



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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PO Box 109 Gordon NSW 2072 • Ph: (02) 9499 4568 • www.khs.org.au • email: khs@khs.org.au

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

Early astronomy in Sydney

Our Treasurer, Dr Doug Milne, addressed the June General Meeting on a topic close to his heart. A sample of this interesting treat is detailed here.

Astronomy 'as we know it' began with Cook's voyage of 1769, which mapped our east coast after accurately timing the transit of Venus across the sun at Tahiti. Part of a worldwide study involving 151 astronomers from 11 countries, at 77 world locations, the aim was to determine the distance to the Sun.

Surveyors Mason and Dixon, sailing to the South Atlantic to record this event, were attacked in the Channel by the French, then at war with England. Eleven of the crew were killed, so they returned to England – to be sued by their employer, the Royal Society, for breach of contract. Astronomer Rev Nevil Maskelyne (later Astronomer Royal) sailed to St Helens to conduct observations. His personal liquor costs were over half the total for his expedition!

Our first resident astronomer was Marine Lieut William Dawes, a First Fleeter, whose observatory's top floor rotated on cannon balls. He fixed Sydney's latitude, longitude and time, surveyed streets, recorded weather details, and the local Aboriginal language. Sadly, Dawes fell out with Gov. Phillip, and left the colony in 1791, his work never properly recognised.

In 1821 Parramatta Observatory was built under Gov. Brisbane, publishing its *Catalogue of 7385 Stars*, a chart of the southern hemisphere, in 1835. Killed by staff problems and white ant infestation, Parramatta closed in 1847. By 1853 the need for a visible time ball at Sydney Harbour initiated Sydney Observatory at its present site. Research continued here until 1983, and included recording of 500 new double stars, and publication of a 53-volume catalogue of southern stars (from 1887-1971). It is now part of the Powerhouse Museum. By 1858 amateur James Tebbutt was studying comets at his observatory at Windsor. He declined to be Government Astronomer, but his work was acknowledged by his appearance on the \$100 note.

And so the fascinating time line continued, through the early 1900s observatory at Pennant Hills and an attempt to build an observatory at Wahroonga, to the opening of the Commonwealth Observatory at Mount Stromlo in 1926. In closing, Doug spoke of the post-WWII emergence of radio astronomy at the CSIRO Radiophysics Laboratory, now a world leader. World class astronomy is now done in Coonabarabran, Parkes and Narrabri, away from light and radio interference, with support systems at Marsfield in Sydney.

Helen Davies

Coming Meetings

(Gordon Library Meeting Room)

Saturday 20 August 2 pm
General Meeting followed by
Society Annual General Meeting



Old Sydney Theatres

Do you remember the city's long-gone live theatres? Our speaker, **Jim Ruxton**, certainly does!

His love of theatre stretches back to a Gladys Moncrieff performance in "Victoria and Her Hussar".

Don't miss this illustrated talk and walk down memory lane.

Afternoon Tea will be available.

Visitors welcome.

Next Family History Meeting

Saturday 6 August

11 am Let's talk about Cemeteries.

2 pm **General Meeting**

A St Ives resident, **Keith McGrath**, has been involved in the photographic industry for 44 years.

He has more recently produced photographs incorporating 4, 5 or 6 generations of a family. The end result is a composite photo that any family would be pleased to own.

Afternoon Tea will be available.

Visitors welcome.

Talks program

Please help us by registering your interest: phone 9499 4568 or email khs@khs.org.au so we can cater for you with yummy refreshments.

All talks are in the Gordon Library meeting room and cost \$5 payable at the door. **Please note varying finish times.**

Please support us so we can keep running these talks. Thanks to Ku-ring-gai Council for subsidising these.

A Treasure TROVE – the National Library’s amazing search facility

Thursday 11 Aug 2011, 10.30 am – 12.30 pm

Ann Manley (a ‘top five corrector’ of the newspaper digitisation project). TROVE is an exciting, revolutionary and free search service. With millions of items, TROVE is an unrivalled repository of Australian material, not just digitised newspapers. Whether you are tracing your family history, doing professional research, reading for pleasure, teaching or studying, TROVE can help and it’s all free. Find out how you can get the most out of this unique and innovative site as well as help improve this remarkable resource.

