

WYONG FAMILY  
Founded 1982



HISTORY GROUP INC.

# Tree of Life

Official Journal of

WYONG FAMILY HISTORY GROUP INC.

ISSN 0815 0729

Website: [www.wyongfamilyhistory.com.au](http://www.wyongfamilyhistory.com.au)



## February 2015

Vol. 32, No 1

### In This Issue

A Good Start to 2015 .....	3
A Scotchman's Place.....	7
ANZAC Centenary - Conflict & Compassion.....	15
Australian Convict Interest Group.....	17
Colonel William Walker Russell Watson .....	9
from the Editor .....	3
from the President .....	2
How to Skate .....	14
New Members.....	17

Photo Gallery.....	5
Planned Events .....	18
Publications for Sale .....	19
So You Want to Write Your Family History? .....	5
State Records Bus Trip .....	16
Thomas Baskerville.....	6
Visiting the Somme.....	11
W. Arthur Suters War History 1942-1946 .....	13

### AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE GROUP

*To promote and encourage the research and preservation of family and local history, to assist members and others in family history research. To develop and maintain a Public Library and research, collect, preserve and maintain its resources in its Library.*

Member contributions are always welcome

## Wyong Family History Group Inc.

**Patrons:** Karen McNamara, MP for Dobell  
David Harris

**Meetings** are held on the 2nd Thursday of each month between February and November, at 'The Cottage', Wyong Community Cultural Centre, 6 Rankens Court, Wyong. Phone 4351 2211  
Resources and research assistance at 'The Cottage' – available on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays between 10.00am and 3.00pm.

**Fees:** non-members \$10.00 per hour between 10.00 am and 12.00 noon and 1.00pm and 3.00pm. Members Free.

---

### Office Bearers 2014 – 2015

---

President:	Gerrie Metcalfe, 02 4351 5430
Secretary:	Kerry Clarke, <a href="mailto:secwfhg2@westnet.com.au">secwfhg2@westnet.com.au</a>
Vice-President:	Wayne Dean
Treasurer:	Michele Gane
Management Committee:	All the above executive plus Martin Fisher, Pam Mansergh, Helen Burkett, John Selwood, Roger Lewis.
Assets Manager:	Roger Lewis
Bookstall Coordinator	Trish McDonald
Bookstall Assistant	Glenise Clery
eBranch Editor:	Kate Walter
Computer IT:	Roger Lewis
Convict Group Organiser:	June Johnston
Cottage Co-ordinators	Tuesday: Marilyn Cridland Wednesday: Trish McDonald Thursday: Lorraine Cameron
Cottage Roster:	Ann Cooke
English Group Organiser:	Esther Dean
Fund Raising:	Esther Dean
Grant Applications:	Murray Hill
Guest Speakers:	Martin Fisher
Librarian:	Glenise Clery
Librarian Assist:	Jean Macleay
Membership Secretary:	Pam Mansergh
Minute Secretary:	Esther Dean
Project Coordinator:	John Selwood
Public Officer:	Esther Dean
Publicity Officer:	Rob Fraser
Raffles:	Eileen Wheway
Research Officers:	Robin Wright and Trish McDonald
Research – Local:	Janice Barrett
Scottish & Irish Group Organiser:	Gwenn Bates
Snippets:	Lynda Smith and Meg Gibson
Social Secretary:	Martin Fisher
Tree of Life Editor:	Helen Johnston-Lord, 0418 228 232. ( <a href="mailto:heloora6@bigpond.com">heloora6@bigpond.com</a> )
Webmaster:	Kate Walter
Volunteers' Representative	Helen Burkett

• *Contact Members through 'The Cottage'. 02 4351 2211*



## *from the President*

*Kerrie Metcalfe, member 80, LM, President WFHG Inc.*

Happy New Year

We hope to see you at 'The Cottage' in 2015 doing your research or attending one of our interest groups, workshops or just for a chat.

For your convenience we subscribe to the following websites and you can use them free of charge as a member.

- Ancestry world edition
- Find my past UK, Australia and New Zealand
- British Newspapers (much like our trove)
- Scotland's People
- UK Deceased on line

We are working on introducing Mini workshops that will take place when we are open and go between 30 minutes to one hour. Topics will include for example using ancestry, using deceased on line or how to get the most out of trove. We are still working on the topic list and sorting out who will do what but keep an eye on the website for the first topic to be covered.

The cottage has had its annual clean thanks to some very kind members who came in and gave a hand. Their hard work is very much appreciated.

This year the focus is on the ANZAC centenary *Conflict & Compassion* we will hold an event on the 11<sup>th</sup> April at the Wyong Golf Club. You can learn more about this from the flyer inserted in this addition of *Tree of Life*

Our Christmas party went well although numbers were down on last year; we are considering a new venue and ideas for 2015.

We welcome Ron Frazer as our new publicity officer and hope he settles in and soon has our name in all manner of local publications.

Don't forget to check our website for upcoming events.

<http://www.wyongfamilyhistory.com.au/>..... TOL

♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦

## *from the Editor*

*Helen Johnston-Lord member 505*

2015 is already one month old and everything should be back into full operation.

I find the heat makes me very lethargic and am mostly indoors trying to stay cool. I spend my time crafting and going through 'things in boxes'. My mother was what some people call a hoarder, however I like to think of her as a saver. She saved all sorts of bits of paper, recipes, photographs and letters. Mum died in 2007 and I am still finding information. I am sure I will never try most of the recipes, however they are historically interesting and I may do something with them one day.

The photos, however, started me off at a tangent. Mum was born at Cowra (1913), her parents and three siblings came from England circ. 1911. Many of the photos are of relatives in England and are labeled. There are a few of men in WW I uniform, some are named, some not. I now have another research project and hope I can report on these men in the future. I have contact with the wife of a second cousin in England who lives a busy life and has limited knowledge of the family history.

Thank you to everyone who has sent me stories, I hope members find this issue interesting, I





am fascinated by the lives people have lived, however ordinary they seem these days, so, please keep your stories coming and remember the deadline for the next *Tree of Life* is 20 April 2015.....

