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PRICE 5 c.

# ST. GEORGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## BULLETIN

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563A Princes Highway,  
BLAKEHURST N.S.W. 2221

October, 1986

Dear Friend and Member,

The October meeting will be held as follows:

DATE Friday, 17th October, 1986 at 8.00 p.m.

PLACE: Council Chamber, Town Hall, Princes Highway, Rockdale

BUSINESS: General

SYLLABUS ITEM: Noel Thorpe, one of our Members, will once again talk to us, this time he will speak on 'The History of Sydney's Water Supply'. We tend to accept all of these necessities as our right and privilege, not concerned as to how and when these things evolve.

Supper Roster: Captain: Mrs Preddy, together with Miss Callister and Mrs Teychenne

LADIES PLEASE BRING A PLATE. THANK YOU LADIES

Mr. A. Ellis,  
President & Research  
Officer

Telephone: 587 1159

Mrs B. Perkins,  
Publicity Officer

Telephone: 587 9164

Mrs K. Hamey,  
Secretary

Telephone: 546 3355

Mrs E. Wright,  
Treasurer

Telephone: 599 4884

Mrs K. Hamey,  
Social Secretary

Telephone: 546 3355

Mrs E. Eardley,  
Bulletin Editor

Telephone: 59 8078

Miss D. Row, Assistant Treasurer

When someone says they'll think it over and let you know.....you know

It's never too late to learn, but sometimes we learn too late.

Let the other fellow talk, you may learn something

### SOCIAL

### Friendship Book 1971

An inspection of historic Goat Island has been organised for Saturday, 29th November. Should you be interested in the history of old Sydney, you will enjoy this inspection or tour of the Island. Do come along and bring your friends. Perhaps bring a light lunch and after inspection have lunch in the Botannical Gardens.

Date: Saturday, 29th November, 1986 Time: 10.15 a.m. Admission: \$6.00

Meeting Place: Custom Square, Alfred Street, Sydney (immediately opposite Circular Quay)

ALL MONEY TO BE PAID AT THE OCTOBER MEETING

A cheerio to our friends who are not so well. Our best wishes to all for a speedy recovery.

### SPECIAL NOTICE

The St. George Historical Society is pleased to announce that the following books, Nos.1-7 written and illustrated by the late Gifford H. Eardley for the Society, have been reprinted and are now available. Books Nos.8, 9 and 10 have been compiled by Mrs Bronwyn Perkins.

No. 1	"The Wolli Creek Valley"	)	
No. 2	"Kogarah to Sans Souci Tramway"	)	
No. 3	"Saywells Tramway - Rockdale to Lady Robinsons Beach"	)	Book Nos.1-8
No. 4	"Arncliffe to Bexley Tramway"	)	\$2.50 each
No. 5	"Our Heritage in Stone"	)	plus postage
No. 6	"All Stations to Como"	)	
No. 7	"Tempe and the Black Creek Valley"	)	
No. 8	"Early Churches of the St.George District"	)	
No. 9	"Early Settlers of the St.George District" Volume 1	)	Books Nos.9-10
	(Price \$4.00 plus postage)	)	\$4.00 each plus
No.10	"Early Settlers of the St.George District" Volume 2	)	postage

### ALL BOOKS ARE AVAILABLE AT OUR MEETING, ALSO MEMBERS BADGES

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

Miss B. Otton	-	Telephone 59 4259 (after 8.00 p.m.)
Mrs E. Eardley	-	Telephone 59 8078
Mr. A. Ellis	-	Telephone 587 1159
Mrs K. Hamey	-	Telephone 546 3355

### NEW MEMBERS AND VISITORS ARE WELCOME

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION AS FROM JULY, 1986 (Have you overlooked yours???)

\$7.00 per Member      \$10.00 per family

Will any other ladies who are interested to help on our supper roster please give me their names. We need volunteers. Will you help please?

E. Eardley.

2NBC-FM - ST. GEORGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY - 1986Tuesday evenings - 6.30p.m. - 6.45 p.m.

- TAPE 181 - 14th October - Only a Tree is Left - Beryl Butters  
(by request)
- TAPE 182 - 21st October - Rockdale Methodist Church - Gwen Coxhead  
(by request)
- TAPE 183 - 28th October - Our Heritage in Stone - Beryl Butters  
(by request)
- TAPE 184 - 4th November - Napoleon St. Tram Stop - Gwen Coxhead  
Sans Souci. (by request)
- TAPE 185 - 11th November - James Cook - Part 1 - Charles Turner  
(by request)
- TAPE 186 - 18th November - James Cook - Part 2 - Charles Turner  
(by request)
- TAPE 187 - 25th November - James Cook - Part 3 - Charles Turner  
(by request)
- TAPE 188 - 2nd December - Arthur Phillip - Part 1 - M.D.Fleming  
(by request)
- TAPE 189 - 9th December - Arthur Phillip - Part 2 - M.D.Fleming  
(by request)
- TAPE 190 - 16th December - Arthur Phillip - Part 3 - M.D.Fleming  
(by request)

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These historical segments finish for 1986 on 16th December.  
The Society sincerely thanks 2NBC-FM for allowing us to take  
part as they do, and also thank all readers, without whom the  
programme would not go to air.

