

Kurrajong – Comleroy Historical Society Newsletter

The Kurrajong – Comleroy Historical Society is dedicated to researching, recording, preserving and promoting the growth of interest in the history of the Kurrajong district, the area west of the Hawkesbury River bounded by Bilpin and the Grose and Colo rivers

THIS ISSUE

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John Kelly's fond memories of two local guest houses of the 1930s and '40s, *Mountain View* and *Kamilaroi*.

4 Louisa Atkinson

Lesser-known facts about one of Kurrajong's most famous residents, summarised from Steve Rawling's Australia Day presentation.

5 Leonard Daniels

Part one of Betty Upton's article on the life and times of a truly remarkable man and Kurrajong's longest serving Anglican minister.

7 Mystery photo

Chilean nitrate of soda propaganda, Lim Everingham, Koowong Estate and some valuable feedback on previously published photos.

8 Dates for your diary

Final reminders are the field trip **Hidden Secrets of the Blue Mountains** Tuesday, 11 March and the **general meeting** Monday, 31 March.

New Members

The Society would like to welcome the following new members

JENNIFER & TERRY KING
MARGARET STEER
BEVERLEY & PHILLIP
WOODMAN

Australia Day breakfast

JOY SHEPHERD



Photo: Paul Hulbert

Sixty participants enjoyed a sumptuous KCHS Australia Day breakfast at the Kurrajong Heights Hotel. Some came from afar, notably Joan and Richard Peak from Mount Tamborine, Queensland and Phil and Bev Woodman from Newcastle. The MC was David Griffiths and John Thorp led a rousing rendition of the National Anthem to commence proceedings.

The major Australia Day award from the Society was presented to Vera Bentvelzen. In presenting the award Ron Rozzoli gave some background information into Vera's research into the forty-seven Soldier Settlement properties established in the area after the First World War. Vera has produced a comprehensive book in two parts, *Diggers' Hill* and it was for this publication she received the award. The profits from the sale of this book have been split among various community and charitable organisations.

A Certificate of Achievement was awarded to Rod and Wendy Gow for their book *Hawkesbury Heroes*, produced in two volumes and another to Val Birch for her book *On the Kurrajong*.

President of Kurrajong – North Richmond Rotary, David Brown, accepted a post-humous Certificate of Appreciation on behalf of artist, the late Tony Dixon. His book *The Black and White of Kurrajong* was produced by Rotary in 2001 and raised funds for Youth Off the Streets and Kurrajong Rural Fire Service. Tony passed away in May 2007.

Following breakfast, guest speaker and member of the Society Steve Rawling gave a talk and slideshow presentation on Louisa Atkinson, the famous early botanist of the Kurrajong Heights area giving some new insights into her life.

Guests were treated to an early viewing of the Society's new coffee table book due for release in early February. Those present who had preordered the book were put into a draw and a few lucky people managed to get an early copy.

Ian O'Toole, of Hawkesbury Radio Museum, entertained with some clips of the old radio shows and in particular George Edwards of Dad and Dave fame causing much amusement. The Society's bookstall did a brisk trade, as well as the raffle for the Australia Day hamper of goodies. This was won by Rob Campbell.

The occasion was also the celebration of the Society's seventh birthday. So much has been achieved by our members in that short time and we look forward to another exciting year in 2008. ☼

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

FRANK HOLLAND

Valerie and I were disappointed that we were unable to attend the Australia Day breakfast this year. We tried to organise our holiday so as to avoid being away but had to make changes to allow for our daughter's commitments. From all accounts that I have received and the report in the Gazette the day appears to have been a resounding success, so thanks are due to all those who played a part in the running of the event. Particular thanks go to Steve Rawling as guest speaker, Ian O'Toole for entertainment and David Griffiths for carrying out the MC duties. Special thanks to Joy Shepherd for arranging the major award and to Patricia O'Toole for organising the raffle. Airdrie Martin made the arrangements with the hotel and I thank her for standing in for me on the day. I hope that I have not left anybody out, if so, my apologies.

