

## 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

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Frank Holland's update on the Council's master plan for Memorial Park which has the mill stones now sheltered and protected from the elements.

### 4 Australia's greatest native son

A summary of guest speaker Andrew Tink's talk of the life and times of William Charles Wentworth at the KCHS mid-winter dinner in July.

### 6 Carrahjun & Coomery Roy

On hearing discussions regarding the renaming of the Society Dr Geoff Ford thought it would be advisable that those taking part have a good understanding of the origins of the terms Kurrajong and Comleroy.

### 8 St Matthews bicentenary

Family societies and people with current and former connections to the church are invited to participate in the activities leading up to and during the bicentenary.

### 9 Bushell Brown grave project

Overview of the project to restore this site at Wilberforce cemetery to its former glory.

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Final reminder for the AGM which will be held on Thursday, 23 October. Further details page eleven.

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## Tizzana Winery

JONATHAN AULD

**This is a summary of the talk given by Jonathan Auld during the visit to Tizzana on the Autumn Heritage Tour 8 April**

Thomas Henry Fiaschi was born in Florence in 1853 and attended the university studying medicine. At the age of twenty-two he migrated to the goldfields of Cooktown in northern Queensland before moving to Sydney, where he gained a reputation as an outstanding surgeon.

Following his marriage to Amy Reynolds in 1876 Dr Fiaschi arrived in Windsor, opening a medical practice in Thompson Square. He returned to Italy to complete his qualifications and graduated MD and ChD (Pisa and Florence) in 1877. Returning to Windsor he worked as a surgeon at Hawkesbury Hospital. His practice continued for about seven years in Windsor until his appointment as consulting honorary surgeon to Sydney Hospital and examiner in clinical surgery at Sydney University. Fiaschi is credited with introducing Listerian surgery to Australia.

Fiaschi joined the NSW Army Medical Corps in 1891. In 1896 he served in Abyssinia as a surgeon with the Italian army. From 1896 to 1900 he was in charge of the NSW No 1 Field Hospital in Africa for which he received a DSO. He later served with distinction in the Great War with Australian and Italian forces as a colonel and general respectively.

It was during his early years at Windsor that Fiaschi showed an interest in viticulture. He purchased 240 acres of land at Sackville Reach and planted five acres of grapes as an experiment. This led to the establishment of a vineyard of fifty-five acres and the construction of Tizzana Winery. The two-storied sandstone structure built in 1887 consisted of living quarters, cellars, surgery, library, crushing and processing sections. The vineyards at Tizzana were planted with imported French and Italian vine cuttings, the fruits of which were turned into prize-winning wines under the skilled direction of Dr. Fiaschi. He became known as an authority on viticulture having planted vineyards in the Hawkesbury as well as Mudgee, established following his return from WWI. He was a member of the Royal Agricultural Society and president for a number of years of the NSW Wine Association.

Dr Fiaschi passed away in 1927 aged seventy-four. After his death his second wife, Amy kept both wineries operating for a further twenty-five years. The last vintage from the early plantings took place in 1949. From that time on cellars were used to age and blend wines from the Mudgee vineyard. All of the wines from Tizzana were sent to Sydney via the Hawkesbury River and sold through the family owned wine bar in Little George Street, Sydney.

In 1955 Tizzana was broken into by vandals and set on fire. The blaze left only a stone shell which fell into disrepair until the 1969 purchase and restoration by the current owners, Peter and Carolyn Auld. Living quarters were re-established on the second floor and the cellars kept as original as possible.

The building and vineyards stand today as a testimony to a number of outstanding historical developments in the Hawkesbury. Firstly as a monument to Dr Fiaschi, his Windsor practice and Hawkesbury Hospital association and secondly, the earliest remaining example of a viable winery in the Hawkesbury area.

This National Trust classified building at Ebenezer re-established the manufacture of its own wines from grapes grown on the property, a further outstanding historic eventuality of the purchase, care and restoration of the property by the extended Auld family. Five acres of vines were replanted in 1980, (Cabernet Sauvignon,

*Continued page 4*

# President's Report

STEVE RAWLING

## DOMESTIC INTELLIGENCE.

A bull in the neighbourhood of Currajong was looked upon as a very troublesome fellow; no fences, however well secured, could restrain his roving propensities; he could pick the lock of a gate as easily as the most expert burglar, and in some cases where he was disinclined to waste so much time, he has been known to lift the gate off the hinges. This same animal entertained a friendly feeling to an aboriginal native named Tommy (his namesake). It is said that on one occasion Tommy, the black, had the misfortune to be incarcerated in the watch-house, which coming to the ears of his quadruped namesake, he waylaid the constable, knocked him down, and took the keys from his pocket.

The Sydney Gazette & New South Wales Advertiser  
Saturday, 16 March 1839

### Kurrajong – Comleroy Historical Society Incorporated

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www.kurrajonghistory.org.au

ABN 68 930 834 921

#### 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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After about a year in the role I am convinced that this is the easiest job on the committee of a community organisation. Apart from chairing meetings, which admittedly can sometimes be a bit of a challenge, the president mostly gives moral support to the real workers in and for the Society.

As reported throughout the year that includes other members of the Society executive. The role of secretary is incredibly time consuming, and Suzanne Smith has been prepared to spend that time. The role of treasurer is vitally important and Marguerite Wyborn has carried out those duties impeccably. Our financial position is very sound. The record of Society meetings is vitally important and Pat O'Toole has been an assiduous minute taker. Other committee members, Kathie McMahon, Peggy McCarr, Airdrie Martin and Wanda Deacon have all played their part in ensuring that the Society is kept on the rails. We welcomed Jenny Stevens to the Committee at the 2013 AGM but unfortunately she was unable to continue.

