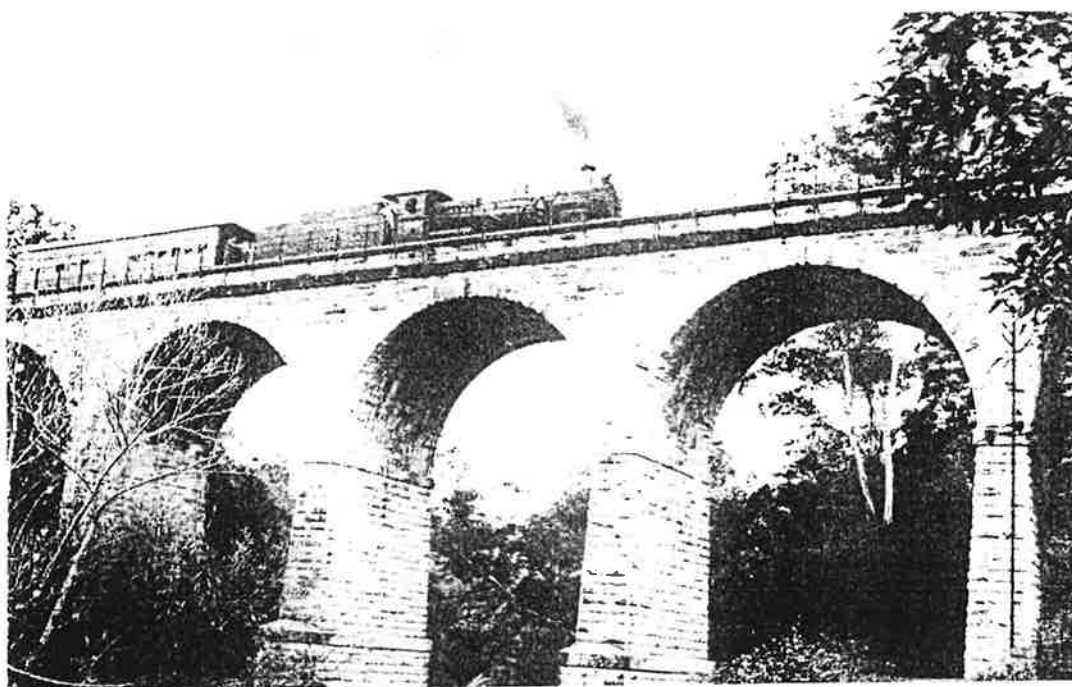


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SOCIETY INC.

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PICTON & DISTRICT HISTORICAL & FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC.

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Enter by the Menangle Street Car Park at the rear of the National Bank.

Hours: Thursday, 10.00 am to 2.00 pm.
Saturday and Sunday 10.00 am to 3.00 pm.

Meetings: Second Monday of the Month, 7.30 pm, at Shire Hall, Menangle Street, Picton.

Membership Fees: Pensioners - \$ 10.00. Single - \$15.00. Family - \$ 20.00.
School Student Membership is invited - \$10.00 per annum.

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12	Discovery, about Captain Cook.
13	Members visit to The Oaks and Warragamba. Warragamba Dam to be cont'd.
	Back cover, A few Genealogy sites off the Internet.

The editors are not responsible for the opinions of contributors expressed in this journal.

Special announcements:

Changed meetings. Meetings of the Picton and District Historical and Family History Society Inc, will be held on the second Monday of each month (except January, or when the Monday is a public holiday), at 7.30pm at the Shire Hall in Menangle Street, Picton.

"MOUNTAIN DEVILS".

Have you ever had the opportunity to wander through the bush in the Blue Mountains? If you have you may have noticed there is a very interesting shrub which often grows in very poor soil (as is the case with most of our native plants), this one is called a "Mountain Devil". It is also called "Honey Flower" with the botanical name **LAMBERTIA FORMOSA**. It is a member of the Proteaceae family, there are eight in the species, seven of them grow in Western Australia and one grows in New South Wales.



A branch of Mountain Devil,
(*Lambertia Formosa*).
Showing the bud, flower and
Mountain Devil Head seed pod.

The Mountain Devil has gone to a lot of trouble to make things uncomfortable for ants and for a very special reason - ants are not good carriers of pollen. In return for their drink of nectar from the orange to red coloured flowers, they would not be doing anything useful for the flower and nature likes to arrange things so that when favours are given they are in some way returned.

