



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.

January/February 2012

Newsletter

Vol. 30 No. 1

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

Left-handers through history

The final general meeting for 2011 was livened up by an interesting talk by Bob Davis on *The Natural Superiority of Left-handed People Through History*. He started by telling us that 10% of the world's population are left-handers, and this percentage has remained constant throughout history, as can be seen via old cave paintings etc. And this proportion is not limited to humans. About 10% of sea shells spiral to the right, and 10% of vines spiral to the left, with the other 90% spiralling in the opposite direction.

Strangely enough, all polar bears are left-handed, as are sulphur-crested cockatoos.

Some of the insulting terms that have been used to describe left-handers include Mollydooker (effeminate and weak), Sinistral (the hand of the devil – wicked and evil), Gauche (awkward and clumsy) and Cacky-handed (dirty and unclean). Yet looking at some of the left-handers through history these descriptions seem inappropriate: Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo, Marcel Marceau, Albert Schweitzer, Alexander the Great and Robert Baden-Powell.

Left-handers are found in profusion in the entertainment industry, with Rex Harrison, Danny Kaye, Steve McQueen, Greta Garbo, Kim Novak, Marilyn Monroe and two of the Beatles fitting into that category. World leaders and scientists like Barack Obama, Bill Clinton, George W. Bush, Julius Caesar, Albert Einstein, Marie Curie and Isaac Newton were also left-handed. Even the British Royal family contains many left-handers: King George VI, Prince Charles and Prince William.

In fact, since the left side of the brain controls the right side of the body, and vice versa, it could be said that left-handers are the only people in their right mind. And perhaps it can be said that ambidextrous people are only half-right.

Yet the world often ignores the needs of left-handers, with their right-handed brethren developing scissors and secateurs that are notoriously difficult for left-handers to use, and building spiral staircases that favour right-handed defenders. Many have also struggled to learn to knit or play guitar when taught by a right-hander. Yet sometimes the left-hander can gain an unexpected advantage. The spiral staircase may be designed to be defended by a right-hander, but this means that a left-handed attacker has an advantage. And a right-hander facing a left-hander in sport or battle will be in unfamiliar territory, whereas the left-hander will spend most of his time competing against a right-hander, and is therefore used to that situation.

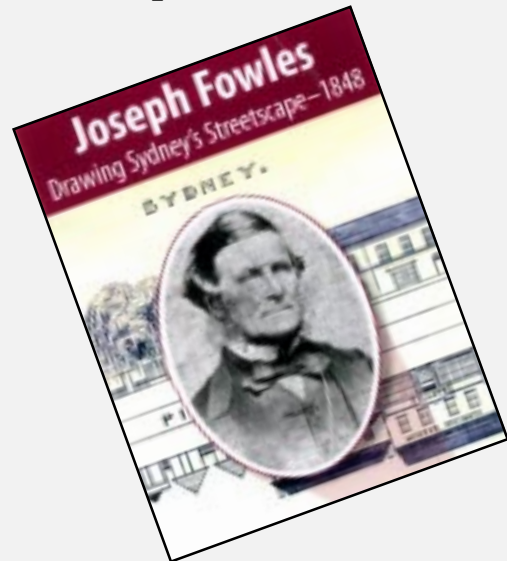
One interesting question was posed during question time. Many identical twins are mirror-twins, with one being right-handed and one left-handed. Yet how can this be, when they have the same DNA? Bob summed up his talk with a plea for understanding: "We have a right to be left!"

Jenny Joyce

General Meeting

Saturday 18 February 2.00 pm

Joseph Fowles' Sydney



An accomplished artist and teacher, Joseph Fowles is best remembered for his painstakingly accurate illustrations of Sydney's streetscapes as they appeared in 1848, done with the intention of showing the extent of the city's progress in the first 60 years.

Our speaker, MARK DUNN, is a professional historian and researcher of Sydney's urban history.

**Afternoon Tea will be available.
Visitors welcome.**

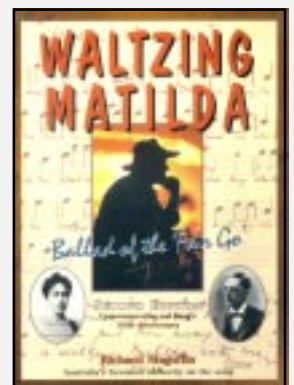
Family History Meeting

Saturday 4 February

11.00 am "New Resources on our Intranet"

2.00 pm General Meeting

"Waltzing Matilda - The Story behind the Legend" - speaker is local identity Bill Magoffin.



