

SUTHERLAND SHIRE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

QUARTERLY BULLETIN



No, 12

APRIL 1975

Price: 10 cents

CONTENTS

ALLAMBIE HOUSE, Audley	M. Hutton Neve
A FIERY FUNERAL!	Geo. Heavens
A TRANSPORT PIONEER	Fred Midgley
ESTUARINE BIRDLIFE - Botany Bay	M. Hutton Neve
EASTER - "Eostre"	M.H.N.
SUTHERLAND, 1906	Alf Midgley
"THE SPREADING OF THE WORD"	Geo, Heavens
SUTHERLAND PICTURE THEATRE	Alf Midgley
"MARKETING" - Poem	Alf Midgley
REGISTRATION - Births, Marriages and Deaths	M.H.N.
SUTHERLAND BRICKWORKS	M. Hutton Neve
PREACHING THE GOSPEL	Alf Midgley
"CRONULLA, A CHARMING RESORT"	Sydney Mail, 1904
"DUNRATH" - Castle Hill	Elva Carmichael
THE PRESIDENT Writes	H. Ivers

ILLUSTRATIONS ... A. & F. Midgley

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O, FOR TRANSMISSION THROUGH THE POST AS A PERIODICAL (CATEGORY B)

ALLAMBIE HOUSE at Audley is No More

In the early hours of Sunday morning on February 23rd the pre-dawn sky was lit by the reflections of leaping flames-- a fire deliberately lighted by the demolishers in consultation with the Royal National Park Superintendent and the National Park & Wildlife Service. It was safer and less damaging to remove the old building in this way rather than to bulldoze it.

For the past ten to fifteen years the once stately building was becoming an increasing liability, an eyesore and a danger: there had been diminishing demand for its services as a selective Guest House since the end of World War 2.

The history of the Park's "Accommodation House" goes back to 1886. A publication of that year, "Coastal Scenery of N.S.W." by F.W. Myers, referring to access to the newly opened Park, stated:

"Only a track leads into the Park now, a dusty road ...zigzagging down to the gorge, whereupon a little tongue of land the camp is fixed. This camp in the present is but a rude shed with some 20 bunks and blankets for the accommodation of travellers".

About this time a small cottage, containing a Board Room and some living accommodation, was erected as the "Trustees' Cottage", and furnished by the Trustees themselves. Here they would stay overnight because of the difficulty of access and transportation. In its last years the cottage was let to a Park ranger, who was later dismissed for drunkenness and ordered to be evicted. It was destroyed by fire under extremely suspicious circumstances in 1930 during the tenant's occupation, but a coroner's enquiry was unable to produce evidence against the tenant.

The "rude shed" was known as "The Pavilion", and is said to have served as general accommodation for Lord Audley's 1864 survey camp. It was either remodelled or rebuilt in the 1880s --- there is a record that the "Old Pavilion" was renovated and extra rooms added in 1892, when it was named "The Rest". Until this was done, the "Pavilion" catered only for sportsmen and fishermen. However, by 1890, when the "Audley Road" had been reconstructed from its junction with the Military Road (at the Park Railway Station), the "Audley Pleasure Grounds" were becoming increasingly popular, so much so that the Trustees had been compelled "to enlarge and improve these premises which today (1893) contain a large general dining room, two suites of well-furnished apartments for the use of families or semi-private parties, and sleeping accommodation for twenty-two guests".

After some years in attempting without success to obtain a Government grant to renovate "The Rest", the Trustees finally agreed to give Francis B. Cossling a lease in 1914 to erect a new Accommodation House "on the existing site". Apparently Mr. Cossling did not find it a sufficiently attractive proposition, as the Trustees recorded in 1914 that "the new building at Audley, 'The Rest', has been leased for 14 years to Mr. R. Hammill". It was Mr. Hammill who in later years introduced a motorbus service. By 1919

business was so brisk that Hammill enlarged the premises and the Trustees increased his lease to 21 years.

Following the "boom years" after World War 1, and the increasing appeal of the motorcar (private ownership of which was still mainly restricted to the wealthier citizens) "The Rest" became a rendezvous for Sydney society, being especially popular for secluded honeymoon couples; while in school vacations the young fry of the elite enjoyed unrestricted freedom.

However, within ten years the worldwide Depression was deepening, and in late 1930 Hammill advised the Trustees patronage had so decreased that he could provide services only at weekends.

Finally, in April 1938 the Trustees themselves took over "The Rest"; they completely remodelled it, making it an outstanding Guest House; and at the same time they renamed it as "Allambie House", aboriginal for "a quiet place; to remain (rest) awhile". In the following December the adjacent tennis courts were opened for public use.

With the advent of World War 2 the Park was virtually closed to the public. Defence posts were set up at strategic points; and tank-traps were constructed on several of the Park roads. Allambie House was taken over by the Hospital Commission in 1942 for use as an emergency hospital if needed. These Emergency Regulations came into force following the entry of Japan into World War 2, when there seemed the possibility of a Japanese invasion. It was not until mid-1945 that the Regulations were withdrawn and Allambie House returned to the Park authorities, a post-war grant of £5300 (\$10,600) having been made to cover essential renovations.

Peace brought prosperity again, and once more Allambie House became a population attraction: but within a few years the ever-increasing numbers of motorcars soon changed its character. Accommodation was in limited demand for school holidays and weekends, but the motorcar allowed city folk to go farther afield for their vacations. Residential accommodation declined, although the dining room and the wide verandahs were in demand for a few years for luncheons and afternoon teas. But by the early 1960s Allambie House was fast becoming a deteriorating eyesore and a financial liability; about 1967 it closed entirely as a guest house, with the small kiosk on the roadside closing in 1972: and the early hours of February 23 saw its fiery demise.

From time to time it has been said that "several famous personages, including Royalty", were entertained at Allambie House, but there is no record of this — the Visitors' Book belonging to Allambie House has disappeared. It is more than probable that in the early days of the Park some may have been informally entertained at the Trustees' Cottage, but there also are no records in the old Minutes Books of such entertainment.

M. Hutton Neve

Source: Minutes Books of the Trustees' Records, Royal National Park.

"I Remember"

A FIERY FUNERAL!

To cross the railway line at Sutherland from east to west one, has to give way to all traffic coming from the south, often having to wait for several minutes for the northbound trail of traffic to end, before proceeding over the railway bridge.

It was under such circumstances that, one Saturday morning in March 1957 a Funeral Cortege halted and waited to cross the bridge to the Woronora Cemetery. When the northbound traffic ended the driver of the hearse attempted to proceed, but for some unknown reason the motor stalled. After several attempts to restart it he alighted (complete with mourning suit and tails), lifted the bonnet -- and to his utter amazement the whole engine burst into flames.

Someone ran into my shop and called: "George; Your fire extinguisher!" I looked up and saw flames in the main street. Calling to my assistant to ring the fire brigade, I raced out with my fire extinguisher -- and was somewhat horrified to see a hearse, complete with casket b e-decked with flowers, the front of which was blazing like a torch.

