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PORT MACQUARIE HISTORICAL SOCIETY Inc.



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## *President's Report*

Where would we be without our volunteers? This is a question I continually ask myself, and the only answer I can come up with is that we wouldn't be anywhere. Although our membership has been declining gradually over the past years, the number of volunteers has remained stable.

Importantly, volunteers keep our doors open, and admission money coming in (income that we rely on simply to keep our collection and facilities open and secure). Equally importantly, volunteers handle the necessary administrative tasks that come from running a society (and a business) and catalogue and care for our collections and create the displays that attract our visitors.

Unlike Port Macquarie's first "volunteers", the first convicts to come here, we can't promise a Ticket of Leave (and of course our volunteers are free to take leave whenever they like). As a small token of our gratitude, we can offer our volunteers a free lunch, and I look forward to seeing them all together there.

I also look forward to seeing members at the special general meeting (and afterwards).

Clive



History Awash or Awash with History?  
The North Courtyard immediately after a recent hailstorm.

### *Special General Meeting Reminder*

A reminder is hereby given that a Special General Meeting of the Port Macquarie Historical Society Inc. will be held on Saturday 4 May 2024 at 3.00pm at the Port Macquarie Museum. The meeting will take place in the back gallery which is fully accessible. Please enter through The Forest Courtyard.

**Business:** The following Special Resolution:

That this meeting votes by special resolution to adopt a new constitution, based on the NSW Fair Trading Model Constitution dated October 2022, as notified to members in the April 2024 Newsletter and circulated to members with that Newsletter. [*a copy is also at the front desk*]

All members are invited to attend.

### *Volunteers Thank You Lunch*

This year's Volunteers Thank You lunch will be held at Settlers Inn, Hastings River Drive on Wednesday 22 May 2024 commencing at 12 Noon. The invitation is extended to all our current volunteers. As in previous years, the Museum will pay for your lunch (selected menu) and drinks are available at bar prices.

To book please place your name on the booking sheet on the noticeboard or send us an email, by Friday 17 May.

National 20-26 MAY 2024  
**Volunteer**  
Something for Everyone **Week**

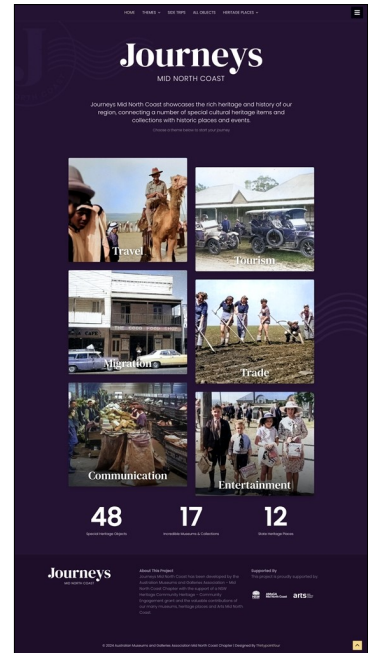
# Australian Heritage Festival

This year's heritage festival runs from 18 April to 19 May with a theme of 'Connections'. We are focusing on promoting the Journeys Mid North Coast website <https://journeymnc.com/> which creates connections between the present and the past, and between heritage places, events and collections across the Mid North Coast. Postcards promoting the website are available at the front desk and at other participating museums and heritage sites.

**Journeys Mid North Coast** has been short-listed in the Publications and Resources category at this year's National Trust Heritage Awards. This year marks the 30th anniversary of the awards. Winners will be announced on Friday 17 May.

**Arts Mid North Coast** and a partner in Journeys Mid North Coast has also been spreading the word about this year's heritage festival through a series of short video reels on social media.

