

Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Newsletter

The Kurrajong – Comleroy Historical Society is dedicated to researching, recording, preserving and promoting the growth of interest in the history of the Kurrajong district, the area west of the Hawkesbury River bounded by Bilpin and the Grose and Colo rivers

THIS ISSUE

2 2008 AGM

Election results, new committee members and appointments.

3 Five Singleton mills field trip

Les & Anne Dollin provide some background history of the Singleton family, their mills and the activities undertaken during the field trip.

4 Tin Kettling - a lost tradition

While archiving some photos Joy Shepherd was reminded of this once widespread tradition. Today's 'nanny-state' culture would make a resurgence of this 'fun' doubtful.

5 John Matthew Pitman

This man is regarded as one of the pioneers of the district. A brief, concise article on his life and some of his offspring.

7 From the Archives

Mountain View was one of the many guest houses in the district at the turn of the twentieth century.

8 Dates for your diary

Final reminders for the Rouse Hill House & Farm and Dight's Farm visits on Friday, 7 November and our Christmas party at *Merrajong* on Sunday, 30 November.



Thirlmere excursion

VALERIE HOLLAND & DAVID GRIFFITHS

 $B_{\rm in}$ Kurrajong Village to board Peppercorn Transport's twenty-seater bus and meet Bob our friendly driver.

As we travelled down the M7 our guide, David Griffiths, told us of some of the Rail Museum's history and both he and Bob explained points of interest. Not far from Thirlmere everyone appreciated a morning tea stop where a few vehicles were providing a take-away service for travellers.

Our NSW Rail Museum guides, David and Jenny Griffiths, commenced our tour of the museum after a group photo in front of locomotive 2029, the same style as *Pansy*. This is the only remaining loco of the type which was used on the Kurrajong line. The 2029 is displayed at the head of a small train reminiscent of what would have operated on the Kurrajong or Camden branch lines.

David had great pleasure in showing the group his favourite exhibits which included the Garratt 6040, the largest steam locomotive and last to enter service in Australia. Another special exhibit was the FZ909 Instruction Car. It is 115 years old, was originally built as a sleeping car and imported from the USA. It spent fifty years from 1924 travelling the state as a mobile



Members & guests with locomotive 2029 the sole remaining example of the class of *Pansy*

classroom for instructing train crews on the Westinghouse braking system.

Other notable exhibits were the Travelling Post Office (Mail Van), the Prison Van, the Horse Van and old first and second class carriages with wood and cast iron fittings that were used in the long distance journeys. Many of us laughed when stepping inside a carriage of one of the famous 'red rattlers' that used to service metropolitan Sydney and there was interest in one of the sleepers from the *Southern Aurora* which still carries passengers on special tours.

We were pleased to learn from David and Jenny that there are plans for an extensive upgrade of the museum's facilities which will help preserve this valuable collection for the benefit of future generations.

After what was an absorbing and educational tour of New South Wales rail history and a relaxed picnic lunch, we left the museum and travelled a short distance to view the scenic Thirlmere Lakes. Upon returning to Thirlmere we thanked and farewelled our guides Jenny and David before wending our way home via the many historic villages on the Old Hume Highway.

www.kurrajonghistory.org.au

'Future History' book launch

VALERIE HOLLAND

Paul Hulbert's passion for recording history came to fruition when his book *Future History* was launched by former Liberal Member for Hawkesbury, Kevin Rozzoli OA, at Loxley on Bellbird Hill. Seventy guests including Hawkesbury Mayor Bart Bassett and Councillor Dianne Finch and many of those depicted in the book accepted Paul's invitation to attend the launch and enjoy morning tea with him and his wife Lesley.

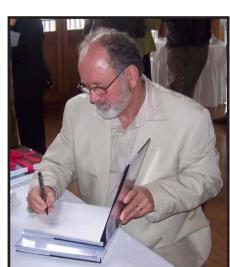
Frank Holland, KCHS President, thanked Paul when he accepted a copy of the book to be placed in the Society's archives. In so doing Frank stressed the need for all members of the community to build on Paul's example and record their own history.

Future History is a time capsule of short essays about 109 people now living in Kurrajong and is beautifully illustrated by Paul with his colour photographs taken of the subjects in their own environments.

We thank Paul, a member of KCHS, for recording some of Kurrajong's current history.

Future History

is available for purchase from KCHS by contacting the secretary Valerie Holland 4573 2226.



