



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.

July 2013

Newsletter

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

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

Australia's first successful strike

Ralph Hawkins spoke to us at our May meeting about Australia's first successful strike. He started by telling us about the background to the strike. The winter of 1815-16 was the worst that Europe had experienced for a very long time. It was exceptionally cold, there were crop failures and food riots in London. Up to 100 000 people died of famine in Ireland, and the prisons were full of debtors and people were forced to steal to get food.

Meanwhile in Sydney it rained for days on end, and the Hawkesbury flooded in June 1816. Farmers returned their convict servants as they could no longer support them. Five sixths of the wheat crop was lost, and homeless people were wandering the streets of Windsor and Richmond. The cause of all this trouble was the eruption of the volcano Tambora in Indonesia, which started on 10 April 1815 and continued until October 1816. It was the worst eruption they had experienced in a long time and threw a huge amount of debris up into the atmosphere. The resulting spectacular sunsets and angry stormy skies were captured by Turner in his paintings of that period.

The number of convicts being sent to the Colony increased substantially as a result of that food shortage. With the larger number of mouths to feed and reduced crop yields here, Governor Macquarie was forced to cut the food rations. From 1817 he also instigated a massive public works program to occupy the new convicts. To facilitate this the timber-getting enterprises were expanded and a new camp, Barren Hills, was established at what is now Oxford Street in Epping.

It was the building of the Hyde Park Barracks that precipitated the strike. Before construction started the sawyers had to produce 450 feet of sawn timber a week, but afterwards they were expected to produce 700 feet. With all their extra work they wanted increased rations, but they were not forthcoming. What they did not know was that the wet weather had triggered a caterpillar plague in the food growing areas of the Colony, so there wasn't as much wheat to ultimately end up as bread, and the caterpillars (instead of the cattle) also ate the grass, so there was also less meat. But the people who were striking probably didn't know that as they were in a forest, which was experiencing different conditions. The convict timber-getters instituted a strike to try to get increased rations.

The sawyers realised that this was the only forest in the area capable of producing timber for building and that they were the only timber getting team at the time. They knew that timber was essential for Macquarie's public works, and they also knew that he was under scrutiny by Commissioner Bigge. All this gave them great leverage in their demands.

The strike lasted 3 weeks until the Governor finally did something about it. In October 1820 the maize ration was increased by 3½ lb on top of the 7 lb they were already getting. Thus the strike had achieved its aims.

Jenny Joyce

General Meeting

Saturday 20 July 2.00 pm

"The ones that got away"



Some early attempts by convicts to escape from Sydney Cove were doomed, while others were well-planned, ingenious and successful. **Speaker: Murray Radcliffe**

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

Family History Meeting

Saturday 6 July

11.00 am *New Zealand resources on the intranet and internet.*
Pauline Weeks will be in attendance.

2.00 pm **General Meeting**
My latest successful or unsuccessful research.
Members forum.

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

Membership Fees

The Society membership fees fall due on 1 July. An invoice is enclosed with this newsletter with amount owed and payment directions, including direct payment from your bank account. Thank you for supporting our Society.

Picasa Workshop

Do you need help to tweak and organise your collection of digital photographs?

You are invited to join **Jill Ball** and **Tony Prince** at a workshop in the Society rooms on **Thursday 9 August at 10.30 am** to learn about Google's free photo management tool, Picasa.

Jill and Tony who are enthusiastic users of this product will show you how to fix, organise and share your photographs. If you have any particular Picasa questions you would like addressed in this session please email Jill at jillballau@gmail.com.

You can make a booking for this session via the booking sheet in the rooms or to khs@khs.org.au or phone 9499 4568.

Writing Competition Presentation

On **Monday 15 July at 7.00 pm** we will be holding a prize presentation night for the winners of the competition.

The function will be held in the meeting room.

Please add your name to the booking sheet if you are able to attend.

Photo: Society group visiting SAG in 2006



Quiz answers (see p. 8 for Questions)

1. (d) 4700. The area had changed dramatically, mainly because of the opening of the railway line between Hornsby and Milson's Point.
 2. (c) Warrawee.
 3. All seven occupations were included, giving an overall picture of the area at the time.
 4. (a) Springdale Road (later Killara). Named after the land grant called "Springdale" granted to Mrs Jane Armistella McGillivray in 1839.
 5. (a) All seven occupations were included, giving a change of direction to the area.
- All information may be found in "Federation Forerunners of Ku-ring-gai 1901-1903". This compilation of the 1901 Census, 1903 Sands' and the 1903 Electoral roll with its enhanced index may be found in our Library in the Research Centre.

