



The Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society is dedicated to researching, recording, preserving and championing the history of "the Kurrajong", the district bounded by the Hawkesbury River at North Richmond, the Grose River, "Cut Rock" at Kurrajong Heights, along Comleroy and Blaxlands Ridge Roads to East Kurrajong, and to the Colo River. "The Millstone" refers to the Little Wheeney Creek millstones on display at Kurrajong Memorial Park. Logo designed for the Society by artist Tony Dixon.

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With the imminent retirement of Margaret Duffy from Grose Vale's post office, *The Millstone* takes a look at the contribution that the Duffys have made to Grose Vale and the wider Hawkesbury district over the years – Pages 1 and 3

ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

➤ Bells Line of Road tour

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THE END OF AN ERA FOR GROSE VALE

The imminent sale of the Grose Vale Post Office will spell the end of an era for the Grose Vale district, as this could well mark the closing chapter in the involvement of the Duffy clan at this location for over more than a century. Full story on page 3.



Mark Duffy's "Orchard Service Station" at Duffy's Corner circa 1961 (top) and how the site looks today (above). The post office is situated on the right hand side of the smaller brick building adjacent to the general store. [Top photo is from the Society's archives and was contributed by Laurie Duffy. Bottom photo by Greg Upton]. For details of the development of Duffy's Corner see the story on page 3).

News & Information

Compiled by Robyn Fuller



Scarecrow Festival 2006

Our photographic exhibition on the Scarecrow Festival weekend 27th, 28th and 29th October will be entitled "Fun and Games of the Kurrajong". The exhibition will open on Friday night the 27th October with special guest speakers.

Judy Gray, Hawkesbury's Sportsperson of the Year, is well known for her prowess on the hockey field and her talented dedication to the Hawkesbury City Band. Judy will share some of her experiences in representing our area.

Ross Matheson is a member of one of our foremost cricketing families, and recently wrote a book for the Centenary of North Richmond Cricket Club. Ross has many tales to tell over the generations.

Rita Crane was one of the usherettes at the Kurrajong Picture Theatre, and her brother Mervyn was the projectionist there. Rita has many memories to share of the picture theatre, the movies, and the many balls, dances and other functions that were held there over the years, the centre of Kurrajong's entertainment.

The exhibition will open on Friday night 27th at 7:30 p.m. in the C.W.A. Hall, Old Bells Line of Road, Kurrajong, and after the guest speakers there will be time to socialize and reminisce over supper. This will be an evening full of interesting stories and facts of fun and games in the Kurrajong that you will not want to miss. All welcome.



Kurrajong's Latest Attraction

On Monday evening May 29, the members of the Kurrajong Comleroy Historical Society held their mi-monthly meeting as guests of Ian and Pat O'Toole at their recently opened Kurrajong Radio Museum.

Ian has spent many years collecting radios

and most of the collection is in the area of the armed services and is recognized as one of the world's most diverse collections. It also contains professional, commercial, broadcasting and domestic components of some significance.

There is interest for everyone at this museum as much of it is in working order. Many of us were able to listen to an episode of our favourite radio serial, or some of the old commercials. Some even tried their hand at morse code.

The business section of the meeting was dealt with very quickly as the Society members were anxious to move on to the film part of the evening, where they enjoyed two historic films – "The Devil's Wilderness" the re-enactment of botanist George Caley's early colonial expedition of discovery to Mount Tomah and the 1938 version of "The Squatter's Daughter". During the supper time many were keen to don the headphones and start listening to their favourite program or commercial. Thanks to Pat and Ian for hosting an interesting and fun evening at their museum.

The Kurrajong Radio Museum is open most weekends from 10:00am to 5:00pm, just check first 4573 0621, and the address is 840 Bells Line of Road, Kurrajong Hills.

Archiving Your Documents

Where do you keep those special family photographs and precious documents? The Society is having a full-day workshop on this subject so that you may learn how to archive and save these for future generations. We have arranged for Kylie Rees, the Archivist for the royal Australian Historical Society to come to the Deerubbin Centre in Windsor on Tuesday 8th August from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Kylie will bring the materials along with her, which will be available for sale, and show us 'hands on' how to archive properly. You can actually bring along something that you would like to work on. The workshop is being organized in conjunction with Hawkesbury Family History Group. Admission will be \$25, and starter kits (optional) will be available for a special price of \$32.

