

NEWSLETTER

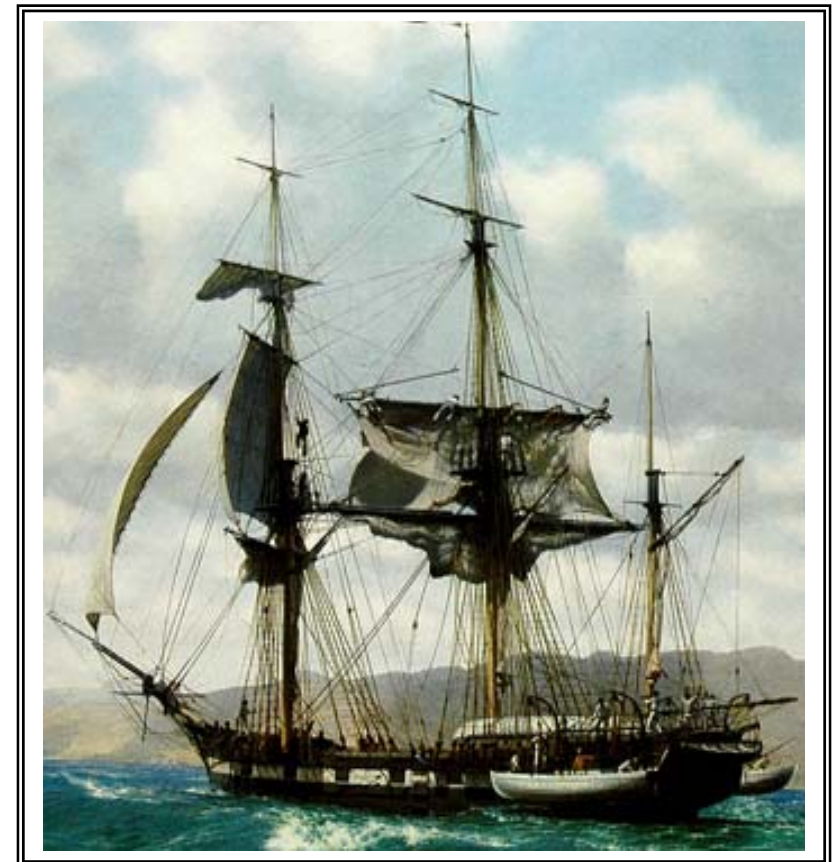
January–February–March 2010

Volume Eleven Number One



SKETCHLEY COTTAGE

*Linking yesterday with tomorrow*



**PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE**

They Were Here Vol 1	\$ 35
They Were Here Vol 2	\$ 40
War Memorials of the Port Stephens Area	\$ 25
Raymond Terrace History & Heritage	\$ 25
Marriages from the Gloucester Examiner & Raymond Terrace Examiner 1894 – 1926	\$ 15
Clearing Out Sales Raymond Terrace & Lower Hunter 1895 – 1930	\$ 15
Soldiers & Memorials of Seaham	\$ 25
Raymond Terrace Pioneer Register	\$ 30
Cemetery Master Index	\$ 25
Landholders & Others	\$ 15
Raymond Terrace Pioneer Cemetery	\$ 5
Obituary Books Vol 1 1893 – 1915	
Vol 2 1916 – 1925	
Vol 3 1926 – 1930, 1951 & 1953	

Buy any two volumes of Obituaries for \$45 or all three publications for \$65. Purchased individually the Obituary Books cost \$25.

We also have available for sale a large selection of publications not produced by the Society but covering the local district among them are:

Seaham School of Arts	\$ 15
Short History of Raymond Terrace	\$ 5
Wades Corn Flour Mill 1878-1902	\$ 10

All prices exclude postage

SKETCHLEY COTTAGE

**SKETCHLEY COTTAGE MUSEUM** is located opposite Bettles Park, Raymond Terrace and is open to the public on Sundays 10am to 3pm other times by appointment. Bus groups are most welcome, please contact the Secretary to arrange a date and time.

The Society's **RESEARCH ROOMS** are located in the Port Stephens Library, cnr William & Port Stephens Streets, Raymond Terrace

Open Monday 9.30 to 2 pm. and Wednesday  
9.30 am to 3 pm - other times by appointment

Membership of the Society is open to everyone with an interest in Local and Family History.

Joining Fee \$2.00 Concession \$12.00 Full Membership \$18.00  
Monthly Meetings are held on the third Friday of the month at St Brigids Hall, Raymond Terrace at 7.00 pm.

