



# *Sutherland Shire Historical Society Inc* Bulletin



**NUMBER: 228 — AUGUST 2023**



*A rare photo of descendants of Charles and Charlotte Gogerly at Port Hacking ca 1900-1910 [SSL]*

From left: Elizabeth Barr (daughter of Charles and Charlotte Gogerly), holding baby Kathleen; Rebecca Flower (probably granddaughter of Charles and Charlotte), Charlotte Gogerly (daughter of Charles and Charlotte), Archibald Flower (son of Rebecca), Kate Barr and George Bull (friend)

See article by George Cotis, 'The Gogerlys: troubles, Port Hacking and beyond' (page 16)

***MINDFUL OF THE PAST – FOCUSED ON THE FUTURE***

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**EMAIL:** [shirehistory@gmail.com](mailto:shirehistory@gmail.com); **PHONE:** 0424 600 150 **SSHS WEBSITE:** [www.shirehistory.org](http://www.shirehistory.org)

**FACEBOOK:** Sutherland Shire Historical Society

## GOGERLY FAMILY AT PORT HACKING

See article by George Cotis, page 16



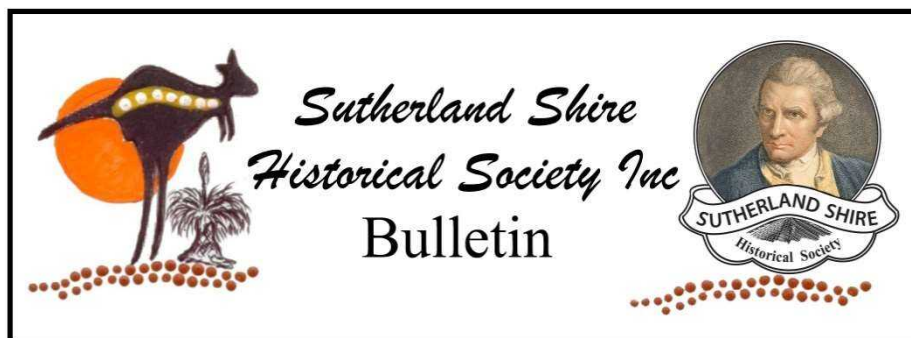
*Gogerly's Cottage at Gogerly's Point, Port Hacking, built in the 1850s, possibly the oldest house in the Sutherland Shire [SSL]*



*Charles Gogerly, undated  
[Garrawarra Word Press]*



*Hacking River from Gogerly's Point, before 1929 [SSL]*



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## SUTHERLAND SHIRE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

### THE SOCIETY

The SSHS has a proud tradition stretching back more than half a century 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 on our website: [www.shirehistory.org](http://www.shirehistory.org) or for issues up to end 2020, at Sutherland Library - Local Studies. 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. Any enquiries contact the Editor: Elizabeth Craig at [elizabeth.craig@y7mail.com](mailto:elizabeth.craig@y7mail.com) or phone 0491 096 642.

Digital copies of the *Sutherland Shire Historical Society Inc Bulletin* are emailed to all Society members with online access. Print copies can be purchased at \$5.00 each. Digital copies are also emailed to all Shire council libraries, the Mayor, Shire General Manager, all Councillors, local politicians, the Royal Australian Historical Society, National Trust of NSW, NSW State Library, National Library of Australia, University of Sydney, University of NSW, neighbouring local history societies, Shire high school libraries and some local businesses. Issues from September 1966 are also posted on the SSHS website: [www.shirehistory.org](http://www.shirehistory.org)

### COPYRIGHT

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### REGISTRATION

**SSHS BULLETIN – ISSN 1444-2930 (from February 2000); ISSN 2652-4000 (ONLINE) (from May 2019)**

Society publications are registered with the National Library of Australia in accordance with International Standard Serial Numbering and have an ISSN or 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 Avenue, Sutherland (near the library). We welcome visitors to hear our guest speakers, mix with local history enthusiasts and share afternoon tea and a chat. Although Covid-19 restrictions have been lifted, Covid is still a concern. Please do not attend a meeting if you are unwell, and wear a mask if unsure.

## SUTHERLAND SHIRE MUSEUM

Our new Museum at 88 Venetia Street, Sylvania is now open for visitors. Opening hours are: Tuesdays, 12.00 – 4.00pm, Thursdays 9.30am – 1.30pm, Saturdays 9.00 – 1.00pm. Entry is \$5. To organise a group visit, please email Sue Burrell, our Visitor Services Manager at [shiremuseumvisitors@gmail.com](mailto:shiremuseumvisitors@gmail.com)

**DONATING MATERIAL:** If you have items of historical significance to Sutherland Shire such as artefacts, documents or photographs, that you wish to donate or lend to the Museum, please contact us at [shirehistory@gmail.com](mailto:shirehistory@gmail.com). While we welcome such items, we have very limited space and have to adhere to our acquisitions policy which dictates what sort of items we can accept. If you do not wish to part with original items, we would welcome copies of documents and photographs. Temporary loans for specific periods for suitable items 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, 88 Venetia Street, Sylvania NSW 2224

Alternatively, email us at [shirehistory@gmail.com](mailto:shirehistory@gmail.com); or phone us on 0424 600 150

## SOCIETY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: 2022-2023

### ELECTED MEMBERS

<b>PATRON:</b>	Shire Mayor, Cllr Carmelo Pesce
<b>PRESIDENT</b>	Pauline Curby
<b>VICE PRESIDENT</b>	Elizabeth Craig
<b>SECRETARY/PUBLIC OFFICER</b>	Hamish MacDonald
<b>TREASURER</b>	John Doherty
<b>COMMITTEE MEMBERS:</b>	Creo Moore
	Deb Burton
	Kate Doherty

### APPOINTED POSITIONS



<b>MUSEUM MANAGER</b>	Peter Moore
<b>MUSEUM VISITORS SERVICES MANAGER</b>	Sue Burrell shiremuseumvisitors@gmail.com
<b>BULLETIN EDITOR</b>	Elizabeth Craig
<b>BULLETIN PROOF READER</b>	Claudia Dixon
<b>ONLINE ADMINISTRATOR</b>	Creo Moore
<b>PUBLICATIONS EDITOR</b>	Elizabeth Craig
<b>PUBLICITY OFFICER FACEBOOK</b>	Creo Moore
<b>ARCHIVIST</b>	Carol McDonald
<b>GRANTS OFFICER</b>	Graham Burton
<b>EXCURSIONS OFFICERS</b>	Greg Jackson, Christine Edney
<b>FUNDRAISING COORDINATOR</b>	Kate Doherty
<b>WELFARE OFFICER</b>	Mary Small
<b>AFTERNOON TEA COORDINATOR</b>	Deborah Burton
<b>HONORARY SOLICITOR</b>	Michael Solari

To contact a Committee member or office bearer, email or phone us:

**Email:** shirehistory@gmail.com, or for Museum visits: shiremuseumvisitors@gmail.com

**Phone:** 0424 600 150 (leave a message)

Your message or email will be forwarded on to the appropriate person, who will contact you directly.

SSHS CALENDAR: SEPTEMBER – DECEMBER 2023 (See website: <a href="http://www.shirehistory.org">www.shirehistory.org</a> for updates)		
SSHS MEETING - normally held at 1.30pm, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Saturday in the month at the Stapleton Centre, Sutherland (except December)		
Sutherland Shire Museum at 88 Venetia St., Sylvania is open: <b>Tuesdays</b> 12.00 – 4.00pm <b>Thursdays</b> , 9.30am-1.30pm and <b>Saturdays</b> , 9.00am – 1.00pm For enquiries re Museum visits email <a href="mailto:shiremuseumvisitors@gmail.com">shiremuseumvisitors@gmail.com</a>		
DATE		
September 2023	Sat. 16 <sup>th</sup>	<b>ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING</b> <b>SPEAKER:</b> To be advised.
	Wed. 20 <sup>th</sup>	<b>EXCURSION</b> led by archaeologists Greg Jackson and Pam Forbes to the remains of a sawmill and logging in the Royal National Park. See page 15 for details. Phone Greg on 0450 615 104 if you wish to attend.
October 2023	Sat 21 <sup>st</sup>	<b>GENERAL MEETING</b> <b>SPEAKER:</b> 'Will the real James Murphy please stand up?' Member Kim Hatherly shares her quest to separate the fact from the fiction surrounding the Holt-Sutherland Estate Company's most storied manager.
November 2023	Sat 18 <sup>th</sup>	<b>GENERAL MEETING</b> <b>SPEAKER:</b> Greg Jackson will discuss what he has discovered about convict boat builders.
	Sat 25 <sup>th</sup>	 <b>Xmas Party</b>  Plans are being made for the Christmas Party, so keep the date free, and watch out for updates at meetings and in <i>Reaching Out</i> .
December 2023	Sat. 16 <sup>th</sup>	<b>NO GENERAL MEETING IN DECEMBER</b>

**EXCURSIONS:** Please note that for insurance reasons only SSHS members can attend excursions.

#### PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE AT THE MEETING

*The Matson Collection – Sutherland Shire Museum*, by Bruce Howell, 2022: \$25

*Murphy's Lore – Unravelling the myths around James Murphy....*, by Kim Hatherly, 2023: \$10

August 2023 *Bulletins*: \$5

#### *A Reminder*

If you have not yet paid SSHS Membership fees for 2023-2024 they are now overdue  
**\$40 individuals/\$60 couples + \$20 to receive printed *Bulletins***

**57<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**SUTHERLAND SHIRE HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.**

THIS NOTICE IS ISSUED ON BEHALF OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
MEMBERS ARE ADVISED THAT THE AGM AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND  
COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR 2023-2024 WILL BE HELD ON

**SATURDAY 16th SEPTEMBER 2023**

COMMENCING AT 1.30pm

STAPLETON CENTRE, 21A STAPLETON STREET SUTHERLAND

.....  
1. WELCOME, ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO COUNTRY AND APOLOGIES

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF THE 2022 AGM AS PUBLISHED IN THE NOVEMBER 2022  
*BULLETIN.*

3. ADOPTION OF ALL ANNUAL REPORTS FOR 2022-2023 FROM THE EXECUTIVE  
COMMITTEE AS PUBLISHED IN THE AUGUST 2023 *BULLETIN.*

4. ADOPTION OF THE FINANCIAL REPORT AND BALANCE SHEET FOR 2022-2023 AS  
PUBLISHED IN THE AUGUST 2023 *BULLETIN.*

5. ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT

DEPUTY PRESIDENT

HONORARY SECRETARY/PUBLIC OFFICER

HONORARY TREASURER

COMMITTEE MEMBER 1

COMMITTEE MEMBER 2

COMMITTEE MEMBER 3

8. AGM GENERAL BUSINESS

THIS NOTICE IS GIVEN IN AUGUST 2023

HAMISH MACDONALD, SECRETARY

# PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT, 2023

PAULINE CURBY



It has been another busy year for Sutherland Shire Historical Society, especially for the dedicated band of volunteers who give their time to the ongoing work at our

Museum, now located at Venetia Street Sylvania. In what was originally a baby health centre, we are rather cramped. More display space and an outdoor wet weather area are needed. As finance is a major hurdle to the feasibility of extending the building, we are exploring a range of fundraising activities.