Cost: \$5 - includes morning tea.

Accessing State Library Resources from Home

Monday 22 August, 10.30 am – 12.30 pm

A Tour of the Website: librarians from the State Library’s Family History Service will take you on a guided tour of the library’s website. The session is aimed at accessing family history information and will include the benefits of State Library membership such as online ordering of material and access to databases from home. The session incorporates the library’s family history online Research Guides which maximise access to State Library collections.

A unique opportunity to learn about these amazing resources without having to go to the city.

Cost \$5 – includes morning tea.

RAHS Lands Research Workshop

Tuesday 30 August 2011, 10.30 am – 2 pm

Assoc. Prof. Carol Liston (Uni. of Western Sydney and RAHS Councillor). The RAHS Lands Research Workshop covers using online resources to research a place in NSW. The two hour workshop will look at the tools developed by the NSW government agencies for maps and cadastral details (SIX and PIXEL) and for obtaining Torrens system land titles on line.

Supplementary resources at the LTO, State Records of NSW, the State Library of NSW and the National Library of Australia will be mentioned if there is time.

This talk is only being given in regional centres and the

Census forms preservation

Census night is Tuesday, 9 August 2011. Please tick the box to preserve your Census Form in the National Archives of Australia (for release after 99 years). Please urge others to do so also.

Preservation of the forms will allow future historians to obtain a greater understanding of our Australian population, economy, education, social and family life, etc.

CBD, but Carol has agreed to come to us. A unique opportunity to learn how to use the land titles website, find out what resources are available under the digitisation project and how to get free information .

Cost \$5 – includes light lunch.

The Cornish and Cornish Research

Wednesday 31 August 2011, 10.30 am – 1 pm

Julie Wheeler (President of Southern Sons of Cornwall and OPC for Redruth). Julie is coming all the way from the Nowra region to talk to us. Part 1: ‘Cornwall’s History and its People’ which includes a summary of its history through the ages, prominent Cornish and Cornish Australians and a touch on its food, superstitions, myths and legends. Then Part 2: The great migration and how to research your Cornish ancestors.

Cost \$5 – includes refreshments between Parts 1 and 2.

Advance notice: Irish Day with Terry Eakin

Sat 8 October 10.30 am – 4 pm. Booking sheet in rooms, \$30 includes morning and afternoon teas, light lunch, handouts and lucky door prize. More details next Newsletter. Enquiries to Jo Harris.

Jackie van Bergen

Special Interest Groups

Mac Users Group

Our last meeting was based around discussion of our favourite tips, tricks and shortcuts. Our next meeting will be on **Monday 15 August** at 2 pm in the research rooms.

Our meetings are informal and discussion is encouraged. If you have any specific questions, please email them in advance so they can be circulated to the group for answers. (jackievb@optusnet.com.au)

Even if you are just thinking about purchasing a Mac, come along and see what all the fuss is about. No need to book, just turn up. Bring your laptop or iPad if you like.

NEW: German research group

The first meeting is **Monday 8 Aug** at 1.30 pm in the research rooms. Peter Stehn will present a brief overview of German research and resources. No need to book.

We will look to form a **Cornish Special Interest Group** after the talk on **August 31** (see talks above).

There has also been interest expressed in forming a **Scottish** group, a **Scandinavian** group, and a **London** group.

Anyone interested in any of these? The options are endless. Groups don’t have to be started by people who know a lot about a subject – sharing experiences is a really good way to learn. We can help you get started and will probably join in. Email jackievb@optusnet.com.au

Computer Pals

Many of our workshops assume a basic level of computer skills. If you are uncomfortable using a computer, why not contact Computer Pals for Seniors at Turramurra 9983 0774 or East Lindfield 9416 9049. These are Voluntary Community Organisations, and they do not charge tuition fees. There is a joining fee (\$20) and annual membership fee (\$65).

