

SUTHERLAND SHIRE HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY INC  
QUARTERLY BULLETIN

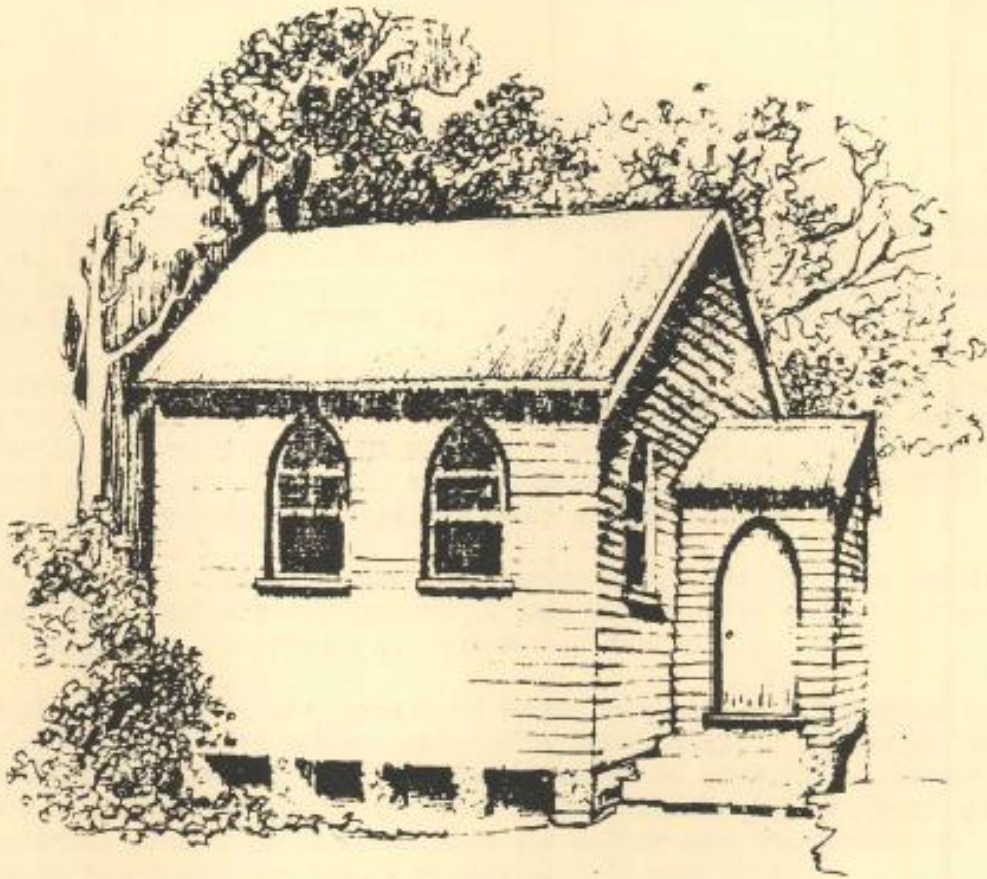
Design by (the late) Fred Widgley



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**St Marks Anglican Church, Sylvania**

Cover illustration from: "St Mark's Sylvania. First Anglican Church in the Sutherland Shire 1901-1976" published for the 75th Anniversary of the laying of the foundation stone.

ARTIST: George Guest

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SUTHERLAND SHIRE HISTORICAL SOCIETY BULLETIN

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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

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CONTENTS

|   |               |     |
|---|---------------|-----|
| PRESIDENT'S REMARKS                               | A. Griffiths  | 85  |
| PROGRAMME   |               | 85  |
| THE PARKE DAVIS STORY (I)                         | G. Heavens    | 86  |
| OLD ST MARK'S CHURCH (SYLVANIA)                   | S.& E. Duyker | 89  |
| THE GOOD OLD DAYS - OR WERE THEY ?                | I. Urquart    | 90  |
| EARLY HISTORY AND THE NSW SCOTTISH RIFLES (I)     | S. Roberts    | 91  |
| COFFEE  | A. Griffiths  | 93  |
| THOSE MAGNIFICENT MEN (VI)                        | A. Cutbush    | 94  |
| UNIVERSAL PROVIDERS                               |               | 96  |
| WOODEN WATERMANS                                  | M. Blackley   | 97  |
| SHARK ATTACKS BOAT                                | G. Heavens    | 99  |
| SYLVANIA PARENTS AND CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION (1935) | G. Heavens    | 99  |
| DAMIEN PARER, ACE PHOTOGRAPHER                    | G. Heavens    | 100 |
| EXCURSION REPORT                                  | A. Griffiths  | 101 |

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Time passes so quickly -- here we are again preparing the last Bulletin for the year -- 1993. Tour Committee hopes you have enjoyed the speakers who have so kindly accepted the invitation to address you.

In this issue will be a reminder notice for 1994 subscriptions for your convenience; with your payment would you please complete the renewal form so that we may ensure your correct address is recorded. Some members have changed their addresses during this year and it has been difficult to trace their new abode. Also, if you wish a receipt to be sent, may we ask for a self-addressed and stamped envelope; otherwise receipts will be given with personal payment, or at meetings if sent to us through the mail.

To those members who have been in ill health during 1993 may we hope the coming year will be kinder to you.

