

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

3 Your heritage under threat

The 'Heritage Ammendment Bill 2009' has been passed into law by the NSW Parliament. Many concerns were raised during the Bill's debate

5 Family history group

Carolynne Cooper gives an update of the current activities of the group: early settlers, the Scarecrow Festival & families being researched

Tennyson post office

Mary Avern has passed many documents to the Society. Amongst these was someone's memories of the post office which used to be located at Tennyson

6 The weddings of Westbury

Many wedding receptions have been held at the property Westbury by generations of the Dunston family. Joy Shepherd gives details of some of them and the property

8 Dates for your Diary

Final reminders for this issue are the midyear dinner which will be held at North Richmond Panthers Club on Tuesday, 28 July and the visit to the Riverstone Historical Museum on Monday, 3 August



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Kurrajong Heights railway gatehouse

DAVID MACDONALD, ROB MCINTOSH & DOROTHY ELDER

Why, and how, has a railway level crossing gatehouse been built on Warks Hill Road, Kurraiong Heighte? Road, Kurrajong Heights?

This gatehouse was originally located at a level crossing approximately one kilometre south of Moss Vale railway station. It was built in 1867, a time when the expansion of the railways was an integral part of the settlement of NSW. The two main lines at this time were the western line heading over the Blue Mountains and the southern line from Granville to Goulburn. These two lines were built from 1855 to 1870.

Railway gatehouses were built adjacent to level crossings and faced the railway line. The job of the gatekeeper was to open the gates whenever people wished to cross the tracks, either in their vehicles or when they were moving stock, provided there was no train in sight or, according to the timetable, immenent.

There were at least twenty-four similar gatehouses built during the 1860s, fifteen on the western line and nine on the southern line. Some were demolished or fell into ruin but others still exist today.

During the 1970s the level crossing at Moss Vale was closed and the gatehouse was no longer occupied. It fell into disrepair and was often vandalised. It was later listed for sale in a government publication at a nominal price of \$250, on the condition that it would be demolished and removed from the site.

This was noticed with interest by Bruce MacDonald, owner of the Goulburn Steam Museum, and his son David and they were not at all deterred by the conditions of the sale. David had located land at Kurrajong Heights which was available and the environment of rocks, gum trees and crisp air seemed the ideal location for a stonewalled, iron-roofed building.

After purchasing the gatehouse it was photographed in great detail and each sandstone block was numbered. After the preparation was complete the building was dismantled and loaded onto a truck for delivery to its new site. This was no mean feat as some of the blocks weighed two and a half tonnes. It took two weeks of hard labour and two full truckloads to relocate the blocks and a further two years to reassemble the jigsaw.

David purchased a caravan and placed it on site and with the help of two stonemasons, previously employed at Old Sydney Town, he set about the task.

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The Moss Vale gatehouse in its current location, Kurrajong Heights looking west over the Blue Mountains

www.kurrajonghistory.org.au

President's Corner

Valerie and I are back from our holiday in Europe having had a most enjoyable and relaxing journey cruising the rivers from Budapest to Amsterdam and then completing a Baltic Cruise. We were much impressed to observe that everywhere we went great effort was being made to or had been made to restore the heritage buildings of every town and city.

On our return we discovered how heritage issues continue to be downgraded in importance as far as government is concerned. It is disappointing to see that Hawkesbury City Council seems to attach little importance to retaining the Australiana Pioneer Village at Wilberforce. It has been closed for some time with only minimal maintenance and now Council is considering the sale of the site. A likely outcome would be sale to a developer with the consequent loss of the heritage buildings. To my knowledge Australiana Pioneer Village is probably the only collection of its kind in NSW with buildings dating back to early days of settlement in the Hawkesbury. I hope as many members as possible will support the Friends of the Village. Contact chimneycottage@yahoo.com.au

On Monday, 15 June seven members visited the State Archives to carry out some research, regarding Governor Macquarie and some very interesting items were uncovered. The significance of these early documents are currently being further evaluated. Some will be incorporated into various planned events, e.g. October 2009 'Back to the Kurrajong' and of course the 2010 Macquarie celebrations. Well done research team.

By the time you read this the Hawkesbury Model and Hobby show will have been held. We manned a display and sold some of our merchandise and books. Many thanks to those members who volunteered to help out.

