

KU-RING-GAI HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.

(Including Ku-ring-gai Family History Group) • Patron: The Mayor of Ku-ring-gai

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December 2014 NEWSLETTER Vol. 32 No. 11

We'd love to see you at one of our Special Interest Groups

German Research SIG: 2nd Mondays (of even numbered months), 1.30pm

The next meeting is 1.30pm Monday 8 December in the Research Centre. All welcome.
Peter Stehn: pstehn@tpg.com.au

Irish Research SIG: 2nd Fridays, 1.30pm

Nine members attended the October meeting. We discussed a number of topics and watched a video on how to research like a professional. We also looked at the use of DNA testing to advance our research. The next meeting will be 1.30pm Friday 12 December in the Research Centre. The first meeting for 2015 will be Friday 13 February. All welcome.
Ric Hall: rehall@iprimus.com.au

Technology SIG: 2nd Thursdays, 1.30pm

The first meeting for 2015 will be at 1.30pm on Thursday 15 January 2015 in the Research Centre. The focus will be new software, gadgets and gear acquired over the holiday season.
Jill Ball: jillballau@gmail.com

WWI Writers & Researchers: 4th Saturdays, 2pm

There will be no meeting in December.
The first meeting for 2015 will be the 5th Saturday due to the Australia Day long weekend: at 2pm Saturday 31 January in the Research Centre.
Kathie Rieth: frithie@netdata.com.au

Mac Users SIG: 1st Mondays, 2pm

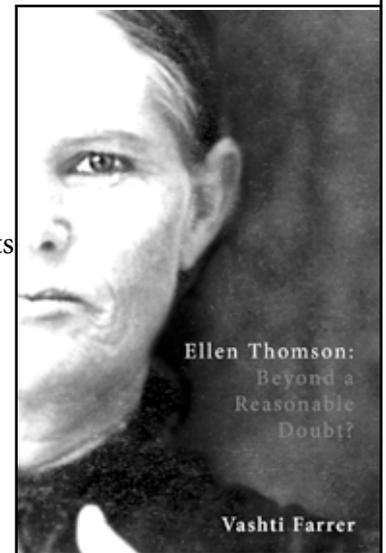
There will be no meeting in either December 2014 or January 2015.
The next meeting (the first for 2015) will be held at 2pm on Monday 2 February in the Research Centre.
As usual we'll kick off the year with an iPad / iPhone day. Did you get an iPad for Christmas and need some help? Do you have an iPad and want to get more out of it. This year if we get enough people we'll split into two 'streams': one for beginners and one a little more advanced. No need to book, just turn up and bring your laptop, iPad and/or iPhone if you like.
Jackie van Bergen: jackievb@optusnet.com.au

General Meeting

Saturday 17 January at 2pm

Ellen Thomson: Beyond a Reasonable Doubt?

Author Vashti Farrer's latest book examines a controversial 1887 murder case in northern Queensland which still raises doubts as to whether the accused woman was given a fair trial.



Afternoon tea will be available.

Visitors are welcome.

Family History Meeting

Saturday 6 December 2pm

11am No morning workshop this month.

2pm General Meeting followed by

Show and Tell

Please bring:

an item from your family to share with other members,
an early photo of yourself, and
a plate of party fare for our Christmas table.

Visitors are welcome.

A Selection of Recent Acquisitions

The following is a selection of acquisitions. Please check the fireplace shelf. If the books have already been sorted into the reference library you will need to use the sort code to locate the book that interests you, eg CEM/2315 – filed under Cemeteries and then 2315, the postcode of the cemetery. If a locality interests you, then obtain the postcode and search the catalogue, eg 2031/CUR – in this case it is filed under Sydney Places. It is also wise to check nearby postcodes in your search as only the postcode most suited to the book is allocated.

