



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, and the NSW & ACT Association of Family History Societies, Inc.
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SEPTEMBER 2018 NEWSLETTER VOL. 36 NO. 8

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 1 FAMILY HISTORY MEETING

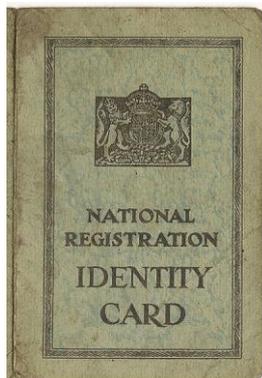
11.00am WORKSHOP:

How to use the 1939

Register on Ancestry

Presenter: Jenny Joyce

At the beginning of WW2 the British Government collected details of every person living in the country. Apart from other things, this information was also used to issue ration cards, and is of great use for us, especially as it contains exact dates of birth.

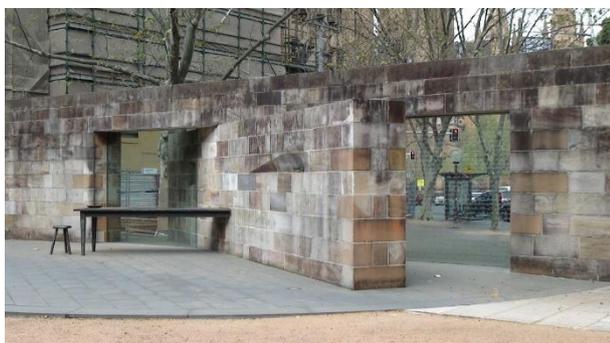


2.00pm FAMILY HISTORY MEETING,

followed by *Irish Orphan Girls*

Presenter: Perry McIntyre

During the Irish potato famine between 1848 and 1850 Earl Grey sponsored 21 ships bringing 4114 Irish orphan girls to Australia.



Irish Famine Memorial Sydney

Dr Perry McIntyre has been involved in Irish history and genealogy since the late 1970s. She has professional qualifications in history. Her PhD on convict family reunion was published by Irish Academic Press in late 2010.

She has experience serving on the History Council of NSW, Society of Australian Genealogists and the Royal Australian Historical Society, the Australian Catholic Historical Society and has served on the Great Irish Famine Commemoration Committee for several years including 3 years as the Chair.

Dr McIntyre has also published and spoken extensively on immigration, particularly 19th Century Irish.

Visitors Welcome

Afternoon Tea Available

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 15

2.00pm GENERAL MEETING

Sydney's Lost Garden Palace

Presenter: Sarah Morley

Built to house the Sydney International Exhibition of 1879, the Barmet-designed Garden Palace dominated the Sydney skyline until it burnt to the ground. The cause of the fire was uncertain but arson was generally suspected. Now largely forgotten, this expensive white elephant began as a modest proposal by the Agricultural Society but ended up costing the NSW taxpayers 50,000 pounds. Sound familiar?



Apart from the exhibits, the exhibition brought much that was novel to Sydney. Use of the new electric lighting enabled work to be carried out around the clock, allowing it to be constructed in just 8 months (after a year of political squabbling). It housed Sydney's first hydraulic lift - which delighted visitors with elevated views of the harbour - and it was served by the city's first steam tramway.

Sarah Morley is a curator at the State Library of NSW.

Visitors Welcome

Afternoon Tea Available

CONSTITUTION

We are happy to report that at the Special General Meeting held on Saturday, 21 July 2018, the members present voted to accept the amended Constitution and Objects of the Society by 37 votes to 1.

We now have to apply to Fair Trading NSW for them to accept the amended Constitution and Object. The changes do not come into effect until we are notified that they have approved the application.

Thank you to everyone who helped and provided feedback, and a big thanks to all those who came along to the SGM to vote on the matter.

(Notes: Jenny Joyce)

For members receiving printed copy who want to access the internet, enter www.khsnx.com/September.htm into a browser address bar to reach a menu which lists all the embedded electronic links in this Newsletter

FAMILY HISTORY MEETINGS Saturday Aug. 4 11.00 am Workshop

Lorraine Henshaw opened the meeting and 23 members signed the attendance book. Lorraine and Jenny Joyce made a few announcements.