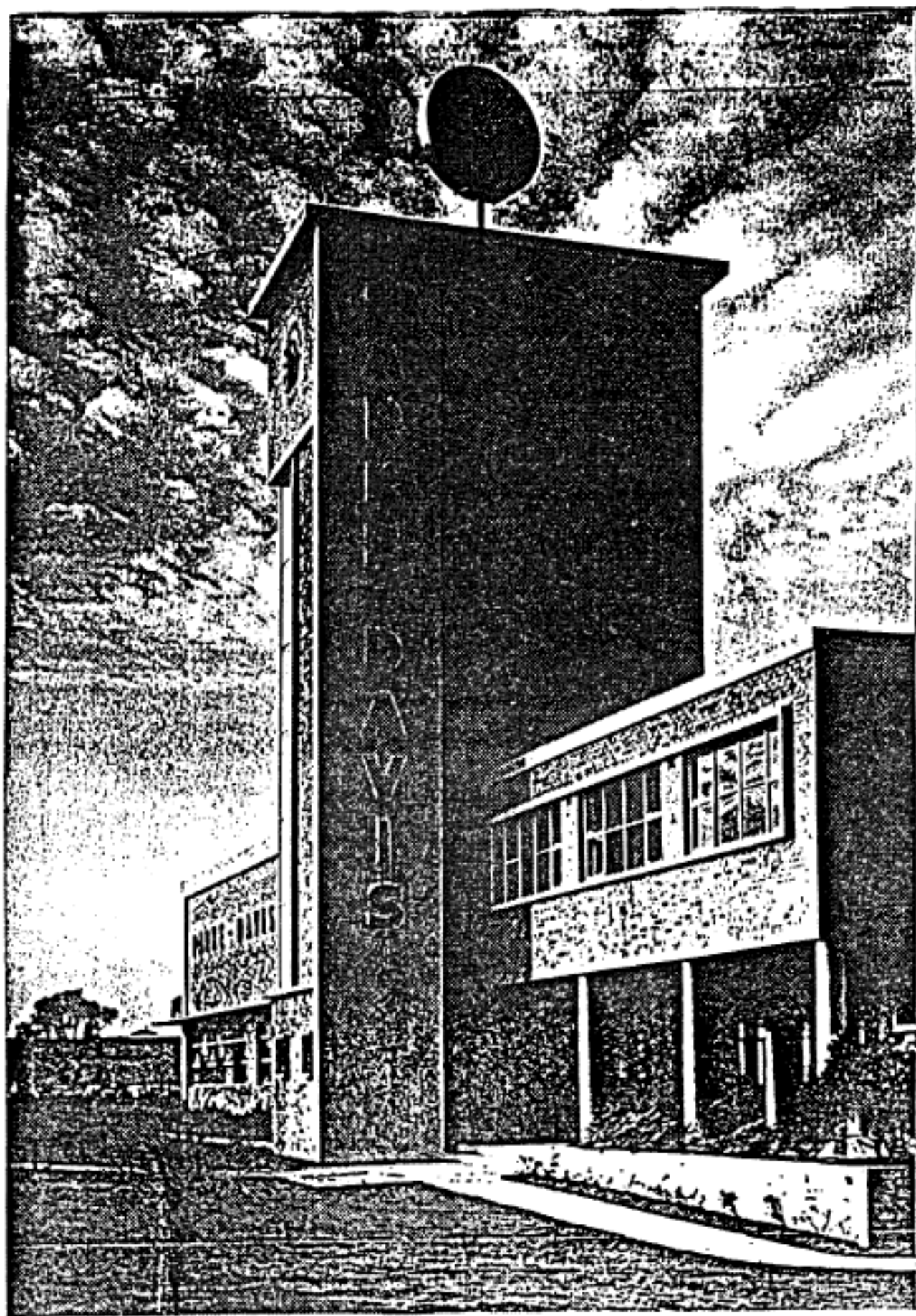
behalf of members of the Executive Committee, I extend greetings to all members for a joyous Christmas Season, and a happy and healthy new year.

*Aileen Griffiths*

PROGRAMME

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| December | Christmas Meeting. Old and new Shire Slides. |
| January  | Members Right                                |
| February | "Local Government"- John Rayner.             |
| March    | Annual General Meeting                       |

# THE PARKE DAVIS STORY



MY INFORMATION BY THE KIND COURTESY OF THE LATE BILL MATSON. PARKE DAVIS 100 YEARS, CAPSULE. CONTACT THE S.C.A.M. PAPER.

THE PARKE DAVIS STORY - PART I  
ONE OF THE SHIRE'S LEADING INDUSTRIES

(Contributed by George Heavens)

The Pharmaceutical Firm of Parke Davis & Co. came to Sutherland Shire in 1954, being officially opened on the 26th November of that year. It was quite an historical occasion for the Shire, thus bringing us an amount of prestige, employment and prosperity. To this extent Parke Davis & Co. has proved to be one of the Shire's great attributes. But let me go back to the beginning. It is a most interesting story - the birth and growth of one of our Shire's best and largest enterprises - Parke Davis & Co.

In the mid 1800s one of the early Pharmacists was a Doctor of Medicine, Samuel P. Duffield - Physician and Pharmacist of Detroit, Michigan. While he was in Germany studying chemistry in the 1850s he came up with the idea of starting a laboratory in his own home town to produce a high quality assortment of chemicals and drugs for the benefit of the



Dr. Samuel P. Duffield

people of the area of Detroit, as well as to enhance his own retail store with a good source of medicines of high quality to give greater efficiency than had been available before. This would give him a better standing in the community, -prestige and a better financial gain.

So, in 1862, as well as running his retail drug store, Dr Duffield started to manufacture drugs. It was one of the first such ventures west of New York and was not received very well by the existing drug manufacturers of that time when the news filtered back east. Having very little capital and poor equipment, no assistance and, to make things more difficult, an undependable source of supply of raw materials, his dreams seemed quite likely to turn out to be void. He entertained one or two business partners for short periods, but with no luck. They were all after the quick buck.

Then in 1866 Dr Duffield met Hervey C. Parke, a man of 38 years, of good appearance, who had the reputation as a good businessman and on the 26th October, 1866 the partnership of Duffield and Parke was formed. Hervey Parke had invested his capital and business acumen in Dr Duffield's dream and it is to this that Parke Davis & Co. traces its roots. Now, from the pen of George A. Bender, where I obtained so much information I carry on this most interesting story.

It was the morning of 26th October, 1866 - a bright sunny Autumn day in Detroit. Business was as usual in the State of Michigan; things began normally. Among the readers of that morning's Detroit Free Press were two men for whom the 26th October was to become a day of destiny. Hervey C. Parke read it with the shrewd eye of a businessman youthful, despite a flowing black beard. He had money to invest and was seeking a solid and sure business to invest in. He had earned this money himself the hard way and did not intend to do anything silly with it. He had returned to Detroit to look for new business opportunities and this little chemical business advertised here was a sound one to put his money into. He glanced at the clock - he had made an appointment for two hours time with this Dr Duffield.

