

Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine Historical Society



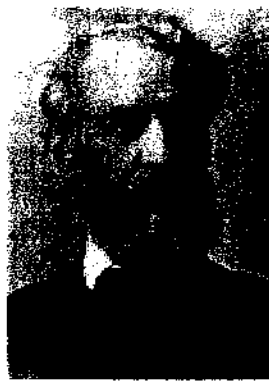
Number 40 June 2002

MUDGEE AND MOUNT WILSON

Ladies and gentlemen, it is indeed a pleasure to be able to speak to you today on the topic 'Mudgee and Mount Wilson'. In researching this topic I have discovered numerous and varied links between the two places. Four of the pioneer settlers of Mount Wilson came from the Mudgee district – George Henry Cox and his wife Henrietta of Beowang, George Henry's brother James Dalrymple Cox of Balangara, and their cousin Edward King Cox of Bebeah. In addition, the Merewethers of Dennarque, the Stephens of Campanella, the Gregsons of Yengo and the Wynnes of Wynstay were either related by marriage to the afore-mentioned or had connections in some way with the Mudgee district. The early houses on the Mount were very much family retreats and each summer was in effect a giant family reunion. I will endeavour to clarify these links which are, admittedly, sometimes tenuous, and hopefully neither bore you nor confuse you in the process!

However, before I start my talk I should introduce myself. I have been a resident of Mudgee for the last twenty-two years and have a great affection for and affinity with that beautiful district. I am an active committee member of the Mudgee Historical Society, founded in 1964, with its headquarters at the Colonial Inn Museum, a former hotel constructed circa 1857. It is interesting to digress briefly and mention that at the height of the gold rushes there were as many as thirty-five hotels operating in Mudgee township alone; now the town survives on just seven hotels and four licensed clubs, including the Mudgee Gentlemen's Club of which George Henry Cox was foundation President in 1900. I am also Secretary of the Gulgong-Mudgee-Rylstone branch of the National Trust and a member of the Mudgee Shire Heritage and Environment Committee. I am often called upon to comment on local historical or heritage issues and

sometimes I am not really sure which cap I'm wearing when responding. Unfortunately, the focus of these three organizations in recent years has been consumed by the necessity to oppose inappropriate commercial and civic development proposals such as the demolition of an 1860 parsonage for a Woolworths petrol station, a supermarket on a prime riverside site and the narrowing of streets and widening of footpaths. On the positive side, two-storeyed verandahs, which were forcibly removed in the 1960s, are now being reinstalled.



George Henry Cox

It is important to mention that in an historical sense the term 'Mudgee' applied to a vast area which stretched from Rylstone and the Bylong valley in the east to beyond Gulgong in the west, from Cassilis and Merriwa in the north-east to Dunedoo and Coolah in the north-west, and south to Ilford. You will be excused if you have never heard of any of these places! Mudgee has always been the focal point of the district and remains today the service and social centre for these outlying communities.

Gazetted in 1838, Mudgee is the oldest town west of the Blue Mountains after Bathurst. I give little credence to the spurious assertion that, since Bathurst has long been a city, Mudgee can now claim to be the oldest town! In late 1821 James Blackman and Lieutenant William Lawson were the first Europeans to penetrate the lush Cudgegong Valley. Lawson, then commandant at Bathurst, wasted little time in occupying land in the district and depasturing cattle there, and persuaded George Cox to join him at Mudgee. At the time George Cox was managing the Hereford grant at Kelso, east of Bathurst, which had been awarded to his father in recognition of his feat in overseeing the construction of the first road over the Blue Mountains, completed in 1815. In late

