



"Nurungi"

Remembered

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE CONCORD HERITAGE SOCIETY

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MEETINGS

General Meetings

2nd Wednesday of month
at 7:30 pm in the
Concord Citizens' Centre
(except July)

Executive Meetings

4th Wednesday of month
at 7:45 pm in the
Concord Citizens' Centre

Committee Meetings

As arranged
Contact Chairpersons
for details

Museum

Fred Stansfield, 9743-1866

Walker Estates

First Thursday each month
(please contact to confirm)
Concord Bowling Club
Clermont Ave, North Strathfield
Errol Grace, 9743-4301

Heritage

Bill Barlow, 9743-3662

Oral History

Lola Sharp, 8753-0659

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**CONCORD
HERITAGE MUSEUM**
5 Wellbank Street

Open 2:00 - 4:00 pm
Wednesday & Saturday

From the Archives



American Revolution - 1776

American Independence Day, 4th July

The Anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration of Independence in 1776.

Turkey and Cranberry Sauce - and all that! But what does it really mean to Americans?

In the middle of the 18th century France claimed the land surrounding the thirteen British Colonies in North America, and when the war ended in 1763, France gave Britain all Canada, and French possessions east of the Mississippi.

Britain had a large war debt and tried to force the Colonies to help pay for it. The Colonists refused to observe a tax imposed on newspapers and official documents in 1765, and so the Stamp Act was repealed in 1766.

Britain then introduced import duties the following year. The Colonists forbade the import of dutiable goods and this finally led to the "Boston Massacre" which caused the deaths of five Colonists. So the import duties were repealed, except on tea.

The Boston Tea Party

Much discontent arose, and finally a group of Colonists flung large quantities of tea into Boston Harbour - this has often been referred to as the "Boston Tea Party". The British government responded by closing Boston Port to try to force traders to pay for the tea.

The Minute Men

Fighting broke out between British Troops and Colonists around 1775. The armed citizens, who pledged themselves to take the field at a minute's notice, have been referred to since as "Minute Men". They were told by their leader, Captain John Parker - "Stand your ground. Don't fire unless fired upon, but if they have a war let it begin here".

The Shot Heard Around the World

Thus, on April 19, 1775, when the British were approaching the Old North Bridge at Concord, near Lexington in Massachusetts, a Minute Man, Paul Revere (an engraver), who has been given undying fame as the "Minute Man", rode across the



Old North

Concord Bridge to warn the Americans of the British approach, and thus "the shot heard around the world" began the bloody clash that was to bring on Independence.

By the Old North Bridge at Concord, Massachusetts, there stands a statue of a "Minute Man" with the following inscription:



*By the rude bridge that arched the flood,
Their flag to April's breeze unfurled.
Here once the embattled farmers stood,
And fired the shot heard round the world."*
Emerson



Bulletin Board

**August 13 - Annual General Meeting
& Election of Office Bearers**

**September 10 - Jan Bell from the
Nurses' Museum at Concord
Hospital**

And so commenced the War of American Independence.

The following year, on July 4, 1776, the Declaration of Independence was signed by patriots at Philadelphia.

Deportation of British Convicts

The British had been accustomed to sending their convicts to the American colonies, but now that that door was closed consideration had to be given to other possibilities and thus was suggested the southern land that Captain James Cook had discovered on his voyage in 1770.

Finally it was decided to send a small fleet, under Captain Arthur Phillip, to form a settlement at Botany Bay.

Feeling that Botany Bay was unsuitable, Captain Phillip and a party sought another bay and settled on Farm Cove in Port Jackson on January 26, 1788.

Soon after the landing at Farm Cove Captain Hunter and Lieutenant Bradley made excursions around the foreshores to find suitable land for farming and some days later breakfasted in what was later to be the Australian Gas Light Co. at Breakfast Point.

The land was explored for some distance inland and found to be very favourable for farming. The area for some distance was to be known as Liberty Plains.

Captain Phillip later returned to England.

Among the officers who fought in the British army during the War of American Independence at Concord and Lexington in Massachusetts was a Major Grose, who was later sent to New South Wales as Lieutenant Governor.

Major Grose was accompanied by a fellow officer named Collins, who became Judge Advocate of the Colony.

In 1793 Governor Grose made grants to six non-commissioned officers in the New South Wales Corps and four to other settlers and requested that the part of Liberty Plains where the grants were situated should be known as Concord.

It is now thought by many that the area bordering the (then) beautiful Parramatta River, lined with trees and with small rivulets, reminded Grose of the likeness to Concord in Massachusetts, through which the lovely sylvan Sudbury River flowed on under the Old North Bridge at Concord, therefore he gave the name of Concord to the area of Liberty Plains where the land grants had been made.

