

SUTHERLAND SHIRE HISTORICAL
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Design by (the late) Fred Widgeley



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COVER STORY.

Louisa May Jane Cutbush and her eldest son of five children Neville Cutbush standing along-side a dirt track in 1916 which is now Ewos Parade, South Cronulla. On the left hand side of Mrs. Cutbush is the beginning of Oak Park and the dirt track going off to the right of Neville Cutbush is Rose Street, where the Cutbush Family were living in 1916. In 1916 the population of the Cronulla area was approx. 1500 people.

Mrs. Louisa Cutbush was the Grandmother of Jim Cutbush (The Bulletin Editor) and Neville Cutbush his Uncle was Greenkeeper at Cronulla Golf Links until his retirement.

COUNCIL OF THE SUTHERLAND SHIRE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, Inc.

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SUTHERLAND SHIRE HISTORICAL SOCIETY BULLETIN

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Meetings of the Society are held monthly, on the third Friday, at 7.45pm at the Multi-Purpose Building, Flora Street. Sutherland (next to Council Car Park.)

VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

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PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Although February Bulletin makes it a little belated, "Happy and Healthy New Year to all members":

We have been honoured by the acceptance of our invitation for a Guest Speaker by Mr. Douglas Sutherland, A.M., former Lord. Mayor of Sydney; to enable him to accept it was necessary to meeting in March, 1977 -- therefore we have changed the date of the Society ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING to April 18, 1997, instead of March as is customary. Please be sure to make a note of the changed date, and to be at the March s d' April Meetings.

In this edition of the Bulletin you will find the Annual Report and Balance Sheet -- please peruse them and if you have any questions about the activities or finances, you will be ready to enquire at the Annual Meeting.

I am not seeking re-election as your President as I feel I have been in this position too long and you desperately need a change.

It was my great honour to have been nominated to the Committee on the Society's inaugural evening by the late Mr. David Kirkby, M.B.E and in the following years serve as Committeeman, Hon. Treasurer, Hon. Secretary, Senior Vice-President, Deputy President and for the past seven years, your President. Mr. Kirkby referred to my family being pioneers of the District, and I have always kept this in mind as I have tried to keep the history of the Shire, and in particular, Cronulla, before everyone.

I do implore the newer members, and those who have not previously served on the Executive Council to offer themselves to do so. It is very, very rewarding.

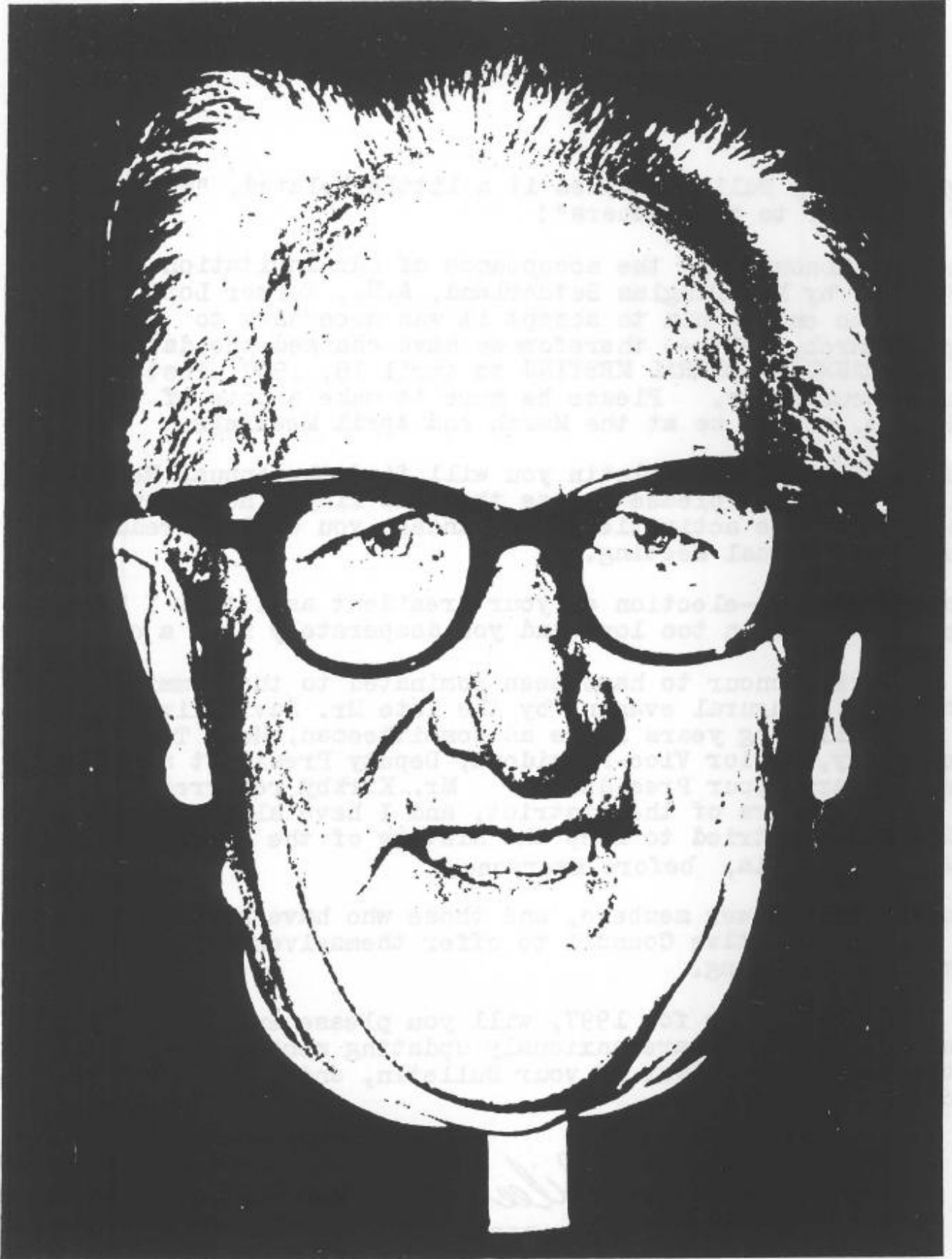
As you are paying subs for 1997, will you please ensure you include the renewal form as we are anxiously updating members addresses, to prevent the non-arrival of your Bulletin, and any contact we need to make to you.

Aileen Griffiths O.A.M.

PRESIDENT

GUEST SPEAKERS

<u>February:</u>	Mr. Eric Suann	"Oh: That a Lovely War"
<u>March:</u>	Mr. Douglas Sutherland, A.M. (Former Lord Mayor of Sydney)	
<u>April:</u>	ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING	
<u>May:</u>	Mr. Allan Cameron, B.E.M. (History of the Voyager Disaster)	



FATHER THOMAS VINCENT DUNLEA.
FOUNDER OF BOYS TOWN ENGADINE

FATHER DUNLEA & BOW'S TOWN.

Father Dunlea, the 12th child of Bridget and Michael Dunlea of County Tipperary, Ireland. He was ordained as a Priest on Sunday the 20th June 1920 and shortly after that time sailed for Sydney, Australia.

Here he celebrated his first mass at St Francis Church Surry Hills. Next door to the Presbytery there was the shelter for boys who had attended the Children's Court, it was here that I suggest began his concern for the then under privileged boys, that led to his dream of building a foundling home for such boys, where they could find help and the understanding they so badly needed. In those years 1920s to 1930s poverty was terrible, especially around the area where the Father was living. That period just before the great depression 1929 to 1939.

But it wasn't until 1934 that Cardinal Gilroy selected Father Dunlea as the Parish Priest of Sutherland. and this is when we folk of the whole of Sutherland Shire began to know him.

By this time the Depression was in full swing, about at its worst, hundreds of families had been turned out of their homes around Sydney and the close suburbs. And many of these families had moved to Sutherland, and a great many lived in the bush like Arabs, in self erected humpies built from rubbish acquired from the Garbage Tip over the railway line at the end of first avenue/ Loftus. These were erected illegally, where the now Sports Complex and Swimming Baths are along the Mad Mile, (Princes Hwy) and some went to Grays Point, a second class area at that time.