Society Workshop



The first *findmypast* workshop was well over-booked. To accommodate those who missed the first session, two further introductory workshops have been scheduled:-

- Tuesday 09 August at 10:30-12:30 (Cost: \$5)
- Friday 19 August at 10:30-12:30 (Cost: \$5)

The maximum number of participants is limited by the comfortable seating capacity of our main research room (24 people), so bookings are essential. Even if you attempted to book for the first workshop, please re-book by email to khsinc@tpg.com.au, or by phoning the rooms, or by dropping in to fill in the booking sheet with your name and contact telephone number.

findmypast bookings

The participants at the initial *findmypast* (FMP) workshop on Friday 15 July voted overwhelmingly in favour of a FMP Booking Diary, so that members can guarantee a time slot on the resource. The **FMP Booking Diary** has now been started and is on the table in our rooms.

FMP sessions are 80 minutes duration or three sessions each day the rooms are open for member's research (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday). Multiple sessions on the same day for the same person or family should not be contiguous. Research can be conducted on either FMP UK or Australasian web sites in the one session.

The daily session times are 10:00 am-11:20 am, 11:20 am-12:40 pm or 12:40 pm-2:00 pm. Please book your session in person or by telephone to the room volunteer stating your preferred day and date, session times, your full name and contact telephone number.

Remember to search FMP at home and record the search criteria before your booked session to ascertain if there are likely results and to maximise your time on our single log-on.

Peter Stehn

State Reference Library

The State Library of NSW advises that the State Reference Library will be CLOSED for renovations from Monday 1 August to 18 September inclusive.

All client services offered by the State Reference Library, **including the Family History Service**, will be closed. Access to the book, journal and microfilm collections belonging to the State Library will not be available to the public during this period. The Mitchell Library and its collections will remain open to the public. Further information is available on the State Library website.

Can you help?

Following our request in the last *Newsletter*, we now have a much larger team to assist with the Newsletter mailout.

This has encouraged us to ask for more volunteers.

Do you have computer skills? Not high-level, just confidence in the use of computers, and willing to learn new programs and input data? We have a number of projects which require these skills. Initially you would need to come on Wednesdays until you're able to work alone.

If you can help, please contact Ann Barry on 9144 6480 or a.barry@optusnet.com.au

Notice of Annual General Meeting

The **2011 AGM** will be held at **2.00 pm Saturday 20 August** in the Gordon Library Meeting Room.

Nominations for Officers and Committee must be in the hands of the Returning Officer by **13 August**. Nomination forms are available in the Rooms.

Recent acquisitions

The following is a selection from the Society's acquisitions this month.

- *'Colonial Ladies Lovely Lively and Lamentably Loose'* by Judith Dunn ISBN: 978 0 646 49225 4. This book is about crime reports from the Sydney Herald relating to the Female Factory, Parramatta 1831-1835. The book has 192 pages. Family historians may search it for snippets on their ancestors or to understand that time – others can be entertained simply by the variability of events it describes and the stories behind them. Donated by Bob Ross.
- *'Grand Obsessions The Life and Work of Walter Burley Griffin and Marion Mahony Griffin'* by Alasdair McGregor, 546 pages and published by Lantern, an imprint of Penguin Books, 2009: ISBN 978 1 920989 38 5. The author was the speaker at the July 2011 monthly meeting and his talk demonstrated what interesting people the Griffins were, and the people and problems they had to face.
- *'Pioneers of the Pacific Voyages of Exploration, 1787-1810'* by Nigel Rigby, Pieter van der Merwe and Glyn Williams ISBN: 1 920694 64 1. This book was published in 2005 by University of Western Australia Press, has 144 pages, and deals with the voyages of Arthur Phillip, Comte de La Perouse, William Bligh, Alejandro Malaspina, George Vancouver and Matthew Flinders.
- *'Cootamundra Cemetery Inscriptions'* published by Cootamundra Local History Society Inc 2011 ISBN: 978 0 9580731 3 4 and 260 pages. Appears to cover the second half of 1800 to December 2010; no photographs of headstones.

Bruce Robinson

Quiz Answers (see p. 8 for Questions)

1. (d) South Turramurra
2. (b) Named by the developers after Captain Cook's crew on board "Endeavour"
3. (b) Bromborough Rd, Roseville
4. (a) Wonga Wonga St, Turramurra
5. (c) 22nd September 1928 (a month before the Shire became a Municipality; it was the 3rd Council meeting place)

A violent storm in Sydney

Sydney is famous for its often violent thunderstorms, many of which come across from the west during the afternoons of spring and summer. These days some warning is usually given because of the advent of radar, that provides meteorologists with the position and speed of movements of storm cells well before they actually arrive in Sydney.

