

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.

K-CHS Millstone - Milestones - Celebrating 20 Years 2001-2021

This document provides a selection of events, activities and achievements, but most of all of the people who made all that happen and have provided such an impressive record for a small Society since it was founded in 2001.

2001

- January 28 - Inaugural meeting held at Comleroy Road School of Arts with approximately 50 in attendance.
- The first Committee elected - Kathie McMahon President, Louise McMahon Secretary – Kay Vella, Jennifer Stackhouse, Geraldine Tilden, Ivan Faithfull, Steve Rawling, Steve Vella, Joy Shepherd.
- Musical evening organized by Kathie McMahon which raises \$1000 as basis for K-CHS funds.
- Ben Singleton's millstones adopted as K-CHS Logo. Tony Dixon donates sketch for use.
- First *Back to the Kurrajong* event and photographic display of K-CHS image collection held at Comleroy School of Arts.
- Bus tour of the district guided by Kathie and Louise McMahon.
- John Love, Ian Jack, Colleen Fitzgerald, Falconer McKenzie are guest speakers at General Meetings during the year.



Comleroy Road School of Arts the venue for K-CHS Meetings & Events in the early years of the Society
K-CHS Image Collection No. 163303

THIS ISSUE

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President's Corner

Welcome to this very special edition of The Millstone in which we mark our 20th anniversary. Steve Rawling has trawled the archives to pull together a very comprehensive compendium of our history. We hope you enjoy reminiscing as you browse through it. If any past tours catch your eye and you would like to see them repeated, please let us know.

Steve will be giving a talk at our 20th birthday party on Australia Day in which he will expand on the more significant events and add illustrations.

We held our Christmas Party on the 19th December, at Kurrajong Heights Bowling Club. The volunteers there put on a fabulous event with all the trimmings. Everyone I spoke to had a really enjoyable time. I think they will be seeing us come back again!

Speaking of Australia Day, we are doing something a bit different this year, in recognition of the importance of the anniversary. We will be providing a Chicken and Champagne Breakfast and are asking you to register your intention to attend for catering and Covid reasons - on the website as usual please, or call the secretary. We have also invited any past members that we could contact to join us.

I trust you had a pleasant festive season, despite Covid disrupting many plans, and look forward to seeing you at K-CHS events during 2021

David Griffiths
president@kurrajonghistory.org.au

Two millstones from Ben Singleton's Mills, Little Wheeny Creek, were placed on display on the corner of Bells Line of Road and Comleroy Road, after reconstruction of the corner by the DMR in 1947/1948.

A recommendation by K-CHS was made in 2002 to Hawkesbury City Council requesting the millstones be relocated to *War Memorial Park*, Kurrajong, where they are now situated.



The Millstones were adopted as the K-CHS logo in 2001, and the logo design created by the late Tony Dixon for the Society in 2001.

2002

- First issue of the Millstone, edited by Louise McMahon and the K-CHS Mission Statement adopted.
- Working Bee at *Bellbird Echo* for proposed Society premises.
- 'Preloved' kitchen donated by Brenda & Garth Smith - Installed at Comleroy Road School of Arts by Bill & Jan Livingstone.
- Recommendation to Council that the millstones be relocated to War Memorial Park.
- Location of the Singleton's Mill sites established. Society members excursion to the Mill site on 11th May 2002.
- A visit to *Sunnyside*, North Richmond.
- July Workshop on *The Great Christmas Bushfire of Christmas Day 2001*.
- September 17 - First Annual General Meeting. 17 Members present. Kath McMahon elected President.
- Grant of \$1000 received from Council to fund the exhibition on the history of the millstones.
- *Back to the Kurrajong* display at the CWA Hall of photographs focusing on agriculture in the region, followed by participation in the Kurrajong Scarecrow Festival.