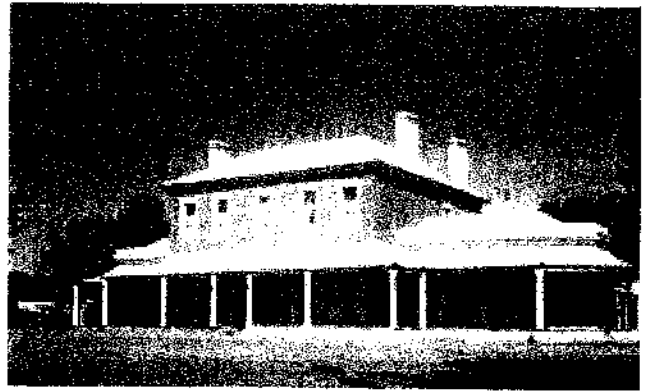
February of 1822 George and his younger brother Henry arrived in the Mudgee district with stock and overseers and settled at Munna, west of the future site of the town. Lawson ultimately acquired extensive grants on the northern side of the Cudgegong River while the Cox brothers took up grants on the southern side. Ultimately, they shifted their bases further south-east, with George at Burrundulla and Henry at Broombee. Neither George nor Henry settled permanently at Mudgee, leaving their holdings in the hands of overseers. Both married shortly afterwards and established estates at Mulgoa, near Penrith: George at Winbourn and Henry at Glenmore. George married Eliza Bell whose brother, Archibald Bell junior, forged the road through the Blue Mountains which is named after him - Bell's Line of road - and which passes close by Mount Wilson.

In 1845 George Cox sent his eldest son, George Henry, to Mudgee to take over management of Burrundulla. A series of letters which George wrote from Winbourn to George Henry in Mudgee in the period from 1846 to 1849 were collated and published by three of his descendants in 1980. These chatty and informative letters, with detailed annotations by Edna Hickson, a grand daughter of George Henry, make highly interesting reading.

GEORGE HENRY COX

George Henry was born on 18 October 1824 at Mulgoa. He was initially educated by the Reverend Makinson, incumbent at Mulgoa, and then spent three years at The King's School. In 1853, at Mulgoa, he married his first cousin, Henrietta (Etta) Cox, daughter of his uncle Henry Cox and Frances, nee Mackenzie. George Henry and Henrietta had twelve children, all of whom were born in Mudgee. Remarkably for those times, all survived infancy and childhood, but four predeceased their parents.

For many years George Henry was in partnership in extensive pastoral interests in the Mudgee district with his younger brother, Archibald Bell Cox. George Henry and Henrietta and their children initially lived in Old Burrundulla homestead which was situated on the flats a short distance to the south-east of the current homestead. They then moved to Broombee homestead, Henrietta's former family home, and returned to Old Burrundulla in the early 1860s before departing for Europe; during their absence a grand two-storeyed homestead was built to a design by Sydney architect William Weaver. This homestead, completed in 1865, is still occupied by Cox



Burrundulla, Mudgee

descendants and the property has few rivals in Australia for continuous family ownership and occupation.

George Henry was a well-educated and erudite man, as his library at Burrundulla indicates. By virtue of his social standing alone, he could well be described as the 'squire' of Mudgee, but it was more through his actions and local involvement that he acquired the legendary status in the history of the town and district which few others have since equalled. A resident of the district since the infancy of the town, he was associated with the formation of, or fundraising for, virtually every organization - civic, pastoral and agricultural - which he felt was important for the progress of the town and district. He believed that his position required a keen sense of responsibility and thus he served on the committees of the Pastoral and Agricultural Association, the Show Society, the Mechanics Institute and the Hospital, and was generous in his donations of either money or land. He was elected inaugural Chairman of the rural Municipality of Cudgegong in 1860, serving until 1862 and again in 1865. He also lobbied tirelessly for the Mudgee Railway League with the aim of extending the railway from Wallerawang to Mudgee, not achieved until 1884.

At the same time George Henry was also very much a hands-on grazier. Since his arrival in Mudgee he was actively involved in supervising the Burrundulla stud flock, based on sheep which his grandfather had purchased from Captain Waterhouse. His father moved his sheep from Mulgoa to Mudgee in 1830 and the Burrundulla stud was continued, with various infusions, until its dispersal in 1896.

