



KURRAJONG ~ COMLEROY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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**2 Planning meeting**

There was a large attendance at the special planning meeting held in March to review the Society's activities and commitments. Steve Rawling's report gives a detailed summary of all the major topics discussed.

4 Old Kurrajong Heights Hotel water supply

It took two years, 1926-28 and many man hours to put in place the structures, machinery and pipeline to supply the original hotel with water. Airdrie Martin's article gives good detail on the construction and operation of what was a vital piece of infrastructure on the Heights.

6 March general meeting

Patricia O'Toole's summary of the three films shown at the March general meeting. Two of them were related to Governor Macquarie, one regarding his 'chest'. A third gave a good insight into the efforts bullocks and their handlers expended in developing the early colony.

8 Dates for your diary

There are four activities planned to be held during May and June for members and their friends.

New Members

The Society would like to welcome the following new members

JOLANTA WALCZYNSKI
ROBIN WOODS
JOHN WULFF

Autumn heritage tour

SUZANNE SMITH

On Tuesday, 8 April members of the Society set off on a tour led by Carol and Geoffrey Roberts, travelling from Governor Phillip Park, Windsor to the vicinity of The Australia Hotel and the Wesleyan Cemetery, McGraths Hill. Here Carol gave a brief talk on the early years of the Johnston family. James Bligh Johnston's residence *Springhill* was viewed nearby, his grandson Hylton Johnston having resided there while coroner for Windsor from 1900 to 1960.

McGraths Hill is located within thirty acres of emancipated convict Andrew Thompson's original 120 acre West Hill Farm grant, bounded by South Creek to the west. The landholding was purchased by James McGrath around 1815 and subsequently increased to 160 acres by 1819. The property remained in the McGrath family ownership until the estate was subdivided in 1977.

From this vantage point we had a commanding vista across Windsor to the Kurrajong Hills and the Grose River confluence, an historic view painted by Joseph Lycett, known as *View of Windsor*. A number of licensed premises have stood on this hill site at the junction of the roads to Windsor and Pitt Town. The current Australia Hotel is dated circa 1880s-1890s.

Our convoy then proceeded to Pitt Town Bottoms Road where the first land grants of 1794 were established by Governor Grose, initially twenty-two settlers tacking up the thirty-acre grants. By 1795 there were 72 ex-convicts registered as farming along the fertile river flats. These farms form part of the earliest ticket of leave grants in Australia and are considered unique, because their rural form is readable today, the land also remaining under continuous cultivation.

The historic vertical slab barns of the region had a loft above flood level for storage of harvested crops such as wheat, maize, vegetables, seed and sometimes people when in need of escaping floods. Many had ramps for the access of farm animals away from the frequent flooding. Constructed from local timber, bush poles were used for the

Continued page 3



View of Windsor, Upon the River Hawkesbury, New South Wales, 1824
Joseph Lycett c1775-c1828
Courtesy State Library of Victoria

President's Corner

March 23 saw a special Planning Meeting, which was called in order to review all of the Society's activities and commitments, and to look at priorities for the coming months. Committee members and those involved in project groups, working parties and sub-committees were invited to ensure input from those actively involved. It is a measure of the level of commitment in the group that everyone gave up their Sunday morning to participate. As president, I was extremely grateful for this.

The major topics discussed were:

FINANCIAL OUTLOOK The treasurer provided year to date figures which showed a healthy financial state for the Society. While showing a small trading loss so far in 2013-14 we have substantial financial reserves and the expectation of further income before the end of the financial year.

COMLERoy ROAD SCHOOL OF ARTS It was unanimously agreed that the Society could not take up the offer to become 'corporate manager' of this undoubtedly important structure. This is regrettable, but the need to seek funding for upgrading the building, the project management task, the unsuitability of the building for the Society's purposes, responsibilities of leasing to other groups and the lack of parking were all seen as beyond the resources of the Society.

THE SOCIETY'S WEBSITE It was agreed that the website was due for a review. A sub-committee was formed with Greg Upton, David Griffiths and Suzanne Smith volunteering.

DIGITAL ARCHIVING Joy Shepherd advised that she would be stepping down at June 30. She has spent many outstanding years of work developing and managing our wonderful photographic collection. It was agreed that the work must continue, and it was suggested (by her husband!) that Jenny Griffiths would have the skills and interest to take on the role. It was great to hear the next day that Jenny had agreed to take on this important job.