However, back in 1940 no such technology existed, and often storms hit with little or no warning, with tragically lethal results.

Such an occurrence took place on 31 October 1940, as recounted by the *Cairns Post* on Friday 1 November.

Sydney Hurricane Man And Boy Killed £100,000 Damage At Dubbo

Sydney, October 31.

Heavy damage was caused by a tornado squall which struck Sydney and suburbs shortly after 3 o'clock this afternoon. Most of the damage was done in the northern side and in the western suburbs. A man and a boy were killed. One of the pylons of the Harbour Bridge was struck by lightning and half a ton of granite was dislodged, falling 300 feet to the ground.

Trapped Under Cabin

The hurricane struck the two travelling gantries at the coal depot of the Wallarah Coal Co. Ltd., Ball's Head, Berry's Bay, with the force of a tornado, causing the travelling cabin to collapse and crash 50 feet. The cabin, with Ernest Numby (42), married, of Granville, trapped inside, was buried under hundreds of tons of steel girders and iron.

Workmen at the yards rushed to Numby's aid and through the wreckage they could see the crushed cabin. While workmen tried frantically to rescue Numby, Dr. V. Conrick and the Central District Ambulance were sent for. Hack saws, acetylene cutters and levers were used in turn to reach the imprisoned man. The Ambulance officers and Dr. Conrick risked their lives to reach him. As soon as sufficient of the girders had been hacked away to make an opening into the crushed cabin Dr. Conrick and the Ambulance officers crawled into the cabin and Dr. Conrick administered morphine to Numby to alleviate his pain, while workmen continued the job of removing the debris so that the injured man could be lifted out.

Died In Ambulance

The rescue work took nearly two hours, and when Numby was released he was in a bad way from his shocking injuries and died in the ambulance on the way to hospital.

Buildings Damaged

At Neutral Bay three shops, a billiard room, blocks of flats and two houses were severely damaged within a radius of a few yards. Opinions differed as to whether a fire ball or a terrific blast of wind during the height of the storm was responsible.

After a deafening crash of thunder the iron roof of the billiard saloon, which is above three shops in Military Road, Neutral Bay, was lifted in the air in one solid piece. As it was carried away from the front of the building of two floors,

thousands of bricks were torn from the top of the front wall and they hurtled down like an avalanche on to the iron-roofed verandahs in front of the shops. The verandahs crashed down, smashing plate glass windows and trapping many people in the three shops.

Shoppers Trapped

Six men who had been in the billiard saloon dashed to safety through the flying debris. Those in the shops were imprisoned until the debris and twisted iron were removed sufficiently to enable them to get out.

A car was buried in the bricks and badly damaged. While the verandahs of the shops were being smashed down and the roof of the billiard saloon was hurtling through the air, several sheets of iron struck electric and telephone wires and as they smashed blue flames and sparks hissed in all directions.

Roofs Of Houses Torn Off

The gale struck Concord and Five Dock with terrific force, tearing off the roofs of houses and toppling over walls at Five Dock. Thirteen buildings in one area were damaged; and several residents had narrow escapes. Flying pieces of timber and galvanised iron whirled through the air, damaging dozens of buildings.

Child Run Over

Bad visibility during the storm was blamed for the death of Kenneth Jones (5), of Bexley. He ran across the road trying to escape the rain, when he was knocked down by a lorry and killed.

Ernest Garden (48), had his skull fractured when a fence was blown on top of him at Pymont. His condition is serious.

Richard Whitaker

British Library and Google books

The British Library has negotiated an agreement with Google whereby texts of books published between 1700 and 1870 will be made available in digital form and able to be downloaded and copied and searched.

This is one step in the library's goal of making the majority of its 14 million books and one million periodicals available in digital form by 2020.

(Source: *Australian Financial Review* 22 June 2011 p.59)

An interesting museum

Next time you are in Cooma check out the **Corrective Services NSW Museum**. The Museum has displays of a variety of inmate crafts, a large photographic collection, textiles, and a significant range of quality historical publications dealing with the correctional history from the transportation period to date. Objects on display include timber items, decorative ornaments, contraband items, plaques, machinery, Aboriginal and landscape paintings, as well as leather crafts and ceramics.