Paul Hulbert, author

Photo: Valerie Holland

Kurrajong – Comleroy Historical Society Incorporated PO Box 174 Kurmond NSW 2757

www.kurrajonghistory.org.au

COMMITTEE

President	Frank Holland
Vice President	Airdrie Martin
Secretary	Valerie Holland
Treasurer	Greg Upton
Minutes Secretary	Patricia O'Toole
Committee Members	Carolyn Cooper, Paul
	Hulbert, Kathie McMahon,
	Steve Rawling AM
Accessions/Librarian Valerie Birch	
Millstone Editor Chris Upton	
Webmaster Greg Upton	

President's Corner

The new committee was welcomed at the first meeting of our new year on 6 October. We have a busy few years ahead as we edge closer to 2010 and the major celebrations being planned to celebrate the 200 year anniversary of Governor Lachlan Macquarie and his party passing through Kurrajong. Sub-committees have been formed and meetings have commenced to make the necessary arrangements to ensure this is a memorable series of events.

On December the first, 2010 we will be conducting a motor coach tour tracing the route taken by Macquarie from Parramatta to Kurrajong Heights. The tour will include an inspection of Old Government House, a commentary based on Governor Macquarie's diary and stops at significant points on the journey. This event will be followed in the evening with a gala dinner at Loxley on Bellbird Hill. Both of these events will be popular and lists have opened for everyone to register their interest.

On December the third, 2010 a street parade is being planned which we hope the school children of the district will be able to attend. It will include a re-enactment group of Governor Macquarie, Mrs Macquarie, soldiers and other gentlemen that made up the Governor's party.

In addition to the above a series of related events are being planned for our usual displays coinciding with the Scarecrow Festivals in 2008–10 and our annual dinners in 2009/10.

If you would like more information please contact me on 4573 2226. As the plans are finalised further information will be provided through *The Millstone* and our Web site.

2008 AGM report FRANK HOLLAND

The Annual General Meeting of the Society was held on 24 September 2008 at the Comleroy Road Public School. President Frank Holland welcomed twenty-seven members to the meeting. After the reading and acceptance of the minutes the annual reports were moved and accepted. These reports were printed in the previous issue of *The Millstone*. The Annual Statement for the Department of Fair Trading was read and subsequently passed for submission.



Continued from page 2

On behalf of the Society the President thanked the outgoing committee for their efforts before declaring all positions vacant, then asked Ron Rozzoli to take the chair to conduct of the election of office bearers, committee and appointments for 2008/09.

The results of the election: President: Frank Holland Vice President: Airdrie Martin Secretary: Valerie Holland Treasurer: Greg Upton.

Committee: Steve Rawling, Patricia O'Toole, Paul Hulbert, Carolynne Cooper, Kathie McMahon.

Frank called for a special minute to be recorded acknowledging the magnificent work that Joy Shepherd has done on behalf of the Society in her role as treasurer, her pioneering work with the Work for the Dole project and her leadership and on-going work on the Digital Archiving project. This was passed by acclamation.

Appointments:

Accessions Officer/Librarian: Valerie Birch

The Millstone Editor: Chris Upton Webmaster: Greg Upton

Honorary Auditor: Paul Nelson of Nelson Business Consultants.

Other on-going appointments to be confirmed are Grants Officer: Garth Smith and Publicity Officer: Robyn Fuller.

President Frank Holland resumed the chair and thanked Ron Rozzoli for the efficient manner in which the elections had been conducted. 358

Five Singleton mills of the Hawkesbury

LES & ANNE DOLLIN

On 30 August 2008, a large contingent from the Dharug and Lower Hawkesbury Historical Society joined members and guests of the KCHS for a major field trip, 'The Five Singleton Mills of the Hawkesbury'. The 57 participants, including representatives from four other societies, formed our largest ever field trip group.

Bryan Wyborn had set up his two working watermill models in the Blaxlands Ridge Community Centre. Participants enjoyed a delicious morning tea, prepared by KCHS members, whilst they examined these magnificent models.

President Frank Holland welcomed all the individual groups to the field trip. Then tour leader, Les Dollin, began the proceedings with a detailed Powerpoint presentation showing rare old photographs, maps and diagrams about the watermills. The five Singleton grain mills in the Hawkesbury were vital for supplying flour and meal for the struggling colony in the early 1800s.