K-CHS Members - excursion to the Wheeny Creek Mill site
11th May 2002, led by Les Dollin

L-R Roger Holliday, Frank Holland, Carol Carruthers, Marguerite Wyborn, Brenda Smith, Bryan Wyborn, Margaret Rozzoli, Robert Britten, Ron Rozzoli, Barbara Britten, Jan Livingstone, Louise McMahon & Les Dollin

2003

- January 26th Australia Day celebrated by 70 people at Comleroy Road School of Arts. John Love spoke about the history of the *Kurrajong Picture Theatre*.
- Mill Walk for members conducted by Les Dollin.
- The passing of Jean McMahon – the “Godmother” of K-CHS.
- Launch of the Work for the Dole Project, led by Joy Shepherd, scanning photographs from our collection, in partnership with Hawkesbury Skills.
- K-CHS represented by Louise McMahon, contributes to Land and Environment hearing which led to the retention of *La Tosca*, threatened with demolition.
- Visit to Camp MacKay, led by Val Holland.
- AGM Held at Comleroy Road School of Arts. With 16 members present. Kath McMahon steps down as President. Jennifer Stackhouse elected.
- *Back to the Kurrajong* – Evening talk and supper combined with the official launch of historical photograph exhibition in the CWA Hall – drawn from the Work for the Dole Project. Participation in the Scarecrow Festival.
- *Louisa Atkinson Day of Tribute* at Mount Tomah Botanic Garden - Jennifer Stackhouse chairperson.
- K-CHS display at The Small Farms Expo.
- December Christmas meeting held at *McKenzie Farm*, Kurmond.



Kath McMahon & Ian Henry - Australia Day 2003
Comleroy Road School of Arts Image: 050536



Members of K-CHS & Kurrajong North Richmond Rotary attend a Dinner in June 2003 at North Richmond Sports Club. Kathie & Louise McMahon centre. Image 050530

2004

- Australia Day Breakfast held at *Heavenly Bell Café*.
- Fundraising concert at St David's, Kurrajong Heights.
- Bowen Mountain walk led by Greg Upton and a Kurrajong Village walk, led by Ken Bennett.
- Second phase of the Work for the Dole project begins.
- *Weddings of Yesteryear* display in Kurrajong CWA.
- Contribution of photographs to *Barns of the Hawkesbury* display in Windsor for Heritage Week.
- Publication of *Memories of Kurrajong*, CD and Songbook, by Steve Rawling, with part of the proceeds of sale for K-CHS.
- September Louise McMahon resigns as Secretary, Public Officer and Millstone Editor. A new committee elected: Jennifer Stackhouse President, Val Holland Secretary, Kathie McMahon, Joy Shepherd, Frank Holland, Ian O'Toole. Val Birch, Airdrie Martin, Marguerite Wyborn, Greg Upton. Greg takes on the editorship of the Millstone.
- Re-enactment of George Caley's journey, starting in Burrallow Valley.
- Centenary of St Gregory's, Kurrajong.



Steve Rawling and Frank Holland addressing K-CHS members & friends (below) at the Flood, Fire & Famine *Back to the Kurrajong* 2004 event. Image: 050704



2005

- Australia Day Breakfast at Loxley on Bellbird Hill. Meredyth Hungerford was Guest of Honour and presented with an award, that recognised her work in recording the history of the Bilpin District, published as *Bilpin - The Apple Country*
- Discussions begin about a Community Centre in Kurrajong. Joy Shepherd takes part for K-CHS and argues for space for the Society.
- Joy Shepherd recognized as Hawkesbury Citizen of the Month in February, principally for her work on the Work for the Dole project on our photographic collection, now numbering 2000 images.
- Time Capsule including material from K-CHS buried at St Gregory's.
- Major excursion "*The Road to Comleroi*" organized by Frank Holland - Kurrajong to Singleton.
- First Winter Dinner. First meeting featuring a film night with historical films of the District courtesy of member Ian O'Toole.
- Comleroy Road Public School celebrates 125 years.
- Discussions held about the future of Comleroy Road School of Arts, including possible sale. Much community concern.
- Lunch Club visit to State Records, Kingswood.
- Old schoolhouse at Blaxland Ridge made available to the Society as a temporary storage facility and occasional meeting place.
- New Constitution drafted by Frank Holland, Ron Rozzoli and Brian Wyborn. Changes to the K-CHS Constitution recommended by the Committee and circulated to members for a postal vote.
- Display in CWA Hall for Scarecrow Festival – *Kids of the Kurrajong*.
- Computer donated for use in Work for the Dole project by Bob McCallum. During the year a further 500 photographs were sourced, scanned, and saved on disk.
- Max and Gwen Doyle honoured for their community work with award of the Order of Australia Medal (one each!).
- *Back to the Kurrajong* celebration and participation in the Scarecrow Festival.
- Richmond – Kurrajong Connection walk with Mary Avern and Kathie McMahon.
- The passing of Arthur Poole, lifelong resident of Kurrajong Heights, historian, orchardist and landscaper.
- Christmas Party at the home of Marguerite and Bryan Wyborn.

