

Hawkesbury Historical Society Newsletter

Newsletter of the Hawkesbury Historical Society Inc.

HAWKESBURY HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.

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Website: www.hawkesburyhistoricalsociety.org

Facebook: facebook.com/hawkesburyhistoricalsociety

Aim: Hawkesbury Historical Society aims to encourage & preserve the history of the Hawkesbury

Meetings: 4th Thursday, alternate months, 7.30pm-10pm, except June and August - 2pm. Venue - all meetings at Parish Hall, St Matthew's Anglican Church, Moses Street, Windsor (parking adjacent in paddock), except for June to be held in the Tebbutt Room, Hawkesbury Library.

Open to: People interested in the preservation of the history of the Hawkesbury, new members welcome.

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HHS Collection Committee

Carol Carruthers and Elissa Blair (Museum representative)

Publications Committee

Jan Barkley-Jack, Ellen Jordan, Cathy McHardy and Jan Readford

2023 MEETINGS

Saturday, 24 June – 2pm

Saturday, 26 August – 2pm

Thursday, 26 October – 7.30pm AGM

Parish Hall, St Matthew's Anglican Church, Moses Street, Windsor except for June 2023 to be held at Tebbutt Room, Deerubbin Centre, 300 George Street, Windsor.

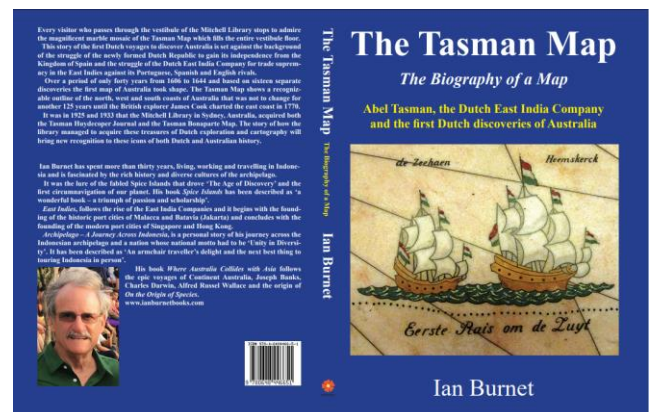
Hawkesbury Historical Society General Meeting

Saturday, 24 June 2023 at 2pm

Speaker: Ian Burnett

Ian Burnett is a Geologist and has lived in the Spice Islands of Indonesia for some 30 years. He is an accomplished author of a number of books on the Spice Islands and the trade in spices, and has become a recognised authority on the history of the European colonisation of Indonesia which led to the discovery of Australia: 'The Spice Islands', 'East Indies', 'Archipelago- A Journey Across Indonesia' and 'Where Australia Collides with Asia'.

Topic: The Tasman Map



Venue: Tebbutt Room
Deerubbin Centre
300 George Street, Windsor

and via Zoom

(Details will be provided separately)

PARKING: the Deerubbin Centre carpark and its doors will remain open only until 3 pm. As the meeting is expected to conclude around 4pm, this will be problematic necessitating users to move their vehicle with still another hour of the meeting to go.



Abel Tasman 1603-1659

commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=114030109

Speakers - Future Meetings - 2023

Memorial Lecture for Alan Aldrich

Saturday 26 August at 2pm.

Speaker will be Robin Walsh, who has published Elizabeth Macquarie's letters, including her correspondence with Richard Fitzgerald in Windsor.

Memorial Lecture for Ian Jack

Thursday 26 October at 7.30pm.

Speaker will be Dr Iain Stuart, current President of the Royal Australian Historical Society, speaking about Macquarie and the Age of Enlightenment.



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

June 2023

Good day, all,

This month Hawkesbury Historical Society has a very different treat in store for you in its talk. It draws me back to my primary school days, which was the last time anyone spoke to me about the Dutch exploring around Australia.

Ian Burnet, an historian, has written a book on the topic of a very famous map drawn up from these explorations – a map you would all probably have seen at some time in your lives. It is a map drawn by Abel Tasman, a name that conjures up Australian history before Australia was even called by that name; in a time when Aboriginal people treasured this country for themselves alone, a time before English settlement, when it was Dutch explorers who were visiting the country. The map's historical context is a truly fascinating time in history. If you have not visited the Mitchell Library in Sydney to see the enlarged map it has on display just inside the entrance, then you should treat yourself on your next visit to Sydney. In the meantime, I urge you to come to Ian's talk at our June General Meeting **on Saturday, 24 June at 2.00 pm** to detail the map and its Dutch connections. There is however, a change of venue you should note, as a one off, the meeting will be held in the **Tebbutt Room, Deerubbin Centre, George Street Windsor.**

As a preview to his talk, Ian says:

'Every visitor who passes through the vestibule of the Mitchell Library stops to admire the magnificent marble mosaic of the Tasman Map which fills the entire vestibule floor.