The official opening took place on 15 October 2022 with approximately 70 people present as Councillor Laura Cowell launched the Museum. Councillor Marcelle Elzerman also attended and the mayor Councillor Carmelo Pesce dropped in after another local historical event for a museum tour. The day was a great success with lively entertainment, delicious catering and short informative speeches.

On 18 March the Matson Collection of Aboriginal artefacts collected in Sutherland Shire many years ago was launched. Fred Matson, a third generation Shire boat builder, located these objects and prior to his death passed them onto his friend, Harvie Nation, whose family deposited them for safekeeping with the Society on the basis of a semi-permanent loan. Wiradjuri descendent and Society member Bruce Howell has produced a beautifully illustrated and comprehensive catalogue to accompany the Collection.

Our wonderful museum volunteers are working to improve the operation of Sutherland Shire's only museum – sorting,

accessioning and mowing the grass. Although casual visitors are sparse, there has been a steady flow of group bookings. Guiding co-ordinator Sue Burrell is working enthusiastically with her small team of regular guides to ensure that all tours are conducted in a professional manner. Using her extensive experience in museum guiding, Sue has devised a 20-minute Snapshot Tour which can be finetuned for a variety of audiences.

Early this year three Society members were videoed speaking about significant people buried in Woronora Cemetery, and on an open day in April we mounted a display in the old crematorium. Museum manager Peter Moore is keen to further our association with the cemetery especially as income can be generated by contributing to such activities and by leading historic cemetery tours.

Throughout the year the Society has made submissions regarding several local heritage issues. We helped save historic Hotham House, as the Independent Planning Commission has ruled against the proposed redevelopment of President Private Hospital which would have entailed the demolition of Hotham House. It is important to acknowledge the work of our member Kim Hatherly whose research on GyMEA was of enormous value in this campaign.

Other heritage issues are in abeyance rather than resolved. A Section 60 application to Heritage NSW for extensive building at Hungry Point – the former Fisheries Research Centre – was withdrawn. At present we are uncertain as to the final outcome.

A development application has been submitted to Sutherland Shire Council for a nine-storey building behind the façade of



what is probably the oldest structure in Cronulla where Little Italy and Pilgrims restaurants are located. This building was the hub of the 'village' when Gerrale Street was the main street. A unique reminder of old Cronulla will disappear if a development on the scale proposed goes ahead.

Finally, social events are important to keep members in touch with each other and raise our spirits. One such occasion was our Christmas party on 26 November. We were lucky to have a beautiful fine day, superb entertainment by John Doherty's Orana

Ukulele Group and as usual, outstanding catering by Deb Burton and her team. Again, this hard working group recently organised a winter 'Christmas in June' celebration at Sylvania Bowling Club. Special thanks for the support of our sponsors JD and staff.

Thank you to all who have worked hard this year for Sutherland Shire Historical Society. It is refreshing to see such enthusiasm and to welcome new members, many of whom bring innovative ideas to our Society.

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## **ACTING SECRETARY'S REPORT 2023**

**HAMISH MacDONALD**

In February 2023 I was approached to take on the duties of Secretary of the Sutherland Shire Historical Society Inc. until the AGM in September 2023. After giving the proposal some thought I decided that I would take up the position.

However, taking up the position came with some problems fulfilling it. I did not know what had happened in the past and I did not know the names of the prominent members of the Society—apart from the executive committee. This caused some problems with minute-taking.

It has been a privilege and a pleasure to be part of the executive committee which has guided the Society during the last few months. Concentration has mainly been on the setting up of the Museum and working out ways of having paying customers come through the doors, plus applying for grants to

fund future enhancements to the Museum and surrounding grounds. We now have Sue Burrell on board who has worked in museums all over the world and is working on having young people visit ours. We also have Jessica Cook, a student from Notre Dame University doing an internship with us to gain experience towards her degree.

Going forward, I feel one of our major projects is to have more (LOTS more) paying visitors come to our Museum. This is very important as we have many outgoings to find the money for. All members could help with this project by talking to family members and friends about the Museum and encouraging them to visit.

I will not be standing for the position of Secretary at the elections at the forthcoming AGM.

## MUSEUM REPORT FOR AUGUST 2023

What a year we have had at the Museum. As manager it has given me a great deal of satisfaction watching the Museum, like a Golden Phoenix, arise from the chaos that was presented to our volunteers at the new site. Not only have the team put together a wonderful display of local artefacts, they have worked constantly behind the scenes accessing, sorting, filing, restoring, and setting up the exhibits. They have also taken on the task of maintaining the building and grounds.

The Museum has been fortunate to have received a number of grants with which we have been able to upgrade our computers, purchase additional trolleys for educational needs and also a new compactus to improve our storage of documents and artefacts.

This being said it does not hide the fact that our museum is too small and we will have to find some way of expanding the floor space. Our preferred option is to procure a demountable building which would be installed on the north side of the existing building. This addition would allow all the office and files to be in one room there by freeing up the existing office for additional Museum displays.

Finally, I must once again thank all those who have given their time to bring this transformation of the Museum to fruition. And shipmates please continue your good work in the year to come. By the way, there is always room for more crew aboard the Good Ship Venetia Street so if you have some free time please come on board.



*Bangor Probus Group with the Olympic torch and cauldron at Sutherland Shire Museum on Thursday, 3 August. [Photo: Creo Moore]*

The Museum is open on Tuesday afternoons, Thursday and Saturday mornings. For group tours contact our Visitor Services Manager, Sue Burrell at: [shiremuseumvisitors@gmail.com](mailto:shiremuseumvisitors@gmail.com).

# TREASURER'S ANNUAL REPORT 2023

JOHN DOHERTY

We had another busy year with several major events at the Museum:

- the Grand opening of the Museum on 15 October 2022
- SSHS Xmas Party on 26 November 2022
- Volunteer BBQ on 14 January 2023
- Matson Collection launch 18 March 2023

Fund raising is very important to support projects:

- We had manned stalls at the
  - Tramway Museum Fair on 26 February 2023
  - Woronora Cemetery Fair on 22 April 2023, and
  - Kurnell Fair on 21 May 2023
- Our famous tea ladies make their own biscuits and cakes for members and visitors at the monthly meetings for at least a gold coin donation. They do a great job and we ask members to be more generous in their donations.

Museum entry fee collections have increased through:

- An increased awareness of our existence, although we need to work more on this.
- Probus and Church group tour bookings.
- Thanks to Sue Burrell our school group promotions are gaining momentum and we should see the first of these happening soon.

Membership is the lifeline of the Society and at time of writing we have 97 on the books.

Membership fees however are now due and I thank those who have renewed but need the other 37% to do so.

Grants have helped us immensely:

- We have received two grants worth \$12,500.
  - The first, worth \$2500 is earmarked for new cabinetry. Out of this, two service carts worth \$800 have been allocated for school group tours.
  - The second, worth \$10,000 has been used for a \$7000.00, eight-bay compactus that will go in shed Number 1. What is left over will go to office improvements.
- We do have two other grants in the pipeline, thanks to Graham Burton, that could provide better cabinetry lighting and maybe funds for more storage.

# Treasurer's Report

John Doherty

## Sutherland Shire Historical Society Inc Profit and Loss year ending 30 June 2023

	FY 2023	FY 2022
<b>Income</b>		
Advertising	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Donations	\$ 315.90	\$ 1160.45
Entry Fee	\$ 1739.50	\$ 0.00
Erroneous Payment to SSHS	\$ 1000.00	\$ 0.00
Fund Raising	\$ 2359.00	\$ 442.50
Grants	\$ 15840.00	\$ 19000.00
<b>Book sales:-</b>		
ECE 1770	\$ 490.00	\$ 1763.75
Kareela	\$ 94.00	\$ 141.00
Book Commission	\$ 18.00	\$ 0.00
Other	\$ 725.50	\$ 139.00
Matson Collection	\$ 895.00	\$ 0.00
Members Subscriptions	\$ 2765.00	\$ 4090.00
Heritage Festival	\$ 0.00	\$ 440.00
Bulletin	\$ 405.00	\$ 645.00
Monthly Meeting Afternoon Tea	\$ 523.75	\$ 263.05
Miscellaneous (paid postage,etc)	\$ 45.65	\$ 0.00
Interest received - IMB (Fixed Deposit)	\$ 20.49	\$ 10.71
Christmas Party	\$ 445.00	\$ 205.00
Xmas Lunch	\$ 1085.00	\$ 0.00
	<u>\$ 28766.79</u>	<u>\$ 28300.46</u>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Bank Fees	\$ 684.00	\$ 684.00
Book Exp - ECE 1770	\$ 0.00	\$ 3340.00
Book Exp - Matson Collection	\$ 3340.00	\$ 0.00
Bulletin & postage	\$ 949.20	\$ 1293.60
Shed #2	\$ 242.00	\$ 3795.00
Refund of erroneous payment	\$ 1000.00	\$ 0.00
General Exp	\$ 975.35	\$ 831.80
Insurance	\$ 1058.78	\$ 933.88
Marketing & Promotions	\$ 163.30	\$ 0.00
Museum Exp	\$ 1279.53	\$ 4201.44
Museum Rent	\$ 1291.48	\$ 0.00
Hall hire	\$ 585.90	\$ 344.10
Heritage Festival	\$ 0.00	\$ 430.00
Stationery & Postage	\$ 103.45	\$ 547.44
Website / Fbook/Kiosk exps	\$ 26.40	\$ 316.80
Newsletter,printing,etc	\$ 358.85	\$ 340.78
Paintings	\$ 0.00	\$ 400.00
Equipment Purchases re Volunteer Grant	\$ 0.00	\$ 4100.45
Cabinetry Purchases re Community Grant	\$ 0.00	\$ 16432.90
Christmas Parties	\$ 324.25	\$ 0.00
Xmas Lunch	\$ 1050.00	\$ 121.56
	<u>\$ 13432.49</u>	<u>\$ 38113.75</u>
Net Operating Profit(Loss)	\$ 15334.30	\$ -9813.29
Retained profits at the beginning of Financial year	\$ 23953.99	\$ 33767.28
RETAINED PROFIT AT THE END OF FINANCIAL YEAR 2023	<u>\$ 39288.29</u>	<u>\$ 23953.99</u>



SUTHERLAND SHIRE HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC

ABN 17 083 299 572

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 30th JUNE, 2023

CURRENT ASSETS	2023	2022
IMB Term Deposit 200855539	\$ 5143.64	\$ 5123.15
IMB Everyday Unlimited 2007983933	\$ 33994.65	\$ 18680.84
Petty Cash	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00
	<u>\$ 39288.29</u>	<u>\$ 23953.99</u>
Less: Liabilities, Unpresented Cheque	0.00	0.00
	<u>\$ 39288.29</u>	<u>\$ 23953.99</u>
 EQUITY		
Retained Earnings	\$ 23953.99	\$ 33767.28
Current Year Earnings	\$ 15334.30	\$ -9813.29
Balance as at 30 June 2022	<u>\$ 39288.29</u>	<u>\$ 23953.99</u>

DECLARATION

The Management Committee declared that the association is not a reporting entity and this is a special financial report,

The Committee of the association declares that:

1. the financial statements as set out on pages 1 & 2 present fairly the association's financial position as at 30th June, 2023 and its performance for the year ended on that date.

2. In the Committee's opinion there are reasonable grounds to believe that the association will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the Committee.

President:

Pauline Curby  
Pauline Curby

Assistant Treasurer

Hamish MacDonald  
Hamish MacDonald

Date: 27-07-2023

Date: 26-07-2023



## FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

ELIZABETH CRAIG

If you're looking for variety, then this *Bulletin* has it! From George Cotis's insights into the Gogerly family at Port Hacking (p.16), to Greg Jackson and Bruce Howell's analysis of an 1848 painting of the *Woronora* (p.31) and Ann O'Connor's recollections of her role at the Queen's coronation in 1953 (p.22).

First hand experiences of historic events are always of interest, as they add to our understanding of the event. We would welcome any contributions of personal memories of significant historic occasions.

George Cotis unravels his work towards protecting the Port Hacking environment and what his OAM means to him (p.25); Bruce Watt introduces us to his new book, *Curious Eyes* on reports from early visitors to the NSW colony about their impressions (p.27);

and Garriock Duncan explains the history of *Doryanthes*, a largely online magazine conceived and run by members of SSHS between 2008 and 2018 (p.29).

We also have some *Letters to the Editor*, responding to past articles or to requests for readers' views on issues (p.13). If you want to have your say, this is where you can share your ideas (or vent your spleen) without the effort of writing a full article.

For some time we have planned to publish a series of booklets on the histories of suburbs. We need contributors, though! If you would like to submit the story of your suburb, (referencing your sources of information) and supplying photos, we would love to hear from you. Contact the editor for more information at: [shirehistory@gmail.com](mailto:shirehistory@gmail.com).

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### JULIANA VILLAGE - A new display at the Museum

Juliana Retirement Village in Miranda opened in 1980, initially for aged Dutch migrants. It was the culmination of a dream by Dutch migrant Johan (Jan) Logeman, a house painter who had arrived in Sydney with his family in 1952 to escape war ravaged Holland. While he was in hospital recovering from a heart ailment in 1959, it dawned on him how lonely it could be for elderly Dutch migrants away from their childhood home. The idea of building a Dutch retirement village was born.



This display tells the story of Jan Logeman's efforts to gain support for his idea from fellow Dutch migrants, to research what was needed in a good retirement village, to raise the money needed and to find the right location and the right people to build it. It is a story of determination, patience and hard work, and it reveals the support given by the Dutch community over two decades before the dream became a reality.

You are invited to visit the Sutherland Shire Museum to see the Juliana Village display, as well as all the other exhibits at the Museum telling the history of Sutherland Shire.

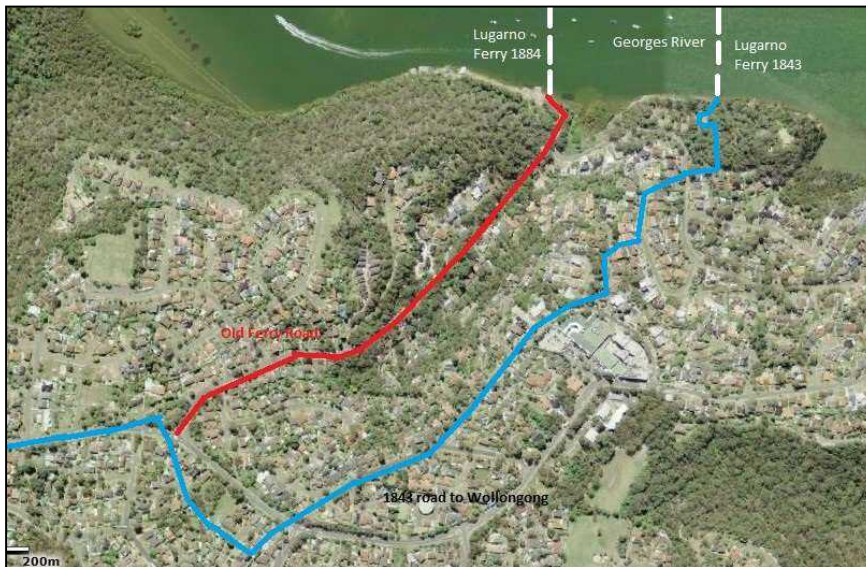
Address: 88 Venetia Street, Sylvania (cnr Holt Road)

Opening hours: Tuesdays, 12.00-4.00pm, Thursdays, 9.30am-1.30pm and Saturdays, 9.00am to 1.00pm

## *Letters to the Editor*

### **Why is the second ferry road in Illawong called 'Old Ferry Road'?**

Laurie Burgess writes in response to Greg Jackson's article, 'Is "Old Ferry Road" really the old ferry road?' (SSHS newsletter, *Reaching Out* No. 16 – January 2023). The author asserts confusion arises amongst local historians because 'Old Ferry Road' is actually the road leading to the second ferry crossing opened in 1987. The original one, opened in 1843, crossed the river downstream.



*Aerial of Illawong showing Old Ferry Road (red) and the approximate line of the original 1843 Illawarra Road (blue)  
[Greg Jackson, *Reaching Out*, No. 16, January 2023]*

*I am a little surprised that the original route from the first ferry (shown by the blue line on the above annotated aerial map) was not overlaid on a copy of the 1930 aerial photographs. That would appear to be an earlier confirmation that today's Hobart Place closely followed part of the road from the first ferry.*

*As to the assertion 'We may never know why 'Old Ferry Road' was given its confusing name', I will give a short summary explaining what happened. I can be contacted through SSHS if more detailed information is required.*

*The road which is today known as Old Ferry Road was created as a Government reserved road in 1850, and was first named in 1914 when a surveyor crossed out the words 'Main Road' and replaced them with 'Old Illawarra Road'. This survived until another surveyor in 1984 named it 'Old Ferry Road', and two other prior surveys in 1983 were amended by crossing out 'Illawarra' and replacing it with 'Ferry'. But why?*

*Starting in 1981 surveys were being made for a 'Proposed Town Distributor' which widened and diverted the route of Old Illawarra Road from the turn-off to Alfords Point to the southern side of Illawong shopping centre. In what may have been thought a good idea at the time, that amended route was referred to as 'Old Illawarra Road'. As there could not be two routes for 'Old Illawarra Road', 'Old Ferry Road' was created.*

*This created a bit of a problem for the local residents who saw this revised Old Illawarra Road simply as a deviation of Illawong peninsula to Menai, which they had known for many years as Fowler Road. Up to that time it had run through the shopping centre site and continued along the route which appeared to partly follow a residue of the original route from the first Georges*

*River ferry as it traversed to the road to Menai. Fowler Road had been interrupted by a road closure within the shopping centre development and its former continuation renamed when 'Fowler Road' was crossed out in 1983 and replaced with 'Hobart Place' which then became a cul-de-sac. The residents finally got their way in August 2003, when a road name change was gazetted for the road 'between Alford's Point Road and Fowler Road (the Illawong Shopping Centre) to Fowler Road, Illawong'. However, the name 'Old Ferry Road' did not receive any public comment and was retained.*

*I trust this, albeit condensed, explanation explains why there is an Old Ferry Road.*

*Laurie Burgess*

Greg Jackson's response to Laurie's correction is:

*Laurie's research is, as always, spot on and explains the road's name. I still think it is silly to call a road 'Old Ferry Road' when it is clearly not. I wonder if the surveyor who called it 'Old Ferry Road' in 1984 realised that it wasn't.*

*Greg Jackson*

### **Should it matter to SSHS when we celebrate Australia Day?**

In the last *Bulletin*, we published some responses to Pauline Curby's question in the February issue's President's Report asking what members felt the Society's stance should be regarding 26 January as the date we celebrate 'Australia Day'. Should SSHS engage with the issue or take a neutral stance and ignore it? Here is another response.

*If we are in Sydney, my wife Susan and I usually fly the Aboriginal flag on 'Australia Day'. We recognise that it is a painful anniversary for indigenous Australians.*

*I have never thought that the establishment of a British Gulag was something to celebrate, although I realise that many Australians are proud of their convict forebears. They were individuals who were often victims of harsh conditions and draconian laws and had no choice in their destination.*

*I would much rather celebrate the anniversary of federation. It marks the true birth of our nation. The Society could consider supporting such an alternative, but perhaps we should simply wait until the Commonwealth of Australia becomes a republic, as I am sure it will eventually. We could replace the King's birthday. It's a confected birthday anyway; Charles III was born on 14 November.*

*In the meantime, we could acknowledge the broader multicultural significance of 26 January. The First Fleet was far from ethnically homogeneous. The first Chinese to visit eastern Australia arrived in Botany Bay on that day. They were the dozen sailors from Macao aboard Lapérouse's ships. One of those ships was commanded by Robert Sutton de Clonard, a native of Wexford, Ireland. Surprisingly, he has been overlooked by historians of the Irish in Australia. And, of course, there were hundreds of Frenchmen here too on that day.*

*Edward Duyker*



# NATIONAL PARK LOGGING EXCURSION

Planned for **Wed. 20 September 2023**

Archaeologists Pam Forbes and Greg Jackson will be leading an excursion to the remains of the sawmill on Fosters Flat in the Royal National Park (c1903 – c1922) on Wednesday 20 September 2023. We will meet at 10:00 at the Dance Hall Audley Café before driving to McKell Avenue (see map below).

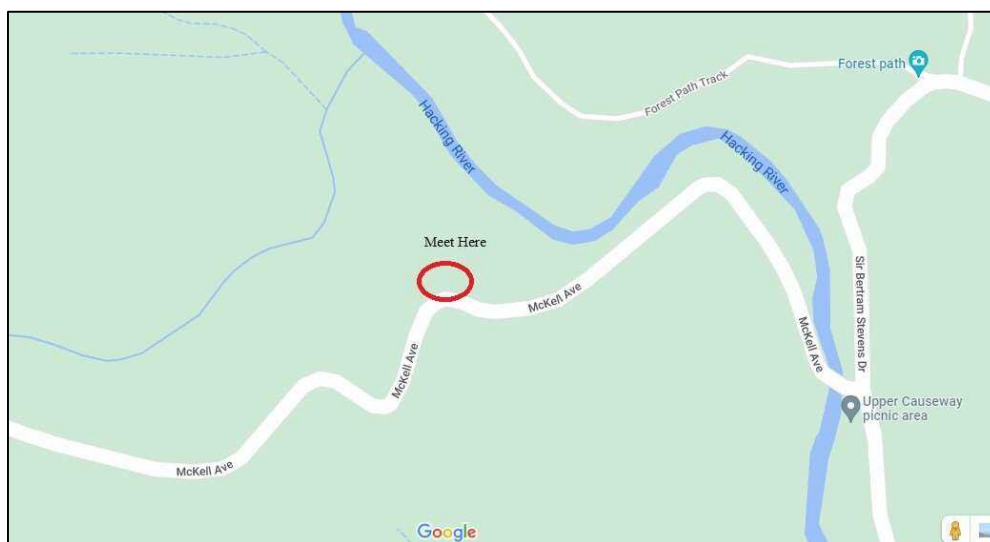


Fosters Flat, just off McKell Avenue, contains archaeological remains of a sawmill operating in the early twentieth century – including the sawmill boiler.

