



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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Rooms: 799 Pacific Highway, Gordon.

Meetings are held in the Gordon Library Meeting Rooms, 799 Pacific Highway, Gordon.

May 2008 Meeting

Inter-War Housing in Ku-ring-gai

The design of housing during the 1920s and 1930s in Sydney showed a wide variety of styles, based on British as well as Mediterranean and American originals. This profusion of styles is well represented in Ku-ring-gai and was the subject of the address by Robert Scott, the author of two major studies on inter-war housing for the National Trust, and a respected commentator on Art Deco design in Australia.

The presentation consisted of a series of photographs of houses built in various areas of Ku-ring-gai in the inter-war years. Those illustrated, while owing much to overseas styles, often contained significant variations to suit local conditions. This has made the attempts to categorize local styles difficult, leading to differences in nomenclature among architects. The designation of domestic styles and their characteristics used in the presentation was based on information in *Identifying Australian Architecture* by Richard Apperly, Robert Irving and Peter Reynolds.

The Georgian Revival was a late 19th century phenomenon in Britain and the United States, and came to prominence in Australia in the 1920s. In domestic architecture it was characterized by simplicity and restrained classicism, with external walls of fine brickwork and stucco. It featured multi-paned windows and entrance doors framed by sidelights and fanlights.

Mediterranean and Spanish Mission styles had much in common, the former being a more or less up market version of the latter. The Mediterranean design appeared from about 1918 in Sydney, as the local climate was seen as somewhat similar to the European Mediterranean coast. It was generally relaxed and informal in character, built in stucco, predominately painted white with a low pitched roof. Spanish Mission reflected the interest of the USA west coast in early Spanish architecture. Again there is a generally white stucco exterior, with a tendency to elaborate ornament and grouped arch openings.

Another American derivative was the Californian Bungalow style which became popular in the United States at the turn of the 19th century, and was seen as adaptable to the Sydney climate. It was single story, of mixed timber and brick construction, with a low pitched roof, overhanging eaves and deep verandahs.

Old English (Tudor Revival) was another style that enjoyed

Coming Meetings

NEXT SOCIETY GENERAL MEETING (Gordon Library Meeting Room)

Saturday 19 July 2008

2 pm - GENERAL MEETING

Guest Speaker
CAROL BAXTER

TWO SYDNEY SCANDALS OF THE 1820s



Author Carol Baxter will tell the stories of two dramatic events which shocked Sydney in the late 1820s - the Jane New scandal and the audacious Bank of Australia robbery

Afternoon Tea will be available
Visitors welcome

NEXT FAMILY HISTORY MEETING

Saturday 5 July 2008

11 am - We will look at the integration of our intranet with the internet.

2 pm - FORUM: We all benefited from the last forum, so we will have another, as an extension of the morning session, solving problems using our intranet/internet facilities. It is up to all members to bring their problems and brick-walls. Hopefully we will go home having learnt how to jump over them or walk around them, from other people's experiences.

Afternoon Tea will be available
Visitors welcome

some popularity in the inter-war period, and reflected the feelings of nostalgia of some Australians for the scenes of rural England. These houses were mainly two story of brick construction, featuring imitation half timbering, extensive use of gables and occasionally bay windows.

The above are only a few of the detailed descriptions and relevant examples of house styles in *Identifying Australian Architecture*.

Don Fifer

Computer Internet Upgrade



The upgrade of our computer system to provide broadband Internet access is now essentially complete. The system was tested on Wednesday 11 June and no major problems were found. There are now over 100 additional links to history and family history web sites available from the pages of our computer research application. Use of our

computer application, including the integrated Internet access, is now subject to acceptance of our updated **Terms of Use**. A link to the current Terms of Use is provided at the top of the application Home Page. Please read the Terms of Use before using the updated application.

The speed of the ADSL2+ broadband connection is quite impressive and should provide a pleasing response to most of your queries. There are also many other changes to the system, many related to system security now that we are exposed to the big, bad world. However there are also several new in-house resources added within the last week.

