

# THE MILLSTONE

KURRAJONG ~ COMLERoy HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Covering all of the Hawkesbury West of the River, from North Richmond to Berambing, Bilpin, Grose Vale to Colo, including Wilberforce, Ebenezer, Glossodia, Tennyson, Freemans Reach and Bowen Mountain.

## The Kurrajong

*Its History & Natural History*

By A Musgrave PART 2

In September, 1823, Archibald Bell Jr, the son of Lieut. Archibald Bell, the founder of the "Belmont" Estate near North Richmond, made a successful crossing of the country from 'Belmont' to the Cox's River via Mt Tomah. He had previously tried in August of the same year, but the rough going and the fact that no way could be found down Mt Tomah forced his party to return. An account of the later successful expedition appeared in *The Sydney Gazette*, Thursday 9 October, 1823. The distance travelled was given as about 35-40 miles.

On October 6, 1823 Robert Hoddle, Assistant surveyor to Surveyor-General Oxley, left Richmond to survey the line discovered by Bell. The thick brushwood on the slopes of the Kurrajong retarded their progress. The task was completed by 11 November. In 1824 Hoddle also surveyed grants and roads in the Richmond and Kurrajong region.

The track from Richmond to the Cox's River became known as *Bell's Line of Road*, but save for its easy grade as a stock route, it was never popular... It will be recalled that the main Western Road was built by William Cox of Clarendon, whose son George was a brother in-law to Archibald Bell Jr. The Great Western was built in 1814 by thirty convicts, guarded by eight soldiers. Within six months the road was completed, work having started at the Nepean cutting on 18<sup>th</sup> July 1814 and was completed at Bathurst on 21<sup>st</sup> January 1815.

Returning to *The Kurrajong*! In 1823 another famous botanist and explorer visited the district – Allan Cunningham. He has been termed the 'Prince of Australian Explorers'. On the 26 November 1823, he left Bell's farm, then known as *Bell View* and visited the mountain known to the aborigines as "Tomah".

Allan Cunningham was a plant collector for Sir Joseph Banks and in 1837 he became the Colonial Botanist and Superintendent of the Sydney Botanic Gardens on 27<sup>th</sup> June 1839. An obelisk is erected over his remains in the Sydney Gardens.



So in 1823 no less than four parties were exploring the district west of The Kurrajong: two by A. Bell Jr., and those of Hoddle and Cunningham.

(Image above - Allan Cunningham)

Of the natives who frequented the Kurrajong district when the first Europeans arrived we do not seem to know very much, except that the tribe here was the *Boo-roo-ber-on-gal*. According to Captain Watkin Tench they live on birds and animals and were regarded as the enemies of the coastal natives. They are said to have been great tree climbers and hunters, while the women did the hunting for fish such as mullet.

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There are numerous sites along the Hawkesbury River that reveal both tool and canoe making activities by 1st Peoples. This site is near North Richmond.

## KURRAJONG – COMLERoy HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.

PO BOX 174 KURMOND NSW 2757

ABN 68930834921

Print ISSN 2201-0920 - Online ISSN 2202-6320

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secretary@kurrajonghistory.org.au

## President's Report

Well what can you say? Nothing much has been happening!

The Committee has held one meeting using Skype and another using Zoom. Zoom seems better but they want money ;-)

We are still considering if we will be able to hold our AGM in September - the way things are at present we think we will be able to, probably at a larger venue like Blaxlands Ridge Hall.

The Pansy Tour that was going to be held in April is also possibly going to be held in September but no firm decision just yet.

The Richmond Players book that has been preoccupying me for some time is finished!!! Pre-orders are being accepted via the Richmond Players website. Note that they are using their usual ticketing system so you will be asked to 'book a ticket' if you would like to order a copy. Pre-order price is \$35, which is a bargain for a 328 page hard cover A4 book. The book launch is planned for Saturday 5th September.

We are grateful that we have been able to keep publishing The Millstone, unlike our local newspapers, thanks to the great service HCC printery offers us.

Our Mid-Winter Dinner was another casualty of COVID. Perhaps we will hold an informal gathering around the same time for those who would like to attend.

Please remember that your membership is now due for renewal (except recent new members) and thank you to those who have renewed already. Renewal details below.

Keep safe, and I hope to see you all soon.

**David Griffiths**

### K-CHS MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Renew online: <https://www.kurrajonghistory.org.au>

Select Renew Membership

You can pay by EFTPOS, Credit Card, PayPal or post cheque to:

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Your address is not necessary (unless changed), but please complete and/or update any other details, including email and phone numbers. Prices are also on the online FORM. Note: Members who have joined since 1st March 2020 DO NOT NEED TO RENEW.

The MILLSTONE is printed by staff at the  
Hawkesbury City Council Print Room

Members are welcome to contact President

David Griffiths with any enquiries:

Email: president@kurrajonghistory.org.au

Ph: 4567 8999

### WELCOME to NEW MEMBERS

The Society would like to welcome new members

**Emma RAWLING**

**Pauline PORTELLI**

**Ann-Maree IRNSIDE**

**Lynne WILLING**

## The Kurrajong - Its History & Natural History cont.

Miss Louisa Atkinson writing of them in the Sydney Mail, September 1863, remarks, "These unhappy races have become rather a tradition than a reality already in many districts. Soon will the tribes have passed away from the land. The Richmond tribe reduced to one..." According to RH Mathews the Dhar'rook tribe occupied the region from the Hawkesbury River to Mt Victoria.

Tench speaks well of the Australian aborigines who were able to assist them upon their arrival at Richmond Hill (now Belmont). The natives helped them cross the Hawkesbury River and carried their guns and knapsacks... it is pointed out in Barton's *History of NSW*, page 164, "that all who were qualified to form an opinion – especially Phillip, Hunter and Collins, as well as Tench – seemed to have formed an opinion of the natives they met with, to have been animated by the kindest feelings towards them, not with-standing their occasional outbreaks of savagery".

Reference to the convicts should not be omitted, for it was largely upon their labours that the work of the colony depended. The construction of roads, building of bridges and public works were the results of their efforts and they continued to be hewers of wood and stone and drawers of water until long after the arrival of the first free settlers.

Between the years 1788-1841, 83,290 convicts were sent to NSW alone. On the voyage out many unfortunate convicts perished of 'goal fever' or epidemic typhus, a louse-borne disease, while the brutalising effects of the 'system' doubtless killed many more. A certain number were doubtless 'anti-social' in their ways, but there were many, including poor illiterates like Margaret Catchpole, who lived for years in the Richmond district and who are buried in local cemeteries... many sent out for little more than childish peccadillos. Many convicts were political exiles from England, Scotland and Ireland and among the latter the Rev. Henry Fulton, a preacher in the Richmond district whose name appears among the list of Rectors of St Peter's Richmond between the years 1814-1825.

Of note are the Hawkesbury River Floods. Exploration and settlement went hand in hand with development along the banks of the Hawkesbury and Nepean Rivers. Pests, famines

and floods were the lot of the first settlers endeavouring to establish themselves in a semi-arid land. The floods in the Hawkesbury River Valley caused much suffering, as well as considerable damage, with records of the heights to which they rose, often more than 40 feet above normal flow levels.

This devastation caused by the Hawkesbury floods in the early days of the colony, prompted Governor Macquarie to take steps to have five towns laid out above the reach of the flood waters. The town of Richmond was one of these laid out in 1809. In December 1810, Macquarie named the township on the Hawkesbury, Richmond... Windsor, Pitt Town, Wilberforce and Castlereagh were likewise named in the same official decree.

Just when the name 'Kurrajong' came into being for this particular part of the Dividing Range, I have not been able to determine. Although I did find a 1824 reference to: *the new county of Northumberland placed to the north of the County of Cumberland, comprises only the districts of Phillip, Meehan and of Kurryjunh, on the rivers of the Grose and Hawkesbury*. This suggests that the name was in use before 1824. The Kurrajong district is in fact located in the Country of Cook and not Northumberland.

In the NSW Calendar & General PO Directory 1834 pages 103-104, we read under the heading "*Bells Road through Kurrajong, from Richmond to Mount York*". "This country is called the Kurrajong and is mostly brush land, with some hundreds of small grants, the population is numerous and the cultivation extensive; there is no church or school yet established here, but on the right is a track leading to the village of Wilberforce, distant eight or ten miles, where there is a church, burial ground etc." The first settler in the Kurrajong appears to have been Joseph Douglass, on Wheeny Creek. His house is said to have had Kurrajong trees growing in front of it.

**Extracts from:** *The Kurrajong - Its History & Natural History* by A Musgrave as published in The Australian Museum Magazine, 15 December 1953 - Part 2 (To be continued in Part 3)

**Note:** Please keep in mind that this document was published in December 1953 and further research has since revealed or confirmed updated information, much of which has been published in numerous prior Millstone articles and heritage texts.

Document from the Mt Wilson/Mt Irvine Historical Society Archives  
Suzanne Smith



Along the creeks at Kurrajong and Comleroy Road are many areas with small rock wells, naturally carved into the rock with aboriginal axe sharpening grooves around them. The aborigines used these natural wells close to a water supply, to hold a small amount of water for grinding. They use the water in the well to wet the axes or spear heads then grind them into the dry soft sandstone to sharpen them, causing grooves to appear as they run the hard stone long ways.

Images: <https://www.aboriginalculture.com.au/>





### An Interesting Letter

In 1919, Airdrie Martin's grandparents Phyllis and Michael Minnett bought 7 acres along Bells Line of Road north of the village of Kurrajong Heights. Her grandfather, a professional gardener was taken by the potential of the Kurrajong district for all kinds of agriculture and horticulture. In 1927 he wrote to the Sydney Morning Herald to draw attention to the need for a more secure water source. He showed remarkable foresight in proposing the damming of a river. Twenty or so years later, came the Warragamba Dam, on a different river, to boost the water supply to Sydney, but unfortunately not to Kurrajong! In 1935 after 25 years as head gardener at *Admiralty House*, Michael retired to his property *Wotonga* at Kurrajong Heights. It was in that same year the British Admiralty passed *Admiralty House* to the Australian Government. Airdrie has Michael Minnett's original letter, and this is an edited version.

Sir,

*May I be allowed to draw attention to the possibilities of the Kurrajong District. It is surely not generally known that here we have a very large area of highly fertile land...In this area is contained possibly the richest most fertile soil within a hundred miles of Sydney, of a brown loamy nature averaging 24 inches deep. Its aspect giving shelter from the westerly winds possessing a temperate climate both winter and summer, sufficiently far from the seaboard to escape the humidity that prevails there. Here we have the ideal position for the production of fresh vegetables for the Sydney markets. [The early settlers planted wheat, and later the area has produced citrus fruits, then green vegetables, principally peas and beans. Ed]*

*The growers here of vegetables soon realized how essential it is to have water to apply to growing vegetable crops, although the average rainfall here is about 47 inches in the past two years 35 to 36. There were two dry periods, one of six and the other of seven inches monthly. One could not guarantee to produce under such dry conditions, even with the best soil, a continuous supply of vegetables.*

*The whole remedy for this happening then is **water**. One's thoughts turn immediately to the Grose River which flows out through this fertile district from the Blue Mountains, unites*

*with the Hawkesbury River at the foot of the mountains a few miles further down it meets the tidal waters and becomes brackish, useless for applying to the land. The catchment for feeding this fine river is in the heart of the Blue Mountains called the Grose Valley. I understand that it contains neither human habitation or a head of stock, composed of sandstone country, therefore a natural filtration bed giving a pure water supply equal to any in the State. I respectfully request that consideration be given by the Government to the possibility of storing the waters of the Grose River in the Grose Valley not only for the purpose I have suggested above, but for the further use in a city that in the very near future will become the second largest city in the British Empire. With water available here the possibilities would not end with being Sydney's kitchen garden. Commercial flower growers would be quick to see the advantage of talking up land here. It would also be the ideal country for nurserymen for the propagation of fruit trees, ornamental trees shrubs and roses which is a growing industry.*

*The Government already has a railway running in the centre of this country, giving a good service and very moderate rates, and no doubt would be willing and able to lift a hundred times the quantity of produce offering at present. In a direct line running from here towards Sydney are the growing towns of Richmond and Windsor adjoining which is the Hawkesbury Agricultural College, all of which would welcome an assured and pure water supply, which would be available from the Grose Valley by pipeline.*

*The Water Board no doubt would be glad to supplement the present water supply to Sydney from the Nepean catchment area to Prospect dam and if considered practical could continue on the pipeline to Windsor as previously suggested in this letter, continue the same on through the Hills District to Hornsby. I respectively suggest that the government may give consideration to the above proposal. It may be found on investigation that it would be quite practical to impound the watershed of the Grose Valley. If so it would be the means of providing a large number of our people with a continuous, profitable and happy living.*

*I am... etc. Signed: Michael Minnett 1907 [Sic]*



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## A Tunnel Holds Much Historic Wealth

"Ninety years ago a young man sat on a rock in Glenbrook enthralled by the sight before him. His name was Arthur Streeton and he was 24 years old. He found the spot after following the railway line for ¾ mile or so to where "big brown men are toiling all the hot day excavating and making a tunnel". The site was Lapstone Tunnel, which was constructed in 1890-91 to bypass the slow zig-zag rail system.

Writing to his friend Fredrick McCubbin, another famous Australian artist, he described the scene in miraculous detail and said "I'll soon begin a canvas of this, I think it looks stunning. Tis like painting in the 'Burning Fiery Furnace'; so beautiful and bright and yet so difficult to attain". Yet he felt inadequate, "Is it worth painting?" he wrote. "Why of course, dam it all!. That is provided that I am capable of translating my impression to the canvas".



Arthur Streeton did paint it and the result is the famous *Fires On, Lapstone Tunnel*, now hanging in the State Art Gallery. (Image adjacent)

The area now looks nothing like that depicted in the painting. It is overgrown and weed infested and the 790 meter tunnel, which has been described as an engineering marvel, is now occupied by mushrooms. And as 1991 marks the 100th anniversary of the completion of the

painting and the construction of the tunnel, the Lower Blue Mountains Conservation Society wants to clear and clean the eastern end of the tunnel. The group would love to bring the area back to its natural state so it can be part of the Eastern escarpment historic walking track.

The manager of "Glenbrook Mushrooms" Tony Scott, is all for the idea. He has been fascinated by the history of the tunnel and its entrances since he began working there, and has a copy of "Fires On" in his office. There is much to commend the site being restored for posterity, not to mention tourists.

Another friend of Streeton, A.B.(Banjo) Paterson well known as a poet but also reported to be a fighter for worker's rights, is reported to have visited him at the site and the word BANJO with a small carving of a banjo has been found. It is recorded, the only time Paterson used the name Banjo, he would write the N backwards. The N in the engraving is back to front.

Arthur Streeton was a frequent visitor to Glenbrook, staying at "Westwinds" cottage, on the Cnr. King & Barnett Streets, which remains standing today".

*This is an abridged version published in the "Glenbrook Points" Newsletter, of the original article by Judy Prisk which appeared in the Penrith Press 20th December 1988. The full transcript is available at the **Glenbrook & District Historical Society Museum**. Contact: Ian Dingwall [glenbrookdhs@gmail.com](mailto:glenbrookdhs@gmail.com)*

**Historical Note:** The Lapstone Hill Tunnel was added to the NSW State Heritage Register on 5 August 2011. The single track railway tunnel is located on the former Main Western Line (since deviated), near the Great Western Highway Glenbrook, within the Blue Mountains local government area. The Department of Railways designed and built the tunnel from 1891 to 1892. Also known as the former Glenbrook Railway and World War II Mustard Gas Storage Tunnel. The property is managed by Blue Mountains City Council and Land and Property Management Authority, an agency of the Government of NSW. In recent decades the tunnel was used as a Mushroom Farm, these are no longer grown in the tunnel.

Over the past 2 years restoration work has been carried out at the old Lapstone Hill Tunnel site, much of this work was engaged in by local Blue Mountains heritage and environment groups, along with strategic support and funding from the BMCC and State Government, in cleaning up the site. It is hoped the final outcome will be a walking and bike riding trail leading to and through the old tunnel.



**Lapstone Hill Tunnel - Western Portal 2016**

Image: Courtesy Andrew Tester - Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Heritage Museum



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## The Davis Family of Hermitage Road

### By Jennifer Griffiths, with the help of Patsy Hassall

The Davis family of Hermitage Road is descended from convict, Joseph Davis (1787- 1869). In 1804, Joseph, from Leicester, England, was charged with desertion from both the 1<sup>st</sup> Kings Dragoon Guards and the 83<sup>rd</sup> Regiment of Foot. His death sentence was commuted to transportation for fourteen years. He arrived in Sydney in 1807 on the "Duke of Portland". In 1810 he married Mary Ann Rodgers (1787-1862), also a convict. He gained his Ticket-of-Leave in 1814, and had a grant of 40 acres on Sackville Road (Portion 13 Wilberforce Parish). Joseph and Mary had 9 children.



**James Davis Jr. and family at *The Hermitage***  
Image: 170016 K-CHS Collection

The 1828 Census lists him as a farmer at North Richmond on 40 acres. However this may have been actually North Kurrajong, where his youngest child, Elizabeth, was born in 1828. Joseph's name can not be found on the Parish maps but he most probably purchased the property on Donkin (now Hermitage) Road, shown as Portion 164 on the Parish map. This became known as "Bernilla".

Joseph's son George (1814-1895) married Elizabeth Anne Wilson, whose father Job Wilson had 50 acres in the same area. According to Mr Alfred Smith, whose memories were recorded by Robert Farlow in the newspaper series "Some Ups and Downs of an old Richmondite", George lived near "Mr Wilson's place" and was "a great sawyer". George's brother John also lived nearby and, according to Alfred Smith, farmed potatoes.



**James Davis Snr.**  
Image: 170026

George and Mary's son James (1842-1928) married a cousin, Mary Ann Wilson, the daughter of his uncle, Simeon Wilson, in 1871. James lived at "Bernilla", where he had an orchard. He and Mary had 10 children.

In 1889 James purchased 2 acres on the corner of Bells Line of Road and Hermitage Road where the original Kurrajong North School stood. The building had been condemned and James demolished it in 1912. This property was transferred to his daughter, Louisa, who married Sydney Hearne. Her house, called "Hillcrest", still stands on the corner, with the old North Kurrajong Post Office and store next door.

In 1896 James purchased "The Hermitage", which had been the property of the Rev. Donkin, whose house had been

destroyed in the 1895 bushfires. This became the property of his son James Jr. (1874-1947) who married Sarah Jane Riley. Both of Sarah's grandfathers, James Mostyn *aka* Butler and Patrick Riley owned neighbouring properties. It is ironic that the house James Jr. built at "The Hermitage" was destroyed in the bushfires of 1944.

Then, in 1905, James Sr. purchased "Timberinga", on the southern side of Mill Road. This property was given to his son Henry (1868-1948). It later became the property of Henry's daughter Daphne who married "Mick" Davis, a member of an unrelated local Davis family.

When James Jr. inherited "Bernilla", he sub-divided it for his two sons. His older son Frank (1899-1988) lived at "Bernilla" where he had an orange orchard and grew peas. The younger son, Russell (1902-1993) received the other portion, which he named "Blue Hills". Russell built himself an unusual house in the shape of a wagon wheel. This was sold and the house demolished in about 1997. Russell's son Dennis, or Denny as everyone knew him, built a new house at "The Hermitage" in about 2000. He lived there until he passed away in 2016, and the property was sold.