2006

- Australia Day Breakfast at *Wynella Gardens*. Cathy McHardy receives the Society's Australia Day Award.
- Joy Shepherd receives Citizen of the Month Award from HCC.
- Centenary of Upper Colo Anglican Church celebrated.
- Ian O'Toole opens the Kurrajong Radio museum.
- Les Dollin leads a tour of the *Old Grain Road* from Kurrajong to Wilberforce after a visit to State Records reveals an 1833 map of the road.
- Overnight excursion exploring Bells Line of Road from Kurrajong to Hartley.
- Midwinter Dinner held on board the Hawkesbury Paddle Wheeler.
- Grant received from North Richmond Community Bank towards the establishment of a new website. Greg Upton becomes webmaster and Chris Upton takes over the role of Millstone editor.
- Excursion to Charles Darwin Walk.
- K-CHS AGM - St David's Kurrajong Hts. Frank Holland President, Kathie McMahon Vice, Val Holland Secretary, Joy Shepherd Treasurer.



K-CHS member Bryan Wyborn with the working *Mill Model* he created - often on display at Hawkesbury events including Scarecrow Festivals, 'Kurrajong Back to Back' & the Hawkesbury Hobby & Model Show

2007

- Australia Day celebrated at *Loxley on Bellbird Hill*. The Australia Day Award was presented to Louise McMahon representing her late mother, Jean McMahon, the driving force behind the Formation of K-CHS.
- The launch of the Society's website by Greg Upton, Webmaster.
- Visit to *History House*, headquarters of the Royal Australian Historical Society.
- The passing of Meredyth Hungerford. Historian of Bilpin, and foundation member of the Society.
- Display mounted at Hawkesbury Hobby and Model Show.
- Centenary of Comleroy Road School of Arts.
- Field trip to Wisemans Ferry with the Dharug and Lower Hawkesbury Historical Society.
- The passing of Tony Dixon, the designer of the Society's logo.
- Field trip along Bells Line of Road looking at former timber mills.
- Talks by members to Richmond Retirees Association, Kurrajong Primary School, Hawkesbury Retirement Village, Hawkesbury Historical Society, Prospect Historical Trust, Windsor Over Fifties, and Richmond Legacy ladies.
- Field trip retracing the Richmond to Kurrajong rail line – *The Pansy Line*, with Jenny and David Griffiths as guides.
- AGM held with Guest Speaker Professor Barrie Reynolds, Secretary of BMACHO.
- New Committee elected with Frank Holland continuing as President and Val Holland as Secretary, Members: Airdrie Martin, Joy Shepherd, Pat O'Toole, Steve Rawling, Greg Upton, John Howard, Janet Zerbini. Chris Upton continued as Millstone Editor and Greg Upton as Webmaster. Kathie McMahon, founding President, steps down from the Committee.
- Christmas gathering held at Bowen Mountain Park.

2008

- Australia Day Breakfast at the Kurrajong Heights Hotel. The Australia Day Award was presented to Vera Bentvelzen, with congratulations on the publication of her *Diggers' Hill*, covering forty seven Soldier Settlement properties established in the area after World War I.
- Certificates of Achievement were presented to Valerie Birch and Rod and Wendy Gow for publications on Kurrajong History.
- Talk presented by Steve Rawling on Louisa Atkinson.
- Publication of a selection of photographs from the Society's collection – *Glimpses of the Kurrajong*, by the Book Committee, David and Jenny Griffiths, Paul Hulbert, Val Birch and Airdrie Martin.
- Meeting held to discuss the possibility of permanent premises for the Society. (Cont. page 5)

2008 (continued)

- *Hidden Secrets of the Blue Mountains*, tour led by Les Dollin, as far as Mount Wilson. 52 attended – the largest number in attendance on our tours/excursions.
- Midwinter dinner at Panthers Club, North Richmond. Speaker was Philip Charley OAM, about his family and *Belmont Estate*.
- Visits to the Powerhouse Discovery Centre, Castle Hill and a visit to Singleton's mills site led by Les and Anne Dollin.
- Publication by Paul Hulbert of *Future History*, with photographs and profiles of over one hundred individuals and families of *The Kurrajong*.
- Visit to Rouse Hill House and Farm, and Dights' Farm (*Durham Bowes*) in Richmond.
- Christmas party held at *Merrajong*, home of David and Jenny Griffiths.

2009

- Australia Day breakfast at *Loxley on Bellbird Hill*. Australia Day Awards were presented to Joy Shepherd for her tireless work as Treasurer and her commitment to the 'Work for the Dole' project, in creating the digital image archive, and to Les and Anne Dollin for their many contributions to the Society including excursions.
- Field trip to Lithgow, including the State Mine Heritage Park Railway Museum, and Small Arms Factory Museum.
- 140th anniversary of St Stephen's Anglican Church Kurrajong.
- Midwinter Dinner - Panthers Nth Richmond. John Brock Surveyor & Historian spoke on the history of surveying in the district.
- During the year other talks covering early settlers grants in the district were given by Les Dollin and Cathy McHardy.
- Excursion to the Thirlmere Rail Museum featuring a 'Pansy' style locomotive.
- Exhibit of documents in the CWA Hall Kurrajong, relating to early settlement in conjunction with the Kurrajong Scarecrow Festival.
- Photographic collection - digital image library now comprising 4,500 images uploaded to the K-CHS website.
- Program announced for the Macquarie 2010 celebrations
- Christmas gathering at the property of John and Carolynne Cooper.

2010

- Australia Day celebration at Bowen Mountain Park. Merit Awards presented to Book Committee.
- The passing of Anne McPherson, editor of *Views from the Heights*, and elder of St David's, Uniting Church. Also the passing of Gladys Vincent, foundation member, at the age of 95.
- The opening of Kurrajong Community Centre in McMahon Park.
- Visit to Old Government House, Parramatta.
- Midwinter Dinner at *Sassafras Creek* Restaurant, Kurrajong Village. Speaker Kevin Rozzoli, dealing with Governor Macquarie's unique relationship with the people of the Hawkesbury.
- Family History Group formed and participates in the Hawkesbury Family History Fair.
- Les Dollin and members accompany Dr Martin Bibbs and students from the University of Sydney in a survey of the Singleton's Mills site.
- Coach Tour re-tracing Governor Macquarie's tour from *Jamieson's Farm to Kurrajong*.

Joy Shepherd receives an Australia Day & Citizenship Award for her K-CHS Image Archival work with the *Work for the Dole* program.

Below: K-CHS group tour Jamieson to Kurrajong part of the Macquarie 2010 celebrations.



2010 (continued)

- The highlight of the Celebration of the Centenary of Governor Macquarie's visit to *The Kurrajong*, was a Vice-Regal Dinner held at *Loxley, On Bellbird Hill*, honoured by the presence of the then Governor, Her Excellency Marie Bashir, accompanied by her husband Sir Nicholas Shehadie. 120 K-CHS members and friends enjoyed a 3 course dinner and the evening's events.
- Re-enactment of Macquarie's visit by members of the *Richmond Players*. The cast included Frank & Valerie Holland, Margaret & Ron Rozzoli, but the outstanding feature was a talk from the Governor about Macquarie's importance to NSW.
- This occasion and the whole of the year-long celebration of the Macquarie centenary was planned and organised by President Frank Holland, Valerie Holland, Ron & Margaret Rozzoli.
- AGM - New Committee elected, with Frank Holland continuing as President and Val Holland as Secretary. Members: Airdrie Martin, Peggy McCarr-Israel, Carolynne Cooper, Pat O'Toole, Steve Rawling, Kathy McMahon-Nolf and Suzanne Smith.



K-CHS Macquarie 2010 events - the Loxley Dinner with guest speaker Marie Bashir included a performance by the Richmond Players. The Local Schools re-enactment, held at Kurrajong School.



2011

- Australia Day breakfast held at Kurrajong Heights Hotel. President Frank Holland launched the latest K-CHS publication *Kurrajong Collections*.
- Tour of the Pioneer Village, Wilberforce and the grounds of the former Agricultural College at UWS.
- Family history group begins the task of transcribing Parish records from St Stephen's.
- Visit to Land and Property Management Authority in Bathurst.
- Talks given by Graham and Carol Edds, Les and Anne Dollin and Steve Rawling.
- Day at the Zig Zag Railway led by David and Jenny Griffiths.
- Guided Tour of Garden Highlands.
- Talks by Professor Ian Jack, Kevin Rozzoli and Andy McQueen.
- Photographic exhibition with the theme *Earning a Quid* in conjunction with the Scarecrow Festival.
- New committee elected with John Cooper President, Carol Roberts Secretary Members: Steve Rawling, Marguerite Wyborn, Carolynne Cooper, Peggy McCarr Israel, Pat O'Toole and Suzanne Smith.
- Christmas gathering at the home of Paul and Lesley Hulbert.

2012

- Australia Day breakfast at McMahon Park at the invitation of Hawkesbury Bells Line Lions Club.
- Tour of Galston Dural and Arcadia led by Michael Bill of the Dural Historical Society.
- Lt. Bowen Tour - Kurrajong Hts., Mt Tomah, Bullgamatta and Chapel Hill including lunch – Itinerary & history talk by Suzanne Smith. Talk by Therese Howe on Chapel Hill & Lionel Buckett tour of Bullgamatta.
- Viewing of a selection of short films relating to the Kurrajong district by Ian O'Toole.
- Talk by Steve Brown on timber mills and the timber industry of the Kurrajong district.
- Midwinter dinner at Panthers North Richmond with speaker Barry Sinclair talking about the Bushranger *Thunderbolt*.
- Tour of Sydney Hospital in Macquarie Street organised by Marguerite Wyborn.

2012 Cont.

- Family History group receives a NSW Government Heritage Award.
- AGM elections - John Cooper continues as President, Suzanne Smith Secretary, Treasurer Marguerite Wyborn, other members Carolynne Cooper, Peggy McCarr, Pat O'Toole, Steve Rawling & Joy Shepherd.
- AGM/GM gets an update from Frank Holland and Les Dollin on their research into Singleton's Mills.
- Christmas gathering at home of Marguerite and Bryan Wyborn.

**Chapel Hill & Bulgamatta
Tour Group 2012 at the
Explorers Memorial
Mt. Tomah**



2013 Australia Day Award recipients Frank & Valerie Holland (left) and Ron & Margaret Rozzoli (right). In recognition of their combined organisation of the Macquarie 2010 Anniversary events.



2013

- Australia Day celebration at *Remo and Sons Vineyard*, Blaxland's Ridge.
- Highlight was the presentation by President John Cooper, of the Society's Australia Day Award to Frank & Valerie Holland and Margaret & Ron Rozzoli recognising their organisation of the 2010 Bicentennial celebration of Governor Macquarie.
- Frank & Valerie Holland were also recognised for their leadership over 5 years with the first award to be offered by the society of Honorary Life Membership.
- Excursion on the riverboat postman on Hawkesbury River from Brooklyn to Marlow Creek.
- Excursion to Upper Colo including the Anglican church, led by Wanda Deacon. March visit to State parliament and an excursion to the Glenbrook Circuit walk.
- Talks by Professor Ian Jack and John Low.
- New committee elected Steve Rawling as President, Suzanne Smith as Secretary, Treasurer Marguerite Wyborn, Committee group Kath McMahon, Airdrie Martin, Peggy McCarr, Pat O'Toole and Jennifer Stevens.
- Christmas party held at Kathie McMahon's home Bells Line of Road Kurrajong Hills.



K-CHS Family History Excursion group led by Wanda Deacon visiting the Anglican Church Upper Colo 2013

RayWhite
Kurrajong



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2014

- Australia Day - *The Hut*, Bowen Mountain Park. Talk by Alison and Bill Kerr - a history of G.M.C. Bowen and Bowen Mountain
- Australia Day Award presented to Chris Upton, for his work editing *The Millstone*, *We Remember Them*, and other publications.
- Tour of the Hawkesbury District led by Carol and Geoff Roberts.
- Paul Hulbert commences project to photograph all items on Council's LEP heritage list.
- Discussion of the future of Comleroy Road School of Arts.
- Midwinter dinner held at *Loxley*, with Andrew Tink speaking on his latest publication, *The Life of W.C. Wentworth 1790-1872*
- Planning workshop held for future development of K-CHS.
- Tour of Government House and the Sydney Opera House.
- Family history Group organises a High Tea, *Honouring Yesterday's Grandmothers* at *Tallowood*, Kurrajong.
- Memorial Park, Kurrajong re-opened, with new setting and roof over the Millstones.
- New Committee Steve Rawling President, Suzanne Smith Secretary, Marguerite Wyborn Treasurer, other members Kathie McMahon, Pat O'Toole, Wanda Deacon, Deborah Hallam, Carolynne Cooper and Paul McDonald.
- Christmas Gathering at *St Clements*, Kurrajong Heights, the home of Judie and Steve Rawling.

