

SUTHERLAND SHIRE HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC QUARTERLY BULLETIN

Design by (the late) Fred Wiggley



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DID YOU HAVE CHOOKS?

1891 - VENTURA POULTRY FARM OWNED BY MR. ELIJAH
PHILLIPS, WAS ONE OF THE FIRST IN THE SHIRE. THE POULTRY
INDUSTRY GREW LARGE AND WAS AT ONE TIME THE SHIRE'S
BIGGEST INDUSTRY.

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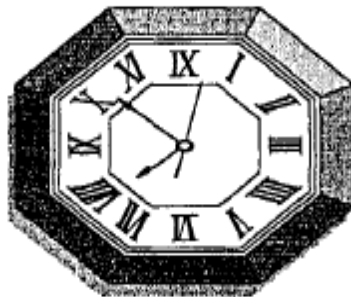
SUTHERLAND SHIRE HISTORICAL SOCIETY BULLETIN

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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 WELCOME

All correspondence should be addressed to:

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QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF THE SUTHERLAND SHIRE HISTORICAL
SOCIETY INC.

Vol. 2 No. 25.

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President's Remarks


Happy New Year to everyone! I hope you all enjoyed the festive season, and are looking forward to the Society's year ahead as much as I am.

This year is an exciting year in our Shire's history, as we celebrate the sixtieth birthday of our rail link from Sutherland to Cronulla, and our centenary of the establishment of Cronulla: It was my pleasure to speak at the launch of the book: "A Pictorial History of Cronulla" by Pauline Curby, one of our members, and Pauline has presented a signed copy to the Society for inclusion in our Shire Library.

And what a wonderful Australia Day we had! We had 24 entries in the Navigators' Cup Yacht Race, between Botany Bay and Sydney Harbour, the week before Australia Day. This yachting event celebrates Phillip's entrance into Botany Bay the week before he arrived in Sydney Harbour, on that historic 26th January, 1788. It commemorates our three great Navigators, Cook, Phillip and La Perouse, and what a fine sight from Kurnell as those huge yachts sailed northwards out of the bay! The Governor General, Sir William Deane, is the patron of our SSROC Australia Day Botany Bay Committee, and I was the inaugural secretary four years ago, and am currently Vice-President. CIr. Ken Finn, Randwick, is the President, and CIr. Geoff Hedges, Rockdale, is the Treasurer, and we have representatives of all the yachting clubs ringing Botany Bay on that Committee, as well as many of the maritime government instrumentalities, Waterways, Coastal Patrol, etc. (In the SSROC Councillors' Challenge on Australia Day, I had thought that the designated Sutherland Shire boat, in which we sailed, had come in second, and was thrilled that it had come first on handicap, thanks to the magnificent skipper and crew of "Legs Eleven")

Our Society was proud to be part of Sutherland Shire's Australia Day, by assembling an interesting historical display of photographs of the Shire in days gone by, at Menai Market Place. Our thanks to members: Allan McGrath; Aileen Griffiths, OAM; Doug Archer, and Allan Boissery who not only collected and assembled the display, but "baby sat" it and then took it down at night and returned it to the School of Arts. We had 1288 people come to see the photos, and it was an exciting event for our Society, as the questions asked of us, and information we gleaned from the public made it a worthwhile exercise.. Next day, our Museum Curator, Allan McGrath, reassembled it at the School of Arts and Tim Fong and David Cobum, (thanks to these Council officers for all their assistance to the Society) invited all the retirement homes to visit it, but the notice was too short and they were unable to arrange buses. Nevertheless it gives us an idea for a mobile display next year! Wasn't the Opera in the Park at Cronulla a memorable event, and again the weather was kind to us.

So with that triumphant start to the year, we now move towards another AGM but more about that shortly. My thanks to every member for the past year's work, in whatever capacity you have assisted, and I hope that the Committee will stand again for re-election, as you can stand tall for a job well done. See you at the meeting!



President

1999 Meetings:

- February: Mr. George Cotis: The History of Port Hacking
- March: Annual General Meeting- Reports, and Election of Officers
- April: Thelma Deacon: History, stories and poems of the Helensburgh district

In submitting this copy to you, it is the work of Mrs Marrion Dormer Historian of Dubbo, who has published several excellent books of local history, I know Marrion personally and I asked her could I offer it to the S.S.H.S. for their Bulletin and she gratuitously said yes.

*Kind Regards
Seagett.*

Massacre at Breelong

Down beside the Wallemburrawang Creek not far from Gilgandra, two tall trees of a variety not found elsewhere in the district reach for the sky. Up on a slight rise the decaying corner posts of the old Mawbey homestead stand stark.

It was the second home on the Breelong Run. The first homestead had been the combined Post Office and Inn on Wallemburrawang Creek about a mile away.

In 1878 John Mawbey took over the Breelong Run which then extended from the Castlereagh to the Marthaguy.

Hard to imagine the scene that took place on Friday July 20, 1900. On that day Jimmy Governor and Jacky Underwood murdered four members of the Mawbey family and a young governess, Helen (Eleanor to her family) Kerz, and inspired a manhunt which was the largest ever mounted in Australia. At one time 2000 police and armed civilians were involved.

Helen Kerz began teaching at Girilambone and went to the small school at Breelong shortly afterwards. She boarded with the Mawbey family and was said to be devoted to her pupils.

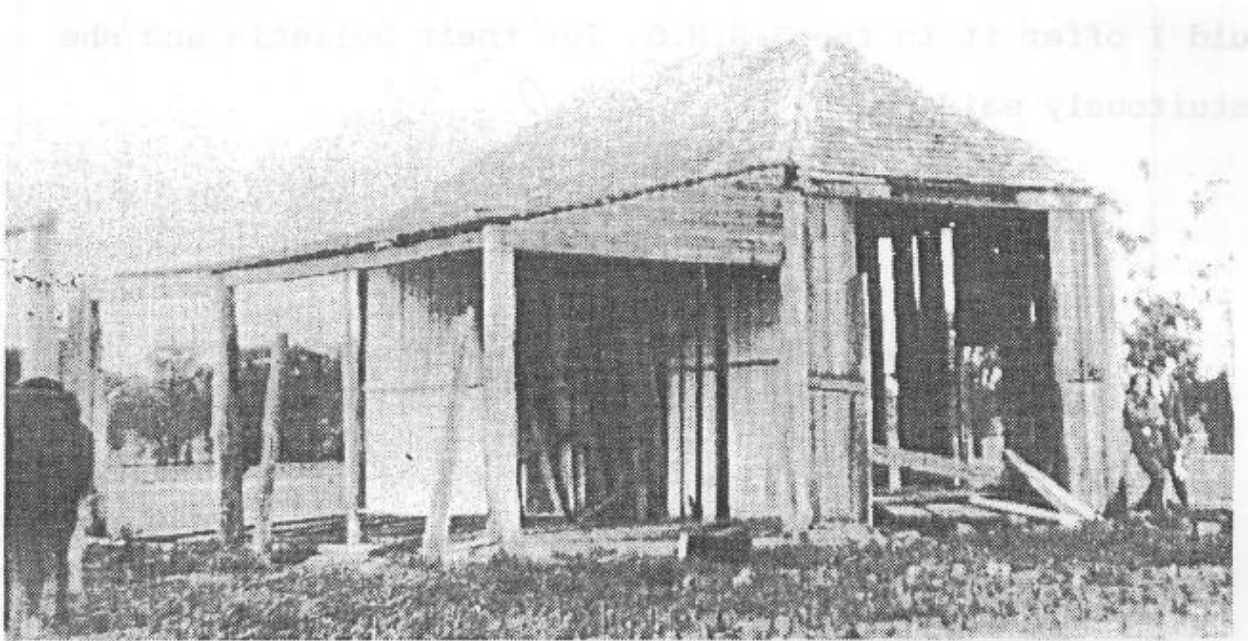
At this time Jimmy Governor, a half-caste Aborigine whose father had been a red-headed Irishman, was working for John Mawbey. He was married to a white girl Ethel (nee Page of Gulgong) and she has been credited with much of the blame for the whole terrible chain of events.

As a bush worker, Jimmy was paid five shillings a day and food, which made up a very good wage for the time. But according to tales handed down through the years, the governess and the Mawbey family sneered at Ethel for being married to a black man, and Jimmy resented this. He resolved to face the people concerned and extract an apology.

Then too, there has been mention of a dishonoured contract for fencing posts.

Jimmy had cut about 100 posts for John Mawbey, who had refused to pay for them because he claimed they were defective. Then he used them anyway, without payment.

The combination of insults evidently sent Jimmy to the old Post Office/Inn where John Mawbey often slept while working on that part of the run. It is thought he meant to kill Mawbey if he was alone. When he found that Fred Clarke and Sydney and Reg Mawbey were also at the old building on this occasion, he merely asked John Mawbey for the next day's rations, and returned to camp. After that, various versions of what took place differ in minor details, but agree on the basics.



The old Mawbey homestead pictured a few years ago. Now only a few posts remain.