**Afternoon Tea will be available.
Visitors welcome.**

Heritage Award

Congratulations to **Jennifer Harvey**.

Jennifer was presented with the *Ku-ring-gai Heritage Award* at the Ku-ring-gai Australia Day Citizen of the Year presentations.

This award recognised the significant work done by Jennifer and her Built Heritage (*The Historian*) team, and their contribution to the conservation and protection of the built heritage of Ku-ring-gai.

This is a very well deserved award!

New Computer Resources

A new computer resource was added on 17 January – *The Australasian Genealogical Computer Index* (AGCI) Volume 4. This resource contains over 680,000 indexed names from the Society of Australian Genealogists. It includes 350,000 death and burial references, 100,000 birth references, 550,000 names from newspapers and 115,000 names from the NSW Government Gazettes. The dates covered range from the 1800s to 2009 and include 3,500 references from 120 countries (other than Australasia).

Irish Background Resources

Two new Irish resources have recently been gifted to the Society. These resources consist of numerous databases, source material and maps for the counties of Roscommon and Leitrim. Each resource consists of hundreds of PDF files and they are not easily made into a standalone resource on our Intranet. They are, however, suitable for in-depth study by local or family historians with a specific interest in the counties of Roscommon or Leitrim. If you have a specific interest in these regions, please see either Jo Harris or Peter Stehn for access to these resources.

Peter Stehn

Newsletter Index

We now have an index to our *Newsletter* on our Intranet. The index covers the period from our first *Newsletter* in 1984 to the end of 2011.

Kupedia

Have you checked our computers for *Kupedia*?

What is *Kupedia*? Peter Stehn and Jill Armstrong have been working away, quietly building a beautifully presented program containing information from *The Historian*. The program is similar to Wikipedia, hence the name. The aim in the longer term is to have all our original material available on this program.

Take a look next time you're in the Research Centre!

Society Workshops

The Committee would like to know what workshops our members would like us to run.

Throughout last year we ran workshops that the Committee suggested, and now we need your input!

If you have a suggestion, please send an email to khs@khs.org.au or speak to a Committee member.

Special Interest Groups

Mac Users Group SIG

The next meeting will be on **Monday 20 February** at **2.00 pm** in the research rooms. We will talk about Dropbox and iCloud, and any other issues or problems you have.

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)

No need to book, just turn up. Bring your laptop or iPad if you like.

German Research Group SIG

The December meeting covered favourite websites for German research.

The next meeting is on **Monday 13 February** at **1.00 pm for a 1.30 pm start**, in the meeting room. The theme of this meeting is "German research and success since we last met".

To help cover room hire costs we are asking for a gold coin donation.

Scottish Research SIG

The first meeting will be on **Monday 27 February** at **1.30 pm**. Jenny Joyce will give an introductory talk on Scottish research. Please bring your favourite website to share.

No need to book. Initial enquiries to jackievb@optusnet.com.au

SIGs don't have to be started by people who know a lot about a subject – sharing experiences is a really good way to learn as has been shown by the very active and enthusiastic German group.

We can help you get started and will probably join in. Email jackievb@optusnet.com.au if you are interested, - if there are enough people, then we'll get something going.

Jackie van Bergen

Welfare Officer

Elaine Turnidge has kindly agreed to be our Welfare Officer. If you know of a member who is unwell, or has died, please let us know as soon as possible at khs@khs.org.au or phone our rooms 9499 4568, and the message will be passed on to Elaine.

Notes on the Invited Speaker's talk

Each month, someone has been taking notes on the invited Speaker's presentation, for reporting on the front page of a subsequent issue of the *Newsletter*.

This has generally been one of the Committee members, but this group is already overloaded by other Committee business. So I would be very grateful if a few other members would volunteer for this task.

You would not be expected to do this job more than once or twice a year, so it's not very onerous.

If you're interested, please contact me on 9144 6480.

Ann Barry, President

KHS Speakers Program – 2012 Saturday – 2.00 pm

Sat 21 Jan ELIZABETH DONALDSON

William Dobell: An Artist's Life. Using images and video clips, Elizabeth Donaldson of the Dobell House museum will talk about the life and work of one of Australia's greatest artists, a man more at home in the local pub with his friends than on the international art stage.