I also record my congratulations to those who received awards. Firstly to Vera Bentvelzen, a very much deserved recognition for her efforts in capturing the history of Soldier Settlement in her book *Diggers' Hill*. Valerie Birch, Rod and Wendy Gow also deserved recognition for their research and publications. Although a posthumous award, Tony Dixon's book *The Black and White of Kurrajong* captured many well known landmarks of the district.

Whilst on the subject of awards I should say something about the selection process. Last year we established an awards sub-committee comprised of two members who are not serving on the committee and one member of the committee who chairs meetings. The two non committee members use a detailed set of criteria to examine each nomination to determine the appropriate award level. Their recommendation is then forwarded to the committee for final ratification. Any member of the Society can nominate a person to receive an award. This is done by setting out the reasons for the nomination in a letter to the secretary supported by appropriate documentation. The work of the sub-committee is time consuming, exacting and taken very seriously and I personally thank the members of the sub-committee – Ron Rozzoli and Max Doyle.

As 2008 commences we now turn to coming events not the least being the delivery of *Glimpses of the Kurrajong*. As I write, the book is being printed and should be available shortly. I know that the book sub-committee has worked hard to achieve our first Historical Society publication and I am sure that we will all be impressed. Well done David and Jenny Griffiths, Paul Hulbert, Valerie Birch and Airdrie Martin. I believe this will be the first of a number of publications that the Society will produce over the years to come.

The Finance and Planning sub-committee will be meeting this month to review the 2007/08 budget and make recommendations for consideration by the committee and members.

With some members researching various projects and others planning and organising field trips and outings we are a very active Society and it is no wonder that we continue to increase our membership. There has always been support and much goodwill present in the Society and I think we can now say that we have become an effective team.

Well done everybody!



Australia Day snapshots



Nathan Brooks & Vera Bentvelzen's daughter Stephanie

Photo: Paul Hulbert



Phil & Bev Woodman from Newcastle and Jill Renaud

Photo: Paul Hulbert

**Kurrajong - Comleroy
Historical Society Incorporated**
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Kurrajong Oasis

JOHN KELLY

During the 1930s and 1940s I found an oasis at Kurrajong. My first visit there was in the early 30s. The Depression was being experienced and a few of us were keen to have an inexpensive holiday. We decided to book in at Mountain View, a Kurrajong guest house on the Comleroy Road.

After the train trip from Central to Strathfield, onto Richmond and finally to Kurrajong by a smaller train, we were taken by taxi to Mountain View. Mr John McManus owned the taxi and had a busy time transporting guests and their luggage.

The Irish family of McMahons offered good board and comfortable beds with primitive facilities in regards to showers and toilets, they were placed away from the homestead.

You made your own fun. Tom and Carrie McMahon and their children were about our age and we had musical evenings. Horses were available for the guests. Some of these were ridden bare back.

Tom and Carrie McMahon had four children - Horace who worked in Sydney, Marie whose married name was Vincent and lived in the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area, young Tom who was my age and the youngest child Madeline.

Kindness was experienced by the family and the guests who stayed there. My elderly father enjoyed a weekend holiday with us there in '41-42'. Tom was killed in a car accident on the Comleroy Road Kurrajong. Mountain View was a home away from home and I am sure the McMahons had some free-loaders, they helped Mr McMahon on the farm.

The young men from the Richmond Air Base made Mountain View their second home when on leave and Madeline married a War Ace named Todd. His skill in manoeuvres during the 1939-1945 War earned him the nickname of *Foxy Toddy*.

How well they fed their guests! Boarders made their own entertainment with family, sing-a-longs, card games, etc. The home-cooked meals made it home away from home. By the time we had a larger family Mountain View was sold as Mr and Mrs McMahon had died.