The gold rushes of the early 1850s saw a drastic shortage of labour in the district as workers deserted in droves to try their luck on the goldfields. In order to stem the flow from Mudgee and to give agricultural workers some

incentive to farm, George Henry introduced a tenantry system by leasing land on the rich Burrundulla flats by the Cudgegong River. This land, some of the most productive in the district, provided wheat, vegetables and dairy produce for the goldfields. Ultimately, many of these tenants purchased their land. By his extensive involvement with the Farmers' and Settlers' Association George Henry supported the extension of agriculture and small-scale farming. It is ironic that the last twenty years of his life were often dominated by disputes and litigation with small selectors encroaching upon his pastoral holdings, particularly on Pine Ridge at Dunedoo.

In 1856, at the age of thirty-two, George Henry was elected as member for the County of Wellington in the New South Wales first Legislative Assembly. He was elected unopposed in the elections of 1857 but did not stand again. However, in 1863 Premier Charles Cowper persuaded him to accept a seat in the Legislative Council and he remained a member until his death in 1901. His long parliamentary service in both houses, which spanned more than four decades and stretched into the twentieth century, made him the parliament's most senior representative. George Henry did not participate in party politics and this stance prevented him from holding a ministry or gaining a Senate seat in the new Commonwealth parliament which, despite his age and failing health, he had eagerly sought shortly before his death. He always voted according to his conscience, even if sometimes contrary to his beliefs. George Henry was a fervent member of the Anglican Church and served as an active member of the Anglican Synod, although in parliament he supported the abolition of state aid to religion and church schools.

In the mid 1870s George Henry purchased land at Mount Wilson and by the late 1870s he had built a substantial house there which he called Beowang, after a native fern. For the remainder of his life George Henry and assorted family members and friends stayed at Beowang from December until March or April, usually spending Christmas there.

George Henry made another European trip in 1877 and brought back numerous art works, some of which remain at Burrundulla. In 1882 George Henry decided to retire from actively managing Burrundulla and move to Winbourn where he lived grandly, frequently entertaining vice-regal parties. His two eldest sons were delegated responsibility for Burrundulla and his son-in-law, George

Stewart, husband of his eldest daughter and favourite child, Frances (Fanny), took over the management of Pine Ridge. Despite the move to Winbourn, George Henry actually spent little time there, travelling incessantly between Mudgee, Pine Ridge, Sydney and Mount Wilson. An inveterate correspondent, George Henry could not resist the urge to give advice. In the period from 1882 until shortly before his death in 1901, George Henry inundated George Stewart, firstly at Pine Ridge and then at Burrundulla, with hundreds of letters, 569 of which were collated by George Henry's grand daughter, Edna Hickson. Apart from expressing his concerns about drought, bushfires, rain or lack thereof, native dogs, fencing, troublesome selectors, neighbours' wandering stock, family illnesses and mining shares, each of George Henry's letters contained numerous precise directives to George Stewart, who must have been an extremely tolerant man. In many respects George Henry was a typical Victorian *paterfamilias*, yet he was a man of great contrasts. Although affectionate in nature, his letters are at the same time extremely formal and autocratic. In each of the letters he only ever refers to George Stewart as 'My dear Stewart' and in his letters to Fanny he refers to him as 'your husband'. He was, nevertheless, genuinely fond of George Stewart and appeared to respect him and confide in him more than his own sons.

118 letters written from Mount Wilson survive, but regrettably they only occasionally reveal anything of other residents or of any social activities. The Mount Wilson letters focus on the weather and the garden and reveal that extensive and varied plantings were flourishing at Beowang by the mid 1880s. Like his father, George Henry was a keen gardener and his letters from Winbourn also frequently included comments on the state of the garden there. He tended to wax lyrical on occasions, but in the next breath diverged to stock movements or overdrafts!

January 3 1885:

..... One of our thick mists came on Tuesday afternoon and the rain fell all night. Yesterday again a heavy mist lasted all day, and this morning it has just cleared off. We wanted rain badly as the ground was very dry and the raspberries were beginning to dry up. I wish we could send you a basket of them, they are in profusion on the mountain as well as gooseberries and currents (sic). Last Sunday was a very hot day, the thermo reaching 96 and even the evening was warm, but during the night it became quite cold and now we have fires again. Of course we had fires on Xmas day, it was really very cold.....

