RAYMOND TERRACE & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY Inc

NEWSLETTER



January - February - March 2013 Volume Fourteen Number One

SKETCHLEY COTTAGE

Linking yesterday with tomorrow

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BITS and PIECES.....

• The Historical Society is selling tea towels, for \$10 each, and society pens for \$3.50 ea. They make a great present. They are available from the Research Room at the Library, or contact any Committee member to make a purchase.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

February 15 AGM and General Meeting

SUNDAY COTTAGE ROSTER: FIRST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH

JAN: Moira & Boris
FEB: Helen & Bernadette
MAR: Laraine & Laurel
APR: Glenys & Peter
MAY: David & Judy

FROM THE RAYMOND TERRACE EXAMINER 6 OCTOBER 1916 FLYING FOX DESTRUCTION

The following communication has been received from Mr W Brown, MLA Department of Agriculture, Sydney 25th September 1916.

Sir, - With reference to the letter (undated) presented by you from Mr E G McDermott, honorary secretary Lostock Progress Association, Halton, via Paterson, asking for information regarding experiments for the destruction of flying foxes, I now beg to advise that this Department is taking steps to establish experiments for the purpose indicated. These will be conducted with gas, barbed wire, or any other method which may possibly be worthy of a trial.

I attach hereto copy of the conditions governing payment of advance of subsidy for the destruction of the pest, together with directions for preparing claim, and the necessary documents. One of the orders on the back of the voucher form should be signed and witnessed.

A VALDER. Under Secretary. Mr W Brown, MLA, Parliament House, Sydney.

A Biography of Louisa Lawson (1848-1920)

by Heather Radi

Louisa Lawson (1848-1920) was born on 17 February 1848 on Edwin Rouse's station, Guntawang, near Mudgee, New South Wales, second of twelve children of Henry Albury, station-hand, and his wife Harriet, née Winn, needlewoman. Baptized an Anglican, Louisa was educated at Mudgee National School. She was kept home to help to care for her younger siblings and she resented the drudgery. On 7 July 1866 at the Wesleyan parsonage, Mudgee, Louisa married Norwegian-born Niels Hertzberg Larsen who called himself Peter - a handyman and gold digger. They joined the Weddin Mountain gold rush and later selected forty acres (16 ha) at Eurunderee. By the time of Henry's birth in 1867, they had anglicized the spelling of Larsen.

Between 1867 and 1877 Louisa bore five children. Peter was often away, either at the goldfields or contract building with his father-in-law; Louisa took in sewing, sold dairy produce and fattened cattle. The women in her family believe that she was the original for the hard-working, resourceful, kindly and long-suffering bushwomen who feature in her son's stories. When she and the children moved to Sydney in 1883, she found friends through the Progressive Spiritualist Lyceum at Leigh House. She kept up a pretence of being separated from her husband by misfortune, but the marriage had ended.

Peter sent money irregularly to help to support the children and Louisa considered taking legal action. Instead she did sewing and washing and took in boarders. In 1887 she bought the ailing *Republican* (1887-88). Her father though illiterate was a great story-teller. She shared that talent and her poetry, inspired by the death of her infant daughter, had been published in the *Mudgee Independent*. She and Henry edited and wrote most of the *Republican*'s copy using 'Archie Lawson' for editorial purposes. In 1888 she started *Dawn*, announcing that it would publicize women's wrongs, fight their battles and sue for their suffrage. It offered household advice, fashion, poetry, a short story and extensive reporting of women's activities both locally and overseas. Louisa added a political editorial on the importance to women of the divorce extension bill. *Dawn* was an immediate commercial success. In 1889 Mrs Lawson was employing ten women, including female printers.

The New South Wales Typographical Association, which refused membership to women, tried to force Mrs Lawson to dismiss her printers. It appealed to advertisers to boycott *Dawn* and harassed the women at their work. Louisa countered with a proclamation of her support for trade unionism. In a different context she advocated the protection of a union for married women and crèches for the benefit of the overworked mothers of large families and those forced to take paid employment. Her practical philanthropy included the Sydney Ragged Schools for which she organized the collection of old clothes and the seeds, bulbs and a prize for a floral competition.

