

GRONO FAMILY ASSOCIATION

Newsletter No.5

8 July 2008

Hello everyone, our preparations for our next reunion are underway and we have an exciting extra activity planned for the day before – which we hope will be of interest....

Hawkesbury River Cruise – Saturday 2nd May, 2009



As part of our Reunion festivities for May 2009 we have booked the Hawkesbury Paddlewheeler for Saturday, 2nd May 2009. This will give us an opportunity to see the river as John Grono experienced it. The 4 hour cruise will travel at a leisurely pace up the Hawkesbury River to around Ebenezer before returning to Windsor, and includes a two course meal.

It is anticipated that the cruise, including lunch, will cost between \$45 to \$55 per person.

So please keep this date free and join us for what promises to be a wonderful afternoon.

We will send out information in January regarding reserving places and payment.

Grono Family Reunion – Sunday 3rd May, 2009

Our planning continues for our next reunion – we have organised for tours of the Ebenezer Church grounds, as well as a walk down to the quarry and landing beach (a short walk from the Church) – we are very grateful to Ted Brill who has offered to conduct these tours for us. We will also have self-guided tour pamphlets available, like last time. We are preparing displays of family photos, family information, and other information of interest.

So don't forget to mark this date in your diary – we look forward to meeting you all in May.

When: Sunday 3rd May 2009
Where: Ebenezer Uniting Church Grounds
Coromandel Rd, Ebenezer
Time: From 10:00 a.m.

The reunion will be on RAIN, HAIL or SHINE!!!!!!

A detailed itinerary of the day will be sent out to all members in January.

“Two Hawkesbury Sailors” Reprint – Update

Ted Books has advised that the reprint will now be available by May 2009. The cost is expected to be about \$45 per book. Please direct all enquiries regarding this publication to Ted Books – see “Publications” further on for details.

Ted Books – Rowing from Brooklyn to Windsor

Ted Books will be rowing from Brooklyn Bridge to Windsor Bridge over the October long weekend. He is rowing in the boat built by his grandfather Matthew Books in 1890. It will take three inward tides to complete. The boat is built out of New Zealand kauri and was built for the school teacher at Leets Vale. It was then sold to the Irwin family at Sackville and left to a niece, Margaret Pogson who has given Ted the use of it. When he is finished with the boat he then has to find a museum to house it and at the moment is looking to put it in the Maritime Museum. He has two reasons for rowing. The first is to create awareness of the state of the Hawkesbury River which is silting up and the second is a fund raiser for Prostate Cancer. There is a river summit on 13th August 2008 and Ted is putting together a petition to have something done about the state of the river.

Family Stories

Thank you to Mr Adrian Smith for sending in the following information about his grandparents, Sidney George Smith and Emma Malvina Teresa Grono (a descendant of John Joel Grono)...

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).

Sidney George and Emma SMITH (née GRONO)

My grandmother Emma Grono was the great granddaughter of Capt John and Elizabeth Grono and the daughter of Thomas and Mary Diana Grono. She lived with her parents as a young girl in Gulgong NSW. Thomas her father, a master builder/carpenter, built several prominent buildings in Gulgong including the Railway Station. Like a lot of the residents the Grono’s caught the gold fever, and as a youngster I was fascinated and intrigued by my grandmother’s stories on her family’s many prospecting trips to the goldfields – particularly after rain they would speck for nuggets on the Mullock mounds! And pan the creek!

She inherited the Grono gene for longevity and reached the age of 91 years on her demise! Whilst her daughter, Gertrude May, died at 107 years and her youngest son, Cyril John, died at 103 years! Both centenarians!

Following is a copy of her valedictory when, with her husband Sidney George Smith, they left Ballina, NSW to reside in Sydney in November 1932. I was indeed very fortunate to have such loving and supportive grandparents! I am deeply proud and honoured of my Grono heritage!

A.B. Smith

VALEDICTORY – Popular Ballina Couple

Transcript from “The Ballina Beacon” c.1932

At the Manchester Unity Hall, Ballina, a farewell was tendered to Mr. and Mrs. S. G. (*sic*) Smith, who are leaving Ballina after a residence of 35 years, to reside in Sydney. The Mayor (Ald. P. E. Tighe) presided and apologised for several friends who were unable to be present. Beautiful asters were tastefully arranged around the room. The Mayor said that no one in the town had commanded more respect than Mr. and Mrs. Smith. Limelight had not been sought, yet as a resident Mr. Smith had shown himself an honest, honourable, and first class citizen. Horticulture, poultry, and other associations claimed much of Mr. Smith's time, while the sick and needy through the district hospital were very much in mind and no stone was left unturned to advance the interests of this institution. During the war period, the work of the War Chest, Red Cross and other war work was carried on assiduously by both Mr. and Mrs. Smith. They regretted that the guests were leaving, but in going away they had the esteem and best wishes of all.

