



GRONO FAMILY ASSOCIATION

Newsletter No.4

29 January 2008

We hope that all our members had a very happy Christmas and New Year.

“Two Hawkesbury Sailors” Reprint – an Update

Ted Books has provided us with an update on the progress of the reprint of “Two Hawkesbury Sailors”. The process has been a long one as the book has had to be converted into an electronic format, but it is now nearing completion. It is expected that the book will be available around June 2008; no price details are available at this stage.

Ebenezer Church Website

Please note that the official Ebenezer Church website is now up and running. It can be found at

www.ebenezerchurch.org.au

It contains a brief history of the church, some photos of the church, as well as other information. Copies of the Ebenezer Church newsletter are also available to download and view.

Ebenezer Church Heritage Day



11 May 2008, starting at 10:30a.m.

(Sunday morning church service commences at 8:30a.m., should you wish to come earlier and be part of the congregation).

Ebenezer Church
Australia's oldest

The following information about the Heritage Day is an extract from their most recent newsletter...

Ebenezer Church will be holding a day where you can learn more about the historic Ebenezer Church site. Throughout the day there will be opportunities to listen to talks on the history of the church.

For the energetic there will follow walk-and-talks through the colonial graveyard and...for the more energetic...to the quarry from which the stone was cut to build the church and to the beach into which the pioneers pulled their rowing boats when coming to church...and if you

still wish to walk further the Hawkesbury Council has recently renovated a walk along the riverbank to a lookout from which you can look along two reaches of the Hawkesbury River.

The church barbecue will be fired up and the usual devonshire teas will be available.

Future Publications – Family Stories & Genealogy

We are still hoping to be able to publish a new, accurate Grono Family Tree/Stories publication which will incorporate stories and photos of the lives of descendants. For this to occur we need your help. We are looking for submissions of family trees to compile this and also we would like to include stories/photos about the lives of descendants, especially the children and grandchildren of John and Elizabeth Grono.

Sent information can be in any format – i.e. printed or electronic.

(Please note that no information on living descendants will be published).

Family Story – Mrs Elizabeth Pitt (née Smith)

Below is a transcription of the obituary notice for Elizabeth Pitt (née Smith), daughter of Robert Smith and Margaret Hartley; it appeared in the *Mudgee Guardian* on April 14th, 1919. It gives an interesting insight into the life of a Grono descendant (she was John and Elizabeth's great-granddaughter).

REMINISCENCES OF THE LATE MRS PITT.

Those who have known the late Mrs. Elizabeth Pitt, who so lately passed to a new sphere, may read with interest something of her earlier days. This grand old lady was noted for her loving, kindly, and happy disposition, a characteristic which were in her girlhood days even more emphasised...She was the eldest daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Robert Smith, of Wilberforce, in the Windsor district. Here her girlhood days were spent usefully and amiably. At the age of 19 she was married to the late Mr. Joseph Pitt, in the Church of England at Richmond, where she had previously been a much loved and respected teacher. Some fourteen years of her early married life were spent at Richmond, and later at Rouse Hill, Pitt Town. From thence a removal was made to the Mudgee district, in the year 1868, the selected being on a farm leased from the late Mr. William Bowman, known at that time as Bridge Flat, now as Lillawa. Here a produce business and a store was successfully conducted for a number of years. Eventually a fine property and home were acquired and built up in the near vicinity known today as Rose Hill, where a large and respected family was reared, who are widely known throughout the whole district. The late lady was predeceased some 24 years by her beloved husband. Only six months later her fourth son, Charles, was laid beside his father. Again, so recently as 1917, the Grim Reaper appeared amongst her family, removing her oldest daughter, Mrs. E.T. Millett, of Leadville, and her youngest son, Austin, of Mullamuddy, within five days of each other. These blows the old lady bore with Christian fortitude, though it affected her health somewhat. Mrs. Pitt had mothered a family of fifteen, of which there now remain four sons and four daughters (four having died in their infancy). There are 35 grandchildren, and about 45 great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Pitt's funeral, which moved from her late residence, Rose Hill, at Cudgegong, was largely attended. Though the restrictions by the railway authorities, her youngest daughter, Miss Eva Pitt, was unable to attend her bedside; nor Mrs. Nash, of Berry, who, though in Mudgee, was too ill to leave her bed at the time.