*Archaeologist Dr Brad Duncan inspecting the Robey boiler used to power a sawmill in the Royal N.P. [Photo: G. Jackson]*

This sawmill was operated by James Foster of Waterfall around 1903. It was powered by a Robey 18hp semi portable engine. Beside the boiler are the remains of a timber lined pit for the circular saw blade and there are, no doubt, other structures in the nearby bush. James Foster owned both a bullock team and eight heavy draught horses, and these would have been used to install the sawmill and move both timber and lumber to and from the mill.

This area still abounds in durable hardwoods, turpentines (*Syncarpia glomulifera*) and blackbutts (*Eucalyptus pilularis*), and there is evidence in the surrounding woodland of extensive logging of these quality hardwoods in the early days. This sawmill was still operating in 1922 providing sawn lumber for the Metropolitan Coal Company, before being closed by public pressure.



Phone Greg Jackson on 0450 615 104 if you would like to join the excursion on 20 September.

# THE GOGERLYS - TROUBLES, PORT HACKING and BEYOND

GEORGE COTIS

*To a large extent this paper is an extract of 'The Gogerlys and Gogerlys Cottage', George Cotis, April 2015, in which is presented the full history of Charles Gogerly, his family and their lives. That work especially includes full details of the Obscene Libel case, and the Molloy Tragedy, briefly mentioned below.*

Trouble had been already visited on Charles Gogerly prior to him coming to Port Hacking. Charles had gained some infamy when prosecuted as a publisher in 1843 for 'Obscene Libel'. That case has been well covered and there remains doubt as to whether justice prevailed. This preceded Gogerly coming to Port Hacking.

## **The Gogerlys move to Port Hacking**

Charles and Charlotte Gogerly moved to Port Hacking some considerable time after his release from prison – probably in 1854. It has been speculated the notoriety of his conviction drove Gogerly to Port Hacking to seek seclusion and retreat. The fact that there was a decade between his release from gaol and moving to Port Hacking puts doubt on that, and it remains unclear why the Gogerlys chose to go to Port Hacking.

Vessels had been going to and from Port Hacking, harvesting and transporting shells well before the Gogerlys settled there. Whilst there may be reason to believe the seclusion was consistent with the nature of Gogerly, it is also reasonable to believe that Gogerly was interested in making money.

With a home-made boat Charles and his sons fished and also gathered the abundant shells. Gogerly, like others before him and afterwards, shipped his harvest north and perhaps south, as kilns existed by then in Kiama.<sup>1</sup> It also appears from the shipping records that Gogerly travelled elsewhere along the coast with his vessel.

The early coastal vessels were not large, and were of shallow draft. The shallow draft was the key to their access to shoaled estuaries like Port Hacking, and to the ports on the New South Wales coast which, almost without exception, were on rivers with dangerous barred entrances. These bars claimed many vessels, include those of the Gogerlys: *Peacock*, owned by John Gogerly,<sup>2</sup> and *Walsendes*<sup>3</sup>, owned and under the command of Charles' other son, William Henry.

## **The Gogerlys – Trouble and Tragedy**

Two of Charles' and Charlotte's sons died at young ages – Jacob George, aged 11 months, and Charles James, at age four.

During the times of the Gogerlys at Port Hacking, a major boating tragedy occurred, largely caused by Charles Gogerly. His recklessness on the water resulted in the mass drowning of members of the Molloy family. This incident has been well documented, along with the prominence of Charles Gogerly, his cottage and times at Port Hacking.

## **Tragedy seemed part of the Gogerlys' fortunes**

John Frederick had worked from his early years with his father at Port Hacking, and had saved his father from drowning in the Molloy tragedy.

While at Port Hacking, John was the owner and master of the ketch *Peacock*,<sup>4</sup> which appears from shipping records of the day, to have been the means of transporting the Gogerlys' shells from Port Hacking.

Following the marriage of John Frederick Gogerly (then known as Captain) and Mary Anne Alderson, and after the death of his father, John and Mary Anne went to Booti Booti, an area between Wallis Lake and the Tasman Sea on the NSW mid-north coast (the name comes from 'butibuti', the local Worimi Aboriginal word meaning 'plenty of honey')<sup>5</sup>, where, as the first Europeans to inhabit the area, they lived an isolated existence, surviving on hard work and bartering with the local Aborigines.

John was a man of the water. 'During his time in Forster, he frequently transported sawn timber and oyster shells to Sydney.'<sup>6</sup> While the Gogerlys were still based at Port Hacking, John Frederick lost the *Peacock* in 1876.

His life at sea had even more colour:

The story is told that on one occasion the *Venture* was anchored fully laden off Elizabeth beach when the weather began to deteriorate. The only course was to up anchor and run bare-poled before it. The storm worsened to quite a blow. Indeed, it was a memorable one. *The Maitland Storm* it was called. It was 5 May 1898. The captain sent his companion into the hold and wrapping himself in oilskins against the weather, tied himself to the tiller and fought the storm for 3 days. Time passed and when the little boat did not return people began to mourn the passing of Captain Gogerly, but it was a fortnight later that he sailed back to the coast, into Coffs Harbour and eventually home still in possession of his full cargo to the amazement of the locals. When complimented on his escape, he replied, 'There is not enough water in the Pacific Ocean to drown me!'<sup>7</sup>

The storm event of 5 – 7 May 1898 was named *The Maitland Gale* after the loss of the paddle steamer, *Maitland* in the storm. Ten vessels were lost in seas so large as to have cut Stradbroke Island (south-east Queensland) in two. This was the storm that drove the large clipper *Hereward* on to Maroubra Beach (southern Sydney).<sup>8</sup>

Despite his unsubstantiated bravado following his survival in *The Maitland Gale*, tragedy was waiting for this son of the Gogerlys in 1905 in far less threatening waters. John is believed to have suffered a heart attack and drowned while returning across Wallis Lake with supplies for his family. He was just short of his 62<sup>nd</sup> birthday.

**DROWNING CASE AT FORSTER.**  
**FORSTER, Tuesday.**  
The body of Captain Gogerly was found yesterday in shallow water 100 yards from the shore, and about 2 miles from his home.

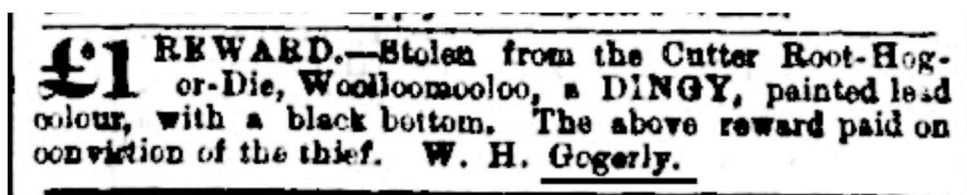
*Sydney Morning Herald*, 9 August 1905

John Gogerly's gravesite at Booti Booti is within what is now national park. John and Mary Anne had seven children, including two sons: Arthur Charles and Albert George.

William Henry, the other surviving son of Charles and Charlotte, also had a life with the sea. He found himself in colourful exchange – not untypical of the rough and tumble of the waterfront, which landed him in Court:

William Gogerty [sic] and William Eaton, seamen of the vessel, *Root-Hog-or-Die*, were charged with violently assaulting one James Davison ... some words passed between them, and both defendants assaulted complainant, beating and kicking him severely. The evidence for the defence showed that complainant had accused Gogerly of stealing his (complainant's) boat ... The bench considered the charge proved though evidently there had been provocation. They fined the defendants £2 and £1/1s professional costs each, costs of court 5s 10d, being also required to be paid by defendant Gogerly.<sup>9</sup>

Loss and tragedy were also waiting for this son of the Gogerlys. The first is sheer irony after the assault charge three months previously.



*Sydney Morning Herald*, 17 October 1872

Much worse was to come. William had 'conducted a butcher's shop in Balmain for some years before becoming a master mariner',<sup>10</sup> and married the widowed Mary Ann Heaton. In October 1877 their daughter Emily Charlotte Gogerly, aged six years and 10 months, died after her clothing 'was in a blaze from top to bottom'. The tragedy took place at Collins Street, Balmain. Mary Ann was in the yard feeding a pig when the child appeared from the house, ablaze.<sup>11</sup>

William's life already incident-filled, then suffered the loss of his vessel, *Waldenses*. The list of shipwrecks posted in the *Sydney Morning Herald*, 15 March 1879 reads:

October 10 – *Waldenses*, ketch, 50 tons; W.H. Gogerly, master; W.H. Gogerly, owner; number of crew and passengers, 5. Cargo of timber, value £1000; insured, £800. This vessel was lost in consequence of her grounding on the bar, in attempting to get to sea from Camden Haven.

A Marine Board of Enquiry ensued:

The Marine Board held an inquiry yesterday afternoon, touching incidents attending the loss of the *Waldenses*, a ketch of fifty tons burden. W.H. Gogerly, the master, was the first witness examined. He said the vessel belonged to him and his brother. She was lost on the 10<sup>th</sup> instant while attempting to go to sea to perform a voyage from Camden Haven to Sydney. She took ground in doing so, and a sea struck and drove her against some rocks where she foundered. Henry Groll, mate of the vessel, was also examined. He described the accident, and said that every reasonable effort was made to save the Ketch.<sup>12</sup>

The memorial stone at Rookwood Cemetery, Sydney, reads: 'In memory of Captain W.H. Gogerly died 24 December 1886, aged 48 years.' It is believed this occurred at Sulawesi Tengah, Indonesia. Like in many of the Gogerly stories and records, there is another contradiction. An 'In Memorium' notice in the *Sydney Morning Herald*, of Saturday, 25 December 1886, reads:

GOGERLY – In loving remembrance of my dearly beloved husband, William Henry Gogerly, who was lost at sea on December 25, 1878, in his 40<sup>th</sup> year. In life beloved, in death lamented.

Mary Ann died at the age of 53 on March 16, 1893, having lived at:

... her residence, Nicholson-street, Woolloomooloo Bay, Mary Ann Gogerty [sic], widow of the late Captain William Henry Gogarly [sic], ...a resident of Woolloomooloo over 50 years, aged 81 years, 5 months, (?) leaving a large family and relations to mourn their loss.<sup>13</sup>

Mary Ann's death notice would indicate that she and William Henry probably remained Sydney-based. Funeral notices for William's two sisters Caroline (1938) and Sarah (1946) indicate that they lived at the same residence – 24 Cressy Street, Ryde.<sup>14</sup>

It seems that right to the end, there was a glue that bound the Gogerly women, through thick and thin.



