

10th ANNIVERSARY FOUNDATION ISSUE 1966 - 1976

CONTENTS

FROM THE SHIRE PRESIDENT	Clr. M. Tynan
FOUNDATION OF THE SOCIETY	M. Hutton Neve
LIST OF FOUNDATION MEMBERS
FOUNDATION MEMBERS HONOURED
FOUNDATION PRESIDENT (R.D.HARRISON: dcd.)	M. Hutton Neve
OUR FIRST CENSUS - 1846	M. Hutton Neve
CLR. ROBERT BINGHAM	G. Heavens
ALBERT E. VOWLES	A. Midgley
FIRST PRACTICAL TYPEWRITER	F. Midgley
WORONORA WEEKENDERS ASSN.	A. Midgley
TRAGEDY AT BROWNS CREEK :	G. Heavens
"I REMEMBER "	G. Heavens
HERE AND THERE
SUTHERLAND TOWNSHIP 1886-1887	F. Midgley
JOHN ANTILL O.B.E. M.H.N.	
EARLY SHIRE MOTORING AND GARAGES	F. Midgley
THE PRESIDENT COMMENTS	H. Ivers
"THE QUALITY" versus "OTHER PERSONS"	M.H.N.
ILLUSTRATIONS A. & F. Midgley

National Library of Australia Card :o. ISSN 0586 - 0231

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

SUTHERLAND SHIRE HISTORICAL SOCIETY... QUARTERLY BULLETIN
APRIL 1976

FROM THE SHIRE PRESIDENT....

It gives me very great pleasure to congratulate the Sutherland Shire Historical Society on attaining its tenth birthday.

I am all the happier to do this because of the Shire Council's involvement in its foundation in 1966.

The late bk. David Kirkby, amidst all his multitudinous duties as Shire Clerk, took a great interest in the historical development of the Shire, and for several years before his retirement had mooted the idea of the formation of a historical society. Finally, the Council sponsored the public meeting which resulted in the Society's formation.

Since then the Shire Council and the Society have worked in harmonious co-operation to the mutual benefit of each.

Although the Shire, as such, was one of the last to be established, in 1906, our actual history goes right back to the absolute grass-roots of the Colony of New South Wales — and beyond that, because Captain James Cook, after spending six days in Botany Bay, sailed northward on his return voyage, stopping at Possession Island to claim the eastern portion of "Terra Australia" for the British Crown. It was at Botany Bay in 1788 that the First Fleet under Governor Arthur Phillip anchored for a few days before proceeding northward to establish the infant settlement at Port Jackson.

Captain James Birnie, a whaling captain and London merchant, was the first landowner in the pre-Shire, being granted "Portion No. 1 at Botany"—750 acres of the Kurnell Peninsula.

And so our Shire history had its first beginnings; for nearly half a century little transpired until the arrival of the Hon. Thos. Holt and his "Sutherland Estate". Development of the Shire was slow, and there was little activity until the formation of the Shire and Council in 1906.

All the past history of the Shire is being continuously researched and recorded by members of the Historical Society, who are thus producing an invaluable record of our very existence. It all makes fascinating reading.

From time to time I hear remarks concerning the Society — all most complimentary; in fact, it is considered one of the outstanding Historical Societies in the State, both in numbers and in historical status.

As Patron of the Society—a position which I regard with honour — I am more than delighted to have this opportunity of wishing the Society "Many Happy Returns" for continued progress and success.

— Michael Tynan,

Sutherland Shire President.

THE FOUNDING OF THE SUTHERLAND SHIRE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Foundation Meeting was held Friday 25th March 1966.

The First General Meeting was held Thursday 15th April 1966.

For some time previously the late Shire Clerk Mr. David Kirkby had been interested in the formation of an Historical Society; and knowing that local businessman George Heavens had been associated with the Shire since the early 1920s and was interested in its history-- and had also been collecting varied Shire records over that period — Mr. Kirkby would from time to time call in at George's shop to talk over the idea. The late Clr. Reg. Dallimore had also been interested in Mr. Kirkby's proposal, but unfortunately he died before the idea came to fruition.

The Shire President, Clr. A. Gietzelt, at Mr. Kirkby's request, sponsored a public meeting in the Council Chambers on Friday 25th March 1966, at which a number of senior Council Officers were present, including Clr. it. D. Harrison (Deputy Shire President), Clrs. P. Lewis, R. Thorburn and J. Manuel, and the Shire Librarian Mr. B. Sargeant; also present were Mr. L. Johnson, MHR; and Mr. Phillip Geeves, representing the Royal Australian Historical Society; and 43 residents. Unfortunately, these names were signed on a loose pad and apparently were not filed or otherwise included in the Minutes. However, most of the general public who attended this meeting became Foundation Members, as the No. 1 Receipt Book indicates.

At this inaugural meeting a formal resolution was passed: "That a Society be formed in the Shire and to be known as the Sutherland Shire Historical Society". A following resolution approved affiliation with the Royal Australian Historical Society. Mr. Phillip Geeves was introduced, and gave an Address describing the general interests of such a Society, its purpose and its management.

Volunteers were asked to nominate for a "steering committee" to formulate guidelines and basic constitution: it was also decided that the first General Meeting of the new Society be held in the Council Chambers on April 15, 1966.

At the first General Meeting, the Officers of the Society were elected: President; Clr. R.D. Harrison: Vice Presidents; Messrs. D. Kirkby, C. Law, C.O.J. Monro, J. Penbrook, Mrs. J. Thompson: Hon. Sec.; N. Horwood; Hon. Treasurer: D. Witcombe; Archivist: B. Sargeant; Publicity Off.: M. Hutton Neve; Executive Committee: Mesdames A. Griffiths, D. Cosgrove, I. Mowbray; Messrs. T. Cosgrove, J. Price, J. Walker.

For same time the Society's monthly meetings were held in the Kindergarten building in Merton Street; then, through the action of the late Mr. Kirkby and the courtesy of the County Council, the general meetings for several years were held in their auditorium in Eton Street. This location no longer was available after March of last year, and we were able to make arrangements to use the Presbyterian Church Hall.

Source: Original Minutes.

— M. Hutton Neve.

FOUNDATION MEMBERS OF THIS SOCIETY as at the first
General Meeting held in the Shire Council Chambers on April 15, 1966

(according to Receipt Book No.1)

Mrs. I. Alcott
Sister Alexius
Mr. G. Barter
Mrs. F. Beck
Mr. F. Beck
Mr. C. Bennett
Mrs. M. Boler
Mrs. C. Bennett
Mrs. E. Carmichael
Mr. N. Chinn
Mrs. Y. Connerton
Mrs. E. Corbett
Mrs. D. Cosgrove
Mr. T. Cosgrove
Mrs. N. Croaker
Mr. N. Farrelly
Mr. B. Flyne
Clr. A. Gietzelt
Mrs. A. Griffiths
Clr. R. D. Harrison (decd.)
Mr. K. Hewson
Mr. N. Horwood (decd.)
Mrs. C. Horwood (decd.)
Mrs. M. Hutton Neve
Mr. J.. King (decd.)
Mr. D. it. Kirkby (decd.)
Mrs. - Kirkpatrick
Mr. C. Law
Mrs. V. Law
Mrs. - Lisle
Mrs. J. Manhire
Mr. J. Masters
Mr. F. Midgley
Mr. A. Midgley
Mrs. B. Morrison
Mrs. I. Mowbray
Mr. W. Mowbray
Mrs. B. Muller
Mr. R. Orr
Sister M. Paulinus
Mr. J. Penbrook
Miss M. Prescott
Mr. J. Price

Mr. R. Pair
Mrs. W. Philpott
Mrs. J. Rees
Mr. R. Russell
Mrs. N. Sanson
Mr. B. Sargeant
Mr. S. Simpson
Mrs. P. Sinclair
Mr. H. Sinclair
Mr. C. Spencer
Miss L. Stubberfield
Mr. J. M. Swan
Mrs. J. Thompson
Clr. R. Thorburn
Mr. J. Walker
Mr. D.J. Witcombe
Mrs. Willets

Current Foundation Members are:

Mrs. I. Alcott
Mrs. M. Boler
Mrs. G. Barter
Mrs. E. Carmichael
Mr. N. Chinn
Mrs. D. Cosgrove
Mr. T. Cosgrove
Mrs. N. Crocker
Senator A. Gietzelt
Mrs. a. Griffiths
Mr. a. Hewson
Mrs. Hutton Neve Mr.
C. Law
Mr. F Midgley .
Mr. A. Midgley
Mrs. E. Morrison
Mrs. I. Mowbray
Mr. R. Orr
Mr. R. Pier
Mrs. R. Russell
Mr. B. Sargeant
Mr. C. Spencer
Mr. R. Thorburn
Mrs. N. Whitaker (nee Willets)

FOUNDATION MEMBERS HONOURED

Foundation Member Badges: at the February Executive council meeting it was decided that, as a token of recognition of the Society's 10th anniversary, a "Foundation Member" badge be presented to those Foundation Members who are still financial members of the Society.

