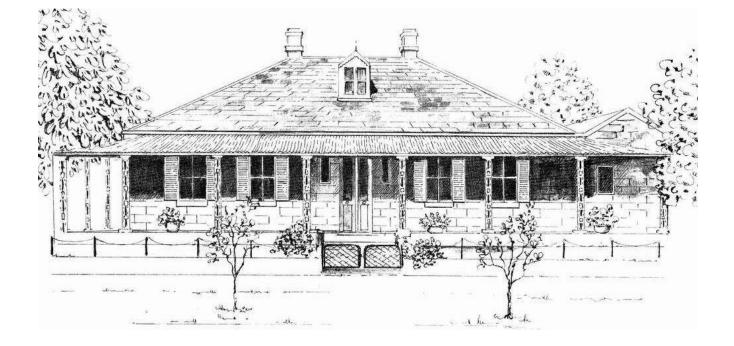
St. George Historical



PROUDLY SPONSORED BY ROCKDALE CITY COUNCIL

JANUARY - APRIL 2012 EDITION

Heritage



Week

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AUDITOR	Mrs.	Joan Rankin	(02)	9567 - 8641

Meetings are held 2:00 PM the third Saturday of the month (except January)

In the Meeting Room 1st Floor, Rockdale Town Hall, Princes Highway, Rockdale.

Members, please bring a plate. Visitors are welcome.

EVENTS AGENDA

Apr 28th- 29th 2012 Tempe House & St. Magdalene's Chapel Open

The one Open Weekend of the year. The St George Historical Society will conduct talks and tours of both fully restored buildings. The Site on the bank of the Cooks River occupies a unique place in Australia's history. A café on site will serve high tea.

Place : Tempe House Brodie Spark Drive Discovery Point Wolli Creek Cost : Gold Coin Donation Time : 10am – 4pm Phone: (02) 9567 4259

Apr 29th 2012 Lydham Hall Historic House

Lydham Hall is a museum displaying some of the finest antique furniture and ceramics in Sydney. The historical Rockdale house was built in 1860 by Joseph Davis, a master butcher, It later became the childhood home of Christina Stead, author of the acclaimed "The Man Who Loved Children"

Place : 18 Lydham Avenue Rockdale NSW 2216

Entry : Free

(For this event)

Time : 12pm – 4pm Phone: (02) 9567 4259 (Normally 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm)

The Heritage of Bexley

The National Trust runs a heritage festival every year, and every year Rockdale Council tries to participate in some way. This year, Council is holding a range of activities and I was asked to give a talk at Bexley Library focusing on the heritage of Bexley. This invitation has provided me with an opportunity to take a closer look at Bexley's heritage-listed items, the reasons why they were heritage-listed and what they can tell us about the history of Bexley.

When looking at heritage-listed items, it is important to distinguish between the two different heritage lists that affect properties in Rockdale. Firstly, there is the State Heritage Register, which, operating under the NSW Heritage Act, lists places that are considered to be of significance to the whole state of NSW. Twelve items in the Rockdale local government area appear on this list, none of which are in Bexley. Lydham Hall, which is often talked about as a Bexley property, has been placed on the State Heritage Register; however, Lydham Avenue is actually within the suburb of Rockdale not Bexley. The second heritage list is the local heritage schedule contained within Rockdale Council's Local Environmental Plan (LEP). This list contains those items that are considered to be of significance to the Rockdale local government area. In order to be assessed as being significant enough to appear on the heritage schedule, items have to meet at least one of a set of defined criteria. That is, they have to have historical, associative, aesthetic or social significance; research potential; be rare; or be representative. Rockdale Council has listed 237 properties or places as heritage items. Of these 237 items, 68 are in the suburb of Bexley.

