

NEWSLETTER

April – May – June 2009

Volume Ten Number Two



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 MUSEUM is located opposite Bettles Park, Raymond Terrace and is open to the public on Sundays 10am to 4pm other times by appointment. Bus groups are most welcome, please contact the Secretary to arrange a date and time.

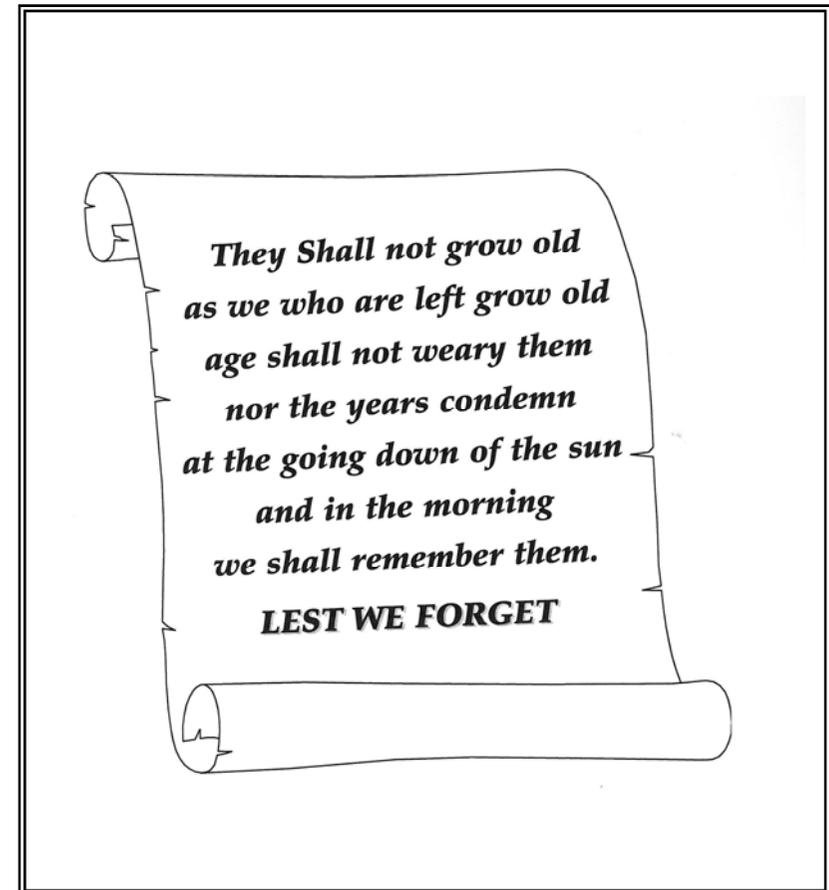
The Society's **RESEARCH ROOMS** are located in the Port Stephens Library, cnr William & Port Stephens Streets, Raymond Terrace

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 7.30 pm.



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

Patrons	Bob Baldwin - MP Craig Baumann - MLA Frank Terenzini MLA Sharon Grierson MP
President	Peter Francis Phone: 4987 3970
Vice President	Boris Sokoloff Phone: 4954 8976
Treasurer	Anne Knott Phone: 4987 2645
Secretary	Faye Clark Phone: 4987 6435
Minutes Secretary	Vicki Saunderson Phone: 4987 7661
Research Officer	Elaine Hall Phone: 4987 3477
Museum Curator	Jean Spencer Phone: 4997 5327
Assistant Curator	Sue Sokoloff Phone: 4954 8976
Newsletter Editor	Helen James Phone: 4982 8067

COMMITTEE:

David Gunter Laurel Young Moira Saunderson

Every care is taken to check the accuracy of information printed but we cannot hold ourselves responsible for errors. Unless an article is marked © COPYRIGHT, Historical & Family History organizations have permission to reprint items from this Newsletter, although acknowledgement of author and source must be given.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

April	17	General Meeting
	27	Committee Meeting
May	15	General Meeting
	25	Committee Meeting
June	19	'Soup and Stories of Suffragettes'
July	24	Christmas in July Dinner
August	22	Market Day – Sketchley Cottage

SKETCHLEY COTTAGE ROSTER

In light of the fact that we anticipate new additions to the cottage roster there will be a new roster starting from the beginning of May.

