



Presents

AUSTRALIA'S EASTERN WAR?

by

Craig Wilcox



The grave of Lieutenant General Sir Maurice O'Connell, Australian commander in chief during New Zealand's Northern War, Camperdown Cemetery, Newtown

Six cannon were mounted on Bradleys Head early in the 1840s to deter a French or American attack on Sydney. Perhaps they were the six stripped from Sydney's defences in the winter of 1845 and shipped to New Zealand to pummel Māori stockades. Troops, transports and supplies also went that year to what was the first campaign waged across the sea by a military force from Australia. It was also a maritime extension of frontier conflicts that began in Sydney fifty years earlier. What happened in New Zealand's Northern War of 1845-46, and why was much of the British war effort managed from Sydney? Should we think of the conflict as Australia's Eastern War?

Dr Craig Wilcox is a military historian who last spoke to the Mosman Historical Society about J. F. Thomas the lawyer-soldier who defended Breaker Morant. His books include *Australia's Boer War* (2002), *Red Coat Dreaming* (2009), and *Badge Boot Button* (2017).

Venue: Mosman Library (doors open 6.15 to 7.15 PM)

Date: Wednesday 13 September 2017

Time: 7.00 PM (following the Annual General Meeting that commences at 6.45 PM)

Members free
Visitors \$5 donation

Tea and coffee provided
For information tel. 0418857182