In Concord, Mass., there have lived such people as the poet, Ralph Waldo Emerson (after whom their famous Walden Pond is named), Louisa May Alcott (author of 'Little Women' and other books), Nathaniel Hawthorne ('The House of the Seven Gables') and Henry Thoreau, also an author.

In 1976 the two ConCORDs were named as "Sister Towns," and during the Bicentennial celebrations sent, and returned greetings to one another.

As the *"Roo has greeted the Eagle"*

The Statue of Liberty

The Statue of Liberty was given to the United States by France in recognition of the friendship established between the two nations during the American Revolution.

It was originally intended as a gift to celebrate the 100th anniversary of America's independence in 1876. Raising funds to design, ship and construct the massive structure took longer than anticipated, however, and the statue didn't find its home in New York harbor until 1886.

Once there, it quickly became the world's most widely recognized symbol of liberty. Immigrants streaming into the United States by way of nearby Ellis Island were guided to America's shores, in a literal and a symbolic sense, by Liberty's torch.

*"Give me your tired, your poor,
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore.
Send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed to me.
I lift my lamp beside the golden door."*



Some facts about the monument:

Official Title: "Liberty Enlightening the World"

Wind Speed at which Statue sways 3 inches (7.62cm) - 50 mph

Torch sway in 50 mph winds: 5 inches

Number of windows in crown: 25

Number of spikes in the crown: 7 rays of the diadem (7 oceans of the world)

Height from base to torch: 151'1" (46.50 m)

Foundation of Pedestal to torch: 305'1" (92.99m)

Heel to top of head: 111'1" (33.86m)

Length of hand: 16'5" (5.00m)

Size of fingernail: 13"x10" (33x25.4cm)

Weight of copper used in Statue: 179,200 pounds (81,300 kg)

Weight of steel used in Statue: 250,000 pounds (113,400 kg)

Approximate fabric in Liberty's dress: 4,000 sq.yds.

The sculptor, Auguste Bartholdi, clothed Liberty as a classical Roman deity. She wears a *palla*, a cloak that is fastened on her left shoulder by a clasp. Underneath is a *stola*, which falls in many folds to her feet.

WANTED! An Archives Committee Chairman

The above articles, plus many, many more are held in our archives but need sorting and cataloguing.

HELP! Have you thought about nominating for this position The AGM is only weeks away.



Final Reminder !! Annual General Meeting Wednesday, 13th August, 2003

If you'd like to take an active part in the functioning of our society, then we need you to nominate. If you're too embarrassed to put your own name forward, then just whisper in another member's ear.

It only involves you in a short meeting once a month - but we do need fresh blood with fresh ideas to keep us from falling into a rut.

You can do it! Give it a try!

The Bays and Headlands of the Parramatta River Concord/Ryde

BEDLAM POINT

Within the grounds of Gladesville Hospital, which was originally the "Lunatic Asylum". "Bedlam, any lunatic asylum, a madhouse." The Macquarie Dictionary, where this explanation is given - "Middle English bedlem, alteration of Bethlehem, from the Royal Bethlehem Hospital, England's first lunatic asylum in South East London (founded 1247). Bethlehem was invariably pronounced 'bedlem'.

BRAYS BAY:

It would be necessary to determine the date of naming to ascertain after which Bray the bay was named. Private John Bray and his wife Mary arrived in Sydney on board the "Neptune" in June 1790, with the first detachment of the New South Wales Corps. Three years later John Bray had been promoted to the rank of Sergeant and on the 11th November, 1794, he was granted thirty acres of land in the area later to be called Rhodes, where he built his home, called "Braygrove". In January 1800 Mary Bray received an additional grant of 25 acres adjacent to John Bray's original grant. Two descendants of the Brays became Mayors of Concord Council.

BREAKFAST POINT

On Tuesday, 5th February, 1788 Captain John Hunter and William Bradley led a small, well-armed longboat party westward along the river we now call the 'Parramatta'.

In his journal he recorded that they passed several natives, close to where they had seen them two days before, who followed along the rocks calling to them. Captain Hunter's party landed on the opposite shore to them (Breakfast Point) and made signs for the natives to come over. Soon after seven of them came over in two canoes and landed near their boat, approaching in a friendly manner. Although they did not share the strange food of the white men they later made use of the fire to cook their mussels.

