



KU-RING-GAI HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC

Including: Ku-ring-gai Family History Group • 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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DECEMBER 2019 NEWSLETTER VOL. 37 NO. 11

SATURDAY December 7

FAMILY HISTORY WORKSHOP

11:00am No workshop scheduled

2.00pm FAMILY HISTORY MEETING,

Christmas Party

Who doesn't like trivia? Come along and get into the spirit of Christmas and enjoy yourselves at our Christmas Trivia Party. Who will be at the winning table this year and collect our fantastic first prize? Okay, it's just a bag of lollies for each person on the winning table! Please bring a plate to share.

Visitors Welcome

Afternoon Tea Available

FROM THE PRESIDENT

At our Annual General Meeting on 19 October I was honoured to be elected President of the Ku-ring-gai Historical Society. I would like to thank Jenny Joyce for her contribution to our Society during her three years in the role. Also, my thanks to Beth and Richard Facer for their time on the Committee.

Accordingly, there are a few changes on the Committee for this term of office. Annet Latham, after doing such a sterling job as our treasurer for the past four years, has handed that position to Marilyn van Eerde. Annet has taken on the role of Vice President and I look forward with enthusiasm to working with her, Marilyn, and our new Secretary, Judith Godden, and Committee members Neil Falconer, Morrison Hammond, Geoff Little, Jean Lucas, Yvette Reeve, and our Immediate Past President, Jenny Joyce.

To endeavour to continue to fulfil the aims of our society, and to keep it strong, we look forward to your support, ideas, encouragement, and, most of all, your participation as we face the challenges that confront us going forward.

On behalf of the Committee, I wish you a very Merry Christmas and look forward to seeing you in the New Year.

Lorna Watt



L to R. Morrison Hammond, Yvette Reeve, Judith Godden (Secretary), Lorna Watt (President), Geoff Little, Annet Latham (Vice President), Marilyn van Eerde (Treasurer), Jean Lucas, Neil Falconer. (Jenny Joyce was overseas at photo time).

NO GENERAL MEETING IN DECEMBER 2019

JANUARY 2020 MEETING ADVANCE NOTICE

SATURDAY January 18

2.00pm GENERAL MEETING: Restoration of the sailing ship "James Craig"

Presenter: Trevor Richardson

This work involved restoring the ship, which was found in Recherche Bay in Tasmania in 1971, from a rusting hulk to a fully working ship. The work took 30 years to complete. She is one of only four genuine, working 19th century ships in the world and the only one that is allowed to take the public to sea, which she does every second Saturday.



Trevor is a member of the Campbelltown and Airds Historical Society and a past Committee member, and a member of the Campbelltown Family History Society. His hobbies include trains, boats, (of course) planes, cars (he has a 1974 V8 Torana) and books. He worked for the Shell Co. at Clyde for 30 years and then 20 years at Broughton Anglican College at Menangle Park.

Visitors Welcome

Afternoon Tea Available

CORRECTION

The report in the previous newsletter on "Exploring the Past" conference was written by Jean Smith, not Jenny Joyce. Editor regrets the error.

NEW EDITOR REQUIRED

Our current newsletter editor will be relinquishing his position at the end of the first quarter in 2020. If you have an interest in the job please contact Lorna Watt as soon as possible on 9440 8010. Thank you.

For members receiving printed copy who want to access the internet, enter www.khsnx.com/Dec2019.htm into a browser address bar to reach a menu which lists all the embedded electronic links in this Newsletter

GERMAN SIG MEETING

The KHS German Special Interest Group met Monday 14 October 2019 with 17 members present, including one new member. Items discussed were:

German genealogy Web activity – Tony Karrasch updated members on interesting items from Facebook posts and other noteworthy Web activity as well as International German Genealogy Partnership (IGGP) activity.

German Ancestors of Ku-ring-gai Historical Society Members – Leone Stumbaum has received updated information from several members and is awaiting new articles for input to the second iteration of the publication.

