

THE MILLSTONE

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

"Fernmount" and William Scott PART 2

by *Airdrie Martin*

Research by Dr Ian Jack

In May 1862 Scott resigned from his position as Government Astronomer. Then in May 1863 he doubled his land holding at Kurrajong Mountain by purchasing 40 acres immediately to the south of "Bunburra".

Access to these properties was a rudimentary track, from the north of Bells Line of Road, which had been surveyed as a rough road in 1864 and declared as Buralow Road in 1866. Running along the crest of Tabarag Ridge it finishes up as a fire trail deep into the wilds of Buralow Creek Valley.

In 1863 Scott became headmaster of "Rugby School" at Tempe, Sydney and moved his family there with occasional visits to "Bunburra".

In 1863 Scott became the third Warden of St Paul's College, University of Sydney, the oldest university college in Australia, founded in 1856 and designed by Edmund Blackett in 1858. Scott was Warden for thirteen years supported by his wife Elizabeth. He was remembered not only as a gifted mathematician but as "the kindest, most painstakingly patient and considerate of men", Some of this time from 1863 to 1878 was spent at Kurrajong Mountain.

In 1878 Scott resigned from St Paul's and became the incumbent at Gunning in the Goulburn Parish then moving to Bungendore in 1881. In 1883 Scott, with his wife and youngest child Frances, took his first trip back to Britain.

William and Elizabeth settled permanently at "Bunburra" in 1892. Elizabeth died in 1903 and William in 1917, aged 92 at Chatswood.



Bunburra Cottage at Fernmount *Image: Paul Hulbert*

Frances Harpin, Scott's daughter inherited "Bunburra". She with her husband Arnold and children had lived at "Bunburra" since 1910 in the cottage and from 1917 moved into the main house. The Harpins built up the value of the property through successful orcharding and the developed land value was now £2,800.

Mrs Una Culver bought "Bunburra" on 5th January, 1925. Una and John Culver retained the 50 acre property for 42 years until 1967 and changed the name to "Fernmount". After Una died in 1962, John married Annie Jean and continued the orchard, using some of the crop for wine making in the Tool Shed, marketing the orange wine as Vin d'Orange.

On 7th June 1967 John Culver sold both 40 acre properties to a widowed lady Filinea Helen Andlinger. An ardent Catholic, she developed a strong interest in the international movement for world peace. A wooden pulpit was purchased for use by visiting clergy in the slab building known as the Tool Shed but renamed The Chapel in the Andlinger years.

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INSERTS Nomination FORM (AGM)

KCHS Annual Financial Report

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

President's Report 2015 - 2016

The 2015-16 year was one of achievement for the Society. There were two highlights. The first was the publication of *We Remember Them*, the record of district soldiers and nurses who served in World War I. The launch of this publication on Remembrance Day 2015 and the distribution of copies to descendant families was a tribute to Frank Holland and the team involved in its production. The amount of work involved was truly staggering, and the Society has registered its thanks to Frank and the team in various ways.

The second, (and not unrelated) highlight was the award to the Society of the Cultural Heritage Award in the 2016 Hawkesbury Australia Day Awards, a recognition of the contribution the Society had made in its first 15 years to our part of the Hawkesbury.

I have mentioned Frank's name, and the fact that he worked with a team of others. In fact, many people have contributed in a variety of ways to a successful year. I would especially like to thank members of the outgoing Committee, starting with our indefatigable Secretary, Suzanne Smith, who apart from the very busy general duties in that role, was production editor for all issues of the Millstone, and was involved with others in arrangements for all of our events and excursions. Vice-President David Griffiths managed our website (and improved it in a variety of ways), Jenny Griffiths curated our digital archive, a massive collection of historical images, Pat O'Toole looked after our substantial finances as Treasurer, Paul Hulbert was an extremely efficient Minute Secretary, and Deborah Hallam, Airdrie Martin and Marguerite Wyborn were dedicated Committee members, as well as contributing substantial items to the Millstone.

Details of all of the activities of the Society are contained in the issues of The Millstone during the year.

President Steve Rawling AM

Treasurer's Report

The Society continues to be in a strong financial position. Book sales and Millstone advertising provide a steady income. Most functions during the year have covered costs. Membership has remained stable although with ageing membership income has decreased.

Cost of publication and launch of "We Remember Them" was partially covered by grants. Donations have helped to allay costs. Publication and launch of the "St Stephens Register Volume 2" is also partly funded by a grant.

The additional cost to the Society will be recovered by book sales.

Book assets show a considerable reduction. In June half the remaining stock of "Grandmothers of Yesterday" and "St Stephens Register Volume 1" were donated to Colo Shire Family History Group.