TOL

◆◆◆◆◆

## A Good Start to 2015

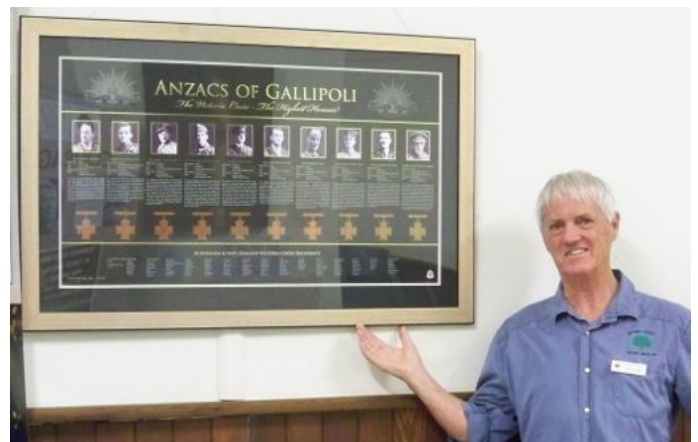
*Helen Johnston-Lord, member 505*



A visit by Karen McNamara was recently mentioned in both the Wyong Regional Chronicle and the Central Coast Wyong Express Advocate.

Mrs. McNamara visited 'The Cottage' on our first official day this year. She came to inspect the six banners designed and created by John Selwood (member 73). These were funded under the Federal Government's Anzac Centenary Local Grants programme to commemorate the Centenary of Anzac. John took the opportunity to thank the Federal Government and Mrs. McNamara for their support.

Murray Hill (member 530) has generously donated a framed, fully glassed, limited edition print "ANZACS of Gallipoli, The Victoria Cross – The Highest Honour", purchased by Murray's father. The print now hangs in the meeting room and has to be seen and read to be fully appreciated. Thank you Murray for your generous addition to our collection.....TOL



◆◆◆◆◆

# Photo Gallery

2014 Christmas Dinner



*Members enjoying the 2014 Christmas dinner; upper left – Trevor and Helen Burkett, lower left – Joy Pilkington and Glenise Clery, right – Marilyn Cridland, John Selwood and Melissa Metcalfe.*

♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦

## So You Want to Write Your Family History?

*Beryl Watson member 46*

What is your aim?

Do you want to go way back into the early records overseas, or are you just aiming to get your families into Australia?

Are you willing to spend money on certificates? In NSW we have a cheaper alternative, as there are three transcription agents, who can look at the registers and transcribe them for you. They often can give more information in their transcription, than the Govt. has space for on the form they issue, when they provide the certificate for you.

Are you willing to accept that your ancestor may have been:

1. A convict
2. Not married.
3. A bigamist.
4. In prison or any number of other unusual things?

Do you want to illustrate your records? A family history with illustrations will generate more interest within your family, than just a list of names, dates and places.

Are you willing to

1. Visit cemeteries, old houses, properties? Some of these visits can now be done, on the internet.



2. Chase up distant relatives: that 2<sup>nd</sup> cousin once removed may be the person who has the only photograph of your ancestor.
3. Search shipping and immigration lists?
4. Go on trips with the Group, where you will learn lots of tricks to searching for information on your family.
5. Search to see if a book has been written about your family, and whether it is available on inter library loan, or can be viewed at the Mitchell Library or National Library in Canberra. Some books are held by the local family or historical society where your ancestor lived, and don't forget the local council library or an ad in the newspaper, searching for other descendants.

I could list other things, but I want to get you thinking about what your aim is. The internet has opened up a great wealth of places where you can get, information and illustrations that you can use, providing that you do not publish the photographs, which would break copyright. But sometimes you can take your own photograph of the house or school where your family had lived, then you own the copyright.

If not held locally, maybe the State Records Offices at Kingswood, and the State and Mitchell Libraries in Sydney would be the place to search. And don't forget to try the library nearest to where your ancestor lived, they can be found on the web pages for the council of the area. Write to them, they like to help!

Do you want to spend days away in the locality where your ancestor lived, visit and photograph the church, house, farm of your ancestor, and chase up local records?

Think about it and write down your aims, before you start. Make a list of the photographs you would like to find, of the family, mother, father and each child. Their house, school, and local shopping centre in the time period they were living there. England especially, has sites where you may find photographs of past times of villages.

Google the village where they lived, the church where they were baptised, married or from where their funeral left. If you can't find a headstone, try for a general view of the churchyard where they were buried. The list is endless, go for it!!! ..*Thank you Beryl for another informative item – ed .... TOL*

♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦

## **Thomas Baskerville**

*Beryl Watson member 46*

This is Thomas Baskerville.

When I counted back to him some years ago, I think that he was my 12 x Great Grandfather. He married Mary Jones and had several children, one was a daughter Mary, who married Samuel Harvey and they moved away to Wiltshire or Berkshire. Their line comes down to my great Grandmother Miriam Wheeler, who came out to Tasmania in 1840 as a baby with her parents, had 3 children, fathers unknown whilst living in NSW, my Grandmother being the last born.

When Thomas' wife died in 1724, her will directed, that the sons were to dig up their father and make his grave lower, so that she could be lowered in after him. They are buried in the Church of St. Peter in Winterbourne Bassett, Wiltshire. Her eight page will, also did not include the daughter Mary, so we think that Mary's marriage to Samuel Harvey did not go down well with her mother, and we have been unable to discover



details of Samuel Harvey after the records of his children's births.