CABARITA POINT

"Cabarita" is an Aboriginal word, probably meaning "by the water", but it is not sure when the area was named. "Cabarita Point" is named in a survey map of 1856 and in the same year a farm near Kendall Bay was known as "Cabaritta House". Whether the house was named after its location or the area named after the house is not, and may never be known

Correys Gardens were situated nearby and the area was popular as a recreational park, easily accessed by boat from Sydney

CANADA BAY

Canada Bay was named for the French Canadian exiles. When they were granted a pardon all but one, Joseph Marceau, went back to Canada. Marceau became a farmer, settled at Dapto and, with his Australian wife, had nine children.

The French Canadians were harshly treated by the convict authorities but received kindness from some of the local people, including Emmanuel Neich of the Bath Arms Hotel and Father Brady of St. Mary's Catholic Church, Concord.

EXILE BAY:

Named to commemorate the French Canadian exiles who were held as prisoners at the Longbottom Stockade (where Concord Oval now stands). They were part of an unsuccessful rebellion in Canada in 1837-38 and were transported to Australia aboard the "Buffalo" for their actions.

FRANCE BAY

The French Canadian exiles made a name for themselves as honest and hard working men who were vastly different from the common criminals who were usually barracked at the Longbottom Stockade.

A stone plinth in Cabarita Park was unveiled in May 1970 by the then Prime Minister of Canada, Pierre Trudeau, in memory of the exiles. This was later moved to Prince Edward Park, Exile Bay.

GLADES BAY

Originally named Doody's Bay after the convict artist John Doody, who was a servant to Captain William Paterson. In 1795 Doody was granted 30 acres "on the north shore opposite the Field of Concord". Eventually the name was changed to Glade's Bay when John Glade, who had a farm in the area as early as 1806, bought Doody's land in 1817.

HEN AND CHICKEN BAY

This is the area between Cabarita Point and Abbotsford Point.

On 3rd February, 1788 Captain Hunter and Lieutenant Bradley sailed into the bay. It is thought that he bestowed the name "Hen and Chicken Bay" because the larger rock jutting from the river and always partly above water reminded Hunter of a mother hen, while the smaller rocks around it resembled her chickens. (Earlier he had named the Sow and Pigs Reef near the entrance to Port Jackson because of its apparent likeness to a sow and her litter.) Or, did Hunter notice an emu and its chicks pecking about on the land behind the rocks? Whatever the origin of the name, it soon spread by association to the surrounding inlet and the name "Hen and Chicken Bay" was in use by 1796.

Lieut. Bradley recorded that "they found it to terminate in many coves surrounded by mangroves with rather shoal water". About to put in to land they were surprised to see natives here in greater numbers than they had seen anywhere before in their survey of the harbour, and not being equipped to face a hostile reception, Hunter wrote, "We therefore for the present contented ourselves with making signs of friendship and returned to the ship".

Small inlets are named France, Exile and Canada Bays - to commemorate the French Canadian exiles transported to New South Wales.

HOMEBUSH BAY

Named because of proximity to the suburb of Homebush, which was the original site of the grant of land to Captain and Mrs. Laycock, which later belonged to D'Arcy Wentworth.

It was at Homebush that the Australian Jockey Club held its first meeting in 1842.

KENDALL BAY

Named after Henry Kendall, Whaling Master of the brig "Plumstead". His nephew was Henry Kendall, the famous poet.

Henry worked in the office of the Surveyor General for two years, about 1862, after several trips to sea with his uncle. He was also a personal friend of Henry Parkes and possibly used that connection to honour his uncle.

The land around Kendall Bay was owned in the 1820's by John Ward. He made good use of the waterfront property and had a fence constructed across the narrow bay. A gate in the fence was closed as the tide ebbed and fish and prawns were easily caught.

KING BAY

Named for William Lyon Mackenzie King, Prime Minister of Canada. (29/12/1921 to 18/6/1926; 25/9/1926 to 6/8/1930 and 23/10/1935 to 15/11/1948).

KISSING POINT (BAY)

Kissing Point was the original name of the area now known as Ryde.

In Governor Hunter's day picnics were sometimes held here. On one occasion, owing to some mishap, the ladies of his party had to be carried ashore by the men. The Governor did his part and the 'rescued' maiden bestowed upon him a kiss.

A less romantic claim probably arises from the shallowness of the river here. The keels of larger boats tended to "kiss" (or become even more firmly entangled with the muddy river bottom.

(cont over)

LOOKING GLASS BAY/POINT

This bay received its name as the result of an incident which occurred in February 1788. Governor Phillip and Lt. Bradley were visiting the area when a curious Aborigine approached the explorers. He was presented with a looking glass . . . "which, when he looked into it, he looked immediately behind the glass to see if anyone was there". He then pointed to the shadows he saw in the water to indicate that they were similar to the image in the mirror. Hunter named this area "Looking Glass Bay".

