



Contact

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PRESIDENT ON TOUR



Hello from the Big Apple. New York is crazy, it's exciting and light years away from my desk in Yamba. It feels like I have walked every inch of the city and visited more museums than originally anticipated in less than two weeks. The reason being is that they are so damn good; like chocolate they are hard to resist. Whether I end up over indulging is yet to be seen.

Art museums, like the Hirshhorn in Washington and the MoMA, MET and Guggenheim in New York are outstanding institutions of creative inspiration and often a platform to subtly express social justice or political discontent. However, museums like Alcatraz in San Francisco, the Holocaust and the National Museum of the American Indians in Washington, and the 9/11 Memorial and Museum in New York uses images of real people and objects to tell their stories. From my personal experience they evoked far stronger emotions. I have been constantly confronted, enraged, disgusted, perplexed and even cried in despair of man's inhumanity.

While these tragic and courageous stories varied, the common thread that bound them wove a tapestry of unadulterated hate, power and

violence. It brought home to me the power of museums to bring about a better understanding of the complexities of different cultures, religious practices and political power.

So, in our community and the local stories within our museum walls, we can strive, not only to inform, but to change attitudes and, as a consequence, encourage tolerance. However, there is the temptation for historical societies to gloss over our history. We need to honestly ask ourselves are we being true to our past and the people who lived it?

Until next month, Marea

CHAPTER CHATTER — Margaret Lawrence

Yamba was host for the Museums Australia Far North Coast Chapter Meeting on Friday 1st September. Barbara Whale welcomed the visitors and Margaret Lawrence, Debrah Novak and Ann Scott were also present.

There were a number of apologies which gave rise to the discussion later as to whether August 2018, rather than September, would be a better month for the second meeting of the year. Opinions are being sought.

Marea had tabled an item with five questions from Museums Australia. The views of chapter coordinators in regard to the NSW inquiry into museums and galleries, on the terms of reference pertinent to regional museums, were being canvassed. These questions were discussed at length and the responses documented for Marea to report to the meeting in Sydney in November.

Bill Boyd provided a summary of the History Education Network on behalf of Adele Wessell. After considerable discussion, questions for the Network were:

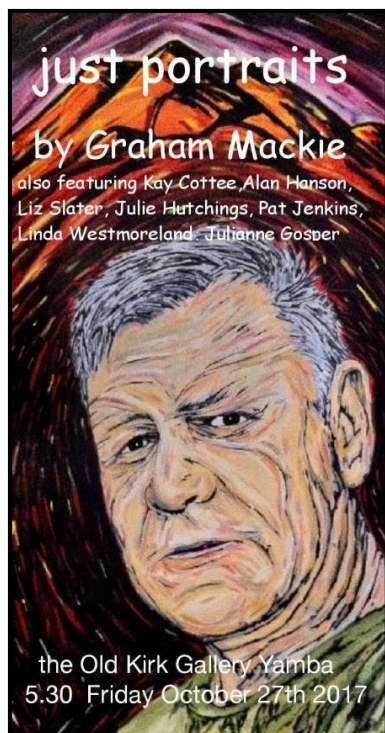
What can we do about helping schools?

How to get more interest from high school students?

Deb Novak presented an interesting full slide show and talk on the *Visions 4 Change Toolkit and Evaluation* program engaging with our First Nations People. Her presentation had been well received at the Museums and Galleries Australian National Conference in Brisbane in August.

At the lunch break there was an opportunity to show some visitors from smaller museums the shed and storage facilities of which they were very envious!

OCTOBER EXHIBITION



Just Portraits by Graham Mackie and other local artists.

Opens: Friday 27th October at 5.30pm

Closes: Thursday 23rd November

Venue: Old Kirk, Yamba Museum





100 YEARS AGO - John McNamara

People and events from the Daily Examiner, October 1917.

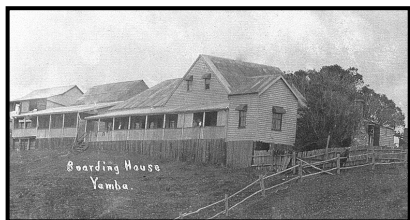
100 years ago..... World War 1 was

well advanced and the Yamba community was doing its best to support the servicemen. The Yamba War Equipment League had been formed in 1915 and a report of their activities was printed in the Daily Examiner in September. The duty of the league was to send parcels of comforts to the boys who had left Yamba and were in the firing line. In addition to this, they had given each boy a special parcel of necessities as he left for the front, containing cap, muffler, sox, soap, towel, etc. There were 22 members, and their monthly subscription of 1 shilling, augmented by the proceeds from a few social evenings, had provided funds for their work. They held several gift evenings and so had been able to add many comforts to their parcels. They found it very gratifying to hear from the boys that they were receiving what they had sent, and their appreciation of their efforts made everything worthwhile. During the year, the League collected £36/16/8, and spent altogether £30/12/5. The number of parcels sent to the boys had been 59, and they contained sox, caps, muffler, gloves, kneecaps, sweets, tobacco, soap, towels, writing material and comb.



On the 22nd, the community was saddened by the news of the death of Sarah Jane Graham, aged 80 years and one of Yamba's oldest residents. On 3rd February 1891 she took over the lease of the Ocean View Boarding House, which was built in 1878 by George Bale in Pilot Street overlooking Yamba Beach, finally purchasing the establishment privately on 21st January 1902. She ran the boarding house almost up to her death with the assistance of her children and their families. At the time

of her death she had 57 grandchildren, 37 great grandchildren making up 103 living descendants. Her daughter, Ellen, subdivided the property in 1919 into Lots and sold them off. The lots still exist to the present time.