In May 1889 Louisa launched the campaign for female suffrage and announced the formation of the Dawn Club. Who ordained that men only should make the laws which both women and men must obey, she asked, but her case rested on more than abstract justice. At the Dawn Club women met regularly to discuss 'every question of life, work and reform' and to gain experience in public speaking; she persuaded the Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts' debating clubs to admit her and encouraged other women to join. In 1893 she became the first woman elected to its board of management. Through *Dawn* she created the public knowledge of women's affairs which helped to move opinion towards enfranchising women. She revealed the instances where the law failed to protect them or where by other means they were prevented from making a reasonable living. In editorials she presented feminist arguments for opening the legal profession to women, appointing them as prison warders, factory inspectors and magistrates, and giving hospital appointments to female doctors. She added advice on health and the care of children, stressing diet, rest and exercise and in her fashion page and paper pattern service encouraged women to dress sensibly but attractively. *Dawn* had an extensive country readership and intercolonial and overseas subscribers. It was in regular communication with English and American feminists.

When Mrs Dora Montefiore formed the Womanhood Suffrage League of New South Wales in 1891, Louisa was invited to join and was elected to its council. She allowed it to use *Dawn*'s office for meetings and printed its literature free of charge. She frequently spoke at league meetings.

Again busy in the campaign in 1892, Louisa was a member of the league's delegation to the premier in October. Her outburst that women needed the vote 'to redeem the world from bad laws passed by wicked men' was unfavourably reported in the press. When her friend <u>Lady Windeyer</u> was outvoted and resigned as president, Louisa in December 1893 withdrew from its council. Although she gave as her reason her recent move to Tempe, she had wept on hearing of the president's resignation.

In 1895 and 1897 Mrs Lawson took out a miner's right, presumably to demonstrate an inconsistency in the electoral law. At the celebratory meeting after women were enfranchised in New South Wales in 1902, she was publicly acclaimed as the originator of the suffrage campaign. She was thrown from a tram and suffered a fractured knee and injured her spine in 1900, taking over a year to recover, but in 1902 she was again active politically.

Following her accident she lost some of the vitality and inventiveness which had helped to make *Dawn* a success. Her friend Mrs E. J. Todd, who had been one of her journalists, remembered her as 'so full of original ideas that she always seemed to have plenty to spare for others'. Novelties disappeared from

Dawn and there were fewer lively short-paragraph news items. Advertising fell away and in 1905 Dawn closed.

Afterwards Louisa lived in lonely and increasingly impoverished circumstances. She secured a publisher for two volumes of verse and sold a few poems and a number of short stories. She enjoyed her garden in which she had planted natives. Her 'Dolley Dear' poems capture the humour and warmth of the old woman's love for children. Louisa died in the Hospital for the Insane, Gladesville, on 12 August 1920. She had been living alone before being admitted in 1918, her memory failing but still strong willed. She was buried with Methodist forms in the Anglican section of Rookwood cemetery. Her estate, valued for probate at £629, was left to her son Peter who was father of nine of her beloved grandchildren.

In most surviving photographs, she is stern faced. Big-boned, as befitted a countrywoman, she is to be remembered for her reply to the editor of the *Bulletin*'s 'Red Page': 'And why shouldn't a woman be tall and strong?'

- from http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/lawson-louisa-7121

A SELECTION OF ARTICLES FROM The Dawn – by Louisa Lawson (Mother of Henry Lawson) 1 March, 1898.

Colors for Elderly Ladies.

