

Kogarah Historical Society Inc

Carss Cottage Museum – Carss Park
Postal Address PO Box 367, Kogarah 1485
www.kogarah.historicalsociety.com.au

Patron: The Mayor of Kogarah

President: Beverley Earnshaw (9546 1091)

Newsletter

July/August 2015

Volume 7 No 3



Lawrie Corry, Diane and Steve Corry and some of the Society who attended the tree planting in the Elizabeth Corry Reserve. (Story Inside)

Meetings and Speakers

Thursday 9 July 2015

Stewart Reed, Lecturer, CCE Sydney
on *May Gibbs: Her life and works*

Thursday 13 August 2015

Beverley Earnshaw, Author & Historian
on *The Fanny Letters*

Meetings start at 2pm in the School of Arts, Bowns Road Kogarah. Enjoy the speaker, then chat over afternoon tea. A short business meeting follows. Apologies for non-attendance at meetings should go to the Secretary, Gill Whan (9546 4623). Visitors welcome.

Find us on Facebook



Mondays at the Museum

27 July 2015 – Judith Carrick

Judith Carrick lives in Austinmer just south of the Royal National Park and has a great love for the Park. She attained a Bachelor of Arts at Wollongong University and seeing there was no current history of the Park, set out to write one. After 6 years of research her book *History of Royal National Park 1879-2013* was recently published. Her title is *Talking our way through Royal National Park*.

As usual we will start at 10 am with morning tea in the courtyard and stay there if the weather is suitable or move into the Kogarah Room in the Museum for the presentation. Cost \$5 which also gives you the chance to win a door prize. **Please book** as space is limited and it helps with catering. To reserve your place, ring Adele Ryan on 9529 6730 or leave a message on her answering machine.

Sunday Museum Roster

July 2015

5th Carole Tier & Ken Grieve
12th Mavis Ward & Pat Young
19th Betty Reynolds & tbc
26th Warren & Irene Selmon

August 2015

2nd Gill Whan & Deirdre Schroeder
9th Adele Ryan & Lawrie Corry
16th Betty Reynolds & tbc
23rd Warren & Irene Selmon
30th Cath & Leo Sullivan

Hours **1 pm – 4 pm**. Problems, contact Gill Whan, 9546 4623

Current Committee 2015 (*denotes Executive)

President:*	Beverley Earnshaw	Ph: 9546 1091
Vice Presidents:*	Vacant	
Secretary:*	Gill Whan	Ph: 9546 4623
Treasurer:*	Cath Sullivan	Ph: 9579 6149
Public Officer*	Janette Hollebhone	Ph: 9529 7117

Committee Members: Beryl Butters, Lawrie Corry, Trudy Johns, Rodger Robertson, Adele Ryan, Carole Tier, Mavis Ward, Pat Young

Committee meeting venues

6 July 7.00pm Beverley Earnshaw, 15 Hamer St., Kogarah Bay (9546 1091)
10 Aug 7.00 pm Pat Young, 25 Culver St., Monterey (9588 5835)
7 Sept 7.00 pm Gill Whan, 11 Dewrang Street, Carss Park (9546 4623)

Welcome to New Members

Jim Nicol & Judith Quilter

We hope you have a long and happy association with the Society

Tree Planting on Elizabeth Corry Reserve



A very pleasant ceremony took place on 17 June 2015 when Lawrie Corry with two of his children Diane and Steve and a small group of Society members assisted by staff from Kogarah Council gathered to plant a pine tree, propagated from seed brought from Lone Pine on the Gallipoli Peninsula.

The location on the corner of Wharf Road and Wyee Street is of special significance to the Corry family as the Elizabeth Corry Reserve is named in honour of Lawrie's mother and is also the area of the WW1 War Service Homes Estate where the Corry family lived for over 50 years. Lawrie's father, Cyril Victor Corry (Vic) was in the British Army, 29th Division Artillery. He originally came to Australia in 1912 which was when he met Elizabeth, but as an Army Reservist was recalled to Britain to serve when war broke out in 1914. He returned to Australia in 1919, married Elizabeth in 1920 and they had 11 children. Lawrie is the second youngest.

