



The Old Courthouse Museum

PASTIMES

Newsletter of the
Clyde River and Batemans Bay Historical Society Inc.
Issue 25 – Aug/Sep 2016

CLYDE RIVER 'CHRONICLES VOLUME II' LAUNCHED AT HERITAGE HIGH TEA EVENT



Funded by a grant from the Royal Australian Historical Society (RAHS), the **Clyde River Chronicles Volume II** (or 'Almanac' as the complete collection is officially known), was launched at a presentation conducted during the 'Heritage High Tea' event at the Museum on Wednesday 31st August 2016. The grant allowed for the 50-copy publication to be printed professionally. In the picture above, Vice-President Nerida Castle is seen presenting a copy of the Almanac to author Dianne Hantas.

KEY DATES TO NOTE:

- **Members Meeting: 10.00am Tuesday 11th October 2016;**
- **Annual Family Fun Day, Sunday 16th October 2016. 'Must-attend event!'**
- **Bay Bridge 60th Anniversary Celebrations: Weekend of 19th - 21st November 2016.**
- **Book Emporium Christmas Week opening: 19th – 23rd. December 2016.**

MUSEUM XMAS AND NEW YEAR OPENING ARRANGEMENTS 2016

Last Day of opening before Xmas: Wednesday 21/12/16, 10.00am – 3.00pm.

First day re-opening in 2017: Tuesday 10/01/17, 10.00am – 3.00pm.

LAUNCH OF OPEN DAY 2016

Yes, mark this one in your diaries as:

"I must attend this event on October 16."

*Freewheelin' down Kings Highway
to the Old Courthouse Museum*

Annual Open Day
Museum Place Batemans Bay

Sunday October 16
10.30 – 3.00

market stalls, plants, arts & crafts exhibits,
good food, working antique machinery,
canine obedience display, animal welfare,
cool music, pre-loved books and kids' activities
www.oldcourthousemuseum.com

Free entry - be there or be

FEATURED ARTICLES IN THIS ISSUE OF PASTIMES

'The Cats out of the Bag and other strange sayings' – Part 2:

The Editor continues his exploration of the origins and meaning of common expressions, which we take for granted today.

‘THE CAT’S OUT OF THE BAG’ and other strange sayings (pt 2)

(with thanks to the *Readers’s Digest*)

‘NAMBY-PAMBY’

These days, the term is used to refer to people of a spineless nature. However, it originally referred to styles of writing that were sentimental and insipid. The origins lie with two relatively little known poets of the 18th. Century: Henry Carey and Ambrose Philips.

Carey was a music teacher, who wrote the lyrics for ‘Sally in Our Alley’ and (contested) ‘God Save the Queen’. Philips was a playwright and journalist, and highly regarded by the writers Swift and Addison; however, his sentimental odes to noblemen’s children were lampooned by Carey in a poem entitled ‘Namby Pamby’, written around 1715. The following extract from the poem demonstrates Carey’s opinion of Philips’s writing:

Namby Pamby’s little rhymes

Little jingle, little chimes.

Note that the name *Namby* was child-talk for *Ambrose*, Philip’s Christian name.

‘BEYOND THE PALE’

A person may be described as *beyond the pale*, if his behavior becomes rowdy or coarse and he is no longer welcome in your household or presence. Originally, however, the *pale* was the *English Pale* in Ireland (also known as the *Irish Pale*). In other words, it related to those areas in Ireland that at one time or other during the 14/15th centuries, which were under English administration. A *pale* would be considered by the English as an area of civilization. Beyond this, in the English view, lay a land of barbarism, stubbornly resistant to the civilizing influence of the English language and culture.

Accordingly, if a person regularly behaved in a socially improper way, he was considered *beyond the pale* and shunned.



What's been happening at the Old Courthouse Museum?