Mountain Devils usually grow in scrubby country and they flower all year round, so you are likely to find buds, orange to red flowers, and devil heads all on one plant. The seed pods are green when they are young and as they become older they become brown and woody. Leaves on the plant are long and narrow and have a sharp point on them. This is probably part of nature's defence strategy.

The devil head colour changes from green to brown and eventually split open, there are usually two seeds inside. The seeds escape soon after the head splits open and assisted by their papery "wings" are carried off by the wind to eventually become lodged in the soil - germinate - and grow into more seed producing plants.

As a child I grew up in the Blue Mountains close to areas where mountain devil bushes grew in abundance. Advertisements were to be found in the local paper - "Mountain Devil heads wanted threepence per dozen", and an address somewhere in Manly. These heads were mounted on legs and bodies made from pipe cleaners and copper wire, and dressed up in pieces of mosquito net with a bit of glitter glued to it, or perhaps dressed in a piece of green cloth to represent a green devil

with a pitch fork. A small piece of tartan material and you have a Scot's devil. Other heads were attached to bodies to resemble mountain devil children, sheep, dogs, in fact whole families, Mum Dad and a couple of kids could be made out of devil heads.

One tourist shop at the top of the railway steps in Katoomba had a working model of the Scenic Railway and the Mountain Devil people were the passengers, the display could not be missed as people passed the shop window as they left the railway station.

These dressed mountain devils were very popular and were sold in lots of the shops as souvenirs and probably ended up in numerous countries overseas. Katoomba, Leura and Medlow Bath were centres for rehabilitation and recreation leave for British and American servicemen during World War 2 and they liked to send things home.

THE NEW MOUNTAIN DEVIL.

The carriage used by Harry Hammond on the Scenic Railway at Katoomba has been named the "Mountain Devil". The Scenic Railway uses wire cable hauled open aluminium carriages to transport passengers into the Jamison Valley on an inclined rail track. The original track was built to lift kerosene shale out of the valley. The kerosene shale was mined in the vicinity of a natural outcrop of rock known as the "Ruined Castle. (very close to Mt Solitary). (Mining may have commenced around 1850).

For some time horse drawn drays, carried the shale along a fairly level track from the Ruined Castle to the foot of the inclined railway. The walking track follows the original track along which the kerosene shale was hauled. The shale was then hauled up the incline to Malaita Point. Later a flying fox was built to carry the kerosene shale across the Jamison Valley to Malaita Point. This activity was short lived due to high winds blowing the buckets off the wire rope cables supporting them.

The flying fox was built by a German company and the cable and buckets can still be seen on the valley floor after the flying fox collapsed. The buckets which were used to carry the kerosene shale had cast iron plates rivetted to them, these showed the maker's name.

The kerosene shale was at first taken by bullock wagon to Sydney where it was loaded onto sailing ships to be taken to Scotland to be refined into lighting kerosene. Later the railway reached Katoomba (also called "Crushers"), so transport to Sydney improved. Eventually a coal mine was opened at the foot of the incline and this was worked for a number of years. The mine was opened and worked by J.B.North, who held the leases for large areas. I remember the Lindsay family from Wales who were probably the last of the coal mining families living near the top of the inclined railway around 1944.

Kerosene shale was also mined at Hartley Vale and Newnes in the Blue Mountains.

WOLLONDILLY HISTORY

By Bruce Knox

October 25, 1911: New rolls for the shire electorate show a decrease of 63 electors. New roll has 7763 against old roll 7826.

November 15: The Shire Council hears from Mr W McCourt MLA that the Minister for Works will visit the area and meet a deputation on the question of tourist roads. A time is to be set.

November 20: At the Shire Council meeting. Present were Crs. Bennett, Onslow, Moore, Reilly, and Dunn. They decide to send a message of condolence to the brother and sister of Cr. Simpson in their sad loss. Council adjourned for half an hour in memory of him as a mark of respect. They decided to strike a rate of 1½d in the £ for 1912 on the U.C.V. The Shire Clerk reported that owing to the death of Cr. Simpson, an extraordinary election must be held before December 30 to fill the vacancy. Mr D H MacDonald was appointed Returning Officer.

