

SUTHERLAND SHIRE HISTORICAL
SOCIETY INC
QUARTERLY BULLETIN

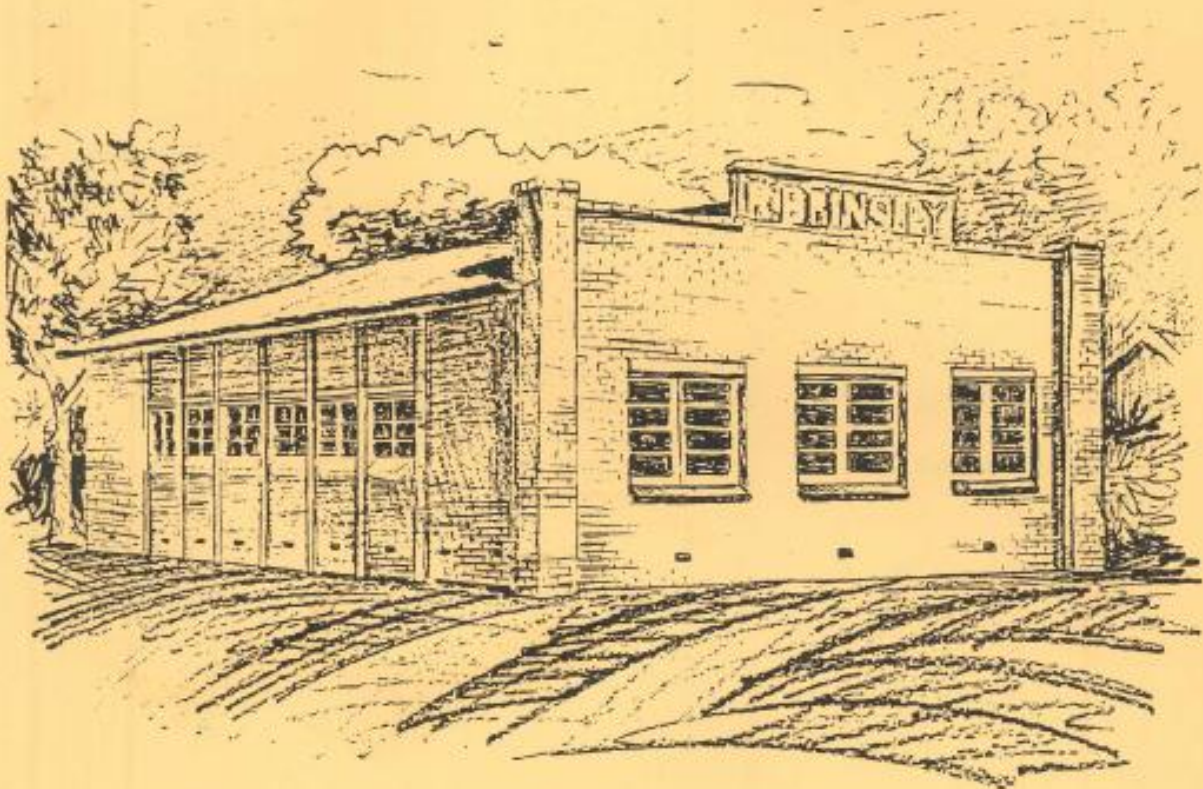
Design by (the late) Fred Midgley



Vol. 2 No. 3

August 1993

Price: \$1.00



BRINSLEY'S JOINERY WORKS. The Brinsley's were responsible for much of the building in the Sutherland township. Starting with a workshop in the backyard the business later moved to larger premises. However fire destroyed this building in 1929. The Joinery illustrated above, was then built in its place.

COVER ILLUSTRATION by George Youssef

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA CARD No. & ISSN 0586 – 0261

REGISTERED AT THE GPO FOR TRANSMISSION THROUGH THE POST
AS A PERIODICAL (CATEGORY B) NBH 2071

CONTENTS

VALE RALPH BRINSLEY	Aileen Griffiths	63
PRESIDENT'S REMARKS	Aileen Griffiths	64
BREWING IN NEW SOUTH WALES (Viii)	Stewart Roberts	65
CHILDREN IN POVERTY	George Heavens	71
THOSE MAGNIFICENT MEN (V)	Ada Cutbush))	72
CHANGING TIMES	Phyllis Rugless	75
NOTE FROM THE EDITOR		76
UNIVERSAL PROVIDERS		77
ENDEAVOUR NATURALIST	Edward Duyker	78
CHANGE OF NAME OF SUTHERLAND SHIRE	Aileen Griffiths	81
PHOTOGRAPHS OF WARTIME CRONULLA (Request)	Aileen Griffiths	81
BAYVIEW HALL CRONULLA	Aileen Griffith,	81
EXCURSION REPORT	Aileen Griffiths,	82
MAGPIES	George Heavens	83
SPEAKERS		83
GENERAL INFORMATION		84

VALE RALPH BRINSLEY

All members of the Society will be saddened to hear of the death of our friend, Ralph Brinsley. Ralph was a life-time resident of Sutherland and all who pass in the train between Sutherland and Jannali will have seen "Brinsley's Joinery Works" a business commenced by his father, and continued by Ralph and his brothers.

The building has been added to the Shire Heritage listing and it is hoped can be preserved as a tribute of early days, for a long time to come.

The members of the Executive Council were especially saddened to hear of Ralph's passing away he was at the Council meeting with us on Monday evening June 5 and at its conclusion we chatted and, including Ralph, went to our cars to make our journey home; it should have taken Ralph no more than ten to fifteen minutes.

We understand it was his usual practice to. reverse his car into the garage; but on Tuesday morning June 6, a neighbour seeing his garage door open went to see if everything was all right only to find the car door open, Ralph sitting in the car, and he had pa sad away.

We have lost a wonderful supporter of the Society, especially at the Museum ad Heritage Week; one always ready to join in discussion at meetings; and one who could assist so such with the answers to questions about Sutherland, and its early history

Our Society was well represented at the Woronora Crematorium to say farewell -- we offer deepest sympathy to his family.

V A L E Ralph Brinsley



Aileen Griffiths

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Sadly, we report the deaths of two members of the Society in the past month --- Mrs. Lucy Millar who was well known to many members attending meetings and excursions and Mr. Ralph Brinsley a Committeeman, who assisted in Society business and attended our outings too. A tribute to Ralph is included in this Bulletin.

The Bulletin Editor, Harold Ivers and his Deputy, Andrew Platfoot are settling in well and this issue will give credit to them.

By invitation of Sutherland Shire Council, through Clr. Dawn Emerson, we have extended an invitation to M/s Karen Pye who is a twenty-one year old student from the University of Bangor in Wales to be our guest speaker in September. M/s Pye will be in Sydney by invitation of Sutherland N.S.W.- Bangor (Wales) Twinning Committee; she is doing part of her PHD at the University of Wollongong, and working part-time at Council under Dr. Garry Smith, Council's Environmental Scientist.

The Museum Convener, Allan McGrath is working hard to obtain more "holding" space, and if this can be arranged we may then be able to offer two rooms for inspection. In this we must hasten slowly, but in the near future we hope to have a big announcement for you.

We are now seeking two new members for Executive Committee; one as publicity officer and the other as a committee person. If you would be interested would you kindly indicate to either the on. Secretary, Mrs. Blackley or myself. We hope these positions will be filled at the next general meeting.



