

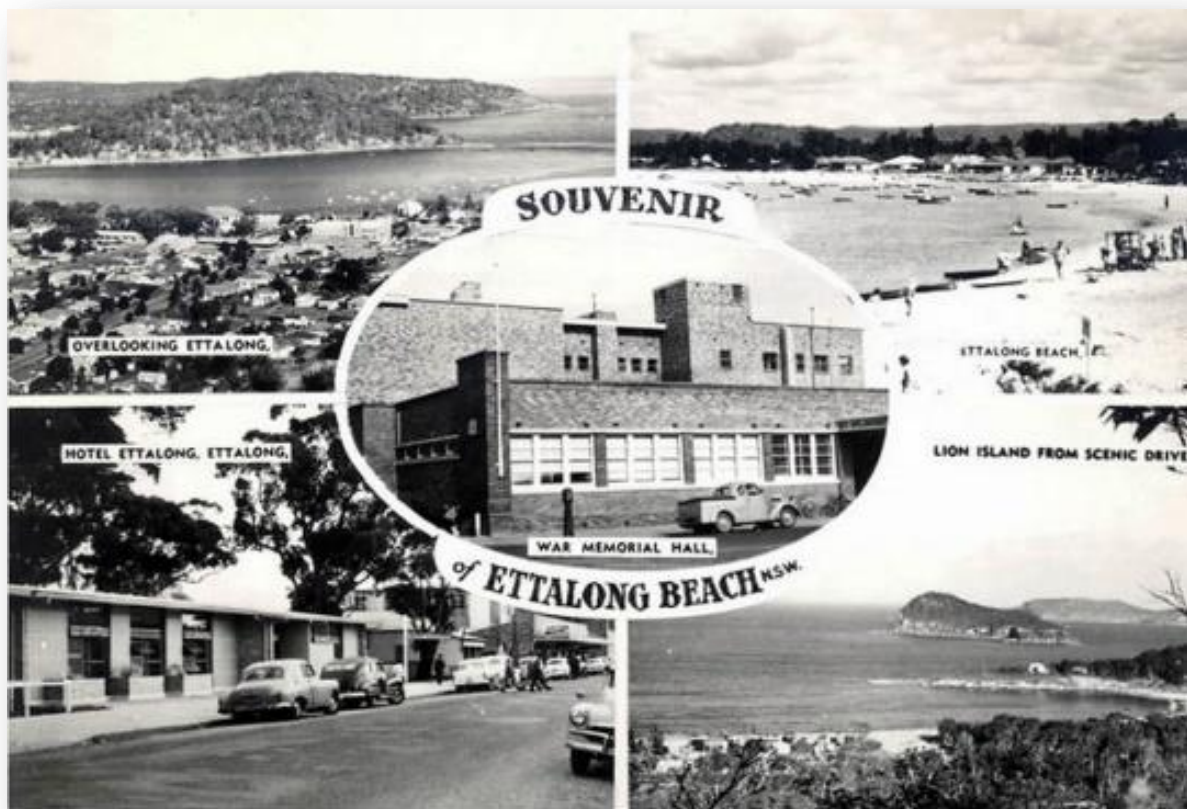
E-MUSTER

Central Coast Family History Society Inc.

December 2023



Issue 37



***THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE CENTRAL COAST
FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC.***

CENTRAL COAST FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC.



Members of NSW & ACT Association of Family History Societies Inc. (State Body)
Australian Federation of Family History Organisation (National Body)
Federation of Family History Societies, United Kingdom (International Body)
Associate Member, Royal Australian Historical Society of NSW.

Executive:

President: Rod Horton
Vice President: Belinda Mabbott
Secretary: Lorraine Greve
Treasurer: Brent Jones

Public Officer: Ken Clark

Committee:

Ken Clark, Brian Davies, Marlene Davidson,
Robyn Gregg, Yvonne Potts, Jacqueline Smith, Heather Yates.

RESEARCH CENTRE

Building 4, 8 Russell Drysdale Street, EAST GOSFORD NSW 2250
Phone: 4324 5164 - Email admin@centralcoastfhs.org.au
Open: Tues to Fri 9.30am-2.00pm;
Thursday evening 6.00pm-9.30pm
First Saturday of the month 9.30am-12noon
Research Centre Closed on Mondays for Administration

MEETINGS

First Saturday of each month from February to November
Commencing at 1.00pm – doors open 12.00 noon
Research Centre opens from 9.30am
Venue: Gosford Lions Community Hall
Rear of 8 Russell Drysdale Street, EAST GOSFORD NSW



The **E- MUSTER** is the Official Journal of the Central Coast Family History Society Inc. **THE MUSTER** it was first published in April 1983.

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All articles to: admin@centralcoastfhs.org.au

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 March 20th
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 November 20th

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THE E-MUSTER

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EDITORIAL

As the Editor of your December 2023 **e-Muster**, I thank the contributors who have provided such interesting stories resulting from researching their Family History. They are not always “good news” stories but they do tell the lives of those who lived before us. It is in this way that we come to understand the human aspects of the factual history. I also thank the Committee whose varied talents enhance the character of the Central Coast Family History Society.

Do you have a character in your family history who you would love to have a chat with to via a letter? You do not have to disclose to true identities. Maybe your letter would relate to a brick wall you have encountered? Maybe there is an event you have discovered but would love to understand more about. During our summer break you may enjoy writing such a letter for submission in the New Year.

Also, some more great stories and memories with permission from a gentleman born on the Central Coast at Erina, Ron Moir, who is the administrator of “Good old Central Coast” Facebook page. I hope you enjoy them as much as I do.