So ends the career of another of our pioneers whose over half-century residence has left its land marks in the district.

If you have a family story you would like to share please fill in the “Family Story” form attached at the end of this newsletter and send it in to us (our contact details can be found on the last page of the newsletter).

Publication on Solomon Wiseman & Crawford family

For anyone who may be interested in Solomon Wiseman, Jean May Crawford has recently published a book containing a chapter on his life, it includes all the information she could find on him, including several colour illustrations. The cost of the book is \$23, plus \$3.55 postage and packaging.

If anyone is interested in obtaining a copy or would like to find out more information please contact Jean May Crawford at RMB 1724, Pappinbarra NSW, 2446; or via email: jeanmay@bluemaxx.com.au

(Please note the GFA committee have not sited this book and the comments about its content have been provided by Jean May Crawford).

Seeking Contact or Information

MOBBS family enquiry & photo

Elaine Barnes is wondering whether anyone has a photo of William Mobb's brother, Isaac MOBBS and his wife Ann TOMLINSON? Isaac was born c.1793 England. Ann Tomlinson was born c.1800.

Also is anyone doing research on the DALE family of Dural? Elaine would be interested to make contact.

Elaine also has a photo of George Arthur MOBBS, born 1st April 1823, which she is willing to pass on to anyone interested.

If you have any information of interest, or would like a copy of the photo of George Arthur Mobbs please contact Elaine via email: elray1@bigpond.net.au

GFA Finances 2007

Below you will find a summary of the income and expenditure of the Grono Family Association for the financial year 2006-07.

So far we have made small donation to the Ebenezer Church and Hawkesbury Museum from the proceeds of the first print run of the book “John Grono 1767-1847”.

Grono Family Association
Statement of Income and Expenditure
for the period 1 April 2007 to 30 June 2007

	2007		
<u>Income</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Member</u>	<u>Non-Member</u>
Book Sales - John Grono 1767-1847	3,325.00	2,765.00	560.00
Postage - Books	239.00	141.00	98.00
Membership Fees	1,740.00	1,740.00	-
Bank Interest	0.02	-	0.02
TOTAL INCOME	5,304.02	4,646.00	658.02
 <u>Expenditure</u>			
Book printing costs	3,135.00	2,403.50	731.50
Book ISBN costs	119.00	119.00	-
Postage - Books	281.45	135.42	146.03
Postage - Other	109.66	6.83	102.83
Membership	-	-	-
Reunions	91.56	91.56	-
Other	14.92	14.92	-
Bank Charges (split 80%/20%)	9.45	7.56	1.89
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	3,761.04	2,778.79	982.25
SURPLUS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE	1,542.98	1,867.21	- 324.23
 Donations to Ebenezer Church	92.00		
Donations to Hawkesbury Museum	46.00		
SURPLUS/DEFICIT AFTER DONATIONS ETC...	1,404.98		

Grono Family Association
Balance Sheet
for the period 1 April 2007 to 30 June 2007

<u>Assets</u>	<u>Liabilities</u>
Cash in bank	
1404.98	0
	<u>Equity</u>
	Retained Profits
	1,404.98
1404.98	1404.98

Dates for your Diary





Our next **GRONO FAMILY REUNION** will be
on **Sunday 3rd May, 2009**
at **Ebenezer Church, Ebenezer, NSW**

EBENEZER CHURCH BICENTENARY

The date chosen by the Ebenezer Church for the major celebration
of its Bicentenary is **Saturday 20th June, 2009.**