FAMILY HISTORY GROUP Carolynne Cooper was able to report that work was continuing apace on the transcription of material for the second volume of the St Stephens parish registers, and that the sales of the first volume had been very good, already covering two-thirds of the cost of publication.

THE MILLSTONE There was general discussion of the content of *The Millstone*. It was agreed that reports of events and excursions should focus more on their historical content rather than social aspects. The avoidance of overlap between articles was seen to be important, as was the idea of linking photographs used in the newsletter to the original publications, helping to encourage sales. The annual financial reports should be sent only to members, not all recipients of the newsletter. As production costs have been reduced it will be important to monitor the need for revenue so that the amount of advertising may be reduced.

OTHER PROJECTS An application for funding for the *Anzac Centenary Book* based on the outstanding work done by Val Birch and Wanda Deacon was about to be submitted, with numerous letters of support from community groups. The idea of collecting current photographs of buildings in the area of historical and heritage interest has been taken up by Paul Hulbert with support from Chris Upton. We are in discussion with council about the provision of content for signs and plaques of items in the village, which council might be willing to fund, together with the renovation and coverage of the millstones. Frank Holland is working with professional historians on a proposal to apply for State Heritage listing for the sites of Singleton's mills. An idea for noting the bicentenary of Singleton's journeys to the Hunter River in 1817 in collaboration with other groups, was also floated.

SUCCESSION PLANNING Perhaps the most important discussion of all. Those at the meeting represented years of experience in contributing to the work of the Society and many will continue to do so, whether on the committee or involved in a project. There is never a guarantee that anyone will be in a position to stand for election to the committee next time around. Thus a plea for any member who is able to become involved in this way to come forward. I would be happy to discuss at any time what is involved in any committee or executive role.

COLLABORATION WITH OTHER GROUPS

KCHS is in constant contact with like organisations. We are involved in discussions led by the council's Visitor Information Centre about co-ordinating activities in heritage tourism. This has been identified as a key element in the future of Hawkesbury tourism. We are also part of an exploration by the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations of the development of co-ordinated tourist information material for the whole of the Greater Blue Mountains area, including our own district.

Kurrajong – Comleroy Historical Society Incorporated

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www.kurrajonghistory.org.au

ABN 68930834921

COMMITTEE

President Steve Rawling AM

Vice President Kathie McMahon

Secretary Suzanne Smith

Treasurer Marguerite Wyborn

Committee members Airdrie Martin
Lorna (Peggy) McCarr
Patricia O'Toole

Accessions / Librarian Valerie Birch

Millstone Editor Chris Upton

Webmaster Greg Upton

Digital Archivist Joy Shepherd

Public Officer David Griffiths

Grants Carol Roberts

Hon Auditor Bruce Obermann

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Continued from front page

framework and slabs sawn and split along the grain for the walls, loft, flooring and ramps.

Our bus driver, John Fitzzibbon, was most informative as his parents had farmed on one of the original Pitt Town Bottom farms. John directed us to the 1794 grant of James Ruse who was renowned for having produced the first successful wheat harvest in New South Wales in 1789. Governor Phillip rewarded Ruse with the first land grant made in NSW, Experiment Farm at Parramatta. Ruse's sentence expired in 1792 and the title of the land was deeded to him in 1793. He sold his land to Dr John Harris of the NSW Corps. James Ruse then purchased one of the newly created 1794 grants, at Pitt Town Bottoms, becoming a rather successful farmer, until successive floods almost bankrupted him.

From here we proceeded to an area known as Bardo Narang (little water), where on 14 April 1791 Governor Phillip, in the company of Captain Tench and two Aboriginal men, Colbee and Boladerree, encountered a local Aboriginal man Gombeeree. Phillip and his party then crossed Bardo Narang Creek making contact with Yellomundee and a boy named Deeimba. A commemorative 'hand-shake' event was held at the site during bicentenary celebrations and a plaque erected at Friendship Bridge.

Our tour party then proceeded to Bligh Farm, now known as *Blighton*, the model farm established during the administration of Governor Bligh, 1806-1808. Set on high ground, the estate comprised 270 acres with a house, brick barn and outhouses, a dairy and six stock yards. Hawkesbury settlers were greatly assisted by Governor Bligh and were later to support him during the Rum Rebellion of 1808. Bligh raised the price of wheat taken into the government stores, distributed government cattle and introduced reforms aimed at assisting settlers. Bligh's farm was managed by Andrew Thompson.

