



BULLETIN OF THE HAWKESBURY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

No. 3, July 2020

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello everybody,

Well, the disruption to our normal meetings and operations as a Historical Society caused by COVID-19 is still real, so the Committee is keeping in touch through this Bulletin and our Newsletter. We met by the wonders of 'zoom' again on Thursday, 23 July, and decided that current restrictions still mean no public meeting is possible in August. However we are missing more immediate connection with you, our members, so we are going to see if we can hold the general August meeting as a zoom meeting in which you all are invited to participate. You will be sent a link to press to enter the meeting, and can participate as much or as little as you feel comfortable with.

Don't worry if you've never had a zoom meeting before, we will help you with it. It is really quite simple and the Committee too were mostly inexperienced with the concept at first, but now we have no trouble with logging in and taking part. It is great fun! So what will happen is that **Neville has sent out a circular asking what time and day you would prefer the meeting, and if you will require help with the zoom. Please reply so it will be possible for the whole group to meet together. We will then send a set of easy instructions to you with a link. All you have to do is click on the link we will send you, turn on your camera and microphone and say hello. As certain meerkats say: 'Simple'. We can all then keep in touch this way.** The next Committee meeting will remain by zoom, and in September we will decide if the Annual General Meeting will go ahead in person or by zoom or be postponed, depending on the dictates of COVID-19 then.

It is sad for me not to be able to connect with every one of you individually at this time, but I send regards and I hope you are staying well. Sadness is further in the air, for if you haven't heard yet, Alan Aldrich, one of our past Presidents, passed away recently. His funeral was streamed on Monday, 20 July. The Committee has organized flowers to Alan's wife, Ruth, from us all.

Cheers, Jan Barkley-Jack

**The trees on the
Government
Precinct at
Windsor**



Colonial Secretary's Papers, pp. 2-3, Main
Series of Letters, Series: NRS 897, Reels
6041-6064, 6071-6072, Ancestry online.

**'The Government Garden and
Domain at Windsor being now also
fenced in the same Regulations [as
for Parramatta...Persons...
presuming a passage will be
Prosecuted]...
Permissions...granted at Windsor
by Mr Richd. Fitzgerald...
signed Lachlan Macquarie
19 August 1815.'**

Items of interest received this month by the Secretary, Neville Dehn.

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP ARE NOW DUE.

You can pay by Direct Deposit to BSB 012874 Account no 227709583 or by cheque to Treasurer, PO Box 293, Windsor, NSW 2756.

Pensioner/Student \$15.00 Seniors \$22.50 Single Adult \$30.00 Family \$45.00

Inquiries to Secretary at secretaryhawkesburyhistory@gmail.com or 45782443.

Question: Did you know that Hawkesbury City Council has resolved to fight to save Hawkesbury's 1874 bridge?

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Council's held its campaign launch a few weeks ago in Thompson Square to a good crowd, considering social distancing was in place. A non-rowdy gathering, I can assure you and so no worries on that score, in case you wish to join the next one. The protest was well-recorded by Channel 9 and a poll they conducted online gave the result that over 80% of those registering a vote wanted the old bridge retained.

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The HHS committee decided at their meeting on Thursday that the Society will leave this issue to individuals to follow up according to their personal feelings about it. If you wish to help save the old bridge there is also a petition currently online to sign that already has 7,000 signatures. To join the petition and save the 1874 Windsor Bridge visit www.change.org/windsorbridge For more information about the petition, contact Defenders of Thompson Square Inc. by email defenders@optusnet.com.au or by calling Cheryl Ballantyne on 0409 846 382 or Patricia Schwartz on 0419 321 276. As well Council has requested residents who agree that the bridge should be saved for community use, write a letter to state Minister for Roads and the Premier asking that this happen. Please title your letter 'Save Windsor Bridge'.

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Premier..... willoughby@parliament.nsw.gov.au
Minister for roads.... bega@parliament.nsw.gov.au

This is urgent, as the bridge is facing imminent demolition.

A note from the Treasurer and Book Sales Organiser, Heather Gillard

It is my intention with the Secretary to close one of the Term Deposits due on 8/8/2020 for cash flow purposes. There still will be two T/D's Amount \$11,000

The profit & loss statement shows a loss of \$2748.91 which was due to the Advertising costs of new logo + the auction item.

