

KU-RING-GAI HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.



Including:
Ku-ring-gai Family History Group
Patron: The Mayor of Ku-ring-gai
Affiliated with:
The Royal Australian Historical Society
The National Trust of Australia (NSW)
The Society of Australian Genealogists
The NSW & ACT Association of Family History Societies Inc.

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JULY 2017 NEWSLETTER VOL. 35 NO 6

SATURDAY JULY 1

FAMILY HISTORY MEETING

11.00am WORKSHOP: *A History of Calendars.*

2.00PM FAMILY HISTORY MEETING, followed by: FORUM: *Ways to present your Material. Come with your solutions.*

Visitors Welcome Afternoon Tea Available

IMPORTANT CHANGES TO OUR NEWSLETTER

Unfortunately for Ku-ring-gai Historical Society, as for everyone else, costs and expenses have been increasing. As well as large increases in our rent and insurance, the costs for producing our Newsletter have gone up significantly. We are happy to absorb the cost of the printing, but unfortunately the high cost of postage has become prohibitive for us to continue to subsidise. Consequently, the newsletter will no longer be able to be mailed to you free of charge.

If you wish to continue to have your Newsletter posted to you without disruption, please pay your subscription invoice by the 31st July, including the \$10 surcharge.

If you would prefer to receive your newsletter by email, then please pay the regular membership fee and email khsinc@tpg.com.au to ensure we have the correct email address for you.

If neither of the above options suit your situation, then the Newsletter will be available in our rooms for you to pick up personally.

Note that this surcharge is still less than the total cost to us for sending out the newsletter, but it will still help us with our bottom line.

If this presents a major problem for you, please raise your concerns with the President, Jenny Joyce.

SATURDAY JULY 15

2.00pm GENERAL MEETING, followed by: *The Story of Eleven Maps*

Presented by Emeritus Professor Robert Clancy AM.

Scientist and map historian, Robert will trace Sydney's rapid development from a small and isolated colonial outpost to today's international city through the story told by these unique maps. He will begin with Capt. Arthur Phillip's plan for "Albion", and includes Major Mitchell's 1831 map, the first commercial one of its type.



Emeritus Professor Robert Clancy has had a distinguished career as a clinical immunologist, however alongside his professional medical interests, he has long been involved in historical research, particularly in the areas of medical history and cartographic history. Professor Clancy has been awarded an AM for service to cartography as a collector of early maps of Australia, and to the field of immunology.



Visitors Welcome

Afternoon tea available

JUNE FAMILY HISTORY MEETING

11.00am Session

Gerard Esquilant demonstrated the program *Family Historian*, which he uses to record his family tree. There was a brief discussion of other family tree programs on the market.

2.00pm Session

We enjoyed an enthralling and well presented talk "*A Rich Heritage*" by Sue Conde AM. She told us the interesting story of her ancestor, highlighted by John Tebbutt, FRAS, an astronomer extraordinaire. She showed us her amazing family tree going back to the First and Second Fleet.

In 1801, his family, including his grandfather, arrived in Australia as free settlers from England on the '*Nile*'. The government of the day gave John Tebbutt's grandfather land in Windsor, which he felt was unsuitable for farming, so he opened a store there.

John Tebbutt, on her father's side, was born at Windsor on 25 May 1834. John was educated at the local church school where his interest in science and astronomy began.

When John was 23, he married Jane Pendergast also from Windsor in 1857 at St Matthew's Church. They had 7 children, 1 son and 6 daughters. Jane's great-grandmother was Kezia Brown from Severn Stoke, Worcestershire. She survived the treacherous journey from England on the '*Neptune*' of the Second Fleet. Jane's great-grandfather was William Roberts from Cornwall, arriving on the '*Scarborough*' of the First Fleet.

Peninsula House was built in 1844, on fertile land east of Windsor, which John's father had purchased for farming.