My part was easy: I ran to the fire and proceeded to contain it, which I successfully did until the fire engine arrived and finished t h e job; and we then pushed the hearse into the gutter to await a tow waggon.

What astonished me most was the utter imperturbability of the undertakers- so cool and level-headed, and a credit to their profession.

Whilst I was running around putting out the fire, they calmly asked the mourners in the first mourning-coach to get out, then fitted them quietly into the following cars, slipped the casket out of the burning hearse, put it in the now-empty mourning coach, transferred all floral tributes, and continued to proceed decorously to the Cemetery.

The undertaker was John Keeler of Newtown.

(At this time I was the only storekeeper in Sutherland township to own a fire-extinguisher, and it was used many times for small fires in the town).

--- Geo. Heavens.

*.*****

Vale: owing to the January issue going to press earlier than usual, we were unable to note the death of Mr. Gifford ("Giff") Eardley on Dec. 20th last. He was "the" accepted authority on the history of the St. George district where he lived for a little over seventy years; the history of NSW steam trains and trams were also his absorbing studies; and his delightful pencil studies of his favourite studies are well-known to many members. He was a member of St. George Historical Society as well as Railway Societies:

Attunga: (Attunga Rd. Yowie Bay) aboriginal, meaning "a high place"— i.e. the top part of the road overlooking the head of the Bay.

A TRANSPORT PIONEER

During the year 1905 a horses-bus service was operating to Gymea Bay from Sutherland Railway Station. There had always been a good influx from the metropolis of visitors seeking solitude in the rugged bushland. There were also permanent residents, for a newspaper report of August 12, 1911 stated that the Holt-Sutherland Estate Company had agreed to give land for access to Gymea Bay water frontages.

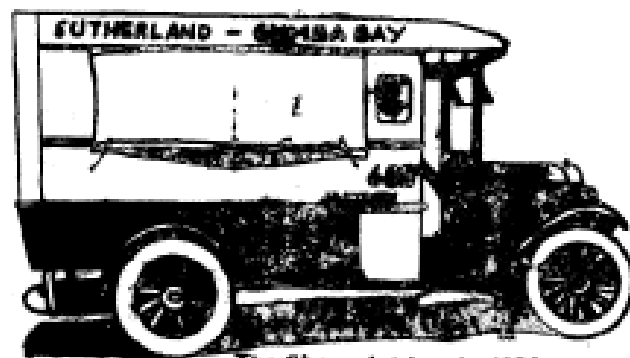
On April 17, 1915 the same newspaper reported that Captain Toombs M.L.A. had asked Sutherland Council to get on with the work of making a road for school children to be conveyed by horse coach, which the Government would subsidise to Miranda. A road costing £40 (\$80) had been made by Mr. Warnan across his property. Mr. Warnan operated a horse bus and owned the boatshed at Gymea Bay. When he retired the boatshed was bought by Mr. Peterson and Mr. Hardy ran the bus service for a while.

Mr. W. Gough was granted permission in October 1914 to run an omnibus from Sutherland to Gymea Bay. There were two trips in the morning and two in the afternoon each day, the fare being one shilling (10c) for a single trip.

A newspaper report in 1924 stated that a motor bus body was being constructed on a chassis, in a lane at Sutherland, for the Sutherland-Gymea Bay Bus service. This eventually put out of business an elderly man who drove a horse-drawn coach. The bus body was constructed by Arthur Perks, who had a garage and confectionary business between the present-day Woolworth's and McCubbin's Lane.

Perks commenced the motorbus route No. 100, in 1924, but soon after establishing it he sold it to Mr. J.T. (Mick) Jennings. Mr. Jennings already had an insight into the operating of a bus service through his father John, who operated horse buses during the 1890's in the Balmain, Haberfield, Lilyfield and Annandale areas.

Until Mr. Jennings obtained a bus driver's licence the fifteen side-seat Chevrolet was driven for several weeks by a Mr. Pugar. In those days the road from the Kingsway to Gymea Bay was very bad in places and beyond Forest Road was quite unusable. Drivers had to manage as best they could over the ruts, corrugations and nasty washouts -- into which the bus bounced and shuddered. It was a bumpy ride for the passengers! The bus had to divert also through the bush along hush tracks which Mr. Jennings called "God's Roads". The first weekly taking was eight Shillings and four pence (83c).



The Chevrolet bus in 1924

In 1925 "Mick" Jennings began running the Chevrolet bus from Sutherland to Yowie Bay, taking over the route from a man who operated a side-seat "T" Ford bus. This run closed after about three years owing to lack of patronage.

During these early years of operation buses had to be taken to Sutherland Police Station for mechanical inspection prior to the establishment of the Department of Motor Transport inspection system. It was not a very successful method of inspection as constables were not qualified mechanics.

The first few years of the Gymea route was a bus run catering for weekenders and fishermen. However, during the Depression years the run became a more frequent service. The Government gave a housing grant to people out of work and homes began to be built, these housing permanent residents.

It was a difficult task to keep the run going with people on the dole so Mr. Jennings carried them free to collect their dole: but the public lacked appreciation, for when money was paid in lieu of dole rations, he found that most of his passengers walked or rode push bikes, with only one man offering to repay the bus proprietor.

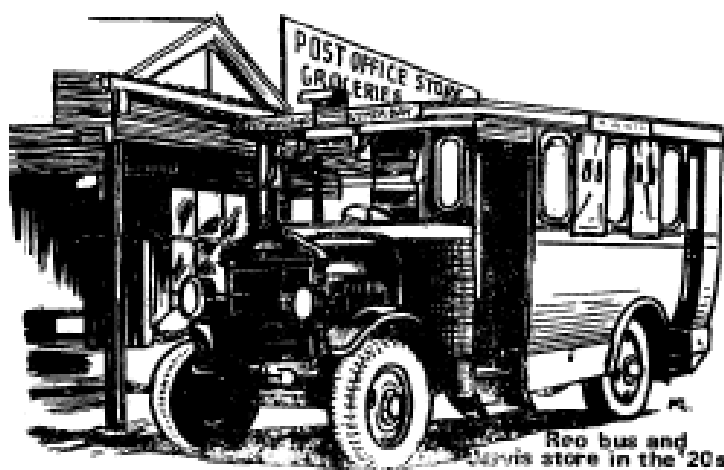
In those days the through fare to Sutherland from Gymea

Bay was 6d (5c). The first section to Coonong Road was 1½pence. As time went on fares increased, and when the first section rose to 3 pence it was called "The Golden Mile" by the patrons. It took many years to overcome the Depression, but with hard work and good workmen it was accomplished.

Vic and Rose Jarvis were the Storekeepers at Gymea Bay in 1924. The bus used to carry meat and general parcels to the store and people collected them from there. At first parcels were carried free but eventually a fee was charged.

Jenning's bus depot, with a petrol bowser outside, was on the corner of Ellesmere and Gymea Bay Roads, opposite Jarvis' store. In the middle of the 1930s a garage and depot were built by Bill Price facing Gymea Bay Road and occupying the same site today.