JUNE	7	Laurel and Myrtle
	14	Boris and Sue
	21	Moira and Helen
	28	Narelle and Peter
JULY	5	Boris and Jack
	12	Faye and Robert
	19	David and Judy
	26	Laurel and Myrtle
AUGUST	2	Boris and Sue
	9	Moira and Helen
	16	Boris and Jack
	23	Peter and Glenys
	30	Faye and Steve
SEPTEMBER	6	Laurel and Myrtle
	13	David and Judy
	20	Boris and Sue
	27	Moira and Helen

CHRISTMAS IN JULY



Biondi's has been selected for the Christmas in July event this year. The date is Friday 24th y – 6.30 for 7pm. There will be Christmas fun and trivia on the night. Please let a Committee Member know if you will be attending.

* * * *

INTERESTED IN RESEARCH?

Are you interested in research and have some spare time to share your interest with others? We are looking for volunteers who are willing to be trained as a researcher to work in our research rooms at the Raymond Terrace Library.

HELP YOUR SOCIETY

Please support your society by selling raffle tickets for our Food Hamper. The raffle will be drawn on Market Day on the 22nd of August, so there is plenty of time to sell your tickets.

A reminder that annual membership fees are due by June 30th 2009. General membership is \$18 and concession is \$12.

Finally, if you'd like to receive your newsletter by email in future please contact Helen James at info@sketchleycottage.org.au

PRESIDENT'S REPORT - APRIL 2009.

I thank all members for your faith in electing me to the Presidency of the society, I will attempt in this term to justify that faith.

Thanks should go to the outgoing members of the committee who have steered the society through changes great and small, and have left it in a far better condition than when they inherited it.

The time that we currently live in requires that we take the society in some slightly different directions, whilst retaining its essential character and culture.

I have spent some time looking, listening and consulting with various members, and see two issues that we need to address in the coming year.

They are declining membership and a tightening domestic financial climate.

The dwindling membership has had us have to terminate several general and committee meeting during the last 12 months due to a lack of quorum, this makes conducting the business of the society somewhat difficult. Members should be able to be absent for any number of reasons, and the business of the society continue unabated.

The financial crisis that currently engulfs our country and the rest of the world will mean that the grants that we have come to rely upon to underwrite some of the operations and equipment purchases will become more and more scarce, placing increasing strains on our financial resources.

We will need to address both of these issues during this year with a membership drive and a serious look at placing the society on a more commercial footing.

We all realise that members give freely of their time, labour and means to the best of their ability to provide the services to the community that we provide from both the Cottage and Museum, and the Research Room, and for that continuing effort, the society thanks you. .

I look forward to hearing from, and working with all members to address these 2 important issues during this year, all input is valued, we may hold a forum in the near future to start the processes moving towards a strategic plan for the society.

Peter Francis -President.

MUSEUMS AUSTRALIA DELEGATION VISIT SKETCHLEY COTTAGE – *Faye Clarke*

Sketchley cottage recently hosted a visit from museum delegates from various locations around Australia, including the Northern Territory, Melbourne, Lightning Ridge, South Australia and Local Regions. The group were participating in The Museums Australia National Conference hosted at Newcastle by the Hunter chapter of Museums Australia. Cr. Glenys Francis was on hand to welcome the visitors and present them with a gift bag on behalf of the Port Stephens Local Government.

Among the issues discussed on the day include safe museum keeping and various methods to ensure that collections are kept in tact now and well into the future. The visit enabled the Society to compare notes with other groups from around the country. We received welcome feedback on recently assembled displays, and instilled confidence in the viability of the museum collection into the future.

A NIGHT OF “SOUP AND STORIES OF SUFFRAGETTES”

**Friday 19th of June from 6.15pm
St Brigid's Hall, Raymond Terrace.**



A light meal of soup and crusty bread will be served. Phone 4987 6435 to RSVP for catering purposes. Entry by donation. Books will be available for purchase for \$30.

Jim Windeyer has written a book, will speak about his great aunt, **Margaret Windeyer (1866-1939)**, who was a member of the Tomago Branch of the family. In the movement to improve the status of women, at the end of the 1800s Margaret was prominent, persuasive and active. She was present at the meeting that produced the **Womanhood Suffrage League** and on its Council: called the meeting from which the **National Council of Women of NSW** emerged; and was a Commissioner for NSW at the 1893 Columbian Exposition (World Fair) and the Congress of Representative Women in Chicago. Jim has written a book that covers these areas as well as her career as a librarian in the Mitchell Library in Sydney.

WATTUS: Charles
S/ Samuel & Agnes (Nee Ferguson)

NO: 2892 – ENL; 26/10/1916- 45 Btn. Age 21
KIA: 01/10/1917 Belgium

WINDEYER: Charles Robert
S/ Richard & Mabel Robinson
NO: 363 – ENL: 24/09/1914 – 49TH Btn. Age 18
KIA: 12/10/1917 Belgium

ZEISSER: Peter ANZAC
S/ Antoin & Bella (Nee Williams)
NO: 168 – ENL: 22/08/1914 - 1ST ALH. Age 19
KIA: 07/08/1915 Pope's Hill Gallipoli.
Peter Zeisser was the first casualty from Raymond Terrace.