Morning tea is provided and lunch can be ordered from the café for \$6.00, but has to be ordered when booking. If you would like to attend please phone Joy Shepherd on 4571 1524 as soon as possible as there are not too many places left.

Membership Fees Now Due!

Just a reminder that the annual membership subscriptions are due from 1st. July. This year the fees remain the same, and are as follows:

Family Membership	\$25.00
Over 75's	\$12.50
Single Membership	\$20.00
Over 75's	\$10.00

Our membership is steadily growing, with total financial members now reaching the 150 mark. Invoices have been enclosed with this issue of *The Millstone*. Please detach the lower part and return with your payment to PO Box 174, Kurmond. We need your support to be able to continue the society's good work.

New Members

Compiled by Joy Shepherd
and Robyn Fuller

Paul and Lesley Hulbert came to the Hawkesbury in 1984, moving first to Blaxlands Ridge and then on to Kurrajong Hills in 1987. It didn't take them long to make friends and become part of the community.

At the end of last year, Paul retired from being a full-time social worker, and Lesley from her school assistant position, giving them more time to join and become involved in the work of the Historical Society. Paul has a great reputation as a photographer, and is currently commencing an exciting new project under our banner. We are thrilled to have someone with so much expertise and enthusiasm on our team. He will be adding so much more depth to the history of the Kurrajong-Comleroy area for the benefit of future generations.

Michael Greentree is a member of one of the oldest families of the Hawkesbury. His forefather, Reuben Greentree, arrived in Australia in 1815 and lived in Freeman's Reach all of his life. Michael is a mechanical engineer and lives at Vineyard. We welcome him to the Society.

END OF AN ERA FOR GROSE VALE'S DUFFY FAMILY

By Greg Upton

Wahroonga has its Pearces Corner, Hornsby has its Hookhams Corner, Pennant Hills has its Thompsons Corner, and Grose Vale has its Duffy's Corner. However Duffys Corner, the area in the vicinity of the intersection of Grose Vale and Grose Wold Roads at Grose Vale, is about to lose the services of its last Duffy. After 41 years in Grose Vale's post office, Margaret Duffy is about to retire. She with husband Laurie have sold the post office, and by the time *The Millstone* has been posted to members the sale will have been settled. This will mark the end of the Duffy era at Duffys Corner, and this short article recounts the family's involvement with their businesses which have been a part of Grose Vale (known as Kurrajong South prior to 1929) for a number of generations.

Laurie explained that the first Duffy to come to Kurrajong was his grandfather Michael, who originally came from Duffy Avenue in Thornleigh in the late 1800s and settled on 50 acres on the southern side of Greggs Road. The location of the property can be seen on the NSW Railways' working drawings prepared in 1925 for the Kurrajong-Richmond railway¹ which show Michael Duffy as the owner-occupier. The drawings also show the location of Duffys Siding, located immediately west of the property boundary, as the railway passed through the northern end of the property. The 3rd edition of the Kurrajong parish map² (maintained until 1893) shows that this property was earlier owned by Simon Freebody and was called "Redriff".

Michael Duffy and his wife Theresa continued to work this land while they raised their family. Their son Mark (Laurie's father) married Vesta James in 1929 and they settled in Cabbage Tree Road at Grose Vale, where they raised their family and continued to live for over 50 years, celebrating their golden wedding anniversary in 1979³.