In another part of Detroit, Dr Samuel Duffield sat down wearily for a moment in his laboratory to rest and to glance idly at the newspaper, but his thoughts strayed from the printed pages. He had reason to be discouraged the way things had been going ... discouragement, tinged with hope. What would today bring? New life to his shaky, debt-ridden business, or still more disappointments?

Today, 26th October 1866, he had an appointment with a promising young man, Hervey C. Parke. Mr Parke was reputed to be a sound, conservative businessman and had money to invest. Could his support be gained? The past years had been years of struggle and disappointment. His was the first pharmaceutical manufacturing laboratory established west of New York. The shipping service to and from Detroit was worse than poor. He recalled how proudly he had placed the name "Dr Samuel P. Duffield & Co." over the door in 1865; even now the "& Co." over the door was his copper still, capable of turning out two barrels of alcohol a day, an ammonia press, a hand-hydraulic press, a few bottles and utensils. The laboratory was a dreary little place indeed. Its production was limited, but sales were even a greater problem. Physicians were frankly sceptical of this little new company in a backwoods city and also of a man of their profession, who made and tried to sell medicines. On top of all this, how, Dr Duffield wondered, could he divide his attention between the exacting scientific demands of the laboratory and the highly competitive and time consuming task of selling.

Dr Duffield turned his thoughts from the discouraging past and looked forward to the day's prospect. Would Mr Parke take over a partnership interest in the business? Would he be willing to invest his money, so sorely needed if the business was to survive? Would Parke be willing to work along with the scientifically-minded physician toward sound building and expansion, or would he too, expect quick profits and become dissatisfied in a few short months? Dr Duffield had faced these questions before, but he resolved to try again.

On that day 26th October, 1866, Dr Samuel P. Duffield and Hervey C. Parke signed papers agreeing to become equal partners in the manufacture and sale of chemicals in the city of Detroit. It was a decision that Dr Duffield was never to regret.

To these events the house of Parke Davis & Co. traces its beginning. The partnership that launched Duffield & Parke proved to be a good one. Dr Duffield, the 33 year old scientist with little business acumen, managed the equipment and manufacturing phases of the operation. Mr Parke, though only 38 years old, was regarded by his friends and business acquaintances as careful and conservative

and a safe and legitimate financier. Parke's share was one undivided half interest in the laboratory, buildings and real estate. This equal partnership was to continue indefinitely so long as it is for the said partners to prosecute the said business. But some serious problems remained.

Some eastern firms, in a move to crush this upstart company in Detroit, were allowing extended credit to wholesale and retail druggists. Duffield and Parke needed an aggressive sales programme if the company was to survive. So they started looking for a salesman with the ability to sell in this highly competitive drug field. They quickly realised that neither sound financial control nor laboratory equipment could earn profits unless the product could be sold.

Early in 1867 Duffield and Parke found the right man. He was George S. Davis who, at the age of 22, already had had several years of selling experience with a Detroit wholesale drug firm. A small man, dark haired, a neat dresser and a bachelor, George Davis was energetic and aggressive. It is said he had an almost irresistible selling approach. So, Mr Davis was taken into the partnership by Duffield and Parke on 7th May, 1867. Davis thought big and had progressive ideas. He was determined to impress the pharmaceutical and medical fields and to make the company name well known.

Some difficulties occurred. Dr Duffield began to feel the adverse effects of six years in a poorly ventilated laboratory. His family life had been neglected and his wife became ill, as well as some new equipment had to be bought to keep the little business going. A year later, on 14th January, 1869, Dr Duffield withdrew from the company. He felt his wife's health and the needs of his family required his full time. Now the company's course was uncertain.

TO BE CONTINUED

## **Old St Mark's Church**

(Cnr Ellis St. & Princes Hwy, Sylvania)

by

Edward and Susan Duyker

### **History:**

The first Anglican services in Sylvania began in a private home about 1900 with the ministry of the Rev. W.K. Bowers, Rector of St Paul's Kogarah. Land for the new St Mark's Parish Church was acquired for £30 near the ferry landing (eventually replaced by Tom Ugly's Bridge). The church, constructed mainly with voluntary local labour, was a small timber Gothic structure. The foundation stone was laid by the Rev. Dr Manning on 25 September 1901 and the simple church was apparently completed within six weeks, since it was dedicated by the then Anglican Archbishop William Saumarez-Smith on 6 November 1901. The parishioners of St Phillip's, Church Hill, donated a bible, prayer books and hymnals. A cross finial on the gable (now missing) and window guards (now missing) were completed in 1926. A variety of oak furnishings were installed in the late 1920s and the building was electrified in 1928. At some later stage the church was more than doubled in size by an extension. It remained a place of worship until 7 April 1963 when the new St Mark's Church (designed by Leonie Dockerill) was dedicated. It then functioned as church hall. The building now houses a pre-school. In May 1993 the entire church site was acquired by the New South Wales Department of School Education to enable Sylvania Public School to amalgamate its infants and juniors on one site undivided by the Princes Highway. The Department is seeking a demolition order.

### **Description (excluding extension):**

The interior of the old church features a moulded surbase at sill height. The dado is lined with vertical tongue-and-groove boards (probably of Australian cedar). Above the moulded surbase the lining is of horizontal tongue-and-groove boards. The inner walls are 3260 mm high. The eastern wall is intact above 2350 mm. The north and south walls each have two simple lancet Gothic-style timber framed windows (1800 x 900) with three panes. The central pane functions as an inward hopper opening. One of the northern windows has remnants of a tracery pattern painted on the glass. There are lozenge-shaped Holland blind brackets to the sides of each window. The west wall features similar but narrower (1750 x 600) Gothic windows and a central Gothic doorway leading to a small vestibule of lined horizontal cedar boards. The ceiling of horizontal tongue-and-groove is raked on the sides and flat under the collar ties. Below the ceiling, above the opposing Gothic windows, are two horizontal iron ties, with central forged hangers. There are pendant light fittings of frosted glass dating from the late 1920s in each of the three bays created by the iron ties. The floor is of hardwood boards 135 mm wide and in excellent condition. It is covered in masonite and carpet. Kitchen benches and cupboards appear to have been added in the south-western corner in the mid-1960s. With the exception of the small vestibule which is varnished, the walls and ceiling are painted. The timber is in fair condition.

