



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.

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Monthly Newsletter

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May Meeting

President Kevin opened the meeting and drew attention to a number of current matters including “recognition” of our Volunteers, a coming tour to Tocal, progress on preserving items in our Collection, Tulkiyan activities, invitations to contribute to the Newsletter, renewal of our website, the 18th June Festival on the Green at St Ives and Family History items.

Publicans and Pubs of Early Sydney

Member Ken Knight AM, was introduced to speak on Publicans and Pubs of Early Sydney. He and Allan Rost, also a member, have spent several years compiling a searchable database on this fascinating topic. The CD will soon be released. So far it has information on 2500 publicans up to 1850.

Ken said that “Pub” names and signs were a study in their own right. Originally in NSW they tended to follow traditional English and, later, Irish names. Predictable titles such as *The Irish Arms* were joined by intriguing titles such as *The Yorkshire Stingo* (a “stingo” was a beer spiced with pepper), *The Swan with Two Necks* and *Help Me through the World*. There were five *Whalers Arms* in the Rocks at one time. Many names with echoes of the military were adopted such as *The Lord Nelson* and *Hero of Waterloo*.

The publicans, many of whom had army backgrounds, sometimes became wealthy and often owned or leased several hotels - for example Charles Bullivant, who had been an ensign in the 46th Regiment, resigned from the army after falling out with Governor Macquarie and had 8 or 9 hotels. One was the *Rag and Famish*. A hotel of that name still exists on the North Sydney site today on the corner of Miller and Berry Streets. There were colourful publicans, too, including women. Convicts could not be given land but their “free” wives could hold property and be recognised as publicans. Many of the women tended to be more shrewd than their husbands when it came to operating hotels and handling money.

For many years hotels were central to local communities because they had rooms large enough to hold meetings. Many political meetings and gatherings of local bodies, such as the Freemasons, were held in hotels.

So far as Ku-ring-gai is concerned, Ken not only gave a brief story about our *Greengate Hotel* at Killara but also drew attention to the little known fact that William Pymble, a son of the original Robert Pymble had, for a short time, a licence to operate *The Orange Tree Hotel*, presumably in the grounds of the Pymble grant.

All in all, a very informative and interesting talk well presented. Peter Bidencope offered an enthusiastically supported vote of thanks to Ken and Allan.

Coming Meetings

Next Society General Meeting

Saturday 15 July at 2pm

KHS General Meeting

Business: The meeting will consider a recommendation from the Committee to elect Max Farley as a Life Member.

Guest Speaker: Brigadier D O (Owen) Magee
Topic: How “The Rocks” Was Won

Brigadier Magee was an Army engineer and WW11 veteran who became Head of the Sydney Cove Redevelopment Authority formed in 1969. When he left the Authority in 1985 the project had gained world-wide recognition as a model of urban renewal.



Campbell's Warehouse- The Rocks

Afternoon Tea will be available
Visitors welcome

Next Family History Meeting

Saturday 1 July

11am - Members' research

*“The Society's Library” -
(the catalogue, library books, folders,
Kevin Brown's journal holders and Microfiche etc*

2pm - Family History meeting

Topic: Memory Keeping at its Best (Maria Gaudrey)

Afternoon Tea will be available
Visitors welcome.

Welcome to New Members

We are pleased indeed to welcome the following recent new members:

Caroline Dunsford (West Pymble), Barry and Margaret Eastment (Killara), Joan McDonald (Pymble) and John Wilkinson (Pymble)

We know they will enjoy their time in the Society and that we in turn will enjoy their company

Contributors

We thank the otherwise unrecognised people who have submitted information for the Newsletter over and above the call of duty. We also apologise to any we may have overlooked:

Stella Green, Ken Knight, Stuart Doyle, Doug Milne, Ian Ramage, Joy Walker and Margaret Wyatt

Not all the information we have received could be included nor necessarily in the form or words received. It is all nevertheless appreciated.