Special Interest Groups

Mac Users SIG

We meet on the first Monday of each month.

The next meeting is on **Monday 1 July at 2.00 pm** in the research rooms. This will be a general Q&A session.

Our August meeting will be on **Monday 4 August at 2.00 pm** and will be an iPhoto session. So, bring along your tips and tricks, and problems, and one of our group will talk about making photo albums from iPhoto.

I notice we have quite a few new members, so if you want to be added to (or removed from) the email list, please let us know.

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.

Jackie van Bergen

German Research SIG

The planned demonstration of the Family Search wiki deteriorated into a verbal description when our router/modem lost all its settings and could not be restored in time (you will, no doubt, be glad to know the problem has now been found and fixed). For those who wish to explore the excellent German wiki, the direct link URL is: <https://www.familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Germany>. You can also get there from the Family Search home page by clicking on the word "wiki" next to "Live Help"/ "Get Help". The German wiki site is well worth a visit and should answer most of your "how to..." research questions.

Another website that was highly recommended at the meeting was Roots Chat (<http://www.rootschat.com/>). The brief advertisement/description copied from the site is "4,200,788 helpful posts. It's your very own rather friendly totally free family history forum with 185,847 members ready to help you to discover your ancestry. Yes, it's all yours, no subscription, just join in". Hype aside, the site is recommended as an excellent forum to get responsive help from like-minded people.

Old German maps can be found at <http://www.feeffhs.org/maplibrary.html> and <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~wggerman/map/index.htm> – both good resources.

The next meeting of the German SIG is planned for **Monday 12 August 2013 at 1:30 pm** in our rooms. Holding German SIG get-togethers on a Monday is not set in concrete. If others find another week-day more convenient please let me know and we can see what the general consensus is.

Peter Stehn

Irish Research SIG

On Friday 14 June Irish descendants gathered at the rooms to talk about their Irish family history. We discussed a number of searching ideas and looked at various websites. We all learnt a bit, shared stories and had some fun. The meetings are on the second Friday of each month.

Our next meeting is **Friday 12 July at 1.30 pm. All welcome.**

Ric Hall

July 2013

World War I Veterans



The Honour Roll at Warrawee Public School is beautiful, its border decorated with hand-painted waratahs and flannel flowers, and the names of those who served hand-lettered. However, because most of the names are only provided with initials for the forenames, we in the WW Writers Group are having problems finding some full names or identifying others with any certainty. Can anyone help with the following: P Brown, H Cork, R Cork, A Cormack, F Johnson, M Kelly, M Leet, E Milligan, J Noonan, F O'Donnell, J O'Donnell and C Rhodes?

If so, please contact Kathie, frithie@netdata.com.au or Jackie, jackievb@optusnet.com.au.

Computer Resources update

The following new or updated resources have been added to our Intranet.

1. *Eves Day Book Entries* – Names and addresses extracted from the Day Book of SF Eves, Licensed Plumber & Drainer of 780 Pacific Highway, GORDON by Jo Harris.
2. *From the Australian Front 1917* – includes over 120 pages of photographs and illustrations which depict the range of experiences of the ANZAC in France.
3. *Where the Australians Rest* – Published 1920 and describes many of the cemeteries overseas in which Australians were laid to rest.
4. *Link to a valuable web site* – Directory of Archives in Australia.
5. *Update to Perfect Pictures* – now more than 10,000 indexed images in our collection.

Society 50th Anniversary

On 7 November 2013 it will be 50 years since the first meeting of our Society. We propose to mark this occasion with an Anniversary Dinner to be held at the Roseville Golf Club on **7 November 2013**.

Please mark the date in your diary.

Going, going, but not gone yet!

At its last meeting your Committee discussed the renewal of our *FindMyPast* subscription as our usage of this resource has fallen off lately. The Committee decided to renew the subscription and to promote the value of this resource.

Last week I attended a workshop given by Christine Yeats, recently retired from State Records. She reminded us that if there is an index, any index, we should check it for family names. Have you consulted *FindMyPast* in your quest for family information?