February 18 1885

.... Mt Wilson is looking very well, the grass as green as wheat, and the ferns getting new fronds. The Japanese golden lily is now out, 8 flowers in one great mass, it is really magnificent. The double sunflower is also nearly full out, it is certainly very gorgeous.....

December 26 1885

.... We had a miserably wet Xmas. It rained heavily the whole day 2 ins having fallen. This morning there were a few showers, but it is now fine. It was very cold, and we have had fires for the last 3 days There has been too much rain up here, nearly all the cherries split and rotted and the raspberries are very tasteless, of course they are large and most abundant, you might gather bushels. All the fruit trees are well loaded.....

Monday morning:

.... They are all at work on the tennis ground remarking the courts which will have a good tramping during the day. The Bebeah people (the Edward King Cox family) are to be over directly.....

December 22 1888:

.... Mulgoa looked beautiful when we left yesterday But the weather was intensely disagreeable, like a vapour bath. Up here it is delightful, almost cold. In fact Etta had a fire in the bedroom last night..... I wish your boys were here to have a feed of fruit, cherries, gooseberries, currants and raspberries in bushels. The latter are magnificent as big as pigeons eggs and the bushes red with them

March 21 1889:

.... I am going away from here next Tuesday, and the others the following Monday. I shall never have left the mountain with more regret, as it has been very pleasant this year, we have had so much fine weather. The flowers are most lovely, lillies (sic), fuschias (sic), dahlias in profusion, besides smaller flowers and a few roses. I am forming some more beds on the lawn for next year as I find now that the shrubs have grown so much there is little room left for flowers The Merewethers leave tomorrow and the Wynnes the same time as we do, so that Jim, Albert (brothers of George Henry) and the Gregsons will be the sole residents of the mountain.

December 25 1889:

.... We all came up here on Monday and found the mountain looking its best, the grass like an emerald and fruit in abundance. The cherry trees are loaded with fruit

and we are reveling (sic) in raspberries and cream three times a day The weather up here is just perfection, a warm sun with cool air, and such a clear and bright atmosphere it is like drinking champagne to breathe it....

January 8 1895:

It was fine here at Xmas and then rained for a week, we then had three fine days and now it is raining steadily and has been ever since last night. It has been very destructive to our fruit but yesterday we fortunately gathered a quantity of gooseberries, raspberries and currants and the jam making is now going on in full swing. Of course the mountain looks very pretty, the lawns are as smooth as a billiard table, dahlias in full bloom, gladioli just coming into flower, hydrangeas half out and various small flowers making the garden very bright, not forgetting the fuschia (sic)....

January 24 1901:

The late heavy rain has destroyed all the little flies that did so much harm to our fruit so that we may still have a few raspberries. Plums are now in abundance and the apple and pear trees are loaded with fruit. Both walnuts and filberts are also plentiful this year

This was to be George Henry's last summer at Mount Wilson.

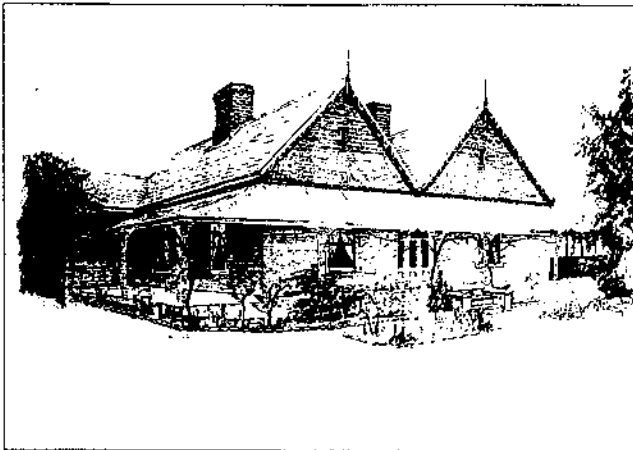
At the beginning of 1893 George, Henrietta and their younger children went on what was intended to be an extended trip to Europe. Unfortunately, the bank crisis of that year forced their premature return to Australia. George Henry was over-extended due to his numerous mining and pastoral ventures, and drastic economies had to be introduced to meet the bank's demands to avoid foreclosure. Winbourn was initially shut up, then leased and ultimately sold, much to George Henry's great regret, as it was his beloved childhood home; his grand daughter, Edna Hickson, told me that George Henry never recovered from the sale of Winbourn. George Henry managed to ride out the storm so that by the time of his death in 1901 he had extricated himself from financial chaos, no doubt assisted by the sale of Pine Ridge in 1899.