PRESIDENT

BREWING IN NEW SOUTH WALES Part VIII

Stewart Roberts Collection

Boston and Ellis came to Australia for reasons entirely different to those which brought Squire to the Colony. The latter's journey was decided upon by gentlemen who did not consider in any way his personal wishes in the matter; both Boston and Ellis, on the other hand, came out voluntarily, and this, combined with the fact that Australia, to them, was merely a temporary resting place, undoubtedly coloured their outlook while in Sydney and their attitude, which was not placatory towards officialdom.

During 1793-4 the trials took place in Scotland of the "Scotch Martyrs", Palmer, Muir, Skirving, Gerald and Margarot, all of whom were convicted of seditious libel and sentenced to fourteen years transportation to Botany Bay. This was subsequently interpreted to mean, and duly carried out as, a seven years penalty. These firebrands - "demons of sedition" as the Crown Prosecutor restrainedly called them, - who had gone to the length of advocating universal suffrage and annual parliaments, were men of position and refinement, and, some of them, of substance.

The Reverend T.F. Palmer was a Graduate of Cambridge and Fellow of Queen's College, and appears to have had means in addition to possessing influential and wealthy friends at home who kept him supplied with whatever funds he needed either for his own personal affairs or for business purposes during his exile. It was from this source that Boston and Ellis drew what backing they required for the various ventures they commenced when they arrived in New South Wales.

Both these men were warm admirers and personal friends of Palmer and Muir. So attached were they to the two "martyrs" that, when sentence of transportation was passed, they decided to accompany them on their enforced migration to the Antipodes. No doubt political convictions strengthened personal feelings when the decision was made, but, whether this was so or not, it is apparent that Boston and Ellis came to Australia because of the exile of their friends and left its uncongenial atmosphere immediately the expiration of the sentence imposed on the "demons of sedition" made further residence there unnecessary.

The character of the Reverend Thomas Fysche Palmer is important, since it is on a letter from him that depends, to a great extent, Boston and Ellis' claim to brewing priority. Mr. Palmer is described by every writer on the "Scotch Martyrs" as a man of the strictest honesty, purity of motives and

unimpeachable character. The evidence of such a man, actually living in close contact with those of whom he wrote, cannot be disregarded or explained away, more particularly as, at that time, he cannot possibly have considered that posterity would be concerned in the brewing activities of either Boston and Ellis, or, if he knew him, Squire.

Before coming to the Reverend Palmer's letter, however, there are earlier pieces of evidence available for examination. The Historical Records of New South Wales (Volume 11 page 100) contain a letter dated December 5 1793, from John Boston to Under-Secretary King:-

"Sir,

I take the liberty to intrude your attention to my pretensions having the honour to solicit you to send me out as a settler to New South Wales. I was brought up as a surgeon and apothecary, but have never since followed that profession. I have since made my particular study those parts of chemistry that are more particularly useful in trade and business. Have, therefore, a knowledge of brewing, distilling, sugar making, vinegar making, soap-making, etc. I have been in business as distiller, but was unsuccessful. I likewise have a theoretical and some practical knowledge of agriculture.

I flatter myself, sir, should you think fit to examine my pretensions. you would find me possess that general knowledge which (I consider) would be useful in an infant colony like New South Wales. I take the liberty to mention that I am a married man and have three children: that my views are not ambitious: and should in this application be so fortunate as to succeed, I will make it my pleasure to exert myself in every respect for the advantage of the colony.

I have etc.

(Sgd) John Boston."

One can imagine a harassed Under-Secretary seizing avidly such an Admirable Crichton, more particularly after the reassurance that his "views were not ambitious". That imagination would not be too much at fault is borne out by a letter from Whitehall by the Right Honourable Henry Dundas to Lieutenant Grose. This epistle is dated February 15, 1794, and contains the following passage:-

"The "Surprise" likewise carries out two settlers who have been well recommended, with their respective families ... one of them Mr. Boston" (Ellis was the other) "will, I hope, prove particularly useful to the settlement by curing fish and making salt, objects to which his attention has been particularly drawn".

This reference occurs on page 118 of Volume 11 of "The Historical Records of New South Wales": there is a further mention on page 225, in a letter to

Governor Hunter dated July 1, 1794. but since this is practically the same in tenor as that just quoted there is no point in reproducing it.

The same volume, pages 880-1, furnishes us with the all-important letter of the Reverend T.F. Palmer to the Reverend T. Lindsey of Essex Street Chapel. This letter is dated September 15, 1795, and deals at length with the treatment meted out to Mr. Palmer by Captain Campbell of the "Surprise". It is quoted rather fully since it will explain why Mr. Palmer, quite apart from any feelings of friendship for Boston and Ellis, should have had reasons for supporting them with finance for their undertakings.

Captain Campbell - the "C" of the letter - apparently had no time for "martyrs", even Scottish ones, and expressed his dislike in such a manner that, according to the Reverend Palmer's letter, he would have succumbed to the treatment meted out to him.

"Had it not been for the courageous and active friendship of James Ellis and Mr. Boston, the young man I wrote to you about, and his wife. They were threatened with irons, even Mr. Boston; and when Mr. Boston landed, "C" blasted all his prospects by accusing him of Jacobinism and drinking destruction to the King. This last was proved to be an infamous falsehood. They gave another signal proof of their friendship. Somehow or other their knowledge of the Arts was spread abroad at Rio de Janiero, and the Viceroy paid them every attention, kept a special table for them, had a man of rank to attend them, set them to work, and, when convinced of their ability, offered them any sum to set up in business, and \$300 per annum each to settle at Rio. They firmly rejected the offer (though both without a shilling) and every solicitation made use of for their compliance, as it was their belief that "C" would have murdered me in their absence. After such kindness, it followed, of course, that we lived together and that they shared what I had. It was fortunate for them that I had something left from the plunder of "C" and his crew. The destructive and oppressive monopoly of the military officers forbad everyone to purchase of the ships that came to this harbour. The military officers alone bought, and resold to all the Colony at 1,000 per cent profit, and often more. They (Boston and Ellis) firmly, but in guarded language, insisted on the right of British subjects to carry on any trade, not prohibited in one of his Majesty's harbours. This irritated the whole governing despotic power of the settlement against them. They were refused a grant, servants, and never employed, though, by making salt and curing fish,

they could have saved the colony from a famine. Where everything is so immensely dear, you may guess that it has laid heavy on me; but my money could not have been so well employed. The worst is now over. They (Boston and Ellis) manufacture beer, vinegar, salt, soap etc. for sale. I have a farm. But, above all, Governor Hunter, who is, I hear, from all hands a good man, and their friend, is arrived, and the despotism and infamous monopolies of the last Government are no more."

Nothing could be more unequivocal than that. On Boston's own evidence he knew something of brewing before leaving England: on the Reverend Thomas Fysche Palmer's, Boston and Ellis were brewing, and selling beer as early as September, 1795.

Leaving The Historical Records of New South Wales, we find Boston and Ellis referred to in Samuel Bennett's "History of Australian Discovery and Colonisation", pages 195-197. Discussing the regime of Gross and Paterson and the abuse of power by the military during that period, he adds:-

"After the arrival of Governor Hunter in the Colony Messrs. Boston and Ellis ... established themselves in Sydney, as Brewers and Manufacturers of Vinegar, salt, soap etc. etc."