His mother Elizabeth Corry was a co-founder of Kogarah Historical Society. In the wider community she was part of the Metropolitan Parks and Reserves Committee and was instrumental in the acquisition of the Parkside Drive Reserve and the extension of Carss Park. She was a lady of Aboriginal heritage and worked for the Aboriginal Foundation when its premises were behind Central Railway in the 1950s. She was also involved in local Civic Affairs. For her work on the Barton Women's Auxiliary of the St. George Hospital she was honoured with life membership of the hospital. She was an active member of the Kogarah Bay Progress Association, the Kogarah Bay Branch of the Labor Party and St.Cuthberts Church.

She had always been adamant that the vacant land at the end of Wyee Street should not be sold as a building site but incorporated into the Park. When she died in 1983, Kogarah Council assigned the name Elizabeth Corry Reserve to this site in memory of a lady who had done so much for the community.

Lawrie hopes that the pine tree will flourish and be a memorial to all servicemen and women from World War 1.

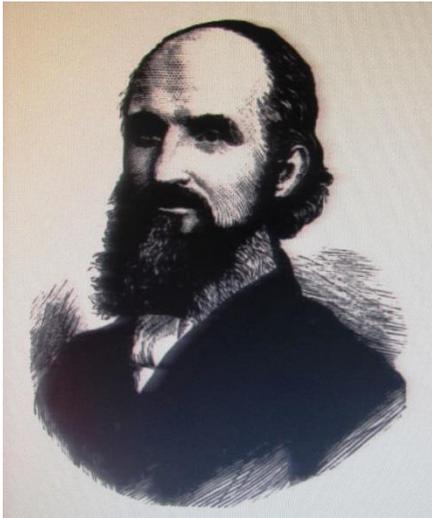
The remarks above are from the words spoken by Beverley Earnshaw at the tree planting ceremony.



Lawrie, Diane and Steve Corry



Rev William Ridley MA



When William Carss moved into his stone cottage at Carss Park in 1865, he was able to attend Presbyterian services carried out by the Rev William Ridley at Thomas Wilson's residence, Rocky Point Road (his land located between what is now Hastings Street and Torwood Avenue down to Kogarah Bay).

A meeting was held in this house on Wednesday, 21 November 1866 by Presbyterians, including those who attended services there, chaired by the Rev Ridley, to consider what steps should be taken to build a place of worship. Mr Hindmarsh and Mr Clark offered pieces of land adjoining Rocky Point Road. Mr William Carss offered to donate two acres of his land with a weatherboard house on stone foundations, situated beside Kogarah Bay Creek, fronting Kogarah Road. William Carss' generous offer was accepted and the first service for public worship at Carss Park was held on Sunday, 9 December 1866.

William Ridley travelled to Cooks River by omnibus. He walked across the dam wall at Cooks River, then along Rocky Point Road which was narrow and badly formed, little more than a horse track. Nanny Goat Hill at Arncliffe was steep and rocky which was difficult to negotiate, and it was not easy to ford Muddy Creek. It was quite a challenge to get to Carss Park. He did this every second Sunday to deliver a service for 15 to 20 people. On the alternate Sunday he went to Canterbury for the same purpose. These Sundays were on a voluntary basis.

During the week Ridley worked for the Australian press (*Empire*, *Evening News* and *The Australian Town & Country Journal*) from about 1860 until his death in 1878. He was an excellent journalist and shorthand writer.

William Ridley was born on 14 September 1819 at Hartford End, Essex. His father was a respected miller/brewer who sent his son to King's College, London, intending him to follow the legal profession. After his degree he continued his legal education and devoted considerable time to the study of the scriptures. In 1849 he caught a thief picking his pockets and took him to court. The magistrate became very angry when Ridley conscientiously objected to be sworn, so he fined Ridley £100 and released the thief. William's father travelled to London to pay the fine and disowned his son.

William was distraught and walked the streets of London. He came upon a church where Dr John Dunmore Lang from Australia was to preach and lecture. Following an interview with Lang, Ridley travelled with him on the *Clifton*, arriving in Sydney in January 1850 to become Professor of Greek, Latin and Hebrew at the Australian College which had been set up by Lang in 1831.