Omitted from the War Memorial

HAMILTON. Herbert
Enl; 16/12/1915 age 27 51st. Btn. KIA
France 3/9/1916. Remembered on Villers
Brettinoux ? memorial.



Never, never, never believe any war will be smooth and easy, or that anyone who embarks on the strange voyage can measure the tides and hurricanes he will encounter. The statesman who yields to war fever must realize that once the signal is given, he is no longer the master of policy but the slave of unforeseeable and uncontrollable events.

Sir Winston Churchill (1874 - 1965)



KURRI KURRI MURALS TOUR – *Helen James*

On Saturday the 30th of May a group of interested Society members took a tour of the murals around the Kurri Kurri region. The trip started with a luscious morning tea at the rotunda in Town Park, followed by a guided bus tour around Kurri and surrounding towns to view the impressive murals that have been painted on various buildings and landmarks over the past 6 years. There are currently 50 murals in the program with plans for many more to come in the future.

After lunch at the Kurri Kurri Workers Club the day continued with an informative visit to the local Edgeworth David Museum, and finished with a lovely visit to the historic Buchanan Gallery at Buchanan south of Kurri.

A great day was had by all and many thanks to our Secretary Faye for organising the day, which went off without a hitch. We are all looking forward to the next trip, which will hopefully be to Wollimbi in the Spring, and tentative plans to visit the Dungog Film Festival in May 2010.



RAYMOND TERRACE COMMUNITY PRE SCHOOL VISIT TO COTTAGE – *Faye Clarke*

The children and staff of the Pre School, which is located next door to the Cottage, were welcome visitors on Friday 17th April. They brought their morning tea with them, and had a picnic on the front lawn.

Nine bright faced and eager children took great interest in the displays and asked many high-quality questions. They were amazed at how differently the Sketchley family lived, compared to the lifestyle of families today.

When asked what were some of the things they liked best at the Cottage, they said the dollies and their pretty dresses, the tractor, the tricycle in the children's bedroom, Raymond (the look alike farmer) who was seated on the front verandah and the wishing well, which proved to be of great interest.

can imagine the anguish of his sister, Myra.

- O'BRIEN: Thomas
S/ Terence & Margaret
NO: 2694 – ENL: 06/09/1915 - 7TH Field Co.
Engineers Age 35
KIA: 07/08/1916 France
- O'GRADY: Frances Edward
NOK: Wife Beatrice
NO: 2867 – ENL: 25/06/1916 – 35TH Btn. Age 39
KIA: 10/04/1918 France
- OSBORN: John
S/ William Selby & Eliza (Nee Green)
NO: - ENL: 18/04/1916 – Aust. Light Horse
Age 18
KIA: 01/11/1918 France
- POOLE: Alfred Thomas ANZAC
S/ Alfred Thomas & Lydia (Nee Garner)
NO: 151 - ENL: 22/08/1914- 1ST. ALH Age 20
DOW: 20/08/1915 Malta Hospital
Alfred Poole was the second casualty from
Raymond Terrace
- ROBINSON: Samuel
A State School boy adopted by John Gulliver of
Millers Forest
NO: 4549 – ENL: 25/08/1915 – 3RD. Btn. Age
25
KIA; 23/07/1916 France
- RUSSELL: Herbert
S/ George & Eda (Nee Leedham)
NO: 542 – ENL: 24/11/1915 - 35th. Btn. Age 20
KIA: 27/07/1917 France

EGAN: John Raymond ANZAC
S/ William & Mary Ann (Nee O'Hearn)
NO: 369 – ENL: 01/04/1915 - 17TH Btn. Age 23
DOW: 04/09/1915 Buried at sea.

