was comparatively brief in terms of a lifetime, its impact was far-reaching on those who were their friends in Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine and the many visitors who came to Lindfield Park.

Cec was born in Wilberforce in 1924, commencing his working life as a poultry farmer and orchardist. He came to local government in 1965 as an alderman after establishing with his brothers a tractor and farm dealership. In 1968 he was elected unopposed as mayor; a position he held until 1977. Among his many achievements was the creation of the Windsor Civic Centre and the South Windsor swimming pool (at the time its completion was the cause of some controversy which he overcame), the tennis centre at Richmond, and childcare and community facilities for outer areas. He was able to carry through the amalgamation of the Colo Shire Council with the Windsor Municipal Council in 1981, becoming the Shire President and a skilled peacemaker for both sides.

Even after retiring from local government after eighteen years of service, he remained active in local issues and with business until devoting his total attention to Lindfield Park.

In an interview with the Hawkesbury Independent in March 2004, Cec said: “I’m a fairly easygoing character. And you know we really didn’t have politics in those days. You put up because you were a citizen, not a member of a party. I worked out that in the local scene you are there for the good of the people, not for a party.”

Mary Reynolds

Details of Cec’s local government career were derived from the Hawkesbury Independent (March 2004) and Hawkesbury Gazette (4 May 2005).

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Objectives of the Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine Historical Society Inc

Membership is open to all who accept and support these objectives.

1. To make a substantial contribution to the account of Australian history by promoting the study of aspects of the Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine districts and their communities, especially in terms of their:
   - cultural history
   - exploration history
   - settlement history
   - Aboriginal history
   - industrial history including agriculture, horticulture, the timber industry, mining and tourism.

2. To conserve, preserve and protect the heritage and heritage values of Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine.

3. To set up and maintain a museum in the Turkish Bath building to house the collection and to serve as a centre for its public display and for the Society’s educational programs and research.

4. To maintain close links with other societies and associations in the local communities and beyond by way of meetings, functions, newsletters and occasional historical papers.

5. To lend support to like-minded societies or associations, where possible.

For all information and bookings contact Mary Reynolds (‘Donna Buan’, Church Lane, Mt Wilson, NSW, 2786) on tel: (02) 4756 2006, fax: (02) 4756 2176 or email: mary_reynolds@bigpond.com.
The Queen of the Clean

Dr Susan Aykut, who was the guest speaker at this year’s AGM, refers to herself as the Queen of the Clean having completed a study on the baths of the Ottoman Turks for her doctorate. She is currently researching the virtually unexplored history of Turkish baths in Australia and it was this intriguing material that she used as the basis for her talk entitled Australia - A View from the Turkish Bath.

Susan Aykut is Deputy Director of the Institute for Public History at Monash University and lectures regularly on Orientalist art and Ottoman history. Her great enthusiasm, humour, knowledge and skill combined to create a fascinating perspective on Turkish baths and a highly entertaining presentation. The talk was accompanied by an amazing collection of images of Turkish baths of the past in Ireland, England and in Mt Wilson and the mountains’ Aboriginal past, including our own.

A very warm welcome is extended to each of these individuals.

The Way We Were

These quotations appear in Fauna of the Blue Mountains by Judy and Peter Smith (1959, Kangaroo Press, Katoomba).

Killed a large kangaroo this day...killed two small kangaroos.
Gregory Blaxland, 1813

Shot one pleasant (Superb Lyrebird), with tail complete; shot two others without tail. It appears to be too early in the season for them, as their tails are just shooting, and others are not at full length.
William Cox, 1814

A few years since, the country abounded with wild animals; but now the enus is banished a long distance, and the kangaroo is becoming scarce; to both the English Greyhound is utterly destructive. It may be long before the animals are altogether exterminated, but their doom is fixed.
Charles Darwin, 1836

A pleasant day’s outing can be had by following the Caves track as far as Cox’s River, a distance of about 10 miles from Katoomba, and good shooting is often to be obtained, the game being rabbits, hares, wallabies and different kinds of birds.
Katoomba and Leura Tourist Association, 1905

About 1890 when high prices were being given for all marsupial skins, large scrub wallaby skins fetched as high as 2s 6d each.
Sid Bellingham, 1899

The only wallaby I have seen here [Susannia Vulhali], I saw it several times in the Jamison Valley, and only one or two together. This with other species have been thinned out tremendously in the last 30 years. The fox and the dingo must be responsible for many deaths, although the gun has been responsible for most.
E C Chisholm, 1923

Cec Sullivan (1924-2005)

Those who have been associated with Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine during the past twenty years or more would have been familiar with Lindfield Park, halfway between Mt Wilson and Mt Irvine, and would probably know it as a garden of wonder and great beauty.

On 18th April 2005, Cec Sullivan, who had nurtured and loved that garden since the early 1980s, passed away after suffering from the effects of a stroke in August 2004. Cec and his wife, Rita, had sold Lindfield Park with regret in 2003 when the physical demands of the garden became too much for Cec. Both had been loyal members of our Society, always ready to assist whenever they could.