Light colors bring out the faded appearance of a face, and black is deadening in effect, un less relieved by lavender, cream, dark red, &c. All materials are worn by ladies past their youth, and such trimmings as jet, colored passementerie, lace and a moderate amount of ribbons. In selecting materials avoid broad stripes and plaids, as they attract too much attention. Black, dark and medium brown, medium and stone grey, dark green, garnet, lavender, violet, reddish purple, cream, navy blue, a bit of cardinal or yellow in millinery are all allowable for elderly matrons and spinsters. White can be worn in the house at any age, but the duller colors are more appropriate for the street. Large bonnets are only worn by very old ladies. The toque bonnets with strings are equally suitable for them. A black lace, straw, felt or jet toque with good black velvet ribbon strings tied under the chin, black tips, lace-black or white-and a bit of color, as a velvet rosette or flower, is always becoming over grey hair, and not too gay for even a grandmother. A black net veil, with few if any dots, and black, brown, tan, dark or light grey kid gloves are among the necessary items of an elderly lady's toilette. Nowadays the full capes reaching well around the hips are convenient for them in black satin or cloth, velvet or brown ladies' cloth.

True goodness is like the glow-worm in this, that it shines most when no eyes, except those of Heaven, are upon it.-J. C. Hare.

Household Hints.

Salt will curdle new milk; hence in preparing milk porridge, gravies, etc., salt should not be added until the dish is prepared.

Boiled starch is much improved by the addition of a little sperm or gum Arabic dissolved.

Pepper on strawberries is an old wrinkle of the epicures revived as a modern fad.

If a bedstead creaks at each movement of the sleeper, remove the slats and wrap the ends of each in old newspapers. This will prove a complete silencer.

Old loose kid gloves, worn when ironing, will save many callous places on one's hands.

Copper kettles may be cleaned and polished by taking a lemon, cutting it in two; dip each of the pieces in salt and rub well over the copper.

Á piece of sponge fastened to a stick is a good thing to clean lamp chimneys with.

If the wick of a lamp does not move easily in the holder, draw out one or two threads from one side. The wick should be as large a one as the holder will receive.

No cooking vessels are really fit to be used for boiling or stewing vegetables, stewing fruit, etc., except those which are of granite ware or enamelled.

POOR DOGGIE.

In no place in the civilized world perhaps, are dogs and cats so badly treated as in the city of Sydney. The unthinking population daily pursues its way, while poor, suffering, thirst-driven dogs rush dementedly up and down the streets in search of water. The suffering of these creatures must be intense; half frantic with pain one attempts to rush the bucket of water in which the shop window cleaner immerses his sponge or chamois leather, and receives a cruel kick which sends him whining into the street, where he waits until the work is finished and the dirty contents of the bucket are cast into a dirtier gutter, then he makes another rush for life, but before the poor brute can properly wet his tongue, the street dust absorbs the precious moisture.

Sometimes the dog tries to get a drink from a horse-trough or public fountain, but scores of eager feet are ever ready to as sault him in his efforts to allay the terrible torture of thirst.

One such sought a lane in Redfern a few days ago and although hundreds of men and boys congregate in this byway daily, not one offered the suffering dog food or drink.

When his anguish became so painfully apparent as to annoy the thoughtless bystanders, a policeman was sent for, who, with a billet of wood, struck the animal a couple of blows. The dog could not die, although, no doubt, he wished to-he ran into a baker's yard, when the officer followed and' put two shots from a revolver into him. This did not kill him, but intensified his agony to such an extent that some women implored the policeman to hit him again with the billet of wood and put an end to his terrible suffering; this the officer did, and what might have been a valuable house hold pet, lay waiting the dust-cart for burial.

If women and children would keep some old vessel in which to offer each wandering; dog which calls at the gate, a drink of clear water, we have a more than sentimental idea that the good would return to them a hundredfold, for the presence of misery and disease in man or beast, exercises a baleful' influence upon their surroundings.

All honor to Mr. Molesworth, M.L.A, Erskineville for thoughtfully causing to be erected a public fountain, attached to which is a basin for holding a continual supply of water for dogs, cats, birds, etc.

FROM FAR AND NEAR

Miss WOOLLEY was elected one of the committee of the Sydney Amateur Orchestral Society at its annual meeting on Feb. 14th.

