

## CHAPTER 7 JOHN PRICE

John Price was born 8.5.1824 at Richmond, baptised on 25.12.1824 and died 8.7.1893. On 25.6.1851 he married Charlotte Crisford circa 1833-5.1.1876 aged 43 years. After Charlotte's death John married 8.7.1876 to 34 year old Elizabeth Jane Robertson. Her profession was that of teacher and she was the daughter of Francis and Mary Ann (nee Fielder) Robertson. He was a baker of Penrith.

John's first wife suffered from TB as did John's mother, Ann (nee Cooper). Early in their marriage John and Charlotte went to Victoria where two children were born – and to South Australia. Upon return to the Richmond Penrith district in 1855 John took up the profession of Undertaker. Following his death his second wife and son/s continued with the business. The last of John's sons to continue with the business before selling to Nelson Price was Leopold Tom. Prior to that it would appear that John's nephews, Nelson and Arthur Price attempted to take away business with their own newly opened undertaking firm. They were not the only ones with an eye to business.

*Nepean Times* October 7 1893 has an advertisement that shows a silhouette of a hearse drawn by four horses with a caption, *William Metcalfe, Undertaker High Street Penrith (Opposite the Post Office). State and Reform Funerals furnished to suit all classes at the cheapest rates. Cedar and other polished wood and leaden coffins at the shortest notice. Branches at Parramatta, Granville, Auburn and Rookwood. Letters and Telegrams will receive prompt attention. R Metcalfe Manager.*

*Further down the page is a silhouette of a hearse drawn by two horses. On the left hand side the following information was printed:*

*Kindly note, Only Address Henry Street Penrith and on the other side of the art work, Next to the Wesleyan Church and continued below the hearse and horses with –*  
*MRS JOHN PRICE having determined to continue the business so ably conducted by her late husband as UNDERTAKER, MONUMENTAL MASON, PROPERTY AGENT, etc Desires the public to know that Funerals entrusted to her will Receive Efficient Supervision and Having Made Arrangements with a FIRST CLASS MONUMENTAL GRANITE AND MABLE MASON, she is prepared to execute orders for Tomb work or the plainest or most expensive kind.*

Next to the advertisement in a large single column edged in black –

*High Street, Penrith  
20<sup>th</sup> September 1893*

*To My Friends and the Public Generally Throughout the Nepean District  
I beg to thank you all for your kind expressions respecting the manner in which the funerals under my superintendence during my brief residence in Penrith have been managed. These public sentiments concerning the improved order of things are indeed a source of gratification to me, and under unexpected circumstances have been an inducement to COMMENCE BUSINESS IN PENRITH ON MY OWN ACCOUNT.*

*I am now prepared to undertake orders and venture to hope that your favorable impressions of me will be further established by my future citizenship and efforts to give entire satisfaction to patrons.*

*Funerals entrusted to me will be most respectfully directed and everything done to ensure the propriety in the management that the sacred and solemnity of the circumstances demands.*

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*My Hearse and Carriage are of First Class Order and the charge for all services will be strictly moderate.*

*I am also prepared to execute all kinds of Tomb Work, and by faithful workmanship and the same reasonable charges and courtesy in this branch of business hope to gain a share of public confidence and patronage. All work shall have my personal supervision. Special attention given to Tomb renovations. I shall be happy to wait upon persons with estimates and information respecting Marble and Freestone work, Iron Railings etc etc.*

*The favor of your recommendation to your friends is respectfully requested.*

*Kindly observe the address. Office High-street, nearly opposite the Nepean Times.*

*Yours faithfully,*

ARTHUR PRICE.

August 18, 1894 contained one of the many advertisements that followed – in this issue the advertisement had moved to a prime position in the middle of the *Times*.

Everyone who has seen them attending to business admits that they are

THE UNDERTAKERS  
ARTHUR & NELSON PRICE  
HIGH STREET nearly opposite the NEPEAN  
TIMES  
And  
BELOMORE ST PENRITH

*An obituary written in Nepean Times July 22 1911 noted the death of Mr Edward Edmund Newton Haynes who left England with his parents 24.11.1854 and arrived in Penrith with his parents on 11.5.1855. He lived with his parents in Doonmore Street.*

*As a boy he started worked for Mr John Price and later his widow and continued working for the firm until his death. The obituary also noted that Edward Haynes' eldest son Walter died in Sydney from the plague – about 11 years ago.<sup>1</sup>*

*Nepean Times February 14, 1924*

*There were reminiscences written by Edward EN Haynes' daughter. Part of the article referred to the fact that they had no church...Mr Eastbrook preached at corner of Riley-street ...storm brewing... invited into Mr Ashton's yard... That Sunday Mr J Price was in Penrith and hearing the singing he came and joined in, and he could sing! We all went up to his place; it was a good sized place. Mr Price told Mr Eastbrook that he was a Wesleyan and my father said his place could be made into a chapel.*

*February 21, 1924*

*I remember the late Mr Price carrying out his first funeral at St Mary's. It was a woman out Shane Park's way. He was taking out the coffin, and when he was going past what they call "The Burnt Bridge" a swarm of partridge came and settled on the hearse and horses and Mr Price. Two tried to peck at Mr Price's eyes and at the horses! It was found necessary to turn the hearse over and people killed the birds. Mr Price eventually the church reached.*

*Mr Haynes daughter, Mrs Cochrane of Doonmore Street, continued her story and named each person living in each house in particular streets. She also noted that High Street was surrounded with trees. Referring to the north side of High Street she said...about the fourth house down...The next place was that of a man named Cotterill. He built some huts. The house he*

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<sup>1</sup> The plague began in the Rocks area of Sydney in 1900.

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*lived in was erected for an undertaker's shop. He was a sheriff and when he went bankrupt he lost the billet, and Mr John Price had to serve a paper on him. Cotterill would not open the door. So Mr Price said he would get down the chimney, and when he was half way down Cotterill put a bundle of straw in the fireplace and set it alight. Mr Price was nearly smothered and my father had to knock the chimney down to get him out.*

*Henry Street was also mentioned and included reference to PRIVATE SCHOOL...Another old building in Henry Street, which in those days only extended west to Woodriff Street, was that recently renovated and now occupied by Mr Amos Parker. It was here that Miss Robertson (afterwards Mrs John Price) conducted a private school, your humble servant being one of her pupils. In fact apart from the Church of England School at the corner of Castlereigh and Henry Streets, or which Mr Bass was headmaster, and the Roman Catholic School, at the rear of the presbytery, of which Mr Coogan was headmaster, there was no school until the establishment of the National School. Later Miss Robertson was associated with this school for a number of years.*

*Friday March 17, 1882 issue of Nepean Times*

*We very much regret to record the serious disposition of Aldermen John Price. A few days ago he received a scratch on his left hand, but deemed it of no importance. The scratch however proved of a very inflammatory nature, and suppuration speedily ensued. This of course was attended to in the ordinary way, but notwithstanding all care, the inflammation rapidly spread up the arm, and Mr Price is unable to leave his room. On Wednesday he went to Parramatta and consulted the best local doctor he could who*

*recommended fermentation and poultices. Cases of blood poisoning have recently occurred too often but we hope in this case that the issue will turn out a favorable one.*

*Nepean Times Saturday July 15 1893*

*DEATH OF MR JOHN PRICE*

*AN OLD RESIDENT*

*One by one are our residents passing away, one by one are the faces which we have been so accustomed to see among us disappearing from our sight, and soon we shall be without any of those whom we respected for their old age and whom we honored for their Christian life. Such are the words with which we concluded a recent article on the death of an old resident, and little did we or our readers think that among them shortly would be included the name of Mr John Price.*

*When the news of his death was spread around Penrith on Saturday last the astonishment with which it was received amounted to almost incredulity, and none felt satisfaction until they had made enquiries to find out the truth of the statement. But it was found that for once Rumor had not lied, and expressions of regret and sorrow were heard everywhere. It was only on Wednesday that he went to Llandilo to transact some business. At this time he was a little indisposed, suffering from a slight attack of asthma, an old complaint of his and on returning home found himself rather worse. But this did not hinder his indefatigable energy. As he said in his own particular way a few days previously, "The bed wanted to keep me, but I wanted to get out of bed, so we had a fight and as last I won". So it was this time. Till mid-day on Saturday though confined to his room, he transacted business and at 2.30pm a visit was paid him by the Rev G Brown with whom he a little chat. About half past three he fell into an apparent sleep and in this condition he remained till about*

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*six o'clock when his breathing quietly ceased.*

*When his death became known everyone had something to say about the departed one. Some there were those who experienced his kindly aid in times of trouble who owed him everything they possessed, who knew where to turn for kindly advice when trouble was brewing; others were there who remembered the man that was never behind in anything for the public good, and who was always honest and straightforward in his dealings; while all agreed in that Penrith never possessed nor never would possess another who was so universally loved, honored and admired. Among all denominations he was popular, for his various occupations led him to mix with one as much as with another. Among the Sunday School children Mr Price will ever be remembered for at their picnics he always took a leading part in organizing their games, and also took an interest in their welfare.*

*The deceased gentleman who was 69 years of age at the time of his death was one of our eldest residents. He was born in 1824, married Miss Charlotte Crisford at Richmond on June 25<sup>th</sup> 1851 and settled in Penrith in 1855.<sup>2</sup> For about seven years he resided in High-street and then moved to the house in Henry-street where at the time of his death he had resided for 31 years. Early in 1876 his first wife died of consumption from which dread complaint the whole male issue have suffered. One by one the sons have passed away, Samuel Price dying at Geelong in 1855 aged 4 months; Amos Price in 1860 at Penrith aged 7 days; also at Penrith Frank Crisford Price in 1868 aged 1 year; Samuel Thomas Price 1875 aged 18 years 10 months; Ernest*

<sup>2</sup> Shortly after marriage the couple went to Victoria and SA – related to the gold rush?

*Marshall Price 1875 aged 11 months; Benjamin Joseph Price 1877 aged 18 years 11 months; Edwin Charles Price 1888 aged 24 years; William John Price 1890 aged 27 years 10 months; and Frank Herbert Price in 1893 aged 20 years and 9 months.*

*Mr Price married his second wife Miss EJ Robertson who still survives him. In public matters he was always very prominent. For many years he was an Alderman in the local council and was the first Council Clerk in Penrith. Up till the time of the Penrith Park being put into the hands of the Council he was a Trustee and Secretary.*

*The Jamisontown United School-Church owes its existence chiefly to him, and till the time of his death he was its Superintendent and Secretary. In Penrith Church of England Sunday School he conducted a Bible-class for many years and there was no more familiar figure in the Church than his. To the Salvation Army he was a good supporter and often attended their meetings.*

*For about 35 years he held the position of bailiff and till a few years ago, he conducted the business of auctioneer and commission agent; but during the last few years his business as undertaker, monumental mason and bailiff engrossed almost the whole of his time.*

*The funeral took place on Monday at 4 o'clock. Long before the appointed time Henry-street was lined with people and shortly after the coffin of beautiful beech, with massive silver handles was carried by half a dozen men to the hearse drawn up alongside the footpath. On the coffin were some wreaths of various coloured camellias, one of white and blue violets and a cross of different coloured flowers. On the right hand side of the hearse as pall bearers were Messrs G Beasley, SE Lees MP, W Fulton Sn, on the left side Messrs JE Cleave PM, JK*

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Lethbridge JP, G Walker senr. At the rear of the hearse were the children and relations of the deceased and then the procession of town-people. The procession numbered about 350 persons among whom were to be seen all the principle residents for miles around the district. The funeral passed down Henry-street and turned the corner up Castlereigh-street into High-street, where it was joined by a procession of about 80 persons composed of the residents and Sunday School children of Jamisontown.

Opposite the Court House the procession was met by the children of St Stephen's Sunday School, who marched in front and when the gates of the graveyard were reached the crowd had increased to fully 500. At the gates the hearse was met by the Rev G Brown (Penrith), Rev H Fryer (Emu Plains) and the Rev J Shearman (Mulgoa) and conducted into the church.

As the coffin was borne into the building, the Church organ pealed out a solemn air of "The Dead March". A portion of the burial service was then read by the assembled clergymen and at its conclusion the coffin was again carried by Messrs T Huxley, F Vine, J Giles, W Clarke, N Price and R Price from the Church to the grave while the organ again played the solemn funeral march.

At the grave a large crowd had assembled. Here the burial service was read by the Rev G Brown and as the words, "ashes to ashes, and dust to dust" were uttered and the clods of earth fell on to the coffin with a hollow thud few there were who did not think with Addison that,

"With ancus and with Numa, king of Rome  
We must descend into that silent tomb".

At the conclusion of the service the school children sang, "Shall we gather at the

River", and the benediction was pronounced by the minister. Then old friends who remembered the man who was always a friend in everyway – old acquaintances who remembered his many charitable acts which were never known but to the persons benefited by them – children who remembered the lessons illustrated by the life of the preacher, that had taught them the way to live – all crowded round the last resting place to take one last look at what contained the earthly remains of the man who had always taught the duties of a Christian life and could find no better examples of them than were to be found in his own.

Before business commenced at the Penrith Police Court on Tuesday the death of Mr John Price was referred to.

