



TRIBUTE

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FREE PUBLICATION

St Marys & District Historical Society Inc. - Quarterly Newsletter

PO Box 64, ST MARYS NSW 1790 – Street Address - St Marys Corner,
Mamre Rd, St Marys – Parking via 29 Swanston Street.

‘Recording & Preserving the Heritage of St Marys’

‘Sports People of St Marys’ Display ‘NOW OPEN’

As the XX1 (21st) Commonwealth Games are being hosted by the Gold Coast, Queensland in April this year our members thought it timely to recognise those St Marys people who have committed their time to supporting, competing and excelling in their chosen sports.

The Society thanks the following for being generous in the loan of personal memorabilia for this display. Mark Garner - Sprinter, Erik Horrie - Rower, John Willcocks – Marathon Runner, Wendy Busuttill and Debbie McPherson – Equestrian and St Marys Rugby League for the donation of photographs. Also, members Paul Mills – St Marys High School sport uniform and Lyn Forde and Jim Mason who were two of the 47,000 volunteers called the ‘Games Force’ for the 2000 Sydney Olympic Games.

The Society’s major display for 2018 ‘Sports People of St Marys’ was officially opened on Saturday 24th March at our headquarters by Penrith Mayor, Clr John Thain along with special guests and members.



Back Row: John Willcocks, Debbie McPherson, Hon. Stuart Ayres MP – Member for Penrith & Minister for Sport, Clr Greg Davies, Clr John Thain – Penrith Mayor, Caroline Volkiene (President.)
Front Row: Norma Thorburn (Treasurer), Erik Horrie and Prue Car MP – Member for Londonderry.

Photo: Lyn Forde

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENTS

2018 Australia Day Celebrations

The Society enjoyed participating in the Australia Day festivities this year at Jamieson Park, Penrith. Members Caroline Volkiene, Marie Koen, Margaret & Paul Mills and Norma & Tom Thorburn ensured the society's stall was a success despite the very hot weather. They enjoyed talking to those who stopped to look at our wares and thank you to everyone who bought tickets in our raffle.

Right - Members Marie Koen, Margaret & Paul Mills - Photo: Caroline Volkiene



Winner - Our Australia Day raffle was drawn on the 24th February at the society's general meeting. *Thank you* to everyone who supported us by buying a ticket in the raffle. Congratulations go to the winning ticket holder of **Orange B20**. The winner has been notified and has claimed their prize.

Photo: Paul Mills



12th National Servicemen's Commemoration 2018

The 4th February turned out to be a lovely summer's day for the 12th National Servicemen's Commemoration. A floral tribute was laid by our President, Caroline Volkiene on behalf of the Society's members.

Photo: Caroline Volkiene



Re-dedication of the Munitions Factory Monument in Lang Park

On Wednesday 14th February members Norma and Tom Thorburn attended the Re-dedication of the Munitions Factory Monument in Lang Park by Mayor John Thain assisted by Mr Tony Fryer, the Secretary of St Marys RSL Sub Branch.

First dedicated in 1995 in recognition of the hundreds of people who worked at the Munitions Filling Factory over many years. The monument, which consists of four large shells on a dolly, had begun to show the ravages of time. Penrith City Council has done much to 'spruce it up' along with the surrounds and planted a Maraya hedge around it. It is now a pleasant place to sit and remember.

The nearby Duration Cottages were built to house the munitions workers.

By Norma Thorburn OAM - Photo: Tom Thorburn



Our Lady of the Rosary Primary School Visit



For the last few years Our Lady of the Rosary Primary school students makes an annual visit to the Society to learn about local history. In March this year we welcomed Year 2 to view the society's 'Sports People of St Marys' photographic display. Upon arrival the children were introduced to 'Borobi' the Mascot for the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games via a YouTube movie. They were then given a picture featuring a particular sport and were encouraged to search for the relevant item, once found the children were rewarded with a sticker. Many interesting questions were asked by the children and our members were happy to answer them.

Hadley Park Visit

On Thursday 8th March several of our members attended the open day for Hadley Park (owners The Penrith Lakes Corporation.)

Conservation works had been carried out and they were designed to conserve and extend the life of the building whilst minimizing their impact on the significant original fabric. Hadley House was underpinned and the lower two or three brick courses were re-laid to bear the loads of the walls and roof above. The end walls of the house and chimneys were propped using large



section high durability timbers founded on substantial independent concrete footings set well away from the walls. Temporary internal props were installed to support the first floor. The structural timbers of the kitchen building were braced and the principal buildings were also made watertight and bird proof to prevent further deterioration.



Hadley Park Visit cont'd...

Brief History – *The 80-acre lot was originally granted to Martin Mince (Mentz) in 1803 who, in 1806 leased 30 acres to ex-convict Charles Hadley. In 1811 the full grant was sold for £150 to Anne Landers who the following day sold the property for the same sum to Charles Hadley. It is believed that Hadley built the single storey slab cottage in 1806 and the main farmhouse between 1811-1812. The property was built on high ground among a network of creek channels with the freshwater lagoon of the old Cranebrook Creek immediately to the west of the homestead, suggesting possible supply of domestic water. (Referenced from pamphlet handed out on the day).*

Guest Speaking – By Member Norma Thorburn OAM

On Thursday 22nd February, I gave my first talk for the year. I attended Lawson Bowling Club to guest speak for the Nepean Branch of the Association of Independent Retirees. This branch covers a wide area and has members as far down as St Marys and Campbelltown. They seemed to enjoy my talk and my husband, Tom's slide show on St Marys and were surprised at how much history we have here.



The St Marys & District Historical Society meets every 4th Saturday of the month at 1 pm – at the St Marys Precinct “Chambers” – Mamre Road, St Marys.

No meetings in January or December
ALL WELCOME

Patron of our Society is Jackie Greenow, OAM.

Back issues of the “Tribute” can be found on our website at www.stmaryshistoricalsociety.org

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Please contact: us on 0450132181 & leave a message



(While care is taken to ensure that all articles are accurate, the opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the Society) Any comments on this Newsletter are encouraged.

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