Julie Werner told how she had been searching for many years trying to find her father's arrival in Australia. Her 'Yes' moment came when she found him arriving in Newcastle from Birkenhead in Liverpool aged just 15 years old. New resources come online all the time so always keep looking for that elusive ancestor.

Jenny Joyce then gave a very comprehensive presentation on where to find immigration records both from books and on the internet particularly on Ancestry. She had spread out a large number of books from our collection and her own library on the table in the rooms. She especially recommended 'Log of Logs' which comes in three volumes all of which are in Gordon Library. These have the names and details of the ships that brought migrants to NSW and later the other states. KHS has its own Shipping Register where members have entered the details of the ships their ancestors travelled on so always look there as another member may have listed one of your ships. Also of importance are newspapers which often list the ships and sometimes the passengers that arrived in Australia. She then demonstrated how to use ancestry.com.au Immigration Section where there is a wealth of data to check for your ancestor. Jenny gave everyone a list of 33 Shipping and Immigration records available on Ancestry. Not all lists are there but Ancestry is an excellent starting point to search for that elusive ancestor and is being added to regularly.

2.00 pm Session

Lorraine Henshaw opened the meeting and welcomed members and visitors. After mentioning some interesting historical facts, she made announcements of future meetings and conferences. Neil Falconer gave news of forthcoming tours and how to make a booking on them, details of which are in the Newsletter.

Speaker

Lorraine then introduced the speaker, Ann Leonard who told the fascinating story of how she was evacuated from Britain in WW2 and sent to Canada and then USA. Her father had visited Germany in 1930s and realised that another war was inevitable. He also realised that with the advance of aircraft it would be a bombing war which would adversely affect the civilian population as had already happened in the Spanish Civil War. There had already been evacuations of Jewish children from Germany to England and USA but that stopped when war was declared. Preparations were made in Britain and 'Operation Pied Piper' began to send children from London to the country. Ann's father was told he was on the German Black List and would be targeted if Germany invaded England. He decided to send Ann and her next elder brother to relatives in Canada and so they sailed on 20th September.

The placement was not successful so the brother was sent to boarding school and Ann to relatives of her god parents in America. This didn't work out either and Ann was then sent to a school for orphans in New York from where she was 'adopted' as a sister for the daughter of a family. There she was very happy and still has a close relationship with the other girl as her 'sister'. She did very well at school but when she returned to her home in England after D-Day found the school a huge culture shock as she was now 'American' in speech, clothing and attitude.

She soon settled in however, later was married and eventually settled in Sydney with her own family.

After questions Patrick Dodd, also an evacuee but within England, proposed a vote of thanks to the speaker.

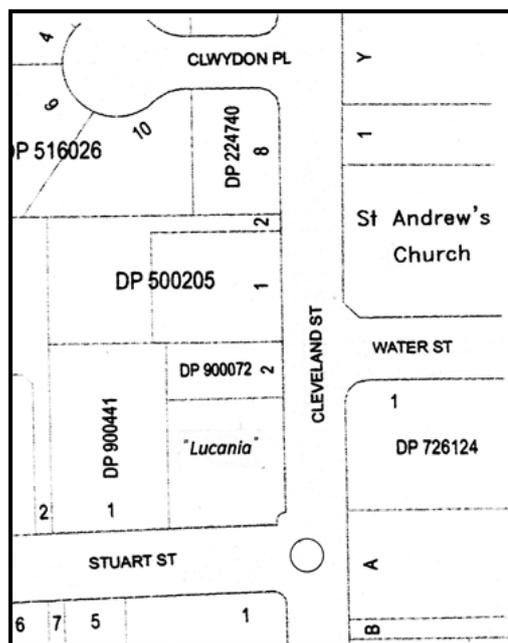
The **Raffle** was won by David Hulme and Tony Spargo.

WHO WAS THIS RESIDENT? AUGUST 2018 MARC LOUIS RUTTY OF "LUCANIA"

Born 26th May 1862 in Geneva, Switzerland, Marc became a Merchant and the Consul for Switzerland in Sydney. Married twice and father of three sons and two daughters. With his second wife he appeared in Ku-ring-gai in Sands' Directory of 1923 as Marc Ruttie Stuart St, Wahroonga, followed by the 1924 Sands' listing as Marc Ruttie "Lucania" Stuart St and from 1925 till Sands' ceased in 1932 as Mark Ruttie.