With these families came a great many really tough boys and their fathers, many of the criminal element, who gave the residents of Sutherland a bad time, for food they shot the Deer in National Park, and stole anybody's chooks night after night, I know, as I worked with a lot of them on the relief work, many of them nice hard working men, but with no respect for anyone's private property, We were even granted extra Police to try and keep order, as

honesty was not for them, "Honesty was not the best policy. These

Humpies had no water or sanitation so needless to say the people were dirty looking, so even the good ones looked evil, Father Dunlea visited these unfortunate people regularly and often returned less his cardigan or his shoes, these he had given to some person that he deemed to be in greater need than himself, In those early days he walked everywhere, then someone gave him the big white horse that he became such a well known figure, the Priest all dressed in black on the white horse and always had that kind welcome smile for everyone.

I recall him one day sitting on his horse at the top of the Oak road quarry. He looked down at we men working there breaking huge sections of hard rock into road ballast, he called a halt to the work for a couple of minutes while he said a prayer for us, then called, God Bless you all, and he rode away. His work was never ending, he lived in an old weatherboard house in Merton street that had very little in the way of furnishings, with bare floor boards, and even in those days had Ho Bos and neglected people share with him, everything, as they passed through Sutherland. He never refused anyone help if he could give any.

One day while he was riding toward National Park on the Princes' Hwy. a small boy ran to him out of the bush and said "My Mother is sick, will you come and see her". That woman asked the Priest would he look after her son, that boy was Eric Green, who was to become the first boy in the formation of His Boy's Town.

I know that for many years Father Dunlea had cared for many foundling boys, but it was after seeing the screening of Spencer Tracy's film "Boys Town" in the U.S.A. that convinced the Father that such a project could be a success here in Australia. and so he decided to put into practice his unfulfilled dream. He had viewed the film on the Saturday night accompanied by Eric Green and afterwards discussed the project and decided to put it into practice. an empty house was discovered on the corner of Glencoe

and Flora streets Sutherland. so they moved in, and in no time there were seven boys, two goats, a sheep, some fowls and a Swagman in residence, Father had people sleeping everywhere in the house and on the front verandah, of course the problem arose how to feed them all, that was quite a task. The Dole as we know it now, was not. Single males did not get any assistance at all, only if they were on the road they received a 5/- voucher for food every 50 miles per week. Then to add to life's problems they had some trouble with the neighbours, they complained of the noise and the overcrowding, and the smell of the animals, the small house was filled to capacity with its strange mixture of doubtful looking inhabitants, then in a very short time along comes Wally Cooper the Council Health Inspector, he was appalled at the conditions and living standards under which these poor people were living, as well, in the meantime the Father was visiting Kogarah Court each time it met, and recruiting convicted boys through the courts system, saying he would care for the boys if they were put in his care, and bringing them home to add to the already crowded house.

This didn't seem to please the Sutherland Council one little bit, so Wally was issued a document and along with the local Police they ordered them to vacate the next day, So they were evicted, and at about 2pm they formed up, Goats, Sheep, Chickens in a home made coup, carried by 2 boys, and marched along Flora Street complete with their menagerie, marching along Flora and around the corner and through the Southern end of the town under the watchful eye of Wally Cooper and the Constabulary. Really a disgraceful deed by the Council of the day, whose instructions Wally had carried out to the letter.

Father Dunlea set up camp a tent town on the cleared land (later occupied by the Military when the war got under way).

Here the Father had visions of setting up a town for boys, many

of the local people came to his aid in this temporary effort, many gave food, old friends rallied to his aid, several people began raising money which in those days of depression was not easy, to quote Dorothy Coleman's book, one of Father's most fervent supporters was a well known Jewish bookmaker George Nathan, who driving by one day, stopped at the tent town,(and it was pretty rough) George was impressed by the struggling Priest that he immediately offered his assistance, until the day of his death, Father Dunlea remembered this man with great gratitude, this man of a different faith was the good Samaritan who had stopped by the way, and was the ultimate means of the establishment of "Boys Town"; Boys Town moved to Engadine in 1940 where it is now, Father Dunlea was determined from the first, that race, colour, or creed, would not be considered. It was the first attempt at an ecumenical unit. Development of the town was made possible because of a grant of 14,000 pounds from the Australian meat industry, again Jim Walsh raised an amount of 12,000 pounds to build a poultry farm, which could help the town to become self supporting.

Father Dunlea held a meeting, Mr Joe Monro representing the Premier, Mr Clive Evatt leader of the Opposition, Mr McKell declared the opposition stood as one man with Father Dunlea.

In August 1944 Father secured a grant of land at Heathcote in Wilson Parade it was known as 40 acres on which he hoped to establish a farm to help boys town to be self supporting, there were two old cement buildings on the property, one a double room ,the other a single room, The bigger one having a fireplace, John Mc. one of the earlier boys who had had farming experience in New Zealand was put in charge and a number of the younger, older boys who had not obtained employment were sent to assist him. Boys Town was expanding rapidly. John Mc was directed to guide these lads in all the work, farming, building, and cooking, and he reported to Father regularly, and Father visited them whenever he

could. Tommy the swagman came to live with them. He rarely touched a drink now, and although he had been at the stage where he was drinking Metho, he hadn't touched any for some time, and he was accepted by the lads with affection and looked upon almost as a father. The Farm housed Raymond, Irish Jim, Mac, a Scottish migrant, Greg, the red head, who loved the farm life, and was fond of horses and here they made their home for a couple of years.

Unfortunately it was not a financial success, it was virgin bushland and low lying and generally swampy, only a small part could be cultivated, here they grew beans, however they improved the living quarters and added a large verandah which served on Sunday mornings as the first Mass centre, with a makeshift altar for themselves, and the local Parishioners of Heathcote. I have no date when Forty Acres was abandoned, but it became necessary to sell the farm to help pay for the Boys Town immediate needs, so the little band who had spent long hours of work and pleasure together split up and went their own separate ways. Father Dunlea left quietly in the evening, riding on his horse, carrying only a few of the necessities of life, set off toward the South, as the Cardinal had granted him 12 months leave, the first night he slept out under the stars, however early the next morning Eric Green who was the first boy Father had given shelter to had walked to Helensburgh trying to find Father before he moved further on, Eric found him at the Helensburgh Convent, the good Sisters of St Joseph had put on a good breakfast for him, it was like the "last supper" our hearts were heavy as we watched the lone figure ride into the silence of the bush to discover new horizons.

He went to West Australia and made friends with the Aborigines,

He wandered as far as Broome in the far west making firm friendships wherever he went, when he returned from his wanderings at the end of 1952, he then worked as Chaplin to the Mathew Talbot Hostel. As years passed Fathers health was declining rapidly,

Boys Town finances were in a state of crisis, for Boys Town had lost its biggest source of income when its Sunday Carnival which had been organised by his Bookmaker supporter for all those years and was cut off because the N.S.W. Rugby League wanted to use the ground, income of course fell and costs rose, and there was no help from the Government, all of this told on Fathers health, his old friend Dr Eric Miles told him, your nerves are so bad, if you don't give up Boys Town, Boys Town will have to give you up. Acting upon this advice Father sent in his resignation and with the Cardinals approval his wish was granted that the Silesian Fathers of Victoria, founded by St John Bosco, take over Boys Town

The Silesians were established by St John Bosco in 1854 in Turin, in North Italy. They comprise Friends and Brothers, and work mainly among poor boys and neglected boys. The Society today has 1,027 schools and institutions throughout the world with 18,000 members in Australia, they have schools in Victoria , South Australia, Tasmania, and now Engadine.

When Fathers health had seemed to improve he was offered and he accepted the appointment of Chaplin at the Mathew Talbot Hostel, run by the St Vincent de Paul Society. a hostel for the homeless men here he remained for the next two years

Father Thomas Vincent Dunlea was awarded the Order of the British Empire medal in 1965, a fitting recognition for his magnificent good works.

The final and let us hope and believe a peaceful and happy chapter in Fathers life came with his appointment by the Cardinal to the Parish of Hurstville, where he served until the time of his death in Lewisham Hospital on Saturday the 22nd of August 1970: His earthly remains were buried In the Cemetery at Woronora after a thanks giving Mass at St Michael's Catholic Church Hurstville.