RAYMOND TERRACE & DISTRICT  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.  
PO BOX 255  
RAYMOND TERRACE NSW 2324

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**COMMITTEE:**

David Gunter    Laurel Young    Moira Saunderson

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DATES FOR THE DIARY

JANUARY	11	Research rooms reopen
	17	Cottage reopens
FEBRUARY	1	Committee Meeting (6pm at Council Chambers)
	19	AGM
MARCH	1	Committee Meeting
	19	General Meeting

SKETCHLEY COTTAGE ROSTER

JANUARY	17	Faye and Steve
	24	Laurel and Myrtle
	31	Boris and Sue
FEBRUARY	7	Moira and Helen
	14	Peter and Glenys
	21	David and Judy
	28	Boris and Jack
MARCH	7	Laurel and Myrtle
	14	Faye and Steve
	21	Boris and Sue
	28	Helen and Moira
APRIL	4	Peter and Glenys
	11	David and Judy

Please contact Faye Clark as soon as possible to make alternative arrangements if you are unavailable for your allocated time (49876435 or [clarkys@bigpond.net.au](mailto:clarkys@bigpond.net.au))

## WAS IT WORTH IT!? – *Moira Saunderson*

A group of local Raymond Terrace men undertook a weekend outing of hunting, fishing & shooting to Nelson Bay over the Christmas period.

At 11.30 Saturday night one of Mr. McIntyre's coach & four was waiting at the Cosmopolitan Hotel with Joe Kay as the driver. After a pleasant drive to the Twelve Mile, the main road was left and the horses turned towards Aliceton (Karuah), arriving there at 3.30am. The party then boarded the steamer s.s. Elaine, owned and skippered by Captain Garner. A short break at Tahlee for a drink and some songs and the house of the Hon. R.H.D. Wright appeared just as the sun was rising.

Before arriving at Nelson Bay at 5.30am the trippers had an opportunity to 'bag' some pelicans, but their result was only one unfortunate bird, who was promptly skinned by a party member.

We were greeted at the Sea Breeze Hotel by Mr. & Mrs. Harry Thompson. After travelling all night a dip in the briny was indulged, followed by a bath and breakfast. After a short rest and lunch the afternoon was spent sailing around the Bay.

Christmas Day at 6am we boarded a boat for a trip to the outer Lighthouse where we arrived at about 12 noon and was greeted by the Head Keeper, George Priest. Alf Glover lighthouse keeper, acted as our guide. The afternoon was spent in first class fishing and returned to Nelson Bay in time for tea. The next morning a visit was paid to the inner lighthouse where Mr. H. Lambourne is in charge. After an inspection of the lighthouse we returned on the s.s. Namoi to Nelson Bay for our last lunch at the Sea Breeze Hotel. The return trip on the Elaine saw us stop at Tahlee where Mr. White invited all for a tour of the house and grounds. During refreshments, Mr. White entertained us with a magnificent organ recital. Aliceton was reached by 8.30pm where the coach was waiting to take the happy but weary travellers back to Raymond Terrace. January 1894.

## NOTES FROM THE SECRETARY – *Faye Clark*

- The **Working Bee** which was held on Sunday 1 November, achieved a lot, in a fairly short period of time. There were many jobs that needed doing – the Cottage got a big spruce up after the dust storms, and a lot of rubbish that had built up around the grounds and in the gutters was removed. Adelaide street view has been improved and Society members have decided that these days need to happen about every 3 months to keep the Cottage looking its best. Thanks to everyone who was able to attend on the day. The next one is timetabled for early March.
- Thanks to **Norm Brown** for his offer to put a new shelf into the **meat safe** in the Cottage. It was badly affected, and needed replacing. The new shelf has been expertly done, matching very closely to the original materials used in the construction of the cupboard, so many years ago. His skills are greatly appreciated.
- It is great to **welcome two new members** to the Society – Brian Archer of Warners Bay and Murray Byfield of Raymond Terrace have recently joined. Hope to see them at upcoming meetings and social functions.
- **Leigh Saddington** will not continue with her membership – she has other interests that she wants to pursue, and feels that she has done enough research for the time being. We will miss her bright smile at our social functions. She has shared so much of her quality research with many people. Thanks so much for your input over the years.
- The Life Skills students from Hunter River High School are continuing to work on the **Fiesta project**. The finishing touches have been put on, and the theatre and the static display are ready for viewing. The Fiesta booklet, containing the story of the students and the project, and the

story of the Fiesta as told by the Manning family and visitors and workers to the Theatre is now completed. The opening event was Monday 30 November. The students have worked very hard, being willing to take on any job that they have been asked to do. A special thanks to Robyn Cox and Ian Battle for leading the students through the project, and for continuing to encourage the students to do their best.

- **A new refrigerator** has been purchased for the kitchen. This will allow a wider variety of functions to be carried out. The freezer will be able to hold frozen cakes and scones to enable the serving of Devonshire Teas. If we can expand our visitor base, and encourage people to stay a little longer at the Cottage and enjoy a cuppa, we can increase our income, and so be better able to make the changes that we see are necessary, without being dependent on grants.
- The **thirtieth birthday celebrations** of the Society were held on Sunday 29 Nov. A good number of Society members and their families took up the opportunity to reminisce about the achievements of the Society over the past 30 years. Good food and good stories were enjoyed by all.



*Jim was second in command an officer brave and bold  
 Who always did his duty, and did as he was told.  
 Ronald was the second mate who always liked a joke  
 Paddy the able seaman who very seldom spoke  
 Sheeney was the cabin boy, who loved to start a wrangle  
 And would talk a foreign language, when his line got in a tangle.  
 This was the crew of the 'Black Bess'.*

Bill	William Gallen – died in France by a sniper’s bullet when rescuing wounded comrades.
Jim Sinclair )	
Ronald Sinclair )	His cousins from Sydney
Sheeney Sinclair )	
Me	Edward Gallen.