An era in Mudgee's pioneer history closed when George Henry died at Burrundulla on 28 November 1901, aged seventy-seven; Henrietta survived him by ten years, dying at Burrundulla in 1911.

JAMES DALRYMPLE COX

George Henry's brother, James Dalrymple Cox, better known as Jim, also rusticated at Mount Wilson, although his cottage, Balangara, was long ago replaced by a grander Sefton.

Born in 1834, James Dalrymple Cox was the fifth son of George Cox of Winbourn, Mulgoa, and Elizabeth, nee Bell. Like his brothers Charles Clarendon, Alexander Hassall and Frederick Savage, James Dalrymple became a noted merino breeder, and established his Cullenbone stud as one of the most renowned Mudgee district studs. Cullenbone stud was based at a property by that name situated on the Cudgegong River mid-way between Mudgee and Gulgong. Although James Dalrymple bought and sold numerous tracts of land in the Mudgee district over the years, he never actually owned Cullenbone. The 851 acre property was an early land grant to his uncle Henry Cox and had passed by inheritance to his cousin, Francis Cox, who lived at what came to be called Old



Cullenbone, Mudgee

Menah homestead, upstream from Cullenbone. James Dalrymple held a long-term lease on Cullenbone from Francis Cox from 1876 until his death in 1910. In the late 1870s James Dalrymple constructed a substantial single-storeyed brick homestead on Cullenbone in the picturesque Gothic style. Situated on a rise above the meandering Cudgegong River, Cullenbone homestead fell into disrepair after passing from the hands of the heirs of Francis Cox in the 1950s and eventually half of the house was demolished.

James Dalrymple was a keen ornithologist and in conjunction with Alexander Greenlaw Hamilton, the teacher at nearby Guntawang school, compiled a lengthy paper on the birds of the Mudgee district for the Linnean

Society of NSW in 1889. He was also a keen photographer, although I know of no works attributed to him. However, he is most likely responsible for an unusual window which survives at Cullenbone homestead containing a series of small glass negatives.

Held in high esteem throughout the colony, James Dalrymple died on 20 February 1910. His obituary, although couched in purple prose typical of the times, best summarises his life:

James Dalrymple Cox, of Cullenbone, is dead - released at last from the grip of an insidious disease that has clung to him for five years, during which period he has patiently borne pain given to few men to suffer, and waited unflinchingly for the end, which came last evening, and was met with the same indomitable spirit which had characterised his whole life. Mr. Cox was in his 76th year, having been born on July 1, 1834, on his father's estate, Mulgoa, near Penrith. He was educated at King's School, Parramatta, and studied for the Church. His father sent him to Oxford to complete his education; and it was there he met Ven. Archdeacon White, uncle of Mr. Hunter White, of Havilah, who was a student with the same object in view, and who afterwards became his brother-in-law. After a year or two at Oxford, Mr. Cox decided to abandon the Church as a profession, and, returning to Australia, studied for the bar, and was eventually admitted to practise as a barrister. Even then it appears he had not found a vocation to his taste, and after a year in chambers he came to Mudgee for the purpose of following pastoral pursuits. He commenced sheep breeding first at Eurunderee, and after a few successful years, sold his interest to his brother, Mr Albert Cox, who survives him, and rented Cullenbone Estate from Mr. Frank Cox, of Menah, where he continued sheep and horse-breeding with pronounced success. Indeed, he was mainly responsible for the splendid breed of sheep which has made Mudgee famous in all the wool markets of the world. Matrimony did not enter into his scheme of life, and alone he lived through the changing years, surrounded by employees who grew grey in his service, and who never wearied of recounting his numerous acts of kindness and munificent unostentatious charity. His life was a peaceful one, only varied each summer by a few month's residence at a pretty little flowered-covered cottage he owned at Mount Wilson in the fastnesses of the Blue Mountain Range. He was passionately fond of flowers as befitted his gentle nature and unsoiled life, and through the sunlit days in the heart of the Mountains he cultivated choice blooms, the glory