This story of the first Dutch voyages to discover

Australia is set against the background of the struggle of the newly formed Dutch Republic to gain its independence from the Kingdom of Spain and the struggle of the Dutch East India Company for trade supremacy in the East Indies against its Portuguese, Spanish and English rivals.

Over a period of only forty years from 1606 to 1644 and based on sixteen separate discoveries, the first map of Australia took shape. The Tasman Map shows a recognisable outline of the north, west and south coasts of Australia that was not to change for another 125 years until the British explorer James Cook charted the east coast in 1770.

It was in 1925 and 1933 that the Mitchell Library in Sydney, Australia, acquired both the Tasman Huydecoper Journal and the Tasman Bonaparte Map. The story of how the library managed to acquire these treasures of Dutch exploration and cartography will bring new recognition to these icons of both Dutch and Australian history’.

It is this alluring story which Ian has researched deeply. He is an entertaining speaker, and amazingly, a friend who lives at Lake Macquarie who had heard his talk there, quite independently began to tell me about it, and heaped high praise on him; so it really does seem a talk not to be missed.

You could bring a friend with you. Non-members of the Historical Society are most welcome. There will be opportunity to talk more to Ian about Dutch exploration of this country prior to English settlement and he will be selling his book on the subject should any one wish to explore the topic further.

Please also keep in mind we have two more important lectures coming up this year with very special speakers. At the Memorial Lecture for Alan Aldrich in August, Robin Walsh who has published Elizabeth Macquarie’s letters will discuss her ongoing correspondence with Richard Fitzgerald and in October’s Memorial Lecture for Ian Jack, the current President of the Royal Australian Historical Society will also give insights into the Macquarie era.

And remember, please, the venue in June alone will be the Tebbutt Room in the Deerubbin Centre.

See you there,

Jan Barkley-Jack

VENUE CHANGE

Hawkesbury Historical Society General Meeting

Saturday, 24 June 2023 – 2pm

**TEBBUTT ROOM
DEERUBBIN CENTRE**

300 George Street
WINDSOR

(See Page 1 for more details)

HISTORIC FARMS

SALE AT WINDSOR (N.S.W.)

One Founded in 1794

SYDNEY, Sunday. Two of the oldest farms in the Commonwealth, which have been the property of one English family for 122 years, were sold by auction at Windsor on Saturday. One farm, 32 acres in area, realised £100 an acre, and was purchased by Mr R. G. Johnston. The other, which has an area of 34 acres, realised £89 an acre. The purchaser was Mr N. H. Johnston. Both buyers are members of early pioneering families.

The history of the two farms, both of which are near Windsor, is interesting. One was granted to William Cuckow on November 10, 1794 by the Lieutenant Governor (Francis Grose), and the other to Richard Turner by Captain William Patterson, the then Lieutenant Governor on July 22, 1795. One of the conditions of both grants was that the farms were not to be sold for five years, but in 1796 Captain William Braithwaite, of the Royal Navy, succeeded in persuading Governor Hunter to allow him to purchase the two farms. He returned to England, and died there in 1806.

The Argus (Melbourne, Vic. : 1848 – 1956),
Monday 7 April 1930, page 7 (Trove)

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HAWKESBURY HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC. TAKES NO
RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE ACCURACY OR THE AUTHENTICITY
OF ARTICLES OR ANY STATEMENTS EXPRESSED IN THIS
NEWSLETTER.



(Founded in 1956)

Hawkesbury Historical Society Inc.

PO Box 293 WINDSOR NSW 2756

ABN 91 099 233 587

**Invites you to come and enjoy one of their periodical
'Back To Tebbutt's Sky-Watching Astronomical Evenings'
at the historical Tebbutt's Observatory in Palmer Street, Windsor
On Saturday 22nd July 2023 starting at 5:30pm**



The sky will be seen through modern Telescopes provided by local astronomy enthusiasts. The original 8" Grubb Refractor Telescope, installed in 1888 by John Tebbutt Astronomer, will also be open for inspection.

Given a clear sky we will observe the moon in its first quarter, view lunar craters & mountains with Venus being prominent in the west. Mars and Mercury will also be visible in the west. To see Mercury you will need to arrive at 5.30pm as it will be best visible at that time or very soon after. The Milky Way will be high up with many star clusters and nebulae to be seen. We suggest you wear warm clothing against the winter chill & bring a torch covered with **RED cellophane**.

Please Note: Bookings and payment are essential prior to the event as limited participants can be accommodated. The event will proceed in all but severe rain.

Refreshments and supper will be available and is included in the booking cost.

Booking's email secretaryhawkesburyhistory@gmail.com or phone 0410 498 944

When booking by email please give full name, number of people (adults and children), a contact number and bank payment reference.

To avoid the disappointment of being denied entry, early bookings and pre-payment are essential.

