



The Old Courthouse Museum

# PASTIMES

*Newsletter of the*

*Clyde River and Batemans Bay Historical Society Inc.*

*Issue 24 – Jun/Jul 2016*

## **ANNUAL MUSEUM FAMILY FUN DAY CONFIRMED FOR SUNDAY 16<sup>TH</sup>. OCTOBER 2016**

Committee has agreed that this year's Family Fun Day at the Museum will take place on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup>. October. As with last year's event, we will invite a host of other local community groups, but we will try our hardest to bring milder weather!



## **HERITAGE HIGH TEA AT THE MUSEUM**



We invite all current and former members of the Clyde River & Batemans Bay Historical Society to join us for High Tea. This is an informal opportunity to meet old friends, and remember your contribution in the Society's growth as a key cultural resource for our community. Come and share your story! The gorgeous cream tea is funded by a grant from the Department of Social Services, and served by our own catering crew. The venue is the Old Courthouse Museum, 3 Museum Place, Batemans Bay, on Wednesday 31st August at 2.30 for 3pm. Kindly register your acceptance / details with Leslie Billings, on 4472 8993, or [secretary@oldcourthousemuseum.com](mailto:secretary@oldcourthousemuseum.com), by Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> August (for catering etc).

## **MUSEUM INVITED TO STAGE BBQ AT THIS YEAR'S 'RALLY OF THE BAY'**

A date for your calendar – Saturday 13th. August 2016. The team will be setting up their gazebo and equipment at Mackay Park, the service area for competitors and support crew at the 2016 Rally of the Bay. Please come along and support this terrific fundraising event. Hopefully, we can sell some books, handcraft and home produce too! See you there - Vroom vroooooom!!!.



**SATURDAY, 6<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2016**

## **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Please note that this year's AGM will take place at the Community Centre on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> August. Meet at 10.30am, for an 11.00am start, with lunch to follow from 12.00 Noon (approx.) Note that only current members may vote or stand for office at the AGM.

## **FEATURED ARTICLES IN THIS ISSUE OF PASTIMES**

### **Making a donation – is it tax deductible?:**

Thinking of making a donation, but not sure of the tax implications? In this article, we explore how this impacts organisations such as our Museum.

**'The Cats out of the Bag':** We examine what's behind some of the most 'taken-for-granted' everyday expressions.

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## Making a donation – Is it tax deductible?



So you've found your favourite museum or gallery and you want to give them a donation. That's great, but what happens now? How do you know if they are able to accept the donation? Will your donation be tax deductible? How do you go about donating objects to a collection?

For a donation to receive any tax deductibility, it must be given to an organisation that has Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) status. DGR status is set out in Subdivision 30-B of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997 and lists the funds, authorities and institutions which are eligible to receive deductible gifts. Public art galleries, museums and libraries generally fall into this category.

Other cultural organisations may be listed on the [Register of Cultural Organisations](#). To be eligible for listing on the Register the principal purpose of the organisation must be the promotion of cultural activity and they must be located in Australia.

It is worth looking up the DGR status before you donate. Just because an organisation is registered as a charity with the [Australian Charities and Not-For-Profit Commission \(ACNC\)](#), it does not automatically mean that it has deductible gift recipient status.

The quickest way to check an organisation's DGR status is to look up the organisation on the [Australian Business Register](#). You can do this by searching the organisation's name or its Australian Business Number (ABN).

If the organisation does not have DGR, you can still make a donation but note that you will not be able to claim any tax deductibility.

If you are thinking of donating artwork or artefacts, it is critical to approach the organisation to determine if they will accept it. Most museums have a collection policy that covers the conditions and type of objects they are willing to accept. Organisations may impose some conditions on your donation, including the right to sell or dispose of the item at some point in the future. This is known as de-accessioning. Have a conversation with any organisation you are thinking of donating to and ask about their collection and de-accession policies. You can also put your own conditions on your gift but this may make it less attractive.

**And finally.....** The Clyde River and Batemans Bay Historical Society (CR&BBHS) Inc. does have DGR status, so please feel free to donate!!! We have recently established a new account at **IMB Bank**, specifically for receiving financial donations. The account details are: **BSB – 641 800, Account Number 200756549. Account Name – Clyde River and Batemans Bay Historical Society Inc - Friends of the Museum**. If you would like to make a donation to the Society, please contact any member of the Executive Committee or go to the Home Page of our website and download the donations form.

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## ‘THE CAT’S OUT OF THE BAG’ ... and other strange expressions

### ‘CUT OFF WITH A SHILLING’

This phrase, quite outdated today, was a favourite of annoyed fathers in Victorian novels, as was the practice (or maybe the threat) of disinheriting a favoured son ... and sometimes a wayward daughter. A common error is to say ‘*cut off without a shilling*’, So, why the *shilling*? This was most probably because of a widespread, but mistaken, belief that complete disinheritance was illegal under English law – that some token bequest must be made to an eldest child or at least one’s eldest son. If that were omitted, it was thought, the disinherited son could invalidate the will by claiming that his father must have been of unsound mind when drawing it up. A shilling legacy was thought to be large enough to make the will legal – and it was certainly, like the traditional farthing damages in libel cases, small enough to be derisory.



### ‘LET THE CAT OUT OF THE BAG’

In the old days at markets or country fairs, customers needed to be on their guard against dishonest traders. For example, a housewife wanting to buy a live piglet, might apparently be offered a discount if she bought a ‘prepacked one’, sight unseen – tied up in a small sack ready for carrying off with the rest of her shopping. This small sack was called a *poke* (the word is related to *pocket* and *pouch*). Anyone who agreed to *buy a pig in a poke* was naturally taking a risk: the piglet could be ill or dead. Or it may turn out to be not a piglet at all. Some unscrupulous traders reputedly tied a stray cat up in the sack instead. The careful purchaser, keen to inspect the piglet before actually buying it, would untie the top of the sack ..... only to *let the cat out of the bag*. The expression duly entered general use in the sense of ‘to reveal a trick or secret’.