In 1935 the monument commemorating the First Direct Wireless Message from United Kingdom to Australia, Wales to Wahroonga, was erected at the south-east corner of Stuart and Cleveland Streets on "Lucania" property.

Quote from the limited edition book "AN EPOCH OF RADICOMMUNICATION". "The land on which it is erected was donated for the purpose, as a free gift to the Ku-ring-gai Municipality, by the present owner of the residence, Marc J Ruttie (sic), Esq."



**KHS CHRISTMAS IN JULY LUNCHEON
Magpies Club, July 26, 2018**

These very popular lunches provide a wonderful opportunity for our members to get together in a relaxed environment and meet up with old friends and make new ones.



(Go to www.khsnx.com/September-XmasJuly1.htm or click here  to see larger, more detailed versions of these photos from the luncheon. Ed.)

CHRISTMAS IN JULY LUNCHEON (cont'd)

As usual our hosts at Magpies Club Waitara provided us with a delightful lunch complemented by Yuletide decorations which added a very festive feeling. As they have done in the past Magpies provided the room without charge for this happy occasion.



We look forward to our actual Christmas celebration in December (December 6th – save the date) for our Port Hacking scenic river cruise.

RECENT LIBRARY ACQUISITIONS - July 2018

- *North Sydney 1788 – 1960*. Isadore Brodsky 1963, 96 pages with photos, no index. Published by North Sydney Council. 2060 BRO.
- *Australia's National Trusts, Historic Places*. Australian Council of National Trusts 1993, 584 pages with lots of photographs, no index. ARC NAT.
- *Country Life in Old Australia*. Geoffrey Dutton, 1982. 153 pages with many photos, no index. AUS DUT.
- *Deep Valleys, Tall Trees, Tough Men and Women*. W. Hapgood and G. Stewart 2005. Pioneering Stories of 'Bulli' and some local history, revised by Graeme Stewart, 82 pages with photos, no index. 2516 STE.
- *Sandstone Sydney*. D. Baglin and Y Austin, 1976, 191 pages with photos, no index. 2000 BAG.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The start of the new financial year means fees are payable. Fees make up the majority of our income each year. So far we have received \$10,000 of the \$16,000 invoiced.

Our income for July, the first month of the financial year amounts to \$11,085. This figure includes fees, book sales, and tours. After expenses we are left with \$10,625 to carry us through to June next year.

A gentle reminder for members with fees outstanding, please send me your dues as soon as possible.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Russell WORKMAN from Burwood.
Trish YANCEY from Warrawee.

HISTORICAL MOMENTS 1960



In this September 1960 image the Pacific Highway widening has been completed at Turrumurra. The local Masonic Hall is visible in the centre background. Image: RMS Archives (Notes: Dick Whitaker)

FUTURE TOUR DATES

September, Saturday 22, Special Centenary Wireless Celebrations

October, Thursday 18, Tour 3, ANSTO.

November, Monday 5, Tour 4, Vintage Cars & Gosford Art Gallery. Bookings open General Meeting October 20

MISS BETTY LOCKE former KHS Life Member

Our Committee was recently notified by a family member that Miss Betty Locke, a Life Member of our Society since 1987, passed away on 22 July 2018 aged 95 years. Miss Locke had been a stenographer in her professional life, living years in St Ives before a recent move to Wahroonga.

Miss Locke joined KHS in 1968, early in our history when we were much smaller - about 67 members then versus some 600-odd now; the Society was formed in November 1963. Her contributions to our operation were various, embracing the position of voluntary Tour Director in 1968-69, and working as librarian/custodian of our then small collection of records from 1968-1972. From 1972-1974 she was Treasurer, following which she served as a member of the Society's governing Committee from 1976 to 1983.

Miss Locke's fifteen years of active participation in our Society's growth occurred in the difficult time before we had our own physical base of operations - we were then meeting in the Council Chambers at Gordon, and storing records in cupboard space lent by Council. We have grown hugely in the intervening years, largely due to extensive work done by committed members such as Betty Locke.

