

LINN S C NEWS

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LECTURE AT THE STATE LIBRARY

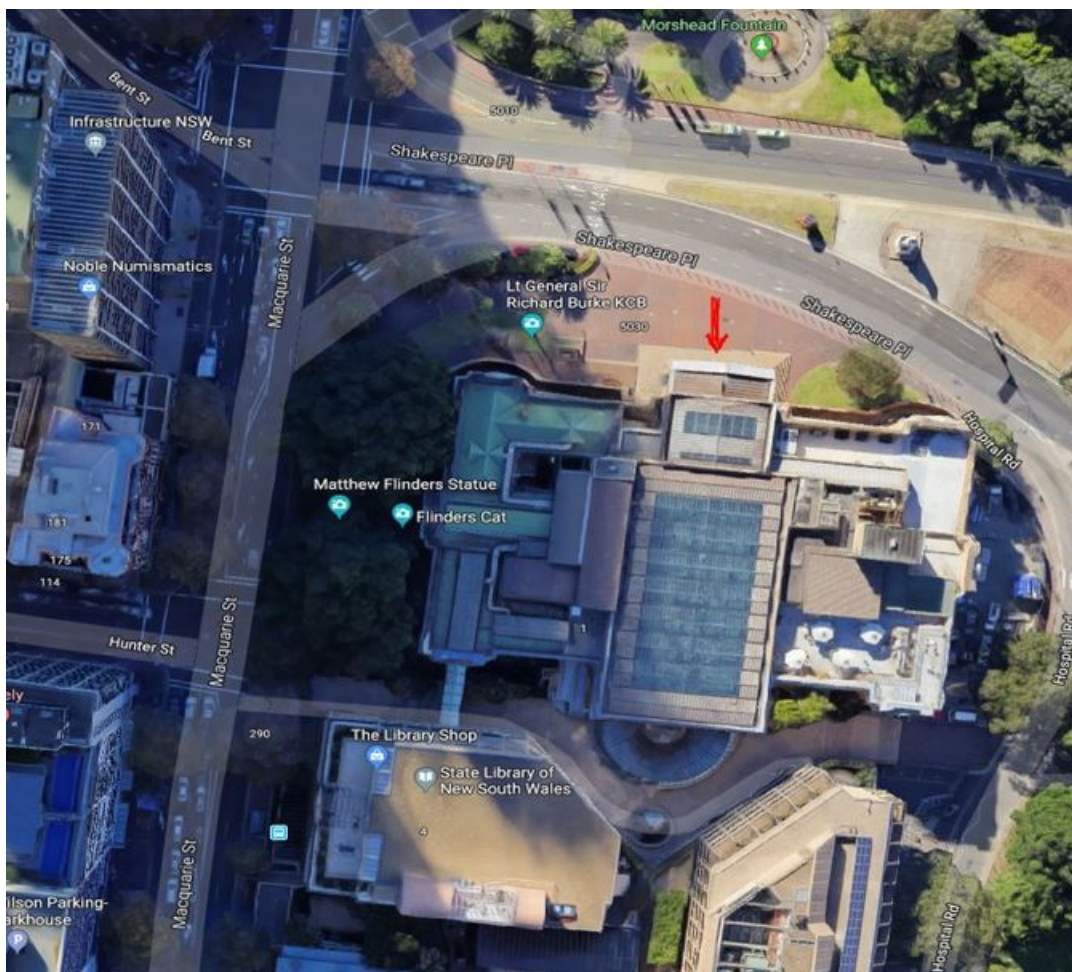
The Society will hold its first talk since relocating to the State Library on Wednesday September 18, in the Dixson Room, in the Mitchell wing from 6pm.