• *Convict & Colonial A – Z A Mini Dictionary A succinct guide to Colonial Anecdotes, Incidents and Interesting Information* compiled by Barbara Daniels-Pressick and Carol and Ron Bergen and distributed by Convict Connections, an interest group of the Genealogical Society of Queensland ISBN 978 1 86430 105 5. This publication is updated from the 1996 publication *The Transports are Here, Convicts and the Colony A – Z* and now has 120 pages but no illustrations. CON/DAN

• *Memories of Batemans Bay A Collection of Paintings by Joan Lewis* ISBN 978 0 646907 03 1. A series of paintings with comments by the artist – in colour and 58 pages. This book was donated by the artist. 2536/LEW

If you are finished with previous years copies of *The Historian*, KHS is able to find good homes – simply drop them off at the rooms and tell the room volunteers.

Bruce Robinson

An interesting read: History Blogs

Several history blogs were listed in the recent *Inside History Magazine* Blog Awards. They included:

By the Bremer: Memories of Ipswich
blog.library.ipswich.qld.gov.au/lh

The Carnamah Historical Society & Museum's Blog
carnamah.blogspot.com.au

Moonee Valley Family and Local History Blog
mooneevalleyfamilylocalhistory.blogspot.com.au

The Moruya and District Historical Society Blog
mhsociety.wordpress.com

and The Tauranga Historical Society Blog
taurangahistorical.blogspot.com.au

Should you have connections with the areas covered by these blogs or you enjoy reading about local history from other areas, these blogs will provide you with interesting and insightful articles.

Perhaps if you find something, you could share it with us by writing a paragraph or two.

Rallying the Troops, A World War I Commemoration

A great Christmas gift at \$40

Rallying the Troops has received glowing reports and much praise from a wide audience.

We are pleased to include, in this our last newsletter for 2014, the Society's latest leaflet outlining the current and future content of this outstanding series of publications. The leaflet offers a \$5 discount on the purchase of Volume II to those who have purchased Volume I. We have also included some general information about Ku-ring-gai Historical Society and some of our other popular publications.

If you have friends, family or colleagues who are interested in the many varied stories of people and places associated with WWI, we would greatly appreciate you passing this leaflet on to them.

More leaflets are available in the Research Centre.

If you haven't seen Volume I, please pop in and have a look at the display copy.

This is no ordinary WWI reference book.

Here's some more praise we have received:

Just to let you know your wonderful book is now catalogued and in our Library. What a beautifully produced volume it is - and what an effort it has been for you and your editorial group. You must be exhausted, but elated. ... Only people who have been involved in publications like this can fully appreciate what has gone before. I do hope more of those in your Society can now be inspired to lend a hand. ... Congratulations on a job well done!

We both think it is stunning! A magnificent tribute to all those who served in the War. Hats off and medals all round for you and your team. You must all be thrilled at how well it has turned out.



RALLYING THE TROOPS
A WORLD WAR I COMMEMORATION
BY KU-RING-GAI HISTORICAL SOCIETY, VOLUME I

Built Heritage - Roseville Cinema

The Roseville Cinema has long been a part of our community, beginning its own life as a community hall. In July 1912 developer Oliver Sleeman sold the land on which it stands to Miss Nellie Davies who commissioned Chatswood architect EF Burchett to design a hall. On 2 February 1913, for a rent of ten shillings per Sunday and an extra two shillings and six pence for the use of the piano, the first services of the Congregational Church were held in the unfinished hall. Services continued in the hall until the official opening of the newly completed Congregational Church in Shirley Road on 18 December 1915.



Miss McEwing's Roseville Preparatory Girls School was located in the hall from 1915-18 before moving to its new building at 15 Shirley Road. Traynor's Picture Palace occupied the hall in 1919 and over the next few years it was also known as the Society of Friends Meeting Hall and the Theosophical Society Reading Rooms. Older residents remember a roller skating rink in the hall.

In 1936 Mrs Neil (Nellie married James Neil in 1913) applied to the council to carry out 'alterations to picture theatre'. She was leasing the hall to PB O'Connor, a theatre proprietor of Lindfield. The alterations were designed by Pymble architect Eric Lindsay Thompson.