Our *FindMyPast* membership provides members with access to resources from Australia, Ireland and the UK, some of which are unique to this product, and some of which are duplicated on other databases.

Perhaps you have a policeman in the family, a wanted person, or someone who was a victim of a crime or an innocent party to a crime or incident; the Australian Police Gazettes from a number of States included in the *FindMyPast* collection may include references to your family members. Searching the Electoral Rolls from several States may help you locate the area in which your ancestors lived.

Some of the cemetery records available on *FindMyPast* include Waverley, South Head and Rookwood in Sydney. The Cemetery Burials and Memorial Inscriptions for Victoria dataset includes over 185 000 records. The Sydney Diocesan Directory contains lists of the Anglican clergy (for all states) and significant biographical information for those who held office in the Sydney Diocese.

One particularly useful dataset for those with ancestors who came from the UK is Passenger Lists leaving the UK 1890-1960. Not only does this include immigrants but also passengers returning to Australia. All England, Wales and Scotland censuses from 1841-1901 and England and Wales census 1911 are indexed on *FindMyPast*.

If you have failed to find family members in the *Ancestry* census indexes you must also check *FindMyPast* as their indexes include names that have been omitted or mistranscribed on *Ancestry*. You may find your convict ancestors mentioned in The Prison Hulks Registers. Your more Godly ancestors may be found in the many Church records datasets. The number of UK records on *FindMyPast* keeps growing and is worth revisiting every few months.

The Irish records on *FindMyPast* are not yet as comprehensive as those for other countries but if you have Irish brickwalls a search on *FindMyPast* might just find some clues for you.

I have found ancestors in all of the Australian and UK resources listed above, but I have yet to tackle my Irish branch. The items found have added value to my family history. Why not set aside a few hours to visit the Society rooms to familiarise yourself with *FindMyPast*? If you need some guidance please check our next newsletter as we will be running a *FindMyPast* workshop in late August.

Jill Ball

Ku-ring-gai soldiers at Fromelles

As the 97th anniversary of the battle of Fromelles approaches, it is a good time to remember the soldiers with links to Ku-ring-gai who gave their lives in this fatal battle on the 19-20 July 1916.

The Battle of Fromelles is known as Australia's worst day in history: a total of 5533 casualties with 2000 dead in just one night. For the three days and nights after the battle, men risked their lives to go into no man's land to save 300 of their wounded mates.

Charles Bean described it as 'one of the bravest and most hopeless assaults ever undertaken by the Australian Imperial Force.'

It should be noted that in 1916, Australia's population was just five million.

The Red Cross files include accounts that give some idea of the horror and hopelessness felt by our soldiers.

Seven (at least) Ku-ring-gai men remain unidentified but are remembered at VC Corner Cemetery and Memorial at Fromelles. At VC Corner, there are no headstones. There are two large concrete crosses on the ground where the remains of 400 Australians are buried. At the back of this area is a memorial wall with the names of 1299 Australians who died in the Battle of Fromelles and who have no known grave.

These seven men were all initially reported as Missing and it wasn't until a Court of Enquiry on 1 September 1917 that the families received some closure, when they were then posted as Killed In Action.

Ernest Wilkinson ASHTON

4729, 54th Battalion, Private, age 33, b Birkenhead UK, NOK: sister, Brenda Sunderland.

Address: "Lytton" Ortona Road, Roseville and "Shirley" Gordon Road, Roseville.

His Red Cross file states: *...he went over the top with his Company in the charge on 19th July ...most of the gun crew were killed ...seen Ashton killed on the 19th July ...*

Thuiller Lake CARDEW

2793, 54th Battalion, Private, age 25, b Eumungerie, Gilgandra, NSW. NOK: parents John Haydon and Clarissa Reynell Cardew.

Address: "St Erme" Ingram Road, Wamboona.

His Red Cross file states: *...was with him when he was killed and was wounded and taken prisoner himself...early in morning of 20th July, at Fleurbaix...was killed outright...*

Clarence Timbrell COLLIER

570, 53rd Battalion, 2nd Lieut, age 23, b Wellington, NSW, NOK: father, Thomas Timbrell Collier.

Address: "Alverstone" Boundary Street, Roseville (stationmaster).