Ellis, he informs us, on the expiration of Mr. Palmer's sentence, fitted out a vessel to take both of them home, but this was wrecked on the Ladrone Islands, where, detained as prisoners by the Spaniards the Reverend Palmer caught a fever and died.

Bonwick's "First Twenty Years in Australia" gives us another glimpse of these two diehards. After sketching briefly their early difficulties, the author states, on page 158:-

"When Governor Hunter arrived he relieved them of all their disabilities. They set to work and manufactured salt, soap etc. etc., and made much money during the closing years of last century."

A very important reference occurs in David Collins' "Account of an English Colony in New South Wales". The following extract, mentioning Boston's beer, is taken from the concluding chapter of the 1798 Edition of this work.

"THE FOLLOWING WERE THE PRICES OF THE VARIOUS ARTICLES MENTIONED AS THEY WERE SOLD AT SYDNEY WHEN THE SHIPS SAILED ON 29TH SEPTEMBER, 1796." Under Heading - WINE AND SPIRITS:

Red port,	per bottle 5/-
Madeira,	per bottle 4/-
Cape Wine,	per bottle 3/-
Rum.	per bottle 5/-
Porter,	per bottle 2/-
Beer made at Sydney,	per bottle 1/6

NOTE: This is the only one out of 6 or 8 other headings for different classes of commodities which appear in the same list.

"The beer mentioned in the preceding account as being made at Sydney was brewed from Indian corn, properly malted, and bittered with the leaves and stalks of the Love Apple, or as it was commonly called in the Settlement, the Cape Gooseberry. Mr. Boston found this succeeded so well that he erected at some expense a building proper for the business and was. when the ships sailed (September 29, 1796) engaged in brewing beer from the abovementioned materials and in making soap."

This would seem definitely to establish the fact that Boston and Ellis were operating as brewers for some time prior to September 1796, and furnished whatever support might be considered necessary to the statement made in Mr. Palmer's letter.

Among more recent published writings on the subject of early breweries of New South Wales, two, by the late H.W.H. Huntingdon are significant. The "Australian Cordial Maker" of August, 1903, carried an article on Boston and Ellis by him. He said:-

"Among the earliest brewers were two clever free settlers, names respectively John Boston and James Ellis. These two men were expert brewers, and started a brewery in the vicinity of the present Government House about the time of Major Grose and Colonel Paterson."

Going on to state that they made "a superior kind of beer", Huntingdon gave in his article the facts covered in the Reverend Palmer's letter, elaborating on the ill-treatment meted out by Grose and his officers to Boston and Ellis

because of their "determination to promote trade and commerce in competition with the military officers", and ending:'

"All their manufacturing schemes were opposed and they were only rescued from thralldom and ruin by Governor Hunter, who, on his arrival in September, 1795, set aside the despotism and infamous monopolies of the Military Government. Hunter ably assisted their ventures, and in a short time they were settled on land near the present site of Government House. There they erected saltworks,

a soap factory and last, but not least, a Brewery. They also built a fine windmill near the present site of Governor Bourke's statue, and were men of great enterprise, associated with many and various business projects in those early days.

Huntingdon, in his article, did not definitely lay down that these two men were brewing as early as 1795, although, in his concluding sentences, he made it plain that their brewery near Government House site was in operation shortly after Hunter's arrival. This however, does not set aside the positive evidence of Mr. Palmer's letter to the effect that they were making beer when Hunter arrived. They could have been doing so, subsequently transferring operations to the site made available by the new Governor's goodwill, and this conclusion is borne out by the quotation from Collins' "Account of an English Colony in New South Wales."

A few months prior to writing the article just quoted from, Huntingdon had broken into the pages of the "Australian Cordial Maker" (February, 1903) with another article, on Squire. Although this, perhaps, should more properly have been quoted in the preceding chapter to this, it is included here for the reason that it opposes rather than supports Squire's claim to precedence. After introducing his subject, Huntingdon states:-

"It is not until the year 1804 that Mr. Squire commenced his career as one of the most popular brewers of the early days of the Colony. It was early in that year (1804) when he established his brewery on 25 acres, known by the name of James Pollard's Kissing Point Farm." And later, "Squire's beer" was a household commodity for a period of nearly twenty years (from 1804 to 1822) among the early colonists ...".

Now that the available evidence has been tabled, it is possible to weigh the claim of Boston and Ellis against that of Squire. As was shown earlier,

there is no direct evidence to show that the latter was operating as early as 1795. The year 1796 seems the earliest on which he could be taken to have been brewing, and even this is extremely problematical. The earliest date which can be claimed with any certainty for Squire is 1804.

