



RYLSTONE & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

APRIL, 2014

UPCOMING EVENTS

30th April, 2014

Museum Surveys due back

Thursday 22nd May, 2014

General Meeting **5.30pm** in the BVI Dining Room

Sunday 31st May, 2014

Excursion to Capertee Valley

Dear Members,

Welcome to this month's newsletter.

Congratulations All!

The Volunteers of our Society have been awarded a **2014 NSW Government Heritage Volunteer Award** from the NSW Heritage Council. The Hon, Robyn Parker, Minister for Heritage and the Heritage Council have acknowledged the contribution of our Volunteers who have voluntarily given their time to protect and conserve our state's heritage. Well done everyone!

Working Bee

A big round of applause and thank you to the ten members, including three new, energetic members who attended. The rain held off and the work list, with the exception of painting the toilet floors, was completed.

Rylstone Autograph Quilt

Attached to this newsletter are some guidelines for those interested in researching signatures on the Quilt.

Paper copies will also be available from the Museum and from the Secretary. This is a very exciting initiative and we hope many of you will be interested in finding out more about the people whose names appear on the quilt. Please contact the Society if you have any queries.

Museum Survey

The Museum Think Tank survey about our Cottage Museum closes on 30th April. Surveys are available at the Museum as well as businesses in Rylstone and Kandos. The survey is also available online at

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/N87LTHH>

The Think Tank committee welcomes your input into the future of our Museum.

Committee Update

The Committee discussed the following at its last meeting...

- Peter Druitt has sold the rental agency to First National. As a result, all the BVI rental business will now be through First National. The Committee is making every effort to change our advertising to reflect the new contact details.
- Buildings & Grounds...
 - Tree stump needs be removed before any work can be done on the Slab Shed.
 - Termite inspection will take place in June.
 - Driveway improvements regarding storm water and drainage are ongoing.

- An application for a Community Gardens Grant has been lodged with Council.

THE RISING SUN

The use of the Rising Sun as an emblem of Australia first appeared on tokens used as coinage by shopkeepers. The coins were produced by individual shopkeepers and operated as currency due to a shortage of official currency brought about by the massive arrival of prospectors during the gold rush. Although not legal, the coins were tolerated and their use prevented shopkeepers from going out of business. The Rising Sun was the most common emblem used on one side of tokens with the shop owners business advertised on the reverse side.

The "Federation" style house in Australia is much sought after, and in Sydney, can fetch astounding prices especially in suburbs where there are rows of them in picturesque tree lined streets. The rising sun is usually seen on the gable end of these houses, under the roofline made of timber or incorporated in the render as part of the design. It also appears as verandah decoration, in leadlight windows and doors, terracotta archways over doorways and tessellated tiling on floors, especially verandahs.

At the time of Federation, the Rising Sun was seen as emblematic of the rise of the Commonwealth of Australia and it began to appear on buildings, advertising signs and brands. It was adopted as the official emblem for all military forces in the Commonwealth of Australia and is still in use today.
Helen Marsonet 2014

**Have you filled in a
Museum Survey?
Closing date is
30th April, 2014**



Rylstone Autograph Quilt – a guide for researchers

The following guide and worksheet have been developed to gather information about the signatures on the WWI Rylstone Autograph Quilt. The Quilt, which is currently in the collection of the Australian War Memorial, was made to raise funds for the Australian WWI war effort.

The Society hopes to identify and gather background details of the 900 local people who donated money and had their names embroidered on this decorative quilt. With the help of members, friends and the community, we hope to put together an exhibition which will prove an interesting and exciting contribution to the Centenary Commemoration of WWI.

Rylstone and District Historical Society operates for the purpose of preserving local history and will be most grateful for information provided by volunteer researchers for this project. The Society has limited funds and it is not anticipated that payment will be made for information received. While information is primarily sought for an exhibition about the Quilt, it may also be added to the Society's family history resources and be made available for displays in the Cottage Museum.

Attached is a research worksheet that will help guide your research. Please fill in as much as possible and return to one of the following...

Mail: Rylstone & District Historical Society OR Email: rylstonehistory@westnet.com.au
P.O. Box 66
Rylstone 2849

Other helpful hints...

Sources

Written or published information must include

- name of document / book / article
- publisher and date published
- author/s
- if quoting, use quotation marks

Word of mouth / family history

- please tell us how you came by the information eg family bible, verbal family story, birth certificate

Websites

- website address
- any identifying reference eg ID number, film no., census year and page no.

Photographs – if possible, please provide

- names of all people in the photograph,
- date the photograph was taken
- location the photograph was taken
- photographer's name

Newspaper articles

- name of newspaper
- date of newspaper
- page number, if known

Please do not provide original photographs or other items. If you cannot copy a photograph, we can scan it for you. If you would like to donate photographs and other items to the Society, please contact the Secretary so appropriate documentation can be completed.

If you need any further help, please do not hesitate to contact the Society

Thank You

Rylstone Autograph Quilt Research Worksheet

Please return to one of the following ...
⇒ RDHS PO Box 66, Rylstone 2849, or
⇒ rylstonehistory@westnet.com.au

Please fill in as much information as you can

Your Name:

Name on Quilt:

Address:

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Ph:

Email:

Full name of person on quilt:

Date of birth:

Date of death:

Name of spouse:

Date of marriage:

Address (please include property name, if applicable)

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Occupation:

Source of information (eg birth certificate, census)

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A snippet of interesting information about the person identified (Continue on the back of sheet or add another page)

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Source of information (eg newspaper article, family history)

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Any other information you think is interesting (Continue on the back of sheet or add another page)

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Source of information (eg newspaper article, family history)

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Other items to include if possible...

- a photograph of the person
- a photograph of the person's grave
- a newspaper article
- photograph of an item in your possession that belonged to the person on the quilt eg a medal, item of clothing. Please add a note telling us a little about the item.