

## IN THIS ISSUE

### 2 Website and water

The Society's website is online. Greg Upton details what is available to members and visitors.

A letter written to the Sydney Morning Herald by Michael Minnett in 1907 or 1927 shows that water supply is not just a recent concern.

### 4 War trophies

Lt. Colonel L. J. Morshead, commander of the 33<sup>rd</sup> Brigade A.I.F. France, pours praise on a company known as 'The Kurrajongs'.

### 5 The story of Gladys Davis

Part two of Gladys Davis' story covering the years 1929 to 1934 when she would have been 15 to 20 years of age.

### 6 Membership news

We welcome two new members — Rob and Marie Campbell.

Photos of the magnificent fare provided by Loxley for the Australia Day anniversary breakfast.

### 7 Mystery picture

Taken in Lithgow in the very early 1900's. A nice composition worthy of some research and conjecture.

### 8 Dates for your diary

Final reminders for this issue are the general meeting on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> March and the field trip on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> April.

## Australia Day celebrations

VALERIE HOLLAND

Frank Holland, our president, welcomed 72 members and their guests to the delightful setting of Loxley, on Bellbird Hill. He then proceeded to explain some of the history of our traditional Australia Day breakfast. The national anthem was sung prior to everyone enjoying a delicious breakfast, served on the balcony overlooking the Kurrajong landscape. The morning was spent relaxing together and enjoying the varied programme.

The Society's Australia Day award for 2007 was awarded to the late Jean McMahon. Geraldine Tildon, Jean's niece, presented the posthumous award to Jean's daughter, Louise McMahon. Photographs pertaining to Jean were arranged in a frame along with a Certificate of Appreciation from the Society to recognise Jean's dedication to the preservation of the history of the Kurrajong district, and for being the driving force behind the formation of the Society. Joy Shepherd also arranged a display of photos depicting the life and times of Jean McMahon.



Louise McMahon & Geraldine Tildon

Photo: Joy Shepherd

Two other Certificates of Appreciation were presented to Louise McMahon and Paul Maher. Ron Rozzoli acknowledged the special efforts required by Louise as the founding secretary of the Society, and Frank Holland thanked Paul, the owner of Loxley, for his valued support of the Society.

Guest speaker was Louise McMahon. She delivered a passionate address relating to the importance of her late mother's contribution to the preservation of the history of her large family, and the Kurrajong district. Louise stressed the importance that history held for Jean and how she had been the driving force behind the formation of the Society.

Entertainment was provided firstly by Steve Rawling. He accompanied himself on guitar and sang three descriptive poems relating to the Kurrajong district. Steve composed the accompaniments for both items which were written by the former Kurrajong poet, Sid Sheldon. Ian O'Toole gave a spirited rendition of Banjo Paterson's 'Mulga Bill's Bicycle' with Frank Holland doing an impersonation of Mulga Bill. Frank had many people laughing as he rode into the room on a motorised scooter, dressed as he thought appropriate.

The drawing of the raffle saw Les and Anne Dollin win the 'romantic dinner for two', donated by Loxley, and Cathy McHardy was the pleased recipient of a bottle of Margaret River merlot.

The committee is grateful to all those who supported this enjoyable occasion, either by arranging the proceedings, participating in the activities, or helping to arrange the displays. Our thanks also go to the guests of our members who shared the day with us. ■

The Kurrajong - Comleroy Historical Society is dedicated to researching, recording, preserving and championing the history of "The Kurrajong" - the district bounded by the Hawkesbury River at North Richmond, the Grose River, "Cut Rock" at Kurrajong Heights, along Comleroy and Blaxlands Ridge Roads to East Kurrajong and to the Colo River. "The Millstone" refers to the Little Wheeny Creek millstones on display at Kurrajong Memorial Park.

*Logo designed for the Society by artist Tony Dixon*

## Society's Website launched

GREG UPTON, WEBMASTER



The Society has just taken a major leap forward with the launch of its website which can be found at [www.kurrajonghistory.org.au](http://www.kurrajonghistory.org.au). Apart from serving as a major resource for members, it will boost the Society's profile by introducing visitors from all over the world to what the Society represents and does. Members may have relatives or friends living out of the Kurrajong district who can now keep in touch with the Society, and these people, and anyone else from anywhere in the world may now be invited and encouraged to share with the Society any information, photographs or documents in their possession which might relate to the history of the Kurrajong district. In this way the website will serve as a conduit for the flow of information into and out of the Society's archives. It is also anticipated that by introducing many more people to what the Society is and has to offer the website may well serve to steadily increase the Society's membership growth rate.

