



Sutherland Shire Historical Society

Quarterly Bulletin

April, 1972

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SUTHERLAND SHIRE HISTORICAL SOCIETY QUARTERLY BULLETIN APRIL 1972.

C/- 9 Animbo Street,
MIRANDA.
31st March, 1972.

Dear Member:

At the sixth Annual General Meeting held on Friday, 10th March 1972, the following members, were elected as Office-bearers for the ensuing year:

PRESIDENT:	Mr. H. Ivers
VICE-PRESIDENTS:	Mr. C. Law
HON. SECRETARY:	Mr. J. ;Talker
	Mr. A. Midgley
	Mr. F. Midgley
	Mr. N. Norwood
HON TREASURER	Mrs. A. Griffiths
HON ARCHIVIST	Mr. B. Sargeant
HON RESEARCH OFFICER:	M. Hutton Neve
HON PUBLICITY OFFICER:	Mr. C. Law (Acting)
COMMITTEE :	Mr. K. Mathews
	Mrs. A. Becker
	Mr. G. Heavens
	Mrs. E. Carmichael
	Mr. E. Jehan

N. Horwood

Hon. Secretary

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PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES FOR SECOND QUARTER 1972

MEETINGS are held on second Friday of each month at 8 p.m. ' in the Auditorium of Sydney County Council Showrooms, Eton Street, Sutherland.

Friday, 14th April; Members Night. Short items will be presented by J. Walker and Mrs. Shannon,

Friday, 12th May: A presentation of Films of early Sutherland, from the Shire Council Film Collection.

Friday, 9th June: _____ To be advised.

EXCURSIONS :

Saturday. 15th April; A full day excursion to Parramatta and District.
Fee. \$1.75 per person

Saturday 20th May: A full day excursion - in conjunction with Kogarah & Hurstville Historical Societies - to Camden and Douglas Park. Fee \$3.00 (including \$1.00 admission to Camden Park).

Saturday 10th June: Half_day visit to Kurnell

To enable inclusion of so many items, this quarter's bulletin has been rather "crowded" in its presentation. We trust it meets with members' approval.

J.T.W.

Convener Bulletin Board.

SUTHERLAND SHIRE HISTORICAL SOCIETY QUARTERLY BULLETIN, APRIL 1972.RETIRING PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Once again Australia Day has been observed and acknowledged across our Nation. As is usual on and around the day, the various news media made much of the sad fact that quite some few of the Australian community do not seem to be aware of the reason for such a commemoration or of its great significance. This is, alas, a situation of which no doubt most Australians with a sense and proper evaluation of the Nation's founding must feel a little ashamed. Indeed in extreme circumstances there could be a feeling of humiliation.

It surely can be asserted that the day of Australia's foundation ought to be regarded by us as a people as probably the most important of all the national days we observe and celebrate with a public holiday.

If the foregoing is accepted, perhaps we should endeavour to ascertain what may constitute some reasons for the seeming lack of universal and appropriate recognition of the anniversary of the first settlement on this` continent. When seeking causes, and perhaps prescribing remedies it is suggested that the following aspects be examined:-

1. The term "Australia Day", although it may evoke patriotic emotions, may not be sufficiently specific. Might the term "Foundation Day" be more appropriate and meaningful and, consequently, be more likely to encourage and promote properly informed recognition. Incidentally, the day was officially called by that term in some parts of Australia in an earlier era.
2. Should the public holiday be held on the 26th January each year irrespective of the day of the week on which it occurs? A change in this direction may possibly draw deeper citizen attention to the purpose and meaning of the day.
3. Governmental and other public authorities, although they do make formal statements pertaining to and recognising the day, should direct themselves towards more leadership in impressing the general Community with the full meaning and significance of the settlement which Occurred on the 26th January, 1788.
4. Is Australia's foundation given sufficient attention within the system of education of the Nation's young people?

Finally, may one suggest that the subject raised in this message be embraced as one for study and research by such a body as the Historical Society which we serve,

Special thanks and appreciation are expressed to our Guest Speakers during the quarter; Mr. Clive Stevens (member), Mr. J.M. Antill, and His Honour Judge Coleman Wall, both Councillors of Royal Australian Historical Society.

C. LAW.

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THE SUTHERLAND HOSPITAL

The complete story of The Sutherland Hospital would provide an interesting chapter in the history of our area.

In 1961, along with Mesdames E. Edwards, M.B.E. and C.J. Monro, I had the honour of being one of a delegation of three representing the Hospital's Auxiliaries, which waited on Sutherland Shire Council, to urge the necessity of retaining the land at the rear of the Hospital, for hospital purposes, as previously agreed.,

The following notes were those used by me to present our case, and will, I am confident, prove of interest to our readers, as they give a factual survey of that time.