In later years Laurie recalls how his father Mark, in addition to being an orchardist, owned and operated 3 trucks. With these trucks Mark helped in major roadworks on the Putty Road during World War 2, sometimes camping on the job for up to a whole week. In 1951, a year before the railway was closed, Mark bought the Kurrajong District Bus Service from the McMahon Brothers. The buses originally operated between North Richmond, Kurmond, Kurrajong, Kurrajong Heights and Grose Vale, however after the rail line was closed the bus service was extended across the river to Richmond. The bus service also picked up the mail duties previously carried by the train. To cater for the increased patronage experienced when the rail was closed Mark

upsized the bus service, as noted in the Windsor and Richmond Gazette:

*"Our bus proprietor, Mr M.A. Duffy, who did such a grand job in the past few weeks conveying passengers and mail to and from Richmond with his two small buses whilst our train was out of action due to floods has now purchased a much bigger bus. We wish him every success."*⁴



One of Mark Duffy's buses waits for the flood boat on the Richmond side of North Richmond Bridge, circa late 1950s/early 1960s. The bus is parked on the original main road. [Photo from the Society's archives and was contributed by Laurie and Margaret Duffy].

About 2 years later Mark built the service station on the present site, originally calling it the "Orchard Service Station" after the extensive orchards behind it. The service station also served as the local general store and was known simply as "Duffys". The bus garage and workshop was located on the opposite side of the road. The original building is still standing and until a recent repainting the "Duffys Bus Lines" wording was still faintly visible on it.

To supplement the bus mail run Mark acquired the mail contract from Grose Vale's former postmistress Rita Hough (nee Douglas) after she retired in the mid 1960s. Rita's post office in those days was operated from her house on Grose Vale Road opposite to where today's Enniskillen Orchard is. The old house is still there today. With the mail contract Mark also acquired the Grose Vale telephone exchange, and set this up in the small building which contained the oil room for the bus service. Because the telephone exchange was manual it was required to be manned for 24 hours, this arduous task being shared between the family and a young employee.

About 2 years later the telephone exchange was upgraded, making it the district's first automatic telephone exchange.

At this time Laurie and his brother Don were juggling farming duties on the family's orchard, bus driving, helping in the post office and general store and building homes in the district. A few years later he and Margaret met and married, and shortly afterwards Margaret took over the duties in the post office. Don and his wife Gloria also helped with the post office and general store. In addition to this work Laurie and Margaret have been actively serving the Grose Vale community through their efforts with the Grose Vale Rural Fire Service, following in the footsteps of Mark, who was Captain of the Grose Vale Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade for around 30 years. Continuing the tradition, Laurie and Margaret's son Peter has also joined the Rural Fire Service at Grose Vale, as have Peter's sons Aaron and Joshua. In addition, Laurie and Margaret's son Robert is a retained firefighter at the Richmond fire station.

The family sold the service station and general store in 1993⁵, except for the post office. By this time the bus service had ceased operations.

When the sale of the post office is settled there will still be a Duffy legacy which will remain at Grose Vale's Duffy's Corner, because for a long time still locals will associate the location with the Duffy name. In the very least, the spot will be permanently marked on the map with Duffy Avenue.

¹Richmond to Kurrajong working plan and section, from 37 m. 60 c. 52.9 l. to 44 m. 59 c. 53.5 l. NSW Railways, April 1925

²Sourced through the Department of Lands Parish Map Preservation project – see <http://www.lands.nsw.gov.au/OnlineServices/ParishMaps/default.htm>

³Windsor and Richmond Gazette, 20 Jun 1979

⁴Windsor and Richmond Gazette, 27 Aug 1952

⁵Windsor and Richmond Gazette, 29 Sep 1993



Laurie and Margaret Duffy in the Grose Vale post office. [Photo by Greg Upton].

KCHS OVERNIGHT TRIP: EXPLORING BELLS LINE OF ROAD AND BEYOND



KCHS members at historic Clarence House. [Photo by Anne Dollin].

by Les and Anne Dollin

Day 1

Botanic Gardens

On a sunny Tuesday 9th May 2006, an enthusiastic group of 33 members of the KCHS gathered to trace the history of the original Bell's Line of Road. The trip started at the Botanic Gardens at Mt Tomah with a showing of the 'Crossing the Devil's Wilderness' movie, featuring Andy Macquene, about George Caley's early attempt to cross the mountains in 1804.

Bell's Line History

Over a delicious morning tea with hot scones just out of the oven, Les Dollin gave a talk on the history of Bell's Line of Road. He spoke of Bell's historical exploration trips and how convict labour was used to build the line of road. Les then talked about the development of settlement along the line of road.

