



Berry and District Historical Society Inc

The Shoalhaven Chronograph with Berry Newsletter

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2015 EDITION

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BERRY MUSEUM MEETINGS AND EVENTS FOR THE YEAR 2015

Mid March – September	WW1 display
24 th November	Museum Lecture
2 nd December	Berry Merry Xmas – Museum will be open from approx. 5 pm
8 th December	Museum Cocktail Party

CHRISTMAS COCKTAIL PARTY

All our members are cordially invited to attend the Museum's Christmas Cocktail Party. It will be held at the Museum, Queen Street, Berry on

Tuesday 8th December at 6 pm.

To assist with catering would you RSVP to either Museum - 4464 3097 (leave a message)

email: berrymuseum@bigpond.com

by the 5th December, 2015

Look forward to seeing you there

LANDCARE SPECIAL DISPLAY

Starting at the end of November our new display will be about our local Landcare group and the Plant Propagation unit at the Berry Public School.

The display will give the history, aims and activities of these groups and their role in the regeneration of locally indigenous plants.

WORLD WAR 1 DISPLAY STAGE 3 – This will be dismantled at the end of November.

The third session of this display presenting the history of WW1 and the participation in it of the people of Berry is now up.

It deals with the stories of more of the boys from Berry who enlisted during the War and the parts of the war that occurred on the Western Front.

So come along and see this fascinating episode of this continuing story.

WARATAH RE-ENACTMENT SET FOR SUNDAY 29TH NOVEMBER

Please see the Town Crier – November Edition for the full story

The Berry Community is invited to participate in the re-enactment of the 100th Anniversary of the original Co-ee marches of 1915.

Further details will appear in the October and November editions of the Town Crier. If groups or individuals would like to participate in this event please contact Berry RSL Secretary, Stuart Christmas on 0413 051 003

NOVEMBER MUSEUM LECTURE

SOMETIMES, SOME DAY, WE WILL UNDERSTAND

A Talk in the series of Lectures organized by the Berry & District Historical Society and given by John McQuilton.

John McQuilton is an Associate Professor in History at the University of Wollongong. His teaching and research interests include Australian social history, regional history and the impact of the Great War on Australian society. He has also led study tours for students at the University to the battlefields of Gallipoli and the Western Front.

This lecture will take place on **Tuesday, 24th November, 2015** at the Masonic Village Hall, Albany Lane. Berry at 2.00pm Afternoon Tea will be offered at the conclusion of the Talk.

MUSEUM & GALLERY BREAKFAST DATES – 2015

The final Museum & Gallery Breakfast for 2015 will be held at the Shoalhaven City Arts Centre on Thursday 26 November 2015. Cost \$7.00. The host on this occasion is ADFAS and the topic is 'Sculpture in New Zealand at Gibbs Farm and the Pah Homestead in Auckland'.

Please RSVP by Monday 23rd November directly to Brigitte on (02) 4429 5442 or email carterbr@shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au

PUBLIC LOOS AT MUSEUM - CRISIS AVERTED

Shoalhaven City Council has been asked to find locations for some additional public amenities. The Berry Museum was asked to consider whether public toilets could be located at either the rear of the building behind the laundry or at the back of the side garden area adjacent to the back of Sew and Tell.

Council very properly called a site meeting to consult Historical Society members in late September. We were able to put our views to Mr Brad Davis and other officers of Shoalhaven City Council including the Council's Heritage Adviser. We explained that the proposed locations would not be consistent with provisions in our Heritage Management Plan for the back garden and would destroy valuable work already undertaken to implement recommendations of the plan. We made the point that it would be aesthetically disastrous and that our use of the museum site to hold functions and museum visits would be undermined. In short all Historical Society members present were horrified at the prospect. It was also agreed that there were other practical reasons why the Museum site was not an appropriate location for public toilets because it is out of the way of most foot and vehicular traffic.

The Secretary of the Society also wrote to Mr Davis at his request putting our views. The matter was also raised at the last meeting of the Berry Forum where we were invited to speak and to again explain our objections. Councillors Guile and Wells were present at the meeting and assured the Forum meeting that no decisions would be taken this financial year and that it would be unwise for Council to decide on the matter until the road works are complete and their impact on traffic movement assessed. They did not favor Berry Museum as a site for public amenities.

BERRY FLOODBOAT

One of the Berry Museum's valued objects is the flood boat. The flood boat, called the Noah was one of two boats built after the floods of 1870. Each boat was kept on either side of the Shoalhaven to rescue people on farms along the Shoalhaven in times of flood.

The Museum earlier this year applied to Maritime Museums Australia for a grant to undertake conservation works in collaboration with the Berry Men's Shed. It is our understanding that Nowra Historical Society had also applied for assistance in conserving the sister ship. Our application was successful in so far as it enabled us to access some expert assistance from Maritime Museums Australia who did not give us funds but instead offered to provide us with the assistance of a curator to develop a conservation management plan for the vessel. The Maritime Museum's Selection Panel determined that a plan was necessary before funds could be provided.

The curator Mr David Payne visited the Museum on 4 October and examined the boat carefully to assess its significance. He will prepare the conservation management plan and also recommend that the Berry Flood Boat be listed on the Australian Register for Historic Vessels. David's initial advice was that very little needs to be done to the boat apart from cleaning it and performing some minor carpentry jobs. We will probably not need to apply for grant funds to meet the requirements of the plan.

After we receive the curator's report and plan we will call for volunteers for a working bee to clean the vessel up.

INVITATION FROM NOWRA LIBRARY

Good morning Historians

Between the 1st and 4th of December (date to be confirmed) Nowra Library has the opportunity to host two separate workshops as follows:

1. Curator talk with original materials.
2. Preserving family history workshop.

Both these talks are an hour, and are free, however we have been asked that there is a minimum number of 20 participants booked in to each workshop. Could you please talk to your members and let me know ASAP if we are likely to have any interest in attending. We would like to have a confirmed ten attendants at least in order to go ahead with the event. It will most likely be held during the day.

Kind regards

Derrilin Marshall
Local Heritage Librarian
Shoalhaven City Council

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ITEMS FOR FORTHCOMING EDITION OF THE CHRONOGRAPH

If you have any items which you feel might interest members of the Berry and District Historical Society could you please send them to the Editor, Anita Chalmers