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**CESSNOCK**


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**Convict Trail Project Inc.**

*The Great North Road part of the Making of Our Nation*

Cessnock City Library, 65 Vincent St

A display featuring the Great North Road, the first road built to connect Sydney with Newcastle and the Upper Hunter and its contribution to "The Making of Our Nation".

10 - 23 April Library Hours

Free

Enquiries 4993 4399

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**EAST MAITLAND (SOUTHERN PRECINCT)**


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**Friends of Grossmann House**

*Heritage Walk*

Stockade Hill Carpark, Brisbane St

Meet at the carpark at Stockade Hill, East Maitland for an historic walking tour of the heritage sites of the southern precinct. Visit the site of the original Administration Cottage where Governor Macquarie stayed twice in 1818 and 1821, and named the settlement Wallis Plains. Return to Brough House for refreshments at approximately 4pm.

2 May 2pm

\$15 National Trust members / \$20 Non-members

Prices Include afternoon tea

Bookings Essential 4933 6452 or 4933 2253

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**JESMOND**


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**Friends of the Regal**

*The Making of our Communities -*

*The Role of Local Cinema*

Jesmond Neighbourhood Centre, 44 Mordue Pde

Speakers to include Frank Embleton, Wallsend cinematographic identity, former commercial suburban cinema operator, and local film maker. Additional speakers and exhibitions to be advised. Light refreshments to be provided.

17 April 7pm

Donation

Bookings Essential 4951 1611

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**KURRI KURRI**


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**Richmond Vale Railway Museum**

*Hunter Valley SteamFest at Richmond Vale Railway*  
Leggetts Dr, Richmond Vale (4kms South of Kurri Kurri)  
Ride with other train lovers behind our full size historical trains. See how our wooden, fully restored, wagons carried coal in the past. This only runs twice a year.

17 & 18 April 10am

\$15 / \$10 Cons / \$7 Children / Free for Under 5

Enquiries 4937 5344

**Richmond Vale Railway Museum**

*Richmond Vale Railway and Mining Museum*

Leggetts Drive, Richmond Vale (4kms South of Kurri Kurri)

Learn more of John A Brown by visiting his showpiece, Richmond Main colliery mining museum, where you can ride behind historic trains.

4 & 11 April 10am

\$12 Adults / \$8 Concession / \$6 Children / Free for Under 5's

Enquiries 4937 5344

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**LAMBTON**


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**Newcastle Family History Society Inc**

*Back to Basics*

Mechanics Institute, 68 Elder St

Introductory talk on beginning family history, resources available locally and in other repositories, breaking down brick walls and organising your material.

24 April 10.30am - 11.30am

with time following for research

Free

Bookings Essential 4957 8296 or

sheehan@idl.net.au

**Newcastle Family History Society Inc.**

*Open Day*

Mechanics Institute, 68 Elder St

All library resources available, over 5,000 publications, exchange journals with over 100 societies, CDs and microform resources; cemetery records for Hunter Valley and other Australia-wide districts, unique indexing of Newcastle Morning Herald, parish card index (180,000 entries) and more. Wheelchair access, street parking.

17 April 9am - 4pm

Free

Enquiries Enquiries 4957 3276



## REGIONAL EVENTS

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### LEMON TREE PASSAGE

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#### Port Stephens Family History Society Inc

##### *Pioneering Families*

Tilligerry Community Centre

Open Day & Display - How our ancestors helped make our nation. Afternoon Tea supplied.

24 April 1pm - 4pm

Donation (gold coin)

Enquiries 4982 1275

#### Port Stephens Family History Society Inc.

##### *Pioneering Families*

Port Stephens Council Exhibition Gallery

Our Society is participating in a joint venture with Port Stephens Heritage network.

1 - 30 April 8.30am - 4pm

Free

Enquiries 4982 1275

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### MAITLAND

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#### Maitland Regional Art Gallery

##### *Art Exhibition*

Maitland Regional Art Gallery, 230 High St

Steeped in history, the federation gothic building housing Maitland Regional Art Gallery (MRAG) is an awe-inspiring example of early 1900's architecture. Maitland City Council purchased the High St building in 2002 and in 2009 completed a multi million dollar facelift. MRAG now boasts 11 art gallery spaces with state of the art facilities enabling the Maitland community and visitors the enjoyment of diversity in cultural activities. Wheelchair access, parking, tours available.

All Year Tues-Sun 10am - 5pm

Free

Bookings Essential 4934 9795

#### Maitland Visitor & Information Centre

##### *Hunter Valley Steam Fest at Maitland*

##### *Railway Precinct*

Steamfest is set again to thrill people of all ages. Celebrating its 25th anniversary, this years programme features excursions, "Tinhare" vintage diesel train excursions, market stalls, street steam, miniature loco's, childrens entertainment, powerhouse museum displays and on Sunday the "show'n'shine" in Maitland Park. Don't miss this years specialty train rides.

