

Bulletin of Maitland and District Historical Society Inc

(established March 1977)

Affiliated with Royal Australian Historical Society and
Museum and Galleries Hunter Chapter



St. Paul's Anglican Church, West Maitland

Volume 19, Number 1

February 2012

***The Aims of the Society are to
Discover, Record, Preserve, Advise on and Teach the History of Maitland and the District***

Maitland and District Historical Society Inc.

Cover:

St. Paul's Anglican Church, West Maitland.

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Meetings are held at 3 Cathedral Street Maitland (opposite Bishop's House)

Lecture meeting is held on the first Tuesday of each month from 5:30-7.00pm as a forum for lectures, talks and presentations

Business meeting is held on the third Tuesday of each month from 5:30-7.00pm

Membership fees : \$15 (single) and \$20 (double / family), payable 1st March of each year.

Patron: The Hon. Milton Morris AO

NSW Member for Maitland 1956-1980

NSW Minister for Transport 1965 - 1975

Current Office Bearers :

President : Ruth Trappel **Vice President :** Tom Skelding

Treasurer : Kevin Short

Bulletin Editor : Judy Nicholson **Consultant Editor :** Ruth Trappel

Bulletin contributions are being sought. Please contact the Society via email

maitlandhistorical@bigpond.com

While every care is taken in the compilation and editing of the information contained in this bulletin, Maitland and District Historical Society Inc. and its editors do not accept responsibility for the accuracy of this information.

Historical Society Activities

RAHS Conference

The Society was engaged in active participation of the **Royal Australian Historical Society's Annual State History Conference**, convened at the East Maitland Bowling Club, Saturday 29th October to Sunday 30th October.



The Society hosted a very successful Cocktail Party for the delegates and members at our rooms from 6-8pm on Friday 28th October, as a gesture of welcome, an introduction to our Society and to establish relations with our fellow delegates. The catering and hosting teams are to be congratulated for their work, with great food and the Society's rooms looking wonderful - a fantastic effort and all went well on the night.

Images from RAHS Flickr site.

Maitland & District Historical Society President, Ruth Trappell, welcoming guests and members.

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/royalaustrianhistoricalsociety/6300579299/in/set-72157628017111424/>

Book sales and information exchange –
Maitland & District Historical Society
hosted a stall



Community Christmas Celebrations expo

Society member Beryl Davidson-Mate organised the **Community Christmas Celebrations expo**, held at the Therry Centre at East Maitland from November 24 to 27. The mayor of Maitland, Cr Peter Blackmore, opened the event. The Society provided support for the event, contributing time to the expo as well as a decorated Christmas tree.

Lecture Meetings

The Society's lecture meeting on **Tuesday 1 November** was a 'field trip' to **St. Paul's Anglican Church**, West Maitland. Jim and Irene Hemsworth were our guides and discussed the Church's history.

On **Tuesday 1 December Robyn Parker**, our local member of Parliament, spoke about her portfolio of Heritage. Among other issues, Robyn discussed the State Heritage Register, as well as her desire to return most decision making to local government with regard to local heritage affairs.

Bill Storer was the first guest speaker for **2012 on 3 January**, concerning the topic of significance assessment of collections. Bill is the Collection Manager of the Newcastle Maritime in addition to the role of the Chair of Museums Australia and Secretary of Museums Australia National Council. Bill's notes relating to his talk regarding the significance of collections are printed on page 11 of this Bulletin.

Significance 2.0: a guide to assessing the significance of collections by Roslyn Russell, Kylie Winkworth is also available online in full text via the web site of the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities.

<http://www.environment.gov.au/heritage/publications/significance2-0/>

Alison Homestead at Wyong

Our network of local history groups and enthusiasts was devastated by the destruction of Alison Homestead by fire in December.

The **Express-Advocate News of 3 December 2011** reported:



Fire crews at Alison Homestead which was burned down by an Arsonist overnight. Picture: MARK SCOTT.