Mr WJ Hill said a few words in reference to the deceased. He said during the past few days they had lost a worthy officer of the Penrith District and Small Debts Court, and he on behalf of the legal profession practicing to the Court expressed his deep sympathy with the members of the late Mr John Price's family. He noticed that the deceased gentleman had always acted in a straightforward and upright manner. Not only had a wife lost a loving husband, and the family and ideal father, but the District Court had lost one of its best men. Speaking for himself he was only sorry that he could not be present for the funeral. He wished on behalf of the legal profession to express his deepest sympathy with the widow and orphans.

Mr GC Waldron was pleased to endorse what had been said by Mr Hill with reference to the life of the late Mr John Price. He took the present public opportunity of expressing his deepest sympathy. In referring to the Court itself he said it would be a long while before the

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place of Mr John Price would be filled. He regretted that deceased had gone away, but he had reared up for himself a monument of affection from a vast number of people.

Mr JK Cleeve PM generally endorsed the remarks of the previous speakers. The late Mr Price had been associated with him as an officer of the Court for the last 25 years. As a father, a citizen, and as an officer of the Court, he had but a few equals. He never saw a more honorable straightforward man in his long experience. In conducting his at time, painful offices he was most kind, and in many intricate cases he would look up the law in order to deal leniently and just with all parties. He deeply sympathized with deceased's wife and family.

September 30 1893

### THE LATE MR JOHN PRICE A MEMORIAL TABLET

On Tuesday night a meeting was called by the Committee of the Jamisontown United Sunday School for the purpose of unveiling a tablet in memory of the late Mr John Price who had taken so great a part in the foundation of the school. The little Church was prettily decorated with ferns and garden flowers. At the northern end of the room was a large wreath of ferns and May flowers in the centre of which was the veiled tablet. The building was crowded. The Mayor of Penrith (Alderman A Judges) occupying the Chair, and the proceedings opened by singing of a hymn after which the Rev G Brown engaged in prayer. An apology was then read from Mr SE Lees MP, by the Chairman, who then called upon the Mayoress (Mrs Judges) to unveil the tablet. When the veil was removed a tablet of white marble about two feet square was

disclosed, worked into the wall and on it was the following inscription:-

SACRED TO THE MEMORY  
Of  
JOHN PRICE  
One of the founders and First  
Superintendent  
Of this School.  
"Be ye also ready."

The lettering inlaid with lead, is exceedingly well done, and the whole forms a very neat piece of work, executed at the establishment of Mrs John Price by Mr WF Brown.

The Chairman thanked the Committee for the honor they had paid the Mayoress by asking her to perform the ceremony and expressed the pleasure he felt at seeing the Committee take this step in order to perpetuate the memory of a man who had done so much for Jamisontown. The speaker briefly referred to his long acquaintance with Mr Price and the good work he had done in the district, remarking that the success of the United Sunday School was in great measure due to the efforts of their departed friends.

A very appropriate solo, "The Last Mile Stone," was then sung by Mrs Williams accompanied by Miss Huxley.

Rev G Brown referred to an acquaintance extending over a period of 16 years, and if there was one thing he would like to say to the young men before him it was; Try to imitate his life, and to emulate his example. A Musical selection was then played by the Howarth family.

Rev J McKee, after expressing regret that he had never met their departed brother, urged upon the young people to live a truly Christian life, to abstain from intemperance

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*and gambling, and to curb the inordinate desire for pleasure, which seemed to permeate the life of the young people in these colonies in such a great degree. It was these things that ruined so many souls.*

*After a pretty recitation by little Miss Sara Croome, a solo "Jesus is a rock in a weary land" was sung by Mrs Payne and Mr Lathlane accompanied by Miss Payne.*

*Rev WH Williams in the course of a few remarks stated that though his acquaintance with Mr Price was very brief, yet it was long enough to prove to him that he was a thorough Christian and he urged upon all the young to follow the advice that their late brother had so often and so earnestly given them.*

*After a duet by Mrs Williams and Miss Huxley a few words were also said by Mr Goldie. Another musical selection was also given by Messrs Howarth and a solo "He wipes a tear from every eye" by Miss Huxley followed by another solo by Miss Payne.*

*Rev L Hurd said that with an intimated acquaintance of Mr Price he could say that his life was one which young men might well take for an example, and he urged all young men to follow in the path which he laid down.*

*After a dialogue by Misses Payne and Eaton, a vote of thanks was proposed by Mr Huxley, superintendent of the school to all the kind friends who had taken any part in the ceremony, coupled with a vote of thanks to the chairman. This was seconded by Mr P Christiansen and carried by acclamation. The chairman briefly returned thanks and after the singing of a hymn the proceedings ended by the benediction being pronounced by the Rev L Hurd.*

*Elizabeth Jane Price, the mainstay behind the business after her husband's death died in 1920 and her obituary was printed in Nepean Times. An earlier notice in the paper noted that she was very ill with the flu and this may be the likely cause of her death.*

Saturday, September 25 1920

### DEATH OF MRS JOHN PRICE

*The career of one of Penrith's noblest women closed on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> inst when Mrs Elizabeth Jane Price, relict of the late Mr John Price passed away at the age of 78 years. Deceased had been ailing for sometime, and the end was not unexpected. Probably no one in this community was more widely and favorably known than the late Mrs Price, for one ventures to asset that even by those who were not personal friends of hers her good deeds and fine character were appreciated.*

*Deceased was born on the 8<sup>th</sup> June, 1842 in a house in High Street opposite the RC Church. She was the only child of the late Francis Robertson, who was one time engaged in the commercial pursuits in Penrith and who was one of a syndicate that promoted the construction of the first Nepean Bridge, which was shortly afterwards swept away by flood waters.*

*Deceased's childhood days were spent in Penrith; and in fact with the exception of a short period during which she attended the Training College Department of Education, Mrs Price resided the whole of her life in this town.*

*She was married in St Mary Magdalene Church St Mary's to Mr John Price who predeceased her 27 years ago. Mrs Price possessed a remarkable retentive memory and up to within practically a few hours of her passing away enjoyed indulging in reminiscences. Until a few years ago she*

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*was actively connected with the various religious and philanthropic movements of the district. Her life was one of unselfish service and almost boundless energy. Her epitaph might well be in the words of Mill:-*

*Her work well done;  
Her race well run;  
Her crown well won;  
Here let her rest.*

*Deceased is survived by two sons and one daughter, viz, Mr John Junius Price and Mr Leopold Price (both of Penrith) and Mrs HJ Witts (whose husband is manager of the Barmedman Branch of Bank NSW), Mrs E Robbins (Sydney) is a step-daughter. Another son, Halwyn, died in January 1904.*

*The funeral took place on Saturday afternoon, and was largely attended, among those who thus paid their last respects being a number of gentlemen prominent in the political and commercial activities of the State, and who as lads received school training from Mrs Price. The service was held in St Stephen's Church, and the remains were laid to rest in the church cemetery. Rev LG Harfield officiated on each occasion.*

St Stephen's is also the resting place of Elizabeth's parents. The tombstone has now fallen but the church register recorded their deaths – Mary Ann Robertson died aged 48 years of age and was buried September 6 1869. Her day of birth was April 23 1821. Frances Robertson died aged 75 years and was buried on 25.7.1895. The service was conducted by Rev AC Corlette and Geo Brown. The enclosure also had a memorial to Louisa Fielder.

*Nepean Times September 23 1922*

### MEMORIAL TABLET

*UNVEILED BY BISHOP OF BATHURST*

*During the morning service at St Stephen's on Sunday last Dr Long, the Bishop of Bathurst, unveiled a memorial to Mr and Mrs John Price and their son Halwyn. His Lordship referred to the fact that this family represented one of the early pillars of the Church in their midst. Mr John Price had for many years been the leader of the men's bible class, and had in that capacity been at his post the Sunday prior to his passing away.*

*Mrs Price (who had just passed away at the age of 78 years) had been baptised at the font still in use in the church, and throughout her life had been closely associated with St Stephens. Her father (the late Mr Francis Robertson) was one of the pioneer members of the choir, and after assisting at St Stephens in the morning service regularly walked to St Mary's – which was part of the parish in those days – to assist in the afternoon services there.*

*Mr Halwyn Price had been a member of choir for many years, commencing as a boy at, and ultimately succeeding to the positions of choirmaster and bass soloist, which position he held at his decease.*





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### *Halwyn Price*

*The church through the speaker as its servant was proud to do honor to those who had rendered such single service in their generation.*

*The Bishop then conducted a brief but impressive ceremony, unveiling the tablet to the congregation a masterpiece of the sculptor's art.*

*Mr Leo Price - a son of the late Mr John Price – was the draftsman to whose design the tablet was worked, and the result has evoked the admiration of all who those who have seen the memorial. It may be mentioned that to complete the design a little 'finish' had yet to be applied, this not being possible in the time at the disposal of those associated with the work, as it was desired that the unveiling should synchronize with the second anniversary of the death of Mrs Price, viz 17<sup>th</sup> September.*

*At the conclusion of the ceremony the choir rendered by special request Jackson's Te Deum. This was the late Mrs Price's favourite setting. In the congregation were many who had been associated with the choir in their younger days, and it was generally conceded that no finer rendition of this magnificent pean had been given in the church. As a matter of fact, the music throughout the various services was of a very high standard, and of a most exacting nature. This will be appreciated when we state that such items as 'The Gloria' (Mozart's Twelfth Mass) and 'By Babylon's Wave (Gounod) were undertaken by the choir with the assistance of two or three members of the NDCS and Mr JE Fulton choirmaster, is, as most of our readers are aware, also conductor of the NDCS and to his efforts is due in no small measure, the success of the musical portion of the service.*

CHILDREN OF JOHN PRICE AND HIS TWO WIVES, CHARLOTTE (nee Crisford) and ELIZABETH (nee Robertson ).

1.SAMUEL PRICE December 1854 Geelong – 9.5.1855 Penrith aged four months.<sup>3</sup>

2.SAMUEL THOMAS PRICE December 1856- 13.2.1875 aged 18 years 10 months. He is buried in Penrith and followed the profession of chemist.

3.BENJAMIN JOSEPH PRICE May 1858 – 2.7.1877 aged 18 years 11 months. Buried Penrith.

4.WILLIAM JOHN PRICE 20.2.1862. He died 30.7.1890 aged 27 years and 11 months. He married on 8.9.1886 to Sarah Walker, daughter of George and Etta Walker (nee Webster) of Emu Plains.

Like his siblings and other close relations, William John was also reported in the *Nepean Times*. The issue of December 28 1889 recorded the prizes given out at St Stephen's Jubilee Sunday. There were nine classes in the girls section and ten in the boys. Amongst the teachers were Mr WJ Price and Miss Price. In the first class Vida Lennox and Freda Newell gained prizes – 7<sup>th</sup> class Lottie Price won a prize and in the 6<sup>th</sup> class an honour went to John Junius Price and in the 10<sup>th</sup> class Leopold Price was given a prize.

William John and Sarah had one son, Edwin William born circa September 1889 who died in WA where his mother moved following her remarriage after the death of her husband.

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<sup>3</sup> John's sister Marianne who married Young also went to Victoria where she also had children before returning to Penrith area.

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*Nepean Times* Saturday January 4 1890 reported the death of William John Price.

### DEATH OF WILLIAM J PRICE

*On Friday morning the town of Penrith was somewhat startled at the news of Mr WJ Price's death. It was well known that Mr Price had been suffering severely for close upon 12 months and during the last few weeks it was no secret that he was sick unto death, still the fact of seeing him being driven in a buggy on Thursday led some people to believe he was getting better. On that day at his own request he was removed from his residence in High-street to his cottage in Henry-street where everything had been got ready for his reception. He arrived at 5 pm. He suffered a good deal all night and on the following morning at 6 o'clock he became unconscious and died quietly at 1.20.*

*Up till about 3 or 4 years ago Mr Price appeared likely to escape the dread disease consumption which had previously carried off his mother and three brothers, but at that time he had an attack of hemorrhage of the lungs and it was thought that he would recover. He suffered acutely for several weeks and afterwards almost became himself again, but the dread disease had been planted and at times he was compelled to lay up.*

*This is the fourth son of Mr John Price that had died from consumption, the eldest Samuel died in February 1875 aged 19 years; Benjamin died July 1877 aged 19 years and Edwin died on the 24<sup>th</sup> February 1888 aged 24.*

*William John the subject of the article was born on 20<sup>th</sup> February 1862. Mr John Price, the deceased's father who has been twice married has a family of 15. Eight sons of which have died the four above mentioned and four from infantile complaints.*

*William John Price married Sarah, the eldest daughter of George Walker of Emu Plains by whom he has one child, a boy three months old.*

*Mr Price has always taken a very active interest in the Temperance movement and in Church matters generally. He was a member of the local lodge of Druids since its establishment. He has also been a member of the independent Order of Oddfellows. Of the Good Templars he had been a member since its establishment here and the Sons of Temperance he joined and has been an active member of ever since he joined and has been an active member of ever since he was old enough. Deceased was insured for 300 pounds in the Temperance Insurance Company. The funeral takes place at 4pm tomorrow.*

His son EDWIN WILLIAM WEBSTER PRICE was born circa November 1889. *Nepean Times* Saturday May 25, 1920 announced the death of Edwin William Webster Price in Western Australia from internal trouble on 20.5.1920. He was 30 years of age and was described at being 6ft 3 and half inches tall – weighed 15 stone. A brother died a few year's earlier. After her husband's death Sarah remarried to Rev Samuel Fellows. They all travelled to New Guinea to work with the natives, many of whom were still cannibals. Their next move was to Queensland and then some 14 years earlier to Penrith and then WA.