William was ordained in the Scots Church by Dr Lang on 10 April 1850, and the following day he married Isabella Cotter, daughter of an Irish clergyman. On Sundays William held two services in the Presbyterian Church, Balmain. In 1853 Ridley left the Australian College and started pastoral charges at Portland Bay, Brisbane and Manning River successively.

This was missionary work among the Aborigines, carrying out religious duties to squatters and servants on the scattered stations. He was only supported by £50 pa from Scots Church. Ridley learnt to speak the Kamilaroi language and then made it a written language by providing an alphabet (taking into consideration they had difficulty with the sound of 's', in particular the words **Christ** and **Jesus**). The Aborigines were quick to master reading this and there was mutual respect. William made up religious texts in Kamilaroi with illustrations. He also

preached the Gospel in Gaelic to the many families from the Scottish Highlands.

William was advised to go to Moreton Bay where there were larger numbers of Aborigines so he proceeded to Brisbane at the end of January 1855 where he received a warm welcome. A public meeting was held on 13 February at the Evangelical Church, Brisbane when it was resolved *That a Society be now constituted for the purpose of sending the Gospel to the Aborigines of the land, and using all practicable means for the good of that unhappy race; the Society to be called "The Moreton Bay Aborigines' Friends Society"*.

Ridley gave his detailed report of a tour at a public meeting of this Society, held in the Brisbane School of Arts on Wednesday evening, 21 November 1855. The object of his travels from 21 July was to ascertain how far in the interior the *Turrubul* dialect used in Brisbane is understood by the Aborigines; to learn what dialects were spoken along the Condamine, especially to find where *Kamilaroi*, the language of the Namoi begins to be spoken; and, of course, to declare the glad tidings of salvation wherever it was practicable. In just under four months William travelled 1850 miles from Brisbane and picked three areas where it would be worthwhile for a missionary to be placed to preach the Gospel in Kamilaroi and of course English, and to learn other dialects. Another area he chose was for the Pikumbul Aborigines. These people had been the most determined and troublesome foes the colonists had met. Now they were on friendly terms with the whites but ferocious in their fights with one another.

William recorded much about what he learned from the Aborigines. He was impressed with the comprehensive classification of male and female family or clan names on which are based definite and unalterable rules of marriage and descent. He recorded that the initiation of young males was extremely important among all Aborigines. The Australian Printing Office published Ridley's two books on Aboriginal languages and customs in 1866 and 1876.

In 1856 Ridley established the Presbyterian Church at Heywood, Victoria and he travelled along the Richmond and Clarence Rivers with a petition for the inhabitants to sign to be included in Queensland's separation from NSW. This petition failed. He returned to Sydney because of family commitments, to give lectures, take up journalism and to continue his ministerial calling.

He was appointed one of the theological tutors at St Andrews College and an examiner of candidates for the Ministry. He did his MA degree at Sydney University in 1864. For two years he helped edit the *Australian Witness*. In 1877 he was asked to take on the Chinese Mission in Sydney—a huge task. Ridley immediately began to learn Chinese to carry out this work. He wrote portions of scripture in Chinese and translated and set to music some hymns which he sang with them. He still carried out his work as a journalist.

William Ridley had a stroke four days before he died on 26 September 1878 aged 59. He had asked to be buried in Devonshire Street Cemetery with his daughter Jessie who had died aged 7 in 1862. (This grave was moved to Rookwood in 1901.) His wife, three sons and four daughters survived him. The daughters of the late Thomas Mort arranged a beautiful wreath for his coffin. He was recorded as being *one of the ablest scholars in the Australian Colonies*.

Ridley was still holding services at Carss Park when William Carss died on 26 May 1878 and Dr John Dunmore Lang departed this life just over two months later on 8 August 1878. Both these men had been involved with the Rev William Ridley in his very busy and productive life which also ended in 1878.

Janette Hollebhone

References:

Beginnings, Kogarah Presbyterian Church 1865-1903 by Vincent S Smith
The Australian Town & Country Journal: 5 Oct 1878; 5 Oct 1879; 24 Aug 1895
Empire: 10 Feb 1854, 10 March 1855; 25 Feb 1856, 21 September 1864
Sydney Morning Herald: 14 Dec 1855
Evening News: 30 Sept 1878
The Moreton Bay Courier, 24 January 1857

Memories

From 'The Sun' Friday December 23, 1927.