Introduction to Family History Research and Resources

Jo Harris will start a new 8-week course Friday 7 July on Introduction to Family History Research (10.30am – 1pm approx) with special attention to the resources now available in our Rooms and the adjacent Council Library. Weekly assignments need to be carried out. The \$75 fee helps buy more resources. Book (with fee) with Jo on 9489 4393.

Occasional Tasks

Some volunteers have indicated that they wish to have a more active role whilst rostered on duty in the Research Centre. A Task Register is being established which sets out detailed statements on a variety of jobs that can be undertaken. Many of the task statements relate to preservation functions with the tasks broken down so as to relate to specific objectives and a sequence of actions necessary to systematically complete the overall preservation objectives.

This structured approach ensures that work will not have to be 'redone' at a subsequent stage. It avoids unnecessary repetition.

Whilst the task statements are as 'self-explanatory' as is practicable, volunteers would benefit from attending one of the Wednesday preservation workdays to experience first hand the type of work and learn where the necessary resources are to be found. In this way they will be more

familiar with the 'occasional tasks' and be able to work independently when rostered on duty.

If you are looking for a task to do then please review the 'Task Register', which is in a red ring binder in the rooms, it will be updated regularly. It also contains a checklist of tasks to be undertaken whilst on duty opening and closing the rooms. Please feel free to attend one of the preservation workdays any Wednesday, between 10.00 am and 2.00pm, to become familiar with the tasks being undertaken.

Training for Volunteers

Volunteers are encouraged to attend a training session to update them on changes that have or are taking place in the Research Centre. If you are rostered for duty on a Monday, Thursday, Friday or Saturday you should attend between 10.30am and 12.30pm on the corresponding day as follows: Friday 30th June; Monday 3 July; Thursday 6 July or Saturday 8 July. If you are unable to attend on the day that corresponds with your rostered day then please attend on one of the other dates nominated. By attending this training, you will better understand the equipment and resources in the Research Centre, your knowledge will improve and you will be more able to assist others.

The Society takes this opportunity to acknowledge the contribution of the following volunteers who were inadvertently omitted from the list of Volunteers sent with the June Newsletter:

Heather Burgess; Elva Davis; Elizabeth Hassall and Jenny Joyce.

More on Street Names

Roseville's Clanville Rd comes from Clanville Estate, the name given his grant by Daniel Mathew but we do not know how Longford St was named.

Lindfield's Tryon Rd is after Admiral Sir George Tryon who was in charge of the Australian Station between 1884 and 1887. He was the first Admiral to use Admiralty House. However we do not know the origin of Westbourne Rd.

Killara's Lorne Av is after Lorne, the home of Captain Robert Pockley who lived where the Killara reservoir is now. However we do not know about Calvert Av.

Gordon's Minns Rd is after the artist Benjamin E Minns who lived there but we do not know the origin of Pearson Av.

St Ives' Lynbara Av is after **Lynette** and **Barbara** Morrie, the daughters of an architect but we do not know about Woodbury Rd.

Pymble's Bromley Avenue is after Andrew Bromley whose family were orchardists off Mona Vale Rd. We do not why Orinoco St was so named.

Turrumurra's Stonecrop Rd is after the Stone Crop, a Q-boat commanded by Captain Maurice Blackwood in WW1. However we do not have the origin of Berilda Av.

Wahroonga's- Gilda Av comes from the names of the daughters of Alicia Maher who subdivided the area. They

were Gertrude, Ivia, Lorna, Dorothy and Alicia herself. However we do not the origin of Glenrock Av.

Did you know ...

... that each year we include members' suggestions in the program of Society speakers? Five of the last years' eleven speakers were selected in this way. Word-of-mouth recommendation is a most effective way of identifying potential presenters who are likely to be well received.

SO, IF YOU HAVE HEARD someone speak well on an aspect of Australian history, particularly local history, someone who knew their subject well and was able to convey their interest to an audience enthusiastically, we would like to hear from you.