In developing the website every effort has been made to keep the site simple and straightforward, as it is acknowledged that the audience will comprise many people who are elderly or have had minimal experience and exposure with computers and the Internet. There is a help page on the website which provides information and assistance with the various sections within the site.

The main features of the website are as follows:

- **About us** – A little discussion on the Society's formation in 2001, and details the Society's aims, activities and management structure.
- **Archive** – This section of the website contains archived copies of every issue of *The Millstone* (except the most recent 2 editions) as well as an index of all items held in the Society's library. Under development to include here is an index of the Society's photographic archive.
- **Projects** – Reports from current and past research projects conducted by members.
- **Calendar** – A calendar of the Society's activities and meetings.

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## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

FRANK HOLLAND

This time of the year we start to look to the future and the challenges that lie ahead. To this end the Planning Sub Committee have held our first meeting and reviewed our current and immediate future financial position. This has resulted in a number of recommendations that will be put to the full committee for consideration. Without pre-empting the outcome of those deliberations, I can say that our financial position is sound and we safely predict a surplus of income over expenditure. Some of the surplus will be required to fund future projects and in the long term a larger surplus will be needed if we are ever to achieve premises of our own.

In the previous issue of *The Millstone* I set out the short term goals of the Society. The longer term view is mostly concerned with issues such as —

- Achieving recognition for being professional in our approach to capturing the history of the Kurrajong district.
- Finding a permanent home so that we may display our collection.
- Expanding and refining our website so that a worldwide audience may access and contribute to our history.

It is great to see that the membership of the Society continues to grow. This is one area where everyone can help. Do you have a neighbour who may be interested in our history who is not a member? What about family or residents who may have moved out of the area or are now living overseas? They can keep in touch through the website or become a member and receive *The Millstone*. All it takes is to ask.

Of a more immediate focus, our Australia Day breakfast was a great success again. A group has been organised for the tour of the R.A.H.S. on 13<sup>th</sup> February and another group has started to form for Les Dollin's tour to the Wisemans Ferry area on 28<sup>th</sup> April, and arrangements are in hand for the trip to Wivenhoe near Camden for 5<sup>th</sup> June.

We have a busy year ahead of us and I look forward to meeting as many members as possible, either at general meetings or the various up and coming tours. ■

## Water supply always an issue

AIRDRIE MARTIN

*There has been intense media, political and community interest leading into the State and Federal elections concerning water supply, yet the following letter written on 12<sup>th</sup> November, 1907 to the Sydney Morning Herald by Michael Minnett, shows that the subject has been a concern since the beginning of settlement.*

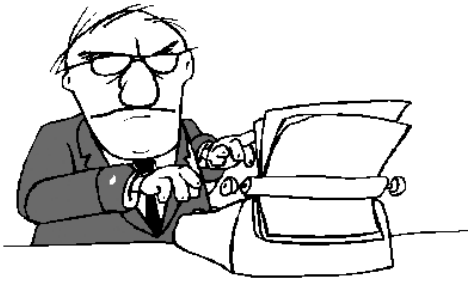
*There is some doubt as to the accuracy of the date '1907' as the Defence Department Aerodrome at Richmond, mentioned towards the end of the letter, was not established until 1921. Consequently has the probable date of the letter as 1927.*

*At the time he wrote it Michael was the head gardener at Admiralty House. In 1919 he bought a property at Kurrajong Heights, on the Bell's Line of Road and named it 'Wotonga'.*

Sir,

May I be allowed to draw attention to the possibilities of the Kurrajong District. It is surely not generally known that here we have a very large area of highly fertile land, situated about 45 miles from Sydney, rising from the Hawkesbury River on the east, extending to the height of 2,000 ft. on the west, from the south where the Grose River flows out from the Blue Mountains, then extending north to the Colo River. In this large area fully 70% of the arable land which could be classed as highly fertile, equal to any in our State, having an average depth of about 2 ft. with a shallow subsoil of clay. Mostly basaltic formation varying from brown to red to black loam about 2 feet deep, then on to a shallow subsoil of clay, then the whole set on shale formation all undulated, thereby giving perfect drainage, all practically with a north or north eastern aspect. In this area is contained possibly the richest most fertile soil within a hundred miles of Sydney, of a brown loamy nature





## From the Editor

The Society has entered the digital age with the launch of our website. Greg Upton's time and effort, with the financial assistance from the North Richmond Community Bank should be applauded by all members, whether they have Internet access or not. Our Society's activities and archive details are now viewable by anyone, anywhere in the world. I recommend all members should make a note of the website's address to pass on to family and friends who might be interested in the history of our district, or might be able to contribute to the Society's archives and activities.

