

Hunter Living Histories Meeting
6th February, 2017 1:00pm – 3:00pm
Umwelt (Australia) Pty Ltd 75 York Street, Teralba

Minutes

Start: 1:00

1. **Welcome to Country:** Acknowledgement to Country by Gionni di Gravio

2. **Present:** Gionni di Gravio (Chair), Ann Hardy (Minute taker), Tim Adams, John Witte, Robert Watson, Russell Rigby, Emeritus Professor John Fryer, Keith Parsons, Dennis Thurlow, Peter Sherlock, Doug Lithgow, Suzanne Martin, Patsy Withycombe, Lesley Gent, Brian Roach, Charles Martin, Maree Shilling, Ken Shilling, Don Seton-Wilkinson, Natalie Dimmock, Ron Barber, Anne Creevey,

Apologies: Member for Wallsend Sonia Hornery, Emeritus Professor Maree Gleeson, Sue Effenberger, Bronwyn Law, Jude Conway, David Dial, Kerrie Brauer, Peter Leven, Marilla North, Rob Jones, Ian Eckford, Julianne Tilse.

Visitors: Nil

3. **Confirmation of Previous Minutes:** The minutes for 5th December 2016 was confirmed by M Shilling and seconded – Suzanne Martin.

4. **Business arising from previous minutes:** - NIL

5. **Presentations** – Russell Rigby gave a wonderful presentation on the 19th Century coal loading in Newcastle, he discussed some of the specific terms associated with coal loading, and gave a brief history about how coal was transported during the convict era, and the decades of significant change during the later decades of the 19th Century. We hope to have Russell's presentation on-line. His research is greatly appreciated.

6. **Aboriginal heritage update** – NIL

- 7. Update- (Gionni di Gravio)** - Gionni advised that several HHI posts have gone up during January, including images of Newcastle and Inverell from the Glennie Family Albums kindly provided by Anne Glennie, mostly taken in Newcastle around the 1870s to the 1880s. There was a discussion about the images, some were identified by Don Seton-Wilkinson, including a photograph of a cricket team showing members of George Wyndham's family. See images here <https://hunterlivinghistories.com/2017/01/18/glennie-family-album/>
- Other posts include, General View of Cessnock (Panorama). Many thanks to Robert Watson who has stitched together three photos of Cessnock to make a single image. The Panorama is available here <https://hunterlivinghistories.com/2017/01/16/general-view-of-cessnock-panorama/>
 - The Southon Family of Builders - Denise Porter has transcribed and compiled information relating to the Southon Family of builders, who were responsible for the construction of a number of notable buildings across the Hunter Region and beyond. She has decided to cease work on the project for the time being and has shared what she has done with the wider research community in the hope that some will find it useful and continue the work. Denise's Research is available online here <https://hunterlivinghistories.com/2017/02/02/southon/>
 - Supercars Australia, Destination NSW and Newcastle City Council have announced the final circuit for the Coates Hire Newcastle 500 car race scheduled for 24-26 November 2017. The proposed circuit will go through some of the most historic and scenic areas of Newcastle. The post shows the location of the proposed route on heritage/historic sites, including Macquarie Pier. A meeting is planned with a Supercars representative to discuss the historic significance of the Newcastle East area and research undertaken identifying important heritage, including archaeological sites. <https://hunterlivinghistories.com/2017/01/24/supercars-newcastle-500/>
 - Sketches of New South Wales by Robert Perrott, 1857-1895 – This post includes sketches by artist (Draughtsperson) Robert Issell Perrott (1822-1895) and are part of a collection held at the State Library of NSW (PXA 1350). The collection is not digitised, however images were photographed in 2012 for research purposes by Ann Hardy. To view images see <https://hunterlivinghistories.com/2017/01/19/sketches-perrott/>
 - Coast Australia Series 3 Newcastle & Stockton Episode was screened on the History Channel on 16 January 2017, Newcastle featured widely and Gionni was interviewed at Fort Scratchley. See <https://hunterlivinghistories.com/2017/01/10/coast-australia-newcastle-stockton/>

- Aerial photographs - Gianni also advised that a large collection of aerial photographs have come into cultural collections from the UON Geology Dept. This could potentially be a student project to digitise the collection.
- The new GLAMx Lab at the Auchmuty Library will open in next few months. Several WIL students will start in Semester 1 on individual archival projects and several pilot programs are planned for later in the year, including a project to digitise Aboriginal artefacts.

Update - (Ann Hardy) – Living Histories@UON launch – Invite has been extended to HHI members to attend the launch of the Living Histories@UON new digital platform. Please RSVP via invitation ticket

National Nomination- At our last meeting we discussed advice given from Dept. Energy & Environment about the Coal River National Nomination, since then the Federal Minister has called for nominations to the National Heritage List. We are currently revising the existing nomination and this will be submitted in the next few weeks. The revised National nomination will be reduced to a single precinct- named the Coal River Precinct to reflect SHR listing.

Disappearance of the S. Y. Aurora 100 yrs ago- Ann has been contacted by David Dodd (Antarctic veteran and Polar Historian) about his research Commemorating the Centenary of the loss of the S. Y. Aurora that sailed from the Port of Newcastle, Australia on 20 June 1917. The researcher is seeking assistance to find photographs of the Aurora during its time in Newcastle Harbour. If anyone has information they can contact either Ann Hardy or David Dodd daviddodd@optusnet.com.au

Public Advocacy – NIL

Update- National Trust – Keith Parsons advised that the next Hunter Branch of the National Trust meeting is Wed 8th Feb at the Lock Up.

8. General Business -

- a)** (Robert Watson) – Robert advised that he continues to research the Haydonton Family papers- including maps and plans and offered to a presentation in the coming months.

- b)** (Ron Barber)- Ron informed that there is a there is a collection of photographs currently on display, images include WWI Soldier, artillery sergeant at Fort Scratchley, soldiers enlisting at North Head, other photos were taken with a pocket camera on the Western Front in 1918.

9. Close: 3.00 PM

Special thanks to Tim Adams and Umwelt for hosting the February meeting.

Date of next meeting will be Monday, 6th March 2017 at University Council Board Room, IDC Building, University Drive, 1-3pm.