In 1853 he purchased a marine sextant. As farming profits grew, he was able to buy better equipment. He became notable for the accuracy of his observations by his European colleagues. From 1853, John made astronomical observations from Peninsula House, which he later inherited after his father's death in 1870. In 1879, he built the brick library building and observatory. John acquired one of the best collections of astronomical books and journals in the southern hemisphere.

From his mid-twenties, his reputation grew within the astronomical community. He was considered as capable as his fellow Australian and international astronomers of the day. He taught himself farming techniques, languages with which to correspond with his European colleagues like French and German. For his theological studies he taught himself Greek and Latin.

His popularity rose significantly after his discovery of the Great Comet in 1861. He self published many books of his observations and

measurements. Many of these can be found at the Mitchell Library.

He died at Windsor on 29 Nov 1916, at the age of 82. He lived a very fruitful and successful life, and is buried in a self-designed vault at St Matthew's Cemetery.

His memory continued after his death. In 1973, an area of the moon was named "Tebbutt's Crater". In 1984 his face with his observatory in the background adorned the first minted \$A100 note, issued between 26 Mar 1984 and Jan 1996. One feels that it was a well deserved honour.



Regarding Sue's Mother's side of the family, there were Dr Henry Day and his son Thomas. I think they would probably deserve another presentation by Sue.

Carol Field

MAY GENERAL MEETING FLYING INTO DANGER: THE PAUL BRICKHILL STORY

Presented by John Ramsland OAM, Emeritus Professor of History, University of Newcastle, (NSW.)

John's talk on May 13, showed him to be an experienced presenter, and a prolific writer. He currently writes for the online Dictionary of Sydney, but his interests are wide and his output includes works on social, cultural and educational history, aboriginals, child social welfare, marine history, historical biography, the impact of modern industrial warfare, the historical significance of sport, Antarctica, and the gold rushes!

Despite most of Paul's early life being spent in Sydney, along with most of his life after WWII, much of which was spent living quietly at his flat looking over Balmoral Beach, Paul Brickhill is often thought to have been English.

His name was, of course, very well known as the author of "The Great Escape", "Reach for The Sky", "The Dam Busters" and "Escape to Danger". All became "best sellers" in many countries (and in up to 20 languages). Films based on his books extended his recognition even further.

He was the subject of much interest from the tabloid press, and from magazines, but he generally eschewed interviews, and most of what was printed about him in such quarters, was little better than speculation or confection.

Paul was much affected by his experiences

during WWII, including his incarceration at Colditz Castle.



Colditz Castle

He was not involved in the tunneling for the Great Escape from the Castle, nor was he to join the escapees, as he suffered from claustrophobia. Worse, in those days, and in the years that followed, little was understood about PTSD, and its effect on those who had lived through violent and/or oppressive times, and little or nothing was done to counsel those affected, or to encourage war veterans to talk about their experiences, their fears, nightmares, etc. Instead, they were often “labeled” as suffering from “war neurosis”, “shell shock” or other terms, all of which tended to characterise the sufferers negatively, as “lacking moral fibre”.

The same occurred following later conflicts such as Korea, and Vietnam, and it is relatively recent that the Australian armed services have geared themselves up to deal adequately with the adverse effects of military service on the mental wellbeing of veterans, and indeed of their partners and children. So, Paul was basically left to face his demons alone.

In retirement, he occasionally sought to write further books, but Ramsland has been unable to track down any research or correspondence that one would have expected Brickhill to have accumulated in the course of embarking on such books – nor indeed any such materials he must have accumulated in the course of writing his best sellers. What became of them, John has been unable to discover.

During Paul’s time at primary school in Sydney, Paul enjoyed all the adventures of Biggles and other fictional heroes.