Sat 18 Feb MARK DUNN

Joseph Fowles' Sydney. Historian Mark Dunn is researching the life and varied work of Fowles, an accomplished colonial artist who is perhaps best known for his invaluable description of the mid-19th century city.

Sat 17 Mar MICHAEL WATERHOUSE

Adventures on the New Guinea Goldfields. An overview of the inter-war history of Australia's involvement in Papua New Guinea seen through the prism of gold mining on the Wau/Bulolo fields from the author of *Not a Poor Man's Field*.

Sat 21 Apr CRAIG WILCOX

Life in Australia during the First World War. Craig's talk is based on his extensive research for a DVA centenary publication on the effects, at home and abroad, of four years of war that brought a death to almost every Australian family.

Sat 19 May COLIN GRIFFITHS

Harry Seidler: Transforming Sydney. Harry Seidler changed the skyline of Sydney's CBD with his innovative tall, high-density buildings affording public spaces and incredible views. An engaging talk by a long-term colleague.

Sat 16 Jun NOELINE KYLE

A Greater Guilt : Constance Emily Kent and the Road Murder. An intriguing story of Australian connections with a notorious crime, centred on the life of a Sydney nurse who died, aged 100, in the 1940s, by well-known academic and author, Dr Noeline Kyle.

Sat 21 July TONY GRIFFITHS

Brendorah: World War II Artist. Researcher and author Tony Griffiths has a fascinating tale to tell of Bren guns and paint brushes in wartime Lithgow. Come along to hear more...

Sat 18 Aug CAROL BAXTER

Captain Thunderbolt and his Lady. Popular author and well-known genealogist Carol Baxter returns with the true story of New England bushrangers Frederick Ward and Mary Ann Bugg, subjects of her "well-written cracking read".

Sat 15 Sep TANYA CROTHERS

The Letters and Life of Arthur Wesley Wheen. Tanya will speak on the life of this little-known World War I hero, linguist, artist and writer (and former Gordon Public School pupil) whose *Two Masters* was one of the few contemporary anti-war books.

Sat 20 Oct BARBARA ANGELL

Woman's War: The Life of Wilma Oram Young A.M. Do you remember the radio serial *White Coolies*? Then come and hear the story of a POW nurse and survivor of the Bangka Is. massacre who later became the first female RSL president, told by her biographer, Dr Barbara Angell.

Sat 17 Nov PAULINE CURBY

Stories from Randwick. Historian Pauline Curby draws on an abundance of stories of people and places using images and records researched for her award-winning book on the Municipality of Randwick.

Beverley Dunstan

Memories...

I do enjoy reading *The Historian* when it is delivered by post to my house.

When reading the latest edition this week, I was most surprised to see (on page 17) a photo of the store, Marcus Clark's, where I started my working life.

The first year, 1949, I worked for two weeks in December, a school holiday position, in the Mail Order Office. This position was obtained for me through a neighbour, who worked as a traveller for the firm.

I was invited to apply the next Christmas holidays, obtained a position in the Country Orders Office, where I stayed for the next 14 months.

The firm was like a 'Big Family'.

We had a lunch room, games room and even a lending library, all much used by staff, on the top floor.

I still correspond with a friend who worked with me in Country Orders.

I remember Sir Marcus, sitting in his office on the 1st floor, where outside in the corridor the travellers would sit and write up their journals.

When I left there I went to work for a Chartered Accountant at the other end of town.

I so enjoyed my time at Railway Square. When the firm finally closed, I visited with my eldest child, just to say goodbye to my original boss and fellow workers, and to Frank who worked the staff lift for years.

I am happy to see the building still standing, now part of TAFE.

Many thanks to Jennifer Harvey and the team for bringing back such happy memories for me.

Shirley Morley

Society's Display Cases

Jocelyn Brennan-Horley continues to do an outstanding job updating our displays, this time with "*Women of Kur-ring-gai*" and the "*Gordon Public School*". Beautifully done as always. Thank you Jocelyn.

Remembrance Day: 11 November 2011



A class of 9 year olds from Ravenswood visited our rooms on Remembrance Day, and observed Council's 11 am ceremony across the road.