Absolutely Painless.

Don't neglect your teeth through fear. Gentleness is my constant care and aim, and every consideration is given to the nervous. This extreme care, coupled with the most careful attention to detail, accounts for my busy practices.

We pay five pounds if you feel any pain during an extraction.

My modern methods enable me to make your teeth sound, present without pain, and at very moderate cost. My artificial teeth look natural, fit perfectly, and filling- out wrinkles, make you look years younger. My work carries a written guarantee for 3 years. Call in and chat the matter over. Terms can be arranged. It's easy to pay the Moses way. Open till 6 p.m. daily (Saturdays included). Until 9 p.m. Friday. Cash orders welcomed.

Dentist Phillip Moses – Orchard's Cnr. 793 George Street, opposite Farmers.



From 'The Sun' Friday December 23, 1927.

Ham Turkey Christmas Dinner One Shilling.

Members of the staff of the head office of the Commonwealth bank have already had their Christmas dinner.

Yesterday, when the staff and tenants of the building, numbering 500, sat down to lunch in the bank dining-room an elaborate menu offering turkey, ham and plum pudding was placed before them.

Ordinarily a luncheon supplied at the bank dining-room costs 1s. Yesterday the menu was enlarged and the extra good things were provided for the same price.

Half sovereigns, and many silver pieces had been put in the pudding.

Thank you Beryl Butters for the Memories



West Maling

"Albert Bythesea Weigall, headmaster of Sydney Grammar School. built a grand mansion called West Maling on King Georges Road, Penshurst in 1889. (This building is now a church). Weigall was a devotee of classical English literature and he commissioned a stained glass window featuring six English poets, essayists and playwrights, Chaucer, Shakespeare, Milton, Bunyan, Spencer and Bacon.

Imagine his gigantic freak-out when he arrived to view the art work and found the name of his beloved William Shakespeare wrongly spelt! There it was, preserved for posterity in stained glass. One wonders if he paid the bill.

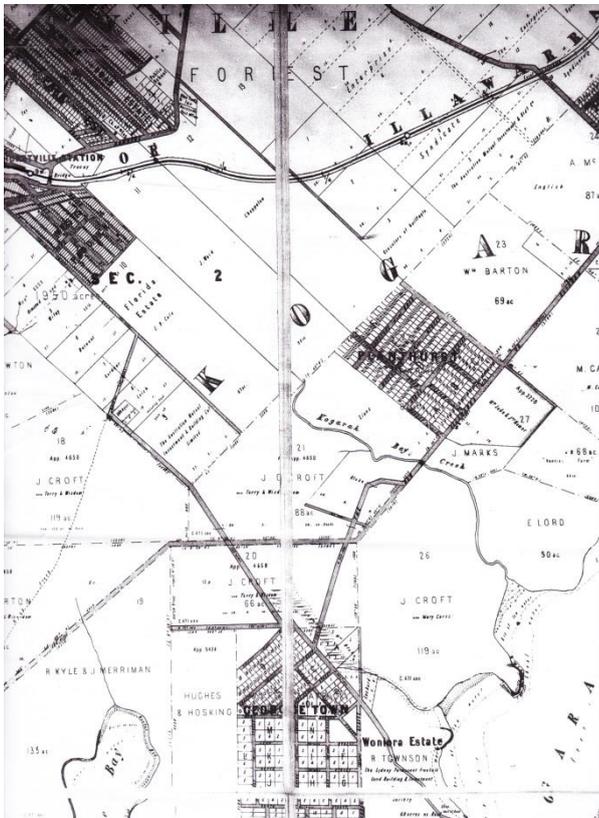
The artist can have full marks for portraiture, but a Z- for spelling."

Planhurst A one-time locality in Kogarah

One hundred years ago, a directory of Sydney ¹ described Kogarah as *A flourishing township on the Illawarra railway line, 7 miles from Sydney. Trains run half-hourly... fares 1/- return. It includes Blakehurst, Connell's Point, Hurstville Grove, Kogarah Bay, Sans Souci, Tom Ugly's Point, Planhurst and portions of Penshurst, Oatley, Mortdale and Carlton.*

I only knew a street named Planhurst, running off Park Road – not a district. However when I checked my file on the naming of streets, I found there had been a subdivision of land in 1884 ² – the year the railway came to Kogarah and land sales began – this one on 4 October 1884.