Other members also put in a great deal of work and special mention must be made of the Family History Group. The successful publication, and encouraging sales of the St Stephens Parish Registers was the result of many hours of painstaking work in transcribing these registers and preparing the results for publication. Anyone who has done family history research will know how difficult it can be to deal with original, handwritten source material.

The final work on preparing the results for publication was done by Chris Upton who is also responsible for editing of *The Millstone*, and we were pleased to present him with our Australia Day Award in January for his work. It was a double act as Greg Upton received the same award for his work on the Society's website.

Other members have contributed time and expertise to planning and leading excursions which have been reported in detail in *The Millstone* throughout the year, providing catering and other support at functions and so on. Too many to mention individually, but my personal thanks go to them all. So there are many ways in which members can contribute to the work of the Society other than by serving on the committee.

However, with the 2014 AGM looming it is time to ask all members to consider nomination for a position on the committee for the next year. Inevitably we find that there are one or two members unable to attend a particular meeting due to travel or family commitments, work or illness. If we begin the next year with a full committee we will be able, it is hoped, to ensure an active group to fulfil the roles which the Constitution lays down, "... to control and manage the affairs of the Society, .. to do all in its power to address the concerns and issues of the members of the Society .. and to strive to maintain the Society's reputation."

One important innovation during the year was a special planning meeting which brought together a larger group involving members of all sub-committees, working parties and project groups. As reported earlier in *The Millstone*, the discussion was wide-ranging covering all major areas of the Society's activities. It was also forward looking. Inevitably, some of the topics and plans will carry over to the next year as they involve major work, for example, in reviewing and updating the website and there are other ongoing projects. There will be plenty for the new committee to do after the AGM.

## Memorial Park masterplan bearing fruit



Photo: Frank Holland

Hawkesbury City Council has now completed the shelter over the mill stones in Memorial Park, Kurrajong. The protective shelter was part of the upgrade to the whole of Memorial Park and included further tree planting and upgrading of the parking area around the Kurrajong Fire Station.

These improvements are part of the Council's Landscape Masterplan for Memorial Park. The objective of the plan is to revitalise the park's amenity and attractiveness, and promote its significance within the Kurrajong Village. Some of the other improvements should see footpath access between the park and town centre, plantings along the frontage, embankment and boundary areas of the park, an upgrade to the play equipment and improvements to the Memorial.

The Society was active in ensuring that the designers and workmen were aware of the historical significance of the mill stones prior to and during the upgrade. Our president, Steve Rawling and member Frank Holland continue to liaise with the Council over the design and wording of appropriate signage.

### New Members

The Society would like to welcome the following new members

**SUSAN BENNETT**  
**SUSAN HOARE**  
**TERENCE HOARE**



## From the Editor

The articles published this past year were well researched, covered many subjects and are a credit to the authors who submitted them.

A number of the Society's activities and excursions were reported on. Those included:

- June Mill Walk with Les Dollin and Frank Holland
- The Society's annual general meeting
- Christmas gathering at Luckenough
- Australia Day breakfast
- Autumn Heritage Tour in April.

Articles regarding the history of the district resulted in considerable feedback, all positive, as the subjects covered were varied and generally not well-known. Those included:

- Drilling for oil at Kurrajong Heights
- The built heritage of Kurrajong Comleroy
- Kurrajong Heights Hotel water supply
- The dynasty of Andrew Johnston and Mary Beard in the Hawkesbury
- Woodbourne.

The regular columns which feature in each issue were also informative for members, especially for those unable to attend meetings and excursions.

I would like to thank the following people for their contributions to the newsletter this past year:

- John Cooper, Deborah Hallam, Valerie Holland,
- Airdrie Martin, Pat O'Toole, Steve Rawling,
- Carol Roberts, Joy Shepherd, Suzanne Smith, Greg Upton and Marguerite Wyborn.

As this issue will be the final time that Joy Shepherd's name appears on the Digital Archive report I thought I'd offer her the choice as to which photos appeared in 'From the Archives'. In one of her emails she mentioned, "This is the hardest job I ever had. There are so many images that I absolutely love, how could I choose three or four. The process made me realise what a large part of my life this photographic library has become, and how much pleasure I have received personally from them (and still do).

notpuc@bigpond.com

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## Australia's greatest native son

SUZANNE SMITH

A summary of Andrew Tink's talk on the life and times of William Charles Wentworth, presented at the KCHS mid-winter dinner on 25 July



Andrew engaged us with a talk on his research findings and 2009 publication, "Australia's Greatest Native Son", a comprehensive biography of William Charles Wentworth (1790-1872), explorer, lawyer, newspaper publisher, poet, politician and landowner in the colony of NSW. William Charles was born on board the *Surprise* while anchored in Cascade Bay, Norfolk Island on 13 August 1790. His parents were surgeon D'Arcy Wentworth and Irish convict Catherine Crowley.

D'Arcy was born in Ireland in 1762, venturing to London as a young man to train as a surgeon. Suspected of living the life of a highwayman D'Arcy was acquitted and took a position as an assistant surgeon on board the *Neptune*, bound for NSW with the Second Fleet. Arriving in Sydney on 29 June 1790, D'Arcy and Catherine, who was now heavily pregnant, soon departed for Norfolk Island on the *Surprise*.

William Charles Wentworth spent his early years on Norfolk Island, returning to Sydney with his parents, to settle in Parramatta NSW, where his father D'Arcy became a prosperous landowner. In 1802, William Charles was sent to England to be educated. On his return in 1810 Governor Macquarie appointed him as acting provost-marshal, granting him 1,750 acres along the Nepean River. An interesting event in the same year, on 15 October, saw William Charles ride his father's horse to victory in the first official horse race on Australian soil, in Hyde Park, Sydney.