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Windsor and Richmond Gazette
3 October 1896

In the 1940s our next stop was Kamilaroi guest house at Kurmond on the main road to Kurrajong Heights. Kamilaroi was more upmarket with inside bathrooms and toilet facilities and a tennis court. It was run by a young sister of Mr McMahon, a Mrs Navin. She had the gift of making all guests fraternize. There was a guest who asked Kathleen, my wife, to act with our children in a slapstick comedy film. He called it *The Kellys on Vacation*. In the film the proprietor did not want us there. We, like the Kelly gang, pushed our way in. The fade out of the film showed us being held at gunpoint to open our bags and give back the goods we had thieved/purloined, mainly linen and silver.

When we made the film he asked us to a screening at Double Bay but we were unable to go. As he was going to New Guinea to show the film to the troops, we thought, "bad luck we will never see the finished film". Some weeks later I ran into a repair man at Wynyard and lo and behold it was the 'Confidence man Les' who made the film. I said, "Fancy meeting you, Les". He looked shocked and said, "My name is James and I don't know you". He grimaced towards the manager's office. Fortunately for him the manager was not within earshot and Les, now named James told me he had a new life. He had changed his name. I asked him whatever had happened to the film, *The Kellys on Vacation*. He said "Would you like it?" Seeing as we had supplied the corny humour, I said "Yes". He said, "It will cost you ten pounds".

At the time it was quite a lot of money, but I went back and bought it. Some years ago, when on respite care here at McQuoin Park, I told mother Philomena Ryman RSM about the film and showed it to her and others on the level two television. Mother Philomena had a good sense of the ridiculous, and the slapstick comedy gave us some laughs.

The names of some of the other guest houses of those simple days come to mind, e.g. Goodwindi, Rosend Hui, Garryowen and Greendale. They were of an era that has passed. ❧

Note This article was published in *Mercy Moments*, a paper produced by *The Sisters of Mercy*. Sister Josephine McMahon, a cousin of Vince and Marcia McMahon sent them a copy. Their daughter, Geraldine Tilden, has forwarded it for the benefit of all members and readers.

The Mountain View in this article should not be confused with the residence of the same name owned by the Peck family. The Peck's property was elsewhere and burned to the ground circa 1932.

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Louisa Atkinson

STEVE RAWLING AM



From the Editor

I was fortunate to have been sent a CD of the many photos which Paul Hulbert took during the Australia Day breakfast. While browsing through them I could not help but notice the number of younger people who attended, such as Nathan, Stephanie and Jill pictured on page two.

In years past Australia's history and heritage was shunned by the younger generation, but these days they are becoming more aware of the importance of its preservation and the personal benefits one can gain from a better understanding of our ancestors and local areas. As none of us are getting any younger it should be a high priority for the Society and its members to interest the young in how we may help them gain a greater appreciation of their past.

Leonie Atkinson's letter, published on page six, is a good example of how Greg Upton's efforts in setting up and maintaining our Website is bearing fruit. Her praise of his work and the information she was able to find while browsing through the site should be testament enough that this is the ideal medium for encouraging the younger generation of 'Web surfers' that active participation and membership of KCHS could be of benefit to them.

notpuc@bigpond.com

There is a lot known and written about Caroline Louisa Waring Atkinson, (later Calvert), who is in my view by far the most interesting and accomplished person ever to have lived at Kurrajong Heights, and probably in the whole of the Kurrajong district. Several books, many articles and the booklet issued in 1979 by the Kurrajong Heights Garden Club on the occasion of the establishment of the memorial in Powell Park for example. The Kurrajong Heights Action group, a community group with a substantial cross-membership with our Society, is working on an additional memorial to be placed on Bells Line of Road as part of the Botanists Way.

It was very appropriate to talk about Louisa on Australia Day as she was a great Australian – a currency lass, born less than fifty years after the establishment of the colony who accomplished much in a tragically short life.

While they are well known it is worthwhile to remember some of her achievements. She was an outstanding botanist and plant collector, a conservationist, very conscious of the fact that it took little time to clear a forest but much longer for it to regenerate, an early advocate of the use of native fruits, a correspondent with leading scientific figures of the day, Australia's first published woman novelist, Australia's first woman newspaper columnist, a natural artist and illustrator of rare talent. It is one of a number of fascinating symmetries in the Louisa story that one of the country's leading botanical artists, Elaine Musgrave, lives and works within two hundred metres of where Louisa lived.