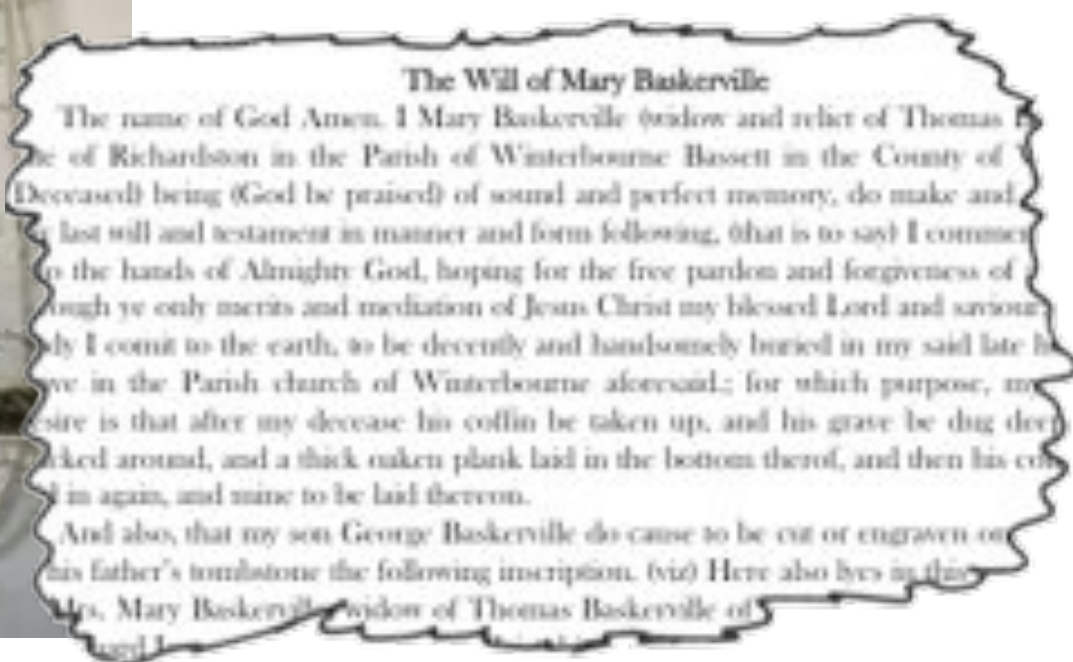
This will, by today's measure, makes interesting reading.

Thomas and Mary's sons were 'good boys' and followed their mother's instructions and also erected a monument to her in the church. (With thanks to Wiltshire Council for photo) Her Will can be found on the web and is really worth reading.



The image of

Thomas is not a photograph, but it could be an etching, it was many years before photography was invented. Just by looking at the various monuments in the church, I was able to go back to several generations on the Baskerville family, regrettably no other members of the family have their features copied, just their memorials, and no Hound of the Baskervilles!!!. .... TOL



♦♦♦♦♦♦

An extract from *Home Words for Heart and Hearth* dated 1892 – 1893.

PP

## A Scotchman's Place

On one occasion, during a debate in the House of Commons, one of the members was inquiring for a representative of a Scotch county, and was informed that he had left his place. "I never before," cried the M.P., "knew a Scotchman quit his place." "Except," added a friend near him – "except his native place."

99

♦♦♦♦♦♦

# *Their War*

*Their Stories are worth recording and telling*



*They sleep not in their native land,  
but beneath a foreign sky,  
Far away from those who loved  
them, in here's graves they lie.*



*Almost every town and city in Australia has a war memorial or cenotaph. Many are illuminated after dark. The photographs in this issue are of The Adelaide War Memorial taken in 1968 and the Anzac Memorial with pool of remembrance taken in 1966.....ed.*



## Colonel William Walker Russell Watson

1875 – 1924

*Patricia Newton member 260*

Researching our Family History takes us to so many limbs of our Tree. Takes us to the unexpected. Takes us to reality.

With 100 years since the landing at Gallipoli soon approaching, I would like to share with you one of the stories from my "Families at War", stories that I have written in reference to some of the members of my Family who have served at War, whether it be Boer, WW1, WW2, Vietnam and other wars that my family has served in.

This story is about William Walker Russell Watson, husband of my paternal Grandfather, (Lesley Seaward Booth's) first cousin, Minnie Sarah Hordern. I have put this story together from family bits and pieces and stories gathered from visiting "Trove on line" and National Archives.

William was born on the 19<sup>th</sup> May 1875 at Hunters Hill, Sydney, New South Wales to native born parents Dr William George Watson and Emily Jane nee Walker. He was educated at Sydney Boys High School and University of Sydney, entered the dental profession, studying at Newcastle, New South Wales before joining the Army.

Watson had passed the Infantry School of Instruction, (distinguished in theory), on March 9<sup>th</sup> 1897 and on November 20 of the same year passed for Captain, (distinguished in drill, tactics and special mention). He was commissioned as Captain on New Year's Day 1898.

Captain Watson, who went to South Africa (The Boer War) as a Lieutenant with the 1st contingent of the infantry and then the mounted infantry, was the officer selected by Lord Roberts to demand the surrender of Pretoria.

On the afternoon of June 4<sup>th</sup> 1900 it was Captain Watson, who, single-handed and unarmed, was the first man to enter Pretoria and formally and successfully, demand the surrender of the Capital from General Louis Botha in the name of Lord Roberts, the Commander in Chief and the British Army.

Captain Watson entered the city with a white handkerchief tied onto the end of his whip. The enemy held a Council of War, at which Watson was present and then he conducted the Governor of the City to Colonel de Lisle, and subsequently the City surrendered. The handkerchief became famous and contains the autographs of Lord Roberts, other Generals and it is understood that later, King Edward VII expressed his wish to add his name to the celebrated relic.

On the 7<sup>th</sup> November 1900, under heavy fire at the Battle of Leliefontein, South Africa, young Private Robinson fell from his horse, Watson galloped back under heavy fire, placed the wounded man on his horse and carried him to safety, risking his own life.

This battle also saw him remaining under heavy shell fire until the entire company was withdrawn safely. Watson entered a burning building where a shell fragment broke his leg, but



*Australian Town and Country Journal, 4 May 1901*

he crawled away, saving the Company Records. He was awarded the D.C.M. (Distinguished Conduct Medal).

For his participation and acts of bravery in the Boer War, William Watson was rewarded with the Queen's Medal with 6 gold clasps.

