

# News from the Berry Museum

www.berryhistory.org.au



Members of the Berry Branch of the Australian Red Cross Society, one of the oldest organisations in our town, will this month have an early celebration of their 90th birthday. You are invited to share their special day at Berry Bowling Club, beginning at 9.30 am on Monday, July 26th. Lunch bookings should be made with **Marilyn** on **4448 5703**.

We at the Museum are delighted to assist in the celebrations by staging a new display, in July and August, featuring photos, documents and other memorabilia pertaining to the Berry Red Cross. The organisation's emblem, a Red Cross on a white ground, the reverse of the Swiss Flag, was chosen as a complement to Henri Dunant, a Swiss whose vision led to the establishment of the International Red Cross in 1863.

The Australian Branch of the Society began operations on August 12, 1914 and the Berry Branch was formed shortly after, on August 18. Do come in and see our photo of the foundation members, samples of goods sold in the Berry Red Cross Shop and other items of interest.

Our volunteers have been carrying out some care and maintenance at the Museum. No! Of course we didn't pave the footpath. Our blokes were up on the roof, repairing leaks and replacing rotten timber. A few days later another gang took to the garden, weeding, cutting back and preparing to implement some of the plans provided by Council's Landscape Consultants.

You will perceive that we welcome members with all sorts of skills. One part of our record keeping that we would like to progress is the abstracting of information from our microfilms (readers needed) to be entered on a database for faster access (computer operators required). As with a lot of our activities, people work when and for whatever period suits them. Warning: It can become addictive.

As I write - 16th June - 80 children from Bomaderry Primary School are visiting the Museum. Volunteers are handpicked to be present on these occasions - only those who can keep their cool under any circumstances!

## Did you return your Flood Questionnaire to the Council?

One of our early writers, who arrived in Broughton Creek in 1859, had a word about floods at the Tannery. This arm of the Coolangatta Estate, on the bank of Broughton Creek near the present Hospital bridge, was, early on, managed by the 'go-to' man of the time, James Wilson. As well as the tannery there was a store and it was there that estate workers received their weekly rations — 10, 10, 2 & a 1/4.

As Mrs Timms writes 'The old store at Tannery Creek having been deserted, on account of floods, for the new building on the hill' (Pulman St.). But it was still 'a happy little community at the Tannery Creek'.

"Floods were frequent in those days, when periodically the household goods had to be packed up and hoisted on to the Tannery loft. James Wilson's carts would transport the women and children to homes on the hill and the old courthouse. The children welcomed the excitement of floods and enjoyed the fun of watching the men and the natives wading the rising creek."

**Kangaroo Valley's Pioneer Farm Museum** will be hosting a Produce and Craft Market on the 2nd Saturday of each month, 10am - 2pm.

**SCHOOL HOLIDAYS AGAIN** — our Museum will be open every day from July 3 to 18.

Hope to see you there.

**Nancy Bevan**



## Apex Triva Night A Success

Thanks to everyone who supported our recent Trivia Night for Berry Public School.

We had well over 150 people at the School of Arts and raised approximately \$1,100 for the school, which will go towards refurbishment of the school's basketball court.

Berry Apex President, Bryan Fishpool, presented the cheque to an appreciative principal, Bob Hogan, at a school assembly towards the end of May.

Thanks also to our generous sponsors who helped make the night a success — the Berry Hotel, Great Southern Hotel, Berry Eyecare Centre, Justin Lill Wines and Rotary. Another milestone approaching

Berry Apex Club is approaching another milestone in its long and proud history. Meeting number 1111 is scheduled for mid September, and will coincide with our annual changeover dinner.

For those who don't know, Berry Apex held its inaugural dinner in 1959. Since that time, hundreds of people have volunteered their time and effort through the Club to improve our town and community.

We look forward to celebrating the achievements of Apex at this significant upcoming meeting, and hope as many old Apexians as possible can come along and enjoy the night.


**More details in future columns!**

**Worship Service Times**  
9.30am  
6.00pm

**MOPS**  
(Mothers of Pre Schoolers)

**YOUTH GROUP**  
**KIDZ CHURCH**

**HOME GROUPS**



**Baptist Union of N.S.W.**

## Berry Community Church

# Choosing Life

**Rev Peter Clegg**  
4464 2128  
All Welcome  
34 Alexandra St.

## May I Help You?



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## Joanna Gash MP