**The Russel Davis *Wagon Wheel House* K-CHS Image 170008**

After almost 200 years, Joseph Davis' great-great-grandchildren are still part of Hermitage Road. "Bernilla" is owned by Frank's son, James. Patsy Hassall, the daughter of Frank's sister Olive, owns a small acreage which was originally part of "The Hermitage". Together, with her husband, she escapes to the country as often as she can.

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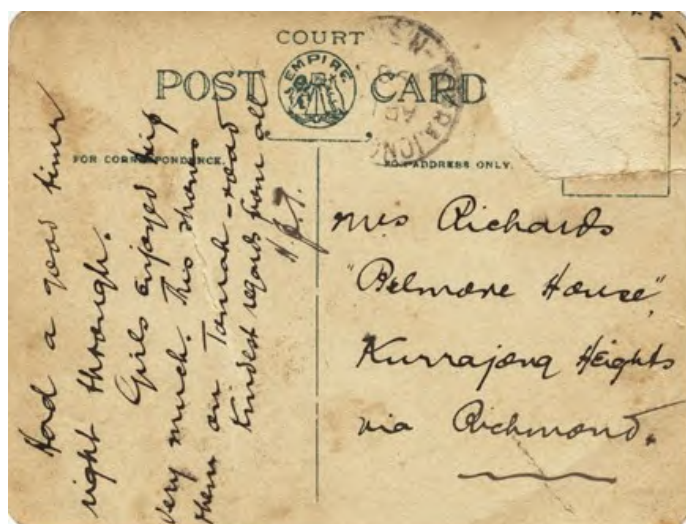
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## From THE ARCHIVES



Above is a postcard sent to Mrs Richards, who with her husband ran 'Belmore Lodge', Kurrajong Heights. It shows a group of eight women and one man hiking. The back of the postcard and inscription can be seen in image 081812. "Had a good time right through. Girls enjoyed trip very much. This shows them on Tomah Road. Kindest regards from all." Addressed to Mrs Richards "Belmore House" Kurrajong Heights via Richmond. The card is postmarked 'Kurrajong' and dated April 190(?). Note: The Empire symbol with the Lion & Kangaroo on postcard. Tomah Road (Street) is directly opposite Belmore Lodge and crosses Bells Line of Road to the NE, from where Little Blue Gum Gully can be accessed. Postcard IMAGE 081811 & Postcard reverse IMAGE 081812 can be accessed at [www.kurrajonghistory.org.au](http://www.kurrajonghistory.org.au)



**The Jungle Tea Rooms Mt Tomah** during a 1929 snowfall  
From the HCC Archive Collection

A note of interest: After WW1, Philip Charley of "Belmont" North Richmond, began to subdivide the original Bowen property on Mount Tomah and in 1927 sold what then became known as "The Jungle" to a syndicate of public men. This group maintained the integrity of "The Jungle" and had it declared a Public Reserve in 1929, but in 1937 it reverted to the ownership of Philip Charley's son Welford, who resided in the *tearoom house* that had opened in 1927, to cater for the many tourist now visiting "The Jungle" by car.

### Remembering Peter Martin 2nd June 1931 - 22nd May 2020

K-CHS members were saddened by the recent death of Peter Martin, husband of Airdrie, Committee member and long-time contributor to The Millstone and many other K-CHS activities.

Peter was born in Hong Kong of British parents. At age 10 in 1941 he was interned for three years and eight months, along with his parents, by the Japanese. In 1945 following WW2, Peter was repatriated with his family to Sydney, attending Cranbrook School Bellevue Hill, before attending the AWA Marconi

School of Wireless. After assisting in setting up a number of regional radio stations, in particular Taree in NSW, Peter returned to Sydney. He joined Channel 9 from the ABC in July 1958, on the staff in transmitters. He became the original Supervising Technician of the VTR department at TCN 9 Sydney in about 1960 and oversaw the introduction of the AMPEX 1000 625 line synch locked VTR and the AMPEX HS 100C Videodisc live Slo-Mo machine, which revolutionised sports coverage worldwide. He was involved in the change of television to colour in 1974. He retired from Channel 9 after 36 years, in

December 1994. Peter was highly respected in the VTR world and will be sadly missed by all who worked with him and all who knew him.