"Mr. President and Councillors:

In submitting our case in support of the retention of the land at the rear of The Sutherland District Hospital, I hope I will be excused if I quote certain facts of which no. doubt Councillors are aware; but we have heard rumours to the effect that the Council is seriously contemplating selling this land.

I would like to take members of Council back to 1944; in that year the Board of Sutherland District Hospital was incorporated and after some delay the site for the hospital selected. Plans were drawn and presented to the Board and it was then found that whilst the area of land available was twenty-three acres, the Commission had laid it down that only ten acres were to be used for Hospital purposes and as the plans originally presented encroached slightly over that area, they were amended to fit within the requisite ten acres.

This would indicate that even at that stage, when the population of the Sutherland Shire was 27,500 the Hospital was not being built, with very much space for additions as needed.

Immediately it was apparent to those closely following our Hospital's progress that it would only be a very short time before there would be need to increase the size of the Hospital. The Board was approached in 1946 suggesting that steps should be taken to acquire the rejected thirteen acres to retain them for future hospitalisation in order that we in this Shire would be spared the expense of purchasing rows of houses as has happened with almost every other large Metropolitan hospital. We have in mind especially our near neighbour, St. George Hospital, which now covers an area of about thirty (30) acres, since their purchase of three streets of houses at great cost to the Commission and untold inconvenience and hard-ship to many families.

Gentlemen:. when this first move was made the cost of the land was between £4,000 and £5,000.

At that time the Sutherland Shire was considered to be so completely isolated from other parts of the metropolitan area it was felt there would be need for some inducement to obtain and keep staff and one suggestion advanced for the retention of this land was that some sporting amenities could be provided for the Doctors and Nurses by way of tennis court, etc., and as the Hospital progressed there would be land available immediately for a Convalescent Home in close

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proximity to the Hospital and new buildings required could be commenced almost at once, without the long delays caused when negotiations for resumptions are necessary.

Much correspondence passed between the Auxiliaries and the Board, and between the Board and the Council before Council agreed to have the resumption put through.

Then in 1947 Council rescinded the previous Minute, but they were good enough to allow a deputation from the Auxiliaries, as a result of which it was arranged that the Land would be retained as promised, but now at a cost of £15,000, and the money to cover the cost would be raised by the Auxiliaries Land Resumption Committee.

Then in 1954, once again the matter was brought up for discussion in Council and again Council agreed to receive a deputation from the Auxiliaries. On this occasion following full consideration by your Council .Officers of that year, it was agreed that the land be "resumed for the embellishment of the area", which would then make it available for Hospital use as required.

The monies already paid to Council were refunded to the Hospital Board, Council agreeing that instead of a small group of workers being called on to raise the funds for something which would be of benefit to all residents the cost of resumption should be a Shire matter and provision made for same in the rates.

Within one week of this being made known to us, the Ambulance approached the Sutherland Council with a request for one acre of the land under discussion for provision of a much needed Ambulance Station; by way of reply the Council referred the Ambulance authorities to the Hospital Board, telling them that as the land had been acquired for Hospital purposes any decision would need to come from the Hospital Board.

Naturally, the members of the Board were in agreement and today we have that wonderful new Ambulance Headquarters which were so badly needed in this Shire -- but its manner of coming into being shows that the land on which it is built, together with the remaining acres in that area, were really intended for Hospital requirements.

With the population of the Shire having risen from 50,000 in 1950 to 20,000 in 1960, and predominantly young married couples, the need to expand with first a new Maternity Block and then other so essential parts is very apparent. Whenever Doctor Macintosh our well known Gynaecologist had addressed a Hospital Conference he always stresses the point that the present Hospital is too small for the Shire's needs and the existing building could be taken over exclusively for Maternity Cases. All this in just three years

Please, gentlemen, we do beg of you to keep faith with us all, and to seriously consider the need for the land being retained for the purpose for which it was acquired, thereby helping those who have been striving so hard for the best possible Hospital to give service to the Community.

The deputation was unsuccessful on this occasion, but fortunately the land was not sold; eventually it did become the property of Hospital by sale, and exchange of land acquired for treatment of septic effluent, which was not required when the Hospital was built. Now being used for erection of Geriatric Day Hospital it is fulfilling our request for "Convalescent Home in close proximity to Hospital" and also eliminating need to "resume rows of houses".

AILEEN GRIFFITHS:

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COMO BRIDGE.

The modern high-level concrete bridge to cross the George's River at Como is being built alongside one of Sydney's oldest rail bridges. The new pre-stressed bridge will be the longest railway bridge of This type in Australia. It will have an overall length of 1,113 ft. and seven concrete spans.