KHS web site report 2011

Our web site has been running smoothly since we moved to a new web host during 2010, and we thought you might be interested in a short summary of its usage over the year 2011. We maintain detailed logs of all traffic, so we know that in the 12 months we had:

Number of visits	23,003
Unique visitors	13,949
Average no of visits	1.65 per unique visitor
Pages visited	57,426
Average pages	2.50 per visit

Our visitors come from all over the world. The following shows the percentage of pages visited from a selection of countries: Australia (61), USA (15), Japan (7), Germany (4), Gt Britain (3), Netherlands (2), NZ (0.4).

Some visitors leave very quickly; others linger: 0-30 secs (74%), 30-120 secs (8%), 2-5 mins (5%), 5-15 mins (5%), 15-30 mins (3%), 30-60 mins (3%), 1 hour + (1%).

There is quite some interest in our old *Newsletters*, representing seven of the top ten downloads. But the top download was our online library catalogue, with 513 downloads since it first became available, mid-year. Our research services were also popular, with the research request form being downloaded 375 times. Our "What's On?" download (linked from our home page, and detailing meetings etc. over the next month or so), also proved popular.

The web pages visited were concentrated on family and local history:

Home page	4,903
Family History Group	2,520
Local History pages	12,305
<i>The Historian</i> and its index	17,016
Search whole site	1,761
Publications	1,484
About KHS	1,318
Research	1,262
Built heritage	1,006
Contact	958
Others	12,893

N.B.: "Family History Group" and "Built Heritage" above relate to the two individual pages describing those two subjects; many of the visits to our Search, Research, and *The Historian* index pages are likely to have also been related to family and local history, and to built heritage.

Our visitors are 75% PC users, 17% Macintosh, 1% Linux, 6% unknown or dribs and drabs.

55% used Internet Explorer as their browser, 15% Firefox, 14% Safari, 7% Chrome, 9% other.

58% visited us by entering a direct address, by using a bookmark/favourite, or by clicking on a link in/on an email/website. Another 36% reached us by using a search engine – 33% with Google, and just 3% using 20 other search engines!

We also know the 8,585 various search phrases people used to find us with search engines in 2011. Most used the Ku-ring-gai name, albeit with many spellings. Suburb names were also popular, in conjunction with the word "history".

Reviewing these details helps us identify whether we can make our site more useful, or relevant pages more readily found.

Graham Lewis, KHS webmaster

The Historian on Killara

Over the next two years *The Historian* crew is planning issues on the part of Killara east of the highway, that were grants to William Foster, Edwin Booker, Eleanor Oatley and JD Lang, and James Bradley.

Streets include: Arnold St, Arthur St, Bruce Ave, Cecil St (Gordon), Forsyth St, Garnet St, Greengate Rd, Illeroy Ave, Kalang Ave, Kardella Ave, Karranga Ave, Kylie Ave, Locksley St, Lorne Ave, Lynwood Ave, Maple Ave, Marian St, Maytone Ave, Montah Ave, Northcote Ave, Nyora St, Pacific Hwy, Powell St, Redgum Ave, Rosebery Rd and Werona Ave.

If you have family or local stories, recollections, reminiscences or photographs — or know of anyone who does — we would love to hear from you.

We can scan photos and photocopy documents, so precious items can be returned on the spot. Please contact KHS at 9499 4568, Jennifer Harvey 9489 6390, or Kathie Rieth 9416 1587 or frithie@netdata.com.au

Seeking contact for photograph

I gave a talk at your Society in April 2010 on my recently-published book *Sydney Harbour: A History*.

A member of the audience, whom I thought was also a member of the Society, identified the subject of a Harold C a z n e a u x photograph I displayed of a sailor titled the 'Ships Cat'.



I wrote down the lady's name, but now have mislaid that folder.

Would this person please contact me, Dr Ian Hoskins, Nth Sydney Council Historian, Stanton Library, 9936 8430.

Quiz answers (see p. 8 for Questions)

World War I.
1. (c) Being part of the Earl of Carnarvon Estate, it was named to celebrate the opening of Tutankhamen's tomb in 1922 by the Earl of Carnarvon.
2. (b) Named after JG Lockley, Shire President of Ku-ring-gai in 1924, by JG Edwards, an "s" was mistakenly added.
3. (a) Named by Donald GG Commons, who owned the land, in honour of Sister Narelle Hobbs, who served as a nurse with the Australian Forces at Gallipoli and died in Egypt.
4. (b) Johan Henri Rhule emigrated from Micklenberg, Germany. The family changed the surname to Reely during World War I.

