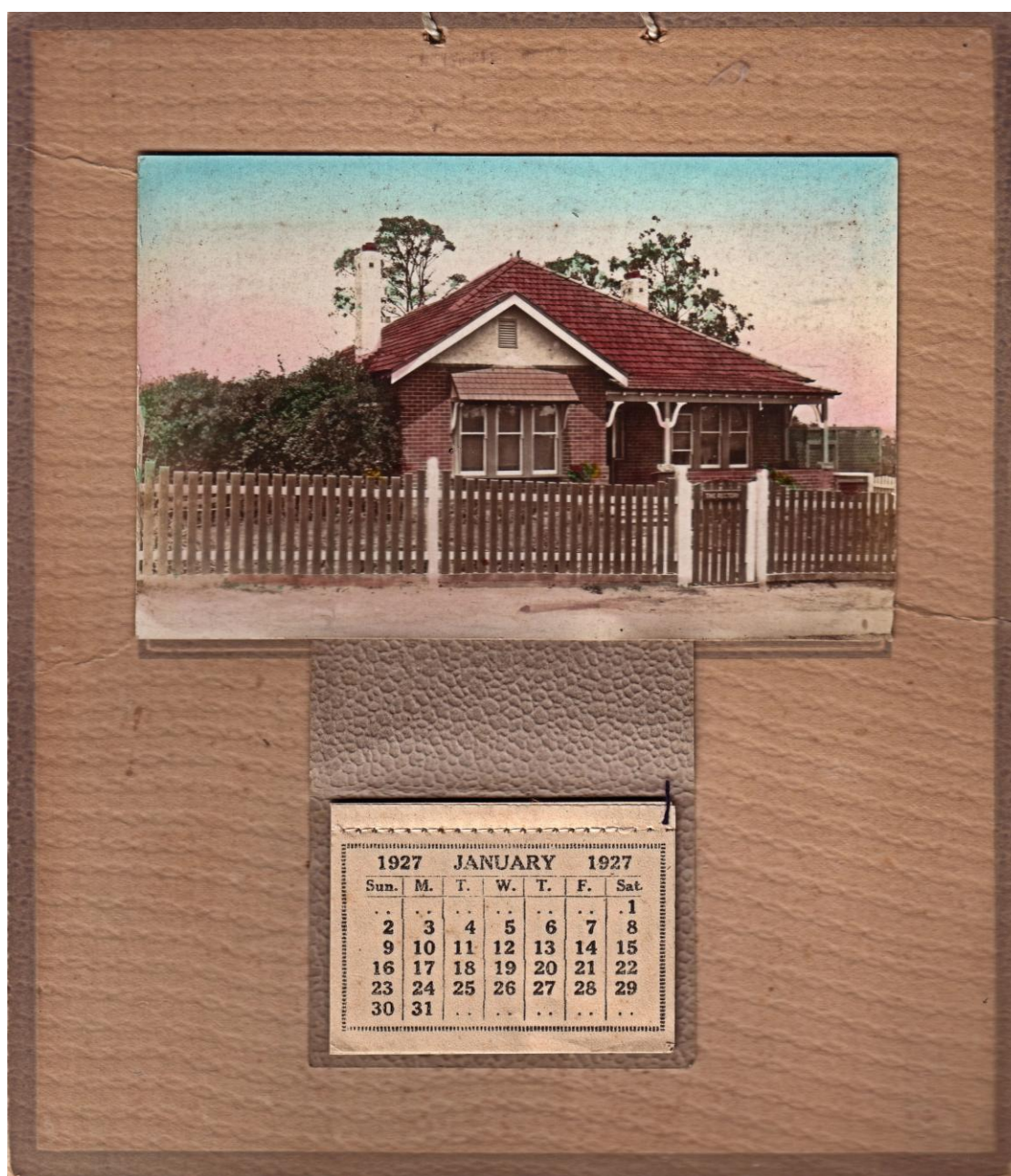**VOLUME 15–NUMBER 4:   NOVEMBER 2012**

MINDFUL OF THE PAST – FOCUSED ON THE FUTURE

SUTHERLAND SHIRE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

THE SOCIETY
The SSHS has a proud tradition stretching back 46 years and is an entirely volunteer and not-for-profit organisation. Over the years the Society has taken on the responsibility of recording and preserving local history so that Shire residents can learn more about our past.

WRITING FOR THE *BULLETIN*
Since its beginning, the Society has fostered the skills of local writers and their work is recorded in the *Bulletin* – copies of which can be accessed in Sutherland Shire Library Local Studies room. Members and non-members are invited to submit material for future editions and although we give local history priority, we are happy to accept stories on Australian history generally. We ask that you quote your sources and acknowledge any material used as well as obtaining permission from authors.
The *Bulletin* 'style-guide' is available from the editor: Clive Baker. 13 Veronica Place, Loftus. 2232.warbookshop@bigpond.com. Make sure to include your contact details and/or email address.

BULLETIN
Copies of this publication are free to all Society members and are also distributed to all Shire council libraries, the Mayor, Shire General Manager, all Councillors, the Royal Australian Historical Society, National Trust of NSW, NSW State Library, National Library of Australia, University of Sydney, University of NSW, State Rail Authority, Australia Post Archives, Sydney Water Board Historical Research Unit and Shire high school libraries.

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REGISTRATION
Other than the *Bulletin*, other Society publications are registered with the National Library of Australia in accordance with International Standard Serial Numbering and usually have an ISBN number.

SUTHERLAND SHIRE HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETINGS
Monthly meetings are held on the THIRD Saturday of each month at 1.30 pm (except December) – at Stapleton Centre, 3A Stapleton Street, Sutherland (near the library). We welcome your company to hear our guest speakers, mix with local history enthusiasts and share afternoon tea and a chat.

SHIRE MUSEUM
NOTE: THE INFORMATION BELOW DOES NOT APPLY WHILE THE MUSEUM IS BEING RENOVATED

Our museum is located in the School of Arts, East Parade Sutherland (opposite the bus station).
It usually opens on the FIRST Saturday of each month from 10am to 3pm and contains some gems of Shire history and a fine collection of old photographs. For schools and other groups wishing to organise a special tour at other times: contact the Curator, Jim Cutbush (9521-3721).

DONATING MATERIAL: If you have items of historical significance for Sutherland Shire, we welcome their donation to the museum to keep for posterity. Temporary loans for specific periods are also welcome. Cash donations and sponsorship assist us to improve the museum and perhaps you can keep the museum in mind when planning your estate.

CONTACTING THE SOCIETY
All correspondence and membership enquiries should be addressed to The Honorary Secretary,
Sutherland Shire Historical Society. PO box 389. Sutherland. NSW. 1499 or a.badger@optusnet.com.au

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THANKS TO SUTHERLAND SHIRE COUNCIL
The Society is most grateful for the on-going support from the Council in printing our *Bulletins*.

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BEST WISHES

THE COMMITTEE EXTENDS BEST WISHES
TO ALL MEMBERS, READERS AND YOUR FAMILIES
FOR THE COMING FESTIVE SEASON.

WE HOPE YOU ALL ENJOY THE END-OF-YEAR BREAK
AND RETURN REFRESHED FOR 2013.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO THE NEW YEAR AND
GREATER SUCCESSES FOR OUR SOCIETY.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT
BRUCE WATT

It seems odd to wish everyone a Happy New Year in February, however, except for our January general meeting, it's the first opportunity to report to members. Much is under way and 2013 promises to be another year of change and growth.

We have been promising a new and updated website for so long now, but it will be ready very soon. The Shire has so much to offer the wider digital community, with so many 'firsts' that are of interest to others. Cook, Phillip, Bass and Flinders, Thomas Holt, Donald Mackay and Gough Whitlam are all names that helped shape world and Australian affairs. Other events and institutions such as the 'shark arm case', 'the Wanda Beach murders' and ANSTO are also of interest to a wider audience. We plan to put many of our past *Bulletins* on-line as well.

The museum is our largest project this year. We dismantled our previous exhibition in June last year and rationalised the collection. The museum committee is to be congratulated on the amount of effort involved in the physical movement of the collection and in recording it. Many museums have specialised staff to perform these tasks but this is all being done by volunteers. Much deliberation went into the planning of our new exhibition. The museum committee devised a theme which can be described as 'The Shire, a journey through time'. Six broad themes have been chosen to tell the story: the past, (Geology and Aboriginal occupation), discovery and settlement, (Cook and Phillip), the pioneer years, (19th century), the early 20th century, the war years and the post-war years. Specific aspects of each era will feature to highlight the period.

We have an affiliation with Museums and Galleries NSW and a grant was applied for and received to facilitate the daunting task. This involves consultancy on the many facets of museum layout, display and marketing. We plan to have a 'soft' opening in time for Heritage Week in April and a formal opening which will include a members' day a little later.

Each themed area or 'pod' is being coordinated by various committee members. General interest and appeal, consistency in signage and labelling, layout, keeping the message clear, focused and as much as possible, uncluttered is the aim. This all has to be achieved in a museum space that is 12 x 8 metres! Much of the work in making it happen goes on behind the scenes. Some of the work is physically demanding and all of it is on a volunteer basis and is very time consuming.

We need to thank the museum committee for its untiring work and dedication. Wish us luck and we'll keep you posted.

Down the track we need to consider opening more than one day a month. Special interest groups such as Men's Sheds, other historical societies, school groups, clubs and openings for special occasions can be promoted. 'Manning' the museum is an issue so, if you would like to volunteer, please let us know.

Last year when the closure of the Cronulla Fisheries facility at Hungry Point was first announced, the Society made a submission in support of the retention of the site. Despite an Upper House enquiry into the closure and opposition from a large number of locals and interested parties, the decision to close the site was upheld. There are significant buildings etc that have State Heritage listing. A Management Trust is being established for the site and the Society has been invited to be on the Board. Whilst we oppose the closure, our representation would ensure that a community voice would be heard regarding its heritage value and possible future use. It is early days as yet on that matter.

At our last meeting, several members expressed their satisfaction with the general tone and conduct of the functions. They valued the contribution of the speakers and commented on the friendly atmosphere. Our afternoon tea is always a time to for a chat and to exchange information and views. We think that 40-50 people at each meeting is a sign of a healthy organisation but we always welcome new members. Perhaps you could invite a friend or recommend the meetings to others or even give a membership as a gift.

Many people eagerly await news of Terry's future excursions, which are also listed in each *Bulletin.*

Congratulations to Clive Baker, our new editor – there is a lot involved in the *Bulletin* production. Clive would greatly appreciate feedback and also, any items for publication. An editor gathers the stories but it shouldn't be up to them to write them as well. With the *Bulletin* going on-line, your story may be read anywhere in the world!

A publications sub-committee is one of several groups operating within the executive. It was formed to plan future publications, following the successful launch of our book, *When I Was Ten.*

To the Executive, I extend my thanks and praise for the manner in which they are adopting change and working cooperatively. They are innovative, hard working and above all, great people to work with. The publications sub-committee is already working on future projects. We welcome two new members who have joined the Executive this year. New people equal new ideas and we trust that Gloria Han and Ian Kolln are finding the experience enjoyable.

We must congratulate Mary Small, one of our Executive, and author of several books including *Lennie's Ride*. Mary has been approached by a filmmaker interested in dramatizing the book, based on the lone ride of a ten year old boy on his horse from Victoria, to witness the opening of the Sydney Harbour Bridge.

Thanks also to Pauline Curby and Elizabeth Craig for their contributions this year. Both are active in compiling oral histories.

They have become invaluable research tools. Pauline has represented the Society on the heritage committee and attends the Family and Historical Society's South East forums, a networking initiative of like minded societies. Elizabeth has ably taken over aspects of proofreading and distribution of the *Bulletins* and assisting with the Secretary's duties.

I'd like to congratulate Clive Baker, our new editor, on the publication of this edition of the *Bulletin*. Clive is keen to stamp his mark and we look forward to future editions. Revolving positions and developing new skills is a way of ensuring that there is always talent there when required.

To all of our members and friends I wish you a happy end of year. We'd like to see you all again next year and, don't forget to bring a new friend.