In 1902 he commanded the New South Wales detachment of the Australian Coronation Corps at the crowning of King Edward the VII. Watson was promoted to Major in 1905 and Lieutenant – Colonel in 1912.

It was on 9<sup>th</sup> November 1904, at St Mark's Church Darling Point, Sydney, that he married Minnie Sarah Hordern, daughter of Samuel Hordern and Jane Maria, nee Booth. Minnie was the sister of Sir Samuel Hordern, and they were to remain childless.

In August 1914, Watson was appointed commanding officer of the Infantry Battalion of the Australian Naval and Military Expeditionary Force raised to seize German Pacific territories. Virtually unopposed, by December, his troops had secured New Britain, New Guinea, New Ireland, Nauru and the Admiralty and Solomon Islands.

On 16<sup>th</sup> March, 1915, Watson took command of the 24<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Australian Imperial Force, reaching Gallipoli on the 5<sup>th</sup> September 1915. Due to his brigade commander, Colonel Richard Linton dying at sea after a troopship had been torpedoed, Watson temporarily commanded the 6<sup>th</sup> Brigade for its landing on the beach.

On the night of 10 – 11<sup>th</sup> September 1915 the 24<sup>th</sup> took over positions at Lone Pine. In addition to hardship caused by the onset of cold weather, they suffered casualties from suffocation in the shallow tunnels and dug-outs when the Turks bombarded them in November. During the evacuation of Gallipoli, Watson successfully commanded the 6<sup>th</sup> Brigade rear parties. For his service on the Peninsula he was appointed CB (Companion of the Order of the Bath) and again mentioned in dispatches.

In March 1916, the 24<sup>th</sup> Battalion sailed for France and were sent to French Flanders, near the Belgian Border. Watson and his men moved to Fleurbaix, as they weren't familiar with nearby Fromelles due to the town being in German hands.

It was here on the 19<sup>th</sup> July, that the battle of Fleurbaix began, later became better known as the Battle of Fromelles. The losses incurred at Fromelles, made this battle the most expensive in lives lost over a 24 hour period in Australia's war history.

There were more deaths to follow in the Battle of Pozieres, which began a few days after the disaster at Fromelles. This battle lasted 7 weeks. It was during this battle, not too far away from the village of Albert, 28 kilometres from Amiens Pozieres on the night of 7-8<sup>th</sup> August, a shell burst in an old gun-pit occupied by Battalion Headquarters. Watson was the sole survivor. Admitted to hospital with shell-shock, he didn't resume command again till the 12<sup>th</sup> October. He took charge of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Division Training School in November.

The next year in May 1917, he resumed control of the 24<sup>th</sup> Battalion, but in July returned to England where he had charge of the 17<sup>th</sup> Brigade. In September he was appointed commandant of the Overseas Training Depot near Warminster.



*William Walker Russell Watson (Colonel) 1879-1924. Photo from 'Mapping our Anzacs', National Archives of Australia*

He was promoted to Colonel on 1<sup>st</sup> June 1918.

In December Watson was appointed C.M.G. This distinguished Order of St Michael and St George is an Order of Chivalry. It is named in honour of the two military Saints of the same name. This order is awarded to men and women who render extra ordinary services in a foreign country.

January 1919, Watson became commander of the A.I.F, (Australian Imperial Forces) depot at Sutton Veny in England. The proximity of this English village to Warminster and Salisbury Plain, was an ideal location to barrack and train troops, prior to deploying them to northern France.

From April until July 1919, Watson took special leave to participate in the A.I.F. non-military employment scheme and was involved in the manufacture of cardboard at Anthony Hordern & Sons in London, his father in law, Samuel Hordern 1 owning Anthony Hordern and Sons in Sydney Australia.

In September 1919 Watson was awarded the French Chevalier of the Legion of Honour, Fifth Class. At this time he then embarked for Australia.

After demobilization, he became chairman of directors of Cumberland Paper Board Mills Ltd, a member of the New South Wales Club and National Club, and an adherent of the National Party.

Very sadly, it is alleged that as the result of a chill, caught at the funeral of Brigadier General Henry Finn, Watson died in a private hospital in Sydney of septicaemia on 30<sup>th</sup> June 1924 and was buried with Anglican rites in South Head cemetery. He was 49 years of age. He was survived by his wife. Typical of the better A.I.F. commanders, he was respected by his troops, he was intensely loyal to them, but would not tolerate those who sought to evade their responsibilities.

To think that such a brave and dedicated soldier could go through 2 wars, through horrendous conditions, win bravery awards, go far and beyond the call of duty, and end up dying back home so soon after these ordeals from the common cold.

A soldier to salute, yet don't all soldiers who partake in the ravages of war and fight for one's country deserve to be saluted. Yes, they do..... TOL

♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦

## Visiting the Somme

*Peter Carroll, Member 278*

During a trip to Europe, My wife and I spent several days in Northern France staying at Corbie and visiting some of the areas where fighting occurred during WW1. Two of my great uncles had fought at Pozieres on the Somme (22 kilometres north east of Corbie), where there had been major battles in 1916 and 1917.



*Do Not Forget Australia*



*Bar named 'Le Canberra'*



A British military author, who lives in the area, was our guide. He first took us on a general tour of the region to gain an overview of the region, and then we visited areas of significance for Australia. Wherever we went there was a focus on Australia. The same message was found on signs in French (Noublions Jamais L'Australie) and in English 'Do Not Forget Australia' (see photo). There was a bar named 'Le Canberra' (see photo), and Australian flags were found in many places.

The village of Villers-Bretonneux (7 kilometres to the south of Corbie) is a special place for Australians. It is where the Australian War Memorial (see photo) is located, and from where Dawn Services are telecast on Australian Television. The school children in the village are taught to sing the Australian National Anthem. The school was rebuilt in 1926 from funds raised by Victorian school children. There is an important military museum with a special focus on the experiences of our troops.