KHS Seniors Week Program 2012

Venue: Gordon library meeting rooms

Start time: 10.30 am

Cost: Talks are **free**, thanks to a Seniors Week grant from the NSW Government.

Includes: Morning tea

Bookings are essential: phone 9499 4568 (10 am - 2 pm), or email khs@khs.org.au

Thursday 15 March 2012

How to Research your Family History

Vice-President of the Ku-ring-gai Historical Society and leader of the family history group, local identity **Jo Harris** will give a highly entertaining presentation on getting started with researching your family history. This will be followed by a discussion over morning tea, then the opportunity to do some hands on research in the Ku-ring-gai Historical Society research rooms with the help of volunteers from the Family History Group.

Monday 19 March 2012

How can I get more out of Google?

These days it seems almost everything is available on the Internet, and Google seems to be the key to finding the information. But most people don't know how to really harness the power of Google, or the treasures that it can uncover. This talk will teach you how to use Google effectively, along with the wealth of tools that Google provides.

Tuesday 20 March 2012

How do I find out who's been sleeping in my house?

Jennifer Harvey offers tips to help you uncover the history and mysteries of your Ku-ring-gai house. This will be followed by a discussion over morning tea, then the opportunity to have hands on experience in the research rooms.

State Records Globe Street to close!

The following notice recently appeared on the State Records website: "Effective from 30 June 2012 State Records will close its city reading room at 2 Globe Street."

This is very disappointing and will cause a great deal of inconvenience to many people. The only option will be to travel to St Marys.

The Arthur Phillip Chapter of the Fellowship of First Fleeters

The Arthur Phillip Chapter is the North Shore affiliate of the Fellowship of First Fleeters, a National organisation established in 1968. The Chapter welcomes all enquiries from people who are interested in the heritage and history relating to the First Fleet and the people who first settled Australia. At our friendly meetings the general business is conducted first, followed by an interesting program, e.g. guest speaker, exchange of family history information, or other topics of mutual interest. Our members often join social activities of the Fellowship of First Fleeters head office, and we organise our own excursions to places of interest.

If you would like to know more about the Fellowship of First Fleeters log onto www.fellowshipfirstfleeters.org.au

13th Australasian Congress on Genealogy and 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

There will be a pre-Congress tour of archival repositories such as:

- SA Genealogy and Heraldry Society Library, Unley
- State Records of SA, Adelaide
- National Archives of Australia (SA Branch), Adelaide
- State Library of SA, Adelaide
- Maritime Museum, Port Adelaide

From The Builder & Contractors' News 5 May 1888 p. 284

"The foundation stone of St John's hall, Gordon was laid on Saturday afternoon with Masonic honours by Mr John Liggins, WM of the St Leonard's Samaritan Lodge, 1654, EC. The building, which will occupy a piece of rising ground contiguous to the Church of St John the Evangelist, is to be of cruciform design, 100ft x 50ft, though the present intention covers only half the dimensions indicated, the materials being brick, with stone foundations, and accommodation will be temporarily provided for 250 persons."

Richmond Presbyterian Cemetery

Great news from Jonathan Auld on the Rootsweb australian-hills-hawkesbury-hunter-valley list. Thanks to the volunteers who have produced this resource for those of us with Hawkesbury ancestors.

Just a heads up for those listers interested in cemeteries located in the Hawkesbury. We have completed the Richmond Presbyterian Cemetery, with all of the headstone transcriptions and photographs now available online for you to view. Information can be viewed at the following url:

http://www.hawkesbury.net.au/cemetery/richmond_presbyterian/index.html

from Jill Ball's blog

Lindfield Laundry query

"I lived in Highfield Road growing up, and my mother used the Lindfield Laundry in Provincial Road. A friend said it was staffed by unmarried mothers. I am trying to find some history about it. There doesn't seem to be any information about the Lindfield Laundry, apart from a few photos of vans."

Any information to khs@khs.org.au please.

November Family History Meeting

11.00 am Session

16 members attended the morning session where Jo Harris introduced two new local resources: *1788-1825 Arrivals & Departures NSW* and *1826-1837 Free Passengers to NSW*. Lucille Taylor had a 'Yes' moment when Jo found the arrival of her ancestor, John Smith Glover, for her.

Several recent databases were explored including *New Zealand Early Settlers Locator* and *Inverell Cemeteries*. First Fleeter, Alan Beresford, who is descended from a marine, spoke about the chart his Society has produced which lists all the First Fleeters under the name of the ship on which they sailed to Botany Bay. Copies are available for purchase for \$20.

