



Objection 60

Trevor Sharkie
17 pages

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28 April 2018

Redistribution Secretariat for the Australian Capital Territory Australian Electoral Commission Locked Bag 4007 CANBERRA ACT 2601

Dear Sir or Madam,

I would like to make a submission for the change of name for the new Federal electorate known previously as "Canberra" as per your advertisement in the Canberra Times dated Saturday 7 April 2018.

Your invitation to lodge objections referred to:

- The proposed names of the electoral divisions;
- The proposed boundaries of electoral divisions; or
- The proposed names and proposed boundaries of electoral divisions.

I accept that your suggestion of "Bean" in recognition of the contributions of Charles Edwin Woodrow Bean as a correspondent in World War I and official war historian might seem appropriate.

Mr Bean had anti-sematic views, and disliked General Sir John Monash GCMG KCB VD, who is described as "one of the greatest war commanders," that he called for his sacking. This man even talked to the then Prime Minister, William "Billy" Hughes, who travelled to the Western Front to sack Sir John, days before the greatest attack on the Western Front against the German forces.

Would it not be more fitting to have a section of the Australian War Memorial named after Mr Bean where his full name may be used rather than his surname?

Please find attached my suggestions for the proposed name of the new electoral division situated in the south of the Australian Capital Territory.

I hope you give due consideration to my suggestions and those with whom I have spoken, who live in this electorate.

Yours sincerely,

The Federal Redistribution Australian Capital Territory

My suggestions for the proposed new Federal electorate.

LINCOLN

Lincoln Ross Hall OAM (19 December 1955-20 March 2012)

STREET

Lady Jessie Mary Street (18 April 1889 – 2 July 1970)

BLACKBURN

Sir Richard Blackburn OBE (26 July 1918-1 December 1987)

HOPE

A D Hope AC OBE (21 July 1907-13 July 2000)

NAMATJIRA

Elea (Albert) Namatjira (28 July-8 August 1959)

CURLEY

Sylvia Curley OAM (8 November -24 March1994)

FRASER

James (Jim) Reay Fraser (8 February 1908-1 April 1970)

EDDISON

Walter Herbert Eddison (May 1877-April 1966)

Lincoln - Lincoln Ross Hall OAM (19 December 1955 – 20 March 2012)

Lincoln Hall was a veteran Australian mountain climber, adventurer, author and philanthropist.

Hall was part of the first Australian expedition to climb Mount Everest in 1984, which successfully forged a new route, and he reached the summit of the mountain on his second attempt in 2006, surviving the night at 8,700m (28,543ft) on descent.

He was in Canberra and attended Telopea Park High School.

He studied Zoology at the Australian national University and learned to climb at climbing crags in the Australian Capital Territory, notably Booroomba Rocks, where he pioneered a number of classic routes.

He developed his ice climbing skills in the Snowy Mountains at Blue Lake and trained to climb by traversing the walls of buildings at his university campus.

Hall had his real start with mountaineering when he participated in the Australian national University Mountaineering Club (ANUMC) expeditions to New Zealand from 1975 to 1978.

This culminated in the ANUMC 1978 expedition to the Himalayan peak of Dunagiri in India. Hall and his climbing partner Tim McCartney-Snape were invited by expedition leader Peter Cocker to join him at Col Camp so they could force through a route to the summit ridge. They did so then made a push for the summit after spending a night out on the mountain.

Hall was pivotal in the successful summit bid by McCartney-Snape. The successful Dunagiri trip by the ANUMC forged the Hall/ McCartney-Snape partnership, setting the stage for their Himalayan mountaineering careers including the 1984 Mount Everest Expedition.

After Dunagiri Hall's mountaineering career went from strength to strength as he participated in and led numerous climbing adventures around the world, including many first ascents by Australian climbers.

Among those were two expeditions to climb Mount Everest in Nepal, including the first Australian ascent in 1984, the first ascent of Mt Minto in the Admiralty Mountains of Antarctica (1998) and the ascents of other notable peaks including Makalu on the China-Nepal border and Carstensz Pyramind in Irian Jaya in Indonesia

Lincoln Hall narrowly survived after his ascent of Mount Everest in 2006. He was left for dead at an altitude of 8700m while descending from the summit.