During the Second World War, the cinema was very popular. A local resident recalled 'Our one treat of the week was to walk up to the Roseville Picture Theatre at night to watch the latest war movie. Mum, Dad and I would climb up Bromborough Road on a winter's night, hot water bottle under arms and rugs around shoulders.' Another recalled 'on a fine cold Saturday night all of Thomas Avenue seemed like ants en masse walking up the hills to the Roseville flicks.'

In those days of cinema-going there was a strict social code about where you sat, and a curtain divided the front and back stalls. 'We saw wonderful musicals [but the] war news wasn't good and women and girls were knitting at every spare moment, in theatres, in trains and at lunches.'

Nellie's niece Kathleen Mitchell inherited the property in 1953 and she renewed O'Connor's lease in February 1955. When this expired in 1969 the cinema was sold to Alarm Facilities Pty Ltd which had also purchased the old Hammonds Butcher shop at Nos 118 and 120. Hans Van Pinxteren bought the cinema in 1974 and his widow and family carried on the business successfully after his

death in 1986. It was extensively refurbished in 1995 and reopened that same year as a twin cinema. It is now one of the few independent cinemas in Sydney. The array of cafes and restaurants that line this strip of the highway all benefit from the custom of the cinema's audiences who come from the North Shore and beyond.

[Adapted from the book *William Henry's 40 Acres*, published by the Roseville Community Association, 2000]

Kathie Rieth

Brickwall or Amazing Find?

Do you have a brickwall in your research that you just can't break down?

Maybe one of our many members can help you knock a hole in that wall.

It worked recently for the WWI group. After publishing a 'mystery' in our newsletter, a member from QLD contacted us with a solution.

Have you had an amazing find recently? Something you've been searching for for ages?

Why don't you share it with us?

We'd love to hear from you.

NSW Seniors Week, March 2015

Once again we'll have a packed program of interesting talks in March 2015.

Look out for the next newsletter with all the details.

Topics will include: How to research your house, Early Ku-ring-gai, Introduction to family history and What are these things called blogs?

Please come along to some and maybe bring a friend.

Family History: Notes from the meeting on Saturday 1 November

11am Session

This was held in the Society's rooms and 19 people signed the attendance book.

We discussed the continuing problem with the new NSW BDM site. Unfortunately the old link has been removed so there is no alternative to the new site. Members' questions were also discussed. The second topic was 'Google Hints and Tips' presented by Jenny Joyce who explained and demonstrated: Basics of Searching, Filtering Techniques, Advanced Search, Other Functions and Other Google Search Tools. An information sheet with a summary of the topics she had covered was distributed to all present. The talk ended with old Pathe films showing Sydney and London, all easily accessible through Google. How did we ever manage without it?

2pm Session

Jo Harris opened the meeting and welcomed everyone, especially the speaker, Richard (Dick) Whitaker, who is also a member of the society.

She read to us:

On this day, Saturday, 1 November, 1788 in John Cobley's *Sydney Cove, 1788*, there is no weather report but on the next day, 'Sunday, there was more hail; the weather was dark and gloomy, with dreadful lightning. The mercury during the whole day stood between 66 and 68 Fahrenheit [approximately 19.44 Celsius]. There were numerous cases of convict thefts, one convict, John Power being given 200 lashes.'

Jo then listed the extra happenings for November, and suggested we see the newsletter for details. New books include: - *From Shamrocks to Scrub* about the Carrigan Family and *In the Line of Fire - Gunnedah and District's Role in the Great War*.

Book Reports:

The Making of Australia - From a struggling Convict Settlement to the Remarkable Nation it is Today by David Hill, and *Land Grants 1788 - 1809* in their original form.

Visits:

Hyde Park Barracks which now has a self-guided tour.

RAHS Conference in Mittagong.

Imperial War Museum in London.

WWI Ceramic Poppies at the Tower of London.

New WWI diorama at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra.

Historical Societies in Grafton, Yamba and McLean.

KHS members certainly get around to far-flung and interesting places.

Speaker

Jo Harris introduced the speaker, Dick Whitaker, whose presentation was entitled *Surry Hills, Riches to Rags - Rags to Riches*.

