



KU-RING-GAI HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.

Incorporating the Ku-ring-gai Family History Centre • 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, and the NSW & ACT Association of Family History Societies Inc.

November/December 2007 Monthly Newsletter Vol 25 • No 10

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Rooms - 799 Pacific Highway Gordon - Meetings held in the Gordon Library Meeting Rooms - 799 Pacific Highway, Gordon

19 September Meeting

Early Wireless and Ku-ring-gai Connections

Jo Harris, who is Society Vice-President as well as Historian of the Wireless Institute of NSW, spoke of the first wireless contact between the Marconi Transmission Station at Waunfawr near Caernarvon in Wales and the receiving station in the home of Sir Ernest Fisk on the corner of Cleveland and Stuart Streets, Wahroonga on 22 September 1918. She also referred to her involvement in the subsequent commemoration of the first contact.

Marconi had transmitted the first wireless message across the Atlantic from Britain to America in 1901 and the 1918 message was the first such contact between Britain and Australia. The arrangements for the transmission were made between Ernest Fisk, Managing Director of Amalgamated Wireless (Australasia), who had installed an experimental wireless station attached to his home and the Marconi Wireless Station. The transmission comprised a message from the Prime Minister, W.M. (Billy) Hughes praising the deeds of Australian troops in France and emphasizing the need for recruitment to keep the force to full strength. There was also a message from Joseph Cook, Minister of the Navy, praising the Australian Navy and also stressing the necessity for reinforcements.

A monument adjacent to the Fisk house to commemorate the event was unveiled in 1935 with a speech by Billy Hughes and a message from Marconi. The monument is topped by a globe which was in turn surmounted by a bronze statue of Mercury alighting on tip toe. As might be expected the statue was stolen and replaced a number of times, until it was decided to store it in a glass case in the Council Chambers. It can be temporarily remounted on appropriate commemorative occasions.

The more notable commemorative occasions have been the 75th anniversary in 1993 and the 80th anniversary in 1998, when ceremonies at the memorial were attended by local dignitaries and Fisk family members. In 1997 Jo Harris visited the Marconi Transmission Station and presented a replica of the Mercury sculpture to the local Council. This gesture prompted the formation of the Friends of Marconi Group, which has established an exhibition of memorabilia at Waunfawr. The replica is permanently on display in the foyer of the Caernarvon Council Chambers.

The most recent commemorative occasion in Wahroonga was well attended on Friday 14 September this year.

Don Fifer

Coming Meetings

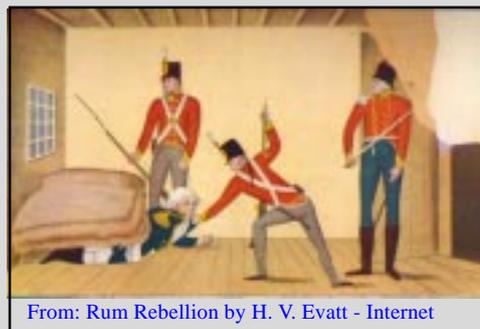
NEXT SOCIETY GENERAL MEETING
(Gordon Library Meeting Room)

NOTE CHANGED MEETING DATE

Saturday 24 November
2pm – GENERAL MEETING

Guest Speaker: Bill Woods
Topic: The Rum Rebellion

(Bill has a special interest in those aspects of Australian History which are too embarrassing to be publicised by “the powers that be”.)



From: Rum Rebellion by H. V. Evatt - Internet

The meeting will be followed by
our Christmas Party
Please bring a plate
Visitors welcome

NEXT FAMILY HISTORY MEETING

Saturday 3 November 2007
11am - Overseas Resources at KHS
2pm - Family History General Meeting
Topic - “My Spouse’s First Ancestor in Australia”

Afternoon tea will be available

Saturday 1 December 2007
(Please note: no morning session)

2pm CHRISTMAS PARTY
at
TULKIYAN
707 Pacific Highway, Gordon
House and Garden inspection

Please bring a plate
Visitors Welcome

MEETINGS ON 19 SEPTEMBER

Wednesday, 19 September saw two meetings – our regular General Meeting followed by the Annual Meeting.