Les also explained how, in the early days, drovers used to take their stock across the range or as the drovers called it 'over the Line', meaning along Bell's Line of Road. The drovers used resting paddocks

or travelling stock reserves (as they were later called) which were scattered across the range to provide water and grass for the stock.

Garden Tour

KCHS member Airdrie Martin (also a Botanic Gardens staff member) then gave an in-depth talk about the garden's history and to top it all off, took the group for a tour of the wonderful botanic gardens.

Clarence House c.1880

The convoy followed Bell's Line of Road westwards then proceeded to Clarence Railway Station at the top of the historical Zig Zag Steam Railway. There we had the rare opportunity to inspect one of the area's oldest homes, Clarence House, hidden amongst the trees. We were welcomed by the proud owners, Ian and Erica de Beuzeville.

Erica gave us a wonderful talk on the many early roads that led off the western edge of the mountains into the valley below. Erica pointed out all the roads and lines of roads and gave their history, purposes and dates. She also showed where the new proposed expressway is planned to go. Ian and Erica then



Ian and Erica deBeuzeville of Clarence House explaining historical roads of the area, assisted by Brian Wyborn. [Photo by Anne Dollin].



Les Dollin at Clarence House showing a series of stock routes from the Hunter Valley through to the western plains via Bell's Line of Road. [Photo by Anne Dollin].

gave us a fascinating walk down memory lane to Clarence in its bustling heyday, with amazing photographs from that period.

Afterwards, the group had the thrill of a guided tour inside Clarence House. All the rooms were furnished and decorated in the colonial style. Clarence House was like finding a hidden story book in a secret forest. When you open the book and dare to look inside, the rooms or pages draw you in to look at the wonders that you see.

The sun was shining, the cameras were a-clicking and the kangaroos were a-hopping. Then there was a nice hot cup of afternoon tea.

Hartley Vale's Early Inns

We followed the original Bell's Line of Road from Bell to where it turns off the main road and then twists and winds, dropping rapidly down into Hartley Vale. The convoy stopped to see the old Comet Inn and Collets' Inn and hear a brief history of Hartley Vale.

The Comet Inn (1879) is an imposing two storey hotel, with verandahs top and bottom.



Preparing for lunch at the old Comet Inn on the original Bell's Line of Road, Hartley Vale. [Photo by Pat O'Toole].



Airdrie Martin giving the KCHS members a guided tour of the beautiful Mt Tomah Botanic Gardens. [Photo by Robyn Fuller].

It was named the Comet Inn after the brand of kerosene produced in the local shale mine. The shale works closed in 1913 but the Comet Inn remained. The current owners are Greg and Kathy Noble.

The picturesque Collits' Inn (1823) was opened by Pierce Collits to cater for travellers on both the original Bell's Line of Road and the earlier Cox's Road. In the 1820s it was the only building in the area and would have been particularly welcome after the frightening descent of Cox's Pass.

Mt Victoria Convict Stockade

The convoy then drove up Mt Victoria Pass following the famous old Mitchell's Road, which was originally constructed by convict labour.

From a lookout on Mt York we had a panoramic view of the Victoria Pass, completed in 1832. We also saw the little-known site of the Mt Victoria Stockade, which housed convicts building the buttresses of the Victoria Pass.

Cox's Convict-Built Road

We then drove along the top of Mt York to see the earliest road down the escarpment, old Cox's Road completed in 1815. Cox and 30 convicts took six months to build this road from Nepean Ford to Bathurst. Here at Mt York, the road dropped giddily straight down the side of the escarpment.

The group walked down Cox's Road to the section where the convicts had to widen the road to allow Governor Macquarie's carriage to pass through.

Manor House, Mt Victoria

The group stayed overnight in the grand

Manor House (1876) with its 20 bedrooms decorated in period style. This guesthouse is owned by Colin and Annette Lenton, who gave us a special discount price and later a fascinating talk about the Manor House history. We enjoyed a candle-lit dinner in the elegant Manor House dining room with its open fire.



Guest speaker Trish Downes being congratulated for her informative presentation by KCHS Vice President Kathie McMahon. [Photo by Robyn Fuller].