17 & 18 April 9am - 5pm

Free, costs for excursions vary

Enquiries 4931 2877

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### MUSWELLBROOK

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#### Muswellbrook Local & Family History Society Inc.

##### *Personalities of Muswellbrook's Past*

Muswellbrook Library, 126 Bridge St

The Society will mount a display of biographies, with photographs of selected early citizens whose significant contributions ensured the future progress of Muswellbrook and added significantly to "The Making of Our Nation" and the many legacies that Governor Lachlan Macquarie (1810 - 1822) gave to the Colony of NSW. A pre-booked Town Walk with commentary will highlight outstanding local entrepreneur's contributions in establishing our CBD. Usual Library Facilities. Refreshments after the walk.

Exhibition: 9 - 24 April. Walk: 18 April Exhibition:

Usual Library hours / Walk: 3pm - 4.30pm

Free - gold coin for walk

Bookings Essential for walk only 6543 1574

(before 16th April)

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### NELSON BAY

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#### Port Stephens Historical Society

##### *Nelson Bay Heritage Walk*

Dutchman's Bay

Take a gentle stroll along the foreshore from Dutchmans Bay to Nelson Head and check off all the heritage markers on the way. Enjoy the scenery of the beautiful coastline and the blue waters of Port Stephens. The walk starts at the west end of Dutchies Beach, but if you wish, you may start anywhere on the walk, as it is a return excursion.

13 April 10am

\$1 for map

Enquiries 4981 2840



**NEWCASTLE**

**Fort Scratchley Historical Society Inc.**

*Defending a Nation*

Barracks Rooms, Fort Scratchley

Take a journey through photographic displays and memorabilia depicting the role that Fort Scratchley has played in the defence of our nation. The historic site known as Fort Scratchley for more than 120 years, has played an important role in protecting the harbour and shipping of Newcastle from real and perceived threats from world powers Russia, Germany, France and Japan. The exports of valuable commodities such as coal, cedar, and steel have been crucial in Newcastle's role in the making of a nation.

Exhibition: 9 - 24 April 1pm - 4pm closed Tuesdays

Free entry to exhibition

Site and tunnel tours are also available. (See website for tour prices)

Go to [www.fortscratchley.org.au](http://www.fortscratchley.org.au) or ring 4929 3066 10am-4pm



*Experiment Farm Cottage  
(Photo: Christopher Shain)*

**Heritage Hunter**

*Newcastle Show Heritage Exhibition*  
Curley Rd, Broadmeadow

Sixteen local community groups present a combined heritage exhibition at the annual Newcastle Show. This year the exhibition will feature "The work of Governor Macquarie from 1810 in Newcastle - The Making of Our Nation". The exhibition will also serve to promote the many events that will follow later as part of "Macquarie 2010" celebrations.

26 - 28 March 10am - 6pm

Price of ticket entry to the Newcastle Show

Enquiries 0419 241 731



**Hunter Regional Committee of the National Trust**

*High Tea with Mrs Macquarie*

Monet's at the Cottage', On the grounds of the historic James Fletcher Hospital, Watt St

Join us for high tea with Mrs Macquarie at Monet's the former Military Hospital, 1841, in the grounds of historic James Fletcher Hospital, adjacent the site of the "Government House" where Governor Macquarie and his wife Elizabeth, stayed on their visits to Newcastle. Heritage architect John Carr will outline the rich history of this site, and its colonial buildings, including the remains of the 1819 parsonage. Wheelchair access, parking available.

17 April 2pm - 5pm

\$35 Members / \$40 Non-Members - RSVP by 10th April

Bookings Essential 0416 285 376



## REGIONAL EVENTS



### Hunter Regional Committee of the National Trust (NSW)

*The Making of Our Nation*  
Newcastle City Hall, King St

Forum: Governor Macquarie and The Making of Our City. Three distinguished historians will throw new light on Governor Macquarie, whose bicentenary is being celebrated this year and who made three visits to Coal River (Newcastle). Dr Grace Karskens from the University of New South Wales will examine the influence of Macquarie's wife, Elizabeth, on his famous building program and vision for the colony generally. Mr Robin Walsh, librarian/curator for the Lachlan Macquarie Room, Macquarie University Library, will reveal Macquarie's character through the eyes of his Indian manservant 'George'. And Lisa Slade, Newcastle Regional Art Gallery will discuss the wonderful Macquaire Chest, a "collector's chest", regarded as the holy grail of Australiana, almost certainly made in Newcastle in 1818 with painted views of the area, and a precious record of the flora and fauna of Coal River in Macquarie's time.