A little later on by special request that the Fathers remains should be buried at "Boys Town", with the authorities permission, a re-internment took place, quite a moving ceremony in the presence of the Boys and some Priests and Parishioners. So we leave Father Dunlea, the Earth to accept his mortal remains into its cold bosom, now he may sleep in that same kindly earth forever and he will always now be part of "Boys Town" A monument stands today commemorating him and his works in the grounds of the School at "Boys Town" Engadine.

Although most of the information in this article I had in my mind having lived in Sutherland through the whole period while these events were taking place I have also used for a reference a little book written by Dorothy Coleman, "Priest of the Highway" kindly lent to me by Mrs Fairy Alexander who borrowed it from her daughter Elaine Flood, as I could not obtain a copy anywhere for myself. It is a beautifully written booklet that describes Father Dunlea's life far better than I have done so here.

Father Dunlea was also one of the instigators in the formation of A.A. Alcoholics Anonymous, but that is another story for another time.

--George H. Heavens



BOYS' TOWN

FOUR OF THE BOYS, Dr MILES, ERIC GREEN AND FATHER DUNLEA.
BEING EVICTED FROM GLENCOE STREET SUTHERLAND WITH
NOWHERE TO GO. BY SUTHERLAND SHIRE COUNCIL IN 1939.

THE THINGS WE FIND

A few months ago I offered to help a cousin clean out the wardrobes and cupboards of two houses which belonged to another cousin who had passed away. One house was in Mudgee, and the other at Hunters Hill.

The house at Hunters Hill was where my cousin lived until she passed away. There were three women in her family, and not one of them had children, as they married in middle age. The three sisters were very much alike and lived very frugally, even though they need not have. They saved everything and threw nothing out.

My first job was to tackle a wardrobe. It took me all day to take clothes off hangers and sort out them out. Some went in the bin, some to 'St Vinnies' and the rest to the theatrical group. There were clothes belonging to the older sister, the younger sister, her husband and her own. Eleven garbage bags went to 'St Vinnies'.

As well as the clothes, there were also shoes to be sorted through. One pair I recognised as the pair she wore with her going away outfit, thirty odd years before.

This particular cousin also still had her mother's wedding dress. My daughter had previously borrowed it for a show of old wedding gowns. The dress was 95 years old.

We moved on to the house in Mudgee which didn't have as many clothes, as it was used as a holiday house.

I found boxes and boxes of receipts dating back to 1911, one in particular for a horse and sulky. My grandfather had bought this for 45 pounds.

There were also nine boxes of sympathy cards and return thank you cards. I found sympathy cards sent when my grandmother died in 1927. There were dozens of certificates the sisters and mother had won for needlework, knitting and cooking at shows around the country and in Sydney. My Aunty had won a prize for cream horns in 1907. My Uncle in 1904 had won a prize for cattle, at a show in Mudgee. We sent lots of these items to the Mudgee museum.

I found the shoes that were worn at my Aunty's wedding in 1905, and also my Uncle's bow tie and white silk gloves.

As Tim Shaw says, "but wait, there's more!"

In a blanket box in little draws I found five baby night dresses and a Christening gown. We gave the museum some of the nighties, these would have been over ninety years old.

We also saw a glass dome decoration. When I lifted the dome, much to my surprise, there was the top tier of her wedding cake inside. Some of the icing had fallen off, but the cake looked in very good condition and smelt as good as any Christmas cake I have smelt. There were also ribbons from the bouquet. The wedding was in 1905. We gave this to the museum.

I could write more pages but the items mentioned were the most interesting found. There was also some lovely crockery, silverware, and glassware; some of which was divided up between the family.

It was sad that there were no children from these marriages. The houses and contents were to be sold, and the money left to charity.

Holsworthy

National Trust Quarterly October 1996

NATIONAL HERITAGE THREATENED

Contributed by Aileen Griffiths.

The name "Holsworthy" conjures up vivid images for countless veterans of the two World Wars and those called up for National Service who trained at this historic Australian military site.

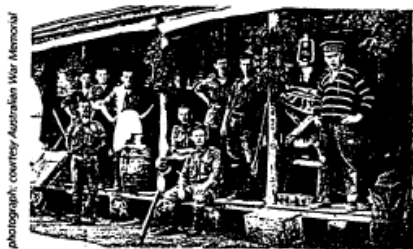
Its resurrection by the Federal Government as a potential second Sydney international airport site has been greeted with a mixture of disbelief and alarm by the 500,000 residents of the Georges River catchment. Holsworthy was soundly rejected in a 1985 Environmental Impact Statement as the second most unsuitable site of a short list of ten alternatives.

The National Trust is presently completing a Holsworthy Landscape Conservation Area proposal for listing on the Trust Register and the Australian Heritage Commission is finalising a Listing of the area on the Register of the National Estate.

The Trust has responded rapidly to this development proposal and the Trust President, Barry O'Keefe has written to the Prime Minister John Howard urging that Holsworthy be dropped from consideration. The resurrection of the Holsworthy site by the Federal Minister for Transport has led the Trust to undertake a major investigation of the heritage values of this site," our President wrote. "A draft Classification proposal for the listing on the Trust Register of the Holsworthy Landscape Conservation Area is now under consideration."

The Trust has also commented on the Environmental Impact Statement Guidelines, joining the remarkable number of over thirty thousand submissions forwarded by concerned residents and organisations to the Federal Environment Protection Agency.

What's wrong with Holsworthy as an airport site?



photograph: courtesy Australian War Memorial
Camp guards on the verandah of their quarters c. 1915



photograph: Graham Quint
Plaque to commemorate construction of railway bridge by the internees of the German Concentration Camp, Holsworthy, 1917

Major impact on heritage

- It is the habitat for the most viable Koala colony in southern New South Wales and has populations of Quoll (native cat) and Grey Kangaroo, now very rare in the Sydney Metropolitan Area;

- Despite its use as a military firing range the majority of the site features diverse, totally weed free bushland, containing 21 native plant species rare or endangered on a national basis;

- To date, 420 Aboriginal sites have been identified at Holsworthy including a rock carving of a four-masted sailing ship depicting the earliest contact between the new settlers and Australia's original inhabitants; .

- European settlement of the Georges

River/Holsworthy area occurred from the mid 1790s with small farms providing vital produce for the early colony. Early industry dated from the 1820s and the 1822 convict built sandstone dam wall for the "Brisbane Water Mill" still survives on Harris Creek;

- The town of Eckersley with its vineyards developed in the 1880s until subsumed by the Army resumptions from 1912. The fine sandstone walls, road abutments, terraces and wells of the Grodno Vineyard stand as testimony to the early growth of Hermitage and Malbec grapes on this site.

Holsworthy was the site of the Remount Depot which prepared 47,000 horses for overseas service in the First World War. The various Light Horse Divisions trained at Holsworthy before being despatched to Gallipoli and other theatres of war.

A "German Concentration Camp" was established at Holsworthy, housing internees including survivors of the

German Raider Emden sunk by HMAS Sydney off the Cocos Islands in 1914. The internees constructed a rail line from Liverpool to their camp and relics of the line and its various stations still survive.

Environmental concerns

As well as the impacts on heritage, the proposed airport would have devastating impacts on the Georges River and the heavily populated areas adjoining the site.

In this day and age who would believe that an airport would be proposed for a site that contains bushland ravines and is grossly contaminated with unexploded ordnance ranging from bullets, hand grenades, mortars, and air to ground rockets to "25 pounders" fired in the 1940s from ships off shore?

The site lies within four kilometres of Australia's only nuclear reactor and its construction would require the closing down of the adjoining Bankstown Airport (one of the busiest airports in the Southern Hemisphere) and the removal of the army facility including a newly constructed \$100M base hospital.

Trust members are urged to say "no" to an airport at Holsworthy. ■

Graham Quint is Senior Conservation Officer of the National Trust of Australia (NSW)

WHAT PRICE UTOPIA!

The following is a copy of 'Office Rules' issued by a Sydney firm in the year of Grace 1852:

M.....and S.....

Merchants and Ships Chandlers.

SYDNEY TOWN 1852.

RULES FOR THE CLERICAL STAFF.