Our memories of Cec were forged most strongly in the environment of the garden of Lindfield Park. He loved giving a guided tour. His tall, slightly bent figure would be there moving along the many narrow winding paths which gave access to the terraced slopes and divided the spectacular array of cool climate shrubs, trees and dainty plants all with their own stories which he knew in complete and precise detail. Those stories revealed the sense of devotion and joy the garden gave to Cec, and listeners would acquire much enthusiasm for the art of gardening.

Long before Cec and Rita purchased Lindfield Park, he had spent many years with Rita and his family working for the community of the Hawkesbury. While he and Rita’s time in Mt Wilson...
Obituaries

Herbert Basil (Bill) Knight-Brown (1914-2005)

Bill Knight-Brown lived his life at Painui, Mt Irvine, until his late 80s when he spent his last few years in nursing homes at Portland and Lithgow. He died in February this year at Tanderra in Lithgow in his 91st year.

Bill was the oldest of three children born to Basil Frederick Knight-Brown and Julia Holden, who married in January 1913 and lived at Painui until Julia died in 1947. Basil Knight-Brown, Harold Morley and Charles Scrivener were the three original settlers at Mt Irvine. After having been students together at Hawkesbury Agricultural College, they each took up a large section of the land at Mt Irvine and began farming. Basil’s brother, Norman Knight-Brown, joined him in establishing a dairy and apple orchard and their mother, Lucy, was the first woman to make her home at Mt Irvine when she came to ‘look after’ her two sons, their father Edward and sister Bess. Two substantial homes were built of local timber: Painui and Cooinda.

Bill and his father Basil ran the dairy together until Basil retired to Narrabeen. They kept a very productive jersey herd and a fine, fearsome-looking pedigree bull with the impressive name of Richmond Dawson Stocomb III. The milk was separated on site and every Thursday Bill would drive over the Bowns Creek Road in his grey A40 Utility with several large cans of cream to be processed at the Hawkesbury College. In 1948, Bill married Rosalie Smart of Carribrook at Mt Irvine. Their children were Julia (b. 1949), Richard (b. 1951) and Susan (b. 1953). Rosalie died in 1974. Throughout his long life, Bill was very active in his community. He attended the monthly church services conducted by Harold Morley and held office in the Mt Irvine Progress Association and the local Fire Brigade. He was a keen tennis player, using the community court every Sunday throughout the 40s and 50s.

Bill leaves behind his three children, three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren: Julia and her husband, Peter Reynolds, their daughter, Mandy, her husband Mal Smith and daughter Tara; Richard and his wife Jane, and Susan, her daughters Hollie and Rosalie, and Hollie’s husband Karl Le Muth and son Lachlan.

Florence Smart

William (Bill) Thomas Bell (6 April 1912 – 22 March 2005)

William (Bill) Thomas Bell, who died in Canberra recently at the age of 92, was born in Sydney, the son of a master carpenter from the Borders, Scotland. He attended Cleveland Street Boys High and then graduated as a mechanical engineer. Much of his professional career was with the Maritime Service Board of NSW, finally retiring from his position as Principal Design Engineer in 1972. He was admitted to the Institute of Engineers in 1944 and maintained his membership of the Institution until well into his retirement.

Bill Bell married Enid Lawson in 1937 and for some years they lived in Beecroft, Sydney where their children Suzanne, Helen, Eugenie and Fergus were born. In the early fifties, Bill was a successful bidder in a Crown ballot for a large bush block in Cheltenham. He cleared the road to the site, then designed and built the family home there.

Prior to their retirement, Bill and Enid Bell purchased land on Wyne’s Rocks Road then, later, another property with a scenic view to the north of the Wollangambe Wilderness on the Mt Wilson-Mt Irvine Road. This they called Antares and it was there Bill built their first retirement home. His wife established a lovely garden that spilled down the steeply sloping site. They

The Gregson Exhibition

The most recent Exhibition to be held in the Turkish Bath Museum, the Gregson Exhibition, reveals the extent and depth of the influence of this family in the shaping of Mt Wilson from 1878 to the late twentieth century. It follows on the series of articles in our newsletter No 11 devoted to that family.

We must thank Alison Halliday and Robin Leonard for its fine creation and for the excellent selection of photographic material and text. Each of the five boards tells a story of a house, and the garden and people associated with it: Yengo founded by Jesse Gregson in 1878-1880; Windyridge founded by Jesse’s daughter, Helen (Nellie) Gregson, in 1921; Chimney Cottage first created by Margaret Gregson’s father, Charles W Jefferson, as a tearoom, with the help of the Kirk brothers; and Applecot which was first an apple shed but later, in the 1940s, became a residence and the last home of Edward J Gregson and his three daughters Helen, Meg and Trooth. Tragically, Applecot and Wyndham were gutted by fire in April 2004 and May 2004, respectively, a devastating loss. It is heartening to know that both houses will be rebuilt by their present owners.