Sarah (nee Walker) died on 30.5.1930 in WA and the local paper *Nepean Times* dated June 28, 1930 reported her death.

The obituary noted the details of her marriages and the fact that her second husband was a missionary to the islands. The family finally settled at Mt Barker in WA and Sarah was survived by her husband and

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four children from the second marriage – Ruby, Marjorie, Noel and Ben. It also mentioned that her one child of the first marriage (Edwin Price) had predeceased her. She was also survived by one brother and three sisters – Cr SH Walker (Emu Plains), Mrs P Evans (Muswellbrook), Mrs A Chapple (Emu Plains) and Mrs W Lennox (Fairfield). Two brothers, George and Percy of Emu Plains predeceased her.

6. EDWIN CHARLES PRICE 5.12.1863. He was baptised 19.11.1865 and died 24.2.1888 aged 24 years 6 months. He is buried at Penrith.

*Nepean Times Saturday March 3, 1888*

### *THE LATE MR EC PRICE*

*In the last issued we announced that Mr EC Price had died on Friday morning after a protracted illness. On receipt of the intelligence it was too late to give anything like a report of the deceased gentleman's good qualities as a respected townsman, a strict businessman, and last though by no means least, a thorough exemplary Christian. For if ever there was a good young man it was Mr Edwin Charles Price, and one of whom his father may be justly proud.*

*For some considerable time it has been noticed that the deceased gentleman's health was fast failing but the end was not thought to so near until about a fortnight before his death. At this time he broke a blood vessel and he did not again leave the house. He was attended throughout his illness by both male and female friends in large numbers who were most assiduous in their attentions to him. Prior to his death he spoke many words of comfort not only to those who were administering to him but to many of his old school fellows whom he sent for. His worldly troubles were over on Friday morning and his funeral on Sunday attended by 1,000 adults besides 200 or 300*

*school children was one of the largest and most representative seen in Penrith or district. On Sunday night the Rev George Brown preached a memorial sermon at St Stephen's Church to a very large congregation – a short resume of which will be found below.*

*Mr Price was a native of Penrith and was born in the house in which he died. He was 24 years of age and was educated at the Public School Penrith. After he completed his education his father, Mr John Price, offered him his choice of four means of gaining a livelihood. He had offers for him of a situation in a bank, in the Public School and in the Telegraph office. Besides these he offered him a share in his own business, the latter his son agreed to accept and labored on in a quiet unostentatious manner; never in one single instance did he neglect his duties at home nor those in connection with his church or for the good of his fellow man. His life was truly and exemplary one and one that might well be copied by our rising generations.*

*He was a leading member of several religious movements in Penrith; in Sunday School, choir and evangelical work. He was also a member of the Sons of Temperance and Good Templars, both of which societies were largely represented at the funeral. The burial service on Sunday had some special features, the choir sang two of the deceased gentleman's favourite hymns, and the Dead March in Saul was most effectively played on the organ by Mr Edgar Fulton. Round the grave and before the conclusion of the service the children sang, "Sweeping Through the Gates" and "Shall We Gather at the River". At the conclusion of the service the Rev George Brown addressed those present...*

The obituary continued with a lengthy text of the Rev George Brown's address that

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included the deceased's last words to his father and friends that extolled them to continue in the Christian way of life.

7. AMY LOUISA PRICE 22.10.1865

Amy died sometime between 1919 and 1941 and on 15.6.1887 she married Edwin John Robbins. He was born 21.9.1859 at Penrith. Like her other relatives Amy too got mentions in the Nepean Times. One dated Friday April 7 1882 listed the children who received prizes for the school year 1881-1882 (Penrith Public School). *For study of French books were given to Jane Beatson, Amy Price, Maude Chisholm and Sophie Ashbury. Those who received prizes for Attention to School Work were Fred Judges, William Ashbury, Oswald Bell, Hugh Hollier, John Nash, John Jones, Sydney Dunkley, Edward Alexander Willis, John Burling, Hubert Hill, Mary Jane Willett, Edith Neale, Amy Upton, Ada Nash, Minnie Price, Amy Price, Sophia Ashbury, Ida Willis, Letitia Vine, Kate Paskins, Louisa Evans, May Asbury, Iris Spence, Maude Chisholm, Henrietta Giles, Emma Upton, Eva Werrell, Matilda Vine.*

*After the presentation of books and prizes Miss Jane Beatson stepped on the platform and read an address to the headmaster of the school on behalf of the girls who were leaving. The document that thanked the head was signed On behalf of the Girls, Your affectionate pupils, JANE BEATSON, AMY PRICE...*

*Nepean Times June 18, 1887*

### THE DOUBLE WEDDING

*Penrith was certainly taken astir on Wednesday last, on the occasion of the much-talked of double wedding. Long before the appointed time, "high twelve" every seat in St Stephens's Church was fully occupied. At twelve o'clock Mr E Robbins accompanied by his brother, Mr H Robbins*

*and Mr J Atkins Jun, accompanied by his brother, Mr C Atkins and preceded by Revs Brown and Crisford, marched from the vestry door to the communion. The happy brides were then looked for but the company did not have to wait long before Mr H Neale having on his arm Miss Robbins, who was shortly to be Mrs Atkins, accompanied by some half-dozen bridesmaids entered the southern door. Then came Mr J Price having on his arm his daughter Miss Price who was shortly to become Mrs Robbins accompanied by half dozen bridesmaids.*

*The ceremony was performed by both rev gentlemen, and Miss Peak and an efficient choir rendered some choice instrumental and vocal music. After the ceremony had been performed the happy couples were driven off accompanied by some seven or eight vehicles. Breakfast was served up at the Council Chambers. The both couples went on to Sydney by the afternoon train. Nepean Times Thursday May 1, 1941  
Mr Edward John Robbins a very well known ex-resident of the district died at Manly on 23<sup>rd</sup> ult at the age of 82 years.*

*He was born in High Street Penrith on September 21, 1859, son of Philpott John Curran Robbins. He spent all his boyhood in the town and was educated at the Public School. He joined the Telegraph Branch at Penrith Railway as a messenger when 15 years of age, and loved to tell in later years of his long rides at all hours to Glenbrook, Castlereagh, Mulgoa, Eskine Park and St Mary's, with telegrams and he contrasted this huge area with the small ones attached to local post offices today. He afterwards became telegraphist at the Railway (where general public business was transacted in addition to Railway telegrams). Mr Robbins often talked of the old 'hurdy gurdy' of sending before the morse code and key were adopted. When the Post and*

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*Telegraph Department became a separate entity and the Post Office was built in High Street Mr Robbins transferred to the new department from the railway and was the first telegraph operator in Penrith PO with Mr Charles Kellett as Postmaster.*

*In 1877 deceased married Miss Amy Price, elder daughter of Mr John Price and lived at Hornseywood Penrith. In 1888 he was appointed to St Mary's as Postmaster and held that position for nearly 20 years, when he transferred to Portland. From Portland Mr Robbins was appointed to King Street City and after five years there was transferred to Hornsby from which he retired in 1919.*

*Mr Robbins was always keenly interested in Penrith and St Mary's district and took an active part in the life of the community at St Mary's. He was a staunch churchman and was a warden of the Church of St Mary Magdalene, Sunday School Superintendent, and teacher for many years. He loved the fine little village and had respect and affection of all who knew him there.*

*During his residence in Portland he was a member of the Parochial Council there and later at King Street was on the council of St James' Church and a member of the CEMS.*

*About six months ago Mr Robbins suffered the loss of sight of one eye and had very impaired vision in the other. He could not read, and thus was deprived of his greatest pleasure. He was active and able to enjoy his daily walk.*

*A week ago he developed pneumonia and was nursed at Manly Hospital where he died on the night of April 23, quietly and beautifully as he had lived. He was loved by all who knew him for his gentle and sincere nature. Truly he was a man in who was no guile.*

*Deceased could discourse interestingly on many of those topics dear to the heart of the 'old timers' of the district. In his boyhood he used to drive with his father to Parramatta to catch the train to Sydney. His father was a Captain of the old Volunteer Corps and deceased was interested on that account in the various parades and Easter encampments.*

*Mr Robbins was a constant reader of the 'Nepean Times' from its inception to the time of his death.*

*So passes a worthy gentleman who will be affectionately remembered by many in this district. The funeral took place on Saturday morning when the remains were interred in the CE Cemetery Manly, the internment being alongside that of his wife. The service was conducted by the Rev AR Ebbs Rector of Manly, Chief Mourners were Mr Edward Robbins (son), Mr A Taylor son-in-law, and Mr JJ Price (brother-in-law). Deceased's wife died some years ago. Surviving children are Elsie (Mrs A Taylor), Jessie, Edna (Mrs Timewell) of Manly and Edward (North Sydney).*

### CHILDREN OF AMY & EDWARD ROBBINS

ELSIE CRISFORD ROBBINS 27.4.1899. She married A Taylor.

JESSIE CHARLOTTE ROBBINS 17.5.1897.

EDNA AMIE ROBBINS 7.7.1897. She married Thomas WA Timewell. In 1919 Edna worked in the Post Office at Hornsby as a clerk.

EDWARD JOHN ROBBINS 24.4.1902.

8. FRANK CRISFORD PRICE 6.11.1867 – 21.12.1868 aged 13 months.

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Above: Rev Arthur Corlette

9. MINNIE GOW PRICE 8.9.1870. She married 12.6.1895 to Arthur Christian Corlette. He was one of the early rectors at St Mary's Anglican Church. He died at Strathfield, Moss Val 21.1.1940. He hailed from Camberwell in Surry. His family came to Australia sometime before 21.2.1838 at which time James Christian Corlette was born at Stroud. His father was a storekeeper to the AA Company. All the siblings that followed were born at Stroud – Frances E 1839; Charlotte Emmishue Susanna 11.9.1841; Mary Z 1844; William H 31.7.1845 – 2.8.1846; William Curphey 12.7.1847; Eugenia Kate 5.11.1848 – 1849; Arthur Henry 26.7.1851-29.11.1851 at Woollemmlew; The family returned to England prior to the birth of Arthur Christian Corlette on 14.7.1854.

*Nepean Times* December 12, 1891 has the obituary of Arthur Christian Corlette's mother.

*On Saturday last Mr Frances R Corlette, mother of our beloved pastor the Rev AC Corlette, was buried in the Church of St Mary Magdalene in the presence of a large number of sorrowing friends. The service was performed by the Rev Mr Barber of Petersham assisted by the Rev Mr Brown, Rural Dean. The coffin was borne to the grave on the shoulders of Messrs Stevens,*

*Robertson, Silk and Waddups. The cortège was preceded by the Rev Mr Barber, while Dr Corlette (the deceased's eldest son) and our pastor followed as chief mourners.*

*It is well known that the late lady has been for a long time confined to her bed; in fact it is over a year since she was stricken with paralysis which affected her speech, that she was unintelligible to all save her own family.*

*She has all the comfort which loving children could bestow upon her and the devoted attention of her nurse merits the grated praise for she was unflagging in her gentle ministrations night and day. Alas it was all in vain for on Friday December 4<sup>th</sup> at the advanced age of 79 surrounded by those who loved her best she obeyed the summons of her creator and left this troublesome world to worship him more perfectly in those realms of eternal bliss where are prepared the mansion of rest for the faithful in Christ.*

*In last week's telegram it was stated that the deceased lady (the late Mrs Corlette) resided with her son for the last two years and a half, whereas in fact they have never been separated save for one short period of some two or three weeks and even then such was their mutual attachment that constant correspondence was carried on. It was about two years and a half since her health failed, and the lady's greatest grief during her latter days was that she found her frame unequal to the continued urgings of her mind to help her beloved son in his parochial work as well ad in his private studies in which her activity and interest had always been the keenest and intimate kind and this is was that really caused the terrible collapse culminating in paralysis. It is impossible to describe that subtle bond of sympathy, which so beautifully united the departed and her youngest son especially. Although she was pre-eminently a mother, a*

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*guide and a friend among all with whom she so extensively mixed her days of health and strength when her greatest delight was to be out and about in her Divine Master's work, soothing the sorrowful, helping the distressed, advising the perplexed and sowing broadcast those seeds of kindness as sweetly sung in one of her favourite hymns. The following particulars just gleaned will be interesting to the many who are condoling with the afflicted family, and who feel that her death has left a blank that will be hard to fill. Mrs F Corlette was born in Sevenoaks England (a part of great picturesque rural beauty) in the year 1812, and she had three sons and three daughters, the eldest and youngest of which led the sad procession as chief mourners, and with them were Mr Wm Murphy Corlette, Walter D Bingle, Evan AC Corlette, Alex, Jno Goldie and many other friends of the family. Mr Crammer Kerrick was too ill to attend.*

The obituary makes no mention of Mrs Frances Corlette's husband James.

*Nepean Times* November 24, 1894 contained a two column report on an evening's entertainment to recognise and celebrate seven years of ministrations to the people of St Mary's by Rev Corlette. Miss Price featured in many of the items that included singing, piano and violin. *Miss Price was really the gem of the evening...Rev Alex Smith who was as usual choke full of humorous anecdotes, said he was pleased to be present out respect to their highly respected incumbent whom he had known for 18 months. He had heard of Mr Corlette wherever he went whether in St Mary's or Rooty Hill, and he really thought that gentleman ought to take himself a wife...*

*Nepean Times* Saturday June 15, 1898.