The Chevrolet bus had been replaced by a Reo, Mr. Jennings using this make of bus until he sold the business with one exception.



Reo bus and Jarvis store in the '20s

In the early 1930s Mrs. Phyllis Jennings, wife of the proprietor, registered an Oakland touring car as a "Hire car". The licence carried a special condition reading: "This vehicle is also licensed to operate as a substitute motor omnibus in lieu of motor omnibus No. 242, operating on route No. 100, between Sutherland and Gymea Bay during such times as the latter is undergoing repairs". This vehicle was also used to convey cricketers to and from matches. Mr. Jennings encouraged the lads to participate in sport, he financing the first cricket gear used by the Gymea Bay Cricket Club. Also, about this time a new route was commenced to Sylvania.

The first motor bus service in the Como area was operated by Mr. Vic. Britten, with a Studebaker. He sold out to Keith Woods, who was a former National Park bus manager. Woods had the business only a fortnight before he sold to "Mick" Jennings in 1940.

Jennings bought a second-hand 1928 G.M.C. bus, powered with a Buick engine, for the run. However, it was not low geared enough, for each time the bus attempted to ascend the very sharp rise in Novara Crescent at Como --near Ortona Parade and Railway Road (which now runs up to the present railway station) the passengers had to get out and walk up the hill. This embarrassing state of affairs was not allowed to continue and the fault was rectified when a four-speed gearbox was installed. Vic. Britten also had a 1926 Hudson hire car, which was bought by Mr. Jennings, who replaced it with a 1937 Hudson for which he now had a taxi licence, this being the first taxi service at Como. The taxi stand was the eastern side of the railway station near the store (i.e. the old Como station).

For over a quarter of a century Mr. Jennings, ably assisted by his wife and employees, gave a splendid transport service to the public and to Sutherland Shire. Through hard work the business prospered, and as Mr Jennings came to that point of time for retirement he sold the Sutherland - Gymea Bay route and the Como-Jannali route to Reo Motors. There were five buses when the business was sold —M.O. 766, 242, 491, 647 and 370. Motor mechanic Jack Midgley, while employed by Mr. Jennings, constructed the body on M.O. 766 in 1943, which was a fine effort of local body building.

- Fred Midgley.

Sources: Mrs. Phyllis Jennings, Mr. Jack Midgley, "St. George Call".

* * * * *

April 14, 1912: The "Titanic", the latest addition to the British Cunard Shipping Line, whilst racing for the "Atlantic Blue Ribbon" in dangerous northern waters, struck an iceberg, sinking with tremendous loss of life.

June 13, 1797: Sailors of the Royal Navy mutinied at the Nore: a junior officer who showed some sympathy for the rebels (but who himself did not take part in the rebellion) was a young surgeon, William Redfern. He was charged and transported in 1801, but was fully pardoned in 1803.

Gunnamatta: aboriginal name meaning the area or place of beach and sandhills.

PROTECTION OF ESTUARINE BIRDLIFE AROUND BOTANY BAY

One of the Objects under our Constitution reads: "To encourage and foster an interest in its natural beauty and character and the preservation of its historical associations and aboriginal relics".

Much has already been said concerning the preservation of aboriginal carvings in the Shire. Over the years many have been ignorantly, carelessly or wilfully mutilated and destroyed; but fortunately many still remain (although unknown to the general public, for these very reasons). There is now a penalty of up to \$1,000 or 6 months' imprisonment - or both - for wilful interference or destruction.

However, there is another avenue of essential preservation which is too often not appreciated. Throughout historical and prehistorically times the "Estuarine Habitats" have been of particular significance to mankind. Midden deposits have shown that the coastal Aborigines depended very heavily on estuarine life.

Estuarine life is not, generally speaking, the type of area with wide appeal, as sandflies, mud and mangroves repel the casual visitor", to quote a Wildlife officer.

These estuaries are in reality "nutrient traps" created by the sedimental drainage from surrounding areas, especially those of small streams and swampy areas. Of recent years the value of these marine locations have come under increasing biological study, indicating the necessity of adequate protection.

The estuarine habitats which are strung out along the coast provide a diversity of quiet, sheltered paces, well supplied with living plant and



animal organisms. A large group of bird forms have evolved which allow them to feed most efficiently in such habitats."

There are three outstanding East Coast locations; the Hunter and Shoalhaven Rivers areas, and the Towra/Boat Harbour complex and the Kurnell Peninsula. Each of these estuaries embraces mudflats, salt and fresh meadows, mangroves, Casuarina forests and sedge land in close proximity to the ocean. None of these sub-communities are used exclusively by any species (of birds). Tidal and wind conditions cause a shift of populations from mudflat to meadow or beach and back again as the flats are re-exposed at low water.

"Amongst the estuarine wading birds at least 26 species are long-distance, spending the Australian winter in northern Asia, the Arctic and adjacent islands. They arrive along the Australian coast during September/October, usually in an exhausted condition, but quickly rehabilitate on their favoured summer grounds. It is while they are in long strings prodding away in the muds of the receding tide that they are usually seen". Having fed on the low tidal flats they finally rest in the salt meadows or some other nearby roosting site.

Not a great deal is yet known about estuarine ecology. "Two points are certain", states a Wildlife authority: "the birds do depend upon the estuarine system for food and shelter, and because the system is a 'nutrient trap', it is also a trap for toxic material. Thus the drainage of toxic materials into rivers could be channelled ultimately, by way of the food chain, into these birds".

A count of bird species observed in numbers in the southern Botany Bay area totalled over 3000, including a dozen or so species in flocks of from 100 to 1000, according to observations made approximately three years ago by the Field Ornithologists' Club (NSW).

Development has of recent years included the dredging and drainage of low-lying coastal marshes and mudflats and their filling in; destruction of mangroves; pollution in varying and increasing degree by waste effluents. All these set up a deleterious chain re-action, from the basic marine forms of food particles (plankton etc.), which feed marine insects, which feed other small forms of marine life and which, progressing up the "food ladder" provide the necessary sustenance both for commercial fish and for the (present) myriads of marine birdlife. Much of the estuarine system of Botany Bay has already been destroyed; much of the remainder -- the systems along the southern shores -- are under daily threat of developmental destruction as well as sewage pollution.

Thus our Botany Bay estuarine system (or what is left of it) forms a vital link in a migratory pathway for a large group of wading birds. If destruction of this system is allowed to continue, both by growth removal and by continuing pollution, the Towra Point/Kurnell/Boat Harbour areas will become places without birds -- and without marine food for either the birds or for man.

The National Parks and Wildlife Service realises the problem of estuarine conservation and is investigating all the affecting factors to

in order to form a plan of preservation for estuarine marine life. Time, though, is very short.

—M. Hutton Neve

With acknowledgment to "Parks & Wildlife" magazine, issue December 1974

EASTER -- Linked with Eostre. Pagan Goddess of Spring

The Easter period is probably the oldest Christian observance of its kind; Christmas Day, as such, was not generally observed until the 5th century A.D.. Even then the celebration was based on an ancient pagan rite --the "farewelling" of the end of the Winter Solstice which, in the Northern Hemisphere, ended about Dec. 22-25.