Guest Speaker, Trish Downes

Our guest speaker for the evening, Trish Downes, gave a thoroughly researched, illustrated talk about the area's early roads and convict stockades, and some pioneer families in the area.

For example, Trish showed her photographs of the original survey map of Bell's Line of Road. This map was drawn by Robert Hoddle in 1823 who accompanied Bell on his historical survey trip. She also showed a significant letter about the 22 convicts to be issued to Bell for the construction of Bell's Line of Road. More information can be found on Trish's website: <http://www.pcug.org.au/~pdownes/>

Day 2

Convict Stockade Research

Historian Ollie Leckbandt has spent 25 years studying the convict stockades from Mt Victoria to Mt Walker in the Lithgow area. On the morning of our second day, Ollie presented a fascinating in-depth talk on his research.

The construction of Mitchell's Road in the 1830s required many major road cuttings, bridges and buttresses. To build all this, convict labour was brought in. Convict

stockades were built to securely house and support this convict labour force. These included Mt Victoria Stockade, Hassan Walls Stockade, Bowen's Hollow Stockade, Mt Kirkley Stockade and the largest, the Mt Walker Stockade.

Regimental troops were also brought in to guard the convicts and there were stores, bakeries, blacksmiths and many other facilities built to support the stockades.

Convict Relics

Ollie showed us an amazing array of photographs of relics from these stockade sites: regimental buttons, brass insignias, musket balls, coins, name plates, clay pipes, china fragments and more. The regimental buttons revealed which regiments had been stationed at each stockade and Ollie explained the history of some of these regiments. But the most interesting part was when Ollie explained, after 25 years of research, which relics had proved to be the most significant historically.

Comet Inn Lunch

The convoy returned to the famous Comet Inn for lunch. After lunch Jean Arthur, Honorary Secretary of the Mt Victoria Historical Society, presented an interesting talk about local history and her early days at East Kurrajong.

Heritage Village of Rydal

We then drove up onto the crest of the Great Dividing Range to the historical town of Rydal with its charming old railway station. Mrs Yvonne Jenkins, President of the Lithgow and District Family History Society, explained the history of Rydal whilst we enjoyed an afternoon tea catered by Mrs Lesley Tiggott and her daughter Sarah of the Rydal Association.



Yvonne Jenkins explaining the history of Rydal township to KCHS members.



Comet Inn, Hartley Vale. [Photo sourced from <http://www.lithgow-nsw.com>]



Collit's Inn, Hartley Vale. [Photo sourced from <http://www.lithgow-nsw.com>]

Mitchell's Convict-Built Road

Finally we followed the original Mitchell's Road from Rydal down to the Cox's River through two deep convict-built cuttings. At the end of the road was the site of the Mt Walker Convict Stockade and the remains of an old convict-built bridge over the Cox's River. This huge stockade (1832-1840) once housed up to 800 convicts plus troops.

Mt Walker Convict Stockade

It was a fascinating experience to get up close and personal to such a historical site. It was only possible because of the long drought. Much of the site is normally covered by the deep water of today's Lake Lyell Reservoir. However, the water has currently receded enough to be able to see the original convict road, the bridge buttresses and the site of the Mt Walker Convict Stockade.

Here Ollie showed us a copy of a detailed oil painting, now in the Mitchell Library, showing this Mt Walker Stockade in full operation. Believed to be painted by Major General James Pattison Cockburn in 1832, this painting shows the tall slab stockade compound, a cluster of support buildings with smoky chimneys, as well as a work party of convicts escorted by guards. This painting is one of the few pictures in existence showing a working convict stockade.

This site is very remote and has barely changed in the 174 years since this painting was done. Only the stockade buildings have gone. Standing beside the Cox's River holding the painting, one could easily travel back in time to the convict days of 1832.

This was a marvellous conclusion to two action packed days on our KCHS trip, uncovering just a few of the historical secrets hidden in the Blue Mountains and beyond.



Convict stockade historian Ollie Leckbandt pointing out features of the Mt Walker stockade in a copy of an original painting of the stockade, assisted by Anne Dollin. [Photo by Frank and Valerie Holland].

LANCE ALFRED ROBINSON
24 Aug 1922 – 15 May 2006



On 15th May 2006 Kurrajong lost one of its most respected members of the community when Lance ("Bill") Robinson passed away at age 84 in Kurrajong Nursing Home after a long illness.

Lance was born on 24 Aug 1922 at Loxley, in Kurrajong Hills, the then home of his grandparents Alfred and Emily (nee Peck) Lord. Lance was a fifth generation Hawkesbury resident, whose great great grandfather Edward Robinson was a convict who arrived in New South Wales in 1791 and later settling in the Hawkesbury district. Lance was raised by his parents Ernest and Annie (nee Lord) Robinson in Grose Vale Road Kurrajong and attended Kurrajong Public School and Richmond District Rural School. After leaving school Lance worked at Loxley and afterwards at a poultry farm at Carlingford before enlisting in the army in 1941. He served in New Guinea for nearly 5 years as a gunner in an artillery unit driving trucks with the 2/2 Australian Field Regiment.

After returning from the war Lance drove a hire car between Windsor and East Kurrajong, a bus between Windsor and Wilberforce, and he drove a truck for Sullivan Bros to the Sydney markets. He also worked in Woodhills general store in Kurrajong before eventually securing a position with the PMG as a trainee telephone technician. Lance stayed in this line of work until he retired as a Senior Technical Officer in charge of the Windsor Exchange.

Shortly after returning from the war Lance met Mary Steel at a dance in the Kurrajong Picture Theatre and they married at St Stephens church in Kurrajong on 17 Sep 1949. Lance and Mary settled in Woodburn Road, where they have lived ever since.

Lance enjoyed photography, woodworking, and fishing, and was a keen tennis player. He

was a member of the Kurrajong-Colo RSL sub-branch, where he served as treasurer for many years, and was a member of the Hawkesbury Lapidary Club and Jungle Pistol Club.

Lance leaves behind his wife Mary and their sons Robert, Peter and Kevin, as well as seven grandchildren and six great grandchildren.

The funeral service was held at St Stephens church at Kurrajong and was followed by burial in the cemetery attached to the church.



Contributed by Greg Upton and based on Lance's eulogy which was written by his son Kevin. Photos courtesy of Lance's family.

FRANK WHEEN
d. 10 Jun 2006



Frank Wheen passed away peacefully at home on 10th June while sleeping, thereby missing out on the early morning cup of tea that Gretchen had made for him.

Just two weeks prior he had painstakingly brought his old commercial beekeepers truck 'up to scratch' for yet another annual registration.

Frank had a great appreciation for the Hawkesbury district, in particular its history and in recent times, constantly lamented its

imminent threatened demise.

Frank could turn his hand and mind to anything. Meticulous to a fault, woe betide anyone who misplaced a tool. Amongst his many pleasures were his dogs, 'Hey Hey' and Bessie, car racing on the tele on Sundays and the band Abba. An avid watchdog for the beekeeping industry, he supported Gretchen in all of her beekeeping projects over the years and laid all the irrigation for horticultural projects on Gretchen's place. He leaves a rich and colourful tapestry for our bemusement.

Contributed by Polly Wheen

**FAULCONER DALGLEISH
MACKENZIE**
c. 1917 - 16 Feb 2006



Faulconer Mackenzie passed away on Thursday Feb 16th 2006 at the Kingswood Court aged care facility.

Faulconer was raised on Mackenzie Farm, on Bells Line of Road at Kurmond, where he spent most of his life. This property was one of the district's soldier settlements (see Vale in the March-April 2006 *Millstone*, p 3).

Faulconer joined the army in 1940 and, after training at Cowra and Darwin, joined the 2/3rd Pioneer Battalion, 9th Division of the AIF and served in Egypt, Palestine and Syria. At these locations Faulconer was involved in battles against Vichy French forces, including the famed Foreign Legion and many other forces including Senegalese troops, and was also involved in the eventual defeat of the German and Italian forces at El Alamein. After these battles his unit returned to Australia to be trained on the Atherton Tablelands in North Queensland in jungle warfare, and afterwards they were sent to New Guinea to fight the Japanese.