SOCIETY ACTIVITIES: 2012-2013

MONTH		EVENT	NOTES
DECEMBER		Museum	Still closed for renovation
		Monthly meeting	None during this month
2013			
JANUARY		Museum	Still closed for renovation
	19	Meeting: 1.30pm	Guest speaker: Wendy Cornish (Edward VIII)
		Excursion	None
FEBRUARY		Museum	Still closed for renovation
	16	Meeting: 1.30pm	Guest speaker: James Bird (Mercy ships)
		Excursion	None
MARCH		Museum	Still closed for renovation
	16	Meeting: 1.30pm	Guest speaker: Caroline Davey (Discovery & Charting of Australian coastline)
		Excursion	To be advised
APRIL	?	Museum	Re-opens in Heritage Week – no date yet
	20	Meeting: 1.30pm	Heritage Week – guest speaker: To be advised
		Excursion	None
MAY	4	Museum	First Saturday 10 am–3pm
	18	Meeting: 1.30pm	Guest speaker: Allan Murrim (Writing the Story)
		Excursion	To be advised

EDITOR'S SAY

CLIVE BAKER. 13 Veronica Place, Loftus. 2232. 9521-6515 warbookshop@bigpond.com

Learning the Ropes

When Bruce Watt asked if I would like to take over the task of producing the *Bulletin*, I had a mixture of enthusiasm and dread. Bruce has been carrying the burden for several years and despite liking the work, has decided to put his energy into his role of President.

He tells me that the *Bulletin* is an endless task which means that, at the completion of one issue, he needed to start work on the next. In taking on the job, I need to live up to his past effort and not end with egg on my face. Our readers are invited to send in their comments – good or bad!

I am sure all members will join me in saying to Bruce, "Job well done".

New Features

In future *Bulletins*, it would be nice to bring in some new innovations and members are encouraged to send in their ideas. Some segments in this issue include a:

'Then and Now' section,
'Can we help' letters from members,
' Shire History Mystery'
Bulletin Re-visited' recycling old stories.
 'Meet a New Member'
'The Book Shelf' which will feature old books of interest as well as new publications.

NOTE: some new features may not appear in every issue because of lack of room.

Members' Writing

One thing I would like to encourage is that ALL of our members contribute something to the *Bulletin* at least once a year.

That way, you can make sure that your life story, experiences or things you have read, are preserved in writing for future generations.

Even a few lines can be used to fill in small spaces. If you are worried about your writing ability, send it in and our 'vast' editorial staff will assist you. Long or short articles – please get writing – we need your input.

Format

It makes it much easier to use your work if you send your material in the following way:

PRESENTATION: the text as a WORD document without any layout, fancy formatting or fonts. Clear, hand-written material is fine if you don't have a computer.

REFERENCE NOTES: to assist our formatting, your references need to be ENDNOTES and not FOOTNOTES.

PHOTOGRAPHS/ MAPS: pictures should be JPEGS and not embedded in the text – please send as separate items (we can scan for you if needed).

Correction to the August *Bulletin*

Due to 'technical problems', two stories became intertwined in that issue. On page 19 the article '**1912: 100 Years Ago',** was written by Merle Kavanagh and it finishes at the end of the SAMPSON story,"...short time later". Footnotes for that story were:

i. Ashton, Cornwall, Salt, *Sutherland Shire a History*. UNSW Press, 2006. pp 64, 100.
ii. Matthew Flinders, *Narrative of Tom Thumb's Cruise to Canoe Rivulet,* Keith Bowden (ed).
iii. Ashton, Cornwall, Salt, *op cit.* p 73.
iv. Maryanne Larkin, *Sutherland Shire a History to 1939.* Sutherland History Press. 1998. p. 160.
v. Merle Kavanagh, *Echoes From the Bay,* Parker Pattinson Publishing, 2004. p. 110.
vi. *St George Call*, 23.3.1912.
vii. *St George Call*, 18.5.1912.

The article that followed, **'J.F. Archibald at Burraneer Bay'** was written by David Overett.

Thanks

To the many people who sent in material for this edition – it was looking a little empty before your help.

Special thanks to Elizabeth Craig who proofreads the Bulletin. It is a great help to have another pair of eyes on the lookout for inadvertent errors and mis-spelling (particularly mine!).

STORIES FROM THE CEMETERY
JOHN CAMPBELL

While researching I came across the following interesting story about a remarkable Shire identity – John Higgerson.

Woronora grave location:
Anglican Monumental: Section I-0235.

Those of you who live in the area may be aware of Higgerson Avenue, Engadine and Veno Street, Heathcote but you may not be aware of their origins.

John (better known as 'Johnny') Higgerson was one of Australia's most successful jockeys – known for his honesty and good sportsmanship. He rode the horse 'Veno' to victory in a very high-stakes horse race in 1857 that was promoted as a NSW vs Victoria 'Grand Race'. Over 20,000 attended the race which was held in Victoria. John rode many of the big name horses in his time and was still riding winners at the big races at the age of 55.

Being such a larger-than-life character, John was sometimes the subject of exaggerated or unsupported stories in the press. This article will try and unravel the fact or fiction of some of these legends.

John was reportedly born in 1810 (but it is not recorded in NSW BD&M) and at the age of 95 was still working as National Park Ranger.

His address was quoted as "near Bottle Forest, Old Illawarra Road, Heathcote". Although Higgerson Avenue is now in Engadine, in his time it was part of Heathcote.

Legend 1: John Higgerson as a nine-year old helped to plant the first Norfolk Island pines in the Sydney Botanic Gardens.

The earliest story of his life I could find was when he apparently told a friend that he had helped plant two of the first pines – the most robust later being called the "Wishing Tree".

The article claims that prior to the planting, he was caught stealing fruit from a private garden within the Botanic Gardens by climbing a wall studded with broken glass. He was captured and taken by a gardener to Mr Fraser (his position not noted), who sympathetically punished him by making him help to plant the trees.

Fact: There were at least six Norfolk Island pines planted during that period, with some replaced when damaged or washed away.

At least four other people had claimed to have planted the "Wishing Tree" including Major Astill (aide-de-camp of Governor Macquarie) and a convict name Ned Shakey.[2]

The trees were reportedly planted between 1818 and 1822 so it is a possibility that John may have helped. Unfortunately the article was written twelve years after John's death so he couldn't confirm the story and the writer also claimed that Higgerson owned the racehorse 'Veno' but it was in fact owned by George Taylor Rowe of Liverpool.[3]

Legend 2: Higgerson's two wives had the same names.

Fact: Partly true as his first wife was Sarah A. Dean and his second, Ellen Katherine Dean. They were related but details were not given.[4]

When asked at a ripe old age about his marriages, he was quoted as saying "If my missus died today I'd get married tomorrow. There's nothing like running in double harness." [5]

Legend 3: He fathered 23 or 27 or 29 children. [6]

Fact: There are 22 two confirmed children fathered by John Higgerson listed in the NSW website of BD&M. He had at least 15 children with Ellen, plus one death of an infant that was not noted in the births (*Familysearch.com*). It is very possible that he may have adopted other children or brought up grandchildren as his own as this was a common practice in those times.

John Higgerson, c1903.

Another explanation is that some children were not registered – as with Walter Bernard who has no birth record (born at Heathcote c1880) but his death is listed in 1955. In addition, some children could have been born in another state. Twenty-two children is a good number to father over a 45-year period, so the possibility of more, is quite possible

.

Legend 4: Higgerson was one of the greatest jockeys of his time.

Fact: This is undisputed. There are literally hundreds of articles recording his wins but all agree that he was an honest and skilful jockey. His mounts included the most successful racehorses of the day. He was once reportedly offered a fortune of £4000, to throw a race but declined the offer.

Legend 5: In 1905 he was the oldest living native-born citizen of NSW. [7]

Fact: This legend is very hard to confirm or deny but as the Colony was only 22 years old when he was born and he lived to 95, which was very unusual at the time – it is possible.

Legend 6: he was not the age he claimed to be in 1905.

Fact: John's birth was not noted in NSW BD&M but it was 'inferred' that he was born in NSW and grew up at Clarendon, near Richmond. His first marriage was in 1842, at age 32.

People questioned his age when, at 90 he walked a half-mile to Heathcote Station and back, to meet reporters who came to interview him. At the same age he was still tending his vast vegetable patch and acting as a National Park Ranger. All reports at the time of his death acknowledged he was 95.

Legend 7: At 90 all of his children were still living.

Fact: This was quite untrue. At least five children died before the age of two, one son died aged 17 and his son Frank aged about 35 died the same year as his dad. Another newspaper reported that at age 90, he had fathered 29 children, with 19 still alive. [8]

Legend 8: He was still an active National Park Ranger at age 95.

Fact: This appears to be true as he was variously described as: Ranger, Assistant Ranger or Honorary Ranger.

Frank Farnell and Mr Moloney of the National Parks Trust were two of over 250 mourners at his funeral. In addition, all newspaper reports refer to him being a ranger at the time of his death. His death certificate gives his age as 95 and occupation as Park Ranger.

Legend 9: John lived at Heathcote for over 40 years. [9]

Fact: John's last child, Esther, was born in 1888 and place of birth was noted as Liverpool. The first-born child, Edward, was born in Liverpool in 1858. It may be, that for registrations, Heathcote was part of the Liverpool district especially before the railway was built in 1886.

Other births are recorded as occurring at Richmond, Petersham, Canterbury and and St Peters. The WW1 records of son, Walter, show that he had been born at Heathcote c1880 thus establishing at least 25 years residency. Perhaps Higgerson had been a landholder at Heathcote since the 1860s but not lived there full-time. The jury is still out on the 40-year Heathcote residency.

His wife's aunt was Mrs Smith who owned a pub at Clarendon, near the racecourse where John started his career. Higgerson later took over the pub and it was renamed the 'Horse and Jockey'. The sign hanging outside, showed him riding 'Jorrocks'.The licence was cancelled in the 1880s.

Despite his age, John Higgerson met an untimely death. On 6 May 1905, he was on the veranda of his home while at the same time, his son and a mate were cleaning their guns prior to going shooting. The friend, Henry Roberts, a railway fettler, loaded his gun and was in the act of locking it when it discharged and hit John in the groin and hand. He was severely wounded, with one report saying that his hand was blown off. He was rushed to Sydney Hospital by train where he lingered until 28 May when pneumonia finally overcame him.

He was held in such high regard that while he was in hospital, he was visited by the Premier of NSW, Mr Carruthers and the Chief Commissioner for Railways. [10]

No matter what claims were made by the press – John Higgerson was indeed a remarkable Shire identity .

Johnny Higgerson was immortalised by Adam Lindsay Gordon in the poem 'Hippodromania or Whiffs from the pipe':

Johnny Higgerson, fancied him lock'd in the straight...

Walter Higgerson

In 1916, at age 36, the unmarried Walter Higgerson enlisted in the army and was fare welled from his mother Ellen's residence at Heathcote.

In earlier years, the same newspaper reported that Walter had won a pigeon shooting match at Sutherland in 1902 and shared the £10 prize money with a W. Simpson of Port Hacking. [11] It is most likely that it was Walter who had been present when his father was accidentally shot.

In November 1917, Walter was wounded in action in France while serving with the 36th Battalion. He was returned to Australia with a fractured skull in early 1918.

In 1936 he was still living in the district, giving his address as Engadine PO. He passed away in 1955 aged 75.[12]

ENDNOTES (SMH: *Sydney Morning Herald*):

1-2. *SMH*, 23.6.1917. p 7
3. *Australian Town & Country Journal*, 24.6.1903. p 44, 47
4. NSW Births, Deaths & Marriages web site.
5. *Sunday Times,* Perth, 18.6.1905. p 6
6. *Australian Town & Country Journal*, 24.6.1903. p 40
7. *The Advertiser*, Adelaide, 1.6.1905. p 6
8-9. *SMH*, 31.5.1905. p 5
10. *The Advertiser*, Adelaide, 1.6.1905. p 6
11. *SMH*, 17.6.1902. p 7
12. Website:
http://www.awm.gov.au/research/people/nominal_rolls/first_world_war/

WHAT YOU MIGHT NOT KNOW
ABOUT CHRISTMAS
MERLE KAVANAGH

The Date

The date, 25 December, has been observed as Christmas since the 4th century. This, however, is possibly not the birth of Christ as some early Christians believed it to be 20 May. It is thought that the December date was chosen by the Church to counteract the celebration of the pagan festival of Saturnalia with revelry. Saturn is the god of vegetation which brings in links with the Christmas tree.

The Tree

This is of German origin and it came into England when Queen Victoria married her German prince. It has been traced back to the 17th century though it originated before the birth of Christ. It has primitive pagan customs.

The green branches, trees and candles were part of magical rites for the return of vegetation and the victory of light over darkness.

A Royal Christmas, 1840s.

Other groups had their own beliefs along these lines. The Jews had the Feast of Lights over eight days when they lit candles on the eight-branched candlesticks in their homes at this particular time. Christianity knew of them and retained them as symbols with their own interpretation.

And so the first Christmas tree came into being. The British were reluctant to take on this 'new German toy' as described by Charles Dickens, until 1841. In that year the Prince Consort surprised the young Prince of Wales by having a Christmas tree in Windsor Castle. Thereafter the tree became accepted.