The presentation was made at the Annual General Meeting on March 12 by the President Mr. Harold Ivers, the recipients being those listed on page 35 . The badge has a white background with "Foundation Member" in gold lettering.

Hon. Life Members: under the Constitution the Society is empowered to create Hon. Life Members.

At the 10th Annual General Meeting Mr. George Heavens, in proposing this, stated:

"I feel it would be very fitting to bestow 'Birthday Honours' on four Foundation Members of this Society in recognition of their outstanding executive service to, the Society over the past ten years

"Mr. Cyril Law: he greatly assisted in the formation of the Society, and served two years as President. Mr. Law headed the deputations to the Sutherland Shire Council which enabled us to see where we were going wrong in 1971, and so enabled us to get on side again.

"Mrs. Aileen Griffiths: Mrs. Griffiths has had ten years continuous service on the Executive Council; first as a Committee member, then for some years as Honorary Treasurer, and now holds the important position of Hon. Secretary.

"Mr. Fred Midgley Fred has served six years on the Executive Council, and is a Vice President. He has produced three local history booklets. He has also served on the Publications Committee since its formation, and is the artist providing the drawings in our Bulletin.

"Mrs. M. Hutton Neve: Mrs. Neve has served eight years on the Executive Council; at one time a Vice President; is the founder of our Bulletin; and is a past Publicity Officer. She now holds the position of Research Officer well as being Editor of the Bulletin. Mrs. Neve has published four local history booklets, and also one written for the Society in conjunction with a grant from the Royal Australian Historical Society.

"Mr. President, it gives me much. pleasure formally to move That these four Foundation Members, Mr. Cyril Law, Mrs. Aileen Griffiths, Mr. Fred Midgley and Mrs. Hutton Neve, be created Honorary Life Members of this Sutherland Shire Historical Society".

This was carried unanimously with acclamation.

The Hon. Life Membership badges will be presented at the "Tenth Birthday Anniversary" of the Society on April 9th.

FOUNDATION PRESIDENT.... Mr. R.D. Harrison

The Society suffered a grievous loss in October 1969 when the Founder President Mr. R.D. ("Dick") Harrison died suddenly from a heart attack.

From its inception Mr. Harrison had given all his energies to establishing the newborn Society and steering it through "teething troubles". His dedicated interest and enthusiasm did much to foster its initial progress.

Mr. Harrison came to the Shire in 1917, settling in Moira Street West Sutherland. He was a tailor by trade, serving as an union secretary for eight years. His life-long interest, however, was his involvement with the Methodist Church, in which he served as a Lay Preacher for forty-six years.



He was a Shire Councillor for Sutherland Riding from 1956 to 1968, and was Deputy President for eight terms. As a Councillor he had taken an active interest in promoting all sports as Chairman of Council's Sporting Advisory Committee; and as well had chaired the Building Health & Sanitation Committee and the Parks & Playgrounds Committee. Thus, he was uniquely qualified to guide the Society in its early years.

Only some six weeks before his sudden death Mr. Harrison had been honoured by the presentation of the Local Government Association's Certificate of Service.

Death of Mr. D. R. Kirkby: the following year, in July, Mr. Kirkby, one our Founder Vice Presidents, died after a long illness. As noted elsewhere, Mr. Kirkby was one of the prime movers in seeking to establish this Society'.

He joined the Shire Council in 1928, retiring after 35 years' outstanding service. His administrative experience and his wide knowledge of Shire affairs were of valuable assistance to the Society, but his long illness forced him to retire prematurely from active guidance of the Society in its early years.

Mr. T. G. ("Tom") Moore: Mr. Moore joined the staff of the Shire Council in January 1969 as Co-ordinating Director of the Shire's Bi-centenary Committees; later becoming Publicity & Public Relations Officer. Previously he had served as a senior officer in the NSW Public Service in the Riverina area, where he had also been editor-proprietor of a local newspaper.

The "Sutherland Shire Studies" published by the Shire Council (to date,

six in all) originated from a suggestion put to me by him, he having published a similar type of leaflet in the Riverina.

"Tom" became our Publicity Officer in 1972, and although not able to attend many of our meetings because of Shire Council commitments, through his varied connections he was able to assist the Society in many ways, both officially and otherwise.

His sudden death in November 1973 was another sad loss of a valuable member of the Society.

C.O.J. ("Joe") Monro: He came into the Shire at the beginning of the century as a young man, and soon became active in local affairs. He became a Councillor in 1921, retiring after 32 years' service -- with 12 years as Shire President.

"Joe" was another who had been interested with David Kirkby in the formation of an Historical Society, but by the time the idea came into being he was extremely ill. Mr. Monro was unanimously elected a Vice President at the first General Meeting in April 1966. "He was both delighted and appreciative", Mr. Kirkby recalled, "and sent his best wishes for the Society's future." However, only a couple of weeks later Mr. Monro died at his home on May 1, 1966.

-- M. Hutton Neve

First Colonial War-- 1804: in the Napoleonic Wars 1803-1814, the Dutch were allies of the French against the British. "At daybreak on Nov. 7, 1804 two ships appeared in sight" off Sydney Heads, causing a great flurry of excitement and apprehension. A Dutch vessel, the "Swift" from Batavia in the Dutch East Indies, was intercepted by an English whaler the "Policy"; she was mounted with six twelve-pounder guns, and the Dutchman with six eighteen pounders. The "Swift" spotted the whaler and chased her. After some manoeuvring, "Captain Foster, Commander of the 'Policy' put about and bore down on her, having prepared for action. When they met, a smart engagement commenced, which was supported by equal bravery on both sides for one hour and 20 minutes, when victory was declared in favour of the 'Policy'". The "Swift" had been chartered by the Dutch East India Company for the Dutch garrison at Amboyna, and thus proved to be a richly laden prize. including as well as general provisions, the sum of 20,000 Spanish dollars.

Source: Sydney Gazette, Nov. 1804: —

M.H.N.

Obituary: we record with regret the death of our member Mr. James (Jim) Miller of Kirrawee, who died in February. The President represented the Society at the funeral, a number of other members also attending.

OUR FIRST CENSUS -- 130 Years ago

In 1842 the Surveyor General of the Colony, Major Sir Thomas Mitchell, laid out two isolated areas for settlement upon request; at Wattamolla and Heathcote. These were the names of the civil parishes, not settlements. A few small "allotments" were set aside at "Providential Cove", Wattamolla, and "14 town allotments" in the "Village of Bottle Forest" in the Parish of Heathcote. Those in the Parish of Wattamolla were not taken up and so they reverted to the Crown. Those in the Parish of Heathcote were purchased by small farmers.

In these early Census figures only Adults were counted — that is, those of 14 years and over.

Parish	Male	Fem.	Families	C/E	Presbv.	Other Prots.	H/3	Total Pop.
Southerland	23	13	3	35	4	-	1	41
Wattamolla	7	3	1	5	-	5*	-	10
Heathcote	9	6	4	4	4		4	15
								66

* These were probably, Methodists; there was a small but strong Methodist community at the "Five Islands" (Wollongong); and it is believed that "wandering preachers" occasionally travelled to Sydney via Mitchell's "new Illawarra Road" which passed adjacent to the Village of Bottle Forest.

The Census noted: "All the above can Read and Write".