Singleton family history

William Singleton arrived as a convict in Sydney in 1792 with his wife Hannah, and two sons, Benjamin aged three, and Joseph two. William's first son James, age thirty-two, arrived as a free settler in 1809. Benjamin married Mary Lane Sharling at St Matthews Church, Windsor, in 1811 and James married Mary Anne Rose at Rose Cottage, Wilberforce, in 1814. Shortly after James arrived he and Benjamin started constructing watermills in the Hawkesbury. It was wonderful to see descendants from both the Singleton and Rose families at this field trip.

The first Singleton mill – Wheeny Creek

The Singleton brothers built their first mill on Little Wheeny Creek, Kurrajong, about 1810/11. This mill was on private land and was called the *Speedwell* or *Top Mill*. It was an overshot water–operated grain mill. It had its own millpond that supplied water through a millrace to operate the waterwheel that drove the mill.



The record-breaking field trip group at the old Blaxlands Ridge schoolhouse

The second Singleton mill - Wheeny Creek

Later they built a second mill further down the creek, on crown land. It would have already been operating by about 1817. This mill was called the *Wellington* or *Lower Mill* and was an undershot watermill. It also had its own millpond that supplied water through a millrace to the mill.

The third Singleton mill – Wisemans Ferry

The Singleton brothers built a tidal watermill on a creek called Mill Creek on Singleton Road only a few kilometres from Wisemans Ferry. They had applied for this land in 1817.

In a tidal watermill, water would flow up the creek on the high tide and be held by a control gate. Then as the tide dropped, the miller would run the water back to the river under the waterwheel.

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Tin Kettling

JOY SHEPHERD

The recent archiving of some Nutman family photos stirred some fond memories for me of the long lost tradition of 'Tin Kettling'. I was amazed to find so many people asked the same question – "What's a Tin Kettling?" I had always thought that this was a universal custom. It certainly was part of our lives as long as I can remember.

When newly-weds moved in to their first home, friends and relatives banded together and organised the Tin Kettling. The group would meet somewhere down the road from the new home. Once the lights went out, the mob would sneak up and surround the house armed with kerosene tins, pots and pans, sticks and spoons, and anything that would make a clatter. On a signal, the noise would erupt as cans were bashed, objects thrown on the roof, perhaps a shotgun or two fired into the air, and very noisy invaders would call out until the startled and embarrassed bride and groom appeared at the door to invite everyone in. Guests came laden with food and drink, and quite often a keg to be tapped.

I was brought up on the tale of a local couple married in the early 1930s. As usual, friends gathered for the shindig . They were greeted by a very upset and angry groom, who told them to "clear off!" It had been a 'shotgun marriage', and he wasn't feeling too happy with the course of events.

I can well remember our Tin Kettling, forty-four years ago. It was six weeks after we were married. Our house was not quite finished so we lived with Mum and Dad for a short while. The Saturday night after we moved in some friends invited us to Kurmond Roadhouse for dinner, so we got the feeling this was it. We were rushed through the meal, and sure enough, on the way home, we spotted a heap of cars in the back road near our home waiting. Once we were inside the uproar started (they didn't bother waiting for lights out). Friends and relatives swarmed in to our bare home, bringing supplies, and loads of love and laughter.

This ritual dates back to the seventeenth century, and the original version, known as a 'Skimmington' was not such a pleasant experience. This was " a noisy procession intended to bring ridicule to an erring husband or wife." It was performed to express moral outrage at the actions of a married couple. For example, the husband may be a wife-beater or the wife an adulteress. According to *The Dictionary of Vulgar Tongue* by Francis Grose, in 1796: "Saucepans, frying-pans, poker and tongs,



Max & Audrey Nutman's tin kettling, 1954 L-R Keith Johnston, Dell Taylor, Harold Taylor, Alma Johnston (lady in background unknown)

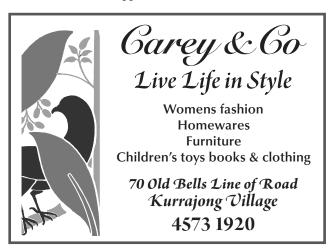
marrow bones and cleavers, bulls horns etc., beaten upon and sounded in ludicrous processions." Effigies of the guilty parties were paraded through the streets on a cart or the back of a donkey, or sometimes neighbours would impersonate them instead.

Over the years the custom changed to a slightly more pleasant one. By 1883 in France it was also known as a 'Shivaree', described as "the kind of serenade they give to a newly married couple." Noisy serenades of this sort often occurred if the marriage was a second one, or when the couple were considered badly matched in age or for some other reason.