The exterior of the building is clad in feather-edged weather-boards, approximately 170 mm wide in fair to poor condition. The barge boards on the gable extend beyond the eaves and are partially chamfered. The barge boards on the vestibule gable are also chamfered. One barge board has a surviving squared decorative piece. In all probability all the gables were originally decorated in the same manner. The pitched roof is of corrugated iron in poor condition. The entrance door is of solid framed construction in Australian cedar and in Gothic style. The building is set on monolithic sandstone piers. The original sandstone foundation stone, however, has recently been removed and replaced by a brick pier.

### **Significance:**

Old St Mark's church is the oldest Anglican church in Sutherland Shire and the oldest building in Sylvania (since the demolition of the historic toll house in 1974). It is



intimately connected with the religious, civic and cultural heritage of the suburb. The front (1901) part of the church has aesthetic significance as a substantially intact weather-board building with internal tongue-and-groove cladding, Gothic style windows and doors and sandstone footings.

In contrast to the Education Department's proposal to demolish the old church, Sylvania Public School's Amalgamated Site Planning Initiatives Committee (ASPIC), has expressed a strong desire to retain the original part of the structure, demolish the more recent additions and restore the building for use as an arts and crafts centre. In its present position, however, it is overshadowed by the newer brick church. Many parents favour moving the original structure some metres to the south-west so that it will better compliment the cluster of vernacular timber school buildings dating back to 1924. This will also allow more effective use of the former church grounds. The Education Department has demonstrated some degree of receptiveness to this proposal as a compromise measure.

### **Bibliography:**

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### THE GOOD OLD DAYS - OR WERE THEY?

Before coming to this beautiful shire I lived in the St. George area. I can remember before the railway line was finished from Sutherland to Cronulla there was a bus service from Hurstville to Cronulla.

My goodness what a difference these days! Of course the price of things was vastly different too - you could buy a leg of lamb for 11 pence, or a shoulder and chops for the same price. Although this sounds unbelievable still many people did not have the money to purchase life's necessities as the depression was making its presence felt in the 1930's and many were unemployed. There was no money for the thousands of unemployed then - food coupons (or vouchers) were handed out. I wonder if money is the answer to young folk leaving school today.

Of course no one wants to see suffering but I wonder if a couple of days labour helping to beautify the gardens around the shire or other work encouraging pride in the area in which they live wouldn't be a better idea than the loss of pride in accepting handouts. Maybe being old I'm out of touch with such matters but I do care and wonder what the future holds.

When reflecting back to the St. George area we visited the sick and lonely and the aged as members of St. John's Church Penshurst- we'd scrub floor, sweep the paths and go messages (like members of St. John's Sutherland do these days.) Mothers were home more in those days, but there again circumstances alter cases and many a mother goes to work now to help maintain the home and a living standard for the family. At one time a home could be bought for five hundred pounds - and now the same home could cost \$180,000 plus. Just how can the young folk these days afford that?

Ivy Urquart - Kirrawee.

EARLY HISTORY AND THE NSW SCOTTISH RIFLES  
1885 – 1914      PART I

The military history of Australia differs from that of Canada and South Africa in that, from 1788 until the rise of Japan in the twentieth century, the country was able to develop peacefully, free from both external threats of invasion and from Aboriginal revolts.

Throughout that period the only incident involving the active use of troops was the affair of the Eureka Stockade at Ballarat, during the gold rush in 1854. There was an armed insurrection of the "diggers", owing to their resentment of the imposition of a license fee for prospecting, and especially the methods used to collect that fee, which ended in a fight with a small number of British Regulars. Casualties on both sides were said to have numbered about a hundred. Peter Lalor, who led the diggers, instead of meeting the usual fate of a rebel in non-British countries, eventually held ministerial offices in the Government.

The story of Volunteering (unpaid) in NSW is inextricably bound up with that of the Scottish Rifles, which is not only the oldest of the existing Volunteer Regiments in NSW, if not in Australia, but was for years the only volunteer corps in the State. It is true that in earlier days Volunteer Corps had existed in NSW but their origin was emotional, their brief lives fitful and spasmodic. Decline soon set in, and demise happened at a very early period, or was warded off only by the adoption of some system of payment.

For example, the Crimean War scare brought about the formation in 1864 of the 1st NSW Rifle Volunteers, as well as a troop of Cavalry and a Battery of Artillery: the uniform was unattractive and dismal and the cost had to be borne by the members. The Russian War scare died out in 1856 and so did the Volunteers.

In 1859 outbreaks of war in New Zealand and elsewhere revived interest in Volunteering and in the latter part of 1860 Volunteer Corps were again formed on easier conditions - amongst the prime movers was Mr. (afterwards Sir William) Windever. The uniform of the infantry was grey with black facings. The disappearance of the war clouds however

soon caused interest to droop and the Volunteer force commenced to dwindle away and its early failure was certain if conditions could not be altered.

This second death of military service was averted by killing the unpaid Volunteer system, for by the Volunteer Act of 1867 every volunteer of 5 years continuous efficient service was given an order entitling him to a grant of 50 acres of freehold land. The efficiency conditions were not great and the recompense proved to be extremely attractive. The beer cart, supplied by the Government was also an attractive accessory. Even in 1877 the right to the land grant sold for 122 pounds, and much higher prices were realised later.

These conditions existed when the Duke of Edinburgh's Highlanders were formed in 1868. This Scottish Corps only survived for 10 years - disappearing in 1878 when the Volunteer Land Order System came to an end.

Another experiment was therefore decided upon: this was the partially paid or Militia system which was introduced in 1878. The pay varied from 10/- per day Privates (including 9 days continuous training at Easter) to considerably more than 100 pounds per year (including Horse Allowance and Command money) for the officer commanding a Battalion. Naturally with such generous treatment the Partially Paid flourished.