In 1813 William Charles Wentworth, Gregory Blaxland and Lieutenant Lawson led an expedition to cross the Blue Mountains. Wentworth's journal describes the beginnings of the journey.. "on the 11<sup>th</sup> May our party .. with four servants quitted Mr. Gregory Blaxlands farm on the South Creek and on the 29<sup>th</sup> June, descended from the mountain into forest land, having travelled as nearly as I can compute, about 60 miles from Mr Chapman's farm on the Nepean River." As a reward William Charles was to be granted another 1,000 acres.

After this adventure Wentworth continued to assist his father D'Arcy with his business activities, combining farming interests with sandalwood trading in the South Pacific, before returning to England in 1816 to study law at Cambridge University. While at Cambridge he wrote a book published in London in 1819, 'A Statistical, Historical and Political Description of the Colony of New South Wales'. Wentworth argued for political reform and liberalisation, advocating elected assembly for NSW, trial by jury, along with free settler emigration.

William returned to NSW in 1824. In 1827 his father died and William inherited his property, making him one of the wealthiest men in the colony. Purchasing land in eastern Sydney, he built *Vaucluse House*, now maintained by the Historic Houses Trust. In 1829 he married Sarah Cox (1805-1880), with whom he had seven daughters and three sons.

Interestingly although William Charles was a prominent and important figure in colonial politics, he was never welcomed into the Sydney 'exclusives' club. Initially Wentworth identified himself with the cause of the emancipists and native-born Australians, establishing the first non-government newspaper, *The Australian*, to agitate for reform.

He entered the NSW Parliament in 1843, a rather dynamic time in Australian politics. Wentworth chaired a committee formed to draft a new constitution for NSW. The democrats and radicals accused Wentworth of attempting to create a 'bunyip aristocracy' that gave voting rights to the wealthy land owners and squatter class in the colony. After a number of redrafts a democratic constitution was accepted and responsible government formed, although the Legislative Council remained unelected.

A particularly interesting element to Andrew Tink's research was revealed when he tracked down documents pertaining to William Charles Wentworth's proposed plan to purchase the South Island of New Zealand from the Maroi peoples. The documents are held in the vaults of the Mitchell Library.

*Continued from front page*

Shiraz, Muscat and Aleatico varieties) with an additional four acres planted with 750 olive trees.

There is so much more history to tell about Dr Fiaschi's life and Tizzana. This rather imposing sandstone structure set into the hillside with its vista across water lily lagoons surrounding farmlands and vineyards is well worth a visit. The Auld family have collected Fiaschi memorabilia including an extensive photographic display that is open for public viewing.

For more information check the website  
[www.tizzana.com.au](http://www.tizzana.com.au)

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# Secretary's Report

SUZANNE SMITH

A sincere thank you to all members and friends of the KCHS who gave assistance and support in numerous ways throughout 2013-14 to both the Society and myself as secretary in numerous ways. This also included prompt attention to inventory requests, project report updates, researched articles, photo images, presentations, talks and supportive attendance at our general meetings, planning meeting and excursions. Our current membership stands at 170.

A thank you to president Steve Rawling who has ably facilitated us throughout the past year with his prompt attention to issues. Kathie McMahon's support as vice president and treasurer Marguerite Wyborn the keeper of KCHS finances. Pat O'Toole our minute secretary and postmistress for newsletter distribution. Carolynne Cooper for work on our excellent KCHS brochure and banner design, along with valued technical support with data projector and laptop at our general meetings. Wanda Deacon for committee liaison between the committee and the Family History Group. Airdrie Martin for committee support and book sales. Carol Roberts for content submission for the Hawkesbury Gazette articles since 2011 and FHG research assistance. David Griffiths in his support role as public officer.

Joy Shepherd is retiring from many years of commitment to the digital archive project, but will continue to pursue other interests within the Society, including FHG support. We welcome Jennifer Griffiths into the digital archive role. The Society is fortunate to have the skills and commitment of so many people from within the membership community. Acknowledgement is also given to Greg Upton, the webmaster for continuous updates to the Society's website who is retiring from this role. Our always on time editor of *The Millstone* newsletter Chris Upton, who is also supporting Paul Hulbert with the KCHS photographic project. Acknowledgement to Les Dollin and Frank Holland who have contributed research knowledge and assistance with projects throughout the year. A special thank you to Pat and Ian O'Toole for use of the Radio Museum facility for the holding of the monthly committee meetings.

## The Millstone advertisers

Peggy McCarr continues to maintain the advertising support relationship between the Society and the local business community. Along with membership fees this assists with publication costs of *The Millstone*. Thank you to Natalie Smith of Carey & Co., Christine Mead of Kurrajong Cellars, Bonnie and Wendy of Minaloo Lodge Gifts Kurrajong Village, Kieran Warner Nordic Walking and Tai Chi in the Wollemi, Megan Storie The Bank Bazaar Richmond, Sam Dirani of Kurrajong Friendly Grocer, Andrew Sinclair and staff Kurrajong Butchery, Isabella Stevenson Sassafras Creek and Paul Maher proprietor of Loxley on Bellbird Hill. When possible please support our local business community.

A sincere thank you to Peter Op'tland and the support team at Hawkesbury City Council printers for their bi-monthly printing of *The Millstone* newsletter, always timely. Also for printing of the new brochures and banner. A thank you to Tom Campbell, printers of Richmond, for printing of the raffle ticket books.

