



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.

November/December 2009 Monthly Newsletter Vol. 27 No. 10

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

Flags and Communication

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. We were shown a facsimile of the issue of “Review of Reviews for Australia” which displayed the winning design.

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. Included amongst the flags shown were a number which Mr Vaughan had made commemorating the Welsh, Irish, Scottish and Cornish in Australia.

As well as flags, we were shown some pennants, like the gin pennant (indicating that it is time for a drink) and a church pennant (indicating that a church service is underway).

Recently Mr Vaughan achieved his dream of getting a replica flagstaff raised on Observatory Hill at the site of the Fort Phillip Signal Station. Observatory Hill was ideally located to relay flag messages from the South Head Signal Station. The flagstaff contains signal flags that indicate, amongst other things, the phases of the moon and the forecast temperature.

Coming Meetings (Gordon Library Meeting Room)

Next Society General Meeting

Saturday 21 November at 2.00 pm

BUSINESS: *The meeting will consider a recommendation from the committee to elect past president Michael MacCabe as a life member.*



A NICE CUP OF TEA

Writer, historian and inventor
IAN BERSTEN will reveal the secrets of a perfect cup of tea.

Join us for the final meeting for the year to be followed by tea, coffee and other liquid refreshments.

N.B. Please bring a plate

Next Family History Meeting

Sat 7 November 11:00 Early Sydney Research
2:00 Lee Shrub - From Vienna to the North Shore

Afternoon Tea will be available.

Visitors welcome.

Sat 5 December NO 11am Meeting
2:00 Xmas Party (Bring a plate and an old photo of yourself)

Computer Tips & Shortcuts Workshop

The first of our workshops took place on the 12th October and was repeated on the 13th when Peter Stehn talked about computer tips and shortcuts. 37 people attended over the two days and several people have asked for the session to be repeated. This will happen some time in the near future.

Successful Reunion

A reunion took place of the former students from the Thursday 2009 family history course on the 15th October, where some new volunteers were gained. Another reunion will be held in 6 months.

Visit to State Records

This will be our last visit to State Records with Prymer Tours and will take place on Friday 20th November 2009. State Records will now only allow groups of 25 people on one day, which means that the cost has had to go up. The visit will include a lecture on shipping, a tour of the premises, morning and afternoon teas, sit down lunch, luxury coach trip, pickup at Bannockburn Oval at 9am. The price is \$52 all inclusive. Bookings and enquiries Jo 9489 4393

Please note the date has been changed from the 13th of November to the 20th.

Quiz

Can you identify which high school in Ku-ring-gai the following people attended?

1. Juanita Neilsen
2. Grace Cossington Smith
3. Dame Joan Hammond
4. Elle MacPherson
5. Shane Gould

Answers on last page

Fisk Memorial

The anniversary of the first radio broadcast from the UK to Australia in 1918 was once again celebrated at the Fisk Memorial in Wahroonga on the 22nd September. The statue of Mercury was brought out of storage for the occasion. It was pleasing to see many school children visiting and showing an interest in local history.

New Computer Resources etc.

The following resources have been added to the computers since the last newsletter

- Australian Newspapers online - Historic Australian Newspapers 1803-1954. A link to the internet resource from the National Library of Australia

- 1538-1858 Index of Irish Wills - This PDF document replaces the previous application that would only run on Windows 98
- Musgrave's Obituaries - Originally written by Sir William Musgrave, this resource contains obituary details dating from around 1421 to pre-1800 of mostly middle to upper class people, though there are some relating to "ordinary" people
- 1521-1869 London Marriage Licenses - Contains over 850 pages of marriages that occurred in London between 1521 and 1869
- National Library of Australia prototype search facility (Trove) - This website allows you to explore Australian collections and worldwide online sources. It is a prototype that continues to evolve with changes released every few weeks
- 1854 NSW Government Gazette
- New Zealand Burial Locator - The Burial Locator is a directory containing over 3 million names. Its purpose is to assist in the location of a burial or death, generally in New Zealand, but includes some that occurred overseas. It requires the CD in the drive to run
- Computer shortcuts notes now on Society page

In addition, there is a new facility to search the information on the pages of our website. It functions in a similar way to Google, and provides links to all the pages that contain the search terms.