Police are searching for an arsonist who burned down historic Alison Homestead overnight. The homestead was the oldest established continuous rural homestead in the Wyong District, built by Charles Alison in the 1870s...fire crews were able to save little of the historic buildings. Alison Homestead was set on two hectares in a rural setting on Wyong's first land grant. It was extended when original owner Charles Alison married the grand daughter of Blue Mountains explorer, William Cox. The property passed out of the family in the 1890s and was used for market gardening between 1898 and the 1970s. In recent times the property became a museum and home of Wyong District Museum and Historical Society.

<http://express-advocate-gosford.wherelive.com.au/news/story/police-search-for-arsonist-who-burned-down-historic-alison-homestead-at-wyong/>

A series of photographs hosted on Flickr show the effects of the fire:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/rustie/6465403841/in/photostream/>

'Ghost' signs

Partial signs or faint, faded 'ghost' signs on old buildings can be intriguing – what does the sign say? What does the sign mean? To what purposes has this building been put?

Historical Society members have identified a number of 'ghost signs' that will be reproduced in this Bulletin over future issues.

To launch this series, we are featuring a building at Gillies Street, Rutherford, as well as a High Street building.



Gillies St., Rutherford





These faded signs are featured on the wall of 204 High Street, which adjoins the current business, that is, Hertz rental cars.

There's an Esso sign that is still readable and above that what appears to be a 'something' motors sign – let us know if you can interpret or identify the name of that business, or add any details.



James O'Connor Barber Shop 204 High Street 1930

The image to the left, copied from the Andrew Burg collection, identifies the business as a barber's shop, with Palings Pianos being advertised on the wall.

The 204 High Street building has been identified as the first, original Arnott's bakery.

If anyone can tell the tale of any of these premises, please provide comments by email to

maitlandhistorical@bigpond.com

St. Paul's Anglican Church, West Maitland

Historical Society members and interested visitors attended an evening at St. Paul's Anglican Church, West Maitland, on 1 November 2011. Our guides were Jim and Irene Hemsworth, who provided details of the Church's history.

More about St. Paul's:

'St Paul's in the Park' as it is called by the locals, was designed by architect William White. The church is built of sandstock brick in cruciform style with wide Aisles and large Transepts.

The Parish of St. Paul was established on 13th March, 1856, with Rev. James Robert Thackeray appointed. On 23rd September 1856, the foundation stone of St. Paul's was laid by the Bishop of Newcastle, Dr. Tyrrell.

In 1857, flood waters of the Hunter covered the foundation work of the new building and it was decided to raise the walls another two feet. The contractor for the erection of St. Paul's was James Hesp.

On 26th November 1858, St. Paul's was opened and dedicated for divine service. The total cost of the building being £2,271/13/-. The first church wardens were Messrs. Edward P. Capper, Benjamin Lee jnr. and William Norman.

The porches at the western and northern doors were added in 1885 and the attractive Lych-gate in 1919.

The foundation stone for St. Paul's free-standing brick and stone **bell tower** was laid on 15th June 1888 by Rev. Arthur Selwyn, Canon and Vicar-General of the Diocese. Mr. Arthur C. Lee was the architect and James Richardson the contractor. The cost of the tower was £1,626 and the peal of bells were removed from the old timber belfry and housed in the new tower. The first peal was rung on Easter Monday, 14th April 1898.

The **organ** was built by Henry Willis & Sons of London, erected by J. Broderick and opened in July 1867 as a gift from Rev. J. R. Thackeray, the Rector. In the early 1900's the console was moved to floor level but following the 1913 flood, which caused considerable damage, it was moved back to the gallery, converted to pneumatic action and slightly altered by Charles Richardson.



St. Pauls is listed on the **State Heritage Inventory**, with the following information:

Historic: interpreting presence of Anglican Church from late C19th.

Social: ongoing functions of church and hall for community's religious and social needs.