The Engineer reported on the road to Dobson's quarry. He thinks it will cost £400. They should be able to load stone at 2/0 a ton at Hangers on Picton Road. Bowral stone costs 12/0 a ton. Savings over five years would pay the cost of the road. Mr Pickard writes to say that he will take £35 for the private phone line to The Oaks. Shire President recommends that the P.M.G. accept this offer.

January 10, 1912: "Wollondilly Shire. Election of Councillor. (From the "Campbelltown Herald") It refers to the

election unopposed by Mr R.H. Antill to the place rendered vacant by the death of Mr John Simpson. Mr George Spearing, sponsored by the Appin Progress Association had nominated, but at the last minute his nomination was declared invalid owing to his not adding 6d. exchange to his rate cheque. Thus he owed 6d. to the Council and was not eligible to stand. The other nominee Mr Timothy Fahey failed to lodge his nomination paper in time. These candidates would like to see Mr Antill resign and recontest the election.

January 17: Wollondilly Shire welcomes Mr R H Antill as the new councillor. He said that the maintenance men would 'do a lot of good on the roads and save gangs. Council has to pay higher wages in the county of Cumberland than the rest of the state. The wages Board says 8/0 a day for roadmen and 12/0 for horses and cartwork. Rate for 1912 was 1½ in the £. The President asked the council to place before the Minister the drain on Council caused by the Yerranderie road. Cr. Reilly moved that during the hot weather the men start at 6 a.m. and go to 11.30, then rest to 3 p.m. and cease at 6 p.m. Motion was lost.

February 21: Council hears from the Wilton Progress Association re the recent election of Mr R H Antill.

From: South Coast and Southern Tablelands Magazine, 21/ 4/1991.

Coach House: The Old Coach House, recently transformed into a picturesque building which will serve as the permanent headquarters and record store for the Picton Historical Society, will be officially opened on Australia Day, January 26, at 2 p.m.

Festivities will commence at 11 a.m., there will be historical displays, and opportunities for visitors to conduct research and delve into the past.

Two tours of the town will be conducted, starting from the Coach House at 11.30 a.m. and 3 p.m. there will be a display of photographs, and afternoon tea will be served.

Believed to be one of the oldest buildings in Picton, The Old Coach House is situated adjoining the new shopping complex in Argyle Street, at the rear of the century old National Australia Bank.

The State Government under the auspices of the Heritage Assistance Scheme, and Wollondilly Shire Council have contributed to the project, along with various community organisations.

The National Australia Bank, which owns the building has leased it to the Picton Historical Society, while members headed by Harry Hoare and George Parrington have made the project a "labour of love", involving many hours of voluntary work.

HAGGIS.

Have you ever tried the famous Scottish dish called "Haggis?" Those that have thought about it for some time, often feel elated when at last they try this famous dish.

Of all Scottish dishes, haggis is surely the most famous. It is commonly accepted that the name is derived from the French *hachis*, to chop; though a form of the dish can be traced back to Roman times.

Haggis can be enjoyed at any time of the year, but of course it is a must on Burn's Night, which falls on the 25th of January. At Burn's Suppers which take place on that date a kilted piper accompanies the dish to the table where a speaker addresses the haggis before it is cut open.

Haggis is delicious served with mashed turnip and creamed potatoes. (I have had it served up with scotch poured over it). Alternatively these can be mixed to make the delicious clapshot. Few people take the trouble to make their haggis these days but the recipe will help to dispel myths about the dish.

RECIPE FOR HAGGIS.

1 Cleaned sheep or lamb's paunch,
900 grams of Oatmeal,
450 grams chopped mutton suet,
450 grams cooked, minced lamb's liver, heart and lights,
1 chopped onion,
 $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon pepper, salt and allspice,
1 pint of stock.

Clean the paunch well and soak in water for a couple of hours before drying. Crisp oatmeal in the oven, then cook the liver, hearty and lights in salted water for about thirty minutes.

Strain, put the stock to one side and mince the meat. Mix all the ingredients together – except the paunch – and season. Add the stock, half fill the paunch and sew up securely, but not too tightly.

Prick the haggis all over with a knitting needle, then simmer slowly in water with the stock added for about three hours, taking care to top up the water level as required.

clapshot – turnip & spuds.

paunch – stomach.

lights – lungs.

Address to a Haggis - Robert Burns

To A Haggis,

Fair fa' your honest, sonsie face,
Great chieftain o' the Puddin-race!
Aboon them a' ye tak your place,
Painch, tripe, or thairm:
Weel are ye wordy of a grace
As lang's my arm.