Heather YATES Member 675

PRESIDENTS REPORT

We are again at the end of another year and this is the first year in the 2020s which we haven't been impacted by the pandemic. Individual members have succumbed but we were able to keep the Research Centre open, and that renewed enthusiasm has allowed the Society to flourish. Memberships are on the up and we have been busy again running workshops and general meetings. New computers and a general restructuring of the Research room has provided a better environment for family history research. The proposed swapping of the library and office is well underway and will be completed before the centre reopens in the New Year. The committee and all those who volunteer and use the research room and library are excited that the task is coming to fruition.

The Point Frederick Cemetery book has been completed by Margaret Ertner and we look forward to seeing the rewards of the work which she and other members of the Society have done over the last few years. Book sales have been taken to a new level by Belinda Mabbott with many of the books compiled by Lola Cormie and other members still in hot demand. Reprints of other books are on the agenda and several members including Lorraine Greve and Robyn Gregg have assisted Belinda with the printing and binding of many titles “in house”. Exciting times are ahead as we build on what we have.

Heather Yates has again provided an interesting December E-Muster with varied stories and articles. When you have some spare time during the festive season, sit down and read what she and other members have provided for you.

May the Christmas period bring peace and joy throughout the world in these turbulent times and may good health and happiness shine on all our members and readers. And of course, we all hope for a better world next year and an end to the conflict and injustices both at home and around the world.

Rod HORTON Member 1280J President CCFHS.



LATEST NEWS

MEMBERSHIP

The Management Committee is entrusted with the appropriate operation of the Society and this includes the health and wellbeing/safety of the members while on the premises and during activities. By law we are required to comply with the directives of the Gov. Medical Authorities.

<https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/business/rules-guidance/nsw-rules>

We are also required to comply with any directives applied by our landlord, Central Coast Council/Properties. We have to consider the general age and health of our members and it is with these facts we would prefer members be double vaccinated. Wearing a mask inside and distancing is suggested.

E-JOURNALS

Societies and Groups send their journals and newsletters to us via email. They are downloaded on to Pelicanet and are available for you to read on Computers 1-4 and 7-10 at the Research Centre. How? From the desktop select the Pelican logo, and then select E- Journals.

SPEAKERS 2024

3rd February 2024

Kaye VERNON- Teapot Genealogy

Kaye is an **experienced speaker** and has travelled extensively to talk on the following fascinating family history topics:



Start Your Family Tree

A step-by-step approach to kickstarting your family history research. Learn insider pathways and shortcuts.

Simplifying your DNA

You have your DNA results - what do they mean? And where do you go from here?

Looking for Gold and Finding Gems in the State Archives

Interesting and inspiring stories behind the Teapot Genealogy indexes, researched at the State Archives.

Plight of Children in the 19th and 20th Centuries

Explore both sides of the debate on the institutionalisation of children.

2nd March 2024

**RAHS Seminar at Lions Hall East Gosford
Speakers to be advised in New Year**

**Useful links for accessing information about the State Archives
Collection.**

State Archives Collection Home Page

<https://mhnsww.gov.au/collections/state-archives-collection/>

Subjects A-Z

<https://mhnsww.gov.au/archive/subjects/>

Digital Shipping Lists

<https://mhnsww.gov.au/guides/assisted-immigrants-digital-shipping-lists/>

Ask an Archivist

<https://mhnsww.gov.au/collections/state-archives-collection/ask-an-archivist/>

Plan your visit

<https://mhnsww.gov.au/visit-us/state-archives-reading-room/plan-your-visit/>

Webinars

<https://www.youtube.com/@MHNSWStateArchivesCollection>

State Archives Collection Catalogue https://records-primo.hosted.exlibrisgroup.com/primo-explore/search?vid=61SRA&sortby=rank&lang=en_US



RAHS Day Lecture – Bee Miles: Australia's Famous Bohemian Rebel

Event Date & Time: Wednesday, 7 February 2024 @ 1.00 pm – 2.00 pm

Event Location: Online via Zoom

Cost: Free

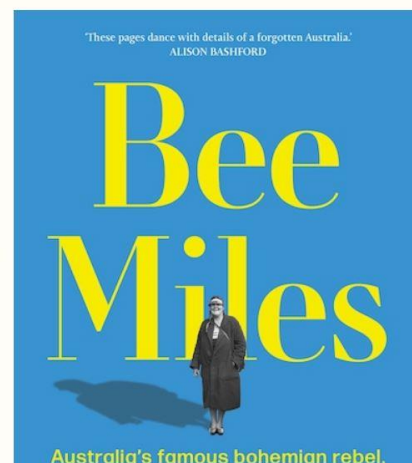
CLICK HERE TO BOOK A TICKET

Event Description:

Bee Miles was famous for appearing in public in towns and cities across Australia, breaking their rules, and living, she said, 'recklessly'. But she was no ordinary wanderer. Born into a wealthy family, Bee moved in Sydney's literary and artistic circles in the 1920s and 1930s before she took up residence on the streets. A truly larger-than-life character, Bee constantly defied conventional expectations of female behaviour. Until now, no one has uncovered the real story behind the colourful legend. This first full biography offers a fascinating glimpse into a dark side of Australia's history.

About the speaker:

Rose Ellis is a writer, editor and researcher based in Sydney.





Intimate Lives Focus Group 5: Mental Health and Institutions

When 11 December 2023
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Location Online
Spaces left 9

REGISTRATION

• Complimentary

REGISTER

This is a focus group examining **mental health and institutions** for the research project Intimate Lives: The Ethics of Uncovering Family Secrets, lead by Drs. Ashley Barnwell (University of Melbourne) and Alexandra Mountain (The Society of Australian Genealogists).