2015

- Australia Day celebration at *Sassafras Creek* Restaurant, Kurrajong Village. Guest speaker John Bryce.
- Chris Upton steps down after sterling service as editor of the *Millstone* and other publications.
- David and Jenny Griffiths upgrade the website and the digital archive, respectively.
- Talk by Chris Hallam - history of *Goldfinders Inn* from the original land grant in 1809 to today and launch of his book *The 1809 Land Grant of Rowland Edwards & The "Goldfinders Home Inn"*, held at the Goldfinders property.
- The first colour edition of the *Millstone* published.
- Tour of Victoria Barracks, Paddington organised by Frank Holland. Midwinter luncheon at *Tizzana Winery* with talk by Peter Lister on *Hawkesbury Agricultural College and the Great War* organised by Suzanne Smith.
- Bus tour of the Tennyson area and its history led by Noreen Montgomery and Peter O'Donnell.
- Launch of *We Remember Them*, Remembrance Day November 2015. 11am Service Richmond War Memorial followed by book launch and presentation to descendants of those who served in WW1. Address by Group Captain Stewart Dowrie RAAF Richmond.



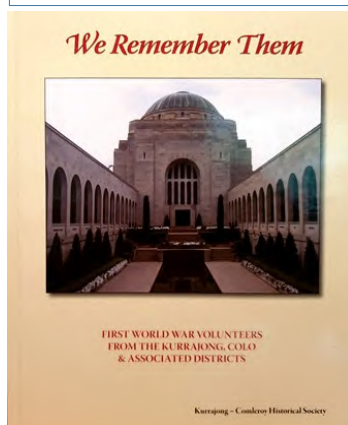
K-CHS FHG hold a successful 2014 High Tea at *Tallowood* Kurrajong. Members and friends were invited to present their *Grandmothers Stories*



Chris Hallam addresses guests at the launch of his book, *The 1809 Land Grant of Rowland Edwards & The Goldfinders Home Inn*, held at the Hallam's home Kurrajong. April 2015



The K-CHS Australia Day 2016 Award was presented to Val Birch in acknowledgement of her work as archivist, librarian & acquisitions officer



The *We Remember Them* publication was launched on the 11/11/15, at the RSL Hall Richmond. Produced by members of K-CHS in memory of all who served in WW1 from the Kurrajong, Colo and surrounding districts. Publication was made possible by an Anzac 2015 Centenary Grant.

Presentations were also made to Frank Holland, Val Birch & Wanda Deacon, acknowledging their WW1 research.

2016

- Australia Day Breakfast at the Kurrajong Heights Bowling Club. Guest speaker, Don Webster. Australia Day Award presented to Val Birch for her many years of research on the district, dating from before the establishment of K-CHS.
- Heritage Council gives notice of the intention to list the *Goldfinders Inn Group* on the State Heritage Register as the result of the research and restoration work of Deborah and Chris Hallam.
- The Society presented with a Cultural Heritage Award, for all of its work, with a focus on the publication *We Remember Them*.
- K-CHS visit to the NSW Mounted Police Museum guided by K-CHS member Stewart Thompson OAM. Followed by tour of the University of Sydney Great Hall and the Nicholson Museum organised by Suzanne Smith.
- Excursion to Arms of Australia Inn Museum and Valley Heights Locomotive Museum.
- Mid-Year Luncheon at Chapel Hill, Berambing. Guest speaker Deidree Morrison (Macquarie Towns Art Society) *Art as Heritage*.
- Notice of a grant from The Department of Veterans Affairs towards the publication of *We Remember Them*.
- Transfer of Image archives to a searchable database by David Griffiths, Jennifer Griffiths and Val Birch.
- AGM addressed by Professor Carol Liston, President of the RAHS - *Land Grants of Early Kurrajong & Yarramundi*.
- The passing of Thelma Groch (nee Ness), long-time resident and source of valuable photographs and historical information.
- Launch by the Family History Group of St Stephen's Church Parish Registers Book 2.
- Photographic display at Grose View Public School organised and manned by Jennifer Griffiths.
- The passing of Betty Upton, family historian and major contributor on Kurrajong History.
- K-CHS Photographic & Book display at *Kurrajong-a-Buzz* - a replacement event for the Scarecrow Festival.
- Information and publications stall, held in Kurrajong Village, the first of many.
- Christmas gathering held at the *Merrajong* home of David & Jenny Griffiths.