The Card

The idea for a Christmas card was conceived in 1843 by Sir Henry Cole, the first Director of the Victoria and Albert Museum in London. The Valentine card had been in existence for a century and a Frenchman had verses printed on cards to convey his Christmas wishes. Sir Henry followed up his idea by asking his friend John Callcott Horsley to design a card and had 1000 cards printed. The card had three illustrations, the centre one showing a scene of hearty drinking and eating. The other two illustrations showed good works – clothing the naked and feeding the hungry. But they were not popular and were criticized by the Temperance movement. Several were hand coloured and sold for a shilling. It was not until 20 years later that commercial Christmas cards were printed and became popular.

The Stocking

The legend of how this began is connected with St. Nicholas or Santa Claus who, as we know, was a 'do gooder'. St. Nick heard of three poor sisters who, rumour said, had been tempted into a life of shame by their poverty. He was concerned and one night he threw pieces of gold through the 'smoke hole' (no chimneys in those days) which dropped by accident into the sisters' stockings which were hung to dry by the fire. The girls were delighted and told their friends and neighbours, who themselves began to hopefully hang up their own stockings. That it was the custom for centuries to put savings in a stocking add interest to this custom.

R. Brasch, *How did it begin*, Longmans, Green and Co. Ltd., 1969.

MR ETERNITY

ANON (PRESENTED BY DAPHNE SALT)

Is there anyone who lived in Sydney between 1932 and 1965 who had not seen the two-foot long chalked copperplate single word of graffiti, 'Eternity' written on footpaths, cardboard signs, stations, doorways, roads and inside the GPO bell.

The word Eternity, always written in beautiful copperplate handwriting with a flourish on the 'E', and underlined by the tail of the 'y', captivated Sydneysiders for decades. That one-word message was written over 500,000 times throughout Sydney, the suburbs and beyond over a period of 37 years. It mystified some and fascinated others. Who wrote it?

It was 24 years before the identity of Mr Eternity was discovered! Who was he?

Arthur Malcolm Stace was born in the Balmain slums, in 1884. His mother and father, two brothers and two sisters were alcoholics and brothel operators, living in constant friction with the law. Young Arthur was brought up neglected and needy in an atmosphere of poverty and looked after himself. Much of his childhood was spent stealing bread and milk, and searching for scrap food in garbage bins. His schooling was almost non-existent, and by the age of 12, Arthur had become a state ward.

Things got much worse as he entered his teenage years. At 14 he found his first job, in a Balmain coalmine, and at 15 he was in jail for the first of many visits. He became a heavy drinker, and during his adolescence he worked as a 'cockatoo' (or 'look out') and watched for the police for those who ran illegal gambling dens and 'two-up' schools. In his twenties he was a scout for his sisters' brothels in Surry Hills and running liquor between pubs and brothels. He was involved with gambling and housebreaking until, at age 26, in March 1916, he enlisted for the Great War with the 19th Battalion 5th Brigade AIF, entering with the 16th Reinforcements, service number 5934.

At least he would get his food and clothes provided. He served in France, returning
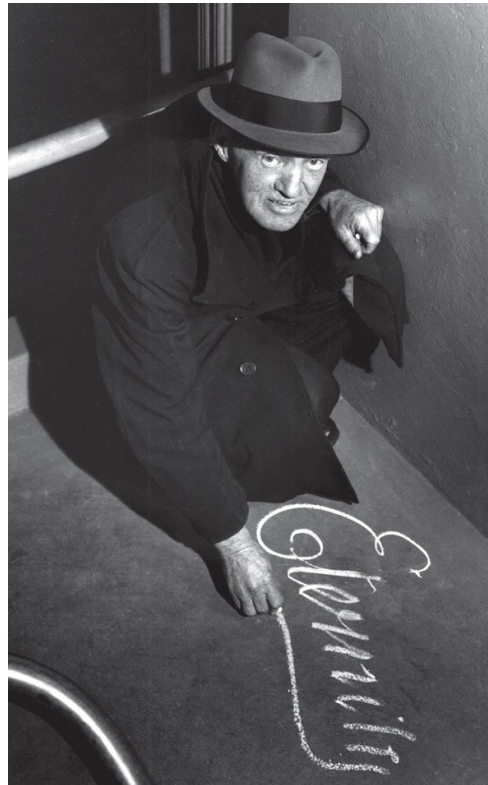
partially blinded in one eye, and suffering the effects of poison gas. Arthur suffered recurring bouts of bronchitis and pleurisy which led to his final medical discharge on 2 April 1919.

From then until the middle of the Great Depression he slid further down into alcoholism, until he was drinking methylated spirits at sixpence a bottle, and living on scraps and handouts.

On the night of 6 August, 1930, Arthur attended a meeting for men at St Barnabas' Church on Broadway ('Barneys'). Most were there for the food, but there was a message from Reverend R.B.S. Hammond first.

Noticing six tidily dressed people near the front (in marked contrast to the bulk of those attending), Stace asked a well-known criminal sitting next to him, "Who are they?"

"I'd reckon they'd be Christians", he replied. Stace said, "Well look at them and look at us. I'm having a go at what they have got." Arthur then slipped down on his knees and prayed.

St Barnabas church.

Remarkably Arthur found that he was able to give up drinking, and said, "As I got back my self-respect, people were more decent to me." He was then able to find steady employment at the Maroubra sandmills one week on – one week off – for £3 a week.

On 14 November 1932, he went to the Burton Street Baptist Tabernacle on Palmer Street, Darlinghurst, joined and was a member for many years. He heard a talk from Reverend John Ridley – a Military Cross winner from the World War One and a noted 'give-'em-Hell' preacher. Ridley preached on 'The echoes of Eternity' from Isaiah 57:15, "For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth Eternity, whose name is Holy; I dwell in the high and holy place, with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones."

Then Ridley yelled: "I wish I could shout Eternity! Eternity! Oh, that this word could be emblazoned across the streets of Sydney! You've got to meet it, where will you spend Eternity?"

Stace, recalling the day, said, "He repeated himself and kept shouting 'ETERNITY, ETERNITY' and his words were ringing through my brain as I left the church. Suddenly I began crying and I felt a powerful call from the Lord to write 'Eternity'.

Arthur Stace, the little grey-haired man (he was only 5-feet, 3-inches) who could not read or write left the church, took some yellow chalk out of his pocket, bent down and wrote that one word on the footpath.

Even though he was illiterate and could hardly write his own name legibly, "Eternity came out smoothly, in a beautiful copperplate script. I couldn't understand it, and I still can't," he said in an interview.

After eight or nine years, he tried to write something else, 'Obey God' and then five years later, 'God or Sin' but he could not bring himself to stop writing Eternity.

After Sydney City Council reported him to the police because they had rules about the defacing of pavements, Arthur narrowly avoided arrest dozens of times. Each time he was caught, he responded with, "But I had permission from a higher source".

Several mornings a week for the next 35 years, Arthur left his wife, Pearl and their home in Bulwarra Road, Pyrmont at about 5 am to go around the streets of Sydney and chalk his word on footpaths, train station entrances and anywhere else he thought it would catch people's attention. He went all over from Wynyard, Glebe, Paddington, Randwick to Central Station and it is estimated that he wrote the word around 500,000 times over the years.

Arriving in the city each morning, workers would see the freshly-written, one-word sermon – but never saw the writer.

The man became a mystery and a legend in Sydney. He was debated in the leading papers, the subject of columnist's review and speculation, but Arthur did not come forward. He saw his mission as evangelistic, he didn't want the publicity for himself; it was a thing between him and God.

The mystery was solved in 1956 when Reverend Lisle Thompson, who preached at the Burton Street Baptist Church where Stace worked as a cleaner and a prayer leader, saw him take a crayon from his pocket and write the word Eternity on the footpath without realising he had been witnessed. Thompson asked, "Are you Mr Eternity?" and Stace replied "Guilty Your Honour".

Thompson wrote about the life of Stace and an interview was published in the *Sydney Sunday Telegraph* on 21 June 1956.

During the 1950s Arthur switched to marking crayon because it stayed on better in the wet but he did other things as well. On Saturday nights he led gospel meetings at the corner of Bathurst and George Streets. At first he did it from the gutter and steps of buildings but in later years he preached from a van with electric lighting and an amplifier.

In 1963, photographer Trevor Dallen cornered Arthur and was able to take a few pictures of him writing his famous phrase. After four photos, Trevor ran out of film and asked Stace to stay while he got more film. Upon Trevor's return, Stace was gone.

Stace died of a stroke in a nursing home at the age of 83 on 30 July 1967. He bequeathed his body to the University of Sydney; subsequently, his remains were buried with those of his wife at Botany Cemetery (General 15, No 729) around two years later.

The Eternity of Eternity

In 1968 the Sydney City Council decided to perpetuate Stace's one-word sermon by putting down permanent plaques in numerous locations throughout the city. For weeks there was angry debate in the 'Letters to the Editor' columns. Some said, better than plaques, let's put the money into decent walkable footpaths, and another reader believed Mary Anne Smith, who gave us the Granny Smith apple, was far more worthy of recognition.

Finally, on 13 July 1977, Arthur Stace did get his plaque. It was ten years after his death when Sydney architect of Sydney Square, Ridley Smith, set the cast aluminium word Eternity in letters 21-centimetres (eight inches) high at the base of the Sydney Square waterfall. It was no garish presentation – merely the simple word on pebbles as Arthur would have wanted it.

Ridley Smith had heard Stace preach on the corner of George and Bathurst streets many years before but by a bizarre coincidence, Smith had in fact been named after the noted evangelist, John Ridley.

Eternity can still be seen written in three public places in Sydney:

1. On Stace's gravestone in Botany Cemetery.

2. Inside the largest bell at the old Sydney post office on Martin Place where the word is written in yellow chalk. (It appeared about 1963 and the word Eternity can still be seen.[1] The GPO clock tower had been dismantled during World War II and when it was rebuilt in 1963, the bell was brought out of storage and as the workmen were installing it they noticed the word Eternity inside it in Stace's yellow chalk. This is the only surviving Eternity in his own hand in Sydney.

3. Town Hall Square between St Andrew's Cathedral and the Sydney Town Hall. When the area was redeveloped in 1977, as an eternal memorial to Stace, a wrought aluminium Eternity replicating Stace's copperplate handwriting was embedded in the footpath near a fountain.

In 1994 Eternity was the subject of the documentary film which was screened at a SSHS meeting on 18 August 2012.

Ignatius Jones was responsible for the New Year Eve celebrations in Sydney. When, globally televised, the year 2000 burst into life with an explosion of colour, fireworks painted the sky over Sydney for almost half an hour, then as the display climaxed, at the dawn of the new year – through a residue of smoke – Eternity gradually appeared. It was in 50-feet high letters of yellow lights across the centre of the Sydney Harbour Bridge, the most visible structure of the city that he spent so many years defacing.

*Sydney Harbour Bridge
0:00 am 1 January 2000.*

Eight months later, four billion people saw the Ignatius Jones production the Arthur's Eternity written in fireworks at the end of the Opening Ceremony of the Sydney 2000 Olympics.

Because of its iconic value to the people of Sydney, in 2001 Eternity was registered as a trademark by the City of Sydney, the very city that wanted to arrest him for graffiti 45 years earlier.

In 2008, an opera based on Stace's life, 'The Eternity Man', written by Jonathan Mills was adapted in 2008 into a film directed by Julien Temple.

ENDNOTE:
1. *Sydney Morning Herald,* Dec 1999.

RAY GIETZELT: 1922–2012
CLIVE BAKER

Many older Shire residents may remember Arthur Gietzelt, who was Shire President for a number of years. What they may not know is that he had a brother Ray and that both men served in the Engineers in WWII.

Ray had a very interesting war which included building the famous 'Bulldog Road' in New Guinea, which was to carry supplies from the swampy rivers of the coast, over a 10,000-feet pass (3,000 metres) to Wau.

As a Sapper with 9 Field Company Ray spent months in the mountainous jungles as he and about 600 of his mates hacked a long section of road that was intended to supply the fighting troops in the mountains

The work often meant chopping into solid rock and more than once, they would return to the task in the morning, to find the road had slid away during the rains of the night.

Ray later wrote, "The entire work had to be done with pick and shovel, gelignite, muscle and sweat ... [where]... roots grow up in great whirls, creating a fantastic tangle ... an eerie, strange, silent and lifeless world...". [1]

By the time the road was finished, the Japanese had been pushed out of the Wau area and it was not needed.

Ray returned to play a major role in the union and Labor movement and was awarded an Order of Australia. In his retirement he wrote a history of his unit and another book on his union career (*Worth Waiting For*: 2004).