In his Red Cross file are conflicting reports of him leaving the trenches with a sprained ankle, of him being taken prisoner and then *...at Fleurbaix on 19th July Informant and Collier were together...waist deep in slush...lying side by side alongside this creek until a further advance was ordered...after going a few yards Collier was hit and fell...*

William Ure JOHNSTON

726, 58th Battalion, Corporal, age 38, b Glasgow, UK. NOK: wife, Mrs Agnes Elizabeth Johnston

Address: "Dell-or-Wol" Frances Street, Lindfield (but only for a short time).

He had a daughter Ailsa Marion Johnston.

There are many pleading letters in his service record from his wife, his brother and his nephew, as to his whereabouts and seeking any information, but there are no witness accounts in his Red Cross file to help them.

Alec Duncan MATTHEW

1595a, 59th Battalion, Private, age 21, b Balmain, NSW. NOK: mother, Mrs Diana Matthew.

Address: c/o Miss Upward, "Yarrowonga" Ortona Road, Roseville, and then c/o Thomas Ferguson (uncle) "Muanaweni" Gordon Road, Roseville.

His brother William Matthew 11359, a Gunner with the 2nd Australian Field Artillery Brigade, was also Killed In Action, on the Somme on 11 October 1917, age 36.

John Gerald STRANGMAN

2234, 54th Battalion, 2nd Lieut, age 30, b Auckland, NZ.

NOK: wife, Mrs Emily Marion Strangman

Address: c/o WA Wood, "Doralbe", Elizabeth Street, Gordon.

His Red Cross file states: *On July 19th 1916 ...I am afraid there is absolutely no hope of Lieut Strongman being alive...none of the A Company and very few of B Coy ever got to German trenches so could not have been taken prisoners...I am afraid he is lying in No Man's Land... As to his character: ...he was a good sort and when it came to the charge he was right there...*

Albert Charles UNDERWOOD

2929, 60th Battalion, Private, age 22, b Northamptonshire, UK. NOK: brother-in-law, Fred J Wooding.

Address: Westbrook Avenue, Wamboona.

He was living with his eldest sister and her husband. His brother William Edward Underwood enlisted in the UK and was killed in Flanders on 3 September 1916.

From his Red Cross file: *...I saw him shot on 19.7.16 at Fleurbaix about 150 yards from our trench...I am quite sure it was Underwood, he was my mate...*

Two more men were killed at Fromelles but are buried at nearby Rue-Petillon Cemetery, Fleurbaix:

Roy HARRISON

54th Battalion, Major, age 27, b Yass. NOK: cousin, Emily Margaret Ellis.

Address: "Koorawatha" Valley Road (previously Howard Street) Lindfield.

Roy enlisted early, in September 1914 and was closely followed by his two brothers (who survived the war). His father died in June 1915, hence the cousin as next of kin.

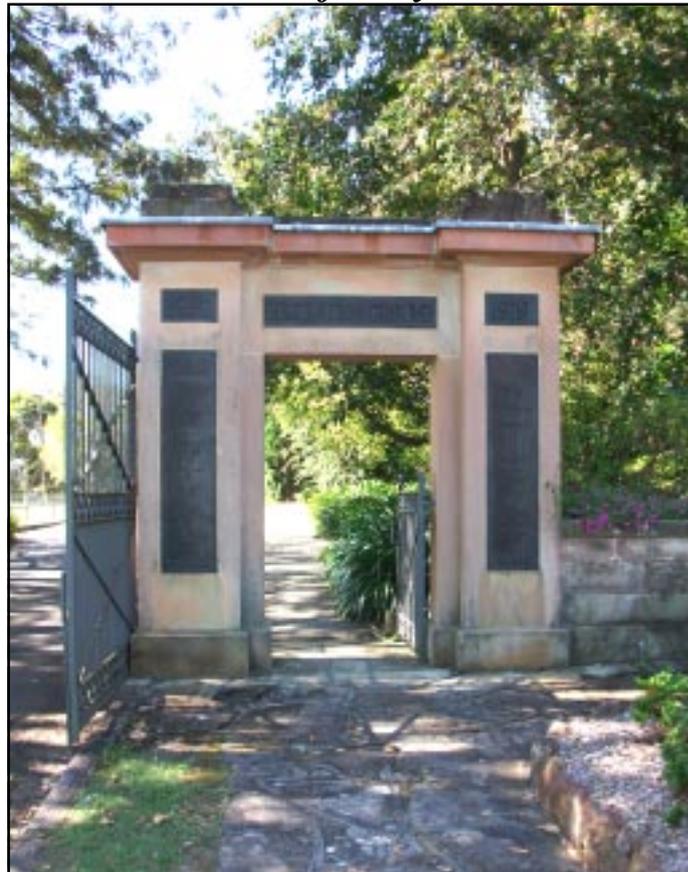
His Red Cross file states: *...We went over the parapet at 6pm and Major Harrison led the attack. I am afraid there is absolutely no hope of his being alive...none of the first lot got far enough to be taken prisoners and the shelling was intense. There were no stretcher bearers they had all been knocked out and there was no support... During the retreat Major Harrison was picked up dead on the field.*