He had fallen ill from a form of altitude sickness that caused him to hallucinate. According to reports Hall's sherpa guides attempted to rescue him for hours.

However as night began to fall their oxygen supplies diminished and snow blindness se tin. Expedition leader, Alexander Abramov eventually ordered the guides to leave the apparently dead Hall on the mountain and return to camp.

A statement was later released announcing Hall's death to his family and friends.

However the next morning 12 hours later Hall was found, still alive, by a team making a summit attempt. A member of that team, Myles Osborne from Britain described the scene just below the Second Step:

"Sitting to our left, about two feet from a 10,000 foot drop, was a man.

Not dead, not sleeping, but sitting cross legged, in the process of changing his shirt. He had his down suit unzipped to the waist, his arms out of the sleeves, was wearing no hat, no gloves, no sunglasses, had no oxygen mask, regulator, ice axe, oxygen, no sleeping bag, no mattress, no food nor water bottle.

'I imagine you're surprised to see me here', he said.

Now, this was a moment of total disbelief to us all. Here was a gentleman, apparently lucid, who had spent the night without oxygen at 8600m, without proper equipment and barely clothed. And ALIVE."

A rescue effort that mountain observers described as "unprecedented in scale" then swung into action. Hall was badly frostbitten and delusional from the effects of severe cerebral edema.

At the same time, Abramov dispatched a rescue team of 12 Sherpa guides from the base camp.

Hall was brought down the mountain, walking the last part of the way to Everest's North Col where he was treated by a Russian doctor.

He arrived at Advanced Base Camp the next day in reasonably good health although suffering from frostbite and the lingering effects of cerebral edema. He lost the tips of his fingers and a toe to frostbite.

Hall remained close friends with Myles Osborne, who sacrificed his only attempt on Everest to aid Hall. Osborne says Hall was "a great guy, really laid back, with a penchant for bad jokes."

Hall wrote two books about his experience: "Dead Lucky: Life after death on Mount Everest" (2007) and "Alive In The Death Zone: Mount Everest Survival" (2008).

He was the author of seven books in all, a founding member of the philanthropic organisation the Australian Himalayan Foundation and a speaker, sharing his experiences with audiences around the world.

In 1987 Hall was awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia for service to mountaineering and in 2010 he won the Australian Geographic Society's Lifetime of Adventure award.

He was a life member of the Australian National University Mountaineering Club.

He died of mesothelioma aged 56 on 20 March 2012.

Street - Lady Jessie Mary Grey Street (18 April 1889 – 2 July 1970)

Jessie Mary Grey Street, commonly known as Lady Street; was born on 18 April 1889 at Ranchi, Bihar, India the eldest of three children of Charles Alfred Gordon Lillingston and his wife Mabel Harriet.

By blood she was a member of the House of Grey, and by marriage she was a member of the Street family, making Lady Street a maverick among the historically conservative establishment.

When her mother inherited Yugilbar station near Grafton in New South Wales her father resigned from the civil service in India to take up residence there.

Jessie Street began her formal education with a governess. In 1904-06 she attended Wycombe Abbey School, Buckinghamshire England. She matriculated by private study and enrolled in arts at the University of Sydney obtaining A BA in 1911. She lived at Women's College on campus, where she met her husband.

Captain of the university women's hockey team, Jessie attended the inaugural meeting (1908) of the New South Wales Ladies' Hockey Association and played in its first interstate match against Victoria. She was a founding member (1910) and president (1925-26) of Sydney University Women's Sports Association.

She worked in London, with her parents in 1914, as a volunteer at Bishop Creighton House, a Church of England settlement, and for the New York Protective and Probation Association at Waverley House, a reception centre for young women arrested as prostitutes.

Back in Sydney, she married (Sir) Kenneth Street on 10 February 1916 at St John's Church of England, Darlinghurst; he was a barrister who subsequently became chief justice of New South Wales. They were to have four children, the youngest born in 1926.

Jessie Street was an Australian suffragette and an extensive campaigner for peace and human rights. Dubbed "Red Jessie" by her detractors in Australia's right-wing media for her efforts to promote diplomacy with the USSR and to ease tensions during the Cold War, she was ardent in her support for the progressive cause.