2017

- Australia Day Breakfast *The Hut*, Bowen Mountain Park, with talk on The Crago Observatory, Bowen Mountain, by John Slavan.
- Australia Day Award presented to Suzanne Smith Secretary, Millstone Publisher, and liaison with BMACHO and other historical groups.
- Society Trivia Night in the CWA Hall organised by David & Jennifer Griffiths.
- Ron Glenister presents collection of glass plate slides of Kurrajong Hills and Grose Vale from the Mayo family.
- Two *Pansy* Excursions led by David and Jenny Griffiths. 100 people attended each tour.
- 200 year *Benjamin Singleton* Tour led by Frank Holland.
- Launch of *Built in the Kurrajong*, the latest K-CHS publication.
- New Committee elected, with David Griffiths as President and Marguerite Wyborn as Secretary. Other members: Steve Rawling, Pat O'Toole, Suzanne Smith, Jenny Griffiths, Deborah Hallam, Terry Murray.
- 150th Anniversary of St David's Kurrajong Heights.
- Christmas gathering held at *Goldfinders Inn*, the home of Deborah and Chris Hallam.



K-CHS *Pansy* Line Tour

Saturday 17 June 2017

A group stop at *Kemsley's Halt* on the Redbank Creek track with tour leaders Jennifer & David Griffiths. Due to high demand another tour was held on the 12th August 2017

2018

- Australia Day Breakfast *The Hut* Bowen Mountain Park. *Bells Fine Art Ceramics* presentation by Pat O'Toole.
- Third *Pansy Line* Rail Tour - leaders David & Jenny Griffiths.
- Members only Tour of *Reibycroft Farm* at Freemans Reach and Wilberforce region, organised by David Griffiths.
- The passing of Ron Rozzoli, Foundation member of K-CHS and major contributor to K-CHS and many other Hawkesbury community organisations.
- Tour of Sydney Harbour Trust, Quarantine Station North Head organised by Suzanne Smith.
- Launch of publication, *Ivy Lodge (Lochiel House) a Social and Conservation History*, by Christopher and Deborah Hallam.
- Visit to *Retford Park*, Southern Highlands organised by Suzanne Smith.
- Visits to Meroo Christian Centre, with Camp Mackay guides Valerie Holland & Alan Cox. The Diamond Hill story Deb Hallam.
- K-CHS Open Day at Blaxlands Ridge Schoolhouse.
- Midwinter Dinner at *The Village Kitchen*, Kurrajong Village - Guest speaker Ken Pullen, Kurrajong RFS.
- Christmas gathering held at *St Elmo* the home of Marguerite and Brian Wyborn.

2019

- Australia Day at Bowen Mountain Park.
- Australia Day Award (posthumous) received by Margaret Rozzoli on behalf of the late Ron Rozzoli.
- Excursions to Garden Island, Cockatoo Island.
- Further *Pansy Line* Tour from Richmond to Kurrajong led by David & Jennifer Griffiths.
- Midwinter Dinner held at *Loxley On Bellbird Hill*, speaker Peter Spearritt on the building of Warragamba Dam.
- The passing of Chris Upton, long-time editor of the Millstone (2008-2015) and other major publications of K-CHS.
- Visit to *Bella Vista Farm Estate* and Hills District Museum, organised by Suzanne Smith and Marguerite Wyborn.
- Passing of Kathie McMahon-Nolf, Foundation President of K-CHS, descendant of pioneers, major contributor to all activities over the whole life of the Society, and to the musical life of Kurrajong.
- Application for State Heritage listing of Singleton's Mills, Singletons Reserve site, Mill Road, Kurrajong.
- Passing of Ian Jack, pre-eminent historian of the Hawkesbury, and friend of K-CHS.
- Committee elected, with Lesley Bobrige as new member. Deborah Hallam retires from the Committee.
- Tour of *Belmont House* (St John of God), Grose Vale, organised by Suzanne Smith including mid-day lunch.
- Christmas gathering at *Merrajong*, home of Jenny and David Griffiths.

