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The Granville Guardian

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**The annual general meeting and
July meeting of the Granville
Historical Society will be held at
2.00 pm on Saturday
23rd July 2011 at our Research
Centre
62 Railway Parade Granville
Executive Meeting 1.00 pm**

**Guest Speaker:
Elaine White**

The History of Baulkham Hills

Our Centre is open every
Wednesday from 10 am
to 4 pm and on the fourth
Saturday of the month for
personal research.
Visitors and members of
family history societies are
welcome.
A fee applies for
non-members

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT Annual Report July 2011

Granville Historical Society

A Place where heritage & culture are valued & celebrated

Dear Members,

It is time to review our year of projects and to thank our members for their dedication to the Society and the projects we undertake.

Our hard working members have worked diligently again this year. To bring to fruition the Photographic Display in the Parramatta Heritage Centre there was a group of flashers (photographers) who over several months combed the waterways of the Parramatta River and recorded what the creeks and the river looked like in 2010. They were, and we thank you, Arthur Naylor (also your work on the Database, research & scanning); George Pearce (he also wrote the history of Clyde) for donating photographs; and Bill Coleman who photographed Duck River - the Chester Hill end down to Mona Street. We now have a fantastic collection of hundreds of photos for our archives.

Brian and Enid Turbit also worked hard to supply us with images of Camellia and Parramatta; Audrey Meisenhelter and Linda Bradley walked A'Beckett's Creek and supplied us with images of their family; Maureen McManus who continues to answer the many research inquiries and work with Daphne Wiles on cataloguing; Daphne also works with Arthur on the Database; and Frances Bluhdorn for her work on the Database; Di Normoyle and Maureen gave us the history and images of their family from Rose Hill; Dorothy Warwick and Pat O'Brien gave us images from their collection which fitted with the theme; Betty Higginson supplied her family information and also does a fantastic job of feeding and cleaning up after us and general housekeeping duties; Colin & Stephanie Humphreys who collected information to add to our knowledge of the area, and to Colin who has researched and written the

Guardian, we have received some marvellous feedback from the community on the professionalism of the publication. Our thanks to the people who helped to mount and dismantle the display (we were told we had the largest group of people to mount a display, and we managed to get it up in record time) - Dennis Lovely (our chief handyman and specialist mover), George Pearce, Arthur Naylor, Col and Stephanie Humphreys, Betty Higginson, Brian and Enid Turbit, Brian Richardson (Parramatta Art Society) George and Robyn Gibson. The display was mounted and financed by Shell Australia & Parramatta City Council (a massive amount of research tools, the NSW Government Gazettes and NSW Police Gazettes, photographs, Aboriginal artefacts, Darug Aboriginal History publications and books were added to our resources). And to the members who turn up to our working bees – John Scarborough, John Parkins, John Tompsett, Col & Stephanie Humphreys, Di Normoyle, Maureen McManus, Daphne Wiles, Frances Bluhdorn, Betty Higginson, Dennis Lovely, Arthur Naylor, Clifford Howard, and Barry and June Bullivant, the Society thanks you for your expertise and hard work.

We have continued our PowerPoint presentations on the history of Granville to community organizations. We are increasing our area of topics to include Parramatta LGA as well as the Parramatta River & its tributaries, (River Reflections) the contribution of the Aboriginal people and their ancestors to Australia, Parramatta Female Factory, and two others, the Reverend Robert Cartwright and Charles James Bullivant. Our presentations in our repository have been around most of the community groups; we need to renew this work because it is a great tool for increasing the knowledge of Australia's history.

We have formed an Alliance with the Darug Tribal Aboriginal Corporation and have been assisting with providing a PowerPoint presentation, images printed and laminated in a folder with a disk of the presentation. This tool will allow them to speak to universities and schools, and show members of the community with Aboriginal ancestors their heritage and history, and the struggle to obtain recognition and be proud of their heritage. We have worked with people like Dr Jim Kohen, Jack Brooks, Auntie Sandra Lee and Auntie Chris Burke (Yarramundi Kids), and take this opportunity to thank them for their expertise and knowledge.

