



# "Nurungi" (Remembered)

Official Newsletter of the City of Canada Bay Heritage Society  
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[www.canadabayheritage.asn.au](http://www.canadabayheritage.asn.au)

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**GENERAL MEETINGS  
and Guest Speakers**  
1st Saturday of month  
(except January)  
at 2:00 pm in the  
City of Canada Bay  
Museum  
1 Bent Street, Concord  
9743-3034

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**Museum Committee**  
Meets on 2nd Wednesday of  
month at 10:00 am at museum  
(everyone welcome)  
**Chairperson**  
Lorraine Holmes, 9743-2682

**Walker Estates Committee**  
Meets as required  
**Chairperson & Tours Organiser**  
Sandra Elliott, 9797-1040  
[ttoille@optusnet.com.au](mailto:ttoille@optusnet.com.au)

## **CITY OF CANADA BAY MUSEUM**

1 Bent Street, Concord

**Open Wed & Sat**  
10am to 4pm

**Guest Speaker**  
on 1st Saturday of each  
month at 2:00 pm

Phone: 9743-3034  
during museum hours  
or email  
[museum@canadabayheritage.asn.au](mailto:museum@canadabayheritage.asn.au)

**No.205**

**SEPTEMBER, 2013**

## **Transportation of Canadian Convicts 1840**

One of the most interesting historical links between Canada and Australia, that led ultimately to the establishment of responsible government in both countries, was the ill-fated Rebellions of 1837-1838 and the transportation of two groups of Canadian convicts.

The rebels, one group from Upper Canada (English Speaking) and the others from Lower Canada (French speaking) agitated for representative government against the domination of the unelected British Legislative Councils. Both rebellions were quashed and many of the participants transported to Australia as convicts.

The ninety-two followers of William Lyon Mackenzie, in Upper Canada, were sent to the harsh penal colony in Van Diemen's land (now Tasmania).

The fifty-eight prisoners from Lower Canada were sent to New South Wales.

Today, there are several monuments to commemorate the landing of the Canadian exiles in Australia.

### **New South Wales**

A monument in Cabarita Park was unveiled in 1970, but in 1983 was moved to Bayview Park, which is the actual spot where the exiles were landed. The text on it is written in English (on the left) and French (on the right) and reads:

#### *Canadian Exiles of 1840*

*Near this spot in Longbottom Stockade fifty-eight French-speaking Canadian prisoners from the uprising of 1837-38 in Lower Canada were incarcerated from March 8, 1840 to November 1842 before being released on ticket-of-leave and eventually pardoned to return to Canada. Their sojourn in the Parramatta River area is recalled by the names of Exile Bay, France Bay and Canada Bay.*

*Ninety-two English-speaking prisoners captured in Upper Canada in 1838 were similarly exiled in Van Diemen's Land.*

*Measures taken as a result of the uprisings in Lower and Upper Canada represented significant steps in the evolution*

*of responsible government and parliamentary democracy in Canada and Australia.*

*This plaque was unveiled on May 18, 1970 by the Right Honourable Pierre Elliott Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada, to mark the 130th anniversary of the landing of the Canadian Exiles in Australia and to commemorate the sacrifices made by many Canadians and Australians in the evolution of self-governing, equal and free nations within the Commonwealth of Nations.*

Below these two columns are the words:

*Les Exiles Canadiens de 1840*



**Another small monument** is located in the grounds of the Victoria Barracks in Sydney. It was dedicated during Australia's Bicentenary in 1988, and acknowledges the Patriotes' association with the construction of the

## **DIARY DATES**

**SEPTEMBER 7 - 2:00 pm:** Leonard Werner, "Scoundrels and Scalliwags of the Colony"

**OCTOBER 5:** TO BE ADVISED

**NOVEMBER 2 - 2:00 pm:** Michael Fahey, "The Baggie Green"

**DECEMBER 7 - Christmas Party at Museum**

barracks in 1840. The plaque reads:

*In memory of the Canadian Patriotes exiled in New South Wales from 1840-1844, a number of whom assisted in the construction of Victoria Barracks. Unveiled by The Honourable Don Mazankowski, Deputy Prime Minister of Canada, July 6, 1988.*

### Tasmania

The Hobart monument was unveiled in 1970, and the text on it reads:

#### Canadian Exiles of 1840

*Near this spot in Sandy Bay ninety-two English speaking exiles from the uprising of 1837-1838 in Upper Canada were incarcerated in 1840 before being removed to labour on the Hobart to Launceston Road. Subsequently they were released on ticket-of-leave and eventually pardoned to return to Canada*