1. Godliness, Cleanliness and Punctuality are the necessities of a good business
2. On the recommendation of the Governor of this Colony, this firm has reduced the hours of work, and the clerical staff will now only have to be present between the hours of 7 am and 6 p.m. on week-days. The Sabbath is for worship, but should any Man-of-War or other vessel require victualling, the Clerical Staff will work on the Sabbath.
3. Daily prayers will be held each morning in the main office. The Clerical Staff will be present.
4. Clothing must be of a sober nature. The Clerical Staff will not disport themselves in raiment of bright colours, nor will they wear hose unless in good repair.
5. Overshoes and top-coats may not be worn in the office, but neck-scarves and headwear may be worn in the inclement weather.
6. A stove is provided for the benefit of the Clerical Staff Coal and wood must be kept in the locker. It is recommended that each member of the Clerical Staff bring 4 pounds of coal each day during cold weather.
7. No member of the Clerical Staff may leave the room without permission from Mr. Ryder. The calls of nature are permitted and the Clerical Staff may use the garden below the second gate. This gate must be kept in good order.

8. No talking is allowed during business hours.
9. The craving for tobacco, wines or spirits is a human weakness; and as such, is forbidden to all members of the Clerical Staff.
10. Now that the hours of business have been drastically reduced, the partaking of food is allowed between 11.30a.m. and noon, but work will not on any account cease.
11. Members of the Clerical Staff will provide their own pens. A new sharpener if available on application to Mr. Ryder.
12. Mr. Ryder will nominate a Senior Clerk to be responsible for the cleanliness of the Main Office and the Private Office, and all boys and Juniors will report to him 40 minutes before prayer, and will remain after closing hours for similar work. Brushes, broom strummers, and soap are provided by the owners.
13. The New Increased Weekly Wages are as hereunder detailed:

Junior boys	(to 11 years)	1/4d.
Boys	(to 14 years)	2/1d.
Juniors		4/0.d
Junior Clerks		8/7d
Clerks		10/9d
Senior Clerks		21/-d
(after 15 years with the owners)		

THE OWNERS HEREBY RECOGNISE THE GENEROSITY OF THE NEW LABOUR LAWS, BUT WILL EXPECT A GREAT RISE IN OUTPUT OF WORK TO COMPENSATE FOR THE NEAR UTOPIAN CONDITIONS.

The above was displayed at a museum in Broome and a copy bought by a friend who was there.

Elva Carmichael

UNTIL THE MOTOR CAR CAME ALONG!!

Shanks pony followed by horse transport would have been the main forms of movement in Sydney in the early 1800's limiting the expansion to Suburbia. An area such as Parramatta had the advantage of being able to be reached by a cross country journey on horseback or one which took several days on foot and even better still by rowing boat down the river.

Waterways became a popular mode of transport and the first steamship "The Surprise" launched in 1831 did the trip. Parramatta river had its shallows even then and the low draught of the "The Surprise" was unsuitable and she was packed off to Tasmania.

Steam ships and paddle ferries were the main link with Parramatta until the railway arrived in 1855.

In 1839 Governor Macquarie commissioned a Jamaican, Billy Blue to run a regular punt service from Sydney cove across the harbour to the North side.

Between Redfern and the quay speedier ways of transport were being introduced.

Horse buses were imported by private enterprise in the early 1840's. These were double-decker carriages often pulled by teams of 4 or 5 horses and having room for 30 passengers. Women and children sat in the sheltered area downstairs and men, dressed in their frockcoats and stove pipe hats climbed a ladder to sit precariously on rows of forward facing seats on the roof.

This form of transport remained dominant until December 1861 when the first horse tram ran on rail laid from Circular Quay up Pitt Street to Redfern railway station.

The horse tram imported from the United States was twice as long and almost twice as wide as the horse bus and could accommodate 70 passengers. Rails on the road, even then proved troublesome as sulky and dray wheels could be caught in the ruts.

The heart of Sydney was bursting with pride in 1880 as the city fathers hosted a huge International exhibition. They wanted the city to be seen as a progressive, modern metropolis and to boost this image it was decided to import the latest transport technology - the steam tram....

The State government imported four Baldwin steam locomotives and six double deck bogie carriages from the United States and built a line running 2 kilo-metres from Redfern railway station along Elizabeth Street to Hunter Street.

By 1897 the steam tram network covered 85 kilometres. Trams ran in Enfield, Sutherland, Cronulla, Parramatta, Castle Hill and Kogarah, Sans Souci, Manly, Arncliffe and Bexley.

Steam trams had trouble coping with steep inclines and some readers may remember how the Puffing Billy at Kogarah had to gather great speed to get up the hill from Rocky Point Road towards the station and how she used to rattle around that corner.

So cable cars were imported particularly to deal with the steep grades which ran up 1 in 13 in North Sydney streets.

These cable cars were outmoded by 1905 to be replaced by the electric tram which had been tried out in 1893 between Military Road Mosman and the Spit on the northern side of the harbour but it wasn't until 1899 that Sydney itself had a tram service which linked the Circular Quay to Redfern and thence to Harris Street Ultimo.

The electric tram remained a common sight for the next 50 years.

The suburban steam train, that marvel of the industrial age, was a mile-stone in engineering terms for the fledgling city when the first railway began operations in September 1855.

Its first leg ran from Redfern station to a station two kilometres from Parramatta where passengers completed the journey by horse bus.

With a tunnel at Redfern, a large viaduct over Long cove- creek 27 bridges and 50 culverts, the new railway was a major undertaking.

The suburban steam train network spread across Sydney in the following years.

By 1906 when the new Central railway station was opened it covered most of the metropolitan area.

Information gleaned from Sydney Morning Herald 150 years centenary publication
-- M. Blackley.

One of the old steam trams at Sutherland. The first railway to Sutherland from Sydney was opened on 25 Feb. 1885. The trams from Sutherland to Cronulla commenced operations in August 1911.



THE DERREY FAMILY.

<p>A leader of the march down memory lane is Mr: Mick Derrey,' of Gynea. His mother, a French. girl from Mauritius, caught the dream in 1893 of rearing a family hard. by. a vast national park.</p>	<p>One advantage was that she was able to tell the time fairly accurately at least once a day.</p>	<p>Sutherland station. A crowd of interested children quickly assembled to study the fallen animal and the wisest amongst them poked back the creature's eyelid and pronounced it dead.</p>	<p>Park — the second to be established in -the world after' the Yellowstone National Park in America (1872) – Sydney people have delighted in visiting it."</p>
<p>She took up a selection of 1.3 lonely hectares out from Sutherland, gateway' to the reservation, and. there she settled with the. first four, of her eight children. ,</p>	<p>A funeral train ran daily from Sydney to a cemetery near Sutherland. The last carriage 'picked up coffins which would be stacked at the city end of railway station & along the way.</p>	<p>Into this situation strode 'Sgt Lewis of the Sutherland Police Station crying: "What's the trouble here?"</p>	<p>Until December, 1885.; the train from' Sydney stopped at Hurstville. Then the line opened to Sutherland and on December 26, 1885, .10. trains carried sightseers froth city' and suburbs to visit .the fine new national park.</p>
<p>And where was father? For the most part he was away at sea earning a meagre living before the mast. He too was French with the impressive name of. Henri Pierre de Closeps Derrey.</p>	<p>It was little Mick Derrey's job to listen for that train puffing up'. the hill between Como and. Sutherland: The ' puffing 'could usually be heard at 3 pm give or take a quarter of an hour.</p>	<p>In chorus the kids told !him "It's dead!"</p>	<p>The waters of Port Hacking lap the northern boundary of the.. Royal National Park and:: to exploit this fact a small steamer, the S.S. Orara',- once ran excursions from Sydney to the park at 50 cents a head.</p>
<p>With an elegant name like that: father .may have 'sounded like a millionaire • from the Riviera. But he brought so little home, when he did get back' to. the family. that his wife had to feed the children by doing washing at the Yowie Bay Hotel and raising a few chooks in the bush backyard.</p>	<p>When father came home from the sea something exciting tended to happen. For instance, in 1900, he decided that the family should have a new home.</p>	<p>"Stand back," shouted Sgt Lewis who then drew his pistol , and ,fired two shots into the horse's head 'to make sure that it .was dead."</p>	<p>The service started during World War I,. -and extra thrill's ' could' be extracted from the trip by young men who assured their twittering" girlfriends they' could see the periscopes of German `submarines on all sides.</p>
<p>One night the fowls went mad. Mrs Derrey rushed to their pen and was confronted by a hungry wild cat that would not back off. Woman and wild cat fought hand to claw for the fowls. When Mrs Derrey went to her grave in 1949 her body. was still laced back and front with the scars she received in that battle.' But she did save the family's precious poultry.</p>	<p>Of course he couldn't afford to buy one so he set out to build one. himself with mud brick. The roof was thatched with local grass trees and the finished job didn't look too bad at all.</p>	<p>That event well deserves a place amongst the legends of the folk who lived beside the Royal National Park in the early days.</p>	<p>The S.S. Orara served as a mine-sweeper in the RAN during World War II. Post-war she was sold to China., In mid-June, 1950, while; heavily laden with passengers,. she struck a mine at the mouth of the 'Yangtze' River and was lost: She. is still remembered kindly' in Port Hacking. '</p>
<p>While wild animals ' could not beat Mrs Derrey, loneliness did. No one, ever visited her lonely little property.</p>	<p>The new house had one important weakness how-ever, and this was demonstrated after a week of, heavy rain. Young Mick Derrey and his elder brother. Fred, were -sleeping; blissfully in spite' of the storm when the, west wall of the house fell in on them. Father's mud 'bricks hadn't been as solid ' as they appeared.</p>	<p>Mick Derrey has' a merry memory of high jinks at Sutherland in 1916 when. the first Council Chamber was built.</p>	<p>In 1893, the trustees of the Royal National Park published a guide which declared "For situation the National Park, is so highly favoured that in the not far distant future it will stand a beautiful reserve, possessing undisturbed the best of its natural grandeur in the midst .of a dense population ...</p>
<p>At nights she sang the; Marseillaise to blot out the haunting cries of foxes and. the' croaking of frogs.</p>	<p>The two soaked and' muddied lads sought comfort by climbing into their. long-suffering mother's bed. Father, lucky for him, was away at sea at the time.</p>	<p>Certain irate citizens decided that building was a white elephant and ex-pressed their feelings by disfiguring it with black paint. The thought of white elephants inspired someone to think of a white horse owned by Mr Hoare who kept pig. at the corner of Merton Street and; President Avenue.' :</p>	<p>How right' that ancient prophecy has proved to be!</p>
<p>So she moved in nearer to Sutherland and civilisation before the turn of the century.</p>	<p>Another dramatic event associated with the seafaring Mr Henri Pierre de Closeps Derrey took place about 1901. He was home at the time and somehow got hold of a horse which collapsed outside</p>	<p>Before the night was out the white horse had its ribs painted black and everyone went home happy.</p>	<p>Since its establishment a century ago the Royal National</p>