For any not-for-profit organisation to rely on membership fees alone to contribute to its financial health would see those fees increase on a regular basis to match the increased cost burdens. Encouraging more people to join the Society does help and all members should do their bit in growing our membership. The committee has realised that advertising within The Millstone would be an ideal revenue raising avenue.

Starting with this issue readers will notice the inclusion of advertisements from various local businesses. Their generosity in contributing to the income of the Society should be appreciated by all members. Utilise their products and services, or recommend them to family and friends.

notpuc@ozemail.com.au

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Historical Society Incorporated**  
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### COMMITTEE

**President** Frank Holland  
**Vice President** Kathie McMahon  
**Secretary** Valerie Holland  
**Treasurer** Joy Shepherd  
**Minutes Secretary** Pat O'Toole  
**Committee Members** Airdrie Martin, Marguerite Wyborn, Robyn Fuller, Pat O'Toole, Steve Rawling AM

**Projects Officer** Steve Rawling  
**Acquisitions Officer** Valerie Birch  
**Millstone Editor** Chris Upton  
**Webmaster** Greg Upton

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averaging 24 inches deep. Its aspect giving shelter from the westerly winds possessing a temperate climate both winter and summer, sufficiently far removed from the seaboard to escape the humidity that prevails there.

Here we have the ideal position for the production of fresh vegetables for the Sydney markets to supply the needs and requirements of a large and growing population. The expanding city, within the recollection of most, has compelled the producers of fresh vegetables to move further out to carry out their occupation. It has reached the stage now that vegetables are put on the Sydney markets from as far afield as Adelaide, Hobart and Brisbane. Vegetables could hardly be classed as fresh by the time it reached the consumer's table.

The early settlers were quick to realize the value of this country and soon had portion of it under wheat, the Colony's vital requirement. Later on citrus fruits were planted here and it was found that this country was excellently adapted for this fruit, and until a few



Michael Minnett & young helper, Robin Peck in the bean patch  
Circa 1937

Photo: Courtesy Joy Shepherd

years ago was the principal supply for the Commonwealth and New Zealand. The oranges grown here are noted for their sugar content, food value and keeping qualities. Of recent years vegetables have been grown principally peas and beans. It was found that green peas could be put on the Sydney markets from here in the winter months, an unknown factor previously.

The growers here of vegetables soon realized how essential it is to have water to apply to growing vegetable crops, although the average annual rainfall here is about 47 inches in the past two years 35 to 36. There were two dry periods, one of six and the other of seven inches monthly. One could not guarantee to produce under such dry conditions, even with the best soil, a continuous supply of vegetables.

The whole remedy for this happening then is water. One's thoughts immediately turn to the Grose River which flows out through this fertile district from the Blue Mountains, unites with the Hawkesbury River at the foot of the mountains a few miles further down it meets the tidal waters and becomes brackish, useless for applying to the land.

The catchment area for feeding this fine river is in the heart of the Blue Mountains called the Grose Valley. I understand that it contains neither a human habitation or a head of stock, composed of sandstone country, therefore a natural filtration bed giving a pure water supply equal to any in the State. I respectfully request that consideration be given by the Government to the possibility

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# Kurrajong war trophies

VALERIE BIRCH

*Extract from the Windsor and Richmond Gazette 16 May 1919*

During the time that he occupied the Presidential chair of Colo Shire Council, Councillor J. E. McMahon received a rather mystifying letter from Colonel Morshead, who commanded the 33<sup>rd</sup> Brigade, A.I.F. in France. The letter stated that two machine guns captured by the gallant 33<sup>rd</sup> had been allocated to Kurrajong Shire. Cr. McMahon was doubtful whether the trophies were intended for Colo Shire, or the Kurrajong district which forms part of the Shire, so he wrote to Colonel Morshead in January last for more specific particulars. He has just received a reply, a copy of part of this letter we give to the right, in which he speaks highly of the brave "Kurrajongs", one of whom, George Cartwright won the Victoria Cross.

