



# 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.

May 2010

Monthly Newsletter

Vol. 28 No. 4

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

## War Memorials in NSW

In the March meeting, Neil Chippendale spoke to us about some of the people listed on the war memorials of Hornsby Shire, and whether their deaths were “Heroism, Duty or Just Bad Luck”. The project started when Bob Carr asked local primary schools to research all the people commemorated on their local war memorials. This was possible because of the wealth of free resources available online about Australian soldiers, like the Australian War Memorial (which has lots of details), the Australian National Archives (which has the service records of those who served in WWI), the Commonwealth War Graves commission, which has information on the casualties, as well as other helpful web sites like [www.anzacs.org](http://www.anzacs.org) and [www.firstworldwar.com](http://www.firstworldwar.com).

He then went on to tell us about some of the people whose stories they had discovered. There was Leading Seaman Gordon Clarence Corbould, who was the first person from Hornsby Shire to die on 14 September 1914, less than six weeks after England joined the war, when the submarine AE1 disappeared without trace off New Guinea. Another casualty was Cpl George Young of the 14th Australian Light Trench Mortar Battery who died in France on 1 September 1918 when he went to the aid of a wounded officer. He was recommended for the Distinguished Conduct Medal, but in the end was awarded a Military Medal. Then there was Lieut Harold Robert, one of the first men to join up from Beecroft, who died in 1917 at Paschendale and was awarded the Military Cross for capturing a German trench. Another interesting case was Driver Victor Ross Taylor of the 5th Field Ambulance, who was killed by a stray shell while in a graveyard looking for his brother, who had in fact been taken prisoner.

Not all of the people commemorated on the memorials died overseas. Lieut Robert Labertouche Cadden was wounded in 1917, repatriated to Australia, and died of a heart attack initially attributed to his war wounds. He is buried at Waverley cemetery.

There were also some people whose connection with the area was not immediately apparent. These included 2nd Lieut Wilfred Peyto Unwin of the Royal Irish Rifles, who enlisted in England and was killed while riding two miles behind the lines when a shell exploded and his horse threw him. He is memorialised in both Canada and Beecroft - he had a sister in Beecroft, who put him on the memorial and gave money to Beecroft Scouts to build a hall in his name. Another such person was 2nd Lieut Sydney Joseph Tillyard, who served in the English Army, but whose brother lived in Hornsby and was the founder of the Hornsby War Memorial.

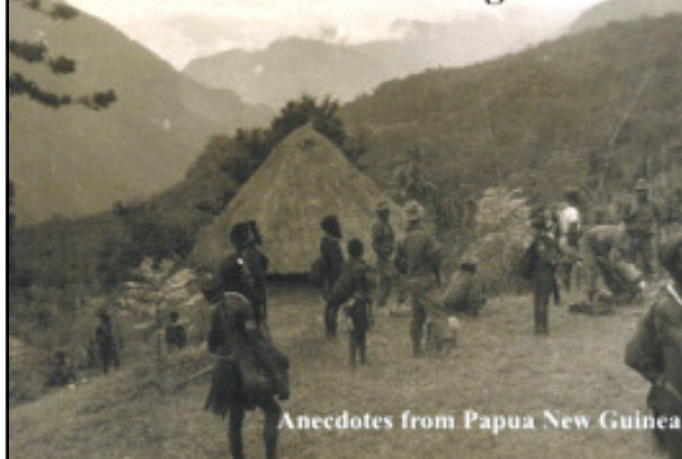
*Based on notes by Jenny Joyce*

## Coming Meetings

(Gordon Library Meeting Room)

### Next Society General Meeting Saturday 15 May at 2 pm

## Patrols into The Stone Age-



KHS member **DAVID WILKINS** spent three years on Australian Army patrols in some of the most remote areas of Papua New Guinea during the 1960s. His talk recounts anecdotes from these encounters with primitive tribes.

A former soldier and barrister, David is the author of his battalion's history in the Vietnam War, and of his own family history.

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

### Next Family History Meeting Saturday 1 May

**11 am** Convict Women & Ships of Arrival

**2 pm** Ray Thorburn (Kiama Family Research Centre): new research titled 'The Girls of the Palambam arriving 1831'

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

## Volunteers “bring a plate” Luncheon

**Saturday 15 May 11.00-1.30** come along and discover some of the changes, ask questions, tell us of any changes or resources you would like, meet other volunteers, and air any problems. Drinks will be supplied.

All volunteers, and those who aspire to be volunteers, are welcome.

**Tea & coffee at 11.00. Lunch 12.30. General Meeting 2.00.**

## Society Workshops

**Tuesday 11 May 1.30-2.30pm:** “Yes you can have a family tree program on a Mac” - an informal discussion for Mac users with a focus on family tree programs. We don’t profess to be experts, but can show you how we use them and discuss the pros and cons. You are welcome to bring your laptop. Please contact **David Wilkins or Jackie van Bergen** with any specific questions beforehand.