The new bridge will have double tracks - the 36 year old truss-type bridge it replaces has only "gauntlet" track to carry the two-way traffic.

First. section of the Illawarra line between Hurstville and Sutherland, including the Como Bridge, a distance of 6 miles 20 chains, was opened in December, 1885, after many difficulties.

First, the New South Wales Railways Engineer-in-chief, John Whitton, was unable to locate the bridge at the obvious cross point of the Georges River - at Tom Uglys Point.

One group of land speculators held out for an exorbitant price for the right-of-way over land they controlled. Another group used political pressure to have the railway diverted over the difficult terrain of the Hurstville ridge, with its steep rocky grades in both directions.

Not only was the railway and the bridge across the Georges River diverted to a more difficult route, but the Government of the day refused the extra money needed for a double-track bridge, although Whitton had made provision for future duplication of the Illawarra Line.

A bottleneck: When the duplication of the line from Hurstville to on and Waterfall was completed five years after the bridge was opened, a "gauntlet" track was introduced at the bridge as a means of reducing the bottleneck already in evidence.

The double-line was restricted to a little more than the width of the single line over the bridge - one rail of each track lying within the two rails of the other track.

With the increase of freight traffic from the Illawarra district south of Wollongong, heavy loads of blue metal from the railway quarry at Bombo and the full production of coal from South Coast mines, the Como bridge bottleneck became so choked with traffic that long delays were unavoidable.

To reduce the delays it was decided to reduce the number of trains by increasing their loads from 387 tons to 540 tons. As the ruling grade regulates the locomotive loads, train loads were increased by easing the grade to 1 in 80 between Waterfall and Sydney.

Over the. years, a number of costly and difficult deviations were also made to increase the carrying capacity by improving the ruling grade.

With the duplication of the tracks across the new Como bridge, rail traffic will at last be able to flow freely, not only from the expanding Wollongong -Port Kembla industrial complex, but over the electrified suburban lines serving the fast-growing areas south of the Georges River.

(Extracted from 'The Railwayman' by Eric Jehan. This is the House Journal of the N.S.W. Government Railways)

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THE LUCAS FAMILY

The January Bulletin's article on John Lucas the Woronora Miller aroused considerable interest and many favourable comments.

Eric Jehan, who is also a member of the Naval Historical Society of Australia, has done his homework well and forwarded us the following extracts from his reading.

First V.C. The first man to win the Victoria Cross was a sailor named Charles Davis Lucas, Mate of H.M.S. "Hecla" in 1854 two years before Queen Victoria instituted the decoration.

The Queen consented to the suggestion that any acts of bravery performed during the Crimean War, but before the Cross was founded in 1856, should be eligible, and Lucas received the first award.

(From Navy League Magazine - January, 1950 - page 19)

Nathaniel Lucas: (From Newsletter, April, 1970): Nathaniel Lucas, a convict carpenter, was convicted in London 7th July, 1784, and sentenced to transportation for seven years. Sent to Norfolk Island Lucas appeared to settle domestically into the Island's way of life. He married a woman named Holliss on the Island and had at least five children; born in December, 1796; October, 1793; May, 1800; December, 1801; and December, 1801. He later married again, Olivia Gascoigne, and had a further six children. He is thought to have committed suicide in Sydney in 1818, His widow and her family went to Port Dalrymple, (Launceston), Tasmania.

From "The Journal of the Society of First Fleeters dated January, 1969 by Frank Clune:"

The Transport "Lady Penrhyn" brought Olivia Gascoigne who married -Nathaniel Lucas at Norfolk Island. Lucas arrived on the Transport "Scarborough" from Middlesex as a convict carpenter and occupied various positions of responsibility on Norfolk Island. He received a grant of fifteen acres after his marriage to Olivia Gascoigne. The couple had nine children when they left the Island for N.S.W. In 1806 Lucas secured the lease for 14 years of a lot (No.93) near St. Philip's Church, Sydney. Nathaniel Lucas was Superintendent of Carpenters at Sydney town in 1814 and had five hundred acres of land granted him at Minto

According to the book "Pioneers of Sydney Cove" by Herbert J. Ramsey we find Lucas contracted for the building of St. Luke's' Church of England Liverpool, but the difficulties he had with Francis Greenway the architect, preyed on his mind and caused him to take his life in 1818. Nathaniel Lucas had a business as a Miller at Liverpool. His family carried on the business until 1828.