Hopefully, we shall resume transmission February 1987.

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## THE ROYALS IN AUSTRALIA -

Excerpts taken from "Good Weekend" - Sydney Morning Herald  
12th October 1985.

### The Royal Visits...

Alfred, Duke of Edinburgh - second son of Queen Victoria, visited Australia between October 1867 and April 1868, during a cruise in H.M.S "Galatea". He was 23. His tour was marred at Clontarf on March 12, 1868, when an Irishman named O'Farrell shot him in the back.

Prince Albert (17) and Prince George (15) - sons of the Prince of Wales (later King Edward VII), visited Australia in 1881 during a cruise of H.M.S. "Bacchante, in which they were serving as midshipmen under training.

Prince George - who became King George V - returned to Australia in 1901 as the Duke of Cornwall and York to open in Melbourne the first Commonwealth Parliament. He was accompanied by the Duchess, later Queen Mary.

Edward, Prince of Wales - who became King Edward VIII, visited Australia in 1920, in the battle-cruiser H.M.S. "Renown", arriving in Melbourne in April and departing from Sydney in August.

Albert, Duke of York - younger brother of the Prince of Wales, and later King George VI, visited the Commonwealth between March and May 1927, together with the Duchess of York, later Queen Elizabeth, to open the first session of the Commonwealth Parliament in Canberra.

Henry, Duke of Gloucester - the third son of King George V to visit Australia, opened the centenary celebrations of Victoria in 1934. The Duke returned to Australia in 1945, to become Governor-General of the Commonwealth.

Queen Elizabeth II - visited Australia with the Duke of Edinburgh in 1954, during a journey to many territories of the British Commonwealth and Empire. The Queen arrived in Sydney on February 3rd., becoming the first reigning monarch to set foot on Australian soil.....

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KIRRIBILLI HOUSE -

Merchant's house became home for Prime Ministers ---

- Sydney Sketches

Col Mackay -words

Daily Telegraph

The Magazine - April 1986

When Sydney merchant Adolphus Feez built a stone house on Kirribilli Point overlooking Sydney Harbour in 1855, he was not to know the house would one day become the city residence for Australian Prime Ministers.

But Feez would have been justifiably proud of how his creation has endured to become one of the nation's most prominent landmarks and an elaborate "guest house" for many visiting overseas dignitaries.

Feez had originally bought the half hectare on which Kirribilli stands from fellow Sydney merchant James Lyndsay Travers. The cost of the land was \$400 and it had once been part of the estate of the adjoining Admiralty House, then known as "Wotonga".

But more than a century was to pass before Kirribilli House was to find its now elevated place in Australian history.

That was in 1956 when the Commonwealth Government decided to refurbish and decorate it and rehabilitate the grounds to become the official Sydney residence of the then Australian Prime Minister, Sir Robert Menzies, and his wife, Dame Pattie.

The cost of the facelift was more than \$120,000, a big sum for the time and which bought savage criticism from the Federal Labor Party Opposition.

Sir Robert and Dame Pattie took up residence in 1957 and since then, Kirribilli has fulfilled the same function for succeeding Prime Ministers.

After its original builder died, the house had several owners until it was sold in 1919 by public auction, for \$20,000. Public protest had prevented the half hectare of land from being sub-divided.

The following year, the then Prime Minister, Mr.W.M.Hughes, approved resumption of the house and land by Special Government Gazette and until 1956, Kirribilli House was used to accommodate members of the Governor-General's staff who could not be found room at Admiralty House.

During renovations of Admiralty House, several Governor-Generals also moved into Kirribilli House. During the 1940's and early 1950's it was also leased privately.

At least once a year, the Federal Government open the doors of Kirribilli House to the public to view art treasures and magnificent antique furnishings, mostly provided by the Australiana Fund, which was set up in 1978 to encourage public participation in acquiring Australian works of art.

For the rest of the year, Kirribilli House remains under tight security, which is bolstered considerably when the Prime Minister is in residence.

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A most delightful drawing of Kirribilli House accompanied the article, which unfortunately we are unable to reproduce. This was sketched by Earl Budden.



EARLY METHODISM IN AUSTRALIA ...

## Historical Sketches &amp; Personal Reminiscences...

- The Hon. E. Vickery M.L.C.  
The Methodist  
Century Commemoration Fund Issue  
20th May 1899.