Our access to Ancestry databases is now in concert with the Gordon Library. They are conducting a trial of Ancestry until 13 June and, if successful, may be providing free access to most Ancestry databases (note: not all databases and indexes) to all Library members. If they do, we hope to gain access through the Library. If this initiative fails, for whatever reason, then we will have to re-think the problem.

There are currently more than 450 programs on our computers. Please feel free to make the maximum use of the new and upgraded computer facilities.

Peter Stehn

Quiz Questions

Change of Name

The names of these streets have been changed to???

1. Albert St, Roseville
2. Cyril St, Roseville
3. Fiona Av, Wahroonga (one section)
4. Florence St, Killara
5. Florence St, Gordon
6. Gertrude Av, Gordon
7. Harold St, Gordon
8. Henry St, Roseville
9. John St, Killara
10. Thomas St, Killara
11. Victoria Rd, Killara
12. William St, Gordon

Answers: see back page.

Volunteers day

Thursday 31 July

A day for all our volunteers

- get up to date with recent changes to the computer system
- receive training on how to operate the computers for the Internet, and access to Ancestry.com

The session will commence at 10.30 am and continue until after Lunch.

A light Lunch will be provided (finger food). You might like to assist by bringing a plate.

Please contact Ann Barry (9144 6480) to enable catering and other arrangements to be finalized for the day.

Recent Acquisitions

The following are some of the recent additions to our Collection:-

Books

THE BANKSTOWN STORY (Merle Peters). 1997 edition
164 pages.

MY GRANDFATHER'S HOUSE (Helen Rutledge). *Rona*
at Bellevue Hill – family of Edward Knox of the
CSR. Doubleday (1986). 224 pages. Indexed.

DEADLY DETAILS (Patricia Lay). An alpha guide to some
of the causes of death listed in certificates. 80 pages
(1988). Indexed.

THE ANGELS WALK – in Gore Hill Cemetery. Details of
babies buried at Gore Hill. Published by the Friends
of Gore Hill Cemetery.

LIBERTY PLAINS – a History of Auburn (1992 edition).
Published by Auburn Council. 450 pages. Indexed.

Computer Programs

Australian Cyclopaedia Compendiums -
1900 & 1931 Tasmania, 1903 Victoria, 1907 NSW,
1907-1909 South Australia, 1912-1913 Western
Australia, 1919-1923 Queensland

All Australia Memorial (First World War) - Victoria

1847 Low's Directory of Sydney

1858 Sands and Kenny Sydney 1912

1839-1890 Passenger Arrivals in Western Aust.

Short History of UK Parish Registers and UK Census Fact
Sheet

Kelly's Suffolk Directory

War Directory

Fox's History of Queensland.

Research Team

Following a proposal by Max Farley, the Committee has decided to institute a more efficient method of dealing with historical enquiries directed to the Society. These enquiries are received via mail, email, telephone or personal contact. They are generally handled by experienced members of the Committee, who are fully occupied in ongoing Society research activities, and often do not have the time to effectively undertake the necessary research to answer enquiries.

Under the proposed scheme, volunteers would be sought from the membership to undertake investigation or research necessary to answer some of the enquiries. After a period of training, this would lighten the work load of Committee members. Members with a special interest in family history, heritage, land, property, or local history could find satisfaction in honing their skills, and at the same time provide a valuable service to the public. Members interested in applying to join the scheme should contact Jo Harris, Ann Barry, or Don Fifer.

Prizes on Offer

Two nearby Historical Societies are currently conducting competitions on local history.

The annual Isabella Brierley Competition is offered by the **North Sydney Historical Society**, and has a \$3000 prize for research into the local history of any part of the North Shore. The subject should be an unpublished biography of between 5000 and 50000 words of a person whose life was substantially connected with the North Shore; or a study of the area's history, or events making up its history. Works of fiction or compilations of already published material are not eligible. Entries close on 1 July. Contact North Sydney's President (9955 1921) or Vice President (9953 1603).