In a statement after his capture, Jimmy said that he returned to camp and told his wife he would go to the homestead, see Mrs Mawbey and confront her with the insults she was supposed to have spoken. He said he planned to take her to Court if necessary.

However, when Mrs Mawbey and Miss Kerz came to the door and he asked if what he had heard of their remarks was true, they sneered at him. He lost control and hit Mrs Mawbey with a nulla-nulla and punched Miss Kerz on the mouth. After that he claimed to have lost all reason and could not remember what took place.

But Jackie Underwood testified at his trial at Gilgandra on August 21, 1900 that Jimmy Governor "did all the most murder". Underwood admitted to having hit one girl in the room, but said she was not dead when he left her. He went outside and saw two girls running away, but did not tell Jimmy. Then he saw two boys ... one going out a window, and the other hiding under a bed.

Jimmy meantime had followed the fleeing girls, Grace Mawbey and Helen Kerz, and though they almost escaped he killed them both. First he caught Miss Kerz on the bank of the creek, and felled her with a boondie. A boondie is a yarran stick about three feet long. It weights about three pounds.

Then he caught Grace as she tripped over a log, and he bashed her about the head. She was taken to hospital where she died within a short time.

The most vivid picture of the night's events was re-created by 13 year-old George ("Jacky") Mawbey, nephew of the John Mawbeys, who had spent the previous five months at Breelong because the Sydney climate was considered bad for his frail health.

On the night of the murders, he and his cousin Percy had been awakened by screams and had taken refuge under their beds. Then Percy heard his mother scream for help and he rushed to her aid. George heard Percy threaten to shoot someone, then he heard the boy moan and fall to the floor.

He remained quietly under the bed until the house was quiet, then went as quickly as terrified feet would fly, to tell his Uncle John of the night's happenings. Nine-year-old Bertie Mawbey also escaped to tell his father of the murders, and two of the younger children, Cecil and Garnet slept through the uproar. They were unharmed. Mrs Mawbey's sister Elsie Clark (18) who was a guest at Breelong at the time, was severely injured by Jacky Underwood, but recovered after long hospitalisation. She later testified that she heard Mrs Governor call to her husband that Grace Mawbey and Helen Kerz were trying to escape. But Ethel Governor denied that she was anywhere near the house at the time. She said she and Joe Governor and another man were at the camp all the time the murders were being committed.

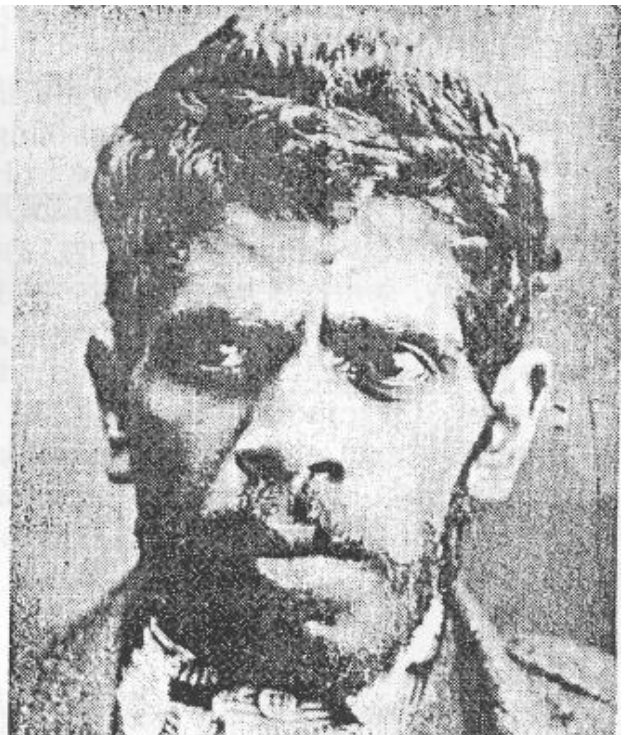
Mrs Sarah Mawbey was shockingly injured, but before she died she said that she knew she was dying, and that Jimmy Governor had hit her with a tomahawk. "I only saw two men," she said "I could hear more outside. I could hear all of them."

The truth of the incident will no doubt remain forever hidden. After the massacre, the Governors fled, but abandoned the semi-crippled Jacky Underwood and he was captured next day near Merrygoen. But Jimmy and Joe Governor terrorised the countryside for a further three months.

The Governors had tasted the excitement of the kill at Breelong, and went on a vengeance trail to Gulgong where Jimmy crept up on a farmer for whom he had once worked, and split his head open with an axe. This man, Alex McKay, was in his 70s and no doubt had little chance against the younger and stronger man.



Jacky Underwood.



Jimmy Governor.

Then the Governors went to the McKay house, where they killed Mrs. McKay and her niece.

They stole food and two horses and set out for Merriwa where Jimmy had a further score to settle with a former employer named O'Brien. O'Brien was away, but they murdered a pregnant Mrs O'Brien and her child.

By this time the Governors had attracted enough attention to merit a £1000 reward ... dead or alive.

During the next three months of diligent searching, a man named Byres was in the forefront of any activity. He had been engaged to Helen Kerz. Though he did not actually capture either of the outlaws, he was largely responsible for their capture.

He and a friend tracked them to wild country on the outskirts of Glenrock Station. There they found a hut to which they thought the bushrangers might come in search of food. This they duly did and Byres shot Jimmy in the mouth, knocking out six of his teeth. But the brothers made their escape.

Jimmy and Joe then split up. Jimmy went toward Taree, while Joe headed for Singleton. A week later a fencer in the Wingham district returned to his tent to find it had been rifled for food. Suspecting the culprit was Jimmy Governor, the fencer enlisted the aid of three mates and went in search of the bushranger. They found him early next morning, fast asleep.

He was quickly overpowered and taken to Wingham on a mattress in a spring cart. His damaged mouth had prevented him from eating for eight days. For three weeks before that he had lived on oranges and wild honey. His face was badly swollen from the mouth wound. As well, doctors recovered 40 pellets of shot from his back and thighs.

Joe Governor was shot in the head by Singleton grazier John Wilkinson at 5 am on October 30 the same year.

He rolled down a creek bank and died in the water. He was buried just outside the Singleton cemetery.

Jacky Underwood was tried at Dubbo on October 22, 1900, convicted of the murder of Percy Mawbey and hanged at Dubbo Jail on January 14, 1901. Almost his last words were "I'll be in Heaven for dinner".

Jimmy Governor was taken to Sydney, where his trial opened at Darlinghurst Court on November 22, 1900 with Judge Owen presiding. He was found guilty, sentenced to death, and was hanged at Darlinghurst Jail on January 16, 1901 . . . just two days after his erstwhile companion Jacky Underwood.

Ethel Governor remarried and had nine children by this second marriage. She had one earlier child while married to Jimmy Governor.

There is a lucerne field now where Helen Kerz and Grace Mawbey ran for their lives in 1900. And two tall trees of a strange species, where the young governess fell.

Dear Jim,

Breelong is not far from where I now live, I had always regarded Jimmy Governor as a proper bastard but now after reading this local account I feel a bit sorry for the bloke. Remember the old maxim, Even a worm will turn when trodden on, but of course worms can't wield axes.

George Heavens Collection.



Vale

Phyllis Rugless

This society noted with sadness, the passing of our popular (past) Publicity Officer on November 12th 1998, peacefully at her home in Cronulla.

Phyllis was always a kind and pleasant Lady that had a wealth of stories of early years in Gymea, some of which have been placed into earlier editions of the Bulletin. At the conclusion of her last story, "Changing Times", she said:

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

What more can be said but **REST IN PEACE** Phyllis.

=====

This Editor would also like to note the passing of **Mr. Jack Buckett** of Miranda on Monday 15th February, 1999. While not being a Society member, Jack has taken his place in History as being a local resident who maintained Sydney's GPO clock and also most other country area clocks that have clock towers, for many years before his retirement.

Our condolences to his family.

JIM CUTBUSH
EDITOR



William George Simpson
born 7th June 1840 or 1841, died 4th January, 1918.

Extract front the St. George Call, 26.1.1918.

William Simpson

The death of Mr. William Simpson, of Port Hacking, which sad event took place on Friday, 11th instant, at his residence, *Wildfell*, Tyreel (Little Turriell) Point, Port Hacking, and to which we briefly referred in our last issue, removes from our midst one who held fair claim to be designated *The Father of Port Hacking*. He was well-known and universally respected throughout the district.

Born in Sydney, seventy-seven years ago, young Simpson, at the age of seven, first took up his residence with his father in the neighbourhood of Port Hacking, when that now favourite resort, was the happy hunting ground of the aboriginals. He was one of the early pioneers

of the now well known North West and South West Arms of Port Hacking River, when schooners used to call in for shells, which they took to Cook's River for lime burning, the principal industry of many residents of the locality at that period. *Bill* Simpson, for by that name he was familiarly known, afterwards took to market gardening, and would sail round in his own boat, *The Blink Bonnie*, with the produce grown in his own gardens. After a short period as market gardener, he left Port Hacking, and took up his abode at Sans Souci for a few years, and engaged in contracting for road work.