In a newspaper article headed *Great Land Sale This Afternoon*, it states, *In buying land (important facts) are nearness to the city, facility of access, good drainage and pleasant views. Planhurst – situated on the main road to Tom Ugly's Point – possesses all these advantages in a remarkable degree. The Illawarra Railway, to be opened in a few days leads directly to it. ... Buses will leave the Newtown railway bridge at 2 pm to convey intending buyers.* ⁽²⁾



The land offered for sale was on the grant originally made to John Sparke. He had purchased 82 acres. However, since he had land in many other districts, it would seem he speculated in land but did not ever live in Kogarah. He was born in 1799 in South Brent, Devon but died in NSW on 14 December 1852. He married a Miss Walford at St James, Sydney in 1830 and they had 6 children. Convict servants were assigned to him from 1829 so he was a successful businessman. In 1831 he had the George Inn and in 1834 was described as an innkeeper in George Street in Sydney. In 1842 he was part of a group who sought permission to import coolies from the islands as cheap labour.

When Planhurst Estate ³ was offered for sale the streets marked out were Gladstone (later changed to Planhurst), Waterview and Bibby, running parallel to the railway line and Massey, Narara and Plant running to Kogarah Road (our

Princes Highway).

Joseph Walker Bibby lived in Carlton at a residence named Alabama ⁴ and was elected to the first municipal council of Hurstville. He was described as an accountant, auditor and was company secretary to the firm, the Sydney Permanent Freehold Land and Building Society ⁵ that sold the Planhurst Estate. I am left wondering who chose the name, Planhurst, and what meaning did it have for him.

B. Goodger

REFERENCES

1. Wilson's Authentic Director Sydney & Suburbs 1913
2. Balmain Observer 4 October 1884 p.3
3. Subdivision map A3/15 and K8/26 in Local Studies Section of Kogarah Library
4. The Carlton Story by Ron Rathbone. 1964 pp 8, 9, 12, 22. Republished by Kogarah Historical Society on A4 paper 25pp
5. Evening News 3/8/1885 p.
6. Map of the Original Colonial Landholders of Sydney from 1792, by Bryan Thomas 1982

BOOK REVIEWS: Simpson and the Donkey

Simpson and the Donkey. The Making of a Legend
Peter Cochrane
Melbourne University Press, Carlton. Anniversary
Edition, 2013.
296 pp., pb. RRP \$24.99.
ISBN: 9780522866032

*Dust, Donkeys and Delusions: The Myth of Simpson
and his Donkey – Exposed*
Graham Wilson
Army History Unit/Big Sky Publishing, Newport.
2012. 402 pp., pb. RRP \$34.99.
ISBN: 9781921941740

The Minister for Education in John Howard's government and present Director of the Australian War Memorial, Dr Brendan Nelson, has said of John Simpson Kirkpatrick (of 'Simpson and the Donkey' fame from Gallipoli) that: 'He represents everything at the heart of what it means to be Australian... everything that we should strive to be as a nation'. Had Dr Nelson bothered to delve just a little into his background, he would have found that Jack Simpson was an Englishman who, just before the outbreak of war in 1914, had written to his mother that he was 'sick and tired' of Australia (after a stay of four years) and was wanting to return to England. Jack was also quite left-wing in his views: in a letter to his mother dated 1 September 1912 he wrote, 'What they want in England is a good revolution and that will clear some of these Millionaires and lords and Dukes out of it and then with a Labour Government they will almost be able to make their own conditions'. The point to be made is that our politicians - from either side of the political spectrum - and others, have been enormously keen to associate themselves with Anzacs such as Simpson, and quite prepared to distort their histories to suit latter-day political agendas. Jack Simpson provides a very informative case study of how history can be distorted and manipulated.