It is less well known that she was a skilled taxidermist – many of her impeccable illustrations of native fauna were drawn from specimens which she herself stuffed and preserved.

All of these accomplishments were displayed by a woman who had no formal education beyond the age of twelve. Much of the credit must go to her mother, Charlotte Barton, who travelled to Australia to take up a position as governess to the children of Hannibal Macarthur. She never turned up for that job having met James Atkinson on board, and spent her married life at Oldbury, in the Southern Highlands where she bore her children. After James' death, just after Louisa's birth, she made a disastrous second marriage (her husband was convicted of murder) and took responsibility for the education of her children. She is believed to have been the author of the first book on child care and parenting published in Australia.

As if all the things listed above were not enough, Louisa also worked tirelessly in what we would now call community work in her six years at Kurrajong Heights. Her friend William Woolls wrote:

"She visited the sick, gave counsel to the perplexed, and was kind and gentle to all; whilst her affection for the children of the district was manifested in her anxiety to secure for them the advantages of education. She not only felt a deep interest in the daily life of the neighbourhood but in a period when ministerial visits were few and far between, and the district did not possess so many religious blessings as it now does, she established a Sunday School in her mother's house and taught a large number of children herself.

Continued page 7

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The Reverend Leonard Daniels

Rector of St. Stephen's Church of England, Kurrajong 1941 – 1959

— BETTY UPTON —

St Stephen's Anglican Church at Kurrajong was built in 1868/9 atop Bladey Grass Hill on land donated for the purpose by Alfred Jones and John Lamrock, two prominent local landowners. Since its separation from the Richmond parish in 1873 St Stephen's has had seventeen incumbents and of these the longest serving was Rev Leonard Daniels BA who held the living for eighteen years, 1941 to 1959.

During the period of his residency in the Kurrajong parish he was well-known as the 'Flying Parson' having introduced light aircraft as a preferred mode of transport in his first Australian post, a missionary of the Bush Church Aid Society in the remote and extensive parish centred at Wilcannia.

Len Daniel's successful use of his plane to cover his vast parish inspired Rev John Flynn, moderator of the Presbyterian Church in Australia, to introduce the Flying Doctor Service of Australia in 1928. Rev Flynn did not pilot his own aircraft, Len Daniels did. Len was a true pioneer in this field.

Most material available about Len Daniels concentrates on his 'Flying Parson' days. His autobiography has very little to say about his personal life before his arrival in Australia. However, the few snippets available from various sources do give an insight into the courage and strong faith of this interesting and sincere man.

Leonard Daniels was born on 8 November 1891 at Bitterne, an eastern suburb of Southampton in southern England. There is no mention or hint of siblings and his parents must have had very modest means. Len speaks himself of depending on scholarships to educate himself to be an efficient teacher.

He took an active interest in the local church, was a choir member, organist and Sunday School teacher and was inspired by the energy and commitment of the various vicars, curates and church army officers who passed through the parish. One young curate gave Len six weeks intensive coaching in Latin to enable him to take an Arts degree at London University. Against his parents wishes he was drawn to take Holy Orders himself but had no idea how it could be done. His parents probably wanted and expected him to utilise his remarkable musical talent and become a professional concert pianist.

As well as his strong desire to enter the Church, in his early years Len had developed a passion for flight and to pilot one of the exciting new flying machines making an appearance on the scene. He had seen Louis Bleriot, the French aviator



who made the world's first over-the-ocean flight on 25 July 1909 from Calais to Dover. There was Charles Stewart Rolls, of Rolls-Royce fame, the first aviator to fly across the English Channel and back non-stop in June 1910. Rolls died in a flying accident in 1910 becoming the first British pilot fatality. Len mentions others: Colonel S. F. Cody, Graham White, Commander Samson and so on. All heroes to him.

Len had two very strong ambitions: to become a parson and a pilot. He had no idea how to achieve either or both.