General Meeting

President Kevin Callinan gave the customary reports on current activities including the new Display Case on wartime memorabilia, progress on preserving the Society's Collection, the Society's participation at the Fisk memorial celebration on Friday 14 September and the Tulkiyan Open Day on Sunday 16 September.

Annual Meeting

The formal matters required by our Rules were handled expeditiously including:

- approval of the minutes of the previous annual meeting
- President Kevin's presentation of the Executive Report (a copy of which was mailed to members with the last Newsletter)
- a Treasurers Report by Treasurer Doug Milne
- the appointment of the new Committee (details in this Newsletter)
- appointment of Reg Wallin as auditor

Speaker

At the conclusion of the meetings Jo Harris spoke on Early Wireless and Ku-ring-gai connections. Jo, who is Society Vice-President as well as Historian of the Wireless Institute of NSW, spoke specifically of the first wireless contact between the Marconi Transmission Station at Waunfawr near Caernarvon in Wales and the receiving station in the home of Sir Ernest Fisk on the corner of Cleveland and Stuart Streets, Wahroonga. This took place on 22 September 1918. She also referred to her involvement in the subsequent commemoration of the first contact.

19 SEPTEMBER AGM COMMITTEE FOR 2007/2008

The Annual Meeting on 19 September appointed the following to the Committee:

President: Kevin Callinan

Vice Presidents: Ann Barry; Jo Harris

Secretary: Don Fifer

Treasurer: Doug Milne

Committee members: Kerrin Cook; Helen Davies; Jennifer Harvey; Jenny Joyce and David Wilkins.

Max Farley remains as Immediate Past President.

The only change is the addition of Jenny Joyce to whom we offer a warm welcome.

Reg Wallin was re-appointed as Auditor.

GRANT FROM COUNCIL

Ku-ring-gai Council has approved a grant to enable the Society to purchase equipment and software to implement a disaster recovery plan should one or more of our networked computers fail. This will ensure that rather than having to rebuild each computer by loading each piece of software and each application an image of the configuration of each computer will be available and simply reloaded to any failed computer.

The grant will also enable the Society to have a license for one computer to access Ancestry.com thus opening up the vast array of resources from that site to members.

We are grateful to Council for this grant.

YEAR'S END IN SIGHT

There is a lot of water to cross under a lot of bridges between now and the end of December but, believe it or not, this is our last Newsletter for the year. In addition to the Society's 17 November Meeting and the Family History group's regular 3 November meeting and Christmas gathering (Saturday 1 December) there will be nothing by way of meetings until the Society meets on Wednesday evening, 16 January.

It has been a busy and productive year made possible by the work and support of so many members to whom we wish goodwill, health, happiness – and "thanks".

RESEARCH CENTRE CLOSURE

Our Centre will be closed from 15th December until 7th January.

QUIZ

The aim here is to match these notable architects with the significant Ku-ring-gai buildings with which they are linked.

The architects are:

Augustus Aley; Sydney Ancher; Walter Burley Griffin; Horbury Hunt; Richard Joseland; Sir John Sulman; Bertrand J Waterhouse; Wm Hardy Wilson

The buildings are:

Eryldene, 17 McIntosh St, Gordon

Greystanes (now Mt Alverna) 49/51 Burns Rd, Wahroonga
Ingleholme, 17 Boomerang St, Turramurra

Morningside, cnr Maples Av/Werona Av, Killara

Pibrac, 11 Pibrac Av, Warrawee

Poyntzfield, 3 Maytone Av, Killara (since altered)

Coppins, 29 Telegraph Rd, Pymble

Tulkiyan, 707 Pacific Highway, Gordon

RECENT ACQUISITIONS

Picture of Sydney and Strangers Guide in NSW for 1839. James Macelhose. Reprinted from the original by John Ferguson in association with the Royal Australian Historical Society in 1977. 190 pages.

Men and a River (Richmond River District 1828-1892) by Louise Tiffany Daley. Melbourne University Press (1966). Indexed. 200 pages.