Easter, and especially Easter Sunday, derives from another rite of the "old religion" of Europe -- the pagan anthropomorphic deity of t h e "great god Pan", with whom were connected the observances and celebrations of Eostre, Goddess of Spring; that is, the re-birth of life after the long months of winter darkness, both agricultural and animal (including man), and with which were associated various fertility rites abhorrent to the early Christian missionaries. The pagan rites of Eostre had no fixed date, although they occurred during our months of late March and April. It was not until 325 A.D. that the early Church fixed the date of Easter Sunday a s being the first Sunday after the full moon following the vernal equinox --equal day and night during the northern spring period. The populace, especially in country districts, continued their spring festivals, although these now had a Christianising influence.

Many of the folk customs, symbolising the resurrection of life in the spring and embodying ancient pagan rites, continued to be observed. In earlier Christian days the eating of eggs had been banned during the Lenten 40-day period, but these now became acceptable as Easter symbols of new life and resurrection, as did the hare (the modern "Easter bunny"), which was another pagan symbol of fertility.

An old Lancashire custom used to involve boys and men touring the villages to beg for eggs for the "Paces Egging" (or "Pasch", i.e. Easter) play. The rolling of coloured eggs downhill on Easter Monday is still observed in some parts of northern England.

Confectionery eggs began to replace real eggs in European Easter celebrations about a century ago, and their use has now become almost universal in Christian countries.

M.H.N.

Drunken Driver -- 1825s "Prisoner of the Crown, John Wilson, was charged last Monday with having furiously driven a chaise in the streets of Sydney to the great danger of the passengers and, moreover, in a great state of intoxication. He was sentenced to 10 days at the treadmills, newly erected at Carter's Barracks". (Belmore Park/Central Railway Station area).

-Sydney Gazette July 1825

SUTHERLAND, THE COMING CENTRE IN 1906

"Now that Sutherland has been raised to the importance of a local governing centre its claims to consideration as a residential district must (per medium of judicious advertising) be made known far and wide by the newly elected Council.

"Many are the points which should attract the seekers after an ideal home, The climate rejoices in 90% of sunshiny days; it invites you to mid-summer nights between clear stars and open windows in the Spring and Autumn; it has a fraternal feeling for long walks, bicycling and motoring.

"The genial moon that climbs up over the various hills sheds a silver light upon the stretches of the purely Australian foliage, and reflects the waters of the Pacific and of Botany Bay and Port Hacking. There is no monotony in this district but an alternation of sunlight and shadow everywhere.

"This is Sutherland.

"In its compass Dame Nature has scattered health and pleasure resorts lavishly -- in the pudding is no lack of plums. With the glorious bays of the Port which simply entangle one's thoughts as to which to select, with the great stretch of ocean beaches at Cronulla, with the adjacent National Park, the Sutherlander lives in a locality unsurpassed in the State. All these resorts are attractive the whole year round.

"One of the most recent improvements is being made for tourists on the western side of the railway. Here the traveller is being assisted to reach the winding Woronora River with its wealth of picnic spots, by a much improved and convenient route. The camper-out must have been agreeably surprised last week to find that the track from the Cemetery to the river had been



in the hands of the men of the Roads Department, and also further delighted to know that the track is to be made to the Cemetery gate, thus reducing the distance from the station to these 'delightful river resorts. Seven men are employed under the superintendence of Mr. G. Perim, of Heathcote, and are doing remarkably well. They expect to complete the work before Christmas. If this works out as

expected the Christmas season will see hundreds on this side of the line, as against scores before.

"The confident hope of the Sutherlanders is that this is only a preliminary to the bridge across the river which will bring Liverpool within fifteen miles of Sutherland.

"The usual complement of stores is found here (one of the principal, that of R. Carrick & Co.) and accommodation for visitors is to be found at either of two good hotels — Peters or Boyles.

With a fond hope that a long promised tram route will open up the town with the seaside, the residents look forward to the time when Sutherland will rank as one of the brightest town hips outside the Metropolitan area.

The new Shire Council have a thoughtful and earnest task before them, and it goes without saying that their efforts during the coming year will be watched with scrutiny that will determine their inclusion in the three-year's bunch of Councillors at the next meeting".

-- Alf Midgley.

Grateful acknowledgement is made to the "St. George Call", issue 2-12-1906.

(Editor: "Boyle's" is, of course) the present hotel in the main street; "Peter's" is now the Ro Hotel in East Parade -- originally The National Park Hotel).

* * * * *

Housewife Defeats Thief: "On Monday one of those petty larceny rogues who infest the streets of Sydney, while prowling through Castlereagh Street, was attracted by the tempting sight of an open window, into which he thrust his head, to see what plunder was within his reach. A painter who was quietly following his avocation within, catching a glimpse of the intruding phiz, replenished his brush which he vigorously applied across the eyes of the intruder, who in agony, throwing back his head, detached the prop which supported the window, and he was secured, a la guillotine. The good woman of the house, alarmed at the noise, ran into the room to see the cause, having a basin of boiling soup in her hand, and seeing the head of the man so situated, she discharged the contents in his face. The fellow's agony by this time amounted to a phrenzy, and he roared and prayed so hard for mercy, that his head was at last released, but he was cautioned not to make his appearance again under similar circumstances."

--Sydney Morning Herald: Nov. 14, 1831.

Historic Printing Press: the original Napier Printing Press on which Sir Henry Parkes printed "The Empire" (1850-1875) was later used for many years in the Goulburn Gaol. When it was necessary to replace this old printing press with a modern one, it was not taken to a museum as would have been expected, but was instead taken to a local iron foundry and broken up for scrap metal.

"THE SPREADING OF THE WORD" in Sutherland

Old Lucifer, the Evil One, the Tempter, called: Eshab, Kneescab, and Hemeantogo arose and went unto the House of the Lord in the morning, even into the street known as Merton.

They journeyed about it, looked over it, and went under it, even under the Sanctum Sanctorum.

And they burnt incense under the Lord's House; even out of their mouths and nostrils came the smoke. And it came to pass that there was a great rushing of Wind, from the North and the West, and it was hot and dry and filled with dust: and it blew a spark under the Altar, even under the Sanhedrin, among the straw when it was very dry. And the smoke arose from the straw; it was enkindled with fire and it burneth hot. And behold, the House of the Lord was consumed in the flames.

And the multitude stood by, wringing their hands and looking on; their eyes were red and cast down, for they now had nowhere to go, and there was much talk among them in many tongues and anger, and weeping and gnashing of teeth, and they pointed to one another and said, Who hath done this thing?

And Eshab, Kneescab and Hemeantogo, they were then heard to say to one another, O Lord, let us now depart in peace, for we can see no salvation. So, lo, they departed, and ran to the place of the sacrificial altar where the blood of the ox was still wet upon the ground, and there was much lamentation.