Included in the Exhibition is Cherry Cottage, originally the stables of Yengo. As described in the article ‘No Ordinary Man’ (pp 1, 15-17), this was converted, in the 1920s, by Fred Mann into a pottery studio which he called Cherry Tree Cottage. Also included are more recent photos of the residences now occupying what was Gregson land, such as Hawthorn.

The exhibition is further enhanced with examples of Fred Mann’s attractive pottery. A number of Meg Fromel’s original linocuts are also displayed, depicting familiar scenes, including the Avenue, the Church and several other historic buildings. Meg’s painting of her grandfather, Jesse Gregson, amid the familiar Mt Wilson bushland is hung above the mantelpiece, on loan from the artist.

Mary Reynolds

Elizabeth Raines OAM

Our warmest congratulations to foundation member of the Society and long-time supporter of all our projects, Libby Raines, who was awarded the Order of Australia Medal in the recent Queen’s Birthday Honours. Her citation sums up the achievement: ‘For service to the community of Mt Wilson, particularly through a range of environmental, horticultural, civic and church activities’.

Anne Hughan & Meg Fromel at the Exhibition.
President's Report June 2005

The Society has been active on many fronts since our last newsletter was published in November 2004, led by a very hard-working Management Committee. On the historic front, some progress has been made, notably on the archives and their systematic filing and storage, with a 2-day working bee with Mary Reynolds, Helen and John Cardy, Robin Leonard and Florence Smart. We need a few more of these efforts to keep on top of our ever-growing collection of valuable historic material. Special praise also to Robin Leonard and Alison Halliday, who prepared a splendid photographic display with historical notes on the six Mt Wilson homes and cottages built by three generations of the Gregson family. These include Yengo, Wynndale, Windridge, Cherry Cottage, Applecot and Chimney Cottage. This exhibition was mounted in the Turkish Bath Museum especially for this year's Jazz Concert held on the Saturday of the Anzac weekend, and we encourage all members to view the exhibition during the coming months. Our warm thanks to Robin and Alison, and to Avis Bills and Mary Reynolds for seeing the display hung in the Museum.

As to the Jazz Concert, it was even better than last year, which we had all thought then was pretty good. The weather was beautiful, the gate takings were about $1000 higher than they've ever been and the music was greatly enjoyed. There were two good bands - Bill Boldiston's Blowes and Jeanne Hope's jazz - quite different in style but with some of the same players taking a role in each group. Our thanks go to all the band members and their leaders. This was the 35th concert we've had with these players and their popularity keeps growing. The wonderful thing is that all of them are content to come here, every time, without any fee, and for love of the Turkish Bath and its precinct. They have our thanks.

On the day you could have been impressed by the calm atmosphere of the concert - everything just seemed to happen smoothly and without fuss. But in fact this was the result of months of hard work by members of the fundraising committee. There were the visits to the courthouse to persuade them not to charge us for services on the day.

The Anzac weekend was rounded out with our opening of the Wynstay garden on the Sunday. Arthur Delbridge

With the outbreak of World War II, Fred turned his attention and energies to serving his country once again. This time it was to be with the army and the Red Cross. Holding the rank of Lieutenant, he began by serving on the hospital ship Manmanda between Brisbane and Port Moresby. At the same time he was involved in fundraising for the Free French forces supported by people such as Lady Lloyd Jones.

In 1944, Fred was sent to England by the Red Cross to direct and organise the furnishing of houses for the returning Australian prisoners of war. One of these was in Sloane Street in London, the other at Gowrie House in Eastbourne. There is a painting of Gowrie House (1945) by Australian artist, Bella Bowen, who was the official Australian artist in England at that time, and the warmth and humanity in that painting is almost certainly a reflection of Fred Mann's capacity and skill to create a welcoming, sympathetic and understanding environment for those returning POWs.

When Fred returned to Mt Wilson after World War II he did not take up his pottery interests again. But it was in those years from 1947 to 1951 that the final stages of achieving a village hall were played out. He, along with others such as Helen (Nellie) Gregson, who left 500 pounds specifically for the construction of the roof of the Village Hall in her will in 1949, gave generously and the local committee was able to carry out the actual construction of the Mt Wilson Village Hall in 1951.

In that same year, Fred's long-standing friend Gilbert Hughes came to an agreement with him to, in effect, 'swap' houses and Stone Lodge became the home of the Hughes family, while Fred moved to Wentworth Road, Vaucluse. Later, in 1955, he moved to Elizabeth Bay. In 1962, Fred became ill and died in Lewisham Hospital in December at the age of 69. A requiem mass was held at St Canice's, Elizabeth Bay, and he was interred in the family vault at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, Randwick.

Mary Reynolds (Research Officer)

* Las Folies Bergers was a famous theatre in Paris c. 1869 and was well known for its musicals, including its dancing girls. For the Archbishop to refer to it in this context was a touch of taste. No doubt Mrs Foley was a most sedate and proper lady and a far cry from the rather daring girls of Las Folies Bergers. It is also not have been expected that the Archbishop would be familiar with the world of theatre.