His secondary education was at North Sydney Boys’ High, where Peter Finch, later a successful actor, was a classmate and best friend. Being a son and grandson of journalists, Paul sought a cadetship at the “Sun” newspaper, where Peter Finch was already working as a cadet. Paul’s application succeeded, but when WWII commenced, it was not long before Paul enlisted in the RAAF. In 1941, he trained as a pilot in Australia, Canada and the UK under the Empire Air Training Scheme. He was commissioned as a pilot officer in No.92 Squadron of the Desert Air Force of the RAF. But in 1943, Paul’s

Spitfire was shot down over Tunisia. Paul was taken prisoner and sent to Stalag Luft III, [Colditz Castle]. There he was involved in preparing for the Great Escape.

He also busied himself in writing up the adventures of many of his fellow POW’s, keeping the manuscript well-hidden from the Germans.

As the war began to draw to a close, the Colditz POWs looked forward to being liberated by the Allies, but the Germans dashed their hopes, and in January 1945, with Soviet troops only 16 miles away, the Colditz POWs were marched out of Colditz with the Germans’ prime intent apparently being to delay their liberation. In below-freezing temperatures and 6 inches of snow, many POWs struggled to keep up. Many feared that their fate was likely to be execution, as had happened to many of the “successful” escapees from Colditz. During this march, Brickhill managed to keep his manuscript concealed under his clothing, despite some close calls, and he and the rest of the POWs were eventually liberated by the USA’s 14th Armored Division on 29 April, after a trek that had cost many lives, despite the efforts of fellow-POWs to assist all those needing help.

John ended his presentation fielding an extended range of questions that confirmed the wide interest John’s subject had evinced.

Notes by Graham Lewis

JO HARRIS HONOURED

Our Vice-President, Jo Harris, was awarded an OAM in The general Division in the recent Birthday Honours. Congratulations Jo. The award is in recognition of her community involvement in many organisations, in addition to KHS and scouts. Jo is also the recipient of many other awards.

TOUR DESK

TOUR DESK IMPORTANT CHANGES RE KHS TOUR BOOKINGS.

As of July 1, and commencing with the tour **Behind the Scenes of the Capitol Theatre** (Tour number 01), we are changing the way of booking and paying for tours conducted by Kuring-gai Historical Society Inc. This new process should make life easier for participants, room volunteers, and the tour organisers, including our treasurer. All tours will now have a designated tour number.

Bookings will open on the date as set out in the Newsletter when tour organisers will be in the rooms and take bookings on a first in, first served basis. Participants will be able to pay by cheque or

cash on this day, and the green booking form will need to be completed.

The following day, the tour will be open to members and non members paying by electronically transferred funds (EFT).

KHS ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFER (EFT): BSB 032-083, Account Number 248971.

If you choose to pay this way, **please make sure that you identify your payment with your surname and designated tour number**, and then send an email to Yvette Reeve yreeve@optusnet.com.au notifying her that you wish to join the tour and have paid. Yvette will acknowledge your payment by email and send you a Tour Information Sheet. She may need to forward you other documents to be completed and returned to her by email.

If you have paid by EFT and the tour is overbooked, Yvette will notify you and arrange a refund of your payment.

Bookings (with cash or cheque payment) may also be made at the Tour Desk, which will be open at each KHS and Family History general meeting until the tour is filled.

There will be an extra charge of \$10 per tour for non-members who are always most welcome.

Your tour organisers are keen to be fair to all, and to accept bookings in priority of their receipt. If the tour fills quickly we will endeavour to secure a second bus. We would like to trial this system and will modify it as necessary for future tours as required.

Tour team.

NEW TOUR

TOUR 01: Behind the Scenes Tour – **Sydney's Capitol Theatre** –a century of entertainment .

Monday 28th August .

Have you ever wondered why the Capitol Theatre in Sydney's Haymarket is such a strange design? The site was originally a fruit and vegetable market and its many uses before becoming a popular theatre included at one stage The 'Hippodrome' and a Worth Bros Circus.! One of the most amazing things was the fact that the circus ring floor could be hydraulically lowered 3.7 metres to become a tank for performing seals, polar bears and aquatic events.



It should be a very interesting visit.

There will be a maximum number of visitors (20). Cost will be \$35 plus \$10 for non members.