Bhurtpore Barracks, Tidworth, England. March 4, 1919.

My Dear Councillor McMahon, your letter of January 17 reached me yesterday. When I allocated a proportion of the war trophies captured by the 33<sup>rd</sup> Battalion I had in mind the various centres from which my men enlisted. Practically the whole of one company came from your district, and they have always been known as "The Kurrajongs". They did magnificently, and the Battalion has always been very proud of them. One of them Private George Cartwright won the V.C. I thought that as Kurrajong had been so worthily represented, the trophies should go to that town.

We could not send trophies to all the places from which our men came, had the war lasted longer we should have been able to do so. Those trophies, sent to you were for the Kurrajong district, and as to their disposal I leave that entirely to you and your fellow citizens.

Yours very sincerely,  
Leslie J. Morshead. Lieut.-Colonel. ■



Private George Cartwright V.C. 1918

## George Cartwright VC

Private George Cartwright was awarded the Victoria Cross for 'most conspicuous bravery'.

On the 31<sup>st</sup> of August 1918, at Road Wood, France, George attacked an enemy machine gun which had held up two allied companies. He shot three of the team, bombed the post, captured the gun and took nine prisoners.

He was wounded in September 1918, hospitalised and returned to Australia in March 1919. ■



Lieutenant General Leslie Morshead  
London, England, circa 1942

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- **Membership** – Benefits of joining the Society, how to join, membership rates and a downloadable application form.
- **Sponsorship** – Lists the Society's sponsors and supporters, and details how the Society can be supported.
- **Search Site** – A handy facility to search for anything included on the site, including anything published in any issue of *The Millstone* and (when available) any archived photograph.
- **Links** – Web links to neighbouring historical societies and other sites which may be of interest to members and visitors.

The website will grow and change as the Society grows and changes. Comments and suggestions about the form and content of the website are encouraged from members and visitors and may be submitted to the webmaster from any page accessed within the site.

The Society gratefully acknowledges the North Richmond Community Bank branch of the Bendigo Bank in providing support to develop the website.

North Richmond Community Bank®



## EDITOR'S NOTE

As the Society and *The Millstone* are history related, readers might be interested in the following Internet link –

[www.w3.org/History/19921103-hypertext/hypertext/WWW/TheProject.html](http://www.w3.org/History/19921103-hypertext/hypertext/WWW/TheProject.html)

Don't include the hyphen within the word 'hypertext'. Here you will find the world's first ever Web page. ■

We are at present tracing the soldiers from WW1 who had connections to the Kurrajong district prior to enlisting in the war. If they lived here or went to one of the schools in the area we would appreciate the names of these servicemen. Please write to the Secretary or phone Val Birch 4573 2346 if you can help with this project.

# Gladys' story

GLADYS VINCENT

## Part two 1929 – 1934

I left school when I was 13 and worked on the farm with my father. I was paid 5 shillings a week. I loved my father and we worked hard, but had fun times too. There were tennis courts, mini golf where the theatre is now. We also went swimming in the Hawkesbury River, and went to dances. This was the Great Depression years, money was scarce. If you had a Bank Account you were only allowed to draw a small amount each week.

On my 16th birthday Mum and Dad gave me 3 pound deposit on a Bebarfalds sewing machine. I had to pay so much off it each week My allowance was then raised from 5 shillings to 6 shillings. I did plain sewing for different people in the district to earn extra money.

Around this time a group of girls called "The Happy Club" used to meet once a week in the hall at the "Fiveways". My best friends were Nellie Hawkins and Dot Hodgkisson. I enjoyed "The Happy Club", the girls were nice. We had sewing lessons, dances, concerts etc. I was bridesmaid for Nellie Hawkins at St Marys Cathedral. I was also bridesmaid for Lillian Knight – she was a Barnardo girl who came from England. She married Philip Males at Colo Church.

Dot's father had the post office at "The Fiveways". The post office was called "Sterculia", aboriginal for "Kurrajong". Later the hall we met in was moved to St Stephens. It was the Sunday School hall.

My first boyfriend was Alf Kemsley. He lived down the line between North Richmond and Kurrajong station. He would come up on the train and we would walk up the hill and go to church at St Stephens. Sometimes we went to the pictures in Hart's Hall. Alf's sister Winnie taught me to crochet, later I crocheted a lot of doilies for my glory box.