- ERIC JEHAN

A member of the Lucas Clan, who wishes to remain anonymous, 'Phoned after reading our Bulletin to tell me that she has taken an interest in the seafarers of the family. She understands that Captain James Lucas commander of the "Richard and Mary", a whaler operating from Port Jackson from 1805 onwards, was a first cousin to Nathaniel Lucas of Liverpool, N.S.W. Thomas Lucas (son of Captain James Lucas) was also a sea captain. When the schooner "Governor Brisbane" (largest vessel built in Australia to that date) was launched in Hobart in 1822, Lucas was placed in command to take her to Liverpool (England) where she was sold to John Peacock. Captain Lucas remained in England when the "Governor Brisbane" returned to N.S.W. and engaged in the cedar trade.

J.T.W,

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FIRE BRIGADE

"The Shire Pictorial" of Feb. 16, 1972 featured the presentation of the Queen's Long Service Medal to several local firemen; the paper stated that the Cronulla Fire Station was opened in Gerrale Street, Cronulla, opposite the main beach, on November 1, 1930.

Our archivist Mr. George Heavens, who has kept a journal giving accounts of events of historical importance in the Sutherland Shire from 1931 to 1960, has kindly supplied the following extracts from his diary.

(Mr. Heavens has asked us to direct attention of readers to the fact that any extract from his journal signed "Geo. H." is copyright and may not be used in any way without his consent.)

Extract from George Heavens' Journal at date 7.12.1930

ESTABLISHMENT OF FIRE BRIGADE AT CRONULLA

Representations were made by the Chamber of Commerce for the Council to take the necessary action under the Fire Brigades Act, and have a fire brigade established at Cronulla. As a result of this agitation, the Council made application to the Board of Fire Commissioners, and the board has provided an up to date Fire Station and Fire Fighting equipment at Cronulla, and all land within the town improvement District has been included in the fire district.

Extract from George Heavens' Journal dated Dec. 21, 1930

SUTHERLAND COUNCIL AFFAIRS

A letter was received from Mr. R.N. Dallimore, stating that he had made enquiries that if he required the services of Cronulla Fire Brigade (his property being situated outside the fire brigade area) the fees required will be paid by the insurance Co.; but the board of Fire Commissioners advise him that the brigade can only leave the area (Cronulla fire Brigade area) at the discretion of the Officer-in-Charge, and if suit-able protection is left at Cronulla. Will the Council make this information public?

(N.B. Above letter was sent to Sutherland Council by the father of our member, Mrs. Carmichael).

"Extract from George Heavens' journal dated 15th February :1931"

FIRE BRIGADE MOONLIGHT EXCURSION

The recently formed Cronulla Fire Brigade Recreation Club held its first public function on Friday evening the 6th February, in the form of a Moonlight Excursion to National Park.

It was a great success as everyone said that was there. R. Ryall & Son launch was hired for the occasion, which left the Gunnamatta Bay wharf with a full complement of passengers all intent on having a good nights sport, which they got, as everyone will testify.

The leading attraction was the N.S.W. Fire Brigade Orchestra which dispensed harmony in a way hitherto unknown as far as moonlight excursions are concerned. On leaving the wharf Community Song books were handed around to the passengers and Mr Oscar Matson, so well known in Sutherland, conducted the singing, and later even went so far as to render a couple of items himself. Other musical items were rendered by Messrs. Russell and McDonald, which were much appreciated.

On arrival at Audley the club members set to work to prepare supper, the boiling of the water and the lighting of the pavilion being carried out in a novel way. The eatables were provided by the relatives and friends of Club members.

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As the meal was being eaten, Mr. Creeke, the President of the Club and Officer-in-Charge of the Cronulla Fire Station, had a few words to say about the fire brigade in general and of course Cronulla Fire Brigade and ailed upon Councillor Shaw, President of Sutherland Shire Council, who responded and said how pleased he was to have been afforded the honour of an invitation to such a function and was long and loud in his praises for the Cronulla Fire Brigade, the class of men who had been selected and the good work they had already done, and in particular of the very able manner in which the function was organised. Later, Mr. Creeke called upon Mr. J. Atkinson to respond on behalf of the brigade, which he did suitably.

After everyone had eaten their fill, the Orchestra rendered dance music, which was much appreciated by the younger folk.

Time passed quickly, and the contented crowd had to repair to the launch, and a happy time was spent on the return journey, the orchestra rendering suitable music, community singing was again indulged in until arrival at the wharf, when Mr. Shaw moved a vote of thanks to the orchestra which was carried unanimously by three hearty cheers.

Amongst those present were:

The Secretary of N.S.W. Fire Brigade Mr, H.M. Webb and Mrs Webb Webb, the two Miss Duncan, Mr. and Mrs. A.M. Webb, Councillor E. Seymour Shaw, resident Sutherland Shire, Mr. Keith Marsh (Chief Electrical Engineer) Sutherland Shire, and his family, Mr. F. Creeke, Officer- in-Charge of Local Fire Brigade, his wife and family, Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Matson of Sutherland, and many others.

The City fire brigades did the watch duty during the absence of Cronulla volunteer Brigade.

Thanks were made to Mr. C. J. Munro and Mr. W.P. Hayes for handsome donations toward the function.

CONTENTS OF BULLETIN

In response to the President's appeal, Eric and Jean Jehan (two very enthusiastic members) have expressed the view that while local history should form the main part of our Bulletin, we could sometimes include history other than that of the Sutherland Shire.

I think two hundred years ahead Jean and Eric; how disappointed some student doing research work in our history will be in the year 2172 AD, when he turns up the filed copies of our Bulletin in the archives of the Sutherland Shire Historical Society hoping to find details of the life and work of Frank Cridland of Caringbah; an account of the connection of Nathaniel Bull with the local Anglican Church or the Story of the Cape Bailey Lighthouse and finds that these items have been omitted because we have used our limited space to tell the story of Sir John Forrest's work on Western Australia or to give details of an old house named Lyndhurst at Glebe. Undoubtedly, both the latter examples are of historic importance; but it is a matter of priority.

J.T.W.

(This Bulletin has been compiled by an Editorial Board consisting of Messrs. J. Walker and N. Horwood, and Mrs. A. Griffiths.

Members are specially invited to submit item of historical interest for inclusion in future bulletin.

Opinions expressed in the Bulletin are those of the contributors, and not necessarily of the Society,

SUTHERLAND SHIRE HISTORICAL SOCIETY QUARTERLY BULLETIN APRIL 1972.CAPE BAILY AND THE LIGHTHOUSE

Recently there, was a request for information relating to the above mentioned Cape and Lighthouse which are features of Kurnell Peninsula. Among the questions asked were:-

1. Origin of the name "Baily"?
2. Whether the Lighthouse was so named because it was erected on the Cape or Vice-Versa?
3. When was the Lighthouse erected and made operative?

Enquiries and searches in many directions and establishments have so far failed to reveal any of the information sought.

Can any member or reader supply information or, alternatively, make suggestions as to possible sources of information? C.L.

FARES HAVE CHANGED

The following extract, supplied by Eric Johan., from a Railway Time Table purchased by his father, on his first visit to Australia, in 1909, should prove of interest to our members.

1909 STEAM TRAINS

From	To	Time Journey	1st return	2nd return
Central	National Park	20 Minutes	2s. 6d.	1s. 6d.
"	(Week-ends)		1s. 6d.	1s. 0d.
"	Sutherland	40 "	2s. 2d.	1s. 5d.
"	Waterfall	60 "	3s. 6d.	2s. 4d.
"	Wollongong	2 Hrs. 20 Min.	8s. 0d.	4s. 0d.
"	Melbourne	16 hrs.	£6.0.0.	£4. 9.6d.
"	Sydenham	12 Mins.	7d.	5d.
"	Como	48 Mins.	1s. 9d.	1s. 2d.
"	Campbelltown	1 Hr. 20 Min.	4s. 11d.	3s. 2d.
"	Canben	2 Hrs.	6s. 11d.	4s. 6d.
"	Mount Victoria	3 Hrs. 5 Min.	15s. 0d.	10s. 0d.
"	Katoomba	2 Hrs. 50 Min.	12s. 6d.	8s. 2d.
"	Gosford	1 Hr. 50 Min.	9s. 2d.	6s. 0d.
"	Goulburn	5 Hrs. 23 Min.	33s. 9d.	20s. 5d.
"	(Slow Train)			
"	Mortdale	43 Mins.	1s. 8d.	1s. 1d.
"	Minto	1 Hr. 5 Mins.	4s. 6d.	2s. 11d.
"	Kiama	3 Hrs. 20 Mins.	14s. 0d.	9s. 5d.

(The Steam Train from Sutherland to Cronulla did not commence until 1911.)

From George Heavens' Journal, December 20, 1930.

TOM UGLYS BRIDGE

The Toll Master reported that traffic and revenue for the past fortnight were as follows:— Traffic 29,043, revenue £970.16.0. The revenue for the previous fortnight was £977.19.6. The revenue for the corresponding fortnight last year (1929) was La 345.6.3.

(N.B. 1972: The depression was affecting traffic flow.) Geo. H.

SUTHERLAND SHIRE HISTORICAL SOCIETY QUARTERLY BULLETIN APRIL 1972.Gogerly Point

On recent "bird watching" excursions to the magnificent Myall -Wallis Lakes area (Bulahdelah-Forster district), I had the privilege and Measure of meeting Miss Elsie Gogerley of "Ellerslie" farm, near Whoota, beside picturesque Wallis Lake.