(My gratitude goes to the members of the Mann family who have been most helpful in providing information and details about Fred Mann. These people include Michael Mann, who, as far back as 1994, gave considerable anecdotal material. More recently, Fleur Herscovitch, whose mother was the daughter of Esmy Mann (Fred’s sister), has provided photos and letters associated with her grandmother, aunts and uncle. Tom Hughes, the son of Gilbert Hughes, has lent photos of Fred Mann, Fred’s sisters and brother, Alfred, and Gilbert Hughes. These have been copied by the Society. Megan Martin, the librarian for the Historic Houses Trust has provided the Society with documents relating to Fred’s architectural changes at Yengo and his pottery achievements. She recently contributed to a book on Australian ceramics and art and was kind enough to pass on to the Society some of the information she discovered through her research.)
while some pots featured bands of modelled floral sprigs and occasionally used clay ribbons to form the pattern. Locally in Mt Wilson, Fred sold his pottery through the tearoom at Chimney Cottage, which was run by Margaret Gregson, Edward's wife, with assistance from her family. In Sydney it was sold through Margaret Jaye's craft shop in Rowe Street.

For a brief time during the 1930s, a small school was organised in Old Wynstay. Originally known as Yarrawa, this house was built by Richard Wynne (c. 1880). Richard Owen Wynne, Richard Wynne's grandson, inherited Yarrawa and after the First World War took possession of the whole property. Bringing his new wife, Marianne Wynne, from England, they built the new stone residence of Wynstay (1921-1923). The school in Old Wynstay, under the guidance of the Wynne governess Dollie Moore, was for the benefit of the three Wynne children: Jane, Mervyn and Ron, but Peter Valder and the three Gregson girls were invited to join them. Dorothy Moore developed an innovative and broad curriculum for these children, inviting Fred Mann to give pottery lessons in Cherry Cottage. Their memories of these lessons are rich in colour, warmth and fun. Fred is remembered as a gentle, kindly, knowledgeable and cultured person. In 1938, he demonstrated his wider interests among the locals. Dorothy Moore developed an innovative and broad curriculum for these children, inviting Fred Mann to give pottery lessons in Cherry Cottage. Their memories of these lessons are rich in colour, warmth and fun. Fred is remembered as a gentle, kindly, knowledgeable and cultured person. In 1938, he demonstrated his wider interests among the locals.

In A Mt Wilson Childhood, Helen Warliker also writes:

A bachelor, Mr Mann lived here with his housekeeper Mrs Tidy. He was a kindly, friendly man and a genial host of cultivated tastes who loved entertaining and we and our various families on the mountain were frequent recipients of his hospitality.

Noelie McLean confirms this memory of him, especially the parties he held for the children, including the delicious food he served and the wonderful experience of visiting the pottery workshop.

John Valder, in an entertaining and enlightening talk given to the Society in 1997, spoke of Fred in the following terms:

Another great character was Fred Mann who owned Yengo (then Stone Lodge). Fred Mann was best known really for making pottery and we were all very proud of our pieces, which I managed to hang on. He did some lovely distinctive work from, I think, local clays.

However, my memories of Fred Mann are also for his parties for children and grown-ups. I can remember him hanging Chinese lanterns up around the garden and it all looking very glamorous. Fred Mann wasn’t married but he had a nephew called Michael Mann, who was a highly accomplished pianist, even as a schoolboy and would visit for holidays. So Fred Mann thought he ought to put on a bit of entertainment for his nephew and invited the rest of the children over to stay at Stone Lodge to play games – such as boules. He was a lovely, warm generous cheerful friendly man.

It is interesting to note that Michael Mann was the younger son of James Fumex Mann and of Marie Elizabeth Mann (née Ponsolle), who was French. They and their two sons, Pierre and Michael (Pierre was born in Sydney in 1923 and Michael was born in 1929 in France), spent many years in France but when it was occupied by the Nazis during the Second World War, they fled and escaped to Australia. Michael Mann records briefly some of the visits his parents met at Stone Lodge between 1923 and 1926. They included William H Holman (Premier of NSW 1913-1920), Frederick Jordan KC (later Chief Justice of NSW), John Quin (librarian, Mitchell Library), Charles and Louise Lloyd Jones and their daughter 'Mary Pumpkin' and the nursemaid Hannah Jones (later to

On Remembrance Day last year, a new format was adopted for the annual celebration of this event, jointly organised and sponsored by the Historical Society and the Mt Wilson Progress Association. Following the traditional service of Remembrance at the War Memorial conducted by the Reverend Ian Meares of Blackheath and the playing of the Last Post by a gifted young musician, everyone walked to the Village Hall where Robert Chesney and Arthur Delbridge spoke about the contribution of two of the soldiers from World War I whose names appear on the War Memorial: Vessian Clarence Lancelot Kirk and Percy Pedder Scrivener. Few present would have known the background of these two persons who belonged to our communities so long ago. It was especially gratifying to have Margaret Scrivener, Pedder Scrivener's daughter-in-law, and Milba Moore, representing the Kirk family, present. It is intended that this pattern be followed at future gatherings for Remembrance Day and, where possible, the contribution of each person named on the Memorial be recorded in a special book to be kept in the Village Hall.