The **Lane Cove Historical Society**, in conjunction with the NSW Writers Centre, has a competition for an unpublished piece of historical fiction (maximum 2000 words) and another for unpublished historical non-fiction (also maximum 2000 words). Both must address some aspect of Australian history. Entries close on 8 August and should not include illustrative material. Information can be had from Arabella Lee of the NSW Writers Centre (9555 9757) or email info@nswwriterscentre.org.au.

Congratulations David

David Wilkins, current member and past committee member, has won first prize in the **Alexander Henderson Awards for 2007**.

He was one of 24 entrants, and won the Award for his book "From Brecon to Broken Hill: The History of a WILKINS family"

The awards are presented by the *Australian Institute of Genealogical studies*.

Member Profile – Jenny Joyce

Jenny grew up in Ku-ring-gai and attended Wahroonga Preparatory School (WPS), the Bush School, St Ives Central (since closed) and Abbotsleigh. On leaving school she became a computer programmer, working on a computer the size of a large meeting room that had less memory than a modern mobile phone. Having worked



as a computer programmer for several years, she progressed to managing and running the computer systems, and during this time she saw the rise of the PC and the change from computers being only available to large companies and government department to a situation where it is possible for anyone to own their own PC or laptop.

Eventually she decided to specialise in email programs at a time when email was just beginning its infiltration of the business world, and had yet to progress to becoming part of everyday life. After that she decided to take a break from the technical side of the Computer Industry, and instead became an account manager for one of the large computer companies, looking after some of their biggest clients.

However, the conflicting demands of a high pressure job and motherhood eventually meant that she decided to give up full time work to look after her family, but has still stayed involved in the computer industry on a part-time basis, currently running her own small company helping people with their PC problems.

Jenny had been interested in family history since she was about 12, when she and her cousin were inspired by the stories their grandmother told about her grandparents. In those days all that she could do was draw charts based on the relationships her parents and grandparents told her about. However she was lucky enough to find an entry on her great-great-great-grandfather in the Australian Dictionary of Biography, and seeing his name in print irrevocably sent her on a lifetime journey to discover her heritage.

Jenny worked for three and a half years in England, which gave her the opportunity to progress her family tree beyond her ancestors' arrivals in Australia, and to see some of the areas from whence they hailed. She also found a husband whilst there, marrying him in St. Lucia in the Carribean. After nine months working for a computer company in Munich, Jenny and her husband moved back to Australia which they have called home ever since. They initially lived in Neutral Bay, but moved back to St Ives in 1998.

During all this time Jenny has continued on with her family history research, and now has one line confirmed back to the early 1500s, through parish registers, wills and land transactions, and another conjecturally/speculatively back to the 12th century.

Jenny is also busy raising a teenage son, which fills whatever time is left after work and family history.

History Notes

History in Poetry

This item stems from the recent addition to our Collection of a book, *At Fiddens Wharf*, by one of our little known members, Duncan Miller of Killara. He died in 2006.

Almost all our local history is written as prose. Sometimes, however, the people and events of earlier times inspire some people to express their thoughts and emotions in poems. Ku-ring-gai has been home to many poets but, so far as our own records go, few have chosen Ku-ring-gai as a subject. Duncan Miller was one such. At times he was a sharebroker, a founder of the Martin Boyd Pottery with Guy Boyd and two others and an employee of John Fairfax. One of his leisure activities was jogging and this he frequently did in the Lane Cove National Park. The following is an extract from a poem he called *Running at Fiddens Wharf* in which he pays tribute to our legendary boatman Joseph Fidden.