Payments to ANZ Account Hawkesbury Historical Society Inc

BSB: 012874 Account: 227709583

Costs: Family \$15. This cost includes supper. Singles \$10 pp including supper.

For further enquires please contact Sean sflavin_32@bigpond.com or 0438 289 222.

Jan Barkley-Jack

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The collections of John Tebbutt

Hawkesbury Regional Museum

By Rebecca McRae

After John Tebbutt's death on the 29th of November 1916, his scientific instruments, books, and records were scattered.

The vast majority of Tebbutt's library and archive was transferred to the State Library of NSW. Many of Tebbutt's instruments, however, were sold and are now in private collections, unaccounted for, or deteriorated over time.

A small number survive in the private collection of the Tebbutt family and at the Hawkesbury Regional Museum. These instruments provide further insight into John Tebbutt's lifelong work.

For the first time the remaining collections of John Tebbutt are together in *Starry Night: The world of John Tebbutt* Hawkesbury Regional Museum inaugural online exhibition.

One of the feature objects is the celestial globe owned by John Tebbutt. The globe has been a highlight of the Hawkesbury Historical Society Collection for well over 50 years.

Celestial Globe

Manufactured by Newton in London, England, who operated between 1830 – 1880, research has not yet uncovered when Tebbutt acquired the globe, but it was evidently significant to him.

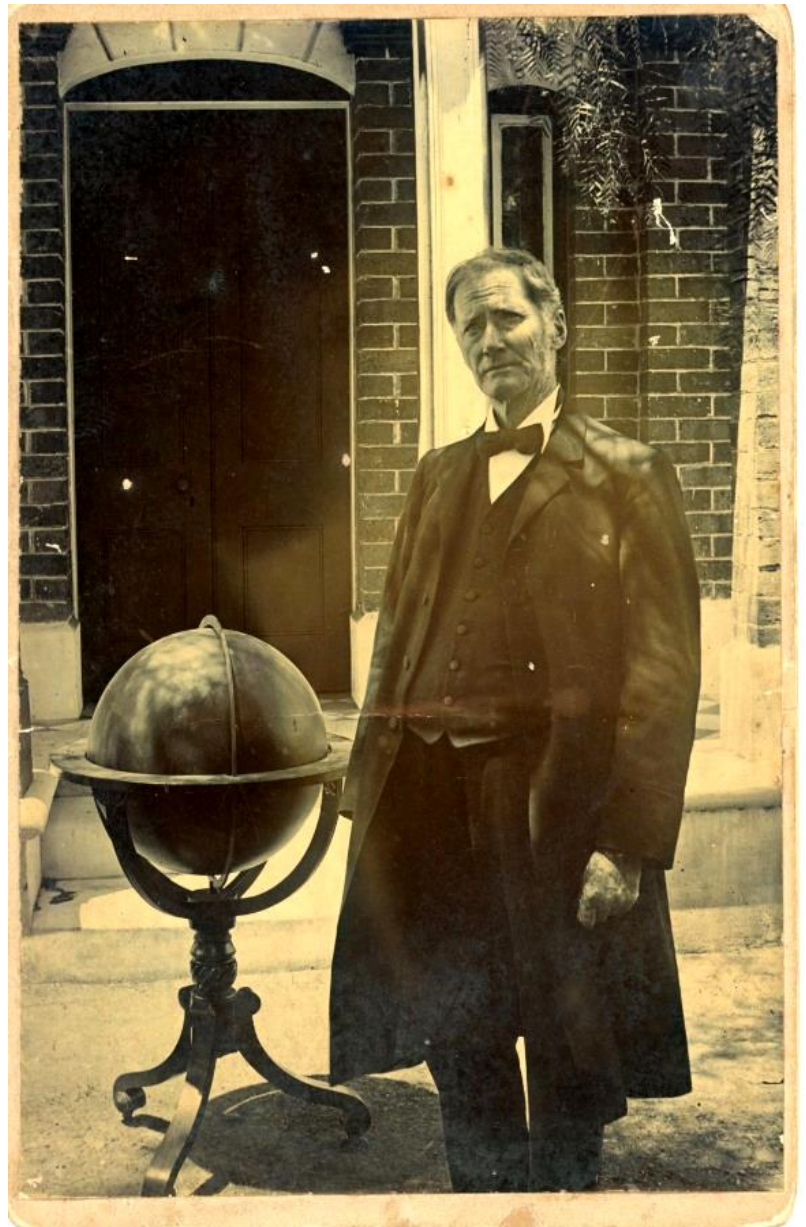
In his memoirs and in newspaper articles, Tebbutt credited studying celestial and terrestrial globes at school here in Windsor, as one of the reasons that he first became interested in astronomy.

Photographs after 1879 also show him proudly demonstrating and posing with this beautiful celestial globe.