Inmates are involved in a coordinated manner in the collection, inventory, restoration, identification and storage of heritage items. They also serve as tour guides to visitors. Location: 1 Vagg Street, Cooma; Tues-Fri 12.30 - 3.00 pm and Saturday 9.15 am - 3.00 pm.

How attitudes have changed!

“Once families dreaded exposure of their convict connections. Today the discovery that a convict belongs in the family tree is a matter for celebration.”

Most would today agree with these words expressed in Babette Smith’s recently published *“Australia’s Birthstain – a Startling Legacy of the Convict Era”*. For over 100 years, however, the existence of convict ancestors within families was kept a secret by later generations. So much so that in many cases family members were not even aware of their convict’s existence themselves.

By the time the colony was 50 or so years old it was peopled in large numbers by emancipists who had served their time, by many Australian-born who had reached adulthood, as well as settlers who had come and prospered. They all regarded themselves as “free”. Though crime, corruption, loose moral standards, gambling, profanity, drunkenness and violence existed in large measure, Babette Smith puts it that there was growing pride in what was being achieved in the new country. People were accepted for what they were and not for what they or their parents had earlier been. Opportunities for advancement existed which were not available for them in their homeland. Ideas of introducing democratic institutions in the colony were being discussed, with WC Wentworth in the forefront.

Why did having a convict ancestor later come to be a guilty secret?

At the risk of oversimplifying her views, Babette Smith puts forward the theory that three main groups in the “Mother Country” saw their interests as likely to be best served by emphasising the sinfulness existing in New South Wales and ignoring the positive aspects. These were:-

- those who had opposed transportation in the first place and wanted it stopped in favour of penal reform being developed in Britain itself;
- the clergy, too, opposed transportation., although their mission was to reform sinners and it was important that the wickedness of the colony be recognised and, with it, the need for their services, which also offered opportunities to spread church influence; and
- fine-intentioned people whose liberal inclinations applauded the abolition of slavery in America and who saw a similarity with the transportation of convicts to Australia. For the most part they, as individuals, were totally ignorant of the true position in New South Wales. A 27-year old, Sir William Molesworth, became Chairman of the Transportation Committee of the House of Commons. A Report of that Committee was destined to cause great damage to the status of the young colony.

These groups may not have been alone in spreading the belief that sin was rife in the colony, but they spread it with success. As an example, the Reverend Thomas Arnold, principal of the Rugby School, is quoted by Babette Smith as saying in c1834 *“that the stain should last, not only for one whole life but for more than one generation... that no convict child should ever be a free citizen: and that even in the third generation, the offspring should be*

excluded from all offices of honour or authority in the colony.”

The Molesworth Transportation Committee Report, released in 1838, painted an unhappy picture of the colony’s moral state. Though seen within five years as a failure, the inhabitants were taken aback by the Report because they had been expecting praise for the progress they had achieved. Not only was their pride hurt, but there was alarm at the political and economic damage to the colony’s reputation. Not surprisingly, the Report was widely condemned by many who had practical knowledge of the actual conditions. However, the bad publicity given it in England was lasting and widespread. Babette Smith believes Molesworth’s “version of the convict stain” was to infect the colonists themselves. The seeds of shame had been sown.

For many years afterwards there was a conspiracy of silence, both in government and private circles, to keep convict ancestry a secret. Babette Smith points out that, even as late as the 1950s, hundreds of priceless photographs of convicts were destroyed when the old Fremantle Gaol was being renovated. Even more indicative of secrecy was the controversy that arose, as recently as 1980, when the 1828 Census was privately published by Johnson and Sainty of the Library of Australian History. Amongst other things it disclosed which people living in 1828 had come as convicts. The 1980 publication angered some people who saw it as a threat to their ancestors’ reputations. However, “more enlightened academics” took a different view, and information about our pioneers, convicts and otherwise, is happily now freely available.

The outdated sensitivities have now been discarded to the dustbin and many older Australians have come to be delighted to find they have a dinky-di convict amongst their ancestors. It may not be stretching the imagination to suggest that Australia over recent decades has recaptured the pride so unsympathetically beaten out of it 160 and more years ago.

(Babette Smith was Guest Speaker at our Family History meeting 6 November 2010.)