The groaning trencher there ye fill,
Your hurdies like a distant hill,
Your pin wad help to mend a mill
In time o' need,
While thro' your pores the dews distil
Like amber bead.

His knife see Rustic-labour dight,
An' cut you up wi' ready slight,
Trenching your gushing entrails bright
Like onie ditch;
And then, O what a glorious sight,
Warm-reekin, rich!

Then, horn for horn they stretch an' strive,
Deil tak the hindmost, on they drive,
Till a' their weel-swallow'd kytes belyve
Are bent like drums;
Then auld Guidman, maist like to rive,
Bethankit hums.

Is there that owre his French _ragout_
Or _olio_ that wad stow a sow,
Or fricasee was mak her spew
Wi' perfect sconner
Looks down wi' sneering, scornfu' view
On sic a dinner?

Poor devil! See him owre his trash,
As feckless as a wither'd rash,
His spindle shank a guid whip-lash,
His nieve a nit;
Thro' bluidy flood or field to dash,
O how unfit!

But mark the Rustic, haggis-fed.

The trembling earth resounds his tread,
Clap in his walie nieve a blade,
He'll mak it whistle;
An' legs, an' arms, an' heads will sned,
Like taps o' thrissle.

Ye Pow'rs wha mak mankind your care,
And dish them out their bill o' fare,
Auld Scotland wants nae skinking ware,
That jaups in luggies;
But, if ye wish her gratefu' prayer,
Gie her a Haggis!

BURNS, ROBERT (1750-96)

Scottish poet and writer of traditional Scottish Folk songs.

One of Robert, or Robbie Burns most famous works, is "The Address to the Haggis," Burns was born in Alloway, Ayresshire, January 25, 1759, he was the eldest of seven children born to William Burness, a struggling tenant farmer and his wife, Agnes Broun.

Arduous farm work and undernourishment in his youth permanently injured his health, leading to rheumatic heart disease from which he eventually died at Dumfries on July 21, 1796.

A memorial edition of Burn's poems was published for the benefit of his wife and children, It's editor, the physician James Currie, a man of narrow sympathies, represented Burns as a drunkard and reprobate, and his biased judgement did much to perpetuate an unjustly harsh and distorted conception of the poet.

His songs include, "Auld Lang Syne," "Comin Thro' the Rye," "Scots Wha Hae," "A Red Red Rose," and "The Banks o' Doon."

Oh! lucky man?

Execution by firing squad was in the 1800's dependent upon the weather. When it rained the gunpowder used in the muskets would get wet and therefore be rendered useless. For soldier John Boatswain, court martialled for desertion and sentenced to face the firing squad, it just wouldn't stop raining. The rest of Boatswain's story is best told by reading the Government Orders of the day:

April 14 1801 - *The regiment to be under arms on Monday next, 19th instant, at half past nine in the morning to attend the execution of John Boatswain.*

April 19 1801 - *'Raining in torrents. The execution of the prisoner On account of the inclemency of the weather, is deferred until further orders.'*

April 20 1801 - *'Still raining in torrents. Execution further deferred.'*

April 25 1801 - *'Favourable circumstances have been reported, the Governor of the settlement is pleased to extend a reprieve, and grant a free pardon to the prisoner John Boatswain.... The Governor trusts that the example of the awful position in which the wretched man was placed will deter others...'*

Settlement costs.

Governments and beurocracies haven't really changed. Even before settlement of the new colony could be contemplated a budget had to be prepared and accepted.

The additional strains on the government coffers for settlement staff was going to be £1497/10/0.

For this princely sum they could send to the colony; one naval officer £500/0/0 per annum, one commanding officer of the marines £250/0/0 per annum, a commissary of stores and provisions and his assistants £200/0/0 per annum, two mates £350/0/0 per annum, and a chaplain £182/10/0 per annum.

The inclusion of a doctor would cost an additional £182/10/0 per annum. The remainder of the staff (soldiers guards and seamen) would be selected from existing forces and therefore no additional cost would be expended.

(£1/0/0 is equivalent to \$2.00.)

FIRST FLEET- RENTED.

Nine of the eleven vessels which formed the First Fleet were hired at a cost of 10/- per ton per month. The merchant vessels hired by the government were;

Alexander,
Lady Penrhyn,
Charlotte,
Scarboro',
Friendship,
Prince of Wales,
Fishburn,
Golden Grove,
and Barradale.