John Tebbutt with his celestial globe.

After 1879.

Courtesy Hawkesbury Library Service.



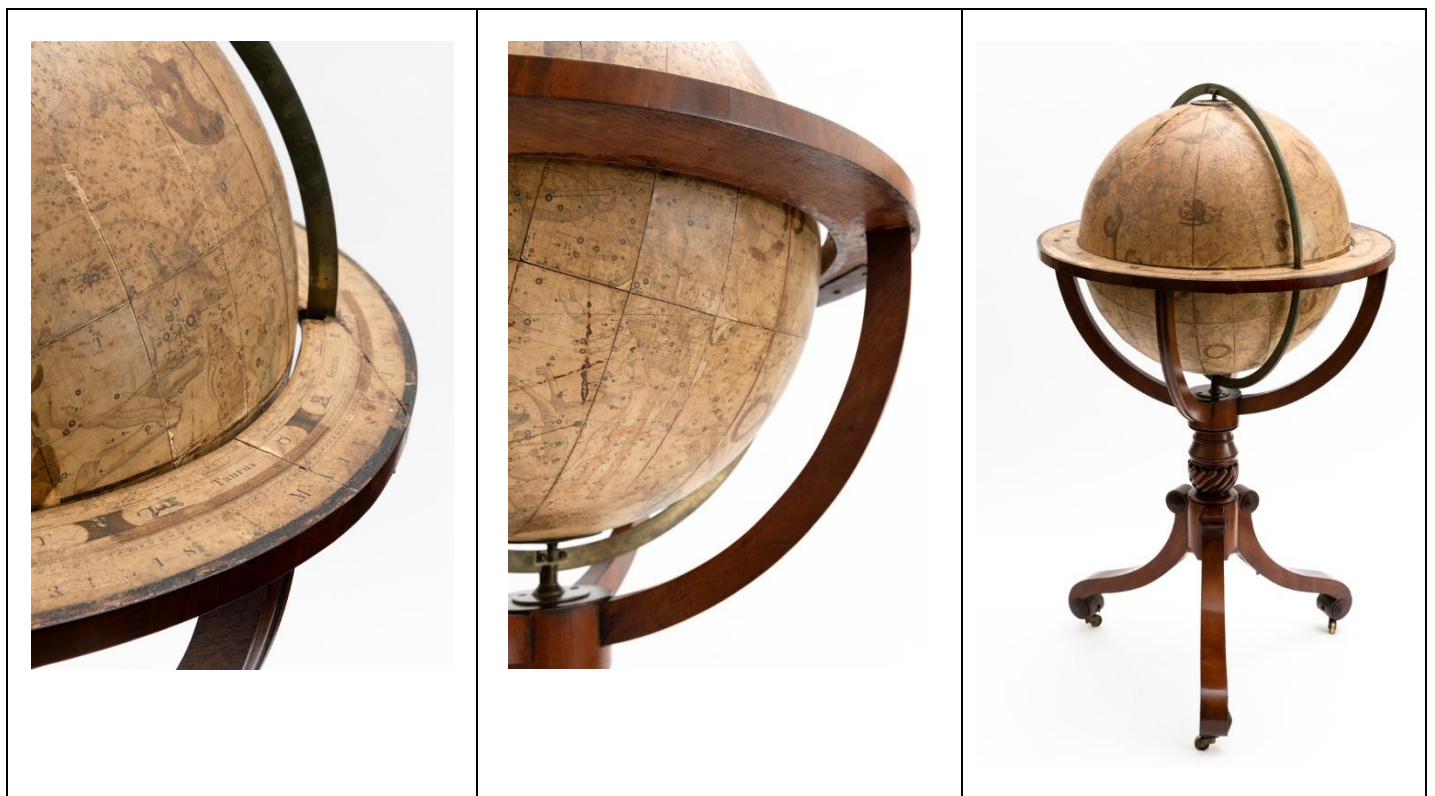
Celestial globes are maps of the sky, representing the position of stars.

They are based on the idea that when we look up at the sky from Earth, we effectively see it as a sphere with us at the centre.

This globe belonged to John Tebbutt and could be used to estimate the time that the sun, the moon, or a star would rise or set at the horizon in his location.



John Tebbutt with his celestial globe. 1915-1916. Courtesy Tebbutt Family Collection



Celestial globe owned by John Tebbutt on display at Hawkesbury Regional Museum. Photographed by Silversalt.