Elsie, the possessor of an extremely interesting and endearing personality, is a highly respected citizen of The Lakes District.

Back in her teenage days, the R.A.O.U. (Royal Australian Ornithologists Union), held a camp at Whoota and since that time the good lady has been an avid bird watcher. One who exchanges notes with leading Ornithologists is from all corners of the Commonwealth. Naturally, our mutual interest in bird life drew us together.

On learning that I resided at Cronulla, my new found friend confided that her great-grandfather was a pioneer settler on Port Hacking and hat Gogerly Point was so named in his honour. The spelling of that name did not meet with her approval. She assorted that her historical ancestor had somehow mislaid the second "e" of his surname on his voyage to Australia; and that the correct spelling "G-O-G-E-R-L-E-Y" is still used by the Gogerley families of Middlesex County and many other parts of England.

From notes kindly supplied by Miss Elsie, plus information gleaned from other sources, I have compiled the following brief narration of the Gogerley Saga.

Let us not pry into the circumstances which led up to the arrival at Port Jackson, on 11th December, 1819, in the "Lord Sidmouth" of the young Charles James Gogerley. Sufficient for our story is the word picture painted in his own words. "On that fateful day, with mixed emotions I bade farewell forever to my yesterdays and Old England, with understandable forebodings, saluted my tomorrows, to be sent in a strange new land",

Our narrative rightly commences when, a few years later, his boyhood sweetheart followed him to "Terra Australis", and the re-united lovers were married in Sydney.

The bride was Charlotte Fowler, a daughter of the House of Fowler, a family which even before the Industrial Revolution of the 19th century had established itself as the leading pottery manufacturers in England.

Incidentally another member of the Fowler family later followed his sister Charlotte to Sydney and set up the firm which still bears his name. "Fowler Ware" soon became a household word in the colony and is now to be found in hundreds of thousands of homes not only in Sydney but throughout the length and breadth of our continent. Today, one hundred and thirty-five years later, R. Fowler Ltd. of Marrickville proudly proclaims itself on its letterheads and in advertising as "One of Australia's Leading Pottery Organisations - established 1837".

The newly- wed Mr. and Mrs. Charles Gogerley commenced married life in a humble home in a hut which they purchased in the heart of Sydney own for the sum of ten pounds (£10). This was situated almost opposite the home of John Connell, the merchant, who was also a

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pioneer landowner in the South Botany Bay region. Family tradition asserts that the Gogerley building allotment embraced the area to-day occupied by the Martin Place Plaza as well as some of the adjoining land. This first venture in real estate proved lucrative. They sold out for one hundred pounds (£100) and with their profit moved up the hill to where King's Cross today flaunts its Bohemian way of life. There they built a home situated on a forty acre estate.

Charles James never discussed his financial standing but his son John Frederick suspected that his father received a regular (as far as shipping in those days would permit) remittance from some family source in England.

Apparently his income enabled him to live as a gentleman of leisure in the young Colony; and to indulge in journalism, as a hobby. From that avocation he derived considerable satisfaction but alas it proved his undoing in the form of a conviction for libel which brought him imprisonment and turned him into an eccentric recluse, who sought solace in the solitude of Port Hacking.

A brief survey of the history of journalism, in Sydney, covering the first fifty-five years of the Colony reveals that charge of, and conviction for, libel were commonplace and so perhaps his case did not warrant the stigma that Gogerley attributed to his lapse from grace. Perhaps he was simply a broken, disillusioned man, who decided to escape from "the rat race" of his day.

Even when "The Sydney Gazette", the first and only newspaper in the Colony, was published by George Howe, with John T. Campbell, Governor Macquarie's secretary, in the background as censor and do-facto editor, the Rev. Samuel Marsden, in 1817, charged Campbell with libel, arising from an article in the Gazette under the Nom-d-Plume "Philo-Free"; Marsden claimed that this reflected on his conduct as a missionary and his administration of the funds of the Philanthropic Society.

Later "The Australian", published by Wentworth and Wardell was in constant conflict with Governor Darling and consequently continually under the cloud of legal action.

Edward Smith Hall, founder of the Benevolent Society (the first charity established in Australia), did not escape loosely applied charges of libel when Governor Darling failed to strangle his paper (The Monitor) with a stamp' duty tax of four pence per copy.

A semblance of freedom of the press was gradually supplanting the earlier autocratic control, by 1831; but "The Sydney Herald" came into sharp conflict with the Governor (Sir Richard Bourke). At that time there was no representative government and no party politics as we know that phenomena to-day. However, the division of the community into "The Haves" (Privileged Military and Pastoral Aristocracy) and "The Have Nots" (Impoverished Free Settlers and Emancipists) was an over present reality, in a 'no holds barred" wrestle between those groups in the press popular indignation and protest degenerated into mutual hatred feelings were expressed by both contending factions with the utmost disregard of good taste. Governor Bourke complained of unrestrained and unjustified invectives on the part of newspapers. In return "The Sydney Herald" in 1836, labeled Bourke as "The misguided representative of Royalty"; and referred to some of its supporters as "filthy minions battenning on administrative office".