The treasurer's job has been a challenge which I could not have done without the help of David Griffiths and Marguerite Wyborn. I am very thankful for their help. Thanks also to Honorary Auditor, Bruce Obermann.

Treasurer Patricia O'Toole

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Historical Society Incorporated**
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ABN 68930834921

Committee Members

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Vice President David Griffiths
Secretary Suzanne Smith
Treasurer Pat O'Toole
 Deborah Hallam
 Paul Hulbert
 Jenny Griffiths
 Airdrie Martin
 Marguerite Wyborn

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WELCOME to NEW MEMBERS

The Society would like to welcome new members

Kenneth LAMBETH

Judith BLACKBURN

Late Renewals - Reminder to Members

Please forward 2016-2017

Membership Renewals to: KCHS

Treasurer PO Box 174 KURMOND NSW 2757 or

Direct Credit: KCHS Bendigo Bank BSB 633-000

Account No. 118125632

Note: The Millstone Newsletter can also be sent electronically. Please notify secretary.

Digital Archivist and Webmaster Report

The website and our online digital archives have continued to be a popular resource and valuable showcase for the society.

In the past twelve months Paul Hulbert contributed 23 images of houses on the Council’s LEP Heritage list and Kathie McMahon contributed 11 images related to her uncle, Marshall McMahon. *Fifteen images have been sold.*

Several people have contributed comments including spelling corrections to a name and identification of people.

- ◆ Since the 2015 AGM, the website has had:
18,888 Visits - Viewing 77,687 pages.
This is an average of 50 to 60 visits per day.
72,697 images in our image archive have been viewed, 3609 of them through Trove.

- ◆ 716 documents (non images) have been viewed and 736 people have been viewed. A total of 1874 different visitors searched our archives.
- ◆ The image archive has 5474 images, the resource (non image) archive has 480 entries, and the people database has 284 people in 70 families.

The most popular search terms were: bottle, soldier, mitchell, LEP heritage, peck, hurst, bailey, turner, maxwell, richmond, douglass and kurrajong heights.

There have been several enhancements made to the software, the more significant of which were documented in a previous Millstone article. *(July/August Issue Page 6)*

WebMaster: David Griffiths Digital Archivist: Jenny Griffiths

SECRETARY’S REPORT 2016

Once again the Society has had a rather successful year. All the General Meetings were well attended, averaging 35 members and friends, with a number of interesting speakers and presenters.

A most successful Australia Day Breakfast with Guest Speaker Don Webster was held at the Kurrajong Heights Bowling Club. The Society’s Australia Day award was presented to Val Birch, in recognition of her contributions over the whole of the Society’s existence, including her research contributions to the recent 2015 ANZAC publication, *We Remember Them*. On the same day KCHS received a Cultural Heritage Award at the HCC Australia Day ceremony.

The March GM was held in April due to the fall of Easter. This was held at Grose Vale Community Hall, with a rather special musical, local history presentation, by President Steve Rawling and KCHS inaugural President Kathie McMahon.

The May GM held at St David’s Kurrajong Heights, guest speaker Mr John Miller from H.H.Society, presented an informative *Review of Hawkesbury History*, with visual images from early colonial times to the present, including acknowledgement of Aboriginal peoples. A CD created courtesy of Ian O’Toole of this talk with visuals is available from the Members Library.


A successful KCHS mid-year luncheon was held at Chapel Hill Berambing in July, with guest speaker Deidre Morrison presenting “Art as Heritage”. *(See summary and images page 7)*

Our excursions since the 2015 AGM have included visits to the Tennyson Light Horse Museum with Joan & Stewart Thompson, the NSW Mounted Police Museum in Redfern, University of Sydney Quadrangle buildings, including The Great Hall, and the Nicholson Museum. This excursion also included a visit to St Andrews College on campus, where the group were facilitated by Dr Ian Jack.

A visit in June 2016 to the Arms of Australia Inn Museum and the Valley Heights Locomotive Heritage Museum were both of great interest and our KCHS group were well looked after by both organisations. A thank you is also in order to the staff and driver of the Peppercorn Community Bus Service, hired for these excursions.

A special secretary thank you to the committee and all KCHS members for your support and contributions to the Society over the past year, both financial and in kind, time, knowledge, research, meeting attendance, support with excursions etc. The combined interest and skills of the membership are required for the continuing operation of the Society. Without you all, KCHS would not exist.