After completing his schooling at Taunton's School in Southampton Len went on to London University graduating with a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1913. His first teaching post was at Sheerness High School in the county of Kent, followed later as a resident master at Andover Grammar School in Hampshire. For anyone who knew the kindly Len it is impossible to imagine him giving any errant schoolboy 'six of the best'.

Following the outbreak of war in 1914 Len enlisted in the army, the Devons, and was sent to India. While there he applied for a transfer to the Air Force. This was eventually granted and he, along with other cadets, spent two months in training at a hill station in northern India before being drafted to Egypt.

Following the Armistice and before travelling home, Len was persuaded by the unit padre to fill in a form offering himself as a candidate for the Anglican ministry. Being an ex-serviceman he would be eligible for government assistance in meeting most expenses. In due course, following an interview with the Bishop of Southampton his application was approved and he entered Salisbury Theological College to train for the ministry.

On Tuesday, 21 December 1920, St Thomas' Day, Leonard Daniels was ordained by the Bishop of Winchester at Farnham Castle in the county of Surrey. One long-held ambition was realised at last.

Continued next issue

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From The Archives

Congregation at St James Church of England



Photo courtesy: Geoff Taylor

Back row (L–R): Robin Peck, Lindsay Diggins, Phil Peck, Joan Gardener.

Mid row: Mrs Cootes, Mrs Connie Peck, Mrs Daniels, Revd Daniels, Thea Hughes, Mr Hulme-Smith, Geoffrey Taylor, Les Gunning, John Gunning.

Front row: Myrtle Gillham, Mrs Doyle.

Cricket News



COMLERoy ROAD C. C. v H. A. COLLEGE C. C.

At the invitation of the former team the College lads journeyed to Comleroy to try conclusions, and, after a most enjoyable and exciting game, succeeded in winning by 5 runs. Excellent bowling and fielding on both sides kept down the runs, and some of the cracks would do well to take a few hints from the McMahon brothers, who have no end of talent. For the winners, Harris, Wallach and Hurley were the most successful with the willow, and Smith and Sidney with the ball. Sproul was the only one to make a stand for the losers, whilst the same player, together with Buckingham and Matheson, were very deadly with the ball. At the conclusion of the game the two teams were entertained at a sumptuous dinner by Mr and Mrs T. McMahon and family, and the College lads proved themselves even more at home than at the wicket. Dinner being finished, dancing and singing were kept up till 12 o'clock, when a start was made for home, the Collegians being fully satisfied that they had never spent a more enjoyable day.

Windsor & Richmond Gazette
26 September 1896

Letters to the Webmaster



Congratulations on your wonderful, wonderful work with maintaining the history of the area as well as maintaining access to all this material on the World Wide Web.

My mother's parents were Darcy and Alma (Dolly) Shepherd who owned the property originally known as Dural View, with the massive Bunya pines at the gate on the eastern side of Comleroy Road.

There was always a debate if it was "Dural View", from "dural" meaning "burning log" or "Dual View" - the views in both directions from their place on the ridge, back across the Hawkesbury and across to the mountains were beautiful.

Darcy lived his entire life in Kurrajong. As a young man he cut railway sleepers at Kurrajong Heights and later became an orchardist at East Kurrajong and Comleroy, with a lease of crown land connecting his properties.

My mother, Edith Atkinson and her sisters Alma Johnston, Nancy Potts, Carol Powell and Doreen Bentley grew up on Bull Ridge. Darce and Dolly moved higher up to their property on Comleroy in 1960 where they built the red brick house next to and north of the site where the old inn and guest house stood.

I can remember the sign for the "Colonial Wines and Spirits" sold at the old inn hanging up in his old tin shed. I can also remember finding charcoal and many pottery, crockery and glass fragments from the burnt-down colonial-era inn.

I spent lots and lots of time with Darce and Dolly on Comleroy Road when I was growing up.

Darce used to take me on drives around the district pointing out different sites, who lived where and what they used to get up to. He also owned the cricket ground where the school is now. The dam at the bottom of that paddock was fed by a permanent spring and it was an invaluable block in dry times.