It is believed that the tradition was introduced to South Australia by the German settlers in the nineteenth century. It was then known as the 'polterabrand' or 'tin kettling'. On the night before a wedding, after making sure the horses were securely tied up a safe distance away, the local young men would gather outside the bride-to-be's home. They would be armed with lengths of iron, empty tins, cow- bells would be banged and rattled and shot-guns fired in the air. These rowdy lads would be then invited in to have glasses of homemade wine and cake (Streusel kuchen). The seal of approval would then be given to her ability to cook for her husband-to-be.

Over the centuries this tradition has seen huge changes. Sadly, like many of the fun times we were brought up with, it now seems to have disappeared.





John Matthew Pitman 1789 – 1863

JENNIFER GRIFFITHS

John Matthew Pitman was born on 27 June 1789 in Westonzoyland,¹ a small farming community in Somerset, England. On 23 August 1813, at the Somerset assize, John was convicted of stealing a horse valued at $\pounds 20$ and was sentenced to be hanged. He was reprieved and committed to transportation for the term of his natural life.

After spending six months in a convict hulk on the River Thames, he left England on 22 February 1814 on the *Surrey*. The ship arrived in Port Jackson on 28 July 1814. Owing to an outbreak of typhus during the five month voyage, which killed fifty-one people including the captain, John was put in quarantine until 18 August 1814. He was then assigned to William Cox to work on his properties in the Windsor and Richmond areas. Having come from a rural background John would not have found farm labour difficult despite the primitive conditions and harsh climate of the colony.

John was granted a ticket of leave on 24 July 1824. This gave him the right to travel between certain points and visit certain places for a specific period of time. Because of his continued good behaviour he was later granted a conditional pardon in November 1835 by Governor Richard Bourke. John Pitman was now a free man but could never return to England. In the record of his pardon John is described as a labourer, being 5' 9¼" tall, with dark eyes, brown to grey hair and a ruddy complexion.

On 12 April 1824 John married Mary Sunderland, who had been born in Richmond in 1810. They were married in the original Christ Church, Castlereagh, by the Reverend Henry Fulton. The current building was built later as fire had destroyed the original building in the 1870s. Mary was only fourteen years old to Matthew's thirty-five but this would not have been unusual in those times as there was a shortage of women in the colony.

John must have been not only a man of good conduct but also industrious. Convicts were paid wages and William Cox was known for the fair treatment of his assigned convicts.

Letters and deed documents dated 1839 show that John Pitman had purchased two farms. A property of sixty acres, 'Linley Farm', later spelt as 'Lindley', was purchased from John Francis in about 1834². It appears that John Pitman was living on this property although the transfer of deeds did not take place until 1839.

An adjoining property of thirty acres, which John requested be named 'Rose Farm' in the deeds, was purchased by him from Thomas Smith in 1839 for ".. a valuable consideration."³ These properties were located in the vicinity of present-day Mountain View Close and the Diamond Hill Estate in Kurrajong Hills.

Where John Pitman built a house and how he farmed the land is open to speculation. Lindley Farm had Blue Gum

Creek as a water supply and it is probable that he had an orchard. Life though would have been tough in this rugged, isolated countryside.

Mary had ten children by John, the youngest being Charles Albert born on 1 December 1843. At some time between Charles' birth and the birth of a child named Robert in 1848, for whom no father's name was given, Mary left John and went to live in Warkworth near Singleton, taking most or all of the children with her. The date and reason for Mary's departure from Kurrajong are unknown.

John Matthew Pitman continued to live on his land and died at seventy-four years of age in 1863. He is buried in St Peter's Anglican Cemetery in Richmond.

His son Charles Albert, who changed the spelling of the surname to Pittman, appears to have either acquired or inherited the properties and farmed them as a citrus orchard. He helped build St David's Presbyterian Church, now Uniting, at Kurrajong Heights. He died aged ninety-three years and is buried in St David's Cemetery.

The property remained in the hands of Charles' daughters Blanche, born 1873, and Minnie Gertrude, born 1884, both of whom remained unmarried. They worked the farm until their house, which was situated on a small ridge in present day Mountain View Close, was burnt down in the severe bushfires of December 1944. Blanche, aged seventy-one at the time, was killed in the fire. The properties were subsequently sold to George Sydney Rayner and later subdivided.

Reference

John Matthew Pitman Pittman: His Ancestors and Descendants Thelma (Pitman) Evans (Self published, 2008).