and perfume of which made bright and cheerful many a sick room, for he was as lavish with his flowers as he was with his wealth, application for a share in either by those in need never being refused. He took little interest in public matters, preferring the simple life he led to the clamour inseparable from politics and great public movements. He took a deep interest in the Mudgee Agricultural Society from its formation, and was a frequent prize winner in the sheep and horse sections. Then the clouds began to gather and for five years pain and suffering have gradually sapped his vitality and consumed his strength, and for some time past he has lingered on the border of the shadow land. Yesterday, as above stated, the struggle ended and the useful life closed as the sun sank in a glory of purple and gold. The funeral took place at Cullenbone today at 2 o'clock.

James Dalrymple was buried on a hill to the south of Cullenbone homestead. In the middle of a vast paddock and surrounded by cast iron fencing with a gate, his grave and headstone are well tended by the management of Gooree, an adjoining horse stud into which Cullenbone is now incorporated.

As previously mentioned, James Dalrymple never married, although it was rumoured in the family that he had been rejected by one of the Rouse girls: as Edwin Rouse of nearby Guntawang and George Rouse of nearby Biraganbil and Beaudesert had a bevy of daughters between them, it is possible that he took a fancy to at least one of these.

EDWARD KING COX



Edward King Cox

Edward King Cox of Bebeah was a first cousin of George Henry Cox, Henrietta Cox and James Dalrymple Cox. Born in 1829, he was a son of Edward Cox, MLC, later of Fernhill, Mulgoa, and Jane, daughter of Captain Richard Brooks of Denham Court, near Liverpool. Edward Cox was the seventh son of William Cox and a younger brother of George and Henry Cox. Like his brothers, Edward started off married life at The Cottage, Mulgoa, which has been owned and occupied for many years by noted architectural historian,

Dr James Broadbent. Edward subsequently built Fernhill, one of the colony's grandest houses, which was completed in 1842. In the 1830s numerous grants of land were registered to Edward at 'Dabee', later called Rylstone, and these grants came to form the property known as Rawdon. Edward ultimately moved his flocks from Mulgoa to Rawdon which was inherited by eldest son Edward King Cox on the death of his father in 1868. Edward King Cox expanded Rawdon considerably and improved the Rawdon stud merino flock; in 1878 Rawdon wool won the grand prize at the *Exposition Universelle* in Paris. He also established a horse stud on the property, standing leading sires and breeding great names of nineteenth century Australian racing at both Rawdon and Fernhill. *Yattendon*, *Chester* and *Grand Flaneur* were amongst the most notable of Edward King Cox's bloodstock. Like his father and his cousin George Henry, Edward King served in the Legislative Council, from 1874 until his death in 1883.

In 1852 Edward King had travelled to Europe to study leading sheep flocks. Whilst overseas he married Millicent



The garden front of Rawdon, Rylstone

Standish in Ireland in 1855, and shortly afterwards returned to Australia. Edward King and Millicent had eight children, two of whom did not survive to adulthood. In 1881, eldest son Standish, later of Fernside, Rylstone, married his cousin, Alice Cox, daughter of Sloper Cox of Hobartville, Richmond, by whom he had two sons and six daughters. Tragically, the two sons of Standish and Alice Cox were killed in battle in Egypt within three days of one another in 1915. As Standish's brothers Alfred, James and Ernest never married and left no issue, a lack of male heirs led to the sale of Rawdon in 1917. Once an immense property, closer settlement and soldier settlement subdivisions over the years have whittled Rawdon down to circa 3000 acres today. Rawdon carries sheep and cattle, several hundred acres under wheat, barley, canola and oats.