Currency Lass – The Story of a Young Woman in the Convict Town of Sydney and the South Seas by Margaret Reeson (1985). An Albatross book of 270 pages. The subject, Mary Hassall (1799-1825), was a sister of Rev Thomas Hassall and wife of Rev Walter Lawry, a Missionary in Tonga and New Zealand. She died in 1825 soon after giving birth to her fourth child.

ORAL HISTORY

Have you ever wished that you had a recording of the meeting with a relative or friend where they disclosed information about one or more of your relatives or perhaps what it was like living 'where and when'.

Recordings of simple events such as these and more comprehensive structured interviews are what make oral history an important part of our family and or local history.

There are many opportunities to put these skills to use recording the lives of senior citizens who have resided locally for many years as well as getting information to put the leaves on the family tree.

If you are interested the Society will be conducting early in the New Year a short course on how to prepare for, conduct an oral history interview and record the subsequent information.

Please contact either Kevin Callinan or Ann Barry to indicate your interest. We have a number of local citizens who have expressed an interest in being interviewed. This is your opportunity to learn new skills and meet some very interesting people.

AN OAK TREE WITH HISTORY

From an entertaining talk given by Effie Bland to the Ku-ring-gai Historical Society many years ago Kerrin Cook is quite convinced that her Oak tree is one of the ones which she talked about. Effie was trying to stop the felling of an Oak tree in an adjoining property to her own for the construction of a tennis court. In the course of her very hurried (12 day), but successful, search into the history of that Oak Tree, she found that the tree had been planted by a previous owner, Annie Weston, whose father was the horticulturist in charge of the man-made landscape in Canberra in the early days. Annie Weston went on leave to England in 1939, and on her return, just prior to the outbreak of World War II, she brought many acorns from Windsor Great Park which she germinated in tins and distributed to her friends. These were part of the 150th Anniversary of the Girl Guides Association, and the acorns were supplied with that anniversary in mind.

How many other members have old Oak trees?

Member Profile



David Wilkins was born in Broken Hill, the youngest son of a mining engineer and a nurse. The Wilkins family left Broken Hill to live in Tasmania and then later to the eastern fall of the New England Ranges at Drake, a tiny rural community between Tenterfield and Tabulum. It was a town with few people, no cinemas, no pubs, one church, lots of cattle and many old goldmine diggings from the 19th century. It was here in Drake that David began his schooling, riding his horse bareback to and from the one-teacher school each day. His school education then continued and finished at Lismore High School where he was school captain in 1959 and a member of the 1st cricket XI and 1st rugby league XIII. He chose a vocation in the Army and graduated as a lieutenant from the four-year course at the Royal Military College, Duntroon. His career in the Australian Regular Army spanned 26 years including three years in Papua New Guinea with the Pacific Islands Regiment where his patrols into the wilds of that primitive and untamed land took him into exciting places including cannibal tribal areas. In 1966 one patrol had him in a remote location where the tribesmen claimed he was the first white man they had ever seen. Another posting gave him 14 months' active service in South Vietnam where he commanded a combat infantry rifle company with the 5th Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment. This "Tiger Battalion" became known as one of Australia's most combative and successful infantry units of the Vietnam War.

Following his return from active service David embarked upon a new career direction, this time in law. He graduated from the Australian National University Law School with honours, and worked initially as a military lawyer in Canberra and then Sydney, his positions culminating as the Army's Chief Legal officer for NSW and as a Defence Force Magistrate and Judge Advocate (for trials by court martial). He retired from the Regular Army in 1985 to practise as a barrister in Sydney for the next 20 years from Wardell Chambers in Martin Place. He then retired for two years during which time he finalised his research and wrote the family history, *From Brecon to Broken Hill; The History of a Wilkins Family*, (a copy of which is held in KHS Research Centre library), and then commenced his current part-time tribunal position with the Veterans Review Board.

An active sportsman all his life he continued to play squash, cricket and rugby union after his college days. In rugby he captained the Parramatta firsts and played at International level including with the gold-medal winning Papua New Guinea national side in the 1966 South Pacific Games and as captain of the 1968 Australian Combined Services side against the touring New Zealand All Blacks. He is currently a keen armchair follower of rugby and a playing member of Pymble Golf Club.