Rev Spencer Edward MAXTED

54th Battalion, Captain and Chaplain, age 32, b Sydney. NOK: wife, Gertrude Olive Maxted.

Address: "Strathallan" Boomerang Street, Turramurra, then corner Merrivale Road and Nithsdale Street, Pymble.

The Reichenbach family



The name “S Reichenbach” is commemorated on the St Albans Anglican Church Great War Roll of Honour, Lindfield and also on the Lindfield Soldiers Memorial Park Gates. It’s unusual to find so Germanic a name on a WWI memorial – many Australians and migrants of German descent Anglicised their names at the time – but it actually belies the family’s origins.

S Reichenbach was Sidney Victor Reichenbach, born in New Caledonia c.1887. His mother, Ellen Elizabeth Stilling, was born in St Kilda, Victoria in 1861 of a French father and Scottish mother. In 1884, in Noumea, she married Samuel Hermann Reichenbach, born in Austria but who had left there to settle in New Caledonia where, in 1900, he became a French citizen. He was an exporter and English Consul. Sidney was one of five siblings, all born in New Caledonia: Hermann, Frank, Emily and Gabriel. The family came to Sydney in 1906 and lived in Woollahra.

By 1914 Samuel had died. That year Sidney married Marion Maclean and they lived at 91 Middle Harbour Road, Lindfield for many years. A son was born in 1915 and a daughter in 1921. During WWI Sidney served with the French Army. His brothers also served: Hermann with HM Forces in East Africa and Frank with HM Forces in Palestine. The youngest, Gabriel, enlisted in the AIF August 1918, aged 18, but was demobilised one week after the war ended.

Their mother, Ellen, moved to Wahroonga in the 1920s, living in Illoura Avenue until her death in 1949. Sidney’s three brothers and sister all settled in NSW. His wife died in 1934 and by the start of WWII he had returned to live in New Caledonia. In 1942, WC Penfold printed his booklet “All you want to know about New Caledonia”. It’s believed Sidney died there in the 1960s.

Kathie Rieth

He had two daughters: Gertrude Elizabeth and Alice Ruth. His Red Cross file states: *...on July 19th, 1916 at Fromelles he saw the Chaplain, Capt Maxted and Father Kennedy, the R.C. Chaplain acting as stretcher bearers... All the stretcher bearers were knocked out... He went off to help other fellows and never came back ...was killed on the night of July 19-20th in the front trenches at Fromelles, while helping to get wounded away...his body was brought down and buried in a cemetery called Rifle Villa...*

He was obviously well liked, with comments in various reports: *He was a hero every inch of him...the men all thought a great lot of him...he was always down in the front line with the boys and he need not have been... he was a grand man...*

If you know of any others that our research has not yet uncovered, please contact the WWI writers group through Kathie Rieth on frithie@netdata.com.au.

Jackie van Bergen

Mystery Solved

Last month we published the mystery of one of our WWI soldiers and his two names. We promptly got the (slightly shortened) reply below from a member, answering so many of our questions and pointing us where to look to obtain a photo of our soldier. Thank you Judith.

Hi Kathie,

I hope I have solved the puzzle about William John Drummond. The detective in me could not let it go and I recognised names from my family tree.

William John Drummond was born in Narrabri in 1894. Parents: John and Lillie, brother John b1896 and sister Elizabeth Jessie (or Jessie Elizabeth) b1893, both in Narrabri.

I think when William enlisted he lied about his age, I think he was 20 not 21, and would not be able to get his father to sign his papers giving permission to enlist – his parents were no doubt back in Narrabri. His brother John must have lied and helped him to enlist, and they used the name Brown, being the surname of Miss Ivy Whitpain BROWN of Glebe, who I suspect could have been a girlfriend, as she was mentioned in the will.