It was at a dance, Christmas 1929, when I met my first husband and father of all of my children, Les Taylor. He winked at me across the hall, then asked me to dance. We won the "Spot Dance". He got a packet of cigarettes, and I got a box of chocolates. Three years later we were married and had our 50th anniversary just before he died.

Our neighbour Jim Horan and his son Bob lived next door. He had a truck and January 1930 we all went to Palm Beach and camped – and enjoyed it! Les came with us.

Les lived with his Mum and Dad, Bert and Edith Taylor in Baileys Lane, Netley Hill (now called Kurrajong Hills). They had a farm. He worked with his father, and sometimes for other people. To get money for our engagement ring he stripped a lorry load of wattle bark. It cost seven pounds, ten shillings – I still have the receipt. We were engaged Christmas 1931. Les and his friend Harry Lord had motor bikes and would come to see us. Once I was persuaded to go for a ride on the back of Les' bike. Only once! My Dad said "No way!"

Our wedding was planned for January, 1933. Our Minister, Rev. H. B. Dillon was leaving the district and asked could we have it earlier. As we were very fond of him and wanted him to marry us we decided on 24 December, 1932. As ready made dresses were too expensive to buy, we bought the material and I made them.

We planned to have the reception at "Bonnie View" on the front verandah. So the day before we set it all up, cut branches off trees to close it all in and have everything just right. That night heavy wind came and blew it all down. Mrs Farlow our friend had a guest house across the road from us. She very kindly said we could use her closed-in with glass windows verandah. So it turned out alright after all.

Dad's sister, Aunty Jean King made our beautiful wedding cake for a wedding present. She lived in a suburb of Melbourne. She and her husband decorated cakes for a living. They had one son.

Les' father lent us his car for a week to go on our honeymoon. We went to "Bungool Farm", which is now called "Riverside Oaks", catering for all kinds of parties, and has a large golf course. We had a small tent, mattress, bedding etc, primus stove, frypan, saucepan, enough crockery and cutlery for the two of us. We camped on the side of the river. There was a small shop which sold milk, drinks, lollies etc on weekends and holidays to picnickers. There were also toilets. My Mum made us a small Christmas pudding. It was our first Christmas away from our homes. We missed our families, but enjoyed being by ourselves for a few days. After five days it rained very heavily, so we had to go home. We went back to Bungool several times later.

Les' brother Harold and sister Edna were both married and lived elsewhere. We moved in with his parents and had our bedroom and small kitchen on one side of the house with part of the verandah.

The farm in Baileys Lane wasn't big enough to keep two families, so Les rented a place called "Timberinga" on Hermitage Road and grew beans, peas and potatoes. He and his father worked both properties on halves.

Les' brother Harold and wife Thelma were living on the Lowlands where he was growing vegetables. He had a lot of peas and beans that Spring (1934) and had to put pickers on. Les and I were part of the team and were the "Gun Pickers", picking faster and more than anyone else.

The Harbour Bridge was opened in March 1932. Les and his brother Harold were among the first to walk over it.

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Bridal party – Les Taylor & Gladys Davis wedding, St Stephen's Kurrajong, 24th Dec 1932.  
L – R: Les & Gladys Taylor, Harold Taylor, Irene & Gwen Davis, Roy Dunston and Lillian Davis.

Photo: Joy Shepherd



# MEMBERSHIP NEWS

## New members

VALERIE HOLLAND

### Rob and Marie Campbell

We wish to welcome new members Rob and Marie Campbell and thank them for providing the following information.

Rob came from Scotland to Sydney in 1964, accompanied by his first wife and four children. He was employed as a Naval Architect, in charge of the Design Sections of the Australian Shipbuilding Board, until his retirement in 1981. This was followed by his operating as a consultant to the marine industry, until finally retiring in 1987.

Marie married her first husband in England. She came to Australia to live in 1954, and has three children. Marie worked as a librarian, latter as a school librarian.

Each was widowed in the 1970's. Rob and Marie married in Sydney in 1980, and moved to the Hawkesbury in 1992. Their first home was in Stone Terrace, Kurrajong Hills and after enjoying ten years there, it was time to 'down-size' and they moved to Kurrajong Village.

They have travelled widely, both overseas and within Australia. Their retirement interests are travel, reading, music, retirees' welfare, church and the community.

