



# "Nurungi" (Remembered)

Official Newsletter of the City of Canada Bay Heritage Society

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[www.canadabayheritage.asn.au](http://www.canadabayheritage.asn.au)

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## GENERAL MEETINGS and Guest Speakers

1st Saturday of month  
(except January)  
at 2:00 pm in the  
City of Canada Bay  
Museum  
1 Bent Street, Concord  
9743-3034

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**Museum Committee**  
Meets on 3rd Wednesday of month  
at 10:00 am at museum  
(everyone welcome)  
**Chairperson**  
Lorraine Holmes, 9743-  
2682

**Walker Estates Committee**  
Meets as required  
**Chairperson**  
(vacant)

## CITY OF CANADA BAY MUSEUM

1 Bent Street, Concord

**Open Wed & Sat**  
**10am to 4pm**

**Guest Speaker**  
on 1st Saturday of each  
month at 2:00 pm

Phone: 9743-3034  
during museum hours  
or email  
[museum@canadabayheritage.asn.au](mailto:museum@canadabayheritage.asn.au)

**No.212**

**MAY/JUNE, 2014**

## Concord West Cricket Club

In tracing the history of the formation of the Concord West Cricket Club it is necessary to go back to the years of 1920-21. There were no sporting or recreation areas in the Concord West section of the Municipality of Concord at that date, but a few cricket enthusiasts were infiltrating the locality, with the result that Mr. Harry Lee (of Westinghouse Brake Co.) and a few others arranged a match with Mr. Jack Cosier (of James Martin, Farming Implement Manufacturers). Two local firms.

The game was played on a paddock where the ARC Steel Works now stand and resulted in a very easy win for the Lees Team.

The enthusiasm created by this match was the prelude to the formation of the Concord West Cricket Club. A meeting of a number of the local cricket followers was convened and in April 1921 the Club was founded.

The spirit of the game was fired and a few matches were played on a wicket on the Walker Estate (off Concord Road), which had been opened up for sale.

Contact with Dame Eadith Walker was later made and she generously made available to the club an area of ground on the Western side of the railway line, behind the Westinghouse Brake Co. and adjacent to Concord West Station. The enthusiasts involved soon got busy and a cricket wicket was built.

The Club entered the Western Suburbs Association competition with two teams in the 1921-22 season. In the 1922-23 season the Club won its first competition, for which each player received an inscribed gold medal.

This cricket area was later sold and in early 1929 Dame Eadith Walker came to the rescue of the Club and made available a fine, larger area known as the "Folly" in Hospital Road, adjoining the hospital known as the Thomas Walker Convalescent Hospital.

This area was cleared and an excellent wicket was built by the members of the Club and some keen matches took place. In addition to the competition matches, many

social games were played at this location – at times against teams equal to State standard.

This area was listed for sale in 1935. Dame Eadith Walker intimated that, in the event of the area becoming unavailable to the Club, she was prepared to make another area available.

As the outcome of this offer, a site in Nullawarra Avenue, opposite Wilga Street (in the South Eastern corner of the Estate) was graciously accepted. The ground was cleared and a wicket built on same in 1936.

Sad to relate, Dame Eadith passed away on 8<sup>th</sup> October, 1937 and the Club and the district lost a wonderful benefactress – a woman widely known for her charitable acts.

The "Folly" area remained unsold and the club was granted permission to use same and it was used during the cricket seasons 1936 to the end of season March 1940 inclusive.

Owing to the outbreak of the Second World War, the "Folly" area was resumed by the Federal Government and the Repatriation General Hospital was built thereon during 1940.

The ground in Nullawarra Avenue is still in use by the Concord West Cricket Club but, due to many of the younger players having moved from the district since the termina-

tion of the last war, the Club has dropped from the three teams it fielded at different periods to one team at the present time.

Also, due to the fact that the enthusiasts of 1921 have long passed on (only two of that era now remain), one of whom became the Honorary Secretary of the Club in December 1921 and is still filling that position at this date.



## DIARY DATES

**JUNE 7:** Andrew Tink, "William Charles Wentworth"

**JULY 5:** Gregory Blaxell, "Banjo Paterson"

**AUGUST 2** Tony Cuneen, "World War I and Yaralla connections"

Much could be written of the activities of the Club since 1921 – a large number of outstanding players have passed through the ranks - many having represented the Club and the Western Suburbs Association in Interassociation and Interstate matches under the auspices of the NSW Junior Cricket Union.