Mr. E. R. Mobbs and Mr. Stone supported the Mayor's remarks, Mr. Stone adding that the loss of Mr. Smith to the hospital could not be recognised today, but as time went on it would be much felt. Messrs. R. D. Lang, A. E. Eyles, F. Faller, N. P. Giddey, Phil Lang, A. G. Brooker, R. Gould, A. W. Garrett, J. McNamara and Miss Bessie Smith all added their quota of praise to the work of Mr and Mrs. Smith, and each joined in wishing them the best of health and prosperity in the future.

The Mayor then presented Mr. and Mrs. Smith with an inscribed gold watch and wallet of notes, together with a beautiful silver “condiment set” in case.

The company sang “For They Are Jolly Good Fellows,” and Mr. Smith responded. He said he could hardly agree that he deserved all the good things about him. What he had done had been for the benefit of the town and district. On behalf of his wife and himself he sincerely thanked them.

“Auld Lang Syne” is sung as a finale to a very pleasant evening. Miss Cupitt contributed two solos and Mr. A. W. Garrett sang, and Mrs. McCredie played the piano.



Sidney George and Emma
Malvina Teresa
SMITH (née GRONO).
Photo taken 1929,
at their home in
Ross St, Ballina, NSW.

Grono Family Photos

We thought it might be of interest to members to provide a list of the family photos we currently have copies of – *spouse names have only been included where a photo of the spouse is also available.*

If you would like a copy of any of these photos most are available to be copied from our website (or will be added shortly), alternatively please contact us.

If anyone has any old family photos they would be willing to share – we would love to hear from you!

Surname	Given Name/s	Spouse	Parents
BROWN	Bruce		John Joseph BROWN & Frances Maria HARTLEY
BROWN	John Joseph	France Maria HARTLEY	Joseph BROWN & Matilda Squires GRONO
CLARK nee SMITH	Mary Ann		Robert SMITH & Margaret HARTLEY
GRONO snr	John		b.c. 1767
HALL	Matthew		Matthew Henry HALL & Frances HARTLEY
HALL	William Namoi		Reuben Namoi HALL & Matilda Mary HILL
HALL	Colin David		Reuben Namoi HALL & Matilda Mary HILL
HALL	Alfred Claude		Reuben Namoi HALL & Matilda Mary HILL
HARTLEY	Frances Maria	John Joseph BROWN	James Edmund HARTLEY & Jane WILBOW
HARTLEY	Keith Emanuel		Arthur Charles HARTLEY & Alice Elaine POLLARD
MOBBS nee GRONO	Maria	William MOBBS	John GRONO & Elizabeth BRISTOW
PITT	William Thomas	Margaret MORRISON	Joseph PITT & Elizabeth SMITH
RENDALLS	Cleaveland Eustace		Emmanuel Frederick RENDALLS & Rhoda Grace THOMPSON
RENDALLS	Cleaveland Eustace Darcy		Jonathan Philip RENDALLS & Emma GRONO
RENDALLS nee GRONO	Emma		Thomas GRONO & Catherine BYRNE
SMITH	Robert		(husband of Margaret HARTLEY)
SMITH nee GRONO	Emma Malvina Teresa	Sidney George SMITH	Thomas GRONO & Mary Diana KETTLE
WALLER alias THOMPSON	George David		Matthew Wright WALLER alias THOMPSON & Mary Ann HARTLEY

In addition we have photos of some Grono family headstones and vaults at Ebenezer, and a few from elsewhere...

Surname	Given Names	Date of Death day/month/year	Cemetery
BOOKS	Alexander	1/9/1864	Ebenezer
BOOKS	Hercules	5/7/1880	Ebenezer
BOOKS nee GRONO	Margaret	16/5/1878	Ebenezer
GRONO	Esther Maria	18/05/1898	Ebenezer
GRONO	George	22/05/1920	Ebenezer
GRONO	Henry	10/04/1918	Ebenezer
GRONO	James Alexander	3/2/1829	Ebenezer
GRONO	John	22/01/1917	Ebenezer
GRONO	Maria	7/11/1900	Ebenezer
GRONO	Thomas	14/9/1875	Ebenezer
GRONO	William	19/6/1876	Ebenezer
GRONO	Esther	8/12/1886	Ebenezer
GRONO nee BRISTOW	Elizabeth	14/7/1848	Ebenezer
GRONO snr	John	4/5/1847	Ebenezer
McKENZIE	Robert	19/2/1825	Ebenezer
PITT	William Thomas	25/06/1937	Mudgee
SMALLWOOD	Daniel James	1/05/1907	Ebenezer
SMALLWOOD	Daniel James	15/01/1901	Ebenezer
SMALLWOOD	Zephenia Heber	4/07/1943	Ebenezer
SMALLWOOD nee GRONO	Elizabeth Ann	24/9/1891	Ebenezer
SMITH	Robert	25/2/1887	Wilberforce
SMITH nee HARTLEY	Margaret	1/1/1867	Wilberforce