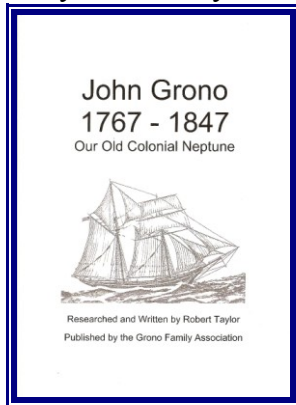
No further details are available at this stage.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Coordinator: Karen Mills	 Email: gronofamily@gmail.com
Secretary: Mandy Waller	 Postal address: 1 Johnston Street Pitt Town, NSW 2756
Treasurer: Nigel Mills	 Phone: (02) 9898 1717 (Nigel & Karen Mills)
Webmaster: Karen Mills	Fax: (02) 4572 3805
Researcher: Robert Taylor (<i>honorary</i>)	
Photo Collection: Marilyn Langler	
 Website: http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~gronofamily/index.htm	

PUBLICATIONS

John Grono 1767-1847: Our Old Colonial Neptune by Robert Taylor



Cost: \$35 per book + \$7 postage

Contact the Association for an order form, or download one off our website.

Funds raised from the sale of this book will be divided between Ebenezer Church, Hawkesbury Regional Museum, and restoration of Grono Family Graves.

Reprint of "Two Hawkesbury Sailors"

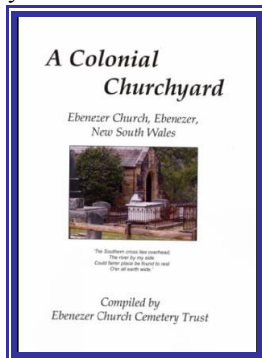
Advance orders continue to be taken for the second edition of
"Two Hawkesbury Sailors"
by the Grono-Books Association

To place an order (or for further information) please call **Ted Books** on either (02) 4577 3932 or 0415 901 159, **or send us an email** and we will forward your message on to Ted.

Book proceeds will go towards restoration of the Grono Family Vault in the church ground at Ebenezer Uniting Church.

Cost: not yet available

A Colonial Churchyard compiled by Ebenezer Church Cemetery Trust



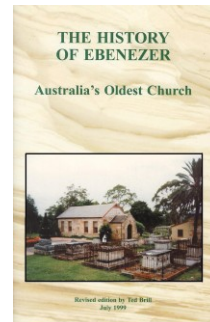
This publication was released in 2006. It provides complete transcriptions of all headstones/vaults and maps of grave locations for the cemetery within the Ebenezer Church grounds.

Cost: Book - \$38 (includes postage)
CD - \$25 (includes postage)

Orders may be placed with:
Ted Brill,
59 Tizzana Rd,
Ebenezer, NSW, 2756

Please make cheques payable to
"Ebenezer Church Shop".

THE HISTORY OF EBENEZER Australia's Oldest Church



This edition released in 1999 includes information on the fifteen church pioneer families and the building of the church and school.

Cost: \$6 per copy (includes postage)

Orders may be placed with:

Ted Brill,
59 Tizzana Rd,
Ebenezer, NSW, 2756

Please make cheques payable to
"Ebenezer Church Shop".



Memories and Family Stories

We all know how to trace our family tree, we search official records and usually we can trace where our ancestors were born, married, lived and died. The stories that made these people who they were and the challenges they faced are often passed down as “oral family history”.

It would be nice to have a record of some of these stories so that future generations could share them. Do you know any stories in your line of the Grono Family? The stories don't have to be about heroic deeds, it could be about the courtship of grandparents. Did anyone hold an important community service position, i.e. volunteer fire chief? Did a child get lost in the bush? There are so many descendents of John and Elizabeth Grono that there must be a wealth of stories to be recorded.

Person remembering the story:

Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Person the story is about:

The Story:

At some time in the future The Grono Family Association would like to publish some of these family stories.

Do you give permission for the Grono Family Association to publish this story?

YES / NO (please circle) Signed: _____

Name: _____ Date: _____

Please post the completed form to:

Grono Family Association,
1 Johnston Street, Pitt Town, NSW 2756
or Email: gronofamily@gmail.com or Fax: 02 4572 3805