This is a large number of heritage items for any one suburb and the number is indicative of the richness of Bexley's history. When people hear references to council's heritage list, they often just assume that it only includes houses and that the houses have been listed either because of their age or because of their architectural features. The list of items in Bexley does indeed include many fine individual homes that are representative of different eras and architectural styles - Victorian, Federation, Art Deco, Californian Bungalow and Inter-War houses all appear on the list. Many of these houses meet several of the criteria for heritage listing. Most of them have been assessed as having historical and aesthetic significance, and some of them meet other criteria as well. To give an example, the lovely stone cottage known as "Montrose" in Broadford Street has been assessed as having historical significance due to its being one of the earliest houses built west of Forest Road on the Chandler Estate; as having aesthetic significance because the fine details of the building demonstrate late nineteenth century building materials and techniques, and because the house contributes to the streetscape of Broadford Street as a whole; as being representative of the type of stone buildings that were built in Bexley during the 1880s; and finally as having associative significance because it is associated with its builder and original owner George Bain and his wife Catherine. George Bain was a gifted stonemason who worked on the building of Sydney University. Catherine Bain, known as "Kitty", was a well-known Bexley nurse and midwife who delivered hundreds of Bexley babies and was remembered for her role in successfully nursing dozens of patients through the 1918-1919 flu epidemic that resulted in tens of thousands of deaths worldwide after World War I.



The house "Montrose" in Broadford Street, Bexley, built circa 1887.

Another Bexley property on council's heritage list, "St Elmo", is more well-known. This large house in Harrow Road, Bexley, was built in 1897 for Joseph Palmer. As is the case with "Montrose", even a brief look at "St Elmo" will show how it matches the criteria for heritage listing. "St Elmo" is considered to be of historical significance because it is an example of the type of grand villas that were built in Bexley in the late 1800s. "St Elmo" meets the criteria of aesthetic significance and the criteria of rarity because it is a rare example of a house built in the transitional architectural style between Victorian and Federation, and because of its distinctive gable which features a decorative panel depicting a Kookaburra - evidence of the turn-of-the-century fashion for Australian motifs in architectural design. Harrow Road contains several heritage-listed properties and many distinctive houses, "St Elmo" is of a number of fine homes in Harrow Road and it adds to the streetscape as a whole.



"St Elmo" in Harrow Road, Bexley, designed by William Kenwood for Joseph Palmer in 1897

Lastly, "St Elmo" is considered to be of associative significance because it is associated with its architect William Kenwood and its original owner Joseph Palmer. William Kenwood was probably our most well-known and successful architect; he designed many buildings in the area, the most prominent being Saywell's Brighton Hotel, the St George Bowling Club and the heritage-listed Victorian terraces on The Grand Parade. Kenwood designed "St Elmo" for

Joseph Palmer, a senior railroad official. The Palmer's were a successful, community-minded family. One of Joseph's sons, Claude, had married a musician named Edith Dickerson who performed regularly with a group called the Cheerio Girls. After their marriage, Claude and Edith lived in the 14-roomed house along with Claude's brother Oriel. By 1928, the Palmer's had been part of the Bexley community for 30 years, Joseph Palmer was retired and nearly an invalid but his niece Jessie was a nurse and had moved into the house to take care of him with the help of a housekeeper named Elizabeth Astley. Another relative, Garnet Robb, a nephew of Joseph's wife, was also staying with the family. On Thursday 1 November 1928, while Claude and Oriel were at work, Robb hid himself behind the kitchen door and, while the family were having lunch, fired off seven gun shots in quick succession. Jessie Palmer and Elizabeth Astley were both killed instantly. Joseph Palmer and Claude's wife Edith were both shot and would die later from their wounds. After shooting his family, Garnet Robb then shot and killed himself. This tragedy was one of the worst murders in the district's history and made headlines around the country.