We were given a grant of \$1,500 from the Minister for Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities, which will further our activities. We were also the recipients of a grant of £5000 from Parramatta City Council to research the stories of the villages and immigration of the Lebanese families who have made Parramatta their home. In the latter project we are working with Granville Boys High, Delany College and Our Lady of Lebanon, with years 7 & 8 and have them write their family history from where the family immigrated to Parramatta with images. The students will be awarded a Certificate of Participation and a monetary award for first and second place in the year.

Granville Historical Society has joined the Parramatta Female Factory Action Group and donated \$200 towards their activities. The Society will take a bi-partisan approach and will learn all stakeholders' activities and make approaches to Government, Council, newspapers and high profile people to promote the idea as a tourism, historical and educational area. This will allow the Society to act as a promotional vehicle to showcase the expertise and knowledge of all groups to the community. We hope to rally Australians to support the Group's push to have this site given to the community and maintained as a site for future generations to enjoy as a historical precinct, a visitors paradise, and for tours of the site.

Lastly I would like to thank Parramatta City Council, Councillors, Officers and staff for their support, knowledge and expertise.

Barry G Bullivant OAM President

GRANVILLE ELECTORATE COTTAGE HOSPITAL

By Arthur Naylor

“Seen from the rail line, the new hospital, which is of red bricks and roofed with red tiles, is both a striking and picturesque object, and is decidedly an ornament to the district”



Delegates from within the Granville electorate met in November 1902 to consider whether a hospital was desirable. The recent additions at Parramatta Hospital and the proximity of St Joseph's hospital were both considered during discussions, but due to a lack of knowledge of the costs involved, the meeting was adjourned. In May 1903, and at the delegates' invitation, Mr D. Easton of the Balmain Cottage Hospital related his experience of the starting and working of the Balmain Cottage Hospital, while Mr E. Scholes of Western Suburbs Cottage Hospital was able to assist with a cost estimate. At this meeting it was resolved to start a cottage hospital and that a committee be formed. The proposed hospital would serve the State Electorate of Granville, an area that extended to Bankstown, Homebush, and Guildford.

The committee comprised two delegates from each of the councils of Granville, Auburn and Rookwood. Letters from various friendly societies and lodges expressed their support, and support from the general population was shown by the collection of over £50 in the first two weeks of public subscriptions. Fund raising came from bazaars, sports days, concerts, and carnivals, while the “hat” was passed around at public events. Most of the collectors were ladies and ladies auxiliaries, whose persistent efforts raised over £155 by November 1903.

With £220 collected, June 1904 saw a search for a site. The site chosen was Norval Street Auburn. In June 1907, there was £800 in hand and subscriptions were coming in freely, so a decision was made to call tenders. The tender was awarded to Mr Lightfoot

who successfully fulfilled the contract. The building was a single storey brick structure with tiled roof and a verandah. The only problem with the construction was the septic tank system which the planners had not drawn up to regulation standards.

The foundation stone was laid by the Premier, Mr Wade in November 1907. The official opening took place on Saturday 23 May 1908 by Alderman J. R. H. Gibbons. A collection, taken after the ceremony, realised £25. The hospital had nine beds available when opened, but the design allowed for expansion, and soon its capacity had been expanded to 18 beds. The hospital was a tribute to the community that had raised the funds to build it, and it relied upon their continued support.

Many of the hospital's furnishings, linen and fittings, supply of vegetables and flowers, newspapers and books, were contributions by the hospital's many community supporters. One unusual but useful donation was a rotary hoe. Like similar hospitals, it had its own vegetable garden, and a poultry run. Money was given as subscriptions by individuals and as donations from societies and companies. Fund raising was continued by the auxiliary, other money being raised by an annual hospital ball, fetes and bazaars. There was also an annual "Hospital Saturday" which saw collectors throughout Sydney collecting on behalf of all hospitals. Granville Electorate Cottage Hospital received £40 as its share of the 1911 collection.