*FASHIONABLE MARRIAGE AT ST MARY'S  
THE WHOLE PLACE EN FETE  
1000 PERSONS PRESENT  
3 MINISTERS AND THE PRIMATE  
CONDUCTED THE SERVICE  
LARGE NUMBER OF WEDDING PRESENTS*

*Wednesday last – the occasion of the marriage between the Rev Arthur Christian Corlette (includerant of St Mary Magdalene Church St Mary's and St Albans Church Rooty Hill) to Miss Minnie Price (daughter of the late Mr John Price of Penrith) – was a day that will long be remembered in the annals of St Mary's. The wedding had been talked of for several weeks, and although but a few invitations had been sent out beyond the immediate families, and one or two prominent local residents, and the Mayor and Mayoress of Sydney, this did not prevent one of the largest crowds ever seen in the old church from witnessing the ceremony. There could not have been less than 1000 persons present, including residents of every portion of the Nepean electorate, and the town of St Mary's was fairly drained.*

*The ceremony had been arranged to come off at half past three and long before that time the Church was well filled and had it not been that special provision had been made for the distinguished guests there would not have been room for them on arrival. As it was when the party did arrive some hundreds who were unable to gain admission greeted them on their entrance to the Church grounds.*

*The Church had been most elaborately decorated by parishioners and friends and presented quite a gay appearance. A large arch had been erected at the chancel under which the happy couple stood during the service. This was composed of ivy and ferns,*

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from the centre hung a most elaborate "bell" composed of white roses and maidenhair ferns, tied with white ribbons. The bride and bridegroom's initials (AMC) were conspicuously interwoven in the arch formation, and seats set apart for the guests were marked off with bouquets of white roses and ferns.

The walls too were decorated with festoons of flowers and greenery and on the window sills were displayed a lovely variety of lovely pot plants. The choir stands and organ was also decorated.

On arrival the happy party they at once took up positions under the arch already referred to. The bride, who was accompanied by her brother-in-law, Mr E Robbins and who looked exceedingly charming, was dressed in cream silk crepe, with swans down trimmings, the court train and unusual wreath and veil, the latter being caught up by a special diamond pin and a shower fern composed of white roses and maiden hair ferns

The chief bridesmaid (Miss Peak) was dressed in cream cashmere with turquoise blue velvet trimmings and with feathers to match. Miss Rodd-Smith (Newcastle) the second bridesmaid was dressed in cream striped cashmere with silk trimmings and mamie rosette ribbons, cream velveteen hat with feathers and trimmings to match. Both bridesmaids carried shower bouquets with ribbon streamers to march, gifts of the bridegroom. Dr Cyril Corlette, nephew of the bridegroom, acted as bestman and Mr WJB Neale (Clergyman's Warden) groomsman; Mr EJ Robbins gave the bride away. Dr JC Corlette assisted by His Lordship the Primate, Rev SS Tovey BA (The Glebe) and Rev George Brown Rural Dean (Penrith) conducted the service.

During the service the Wedding March and selections from the 1<sup>st</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> Mass were played by Mr Percy Herford organist and two hymns and a psalm were sung. At the close of the ceremony His Lordship the Primate delivered a short exhortation. As the organ pealed out the wedding march the happy couple and guests marched out of the Church amidst a shower of rice.

Outside a carriage with a pair of dashing greys with Mr Stevens in charge of the ribbons was in waiting to drive the newly wedded pair to the Protestant Hall where a reception and afternoon tea was held by Mr and Mrs Robbins – they having left the church previously – met the party at the hall. Mr J Stevens had charge of the catering and it was he who supplied the magnificent three decker wedding cake.

A pleasant hour was spent and the happy couple were the recipients of congratulations from all sides. Amongst the distinguished visitors we noticed the Mayor and Mayoress of Sydney (Mr and Mrs SE Lees).

Preparations were then made by the bride and bridegroom for their departure on their honeymoon. Just before six o'clock the happy couple started in their carriage for Parramatta en route by train for Melbourne. The bride's travelling dress consisted of a silk mixture tweed gown, trimmed with terra-cotta velvet and ribbon trimmings and toque to match. As they left the Protestant Hall three ringing cheers were given by a large crowd present, consisting of members of all denominations.

The following is a list of wedding presents: - Mr SE Lees MP (Mayor of Sydney) cheque; Mr and Mrs JE Robbins (St Mary's) tea service; Mr and Mrs J Gow (St Mary's) afternoon tea spoons and tongs; Miss Crisford (St Mary's) silver knife rests and



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handsome vases; Miss Blanche Crisford jam dish (silver stand) and spoon and traycloth; Mrs John Price (Penrith) enlarged photograph of the bride's father (the late Mr John Price); Mrs WM Moore (Lewisham) silver bread service; Mrs Waller (Homebush) dessert service; the Misses Kendrick (Waratah) teapot stand; Mrs Goldie (Croydon) ivory handle butter knife; the Misses Goldie preserve dish (silver stand); Miss Turnbull (Croydon) handsome silver card case; Miss Bingle (Homebush) pair vases; Miss Isabel Corlette (Ashfield) afternoon tea cloth and cosy; Miss Shepherd (Chatswood) oak butter dish, with silver trowel; Miss Peak (Penrith) silver soup and sauce ladles; Mrs Rodd-Smith (Newcastle) handsome tray cloth; Mr WJB Neale (St Mary's) afternoon tea set; the Misses Neale, hot water kettle and pair of vases (Japanese Ware); Mrs JA Fleming (St Mary's) Japanese candlesticks; the Misses Farrell (St Mary's) afternoon tea set; Mrs TE Clouston (The Glebe) cake dish; Miss Guild (St Mary's) hand painted plaque; Miss Alice Guild hand painted handkerchief sachet; the Misses Thompson (St Mary's) handsome card salver; Mrs R Lister (Plumpton) hand painted plaque and liberty silk cushion; Master Gordon Bennett (St Mary's) handsome feather fan; Mrs Lee (St Mary's) toilet set; Miss Harriet Parkins (St Mary's) glass butter dish and sugar basin; Mr and Mrs J Atkins (Penrith) revolving glass fruit dish; Mrs Stronach (Newcastle) pair pillow shams; Mr WBR Starling (Penrith) handsome Bible; Mr and Mrs H Neale (Penrith) pair of fancy flower pots; Mrs C Kenrick (Waratah) silver toast rack and photo frame; Mrs PJC Robbins (Penrith) teapot and hot water jug; Mr and Mrs Bingle (Strathfield) oaken tea tray and table gong; Mrs Davis (Rooty Hill) silver mounted biscuit barrel; Mrs T Dolan (St Mary's) hand painted vases; Mrs and Miss Nash (Penrith) pair glass water jugs; Mrs W Fulton junior (Penrith) centre pieces for flowers;

Master Willie Hill (St Mary's) pair specimen glasses; Mr A Woodhill (Nowra) pair silver salt cellars; Miss Lottie and Masters Price (Penrith) gold brooch; Dr JC Corlette DD (Ashfield) large prayer book; Mrs JC Corlette cabinet photo frame; Dr Cyril Corlette (Muswellbrook) hot water kettle and stand; His Lordship the Primate Saumarez Smith (Sydney) framed photograph of the donor; Mr G Brown (Penrith) half a dozen silver tea-spoons.

Minnie Corlette died on 6<sup>th</sup> June 1920. *Nepean Times* ran a brief obituary. In it were no mentions of her half brothers and sister. Nor was there any mention of her step-mother Elizabeth Price. Noted in the wedding details of Minnie and Arthur Christian Corlette is that the reception was organised and run by Minnie's sister, Mrs Robbins.

Below: Minnie Corlette nee Price in later life.



### ST MARY'S DEATH OF MRS CORLETTE

Many St Mary's people will remember Rev AC Corlette who was rector of this parish from 1887 to 1898 and will regret to learn of the death of his wife which took place in Sydney on Sunday. She was the daughter of the late John Price of Penrith and was married to the Rev AC Corlette in St Mary Magdalene Church on 12<sup>th</sup> June 1895, a

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brother of the bridegroom, Rev JC Corlette officiating. Both Mr and Mrs Corlette were greatly esteemed during their residence here. The latter was a good worker in the Sunday School. It was while stationed in St Mary's that his mother died here. On leaving the parish he went to Kogarah, and later to Sutton Forest. Recently however he relinquished his ministerial duties. There is one son, Bernard, who is a returned soldier.

The funeral took place on Tuesday, the remains being interred at Sutton Forest. Archbishop Mowell officiated at the funeral service at All Saints Cemetery where Mr Corlette was Rector for 17 years until he retired.

A Moss Vale paper (dated January 1941) contained an article on Arthur Christian Corlette.

### REV AC CORLETTE PASSING OF A GRAND OLD MAN DISTRICT MOURNS HIS DEATH

"Some men are born great, some achieve greatness, and some have greatness thrust upon them," wrote Shakespeare many years ago. Truly can it be said that Shakespeare had in mind just such a man as Rev AC Corlette whose death the town of Moss Vale and district mourns today. Mr Corlette was not born great, neither did he have greatness thrust upon him, but one thing is certain, and that he achieved a greatness with humility of which few men can boast.

Deceased who passed quietly away without pain or suffering on Tuesday evening has left his imprint on the work and development of the Church of England in various parts of the State, in England, and especially in our own district, where he was rector of All Saints' Sutton Forest for many years prior to his retirement from active ministry.

Arthur Christian Corlette was born at Camberwell (Surrey) on July 14, 1854 and came to Australia with his parents when quite a lad. His father was chief accountant of the Australian Agricultural Company (AAC) of Newcastle and amongst his possessions which were handed down to Rev Mr Corlette was a book bearing the words 'Hobart 1830' suggesting that the family name was closely associated with the early settlement days in the colonies. His father was James Corlette. He also had a brother, Canon James Corlette who predeceased him many years ago, and his only surviving relative in this country is a son Bernard Christian of Moss Vale. He married Miss Minnie Gow Price at St Mary's (Western Line) in 1895, but she died in 1920, the remains being interred in the church cemetery Sutton Forest.

The ministry of the late Mr Corlette is a picturesque one. He told the interesting story to a gathering in Moss Vale just 12 months ago, the occasion being the celebration of the 60<sup>th</sup> Jubilee of his ordination. The recounting took members of the audience back through the years to the ancient city of Wells (England) on a cold winter's morning. He recalled with what trepidation he approached the examination room, the question papers and felt again the delight with the telling with which he sent a telegram to his mother in London telling her that he would be ordained into the ministry on St Thomas's Day.

### ORDINATION

He recalled the beautiful sermon in the grand old cathedral 800 years old, which was preached in honor of him. On January 4 1880 he received his first charge at Chard in Somerset. With a memory that defied advancing years, Mr Corlette told the audience of admirers in the Soldiers Memorial Rooms that for his first text he selected the words, 'See that you not walk

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*circumspectly – not as fools but as wise”. He acknowledged in his maturer years that there might have been a little presumption in the words coming from him – a brat in the ministry –but at the time he was unable to appreciate the motive of the senior curate for reproofing him for making such a selection from which to preach.*

*He served at Chard from 1879-1881, in the diocese of Bath and Wells and then transferred to New South Wales and subsequently ministered in the following centres: Curate of St John’s Darlington 1882-83; Curate of Yalding diocese of Canterbury 1883-85; All Saints Petersham 1886-87; Incumbent of St Mary Magdalene with St Alban’s Rooty Hill 1887-98; Rector of St Paul’s Kogarah with St John’s Rockdale 1889-1905; Rector of All Saints Sutton Forest 1906-20.*

*Continuing his story Mr Corlette told the gathering that although he had the choice of several appointments the spell of the old district held him and he had to return to spend his final days ‘amongst the beauty of the landscape and the glowing spirit of the people”.*

### GOLDEN JUBILEE

*On December 3, 1929 Mack’s Theatre was crowded when a fixture was arranged to do honour to the late Mr Corlette on the occasion of his golden jubilee. On that occasion he was the recipient of numerous gifts from the community of the district. Those who were present and others who were prevented from attending will appreciate a reproduction of a passage from the Post December 6 1929 describing the reply by the chief guest of the evening: - “On rising to respond the vast audience with a tumultuous outburst, prevented the popular personage from speaking for some minutes, and then, with the dignified air of one who was literally overcome with feeling*

*of emotions, with a slow clear and deliberate tone of voice which has helped to bind him to his parishioners in an unfading popularity, he said, “Words fail me when I try to comprehend what all this means. I sink down with humility when I try to think whether I deserve it all.” Tense silence gripped the hall when ‘the little man with the big soul’ lived over again in thought and words of the days when he gathered his elder sister’s petticoats around him. “The petticoats were much longer in those days,” he said, “but they did their part in fitting me for a place in the preaching of the gospel.” Just fifty years ago ordained as a minister of the Church of England in the old country, he recalled that at the age of twenty-five years his conscience directed him to refuse a call worth 500 pounds per year and come to Australia.*

### HIS WIFE ASSISTED HIM

*Devotion to his late wife was revealed in the reference he made to her life during the same reply. His late wife, he said, had made his church work much lighter. She played the organ, taught Sunday School, and took an active part in all the activities of the church he recalled. The phrasing we used then is as applicable today as we record his passing:-*