According to George Henry Cox's correspondence, Bebeah was unoccupied for a number of years, although it remained with the Edward King Cox family until circa 1900 when it was sold to Ivie Sloane of Cowra.

MARION WYNNE

Marion Wynne, wife of Henry Wynne of Wynstay, was a daughter of Henry Charles White of Havilah, Mudgee, by his first wife, Isabella Lowe. Henry Charles White was a member of a prominent pastoral family of the Hunter Valley and New England district. Isabella White died in childbirth in 1875, leaving six children, and in 1877 Henry Charles White remarried to Mary McMillan. In 1881 Henry Charles bought Havilah at Mudgee, the property of the renowned merino stud breeder, the late Nicholas Paget Bayly, and Havilah henceforth became his base. In 1886 extensions, designed by noted architect Horbury Hunt, were made to Bayly's homestead which tripled the size of the house. The White family still live at Havilah and retain plans drawn by Hunt, who carried out extensive work for numerous White family members across the state, which would have quadrupled the size of the house again to one of vice-regal proportions. The current occupants are considerably relieved that it was never built, as the existing Havilah homestead has no less than fifty rooms!

Henry Wynne died in 1898 and in 1902 Marion Wynne remarried to Gregory Macalister Matthews, a son of



Havilah, Mudgee

surveyor Robert Hamilton Matthews and Mary, nee Bartlett, who spent several years of his youth at his father's Biamble station at Merrygoen, north of Mudgee. Matthews, one of Australia's foremost ornithologists, was a long-term correspondent of Henry Luke White of Belltrees, Scone, a first cousin of Marion White Wynne Matthews and a keen amateur ornithologist.

In 1923 Ruth White, wife of Victor White of Belltrees and mother of noted Australian writer Patrick White, bought George Henry Cox's Beowang and renamed the property Withycombe, after her maiden name. Victor White was a son of Francis White, older brother of Henry Charles White, and thus a first cousin of Marion White Wynne Matthews. The Victor Whites' Darlinghurst home, Lulworth, had been previously owned by Dr Arthur Cox, a son of Dr James Cox of the Lue Estate near Mudgee and a nephew of Edward King Cox.

Another Cox link with the White family was the marriage of Marion White Wynne Matthews's paternal uncle, Archdeacon William White, to Una Cox, sister of George Henry Cox and James Dalrymple Cox. Two other uncles of Marion - Edward White and George White - married respectively sisters Maria Bell and Frances Bell, first cousins on the maternal side of George Henry Cox, James Dalrymple Cox and Una White, nee Cox.

JESSE GREGSON

Jesse Gregson of Yengo had several links to the Mudgee district. During his voyage out from England in 1856, he was befriended by Cassilis grazier Alexander Busby, erroneously referred to in the *Australian Dictionary of Biography* as 'Alexander Bushy'. Gregson spent some time at Busby's Cassilis property, and then worked on nearby Collaroy Station at Merriwa. He went into partnership with Alexander Busby in pastoral ventures in Queensland before replacing E. C. Merewether as superintendent of the Australian Agricultural Company in 1875.

Gregson married as her second husband Catherine McLean, nee Woore, a first cousin of Vincent Dowling of the Lue Estate, near Mudgee, a great friend and business partner of George Henry Cox who named his youngest son - Vincent Dowling Cox - after him. Vincent Dowling bought the Lue Estate in 1877 from Dr James Cox, a brother of Edward King Cox. A larger than life character with considerable *panache*, Vincent Dowling was a masterful four-in-hand carriage driver and he invariably had a liveried trumpeter announce his arrival in Mudgee. He also exerted his considerable influence to have the route of the Rylstone-Mudgee railway line moved so that it did not pass in front of the Lue Estate homestead. His daughter, Ruth, was the mother of the late Sir Vincent Fairfax.