In *The Story of St Ives* book by Gay Halstead, on p. 328, the Etherington/Drummond Family Tree has V Etherington (Vera) of St Ives, John’s changed contact. She married John Drummond.

Also on p. 328, Vera explained that John and his brother (William, I assume) were visitors to the area c. 1914-15.

On p. 329 there is a photo of a William (Bill) Drummond. Note that it says: “brother of Jack killed WWI”.

John could have been working on the Roberts orchard which was in the same area of St Ives as the Etherington orchard, so that could explain the c/o address for John Brown.

Elizabeth Jessie Drummond (Jessie Elizabeth) married my uncle Albert Bartho, son of William and Harriett Bartho of *Kelso* St Ives, and brother of my Dad, Henry Louis James Bartho.

Thanks

Judith Ellerington (Bartho)

Do you have your own family mystery? Why don’t you share it with the Newsletter recipients? You never know, you just might get a solution as good as this one! Email your mystery to the editor at bob_barry@optusnet.com.au.

FAMILY MATTERS

June Family History Meeting

11.00 am Session

This was held in the meeting room and over 20 people were present.

The topic was Mailing Lists and how to use them, and was presented by Jo Harris. She distributed a guide sheet, explaining what a mailing list was and giving examples of some of the ones available.

ROOTSWEB: <http://lists.rootsweb.ancestry.com/index/index.html>

This site has 32 000 genealogy mailing lists so everyone's area of research is sure to be covered. List members are very generous with their knowledge and assistance. Using AUS-NSW-COLONIAL-HISTORY-admin@rootsweb.com Jo explained about Subscribing, Unsubscribing and Archives.

ROOTSCHAT: www.rootschat.com

This is an easy to use messaging forum, with its main focus on Ireland and the British Isles plus Australia, New Zealand, Canada and South Africa. It also has technical help and photo restoration.

GENANZ: <http://lists.rootsweb.com/index/intl/AUS/GENANZ.html>

This site is for discussion of Australia and New Zealand Genealogy.

DIRECTORY OF ARCHIVES IN AUSTRALIA: <http://directory.archivists.org.au/archives/>

This is the site to search before visiting an area where your ancestors lived.

Questions and Answers followed over a wide range of research problems.

2.00 pm Session

Jo Harris opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. *Family Tree Connections*, available in the rooms, has many family history stories and new websites, both Australian and English.

New books available are: *Goulburn Pioneer Cemeteries*; *Arnott's Living Pictures*; *Crossing the Divide*; *They Stopped for a While in Come-by-chance*; *How Our Ancestors Died*; and *Jewish Lives: Britain 1750-1950*.

Cemetery Visits

St John's, Gordon – Joseph Maiden's grave (Director of the Botanic Gardens).

Jo also mentioned the wall in the Botanic Gardens built of bricks from Arthur Phillip's property in Hampshire.

Speaker

Jo introduced Pauline Weeks, a member of SAG and NZSG, who gave a very comprehensive presentation on New Zealand research. She also provided everyone with 4 pages of Reference links and 8 pages to accompany the presentation.

There are three main research sites for NZ.

BDMs HISTORICAL RECORDS

This is the place to start looking for the major 'events' in an ancestor's life, and ordered certificates can be sent online. (New data are added daily so it is important to keep looking, if you can't find an ancestor at first.)

NZ ARCHIVES

This is a Government site containing more than 4 million records, covering the 4 regions of NZ: Wellington; Auckland; Christchurch; and Dunedin. Excellent Research Guides are available on this site.

PAPERS PAST

Like TROVE, this has papers from all around NZ and new ones are being added all the time.

Commercial Sites

Ancestry has 31 NZ databases including electoral rolls.

Find My Past has new ANZAC records as well as records for earlier wars in NZ, where many Australian soldiers fought.

Family Search has immigration passenger lists and probate records.

There are many other sites for NZ research. New Zealand Society of Genealogists has extensive resources and so has SAG.

Everyone present went away with ample knowledge to commence researching their NZ ancestors.

A vote of thanks was moved by Gerard Esquilant.