### ‘IN QUEER STREET’

Referring to someone as being *in queer street*, is a quite old-fashioned way of saying that they are in financial trouble. There is probably nothing more to the phrase than the idea of a person’s finances being in a *queer* – that is, odd and awkward – state. But two clever theories have been put forward that give a far more colourful account. The first theory derives from the supposed question mark, or *query*, that a shopkeeper or wholesaler might write in his accounts book alongside the name of a suspect customer. The customer would now have a ‘question mark against his name’, and would soon find his credit drying up, leading to further financial embarrassment. With a *query* against his name, he was likely to find himself *in queer street* very quickly. The second theory points to the rarer idiom *in Carey Street*, meaning ‘bankrupt’, and suggests that *in queer street* is a corruption of this phrase. Carey Street, running off Chancery Lane, is a small London street. Down one side lie the Royal Courts of Justice – including the former bankruptcy court. To be *in Carey Street*, and perhaps to be *in queer street*, was to make an appearance in court to face a bankruptcy hearing.

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## What's been happening at the Old Courthouse Museum?

### MUSEUM GOES FOSSIL HUNTING IN ULLADULLA!

A small group of members met at the Civic Centre on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> May, to tackle the Fossil Walk and visit the local Fossil Museum. In glorious summer-like conditions, the team were given an initial overview of Australia's geological history by local Geologist Phil Smart, before exploring the coastal rocks to the south of the harbour for the next two hours. After this experience, we will never look at rocks in quite the same way again.



In the picture (right), taken by member Jennifer Mather at the end of the day, can be seen (L. to R.): Kerrie Rowe, Michael Thompson, Mary Maidment, Bill Maidment, Phil Smart, Ewan Morrison, Myf Thompson, Chris Ruzala and David.

We can now all look forward to the next Members outing on Saturday June 18<sup>th</sup> – a visit to the Goulburn Railway Museum and the local Historical Society.

*(Note: We need your suggestions for future Members outings – pls contact any Exec. member)*

### CASP – 'PASSIONS IN THE BAY' PHOTOS ON DISPLAY AT THE MUSEUM AND LOCAL LIBRARY



The exhibition of large portrait photographs of 'locals and their passions', ended its run with a three week stint at Hanging Rock Library in Batemans Bay. Now safely on-show again at the Museum, the photos will soon be presented to their subjects. The exhibition proved to be very popular with regulars at the Library, so successful in fact that we have been invited to mount a further exhibition of archive family photos in September 2016.

In the picture (taken by member Jude Matchett), member Chris Ruzala is about to dismantle the display at the Library.

### CONSTRUCTION OF NEW DISPLAY ROOM FOR GEOLOGY EXHIBITION NEARING COMPLETION

In a remarkable transformation, what was originally a dingy store room for props and long forgotten artefacts, has become a very modern and spacious new exhibition area. Plastering and electrical work has been completed, while Les and his team are currently insulating the walls and fitting the display panels. When completed, the curatorial team will commence work on construction of the new local geology exhibit. Great job Les, Brian, Martin and Bill!



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## MAY AND JUNE 2016 – ANOTHER GOOD MONTH FOR FUNDRAISING



Bunnings BBQ, Thursday 16 June: **\$294**  
Ladies Stall, Thursday 30 June: **\$100** (approx);  
Election BBQ, Tea/Coffee, Book Emporium & Stall: **\$153**  
Ladies Stall, Thursday 7 July: **\$95**  
Bunnings BBQ, Sunday 17 July: **\$695**

## CROSSING THE CLYDE IN 1952

Space on the old Clyde River punt at Batemans Bay was far from plentiful, and she needed to be loaded carefully. In the years before the bridge was constructed in 1956, road traffic built up steadily on both sides of the river, maintaining a constant demand for the punt's services. Inclement weather could also impede smooth operation of the punt, requiring strong controls on both banks of the Clyde.

Batemans Bay Punt - January 1952 - Photo by Paul Goard (many thanks). Note the Streets Ice Cream truck in the front row!





## GIANT WOOD CHIP AND MULCH PILES APPEAR IN MUSEUM GROUNDS

Tree clearance by the Council to create a 20 metre buffer zone between the Museum boundary fences and the flying foxes, has resulted in two large piles of wood chip/mulch being deposited just inside the main gates of the Museum. Council has given this valuable resource to the Museum, in return for allowing their heavy machinery to occupy part of our entrance, while clearance operations are underway. So, members are invited to help themselves to some complementary mulch. In the picture, member Chris Ruzsala offers a sample from the 'Mountain of Mulch!'.

## VISIT BY MILTON-ULLADULLA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Museum was presented with an unusual opportunity in June, when seven members of the Milton-Ulladulla Historical Society joined us for a brain storming meeting. Our task? To assist them with drawing up a Business Plan, as they attempt to expand their organisation by finding premises and opening a Museum of their own in Milton. The outcome was very positive, with plenty of input provided from our own members Myf Thompson, Ewan Morrison, Ray Mooney, Lesley Billings and Chris Ruzsala.



## THE SOFTER SIDE OF THE UK'S



## GREAT WAR LEADER

### Can YOU:

- Build things;
- Make things;
- Restore things;
- Research things, and/or
- Talk about things?

Or do you just have an interest in our towns, our history and our cemeteries? Then let us know. Please contact us on [secretary@oldcourthousemuseum.com](mailto:secretary@oldcourthousemuseum.com) or speak to a Committee member.