For Boston and Ellis, on the other hand, we have the Reverend Palmer's letter definitely stating that they were brewing in September 1795. This is backed up strongly by a contemporary, writer, David Collins, who asserts that Boston was producing beer before erecting, early in 1796, presumably, "a building proper for the business". These two men alone, without the more circumstantial evidence adduced to support them have left sufficient in their writings to confer, posthumously, on Boston and Ellis the title: "Australia's First Brewers".

~~~~~

#### CHILDREN POVERTY.

Don't tell me about children in poverty, in my opinion all kids now are in clover, if not they should be, especially the ones over fourteen years old that we read about.

When I was a schoolboy, I lived in Rockdale, I attended Rockdale school. Every lunchtime a table was placed in the shade under a tree, in the school yard, if anyone had a sandwich or any food they couldn't eat, it would be put on the piece of cardboard provided for that purpose; a line of poor boys stood in a queue, each boy was allowed to take a piece of food as it was placed on the table and then go again to the end of the queue, until the food was all gone. The penalty for sniggering at these kids was a four, two on each hand, administered by old Broome the head, and he was an expert at his job.

In those days you had to take your lunch into the class room, in your school bag, if you left it in the hall some one would steal it for sure. Many of our kids suffered from Rickets, and would waddle along like little old men, if you suffered Rickets you were exempt from marching. Some of the kids at our school arrived having had no breakfast, and looked forward to getting on the queue at lunchtime, any boy eating an apple would be pestered for the apple core. Rickets is caused by lack of vegetable matter,

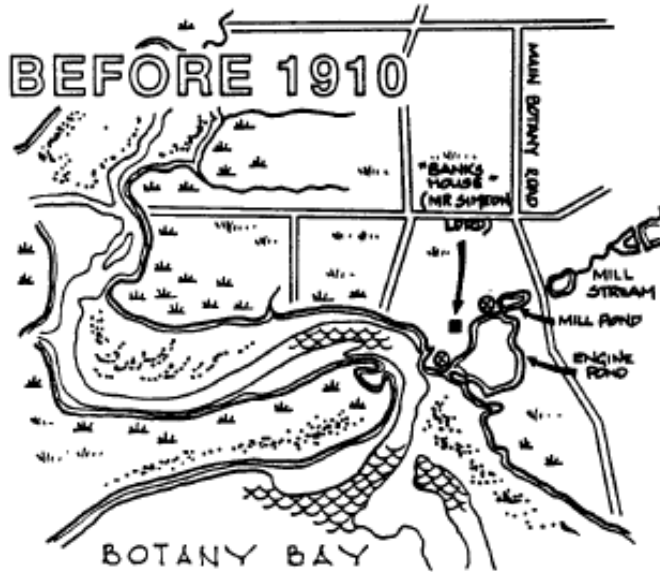
George Heavens

## THOSE MAGNIFICENT MEN — PART V

## A Story of Sydney Airport

(Ada Cutbush Collection)

WHEN THE Tank Stream — Sydney Town's first drinking water supply — became inadequate, the Lachlan Water Tunnel ('Busby's Bore'), a gravitational supply system,



provided the colony with drinking water for nearly sixty years. As the population increased, the 'Botany Scheme' was developed and water was pumped from the Mill Stream — where Simeon Lord had his wool mill operation — to the reservoirs at Paddington and Surry Hills.

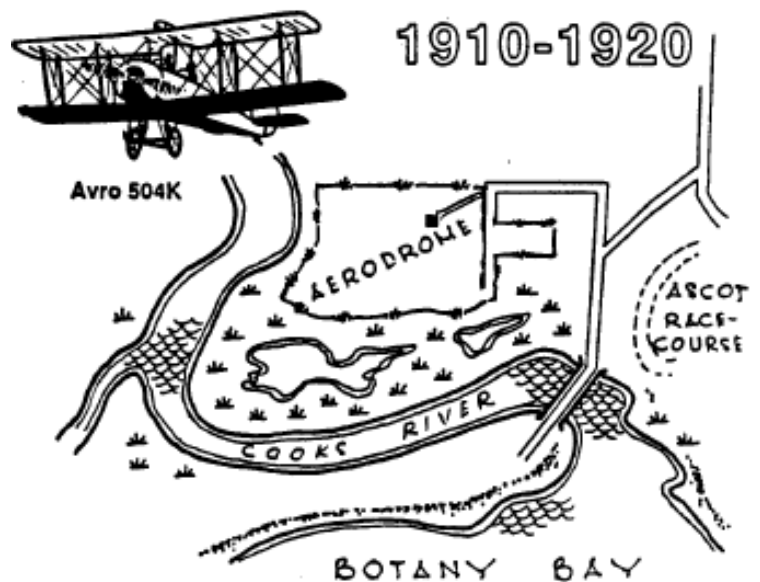
The swampy land to the west of the Mill Stream and Mill Ponds (still to be seen) gradually dried out and one area eventually became a cow paddock --and it was here that Nigel Love set up his flying operations shortly after World War I.

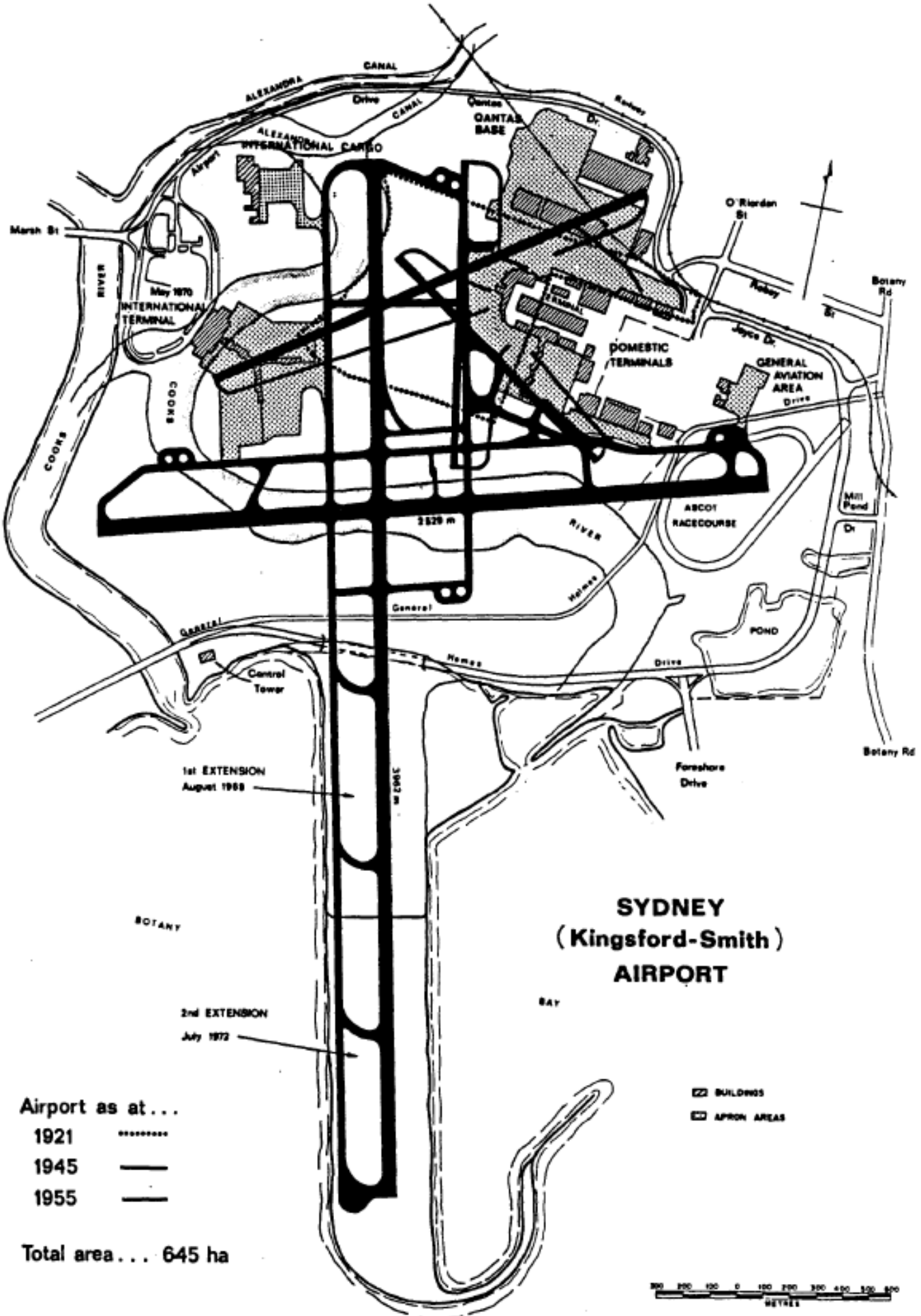
Part of the story has been covered in earlier editions of this publication and

the gradual development of the area is shown in the accompanying maps which have been provided by the Federal Airports Corporation (FAC) which owns, manages and develops Sydney Airport and 23 other airports around Australia. The FAC is responsible for looking after the runways, taxiways and buildings, also for the airlines and other airport staff. These works are funded from revenue received from shops and other businesses at the airport and from the landing fees charged on all aircraft.

On 20 January 1920 the old cow paddock was declared an official aerodrome. In 1921 the site was licensed for aircraft operations in the name of Australian Aircraft & Engineering Co Ltd which was then producing Avro 504K aircraft. By this time the site had grown from the original 400 acres (162ha) to an additional 163 acres (66ha) which had been acquired by the Civil Aviation Branch of the Dept of Defence at a cost of about £15,500 (\$31 000).

The requirements for an aerodrome at that time included "a minimum field length of 350 yards (320m) a clear approach angle over trees and telephone lines and a surface smooth enough to allow a T-model Ford to





1st EXTENSION  
August 1968

2nd EXTENSION  
July 1972

Airport as at ...  
 1921 .....  
 1945 ———  
 1955 ———

Total area . . . 645 ha

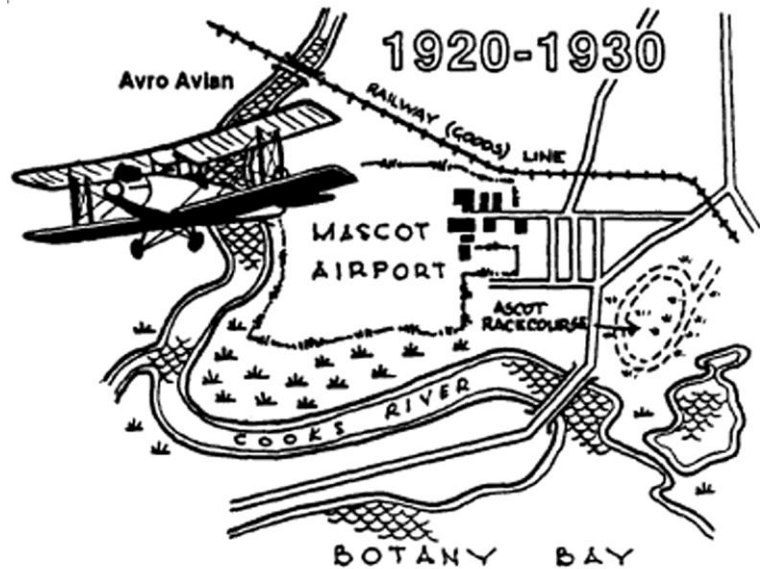
▣ BUILDINGS  
 ▤ APRON AREAS



Map by courtesy of the Federal Airports Corporation

be driven at 20mph (32kmph) with the driver still comfortably seated." By 1924 the site was looking more like an aerodrome than a cow pasture, according to a contemporary account — and the first hangar had been built at a cost of about £2,180 (\$4 363). This was the year that the first regular air services commenced between Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide.

By 1927 a larger hangar had been built on the site, also three small hangars for single aircraft plus a workshop, clubhouse and offices for the Department of Civil Aviation. The airport's future was a little uncertain through the 1920s, but in 1930 the present network of domestic air travel was started by Charles Kingsford Smith and Charles Ulm who founded the original Australian National Airways Company which was operating between Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane. Their company used tri-motor Fokers but the ensuing years and effects of the world depression plus some accidents — which included the loss of the Southern Cross — forced the company into liquidation.



In 1928 Bert Hinkler was to complete his solo flight from England to Australia, landing at Mascot on 10 March. Also in 1928 Smithy, Ulm, Jim Warner and Harry Lyon in the Southern Cross completed the flight which pioneered the crossing of the Pacific. In 1929, which saw the start of the 'Great Depression' the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works reported on the proposed development of the site. (The major factor in the Government's choice of Mascot as the Sydney airport site had been its proximity to the city.) The Committee recommended the expenditure of about £40,000 (\$80 000) excluding acquisitions, which it considered would provide for the ensuing six years. The Committee investigated the suitability of the Mascot site against other possible sites (eg Bankstown) and concluded that ... "it would be preferable to develop Mascot to its full capacity before considering the acquisition of any area at a greater distance from Sydney". In those bygone days no one could possibly have anticipated the incredible growth and development that was to overtake Sydney.

In 1930 the first gravel runways were constructed at a cost of £10,490 (\$20 980) — and there was also provision made for two extra runways for use in the event of bad weather if necessary. In the same year Amy Johnson made her epic flight from England and landed safely at Mascot.

TO BE CONTINUED ...

**Fokker F.VII/3m**  
**"Southern Cross"**



## "CHANGING TIMES"

We were talking with friends about changes in our Shire, even since I married in depression years. How later when we got tired of milking our own cows like our parents had done, we had a friendly Milko call, twice daily, very early hours of the morning and also in the afternoon. We would put our Billy out in an arranged place; the Milko gave you a bill once a week, you put your money out next day in an envelope under the Billy which the Milko signed and dated. This went on until just a short time after World War II, then a note was put under the Billy, saying "No more bulk milk only bottled in future". It wasn't long after this his horse and cart (milk cart) vanished and a motorised van appeared instead.

The Baker used to deliver 6 days a week (48 hours was a working week) at that time, old Bill Atkins, I'd known since my childhood. He was very kind and worked for Mustons Bakery at Sutherland. He would often help by posting your letters at Sutherland for you if you had the stamp on them. We didn't have any mail delivered to our houses.

In the 30 odd years my husband and I lived at Gymea, our postal address changed several times. Firstly C/- Gymea Bay Post Office Store, then when we got a Post Office, C/- Gymea Bay Post Office. We'd walk down and pick up the mail every couple of days. Then Mr. Wallace who owned a store on the corner of Forest Road and Gymea Bay Road gave us permission to put C/- his store, the mail only being delivered to those who lived on Gymea Bay Road. It was much easier for me to go to Wallace's store as I did a good bit of shopping there. In those days everyone helped each other; the Wallace family were lovely friends, so were Margaret (their daughter) and her husband Don Thompson who took over the store. Eventually the store was demolished, and a Shell garage now stands there. After more petitions the mail was finally delivered to our home.

Stapletons the Butcher from Sutherland would deliver your meat 6 days a week. First we only had a drip tray to keep the meat in, later an ice chest. The ice man was a big help, he'd call every other day except Sundays.

To start we only had kerosene lights and candles, a fuel stove, copper and tank water. After quite a few petitions we finally got electricity then after more petitions we were able to get the water on to our homes.

Then some petitions again for the phone to be put on.

In fact, Gymea really started to grow after World War II. It went ahead in leaps and bounds, roads were bad, but the Council's one coat tar sealed programme helped a lot.

The opening of Tom Ugly's bridge in 1929 caused the population in the Shire to increase rapidly and brought about the Sutherland Cronulla railway which opened in 1939.

Gymea got more shops, Doctor, Dentist, Butcher, Grocer, Fruit shop, Cake shop, Chemist, and quite a few others. You didn't have to go to Sutherland or Miranda anymore but the deliveries stopped and haven't started again since the war. No free delivery anymore, now you pay.

Everyone's like a pack horse carrying food etc. Thank goodness most today have at least one car, some have 3 or 4 per family. There weren't too many cars in depression days, so many out of work and only dole coupons for food, no money, lots of people getting put out of their homes and on to the streets. I hope I never see this again. Unfortunately today has violence and drinking, crimes and drugs etc. in a greater proportion and also lots out of work again.

Our Shire has progressed in so many ways, but I'm not sure if times have, for most. We are still lucky to have electricity etc., lovely shopping centres, cars, lovely homes and lots of beautiful beaches and bays around us and the Royal National Park for picnics and hiking. I only hope they don't charge too much and then deprive people and especially families of our natural gift from God. I also hope folk will remember to try and keep it clean and value it.

I've enjoyed myself, had a lovely childhood in Gymea and reared my children also, when my husband Fred and I made our home there. Now for some years I have been living in Cronulla, another lovely place. I have so many memories.

PHYLLIS RUGLESS

JUST A THOUGHT

A smiling face and a cheerful heart, helps us all to play our part.

A Note from the Editor.

I thank you for the welcome to this position in the Society. We all have the job of contributing to the Bulletin, it is simply mine to assemble the contributions and arrange the printing with the Sutherland Shire Council. Your contribution can be typed for you if necessary, but if you can do your own typing this additional contribution is appreciated. Typing should be done on opaque white paper, A4 size, clear of edges by approximately one inch (2½ cm), to permit stapling either right or left.

To provide additional interest, advertisements and old sketches from early newspapers and catalogues are welcome.

H. Ivers & A. Platfoot

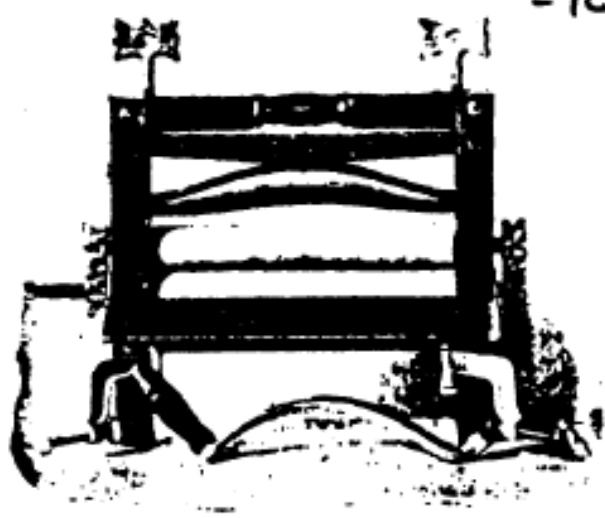


# UNIVERSAL PROVIDERS.

-1911-

## Wringers

Wringers are one of the labor-saving machines that have been introduced for the benefit of the household. Those who have had to wring the clothes by the old method can appreciate the difference. We have priced our Wringers so low that they are within the reach of everybody.



THE "CHEAPSIDE" WRINGER (MI 631).  
A perfect Wringer. Wood Frame. Rubber Rollers.  
all metal parts Galvanised—  
10-in., 11/-; 11-in., 12/0; 12-in., 17/0; 14-in., 21/0.

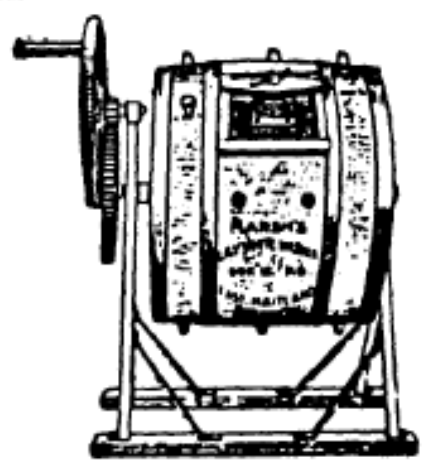


THE "UNIVERSAL" (MI 632).  
Wood Frame, Rubber Rollers, and metal parts Galvanised, fitted with Steel Spring and improved Guide Board—  
11-in., 20/-; 12-in., 22/0; 14-in., 26/-.

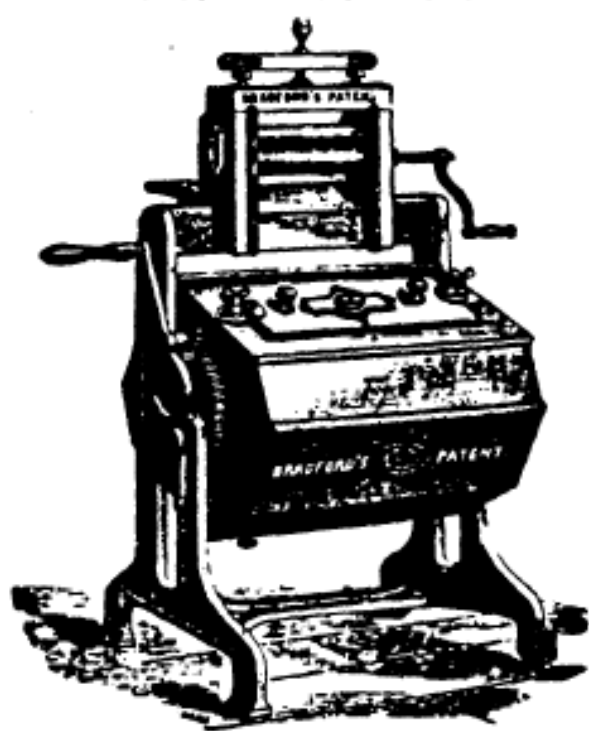


MI 633. — WRINGER SUPERIOR, Rubber Rollers, metal parts Galvanised, self-adjusting, will fit on any shape tub—  
12-in., 16 0; 14-in., 21/-; 16-in., 27/6.

MI 632.



MI 634.  
LILY WHITE WASHING MACHINE.  
MI 630.—Will wash the finest Lace or the Heaviest articles absolutely without damage.  
No. 1.—Capacity, 80 Articles of domestic clothing in 15 Minutes ..... £1 10 0  
No. 2.—The favorite family size, 90 Articles in 15 Minutes ..... £2 0 0  