A brief note to Beverley Dunstan at the Society, or phone her on 9419 8526 is all that is needed.

Quiz

(Answers on Back Page)

Q 1 The Wahroonga Bush School in Burns Rd was opened in 1944. Why was such a large tract of land in such a desirable location unused until then?

- (a) it was owned by a religious order
- (b) it was set aside by the Education Department in 1931 but the depression and then the war intervened
- (c) in 1914 it was acquired for an observatory
- (d) it was used as a dairy to service local residents.

Q 2 Charles Gregory Wade, William Arthur Holman, Nicholas Frank Greiner, Barrie John Unsworth, George Stephenson Beeby and Thomas Richard Bavin. These were:

- (a) all Premiers of NSW. True or false?
- (b) all residents of Ku-ring-gai at one time. True or false?

Volunteer Rosters

Rosters for the next 4 months are available in the Rooms. Volunteers are asked to pick up their copy if they have not already done so.

Recent Acquisitions

The following are among recent additions to the Society's Collection:

BIBLIOGRAPHY OF CAPTAIN JAMES COOK - Ed M K Beddie. (Mitchell Library (1970)). 896 pages.

BELGENNY FARM - CAMDEN PARK ESTATE. Dept of Planning (1988) - a Bicentenary publication. Well illustrated. 20 pages

ST JOHN'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (WAHROONGA). Jubilee publication (1898-1948)

Profile of a Member - Barry Badham



Long-time familiar faces at many of our meetings, Barry and his wife Joan have been members since 1983. Many newer members would not really know Barry but he is one of those people who are called on for advice and help when a touchy problem arises or a special job needs to be done. A solicitor by profession, his advice, always quietly given, and only ever when asked, has been valued by committee members over the years. His sole regular duty these days is Returning Officer at the Society's elections.

The name Badham is well known in Sydney's legal and academic circles. Barry (christened Barrett) is the son of Lennard Badham QC., and a great grandson of Professor Charles Badham who was Professor of Classics at the University of Sydney from 1867 to 1883. All those now connected with the University would know of the Badham Library in the Badham Building. Barry's mother, Nora, was herself a member of the Society. She was a daughter of the artist, Joseph Arthur Bennett, who built *Westholme* on the corner of Cleveland and Water Streets at Wahroonga. *Westholme* is a lovely residence which continues to grace Ku-ring-gai.

A modest self-effacing man, Barry has always preferred to contribute quietly without fuss and served a total of fifteen years on the Committee including terms as Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary and Committee member.

Away from the Society, he has had a long time enthusiasm for music and particularly for musical comedy. Ever one to contribute, he was the Founder and President of the Phonograph Society of NSW and continues to be active as Secretary of that group. It consists of people interested in the history of recorded sound, both the records themselves and the machines on which to play them.

Barry has been a Ku-ring-gai resident all his life except for three years in Goulburn and Young. He and Joan have four daughters and nine grandchildren



History Notes

Good for man and beast

Our history abounds with people who, for one reason or another, have not become well known names in our local history despite the impact they made. One such was the respected Dr William Moore who described himself as a homeopathic surgeon. Born in Norfolk in 1831, he came to Australia in 1855. In 1862, when 32, he married Fanny Taylor, a NSW-born 17 year old.

He and Fanny lived predominantly in Elizabeth St in the city and later at Lawson in the Blue Mountains. However, by the 1870s he came to own a prodigious amount of what had been Crown land in Ku-ring-gai west of the Highway. This amounted to over 800 acres down to the Lane Cove River and embraced land in Gordon, Killara and Lindfield. Before West Pymble was developed, the area was locally referred to as Congham after his Norfolk birthplace. The name Congham now only remains as Congham Road in West Pymble.

