

RDHS Membership Application

Membership includes receiving a monthly e-newsletter, the *Ryde Recorder* four times a year (electronic version) and free access to RDHS archives and resources.

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Name: ……

Address: ……

Phone: ……

Email: ……

☐ Individual @ $30 per year * ☐ Family @ $40 per year *

☐ Family @ $40 per year * ☐ Pensioner/Student @ $25 per year*

* *Includes electronic copy of The Ryde Recorder*

☐ *Ryde Recorder* print copy with membership @ $10 per year

By direct transfer to
Westpac Bank Ryde: BSB 032088, Account 801289 **and** send an email with your details to info@rydehistory.org.au

Ryde District History

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Membership Form

Ryde District Historical Society Inc
and Family History Study Group

Today's Ryde District was originally the home of the Wallumedegal people of the Dharug nation. Living on the foreshores of the Parramatta River, they were united by a common language, had strong ties of kinship, and were skilled hunter-fisher-gatherers.

In the early 1790s the area was settled by Europeans with the first land grants made to marines in the Field of Mars area in 1792 and to emancipated convicts in the district known as Eastern Farms.



Tram terminus, Ryde

Contact with Sydney and Parramatta during this period was by boat and by 1803 the district was known as Kissing Point. Along with settlement came churches, cemeteries, schools, shops and eventually bridges which improved transport to and from the area. For years nearly all transport would have been along the rivers or over the rough road from Parramatta. Reliable steamer services began in the 1830s and a bridge over the Parramatta River at Gladesville linked Ryde to Sydney by road in 1881.

The district was proclaimed as the Municipality of Ryde in 1870, and during this period it was an important provider of produce to the burgeoning colony. The area had a vast complex of orchards, market gardens, poultry farms and flower farms.

The coming of the railway in 1886 at Meadowbank confirmed the importance of the settlement of Ryde and began its conversion from a rural district to one with residential, light industrial and recreational aspects.

Ryde District Historical Society (RDHS) has strong links to the community through connections within the local district and regular attendance at community events and groups interested in local heritage.

Since it began in 1961 the Society has been dedicated to collecting and recording the history of the area. Members can assist people to research the history of their land, their house, the local area and district residents. Guidance can be given to those who are researching their own family history.

Projects of historic significance to the Ryde District are undertaken and members are encouraged to participate.

RDHS is in the process of digitising the collection which is held in vertical files in the archives. Projects include cemetery transcribing and photography at the Field of Mars Cemetery; Mapping Ryde - a digital database; series publications on suburbs of Ryde, people of historical interest and other topics. Discovering Your Neighbourhood and Your Story is Worth Remembering.

Suburbs included in the Ryde District are: Chatswood West, Denistone, Denistone East, Denistone West, East Ryde, Eastwood, Gladesville, Macquarie Park, Marsfield, Meadowbank, Melrose Park, North Ryde, Putney, Ryde, Tennyson Point, West Ryde.

As a member, you are encouraged to bring your skills to help a friendly team and enrich your knowledge of your local area.

We welcome volunteers to assist with our projects.

info@rydehistory.org.au www.rydehistory.org.au

Meetings are held at Willandra House, 770 Victoria Road, entering from Belmore and Willandra Streets, with ample parking available.

Regular meetings are on the second Saturday of the month, February to November from 10am with speakers on family, local and Australian history, as well as discussions of interest.

Open Days are held on the third Sunday of the month, March to November from 11am till 2pm, with speakers on topics of interest, and relevant displays.

Tours, excursions and events are conducted throughout the year.

The Library and Archives are open for research on Fridays 10am to 2pm, and after the Saturday meetings.