This article is based on the research of Thelma Evans, a Pitman descendant to whom I am most grateful for her willingness to share it with me. Jennifer Griffiths, 11 August 2008



¹ www.british-history.ac.uk/report.aspx?compid=15118 History of Westonzoyland.

² Letter from John Francis requesting transfer of deeds dated 17 September 1839.

³ Letter dated 27 July 1839 from T. Smith requesting issue of deed to John Pitman.



From the Editor

Photos are an essential part of any newsletter. They give the reader a visual clue as to the possible content of an article and when the subject matter of the photo is chosen well can draw the casual reader into a story.

The famous American photographer, Ansel Adams, once commented that you don't "take" a picture, you "make" it. He also said, "The snapshot is not as simple a statement as many may believe. It represents something each of us has seen – more as human beings than as photographers – and wants to keep as a memento, a special thing encountered. The little icons that return from the photo-finisher provide recollections of events, people, and places; they stir memories and create phantasies. Through the billions of snapshots made each year a visual history of our times is recorded in enormous detail."

Many of the photos I am sent of field trips generally comprise a group portrait of those who took part. These would be of interest to those people, but to the casual reader one photo of a group of people appears little different to another and gives no 'clue' to the content of the article.

Ideally, an effective photo to accompany an article will disclose something about time, place and the uniqueness of the setting or outing. When taking photos for inclusion with articles be creative and change your mind's eye to that of a casual reader and seek out subject matter with broad appeal.

notpuc@bigpond.com

Thelma Evans is taking pre-paid orders for her book

Pitman Pittman Family History

The book is 151 pages and the cost is \$37 plus P & P of \$9 1-3 copies Total cost per book \$46

Payment can be made by cheque or money order to Thelma Evans, 6/19 Riverview Street Murwillumbah NSW 2484

Thelma can be contacted via email wanderoz@optusnet.com.au

Continued from page 3

The turning waterwheel would drive the millstones through a set of huge wooden cogged wheels.

The fourth Singleton mill – Wisemans Ferry

James Singleton built another tidal mill in the early 1820s on a creek on the other side of the Hawkesbury River. This creek was called Dillons Creek or Myrtle Creek, but later became known as Mill Creek. A stone wharf for this mill was built at the mouth of the creek. James had applied for this block of land as early as 1810.

The fifth Singleton mill - Wisemans Ferry

James Singleton built another tidal mill called the *Gunderman Mill* in the early 1830s. It was later known as the *Singleton Mill*. It was on Layburys Creek about seventeen kilometres from Wisemans Ferry. Early photographs show the imposing old timber mill building with its wheel standing beside the Hawkesbury River. It was a prominent landmark until 1915.

After the Powerpoint presentation the group visited the millstones at the park in Kurrajong Village, then one of the historic mill sites on Little Wheeny Creek.

The millstones at Kurrajong Village

These two millstones were cut from the quarries in Derbyshire, England. They were commonly called **Greys** because of their colour. They were used in the two local mills at Little Wheeny Creek.

One of the millstones was a **bed stone**, fixed into a stationary position in the mill. The other stone was a **running stone**, which rotated on top of the bed stone to grind the wheat or other grain.

Mill site tour

The group visited the site of the *Wellington Mill*, the Singleton brothers' lower watermill at Little Wheeny Creek, Kurrajong.

Les explained the history of the mill as the group walked down the original old Grain Road past the old sandstone quarry to the mill site. Then the group followed the path of the old millrace to the millpond. Walking back down the race towards the mill site, the group could imagine the water rushing along the race from the millpond and finally under the waterwheel to operate the mill.

At the end of the tour, representatives of the bush care group identified many plants and trees around us in what was once called the Kurrajong Brush — a diverse dry rainforest which housed under its canopy this early industrial settlement. 355



Windsor & Richmond Gazette Wednesday, 7 November 1979

Mountain View

Mountain View was one of the many guest houses in the district at the turn of the twentieth century. Mary Peck, a daughter of Samuel Hurst and Elizabeth Barwick, operated it as a guesthouse from the 1880s to early 1920s.

Mary married Henry Peck in August 1862 and they had thirteen children. Henry died at *Fernhurst* on 9 November 1888 and Mary died at *Mountain View* on 4 July 1926.