For example, if you can't remember which page the Sands Directories are on, you can enter "Sands" in the Search box and you will be shown all the relevant pages.

If you want a demonstration of the new search facility, just ask Peter Stehn sometime when you are in the rooms.

Upcoming Workshops

Max Farley will conduct a one-hour workshop on Search Ku-ring-gai in the KHS Rooms on Friday 6 November, commencing at 1:30pm.

Search Ku-ring-gai contains lots of information about local people and history.

Jennifer Harvey will conduct a workshop on Built Heritage on Tuesday 24th November at 1:30pm. This will be an introduction to the resources that we have available on Built Heritage and will be of especial use to Room Volunteers.

Please book by email to khsinc@tpg.com.au or by phoning our rooms.

Future workshops

Do you have something that you would be willing to share with our members for about an hour? If so, please contact one of the committee members.

St Martin's Anglican Church Killara

St Martin's is celebrating its Centenary this year and various activities are planned to celebrate this special occasion culminating with a special Centenary Dedication Service on 10th February 2011.

As part of the celebrations a special Back to St Martin's Day Service is to be held on Sunday 14 February 2010, to which all those who have been married at St Martin's or with other connections to the church are invited. Please let the Church Office, Tel 9880 2137, know of your interest in attending.

The church stands on land that was originally part of the Springdale Estate, a marriage grant of 160 acres to Jane Bradley, who married James McGillivray on 31 July 1830. By 1885 J G Edwards had acquired the Estate. Following the arrival of the railway to Ku-ring-gai and the subdivision of the Springdale Estate in the early 1890s people started to settle in Killara. With the opening of the station in 1899 the area developed rapidly, with many fine houses being built.

At this time the residents of Killara were attending the Church of St John the Evangelist at Gordon, however by the early 1900s they had started a movement to have their own church. The first service of the new church was held on 23rd May 1909 in the Killara Hall, Marian Street and was attended by a congregation of 64. The Rector of St John's, Rev Raymond King, was on leave in 1909 and the Acting Rector Rev W J Prentice or his assistants, Rev Woolnough and Rev E Shipley, took these early services. By 1910 Rev Leopold Charlton, who had been appointed a curate to St John's Gordon in 1909, soon established particular links with Killara, becoming Rector in 1918.

Land in Arnold Street was purchased in June 1909 for £396 for a church. Mr J P Josephson was appointed Honorary Surveyor and Engineer and Mr O Harley Honorary Architect and by November plans for the church were well under way. The church was to be of stone, the contract price being £865. The Foundation Stone, to be seen on the right of the church entrance, was laid on 18th May 1910 and the new church was dedicated on 10th February 1911.

The Rectory, 12 Springdale Road, was acquired in 1920.



It had previously been a doctor's house and surgery. As the church grew, more land was acquired and new buildings were erected.

In 1933 the church was enlarged by one bay. Major additions, to bring the church to its present size, were started in 1959 and completed in 1961. The Parish Hall was built in 1930, the Kindergarten Hall in 1955, the Youth Centre in 1967 and the Trust House for an assistant minister in 2004.

The present Rector, The Rev Martin Robinson was inducted on 20th September 1990.

To add to the church's history the archivist, Janet Denne would appreciate stories, pictures etc. of personalities and past activities to do with the church. Visit St Martins on the website: www.stmartinskillara.org.

Janet Denne

Member Profile - Ku-ring-gai's Local Studies Librarian *Joan Rowland*

I was born at Cobar Hospital to Philippa and Harry Harslett and lived the first 3 years of my life at a mining town outside of Cobar.

My father was a mining engineer and we travelled from one mining town to another. Most of those mines have now closed and nothing now remains of the houses I lived in as a child.

