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ROCKDALE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL



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ST. GEORGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY BULLETIN

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24 Duff Street,
Arncliffe. 2205.
September 1979.

Dear Friend and Member,

The regular meeting will be held as follows:

- Date: Friday Evening, September 21st, 1979, at 8.00 p.m.
Place: Council Chamber, Town Hall, Princes Highway, Rockdale.
Business: General.
Syllabus Item: Professor Cable will give a talk entitled: "The History of 'St. James Church of England Church', King Street, Sydney." We should all enjoy hearing about this Historic old Church.
Supper Roster: Miss Heath, Captain, and Mesdames Napper, Havilah, Rootes and Moffitt.

Ladies please bring a plate.

Mr. A. Ellis,
President.
Phone 587.1159.

Mrs. E. Eardley,
Hon. Sec. & Bulletin
Editor.
Phone 59.8078.

Mrs. B. Perkins,
Hon. Publicity Officer.
Phone 587.9164

Mrs. E. Wright,
Hon. Treas. & Soc. Sec.
Phone 599.4884.

Mr. A. Ellis,
Hon. Research Officer.
Phone 587.1159.

Advice is something we all need, we sometimes give, we rarely ask for, and seldom take.

..... "The Friendship Book".

(2)

Many of our Members have been and still are ill. We are sorry to hear this and hope you will be well again soon.

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Miss Otton, Curator of Lydham Hall, is in need of Ladies and/or Gentlemen to assist with the weekend roster. Visitors come from far and wide to see this lovely old Home, and your presence would greatly facilitate the Inspections. Ring Miss Otton, 'phone 59.4259. Your call will be appreciated.

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SOCIAL.

OCTOBER LONG WEEKEND. Mrs. Wright, Social Secretary, has organised for your pleasure, a three-day tour to Tamworth - Armidale, for the long weekend, September 29th, 30th and October 1st, 1979. For details ring Mrs. Wright 599.4884 (81 Watkin Street). Coach will leave 7.30 a.m. SHARP.

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SPECIAL NOTICE. The St. George Historical Society is pleased to announce that the following books, written and illustrated by the late Gifford H. Eardley, for the Society, have been re-printed and are now available.

Price: \$1.00 per copy (Postage extra).

- No.1. "The Wolli Creek Valley"
- No.2. "Kogarah to Sans Souci Tramway"
- No.3. "Saywells Tramway. Rockdale to Lady Robinson's Beach".
- No.4. "Arncliffe to Bexley Tramway"
- No.5. "Our Heritage in Stone"
- No.6. "All Stations to Como"
- No.7. "Tempe and the Black Creek Valley" is also available. (Limited stocks only)

For your copy of the above books, please contact one of the following:

Mrs. E. Wright - Ph. 599.4884, Miss B. Otton - Ph. 59.4259 (after 8 p.m.)
Mrs. E. Eardley - Sec. Ph. 59.8078, Mr. A. Ellis - Ph. 587.1159.

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REMINISCENCES:

- as sent to the St. George Historical Society
by Mrs Dorothy M. Abbott (nee Williams)
of Caringbah.

" I have read with great interest Mr C. W. Napper's reminiscences of Rockdale. My memory goes back to the week before the New Year's Eve of 1900, when we, the Williams's, moved into "The Gables" on Forest Road. I was born at Enmore in November 1892 and after some moving about Enmore and Newtown, of which I have some very interesting memories, we finally settled in Arncliffe.

Now you might be interested in the following, my Father was a builder and he was given the contract of building a residence for a Dr McLeod on Rocky Point Rd (as it was called in those days). On the allotment was an old stone cottage which had to be demolished, some of the stone was used for the foundations, all that was left over was given to my Father. He had it carted by horse and dray up to the piece of land he had bought on Forest Rd. That stone became the foundations for the Gables, which still stands at 117 Forest Rd, Arncliffe.

The house was built to accommodate the family, but as the years went by, some of my brothers and sisters married and moved into their own homes, of course, that meant there were some vacant bedrooms. My Mother was approached by a member of the Methodist Church and asked if she would board a young minister, as there was no Manse. After consulting my Father and sister it was arranged that my sister stay at home instead of going to business in the city and help my Mother in the house. The Rev. P.O. Davis came to live with us and he was so well liked by the congregation, who asked the Conference if they would allow him to stay longer, he was with us for three years, when he was moved. A Rev. Ronald Campbell took his place, he also stayed with us for three years. He was a great worker for Prohibition and used to go down to Rockdale every Saturday night when the shops were open and lots of people about and preach against the hotels and was instrumental in getting an hotel closed. It was right down close to the bridge at Cook's River. After he was moved we had another Methodist, 2 Pres., and 2 Church of England ministers.

