

## JUNE

**Speaker:** Mrs. Carol Herben: The Makin Family

This exposé of Carol Herben's ancestor, William Samuel Makin and his children left little doubt that they were a family of note and notoriety. William married Ellen Bolton at St. Phillip's Church, Sydney on 23rd January, 1837. Between 1837 and 1860 they had eleven

children of which the fourth child, John and his wife Sarah, known as The Baby Farmers, became part of Australia's legal history for the serial killing of fourteen babies for profit.

After moving to the Illawarra District, William and Ellen took up a clearing lease at Charcoal, then moved to Fairy Meadow for a short time before becoming a Crown Street shop dealer. Other business dealings were The Steam Packet Hotel as licensee, agent for Illawarra Steam Navigational Company, land owner at Mt. Kembla and Mt. Keira and manager of Market Square.

Carol also gave a synopsis of the birth, death and marriage of William and Ellen's eleven children. The delivery of this paper was so complete that the usual question time produced only two inquiries.

Copies of this talk can be viewed at the museum.