When Ku-ring-gai was settled it was the relatively level and fertile land on the eastern side of the Highway which was prized, together with a narrow strip on the western side along the top of the ridge. The steep and less fertile land leading down to the Lane Cove River was not looked at as valuable. Much of it therefore remained in the possession of the Government.

Dr Moore did not live on his "Lane Cove" property. It is thought he bought it because he was attracted to the peace of the bushland and because, being a homeopathic surgeon, its native flora provided him with the raw material for his herbal remedies. He established "galvanic baths" in Elizabeth Street and his Moore's Electric Baths were still operating there into the 1890s. Moore's Household Ointment, claimed to be Good for Man and Beast, seems to have been the Goanna Oil of its day and found in most homes. He became an extremely wealthy man with many properties in Sydney and NSW country areas as well as real estate in his native Norfolk – sometimes occupied by his Norfolk relatives. His prosperity was evidenced by a large donation he made to establish a Homeopathic Hospital in Glebe and by the many bequests he made to a large number of groups including the Congregational Church, Sydney City Mission, a Female Mission Home in Glebe, the Animal Protection Society, the NSW Bush Missionary Society and the Deaf, Dumb and Blind Institution.

He and Fanny died childless in 1911 and 1914 respectively. The large tract of Lane Cove land was split up under the administration of Christopher Bowes Thistlethwayte, who was described as his great-nephew. He was married to the granddaughter of William Moore's sister Elizabeth and is remembered mainly as a significant President of Ku-ring-

gai Shire (1925-1927). Moore, in his will, gave specific instructions to the effect that his Gordon Estate was to be used for farming and residences. Its "First class" streets were to have no "noisome trade" and there were to be no places for the sale of intoxicating liquor. Land could be granted to protestant religious bodies and low-lying areas and gullies could become pleasure reserves.

The Moores and Thistlethwaytes were committed Congregationalists and Thistlethwayte distributed part of the land to the Congregational Union of NSW that built the Naamaroo Conference Centre near Fullers Bridge. The continuing ownership of this section became the subject of 1952 Court cases. Another part was slated for inclusion in the proposed "model" suburb of Bradfield that Thistlethwayte launched in 1924. The project failed and the area was later renamed West Lindfield. Other sections were subdivided for residential use. Another portion was to become the Gordon Golf Course. Importantly, 238 acres were contributed to become part of the Lane Cove National Park. More was subdivided for building purposes.

It is evident that Dr William Moore set in train developments that were to prove influential in creating the character of a large section of today's Ku-ring-gai. In this way he possibly had as much influence as any other single individual. Yet one wonders how many of today's residents of Ku-ring-gai have ever heard of him?

- Max Farley

(Additional information compiled by Barbara Merefield can be found in papers included in the Ku-ring-gai Families Database Work Books at the Society's Research Centre listed under Thistlethwayte and Wm Moore).

The Pymble's Pub

Of the early Ku-ring-gai pubs those coming most readily to mind are *The Gate*, later *Green Gate*, opened by John Johnson in 1832 and taken over by his brother-in-law, Thomas Kelsey, in 1835 after Johnson established *The Sawyer's Arms* opposite Fidden's Wharf Road. We may think, too, of Daniel Bullock's *New Inn* from 1843, on the Highway just north of Mona Vale Road. This passed to Patrick Lynam and then to Patrick O'Brien Murphy. Murphy, a belligerent Irishman, found after his discharge from bankruptcy that his former creditors were distinctly unenthusiastic about his renewing his licence for a hostelry called *The Bard's Legacy*, so he advertised in the SMH of 3 May 1843: "Patrick Murphy challenges anyone to tread on the tail of his coat and say that he is not fit to hold a Publican's Licence".

Not so readily remembered is the first Ku-ring-gai publican, George Cadby, licensed from 7 December 1831. Cadby, a former member of the Royal NSW Veterans Company, had received a grant of 100 acres on the west side of the Highway in the Lindfield area, on which he grew vegetables and where his inn was probably located.