From 1820 to 1850 Surry Hills belonged to the wealthy who built impressive homes on large estates: Durham

Hall in 1835 which became an officers' club in WWII; Cleveland House in 1824 built by Daniel Cooper; and Albion House, the home of Samuel Terry with his brewery nearby. Large public buildings were also built including the Exhibition Building (1870 - 1954), Cleveland Street Public School (1867) and Crown Street Public School (1879) both of which are still standing. Things changed in the 1850s when gold was discovered at Bathurst, resulting in a population explosion. This led to estates being subdivided and working men's cottages being built, haphazardly as development was unregulated. By 1890 Surry Hills was built out. It was also a lawless area with 'The Larrikins of Surry Hills' forming in 1885 and imposing their own 'law and order'. They were hoodlum gangs, dressed in typical American goldfield outfits who held sway in the suburb until 1920s. There was poor sewerage and drainage, and in 1900 the plague spread quickly through the houses causing many deaths, and the quarantining of the whole area. In December 1900 it was decided to build Central Station where Devonshire Street Cemetery stood and many remains were moved to Rookwood and Botany Cemeteries. The first train ran in 1906, the Clock Tower was built in 1926, and the line to Town Hall and Wynyard was also opened that year.

The Liquor Act of 1916 approved 6 o'clock closing so Kate Leigh set up sly grog shops, sold cocaine and hired 'toughs' to protect them. She became a wealthy woman until back taxes ruined her. Tilly Devine set up in opposition on the other side of the street and the suburb became the home of the infamous 'Razor Gangs'. In 1912-13, 1923, 1928 areas were resumed and in 1928 houses started to be knocked down. The land was to be used by commercial interests but this never happened. The remaining a wasteland was used periodically by Wirth's Circus. Hotels prospered, there being 15 between the wars, but only one school and two churches. Another well-known institution was Thommo's Two-up School. After WWII, property prices plummeted and migrants, such as Greeks, Italians and Cypriots, moved in. From 1950 Surry Hills began to rise from rags to riches. In 2006 it became a suburb of apartments and parks with the remaining working men's houses being 'done up' and becoming very expensive.

For further information Dick recommended *Surry Hills - the City's Backyard* by Christopher Keating. The talk was well illustrated by original pictures from the State Library.

Many questions were then asked before a vote of thanks was given by Graham Lewis, KHS President.

Afternoon tea followed and the Lucky Door prizes were won by Jean Smith and Max Farley who both chose books about Sydney suburbs.

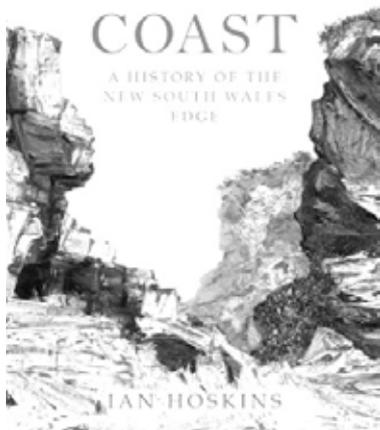
Based on notes by Jean Smith

General Meeting Speaker Notes

Our Coastal History

At the October general meeting Dr Ian Hoskins gave a very enthusiastic talk on the history and development of the NSW coast. A talk drawn largely from his prize-winning book *Coast: A history of the New South Wales edge*. This book follows from his earlier *Sydney Harbour: a history*.

Ian's enthusiasm for the seaside originated from family holidays at Currarong (at Jervis Bay) originally a retreat for keen fisherman who built fibro weekenders but is now developed with seaside mansions and bitumen roads. Ian explored these developments, all along our coast, from millennia of native habitation to the present day, through early maps, paintings and photographs.



The very notion of the NSW coast emerged when Cook charted the eastern edge of Australia and named it for its similarity with the view from the sea of South Wales. For the first hundred years after Europeans arrived, interest was concentrated around Sydney and development of the inland with little more than bush tracks to the coast, where often the only interest was in the immense stands of valuable cedar. Aboriginals were still in residence when Europeans started camping near the beach in the early 1900s but little of the native folklore was retained from those early meetings; some history and artefacts exist in small local seaside museums.

