



2022

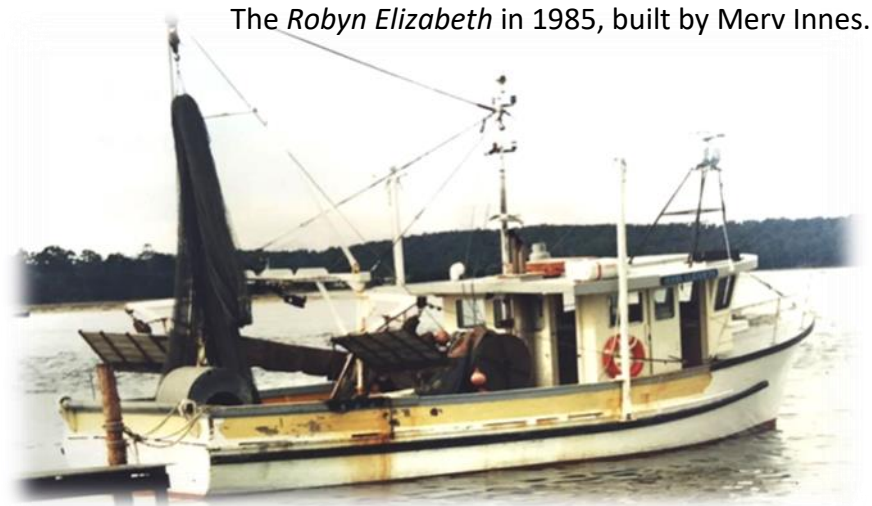
*A Very
Happy
New Year
to All*

Another year of ups and downs was successfully weathered thanks to friendship and commitment to our shared aims for preserving local heritage. Although we were restricted by Covid, our research work behind the scenes continued as usual, and we were buoyed financially by supporters of our Book Emporium via donations and pre Xmas purchases.

So—Upward and Onward, as our Museum Advisor reminds us, for 2022 brings some exciting opportunities. The Society is to assess a major shift in its collection and exhibitions policy, retaining 'local' but moving focus from broad social history to telling the coastal stories which reflect our unique location and maritime history.

First step in this new direction is the "Crossing the Clyde" exhibition in the grounds of the Museum. This will revisit the many ways we have used to cross what was originally a barrier to development of the district.

Springing from this will come individual stories of our water's role as food resource, economic driver, recreational gem, and the natural history of our estuarine and marine environment.



The Robyn Elizabeth in 1985, built by Merv Innes.

PASTIMES

Newsletter of the Clyde River and
Batemans Bay Historical Society
Inc. Issue No. 49 Summer 2022



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Walawaani

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which we live and work, the Walbunja people of the Yuin nation, and show our respect to Elders past and present.

'Crossing the Clyde' EXHIBITION

'Crossing the Clyde' is forging ahead with the continued in kind and financial support of the **John Holland Group** and **Transport NSW**. A former site shed from the new bridge construction will be central to the exhibition, housing stories and small artefacts, with large machinery arranged on a cement apron around the main exhibit.

We have received grant funding from **Museums & Galleries NSW** to develop interpretive materials, and we await the result of an application for an Aboriginal artist

to create a Bhundoo mural, an integral part of the exhibition.

Grateful thanks to the residents who went to auction to purchase one of the original support wheels from our iconic first bridge. Four were donated by John Holland, one remains with us, and three were offered for sale.

The individual generosity of the winning bidders, David, Gary and John, raised \$1550 towards our contribution to the purchase of the site shed.

Follow us as plans become reality!



HAT'TITUDE

Our little display featuring vintage hats from our collection and quotes about the drama of hats, is proving very popular with all ages. It takes little encouragement to get every member of a family to try on one of our specially created hats—such as the Carmen Miranda fruit fest!

One of the genuine pleasures of active membership is interacting with our visitors, especially those for whom English is a second language. There's lots of sign language and arm waving demonstrations which end in giggles and smiles.

So rewarding, too, in the kids' Curiosity Corner, where amongst other things children handle a shark's egg, rotate a kaleidoscope, confront the reality of a 'gazunda' and an artificial leg. Viewing local shells under the magnifying glass, and trying the tin can telephone.

Many visitors comment on the pleasure of engaging with simple interactive objects.