Round Table reports – This item provided an opportunity for members to report on progress with their personal German family history research. Presentations were made by the following members:

- Frank Olivier – An interesting presentation on Frank's quest to locate the final resting place of his father.
- Jan and Tony Spargo gave an interesting illustrated presentation on recent successes with locating (and photographing) family associated residences in South Australia.
- Christine Edwards – Gave a report on some of her relatives that were falsely 'claimed' by other unrelated researchers as their own.
- Gavin McDonald – Gavin briefed members on a new acquisition to the KHS library entitled *Because of their Beliefs – Emigration from Prussia to Australia* by W. Iwan 1931, edited by David Schubert.
- Neil Menger – Described the background to several German directories, dating from the mid-1800s, that were the subject of some recent research Neil conducted in the Biblioteka in Gdansk, Poland. Leone was able to translate the relevant German text for Neil.

German jokes for translation – A light-hearted item whereby Leone translated several corny jokes in German found on donated calendar sheets. Lesson learnt – calendar jokes don't get any better just because they are in German!

Next Meeting – The next meeting is planned for Monday 9 December 2019 with a Christmas theme. Suggestions for items to discuss are welcomed.

FUTURE TOUR DATES

November Thursday 7th – Tour 5: State Archives visit cancelled due to lack of numbers. We will be considering a new date next year and also a visit to the National Archives at Villawood.

December Thursday 5th – Tour 6: Brisbane Water History & End-of Year Cruise.

February Thursday 20th – Tour 8: Anzac Memorial, Hyde Park. 'Devoted Service' theatre piece + centenary exhibition tour.

HOW TO BOOK. Please see last page for information.

NEW FEATURE – Letters to the Editor

Do you have a suggestion for a new topic in the Newsletter? Would you like to see more Historical Moments involving cars? Have you heard a speaker you think others might enjoy hearing? Do you have a comment on a published meeting summary? Have you read a good history book lately? Is there a personal learning takeaway or some historical family revelation you'd like to share with others? Maybe you've read something you disagree with and wonder if others feel the same way. Perhaps you have an old photo to show off. If so, think about sending us your thoughts in 150 words or less to editor@khs.org.au.

Letters recently received responded to articles in the November newsletter about the 'Exploring the Past' conference and the tour to the Police Museum.

To the Editor:

Congratulations to the Committee which organised and ran the "Exploring the Past" Conference. To Jenny, Lorraine, Yvette and Andy you all did a marvellous job organising everything to run smoothly. The venue of Knox Grammar was excellent. The program presented at the conference had variety, interesting subjects and excellent presenters to give the attendees great coverage of "Exploring the Past". They would learn from those presentations as did I. To those members of KHS who did not attend, you missed a wonderful experience and a very well organised conference. A big thank you to the volunteers who did a stupendous job ensuring all ran smoothly. The dinner tables for the Saturday night were beautifully presented and the meal was excellent as were the two bottles of wine on each table. You have all made Ku-ring-gai Historical Society a proud club and for what you have done for family history. Well done.

Kind regards

Gerard Esquilant _____

Four of the KHS tour group found themselves behind bars when they visited the Police Museum at Circular Quay. They were detained for loitering and were placed in the holding dock pending an appearance before the visiting Judge. As they were not represented by Members of the Bar, they sought approval from his Honour to represent themselves. A strong case was put up by them in defence of the charge and the Judge gave all four defendants a suspended sentence and released them to perform 2 hours of community service. [Ed.- 😊]

Geoff Little _____

Sun Herald Sunday September 29th 2019, page 22. "Jury's in: Design influences verdicts"

"...[R]ecent work by Emma Rowden, a senior lecturer in the School of Architecture at Oxford Brooks University, found 'Jurors who saw the defendant in the dock, whether a standard or high security one, were 1.8 times more likely to find them guilty compared to the jurors who saw the same actor sitting at a bar table with their lawyer'. This has led experts to consider that the design of a courtroom can influence a jury's decision.

Neil Falconer _____

[Ed. – Choose your courtroom carefully folks.]