*Joseph Fidden each high tide
Rowed to Sydney a three ton load;
Rowed back home and as before
Caught high tide with three tons more.*

*Joseph Fidden, timber cutter,
I earn easier bread and butter;
Don't row boat, don't hew log,
Where you worked I jog, jog, jog.*

Another who chose poetry was Sue Milne, the late wife of our Treasurer, Doug. Sue had a poem in *Reflections on Ku-ring-gai* (2000) published by the North Shore Fellowship of Australian Writers. Sue imagined she spoke to the girl in the well-known photograph of a girl standing on the Highway at Turramurra opposite Hillview some 100 years ago. Hillview was to become a Community Centre. The girl seems to be holding a stick, perhaps a bat, and is exchanging glances with a small dog. The following lines, directed by Sue to the girl, are taken from the poem:-



*Do you grieve your long dead dog, replaced three times or more?
Each one gazing with allegiance at the lady they adore
Were you once a child of Hillview, loved by parents strong and true?
Did your dreams become fulfilled - does Hillview now look after you?*

*Do we meet – perhaps today – your life and mine in present tense?
Not your future nor my past – both looking over Hillview fence.
My little girl, alive or dead, - your spirit lives eternally.
Forever frozen on a page steeped in Ku-ring-gai history.*

The *Reflections on Ku-ring-gai* book also includes a poem by Bettina Cummins, *Spring Comes to Ku-ring-gai*, which mentions the gardens of St Ives, Cowan Creek and Ku-ring-gai Chase. Another is *Three Days from Hell* by Frances Hackney, and tells of the January 1994 bushfires in Ku-ring-gai.

Before “Our Bridge”

1842 saw the introduction of the first steam ferry, the Princess, to run a regular service between Dawes Point and Blues Point. The Points carry the names of First Fleeter William Dawes, who set up an observatory at The Rocks in 1788, and the legendary convict Billy Blue, who was Sydney's first ferryman who rowed passengers to and from the northern shore.

The Sydney Morning Herald in an article of 10 March 1842 rightly saw this as promising “health, pleasure, convenience and economy” to the people of Sydney. We wonder whether today's commuters, 166 years later, experience these benefits as they join today's crowds packed on the buses and trains that carry them over the same section of the harbour.

As the Herald saw it at the time:-

Health, pleasure, convenience, and economy, will all be promoted by this useful arrangement. In the brief space of five or ten minutes, passengers, horses and carriages, livestock, and foods, will be transported from shore to shore; and as the boat will be incessantly plying between sunrise and sunset, this facility of conveyance will be available at all hours of the day, and every day throughout the year. The horseman need not dismount from his saddle, nor the driver alight from his gig or phaeton, but retaining his seat, he may cross the water with as little interruption as passing over a stone bridge.

For healthful recreation, this will provide a new and delightful resource. The drives about Sydney are now so few and so monotonous, that citizens justly complain of the little inducement there is to quit its dusty streets in quest of air and exercise; but when they can thus easily pass from Dawes' Point to the North Shore, where they will be as completely in the “country”, and as effectually secluded from the noise of “the great Babel” as if they were among the Blue Mountains, this ground of dissatisfaction will have been entirely removed.

The Herald also wrote that *the North Shore will become the favourite place for suburban villas and that the price of building sites, and consequently the rents of houses, will be brought down.* On the former the Herald was correct, but any reductions in house-rents were destined to be short-lived.

The Dixon and Mitchell Libraries

Most Sydney-siders would have heard of the Dixon and Mitchell Libraries, and many researchers, young and old, would have visited them. They are specialised Collections housed within the State Library buildings in Macquarie Street, opposite the top of Hunter Street. How many know, however,, of the items they hold and why they are so called?

The Dixon Library carries the name of Sir William Dixon (1870-1952), who was a businessman with a large family holding in British Tobacco (Australia) Ltd. For the greater part of his life he lived in his home, Merridong, on the Highway at Killara between Spencer and Buckingham Streets. A philanthropist in many fields, he was a Fellow of the Royal Australian Historical Society, and a frequent contributor to its journal. Predominantly he was a collector of Australiana, and first offered pictures to the Library in 1919, and again in 1924. As a result, the Dixon Gallery was opened in 1929. He died in 1952 and bequeathed his collections of Australiana to the State Library. This included books, manuscripts, coins, stamps, and other items. The collection has been added to since then, and the Dixon Library opened in 1959.

David Scott Mitchell (1826-1907), whose name was given to the Mitchell Library, shared some things with Sir William Dixon, but not a great deal. Both were very well-off financially, unmarried, and developed a deep interest in Australiana. Otherwise, they had little in common. Whereas Dixon was involved in business affairs and community organisations, Mitchell became a recluse.