Aesthetic: significance of a high order, particularly in details of windows, porches, lych gate - detached tower is rare. Landmark value rising above lowscale development and part of group of buildings making a townscape precinct.

http://www.heritage.nsw.gov.au/07_subnav_01_2.cfm?itemid=2000009

Laying the foundation stone of St. Paul's:

The Maitland Mercury & Hunter River General Advertiser

Thursday 25 September 1856

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, WEST MAITLAND.

The ceremony of laying the foundation stone of this church was performed on Tuesday afternoon, by the Lord Bishop of Newcastle, the Rev. J. R. Thackeray assisting.

The weather was very favorable for the outdoor portion of the proceedings, to witness and take part in which a large number of the congregation, and residents in Maitland generally, had assembled.

The evening service having been read by the incumbent, the Rev. J. R. Thackeray, in the temporary church (the Grammar School), which was well filled on the occasion, the congregation followed the Bishop and Mr. Thackeray to the site of the intended building, where the stone was slung in preparation. Some appropriate selections from scripture were then read, and amongst the prayers offered was the collect for the conversion of St. Paul. A bottle containing copies of the *Northern Times* and *Maitland Mercury*, with the usual outline of proceedings, was next placed in a cavity cut for the purpose. His lordship then went through the customary formalities, and on the stone being lowered into its place said, "I lay this, the foundation and corner stone of a church, to be called the Church of St. Paul, and to be dedicated to the service of the Catholic faith, in the name of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost."

After a short prayer for the Divine blessing on the undertaking, the Bishop proceeded to offer a few words of counsel in reference to the carrying out of the work begun that day. It was the teaching of Scripture, he said, that our duty was to pray that the blessing of God might attend such works at the beginning, during their progress, and, bringing them to a happy completion, to render them blessings to those around. The work then commenced, was, indeed, one that required the aid of God's Holy Spirit. It was a great work, and a work of necessity. Those who had for years past resided in Maitland, and been attendants at St. Mary's Church, must have been painfully sensible how necessary it was; and now that the advantage of a temporary church in the Grammar School had been felt, and a congregation had been collected there, the necessity of new accommodation was still more clearly shown. After some remarks suggested by the psalm read, showing the earnestness of David when contemplating the building of a house for the Lord, the Bishop proceeded to the consideration of the kind of spirit in which such a work as the one then commenced should be entered on, referring to incidents in the life of St. Paul—whose name was attached to this church—for an exemplification. That apostle, by the

exceeding value which he placed upon the gospel and its promises, and by his low estimation of earthly things, which led him to give up all, and count all for loss, for the cause of Christ, set an example it were well to follow. And with regard to the use to be made of the church, when erected, the life of St. Paul afforded much instruction also. His first utterance in his conversion, "Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?" taught us a lesson of activity; his conduct when it was said of him, "Behold, he prayeth," was worthy the imitation of all who should hereafter enter this building, and then it would, indeed, be made a "house of prayer." It was his fervent wish that it might be found by many to be "the house of God, the very gate of Heaven."

After the close of his address, the Bishop pronounced the benediction, and the assembly dispersed.

The following is a copy of the document referred to, as enclosed in the cavity of the foundation stone.

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, WEST MAITLAND.

The Foundation Stone of this Church was laid, in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, on Tuesday, the 13rd day of September, 1856, A.D., by the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of the Diocese.

Victoria, D.G., Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, P.D., 1857.

Sir William Denison, Knight, Governor General of the Australian Colonies, 1856.

Lord Bishop of the Diocese, the Right Rev. William Tyrrell, D.D., 1847.

Incumbent of the Parish, the Rev. James R. Thackeray, M.A.

Acting Warden of the Parish, Edward Peter Capper.

MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE.

Edward Peter Capper,	George Lee.
Treasurer.	Richard Stark.
Mark S. Christian.	William Wade.
Thomas Evans.	Alexander Wilkinson.
Elijah Hart.	Rev. J. M. Thackeray.
Benjamin Lee, Junr.	Hon. Sec.