*Living privately at Moss Vale, his knowledge and experience of the parish of the centre had always been at the disposal of his successors, and they did not hesitate to express their thanks and appreciation for the advice which was ever at their service and command. His earnestness of character, the Godly execution of his work, the dignified carriage of a man with a purpose in life disposition – all these qualities ensured success for him in the ministering of the gospel, and the humble recognition of the esteem, respect and regard the residents of the district brought cheer and thankfulness to his mind as he*

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*looked back along the fifty years that passed to the day he was ordained as a minister.*

*He was often termed "the Little Man with a big soul." No man was held in higher regard or fonder respect by the returned soldiers of the Berrima District than the late Mr Corlette. He found much pride and satisfaction in the knowledge that he was thought so much of, and delighted in the phrase, "The Little Digger," which seemed to suit him admirably. He was popular and regular figure at ANZAC Day reunions in Moss Vale, and now that he has gone we recall his prediction at the last Reunion that it would be the last he would attend. The Diggers will always find time to give him a thought on Anzac Day.*

*His passing creates another vacancy in the ranks of the great men whose names cannot be erased from the records of the district. He rose from the ranks of the people and although greatness and popularity pursued him, he always remained one of them...*

*The citizens of the entire Berrima District gathered in large numbers to pay their last tribute to a beloved figure when services prior to the burial were held at St John's Moss Vale and at the graveside nestling in the cemetery behind the church of All Saints Sutton Forest, where Mr A Corlette officially closed his ministry...*

*Occupying the front seats [of the church] were the chief mourners, amongst whom were Mr Bernard Corlette, only son; Dr Cyril Corlette of Macquarie Street; Dr Corlette of Newcastle; and Mr Kendrick of Sydney and formerly of the islands – all nephews, and the latter two's sisters, of Strathfield...*

Minnie Gow and Arthur Christian Corlette had one son, Bernard Christian who was

born 12.4.1896 at St Mary's and died at the Repatriation Hospital at Concord on 19.6.1968. On 7.12. 1926 he married Leila May Brown at All Saints CE Sutton Forest. She was born at Lismore 5.1.1906 and died 10.5.1989. Her parent's were Florence Elizabeth (nee McDonald) 29.12.1872- 4.3.1942 and Mr Brown 11.9.1863 - ? The couple married 11.9.1863.

Bernard Corlette taught at Abbotsplonne at Killara first. He enlisted and after returning from World War 1 he taught at Tudor House Moss Vale.

In 1930 he travelled to England at the School's expense to study Prep Schools, Administration, teaching methods etc. Whilst there the Council cabled him to tell him that he was released from his contract.

When Mr Corlette's solicitor questioned the Council their argument was that they thought the school may have to close and did not want to keep him to his contract which was renewed annually. The intent instead appears to have been a decision to sack young men and appoint more influential people in an attempt to boost the numbers of the school. This was done and one of the new appointees was Mr JDG medley who later left the school in 1938 to become Vice Chancellor of Melbourne University and was later knighted [information from AJ Caradus.]

Following his dismissal Bernard ran his own school, *Glenford* and later on became the Secretary of the Moss Vale Golf Club where he remained until his retirement around 1943.

*The Tudorian* 1968 Volume IX, Number 1  
*Bernard Christian Corlette was born in 1896 the son of the Reverend and Mrs A Corlette. Following his education at Tudor House and*

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*Shore, he enlisted in the AIF and returned to teach at Tudor House after his demobilization. He was on the staff of this school from 1920 to 1924 when he was appointed Headmaster and took charge of the school from 1925 to 1930. He lived the remainder of his life in Moss Vale, and was associated with many town organizations, his particular interest being in the RSL in which he held office for very many years. He was in fact an Honorary Life Member of the RSL. For years he was Secretary of the Moss Vale Golf Club. His death occurred on the 18<sup>th</sup> June at the Repatriation Hospital Concord thus ending a connection with Tudor House that had extended over a period of more than sixty years, for he was a regular visitor to the School almost every year since at least the mid-thirties.*

*On 4<sup>th</sup> August, Archdeacon EA Pitt conducted a Memorial Service for Mr Corlette in the school chapel...The address was given by Dr WB Marsh, the School Medical Officer, and a Tudorian during the time that Mr Corlette as Headmaster. "My first impressions of Bernard date from the last term of 1922 when I first began at Tudor House. He was a man with a somewhat stern and rugged countenance, but with a ready smile and twinkling eyes.*

*Tudor House was a small school then and there was no House system as there is today. Bernard was a regular disciplinarian who would stand no nonsense. On the other hand he was fair and approachable; he enjoyed a joke and had the respect and affection of us all. It was with pleasure therefore that we greeted his appointment as Headmaster in 1925 in succession to Mr Mann who had returned to England. Under his fine leadership the School grew steadily from 27 boys in 1925 to forty-nine, its full capacity in 1927. The Colour System began in 1928.*

*It was during these years when boys are at their most impressionable age that standards of behaviour which mark Tudor House boys of today, as of yesterday, were laid down. Some important things as honesty, respect for one's elders, courtesy, love for one's parents, chivalry, and the care and protection of those younger than oneself and of the gentler sex were inculcated.*

*Bernard was a good speaker on various subjects and held our interest by his enthusiasm and by the presentation of his material, whether it was Maths, doing experiments in Chemistry, or watching him doing Old English Lettering on the blackboard. He was an artist in the latter, and his work was beautiful.*

*It was on the playing fields, however, that Bernard most showed his fondness for children. He coached us in football, cricket, soccer and hockey. The Scouts were formed and Bernard was a good Scoutmaster.*

*I think the one thing that boys of my day will remember him for with affection, and that was his bedtime stories to the older boys. Various adventure stories and even an Edgar Wallace or two would be read, and we listened enthralled, tucked up in bed. And then it was lights out and to sleep perchance to dream.*

*It was cold and frosty morning, and Bernard was conducting physical education on the playground. After the usual deep breathing arm swinging and jumping exercises, he would say, "We'll play O'Grady – O'Grady says do this and you do it; unless O'Grady says you must not move. Something to smarten you up." It did just that, and there was mirth and happiness all round.*

*So you see the picture I have tried – I fear very inadequately – to portray: of a man to*

## CHAPTER 7 JOHN PRICE

*whom we looked up with respect and affection, and whose guidance and wise council helped mould the characters of many boys from 1920 to 1930, and in the district which he lived and which he loved so well, he has left a mark that will not be easily forgotten.*

Leila May and Bernard Christian Corlette had a daughter –

ANITA MIDGE CORLETTE (*Midge*) 23.5.1929 Moss Vale. She married at Moss Vale at all Saints on 15.9.1956 to Russell Scott and has two sons, Stephen 30.3.1960 and David Maurice 2.6.1962. He married 3.3.1989 to Jane Collette.

10. FRANK HERBERT PRICE 1873-17.2.1893 aged 20 years, 9 months. His obituary was written in *Nepean Times* Saturday February 23, 1893. In this article is mentioned the sad demise of so many of Mr John Price's sons. Frank Price's coffin of cedar was provided by his uncle Thomas Price of Sydney. The obituary mentioned that Frank Price had a fine voice and belonged up until about a year prior to his death to the Church of England choir.

11. ERNEST MARSHALL PRICE 16.4.1874-2.3.1875 aged 11 months.

12. HALWYN ROBERTSON PRICE 23.5.1877 – 21.1.1904. Halwyn was the son of John Price and his second wife, Elizabeth Jane nee Robertson. He worked as an undertaker and kept a diary of events – some of which from the 1900 diary are quoted below. The diary mentions those buried, cricket, social events and the birthdays of Lottie and Leo.

*January 1<sup>st</sup>*

*I buried an infant named Clarke (Woodriff St) at St Stephens 9.30 am Cricket Match Nepean V Hawkesbury today. They 119; We 6/146. I took 3/46 (bad luck). John 3 on.*

*January 2<sup>nd</sup>*

*Elizabeth Rayner (Emu, Jack's sister) died yesterday. Buried to-day with hearse Presbyterian, afternoon. Will and John to St Mary's to bury Thomas Phillip Jones (75) Bull's Bush. Died yesterday.*

*January 6<sup>th</sup>*

*Up at 11.30 am, easier but cannot walk. Sat in front verandah all day...Went to Mt Druit, competition cricket match. Did badly. Send off for local Transvaal Volunteers.. Tonight I couldn't go. Early closing commenced from January 1<sup>st</sup> 6 pm; same Wednesdays 1pm. Saturdays 10 pm...*

*January 16<sup>th</sup>*

*Attended court this morning. Four bakers fined for not taking scales and weights on their carts. Fined one pound 6/8d each. Some one dismissed on technical point. Sang "Sleeping Camp" at Moonlight Concert.*

*January 17<sup>th</sup>*

*Down at the shop all morning. In afternoon drove to WP Howell's to buy cricket bat 1 pound 1 shilling. (Wisden). Home at 5/45. Went to Emu and hour later. Midnight picnic...*

*March 26<sup>th</sup>*

*Leo 16 to-day. Shop and home all day. Walter Haynes (Micky) died at Quarantine Station Sydney from Bubonic Plague which is ravaging Sydney. Only took bad on Friday night before. Very sad case. Philharmonic concert tonight...*

*April 17<sup>th</sup> Continued cutting Harvey's stone all day, at night attended send-off for Hilda Thorndike (going to Berrima where her father's removed to). Friends gave her a gold bracelet. I made the presentation. Two funerals to-day Mr Willis from Rooty Hill and Mr O'Brien of Emu from hospital...*

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May 23<sup>rd</sup>

My birthday today (23). Terribly wet day. Hardly went out at all – At night attended a send off in Temp Hall to Sergt Thorndike. Presented with a set of pipes and a toby pouch containing 20 sovereigns.

May 24<sup>th</sup>

Queen's birthday. Wet, everything postponed. Will and Rod Williams were coming up to play tennis match but off River up 16ft. South Creek over handrail of bridge. In the afternoon Penrith played Summer Hill at football, ground covered with water, good fun, former won. Boy George Baker (18) drowned in Mulgoa Creek. Body recovered today. Mrs Garner died in Sydney. Both buried tomorrow.

May 29<sup>th</sup>

Leo went to Sydney today. Bert Thorndike arriving by the "Moravian" invalided from South African War. I went to the shop – after tea to Philharmonic practice. New piece "The Rose Maiden" very pretty.

May 30<sup>th</sup>

Down to the shop all morning, starting to mark out stone (marble) for old Mrs Barlow died 29/7/1898 aged 72 years. Shooting in the afternoon (practice) did badly, scoring 18 & 21. Mrs Elizabeth Ann Brady (44) wife of Dr OC Brady died this evening 8 pm cause alcoholism etc. I went to St Mary's with Mr Colless (my trap and horse) to Mafeking display.

May 31<sup>st</sup>

Made coffin (cedar) for Mrs Brady. Funeral at 5pm. Carried to grave. Only 20 there. Met Fish train to see Bert Thorndike. After tea had a grand demonstration. Met at the Military Hall and after speeches formed procession. Brass band, volunteers, wagonette, cadet band, vehicles & footmen. Streets crowded and cheering. Over 2000

the Showground Military Camp Fires etc held. Poor 'Dandy' our best horse killed himself trying to get out of the buss paddock. Great loss to us.

June 1<sup>st</sup>

Leo and Will to paddock to dispose of poor old Dardy's remains. Leo back from Sydney last night. I went to shop all day and finished off marking out Barlow's stone. After tea attended rifle meeting at Henry Neale's

June 6<sup>th</sup>

Finished cutting Barlow's stone letters. Played tennis in the afternoon. After tea to Ed Fulton's Lesson. Practice for Cof E conversazione.

June 9<sup>th</sup>

Like clearing up this morning. Went to Sydney on business by the 8.8.am. Drifting rain in Sydney. Very miserable. Went to Balmain with Will and Rod Williams for dinner and spent the after. Home by the 8.20 to Penrith, was going to a concert at Rooty Hill but too wet.

June 10<sup>th</sup>

Mrs WJ Vine died yesterday & will be buried today, made coffin, black with silver mounts.

June 12<sup>th</sup>

Still cloudy, shop until 4 pm then to help at hall for Mr Hargraves conversazioni for tonight. Sand in several glees and quartet – crowded.