I went to Arncliffe School, in those days there was only one small stone building and two weatherboard, whilst I was there they built the first brick, the Spackman's also attended. Mr Boland was the Head Master and a Miss Noad the head mistress.

I would be so pleased if I could join the St. George Historical Society, but the trouble is I am rather isolated, as I am without transport at night.

There are so many things that come into my mind, that might be of great interest to your members. Like the time the Saint David Church at Arncliffe was blown down and the building of Banksia Station and many memories of the old residents who have passed on.

I do hope you will be able to read this scrawl, but sometimes my mind goes ahead of my pen."

NORTH MUOGAMARRA NATURE STUDY AREA -

-National Parks & Wildlife
Service N.S.W.

The purpose of Muogamarra is to conserve in perpetuity in its natural wild state, a valuable relic of the original Hawkesbury Sandstone flora and its associated fauna. It is not designed to be a public recreation area or tourist attraction.

Rocks at Muogamarra are sandstones which are known as sedimentary rocks because they have been laid down in ancient seas. In fact, they are Triassic Sandstones, which means they are about 200 million years old and were formed beneath shallow seas when the first giant marine reptiles, dinosaurs and mammals roamed their shores.

Most of the trees are Scribbly Gums, Angophora, Bloodwoods and Stringy Barks.

Some of the shrubs you will see growing profusely under the gum trees are: Banksias, Eriostemon (pink wax flowers), pink Boronia, native purple iris, small yellow pea flowers, Dillwynia (eggs and bacon), white heath, Grevillea (spider flowers), Lambertia (mountain devil) and the tall stiff Waratahs. The Rock Lily can be seen in flower around Tipper's office.

These gay flowers are not just decorations to please the visitor who comes with a camera during the spring months. Each flower is attracting birds, bees or insects to sip the nectar, carry away the pollen to fertilize the seed of the next generation of plants.

If you stand quietly along the bush tracks you can hear the hum of the bees on the wattles, you can see little insects darting over the white heath bushes and sometimes you can glimpse a honeyeater, a little bird with a long curved beak visiting a waratah and sipping the nectar from its many flowers.

The larger animals at Muogamarra are mostly twilight feeders or prowl at night. They are grey kangaroos, swamp wallabies, brush and ringtail possums, sugar gliders, marsupial mice, native rats, bandicoots and the occasional koala.

From some vantage points you have vistas of valleys and the majesty of mountain ranges; from others you look down upon early spots of settlement, while from the J.D.Tipper Lookout, you have spread beneath you the waters of the Hawkesbury River and the village of Brooklyn.

The establishment of Muogamarra culminates a lifetime of work by its Founder, J.D.Tipper and his loyal band of like-minded voluntary helpers.

THE VALLEY OF STONEY CREEK - BEXLEY - N.S.W.

It is pleasant to pen an appreciation of the scenery and topographical features that once existed along the course of Stoney Creek, the main stream of which was later re-named Bardwell Creek, as it flowed in a general north-easterly direction from the high lands of the ridgecrest marked today by the alignment of Forest Road and Croydon Road. We have set the period of about the early nineteen hundreds for the sake of our description, when there was a modicum of suburban development in the area and many of the somewhat few houses were of architectural and, in some cases, historical interest.

The upper catchment area of the main stream has, in recent years, succumbed to the inroads of villadom, with its resultant maze of streets, a circumstance brought about by the subdivision of the larger estates. The construction of the Arncliffe to Bexley Steam Tramway, which opened on October 13th, 1909, was responsible for much local development, as the line terminated in Stoney Creek Road near its intersection with Preddy's Road.