21 April 7pm - 9pm

\$20

Bookings Essential 0416 285 376



### Hunter Regional Committee of the National Trust & Coal River Working Party

*In the Footsteps of Macquarie' Walk*  
Nobbys Surf Club, Nobbys Rd

Join members of the Hunter Regional Committee of the National Trust and the University of Newcastle's Coal River Working Party in a new informative walk from Macquarie Pier to Christchurch, tracing Governor Macquarie's ambitious building program that helped transform Newcastle from a convict camp to a township. The walk will finish at Christchurch Cathedral with a bring-your-own picnic in Cathedral Park overlooking the city. Good walking shoes required, pack a picnic to have after the walk.

11 April 10am - 12pm

\$10

Bookings Essential 0438 509 139



### Hunter Regional Committee of the National Trust (NSW) & Coal River Working Party

*The Making of Our Nation - Art Exhibition*  
John Paynter Gallery at the Lock Up Cultural Centre, 90 Hunter St

An exhibition of local invited artists who are interpreting 'The Making of Our Nation'. A variety of media will be exhibited including paintings, prints, photographs and sculpture. The exhibition will be opened by Mr Ron Ramsey, Director of the Newcastle Region Art Gallery at 6.30pm, Friday 9 April 2010 at the John Paynter Gallery, Lock-Up, 90 Hunter Street, Newcastle. This will also be the launch of other Heritage Festival events. All welcome. Wheelchair access and parking.

3 - 9 April Fri-Sun 10am - 5pm

Free

Enquiries 0438 509 139

### The Maritime Centre

*Governor Macquarie Talk*

The Maritime Centre, Lee Wharf, 3 Honeysuckle Dr

Enjoy a talk on Governor Lachlan Macquarie's 2nd visit to Newcastle including his trip up the Hunter River to Wallis Plains. The talk is followed by a walk up the harbour hosted by Governor Macquarie himself with Newcastle Commandant James Wallis and Colonial Surveyor James Meehan in attendance. The walk finishing with a free brew shared with the Governor at a local "on-port" ale house. Wheelchair friendly event.

10 April 3.30pm

\$10 - including admission to Maritime Centre

Bookings Essential 4929 2588

## NEWCASTLE WEST



### Miss Porter's House

*Miss Porter's House*  
434 King St

Newcastle was originally a secondary penal colony, but developed into a thriving city. Miss Porters house is a house museum which reflects the changing lifestyle of the two generations of the Porter family. The contents of the house remain as Miss Porter left them. Walk through the house or open a cupboard, and you can almost feel Miss Porter there, approving the needlework displays. Wheelchairs, ground floor only (stairs to 1st floor by stairs only).

10 & 11 April 10am - 4pm

\$7 Adults / \$5 Conc / Free for NT members

Enquiries 4927 0202




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## PORT STEPHENS

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### Port Stephens Historical Network

#### *Irrawong Pottery*

Port Stephens Council Chambers, Mezzanine Gallery & Foyer, 116 Adelaide St

Irrawong Pottery just north of Raymond Terrace, was a thriving pottery in the 1850's under James King. The site, on Hunter Water land, became the first archeological dig in Australia in the 1970's by the University of Sydney. This exhibition shows items shown at the recent Nicholson Museum display. Various events will be hosted as part of the Port Stephens Heritage Festival. Wheelchair access.

1 - 30 April Mon-Fri 8.30am - 5pm

Free

Enquiries 4980 0255

### Port Stephens Historical Network

#### *Launch Of Port Stephens Heritage Festival and Exhibition Opening*

Port Stephens Council Chambers, 116 Adelaide St

Exhibition opening - presentation by various groups in Port Stephens about their heritage, collections, projects and events associated with Port Stephens Heritage Festival. Light refreshments.

1 April

Free

Bookings Essential 4980 0255

### Port Stephens Historical Network

#### *Port Stephens Heritage Exhibition - Our Story*

Port Stephens Council Chambers, Mezzanine Gallery & Foyer, 116 Adelaide St

Material collected over 100 years including maps, photographs, paintings and archival resources from the collection of the historical societies across the Port Stephens area. This includes the Port Stephens Family History, Port Stephens Historical Society, Raymond Terrace Historical Society, Tilligerry Tidy Towns. The gallery will host various events throughout the month. Wheelchair access.

1 - 30 April Mon-Fri 8.30am - 5pm

Free

Enquiries 4980 0255

### Tilligerry Tidy Towns / Tilligerry Community Association

#### *Port Stephens in Caswell Family Times*

Meridian Park, Tanilba Bay

Meet at Meridian Park photo shelter, Tanilba Bay.