Our celebration of 200 years since the first land grants around Kurrajong kicks off at our annual dinner in July with guest speaker, John Brock, presenting historical information on the times and methods of the early surveyors.



Continued from front page

A new series of sills were made and a new threshold was added to the rear of the house. Some of the internal stonework had to be sacrificed as it had crumbled badly and was replaced with bricks from the old brick kilns at Homebush Bay which were sandblasted to match the appearance of the original blocks. All the original timber from the roof and rafters was used. It was so hard that nails from a nail gun would not penetrate it and they had to resort to bolting the frame together. The original floor was not worth moving and a new one was put in place on site. A new pine ceiling was installed as well. An old wood stove was purchased for the kitchen to maintain the nineteenth century flavour.

This project has resulted in a house which blends with its natural settings faithfully reproducing the past and is a tribute to the determination and sense of history of its owner.

The gatehouses built during the 1860s which still exist today are at Valley Heights, Emu Plains, Springwood, Lawson, Medlow Bath, Mount Victoria, Old Bowenfels, Marangaroo, Picton and Werai. The one in Lawson had also been moved. It was originally built at Bull's Camp and rebuilt at Lawson in 1902. The one at Medlow Bath is currently a guest house whilst those at Picton and Werai are privately owned.

The Moss Vale gatehouse was the last one allowed by the government to be sold. At the time the NSW Railways started to become more enthusiastic about the historical value of their properties.

The expansion of the railways opened up many employment opportunities and families often moved as the new lines were built. Charles and Margaret McIntosh and their family lived



Sandstone blocks of the gatehouse being loaded on the truck at Moss Vale for their relocation at Kurrajong Heights



1259 Bells Line of Road Kurrajong Heights 2758 Ph / Fx (02)**4567 7754** Your hosts Anthony Milroy Monique Maul Seasonal menu

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Margaret & Charles McIntosh circa 1890. From 1873 to 1906 Margaret was the gatekeeper & Charles a ganger

at various locations such as Campbelltown, Windsor and Towrang, near Goulburn, before moving to the Moss Vale railway gatehouse in 1873.

Margaret was employed as the gatekeeper and Charles as a ganger. The ganger was in charge of a group of men who maintained the railway tracks over a given distance and in those days it was generally from five to ten miles. It was often the case that a husband and wife would be employed in such roles with the gatehouse provided as living quarters and part of the remuneration.

During the next fifty years the McIntosh family would see around eighteen to nineteen family members living at the gatehouse at some stage. Five new members were born there, three died and eight were married during this period. All this in a gatehouse which was eleven metres wide at its widest point.

The relocation of the gatehouse caused considerable challenges for Dorothy Elder and Rob McIntosh, descendants of Charles and Margaret, as they sought to find their ancestral home. Not knowing it had been moved 150 km it appeared to have disappeared into thin air. Searching for details using the Internet proved fruitless but a chance phone call led them to a relative who happened to have an old magazine article on the move. Further assistance was provided through the local knowledge of KCHS members.

It was a wonderful day for Dorothy and Rob, along with their eldest brother Alan and Dorothy's husband Roly, when they walked down the driveway of David's property and saw their ancestral home, lovingly cared for and in its full glory with the 1867 plaque proudly reflecting the morning light.

The authors are most grateful to the following for their assistance with this article

Margaret Clarke and Barbara McLean great granddaughters of Charles and Margaret, Peter Neve of NSW Railways, David Baxter and the Berrima District Historical & Family History Society

Your heritage under serious threat

CHRIS UPTON

On 13 May 2009 Kristina Keneally, the Minister for Planning, introduced the Heritage Amendment Bill 2009 into the NSW Parliament. The Bill included amendments to the Heritage Act 1977 and the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979. It was passed by both houses on Friday, 5 June.

The amendments to these Acts are significant and during the period the Bill was being debated many groups and individuals expressed alarm at the possible consequences of its implementation.

The Executive Committee of the History Council of NSW released an Executive Summary of the Bill on 18 May. Part of it states:

The History Council of NSW believes that the amendments threaten history's role in heritage and weaken existing heritage protection mechanisms.

