

**EXCURSION WITH THE NORTH SHORE HISTORICAL SOCIETY –
HISTORIC ST ALBANS, "THE FORGOTTEN VALLEY ", THURSDAY 16
APRIL 2015**

The North Shore Historical Society has kindly offered to provide five places to Mosman Historical Society members on a first come first served basis for the excursion.

This is a rare opportunity to step back in time and visit historic St Albans situated on the upper reaches of the Hawkesbury River.

St Albans was established in about 1835 on the famous old convict built Great Northern Road, traces of which can still be seen. With its rich alluvial river soil it became a thriving farming community with the local produce shipped down the river.

Following the establishment of the NSW Railways in the mid 1800s and better alternative roads it became a bypassed "Forgotten Valley" locked in time but still retaining all its old world charm.

On the way to St Albans we will stop briefly for a picnic morning tea at Wisemans Ferry township named after Solomon Wiseman, the founder of the river ferry crossing and the builder of the charming historic Wisemans Ferry Inn (about 1827), which still retains much of the original sandstone. The Inn is claimed to be the most haunted building in NSW with reports of Wiseman's murdered wife Jane wandering at night along the corridors.

After leaving Wisemans Ferry our bus will cross the river on the punt, one of only four left in NSW. We will then closely follow the river while enjoying the beautiful local scenery until we reach our lunch stop, the picturesque historic Settlers Inn (about 1836) built from convict-hewn sandstone.

After a relaxed country style hot lunch (your cost and selection) we will go on a short drive looking at local buildings of interest before heading home, arriving back at approximately 4.30 PM.

COST PER PERSON IS \$30. This covers community bus hire but **excludes** lunch (your cost and selection). It is suggested that you bring your own picnic morning tea.

MOSMAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERS WISHING TO TAKE PART SHOULD ADVISE DAVID CARMENT ON 0418857182 OR dcarment@bigpond.net.au BEFORE 1 MARCH 2015. PLEASE DO NOT PAY UNTIL HE CONFIRMS YOUR PARTICIPATION AND ASKS YOU TO DO SO.

PARTICIPANTS MEET AT THE NORTH SYDNEY COUNCIL CAR PARK (BEHIND THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS) FOR A 9.15 AM SHARP DEPARTURE.

Further information about the excursion is available from the North Shore Historical Society's Don Orr on 99552616 or don3070@exemail.com.au.