Transport will be by train, with final details re train timetable etc. described in the Tour Information Sheet.

Lunch will be at own expense . Sydney's fabulous China Town is nearby.

Exploring Ku-ring-gai

These very informative and interesting Exploring Ku-ring-gai tours (99.6 km around Ku-ring-gai) are conducted regularly by Vice President Jo Harris. An expressions of interest sheet is available in our Research Rooms.

NORTH HEAD AND FORT NORTH TOUR REVIEW

On Thursday May 18, two community bus loads of KHS members set off for a tour of North Head and Fort North, which are under the control of Sydney Harbour Federation Trust.

Fort North

In the 1930s, Australia was still very much part of the Empire, and the UK was concerned about defence of its colonies. North Head had been a significant area for two Aboriginal tribes, and traditionally known as Car-rang-gel. The present day history of this area began with its fortification as part of the Australian coastal defence network established in the build-up to WWII.

North Fort was built with a battery of two 9.2 inch coastal guns and four 3.7 inch heavy artillery anti-aircraft guns.



Anti-aircraft gun

An extensive network of underground tunnels (the primary tunnel is 291 metres long) was created, incorporating a plotting room to interpret any intelligence received, a shell store and an engine room; all with 2 foot thick concrete walls and ceiling -some 6 metres under-ground.



Subterranean Electricity Generator for Fort



Shell Store

When fully stocked, the shell store could accommodate 250 shells. It was one of the most heavily fortified sites in Australia in WWII. Within the primary tunnel, a trickle of fresh water runs down either side of the path. The tunnels are narrow and of limited height – not a place for those who are claustrophobic.



Tunnel (note water streams on the sides)

The groups inspected one of the old gun emplacements which was provided with shells from the shell store several metres below.



Base of Gun Emplacement

School of Artillery

The second major pre-war establishment on the North Head site was the Army Base for the gunners serving at North Fort. It consisted of a huge barracks, a Sergeants' Mess and other auxilliary buildings, an oval and a parade ground. After the end of WWII the Army Barracks remained there till 1999, when it was moved to Pukapunyal.

It was arguably the single most important, and the first constructed in the national chain of major coastal artillery facilities installed in the 1930s in anticipation of a naval invasion. As the School of Artillery, the site performed a key role in the development of Australia's military capacity from 1917 to 1997.

The School of Artillery precinct on North Head has a vital link with the North Head Quarantine

Station. From 1837 to 1907 it was part of the Quarantine Station Reserve originally declared by Governor Bourke, and it incorporates the Quarantine Station's Third Cemetery, which demonstrates the final active stage of the use of North Head Quarantine Station between 1881 and 1925.

As the headquarters of the First Heavy Brigade, the School of Artillery with its precinct's WW II and pre-war structures (together with the North Fort and other WW II major artillery sites at North Head) is one of only nine Australian coastal military sites that demonstrate the climactic point in the development of artillery defence against attacks on major ports by naval vessels i.e. with the installation of the 9.5 inch guns. Many of the other sites are badly deteriorated.

On the cliff faces were mounted powerful searchlights. These were used when the Japanese submarines attacked Sydney Harbour. (See February 2017 *Newsletter* for story.)



Searchlight with Radar

The old North Fort today houses part of the National Artillery Museum which was established in 1990.

The tour party was broken into two groups under the leadership of experienced volunteer guides, so each had a slightly different tour.

Guided tours are available on Saturday and Sundays. Check: harbourtrust.gov.au/north-fort-tours for costs and times.

Story and photos: Morrison Hammond

TENANCY ASSURED: KHS LICENCE FOR RESEARCH ROOMS

At the beginning of 2016, the Management Committee began negotiations with Ku-ring-gai Municipal Council for renewal of the Society's lease which had expired.

Morrison Hammond had many meetings with Council officers. So that they understood the space which the Society wanted; a group of them visited our Centre for a meeting. The outcome is that more space now falls within the licence. In the past the Society had a lease, but now a lease is only available for a building; portions of a building are now covered by a licence.

Months passed with more meetings, and exchange of documents, until a draft legal document arrived. Much of it was unacceptable, but with "pro bono" assistance from Colin Dunston, the licence document was adjusted to our requirements.

The Council required a range of insurance policies before the licence could be granted. Helen Davies had the task of negotiating this requirement with brokers and insurance companies, which could not understand the requirements of an association rather than a business. Eventually, Helen achieved the necessary outcome, which meant that the licence could be signed.

The completed licence was tabled at the Management Committee meeting on June 8, eighteen months after the process began. The Management Committee gave a vote of thanks to Morrison and Helen for their intensive efforts on behalf of the Society.

The lease runs until June 2021, Rent is greater than previously, and rises at 5% p.a, rather than CPI.

CHRISTMAS IN JULY LUNCHEON

All members and friends are invited to share in a KHS

'Christmas in July Luncheon and Get Together'.



Where: Magpies Club (formerly Asquith Rugby League Club) opposite the Waitara railway station, Alexandria Parade.

When: Noon for 12.30, Tuesday 25th July 2017.

Cost: \$45 single \$85 per couple (pay on Entry)
Excellent 2 course meal, and drinks, in a very comfortable room at the well appointed Waitara Club. Parking available.

RSVP – Geoff Little - geofflittle@bigpond.com
by Monday 17th July.

TREASURER'S REPORT

This month, our operating income amounted to \$1,145. Our expenses for the month amounted to \$2,722, leaving us with a deficit for the month of \$1,577. Our net surplus for this year to date, amounts to \$3,777.

Annet Latham

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members to the Society, and hope to see them at our meetings, and in our Research Centre soon.

Doreen Gill, Pymble
Judith & Warren O'Shea, Croydon Park
Katrina Pickles, Killara
Jane Torr, Lindfield
John & Helen Townsend, Killara

RECENT ACQUISITIONS - May 2017

The following Cemetery Indexes have been donated by Jo Harris

Kangaroo Valley Cemetery and Memorials. Wendy Kuzela. Shoalhaven Family History Society 2000, 82 pages; index plus transcriptions. CEM 2577.

Jiliby Cemetery, Wyong Shire NSW. Memorial Inscriptions, Unmarked Graves and Unknown Burial Locations. Wyong Family History Group Inc. 142 pages Index and transcriptions. CEM 2259

Outback Burials, Volume One. H. Allerton, L. Cormie and M. Davison. 264 pages; includes isolated burials, and cemeteries at Angledool, Bureu Junction, Carinda, Cumborah, Goodooga, and Wee Waa Bench Book, Angledool Death Register, and Walgett Court House Death index to 1945. CEM 2832

Outback Burials, Volume Two H. Allerton, L. Cormie and M. Davison. 151 pages includes cemeteries at Collarenebri and Lightning Ridge and Walgett Shire Council Cemetery CEM 2832

Canowindra, Morongla, Woodstock District Death Records 1880 – 1945. 2008 Cowra Family History Group Inc. Includes miscellaneous death records showing details of parents, spouses, places or birth, death, marriages relating specifically to Cowra district. CEM 2804.

Ronkana Cemetery, Wyong Shire. Wyong Family History Group Inc. 2002. 34 pages, Monumental inscriptions, photographs and unmarked graves. CEM 2259

St Saviour's Church of England Punchbowl Burial Records. Joyce Ormsby. 76pages, Canterbury and District Historical Society. CEM 2196

"High on the Hill" Bangalow Cemetery Revisited. Bangalow Historical Society Inc. 2001. 138 pages, Index and transcriptions. CEM 2479

Bradys Gully Park Pioneer Cemetery Gosford. Central Coast Family History Society Inc 2002. 27 pages Headstone transcriptions. CEM 2250