Architect, William White, Esq.
Head Master of the Grammar School, W. K. Colyer.
Tutor, John Somerville.

The church, we are informed, will be of the middle pointed style, of brick with stone facings,

and will consist of a nave, transepts, chancel, and tower at the west end. The length of the church, from chancel to tower, will be 118 feet; that of the transepts 75 feet. The tower will be 12 feet square, and the depth of the chancel 12 feet. The church will seat nearly 500 on the ground floor; and the addition, when required, of galleries at the western end of the nave, and in the transepts, is provided for. The windows, which are to be in rolled and stained glass, will be procured from England. The church will be seated with open benches.

After the foundation stone being laid in 1856, floods in 1857 resulted in the foundation stone being completely submerged and since that time has never been located. "Common theory is that it was buried deep under sand and concrete which was employed to raise the foundations two feet. Whilst there is no evidence to prove exactly where the stone lies, it is most likely to be located somewhere under the East window, inside the Church and under the tiles of the Sanctuary." [Marilyn Foster]



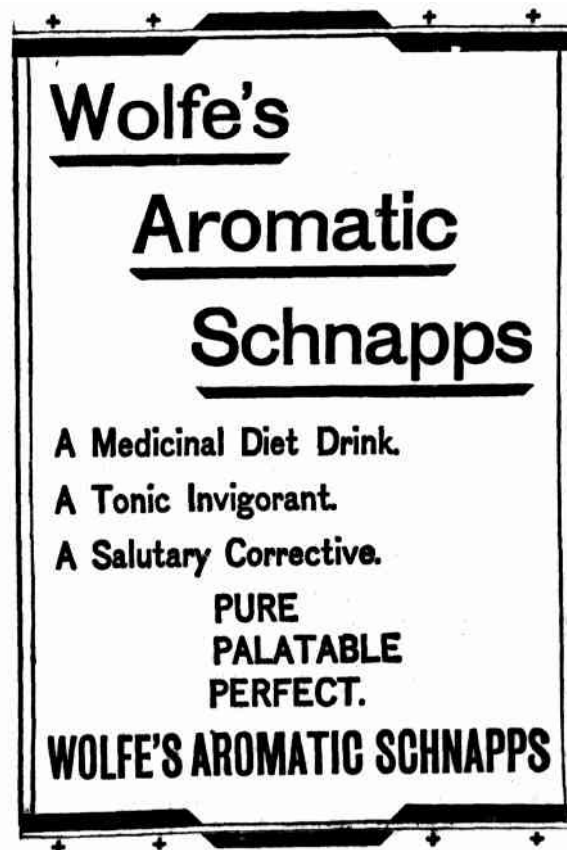
Flood at St Pauls Anglican Church, Maitland, NSW, 1955

This image was scanned from a negative in the Bert Lovett collection. It is part of the Norm Barney Photographic Collection, held by Cultural Collections at the University of Newcastle, NSW, Australia.

[Sources: Marilyn Foster. *Against all odds : celebrating the sesquicentenary of St. Paul's Anglican Church, West Maitland 1858-2008*, Maitland, N.S.W. : Anglican Parish of Maitland, Sept. 2008.
B.A. Parsons. *A history of St. Paul's : Church of St. Paul, Maitland, Anglican Parish of Maitland*, 1970.]

Remedies of the past

Remedies, health and medical products of the past feature frequently in Maitland Mercury advertising. In the **Maitland Mercury & Hunter River General Advertiser of Thursday 21 December 1893**, these advertisements appeared next to each other, so if you found that Wolfe's Aromatic Schnapps could not invigorate sufficiently, you could always rely on Holloways pills and ointment to correct a debilitated constitution:

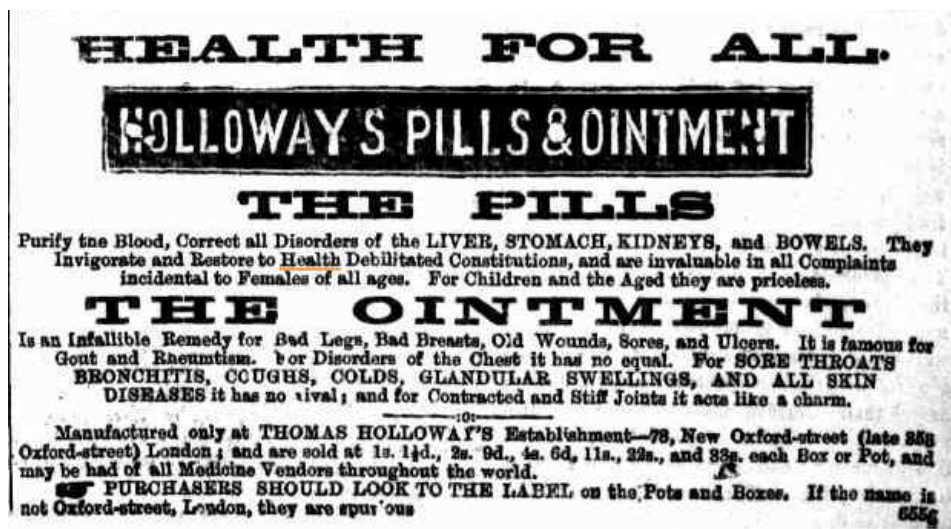


Wolfe's
Aromatic
Schnapps

A Medicinal Diet Drink.
A Tonic Invigorant.
A Salutory Corrective.

PURE
PALATABLE
PERFECT.

WOLFE'S AROMATIC SCHNAPPS



HEALTH FOR ALL.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS & OINTMENT

THE PILLS

Purify the Blood, Correct all Disorders of the LIVER, STOMACH, KIDNEYS, and BOWELS. They invigorate and Restore to Health Debilitated Constitutions, and are invaluable in all Complaints incidental to Females of all ages. For Children and the Aged they are priceless.

THE OINTMENT

Is an Infallible Remedy for Bad Legs, Bad Breasts, Old Wounds, Sores, and Ulcers. It is famous for Gout and Rheumatism. For Disorders of the Chest it has no equal. For SORE THROATS BRONCHITIS, COUGHS, COLDS, GLANDULAR SWELLINGS, AND ALL SKIN DISEASES it has no rival; and for Contracted and Stiff Joints it acts like a charm.

Manufactured only at THOMAS HOLLOWAY'S Establishment—78, New Oxford-street (late 35g Oxford-street) London; and are sold at 1s. 1d., 2s. 6d., 4s. 6d., 11s., 22s., and 33s. each Box or Pot, and may be had of all Medicine Vendors throughout the world.

PURCHASERS SHOULD LOOK TO THE LABEL on the Pots and Boxes. If the name is not Oxford-street, London, they are spurious

655g

Significance of Collections

Notes by Bill Storer

The Criteria

Historical	the Eureka Flag
Aesthetic	the Mona Lisa
Spiritual or Cultural	cave paintings
Research value	mineral collection

Comparative elements

provenance	how complete & true is the story?
rarity	the only one of?
representative	a good example of
interpretative potential	useful to tell stories
completeness, condition	all present? looks old / looks new

Other factors for a collection

- its content
- its purpose
- its provenance
- views of stakeholders
- value to the community

Steps in the Process

Step 1

- collate records of the collection

Step 2a

- research the history of the collection and major influences on its development

Step 2b

- identify the significant themes and items in the collection. Mapping
- consider whether the collection map fits the stated purpose of the museum.
- look for strengths and weaknesses in the collection.