New Mayor—New Council 2022

We offer our warm congratulations to the newly elected Mayor and councillors, and look forward to a revitalised and fruitful relationship on heritage issues and tourism activities from January 2022.

Leadership is not about the next election, it's about the next generation.

S.T.E.M. Meet the Mars Rover Robot at the Museums Discovery Centre.



The quarter-scale replica rovers were built by the museum's own workshop team, using 3D printed and off-the-shelf components. They followed the instructions provided in open-source schematics that NASA published to encourage learning and a deeper interest in its Mars missions at institutions all over the world. The rovers are controlled with programmable electronics including the open-source languages for Arduino and Raspberry Pi along with Unity.

Every Saturday and Sunday in December and January at 10:30am, 11:30am, 1:30pm and 2:30pm, the Museums Discovery Centre will host four 30-minute sessions where you can drop in on a demonstration of our rovers in action as they roam inside and outside. The Discovery Centre is located at 172 Show-ground Road, Castle Hill. *Free entry, no bookings required.*

Foundation for Rural and Regional Recovery

For the second year running the Society has been fortunate to receive funding from this philanthropic organisation. *Investing in Rural Community Futures* is a grassroots program aimed at building and supporting the capacity of not-for-profits in six specific communities. By working locally over five years, it aims to strengthen local not-for-profit (NFP) organisations and ultimately enable them to thrive, which in turn will have a positive impact on community well-being. One of the great positives of this program is that local groups come together to share their strengths and ideas to gain a more sustainable foothold in community giving and support.

Local organisations step up and take on lead roles, for example, on **February 10th 2022 Clyde River and Batemans Bay Historical Society** will host invited representatives from local NFP groups to attend a Sydney consultancy's workshop 'Creative Ways to Recruit and Retain our Volunteers'. The Society is supporting the Euro Botanic Gardens and Cafe as the Workshop venue.

If your NFP organisation wishes to be considered please notify us at secretary@batemansbayheritagemuseum.com. Numbers are limited.

Vollies!
Life blood of our communities.



"Do your little bit of good where you are; it's those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world."
Vale Desmond Tutu

BEHIND THE SCENES

Our popular Book Emporium has received a New Year facelift with an eye-catching paint job, replacement window, new awning and handrail. Many thanks to our 'handy men' who turned this former Telstra shed into an attractive browsing space for book lovers.

Many thanks to the members who volunteered their time to oversee our book sales extravaganza— 10-3pm, 6 days a week up until Christmas.

It was the 'usual suspects' who turned up. This places a heavy burden on the few who are already gifting us 2-3 days a week. Members —please contact Lesley to be placed on an 'extra help' listing so that *if necessary* we can ask you to contribute a couple of hours in the bookshop or at the front desk.



Many residents commented in the media about the **graffiti on our external wall**. It is the first time in more than 30 years that we have been targeted in this way. We hope to get some grant funding to clean it off professionally as the whole wall will need repainting.

To assist toward the cost, please view our website for details of tax-deductible donations from \$2.00

MOGO HISTORY Group awarded Bush Recovery Funding

We are very appreciative of funding received from Vinnies which enabled our Mogo History group to acquire two Notebooks for their work in recording the history of the township. This equipment allows the group to split up on its dedicated one day a week, and to digitally record in a compatible format.



MILITARY HISTORY— The Stahl Flag

This flag was the first Australian flag flown in Singapore after the surrender of the Japanese in 1945.

When news of the imminent surrender for the Japanese filtered through to the Allied prisoners, QX6306 Captain Frederick Stahl had this flag made to be flown once peace was announced.

Stahl was born in Victoria in 1909 and enlisted in the Army in Queensland in July 1940. He served with 8 Divisional Signals and was captured by the Japanese in February 1942. He was imprisoned at camp X3 at Bukit Panjang on Singapore Island along with QX19748 Sergeant Darcy Robert Henry Smith, a tailor from East Gympie.



Stahl asked Smith to make the flag which was made from a Union Jack owned by TX3788 Private Frederick Pegg, 2/40 Battalion, who used it for burials and blue Japanese sheet material stolen from the stores.