GFA Finances 2008

On the next page you will find a summary of the income and expenditure of the Grono Family Association for the financial year 2007-08.

We have recently undertaken a third print run (50 copies) of “John Grono 1767-1847” and made donations to the Ebenezer Church and Hawkesbury Museum from the proceeds of the second print run of the book “John Grono 1767-1847”.

Grono Family Association
Statement of Income and Expenditure
for the period 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2008

	2008			2007		
	TOTAL	Member	Non-Member	TOTAL	Member	Non-Member
<u>Income</u>						
Book Sales - John Grono 1767-1847	1,100.00	280.00	820.00	3,325.00	2,765.00	560.00
Postage - Books	108.00	56.00	52.00	239.00	141.00	98.00
Membership Fees	390.00	390.00	-	1,740.00	1,740.00	-
Donations	76.00	76.00	-	-	-	-
Bank Interest	9.69	-	9.69	0.02	-	0.02
TOTAL INCOME	1,683.69	802.00	881.69	5,304.02	4,646.00	658.02
<u>Expenditure</u>						
Book printing costs	1,045.00	261.25	783.75	3,135.00	2,403.50	731.50
Book ISBN costs	-	-	-	119.00	119.00	-
Postage - Books	94.50	48.78	45.73	281.45	135.42	146.03
Postage - Other	10.00	4.50	5.50	109.66	6.83	102.83
Membership	-	-	-	-	-	-
Reunions	100.00	100.00	-	91.56	91.56	-
Other	120.00	120.00	-	14.92	14.92	-
Bank Charges (split 80%/20%)	1.05	0.84	0.21	9.45	7.56	1.89
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	1,370.55	535.37	835.19	3,761.04	2,778.79	982.25
SURPLUS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE	313.14	266.64	46.51	1,542.98	1,867.21	324.23
Donations to Ebenezer Church	221.00			92.00		
Donations to Hawkesbury Museum	110.50			46.00		
SURPLUS/DEFICIT AFTER DONATIONS ETC...	- 18.36			1,404.98		

Grono Family Association
Balance Sheet
for the period 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2008

<u>Assets</u>		<u>Liabilities</u>	
Cash in bank	1,386.62		0
		<u>Equity</u>	
		Retained Profits	1,386.62
	<u>1,386.62</u>		<u>1,386.62</u>

Other Dates for your Diary

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.

Are Your Contact Details Up to Date?

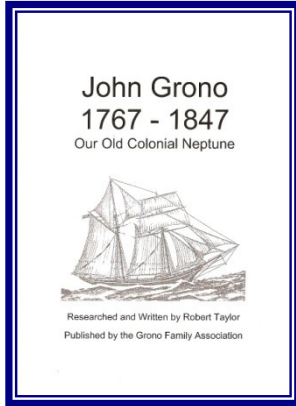
Please remember to forward your new email address or mailing address details to us if you move. Thank you.

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: Karen Mills	
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

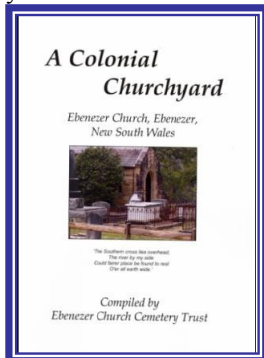
"Two Hawkesbury Sailors" by the Grono-Books Association

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: approximately \$45 per book

A Colonial Churchyard compiled by Ebenezer Church Cemetery Trust



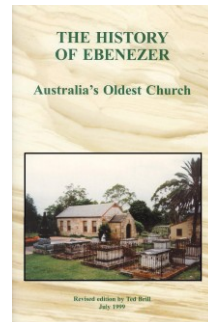
This publication was released in 2006. It provides complete transcriptions of all headstones/vaults and maps of grave locations for the cemetery within the Ebenezer Church grounds.

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:
