## **RATTRAY, George Allan**

On 2nd April 1870 George Rattray (born 1844), 2nd son of George Rattray, J.P., married at St. Peter’s Church, Cook’s River, Catherine (Kate), eldest daughter of the late Robert Beames, Esq., J.P., of Pemberton Grange, Parramatta.

[George’s parents: George and Maria N., Catherine’s parents: Robert and Mary Ann]**1**

George Rattray, senior, was associated in business for some years with his brother-in-law, George Octavius Allan, for many years the managing trustee of the New South Wales Savings Bank, who died in 1878.

George Rattray, senior, died in 1885 at his late residence, Frances-street, Enmore, aged 77 years. Earlier that year his estate was declared insolvent, and he was described as estate agent, of Baulkham Hills, gentleman. His cottage in Campbell-street, Parramatta, was sold by public auction.

He was one of Sydney's first magistrates and commercial pioneers. He lived for fifty years in Campbell-street, Parramatta, and had his place of business in George-street, Sydney.**2**

Children of marriage of George (junior) and Catherine Rattray were:

1872 **Mona P**. [Penton], *Elsinore*, Ashfield; unmarried, died 1949

1875 **Edith M**., Ashfield; married 1895 Alfred E. Midson

1878 **Allan MacKenzie**, Croydon

1880 Unnamed (**Una R.**), Croydon; married 1906 Kenneth E. Row

1881 Unnamed, district of Canterbury; infant died 1881 Canterbury

1882 Unnamed (**Nita Sydney**), Croydon; married 1919 Ernest W. Ashman3

In 1894 George Rattray, junior, was on the working committee for the W. G. Coward Memorial at Beecroft. **4**

In 1896 P. Purcell, a Beecroft builder, was erecting a ‘very nice’ residence for Mr. Rattray. That year his son Allan, clerk, was residing with his parents at Beecroft.**5**

In 1897 he was selling a new cottage, 5 rooms, land 80 x 190, price £300 (Contact Rattray, Beecroft). The cottage was advertised later that year for £250.

He was also on the deputation to meet with the Minister for Works in regard to the construction of an overhead bridge at Beecroft.**6**

In 1898 he advertised for let a new cottage, 5 rooms and 4 acres land (Apply Mr. Rattray, Beecroft).**7**

In 1900 he was on the committee for a proposed monument to perpetuate the memory of the late Private Dave Willis, killed on active service in South Africa.**8**

In 1901 he was a committee member of the Beecroft Progress Association. That year he advertised for sale a cottage of 5 rooms with 2 acres of land (Contact Mr. Rattray, Beecroft).**9**

In 1902 Mrs. Rattray, of Beecroft-road, Cheltenham, advertised for sale 10,000 bricks. The following year she advertised for rent a 5-roomed cottage with 2 acres of land.**10**

In January 1907 Mrs. Rattray disposed of her fine residence and grounds at Cheltenham, the purchaser being Mr. W. H. Harris, of Edensor Park, near Liverpool, who, with his family, would be taking up his residence in the new home within weeks. Mrs. Rattray would be going to live at Borowra.**11**

On 29th January 1919, George Allan Rattray, for many years an officer of the Union Bank of Australia, died at St. Kilda Hospital, Darlinghurst, aged 75 years. His widow, one son and four daughters survived him. He died intestate and the Public Trustee administered his estate. He was buried at the Church of England Cemetery, Rookwood.

He was a member of one of the oldest banking families in Australasia. He joined the Union Bank at the age of 15, and served 40 years at the head office. He was an old Parramatta boy, son of Mr. Geo. Rattray, senior, accountant, etc., who lived fifty years ago in Campbell-street, Parramatta.**12**

In 1939 Catherine Rattray, widow of George Allan Rattray, of Mount Colah, died.**13**

**Bibliography**

1 Sydney Morning Herald, Mon 11 April 1870; NSW Registry of Births Deaths and Marriages

2 Sydney Morning Herald, Friday 12 April 1878; Sydney Morning Herald, Sat 29 Aug 1885; Sydney Mail and New South Wales Advertiser, Sat 7 Nov 1885; New South Wales Government Gazette, Fri 12 Jun 1891; Sydney Morning Herald, Sat 1 Feb 1919; Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate, Sat 8 Feb 1919

3 NSW Registry of Births Deaths and Marriages

4 Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate, Sat 24 Nov 1894

5 Cumberland Free Press, Sat 23 May 1896; Cumberland Free Press, Sat, 11 Jul 1896

6 Daily Telegraph, Sat 28 Aug 1897; Daily Telegraph, Wed 1 Dec 1897; Sydney Morning Herald, Fri 17 Dec 1897

7 Daily Telegraph, Sat 15 Jan 1898

8 Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate, Sat 3 Nov 1900

9 Sydney Morning Herald, Thu 31 Jan 1901

10 Daily Telegraph, Thu 17 Jul 1902; Sydney Morning Herald, Mon 19 Jan 1903

11 Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate, Sat 26 Jan 1907

12 Sydney Morning Herald, Thu 30 Jan 1919; Sydney Morning Herald, Sat 1 Feb 1919;; Newcastle Morning Herald and Miners' Advocate, Mon 3 Feb 1919; Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate, Sat 8 Feb 1919; Government Gazette of the State of New South Wales, Fri 18 Jul 1919

13 NSW Registry of Births Deaths and Marriages; Sydney Morning Herald, Mon 3 April 1939

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