He lived his final years in Sylvania before his death in October 2012, at the age of 90.

SOURCE:
1. Gietzelt. *Short History of 9 Field Coy*. 2006. p 32-3.

BUSHFIRE!
MERLE KAVANAGH

Already this season there is talk of the possibility of bushfires following a wet winter. Smoky days have signalled the early clearing in calm weather of thick bushland as a precautionary measure. We realise we are vulnerable but it is still a disaster when it happens.

And it happened in January 1994. Together with 87 homes in the Como, Jannali, Bonnet Bay area, the Jannali Guide Hall was severely damaged.

At that time I was District Leader of the Jannali Guides, my daughter, Jillian, being the Brownie Guide Leader. On Friday night 7 January we were together with her husband, Peter, and a friend, Lyndal, at Jillian's home in Engadine and watched with some concern a fire in the Royal National Park sending up clouds of smoke with fiery red centres. I had a phone call from a friend advising me that some roads in the area of my home were being evacuated, so Lyndal the Guide Leader and I, drove to my home on the border of Sutherland and Jannali, west of the railway line. We were able to avoid the road blocks and I spoke briefly to my neighbour who was hosing his home.

The hot blast of the wind carrying smoke and ash irritated our eyes and sparks fell from time to time. A huge red glow to the north west indicated a fire in the Jannali Reserve, in the valley about a block away from us. Fire units could be seen through the smoky haze between the two high schools in Sutherland Road. Both Jannali Girls and Jannali Boys High schools were operating separately then.

I packed a box of family history records, photographs, negatives, some books I had written, my computer disk and my jewellery. We ran out the hoses, finding that someone had cut through my front hose which had to be reconnected. With the hot breeze swirling smoke around and through the house, we played the hoses outside on the roof and walls, while embers fell around us.

Eight fire fighting units from South Australia drove by, sirens blasting, reminding me of a movie scene. With the arrival of these reinforcements it wasn't long before things had quietened down. Five units left and we wandered up Sutherland Road noting that the fire by the school sports field was under control. Further on we saw a guide family with buckets at the ready behind the Jannali Primary School. Next door to the school was the Jannali Guide Hall and beyond that the Scout Hall. Both appeared untouched though the unit of fire fighters stationed in the school were not happy about the close proximity of the bush at the rear of the halls.

Three hours after our arrival, having dropped Lyndal at her home, I went to bed, opening my bedroom windows only, in an effort to keep sparks out of most of the house.

The following morning, Saturday 8 January, Jillian and I drove around the fire-ravaged area. We checked out the Guide Hall to find the fire had come within ten metres. "How lucky," we said. Jillian commented on the flannel flowers growing in the bush at the back of the hall. She had carried the same flowers in her wedding bouquet less than three months previously.

A quick drive through Tudar Road bisecting the Jannali Reserve showed the path of the previous night's fire. The ground was white with ash, tree trunks were black and a haze of heat shimmered above glowing embers of burnt out forest. I was heading south for a holiday with Lyndal that day and felt the authorities would keep their eyes on the reserve.

The following day Jillian and her husband decided to come for a swim with friends in my backyard pool. Smoke was still rising from the fires of the previous day and the hot winds which make fire control difficult had sprung up again.

By 2.15 p.m. the smoke was thicker and they decided to take a short drive to the Guide Hall but 500 metres from home they found themselves in an impenetrable blanket of smoke. Peter turned the car and tried another direction but when Jillian saw flames on the road alongside the car she became extremely alarmed and they returned to my home.

Within 15 minutes the place was a mass of smoke, hot winds and people. Police arrived endeavouring to control the sightseers and residents, all trying to drive up Sutherland Road. Locals were also assisting with keeping out onlookers while the fire units arrived, sirens screaming, lights flashing in a scene that would haunt Jillian for some time.

At my home, which looks north up Sutherland Road, a couple of evacuees sat on the front steps wondering where they should go. A Guide unit helper called in, desperate to get to her children in Bonnet Bay. After some phone calls she was assured that they were safe. The phone kept ringing, enquiries about the family, reports of homes lost at Como. It was like a nightmare! The 7.00 p.m. news showed aerial views of the destruction. Jillian recalls that she was stunned, not crying, just numb. The community we knew so well had been devastated!

Early that night a Guiding colleague phoned to advise that the Guide Hall had been damaged and Jillian and Peter drove up to secure the hall at dusk. The bush around the hall was still burning in places and the flames had done their worst in the kitchen and toilet areas. She cried – even the flannel flowers were gone. They secured the hall temporarily and when other Guide folk arrived they dragged out the Guide tents. Everything was wet and smoky. What wasn't burnt was smoke, water or heat affected. The Honour Boards had blistered paint and some were unreadable. Lady Baden Powell's photograph lay shattered on the floor, and the Queen's was hidden behind smoked glass. Lord Baden-Powell's was destroyed completely.
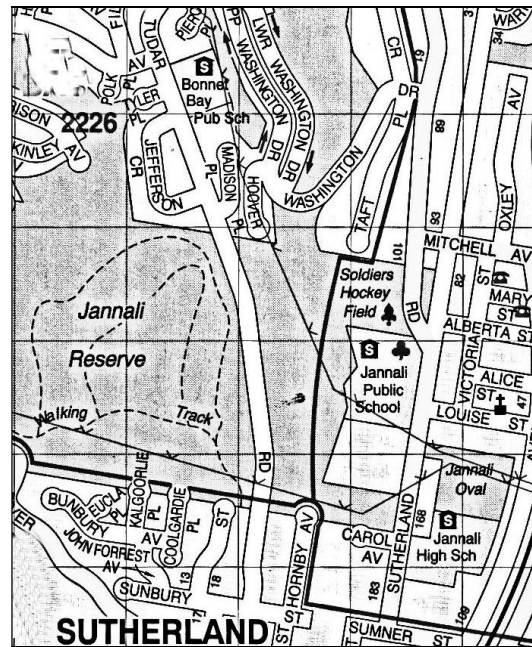
First aid boxes had melted into strange shapes over the contents. The clock hung like a deflated football on the wall, only recognizable by the battery section. Some weeks later it was still ticking!

We learnt later that a fireman had broken the padlock on the door to douse the flames which roared in under the roof line and had been alerted to a second outbreak there by another ex-Guide helper. The fire took out the back of our hall which was the kitchen, toilet and storage areas. However, we did not lose our family home or the entire Guide Hall. Sadly one Guiding member did lose her home.

There were clean-ups, insurance assessors and builders and a lot of amazing people who helped and/or donated money or goods. The Guides and Brownies met for some months in the Como Guide Hall. The pow wow mat was washed in four changes of water and was still smoky! Many things had to be replaced, and we had a great builder, Joe Deguara, who was awarded a Thanks Badge at the re-opening ceremony of the Hall. My term as District Leader should have ended on 3 April 1994, but I stayed on until the repairs were completed and the hall re-opened with due ceremony on 16 July 1994. And the flannel flowers did bloom again!

NEWS FROM THE PAST
ANGELA THOMAS

2012 is nearly finished and the world seems to be in more or less the same unsatisfactory condition of twelve months ago.

Corruption, war, global problems still feature prominently in the headlines of our newspapers, leavened by a spicing of scandal and gossip.

One could feel quite depressed but perhaps it's not a bad time to look back in time and judge for oneself. Human nature is eternal and the news has always been roughly the same. How about having a look at two hundred years ago. What were the headlines?

For us in New South Wales it was a fairly quiet year but Governor Macquarie had a few incisive comments to make. He complained to the Earl of Liverpool back in the 'old country' that the English were too prone to sending their 'troublesome relatives' out to our shores. He also insisted that all cattle be branded in future.

The SS *Guildford* arrived with 199 convicts. Everyone deplored the liquidity crisis back in Britain and blamed it for continuing hard times in our own country. Due note of America declaring war on Britain was made and of course everyone accepted that Napoleon was causing mayhem in Europe and now advancing on Russia.

Life must have appeared fairly peaceable by comparison in our part of the globe.
What were the headlines back in the 'old country' in the same year?

Duel Provoked by Waltzing
Source: *Times* 22 July 1812
This originated in a silly dispute on the subject of the dance called the Waltz. General Thornton having praised it in high terms and Mr Theodore Hook having bitterly reprobated it as leading to the most licentious consequences. After exchanging one shot each the affair was amicably settled.

More Luddite Alarms
Source: *Times* 16 July 1812
Nocturnal meetings continue to be held by the Luddites. What can these infatuated men propose to themselves?

The Hand of an Assassin
Source: *Gentleman's Magazine*, May 1812
Shot by the hand of an assassin on passing through the lobby of the House of Commons, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, first Lord of the Treasury, Prime Minister of England the Rt Hon Spencer Perceval...

Mrs Siddons Retires
Source: *Times* 30 June 1812
Last night Mrs Siddons retired from the stage. The play was Macbeth. After the sleep walking scene the audience in the spirit of a delicate compliment to her desired the play should end. At length the curtain rose and Mrs Siddons appeared to take her leave. She was seated by a table and dressed in a most un-ornamental manner. Perhaps it is to be regretted that Mrs Siddons resolved to take her farewell in poetry. A short plain expression of her feelings in graceful prose would have at least equally impressed her audience. At the fall of the curtain Mr Keble returned to ask the audience if the play should go on but they would hear no more and the greater part retired immediately.
(Author's note: In this tongue-in-cheek report, obviously she was looking a mess and wouldn't stop reciting poetry).

Fortnum's Table Dainties
Source: *Times* 17 December 1812
Just landed, new Imperial Plumbs, Gamaroon or Portugal Plumbs, Commadra, Malaga, Turkey and Smyrna Figs, very fine Mascatell Raisins in bunches for the table, Bloom ditto, French Plumbs, Egyptian Dates…preserved Green Limes … Tamarinds in long pods …and a variety of other fruit; the whole of them are arrived in very great perfection and at considerable lower prices than for many years past at Fortnum & Co's Tea, Spice and Foreign Fruit-warehouse, 183, Piccadilly, opposite Albany.

Buonaparte faces Starvation
Source: *Times* 17 December 1812
Notwithstanding Buonoparte's flattering accounts of the facility with which supplies for his army are procured it is very certain that the scarcity of forage, in particular, is such that they have been obliged to un-roof the thatched houses to get food for their horses.
(Note: The old spelling of Bonaparte)

A Major General Captured
Source: *Times* 12 December 1812
There appeared a corps of 12,000 Russians, the front of which was covered by a cloud of Cossacks. Two columns were detached upon the flanks of this corps which was in an instant cut to pieces. A Major General, six pieces of cannon and a great number of prisoners remained in the power of the conqueror. In all The Grand French Army in the course of four days must have suffered a diminution of twenty thousand men.

Footman Runs Amok
Source: *European Magazine* July 1812
Another of those atrocious outrages against human nature which have recently stained the annals of this country, occurred this morning at Barnes, in Surrey…

[The reader is left to ponder what the footman actually did!]
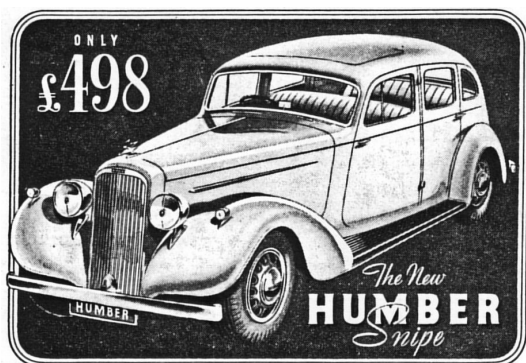
Highlighting the futility of war it is daunting to read this article which appeared ten years later in 1822

War and Commerce
Source: *Observer* 18 November 1822
It is estimated that more than a million of bushels of human and inhuman bones were imported last year from the continent of Europe into the port of Hull. The neighbourhood of Leipsic, Austerlitz, Waterloo, and of all the places where, during the late bloody war, the principal battles were fought, have been swept alike of the bones of the hero and of the horse which he rode. Thus collected from every quarter, they have been shipped to the port of Hull, and thence forwarded to the Yorkshire bone grinders, who have erected steam engines and powerful machinery, for the purpose of reducing them to a granulary state. In this condition they are sold to the farmers to manure their lands.

Looking back puts our present day troubles in perspective but human nature does not seem to have changed much.

MUSEUM REPORT
JIM CUTBUSH, CURATOR.

As I write this report for November's issue of the *Bulletin* our Museum is still continuing to be refurbished and has been a lot of work for the volunteers who are helping me to achieve our goals.

The Museum's storage area once again has been sorted with some items on loan or duplicated being returned to the owners – thank you to those people.

All items that were stored off-site have now been returned safely by our members last Saturday, 27 October.