Remembrance Day, 11th November 2004

Introduction by Arthur Delbridge

The service we have just come from at the Soldier's Memorial is one of thousands like it held today around Australia. The one thing that's special to us in our service is that we are remembering people of our own community. Their names are there on the granite face in front of us. So who really were they, those men and women from the families of Mt Wilson, Mt Irvine and Bell who served in World War I, World War II and Vietnam? What did it mean to them and their families that they enlisted for three or four or five years of their lives, went away to distant lands, learnt to cope with the rigours and disciplines of service life, most of them in deadly conflict with the enemy? Their names are like a roll call of the early settlers in our communities: Gregson, Mann, Morley, Scrivener, Kirk, Valder, Gunn, Wynne, Knight-Brown. Three of them have a star against their names on the stone. They made the supreme sacrifice, they did not come back, and as we say in the Hymn: 'We will remember them'. And indeed, we remember them all, the starred and the un-starred on our memorial. Those who came back were indeed glad to be back. But I think it may safely be said that, for better or for worse, no-one can escape from the influence or the memory of years spent in service with the armed forces of Australia.

At the end of last year's service Kevin Gunn came away from the stone saying, 'I guess I'm just about the only one still alive'. That made me think. I know him but what about all the others? Shouldn't we know a bit more.

So now I'll read a short citation of the wartime life of two of them. These are based on official war records, and what we have been told kindly by family members. Taking two or three names each year we could make a full account, and perhaps record them eventually in a Memorial Book - hand written by a calligrapher - perhaps to be kept here in our Hall for all to see.

Percy Pedder Scrivener

Peder Scrivener was the son of Charles Robert Scrivener of Tathos, Mt Irvine. Born in 1890, he enlisted for service in WWI in April 1915, aged twenty-five. At the time of enlisting he was an accountant in the Commercial Banking Company of Sydney. He was single. Like all recruits he had first to be approved as fit for service. In one of the standard questions he was asked: 'Have you ever been convicted by the Civil Power?' He answered yes, rather defiantly, and gave the
When his telephone broke down, he repaired it, though still under fire. His gallant actions turned the whole operation - infantry, artillery and all - into a successful military achievement.

We're greatly indebted to his daughter-law Margaret Scrivener, who is here with us today, for access to the diary Pedder Scrivener kept with daily accounts of his war service in France. They give us a vivid account of the truly awful conditions under which intense military action was maintained.

January 28th 1917: The dugouts and gun pits are very crude. My dugout had fallen in but repairs are difficult with everything frozen and snow still on the ground. Everywhere there is dusty beef are frozen and even bread getters all through with ice. We are shooting at almost extreme ranges.

January 29th: Fired 156 rounds tonight between 10pm and 5am.

January 30th: The remainder of the battery came up and took over tonight. Been snowing today; the roads are like glass and horses must go warily. I think, we must be fast and not inches deep. Everything has been freezing for weeks.

May 2nd 1918: A couple of days or so ago the 1st Battery had a bad day. Major Randall was wounded and Major Sturart killed. Shortly afterwards Short was killed, Coleman seriously wounded and died the same night, and Captain Shepherd wounded.

By February 1919, the war being over and transport being available, Pedder Scrivener was sent to London and in March embarked on the journey back to Sydney. As for his civilian life after the war was over, the National Archives Australia show that from 1947 to 1955 Pedder was Clerk of the Shire of Blue Mountains and as at March 1972 he owned and ran a plant nursery in Springwood. He died on 23rd May 1974.

Fred spent many holidays at Denarque and on the death of his mother in 1921 he inherited an income that made it possible for him to be a person of independent means. When Edward J Gregson, the owner of Yengo, decided to sell the original home established by his father, Jesse Gregson, Fred purchased it in 1923. He changed the name to Stone Lodge. With the help of his friend, architect John Moore, Fred substantially altered Yengo, developing a grassed courtyard with a fishpond and fountain and a wide flagged stone terrace planted on two sides with rock plants.

In A Moment Wilson Childhood, Helen Warlicher writes with clarity of detail her memories of 'Mr Mann' and those days in Mt Wilson: 'When we were small we liked to play in the court yard in the centre of the house because it had a little pond filled with fish and water lilies'. Inside the cottage was filled with: 'the loveliest old furniture, pewter and china while the whole garden was planted and replanted with English cottage flowers and shrubs' (Sydney Morning Herald Women's Supplement, October, 1834). According to his nephew, Michael Mann, Fred made a special trip overseas in 1924 to purchase these furnishings for Stone Lodge. Stone Lodge was featured in an article in Home in 1927 and later in April 1941.

It was during the years from 1925 until the Second World War that Fred's personality and influence were experienced in all their varying shades of charm and warmth by those living in Mt Wilson. Already in 1922 he, along with others, had contributed financially to the establishment of the Post Office on the Avenue when a private trust was set up and shares were bought to finance the cost of the building. John Moore was employed to design the building. In the 1930s, when Marianne Wynne commenced the long campaign to establish a community hall (later to become the Mt Wilson Village Hall), Fred was a generous contributor and a member of the Trust established to organise the raising of funds and the construction of the hall.