She was a key figure in Australian and international political life for over 50 years, from the women's suffrage struggle in England to the removal of Australia's constitutional discrimination against Aboriginal people in 1967.

Jessie was Australia's first and only female delegate to the establishment of the United Nations, where she played a key role alongside the likes of Eleanor Roosevelt in ensuring that gender was included with race and religion as a non-discrimination clause in the United Nations Charter.

In 1920 Jessie Street was secretary of the National Council of Women of New South Wales. From 1921 to 1950 she was a councillor of Women's College. She became an executive member of the Feminist Club and briefly its president (1929).

When she invited the Women Voters Association, the Women's Service Guild and the Women's League to join with the Feminist Club to form the United Associations (UA) (later United Associations of Women) some club members objected and she resigned.

Street was elected president of the UA in 1930. The UA became the New South Wales branch of the Australian Federation of Women Voters (AFWV), which had been founded by Bessie Rischbieth in 1921 to give women a voice nationally and internationally. Rischbieth was Australia's leading feminist and mentor to Street.

The UA co-operated with other organisations in campaigns for equal guardianship rights, divorce law reform, the right of a married woman to retain her nationality and to establish separate domicile, the appointment of women to public office and to jury service and the election of women to parliament.

A woman's right to economic independence was the cause Jessie Street made especially her own. It encompassed a right to income for married women, a right to paid employment regardless of marital status, a right to compete alongside men in the labour market, equal pay and just remuneration of skills.

Street ran a long and ultimately successful campaign against the Married Women Teachers' and Lecturers' Dismissal Act 1932 (repealed 1947), protested strongly at the Trades & Labor Council of Queensland's proposal (1935) to deny work to married women and objected to their dismissal by the Sydney County Council (1937) and the Commonwealth Public Service (postwar).

National responsibility for the care of Aborigines had been AFWV policy from 1933. Responding to Aboriginal protest, the UA recommended the appointment of a woman and an Aborigine to the Aborigines Welfare Board. In 1956 Jessie Street urged Pearl Gibbs to start the Aboriginal-Australian Fellowship.

Advised by Christian Fellowship member, Jollie Smith, Street drafted an amendment to the Australian Constitution to remove discriminatory references to Aborigines and suggested that the fellowship make it the focus at their first meeting in the Sydney Town Hall.

The Federal Council for Aboriginal Advancement was formed in 1958 and her suggested amendments tot eh Constitution were carried in the 1967 referendum

In 1960 Jessie Street began writing her memoirs. A first volume was published as Truth and Repose (1966), the second was abandoned.

Though often apart, husband and wife remained affectionate companions. He was a daily visitor in her final months in the Scottish Hospital. Lady Jessie Street, her preferred use of title, died on 2 July 1970 at Paddington.

She is recognised both in Australia and internationally for her activism in women's rights, social justice and peace. The Jessie Street Centre, Jessie Street National Women's Library and the Jessie Street Gardens are named in her honour.

Blackburn - Sir Richard Blackburn OBE (26 July 1918 - 1 October 1987)

Born in 26 July 1918 Sir Richard Arthur Blackburn was an Australian judge, prominent legal academic and military officer. He became a judge of three courts in Australia, and eventually became chief justice of the Australian Capital Territory.

In the 1970s he decided one of Australia's earliest Aboriginal Land rights cases. His service to the Australian legal community is commemorated by the annual Sir Richard Blackburn Memorial lectures in Canberra.

Sir Richard was born on 26 July 1918, the son of Brigadier Arthur Seaforth Blackburn VC and Rose Ada Blackburn (née Kelly). His father was at that time a Commissioner of the now defunct Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration. His father had previously been a prominent legal practitioner in South Australia.

Blackburn was educated at St Peter's College, Adelaide and was an undergraduate at St Mark's College at the University of Adelaide. He graduated with First Class Honours in English Literature from the University of Adelaide. He won the John Howard Clark Prize as the candidate who was placed highest in the final examination.

He was chosen as the Rhodes Scholar for South Australia in 1940, but did not take it up immediately because of the outbreak of the Second World War.