Secretary Suzanne Smith



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EARLY ROADS to SINGLETON'S MILL KURRAJONG

William Gandry's portion 104

I recently visited Little Wheeny Creek to take a photo of the old crossing marked in red on William Gandry's 200 acre property, portion 104, on the parish map. On my way down the old track to the crossing I saw parrots and a wallaby and heard lots of birds singing. The old track is in good condition, although a little overgrown in places.

At the crossing of the creek some of the larger boulders can still be seen today. On the western side the road is built up by several metres as it winds out of the creek and is a little steeper than on the eastern side. It would be interesting to see if there was any convict stone work under this section of the road. Currently it is covered with loose soil and leaves and any stone foundations underneath are not visible.

The road then comes out of the steep creek and divides into two roads. One continues up towards the mountain. The other road goes down to where the old Donnybrook and the mill site were.

The track is marked on the 1893 Kurrajong parish map in red, as "track in use". The map is dated 1893 but this parish map is made up of many early maps or rolls as they are called. The earliest rolls are called the old rolls. The K210 is an old roll.

William Leverton's portion 122 (Originally Singleton's land)

The upper mill pond for the Speedwell mill is on William Leverton's portion 122, along with the mill race which is on the western side of the of the mill pond. The mill pond would have banked the water back up the creek. How far the water went up is unknown, but the mill pond would no doubt have given William Gandry a better water supply.

The road marked in red on the parish map going into William Leverton's portion 122 probably went over the top of the mill pond wall and continued over the mill race. Mill races can be crossed using large long wooden planks placed over the race on stone supports.

Early roads

Both the road in red on portion 104 and the road in red on portion 122 would be

considered private roads in the very early 1800s. They were probably convict built for access by each land owner to his own water supply and property, situated on the western side of the creek.

I would say in my opinion that the red road on William Leverton's portion 122 predates the red road on William Gandry's portion 104. The red road on William Gandry's portion 104 was probably made well up the creek to get around the water banked up by the mill pond on William Leverton's portion 122.

Summary

In my opinion, the upper Speedwell over-shot mill, its race, dam and mill pond were all located on the dedicated LEVERTON'S property portion 122. This includes the road access to the mill called the Grain Road. However the water in the mill pond may have and probably did bank up into William Gandry's 200 acre, portion 104. It is also possible that road access to the mill site could have also been through the private property of William Gandry's 200 acre, portion 104 property.

Les Dollin June 2016



W. Gandry Road in good condition
Image: Les Dollin June 2016

Leverton's Portion 122 & W. Gandry's Portion 104
1893 Parish Map of Kurrajong

W. Gandry's Ford across the creek
Image: Les Dollin June 2016

OF INTEREST View historical maps at: <http://voommaps.com/historical-maps/>
voomMAPS has scanned a number of out-of-copyright maps to allow you to view our cities as they were in years past. As these maps were published prior to 1954, Australian copyright law establishes that the copyright laws have elapsed, making them available to the public for general research.

NSW HISTORY WEEK 3 - 11 September 2016
For the PROGRAM of EVENTS visit:
www.historyweek.com.au

With a theme of *neighbours*, including stories of individuals, families and communities, there are numerous interesting talks, presentations and events listed for all regions of NSW

The Old Inns of North Richmond Part 3

by Deborah Hallam

Daniel Dickens was an early starter in the inn trade holding licences for "The Cross Keys", Windsor (1833-1835), "The Archer", Richmond (1839) and "Governor Darling", Richmond (1844-1845). One or both of the later was situated at Yarramundi. Prior to these licence dates he operated an hotel in Fitzgerald Street, Windsor which was offered for sale or lease in July 1825. Daniel also kept the "Baraba" in Windsor which burnt down in the Great Fire of 1874.

Dickens had been a convict sentenced for Highway robbery of a Mr Phipps, the amount being sixteen shillings. He was transported in 1815 on the "Baring". In 1820 he married NSW born Ann Beasley. They had four children before both Ann and the baby died on the birth of a boy in 1829.

Tragedy hit the family again in February, 1835 when Sarah (14) and Jane (11) were drawing rum in the cellar. Their candle ignited the fumes and an explosion ensured. Both children were killed and Daniel and a bystander injured.

Sometime before 1835 Daniel presumably married Hannah Soloman as although there doesn't seem to be a record of the marriage Hannah was referred to as "widow" after Daniel's death in 1852. Hannah and Daniel had one daughter, Laura Louisa born 1835.

In 1847 Daniel Dickens held the licence for "The Beehive Inn" at Enfield. The sign of the inn displayed the poem:

"In this Beehive, we're all alive, Good liquor makes us funny.

So if you are dry, step in and try, The virtue of our honey."

Sometime in the next few years the name was changed to the "Enfield Inn" and the licence issued under that name.