GENERAL MEETING Saturday Oct 19

Growing up in Gordon in the 1950s

Warren Dent, our Newsletter Editor, shared many memories of growing up in Gordon in the 1950s. The suburb was named after Sir James Willoughby Gordon, quartermaster-general in England when the First Fleet sailed. It was after the 2nd World War that Gordon became the heart of Ku-ring-gai. In the 1950s much revolved around the railway. Men worked in the city and thus caught the train to and from work. Women managed the home where milk, bread and ice for the ice chest were all delivered. Cure-alls, such as Tiger Balm, were sold door to door, and a visiting knife and scissor sharpener man who could also repair pots and pans was a regular caller. The Postman blew his whistle if he left any mail. Garbage men would hoist your bin on their shoulder and throw the contents into the truck, thus creating lots of noise, usually early in the morning.

This was also a highly sexist time as shown in various advertisements for new appliances. The Kenwood Chef advertised that “The Chef does everything but cook – that’s what wives are for”. Pep Vitamins stated “So the harder a wife works the cuter she looks”. Bell and Howell Projectors had a photo of the buxom Sabrina. To see images of these adverts and more, along with maps of Gordon shops in 1953/54, [click here](#).

Life as a child was orderly and peaceful. At school kids were taught the 3 Rs, discipline and punctuality. Life revolved around family, school, church and community. Children walked everywhere and had no headphones or credit cards. They were influenced by school teachers, Sunday school teachers, grandparents, aunts, uncles, friends and neighbours. School mates were also important as they exposed youngsters to other nationalities and different points of view. The sexes were, however, separated at school.

High school was a major growth period. We all wore uniforms and went by train to school. We were exposed to multiple teachers, new subjects and other cultures. In the 1950s we learned many things: **Respect** - for Parents, Teachers, Authorities; **Politeness** – no need to be rude; **Chivalry** – revere the gentle sex; **Common Sense** – think twice before you do things; **Best Effort** – always do your best. In this decade families enjoyed constancy, couples were permanent (divorce was almost unknown) and you had purpose, goals, confidence and learned responsibility. These values, instilled in Warren growing up in the 50s, have been everlasting for him, including focus on love and caring families.

At the end of Warren’s talk there were many discussions as quite a few people in the audience had also been to Gordon Public School. Many other people shared Warren’s experience of growing up in the 50s.

Thank you Warren for taking us down memory lane with humour and making those brought up in the 50s grateful for what we had.

WHO WAS THIS RESIDENT? NOVEMBER 2019

ARTHUR ERNEST JOSEPH BISHOP 1917 – 2006

Arthur Ernest Joseph Bishop was born in Ku-ring-gai in 1917, the fourth and youngest child of John, an editor, publisher and watercolour artist, and Maude Busby (nee Hebblewhite) Bishop.

Arthur’s middle names were from family members who had been killed the year of his birth whilst serving in World War I.

He spent all his childhood years at the family home “BAAMUTHA”. From a very early age he was interested in how things worked; his father realised his son’s gift and at the age of ten asked Arthur to fix his prized gold watch.



“BAAMUTHA” 2 Clermiston Avenue, Roseville



Educated at North Sydney Boys’ High School Arthur studied both chemistry and physics, followed by a diploma in mechanical engineering with honours from Sydney Technical College whilst being apprenticed at his cousin’s machine shop, E.G. Bishop in Chippendale.

In 1943 Arthur and Gloria Constance Dryburgh were married in Sydney, becoming parents to a son and three daughters.

“Arthur Bishop worked for the Department of Aircraft Production during World War II and developed landing gear steering and 'shimmy' control of military aircraft. He went on to become principal of A. E. Bishop and Associates, Sydney, now the Bishop Technology Group.”¹

(Story continued on next page, footnote below)

¹ “driven by IDEAS – The story of Arthur Bishop. A great Australian inventor” by Clare Brown (263 pages)

ARTHUR ERNEST JOSEPH BISHOP (Cont'd)

"Bishop loved beautiful ideas and objects. He had a large, lead weight with a pen attached hanging in a stairwell at his home and delighted in setting it in motion and watching it draw complex curves on paper."²

Arthur Ernest Joseph Bishop died 21st June 2006 after a life full of family interests, travel and incredible achievements. His story written by Clare Brown is a worthy tribute to a complex and brilliant man.

"Arthur Bishop began pulling clocks and other machinery apart not long after starting life. He ended it, at the age of 88, with more than 300 patents in 17 countries to his name and with one in five of the world's cars using some aspect of his variable ratio, rack and pinion power steering technologies.