The two naval vessels were Sirius and Supply.

*These items from:
ISSUE No 1, Two Hundred Years.*

PHOTOGRAPHS HELD BY PICTON & DISTRICT HISTORICAL & FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC.

ADELAIDE:

North Terrace and the Hills.
North Terrace.

ALBURY:

Morieul Park.
The Hovell Tree.
Murray River Flats.
The Murray Valley.
Bethanga Bridge.
Bridge over Murray.
Railway Platform
Spirit of Progress.
The Monument.
Kiewa Street.
The Soldiers Memorial.
Botanic Gardens. (1) and (2)
Botanical Gardens Monument.

BATHURST:

Presbytery.
William Street.
MacHattie Park.
St Joseph's Mount.
All Saints Cathedral.

BENDIGO:

Town Hall
Fountain at junction of Main Street.

BOWEN:

General view of Bowen.

BRISBANE:

Jacarandas.
City Hall.
University.
Queen Street.
King George Memorial.
Panorama from Tower Mill Motel.

BROKEN HILL:

Dust Storm.

BRUNSWICK HEADS:

Aerial View of Brunswick Heads

BYRON BAY:

Main Street.
Lighthouse
Lighthouse 1955.

CAIRNS:

Entrance to Lake Barrine.
Folder with 10 snapshots.
Lake Barrine.

CANBERRA:

St John's C of E.
Community Hospital.
Yarralumla.
Blossom Time.
View From Red Hill.
Hotel Canberra.
Parliament House.
War Memorial.
Aerial view of Civic centre.
P.M's Lodge.
Parl't House and King George Mem'l

COLAC:

Colac State School.
Botanic Gardens
Boat House.
Lake Colac. (3 different)

COOLANGATTA:

Folder with 10 snapshots.
Terranora Lakes.

COOMA:

Picture Postcards.

EVANS HEAD:

Surfing Beach
Main Surfing Beach.
Fishing Boats.

GOSFORD:

Gosford Dinosaur

GRAFTON.

Book of postcards.
The Ferry Punt.

GUNDAGAI:

Rusconi's Masterpiece in Marble.
Dog on the Tuckerbox.
Murrumbidgee from Jugiong Hill.
Murrumbidgee from Mt Kimo.
Snake Gully
Monument and two bridges.
Pioneer Monument.
Swimming Pool and Camping Area.
Bridges across Murrumbidgee.
Picture Postcards.

HAWKESBURY RIVER:

Railway Bridge.

HOBART:

Hobart and Derwent River from Bellerive.
Franklin Square and G.P.O.
G.P.O.
Sandy Bay and Mt Wellington.
Long Beach.
General View of Hobart.
Souvenir photo folder 16 Photos.
Folder with 12 views.

HOLBROOK:

Shire Hall & War Memorial.
R.C. Church, Convent and School Hall.
Presbyterian Church and S.S. Hall.
C.W.A. Rest Room and Baby Clinic.
Park and Monument.
Bank of N.S.W.

INDOOROPILLY:

Double Cable Bridge.

JENOLAN CAVES:

Persian Grotto, Orient Cave.
The Goblin's Basin, Orient Cave.
The Granite Sapphires, Orient Cave.
Dianna's Grotto, Orient Cave.

KATOOMBA:

Broadcasting Station.
Picnic Ground (2).
Sanatorium Waterfall.
Meeting of the Waters.
Railway Line (Steep).

KEMPSEY:

Tall Timbers Caravan Park.

LISMORE

Tabulam H ?
James ?
Richmond River Wharf.
Richmond River.
Parade Showing Lismore School.
1917 Flood showing Post-and Telegraph
Office. (2)
Molesworth Street Flood.
High School.
Bowling Green.
1917 Flood.
Keen Street 1917 Flood. (2)
Woodlark Street Flood.
Numulgi School. (2)
C of E Goolmangar (2)
Rocky Creek Dam.
Lismore from Lookout.
Richmond River.

LIVERPOOL HEIGHTS:

Gas Bowl.

MacLEAN:

Methodist Church.

MELBOURNE:

Bourke Street.
Public Library.

MT COOTHA:

The Storey Bridge.
WM Jolly Bridge and Milton Beach.
Victoria and Wm Jolly Bridges.
Q.T.Q.Channel 9.

