## **PERDRIAU, Ernest Charles**

Ernest Charles Perdriau was born in 1864, the son of Henry and Anne Eliza, in the district of Balmain. He was one of twin sons, the other being Albert William.**1**

An enthusiastic sportsman in his youth, in July 1884, he was one of the contestants in the International Race Meeting under the auspices of the Sydney Bicycle Club, held at the Association Grounds, which drew together over 13,000 persons. In 1886 he was an auditor for the Sydney Bicycle Club.**2**

In 1887 he was honorary secretary of the Burwood Literary Association.**3**

In 1891 he purchased land in Beecroft.

By February 1894 he was attending meetings of the Beecroft Progress Association, along with his two brothers W. S. and H. Perdriau. In 1895 he was elected Honorary Secretary, and in 1896 was on the committee of management, becoming Acting Secretary, owing to the ill health of Mr. B. R. Gelling in September, as well as being on the committee of the Beecroft Kennedya Lawn Tennis Club. In January 1897 he was elected Vice-President of the Beecroft Progress Association.**4**

On 9th March 1897 he married Annie Ford Young, fourth daughter of George Edward Young, at the residence of the bride’s parents, “Barfleur,” Darvall-street, Balmain. In April he returned to his Hornsby home. The following year a daughter was born at “Drofnie,” Beecroft.**5**

In December 1897, he was voted President of the Beecroft Progress Association, in the absence of the previous President W. S. Perdriau. Another daughter was born 29th December at “Drofnie”. He remained as President until August 1898 when he tendered his resignation, owing to having taken up a position for the family firm in Melbourne.**6**

In 1898 there was a dissolution of partnership, in the business of india-rubber merchants, between brothers Henry, Walter and Ernest Perdriau, dissolved by mutual consent, as from 31st March. Henry would take over the Sydney business, and Walter and Ernest would take over the Melbourne business.**7**

In April 1899 he returned to Beecroft, after an absence of 12 months, to spend the Easter holidays. His wife had preceded him to have a longer stay among Beecroft friends. They stayed in a villa residence in Welham-street, owned by Mr. Chorley.**8**

On 7th April 1919, Ernest Charles Perdriau, of Camberwell, Victoria, died. He had been connected with the Melbourne branch of the family business for 20 years. He was also well-known in Sydney as a member of the Sydney Liedertafel, and he was also a tennis enthusiast. One of the four sons and his own daughter were, at the time, on active service.**9**

**Bibliography**

1 NSW Registry of Births Deaths and Marriages

2 Balmain Observer and Western Suburbs Advertiser, Sat 2 Aug 1884; Balmain Observer and Western Suburbs Advertiser, Sat 13 Mar 1886

3 Evening News, Mon 18 Jul 1887

4 The Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate, Sat 3 Feb 1894; The Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate, Sat 9 Feb 1895; The Daily Telegraph, Thu 6 Feb 1896; The Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate, Sat 19 Sep 1896; The Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate, Sat 30 Jan 1897

5 The Sydney Morning Herald, Sat 13 Mar 1897; The Sydney Mail and New South Wales Advertiser, Sat 20 Mar 1897; The Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate, Sat 10 Apr 1897; The Sydney Morning Herald, Sat 8 Jan 1898

6 The Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate, Sat 18 Dec 1897; The Sydney Morning Herald, Sat 8 Jan 1898; The Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate, Sat 20 Aug 1898

7 The Sydney Morning Herald, Mon 12 Jun 1899

8 The Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate, Sat 15 Apr 1899

9 The Sydney Morning Herald, Thu 10 Apr 1919

**NOTE**: Additional information contained within Beecroft Cheltenham History Group website and book ‘Beecroft and Cheltenham, the Shaping of a Sydney Community to 1914’.