Mick Derrey was an Hon. Life Member of this Society, one of the nicest men you could ever meet. -- George Heavens.

EXCURSION REPORT

As I prepare this Excursion Report for the February Bulletin I am aware that the outing on February 8 - our Mystery Tour - may be over. Due to the need to include the Annual Report the extra collating and time required for printing sometimes delays the post date.

However, on that day we leave Cronulla at 8.30 a.m., Sutherland at 9.a.m. (the new site in Flora Street, opposite the post office, bus stop); morning tea will be provided on arrival and then the inspection. Take your luncheon requirements, which we will have at a convenient venue between 12.30 p.m. and 1 p.m, as we make our way home through the Eastern Suburbs Beach area, hoping to catch the cool Nor-Easter Breeze.

Tickets, fully inclusive of Coach, Morning Tea and Inspection will be members \$18.00 and Visitors \$23.00.

Saturday, May 10, 1977 we shall be visiting Willoughby and District Society; the President Mr. Les Vaughan has suggested we meet at the Willoughby Legion Club for a comfort stop and they will provide a cup of Tea or Coffee for morning tea. Following this he will take us on a tour of the District and return to the Club for Luncheon at approximately 12.30 p.m. As they have a number of selections in the \$5.00 /\$8.00 price range we think it best for each member to order and pay for the dish of their choice to prevent any confusion.

Being the month of May I'm certain all our trippers will prefer this to taking our requirements and being concerned about the possible elements in late Autumn.

Tickets for the outing will cost \$15.00 members,. and 320.00 Visitors inclusive of Coach, Morning Tea, Entrance Fees; Luncheon extra.

Looking ahead into 1997, the expected dates for tours will be July 12; September 13; and depending whether November is a day outing or week-end visit could be November 8 or 29. You will of course understand there could be a change depending on the suitability to our guides at the place chosen.

Let me hasten to tell you I am not taking over the tours from the incoming President -- but outing dates will remain as agreed to by members and the May trip must be planned to give time for every-thing to be set in that month.

As always, bookings to Mrs. Betty McGrath on 9521-2227 of 141 Loftus, Avenue, Loftus, 2232. Payment is required with bookings, please. Any information on the above outings I would be pleased answer enquiries if required, on 9523-5801.

Enjoy travel,

Allen Griffiths O.A.M.

CONVENER

Professional Sculling in New South Wales

SCOTT BENNETT*¹

THE BILL BEACH STORY.

The Australian has quite a passion for amusement. There is no country in the world whose people flock in such numbers to theatres, concerts, exhibitions, all places of recreation; there are no people who take so many holidays or enter with such keenness into all national sports; there is no society that dines and dances quite so much as Australasian society.²

A HISTORY of Australian leisure would need to spend much time describing and analysing the paramount place that sport has held in the lives of so many. In fact, by the end of the nineteenth century sport had become an obsession with some, and followed by most, to the extent that it was a point of comment by overseas observers, a matter of concern to some editorialists, and a feature of Australian society that was often pointed to with pride. A sport which played an important part was professional sculling, and this article briefly traces its history.

Rowing and sculling have had a long history in Australia. At least as early as 1805 rowing matches between the crews of visiting ships were held on Sydney harbour, and by the 1820s crews sponsored by John Piper were racing with some success. Sculling races were popular, and matches for purses gradually became common in the 1850s, with the first recorded event apparently being held in January 1851.³ Sydney was the centre of this activity. Indeed, although rowing has had a history that has involved all parts of Australia, first-class professional sculling was very much a New South Wales phenomenon.

The Mother Colony's geography favoured the development of rowing. In the days when communication was still slow, the rivers formed an important part of the everyday life of many colonists.⁴ Henry Searle, briefly holder of the World Championship for professional scullers, lived on Esk Island in the Clarence River, and an early duty for him was to row various siblings to and from school, a daily distance of about seven miles.

* *Australian National University*

The crowds that packed the banks of the Parramatta River, or who jostled for position in the ferries that followed races, were able to watch that most exciting of events, a physical confrontation between two strong opponents, where the strength and courage of the individual is vital to the outcome:

The footballer and the cricketer have their mates around them, and get frequent spells of rest. Even the boxer, or wrestler, is allowed his interval for breathing time; and so with the jumper, the pole vaulter, &c; but the man in the `outrigger' is `in for it', and alone; no ministering angel with sponges, or lemons, may tend him, during these 1,200 strictly consecutive seconds of supreme and relentless struggle, nearly every one of which brings out a tremendous spring and effort, of arm and thigh, of back and loin; 800 strokes per man in each race, and each stroke calling hard on every muscle in the body.¹⁶

Above all else, though, the scale of performance of these men was quite remarkable, for the fact that they were the best in the world is what caught the imagination. In a society which suspected that it was only of the second class, the achievements of Australian scullers, like those of Australian cricketers, helped prove to the satisfaction of many that Australian stock was sound: 'the victories of LAYCOCK and BEACH have proved before the eyes of England that they are no puny, degenerate race that are reared under the Southern Cross ...'¹⁷ In the final decades of the century there were many influences that helped foster a sense of Australian nationalism, and the achievements of sportsmen were an important part of this,¹⁸ and interestingly, despite the predominance of New South Welshmen in sculling, the prideful references were not to New South Wales winning fame, but to Australians bringing glory upon all the colonies. In 1876 Ned Trickett was feted on his return from England and the Sydney Morning Herald noted approvingly that this was homage paid to 'Australian pluck and Australian strength',¹⁹ and there is evidence that this pride in the scullers extended to other colonies, as when the Melbourne Argus congratulated the Mother Colony for producing the cricketers Murdoch and Spofforth, and the sculler Beach, all sons 'who in their own particular sphere uphold the reputation of Australians'.²⁰

Of all the scullers of this wonderful era, three men earned a special position, and with the passing from the sport of the last of them, so did the sport's attraction begin to wane.