## General meetings AGM and events

Monday, 23 September. AGM and general meeting held at McMaho's Park facility with presentation talk given by Lesley Jane nee Hungerford, supported by Rosalind Allatt on the Meredith Hungerford story and 'Longtime Series'.

Sunday, 20 October. Open Garden Weekend and Welsh Choir performance at Fay and John Edwards property.

Saturday, 23 November. General meeting and Christmas party successfully held at Kath McMahon's property, with a presentation by Kath McMahon on the history of the McMahon properties on Bellbird Hill.

26 January. KCHS Australia Day breakfast celebration at The Hut, Bowen Mountain Park. KCHS awards to Chris and Greg Upton, with a Lt. Bowen history presentation by Alison and Bill Kerr of the Bowen Mountain Association.

24 March. General meeting at the Radio Museum Kurrajong. Comleroy Road School of Arts update and decision. Movie night presentation by Ian O'Toole, audio on the story of Macquarie's chest held in the Mitchell Library, Scottish Television video on Lachlan Macquarie, DVD Bullocky Teams of the Dorrigo Plateau NSW.

Tuesday, 8 April. KCHS Autumn Heritage Tour with Suzanne, Carol and Geoff Roberts. Visited McGraths Hill, Pitt Town, Blackett Church, 'Bona Vista' the Johnston family Homestead, Macquarie schoolhouse and Blackett Church Wilberforce, Ebenezer Church, Tizzana Winery, and 'Tara' with Greg Hansell.

Monday, 26 May. General meeting at St Davids Kurrajong Heights. Presentation by Joy Shepherd and FHG on the making of the 'Parish Register' publication. Presentation by Noreen Montgomery and Peter O'Donnell on researching 'The Pioneering Spirit of Tennyson' publication.

20 June. Government House and Opera House tour with KCHS members.

Friday, 25 July. Annual dinner at Loxley on Bellbird Hill. Guest speaker Andrew Tink. Launch of the Society's raffle 2014-15.

Saturday, 23 August. FHG 'High Tea' held at 'Tallowood', Kurrajong Village.



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## Kurrajong & Comleroy

### Origins of the terms

DR GEOFF FORD

The meanings and applications of these two Aboriginal terms have had many origins proposed in modern times. Dr Geoff Ford, working at the University of Sydney as a history research scholar uncovered the original use in his work dealing with the Hawkesbury – Hunter Ranges, Ford 2010 'Darkiñung Recognition', freely available online at the university library, url: <http://ses.library.usyd.edu.au/handle/2123/7745>. The digital copy is searchable for terms. This study established that the Aboriginal people occupying this area at the time of first settlement were the Darkiñung language group (so that mid-1900s suggestions were mistaken that they came from the Georges River group, the Dharug [misnamed ca.1990 as 'Darug'] ).

#### KURRAJONG

The term 'kurrajong' was used on the coast as Car-rah-jun, a fishing line in the Port Jackson/Botany Bay ('Sydney') language, now considered to be Dharug. It was recorded by David Collins in his language appendix (Collins 1798 p.610, Fletcher 1975 edn p.507). This Anglicised spelling of an Aboriginal term was applied to plant fibres used to make twine, and woven into nets and bags. Sources were the inner bark of bushes *Commersonia fraseri* ('Black-fellow's Hemp') and *Hibiscus heterophyllus* ('Native Rosella'). This 'coastal' term was transposed by the white settlers to 'inland' locations known as 'The currajong brush' where the bushes used to grow on the slopes above the lower Nepean River and the Hawkesbury River in the area at Richmond Hill. When the County of Cumberland was divided into districts, some areas across the river were made districts. Phillip became the district for Wilberforce town across the river from Nelson District (for Pitt town) and Kurry-jong became the district at North Richmond across from Richmond district (for Richmond town). Noted Ford 2010 Glossary p.481. [In another settlers' transposition, Caddie which became Cat-tai is the Anglicised spelling of the 'Coastal' term Cadi applied at an 'Inland' location.] Such transposed words are examples of barbarisms, common in the colony, Ford 2010 Glossary p.476.

The first British visitors to Kurrajong were a small party of marines led by Sergeant Isaac Knight on Wednesday, 25 May 1791 (Ford 2010 pp.59–60, commentary fn.97; p.92 fn.5). Knight led the way up the ridge to a hill which was named at the time to recognise his competence. Knights Hill, now at the top of Westbury Road, has been given multiple names. The local name

was Blackfella's Lookout [aka Lookout Hill] with views to the coast at Sydney and the Hunter Valley, as well as the Grose Valley and Springwood. (The site is Box Hill trigonometrical station.) Historic records give the next party of Englishmen to be Everingham, Ramsay and Reid, who went around Kurrajong in October 1795 (Ford 2010 pp.92–93 fn.7). Ford's more recent examination of their venture found they crossed Bowens Creek when they could not see the way after arriving on the north side of a high mountain – where Archibald Bell's party similarly became misled on Tuesday, 5 August 1823. After he settled there, the mountain was identified by George Bowen with the Darkiñung term Tomah, without its meaning ever being explained (Ford 2010 pp.81–82).