And men came from afar off in great red chariots, gleaming with golden embellishments: they were dressed in curious apparel and did have golden helmets upon their heads, and were girded up with woollen raiment, belts, axes and spanners.

And they did speak to one another in strange tongues, saying: Wheresahydrnt, Sheezagonner: and they poured water on the House of the Lord, and behold, the fire which consumed the House of the Lord was extinguished.

And the Elders looked around and about, and the Wise Men said, What shall we do? What shall we do?

And it came to pass that out of the multitude one man came forth, saying, Fear not, for I am with thee. I am the great I Am, I am the A.M.P. man. Rejoice and be glad with me, for I



SUTHERLAND METHODIST CHURCH DESTROYED BY FIRE IN 1935. THE ILLUSTRATION SHOWS THE CHURCH IN 1909.

will build for you an House, a new House, a tabernacle to the Most High. And lo, even as he spake, the Elders fell at his feet and tugged at his garment.

And the morning and the evening were very windy, and the Word of the Lord was spread by the wind up and down the highways and byways even unto the Chambers of the Council, and the Word lay in the gardens and the gutters for many days.

So endeth the great Lesson.

.....

This was the great fire of Sutherland Methodist Church, beginning at 10.0 a.m. on Saturday, 2nd November 1935.

Three boys were smoking under the old Church; they accidentally set it on fire, and fled to Stapleton's Slaughteryard in Glencoe Street. They were never apprehended; their names are known to the Author (not for publication, as they are still residents of the Shire).

Pages of burnt Bibles and Hymn books by the thousand littered and blew about Sutherland's streets for weeks to follow.

The full story of the fire was published in S.C.A.M. 9-11-1935.

-- Geo. Heavens

* * * * *

When the Shire Council was inaugurated in 1906, a number of Miranda residents were tenants of the Holt-Sutherland Estate Coy.; the Company had divided its Miranda lands into five-acre farming lots, rented at 25/s per acre per year; and the Company controlled the land as landlords. Miranda tenants found that, as tenants of the Company, they were not entitled to vote, the Company being the only elector in the district. The matter was referred to Court, and the late Sir Isaac Isaacs ruled that if all tenants voluntarily became ratepayers, at the rate of 10/- per year, they would be entitled to a vote: they agreed, and thus became rightful electors. (It must be remembered that in those days only ratepayers could vote, or stand for election to Council).

***** _ *****

A pipe organ wholly built in Australia was installed in the gallery of St. Matthew's Church Windsor in 1840. Before that, the choir and congregation were always accompanied by a military band. St. Matthew's was first opened for services in December 1820, but was not consecrated until Dec. 18, 1822.

* * * * *

NEW GUINEA !! Last October Mr. Rex Warner addressed the Society at short notice, showing films relating to New Guinea, this being arranged by Mr. Syd. Stedman. Mr. Warner lent one of our members a book relating to New Guinea, to be returned through Mr. Stedman. Will the member who still has this New Guinea book please return it.

SUTHERLAND PICTURE THEATRE

On 26th July 1921 Mrs. Emily Russack opened Sutherland's first Picture Show in Boyle's Hall in Station Street, now Boyle Street.

Shortly afterwards showing commenced in Miranda School of Arts. Saturday nights were chosen for the screening at both centres for several years until a mid-week (Wednesday nights) was added. Saturday afternoon matinees commenced from the outset.

Boyle's Hotel ---publican Ted Boyle, Shire Councillor and sporting benefactor -- erected in 1904, had weatherboard front and galvanised iron roof and sides. Admittance was by a side door on the western wall just off the footpath.

Marshall Russack, son of Emily, was the projectionist as well as the engineer. Before electricity came to Sutherland (1926) he installed a 4-cylinder Universal engine which drove a generator for lighting and project-ion of the silent films. His assistant in later years was Lauri Avery.

Marshall Russack, his face covered in grease -- as well as his overalls -- from working on motor vehicles in his garage, would arrive to operate the movie projector. During the interval he would race to Miranda by motorbike or car to change over the films screened first at both of the picture shows.

At the commencement the enterprise was largely a family affair: Emily Russack was owner and manager; Marshall's elder brother Bob (who married Grace Dadley, daughter of a Shire Councillor) played the pianola at the theatre to accompany the silent films, and also at the Annual. Movie Ball. Other people were hired to play the pianola as well. Miss Lilly Collins, an aunt of Bill Collins T.V. movie critic and lecturer, was an usherette right up to the time the Sutherland Theatre closed in the new building adjacent to Boyle's Hall.

In 1923 Dr. Burchell and his family came to Sutherland after having retired from a country practice at Canowindra. He brought along three horses and an old "Sachet" car and erected a substantial home in President Avenue. Of his children a daughter, Lily, was already an accomplished pianiste when she was engaged by Emily Russack to play the piano at the theatre in 1923 when she was aged seventeen. She obtained many diplomas for her musical skill and was a much sought after pianiste for a variety of entertainments through the years to the present.

After each show Mrs. Russack would give Lily Burchell a Stenopic sheet a square framed arrangement which contained notice of special musical scores for particular scenes and sequences of the films for the next showing. These she had to co-ordinate by watching the film as she played the piano. In between she played her own selections to suit the occasion. People would come to the pictures on numerous occasions to listen to Lily playing the piano --quite apart from the screen action. Often when she was playing at home passers-by would stand or sit outside on the footpath.

The screen in the hall was at the front of the hall, that is, on Station Street. Patrons went in at the side door, and the floor had a slight slope to the rear where seats were dearer. For children, it was threepence at the front on forms, and a shilling and sixpence for adults ; and ninepence for children and three shillings for adults for better seats.

During a tense part of a picture a soft-drink bottle would be rolled down the sloping floor -- a common occurrence -- which always resulted in Mrs. Russack rushing about with a torch, crying: "Who did that?"

During that lively era of silent films, missiles were thrown -- consisting chiefly of meat pies, the usual target being a fellow who had "pirated" the assailant's girl friend, or his mates. An egg thrown at a disliked film star would hit the screen and trickle down. To stir the audience it is on record of local lads placing a match-box on the floor containing bull (solider) ants.

Sutherland Theatre Late Marshall's Pictures

8th ANNIVERSARY MOVIE BALL

WILL BE HELD IN

NEW SUTHERLAND THEATRE
Monday, July 22nd, 1929 at 8 p.m.

5 CASH PRIZES OF ONE GUINEA EACH

1. BEST INTERPRETATION MOVIE ARTIST	LADY	Bernie Stone's Orchestra
2. " " " " " "	GENT	
3. MOST ORIGINAL OR HUMOROUS	LADY	
4. " " " " " "	GENT	
5. BEST PAIR OR TEAM (SPORTS)	LADIES OR GENTS	

6. BEST PORTER 7. BEST LOCAL ADVT. 8. CONSOLATION

Prizes for the Local Hospital, Ambulance, and Red Cross

Ticket - 3/- Onlookers - 1/-

Boys carried trays of sweets for sale around the theatre during the interval. The hall was always crowded for shows, and gained a reputation as an "ice-box" in wintertime. Advertisements were screened by the 'slide' method in the programme.

