NEWSLETTER No. 183

FEBRUARY 2014

PATRON: Claude Harris

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View expressed either editorially or by contribution are not necessarily those of The Tongarra Heritage Society Inc.

Thursday 20th FEBRUARY 2014 at 2 p.m.

Venue: TONGARRA MUSEUM

Guest speaker: Dr JOSEPH DAVIS

Topic: “the six earliest images of Illawarra”

General Meetings monthly 2 p.m.  3rd Thursdays (except December)
Tongarra Museum – Russell Street ALBION PARK Phone 4256 6698
Museum opening hours Mondays 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. and Wednesdays 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. (except public holidays)
SOCIETY NEWS

Last month, guest speaker, Terry Nunan, gave a most enthralling talk and presentation of a trip we were privileged to experience, on his topic “Some Historical & Architectural Highlights from our Pilgrimage through Portugal, Spain & France”.

Guest Speakers:
February 20th Dr Joseph Davis, “The six earliest images of Illawarra”.
March 20th Lorraine Neate, “50 lashes for flatulence – tales from the Wollongong Bench books”.

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NOTICES

Family History Research: 10am – 12noon at Warilla Library on a Monday, twice monthly. Phone Warilla Library on 4297 2522 for the family sessions or pick up a flyer in the libraries and museum. Visit www.shellharbour.nsw.gov.au/library

Shellharbour City Council Website for Tongarra Museum.
www.shellharbour.nsw.gov.au
Link to Your Museum and access-

Shellharbour & Kiama Interagency:
The next meeting will be held at Shellharbour Stocklands Community Room Thursday 13 February at 1 – 3 pm. (02) 4221 6091.
Shellharbour Connect: Shellharbour Community Directory and News: Connecting people in the Shellharbour community to local organisations. At Directory page, organisations are listed. To find the Tongarra Heritage Society Inc listing, click on search.

The National Trust of Australia (NSW) Illawarra Shoalhaven Region Bulletin-Functions Diary. The new date for The Vintage Bazaar Saturday 29 March 2014 to be held at the Old Court House, Wollongong.
An Open Day at the Old Court House will be held Sunday 13 April 2014.
Contact details (02) 4227 4614.
RAHS Calendar of Events 2014:
About Events email history@rahs.org.au
A copy of Summer Events January to April 2014 available at The Tongarra Heritage Society Inc on request.
Kiama Family History Centre 25th Anniversary - Family, Local & Social History Expo featuring exhibitions, guest speakers and information displays.
Date: Saturday April 12th 2014. 9.30am to 4.00 pm. Venue The Kiama Pavilion – Bong Bong Street Kiama. Phone (02) 4233 1122.
A WW1 STORY

My story starts at Jamberoo NSW with the birth of John Bradney in 1844. John was the first child of John Bradney and Ademia nee: Henry.

John snr and Ademia were married in 1843 and settled on their farm “Ploughweary” on the Curramore Estate. John worked as a ploughman for Dr Menzies of Minnamurra House, Minnamurra Lane, Jamberoo.

Of the ten children born to John and Ademia, my story begins with their son John, who left Jamberoo as a drover on route to the Wagga Wagga area. It seems feasible he would have travelled the old Jamberoo road firstly to the highlands. His mother, Ademia died in 1863, leaving 9 of her children on the farm.

On the way to Wagga Wagga John stopped off at Gundaroo where he met Catherine Brownlow of Gundaroo NSW. In 1869 their marriage was registered at Wagga Wagga, John a teamster, carrier and farmer.

Of their 11 children, their second child born 1874 named John, served in the 1899-1902 Boer War, South Africa, his Rank Trooper NSW Imperial Bushman, returning home safely. His name is listed on the Boer War Nominal Roll Australian War Memorial. He again enlisted in 1916 WW1 campaign 56th Battalion and was killed in action in France 2nd April 1917, burial Villers-Bretonneu Memorial.

His brother Wentworth Edward Bradney joined the Kangaroo March, Gallipoli campaign in 1915, leaving Wagga Wagga for Sydney, the march picking up recruitments on the way to await embarkation, his unit the 54th Battalion. Wentworth was killed in Belgium 24th September 1917, Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial.

Another brother Donald enlisted in 1915, a gunner, was wounded and gassed and invalided back to Australia in 1918.

The irony in this story is that these three brave boys, were the descendants of a convict transported from England to Australia in 1818, their g-g. grandfather, who was never to know his g-g-grandsons, two of whom paid the ultimate sacrifice, and one wounded for life, had fought for the country of his origin.

Story contributed by Dorothy Gillis descendant.

This example of a WW1 story is not unique, as many Australian families would have suffered similar experiences from conflicts of war.

For those who have a story to tell and wish to contribute, contact the Newsletter editor Dorothy Gillis.

Illawarra Remembers 1914-1918  The project initiated by Wollongong City Council and Library and supported by Shellharbour City Libraries and Kiama Library for collection of WW1 memorabilia and photos for the commemorations of the 100 year Anniversary of WW1. Find entries on Tongarra Museum link www.shellharbour.nsw.gov.au go to Illawarra Remembers 1914-1918 Blog.

Australian War Memorial  web site www.awm.gov.au for details ANZAC Connections. This project was established to mark the 2015 Centenary of the landing at Gallipoli.