This is just a brief look at only two of Bexley's heritage-listed houses, but it demonstrates how when you start to look at the houses on the heritage list in detail you can begin to build up a picture of the suburb's development and the story of its residents. However, the heritage list contains more than just houses: parks; churches; a convent; the former quarry in Bexley Road; street plantings; the sewer vents in Connemarra Street; the original Bexley Public School buildings; the Marist College in Wolseley Street; the Bexley School of Arts; the St George Bowling Club; a service station; the Jack and Jill Preschool, which was built in 1901 as the Bexley Council Chambers; and the Bexley Fire Station all appear on the list. When you look at these places in detail you build up an even better picture of Bexley and its history - its infrastructure, educational and religious institutions, and its municipal history. Bexley and Rockdale, once separate municipalities, were amalgamated in 1949, and, in the years since then, Bexley has inevitably lost some of its separate character and unique identity. However, the sheer number of heritage-listed items in this single suburb offers an eloquent testimony to the depth and richness of Bexley's history. Moreover, an understanding of Bexley's heritage-listed items reveals the dual value of having a heritage list. Firstly, the heritage list ensures that historically significant items are preserved for future residents to enjoy. Secondly, even a small amount of knowledge about the items on the list and the reasons they appear there opens a window into the past and provides a pathway to understanding Bexley's own unique history.

<u>Notes</u>

Rockdale Council's local heritage schedule can be found on the Rockdale City Council website: <u>www.rockdale.nsw.gov.au</u>

Both Rockdale Council's local heritage schedule and the State Heritage Register can be found on the Heritage Branch section of the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage website: <u>www.heritage.nsw.gov.au</u>

This website also contains the criteria for heritage listing, information about all the properties on the heritage list and the reasons for their listing.

Kirsten Broderick Local History Services Coordinator Rockdale City Library

BOOK REVIEW

The Biggest Estate on Earth. How Aborigines Made Australia.

By Bill Gammage. 434 pages Published by Allen and Unwin 2011.

Most of the history Australian books from Rockdale Library that I've so far reviewed have been on the shelves for a few years. This book was published last year, so is quite "hot off the press" by comparison. It is well worth reading as it attempts to rewrite the pre-1788 history of Australia in a way that is bound to be controversial.

You may be familiar with Bill Gammage's earlier work on Australian soldiers in World War 1-"The Broken Years". This current book has taken at least twelve years to write and includes material from history, anthropology and ecology-turn to the bibliography and be awed by how much research in every state archive and document collection he has undertaken to complete it.

What is his argument? Simply that the Australian landscape the earliest white settlers and explorers encountered was not a "wilderness" but a land tamed and managed by Aboriginal people over thousands of years to be able to support them in abundance, not scarcity. This management encompassed the whole continent from the Torres Strait Islands to Tasmania, principally by using fire. It enabled Aboriginal people to live almost like European aristocrats, with little time needed to provide food and shelter and much time to be devoted to cultural pursuits. The landscape was much more open grassland than forest and fostered the animals and plants that the people relied on for food, tools, weapons ,clothing and shelter.

What evidence does he cite? In historical terms, letters from explorers and early white settlers from every state describing the landscape they first saw as "like a gentleman's park" with monotonous regularity. They write of open space where they could ride with no hindrance, thick grass fields, open areas near rivers and creeks for easy access to water for drinking and fishing. Since, at the time they wrote, the ideas of municipal parks or national parks were far in the future, they were likening it to a cultivated landscape of open areas like paddocks with copses of trees and bushes here and there of the English "gentleman farmer". Bill Gammage also contends that contrary to the views expressed by some art historians, the drawings and paintings of the early colonial artists were not trying to fit the Australian landscape into their pre-existing European ideas but painting what they saw. He has gone back to some of the places the artists depicted and shows how little they have changed and in what ways. One of Eugene von Guerard's views of a landscape in Victoria is being used as a source for what plants to use in revegetating the area! The author uses comparison photography between the artist or surveyor's work and the present day reality as an important part of his argument. It forms a whole chapter explaining the different types of landscape he claims Aboriginal people fostered. The colonial writers also constantly mention seeing Aboriginal people firing the land but with such control that the writers could walk behind the fire, unlike hot wildfires. Sadly, when many of the writers returned to the places they had described after the Aboriginal people had been forced off the land, they found the open grasslands they had described now choked with weedy growth and though some of the small farmers had tried to continue the burning regime, they lacked the intimate knowledge of the whole area which was part of Aboriginal land management and either burnt too often or too little.