The Celestial Globe was donated by the Tebbutt Family to the Hawkesbury Historical Society Collection, now proudly housed at the Hawkesbury Regional Museum

To learn more watch Prof. Fred Watson, Australia's Astronomer-at-large, discuss Tebbutt's globe at: [Starry Night: The World of John Tebbutt - Hawkesbury Regional Museum \(nsw.gov.au\)](https://www.nsw.gov.au/starry-night-the-world-of-john-tebbutt)

Samuel North: magistrate and public servant

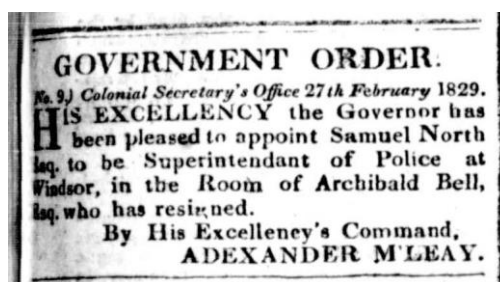
By Michelle Nichols



Captain Samuel North, probably after 1850
Courtesy Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

Samuel North was a prominent resident and community member in nineteenth century Hawkesbury.

Born in Ireland in 1791, Samuel was the son of Charles and Anne North. In 1813 he enlisted in the army, serving in the West Indies and Canada. It was here in 1815, while residing in the colonies he met Susanna Campbell, who was born in New Brunswick in 1794. The couple married and then returned to England. After joining the 102nd Regiment (NSW Veteran Company) they travelled to New South Wales, arriving in 1826. He resigned from the regiment and joined the civil service in 1827, and was employed in the justice system.¹



The Sydney Monitor 2 Mar 1829 p. 1

In 1829, he was appointed as the Superintendent of Police in Windsor. Popular in the community, North was an astute magistrate and heard numerous cases while based in the Hawkesbury, showing his shrewd intelligence and firmness while sitting on the Bench. He lived in the Old Government Cottage in George Street Windsor with his family. He held his position with the Police until 1843. He was also involved with the charitable organisation, the Hawkesbury Benevolent Society, and one of the Trustees of the Windsor Hospital.

Following his departure from Windsor, North was appointed police magistrate in Berrima, Carcoar then Central West, later relocating to Sydney in 1851 to take up the position of Water Police Magistrate.

During his career he acquired a number of land grants, including property along the Bells Line of Road as well as a large grant of over 600 acres near Fairfield which he named Guildford after a family connection with the Earl of Guildford. He also purchased land near Kurrajong Heights which was later subdivided. His property there was known as Northfield and was eventually sold to James Comrie, Justice of Peace, in the 1850s.

Samuel and Susanna had a large family, comprising of ten children, four sons and six daughters including twins, Henrietta and John born in 1833. Daughter, Frances Ann married Lieutenant Archibald Bell's son, also known as Archibald in 1833 at St. Matthew's CofE Windsor.

North served the Government and the public for well over thirty-five years. An efficient magistrate, he was also noted as a *"thorough gentleman"* with good character - *"qualities that gained...both respect and personal esteem."*²

Samuel died in 1864 in his home at Woolloomooloo after suffering a prolonged illness. The coffin was conveyed to the Anglican Church in Randwick by his comrades from the Water Police Force. His wife Susanna died the year before and both are buried at Randwick cemetery. In his will North left a small estate worth £1500 to be divided between his two unmarried daughters, Eliza and Henrietta. He wrote to his other children, that he regretted that he had nothing to leave them but his blessing. He

¹ OBITUARY. (1864, June 11). Sydney Mail, p. 2. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article166653605>

² Ibid.

concluded with the statement that he died “in peace with all men” and believed he didn’t have “an enemy in the world.”

North Street, one of the oldest streets in Windsor, commemorates Samuel North, a gentleman with principle and integrity. ■

Captain William Hans Blake 1832-1874

By Jonathan Auld

A lengthy memorial to Captain William Hans Blake hangs inside Windsor’s St. Matthew’s Anglican Church. The following article explains his connection to the Hawkesbury.

William was born in 1832 in France son of Commander George Hans Blake and Alice Lascelles. Like his father and grandfather, he joined the Royal Navy. One of his first engagements was in Africa suppressing the slave trade. William then travelled to the West Indies and the Mediterranean and in 1854 fought in the Crimean War and was mentioned in despatches. Later he played a part in the China Wars and was highly commended by his superiors. Blake sailed to New Zealand in 1859 and fought in the Maori Wars where he was shot in the chest. The bullet lodged near his heart. He was promoted to the rank of Commander and for his bravery, awarded a life-long pension.

William then travelled throughout the Pacific and arrived in Sydney on board the HMS ‘Falcon’ in 1866. While in Sydney, he met Henrietta Fitzgerald and they married in 1868. Henrietta was born in Windsor in 1846, daughter of Robert Fitzgerald, pastoralist and politician, and Elizabeth Henrietta née Rouse. Henrietta was the granddaughter of Richard Fitzgerald and Mary Ford, emancipated convicts. Richard built the Macquarie Arms Hotel in 1815.

After the marriage, the couple returned to England where William was promoted to Captain in 1867. Three children were born to the couple between 1868 and 1872, George Hans Sotheby, Henrietta Rosa and William Lascelles Fitzgerald.