St Mary Magdalene Church of England St Marys NSW, Record Series No 6. Nepean Family History Society Inc. 83 pages Cemetery inscriptions. CEM 2760

St Bartholomews Church of England Prospect NSW. Record Series No 5. Nepean Family History Society Inc. 49 pages Cemetery inscriptions. CEM 2148

Camden Catholic Cemetery. Wendy and Terry Nunan 1995. 72 pages, Index and transcriptions. CEM 2570

Rylstone Cemetery, Record Series No 10. Nepean Family History Society Inc. 1983. Index and Inscriptions. CEM 2263

Forster and Bungwahl Cemetery Records. Manning Wallamba Family History Society. 48 pages Index and transcriptions. CEM 2428

Monumental Inscriptions Monaro. Heraldry and Genealogy Society of Canberra, 1982. 195 pages Index and transcriptions. CEM 24630

The Redbank Uniting Church (Formerly Wesleyan Chapel). Debbie Hayes 2004. Picton and District Historical and Family History Society. 132 pages, transcriptions and photographs. CEM 2571

Singleton and District Headstone Inscriptions Vol 5. Family History Society Singleton. 151 pages, Index and transcriptions. CEM 2330

Singleton and District Headstone Inscriptions Vol 2. Whittingham 2nd Edition Family History Society Singleton. 14 pages, Index and transcriptions. CEM 2330

Randwick General Cemetery, Burials from 10 September 1974 to 22 November 1983. Randwick and District Historical Society Inc. 251 pages index and map. CEM 2031

Index to Death Registers 1871-1918 held at Bega Courthouse. Bega Valley Genealogy Society Inc. 1997. CEM 2550

Cemetery Inscriptions of the Churchyard of St Stephen the Martyr (Anglican) Penrith NSW, Record Series Vol 4. Barbara Drady and Daphne North. 1981. 16 pages, Index and transcriptions. CEM 2750

St Thomas Church of England Mulgoa, Record Series No 60 Second Edition. Nepean Family History Society 1997. 101 pages, photographs, index and transcriptions. CEM 2745

Penrith General Cemetery, Independent General and Independent Lawn Sections 1 & 2. Record Series No 64 2nd Edition. Nepean Family History Society Inc. 1998. 67 pages, monumental inscriptions and burial register records. CEM 2751

Woodstock Cemetery. Cowra Family History Group Inc. 200, index and transcriptions. CEM 2793

The Old Knox Grammarians Association 1929-1999. The First Seventy Years – A History. Anthony H. Osman 1999. 261 pages with index and photographs. EDU 2076-KNO

Lodge Knox, A History 1957-2010. Anthony H. Osman and Wor. Bro. Ian Leafe. 2015. 207 pages with index and photographs. EDU 2076-KNO

Government House, Norfolk Island. Commonwealth of Australia. 2016. Donated by Neil Falconer. 122 pages with index and photographs. 2899-NOR

Sydney Cemeteries. Lisa Murray 2016. Donated and signed by author. 399 pages with index and photographs. CEM 2000

The Coromandel Files. A.J. (Bert) Howard 2017. Book (35 pages) and CD containing details of ship, convicts, passengers and crew of 2 voyages of 1802 and 1804.

Prepared by Susan Alder

SIGS

IRISH SIG

At the last meeting we watched a video about a little known aspect of the Great Famine, and then discussed various family histories. Next meeting 1.30pm Friday

14 July will look at Irish resources in the Research Centre and share successes and brick-walls. Everyone welcome.

MAC/Apple SIG

Is in hibernation for a while.

GERMAN SIG

Next meeting 1.30pm August 14.

WHERE IS IT?

The May answer should have read

“COOK TRIG STATION”, WAHROONGA.
[Apology for the omission of the location. Ed.]

JUNE ANSWER

"The Lindfield Chess and Whist Club" building at Lindfield.

“The Club was formed as a club for gentlemen of the local community at the start of 1901.”