The stars were made by QX19566 James French, 2/10 Field Regiment, from Red Cross handkerchiefs and the sewing thread was unraveled from Japanese socks. While the material was being gathered it was kept hidden under the prisoners' sleeping platforms and when Smith began sewing QX23706 Private Vivian Gambling, 2/3 Ordinance Stores Company, kept watch.

On 20 August the Japanese surrender was announced and the flag flew for several days then again when they were marched to Changi. A brave act.

AWM RELAWM31805

"The true soldier fights not because he hates what is in front of him, but because he loves what is behind him."

G.K. Chesterton

ON BOARD WITH OUR 'ENRY

Extract from an article, "Bermagui – In a Strange Sunset", published by HENRY LAWSON in The Bulletin in 1910, noting what caught his eye on a steamer journey from Bermagui to Sydney. Lawson was probably travelling on one of the Illawarra Steam Navigation Company vessels which traded from Sydney to Melbourne carrying cargo and passengers.

"Darkness falls. Flares glaring on wharf and deck. Long sawn timber swung aboard and below with amazing clumsiness and carelessness. Hurry, hurry, hurry. Snatching hatfuls of cargo from every little port."

"But we're sketching Bermagui. Sawn timber. Chaff goes ashore. (Points and trees dark and dreary). More cheese comes on board. Cheese, butter, eggs, sawn timber, calves, pigs, and sleepers, and in the season, wool! We can't get away from wool.

Pigs and calves slung aboard anyhow here, without the benefit of the bosses. Someone, catching me furtively taking notes, asks, "Taking an inventory of the live stock?"

"Yes," I say.

So I was – both in the cattle hold and the saloon. But more of that later.

Light on Montague Island like star in the East. Moonlight.

Passed Ulladulla in my sleep, but it sounds like cheese, butter, eggs, calves, pigs, pumpkins, and, in the season, wool.

Same as Cunnamulla in Queensland always suggests mashed pumpkin or pumpkin pies to me.

Hatches left off, with chain round, to give air to stock. Roaring of young bulls, blurring of calves, grunting and squealing of pigs in cattle hold – and ditto in saloon smoking-room, for they're drinking a bit. If we only had a donkey, and a sheep or two, and a goat, we'd be complete for'ard. Sailor says there's queer cattle in the saloon sometimes.

Roused by strange noise just as I was dosing off. Thought it was comic steward doing a bit of ventriloquism, or imitating animals, or the chief, for the edification of his mates – they all doss here – just as we were going to sleep. It was the fore cabin steward with the jim-jams in his sleep. Most uncanny sounds I ever heard.

About the saloon – there's a thing that will be altered when this strikes the proper person. On one line in the fore~cabin it is written everywhere in brass and paint and worked on the mats- "Second Class Ladies", "Second Class Gents"; on the other "Males", "Females". Stony fact. Goes a bit further than "Men" and "Women", doesn't it?



Looking at the south coast history of the ISNC, it seems likely that Henry travelled on board **ss Edna**.

She was a 693-ton screw steamer that arrived in 1900, a purpose-built vessel constructed for the company in Glasgow to handle the Sydney–Merimbula–Eden–Tathra route.

"A good traveler has no fixed plans and is not intent on arriving." Lao Tzu

MAPS OF THE PACIFIC—Maps that Changed the World

State Library of NSW until April 25th. Explore the beauty, art and science of mapping across three centuries through an exhibition of maps, charts, atlases and globes featuring the Pacific held in the Library's magnificent collection. FREE.

"The reason that the great voyages of discovery of the early modern period are so important, the reason they are comparable to other fundamental advances of the Scientific Revolution, is that they achieve for the first time an objective understanding of the shape of the earth that is of an entirely different order from any knowledge that local peoples had of their own land."

"Realising the Pacific was an entirely new ocean was an extraordinary event in the history of cartography and of our understanding of our planet."

Christopher Allen, *Weekend Australian*, Jan 1-2 2022.

NEW ACQUISITION

JANTZEN AUSTRALIA

Circa 1955 pink stretch nylon fabric with ruched bodice and skirt panel. The bodice is cotton lined to the waist to provide extra control. Adjustable straps, and zips at the back. Jantzen label.

Jantzen is a brand of swimwear that was established in 1916 and first appeared in the city of Portland in the United States. In the late 1940s they began manufacturing in Europe and Australia.