“I put these few lines together some time ago and as you knew these boys, I thought you would like to read it”.  
 Edward Gallen to his niece, Cecily Cooper Davies,  
 September, 1964.

Permission has been given to Elaine Hall by Elaine Boswell nee Davies, daughter of Cecily & Fonce Davies, to use this poem about ‘Black Bess’ on the Hunter River.

\* \* \* \*

Q: Which did come first, the chicken or the egg?  
 A: The egg. The modern chicken is generally believed to be a “descendant” of ARCHAEPTERYX, the oldest known bird.

*This 150 million year old resident of the Jurassic period laid eggs and at some point evolved into an animal that was one generation away from being a proper chicken.*

*This creature would have produced the egg out of which the first chicken emerged, ergo – the egg came first.*

## THE CREW OF THE 'BLACK BESS' – *By Edward*

*Gallen*

*I often sit a thinking, of the days that's passed and gone  
The days when we were youthful, and the days when we were  
young  
Those days when we were strong  
The days we spent together, the Sydney boys and me,  
With 'Black Bess' out on the river, we were happy as can be.*

*We would take our lines and tackle, and go on board 'Black Bess'  
That's nearly sixty years ago, a little more or less  
We would steer barque upon the tide, to the fishing grounds we  
knew  
Where we used to catch the flathead and the little silver jew.*

*The Bosun of our gallant ship, was known as Bosun Bill  
But alas poor Bill he is no more  
But his memory long will live, he gave his life for Britians cause  
His face turned to the foe, he proved himself a hero  
My pal of long ago  
May his spirit rest in heaven, in that land beyond the sky  
Where I hope someday we will meet again  
My dear old pal and i.*

*But those happy days have passed and gone, we feel their joys no  
more,  
'Black Bess' is but a memory, of those happy days of yore  
But I often sit a thinking of the days that used to be  
With 'Black Bess' on the river, that gallant crew and me.  
We would sing our songs together when our ship got under way,  
And would sing the homeward journey, at the closing of the day.*

## FIRST COMMITTEE MEETING FOR 2010

The first Committee Meeting of the Historical Society for 2010 will be held at the **Port Stephens Council Chambers at 6pm on Monday 1 February.**

**ALL** members of the Society are invited to attend. We are looking for some big ideas to send us forward. The program of events for the year will be determined during this meeting. Bring a plate (sweet or savoury) and we will have a light supper at the end of the meeting.

Mark this date on your calendar.  
Come along and have your say.  
Hope to see a lot of people there.

\* \* \* \*

## CAN YOU HELP?

### Looking For

- Cornelius Bowen & Mary Broderick
- Michael Donoghue/O'Donoghue
- Cawkwell/Cawhell family
- Mortimer/Murtagh Sullivan/O'Sullivan & Mary Barry
- Shafer/Shaver/Schafer family
- Timothy Eugene o'Sullivan & Teresa Cronin
- Gilhome/Gilholme & Coote Families

If you can help with any of these queries please ring Elaine Hall 49873477 or email [elainehall@bigpond.com](mailto:elainehall@bigpond.com).

## DRAWN BY LOVE – *Boris Sokoloff*

In 1839 aware that his fiancée, Anna MacArthur, was staying with her uncle at Port Stephens, Commander Wickham, found an excuse to take the 'Beagle' into the port. His decision almost ended in disaster when the ship was briefly stranded on a sand bank in the bay. This gave an opportunity for Lt. Stokes to resurvey the port.

This is part of an exhibit on Charles Darwin at the National Maritime Museum. It gives an insight into the element of chance in historical dramas. Has the 'Beagle' become stranded and wrecked the future developments would have been altered.



Image source:

[http://msnbcmedia2.msn.com/j/msnbc/Sections/Newsweek/Components/Photos/Mag/051128\\_Issue/051119\\_DarwinBeagle\\_hsmall.small.jpg](http://msnbcmedia2.msn.com/j/msnbc/Sections/Newsweek/Components/Photos/Mag/051128_Issue/051119_DarwinBeagle_hsmall.small.jpg)

## SCOTTISH NAMING PATTERNS

### SONS

First son is named for the father's father.

Second son is named for the mother's father.

Third son is named for the father's grandfather, fraternal.

Fourth son is named for the mother's grandfather, maternal.

Fifth son is named for the father's grandfather, maternal.

Sixth son is named for the mother's grandfather, fraternal.

Seventh thru tenth sons are named for the father's great grandfathers.

Tenth thru fourteenth sons for the mother's great grandfathers.

### DAUGHTERS

First daughter is named for the mother's mother.

Second daughter is named for the father's mother.

Third daughter is named for the mother's grandmother, fraternal.

Fourth daughter is named for the father's grandmother, fraternal.

Fifth daughter is named for the mother's grandmother, maternal.

Sixth daughter is named for the father's grandmother, maternal.

Seventh thru tenth daughter are named for the mother's great grandmothers.

Tenth thru fourteenth daughter for the father's great grandmothers.

*Links 'n' Chains, November 2008*