In the early days the immediate district was given over to cattle grazing and formed part of the extensive Chalmer Grant. Then came the wood-cutters who industriously felled every tree that was suitable to provide fuel for the domestic fires of Sydney Town, leaving a coverage of tea-tree scrub intermingled with the beautiful indigenous wild-flower growth, comprising Flannel flowers, Christmas Bells, Dillwynia (Eggs and Bacon) and numerous varieties of the Heath family, which flourished in the swampy patches of the terrain. The higher valley slopes supported numerous "old-man Banksias", rough barked specimens with serrated leaves of dark green, brightened by their greenish yellow upright flowers resembling a bottle-brush, and darkened by their singular upright seed pods and their bristly covering. There were also groves of Sydney Wattle, sweet scented and of light yellow hue, intermixed with the prickly bushes of the red flowered and white tipped Native Fuchsia.

- G.H.Eardley.

NEW SOUTH WALES GOVERNMENT EMIGRATION

Part I.

ASSISTED PASSAGES FROM PLYMOUTH TO SYDNEY- *Marian Rawlinson*

The Agent-General for N.S.W. is authorized by the Colonial Government to provide passages (under regulations dated Sydney, 14th March, 1881) to emigrants of the undermentioned classes, viz:-

Married couples not exceeding 35 years of age, with or without children, & unmarried women not exceeding 30 years of age.

Applications from single men cannot be entertained.

AUTHORIZED REGULATIONS.

1. All emigrants from the United Kingdom and other parts of Europe are to be selected and approved by the Agent-General in London, or by such persons as he may appoint for the purpose.
2. Approval of such emigrants is limited to married persons not exceeding 35 years of age, with or without children, and to unmarried females not exceeding 30 years of age. The persons to be introduced are to be of sound mental and bodily health, & of good moral character, to consist of farmers, mechanics, domestic servants, any description of labourers suitable for country pursuits, to be chosen with a special regard to the industrial requirements of the colony; & small working capitalists.
3. A proportion of emigrants, not exceeding 10% of the whole, may be natives of other European countries, but they likewise will be required to answer to the physical, moral, and industrial descriptions prescribed in these regulations.
4. All emigrants, after having received "Embarkation Orders", shall present themselves on a specified day at the Depot at Plymouth, from which port vessels specially chartered by the Agent-General sail for Sydney.
5. Married couples and children will be allowed to remain on board seven clear days after the ships drop anchor in Sydney Harbour.
6. Unmarried women, upon arrival, will be received into an Emigrants' Home in Sydney, & allowed to remain therein, should they desire to do so, for twenty-one clear days, to enable them to obtain suitable employment.
7. Emigrants desiring to proceed to the country districts of the colony, within three clear days of their arrival, will be allowed free travelling passes by railway for that purpose.
8. Emigrants shall be subject to the Regulations under the Queen's

Order in Council, dated 25th February, 1856, prescribing rules for preserving order, promoting health, etc., on board passenger ships: also to such further Regulations as the Agent-General may make & prescribe for their moral & sanitary condition during the passage. In no case will any person be allowed to proceed as a cabin passenger in a Government emigrant ship.

9. These regulations will take effect on and after 1st June next.

RATES OF PAYMENT TO BE MADE TO THE AGENT-GENERAL.

Contribution towards passage, inclusive of bedding & mess utensils:-

Each person of 12 years & not exceeding 35 years of age,	pds.7.0.0d.
" " " 3 " " under 12 " " " "	3.10.0d.
Children under 3 years of age.....	Free.

N.B. The bedding & mess outfit become the property of the emigrant.

PERSONAL OUTFIT & LUGGAGE.

Emigrants must provide their own outfit, which will be inspected before embarkation of an officer of the Agent-General. Each person must possess not less than the following:-

For Male Adults: 2 complete suits of strong external clothing
6 shirts
6 pairs of stockings
2 pairs new shoes
2 flannel or guernsey shirts.

For Female Adults: 6 shifts
2 flannel petticoats
6 pairs stockings
2 pairs strong shoes
2 strong gowns - one of which should be of a warm material.

For each child: 9 shirts or shifts
4 flannel waistcoats
1 warm cloak or outside coat
6 pairs stockings
2 pairs strong shoes
2 complete suits of external clothing.

Each person must also have: 2 lbs. best yellow soap
2 lbs. marine soap
not less than 4 towels
3 sheets -

together with the necessary brushes & combs for cleanliness. New bedding (except sheets) & mess utensils will be provided by the Agent-General. Two or three coloured shirts for men, & an extra supply of flannel for women & children, are very desirable.