Arthur J. Walker, Hon. Secretary  
August 1982

*(The following is reprinted from Nurungi 1984, February/March)*

Arthur Walker has retired after 60 years as Honorary Secretary/Treasurer of Concord West Cricket Club. He was actively involved in the sport since 1908. His playing career went from 1908 to 1957. When he was sixty he was still sending down the odd spinner and adding to the 2190 wickets he took.

After his retirement from cricket he umpired the game for 25 years and spent 20 years as President of the Western Suburbs Junior Cricket Association.

Walker Reserve was named after him and he spent many hours building the Club's ground.

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## ***We Will Remember Them - WWI***

Do you have someone special in your family who served with the armed forces during the First World War?

Does this apply to any of your friends or neighbours?

They don't need to be decorated heroes - they were already heroes by leaving their loved ones and their homes to go to the other side of the world to fight for freedom.

Through their letters home, photographs, souvenirs they all have stories to tell. They can no longer do this but YOU can.

Won't you please help us *Remember Them* and their courage. They deserve it.

We need your help to bring this exhibition to life.

## **Yaralla Open Day**

Our April Open Day was reasonably successful, raising just under \$3,000.

However, as we only had five tour guides available on the day we were unable to take the usual number of visitors, which kept the income down.

Due to deaths, illness or moving away several of our usual guides can no longer help us.

If we are to continue our good work at Yaralla we need to build up a bigger group of Guides, Devonshire Tea helpers and General Helpers.

In late June we will be calling a meeting of our regular guides to discuss the last Open Day to see if we need to change anything to improve the event.

We would like to also invite anyone interested in learning to be a guide or become a helper in other ways to come and join them to find out how easy and enjoyable it can be.

## **Next Open Days**

We will be applying to Rivendell to hold an Open Day on Sunday, 27th July.

We will also be applying to Yaralla to hold an Open Day on Sunday, 26th October.

We will confirm the dates as soon as we receive approval but, meanwhile, pencil them into your diaries.

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## **World War I Records**

To mark Anzac Day, findmypast.com.au has released thousands of World War 1 records, and with these additions the site contains the largest collection of Australian and New Zealander military records available online.

The collections contain nearly 700,000 records of soldiers who served as part of the AIF between 1914 and 1918 and include the Australian Embarkation Roll 1914-1918 and the Australian Nominal Roll 1914-1918.

## ***Can you help?***

Recently discovered in our collection is this Honour Board but, unfortunately we have no information about it.

We don't even know who donated it or where it came from.

From the writing on the scroll at the top - Pro Deo et Pro Patria - and the design of the board we presume it is to honour boys who served in the First World War.



The names on the board are:

LKG Browning, WH Jones, A Maxwell, EC Jones, WR Eldridge, FB Browning, GE Orth, SH Standen, R Brown, ES Terrey, JH Ellis, AH Orth, LC Jones, HG Eldridge, JP Jones, CT Terrey, A Denham, AE Dicer.

Of the 18 names 10 appear to be brothers or related so, at a guess, it may have come from a church.

Can anyone help with where this came from and if any relatives are still around the area.

We would very much like to display this board at our "We Will Remember Them Display" together with any information we can gather on the people.

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## **Yaralla Work Group**

This wonderful group of workers, men and women, have over the years carried out a great deal of work on the Yaralla Estate, working on buildings and spaces that Area Health could not spend precious health money. And they have done wonderful jobs.

We are now anxious to start this group up again. If you are a tradesman, DIY handyman or just wanting to help . . . we need you.

A Conservation Management Plan for Yaralla has now been completed. It identified many areas that need some work, much of which could well be undertaken by our members. One of our recent members, a retired carpenter, has indicated that he would like to help with any work our Society would like to do around Yaralla and he has also donated \$1,000 to help us with our plans. With enthusiasm like this, surely we can get the Yaralla Work Group up and running again. If you want to help, or know of any non-member who would like to be part of this, please let us know



# Stamps and Post Around the World - A history

- \* Queen Victoria was the face on the first stamp ever issued (the Penny Black) However, just because a stamp is old doesn't always make it valuable. The Penny Black is not rare – 68 million of them were printed – but if you had one in excellent condition it could be worth a few hundred dollars.