#### COMLEROY

The term was first written as 'Coomery Roy' on Thursday, 4 November 1819 as John Howe approached the Hunter River through the ranges (Ford 2010 p.440). Both Ben Singleton's and Howe's explorations north from Richmond had departed from Singleton's mill at Kurrajong. The Darkiñung people guiding Howe's party were attempting to avoid foreign people (Howe's 'Coomery Roy'), who had invaded from the interior over the Liverpool Range to displace the Darkiñung and occupy the upper Hunter Valley down to Jerrys Plains (Ford 2010 p.446). The Aboriginal impact on Singleton's and Howe's expeditions is told in Chapter 3 of Ford 2010. This Darkiñung 'pronunciation' has stuck in Darkiñung territory south of the Hunter River, where it has been spelt with English characters as Coomilary Roy, Comilaroi, Comleroy and Kumleroy (Ford 2010 p.445). When the Ogilvie family settled in 1825 at 'Mer-ton' on the river, they wrote it as 'C'amilarai' (p.454). In 1827 William Dumaesq wrote it Comnaroy pronounced quickly as 'Commaroy'. But the most accurate spelling came from Reverend William Ridley's travels, when he gave the word in 1853 as Kamilaroi, pronounced quickly as 'Kamil a roi', with a short sound between the l and the r (Ford 2010 pp.442–444).

The Bulga Road route, of the final expedition from Kurrajong (Ford 2010 p.127), became the road to the Coomery Roy, hence the original Comleroy Road. Further material on the road has been available online from Les Dollin (Ford 2010 p.446).

#### FOR SALE BY PRIVATE CONTRACT.

**THE LOWER CURRAGONG WATER MILL**, a weather-board and shingled house, and ten acres land; the mill is now in first rate working order; it has a pair of four feet six inch French burr stones as good as any in the Colony; a smutting machine and dressing machine, complete, nearly new. The Currajong is a populous district, and a retail shop would answer well at the mill. A liberal credit will be given for two-thirds of the purchase money, on good endorsed bills. For further information apply to the owner, Mr. JOHN TOWN, senior, Richmond.

February 2.

The Sydney Herald  
Saturday, 19 February 1842

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# Treasurer's Report

MARGUERITE WYBORN

We have had a successful year financially, showing a profit instead of a loss as in the previous year. The St Stephens Register book was published in December and will soon have sold enough copies to pay for itself. Moderate sales of books, revenue from advertising, members' subscriptions and interest on our investments have helped to defray the costs involved in the Society's running expenses. In the coming year we will be publishing one or more books which will deplete the bank balance until sales of the books are made.

Consideration was given during the year to raising fees for the Society but we managed to avoid this by cutting publishing costs on *The Millstone* newsletter. I am confident we will have enough funds in the coming year to achieve the goals we have set ourselves.

## THIS IS THE BANK YOU OWN



The quality of service rendered by any bank depends mainly on the staff—the men and women who conduct the business of the bank's clients. Behind the scenes in the Commonwealth Bank the careful training of the staff is going on continuously. You may be certain, therefore, that in this bank officers attending to your needs know banking from A to Z and can handle your business speedily and efficiently.

In addition the Commonwealth Bank employs highly trained specialists whose knowledge covers the many aspects of finance and economics. These officers are all working in your interests.

### COMMONWEALTH BANK

*"The Bank You Own"*

The Windsor & Richmond Gazette  
Wednesday, 25 June 1952

## CAUTION.

ALL Persons are hereby cautioned not to cut or draw any Timber off the Thirty Acre Farm situate at the Currajong, and known as Black Baker's Farm, and now the property of the undersigned ; any person found trespassing thereon after this notice, will be prosecuted according to law.

**ROBERT GREEN.**

Parramatta, May 15, 1838.

The Sydney Herald  
Monday, 21 May 1838

## ST. MATTHEWS' WINDSOR.

Mr. Wm. Freame writes :—Seeing that the ninety-third anniversary of St Matthew's has been announced in the press, I should like, in the interests of historical accuracy, to give publicity to the following facts concerning the old church.

The foundation stone of St Matthew's was laid on October the 11th, 1817. Having been removed by thieves who desired to steal the coins underneath it, it was relaid on the 13th October, 1817. This stone was again removed, and the coins stolen ; subsequently the walls were pulled down, owing to defective workmanship, and another start made in the building of the church during 1819.

On December 18, 1822 the church was opened for divine worship by the Rev. Samuel Marsden, the first incumbent of the church being the Rev. Mr Cross ; the first resident chaplain at Windsor, the Rev. R. Cartwright having removed during the time the church was building to Liverpool.


One of the most interesting records in St Luke's, Liverpool, is that of the marriage of J. W. Fulton, son of the Rev. Hy Fulton, to Elizabeth Cartwright, on the 2nd of December, 1823, the ceremony being performed by the father of the bride, the father of the bridegroom being also present.

William Faithfull, of Windsor, was married in the same church to Margaret Thompson on November 30, 1821.

The Rev. Samuel Marsden was the first officiating clergyman in Windsor, and during 1807 he received an address signed by over 300 persons in the Hawkesbury-Parramatta districts, appreciative of his work as a clergyman. It was he who induced Mr Cartwright to come to the colony.

Mr Cartwright was commissioned Assistant Chaplain to the colony of N.S. Wales on 5th June, 1809. He arrived in Port Jackson on 18th August, 1809, and in 1810 was appointed Resident Chaplain at Windsor, where he remained until 1819.

The Windsor & Richmond Gazette  
Saturday, 5 November 1910



## Carey & Co

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## Bicentenary of St Matthews Anglican Church Windsor

CAROL ROBERTS



In October 2017, St Matthews Anglican Church, Windsor will be celebrating the bicentenary of the laying of the foundation stone by Governor Lachlan Macquarie.

St Matthews and its associated graveyard are historically significant to the state of NSW and to the Hawkesbury area. The church has been the centre of spiritual life in the district since it was consecrated by the Reverend Samuel Marsden in 1822, with many families marking marriages, baptisms and deaths over several generations.