Max Farley

Writing Interesting Family Histories

Many Society members bought a copy of Carol Baxter’s *Writing Interesting Family Histories* a couple of years ago.

She now has a new edition out, which includes one third more information. If you would like to upgrade your copy to the new edition, it will cost \$12, although you must cut off the corner of the back cover of the old edition as proof of purchase of that edition.

If you have not bought a copy yet, but would like to do so, the book is available for \$20.

To order a copy of the book, or to upgrade your copy, bring your money (and proof of purchase in the case of upgrades) and fill in the order form on the table in the rooms with your name and phone number. Please leave money etc. in Jenny’s pigeon hole.

All orders must be in by Friday 26 August.

FAMILY MATTERS

July Family History Meeting

11.00 am Session

Attendees numbered about 30, when Jo Harris showed many new sites on the KHS Intranet including Prisoners on board the hulk Phoenix; Notorious Strumpets and Dangerous Girls; Port Macquarie and Districts Cemeteries and Memorials; Taree and District Burials; Updates of KHS Shipping Database; and Kerry Farmer's useful website. A page listing these new resources was handed out to all attendees.

2.00 pm Session

Jo Harris opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

On this day, 2 July, 1788: North-east winds, persistent rain and the temperature was 63°F (17.2°C).

Governor Phillip wrote two letters to Sir Joseph Banks, describing the plants and seeds of the country and the animals and natives. He announced he would put letters on board different ships, to Banks and to his friend Mr Mein of Fowey, so that should any miscarry they would have accounts of the infant colony.

John Lambert, a convict, was buried.

197 years later, in July 1967, Postcodes were introduced in Australia.

Intranet Resources

A *Listing of the Intranet Resources* has been prepared with space for additions, at a cost of \$5, to enable members to peruse them before a visit to the rooms. Please put your name on the appropriate list if you would like a copy.

Irish Research

On October 8, second Saturday of the month, **Terry Eakin** will speak at a whole-day affair. There will be a charge for the day, and details will be in the next Newsletter.

Annual State Conference of the NSW & ACT Association of Family History Societies is to be held at Inverell from Friday, 16 to Sunday 18 September.

Websites: California Gold Rush 'Most Wanted': www.californiagenealogy.org/goldrush/

Adelaide Cemeteries Authority: www.aca.sa.gov.au/RecordsSearch.aspx

Guide to using the Family History Library and Family Search.org: <http://barbsnow.net/LDS.htm>

Shetland Family History Home Page: www.bayanne.info/Shetland/

General Business

Jo urged everyone to complain to the Registrar General about problems using NSW BDMs due to the spelling errors in many names. (Suggest using an *.)

If anyone needs transport to attend meetings please contact Jo.

Speaker

Jo introduced the speaker, Gary Luke, a committee member of AJHS and SAG, and a trustee of the Jewish Cemetery section of Rookwood. His ancestry includes a Polish-born convict, a Dutch-born migrant family, Russian-

Polish migrants, and a 1938 refugee from the border of Poland and Slovakia. Through his own family and contract research, and in assisting others with non-British immigrant ancestors, Gary has accessed a wide range of record types held by our State and National Archives. His talk and power point presentation emphasised the importance of naturalisation applications and listed where these can be found. He showed many examples and pointed out the details they contain of the applicants' lives before their arrival in Australia.

Bob Gowing moved a vote of thanks saying he now felt confident enough to start researching his own non-British ancestors, previously relegated to the 'too hard basket'.

Afternoon tea followed and the raffle was won by Nola Bramble, who chose the pre-loved book, 'Strauss to Matilda'.

Based on notes by Jean Smith

Link: Denham Court & Ku-ring-gai

On p. 4 (*FAMILY MATTERS*) of the July 2011 Newsletter it is mentioned that Angela Lind visited Denham Court, near Campbelltown.

I would like to add that my great grandfather Rev. George Napoleon Woodd was rector of the Church of England there for many years. He came to NSW from England in 1837, aged 26, with his 18-year old bride Caroline (nee Rust). They then had 16 children, 4 of whom died in infancy.

The youngest daughter and 15th child, Helen Octavia, married Lewis Badham, a son of Professor Charles Badham of Sydney, and their son was my father Lennard Campbell Badham. He, my mother Nora (nee Bennett), my brother and myself, were all long-time residents of Ku-ring-gai (although I now live on the Central Coast).