Ned Trickett (1851-1916) was a Sydney-born quarryman who began to show promise as a sculler while in his teens. By 1874 he had earned a place among the best of the day with a meritorious second place to Michael Rush in a £200 event on the Clarence, and a year later he confirmed his ability by winning the Australian championship from 'The Australian Bushman', Elias

mercurial Hanlan, the man who had so cruelly thrown Australia into mourning. This brilliant oarsman was everything that his Australian rivals were not—flashy, controversial, and an adept at self-advertisement. Between 1880 and 1884 he rowed for the world title on five occasions, and the ease of his victories and his flair for publicity had given him such an air of invincibility, that by 1884 it was agreed that any man who lowered his colours would surely have to be superhuman.²⁷

Bill Beach, the Illawarra blacksmith, was certainly not super-human. His early career was successful but far from spectacular, though victory over Trickett in April 1884 did win him a £400 stake and the championship of Australia. This win also gained him the right to row Hanlan for the world title, and on 16 August 1884 he amazed the sporting world by convincingly defeating the titleholder over the Parramatta River course. The reaction of the Australian public probably tells us more about the standing of Hanlan than the ability of Beach, for even the most optimistic had given the Australian little chance.²⁸ From this moment, however, Beach's heroic status was ensured, and six successful title defences, including two against Hanlan, and final retirement as unbeaten champion, merely confirmed his sovereignty. Beach had restored Australian pride:

*Ship after ship takes up the cheering. Wave upon wave, the ever gathering volume of sound rolls on! There are a hundred thousand throats straining! There is a roar as a nation rejoices over a great deliverance ...*²⁹

An indication of the standing he was accorded came in the tumultuous welcome in December 1886 upon his return from triumphs in England. The Governor, the Premier and the Mayor of Sydney all met him, and the crowd in the streets was said to have far surpassed that which met Trickett ten years before. One eye-witness spoke many years later of the amazing scenes as the crowd packed Pitt and King Streets 'as far each way as the eye could reach'. When Beach addressed the crowd they received every 'stumbling word that came down to them with a frantic cheer, and the more it stumbled the louder they cheered'.³⁰

One element explaining the popularity of the man who beat Hanlan was his modesty and honesty, not always the most notable features of the sportsman's personality. Many noted this, and 'the doughty son of Vulcan' was often held up as the epitome of true Australian sportsmanship and an example for all young men. Writing on Beach's death, Sir Joynton Smith summed up what people had long believed:

Australia has reared an army of brilliant men in sport. These have shed their light in Great Britain in sculling, swimming, lawn tennis, boxing, football, and in eight-oared rowing ...

Laycock. In 1876 Trickett travelled to London with Sydney hotelier, James Punch, and on 27 June he won his place as the first of the heroes when he defeated the Englishman, James Sadler, for the World Championship. The excitement in Sydney was intense, and when Trickett returned in November, an estimated 20,000 greeted him at Circular Quay. Bands and bigwigs were in abundance, and eager hands pushed horses aside so as to pull the hero's carriage through Sydney streets to Punch's hotel, where he addressed the multitude from a balcony and was cheered 'to the echo'.²¹ In the Legislative Assembly a notice of motion proposed:

1. That the important services rendered by Mr Edward Trickett, and the benefits likely to accrue to the colony from his visit to the mother country, are fully entitled to recognition by the Government of this colony.

*2. That such claim should be met by a grant of £500...*²²

The mover later withdrew deference to the views of others,²³ but a publicly-subscribed purse of L850 was a sign of the regard in which Trickett was held, for as the Sydney Morning Herald proclaimed

*... those who wish New South Wales to be well known throughout the United Kingdom, as a home for her surplus population, will rejoice because this contest will be a better advertisement of the colony than the entire edition of any possible Government handbook.*²⁴

Trickett successfully defended the title twice, but in 1880 he was beaten convincingly by the Canadian, Ned Hanlan, and despite intermittent competition during the eighties, he never again reached the heights achieved between 1876 and 1879. Apart from his advancing years, Trickett seems not to have mastered the sliding seat which Hanlan was the first to exploit, his style was inferior to the Canadian's, and the balance of his stroke was said to have been affected after the loss of fingers in 1878. Although he may not have been an outstanding sculler, his 1876 victory won him his special place in Australian hearts not only for being the first Australian to win the sculling title, but because he was the first Australian to win a world title in any sport, and this was never forgotten by his countrymen.²⁵ The loss of the title was a national calamity:

*... remember how Sydney kept awake all one night awaiting the arrival of a certain telegram, which, coming, sent a sigh and a shudder through the city such as might follow on the loss of some object long cherished and dearly beloved.*²⁶

To appreciate the position of Bill Beach (1850-1935), one must appreciate just how great was this sense of loss when Trickett was beaten. but one must also know something of the

*But take them all in all, there has never been a man who won his laurels in England as well as in his own country, who made a better name, and left a better character for sportsmanship and courage, than Bill Beach.*³¹

For the Illawarra, still remarkably isolated despite its geographical proximity to Sydney, Beach's victories were particularly gratifying because of the advertisement they gave to the region. He was credited with bringing fame to the area far beyond anything that local politicians could achieve, and it is significant that his local standing apparently remained high fifty years after he won the World Championship. At his death the Illawarra Mercury simply headed its long obituary 'Death of the Champion',³² and in the description of his funeral the newspaper pointed out that the seating in the Brownsville Church was insufficient for the size of the crowd. At the end of the service it was noted, without surprise, that a swagman walked off the Princes Highway and placed an envelope on the grave which read, 'Here lies the best man that ever lived'.³³

WILLIAM BEACH

RETIRED UNBEATEN CHAMPION OARSMAN OF THE WORLD

1884	- BEACH v. HANLAN	PARRAMATTA	20.28½
1885	- BEACH v. CLIFFORD	PARRAMATTA	26
1885	- BEACH v. HANLAN	PARRAMATTA	22.51
1885	- BEACH v. NEIL MATTERSON	PARRAMATTA	24.11½
1886	- BEACH v. GAUDAUR	THAMES	22.29
1886	- BEACH v. WALLACE ROSS	THAMES	23.5
1887	- BEACH v. HANLAN	NEPEAN	19.55

Born Surrey, England, September 6th, 1850.
 (Resident in Australia from 1853)
 Died Dapto, Illawarra District, N.S.W. January 28th, 1935.

Bill Beach still has descendants living in the Sutherland Shire.

Contributed by Alan McGrath.

SUTHERLAND SHIRE HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the 31st ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Sutherland Shire Historical Society, Inc. will be held Friday, April 18, 1997, in the Multi-Purpose Building, Flora Street, Sutherland, at 7.45 p.m.

A G E N D A.

1. Welcome
2. Apologies
3. To confirm and adopt Minutes of the 30th Annual General Meeting.
4. Submission and adoption of the 30th Annual Report of the Executive Council and Hon. Treasurer's Financial Statement and Balance Sheet for 1996.
5. Honoraria
6. NOTICE OF MOTION, of which due notice has been given: That Mrs. Marjory Blackley be elected to Life Membership of the Sutherland Shire Historical Society, Inc.
Nominated by Mrs. A. Griffiths - Seconded by Mr. D. Archer.
7. ELECTION OF OFFICERS for 1997
8. GENERAL BUSINESS: pertaining to the Annual General Meeting only.

On behalf of the Executive Council of Sutherland
Shire Historical Society, Inc.


PRESIDENT.
OAM

"Richmount"
34 Richmount Street
CRONULLA. 2230.

SUTHERLAND SHIRE HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.OFFICE-BEARERS FOR 1996

PRESIDENT	Mrs. A.M. Griffiths, O.A.M
DEPUTY PRESIDENT	Mr. D. Archer
VICE-PRESIDENT (2)	Mr. J. Cutbush Mr. A. Platfoot
HON. SECRETARY	Mr. R. Moore
HON. TREASURER	Mr. M. Beavan
HON. RESEARCH OFFICER	Miss H. McDonald
HON. ARCHIVIST	Miss D. Oliver (to July 1996)
HON. EDITOR	Mr. J. Cutbush
HON. PUBLICITY OFFICER	Mrs. P. Rugless
MUSEUM CURATOR -	Mr. A. McGrath
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS (5)	Mrs. M. Blackley Mrs. B. Greentree Mr. A. Humphreys Mr. H. Ivers Mr. S. Roberts
HON. AUDITOR	Mr. R. Lavers
HON. SOLICITOR	Mr. M. Solari

ANNUAL EXCURSION REPORT

During 1996 we had some very interesting outings and our guides have been outstanding; we extend the thanks of the Society to these very good people for making such a success of our trips.