Notes: Helen Whitsed, Committee Member, KHS Inc Committee

TOUR DESK INFORMATION

We are pleased to report that the recent change in the Tour Booking procedure from a Monday to the KHS General Meeting day on the 3rd Saturday of the month has been welcomed as a more practical time for many. The Tour Desk opens at 1.30pm and is available for a short time at the close of the General Meeting.

We lament that our tours generally can only accept 18 to 20 passengers depending on the venue and bus availability, causing some patrons to miss out. As part of this new approach we will place non members, who are always very welcome, on our interim waiting list pending members booking and any cancellations.

The Tour team is also pleased to report that by the end of 2018 a total of 64 tours (including Christmas in July and end of year River tours) will have been completed in the current tour schedule which began in 2014. We thank you for your continued interest and support.

VOLUNTEERS' TRAINING DAY

Jo Harris and Lorna Watt are looking forward to seeing volunteers, and any other members, at the next information session for volunteers to be held in the Research Centre on the 13th September. Topics to be covered include Intranet, Built Heritage, and Local Resources.

VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED

As you may have read in recent Society Newsletters, KHS is holding a Centenary Celebration on Saturday 22nd September in conjunction with the Hornsby and Districts Amateur Radio Club. In September 1918, Guglielmo Marconi transmitted the first direct wireless message from the United Kingdom to Australia, received at "Lucania" which was the house in which Ernest Fisk lived at Wahroonga. A ceremony will be held at the monument which is next to "Lucania", followed by celebrations in St Andrew's church hall where a number of displays will be situated.

In staging this historic event of Ku-ring-gai importance, we need volunteers to carry out some of the duties which will assist in the success of the day.

The duties will involve: -

- Helping set up the displays in the church hall on Friday evening 21st September and early Saturday.
- Assisting with the refreshments ~ in the church hall.
- Helping to erect flags at the monument on Saturday morning.
- Moving furniture at the end of the day's proceedings.
- Assisting any of the people with their displays.

Most of these jobs are not onerous and the organising committee would like anyone who has some time on either of those 2 days to help out. Ring Geoff Little 0411 885 870 or Jo Harris on 0408 439 343

GENERAL MEETING JULY 21

Menzies and Whitlam

At our 21 July general meeting, members were treated to a broadly researched and entertaining presentation by Frank Wilson, historian, from Burwood.

Frank's discussion was on two of Australia's best-known Prime Ministers: Sir Robert Gordon Menzies (RGM) and Mr Edward Gough Whitlam (EGW) or at least "best-known" to the older members of the community!

Frank wove together many aspects in his presentation using a variety of characteristics and events to compare and contrast the lives, times and achievements of RGM and EGW. He told us that, on being asked "why those two?" his response was "they chose themselves".

RGM and EGW were different individuals with two contrasting post-WW2 experiences. RGM was prime minister for sixteen years and EGW for three years. RGM was born at Jeparit, Victoria, with family connections in Victorian politics. EGW (born 1916 in Canberra) was resolutely middle class, his father being a public servant, especially in the legal sector. They both had favourable childhoods and upbringings. RGM was born in Victorian times, with Edwardian influences. EGW was born after Victorian times. They were both university-educated: RGM with Honours I from Melbourne; and EGW at the University of Sydney in the 1930s.

RGM was a monarchist and lover of English law — the rule of law (although he followed Hughes in his attitude to England). EGW's education included a legalistic background — with political discussion. They both enjoyed history: RGM especially traditional and British; and EGW looked at historical reform (he was intuitively a reformer, but not via socialism). As leaders they both had gravitas.

Frank's presentation continued with many more interesting points of similarity and difference. RGM was a very good judge of what the people wanted: stability after the upheavals of WW1 and the Great Depression then WW2 and a housing shortage. By the 1950s personal incomes had risen with a post-war boom. RGM wanted people to read papers from back to front. But, by the mid-1970s there was a new generation. Labor voters were children in the 1940s, with no direct experience of WW1 and the Great Depression — and they wanted more freedom than in the 1950s

Attitudes to family, marriage, divorce (fault/no fault), gender division, immigration, and protective tariffs were all points that had contrast between the 1950s and 1970s — periods of conservatism and of change.