Mitchell was the son of Dr James Mitchell, himself a foundation member in 1826 of the Australian Subscription Library, which was destined to become the State Library. As a boy David had a passion for book collecting, and as he grew up he took an interest in Sydney's social life. He was one of the first graduates of the University of Sydney with a Master of Arts. David became engaged to Emily Manning, a daughter of Sir William Manning, Chancellor of the University, but the romance foundered. For whatever reason, he turned his back on society in favour of the gentle seclusion of the dedicated collector. Following the death of his widowed mother in 1871, he moved to 17 Darlinghurst Road, where, though wealthy, he lived a bleak existence with a faithful housekeeper and his books. His main activity outside his home was a weekly visit to bookshops by hansom cab. Those who encouraged him in the development of his collection included George Robertson of Angus and Robertson, Fred Wymark, a bookseller and a one-time assistant of Robertson's, and HCL Anderson, the Principal Librarian of the Public Library. Anderson had earlier regarded Mitchell as a rival of the State Library.

On 17 October 1898, with his health failing, he offered to bequeath his collection to the State Library. The building of the Mitchell wing began in 1906, not long before Mitchell's death. It opened in 1910.

Not only Sydney, but Australia generally, owes a great debt of gratitude to these two gentlemen.

(Was HCL Armstrong, the Principal Librarian of the Public Library mentioned above, the HCL Armstrong who is listed in the Sands Directories as having lived at Aberfeldy, Middle Harbour Road, Lindfield c1915-1917?)

WWI Soldier Settlement Schemes

Soldier Settlement Schemes, both government and private, for veterans of the First World War have been studied and assessed in an article in the June 2008 Journal of the Royal Australian Historical Society. A copy is in our Rooms. Those administered by Governments mainly met failure and gave rise to much heartbreak. The article has been written by Society member, Allan Rost. Allan also worked with Ken Knight in preparing the CD on *Pubs and Publicans in the County of Cumberland to 1850* recently released through the Society of Australian Genealogists. The CD is on the computers in our Rooms.

Local History

The power of local history to deepen the life and spirit of a community and enhance the sense of place... must never be underestimated."

– from *Locating Australia's Past* by Professor Beverley Kingston, who spoke to the Society in August 1999.

Currency Lads and Lasses

Our last Newsletter listed several definitions of terms used in the early days of the colony. One was *currency lads*. Finding a definition agreed as correct by everyone proved difficult, despite looking at many references. Some references said it applied only to Australian-born persons with convict ancestry – others that it applied to all those born here in the convict days, including children of free settlers, officials and military men. Most officials and military men did not have wives with them, so initially most children did have a convict background, hence it is likely the term was at first applied to the progeny of convicts. It is also likely that, as the number of free settler children grew, the meaning of the term widened to include them all. Persons born in Britain or Ireland were called *sterling*.

Why *currency*? From the beginning, the colony suffered a shortage of coinage necessary for trading purposes, and various methods were used to fill this void. These included "holey dollars", "dumps" and promissory notes. These collectively formed a "currency" for local use. It seems that this distinction between *sterling* and the Australian *currency* flowed across as a way of describing these two population groups.

(Our thanks to Angela Lind, who contributed information about currency lads.)

History Notes by Max Farley

Family Matters

11 am Session

40 members attended and Jo Harris described new CDs being put on computers. Peter Stehn demonstrated the new connection to the Internet, and the meeting acknowledged all his work by acclamation.

Jo demonstrated a number of new CDs, which all have biographical information.

2 pm Meeting

Close to 50 were present at this meeting, chaired by Jo.

AFTC magazine June issue - websites mentioned include Australian War Graves photographic archive, Queensland BDMs, NZ mailing list, Australia's Maritime World, Coroners Reports NT 1935-36, Emigrant Ships from Cork, Australian Passenger Lists, Emigration to Australia, Ships of Orient Line on postcards.