No. 3.—Suitable for Hotel or Boarding Houses, 110 Articles in 15 Minutes ..... £7 10 0  
No. 4.—Suitable for Hospitals or other Institutions. £10 0 0



MI 634.  
Vowel A size is a favorite family machine. Its merits as a simple, compact, portable and efficient Washer are universally acknowledged. Twelve shirts can be easily washed in 15 minutes by this machine. Weight, 1 cwt. 3 qrs. 10 lbs.  
Price, without Wringer, 26/6.

# EVERYTHING SOLID VALUE

# Endeavour Naturalist

Biographical Research on Daniel Solander (1733-1782)

Report to the Literature Board  
Australia Council

Edward Duyker

Category A Fellow

## Introduction

The Swedish naturalist Daniel Solander has often been treated unkindly by historians. A student of Linnæus (the founder of the binomial system of nomenclature), he helped to introduce Linnæus methods to Britain as an Assistant Keeper at the British Museum. And as the leading systematic biologist in Britain, he befriended Joseph Banks and became an important member of James Cook's expedition of 1768-1771. Although one of the founders of Australian botany and zoology, no one has written a full account of Solander's life and work, or captured his sense of wonder at the natural world. The manuscripts Solander bequeathed posterity are large in number and rich in taxonomic detail, but his reputation has suffered mainly because of his small number of publications and accusations that he was lazy and ungrateful to his great teacher. These issues deserve more serious consideration.

Solander's early death at the age of forty-nine contributed in no small way to Banks' abandonment of the massive *Florilegium* which undoubtedly would have secured his scientific reputation. Yet Solander's specimens were studied, and his descriptions appropriated, by other naturalists. In 1925, T.O.B.N. Krok (*Bibliotheca botanica Suecana* pp. 655- 660) listed 65 publications which incorporated Solander's work. With the publication of the *Florilegium* (Alecto Editions 1980-1988), together with monographs and catalogues associated with it, this number has steadily climbed. In his lifetime Solander was always a generous source of advice. An understanding of the demands made by his correspondents and colleagues, at a time when he had to fulfil professional duties at the British Museum (and for Sir Joseph Banks), help us judge him more kindly. Solander's breach with Linnaeus is more difficult to understand but appears to be related to his thwarted hopes of marriage to the great botanist's eldest daughter.

Daniel Solander was the first Swede to circle the globe and one of the earliest Europeans to visit the south-western Pacific. His voyage on the *Endeavour* and north to Iceland, provide an exciting canvas for biography. When I first began work on Solander I realised that I would have to undertake research in Britain and in Scandinavia. Although I am not a Swedish scholar, I took great comfort from the fact that most of Solander's letters were in English. I also had sufficient Latin from my school days to identify (and then seek help translating) his other manuscripts. Before my departure from Australia I transcribed all of Solander's letters preserved at the Mitchell Library and the National Library. I chose to fly Air New Zealand to Britain because their economical fare offered the possibility of stopovers in countries where the *Endeavour* called. In particular, I was able to visit New Zealand and Tahiti. These locations were of far greater significance to Solander's career as a naturalist than Batavia (Jakarta), Rio de Janeiro or Cape Town.

### New Zealand (26 February- 6 March)

In New Zealand I did research at the Auckland Library and the Auckland Institute & Museum and then visited the *Endeavour's* landfalls at Mercury Bay, Gisborne, Tolaga Bay and Anuara Bay. I travelled with printed copies of the journals of Cook, Banks and Parkinson. I also undertook research in the collections of the Gisborne Museum and the Alexander Turnbull Library (Wellington). The latter holds one of Solander's original letters.

### **Tahiti (7-12 March)**

As in New Zealand, I visited the *Endeavour's* landfalls and the places associated with Solander's visit, including Point Venus. For me the most interesting were the ruins of *maraes*. I was particularly interested in two: Marae Taata and Marae Mahaiatea. I am not sure whether Cook, Banks and Solander actually saw the first in 1769, but Cook appears to have witnessed a human sacrifice there during his visit of 1777. I found it unmarked, off the beaten track and over-grown, but still discernible. Marae Mahaiatea was certainly seen by Banks and Cook in 1769. I am not yet sure whether Solander saw it. It is now just a pile of overgrown rubble, having been destroyed by a planter named Stewart who used it for road base in 1865.

My institutional research was confined to four main places: the public library in Papeete, the library of O.R.S.T.O.M. (Organisation de Recherche Scientifique et Technique d'Outre Mer), the Musée de Tahiti et des Îles and the new University library. The latter is tiny - with only six book cases and additional shelves along the walls for periodicals. O.R.S.T.O.M had the only significant library, with impressive collections in the fields of botany, archaeology, oceanography, geology and anthropology. Ironically, the most useful publications for my project were produced by the Bishop Museum in Honolulu.

### **Britain (15 March-15 June)**

At the Linnean Society, British Museum, School of Oriental & African Studies, Natural History Museum, Royal Society and the Royal College of Surgeons (London), the Royal Botanic Gardens (Kew), the Fitzwilliam Museum (Cambridge) and the Centre for Kentish Studies (Maidstone) I transcribed the bulk of known letters to or from Solander (879k) and studied his natural history manuscripts. The latter included the first scientific descriptions of the flora and fauna of eastern Australia. I also examined the records of the Swedish Church in London and visited Solander's grave. Finally I retraced some of Solander's English wanderings and part of his journey to and from Iceland with Banks via the Hebrides, Scotland and Orkney. This was done economically by commercial ferries and helped solve part of the problem of getting from Britain to Sweden; I decided to go via Iceland since this remarkable island was very much a part of Solander's life story.