Our action plan continues and more voluntary work will be needed.

A big **THANK YOU** goes to all involved.

ABORIGINAL RESISTANCE FIGHTERS
BRUCE WATT

The Dharawal Aboriginal people are the original inhabitants of a large tract of land south of Botany Bay to the Shoalhaven River and west past Camden and down to Goulburn. The clan that Cook would have encountered on his landing at Kurnell in 1770 were the Gweagal ('fire') clan who occupied the swampy land between Kurnell and Port Hacking and west to Woronora. Other clans were the Wodi Wodi to the south, the Norongeragal, west of the Woronora River, the Wannegal around the Woronora River and Bidigal on the northern side of the Georges River. To the north around Port Jackson were the Eora people and the local clan were Gadigal who spoke a very different language to the Dharawal. Before European settlement there were perhaps 600 different language groups throughout Australia.

Estimates of the number of Aboriginals living in the Sydney basin prior to European settlement vary between 2,500 and 5,000 and about 200 living in the Georges River and Port Hacking district. It is estimated that 50-percent of Dharawal people and other Sydney groups died from a pestilence, most likely a smallpox epidemic, almost immediately after European settlement in 1788.

It is often asserted that Aboriginals put up no resistance to the expansion of European settlement. When Captain James Cook visited Botany Bay in 1770, of the small band of Aboriginals that he encountered, two strenuously resisted his landing and were shot at and wounded and some 50 spears that would have been used for fishing were taken. It is perhaps understandable that when Governor Phillip sailed into Botany Bay, or Kamay as the Aboriginals called it in 1788, he received a much more aggressive reception than Cook had received. A group of at least forty Aboriginals shouted and pointed their spears and indicated their displeasure at their arrival.

The arrival of nearly 1000 poorly rationed and ill equipped convicts and marines began to upset the food chain that the Aborigines relied on. The combined effects of drought years in 1789 and 1790 and the impacts of disease on the Aboriginal hunters, led to conflict between the two groups. Far from quietly acquiescing, Aboriginals fought back and led guerilla style raids on the colony. One Aboriginal leader who achieved notoriety in this respect was Pemulwuy.

Pemulwuy

Pemulwuy was an Aboriginal warrior, who was born near Botany Bay about 1750, on the northern side of the Georges River, around Salt Pan Creek, about opposite Mill Creek. He spoke a dialect of the Darug language and was one of the 'woods tribes' or Bediagal (Bidjigal) clan. He first came to the notice of Governor Phillip in December 1790 when he was blamed for spearing John McIntyre, Governor Phillip's gamekeeper, who later died of the wound. It was suggested that McIntyre had killed and injured some Aboriginals. Phillip launched an unsuccessful retaliatory expedition but failed to find any Aborigines.

Pemulwuy persuaded the Eora, Dharug and Dharawal people to join his campaign against the newcomers and from 1792 Pemulwuy led raids on settlers at Prospect, Toongabbie, Georges River, Parramatta, Brickfield Hill and the Hawkesbury River, aimed at sabotaging crops, stealing items and scattering livestock.

Raids were made for food, particularly corn, or as 'payback' for atrocities such as kidnapping of Aboriginal children.

In 1797 he was severely wounded in a confrontation with settlers at Parramatta. Captain Paterson had sent soldiers with instructions to destroy 'as many as they could meet' of the Bediagal. He was taken to hospital but escaped in chains and returned to the Georges River area. A cult of invincibility developed whereby it was believed that bullets could not kill him.

As settlers encroached further onto Aboriginal hunting lands, guerrilla warfare attacks increased. On 1 May 1801 Governor King issued a government and general order that Aborigines near Parramatta, Georges River and Prospect could be shot on sight. King ordered martial law and outlawed Pemulwuy, offering a reward for his death or capture.

Pemulwuy was shot and killed by British sailor Henry Hacking on or about 1 June 1802. He was the first mate of the English sloop *Lady Nelson*. Hacking was a colourful person and the one after whom Port Hacking was named. After being shot, Pemulwuy's head was cut off, placed in spirits to preserve it and sent to Sir Joseph Banks in England. King wrote to Sir Joseph Banks that although he regarded Pemulwuy as 'a terrible pest to the colony, he was a brave and independent character'. Pemulwuy's son Tedbury carried on resistance and in 1810 he too was shot at Parramatta, and died of his wounds.

The years 1809, 1811 and 1814 to 1816 were again drought years. The severe drought which started in 1814 caused hardship for the Aborigines whose hunting grounds were being alienated. The Gandagara from around Camden and Dharawal people began moving eastward to the rivers. No doubt the difficult conditions led to skirmishes with the settlers over food. Settlers fearing attacks demanded that they be protected.

Governor Macquarie sent a punitive expedition to round up all Aborigines in the area and to drive them over the mountains. In one incident a party of Aborigines were caught in a surprise attack around Appin and at least 14 and possibly more were shot and killed. The incident became known as the 'Appin massacre'. Governor Macquarie gave these orders on 10 April 1814:

I therefore, tho [sic] *very unwillingly felt myself compelled, from a paramount sense of public duty, to come to the painful resolution of chastising these hostile tribes, and to inflict terrible and exemplary punishments upon.*

I have this day ordered three separate military detachments to march into the interior and remote parts of the colony, for the purpose of punishing the hostile natives, by clearing the country of them entirely, and driving them across the mountains.

In the event of the natives making the smallest show of resistance – or refusing to surrender when called upon so to do – the officers commanding the military parties have been authorised to fire on them to compel them to surrender; hanging up on trees the bodies of such natives as may be killed on such occasions, in order to strike the greater terror into the survivors.

It is likely that a much larger number were killed than was reported then and in the following days. Official policy now sanctioned wholesale attacks and murder of Aborigines to protect white settlers.

It was clear that by now the notion of 'the noble savage' and the official policy of peaceful relations with the indigenous population had come to a close. The following two centuries have been punctuated with Aboriginal massacres, neglect, segregation, separation, non official recognition, paternalism and inequality.

THE WATERMILLS OF JOHN LUCAS
PART 2
GREG JACKSON AND PAM FORBES

The first article in this series covered the history of John Lucas and his watermills. In this article Lucas' Brisbane Mill on Williams Creek and its archaeology is discussed.

The site is off Buxifolia Circuit, Voyager Point. (NSW Department of Land and Property Information (SIX) 2012)

The Brisbane mill site is a low lying, level area beside Williams Creek, approximately 1.7 kms upstream from the junction of Williams Creek and the Georges River at the head of navigation of Williams Creek.
(Latitude: 33.962017°S Longitude: 150.967807°E)

Significance

Australia's industrial heritage is well illustrated by milling which developed early and was widespread. The spatial distribution, evolution over time and local adaptation and innovation in industrial buildings, machinery and transport systems demonstrates how European technology has shaped and modified but also responded to the Australian environment and culture.

Technology transfer depended on the environmental, industrial, economic, cultural and human factors in Australia and Britain. Australia's climate was different and its isolation encouraged modification and improvisation while scarcity of labour and capital, and poor support infrastructure influenced how technology was used (Pearson 1996:46).

The history of milling can tell us about the growth of agriculture and industry, transport and technology. The four mills built successively on this site also demonstrates the evolution of mill technology into the twentieth century and its application to different industries, giving a history of industrial and technological change through the nineteenth century.

Flour milling has left substantial remains from the second half of the nineteenth century but much of the evidence of the earliest mills has been lost to urbanisation. Few watermills have survived even partially intact (Lawrence and Davies 2011:191). Lucas' Brisbane Mill, built in 1822, is an early nineteenth century flour mill and although the mill buildings and their machinery have been destroyed, evidence of its construction is still visible. Remains of the mill dam, wheel pit and race and other structural rock work can be discerned. Looking at this mill in association with Lucas' Woronora Mill and the connecting waterways allows examination of the cultural maritime landscape.

This gives greater context to the sites (Pearson 1996:46) and provides an opportunity to study the transport systems that supplied the mills, distributed their products and integrated their operations into a single economic and social unit. The remains of three dams demonstrate the evolving understanding of water utilisation. Brisbane Mill is also significant because of its historical association to the Lucas family, one of the first milling families in NSW, and the mill is an example of a significant engineering structure built using assigned convict labour.

The three later mills built on the site were early examples of the paper and woollen industries. The Liverpool Paper Company promoted its paper as the equal of imported products and lobbied the government for contracts as reported in *The Sydney Morning Herald* of Saturday, 29 March 1879 (p 3).

Its paper was used in early newspapers and *The Sydney Morning Herald* of Friday 2 September 1870 (p 5), commended its paper products on display at a trade exhibition as examples of successful colonial enterprise.

As well as its industrial uses the site was used as an emporium and bakery in the early nineteenth century as advertised in *The Sydney Gazette* and *New South Wales Advertiser* on Thursday 1 April 1824 (p 4), so it would have been a social and economic focus in the local area.

Description

The aerial map above shows the location of the Brisbane mill site on a tree-covered peninsula approximately 10 metres above the limit of navigation of William's Creek. The site is in a swampy tidal area with residential development encroaching on the east and liable to development on the west. The surrounding vegetation is regrowth woodland with casuarinas and mangroves. There is a trail that provides public access from the end of Buxifolia Circuit through Creekwood Reserve and continuing over the dam – visible near the centre of the aerial site photo.

A large number of tracks run through the site on the southern bank of the river. The river is navigable for small boats to approximately 10 metres below the dam site.

How the site was located

The Brisbane Mill site was located by overlaying parts of Dixon's 1827 survey (SR2733) discussed in the previous article onto the Topographic and Orthophoto Map of Liverpool (NSW Department of Land and Property Information, 1998b). The result is shown opposite.

There is a mixture of industrial remains on the site. A substantial rock-cut channel and other rock work exhibit pick marks indicating construction in the early nineteenth century. The remains of two rock and concrete dams are visible on the southern edge of the site.

GPS coordinates can be obtained from the topographical map.

There are three types of features on the mill site:
a) Cuts in the bedrock, made with rock picks. These are the most common type of feature.
b) Holes drilled into the rock, all of approximately 50 mm diameter.
c) Stone and cement dam walls. The *Sydney Gazette* and *New South Wales Advertiser,* Thursday 3 July 1823 (p 4), contains an advert for 'Roman Cement' an hydraulic cement and the same newspapers Saturday 25 March 1826 (p 1) describe in detail the many uses of Roman Cement, including mill dams.

Fires and floods in periods of abandonment have removed significant portions of the structures on the site. Materials are also likely to have been reused or scrapped by successive occupants up to the 1920s. However possible archaeological remains could include:

a) Structures that controlled water flow.
b) Mill machinery.
c) Buildings for machinery and associated infrastructure.
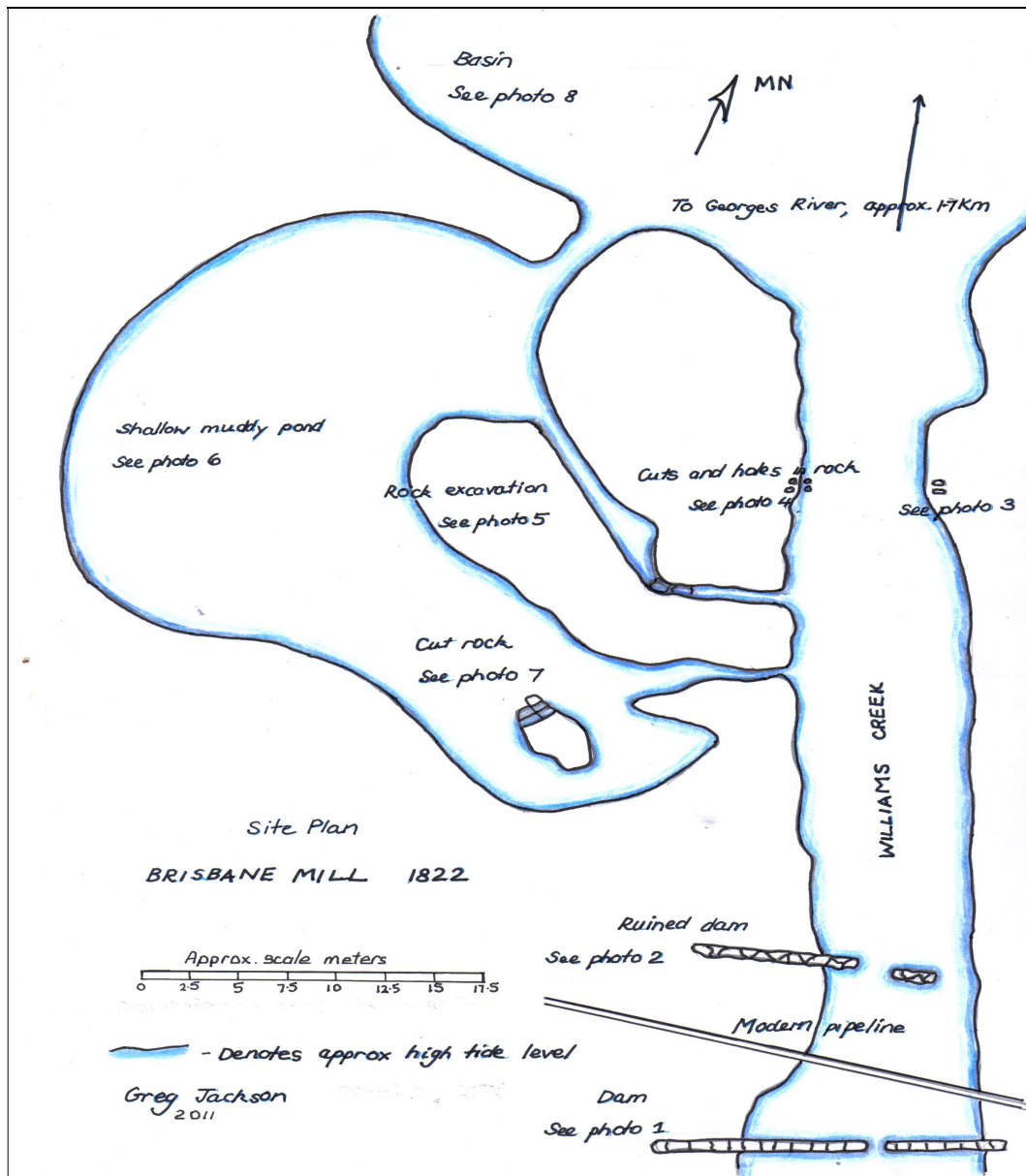
Site plan: keyed with following photographs of visible archaeological features.