BOOK REVIEW - Angela Lind spoke on Babette Smith's "Australia's Birthstain", a study of hundreds of convicts and why Australians suppressed their story for so long.

Jenny Joyce spoke of the 12th Australasian Congress on Genealogy, to be held by the Australasian Federation of Family History Organisations at Kings College, Auckland NZ 16-20 January 2009. See website:-

<http://www.affhocongress2009.org/>

Stella Green described emailing an enquiry letter to English magazine 'This England', received response within 2 hours re publication in sister magazine 'Evergreen' column "Where Are You Now". Email address: editor@thisengland.co.uk

The guest speakers were Ku-ring-gai Councillors Jennifer Anderson, Elaine Malicki and Maureen Shelley, talking about their ancestors.

Elaine told us hers was rather a "Mills and Boon" version of family history. She passed around a tiny tobacco tin and an album. Her history dates from 1836 with John Cain and Mary Doherty whose descendants arrived 1859. Her father's Bock family came from Germany to South Australia then Bourke, her mother grew up in Glebe, they met at Trocadero dance. Her father enlisted in WWII in Sydney, proposed on final leave, they married at short notice. Tobacco tin was used to take a note advising when he was going overseas and when his train would arrive in Sydney prior to embarkation for Malaya. He served in the Medical Corps, 2/10 AGH, and survived Japanese POW camp at Changi.

Maureen spoke about convict Thomas Geake who arrived in 'Lord Dalhousie' in WA 1863 aged 51, transported for 18 years for manslaughter. His daughter Jane married Alexander Blackburn, their granddaughter Elvira Hardy married Albert Edward Shelley born 1890, one of 13 who served in two World Wars. These were Maureen's

grandparents. A later Geake family lived in Killara, were well known for hundreds of patents of inventions.

Jennifer was accompanied by her father Ken Austin and son Thomas and gave a powerpoint presentation. She met her husband Jim in 1976, he had lost father at 14, mother at 20, so did not know a lot of his family history. Her mother saw a notice in the North Shore Times of a Roberts family reunion, so they were able to discover Jim's Roberts family. William Roberts was a First Fleeter. Great-great-grandfather of the Austin family was Henry Austin who came to Australia 1857 in the "Beejapore", married Agnes Giles who had spoken to him on the railway station when heading for the same ship. A listing of an Austin enquiry in the RSVP column of the Sydney Morning Herald in March 2008 resulted in photos, information, and a link back to England.

Votes of thanks and gifts to the speakers were given by Jenny Joyce, Lyn Done and Max Farley. The raffle of pre-loved books was won by Alan and Barbara King who chose "Journeys into History".

Stella Green

Thank you after 180 years

In June 2003 I sought the assistance of Jo Harris in the search for a maternal grandfather. Not getting a result on that side of my family, other papers I had with me that day sent me on exciting discoveries on my father's maternal side. My great grandmother, Elizabeth Davis, had been born in Hobart Town in 1837. Her parents were George Augustus Davis and Elizabeth Babington, and their Marriage Certificate of 1830 showed that George was a Convict. Although Elizabeth was not a convict she was the daughter of a Convict, Edward Babington. Both Edward and George had arrived in VDL in 1824, but on different ships: Edward, 50, per Phoenix in July, and George, 17, with two brothers, Edward, 19 and John, 21, per Princess Charlotte in November.

Papers received from the Tasmanian Archives Office showed that Edward had been assigned to Jocelyn Henry Connor Thomas. Included with these papers was a copy of a letter dated December 16 1824 which Jocelyn Thomas wrote to the Colonial Secretary VDL, and I quote "The within named Edward Babington, my assigned Crown Servant, has conducted himself in such an exemplary manner in my Service, that I think it my duty to recommend him to His Honour The Lieutenant Governor, and to request for him the great indulgence of his wife and children being sent out to him by the Government. I beg leave to enclose the necessary... documents, and have The Honour to be Sir Your obedient humble servant Jocelyn Thomas". Free family named Babington arrived on the Sir Charles Forbes in January 1827: Mary, aged 55, and four of ten children, Rebecca, 22, Susannah, Elizabeth, 17, and John, 15.