My mother Edith has just got herself hooked up to the Internet so I'll point her to your site. She has lifelong connections with the district obviously and she's good friends with the Rozzolis, for instance.

Going back to reading your newsletter now. Thanks again.

Leonie Atkinson

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Continued from page 4

Great was the anxiety which she displayed in the cause of education, and equally great was her desire that the children should be kindly gently treated. Well do I recollect the concern which manifested when a former teacher at the Kurrajong had been too severe with some of those which she termed 'her children', and well do I recollect the little conspiracy which she entered into with me to render him more merciful for the future."

We do not know how she fitted all of this in with the demands of a nineteenth century domestic life. We must remember that she and her mother came to Kurrajong Heights for her health – she was frail and a consumptive. How she managed the rigours of all of her plant collecting adventures, clambering up and down creeks and gullies, riding astride rather than side-saddle, scandalising some, is difficult to comprehend.

Perhaps one of the least known facts about Louisa is that she was an investor and land speculator. In her biography of Louisa, Patricia Clarke records that she wrote to her lawyers in 1867, two years after her departure from Kurrajong Heights, asking them to sell some shares and to invest in two stone houses in Darlinghurst. But after reading the financial news, she wrote that "... the share market was much depressed, and that she would not wish to sell her shares at a sacrifice", so she cancelled the deal.

Patricia Clarke records a discussion with her granddaughter, Janet Cosh, as follows:

"[Louisa] left 200 acres at Bilpin – which she (or her mother) bought because they thought the train line would follow Bells Line of Road through the north of the Blue Mountains rather than through Katoomba to Lithgow. [Her daughter Louisa] only found out about the land when it started to be rated. She later sold it for a very small amount to a farmer nearby who wanted to enlarge his acreage."

The mention of Janet Cosh leads to another nice symmetry – in her later years living in the Southern Highlands, Janet Cosh developed a keen interest in botany and became an important plant collector in her own right, eventual bequeathing her plant and book collections to the University of Wollongong, where there is now a Janet Cosh Herbarium. ☞

Next issue: Where did Louisa live?

MYSTERY PHOTO



The mystery with this photo is not so much its content but rather what is on the back of it. This image is a small portion of the larger original photo.

Written on the back by hand is "Lin Everingham who managed Koowong Estate for many years". It is also stamped with "The Chilean Nitrate of Soda Propaganda".

A search on the Internet found reference to a book, *The Australasian Vegetable Growers Manure Guide* published by The Chilean Nitrate of Soda Propaganda, Sydney 1919.

Perhaps readers might be able to shed more light on why Lin is holding a sign stating "no manure" and possible connections with Chile.

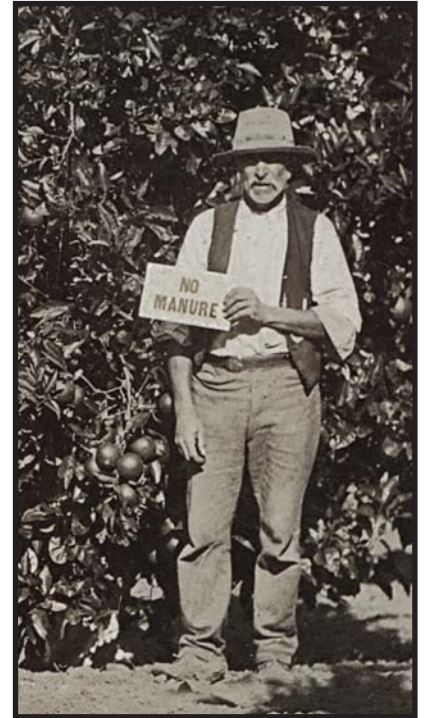


Photo courtesy: Thelma Groch

Feedback



Tellings' general store

Jan–Feb 2008, Page 5.