GALLEN: William Lawrence
S/ Patrick Joseph & Julia (Nee Fitzgibbon)
NO: 4123 – ENL: 24/08/1915 - 20TH Btn. Age 24
KIA: 08/04/1918 France

GARRED: Archibald Daniel ANZAC Promoted Sgt.
S/ Daniel John & Mary (Nee Morris)
NO: 506 – ENL: 10/09/1914 - 45TH Btn. Age 24
KIA: 05/04/1918 France

HUNTER: Horace David
S/ David Edmund & Caroline (Nee Boyle)
NO: 2333 – ENL: 04/10/1915 – 31ST. Btn. Age 22
KIA: 03/05/1917 France

JACKSON: John Raymond
S/ John Thomas & Ada (Nee Pepper)
NO: 2614 – ENL: 15/06/1915 - 13TH Btn. Age 20
KIA: 12/05/1916 France

JACKSON: William Vincent
S/ John Thomas & Ada (Nee Pepper)
NO: 3816 – ENL: 01/09/1915 – 45TH Btn. Age 18
DOW: 17/10/1916 Belgium
The two Jackson boys lost both their parents within months of each other in 1904 and were reared by their Pepper Grandparents. William the brother of John Raymond, first enlisted in July 1915, but his eldest sister Myra protested to the Army Authorities and William was sent home. Determined to enlist, William obtained his Grandfather's permission and re-enlisted. He survived just over 12 months. One

Some of the things that they learnt were

- "just look and don't touch" – this was their instruction from their teachers and the children showed great restraint, and excellent behaviour in following this message – there are so many tempting things to touch, but they understood the importance of not touching the exhibits. Well done!
- the way of life in the past times was very different to the way that they live today, and we are lucky that we don't have to work as hard as people used to have to work.

They were amazed at the kitchen items, and the way that washing had to be done, without a washing machine.

It was a pleasure to have a visit from such an enthusiastic and well-mannered group of pre schoolers and their understanding carers. A good morning was had by all.



The National Debt in England started in 1693 when William III borrowed £1 million at an interest rate of 10% to fund his war with France.

In the 15th century, Sumptuary Laws restricted the poorer classes of people from spending money on certain items. For instance, they were not allowed to wear wide sleeves, or coloured or patterned clothing.

The foolscap paper size was given its name because it originally had a watermark showing a fool's cap and bells.

Until the 1870s household linen was bleached in urine or hog's manure, and the more squeamish Victorian housewife of the 1890s must have welcomed the invention of bleach.

THEY ANSWERED THE CALL! – *Móira Saunderson*

Well over two hundred men from the Raymond Terrace area enlisted to fight in WW1. The majority were not skilled, falling mainly into the category of Farmer or farm labourer. They were honest hardworking men with the many skills they possessed, being gleaned from having to make do and improvise in a climate where nothing came free.

For the local families who proudly offered their sons to defend their country for the British Empire, of which Australia was still a part, the war became an intensely personal one. A casualty of a loved one not only became that of a son, brother or husband, but also a neighbour, the lad who worked in the local store, a football or school mate or a good friend.

From the town of Raymond Terrace to the immediate surrounding areas of Medowie, Millers Forest, Seaham and Williamtown eighteen WW1 memorials have been erected.

Lest We Forget.

Twenty three local men are listed on the Raymond Terrace Memorial as paying the supreme sacrifice, however one name, that of Herbert Hamilton, is missing, and Lt. Dorney is not listed as a casualty.

BAMBACH: Clarence John
S/ John & Matilda Lucy (nee Riley)
NO: 6604 – ENL: 11/12/1916 20th Btn. Age 26.
KIA 20/09/1917 France

BROOKS: Harold Johnson Born: Clitheroe UK
NO: 2170 – ENL: 27/4/1915 – 13th Btn. Age 28
KIA: 22/08/1915 ANZAC
Had brother in Norwood SA

BURTON: Samuel Born: Woolwich London
S/. Samuel & Sarah
NO: 2123 – ENL: 23/07/1915 – 20TH Btn.
Age 19
KIA: 03/10/1918 France

BURTON: Thomas Bradbury
S/ Samuel & Sarah
NO: 2122 – ENL: 08/07/1915 – 20TH Btn.
Age 25
KIA: 26/07/1916 France

CAMPBELL: Vincent Joseph
S/ Joseph & Mary (Nee Quinn)
NO: 12 – ENL: 08/04/1915 – 19TH Btn. Age
25
KIA 27/07/1916 France

CARMODY: Michael Thomas
S/ J. & Annie Carmody Carmichael St R/Tce
NO: 2499 – ENL: 06/08/1915 – 19TH Btn later 4th
Btn. Age 29
KIA: 12/08/1918 France

DORAN-McLEAY: John (Jack)
Adopted son of Mary McLeay
NO: 65969 – ENL: 22/07/1918 - 19th Btn. Age 19
DOD: 07/11/1918
Died at Sierra Leone Military Hospital

DORNEY: William Michael Lt.
S/ William & Mary (Nee McMahan) NOK: Wife
Gertrude
NO: 33723 – ENL: 21/06/1916 – 33RD. Btn. Age
30
KIA: 30/08/1918 France