This was the state of affairs in NSW Military circles in 1885, when another Russian war scare evoked fitful patriotism - the NSW Military Forces then comprised in total:-

Permanent and Garrison Artillery

Partially paid Engineers

Four Infantry Regiments

Total strength about 2,400 personnel.

Out of this revival of interest sprang the Sydney Lancers (one squadron), various companies forming the District Reserves, and the Scottish Rifles.

The formation of the Scottish Rifles will be dealt with in the next issue.

From: "In All Things Faithful" - by kind permission of the publisher, Sam lire-Smith. From Stewart Roberts' Collection.

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### C O F F E E

The practice of roasting and grinding the coffee beans to make an infusion was started in Arabia as early as the twelfth century. In spite of the Arabs' efforts to control the supply, pilgrims managed to smuggle out quantities of the green coffee beans.

Coffee was soon being grown in all the areas surrounding-Mecca and Medina. and by the fifteenth century its cultivation had spread to Persia, Egypt, Turkey and North Africa.

Coffee houses sprang up everywhere and were soon criticised for being centres of immorality and vice.

When coffee was first introduced into Europe the clergy in Rome appealed to Pope Clement VIII to have coffee banned, calling it the

Devil's drink", but the Pope liked it so much that he gave it his blessing.

Soon the first European coffee houses opened and became popular

meeting places for intellectuals, merchants, etc. and shipping exchanges owed their beginnings to coffee houses.

By the eighteenth Century coffee was being grown by the Dutch in Java and the French were growing it in the Caribbean. The French were very possessive of the seeds, but a Brazilian spy seduced the wife of the Governor of French Guyana and she gave him sufficient coffee seeds to found Brazil's coffee industry.

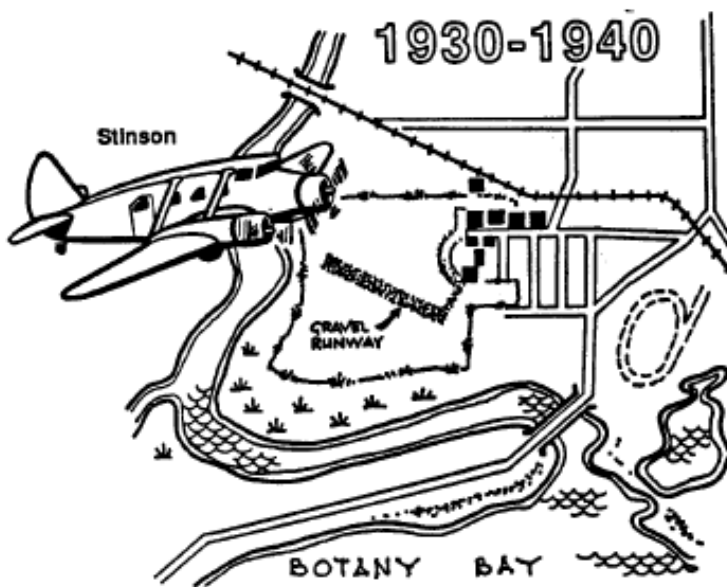
Aileen Griffiths

## THOSE MAGNIFICENT MEN --PART VI

### A Story of Sydney Airport

(Ada Cutbush Collection)

AMY JOHNSON was the first woman to fly from England to Australia and she landed at Mascot in 1930. By now flying had become a serious business and an accepted form of transport. Consequently, the bigger American aircraft like the DC-3 and the Stinson were being ordered by airlines and the boggy paddocks at Mascot were becoming less able to cater for the growing numbers of aircraft. A gravel runway was subsequently built and more safety regulations were introduced. But cows still had to be herded off the field — and some pilots were becoming greatly concerned about the risk of being hit by golf balls when they flew over the nearby golf course.



Local residents and councils were happy to have this fast-developing airport so close to the city and, by the end of the 1930s, the first real passenger terminal and control tower had been built.

when World War II started, Australia's need to build and repair aircraft increased dramatically and a growing number of factories and work-shops opened in Mascot.

Lights and navigational beacons were installed at the aerodrome, radio and weather forecasting equipment was developed and

three new bitumen runways were constructed. By now much bigger aircraft like the Douglas DC-4 and the Lockheed Constellation were using Mascot — and the runways were subsequently extended. The first international passenger flight after the war was made by Pan Am in 1947 — and this heralded in many new services and developments.

#### AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL

Until the development of radios during World War II, the Air Traffic Control had been a relatively simple affair — flag signals or red, white and green lights flashed from a simple tower. These days jet planes have to be closely monitored — and every stage of their flight is looked after by a different Ground Controller. There are two different types of Controller who work in the top of the Control Tower, namely, the Ground Controller and the Tower Controller — the former is responsible for aircraft or vehicles moving on the taxiways and aprons, while the latter is responsible for aircraft taking off or landing and also for any aircraft or vehicle wanting to move across a runway.

Others involved in the general running include the Approach Controller, who monitors planes arriving at the airport and ensures that they are safely spaced apart and are lined up for the correct runway. The Departures Controller directs aircraft which are taking off. One of the most important jobs is that of the Flow Controller who must maintain contact with all of the others and who must have a total view of all air traffic. He must be ready to deal with any emergency which may arise at any time.

cont'd

## THE NEW RUNWAY AT SYDNEY AIRPORT

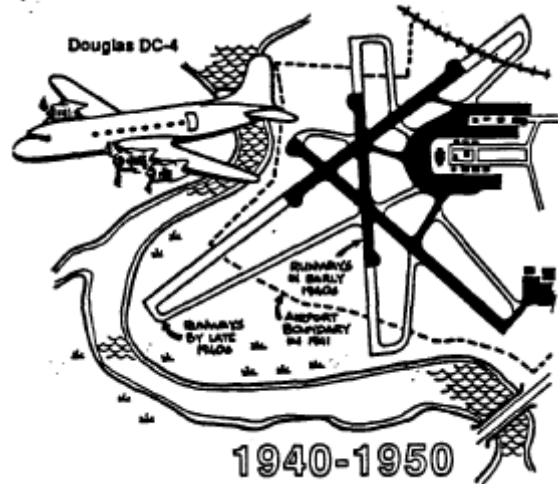
(Report from the FAC)

THE NEW RUNWAY will be 1037 metres to the east of and running parallel to the existing north/south runway. It will start on the edge of Botany Bay and will extend 3200 metres south into the bay with an operating length of 2400 metres. Its threshold will be more than two kilometres farther south than the top end of the adjacent runway, so that aircraft will be higher on approach than at present.