February 18; we visited the Nowra Naval-Air Base -- this was a very different type of outing and most informative to us all.

May took us to the Manly-Warringah Society area - in particular from Mona Vale to Palm Beach because we had been to the Manly end quite some years ago. Our hosts arranged three different things from which we could chose after luncheon and everyone with us had a most pleasurable afternoon, seeing their selection.

July we toured the Wollongong Harbour area after morning tea, seeing especially the convict areas, and then went to the Workers Club for a hot luncheon (on a very windy cool day).

In the afternoon we visited Wollongong Museum -- it is a most wonderful two story house and filled with all types of memorabilia given and collected to remind us all of the "early days".

September Outing was transferred to October for the convenience of the Society and on October 12, and with the longer days coming again we made a trip to Newcastle -- many had not been in that City since the disastrous Earthquake.

The President of their Society was a fund of knowledge and the long tiring day proved well worthwhile.

November we made a week-end trip to Orange, staying at Hotel Canoblas;. we were fortunate to have a most informative and interesting guide on Saturday to see all the historic areas of Orange and after returning to the City itself, found their Museum to be outstanding with so much room to display their wares. As always on the second day as we wended our way home Terry McCosker found much for us to see and enjoy.

My special thanks go to Helen McDonald our Research Officer who assists with the photo-copying of the Excursion Newsletters --to Mr. Ron Wood of "Tiger Tours" for his usual assistance to me with timing for our arrival and other arrangements to ensure we meet our commitments, and especially for rostering Terry McCosker to drive on our outings.

It would be remiss of me were I not to express our thanks to Terry for his commentaries and careful driving -- in addition for accepting to be a member of the Excursion Committee, which adds to the success of our days.

On your behalf I thank the other members of the Excursion Committee namely, Messrs. Archer, Humphreys, Roberts, Mesdames Caddell, Evans, McGrath -- for their assistance in planning and during outings.

Finally, I extend my appreciation to the members who support Betty McGrath and myself to "get the show on the road". Thank you or your special help, Betty.

Aileen Griffiths O.A.M.
EXCURSION CONVENER

MUSEUM REPORT.

We gratefully acknowledge the support and help given by The Sutherland Shire Council to the Society's Museum.

Throughout the year photographic displays of the Sutherland Shire were set up at various venues, the main display being on Australia Day at the North Cronulla Surf Club.

Heritage Week 1996 was held from 28th April to 6th May with a replica of Tom Thumb being on display in the Society's Museum. We welcomed approx. 1670 visitors throughout the year to our various exhibitions.

The Museum continues to be opened every 1st. Saturday of the Month and by request at other times.

Thank You to the members for their help and support throughout the year.

Alan McGrath.
Curator.

Gunnamatta Bay 1949



This crew was boated on November 6, .1949, and the following members comprised the 'eight': Bill Ridley (coxswain), J. Evans (stroke), R. B. Oastler (7), R. Hilder (6), L. Knight (5), B. Higgins (4), R. Suann (3), A. Kavanagh (2), A. Finlay (bow).

PUBLICATIONS REPORT.

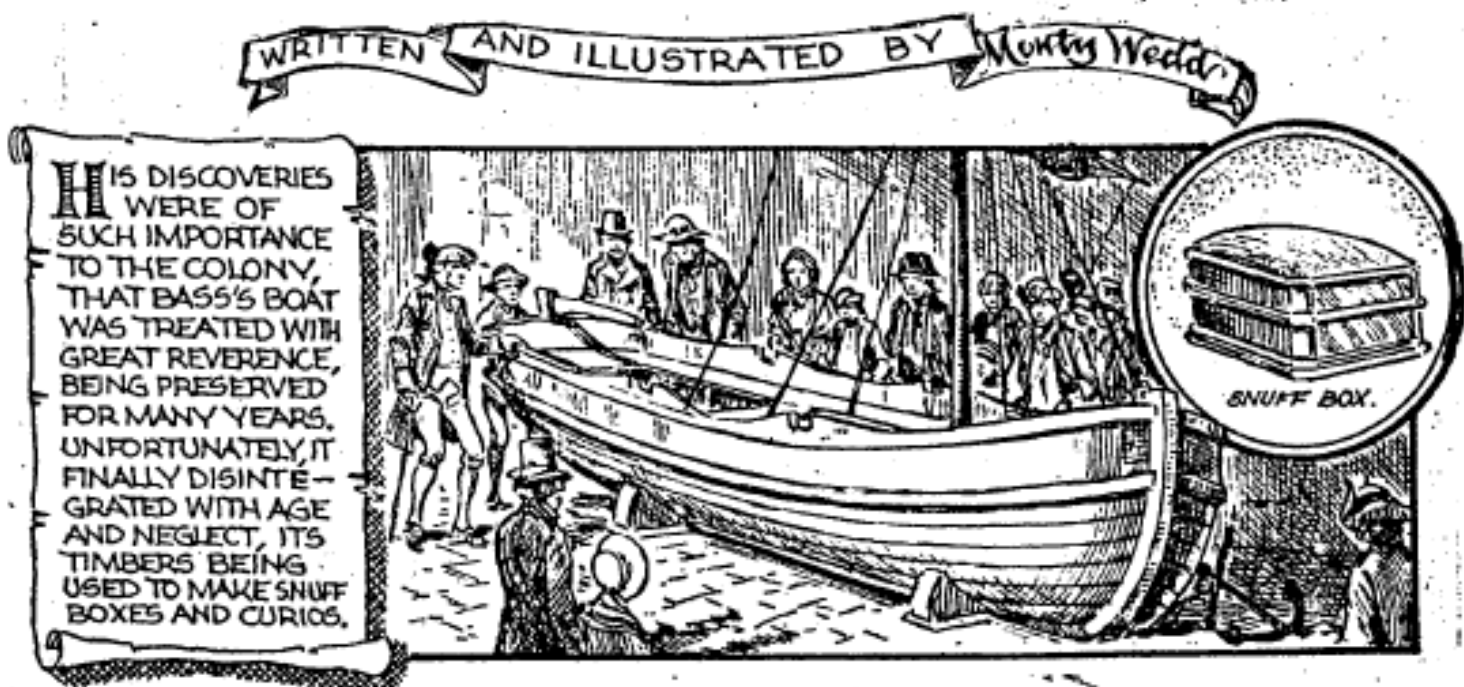
The Society is most grateful to the Sutherland Shire Council for their assistance throughout the year. Our special Thanks to the Printing Department Staff for the printing and stapling of our Bulletin.

Thank You to Aileen Griffiths for her help with always being available to answer my questions. A special Thank You to Alan McGrath for his continued assistance with the Bulletin. The articles in the Bulletin over the past 12 months have been of varied interest thanks to those who have taken the time to contribute. I am most grateful to our members who send in their articles as the Bulletin only survives on these contributions.

Contributions should be typed onto a A4 sheet of paper leaving a one inch (25mm) clear area around all edges with your name and phone number for contact. If unable to have it typed please send it in hand written and we will have it typed for insertion into the Bulletin.

Jim Cutbush.
Editor.

J Cutbush



Secretary's Report

1996 was the year in which we transferred our monthly meeting place to the Multi-purpose building in Flora Street. This venue has proved to be an excellent meeting place the hall is of a suitable size for our meetings, there being no steps, it is easily located and there is plenty of parking.

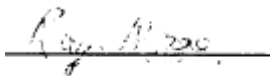
In October the Mayor of the Sutherland Shire, Councillor Kevin Schreiber accepted our invitation to become our Patron and we hope he has the opportunity to join us at some of our meetings.

It was encouraging to see Premier Bob Carr had approved a grant of \$25,000.00 to help establish the Hazelhurst at Gynea. The society was very interested in the development of this lovely old home.