The brand featured a logo image of a young woman, dressed in a red one-piece swimsuit and bathing hat, assuming a diving posture with outstretched arms and an arched back. Known as the Jantzen "Diving Girl", the image in various forms became famous throughout the world during the early twentieth century.

The Jantzen logo has scarcely changed since 1916 and is recognised world wide.

A Tile version advertisement at Sydney's Museum Railway station.



"Swimming is a confusing sport, because sometimes you do it for fun, and other times you do it to not die "

FROM THE VAULT



Roy Innes with bull shark, opposite what is currently Woolworths Bridge Plaza entrance.

The Maitland Mercury... Saturday 18 August 1883

... Late Telegraphic News. Among the items in the telegraphic news received in Sydney on Thursday are the following: At Mosely's mill, near **Bateman's Bay**, a man named Yankee Joe was seriously hurt in one hand by being entangled in the ropes and drawn up to the blocks. Part of the hand was afterwards amputated.



ANTHONY HORDERN & SONS
UNIVERSAL PROVIDERS, PRACTICAL TRADESMEN AND PUBLIC BENEFACTORS.

**ANTHONY HORDERNS
NEW PALACE
EMPORIUM
SYDNEY. N.S.W.**

*The largest retail store
south of the Equator
having frontages to
George, Pitt & Goulburn
Streets*

*totalling 960 feet and
with a floorage space
of nearly 15 acres;
21 Hydraulic lifts,
87 Government telephones
& giving employment to
over 3000 persons.*

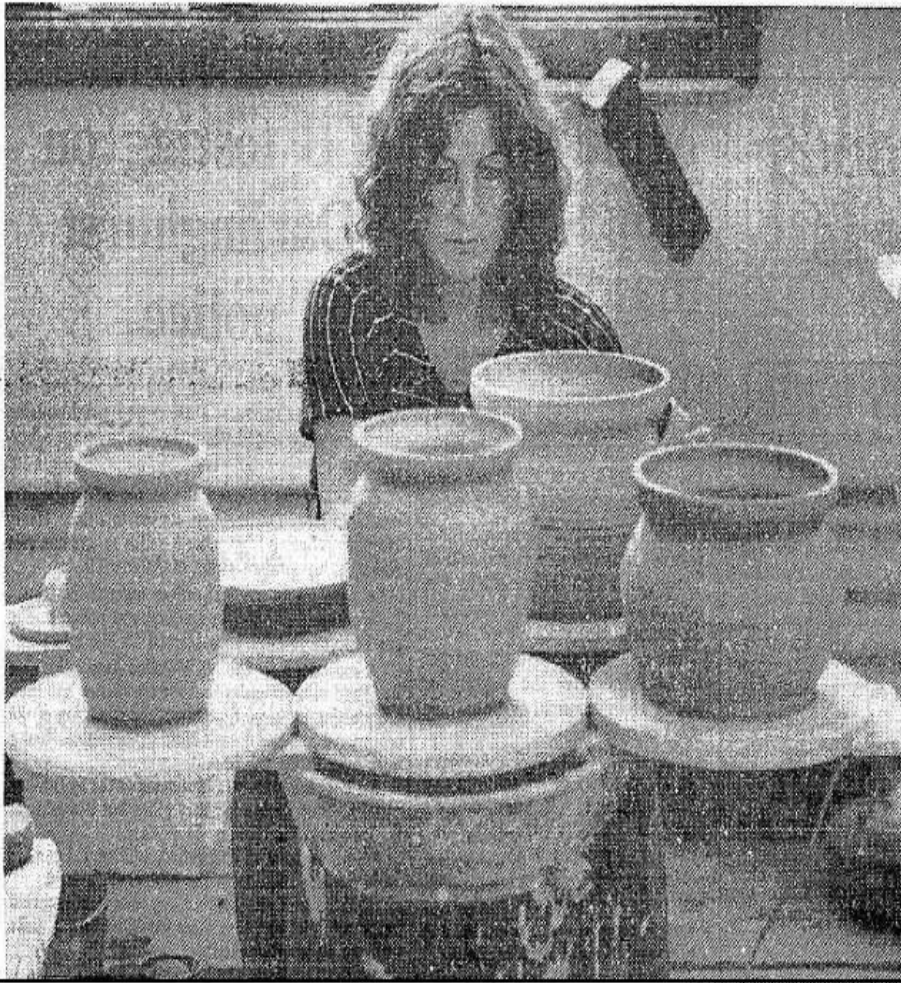
Pre 1945 orders were placed from Hordern's catalogues in Annetts Shop (see Museum example) and delivered by steamship.