Also often overlooked is *The Orange Tree* for which William Pymble, eldest son of Robert, was licensee. The precise location of this establishment is not known, but it was probably close to the Pymble family's house just south of the present Pymble railway station. *The Orange Tree* was formally licensed only in one year 1846, but it is possible that it earlier operated unlicensed because the entry for Robert Pymble (written by P.H. Pymble-Ferguson in the Australian Biographical and Genealogical Record, Series 1), suggests that the hotel had an established reputation for its range of "hard and soft beverages made from Herefordshire recipes, such as rum, plum and grape wine, apricot brandy, apple and peach cider and honey-mead".

- contributed by our May speaker, Ken Knight

Preserving our History

Before the Society was formed in 1963 Ku-ring-gai did not score well in recording and valuing its history. Only two exceptions of note come to mind.

One was an article published by James G Edwards in Sydney's Evening News on 18-22 July 1921. In it, using the pseudonym "Jones", he tells of his recollections as a youth making the journey from Blue's Point to Wahroonga in about 1850. He writes of the sights along the way, of the people who lived there and of the lives they led. His article is reproduced in Kerrin Cook's *The Railway Came to Ku-ring-gai* and on pages 59 to 67 of the September 2000 issue of *The HISTORIAN*. The other was a talk on Ku-ring-gai's Early History and Development given in 1948 by our "Tree Mayor", W Cresswell O'Reilly. His address to the Killara Community Services Club was later printed by Council. A copy is in the Society's Rooms.

It was not until a Ku-ring-gai Mayor, George Nicol, initiated the formation of our Society in 1963 that a concerted effort was begun to focus attention on the history of our area. Until then even Council staff adopted a cavalier attitude to the preservation of vital records. One often quoted example was a Council accountant who in tidying up mode sent most of Council's Rate Books from 1906 to 1930 to the tip.

Fortunately there were some who took a more enlightened view. One such was Stuart Doyle who spoke to us in 1997 about those bad old days. Stuart, a member of the Society, was employed by Council in senior positions for many years and has always had a deeply held understanding of the importance of its history to any community. A summary of his talk is in *The HISTORIAN* of March 1997. The Rates Book tragedy alerted him to the certainty of tragedies to

come so he started, as he put it, to "squirrel things away" – the things being historic photographs, records and memorabilia. Knowledge of his concern led to the public giving these to him personally for safe keeping.

When Council set up its Local History Centre in the mid 1980s, Stuart passed a lot of material to its custodian, Margaret Wyatt, in the belief that at last there existed a place where they would be safe from the "Philistines" as one Council librarian called some of his Council colleagues at the time. Sadly, as we know, a less concerned Council shut down the Centre in 1996 notwithstanding the loud and lengthy protestations of the Society. This action by Council rang alarm bells in Stuart's head and he therefore still retains "another 'Rinso' box or two". Happily the Society has come a long way since 1996 and Stuart has willingly co-operated with us by loosening the locks on the "Rinso" boxes.

Understanding our past would not be possible without the foresight and vision of the civic minded Stuart Doyles of this world joined by the many family historians who themselves have "squirreled away" countless records about their own families. These records have amongst them irreplaceable information about the communities in which those families lived.

It is our responsibility to see these records are preserved and available to those who seek to put them to good use.

Any reader who has material of historic value to our community is therefore urged to contact us so that, together, we can take the steps necessary to see it is preserved for future generations.

Love Springs Eternal.....

MARRIAGE

At Hunter's Hill Church on Tuesday 2nd of June 1840, by the Rev George E Turner B.C.L., William Forster of Lane Cove, to Sarah Fox, of same parish. The vigorous swain is in his seventy-eighth year and the amiable nymph in her seventy-second. The happy pair walked from Lane Cove to Hunters Hill, a distance of seven miles and after the interesting ceremony was over, they walked back to Lane Cove to enjoy the honeymoon.