Parish	Trades	Labourers	agriculture	Stone/Brick Houses	Wood Houses
Southerland	8	5	1	2	8
Wattamolla	-	3	1	-	5
Heathcote	-	-	6	-	4

"Wood Houses" would probably have been bark huts and/or shanties.

In the 1851 Census the Returns for the Parishes of Wattamolla and Heathcote are missing:

Parish Southerland: .M 21 F 12 C/E 24 Presbv. 1 R/C: 3 = 66

Stone Houses = 1 Wood Houses = 14

Agriculture = 3 Labourers = 2 Domestic Servant = 17 Other

Occupations (no details) = 13

Southerland: S/G Mitchell was responsible for completing the final part of the survey of the "nineteen Counties", this being the wild, rocky bushland area between Georges River and the "Five Islands". Mitchell named the First Parish south of Georges River "Southerland", and it was correctly spelt thus on most maps of the pre-Shire until approximately 1880, when the "o" was dropped — thus destroying its historical significance and suggesting a later years that it may have been named after Forby Sutherland.
 — M. Hutton Neve

"I Remember "

CLR. ROBERT BINGHAM

Councillor January 1923 to December 1944

Shire President 1940-1-2



It was a Saturday, and my brother and I had just arrived at our Sutherland destination, where we met Clr. Bob Bingham.

"Hullo, boys", he greeted us. "Yes, put your bikes over there in the shade; they'll be O.K. until tomorrow night . How are you? Yes — and How's your father? Fine man your father, very clever with tools too — built a nice place for your weekender. How's your mother? Yes — lovely woman your mother, good-looking, too. You're two lucky boys to have such fine parents".

It was a long time ago — about 1922 -- that that conversation took place. I felt that we were really special.

But to my great consternation, at a future date I happened to be with-in hearing of the Great Man who was saying to someone else:

"How's your father? Fine man your father — very clever man your father How's your mother? Yes -- lovely woman your mother, good-looking, too. You're lucky to have such fine parents".

What a let-down! I had found out that what I had thought was meant especially for me, was just stock patter for the Shire President — who ran the local Estate Agency.

Bob Bingham was a good, kind and well-meaning man, and he did good things (like having his street tarred, kerbed and guttered, so that people calling on him didn't have to walk through mud as in other streets). But he tried very hard to help the unemployed of the day (in the 1930s). The "Depression" days were tough, and he came up with all sorts of ideas for people not doing too well -- not that many of them worked.

He was for years a very active Councillor, and when he was eventually defeated in his electorate he took it very much to heart. His wife had died, his daughter had married and moved away; and I'm sure he felt alone, dejected and unwanted. He felt that the people he had worked so hard for had discarded him after all the years he had put into public life – and so he took to the bottle. I remember my last conversation one Sunday morning with him. "Yes, George", he said; "the (so-and-soes) didn't appreciate me!" He tottered a bit and took off across the road.

Bob has now been dead about thirty years. I somehow think that what he said was right — he had done an excellent job whilst in office; but he wasn't appreciated. I did though, he was a good man; and he never did anyone a bad turn — which is more than can be said of many,

Geo. Heavens.

William Shakespeare, born 1564 — died on the same day 1616

(April 23.

MR. ALBERT E. VOWLES

Albert Ernest Vowles, who published the first newspaper in Sutherland, was a distant relative of Mrs. Celia Tierney, a Jannali pioneer. Mrs. Tierney of the Ackerman family, was born at Hill End NSW.

Mr. Vowles was a printer by trade, having worked for some time with the Government Printer. The family moved from Rockdale to Sutherland in 1914 and

commenced a poultry farm on 2½ acres at Hotham Road,

the farm flourishing for several years, Albert working with his father. On the property was a huge tree which, when cut down yielded enough posts to fence the entire area.

When Albert's father died (he was a former employee of MacFersons), Albert returned to his printing trade, setting up an office and machinery in a large iron shed on the property. Here the first issue of "S.C.A.M." (the "Sutherland Cronulla Advertising Medium) came off the press on April 4., 1924

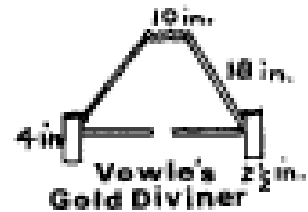
Amongst those employed in the "S.C.A.M." Printery was Harry Beach, a son of the famous Australian sculler Bill Beach, during the latter years of last century. Vowles Snr. was at one time Bill Beach's manager, Arthur Vowle's sister Ethel (Mrs. Lee) became an integral part of the printing business, doing office work and setting up the printing type. When Vowles sold the printing business to Mr. Hall and son Reg, in 1930, Ethel continued on, serving a total of 25 years. Vowles' retirement saw him in such diverse occupations as gardening and haberdashery wares.

Albert, however, had earned the reputation of being an excellent water diviner. He usually charged 10/- (\$1.00) for divining, using a yoke-shaped oak stick. Where water was found wells were sunk, and many wells up to half a century ago were testimony to his skill. Sutherland Shire Council had successful bores drilled to underground streams on Vowles' divining.

His gift of divining led him to invent a device for detecting gold, which he called a "diviner". The divining structure consisted of thin tubular aluminium with a serrated handle with numbers thereon, indicating the depth of a gold vein by the action of the aluminium cylinders which spun around the bottom shafts when alerted by gold (see illustration). At the same time the device was attracted to water, which led him to improve upon the original when he applied for a patent.

To test his original invention he called at the home of the Tierney family at Jannali, as Mrs. Tierney's father and uncles had a gold mine at Hill End. On one occasion they had used dynamite, blocking the mine and losing the vein. Two of the Ackerman brothers were at Tierneys at the time, and Albert Vowles suggested they re-open the mine with the aid of his gold diviner.

To test its capabilities the brothers buried four small nuggets of gold on Tierney's property, while Vowles and other witnesses remained in an inner room of the house. He satisfied all and himself by detecting where the nuggets were buried. This was in the year 1933. With his patent



applied for he formed a registered company to make the diviners, but he died from a stroke before anything became operative.

- Alf Midgley.

Sources: Mrs. C. Tierney: Mr. H. Tierney: Mr R. Lee: Mr. R. Hall.

THE FIRST PRACTICAL TYPEWRITER

A few 19th century inventors held the view that the noble art of writing and the old method of drawing letters by hand should be abandoned in favour of the mechanical reproduction of already existing letters to increase the speed.

The first useful typewriter was constructed in 1868 by the American Christopher Sholes, a printer. Although about fifty designs had preceded Sholes' model, his was the first marketed, and his keyboard remains almost unchanged, based on the order of type in a printer's case.

The illustration shows Lillian Sholes, probably the first woman typist sitting at her father's machine in 1872. Sholes wrote: "I feel that I have done something for the women who have always had to work so hard".

Sholes and a partner, Denmore, signed a contract for their design for the manufacture of their machine by the Remington Small Arms Co. of Illinois, in March 1873. It was a much more sophisticated typewriter, and was known as "Remington No. 1".



capital and lower

A few years later an English lady demonstrated in Paris this Remington model which had only capital letters — achieving a speed of ninety words a minute.

— Fred Midgley

Sources: "History of the United States": "Shell Book of Firsts".

Side-saddle Riders Rare: even in the pioneer days Australian girls seldom rode side-saddle, instead riding astride usually wearing a divided skirt. In the outback girls often assisted in rounding up stock, so that this style was both safer and more comfortable. However, well into this century they would be seen riding side-saddle in Agricultural Shows.

"WORONORA RIVER WEEK-ENDERS ASSOCIATION" ACTIVITIES.1912

Woronora River with its beauty spots attracted many people seeking a weekend retreat away from city and suburban life.

Names like "IT-L-DO", "DUZ-UZ", "AV-A-REST", were typical of those adorning weekender's shacks, though in many cases these were neat little cottages. Remoteness of the area from public transport prevented all, except a few permanents, from living in the valley.

The Weekenders formed themselves into a social body prior to 1910, mainly with the object of gathering for various activities. They held their first Carnival on Easter Monday 1911, this having been postponed from Anniversary Day owing to rain.