Each focus group has a maximum of 15 registrants. Given we have such high interest, we ask that each person register for just one session at this stage. If there is remaining availability after everyone has had a chance to register in one session we will open them for further registration. This is to ensure that everyone gets a chance to participate and to keep the groups small enough so everyone's voices can be heard.

The zoom link for the focus group and questions for the sessions will be sent out two days before this session.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Ash and Alex at family.secrets.research.project@gmail.com.

NEW MEMBERS

We wish to extend a very warm welcome to our new and returned members. We hope they have many happy researching and social hours with us. Please remember to lodge your Members' Interest form with Brian Davies for inclusion on the Website.

2219	Jennifer Gray	2224	Rosalie Donnelly
2220	Christine Crook	2225J	Joyce & Leslie Hayward
2221	Jocelyn Forrest	2226	Prue Wyllie
2222	Marg Berry & Phillip Stewart	2227	Christine Gronlund
2223J	Suzanne Grist & Ted Dunford	2228	Jacqui Wieringa
2185	Robyn Marsden		

NEWS ALERT - There has been reported sightings in the Ourimbah/Palmdale and local areas of a distinctively dressed gentleman who has been uttering "Ho, Ho, Ho!" and carrying a large red sack. He has an unusual mode of transport and appears friendly with a creature whom he addresses as Rudolph. He doesn't appear to be dangerous but in fact rather JOLLY! Be on the watch!



"Santa aka Brian"

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION



A Gold coin donation is gratefully received when attending the Research Centre to assist in offsetting the cost of online subscription sites. A Day Research fee for Non-Members is \$10.

All workshops will incur a fee of \$10 for members unless otherwise stipulated and must be paid for prior to the day.

OUR MEMBERSHIP FORM is available to download from the website. From the front page click on the ...read more information Tab under Membership on the banner and all will be revealed. Remember the website is www.centralcoastfhs.org.au

Please read the two additional questions on your membership form regarding the Rotary Raffle to the value of \$10.00 and/or a once per year donation of \$10.00 to the Equipment Maintenance Fund. You can choose to collect the Tickets from the Centre or send in a stamped addressed envelope and we will post them to you.

Next Issue

No. 37 April 2024 E-MUSTER

Deadline for articles for the next edition of the e-Muster
20th March, 2024.

START WRITING- WRITE YOUR FAMILY HISTORY

At our November Meeting we were privileged to hear a very interesting talk by Nancy Bundle about her career and how her co-authored book *Nurses at Work*, came about. It is a history of industrial and occupational health nurses in New South Wales. She encouraged us to 'start writing' and talked about her own hesitancy in putting pen to paper. This has inspired me, and I am sure other members, to go back and have another look at our research and where we are on that journey. Writing history is a story incorporating characters, themes and the unique flavour that is our own history. Time to get myself moving again. So, thanks to Nancy, I have put pen to paper with some thoughts.

Some years ago, Terry Heffernan and I ran a series of workshops on memoir writing. Our first workshop was entitled *'I've done the research. Where to now'?* I hope the readers of the Muster might be interested in some of the following discussion notes from the first workshop.

Why do we want to write about our family history?

- For our own personal interest
- For our immediate family
- To leave a gift for future generations
- To understand past events, the 'uniqueness' of our family history

When do we start?

- Should we wait until we've finished researching.
- Why/Why not
- Why is it important to keep researching/collecting.
- What about the research journey
- Do we always need to start at the beginning, or can we just start on what really interests us and organize later.

What sort of history do we want to write?

- Narrative
- Autobiographical
- Memoir
- Diary form
- Creative nonfiction. What about a fictional family history????

Our enthusiastic group meant we had many lively discussions and produced some excellent results.

One very important point was, could anyone be hurt by what we might write and how to deal with some sensitive information. This always needs to be kept in mind.

Here are a couple of interesting extracts from writers we used:

1. *There is no 'right' way to 'write.' Writing is learned. Just keep writing - you can start anywhere and organize later. Getting started is the hardest part – like nailing jelly to a wall.*

Noeline Kyle Workshop, Kogarah Library Nov 2009.

2. *Fact or Fiction? Facts provide the skeleton of a family history that isn't just the facts, for any structured being. The flesh is equally as important, holding the skeleton together as well as adding individuality. We flesh out a person's life story by thoroughly researching them as well as exploring the backdrop to their life. Then we begin writing, using a pinch of logic and a dash of imagination to fill in the gaps. In so doing we can write interesting family histories, ones that don't cause our readers' eyes to glaze over.'*

(Extract from 'Writing Interesting Family Histories' by Carol Baxter, 2009, p14)

Marie RILEY Member 796

It was just a post on Facebook!

It was a Saturday evening when I had a request from a cousin (half 1st cousin 1x) to be a friend on Facebook. I immediately added her to my small list and a few posts from her appeared when I opened up Facebook the next morning. One post had a comment from Steven A, and I wondered if, as I have a good match with a Steven A on Ancestry (123 cms) and knew him to be from the same side of the family. I have checked out Facebook users regarding DNA before and have often found the results very pleasing and this time I was rewarded with an interesting post which read.