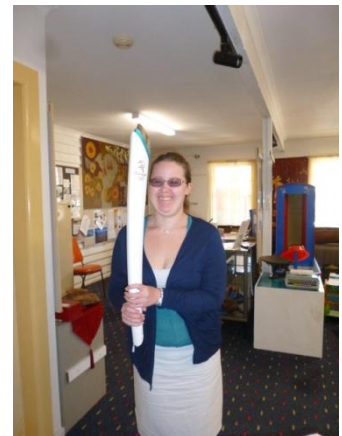
Left: Myf Thompson conducts 'Storytime', part of the Library Services Program, at the Batemans Bay Library. Go Kids!!

Right: Carmen Miranda look-alikes Lesley Billings and Jude Matchett get in the mood for Rio 2016, by raiding the kitchen fruit bowl at our Olympics Exhibition!



Left: Further to researching its pedigree, it turns out our red telephone box is an early 'Tasman Flag' model, originally located at Benanderah NSW. The Museum will soon commence a project to renovate it.

Right: New member Zoe holds aloft an 'Olympic Flame', held by a Batemans Bay local during 2000 pre-Games journey.



Above left: The new Visitor entrance to the Museum, providing a windbreak for the Courthouse (and a terrific sunspot for topping up your tan!)

Centre: Members Les Smith and Bill Keenan putting the finishing touches to the new exhibition space for the Geology Exhibit. All we need now are some funds to develop it!

Right: The lumberjack team attempting to lose their arms in the new 'Sawmill Exhibit'.

'TEAM MUSEUM' REVS UP AT THIS YEAR'S RALLY OF THE BAY – Saturday, 13th. August 2016



In glorious weather conditions, 14 members of the Society turned up at Mackay Park to provide food and refreshments to drivers, support crew and spectators taking part in this year's



'Rally of the Bay'. Member Chris Ruzala negotiated with Clerk of the Course Ian Bigg, for a prime location next to the Football Ground. We took the opportunity to try out our new (donated from Bunnings) giant Gazebo (6m x 3m), filling it with a BBQ, cake stand, book stall, gift cards, tea and coffee urns and donations boxes!!!! For the record, we cleared \$600. Well done to all!!!!

In the photo above, Treasurer Sandra Smith is demonstrating to member Glenice how to place a multi-bet with the online Tab. Top right, the picture shows the scale of our operation on the day.

'HERITAGE HIGH TEA' BRINGS TOGETHER MEMBERS PAST & PRESENT – Wed. 31st. Aug 2016

The Courthouse and adjoining 'Domestic Room' were transformed into an English Tea House for the afternoon, when members, current and past, were invited to an Afternoon Tea Party. Presented by Curator Myf Thompson, catered by Treasurer Sandra Smith and financed from a Seniors Week Council grant, the event was a roaring success, with over 35 people attending. The pictures below tell the whole story

Left to right: Patron Edna Veitch hoping to meet the Queen, members Gail Skeggs and Janet Beesley discuss the latest football results, Peter and Veronica Barnes in a reflective mood.





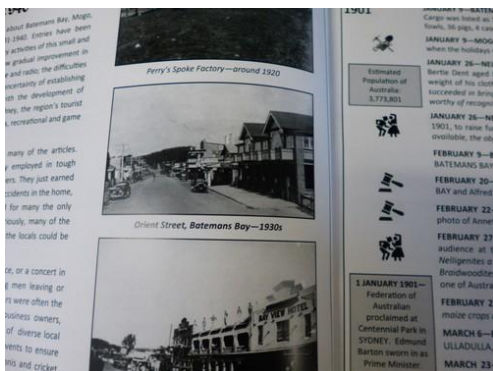
Left: Member Martin and wife Maureen have just demolished the cake stand.



Right: Warwick Dunbar browses one of our latest historical publications. Warwick was instrumental in the relocation of the old Courthouse and Police Station and Residence from Orient Street to its present site in 1995. Before it could be moved, the complex was split into several sections, transported and then re-assembled onsite with assistance from a team of community service 'volunteers'.