The History Council believes that the amendments are retrogressive and could easily return the State to the pre-heritage legislation era when there was widespread conflict over heritage and many historically important buildings and structures were lost. The amendments fail to recognise that since 1977 heritage listing and associated conservation measures have frequently enhanced the economic values of such places. Even more important, historic places provide communities throughout New South Wales with a powerful sense of belonging and identity.

The National Trust of NSW also raised its concerns. Many would agree with their summation that the purpose of the exercise was to reduce a government's liabilities, rather than make it more responsible for the preservation of our heritage. The National Trust's media release of 4 June states:

Ambiguity introduced by the introduction of concepts such as necessity, economic use and financial hardship as additional criteria for the listing of places on the State Heritage Register.

Lack of references to public involvement while consolidating the minister's power to act unilaterally without reference to either the Heritage Council or community.

The Royal Australian Historical Society's council realised at the outset that the proposed legislation would have a significant impact and threaten the role of the historian in future heritage matters. Their concerns are based on sound principles:

There will be no requirement that a historian is a member of the Heritage Council.

There will be a shift of balance from the Heritage Council to the Minister.

Heritage items listed on local environmental plans will be subject to review by 'panels' with powers overriding those of local government areas.

The amendments passed give final authority on heritage matters to the Minister for Planning. She now has power to remove items from the State Heritage Reigister with no regard to the Heritage Council's objections. As she also has final say on membership of the Council she has free rein.

Kristina Keneally states on her web page that her focus is on urban renewal, land supply, supporting the government's commitment to delivering jobs closer to home, that prior to her election to the NSW Parliament she was a full time mum and her academic speciality is feminist theology. She also makes

RICHMOND.

[We have determined to devote a space of our journal to the interest of Richmond and the Hawkesbury district. It will always be our aim to secure success, as our journal is now circulated far and wide through the county of Cumberland. The Editor will always be glad to receive matters of interest in any way tending to the progress of the Hawkesbury district.]

(From our special correspondent)

Rain has set in here, and the bridge over the Hawkesbury submerged. It is hoped the rain will not check the prosperity of the district, which has been unparallelled for the past three years.

Since the purchase of the Public School ground by the Council of Education, the Presbyterians contemplate erecting a handsomely designed Sunday school on the ground near to the Kirk.

While referring to this building likely to be an acquisition to the town, it is to be regretted of our capitalists, residents in Richmond, that some of their money is not expended upon buildings, whereby the town would be greatly improved, and houses tenantable for the crowd of visitors it has been frequently stated would reside in Richmond for a lengthened period, but for this great need are prevented. Richmond is a railway terminus, and commands very handsome scenery of the Kurrajong. A part of the Blue Mountains lies on the opposite or south bank of the river, which is only two miles from the town.

Through the indefatigable exertions of the late Mayor–Joseph Onus, Esq.– provision by the Executive for a Courthouse has been promised, to afford facilities to the town and district, extending over twenty-five miles. When accomplished, this doubtless will create Richmond the chief town of the Hawkesbury. It has been always the favourite and rival town to Windsor.

The Minister for Public Works has courteously acceded to the wishes contained in a petition from the inhabitants of the Kurrajong and North Richmond, that the schoolboys from these places are allowed to travel free on horseback over the bridge, to attend the Public school at Richmond, presided over by Mr. Wilson. This school is doubtless thus patronised over others for its reported capabilities, in disciplined system and teaching and excellent training of pupil teachers, many of whom now hold lucrative appointments under the Council of Education.

> Cumberland Mercury & Rural Gazette 22 Jul 1876

The opening of the North Richmond Tennis Court took place on Wednesday afternoon before a large gathering. Mrs. P Charley performed the ceremony. Several games were played, and a moonlight concert was held at night, but owing to wet weather there was not as large a gathering as there would otherwise have been.

> Windsor & Richmond Gazette 2 Apr 1904



From the Editor

My apologies for this issue arriving to you a bit late. I have recently moved house and as everyone who has been through the experience would attest it is a process which leaves one with little spare time.

The hours spent cramming to get the issue to press in a timely manner have been helped though by a new work environment. It has the added benefit of extra room for filing stories and articles for future issues, so if you have anything which you think might be appropriate for inclusion in the newsletter forward it to the Society. If the need arises for another filing cabinet it would not be a burden or look out of place.