MULLUMBIMBY:

Main Street.

NORAH HEAD:

Lighthouse.

OLINDA:

Folder with 12 snapshots.

PARRAMATTA:

Clock and St John's Church.

S.A. Mem'l Parramatta Park.

Picture Postcards.

Church Street. George Street.

Docket from Murray Bros store dated 29-6-1954.

PIPERS FLAT:

Pipers Flat Siding.

PORTSEA:

Weerona Bay.

PORT STEPHENS:

Shoal Bay.

ROCKHAMPTON:

Small folder 6 photos.

Fitzroy Bridge.

Alexander Railway Bridge.

St Andrew's Presbyterian Church

Post Office.

East Street.

SALE:

Raymond Street.

SHOALHAVEN AREA:

20 Postcards and Photos.

SOUTHPORT:

Southport Hotel

The Broadbeach.

SURFERS PARADISE:

Surfers Paradise Hotel.

SYDNEY:

George Street.

Opera House.

General Electric Building.

Btm of Nondree Street Balmain 1941.

The Spit and Middle Harbour.

Harbour from Neutral Bay.

Gibsons Beach

The Gap.

TAREE:

Lookout on Manning River.

THE ENTRANCE:

Main Street.

TOWNSVILLE:

Shipping at Townsville.

Folder with 6 snapshots.

Inner Harbour Ross Creek.

Railway Station.

The Bowling Green.

Townsville Hospital.

TWEED HEADS:

Sunrise.

WINGHAM:

Soldiers Memorial Town Hall 1924.

YASS:

Yass Court House.

Triggs Memorial Gates.

Burrinjuck Dam.

**These photographs may be
obtained on request by writing
to:**

**Secretary,
Picton & District Historical
& Family History Society,
Post Office Box 64
Picton. 2571.**

**These photographs are free but we
would like a large, self addressed,
stamped envelope for posting.**

**The list of photographs has been
compiled by Mr Ken Farrell.**

THE AUSTRALIAN CHRONICLE.

1770 Cook chartered the coastline of New Zealand and on 20th April one of his officers, Lieutenant Zachary Hicks, sighted Australia. A landing was made on 29th April at Botany Bay. Cook charted the eastern coastline and proclaimed it a British possession which he later called New South Wales.

1775 With the outbreak of the American Civil war of Independence, North America was lost to England as a penal settlement.

1779 Sir Joseph Banks recommended Botany Bay as a substitute penal settlement.

1787 The First Fleet sailed from Portsmouth, commanded by Captain Arthur Phillip, in the Sirius.

1788 After a voyage lasting nine months HMS Supply sailed into Botany Bay, and then to Sydney Cove where a settlement was made. The colony was formally proclaimed in February by Judge Advocate David Collins. A farming settlement was established at Rose Hill.

1790 The Second Fleet sailed from England with 1,006 convicts, more than a quarter of whom died on the voyage. When the Fleet arrived famine was raging in the colony.

1791 First convict granted freedom and land, and coal was discovered near the mouth of the Hunter River by escaped convicts. The Third Fleet arrived in July.

1792 The first land grant was made to James Ruse. Ruse was a convict whose sentence had expired. Governor Phillip

left the colony and administration passed from the civil to military authorities.

1793 The first free settlers arrived on the Bellona. The first church was opened.

1794 The township of Windsor was established on the Hawkesbury River. John Macarthur received a large grant of land in the Parramatta area. He established Elizabeth Farm for his wife.

1795 The first printing press set up in Sydney. Captain John Hunter became second Governor of New South Wales.

1796 The first commercial theatre was opened in Sydney by Robert Sidaway, who staged *The Revenge*. Admission was paid in money, or kind - either flour or spirits.

1797 First Merino sheep imported into Australia by Henry Waterhouse, some of which were bought by John Macarthur.

1798 George Bass and Matthew Flinders circumnavigated Van Dieman's land.

1800 Governor Phillip Gidley King arrived to replace Governor Hunter. King regulated the colony's currency, and destroyed the rum monopoly held by the New South Wales Corps.

1801 Ticket of leave system introduced. This allowed convicts who behaved well to work for money and to choose their own employer before their sentence expired.

John Macarthur took samples of Australian wool to London.

1803 Sydney's first newspaper appeared. It was called *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser*.

David Collins attempted to establish a settlement at Port Phillip.