'Girls doing the gardening' circa 1920

The Richmond Players end of year production **FOOTLIGHTS & BILLBOARDS**

A musical tribute to the stage and screen covering music from the 1920s to the present

Produced and directed by Stuart Gale

Sat. 1 Nov. 6.00 p.m. Sat. 8, 15, 22 Nov. 2.00 p.m. & 6.00 p.m.

School of Arts theatre restaurant West Market Street, Richmond

Bookings and enquiries 4579 6053





Postcard circa 1920

Phil Peck is in possession of the visitors' book from the guesthouse. The first entry is dated 11 October 1886 and the final entry 23 April 1922.

The Carter family came to Kurrajong in 1926 to run the guesthouse. *Mountain View* was destroyed by fire one night in 1933.

Mrs Blunden bought the property in the 1930s and established a commercial flower business. The current owners are Carl Stringfellow and Philip Nolan. The property is situated in Burralow Road, Kurrajong Heights.

The photo at the left is clearly 'staged' as on close examination the implement being held by the lady in the background is a lawn 'edger' not a grass cutter. The photo might possibly have been used for promotional purposes.

HAWKESBURY REGIONAL MUSEUM

Visit the Hawkesbury's new museum at 8 Baker Street, Windsor

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Friday, 7 November

Rouse Hill House & Farm and Dight's Farm visits. The day will commence at 9.45 a.m. at the Rouse Hill Farm & House visitors centre, Guntawong Road, Rouse Hill.

Rouse Hill House & Farm is one of Australia's most significant historic properties, outstanding for its unique artefacts, furnishings, buildings and original colonial garden. The property and its contents are an extraordinary archive of the lives of the Rouse and Terry families. It also provides the most complete document of continuous family occupancy of a country house in New South Wales.

Cost per person is \$15 and bookings are essential as numbers are limited. Bring a picnic lunch. If you would like further details or wish to make a booking contact Valerie Holland on 4573 2226.

Sunday, 30 November

The Society's Christmas picnic party will get under way at 5 p.m. Jenny and David Griffiths have kindly offered to host this event in the grounds of their home, *Merrajong* at 46 Mountain Close, off Hermitage Road, Kurrajong Hills.

Bring your picnic meal, tables and chairs and join us for a relaxing evening. Barbecue facilities will be available. Tea, coffee and Christmas cake will be served.

Please advise and place your booking by 19 November with Valerie Holland on 4573 2226.

Monday, 26 January

Australia Day breakfast. Join with friends at Loxley on Bellbird Hill for this special occasion and hear recollections of the property's history from some of our senior members.

Cost per person is \$25 and bookings are essential. Bookings can be made with Valerie Holland on 4573 2226 and payment to KCHS, PO Box 174, Kurmond 2757. Please advise your attendance by 12 January as places are strictly limited.

EMAIL ADDRESS DATABASE UPDATE

There have been a number of emails sent to members returned to sender as "Not at this address". This could indicate that there are some obsolete or mistyped address details in the Society's records.

If you have an email address, acquire one, or change service provider, could you please send an email message to the secretary, Valerie Holland

frank.holland@bigpond.com.au so that the current database can be updated and confirmed as accurate.

Some Hope

I hope that I will never see Another flaming Eucalyptus tree Or watch the growing pall approach And spread with black debris to choke The animals while all around The cinders float.

I hope that those who choose the bush Can live with nature in harmony. May they never have to fear or see The greedy fire's frightening power Like an awesome tide, quick to devour All in its path.

Smouldering embers lay in wait For the next wind gust to take What's left. Even after rain The fight's not complete, still more pain For some who battle the burn and hope This will not come their way again.

As we approach the Festive Season I am reminded of the 2001 bushfires which interrupted many Christmas parties in Kurrajong with devastating results. Memories of that horrible experience prompted me to write this poem.

> Brenda Smith (KCHS member)



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Front verandah circa 1902

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- Winner of Parramatta Regional Awards for Business Excellence in Customer Service & Chairman's Choice Award 2006
- Winner of Western Sydney Industry Awards for Regional Excellence in Outstanding Service 2006
- Winner of Parramatta Regional Awards for Excellence in Sales & Marketing 2005
- Winner of Western Sydney Industry Awards for Excellence in Tourism, Meetings & Business Tourism & Most Outstanding Contribution to Western Sydney Tourism by a Small Business 2003
- Winner of the HMAA Best Short Break Accommodation in NSW for 2003
- Winner of Western Sydney Industry Awards for Excellence in Tourism, Hosted Accommodation 2002