### **Iceland (18 June-9 July)**

In Reykjavik I was fortunate to secure a flat at the University of Iceland. I undertook research at the Landsbókasafn (National Library of Iceland), the Natturufraedistofnun (Natural History Museum) and the library of the University of Iceland. With the help of Dr Anna Agnarsdottir, who is editing a volume of Bank's Icelandic correspondence, I gained access to a wide range of biographical sources relevant to the individuals Solander met in Iceland. These sources were in Icelandic and, as is customary in Iceland, were arranged alphabetically by first name. They could not have been readily accessed by mail from Australia! I also gained some grounding in the flora Solander studied and retraced part of his and Banks' route up Mt Hecla.

### **Sweden (12 July-5 September)**

From Iceland I made my way to Solander's birthplace, Pitea, in northern Sweden. In his hometown I was given access to a rich collection of "Solandriana" owned by a generous local lawyer named Per Tingbrand. I spent a week going through nine large folders in Mr Tingbrand's archives. In the local museum I secured photographs of portraits of Solander's parents. I also visited his father's church.

Solander was probably the first trained botanist to travel through Piteåmark. He made two journeys through Lapland in 1753 and 1756. From Piteå I therefore made a brief but ambitious circle of Lapland. In one day I travelled from the Gulf of Bothnia to Fauske in Norway on the North Sea and also crossed the Arctic Circle. In doing so I roughly followed Linnaeus's route of 1732 and Solander's route of 1753. In a Norwegian library I discovered that the Pastor at Rørstad when Solander visited was the son of the Pastor when Linnaeus visited. This can't have been mere coincidence. Solander almost certainly travelled through the rugged Junkerdalen, the pass which gives access to the Norwegian coast. There was much to interest him. Here Arctic plants are found with temperate species such as *mezereon* and even *cyclamen*. I then followed the Norwegian coast north to Narvik and

crossed back into Sweden to visit Abisko in Solander's footsteps. At Pello in northern Finland a chance observation of the name "Maupertuis" on the map led to a surprising discovery. I had previously done research on Pierre de Maupertuis for my book on Marion Dufresne. He was the uncle of René Magon, governor of Mauritius and second cousin of Marion. Near Pello is a hill called Kitis which Maupertuis used in 1736 to make observations which helped measure the length of a degree between lines of latitude in the Arctic. The results proved Newtonian theory that the earth was an oblate spheroid. At the city library in Rovaniemi I consulted Maupertuis' *La figure de la terre* and Abbe Reginald Outhier's *Journal d'un voyage au nord en 1736 & 1737*. In these works I discovered that the French expedition had visited Pitea and that Anders Celsius (of Centigrade fame) had stayed with the Solander family. From Rovaniemi I returned to Pitea via Overtomia (where Solander collected specimens) and then headed south along the coast to Stockholm. On the way I stayed two nights in Harnosands where I worked at the provincial archives. In the archives I traced his paternal forebears back to 1535 in a nearby hamlet and gained an understanding of his family environment.

While based at the Centre for Pacific Asia Studies, Stockholm University, I undertook further historical research on Solander's early life. I was fortunate to uncover several of his letters in the archives of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences and the Royal Library. At the Karolinska Institute I was particularly excited to have access to the letter Solander wrote to Linnaeus from Rio de Janeiro while on board the *Endeavour*. Stockholm also offered an accessible base for research at Uppsala University where Solander lived and studied under Linnaeus. In addition to my work on Solander, I produced two papers for the Center for Pacific Asia Studies: one on multiculturalism and Asian studies in Australia, the other on Marion Dufresne's voyage to China in 1753-1757. From Stockholm I travelled to southern Sweden and worked at the University of Lund Library (where I found another of Solander's letters) and visited Westra Caraby where Solander spent the winter of 1759-60 before travelling to England.

### Summary

I do not intend to write a book over-loaded with botanical terms. Rather, I want to write a biography which recaptures something of the enquiring spirit of the 18th century naturalists and engenders a better appreciation of our natural heritage. In conjunction with the biography, I am co-editing (with Mr Per Tingbrand of Pitea) a separate volume of Solander's collected correspondence. I have received encouraging indications from Prof. Bertil Nordenstam, Vice President of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, that the Academy is interested in publishing Solander's correspondence. And after a meeting with Prof. Gunnar Broberg of Lund University, I am confident that the Swedish Linnean Society will also support the publication of Solander's correspondence.

From Southern Sweden I took a ferry to Rostock in Germany and travelled via Berlin and Prague to France. I am currently undertaking research for my ancillary project on the voyage of Louis Francois Marie Alleno de Saint-Allouarn to Western Australia in 1772. I am also researching the original French quotations for the French translation of my biography of Marc-Joseph Marion Dufresne (1724-1772).

I wish to express my sincere thanks to the Literature Board for its assistance. Britain, Scandinavia and France are very expensive parts of the world to conduct protracted research. The Category A Fellowship has enabled me to amass a rich trove of documentary material and also see with my own eyes many of the places visited by my 18th century subjects. I feel my writing will benefit greatly from the dual nature of the research undertaken.

CHANGE OF NAME OF SUTHERLAND SHIRE

On Tuesday, June 29, Clr. Ian Swords telephoned me to pass on a message to the Society, which he called "historic trivia", regarding the re-naming of the Shire of Sutherland.

At 5 p.m. on Wednesday, June 30, the Council of the Shire of Sutherland ended. to become known as Council of the Shire of Sutherland Shire; at mid-night the new name, and officially the area, is now Council of Sutherland Shire