Another Woore cousin, Catherine, married a nephew of Alexander Busby - William Busby of Dalkeith at Cassilis and Redleaf, Double Bay. To complete the complicated intertwining family connections, a son of William and Catherine Busby - Thomas Woore Busby - married a daughter of E. C. Merewether.

E. C. MEREWETHER

E. C. Merewether of Dennarque married Augusta Mitchell, sister of David Scott Mitchell, the renowned book collector and benefactor of the Mitchell Library. Augusta Mitchell's mother, nee Augusta Scott, was a sister of Robert and Helenus Scott, urbane gentlemen graziers and amateur architects, of Glendon, Singleton. From the late 1830s until 1850 the Scott brothers owned Dalkeith Station at Cassilis, which was subsequently acquired by the Busby family. Rosa Scott, a daughter of Helenus Scott and thus a first cousin of David Scott Mitchell and Augusta Mitchell Merewether, was a prominent feminist in nineteenth century Sydney.

SIR MATTHEW HENRY STEPHEN

Sir Matthew Henry Stephen of Campanella was a member of a family with a distinguished involvement in the legal and judicial life of New South Wales running through several generations since the 1830s. A son of Sir Alfred Stephen, a Chief Justice of New South Wales, Sir Matthew Stephen ultimately served in the same position. His older brother, the Reverend Canon Alfred Stephen, married Rebecca Cox, daughter of George Cox and a sister of George Henry Cox, James Dalrymple Cox and Una White, nee Cox.

There are perhaps many other links between Mudgee and Mount Wilson as yet to be discovered or explored further. I would like to think that this lecture here today will be part of that continuum.

Ladies and gentlemen, thank you for your attention. I trust that I haven't bargained with you with too much irrelevant trivia and too many genealogical complexities.

To conclude, I would now like to show you some slides of Burrundulla, Rawdon and Havilah, taken in the last week.

John Broadley
September 1999

JOHN BROADLEY - BRIEF BIOGRAPHY

John Broadley is a retired teacher who has lived in Mudgee for twenty-four years. He has a BA and LittB from the University of New England and is currently undertaking an MA (Cultural Heritage Studies) at Charles Sturt University. He is nearing completion of his first book 'Historic Houses of Mudgee'

The Mt. Wilson and Mt. Irvine Historical Society Inc. aims to add substantially to the recorded history of Mt. Wilson and Mt. Irvine, to conserve its heritage and to present aspects of its history publicly through exhibitions in the Turkish Bath Museum, the centre for the society's activities.

The Mt. Wilson/Mt. Irvine district is part of an elevated basalt plateau located within the Blue Mountains National Park and World Heritage area. From its initial survey in 1868, its history has followed a unique path compared with other settlements in the region.

In 1993, an exhibition featuring the history of Mt. Wilson was held in the Mt. Wilson village hall. Following the success of that exhibition, the Mount Wilson Community History Group was formed within the Mount Wilson Progress Association. The Community History Group became the nucleus of the Mt. Wilson Historical Society Inc. which was incorporated in 1996. The Society's scope was expanded in 2001 to include the Mt. Irvine community.

The former owners of the Wynstay Estate, Bill Smart and his wife Jane (nee Wynne), assisted greatly in the formation of the Historical Society, making the 1880s Turkish Bath building and the surrounding precinct available as a base for the Society's activities on a fifty year lease at a 'peppercorn' rental of \$2 per year.

From the entrance, near the junction of The Avenue and Mt. Irvine Road, Mt. Wilson, there is a formed pathway through the precinct leading to the Turkish Bath building.

The Turkish Bath is currently open 1.00 p.m - 4.00 p.m every Sunday during March, April, May, September, October, November; the third Sunday only during June, July, August, and December, January February; some public holidays: Easter, Anzac Day, Labour Day.

For further information please contact:

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