



ST. GEORGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

SPONSORED BY ROCKDALE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

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June 1965.

Bi-Monthly Bulletin

53 Bruce Street,
Bexley.
11th June, 1965.

Dear Friend and Member.

The regular bi-monthly meeting of the above Society will be held as follows:-

Date: Friday Evening Next, 18th June, 1965, at 8 p.m.

Place: Council Chamber, Rockdale Town Hall.

Guest Speaker: Mr. Gifford Eardley will present a paper on the Upper Reaches of the Wollie Creek Valley which he will illustrate with an exhibition of sketches.

A light supper will be served. All members and any interested friends will be most welcome.

P. Greves,
President.

R.W. Rathbone,
Hon. Secretary.
LW.4813.

NEXT OUTING.

Miss Freda Palmer of the Nepean District Historical Society has invited us to accompany her Society on an outing on Sunday, 27th June.

This will cover the area between Penrith and Richmond and should prove to be of considerable interest to those people who accompanied Miss Palmer to Mulgoa.

Details will be available at the meeting or by ringing the Secretary at LW.4813.

This anonymous letter was written to Mr. GEORGE HAWK (known popularly as "The Bird") when he was seeking aldermanic honours in 1900. Mr. Hawk was a well-known temperance worker - hence the heavy-handed humour.

Sewerside Brewery,
October 18, 1900.

- Bird Esq.,

Dear Sir,

As we understand it is your intention to give the ratepayers of Penshurst Ward a 'blow out' on Saturday next, we shall be glad to be favoured with a share of your patronage. We think you will find the subjoined price list replete in every detail, and somewhere in keeping with your cramped ideas of liberality.

Wishing you success in the Aldermanic contest; and trusting to receive your further esteemed orders when you contest the electorate of St. George

Yours very discriminately,

Swiller & Coy.

per S. Oaker.
Manager.

Real beer	..	..	9d. per gallon
Tanglefoot	..	..	8d. "
Poison (our special election brew)	..	..	6½d. "
Aerated waters			
(with any of the above)	..	..	Gratis

NB. The usual terms to Aldermen. CASH BEFORE DELIVERY

One of the best-known licencees of Saywell's New Brighton Hotel, Lady Robinson's Beach, was Mr. Harry Figg. Harry Figg gravitated to Brighton-le-Sands after being Minehost of the Harvest Home Hotel, Hobart, but prior to his arrival in Australia he had seen very stirring times in South Africa. During the Zulu wars Mr. Figg had a unique opportunity of seeing the great Zulu warrior-leader, Cetewayo, at close quarters and witnessed his final capitulation to the British after the Zulu defeats at Rorke's Drift and Ulundi.

In the article that follows (reprinted from the local press of March 1902) Mr. Figg recalled some of his memories. He had helped to bury the 806 Europeans who were slaughtered, almost to a man, by the Zulus at Isandhlwana on 22nd January, 1879. On the following day began the epic defence of the mission station at Rorke's Drift, which has gone down in history as the place where the greatest number of Victoria Crosses were awarded for a single action. This episode inspired the splendid film "Zulu", shown in Sydney last year.

AN AFRICAN VETERAN AND HERO

Although still young in years, we can see few better specimens of the veteran, and of those who have helped to build up the Empire during the last thirty years, than our old friend, Mr. Harry Figg, of Lady Robinson's Beach. The demonstration of Saturday last goes to stir up the martial and patriotic spirit of the bygone days in those who have served their country faithfully and well; and to bring before our notice deeds and services to our country, which otherwise would be buried in oblivion. The more so as those who bear the brunt of battle