When I was ten my father



moved from mining to quarrying and my family lived for two years in a lovely old sandstone house at Birds Eye corner, on Castlereagh Road at Castlereagh. The house was owned by the Blue Metal and Gravel Quarries and eventually that house too was demolished. It was 140 years old with sandstone walls a foot thick. Now a mound of blue metal gravel covers the site.

Years later I worked as the librarian for Blue Metal and Gravel and carried out research for land reclamation, compiling a bibliography on the use of Paternoster style lakes to fill in the scars made from mining. This helped in the implementation of the lakes system at Penrith and Castlereagh. No doubt the site of my old home and the paddocks nearby will be under water when all the sand and metal are taken from the area.

The last move the Harslett family made was to Penrith into the first home owned by my parents. All the other homes had been company houses. The Penrith house has been lost to unit development so all five houses that I grew up in have gone.

After I left school I worked for a few months as a bookkeeper with the Army but soon started work at Penrith library and studied for my Certificate in Librarianship at Sydney Technical College, at Ultimo.

For a couple of years after I married I travelled with my husband Jim through Britain and across Europe.

I stayed at home with the children for ten years and used that time to gain a BA in Information Science which gave me an entry back into library work.

I've worked in company libraries, school libraries and public libraries and for a year I was a TV lady at Hornsby Hospital.

While working at Hornsby Library, I took an interest in the local history and genealogy and commenced work on a Graduate Diploma in Local and Applied history at the University of New England. After gaining that qualification, I worked as librarian in the Local Studies Section of Hornsby Library.

Jim and I now have two grandchildren and still live in the same house at Hornsby that we purchased when we returned from Europe.

Scandals, Crime and Corruption

The History Council chose *Scandals, Crime and Corruption* as the theme for this year's History Week. In tune with this theme, our Display cabinet outside the Rooms has information on some of the crimes committed in Ku-ring-gai. Information on them is shown and it would be well worthwhile to cast your eyes over it. Our members, Jocelyn Brennan-Horley and Margaret Hoekstra, assembled and displayed the material and Jocelyn has prepared a summary on one of them - the murder of the cricketer, soldier and doctor, Claude Tozer. Jocelyn writes:

"Dr Claude Tozer was born in Sydney in 1890. Educated at Shore and Sydney University, he proved to be both an excellent student and a talented sportsman. His prolific scoring in grade cricket brought him to the attention of NSW Cricket but he did not accept invitations from NSW selectors because of his devotion to his studies. After graduating in 1914, Claude enlisted in the Royal Australian Army Medical Corps, serving at Gallipoli and the Western Front, rising to the rank of Major and being awarded the Distinguished Service Order.

Claude returned to Australia in 1918, resuming both medicine and cricket. In cricket, he was named NSW captain for the game against Queensland scheduled to start on 1st January 1921 – sadly this never happened.

On 21st December 1920, Dr Tozer paid a house-call to his patient, Mrs. Dorothy Mort, at her home in Lindfield. He had been treating her for depression and suicidal tendencies and whether her consultations had been strictly for medical purposes, or whether there was a more serious relationship that surpassed the "doctor-patient" connection it is not known. However, the supposed reason for Claude's visit was to inform her that a romance between the two of them did not exist. Dorothy obviously could not cope with this news and soon after Claude's arrival gunshots were heard coming from the drawing room.

Claude's body was discovered some time later. Dorothy herself was found unconscious, in her bedroom, suffering the effects of narcotics and with a non-fatal gunshot wound. Dorothy was charged with murder. At the trial in March 1921, she was found not guilty of murder, by reason of insanity. She spent the rest of her life in a mental institution.

Claude must have been aware of Dorothy's mental instability. Was his death the result of an error of medical judgment?"



Claude Tozer (Photo courtesy of Shore school archives)

The Gore Hill Biographies

There are many, many fascinating stories on the Society's bookshelves just waiting to be read. Recently we picked up Volume 1 of the Gore Hill Cemetery "Biographies" published by the Friends of the Cemetery. A large number of the entries are about people who had Ku-ring-gai connections and therefore have a special interest to us. Patrick Clarke was just one who caught our eye.