*Why would you want to spend ones' life studying seaworms?
All is explained*

Dr Patricia Hutchings, Senior Fellow, Australian Museum

Abstract: Seaworms are extremely abundant and diverse in all marine habitats and play a critical role in marine/estuarine ecosystem functioning. They exhibit an amazing range of feeding, reproductive strategies and morphological variation. I will attempt to convey this diversity of seaworms and explain why it is so critical to correctly identify them and where you can easily see them around Sydney. This explains why I still find them so fascinating and plan to continue working on them describing new species for many years to come.

**Everyone is welcome to attend (no charge)
Refreshments will be served from 5:30pm for the 6pm talk**



MAP SHOWING ENTRANCE TO THE MITCHELL WING AT STATE LIBRARY

IN THE NEWS

We congratulate Dr Helen Patricia Ramsay who has been awarded an AM in the recent Queen's Birthday Honours list, for significant service to plant science. She joined the Linnean Society of NSW in the late 1940's as a student member and has retained that membership ever since. Her research has benefited greatly from collaboration with overseas specialists as well as those in Australia. In research her priorities have included cytotaxonomy and chromosome studies as well as revisionary work on several families of mosses including those in the Wet Tropics. She has also contributed to the Flora of Australia for the Australian Biological Resources Study. Her long list of publications continues to the present day.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE LINNEAN SOCIETY OF NSW

All recent papers published in the *Proceedings* since Volume 132 (2012) are freely available from

<http://ojs-prod.library.usyd.edu.au/index.php/LIN>

Earlier volumes back to the Society's inception (1874) are available from www.biodiversitylibrary.org/bibliography/6525

NOTE: A CD is no longer distributed free

List of articles published in Volume 141, 2019

Benson, D. – Two centuries of botanical exploration along the Botanists Way, northern Blue Mountains, NSW: a regional botanical history that reflects national trends.

Hope, Geoffrey et al. – Science through time: understanding the archives at Rennix Gap Bog, a sub-alpine peatland in Kosciuszko National Park, New South Wales, Australia.

Mackay, K David & Gross, C.L. – Climate change threatens a fig-frugivore mutualism at its drier, western range margin.

Please check the Society's home page for recently uploaded papers by going to "LinneanSocietyNSW" then click "Journal (Proceedings)".



SNIPPETS FROM THE PAST

Presidential Address by Professor W J Stephens, in the Chair – 29th January, 1890
The following sketch of Mr Woods' life and works is taken from a biographical notice which appeared in the Adelaide Advertiser of Oct. 8, 1889, and which is attributed to the pen of a very near relative who writes with special authority.

« *The Rev. Mr. Woods the son of Mr. James Dominick Woods, of the Middle Temple and of Sydenham, Kent, who held a leading position the literary staff of the Times for 40 years. His mother was Henrietta Maria St Heloy, the daughter of the Rev. Joseph Tenison, of Donoughmore Glebe, in the County of Wicklow, Ireland. His maternal grandfather was the Bishop of Ossory, who was the nephew of the Most Rev. Thomas Tenison, Archbishop of Canterbury. Mr Woods was born at West Square, London, on November 15, 1832.* »

When his school education was completed he became associated with the Rev. Canon Oakley of Islington, whom he assisted in establishing the Catholic Schools of that suburb. After a temporary attachment to the Order of Passionists, he proceeded to France, when he became one of the Professors at the College for Naval Cadets at Toulon. Here his taste for geology and natural science received its first development. Returning to England in about four years, he made the acquaintance of Dr. Willson, Roman Catholic Bishop of Tasmania, with whom in 1855 he went to that colony to establish a system of schools for the education of Roman Catholic children.