Lieutenant John Bowen with a small party of soldiers and convicts established a settlement at Risdon Cove in Van Diemen's Land. Matthew Flinders circumnavigated Australia. By 1803, 7,543 convicts had been transported to the colonies in New South Wales, Tasmania and Norfolk Island.

These items from: ISSUE No 1 Two Hundred Years.

HERITAGE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM COMPLETED PROJECTS

July 96 - June 97

(From the full year report.)

Benevolent Society of New South Wales Archives Guide Work to index records was undertaken by Paul Scifleet at the request of the Society. Data is available on computer disc. The call number for the collected records at the State Library is ML MSS 6091.

- Wivenhoe Stables, Kirkham, Stone Restoration.
- Arms of Australia Inn. Emu Plains, Barn Conservation.
- Experiment Farm Cottage, Harris Park.
- Harpers Mansion, Berrima, Geotechnical Report on Rear Wall.
- Holbrook Woolpack Inn Museum.
- Slab House at 339 Windsor Street Richmond.
- Ivy Cottage Hartley, Roof Replacement.
- Mac Donald Valley Cemeteries.

- Belgenny Farm, Camden, Revised Conservation Plan.
- World War 2 Fortifications Study of Sydney

SYDNEY HARBOUR BRIDGE.

It was along time in the planning and as usual there was political procrastination before the final decision was made to erect this engineering masterpiece. Today it stands as an icon representing our city and is known all over the world, it is frequently photographed as a backdrop for the Sydney Opera House.

Some of the important dates in the history of the bridge:

- **28th July 1923**, The turning of the first sod at North Sydney.
- **5th January 1925** Excavations for the foundations of the main bearing and approach spans commenced.
- **26th March 1925**, Foundation stones for the southern abutment tower at Dawes Point set in place.
- **September 1926** Erection of approach span steelwork commenced.
- **26th October 1928**, Erection of the main arch commenced.
- **7th November 1928** Eastern truss at Dawes Point placed in position.
- **19th August 1930**, Arch finally closed, the two halves now permanently linked.
- **10th September 1930**, Arch trusses completed.
- **March/April 1931**. Deck completed.
- **16th June 1932**, The last stone was set in the uppermost parapet of the last pylon.
- **19th March 1932** The bridge is declared open.

DISCOVERY.

The long delay in the discovery and settlement of Australia was caused by many factors – being able to survive while travelling the great distances and exploring unknown waters, the huge expanses of the Indian and Pacific Oceans, apprehension related to the unknown, the ideas from the past of the impassability of the Torrid Zone, and if they conquered all those fears there was the fear of being cast against the west coast of a place known as Terra Australis by prevailing winds, and the lack of any sighting of worthwhile land upon which to set foot.

Marco Polo referred to a well governed kingdom in the 13th century, this kingdom grew spices and drugs. It was taken to mean a land to the south of the equator, but it now seems that Marco Polo meant nothing which was further south than Sumatra. Even though there was this mistake in interpretation geographers in Europe continued to refer to a continent in the south. Monarchs and navigators continued to be interested in the continent.

There were expeditions launched into the Pacific, Indian Ocean and the waters around Indonesia in the 16th Century by the French, Portuguese, Dutch, and Spanish. There were some important discoveries made in the 16th century but it appears that none of the very early voyages ever ventured into regions close to what we now know as Australia.

In the year 1577 an expedition designed to search for lands in the

vicinity of Australia actually took place. With the spice trade being of so much importance to Indonesia and the Dutch, there were reports from traders of a land to the south. There was interest in trade but there were also high hopes of obtaining gold and silver from this land to the south.

On April 20th 1770 a man of tenacity and skill actually discovered the land down under, he was Captain James Cook.

James Cook (1728-79), is famous for his three great voyages of exploration in the South Pacific Ocean and the North American Coastal waters.

James Cook was born in Marton, England, he was the son of a farm labourer and after spending his early years as an apprentice with a firm of shipowners he enlisted in the British navy in 1775. It took four years to become a master, and he spent the years 1756 to 1767 charting the North Atlantic coastal waters off Newfoundland and Nova Scotia and the St Lawrence below Quebec.