From anthropology, Bill Gammage argues that traditional Aboriginal religion encouraged conservatism-that present day people had received the land as created by ancestral beings and were required to maintain it and pass it on unchanged. Each family group was responsible for managing a tract of land, in cooperating with neighbouring groups and had to know it as intimately as any farmer knows their property. This meant visiting different areas on a regular basis, camping there and

carrying out ceremonies or other activities. People often left sets of tools at these places so they weren't burdened with carrying them to their next camp. As evidenced both by historical sources and modern day observations in places like the Northern Territory, where some Aboriginal people still live quite a traditional life, these activities could involve harvesting yams or bush fruits in season and replanting shoots or burying fruit stones in middens to ensure regrowth. Interestingly, Gammage mentions that one of the longest running battles in early colonial history - on the Hawkesbury River - was fought over an area of prime yam growing land.

The ecological/botanical evidence he cites include such things as different types of yams growing in places where they could not have been spread to by natural means, suggesting that groups exchanged cuttings. Trees, the way they grow and group in the landscape are also cited as evidence of deliberate cultivation by means of consistent burning. Native grass was also burned to keep pathways open and to create the kind of "first pick" that grazing animals prefer(incidentally the reason kangaroos love golf courses!)

This is just a small taste of the evidence Bill Gammage uses to advance his argument. Most of the evidence I have recounted here is historical as that is my main interest(and yours I hope!) and I don't feel as confident in interpreting the anthropological and botanical reasoning. Some of you may be familiar with the term "firestick farming" as advanced by Rhys Jones and others in 1970s- this book is an extension and elaboration of that theory.Don't be put off reading this book by my short review .It's written in clear prose, there are no difficult terms or jargon-though I do suggest you read the introduction where he defines the way he uses some familiar words. This is a book sure to intrigue you and set you thinking - as Bill Gammage says - we still have to learn to live in this country.

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Into the Unknown. The Tormented Life and Expeditions of Ludwig Leichhardt

By John Bailey Published by Pan Macmillan 2011 396 pages.

Another recently published book! The author, John Bailey has written two much praised books on Australian history: "The White Divers of Broome" and "Mr Stuart's Track", and this book is sure to be another. There has not been much non-specialist writing published on Leichhardt and this book fills a gap. Leichhard's life story and accomplishments as an explorer have often been overshadowed by the sensational fact of his disappearance and by Patrick White's novel "Voss" vaguely based on his character.

What do we learn from this biography? Firstly, how well educated Leichhardt was. Born to a poor farming family in the village of Trebatsch in Prussia, the sixth of nine children, he was sent at the age of six to a boarding school in a nearby village. As the author points out, except for holidays, he never lived with his family again. From there at the age of eleven he won a place against stiff competition in the Friedrich-Wilhelm Gymnasium in Cottbus. There is much fascinating detail about the political background of the Prussian defeat by Napoleon and the course the Emperor Friedrich-Wilhelm took to strengthen his country by reforming the education system and army. In 1831 at age eighteen, he graduated with the "Abitur" and entered the Fiedrich-Wilhelm University of Berlin (now Humboldt University) where he studied for six years(with a" Wanderjahr" (wander-year) at Gottingen University in the German tradition), constantly changing courses until he struck on the natural sciences which fired his interest.

Since childhood, he had been fascinated by the travels and scientific discoveries of Alexander von Humboldt in Latin America and longed to emulate them. A holiday walking and camping in the Harz

mountains strengthened this resolve. A friendship with two English brothers John and William Nicholson led to a trip to England and a period in London then Paris, studying the collections at the famous museums in these cities and attending the free lectures offered by these institutions as well as walking tours in France and Switzerland observing and collecting plants and rocks. One problem faced Leichhardt - like all young Prussian men he was required to spend a time in the military, which interested him not at all and which he tried to avoid.