The quantity of luggage for each person over 12 years must not exceed 20 cubic feet, or half a ton in weight. It must be closely packed in one or more strong boxes, not exceeding 10 cubic feet each. Larger packages, & extra luggage, if taken, must be paid for. Mattresses, feather-beds, or pillows, firearms & offensive weapons, wines, spirits, beer, gunpowder, percussion caps, lucifer matches, articles of food of a perisable nature, or that require cooking, & any dangerous or noxious articles, cannot be taken. Emigrants must look carefully after their luggage, both in travelling to the port of embarkation, & after arrival there, as neither the Agent-General, his officers, nor the Colonial Government, can be responsible in any way for loss thereof, or damage thereto, on land or at sea.

INFORMATION FOR EMIGRANTS.

1. The Agent-General engages none but first-class ships, & these are despatched from Plymouth, at which port there is a Depot, fitted expressly for the reception of Emigrants, who are lodged & fed free of charge, from the date named in their "Embarkation Orders", until they are embarked. Emigrants must travel to Plymouth at their own expense. The Agent-General has, however, made arrangements whereby they can proceed by various railways at reduced fares.
2. The ships are fitted with studied regard for the health & comfort of the Emigrants, & for the preservation of good order amongst them. The single women have a distinct compartment provided for their accommodation, & are placed under the care of a Matron. An experienced Surgeon accompanies each ship.
3. The Emigrants are victualled on board in messes of about eight adults in number. Each person of 12 years & upwards receives weekly 3 1/2 lbs. meat, 6 ozs. suet, 9 ozs. butter, 3 ozs. cheese, 28 ozs. biscuit, 90 ozs. flour, 20 ozs. oatmeal or rice, 3 lbs. potatoes or 12 ozs. preserved ditto, 1/2 pint split peas, 12 ozs. vegetables, 8 ozs. raisins, 1 1/2 ozs. tea, 2 ozs. coffee, 1 lb. sugar, & 1/2 lb. molasses, with mustard, salt, pepper & pickles; also 3 quarts water daily. Children between 1 and 12 receive half rations in addition to an allowance of jam or marmalade, preserved soup, egg, & milk. A special dietary scale is provided for children above 4 months & under 1 year. There is also an abundant supply of medical comforts, such as arrowroot, wine, preserved soups, broths, etc., for use in cases of sickness. Emigrants receive fresh baked bread daily, made from a portion of their flour.
4. Mattresses, bolsters, blankets & counterpanes, canvas-bags to contain clothing, etc., knives & forks, spoons, plates, drinking mugs & other small articles, are provided by the Agent-General.
5. On reaching the Colony, the emigrants are at perfect liberty to choose their own employment, & to make their own bargains for wages. No employer is admitted into the Depot to hire female servants who is not known to be of good character, or who does not bring a certificate of respectability from a Clergyman or Magistrate.

6. When once a passage has been provided, the amount paid by the Emigrant cannot be returned in the event of a refusal to proceed.

For further information, application should be addressed, prepaid, to:
THE EMIGRATION DEPARTMENT, N.S.W. Govt. Offices, 5 Westminster
Chambers, London, S.W.

May, 1881.

Saul Samuel
Agent-General.

Form B. No.2

NEW SOUTH WALES - AUSTRALIA

N.B. This Half Sheet to be kept by
the Applicant.

Emigration Department
Offices of the Govt. of N.S.W.
5 Westminster Chambers
Victoria St, London. S.W.

RÈGULATIONS AND CONDITIONS

UNDER WHICH ASSISTED PASSAGES ARE GRANTED TO

SYDNEY.

EXTRACTS FROM REGULATIONS FOR THE PROMOTION OF IMMIGRATION - dated
14th March, 1881.

All Immigrants from Great Britain & other parts of Europe shall be approved by the Agent-General, or by such persons as he may appoint for the purpose. And the Agent-General is hereby authorised to make all necessary appointments, & otherwise to carry out all duties to ensure the efficiency of the Immigration Service under these Regulations & under instructions from the Colonial Secretary.

All such Immigrants, other than those nominated by residents in the Colony, shall be selected by the Agent-General, or by some other officer duly authorised in that behalf.

Approval of such adult Immigrants from the United Kingdom shall be limited to persons between the ages of twelve years & thirty-five years. In approving Immigrants, regard will be had to the relative numbers of the population of the Colony from the three Kingdoms, according to the latest Census.