Despite the Museum being closed from mid-March to June 12th book sales for the year were 387 books sold Income \$9136 Profit \$3138.

FROM THE NEWSLETTER EDITOR

A huge thank you to our wonderful authors who provided the interesting articles for our June 2020 newsletter. **Our August issue is due out shortly.** Please send through any articles, snippets of interest and/or images by Friday, 14 August 2020 for inclusion...they will be appreciated. Thank you. Jan Readford

FIRSTS IN THE HAWKESBURY... A new Newspaper which promised the districts of Hawkesbury the advantage of a 'well-disciplined and carefully edited local Newspaper' began on 28 May 1881. It announced:

WE have this day purchased from Messrs. SPENCER BROS. the old Printing and Stationery Business of the late Mr. B. Isaacs, George-street, Windsor and also the "HAWKESBURY CHRONICLE" newspaper. With your good graces, it is our intention to supply you with a newspaper worthy of your great and rich district, the nucleus of



A HAPPY CO-INCIDENCE: Dick Gillard, one of our Vice Presidents, whom you all know, was particularly interested in the recent purchase by Hawkesbury Historical Society, as noted in the last Newsletter, of the sale document between the Reverend Samuel Marsden and Thomas and John Tebbutt in 1823. Dick tells us some more of the fascinating history of the small 136 rod town block:

'David Dunstan jnr purchased the property previously owned by Samuel Marsden in Macquarie Street, on 29 April 1828 [New South Wales, Australia, Land grants 1788 – 1960 – Registrar General, Deeds Registrant 1820 – 1830]. Over a period of time he had Publican Licenses for hotels named 'Drovers Waggon' and the 'Industry' which may have operated out of those premises'.

Can anybody else's relatives fill in more of the history of this property?

Perhaps this is what we all need in 2020 to face COVID-19



What's happening with the website, Dick Gillard

Microsoft have released a new web search called Microsoft Edge I use it all the time now. To get to HHS website you just type Hawkesbury Historical Society Inc. and our webpage is the first item shown. Highly recommend you download this Microsoft program and use it instead of Google or Firefox.

WORDS: see *The Sydney Monitor* motto

sample issue: 16 August 1828, p. 1: extenuate



Gow Family Gathering

Dear family member/interested members of the public

Rescheduling of family gathering

We are writing to let you know that, due to the evolving situation with COVID-19, a decision has been made to postpone the Gow Family Gathering and the other activities planned for the October long weekend at Wilberforce to mark the 200th anniversary of the Macquarie Schoolhouse and Chapel - hopefully this will be held no later than October 2021.

Stephen Gow's book on William Gow, *From Distress to Deliverance*, will still be published next month and it is hoped the proposed book launch at Hawkesbury Regional Museum on Saturday 12 September may still take place. Barbara Gow, Penny Gow & Stephen Gow

From the Facebook pages
by Peta Sharpley.

Weekly posts on our Facebook page have continued. I will be working to boost the number of followers by inviting people who have liked a post to follow our page.

Our most widely reached post to date has been an advertisement for Mr John J Paine, Solicitor. It was shared by 3 groups, one group being "Our Hawkesbury Valley Community OHVC". This particular post reached 1573 people, whereas our posts usually reach between 70-100 people.

MR. JOHN J. PAINE,
Attorney, Solicitor, Proctor and
Conveyancer.

A Commissioner for Affidavits for New South
Wales and South Australia.

Successor to Mr. R. Coley,
HAS removed to the Office in **GEORGE**
STREET, WINDSOR, lately occupied by
Mr. William Walker, Solicitor.

Money to Lend on Approved Security.

Windsor and Richmond Gazette (Trove), Saturday 28 June 1890.

Another popular post, with a reach of 1218 people, was the "To Let" advertisements. It was shared by 4 groups, and again by "Our Hawkesbury Valley Community OHVC".

TO LET.

BUTCHER'S SHOP lately erected in George-
street, Windsor, and House adjoining,
together with Paddock situated in Macquarie-
street. For full particulars apply to
HENRY McQUADE,
Fairfield, Windsor.

To Let.

THE BILLIARD-TABLE at Royal Hotel,
Windsor, from 1st JULY, same having been
thoroughly renovated. Apply
R. W. COBCROFT, Windsor.

Windsor and Richmond Gazette Saturday 25 June 1892.