Australian troops had landed at [Australian War Memorial at Villers-Bretonneux](#) Gallipoli on the first Anzac Day in 1915, and it was on the third Anzac day in 1918 that Australian troops recaptured Villers-Bretonneux, the day after it had fallen to the advancing German army. If the Germans had not been stopped then they would have threatened Paris.

Australian soldiers had been brought together to form the new Australian Corps, whereas previously the different battalions had been attached to various British units. The Corps came under Australian command in May 1918 when General John Monash was appointed as the Commanding Officer. In July Monash led a major advance at Le Hamel (7 kilometres east of Corbie). This was a turning point in the fighting, that was to lead to the end of the war.

There are a number of special features about the 1918 battles. For the first time in the war, Monash made effective use of aircraft and tanks. The tanks were new and much improved models. He also introduced offensive techniques using artillery and aircraft as well as the tanks to support the soldiers. He had 4 special carrier tanks, which brought supplies and ammunition that had previously been moved by hand. These carrier tanks also took the wounded away from the front line, and the ambulances taking the wounded to hospital could not keep up. The American soldiers who came to France had their first battle experience fighting with the Australians at Le Hamel.

The fighting was very intense. The Germans suffered nearly 2000 casualties and 1600 troops were captured. The Australian casualties were less than 1300. The battle started at 3.10am and was over by 5am.

In August 1918, the King George V invested Monash as Knight Commander of the Order of the Bath (KCB). He was the first military commander to be knighted by the Sovereign on the battlefield for over 200 years. Monash's tactics and battle plans are still taught to officers at the British Military Academy at Sandhurst.

This was also the area where Australian soldiers claim to have shot down the German fighter ace the Red Baron in April 1918. He had flown close to the ground chasing a British aircraft but did not realise he was flying over Australian troops. He was killed by ground fire. He was buried with full military honours by the Australians, but after the war was reburied in Germany. .... **TOL**

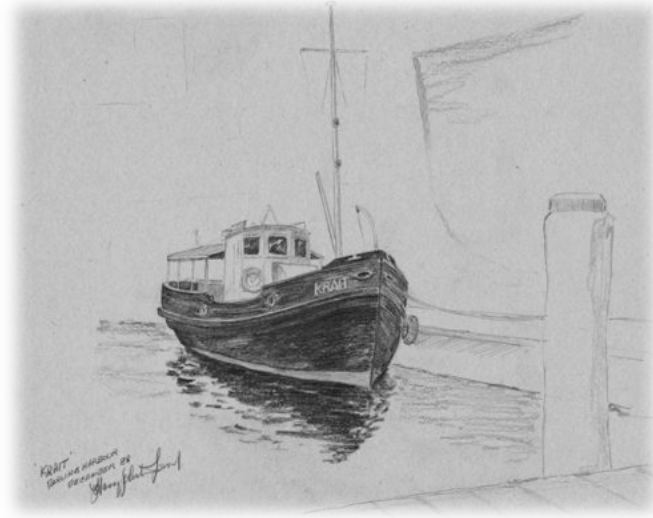
♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦

## W. Arthur Suters War History 1942-1946

*Helen Johnston-Lord, member 505*

Winston Arthur Suters, known as Arthur, was born in 1916. We knew he had served during this war but knew little about this service.

This account of his war history is kindly provided by his daughter, Carolyn Gratten.



*"Krait" at Darling Harbour*

*- 1988 drawing by Harry Johnston-Lord*

'Arthur joined the Australian army in 1942. He spent time at Cowra at the Eastern Command Training School and a few weeks at a Guerrilla Training Camp in Plumpton.

'There was 12 weeks of intense training at Refuge Bay between 1942-1943 on the Hawkesbury River with the Z Special Unit and the group who sailed on the Krait to raid Singapore Harbour. Training was carried out by, Arthur 'Sam' Suters, together with two other instructors. Lord Gowrie visited the camp where he was shown a few activities. Gelignite was used for bombing the fish - a small plug in a glass jar was all that was necessary.

'More time was spent at Dubbo Infantry Training Battalion and in 1943 he was drafted to New Guinea. The trip to New Guinea first involved 5 weeks training at Canungra Jungle Training Camp, Queensland.

'While at Cairns, Dad was custodian of the beer on a train ride from Cairns to Kuranda. He loaded the beer in Cairns and travelled through the narrow track to Kuranda. Half way up at a water stop, they got out of the train to stretch their legs, leaving the beer unguarded. Near the stop, there was an Army camp whereupon some soldiers somehow managed to get on board and unload the beer crates. When Dad questioned them what was going on, they told him that they thought the beer was for them. By the time they reached Kuranda, they only managed to secure half of the beer.



*HMAT Duntroon*

'His group was stationed at Mareeba for leave from New Guinea Force in Port Moresby, lasting 13 months. He joined up with HQ First Army, so they could move to HQ in Lae. He sailed from Townsville on the 'Duntroon' and arrived in Port Moresby and spent the rest of 1943 at New Guinea Head Quarters which was involved in arranging supplies for air dropping in the DC9 Biscuit Bombers.

'In 1944 he sailed to Lae on the 'Ormiston', and then applied for a transfer to Head Quarters at Morotai, SE Asia. He spent most of 1945 on Moroti Island and after the war had to stay on until 1946 to clean up all the paper work and pack it into crates for return to Australia.

'Anecdotally, while Dad was on parade in Lai and the Captain asked for volunteers for Clerical Assistants back in Australia. It is customary in the Army to step forward to volunteer. To Dad's surprise, a guy pushed him from behind and as a consequence became one of the volunteers to return home. The soldiers remaining were later caught up in an ambush causing the deaths to two personnel. When asked why he was pushed, the guy responded **"You are a bloody teacher; you don't deserve to be here."**

'Arthur finished his war career in July 1946 at a very cold Bathurst Army Camp, and was demobbed later that year.

'Dad first met Joyce Bowyer in Mareeba, Queensland in 1944. Mareeba was the Headquarters of First Army and Joyce was an AWAS there. They met on a blind date in Toowoomba and continued their romance after the war. They were married in the historic St Phillips Church, Sydney on 4<sup>th</sup> January 1947.