In 1768 as Lieutenant in command of the Endeavour, he undertook his first great voyage to the South Pacific. On the voyage he took a group of British astronomers to the recently discovered island of Tahiti to observe the transit of the planet Venus across the sun in June 1769. He then proceeded to New Zealand, taking formal possession of parts of both main islands and accurately charting 3,860 km of coastline for the first time.

In 1770 he discovered the eastern coast of Australia, which he charted

**PICTON AND DISTRICT HISTORICAL & FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY
MEMBERS INTEREST DIRECTORY 1998**

Members are invited to submit names for the 1998 Directory

There is no charge for including names and no limit on the number submitted

**It would be appreciated if could return your completed forms
to the Coach House or post to the Society at P.O. Box 64 Picton NSW 2571**

MEMBERS NAME

ADDRESS

MEMBERSHIP NUMBER

NAME	TOWN	COUNTY /STATE	COUNTRY	TIME PERIOD
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and claimed for Great Britain under the name of New South Wales.

He carried out a three-year expedition discovering many islands in the Pacific and proved that no southern continent existed, only the great ice mass of the Antarctic region.

In July 1776, Cook sailed again to determine whether a Northwest Passage between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans existed north of the North American continent.

He visited the mid-Pacific discovering the Sandwich Islands which he later re-named the Hawaiian Islands.

After reaching the coast of the North American continent, he searched in vain for a Northwest Passage. He charted the western coastline as far north as the Bering Strait, where ice turned him back. He then returned to the Sandwich Islands/Hawaiian Islands, where he was killed during a skirmish with islanders over the theft of a boat.

MEMBERS VISIT THE OAKS AND WARRAGAMBA.

A long arranged and advertised visit to the Heritage Centre at The Oaks and Warragamba took place on Sunday 3rd May. The day probably could not have been much worse, rain had been pouring down during the night and it was a really unpleasant morning.

Around eighteen people visited the Heritage Centre to look through the really interesting museum and to watch the video on the preparation for the flooding of Burragorang Valley for the Warragamba Dam project.

Some of our members found a photo of a family member and another was able to answer other visitors questions related to history in the area.

Anyone visiting district should make a point of visiting the centre, they will find much of interest, whether they are interested in the coal mining, coal transport, aboriginal history, the bushrangers which roamed the area, fruit growing, or the beautiful Burragorang Valley, it's all there.

There are books and souvenirs on sale, and knowledgeable ladies willing to answer any inquiries.

After the visit to the Heritage Centre some visited the Burragorang Lookout, and others went on to Warragamba Dam, one of the dams supplying water to Sydney.

WARRAGAMBA DAM

The Warragamba River was considered as a source of water for the Colony of New South Wales as early as 1845 when the explorer P.E Strzelecki reported it's possible use "with the aid of cheap wooden aqueducts".

In 1867 Lt Woore, ex R.N., proposed an earth filled dam 170ft (approx 52metres high with a masonry core. A Royal Commission reporting on Sydney's water supply rejected Lt Woore's proposal together with another proposal for a masonry dam.

The engineering difficulties, especially those associated with heavy floods, were considered insuperable at the time.

TO BE CONTINUED.....

STONEQUARRY JOURNAL

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NOTICE:

"PICTON HIGH IS FORTY"

A message to all Picton High School Students. The 40th Anniversary Reunion Picnic
Day has been set for Sunday 20th September 1998.

Please contact the school 4677 1242, or G. Brown 4677 1351 for information.

A FEW"GENEALOGY SITES ON THE INTERNET

Compiled by Anne Calvert

Australian Archives	http://www.aa.gov.au
NSW Archives	http://www.records.nsw.gov.au/
F.H. research for Queensland and U.K.	http://www.sofcom.com.au/mall/garrison/
Suffolk FHS, England	http://midas.ac.uk/genuki/big/eng/SFK
Northumberland & Durham FHS	http://www.cs.ncl.ac.uk/genuki/Dur/NDFHS.html
Public Record Office, Kew, Eng.	http://www.open.gov.uk/pro/prohome.htm
Scottish Gen. Soc	http://www.scotland.net/scolgensoc
Internet History Resources -	http://www.ihr.com.au
NSW Family History Document	
Service-become a member to be able to browse and download such info as:	
List of Public Schools and Teachers 1891; Sands Directories; Deceased Intestate	
Estates 1850, 1851, 1853-1867; Coroners' and Magisterial Inquests 1887, 1889,	
1893, 1894, 1895 + lots more	