PORTRAIT OF MARIA MITCHELL.-A bronze portrait of the late Maria Mitchell, the astronomer, has been given by friends to be placed at the entrance of the Observatory of Vassar College.

AN INVENTION.-It may interest cyclists to hear of an improved pneumatic tyre, invented by Margaret A. Lambe, Brooklyn, America, which has a series of rubber balls instead of the ordinary rubber tube. Thus a punctured ball may be easily replaced, and until this can be done the Loss of it could not materially affect the use of the wheel.

Miss M. G. FRODSHAM has been appointed Lecturer in the Cambridge Training College. She was elected to an Entrance Scholarship at Holloway College in 1893, where she subsequently obtained the first Pounder's Scholar ship for Mathematics and the Driver Prize for Mathematics. She took the London B.A. degree, and also Second Class Oxford Honour

Moderations in Mathematics. An appeal from Miss Emily Davies for a sum of £50,000 for new buildings at Girton, appeared in the daily papers of the 10th Jan. It is proposed to build a new hall, chapel and lecture rooms, with rooms for fifty students, and the necessary additions to the domestic service department. Miss Davies reminds the public that "the fact that colleges for women lack the splendid endowments bestowed by

our ancestors-women as well as men-on the old colleges of the Universities, makes them dependent on the liberality of later generations," and instances the work accomplished as a plea for a extension of its usefulness.

Miss HAYCOCK, of Birmingham, England, has patented a dress pocket for women's dresses. It has a concealed place for a purse, which none but the wearer can find. Miss Haycock has received many offers for the patent of a cycling skirt, made so that it cannot flap about and it looks like a walking skirt.

PRESENTATION.-There was a large gathering of teachers of the Redfern (Sydney) Superior Public School on Feb. 4th, in the girls' department, to take part in the presentation of a dressing case and purse to the mistress of the girls, Mrs. Adrian, who has just obtained three months' leave of absence. Mrs. Adrian has been 35 years in the service, and was complimented by the head-master, Mr. J. J. Walsh, for her ability, energy, and amiable manners, which had won for her the esteem of both teachers and pupils.

OPENING OF THE FREE KINDERGARTEN, NEWTOWN.

On February 19th, Newtown had a formal opening of a Free Kindergarten, and is to be congratulated upon being the first suburb to respond to the offer of the Kindergarten Union to assist any branch formed. On Dec. 16th, Miss Macdonald, Principal of the Women's College invited a number of ladies and gentle men to consider the proposal of the Union, and intimated her willingness to help liberally if the site could be obtained near the College. A committee was formed, but owing to the holidays having commenced, many of those interested in the movement were in the country, and the work was thus retarded. About the middle of January, however, the premises known as "Victoria Lodge," opposite the Women's College, in Bligh Street, were secured by Mrs. Curnow, and on Feb. 1st., the work commenced under the direction of Mrs. Davis, whose knowledge of Kindergarten Institutions in America and her experience in Woolloomooloo Free Kindergarten during; the last two years made her appointment a happy one. "Victoria Lodge" is an ideal place for a Kindergarten; it is a cottage with an acre of ground, where trees and grass delight the eye and heart. As a plot of ground is considered an essential feature by Froebel, the site could not be improved upon, and on Feb. 19th, the large assembly which visited the spot expressed their admiration in the highest terms.

Sydney is waking up to the importance of Kindergarten work. The system is education in the highest and best sense of the word. The superficial observer cannot form an idea of its value; it requires to be studied in order to be appreciated. The work is character building. Froebel compares the child to the plant and says that it is of vital importance that the 'gardener' of the little human plant should understand the nature of that which is being trained and know exactly what means to use for its development. The teacher must have high qualities of character before she is fit to undertake this work and in the prosecution of it she gains as much as her pupils. She must give unremitting attention, her patience and cheerfulness must never flag, she must love children or she cannot reach the child's heart and draw out the Divine spark which is latent there. The work has been described as 'organized play,' but this play teaches unity, self-denial, and all the virtues. Children are unconsciously taught that work is not a curse but a blessing. Nurtured in this atmosphere of loving thought for the first five or six years of life, the impression can never be effaced and the children can never sink into the degradation possible for those who have been neglected. It is, as one of the speakers on Feb 9th said, the noblest work any human being can engage in.