Photo 1: Intact stone dam probably from the paper and/or woollen mill.

Photo 2: Remains of the ruined older dam – built with old soft cement – probably Lucas'.

Photo 4: Cutting and large hole in a rock on western side of creek. This rock work and other nearby holes (not shown) possibly supported a walkway across the top of the lower dam.
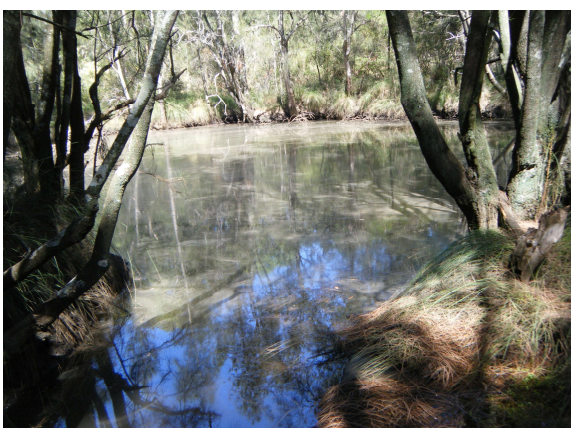

Photo 5: A 12-metre long trench, 1-metre wide and cut through rock, as a possible mill race.

Photo 6: The tail race and large erosion basin.

Dams and other water control structures are the most likely to survive. It is rare to find machinery and water wheels (Birmingham, Jack and Jeans 1983:40,41).

No painting or description of the Brisbane Mill has been found but the archaeological evidence can be interpreted with the help of an advertisement which appeared in *The Sydney Gazette* and *New South Wales Advertiser* on Thursday 1 April 1824 (p 4), two years after the mill was built. This advertisement was detailed in the historical outline in the last article.

Caley described the dam built for the first water mill at Parramatta as being roughly

Built of stones packed with earth (Tratai 1994:36) and a sketch by Busby shows Blaxland's mill and a dam made of logs on the Nepean River about 1833 (Birmingham, Jack and Jeans 1983:27).

The remains of the Brisbane Mill dams are stone sealed with concrete. The wheel can use the dam water directly but for greater falls, a race can be either cut into the ground or a flume constructed above ground using timber, canvas etc.

The topography of Williams Creek together with position of the remnant walls suggests a wheel driven directly from the dam.

An overflow channel is necessary to protect the mill from too much water. Flooding on Williams Creek has subsequently eroded the overflow channel and created the large basin shown in Photo 6 .

The 1824 advertisement by Solomon Levy, discussed in the previous article states that the mill could not operate in the drought years of the 1820s. Drought would have particularly affected the flow in Williams Creek due to its relatively small catchment area running south into what is now the Holsworthy Army Reserve. A new dam was designed to overcome this problem which is supported by the physical evidence at the site. In 1825 Lucas turned to the Woronora River with its more reliable flow to provide sufficient water for his milling.

Mill wheels can be 'overshot' where water enters from the top of the wheel, 'breastshot' where water enters between the top and bottom or 'undershot' where water flows at the bottom. The most efficient is the overshot followed by breast then undershot. The choice of technology depends on the available water flow and height of water and affects both the water supply system and the design of the wheel. The smaller, irregular flows and steeper falls typical in Australia tended to favour larger diameter, narrower overshot wheels with long millraces (Pearson 1996:54). However where there is a shorter drop but good volume of flow, undershot or breastshot wheels can be used, which are smaller in diameter and wider. Examples in Australia include Howell's Mill at Parramatta with an undershot wheel and the the pitchback wheel (a type of high breastshot) at Bridgewater in SA (Birmingham, Jack and Jeans 1983:43,44). The power of the wheel is traditionally transferred to the grinding machinery via a large axle and pit wheel.

The 1824 advertisement specifies that the Brisbane Mill was undershot and suggests it was converted to a more efficient type of operation. An overshot wheel requires the dam to be located higher than the top of the mill wheel which is not possible at this gently sloping location, so the likely improvement would be to convert to breastshot.

A low breastshot operation is possible if the lower dam was maintained at a maximum capacity by water from the larger upper dam. A Poncelet type mill is not considered feasible at this early date. The rock-cut channel (photo 5) is assumed to be the mill race. The adjacent low area could be the remains of the pit. This would locate the mill building and identify areas for future investigation. As the site is close to sea level and the race would fill with salt water at high tide, milling would have been impossible.

The mill wheel could have been made on site but the milling machinery would most probably have been transported by boat to the mill site. Government documents identify that the mill stones and a 'bill' (an adze for dressing millstones) were given to Lucas in exchange for future flour from his mill (NSW Colonial Secretaries Index for 1822 b). Pearson (1996:57) suggests that Sydney's foundries were capable of producing castings such as wheel frames and gears up to four tons by 1823 but it is known that mill parts were imported. Getting these large items and the mill stones weighing approximately a ton each from boats to the site would have been difficult and required a substantial labour force. No evidence of machinery has been found on site but there is equally no evidence of its removal. Floods could have taken machinery and building remains downstream into the estuarine section of Williams Creek. Flood waters flowing along the mill's tail race and dam overflow have eroded a large basin west of the mill site, visible in the aerial photograph. There is a remote possibility that some machinery could be found.

The site may also contain remains of domestic and agricultural activity. Workers' cottages associated with Sands Mill are mentioned in *The Sydney Morning Herald*, 6 December 1884 (p 10), and 27 June 1896 (p 15), advertising a 524-acre property at the junction of Williams and Harris Creeks. "It is largely cleared and divided into paddocks, with a substantial, comfortable brick cottage, barn, hay shed, stable and coachhouse, fowl house and piggeries. That would be approximately 850 metres (NearMap 2011) from the Brisbane Mill site.
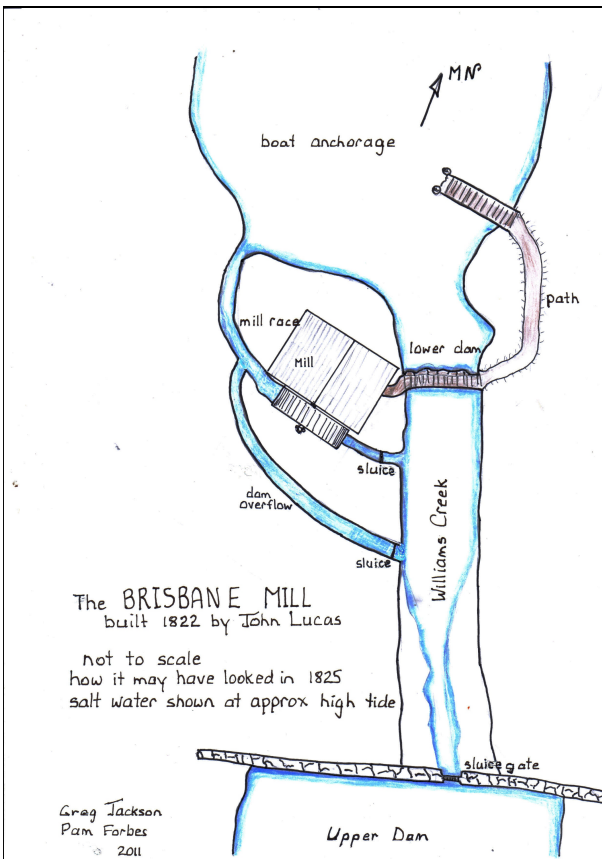
A plan of how the site may have looked in 1825. The size, number and exact location of the buildings are conjecture.

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Continued next Bulletin....

c1939

The following people have joined us over recent months – welcome to you all and we hope you can both contribute to and share, our local history.

Jill BATTY
John CAMPBELL
Leone HARRIS
Carolyn McDONALD

Janice PRIESTLEY
Frank PURVIS
Valda SNELL
Colleen WOOD
Dr James 'Jim' WOOD

MEMBER PROFILES: THE WOODS
CLIVE BAKER

Two of our new members have Shire backgrounds but now live in Melbourne so we will rarely have them at meetings.

Colleen Wood

This lady is related to the Highfields who had a shop (and suburb named after the family) in what is now Caringbah. We hope for an article from her at a later date

Jim Wood

This man has been known to me since the 1960s when we rubbed shoulders in a CMF commando unit (his younger brother was my officer).

Jim is soldier-scholar who, in the 1940s and at the age of five years, lived at 83 The Crescent, Woronora. His father was a waterside worker and when poor finances forced the family to vacate their house, they moved into an ex-army tent in the 'squatters camp' above today's RSL club.

He recalled that about 50 families lived alongside the new water pipeline from Woronora dam but there was just one tap as a water source.

Jim attended Sutherland school, achieved the leaving certificate at fourteen and then started work as clerk. In his early 20s, he qualified as a teacher, then gained a BA and a Masters degree.

In 1957, he joined the CMF and was soon a lance-corporal but after qualifying in various courses, he became an officer and was eventually promoted to captain.

In the 1960s, he resigned from teaching to work in 'Defence' and later moved on to Foreign Affairs as embassy Political

*The then Lance-Corporal Wood
on an army parachute course, 1957.*

Officer in Indonesia, Hong Kong and Japan.

He spent 37 years as a citizen soldier, was promoted to lieutenant-colonel, gained a PhD at university and then returned to teaching. He began writing history and his books include: *The Forgotten Force* (1998) and *Chiefs of the Australian Army* (2006) and he is currently working on a book about the Australian high command in WWI.

This man is a fine example of how people can rise above humble beginnings and make a successful career for themselves.

JULIANA RETIREMENT VILLAGE, MIRANDA
A DREAM COME TRUE
(from John Logeman's own unpublished manuscript, *Juliana Village,* 1990)
ELIZABETH CRAIG

In November, 1980, the Juliana Retirement Village in Miranda, comprising 16 self-care units and 28 hostel rooms, was opened with great fanfare by the Dutch Ambassador, Mr E. Schiff. Eminent federal, state and local politicians, along with prominent businessmen, residents and the volunteers who had worked for the Village were amongst the 400 guests at the opening. At the conclusion of his speech, the Ambassador beckoned one man to approach him, and pinned a small medal on his breast. Johan Logeman, the Dutch migrant who had brought his dream of a retirement village for elderly Dutch migrants to a reality, had been given the Order of the Orange Nassau, a Dutch knighthood bestowed by Queen Juliana of the Netherlands.[i]
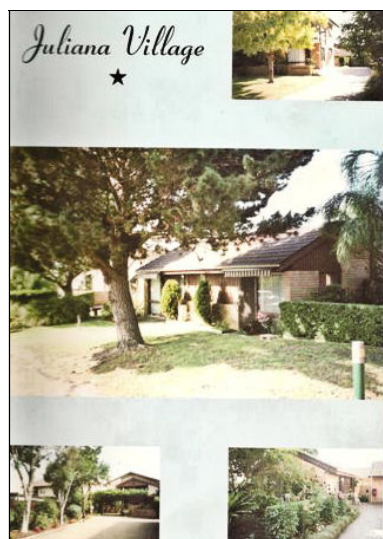
Juliana Retirement Village, 1980, as per the cover of Juliana Village*, by Johan Logeman.*

This is the story of how the Juliana Retirement Village came into being through the efforts of Johan Logeman and a network of supporters, mostly from the Dutch community. It is based on Logeman's own unpublished history, *Juliana Village,* 1990. A copy of his book has, with the permission of Logeman's son, Walter, been lodged in the Local Studies section of Sutherland Library. Other research sources, including further unpublished writings by Logeman, oral history interviews (also in Sutherland Library) and print and web-based publications have been used to produce this article. Information is sourced from Logeman's *Juliana Village,* 1990 unless otherwise specified in an endnote.