“Well what an amazing weekend! For the first time in over 56 years I was able to see and hold my mother ❤️ I was taken from her at birth and adopted 10 days later by the two most loving people you could hope for. Mum, Jane, had never seen me or held me as the nuns whisked me away the moment I was born -never to be heard from again - until a few weeks ago! Ancestry DNA 🧬 linked me to her brother Rob and the rest is history.. I had the most amazing Mother's Day breakfast today after a weekend of chats and catch ups to find that we are wired the same and the link we have is incredible, it's like we have known each other forever 🌀 I never thought this would happen, just curious about my origins and have now met members of both sides of my birth family 🤗❤️😊 Life is an amazing journey. 🙏🙌”.

What a wonderful Sunday morning I had after reading this post. I later wondered, did my parents know about this story in 1967 and not share the details? How come it was a secret held for so long by so many people? How cruel were people back in the day and how bad were the decisions made by others which had a lifelong effect on the people involved. It has happened many, many, times in the past and will happen again, but thank goodness for DNA testing which has bought many families back together again. These are the reasons why DNA testing is so important when carrying out family history research. It is the best and most reliable tool we have at our disposal.

Note. The names have been changed but the post is as written.

Rod HORTON Member 1280J

This is the Story of the Kilkenny family in Gosford, the result of a search on Trove and with help from others.

My mother was one of four children, all daughters, born to Frank Kilkenny who in his later years was an Orchardist on Mangrove Mountain.

Frank was born on the gold fields of northern Victoria; he subsequently went to Bombala and married.

His brother Michael was the local Barber and Store keeper.

From Trove I read of the brothers' reputation as good athletes and expert horse riders and drivers.

On one occasion they rode from Wanaaring to Eucha, arriving home on Christmas Day, a distance of 550 miles in 12 days

And the following day Michael won the principal foot-race at the Eucha sports day.

It is on record that in about 1891 the two traversed the country between Delegate and Orbost by horse and sulky. The government had offered a reward for anyone who could cross that country in a vehicle, but the brothers didn't bother to claim the reward.

The four daughters were born in or around Bombala, and Candelo. When the family moved to Mangrove Mountain is unknown.

The eldest, Vera did her nursing training at the Coast Hospital and midwifery at Crown St. Women's Hospital (1931).

She later part owned Bonnie Doone Private Hospital in Wauchope NSW.

Little is known about Kathleen, who also had an orchard, next door to her fathers on Mangrove Mountain. From Trove I learned that Kathleen had at one stage attempted to establish a school at Somersby in a shed on Mr. Medicott's orchard.

The youngest daughter Ruby was housekeeper for her Father until his death in 1956. As a child I used to spend holidays with Frank and Ruby, at the orchard.

Frank was a very stern man. I remember that he would drive down to Gosford on a Thursday, market day, and he would go to Noel Harris's shoe shop in Mann Street to collect a sack of shoes needing repair. He also made shoes by hand that had elevated platforms.

It is from Trove that I learned a previously unknown piece of local history about my mother, Reta Kilkenny.

She often talked to me about her days as a telephonist at Gosford telephone exchange. She was very highly principled and she always stressed that as telephonists who had to manually plug in the calls to local citizens they never repeated anything they heard on the conversations. They knew everyone in town and facts about their availability to take phone calls.

Margaret Morters found out for me that Reta Kilkenny in 1930 lived in Holden Street, Gosford.



Exchange Operators Gosford Telephone Exchange circa 1950

In Trove I read that the local paper reported that:-

"Miss Reta Kilkenny has secured an exchange from the local telephone Staff to Narromine, where she takes up duty on the 5th August. She wishes to see as much as possible of the state, and will seek a new location; if possible, after her six months in the western town"

Next the local paper reported:

"the valedictory social to Misses Murphy and Kilkenny will be held on August 30 not the 23rd as previously announced. Miss Kilkenny would not be able to attend on the date first chosen"

And finally on 4 September the Gosford times and Wyong district advocate reported:-

Phone girls honoured. Appreciation of services.

During their term as officers at Gosford P.O telephone exchange Misses Murphy and Kilkenny won golden opinions of phone users by their courtesy and cheery helpfulness.

When it was found that they could not be retained longer in this district, but were called away for promotion, many of their 'friends of the wire' determined to signalise the general appreciation of their worth.

Messrs A.I Chapman and E. I. Thomas took the project in hand, and met with a ready response. As a result, Misses Kilkenny and Murphy were entertained by about a hundred friends in the School of Arts hall on Saturday night, and each was presented a handsome handbag, with expressions of grateful Acknowledgement of worthy service over several years.

Mr. Chapman, in making the presentations, conveyed in suitable terms the regret of the guests' many friends that they must leave the district, the appreciation of phone users for the excellent and markedly considerate help given whenever required, and the good wishes of all for the future welfare and happiness of the transferred officers.

Mrs. Chapman presented to each young lady a lovely bouquet, especially from the ladies of Gosford who had Misses Murphy and Kilkenny to thank for many gracious acts.

The recipients, who were honoured with song and cheers, briefly expressed their thanks.

During the evening Mrs. Maj. Maddy contributed four songs in particularly good voice, the numbers were a genuine treat.

Dancing was enjoyed with Mr. E. Collits as M.C., music being donated by Marsdens' orchestra, with Mr. Des Reed at the piano while Miss Marie Mason and Mr. Leo Collits gave extras. The supper prepared by the ladies was keenly relished, and the results of efforts in this direction by Mesdames Thomas, Chapman, Collits, Stafford, and Gwynne were commended warmly. To me, that revealed a snippet of a bygone era of society and also of an older style of journalism!

Under the heading of "return thanks" the same newspaper reported that: Mr. and Mrs. Kilkenny wished to thank the subscribers and friends for their good wishes and kindly appreciation of their daughter Reta's services during her term as telephonist.

Thank goodness for Trove.