Mrs. Russack owned the property where the new theatre was erected, opening in 1928 in conjunction with Greater Union Theatres. She was appointed as manager.

The advertisement accompanying this article is from the Shire news-paper "The S.C.A.M." of July 1929, advising the eighth annual Movie Ball, the first to be held in the new theatre.

Staff in 1928 included Marshall Russack, Miss Collins and Mrs. Kyle as usherettes, and Mrs. Kyle's husband (both were English) who served as doorman.

-- Alf Midgley.

Sources: Mrs. Lily Bennett (nee Burchell); Jack Midgley: Author's Notes.

* * * * *

Wife for Sale! In the early 1800s it was quite common for men in England to sell their wives — though of course it was illegal to do so; and the custom was brought to the convict settlements of N.S.W. and Van Diemen's Land. In Sydney men were gaoled for wife-trading. In February 1817, the Hobart Town Gazette reported the sale of a wife for 20 sheep and a gallon of rum. Another wife was sold for 50 ewes and a third for £5 cash and- a gallon of rum. The practice was finally put down by Governor Arthur.

Mr. Alf Midgley obtained the poem quoted here from Mr. W.A. Nelson of Caringbah. Mr. Nelson's father originally had the poem before the turn of this century, and was well known amongst the market gardeners of the time who from Miranda, Sylvania and other settlements, carried their farm produce to the City Markets.



Mr. Nelson suggests the poem was originally in the colloquial language, e.g.:-

"Did 'yer ever earn 'yer livin' in the market gard-nin line....?"

"MARKETING"

Did you ever earn your living in the market gardening line,
 Turning out of bed at midnight in the wet or in the fine?
 With a sack around your shoulders and another o'er your knees –
 You are doing what you can for your warmth and for your ease;
 While the old horse trudges patiently teaching you a lesson bright,
 You feel right at your lowest in these lone hours of the night.
 There are times the nights are lovely and the 'stuffs' a ripping price,
 And the 'blime' bloke's a brother and the 'chow' smells really nice;
 Then you'll swear you'll stick to gardening, it's as good as any game,
 And though summer follow winter, you are at it just the same.

* * * * *

Registrations of Births, Marriages & Deaths: in 1538 the Established Church of England began the parish registration of marriages baptisms and burials in England and Wales. Parish registers were, however, not complete, even though most people attended their village church. Births were not usually recorded, but baptism took place often within two or three weeks of birth: likewise the date of death was not always recorded -- only the burial date. The Hardwick Marriage Act of 1749 stipulated that all marriages must take place in the village church (usually the man's), this being the only form of marriage --- performed by an "Episcopal priest" -- recognised by the Church. English law recognised the "ancient usage of marriage", but not the Church. This was a form of civil marriage, in front of three adult male witnesses; if either or both parties were minors (under 21 years) the male guardian had to appear to give his consent; the young couple were required to swear that neither was already pledged to another; they then declared their troth "until death do us part". No records were kept of such marriages -- unless in the family Bible. Jews and Quakers were exempt from the Hardwick Marriage Act. The Rev. Samuel Marsden declined to recognise the Ancient Usage of Marriage, declaring that unless the parents were "churched" the issue were illegitimate. This was to cause many problems of inheritance etc. in the later years of the Colony of New South Wales. In England and Wales civil registration was introduced in 1837, and in Scot-land in 1855. In New South Wales optional registration of marriages births and deaths began in 1850 but on January 1st 1856 it became compulsory. The Registry Office now takes the place of the Ancient Usage of Marriage.

--- M.H.N.

SUTHERLAND BRICKWORKS HAVE CLOSED - Jan 1975

For over half a century the tall twin chimneys of the Brickworks on the crest of the "Gynea Ridge" were one of the Shire's best known landmarks, but on February 22 last they were carefully dropped on their site, quietly and skilfully by the demolisher.

In 1912 the Sutherland Brick Coy. Ltd. was formed; the iron-sheeted building was erected on the "Sydney Road" (also known as the National Park Road), for there was good brick-clay in the locality. By arrangement with the Railway Commissioners a siding was run into the Works, so that the Sutherland/Cronulla steam tram could haul goods waggons.

The Company went into voluntary liquidation in 1917, being taken over by Refractory Bricks Ltd., which in turn sold out in 1927 to Punchbowl Brick & Tile Coy..

With the closing down of the Sutherland/Cronulla Steam Tramway in 1932 the Brick Siding of course went out of use. By the original agreement made in 1913 between the Chief Commissioner for Railways and the Sutherland Brick Coy. Ltd., the cost of removal of the materials from the Siding and the restoration of the site of the siding was borne by the Brick Coy. Under the Prevention and Relief of Unemployment Act 1930-1932, it was stated that "the lifting of the tram lines from the Sutherland Railway" was being done by unemployed labour; the cost of effective removal was £13-13-1, which amount was paid by the Brick Coy. to the Railways in January 1935; all property relating to the Brick Siding was returned to the Railways Commissioner.

Negotiations took place in 1972-3 to dispose of the Brickworks, but work continued for some time; in April, 1974 Punchbowl Brick & Tile Company signed an agreement whereby they sold the site to the Metropolitan Water Sewage & Drainage Board; brick manufacture was being tapered off, work ceasing in January of this year, the final deliveries being made a few days before the chimneys were felled.

In 1948 Punchbowl Brick & Tile Coy. opened Brickworks at Engadine, where there are still good supplies of brick-clay, and these are now the Shire's only local supply.

The old Brickworks served the Shire for many years, supplying most of the bricks for local construction. However, post war development brought greatly increased land values with heavily increasing rates -- Kirrawee was no longer a rural area; and the site clay was just about exhausted, so that the Works were no longer an economic proposition.

The old claypit covers approximately threequarters of the whole site, and it is the intention of the Water Board to construct one or more reservoirs within the pit,, thus having only a small part above ground -- and so not unduly disturbing the harmony of vision for the locality.

-- M. Hutton Neve

PREACHING THE GOSPEL BY HORSE AND TRAP

In October 1915 the Rev. and Mrs. Nathaniel Robinson accepted the call to the Congregational parish embracing the far-flung rural and farming communities of Miranda, Sylvania and Menai, with headquarters at Sutherland. Mr. Robinson carried out his ministerial duties by "Shanks' pony " at first, but there was also the help given by parishioners' conveyances and the use of the steam trams.

By mid-1916 the group churches had raised sufficient money to buy a horse, and a sulky and harness were donated. The horse became known for its habit of lying down in the shafts to sleep when night meetings were held.

In June 1922 the Rev. Robinson and his wife had a close escape from serious injury in the main street of Sutherland (then Railway Parade, but later named Princes Highway). They were driving along about 3.0 o'clock in the afternoon and were just passing the Post Office and the Congregational Church when the goods tram for Cronulla came in sight. The pony took fright and commenced to back.

