

*We acknowledge the traditional custodians of Hunters Hill  
and show respect to Elders past and present.*



[www.huntershillmuseum.org.au](http://www.huntershillmuseum.org.au)

# “Bunk”

“History is more or less bunk”  
HENRY FORD, Chicago Tribune, 1916

## HUNTERS HILL HISTORICAL SOCIETY

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
Thursday 25 August  
10.30am  
In the museum

**Guest Speaker**  
**Tony Saunders**

**LIFE IN WAR-TORN BRITAIN  
1939-1945**

NOTIFICATION IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF  
MEMBERS WILL BE HELD IN THE HUNTERS  
HILL MUSEUM ON  
THURSDAY 25 AUGUST AT 10.30AM.  
BUSINESS: 1. TO ADOPT THE ANNUAL  
AND FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR THE YEAR  
ENDED 30 JUNE 2022.  
2. TO ELECT OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE  
MEMBERS.  
3. TO TRANSACT ANY OTHER BUSINESS.  
NOMINATIONS FOR THE COMMITTEE  
CLOSE 7 DAYS BEFORE THE AGM.  
TONY SAUNDERS HONORARY SECRETARY

**Hunters Hill Historical Society Inc**  
**Office Bearers and Committee 2020-2022**

*President*  
Chris Schofield

*Vice President and Treasurer*  
Peter Kelly

*Secretary*  
Tony Saunders

*Committee*  
Dorothy Cubban  
Jan Griffiths  
Dean Letcher  
Ross McBride  
Jean Pritchard

## Bicentennial Quilt on display at museum



On Wednesday 20 July, Mayor Zac Myles officiated at the opening of the Hunters Hill Centennial Quilt exhibition in the Historical Society museum. Over twenty people attended, including members of the Hunters Hill Quilters, as well as Mitchell Murphy, general manager of Hunters Hill Council, Chris Schofield, president of the Hunters Hill Historical Society, and members of the Hunters Hill Historical Society committee. Judy Grierson, president of the Quilters, told

the visitors that the Bicentennial Quilt project began in October 1982 in response to a request from the Hunters Hill Bicentennial Committee for projects involving local people. It was decided the theme of the quilt would be a wall hanging, showing a pictorial map, including artistic licence. More than fifty people were involved in the production of the quilt.

## Church memorial to young daughter

**T**here is a poignant memorial to a nine-year-old girl in All Saints' Anglican Church in Hunters Hill. It takes the form of a stained-glass window. The inscription at the foot of the window



reads: “To the glory of God and in memory of Louise Christian Garrick, born 14 May 1876, entered into rest 22 October 1885”.

While we can only surmise what the child may

have died from, possibly scarlet fever or another similar infant disease, we do know more about her parents and wider family. Louise's parents were Alfred Christian Garrick (1839-1904), formerly Gowin, and Madeline Augusta Garrick (1856-1922), who were married in All Saints' Church in 1874. They lived at the time at *Pussy*, the grand house in Hunters Hill, built by pioneer Jules Francis de Sales Joubert (1824-1907). Alfred Garrick was then a wine and spirit merchant in Sydney. His wife, Madeline, was the daughter of Jules Joubert.

Alfred and Madeline had two other children, both born in Hunters Hill but educated in England - Ada (1875-1949) and George (circa 1878-?). Ada married a fellow Australian Charles Henry Manners-Sutton Bright (1870-1951) in England, and they lived at Henley-on-Thames, outside London. A relative described their house as “a most glorious home...a home from home for all their young Australian relatives up at Oxford”. There is a portrait of

(Continued on page 2)

## Curch memorial to young daughter (cont.)

(Continued from page 1)

Ada Bright, by John Longstaff, in the National Gallery of Victoria. George married Joyce Reid in London in 1907. In 1908, he was serving as a second lieutenant in the British Army. At the outbreak of World War 1, he was a major. After the war, he owned a Rolls-Royce dealership in Dorking, Surrey, England. His great granddaughter, Penelope Thomson, married Lord Ivar Mountbatten (extant), cousin to Queen Elizabeth II.

After Louise's untimely death, Alfred and Madeline Garrick moved into a smaller house, *St Ives*, in nearby Crescent Street. During this time, Alfred was prominent in the affairs of Hunters Hill. He was a foundation member of Hunters Hill Athletics Club and was on the building committee of All Saints Church.