Two new advertisers have come on board, Lochiel and Kurrajong Cellars. The Society appreciates their financial support and trusts that members pat their backs with patronage.

Included with this issue is an insert which I urge all members to give attention and feedback. It is not compulsory to complete and forward the nomination form for office bearers, but I would highly recommend you do, with considered thought, as it is one of the most important decisions each member can make. The date of birth slip is also not compulsory but with changes to the many laws which cover insurance and liability a more detailed picture of the age of our Society's membership will help ensure the Society meets all its legal obligations.

notpuc@bigpond.com



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KCHS Family History Group

The family history group has been hard at work gathering information on the early settlers on this side of the Hawkesbury River.

In October this year coinciding with the Scarecrow Festival, KCHS will be putting on a display in the CWA hall and the theme of this display is first and early land grants in our district. This display is the lead up to next year's Macquarie Celebrations 2010.

We are also hoping to be able to display some memorabilia as well, so we are looking for items of interest to borrow for our display. Do you have any documents relating to your property showing it as an early grant? Any sort of paperwork or photos are of interest to us.

Among some of the families we are currently researching are Dunston, Peck, Singleton, Eather, Hulbert, Shepherd, McMahon, Ezzy, Douglass and many others.

I am doing my fourth great grandfather James Knell who came to Australia as a convict in 1808. James lived a de facto relationship with my fourth great grandmother and they had three children, James Jnr., Jane and Agnes. Agnes married Joseph Singleton and her half sister Mary Sherland married Benjamin Singleton. I am not going to tell you any more about that at present but let me tell you it is a very interesting story, one of kidnapping, murder and James's life ending very abruptly in 1820.

If you are interested in the history of this area, then come to the exhibition in October where the rest of this story and others will be revealed.

Do you have a story about your family you would like to share? If so we can sit down with you and help you put it together. We are collecting this history so that the generations to come will be able to look back on the way we worked, played and enjoyed living.

Just call 45760356 or email me at seththomas@optusnet. com.au and we will arrange one of our historians to visit you.

Carolynne Cooper - Coordinator

UNSHAKEN IN POPULARITY by the competition of worthless imitations and importations mendaciously represented to be equally remedial or to possess the same properties, Udolpho Wolfe's Schiedam Aromatic Schnapps will soon drive from the fields these trashy competitors. In the meantime the public have only to exercise ordinary caution to get hold of the real article.

Aust - Windsor, Richmond & Hawkesbury Advertiser 21 October 1876



Tennyson post office

Tennyson once had its own post office, on the eastern side of Tennyson Road one kilometre down the unnamed dirt road (near the fire brigade shed). The old home and post office are still standing today on Mr and Mrs Saunders property.

The post office and part-time telephone exchange were operated by Alf and Alvinia Willmott with daughter Betty and sons Dick and Snowy. To save residents travelling to the post office a postal box was located on Tennyson Road. It consisted of a wooden box with a lid and was located in front of the Tennyson school where the Tennyson fire station stands today.

The mail was cleared daily and the run was from Tennyson to North Richmond. The telephone exchange opened around 1917. Local resident Frank Smith had the distinction of having 'Tennyson 1' as his phone number and Abraham McMahon had 'Tennyson 2'. The exchange had three lines and operated from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Because there was no electricity until around 1948 the phones were connected and operated by batteries.

In those days to make a call to Tennyson from Sydney was quite a feat; you would turn the handle on your phone set to your local exchange and ask the operator to put you through to Tennyson 1 and often the reply would be, "Sorry, all lines are busy." or "The exchange is now closed." Mind you, the majority of calls got through.

The cost of a telephone call to Sydney was 8^d for the first three minutes and 6^d for every three minutes after that. There never was a public phone booth but a phone was available for use at the post office.

The post office and telephone exchange gave way to new technology and was closed around 1969.

Courtesy - Mary Avern

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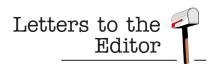
the statement that heritage can be preserved in property redevelopment through a process of adaptive reuse.

Some people could well agree with her, but as the comments in previous paragraphs show many groups and individuals who have considerably more knowledge and interest in the preservation of our State's heritage than she has, do not.

The review of the legislation was undertaken by an 'independent panel of experts'. Their disregard of the concerns of the History Council of NSW, the National Trust, the Royal Australian Historical Society and others clearly shows that the current State Government is placing more importance on development and revenue raising than heritage preservation.