### **Children of Charles Gogerly and Charlotte (Fowler) Gogerly**

1. **Mary Gogerly**, born 19 April 1834 in Liverpool
2. **Agnes Mary Gogerly**, born 1 January 1835 in Mullet Creek, Dapto
3. **Elizabeth Ellen Gogerly**, born October 1836 in Mullet Creek, Dapto
4. **William Henry Gogerly**, born 5 November 1839 (1838?) in Mullet Cree, Dapto
5. **Rebecca Agusta Gogerly**, born 25 September 1841 in Mullet Creek, Dapto
6. **John Frederick Gogerly**, born 22 September 1843 in Kent St., Sydney; died 1 August 1905 in Wallis Lake, NSW
7. **Charlotte Emma Gogerly**, born 18 August 1845 in Chippendale, NSW; died 1915 in Australia
8. **Caroline Amelia Gogerly**, born 30 July 1847 in Sydney; died 1938 in Sydney
9. **Jacob George Gogerly**, born 24 September 1849 in Sydney; died 4 August 1850 in Sydney
10. **Madeline Marian Gogerly**, born 8 January 1851 in Sydney
11. **Louisa Maude Gogerly**, born 14 June 1853 in Pitt St., Sydney; died 1912 in Australia
12. **Sarah Gogerly**, born 27 December 1855 in Port Hacking; died 1946 in Sydney
13. **Charles James Gogerly**, born 5 March 1858 I Port Hacking; died 1862 in Port Hacking

**Notes for Jacob George Gogerly.** Died in infancy

<sup>1</sup> Collin, William, *Life and Adventures of an Essexman, 1914*; Pearson, Michael, 'The Lime Industry in Australia – an overview', *Australian Historical Archaeology*, 8, 1990

<sup>2</sup> Register of Australian and New Zealand Shipping, p.42

<sup>3</sup> Register of Australian and New Zealand Shipping, p.43

<sup>4</sup> Register of Australia and New Zealand Shipping

<sup>5</sup> Office of the Environment and Heritage 2013: *Booti Booti National Park: Cultural and History*

<sup>6</sup> Appendix 9, *Historic Heritage Assessment*, Great Lakes Council, 2007

<sup>7</sup> Debert, Marjorie, Great Lakes Historical Society, *Lakeland Adventures*

<sup>8</sup> Callaghan, Jeff and Holman, Peter, *Severe storm on the east coast of Australia 1770-2008*, 2008

<sup>9</sup> Empire report of Water Police Court, Wed. 17 July, 1872.

<sup>10</sup> Kass, Terry, *Gogerlys Point History, Final Report*, 2009, p.9

<sup>11</sup> Empire Report of Water Police Court, Wed. 17 July 1872

<sup>12</sup> *Sydney Morning Herald*, 22 October 1878

<sup>13</sup> *Evening News*, 18 March 1893

<sup>14</sup> *Sydney Morning Herald*, Tues. 9 August 1938, Thursday, 3 January 1946

# HISTORY AND ARCHAEOLOGY

GREG JACKSON, Archaeologist

*Historians tell us what the documents say happened. Archaeologists tell us what actually happened.*

Professor Roland Fletcher, Sydney University 2015

Both historians and archaeologists try to understand and reveal the past. But they do it in different ways. Even though they study the past differently the disciplines are related. For many events and places in early history the evidence that historians use mostly comes from archaeology, and prior to any archaeological investigation a background search of historical archives will have been undertaken.

History is probably more subjective. Historians may introduce a bias when studying source documents which may already have an unknown bias. 'History is always written by the winners', is an oft-quoted truism with conquered peoples leaving few written traces— the Etruscans conquered by the Romans, for example. Archaeology is less subjective, with the physical evidence from the artefacts having no inherent bias, although an archaeologist writing a report may introduce one.

The evidence of pre-historic peoples, places and events can only be obtained by archaeological techniques, as some written languages are not able to be read – for instance, Linear A, the writing system used by the Minoans of Crete from 1800 – 1450 BC. Archaeology has nothing to say about a site that has been utterly destroyed, say by the building a multi-storey office block. Here we must totally rely on historians to tell the story.

Historians have benefited enormously from the availability of on-line documents such as TROVE. And in the last 50 years archaeology has seen an explosion of scientific techniques being developed. Archaeologists now routinely use techniques such as:

- **LIDAR** (Light Detection and Ranging): Precision height and position measurements of the earth's surface from above using a plane, helicopter or drone. Used to highlight any structures.
- **Resistivity**: Using short probes inserted into the ground to measure the earth's resistance. Underground structures such as walls will have a different resistance to the natural earth.
- **Ground Penetrating Radar**: an instrument designed to search for objects below the earth's surface using electromagnetic waves.
- **Magnetometry**: Precise measurements of the earth's magnetic field to locate objects containing ferrous material - a shipwreck, for instance.
- **DNA analysis**: Genetic tests performed on a sample of biological tissue (e.g., blood, skin, teeth etc). Genetic markers in the DNA can give valuable insight about possible traits, ancestors and ethnicity.
- **Experimental Archaeology**: The replication ancient structures or artefacts using materials, tools and techniques that were used by past people.

And recently developed photographic techniques:

- **Photogrammetry**: Using a computer to combine multiple digital photographs into a 3D interactive rotatable image.

- **Polynomial Texture Mapping:** A combined photographic and computer technique used to enhance the surface texture of artefacts. It is used to decipher inscriptions on coins, rock, etc.

In the expanding field of Maritime Archaeology techniques used now include:

- **Side scan and Multibeam sonar:** An acoustic system used to detect and image objects on the sea floor.
- **Sub-bottom profilers:** Uses an acoustic source to penetrate the seafloor to build a picture of the subsurface structure, including any man-made structure, beneath the seabed.

These techniques have coincided with the explosion of digital computer and photographic techniques. Such is the increasing scientific basis of archaeology that it is remarkable that it still resides in the Art's faculty at most universities despite its increasing scientific and technological base. This is slowly changing with more progressive universities now offering science degrees in archaeology.

Generally historical and archaeological evidence is complementary. The author recently worked in a combined historian/archaeological team investigating the Sydney Quarantine Station, North Head. No animosity was detected between the two disciplines and the project resulted in an excellent book with roughly equal contributions from both disciplines.<sup>1</sup> In general, the job prospects of the two disciplines favour archaeology with jobs in the area plentiful. The author, despite his advanced years, was offered employment even before graduating. Jobs in archaeology are hard work and not especially well paid, but most archaeologists go to work with a smile on their faces.

History is the senior discipline, with Herodotus (484 BCE) being possibly the world's first historian. Archaeology developed quite recently from the nineteenth century antiquarian movement. However, archaeology is on the up as it appears to responsible for most of our recent major discoveries – for example, Tutankhamen's Tomb, Cooks *Endeavour*, AE1 (our first submarine), Titanic, Sutton Hoo. However, if these discoveries are closely examined, their success stems not just from the archaeological investigations but also from the background historical research undertaken by historians which all too often is unrecognised by the media.

What does the future hold? Historians and archaeologists will continue to snipe good-naturedly at each other but generally co-operate to produce interpretations of the important discoveries from our past that will inevitably be made in the future.

## References:

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<sup>1</sup> Hobbins P. Fredrick U. Clark A., *Stories from the Sandstone: quarantine inscriptions from Australia's immigrant past*, 2016. Arbon Publishing Pty Ltd. Crows Nest, NSW

## A MEMORABLE DAY

ANN O'CONNOR (written in 2012)



The second of June 1953 dawned wet and chilly like thousands of other summer days in England, and it was an effort to rise. Slowly, the sleep drained from my eyes and I remembered the date. I was a St John's Ambulance Cadet and today I and my best friend, Connie, were going to represent all the cadets of the Number One, Prince of Wales Division (London) at the Queen's Coronation! We had won this honour the year before when she had gained third prize for music composition and I had got first prize for poetry in a national competition for St John's Cadets. Not only did we feel honoured, but also a bit nervous, but nothing like that young woman in Buckingham Palace must have felt that day. I put on my uniform, a grey dress with white 'frillies' for my sleeves, and a black beret. On the shoulder and on the beret was the striking eight-pointed Maltese Cross, the emblem of the St John's Ambulance Brigade.

*Ann Morley in her St John's Ambulance Cadet 'everyday' uniform, 1951.  
(The black beret was worn on special occasions.) [Photo: Ann O'Connor]*

So off we went to meet up with the other cadets from all over the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth. On that special day buses had started before dawn and we got as far as Hyde Park Corner and then had to walk to Victoria because the streets were blocked off. We met up with our group, were inspected for any flaw in our appearance, handed a pack of sandwiches and a drink and marched through the silent, empty streets to the Palace. To our amazement we were shown to the Queen Victoria Memorial directly in front of Buckingham Palace. Young people from many other organisations were there already. We could not believe our luck in having such a marvellous view. It would be a long wait, but we would be able to see the procession with her going to the Abbey as a Princess and returning home as Queen.

The sky was dark and miserable, the air damp and heavy, but nobody minded. Everywhere the flags and bunting flew red, white and blue as far as we could see down the Mall. The processional route was lined with soldiers in brilliant colours and policemen in traditional black. Every now and then the crowd who had been sleeping out for four or five nights to get such a privileged view would surge forward and the police, arms linked, would gently force them back. Everywhere there were sights and sounds to keep us involved in the festive atmosphere. The crowd was in good humour and the hours passed quickly.

Eventually there was a shiver through the waiting throng. The enormous iron gates opened, the royal guards stiffened and saluted, and to deafening cheers the golden carriage sailed out, swung round into the roadway and slowly started its journey to the Abbey. We had a perfect view of the smiling young lady seated with her handsome husband on her way to dedicate her life to her country. Following them was coach after coach filled with foreign royalty, relatives and friends, overseas dignitaries and career diplomats, dressed to the nines as Londoners would say, all adding to the pageantry of the occasion. When the last carriage had gone we sat down and waited, eating our lunch and discussing the event so far. Everyone was happy and friendly, sharing sweets and biscuits and reciting memories of past coronations. Some people described the atmosphere as similar to that during the War when everybody pulled together and forgot their differences.





*The queen travelled in her Gold State Coach between Westminster Abbey and Buckingham Palace, 2 June 1953 [Town & Country News]*

Then distant sounds of triumphal music, crowds cheering until they were hoarse and police straightening up, announced the arrival of the carriage carrying the newly crowned Queen. Vehicle after vehicle swept through the gates and into the palace for photos and lunch and relaxation after the strains of the formal ceremonies. Would they come out onto the balcony? Patient crowds waited and got restless. Some started drifting away from the back of the crowd, but nobody else could move, so they waited until they were rewarded with the opening of the glass doors to the balcony and the appearance of the Royal Family. More waves, more cheers, more smiles, more tears. Finally, the balcony emptied, the crowd shuffled slowly away and it was all over. We young people were accompanied to our dismissal point and made our

weary way home through the crowded streets and packed buses. In spite of the many rubbish bins there was litter everywhere and bedraggled groups trod it underfoot as they wandered reluctantly home.

When I finally got back it was to be greeted by a crowd of family and neighbours squeezed into our little living room around our newly –installed television. Like millions of others my parents had saved since the coronation had been announced, for that magical little box that would show all the ceremonies. My brother returned from Boy Scout duties as messengers helping the crowd controllers around the streets. He had been assigned to help near Marble Arch, so he also had a long struggle home. After the reruns and repeats on ‘telly’ and the departure of the final viewers, we fell into our beds too excited to sleep, but too exhausted to talk. Eventually the light was turned off and we dreamed of golden carriages and jewelled crowns. A once in a lifetime experience for most of us!

*Ann O'Connor (nee Morley), has been a member of SSHS since 2010, after migrating to Australia from England in 2005 and settling in Gympie. [Photo: E. Craig, July 2023]*

Someone’s personal recollections of their part in a momentous historic occasion such as Ann’s experience at the Queen’s coronation in 1953, adds meaning and depth to our knowledge of the event.