However, Keynesian economics was espoused by both RGM and EGW, and indeed could be said to have been

Menzies and Whitlam (cont'd)

inherited from former Prime Ministers Curtin and Chifley. Education funding, such as needs-based funding for schools (in 1963), was enhanced in the 1970s — EGW introduced free university education (although Frank noted that this was ultimately unsustainable). There were many more interesting points than can be fitted in here.

RGM and EGW were two men of two times.

Following Frank's presentation there was lively discussion and sharing of reminiscences. Neil Falconer proposed a vote of thanks, which was enthusiastically supported, and presented Frank with a bottle of KHS-labelled red wine — with the label showing a convict whose story could be told by "reading" with a mobile 'phone. Following the meeting members enjoyed a delicious afternoon tea.

GERMAN SIG MEETING – Aug.13, 2018

GAGHA activities update – Tony Karrasch provided an update on the latest developments with the German Australian Genealogy and History Alliance (GAGHA) especially the upcoming conference in Adelaide 17-19 August. The travelling workshops component has been cancelled. Leone, Jan, and Tony, kindly offered to provide access to extracts of selected conference presentations at future SIG meetings.

German Ancestors of KHS Members – No input has been received so far to the second iteration of the publication. Leone is available for advice or assistance in drafting or researching inputs.

Show and Tell – Les Jeckeln provided an interesting and amusing dissertation on his experiences with German roads particularly from the point of view of navigating within the confines of a small car using maps with multiple complex folds. Les demonstrated, with much humour, one particular road map with an unfolded surface area greater than the car's footprint. Thank heavens for modern satellite navigators!

Q&A – This segment of the meeting has been added especially for members seeking help and advice for German family history problems. Several brick-walls were described and possible solutions discussed. This segment will remain on the agenda as a focus for the mutual support nature of the SIG.

Presentation – The presentation for the meeting centred on the latest changes to the valuable online resource, FamilySearch.org. The incompatibility of the web site with Internet Explorer Version 11 was described as well as the not-too-subtle pressure to establish a free site account and contribute one's own ancestor details to the genealogies already on the web site. The 64 specifically German record collections were shown and sample queries demonstrated.

Next meeting – Monday October 8.

DIARY DATES

SEPTEMBER

- Saturday 1 11:00am Family History Workshop:
The 1939 Register in Ancestry
Presenter: Jenny Joyce
- Saturday 1 2:00pm Family History Meeting:
Irish Orphan Girls
Presenter: Perry McIntyre
- Thursday 6 Committee Meeting
- Thursday 13 Volunteers Training Day
- Saturday 15 2:00pm General Meeting: **Sydney's Lost Garden Palace**
Presenter: Sarah Morley
- Saturday 22 100 year celebration of first wireless transmission UK to Australia

OCTOBER

- Thursday 4 Committee Meeting
- Saturday 6 11:00am Family History Workshop:
Google for Family History Research
Presenter: Jenny Joyce
- Saturday 6 2:00pm Family History Meeting: **The Thompsons of Thompson's Corner**
Presenter: Garry Smith
- Monday 8 German SIG
- Thursday 18 Tour 3: **ANSTO, Lucas Heights**
- Saturday 20 2:00pm General Meeting: **Colonial brothers**
Presenter: Mark Dunn

NOVEMBER

- Thursday 1 Committee Meeting
- Saturday 3 11:00am Family History Workshop:
How to use Trove
Presenter: Christine Yeats
- Saturday 3 2:00pm Family History Meeting:
Parramatta Female Factory and Riot
Presenter: Gay Hendricksen
- Monday 5 Tour 4 Vintage Cars & Gosford Art Gallery
- Saturday 17 2:00pm General Meeting: **True Girt: The Unauthorised History of Australia**
Presenter: David Hunt

Newsletter Deadline

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“Reminder”

Centenary Celebration First Direct
Wireless Message Wales to Wahroonga
Septemeber 22nd at the Monument

ADMINISTRATION

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	Lorna Watt	9440 8010
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	Jenny Joyce	
	(ex officio)	9440 2131
	Yvette Reeve	9987 0904
	Jean Smith	9498 4468
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	Kathie Rieth	
Catering	Margaret Holland	9488 5452
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	David Wilkins	0411 186752

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, Friday and Saturday (except the first Saturday of each month when members have a Family History meeting).

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