Returning to Port Hacking in the early seventies, he engaged in work peculiarly to his liking. As guide for sporting parties, on shooting and fishing outings, *Bill's* services were invaluable. He knew all the good spots, and was delighted when his patrons returned home with *a good bag*. The opening of the accommodation house at Port Hacking by William Simpson, dates from about that time, and has been a popular resort for tourists, shooting and fishing parties ever since. It was here that the greatest part of his life was spent. He was instrumental in the securing for the people of that beautiful area (National Park), through influential visitors going out to Port Hacking for sport, and seeing the natural beauties of the district.

He was one of the first Trustees, together with the late F.S.E. Holt, to have the road cleared and formed from Sylvania to Tyreel Point. At that time there were no Councillors, Road Trusts undertaking the work.

His mother planted one of the Norfolk Island pine trees, which now adorn the grounds in front of the Government accommodation house at Kurnell, the original spot where our illustrious explorer, Captain Cook, first landed in Australia.

No one knew more of the old aboriginals than the late Mr. Simpson did, and many were the interesting tales he could tell of the time when he dined with *King Koomah*, the last George's River King. In his old reminiscences :he could tell many a laughable tale.

The remains of the deceased gentleman were :conveyed from his late residence *Wildfell*, "Tyreel Point, Port Hacking, to Woronora Cemetery, Sutherland, and the funeral was largely attended.

Contributed by Jim Cutbush.

At our Great Lakes Museum we had a loan of a book "Telling Tales out of School", edited by Mary McPherson. Being a past Cronulla School pupil I look up Cronulla in the index and came up with following article.

"CRONULLA CONVEYANCE COACH CAPSIZES ON THE WAY HOME FROM MIRANDA

In 1907 Cronulla pupils were being conveyed to Miranda School. Many Cronulla parents who were not happy about the children travelling by coach agitated for a school at Cronulla, (Cronulla School opened in 1910) Forwarding to the Minister a petition with twenty two signatures on 2nd August 1907. Charles McAlister of Cronulla Beach wrote on the subject of a school at Cronulla to local member of parliament, Frederick W. A. Downes. McAlister pointed out that a serious accident happened to the two horses coach with the children returning from school on 31st July. At the large culvert near Hotel and before the driver reached the high portion - the horses shied and capsized the coach over a two feet bank. Slight grazes and fright were the worst but the parents are quite upset and several of the children will not be sent for a time"

At the bottom of the article was a photo of three coaches and many children. I enclose a photocopy of this photo in case it can be copied as it is a different photo to the one I have with the Miranda School behind the children and coaches. I remember taking my photo to Len Fletcher of Miranda many, many years ago and Len identifying the drivers, where the coaches went to and lots of the children including himself and his brothers. I am still kicking myself that I didn't record what he said at the time. It is lost now.

I would like to add that when my sister, Joy, was old enough to go to school Mum had to decide where to send her. The Dallimore family didn't have a car or conveyance of any kind so Mum worked out it was too far for Joy to walk to Cronulla school and to walk to Caringbah school. Joy would have to climb a steep hill so Miranda was the answer. Mum put Joy on the tram and the conductor put her off at Miranda school and the reverse happened with the teacher putting Joy on in the afternoon and Mum meeting the tram at our corner of Gannon's and Kingsway. At both places there was a tram shed for wet weather. When my other sister, Norma, was ready to go to school she also went to Miranda. The tram service ended in 1931 but Barndsley's blue buses ran then so the two girls would have gone by bus but funny thing when I was old enough I had to walk to Cronulla school. Too far for Joy not too for the Elva.

Elva Carmichael 'Cronulla 'girl' now living in Tuncurry'



The Royal Australian Historical Society.

1921.

PATRONS:

His Excellency the Governor-General of Australia.
His Excellency the Governor of New South Wales

MIRANDA
PUBLIC
SCHOOL.

Memorandum to the Teachers of New South Wales.
(By permission of the Hon. Minister for Education.)

Local History Research.

It is desirable that teachers should encourage the pupils of the higher primary classes to carry out research work in the history of the localities in which the schools are situated. Under the supervision of the teachers this could be done by individual effort, supported by collective class work. If the teacher co-operate with his pupils, materials to form the basis of a local history could be collected and arranged, and even a local history written by the school. In nearly every centre of any consequence in the State there are to be found men still living who were connected with the original settlements and their subsequent developments.

Such an effort as the one proposed would reveal to the pupils one of the sources of information open to the historian, and thus show them how histories are made ; it would save from oblivion much of the history of our State which otherwise might be entirely lost ; it would tend to create a healthy and active interest and pride in the pupils' district ; the pupils' self-activity would be usefully directed and employed ; and the interest thus roused might possibly result in some pupils eventually setting out on a career as research students.

Teachers are therefore advised to set their pupils the task of seeking for answers to certain definite questions such as those suggested below, and others that will readily suggest themselves. Local residents, especially the earlier settlers of time district, should be encouraged to write or dictate their reminiscences.

One of the inevitable difficulties of research of the nature suggested lies in the entanglement of myth and fiction with truth. It will be the business of the teacher to form some estimate of the value of the various pieces of information tendered by the old residents. Defective memory, distorted views due to prejudice or personal eccentricities, the emphasis on trivialities, and the neglect of significant and valuable detail, and many other baffling circumstances render it necessary for one to be ever on guard. Ingenuity in testing and judgment in accepting or rejecting the information must be exercised. The teacher should take all reasonable care and seize every opportunity to test its reliability. Where possible several versions of the same incidents should be obtained and used as checks. All statements should be supported wherever possible by quoting authorities :—Thus. it is preferable to say that " Mrs. Charles Jones, who has been a resident in Opossum Valley since 1846, says that the place was named from the fact that, &c.," instead of merely stating that " The place received its name from the fact that. &c. After a reasonable time, say from three to six months, (or even longer if necessary) according to the amount of material available, and during which period occasional class readings and discussion-, may be held, the signed reminiscences of settlers, old letters, documents, photos and other Material, together with any arranged account that may have been worked up by the school, should be sent in to the head office of the Education Department for transmission to the Royal Australian Historical Society. The Council of this society has undertaken to examine and arrange the material for ready reference, and make periodical publication of such as may prove of value or interest.

K. R. CRAMP, President.
C. H. Bertie, Hon. Secretary.

1921.

Local History Research in Schools.

MIRANDA
PUBLIC
SCHOOL.

Arrangements have been made with the Royal Australian Historical Society to encourage the teachers and senior pupils of our schools to initiate the study of local history in the various centres of settlement in this State.

This new departure in history studs- will serve as a means of placing on record very much of the early History of country settlements in New South Wales that is now in danger of being lost through want of any collecting and recording agency, and it will also serve a very useful purpose in the education of the senior pupils of our schools.

You are therefore recommended to observe the suggestions and questions put before you by the Historical Society in the note appended hereto, and, in conjunction with your senior pupils, endeavour to collect the reminiscences of the older residents, and compile from such material some account of the origin and development of settlement in your district. Such a piece of work may well be regarded as a legitimate section of the History Course undertaken in your school. .

In due course such collection and compilation should be forwarded to this .office for transmission to the Historical Society.

P. BOARD,

Director of Education.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION,

Sydney, 22nd August, 1921.

I consider these to be of historical value, so, I have included them here, as I'm sure no copies are recorded anywhere else.

G.H.H.

ooo000ooo

Suggested Questions for Class Research.

1. What is the name of your town, village, or district?
2. What is the origin of the name
3. Give names (and their origins) of other places in the district.
4. Are there any aboriginal names for these places ? If so, state what they are and what they mean.
5. Who first discovered and explored the district ? Give details and dates, if possible.
6. When and where was the first settlement in your district made ?
7. Who was the first settler or pioneer ? (Give date of arrival.)
8. What other persons may be regarded as pioneers ? Why
9. What have you learnt about these pioneers ? What have you learnt from them about the early settlement ?
10. What is the earliest incident known concerning your town or district ?
11. Give details of the most important event.
12. Give details of other events or incidents occurring in your district in its early days. (If not already supplied in answer to question 9.)
13. When was Shire or Municipal Government established in your district ? Give some detail of the establishment.
14. Give histories of buildings, monuments, or spots of historic interest.
15. Work up some account of any notable men connected with the history or the public life of Australia, who were born or lived in your district. (This account should include details, if obtainable, of their youthful days.)
16. Tell what you can of the origin and growth of your school, together with a list, chronologically arranged, of the teachers who have at various times been appointed to the school.
17. Give any other interesting historical detail not asked :or in the previous questions.

THESE ARE THE ANSWERS GIVEN TO THE QUESTIONS ABOVE BY H. LUXTON - PUPIL OF MIRANDA PUBLIC SCHOOL 1921.

- 1) Miranda.
- 2) After a character in one of Shakespeare's plays.
- 3) Sutherland, after one of Cook's sailors
- 4) The Blacks used to call Cronulla -Kurranulla.
- 5) Mr Holt 1893. Capt Cook 1770.
- 6) Miranda.
- 7) the first settlement was made at "Miranda where the school is now.
- 8) Mr Laycock who (lived) where the clay pit is now . 1860.
- 9) Mr Lyes father was an early settler year 1892.
- 10) This district was thrown open by Holt-Sutherland Estate Company, Mr Macfarlane, Mr Osbourne, W. Whittater, Mr King, Mr Shepherd and my Grandfather, (Mr Luxton) and many others settlers.
- 11) The place where the school is on now was once called " The Old Farm)"
- 12) 11) About 1907.

NOTE.---In each case give what evidence you can as to the accuracy of your information. As far as possible, the teacher should certify to the accuracy of the statements made, or the reliability of the source of information. Authorities for the answers should be freely quoted.

LETTER FROM GALLIPOLI

Gallipoli
August 26th 1915

Dear Flo & Charlie

I received your letter of July 4th, yesterday, and also one from Cecil and I was real glad to get them. I am pleased to hear that everyone over there are doing O.K. I am feeling pretty good myself, except for being a trifle weary of it.

I will not write much news about our movements in this letter, as I wrote a fairly long letter home a few days ago, giving a slight account of the principal events which have occurred to my Battalion and Brigade since we landed. Of course I could not write on account of any length, as I would need a big volume to do that, so I am afraid that the full story of our adventures over here will have to wait until I return, if I have the luck to. Our last big engagement was our charge on August 6th. My Company of the 3rd Bat had the honour of leading this charge. I am not going to describe this charge here, because I know that you will have had a fuller description of it over there before this reaches you as Captain Bean the War Correspondent was watching the whole of it. All I can say now is, that it was jolly hot while it lasted. I got through it safely excepting for a few holes through my clothes and tobacco tin, and some splashes from a bomb. My word, didn't they give us a time of it with their bombs after we had taken the position, it was like hell; however we managed to hang on to it, after repulsing several counter-attacks, and we are still there, with every likelihood of stopping too. I might say here that the Turk's trenches and our trenches, are in places no more than seven yards apart, pretty close fighting "eh,,

I have read in some of the Sydney papers, accounts of the atrocities committed on our chaps by the Turks, but I would not place too much reliance on those accounts, as I myself think that they are a little stretched. I have seen some terrible wounds, and my first thought was that they had been mutilations done by the Turks, but on second thoughts I came to the conclusions that they had been caused through bursting shells or machine guns. I have since conversed with several of the A.M.C. and stretcher bearers, and they also are of the opinion that these terrible wounds were caused by shells.

As regards the explosive and Dum Dum bullets that have been reputed to have been used; they may have used Dum Dum's, but I don't think that there have been any explosive bullets at all used. The Mauser bullet has a very peculiar double crack, which could very easily be mistaken for an explosive, and I think that this crack as it whizzes past has caused some of our lads to think that they were explosive bullets.

Altogether, as far as I have seen (and I think I have seen as much as anyone here,) the Turks have given us a very fair deal, and have fought us equally as fair as we have fought them.

I am trying to find out about Bill Penton, and I will be going over to the 2nd Battalion tomorrow so I would not say anything to his people until you get another letter from me. Well old chaps we have had a pretty rough time of it lately as you will see by the paper, especially we old hands, but we are doing as well as can be expected under the circumstances.

I hope that you, Flo and children and also all the rest are doing alright. I expect that you are getting good weather now. The climate over here has been grand up to the present, but I think we are in for some pretty rough weather, by the look of it today. This will be all this time wishing you all good health and luck,

I remain your's etc Pere

Contributed by Elva Carmichael.

This is written on some of the paper I took out of a Turkish Officer's dugout after we had captured their position.

LEST WE FORGET



A typed copy of the hard to read, hand written, original date indiscernible, in my possession. (21st Nov. 1991. G.H.H.) In 1899 the National Park was dedicated to the Public by the Government of Sir Henry Parkes. Early in 1880 the first Railway survey was made of the South Coast Railway line which runs through Sutherland.

Early in 1881 the Trig Stations were erected in the County of Cumberland. About the same year, The Holt-Sutherland Company took over all land from the Hon. Thomas Holt on the 99 years lease. Poultry farming, market Gardening, Cattle, Vineyards, and the growth of Flowers, were chiefly indulged in ...

Mr O'Neil, and his wife, who was Nurse to the Queen, (Queen Vic.) opened the first boatshed at Cronulla, in 1882.

Mr H. Dunn, now deceased, was the first caretaker of National Park in 1889. and the roads through the Park were constructed by the following men, Messers S Watkins, R. Ferris, J. Henry, and J.C.Beers.

In the early days Native roses & Waratahs grew abundantly where now it is most thickly populated around Sutherland, and the place was wild with Native Dogs, Walabies, and Kangaroos.

The first steam launch on the Port Hacking River was the "Roaring Gimblet", the Captain was Mr W.Reid who is still on the park. The first Trustees of National Park were, Sir Henry Parkes, Hon. John Lucas, Hon. J. Sutherland, Sir John Robinson, Doctor Atherton, Walter Bradley, and Mr John Want, (Chairman.)

The Port Hacking River has some beautiful spots, especially as it nears National Park.

Cronulla is very beautiful and a favourite holiday resort.

This is signed (Jim Madigan)

N.B. I copied this from a badly battered piece of paper in my possession.

George Heavens. Collection.

THE S.C.A.M.
SATURDAY, 1st SEPTEMBER, 1951

JOAN BISHOP'S
FOR
BETTER HAIRDRESSING

Guaranteed satisfaction on all your
Hairdressing Problems, by Experts.

**Permanent Waves and Razor Cuts
a Speciality.**

Ring LB2581 for an appointment or
call at No. 5 BOYLE STREET,
SUTHERLAND
(next to Picture Show).

G.H. Collection

Sutherland Rifle Club
800 yards, 20/10/51

W. Bird 95, D. F. Shephard 94, Don
Shephard 93, R. Verlin 92, H. Pink
92, F. Gosling 91, W. Gilmore 91, P.
Garden 90, H. Coles 90, K. Rush 87,
H. Wood 86, K. Shephard 86, L. Col-
grave 85, R. Berry 84, O. Sargent 83,
D. Coppin 82, P. Rush 78.

G.H. Collection

Frank Horner *Looking for La Pérouse: D'Entrecasteaux in Australia and the South Pacific* 1792-1793, The Miegunyah Press/Melbourne University Press, Melbourne, 1995, pp. 318, illustrations, bibliography, index, ISBN 0 522 844510, \$49.95

Reviewed by Edward Duyker

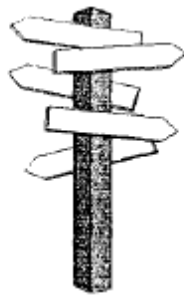
Frank Homer will be familiar to all serious students of Australian exploration as the author of the *French Reconnaissance: Baudin in Australia 1801-1803*. His most recent book is another major contribution to the study of the French discovery of Australia's coastline, ethnography and natural history.

I must confess that, rather than Australian exploration, I first read of Joseph-Antoine Raymond Bruny d'Entrecasteaux (1739-1793) in the context of the history of Mauritius - my mother's native island - where the explorer was Governor from 1787 until 1789. (He was replaced before news of the storming of the Bastille reached the island; otherwise he might have shared the fate of the senior naval officer on station, Henry Macnamara, whose severed head was paraded by his troops on a pike.) Years later, I was drawn to the Chateau d'Entrecasteaux, Joseph-Antoine's birthplace in Provence, and found it the home of an expatriate Scottish family from whom I acquired my copy of Admiral Maurice Dupont's biography *D'Entrecasteaux: rien que la mer, un peu de gloire*. But I digress.

On returning to France, d'Entrecasteaux was selected to lead the search for yet another famous former resident of Mauritius, Jean Francois de Galaup de La Perouse, who disappeared after visiting Botany Bay in early 1788 and whose fate had become something of a French national obsession. The expedition had been approved by the National Assembly in February 1791, but did not sail from Brest until late September. In command of the vessels *La Recherche* and *L'Espérance*, d'Entrecasteaux's search for his compatriot would result in significant discoveries, including Bruny Island and the D'Entrecasteaux Channel in Tasmania and Esperance Bay in Western Australia.

This is not the first study of this important explorer of Australian waters; aside from Admiral Maurice Dupont's valuable biography, there is the late Brian Plomley's *The General: The visits of the expedition led by Bruny d'Entrecasteaux to Tasmanian Waters in 1792 and 1793* (Queen Victoria Museum, 1993). Frank Homer's excellent work, however, is the first to provide a detailed examination of the expedition's genesis and its discoveries - not only its two visits to Tasmania, but its visits to Western Australia and New Guinea. His elegant, measured, historical prose is founded on a masterly control of a diverse range of French sources - both published and unpublished - including some of the earliest records of the Aborigines of Tasmania.

The account of the Australian landfalls, Bruny d'Entrecasteaux's death in New Guinea waters, the disintegration of the expedition on Royalist and Republican lines in the Dutch East Indies when it was learnt that Louis XVI had been executed, the confiscation of Labillardière's natural history specimens and their eventual return through the gracious intervention of Sir Joseph Banks (which paved the way for the first published Australian flora), make this an engrossing story. The pleasure of the read is enhanced by John Currey's beautiful design, Keith Mitchell's fine maps and reproductions of several splendid contemporary illustrations by Redouté and Piron from Labillardière's *Atlas*. D'Entrecasteaux did not discover the fate of La Perouse, but his expedition has nevertheless achieved an enduring place in our history.



SOME HISTORICAL ANNIVERSARIES

1699 - William Dampier in the "ROEBUCK" on the North West coast of New Holland (WA) 300 years ago.

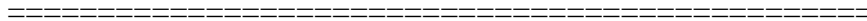
1799 - Matthew Flinders & his Brother Samuel in the "NORFOLK" (built on Norfolk Island), to Glass House and Hervey Bay's (QLD) 200 years ago.

1899 - The village of Gunnamatta was proclaimed. (later to be renamed Cronulla in 1908 and then gazetted an urban area 1912) 100 years ago.

1924 - Cronulla Catholic Church Parish of St. Aloysius Gonzaga (named after a Jesuit novice) celebrates. 75 years ago.



SATURDAY 17TH APRIL - SUNDAY 2ND MAY 1999
 THE THEME THIS YEAR IS
 TOWARDS 2000 - A CENTURY IN REVIEW



THE SUTHERLAND SHIRE HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.
 INVITES MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES AND FRIENDS TO
 ATTEND THE SUTHERLAND SCHOOL OF ARTS WHERE OUR
 MUSEUM WILL BE OPEN EACH DAY DURING HERITAGE
 WEEK FROM 9.30 A.M. TO 4.00 P.M.

THERE WILL BE AN EXHIBITION OF PHOTOGRAPHS AND
 MEMORABILIA CELEBRATING THE OPENING OF THE
 SUTHERLAND TO CRONULLA RAILWAY LINE AND ALSO THE
 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PROCLAIMED VILLAGE OF
 GUNNAMATTA.

ANOTHER MATTHEW FLINDERS **ANNIVERSARY**

Flinders remained in his Majesty's service and in the year 1799 was raised to the rank of Lieutenant. With his little ship the Norfolk (built on Norfolk Island in June 1798, from Norfolk Pine), he along with his Brother Samuel, examined the coasts of New South Wales from Sydney northward as far as Hervey Bay (Queensland).

It was not in discovery alone that made Flinders successful but also the beautiful and exact charts of all the coasts. He sometimes spent whole days in careful and laborious observations and measurements in order to have the latitude of a single place correctly marked.

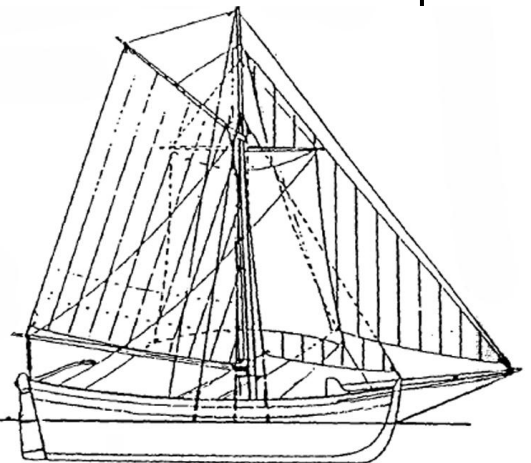
A re- enactment of the above journey is now being done to celebrate the 200th anniversary in a replica of the sloop Norfolk privately owned and funded by Tasmanian Mr. Bern Cuthbertson's superannuation and built to a 1770 plan obtained from Greenwich's Maritime Museum by Mr. Richard Davis. Last year in Tasmania this craft was built using traditional methods, and sailed with sextants and an octant of the period, some of the timbers used were Huon and Celery Toppine and Blackwood, supplied by Tasmania's Forestry Department.

Some modern resins and varnishes were used which I am sure the early Shipwrights have liked to have had for the original Norfolk. The dimensions of the new Norfolk's hull is 35 feet with an overall length of 52 feet it's beam 11 feet and a displacement of 16 tons (all in the old measurements.)

This vessel sails at around 3 to 4 knots per hour in a good light breeze. After this re-enactment (the last of 3) Mr. Bern Cuthbertson hopes the ship will be housed indoors in a Tasmanian Museum as a fitting memorial to Bass and Flinders.

JIM CUTBUSH

The new Norfolk



EXCURSION REPORT

On the week end visit to Tuncurry we were made very welcome by Members of that Society, and especially by our long time member and former committeeperson, Mrs. Elva Carmichael and her husband Don.

Tuncurry—Foster is a delightful area and there is so much for tourists to see. And how fortunate is the local Society to have a Museum of the calibre shown to us.

Elva said she has not been homesick for the Shire since moving to Tuncurry ten years ago until she saw the coach; "Tiger Tours" reminded her of travelling with us so often and she wiped away a tear or two; this I guarantee is true as she was wiping her eyes as we met!!!

Due to change of command at Spectacle Island we have still been unable to confirm a date to visit this naval museum; the new Lieut. Commander has just taken over and we are to make contact again in a "month or so" when he settles in.

The May Excursion is to that very old shale mining town of Joadja; we have been trying to include this outing in our tours for a long time and have finally been able to make a booking; SATURDAY, MAY 29, 1999. To enable us to arrive in time for Morning Tea (provided) and join the 10.30a.m. inspection we must leave Cronulla at 7.30 a.m., Sutherland 3 a.m. Please take your luncheon requirements, which has been arranged to keep costs at the minimum.

Costs: Members 333.00 and Visitors \$43.00 which includes Coach, and inspection fees.

It has been suggested we visit Rouse Hill House on our next excursion, which will be Saturday, July 24, 1999. The tour has been booked to arrive at this historic house at 10 a.m. for a comfort stop and morning tea and commence the inspection at 10.30 a.m. Leave Cronulla 8.30, Sutherland 9 am

As part of the inspection needs being around the grounds it is recommended you wear comfortable shoes, take a hat, some repellent and block out, (if you use this). The lady who made the booking for us said to remember conditions in Parramatta area are different to the seaside, so be sure to take a jacket.

We will then go on to Hambledon Reserve for luncheon followed by an inspection of Hambleton Cottage, etc., including the old Parramatta Cemetery, where you will see the grave of Henry Dodd, which this society supported with a donation many years ago for restoration. Henry Dodd grew the first grain in the Colony.

Cost of the day will be Members 320.00, visitors 25.00 which includes coach, entrance fees and Society donation. Please take your morning tea and luncheon requirements with you.

Discussions are being held about the possibility of making the September outing the weekend trip for 1999, with the November day tour; this will be explained as soon as possible at a meeting.

Bookings to Mrs. Betty McGrath (9521—2777) 141 Loftus Avenue, Loftus;
enquiries about details of tour to me at 9523—5301

Biker Enquiries 0 AM

Excursion Bookings

1. Bookings are to be made direct with the Booking Officer or a duly deputised booking clerk.

Payments

One Day Tour

One day tours are to be announced at the general meeting, and payment is to be made with booking. Telephone bookings to the Booking Officer are acceptable, but must be payable within 7 days.

Excursion- 2-3 day

1. Payment of the specified deposit must be made within 1 month of the announcement of the excursion. The balance may be paid in monthly instalments but must be finalised by the general monthly meeting, prior to the excursion.
2. All payments are to be made direct to the Booking Clerk, or deputy booking clerk either by mail or in person.

Refunds

Should a ticket purchaser be unable to attend, contact should be made at the earliest opportunity with the Booking Clerk.

(a) Fully Booked Excursion

The booking Clerk may be able to reallocate the ticket to another person should the excursion be fully booked and there is a waiting list.

(b) Excursion with Vacancies

A refund will be given:

- (i) If the tour is not fully booked the ticket purchaser may endeavour to transfer the ticket to another person known to them and will be responsible to recoup the cost of the ticket from same. The Booking Clerk should be advised of any such transfer at the earliest opportunity.
- (ii) In the event of the ticket purchaser being unable to reallocate the ticket, they will not be able to obtain a refund except where the Society may be able to cancel any of the cost components of that excursion, and a refund relates to these monies.
- iii) In the event of the transfer of a ticket the Booking Clerk, or deputy, is to be advised of any change in the pick-up point, which information is to be passed on to the Excursion Officer.

Booking Clerk: Mrs. Betty McGrath Ph: 9521-2227 141 Loftus Avenue, Loftus, NSW

SUTHERLAND SHIRE HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the 33RD ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Sutherland Shire Historical Society Inc. will be held Friday, March 19th, 1999, in the Multi-Purpose Building, Flora Street, Sutherland at 8.00 p.m.

A G E N D A

1. Welcome
2. Apologies
3. To confirm and adopt Minutes of the 32nd Annual General Meeting.
4. Submission and adoption of the 32nd Annual Report of the Executive Council and Hon. Treasurer's Financial Statement and Balance Sheet for 1998.
5. Out-of-pocket expenses
6. ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 1999.
7. GENERAL BUSINESS: pertaining to the Annual General Meeting only.

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

Councillor Dawn Emerson
PRESIDENT.

SUTHERLAND SHIRE HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.
OFFICE BEARERS FOR 1998.

<u>PRESIDENT</u>	Councillor Dawn Emerson
<u>DEPUTY PRESIDENT</u>	Mr. D. Archer
<u>VICE PRESIDENTS (2)</u>	Mr. J. Cutbush Mrs. A. Griffiths OAM
<u>HON SECRETARY</u>	Mrs. M. Whybourne
<u>HON. TREASURER</u>	Mr. M. Beaven
<u>HON. RESEARCH OFFICER/</u> <u>ARCHIVIST</u>	Miss. H. McDonald
<u>HON. EDITOR,</u>	Mr. J. Cutbush
<u>HON. PUBLICITY OFFICER</u>	Mrs. M. Blackley
<u>MUSEUM CURATOR</u>	Mr. A. McGrath
<u>EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE</u> <u>MEMBERS (8)</u>	Mrs. B. Greentree Mrs. I. Caddell Mrs. V. Bronson (to Nov. 98) Mrs. B. McGrath (from Nov 98) Mr. S. Roberts Mr. A. Humphreys Mr. A. Platfoot Mr. D. Perry
<u>HON. AUDITOR</u>	Mr. R. Lavers
<u>HON. SOLICITOR</u>	Mr. M. Solari

EXCURSION COMMITTEE
ANNUAL REPORT

The year under review gave us some very interesting outings, although it is becoming increasingly difficult to visit places not previously chosen for your entertainment.

Firstly, in February Terry suggested that the outing be known as a "Mystery" trip when we visited Peach Tree Inn near Emu Plains and Penrith. It was a Museum beyond anything we could have expected with its memorabilia and bric-a-brac of all types and kinds. After morning tea and the inspection we had the opportunity to view the rowing and other water sports area at Penrith, being prepared for the Olympic Games before going on for a Smorgasbord luncheon to complete our time in that district.

In May we again visited the Southern Highlands; but this time to Kangaloon, and the other close by villages, which have been by-passed when we have been in Bowral, Burradoo, etc. With our good friend Colin Sproule as guide, and especially as his forbears settled in that district many years ago the historical information and comments were absorbing, being of so much family knowledge.

July was the day for the long awaited inspection of that so famous aircraft "Connie"; Seeing it now, makes it unbelievable that a plane found derelict in an American Desert could be restored by the many volunteers, to its flying condition. What a wonderful tribute to that dedicated group of people:

After a luncheon stop at the famous Mascot park, we visited the National Maritime Museum in the early afternoon with most talented guides to tell the history of all the Museum items, and then to board the H.M.A.S. Vampire made a most successful conclusion to the day.

In September our visit was to Wyong Society: the members who were able to meet us at their Museum were wonderful hoots and learning of their history, all about the large property which had come into their position was excellent. And they were kind enough to invite us to have lunch on their property, in the breezeway of the verandah.

Unfortunately on that day, later to us making the booking to visit, it became necessary for the Society to take part in a special Sunday function for the district; because of this it was not possible for us to have the expected guide around the township; however our thanks as usual to Terry, joined on this occasion by Hon. Treasurer Maurie Beaven for their knowledge of some of the buildings, as we made our way back to the Freeway.

Finally, in November we visited Tuncurry for our three day tour; Thanks to Mrs. Elva Carmichael our member and formerly Committee Member whilst still resident in the Shire for her assistance in the preparations with members of that Society; it was a most interesting period of time with those folk, visiting the many places of stature in both Tuncurry and Foster, and for their luncheon hospitality in the grounds of the Museum.

ANNUAL EXCURSION REPORT page 2.

It was pleasing to have Madam President and her husband, together with Elva and Don Carmichael as our guests for dinner on Saturday evening.

We look forward to returning hospitality to our northern friends if they are able to accept our invitation to visit the Sutherland Shire.

(NOTE) To long time residents of the Shire, Mrs. Carmichael is the daughter of the late Clr. Reg Dallimore, and their property was "Jenola" on corner of Kingsway and Gannons Road, Cronulla.

(NO!! Jenola is not an aboriginal name -- it is made up of the initials of Elva and other family member initials.)

We were also very pleased to have a special guest on the trip with us; Mr. Christopher Green, the nephew of John and Elizabeth Green, who was visiting from England. It was lovely to meet Christopher and to show off some of New South Wales holiday areas to him during his stay.

We received a lovely letter of thanks to the Society, and in particular appreciation of Terry from Christopher.

Members of the Excursion Committee thank members for attending the outings provided; we are always glad to have constructive comments and any suggestions of places you may consider could be suitable for us to visit -- because one visits by motor car it is not always possible for a coach to go over that area due to load limits, length of vehicle and especially height because of the air-conditioning on top of Coach. But we will do our best.

Outings for 1999 have been changed from second Saturday of our month of outings to the Saturday of the week-end following the meeting nights. For your convenience we list them for 1999;

May 29; July 24; September 25; November 28;

Thanks are extended to members of the Excursion Committee for the assistance they give towards the outings, namely Messrs. Archer, Roberts, Mesdames Caddell, Evans, Perry; special mention of our booking officer Mrs. Dotty McGrath for the time she devotes to ensuring the bookings are in order, and lastly my thanks to the Committee and members.

Aileen M. Griffiths OAM

EXCURSION CONVENER

MUSEUM ANNUAL REPORT

Over the past year the Museum has been involved in many interesting exhibitions. Heritage Week 1998 proved to be a very interesting and informative time with the usual display of artefacts and photographs as well as a Lawrence Hargrave display of box kites and photographs, combined with a wonderful display of colourful kites from the Australian Kiteflyers Society. Overall interest was very high with 403 adults and 337 school children passing through.

In October 1998, the Museum was involved in the Grays Point Public School October Festival. An exhibition of photographs of the Sutherland Shire including Grays Point, was very well received by the public with many favourable comments.

For Education Week, an exhibition was assembled at Westfield Shoppingtown Miranda, of Historical interest. The school children and the public showed appreciation of the display.

Australia Day 1999 was celebrated at Menai marketplace on Saturday 23rd January 1999. This proved to work well as the area gave plenty of room to walk around and view the photographic exhibition. My grateful thanks to Steve Simpson and his family for the assistance with assembling and disassembling the exhibition. The exhibition was opened from 10am to 5pm with 1288 public passing through, showing lots of interest, with the teenagers being especially inquisitive. The museum was also open on Australia Day, Tuesday 26th January, as an added interest to the public.

The museum continues to be opened on the first Saturday of each month from 9am to 3pm and at other times on request. Thank you to the Sutherland Shire Council for their support of the Museum. Thank you to the Committee and Members for their continued help throughout the year at all of the Museum's events.

ALLAN McGRATH
MUSEUM CURATOR



PUBLICATIONS REPORT

My thanks to everyone who has contributed over the past 12 months for, their stories of varied interest to make the Bulletin an enjoyable read. The Bulletin only survives on these contributions.

Contributions should be typed onto an A4 sheet of paper, leaving a one inch (2.5cm) 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.

The Sutherland Shire Historical 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 Allan McGrath for his assistance with the Bulletin and Thank You to Andrew Platfoot for the printing of the address labels.

My Thanks to Jodie and Graham for their time given on the computer set ups.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Cutbush', written in a cursive style.

JIM CUTBUSH

BULLETIN EDITOR

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Our meetings during 1998 were very interesting and informative and we were very fortunate to have such a variety of topics covered by our speakers.

In February, we were invited to hold our meeting in a tram !! at the Tramway Museum, Loftus, a truly unique experience. All were impressed by the dedication of the men who have so lovingly restored so many trams - from Sydney, Melbourne, Japan and U.S.A. We all enjoyed the ride!

March was the Annual General Meeting when I unexpectedly found myself succeeding Mr. Ray Moore as Secretary. He assured me I would enjoy the position and I have.

In April, Mrs. Muriel Wills spoke to us about her visit to Gallipoli - a very poignant and moving experience; she made us very much aware of the utter futility of War, the dreadful waste of young lives.

In May, Captain Don Carter of the Bushfire Brigade showed us a very graphic video of the Brigade in action in a horrendous bush fire in our district and told of the courageous, dedicated and willing band of volunteers who belong to the Brigade.

In June, we were privileged to have Mr. Arthur Gietzelt, AO, a former Shire President and Minister of Veterans Affairs in the Hawke Government, as our speaker. Mr. Gietzelt has a very strong affection for the Shire and when Shire President was instrumental in organising parks, swimming pools, libraries and the E. G. Waterhouse Garden was established during his term.

Mrs. Pauline Curby, a member of the Society, was our speaker in July.

Mrs. Curby is a professional Historian and has lived in Cronulla for twenty years. She spoke of the book she was writing on Cronulla and photographs illustrating its growth - this book was subsequently printed and is available in book-shops and newsagents - an excellent production.

Councillor Ken McDonell gave us a very interesting address regarding his Scottish ancestors who had migrated to Australia in 1837 during the time of the Clan clearances. All enjoyed this August meeting - the history of our forefathers is always fascinating.

In September, Mr. Les Bursill - a very well informed person particularly regarding the Dharawal people who had lived in the Royal National Park Area. He showed some interesting slides of aboriginal drawings in National Park - said there were some hundreds unknown to many and well hidden. His expertise was quite wonderful and many questions were asked and answered.

Mr. James Kane came to us in September with a "Walk through Woronora Cemetery" told us of the interesting graves of early settlers and some of their history; he told us of the styles of coffins down the years, the headstones, obelisks, He had also "walked" through other old Cemeteries, Parramatta, St. Thomas' Enfield, St. Stephens, Newtown and urged us to do likewise.

This was a special Meeting as we were able to celebrate the 80th birthday of Mrs. Aileen Griffiths, OAM - our former President and present Excursions Officer and a fount of information regarding the history of the Shire.

In November, Mr. Paul Martin of the Port Hacking Protection Society was our speaker - he spoke to us of the importance of protecting and enhancing the special values of Port Hacking. He made us aware of how values can be threatened by irresponsible usage - over-harvesting of sea shores and destruction of sea-beds. He spoke about particular challenges of the future - because of growing population, foreshore management, etc.

The December meeting took the form of a social evening when members enjoyed being entertained with music and song by Mrs. Janelle Scott and Mrs. Leonie Walford - and were able to chat together over a delectable supper provided by members.

Our thanks are due to our President, Councillor Dawn Emerson who was able to arrange such gifted speakers for us and we look forward to 1999 with much anticipation and pleasure.

May I say a sincere thank you to President Dawn and in fact all members of the Committee for their support to me in taking over this position in the Society and I especially value the assistance given me by Mrs. Griffiths, Mr. McGrath, Mr. Beaven and Mr. Cutbush.

Mina Whybourne

Hon. Sec.

THE S.C.A.M.
SATURDAY, 27th OCTOBER, 1951

1st Gynea Scout Group Committee

On Monday, 8th October, the ladies and friends of the 1st Gynea Group Committee held their monthly social afternoon at the Scout Hall, Forest Road. Competitions raised the funds by £2/8/6.

It is the intention of the Group to build two additional rooms and a verandah on to the present building, and to this purpose all are working hard.

We would welcome more ladies interested in the Scout, Cub and Guide Movement, to our socials, which are held first Monday in every month.

Tuesday, 9th, found the committee on the job at 8 o'clock. It is very satisfactory to see so many members attending to discuss the welfare of the boys and girls.

A welcome back to the fold to Mrs. Forsythe, of Vernon Avenue, who has been absent from meetings for over a year, following a bad car accident.

Also to Mrs. Burton, who was unfortunate enough to break an ankle and was absent for weeks.

The Guide Captain, Mrs. Elliott, during her report, said 1st Gynea Guides had marched in the "Back to Sutherland" procession. They now answered the roll to the number of 35 girls. Keep it up, 1st Gynea.

Under the leadership of Miss K. Steadman, the 1st Gynea Brownies will commence their activities next Saturday. We wish you every success, Kathy.

The insuring of the Scouts, Cubs and Guides was discussed, and Mr. Elliott, the secretary, was instructed to make necessary enquiries.

Mr. Barden, our Scout Master, reported activities by the boys and that several Cubs would be invested as Scouts, a function to which their parents have been invited.

Woronora Life Saving and River Patrol Club

The Woronora L.S. & R.P. Club was well represented at the official opening of the Sutherland Shire Jubilee Celebrations, held during the past week-end.

Their float, which was most conspicuous in the procession, was manned by some of the young lady club members, ably supported by the young men members.

During the afternoon a demonstration of life saving work was given by both lady and men club members.

The display covered land release drill, land rescue drill and resuscitation, and their performance ably demonstrated their ability to carry on their job of patrolling the Woronora River.

During the demonstration a full commentary was given by club president, Mr. Wesley Fowler, who gave details of each movement of the drill.

While the lighter side of the club activities was taking place at the week-end, so was the hard work. Saturday, 27th September, saw the start of the season's patrol roster swing into action, and patrols were maintained over the week-end and on the holiday.

Club Captain, K. Prien, has arranged four patrols under patrol captains W. Fenton, P. Young and F. Sloan. This number we find is insufficient and would welcome any new members who can assist the club in its objective.

6.10.56

—A.G.W.

SCAM
NOV 14
1942.

Sergeant Pilot Leonard Wallis

We regret to announce that one of our Sutherland Methodist family, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Wallis, have received a sad blow in the loss of their son, Len., during the Allied advance in the Middle East.

Sgt.-Pilot Walter Leonard Wallis was killed in air operations in the Middle East on 3rd November. Len. (or Bunny, as he was affectionately known to many friends) was a wireless air gunner and has been in operation in the Mediterranean air theatre for the past nine months. Len. had been away for two years, having spent many months in Canada and England, as well as in the Middle East.

Sgt. Wallis was well known in the community, having lived here with his parents and brother Bert for over 20 years. Len. was closely associated with the church and the Methodist Order of Knights, of which he was a Past Knight Commander.

His two special friends, Pilot Officer G. H. Priest and Sgt. H. C. L. Tanner, are both on active service in the South Pacific and England.

We offer our sincere condolence to Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Wallis and Bert, also Miss Effie Crosby (his fiancée) in their sad loss.

G. HEAVENS COLLECTION

SCAM
NOV 14
1942

Armistice Sunday

SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE.

The services last Sunday at the Sutherland Congregational Church were services of "Affirmation of Faith in Prayer." Addressing a very good morning congregation, Pastor Matta stressed that "Prayer was the Cure for Care." Thousands are living in despair for they knew not the secret of prayer and fellowship with Christ. The promises of God still held good. "He shall call upon Me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him." Psalm 91:15. At evening, the names of the various ones on service were called over and commended to God in prayer.

G. HEAVENS COLLECTION.

Sutherland Shire Historical Society
Revenue Account For The Period Ending November, 1998

1997	Income	1998
1,590.00	Members Subscriptions	1,610.00
906.01	Donations/Grants	763.95
72.40	Sales	23.00
30.48	Interest Commonwealth Bank	6.22
50.59	Interest St George Bank Step-up Acc	4.05
506.44	Interest St George Fixed Deposit	372.23
Nil	Interest Commonwealth Bank Fixed Deposit	236.95
10,590.00	Excursion Deposits	11,734.00
<hr/>		
13,745.92		14,750.40
1997	Expenditure	1998
543.19	Bulletin Expenses	982.62
54.45	Presentation (to retiring Secretary)	50.00
70.00	Australia Post PO Box	70.00
153.85	Postage/Phone Calls	94.15
106.04	{ Purchases	81.50
	{ Miscellaneous	5.00
160.00	Subscription to R.A.H.S. etc.	95.00
265.00	GIO Insurance	265.00
74.46	Suppers	119.24
480.00	Hall Rentals	396.00
240.00	Out of pocket Expenses Pres. Sec. Treas. Curator	370.00
45.19	FID GDT Operating Account Commonwealth Bank	43.24
	FID St George Step-up Account	0.13
	FID Commonwealth Bank Fixed Deposit	3.73
	Account Keeping Fee St George Step-up Account	33.50
500.00	Donations	500.00
9746.45	Excursion Payments	11,052.05
957.17	Museum	677.75
<hr/>		
13,395.80	Expenses Total	14,838.91
350.12	Surplus/Deficiency for year transferred to Accum Funds	-88.51
<hr/>		
13,745.92		14,750.40

Accumulated Funds**1997****1998**

8,000.00	St George Fixed Term Acc 015-152-672	8,000.00
1,007.55	St George Deposit Acc. 031-133-594	350.20
5,000.00	Commonwealth Bank Fixed Term Acc 2259-5009-3603	6,233.22
3,045.81	Commonwealth Bank Savings/Cheque Acc 0090-5269	2,381.43
17,053.36	Total	16,964.85
16,703.24	Period Asset Balance 1-12-97	17,053.36
350.12	Deduct Shortfall from Revenue Account	-88.51
17,053.36	TOTAL	16,964.85

Cash Book Balance As At 30/11/98

Balance Brought Forward	9,511.11
Plus Cash In Hand	<u>600.00</u>
	10,111.11
Less Previous Unpresented Cheques	<u>7,065.30</u>
Add Income	3,045.81
	<u>14,137.17</u>
	17,182.98
Less Expenditure	<u>14,801.55</u>
	2,381.43

Bank Reconciliation As At 30/11/98

Balance As Per Bank Statement	7,991.43
30/11/98	
Less Unpresented Cheques:	
710305	100.00
710320	200.00
710321	5200.00
710322	110.00
	<u>5,610.00</u>
Balance As Per Cash Book	2,381.43


M.J. Beaven
 Hon. Treasurer

SUTHERLAND SHIRE HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.

PRESIDENT'S ADDENDUM

As your President for the past two years can I say how much I have enjoyed this position. It has been a pleasure to be involved in assisting members in their research, and very exciting when their books are launched: Pauline Curby, Marianne Larkin, and Dr. Ed Duyker. We are proud of our members who are chipping away at the coalface of our history, and if I have

omitted any deserving member, then come along to our next meeting and tell us about your publication, and we guarantee to pounce upon you to be a guest speaker! The Committee or Executive Council has been extremely supportive, and I thank Doug Archer as Deputy President for slotting in when I was away working overseas. Aileen Griffiths, OAM has continued to find fascinating places to visit, and we thank her for organising these. This year we will try a 3-day visit to Kempsey, and the Macleay Valley Historical Society, and Jack Randall, the President, and Gwen Kemp, long term member of MVHS (and my children's Infants' Mistress), have an exciting line-up of places to see, scenic as well as historic. My grateful thanks to our Vice-President, and Bulletin Editor Jim Cutbush. Jim is retiring from the position after several years of battling to get the Bulletin to press on time, exhorting us to write articles and find information for him to print. Jim has brought our Bulletin from the "cut and paste" era into a professional journal and made it "a good read", and we thank him for his diligence and perseverance which has been gratefully appreciated. We will miss such a competent Bulletin Editor, and are hoping that one of you will take it on. I think Jim has someone earmarked so please put your hand up at the AGM!

Miss Helen McDonald, from the Sutherland Shire Council, our Research Librarian and Archivist, is very willing to assist in obtaining information, arranging for the reproduction of photos or organising displays and is a most valued officer of the Society and we accord her grateful thanks.

Our indispensable Secretary, Mina Whybourne, has proved a most efficient officer, and it is a great comfort to delegate a job and know it will be done meticulously. Thank you, Mina! I am indebted to Mr. Maurie Beaven, our invaluable treasurer, who watches over our finances and painstakingly keeps our books. (We keep misspelling his surname, and he keeps telling us "Beaven as in heaven". I agree some treasurers are made in heaven,--and although we give you our grateful thanks, we can't praise you quite that far, Maurie! But we can't do without you!) Our appreciation to our Assistant Treasurer, Andrew Platfoot, who has helped out on the rare occasions when Maurie is away, and is now involved on our behalf bringing us into the new Millennium, with new member, Les Bursill in putting us on "the Net". We were delighted when Mrs. Betty McGrath, our reliable and bubbly Excursion Booking Officer joined the Executive Committee to fill the vacancy which unfortunately had to be resigned by Mrs. Val Bronson. We thank the latter for her assistance and were sorry when she found it difficult to attend Committee meetings. Again we pay tribute to our Honorary Auditor, Mr. Roy Laver, for his support and we also value the "stand-by" services of our Honorary Solicitor, Mr. Michael Solari should they be necessary.

Not only does Mr. Allan McGrath acquit himself well as our Museum Curator; he phones all around the countryside gleaning material for displays, then erects them and dismantles them as well as being a veritable fount of knowledge on our Shire's history. He opens the Museum regularly, and staffs it, and will even open upon request. (Allan counts all our visitors, and when we had 1,288 at our Australia Day display at Menai, he was asked did he count the legs and divide by 2? Quick as a flash, he replied he had to, as all he could see under the display stand were the legs!) Allan never forgets to bring the urn, biscuits, tea and coffee etc for supper, and our thanks to Alf Humphries who brings the milk and helps serve supper, as does Betty Perry, Betty Greentree, and those shy members who always help when needed. Thank you one and all, as it is a fitting end to an interesting evening to be able to talk to members over a nice "cuppa".

I greatly value the input of the other Executive Committee members: Mr. Stewart Roberts, Mrs. Betty Greentree, Mrs. Marjory Blackley (our diligent Publicity Officer), Mrs. Ishbel Caddell and Mr. Doug Perry, who attend "hysterical" committee meetings regardless of the weather, and keep me on the track with welcome advice. I always worry that I may have omitted someone who quietly works away not expecting recognition, but whose contribution is greatly valued.. If this is you, can I give you my personal thanks? Our Society is strong and works well because of people like you.

Thanks to those Executive Council members who are co-opted on to Working Parties from time to time, and give sterling advice and wise counsel: the Excursion Rules Working Party, and the Constitution and By-laws Working Party. I have been requested not to thank the individual members, but I do respect and value your willing co-operation to resolve any dilemmas. The results of the former's deliberations appear in your Bulletin this month, and the latter will meet, perhaps through 1999, if we cannot get a coherent revision together by the AGM, as it has "grown like Topsy" with successive meetings, but not been put together in one document in recent times.

Finally, our thanks to Mayor Kevin Schreiber, and General Manager, Mr. John Rayner for their support; Mr. Rayner has a ready ear to discuss any problem we may have which requires his expertise and we thank the Sutherland Shire Council for the assistance it has given us. Our Sutherland Shire Historical Society relies on this support, and it is pleasing to know that our Council values the persistent efforts of the Society to preserve the Shire's history and to display it, and gives us due recognition. We appreciate being consulted, by having our members included on the Australia Day and Heritage Week sub-committees, and are delighted when these efforts are acknowledged. This partnership with Council gives the Society its vitality and will to continue amassing and recording the Shire's heritage for our descendants, which is a great pleasure to all involved and an absorbing interest.

.....

Councillor Dawn Emerson,
President

FROM THE EDITORS DESK

With this issue of the Bulletin being my last as it's Editor it has brought back a lot of memories of our earlier times when we had a Bulletin Committee. In those days under the guidance of our first Editor Fred Midgley we would meet at the home of Athalie Ivers Mother Mrs. Stewart and later at Andrew and Jenness Platfoot's home to proof read each story then hand the master Bulletin into Sutherland Council for printing, then re-meet again to assemble, staple, insert into envelopes and moisten the closure., after this address labels were attached and the Bulletin was then sorted into mailing area groups for either Fred or Harold to post out to our members etc. Harold Ivers was Editor after Fred for a time then Will Newton was our next Editor after which Harold took over, all with their own style and input to progress the Bulletin.

I don't know how many years I have actually been associated with the Bulletin and then taking over as Editor but it doesn't matter as I have been in contact with a lot of wonderful people and have read some great stories that one could never find in History books. Hopefully this Bulletin is changing all that in its own simple way.

I would once more like to thank all of you that have contributed to the Bulletin and especially Allan McGrath for packing, labelling and posting and Andrew Platfoot's printing of address labels, Thank You both. My wife Marjorie's help has been unfailing during this time and more recently my Daughter Jodie's help with her computer has made this Bulletin better.

My Thanks to our Secretary Mina Whybourne for finding one of our Members David Overett willing and able to take over our Bulletin –

Thank You David, I am sure you will have a very enjoyable time as our new Editor.

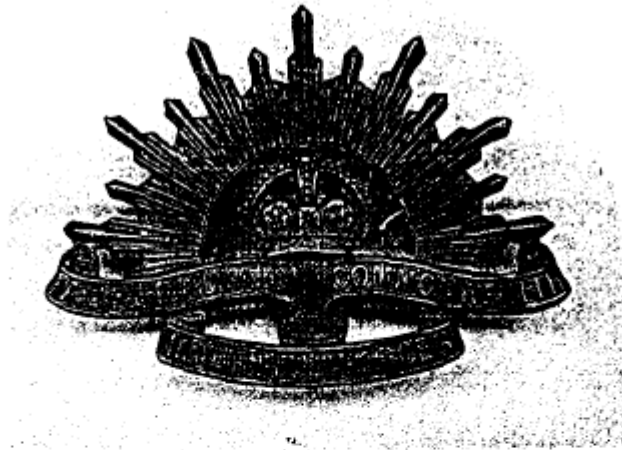
Signing off for now.



Jim Cutbush.
Editor.

Sea Captain ... In early life he traded to Owyhee, now Hawaii, in the Sandwich Islands. There he had the fortune to meet an ancient native who was an eyewitness to the spearing to death of Captain Cook. A certain mystery has always surrounded the cause of this tragedy as Cook's

reception had been most cordial. Captain Charles was told that Cook had landed on a section that was sacred to the deities of the people, and on which stood one of their places of sacrifice. This profanity was heightened because the ships had also cast anchor in a part of the bay sacred to a sea-deity. The priests resented the sacrilege and persuaded their people that the sacrifice of Cook would alone appease the gods. Captain Charles settled in Kiama, NSW.



ANZAC DAY SUNDAY 25TH APRIL, 1999.



LEST WE FORGET

Sutherland Shire Historical Society Inc.

FOUNDED
1966



VISITORS AND
INTENDING MEMBERS WELCOME