June 20<sup>th</sup>

Very heavy fogs or mists last two mornings but not a bit cold. Shop until 11am when Ma came down. I went to Sydney by the 12.30 to do some business. Will Lennox came too and we met June at 5pm. After tea (at which we met Rod Williams) we went down to Town hall to a

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*complementary farewell to M Weigland, city organist, leaving for Paris shortly. Heard him play "The Storm" (grand). Home at mid-night.*

*June 26<sup>th</sup>*

*Lottie 19 to-day. Westerlys still blowing, being very cold. I went to the shop. Will and Leo being at the cemetery. Cec Knight came up yesterday for a holiday.*

*June 27<sup>th</sup>*

*Down at the shop in the morning & playing tennis after dinner. Arth Butty not coming over for a holiday. He had a tree fall on him..,*

*July 5<sup>th</sup>*

*Shop all day, still raining and likely to be a flood. After dinner I went to the River, the water being three feet over the Peachtree Bridge. The river was up 35 ft which means disaster to Castlereigh and Hawkesbury. Tonight 6ft over Peachtree. Ewan Stewart's and South Creek impassable.*

*July 6<sup>th</sup>*

*Today is one long to be remembered by residents, the flood being the highest since 1867. Early this morning the river got up to 39 ft (2 stones from the top of the pier) and the Peachtree Creek is 15ft above the bridge. Rowe and Bennett busy rowing passengers across about a quarter of a mile along the road. Magrath's flooded Castlereigh and Hawkesbury terrible plight 5 to 15 at former. Rain 719 points since Tuesday night...*

*July 22<sup>nd</sup>*

*Went to church morning and evening – walk to river after dinner. Terrible tragedy at Breelong near Dubbo, 6 people hacked dead by 4 blacks.*

*July 24<sup>th</sup>*

*Weather fine again. Down to the shop writing the Hospital Ball account for the Daily Telegraph. After dinner writing diary etc. Breelong 4 dead, blacks killed another woman and child. Mrs Mawbey born Castlereigh, Miss Kerz, niece of Karl Kerz Kingswood.<sup>4</sup> Bert Thorndike and Bon Kellet married to-day - great affair – they went in our carriage. Breakfast at the Forester's Hall carried on at night...*

*Nepean Times January 30 1904. The article had a photograph of Halwyn Price taken a few years earlier...*

*Mr Halwyn Price was born on 23<sup>rd</sup> May 1877 and was the tenth son of the late Mr John Price. All the others predeceased him. The late Mr Price was certainly a model man full of life and energy. He was one of those truly Christian young men who are always endeavoring to make the lives of others more cheerful and happy, and, while he would mix up with the young men of the district in all sports and pastimes, there was always a cleansing influence, and the young men enjoyed his company. Let it be on the cricket field, at picnics, or at the School of Arts he was always given first place.*

*His influence and assistance were sought on every hand. He could play cricket as very few could, let it be with bat or ball, and he could sing a song at concert or take part in the church service equal to anyone in the district. As one of the Games Committee at the School of Arts, the programmes he had the arranging of were generally the very best.*

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<sup>4</sup> See chapter on Martha Price who married Robert Cooper Martin. They lived at Cobbora near where the tragedy took place. There were numerous accounts in the papers some of which are transcribed in this chapter.



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*At home he was the perfect model. He anticipated every desire of his mother and other members of the family, and while he was held in the highest respect as a son and brother, he was looked up to almost as the head of the house. Mrs Price invariably consulted him in all matters of business and his shrewd manner in dealing with everything he was respected by all – always cheery and willing to help any and everywhere.*

*It was only when some sickness would overtake him that he would have to be still. Since childhood he suffered from asthma, but of late years by inhaling the fumes of stammonia, or something of the kind he got almost instant relief. In the midst of his enjoyment at time he would become greatly depressed. He would retire for a few moments, have a smoke, as he called it, and return as well as ever.*

*His presence was appreciated in every home. Of late years deceased developed a liking for literary work, and, as correspondent for the Sydney "Daily Telegraph" kept our district well before the people of New South Wales. It was during the Butler scare that he made quite a name for himself, his work being thoroughly appreciated. He too, was a constant contributor to these columns, and his "copy" was always the best.*

*Halwyn Price from the time he first started school made hosts of friends and many of these were his friends at the time of his death. After the death of his father, and before that gentleman left for "that bourne from which no traveller returns," Halwyn started to learn the sculptor's work and did very well too, of late years having executed nearly all the lettering for the firm of Mrs John Price and Son of which he was the junior partner.*

*He invariably became an adept at everything he took in hand. Only a few years ago he joined the Masonic Lodge and such progress did he make that at the time of his death he had not only passed through the Blue Lodge, but the Mark and Royal Arch as well. There too he was popular, and at all their social gatherings he was ever ready to assist with a song appropriate to the occasion. As a member of the Philharmonic Society he did good work both in solo and chorus work; and as choir master at St Stephens Church he was quite a host in himself, and generally beloved by the choir, minister and congregation. As a member of the Bicycle Club he did some excellent work as well as on St Stephen's Tennis Court. He was a prominent member of the Rifle Club and was always to be relied on.*

*The following is a list of the offices he held at the time of his death, viz: Choir master of St Stephen's Church Penrith, committeeman and performing member of the Philharmonic Society (bas soloist); member of the School of Arts Committee (first joint secretary with Mr CJ Fowler); member of the District Electorate Cricket Association (Hon Secretary); member of the Penrith Civilian Rifle Club (hon treasurer); member of St Stephen's Tennis Club; member of the Lodge Nepean (mason); and Mark and Arch Chapter; correspondent for the National Mutual Life Association; Agent for Messrs Bennet and Wood bicycle distributors; and many other agencies. He was the first hon secretary and one of the founders of the Old Penrith Bicycle Club; member of the old Debating Society; and at one time a member of the Penrith Football Club (not a player) and a first class umpire.*

*"Jerry", "Larky" and "Bluff" as Mr Price was popularly called was at the beck and call of almost everyone who was anxious to help matters connected with the district along*

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and invariably he rushed to that breach. His last game of cricket on last Saturday week will long be remembered. His team (Penrith A) were having a bad time and things looked gloomy. "Jerry" however, stepped into the breach, and although ill and unable to run, made the magnificent score of 44 not out, thus saving what appeared to be a defeat. (Mr Price too held, the bowling average for Penrith for 97 8, 98 9, 99 00, for which he was presented with a silver tankard suitably engraved.) That was the last game he played, for, on getting home, he went to bed, and although a little better on Sunday and was able to get about, he took to his bed and remained there. Dr Higgins was in constant attendance, and sometimes as often as 12 or 13 times a day and although the patient got better for awhile other complications set in and he passed peacefully away on Wednesday morning, about six o'clock. During the whole of his illness the following ladies among others were in almost constant attendance on him, viz: Mesdames Knight, E Heavey, Shoobert, Noble, Sutherland, Kellett, Dixon and Misses Skelly (2). Besides many of his old club mates and chums were in constant attendance and willing to do all that was possible to help him.

The funeral which was the largest seen here for many years, about 1000 persons attending, took place on Thursday afternoon. The coffin was borne alternatively by four of Halwyn's chums, viz: Messrs HJ Witts, Ernest Starling, E Jones, and T Lee; and four cricketers, Messrs R McGrath, J Parson, L Brooke, and H Phillips. Included in the procession were about 50 members of Lodge Nepean, officers and members of Queen's Lodge, St Mary's officers and members of Mark Lodge and Penrith Royal Arch, as well as numerous visiting members.

About forty cricketers representing each club in the district were present in costume. Hon J Cook and Hon Sydney Smith Ms HR, and Mr TR Smith MLA, were also present as well as members of the Philharmonic Society and Penrith Rifle Club. Apologies were received from the Lord Mayor of Sydney (Ald SE Lees), Rev G Brown, Rev WH Williams and many others.

Heading the procession was the phaeton drawn by Halwyn's favourite horse, "Larry", full of beautiful wreaths. On arrival at St Stephen's Church the Masons and cricketers opened out to allow the coffin and chief mourners to enter the church and then they closed in and followed, the church being rapidly filled. Rev T Holliday and Rev H Fryer RD conducted the beautiful Church of England Service, the former delivering a short and appropriate address. The choir, too, sang the 90<sup>th</sup> Psalm, "Nene Dimittis" and Mr Price's favourite hymn – the last he sang on earth before death – "Rock of Ages". The remainder of the service was concluded at the grave. Then the Masons gathered round the open grave and Bro Eli Broad WM Lodge Nepean, read their impressive burial service. Among the beautiful wreaths sent were the following, the one from the Penrith B Club having the last ball used by Halwyn in the match at Penrith A v Penrith B.

Hon Sydney Smith and Mrs Smith, S Smith Jr, Mrs Fulton Senior and family, Mrs Nash, Mrs Rodd-Smith, Miss Lawler, Penrith Rifle Club, Miss Blaney (Sydney), T Crisford and family (Burwood), Mr EH Glasscock and family, Mr J Bray and family, Mr and Mrs AM Costley, Mr and Miss Freeman, Mr and Mrs HJ Skelly and family, Miss Horstmann, Mrs W Lennox, Mr and Mrs H Judges, Miss Maclean, Mr and Mrs WH Starling and family, Mrs R Newell and family, Mrs Sutherland, Mr and Mrs WF Walker, Mr and Mrs H Neale and family, Mr and Mrs JH

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Hear, Mr Jas Abbot, Dr Brady and Rupert, Miss Lancaster, Mrs Priddle, Mrs CC Clarke, Mr and Mrs A Davis, Mr and Mrs A Colless and family, "The Old Brigade" (Messrs L Brooke, EK Jones, J Parsons, T Lee, E Starling, W Toombs); Nepean Times staff, St Stephen's Choir, Nepean Philharmonic society, Messrs W and E Fulton, "The Orangery" (Emu Plains), "Emu Hall Friends", WCTU, Masonic Lodge (Nepean No 29), Penrith "A" CC, Penrith "B" CC, Emu Plains "A" CC, Emu Plains "B" CC, Nepean District Cricket Union, Penrith Railway CC. Over one hundred letters and cards were received many of them bearing appropriate quotations such as "He was a sterling fellow," "To know him was to love him."

Special services will be held in St Stephen's Church on Sunday evening, when the lives of the late Mr Woodruff and Mr Price will be referred to. The members of the cricket clubs, too, will wear crepe on their left arm at the matches this Saturday afternoon.

IN MEMORIAL  
HALWYN ROBERTSON PRICE  
Died at Penrith Jan 27 1904

So poor Halwyn has gone home! To say we will miss him does in no way express our feelings – he has left behind him a void which old Time alone can fill. His gentle nature, his kindly smile, his good works will remain with us as long as memory lasts. And what greater monument could be desired.

Vale Halwyn! You have started on your journey homeward. We will assuredly meet again. For

There is no death! What seems so is  
transition  
This life of mortal breath  
Is but a suburb of the life Elysian,  
Whose portal we call death

*In that great cloister's stillness and  
seclusion,  
By guardian angels led,  
Safe from temptation, safe from sin's  
pollution  
He lives whom we call dead.*

13. JOHN JUNIUS WILLIAM PRICE 21.6.1879.  
On 8.6.1906 he married Florence Sarah Lennox. He died 17.10.1952.  
Nepean Times Saturday August 11 1906

### PRICE-LENNOX

A very pretty wedding took place at St Stephen's Church of England Penrith on Wednesday afternoon last in the presence of a church full of spectators, the contracting parties being Mr John Junius Price, eldest surviving son of the late Mr and Mrs John Price of Henry-street, Penrith and Miss Florence Lennox third daughter of the late Mr William Lennox of High-street Penrith.

The ceremony was performed by Rev HT Holliday Bowral, late incumbent of Penrith. The bride was given away by her brother, Mr William Lennox wore a handsome dress of white silk accordion pleated chiffon trimmings an embroidered tulle veil and spray of orange blossoms. She also wore a gold muff chain and watch and carried a handsome shower bouquet of white flowers, gifts of the bridegroom. She was attended by two of her sisters as bridesmaids, misses Katie and Edie Lennox attired in white silk chiffon and silk appliqué trimmings hats en suite. They carried exquisite bouquets of pink and red carnations with pink streamers and wore respectively a gold necklet with heart pendant of pearls and rubies and a gold brooch with rubies, gifts of the bridegroom. The bridegroom was attended by his brother Mr Leo Tom Price and Mr W Williams. During the service the choir sang "The Voice That Breathed O'er Eden" and

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*the special psalm. As the bridal party left the church Mr E Orth organist played the wedding march.*

*After the ceremony Mrs Lennox entertained a number of guests at her home in High-street where the wedding breakfast was partaken of and the usual loyal and complimentary toasts duly honored.*

*The happy couple left by the 6.35 train for Ballarat where the honeymoon will be spent. The bride's travelling dress consisted of navy cloth coat and small cornflour blue hat. In the evening a number of friends, principally young ones attended at the Foresters Hall at the invitation of Mrs Lennox and a very happy time was spent until midnight.*

*The wedding presents were numerous and costly.*

*Nepean Times July 17, 1894*

*On Thursday morning [5.7.1894] Mrs Lennox, the widow of the late Mr Richard [sic James] of Regentsville passed over to the great majority at the age of 83.*

*Nepean Times October 22, 1898*

*Mr William Lennox whose death was reported last week was born near St Mary's in 1841, so that he was 57 when he died. His father and mother hailed from the north of Ireland and had but recently immigrated to Australia. He resided with his parents on their farm until he was 27 or 28 years of age when he bought a farm of his own at Castlereigh. At 30 he married Miss Elizabeth Stanton, by whom he had 8 children, one of whom (the eldest daughter) died 7 or 8 years ago (Lizzie aged 14 – affection [affliction?] of liver – on 5.11.1888), the remainder still living at home with their mother. Mr Lennox came to Penrith in 1879 and opened a store. He proved a most successful businessman and his dealings have always been upright and*

*no name in Penrith stood higher for rectitude than Mr William Lennox.*

*He did not take a prominent part in public life, mainly on account of ill health. He suffered from enlargement of the liver, which eventually aided by influenza carried him off. He was a leading member of the Church of England and was also a member of the First Volunteer Company in New South Wales and one of our best rifle shots. Only a few weeks ago Mr Lennox was among the competitors of Dr Pym's trophy. He was regarded as one of the straightest of men, and leaves a clean record behind him. The business is now being conducted by his son, Mr William Lennox and there is every reason to believe he will follow in his father's footsteps. A large number attended the funeral on Saturday afternoon....the family enclosure in St Stephen's Cemetery.*