Afternoon tea followed and the two Lucky Door prizes were won by Angela Lind ('St John's Wairoa – the first 100 years') and David Wilkins ('The Squatters – An Illustrated History of Australia's Pastoral Pioneers').

from notes by Jean Smith

News from Familysearch

Familysearch has surprised the genealogy world with an announcement that it is retiring its free family tree software, *PAF* (Personal Ancestral File) that is used by many researchers.

From 15 July this product will no longer be available for download and there will be no product support. *Familysearch*, who want to encourage researchers to use their new online product, state "*Family Tree* provides the capability for patrons to manage and share their family history information online at FamilySearch.org."

Familysearch recommends that researchers who wish to maintain a personal database consider the free versions of *Ancestral Quest*, *Legacy Family Tree*, or *RootsMagic*. If you wish to change from *PAF* or start using a genealogy software program there are several Society members who can assist you in this regard.

Jill Ball

Family History Course 2013

Enrolments are invited for an 8 week Family History Course, beginning **Thursday 26 July at 10.30 am**.

The course will cover the use of books and resources on the intranet and internet. There will be a lecture each week followed by an assignment.

Cost: \$150 (members); \$180 non-members.

A deposit of \$50 is required by the first week in July.

For further information please ring **Jo Harris 94894393**.

Brick Walls at KHS & Family History

It all started in March 2012 when I visited a Family History presentation by Jo Harris, sponsored by the Seniors Week activities of Ku-ring-gai Council. Little did I know how much fun and how interesting it would be in the following 18 months.

Our group of 18 worthy souls gathered over the 8-week course and discovered, amongst many things, the wonderful resources of the Historical Society with both the Intranet and Internet. At a recent count there are 847 resources (including free access to *Ancestry* and *Find My Past*) plus an amazing array of books and booklets, all accompanied by a most helpful and interested group of volunteers.

Our group, eventually to be called *Team 2012*, spent MANY hours during our Family History course activities in the research room 'boning up' each week in order to be able to present credible answers to the questions set by Jo, who is very capably supported each week by Bev and Bruce. Did any of us really solve the riddle of the 'Flowerdew's'?

There were always surprises like the time that Jo told me I was related to a famous ABC radio presenter. Great I said – Tell me all about him etc. – Ah! But this was not possible; Jo suggested I work it out using the skills we had been taught (alas no easy short cut for me!). I spent a very interesting time working it all out (and succeeded).

Team 12 members get along very well with each other, and just sharing our searches is fun. All were keen to meet for an event outside the course. In checking for a suitable day over coffee one morning, all in the eight present in that particular group could only agree a date after checking their diaries for – wait for it – school holidays! Well, isn't that what grandparents do? We covered a great deal of ground during the 8 weeks and now are finding an interest in the many other family history meetings, including of course SIGs (Special Interest Groups) open to all (and most interesting). SIGs exist for Irish, English and German research.

Our *Team 2012* now meet for what we call our 'Chit Chat Days' where we can seek advice, compare notes and review some of the specific subjects of the course – very helpful. We have attended mini meetings with some of our group who have special interests – had a picnic in the National Park, followed by a visit to Kalkari reserve, and two sessions of croquet at Warrawee.

Our most recent history visit was to the State Records in western Sydney – quite fascinating and very useful in our family searches.

Brick Walls? Yes, they are when you cannot find an important link to an elusive member of your wider family and you need help. There is always someone to come to the rescue at the research room.

Neil Falconer – Team 2012

Family History Conference

29th Annual Conference of NSW & ACT Association of Family History Societies will be in Canberra on **21 and 22 September** 2013, with a Family History Fair on **September 20**. <http://www.conference2013.org.au/>

BUILT HERITAGE

An ANZAC house, No. 63 Duntroon Ave, Roseville

The National Service Guild was formed at Roseville in August 1915 "to cope with the need for national effort and to organise the



State into one unit for the conduct of the war. The intention is to embrace every town and village in New South Wales". Roseville barrister, EH Tebbutt, was honorary secretary.

Returned soldier, John D Haney, benefitted from the Guild's work. A tram conductor, he had enlisted on 31 August 1914 and served in H Company of the 4th Battalion, taking part in the initial landing at Anzac Cove. He was wounded at Gallipoli on 30 April 1915 and lost the use of his right arm. Brought back to Australia, he was discharged in March 1916, and became the district recruiting sergeant for Roseville.