Mapping the collection

This process sorts the collection by

- * artefact type, such as [tools](#), [documents](#), [costume](#), [artworks](#)
- * period of use, such as [pre-settlement](#); [Victorian](#), [World War II](#)
- * other factors such as [industry](#), [domestic](#), [education](#), [leisure](#)

Steps in the Process

Step 3

- consult knowledgeable people – **The Stakeholders**
- consider all likely possibilities donors, sponsors, owners, collectors, community, etc

Step 4

- explore the context of the collection, how the objects complement & relate to each other

Step 5

- analyse the condition of the objects overall and for special cases

Step 6

Compare with other examples:

Locally what do the nearby collections represent / exhibit

Nationally what state /national collections are similar

Step 7

By understanding the collection

- find stories with provenance & artefacts
- find important events disasters, local government, industry
- find connections local contact with national events

Step 8

- * assess the significance of the whole collection against the primary & comparative criteria
- * consider the purpose of the collection and its completeness in comparison to others
- * highlight the strengths and note the gaps

The Collection

The whole of the movable cultural heritage held, whether the objects are big or small, important or not, purchased or donated, with provenance or not

- Purpose
- Completeness
- Provenance
- Stakeholders

Final comment

Regardless of the national, state or regional significance of your collection the above exercises will provide you with valuable information about your collection and will provide you with other ideas for interpreting and displaying stories that come from your collection objects.

There might not be a single item that is significant in its own right, but the collection as a whole may be very significant because of its content, its purpose, its completeness or its representativeness.

Bill Storer

Farewell to Lloyd

LLOYD OWYN BEVAN

7th March, 1931 31st December, 2011

Whilst Lloyd's name implies a very Welsh heritage, his mother was descended from the Grahams' of Dunmore, his maternal grandfather a veterinarian at Largs. Scottish blood flowed with the Welsh in equal parts!

Lloyd's family lived at East Maitland, his father a school teacher and was by all accounts, a difficult man with respect to behaviour and discipline. Lloyd's mother died when he was relatively young, Lloyd the eldest of five, four boys and a girl. Lloyd and his siblings were bright and high achievers scholastically, Lloyd's name adorning the '*Honour Board*' at Maitland Boy's High as dux.

Most are unaware that Lloyd studied medicine as a young man although he failed to graduate, not because of any intellectual inability, but because he had an aversion to dissection. Shades of "*Doc Martin*", he wasn't keen on blood!

It was around this time that Lloyd met and married June, the union producing four children, Beth, David, Bronwyne and Tony.

Lloyd became an accountant and spent some years in Melbourne as an executive for '*Ampol*'. He was eventually lured home to Maitland where he was first employed by IAC in Newcastle as Credit Manager. He ventured into the motor trade, first as the accountant for Bradstreet's at Cessnock and then as a car salesman for Young & Green in Maitland. I recall a wonderful story he liked to tell about Hazel Hancock, the last school teacher at Mount Rivers. Hazel had purchased from Lloyd a *Vauxhall Viva* and returned to complain that something was amiss with the gears. Hazel confronted Lloyd on the show-room floor with the gear-stick in her hand, somewhat overstating her case!

Lloyd and June ventured into business for themselves with a shop in Newcastle's West End called "*Soap Box*". Lloyd told some '*interesting*' stories of the decoration at a couple of establishments in Zaara Street they supplied with bathroom requisites and toiletries. I seem to recall stories about '*Egyptian*' and '*Wild West*' rooms!

I first met Lloyd when he came into my office, I guess around 1984/85., looking for casual work, he being semi-retired by that time and working casually at K-Mart as a '*Greeter*'. After exposure to electoral work Lloyd applied for and was appointed Returning Officer for the State seat of Maitland, he conducting several elections for the State House and also the local Council. Ironically and despite his former achievements, Lloyd is undoubtedly best known about town for the integrity and respect he brought to the role (no pun intended ... I lie, the pun is intended).

Lloyd Bevan was also an active Freemason, holding senior rank in several degrees. He was also actively involved in the Maitland Rugby Club, I guess his heritage demanded it. He was an immaculately presented referee and I can't recall ever watching a game with him without a

continuous (and unbiased) commentary on the play and the rules. Lloyd was also in part responsible for the 'Blacks' securing long-term tenure on Marcellan Park from the Catholic Church as the Club's home-ground.