*Fifty-eight French speaking prisoners from the uprising in Lower Canada*



*were similarly exiled to the Parramatta River area of New South Wales.*

*Measures taken as a result of the uprising in Upper and Lower Canada represented significant steps in the evolution of responsible government and parliamentary democracy in Canada and Australia.*

*This plaque was unveiled on September 30, 1970, by The Honourable Douglas Harkness, P.C., M.P., former Minister of National Defence of Canada, to mark the 130<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the landing of the Canadian exiles in Van Diemen's Land and to commemorate the sacrifices made by many Canadian and Australians in the evolution of self-governing, equal and free nations within the Commonwealth of Nations.*

**A second monument** in Prince's Park, Battery Point was unveiled by Canadian High Commissioner Brian Schumacher on 12<sup>th</sup> December, 1995, during the Centenary of official Canada-Australia trade relations, and reads:

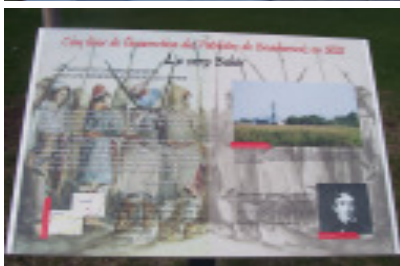
*This monument honours the memory of 92 exiles transported from Canada to Van Diemen's Land in 1840. Their struggle was a significant factor in the evolution of responsible government in Canada and Australia.*

## Les Patriotes still remembered in Lower Canada

The Lower Canada Rebellion (French: La rébellion du Bas-Canada), commonly referred to as the Patriots' War (French: la Guerre des patriotes) by Quebecers, is the name given to the armed conflict between the rebels of Lower Canada (now Quebec) and the British colonial power of that province. Together with the simultaneous Upper Canada Rebellion in the neighbouring colony of Upper Canada (now Ontario), it formed the Rebellions of 1837.

National Patriots' Day (French: Journée nationale des patriotes) is a statutory holiday observed annually in the Canadian province of Quebec, on the Monday preceding 25 May. The holiday was started by the Lieutenant Governor of Quebec-in-Council in 2003, according to the then Premier of Quebec Bernard Landry: "to underline the importance of the struggle of the patriots of 1837-1838 for the national recognition of our people, for its political liberty and to obtain a democratic system of government." Before 2003, the Monday preceding 25 May of each year was unofficially the Fête de Dollard, a commemoration initiated in the 1920s to coincide with Victoria Day, a federal holiday occurring annually on the same date.

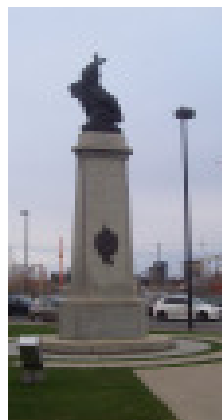
There are numerous monuments throughout the area acknowledging the people and the battle sites and there is also a museum devoted to the event, Maison Nationale Des Patriotes Museum in Montreal (maison.patriotes@qc.aira.com). However, you need to be able to read French if you intend to visit. Below are just a few of the many monuments.



*This plaque is one of many side-by-side located in the town of Beauharnois itself, where most of the action took place. It explains all the highlights, people and locations of the battle in the area*



*St Charles Patriot Monument commemorates the first Patriot victory over the British on 23-25 November, 1837 in the village of St-Charles*

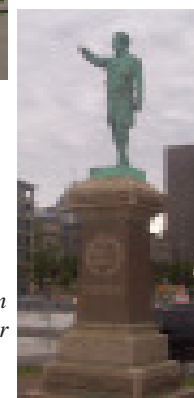
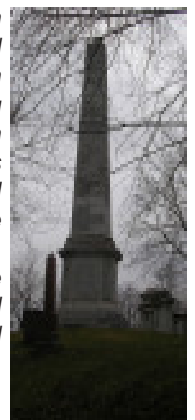


*The Patriot Jail Monument located in the Patriot Prison Museum in Montreal*



*On this site stood Montgomery's Tavern, headquarters of William Lyon Mackenzie, leader of the Upper Canada Rebellion of 1837.*

*Monument erected in the cemetery called "Cote Des Neiges" in honour of the young patriots who died. On the face are the names of the patriots who fell on the battle field, those who were exiled and, finally, those who were court-martialled and later executed*



*Monument to Dr. Jean-Olivier Chénier, a patriot who died fighting during the rebellion. Viger Square, Montreal.*

## J.F. ARCHIBALD – The Lone Hand

By 1880, when the native-born in Australia became more numerous than the immigrants, a significant number of people were looking beyond their colonial boundaries and thinking of themselves as Australians. In that year their feelings found lusty expression through an utterly Australian newspaper, The Bulletin.