Some years later, the Garricks emigrated to England, which explains why their two remaining children were mostly educated there. Alfred was reunited with one of his two brothers, Sir James Garrick, a former

Agent General for Queensland in London. Sir James was chairman of the London Bank of Australia and Alfred joined him on the board of directors there. Another brother of Alfred's was Frank, a prominent barrister in Christchurch, New Zealand. Alfred died in Dorking, England, in 1904 while his widow, Madeline, died 18 years later at Aix-les-Bains, a fashionable spa town in France.

The stained-glass window at All Saints' is made up of three lights, or sections. The window was designed by Lyons, Wells, Cottier, a renowned Sydney company which supplied most of the windows in the church. The window depicts the figures of the saints, Andrew, Peter and Paul. It was dedicated in June 1890.

Louise's grave is in St Anne's churchyard at Ryde, the closest Anglican cemetery at the time. It is an elaborate burial place with its raised stone structure. **Chris Schofield**

## School boosts suburb's population

The population of Huntleys Point actually increases ten-fold every weekday and this is due to the girls and teachers of Riverside Girls High School (RGHS) that arrive for school. In the late 1920s high school facilities for girls in the areas of Drummoyne to Balmain, and Gladesville to Eastwood were at a premium. Primary schools were keeping high school girls on their sites due to a shortage of high schools in their areas. In these times girls either went to an academic school (based on ability) or attended a domestic science school. This reflected the view of the times that girls were mostly destined for a life as a wife and mother. Due to this need, a decision was made to build a new domestic science school that would support these areas. After a search, land occupied by the Gladesville Mental Hospital, was identified by the government as a possible site for the school. It was at the eastern end of

the hospital's property and was somewhat underused because the hospital used it mostly as grazing land for their dairy herd and also as a tip. On weekends the Hunters Hill Golf Club would also use the land (and part of Gladesville Reserve) for their nine-hole golf course. Despite the objections of the hospital this site was chosen for the new domestic science school. Its position close to the City, to Ryde tram and bus services, the ferry wharf at Huntleys Point and the open, level and elevated situation all reinforced the decision. The views of the river were a bonus. The 12 acre site was set aside and plans for building a school for 750 girls commenced in 1932. The school was to have 18 classrooms, staff rooms, store rooms, 22 kitchens, library, tuckshop, laundry, toilets, change rooms and other rooms necessary to learn the skills required of young women such as cooking, cleaning, sewing, typing, business practices and washing. Of course reading, writing, arithmetic, history, geography and physical culture were essential parts of the curriculum. The school also has a substantial playing field at the rear of the school. A gymnasium/hall and caretakers cottage were also to be built in due course. The school was almost ready for the start of the 1934 school year, but no doubt there were some

initial teething problems. A debate took place as to what to name the school. The initial idea was to name it Gladesville Domestic Science School. At this point the Huntleys Point Progress Association wrote to the Dept. of Education arguing strongly against calling it "Gladesville". JH Catts, President of the Association, in his letter in May 1933, explained the name Gladesville was synonymous with the nearby mental asylum. He wrote "this name was destructive of local values" and suggested the name would suggest proximity to the asylum. He did not offer an alternate name but was adamant it should not be "Gladesville". At the opening of the school, on 9 June 1934, "Riverside" was used and credit for the name apparently went to the government minister. The Huntleys Point Progress Association was also instrumental in organizing the formation of a P&C association for the school. The school grew steadily over the years and now accommodates over 1000 girls. The large hall plays host on the weekends to external church groups and for the local dance school's annual concerts. ***This is an extract from The Secret Suburb, 175 years of History of Huntleys Point by John Anschau***

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Editor: Ian Adair

### Harmony at the Town Hall

On Saturday evening last, a large company of ladies and gentlemen assembled at the Council Chambers, Hunter's Hill, at the invitation of Miss M Robinson, to hear that promising young artist give a pianoforte recital. Miss Robinson played three selections; each one being received with rounds of applause.

Miss Dean with her well known ability, rendered several solos; the old favourite, "Coming through the Rye," eliciting a hearty encore.

At the conclusion of the concert Alderman Foxall, in thanking Miss Robinson for the great musical treat given them that evening, referred in a humorous manner to the fact that it was pleasing to have so much harmony in the Council Hall, which had hitherto been so frequently the scene of discord. Cumberland Mercury, 18 April 1891

## OPENING OF THE BICENTENNIAL QUILT EXHIBITION



*Pictures, clockwise from top: The quilt; Zac Miles and Carolyn Davis; ; Zac Miles, Chris Schofield and Judy Grierson; Admiring the quilt; Detail from the quilt.*