• **“ANCESTRY” Cost: \$5**

**Thursday 29 April 1.30-2.30 pm** **Jenny Joyce** will run an advanced Ancestry Course “Getting the most out of the UK censuses”

**Friday 7 May 10.15 to 11.45 am** **Peter Stehn** will run an introductory Ancestry Course.

Please note that the above workshops are strictly limited to one person per computer so everyone gets a chance for hands on experience.

Bookings for all Workshops are essential by emailing [khsinc@tpg.com.au](mailto:khsinc@tpg.com.au), phoning the rooms or dropping in to fill out the sheet with your name and contact number.

If you have expertise in a certain area of history, genealogy, or use of *Ancestry*, we would love to hear from you to help us run more workshops.

## Society Tour

**Thursday 20 May** to the Quarantine Station at North Head.

The bus will leave Bannockburn Oval at 9 am SHARP for a 10.30 am tour of the Quarantine Station. The guided tour will take 2 hours, after which we will return by bus to Bannockburn Oval, arriving approximately 1.30 pm.

Food and drinks will not be available.

You **MUST** wear solid comfortable walking shoes with closed-in toe, as there is a reasonable amount of walking including up hills and stairs.

Cost will be \$45 each (plus extra \$10 for non-concession or non-seniors cards), and is payable at the time of booking. This cost is refundable only if you find a replacement person. The tour is limited to 24 people.

Booking is by completing the form in the rooms (in the Workshops Folder) and placing your money in an envelope in the Secretary’s folder.

Enquiries to Jackie van Bergen.

## Thank you

The Committee would like to sincerely thank Diana McKenzie for her generous donation of a complete computer system, which will add flexibility to our network use.

## Member Profile - Graham Lewis

Graham was born and educated in Wellington, NZ. He completed a BSc in maths and science there, then commenced a BCom plus actuarial studies by correspondence from London.

In 1962 he began with AMP in Wellington, and moved to Sydney in 1964. He and Isabel married in Wellington, January 1965. Over the next few years he completed his BCom, became a Fellow of the Australian Insurance Institute, and of the Institute of Actuaries, London.

In 1975 he was seconded to (the British) Sun Life, working in Cheapside, London, within easy walking distance of hundreds of landmarks - many he visited in lunch-hours. He also did much family history research at the Society of Genealogists, the (then) PRO, St Catherine’s and Somerset House, commencing a lifetime interest in this area.

On return to Sydney with their two boys, he took over actuarial responsibility for AMP’s superannuation activities. At the same time, the Institute of Actuaries of Australia (IAA) was introducing its own exams and Graham headed the team that wrote the superannuation textbook, and became the Institute’s first examiner in that subject. In 1978, Isabel and Graham became restaurateurs, at Frenchs Forest.

In 1980 he became deputy general manager in NZ, but returned to Sydney in 1983, taking total responsibility for AMP’s superannuation operations around the world, and heavily involved in representing the industry.

In 1988 AMP appointed him to explore opportunities for expansion in Europe and Asia, largely based in London. In 1991, Isabel and Graham returned again to NZ, this time with Graham as general manager, heavily involved with industry affairs, and in representing business generally. In 1992 he returned to Sydney as one of several chief general managers reporting to the CEO, mainly relating to AMP’s overseas businesses, reshaping some, building others, closing a few, until he retired in 1996.

For a time Graham then worked as a consultant, but rapidly became more interested in various community activities. A self-taught webmaster, he has designed and managed sites for the Ku-ring-gai Neighbourhood Centre (KNC), Ku-ring-gai Preservation Trust (KPT), Friends of Ku-ring-gai Environment (FOKE), KHS, the Society of Australian Genealogists (SAG), and several other family history sites. The SAG site won two international awards. Both the SAG and KPT sites are archived by the National Library of Australia as good examples of their genre.

Over the years, Graham has been treasurer of KNC and SAG, and remains on the committee of KPT and KHS. He is a Fellow of SAG. He is currently catching up on years of deferred family history research, while Isabel devotes much time to KNC. They live in Lindfield, glad that, unlike many of their erstwhile colleagues, despite moving in and out of Sydney ten times, the family all live in Sydney.



## **Our Volunteers**

The Committee would like to recognise and thank the many volunteers who contributed to the Society during the past year as room volunteers and researchers, collecting and preserving records, and generally assisting with the many duties required to run a vibrant society. These tasks include:-

### **Accessions**

Jennifer Wallin

### **Afternoon Tea/Supper**

Jill Nicholson *plus thanks to all those who assisted over the past year.*

### **Audio for Meetings**

Peter Bidencope  
Jill Nicholson

### **Auditor**

Reg Wallin

### **Assets Register**

Bruce Robinson

### **Book Sales**

Carol Rodgers

### **Catering**

Jeanette Rennie  
Glynne McGregor

### **Committee**

Ann Barry - President  
Jo Harris - Vice-president  
Jennifer Harvey - Vice president  
Jackie van Bergen - Secretary  
Doug Milne - Treasurer  
Kevin Callinan - Immed. Past President  
Helen Davies  
Jenny Joyce  
Graham Lewis  
Peter Stehn  
Trevor Whitehead

### **Computer System**

Peter Stehn

### **Databases**

Carolyn Darby  
John Harris  
Annet Latham  
Graham Lewis  
Shirley Luttrell  
Peter Stehn