There has been considerable discussion concerning the identity of the two ladies. Joan Mullins thinks that the lady on the right is Gracie Shepherd, later Mitchell whereas Dorothy Simmons thinks it is Gracie's sister Pearl. Joan tends to recall that Gracie may have worked at the store at some stage.

In either case the date mentioned, the 1920s, would be incorrect and most likely the 1940s.

Bulga Road relief workers

Nov–Dec 2007, Page 7.

Dorothy Simmons is adamant that the young lad in the back of the truck is Cliff Simmons, her husband Dennis's eldest brother. The other two men were not related to him and the photo was taken by Ted Simmons, Dennis's father.

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

VALERIE HOLLAND

Tuesday, 11 March

IMPORTANT NOTE: The date of this trip has been changed to Tuesday, 11 March.

Hidden Secrets of the Blue Mountains will be a fascinating journey of discovery, led by Les Dollin and will reveal some of the hidden history along Bells Line of Road to Mount Wilson. What mysterious factors attracted settlers to the Kurrajong, Bilpin and Mt. Wilson areas in the early 1800s? Come on a day trip of exploration to discover the hidden secrets that so influenced the earliest colonial settlement of our region.

The trip will begin at 8.30 a.m. at the Blaxlands Ridge old school house, next to the fire station, 227 Blaxlands Ridge Road where Les will give a short presentation. Everyone will then be given the chance to car pool before moving on to visit Diamond Hill. The next destination will be The Fruit Bowl at Bilpin for morning tea: apple pie and cream with tea or coffee. Another fascinating destination will be a rare opportunity to visit the Hungerford home, *Sookaboomi* at Berambing.

At Mount Wilson we will be given a private viewing of the Mount Wilson Museum housed in the old Turkish Bath House, with a guest speaker from the Mt. Wilson – Mt. Irvine Historical Society. The Society will also guide us on a tour of the historic village.

This field trip is bound to be popular so please book early to avoid disappointment. Wear comfortable shoes and bring lunch and some water. Tea and coffee will be available during lunch at the hall at Mount Wilson.

Cost for the trip includes morning tea, entry to the museum, tour of the village and use of the hall for the lunch break. Cost per member is \$20 and for non-members \$25. It is expected the day will conclude at approximately 3.00 p.m.

For bookings and details phone Valerie Holland 4573 2226 or Joy Shepherd 4571 1524.

Monday, 31 March

The general meeting will commence at 7.30 p.m. at the Kurrajong Radio Museum operated by Ian and Patricia O'Toole, 842 Bells Line of Road, Kurrajong. After the meeting Ian will give a short talk about this interesting museum. Supper will be served so a gold coin donation would be appreciated.

For further details phone Valerie Holland 4573 2226

Tuesday, 13 May

We are arranging a guided tour of the Powerhouse Discovery Centre, the Powerhouse Museum's collections storage facility at Castle Hill.

Even though the day is some months away please let us know if you would be interested at the earliest opportunity as it would help the museum staff to facilitate our visit.

Cost per member should be \$10. Further details will be published in the next issue of *The Millstone* or you can contact Valerie Holland 4573 2226 or Joy Shepherd 4571 1524.

Glimpses of The Kurrajong

This book is now available for purchase. It is a showcase of the very best of the photos from the Society's archives and includes many then and now photos. It is printed on high quality paper and is professionally bound. The book is a must have for anyone interested in the history of the local district.

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- Winner of Parramatta Regional Awards for Business Excellence in Customer Service 2007
- Winner of Parramatta Regional Awards for Business Excellence in Customer Service & Chairman's Choice Award 2006
- Winner of Western Sydney Industry Awards for Regional Excellence in Outstanding Service 2006
- Winner of Parramatta Regional Awards for Excellence in Sales & Marketing 2005
- Winner of Western Sydney Industry Awards for Excellence in Tourism, Meetings & Business Tourism & Most Outstanding Contribution to Western Sydney Tourism by a Small Business 2003
- Winner of the HMAA Best Short Break Accommodation in NSW for 2003
- Winner of Western Sydney Industry Awards for Excellence in Tourism, Hosted Accommodation 2002