On 14 May 1940, during the Second World War, he enlisted with the Australian Army at Adelaide. He served with the Australian Imperial Force (AIF) in active service in North Africa and Papua New Guinea until his discharge in November 1945 as a Captain in the 2/9 Division Cavalry Regiment.

At the end of the war, he took up his Rhodes Scholarship at Magdalen College, University of Oxford. He and another South Australian, the Honourable Justice Andrew Wells, became the first Dominion students to be awarded the Eldon Law Scholarship. As a result, he attended the University of Oxford in 1949 and graduated with a Bachelor of Civil Law. Blackburn was called to the Bar in the United Kingdom in Inner Temple in 1949.

Sir Richard returned to Australia after his Oxford studies. He was admitted as a legal practitioner in South Australia in 1951. Between 1950 and 1957 he was the Bonython Professor of Law at the Adelaide University.

He married his wife Bryony Helen Dutton Curkeet, on 1 December 1951. He became the Dean of the Faculty of Law in 1951 and served as Dean there until 1957. In 1957 he become a partner in the Adelaide law firm Finlaysons, however, he continued as a member of the Faculty until 1965.

In 1962 he was commissioned as a Colonel and given command of the First Battalion of the Royal South Australian Regiment. He served there until 1965.

He was made an Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) on 1 January 1965 in honour of his military service.

Sir Richard Blackburn left academic life and was appointed a judge of the Supreme Court of the Northern Territory in 1966. During this time, he became President of the Arts Council of the Northern Territory.

It was during his judicial life in the Northern Territory that he decided the first significant case concerning Aboriginal Land Rights in Australia. The case led to the eventual introduction of the Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1976.

In May 1971 he was appointed as a judge of the Supreme Court of the Australian Capital Territory. In that same year, he was also appointed a judge of the Federal Court of Australia in 1977 on that court's establishment and served as a judge in that latter court until 1984. He was appointed chief judge of Supreme Court on 7 November 1977. He was appointed chief justice in May 1982 when that position replaced the former position of chief judge.

He was the chairperson of the Law Reform Commission of the Australian Capital Territory from 1971 to 1976. In 1979, Blackburn authored a biographical entry in the Australian Dictionary of Biography about his father. In keeping with Blackburn's nature of not seeking honours, he failed to note in the entry that he had himself gone on to become a distinguished judge.

He was Patron of the St John Council for Australian Capital Territory from 1981 to 1984. In 1981, he became a Commander of the Order of St John of Jerusalem in honour of his service.

He was knighted in the New Year's Honours of 1983 for his services to the law. He became Chancellor of the Australian National University in 1984.

Sir Richard retired as Chief Justice due to ill health on 31 March 1985.

At his retirement ceremony, it was said of him on behalf of the legal profession:

"Your Honour has shown in word and in example that humility and an appreciation of the other's point of view are the hallmarks of a good lawyer, whether he be judge, solicitor or barrister."

In 1986 he was elected an Honorary Fellow of St Mark's College. He was also gave the first Harrison Memorial Lecture at the Royal Military College at Duntroon after the Officer Training School was moved from Portsea.

In May of that year, Blackburn was one of three former chief justices appointed by the Australian Government to be Parliamentary Commissioners in a Special Commission of Inquiry to investigate the conduct of Justice Lionel Murphy concerning allegations that Murphy had attempted to pervert the course of justice. Whilst the inquiry did not proceed to conclusion because of Murphy's own illness and subsequent death, the commissioners did make a report on what constituted misconduct for a judge under the Australian Constitution.

Sir Richard died on 1 October 1987. He was survived by his wife Bryony Helen Blackburn, who died in 2005 and children; Charlotte Calder and Tom Blackburn SC.

Hope - A D Hope AC OBE (21 July 1907 - 13 July 2000)

Hope was born in Cooma, New South Wales. His father was a Presbyterian minister and his mother a teacher. He was educated partly at home and in Tasmania, where they moved in 1911.

Three years later they moved to Sydney. He attended Fort Street High School, the University of Sydney, and then the University of Oxford on a scholarship.

Returning to Australia in 1931 he then trained as a teacher, and spent some time drifting. He worked as a psychologist with the New South Wales Department of Labour and Industry, and as a lecturer in Education and English at Sydney Teachers' College (1937–44).