He was perhaps Australia's most successful inventor. His career began with soap, progressed to aeroplanes and although most of his work involved cars, he thought up a new form of public transport - a self-steering people-mover system with the potential to revolutionise urban mass transport."³

² Design & Art Australia Online. (Including biography and above quote).

³ SMH 12 July 2006

Internet: Many references

GENEALOGY SOFTWARE UPDATE

Family Tree Maker 2019 is now available for the Mac. The Windows version was released a little while ago. For thirty years Family Tree Maker® has been America's favourite genealogy software program making it easier than ever to discover your family story, preserve your legacy and share your unique heritage. If you're new to family history, you'll appreciate how this intuitive program lets you easily grow your family tree with simple navigation, tree-building tools, and integrated Web searching. If you're already an expert, you can dive into the more advanced features, options for managing data, and a wide variety of charts and reports. The end result is a family history that you and your family will treasure for years to come!

Reunion (genealogy software) V12

Reunion provides methods to create, manipulate and generate reports about a family history. It has the capability to produce charts depicting family relationships and the ability to produce Web pages for publishing a family history online. Reunion can also be used to gather family statistics. It allows integration of images and movies into Reunion family files. The Windows version is still a strong product but **NOTE** the software does not operate under the latest MAC OS. A new version must be waited for.

Synium have just released **MacFamilyTree 9** which has more bells and whistles. It can be used cooperatively utilising the Cloud. Works on iMacs and iPhones. (Notes: Morrison Hammond)

FAMILY CONVICTS – Janice Bellette

I am a descendant of **Jacob Bellett/Bellette**, a silk weaver who arrived in Sydney with the First Fleet in 1788. He was sentenced at the Old Bailey to 7 years' transportation for stealing silk from his employer. After serving time on the hulks he was sent to Portsmouth, aged 22, for embarkation, and from Sydney, he was then sent to Norfolk Island in 1790 on the *Supply*.


He married Ann Harper (*Lady Juliana* – second fleet) and the couple, along with 8 children, were evacuated from Norfolk Island to Van Diemen's Land in 1806. There, he became a constable and on his passing was buried at St David's, Hobart, on 2nd December 1813. His gravestone states he was a "free settler" although his age shown as 27 and year of death are incorrect. He left behind 9 children.

My son's partner is a descendant of **Edward Goodin/Goodwin/Gooden** who also arrived with the First Fleet. He and a companion were sentenced at the Old Bailey to 7 years' transportation for theft of woollen cloth. He was sent to Portsmouth aged 23 and thence to Sydney.


By 1800 he was a constable at Kissing Point and a landholder. He married Ann Thomas of the *Lady Juliana*. In 1806 he held 60 acres and was running sheep and other livestock as well as planting grain. He was buried at St Ann's, Ryde, aged 77. He had at least 13 children, although some died in infancy.

My daughter's partner is a descendant of **Robert Forrester**, another convict who arrived with the First Fleet. He was sentenced to death at the Old Bailey for stealing six guineas with another man. His sentence was reprieved to 7 years' transportation and he was sent to Portsmouth at age 19 for embarkation to Sydney. In 1794 he was settled on 30 acres at Mulgrave Place. He appears to have had numerous partners and was buried at St Matthew's, Windsor, on 15th February, 1827, aged 69. It is believed he had 9 children.

These three young men were all prisoners on the *Scarborough* and it is possible they knew or recognised each other, as they were in close proximity.

We are proud they are our forebears who arrived in a hostile environment, to survive, thrive and live on in our memories. Headstones shown here. 

HISTORIC TRIVIA

On Monday 14th of February 1966 Australia switched its currency from pounds, shillings, and pence to dollars and cents. Children no longer had to learn twelve times tables at school but around the country thousands of cash registers, adding machines and accounting machines had to be converted. In Sydney 15,000 parking meters were switched to handle the new coins. Alternate names suggested for the currency included royal, crown, sovereign, austral, oz, and boomer. Did you keep some of the old tender as souvenirs? Many folks did. 