The weekly Bulletin was founded by two young journalists, J.F. Archibald and John Haynes. Archibald became editor in 1886, held that post for sixteen years, and retained an interest in the paper until 1914. A nervous, witty man of frail and sardonic appearance, he was born near Geelong, Victoria. His father was an Irish police sergeant who loved classical literature.

Archibald learnt printing and journalism while working on country and metropolitan papers, and studied human nature in the polyglot districts of Melbourne and on the goldfields of northern Queensland.

Perhaps because he was emotionally starved and wanted to establish an identity, and certainly because he admired French culture, he changed his names from the baptismal John Feltham to Jules Francois, and asserted, apparently without foundation, that his mother had been both Jewish and French.

During the Bulletin youth Australia produced an exceptional crop of talented writers in prose and verse, together with some really brilliant painters and black-and-white artists. Although he wrote comparatively little himself, Archibald directed the mainstream of Australian literature until the turn of the century, encouraged Australian art, and profoundly deepened the national consciousness of the Australian people.

Writers whom he trained on the Bulletin included Henry Lawson, Victor Daley, "Banjo" Paterson, Louis Becke, Steele Rudd and many

others. Among his cartoonists were Phil May, David Low, Will Dyson, Norman and Lionel Lindsay, and Livingstone Hopkins. They combined to make the Bulletin the literary and political expression of a nationalism that was forceful, strident, often extremely funny, and wholly characteristic of the Australian as he saw himself and as he wanted the rest of the world to see him.

Archibald and his men hated cant, wowserism, and all hypocrisy. They expressed this attitude in a new, refreshing way. One of the Bulletin familiar characters, along with Bluegum the koala and Young Australia with his schoolboy's tasseled cap, was a toadlike creature called grovel.

He represented the tendency of some Australians to grovel before the English, who were portrayed as weedy, inbred aristocrats on whom the tall colonials looked with tolerant contempt. The Bulletin was scathing about English knightships and Australians who accepted them.



It caricatured Queen Victoria with her little Jubilee crown topping a dumpy figure. It preached "self-de-bloody-fence" of Australia, but violently opposed our participation in the Boer War. Yet when the bugle blew in 1914, the Bulletin's cartoons of heroic Diggers and horrific Huns were signs of total involvement.

Through the tumultuous years up to 1902 Archibald worked as an organiser and subeditor of genius. "He sharpened the point of every paragraph he touched, and added acid to every comment," said the Bulletin in his obituary notice. "He had an unerring nose for good 'copy' and an unerring eye for a good drawing... He was able to inspire men to produce the best that was in them." Archibald's boast was that his paper was "written by half Australia and read by the whole of Australia". His concern was for what he called "the lone hand" - the prospector, the bushman, the cocky farmer battling in the outback. His writers and artists brought the affairs of the wide world to these people, who in turn contributed their paragraphs by the thousand. Within a few years of its beginning, the Bulletin was called the Bushman's Bible.

Archibald's domestic life was unhappy. He had a mental breakdown and two spells in Callan Park Mental hospital. His wife, a gentle lady with whom he was unable to share his dedicated career, died an alcoholic.

Archibald himself died in 1919 and is buried in the Roman Catholic section of Waverley cemetery.

Archibald and The Bulletin are still part of the iconography of Australia. As long as Australia values its literary heritage, The Bulletin will be remembered.

Archibald's estate at his death in 1919 was considerable. His will left two impressive gifts for his hometown - the Archibald Prize for portraiture, now one of Australia's most prestigious art awards, and the Archibald Fountain. However, the fountain was for more than just Sydney, it was intended to commemorate the association of France and Australia during the first World War.

*(Reprinted from the Heron Flyer, with permission)*

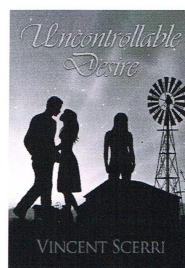
### **Uncontrollable Desire**

*A Love Story in the Country*

*This novel is based on a heart-wrenching and challenging story between twin sisters. They were born and grew into adulthood on the outskirts of Blayney in NSW. They were very close when growing up on their farm but as adults, bitter feelings surfaced . . .*

This e-book was written by our own member, Vince Scerri. You can find it on [www.amazon.com.au](http://www.amazon.com.au) at a cost of only \$3.60

Congratulations, Vince, on finally completing this novel - a labour of love over a long gestation period.



