - Place names

<http://services.land.vic.gov.au/vicnames/>

WA Landgate - Place names

<http://www.landgate.wa.gov.au/corporate.nsf/web/webstern+australian+place+names+and+addressing>

Australian National Placename Survey (ANPS)

<http://www.anps.org.au/>

NSW Aboriginal Languages Research & Resource

Centre at <http://www.alrrc.nsw.gov.au/>

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Benefits of Membership

Membership Applications and Renewals start from February in the New Year. Members of the Macleay River Historical Society now enjoy the following benefits:

Quarterly Journal (posted or pick up from Museum)
Quarterly Newsletter (posted, emailed or pick up from Museum)

Discount of 20% on basic Research Fee (\$20.00 instead of \$25.00 per subject)

Discount of 10% on Photograph orders (excluding postage)



Macleay River Historical Society

Office Bearers:

President

Phil Lee

Vice Presidents

Garry Munday

Tom Plunkett

Secretary & Public Officer

Ruth Woodward

Treasurer

Barbara Coughran

Patrons

Billie Crawford

Terry Eakin

Geraldine Yabsley

Cr. Liz Campbell

Postal Address

P.O. Box 390, Kempsey, NSW 2440

Phone: (02) 6562 7572

Email: mrhs5@bigpond.com

Website: www.kempseymuseum.org

Membership

\$18.00 single

\$23.00 plus journal and postage

Committee Meetings

Meetings are held at 3pm

every third Tuesday of the month

Research

Tuesday: Desley Nunn

Thursday: Garry Munday

Photographic

Friday: Judy Waters, Debbie Reynolds, Phil Lee

MUSEUM OPEN

10.00 am to 4.00 pm daily except

Good Friday and Christmas day