From Tasmania he removed to South Australia, where he was ordained in 1857, and where he remained for some years, engaged both in mission work, and in the organisation of the Roman Catholic Schools of that colony. He afterwards became a missionary priest in New South Wales, with Sydney as his head quarters. In 1883, on the invitation of Sir F. A. Weld, K.C.M.G., Governor of the Strait Settlements, he proceeded to Singapore in order to explore Malacca and furnish the Government with some reliable information as to the geology and mineral resources. On his way thither he stayed for a time in Java, and was witness to one part of the eruptive outbreak of Krakatoa. He ascended two of the volcanoes while they were in eruption, and his experiences, as detailed in a private letter, were such as to determine him not to try the experiment again. His description of the scenes he encountered whilst passing through the Straits of Sunda was shocking. The sea was literally covered with corpses. However, it did not discourage him in other adventures in other parts of the East, not less hazardous than the ascent of active volcanoes.

Mr. Woods traversed the island of Java from end to end, and performed the same arduous task through Siam and Malacca, in each of which places he enriched the scientific literature of the world with his observations on the geology and botany of the regions he passed through. Sir Frederick Weld, shortly after Mr. Wood's arrival in Singapore, left the colony on leave, but before his departure he furnished Mr. Woods with credentials to the native princes, who assisted him in every way they could. Before he left Singapore the Colonial Secretary of the colony advised the British Government of the arrival of the Rev. Mr. Woods, and urged the desirableness of engaging his services to report to the Admiralty upon the coal resources of the eastern seas. The Admiralty accordingly detached from the naval squadron in the China Sea the Corvette "H.M. Pegasus," Captain Bickford, to enable Mr. Woods to make the necessary investigations. He thus visited and explored many parts of Borneo, Siam, Malacca, the Philippines Islands and other places. His reports to the Admiralty have not been made public, but their value was recognised in the munificent way in which Mr. Woods was rewarded for his investigations and descriptions. In a private letter from one of the principal naval officers on the Chinese Station the remark was made that Mr. Woods's discoveries as to the coal resources of the East has increased the strength of the British Navy in that part of the world by a force better than half-a-dozen good-sized frigates.

After a lengthened cruise Mr. Woods arrived in Hong Kong, where he was most cordially welcomed and entertained by Sir G. Bowen and the Admiral of the station. Then he went to ascend the Hoang Ho, but was compelled by the state of his health to return. He came back to Australia in "H.M.S. Flying Fish," which landed him at Port Darwin. Here Mr. J.L. Parsons, the Government Resident on the Northern Territory, engaged his services to visit and report upon the mineral districts of that portion of the country. After a short visit to Queensland he returned to Sydney after an absence of about four years.

Now, however, the continued hardships which he had undergone began to tell upon him, and his health slowly but surely gave way. « *For nearly two years he was confined to his house, and latterly he was so debilitated that he was unable to see any but his immediate attendants. He suffered greatly, but he bore his afflictions with remarkable fortitude, and he accepted his fate with resignation. His departure from life was soothed by all the ministrations of that religion to which he had devoted his life, and he left the world*

in which his career had not been barren of results with no regrets such as might disturb a mind less evenly balanced and of religious convictions less assured than his own. »

He had here many kind and considerate friends (among whom you will readily understand that Sir William Macleay held a prominent place), but he had been exposed to troubles of which he made no complaint, but which seemed to have made a lasting impression on his naturally sanguine and happy temperament. On this head I quote a few sentences selected from a brief but affectionate memoir of the departed, which appeared in the Centennial Magazine, Sydney, January 1, and was written by his friend and fellow member, the Rev. J. Milne Curran, now of Bathurst: « *Of his personal character the public knew little. He was a most genial companion and a sympathetic friend. There was a certain vein of sadness in his manner. The deep lines of care that furrowed and seamed his face were noticeable to many who knew nothing of his inner life. Even though in latter years tedious work was for him a stern necessity, he never lost that genial affability that charmed his friends. A glance through his correspondence shows that he had to bear trials that well-nigh embittered many years of his life. His sensitive nature never rallied from the hardships that induced him to leave Adelaide. He was forced to learn, too, after doing his all, in giving the best years of his life to the service of Religion, he had to face actual need, or appeal to the charity of his friends. While his name was spoken with honour and his work pointed to with pride by his co-religionists, he was himself on the very verge of want.* » Again, « *shortly before his death he was given to understand that he should comply with an exceptionally exacting Church regulation* n *“It is very hard, very hard,” I heard him say, “but I hope to practise a little of what I have been teaching”.* » n Requiescit in pace.