Who was Johan Logeman?

Johan Logeman, his wife and two sons arrived in Australia from Holland in 1952. They were part of the wave of people escaping war-ravaged Holland for a better life in Canada, South Africa or Australia. Many came to Australia on assisted passage under the Netherlands Australia Migration Agreement of 1951. Before World War II less than 2000 Dutch-born migrants resided in Australia. At the peak of post-war migration, that number had risen to 160,369.[ii] Logeman estimated that by the mid-1950s about 1500 Dutch people were living in Sutherland Shire.[iii]

Johan Logeman

In 1952 the Australian economy was depressed, the Logemans did not speak English and it was difficult to find work. Johan landed a job as a house painter, commuting from Wentworthville to Lakemba, and then he began to work for himself. He had 100 pounds in savings and put a deposit on a block of land in rural Heathcote at 33 Boundary Street. One year later the land was paid off and St George Building Society gave him a loan to build a house.[iv]

In 1953, Logeman and some Dutch friends founded the Netherlands Society of Sutherland Shire (known generally as the Dutch Club), a Dutch social club which met at the Highway Café in a row of shops between Flora Street and the Princes Highway in Sutherland. Membership, which initially cost two pounds (and never rose above $6), started with 60 people, but grew to over 300. They held functions at Jannali Hall, including soup nights, Hawaiian nights, an annual ball and St Nicholas

Night for the children on 5 December. They ran car rallies which finished with a picnic in the Royal National Park, and many sub-groups formed, including a choir, a chess club, fishing group and a drama club. They also had their own monthly magazine, *The Club Post*, of which Johan Logeman was editor for 12 years. (The Dutch Club disbanded in about 2010 as membership had reduced to 16. According to Dutch migrant and former Club committee member, Jo Massaar, it had outlived its usefulness. New Dutch migrants don't need a social outlet like the Society provided. "They are … business people sponsored by big business. Not like us, coming here with nothing." [v])

The Germ of an Idea

In 1959 Johan Logeman, now 48, found himself in Sutherland Hospital recuperating from a heart attack. He was in a ward with three Australian men, and chatted happily with them about everything from the Matron's harsh treatment of the 'nice young nurses' to how to right the wrongs in the world. But he writes: "When the discussion came to the depression years of the thirties and of the last war, I felt left out. My experiences of these times were so much different from theirs." [vi] He imagined how lonely it would be for an aged immigrant perhaps living in a retirement village, even while surrounded by very nice people. "Old people like to talk about old times."[vii] The germ of an idea had been born.

Getting started

Ten years after Logeman's time in hospital, he thought again about his idea of building a retirement village for aged Dutch people. He raised the topic at the Dutch Club committee meeting in October, 1969. Then only one of six committee members supported the idea, although none spoke against it. At the St Nicholas Ball on 5 December, 1969, Johan announced the plan. It was greeted with much applause and the first donations rolled in. They amounted to $31.

The following year, the Logemans sailed to Europe, where they hired a campervan for touring. On their travels they inspected retirement villages to see what worked – and what did not. They spoke to administrators, managers and matrons. Back at home Johan visited more retirement villages and attended seminars on ageing. One piece of advice he took away from one seminar was that people should never be pushed into a hostel or nursing home against their will. Johan took that on board.

He told potential residents: "We are carers for the aged, not salesmen." [viii]

Johan chose the name 'Juliana' for the new retirement village, after Queen Juliana of the Netherlands who reigned from 1948 to 1980. He was not a royalist, but the Queen was much loved by the Dutch for her concern for their social welfare, and he felt her name would evoke nostalgia and sympathy in the Dutch in Australia, leading to generous donations.[ix] Dutch Club members agreed with Johan's proposal.

Fundraising began in earnest. Sutherland Shire Dutch Club's drama group performed *The Comedy of Hate* to other Dutch clubs to great acclaim. They raised $254. Raffles were held with prizes donated by Dutch Club members, mailouts were sent to addressees with Dutch sounding names. KLM, Phillips and Dutch Clubs in other parts of Sydney made donations. By mid-1975 they had raised $23,000. The budget for the first stage of the Village was an estimated $1,200,000 for the building of 16 self-care units and 28 hostel rooms.

The Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Juliana Village Association had been presented to the Corporate Affairs Commission on 19 October, 1972, and a Board of six men was formed to run the project. A woman, Jo Hoeve, later joined them as Treasurer. Board members talked frequently with officials from the Department of Social Security (DSS), Council of the Ageing (COTA) and other departments in an effort to meet government requirements for the Village. Government help was available. Prime Minister Gough Whitlam had introduced a grant of $4 for every $1 raised for an aged home that had been approved by the Department of Social Security.

Finding a site

First they had to find a suitable site. They advertised in the *Leader* in 1975 and wrote to local real estate agents. Hookers advised 256 acres in Helensburg was coming up for auction. It was too big. Blythe in Miranda offered two blocks – one in Engadine and one in Heathcote. Both were unsuitable. Then a board member found an advertisement for a property in Miranda. The board member's son, who worked for a real estate agent, checked it out on their behalf and pronounced it unsuitable. Logeman and Jo Hoeve inspected the land anyway, and found it to be a perfect location on Miranda Road, near shops, transport and medical facilities. It was over an acre in size with a beautiful outlook.

"In the evenings when Sydney's lights are on, the view is spectacular," wrote Logeman.[x] The asking price was $90,000. Board member and Shire builder, Willem Kalf negotiated the price down to $83,400, and Johan Logeman was granted a loan of $60,000 from the Bank of NSW in Engadine at 11 per cent interest. Dutch Club members and friends came to the rescue here with interest-free loans of $1000 each. After the sale, they held a barbecue on the site in celebration.

The Architect

Meanwhile they needed an architect to design the Village. Board members inspected retirement villages, and were impressed by one at Towradgi near Wollongong, designed by Leif Kristensen, a Danish architect. He had arrived in Australia as a 26-year-old with his wife and two children after Jorn Utzon had offered him a job as assistant architect on the Sydney Opera House. The job had fallen through because of friction between Utzon and the NSW government. Instead Kristensen worked as a designing architect at the NSW Department of Works, and later lectured at Sydney University. Willem Kalf invited Kristensen to his Illawong home for a meeting, and an inspection of the site. The Board voted unanimously to hire him.

Government approval and financial help

When Whitlam's government was sacked in November 1975, Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser halved his grant for building aged homes from $4 to $2 for every $1 raised privately.[xi] In 1976 local Federal Liberal member, Don Dobie, a strong supporter of the project, informed the Board that the Minister for Social Security had approved a grant for funding hostel rooms and self-care units. That proved not to be so, but eventually a grant of $318,000 for hostel rooms only was approved, providing that 50 per cent of that amount was unencumbered and they could pay the difference between the real building cost and the grant. By then they had $52,000 unencumbered.

Fundraising

There was help from unexpected quarters. When Logeman paid civil engineer Jan Stigter's $7000 invoice for the work carried out on the Village, Stigter gave him a receipt, and then wrote a personal cheque for the same amount to the Juliana Village Association. Johan was flabbergasted. Later the Taxation Department phoned to ask if it was a genuine donation or a deposit on a unit in the retirement village.

(Stigter was only 40. It was a donation). They also received 215,000 Florins (US$100,000) from the Queen Juliana Fund, and local organisations, many of them not Dutch – such as Cronulla Rotary Club - made donations.

Another way of raising funds was to sell units off the plan to future residents. Buyers paid the Juliana Village Association a deposit of 10 percent interest free loan, then further payments were staggered as the building progressed. That worked very well.

One of the most successful fundraising methods was through the annual Kermis – a Dutch Mardi Gras. In Holland, the Kermis travels from town to country town, staying for two or three days at each place. It's often the highlight of the year for country people, notes Logeman. The first Kermis in Sutherland Shire was held in 1972 at Cranbrook, Tine and Willem Kalf's Illawong home. Entry was 50c and they ran a chocolate wheel, sold Dutch cheeses, along with home cooked cakes and raw herrings. (The Dutch clean and cure the herring in brine, then hold it high and slowly lower it into their mouth.[xii]) Madam Louise told fortunes and there was a white elephant stall. 500 tickets were sold and there were queues at every stall. An astrologer had to be hastily brought in to help out Madam Louise. Logeman writes that volunteers aged from 11 to 82 worked hard and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Dick Massaar, a Miranda baker, ran the catering, and his wife, Jo, who later became Secretary of the Board, contributed to the handicraft stall.[xiii] That year the Kermis made $1,840.

The following year was bigger and better. There were Dutch souvenirs, including Dutch dolls for sale, a wine bar and a coffee terrace. Dutch folk dancers performed and a Flying Darts competition was held, where money could be won if you could hit the target with darts shot by KLM aeroplanes. They doubled the previous year's takings.
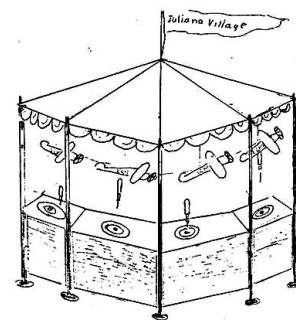
The Flying Darts Game Competition

In 1976 Kermis was held for the first time at the Miranda village site. Because of rain Kermis was postponed for a week, but still around 3000 visitors arrived. Profits were $7200. The last Kermis was held in 1978, as building began during the following year. Over seven years, Kermis had made $30,000. [xiv]

Bricks and Mortar

Tenders called from building contractors closed in May 1979 and K.B. Hutcherson was appointed as Construction Manager. Hutcherson delayed signing the contract before starting work bulldozing and pegging out the buildings, then tried to increase the fees. The Board refused his demands and work was stopped for some days. Hutcherson was replaced by a long established Sutherland Shire building contractor, L.W. Giles. Ltd. Rising building costs meant that Kristensen was asked to simplify the main building. He altered the design leaving out the mezzanine floor, thus saving $58,000.

When the Juliana Retirement Village opened in 1980 there were 17 Dutch and 34 Australian residents. Logeman says both nationalities liked the ethnic mix. They also hired an Australian cook as Australian residents preferred local food and the Dutch were used to it. [xv] Ineke Nieuwland moved into a two-bedroom unit in Juliana Village with her husband, John in 2009. John died soon after, but Ineke has never regretted the move. She was a 16-year-old when she first arrived in Cronulla from Holland with her family in 1951, and assimilated into the Australian community very well.

However, she says, "I have never had a greater need … to exchange thoughts - or even have a giggle - in Dutch." [xvi] She is just the sort of person Johan Logeman had in mind when he saw the need for a retirement village for ageing Dutch migrants.

Johan Logeman lived in the Juliana Village for some years before his death in 1992.

Juliana Village won awards for its outstanding architecture from the Royal Australian Institute of Architects in 1981[xvii] and also from the Australian Council for Rehabilitation of the Disabled. The success of the Juliana Village Retirement Village has inspired other Dutch organisations to build their own retirement villages: the Abel Tasman Village in Chester Hill and the Queen Beatrix House in Albion Park.[xviii]

Sources:
i Johan Logeman, *Juliana Village,* 1990, pp.145-147
ii Duyker, Ed., *The Dutch in Australia,* AE Press, 1987.
iii Logeman, Oral History Interview with Pam Thomas, 31 August, 1988
iv ibid
v Massaar, Jo and Dick, Oral History Interview with Elizabeth Craig, 14 March, 2012, Track 8; Logeman Oral History Interview, op.cit
vi Logeman, Johan, *Rich Nor Poor Down Under,* 1980, p.51
vii Logeman, Johan, Oral History Interview op.cit
viii Logeman, *Juliana Village,* p.51
ix Wikipedia, Juliana of the Netherlands; Logeman, *Rich Nor Poor,* op.cit, p.82., Logeman Oral History Interview op.cit
x Logeman, *Juliana Village*, p.110, p.34.
xi ibid, p.110; Wikipedia.org, 'It's Time'
xii www.travellingtwo.com/2776 Going Dutch: Eating Herring
xiii Massaar, Jo and Dick, Oral History Interview with Elizabeth Craig, 14 March, 2012, Track 12.
xiv Logeman Oral history Interview , op.cit
xv ibid
xvi Nieuwland, Ineke, Oral history interview with Elizabeth Craig, March, 2012
xvii Trove.nla.gov.au/Royal Aust. Inst. Architects NSW Chapter, Awards 1981
xviii Duyker, *The Dutch in Australia,* op.cit


A SHIRE MYSTERY: THE 'BOX'
CLIVE BAKER

To the south of the toll booth in the Royal National Park, a walking group recently located a very unusual site. About 500 metres into the bush and on the edge of the escarpment is a cell-like hole carved into the rock.

