

CARPACCHINOS.

LIVERPOOL REGIONAL MUSEUM and COLLINGWOOD HOUSE.

Wednesday 14th January 2026.

Meeting time was 10.30 for a guided tour of Collingwood house followed directly by morning tea (provided) and the museum itself.

The attendees (30 plus) were all on hand at the specified time and so the tours began in earnest!



After a short walk from the museum proper to Collingwood House the guided tour commenced....a magnificent work in progress...the kitchen was especially amazing!



Collingwood House is a heritage-listed former residence and golf clubhouse and now house museum at Birkdale Crescent, Liverpool. The original architect is unknown, however renovations c. 1857 were undertaken by William Weaver. It was built from 1811 to 1857 by convict labour for Eber Bunker, the father of the whaling industry in Australia in the 1790s. It has variously been known as Bunker's Cottage, Bunker's Farm, Liverpool Golf Course Clubhouse to name but a few. It finally became known as Collingwood House after the tiny, lost village of Collingwood that once existed there! The property is owned by Liverpool City Council and was added to the NSW heritage register in 2006.

It is interesting to note that most of the pieces of furniture are replicas of the originals where possible.

Many thanks must go to our guide for the day Anne Doran for her informative talk.

After another short walk back to the museum **“fit for the purpose”** was next on the agenda, presenting Liverpool's history from its early beginnings. Apart from this display there are many items from bygone days to be viewed and fondly remembered?



On the 7th of November 1810, Colonial Governor Lachlan Macquarie declared the head of the Toggerei-Georges River **“fit for the purpose”** of a township.

From its foundation, the colonial town embodied a series of early developments, notably this first Macquarie Town was the site of the first land grant awarded to an Aboriginal woman, Maria Lock, under colonial rule.

Fit for the Purpose presents part of Macquarie's vision for a new series of towns beyond the penal colony of Sydney. Administered by settler merchants and built by convict labour these towns were food bowls and manufacturing centres for Sydney. Liverpool was to serve as an inland port, utilising the Georges River as a water highway transporting wheat, wool and timber from Liverpool and surrounding districts to Botany Bay.....lots of photos, drawings, newspaper articles et alia were on display showing Liverpool's beginnings to the present day...very interesting indeed!

Of interest Gail Conroy and Ron Welfare both claim ancestry to early Liverpool!

By this time of the day hunger pangs were being experienced by the majority so it was 'get on your marks' for Liverpool Catholic Club where a fine repast, judging by the ensuing noise, was enjoyed by all and sundry...tasty food to be sure!

Certainly a very good catchup for our 1st meet of 2026...I look forward to more of the same ilk! Once again an eclectic mix of some of our cars was on hand....Mustangs to Minis to Morris Minors to Mercs, BMWs, a Valiant, a hotrod, a Jaguar, a Mazda, some VWs etc...some dreams here to be sure!



Thanks must once more go to our intrepid events director Mark...well done!

Ed.