Early in January 1912 the Association held their first meeting for the year, in Boyle's National Hall Sutherland, on a Saturday night. The business consisted chiefly of arranging a programme of events for the second annual Carnival on Anniversary (Australia) Day, towards which donations were received from Messrs. Hyndman (President of Sutherland Shire Council), 1/6d; H. Marr (Woronora) 10/-; and H. Clark (Sutherland) one guinea (= \$2.10).

At the close of business a smoke concert was held, and items completed a very enjoyable evening. Piano and violin selections by Messrs. Freebury and Falconer; and Mr. Brodie entertained the company for a considerable time with conjuring and "sleight-of-hand" tricks. He also recited "Lasca" and sang "I'm safest in the family"; the whole turn excelling anything yet seen in the district. A few budding vocalists in the persons of Messrs. L. Magrath who sang "Thera"; Lou Price who sang "I trust you still" and "Because"; O. Marr sang "Alone", and A. Gray "You send your wife round and let her bite my dog". As well, B. Irving sang "The Holy City", and A. Morgan had a very pleasing effect on the audience with his item. During the evening Messrs. Tommy Burns and Chiddy Gray sparred four rounds and "displayed great science". This event created great applause. Mr. Dibbs rendered yeoman service in handling the refreshment room; and the evening concluded at 11.30 p.m..

The weather was perfect for the second annual Carnival on Anniversary Day at Price's Reserve, and by midday some 500 people were present. The Reserve was gay with nicely decorated flags and bunting. Ladies rattled boxes for funds for the St. George Cottage Hospital at Arncliffe. The Arncliffe Band under the baton of Les Smith rendered selections on the lawn. A big party arrived wearing red poppets and headed by bagpipes marched around the grounds and then settled down to watch the sports.

Tam Burns won the 100 yards running in 10 secs. and the final in 11 secs.. He also won the 100 yards swimming in 1 minute 4.25 secs. against a strong tide. Three teams competed: Cypress, Waratah and Week-enda, and was won by the Cypress camp mainly through the splendid efforts of Burns. The programme

was ably managed by Tom Price and starter Certain Brown. The half-mile sculls finals were won by E. Cummings and V. Jenkins. The race was even, but the other crew, C. and K. Beer, misjudged the channel and ran on the sand just on the winning stroke.

In March the Association held a Social in the National Hall, Sutherland, at which the trophies for the various events contested at the Carnival at Woronora River were presented. During the early portion of the evening various musical items were rendered by Miss A. Naylor and also Messrs. Prien and F. Mitchell, and Messrs .A. Gray and J. Kirkby delivered comic items. Prior to the presentation of the trophies the President of the Association, Mr. G.A. Griesbach, touched on the good work done by members of the Association in advertising the district — which with-out doubt was one of the finest in the Metropolitan district. Mr. Griesbach complimented the contestants on the good feeling and spirit which was displayed in the various events.



**Arncliffe Bandman
of 1912**

Mr. Tom Burns was accorded a merited ovation on mounting the platform to receive his honours. He had won the 100 yards flat race championship and the 100 yard swimming championship, receiving a gold medal for each of these events. Also, by a splendid turn of speed he enable the "Cypress" camp team to win the Cup, for the Brace Relay Team race. By his two championship wins he secured the President's Trophy, a handsome silver hot-water kettle suitably inscribed for the highest aggregate in championship events. After the presentations a very enjoyable evening concluded with dancing.

During the winter, as the result of a challenge issued by the Sutherland Rovers Rugby Union Football Club, the Woronora Weekenders Association tried their ability on the football field. The match was played on a Saturday afternoon, with the losing team bearing the expense of a dinner for both teams.. The dinner was prepared by Ted Boyle at the Railway Hotel, and the Weekenders entered as the guests, having defeated , the Rovers by 6 points to nil. The teams were



PRICE'S HOME

Rovers: Boyle (Capt.), Beach, Travis, Gilligan, Fenton, Thornton, Aiken Woodward, Gough, Smith, Bran, Cadet, A. Wilson.

Woronora Weekenders: Burns (Capt.), Gray (2), Beer, Rugg, Marr (2), Price, Hovenden, Morgan, Rowan, Cummings, Jenkins, Krantzcke.

Activities of the Association were dimmed after 1914 by the patriotism and enlistment of members for service in World War I.

— Alf Midgley.

Sources: "The Propeller": "St. George Call": Tom Price (jun.):

Author's Notes.

(Editor's Note: Local History not only concerns places and public events, but it should also record how our pioneer settlers enjoyed their leisure time — by organising their own entertainment. Although not mentioned, it is presumed that the Woronora "Lady Weekenders" part in the Carnivals and as onlookers at the sporting events would have been to provide "the eats" for the active males! There does not seem to have been even a "Ladies Race")

* * * * *

"Miranda Tramway Corner": it is 34 years since the Sutherland-Cronulla Steam Trams ceased running, but it is only a few years ago that the old wooden waiting shed was removed; it has now been re-erected at the Loftus Tramway Museum.

Miranda Rotary recently completed the building of a new "waiting shed" on the site of the old one. It is a delightful little place wherein to gossip during shopping; to while away the time at chess (two tabletops are laid out as chessboards); or to study the series of historical transport photographs decorating the wells.

The whole project was conceived by Miranda Rotary and built by them with voluntary labour and donated materials.

Rest, read, and play chess — but don't "Wait here for tram"

Acknowledgment St. George/Sutherland Leader: 23/1/'76.

Pertinent Biblical quotations, — noted by Geo. Heavens:

Deuteronomy, XXII (22) v.5: The sex is to be distinguished by apparel... the woman shall not wear that which pertaineth unto a man, Neither shall a man put on a woman's garment: for all that do so are an abomination unto the Lord thy God.

(comment — G.H.: "Burn the slacks, girls!")

Deut.. XIV (14) v.5: Ye shall not eat of anything that dieth of itself; thou Shalt give it unto the stranger that is in thy gates, That he may eat of it; or thou mayst sell it unto an alien.

(G.H.: "A bit rough on someone who drops in, or the New Australian".)

"I Remember "

TRAGEDY AT BROWN'S CREEK

Brown's Creek is a tributary of the ..Woronora River.

Sunday morning, 8th February 1929, dawned hot and clear, with no wind and a full spring tide at 11.0 a.m..

About a quarter of a mile from the intersection of the river and up Brown's Creek is a sharp bend; here on the corner was a huge rock about 40 feet high with a precipitous face, with a large flat top about 230 sq. feet — having a very gentle slope towards the water below. Brown's Creek runs fast in flood time, so that a large hole had been scoured out under the rock, making it an excellent swimming spot. The flat-topped rock made a good place to dive from into the deep hole — and a good place to lie on your towel and sunbake. It was always a popular swimming spot, so that on this particular morning, with a high tide, a hot sun and no wind, about hundred people had gathered to swim and bake, all laughing and shouting and generally having fun.

Suddenly, without any warning, there was a tremble for a brief second, then a roar and a resounding splash: the huge rock had rolled a full quarter turn into the swimming hole, throwing everyone off the top of the rock and into the water below. Everywhere there were people struggling to get out of the now muddy water. Many were badly injured; some with broken bones, many others with cuts and bruises.

The immediate problem were those in the water who were injured; one floating couple were quickly pulled out and attended to, as were many other injured. Men were now diving continuously, feeling the muddy bottom for bodies out of sight or trapped; and several were pulled out stunned and bleeding.

But one was trapped under the main rock, held fast high up on his leg. I can't go into details of how they finally released the body — it took about an hour, with men continuously diving with all sorts of tools; but of course it was too late when they finally released him. He was only sixteen -- a nice boy with beautiful wavy hair'. He came from Arncliffe, but his people had a weekender on the river. I knew Jim very well.

What had started off so well that fateful morning had finished up most tragically.

I often think of those men diving in pairs to try to release that lad. No one knew if the huge rock would again move; and large pieces of rock kept flaking off into the water from what had been the top but was now the side — falling onto the divers below.

I remember going to the funeral; most of the River residents were there, many with bandages on limbs, signifying that they too had been flung into the water that fateful day.

VALE JIMMY CURRAN: C of E Sect. 45, Lot 92. 12/2,/29.

Geo. Heavens.

“I Remember ...”