He was a lecturer at the University of Melbourne from 1945 to 1950, and in 1951 became the first professor of English at the newly founded Canberra University College, later of the Australian National University (ANU) when the two institutions merged.

At the ANU he and Tom Inglis Moore created the first full year course in Australian literature at an Australian university. He retired from the ANU in 1968 and was appointed Emeritus Professor.

Although he was published as a poet while still young, The Wandering Islands (1955) was his first collection and all that remained of his early work after most of his manuscripts were destroyed in a fire.

Its publication was delayed by concern about the effects of Hope's highlyerotic and savagely-satirical verse on the Australian public.

His influences were Pope and the Augustan poets, Auden, and Yeats. He was a polymath, very largely self-taught, and with a talent for offending his countrymen.

The reviews he wrote in the 1940s and '50s were feared "for their acidity and intelligence. If his reviews hurt some writers – Patrick White included – they also sharply raised the standard of literary discussion in Australia."

However, Hope relaxed in later years. As poet Kevin Hart writes, "The man I knew, from 1973 to 2000, was invariably gracious and benevolent".

Reviewing Catherine Cole's memoir of Hope, Kevin Hart wrote that "When A. D. Hope died in 2000 at the age of 93, Australia lost its greatest living poet". Hart goes on to say that when once asked what poets could do for Australia, Hope replied "oh not much, merely justify its existence".

Catherine Cole suggests that Hope represented the three attributes that Vladimir Nabokov believed essential in a writer, "storyteller, teacher, enchanter".

In 1998 a celebration of his life and works, The Scythe Honed Fine, was published by the National Library of Australia.

He was appointed an Officer of the Order of the British Empire in 1972 and a Companion of the Order of Australia in 1981 and awarded many other honours.

He died in Canberra, having suffered dementia in his last years, and is buried at the Queanbeyan Lawn Cemetery.

Awards

- 1956: Grace Leven Prize for Poetry
- 1965: Britannica Award for Literature
- 1966: Australian Literature Society Gold Medal
- 1967: Myer Award for Australian Poetry
- 1969: Ingram Merrill Foundation Award for Literature (New York)
- 1969: Levinson Prize for Poetry (Chicago)
- 1972: Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE)
- 1976: The Age Book of the Year Award for A Late Picking
- 1976: Robert Frost Award for Poetry
- 1981: Companion of the Order of Australia (AC)
- 1989: New South Wales Premier's Literary Awards Special Award
- 1993: ACT Book of the Year Award for Chance Encounters
- Honorary doctorates from four Australian universities

Poetry

- The Wandering Islands (1955) Sydney: Edwards & Shaw.
- Poems (1960) London: Hamish Hamilton
- A.D.Hope (1963) Sydney: Angus and Robertson.
- Collected Poems: 1920–1965 (1966) Sydney: Angus and Robertson.
- New Poems: 1965–1969 (1969) Sydney: Angus and Robertson.
- Dunciad Minor: An Heroik Poem (1970) Melbourne: Melbourne University Press.
- Collected Poems: 1930–1970 (1972) Sydney: Angus & Robertson.
- Selected Poems (1973) Sydney: Angus & Robertson.
- A Late Picking: Poems 1965–1974 (1975) Sydney: Angus & Robertson.
- A Book of Answers (1981) Sydney: Angus & Robertson.
- The Age of Reason (1985) Melbourne: Melbourne University Press.
- Selected Poems (1986) Manchester: Carcanet.
- Orpheus (1991) Sydney: Angus & Robertson.
- Selected Poems (1992) Sydney: Angus & Robertson/Harper Collins.
- The shorter poems of Gaius Valerius Catullus: a new translation; translated by A. D. Hope (2007) Blackheath N.S.W., Brandl & Schlesinger

Plays

- The Tragical History of Doctor Faustus: By Christopher Marlowe, purged and amended by A.D. Hope (1982) Canberra: Australian National University Press.
- Ladies from the Sea (1987) Melbourne: Melbourne University Press.

Fiction

• The Journey of Hsü Shi (1989) Phoenix Review, No. 4.