The last owner of the Ocean View was Hannah Jane Daniels, a widow and hotel proprietor of Grafton. Fire destroyed the complex in 1923.

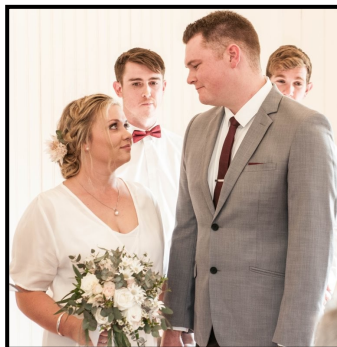
OLD KIRK CELEBRATES LOCAL WEDDING



On Saturday the 16th September, Kim and Greg Zietsch, together with Warren and Sue Gould, celebrated the marriage of their eldest children, Robby and Phoebe.

After 7 years of dating, the two locals moved from busy Brisbane and settled back into their home town. The marriage took place at

the exquisite 'Old Kirk' with minister Mark Cooper-White officiating, followed by the reception at the historical Yamba Surf Life Saving Club.



On behalf of both families, we would like to thank the caring and diligent volunteers at the Yamba Historical Society for truly ensuring that the day was as amazing as humanly possible.

Our day could not have been more perfect!

All our love, Robby and Phoebe Gould



THE NAMING OF YAMBA - Rob Knight

There has been much speculation over the years regarding the origin of our town's name. Lyn McSwan in *A History of Yamba and Iluka*, 1978, stated that "Yamba" is usually accepted as being an aboriginal word meaning "headland", although two other interpretations of the meaning were offered from other sources. Stuart Lee in *An Historical Gazeteer of Old Yamba Town*, 1997, offered a fourth possibility of Greek origin. What was the story behind the town's name?

Captain William Albert Braylesford Greaves (1829-1925) came to Australia in 1852 at the instance of the then Surveyor General of NSW, Sir Thomas Livingstone Mitchell (1792-1855). After being appointed as a licensed surveyor with the NSW Survey Department, he "carried out surveys in the neighbourhood of Botany Bay, Port Hacking, and George's River". While carrying out those surveys he gave native names to various places, such as Yowie Bay, Wattamulla, and Cronulla, although he originally named it Coronulla, (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 15/01/1925). Greaves was later given charge of the Clarence District and arrived in Grafton with his wife during 1856.

Greaves received instructions dated 30th August 1860, to make a preliminary survey and design for a town in the vicinity of the Pilot Station at the South Head of the Clarence River and to mark out a few allotments for sale. He had completed his survey and design by August 1861, but it was not until May 1863, after much paper shuffling between Sydney and Grafton and design amendments, that his final plans were submitted to the Surveyor General. Based on his previous practice, it would seem likely that Greaves would have had a hand in giving the new town a name.

PYHS member, Warrwick Hoad, has recently found the proof. On giving evidence on 16th January 1902, to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works investigating the proposed breakwater works, Greaves was asked "Have you had frequent opportunities of observation at the

entrance to the Clarence?”, to which he replied “I have. I surveyed the whole of the surroundings about the year 1857. I laid out the town of Yamba and named it. I also laid out the town of Iluka and named it. They are both native names.”

The timing of the decision is unclear. It seems probable that Greaves recommended the name and someone in Sydney approved it but may not have communicated the decision to Greaves. In Greaves’ letter and plan of 6th May 1863, he still refers to the town of “Wooli”. His original plan, which was used in the Lands Department for many years, has the word “Wooli” crossed out and “Yamba” written above. Redrafts of the plan had the correct title.

Copy of the correspondence from this period, together with transcription, is held within the Yamba Museum. We can now be satisfied that the name “Yamba” is a native name. However, as far as the translation of the name is concerned, we will have to continue to speculate.

FRIENDS OF THE MUSEUM



Broad Horizons Travel was the first Travel Agency established in the Lower Clarence, when Yamba Fair opened in 1986. The business was started by Neil Cameron and was originally co-located with Raine & Horne. The office was staffed solely by Tracey Park, who is still with the agency today.

The business was later sold to Geoffrey Shepherd, a well-respected Grafton businessman who operated the business with Tracey as Office Manager until 2007 when Tracey became co-owner.

In 2016 Geoffrey and Tracey sold the company to Erin Sheehan, a long-term employee of the business.

As a Top 20 Winners Circle member of 'My Travel Group' (a Helloworld affiliate network), the agency has enormous buying power and exclusive deals for its customers.

The team has a combined 60+ years experience in the travel industry and has collectively visited over 50 countries. This knowledge confirms the continued growth and success of Broad Horizons Travel.

DIARY DATES - OCTOBER

Saturday 7th Back-up Wedding

Tuesday 10th U3A Film Night

Friday 13th Members' Meeting at 2pm

Friday 13th to Sunday 15th
Yoga Retreat - Sarah Scott

Friday 20th Committee Meeting at 1.30pm

Saturday 21st Wedding at 2pm

Wednesday 25th Coach Tour at 9.30am with Morning Tea

Thursday 26th Coach Tour at 9.15am with Morning Tea

**Friday 27th Opening of Exhibition *Just Portraits*
at 5.30pm**

Monday 30th Coach Tour at 9.15am with Morning Tea