But just a word of warning! Scanning Trove can be very time consuming. Searching a name like Kilkenny revealed issues concerning Kilkenny in Ireland and to do with a town in Victoria where there were many young returned servicemen.

Nancy Bundle AM

Nancy BUNDLE Member 1154

The Christmas pudding as we know it is said to have been introduced to Britain by Prince Albert, consort of Queen Victoria, however it is thought that a version of the pudding was actually introduced from Germany by George I sometimes known as the 'pudding king' in 1714.

Most puddings will contain some of the following ingredients: dried fruit, prunes and dates (often soaked in brandy), candied peel, mixed spice, treacle, suet, eggs, breadcrumbs and dark brown sugar. Traditionally there would be 13 ingredients in all, to represent Jesus and his disciples. Most families have a favourite recipe or follow one handed down over the generations. Sometimes silver coins are added to the mixture; anyone who finds one when eating the pudding is said to receive health, wealth and happiness in the coming year.

A Sainsbury's leaflet from the 1930's. Leonie PINSON Member 1582

**Be proud to own —
You make your own**

The Spirit of Christmas

The Spirit of Christmas reaches its culminating point in that wonderful meal—The Christmas Dinner—The Kiddies joyfully anticipate the time when they will take their seats at the table groaning with good things, and for them the crowning glory of the repast is surely the Christmas Pudding—so give them a special treat this year. Never has there been such a pudding as the "Sainsbury" recipe will make.

Sainsbury's Special Recipe

CHRISTMAS PUDDING

1lb. Suet	$\frac{1}{2}$ Nutmeg
$\frac{1}{4}$ lb. Lemon Peel, mixed	1 Apple
2ozs. Sweet Almonds	1 Dessert Spoonful Mace
1oz. Bitter Almonds	Little Salt
$\frac{1}{2}$ lb. Currants	Rind of 1 Lemon and juice
$\frac{1}{2}$ lb. Sugar	3 Eggs
$\frac{1}{2}$ lb. Sultanas	4 drops Essence Almonds
$\frac{1}{2}$ lb. Plums, Raisins	2 Table Spoonfuls Brandy
3ozs. Bread Crumbs	or Whiskey
5ozs. Flour	

5 hours to boil—and 2 when wanted for table.
SUFFICIENT FOR TWO PUDDINGS.

To buy SAINSBURY FRUIT
is to buy the BEST, for we firmly believe that no finer QUALITY can be obtained either at the price or above it.

SAINSBURY FRUIT appeals particularly to the discerning housewife, for its absolute CLEANLINESS—it is packed ready for sale (in 1lb. and all. bags), thus ensuring absolute freedom from all dirt or dust.

SAINSBURY'S

Stir yourself Get Sainsbury's ingredients
for this year's pudding

Good Old Central Coast

Caroline Bay was always a good fishing spot to catch Flathead , when we were kids there used to be big swarms of poddy mullet there and we used to what we called chonk them with a bit of fibro.

We used a bit of flat fibro and threw it as hard as you could into the swarm of Mullet and being flat they could not see it coming and the ones we got we would use for bait to catch Flathead.

Another way we used to catch live bait was to use one of them old skinny oyster bottles and put a bit of bread in the bottle a bit of fishing line tied to the top of the bottle and drop it in the water, the little Poddy Mullet would swim into the bottle to get the bread and where the bottle was too skinny for them to turn around all you had to do was pull the bottle out of the water and there was your live bait.

It was a great place to hang around in the early days- good fishing and swimming, oystering, till someone in their great wisdom from the Council decided to put a sewerage treatment works there- after that it was all finished.



Photo taken from Tiger Moth, Pilot Stan Lynch 1950.

Main photo, Moores sawmill at Erina where the two buses are, is the Karalta Road turn off to the Erina Fair. I often wonder when people are travelling past do they realise how much history was in this area.

Back in the early days it was a busy boat building area with a lot of ships being built on the banks of the creek, the creek was always busy with land agents boats from Sydney selling land in Erina, Wamberal, Tumbi Umbi and Matcham.

Several sawmills were working on the river bank ,it was always busy with ships coming and going to Sydney carrying timber and raw logs , a lot of the piles that went into building Circular Quay and a lot of the wharves in Sydney Harbour were taken from Erina (Turpentine).

The ships coming back empty would load up with ballasts and stack them along the banks of the creek, keeping the banks nice and neat, which you can see in the main photo. I remember when I was a kid growing up in Erina in the early days the big wharves where they used to load the timber were still there, they were where the Woodport Tavern is now. We used to fish off them , there were big concrete blocks still in the ground with big old rusty steel wire rope coming out of them.

I cannot understand why these historical places have not been sign posted with a plaque letting people know the history the Central Coast used to have.

Author Ron MOIR- Administrator "Good Old Central Coast "Facebook page.

THE OLD GARDEN SHED

"Cherry-Grove" , Cullinga, NSW.... ...a little bit of History.

I always had an instinctive feeling that the old garden shed held some sort of hidden treasure? ...just what exactly remained a secret for many years!

This shed was situated in the back garden above a rockery at "Cherry-Grove North" which was originally the local Schoolmaster's residence.

The shed made of old galvanized iron was smallish and covered in green ivy which had crept along wire spreading from a nearby trellis connecting a walkway and another ivy-clad shed which my cousins used as a playroom in the 1950's. The ivy growth was very dense, very shady and quite spooky at night when entering through the side gate!

I always wondered about the contents of the small garden shed.... When my Aunty Mary, Uncle Bill and their 4 children lived there, I had only briefly peered in to see remnants of a previous generation, old Fowler jars, old newspapers, boxes of old magazines and schoolbooks, old cordial bottles, old garden tools, spider webs and some Old china and a Watershed Jug & bowl) pretty but chipped..