David has been a member of the Ku-ring-gai Historical Society for three years. He and his wife, Bethwyn, are empty-nesters in Killara and have four adult daughters.

History Notes

OUR ONE PRIME MINISTER



Billy Hughes - NLA

Prime Ministers Holt, McMahon, Gorton and Whitlam all either lived in Ku-ring-gai at one time of their life or attended school here - or both. Only one of our Prime Ministers, however, lived here for a major portion of his life. This was, of course, William Morris Hughes, perhaps better known as "Billy" Hughes or, as he preferred, "The Little Digger". It is well recorded that he resigned the Prime Ministership in 1923.

Much has been written about his national and international activities so we will focus for a moment on his time in our area. He held the seat of North Sydney from 1922 until 1949 when he moved to the new seat of Bradfield. He continued to represent Bradfield until his death in 1952 at the age of 90.

Information about his first wife, Elizabeth Cutts, is sketchy if indeed they married at all. Though he and Elizabeth had six children she played no role in his public life. This family lived at Lane Cove and was well cared for by the invariably absent politician. Elizabeth died in 1906.

In 1911 he married socialite Mary Campbell in Melbourne and she acted as hostess for him in Melbourne and Sydney. They came to 14 Nelson Road, Lindfield in 1925. They remained at this address for a number of years before moving to 43 Nelson Road. Number 43 had been the home of the opera singer/golfer Joan Hammond. Both homes remain.

He and Mary suffered a major tragedy in 1937 when their unmarried and beloved only child, Helen, died mysteriously in London just three days short of her 22nd birthday. It is now understood this was the result of a caesarean section which went wrong. The Sydney Morning Herald of 7-8 August 2004 reported that a son, David, was born who takes the view that some things in the past should be left in the past. It is unlikely her parents had been aware of the sad events as they were unfolding overseas.

Hughes was a shrewd somewhat irascible character - traits he exhibited even on the Killara Golf Course of which he was a member. He was a mediocre player but hard to beat and not beyond playing the "gamesmanship" card. They tell the story that he used his notoriously poor hearing to advantage. On one occasion his opponent asked him how many shots he had had on the hole. Twice Hughes feigned not to have heard and asked the opponent to repeat the question, adding on the second occasion his own question -

"How many shots are you?" The opponent replied "About 8" and asked Hughes for the third time how many he had had. To which Hughes replied "about 7".

(It is admittedly stretching the truth a little to claim Hughes as "our Prime Minister" because he had long vacated that post by the time he came to Ku-ring-gai. Nevertheless, the fact he lived here for so many years and represented the area in Parliament would seem to give us the right to claim at least a part of him - along with claims by Wales, London, Balmain and Lane Cove.)

C. E. W. BEAN AUSTRALIA'S WW1 HISTORIAN

Everyone who has read of the exploits of Australians at war would know something of C E W Bean. Charles Edwin Woodrow Bean MA, BCL (Oxon), LittD (Melb), journalist and historian was Australia's official historian in the First World War.

Born at Bathurst in 1879 where his father was Headmaster of All Saints College, he moved with his family to England at the age of ten where he completed his education. Some of his schooling was at Clifton College and in later years he applied the name Clifton to his homes. Returning to Australia in 1904 he was admitted to the NSW Bar. He joined the Sydney Morning Herald in 1908 and was posted to London in 1910, coming back in 1913.

He became Australia's official war correspondent and, with the rank of Captain, landed with the first contingent at Gallipoli. His many reports and subsequent publications covering Gallipoli and the Western Front, including the Battle of the Somme, made *C E W Bean* a household name. From 1919 through until 1942, among other activities, he devoted himself largely to writing Australia's official history of the War. His non-military commitments include founding the Parks and Playground Movement of NSW and also some involvement in the Town Planning Association.