Lloyd possessed probably the best rounded general knowledge of anyone I've ever met. Lloyd and June travelled extensively, usually in the Far and Middle East. Lloyd wasn't content to be a mere tourist, he lived and learned from the places he visited and importantly, was respectful of their individual cultures and philosophies.

Lloyd was also of course a local historian and our secretary. Unlike most, his knowledge was personal. He remembered people, places and buildings and was rarely wrong. That's not to say of course that Lloyd didn't know the history preceding his lifetime ... he did. It's just that somehow he could personalise Maitland's history from his 80 year relationship with our town!

I guess I'm not unique in that I'm going to miss Lloyd the man. He was confidant, counsellor, educator, occasional wet-blanket (on my self opinionated ego), but mostly and importantly simply a friend.

Maitland and our Historical Society has lost one of its most respected citizens and members. Our Society offers to June and family our sincere sympathy and condolences on the loss of their husband and father. We mourn a dear friend ...

Vale ... Lloyd Owyn Bevan ... rest in peace mate!

KS



**Victoria Bridge
Spanning Wallis Creek, Maitland**

Linking East and West Maitland (1852-1896)

Wood engraving held at National Library of Australia, J.R. Clarke 1857

Diary Dates

March

- 6th Tuesday Guest Speaker to be advised 5.30 at the rooms
- 20th Tuesday Annual General meeting / General business meeting 5.30 at the rooms
- 31st March/ 1st April **Taste Festival** in the Mall, we will be manning a marquee with displays, folders and information, if you would like to volunteer some time you would be most welcome.

April

Heritage Month

- 3rd Tuesday Guest Speaker to be advised 5.30 at the rooms
- 17th Tuesday General Business Meeting 5.30 at the rooms
- 21st /22nd Saturday and Sunday
Friends of Grossmann at Brough House 10am to 2pm – **Amazing Stories**- innovation and inventions by celebrating the contribution of LW and WS Pender (Pender Bros Ltd) to the Australian Beekeeping Industry. Heritage be keeping equipment, historical documents, talks, demonstrations. \$12 includes Morning Tea lunch can be ordered – bookings essential Janece 49334450, Hilma 49301311, Alan 49336452
- 28th/29th Saturday and Sunday **Steamfest** We have been invited to attend again this year, with the same role as last year, that is, the information booth, near the entrance to the Maitland Station.

May

We are in Discussions with RAHS to hold a State Records Conservation Workshop at the rooms possibly in May . It will be a Saturday and the workshop will be approximately 4 hours in length. They have requested a minimum of 25 people in attendance. Date to be advised.

- 1st Tuesday Guest Speaker to be advised 5.30 at the rooms
- 15th Tuesday General Business Meeting 5.30 at the rooms

Diary Dates

June

- 5th Tuesday Guest Speaker to be advised 5.30 at the rooms.
- 15th Friday BBQ at Bunnings
- 19th Tuesday General Business meeting 5.30 at the rooms

July

- 3rd Tuesday Guest Speaker to be advised – 5.30 at the rooms
- 17th Tuesday General Business Meeting 5.30 at the rooms

August

- 7th Tuesday Guest Speaker to be advised 5.30 at the rooms
- 18th & 19th Aroma Festival in the Mall. We will be there details to be advised
- 21st Tuesday General Business Meeting 5.30 at the rooms

September

The Morpeth Museum will celebrate its 150 anniversary this month

- 4th Tuesday Guest Speaker to be advised 5.30 at the rooms
- 8th to 16th Saturday to Sunday - History Week – The theme for 2012 is Threads -
- 18th Tuesday General Business Meeting 5.30 at the rooms

October

- 2nd Tuesday Guest Speaker to be advised 5.30 at the rooms
- 16th Tuesday General Business Meeting 5.30 at the rooms

November

- 6th Tuesday Guest Speaker to be advised 5.30 at the rooms
- 20th Tuesday General Business Meeting 5.30 at the rooms