Hence there is a connection between Denham Court and Ku-ring-gai.

Barry Badham

13th Australasian Congress on Genealogy & Heraldry

28-31 March 2012

at Adelaide Convention Centre

www.congress2012.org.au

Speakers include Colleen Fitzpatrick, a Forensic Genealogist who worked on the identification of the Unknown Child on the Titanic and the Amelia Earhart Project.

Overseas speakers from:-

- the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah
- Cornwall Family History Society, UK
- Guild of One-Name Studies
- National Archives, UK
- *findmypast*

Register your interest so you can receive notices when registrations open. You also should consider booking accommodation to get the best location.

There will also be a pre-Congress tour of archival repositories.

**TULKIYAN OPEN DAY IN HISTORY WEEK:
SUNDAY, 4 SEPTEMBER
THEME – EAT HISTORY**

Tour this unique BJ Waterhouse-designed Arts and Crafts style property with the *Friends of Tulkiyan* volunteers. Glimpse the upper middle class Donaldson family at home over the 80 years from 1913, and view the vegetable gardens, fruit trees and fowl run which supplied their kitchen.

Our home-made afternoon tea features meringues, muffins and eclairs, specialties of the Donaldson ladies and their live-in servant, Sarah Peters.



**707 Pacific Hwy, Gordon 2072 (south of shops)
The house can only be seen by 1-hour guided tour.
Tours throughout the day from 10 am.
Last tour starts: 3 pm.
No bookings taken. No disabled access.
Entry: Adult \$10, Conc. \$8 - includes refreshments.
Parking: Pacific Highway, or train to Gordon Station.**

For information about visiting Tulkiyan at other times:
friendsoftulkiyan@kmc.nsw.gov.au or 9498 3754.

For more History Week events, see
www.historycouncilnsw.org.au

From the Editor

My sincere thanks go to Tony Prince and Richard Facer for volunteering to help with proof-reading the *Newsletter*.

Their kind efforts contribute significantly to its overall quality.

Bob Barry

BUILT HERITAGE

7 Berrillee Lane, Turramurra

Bruce Rickard, one of Australia's foremost architects, died late last year, leaving a "legacy of sensitive architectural and landscape designs that are regarded as



some of the most significant and appropriate for the Australian condition". A long-term resident of Ku-ring-gai, he is renowned for the homes he designed, for their "warmth, comfort, respect of site and nature, ...timeless simplicity and beauty". One 1970 project was 7 Berrillee Lane Turramurra, designed for agent/auctioneer Arthur Allum and his wife Shirley, and refurbished by Rickard in 2000.

Despite its inclusion in the Institute of Architects Register of 20th Century Buildings of Significance, it is not listed in Ku-ring-gai Council's Schedule 7 or on the NSW Heritage Office website. The Register lists 15 projects by Rickard, and two others, both for his family, are within Ku-ring-gai Municipality: 51 Finlay Avenue, Turramurra (1959-1960) and 10 Kokoda Avenue, Wahroonga (1973). A 1990 house at Cottage Point, Rickard's third home, is also on the Register.

The Allum house was advertised for auction in October 2007, with an expected sale price of \$2.5 million. The agent asked "Who needs to travel to Bali when you can enjoy your own resort style living in Turramurra?" noting that "Vast open plan living flows to fabulous alfresco dining and entertaining areas overlooking an expansive heated pool." Set on over 1000 square metres the accommodation included four large bedrooms, four bathrooms and a double garage; the pool was surrounded by sandstone terracing.

Bruce Arthur Lancelot Rickard was born in Roseville in December 1929 to Arthur Lancelot Rickard and his second wife Myfanwy. At the time his father, the eldest son of Sir Arthur Rickard, owned most of the Recreation Park Estate, a huge area in West Roseville, served by Eton, Kimo and Longford Rds, all of Abingdon Rd and part of Shirley Rd.