It was in 1925 that Fred commenced his dedication to the creation of pottery in what had been the stables of Yengo. Under his artistic direction, the stables became Cherry Tree Cottage: Fred's workshop. Over the next 15 years, Fred produced a wide range of simple and elegant domestic pieces - vases, candle stick holders, egg cups, mugs, jam pots, jugs, soup bowls, cheese dishes and book ends - using white Australian clay or the biscuit-coloured Mt Wilson clay.

An article from the Sydney Morning Herald Women's Supplement (October, 1934) provides quite a vivid picture of Cherry Tree Cottage:

"The garden path we came to Cherry Tree Cottage, a little white wooden building with a large stone chimney, against which grows the double pink Japanese cherry tree of its name. Bright blue window frames and woodwork and red sun blinds rival in colour the pottery within; up the steps and round the door stand pots of primroses and cowslips, forget-me-nots and pansies, and endless other sweetnesses to whet our appetites for colour. Within, all is almost too neat and charming for a workshop! Dressers, cupboards and chairs are painted white or faint green with painted decorations of tiny fruit and flowers, an old oak chest stands in the window with a great head of primroses and forget-me-nots catching the afternoon rays of sun."

The pottery produced at Cherry Tree Cottage was sold under that name and, as described by Megan Martin, relied on clear glazed painted decoration often combining geometric, floral and arabesque elements.
Income ($)

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(All food and drinks offered for sale were fully donated, and tea and coffee was free of charge)

Total (Gross) Income

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<td>63.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Materials for stage area</td>
<td>257.00</td>
<td>257.00</td>
<td>257.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintenance of precinct</td>
<td>1,207.23</td>
<td>1,807.51</td>
<td>1,396.30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Expenditure

|                      | 2,656.37 | 2,551.89 | 4,501.90 |

Total Profit on the Day

Income and Expenditure for Wynstay Garden Openings held 24th & 25th April 2005

Income ($)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>24/04/05 - 25/04/05</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Donations at the gate</td>
<td>3,080.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other donations</td>
<td>102.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total (Gross) Income

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Income</td>
<td>3,182.00</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Expenditure ($)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>24/04/05 - 25/04/05</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Advertising</td>
<td>164.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printing and distribution of brochures</td>
<td>250.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hire of port-a-loo</td>
<td>132.00</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Total Expenditure

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Expenditure</td>
<td>546.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Profit

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Profit</td>
<td>2,636.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Vivian Clarence Lancelot Kirk

Of the seven Kirk brothers of Mt Wilson, Sid, Bert and Viv served in WWII and Tom in World War One. Today I'll give some details of Viv Kirk's war service. He enlisted in Lithgow in February 1916, not yet turned 20, so it had to be with the consent of his parents. He went to Bathurst for training for a short two months before being posted as a reinforcement to the 53rd Battalion within the 5th Division. In April 1916 he embarked in Sydney on the SS Ceramic and joined his battalion in France at the end of August. He went into the battle of Fromelles. In this one engagement all the senior officers of his battalion were killed or wounded. Viv later told his family that he was the only one to survive out of his platoon of 30 men. The casualty rate in the Division was so high (more than 5000 killed and wounded in this battle) that the Division was out of defensive action for many months. But in March 1917 it was back in the battle of Bullecourt on the Somme. In this battle, Viv served also as a stretcher bearer. At this time he contracted severe trench fever and was admitted to a field hospital but as his condition deteriorated he was sent off to a military hospital in England. It took him a year there to recover.

Then back to France and into the battle of Amiens. In this engagement he was a sniper, but was killed in action before he could do it. Viv had rescued a wounded soldier out on the enemy wire and carried him back to safety in the face of enemy gunfire, saving his life. When the war was over, Viv returned to Australia in May 1919 and was discharged in September of that year, almost 4 years after enlisting.

Back in Mt Wilson, in spite of his war wounds, Viv took up again the occupations of his earlier life as timbergetter, firefighter, horseman and landowner; all the things that the Kirk men did so famously for so long. He married Olga Mahoney and they had, as Lesley Wynne tells us in her memoirs, "four beautiful daughters". He died here in Mt Wilson with his bullet still in his chest, too close to his heart to have ever been removed."
Could The Haycock Now Just be a Load of Rubbish?

More place names around the local area, provided by Peter Rickwood.

In the November 2004 Newsletter, we asked if any members might be able to help us find the story behind some local place names whose origin is not known to us. We heard recently from Peter Rickwood, a long-time friend to Mr Wilson, who forwarded us the following information. Peter is Map Curator for the Blue Mountains Historical Society and a Visiting Senior Research Fellow, School of Biological, Earth & Environmental Sciences (BEES) at the University of New South Wales.