Patrick came to Australia in 1878 and at first worked for Fred Hamilton's Lemon Hedge Orchard at Pymble. He soon acquired his own orchard at St Ives. What particularly attracted our attention was the story of the Clarke family before Patrick came to Australia. We recount its essence as written in the Gore Hill book.

He was born in County Cavan, Ireland, 1855. His father had an estate which had been given to the family in an earlier generation by the British Government. Times were tough for a number of years after the famine in the mid 1850s. Patrick's father (also called Patrick) had a number of tenants on his estate one of whom killed a hare to feed his family. The tenant was to be gaoled for doing so. Patrick's father threatened that if his tenant was sent to prison he would shoot the first Englishman who jumped his hedge when riding in the hunt. Apparently it all happened and Patrick senior hastily took himself to America where he was joined by two of his sons including Patrick junior. They came to have two shops in the centre of New York. Father Clarke died and Patrick junior returned to County Cavan, married Mary McGoldrick in 1876, and then came first to Pymble and then St Ives.

Members of the Clarke family were destined to remain in St Ives and play important roles in the life of the community. One wonders how many of their St Ives contemporaries knew, or know, of the dramatic episode in which the first Australian Clarke had been involved.

The Gore Hill books are certainly worth a lengthy browse just as are so many other books in our Collection.

"Hornsby" – Our Northern Neighbour

Most of us frequently visit or travel through Hornsby and many northern Ku-ring-gaians shop there regularly. The origin of its name is interesting.

The name *Hornsby* comes from Constable Samuel Horne – an ex convict by the way – who, in June 1830 and in company with Chief Constable John Thorn, sought out some reported local bushrangers. They were found near what is now near the Burnside Homes. A fight resulted and Horne killed one of them, John Macnamara. Another, William Dalton, was pursued. He surrendered and was promptly hung. Both policemen were rewarded with grants of land in areas which are now *Thornleigh* and *Normanhurst*. This invites the question "why is *Normanhurst* not called *Hornsby* as one would expect?"

Initially *Horne's Village* developed in the vicinity of Horne's land and later there came to be three small townships in the area – *Thornleigh*, *Horne's Village* and *Pearce's Corner*. When the railway line through Ku-ring-gai was opened, it joined the main northern line on sparsely populated land two miles north of Horne's village. This junction was called *Hornsby Junction* and *Wahroonga's*

Junction Road led to it. The railway station for Pearce's Corner was destined to be named Wahroonga.

This main north line had stations at *Thornleigh* and *Hornsby Junction* but none at the *Hornsby Village* between them. The village people were not happy. Norman Selfe, a civil engineer of note, had land in the vicinity and led a successful move to have a station built at Hornsby village. This was initially called Hornsby and for a time there was one station called Hornsby Junction and another simply Hornsby. This caused much confusion. The people of the old Hornsby village were not at all pleased by having the name Hornsby stolen and given to a place two miles to their north. To cut a long and at times bitter story short, the word Junction was dropped from Hornsby Junction to become the plain *Hornsby* we know today and around which the regional centre developed. The station at the village became Normanhurst in recognition of the work done by Norman Selfe in having the new station established.

Society Newsletters

Our Society receives courtesy copies of many newsletters issued by a number of other Historical Societies and Family History Groups. They contain lots of information on many subjects and are always available for members to read. We strongly recommend that whenever members come to the Rooms they make a habit of browsing through the most recent "offerings". The facts, opinions and research results they contain are not only of value in their own right but can also spark off ideas members can pursue themselves.

This thought came to mind, yet again, when reading a recent issue of the Lane Cove Society's newsletter. There is a tendency for local historians to forget that the histories of other areas frequently overlap their own. The LCHS September newsletter reminds us that Thomas Jenkins, an orchardist and wholesale fruit merchant had a home, Waterview, at Fullers Bridge in the mid 1850s. He had a steamer, the *Nellie*, to carry local produce to the markets. What caught our eye was the newsletter's comment:

"Although this family did quite well out of the district there was still a general reluctance by Sydneysiders to embrace the North Shore as a residential area because of its remoteness and reliance on the river for transport. Major bushfires across the north of Sydney in the 1850s, 1860s and 1870s, but particularly the 1859 fire which burnt out a huge area from Hornsby to St Leonards, did little to attract settlers to the area."