### **Display Cases**

Jocelyn Brennan-Horley  
Margaret Hoekstra

### **Family History committee**

Jo Harris - Leader  
Lyn Done  
Stella Green  
Jenny Joyce  
Beverly Robinson  
Elaine Turnidge  
Trevor Whitehead

### **Family History & Training Courses**

Jo Harris

### **Handyman - Repairs**

Peter Bidencope  
Kevin Callinan  
Graham Crawford

### **Historian Researchers**

Jennifer Harvey - Editor  
John Brown  
Carolyn Darby  
Helen Davies  
John King  
Glynne McGregor  
Kathie Rieth  
Carol Rodgers  
Bob Ross  
Allan Rost  
Tricia Thomson  
Melody van Bergen (photos)  
Trevor Whitehead

### **House clippings**

Estelle Howell  
Wendy Ermert  
Virginia Robison

### **Indexing**

Judi Oliver

### **Newsletter**

Robert Barry - Editor  
Marion Farley  
Max Farley  
Jenny Joyce  
Graham Lewis  
Kathie Rieth  
Bruce Robinson  
Jackie van Bergen  
*and the many contributors*

### **Newsletter printing/folding**

Ann Barry  
Elva Davis  
Shirley Luttrell  
Suzanne Saunders  
Lucille Taylor

### **Oral History**

Jenny Joyce - Leader  
Carolyn Darby  
Helen Davies  
Lyn Done  
Pat Harper  
Neroli Lock  
Rosemary Pye  
Dinah Warner

### **Outreach**

Kevin Callinan  
Jo Harris

### **Photo Program**

Jenny Joyce

### **Photo Captions**

Ann Barry  
Jenny Joyce

### **Preservation**

Ann Barry  
Kevin Callinan  
Sue Cooper  
Graham Crawford  
Carolyn Darby  
Lyn Done  
Jennifer Harvey  
Estelle Howell  
Jenny Joyce  
Bruce Robinson  
Lorraine Swalwell  
Jean Taylor  
Elaine Turnidge  
Dinah Warner

### **Public Officer**

Helen Davies

### **Publicity**

Sue Dunston

### **Research Team**

Kevin Callinan  
Lyn Done  
Max Farley  
Jennifer Harvey  
Jo Harris  
Beverly Robinson  
Trish Thomson  
Trevor Whitehead

### **Room Volunteers**

Ann Barry  
Kevin Brown  
Kevin Callinan  
Margaret Carrigg  
Helen Cassidy  
Carolyn Darby  
Heather Davidson  
Helen Davies  
Wendy Ermert  
Judith Fuller  
Yvonne Hall  
Liz Hamilton  
Jo Harris  
Jennifer Harvey  
Estelle Howell  
Jenny Joyce  
Alan King  
Barbara King  
Lynne Laurie  
Shirley Luttrell  
Chris McDonald  
Lois McEvoy  
Glynne McGregor  
Diana McKenzie  
Shirley Morley  
Kay Mossie  
Keith Perry  
Marjorie Perry  
Tony Prince  
Jeanette Rennie

Beverly Robinson  
Virginia Robison  
Carol Rodgers  
Diana Rose  
Alan Rost  
Marie Rumsey  
Joyce Ryerson  
Peter Stehn  
Stella Sutherland  
Lucille Taylor  
Trish Thomson  
Elaine Turnidge  
Jackie van Bergen  
Joy Walker  
Jennifer Wallin  
Trevor Whitehead  
David Wilkins  
Evelyn Wyatt

### **Scanning**

Graham Crawford  
Carolyn Darby  
Ken Knox  
Neroli Lock  
Dinah Warner

### **School Resource kits**

Rosemary Pye  
Carol Rodgers  
John Summers

### **Speaker Program**

Beverly Dunstan  
(General Meetings)  
Jo Harris  
(Family History)

### **Speakers' notes from meetings**

Helen Davies  
Stella Green  
Jenny Joyce  
Graham Lewis  
Glynne McGregor  
Jean Smith  
Elaine Turnidge

### **Tours**

Jo Harris  
Lyn Done

### **Volunteers Roster**

Ann Barry - Roster  
Heather Davidson - Roster contact

### **Walks**

Janine Kitson  
Helen Davies

### **Website**

Graham Lewis

### **Workshops**

Jennifer Harvey  
Jenny Joyce  
Graham Lewis  
Kathie Rieth  
Peter Stehn  
Stella Sutherland  
Jackie van Bergen  
David Wilkins



## “A Magnificent Orangery”

George Edwards was born in 1843 as the son of a convict. His mother was Eliza Pymble, a daughter of the first Robert Pymble.

George was destined to be one of Ku-ring-gai's most distinguished citizens and dubbed “The Father of Killara”. One of the many activities for which he is remembered is his role as an early local historian and, in this capacity, the tale he told in Sydney's *Evening News* in July 1921. In it, he reminisced of his trip through Ku-ring-gai some 50 years earlier after dining at the Bulls Head Hotel in George Street.