During the year the society welcomed many new members and we look forward to more in 1997.

Our guest speakers for the year were as listed hereunder and I would again like to express our thanks for the very interesting topics spoken about.

January	Members night
February	Rt. Hon. S. Mutch BA MA - Federal member for Cook
March	A.G.M.
April	Mr. D. Greenbank
May	Mr. Peter Patterson
June	Mr. Wayne Johnson
July	Mr. Paul Smith
August	Mr. S. Roberts
September	Mrs. J. Manuel MBE
October	Mrs. B. Goodger
November	Mrs. Lefayre Palmer
December	Social evening.



SUTHERLAND SHIRE HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.
REVENUE ACCOUNT FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 30 NOVEMBER 1996

1995	INCOME	1996
697.00	Members Subscriptions	816.00
232.00	Bulletin Subscriptions	250.00
12.00	Sales - badges & Souvenirs)	163.00
109.50	Sales - Books & bulletins)	607.30
125.10	Donations - Heritage Week)	76.12
91.20	Donations - Museum)	153.09
303.85	Donations - Sundry)	575.65
34.73	Interest - Commonwealth Bank	10039.25
75.91	Interest - St George Bank - Step Up Account	72.00
539.34	Interest - St George Bank - Fixed Term Account	1000.00
<u>12853.18</u>	INCOME TOTAL	<u>13752.41</u>
1995	EXPENDITURE	1996
462.12	Bulletin - Expenses Aust Post Etc	885.13
70.00	Australia Post - Post Office Box (Sutherland PO 389)	70.00
23.00	Society Postage	23.35
141.30	Society Phone Calls	168.75
104.00	Society Stationery	65.39
175.70	Society Sundry Expenses	147.01
0.00	Subscriptions - RAHS etc	177.00
208.00	GIO Insurance	265.00
9.50	Book Purchases	12.00
43.85	Supper Monthly G / Meetings/Anniversary Dinner	730.05
0.00	Hall Rental for Executive & General meetings	540.00
252.40	Photographs - Equipment Purchased	955.50
16.80	Honorariums	330.00
30.08	Government Charges FID, GDT	48.16
0.00	Letter Openers, spoons, Badges, Key rings	1691.40
213.80	Museum	239.75
25.00	Donations	375.00
9080.17	Excursion payments	8938.51
<u>0.00</u>	Refunds	<u>222.00</u>
10855.72	EXPENSES TOTAL	<u>15884.00</u>
1997.46	Surplus/Deficit for year trfed - accumulated fund	- 2131.59
<u>12853.18</u>		<u>13752.41</u>

ACCUMULATED FUNDS

1995		1996
8000.00	ST George Bank - Fixed Term a/c 015-152-672	8000.00
7722.77	St George Bank - Deposit a/c 031-133-594	8451.10
3112.06	Commonwealth Savings & Cheque a/c - Cronulla 0090-5269	252.14
18834.83	TOTAL	<u>16703.24</u>
16837.37 START	Period Asset Balance	END 18834.83
1997.46 START	Balance from Revenue Account	END -2131.59
18834.83	TOTAL	<u>16703.24</u>
	As at 30 November 1996 society holds:	
	* Society Badges	45
	* Friendship Pins	115
	* Souvenir Spoons	84
	* Letter Openers	52
	* Key Rings	89
Cash Book Balance as at 30 November 1996		3112.06
Balance brought forward 1/12/95		
Add income 1/12/95 to 30/11/96		<u>13023.67</u>
		16135.73
Less Expenditure		<u>15883.59</u>
		252.14
Bank Reconciliation as at 30 November 1996		6013.14
Balance as per Bank Statement 30/11/96		
Less unpresented cheques 710165		13.00
710167		100.00
710168		1800.00
710169		3798.00
710170		<u>50.00</u>
Agrees with Cash book Balance		<u>5761.00</u> 252.14



M. J. Beaven

Hon Treasurer

PRESIDENT'S ADDENDUM

With some sadness I commence my final "President's Addendum" as President of the Society.

It is my privilege and pleasure to extend, on your behalf, the thanks of members to those dedicated Executive Council folk for their support which allows for the smooth running of the Society.

Deputy President, Doug Archer has supported me at all times, and has assisted on sub-committees whenever needed. The two Vice-Presidents, namely Mr. Andrew Platfoot and Mr. Jim Cutbush have also been very supportive in your interests when called upon.

Hon, Secretary Ray Moore has carried out his duties excellently and we are very fortunate to have had this gentleman attending to our many needs in this so important position. And here we include our thanks to Mrs. Marjory Blackley (now serving as a Committeeperson) for her continued assistance with typing for the Hon. Secretary and also for the Museum Curator, regularly.

Hon. Treasurer Maurie Beavan in his first term in this position, has kept a very tight rein on our finances and has been most efficient carrying out his duties.

And once again we are indebted to the Hon. Auditor, Mr. Roy Lavers for his continued interest in the Society. We are very appreciative of your support, Roy. - thank you,

The Society is most fortunate having Miss Helen McDonald as Hon. Research Officer; the enquiries she undertakes for the Society are legion, always there to contact enquirers seeking information beyond our Committee and to add to our knowledge too. The Shire is very honoured to have such a person to be the Local History Librarian as are we that Helen is our Research Officer.

During the year, the Hon. Archivist, Miss Diana Oliver retired from Council and that position now remains vacant. We do tell Diana how much we appreciated her continuing support of the Society in all manner of ways and we truly miss you.

It has been the Chief Librarian who was appointed to the position of Hon. Archivist of this Society and each one in turn has been gracious in accepting the position -- with Council restructuring we don't have a "Chief librarian" so we will need to look into an appointment. Helen McDonald represented Diana at Committee Meetings and we thank her for this, whilst Diana was attending the regular Monday evening meetings of Sutherland Shire Council.

Mrs. Phyllis Rugless has continued as Publicity Officer and kept our meeting dates before everyone, especially in the "Leader". Although not enjoying the best of health Phyllis did not fail us.

The Bulletin Editor, Jim Cutbush does a magnificent job and we can only say each edition surpasses its predecessor. Members please keep supporting him by sending articles for publication; it is your Bulletin and we must all help Jim keep up the standard.

What can one say about the Museum Curator, Allan McGrath that has not already been said. It is a credit to him. Congratulations are regularly passed on to him for his readiness to open by arrangement for school groups, historical society visits and even

PRESIDENT'S ADDENDUM 2.

will open for "one" if that person is returning from out of Sydney and has been told we have memorabilia of that family: The Heritage Week presentation offered goes a long way to enabling Sutherland Shire to receive a special Heritage Week Award for the overall presentation.

Each member of the Executive Committee is allotted places on the Sub-Committees or as a special helper to the Office-Bearers and appreciation is extended to the following Messrs. Alfred Humphreys, Harold Ivers, Stewart Roberts, Mesdames Marjory Blackley and Betty Greentree,

I would like to pay special thanks to Stewart Roberts for always being there for me to offer that wise counsel I refer to so often. You have been a wonderful friend for a long time now, and as I retire I thank you most sincerely once again.

We are fortunate we have not needed the services of our Honorary Solicitor, Mr. Michael Solari, but we do thank him for standing by us previously and it is comforting to know you are there if required, in the future.

Due to Council Elections in 1997 and the annual election of a Mayor we thank Clr. Lorraine Rodden for being our Patron early

in 1996, and Clr. Kevin Schreiber for accepting this position on his election as Mayor.

We are much indebted to the Sutherland Shire Council for their continued support of this Society and for including representatives on Committees. We are grateful for the time we were privileged to hold meetings in the Council Chambers and fully understood the need to seek other accommodation with the refurbishment of the building. A special thank-you to Mr. John Rayner for his readiness to discuss with us, any problem needing his expertise.

Alan M. Guffick OAM

PRESIDENT.

The Famous History of
T O M T H U M B.
Wherein is declared,
His marvellous Acts of Manhood.
Full of Wonder and Merriment.

P A R T the F I R S T.



LONDON: Printed for the Booksellers.

This is a copy of the cover of a book of the life story of Tom Thumb. George Bass named the now famous Tom Thumb and Tom Thumb II after him.

Sutherland Shire Historical Society Inc.

FOUNDED
1966



VISITORS AND
INTENDING MEMBERS WELCOME