2019 LINNEAN SOCIETY OF NSW NATURAL HISTORY FIELD SYMPOSIUM



Photo: Henry Gold

WORLD HERITAGE ON SYDNEY'S DOORSTEP: THE NATURAL HISTORY OF THE BLUE MOUNTAINS, GEOLOGY, FLORA, FAUNA AND HUMAN IMPACTS

FIRST CIRCULAR

Scope

The Linnean Society of New South Wales has had previous field symposia in the Snowy Mountains and the Warrumbungles (last September), and now we are bringing one to the Blue Mountains, right on Sydney's doorstep. The previous symposia have included a field trip and a day or two of presented scientific papers. This time we have decided to add a session on general natural history for the public, to be held on Saturday 9 November at the Springwood Sports Club. We see this as a way of promoting the study and awareness of natural history in the region.

The symposium will take place from 7-9 November, 2019, and will comprise three sections:

- 1) a geological /botanical field trip in the western Blue Mountains on Thursday, 7 November, leaving from Katoomba.
- 2) a session of scientific papers held at the Springwood Sports Club on Friday, 8 November.
- 3) a series of lectures on general Blue Mountains natural history held at the Springwood Sports Club on Saturday 9 November.

Participants can register for any combination of the three-day sessions. However, seats are limited for the field trip.

<http://Linneansocietynsw.org.au>



"natural history in all its branches"

Costs and logistics

The Springwood Sports Club Auditorium holds 150 people and is located at 83 Macquarie Rd, Springwood NSW 2777; phone: (02) 4349 7796

Lunches and teas as well as program booklets are included in the registration fees for Springwood Sports Club sessions on Friday, 8 November and Saturday, 9 November. Participants must provide their own lunch for the field trip on Thursday, November 7.

Participants can register for any combination of the individual day sessions, or a combined three-day session. However, due to limited numbers of seats available on the field trip, preference will be given to those registering for at least one of the presentation sessions. Costs are shown in the table on the registration form.

Members of the Linnean Society of NSW will enjoy a modest discount on registration and field trip fees. Non-members are welcome to apply for membership of the Society to access these discounts.

For details of membership categories and our low subscription rates, please refer to the website: http://linneansocietynsw.org.au/menu_pages/membership.html

Cancellation policy: 50% refund will apply to cancellations notified up to September 30. No refunds will be given in October or November.

Train connections to Springwood. The Springwood Sports Club is about a ten-minute walk from Springwood train station. People may prefer to travel by train to the Friday and Saturday sessions.

Timetables with train and bus links to Springwood Station can be found here:- <https://transportnsw.info/stop?q=10101259#>

Accommodation in and around Blue Mountains : For participants requiring accommodation in the Blue Mountains, see this website:- <https://www.bluemts.com.au/accommodation>.

Publication of papers presented at the symposium

Relevant papers presented at the Scientific Session are invited to be submitted (though not mandatory) for publication in the *Proceedings of the Linnean Society of New South Wales*, subject to editorial standards and peer review. This journal, first published in 1874, is available online and is open access, and has no page charges (even for colour figures). A detailed set of Author Guidelines is available on the Linnean Society of NSW website. **Deadline for submission of manuscripts will be March 31, 2020** with publication likely in late 2020.