ARKINSTALL HILL is an alternative name for CALEYS HAYCOCK (8930-1-N Mount Wilson) AMG 584902 33_30'S, 150_24'E.

The name Caleys Haycock (no apostrophe) was gazetted2 as item 964 on 24th July 1970, and is after George Caley, explorer and botanist, who reached and ascended Mount Banks in 1804, from which site (on November 4th 1804) he sketched the outlines of the hills and labelled this one 'The Haycock'.3 This name was lost in the literature for many years and when a track was constructed around the hill in 1868 the feature became locally known as Arkinstall Hill after the person who cut the track4. More recently some local residents have called it Rubbish Tip Hill after the purpose to which they put the track5.

FIELD SELECTION (8930-1-N Mount Wilson AMG 604894) 33_31'S, 150_25'E.

This is a local name for Portions 73 and 90, which form a prominent basalt-capped hill, and was probably derived from J.R. Field, grantee of Portion 73.6 The name was reported to me by Mrs Lynne Muir (née Kirk) who was born, and grew up, in Mount Wilson and whose relative VCL Kirk acquired Portion 90.

LAMBS HILL (8931-2-S Wollangambe) AMG 575903 33_30'S, 150_23'E.

This hill comprises Portions 51, 52, 53 and 54 and is named Lamb's Hill on a map, and in the text, published by Currey.7 The name probably relates to Walter Lamb, one of the early residents in 1878.8

References
3 King, P.G. (2nd November 1805) Extracts from Mr Caley's observations on his journey to the Carmarthen Mountains and his observations respecting the practicality of passing the mountains in that direction. pp. 725-727 in Bladen, P.M., Editor. (1897) Historical Records of New South Wales. Volume V - Kings, 1803, 1804, 1805. Government Printer, Sydney. 866pp (See p. 726).
4 Caley, G. (1804) An account of the journey to Mount Banks in Nov. 1804 (Mitchell Library microfilm FMA/2568) (See p. 76).
6 See Reference 3.
7 Map of the Parish of Irvine, County of Cook (1893) (State Records Map 2076).
10 See reference 7, p. 59.
absorbing stories of moments in Mt Wilson's past. We were most fortunate that they could be with us.

The Scrivener Exhibition is to be shown in the Australian Fossil and Mineral Museum in Bathurst from October 2005 to January 2006. Negotiations are still continuing to get the Scrivener Exhibition to Canberra.

Research and Writing

Work is proceeding towards publishing a modest production entitled Mt Wilson's History along its Avenues and Lanes for which we received a $1000 grant late in 2004 from the Royal Australian Historical Society's Local History Grants.

Irene Wynne is well advanced in producing a history of the Wynne Family. She often consults with Mary and with the Society's archives, as do Alison Halliday and her co-writer, Jo Hambrett, who are producing a History of the Gardens of Mt Wilson. Earlier this year the Society was contacted by US resident Louise Scrivener, a distant relative of Charles Robert Scrivener, who provided a most interesting background and details of facets of Charles' life previously unknown to the Society. We hope to hear more from her.

Mrs D (Tood) Kirk, the widow of Tom Kirk, recently gave the Society an old trunk filled with papers, which are sure to shed much light on the past. We are most grateful for her gift and wish her well when she moves to Harden.

Donations

As well as the donations for Land Title Research, generous donations for general use by the Society have also been recently received from Troath Gregson (UK), Alison Vaughan (Sydney) and John and Kay Valder (Sydney) for which the Society are most grateful.

Mary Reynolds, Public Officer

The Society is extremely fortunate to have Mary Reynolds as its Research Officer and we are greatly indebted to her for the time, interest and skill that she brings to this as well as to many other tasks. Much of Mary's time is taken up with answering queries, talking to people about past history and communicating and negotiating with groups and associations such as the local Council, the NSW Heritage Office, Australian Historical Society and the Museums and Galleries Foundation.

Extracts from the Treasurer's Report to the Members Meeting May 2005

Membership

The Society's financial membership over the eight years since incorporation peaked at two hundred and four and presently stands at one hundred and ninety-five. Please find a membership renewal form enclosed along with this newsletter. We look forward to receiving your renewal over the next few weeks.

Two of our highly valued and hard-working foundation members, Bruce and Susanna Galley, have moved away from Mt Irvine to South West Rocks and we wish them all the best in their new location.

Society Activities

Permanent Signs

As was reported in the last newsletter, the Society has received funding from the NSW Ministry for the Arts for two permanent signs. One of the signs, for the entrance to the Turkish Bath Museum precinct, will contain a description of the building as well as opening times and contact details. A second sign, showing a historical map of the heritage listed buildings and sites around the village, will be erected at the Mt Wilson Village Hall. Work is progressing on both of these structures and we hope they will be in place before the end of this year.

Cultural Heritage

It is of concern to our Society, as it is to others within the Blue Mountains region, that the Blue Mountains City Council does not have a Cultural Heritage Policy, does not have funding available in its present budget for heritage matters and does not employ anyone in the position of Heritage advisor. Professor Barrie Reynolds, an experienced international consultant in museums and heritage matters, actively took up this issue and approached all organisations in our area with an interest in history and heritage with the suggestion they contact the Council to encourage a collective meeting aimed at bringing about a proper awareness of heritage within the Council.