In early May 1916, on a block of land in Duntroon Avenue, Roseville, the wife of James Thomson Chambers, local builder and architect, laid the foundation stone of a weatherboard cottage for Haney. The stone was carved with the words "Anzac, April 25, 1915". The large attendance, including Mr Wade, MLA, was entertained by the military cadet band.

Wade remarked that "in undertaking to erect a home for a returned Anzac, [the community were] showing in a practical way their appreciation... Sergeant Haney had suffered in the fighting and had a fair claim on the people for remembrance and no man or woman could justly fail to respond towards his care and the many others who had fought for them."

Haney contributed £35 towards the £50 cost of the land. The house was built by volunteer labour, the balance paid for by donation. On completion it became home to Haney and his new wife Annie Chamberlain. Her own family had suffered: her younger brother, Frank, had enlisted in January 1916 but died in England in July that year of cerebrospinal meningitis.

The Haney's named the house *Galveston* and later purchased the adjacent block of land where they constructed a tennis court. They had four children: Gwen, John, Patricia and Thomas. Haney was a member of the Totally & Permanently Disabled Soldiers' Association, the Royal Star of Willoughby Lodge No 163, the Roseville Royal Arch Chapter and the North Shore Line Sub-Branch of the RSSIL.

He owned the Duntroon Avenue house until at least 1930, but by the time of his death in October 1938, the family had moved to Bannockburn Road, Pymble. The new owner of the Anzac House was accountant Harold Christopher Frew, who was to serve in WWII.

Kathie Rieth

Copy for Newsletter

General copy for publication should be lodged with the Editor, Bob Barry (bob_barry@optusnet.com.au), as early as possible but no later than the 15th of the month (except November and December), unless otherwise arranged. Copy is accepted on the basis that the **Society has editing rights and that readers can reproduce it in whole or in part with acknowledgement.** Material should be in electronic form if possible.

New Members

We extend a warm welcome to a member who has recently joined the Society.

Geoff Little St Ives

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

July Ku-ring-gai QUIZ – (answers p. 2)

- The census of 1891 shows there were only 1486 people living in the area from Roseville to Warrawee that was to become Ku-ring-gai in 1906. By 1901 there were over?
a) 16 700 b) 12 700 c) 8700 d) 4700
- The first Sands' Directory to list some of our suburbs was printed in 1903. In some cases streets were located within two suburbs. When the Sands' Directory ceased in 1931-32 one suburb still did not have its own identity. Which suburb was that?
a) Wahroonga? b) Roseville? c) Warrawee? d) St Ives?
- The listings in 1903 Sands' included the main occupant and in many cases their occupation. Which of these occupations did NOT appear?
a) Farrier? b) Saddler? c) Bicycle repairer? d) Tea expert? e) Ornithologist? f) Inspector of nuisances? g) Harness maker?
- The 1903 Electoral Roll was the first electoral roll to include women. This publication gives many interesting insights into our early beginnings. Because the names of men appeared on earlier electoral rolls and were not updated with street name changes, sometimes husbands were listed in different streets from their wives. A good example of this is M'Gilvery, M'Gillivry, M'Gilivry Street which by 1902 had changed its name to?
a) Springdale Rd? b) Spencer Rd? c) Short St? d) Stuart St?
- In the 1903 Electoral Roll occupations were many and varied. Which of these occupations did NOT appear?
a) Inspector of sewers? b) Masseuse? c) Thong maker? d) Sugar-cane planter? e) Fire-adjuster? f) Bookfolder? g) Computer?

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.

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Diary Dates

- Sat 6 Jul** **Family History Meeting**
11.00 am *New Zealand resources on the intranet and internet.* **Pauline Weeks** will be in attendance.
2.00 pm **General Meeting followed by** *My latest successful or unsuccessful research.* Members forum.
- Sat 20 Jul** **2.00 pm Society General Meeting**
The ones that got away.
Some early attempts by convicts to escape from Sydney Cove were doomed while others were well-planned, ingenious and successful. Speaker: **Murray Radcliffe**
- Sat 3 Aug** **Family History Meeting**
11.00 am *More intranet and internet resources.*
2.00 pm **General Meeting followed by** *Highways and byways of an interesting life: an interview with* **Bruce McRae.**
- Sat 17 Aug** **2.00 pm Society General Meeting**
Three men and the wireless.
Jo Harris discusses the influential role played by Hughes, Marconi and Fisk in the development of early wireless transmissions.

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