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One onlooker, in the extravagant language so popular at that time, described the standard of journalism of that era as "abounding in scurrility and low personalities, poured forth in tirades of savage invectives and ribald malignity" .

Into this maelstrom of unrestrained passions our hero stepped first as a free lance writer for the "Monitor" and the 'Sydney Herald". (The 'Sydney Herald", weekly, was the forerunner of the present Herald but did not become "The Sydney Morning Herald" until after it was taken over by John Fairfax and Charles Kemp in August, 1842.

From free-lance contributor Gogerley graduated to Editor and Publisher of "The Satirist and Sydney Spectator a now weekly which was far more radical than any other N.S.W. Newspaper of its day. His partners in this venture were: Thomas Revel Johnson, William Brown and George O'Brien (a sleeping partner).

(The O'Briens were large landholders in the Illawarra with holdings extending up to Wattamolla -- more of the O' Briens in a future Bulletin.) ,Even when Revel Johnson was convicted of criminal libel and imprisoned

for two years Charles Gogerley did not take heed or wise precautions. Without seeking official approval he changed the name of his paper to "The Omnibus and Sydney Spectator". but its policy did not change. Like St. George slaying dragons or Don Quixote tilting at windmills the "Spectator" set about flaying opponents of the cause of the emancipists, The paper ran a series of weekly articles in which three fictitious harlots candidly discussed the morals, faults and foibles of their clientele and gossiped freely about their domestic matrimonial and financial affair and exposed their political affiliations. -Of course the males thus cited were equally fictitious in name but bore a striking resemblance to some men prominent in public affairs at that time. The "Spectator" sold readily at one shilling per copy,

Gogerley as producer and publisher of the offending newsmonger was selected as the scapegoat. The Attorney-General loosely charged him with "Libel of the womenfolk of-the Colony". In vain Charles James pleaded that he, an illiterate man, was incapable of producing arose of such high quality. Doubtless-this was not even relatively true but to prove that he was not the author he produced the manuscript from which the offending articles were printed. It was not in Gogerley's handwriting. Counsel for the Defence pleaded that his client was but a "dupe" in the hands of more powerful interests and finally that the writings in question were true in facts and that the editor had printed them in the interest of the public a ad was therefore a champion of "Freedom of the Press".

All was of no avail and the ill-fated Charles James Gogerley was convicted and served his term of imprisonment in, the then dreaded, Newcastle gaol.

During her husband's enforced absence the brave Charlotte, as well as caring for her two young sons, practised her profession as a nurse. Even in that pre-Florence Nightingale era the good lady had built up a high reputation for her skill and kindness and was much sought after in Sydney both as a mid-wife and as a ministering angel in times of illness.

Upon release from prison, in 1844, her. husband severed all connections with his former way of life and, taking his wife and his two sons, retired to the then sparsely settled Port Hacking region. On the Southern Shores of that inlet he squatted in a small clearing, built a

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house, planted fruit trees, established a vegetable garden; and, as a hermit, practically lived off the land. In 1863, his occupancy was rendered legal when Charles James Gogerley secured title to the two blocks, totalling forty two and a half acres, on which his domicile and agrarian activities were situated. This holding probably cost him five shillings per acre, which was the ruling rate for Crown land in the South Botany Bay area, at that time. John Fredrick and William, the two sons of Charles and Charlotte, true "Currency Lads" or "Cornstalks", grew to manhood on the shores of Port Hacking. Occupational opportunities were naturally governed by local conditions so it is not surprising that both youths became gatherers of shell and worked the local beaches and disused aborigines middens. The product of their labours they transported to Sydney, in a homemade vessel, and sold to the kiln at Milsons Point, where seashells were burned to produce lime to make mortar for Sydney's stone and brick buildings.

Frank Cridland in ".The Story of Port Hacking-Cronulla and Sutherland Shire" tells how a certain Captain Collin and a companion named Massey in 1056, were shell gathering at Port Hacking when the young Gogerleys paddled up to them in a home-made canoe and told of the mythical "Yahoo" (a gigantic hairy man) that had been invented by a band of bootleggers to scare away prying intruders. The juvenile Gogerleys apparently also found this monster an effective guardian for the shell harvest, which they looked upon as their rightful preserve.