In 1873 Blake sailed to the west coast of Africa in command of the ‘Druid’ as part of the Ashantee War conflict. He was struck down with a fever and died in 1874. The bullet from his wound received in New Zealand was removed at the post mortem and given to his wife. Blake was buried on shore with full honours.

Henrietta was left a widow but chose to remain in England. To commemorate her husband, she commissioned a monument to be fashioned by a London firm, which was sent to Windsor and erected in St Matthew’s Church, where she was baptised and later attended church. Controversy surrounded the installation in the church, as it was felt the plaque was an ornamentation which was inconsistent with the doctrine at the time, but the monument remained.

EXCURSION TO NEWPORT.

—

THE S.S.

‘HAWKESBURY’

Will run an EXCURSION to

PEAT’S FERRY RAILWAY WORKS and NEWPORT.

Leaving Churchill’s Wharf, at 8 a.m., on

TUESDAY, 13th instant, returning

next day by 5 p.m.

—

Fares: For one person, 5s; two in the same family, 4s each; and reduction to families.

—

☞ Meals can be had on board at 1s. each.

JOHN BENNETT.
Manager.

Hawkesbury Chronicle & Farmers Advocate, 10
March 1888 (Trove)



📷 Hawkesbury Library Service

There is also an identical plaque located inside the church of St Sulien & St Mael in Corwen, Denbighshire in Wales. Henrietta and William lived for several year on the outskirts of Corwen and their son William was born there in 1872.³



In later years Henrietta lived with her daughter in Surrey, passing away in 1913, leaving a huge estate worth over £126,000.⁴ Daughter Henrietta died in 1945 also leaving huge assets worth almost £200,000. Henrietta bequeathed some of her father's personal items to the UK National Maritime Museum. She also provided funding for her father's grave to be restored and donated £1,000 towards renovations at the church in Windsor.⁵



Image of the Blake Memorial,
St Matthew's Anglican Church Windsor.
Photos: J. Aul

The handsomely laid out grounds of Kamilaroi, the residence of Mrs Durham, are exceedingly pretty, with their well kept lawns and profusion of rich blooms. The tennis court is almost completed, and will be the best of its kind in the district.

Windsor and Richmond Gazette, Saturday 5 May 1900



📷 Hawkesbury Library Service

³ Memory of Captain Blake from Denbighshire Archives Blog. Retrieved from <https://denbighshirearchives.wordpress.com/2019/06/06/the-memory-of-captain-blake/>

⁴ (1913, August 12). Sydney Morning Herald, p. 10. Retrieved June from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article15442593>

⁵ English Woman Leaves NSW Fortune (1946, November 8). Sydney Morning Herald, p. 6. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article18001738>