Then there was the man who drowned in Woronora River about 11.0 pm. on one New Year's Eve some years ago, after celebrating all too well. He had been sitting on the stern edge of a rowing boat along with eight other men, when it ran side on onto the submerged rock outside old Mr. Harris's house and turned over.

There was much criticise in the local S.C.A.M. as to where were the lifesavers, for there were three Life-saving Clubs on the river: but at 11 o'clock at night ??

However, after much diving ten it was daylight on New Year's Day, we eventually found the body. He had a rucksack with a dozen bottles of beer strapped to his back, and wearing heavy military boots It was not the best way to take a swim:

.....

Then there was the day when one of the Council's "sani trucks", fully loaded, broke a front axle and ran into the gutter as it attempted to go across the railway bridge at Sutherland.

It was four hours before the truck was finally shifted the contents all the time running out into the gutter! — and Mr. Wally Cooper, the Health Inspector, scurrying around like a frantic ant as the gutter was washed out with a fire hose.

As a southerly breeze was blowing, all shops from Hansen's Fruit Shop northwards were closed for the best Part of the day!

.....

(Hansen's shop was located where the Eton Arcade now is.
(The late Mr. Wally Cooper retired in 1964 as Chief Health Inspector;
(he was a Council officer for 34 years; and died 1970).

.....

Then there was a hot summer afternoon about 1933. I was standing on the footpath outside Sutherland P.O. when a petrol tanker shot through --doing, I would say, at least 50 miles per hour. The road in those days was dirt - gravelled with a strip of bitumen only in the centre of the town; and as it sped past it raised a large volume of thick dust, particularly as it turned into Princes Highway (it was en route to Sydney).

A short while later news filtered back to the township that a fire had occurred at Maddens Corner (Garnet Road, opposite Bates Drive).

I hopped on my bike and set off at full speed to see for myself. When I arrived the main fire had burnt itself out, and people were beating out some burning bush.

"Anybody hurt?" I asked. A local pointed to something which looked like an old-fashioned beehive, and said: "That's a man".

At this time there was neither a Fire Brigade nor an Ambulance service on this side of Georges River.

The petrol truck had passed through Sutherland township at such a

high speed that it was unable to stem when it came suddenly upon several children riding horses on the road. To avoid the children the driver had swerved and run into a telegraph pole; the tanker, being empty, exploded. The man who died in the fire was a hitch-hiker picked up at Nowra. The driver was badly burnt but later recovered.

-- Geo. Heavens

Shire dates in the "Good Old Days" when the first Shire Council came into being in 1906 they fixed a general rate of 1d (approx. 1.2 cents) in the 1d (=)2) on the Unimproved Capital Value of £214,320.0-0, the levy being £916-0-0. The total revenue for the year (including a Government grant) was 22075; Expenditure was £1507, including £751 spent on roads. The Public Roads Department (Government) maintained only the "Sydney" or "New Illawarra Road" (now Princes Highway) and the Port Hacking Road.

***** *

Ewey. Ewie. Ewies'. Ewes' Bay:Yowie Bay: the "ewie/ewey" in Lowlands Scottish was the lamb of the ewe; North of England people pronounced it "yow/yowie" (the "y" being more like "j"). when Thos. Holt was grazing sheep, on his Sutherland Estate, he sent the lambing ewes to this sheltered hillocky little bay to have their lambs. On an old Sutherland Estate map of c. 1868 the spelling is given as "Ewey" Bay.

South Cronulla Progress Association, founded 1915 — still in existence. One of their first actions was to arrange for water to be extended from Miranda, and a deputation therefore waited on the State authorities.

Cadman's Cottage: at is not known exactly when the cottage was built, but it was occupied by John Cadman., Governor Macquarie's coxwain, in 1817. It was one of a group of historic buildings which once fringed the western shore of Sydney Cove. declamation of the western foreshores of Sydney Cove and the building; of the wharf rood in front of the cottage were carried out in the 1870s. John Cadman arrived in Sydney in 1797 board the transport Barwell as a convict transported for life. He was granted a conditional pardon in 1814 and a free pardon in 1821. Cadman retired as Principal Superintendent of Government Boats in 1846 at the age of 89 and as the licensee of the "Steam Packett Inn" at Parramatta. He died in 1848 just before his 91st birthday and was buried in the Sandhills Cemetery, Devonshire Street, Sydney.

Cronulla Peninsula: in 1895 the Government subdivided Crown Land from Surf Road southward, and offered it in lots for sale at Auction as "Suburban Land to the City of Sydney", being "portions of the Parish of Sutherland".

SUTHERLAND TOWNSHIP 1886 - 1887

During the construction of the Illawarra railway-- it was decided by the railway authorities to establish a platform at the "14th mile" where there was already a railway camp, as the distance between Como "stopping place Heathcote was too great. This camp and platform came to be known as Sutherland.

Others besides the railway authorities had an interest in this particular area. Shrewd men of business and speculators saw here a golden opportunity to create a new town and at the same time to gain handsome profits.

On November 7, 1885, exactly 49 days before the first excursion train puffed into Sutherland on December 26, the Intercolonial Land & Investment Company was formed and registered.

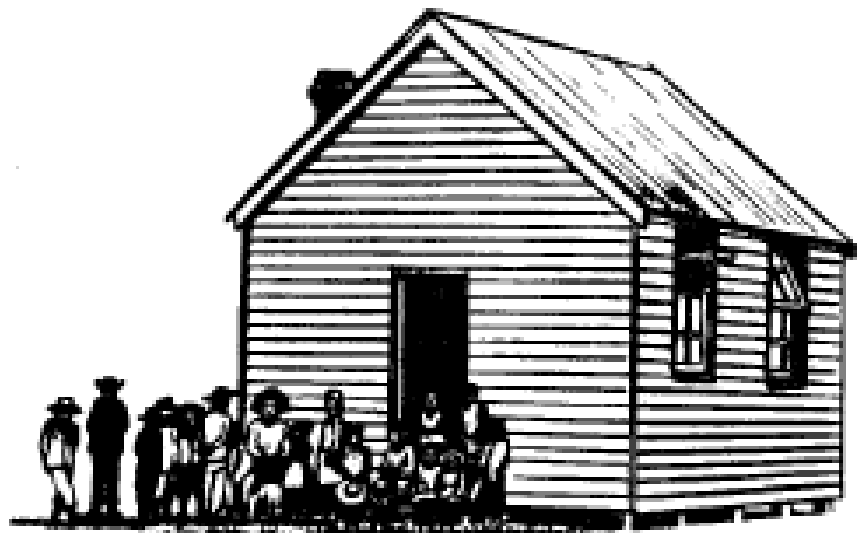
In the initial Report & Balance Sheet dated February 1, 1886, The Company "purchased a very desirable freehold property of 54 acres at Sutherland surrounding the railway station which they intend to subdivide and offer to the public at auction in two or three weeks' time, from both of which your Directors anticipate large profits".

In their second Annual Report & Balance Sheet of December 19, 1887, it was stated, "Our Sutherland Township is rapidly being built on and contains two fine hotels, several business places, a number of private houses and a church, also a brickyard immediately on its confines, which is a great inducement to those requiring to build".

A Company map of Sutherland in 1888 shows there were 17 cottages and villas, including the Station Master's and the Gate-keeper's, between Eton Street on the eastern side of the railway line and The Boulevard (now Linden Street), on the western side, then a

boundary of the National Park. The Jubilee Evangelical (Congregational) Church was on the corner of Robertson and Oxford Streets. The business places composed eight shops.

W. Bramley had a shop opposite The Railway Hotel situated on the corner of



Sutherland's first school

Station Street (now Boyle St.) and Railway Parade (Princes Highway). The butcher's shop was owned by Stapleton, who had supplied the railway construction gangs; whilst the baker's shop was on the western side of the railway line, on the corner of East Parade and Sutherland Street. It was built by Mr. Alf Dwyer who came from Appin. Alf Dwyer and other members of the family settled in Sutherland, and the descendents of these pioneers are still living in the district. S.A. Hideout is believed to have been the first licensee of the Royal Hotel (then the National Park Hotel) in East Parade. There were two blacksmiths; F. R. Robinson was opposite the church in Oxford Street, and the other on the laneway known as "Leather

Lane", which was later widened and is now part of Flora Street where Woolworths and the Post Office stand today.