The story of his journey is packed with information about the places he passed and woven around the people who had lived in those places in earlier times. In the 90 years since his story was published it has been gratefully drawn upon many times by our local historians. Not only are its facts of interest but so, too, are the insights it offers of life in Ku-ring-gai in the last half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The article is reproduced in the September 2000 issue of the HISTORIAN and is recommended reading.

We will tell here of just one of his memories of those days.

After dinner and having crossed to Blue's Point on the steamer, *Brothers*, he went on his way north and recounts the joy he experienced when travelling through Pymble and seeing, for the first time, oranges actually growing on trees. He wrote of the golden fruit nestling among the leaves, and how their young spring shoots with their white and fragrant blossoms filled him with delight. He tells of “(Robert) Pymble's orchard of beautiful trees at the east of the present station site” and of the “magnificent orangery owned by the late Hon. Richard Hill”. 150 years have passed since then but it is easy to understand his delight.

It is strange how these things happen, but while following an altogether different topic we came across an illustration of “Mr Hill's Orangery”. It was published in an 1860 book by Dr George Bennett, an English physician who settled in Sydney in 1836. The illustration is of “Mr Richard Hill's Orangery” and must surely be one of the earliest surviving views of Ku-ring-gai and is fascinating just for that alone. Dr Bennett's text tells how Richard Hill fertilised his 800 or 900 trees from the refuse of boiling down establishments with bones laid in

a trench, covered with earth and followed with a dressing of liquid from the boiling down process. Happily the odours of this fertiliser had given way to the fragrant blossom by the time George Edwards set forth on his journey.

Who was Richard Hill and, apart from his orangery, what connection does he have with Ku-ring-gai?

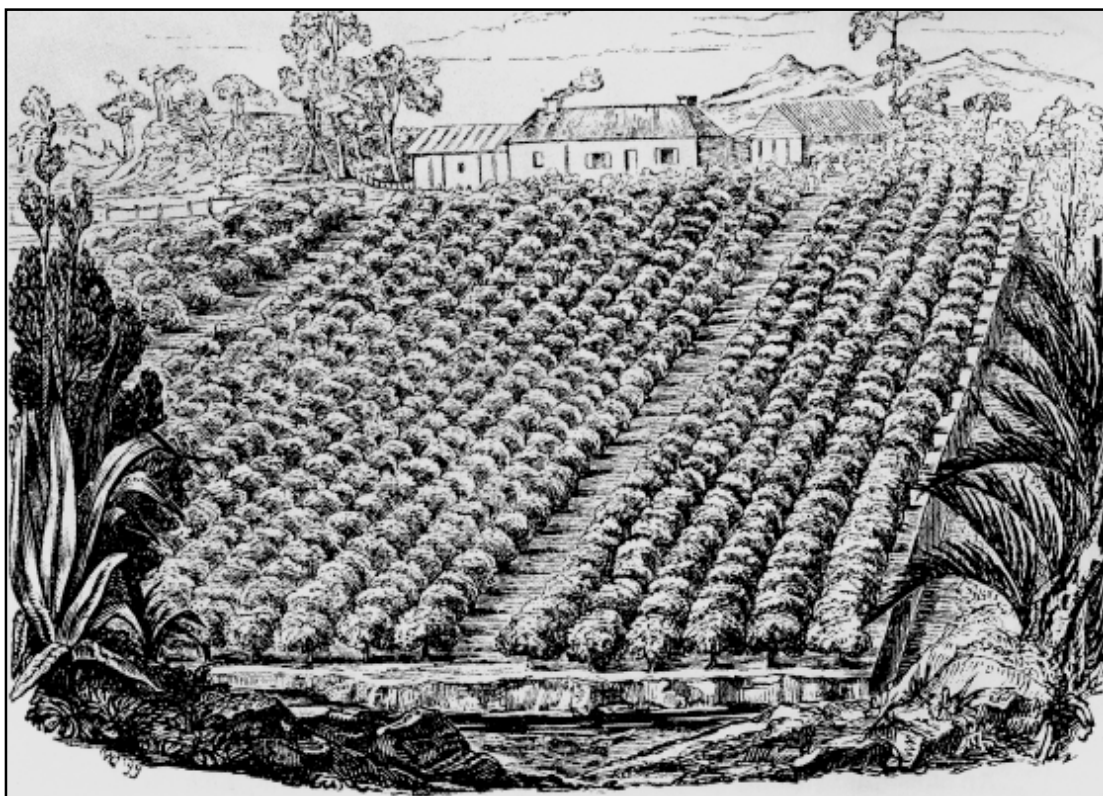
As with so many of his era, he came from humble beginnings and acquired wealth and status. He was born in 1810, the third son of William Hill an emancipist butcher, and was apprenticed as a carpenter. In the 1820s he managed Wentworth's estate at Vaucluse. In 1842 he took over the Carpenter's Arms Hotel as well as becoming a butcher with his own slaughter yard.

In 1839-1860 he had a large and prosperous orchard in Pymble between Mona Vale and Telegraph Roads with Orana Reserve within its boundaries. He had an affinity with the Aborigines, ten of whom frequently rowed him up the Lane Cove River. At other times he rode his silver-maned pony from his Bent St home.