Donations in the shape of gardening and other materials have been received from Messrs. LiSetter & Co., (Sydney, Messrs. Hatte, Harrison and Baldick, (Newtown). Messrs. Quong, Tart and Abel provided refreshments for the opening ceremony.

The committee are: Miss Macdonald, M.A. of the Women's College, Mrs. Curnow, Miss Pernell, Mrs. Ross, (City Bank) Miss Cook, Miss Bruce, Mrs. Merriman, Mrs. Maxwell Allen, Mrs. Russell-Jonts, Mrs. M. Harris (the Mayoress), Miss Schliuker and others. Lady Hampden is President of the Kindergarten Union

NEWS FROM THE RHAS NEWSLETTER.

Shoalhaven Excursion

Saturday 6 - Sunday 7 April 2013

Saturday 6 - Sunday 7 April 2013

(RAHS in conjunction with Shoalhaven Historical Society, Shoalhaven Family History Society, Bolong Historical Society and Berry Historical Society)

We have a weekend excursion planned for the weekend after Easter on Saturday-Sunday 6 - 7 April in the Shoalhaven area, in conjunction with local Shoalhaven societies.

Saturday 6th April 2013



Members must find their own way to Nowra (and book their own accommodation) and meet at the Nowra School of Arts supper rooms at 10.00am on Saturday 6th April for morning tea, followed by a visit to the Lady Denman Historic site, lunch, Meroogal Historic House, and afternoon tea. From 4.00 - 6.00pm there will be talks at the Nowra School of Arts by Dr Margaret Steven (Alexander Berry), Ms Robyn Florance (Broughton Village) and Alan Clark

(Shoalhaven Cricket in the 19th century), followed by dinner in a nearby cafe. (RAHS Collection - Nowra Wharf c 1902)

Sunday 7th April 2013

9.30am-11.00am a walking tour of Berry and morning tea/lunch with Berry Historical Society.

Total Cost \$100 (or \$73 if no dinner on Sat night) includes Saturday morning tea, light lunch, afternoon tea, entrance fees (Lady Denman/Meroogal) and dinner (optional); Sunday light lunch

News buzz

EVENTS

- The State Library of NSW Exhibition: The Greatest Wonder of the World
 An exhibition of photographs from the famed Holtermann Collection, with its unrivalled
 visual record of goldfields life in Australia. For the past four years, the SLNSW has
 been digitally scanning the collection and it is now on show for the first time in 140
 years. From 23 February 12 May 2013.

- Hyde Park Barracks Museum: Convict Sydney Exhibition. The Hyde Park Barracks is one of Australia's most important convict sites. This new exhibition explores the convict experience, from transportation to forging a new life in the colony of New South Wales. It reveals the extraordinary contribution convict workers made to the building of early Sydney. Learn about the everyday lives of convicts who passed through the doors of the barracks between 1819 and 1848. Exhibition ends 31 May 2013.

EXTRACT FROM "THE COLONIST" (Sydney 1835 – 1840) Thursday 29 October, 1835.

POST OFFICE.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Sydney, October 21, 1835. In pursuance of the Act of the Governor and Council; 5th William IV. No. 24, intituled "an Act to provide for the Conveyance and Postage of Letters," 'His Excellency the Governor: has been pleased to establish one General Post Office' at Sydney, and other Post Offices at the several places in different parts of the colony hereinafter mentioned. His Excellency has also been pleased to appoint James Raymond, Esq., to be Postmaster-General under the said Act, and the following persons to be severally Deputy Postmasters at the places respectively specified, viz: -