You ask me to supply reminiscences of the early days of the Colony and Methodism, and you thereby make me think I am getting an old man.

I do not know that I can supply many instances of general interest, but I will commence by pointing out that before my time, viz., in 1812, two Wesleyans - named Bowden and Hoskins, formerly school masters in London, came to Sydney at the instance of the English Government and took charge of the Sydney Charity Schools.

They held their first class-meeting on 6th March 1812, at which were present - themselves, their wives, 3 senior girls, 2 soldiers and others, in all 12 persons.

In the same year a class of 6 persons was formed in Windsor, the leader was a respectable convict, educated as a barrister, but he brought with him his Bible and a knowledge of God. During the week he taught a school, and on Sundays delivered the Gospel message to those around.

In 1813, or 1814 - Bowden and Hoskins applied to the Missionary Society in London for a missionary to be sent to Sydney.

The Rev. Samuel Leigh was ordained by Dr Adam Clark, and appointed for, and arrived in Sydney on 10th August 1815. A few months after Mr Leigh visited Castlereagh, and met Jno. Lees, who built and gave a chapel, which was opened in 1817. Mr Leigh afterwards visited Parramatta, and was cordially welcomed by the Rev. S Marsden, Church of England minister, who had been a Methodist in England.

In 1816, Leigh visited Windsor, and rented an out-house, which he opened for Divine worship. He rode on to Wilberforce, Portlanoir Head, Richmond, and again to Castlereagh.

In 1817, Leigh suggested the formation of a branch of the British and Foreign Bible Society, and visited Newcastle. Mr Leigh assisted Archdeacon Cowper at the services of laying the foundation stone of a Church of England at Newcastle, and was requested to conduct services there as often as he possibly could, and this year 7 missionaries of the London Missionary Society, among whom was John Williams, the martyr of Eromanga, arrived in Sydney, and while there co-operated with Leigh.

In 1818, Mr Leigh, having overtaxed his strength, was advised by the Rev. S Marsden to visit the Bay of Islands, New Zealand, and report to him as to a mission there.

On 2nd May 1818, the Rev. Walter Lawry arrived, and with Leigh visited the Church of England ministers in Sydney and Parramatta and received a hearty and brotherly welcome.

They wrote to the London Committee begging for another missionary and a printing press, and offered to live on 2 meals a day, if these were sent.

After the arrival of Mr Lawry, Mr Leigh felt himself at liberty to accept Rev. S. Marsden's friendly offer and embarked for New Zealand.

Prior to 1819, some place on the "Rocks", behind the old Sydney gaol was used as a chapel, and becoming too small, Mr. Thos. Scott in 1819 built and gave a chapel in Princes Street, to the Wesleyan Society. It cost him £525 and was opened by Mr Lawry in March 1819. In after years I remember this chapel being lowered to make it higher, when a small gallery was put in.

In 1819, Governor Macquarie, in appreciation of the good work of Leigh and Lawry, gave a piece of ground for a chapel in Macquarie Street, and Thos. Wylde also gave a piece adjoining, to be large enough for educational purposes. The foundation stone was laid this year. The Governor also offered land in Macquarie Street, Parramatta.

During 1820, the Revs. B. Carvosso and Ralph Mansfield arrived in Sydney, thus making 4 ministers, all of deep piety, zeal, and ability, and there were now chapels in Sydney, Parramatta, Windsor, Castlereagh and Richmond. In 1820, they established an auxiliary of the Wesleyan Missionary Society, and divided the one New South Wales circuit into 3:- Sydney, Parramatta and Windsor.

In 1821, Messrs. Lawry, Carvosso and Mansfield published the first religious newspaper south of the line called the "Australian Magazine" - but unfortunately orders came from the London Mission Board to discontinue its publication on the ground that their preaching and pastoral duties demanded all their time as Wesleyan Missionaries. This was a lamentable mistake.

Up to 1833 all Australasia and Polynesia comprised 1 Methodist district, and during those years there were added to the labourers in this vineyard, in 1821 William Walker, missionary to the blacks; in 1822 Revs. George Erskine, general superintendent, Nathaniel Turner, for Van Dieman's Land, William White, who went to New Zealand, William Horton, who after supplying in New South Wales, went to Van Dieman's Land.

In 1824, Mr Hutchinson was received on trial for the ministry. In 1825, the Rev. John Thomas arrived to proceed to Tonga Tabu, and Mr John Harper was appointed missionary to the blacks in New South Wales.

In 1831 the Revs. J.A. Manton and Wm. Simpson were added to the company or workers; and in 1832 were followed by the Rev. Joseph Orton (a truly apostolic man), the Revs. Cross, Cargill, Whitely and Tucker, missionaries who went on to the South Sea Islands.