### **Please spare a moment of your time.**

Included in our last newsletter was a questionnaire which we asked you to please complete and return to us as soon as possible. We are still waiting to hear from some of our members. You can post it, email it, drop it in the green letterbox at the museum door or bring to the museum. This information is needed to update our records



## Executive Committee

Our thanks to all those members who stood for election at the last AGM. The following were elected:

President ..... Mark Durance  
Secretary/Treasurer ..... Lois Michel  
Committee Chairpersons:

Museum ..... Lorraine Holmes  
Walker Estates ..... Sandra Elliott  
Member ..... Betty Fletcher  
Member ..... Jeanette O'Hara  
Member ..... Irene Davidson  
Member ..... Sharon Weismantel

However, there are still some vacancies that need to be filled. If you would like to nominate yourself for any of the positions or jobs below we'd like to hear from you.

We still need someone to take on the duties of **Assistant Secretary** and **Public Relations Officer** - and it could be you!

**Our Museum Committee** also needs help with the following activities:

Organising Archives;

Oral History: taping interviews, transcribing tape; converting tapes to digital format; seeking candidates to speak on our tapes (this can be one or several people);

Speakers (and other activities) - this involves posting information on various web sites, organising distribution of leaflets and getting posters displayed;

General typing

Don't wait to be asked - just volunteer - our Society needs you.

**The Walker Committee** needs people to become Tour Guides at both Rivendell and Yaralla, as well as volunteers for catering duties and general duties.

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## The Nine Aspects of Life

*The adventure of life is to learn.*

*The purpose of life is to grow.*

*The nature of life is to change.*

*The challenge of life is to overcome.*

*The essence of life is to care.*

*The opportunity of life is to serve.*

*The secret of life is to dare.*

*The spice of life is to befriend.*

*The beauty of life is to give.*

—William Arthur Ward—



## Australia's First Telephones

Alexander Graham Bell famously demonstrated his invention by communicating between two rooms of a Philadelphia boarding house in 1876, and later that year showed it at Philadelphia's Centennial Exhibition.

Bell's patent and his publication of technical details in 1877 excited scientists and experimenters around the world, including Australia.

The first commercial telephone in Australia was installed in 1879 by a Melbourne engineering firm, Robison Bros, to link their city office with their South Melbourne foundry.

The first commercial telephone exchange opened in Connecticut in 1880. Just two years later W.H. Masters and T.T. Draper formed the Melbourne Telephone Exchange Company and established a 100 line exchange in Melbourne. They connected up the existing point to point telephone connections and assigned the number 1 to Robison Bros.



This picture shows an operator at the Melbourne telephone exchange in 1887.

([www.ashet.org.au/telephones/](http://www.ashet.org.au/telephones/))

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**Just a Thought:** *I'm not concerned about all hell breaking loose, but that a PART of hell will break loose... it'll be much harder to detect.*

## From the Secretary's Desk

**MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS:** There are still some members who have not yet renewed their subscription. If this applies to you could you please arrange payment as we need the funds to be able to continue with our newsletter and other obligations. If you do not intend to renew please let us know and we will remove your name from our list.

**FACEBOOK:** Is there a member out there familiar with the workings of Facebook who could take on the job of getting us and our work out there into the ether? It's just too much for "us oldies".

**WIGS WANTED:** Does anyone out there have any old wigs in the back of their closet that they don't use anymore. We could do with some for our models as bald isn't a good look for some of our gowns. Black, blonde or brunette - we don't care.

**REQUEST FOR INFORMATION:** We have been contacted by a Lois Parsons (nee Platford) who was born in Dorking Road, Cabarita in 1953 and now living in Somerset, England who is trying to track down any possible relatives she may have still living in Australia. Can you help?

**MUSEUM COMMITTEE:** This is not an elected committee just a group of volunteers interested in our Museum. It is not even essential that you be a member of the society to become part of this group. If you'd like to be involved with the planning and organising our displays then we'd like to welcome you. Just drop by the museum any time and have a chat.

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## WHAT AM I?



Another mysterious item found amongst our collection is this item. It appears to be a cap or lapel badge which can be fastened onto material by means of something pushed over a pin which penetrates the cloth.

It seems as if it could be something to do with Blacksmiths - but that's just a guess.

**Last Time:** Thank you to the gentleman who told us that our last mysterious object was a Tipstaff. It certainly is shaped like the object used in parliament but not so elaborate. It is made of a lightweight wood and the top seems to be a dice of some sort. Can anyone elaborate any more?