The tram driver, upon seeing the frightened pony, slowed down the engine, but the Robinsons' attempts to quieten the pony were of no avail, and before the tram could be brought to a standstill the pony had backed the sulky into it. The collision damaged the sulky and the occupants were thrown to the road but escaped serious injury, although Mrs. Robinson suffered from shock for several weeks.

The Rev. Percy Riley and his wife and family came to Sutherland in January 1924, and moved into the Congregational Manse situated in East Parade on a large block of land, which in later years passed into private hands. In the 1950s the "S.C.A.M." Printery was erected aside the house, which is still standing today.

The Rev. Riley had a horse and sulky for transport around his parish (still extending over Sylvania, Miranda and Menai), until the group churches purchased a "T" model Ford for him in 1925.

Christmas Eve was a very hot day when the Rev. Riley with his two sons Gordon and Wilfred (then schoolboys) harnessed up their horse and sulky, and left the Manse yard for Menai to gather Christmas Bush and Christmas Bells.

Having laboured in the heat in the bush and gathered their requirements of native flora, the Pastor then steered a homeward course. However, the sulky, laden with three people in addition to flowers and foliage, succumbed to the numerous potholes and jagged sandstone of the rough dirt road and the axle broke in the middle.

This left the party in an initial dilemma, but the Pastor, a believer in prayer in all situations and places, first sought the help of the Lord and then walked into the bush and chopped down a young sapling. With the boys' help the sapling was laid under the axle for support; aided

by a liberal binding of bark and vines the repairs proved effective. On the homeward way again, the Rev. Riley led the horse, while Gordon and Wilfred brought up the rear behind the sulky. After a slow and tedious trip in the heat they arrived at Sutherland and went straight away to Bennett the blacksmith in "Blacksmith's Lane" (now called Boyle's Lane). Returning at last to the Manse they managed wearily to exclaim: "Merry Christmas:"

--- A. Midgley

(published in the Congregational Church Herald -- Sutherland, Menai, Woronora)

* * * * *

CRONULLA,. A CHARMING SUMMER RESORT" (as it was)

The placid waters of Gunnamatta Bay on one side and those of the more turbulent ocean on the other form that delightful peninsula called Cronulla. To many this district is new country,. for it has not been "boomed" like its near neighbour, the popular and lovely National Park.

The way to reach Cronulla is by rail from Sydney to Sutherland, a distance of 16 miles. Four trains leave the metropolis daily, the 8.30 a.m., 1.30 p.m., 5.26 and 5.55 p.m.. These trains are met at Sutherland by Mrs. Giddings's well-horsed coaches, which quickly cover the 6- miles to Cronulla.

Cronulla is well supplied with bush birds, which are protected from the gun. Finches and kingfishers abound, and the "bushman' s clock", with his merry laugh, early in the morning wakes the lie-abed.

Port Hacking entrance is a break in the huge shallow crescent of Bate B ay, and is situated at its southern end. The channel entrance swings round past Burraneer headland.... The water is of limpid purity. As one stands on the height of Burraneer Point on a calm day he can watch, as did the aboriginals in the days when the place belonged to them, the shoals of useful and predaceous fish making their way up the port with the tide. One may often witness the giant king-fish and tailor shepherding the mullet pack, circling and circling till ones grows dizzy watching the operation. Then when the mullet are huddled into a dense mass the swift-moving kingfish are seen rushing through the pack, biting as they go. It is a great hunting ground for anglers who troll for king fish from boats with rods, cutty-hunk lines, and spinners.

-- The Sydney Mail, Nov. 1904

* * * * *

Cedar was a popular choice for does and other domestic fittings in the homes of the early settlers of New South Wales. Along the coastal areas there were large stands of the tree, and timber-getting soon became a most profitable industry. It was a favourite wood for both house and furniture-making, for it not only polished to an attractive lustre but also gave off a very pleasant perfume. So popular was the wood, and so easy to work , that the huge stands of this magnificent tree were soon cut out.

CORRECTION - BULLETIN January 1975; page 87, 2nd paragraph, should read:-"12,000 acres". -- not 12, 000, 000 acres.

"DUNRATH" -- a little-known Historic Home

Originally "Dunrath" was built at Bellevue Hill and was then named "Llandudno", erected in approximately 1840-55 by a Sydney merchant.

From 1924-33 the Montefiore Society owned it. Captain de Groot (of Harbour Bridge fame) was the next owner. He bought 20 acres at Castle Hill with the idea of moving "Llandudno". The house lay as a pile of stones at „Castle Hill for six months as World War 2 had commenced and man-power was "short.

The house, when constructed again, was partially altered from t h e original plan. One of the keystones was missing, and de Groot sent to the same quarry in England where the stone had come from, for another. The stone had been sent here as ballast in the first place.

The house was finished in 1941 and de Groot renamed it "Dunrath" after his birthplace in Ireland.

In 1949 Mr. Ron Beck, a radio personality at that time, bought "Dunrath" and entertained considerably.

Sir William Dobell was the next owner; he bought it at auction in 1963 hoping to live in it, but most of his time was spent at Wangi. The house deteriorated as it was left empty, and vandals entered and damaged it.

The present owner, Mr. Barry Spicer of Radio Station 2 GB, bought the old home a few years ago, and is now restoring "Dunrath". The property has now been reduced to four acres.

I found the various pieces of furniture in the home to be of great interest, especially with the stories the young lady attendants could tell about them.

The address of "Dunrath" is 139 Castle Hill Road, West Pennant Hills, and is open for inspection each Sunday from 11.0 a.m. to 6.0 p.m..

Elva Carmichael. * * * * *

*

Editor's Note: in a delightful discussion with Mr. Barry Spicer, he told me that "Dunrath" is a large home of about 120 squares, but that little of it can be seen from the road. He said that de Groot bought the old home as he considered it to be the finest example of a Queen Anne style in Australia. Mr. Spicer, while undertaking research into its history, was fortunate t o locate an old Auction Sale leaflet wherein was listed the furniture that de Groot had sold with the house -- and, luckier still, Mr. Spicer has been able to trace most of the furniture and buy it back. He anticipates that his research will ultimately indicate who the "Sydney merchant" was who origin-ally built the home.

THE PRESIDENT Writes

As this Bulletin goes to press we are settling down from the Ninth Annual Meeting held on Friday 14th March.

As President, re-elected for a third term, I wish to express my gratitude for the vote of confidences which I take as an indication of general satisfaction with the activities of the Society.

The new management is in many ways the same as before. I welcome Mrs. Becker back to the Executive Council: Miss Whitaker, who has not previously held a position on this Executive, has shown her interest by offering her services in two positions, as a Vice President and as Treasurer.

Congratulations are due to Mr. Geo. Heavens, who has been elected to the new position of Deputy President.

The meeting was well attended, forty-eight being present, a number which exceeds the average of ordinary meetings over the previous year. The meeting was the last one to be held in the Sydney County Council Building, and members are reminded that all future meetings will be in the hall of the Presbyterian Church at the corner of Flora and Glencoe Streets, Sutherland, on the usual dates.