The farm also became known as *Bligh's Oaks*, so named for the multiple plantings of oak trees in 1807 for Mary Putland, the Governor's daughter. In a 1939 photo five of these trees remained, but sadly in 1947 they were removed to make way for an orange orchard. Today no buildings remain on *Blighton*.

The old Punt Road borders the property to the west and in days past a hand-drawn punt connected Pitt Town with Wilberforce, from 1821 until the 1920s. Our convoy then moved on past the old fruit packing sheds in Hall Street where orange orchards once coloured the landscape. The area is now a housing estate.

We had now arrived at *Bona Vista* for morning tea and a talk on the history of the Johnston family by Carol Roberts. *Bona Vista* was built for James Henry Johnston and his wife Mary, née Hall in 1888. This late Victorian sandstone home with slate roof and bell caste verandah and surrounded by beautiful gardens continues to be part of the Johnston family estate. *Bona Vista* is also home to a collection of unique historic slab barns.

The tour and researched itinerary will be continued in the next issue of the newsletter



From the Editor

I was pleased to have been able to attend the recent planning meeting. The topics discussed covered all aspects of the Society's operations and activities including this newsletter. I'm proud to report that all present agreed the quality is high, the content varied and appropriate to the Society's objectives, and it is generally regarded to be a pleasant and informative read. There are some fine points which need a bit of tweaking but more from an author's point of view rather than a typesetter's.

One of the points I made was that the newsletter is not just a means of publishing already known information on the local district but also of gathering further detail on subjects with little or doubtful information. A good example would be the photo of *Woodburn* on page seven of this issue. No-one has been able to add further detail to Joan Mullins' description, and searches on the Internet return only newspaper clippings which cannot be attributed to the photo with any certainty.

If you are able to shed further light on anything in this or any issue of the newsletter please forward it to the secretary.

notpuc@bigpond.com

Note to members

The committee would like to remind members who are eligible for the over 75 years of age membership concession to contact the secretary. When renewing family membership both members must be over 75.

For more information

4567 7410

secretary@kurrajonghistory.org.au

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Kurrajong Heights Hotel water supply

AIRDRIE MARTIN

My grandfather, Michael Minnett, told me how providing a water supply to the new Kurrajong Heights Hotel gave employment to many local men during the period 1926–28.

The Kurrajong Heights Hotel was built by Henry Edward Peck (Ted), eldest son of Henry and Mary Peck who opened the first guest house at the Heights, *Mountain View*. The hotel cost £600 to build and opened for business in 1928. The liquor license had been transferred from the Black Horse Hotel on the corner of Windsor and Bosworth Streets, Richmond.

With the hotel's need for water, and lots of it, a concrete weir was constructed across a small creek situated in one of the beautiful valleys of the Grose River adjoining the hotel. It was supplied by mountain streams with permanent flows in the upper reaches of Buralow Swamp.

The dam held 100,000 gallons and an adjoining pump house held a very large engine and pump. The engine was kerosene operated which required preheating by way of a blow lamp to a



Aerial view of the hotel and its surrounds taken in 1933, five years after opening

Photo courtesy RAHS

hot spot on the cylinder head. When the hot spot of the head reached temperature the huge flywheel was manually spun to get the engine to fire and run.

With the arrival of electricity to the Heights in mid 1930 a powerline was strung from Buralow Road to the weir, just south of the old drilling site.

Because of the height the water had to reach the pump chosen was a three piston double action Myers pump.

The 1½" pipeline ran north from the pump house and then uphill near the old convict road to a concrete reservoir holding 25,000 gallons. The reservoir is approximately fifty metres north along Warks Road from where the windmill stands.

Water was gravity fed to the hotel and also to the tennis court, bowling green and the gardens. On the western side of Warks Road was a well constructed golf course and the pipeline was used to water the greens and tees.

The vegetable garden was on the hill to the south-west which supplied the hotel kitchen with a steady seasonal supply of vegetables. Just to the west of Cut Rock, H E Peck had a dairy for milk and cream and a piggery for disposing of kitchen waste.



Crossing the wall of the weir 2014

Photo: Airdrie Martin

KURRAJONG

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The Shop Floor

Webmaster & editor



Photo: Airdrie Martin

A section of the pipeline still in place

A water supply line was added to service *Fernhurst* then later *Kabreela* as well as *Allambie* and *Uplands* which was owned by H E Peck.

Over time the weir would silt up and require laborious manual cleaning as no machinery was able to get to the site of the weir.