There were numerous sheds and outbuildings around the farmhouse providing hours of childhood play & exploration with my cousins.

As the years went by, the ivy grew thicker even after it had been trimmed a few times. In 1965 my aunt, uncle & cousins left the farm to move to Gosford and the garden grew wild. The garden shed almost disappeared in the thick growth of ivy. I left home in 1966 to attend University in Sydney for 3 years, married Barry in 1968 then moved to Cowra in 1969.

After the births of Gina & Anthony we built a home & settled into a busy life there. Meanwhile my Mum (Emily, widowed in 1961) had cancelled her plan to build a new home and moved into "Cherry Grove North" trying to tame the wild garden: trimming the ever-growing ivy was an endless task for my mother & brothers as it had covered the 2 rain tanks, the garage, the playroom, the walkway and of course, the garden shed!

The demands of running a farm came first of course, being a family business.

The ivy was interesting, forming a dark, spooky passageway between the tanks & the fence etc. when it rained the moisture dripped for ages afterwards. The garden below the rockery was like a sunken garden where our family used to enjoy many barbecues and family laughs with fine beverages (memorable 1973 Griffith Wine Festival!)

Ashley & Rodney cooked the meat while Emily made the salads etc. Stan & Edie Chapman joined us until Pop died in 1979. Good times in the garden which mum had surrounded with pretty flowers in the rockery. Steps lead up to the old garden shed, ignored but still intact! Every once in a while, I would poke my head in the door only to see more spider webs and ivy runners. Nothing much had changed.....

About 1973, I began an interest in Family History when my husband Barry, found the Boxsells (my great-great-grandparents) on a Shipping List in the Mitchell Library, Sydney Assisted Immigrants in 1839; Thomas & Mary Boxsell settled at Seaham for 10 years or more, then Gerringong in the 1850's.

One of the sons James lived at Meroo Meadow near Nowra. ...my great-grandfather, who came out west and purchased part of "Cherry Grove" in 1873 when the land opened up for sale from the squatters (SK Salting) who had large tracts of land in the Cullinga and Harden area.

James continued to purchase blocks of land as he could afford to, until he owned approximately 2000 acres. James married Mary Ann Faulks and had 15 children of which 9 were sons.

Gold was found on "Cherry Grove" property in 1892 by James Tilden; a mining company was set up by James Boxsell, Jasper Ingold and William Playford (Manager) with the mine covering an area of approx. 100acres complete with a stamper Battery; a store, Post Office and a school were gradually established plus miner's huts, creating Cullinga Mines Village.

James became quite wealthy buying land in nearby Wallendbeen, Cootamundra, Jugiong and Condobolin over the years. James (born in Sussex, UK in 1835) passed away in 1909 leaving a lot of his assets to his second wife.

However, the farm at Cullinga remained in the hands of my grandfather, Henry George Faulks BOXSELL until he retired to "Melrose", Cootamundra.

He was also a selector at Condobolin prior to his marriage to Sarah Alice Kirkland from Bega, (issue 4)

The gold mine closed for WW11, then re-opened but closed in 1948 due to water problems when the mines became too deep. The School site was moved to a block near "Cherry-Grove North", the subject of this story and the school was active for some years.

My parents were neighbours and married in July, 1947-George Anolis Boxsell and Emily Elizabeth Chapman... Mum's parents were Stanley & Edith Chapman from "Woodgrove" (issue 4: Emily, Marie, Bevan, John);

I was born in September, 1948, Ashley in April, 1951 and Rodney in June, 1956; Mum & Dad lived in the main homestead, "Cherry Grove" built in 1910. Dad died in 1961 from a heart attack.

Due to my interest in the Family History, my mother gave me 3 lovely old photo albums containing a treasure of B&W historical family photos belonging to Dad's parents and relatives from the South Coast, some labelled, some not.

With the help of a few aunts and uncles, I started to build up the names in the Family Tree and did lots of library research etc.

On & off for ten years I had researched the BOXSELLs from Sussex to Seaham, from Gerringong, Meroo to Cullunga, Cootamundra..... my 3 kids have painfully-boring memories of waiting in cemeteries for hours while I gathered precious dates and names, especially at Berry, Gerringong and Nowra.

We visited pretty spots like Raymond Terrace, Seaham, Kangaroo Valley, Kiama, Jamberoo, Meroo, Shoalhaven Heads and Milton. I also visited libraries, scoured archives and bought many relevant history books! Information was placed in many loose-leaf folders and my husband copied many old photos in his darkroom at Cowra where we lived for 16 years!

In 1980, my mother left the farm to retire in Cootamundra and enjoy town life. We still visited the farm in the school holidays. My favourite time there was always Spring time when the paddocks were green and lush with capeweed in flower plus memories of my birthday and playing in the shearing shed as a child.

Family history was put aside after Natasha was born in Dec 1980 (for about 4yrs); One day in 1984 I visited the farm and pushed open the old wooden door of the garden shed and ventured in tentatively...getting quite a shock when a possum suddenly jumped out, frightening the life out of me !! After I had calmed down a bit I noticed that one box contained National Geographic magazines.... mmmmmm? Collectors' items I mused! (my dentist used to have them in his waiting room.).

I wondered what lay at the back of the shed hiding in a box or on that old bookshelf?

However, the floor was covered in ivy runners and spider webs making access very difficult. I gave up! I was scared of snakes as well. I felt very frustrated having to leave as I had a very strong feeling that there was something important at the back of the shed. I needed tools and time to clear away the barriers growing across the shed floor; Obviously, this garden shed was not giving out the secret source yet a while. Mystery remained hidden!!!!