Contact

Linnean Society of NSW office: secretary@linneansocietynsw.org.au
or Dan.Bickel@austmus.gov.au

<http://Linneansocietynsw.org.au>



"natural history in all its branches"

PROVISIONAL PROGRAM – BLUE MOUNTAINS 2019

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7: Field Trip – The Geology and Vegetation of the Western Blue Mountains

- a). Tour leaders - John Pickett & Doug Benson
- b). Transport via hired buses from Katoomba – maximum group 50.
- c). Depart and return Katoomba, 9:00 am – 6:00 pm.
- d). Participants requested to bring their own lunch and drinks for the day (bring along or purchase at cafes and supermarkets in Katoomba before trip departs). Participants should also bring hats, sunscreen and wear sturdy footwear.
- e). A booklet and guide for the trip will be provided.

It is anticipated that demand may exceed the number of seats, so up to one month before the field trip we will only accept paid field trip bookings from those attending either the Scientific Session on the Friday, or the Public Lecture session on the Saturday, or both.

People who wish to participate in the field trip only will go on a waitlist. On October 8, unsold seats will be made available to those on that list.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8: Scientific Session

Held at the Springwood Sports Club, 83 Macquarie Rd, Springwood, which has seating for up to 150 people and is near the train line. Registration includes lunch and teas, and abstract booklet.

The registration desk opens at 8:30 am for a 9:30 am start of session.

This session will comprise approximately 24 talks of 15 minutes duration on various technical subjects relating to Blue Mountains geology/ geomorphology, botany, zoology, anthropology and conservation science. Submissions from interested parties are welcome.

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 9: Public Lectures

Held at the Springwood Sports Club, 83 Macquarie Rd, Springwood, which has seating for up to 150 people. It is near the train line which helps people avoid the increasingly crowded Saturday Sydney traffic. Registration includes lunch and teas and abstract booklet.

The registration desk opens at 8:30 am for a 9:30 am start of lectures.

This will be a great opportunity to engage and interact with the natural history community of both metropolitan Sydney and the Blue Mtns. The lectures will comprise ten 30-minute talks on a range of topics related to general Blue Mtns natural history.



Time	Topic	Speaker
9:30	WELCOME TO COUNTRY, INTRODUCTION	
9:40	Geology, Geomorphology	John Pickett
10:30	Vegetation & Flora	Tim Hagar
11:00	MORNING TEA	
11:30	Mammals	(to be announced)
12:00	Birds	Carol Proberts
12:30	Hydrology, Invertebrates (aquatics)	Grant Hose
1:00	LUNCH	
2:00	Archaeology & Aboriginal culture	Jim Smith
2:30	Scientific exploration of Blue Mtns.	David Goldney
3:00	Conservation Issues in the Blue Mtns	Haydn Washington
3:30	Fire in the Blue Mtns	Ross Bradstock
4:00	FINISH, DISCUSSION, AFTERNOON TEA	



REGISTRATION FORM

Name (please print): _____

E-Mail (and/or postal address): _____

Affiliation: _____

Fee category (please circle):

Full member / Student member / Retired member / Associate member / Non-member

Please send completed registration form to

- i) secretary@linneansocietynsw.org.au as attachment (indicate date & method of payment), or
- ii) Linnean Society of New South Wales, PO Box 291, MANLY NSW 1655.

Fee Category	Field trip 7 Nov	Scientific Session 8 Nov	Public Lectures 9 Nov	All three Sessions	TOTAL
Students	\$45.00	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$95.00	
Retired, & Associate Members	\$45.00	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$95.00	
Full Members	\$50.00	\$30.00	\$30.00	\$110.00	
Non- members	\$60.00	\$40.00	\$40.00	\$140.00	

- 1) Bank transfer: St George Bank. Account name "Linnean Society of NSW"
BSB 112-879, Account # 466447867. **Please label payment 'BlueMt_yoursurname'**
If we don't know who the payment is for, we will not be able to assign you tickets.
- 2) Cheque made out to The Linnean Society of NSW, posted to the above address.

Lunches and teas are included in the registration fees for Springwood Sports Club sessions on Friday 8 November and Saturday 9 November. Participants must provide their own lunch for the field trip on Thursday November 7.

Please indicate any special dietary preferences e.g., vegetarian, gluten-free.