Well-made steps lead down to it and nearby rock-work seems to border an old road.

There are no drill-holes in the rock so it is unlikely to have been an army cell and the convict era ended before the park was formed.

The current and only theory is, that it was a cold store for the army or perhaps for a house nearby that is now gone.

Any ideas from members?
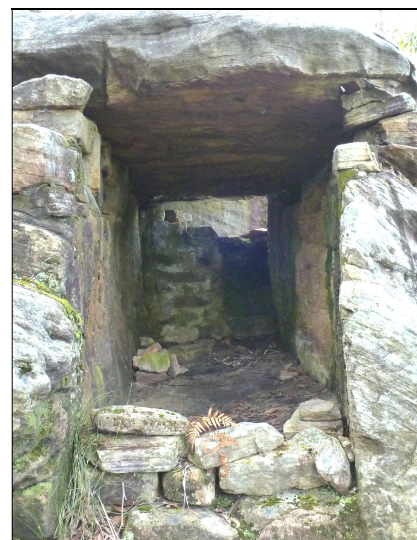
The 'box' is chiselled out and measures about 2.0m long x 1.5m wide x 1.7m high.

THE *BULLETIN* RE-VISITED

Film-making at Fernleigh

Last December a complete episode from ABC/TV *Animal Doctor* series, entitled *Sleeping Dogs Don't Die*, was shot at the home of Mrs Alcock, the 'players' being almost all of Mrs Alcock's private zoo – dogs and birds, wallabies and kangaroos, two Shetland ponies, emus and sheep: with the lovely old house in the background.

Even the long-suffering Mr Errol Alcock was roped in as an actor chauffeur. Recently parts of the famous *Skippy* series were also shot at this home (and a number of other scenes were made in Royal National Park).

It is anticipated that *Sleeping Dogs* will be seen on Channel 2 early in October.

Marjorie Hutton-Neve (October 1969)

National Park

In August a ... Drama Section unit took over Royal National Park Railway Station for the day to film a segment of a 60-minute play *Fiends of the Family* (by Pat Slower). The action is set in 1913, so that a "period train" was required. The engine of the vintage with carriages of a few years older; the engine-tender was approximately 1913, This will probably be released ... sometime in October.

Unknown writer (October 1969)

Early Menai Settler

Robert Cook became a member of the first elected Sutherland Shire Council in 1906, and conducted 'Cook's Pleasure Grounds'. He continually stressed the need of a bridge over the Woronora River, and after years of representation a contract was let in 1911 for an all-timber bridge construction despite Lands Department officials, who were opposed to it.

Mr Farquarson the contractor, hauled huge logs to the site on the western side of the river with bullock teams, commencing to build from the Menai side – opened in October 1912, this was the first road bridge in the Shire and opened up a new influx of residents to Menai.

(Source: *Light of Faith* (Woronora River Congregational Church History) A. & F. Midgley. (April 1969)
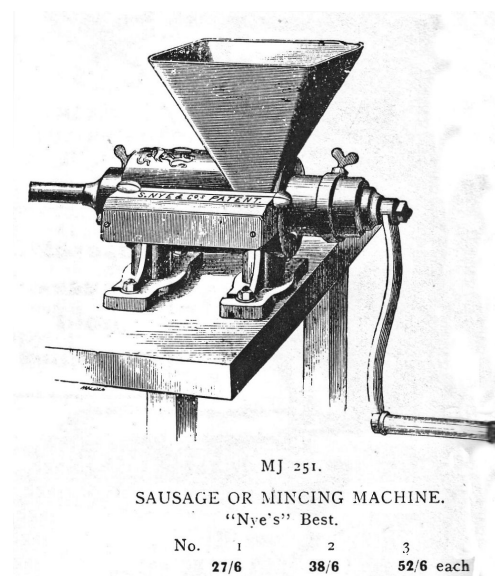

CAN WE HELP?

The Rectory

The front cover of this *Bulletin*, shows a probable Shire house on a 1927 calendar.

When seen in close-up, it has 'The Rectory' on the gate. Does anybody recall this house and where it is (or was) located?

This meat mincing machine seems a bargain at 27 shillings, 1911.

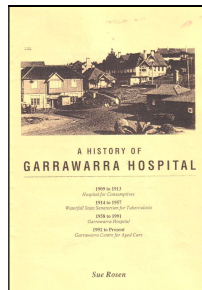# THE SHIRE
THEN-AND-NOW

| 1962 | Boyle Street, Sutherland. | 2012 |

THE BOOK SHELF
SOME BOOKS THAT MIGHT INTEREST THE AMATEUR HISTORIAN

A History of Garrawarra Hospital
Sue Rosen

This appears to be a reprint of an earlier 'potted' history probably re-done to coincide with a recent open day. It covers:

1909-1913: a hospital for consumptives.
1914-1957: sanatorium for tuberculosis.
1958-1991: a hospital.
After 1992: a centre for aged care.

It includes photographs and a time-line and is just an overview of its history.

One point of interest is that it was named by the famous conservationist, Miles Dunphy – and an error was made in the spelling and it should have been Garawarra.

No index!

Botany Bay: Where Histories Meet
Maria Nugent
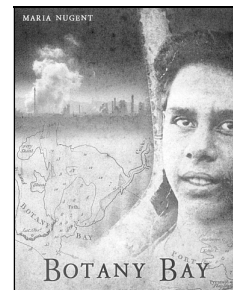
The publisher said of this book, "...Maria Nugent takes her readers on a journey to find what lies behind, beneath and beyond these familiar associations. Drawing on stories, objects, images, memories and the landscape itself, she collects the threads of other pasts to weave a rich, compelling and often surprising account. Local meanings jostle with national mythologies, Aboriginal remembrance disturbs white forgetting, the natural environment struggles for survival amid the smokestacks. In the process, Botany Bay becomes a site for meditating on questions of history, myth, memory and politics in Australia ... explores the role both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal history-making plays in creating and sustaining local and national communities."
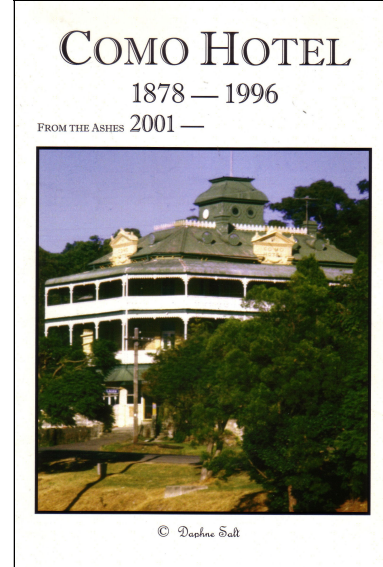
ADVERTISING

The Society has several projects under way for the coming year and we trust that members will support the new products when they come to completion.
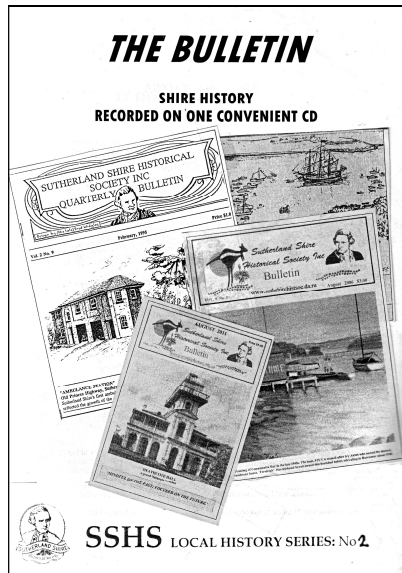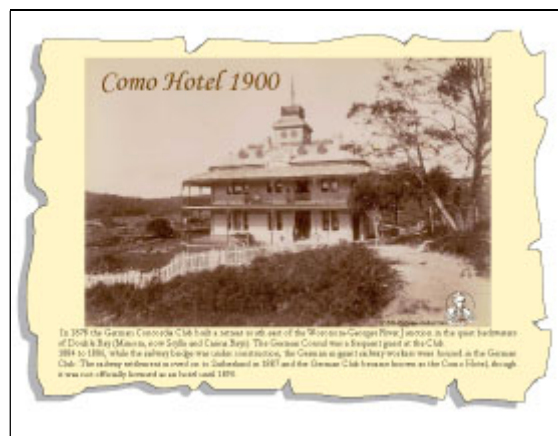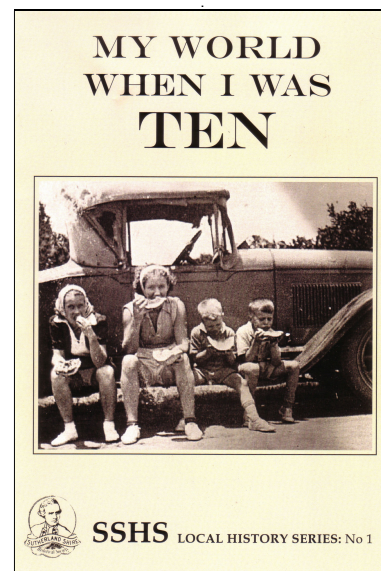
We are looking for advertisers for the *Bulletin* with the income to be used to help finance the printing and assist the advancement of the museum.
If anyone can suggest a likely advertiser, please contact Clive Baker.

Fish Hatchery Gunnamatta Bay 1908

Gov: Hatchery Port Hacking

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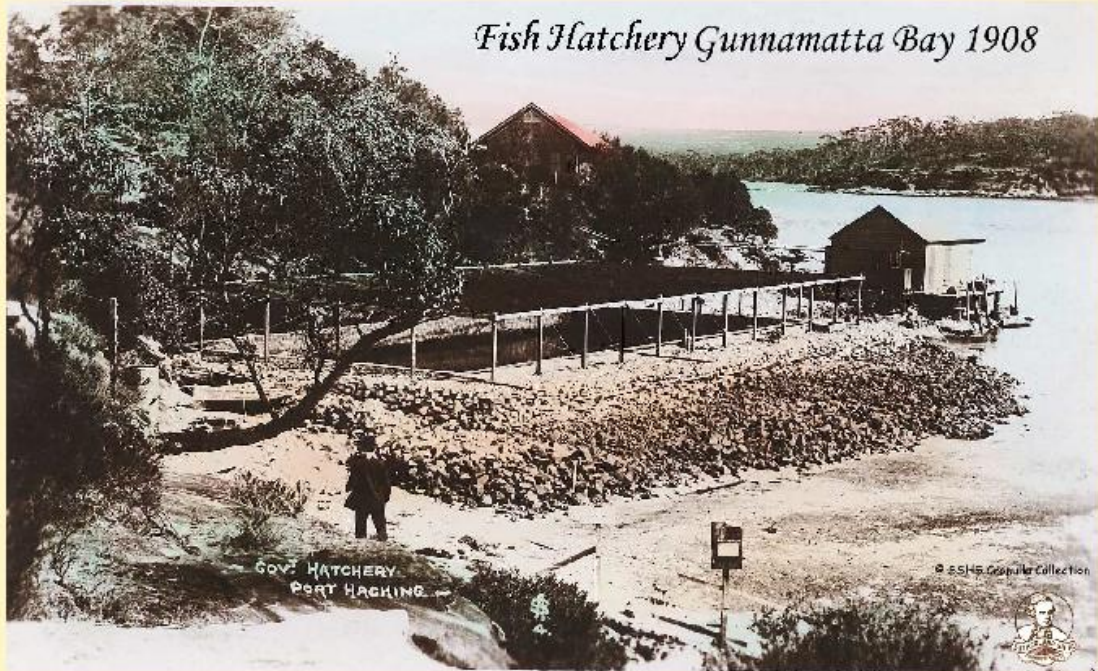
FILL YOUR LUNGS WITH PURE AIR AT CRONULLA

SURFING
BOATING
FISHING
OYSTERS

¾ ACRE STILL WATER ENCLOSED BATHS
CONTINENTAL BATHING

Train to Sutherland then take Tram.
"   " Rockdale   "   " Motor Bus