*Nepean Times Saturday September 8, 1923*

*St Stephen's School Day*

*Pupils of St Stephen's Day School gave a very enjoyable entertainment of the nature of a musical and dramatic revue in St Stephen's School Hall on Monday evening...A splendid programme was staged and the general performance was very credible to the principal, Miss Edith Lennox and pupils. Mrs Cecil Lennox assisted with the training of the children...song "Birdie Lullaby" Betty Price...Master Lennox Price was the accompanist for the evening."*

John Junius Price is referred to in numerous articles in the *Nepean Times* some of which follow:

*February 16, 1961*

*50 Years Ago*

*First Picture Theatre in Penrith*

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*An advertisement in the "Nepean Times" of Saturday February 18, 1911 announced that the Nepean Picture Theatre Company would have a grand opening night on show night, Thursday March 9.*

*A news item in the same issue state: "We are pleased to say this company is comprised practically of local gents..." The local gents were confidently recommended as "a thoroughly reliable and reputable combination capable of running a show of this description to the full satisfaction of the public.*

*It is almost a dream to think that Penrith has unearthed localities who are willing to take a risk – considering the large amount involved – and who are showing their enterprise by such a large undertaking.*

*There will be seating for 1,000 people and a dazzle of lights that will greatly enhance that particular locality and surroundings."*

*Front of the theatre was to be galvanised sheet iron, while "that of the sides will be corrugated."*

*The location was next to the Exchange in High Street Penrith. The advertisement carried the signature of JJ Price, business manager and director."*

*Nepean Times Saturday May 20, 1920 Penrith Roll of Honor...memorial.. Mr JJ Price made an offer of a picture show absolutely free to the committee on the night of the function, provided it was not a Saturday night.*

The Times also carried articles on the attempts to raise funds for the Memorial. Both Leo and John Junius were involved in these tasks.

*Nepean Times Saturday October 20, 1917*

*Mr and Mrs J Price have also returned to their native town, and they too we also welcome. Mr Price was a confidential clerk to the CEE for Railways and Tramways for 8 years but resigned to enter into business pursuits at Baulkam Hills where he also occupied the position of postmaster and assisted reference officer for Nepean Division of Castle Hill and sub district and was appointed JP. He studied military tactics soon after the outbreak of war, and passed with Honors and was third on the list in a school of 250 candidates and was appointed to the reserve for officers. He offered his services to Military Department at home and abroad, but owing to the paucity of recruits there was no vacancy on active service to which he could be appointed to a position befitting his rank.*

*Mr Price has disposed of his business interests and has been engaged in Victoria Barracks on confidential work for the past 15 weeks being appointed to the Board of Inquiry under War Precautions Act (which was the outcome of the Howell-Price revelations) in the capacity of official shorthand writer and subsequently as secretary when this body merged into a Royal Commission. In this capacity he...accompanied the members of the Commission by motor to Jervis Bay and Berrima German Concentration Camp, returned via Bowral a distance of 320 miles...*

*Nepean Times Saturday January 24, 1920 As it will be seen by our advertising columns a meeting of the friends and well-wishers of Ald D Fitch who is a candidate in the interests of the Progressive Party at the forthcoming State Election will be held at the Foresters Hall on Thursday next at 8 pm. Mr JJ Price the convener...reports great activity throughout the Cumberland electorate on behalf of the Farmers' Party. With the advent of Mr Fitch into the local*

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area electors will have a chance to according a vote for a local man who had proved his capacity for representing them in a higher sphere of public life than he had hitherto attained. Mr Barton Addison a well known City Merchant is also we understand carrying the banner as a team mate with Mr Fitch. He will appear later on and has the reputation of being a fine platform speaker. Mr Addison's home is at the north-eastern end of the constituency so the combination should prove an acceptable one.

*Nepean Times* February 3, 1923  
Dame Rumor has been exceedingly busy of late in connection with the affairs of the Nepean Picture Theatre. This journal however, is in a position of authoritatively state that Mr Leo Price and Mr JJ Price have acquired the interests of Messrs Judge Bros... and the latter to retire from the company.

The Nepean Picture Theatre (open air) was established by Mr JJ Price in March 1911 in partnership with Mr Leo Price and one or two others. Messrs Judge Bros joined the concern in 1914 when flotation took place under the name of 'Penrith Amusements Ltd', with a capital of 4,000 pounds. The building known as the Foresters Hall was acquired and in 1920 the present theatre was erected.

It is understood that some improvements are to be effected forthwith, mainly connected with the stage, etc. The company has in contemplation the acquisition of the allotment adjoining with a view to future extensions as required.

Mr JJ Price has been appointed managing director of the company and has already entered into contracts for the supply of features produced by such people as the First National United Artists, Fox Film Corporation etc. A feature of future

managements will be that opportunity is to be given regular patrons of securing seats in the same position in the theatre for all picture entertainments. Those to whom this arrangement appeals are advised to get in touch with the amusement as once...

This Saturday night as double feature programme will be presented including "The Man From Hell's River," and "While Justice Waits".

*Nepean Times* Saturday May 30, 1925  
Alderman JJ Price of this town in the general secretary of the Progressive Party of NSW. The Progressive Party has just on 500 active branches throughout NSW. It has concentrated on 12 electorates and the work of dispatch of literature and attention to thousands of telegrams and letters entailed by a strenuous campaign has kept Ald Price and his large staff hard at it for several weeks past...

*Nepean Times* Saturday December 19, 1925  
PENRITH'S NEW MAYOR  
ALD JJ PRICE

Ald JJ Price, who was elected Mayor of Penrith on Friday night is a native of this town, and is a member of a family that stands in high esteem of the people of the district. Through 125 years the Price family has been associated with the district, and the new Mayor is a worthy successor of honorable and able progenitors. His grandparents on both sides were pioneers of the Nepean Hawkesbury district. The former, the late Mr John Price, settled in this town 70 years ago, and the latter was born in Penrith 83 years ago.<sup>5</sup> The late Mrs Price was a teacher in the Education Department, and townsmen such as Messrs HJF Neale

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<sup>5</sup> John Price was his father – his grandfather was William Price – convict and later gentleman – who lived at Richmond. His mother was Elizabeth Jane Robertson.

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*and Arthur Judges were numbered among her pupils.*

*Mr John Junius Price left school at 14 to enter the service of the late Mr EK Waldron, auctioneer, the business being conducted on the site of the present Nepean Picture Theatre, now owned by Penrith Amusements Ltd, of which the Mayor is the managing director. After three years he entered commercial life in the City and then qualifying as a high-speed shorthand writer, was appointed confidential clerk to the present Commissioners of Railways, Mr OW Brain who at that time was Chief Electrical Engineer for Railways and Tramways.*

*After eight years in this capacity, and seeing no opportunity of promotion Mr Price resigned to enter business pursuits, in which he had a most varied experience until the outbreak of war. He offered his services, disposed of his commercial interests such as demanded his immediate personal supervision, qualified for his commission and was allotted to the Royal Commission on Navy and Defense Administration, where his professional qualifications were constantly in demand. On the proclamation of peace he turned his attention to the political sphere, and accepted the position he now holds, viz, that of general secretary of the Country Party of NSW and is the winner of several medals for bass and baritone solos, and occasionally showed his versatility by coming out on top with literary contributions on such 'small' things as "The Growth and Development of New South Wales", "Has Federation proved beneficial to Australia," and The Best Method of Defense for Australia".*

*In earlier days of his career Ald Price represented this district in cricket as an all-rounder. In 1911 he was quick to sense the development of the motion picture industry. He established theatres here and at*

*Cronulla and still holds large interests in the latter. As is known he is actively connected with Nepean Picture Theatre here, and the company recently added to its freehold with the object, at no distant date of erecting a palatial up-to-date theatre suitable for the presentation of all kinds of entertainment.*

*The subject of this sketch has had numerous offers to enter the larger field of Federal and State Politics but for the time being finds sufficient interest in making the way easy for others to do so...*

*Nepean Times July 28 1923 had a lengthy article on the appointment of JJ Price to the position of General Secretary to the Progressive Party of NSW.*

*The same paper October 30, 1952 contained the obituary of John Junius William Price. It mentioned the details of the history of his working life that included that he organised a *Back to Penrith Week* in 1926 and was a pioneer of the ambulance movement in Penrith.*

*It continued with the information that Mr Price left Penrith in 1928 and took up residence in Newcastle. Here he was instrumental in New England Northern and North-West Producers Co Ltd known as *NENCO*. He became the secretary and later the managing director of the company – a position that he held until his retirement during the Second World War. He was also instrumental in forming the Newcastle Stock Exchange and was for a time the elected Chairman. A little over twelve months prior to his death the family moved to Epping. He was privately cremated at the Northern Suburbs Crematorium. His wife and daughter & son, Mrs R (Betty) Gibson of Warwick Queensland), Dr Lennox Price of Lindfield (ophthalmic surgeon) with a practice in Macquarie Street and Penrith survived him.*

## CHAPTER 7 JOHN PRICE

Mrs H Witts (Lottie) a sister also survived him.

The local paper dated April 24 1955 contained the obituary of Florence Sarah Price who died in the Nepean District Hospital on April 28. She was survived by her son and daughter along with four grandchildren. Details of her life were printed in the obituary and that she was privately cremated at the Northern Suburbs Crematorium.

Following her husband's death Florence lived with her sister, Miss Edith Lennox in High Street.

### CHILDREN OF FLORENCE SARAH & JOHN JUNIUS WILLIAM PRICE

#### 1. ALBERT E PRICE 1899

2. JOHN WILLIAM LENNOX PRICE. He was born 1.4.1908 at Richmond and was known as Lennox Price and studied at St Stephen's Day School run by his aunt who was principal of the School. In 1932 he completed his degree at Sydney University after completing his high school studies at Sydney Grammar School (he won a scholarship).

*Nepean Times* July 20 1939 recorded that Mr and Mrs J Price late of Penrith had received a cable from their son Dr Lennox Price has been successful in the 1<sup>st</sup> Sectional exam for ophthalmic degree known as DOMS. He left for England a few months earlier – from a position of Senior Medical Officer at Sydney Hospital in charge of the eye department...The paper dated March 3, 1940 confirmed that he had qualified for the Ophthalmic degree and had been recently appointed Senior House Surgeon at the Royal Westminster Ophthalmic Hospital London. Lennox Price also joined the RAAF

and was discharged from the service 29<sup>th</sup> August 1945. His next of kin was Pearl Price. Squadron Leader Lennox Price won the Distinguished Flying Cross.

ELIZABETH LENNOX PRICE (known as *Betty*).  
*Nepean Times* Thursday October 1, 1937

#### WEDDING BELLS GIBSON-PRICE

*At St Anne's Church Strathfield on Saturday, Elizabeth (Betty) Lennox, only daughter of Mr and Mrs JJ Price of Mereweather (formerly of Penrith) was married to Mr Ronald Smith Gibson, younger son of Mr and Mrs David Gibson of Strathfield and formerly of Brisbane. Rev WG Nisbett performed the ceremony.*

*The bride carried a century old prayer book which belonged to her paternal great-grandfather. Off white crepe-Richelieu fashioned her gown in medieval style and to the shoulder she pinned a diamond brooch which was formerly her grandmother's. A tulle veil was surmounted with a wreath of orange blossoms, which had been worn by the bride's mother on her wedding day. A sheaf of azaleas was carried. The three bridesmaids, Misses Alison Gibson, Beryl Price and Mavis Hunter wore frocks of pale green satin with overdress of deep cream net. Velvet ribbon streamers fell from their picture hats of cream straw and they carried sheaves of scarlet roses. Mr Jack Gibson was best man and Dr Lennox Price and Mr Ronald Lane the groomsmen.*

*A reception was held at Miss Bishop's Crystal Palace George Street where Mrs Price received the guests, assisted by Mrs Gibson...Mrs Price's navy blue sheer ensemble with which she wore a hat to tone and carried a posy of field flowers. The bridegroom's mother carried pink carnations with her frock of blue sheer matalashe. Mrs Ronald Gibson, when leaving the reception wore a short beige fur cape over her frock of resida green satin*



## CHAPTER 7 JOHN PRICE

*rhadzmer and added beige accessories. The honeymoon is spent touring.*

*Nepean Times* October 2, 1941 announced the birth on September 20 1941 of a son to Betty, wife of Ronald of Homebush Road Strathfield.