“The original location of the building was facing onto Gordon Road adjacent to the footbridge at Lindfield railway station.” The official opening was held on the 26 March 1902. “The Club Rooms were relocated to the rear of the cottage on Lindfield Avenue by horse-drawn dray on 22 August 1922.”

Later known as “The Lindfield Club”, the KHS Family History Group held their 2001 December meeting at the club house, we were welcomed by current members and were very interested to realise the hundred years of history held within these walls. (One member discovered a previously unseen photograph of her grandfather.)

This year, sadly, the Club has been forced to vacate their historic premises because of Lindfield suburban development. Fortunately the Club will continue to operate in Lindfield, making this Club the longest continually running club in Ku-ring-gai (if not much further a field).

The memorabilia, including note books, photographs, Honour Board, and even the original poster, by C Turner, inviting people to come to the official opening of the building in 1902, has been deposited with KHS for preservation.

Source:

Information in quotes from “The Historian”, Vol. 31 No.1 pg.25 by Michael Delaney, whose article gives a very enlightening insight into the early days of Ku-ring-gai and is suggested reading.

JULY WHERE IS IT?



DIARY DATES

July

Saturday 1, 11.00am, **Family History Workshop. A History of Calendars.**

Saturday 1, 2.00pm, **Family History Meeting Forum: Ways to present your material.**

Thursday 6, 2.15pm, Committee Meeting.

Friday 14, Tour: Jewish Museum.

Saturday 15, Volunteers' Lunch.

Saturday 15, 2.00pm, **General Meeting**, followed by *The Story of Eleven Maps*. Presenter: Robert Clancey.

Tuesday 25, Christmas in July

August

Thursday 3, 2.15pm, Committee Meeting

Saturday 5, 11.00am, **Family History**

Workshop: Benefits of SAG Membership, Presenter: **Heather Garnsey**.

Saturday 5, 2.00pm, **Family History Meeting: Two Hundred Years of St Matthew's Anglican Church, Windsor**. Presenter: **Ian Jack**.

Monday 14, 1.30pm, German SIG

Saturday 19, 2.00pm, AGM, then General Meeting followed by *The Archaeology of North Head Cemetery*.

Presenter: Loise Stedinger.

Monday 28, Tour: Capitol Theatre.

September

Saturday 2, 11.00am, **Family History Workshop**.

Saturday 2, 2.00pm, **Family History Meeting**.

Thursday 7, 2.15pm Committee Meeting.

Saturday 16, 2.00pm, **General Meeting**, followed by *A Nobel Prizewinner's Shame*.

Presenter: Don Napper. © Ku-ring-gai Historical Society Inc. and authors. The content may be reproduced as sourced from this newsletter with acknowledgment to named authors.

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Please send email copy for publication to editor@khs.org.au as early as possible, but no later than 13th of each month.

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Research Centre Hours

The Society's Research Centre is at 799 Pacific Highway, Gordon, adjacent to the Ku-ring-gai Library. The Centre is open to the public from 10.00 am to 2.00 pm on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday (except the first Saturday of each month when members have a Family History meeting).

Correction note received after publication

On page 2 is a summary of John Ramsland's talk on 'Flying into Danger: the Paul Brickhill Story' presented at the May 2017 General Meeting.

We've been advised by John that there's an inaccuracy in the story. He informs us that "Stalag Luft III was not Colditz Castle which was a different POW camp in a different location. It is not far from Dresden. The famous Great Escape Brickhill wrote about took place from the Northern Compound in Stalag Luft III found along a tree-lined road four hundred metres from Sagan railway station and Sagan township which was then in far-eastern Germany near the border (now part of Poland as Zagan). Because Brickhill's hero of *Reach for the Sky*, Douglas Bader – the legless ace pilot – was in Stalag Luft III (although not the Northern Compound) and then in Colditz Castle for the rest of the war, that may be the source of some confusion. Brickhill was never in Colditz Castle. A more minor point is that I said *I* had read the Biggles stories in my boyhood, not that Paul Brickhill had.