He became a pastoralist, a Councillor of the Agricultural Society of NSW, a director of the United Insurance Company, a Member of the Legislative Assembly and of the Legislative Council, a commissioner for the Sydney International Exhibition and a founding member of the Aborigines Protection Board. He died in 1892 with an estate valued at 132,000 pounds and was survived by ten sons and a daughter.

What became of his orchard? It was bought by another pioneer of note – William McKeown.

Notwithstanding Richard Hill's many outstanding achievements in Sydney at large, he will have a special place in Ku-ring-gai's history and affection for his fine orchard and the fragrance of his orange trees.



## *There Must Be More*

The sketch of Richard Hill's orchard is a valued addition to the Society's Collection. Understandably most of the Collection's content relates to the 1900s, with the numbers of illustrations rapidly decreasing through the 1800s. This is particularly so before cameras came into wide use in the latter part of the century. Previously illustrations were predominantly sketches, paintings or engravings.

It would be wonderful if all members could keep their eyes open and tell us of any scenes they may come across of 19th century Ku-ring-gai, and of those who lived here in those days.

## *The Archbolds of Roseville*

The Archbold family was one of the real pioneering families of Ku-ring-gai. The first Richard Archbold was an educated convict who operated a school in the city and was given a grant which took in most of the east side of Chatswood. He then acquired Daniel Mathew's Clanville Estate in Roseville. He died in 1836 at the relatively young age of 44 and his widow, Mary Archbold, assisted by assigned

convicts and their young sons, still only boys, continued the farming activities. Mary is featured in the Society's *Women of Ku-ring-gai* book.

The name **Margaret McCaw** may not be known to many. She is a daughter of Ken McCaw who represented Lane Cove with distinction in the State Parliament for many years even though blind. Margaret now lives in Canberra and has early family connections with the Archbolds. Long ago she began researching her family history, before it became a popular pursuit and before electronic databases and genealogical programs came on the scene. It was hard work for her and she had little option other than to record her results in a word processing program.

Margaret has now donated to the Society MS WORD files containing 100 pages of "family tree" information plus a searchable alphabetical list of its contents. She has also donated an album showing photos of many family headstones most, if not all, she took herself.

The quality of Margaret's work is greatly appreciated by the Society, as is her willingness to make it available publicly without restriction.

## *Recent acquisitions*

*'Demolished Houses of Sydney'* edited by Joy Hughes and published by The Historic Houses Trust 1999. Has 144 pages and a good array of black and white photographs. Some of the North Shore places included: "Cooinoo" Turramurra, "Breffni" Warrawee, "Edgmond" Wahroonga. *'10,000 Years of Sydney Life A Guide to Archaeological Discovery'* edited by Peter Stanbury and published by The Macleay Museum The University of Sydney 1979 (123 pages and includes b&w photos). The book has three sections :- After 1788, Before 1788 and Now with contributions from a wide variety of experts in the field.

*'Time and Tide Again A History of Byron Bay'* by Maurice Ryan and Robert Smith 2001 (146 pages and includes b&w photos). This is a revisit to "Time and Tide" published in 1984 with new material, plus some deletions and extends the history to the start of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The introduction has a Time Line and the appendix includes a Wartime Rollcall of those of the district who served in major conflicts and provides service numbers for many.

*'Australia! Australia! The Pioneer Years A Pictorial History'* by R. M. Younger 1975 (287 pages). He sets out to show what it was like to live in the antipodean land in the formative years and uses illustrations of the day, many eyewitness accounts and reproduction of many original works of art.

*Bruce Robinson*

## *From The Pymble News, May 8 1902*

### **"THE NEW TRAIN**

The new train which leaves Turramurra at 8.34 am., is already being well patronised, and so far, every morning this week, the well-filled carriages only serve to show how badly the train was wanted."

## *Coming events of interest*

### • **Inside Out – Backstage Tours of the State Library**

Behind-the-scenes walking tour, includes the ONE HUNDRED exhibition and 'goodies' bag. Numerous dates to **8 June** – see [www.sl.nsw.gov.au](http://www.sl.nsw.gov.au)

Bookings necessary - \$20, ph: 9273 1770

### • **ONE HUNDRED - exhibition**

Marking centenary of Mitchell Library – showcasing 100 extraordinary objects, most previously unseen. Exhibition: **to 16 Jun**, Guided tours (free) – numerous times, see website [www.onehundred.sl.nsw.gov.au](http://www.onehundred.sl.nsw.gov.au)

Free; bookings not necessary, meet in Macquarie St foyer.

### • **Inspiration & Influence – The Mitchell Library**

Series of talks on the history, influence & inspiration of the Mitchell Library.

5 Tuesdays from **20 Apr to 18 May**.

Free, bookings essential: 9273 1770.

### • **Out of the Vaults**

Viewing of some of the Library's most iconic and intriguing items with their stories. Limited to 20 people.

**1st Thurs of the month from Mar to June.** \$25 incl drinks and canapés. Bookings essential: 9273 1770

### • **Preserving your Family History**

Emphasis on archival storage. Bring 1 or 2 items of memorabilia to discuss. **Thu 29 Apr 9.30 am-12.30 pm**, Mitchell Library. Bookings essential: \$40, ph: 9273 1770.