There were early whaling settlements at Berry and Twofold Bay but compared to the whaling industry in the USA this was only "amateur whaling!" Coastal settlements were established in river estuaries but sometimes the town was a distance up the river, such as Grafton 25 kilometres up the Clarence River but still referred to as a "coastal town". Often without proper roads these towns were serviced by a fleet of coastal ships, which had to negotiate dangerous sandbars at the river entrances. There were many disasters, and the remains of the *Merimbula* near Currarong and the *Maitland* on the Central Coast attest to this. Early shipwrecks led to a flurry of lighthouse building in the mid to late 1800s, there are still 37 standing and Ian has explored and documented these.

Our obsession with sand and surf didn't emerge until the early 1900s. Australians learned to catch waves, first with their bodies and then with boards. And so began the beach culture that today we regard as uniquely

Australian. Before that we maintained a decidedly English attitude to sea bathing, preferring to paddle waist deep in calmer waters. To reinforce this point Ian showed photographs of neck-to-knee bathing in the early 1900s contrasted with Max Dupain's iconic 1937 'Sunbaker', who in earlier times would have been mistaken for a half-dead shipwrecked sailor. The present-day obsession of a beach house, practically in the sand, is almost as new as our love of the surf.

Altogether a fascinating talk from someone enthusiastic about the coast, its rockpools and beaches. It evoked many memories of our own beachside holidays and we hope that one day Ian gets his own "fibro" beach house - if there are any left.

Doug Milne

Generations Meeting across Time

As a newly appointed Official Blogger for Generations Meeting across Time - Congress 2015, the 14th Australasian Congress on Genealogy and Heraldry, that will be held in Canberra on 26-29 March 2015, I am charged with spreading the news of this event via social media. Together with Pauleen Cass from the Northern Territory and Shauna Hicks from Queensland we will be blogging and tweeting prior to and during the event. I realise that many people are not familiar with blogs so I am grabbing this opportunity to let you know how excited I am about this event.

Held once every three years and rotating through Australian states and territories, this next Congress will be held within coo-ee of Sydney. Speakers from Australia, including our own Vice-President Jenny Joyce, will join with several international speakers to educate and inform us. I understand that a small contingent of KHS members will be making the journey to Canberra in March. Please consider joining us. As well as educational opportunities, you will be able to mix with like-minded people and attend social functions at the Australian War Memorial and Parliament House. You might even connect with a distant cousin through the Research Interests Register.

Full details of registration can be found on the Congress website: congress2015.org.au

If you would like to follow Congress news on social media the three official blogs are:
cassmob.wordpress.com
diaryofanaustraliangenealogist.blogspot.com.au
geniaus.blogspot.com

I'd love to hear from you if you will be attending Congress.

Jill Ball jillballau@gmail.com

SPEAKERS PROGRAM 2015

Saturday 17 January

Vashti FARRER

Ellen Thomson: Beyond a Reasonable Doubt?

Author Vashti Farrer's latest book examines a controversial 1887 murder case in northern Queensland which still raises doubts as to whether the accused woman was given a fair trial.

Saturday 21 February

Tony CUNNEEN

The North Shore at War: The Home Front

Local historian and author Tony Cunneen considers the impact of the First World War on the people at home, their contribution to the war effort and the war's tragic aftermath.

Saturday 21 March

David WILSON

Unpicking the Myths of Gallipoli

Military historian David Wilson looks at some of the most common misconceptions concerning this failed campaign in light of recent Australian and Turkish research.

Saturday 18 April

Brian FLETCHER

Anglicanism and the Shaping of 20th Century Australia

While there was internal diversity and division in the Anglican Church, Emeritus Professor Brian Fletcher argues that it was a major creative force in shaping the nation after Federation.

Saturday 16 May

Tony GRIFFITHS

WWI Australian Volunteers in Britain

Retired engineer and military historian Tony Griffiths will speak about the little-known story of the 6,000 men who are the subjects of his book, *An Industrial Invasion: Australian Civilian Volunteers in British Factories, 1916 – 1920*.