He married Ethel Young in 1921. After travelling to England for specialist medical treatment he and Ethel settled in Roseville in 1925 - first at Recreation Avenue, later in Clifton, Ortona Avenue then at Clifton, 17 Eton Road, Lindfield where he and Ethel stayed until moving to Collaroy in 1965. He was, therefore, a firmly established resident of Ku-ring-gai. He died in 1968, Ethel in 1991.

Having in mind his role as Founder of the Parks and Playground Movement in NSW it is pertinent to note that his granddaughter, Anne Carroll OAM was, with others, a founder in 1994 of *Friends of the Ku-ring-gai Environment* (FOKE), a most active community group working to

preserve our local environment. She remains its long-term President.

POLICE INCIDENTS IN THE 1830s

Human nature has always perversely meant one person's misadventure can seem humorous to others. Nevertheless today's attitudes to decorum, political correctness and journalistic ethics simply would not countenance publishing reports such as these from The Sydney Herald during May 1831. Among the people who were reported for misadventures were:

** Margaret Williams, for being groggy, and it was strongly suspected all was not right in the upper stories, was ordered to be returned to government and in future to be assigned only to the Arcadian plains of the interior.*

** William Collins, for being comfortably coiled in the mud in the centre of George Street at one o'clock in the morning, was ordered seven days milling.*

** Catherine Kinsella, for obstructing the waters in the gutters, and reposing in them, was sentenced for one month to the third class in the factory.*

** William Christopher, for being picked up in the streets, roaring forth, "Old King Cole was a merry old Soul", at the very top of his voice, was ordered three days treading the mill.*

** Honora Higgins, for being so stultified to the rosy God, as to require a wheelbarrow to convey her to the watchhouse, was sentenced for one month to the third class in the factory. (Was "rosy God" a polite way of saying "grog"?)*

** Isabella West, for being muzzy and amputating a woman's finger, with a fine set of masticators, was consigned to the third class of the factory for one month.*

Nor was it only rum alone which brought police attention because;

** William Morris and Mary Irving were sentenced each to two hours in the stocks, for being found the previous night in a loving embrace in the centre of the street, labouring under the fumes of rum.*

Nor were womenfolk always featured. For example:

** Bartholomew Flinn, who bore in his person a strong resemblance to an asthmatic gallipot, was placed at the bar enveloped in a sheepskin, in which rural garb he had been masquerading in the streets, evidently rather muzzy. Flynn (sic) endeavoured to persuade the Bench that hard work alone was the cause of his being rather "narrow;" but they considered hard drinking to be the more likely of the two and sent him to ruminate in the stocks for two hours.*

THE RISKS OF GOING "HOME"

For several generations families continued to regard their country of origin as "home" and referred to it as such. Even today, some can recall older people using the term. "Home"

beckoned our first settlers and many who had money and the legal freedom to do so often responded to the call.

We have been conditioned to think of the long sea journey in those days as extremely hazardous. Risk there certainly was, particularly on the convict ships, but by no means was the trip as perilous as often portrayed. People continued to travel, risky or not. This comes to mind when reading the intriguing story of John Tawell who was in this country only from 1815 until 1838. In just nine of those years he made five return trips to England.

It was not at sea, however, that John Tawell was to meet his fate.

Tawell's story is too packed with events to be told adequately here other than in summary. Those wishing to learn more will find it in *Mort's Cottage*, in which Jill Buckland offers biographies of significant personages who lived for a time in an existing Double Bay residence carrying that name. The "Mort" is Thomas Sutcliffe Mort (1848-64) who figured prominently in the business and social life of early Sydney.

With a background as an apothecary and draper, John Tawell first came to Australia as a convict in 1815 having been convicted for forgery. He left behind excommunication from the Quakers, a jilted fiancée, a shot-gun wife and a baby son. Governor Macquarie quickly appointed him to government positions including the Dawes Point Infirmary and Rum Hospital. Within several years he set up as an apothecary in Hunter Street and subsequently prospered hugely. He became a landowner, merchant, and shipowner of substance and was highly respected as a philanthropist. His wife and child joined him later. His children went to the same schools as the children of the leading citizens of the day. He mixed and did business with Simeon Lord, Mary Reiby, Robert Campbell, Samuel Terry and many others of like status. His holdings included land in Pitt, King, Cumberland, Sussex, Clarence, Kent and George Streets as well as land further afield in Newcastle, Maitland, Camden, Campbelltown, Gosford, Bathurst, Goulburn, Double Bay, the Hunters Hill peninsular, Glebe and Blackwattle Bay.