We are inclined to forget that fires have been frequent occurrences over the years. Indeed it was one such fire in January 1850 which totally destroyed the Roseville home of the second Richard Archbold. Has anyone researched the story of bushfires in Ku-ring-gai?

Religion In Early Ku-ring-gai

At one time much of Ku-ring-gai was included in the area known as Lane Cove. The Sydney Gazette of 25 February 1841 recorded its belief that Lane Cove "has long been notorious for the resort of disreputable people". This statement has been quoted many times.

Religion is a civilising influence so it is not surprising that its role in fashioning Ku-ring-gai's community has been the subject of many written words in our local history. Some are reasonably extensive reports, others less so. As a general rule the various religions were introduced by

travelling clergy who conducted services in private homes or other suitable places such as schoolhouses. Church buildings did not come until later nor did ecclesiastical appointments.

The Anglican Reverend Charles Dickenson (based at St Anne's in Ryde) began visiting Gordon once a month from c1839 with services in the then Lane Cove school near where Gordon's St Johns Church is now. When the school burnt down in 1865 services were at private homes such as those of James Pymble and James Terrey.

Methodist services were at a private home from 1842 and then at a hut where the Sawyers Arms Hotel had been opposite Fiddens Wharf Road. A church-cum-school opened in the Ravenswood grounds in 1855.

The significant number of church-going Roman Catholics living in Ku-ring-gai were visited monthly from c1852 by the Reverend John Ignatius McClennan who came from Ryde. The location of these Masses is not clear. In 1863 a small weatherboard school was built on Pymble Hill and doubled as a church. It was later replaced by a stone building. Early Ku-ring-gai people such as Michael Bourke, Richard and Michael Porter, John Brodie and Peter Gilroy were involved with the Church.

Presbyterian services began in 1895 at the Pymble home of Duncan Carson with the Reverend James Marshall as minister. A wooden School Hall was built on the Highway opposite the railway station and opened for worship on 9 June 1895. Reverend Marshall continued to conduct the services. A new stone church was opened there in 1907.

The Seventh Day Adventists came to Wahroonga in the 1890s and had religious meetings outside or in a tent. They were later moved to the Sanitarium built in 1903. A wooden church was opened on the site in 1912.

A Congregational Church opened at Five Ways in Killara in 1902 and a Jewish Synagogue in Treats Road, Lindfield, on 15 September 1957.

With the advent of so many churches we can safely assume that "Lane Cove" is no longer notorious as the resort of disreputable people. Can we?

Governor Phillip Memorial

Have you ever noticed the bust of Governor Phillip in the small park in Gordon opposite St John's Church? The park is officially known as Heritage Square. The bricks on which the bust stands came from what was left of Phillip's farmhouse at Lyndhurst in England's Hampshire. They are just some of a large number Mr and Mrs Cottee of Pymble brought to Australia for use in conjunction with the 1988 Bicentennial. The majority were incorporated into the "Arthur Phillip Memorial Bower" in the Botanic Gardens. The remainder were used in a number of smaller memorials including the one at Gordon.

More Themed Streets

In our August issue we listed a number of Ku-ring-gai streets with "linked" names. There must be many and we now have another set - this time in South Turramurra and named after aviators. They are all Avenues - Hinkler, Ulm and Kingsford. Do you know others? Perhaps you could let us know of Ku-ring-gai streets linked by the "given names" of family members. For example, Richard Archbold (*Archbold Road*); Gerald Archbold (*Gerald Avenue*); Mary Archbold nee Oliver (*Oliver Road*) and Marjorie Archbold (*Marjorie Road*). All these are in Roseville.