Saturday 20 June

Carol BAXTER

The Peculiar Case of the Electric Constable

The true story from popular author Carol Baxter, of a criminal Quaker with Sydney connections, murder by poison and London's early electric telegraph.

Saturday 18 July

Richard WHITE

Coo-ee!

Dr Richard White returns with a talk on the social and cultural history of the coo-ee, from its adoption from the Aborigines to the point where it has almost faded from our lives.

Saturday 15 August

David WILKINS

Centenary of the Gallipoli August Offensive

KHS *Rallying the Troops* researcher and writer David Wilkins will speak on the occasion of the centenary of the last major attempt by the Allies to break the stalemate of April 1915.

Saturday 19 September

Murray RADCLIFFE

The French Are Coming!

Murray returns to speak about the way the threat posed by the French during the Napoleonic Wars shaped the development of the fledgling colony at Sydney Cove.

Saturday 17 October

James CURRAN

The U.S. Alliance in the 1970s

Assoc. Professor James Curran (US Studies Centre, Univ. of Sydney) will examine the volatile relations between Australia and the US during the Whitlam and Nixon period.

Saturday 21 November

Trevor PATRICK

Mercury, Murder and Madness

In the 19th century mercury was thought to have magical properties and was used in medicine to treat a wide range of ailments. However there was a dark side to the metal...

Was your ancestor an Engineer in WWI?

Engineer Officers Training School

One of the chapters in *Rallying the Troops*, Volume II is about the Engineer Officers Training School, which was located at Roseville between 1916 and 1918.

KHS has some material about the school, including a program of the Open Day it held in December 1917, and some photographs, but more information about the school and its staff would be very helpful. This might include such things as photographs of students at the school and its location, or letters from students describing their experiences there – or simply the names of students who attended.

I already know of almost 200 students who attended the school, some of whom were from Ku-ring-gai, but it's almost certain that this is not an exhaustive list, and that there were more.

So, if you have a great uncle or a grandfather who was an engineer and who served during the war, it's possible they attended the school – and I'd love to hear from you. Please contact me on cedye@bigpond.net.au.

Chris Edye

Ku-ring-gai Heroes of World War 1

Richard Victor MORSE, DSO, MID (x2)

Richard Morse was married with two children and living at *Woronora* in Grassmere Road, Lindfield when he enlisted in the Mining Corps of the AIF on 15 January 1916. Educated at Sydney Grammar School and the Sydney Technical College he grew into a large, impressive man at 6' 1½" in height and weighing 198 pounds. He nominated his wife, Mina, as his next of kin.

Morse was commissioned as a Captain and allotted initially to the headquarters of the Mining Corps, which embarked on the *Ulysses* for the Suez on 20 February 1916, arriving on 26 April. The unit then landed in France on 5 May 1916. On 7 October 1916 he transferred to the newly formed Australian Electrical & Mechanical Mining and Boring Company (AEMMBC) known as the 'Alphabet' Company and became its commander six days later. He was promoted to Major on 1 March 1917. Operating underground engine rooms adjacent to the trenches with workshops further to the rear, the 'Alphabet' Company was a specialised engineering unit that supported the front line infantry and tunnelling companies. It supplied power, lighting and ventilation, workable pumps to drain water-logged tunnels, saps and dugouts, and used equipment like its 'Wombat' borer (a rotary drill fitted with augur blades) to drill 15cm diameter holes under the German defences, and detonating the explosives packed into the borehole. It became an essential unit to the constant life-threatening situations of the underground war.

As commander of this unit Major Morse was twice mentioned in despatches and was made a Companion of the Distinguished Service Order (DSO) and whilst none of the descriptive citations for his decorations can be located, Bean's official history noted as an example of the company's respected work, that a commander of a British tunnelling company had nothing but praise for the performance of Morse and his men whose efficiency and devotion to duty were the subject of his enthusiastic commendation:

If a pump goes wrong, it is out of the mine, back to the shops in Hazebrouck, and again underground in 24 hours. The Australians do not work by hours, but by contract- to keep the water down.