The State Government allocated funds on a one for one basis of money raised, so donations were most important. Patients (or their friends) were expected to contribute towards the cost of their treatment, if their circumstances permitted. A contribution of £2 for the first fortnight and £1 per week thereafter, was suggested, or what they could reasonably afford. Clyde Engineering Company had a "Sick and Accident Fund" where employees contributed as a form of health insurance. The Fund was also a subscriber to the annual subscriptions. The doctors operated as Honorary Medical Officers. Initially Doctors Gray, Whiting, Withers, Waugh, and Hurst acted in this position, and were later joined by Doctor Mark Stanton of Granville, and Doctor Halse Rogers of Guildford.

Expansion of the hospital saw cottage accommodation built for the matron and staff in 1911. The cost was £500 of which the government gave £200. A private ward was provided in one of the former staff rooms. In 1912 additional land and a cottage were purchased in Hargraves Road and a vacant allotment directly behind it in Hevington Street. A dining room and covered walk way for the nurses was provided. Doctors were using a make shift operating theatre which was not satisfactory. After the Minister for Public Health, Mr Flowers, visited the hospital in 1914, plans were prepared for an operating theatre, isolation ward, and extensions to both the male and female wards. Plans were drawn up, but it was to be some time before the facilities were built.

The war placed a heavy burden on government funds, but the hospital committee was hopeful of raising capital via the donations and subscribers to pay for the operating theatre. Despite the temporary nature of the operating theatre, the doctors performed their duties well, as shown by a relatively low mortality rate. The new operating theatre was started in 1916 and completed in 1917. The doctors were appreciative, as most of the money was raised by the community. Staffing was short during the war as they offered their services to the military. As an example, Doctor Gray was given leave and saw active service as a Commanding Officer of Mena House Hospital, the number 3 Australian Auxiliary Hospital in Egypt, then in France and England. Doctor Gray served from 1914 until 1917 when he returned safely to Australia and the hospital. During 1916, the hospital committee offered the hospital's facilities to the military

authorities who declined, but who asked that the offer be kept open.

As patient numbers increased, extra space was provided by enclosing part of the verandah. In 1911, 102 patients were treated, this increased in 1918 to 234 patients and 65 casualties, which included 123 operations.

1919 saw further fund-raising, including that needed for the purchase of a motor ambulance. It was not needed for the ambulance, as the government permitted the retention of the Dodge Ambulance Waggon which had been provided during the Pneumonic Influenza epidemic. This was under the care of the St John Ambulance Brigade. Their hand-pushed litter was no longer required.

The name of the hospital was changed to Auburn District Hospital in 1920. A new wing was added in 1925. Miss Charles-Fairfax laid the foundation stone. Again the community rallied to raise funds. Five hundred ladies set themselves the task of raising sufficient money in one day for an X-ray machine. An excellent effort saw over £300 raised, a fine sum of money, which unfortunately was insufficient. The funds were set aside for a future purchase by the Trustees. During the early years of the great depression, permission to use this money was sought from the Hospital Commission to pay off a debt of £2,300 owing to tradesmen. Additional wards for both males and females were added over the years. An obstetric ward was a late addition, as previously births were either at home or in small hospitals owned or run by midwives.

1963 saw the old hospital demolished and a modern-multi story hospital built on the site.

A postscript: A Granville Cottage Hospital was planned in 1890, two years after the incorporation of the Borough of Granville. Funds were raised by bazaars and a public subscription. But with the bank crisis of 1892, a public meeting decided that the proposed hospital was not able to be realised. After legal advice and further public meetings, it was not until 1896 that the funds that had been raised were distributed to Parramatta Hospital and St Joseph's Sanatorium at Auburn.

Compiled using the resources of Granville Historical Society; various issues of the *Cumberland Argus* and *Fruitgrowers' Advocate* as resource files; Granville Electorate Cottage Hospital Annual Reports made available by the State Library of New South Wales to the Society as a resource file (GB.467ref); Book, *Parramatta and District Soldiers who fought in the First World War 1914-1919* published by the Cumberland Argus; *Liberty Plains A History of Auburn N.S.W.* (GB.460 ref) published by the Council of the Municipality of Auburn. Auburn Historical Society, along with others, greatly assisted with this book.

