

Author Ros Dale

BIO

- Management and member of the Berrima Historical Society
- Volunteer of the Museum and Court House, Berrima
- Researcher and author of several books related to Berrima
- Made a submission to Blue Sox re a Museum component

Views on the GAOL redevelopment

1. I am sure with the right planning the development can be an asset both to Berrima and Blue Sox. In the cases of other Gaols which have been re-purposed that I have researched, there is strong potential for the site, with or without the proposed accommodation along the riverbank.
2. My concerns are mainly but not solely regarding maintaining the historical importance of the site. It would be appropriate to have a tasteful display (by way of video at least) to show visitors the importance of the Gaol from 1840 to 2020, as a Correctional Centre and to the community it served. It has had a rich history.
3. In regard to the historical importance of the site, I would encourage an extensive archaeological project relating to the bodies buried in the south west corner of the site which could be used as a public relations exercise, the skulls of Lucretia Dunkley and Martin Beech could be repatriated with the bodies and the project, if filmed, could be a drawcard for visitors to the Gaol and also be a valuable teach resource for archaeology students. Two local archaeologists have confirmed their interest in this project should it be allowed.

These comments are not a detailed nor a full disclosure of my observations regarding the Gaol.

Regards

Ros Dale