The nice part about living in a small town is when you don't know what you're doing someone else does.

'Divine inspiration'

Canberra Times, 1981.

FROM THE VAULT



Mrs Williams at work in the pottery.



The pottery was completely burnt out in the Black Summer bushfires.

As the former church was so well known the owners decided to build a replica. The rebuild is operating as a pottery once again as at January 2022.

Pottery business booming in old Mogo church

A former Canberra couple have managed to get some "divine inspiration" in attracting business to their pottery at Mogo on the South Coast — they have set the pottery up in a church.

Peter and Vanessa Williams have operated their pottery in the former Roman Catholic church at the small village for the past 18 months, and business is booming.

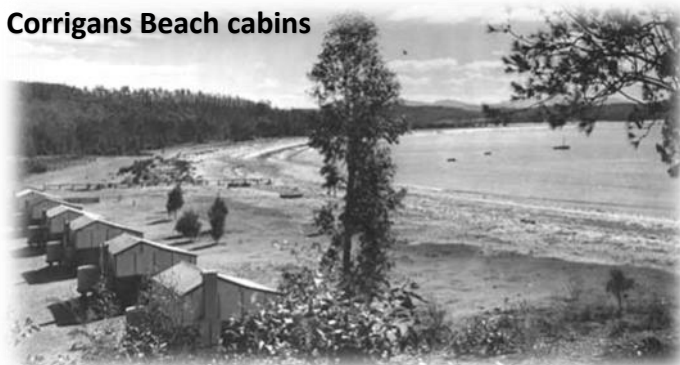
Mr Williams, 31, and Mrs Williams, 29, saw the church when they were looking for a place to set up the pottery and decided they would inquire about the possibility of buying it.

"We wanted somewhere on the coast and when we saw the church it was exactly what we wanted, and the Mogo village is an ideal place as well", Mr Williams said.

Frank Sampson and Grace Alcock wedding 1923



Corrigans Beach cabins



OUT AND ABOUT



Bermagui Historical Society.org.au

Bermagui Historical Society Museum

I was fortunate to spend the Christmas holidays down at the popular coastal town of **Bermagui**. And only 10 minutes walk from the Visitor Information Centre/Library/Museum community centre. You couldn't ask for a more central location for a Museum..

I was warmly welcomed by Wendy and Allan, and we enjoyed a good chat about the challenges of volunteer museums.

The Society identifies the interaction between the 'triangle' Bermagui, Cobargo and Tilba as essential to the development of the district. The rooms are light and airy, with professional display boards. Though the Museum is small it takes full advantage of the space and a shared reception area provides additional display space.

The Society has a very impressive photographic collection, all digitised by Dave Cotton, featuring Tilba's William Corkhill collection. They are seeking grant funding to enlarge the audio visual equipment to enhance the public viewing and research experience.

Volunteers offer knowledgeable advice on the district's history and can assist with on the spot research. So they are busy!

Parkes & District Historical Society

Always valuable to see how others manage the challenges of staffing and storage!

As part of a Museums and Galleries program I recently had the pleasure of visiting this museum, located on the Newell Highway. Again, a very warm welcome by volunteers of the Society who own and manage the Henry Parkes Museum and Antique Machinery Collection.

In a vast hall, brimming with display cases, the site houses over 10,000 ephemeral items and an external collection of historic artefacts including:

- Wooden schoolhouse (exhibition space)
- Two former timber churches
- A Blacksmith shop
- Silver City Comet carriage—lots of memories of railway travel
- 45 tractors, all of which have been restored

There's literally something for everyone, and a guide to share stories and place the artefacts in context.



As we know to our cost some museums are located well away from the main drag, but this Museum is fortunate to sit alongside the Henry Parkes Centre, a tourism complex which incorporates The King's Castle Elvis Exhibit, Parkes Motor Museum, Moat Cottage, (replica of where Parkes grew up) and the Visitor Information Centre. Open 7 days a week—The Henry Parkes Centre | Visit Parkes Region.