Members who attended received two useful handouts listing Local Resources.

2.00 pm Session

Jo Harris opened the meeting by welcoming everyone especially Wendy Blaxland, guest speaker for the afternoon session.

Speaker

Jo introduced the guest speaker, Wendy Blaxland, local resident, teacher, author and descendant of early settlers.

Her presentation was entitled 'The Blaxland Family – an odd mob' and was divided into four sections.

John and Gregory Blaxland were gentleman farmers from Kent, friends of Sir Joseph Banks, and came to NSW in 1808. They prospered, although they didn't get on with any of the governors, and built impressive homes (Newington in Silverwater and Brush Farm House in Eastwood, both now fully restored). Gregory Blaxland with Lawson and Wentworth crossed the Blue Mountains in 1813 and Wendy is writing a play for the bicentenary in 2013.

Audrey Blaxland (nee Cunningham), Wendy's mother, was an actress who founded Pymble Players. She also taught drama at the Marion Street Drama School and then founded the Marion Street Children's Theatre.

Elizabeth Blaxland, Wendy's aunt, was a sculptor involved in making the figures at the Hyde Park War Memorial. She was also an art teacher at East Sydney Tech.

Wendy Blaxland is a writer of children's books, both fiction and non-fiction, and plays. She is actively involved in the Marion Street Children's Theatre, where she encourages interactivity between the actors and the audience. Her cookery books won her a 'Highly Commended' in the children's fiction competition of the Women Writers' Association.

After a lively performance that kept the audience enthralled, a vote of thanks was given by Eleanor Dawson, also a Head Prefect of Abbotsleigh like Wendy Blaxland, for an entertaining, memorable and informative presentation.

Raffle: The raffle was won by Elaine Turnidge who chose 'Australian Pub Crawl' by Douglas Baglin and Yvonne Austin.

Based on notes by Jean Smith

There was no 11.00 am Session

2.00 pm Session – Jo Harris opened our final meeting for the year with a special Christmas afternoon tea to follow. Jo welcomed all in attendance with a special welcome to visitors, Arthur Delbridge and Catherine Smart. There were several apologies, which were listed in the attendance book, including the news that our Joyce Ryerson was in hospital having suffered a stroke recently. There were 45 in attendance.

There had been very successful visits from Ravenswood, the Blue Mountains FHG and the First Fleeters Local Chapter to our rooms. Jo advised all about this First Fleeters Local Chapter which meets on the 3rd Friday of the month in the meeting room downstairs, and suggested attendees advise any family and friends, who may have First Fleeters in their family tree, of this Local Chapter.

"Family Tree Connections" – See the latest edition in the rooms – advice that "Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness" is now defunct, much to the indignation of many users, who have commented about the loss – see also Tate Family photo page 32.

Reminder to see other **Publications** which are regularly sent to the Society. There were no **Acquisitions** listed during the last month.

Book Reports from members: Angela Lind – "Diaries of Elizabeth MacArthur"; Heather Davidson – "A Left-handed History of the World"; Elaine Turnidge, having recently visited Ross in Tasmania, had pleasure in presenting to Jo "Convict Lives at the Ross Female Factory" which had been launched a week before her visit; Jo Harris now has 3 volumes of "Living Stones"; Jo also spoke about "Turmoil, Tragedy to Triumph" about Italians in the 1880s who on emigrating had been left in New Caledonia – discovered by Reverend George Brown, a Methodist Missionary from the British Missionary Society, living in Gordon – who then organised through Henry Parkes that a ship be sent to bring them to Australia provided that they worked for 2 years – this they did, then settled in the Richmond River area, northern NSW; area is called New Italy.

Special Items – Congratulations to Jenny Joyce for her article printed in Family Tree Maker Great Britain magazine Page 63; also to Jill Ball for article in "Inside History"; also to Jocelyn Brennan-Horley, a new granddaughter; Jo Harris' 100 years of her family's attendance at Ravenswood; Elaine Turnidge's visit to St David's Park, Hobart, formerly St David's Burial Ground, where her convict ancestor, Edward Babington and also Mary, his wife, had been buried; Joy Walker and her persistence in checking 'Houses For Sale' notices, discovered the home designed and built in Neutral Bay by her architect grandfather was included – this home has her family crest in a window – Joy contacted the agent and hopes to visit soon – enjoy the visit Joy.