If you have memories of an experience relating to an important event in our history (local, national or international), and are happy to share them with *Bulletin* readers, please send them to the Editor: [shirehistory@gmail.com](mailto:shirehistory@gmail.com)



# HYDE PARK BARRACKS AND THE MINT EXCURSION

PAULINE CURBY

On a chilly Friday morning (21 July) a small group of Sutherland Shire Historical Society members, led by the intrepid Christine Edney took the train to Martin Place for a visit to Hyde Park Barracks and the Mint in Macquarie Street. It had been years since I'd visited either so I was most interested to see the latest displays, especially in the Barracks. We all agreed that these were informative, imaginative and beautifully designed.

Upon entering the Barracks each visitor is allocated headsets with an audio commentary. Instead of pressing the appropriate numbers these commentaries begin when the visitor is in the vicinity of the relevant display. Kevin and I had recently visited the Victoria and Albert Museum in London where the same approach is used. It seemed to work a little better there. The Barracks commentary was terrific but I found that sometimes if I moved it stopped mid-sentence and started on a neighbouring commentary. This was but a small glitch in an otherwise impressive exhibition.



*SSHs excursionists at Hyde Park Barracks [P. Curby]*

One aspect of the displays, running over three floors, I particularly liked was the emphasis on the changing nature of the convict system from the haphazard arrangements in the early days of white settlement to the more rigid and bureaucratic operations of the 1830s and 1840s. It was also interesting to see that not just one period of the Barracks history was on display.

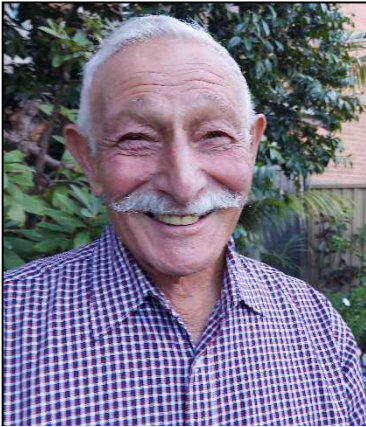
While the convict system occupied an appropriate amount of space, there was also room for the story of the building when it served as a temporary home for female migrants, with special emphasis on the famine migrants from Ireland of the late 1840s. The latter history of the building as an 'asylum' for women who would otherwise be homeless was also well covered. The last room on the ground floor was devoted to audio visuals showcasing the responses of a range of visitors. All these respondents had a family connection with elements of the exhibition. There were descendants of convicts, a Gadigal elder and two women descended from survivors of the Myall Creek massacre.

Our visit to the Mint was more cursory as this historic building is now to some extent an event venue as well as a museum. Nevertheless, our time there was fascinating. At first a staff member introduced us to the history of the building as we stood in the vault where gold was stored in the gold rush days. Then a little later we caught the attention of a volunteer guide named Bruce. (What a surprise!) He was a mine of information on the history of coins, showing us a range of historic coins – all copies – including such iconic currency as Macquarie's holey dollar and the 'dump'. Bruce promised to visit our museum at Venetia Street some time in the future.

We all thoroughly enjoyed this excursion and especially thank Christine for her preparation and organisation. She had copied information and photos of the sites and historic images of Macquarie Street and the surrounding area which we examined on the train. She also prepared material on St Mary's Cathedral but by the time we finished at the Mint the consensus was that St Mary's would keep for another day.

# GEORGE COTIS (OAM) - A CHAMPION FOR PORT HACKING

ELIZABETH CRAIG<sup>1</sup>



George Cotis, Gymea, July  
2023 [Photo: E. Craig]

For four decades now, SSHS member, George Cotis, has worked hard to conserve and protect Port Hacking from the ravages of a warming planet and from human intervention.

To his utter surprise, George learned in June that he had been recognised with a Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) for his service to the local environment. 'I've never seen myself as earning this award,' he said. He had simply been plugging away with others at a cause he felt very passionate about – keeping the Port Hacking environment in as good a state as possible, given the challenges. He never expected accolades.

## Unravelling George Cotis

George and Sue Cotis moved to Sutherland Shire when they married in 1967. They rented in Cronulla while saving for a house, then moved into their home overlooking the water in Lilli Pilli. Here they raised their two daughters, and when the physical demands of a big house became too much, George and Sue moved to a duplex in Gymea.

## Towards managing the Port Hacking environment

For 30 years George worked for the Australian Customs Service. Then in 1984 he responded to an advertisement by Sutherland Shire Council for citizens to participate in the management of Port Hacking, which included a plan for the development of the area. Through this he met University of NSW environmental scientist, Professor Alberto Albani, a world leading authority on *foraminifera*, a microorganism that is an important contemporary and historical indicator of environmental conditions. Alberto Albani was to become one of three mentors to George on assessing and managing the environmental health of Port Hacking.

After retiring from the Customs Service George threw himself into learning about environmental science. Professor Albani guided him into studying subjects which would give him the knowledge he needed to understand the environment of Port Hacking. While experts studied in their specialist fields, George focused on the totality of the relationships of all those processes.

George worked with Professor Albani studying the abundance and variability of *foraminifera* at Port Hacking and sampling cores from sediments containing the organisms to see changes in conditions over time. Their work pointed to the range of issues impacting the catchment, such as storm water outlets and waterside structures, and what is needed for its ongoing ecological health. Their relationship resulted in the publication of *Past and present of an estuarine environment*, 2013<sup>2</sup> – essential reading for anyone interested in the story and health of the Port Hacking.

Another of George's mentors was Bundeena man Paul Martin, who was then Professor of the Graduate School of Management at the University of NSW. He was a conservationist, and probably had the first truly green house in Sutherland Shire. It was off the grid, he didn't need to be connected to the sewer, and storm water – rather than carried away by a drain – was filtered through his property. He was a trailblazer. He, like George, was also an activist for the environment.



## **Defending Port Hacking through activism**

When the NSW Department of Works put up a proposal in the 1980s for a major engineering intervention in Port Hacking in the form of a tombolo (rock breakwater) and a 300-boat marina behind it – a mini port,<sup>3</sup> George and Paul, together with an already organised Bundeena community, put on their activist hats. They knew that an intervention like this would have totally changed the character of Port Hacking, and through the work George had done with Alberto Albani, they concluded – supported by the academic community at large – that the principles on which the engineering of the harbour was based was flawed.<sup>2</sup>

George and Paul, as joint activists, attended public meetings arguing against the intervention. Here they were howled down by some of the stakeholders who supported it - the boating community and fishers. They were accused of being ‘anti-boating and therefore unAustralian’. After several technical revisions giving rise to more public disquiet, the Department of Public Works walked away from the project.

## **George’s third mentor – Bob Walshe**

George greatly admired Bob Walshe, whom he met in the 1980s at a social justice rally. They often worked collaboratively on environmental issues. A high school teacher from Jannali, Bob taught English and history. He was also an activist for the environment and started the Sutherland Shire Environment Centre in 1991. Bob was not an antagonist. He believed in the power of the written word, and ran workshops teaching people how to write effectively for the environment. He also knew the power of collective action and became involved in local politics. Although he never stood for Council himself, he generated Shire Watch, a group of independents formed to challenge the problems of party politics.<sup>4</sup> A very progressive LEP formed in the late 1980s out of the Shire Watch presence on Council. Bob worked with all sides of politics, and though a vocal critic, he earned the respect of all the Councillors.

## **What does the OAM mean to George?**

While he acknowledges that he never expected this award, George is honoured to be placed among so many others awarded the OAM, who are truly altruistic – making a difference to our society for neither money nor recognition.

As for his own achievements, George acknowledges that he has been a major contributor to management plans evolved around Port Hacking, and that has provided an enduring basis for identifying sustainable outcomes and putting in place the processes to achieve them. Importantly, George has seen himself as the voice for stakeholders not organised or represented: the next generations and the visitors who came to the area for recreation – like picnickers, swimmers, kayak owners, and passive recreationalists. ‘If things are no longer right for them, they just don’t come back,’ argues George.

Congratulations George, from all of us at SSHS! It is a well-deserved award, and we are proud of you.

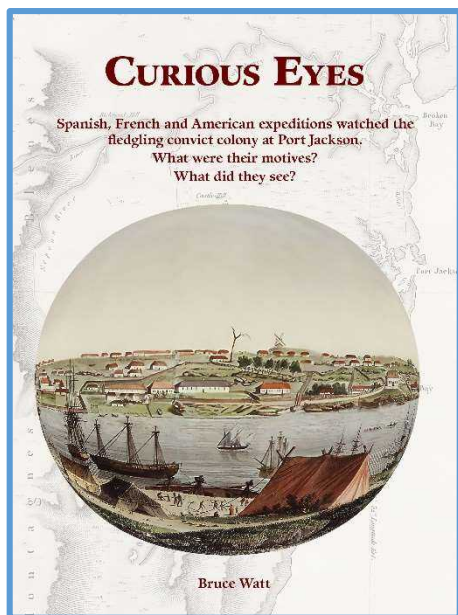
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<sup>1</sup> From a recorded interview with George Cotis by Elizabeth Craig, 29 July 2023

<sup>2</sup> [https://www.sutherlandshire.nsw.gov.au/\\_\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0015/13272/port\\_hacking\\_-\\_past\\_and\\_present.pdf](https://www.sutherlandshire.nsw.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0015/13272/port_hacking_-_past_and_present.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> <https://nsw-coastal-explorer.domorewithmaps.com/documents/PORT%20HACKING%20TOMBOLO%20-%20ENVIRONMENTAL%20IMPACT%20STATEMENT%20-%2000.12.1987%20-%20PLANNING%20WORKSHOP%20-%20PUBLIC%20WORKS%20DEPT%20NSW%20-%20ISBN%200730546187.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> Oral History interview with Bob Walshe by Liz Adams, 24 February 2006 for ‘Telling it as it was’, a Sutherland Library oral history project. Available online: <https://localhistory.sutherlandshire.nsw.gov.au/nodes/view/5924>



## ***CURIOUS EYES*, by Bruce Watt, 2023**

**Intrigue, espionage, fascination.**

### **Convict Sydney from a non-British perspective.**

This newly published book examines three foreign visits to the British convict colony and draws together some rare and previously unseen accounts. Two of them cast suspicion and doubt on the simplistic convict origin of Australia.

Two Spanish and French expeditions were sponsored investigations by British rival European powers, eager to observe and report on the progress and readiness of the convict colony and the potential threat it posed. They had

reason to spy on the colony, and even to destroy it. What were their motives? What did they see? Through long recognised treaties Spain held claim to all of the Pacific. Britain had audaciously claimed half of the Australian continent in 1788. The Spanish expedition in 1793 was a reconnaissance and spying visit to ascertain the true intentions of the colony. Could British naval ships based in Sydney attack Spanish colonies in South America? Likewise, in 1800 Napoleon sent an expedition to gather information and to establish a foothold on the continent. For various reasons both expeditions failed and their leaders' reputations lay in tatters. Britain was free to write and mould its own creation story without scrutiny from these European powers.

In the late eighteenth century Europe was buzzing with excitement about discoveries in the new world. There was a scientific and romantic rage for curiosity about the new, the exotic and the unknown. Several lavishly equipped expeditions bristling with scientists, and artists ravenously collected flora and fauna that was unknown in Europe. Their artists and anthropologists sketched and documented the lives and customs of the Aboriginal people in much more detail than their British counterparts. Though the convict colony was a place of harsh and cruel incarceration, it was also a place of wonderment and curious oddity.