It is quite timely for Jack Simpson to be the focus of discussion. He died on Gallipoli just on a hundred years ago, on 19 May 1915, killed by Turkish machine-gun fire. And there are available two extremely well researched books that leave no stone unturned in their pursuit of finding out who Simpson was and what he did. Melbourne-born academic Peter Cochrane has produced a concise study of the topic, *Simpson and the Donkey. The Making of a Legend*, (first published in 1992). Following in Cochrane's wake is Graham Wilson, a 26-year veteran of the Australian Army until retirement in 1996, who achieved the rank of Warrant Officer Intelligence Analyst. Subsequently he joined the Department of Defence where he worked until 2011. His book, *Dust, Donkeys and Delusions: The Myth of Simpson and his Donkey*, is somewhat rambling and quite long – it would have benefitted from some rigorous editing. Nevertheless it impresses greatly in the forensic way it sets about interrogating the relevant primary sources. In the process, Cochrane's original findings are reinforced by Wilson's investigation.

Simpson was born in 1892, into an upper working class family with five other siblings, in South Shields in northern England. He first left home aged 17, crewing ships. On 13 May 1910, together with 13 others, Jack Simpson jumped ship in Newcastle, NSW. (To avoid arrest, he assumed his mother's maiden name, Simpson, and it was by that surname that he would be known in the AIF.) He wrote home regularly, and also sent back between a quarter and a third of his weekly wages to help his widowed mother and sister. Graham Wilson finds Simpson to have been 'an extremely likeable but otherwise wholly unremarkable young man' (p.iii). He travelled extensively around Australia, trying his hand at various jobs.

Following the outbreak of war, on 5 September 1914 Jack enlisted in the AIF, calculating that this would be his ticket back to England. Being of strong build, the army allocated Jack to the Australian Army Medical Corps to be trained as a stretcher-bearer. His AIF personnel file contains *no* evidence of ill-discipline. Rather, a good case can be made out that he was dedicated and well disciplined – in contrast to many others. He was never fined for any misdemeanours;

and Jack allocated a third of his soldier's wage to be sent home to his mother. On 25 April 1915 he was to find himself participating in the landing at Anzac Cove on the Gallipoli peninsula. In total there would eventually be somewhere in the vicinity of 900 other stretcher-bearers like him supporting the Anzac incursion. From official records it appears that Simpson began working with donkeys from 26 April, which others were also doing shortly after. He was involved in evacuating wounded men down the approximately 1.3kms of well-used tracks from Monash and Shrapnel gullies to the dressing stations at the beach (and returning – a round trip, with a slow-moving donkey, of possibly two hours). Jack did this for 23 days. He probably used a donkey because of a chronic shortage of stretchers – which failed to be returned for use when the wounded were handed over to the care of medical orderlies down on the beach. Wilson calculates that 'the total number of men Simpson could have transported on his donkey was around 100 – probably fewer' (p.254). And, 'Simpson almost certainly did not "save" anyone. Both the evidence and common logic indicate that all Simpson could have done with a donkey was to transport lightly wounded ... now commonly referred to as "walking wounded" ' (p.255). Jack Simpson was certainly worthy of praise, just like many others, in the contribution he made to the Anzac enterprise. Yet, according to Wilson, 'Simpson was almost totally unknown and unremarked on at the time of his service and ... his death actually did not create so much as a ripple' (p.226). End of story, or so it would seem: there was nothing more to it, on the basis of the miniscule amount of primary source material directly relating to Simpson that was actually produced on Gallipoli in April-May 1915.

In early March 2013 a tribunal appointed by the Commonwealth parliament handed down a report into Simpson, the outcome of 12 months of investigation into whether he deserved to be decorated, posthumously, with the Victoria Cross. It found that Simpson's actions were no more exceptional than those of hundreds of other stretcher-bearers working on Gallipoli at the time: 'The tribunal was ... unable to find any witness accounts of a specific act of valour... which could single out Simpson's bravery from other stretcher-bearers in the Field Ambulance'.