FAMILY HISTORY WORKSHOP

Saturday November 2, 11:00am Session

15 members attended the morning session which was chaired by Jean Smith. She made announcements about the November Historical Society General Meeting, future tours and the December Family History meeting. Jean then introduced the morning topic, 'Other Societies' Journals in the KHS Library'. Previous copies of these journals are stored in a 4-drawer filing cabinet in the back room of our library.

They are arranged in alphabetical order according to district, not under the society's name or the journal's name. A selection was displayed and members worked on investigating any articles they thought could be useful in family history research. Members then reported to the group their findings.

The Turret (Blacktown) had local news; *Berrima Newsletter* had information about the Chinese in the Southern Highlands; *Friends of Gore Hill Cemetery* held life stories of people buried there; *Local Colour* (Hornsby) had details about the waterclock; *Leichhardt Historical Journal* had information about the municipality and its suburbs; *Pigeon House Tidings* (Milton - Ulladulla) had answers to the question, 'What first got you interested in family history?'; and *Timespan* (Nepean Society) had details of a cash book of a convict who worked in the area.

Jo Harris drew attention to *The Book of Sydney Suburbs* which is in the KHS library. She also showed two of her books about early births in Australia from 1788 to 1828, an invaluable resource for those with early ancestors. She is willing to do lookups for anyone who emails her on jayaitch@optusnet.com.au.

FAMILY HISTORY MEETING

Saturday November 2, 2:00pm Session

Jean Smith welcomed attendees and repeated the morning announcements about upcoming meetings and tours. On 7th December there will be no morning workshop but the afternoon session will be a special Christmas activity followed by afternoon tea so please come and bring a plate.

Forum

The afternoon session on the topic 'How I became interested in family history' was chaired by Patrick Dodd. 9 members had volunteered to take part. They included Gerard Esquilant, Joan Stebbing, Tony Spargo, Jo Harris, Graham McIntosh, Jan Spargo, Marilyn van Eerde, Patrick Dodd, and Warren Dent.

The stories these members told varied immensely in source and background but were all very interesting. Some involved strangers, some old family heirlooms, some verbal legends. In the follow-up research that members invariably undertook, there were often surprising findings. While resultant histories were often incomplete, just the fact that people learned more about their ancestry was always a rewarding outcome.

We're hoping that each of the speakers will be willing to provide more detailed write-ups of the original motivations for researching their family histories that can be published in later editions of the newsletter.

Since he recently presented a history of his family in Ku-ring-gai here's a short summary of Warren Dent's story which he had emailed ahead of the forum date. In 1960, his father's cousin came to dinner bringing a handwritten account of the lineage of the Taylor family from whom Warren's father was descended. Supposedly, the Duke of Wellington had a mistress who was the daughter of a very wealthy businessman and scientist named Henry Beaufoy. She gave birth to three children who were exiled with her to Australia in 1834, where they assumed the surname Taylor. Nearly 50 years after receiving the original handwritten document Warren had the opportunity to research its claims and found many falsehoods in the original account, and, sadly, no right to any Beaufoy wealth. He then wrote three books on his findings which were published on Amazon.

We look forward to similar revelations of intrigue and unusual events from the other speakers.

The meeting closed with afternoon tea as usual.

A big thank you to all who took part in the meeting both as presenters and in setting up and clearing the room.

AUSTRALIAN FLAGS and a NEW WORD

From the Newsletter 10 years ago in December 2009

"Vexillographer John Vaughan gave us an interesting talk on flags at the October general meeting. For those who are unfamiliar with the word "vexillographer", it means a person who studies the history of flags. The talk started off with a discussion on the present Australian flag, which was raised for the first time on September 3, 1901 at the Royal Exhibition building in Melbourne. It was chosen in a competition in which over 30,000 entries were submitted. Many of the designs were not practical, but the great majority of the suggested designs included the Union Jack and the Southern Cross, and a large number of entries were very similar to the final design. In the end there were five designs that were almost the same, so that the judges decided to divide the prize money of £200 amongst their submitters."