On the western side of the railway the town was laid out in 172 blocks, and on the eastern side in 133 blocks. By 1888, 131 of these had been sold on the western side and 47 on the eastern side.

No provision was made for a Public School in this subdivision, but a school was erected on the corner of Eton and Flora Streets on what was then described on the Company's map as Holt-Sutherland Estate Leasehold. The school was a small one-roomed weatherboard building with a corrugated iron roof. It faced Eton Street and was opened in March 1887. Mrs. Maria Meyer was the first teacher, and is shown in the illustration with her pupils.

— Fred Midgley

Sources: Mr. Fred Smith, Manager (retired) of the Intercolonial Land Investment Co. Ltd.; Hr. Cass Dwyer (snr.); Author's Notes.

* * * * *

Editor's observations: The licence records between 1385 and 1890 appear to have been lost, but renewals of these in 1893 indicate that the National Park (Royal) Hotel renewed about 6 weeks before the Railway (Boyles) Hotel; which suggests that The National Park Hotel was the first to be built. The "Sutherland Brickworks" was a small private concern opened about 1886/7, on the north side of the Woronora Crematorium; the site of the small brick pit may still be seen. The proprietor was a Mr. Cartwright, who made sandstock bricks by hand with an open kiln; he is presumed to have closed his kiln when the "new brickworks" were built in 1914 on the "Sydney Road" (Princes Highway) — he could not compete with machine-made bricks. Crown Land in the Jibbon area was transferred to the Park Trustees in 1892-3, in exchange for the Park land on this western side, the area being opened in 1895 as Woronora Cemetery, to serve the fast-growing St. George district, as well as the pre-Shire area.

--M.H.N.

MR. JOHN ANTILL, O.B.E.

The Guest Speaker for the Society's April 9th meeting is Mr. John Antill, O.B.E., the Executive Council having decided to honour this prominent member by inviting him to be our guest on this the 10th anniversary of the Society.

Mr. Antill obtained an early appreciation of music while at St. Andrew's Cathedral Choir School in Sydney; and from accompanying his parents and his sister on Sunday visits to La Perouse. Here, as he listened to the Aborigines' singing and watched their dancing, the rhythmic percussion of their music stimulated his imagination; and on returning home he would record the music he had heard.

This was to provide the basis for his world-famous Corroboree.

"I was working as music editor for the ABC, and one day I asked if I could 'borrow' the Symphony Orchestra for an afternoon," he recalled. "Needless to say, I rehearsed Corroboree with them.

"Eugene Goossens, the then resident conductor of the Sydney Symphony Orchestra, was looking for an Australian work with strictly an Australian flavour. One of the orchestra members mentioned my rehearsal to him, so he sent for me to bring the score to him.

"I learnt later that after I had left he told his wife that he had found what he was looking for."

Corroboree had its premiere performance in August 1946 in the Sydney Town Hall before an audience of some 2000 — a performance which brought an enthusiastic audience to its feet in a long-standing ovation.

Corroboree has been performed all round the western world, and is gaining in popularity in Asiatic countries with performances in Japan, Hong Kong and the Philippines. It is undoubtedly the most popular of all Antill's 300-odd compositions, which include 30 ballets, all of which have been performed; and was performed in the Shire during the Cook Bi-centenary celebrations, as was also the oratorio Song of Hagar.

Mr. Antill, now retired, lives quietly at Cronulla, but he still composes. He is frequently commissioned to write music for ABC and BBC documentaries. His latest commission is from the NSW Government to write a short opera based on Australia's first settlers.

-- M.H.N.

Source: St. George/Sutherland Leader: 2-4-1975.

CORRECTIONS JANUARY ISSUE: we regret that some minor errors passed without notice in the January 1976 issue. On page 4, a typing error --1935 should of course read 1835: P.10; Electricity was available privately in Cronulla in 1916: also P.10, the last vehicular ferry crossed Georges River at Tom Ugly' s Point in May 1929; p.17;

Edward VIII abdicated 1936

EARLY SHIRE MOTORING GARAGES

Early motorists in the Sutherland Shire were no different from their counterparts in Australia or other parts of the world.

They were brave souls who drove -- or pushed -- the new-fangled horse-less carriage over tracks or roads which were rutted and worn.

The motorcar was indeed a status symbol in those days, only the well-to-do being able to afford the:;. Their appearance was either one of envy, or jeering cries of "get a horse:" mechanics were a worry to the inexperienced, and "get out and get under" was a regular road performance. Tyres were unreliable and punctures were common. A can of grease was carried as an essential accessory. Petrol had also to be carried, some cars having provision for a two-gallon can on the running board. Petrol was imported in ponderous tins and cases in the days before bun distribution.

In 1905 petrol was ninepence a gallon and the brands were "Pratts" and "'Mota", the latter being known in Europe as "Shell", Vacuum commenced in business in Australia in 1895 marketing Gargoyle Cylinder oil. Shell imported bulk petrol in 1914, but it was not until 1918 that consumption of petrol exceeded that of kerosene. Petrol in 4-gallon tins could be bought at J. T. Nelson's General Store at his Caringbah. To ensure that his customers got clean or "final filter", Mr. Wilfred Nelson filtered it through a felt hat over a large funnel placed in the vehicle's petrol tank.

The Motor Traffic Act was passed in NSW in 1909. Until then local Councils passed regulations restricting the speed of traffic within their borders. In November 1903 Sutherland Shire President William Judd referred to the number of cars entering the Shire, with forty-two one day coming over Via Tom Ugly's ferry.

Referring to a proposal that the licence fee should be £1 (\$2), the President said it should be £5 — he had seen eight or ten motorists going along the road "like express trains;" In January 1909 the "excessive speed" of motorcars through the Shire led President Judd to report an interview with the Treasurer of the Motor Club of NSW, who said they were endeavouring to put down "this furious driving — twelve or fifteen miles an hour was fast enough":

"Furious" driving, continued, however, with great clouds of dust on the Shire's "good roads", as the Shire Council claimed in June 1910 when they again sought powers to control speeds.

An early motorist in the Shire was Charles



Mr and Mrs McAlister in their Rover 1915

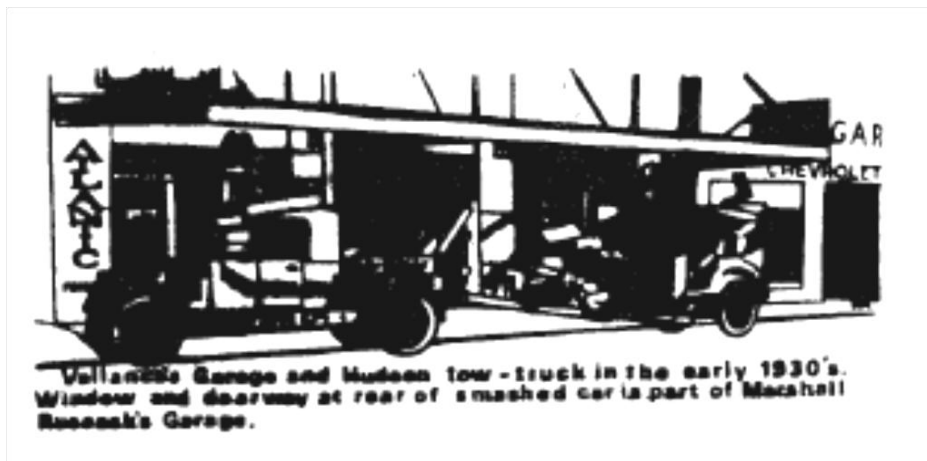
McAlister of Engadine. His first car was a single cylinder De Dion Bouton of 1904. Perhaps one can imagine him chugging to Council meetings in it when he was elected to the first Shire Council In 1906. Later he owned a 1912-14 model 12 horse-power Rover Roadster. In the illustration on the opposite page, drawn from a photograph of 1915, shows Mrs McAlister in the Rover, dressed in the fashion for motoring with an "auto scarf" over her hat and fastened under the chin.

Motorists who owned a car in those days in the early years of the Shire usually endeavoured to repair their cars themselves when breakdowns occurred; or else they relied on the man who would repair the vehicles in his own backyard, some of whom were good whilst others were little more than "tinkerers".