In 1852 Dickens died and Cooramill tells us his widow operated the hotel for some time. However in 1852 Hannah Dickens married John Moore at St Mathews, Windsor and the licence was transferred to him. John Moore operated the inn until his death in 1862 when Hannah again took over the licence.

In 1855 Hannah's daughter, Caroline married James McGuire at St Peter's, Richmond and they eventually took over the "Enfield". The ambience of the property was substantially

improved when the pound was moved from the adjoining paddock in 1858.

In 1882 James applied for a renewal of his licence and set about renovating the hotel. It was probably at this stage that the second storey was added and the name changed to the "Exchange".

Around 1889 the licence was transferred to Alex Matheson, J.P. and a member of the Windsor licensing board, application stated that the inn was "to be known as the Exchange" and consisted of six rooms plus family rooms.



In 1895 the license reverted to James McGuire and further renovations were made in July, 1896. James and Caroline McGuire died within a couple of weeks of each other in August, 1900. The licence was transferred from the estate to their daughter Laura Louisa Phipps. The Phipps family had a large property extending north from Bells Line along Terrace Road,

however Mrs Phipps took over running of the hotel and remained there until she closed down in 1913. It is noted that during 1907 (and probably at other times) the hotel was used for political meetings.

In 1918 Laura Phipps sold the old inn (lots37-40) to John Riley. On 21/1/1920 John Riley's obituary in the Hawkesbury Gazette reads: "John Riley of North Richmond. Late of Tennyson, approximately 68 years of age. One of the oldest settlers of Tennyson, purchased property at North Richmond where he lived with his family".

In 1930 the property was sold by the executrix of the estate to Chajjoo Khan although it was occupied by J.T. Riley. In December of the same year Khan was charged with keeping unsanitary premises occupied by J.T.Riley. It was possibly at this point that the top storey was removed and the bricks used to construct the house to the east.

In 1948 Charlie Khan died and the building was purchased by Lionel Francis Drury as a family home.

This property at North Richmond has recently been renovated again and is on the market as a family home (advertised as "The Travellers Rest").

Image: Old Inn North Richmond taken by Paul Hulbert 2014

Ray White

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Thelma Groch nee Ness by Jenny Griffiths



It is with sadness we note the recent passing of Thelma Groch. Thelma was born in 1924, the first child of Hjalmar (George) and Helen Ness. Hjalmar, a young Norwegian immigrant, served with the AIF in World War I. After the war he took up Soldier Settlement Portion 276 on Mill Road, Kurrajong. He married Helen Lord, whose family owned "Loxley". The farm was forfeited in 1938 and the family moved to a neighbouring property owned by Thelma's great-aunt. This property, called "Pinegrove", later became her home with her husband James Groch.

Thelma contributed 184 photographs to the KCHS image collection. They provide a window into her family and life in and around Kurrajong from the 1920s onwards.

Image: Thelma Groch in WRAAF Service Uniform 1943

KCHS FHG REPORT AGM 2016

2016 has been a quiet time for the Family History Group, we are a small but dedicated group.

We have been able to help the people who contacted us through our website. As these enquiries are usually about families from the Kurrajong, we are able to help them and at the same time are able to add more details to our pioneer families. Family historians are always happy to share their research with the Society.

Our second book on the St Stephens Church Kurrajong Parish Registers 1903 – 1936 has been completed and will be on sale this month.

Valerie Birch KCHS Family History Co-ordinator

ERRATUM NOTE: Image 150653

The image published in the July/August 2016 issue, is not the cottage known as "It'll Do".

Any historic knowledge and information about either property would be welcome.

St Peter's Richmond

175th Anniversary

24th July 2016

Celebration CAKE

FERNMOUNT Part 2 continued from page 1

The slopes in front of the house reverted from orchards to scrub and weeds. However a pond with statuary was installed and the name of the property changed to "The Hermitage".

In September 1983 Christopher John Walker bought 8.9 hectares, including Scott's house and outbuildings. Mrs Andlinger reverted to her maiden name of Kennedy and reserved for herself 40 acres on the western side of Burrellow Road.

The Walkers removed the wattle and privet from the former orchards and planted Proteas as a business enterprise which failed. On 26th May, 2001 Gary and Susan Rothwell bought "Fernmount" as a private country retreat in the spirit of William and Elizabeth Scott.

Airdrie Martin



"Bunburra" Cottage Image: Paul Hulbert 2014



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Members and Friends attend the KCHS mid-year LUNCHEON held at CHAPEL HILL BERAMBING on 7th July 2016

Images: Paul Hulbert



Guest Speaker : Deidre Morrison



Jenney Stevens, Jenny & David Griffiths



D Griffiths with Marilyn & John Wood DLHHS



Jake Stead, Alison Kerr - Bowen Mt Assoc.