This incident was mentioned in the December 1983 *HISTORIAN*. Since then some extra facts have come to light. William Foster (not Forster) was a convict who came to Australia in 1797. He must have been a charmer as Sarah was his third wife – the earlier two being Mary Dooley and Elizabeth Britt. *Lane Cove* was what is now called Ku-ring-gai and his land was where the *Greengate Hotel* is in Killara. He is believed to have been the brother of John Foster who married a convict, Frances Johnson. When Francis was widowed by John Foster's 1823 death, her brother-in-law William gave her the ten acres of his land on which the hotel was built. Frances became very wealthy.

From the Sydney Morning Herald of 5 June 1840

Family Matters

3 June Family History Meetings

11am Research Meeting

Nearly 20 were present at the 11am session which featured South Australian research. The following sources were demonstrated and discussed:

ON COMPUTERS

In the "All BDMs" desktop folder

SA 1842-1928 Births
SA 1842-1915 Deaths
SA 1842-1937 Marriages

In the "SA" desktop folder

1836-1885 Biographical Index of South Australians -
4 vol. set
1836-1885 South Australians - 2 vol. set
1841 Census (slow loader)
1848-1885 Bound for South Australia (deaths on board,
ship names, surgeons reports)
1876 Directory of South Australia
1881 SA Directory
1886 SA Government Gazette
1903 SA PO Directory
Cudlee Creek, SA
Founders of Australia
Founders Index
Lonely Graves (on stations, roadsides, etc. - not in
cemeteries)

In the "Australian" desktop folder

"AUSTRALIAN FOLDER"

(includes South Australian entries)
1855-1892 Dictionary of Aust. Biography
(need to load CD)
1880 A Glance at Australia
1888 Aldine Bicentennial History Index
1906 John's Notable Australians
1913, 1923 and 1925 Pastoral Directories
Aust. Dictionary of Biography
ABGR (Aust. Biographical & Genealogical Index)
AGCI (Aust. Genealogical Computer Index 1 and 2)
Australian Family Histories
Australian State Separations
Old Place Names to New

ON SHELVES

Who's Who in Australia
Australian Encyclopaedia
AGBR - 4 vol. (index on computers)

2pm Members' Meeting

More than 30 attended the 2pm meeting.

REPORTS

Jo reported on:

Preservation Work - lots has been done
Magazine Holders - being made from wine casks, more casks needed, Kevin Brown group leader
Box of old "Descent" magazines (journal of Society of Australian Genealogists). Members were invited to help themselves for borrowing or keeping.
Problem Solving Day - held on 20 May as an experiment ... there were attendees to 5pm.
Huguenot Society Meeting - held at Chatswood on 7 May featured Joan Webb speaking on Eccleston du Faur without whom there would be no Ku-ring-gai National Park.
Visit to State Records, Kingswood - several members attended a talk on *Real Property Packets* which can contain such items as Title records, Wills, Birth Certificates. A visit by the Society is to be arranged.
Newsletter - Congratulations were given to Max Farley for contents of monthly newsletters, to Kerrin Cook for set-up, to production and mailing teams, and to Jenny Joyce for her skill in enabling printing direct from computer.
Ann Barry - Ann Barry deserves special thanks for all the work she does for the Society.
Rosters for Volunteer Duty in Rooms are out for next 4 months. To be collected from the Rooms.
Society Library - Estelle Howell has undertaken the task of supervising tidiness of library. Please return books to correct places on shelves.
Databases - Judith Fuller is transferring Gordon Public School records to a database. Stella Green and Alison Lever have started on Shipping Arrivals of Members' families.
Members Research Interests - members are invited to enter their family name interest in the special folder in the Rooms - a database is "in the pipeline".
"Heritage" Quarterly Magazine - Jo spoke highly of this publication. The Society has taken out a subscription.
Mechanics Institutes - these have wonderful records of great value to researchers.
Australian Census (8 August 2006) - there will be 61 questions. Two optional ones are *Religion* and *Agreement to retain one's personal information* for release after 99 years. Members are encouraged to say 'yes' to the latter for the benefit of future genealogists.
Harbour Bridge Deaths - Following an enquiry, Jo's research revealed there were 16 deaths during construction. There is a plaque listing the names.
Book Reports - reports were given on the following publications: *Medieval Lives*; *Pearl Beach Legacy* - (the story of Minard Crommelin); *The Mutiny on Board HMS Bounty*; *Manuscripts in British Isles relating to Australia, NZ and Pacific*; the *SOG UK magazine*