Elected representatives, previously aldermen or councillors are now councillors -- the office of Shire President is abolished and our first citizen becomes Mayor Ian Swords.

So now you know we remain Sutherland Shire!

Aileen Griffiths

DO YOU HAVE ANY PHOTOGRAPHS OF WAR TIME CRONULLA?

We have received a special request from Mr. Jim Colwell (who is a member of our Society) on behalf of Cronulla R.S.L. Memorabilia for photographs of Cronulla in war time - especially barbed wire etc. whilst the army was stationed here. If you can help would you please contact Jim on 523-3466.

Those are required for a special display the Group hope to have in Cronulla R.S.L.

Aileen. Griffiths

BAYVIEW HALL - CRONULLA

Vie have had a request for any information available on BAYVIEW HALL, which was at the southern end of Gunnamatta Park where it adjoined the first residential block in Taloombi Street.

My only recollection is as a very small child, but if anyone can assist with further information than I could supply it would be much appreciated. I look forward to hearing from a long-time resident about this early landmark. (Phone 523-5801)

Aileen Griffiths

### EXCURSION REPORT

The May trip to Mittagong proved to be a most outstanding day --the guide, Mrs. Marie Chalker had all the facts at her fingertips and conveyed them to our party in such an interesting way. We surely saw parts of Mittagong the average visitor to the area does not know about.

We are now looking forward, as this Bulletin is being prepared, to being guided around Sylvania to learn "what was" and "what is" from Mrs. Daphne Salt, author of Gateway to the South"; Daphne has been a devoted member of this Society, and especially the display she mounts at Heritage Week each year brings credit to the Society and to herself.

We regret we were unable to complete the arrangements for the Sunday outing suggested for September 26: the wrong information was given to us about "the Sunday" in the month, as only the first Sunday is available. We have now tentatively made a booking for the first Sunday in February, Sunday 6, 1994. Pull details will be given to you later in the year when the outing is finalised.

But, we have arranged our September outing for Saturday September 25, 1993; we will go to the South Coast area. Morning Tea at Mount Keira - then on to Mount Kembla etc., Jamberoo, Saddleback

Mountain, returning via Kiama and Princes Highway. Leaving Cronulla 8 a.m., Sutherland 8.30 a.m., cost to Members \$16.00 and Visitors \$19.00. Terry McCosker will be the Coach Captain and Guide of the day -- Terry who takes us on so many off beat roads on our days out. Terry has been a member of the Society for a number years and asked if he could be our guide for this trip.

Bookings for our outings are with Mrs. Betty McGrath, 521-2227 further information either from Mrs. McGrath or myself on 523-5801

Aileen Griffiths

EXCURSION CONVENER

MAGPIES.

The mother Magpie gets very vicious protecting her young. The late Nurse Murray told me of a very vicious Magpie who had its nest in a tree close to the gateway leading up to Last's home at Gulgong. Some years ago Nurse Murray brought Eddie Last into the world. During one of her frequent visits the Magpie at the gate flew down and knocked her hat off and pecked her all over the head. She had to resort to using her buggy whip to hunt the bird away. Then she saw old Mr Last walking down the long driveway. Mrs Last had not been too well the day before and Nurse Murray thought she might be worse, so she called out to the old man,

"How is she, how is Mrs Last ? "

Mr Last who was very deaf, thought she was speaking of the Magpie and said,

"She's a damn pest. I should have shot the bloody old thing years ago! "

"Goodness gracious, said the nurse, "Don't talk like that what on earth could have happened?"

Contributed by George Heavens of Dubbo.

SPEAKERS

|           |               |               |
|-----------|---------------|---------------|
| September | Karen Pye     | "BANGOR"      |
| October   | Peter Wood    | AGL           |
| November  | Burnam Burnam | Harry Penrith |

COUNCIL OF THE SUTHERLAND SHIRE HISTORICAL SOCIETY. INC

President: Mrs A Griffiths  
34 Richmount St. Cronulla 2230  
Phone: 523-5801

Deputy President: Mr D Archer

Hon Treasurer,: Mr A Hamilton  
Phone: 525-4208

Archivist: Miss D Oliver  
(Represented by Miss H McDonald)

Editor: Mr H Ivers  
Phone: 520-6324

Hon Secretary: Mrs M Blackley  
P.O. Box 389 Phone: 521-1343

Vice-Presidents: Mr J Cutbush  
Mr K Knight

Research: Miss H McDonald  
B/H Phone: 710-0225

Publicity Officer: To be appointed

Hon. Auditor: Mr K Greentree

COMMITTEE

Mrs. A. Cutbush: Messrs A McGrath; A Platfoot; S. Roberts

---

SUTHERLAND SHIRE HISTORICAL SOCIETY BULLETIN

Bulletin copies are supplied to all Branches of the Shire Library; to the Shire President, Shire Clerk and all Councillors; the Royal Australian Historical Society; National Trust (NSW); State Library, NSW; National Library, Canberra; Universities of Sydney and NSW; State Rail Authority; Australia Post Archives; Sydney Water Board Historical Research Unit.

Society Publications are registered with the National Library, Canberra, in accordance with International Standard Serial numbering. This automatically includes copyright to the authors of all articles. The Society's registered number appears on all of the Bulletins, viz ISSN 0586-0261; the Society's occasional publications carry an ISBN number.

Bulletin extracts: Editorial material may be reprinted in other publications provided that acknowledgement is made both to the author and the Society's magazine. Copyright is retained by the author.

Contributions: Members are invited to submit material for inclusion in the Bulletin; this need not be confined to local history, although this is especially welcome. If material is extracted or re-written, please state the source; care should be taken with material still in copyright — and written permission obtained from the author and the publisher. The date on the article or publication will tell you this.



Meetings of the Society are held monthly, on the second Friday, at 7:45 pm at the Council Chambers (2nd floor Admin Building) Eton Street, Sutherland

VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

All correspondence should be addressed to: The Honorary Secretary, Sutherland Shire Historical Society, PO Box 389, Sutherland 2232



# Sutherland Shire Historical Society Inc.

FOUNDED  
1966



VISITORS AND  
INTENDING MEMBERS WELCOME