The runway will provide Sydney Airport with an increased capacity of at least 30% — thus enabling it to handle a peak of up to 340 000 annual aircraft movements and 30 million passengers a year.

It will dramatically reduce the frequency and length of delays at the airport, particularly for the arrivals. It will create 26000 new jobs, indirectly, and will lead to an additional 1-million jobs in the tourism industry over the next ten years.

It will result in increased safety at the airport as a parallel runway configuration is safer and far more efficient than the cross-runway system. The number of Sydney residents affected by aircraft noise is expected to decrease by more than 50% — and residents to the east and west of the airport should benefit as about 98% of operations will be north/south.



### THE IMMORTAL SMITHY

Acknowledged world-wide as one of the greatest airmen of them all, Sir Charles Kingsford Smith — 'Smithy' to all the world — pioneered the way and blazed the trail for safe long-distance flying. His achievements are legend.



Born in Brisbane on 9 February 1897 Smithy was fascinated with aviation from a very early age. In World War I he enlisted in the Army and served in the Infantry at Gallipoli. Later he joined the Royal Flying Corp and was shot down in combat over France. He was awarded the Military Cross by King George V for his deeds in action.

In 1928, while in America, Smithy negotiated for the purchase of a Fokker (Tri-motor) monoplane which had been designed for use in polar exploration by Sir Hubert Wilkins and named it THE SOUTHERN CROSS. During an unsuccessful attempt on the world's non-fuelling record, Smithy conceived the idea of a pilot flight across the Pacific from America to Australia. After innumerable setbacks and frustrations, which would have deterred many a lesser man, Smithy and co-pilot Charlie Ulm took off from San Francisco with Harry Lyon (navigator) and Jim Warner (radio operator) on 31 May 1928.

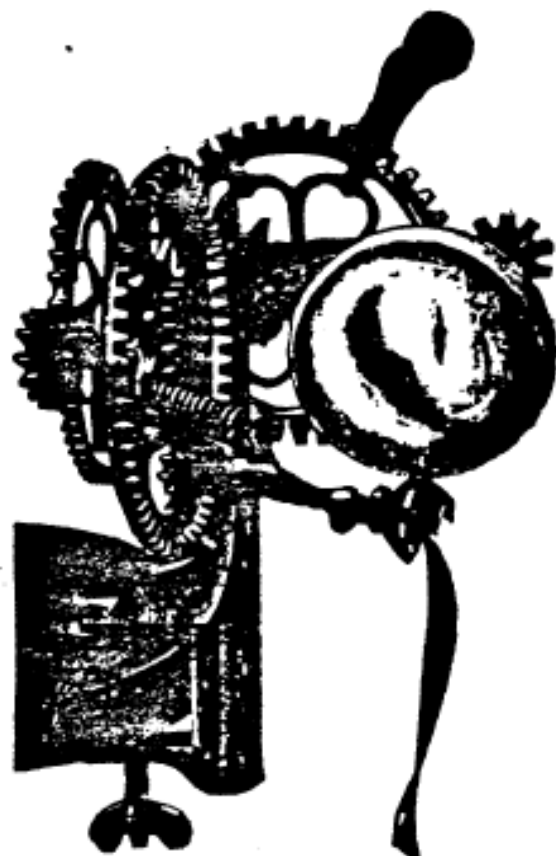
THE SOUTHERN CROSS touched down in Brisbane after 83 hours and 42 minutes in the air — the most brilliant feat of flying and navigation in the history of aviation had been achieved ... and by an AUSTRALIAN. For outstanding service to the progress of long-distance aviation, Smithy was knighted in 1932 by His Majesty, King George V.

TO BE CONTINUED ...

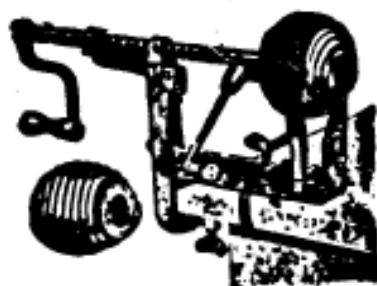
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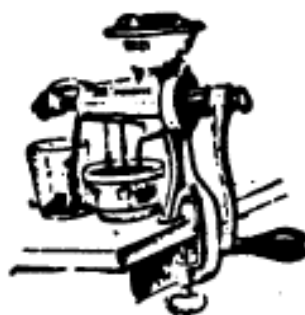


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## WOODEN WATERMAINS

### - THEY SEEMED LIKE A GOOD IDEA AT THE TIME!

In 1888 the newly formed Water Board took control of Sydney's water supply system and one of the problems facing them was corrosion in the cast and wrought-iron mains.

Around the turn of the century the problem was so bad that an urgent solution was sought. At the same time steel for the larger mains was in short supply.

A company called the Australian Wood Pipe Company Limited was successful in getting a contract to supply the Board with the rather unusual woodstave pipes.

Lucky for the Australian Wood Pipe Company Limited the Department of Consumer Affairs did not exist. In their brochure they promised to solve all manner of problems with their new wood pipe.

Only a short time had passed when the Board realized they had a brand new set of problems to contend with.

By this stage some of the large mains had been constructed of woodstave pipes and there was much embarrassment as white ant damage made the steel corrosion problem look miniscule.

Aside from the white ant problem the pipes had a faulty joint design. They were susceptible to infection and growth of fungoids, producing condition generally known as "dry rot". The pipes also failed after extensive use, resulting from corrosion of binding wire.