Namatjira – Elea (Albert) Namatjira (28 July 1902 – 8 August 1959)

Elea (Albert) Namatjira, was a Western Arrernte-speaking Aboriginal artist from the MacDonnell Ranges in Central Australia. As a pioneer of contemporary Indigenous Australian art, he was the most famous Indigenous Australian of his generation.

Elea Namatjira was bon 28 July 1902 at and raised on the Hermannsburg Lutheran Mission outside Alice Springs, son of Namatjira and his wife Ljukuta.,

In 1905 the family was received into the Lutheran Church, Elea taking the name Albert and his father, the name of Jonathon, were baptised and his mother blessed as Emilie. In accordance with the practice of the mission he lived separately from his parents in a boys' dormitory.

At 13 he spent six months in the bush and underwent initiation. He left the mission again when he was 18 and married Ilkalita, a Kukatija woman. Eight of their children were to survive infancy.

In his boyhood he sketched "scenes and incidents around him", the stockyard, the stockmen with their horses and the hunters after game. He later made artefacts such as boomerangs and woomeras. Encouraged by the mission authorities he began to produce mulga-wood plaques with poker-worked designs.

Meanwhile he worked as a blacksmith, carpenter, stockman and cameleer, at the mission for rations and on neighbouring stations for wages

Although Albert showed interest in art from an early age, but it was not until 1934 (aged 32), under the tutelage of Rex Battarbeeand John Gardner, that he began to paint seriously. Namatjira's richly detailed, Western artifluenced watercolours of the outback departed significantly from the abstract designs and symbols of traditional Aboriginal art, and inspired the Hermannsburg School of Painting.

During their second visit in 1934 they held an exhibition for an Aboriginal audience, The Arrente were familiar with illustrations of biblical scenes but none had seen landscapes depicting their own surroundings.

Motivated by a deep attachment to his country and the possibility of a vocation that offered financial return Albert expressed an interest in learning to paint. In 1936 he accompanied Battarbee as a cameleer on a two-month long excursion in and around the Macdonnell Ranges. Battarbee was impressed by his evident talent included three of Albert's water colours in an exhibition at the Royal South Australian Society of the Arts in Adelaide.

In 1938 the two men, Albert and Battarbee went on an expedition during which Battarbee taught Albert photography. Later that year Albert held his first solo exhibition at the Fine Art Society in Melbourne. With the assistance of Battarbee as teacher, dealer and mentor a school of artists developed around Namatjira.

He became a household name in Australia as well as internationally, and reproductions of his works hung in many homes throughout the nation. As the first prominent Aboriginal artist to work in a modern idiom, at the time he was widely regarded as representative of successful assimilation policies.

In 1944 he was included in "Who's Who in Australia". He was awarded the Queen Elizabeth II's coronation medal (1953), presented to the Queen in Canberra (1054) and elected an honorary member of the Royal Art Society of New South Wales (1955) His quiet and dignified presence belied the underlying tensions in his life.

With fame came controversy. Albert's brilliant career highlighted the gap between the rhetoric and reality of assimilation policies. Tensions arose between Albert and the Aranda Arts Council, chaired by Battarbee, when the council tried to maintain control over the quality and quantity of Albert's work. In 1951 he also encountered racial discrimination when he was prevented from building a house on land he had purchased in Alice Springs. By the early 1950s he lived independently of the mission in a fringe camp at Morris Soak on the outskirts of Alice Springs.

Namatjira was the first Northern Territory Aboriginal person to be freed from restrictions that made Aboriginal people wards of the State. In 1957, he became the first Aboriginal person to be granted restricted Australian citizenship, which allowed him to vote, have limited land rights and buy alcohol.

In 1956 his portrait, by William Dargie, became the first of an Aboriginal person to win the Archibald Prize. Namatjira was also awarded the Queen's Coronation Medal in 1953, and was honoured with an Australian postage stamp in 1968.

In 1958 Albert was charged with supplying alcohol to the artist Henoch Raberaba and sentenced to six months imprisonment with labour. Following public outcry and two appeals the sentence was reduced to three months. He finally served two months of "open" detention at the Papunya settlement in March-May 1959.

Namatjira died of hypertensive heart failure on 8 August 1959 at Alice Springs Hospital and was buried with Lutheran forms in the local cemetery. His wife, five sons and one of his daughters survived him.