I know that in the early 1930s Arthur and Myfanwy were renting 35 Bromborough Rd, a pleasant but very modest house, not far from us at No. 40. Was Bruce born while the family were there? By 1936 they had moved to Wambool St, Turramurra. The tribute to him in *Architecture Bulletin* of Nov/Dec 2010 notes they moved "from their 5 acre property in Turramurra to a small flat in Roseville during World War II. This experience was one of the catalysts for Bruce's work. He reacted against a lifestyle detached from nature and limited by confined, sunless spaces." I wonder whether the flat was at 164 Pacific Highway, his father's address in 1949? Built in the 1930s, austere, of dark brick with small rooms, life there would have been very, very different to the beautiful, light-filled homes he was to create throughout his long career.

Kathie Rieth

Copy for Newsletter

General copy for publication should be lodged with the Editor, Bob Barry (bob_barry@optusnet.com.au), as **early as possible** but no later than the 7th of the month (except November and 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 that readers can reproduce it in whole or part with acknowledgement. Material should preferably be in electronic form.

New Members

We extend a warm welcome to members who have recently joined the Society:-

Audrey Dixon	Killara
Wendy Fairbairn	North Turramurra
Kate Tytherleigh	Hornsby Heights
Margaret Watts	Killara

We hope you find your membership rewarding, and look forward to your participation in our activities.

KHS Website

Did you know that our website includes Coming Events, our Catalogue, and the Historian Index?

Graham Lewis, our webmaster, works hard to keep it up to date: www.khs.org.au

Quiz (answers p. 3)

- Where in Ku-ring-gai would I find signposts with Hudson, Parkinson, Ravenhill & Slattery?
 - West Lindfield
 - East Killara
 - North Turramurra
 - South Turramurra
- The streets in Question 1 are all named after?
 - Crew on the "Mayflower"
 - Crew on the "Endeavour"
 - Crew on the "Sirius"
 - Crew on the "South Steyne"
- Which of these is situated in Ku-ring-gai?
 - Harry Gapes Reserve
 - Loyal Henry Park
 - Harry Noble Reserve
 - Henry Lawson Drive
- Turramurra College was situated in which street?
 - Wonga Wonga
 - Warrangi
 - Womerah
 - Warragal
- Which year was the present Ku-ring-gai Council Chambers officially opened?
 - 1908
 - 1918
 - 1928
 - 1938

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 am to 2 pm 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.

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Diary Dates

- Sat 6 Aug** **Family History Meeting**
11 am Let's talk about Cemeteries.
2 pm General Meeting
 Keith McGrath: "Now and Then Photography".
- Sat 20 Aug** **2 pm Society General Meeting and Annual General Meeting**
 Jim Ruxton - Old Sydney Theatres.
 An illustrated talk on the lost world of old Sydney theatres.
- Sat 3 Sept** **Family History Meeting**
11 am Peter Kettle: "The Ryerson Index"
2 pm General Meeting
 Pauline Kettle: "Workhouses of England"
- Sat 17 Sept** **2 pm Society General Meeting**
 "The Parramatta River"
 Gregory Blaxell, author of "Sydney Cove to Parramatta".

Administration

President	Ann Barry	9144 6480
Vice Presidents	Jo Harris	9489 4393
	Jennifer Harvey	9489 6390
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Minute Secretary	Yvette Reeve	9987 0904
Immed. Past President	Kevin Callinan	9983 1525
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	Graham Lewis	9416 5818
	Peter Stehn	9489 9488
	Lorraine Swalwell	9449 9254
	Jackie van Bergen	9403 3044

Appointees

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Book Sales	Carol Rodgers	9488 8789
Catering Supplies	Glynne McGregor	9983 1124
	Jill Nicholson	9144 6948
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Family History Leader	Jo Harris	9489 4393
Family History Committee	Jean Smith	9498 4468
	Jenny Joyce	9440 2131
	Beverly Robinson	9988 3775
	Elaine Turnidge	9899 2635

Historian

Editor: Jennifer Harvey
 with Kathie Rieth, Bob Ross

Indexing: Judi Oliver

Newsletter Editor	Bob Barry	9144 6480
Publicity	Sue Dunston	9498 8720
Public Officer	Helen Davies	9498 3754
Research Team	Max Farley, Jo Harris, Jennifer Harvey, Beverly & Bruce Robinson, Trish Thomson, Trevor Whitehead	
Speakers Programme	Beverly Dunstan	9419 8526
Volunteers Roster	Heather Davidson	9144 1844