

Presidents Report.

November 2019

Since the last report a lot has happened, we have lost a very dearly loved member of the Society, Barbara Sulley, one day short of her 80th birthday. Barbara has been the Societies Treasurer for 16 years and always had our finances looking good. She will be sorely missed by all.

We have commenced work on the Cawdor Uniting Church Cemetery, Barbara was one of the members transcribing the Grave Stones. The work is near completion with some final checking required before publication. We are looking at producing this cemetery in 2 ways, in book form with Grave Photos on USB and the whole document in digital format on USB.

We have also completed Rossmore Anglican Cemetery, I would like to thank Pat & Neil Patterson for the work of transcribing and photographing this Cemetery.

We were involved with the first 'Open up Camden' day organised belatedly by Laura Jane Aulsebrook, it was not overly successful due mainly to the short time Laura had to organise, hopefully next year will be a lot better.

We held a very successful Saturday afternoon talk on Bushrangers and records held by the State Archives, with 46 people in attendance. We are planning to have a number of these Saturday afternoon talks next year, one of them will be on the Ryerson Index with a Workshop after the talk, they are always looking for volunteers to help with indexing Death Notices in newspapers.

I attended with Anne, the Penrith Libraries History Talks and had a Table selling our publications, sales were a bit slow but we did do a lot of networking and arranged for 3 or 4 Guest speakers for next year.

I, along with 4 other members attended the NSW & ACT Association of Family history Societies State Conference at Knox Grammar School Wahroonga. Not a bad conference but sales were a bit slow as well, but again we did a lot of networking and yet again we have lined up a number of Guest Speakers for next year as well as Ryerson coming to do the Saturday afternoon talk and workshop. The next year's Conference will be held at Newcastle on the 11th to 13th September, more details will become available later.

We are still pursuing the possibility of getting the use of part of the old Police Station and I would like to thank Geoff Howe for his help in drafting a number of letters to members of Parliament on this matter.

Next year we are hoping start work on a 2nd volume of the Pioneer Register as well as reproducing the present Register on USB in a PDF format.

We will be holding a planning meeting in mid January (watch for details in the Valley Voice and on Facebook) to plan out next year's program for Guest Speakers and other functions for the years. We will notify the date of this meeting at the December meeting and in the Valley Voice, all members are welcome to attend. If you have any idea for next year please come to the meeting or let a member of the Committee know what your ideas are.

Tony Jackson

President