This Society, amongst others, wrote to the Council in support of Professor Reynolds' proposals and on 4th May 2005 a meeting took place at the Council, chaired by the Council Recreation Officer, Jan Yardy. Taking the form of a workshop, the gathering was designed to generate input into the development of a Cultural Heritage Strategy for the Blue Mountains.

In attendance from this Society were Mary Reynolds and Florence Smart and they were joined by representatives from many historical societies in the region, as well as Mr John Low, Library Manager from the Local Studies Centre at Springwood, Prof Ian Jack, Head of the Heritage Review Panel, Ms Pam Hubert, a Conservation Architect and member of the Heritage Review Panel and Dr Peter Stanbury, a museum specialist. Also present was Mr Elton Menday, a Council Strategic Planner responsible for heritage for the Blue Mountains City Council.

Although there was considerable emphasis placed on what could be achieved in the next five or ten years, there was not so much discussion about the problems we face now. However, there was agreement that an organisation should be formed, which would represent all those present, with the aim of strengthening our negotiating position with the Council. Minutes from this meeting will be produced and we will be kept informed. We are heartened that at least the problem is finally being dealt with publicly.

Land Title Research and Grant

A great deal of time and energy continues to be given to researching the Land Titles for the original 62 portions surveyed in 1868. This project is partially funded by a grant of $1000 from the Archival Grants of the Royal Australian Historical Society. Last year 6 portions were researched and this year another 12 portions have been documented. The costs to the Society far exceed the amount of the grant; however, this work has already proved invaluable in our historical research. We now know with far greater accuracy where Da Faux's shack was likely to have been; probably not far from the Tulip Tree Tea Room. Shasta Lodge was certainly owned by William Holman but he had nothing to do with the building of Eantcote nor did his...
colleague David Hall. It is fascinating to discover land was purchased by Henry Marcus Clark when he first arrived in Mt Wilson in about 1910. Another interesting feature is the existence of so many lanes in the original survey which today appear to have vanished. There remains some confusion over the early ownership of property in Queens Avenue particularly affecting Portions 11 and 12. If any member of the Society and/or owner of property would be interested in having copies of the titles relevant to their property we would be happy to provide these for a negotiated fee.

All donations towards the costs of this important work are most welcome and the recent generous donations from Mt Wilson residents Bill and Maureen Ryan and Helen and Barry Freeman were greatly appreciated.

Draft Heritage Review of Mount Wilson - Report to the Blue Mountains City Council

The Blue Mountains City Council has circulated a Draft Heritage Review of Mt Wilson for comment from interested parties. Considerable time was spent at the beginning of this year reviewing this document and making corrections where required. These corrections were submitted to the Council in February 2005. As yet there has been no indication of when these recommendations (and others) will be dealt with by the Council. Meanwhile the LEP (Local Environment Plan) 1991 continues to be the current legal document for Environmental Heritage Conservation.

It is worthwhile noting that the hair-pin bend section of the road when entering Mt Wilson is part of the Mt Wilson Conservation Precinct; a fact which the Council appeared to overlook when it reconstructed the bank on that part of the road earlier this year.

Turkish Bath Museum

This autumn has been another successful time for opening our Museum regularly on weekends, together with the wonderful success of the Jazz Concert and the opening of the Wynnys Gardens over the Anzac weekend. Special thanks go to Darrel and Leith Conybear, Helen and John Cardy and to Arthur Delbridge and Florence Smart for work on the Precinct prior to the concert. The stage is now just as we want it and is most impressive.

On 15th May we welcomed 22 members of the Horbury Hunt Club to a tour of the Turkish Bath and the Avenue and we provided lunch in the Village Hall. Our guests were delighted with the experience and were warm in their praise. The Society received about $470 for this event, which demonstrates the value of group tours. In the spring we have 2 bookings for 14th September and 2nd October 2005.

A very important part of our income is keeping the Turkish Bath Museum open to the public. Helen Cardy continues to organise the roster for its opening and it would be greatly appreciated if members could volunteer to help with staffing the open days to lighten the load for others. The Museum opening hours are 12:00pm to 3:00pm on the designated days and a clear orientation is provided for those not familiar with the building.

Exhibitions

There is a fine exhibition on the Gregson family, created by Alison Halliday and Robin Leonard, now on display in the Turkish Bath Museum. The Society is also very grateful to Alison for her purchase from the Mitchell Library of a copy of the Diary of Jesse Gregson and for her generosity in giving it to the Society. It is a very valuable document and we have been hoping to obtain it for years. Equally significant was the presence in the Turkish Bath on the Anzac weekend of Emma Winn, the youngest daughter of Troath Winn (née Gregson), who lives in the UK and Meg Fromel (née Gregson) from Killcare (NSW). Both gave a defining new dimension to the Gregson Exhibition, providing the many visitors with colourful background and