The cemetery at St Matthews has been in use since former convict, later appointed Chief Constable and Magistrate, Andrew Thompson, was buried there in 1810. There are a number of First Fleeter grave sites and twelve of those are marked with plaques from the Fellowship of First Fleeters. These grave sites are:

| Name  | Status            | Ship         | Died |
|---|-------------------|--------------|------|
| ARNDELL, Thomas                                       | Assistant surgeon | Friendship   | 1821 |
| BARNETT, Daniel                                       | Convict           | Friendship   | 1825 |
| CROSS, John   | Convict           | Alexander    | 1824 |
| CUSLEY, Benjamin                                      | Marine private    | Friendship   | 1845 |
| DALTON, Elizabeth (Arndell)<br>also (Burley/Burleigh) | Convict           | Lady Penrhyn | 1843 |
| FORRESTER, Robert                                     | Convict           | Scarborough  | 1827 |
| GREEN, Ann (Bladdey/Bladdy)                           | Convict           | Lady Penrhyn | 1820 |
| HOLMES, Susannah (Kable)                              | Convict           | Charlotte    | 1825 |
| CABELL/KABLE, Henry                                   | Convict           | Friendship   | 1846 |
| MARROTT/MERRITT, John                                 | Convict           | Alexander    | 1812 |
| MILES/MOYLE, Edward                                   | Convict           | Scarborough  | 1838 |
| ROBERTS, William                                      | Convict           | Scarborough  | 1820 |

During the lead up to the bicentenary, family societies and descendants of those who have current or former connections with the church are invited to celebrate their association with St Matthews by holding reunions, commemorative services or family get-togethers at the church. Interested individuals, family groups or associations are invited to join the mailing list to be kept informed of events leading up to the bicentenary.

If you would like to be kept informed email  
[stmatthewsbicentenary@windsoranglican.asn.au](mailto:stmatthewsbicentenary@windsoranglican.asn.au)

## ST. MATTHEW'S, WINDSOR.

The old church dreaming by the river,  
 The distant hills all green and old:  
 Down where the water grasses quiver,  
 Bright flowers their lovely hues unfold:  
 And soft winds sweep o'er vale and glade—  
 An old world loveliness has strayed  
 Into this hallowed ground,  
 And all around  
 Is peace.

The music of the wind,  
 Exquisite, rare,  
 As the diamond air  
 At dawn,  
 Comes to me from over the sea  
 Bearing the songs of Arcady!  
 And as the night comes down  
 O'er quiet Windsor town  
 Swift changing colours fade and die  
 And moon fire lights the dream dark sky.

WALTER D. WHITE.

The Sydney Morning Herald  
 Saturday, 26 October 1935

## WINDSOR.

On Sunday last, the new Colonial organ built by Messrs. Johnson and Kinloch of Sydney, was opened by Mr. Johnson himself in St. Matthew's Church, Windsor. To those who can appreciate the solemn and soul-inspiring tones of so noble an instrument as the organ in the performance of divine worship in our church, the effect it produced on the unusually numerous congregation in so small a town as Windsor may be better conceived than described. It was at once gratifying and encouraging to observe that the general apathy which, for want of such an instrument, hitherto has pervaded the congregation against uniting in that portion of the service which at once lifts the soul above this terrestrial state, and gives it a transient, though imperfect idea of Heaven, began perceptibly to give way when the sweet tones of the instrument first opened with that grand and solemn Psalm, the old hundredth, and the congregation, almost simultaneously "with one consent" appeared to unite in raising their voices to the Throne of God. The second Psalm was the 149th to the tune of the old 194th, when the effect was similar. An excellent and appropriate sermon was preached on the occasion by the Rev. W. B. Clarke, M. A., from the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd verses of the 92nd Psalm, which was concluded by an appeal to the congregation in aid of the funds. At the termination of the service, a beautiful voluntary was played, and the congregation, as they retired from the sacred edifice, contributed a respectable sum in furtherance of this laudable object.

The Sydney Morning Herald  
 Wednesday, 11 November 1840



## Bushell Brown grave project

LOUISE WILSON

In the previous issue of *The Millstone* an article featured the Johnston family, one of the 'Coromandel Settlers' of Portland Head, a group of free settlers who founded Ebenezer Church. Accepted into this group and recognised as another founder was Paul Bushell who, although a convict on the Second Fleet, had an exemplary record of behaviour in the colony.

Paul Bushell, born in Staffordshire in 1766, lived a long and productive life at Wilberforce from around 1798 until his death there in 1853. As well as his success in farming he was something of a businessman, and those interests enabled him to purchase extra land. By September 1822 he'd acquired the forty acre land grant marked in John Robb's name in today's Hermitage Road, Kurrajong. Later he acquired more land in Hermitage Road: both of the sixty acre grants to the Forrester brothers by 1830 and the thirty acre grant to Thomas Baker around 1840.

He also purchased two sixty acre blocks at Currency Creek. He employed various family members as sawyers to clear the blocks, his longer-term goal being to secure for his children a flood-free alternative to his low-lying land around Bushell's Lagoon. (All the details are provided in Chapter 23 of Louise Wilson's book, 'Paul Bushell, Second Fleeter'.)

Paul was buried with his second wife Isabella Brown, his parents-in-law David Brown (arrived 1792) and Eleanor Fleming (arrived 1791), and six other members of the Brown and Bushell families, in a double gravesite at Wilberforce Cemetery. The Cemetery has national significance and accordingly is heritage listed because thirty-four First, Second and Third Fleeters are buried there. The two altar monuments once paying tribute to the Browns and Bushells collapsed decades ago. During the 1990s descendants stacked the stones into two piles to protect them and a vigorous campaign is now underway to restore the site to its former glory.