Val Birch, Wanda Deacon, Carolynne Cooper



Pat and Ian O'Toole



Suzanne S, Deidre Morrison, Sheila Sharpe



Margaret and Ron Rozzoli



Helen Wood and Jeanette Hill

Deidre Morrison from the Macquarie Arts Society gave our luncheon group a glimpse into the work of early Colonial artists who had painted in the Hawkesbury Region, Joseph Lycett, George Evans and Conrad Martens. Included in Deidre's presentation were the works of artists such as Streeton, Condor and Julian Aston from the later *Heidelberg School*. A work by Sydney Ure Smith, "The Church Windsor", Alfred Clint "Grose Farm" at Freemans Reach along with a delightful painting "Poplars below Windsor Bridge" by Roderick Shaw founding member of the *Windsor Group*, "were but a few presented. **Suzanne Smith**



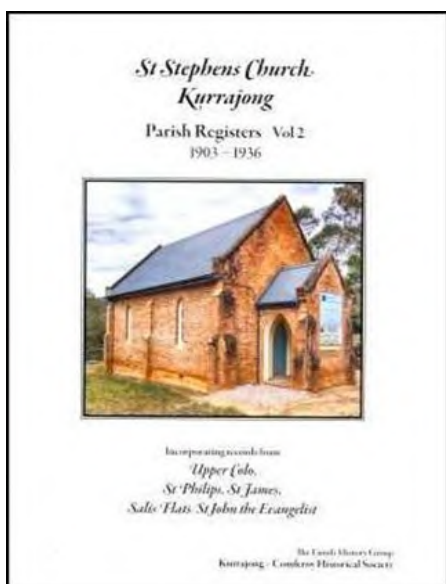
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Dates for Your DIARY



St Stephen's Church Kurrajong - Parish Registers - Book 2 (1903 – 1936)

LAUNCH EVENT The second book of the registers of St Stephen's has been published and covers the period 1930-1936. Book 2 includes records from St Stephens, St Philips, St James, St John the Evangelist/Salis Flats Mission Church and the Upper Colo. A collection of stories about many of the parishioners recorded in the book, adds an interesting dimension to the publication. You are welcome to attend the **LAUNCH event** where both BOOK 1 & 2 will be available for sale.

10am Service Sunday 11th September, 2016

St Stephen's Anglican Church

Grose Vale Road KURRAJONG 2758

Pre-orders of BOOK 1 & BOOK 2 are available by contacting:

The Secretary Kurrajong Comleroy Historical Society

PO Box 174 KURMOND NSW 2757

EMAIL: secretary@kurrajonghistory.org.au

KCHS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 7pm Monday 26th SEPTEMBER 2016

BLAXLAND RIDGE SCHOOL HALL

The AGM will be followed by a General Meeting with Guest Speaker *Professor Carol Liston (President RAHS)*

Please see NOMINATION FORM Insert

Professor Carol Liston will be speaking about her ancestor *Robert Aull* who had land at Kurrajong, and his involvement with the lost Hawkesbury village at Yarramundi

Blaxland Ridge School Hall is on the same site as the Blaxland Ridge Rural Fire Service Building, Blaxland Ridge Road.

Members are welcome to bring along cakes and sandwiches for supper.

NOTE: Please do not hesitate to contact David Griffiths Ph: 4567 8999 or Suzanne Smith Ph: 4567 7410 if you require transport to the AGM evening



KURRAJONG-A-BUZZ is a Kurrajong Community Forum

event supported by HCC, Bendigo Bank, WSU, HEN and other community groups

Kurrajong Comleroy Historical Society

will be holding a

Heritage Photographic Display in the CWA Hall

KCHS Members willing to assist with the exhibition for 1 or 2 hours on the day would be welcome

Please contact David Griffiths 4567 8999

webmaster@kurrajonghistory.org.au

ATTENTION: Members & Friends who booked the

Nepean Gorge History Discovery Tour

This event has been cancelled and will now be held in the Summer months 2017

An apology was given by the Nepean Belle Staff

The New Arrangements will be published in the January 2017 Millstone

KCHS CHRISTMAS EVENT

The committee are calling for interest from members who would be willing to hold the **2016 Christmas Party** in their home or on their property.

Arrangements re Christmas food, drinks, chairs etc. can be made in consultation with the committee.

This is always a wonderful time for members to gather in a relaxed way. **Please contact Secretary 4567 7410**