14. CHARLOTTE ELIZABETH PRICE 26.6.1881. On 6.2.1907 she married Herbert Joseph Witts at Penrith. This event too was announced in the *Nepean Times* February 9, 1907

### WEDDING BELLS WITTS PRICE

*A wedding which caused considerable commotion among the young folk of the town and one of the prettiest seen here for some time was celebrated at St Stephen's Church Penrith on Wednesday afternoon [6.2.1907] last, the contracting parties being Mr Herbert J Witts, for many years connected with the Bank of New South Wales, Penrith, now Bombala, sixth son of the late Mr AE Witts and Mrs Witts of Drummoyne, late of Rose Mount, Bombala and Miss Lottie Price, only daughter of the second marriage of the late Mr John Price and Mrs Price of Penrith.*

*The church had been tastefully decorated by the girl friends of the bride, the chief attraction being a floral arch and bell immediately over the Communion rails; and the choir of which the bride had been a member since early girlhood mustering in full force.*

*Long before the wedding party arrived the church except for seats reserved for party was well filled with an eager and expectant throng.*

*The guests first arrived then came the bridegroom accompanied by his brother, Mr Charles F Witts, bestman. Soon the bride,*

*who looked charming, entered the church on the arm of her brother, Mr JJ Price who gave her away. As they entered the choir sang that beautiful hymn, "The Voice That Breathed O'er Eden". Miss Elsie Robbins, niece of the bride, was the only bridesmaid.*

*Rev George Brown of St David's Surry Hills (late of Penrith) assisted by Rev HT Holliday, RD Rector, conducted the service. During the ceremony Mr RCS Wilkinson manager of the Bank of New South Wales, Penrith presided at the organ and at the close played the Wedding March. Mr EJ Fulton sang a solo, "Be Thou Faithful," Miss Linney Judges accompanying on the organ. The bride wore a handsome gown of white paillette silk trimmed with appliqué and accordeon pleated chiffon with dainty embroidered tulle veil and coronet of orange blossoms. She carried a lovely shower bouquet and wore a gold bangle set with opals, gifts of the bridegroom. Her travelling dress was of grey chiffon taffeta, hat of pink mohair. The bridesmaid's dress was of eau de nil silk with Paris lace trimmings and hat to match. She carried a shower bouquet and wore a gold bangle set with pearls and rubies, gifts of the bridegroom. As the happy couple left the church they were literally smothered with confetti rose leaves and rice.*

*A reception was later held at the bride's mother's residence in Henry-street and at the wedding breakfast (catered by Mrs Horstmann in first class style, the tables being neatly arranged) fully 50 guests sat down. The usual toasts were duly proposed and honored. The bridal cake made by Mr A Sutherland, High-street Penrith was of excellent quality and...decorated.*

*The happy couple left by the "fish" train for Mount Victoria where the honeymoon is being spent. .*

## CHAPTER 7 JOHN PRICE

In 1928 the couple lived at *Eulawah* Yosefa Avenue Warrawee. No details about children are known.

15. LEOPOLD TOM 23.3.1884-9.5.1936 Penrith. He married Esther May Ritchie 26.8.1908. This event was published in *Nepean Times* August 29, 1908

### PRICE-RITCHIE

*Beautiful spring weather prevailed in Penrith on Wednesday last for the marriage of one of the best known young men of the district, that of Mr Leopold Tom Price, youngest son of Mrs Price and the late Mr John Price of Henry-street Penrith to Miss Esther (Essie) May Ritchie second daughter of the late Mr Robert Ritchie of the Cedars, Forbes. Long before the appointed time folks wended their way to St Stephen's Church which was soon filled to its utmost capacity, beside large groups were outside the building and long High Street. About sixty guests were also present.*

*The church was nicely decorated with fern and white flowers by Messrs Thorncroft and Fulton and a large floral bell with the initials "LE" on either side hung from an arch immediately above the Communion rail under which the nuptial knot was tied. As the bride entered the church Mr ED... played an organ solo, and during the service the choir sang a psalm and Miss Neta Colless sweetly rendered "Beloved it is Morn," followed by the Wedding March from the church organ as the bridal party left the church. Canon Archdall assisted by Rev George Brown of Surry Hills (late of Penrith) officiated.*

*The bride who was married from Mrs S Thorncroft's, with whom she had been staying, looked charming in her handsome dress of chiffon taffeta trimmed with orange blossom and mechlin lace, and the orthodox wreaths and veil; she also wore a*

*handsome marquis diamond and emerald ring and neck chain and carried a lovely shower bouquet, gifts of the bridegroom. There was only one bridesmaid, that of her sister (Miss Isobel Richie) who was neatly attired in pale pink louseine trimmed with silk lace and pale blue hat; she also wore a double bamboo bracelet and carried shower bouquet gifts of the bridegroom. Mr O Shailer of Sydney (brother-in-law of the bride) gave the bride away and Mr Rupert Brady of Penrith acted as bestman. There were many pretty and handsome dresses worn by the guests. The bride's mother who was indisposed and unable to travel the distance could not attend.*

*Amidst great showers of confetti the bridal party were driven in carriages drawn by white horses to the Temperance Hall where the guests were also conveyed for the reception – the latter being received by Mrs Price, Mr Shailer and Mrs Thorncrofts and the usual congratulations extended to the newly wedded couple. The hall was also decorated and presented a nice appearance with well laid tables of an excellent repast which was adorned with a handsome three decker wedding cake decorated with doves, swans, balls and horse shoes. Canon Archdall was chairman and with Rev G Brown, Messrs L Price, O Shailer, R Brady and JJ Price spoke to the various toasts which were duly honored. Mrs F Hortsmann catered in her usually satisfactory style.*

*Mr and Mrs Price left by the 6.15 train for Katoomba to spend a few days after which they go to Sydney and then return to their future home in Penrith. A very large number were at the station to see them off. Mrs Price's travelling dress was a tailor made coat and skirt of green cloth, and shaded silk hat, trimmed with parma violets and lace.*

## CHAPTER 7 JOHN PRICE

*The presents numbering over 80 were both beautiful and costly and included many cheques and a writing cabinet with silver mounts, inscribed, "Presented to Lieut LT Price by G Company Penrith, 1<sup>st</sup> Bat, AIF 19.8.08".*

Mrs Price did help in the family business and *kept the books*. She was also had the distinction of being the first lady elected to the committee of the Nepean District Hospital and the first lady of the district appointed Justice of the Peace (*Nepean Times* August 18, 1928)

The front page of *Nepean Times* May 23, 1936 bore the sad news of the death of Leopold Tom Price. The information conveyed the facts that Leopold Tom Price came from an old Penrith family and that his demise was quite unexpected because he had continued with work the day before he died. The article then continued:

*Deceased was born in Penrith 52 years ago in the house in Henry Street in which he resided all his life. He was educated at the old public school in Henry Street and at the Penrith College conducted by the late Mr Reid.*

*At the age of 13 Leo distinguished himself by winning the cadet's all schools championship trophy, medal and badge. His interest in military affairs continued and at the age of 15 it was discovered that he had volunteered for service in the South African War. Although so young he was an excellent horseman and possessed a physique usually associated with men ten years his senior. Maternal veto put an end to his patriotic aspirations on that occasion. However upon leaving school he found time to give the necessary attention to securing of a commission in the Old Volunteers Corps of Penrith, and it was his permanent regret that a serious attack of pneumonia some 20*

*years ago precluded his acceptance for service in the Great War.*

*Deceased never aspired to public life, but he was connected with most local movements. He had what is claimed as a unique distinction viz, the honor of being elected Worshipful Master of Lodge Nepean at a record early age for holder of such a position. He was in line with the family tradition regarding music, and although quite rarely heard in public was the possessor of a tenor voice much above the average. But he did not indulge in having it trained for platform appearances...*

The article continued with family information and noted that he was survived by his wife and children – Halie (Mrs A Cameron Lithgow), Leopold (Penrith) and Joan (nursing Sydney Hospital). His surviving sister and brother were Mrs HJ Witts (Warrawee) and JJ Price (Newcastle).

Reference was also made to his good work in promoting worthy public movements including those of charitable or ameliorative or educational character. He was also a committeeman for School of Arts.

Leopold Tom Price took over the undertaking business but by the time of his death had sold this business to Nelson Price. For many years Leopold Tom Price was local correspondent for the *Sun* and *Telegraph*.

Following the funeral ceremony in St Stephen's Church the remains were buried in St Stephen's Church Cemetery next to his mother and brother Halwyn.

## CHAPTER 7 JOHN PRICE

Below: Leo Price in background, unknown man and Halie Price (right) and her friend, Mary Pickles. Photograph from Mary Pickles granddaughter, Antoinette (UK). Below: snapshot of Halie Price on her wedding day



CHILDREN OF ESTHER MAY & LEOPOLD  
TOM PRICE

1. HALIE ROBERTSON PRICE. On 19.12.1931 she married in St Stephen's Church Penrith to Allan Godfrey Cameron, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Alexander Cameron of *Alwynton* York Estate Penrith. Halie at that time lived at *The Hawthorns* Penrith. The wedding was reported in the *Nepean Times* January 2, 1932.

The church was decorated with the bell mentioned in a number of earlier weddings and her background details noted that her paternal grandmother was born in 1801 – a

point made in reference that Halie's family had been in the district for 130 years.<sup>6</sup>

The choir sang "the Voice that Breathed O'er Eden" and later John Junius Price sang the solo, "My Prayer". This was followed by the Wedding March.

*The bride presented a gorgeous picture, wearing a wonderful ankle length dress of white satin and chiffon, beautifully appliquéd which had been worn by her aunt Mrs HJ Witts (nee Lottie Price of Warrawee) when she was married in the same church 25 years ago. A train composed of silver lame and Mechlin lace adorned with beautiful silver lilies and a veil of point lace both loaned by an old friend, Mrs Marjorie Newman, and a halo of orange blossoms completed the ensemble the like of which had seldom been seen.*

*The bride carried a lovely sheath of flowers composed of white gladioli, pale pink roses and stephanotis. There were two maids in attendance, viz her sister Miss Joan Price and Miss Mary Pickles<sup>7</sup> an old school mate of the bride. They were gowned alike in pink organdy, ankle length frocks with blue ribbons carried out in Old World Design, blue angle ribbon. They carried bouquets of true lovers knots of hydrangeas, pink carnations, blue delphiniums and forget-me-nots, suspended from which was a trail of pink roses. Mr Donald Cameron was best man and Mr Duncan Cameron groomsman.*

The article then continued with details of the reception held at the Masonic Hall.

<sup>6</sup> This date refers to the birth of Ann Cooper who married William Price. She was born at Parramatta.

<sup>7</sup> Mary Pickles later married a man from Scotland and left Australia never to return. Her grand –daughter, Antoinette sent copies of the photographs of Halie and Mary that are reproduced here.

## CHAPTER 7 JOHN PRICE

Following the reception the bride and groom left by motor for the Coast. Mrs Cameron's travelling dress was floral georgette in pink and green tones covered with green wool crepe de chine coat trimmed with fawn fur and she wore a green Baku hat, featuring the new Princess Eugene style. The bouquets were supplied by Mrs Bessie Gascoigne and amongst the beautiful presents were two cases of cutlery and a solid leather lounge suite.

Allan Cameron was a school teacher and became a principal early in his career. During school holidays the family often returned to Penrith to stay with Mrs Price. A paper in January 1951 noted that their son Bruce had scored a good pass in the Leaving Certificate. Allan's career information from the Department of Education notes the following:

Allan Cameron born 4.2.1908. He trained  
1927-28 and then served  
Parramatta 25.1.1929  
Eribung 19.1.1931  
Cooerwull 4.2.1932  
Bellbird 14.12.1938  
Burnside 13.1.1943  
Junee 15.11.1945  
Gundagai 4.12.1951  
Colyton 17.11.1955  
Retired 19.4.1968 aged 60 years.  
He died in 1976.

The obituary for Allan's father appeared in *Nepean Times* September 13, 1951. His name was Alexander Cameron. He died 13.8.1951 aged 82 years and was born in Scotland – third son of Duncan and Johanne Cameron.

Alexander Cameron came to Australia around the age of 28 and became a manager of a station at Hillson in the Riverina. Later he took up the position of book keeper on another large station at

Lake Cargellico and during this time met and married Florence Harriet Davis, daughter of Christopher and Harriet Davis of Lake Cargellico where she was born. The couple lived at Condoloblin until about fifteen years ago when they moved to York Estate. Mrs Cameron died around three years earlier than her husband. Mr Cameron left a daughter and four sons – Mary (Penrith), Donald (Penrith), Duncan (Elizabeth Bay), Alex (Penrith) and Allan (Junee). Another son, Neil, predeceased him. There were six grandchildren of whom three were children of Mr Allan Cameron.

### CHILDREN OF HALIE ROBERTSON & ALLAN GODFREY CAMERON

BRUCE CAMERON born circa 1934. He became a high school teacher in the 1950s was at Molong.

JUDITH CAMERON  
ROBYN CAMERON

LEOPOLD TOM ROBERTSON PRICE married a lady with the first name of Jean. They have at least one daughter, Helen who married at All Saints Bundanoon on 12.12.1952 to Phillip Bruce Wearne of *The Knoll* Bundanoon. This couple had at least one child, a daughter, born 29.5.1955 at Private Hospital Bowral.

In 1949 Leo was a member of the RAAF and was stationed at Wagga Wagga. He was attached to the instructional staff. World War 2 records are now available on line and provided the following information: Leopold Tom Robertson Price was born 11<sup>th</sup> May 1913 at Penrith. He enlisted in the RAAF 21<sup>st</sup> November 1944 and was discharged on 22<sup>nd</sup> September 1960.

JOAN ROBERTSON PRICE born circa 1914. She became a nurse and began in Penrith and later moved to Royal Hospital for Women in Sydney where in 1936 she qualified in Midwifery. Around 1948 she

## **CHAPTER 7**

### **JOHN PRICE**

married Arthur Allen McDonnell and lived in Gladstone Street Parramatta. The couple had at least one child – a daughter, Jennifer Dianne.



Halie Price & Mary Pickles