For many years a gauge for measuring water flow and height had been in place near the bridge over the creek. The then owner of *Panorama Lookout (Cherry Park)*, Charley Hobbs, took readings of the gauge on a weekly basis and reported them to the Sydney Water authority.

The windmill and stone tank were established to supply water for the hotel gardens but the water was found to have a very high mineral content. It was unsuitable for the purpose and abandoned.

Over a number of years several bores were sunk within the golf course in search of other sources of water but all were found to be either dry or the quality of the water which was found was unsatisfactory.

This method of water supply using a weir, pump house, pipeline, windmill and other equipment kept this area of the Kurrajong district supplied with a reliable source of water for many years.

At the time of publication water is flowing over the wall and the dam is heavily silted. Some sections of the pipeline remain but they are broken and missing in many places.

The beauty and tranquillity of the valley where the weir is situated is truly unbelievable, one of the many gems we are blessed with. The remains of the pipeline and associated equipment are a reminder of those who developed the district for the benefit of generations.



Many of our members are unable to attend meetings and field activities. This column will introduce to those members some of the people who help to keep the cogs oiled and running in the day to day operations of the Society.

Greg Upton, the Society's webmaster is on the left and his brother Chris, editor of the newsletter is on the right. Being brothers they have a history of collaboration. This was evident when Greg found the need to pass on the baton of editor due to considerable work and life commitments. Greg turned to Chris for a helping hand and it was given.

The above photo shows Greg giving Chris a driving lesson in their 'Hippo' pedal car. Correct placement of the hands on the steering wheel is an important first step.

Most pedal cars have their wheels outside of the body-work whereas with the Hippo they are enclosed within. From the lack of surviving examples and the high prices achieved when they are traded it appears this was a unique model. The photo was taken circa 1963, Greg and Chris were 'second owners', condition of the car approximates an age of five to ten years, possibly fifteen at the most. Thus one could guess at models from the late 1940s to early 1950s.

If anyone might know of a surviving example of this pedal car please pass the details on to the editor.

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March general meeting

PATRICIA O'TOOLE

Ian O'Toole once again put his equipment into action to inform and entertain members at the Kurrajong Radio Museum. Macquarie was the subject of two of the programmes and a short clip of a working bullock team of days gone by was also shown

The story of 'The Macquarie Chest' had listeners on the edge of their seats as Richard Fidler of ABC Radio talked with Elizabeth Ellis, chief librarian at the Mitchell Library about her thirty year quest for the chest.

Macquarie's diary records the presentation in 1818 by the people of Newcastle of a chest. Chests filled with rare and curious specimens were a fashion and a means of entertainment. Macquarie's chest was exquisite, made of cedar and rosewood, timbers which quickly disappeared from the Hunter Valley. It was filled with preserved things such as butterflies and birds. Paintings of Newcastle scenes covered the inner panels.

Although a penal colony for the worst offenders the commandant, Captain James Wallis, gave favour to skilled craftsmen and artists. Paintings in the chest are attributed to Joseph Lycett. Good relations with the Aboriginal people are evident so it is believed they assisted in the collection of the many hundreds of specimens in the chest.

Elizabeth heard of the chest's existence some thirty years ago. It went to auction in 1989 but at a price way beyond the library's budget. However, a phone call in 2004 offered the chest to the library if they bought it the next day. They paid the asking amount and decided to face the consequences of the rash purchase.

Where had the chest been for almost 200 years? Macquarie's son and only heir died with debts, so the Macquarie property went to Strathallan Castle, home of the Drummond family who had provided financial support to Lachlan. The chest stayed there forgotten and untouched in a cold dark dungeon for over 100 years.

Unlike other chests all the specimens hold their true colour and are in perfect condition. The Mitchell Library occasionally shows the chest. It is truly spine-tingling to experience it. Search "Macquarie Chest" on Google to learn more.

By 1973 with forests closing to timber-getting the days of the bullocky were numbered. The film shows a dangerous and very difficult job. In remote forests bullocks could be used without the need of roads, just a tree or two needing to be felled along the way. The bullocky worked his team of sixteen with the crack of the whip, much arm waving and loud and colourful language. The close up scenes of the strain and struggle by

the bullocks and almost equivalent effort by the bullocky gave graphic insight. Teams once operated in the forests of the Kurrajong district.

The story of Macquarie has been on the Society's agenda for a number of years and it was good to see Scottish Television come to Australia and interview Australian researchers together with historians from Britain.