## *Note to the Editor*

In the delightful map of Gordon in the April issue, why is 32 Nelson St highlighted (and marked "H") if the Hinders lived at number 36, as stated in the article? *Anon*

*In brief, Frank Hinder's widowed mother married a Holloway, and the Holloways lived at no. 32.*

# FAMILY MATTERS

## Family History Meeting

### 11am Session

Jo Harris welcomed 21 members and guest speaker Kim Phillips. Resources recommended for researching WW1 ancestors included:

- Book "Digging for Diggers"
- Australian War Memorial - google "awm" and look at "Research a Person"
- Red Cross Wounded and Missing Files
- National Archives - google "Mapping our Anzacs"
- AIF Project
- Commonwealth War Graves Commission

Jenny Joyce typed notes during session and printed out two information sheets.

### 2pm Meeting

More than 35 members attended this meeting, chaired by Jo, who spoke about and/or showed the following:

- Hornsby Advocate seeks "fantastic family tree stories" - [www.hornsbyadvocate.com.au](http://www.hornsbyadvocate.com.au)
- Telegram advising death of Edward Pooley in WW1, and commemorative penny and plate
- "Knitting for the Soldiers" knitting book
- Anzac Medal of her mother's first husband, who was awarded Military Cross at Fromelles, and died 24 hours after marriage in hospital
- Numerous books on Anzac and WW1 including "The Anzac Book" with all work done in the Gallipoli trenches, now worth \$1,000. 3rd edition available from Australian War Memorial about \$49.

*Australian Family Tree Connections* magazine, April issue, contains articles and information on:

- Misinformation on internet
- Unidentified photos
- Salvaging flood-damaged records
- Using Church Publications to find your ancestors
- History of pensions and other benefits before 1901
- Australian Parliamentary Library
- Geograph - site aims to collect information on every sq.km. of Great Britain and Ireland - [www.geograph.org.uk/](http://www.geograph.org.uk/)
- The Soldier in Later Medieval England
- New Zealand - many lists

Family names mentioned included Gallagher, McMahon, Paton, Barrell, Sly.

### Books and Publications

Max Farley showed:

- Archbold Family Tree, now indexed
- Mitchell Library 100 years catalogue
- Wyong Family History Group publication on convict families - "Brought in by the tide"
- Bradley family reunion calendar for 2011

Gordon Library has the following "Sydney Morning Herald" records:

- April 1831-Sept 1961 - microfilm
- 1961-1977 - microfilm
- 1992-2000 - CD-Rom
- 2001-2006 - CD-Rom

- 1955-1995 - limited access

### Reports

Jo introduced Mrs Jeannette Tsoulos, President of the Australian Jewish Genealogical Society, to members.

Guest speaker Kim Phillips' subject was the "Spirits of Gallipoli" project and she gave us an enthralling and very informative description of her ongoing research into the men of Gallipoli. She used films, slides, spoken descriptions - of press reports, battle scenes, troops, individual soldiers, warships, trenches, detailed maps showing landings on 25 April, movements of battalions, 1915 and 2009 views of the same scenes. She gave graphic descriptions of what the troops had to contend with - exhaustion, fear, confusion, flies, dysentery, heat, then later snow, fierce storms, flooded trenches. We heard of staggering losses - dead, wounded, those never seen again. No lives were lost during the December 1915 evacuation.

In 2009 Kim and supporters spent two weeks photographing every grave, and showed film coverage of this visit and many close-ups of graves. Kim and friends have researched/contacted over 50 newspapers, 150 honour rolls, cemeteries, auctions, diaries, local and family history groups. It is an ongoing project and more volunteers are sought. Her website is [www.spirits-of-gallipoli.com](http://www.spirits-of-gallipoli.com) and a CD is available for \$25.

Judith Fuller gave a vote of thanks and gift of a book.

The raffle of pre-loved books was won by Winsome Tong who chose "A History of North Shore Sydney".

*Based on notes by Stella Green*

## Family History Course - 8 weeks

**Starting 10.30 Monday 17 May.** Each week you will learn "how to use" various resources.

There will be a talk, printed notes and assignments weekly. Come along and learn so much more about the resources at our "Research Centre", on the intranet, and the internet.

Society Members \$125 - non-members \$150.

Anyone interested in doing this 8 week course should contact Jo on 9489 4393.

## Why keep it to yourself?

If you have any item that might be of general interest, please think of sharing it in the *Newsletter* by sending it to the editor ([bob\\_barry@optusnet.com.au](mailto:bob_barry@optusnet.com.au)).

Do you have a photo of someone in kindergarten that could be used for a "guess who this is?"

What about some great success you've had in tracking down that elusive relative? Or interesting information about an early Ku-ring-gai house? Or perhaps an anecdote about the problematic building caveats in your street or subdivision? Why not share it with members?

On the other hand, maybe you'd like to comment about the Society or the *Newsletter*, or have found something you'd just like to gripe about.

If you have anything that might be of general interest, just send a *Note to the Editor*. If space permits, it will be printed in the next issue.