For a time Namatjira's name drifted into obscurity, his achievements largely eclipsed by the "dot painting" style developed at Papunya in the 1970s.

Recent re-evaluations recognise his influence on Aboriginal artists in Central Australia and elsewhere.

In 1994 members of the Hermannsburg Potters led by hi grand-daughter Elaine, acknowledged Albert's legacy by producing a terracotta mural for the headstone of his grave. The work is a landscape combining three sites in the Macdonnell Ranges which were the subjects of his paintings.

Curley - Sylvia Curley OAM (8 November - 24 March 1994)

Sylvia Curley was born at Duntroon in the ACT on November 8 1898. A second generation descendent of Irish bounty immigrants Sylvia Curley grew up in Duntroon in what is now Canberra and was then a farming estate where her father was employed.

In her life time she saw Canberra evolve from a rural farming community to be the capital city of Australia. Sylvia's strong sense of history and interest in local culture became a passionate concern and led to her activities in preserving local history.

A qualified as a nurse in 1926 she spent her early years of nursing in country New South Wales. She worked for the Canberra Community Hospital (later known as the Royal Canberra Hospital) from 1938 until her retirement in 1966 as deputy matron.

In her 28 years of service, she saw the Canberra Community Hospital evolve into the Canberra Hospital, the Royal Canberra Hospital (1979), and now known as The Canberra Hospital after amalgamating with Woden Valley Hospital in 1991. The Nurses Home for the 'old' Canberra Hospital, opened in 1964 (demolished in July 1997), was named in Miss Curley's honour as Sylvia Curley House.

Throughout her nursing career her two major concerns were the improvement of patient care through sound administrative practices and improved education for nurses.

In her book "The long journey" she provides her own accounts of the difficulties she encountered striving to bring about change in hospital practices and to provide basic equipment for teaching, suitably qualified nurses to run education programs and to develop an improved environment for nurses to achieve learning goals.

She undertook fund raising for the purposes of achieving her vision for nurses' education. She is seen now to be ahead of her time in her advocacy for changes to nurse education

In her 'retirement' years she ran a nursing employment agency in Canberra.

In 1994 she donated her family home, Mugga Mugga, to the people of Canberra and oversaw its development into an environmental education centre.

Sylvia Curley was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia on 8 June 1992 for her services to nursing, to local history and to the National Trust.

Miss Curley died on 24 March 1999.

Fraser – James (Jim) Reay Fraser (8 February 1908 – 1 April 1970)

James Fraser was a Member of the Australian House of Representatives for the Australian Capital Territory from 1951 to 1970.

James Fraser was born in Derby, Tasmania son of Donald Fraser and and his wife Constance Marie (nee Hadrill) and educated at Launceston High School.

He worked as a chainman and axeman for his father's surveying team and as a teacher in Victorian state schools from 1927 to 1935.

Carrying his swag to New South Wales, he found a jobs a journalist in Glenn Innis. On 29 January 1942 he enlisted in the Australian Imperial forces and served twice with the New Guinea force. Promoted to sergeant in May 1945 he was discharged in March 1946.

He then worked as a journalist from 1946 to 1948 in the Department of Information in Canberra and then as press secretary and private secretary to Senator Nick McKenna until 1951.

James Fraser became a member of the Australian Capital Territory Advisory Council in 1949 and defeated Lewis Nott for the House of Representatives seat of the Australian Capital Territory n the 1951 election. He did not have full voting rights until 1966; until then he could only vote on matters relating to the territory. In 1959, he married Helen Whitten Rowland.

Because the ACT did not have a seat in the Federal parliament until 1949 Jim helped his brother Allan Fraser who had agreed to represent the interests of the Canberra people. Gradually Jim took over the bulk of the work becoming a member of the ACT Advisory Council (1949-51) and winning the ACT seat in the House of Representatives defeating Lewis Nott.

As a member for a Territory, Jim Fraser had limited voting rights until November 1966. He combined Federal and what was in effect State and local government representation with the duties of an unofficial ombudsman in a rapidly growing constituency, which was both urban and rural interests and still found time to serve on parliamentary committees and participate in parliamentary debates.