Finally with the help of William Nicholson, whose brother was migrating to Australia, Leichhardt set out on the Sir Edward Paget in 1841 bound for Sydney. He felt Providence had offered him a chance to lead the life he had always wanted in a land where so many mysteries both geographical and natural needed to be solved. From the moment he arrived he was fascinated by the land and determined on leading a journey of exploration as soon as he could. He travelled extensively in the Hunter region and northern N.S.W. and Queensland, sleeping rough and learning how to live on the land. In 1844 he began his first and most successful journey to Port Essington(near present day Darwin). The account of this expedition is harrowing. The expedition was meagrely funded and Leichhardt made poor choices in the men to accompany him. Nevertheless in 1845, after most people in the colony had given him up as dead, he and his ill-assorted companions reached Port Essington. On the journey Leichhardt's hardiness, botanical knowledge and willingness to try eating "Everything that grew, flew, swam, hopped, ran or slithered" saved them from starvation: bandicoot, a joey, kangaroo, cockatoo, lorikeet, emu, fish, eels, mussels, goanna, snakes, native lemons, nonda plums, palm hearts, bush honey, caper bush berries cassia pods cordia tree fruit all were consumed when flour, tea and sugar ran out. He even found passable substitutes for coffee and tea!

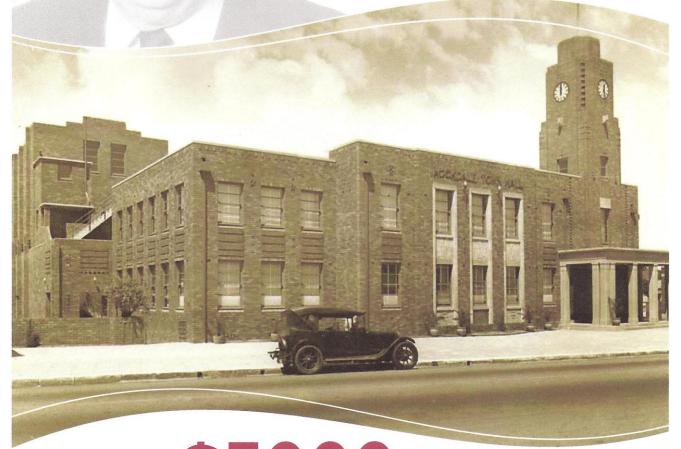
On his return to Sydney, he was lionised by society, which did not suit him at all and he hurried to plan and begin another expedition to cross the continent and reach the Swan River settlement. This was an unmitigated disaster: constant rain, sickness and dissension among another ill-assorted group forced him to abandon the attempt. Humiliated by this disaster and by hostile stories spread by his former companions, convinced Providence was deserting him, he hastened to set out again in 1848. On 5th April he and his six companions rode out from Cogoon Station in the Darling Downs heading west and were never seen again.

The author details attempts to find him or any remains-over nine different expeditions with little result. After all, there is a huge area to cover and Leichhardt did not give any precise indications of which way he intended to go. Bailey also lists the common explanations of what could possibly have happened to the group-no theory has any persuasive evidence to back it. All that remains is a nameplate from a gunstock-not even the stock itself was kept. The gunstock was found wedged into a fork in a tree and no-one could explain how it came to be there as no other items or bodies were found anywhere near.

John Bailey has written a detailed and intriguing account of one of the most mysterious episodes in Australian colonial history. His portrait of Leichhardt -driven by a thirst for knowledge, by an insatiable desire to explore the unknown- is compelling. Highly recommended to all who love biography and mystery.

Source Laurice Bondfield

2012 Ron Rathbone Local History Prize



A prize of **\$5000** will be awarded to the author of the best piece of original research on any aspect of the City of Rockdale

Entrants in the prize are asked to submit a piece of research on any aspect of the Rockdale local government area - its history, buildings, organisations, people, parks, natural features or events. Entry forms and guidelines are available from all Rockdale libraries or at **www.rockdale.nsw.gov.au**



CITY COUNCIL

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All entries must be received by Friday 10 August 2012

For more information, please contact Kirsten Broderick, Council's Local History Services Specialist, on 9562 1821.