COMING EVENTS -

* *An Introductory Course* (8 weeks) on Family History Research and the Resources available in our Rooms and the adjacent Council Library starts on Friday 7 July. Weekly assignments will be set. The \$75 fee helps buy more resources. Bookings to Jo Harris (9489 4393)

* *Dead Persons Society Meeting* - Sat. 8 July. 1.30pm. At SAG, Rumsey House, Kent St. Features Helen Dickinson on "*Using on line and parish records*". \$5 SAG members, \$10 visitors, bookings to SAG not required

* *Tour of Land Titles Office, St James Church, Hyde Park Barracks* - Thursday 20 July, 10.30am at St James. \$10 fee with booking with Jo Harris. (9489 4393). Lunch at own expense. Limited to 20, in two groups led by Jo and Helen Dickinson. .

* *Shipping* - Jo Harris is organising another talk at State Records, Globe St. Watch for details.

"SHARE A DOCUMENT "

Members were invited to show and describe a document which had proven of particular interest or value in their family history research with the following result:

Peter Steyne - Aunt's diary and book of dates

Stella Green - g g grandfather's letter 1863 describing death of wife

Joy Walker - letter and poem from WWI

Elaine Turnidge - letter about convict arriving Tasmania 1824

Joyce Ryerson - permission for a girl under age to marry

Christine Edwards - photo of wooden chest made by grandfather when Royal North Shore Hospital became 'Royal'.

The chest is now missing

Jan Cook - description of burning of large haystack in 1890 by great-uncle

Angela Lind - letter from g grandfather 1889 to his daughter

Don Paul - copy of original portrait in Mitchell Library of g g grandmother who arrived in *Neptune* 1789

Shirley Morley - letter from her father who was POW in Crete in WW11

Evelyn Wyatt - account for house built in Lindfield in 1907. Cost £928

Max Farley - old Arnott's biscuit tin in which family treasures are stored.

Jenny Joyce - letter of family news from England

Judith Fuller - a professional research in England found very informative letter from her g g grandfather to Rt.Hon.

Sir James Graham saying he was in Pentonville awaiting transportation

Jo Harris - had found invitation to her grandfather to official opening of Queen Victoria Building, their Archives had none so she donated it for display. She also showed prospectus for Killara Prep. School 1937

RAFFLE

There were two raffle tickets drawn - Angela Lind chose *Company of Herald's* and Don Paul chose *The Irish in Australia*.

- notes taken by Stella Green

Land Titles etc Office Tour -

As reported to the meeting on 3 June there will be a tour of the Land Titles Office, St James Church and Hyde Park Barracks on Thursday 20 July. It will start at 10.30am at St James Church. Payment with booking to Jo Harris (9489 4393). \$10. Lunch at own expense. Limited to 20, in two groups led by Jo and Helen Dickinson. Contact Jo Harris (9489 4393).

"Selecting Text"

When using Microsoft products including *Word* one frequently has to "select" some text to delete, cut, move or paste elsewhere. If there are more than a few lines it is sometimes hard to control and you finish up selecting much more than you want and then have to go back to the beginning and try again with more care. Have you found that? It seems easier however if you start at the foot of the text you want to select and work *upwards*.