General Business – Jo thanked all those who help in so many ways to make this Group such a happy one – special thanks to Jill Nicholson, who was an apology, but who came

BUILT HERITAGE

Fox Valley Road, Warrawee

On 3 April, courtesy of the owners and National Trust, *Mahratta*, on the corner of Fox Valley Road and the highway, and Nos 30 and 51 Fox Valley Rd are to be opened to members.



Marsovia

Bookings are essential.

The houses are well worth a visit. *Mahratta*, state listed, a superb example of Art Deco architecture, was designed in 1941 by Douglas Agnew for Thomas A Field of meat wholesalers TA Field Pty Ltd. 30 Fox Valley Rd, *Marsovia*, was designed in 1905 by Thomas J Darling for solicitor George A Raves, and 51, *Rarawai*, in 1906 by George W Durrell for engineer Robert Dixon and his wife Margaret.

Residential development began here in the early 1900s. Of the eight private residents living along the road in 1905 two were timber cutters and three were fruit growers. Within the next few years professional men built large homes to house their families, well away from the pollution and disease of the city.

Of the eleven properties in Fox Valley Rd listed on Kurung-gai's LEP, seven are located between *Mahratta* and Ada Ave. This group contains houses designed by some of Sydney's most prominent architects.

- 16 *Purulia*, designed in 1916 by W Hardy Wilson as his family home;
 - 30 *Marsovia* by TJ Darling;
 - 33 *Glenorie*, designed in 1910 by John Reid for his neighbour AW Crocker;
 - 35 *Rothiemay*, designed in 1939 by F Glynn Gilling for Hubert Field, replacing the earlier house designed by John Reid in 1906;
 - 38 *Aleuria*, designed in 1929 by Bruce Dellit as his family home;
 - 40 built in 1933, possibly designed by Stacey Neave, for the Metzners;
 - 47 *Somerset*, built in the late 1930s, home of the Conrow family and believed designed by Aaron Bolot and EC Pitt.
- Not listed are:

- 26 designed in 1954 by Professor Ross Thorne, architect and theatre historian, for his mother Jess and father Leslie G Thorne, author of *A history of North Shore Sydney*;
- 34 and 36 built for daughters of Herbert McDouall, owner of No 30 from 1924 until his death in 1947. Sydney Ancher was commissioned to design No 34 in 1949 and Ancher Mortlock & Murray to design No 36 in 1957;
- 44 for Claude Medway Cox, designed in 1954 by Felix Tavener, design architect for the Qantas Building;
- 49, originally a smaller house, altered and extended by F Glynn Gilling to suit his family.

If you aren't a member of the Trust and can't go and see the three houses when they are open, do walk along this stretch one day. It is probably one of the few streets in Sydney in which so small an area contains so diverse a representation of our architectural heritage. **Kathie Rieth**

in the morning to set up for our Christmas Party, and to all others who help with afternoon teas, and at this final meeting for the year, Jo thanked the Family History Group Committee and others who always help to carry out the jobs to make the meetings happy and successful, and wished all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Beverley Robinson thanked Jo for all she does with the Group and the KHS – Yvette Reeve spoke how, having met Jo several years ago, this had changed her life and the special friends she has made.

The *Christmas Raffle Hamper* was won by Peter Perry. "FREE CHOICE NEWS" otherwise "SHOW AND TELL"

Florence Smart: showed 7 year old Maria Hadfield's Cross Stitch Sampler – Maria, her grandmother, came to Australia aged 19, married, son Hubert married Florence Mary Pymble, they had Rosedale Dairy.

Elaine Turnidge: showed special Christmas Bear and ET.

Lucille Taylor: had pleasure visiting Malvern Hill Estate on a walk through Burwood, Croydon areas where her family had lived for many years – John Smith Glover had been Grocers.

Jenny Joyce: showed her husband's keepsake of his grandfather, Thomas Gibbons Joyce's Flat Cap from County Durham – Jenny's son is Tommy after his GGFather.

Marie Rumsey: showed a 168 year old vest, sewn with tiny stitches, worn under a binder, made for her GGFather by his GGMother at 90 years of age.

Graham Lewis: showed a Powder Puff and Bowl of swan's down and ivory owned by his GGGGFather – who had been in the music publishing business – was a virtuoso oboist – had a varied musical career in Canada and London – Graham also has a scrapbook which has a page of sunburnt skin off the GGGGFather's back.