2020

- Australia Day at *The Hut* Bowen Mountain. Australia Day Award presented to Steve Rawling AM, former President. Guest speaker Carol Edds, Founder and Chair of Hawkesbury Branch of the National Trust (NSW).
- 80th Anniversary of Kurrajong Rural Fire Brigade celebrated, following the bushfires of 2019-20 which severely affected the district. Commemorative book published, with financial contribution from K-CHS.
- Publication of booklet – *Guest Houses of the Kurrajong* by Val Birch and Airdrie Martin.
- Publication of *The Richmond Players Story in Five Acts* – assisted by David & Jenny Griffiths K-CHS.
- Passing of Max Doyle and Peter Martin, long-time supporters of K-CHS.
- Christmas gathering held at the Kurrajong Heights Bowling Club.

Any errors or serious omissions are regretted - Steve Rawling AM

Acknowledgement: Images accompanying the text have been obtained from a number of sources. Thank you to Frank Holland, Carolynne Cooper, Suzanne Smith. Also the K-CHS Image Archives www.kurrajonghistory.org.au



Australia Day 2018 *The Hut* Bowen Mountain Park



Pansy Line Tour April 2018 in a cutting near Kemsleys Halt



Reibycroft House Freemans Reach Tour March 2018



Australia Day Award presented to Steve Rawling 2020



Christmas at the Wyborn's - Les & Anne Dollin researched and guided the Society on many excursions within the region including early research of the Kurrajong Mill Site & Millstones.



Early Days:

Les Dollin measuring the remaining clay wall of a brick kiln, Mill Road, Kurrajong.

The Kiln was approx. 3 x 3 metres and 1 metre deep and was thought to be in operation c1928



Visit the new Hillbilly Cider Shed
2230 Bells Line of Road (Cnr Johnsons Rd)
Bilpin
<https://hillbillycider.com.au>

Open for Cider & Wood Fired Pizzas
Monday 10 - 4pm, Thursday 10 - 4pm
Friday to Sunday 10 - 6pm
Check the website for extra opening times during the school holidays



CAREY
and co.

Owners
Michelle & Karen
70 Old Bells Line Of Road Kurrajong Village NSW
2758
(02)45731920
E: mkcareyandco@gmail.com
www.careyco.com.au

Dates for Your DIARY



K-CHS Annual Australia Day Breakfast

will be a Special 20th Anniversary event
Members & Friends welcome

Diary in 9am Tuesday 26th January 2021

The Hut Bowen Mountain Park

A chicken , champagne & orange juice breakfast
will be available- free - but BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL via
<https://www.kurrajonghistory.org.au>

Come along and enjoy the company and special
anniversary celebration & presentation

Further enquiries please contact
Secretary Marguerite: Ph: 45761371
Email: secretary@kurrajonghistory.org.au

(To find The Hut & Bowen Mountain Park -
Bellbird Crescent then left into Lt. Bowen Road)

K-CHS RICHMOND to KURRAJONG PANSY LINE TOUR

Saturday 20th March 2021

Visit K-CHS website for Booking Details & Updates for 2021
<https://www.kurrajonghistory.org.au>

Join us when we explore the remnants of the Richmond to
Kurrajong Railway 1926-1952.

With the railway gone for so long, it is becoming difficult to find
many remains but our experienced local guides will show you
what there is, much of which is on private property and not
normally accessible.

Our coaches will depart from the park opposite Richmond
Station at 10:00. The tour includes an RFS steak sandwich lunch
in Kurrajong. If coming by train, you need to be on the train
that arrives at Richmond at **09:30** (ex Central 08:06).

The tour will return to Richmond Station around 15:30.

Bookings Essential via K-CHS website above

Enquiries: David Griffiths Mob: 0498646899
Email: president@kurrajonghistory.org.au

Order a "Pansy" Book at time of booking for a special price

KURRAJONG – COMLERoy HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.

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contributors. Content does not necessarily represent or
reflect the views or opinions of K-CHS, its committee and
members. Every effort is taken to ensure accuracy of
articles. If errors are found feedback is welcome.

secretary@kurrajonghistory.org.au

WELCOME to NEW MEMBERS

The Society would like to welcome new members

Jennie Macleod

John Hepworth

Note: *The Foundation of Kurrajong Heights* article that
appeared in the Nov-Dec 2020 *Issue* by Chris Hallam, will
be continued in *The Millstone* March/April 2021 *Issue*.

The Village Kitchen Kurrajong Dine in Gallery - Fully Licensed

Tuesday to Sunday 8am - 4pm

Dinner Friday & Saturday from 6pm

88 Old Bells Line of Road

For BOOKINGS phone 02 4573 0988
www.thevillagekitchenkurrajong.com.au

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