Rob and Marie look forward to meeting members of the Society at meetings and visits. ■

## Australia Day's fabulous feast at Loxley

PHOTOS: ROBYN FULLER



Continued from page 3

of storing the waters of the Grose River in the Grose Valley not only for the purpose I have suggested above, but for further use in a city that in the very near future will become the second largest city in the British Empire. With water available here the possibilities would not end with being Sydney's kitchen garden. Flowers grown here are noted for their high culture and colour, the number of florist shops in Sydney and suburbs are increasing yearly pointing to a big demand for flowers. Commercial flower growers would be quick to see the advantages of taking up land here. London has its daily flower trains running, in the near future it will be required here. It would also be the ideal country for nurserymen for the propagation of fruit trees, ornamental trees, shrubs and roses which is a growing industry.

The Government has already a railway running into the centre of this country, giving a good service and very moderate rates, and no doubt would be willing and able to lift a hundred times the quantity of produce offering at present.

In a direct line running from here towards Sydney are the growing towns of Richmond and Windsor adjoining which are the Defence Department's Aerodrome also the Hawkesbury Agricultural College, all of which would welcome an assured and pure water supply, which would be available from the Grose Valley by pipeline.

The Water Board no doubt would be glad to supplement the present water supply to Sydney from the Nepean catchment area to Prospect dam and if considered practical could continue on the pipeline from Windsor as previously suggested in this letter, continue the same on through the Hills District to Hornsby.

I respectfully suggest that the government may give consideration to the above proposal. It may be found on investigation that it would be quite practical to impound the waters of the Grose Valley. If so it would be the means of providing a large number of our people with a continuous, profitable and happy living.

I am etc.

*Michael Minnett*

## Mystery Picture

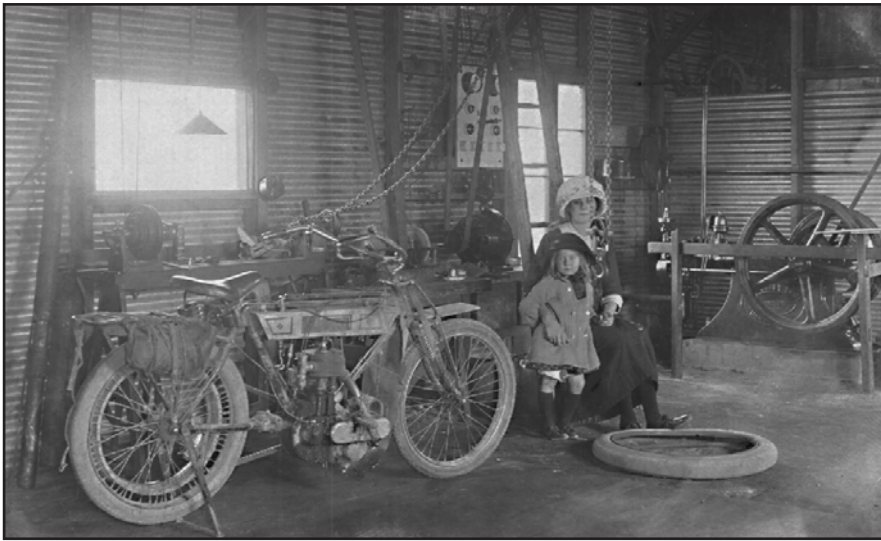


Photo: Harry Bennett



### **R. F. Lean & Sons, Lithgow**

CIRCA 1910 – 1920'S

There is no doubt that this photo was taken inside the workshop of Richard Lean in Lithgow. There is no record however of the identity of the two females, the motorcycle or the occasion.

An exterior photo of the workshop, dated 1918, shows it constructed from corrugated iron. A photo from 1924 shows it was enlarged and constructed with bricks and mortar. This would date the photo no later than 1924.

The bike might help to identify the photo's earliest possibility. Feedback identifies the motorbike as either a 1910 /11 New Hudson or 1910/11 Bradbury. Regardless of brand, both correspondents agree to the earliest date of manufacture, 1910. They also mention that the bike has been highly modified – the front mudguard has been removed and replaced with a home-made item, the rear mudguard is missing, the footboards and pegs are either missing or customised, and all lights have been removed.

The exhaust has been broken off, there is considerable oil leakage evident, the bike is plastered in mud and there is obviously a tyre repair in operation. This indicates the bike is in the workshop for some necessary repairs. Whether it is a local bike or one passing through town is another matter.