2012 Junior Ron Rathbone Local History Prize Guidelines

2012 Ron Rathbone Local History Prize Guidelines

Aim

The aim of the Ron Rathbone Local History Prize is to encourage original research into the history of the City of Rockdale and to ensure that such research is archived and made available for future researchers.

Prize

The winner of the 2012 Ron Rathbone Local History Prize will receive \$5,000.

Entry Criteria

1. Entrants must submit an original piece of research. If the research work has been previously submitted to an academic institution as an assignment, or has been used as part of or in connection with any other project, it may still be submitted; however, it must be presented in a style appropriate for entry into the Prize.

2. The research may be on any topic as long as it substantially relates to the City of Rockdale.

3. Entrants do not need to be residents of the City of Rockdale.

4. Only individuals, not organisations or societies, may enter; however, entries with joint authors are permitted.

5. Councillors and employees of Rockdale City Council are not eligible to enter.

Judging

The judging panel will consist of Dr Peter Orlovich; the Manager - Community & Customer Services; and the Local History Services Specialist.

Entrants are strongly advised to read the Judging Criteria before entering the competition.

Conditions of Entry

1. Entries may be submitted in either hard or soft copy. If an entry is emailed, it must be in either Microsoft Word or PDF format.

2. Entrants must complete and sign an official entry form and lodge it together with their entry. If the entry is emailed, a signed entry form must either be scanned and emailed with the entry or mailed to the Local History Services Specialist.

3. It is the responsibility of the entrant to ensure that their entry is properly submitted and received.

4. Entries must be in English.

5. Entrants may submit more than one piece of research if they wish. A separate entry form is required for each entry.

6. Copyright of any research work submitted remains with the author of the work at all times.

7. All entries will be archived in the Local History Collection of Rockdale City Library where they will be available for people to read.

8. If entrants agree, their entry will also be made available on Rockdale City Council's website.

9. The judges shall have the discretion to divide the prize equally between entrants they consider of equal merit.

10. The entries will be judged on individual merit. The judges reserve the right to award no prize if they deem there are no entries of sufficiently high quality. The judges' decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into.

Judging Criteria

Entries will be judged based on the following criteria:

1. How closely the work relates to the history of the City of Rockdale.

2. How much original historical research and consultation of primary and secondary sources the work involves.

3. How well the sources used are documented.

4. If the work provides us with new information, or is on a topic that has not been written about in-depth before.

5. If the work has a consistent theme or cohesive argument.

6. The professional quality and the style of the work and the writing itself (spelling, grammar, layout, etc.).

Closing date

All entries must be received by 5pm on Friday 10 August 2012.

Enquiries

For further information or enquiries, please contact Kirsten Broderick, Council's Local History Services Specialist, on 9562 1821.

2012 Ron Rathbone Junior Local History Prize



\$500 prize each for the primary school student and the high school student who writes the best essay on any topic related to the City of Rockdale

In their essay, students may choose:

- ▶ To write a brief history of any local school, church, building, business or park.
- To write a brief biography of a current or former resident, politician, sports person, business person or entertainer from or associated with the City of Rockdale.
- To write a family history describing how their family came to live in the Rockdale area and/or any connections that their family has with the Rockdale area.

Alternatively, students may write an essay on any topic they choose as long as it is related to the City of Rockdale. Entry forms and guidelines are available from all Rockdale libraries or at **www.rockdale.nsw.gov.au**



ROCKDALE CITY COUNCIL On Historic Botany Bay

All entries must be received by Friday 10 August 2012

For more information, please contact Kirsten Broderick, Council's Local History Services Specialist, on 9562 1821.

2012 Junior Ron Rathbone Local History Prize Guidelines

Aim

The aim of the Junior Ron Rathbone Local History Prize is to encourage an interest in the research and writing of local history among our school students.