83 Old Bells Line of Road KURRAJONG VILLAGE



Dear Millstone Editor Chris Upton

I was very interested in Betty Upton's article on Garnie Dunston and Clarice Dickson.

I was born on the North Coast at Bangalow and came to Kurrajong in 1946 and married Joe Dunston a nephew of Henry Dunston. Joe's father, Arthur Dunston, being a brother of Henry. Joe's father built Westbury Grose Vale.

We lived at Westbury for some years then moved to Plynlimmon on Grose Vale Road to be near to Joe's dairy.

Whilst living there Clarice used to visit me and help me with different chores with my increasing family.

She was a very gracious and lovely lady. One day in our conversation it transpired that she had been bridesmaid to my Aunt, Vera Flower, who was also a nurse in WWI. I'm not sure if it was in France or Egypt. My Aunt also came from the far North Coast.

It certainly is a small world, me coming from the North Coast meeting up with a lady from Kurrajong who was my Aunt's bridesmaid on the other side of the world.

Clarice never mentioned to me of how she was decorated by King George V or any of the other achievements during her lifetime. That's the sort of person she was. Very humble.

Yours sincerely, Kath Dunston

14 May 2009

The Weddings of Westbury JOY SHEPHERD & OLGA WILLIAMS

The Dunston family was one of the earliest in the Hawkesbury. David Dunston arrived in Australia in 1791 and settled on a land grant in Wilberforce in 1804. A carpenter by trade, he built his home there. Perhaps his interest in the building trade passed down to his descendants.

In the 1830s his grandson John moved to Kurrajong, building a new home at Box Hill, Grose Vale. Many of his sons built large and imposing residences in Kurrajong, which still stand today.

So, when his son Arthur set his sights on Esther, the only child of the Rector of St Stephen's Kurrajong, Rev Maurice Gray, I suppose it was no surprise when he set out to build Westbury. It was built in 1897 on Lookout Hill at Grose Vale, not far from St Stephen's, in preparation for their marriage on 28 September 1898.

According to the family, the pair were a perfect match. Arthur, almost ten years older, was somewhat conservative and retiring, whilst Esther was sociable and outgoing. According to the Windsor and Richmond Gazette of 8 October 1898, "As they were both very popular throughout this district, a deal of interest was taken in the event".

The account of the wedding goes on to detail the magnificent decorations in the church, including ".. the large and handsome arch of ferns and flowers over the chancel, with a large floral bell suspended from the centre; another similar arch over the middle of the aisle, and a great profusion of ferns and flowers and leaves, tastefully and fantastically arranged in the various parts of the sacred edifice."

"Punctually at the appointed time (1 o'clock) the bridegroom, attended by his brother Mr H. Dunston, in the capacity of bridesman, and by Master Horace Dunston his nephew, as second man, entered the church and took their place at the chancel rails." The bride was conducted into the church by her Grandfather, Mr Joseph Daniel of Brisbane, as the marriage was to be performed by her father, and the other clergy present, including Rev R McKeown (Waverley), Rev H Plume (Hornsby) and Rev S G Fielding (Windsor). Esther was attended by her two bridesmaids (Miss Alice Gray of Grafton, and Miss Elsie Thompson of Brisbane) cousins of the bride, and Miss Ilene Dunston and Master Darcy Dunston, niece and nephew of the bridegroom.

"When the ceremony was concluded the bridal party returned to the Rectory, preceded by the two little ones, Miss Ilene and Master Darcy Dunston, who playfully scattered roses on the path before them, while the sweet strains of The Wedding March played on the organ by Miss Dickson, followed after them. During the next hour and a half a reception was held in the Rectory, and refreshments were served out with willing hands to all who would partake of them."

"At 3 o'clock the bride and bridegroom took their departure for Sydney. They drove away from the Rectory amid showers of rice and flowers, and vociferous expressions of best wishes from a large concourse of friends."