Through advances in engineering the motor vehicle had become much more reliable in the years before World War I. With reliability and popularity the number of motor vehicles increased, certain popular makes coming within reach of the working man. But they needed service just as their modern counterparts do, so garages and repair shops began to spring up around the Shire in the mid-twenties.

It was not until 1923 that service for the motorist was on the way until Arch Tickner opened a Garage at Caringbah, and Ticker's Garage was the only one there for many years. He had been in business for over 30 years when his son Eric took over the Garage. Arch Tickner could claim to be the Shire's pioneer garageman

A photograph of a "Victory March" in Curranulla (Cronulla) Street in 1910 shows, almost opposite the site now occupied by the Cronulla Post Office, a double-storied building, on half the side being sign-written the Words "Jack Hill's Universal Motor Garage". While it may tend to dispute Ticker's claim, the writer has not yet found out if repairs were carried out there.



Vellanilla's Garage and Museum tow-truck in the early 1930's. Window and doorway at rear of smashed car is part of Macahell Russack's Garage.

Back in Sutherland Perks opened garage in 1923 on Railway Parade (Princes Highway) near the present location of Woolworths. A new item reported that he constructed a bus body on an old chassis in the lane at the rear for the Gymea to Sutherland Bus Service. This eventually put out of business an elderly man who drove horsedrawn coach. Pers later had three kerbside petrol pumps.

In Sutherland the following year a young man Marshall Russack, commenced business in the building that had been the Shire Council Chambers, on the corner of a laneway (now Boyle Lane) and Railway Parade. He serviced motor bikes in the building, and motor cars and trucks in a large outside shed at the back. Bulk petrol had arrived to stay, and Marshall installed the first kerbside pump in Sutherland, selling the "Waratah" brand. Gallons were marked on the glass from one upwards, the motorist being able to see how much went into his car.

Marshall drove a large 6-cylinder Elcar and later a Studebaker. A Dodge served as his first towing truck, which he replaced with a 1913 Cadillac, and in turn a Studebaker and a Ford V8

The name of Russack become well known in the Shire. Marshall's mother, Emily, had commenced a Picture Theatre in Boyle's Hall in 1922., located in Station Street (no- Boyle Street), end in 1928 opened a new theatre in the same street.

Marshall Russack had a new garage built in 1928 across the laneway from his original garage and nearer to President avenue. Jack Midgley who had commenced working for Marshall that year, carried soil and rock from excavations for the new picture theatre in a 1918 Humber converted to an utility, to fill up the floor level at the rear of the garage.

Russack bought this vehicle from Bert Irons, builder and a close friend of Joe Hayes, both early settlers of Gymea.

Marshall did not sell petrol. He had an agency for Chevrolet cars and carried on with his reputation as a mechanic. His garage was known as "Marshall's Garage" because that was his Christian name and his mother's surname. Ill-health forced him into retirement and to sell the business early in 1973, after forty-nine years.

A small garage was erected in 1925 on the corner of Princes Highway and The Kingsway for a mechanic, Macdonald, who employed an apprentice, Bill Bulman. Three years later Macdonald was killed in a motor accident on the South Coast and the business was taken over by Bulman. Bulman prospered and later built a large garage "The Roslyn", on the corner of Bath Road and Princes Highway. When Bulman retired from business in 1950 he became the Shire's first N.R.M.A. Patrolman on a motor bike and sidecar.

The first garage in Miranda was near the Six Ways in Port Hacking Rd. on the premises previously occupied by blacksmith Carr, who came there at the turn of the century from Sylvania, and later by a Mr. Parker. Carr's blacksmith's shop at Sylvania in the 1890s was on the western aide of the Highway near Clare Street.

The blacksmith's shop at Miranda was erected of materials from

Sylvania's first school, conducted by Miss Rice. It was enlarged to accommodate a repair and painting shop for the number of horse coaches prevalent in the Shire. With the coming of the motorcar many blacksmiths turned to repairing broken axles, damaged bodywork and wheels. Others sold their premises and they became motor garages. It was in the latter case that "Texas" Lechleitner, an American, set up business, regarding himself as a Ford specialist. Lechleitner was a big man who developed a habit of pushing vehicles to start than and jumping on board as they gathered speed.

The Miranda Motor Engineering Works was built in the shopping centre about 1925, not far from the present Post Office. It was first occupied by Tydesley, then Hoskins, and later by "Tubby" Fletcher. The building still stands but is not used as a garage. Agencies for Morris cars were held prior to the 'thirties, later followed by Hudson and Essex cars. Like most of the early garages services included free air, charging of car and radio batteries, tyre service, oxy-welding, and the sale of bicycles.

In the early 'twenties a Mr. Hopkins owned a T Ford truck for his transport when he opened a garage with two petrol pumps and accessories at Waterfall. The garage stood until demolished in 1972 to make way for road widening.

A garage was constructed on the opposite side of the lane to Marshall Russack's old garage for a local man, Sid Coles, in 1927. This garage was quite a large building, with living quarters upstairs, and still stands to-day, although not used as a garage. Coles employed a mechanic, Len Avery, one of a family who were early settlers in Sutherland.

Bill Coles and his brother Frank owned a timber yard and joinery works on the southern corner of President Avenue and Princes Highway (then Railway Parade), power being supplied by a large steam engine. Trees were felled mainly in the Grays Point/North-West Arm area, the logs being hauled to the yard for sawing. In 1928 Sid Coles relinquished the garage to Rowley Valiance, member of a family well-known in Sutherland business circles and district.

One-brand service stations were a long way off when Valiance operated a line of kerbside pumps. You could choose from Plume, Voco, Texaco, Shell, Atlantic, Union and B.P., in that order if you were driving south. Valiance chose a Hudson for a towing waggon, on which was signwritten the slogan, "We lead, you follow". This vehicle did sterling service until it was eventually replaced by a Rolls Royce. Valiance also operated a Plymouth hire-car as an addition to the business — a service provided by many garages over forty years ago.

A garage in Cronulla advertised in July 1929 that general repairs were carried out and cars were for hire any hour of the day or night at reason-able prices.

— Fred Midgley

Sources: J. Midgley: W.A. Nelson: 'St. George Call': Author's Notes.

May 8, 1945: end of World War II (Europe) against Germany.

THE PRESIDENT COMMENTS

Since writing for our last Bulletin (January 1976 issue) our Society has begun its 11th year, following the Annual General Meeting in March 1976. The meeting was well attended, attendance being swelled by the special occasion honouring a number of members who took part in the foundation of the Society. Each member so honoured was presented with an enamelled metal bar with the words "Foundation Member" to be attached to their Society badge. The names are listed on page 35.

A second honour fell upon Mrs. A. Griffiths, Mrs. M. Hutton Neve, Mr. C. Law and Mr. F. Midgley; on the notion of Deputy: President Mr. G. Heavens they became Honorary Life members of the Society.

On behalf of all members I again congratulate these people who have contributed so much to the Society.

The annual elections then proceeded smoothly under the capable direction of Canon Steele, a member of the Society. Members again decided to elect me as President for a fifth term. I am indeed honoured by this expression of confidence, and with the aid of an energetic executive, continue to serve the Society.

I congratulate and welcome elected Officers and Committee (whose names appear elsewhere in this Bulletin); and in particular I welcome a new Committee member Miss Pauline Mountford.

I look forward to another active year, with the same high degree of audience participation as noted by several Speakers over the last year.

Canon Steele takes up a new post at Bundeena from the end of on behalf of members I wish him and his wife well in their new location.

February brought the passing of our member Jim Miller, after some weeks of illness. Mrs. Miller has asked me to express her gratitude to members who have helped her in her time of trouble.

— Harold Ivers,
President.

Local History Schools' Competition: The NSW Permanent Building Society is sponsoring a competition throughout the metropolitan area . - "Schoolchildren are invited to research the history of their local area, town or street and write a two page essay about it. Entries can be supplemented by maps, films, tapes or models. The metropolitan area has been divided into four zones, and \$50 savings account prizes will be awarded in each zone every 3 months until the end of the year". This area is in Zone 4, and schoolchildren have been given the name of the appropriate Historical Society to whom to refer if desired.