His death back in 1915, however, had seen the launch of a brand new story about Simpson, one which would elevate him to status of the hero of the Gallipoli campaign. It got under way with a report written by the original architect of the Anzac legend, official war correspondent Charles Bean, who had no first-hand knowledge of Simpson. Bean's report was published in Australia on 23 July. It read in part: 'Private Simpson, of the 3rd Field Ambulance ... made continual trips to and from the firing line... he absolutely disregarded bullets and shrapnel... When the shells were so hot that many others thought it wiser to duck for cover as they passed, the man with the donkey calmly went his way as if nothing more serious than a summer shower was happening'. Simpson wasn't a natural fit for the mateship aspect of the Anzac legend, having worked very much as a loner. But he would be fitted out to correspond with its other salient features. Reports in the press prompted others to claim to have known Simpson, some of whom were not even on Gallipoli at the time when he was there. Some even went back to their diaries to insert Simpson references! It was claimed that on at least one occasion, under murderous fire, he made a 'lightning dash' out into No-Man's-Land to rescue 'a wounded man on his back'; all told, it was said that by working 'day and night', he rescued as many as 300 troops, some very seriously wounded. Furthermore it was claimed that he was a larrikin, very unsuited to army discipline – indeed, that by operating as he did, he was directly disobeying orders and laying himself open to a charge of desertion. Wilson: 'various lies and half-truths ... riddle the Simpson myth', and, 'succeeding generations of authors have blindly regurgitated ... mendacious drivel' (p.245).

On 26 July 1915, two months after Simpson was killed, a photograph (AWM A01011) of a wounded soldier, astride a donkey, being guided and supported by a soldier wearing a field

general service cap (which Simpson is never known to have worn), appeared in the *Sydney Morning Herald*. Subsequently it became ‘the Simpson icon’ which would be used ‘ritually’. Yet the photograph (taken by Sergeant James G. Jackson, No.3/210, of the NZ Field Ambulance, from Dunedin, who had worked with Simpson for about five days on Gallipoli) was not of Simpson – but it would popularly be presumed to be of him. (Actually it was Private No.3/258 Richard Alexander Henderson, a stretcher-bearer of the New Zealand Medical Corps.) Are you gaining an impression that little of the Simpson legend is grounded in reality?

On 28 October 1916, and again on 20 December 1917, Australians would be asked to vote in successive conscription referenda. And it was then that the Simpson legend really took off. The ‘Yes’ side appropriated Jack Simpson for its propaganda campaign, as an example of why conscription should be introduced: his exploits on Gallipoli demonstrated, it was claimed, that the AIF was seriously undermanned, resulting in men such as Simpson being grossly over-burdened. The AIF desperately needed to be reinforced. According to Peter Cochrane: ‘the legend was orchestrated by politically motivated imperial patriots’ (p.56). This was how ‘Simpson and his Donkey’ came to assume a position at the forefront of Australia’s historical consciousness. As for Simpson himself, one might well doubt he would have been impressed by how he had been used – the political cause was fundamentally opposed to his own politics. Cochrane: ‘the Simpson legend was the creation of a despicable propaganda offensive that the man himself would have condemned’ (p.xvii).

940.425 WILS Graham Wilson, *Dust, Donkeys and Delusions* can be borrowed from Kogarah Library. Via Kogarah, from Strathfield Library, you can borrow 940.47594 COC Peter Cochrane, *Simpson and the Donkey*. Another of Wilson’s books from Strathfield is, 940.4099 WIL *Bully Beef & Balderdash: Some Myths of the AIF Examined and Debunked*.

David Martin



Trivia Quiz

All answers starting with “B”.

1. Australian Prime Ministers starting with B?
2. US Presidents starting with B?
3. UN Countries starting with B? 17 of them!
4. Sydney Metro stations starting with B? 13 is the target!
5. Australians of the Year starting surname starting with B??
6. Kings of England and GB starting with B?
7. Melbourne Cup winners since 1945 starting with B?
8. Test Cricket captains of Australia starting with B?

Answers:

1. Stanley Bruce (1923-29), Edmund Barton (1901-1903)
2. Martin Van Buren (1837-1841), James Buchanan (1857-1861), G H W Bush (1989-1993), G H Bush (2001-2009)
3. Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei, Bulgaria, Burundi, Burkina Faso
4. Banksta, Bankstown, Bardwell Park, Beecroft, Belmore, Berala, Berowra, Beverley Hills, Bexley North, Birrong, Blacktown, Bondi Junction, Burwood
5. Rosie Batty 2015, Ida Burtrose 2013, Arthur Boyd 1995, Allan Border 1989, Alan Bond 1978, Sir Jack Brabham 1966.
6. None
7. 7 before 1945 but since then Baysome 1958, Bagdad Note 1970, Beldale Ball 1980, Black Knight 1984, Brew 2000 and maybe you could include Think Big in 1974 and 75, Gold and Black 1977
8. Jack Blackham, Warren Bardsley, Don Bradman, Bill Brown, Richie Benaud, Brian Booth and Allan Border.