"Mr Vaughan then showed us a number of flags, including the red ensign as flown by Captain Cook, the Flag of the Anti-Transportation League and the Murray River Flag. One of the most interesting flags he showed us was the Bowman flag, which was created by John and Honor Bowman in 1806. It was flown from their home near Richmond, NSW to celebrate news of the victory of Lord Horatio Nelson at the Battle of Trafalgar, and it contains the famous message Nelson transmitted to the fleet before the battle – 'England expects that every man will do his duty.' We were also shown the most famous and contentious of flags connected with Australia – the Eureka Flag."

DIARY DATES

DECEMBER

Thursday 5	Tour 6: Brisbane Water History & End-of-Year Cruise
Saturday 7	No Family History Workshop
Saturday 7	2:00pm Family History Meeting Trivia game and Christmas Party (Please bring a plate)
Monday 9	German Special Interest Group meeting
Friday 13	Research Centre closes, reopens Monday 13 Jan 2020
Saturday 21	No General Meeting

JANUARY

Saturday 4	No Family History Group meetings
Monday 13	Research Centre reopens
Saturday 18	2:00pm General Meeting: Restoration of the sailing ship "James Craig" Presenter: Trevor Richardson

FEBRUARY

Saturday 1	11:00am Family History Workshop RootsTech – What's New? Presenter: Jenny Joyce
Saturday 1	2:00pm Family History Meeting: The Last Bushrangers Presenter: Mike Munro
Saturday 15	2:00pm General Meeting: Sydney Postcards: History through the mail Presenter: Robert Mills
Thursday 20	Tour 8: Anzac Memorial, Hyde Park. 'Devoted Service' theatre piece + centenary exhibition tour.

How to book a tour

On the 3rd Saturday of each month (except December), which are KHS General Meeting days, the **Tour Booking Table** will be open between 1:30 pm and 2:00 pm for bookings and receipt of tour booking funds. Payment on the day is by cash (preferred) or cheque. If you cannot attend at this time please contact Yvette **after the weekend of the booking** at yreeve@optusnet.com.au or by phone 0414 249 737 to check on vacancies. If there is a vacancy, payment can be made via EFT, details: BSB 032-083 KHS Account No. 248971 indicating your **name and tour number**. You will be sent an important Tour Information Sheet which will become your receipt and provide tour pick up details, i.e., time and place. For most tours Yvette will keep an Expression of Interest list in case of future vacancies.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Unfortunately in November we said goodbye to 42 members who did not renew in spite of reminders. So our membership this year stands at 209 single members, 105 Household members, 7 life members, 1 overseas member and 3 corporate members. November expenses left us with a net surplus of \$11,079 to date.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Kathryn Anne SEVIER, Young
John & Joyce BLAIR, Elanora Heights

ADMINISTRATION

President	Lorna Watt	9440 8010
Vice President	Annet Latham	9440 3998
Treasurer	Marilyn van Eerde	0418 269 126
Secretary	Judith Godden	0408 967 937
Immediate Past President		

	Jenny Joyce	9440 2131
Committee	Morrison Hammond	9449 7447
	Yvette Reeve	0414 249 737
	Neil Falconer	9488 7293
	Jean Lucas	9449 5706
	Geoff Little	9449 3131
Family History	Lorraine Henshaw	
Group Committee	(Leader)	0418 22 1354
	Jenny Joyce	9440 2131

	Yvette Reeve	0414 249 737
	Jean Smith	9498 4468
	Elaine Turnidge	9899 2635

Appointees

Accessions	Jennifer Wallin	9983 1871
Book Sales	Margaret Holland	9488 5452
Catering	Vicki Williams	9415 8833
Computer Systems	Peter Stehn	9489 9488
Curators	Ann Barry	9144 6480
	Jennifer Harvey	9489 6390
Built Heritage Group	Jennifer Harvey	9489 6390
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Public Officer	Helen Whitsed	9416 5825
Research Team Leader	Joan Stebbing	9489 6476
Tour Contact	Yvette Reeve	0414 249 737
Speakers Programme	Beverley Dunstan	9419 8526
Volunteers Coordinator	Geoff Little	9449 3131
Webmaster	Peter Stehn	9489 9488
Welfare Officer	Jill Nicholson	9144 6948

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, Friday and Saturday (except the first Saturday of each month when members have a Family History meeting).

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