Eleanor Dawson: showed framed paintings by her Paternal GMother, an artist from Collingwood in 1850s – her father's grandparents shown Page 149 in Wilbert Burchell's book on East Melbourne – he, a carpenter, and his wife came as newlyweds and free settlers to the colony.

Beverley Robinson: showed us her Sickinger spinning wheel, made in the Black Forest area of Germany – Beverley has made history herself, and showed us a lovely rug she had made after spinning the wool – Beverley has been spinning and learning with Jo for 31 years – remember Sleeping Beauty, there can be sharp points on the spindle.

Jo Harris: Jo had her GGGGMother's gold chain around her neck which had an emerald in the hand clasp – not just any necklace, but in days of old it was a *Belcher Muff Chain*, hence the clasp – Jo took it to an 'Antique Show and Tell' and was immediately offered a great deal of money for it – she has kept it! Jo also told us about her Skeleton Clock in a glass dome, a Fussee 8 day lifetime mechanical clock – made by Robert Harvey Cox whose brother William Cox came to Australia in 1800 and in 1814 Governor Macquarie commissioned him to supervise the road over the Blue Mountains.

Based on notes by Elaine Turnidge

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 15th 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.

Stella Andreoni	Lindfield
Jan Cooper	Pymble
Donald Davis	Gordon
Roger & Catherine Parker	Pymble
John Warburton	Whale Beach

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

Quiz (answers p. 4)

- Carnarvon Road, Roseville was named to celebrate:
 - The opening of the Suez Canal.
 - The landing of the Mayflower.
 - The opening of Tutankhamen's tomb in 1822.
 - The landing of the "Earl of Carnarvon" in Port Phillip in 1867.
- Locksley Street, Killara (formerly Marian St, pre-railway line) was named after:
 - The original house there.
 - John Gilmour Lockley.
 - Mrs Locksley a character from Dickens.
 - The NSW town of Locksley.
- Narelle Avenue, Pymble was named after:
 - Narelle Hobbs who died in Egypt.
 - Narelle Smith who died in 1962.
 - Narelle Thomas who died at Bega.
 - Narelle Carver who died in 1943.
- Reely St, North Turramurra was named after:
 - William Morris Reely.
 - Johan Henri Rhule
 - A local fisherman's creek.
 - Thomas H Really who died at Coonamble.

Jo Harris

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, 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.

© Copyright is vested in the Ku-ring-gai Historical Society Inc. and the authors.

The content may be reproduced as sourced from this Newsletter and with acknowledgment to named authors.

Diary Dates

- Sat 4 Feb** **Family History Meeting**
11.00 am New Resources on our Intranet
2.00 pm General Meeting
 "Waltzing Matilda - The Story behind the Legend" - speaker local identity Bill Magoffin.
- Sat 18 Feb** **2.00 pm Society General Meeting**
Joseph Fowles' Sydney
 Speaker: Mark Dunn
- Sat 3 Mar** **Family History Meeting**
11.00 am "Immigration" with Jenny Joyce.
2.00 pm General Meeting
 "My First Fleet Family" - Three speakers from the local Arthur Phillip Chapter of the Fellowship of First Fleeters Inc.
- Sat 17 Mar** **2.00 pm Society General Meeting**
Adventures on the New Guinea Goldfields
 Speaker: Michael Waterhouse

Administration

President	Ann Barry	9144 6480
Vice Presidents	Jo Harris	9489 4393
	Jennifer Harvey	9489 6390
Treasurer	Doug Milne	9487 2853
Minute Secretary	Yvette Reeve	9987 0904
Immed. Past President	Kevin Callinan	9983 1525
Committee members	Jenny Joyce	9440 2131
	Graham Lewis	9416 5818
	Peter Stehn	9489 9488
	Jackie van Bergen	9403 3044
	Lorna Watt	9440 8010

Appointees

Accessions	Jennifer Wallin	9983 1871
Book Sales	Carol Rodgers	9488 8789
Catering Supplies	Glynne McGregor	9983 1124
	Jill Nicholson	9144 6948
Computer Systems Manager	Peter Stehn	9489 9488
Curators	Jennifer Harvey, Ann Barry	
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

The Historian Editor: Jennifer Harvey
 with Kathie Rieth, Bob Ross

Indexing: Judi Oliver

<i>Newsletter</i> 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
Webmaster	Graham Lewis	9416 5818