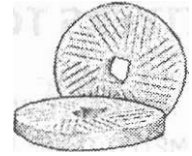


# KURRAJONG - COMLERROY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC

POSTAL ADDRESS: PO BOX 174 KURMOND, 2757



# The Millstone

Volume One, Issue Two, March-April, 2002

## "MILLSTONE" MAKES ITS MARK

THE FIRST ISSUE OF "THE MILLSTONE" RECEIVED A PLEASING AND POSITIVE RESPONSE FROM BOTH MEMBERS OF THE KURRAJONG-COMLERROY HISTORICAL SOCIETY AND OTHER READERS.

THE SOCIETY HAS CHOSEN AS ITS LOGO THE BEN SINGLETON MILLSTONES NOW LOCATED AT MEMORIAL PARK, KURRAJONG. THE MILL DATES FROM AT LEAST 1816 AND THE STONES ARE BELIEVED TO BE THE OLDEST EVIDENCE OF EUROPEAN SETTLEMENT IN "THE KURRAJONG".

THE SOCIETY'S NEWSLETTER HAS BEEN NAMED "THE MILLSTONE" TO ACKNOWLEDGE THIS LINK TO OUR EARLY HISTORY.

***THE FIRST EDITION OF "THE MILLSTONE" WAS INCLUDED AS AN INSERT INTO THE "VIEWS FROM THE HEIGHTS", A NEWSLETTER CIRCULATING IN THE KURRAJONG HEIGHTS, HILLS, AND NEIGHBOURING LOCALITIES TO ENCOURAGE NEW MEMBERS FOR THE KURRAJONG-COMLERROY HISTORICAL SOCIETY.***

***THANKS TO MEMBERS, KEN AND PAM BENNETT AND BENNETT REAL ESTATE FOR ASSISTANCE WITH PHOTOCOPYING 1000 COPIES OF "THE MILLSTONE" FOR INCLUSION IN "VIEWS FROM THE HEIGHTS" THANKS ALSO TO THE "VIEWS" TEAM, ESPECIALLY ANNE MCPHERSON.***

## MUSEUM MUSINGS

PROGRESS CONTINUES IN ESTABLISHING THE SOCIETY'S OWN MUSEUM AT THE BELLBIRD ECHO CENTRE, BELLS LINE OF ROAD, KURRAJONG HILLS.

PRESIDENT KATHIE McMAHON IS DONATING, RENT-FREE, TWO ROOMS AT HER CENTRE TO THE SOCIETY. KATHIE REPORTS SHE HAS NEW TENANTS TO OPERATE THE COFFEE SHOP AND SHE IS NEGOTIATING HOW THE MUSEUM AND CAFÉ CAN WORK TOGETHER.

MEMBER, BRYAN WYBORN, IS EXPLORING THE BEST WAY TO DISPLAY ITEMS AND PHOTOGRAPHS AT THE MUSEUM.

## NEXT MEETING

THE NEXT MEETING OF THE KURRAJONG COMLERROY HISTORICAL SOCIETY IS

**TUESDAY, APRIL 16, 7.45 PM SHARP AT THE COMLERROY ROAD SCHOOL OF ARTS HALL:**

### **VENUE TO BE CONFIRMED.**

DUE TO DIFFICULTIES IN OBTAINING PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE, THE HALL IS CLOSED AT THE TIME OF GOING TO PRINT (APRIL 5) IT IS HOPED THE HALL WILL BE REOPENED BY APRIL 16.

**WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS:** PROFESSOR IAN JACK AND JAN BARKLEY-JACK OF WINDSOR; MEREDITH HUNGERFORD OF BERAMBING AND JENNY HADFIELD OF BILPIN; AIRDRE AND PETER MARTIN OF KURRAJONG HEIGHTS; AND LYNN ANDERSON OF MOSMAN WHO IS RESEARCHING HIS FAMILY HISTORY.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THE FIRST EDITION OF "THE MILLSTONE" HAS PROMPTED THESE ENQUIRIES:

### LETTER FROM LYNN ANDERSON OF MOSMAN:

"CAN ANYONE HELP US FIND THE TRUE DANIEL MAHONEY WHO MARRIED LEAH SHRIMPTON ON 19.2.1849 AT COLO RIVER (WILBERFORCE).

OBVIOUSLY DANIEL ARRIVED IN AUSTRALIA BEFORE 1849 - DID HE COME AS A CONVICTOR AS A FREE MAN? DID HE COME FROM IRELAND OR FROM ENGLAND? THERE ARE FAMILY "STORIES" THAT MEET EACH AND EVERY ONE OF THESE QUESTIONS! ALSO, UNFORTUNATELY THERE WERE A NUMBER OF DANIEL MAHONEY'S IN THE COLONY AROUND THIS TIME.

DANIEL AND LEAH HAD A NUMBER OF CHILDREN

1. ANN, BORN 1844 MARRIED 1862 TO GEORGE WILLIAMS.
2. CHARLES EDWARD, BORN 1846, MARRIED 1870 TO JANE SHEPHERD. CHARLES LIVED ON COMLEROY ROAD JUST BEYOND BLAXLANDS RIDGE ROAD, ACCORDING TO THE BOOK "KURRAJONG".
3. DANIEL, BORN 1848, MARRIED 1873 TO CATHERINE McCABE. DANIEL LIVED ON COMLEROY ROAD, APPARENTLY NOT FAR FROM WHEENEY CREEK. ACCORDING TO THE BOOK, "KURRAJONG" WAS THE FURTHEST HOUSE OUT ON THE ROAD - APPARENTLY SYD SHELDON LATER BOUGHT THIS PROPERTY, MAYBE FROM DANIEL'S ESTATE?
4. MARY ANN, BORN 1852, MARRIED 1877 TO THOMAS WALKER. THOMAS WAS POST MASTER AT KURRAJONG HEIGHTS FOR MANY YEARS, OPERATING FROM "LOCHIEL HOUSE", AND ALSO OWNED PANORAMA POINT.
5. JOHN RICHARD, BORN 1854, MARRIED 1878 TO SARAH KILLEN.
6. JAMES ALBERT, BORN 1857, MARRIED 1877 TO SUSAN SHEPHERD.
7. HARRIET E. BORN AND DIED 1859.
8. ELIZA MARGARET, BORN 1859 1878 TO ALBERT FLETCHER.
9. LIA JANE, BORN 1862, MARRIED 1880 TO JOHN HYSLOP.
10. AN INFANT, BORN AND DIED 1864.

LEAH MAHONEY, NEE SHRIMPTON, DIED IN CHILDBIRTH IN 1864. MANY OF HER CHILDREN WERE STILL VERY YOUNG - DID THEY STAY WITH THEIR FATHER, DANIEL OR NOT? HOW DID THEY MANAGE? WAS DANIEL FARMING IN THE COLO RIVER/ WILBERFORCE, FREEMANS REACH AREA?

MY WIFE IS A WALKER, SO DANIEL AND LEAH WERE HER GREAT-GREAT GRAND PARENTS.

I WELCOME ANY INFORMATION ANYONE MAY HAVE ON THIS FAMILY - ANY OF ITS ANCESTORS AND ANY OF THEIR DESCENDANTS - AND I AM HAPPY TO PASS ON ANY INFORMATION I HAVE WHICH MAY BE OF INTEREST TO OTHER MEMBERS OF THIS EXTENDED FAMILY.

LYNN ANDERSON  
3, 8-12 PARK AVENUE  
MOSMAN, NSW, 2088  
PH: 02 9968 3692.

### LETTER FROM JUDY FITZPATRICK:

"I AM RESEARCHING THE FAMILIES OF CHARLES FREDERICK FREDERICKSON (B C 1850'S) AND MARY ANN GREENTREE (B 1857 TO THOMAS GREENTREES AND CATHERINE COHEN). I BELIEVE THEY WERE MARRIED AT McDONALD RIVER, THOUGH THE MARRIAGE WAS REGISTERED AT WALCHA AS CHARLES FREDERICK FRETSON AND MARY ANN GREENHEE IN 1881.

THERE APPEARS TO BE A NUMBER OF GREENTREES IN YOUR DISTRICT AND I WAS HOPING YOU MAY BE ABLE TO ASSIST ME WITH SOME DETAILS ON THIS FAMILY.

CHARLES FREDERICK FREDERICKSON WAS BORN IN SWEDEN AND I AM HAVING A DIFFICULT TIME TRYING TO FIND ANY INFORMATION ABOUT HIM.

THE SWEDISH CONSULATE IN VICTORIA INFORMS ME THAT THE SURNAME "FRETSON" IS NOT SWEDISH. IT APPEARS TO ME THAT THIS NAME MAY BE JUST AN INCORRECT TRANSLATION.

JUDY FITZPATRICK  
152 RAILWAY CRESCENT,  
DALLAS, VIC, 3047  
03 9309 5936 (H) 03 9380 7275 (B).

# PROGRESS REPORT ON PROJECTS FOR 2002

## THE WHEENEY CREEK/ BEN SINGLETON MILLSTONES

MEMBERS LES DOLLIN AND LOUISE MCMAHON CONTINUE THEIR RESEARCH INTO THE MILL ONCE LOCATED ON WHEENEY CREEK, KURRAJONG.

ON SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9, LOUISE ACCOMPANIED LES AND RICHMONDITES, ARTHUR COPPER AND VERN AVERN (PICTURED) TO THE MILL SITE AT WHEENEY CREEK. THEY IDENTIFIED THE LOCATION OF BOTH THE OVERSHOT AND UNDERSHOT MILLS, THE MILL RACE, MILLPOND AND THE QUARRY.



ON SATURDAY, MARCH 9, LES, LOUISE AND ANNE DOLLIN VISITED THE SINGLETON MUSEUM SEEKING MORE INFORMATION ABOUT BEN SINGLETON.

EXAMINING ONE OF THE PHOTOS ON DISPLAY OF BEN SINGLETON DESCENDANTS, LES NOTICED THE NAME "BELLAMY" OF WEST PENNANT HILLS. HIS MOTHER, GLORIA, IS A BELLAMY, AND SURE ENOUGH, LES HAS DISCOVERED HE IS THE GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GREAT NEPHEW OF BEN SINGLETON!!!!



*Left: Les Dollin pours a jar of Wheeney Creek water into the Hunter River in tribute to Ben Singleton who established mills on both water ways.*

## LOUISA ATKINSON UPDATE

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY IN MARCH SAW KURRAJONG'S LOUISA ATKINSON HONOURED BY THE MT TOMAH BOTANICAL GARDENS, WITH RECORDS OFFICER, JAN ALLEN FEATURING LOUISA'S MISTLETOE, *ATKINSONIA LIGUSTRINA* AS "PLANT OF THE WEEK".

MEREDITH HUNGERFORD, LOUISE MCMAHON AND JENNIFER STACKHOUSE (WHO WAS UNABLE TO ATTEND) WERE INVITED ALONG TO THE GARDENS AND TO MT WILSON TO SEE THE PLANT FLOWERING.



PICTURED ARE: MEREDITH HUNGERFORD; KATHY HARRINGTON FROM THE MT WILSON AND MT IRVINE HISTORICAL SOCIETY; JAN ALLEN FROM MT TOMAH BOTANICAL GARDENS AND LOUISE MCMAHON WITH "LOUISA'S MISTLETOE", *ATKINSONIA LIGUSTRINA*.  
PLANT PHOTO, COURTESY OF JAIME PLAZA, BOTANICAL GARDENS

LOUISA'S MISTLETOE, JAN WRITES IS: "A SELDOM SEEN SHRUB, LESS THAN 2 METRES TALL AND WITH OPPOSITE PAIRS OF YELLOWISH GREEN LEAVES THIS *ATKINSONIA* IS THE SORT OF BUSH WHICH MIGHT NOT COMMAND MUCH ATTENTION WHEN NEGOTIATING LUMPY SANDSTONE AND PRICKLY SHRUBS IF IT WERE NOT IN FLOWER.

## LOUISA ATKINSON UPDATE CONTINUED..

"IT HAS A LOCAL DISTRIBUTION SPANNING LESS THAN 100KMS, A RARE OR THREATENED AUSTRALIAN PLANT LISTING AND A SURPRISINGLY INTERESTING STORY.

"THE PLANT FAMILY, LORANTHACEAE, TO WHICH OUR SMALL TREASURE BELONGS. IS COMPRISED OF HEMIPARASITES ('HEMI-' FROM THE GREEK, IMPLYING PARTIALLY, AND '-PARASITE', AN ORGANISM GROWING AND FEEDING ON ANOTHER). ANOTHER HEMIPARASITE, THE MISTLETOE OF CHRISTMAS LORE, VISCUM ALBUM, BELONGS TO THE PLANT FAMILY VISCACEAE.