Americans were a third group to visit the colony, and were indeed the initial inspiration for the book. American whalers and traders quickly found their way to the colony. They sold vast quantities of rum to the Marine Corps which made its way to the convict population, which was willing to do almost anything to obtain it. One largely unknown graphic first-hand account recorded in the ship's log of the *Anne and Hope* headed for China in 1798 described in great detail an Aboriginal pay-back fight in Sydney. The sole defendant who had murdered a Botany group member stood alone armed only with a shield while the opposing clan members threw spears at him for hours. Aboriginal descriptions pervade all three accounts.

83 pages, including an index and bibliography, this lavishly illustrated book is for the historian, the scientist, the anthropologist, the artist, the conspiracy theorist and any Australian who seeks fresh insights into Australia's colonial history.

Cost: \$35

Available from the author, some bookshops and at the Sutherland Shire Museum.

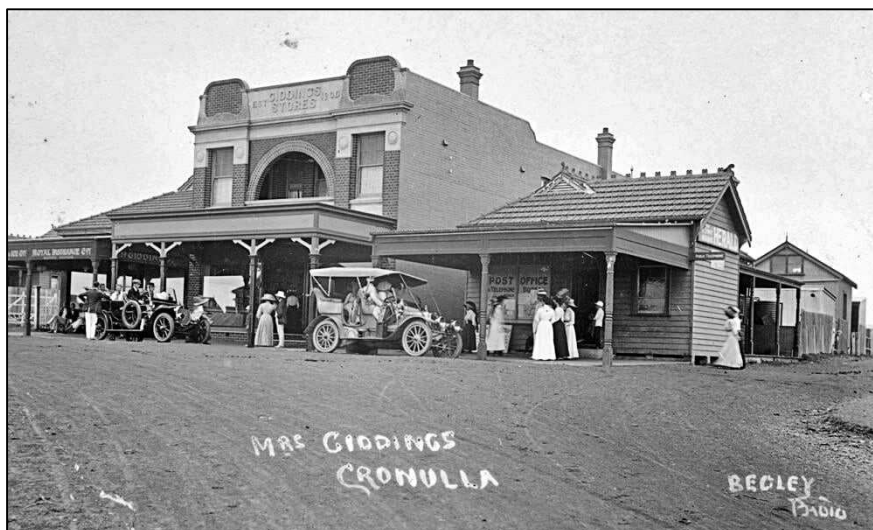
Bruce Watt

[watto1951@tpg.com.au](mailto:watto1951@tpg.com.au)



# HERITAGE LISTING SOUGHT FOR HISTORIC CRONULLA SHOP-RESIDENCE

ELIZABETH CRAIG



*Giddings Store, 97-99 Gerrale Street, Cronulla as it was in the 1910s [SSL]*



*.... and in the 1980s [SSL]*

There has been a development application with the NSW Land and Environment Court to demolish most of this rare historic Federation shop residence. Keeping the façade only, the plan is to replace it with a nine-story building comprising 30 apartments above two retail spaces.<sup>1</sup>

This building represents the oldest shopping centre in Cronulla, and an interim heritage order is being urgently sought. Cronulla MP and State Opposition Leader, Mark Speakman, has also sought permanent protection by requesting the building be listed on the State Heritage Register.

The site was the start of the commercial hub of Cronulla. It housed the first general store and supplied the isolated area with

telegraph/postal communications. 'Albert Giddings originally ran the only horse drawn coach service that transported mail, people and crucial supplies to and from this site at Cronulla, all the way from Sutherland, which was the most southern hub and link to Sydney.'<sup>2</sup> The building is a rare example of a Federation shop residence, typical of Cronulla at the time – and the building is substantially intact.

President of Sutherland Shire Historical Society, Pauline Curby, along with 87 others, submitted to Council the Society's objection to the Development Application (DA) on the basis of the building's heritage value. The developer has now taken the DA to the NSW Land and Environment Court, and the appeal has been listed for a conciliation conference on Friday, October 20, starting with a site visit. All interested parties may attend. More details will appear on Council's website: <https://www.sutherlandshire.nsw.gov.au/your-council/contact-us/track-a-da>

<sup>1</sup> 'Minister asked to approve interim heritage order for corner shops site at Cronulla Beach,' by Murray Trembath, *St George & Sutherland Shire Leader*, 24 July, 2023

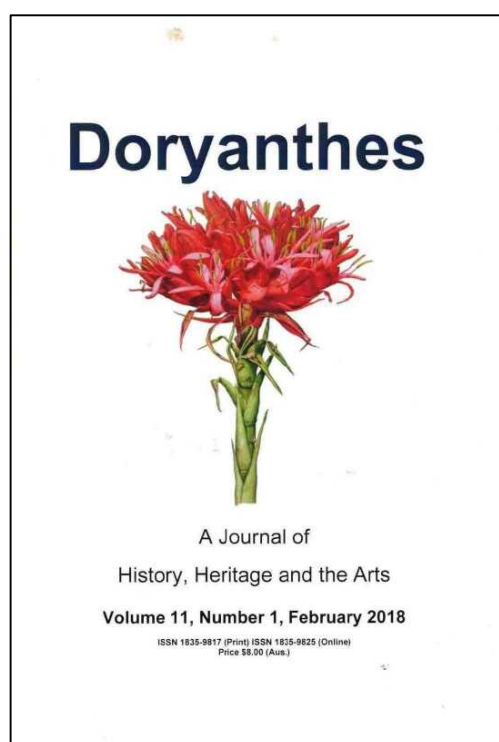
<sup>2</sup> <https://www.urban.com.au/news/nsw/cronulla-apartment-pipeline-grows-with-two-new-beachside-developments-planned>

## **DORYANTHES, 2008 – 2018: AN OVERVIEW**

GARRIOCK DUNCAN

*Doryanthes* was first published in August 2008. To use an American term, it styled itself as a 'liberal' arts magazine. This resulted in an eclectic range of topics: architecture, art and design, book and film reviews, biography, botany, contemporary politics - local and international, international cuisine, rock music, the occasional short story, the texts of lectures and eulogies, translations and extracts from diaries, travelogues, and a variety of history – including ancient, modern, local and religious.

*Doryanthes* was, from the beginning, a totally Shire product. It was named after the genus to which the Gynea lily belongs, although this species is endemic to both the Shire *and* the Illawarra. The original 'editorial' office was Les Bursill's family home in Engadine.<sup>1</sup> Committee members were residents of Cronulla, Engadine, Sutherland, Sylvania and Gynea. So, on the cover of the very first issue (12 August 2008) it was claimed that *Doryanthes* was 'The Journal of History and Heritage for Southern Sydney' and, on the inside cover, 'a periodic Southern Sydney Journal of Art, Heritage and Natural History'.



Any reference to Southern Sydney ceased with the November 2016 issue. Such a geographic tag had long ceased to represent the readership and the editorial committee. Les Bursill had moved to Nowra. One regular guest editor was a Melburnian born in West Bengal. Another committee member lived in the Blue Mountains. There had been from the start, a small but significant group of overseas readers. While the original contributors were the editorial committee, the geographic spread of contributors grew to include writers from France, Iran, Sweden, Switzerland, the UK, the USA and even an article by a Canadian-born resident of Guatemala (though he had previously lived in Sutherland).

*Doryanthes* was published in February, May, August and November of each year on the twelfth of the month. At the cessation of publication, a decade later in (December 2018), there had been 42 regular issues with an average length of some 40 pages. There was, also, a single supplementary issue November/December 2015). From the beginning, *Doryanthes* was an illustrated magazine. Illustrations were reproduced in both black and white and colour, but with a strong preference for colour.

Although there was a small print-run, *Doryanthes* was essentially an online magazine. The *Doryanthes* home page, including the link to the archive of all issues, was taken down shortly after Les Bursill's death in 2019. However, all is not lost. A full set of all 43 issues can now be accessed in the Local Studies Collection in Sutherland Library. The accession number is 994.410005DOR LHG.<sup>2</sup>

## A Brief Selection of Topics Covered in *Doryanthes*:

- M. Cooke, 2015, review: 'Blood Oath', 8(2), 24-26.  
P. Curby 2012, 'Urban Myth or Surfing History', 5(3), 17-19.  
G. Davis 2015, 'Gallipoli 1915-2015 Commemorations', 8(3), 43-45.  
G. Duncan 2010, 'Como and the Pliny Boys' 3(1), 19-22.  
E. Duyker 2011, 'George Cookney (1799-1876): Colonial Architect', 4(1), 14-19  
P. Duyker 2012, 'Budapest and into Transylvania', 5(1), 38-44.  
S. Duyker 2010, 'Australian Roads – an Historical Overview', 3(1), 6-14.  
A. Fairley 2017, 'The Other Doryanthes', 10(1), 35-36.  
M. Finaud 2012, 'Lithuania-France-Australia: Migrant Destination', 5(3), 6-16.  
B. Howell 2018, 'Ancient Archaeology in our Midst', 11(1), 25-29.  
B. Howitt 2014, 'Springsteen, 'On my Mind' ', 7(2), 14-18.  
M. Kavanagh 2015, 'The Southern Cross', 8(1), 14-16.  
J. Low 2010, 'The Lost Horse Troughs of Audley', 3(4), 16-21.  
L. Watson 2017, 'Jesus the Magician', 10(2), 13-21.

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<sup>1</sup> Les Bursill was a member of SSHS from the mid-1980s, and editor of the *SSHS Bulletin* from May 2000 to November 2004.

<sup>2</sup> I must acknowledge the help of Edward Duyker in framing this report

### *Doryanthes* editorial committee



Les Bursill, 2009  
[NSW Premiers Department]



Dr Edward Duyker, 2012  
[Photo: Lee Narraway]



Susan Duyker, 2007  
[Photo: Ed Duyker]



Garriock Duncan, 2022  
[Photo: Alana Bishop]



Merle Kavanagh, 2009  
[Photo: Daphne Salt]

# THE PAINTING OF THE WORONORA RIVER

## BY CAPTAIN ROBERT MARSH WESTMACOTT

GREG JACKSON, BRUCE HOWELL

*This article looks at a painting by Robert Marsh Westmacott, dated c1848 (see **Image 1** on the inside back cover). This painting depicts some Aboriginal people on the Woronora River spearing fish. The scene shows some similarity to the crossing of the Woronora River by The New Line of Road to the Illawarra at The Pass of Sabugal surveyed by Sir Thomas Mitchell in 1843.<sup>1</sup>*

Captain Westmacott arrived in Australia with his wife Louise in 1831 and held the office of aide-de-camp to Governor Burke from 1832. He accompanied Burke on a visit to the Illawarra district in 1834. So impressed was he with the area that he resigned from the army and his official positions, and in 1836 purchased several grants in the area, including one at North Bulli where he built a substantial house there named Sidmouth after his hometown in England. Westmacott used this North Bulli property for the raising of horses. Westmacott was very much involved in local affairs, becoming a Justice of the Peace, and being the prime mover in forming a steamship company known as the Illawarra Steam Packet Company, serving on its board of management. In 1844 Westmacott surveyed a new road up the mountain above Bulli and with government and local citizens' support, had it built. The road became known as Westmacott's Pass before being renamed Bulli Pass.