In February 2004, at a training session for volunteers with Jo, I requested that Jocelyn Thomas' name be entered. Jo promptly turned to the group, saying she had been working on the JHC Thomas family tree. It was exciting for me to send a copy of JHC Thomas' letter to his descendant, Snow Thomas in Tasmania, and after 180 years to say a thank you to his ancestor for writing that letter back in December 1824. He was quite surprised to receive it.

My Uncle, Ronald Babbington Quigley, my father's youngest brother (died 2007 at 91) was very pleased with any details in the family tree and background of the name "Bab(b)ington" which was also in his mother's name, Jessie Adela Babbington Page. In 2004 I visited areas in Lincolnshire where Babington ancestors lived, and met relatives (found on the internet) living there.

Elaine Turnidge

Researching Great-Great-Grandparents

In his book *A Little Learning*, Evelyn Waugh studied his eight great-great-grandfathers, and found that there was quite a strong writing talent in some of these men and their descendants.

The March 2008 issue of *Descent* (journal of the Society of Australian Genealogists) has Keith Johnson's scholarly article on researching his 16 great-great-grandparents.

So I decided to see if I could name my eight great-great-grandfathers and their wives. This was made easier because six of them came to Australia:-

- William Nottingham Palmer, baker then hotelkeeper, wife Harriet Ann Moore, arrived 1827 in *Saracen*
- Daniel Outtrim, engineer, wife Catherine Berridge, arrived 1840 in *Ann Gales*
- John Stuart, farmer, wife Mary Cameron, arrived 1840 in *George Fyfe*
- John Macpherson, probably farmer, wife Helen Macpherson who died prior to the family emigrating, arrived 1849 in *Duke of Roxburgh*
- Frederick Miller, clergyman, married his cousin Elizabeth Miller, arrived 1830 in *Lang*
- Donald Munro, farmer, wife Jessie McPherson, arrived 1839 in *James Moran*

The two who remained in England were:-

- Barnaby Green, dairyman, married Jane ??
- Thomas Heath, probably farmer, married Charlotte Slater

Barnaby's son Henry Green married Thomas Heath's daughter Catherine, and this couple came to Melbourne in 1852 in *Nepaul*.

There seems to be a strong farming trend, but Stuart descendants are well represented in the writing field as authors and journalists.

This is rather a "fun" thing to try as a diversion from more serious researching.

Stella Green

Built Heritage



This year marks the 80th anniversary of our Council Chambers. Since 1928 the original building has been extended but the façade remains as completed.

The Sydney Morning Herald of 21 November 1928 reported: "the new council chambers for Kuring-gai have already become a prominent landmark ... The simple, yet dignified lines of architecture and the bright colourful scheme that have been adopted have not failed to attract attention ...". A later article commented "The Municipality of Kuring-gai is to be congratulated upon its new building, which is a conspicuous success."

Prior to 1928 the business of Council was run from the first Chambers located just north of St John's Avenue. By 1927 it was apparent that larger premises were needed, and land was purchased on the highway opposite Park Avenue.

In May 1927, Cr Thistlethwayte recommended "that Messrs Wilson, Neave and Berry be appointed architects. Mr Berry, one of the partners concerned, is a resident of Gordon and consequently could give constant and convenient oversight." Berry had lived in Edward Street since c.1915; in 1923 he designed the entrance gate to the Werona Avenue recreation ground for Council.

In December 1927 the *Herald* announced "A new council chambers is to be erected in Gordon for the Kuring-gai Shire Council. Messrs Neave and Berry are the architects. Tenders are called to carry out the work." Builders Mackenzie & Adams won the contract for their tender of £13,483: they were also Ku-ring-gai ratepayers.