The Story of Learholm(e), George Street, Windsor

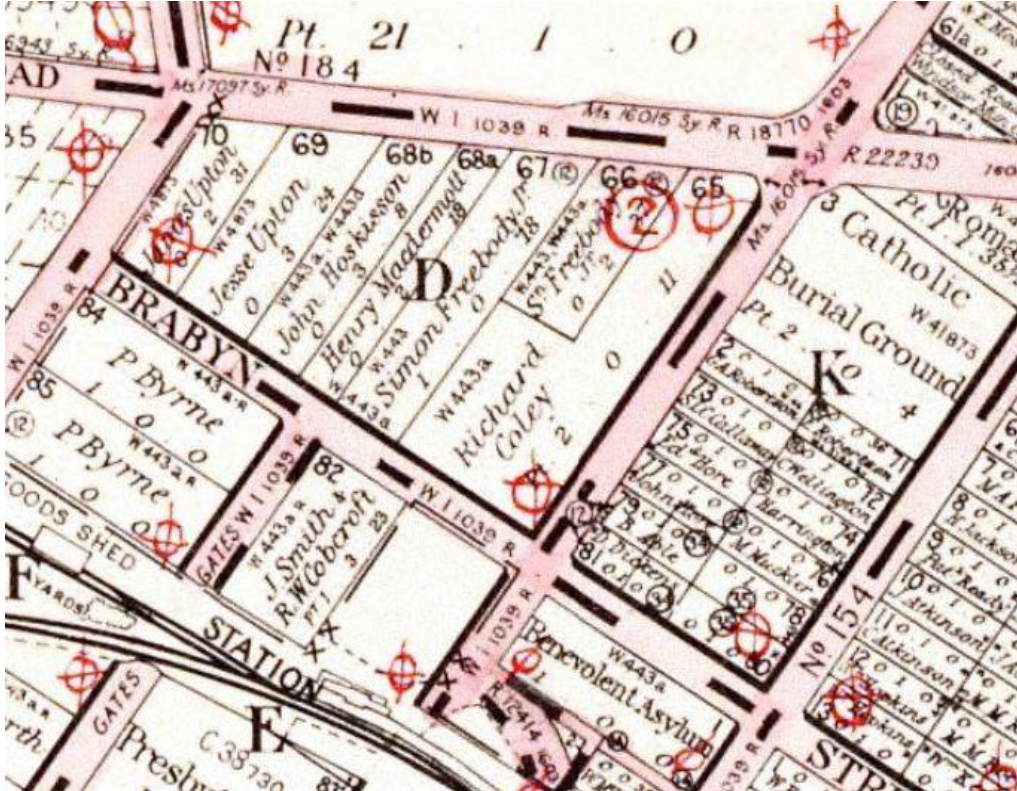
Cathy McHardy

May 2023

Embedded in a sea of concrete and surrounded by a car sales yard at the railway station end of George Street, Windsor stands the late Victorian villa known as Learholme.

commodious home 'Camira' in Fitzgerald Street, Windsor.

Coley was a leading member of the Freemasonry organisation and the local Masonic Lodge is named after him. He purchased land as an investment and owned several portions in NSW and Queensland. The land in George Street was sold to Susannah Hopkins in April 1878 and then in December 1880 part of the block which included the Railway Hotel located on the corner of Brabyn Street was sold to Thomas Matthew Masters (see Vol 516 Fol 116).



The residue of the land was then given a new CT which was Vol 520 Fol 101 dated 26 February 1881 and this part was sold by Hopkins to William Norris in December 1881, innkeeper, then Norris took out a mortgage from Stephen Gow in December 1881. It seems the subject land became a matter for the Insolvency Court when Norris defaulted according to the *Sydney Morning Herald* notice from 7 November 1882.

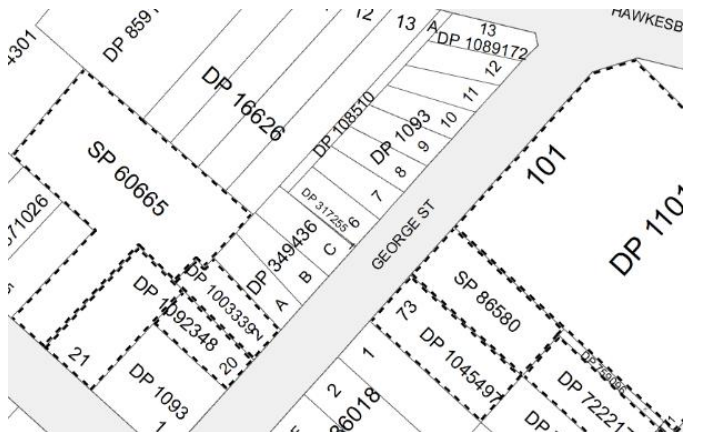
Excerpt from Town of Windsor and Adjoining lands, 4th Edition, 1967 showing the land granted to Richard Coley in 1865. <https://hrv.nswlrs.com.au/>

At this time the land is described as “consisting of land with houses on them;

Located at 393 George Street the house is similar in style to the cottage on the corner of Kable Street and Macquarie Street, Windsor and was constructed during the same period.

there was a public-house, two cottages, and a vacant piece of land; this property was in George-street, Windsor". The land was subdivided into several residential lots under DP1093.

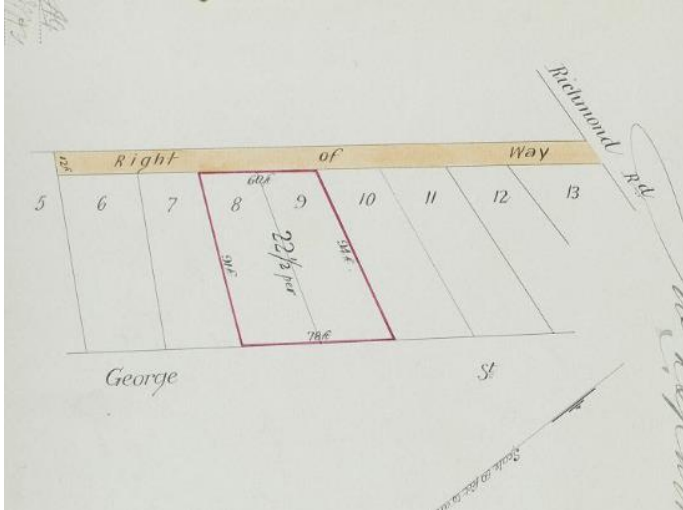
The original property amounting to 2 acres and 11 perches and described as Portion 65 of Section D of the Town of Windsor, Parish of St Matthew, County of Cumberland was granted to Richard Coley on 5 April 1865 referred to in the Town Grant Register Volume 14 Folio 30.



Cadastral report showing DP 1093 in its present form. Land Registry Services, January 2023.