## Miss Margaret Venables Vernon

A celebration of the life of the above was held on Friday, March 12 at St James Church, King Street, Turramurra. I met Miss Vernon in February 2009 (in company with Jo Harris) in order to record an interview, as part of the KHS oral history program.

Margaret Vernon was the daughter of Lt Col Hugh Venables Vernon, and granddaughter of Walter Liberty Vernon, both of whom were English-born, architects, and soldiers with the NSW Lancers. The latter was NSW Government Architect from 1890-1911; some thirty of his buildings are now on the Register of the National Estate.

Miss Vernon lived all her life in Warrawee. Born in 1911 in Winton Street, she lived first in the family home, *Harwood* at 2 Warrawee Ave, later moving to *Pailton* (the First) at 42 Bangalla St. In the 1960s, she and her mother moved into *Pailton* the Second, her final single-storey home at 4 Warrawee Ave – still on original Vernon land.

Margaret Vernon was schooled at Miss Christie's Kindergarten, then attended Abbotsleigh. On leaving school, she took sewing lessons, and made her own clothes. Her family's local circle of friends included Ethel Anderson, of the Turramurra Wall Painters; Margaret helped apply the gold leaf in the Children's Chapel in the crypt of St James Church, Sydney. At 21, she began nursing at the Children's Hospital. This was interrupted by travel to England with friends, during which trip she was formally presented at Court. On her return she worked minding friends' children, and arranging the floral decorations at the Killara Golf Club.

During WWII she made instrument components for Kuenzli's munitions business at his home in Wahroonga.

Miss Vernon was passionate about keeping up connections with family and friends, about her garden, and about reading KHS newsletters, shared by her niece, KHS member Jane V Vernon of Gordon. She died at *Pailton*, 4 Warrawee Ave, on Feb 19 2010, aged 98 years.

*Helen Davies*

## Display Cases

The credit for the *Schools* display goes to Jocelyn Brennan-Horley. Jocelyn does an enormous amount of work researching the subject of these displays, then spends many hours searching, typing, glueing, attaching and arranging the items. The end result is a great credit to her. Congratulations and thank you Jocelyn!

Our thanks also go to Helen Davies for her work in updating the 'War Cabinet' with a fresh display for Anzac Day.

## Memories of West Pymble

West Pymble Public School will hold a Fair in September and wishes to include a display of the history of the area.

KHS will organise a display of local, family and school history.

Do you have any photos/documents/stories about West Pymble? If you have any material, we will scan/photocopy them, and return the originals to you. Please contact Ann Barry at a.barry@optusnet.com.au or 9144 6480.

## BUILT HERITAGE

On my frequent trips between Roseville and Gordon I usually choose to drive along Werona Avenue: a



bit like a roller-coaster but quiet, tree-lined and with a variety of housing styles, it is infinitely preferable to the hectic highway. However the first part of my trip takes me through the rather busier eastern part of Lindfield shopping village, most of which is now zoned for five-storey development. One building I will be sad to see go is *Strathmore*, No 51 Lindfield Avenue, the two-storey block of flats immediately to the north of the service station. In pale multi-coloured face-brick, symmetrical in plan, pleasantly proportioned, it sits low on the block - discreet and gracious.

It was built in 1938 for Miss Jemima Gregor by CA Graham at a cost of £8000. The applicant to Ku-ring-gai Council was "F. Munro" who I believe was architect Finlay Elgin Munro (junior, 1902-1986), a son of master builder Finlay Elgin Munro (senior, 1868-1939), contractor for the ES&A Bank, AMP Society head office, the crypt and the 1920s work on St Mary's Cathedral. Munro (junior) was registered with the Board of Architects in 1925 and worked for prominent Sydney architects Burcham Clamp & Finch and then Robertson & Marks. In May 1933, in association with another prominent Sydney architect John Reid, he began work on the new St Stephen's Presbyterian Church to be built in Macquarie Street on the site of Burdekin House. Reid and both Munros were members of the congregation of the original St Stephen's that stood in Phillip Street for many years before being demolished when Martin Place was extended through to Macquarie Street. Munro (junior) carried out further works for the Presbyterian Church - at Lismore, Kyogle and elsewhere – and in 1941 was appointed Honorary Consulting Architect to the Church in succession to the late John Shedden Adam. Projects included St Andrew's, Canberra and new building and additions to St David's, Lindfield (1952).

Miss Jemima McIntyre Gregor remains somewhat of a mystery. I do know that she was born in Melbourne c.1870 and in 1885 was a pupil teacher at Rocky Mouth, Clarence River NSW. By 1921 she owned the land in Lindfield Avenue where *Strathmore* was built: her address at the time was "Public School, Camperdown". In 1927 she sought building permission for a "dwelling" in Lindfield Avenue; the location of this project is unknown - it may have been an early attempt to build the flats. For a time she lived in North Sydney but by the late 1940s was living in Cranbrook Avenue, Lindfield. Miss Gregor died in November 1959. By this time *Strathmore* was owned by retired grazier Arthur Cecil Paige, formerly of *Connewarra*, Wellington, who lived in Flat 3. The building was later converted to strata title.