Faulconer returned from the war in 1945 and

Continued on back page



Dates for your diary

Sunday 23rd July 2006

Midwinter Dinner – “Christmas in July” on the Hawkesbury Paddlewheel. Meet at 11:45 a.m. at Windsor wharf for a 12 noon departure, returning at 2.30 p.m. We will be served with a traditional Christmas dinner as we explore and learn more about the early days of the Hawkesbury River. Anyone who would like to join with us for this function will be very welcome. Please book quickly as we need to confirm numbers for catering.

Cost: \$30.00 per head (drinks not included but can be purchased on board).

Further information and booking:

Joy Shepherd 4571 1524 or Val Holland 4573 2226.

Tuesday 8th August 2006

Archiving Workshop - Deerubbin Centre
For details see page 2

Sunday 3rd September 2006

Fund Raising Sausage Sizzle.

Father's Day at McGrath's Hill Bunnings.

8:00 am – 4:00 pm and volunteers are needed. Please phone Valerie Holland on 4753 2226.

Monday 25th September 2006

AGM and Trivia Night - St. David's Uniting Church Hall, Kurrajong Heights.

October 27th to 29th 2006

Kurrajong Scarecrow Festival

Monday 27th November 2006

Grose Vale - Guest Speaker will be Laurie Duffy

Sunday 10th December 2006

Christmas Party - Marguerite and Bryan Wyborn's.

Faulconer Mackenzie (Continued from previous page)

joined the RSL, Legacy and Freemasonry. His ongoing pursuits included agriculture and cricket.

The well-attended funeral service was held at Castlebrook Memorial Park at Rouse Hill and was conducted by Rev Jim Wilson, who was a former work colleague of Faulconer's. Later half of Faulconer's ashes were placed alongside his wife Dorothy in a memorial garden at Yanko, and the remaining half have been scattered at Mackenzie Farm at Kurmond, his former family home.



Abridged from an article contributed by Vera Bentvelzen, who is the current owner of Mackenzie Farm. The details of Faulconer's involvement with the AIF in WW2 were detailed more fully by Alex Crass, RSL Richmond Sub-Branch President, during the eulogy. Portrait of Faulconer drawn by artist Tony Dixon. Photo of Faulconer as a soldier (age 24) as well as the portrait courtesy Vera Bentvelzen.

Next Newsletter

The next issue of *The Millstone* will be published in September 2006. If you have an item to include in the newsletter please contact Robyn Fuller on 45 730696. Copy deadline is 18 Aug 2006.

KCHS Website

Development of the Society's website is now underway. Further details will be provided in the next issue of *The Millstone*. In order to provide the time to build the website, *The Millstone* editor Greg Upton will be handing over the reigns to his brother Chris.

The KCHS website can be viewed at

www.kurrajonghistory.org.au

where a placeholder page prepared by Anne Dollin is currently on display.

COMMITTEE

President: Kathie McMahon (acting)

Vice President: Kathie McMahon

Secretary: Valerie Holland

Treasurer: Joy Shepherd

Minute Secretary: Pat O'Toole

Committee Members: Airdrie Martin, Marguerite Wyborn, Robyn Fuller, Les Dollin

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Helen Lord's wedding 16th March 1921

- Winner of Parramatta Regional Awards for Excellence in Sales and Marketing 2005
- Western Sydney Vocational Excellence Award for Help and Support for School Based Trainees 2005
- Highly commended Western Sydney Industry Awards for Regional Excellence in Outstanding Regional Promotion 2005
- Highly commended Western Sydney Industry Awards for Entrepreneur of the Year 2004
- Winner of Hawkesbury Excellence in Business Presentation for Ten or More Employees 2004
- Winner of Western Sydney Industry Awards for Tourism Most Outstanding Contribution to Western Sydney Tourism by a Small Business 2003
- Winner of Western Sydney Industry Awards for Excellence in Tourism, Meetings and Business Tourism 2003
- Winner of the HMAA Best Short Break Accommodation in NSW/ACT 2003
- Business Advisory Service Inc. Best Home Based Business of the Year Award 2003
- Winner of Western Sydney Industry Awards for Excellence in Tourism, Hosted Accommodation 2002