Entry requirements

Students are invited to submit an essay on any topic related to the history of the City of Rockdale.

Students may choose:

- To write a brief history of any local school, church, building, business or park.
- To write a brief biography of a current or former resident, politician, sports person, business person or entertainer from or associated with the City of Rockdale.
- To write a family history describing how their family came to live in the Rockdale area and/or any connections that their family has with the Rockdale area.

Alternatively, students may write an essay on any topic they choose as long as it substantially relates to the City of Rockdale.

Prizes

The winning high school student will receive \$500.

The winning primary school student will receive \$500.

Closing date

All entries must be received by 5pm, Friday 10 August 2012.

Judging panel

The judging panel will consist of Dr Peter Orlovich; the Manager - Community & Customer Services; and the Local History Services Specialist.

Conditions of Entry

- 1. The competition is open to all school students.
- 2. Students must complete and sign an entry form and lodge it together with their entry.

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- 3. The work submitted must be entirely by the student.
- 4. If they choose, two students may work together and submit a joint entry. Entries with more than two authors are not permitted.
- At the conclusion of the competition, entries will be placed in the Local History Collection of Rockdale City Library and will be placed on Rockdale City Council's website for people to read.
- 6. If necessary, the judges shall have the discretion to divide the prize equally between entries they consider of equal merit.
- 7. The entries will be judged on individual merit. The judges reserve the right to award no prize if they deem there are no entries of sufficiently high quality.

8. The judges' decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into.

Enquiries

For further information or enquiries, please contact Kirsten Broderick, Council's Local History Services Specialist, on 9562 1821.

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2012 Junior Ron Rathbone Local History Prize Entry Form

Entrant's details

Given name		Family name			
No.	Street		Suburb	Postcode	
Telephone		Email			
Name of school					
Class		Age			
Title of essay					

Declaration

- The entry submitted is my own work.
- I understand a copy of my work will be placed in the Local History Collection of Rockdale City Library and on Rockdale City Council's website for people to read.

Please Note

The personal information required on this form may be available for public access under various legislation.

	Entrant's signature	Date//
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Hard copy entries are to be mailed to:

Local History Services Specialist 2012 Junior Ron Rathbone Local History Prize Rockdale City Council PO Box 21 ROCKDALE NSW 2216

Soft copy entries (in Word or PDF format) are to be emailed to: kbroderick@rockdale.nsw.gov.au

All entries must be received by 5pm on Friday 10 August 2012.

For enquiries please contact Kirsten Broderick on 9562 1821.

2012 Ron Rathbone Local History Prize Entry Form

Ms/Mr/Mrs/other (please state)		Family name			Given name	
No.	Street	Suburb				Postcode
Mailing address (if different)						
Tel (home) Tel (work)				Tel (mobile)		
Email						
Title of work						
Permission is given to make my entry available on Rockdale City Council's website (please tick the appropriate box)			lable on ck the	Ye	S	No

Declaration

- I have read the Ron Rathbone Local History Prize guidelines and I agree to abide by the conditions of entry.
- The research work submitted is my own work.
- I understand that while I retain copyright of my own work, a copy of my work will be placed in the Local History Collection of Rockdale City Library for people to access.

Please Note

The personal information required on this form may be available for public access under various legislation.

Entrant's signature	Date//
	1

Hard copy entries are to be submitted to:

Local History Services Specialist 2012 Ron Rathbone Local History Prize Rockdale City Council PO Box 21 ROCKDALE NSW 2216

Soft copy entries (in Word or PDF format) are to be emailed to: kbroderick@rockdale.nsw.gov.au

All entries must be received by 5pm on Friday 10 August 2012.

For enquiries please contact Kirsten Broderick on 9562 1821.

Rockdale City Council

2 Bryant Street / PO Box 21 Rockdale NSW 2216 rcc@rockdale.nsw.gov.au www.rockdale.nsw.gov.au Tel 02 9562 1666 Fax 02 9562 1777