*Kathie Rieth*

## Copy for Newsletter

General copy for publication should be lodged with the Editor, Bob Barry (bob\_barry@optusnet.com.au), **as early as possible** but no later than the 7th of the month (except November and December), unless otherwise arranged. Copy lodged before that date **will receive preference**, all things being equal. Copy is to be submitted on the understanding that the Society has editing rights and that readers can reproduce it in whole or part with acknowledgement. Material should preferably be in electronic form.

## New Members

We are very pleased to welcome to membership:

|                       |                  |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| Flora Dean            | Turrumurra       |
| Charles & Anne Seaton | St Ives          |
| Owen Hammond          | Killara          |
| Peggy Lake            | Turrumurra       |
| Richard & Beth Facer  | North Turrumurra |
| Barbara Shaw          | Wahroonga        |
| Sue Harlow            | Naremburn        |

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

## QUIZ

- Which of these occupations was not listed in the 1903 Electoral roll for Ku-ring-gai?  
a. Thong maker b. Sugar-cane planter  
c. Computer d. Shire Councillor
- Where in Ku-ring-gai is Halfpenny Park?  
a. Roseville b. Turrumurra c. St Ives d. Gordon
- Why was this park so called?  
Because it cost a halfpenny to a. Enter b. Have a picnic  
c. Cross the railway line d. Pick flowers
- What was the previous name of Karranga Ave, Killara?  
a. Matilda b. Florence c. Ann d. Lilian
- Where in Ku-ring-gai was the Lane Cove Post Office?  
a. Roseville b. Turrumurra c. St Ives d. Gordon
- Manly Rd, Roseville is now?  
a. Babbage Rd b. Boundary St c. Clanville Rd  
d. Chelmsford Ave.

*Answers next month.*

## Research Centre Hours

The Society's Research Centre is at 799 Pacific Highway, Gordon, adjacent to the Ku-ring-gai Library.

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

© 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 1 May Family History Meeting**  
**11 am** Convict Women & Ships of Arrival  
**2 pm** Ray Thorburn (Kiama Family Research Centre): new research titled 'The Girls of the Palambam arriving 1831'
- Sat 15 May 11.00-1.30 Volunteer get-together**  
**Sat 15 May 2 pm Society General Meeting**  
KHS member David Wilkins will recount some experiences with the Australian Army in remote PNG in the 1960s.
- Mon 17 May Family History Course**  
Week 1 of 8 weeks
- Sat 5 Jun Family History Meeting**  
**11 am** Shipping Arrivals - use KHG research book to include your family.  
**2 pm** My earliest Ancestor settled at ..... in the year .....
- Sat 19 Jun 2 pm Society General Meeting**  
Author Pam Liell: the development of photography between 1860-1960 and the costumes of that period.

## Administration

|                       |                   |           |
|-----------------------|-------------------|-----------|
| President             | Ann Barry         | 9144 6480 |
| Vice Presidents       | Jo Harris         | 9489 4393 |
|                       | Jennifer Harvey   | 9489 6390 |
| Treasurer             | Doug Milne        | 9487 2853 |
| Secretary             | Jackie van Bergen | 9403 3044 |
| Immed. Past President | Kevin Callinan    | 9983 1525 |
| Committee members     | Helen Davies      | 9498 3754 |
|                       | Jenny Joyce       | 9440 2131 |
|                       | Graham Lewis      | 9416 5818 |
|                       | Peter Stehn       | 9489 9488 |
|                       | Trevor Whitehead  | 9449 6426 |

### Appointees

|                           |                            |           |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|-----------|
| Accessions                | Jennifer Wallin            | 9983 1871 |
| Book Sales                | Carol Rodgers              | 9488 8789 |
| Catering Supplies         | Glynnie McGregor           | 9983 1124 |
| Computer Systems Manager  | Peter Stehn                | 9489 9488 |
| Curator                   | Jennifer Harvey, Ann Barry |           |
| Family History Leader:    | Jo Harris                  | 9489 4393 |
| Family History Committee: | Stella Green               | 9449 4388 |
|                           | Jenny Joyce                | 9440 2131 |
|                           | Beverly Robinson           | 9988 3775 |
|                           | Elaine Turnidge            | 9899 2635 |
|                           | Trevor Whitehead           | 9449 6426 |
| Historian Editors         | c/- Jennifer Harvey        | 9489 6390 |

with Kathie Rieth, John King, Bob Ross

|                            |   |           |
|----------------------------|---|-----------|
| Newsletter - Editor        | Bob Barry   | 9144 6480 |
| Newsletter - Local History | Max Farley  | 9499 7113 |
| Publicity                  | Sue Dunston   | 9498 8720 |
| Public Officer             | Helen Davies  | 9498 3754 |
| Research Team              | Kevin Callinan, Lyn Done, Max Farley, Jo Harris, Jennifer Harvey, Beverly Robinson, Trish Thomson, Trevor Whitehead |           |
| Speakers Programme         | Beverly Dunstan   | 9419 8526 |
| Volunteers Roster          | Heather Davidson  | 9144 1844 |