The plaque placed at the entrance to the Chambers in 1988 credits W Hardy Wilson with its design. Wilson's influence may have contributed to the design but by mid 1927 he had left Australia and the practice. He was not present when the design was finalised and the building erected. Contemporary articles give sole credit to Neave & Berry; correspondence between Council and the firm indicate Berry was its active representative. In 1921 Berry had won the competition for the design of "The Ideal Australian House"; the drawings bear a striking resemblance to the completed chambers. Was Berry, not Wilson or even Neave, the designer of the Chambers?

(A longer article will be published in the 2008 *Historian*. My thanks to Cr Jennifer Anderson, Deborah Silva and Joan Rowland for help in accessing information).

Kathie Rieth (photo Ku-ring-gai Library)

Copy for Newsletter

General copy for publication should be lodged with the Editors, Kerrin Cook, at lindsaykerrin@bigpond.com **as early as possible**, but no later than 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 readers can reproduce it in whole or part with acknowledgement. Material is preferred in electronic form.

New Members

We are very pleased to welcome to membership

Gillian Grimson - Glenhaven

Mrs J Yarrow - Lindfield

We know they will enjoy their time with the Society and that membership will open the door to many friends and activities of interest.



What location is shown in this 1927 sketch?

Answer next month.

Quiz Answers

1. Albert St, Roseville = Boundary St
2. Cyril St, Roseville = Duntroon Av
3. Fiona Av, Wahroonga (one section) = Jacana Close
4. Florence St, Killara = Kartanga Av
5. Florence St, Gordon = Carlotta Av
6. Gertrude Av, Gordon = Bushlands Av
7. Harold St, Gordon = Verona Av (between McIntosh St & Park Av)
8. Henry St, Roseville = Victoria St
9. John St, Killara = Kylie Av
10. Thomas St, Killara = Forsyth St
11. Victoria Rd, Killara = Koola Av
12. William St, Gordon = Cecil St

Research Centre Hours

The Society's Research Centre is at 799 Pacific Highway, Gordon, adjacent to the Ku-ring-gai Library. The Centre is open from 10 am to 2 pm on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday (except the first Saturday of each month, when members have a meeting). Wednesdays are devoted to preservation work. It is closed over the Christmas period and on public holidays.

Diary Dates

- Sat 5 July **Family History Meeting**
11 am - *KHS new computer facilities*
2 pm - General Meeting
Solving problems using our intranet/internet facilities.
- Sat 19 July 2 pm **General Meeting**
Speaker - Carol Baxter
Two Sydney Scandals of the 1820s
- Thu 31 July 10.30 am **Volunteers Day**
- Sat 2 Aug **Family History Meeting**
11 am - Members Research
2 pm - General Meeting
- Sat 16 Aug 2 pm **General Meeting**
Speaker - Peter Bradley
Ben Hall - Infamous bushranger, or wronged man?

Administration

President	Kevin Callinan	9983 1525
Vice Presidents	Ann Barry	9144 6480
	Jo Harris	9489 4393
Treasurer	Doug Milne	9487 2853
Secretary	Don Fifer	9482 4613
Immed. Past President	Max Farley	9499 7113
Committee members	Kerrin Cook	9416 2586
	Helen Davies	9498 3754
	Jennifer Harvey	9489 6390
	Jenny Joyce	9440 2131
	Peter Stehn	9489 9488
Appointees		
Accessions	Jennifer Wallin	9983 1871
Book Sales/Asst Curator	Ann Barry	9144 6480
Curator	Jennifer Harvey	9489 6390
Family History		
Leader	Jo Harris	9489 4393
Committee	Lyn Done	9449 7715
	Stella Green	9449 4388
	Jean Smith	9498 4468
	Peter Stehn	9489 9488
	Elaine Turnidge	9899 2635
Historian Editors	c/- Jennifer Harvey	9489 6390
	(with Kathie Rieth, John King, Bob Ross)	
Newsletter Acting Editors	Ann & Bob Barry	9144 6480
Publicity	Sue Dunstan	9498 8720
Public Officer	Helen Davies	9498 3754
"SNAP" Co-ordinator	Helen Davies	9498 3754
Speakers Programme	Beverley Dunstan	9419 8526
Volunteers Roster	Heather Davidson	9144 1844