When he and his family finally returned "home" in October 1838 he had amassed a fortune estimated at £200,000 which put him amongst the richest men in the colony.

From this point his life took an amazing turn. His earlier criminal tendencies reasserted themselves but in even more serious form. This culminated in being hung for the poisoning murder of his mistress Sarah Hart, with whom he had a son. It was suspected his wife, Mary, had suffered the same fate just two months after the family's arrival back in England. The execution was in front of the County Hall in Aylesbury and attracted an audience of over 5000 people. It received wide coverage in the contemporary newspapers.

John Tawell did indeed take a risk in going "Home" but not from the sea. For him it proved fatal.

Family Matters

6 OCTOBER MEETING

The 11am session attended by 33 members featured Shipping. Jo Harris described the 3-page hand-out she provided and the 20 books brought from her own library. There was a good exchange of information, numerous questions and answers, then members did individual research using books, microfiche and computers.

2PM MEETING

Jo mentioned the following items from the October issue of AFTC magazine:

- caution with Gedcoms on the internet
- plea from Bath historian researching six young men convicted of highway robbery 1842 and transported to Tasmania
- feature on Port Macquarie Historical Society
- numerous good websites

Books and publications

- The Winding Sheet, about Port Macquarie, well indexed
- 75th anniversary issue of SAG journal Descent
- Aldine Centennial History of NSW on CD
- Masonic Hospitals of NSW
- Business Who's Who of Australia 1965

Book reports

- The Speckled People, set in Ireland
- Billy Blue, with good advice in foreword: don't wait until you have all information before publishing.

Reports on Events and Activities

- Jean Smith - Australian Cavalcade of Fashion
- Elaine Turnidge - Victorian underwear at 'Carisbrooke'
- Catherine Williams went on a guided walk around Neutral Bay where her grandmother (who died aged 29) had been a domestic maid. This encouraged her to produce a book of 200 postcards in her grandmother's collection.

Guest Speaker Ian Small

Guest speaker Ian Small informed, entertained and greatly touched us with his talk entitled "The Kurradjongs", a Forgotten Australian Story. Ian was brought up in Inverell, studied WW1 for the HSC at the High School there but the Kurradjongs were never mentioned. There were no memorials or plaques in the town but Ian discovered the fascinating story in old newspapers.

The Kurradjongs was the biggest recruiting march, one of eight in NSW of which the best known is the Cooee march from Gilgandra. Ian advertised for relatives of the men and

soon got "hooked" on the story and the period. He interviewed people (found one aged 104, William John Finney), read diaries and letters, looked at photos. These men were part of the 33rd battalion formed at Armidale, also known as the New England Battalion. It left Australia in the ship "Marathon", crossed the English Channel in November 1916, the coldest winter for 40 years. Of the 114 from Inverell, at least 25 were killed. The Battalion was badly gassed at Villers-Bretonneux, some were seriously affected, one spent his remaining four years suspended in a saline bath at Randwick Military Hospital.

Ian has written the story as an historical novel, for which he won an award. The cover features a photograph of Ian's wife's grandfather, one of the Kurradjongs. It is now in its 5th printing. He has written a second book about Sandakan, and is preparing a third with a Light Horse theme.

The raffle of pre-loved books was won by Aileen Sergel who chose "Phillip of Australia".

SHIPPING ARRIVAL FORM

A member has provided a form with ships and family names but neglected to put his or her own name at the top. The family names are: Ward, Shervey, Carkett, Garling. Would the member kindly ring Stella on 9449 4388, or leave a note of name and phone number in the rooms.