The government's displeasure with Macquarie may have related to the end, in 1815, of the Napoleonic Wars which left Britain with much debt and unemployment. Macquarie's convict pardons, generous land grants and building of infrastructure created a colony with a desirable lifestyle. This was not a message the British government wanted to convey to those living in poverty in Britain. They feared the poor would see crime and transportation as a passage to a better life.

Re-enactments closely resembled the amazing presentation by KCHS at the Governor's dinner in 2010 to celebrate 200 years since Macquarie and Elizabeth visited Kurrajong.

Woodburn Estate, Kurrajong.

(Proposed Railway extension, Richmond to Kurrajong, is surveyed through the estate).

Account of H. E. PECK, Esq.

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Solicitor to the Estate.

The Windsor & Richmond Gazette

Saturday, 3 Dec 1910



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Woodburn



This photo was contributed by Joan Mullins. The date is unknown, her notes say: A family home in Kurrajong. It is believed it was on the Wheeny Creek end of the current Kurrajong Road, on the upper side. Charlie Gosper had a blacksmith shop opposite. Boyden Shepherd learnt the blacksmith trade from his brother-in-law Charlie.

Mr George Watts now holds the position of caretaker of Dr. Lamrock's estate, "Woodburn," Kurrajong.

The Windsor & Richmond Gazette
Saturday, 6 Aug 1898

Mr. Malcolm, of Sydney, who purchased Mr. Lamrock's "Woodburn" property at Wheeny Creek recently, is having the residence renovated throughout and lined with Wunderlich. Mr. Malcolm will make this place his country home.

The Windsor & Richmond Gazette
Saturday, 26 Jul 1913

"Woodburn," a guest house at Wheeny Creek, has been transferred from Mrs. MacKinnon, to Mrs. Nicholson, of Sydney. Mr. and Mrs. MacKinnon have opened a business in a Sydney suburb.

The Windsor & Richmond Gazette
Friday, 6 Aug 1937

Mr. and Mrs. Streeter have purchased "Woodburn," at Malcolm's Estate, Wheeny Creek, and intend to remodel it for an up-to-date guest house. Kurrajong will soon rival the mountains for guest houses, and they are all well patronised, which speaks well for both the proprietors and the district.

The Windsor & Richmond Gazette
Friday, 28 Oct 1938

KURRAJONG.

Kurrajong has been in a very awkward position for the last three months owing to the absence of a blacksmith, but things have been altered. Messrs Hart and Townsend have purchased a piece of the old Woodburn estate from Mr H. E. Peck, and started business as farriers and general blacksmiths on the 1st instant. "Billy" Hart, and his partner, should do bosker business as he is well liked by all who know him, and if he makes a promise to do a thing it is as good as done, for he is a man of his word, and never does things by halves. Good luck to them!

Mr P. W. Brown is about to build an up-to-date cottage on the estate he purchased lately from Bowman.

A very old land mark of Kurrajong was removed last week. The house which was occupied by Mr "Dick" Dunston, and owned by Mr A. Lord, has been pulled down and is going to be replaced with a new up-to-date cottage. The property was a grant to a Mr Townsend, and the house was built by him over 80 years ago. Mrs Elizabeth Devine, who is a daughter of the grantee, and is 77 years of age and still hale and hearty, was born in the demolished house, and I am informed that Mrs W. Dunston, of "Spring Grove," who is another link of the Townsend family, and mother of the popular "Dick," was also born under the roof of the old house that is no more. The house had never been unoccupied since it was built. Some of the timber taken out of it was as sound as the day it was put in. This property was at one time owned by the late Mr Holdsworth, a Sydney solicitor, and as far back as the writer can remember was occupied by Mr Arkinstall and family, of whom Mrs R. Bailey is one, and the present Mrs R. Lord is a daughter of Mrs Bailey.

The marriage of Mr Chas. Davis, eldest son of Mr and Mrs John Davis, of "Willow Glen," with Miss Agnes Freame, lately from Scotland, and sister to Mrs D. Hay, was solemnised in St Stephen's Church of England, Kurrajong, on Wednesday, 17th April, by the Rev. H. Tate. We wish them all happiness. Mr Davis is a go-ahead young man, and about twelve months ago purchased part of the old Woodburn estate from Mr H. E. Peck, where he has erected a comfortable little home to

take his bride to. He has converted the surroundings into a veritable little Garden of Eden, showing what pluck, taste and labour can do.