Many engineers and managers of the Board sent memos to the Woodstave pipe supplier detailing problems they were having.

The company responded by improving the pipe. In the mid-twenties Australian hard-wood timber "karri" was used in lieu of the imported soft wood "oregon" and the wood was treated to protect it from termite and fungus attack.

A new collar to hold the wood together was designed and made of cast iron. Still there were problems of shrinkage when the mains were de-watered for maintenance.

Even with the improvements, collars on the mains often broke and repair work was never ending.

The woodstave mains were never used as trunk mains and were unsuitable in areas of high water pressure. Nor could they be laid under roads which had heavy traffic.

Although introduced as a means overcoming the problem of internal corrosion in pipe mains, the woodstave mains had not proved entirely successful.

By 1934, with the development of alternatives, no new mains of this type were laid and those previously laid were replaced.

-- "Aquarian", July 1990

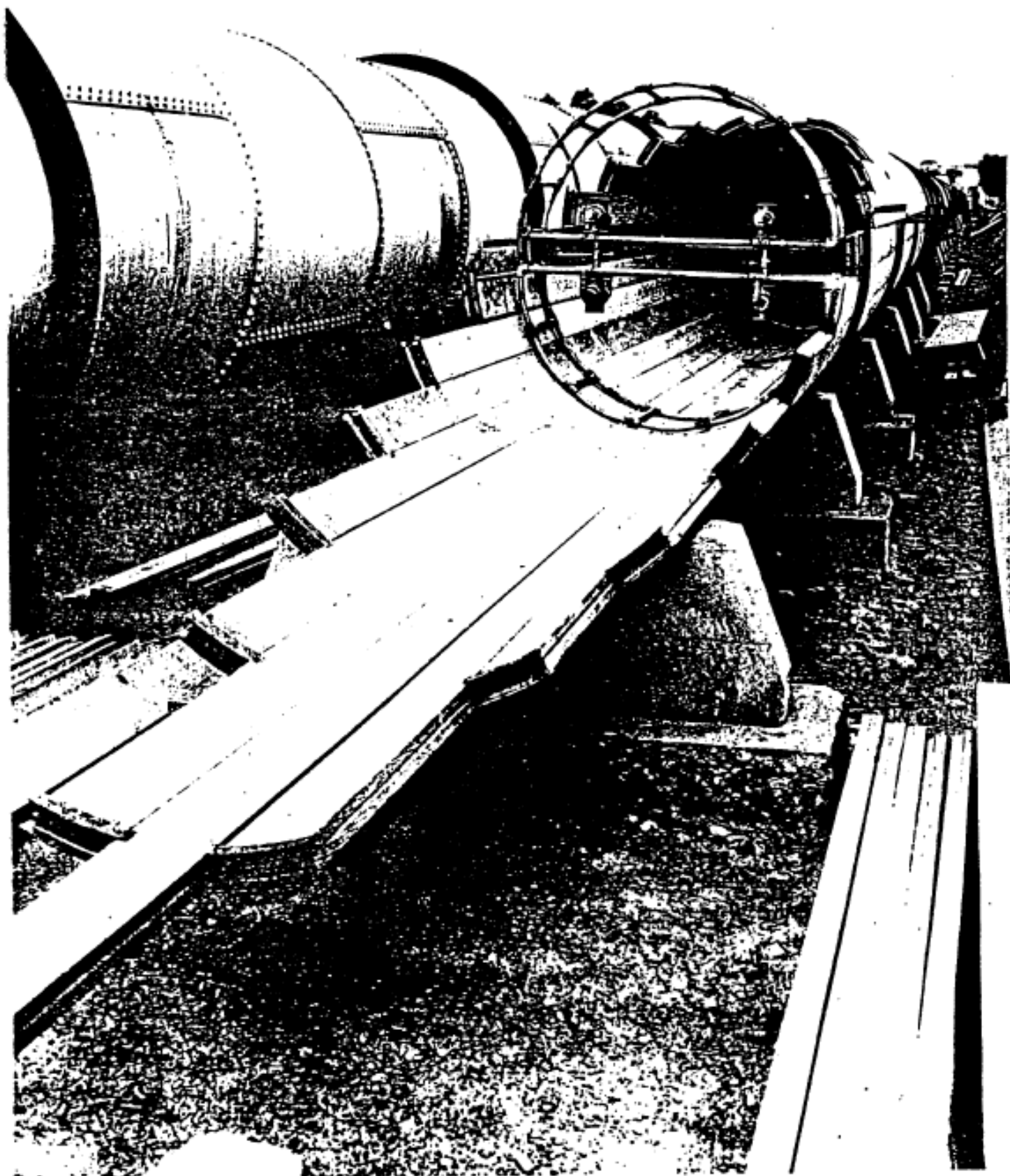
## WOODEN WATERMAINS - OF LOCAL INTEREST

In 1931 Woodstave pipes were laid from the Woronora outlet main (Cnr Flora Street and Old Princes Highway, Sutherland) to the Engadine Reservoir (Princes Highway near Boronia Avenue, Engadine).

Although this was a trunk main it appears to be planned as an outlet/inlet main as tees were left at locations along the route of the main for reticulation off-takes. These were placed at: Waratah Road, Chaldara Avenue, Anzac Avenue in Engadine and at Myrtle Street, Spur Crescent, Orchid Street, Lilac Street, Tenth Avenue, Sixth Avenue, Second Avenue in Loftus.



A WOODEN WATERMAIN BEING CONSTRUCTED



Residents themselves ran the pipes from the main to their properties. Mr Chadwick dug his own trench to his poultry farm in Spur Crescent. Mr Chadwick was the Captain of the Bush Fire Brigade; the headquarters and look-out was on his property. Mr Assenhein ran pipes from the main to his home, garden and tennis court from the Sixth Avenue main. The tennis court and the home of Mr and Mrs Assenhein were the centre of the early Loftus 'social' life.

As stated earlier the mains were not satisfactory and the woodstave pipes from Sutherland to Engadine were replaced in 1961.

Not until 1976 was the sewer line extended to Loftus.