USEFUL WEBSITES

www.sl.nsw.gov.au/links/fhs NSW State Library - This site provides links to hundreds of sites - Australian and International

USE IT AS YOUR FIRST LINE OF RESEARCH

www.rahs.org.au Royal Australian Historical Society

www.sag.org.au Australia's first family history society.

www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk Scotland's site which has almost 50 millions records of all BDMs and wills (moderate fee - images available)

www.aftc.com.au Australian Family Tree Connections with indexes

www.familyhistoryonline.net UK Federation of Family History Societies

www.coraweb.com.au Australian gateway to many sites

www.cyndislist.com Global gateway to genealogical lists

www.iwm.org.uk Imperial War Memorial, London

www.khfs.org.uk Kent Family History Society

www.motco.com Maps of early London

www.nas.gov.uk National Archives of Scotland

www.nationalarchives.ie National Archives of Ireland

www.nls.uk Scottish old maps

www.oldbaileyonline.org Criminal proceedings 1660-1834

www.paul_smith.doctors.org.uk Archaic medical term

www.photolondon.org.uk Directory of photographs

ryerson.arkangles.com Index from 131 Newspapers

www.scotsgenealogy.com Scottish Genealogy Society Library

www.sog.org.uk Society of Genealogists

www.tracesmart.co.uk Living relatives

www.genesreunited.com A UK site with over 7 million members

www.nzrh.org.nz NZ Roll of Honour

www.irelandoldnews.com Old Ireland Newspapers

www.nzhistory.net.nz New Zealand history online

www.londonburials.co.uk The London Burial Grounds

www.sna.se National Atlas of Sweden

www.archives.qld.gov.au Queensland State Archives

www.awm.gov.au Australian War Memorial

www.cwgc.org Commonwealth War Graves

www.cbccricketclub.com CBC cricket Club history

www.bdm.nsw.gov.au NSW BDM Index

online.justice.vic.gov.au Victorian BDM Index - download images of all BDMs

www.naa.gov.au/services/family-historians National Archives of Australia - photo search and WW1 service records

www.familysearch.org LDS Family Search with Parish Records and International Genealogical Index

www.genuki.org.uk Genuki - UK and Ireland Genealogy. Leads to many different site.

www.rootsweb.com Rootsweb - Host for many Genealogical Groups

www.freebmd.org.uk Free BDM UK -

www.findmypast.com UK National Archives - BDMs from 1837, Census Records, Shipping. Free to search, but pay to view full record.

www.nationalarchives.gov.uk UK National Archives - Wills, service records, Census records, Shipping. Free to search, but pay to view full record.

<http://mariners.records.nsw.gov.au> Volunteer gradually recording passenger lists from all 19th century Shipping Records.

www.ancestry.com Ancestry.com is the largest family history site online with over 4 billion names in worldwide historical records, family tree services and genealogy. Subscription can be annual, quarterly, or monthly. Recently some Australian records have been included.

Built Heritage

Rendall and Tikinui, Heydon Avenue, Warrawee



Rendall occupies a prominent site on the western corner of Heydon Avenue and the Pacific Highway, Warrawee. Designed by architect Byera Hadley, it was erected in 1917 by Gordon builder FS Underwood for

George Smith and his wife Alice who had married in 1903 in Bungendore.



Tikinui, next door at 2a Heydon Avenue, was designed by architects Waterhouse & Lake and erected in 1916 by Roseville builder James T Chambers. Their clients were George Alexander

Morey Smith and his wife Constance who were then living at No.40 Greengate Road, Killara.

In August 1916 Alice and Constance purchased the triangular piece of land that in total had frontages of 326ft to Heydon Avenue and just over 400ft to the highway. The vendor was William Morley Johnson, whose house *Gainsborough* then stood on the eastern corner of Heydon Avenue and the Highway. Designed by Mosman architect Rutledge Louat, *Gainsborough* had been erected in 1910 by Master Builder Thomas Jago.

It is believed both Smith families were related but it has not been possible to determine how. Constance was certainly related to the Moses brothers who for a time owned the first *Mahratta*.

George Smith, husband of Alice, was retired. George Alexander Morey Smith, husband of Constance, was a manufacturer and merchant. His firm, Smith Copeland & Co Ltd, is still in existence, in O'Riordan Street, Mascot.