'Dad was named Winston Arthur, after Winston Churchill. He initially held Churchill in high regard and was excited about him visiting Australia. However Churchill never came out, so Dad was chuffed by him snubbing Australia. He continued to correct anyone calling him Winston to his dying day. Arthur died 21 May 2009 aged 92 years.'

Arthur's wife, Joyce was a cousin of mine. I recall that he had little to do with Anzac Day. After he retired from teaching, he tended the gardens at North Ryde RSL.



*More articles in this series soon...ed.*

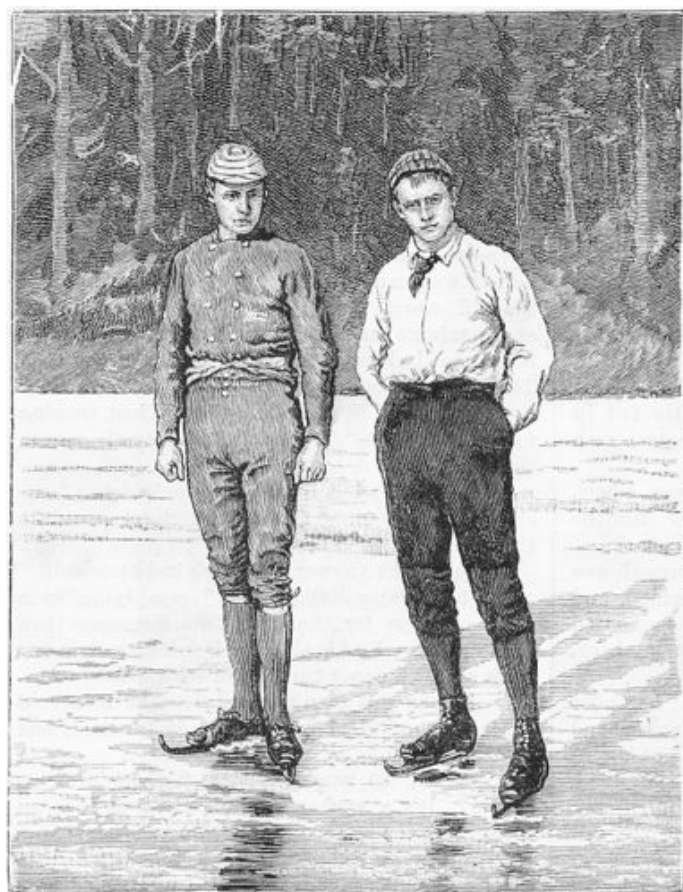
♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦

Another extract from *Home Words for Heart and Hearth* dated 1892 – 1893.

PP

## How to Skate

First get a rusty old pair of skates. If you start with a brand new pair you will begin in the perpendicular and end in the horizontal; and there will be some acute angles in between.



*[from a Photograph.]*

RIVAL CHAMPIONS.

Now turn out your toes – eyes right ahead – quick march! Keep all your weight as much as possible well in front and inside of the feet; allow Mr. Right Foot to complete his stride before Mrs. Left Foot gets her turn; and, above all, keep the ankles rigid. You must give up your stick, your umbrella, or any other prop you use on terra firma, “You are earthy enough yourself,” says King Frost, when he enrolls you.

Your stability and gravity I rely upon, and you must bring these goods along with you on to the ice. A good “balance” is everything – though like an Irishman, I add, – unless it is courage. When you start you will, for the first time in your life, I hope, be off your balance, or rather your balance will be off and away from you unless you are remarkably careful to

“keep it.” Bend forward as much as possible.

So much for the teaching. May this winter give you plenty of practice!

ONE WHO SKATES.

99

♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦



# WYONG FAMILY HISTORY GROUP INCORPORATED



Presents



## OUR ANZAC HERITAGE

**WHEN:** Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2015

**WHERE:** Wyong Golf Club

**TIME:** 10.00 am to 3.00 pm

**ADMISSION:** Gold Coin Donation

**There will be:-**

- 2 Guest Speakers;

**SHANE BLACKMAN** – WW1 Living History

**ED TONKS** – Historian and Author

- Displays
- **Free** Access to your Ancestors Military records

**Enquiries: 4351 2211**



**Lest We Forget**

**Conflict**



**and**



**Compassion**

## STATE RECORDS BUS TRIP



Our first trip to State Records for 2015 will be on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> February. Cost is \$25 per head. There will be 2 pickup points, Toukley leaving at 7:20am **SHARP** and Tuggerah at approximately 7:40am (members going on the trip will be contacted approximately 1 week prior to the trip to confirm exact pick-up times and places).

For those members wishing to go on the trip you can book online at [www.wyongfamilyhistory.com.au](http://www.wyongfamilyhistory.com.au) or at The Cottage in person or by phone (4351 2211), please arrange to pay prior to the trip. If time permits, there will be a comfort stop at McDonalds, St Marys.

**REMINDER** - State Records is out of the way and there are no shop facilities. It will be necessary to bring your lunch. There is a lunchroom available with a microwave oven, refrigerator and tea/coffee making equipment. Lockers are also available for bags etc.

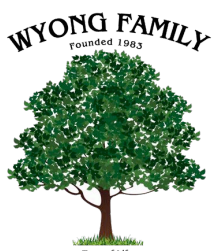
### PLEASE NOTE.....IF THIS IS YOUR FIRST VISIT

It is necessary to have a reader's ticket (free). This can be organised online [www.records.nsw.gov.au](http://www.records.nsw.gov.au) and the ticket will be waiting for you when you arrive. If you wish to speak to staff at State Records prior to the trip the phone number is 02 9673 1788.

Bags are not allowed in the reading room, but you can take in a folder with research tasks etc. You are only allowed to use **pencils** in the research room. If you require paper records such as wills, insolvency records, school records etc it is a good idea to pre-order these documents so they will be available when you arrive, saving you some waiting time. **Up to four (4) items can be pre-ordered.** You will find the reference numbers and the two (2) pre-order forms on the website. Remember any item that has a REEL NUMBER does not have to be ordered as reels are stored along the wall and are easily accessed.