So, a family was established at *Westbury*, and over the next few years a family of five girls - Emily, Marjory, Sylvia, Adeline, Eva and two boys - Maurice and Lefric (Joe) were born and raised there. Westbury acquired a tradition of being an 'open house', and the social hub of the district. It became a home away from home for many other family members over the years, and by the 1920s there were four generations living

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• Watercolours • Oil paintings • Etchings • Lithographs

We are open 7 days a week 10:00AM to 5:00PM

101 Old Bells Line of Road **KURRAIONG 2758** Ph: 4573 1683



Sylvia Dunston, Albert Sorby & bridal party outside Westbury 17 January 1931



Cedar Ridge Road



This photo might have been taken along Cedar Ridge Road. In earlier times this part of the district was affectionately known as 'Lil Abner' country. Its eastern edge was McMahon's Creek and the western edge Little Wheeney Creek. The lady seated is Jane Overton, née Mitchell, her husband John Overton is holding the horse and the young man is unknown.

Woodhill & Co Ltd



George Edward Woodhill purchased this building in 1900 and operated it as a general store. He also owned others at Richmond and Nowra. From 1920 to 23 it was refurbished and enlarged. This fact helps date the photo to no later than 1923 as the finished structure differed considerably to the above.



Stitches through Time Australian antique quilts DR ANNETTE GERO

Dr Annette Gero, one of Australia's leading quilt collectors and historians, will give a presentation on the social history behind the creation of quilts. Some original examples will be on display and a slideshow will provide further detail into this lesser-known hobby, one which can tell us much about our past in a very beautiful and creative way

The Tebbutt Room, Deerubbin Centre 300 George Street, Windsor NSW

Sunday 19 July 11.30 a.m. \$15 per person light luncheon included Cheque or money order to:

FOHAC PO Box 462, Windsor 2756 Enquiries: Margaret 4577 4440

Annette's new book 'The Fabric of Society, Australia's Quilt Heritage from Convict Times to 1960' will also be available for purchase. It covers quilts made by convicts, Governors wives, Gold Rush immigrants, wealthy shop owners, dressmakers, church ministers, WW1 diggers and many others. Each story told includes the making of a quilt. It draws on women's memories, diaries, letters, official records, newspaper and magazine articles.

Assuming the photo is circa 1920, and most agree, the men are most likely: Clarrie Farlow seated on the step. Standing in front of the doorway wearing an apron is Ernest Robinson. He managed the store and served customers during short busy periods, donning the apron to protect his 'business' attire. On the right, wearing jodhpurs, is Bensen Robinson. Ben rode a horse as his regular transport and collected orders for the store for later delivery.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday, 28 July

Our midyear dinner will be held at North Richmond Panthers Club and proceedings will commence at 7 p.m. Guest speaker will be the surveyor and historian John Brock, BA Surveying (UNSW) and MA Egyptology (Macquarie University). His subject will be 'Hawkesbury Ho-Surveying Land Grants in the Hawkesbury and Corryjong Areas'.

Cost per person is \$30 and payment should be made to KCHS, PO Box 174 Kurmond 2757.

Final bookings will be made 17 July so please book early. If you have any further enquiries contact Airdrie Martin on 4567 7921.

Monday, 3 August

Meet at Riverstone Historical Museum in Market Street (Main Street opposite the Riverstone Schofields Memorial Club) at 10 a.m. to learn from Clarrie Neil, a member of the Riverstone Historical Society, about the huge enterprise of the former Riverstone Meatworks and its links to the Kurrajong district.

Members may wish to have lunch at the club, at their own cost, after leaving the museum.

There is no charge but numbers are needed. For bookings contact Valerie Holland on 4576 2226.

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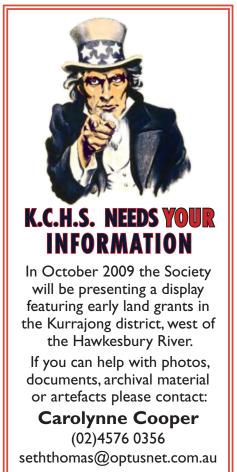
at *Westbury*, including the widowed Mrs Emily Gray from St Stephen's.

Their bonds remained strong with St Stephen's, and over the years through three further generations there were many family weddings at the church, with the wedding receptions held in the grounds of *Westbury*. Four of the daughters, Marjorie, Emily, Sylvia and Eva all followed this tradition.

It is interesting to note in the account of Sylvia's wedding in the Windsor and Richmond Gazette of 6 February 1931, a full account is given of the floral decorations of the church and the garlands carried by the bride and her attendants.