The architects, Byera Hadley who designed *Rendall* and Waterhouse & Lake who designed *Tikinui*, were prominent practitioners of the early 1900s.

Hadley (1872-1937) commenced practice c.1895. Major commissions were the town halls for Botany and Willoughby, and Wesley College within the University of Sydney. In 1914 he became Head of the Department of Architecture at the Sydney Technical College. When Hadley died he bequeathed an amount to finance what is now known as the Byera Hadley Travelling Scholarship. Recipients include Ken Woolley and Lawrence Nield.

The partnership of Waterhouse & Lake began in 1908 and specialised in the Arts and Crafts style. One of the finest examples of their work is *Tulkiyan*, in Gordon, now listed on the State Heritage Register. Another is *Nutcote*, the Mediterranean style house at Neutral Bay, home of May Gibbs.

NOTE CHANGED GENERAL MEETING DATE FOR NOVEMBER

Copy for Newsletter

General copy for publication should be lodged with the Acting Editor, Max Farley at (mmff2@bigpond.net.au) **as early as possible** but no later than 7th of the month (except December) unless otherwise arranged. Copy lodged before that date **will receive preference** all things being equal. Copy is to be submitted on the understanding that the Society has editing rights and readers can reproduce it in whole or part with acknowledgement. Material should preferably be in electronic form.

New Members

We are pleased indeed to welcome to membership:

Mr R Grant - Lavender Bay
Ms M Menzies - Beecroft
Ms R Howie - Normanhurst
Ms L Roseby - Turramurra

We know they will enjoy their time with the Society and that membership will open the door to many friends and activities of interest.

Quiz Answers

Notes:
Eryldene was the home of Professor E Gowrie Waterhouse and now owned by the National Trust;
Greystanes (now Mt Alverna) was owned by Dr Francis Antill Pockley;
Ingelholme was for a time leased by P.L.C School;
Morningside was built c1937;
Pibrac was built for Ecclestone Du Faur;
Poyntzfeld, 3 Maytone Av, was a Sulman prizewinner (it has been altered);
Coppins, known as *The Pratten home* was built for Eric Pratten, a Senator and MHR;
Tulkityan is owned by Ku-ring-gai Council and its State Heritage listed.

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 from 10am to 2pm on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday (except the first Saturday of each month when members have a meeting). **It is closed on public holidays and over this Christmas period from 15 December until 8 January.**

Diary Dates

Sat 3 Nov	Family History	- 11am Overseas Resources at KHS
		- 2pm Family History General Meeting
	Topic -	"My Spouse's First Ancestor in Australia"
Sat 24 Nov	- 2pm KHS General Meeting	followed by Christmas Party
	Speaker -	Bill Woods
	Topic -	"The Rum Rebellion"
Sat 1 Dec	Family History	- 2pm Christmas Party
		at TULKIYAN
		707 Pacific Highway, Gordon
		House and Garden inspection
Wed 16 Jan	-7.45pm KHS General Meeting	Speaker - Details to be confirmed
Sat 2 Feb	Family History Meeting	

Administration

President	Kevin Callinan	9983 1525
Vice Presidents	Ann Barry	9144 6480
	Jo Harris	9489 4393
Secretary	Don Fifer	9482 4613
Treasurer	Doug Milne	9487 2853
Immed. Past President	Max Farley	9499 7113
Committee members	Kerrin Cook	9416 2586
	Helen Davies	9498 3754
	Jennifer Harvey	9489 6390
	Jenny Joyce	9440 2131
	David Wilkins	9416 8519
Appointees		
Accessions	Jennifer Wallin	9983 1871
Book Sales/Asst Curator	Ann Barry	9144 6480
Curator	Jennifer Harvey	9489 6390
Family History		
Leader	Jo Harris	9489 4393
Committee	Lyn Done	9449 7715
	Stella Green	9449 4388
	Jean Smith	9498 4468
	Peter Stehn	9489 9488
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	with Kathie Rieth, John King, Bob Ross	
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