FAMILY MATTERS

Family History Meeting 3 Oct 2009

11am Session

15 members greeted Jo Harris on her return from travels in WA. She showed us new Computer resources:

New Zealand Burials Locator

NSW Government Gazettes (new addition 1854)

Old Register 1-9, 1793-1824

2pm Meeting

Jo chaired the afternoon meeting attended by 33 members.

Tours

Tumut Tour, Oct.31-Nov.2, is fully booked, full payment now required. Visit to State Records, Kingswood, Fri.20 November, \$52, group limited to 25. (was originally proposed for the 13th November)

Seminars, Conferences

Carolyn Darby attended a lecture on the history of the Art Gallery. Jenny Joyce gave a report on the State Conference of Family History Societies of NSW and ACT held in Wyong 19-20 September 2009.

Book Reports and Publications

Jenny Joyce spoke about *Time Travellers Guide to Medieval England*, and *1215*. Stella Green described and donated two books by maritime historian Peter Plowman - *Migrant Ships to Australia and New Zealand 1900-1939*, and *Australian Migrant Ships 1946-1977*.

Magazine

The latest issue of *Australian Family Tree Connections* has an excellent article on 'Old Registers 1-9, 1793-1824'.

Cemetery Visit

Catherine Williams described her recent visit to Gundagai, and the grave of bushranger Capt. Moonlight.

Guest Speaker

The guest speaker, Vic Winterfeldt, gave us the dramatic and intriguing story of being "A Baltic Refugee". He was born in 1939 in Tallinn, Estonia, where his father was a prosperous businessman. Estonia had been a battleground of many countries for at least 1000 years. Independence was declared in 1918 and the country was prosperous for 20 years. Following an infamous pact just before WWII between Germany and Russia, Estonia was occupied by Russia and then Nazi Germany. Then it was under Russian occupation from the end of the war until the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991.

Estonia is about the size of Tasmania and has a population of 1-1½ million, about ½ million of whom live in the capital, Tallinn.

After the War started, Vic's family escaped to Berlin just before the border closed. Here they experienced the Allied bombing of the city and his father had lifelong nightmares. At one point he was taken to a concentration camp where he shovelled manure. Near the end of the War, the family went to Bavaria and were working on a farm when US Forces arrived.

After the War there were more than 11 million displaced persons in Europe. The family applied for Australia, the process took two years, but eventually they sailed from Bremen with 2000 passengers on a converted German destroyer, the first ship sponsored by UNRRA. Soviet agents in the crew sabotaged the engines and water, resulting in a 3-month voyage. Passengers had only three cups of water per day.

The family arrived in Sydney in 1948 and went by train to a former Air Force camp at Bathurst. Men had to go to the work allocated, and Vic's father was sent to the Water Board to dig ditches. Very soon he bought land at Hornsby, built a garage to live in, and later several houses. Vic went to Hornsby primary school, then Homebush High School and University, did engineering and became shire engineer on the Murray.

While Vic still has a great love and admiration for his old country, he is also a proud Australian.

The raffle of pre-loved books was won by new member, Lyn Gardiner, who chose "Living Stones".
(from notes by Stella Green)

Wyong Conference

Recently Max Farley, Jenny Joyce & Jackie van Bergen attended the State Conference of the NSW & ACT Association of Family History Societies at Wyong. It was a very worthwhile weekend, with a number of fascinating speakers, and we have included some information about one of the talks in this newsletter. Next year's conference will be held on 17-19 September at Bomaderry on the South Coast. It is highly recommended that our members attend that conference.

National Library of Australia

The Wyong conference included a talk by Tom Foley of the National Library of Australia (NLA) on some of the resources they have available, including the eResources on their website <http://www.nla.gov.au>

- Digitised maps, posters, photos
- Oral histories – to listen to and even download

If you are a registered National Library user, i.e. have a library card (you can apply online), then you can access over 65 licensed products including:

- 19th Century British newspapers
- 19th Century UK periodicals
- 17th – 18th Century Burney collection newspapers
- Newspapers & Periodicals 1685 – 1815
- London Times Archives 1785 - 1985

If you go to the library you can access:

- Origins network
- Ancestry library
- World Vital Records
- SMH from 1955 to about 1990

Newspaper Digitisation Project (NDP)

www.nla.gov.au/ndp

A free online service where you can search Australian newspaper articles from the 1800s to mid 1950s. By 2010 there will be about 40 million searchable articles.