THE CULTIVATION OF HEMIPARASITIC PLANTS PROVIDES QUITE A CHALLENGE TO PLANT PROPAGATORS. OUR NURSERY MANAGER, SENIOR HORTICULTURIST, KAREN SILVESTER, WITH ENCOURAGEMENT FROM THE HORTICULTURAL RESEARCH COORDINATOR FOR THE ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS, HAS ACHIEVED SOME PROMISING EARLY RESULTS.

THERE ARE NO ESTABLISHED PLANTS OF ATKINSONIA LIGUSTRINA WITHIN THE CULTIVATED AREA OF THE GARDEN THOUGH YOU WILL BE INTRODUCED TO THIS PLANT IF YOU PARTICIPATE IN THE ECOTOURS OF TOMAH SPUR OFFERED AT MOUNT TOMAH".

OUR SOCIETY AND THE MT WILSON AND MT IRVINE SOCIETY HAVE AGREED TO WORK TOGETHER TO MOUNT A DISPLAY ON LOUISA AT MT TOMAH IN 2003. MEMBERS INTERESTED IN THIS PROJECT CAN CONTACT JENNIFER STACKHOUSE ON 4576 1221. LOUISA ATKINSON LIVED 1834 -1872.

SHE LIVED AT "FERNHURST", KURRAJONG HEIGHTS IN THE 1860S.

**STOP PRESS: A hastily-arranged members-only trip to GM Pitt's "Sunnyside", North Richmond. Sunday, May 5, 10am. Details: 4573 1823. Don't miss this! Special chance!**

**Editor's Note:** To contribute to the "Millstone", contact Louise McMahon at PO Box 174 Kurmond, NSW 2757, by **May 20**.  
Louise

## WHAT'S HAPPENING, WHERE

### ◇ "FOLK FUNDRAISER"

**SATURDAY, APRIL 20:** FUNDRAISING CONCERT FOR THE KURRAJONG-COMLEROY HISTORICAL SOCIETY. A LOCAL VENUE, TO BE CONFIRMED. TIME: 7PM, \$10 ENTRY \$5 SUPPER.

### ◇ "JAZZ AT THE TURKISH BATH"

PRESENTED BY THE MT WILSON AND MT IRVINE HISTORICAL SOCIETY ON SATURDAY, APRIL 20. GATES OPEN 12.30PM, MUSIC, 2PM-5PM. ENTRY \$15; CONCESSION \$12, CHILDREN FREE. FREE PARKING, SAUSAGE SIZZLE, DRINKS ON SALE.

### ◇ ROYAL AUSTRALIAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

HISTORY HOUSE, 133 MACQUARIE ST, SYDNEY. **JUNE 26:** SELLING HISTORY TO YOUR COMMUNITY. WORKSHOP ON PROMOTING A SOCIETY AND HOW TO USE PHOTOS AND MATERIALS TO RAISE FUNDS. \$16.50 FOR MEMBERS OR \$33 FOR 3 MEMBERS. **JULY 3:** SEARCHING FOR CONVICTS. COST \$4.40. **JULY 13:** BACK TO BASICS AT THE LPI. COST \$16.50 OR \$33 FOR 3 MEMBERS. LEARN ABOUT RESEARCHING AT THE LAND TITLES OFFICE. THERE ARE MANY OTHER WORKSHOPS AND EXCURSIONS - CHECK THE WEBSITE: [www.rahs.org.au](http://www.rahs.org.au)

### ◇ HAWKESBURY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

**APRIL 28: EXPLORING JOHN HOWE'S HAWKESBURY.** HOWE HELD 380 ACRES BETWEEN COMLEROY ROAD AND KURMOND ROAD. IN 1820 HE LED AN EXPLORING PARTY (WHICH INCLUDED BEN SINGLETON) ALONG COMLEROY ROAD TO DISCOVER JERRYS PLAINS, SINGLETON AND THE HUNTER. COST \$7.50, LEAVING HAWKESBURY MUSEUM AT 10AM. BOOK ON 4577 2310.

### **MEMBERS ONLY EXCURSION:**

**LES DOLLIN AND LOUISE McMAHON WILL LEAD AN EXPEDITION TO THE WHEENEY CREEK MILL SITE ON SATURDAY, MAY 11. MEET AT THE ENTRANCE TO MEROO, MILL ROAD, KURRAJONG AT 9AM. THIS IS A DIFFICULT BUSH-BASH, SO WEAR STURDY BOOTS AND CLOTHES AND BRING A WATERPROOF COAT. IF IT'S RAINING - IT'S CANCELLED!**