Regarding our leaving the Sydney County Council building, members should appreciate the favours done to us in the past years. Use of the building has been entirely without cost to the Society. Taking into consideration all costs involved -- as electricity for lighting and heating, use of crockery and kitchenware etc., and the overtime wages paid to the County Council's caretaker for each meeting, these varied services could be estimated as amounting to approximately \$40 per month So therefore I wish again to express the thanks of the Society to the Sydney County Council.

— Harold Ivers, President 1975.

* * * * *

Sundowner V. Swaggie: there was a vast difference between these two. The "sundowner" made sure that he arrived at an outback sheep or cattle station after the day's work was done -- and left early the next morning before any work commenced; thus, he got a handout without offering anything in return. It was the unwritten rule of "the bush" or the outback that no person was refused a bed or a shakedown and a meal. The "swaggie" or swagman was one who would take any job in return for lodging and food, until the urge to continue his nomadic life sent him wandering. Many swaggies were well educated but preferred to freedom of the outback to town or city life; many, too, had family responsibilities and regularly sent money home. Some might return to their families for short periods, until the wanderlust again urged him onward,

Publications Committee (April issue): Mr. G. Heavens (Convenor), Mrs. M. Hutton Neve Editor, Messrs. R. Hall, B. Sargeant, F. Midgley, The President (ex officio).

Contributions: Members are asked to submit material for the 'Bulletin' — any items of interest having a historical background; they need not be entirely confined to Shire material. Please state source if extracted or rewritten material is used, Interviews with elderly residents and personal reminiscences are always welcome, If hand-written, please print names in B L O C K (= capital) letters. Hand to President, Convenor or Editor. Contributions for July issue should be handed in not later than June meeting.

Bulletin copies, are supplied to all branches of the Shire Library, and also to the Shire President, Shire Clerk, and all Councillors.

Extra copies of the Bulletin may be purchased for 10c (April 1975) while limited stocks are available. A few varied back numbers are available for 5c each.

Publications of Local History are on sale at each monthly meeting: proceeds are paid to the Society, „.. "Illustrated History of Sutherland Shire" 50c (F. Midgley) : "Bygone Days of Sutherland" \$1.00: "Thos. Holt" 50c: "Kurnell" 50c: all these are illustrated: "Martha Matilda" (Mrs. James Birnie), leaflet - 20c. The last four are by M. Hutton Neve.

* * * * *
*

This Society is affiliated to the Royal Australian Historical Society and to the National Trust of Australia, New South Wales Branch.

* * * * *

The opinions expressed in this Bulletin are not necessarily those of the Society.

* * * * *

Monthly Meetings are held on the 2nd Friday, commencing at 8.0 p.m.: from April, these will be at the new address -- Presbyterian Church Hall, cnr. Glencoe & Flora Sts., Sutherland. Visitors are welcome.

* * * * *

	<u>President:</u>	<u>Hon. Sec.:</u>	<u>Publications Convenor:</u>
Harold Ivers, B.E. 620 Princes H'way, Sutherland: 2232 Ph. 521.1407	Mrs. G.F. Griffiths, 34 Richmond St., Cronulla: 2230 Ph. 523.5801	Mr. G. Heavens, 78 Toronto Parade, Sutherland: 2232 Ph. 521.6190	

Editor may be contacted at -- 26 First Av., Loftus 2232: Ph. 521.2578

It is suggested this page be detached and kept for reference

From.... The HONORARY SECRETARY

Dear Members:

Reporting from the Annual General Meeting:.

Firstly on the Notices of Motion which were submitted for consideration by members. All three were passed and the Constitution will be amended to include the following:

OFFICERS: instead of 3 Vice Presidents, there will now be 1 Deputy Present and 2 Vice Presidents.

Honorary Treasurer will accept all monies and issue receipts for same.

An Honorarium shall be paid to Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer each year, after approval of amount recommended by Council, at General Meeting.

Commenting on the last-mentioned, members may rest assured that as Honorary Secretary I did not make any request for this Honorarium; and I did not wish to accept same. However, it is a very wise precautionary step to have such a clause in any constitution as no action may be taken against honorary officers for recovering Society property — but if a payment is made, no matter how small that token payment, it does protect your assets. Hence the reason for Mrs. Hutton Neve to introduce the item as a Notice of Motion.

The Election of Office resulted as follows:

<u>PRESIDENT:</u>	Mr. H. Ivers
<u>DEPUTY PRESIDENT:</u>	Mr. G. Heavens_
<u>VICE PRESIDENTS:</u>	Mr. F. Midgley, Miss F. Whitaker
<u>HON. SECRETARY:</u>	Mrs. G. F. Griffiths
<u>HON.. TREASURER:</u>	Miss F. Whitaker
<u>HON, RESEARCH OFFICER:</u>	Mrs. M. Hutton Neve
<u>HON.. ARCHIVIST:</u>	Mr. B. Sargeant
<u>HON. PUBLICITY OFFICER:</u>	Mrs. M. Taplin
<u>EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:</u>	Messrs. R. Hall, K. Mathews, Mesdames A. Becker, P. Garland, A. Ivers.

EXCURSIONS

Plans are in hand for a trip to Paddington on Saturday 12th April 1975; the coach leaves Cronulla at 12 noon, and Sutherland at 12.30 p.m.. Just a few tickets are still available — bring your afternoon tea with you.

Please contact Hon. Secretary if you wish to come with us.

We commend the Annual Commemoration of the Landing of Captain Cook at Kurnell to you, and suggest as many members of the Society as is possible, should

attend the ceremony. It will be a little later than usual this year and is set down for Saturday, 3rd May: Time about 2.30 p.m..

Plans have not yet been finalised for our trip to the Manly-Warringah-Pittwater area, but we have chosen Saturday, 19th July 1975 for the outing; we are awaiting word from the Society in that area before we can make up a full itinerary.

GUEST SPEAKERS

At the April meeting we will be welcoming Mr. R. Gilroy of Mount York Museum. His subject (illustrated) will be "The Pre-History of Australia".

In May Mr. E. Utick, Hon. Director of the E.G. Waterhouse Camellia Gardens, will be our guest; and will speak on the History of the Gardens (illustrated).

June Meeting: our guest will be Mr. O. Brown Deverall of Oyster Bay, who is a member of the Church of England Historical Society and of St. Mary's Cathedral Archives Committee; Mr. Brown-Deverall is also assisting at the Sutherland Library to improve the historical records.

* * * * *

NEW MEETING PLACE:

PLEASE NOTE: FROM APRIL MEETING (FRIDAY, 11th) THIS SOCIETY WILL MEET IN THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH HALL, corner GLENCOE AND FLORA STREETS, SUTHERLAND, AT 8.0 p.m..

* * * * *

ANOTHER REMINDER THAT SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE BEING RECEIVED: THEY BECAME DUE ON 1st January 1975. Please assist the Council by making prompt payment of outstanding fees.

Aileen Griffiths,
Honorary Secretary,

"Richmount",
34 Richmount St.,
CRONULLA: 2230.
(Phone 523.5801).