PUT YOUR LISTENING EARS ON—Podcast over 100 x 40 minute episodes to date.

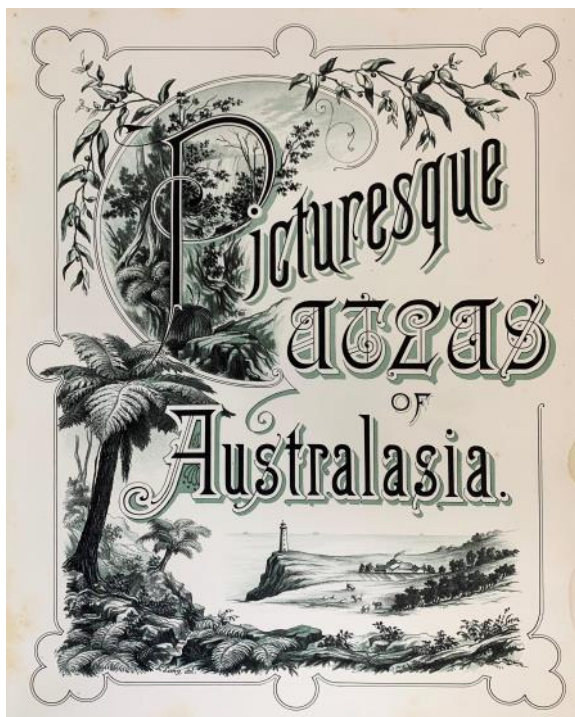


"During the tenth century, at a time of deep religious foment, Europe's eunuch trade was booming."

This was the opening line for a review* of **"The Rest is History"**, which goes on to describe the program as a compelling romp of historical fact and history. Disputes are encouraged, and thrashed out in fine argument as presenters classicist Tom Holland and modern historian Dominic Sandbrook come at history from different perspectives. Its subjects are diverse, quirky and often contentious. Download on your favourite podcast app.

*Weekend Australian 1-2 2022.

PICTURESQUE ATLAS OF AUSTRALASIA



Hidden amongst paperback modern fiction donated to the Museum bookshop we spotted a substantial facsimile of the *Picturesque Atlas of Australasia, Vols. 1 and 11, 1886-88. 530pp with 700 steel and wood engravings.* That's our edition, however the original enormous, three-volume Atlas also boasted 30 maps in its 800 pages. Though photography was available, they went with engravings specially commissioned from leading Australian artists of the day.

The Atlas was an attempt with words and pictures to describe the Australia of the time, and its publication one of the most significant cultural projects in 19th-century Australia. Writers, artists, academics, and politicians came together to prepare a book of unprecedented grandeur and ambition.

The 1100+ engravings contained in the Atlas were among the finest engravings to be found anywhere in the world at this time. Released in 42 supplements between 1886

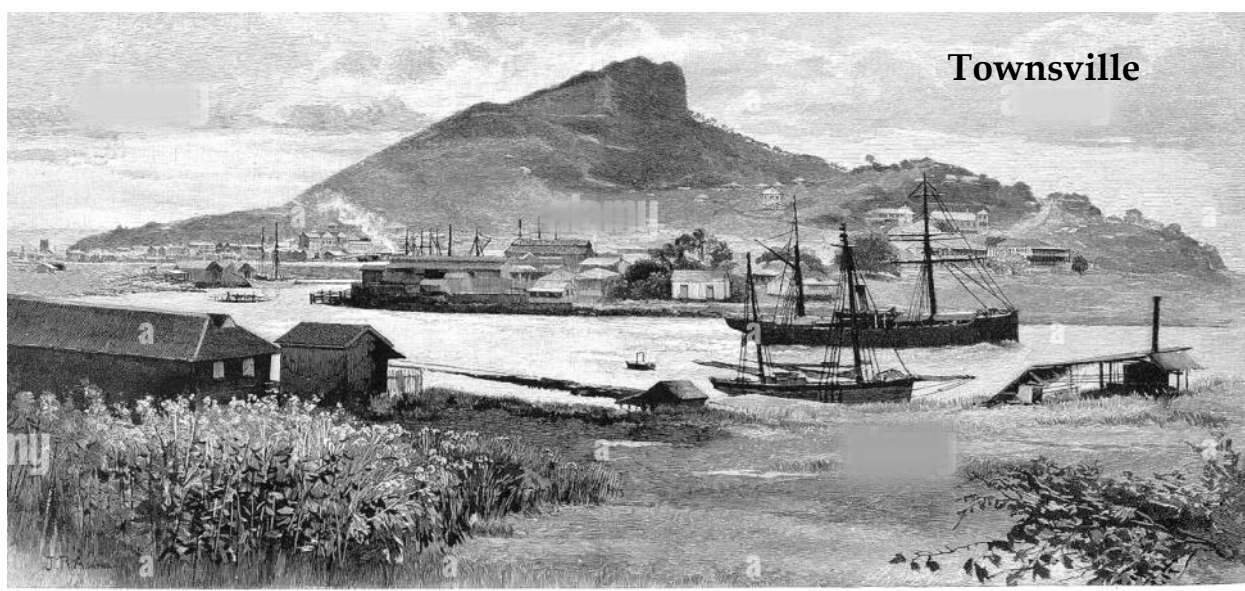
and 1889, the *Atlas* attracted over 50,000 subscribers willing to pay 10 guineas (\$1,200 in current prices) for this exceptional publication.