Members' Research Interests

Members are invited to supply their family research interests to share with other members. These should be entered in the Register in the Research Centre. Some names in the special folder could perhaps be published in a newsletter. Here are a couple of examples kindly supplied by Stella Green:

MACPHERSON - from Kingussie, Scotland, arrived Sydney in *Duke of Roxburgh* 13 August 1849, father John (widower), children John, Emily Amelia, Isabella, Anne, James. Son John settled in Waverley Sydney, later Mayor, partner in ironmonger company Holdsworth Macpherson. *PALMER* - from London, arrived Sydney in *Saracen* 29 December 1827, father William Nottingham Palmer, children John (known as Ben), William junr, Harriet (died aged 16). Settled in Princes St, The Rocks, became licensee of *Fortune of War* 1833. Ben later on Sydney City Council, Mayor 1875/6.

Contact: Stella Green, swgreen@bigpond.com

True or False?

Bread was divided according to status with important guests getting the top layer. Hence the "upper crust". True or false?

Ale and whisky were drunk from lead cups. Too much and imbibers would become unconscious and seem dead. Families and friends would lay them out on a table then eat and drink and wait to see if they would wake up. Hence the expression "wake". True or false?

England's cemeteries were overcrowded. Graves and coffins were re-used. Some old coffins were found to have scratch marks inside indicating the earlier occupant had been buried alive. So a string was tied to the wrist of the new corpse leading to the surface and a bell attached. Someone would then sit at the grave all night (the "graveyard shift"). If the bell rang the "body" was dug up and therefore "saved by the bell" and considered a "dead ringer". True or false?

Answers to all questions: "*Don't know*" (Ed.)

Copy for Newsletter

General copy for publication should be lodged with the Acting Editor, Max Farley at (mmff@ozemail.com.au) as early as possible but no later than 10th 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.

2006/2007 Fees

Just a reminder that fees for 2006/2007 are now payable. The amounts are Individual Membership \$25; Household Membership \$30 and Corporate Membership \$55. It would help if those who have not yet paid were to let Treasurer Doug Milne have their payment either personally at a meeting, left at the Rooms (no cash please) or mailed to the KHS at PO Box 109, Gordon, 2072. "Follow-ups" take time that Volunteers would be better applying to constructive tasks.

Quiz Answers

1 (c) Adelaide-born William Ernest Cooke, who had been the WA Government Astronomer, was appointed in 1912 as Government Astronomer in NSW and also to the inaugural chair of Astronomy at the University. He was promised a new Observatory and in 1914 land at Wahroonga was gazetted for this purpose. In 1926 he eventually asked for the money to build his dream but Premier Jack Lang did not regard Observatories highly. Cooke was dismissed. The land remained but Cooke had to make a living by conducting bridge classes at David Jones.

2. (a). False. George Beeby was not a Premier. As Minister for Lands he laid the foundation stone on 17 February 1912 for extensions to the "old" Gordon Public School where the Society has its Rooms.

(b) True. Sir Charles Wade lived at Wahroonga; William Holman at Gordon; Nick Greiner at Wahroonga; Barrie Unsworth at Turramurra; Sir George Beeby at Lindfield and Sir Thomas Bavin at Turramurra.

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 over the Christmas period and on public holidays.

Diary Dates

- Sat 1 July 11am - Members' Research
The Society's Library
2 pm - FH General Meeting
*Creative Memories -
Memory Keeping at its Best*
- Sat 15 July 2 pm - KHS GENERAL MEETING
Guest speaker:
Brigadier Owen Magee
How "The Rocks" was won
- Sat 5 August 11am - Members' Research
2 pm - FH General Meeting
- Sat 19 August 2 pm - KHS GENERAL MEETING
Guest speaker
Graham Spindler
*History through walking -
Sydney Harbour and beyond*
- 14/15 October *Royal Australian Historical Society
Conference - Hornsby*
- Family History Meetings are held on the first Saturday of every month other than January. Members' Research starts at 11am and is followed by a General Meeting at 2pm.

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