After a long career in television, Peter retired to Kurrajong Heights with Airdrie, whom he had met while they both worked at Channel 9, marrying in 1961. Peter supported Airdrie throughout the years in all her many community activities, but more especially as a member of K-CHS. They had 4 children together. Peter was a long standing member of the Royal Prince Alfred Yacht Club, Pittwater. Peter will be missed by family and friends.



## Dates for Your DIARY

### Attention K-CHS Members & Friends

The events listed below had been temporarily cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic distancing requirements and the limits placed on group numbers attending events. Changes to these arrangements are on the horizon, so an email will be sent to members by President David Griffiths or view updates at: <https://www.kurrajonghistory.org.au>

- ◆ Pansy Line Tour (late August or mid-September)
- ◆ K-CHS AGM/GM 28th September 2020

### A History of Hawkesbury Library Service

During the 19<sup>th</sup> century the Hawkesbury district was served by several Literary Institutes or 'Schools of Arts'. Windsor commenced in 1857 and Richmond in 1860. Members paid a subscription fee to borrow books, and lectures were also presented.

In 1935 the Munn-Pitt Report was published and recommendations included free public library services. Four years later the Library Board was set up in NSW to provide library funding. The first public library in the Hawkesbury district was established by Windsor Municipal Council and was housed in the old School of Arts building in Thompson Square. At that time the State Government subsidy was £87 per annum, Council's contribution was £260. The Library served a population of 3,460 with one member of staff.

The first purpose built library building, was constructed by the Council in Fitzgerald Street, and was opened by the Mayor, Alderman Vic Gillespie in 1953. Later Colo Shire Council joined with Windsor to form Windsor/Colo Joint Library. A branch library was established in Richmond in the old Council Chambers in West Market Street in 1957.

By 1979 Windsor Council resolved to build a new library. This octagonal building, situated on the corner of Dight and George Streets, was officially opened the following year. Substantial extensions were also made to Richmond Library in 1980.

In 1981 Colo and Windsor Shire Councils amalgamated to form Hawkesbury Shire Council and the Library became known as the Hawkesbury Shire Council Library Service. By 1986 the Library Service was computerised and the card catalogue removed.

## Guest Houses of Early Kurrajong

The latest publication of the Society is a 34 page A5 booklet that details the most significant **Guest Houses of Early Kurrajong** and includes a colour map showing their locations. Available via the K-CHS website: <https://www.kurrajonghistory.org.au>  
Or phone secretary Marguerite on 4576 1371  
COST: \$5.00 (members \$4.50) Postage \$3.00

A brief review can be found in the May-June Millstone and the cover can be viewed online at: [www.kurrajonghistory.org.au](http://www.kurrajonghistory.org.au) along with all available publications for sale, including the recently published **Kurrajong Rural Fire Brigade 80th Anniversary Commemorative book**. Cost: \$20.00 (members \$18.00) Post \$8.00

In 2001 the Hawkesbury City Council approved the concept of a new library building on the Old Hospital site in Macquarie Street. A combined Library and Art Gallery building was proposed and the *Deerubbin Centre* was officially opened in 2005. The Library is now known as the Hawkesbury Library Service.

The service has advanced over the years, with new collections introduced and others becoming obsolete. Technology has played an important role for both staff and borrowers. Today there are over 20 PCs for customers to use, Wifi is freely available and members can borrow a range of material and download magazines and books.

Windsor Library holds one of the most comprehensive Family History Research Collections in the State of NSW, giving access to a wide collection of documents and through the digitised system, website links to global family research sites, early shipping and convict records and free access to Ancestry.com and related websites.

### Hawkesbury Library Service



A welcome is extended to Michelle & Karen, new owners of the much loved "Carey & Co" in Kurrajong Village. Thank you both for your willingness to support the work of K-CHS, through advertising.



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993 Bells Line of Rd Kurrajong Hills