Walk around Tanilba Bay, drive to various locations connected with the Caswell family - Tomago and Tahlee Howes included. Own car needed.

11 April 9.30am - 4pm

Some entry costs, own catering.

Bookings Essential 4982 4101

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## SALAMANDER BAY

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### Port Stephens Historical Society

#### *Port Stephens Heritage Treasures*

Tomaree Library and Community Centre, Waratah/ Grevillea Room, Town Centre Circuit

Port Stephens is a treasure trove of wonderful heritage items including historical homes, churches, cemeteries, Port Stephens Lighthouse station, Nelson Bay Lighthouse, cottages and reserves and beautiful landmarks such as the Stockdon Dunes, Cabbage Tree Island, Broughton Island, Boondlebah Natural Reserve, WW2 fortifications, native flora reserves and much more. A public lecture will highlight and illustrate the heritage treasures of Port Stephens. Wheelchair access, refreshments, max attendance 80.

16 April 2pm

Donation (gold coin)

Bookings Essential 4981 2840

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## SINGLETON

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### Singleton Historical Society and Museum Inc.

#### *Display and Walking Tour*

Museum is in Burdekin Park

Historical display and walking tour.

17 April 9.30am - 12noon

Price TBA

Bookings Essential 6571 1895

### Singleton Historical Society and Museum Inc.

#### *Historical walk and display*

Museum is in Burdekin Park

A display of the museum's historical archives relative to the Heritage Festival's program will be combined with a guided walking tour of historical sites of Singleton. Good walking shoes are important.

17 April 9.30am - 12noon

Price TBA

Bookings Essential 6571 1895



## REGIONAL EVENTS

### Singleton Mechanics Institute

*Do Drop In*  
74 George St

Family History in Singleton. Wheelchair access and parking.

10, 17, 24 April from 1pm - 4pm. 14, 21 April from 12pm - 3pm. 12, 19 April from 6pm - 8pm

Free

Enquiries 6576 1115

### Singleton Mechanics Institute

*Do Drop In*  
74 George St

Singleton Quilters. Wheelchair access and parking.

13 & 20 April 10am - 2pm

Free

Enquiries 6576 1115

### Singleton Mechanics Institute

*Do Drop In*  
74 George St

Textile Artists. Wheelchair access and parking.

15 & 22 April 11am - 2pm

Free

Enquiries 6576 1115

### Singleton Mechanics Institute

*Do Drop In*  
74 George St

Monday Art Group. Wheelchair access and parking.

12 & 19 April 9am - 1pm

Free

Enquiries 6576 1115

### Singleton Public Library / Singleton Historical Society / Family History Society

*Singleton - The Making of our Community*  
8 - 10 Queen St

Singleton Public Library, Singleton Historical Society and Family History Society Singleton are mounting an exhibition examining the local characters whose lives and contributions have shaped our area. It includes photographs, artifacts, oral history etc.

9 - 24 April Mon-Fri 9am; Sat 9am - 12noon

Free

Enquiries 6578 7513

### Sisters of Mercy Singleton Sacred Spaces

*High Tea to Honour the Macquaries*  
30 Queen St

On 31 March 1821 John Browne, an early Singleton settler, received a grant of 60 acres from Governor Macquarie, and named his home "Macquarie Place". Singleton Convent stands on part of this land, purchased in 1892 from John Browne's sons. The afternoon will commence with a talk on the life of Macquarie at 2pm. High Tea in the Convent and grounds will follow. A delightful afternoon is assured. Numbers limited. Early bookings advised. Period costume optional! Disabled access.

18 April 2pm

\$20

Bookings Essential 6572 2398

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## STROUD

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### Friends of St John's Stroud Inc.

*St. John's Church (1833)*

St John's Church/Rectory, Cowper St

Stroud commemorates two nation builders, Sir Edward Parry and Phillip Parker King, with self guided tours of St John's Church (1833). The church will be open 10am to 4pm, the tour leaflet telling how these heroes of naval exploration became resolute leaders of the Australian Agricultural Company. Parry built St John's for Stroud, the village created by AAcO in 1826 as it pioneered corporate agriculture in Australia. Wheelchair access. Parking on the street or car park behind church.

9 - 24 April 10am - 4pm

Free

Enquiries 4994 5596

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## WALLSEND

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### Wallsend Heritage Group Inc.

*A Walking Tour of Wallsend*  
Rotunda (cnr Tyrell & Harris Sts)

Meeting at the Rotunda (cnr. Tyrell and Harris Sts.) Wallsend for a walk (about 2 hours) to look at Wallsend's Heritage. You will need to bring water, hat and suntan lotion and wear comfortable shoes for walking.

10 April 10am

Free

Bookings Essential 4955 9013