With the experience gained in navigating their clumsy craft to and from Milsons Point both lads graduated to the status of master mariners and sailed trading and timber carrying vessels to now settlements up and down the east coast of New South Wales and even to the Pacific Islands. William was lost at sea when his ship disappeared during a fierce storm.

After his father's death John Fredrick decided to leave Port Hacking in search of fresh fields and pastures new. Thus, in 1882, he made a home for his wife and family within the shadows of Booti Booti Hill between Wallis lake and Elizabeth Beach.

Tourists and others who speed along the Lakes Way today to drink in the magnificent scenery or visit the Latter Day Saints' open air Cathedral at Tiona cannot visualise the isolation of the Gogerley home ninety years ago. Then no roads ran by and the only means of access was by sea. While her husband was absent on his voyages, often for periods extending into months, Mrs. Gogerley saw no humans other than Aborigines. Those dusky inhabitants of the Lakes district visited the home from time to time but always treated her with the greatest of respect. They came simply to barter fish in exchange for flour, tea, sugar and tobacco, and did odd jobs for similar payment.

Her husband, John Fredrick, was a brave rugged seafarer with the utmost confidence in his own ability to cope with any situation. Marjorie Dibert, in her book, "Lakeland Adventures" tells how on one occasion when his ship, "Venture" was anchored in the open Pacific off Elizabeth Beach he had to slip its moorings and run before a gale.

After an absence of several days, during which grave fears were held for his safety and that of his crew, he sailed home fit and well.

Jokingly he asserted "There's not enough water in the Pacific Ocean to drown me" -- however some years later death claimed him when

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crossing Wallis Lake on a stormy night, after a fishing excursion. Next day his empty boat was found still afloat. His wife and sons were certain that he must have suffered a heart attack, as when the body was recovered, a week later, it was still clad in seaman's boots, oilskin coat and sou' wester. A strong and experienced swimmer or John Fredrick would, undoubtedly, - have shed those impediments if he had fallen over-board, accidentally, while in good health

Thus death came through seafaring activities to both the two sons of Charles and Charlotte Gogerley although as lads they had learned to love and conquer the ocean as they grew to man's estate near Gogerley Point on the shores of Port Hacking.

The widowed Mrs. Gogerley lived on at Booti Booti and unaided reared her five sons and deserves commendation for a job well done. The eldest son John Fredrick Henry ('Harry') upon marriage left the family next and crossed Wallis Lake to hew Ellerslie farm out of the virgin forest near Whoota. Other brothers followed suit and went to other parts of the district they became successful graziers (beef cattle breeders dairy farmers, timber getters and fishermen. However, one, or more, was always on hand to manage: the family estate at Booti Booti. Although portions of the original holding were sold from time to time that estate still stands today as a monument to the pioneering spirit of John Fredrick and his courageous wife.

However, it is just by chance or mischance) that I can write "stands today". Last year, under instructions from the, executors of a will, Richardson C Wrench Limited, advertised for sale by auction the remainder of the Gogerly Estate at Booti Bootie Consisting of four hundred and thirty two acres of natural bushland with beach and lake frontage, plus sweeping views of lake and ocean this choice offering aroused considerable interest. Prospective buyers came from as far afield as California (U.S.A.) and Perth (W.A.) but just two days before the date set for the auction, (17th September, 1971), keen conservationists caught the ear of the responsible Minister of the Crown and the land was re-zoned and the sale consequently abandoned, Perhaps someday we may see the site of John Fredrick Gogerley's home converted into a National Park.

Progeny of the five sons of the pioneer Gogerley's of Booti Booti, both male and female have spread far and wide. Naturally, numerous house-holds in the Port Stephens, Myall Lakes, Forster-Tuncurry districts trace their family tree back to seed from that source. Other' members of the clan reside in Newcastle, Sydney and elsewhere However, as far as I can ascertain, only one descendant of Charles James Gogerley now resides in the Sutherland Shire, That lady, the wife of a well known "Medico', by sheer coincidence, has a home at Lilli Pilli, opposite to Gogerley Point.

Amongst the treasured possessions of Mrs. Bull, one of the most highly respected old ladies Cronulla, is a photo of Charles James and Charlotte Gogerley. This is a souvenir of the friendship which existed between Nathaniel Bull and his family and their neighbours, who lived on the opposite shore of Port Hacking. In those pioneering days folk had leisure and inclination to assess the qualities of their neighbour and to cement lasting friendships. The retention of that photograph is proof, if any is required, that Charles James Gogerley although he appeared to some unthinking persons, as an eccentric old recluse, was held in high esteem by those who knew him intimately. In short, he was a pioneer settler who founded a worthy family and his descendants have made and are still making, appreciable contributions to Australia's growth, welfare and prosperity.

JOHN WALKER