The old Burnside estate, which formerly belonged to the late Mr A. Dean and some few years ago was purchased by Mr G. Giles, who hails from Parkes, is now in the pink of condition. Mr Giles has, under great labour difficulties, planted a young orchard of about 30 acres. Still greater difficulties arose in the matter of getting suitable men to work and till the trees until about a year ago, when Mr Herbert Giles, son of the Squire of Burnside, who has been used to station life, and was manager of a station for a lengthy period, gave up his position to try his hand at citrus fruit growing. He has now one of the best orchards in the district, and we congratulate him on his management, and welcome him as a citizen in our midst.

The Windsor & Richmond Gazette
Saturday, 11 May 1912

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sunday, 25 May

MOUNT WILSON TOUR

An invitation has arrived from Hawkesbury National Trust inviting KCHS members to participate in a self-drive tour looking at the 'Young and Old Architecture of Mount Wilson'. The tour will be led by Professor Ian Jack and will commence at 10 am.

Bookings are essential and need to be made before May 16. For bookings and information contact nt.hawkesbury@gmail.com or secretary@kurrajonghistory.org.au

Monday, 26 May

GENERAL MEETING

The general meeting will be held at St Davids Uniting Church, Kurrajong Heights beginning at 7:30 pm.

Joy Shepherd, KCHS digital archivist, will give a Powerpoint presentation on the making of the St Stephens parish register. This will be followed with a talk by Noreen Montgomery, co-author of 'The Pioneering Spirit of Tennyson'.

There will be publications for sale on the evening. Cost per person is \$2.

May

OLD GOVT HOUSE, PARRAMATTA

A National Trust Tour of Old Government House at Parramatta is planned for May. If you are interested in taking a journey into the creation of the stylish world of the popular ABC series 'Miss

Fisher's Murder Mysteries' based on the books by Kerry Greenwood and starring Phryne Fisher (Essie Davis), please contact the secretary, Suzanne Smith on 4567 7410 or secretary@kurrajonghistory.org.au. Suzanne will then make a group booking and contact interested members with the cost, date and time available. Travel to Parramatta is expected to be via train.

June

OPERA HOUSE AND GOVT HOUSE

A tour of the Opera House and Government House Sydney is proposed for June. As we are unable to make bookings for Government House prior to the publication of this issue of the newsletter the secretary will inform members of the event date by email and at the May general meeting.

Friday, 25 July

KCHS ANNUAL DINNER

Please make a note in your diary of this event. It will be held at Loxley on Bellbird Hill beginning at 7 pm.

Guest speaker will be retired MP Andrew Tink and he will give a presentation on the life and times of explorer and statesman Charles Wentworth. Further information will be published in the next issue of the newsletter.

Cost of the evening, including dinner will be \$60 per person.

IN MEMORIAM

VALE VIVIENNE WEBB - 2 July 1923 – 23 February 2014

The funeral for Vivienne was held at the Northern Suburbs Crematorium on 3rd March at 1.45pm, conducted by Rev Derek Bullen. Derek in his address said that Vivienne was "a true child of God...a genuine worshipper". She grew up in the country a daughter of a school Principal. She was proficient in piano and singing and later joined the Sydney Philharmonic Choir, and the Mosman Musical Society. She went to Sydney Teachers' College and taught at Crookwell, Hay and Wagga Wagga public schools. She married John Webb in 1949. He was Church Officer at St Andrew's for many years. In late 1950's and early 1960's she was the Infants Mistress at Balgowlah Heights Public School where I first met her as a pupil. She was well liked and respected by the school community and had a real presence in the school. Having a very sharp mind, in the 1980's she wrote a history of Currajong and later wrote a history of St Andrew's Church Manly, during Rev Reid's time. We will remember her for her generosity, her hospitality and her love of life. She loved travelling, her Scottish heritage, her antique collection (dolls being the focus) and other Objects d'Art. She loved her cats, musical costumes, and her encyclopaedia collection. Sadly missed.

Judy Richard

Education
(Journal of the NSW Teachers Federation)
7 April 2014



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- Winner Western Sydney (WSABE) Award for Excellence in Sustainability in a Business Exclusive of the Environmental Industry, 2012
- Highly Commended Western Sydney (WSABE) Award for Excellence in Hospitality, 2012
- NSW Business Chamber Awards finalist in Excellence in Sustainability, 2012
- NSW Business Chamber Awards finalist for Business Leader, Paul Maher, 2012
- Winner Excellence in Tourism, Western Sydney Excellence in Business Awards, 2011