A big forthright man with a gregarious man, Jim Fraser lacked the rich political talents of his elder brother Allan, but commanded respect for his effective and conscientious performance of one of the heaviest representatives responsibilities ever imposed on an Australian politician.

His brother Allan Fraser was the Member of Parliament for the adjoining seat of Eden-Monaro from 1943 to 66 and from 1969-72.

In August 1959 at St Andrew's Anglican Church in South Brisbane, Jim Fraser married Helen Whitten Rowland.

On his death Parliamentary Hansard records Western Australian Senator Drake-Brockman as saying of Jim Fraser:

"Throughout the whole of Australia he was respected as a politician and as a person. In saying that, I know that I speak for all present and past politicians from my State. The people of the Australian Capital Territory were fortunate in having such a capable man as their representative for so many years. I

believe that the Parliament of Australia was enriched by his dedication and political talents."

Jim Fraser was accorded a state funeral when he died in April 1970 of cancer. He was buried in the Canberra cemetery. His wife and son survived him.

Eddison – Walter Herbert Eddsion (May 1877 – April 1966)

Walter Herbert Eddison was born in Norfolk, England in 1877. He came to Australia in 1914 looking to take up farming. When World War 1 broke out, he enlisted in Sydney on the 9th October 1914.

Initially Eddison served with the 6th Light Horse Regiment at Gallipoli. In 1915, he transferred to the 56th Battalion and was promoted to 2nd Lieutenant on the 1st March 1916. In November 1917, Eddison was stationed in France and promoted to the rank of Captain.

He was wounded in France, spending a month in hospital after being gassed in June 1918. Eddison returned to Australia in December 1919 on the "Orvieto" and was officially discharged on the 3rd January1920

In 1920, Eddison applied for a Soldier Settlement lease in the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) and was allocated Woden Block 132. The block was 764 acres (309 hectares) in area covering much of modern day Phillip and Swinger Hill as well as part of Lyons, Chifley, Hughes and Mawson.

In 1925, Eddison was living at The Oaks in Oaks Estate. One of the conditions for his lease was: "That the lessee shall and will reside continuously and bona fide on the said land as his usual home."

However, it would be another four years before Eddison built "Yamba" by recycling "cottages that were used as a camp by the late Mr McCarthy, in connection with building cottages in Blandfordia." With his wife Marion Louisa (1885-1971), he farmed this land as the grazing property "Yamba" until 1954.

Eddison progressively lost parts of his landholdings, first to other leaseholders and then for construction of the suburb of Hughes. As development of Woden Valley continued, further small areas were progressively withdrawn from the block. The final area of 552 acres (223 hectares) south of Long Gully Road was withdrawn in May 1965 for the construction of the suburbs of Mawson and Pearce.

The Eddisons faced the grim reality of life in the Australian bush which was nothing like the green pastures of England. Walter Eddison and his wife Marion made the best of their limited prospects, but as they raised their young family on the outskirts of the newly established capital tensions were again being raised in Europe.

When the Second World War broke out they were forced to face their worst fears as their sons headed tho the battlefields.

Walter and Marion Eddison had three sons and three daughters. All three sons were killed in World War II:

- Sqn Ldr Leslie Herbert (Tom) Eddison DFC, 214 Sqn, RAF was killed in action over Holland on 9/5/1941
- Pte Jack Osbaldeston Eddison, 2/20 Bn, 2nd AIF died in a POW Camp in Japan on 7/6/1943
- Flt Lt Edward Dalkeith (Keith) Eddison, 30 Sqn, RAAF was killed in action over New Guinea on 27/5/1943.

Walter Eddison was living in Forrest when he died on the 15th April 1966. In memory of the Eddison family's connection with this land and, in particular, with the family's sacrifice during World War II, an area of "Yamba" was formally gazetted as "Eddison Park" on 29th June 1988.

At one of the ANZAC ceremonies held at Eddison Park in Phillip ACT, in respect of the Eddison sons, Pamela Young, the last surviving daughter of Walter and Marion, reminisced:

"Once upon a time this park before us had been a field of lucerne, how the homestead, built from recycled timber, had been over there where the Southern Cross Club sits today, and how she and other children had travelled to their school on horseback."