- \* Although an Englishman, Rowland Hill, thought up the idea of the postage stamp, pre-paid postage in New South Wales was created before the famous "Penny Black" (the first adhesive stamp) by nearly two years.
- \* The numbering of houses for postal purposes began in Paris in 1463-4; the Pont Notre Dame district being the first to be numbered.
- \* The first stamp collector was John Bourke, Receiver-General of Stamp Duties in Ireland. He formed a collection of fiscal stamps in an album in 1774.
- \* The first person other than a head of state (living or dead) to appear on a stamp was Benjamin Franklin, whose portrait featured on the 10 cent stamp issued by the United States in July 1847.
- \* The world's rarest, and most valuable stamp is generally recognised as the 1 cent British Guiana of 1856. It was acquired in 1873 by an English schoolboy who later sold it for 6 shillings to a fellow collector. The stamp was last sold in 1980 for \$750,000. That's an expensive stamp!
- \* The first Air Mail stationery, consisting of postcards and letter sheets, was produced in Paris for transportation by balloon in 1870, when the city was surrounded by enemy troops.
- \* China issued stamps which are among the world's largest ever, measuring 210 x 65 mm. They were issued in the early 1900s for use on express letters.
- \* Since 1935 Canadian stamps have concealed the year of their production in tiny numerals in the design. Australia has featured tiny year dates in stamp designs since 1989.
- \* The first person other than royalty to appear on a British stamp was William Shakespeare in 1964.
- \* The first self-adhesive stamps were

issued by Sierra Leone on 10 February 1964. In 1990 Australia was the first country to produce self-adhesive stamps for ongoing postal use on a mass scale.

- \* Germany was the first country to adopt postcodes, introducing a two-digit system in 1942. Australia introduced postcodes on 1 July 1967.
- \* Although the main use for stamps today is to pay postage, Australian stamps have become well known throughout the world for their unusual and amazing designs. The history of Australia can be traced through its commemorative stamps, on which all aspects of Australian culture, as well as our natural heritage, have been illustrated.



## Stamps – the weird and wonderful

- \* The earliest postal marking dates back to about 3000 BC. They were used by Egyptian court officials and read: "In the name of the living king, speed!"
- \* People who study and collect stamps are also called "philatelists", which comes from the Greek words philo (enjoyment of an activity) and ateleia (free of taxes and charges).
- \* The earliest adhesive stamps were issued without perforations and had to be torn apart or cut with scissors. Although the printers, Perkins Bacon, actually had a small perforating machine in 1840 to perforate cheque book counterfoils, they regarded the perforation of stamp sheets as impractical because of the closeness of the stamps and unevenness of the layout caused by paper shrinkage after printing.
- \* Potato starch, wheat starch and acacia gum were amongst the ingredients of the gum used on British stamps from 1840. The British Post Office called it "cement" and early stamps bore instructions printed on the sheet margins – "In Wetting the Back be careful not to remove the Cement". This led to public panic that it was dangerous to lick. Yuck!
- \* In 1849 the French government introduced a law making it an offence to wash or otherwise clean used French postage stamps. This was to combat the practice of using the same stamps over and over again. In

one six-year period almost 15,000 people (including genuine stamp collectors) were charged under this law.

- \* One of the smallest-ever stamps was issued in 1863 by the Colombian state of Bolivar. It was only 9.5mm x 8mm.
- \* In 1879 cats were used for mail service in Liege, Belgium. 37 cats were used to carry bundles of letters to villages within a 30km radius of the city centre. The experiment was unsuccessful as the cats proved to be undisciplined and unreliable!
- \* In 1973 Bhutan issued a stamp that looked like a record. When put on a record player it would actually play the Bhutanese national anthem! Amazing!
- \* The Pacific kingdom of Tonga once issued stamps shaped like a banana. Creative!
- \* The United Kingdom is the only country that does not feature its name on stamps. However, all UK stamps have a picture of the monarch's head.



## Postage and Coins in Colonial Days

This display is particularly pertinent to our area as Isaac Nichols, the original owner of what is now the Yaralla Estate was our first postmaster.

We are also showing our latest acquisition, a one penny Trading Token issued by Flavelle Jewellers.



There are display and stories about currency and stamps from our early days.

Plus Post Office memorabilia and

much, much more.

A special thanks to all our wonderful Museum Committee who put this all together.