This text is searchable due to OCR software and there are many errors, so initiative and logical thinking are necessary for searching articles. The newspapers are often old and some have deteriorated so text is sometimes hard to read. You can correct text by clicking on the "fix this text" box and following instructions. You can "Tag" articles, i.e. connect articles on the same topic or person. These tags are not set by the library but by users/searchers.

TROVE = a new discovery service for Australian resources (<http://sbdsproto.nla.gov.au>)

This is still in prototype form and the Library is seeking your feedback. Using this you can search a huge range of resources at the same time, including:

- Libraries Australia – catalogues of all Australian libraries, including academia
- Pictures Australia – over 1.5 million images from 49 Australian and international collections
- Music Australia – music and biographies of musicians
- Pandora – Australia's web archive

My experiences with the NLA websites:

NDP:

- found a lengthy court transcript of my great-great-grandfather's divorce from his first wife, with family details, including birthplaces, children's details, other family members and places they had lived and worked as well as lots of juicy details.
- found a marriage notice for a great aunt who the family had believed never married and I hadn't been able to find on Digger either.
- found a sale notice of the estate of another great-great-grandfather detailing his farming land and stock, his house, contents and many other items.

TROVE:

- found the diary (in the library of the Royal Historical Society of Victoria) of my great-grandfather's cousin detailing aspects of their families lives in the 1880s, including a family holiday to India.
- found the same cousin's wedding photo and we didn't even know he was married!
- found the death notice of my grandfather in 1944 and all the wonderful tributes from others that no-one in the family had kept.

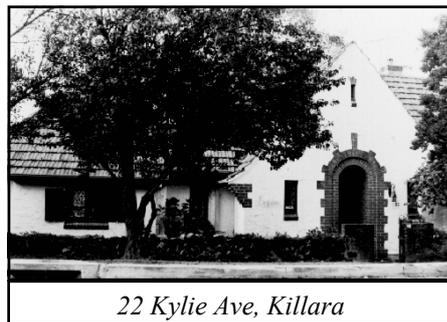
Peter has put the link to TROVE on our intranet so please use it. As one volunteer said when I showed her what it could do "we'll all be eating out of cans for the next month" – hours of fun and fascination! Don't forget to provide feedback on the site to NLA please.

Jackie van Bergen

BUILT HERITAGE

Prevost & Ruwald, architects

Recently I was asked whether I knew of any projects in Kuring-gai by architects Reginald Prevost (1887-1942) and Cyril Ruwald (1895-1959). The



Greengate Hotel and 8 Boomerang Street are well-documented examples, but I was able to locate about a dozen more.

Both men served in World War I and were employed at one time or another by *Tulkiyan* architects Waterhouse & Lake. Their partnership lasted from 1924 to 1935. Raymond Synnot was a partner until 1930. Documents from this period and the later sole practice of Ruwald are lodged at the Powerhouse Museum and can be viewed online. These reveal that the practice designed many, if not all, the hotels Tooths had built in Sydney, Newcastle and Wollongong during the 1920s and 1930s.

Prevost lived in the eastern suburbs. In the 1910s his mother lived in Roseville Avenue and in 1912 his brother Richard, a medical practitioner, built 132 Pacific Highway, Roseville, which he used as a surgery and home until his death in a car accident in November 1914.

The Ruwald family home is at 7 Russell Street, Lindfield (built 1922). Ruwald is best known for the Greengate Hotel, which he designed in 1939/1940. The Powerhouse collection, however, contains plans he drew up in 1948 for a hotel on the highway at Lindfield – obviously never built.