GRANT FROM RAHS ALLOWS PUBLICATION OF STAGE TWO OF CLYDE RIVER CHRONICLES

Right: Local historian Dianne Hantas is pictured with 'hot off the press' Volume Two of **Clyde River Chronicles**, a rich resource of our social history, compiled from original newspapers and journals. Dianne is an active member of the Clyde River & Batemans Bay Historical Society, and was awarded a local history publications grant by the Royal Australian Historical Society (RAHS). Her two volumes cover the period 1770 to 1940. Members please note that Volume 3 (1941-1980) is currently a 'work in progress'.



Left: For easy reference, the margins in each volume of the **Chronicles** (also known as the Almanac) have key graphics indicating specific themes, e.g. gold, shipping, etc. This allows you to quickly browse your specific interest across 70 years. Limited copies are available from the Old Courthouse Museum, for **\$32 per copy** plus postage (approximately \$3.50).

SCHOOLS OUTREACH PROGRAM HEADS TO ST. BERNARDS

Curator Myf Thompson and member Glenice Tulip took the 'Show on the Road' in September, by visiting St. Bernards School in Batehaven. They were received very enthusiastically by the children. The photos show (left) year 1 queuing for the billycart and (right) taking turns to play teacher!



AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER 2016 – TWO MORE GOOD MONTHS FOR FUNDRAISING



Rally of the Bay BBQ, 13th. August: **\$601**
Ladies Stall, Thursday 25th. August: **\$100** (approx);
Book Emporium, August: **\$172**
Bunnings BBQ, Friday 9th. September: **\$346**
Council Elections BBQ, Saturday 10th. September: **\$256**
B. Bay Writers Festival Book Stall, Sat. 10th. Sep: **\$123**
B. Bay Fringe Festival BBQ, Sat. 24th. September: **\$80**
Ladies Stall, Thursday 29th September: **\$170**
Book Emporium, September: **\$203**
That makes for an impressive total of **\$2051** for the two months. Well done (k'ching!) to all of our fundraisers!

BOOK EMPORIUM TO OPEN CHRISTMAS WEEK 2016

Yes, due to popular demand, the Book Emporium will open again during Xmas Week this year. Opening arrangements will be: **Monday – Friday inclusive, 19th - 23rd December 2016, between 10.00am and 2.30pm.** Light refreshments will also be available.

So, come along and find some quality last minute book bargains, engage in scintillating conversation, take in the wonderful expansive views of the **NEW** Water Gardens and get your Xmas off to a cracking start!!!!



MEMBERS REVEAL THEIR **DARK** SIDE AT THE FRINGE FESTIVAL (Aaaaaaggghhhhhh!!!)



The Museum joined forces with the Fringe Festival on Saturday 24th. September, to showcase the less desirable side of the Clyde River's history. Focusing on crime and punishment, visitors were guided around the Museum's more sinister exhibits by Curator Myf Thompson (left photo) and Jude Matchett, while Chris Ruzsala (right photo) rustled up some frontier sausages and onions on the BBQ. The whole picture was completed with members Nerida, Linda and Sandra serving



tea, coffee and cakes (photo below).



KEY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Sunday 16th. October 2016: Museum Family Fun ('Open') Day, plus BBQ.
- Saturday 12th. November 2016: Members outing to Goulburn (car-pooling) - details tba.
- Weekend of 19 – 21st. November 2016: Bay bridge 60th anniversary celebrations.
- Monday 19th – 23th December 2016: Book Emporium Xmas opening:

Can YOU:

- Build things, make things, restore things, research things, and/or talk about things?

Or do you just have an interest in our towns, our history and our cemeteries? Then let us know. Please contact us on secretary@oldcourthousemuseum.com or speak to a Committee member.

PARTY LIKE IT'S 1956!!!

Eurobodalla Shire Council, the Chamber of Commerce, Rotary and our Society, are supporting a range of community activities around the weekend of November 18-20, closest dates to the original opening of our Bay Bridge on November 21 1956. The role of the Historical Society has moved from providing historical displays to also organising a community dance on Friday night, November 18, billed as a 'Party like its 1956' hop at the Bay Community Centre.

So put it in the diary – and start practising those dance moves!



Left: Laying the foundations

Right: Official opening of the Bridge