Photo: Louise Wilson

An innovative and creative crowdfunding approach has been developed. Visit <http://www.pozible.com/project/177971> making sure you watch the video. The campaign blazes a trail for everyone with an interest in historic cemeteries and the difficulties of soliciting for funds to repair old graves. Let it give you some ideas about the way forward for community groups with a history focus. Promises of money are not collected if the target isn't reached, and the campaign to reconstruct the two altar monuments will lapse. Please, history-lovers, make a small (or large) donation to the cause and tell your friends.

## Family History Group

CAROLYNNE COOPER

This past year has been an exciting time for the Family History Group with the publishing of its first book of the parish registers of St Stephens. The book was launched on 8 December during the service at St Stephens Church with a Powerpoint presentation showing how the book was put together.

The minister, Shaun McGregor, was very helpful to the FHG all the way through the making of the book and we are so grateful to him for his hospitality in both allowing us to use the facilities and also for the book launch. The book has been selling really well and it has just about paid for itself.

At present we are working on the second volume and it is nearing the stage for Chris Upton to start putting it into book form. It has been a learning curve for all of us with the first volume but now we are starting to perfect the way we approach it. Chris has done a wonderful job on setting it out; he also has been teaching himself with the program he uses as well as perfecting the way we do things. We are so grateful to have Chris working with us. Thank you Chris for such a great job, and also for your patience as I'm sure when we leave your place after our visits with more information we had probably exhausted you or confused you.

Val and Wanda have been working on a WWI soldiers of the Kurrajong - Colo area book with Frank Holland and I have been helping with fixing and taking photos. This has slowed down our work on the next St Stephens book. Chris Upton is also putting this book together for print.

Both Joy and I have had sick husbands this year, Phil has had one operation and was waiting on another when he got too sick and it has now been postponed.

My husband John, former KCHS president, was very ill in March with pneumonia and as a result caused a lot of other health problems. He never really recovered from the pneumonia and in May ended back in intensive care with a very high heart rate. As a result of all this both Joy and I have had our workload increased in caring for our husbands.

I was able to design a new banner for the Society as well as a new brochure. These two new products, I believe, have lifted our profile.

Val and I attended the Baulkham Hills Historical Society's open weekend at the beginning of May with the Transport Signalling and Communications Museum and the Australasian Telephone Collectors Society. The three societies were in one room, the theme of the exhibition was communicating. The FHG were selling books and also had a small display of photographs and other forms of communications.

At the stage of writing this report we are preparing for our first high tea, which will be held at *Tallowood* in Kurrajong. Ken and Pam Bennett are allowing us to use the hall in the over fifty-fives village they have in Vincent Road. Hopefully next year we will have some good reports to give about it.

# Digital Archive Report

JOY SHEPHERD

It is eleven and half years since the Digital Archiving project was commenced. From the very beginning of the Society in January 2001 our archivist, Val Birch, had been gathering some images or copies of images of the Kurrajong district and by this time they had numbered around four hundred. We felt that these needed to be archived, perhaps digitally, as a source for the future. The Society had no money, computer equipment, or skills amongst the committee to undertake such a task.

In my previous job I had worked in conjunction with Hawkesbury Skills in Richmond on a couple of successful Work for the Dole projects. On a whim I visited them and discussed the possibility of getting such a project to archive our images. Hugh and Faith were very enthusiastic and helpful. In a short time we had use of computers and two willing workers to start on the project.

Jennifer Stackhouse and Val Birch had researched suitable programmes. They had been advised by Hawkesbury City library and RAHS that the best programme was Perfect Pictures. They got in touch with Ian Walker of Search Tech who created this programme. We were fortunate that one of the initial participants had done a course in this work and was easily tutored by Ian and able to teach the rest of us.

Val Birch and I busied ourselves collecting more images and information a couple of days each week and I was soon able to supervise their addition to the programme on Thursdays and Fridays. We managed to get six by six month projects with participants varying in talent until funding ceased. We were on our own.

I continued on my own at Hawkesbury Skills for another year and then brought the project home. We were able to purchase a computer with the money I had earned from supervision of the Work for the Dole project. We continued to increase our images library mainly from sourcing images for many and varied exhibitions.

When the Society's website began the image library formed an integral part of it. Greg Upton spent countless hours in achieving this with the help of Ian Walker. This image library is now one of the best in the country with comprehensive text.

We currently have 5,853 images on Perfect Pictures and we have collected many more in other files. For example, we have a complete bushfire collection from Bilpin Bush Fire Brigade and the images collected by TRAK.

In the last financial year we had 3,886 hits on the image library of our website. Nearly 17,000 images were viewed and 1,586 searches were undertaken.

The time has come for me to move on to some other research projects. We are fortunate that Jennifer Griffiths has volunteered to continue the work. I know that she has the expertise to do a great job.

I would like to thank Val Birch for her tremendous work on this project over many years, Carolynne Cooper for her assistance particularly with restoration of battered images, Greg Upton for his great work with the website, and Chris Upton and Hawkesbury City Library for storing duplicates of all of our work, and of course Ian Walker and the staff of Hawkesbury Skills. Most of all I would like to thank our generous donors who make our work so exciting. It has been such a fulfilling journey.

From  
**THE ARCHIVES**

## Taking a break



Two beautifully dressed young girls visiting Henry (Harry) Shepherd as he works timber cutting in the dense forest at The Islands, Kurrajong North (now Kurrajong Hills). The photo is thought to have been taken circa 1915 and was contributed to the Society by Ron Shepherd.