Various issues of the *Sydney Morning Herald* online from Trove <http://trove.nla.gov.au/> search terms - granville cottage hospital; granville electorate cottage hospital; auburn cottage hospital; auburn hospital

GRANVILLE DISTRICT SOCCER PARKS, OVALS AND CLUBS

By George and Max Pearce

Clyde Oval

Located adjacent to the corner of Berry Street and Parramatta Road Clyde, with the entrance gate facing Parramatta Road, Clyde Oval ran parallel with Berry Street and the western border was the back fence of the houses on the eastern side of Berry Street. The oval was bordered on the southern end with open ground to the railway lines at Clyde Station, and the engineering firm Waddington's Engineering on the eastern side. The Commonwealth Engineering Company was later located on the site of Clyde Oval. Clyde Oval was the home ground of the "Granville Magpies" soccer club which had a shirt of black and white vertical stripes with white shorts. Two international matches were played at Clyde Oval between Granville and China, and Granville and India. When Clyde Oval was lost to a factory site, Granville Magpies played home games at Lidcombe Oval, a few games at Colquhoun Park at Blaxcell Street South Granville, then at Macarthur Park Granville.

Macarthur Park

Macarthur Park located on the corner of Alfred Street and Parramatta Road Granville started as a landfill site covered in soil and then was used by the Granville and District Soccer Football Association. The Granville "Magpies" Soccer Club became interested, and a cyclone wire fence was erected around the perimeter of the ground, and the ground was shared by the Granville Soccer Club, and the Granville and District Soccer Football Association. In the early development of the ground there was no change room or shower amenities, so players had to use the amenities in a building at the rear of Brett's Rosehill Hotel, meaning players had to cross Alfred Street prior to, and at the end of a match. The main entrance was in Alfred Street opposite the Rosehill Hotel, with a single entrance gate at the northeast corner of the ground in Onslow Street.

F.S.Garside Park

The Macarthur Park ground name was changed to F.S.Garside Park to honour Frank Garside senior, a dairy proprietor of South Granville, who was for many years the President of the Granville "Magpies" Soccer Club, and whose two sons Allan and Frank played first grade football with the Granville "Magpies".

Deniehy Street Clyde (adjacent to Granville Show Ground)

A soccer football ground was located at the southern end of Deniehy Street Clyde, and was on the eastern side of the street. Competition matches were played at this ground.

Granville Show Ground

The Granville Show Ground located in Martha Street Clyde had a soccer football ground located inside the trotting track, and was the home ground for the Wunderlich Soccer Club, which encompassed players from the Wunderlich Tile factory.

Berry Street Clyde

A soccer football ground was located on the east side of Berry Street between A'Beckett's Creek and the Department of Main Roads (DMR) property, and was sited before the Berry Street/Aston Street railway crossing (Waratah Park?).

Ray Marshall Reserve

The Ray Marshall Reserve is located on the corner of Eyrie Street and Wellington Road at South Granville, and is named in honour of one of the Granville District's finest players. Ray was a local junior in Granville, and started his senior career playing for Metters Soccer Club, whose home ground was Arlington Oval at Dulwich Hill. Metters was the manufacturer of the famous Metters Early Cooker fuel stoves, and was the sponsor of a highly respected soccer club in the NSW Soccer Football Association. Ray then joined the Granville "Magpies" Soccer Club and went on to play representative soccer for South against North, New South Wales, and Australia. The State of New South Wales was divided into two soccer regions, South and North. The South team encompassed players from Sydney and Wollongong/Illawarra, while the North team encompassed players from the Newcastle Districts.

©George and Max Pearce 2010

Max Pearce played competition soccer football in the Granville District, and his playing record is as follows:-

Rosehill Public School – Blue and Red vertical stripes with White shorts.

Carlingford Agricultural School – Sky Blue with White shorts.

Rosehill Soccer Club – Red with White trim with White shorts.

Wunderlich Soccer Club – Red with White shorts – Vice Captain under 18 undefeated 1948 Premiers and Nurse Cup (knock out competition) winners.

Wunderlich Soccer Club (Seniors) – Red and White quarters with White shorts.

Granville Waratahs – Sky Blue with White shorts – 1950 or 51 Undefeated Premiers and Cottam Cup (knock out competition) winners.

Granville "Magpies" Soccer Club – Black and White vertical stripes with White shorts – Reserve Grade Premiers.