MAJORS BAY

It is thought that this bay, which was part of the property of Isaac Nichols, was named to honour Rosanna Nichols' step-father, Major George Johnston. Rosanna was Nichols' second wife.

McCALLUM POINT

The old name of the area at the eastern end of Phillips Street, part of which is now Prince Edward Park. It was named after John McCallum, labourer, of Phillips Street

MORRISONS BAY

This bay was named after Archibald Morrison, a private in the NSW Corps. In 1795 he was given a land grant of 55 acres in the area.

MORTLAKE POINT

Mortlake was named by nostalgic settlers to remind them of moorings along the Thames River. It seems to have been some time, however, before the name was generally accepted. On an 1837 map Mortlake Point is named Pleasant Point; by 1857 it had become Bachelors Point; and in 1890 it was variously known as Bachelors or Green Point.

PUTNEY POINT

Named by Englishmen and oarsmen who were boatmen rowing the Parramatta River. They regarded the river as the "Thames of the Antipodes" and derived the names from the memories of 'home'.

RAVEN POINT

Named for Captain William Raven, captain and part owner of the ship "Britannia".

ROCKY POINT

Part of the block known locally as "The Folly". This had been granted to James Williamson in May 1798 and he named the point "Rocky Point".

Later a Mr. Levy acquired this land and it is said that he tried to build a house there but, as there was no fresh water available (no springs, etc.), he mixed his mortar with salt water. When the house was almost built the mortar, which would not dry due to the salt water, fell out and the building collapsed. According to tradition, Levy tried once again to build his

home but made the same mistake and suffered the same consequence.

Upon this land, in 1941, was constructed the 113th Australian General Hospital which, in 1947, became the Repatriation General Hospital, Concord.

UHRS POINT

Named to honour George Richard Uhr, a Sheriff, who bought the land now carrying his name from its original grantee, Simon Donally. George Uhr built his home there.

YARALLA BAY/POINT

Originally called Nichols Bay after Isaac Nichols, who was originally transported to Australia in 1790. After serving out his sentence he was granted land at Concord, where he established a successful farm.

In 1809 he was appointed as the colony's first postmaster. He went on to become a wealthy, respected and socially active member of the Sydney community.

In the 1840s Thomas Walker, a wealthy merchant, banker, ship owner and pastoralist, began acquiring land in Concord, including the Nichols' estate, and the name was changed to Yaralla Bay.

"Yaralla" is an aboriginal word meaning "camp site" or "dwelling place".

From the Secretary's Desk

Annual Subscriptions

These are now due - have you paid yours? Please ensure you are financial prior to the AGM in August.

Yaralla Open Day

Don't forget, we're having another Open Day at Yaralla on Sunday, 12th October, so to our helpers, please make a note of the date in your diary now and be ready to let us know later if you will be free to help.

Visit to Camden Area

We've set Saturday, 15th November, 2003 as the date for this excursion. If you are interested please let the secretary know so that we will have an idea of what transport will be needed

Walker Estates/Yaralla Committee

This committee meets next on Thursday, 7th August. We would like all tour guides to be present for final details. Other interested members always welcome.

Venue: Concord Bowling Club, 8:00 pm.

The Australian Garden History Society in association with The National Trust of Australia (NSW) presents the inaugural
Heritage Garden Tool Show

Experiment Farm Cottage, Ruse Street, Harris Park (near Parramatta)

Nearest train station - Harris Park (5 min. walk)

Sunday, 10th August, 2003 - 10:00 am to 3:00 pm

- Talks on the history and design of garden tools ■ Exhibition of historic garden tools
- Tool maintenance and sharpening workshop. ■ Show and Tell - bring your favourite garden tool for appraisal ■ Stalls selling old and new tools and plants (plus BBQ)
- Garden and house tours of Experiment Farm and Hambleton Cottage ■ Hands-on introduction to the ancient craft of water divining (you will be amazed!).

Tickets for this unique event are **only \$10.00** (\$5.00 children and AGHS/NT members)

Dates for your Diary . . .

- ☛ **Wed. 23rd July** - Executive Meeting
- ☛ **Thurs. 7th August** - Walker Estates Meeting
- ☛ **Wed. 13th August** - Annual General Meeting & Election of Officers
- ☛ **Tues. 19th August** - Prime Timers tour of Yaralla
- ☛ **Sun. 24th August** - Open Day at Rivendell
- ☛ **Wed. 27th August** - Executive Meeting
- ☛ **Wed. 10th September** - Jan Bell from the Nurses' Museum at Concord Hospital will be talking about the museum and bringing along photographs, etc.

Please mark these dates on your calendar now so you won't forget.