Don't let them down. Please come and visit and bring your family, friends and neighbours.

The display will be on until August so spread the word, please.

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## Welcome . . .

This month we welcome three new members . . .:

Martin and Jason Khoury, Concord West; and Ian Hemming, Burwood.

We hope to get to know you better in the months to come.

## Museum Raffle

We would like to thank everyone who supported us with this year's raffle.

The winners were: 1st, Gwen Graham (cot quilt); 2nd, Jenny Nichols (hand-made cushion); and 3rd, Pauline Tyrell (2 framed sketches of Yaralla grounds).

This year we raised \$1,087.00 which was pleasing but not quite as good as last year when we raised \$1,615.

This extra money is most important as without it we would probably have to raise our membership fees, which we have managed to keep at the same rate since 1994.

The money raised by our membership fees (\$2,700 last financial year) only just covers the cost of producing our monthly newsletter, phone and internet connections, hosting our web site, postage and insurance.

We still have to find money for setting up our displays, advertising, equipment, repairs and maintenance, etc.

So, once again, thanks you to all who supported us - you help to keep us out of the RED!

## Stitching Hearts

Our special thanks go to the Stitching Hearts group who so generously donated the two lovely cot quilts which were the prizes in this raffle.

This wonderful group of ladies make, literally, hundreds of quilts in all sizes and patterns which they then donate to nursing homes and charities as well as to not-for-profit groups to raffle.

We are also grateful to Beryl Robinson who made us the two lovely cushions.

We do hope the winners are enjoying their prizes.

## History

*"History is strange: most days people step on it, drive by it – and most often ignore it. Yet history is there for all to see". RAHS Newsletter 2009*

*A generation which ignores history has no past and no future. Robert Heinlein*

*Any fool can make history, but it takes a genius to write it. Oscar Wilde*



## The Arnott's Biscuit Story

(as you've never heard it before)



Mr. "Monte Carlo" was a fresh biscuit



He took Mrs "Vo Vo" for a



"Morning Coffee".



He put his hand on her "Milky Way"



And she thought it was "Nice"



But when he put his "Scotch Finger"



On her "Date Slice"



She grabbed him by his "Ginger Nuts"



Which made him "Sao"!

*It's amazing how much spare time some people have*

## Congratulations

. . . to our Secretary Lois who was recently honoured to be one of eighteen New South Wales volunteers to receive an award from the Heritage Council of NSW.



## From the Secretary's Desk

### We Need Volunteers for . . .

**MUSEUM ROSTERS:** We still need volunteers to help out with manning the museum on the days it is open. We particularly need helpers for Saturday, but will still take Wednesday volunteers.

**TOUR GUIDES** for both Rivendell and Yaralla. We will supply all the documentation you need and our regular guides are always willing to help you.

**YARALLA WORK GROUP** to tackle small maintenance jobs around Yaralla.

**CHAIRPERSON OF THE WALKER ESTATES COMMITTEE:** Currently this position is vacant but we need someone who would be willing to accept this office. Our election of new office bearers will take place in August so you still have time to think about putting your hand up. It mainly entails organising the three Open Days.

**ORAL HISTORIES:** We need help with people willing to carry out interviews, transcribing recordings or converting tapes to digital.

**RESEARCHING** various topics for display or adding to our archives.

**ARCHIVES:** We have a lot of newspaper cuttings, documents, etc. in our collections which pertain to the history and heritage of the area. These need to be sorted and catalogued. Possibly this could also be done by those on roster duty.

**ADVERTISING** our speakers and displays by distributing posters and leaflets. (Unfortunately, due to a malfunction in my computer I've lost the list of people who previously offered to do this.)

**MUSEUM COMMITTEE** - always needs new members with new ideas.

**WALKER ESTATES COMMITTEE** - needs to be revived to help the Chairperson organise these days which are a very important part of our commitment to the Estates.

**AND LAST OF ALL . . .** the Secretary could always use some help with general office work, typing letters, filing, etc., etc., etc.

*We don't need a commitment to come every week, just when you have an hour or two to spare and want something to do.*

## Can you help???

**SPECIAL THANKS:** We would also like to sincerely thank those people from outside our membership who, over the past few months, have been carrying out a lot of the work needed to keep our Society running smoothly.

They have been working on our library, working on the archives, helping with the display.