The persons to be introduced shall be of sound mental & bodily health, & of good moral character, & shall consist of mechanics, miners, domestic servants, farmers, & any other descriptions of labourers suitable for country pursuits, & to be chosen with a special view to the promotion of

the industrial pursuits of the Colony.

No money paid by persons resident within the three Kingdoms on account of any passage or passages will be returned, should the person or persons making such payment not avail himself or themselves of the passage or passages so provided.

CONDITIONS

1. INELIGIBLE CANDIDATES - to whom assisted passages cannot be granted are:

Persons who have not arranged with their creditors
 Persons in the habitual receipt of parish relief
 Widowers & Widows with young children
 Parents without all their children under seventeen
 Children under seventeen without their parents
 Husbands without their wives
 Wives without their husbands
 Single women who have had illegitimate children
 Single women under 17 (except with parents) or over 30.

APPLICATION AND APPROVAL

2. The first step is to make application to the Agent-General, by correctly filling up & sending in the Form on the next page, accompanied by written Certificates as to the present & past occupation of the Candidates, & the period for which they have been employed in each of their respective callings. If the applicants are married, the certificate of their marriage, duly stamped, must be sent with the Application Form, & the Agent-General will afterwards state what other certificates (if any) are required in support of the application. The Candidates will then be informed whether or not a passage can be granted. If it can, they will receive a printed paper called on "Approval Circular" calling for the requisite deposit & contribution towards the passage, & pointing out the time & manner of payment. After the money is paid, they will in due time receive an "Embarkation Order" (which is not transferable), naming the ship in which they are to sail, & the time & place of joining her.

RATES OF PAYMENT

3. Married or Single Adult Persons; Passage, including
 Bedding & Mess outfitpds.7. 0.0
 Children 3 & under 12 years of age; Passage,
 including Bedding & Mess Outfit..... 3.10.0
 Children under 3 years Free.

OUTFIT ETC.

4. Candidates must find their own Outfit, which will be inspected before Embarkation by an Officer of the Agent-General. The smallest quantity that will be allowed is:

For each MALE over 12 - 6 shirts

6 pairs of stockings
 2 warm flannel shirts

2 pairs of new shoes or Boots
2 complete suits of strong exterior clothing
4 towels
2 lbs. best Yellow Soap
2 lbs. Marine Soap

for each FEMALE over 12: 6 shifts
2 flannel petticoats
6 pairs of stockings
2 pairs of strong boots or shoes
2 strong gowns (one of which must be made of
a warm material)
4 towels
2 lbs. of best Yellow Soap
2 lbs. Marine Soap.

5. THREE SHEETS FOR EACH BERTH OCCUPIED ON BOARD SHIP.

6. Two or Three Coloured Shirts for Men, & an extra supply of Flannel for Women & Children are very desirable.

7. The quantity of baggage for each person over 12 must not exceed 20 cubic or solid feet, or half a ton in weight. It must be closely packed in one or more strong boxes or cases not exceeding 12 cubic feet each. Larger packages & extra baggage, if taken at all, must be paid for. Mattresses, feather beds & pillows, fire-arms & offensive weapons, wines, spirits, beer, gunpowder, percussion caps, lucifer matches, articles of food of a perishable description, or that require cooking, & any dangerous or noxious articles cannot be taken. Emigrants must look carefully after their luggage both in travelling & at the port, as neither the Agent-General nor his Officers, nor the Colonial Government, can be answerable for its safety, or responsible in any way for its loss or damage, on land or at sea.

CAUTIONS.

8. Candidates must not reckon upon passages unless they receive the "APPROVAL Circular"; nor, if approved, must they leave their employment or make any preparations for departure until they receive an "Embarkation Order". No Agents have authority to receive money for the Agent-General. Persons cannot be received into the Depot, or on board Ship, without an "Embarkation Order" duly signed, nor unless they are in a fit state of health for the voyage.

9. Any false signatures, misstatements, or omission to state a material fact in the Candidate's papers, or any attempt at deception whatever, or evasion of the Regulations, will subject Candidates to a forfeiture of the money paid, and of all claim on the Agent-General; &, in the case of false signatures, will, moreover, render the offender liable to a heavy penalty under the Passengers Act.

SAUL SAMUEL
Agent-General.

To be contd...