On 14 June 1882 the land was again sold and conveyed from Norris to William James Forrester of Windsor grazier.

There were several changes of ownership from the early 1880s until 1895 including David Scotland, the railway station master of Windsor and Bernard Keenan of the Windsor Grammar School.



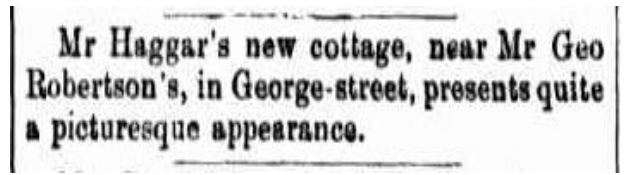
Plan of Lots 8 & 9 in DP1093 from Certificate of Title Vol 1305 Fol 11 when the property was conveyed to Jane Ewing, daughter of William Hagger following his death in 1899.
<https://hnr.nswlrs.com.au/>

Then in April 1885 Lots 8 & 9 of DP 1093 were sold to Aquilla Hagger, a farmer of Windsor. It seems that the land had remained vacant until this time. The *Windsor and Richmond Gazette* noted on the 15 June 1895 that “Mr Hagger’s cottage in George-street is nearing completion”.

(Below)
 January 2023.
 Photographed by Cathy McHardy.



Then in August that year Hagger’s new cottage was completed and “presents quite a picturesque appearance”.



Excerpt from the *Windsor and Richmond Gazette*,
 24 August 1895 p. 3.
<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/66447682>

By the 1950s the corner with Richmond Road had become a service station and as time went on the land use transformed into that of a car sales yard swallowing up the Learholm property.

During the course of this research I didn’t discover the origin of the name Learholm or who named it thus. With further efforts I do hope to discover this important part of its history. The fate of this charming cottage is unknown at this point in time.

Additions and corrections to the story are welcome to Cathy McHardy cathy@nisch.org



(Above)
 Aerial View of Windsor c. 1920s showing the service station on the corner of George Street and Richmond Road (now Hawkesbury Valley Way) with Learholm adjacent and the Railway Hotel in the middle distance.

ANOTHER ESSAY THAT WON A PRIZE

My Favorite Hobby.
(212 words)

My favourite hobby is photography. I have a splendid folding camera and general outfit; I use an old tank for my dark room. I love to spend a whole day taking photos. Many miles have I walked through, the shady bush, taking snaps of the beautiful scenes, for I prefer scenes to life pictures.

At first I found it a little difficult to develop my films but I soon picked up the idea. In my dark room of a night I love to watch the picture gradually come into view as I trail the film through the developer. Early the next morning I sit in the sun, waiting for my films to print.

Having completed three years of photography one might expect and expect rightly that I have a large collection of photos. I have quite a number of Egyptian photos, sent out by a friend of mine now serving in the present War. I have photos of magnificent waterfalls around Leura; photos of general interest, such as those from the front, and some of personal interest.

Photography is a hobby, which I am sure lots of boys and girls should take up. It reminds you of pleasant days you have spent. It is very interesting and a very favourite hobby.

A. B. WALKER
The Terrace, Windsor

1915 'ANOTHER ESSAY THAT WON A PRIZE',
The Mirror of Australia (Sydney, NSW: 1915 - 1917),
6 November, p. 20, viewed 7 April, 2014,
<http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article104644199>

THANK YOU

to our valuable contributors and to all those who have provided items for our newsletter throughout 2022/2023.

The success of our newsletter totally relies on contributions.

Please consider sending through an item - photographs, articles, anything of interest to our members.

Mr. Tebbutt, F.R.A.S., is having the Peninsula Observatory renovated. The work is being done by Mr. R. W. Dunstan.

Windsor and Richmond Gazette, 31 March 1900 (Trove)



📷 Hawkesbury Library Service

White ants have made their appearance in the court room at the local Court House, and have completely eaten away a portion of the Clerk of Petty Sessions' desk.

Windsor and Richmond Gazette, Saturday 19 May 1900 (Trove)



📷 Hawkesbury Library Service

Australian Produce HAWKESBURY COLLEGE CHEESE EQUAL TO BEST CANADIAN

London, April 2. — Some of the cheese made at the Hawkesbury Agricultural College, brought by the Arcadia, is pronounced to be equal to the best Canadian. Others were too crumbly in texture. The sizes of all the cheeses were unsuitable for the English Market. They ought to weigh from 60lb to 70lb each.

The butter by the Oruba has been landed in good condition generally, though the temperature was a few degrees too high.

London, April 2. — The last lot of the rabbits by the Moari King has been sold at 7d each. Some of the rabbits brought by the Ballarat were very mouldy.

Source: 1895 'Australian Produce.', *Evening News* (Sydney, NSW: 1869 - 1931), 3 April, p. 4, viewed 12 April, 2015,
<http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article108095317>