Information courtesy Ron Peck of the Historical Research Unit of the Water Board. Local information - M. Blackley.

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### SHARK ATTACKS BOAT

#### CAUGHT FROM ANOTHER LAUNCH

Four fishermen had an exciting experience off Cronulla on Wednesday, when a blue pointer shark, 11 ft. in length, was caught after it had attacked a boat.

William and Leslie Newton set out in an 18 ft. launch early Wednesday morning on a fishing trip. They went about five miles out to sea. Shortly afterwards their brother, Stanley Newton, and Ken Munro went out in a 35 ft. launch. The two boats were allowed to drift about 200 yards from each other. Suddenly the smaller boat was attacked by a shark. It snapped at the rudder and bumped into the boat.

A line was set from the larger boat and the shark took the bait. After a struggle of about an hour, the shark was towed to the shore.

S.C.A.M. 1935 - G.H. Heavens

### SYLVANIA PARENTS AND CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION

On Wednesday evening last, July 4th, the above association held their first social and euchre party in the "Boomerang Hall", Sylvania. About 80 persons attended. Our ever popular and genial M.C., Mr L. Gardiner, was in charge of the floor, and things under his direction went swimmingly. The euchre tables were well patronised. The ladies' first euchre prize, donated by Mrs Mills, was won by Mrs L. Gardiner. The gents' first prize, donated by Mrs J. McKern, was won by Mrs U. Dunn.

The booby prizes, donated by Mrs J. McGrath, were won by Mrs MacFie and Mr Geo. Smith. The lucky door prize, donated by Mrs Goman, was won by Mrs W. Dunn. A set of d'oyleys, donated by Mrs George Smith, was won by Mr S. Butler, Gynea Bay. The weight guessing competition prize, donated by Mrs Ern. Edwards, was won by Mrs J. Dooley.

The social committee also desire to thank those persons who, by donations of refreshments, personal help, etc. contributed to make the evening a social and financial success. The association will benefit to the extent of £3. This is very creditable for their first social, and if things continue as they have began, well, the school can look forward to a very happy time. The social committee have before them a very comprehensive itinerary for a number of entertainments, and they feel assured that the citizens and parents of Sylvania and surrounding districts will rally to their aid. The membership of the Parents and Citizens' Association is open to all in the Sylvania School area; so come along and join. The contribution is only one shilling per annum. The association meets on the second Monday in the month in the Sylvania School, and all are welcome.

Now watch the "S.C.A.M" very closely for some startling announcements.

Any person desiring any information re the activities of the association can obtain same by applying to the President, G. Weber Esq.; the Hon. Treas., Mrs Ern. Edwards or the Hon. Sec., Mrs A.J. Goman.

S.C.A.M. 1935

- G:H. Heavens

### DAMIEN PARER, ACE PHOTOGRAPHER

Somewhere on an island in the Pacific, there is a simple grave marked with a white cross, just one of the many in an American War Cemetery.

As the slanting rays of the sun fall upon the inscription, one may read these simple lines:  
Damien Parer, War Photographer, Killed in Action, September 17, 1944.

His brilliant photographic epic as filmed in the Middle East and New Guinea, filmed under fire, and under the most adverse of climatic conditions, will remain forever treasures in the archives of the Australian Film Industry.

Australia has almost forgotten, but he is still fervently remembered in the hearts and minds of his friends. His mildness of voice, and politeness of manner, remains fresh in memory. Until the outbreak of war he was practically unheard of. He was sent to the Middle East as Australian Official "Still" Photographer with the Department of Information. It was not long before he switched to his first love, "Motion Pictures". He remained with the Department until 1943, when, owing to unforeseen circumstances, he resigned. Paramount News, realising that here was an Australian of unusual ability, promptly signed him up.

He was first and foremost an Australian, and loved his country. He died a genius in his field, but an outcast to the country he loved so well.

At the time of his death he had started negotiations with his employers to permit him to return to the Australian Theatre of the Pacific War.

At Salamauer he left his camera and equipment to help out the wounded.

His films, "The Assault on the Salamauer", "Guerillas of Timor", "Bismark Sea Battle" and "The Kokoda Front Line" will live long in the minds of people.

He has passed on, but he has left a grand record of achievements and to his son, a heritage.

S.C.A.M. - E. Edwards

Contributed by G.H. Heavens

### EXCURSION REPORT

The South Coast tour in September was a delightful day and we saw many places not previously visited by some of our members and friends. Thank you, Terry McCosker for your input.

The tour on Saturday November 20 is to Wolgan Valley -- there are a few seats left as this Bulletin is being prepared and if you wish to join the group please see Mrs. Betty McGrath at the meeting, or Phone 521-2227. We will be leaving Cronulla at 7 a.m., and Sutherland 7.30 a.m. -- to take advantage of the daylight saving for a long trip. Cost to members will be \$22.00 and to visitors \$25.00. As always, please take your morning tea and luncheon requirements.

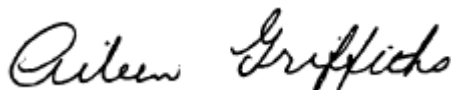
On SUNDAY February 6, 1994, we will visit Garden Island and its Museum, followed by the postponed trip to Waverley Cemetery. In both places we will have a guide accompanying us.

This outing is only available on the first Sunday of the month to Garden Island and there are a number of conditions with which to comply -- to date I have not received the written confirmation, although I have received verbal advice of our booking being registered, but I do know one of the requirements is "closed shoes". We will leave Cronulla at 8.30 a.m., Sutherland 9 a.m. and have morning tea prior to arriving at the Island. At the conclusion of that section of our day out we will have luncheon before going on to, the Cemetery.

Take Morning Tea and Lunch needs, as usual, please.

Members of the Excursion Committee thank you for your support in 1993 and hope this will continue in 1994.

Bookings - Mrs. Betty McGrath, 521-2227 -.141 Loftus Ave., Loftus; Information either Mrs. McGrath or myself, at 523-5801



Excursion Committee Convener

# Sutherland Shire Historical Society

FOUNDED  
1966