Commissions included: alterations to GP (Paddy) Dwyer's house at 539 Pacific Highway; 16 Mildura Street, Killara for Dr WW Ingram; 6 Lonsdale Avenue, Pymble for barrister Thomas S McKay, MLC; and 5 Montah Street, Killara, for ND McIntosh, QC (Mayor of Ku-ring-gai 1939-1941).

Prominent clients included: politician Percy Spender (8 Boomerang Street, Turramurra); City of Sydney head librarian William H Ifould (1405 Pacific Highway, Turramurra, demolished); jeweller George Proud (11 Rosebery Road, Killara, altered); stationer George Sands (5 Powell Street, Killara); The Hon JF McGrath, MLA, (9 Amaroo Avenue, Wahroonga).

Two delightful examples of Prevost & Ruwald's work are in Kylie Avenue, Killara: numbers 27 for AF McDonald and 22 for WR Slack. These are both listed on Council's LEP, as are 8 Boomerang Street, 6 Lonsdale Avenue and 31 Water Street, Wahroonga.

Take a drive around and have a look, but also have a look at the Powerhouse website. It's absolutely wonderful that the Ruwald family have donated all this material for everyone everywhere to view.

Copy for Newsletter

General copy for publication should be sent to Acting Editor, Graham Lewis (graham.lewis@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 please to welcome the following as new members:-

Sue Gale	Lindfield
Yvonne Hall	Killara
Chris Eyde	Pymble
Lynne Gardiner	North Turramurra
Roy Lawrence	Wahroonga

Answers to Quiz (see page 2)

1.	Ravenswood
2.	Abbotsleigh
3.	PLC Pymble
4.	Killara High School
5.	Turramurra High School

Volunteers Needed

We are grateful to the new volunteers we received at the reunion of the Thursday 2009 group, but we always need more.

If you don't feel you can become a room volunteer, there are many other areas where your help is needed. These range from Newsletter folding to taking notes about the speakers at general meetings and indexing old copies of the *Pymble News*. If you can help please contact a committee member.

COMING TOUR TO TUMUT

October 31 to November 2

One double room for a couple and a single room available due to last minute cancellations

Full cost is \$430 per person plus \$48 per night single supplement

If you are interested please contact Jo Harris ASAP on 9489 4393

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. This year we will close on 19 December and reopen on 11 January 2010.

Diary Dates

Sat 31 Oct - Mon 2 Nov	Tumut Tour
Fri 6 Nov	1:30pm Search Ku-ring-gai workshop
Sat 7 Nov	11:00am Early Sydney Research
	2:00pm Lee Shrubbs - From Vienna to the North Shore
Fri 20 Nov	9:00am Visit to State Records
Sat 21 Nov	2:00pm General Meeting - Ian Bersten, "A Nice Cup of Tea", followed by Xmas party (bring a plate)
Tue 24 Nov	1:30pm Built Heritage workshop
Sat 5 Dec	<u>NO</u> 11am meeting
	2:00pm Xmas Meeting (Bring a plate and an old photo of yourself)

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
Computer Systems Manager	Peter Stehn	9489 9488
Curator	Jennifer Harvey, Ann Barry	

Family History Leader:	Jo Harris	9489 4393
Family History Committee:	Lyn Done	9449 7715
	Stella Green	9449 4388
	Jenny Joyce	9440 2131
	Elaine Turnidge	9899 2635
	Trevor Whitehead	9449 6426

Historian Editors c/- Jennifer Harvey 9489 6390
with Kathie Rieth, John King & Bob Ross

Newsletter - Acting Editor	Graham Lewis	9416 5818
Newsletter - Local History	Max Farley	9499 7113
Publicity	Sue Dunston	9498 8720
Public Officer	Helen Davies	9498 3754
Research Team	Trevor Whitehead, Kevin Callinan, Lyn Done, Max Farley, Jo Harris, Jennifer Harvey & Trish Thompson	
"SNAP" Co-ordinator	Helen Davies	9498 3754
Speakers Programme	Beverley Dunstan	9419 8526
Volunteers Roster	Heather Davidson	9144 1844

© 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.