R. F. Lean and Sons not only sold, serviced and hired motor vehicles, they also did general engineering work. There is a good possibility that Kurrajong and Comleroy residents either purchased motor vehicles from R. F. Lean and Sons, had their car serviced there, utilised the workshop for its engineering expertise or visited to purchase spare parts.

A positive identification of the two ladies would be nice. Any details or recollections of the business, its owners and employees would also be appreciated. Feel free to forward anything you think which might be of interest to the editor. ■

## Feedback

Jan – Feb '07

Nell Downes was able to identify the three gentlemen in the cricket team photo on page 4 of the January issue, 'Richmond A grade 1934'.

The gentleman on the left is Mr. McKitcher, the Sportsmaster, the one in the centre is the Headmaster, Mr. Giovenelli, and the teacher on the right is Mr. Riley.



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## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

VALERIE HOLLAND

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My grandmother Avenger Ann Davis died on 24 June 1933. Then our baby daughter was stillborn on 21 September, 1933. Mrs Howard was the midwife, Dr Steele the doctor. I had a bad time and they couldn't cope and had to call in another doctor.

In January 1934 Les and I plus my family went to Bungool Farm again to camp. Heavy rain again and the river flooded. Water surrounded us and we couldn't go home until the river went down.

Les used to swim out in the river and bring in watermelons, pumpkin etc that were floating by. Also go from corn cobs from the underwater corn.

May 1934 I had an ectopic pregnancy and spent some time in hospital. It happened because I was so badly knocked about with my first pregnancy.

Children used to walk to school then, and home again in the afternoon. Now they go by bus or parents take them. I am amazed at the amount of cars morning and afternoon at Kurrajong School.

Netley Hill post office was on the corner of Bells Line of Road and Hermitage Road. It is now only a fallen down building.

Grimwood brothers had the Picture Theatre in March Street, Richmond, also in Harts Hall Kurrajong.

Arthur Minturn had the taxi service and Mrs Minturn a shop in Kurrajong over 60 years ago. They had a son Norman and daughter Connie. ■

### Monday 26<sup>th</sup> March

A daytime general meeting. The guest speaker will be Chris Coffey, who has for eight years been researching and collating the history of 'big cats' in the Hawkesbury and other areas of New South Wales.

She will be assisted in her Powerpoint presentation by Karen Dillon. Chris will be happy to answer any questions regarding this interesting subject.

The meeting gets under way at 2:00PM in the Tebbutt Room, Deerubin Centre, Windsor. A gold coin donation would be appreciated to cover the cost of the afternoon tea which will be served.

### Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> April

Les Dollin is organizing a one-day field trip in conjunction with the Dharug and Lower Hawkesbury Historical Society. We will be guests of that Society and taken to places such as the ruins of James Singleton's water mill, a convict stockade occupied during the building of the Great North Road, and the recently restored Wesleyan Chapel at Gunderman.

Meeting time will be 9:30AM at Polly's Munchies, next to the wharf at Wiseman's Ferry. Cost will be \$10.

Bookings to Joy Shepherd by 29<sup>th</sup> March on 4571 1524.

## LATE NEWS

A Certificate of Achievement has been presented to Kathie McMahon for her assistance in helping to form the Kurrajong Comleroy Historical Society and for her work as the inaugural President.

As Kathie was unable to attend the Australia Day anniversary breakfast to receive this award it was presented to her at the committee meeting held on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February.

If you would like to promote your business, place a notice or advertisement within *The Millstone* please contact

**The Secretary**  
PO Box 174  
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Helen Lord's wedding 16th March 1921

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- Western Sydney Vocational Excellence Award for Help & Support for School-based Trainees 2005
- Highly Commended Western Sydney Industry Awards for Regional Excellence in Outstanding Regional Promotion 2005
- Highly Commended Western Sydney Industry Awards for Entrepreneur of the Year 2004
- Winner Western Sydney Industry Awards for Tourism Most Outstanding Contribution to Western Sydney Tourism by a Small Business 2003
- Winner Western Sydney Industry Awards for Excellence in Tourism, Meetings & Business Tourism 2003
- Winner HMAA Best Short Break Accommodation in NSW/ACT 2003
- Winner Western Sydney Industry Awards for Excellence in Tourism, Hosted Accommodation 2002