Meanwhile, my husband had been transferred as a Soil Conservation Research Officer north to Wellington NSW so we had to move house after 16 years in Cowra! After much packing we left in January 1985 and rented a comfortable weatherboard farmhouse 18km from Wellington called "Geenobby" for 3+1/2 happy years.

In 1986 when Natasha went to School I had many hours to fill so I did lots of Family History, letter-writing & research. This was absorbing especially during wet weather when the rain on the roof reminded me of times at "Cherry Grove"

I wrote out "James' Story" at this time.

In 1986, after 4-5 generations, the BOXSELL family farm, "Cherry Grove" was sold but my brother, Rodney stayed on as manager with wife Karen, son George (b.1982) and daughter, Juliet (b. 1986).

In September 1989, we all attended a BOXSELL Family Reunion at Gerringong to celebrate the 1839 arrival of Thomas & Mary BOXSELL (Bounty Immigrants) at Sydney on the ship "Neptune"..... 150 years of different branches so people came from all over Australia making it a very special time with the charts and photos, The Queensland branch all came in matching Tee-shirts as each branch had been assigned a colour.

We all wore green for "James'" branch; As well the local graves of Thomas & Mary had been restored at Gerringong cemetery overlooking the sea. I found the graves way back in 1974 almost 100 years after they had been buried in 1875!

In 1988 we moved house again after we bought a house in town and while my mother was helping us the old, empty "Cherry-Grove North" tragically burned down due to an electrical fault. However, the old garden shed remained intact, before I could get there, my brother was told to bulldoze the ruins including the sheds.

One day after heavy rain my mother went out to visit the old site to see what was growing in the garden. She noticed a black & white photograph laying on the ground, then looking closer she saw something like a book sticking up out of the mud!

She pulled at it to see it was an old photograph album she had never seen before, covered in red mud! She took it home and tried to clean off most of the mud.

To her surprise, most of the small photos were intact if not slightly dirty and some were labelled.

The album had been compiled at Milton years ago where the sister of my great-grandmother Mary-Ann Faulks had lived, the sister being Sarah Maria Faulks (she married Henry Claydon) there is a "Sarah Claydon Retirement Village" named after her for all her work done as a midwife years ago in the Milton area; Sarah died on Dec 23, 1876 aged only 48yrs! She had 4 brothers: John, William, Robert and George plus another sister Elizabeth who married William Tuckerman. My research assisted me in identifying family members in the album e.g.: Boxsells, Faulks, Claydons, Tuckermans and Ingolds. One of the photographs was taken in London. What a find!!! This was the secret of the garden shed which had been hidden for about 50 years or more?

My theory is that the album possibly belonged to my great-grandmother or to one of her 4 brothers as she died in 1894 (Mary-Ann Boxsell nee Faulks b: 1838) ; after she died it was given to a son, Bert who used to live in the old schoolhouse i.e. 'Cherry Grove North' -Lesley Bert in fact.

For some unknown reason, the album was placed in the old garden shed in a box or tin for storage there to be hidden for many years. Bert was the youngest in the family of 15 children of James and Mary-Ann BOXSELL and he lived there in the 1930s and 1940s.

My mum used to attend the nearby school in those days. Little did she realize that one day she would not only live on the hill but solve the mystery of the old garden shed!

Nolda Craze nee BOXSELL cousin of Maureen PARKER Member 2164J

“Find the Face”



When we first moved to Gosford in late 1958, people would say to us, "have you seen the Indian head on the side of the Skillion at Terrigal?"

No, we hadn't but we had a better look the next time we drove out that way.

That part of the rockface has long ago dropped away, as has the front outline (some blasting also took place when it was feared the rock would collapse on people walking underneath). This pic is on an old postcard from about the 1930s.

You can see the face referred to in the first "light" part of the rocks near the left, "the nose" prominent.

Gwen DUNDON Member134

**A big round of applause to all the members of a very special generation,
which will be UNIQUE.**

We were born in the 40-50-60's.
We grew up in the 50-60-70's.
We studied in the 60-70-80's.
We were dating in the 70-80-90's.
We got married and discovered the world in the 70-80-90's.
We venture into the 80-90's.
We stabilize in the 2000's.
We got wiser in the 2010's.
And we are going firmly through and beyond 2020.
Turns out we've lived through EIGHT different decades...

TWO different centuries...

TWO different millennia...

We have gone from the telephone with an operator for long-distance calls to video calls to anywhere in the world.

We have gone from slides to YouTube, from vinyl records to online music, from handwritten letters to email and Whats App.

From live matches on the radio, to black and white TV, colour TV and then to 3D HD TV.

We went to the Video store and now we watch Netflix.

We got to know the first computers, punch cards, floppy disks and now we have gigabytes and megabytes on our smartphones.

We wore shorts throughout our childhood and then long trousers, Oxfords, flares, shell suits & blue jeans.

We dodged infantile paralysis, meningitis, polio, tuberculosis, swine flu and now COVID-19.

We rode skates, tricycles; bicycles, mopeds; petrol or diesel cars and now we drive hybrids or electric.

Yes, we've been through a lot but what a great life we've had!
They could describe us as "exennials"; people who were born in that world of the fifties, who had an analog childhood and a digital adulthood.

We've kind of "Seen-It-All"!

Our generation has literally lived through and witnessed more than any other in every dimension of life.

It is our generation that has literally adapted to "CHANGE".

A Different Type of Tree.