Berrima Trip

Our trip to Berrima was most enjoyable even though our trusty bus broke down a few miles out of Mittagong! A large drink for the radiator meant we were able to limp into our destination, albeit later than anticipated, and by the time we were due to return a replacement bus had been found!

Our first visit (after coffee) was to the Berrima and District Historical Museum, housed in a historic weatherboard cottage. We received a warm welcome and explored a very well set up Museum – spacious (we were envious), with excellent displays and the new Williams Gallery with the latest exhibition “Remembering the 1200” on World War 1 servicemen and women from the Southern Highlands.



Revolving cabinet

We were very ‘taken’ with the complete kitchen on display from the early 1900s especially its revolving storage cabinet with drawers for absolutely everything!

Of particular interest was the display on the German internees from WW1 who were housed in the gaol overnight but given the freedom to roam (within limits) during the day. Their activities and interaction with the local population became legendary and the photographs of the pleasure gardens, huts, canoes, etc made by the internees were most interesting.

After a fish and chip lunch at the Surveyor General, the oldest licensed Inn in Australia, we headed to Harper’s Mansion for a tour. It was built in 1834 by Mr Harper who was also the first licensee of the Surveyor General and the house had had several owners over the years including the Catholic Church and two horticulturalists who had both added their touch. We could only envisage the beautiful garden in the summer, an orchard of fruit trees, a rose garden with 100 old fashioned types of roses and a splendid maze. Now it is owned by The National Trust who’s well stocked shop did very well from our visit!



G Whan



Bulletin Board

Janette Hollebhone, one of the stalwarts of the Society suffered a stroke on Sunday 14 June, the day before her 80th birthday. Fortunately the family celebrations had been held over the weekend. She is in St George Public Hospital and being Janette is very positive and working hard on the rehab ward toward her recovery.

We hadn’t realized how much she did until we listed it to try and fill in while she is sick. Thank you to the several volunteers from the Society who are ‘holding the fort’ particularly Fred Scott who will look after the website.

Our very best wishes to Janette for a swift and complete recovery.

Mavis Ward is also on the ‘walking wounded’ list after a fall. She is recovering at home. Get well soon Mavis, can’t do without you.

Good to see **Bev Scott** and **Pat Young** back at meetings and to hear that **Trudy Johns** is progressing slowly.

Carss Cottage Museum



Our latest acquisition is a gift from Sutherland Historical Society – a framed poster of the second sale of blocks for the suburb of Carss Park, in 1924.

Nostalgia strikes as we read of £5 deposit required and payments of £2 per month. C. Monro was again the auctioneer and was known as ‘one minute Monro’ for his auctioneer skills.

You will note ‘Torrens Title’ mentioned. When William Carss became the owner of his estate and built The Anchorage (Carss Cottage) it was Number 2 in NSW under the Torrens Title system.

What is the Torrens Title?

Torrens Title was developed in South Australia as a centralized system to track and guarantee land ownership and was quickly adopted by the other colonies. A Torrens title looks much the same everywhere, with references to previous and subsequent titles, the conditions under which the land was first purchased and a plan to show the boundaries. It records every transaction, transfers of ownership (purchases), inheritances, mortgages and discharges of mortgages, caveats and so on. This history can be very interesting adding to the picture of an ancestor’s economic success and the relationships between family members. (from Inside History May/June 2015)

Dates for your Diary

Saturday 31 October 2015 - 12 midday – 5pm

Kogarah Historical Society and the Scottish Australian Heritage Council celebrate the Sesquicentenary of Carss Cottage and the life of William Carss.

Open Day at the Cottage, Pipe Band, Scottish Dancers, Explore your Scottish Ancestry, Artists demonstrating, hand spinners in the Cottage, Afternoon Teas.

The unveiling of a commemorative plaque on or near the Cottage.



St George and Sutherland Pipe Band