There are various ways of obtaining copies of your information:-

1. Using the microfilm reader/printers for photocopies - you will need \$1 and \$2 coins to use these machines (\$1 for A4 and \$2 for A3). So bring a supply of coins.
2. You can download copies from the digital copiers for microfilm for free, using your own memory stick.
3. You are also welcome to bring a digital camera to photograph original records. State records also have a digital camera that you can use for photographing original documents in the reading room, and again images are downloaded to your memory stick.
4. The staff will photocopy any paper documents at a cost of 45 cents per A4 page and will endeavour to have them ready for when you leave.



HISTORY GROUP INC.

**The bus will leave State Records no later than 4PM**



## New Members

A very warm welcome is extended to all new members and we look forward to meeting and helping you at 'The Cottage'. Contact any of these members by sending an enquiry to: Member's Name & No.

C/- Wyong Family History Group Inc.

P O Box 247, Wyong NSW 2259

No	Member	Research Interest
715	Glynnis Newberry	Seymour
716	Edna Green	McGilvray, Quirk, Turner
717	Sue Buck	Cormie, Ible, James, Lowe, McKecknie, Nowlan, Potts, Renwick, Rule
718	Elizabeth Eurell	Eurell, Seaton, Hibberson, Rolfe, Sutton, McCarthy, McLean, Foley, Ibbotson, Maloney
719	Stephen Buchanan	
720	Anne Phillips	
721	Helen Caldwell	

*Members are reminded that anytime they are at 'The Cottage' for any purpose, they have to wear their membership card and do so in such a manner that it is clearly displayed.*

*Bags are not allowed past the foyer. Please use the lockers provided. You may take in research folders and a purse. Food and drink are not allowed in the research areas.*

*Books which can be borrowed from the library (i.e. Books without a 'NOT FOR LOAN' mark), can only be out for two weeks at a time. Please record them in the red 'Loan Book'*

*When returning any journals, books or magazines, please note the date returned in the book and then place them in the tray on the Library table. The volunteer on duty will place them back on the shelves that day.... TOL*

♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦

### Australian Convict Interest Group

**Meets 2nd Wednesday of the month, 10 am to 12. If you have a convict or think you may have a convict in you family then come along. We will assist you in any way we can with your research. At present we have a small compact group and would love for you to join us.**

**June Johnston**

**Convict Interest Group..... TOL**



## WFHG Inc Planned Events

	<b>2015</b>	<b>Event</b>
February	Tue 3	Committee Meeting 10 am.
	Wed 11	Australian Convict Interest Group 'The Cottage' 10 am – 12 noon.
	Thu 12	General Meeting 'The Cottage' 3 pm.
	Fri 13	Filing Workshop 10 am – 12 noon.
	Thu 13	Family Tree Maker 1 – 3 pm
	Sat 21	Volunteer Help at Tuggerah Library 9 am – 12 noon.
	Tue 24	English Interest Group 'The Cottage' 10 am – 12noon.
	Thu 26	Scottish Interest Group 'The Cottage' 10 am – 12 noon. Irish Interest Group 'The Cottage' 1 pm – 3 pm.
	Fri 27	Filing Workshop 10 am – 12 noon.
	Sat 28	NSW State Records Bus Trip
March	Tue 3	Committee Meeting 10 am.
	Mon 9	Mapping Workshop 10 am- 12 noon.
	Wed 11	Australian Convict Interest Group 'The Cottage' 10 am – 12 noon.
	Thu 12	General Meeting 'The Cottage' 3 pm
	Fri 13	Filing Workshop 10 am – 12 noon.
		<b>NSW Seniors Week 14<sup>th</sup> March to 22 March 2015</b>
	Thu 19	Family Tree Maker Interest Group 1 – 3 pm
	Sat 21	Volunteer Help at Tuggerah Library 9 am – 12 noon.
	Tue 24	English Interest Group 'The Cottage' 10 am – 12noon.
	Thu 26	Scottish Interest Group 'The Cottage' 10 am – 12 noon. Irish Interest Group 'The Cottage' 1 pm – 3 pm.
	Tue 31	Committee Meeting for April 10 am.
April	Wed 8	Australian Convict Interest Group 'The Cottage' 10 am – 12 noon.
	Thu 9	General Meeting 'The Cottage' 3 pm
	Sat 11	<b>WFHG – Our Anzac Heritage</b> <b>National Trust Heritage Festival – Conflict &amp; Compassion</b> <b>11<sup>th</sup> April to 26<sup>th</sup> May 2015</b>
	Thu 16	Family Tree Maker Interest Group 1 – 3 pm
	Sat 18	Volunteer Help at Tuggerah Library 9 am – 12 noon.
	Thu 23	Scottish Interest Group 'The Cottage' 10 am – 12 noon. Irish Interest Group 'The Cottage' 1 pm – 3 pm.
	Tue 28	English Interest Group 'The Cottage' 10 am – 12noon.
May	Fri 1	WFHG – Beginners' Course Week 1
	Tue 5	Committee Meeting 10 am.
	Fri 8	WFHG – Beginners' Course Week 2
	Wed 13	Australian Convict Interest Group 'The Cottage' 10 am – 12 noon.
	Thu 14	General Meeting 'The Cottage' 3 pm

♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦

## PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE

More details at  
<http://www.wyongfamilyhistory.com.au/publications>

### BOOKS & CDs

<b>Brought in by the Tide.</b> <i>[A guide to tracing convict ancestors in one place.]</i>	<b>Book</b>	\$ 10.00 + p&h
	<b>CD</b>	\$ 5.00 + p&h
<b>Central Coast Roll of Honour.</b> <i>[Includes the full names, rank, type of service &amp; date of death where known of over 12,000 men &amp; women of the Central Coast who were in the Armed Forces. 400 pages fully indexed. Includes 138 stories and photographs.]</i>	<b>Book</b>	\$ 20.00 + p&h \$10 in Australia)
	<b>CD</b>	\$ 15.00 + p&h
<b>Simplicity Funerals Bateau Bay NSW 1963 – 2006</b>	<b>Book</b>	\$ 20.00 + p&h
<b>Simplicity Funerals Bateau Bay NSW 2007 - 2011 + Wyong &amp; Toukley</b>	<b>Book</b>	\$ 20.00 + p&h
<b>Simplicity Funerals Bateau Bay [Toukley and Wyong 1963 - 2011]</b>	<b>CD</b>	\$ 25.00 + p&h
<b>New Release Simplicity Funerals Woy Woy 1991 – 2013</b>	<b>Book</b>	\$ 20.00 + p&h
	<b>CD</b>	\$ 15.00 + p&h
<b>Wyong &amp; District Pioneer Register (Published 2013)</b> <i>[673 pages. Fully indexed compilation of all previous Pioneer Book entries, extensively updated references to over 13,500 individuals. Contains: Birth, Marriage &amp; Death details; some photos, personal stories, obituaries for some individuals. Includes a brief history of Wyong.]</i>	<b>Book</b>	\$ 50.00 + p&h
	<b>CD</b>	\$ 40.00 + p&h
<b>New Release Wyong &amp; Lakes District Advocate, Personal Notices (1932 – 1995)</b> <i>(available separately- see below)</i>	<b>Two Volume set Book</b>	\$ 48.00 + p&h
<b>Contents Volume One</b> – 514 anniversary notices, 1078 birth notices, 4,000 marriage notices, 4,790 in memoriam notices & 238 miscellaneous event notices, includes church photographs	<b>Book Volume 1</b>	\$ 28.00 + p&h
<b>Contents Volume Two</b> - 11,973 deaths, obituary & probate notices, includes Church and cemetery photographs	<b>Book Volume 2</b>	\$ 28.00 + p&h
	<b>CD</b>	\$ 38.00 + p&h
<b>Wyong Courthouse Death Records 1930 – 1953</b>	<b>Book</b>	\$ 20.00 + p&h
	<b>CD</b>	\$ 15.00 + p&h
<b>Wyong Township Residents Index 1930 – 1939</b>	<b>Book</b>	\$ 10.00 + p&h
	<b>CD</b>	\$ 10.00 + p&h
<b>The Anglican Parish of the Brisbane Water Area</b> <i>[Baptisms, Burials and Marriages with notes from Albert Glennie's Diaries and Miscellaneous Entries. Includes Kincumber, Mangrove, Wyong, Tuggerah, Cooranbong, Woy Woy &amp; the Hawkesbury River.]</i>	<b>Book</b>	\$ 10.00 + p&h
	<b>CD</b>	\$ 10.00 + p&h

### CEMETERY

<b>Jilliby Cemetery, Wyong Shire, NSW [Updated 2009]</b>	<b>Book</b>	\$ 20.00 + p&h
<b>Noraville Cemetery, Wyong Shire [1869 - 2012]</b>	<b>Book</b>	\$ 20.00 + p&h
<b>St Barnabas &amp; Yarramalong Cemeteries, Wyong Shire NSW</b>	<b>Book</b>	\$ 10.00 + p&h
<b>Ronkana Cemetery, Wyong Shire NSW</b>	<b>Book</b>	\$ 10.00 + p&h
<b>All 4 Cemetery Books</b>		\$ 50.00 + p&h
<b>Wyong Shire Combined Cemeteries</b>	<b>CD</b>	\$ 25.00 + p&h
<b>Palmdale Cemetery</b> <i>[30,000 names, not all from Wyong]</i>	<b>CD</b>	\$ 10.00 + p&h
<b>Gravediggers Index of Wyong Shire, Compiled by Mr A V McKenzie &amp; his son Clive.</b> <i>[Gravediggers' records, up to mid 2008 of Wyong Shire cemeteries.]</i>	<b>Book</b>	\$ 20.00 + p&h
	<b>CD</b>	\$ 15.00 + p&h
<b>Genealogy Recorder</b>		\$ 10.00 + p&h

# WYONG FAMILY HISTORY GROUP INC.

## Research Centre

'The Cottage', Wyong Community Cultural Centre,

6 Rankens Court, Wyong (entrance via the old school grounds)

**Open:** Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 10.00am – 3.00pm. At other times by appointment.  
Public Holidays – Closed.

Tuggerah Library, Westfield: Workshop 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday 9.00am – 12 noon (WFHG members available to help)

Contact the Group as follows:

The Secretary

Wyong Family History Group Inc.

P O Box 247

Wyong NSW 2259

Telephone: (02) 4351 2211

Email The Secretary: [secwfhg2@westnet.com.au](mailto:secwfhg2@westnet.com.au)

Website: <http://www.wyongfamilyhistory.com.au>

*WFHG thanks Ms Karen McNamara MP, for her assistance in the production of this issue of the Tree of Life.*

*No part of the "Tree of Life" may be reproduced without written permission from Wyong Family History Group Inc. The Group does not accept responsibility for information contained or opinions expressed by authors of the articles published in the "Tree of Life"*

### **Remember deadline for next 'Tree of Life' is up to 20 April 2015**

Unless an article is marked copyright, Family History Groups have permission to re-print items from the "Tree of Life" providing the source is acknowledged and it is only used for the purpose of family research. Copyright remains the property of the submitter. ©

WYONG FAMILY  
founded 1983



HISTORY GROUP INC.

### **AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE GROUP**

*To promote and encourage the research and preservation of family and local history, to assist members and others in family history research. To develop and maintain a Public Library and research, collect, preserve and maintain its resources in its Library.*

### **FAMILY HISTORY TRACING SERVICE**

**Australian, International or Local Research**

***Trace your Ancestors and Discover their Past***

***Also available***

***Church & Headstone Photos in Wyong & District***

**Enquiries to: The Secretary, WFHG Inc.**

**P O Box 247 Wyong, NSW, Australia, 2259**

**Email: [secwfhg2@westnet.com.au](mailto:secwfhg2@westnet.com.au)**