Appin,; Bathurst, John Liscombe; Bong Bong, Sackville Hamilton Lambert; Brisbane Water, Jonathan Warner, Esq, J. P.; Campbelltown, **Henry Watson; Carrington**, John Scott; ;Darlington, **Alfred Glennie; Dungog**, Duncan Forbes McKay; Goulburn, John Edwards' Hassan's Walls, **Michael Keenan; Hinton**, George Alfred Lloyd; Inverary, Edward Bourke Roche; Invermein, John Irving Scott; Liverpool, **William Pritchard; Maitland**, Philip Joseph Cohen; Merton, **John Oswald; Newcastle**, Charles Horatio Blandford; O'Connell Plains, William Smith; Parramatta, **William Byrnes; Paterson**, William Thomas Phillips; Penrith, **Alexander Fraser;**

Raymond Terrace, George Adam Oliver; Strathallan, Joseph Taylor; Windsor, Henry Bailey; Wollongong, James O'Brien Croker; Yass, Edwin John Abraham; Moreton Bay, ---; Norfolk Island, ----- Port Macquarie.

His Excellency has further directed that the following rates and sums of money shall be demanded for the receipt, dispatch, and delivery of letters and packets, under the provisions of the said Act, viz:

For every letter or packet weighing less than 1/2 an ounce, from one Post Office to another, not exceeding the distance of 15 miles, 4d.; above 15, and not exceeding 20, 5d.; above 20, and not exceeding 30, 6d.; above 30, and not exceeding 50, 7d.; above 50, and not exceeding 80, 8d.; above 80, and not exceeding 120; 9d.; above 120, and not exceeding i170, 10d.; above 170, and not exceeding 230, 11d.; above 230, and not exceeding 300, ls.; and for every 100 miles or part thereof above 300 miles, the further sum of ld.

For every such letter or packet forwarded by sea from one port of the colony to another, 4d.; and so on in proportion for letters or, packets of greater weight.

For every newspaper printed, in the colony if not put in to any post office in New South Wales, for delivery at another, within seven days from the date thereof, at the rate of a single letter.

For letters or packets not exceeding four ounces in weight, when put into the General Post Office in Sydney, for delivery within the prescribed limits, including newspapers, 2d. For every letter or packet put into any post office for delivery, at such post office, ld.

Upon every ship - letter or packet, in addition to the inland postage, if single, 3d., double, 4d.; treble, 5Id.; quadruple, or any greater weight, 6d.

By His Excellency's Command,

ALEXANDER McLEAY.

QUOTES:

Australians will never acquire a national identity until individual Australians acquire identities of their own Patrick White

I have outlived that care that curries public favour or dreads the public frown...let the hand of law strike me down if it will, but I ask that my story be heard and considered Ned Kelly

We cultivated our land, but in a way different from the white man. We endeavoured to live with the land; they seemed to live off it Tom Dystra – Aboriginal man

The Australian nation is a nation of blow-ins and we've got the lot here – bog Irish, reffos, dagos, wogs, slopes, you name it Bill Leak – cartoonist

There is no greatness where there is no simplicity, goodness and truth. <u>Leo Tolstoy</u>

PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE

They Were Here Vol 1		\$ 35
They Were Here Vol 2		\$ 40
War Memorials of the Port	\$ 25	
Raymond Terrace History	\$ 25	
Marriages from the Glouce		
Raymond Terrace Ex	\$ 15	
Clearing Out Sales Raymo		
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.

'Echoes of War'	by Moira Saunderson	\$35
Bushranger book	<	\$10.
The Worimi by B	oris Sokoloff	\$10

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

All prices exclude postage

SKETCHLEY COTTAGE MUSEUM is located opposite Bettles Park, Raymond Terrace and is open to the public by appointment. Bus groups are most welcome, please contact the Secretary by email or ring Sketchley Cottage on 49871036 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& Wednesday 9.30 am to 2 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 \$15.00 Full Membership \$20.00
Family \$25.00 Monthly Meetings are held on the third Friday of the month at Senior Citizens Building, Raymond Terrace at 7.00 pm.