I am a tree lover, both my genealogical family tree and also the horticultural variety. I often gaze upon particularly beautiful specimens around the Central Coast.

This e-Muster I have included a beautiful group of trees on the Central Coast Highway at East Gosford.



The most noticeable being the Illawarra Flame tree and Jacaranda.

The Illawarra Flame Tree grows in the wild from the Illawarra area of southern coastal New South Wales north into Queensland and is one of the few deciduous Australian native trees, albeit uniquely losing its leaves in the dry season just prior to flowering, rather than in winter.

Somewhat irregular in its flowering, leaves may persist all year with spot flowering occurring concurrently with foliage. A site to behold in full flower, the flaming red bell shaped flowers in pendulous clusters light up the landscape, particularly dotted among the glossy green canopy of other evergreen rainforest species. Linked to Grafton through the renowned Cold Chisel anthem, Flame trees flower at the same time as Jacarandas for a spectacular blaze of purple and red.

I am inviting you to share a tree with us in each issue of the *E-muster*, one that has enraptured you or one that is your favourite. Please email details and a photograph to our email address and we will feature them in our Journal.

CAPPERS GULLY, East Gosford.



Cappers Gully Quarry is a sandstone quarry operated by Gosford Quarries sometime between 1922 and the 1950's. The site is now very overgrown but does still include some interesting artifacts. The quarry is located in Cappers Gully and is accessible from the White Street fire trail at East Gosford.

We recently have some photographs of a home that was in this area in the past and the family that lived there.

Unfortunately we don't know who they are.

Can anyone help us identify them? We would like to find out who they were and anything else about them.



CCFHS Christmas Celebration 2023

A fabulous festive spirit prevailed with a delicious feast and Guest Speaker Peter Fisher shared his up and coming new publication with us, a fascinating local history subject, "Tourism on the NSW Central Coast."

MERRY CHRISTMAS EVERYONE!



SOCIETIES MAILING LIST

The email address for our Society is admin@centralcoastfhs.org.au

You can also Like Us on Facebook!

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Central-Coast-Family-History-Society/>



ASSIGNED DUTIES

The following is a list of who does what to keep the society running as smoothly as it does.

Bookstall Coordinator

Event Coordinator

Facebook Administrator: -

Grant Applications

Grant Application Proofreader

Guest Speakers

IT and Computer Network

Librarian/Unrelated Certificates

Membership Secretary

DNA Special Interest

E MUSTER P PRESS Editor

Mail Chimp Newsletter

Property Officer

Public Officer

Publicity and Advertising

Raffles

Catering

Website Designer

Welfare and Hospital Visits

Research Officers: -

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Lorraine Greve

Marlene Davidson

Belinda Mabbott

Jacqueline Smith

TRANSCRIPTION AGENTS

Don't forget transcriptions of birth, death and marriage records are available in NSW and only NSW. Cost - \$20 each



Email joy@joymurrin.com.au



Marilyn Rowan – marilynr@marbract.com.au



VicGUM is a not for profit organisation and offers software support to members. They are the Australian Distributors for Family Tree Maker (FTM).

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The Central Coast's only locally owned and run supplier of copiers, printers and scan devices.

Website Guy



Jeff Hall is looking after our website needs.

He is situated locally in Davistown.



Central Coast Family History Society **BOOKSHOP PRICES – 2023**

* Cost of purchase plus Postage and Packaging depending on quantity required.

* To order use the Bookshop order form.

CODE	BOOK	Year of Publication	PRICE
2601	Back to Bourke, Courthouse Records.		\$70.00
2862	Brewarrina on the Barwon River		\$50.00
2547	Canowindra General Cemetery	2002	\$25.00
1713	Cemeteries of Gresford & surrounding Districts	2001	\$20.00
1505	Cargo-Cudal	2002	\$40.00
1507	Coonabarabran General Cemetery	2005	\$40.00
1510	Eugowra General Cemetery		\$25.00
1504	From the Mountains to the Marshes		\$50.00
1511	Graves of the Pioneers of the William & Paterson River Valley	2003	\$25.00
1548	Greengrove Cemetery (formerly Lower Mangrove Creek)	2005	\$25.00
1731	Holy Cross Cemetery, Kincumber South	2013	\$20.00
1725	Kincumber Remembered		\$30.00
1530	Lisarow Cemetery-Forget Us Not-Unmarked Graves. Indexed.		\$50.00
1530	Lisarow Cemetery-Forget Us Not-Unmarked Graves. NO Index.		\$30.00
1531	Lisarow Cemetery-Forget Us Not-Headstones	2015	\$50.00
1508	Manildra District Cemeteries-including Cumnock, Yeoval.	2003	\$40.00
1509	Molong Cemetery	2003	\$40.00
2867	Moree on the Mehi		\$50.00
2859	Narrabri on the Namoi		\$50.00
2870	Outback Burials		\$50.00
1714	Paterson General Cemetery	2001	\$20.00
1518	Point Clare Cemetery-General Lawn Sec 4 & 5		\$25.00
1520	Point Clare Cemetery-Sec 7		\$25.00
1521	Point Clare Cemetery-Sec 8		\$25.00
1524	Point Clare General Cemetery -Bapt-7 Day Advent-Pres-Meth		\$25.00
1503	St Paul's Church of England Cemetery, Kincumber		\$25.00
2863	They stopped a while in Come-by-chance Vol 1&2		\$50.00
1529	St Thomas' Church of England Cemetery, Upper Mangrove Creek	2014	\$20.00
1512	Walgett Cemetery		\$50.00
1500	Warialda on the Northern slopes		\$50.00