**Image 1** is from a set of separate views which Westmacott published in England in 1848 as *Sketches of Australia*, all said to be 'drawn from nature'. In the Sutherland Shire we have Mt Westmacott, just south of Waterfall, named by Sir Thomas Mitchell, probably because of the assistance that Westmacott gave him in surveying the route south for 'The New Line of Road to the Illawarra' in 1843.<sup>2</sup> [See Box – 'Why is a hill near Waterfall called Mt Westmacott?']

**Image 2** (inside back cover) shows a Google Earth Street View of the Pass of Sabugal as it looks today.

So does Westmacott's painting show the Pass of Sabugal? Comparing **Images 1** and **2**, and allowing for a fair bit of artistic licence, changes in vegetation and the fact that the water level is now higher because of the concrete causeway, the rocks on the left and the general 'lay of the land' look very similar in both images. There are certainly differences. The right side at creek level is very different in the painting than in the Google view and the hills on the skyline to the right have been greatly exaggerated. If Westmacott did a sketch in 1843 (when he met Mitchell to lend him a horse and show him the way south to the Illawarra) but did not do the painting till later, that would explain some of the discrepancies.

This painting is from a set of separate views which Westmacott published in England in 1848 as *Sketches in Australia*, all said to be 'drawn from nature'. Other paintings in the same series are done in a similar style, and they appear to show a similar lack of realism, with small hills becoming towering mountains, rivers widened, and vegetation altered to increase the dramatic effect of the paintings.<sup>3</sup>

It seems safe to say that Westmacott's Woronora painting is of the Pass of Sabugal but then given its lack of accuracy we cannot assume that the Aboriginal people shown on the Woronora were really there. Westmacott does not appear to have been a 'reliable witness' as a landscape artist. His paintings have likely been dramatically enhanced to sell in the English art market of 1848 where the purchasers would be unfamiliar with the scenes depicted.



## Why is a hill near Waterfall called Mt Westmacott?

Greg Jackson and Pam Forbes

A little over a kilometre southwest of Waterfall railway station and overlooking Lake Toolooma is a prominent hill called Mt Westmacott. There appears no historical reason for this name. Captain Robert Marsh Westmacott was a well-to-do landholder in the Bulli district and had a house on Sandon Point, well to the south of Waterfall. How did this hill get its name?

In 1843 the Surveyor General, Major Thomas Mitchell surveyed a new road to the Illawarra following the crossing of the Cooks River in 1839. This roughly followed Forest Road then the Illawarra Road with a river crossing the Georges River by punt at Lugarno and a causeway across the Woronora River between the modern suburbs of Bardon Ridge and Engadine. Searching on TROVE I came across an article in the *Australian*, 9 June 1843 (page 3) entitled 'Important New Line of Road', and claiming as a source *the New South Wales Magazine* for June.

This article has no named author, but by the style and the wording I think it is the work of Thomas Mitchell. Below is an extract that may provide a possible explanation for the naming of Mt Westacott.

**half miles: thus the Bottle Forest, (as it was named from a bottle found fixed on a tree there,) is exactly half way between Sydney and Wollongong. Captain Westmacott lent a horse to the Surveyor-General, and accompanied him on horseback—in returning along the new line; so open and passable was that wild country found in that particular direction. It would not, we understand, be at all safe, however, for strangers to attempt a passage at present by the marked trees, as they might easily lose them; and then, in all probability, themselves, and probably their lives, for nothing appears on the horizon to guide a stranger, in any one direction, nor**

Captain Westmacott lent Mitchell a horse and guided him across the featureless wilderness that is now called Maddens Plains. Westmacott can be placed at the Woronora River causeway (Pass of Sabugal) in the 1840s, as his painting of Aboriginal people at this location is in the NLA. It is not surprising that Westmacott and Mitchell struck up a rapport as both were both skilled amateur landscape painters. It is probable that Mitchell, in recognition of Westmacott's kindness, named Mt Westmacott after him. The two would have climbed this hill with a theodolite as Mitchell used Mt Westmacott extensively for surveying his new road to the Illawarra.

<sup>1</sup> The Pass of Sabugal was named by Sir Thomas Mitchell because of its resemblance to a location in Portugal that Mitchell had known in the Peninsular War (1808 – 1814) against Napoleon's France in the Iberian Peninsula.

<sup>2</sup> King N. S. 1964, *History of Austinmer and Robert Marsh Westmacott*, Illawarra Historical Society <https://ro.uow.edu.au/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1006&context=ihspubs>

<sup>3</sup> From the Joseph Lebovic Gallery drawings by Capt. R. M. Westmacott c1848. The original of his Woronora River painting is held in the NLA. <https://www.joseflebovicgallery.com/pages/books/CL187-23/after-robert-westmacott-brit-aust/group-of-four-lithographs-from-sketches-in-australia-from-drawings-by-capt-n-r-m-westmacott>



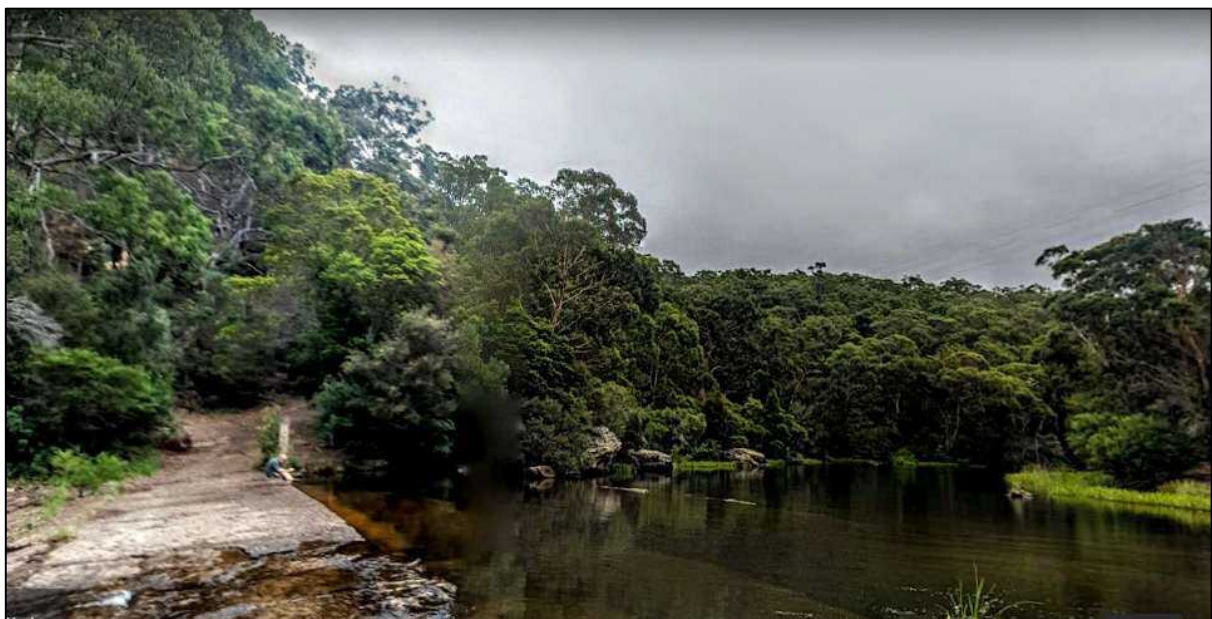
## THEN and NOW – Pass of Sabugal

(See 'The Woronora Painting by Capt. R.M. Westmacott', by Greg Jackson and Bruce Howell page 31)



**Image 1:** *Wooranora [Woronora] River*, c1848. Hand-coloured tinted lithograph, 16.8 x 23.4cm, by Captain Robert Marsh Westmacott (1801 – 1870).

From the Joseph Lebovic Gallery drawings by Captain. R M Westmacott c1848.  
(Original painting is held in the NLA).



**Image 2:** The Pass of Sabugal today from Google Earth Street View

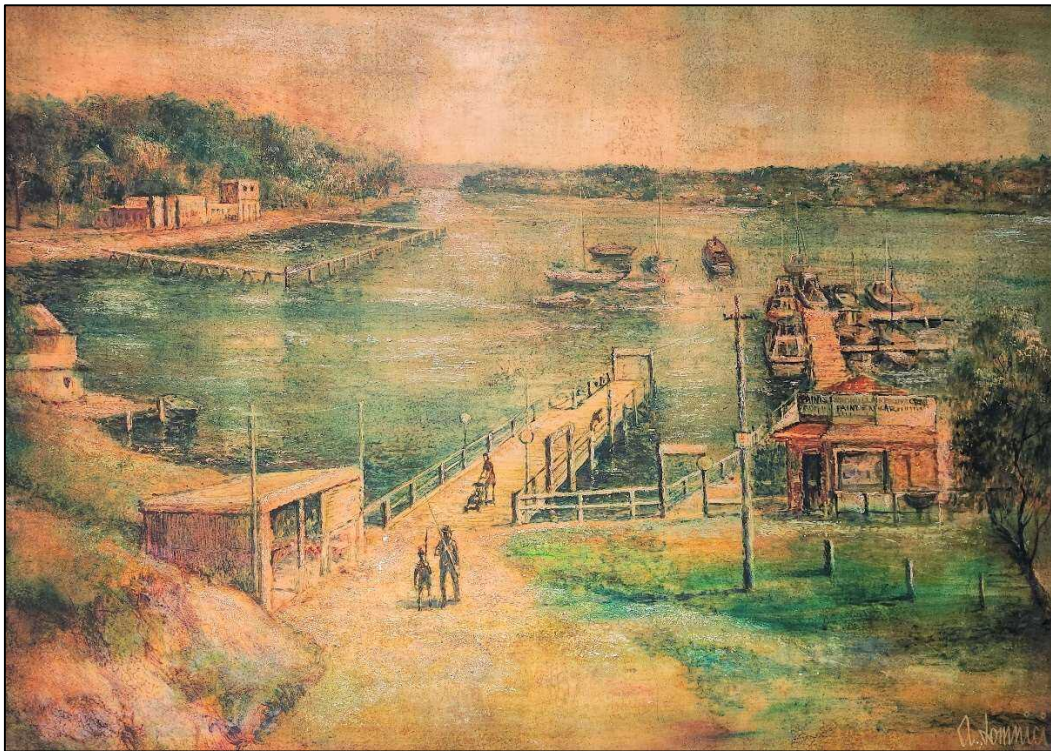


## Changing face of Gunnamatta Bay ferry service



*Ferry at first wharf, Gunnamatta Bay, watercolour by John Cosh c1912 [Sutherland Shire Museum]*

The first wharf on Gunnamatta Bay (at the southern end of the present Gunnamatta baths) was constructed in 1908. By the following year launches were plying twice daily up the Hacking River to Audley in the National Park and later, in 1916, a ferry operated to Simpson's Hotel at Bonnie Vale. A service to Bundeena began in 1915.



*The new wharf at Gunnamatta Bay, oil on board, by Andy Lomnici, c1950s [Sutherland Shire Museum]*

In 1939 the original wharf was replaced with one built to its north – at the top of Gunnamatta Bay. The baths, constructed in 1915 can be seen to the south-east. The pavilion behind the baths, built in 1939, was designed by architect, Arthur P. Bolin