<https://www.facebook.com/artsmidnorthcoast/>

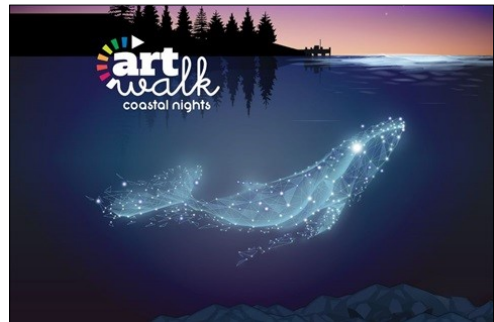


## AUSTRALIAN HERITAGE FESTIVAL

# ArtWalk 2024

ArtWalk is back for 2024 with the theme of coastal nights. A Port Macquarie-Hastings Council initiative, ArtWalk will be held across the CBD on Friday 7 June from 5pm to 9pm. We will be opening the Museum and featuring a digital photographic exhibition titled Coastal Vibes - coastal views, coastal sounds, screening in the back gallery. Coastal Vibes will screen for one night only.

We are seeking volunteers to help out at the front desk across the evening, ideally shifts of one hour, with 2 people per shift. If you can assist please place your name on the roster on the noticeboard. Thanks to those who have already volunteered to help out.



## *Conflicts & Creativity Exhibition*

Inspired by the Australian War Flag sampler donated to our collection last year, this exhibition explores the creativity and patriotism of service personnel, their friends and families, prisoners of war, civilians and communities during wars and conflicts.

Items featured are all from our collection, and demonstrate the ingenuity of people during times of conflicts to keep their hands and minds occupied and their hopes for the future alive. Amongst the items exhibited are several items not previously displayed.

Conflicts & Creativity is supported by a Saluting Their Service Commemorative Grant through the Australian Government's Department of Veterans' Affairs.



Australian Government  
Department of Veterans' Affairs

## *Patriotic Sampler Conserved*

Last July we reported on the acquisition of a unique patriotic sampler which was purchased at auction for our collection by a generous donor. The Australian War Flag sampler was in need of some conservation work, and this has been completed with the support of a Saluting Their Service Commemorative Grant through the Australian Government's Department of Veterans' Affairs.

The sampler was cleaned, remounted and reframed in its original frame by textiles conservator Tess Evans from Heights Heritage Conservation. The sampler is now on exhibit in Conflicts and Creativity showing in the back gallery. You can read more about the sampler at this link:

<https://ehive.com/collections/3977/objects/1647188/australian-war-flag-sampler> or scan the QR code.



Australian Government  
Department of Veterans' Affairs



# First Sunday Free

First Sunday Free is back for 2024, commencing on Sunday 2 June, and continuing on the first Sunday of each month through until Sunday 6 October, from 11am to 2pm.

The aim of First Sunday Free is to encourage local visitation and promotion. We'll be sharing the news on social media, please also share it through your networks.



18 MAY 2024  
INTERNATIONAL MUSEUM DAY  
MUSEUMS FOR EDUCATION  
AND RESEARCH  
@ICOM.MUSEUM  
@ICOMOFFICIEL

**ICOM** international council of museums

International Museum Day is held on 18 May each year to highlight the important role museums play in the development of society. This year's theme is 'Museums for Education and Research'. Museums have a pivotal role in providing a holistic educational experience for people of all ages and backgrounds.

## Diary Dates

**Saturday 4 May @ 3pm**  
Special General Meeting & Members Forum

**Wednesday 22 May @12 Noon**  
Volunteers Thank You Lunch  
**Settlers Inn**, Hastings River Drive, Port Macquarie  
(RSVP by 17 May, please)

**Sunday 2 June 11am to 2pm**  
First Sunday Free

**Friday 7 June 5pm to 9pm**  
2024 ArtWalk

## Acknowledgement of Country

Port Macquarie Museum acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the land on which we live and work, the Birpai people, and recognises their continuing connection to Country. We pay our respects to Elders, past, present and emerging, and extend that respect to all First Australians.

## Our Achievements



2021 National Trust Heritage Awards - Highly Commended (Tourists Paradise)



2022 IMAGInE Awards – Highly Commended (New Journeys Broad Horizons)

## Our Supporters



Supported by the



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