With regard to Sutherland Shire, the Research Officer has contacted the organisers, stressing the importance of accurate information, both In the children's research and in the judging.

Sydney in the 1830s"THE QUALITY" versus "OTHER PERSONS"

From The Diary of an Australian Wife and Mother

Resident in the City of Sydney ... 1830

Unfortunately no name is given. The diarist has organised a number of young ladies (presumably nieces as well as her elder daughters) ten in all, to attend a ball: for "I well know it is my Sacred duty to get my dear girls settled in LIFE

"I was proud to see all my dear girls in great beauty, and never once lacking beaux. Amanda is 24, and can hardly hope, now, for anything above widower. yet I thought Major Bergamotte, of the 40th, most attentive. The Major has just landed from the 'Morley', and as he has not even seen a female of any sort for nine months, Something may come of this!

"Dear Harriet quite the belle! She wore a dress of white gros de Naples, with bias frills, painted with garlands of richly-grouped flowers, in their NATURAL colors, viz., full-blown Provence roses, and red, blue and yellow blue a-convolvuli. Her body was made a la Cicassienne with short sleeves, van-dyked with pink ribbon, edged with a celestial blue. Her hair was elegantly arranged in the new clustered curls, slightly elevated, and wreathed with full-blown Provence, roses. She wore coral bracelets with turquoise clasps over her silk gloves, fawn stockings, and shoes embroidered with flowers. The officers of the 'Crocodile' greatly taken! and even the merinos condescended to notice her!"

Mama was horrified to learn that the pastrycook who had provided some of the supper delectibles, had "actually refused to take half a ton of seed potatoes and a hogshead of RUM in payment of his last bill! He insisted on having money. What are our tradesmen coming to?"

"Mr Shelley, from England, with whom I danced the cachouka, whose application for a grant of land has been refused, tells me very rightly, that of course he knew about the new Land Laws, but very naturally, did not consider that they applied to him - or to any gentleman. Laws indeed! why should they? 'Surely', says he, 'such laws are made, as laws, always have been made, only for people of inferior station' I quite agree".

Mama and Queen Victoria would have been a good pair; both kept very intimate diaries (the old Queen's makes delightful reading); both had but one thought — to place their daughters In the most advantageous marriage-market": but Queen Victoria, a ruling monarch, was able to select marital partners from amongst the leading Royal European families for her dear girls."

SIMPLE RULES for the Guidance of PERSONS IN HUMBLE LIFE

by Mrs. (later Lady) Darling: Printed at the Atlas Office by James Tegg &Co., George Street opposite The Barrack Gate: 1837

The contents were written especially for the use of the children at the "Female School of Industry" at Sydney, prior to their entering domestic service (the only training given) at about 12 years of age, Lady Darling

being concerned for too "temporal and eternal welfare" of children.

"I have been induced to select the following rules for your guidance in performing the duties for: that station in life in which it has pleased the Almighty to place you", explained the author :-

One recalls a verse of a childhood hymn

The rich man in his castle,
The poor man at his gate,
God made them, high or lowly
And order'd their estate.

..... which brings me to a pertinent quotation from "Simple Rules". In the first chapter Mary has been cogitating about this 'station in life', and appeals to her mother for an explanation.

"Mother", she said, "I have been thinking that if :God made all mento be born alike, how is it that there should be such a difference between people as that some should be rich, living in large houses, with carriages and servants and to do everything for then; and others, like us, obliged to work and do for ourselves"?

Doubtless, innumerable Marys have asked the same question through but they lacked a mother who could satisfactorily answer it.

"God, himself has appointed it", she replied, 'and when we know a thing to be His Will, we ought to be sure it is all for the best, whether we understand why it should be or not. God, therefore gives different abilities to render some capable of serving others, and to some He gives wealth to enable them to purchase the good offices of those around them. Many virtues are thus tried and improved, which would not otherwise be called into exercise; on one hand, meekness, contentment, patience; on the other, humility , sympathy and benevolence".

Mary did not point out to her mother that the distribution of the virtues were a little unequal. Mary still has her doubts, however, but this wonderful mother can smooth them out and close the discussion at the appropriate moment with a reference, for instance, as to the necessity of preparing father's dinner.

"Simple Rules" summarises for the female schoolchildren that "It is your duty to Obey the orders which your masters or mistresses give you; obey them at once and cheerfully, always remembering that it is their place to command, and your duty to obey, and that it is the Great God Himself Who appoints to all persons their stations and their duties."

How simple life must have been then! If you were of "The Quality" you had the wealth and the power to employ and command; if you were "Other Persons" you knew that your duty was to be submissive, and to work cheerfully for a small wage and for long hours! Everyone knew their respective place – for it was irrevocably ordained by the Almighty!

---M.H.N.

Source: The HOME: The Australian Journal of Quality; July 1, 1929

"Beware the Ides of March" - the 15th: Julius Caesar was assassinated in the Roman Forum on this day.

Please Keep This Page for reference: Fixtures Overleaf.

Publications Committee: Mr. G. Heavens (Convenor), Mrs. M. Hutton Neve (Editor), Mrs. P. Garland, Messrs. R. Hall and F. Midgley, The President (ex officio).

Contributions : members are asked to submit material for the Bulletin --- it need not be confined only to Historical interest of the Shire. Please state source if extracted or rewritten material is used. If hand-written Please print names in BLOCK (= capital) letters. Hand to President, Convenor or Editor; or post to Editor's address. Copy for the issue should be in the Editor's hands before the end of May.

Bulletin copies supplied to all branches of the Shire Library, and to the Shire President, Shire Clerk and all Councilors.

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

Society Publications are registered at the National Library Canberra, in accordance with International Standard Serial Numbering; this automatically includes copyright. This Society's registered number will appear on all future publications:- ISSN 0586-O261.

Bulletin extracts: any editorial material may be reprinted in other publications provided that acknowledgment is made both to the writer and to this Society's magazine.

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) : Thomas Holt, 50c: Kurnell, 50c.. Martha Matilda (Mrs. Jas. Birnie), leaflet, 20c: Bygone Days of Sutherland (illustrated) the last four are by Mrs. M. Hutton Neve.

Monthly Meetings of the Society are held on the 2nd Friday, commencing at 8.0 pm, in the Presbyterian Church Hall, corner Glencoe & Flora Streets, Sutherland. Visitors are welcome.

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

Please keep this page for reference:

Dear Members,

At the Annual General Meeting 12th March 1976, the following Officers were elected for the ensuing year :-

PATRON: Clr M. Tynan, President, Shire of Sutherland
PRESIDENT: Mr H. Ivers
DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Mr G Heavens
VICE PRESIDENT (2): Messers F Midgley, Mr R Hall
HON SECRETARY: Mrs A Griffiths
HON TREASURER: Mr, S Stedman
HON ARCHIVIST: Mr B Sargeant
HON RESEARCH OFFICER: Mrs M Hutton Neve
HON PUBLICITY OFFICER: Mrs M Taplin
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (5): Mr K Matthews, Mesdames Becker, Ivers, Vale & Miss P Mountford

Foundation Member Badges: to mark the occasion of the 10th Annual General Meeting, it was decided by the Executive Council that all those who have remained financial members of the Society since its commencement be invited to attend this Annual Meeting in order to receive a "Foundation Member" badge. The recipients are listed on page 35.

Hon Life Membership: In accordance with the Society's Constitution Item 6 paragraph (f), Mr G Heavens proposed that Honorary Life Membership be conferred on four Foundation Members who had served the Society in various positions during the past ten years in a manner deserving of such recognition namely, Mt C Law, Mrs A Griffiths, Mrs M Hutton Neve and Mr F Midgley.

This recommendation was seconded and carried unanimously

EXCURSIONS: by the time you read this Bulletin the Gulgong tour will have taken place may we hope that all participating in the excursion will have had a most enjoyable time.

Full details of future outings will be given at the April meeting, but early notice is given for a trip to Liverpool on May 22nd, Tickets available at April meeting.

GUEST SPEAKERS: April 9th: 10th Birthday Celebration Meeting: the speaker will be member John Antill
May 14th: to be arranged
June 11th: Mr R.A. McDermott : "Central District Ambulance Service"

-- Aileen Griffiths

Honorary Secretary