Field Marshal Haig sent a letter in 1917 expressing his 'heartly congratulations' to the tunnellers and the AEMMBC on their 'splendid work' accomplished for the operations of 31 July 1917. He wrote:

That so large a program of work was completed in so short a time, and in spite of very great difficulties, reflects the greatest credit on all ranks, and shows with what spirit and energy everyone must have worked.

At the end of the War, the commander of the British 5th Army, General Sir William Birdwood, sent a note to Major Morse saying,

My dear Morse, This is only a line to congratulate you and your company very heartily upon the special mention which has been made of your good work in the C. in C.'s Order of the Day on December 4. You must, I am sure, be extremely proud of this, for as far as I remember, it is one of the very few occasions upon which a company has been specially selected for such a distinction—indeed you have most thoroughly earned it by the magnificent work you and your men have done throughout the war. My best good wishes to you and your company for Christmas and for many a Prosperous and happy New Year after your return to Australia.

Yours sincerely (Signed), W.R. Birdwood.

Although the service record of Major Morse is silent on the subject, newspaper reports said later that he was severely gassed on a number of occasions, which may explain why, upon returning to Australia in 1919, he suffered from gradually deteriorating health.

Back in Sydney he was appointed Chief Assistant Electrical Engineer of the NSW Public Works Department but became ill while engaged in an inspection tour of the Murrumbidgee Irrigation area. He died at Leeton, NSW on 26 January 1925 leaving a widow and three children. He was only 39. The respect he demanded and his popularity were evident by the large work and former Army comrade attendance at his funeral. His distinguished success in both wartime and civilian fields was attributed to his nobility of character and his personal courage.

David Wilkins



Major Richard Victor MORSE, DSO, MID (x2)
(Photo AWM H12780)

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	Jenny Joyce	9440 2131
Treasurer	Neil Falconer	9488 7293
Secretary	Yvette Reeve	9987 0904
Immed. Past President	Jennifer Harvey	9489 6390

Committee	Ann Barry	9144 6480
	Morrison Hammond	9449 7447
	Margaret Holland	9488 5452
	Joan Stebbing	9489 6476
	Jennifer Thredgold	9144 6320

Family History Group:

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Committee	Margaret Holland	9488 5452
	Jenny Joyce	9440 2131
	Yvette Reeve	9987 0904
	Beverly Robinson	9988 3775
	Jean Smith	9498 4468
	Elaine Turnidge	9899 2635

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Computer System	Peter Stehn
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<i>The Historian</i> Indexing	Beth Facer
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Volunteer Roster Preparation	Geoff Little
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Welfare Officer	Elaine Turnidge
WWI Team coordinators	Kathie Rieth, David Wilkins

Copy for Newsletter

Please email copy for publication to khs@khs.org.au, as early as possible.

Please note:

We have new co-editors starting in January, so please submit all entries in as print-ready form as possible.

The deadline for the next newsletter is 10 January 2015.

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Diary Dates

Sat 6 Dec Family History Meeting
11am: No workshop this morning
2pm: General Meeting: *Show and Tell*.
Please bring an item from your family to share with other members, an early photo of yourself, and a plate of party fare for our Christmas table.

Sat 17 Jan 2pm: Society General Meeting followed by *Ellen Thomson: Beyond a Reasonable Doubt?* Author Vashti Farrer's latest book examines a controversial 1887 murder case in northern Queensland which still raises doubts as to whether the accused woman was given a fair trial.

Sat 7 Feb Family History Meeting
11am: To be advised
2pm: General Meeting followed by *My great great grandfather, Henry Parkes*
Speaker: Ian Thom

Visitors are welcome.

New Members

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

Alan Jones	Epping
Hilary Weatherburn	Lindfield
William & Xin Ma	Gordon

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

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 10am to 2pm on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday (except the 1st Saturday of each month when members have a meeting). It is closed over the Christmas period and on public holidays.

Christmas / New Year

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you all.

Closure

Please note, the Research Rooms will be closing at 2pm on Friday 20 December 2014, and reopening at 10am on Monday 12 January 2015.