The word 'picturesque' was popularised by William Gilpin who promoted the idea of travelling as being a search for picturesque views. Mining works and agricultural landscapes were celebrated, as were the sophistication of Australasia's capital cities and major regional centres with townscapes rivaling the urbanity of London, Paris and New York.

Such rapid progress led the *Atlas* to predict that '*within the next half century Australasia will have taken her place amongst the great nations of the earth*'.

This is a remarkable record of Australia's perception of itself heading to a new century.

A critical success, the Atlas also proved a watershed moment in the history of Australian art, leading to the school of Australian impressionism



BBHM CEMETERY & MOGO HISTORY GROUP



Mogo historian Leah Burke captured these images from the Xmas Mogo floods.



Batemans Bay Lapidary Club

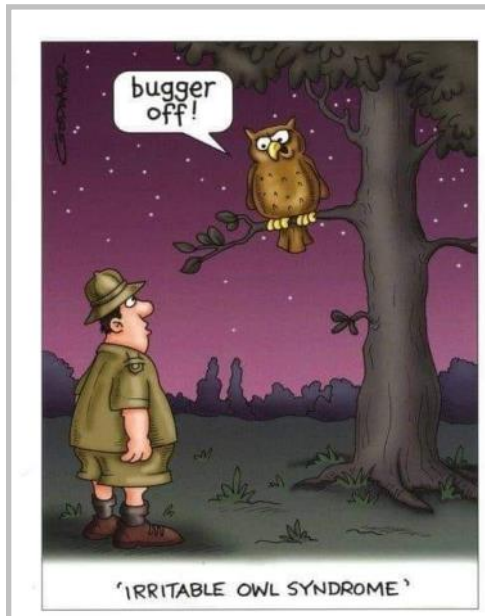


Please go to the Club's Facebook site for member updates.

<https://www.facebook.com/BayLapidary>

GENERAL MEETING at Museum January 19 2022
12:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Workshop re opens at Museum January 27 2022
10:00 am – 2:00 pm



FUNDRAISING EVENTS

SUBJECT TO COVID RESTRICTIONS

Saturday 22 Jan 2022 Bunnings BBQ

After a short Christmas break we are selling the sizzle at this valuable venue for raising funds.



**Australia Day—26 January
at the Museum**

We are delighted to host 20+ members of the **Classic Car Club** for a museum tour and morning tea..

CONTACT US FOR INFO ON TOURS WITH CATERING

Office Bearers to June 2022

President : Ewan Morrison

Vice-Pres : Chris Ruzala

Secretary : Debra Hope

Treasurer : Frances Gray

Curator : Myf Thompson

Archivist : Chris Bendle

Committee Portfolios

Ewan Morrison :Strategic Planning/Grants

Frances Gray : eHive /Grants

Debra Hope : OH&S/Social Media/Retail

Myf Thompson : Newsletter/Grants

Chris Ruzala: : Fundraising/IT

Nerida Castle : BMD print media

Leah Burke : Research Officer

**Acknowledging with thanks our Government
Agency and Community Partners**