## Kurrajong celebrates



This photo was taken on 20 November 1926 and shows one of the many events celebrating the official opening of the Richmond to Kurrajong railway line. It was contributed to the Society by Thelma Groch.

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**Kiarán Warner**  
**4567 0502**

太極拳



## Austin, Jack, gun & billy cart



This photo has always intrigued me. When Dorothy Buckett gave this photo to me in 2003 and told me the background story I thought she was pulling my leg but on checking with other 'oldies' her story proved true.

This photo is her father in law, Austin Buckett with her husband Jack, the boy. In 1942 there was a fear that the Japanese were going to attack by bringing their army over the mountain. The men of Kurrajong were ready for them. They took it in turns, day and night, to guard the entry to Kurrajong, the Wheeney Creek Bridge. So here is Austin, armed with a gun, and young Jack with his billy cart ready to fend off the Japanese army.

Joy Shepherd

## Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Society will be held on Thursday, 23 October at the CWA hall in Kurrajong Village midday to 3 pm. All members are invited to attend

The business of the meeting is to receive the annual reports, elect office bearers and confirm appointments for 2014/15. The meeting will be followed by a general meeting including a talk by Frank Holland on the history of Memorial Park at Kurrajong

Please return the enclosed nomination form by 22 September to

**The Secretary KCHS**  
PO Box 174  
Kurmond NSW 2757



## YOUR RAILWAYS MEAN BUSINESS

The N.S.Wales Railways are being run as a business. It is the biggest business in the State. The annual turn-over now approaches £80,000,000. It is my job to make your business pay.

You, the people of New South Wales, own that business. It is in your interest that the business must be conducted efficiently and successfully. It is in your interest that you should give the railways your utmost support. Travel by rail, and send your goods by rail.

For the first time since the war, the Railways are now in a position to launch an all-out drive for new business.

Every employee in the railway service is pledged to give you prompt and business-like service. Every employee's job is to get more business for the railways. More business means security in his job.

It also means less drain on the finances of the State. That means less taxes.

The Railways will in future adopt the methods employed by modern business houses. Sales and service will go together. There will be no red tape. That is to be my policy as Commissioner for Railways.

We not only want your business, but we also want your ideas. If you have any suggestions, or any complaints, write to me direct.

*Remember, you own the Railways. They are your business. With your help, the business is assured of success. The RAIL way is the SAFE way.*

**GIVE THE RAILWAYS YOUR BUSINESS. WE MEAN BUSINESS**

*Blair*  
COMMISSIONER FOR RAILWAYS

The Windsor & Richmond Gazette  
Wednesday, 17 December 1952

## KURRAJONG BUTCHERY

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## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### Thursday, 23 October

#### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

All members are invited to attend the AGM which will be held during daylight hours, noon to 3 p.m. at the CWA hall in Kurrajong Village on Thursday, 23 October.

The Society's annual reports will be presented, election of office bearers will decide committee members for the next year and appointments for other positions confirmed. A general meeting will follow with Frank Holland closing the day's proceedings with a presentation on the history of Memorial Park, Kurrajong.

Nomination forms for positions on the committee and the Society's financial reports will be inserted in issues sent to members.

Please give consideration to filling out the nomination form and returning it promptly. The final date of acceptance is 22 September. Address forms to:

The Secretary KCHS  
PO Box 174  
Kurmond NSW 2757

### Saturday, 15 November

#### MEMORIAL PARK RE-OPENING

Hawkesbury City Council will be holding an event on Saturday, 15 November at Memorial Park, Kurrajong Village to celebrate its re-opening. It is anticipated that by this date all the items in the park's masterplan will have been completed. All members of the community are welcome to attend. Further detail will be published in the November-December issue of the newsletter.

#### KINDLY REMINDER TO MEMBERS

Please send membership renewals to:

KCHS PO Box 174  
Kurmond NSW 2758

Direct credit: KCHS Bendigo Bank  
BSB: 633-000 Account: 118125632

## Feedback



On page seven of the current [Jul-Aug] issue of *The Millstone* is the photo entitled 'Frank Lenord & Ted Peck'. As stated it is the same one which appears in 'Glimpses of the Kurrajong', a 2008 KCHS publication of which I have a copy.

Now this is my version of what should have appeared in the description.

I have no argument with Frank Lenord nor of that being his bakers truck which I vaguely remember. But where it states "Ted Peck on the right" (with his foot on the running board of the truck) that person was Frank Peck who was one of Uncle Ted's (H.E. Peck) sons. The other son was H.J. Peck (Jack) who married Dorothy Bennett. They ran *Kahreela* guest house.

Frank was, for as long as I can remember, the licensee of the Heights Hotel, up to the time it was sold to Shelleys. The only place I could find a photo of 'Uncle Ted' is on page five of 'Pansy The Richmond to Kurrajong Railway Expanded Edition April 2011'.

In the top photo on that page is the cutting of the ribbon at the official opening, November 1926. The person cutting the ribbon was Mrs H.E. Peck (Julia Peck). The man immediately on the right (looking at the picture) is H.E. Peck. In any photos I have of Uncle Ted, he always had that upper lip moustache, wore a waistcoat and a hat of the era. Incidentally in the same photo the third man from the left (holding a Gladstone bag in front) is H.J. Peck.

Re *The Millstone* photo again. I am of the opinion it was taken outside the Heights Hotel. There were petrol bowlers outside the hotel opposite the southern end of the building and the large tree trunk appearing beyond the 'K' on the side of the truck would have been the very tall turpentine tree in front of the building at the time. There were spaced pine trees planted in the terraced gardens at the front of the hotel.

*Philip Peck*

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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