These are attributed to Mrs A F Vincent, and special mention is made of her work on the large floral bell in the church (as mentioned in the account of her parent's wedding). This large wire bell, covered with fresh white flowers, was later the feature of generations of weddings at St Stephen's including my own in 1964. By this time the tradition was carried on by my Aunty Irene Vincent, daughter in law of Mrs A F Vincent.

In 1956 Elizabeth Sorby's marriage at St Stephen's to Anthony (Dusty) Rhodes was one of the third generation of weddings there. To top it off, Elizabeth's daughter Sally Anne Rhodes chose to marry there in 1983. This fourth generation wedding was a double celebration in the family, as Sally Anne's new husband is also a direct descendant of Arthur and Esther, being the grandson of Emily.



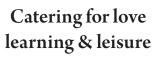
That wedding reception at *Westbury* was a very special one for the family.

Westbury is no longer in hands of the Dunston family. The family still hold on to their memories and are pleased to know that the property is still lovingly cared for.



Weddings Anniversaries Special events Private dining Romantic accommodation

Supporter & member of Kurrajong Comleroy Historical Society





loxley@iprimus.com.au www.loxleyonbellbirdhill.com.au

• Australian Hotels Association Best Regional Mid-market Hotel of the Year 2008 & '09

• Hills Excellence in Business Awards for Excellence in Customer Service Environmental Management & Sustainability 2008

• Parramatta Regional Awards for Business Excellence in Sales & Marketing Customer Service, Chairman's Choice Contributing to the Environment 2005 '06 '07 & '08

- Western Sydney Industry Awards
- Excellence 2002 '03 '04 '05 '06 '07 & 08
- Hotel Motel & Accommodation Association
 Best Short Break Accommodation in NSW 2003

[•] Australian Bridal Industry Academy National Award Best Resort / Motel Reception 2008

Nomination Form Office bearers and committee 2009/10

The election of office bearers plus five (5) members of committee will take place at the Society's Annual General Meeting being held on 28 September 2009. Members are asked to consider and submit nominations for the positions listed below

Position	Nominee's name (please print)	Nominee's signature	Proposer's name & signature	Seconder's name & signature
President				
Vice President				
Secretary				
Treasurer				
Committee 1				
Committee 2				
Committee 3				
Committee 4				
Committee 5				
Hon. Auditor				

This nomination form may be used for a single nomination or for any number of nominations For instance, to nominate for one or any number of the positions listed

Nominations will close at final mail Friday, 21 August 2009

This will allow the list of nominees to be published in the Sept-Oct issue of The Millstone

Completed forms should be sent to

The Secretary, Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society, PO Box 174, Kurmond NSW 2757

To assist the Society in management of the age profile of its membership for annual disclosure to insurers, members are asked to complete this slip and forward it to the Society together with their 2009/10 subscription renewal. Your assistance in this task is greatly appreciated.

> Either hand on to a committee member or post to The Secretary, Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society, PO Box 174, Kurmond NSW 2757

Name	Date of birth (D/M/Y)	
Name	Date of birth (D/M/Y)	

Notice of Annual General Meeting

The KCHS Annual General Meeting will be held on Monday, 28 September at the Comleroy Road Public School, Kurrajong. It will commence at 7.30 p.m.

The business of the meeting is to receive the annual reports and elect office bearers and confirm appointments for 2009/10.

The meeting will be followed by the September General Meeting.

1809 – 2009 200 years since the first land grants in and around Kurrajong

At this year's 'Back to the Kurrajong' display we will be celebrating the contribution made by the early settlers in the district.

On Friday, 23 October Les Dollin will be presenting information about the first land grants and early settlers. Supper will be served.

Over the weekend 24 & 25 October a display of maps will trace development from the first grants to the present day. These will be supported by a selection of family histories and early photographs.

Come and join in the celebration.

Membership renewal reminder

Membership subscriptions for the financial year 2009–10 are now due and payable. The rates have remained the same:

Single	\$25.00
Seniors (75 yo+)	\$12.50
Household	\$30.00
Household senior (75 vo+)	\$15.00

For your convenience an invoice is included with this issue with a handy tear-off slip for return with your payment.

The Society has achieved a considerable amount this past year and the support of members is greatly appreciated.