Up to the year 1833, the Church of England clergymen, the Revs. Marsden, Cartwright, and Cooper co-operated most cordially with the Wesleyan ministers, and in the main this was continued until after the arrival of Bishop Broughton, who publicly spoke of Methodists, Presbyterians, Baptists and Congregationalists as the all but avowed enemies of the Gospel of Christ.

In 1833, after a voyage of 22 weeks, arrived the merchant ship "Richard Renolds", bringing as passengers, Thomas Street, Mr and Mrs Mark Blanchard, Mr and Mrs Joseph Vickery, with 6 sons and daughters, 4 of whom are probably now the only survivors of that ship's company. They were Methodists from London.

The ship was moored at a jetty called King's Wharf, in front of the Government stores (still existing) at Circular Quay, and this was the only wharf capable of accommodating a 500 ton ship.

Immediately in front of the present Custom House was a white sandy beach with large trees and scrub to the north-east side of it. At the back of St. Mary's (then building), the Museum, and the Grammar School, there was a dense scrub. Along the South Head Road (now Oxford St.) from the racecourse (now called Hyde Park), were only 4 houses between it and the ocean. There were post-and-rail fences on each side of Oxford Street and well-grassed hills on the south called Surrey Hills.

There were a few scattered houses through Surrey Hills, along Bourke and Crown Streets. The site of Belmore Park and the Haymarkets was a scrubby swamp almost out of town. On Pyrmont was one cottage, on Balmain one house, and, as far as I can remember, not one on the North Shore side.

Some of the houses in George and Pitt Streets were detached with gardens in front. There was an absence of kerbing and guttering, and grass grew in some of the streets.

The gaol was in George Street, at the corner of Essex Street.

The soldiers' barracks (with 2 or 3 regiments of soldiers) was situated between Jamieson and Barrack Streets, with George Street on the east and Clarence Street on the west.

The markets in George Street consisted chiefly of bark huts, and there were bark huts from Bathurst Street to Goulburn Street in George Street, with brick-kilns on Brickfield Hill.

The first burial ground was on the site of the present Town Hall.

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This article by the Hon. E. Vickery, M.L.C. will be continued in a further Bulletin.

Historical Sketches & Personal Reminiscences ...

-The Hon.E.Vickery,M.L.C.

The Methodist

Century Commemoration Fund Issue

20th May 1899.

Following on from "The first burial ground was on the site of the present Town Hall".

In this year, 1833, as far as I can remember, the places of worship in Sydney were - St. Phillips on Church Hill, St. James in King Street, a Presbyterian Church on Church Hill, Methodist Chapels in Preinces Street and Macquarie Street, an Independent Chapel in Pitt Street and a Baptist Chapel in Bathurst Street.

The ministers in the 3 circuits in 1833 were Revs. Joseph Orton, William Simpson and William Schofield, but with the help of a band of zealous local preachers, quite a number of outside places were supplied and many chapels had been built.

Among the local preachers that I remember in the 1830's were Messrs George Allen, Hamilton, Weiss, Scott, G.Smith and Lassetter.

Preaching was attempted at Lane Cove in 1832, at Surry Hills and Cook's River in 1833, an adult school was conducted for a short time in 1834.

In 1837, a Sunday School was commenced in the house of Mr. Lancelot Iredale in Bourke Street Surry Hills, who shortly after built and presented as a free gift a small chapel in Bourke Street. In that year, the use of a building in Druitt Street was obtained for a Sunday School (Kirwood, Supt.) and for Sunday afternoon preaching. This place was carried on till 1843, when it was closed.

In 1839, the site of the Centenary Hall was purchased, and plans for old York Street Chapel adopted. A tender was accepted for £4950, but early in 1840, owing to the advance in materials, the contractor threw up his contract. In May another tender was accepted for £6000. This contractor failed to proceed with his work, and the Trustees took possession and proceeded with the excavations by day labour.

In 1842 the stone and brickwork was gone on with, and in 1843 a contractor finished the building, but without galleries. In February 1844, the new chapel was opened - called "The Centenary Chapel" - with great joy and impressive sermons by the Rev. Walter Lawry.

In 1840 afternoon services were conducted in a cottage at Waverley until in 1844, when a small stone chapel was built, and opened by the Rev. D.J.Draper.

The first Australian-born Methodist Missionary was John Watsford, and the second William Moore. The former left Sydney for Fiji about 1843 and the latter in 1849.

John Ducker of Richmond, was a faithful class-leader and

steward for many years - from 1840 to 1855.

In 1841, the ground floor of a large store at the corner of Liverpool and Pitt Streets, was given temporarily by Mr T W Bowden, for the purpose of a chapel, Sunday School and day school.

The late Rev. George Pickering, a local preacher, was the day school teacher, and Mr Alex McArthur, the Sunday School Supt. The schools and congregations which were exceedingly good, were afterwards removed to Hay St.Chapel.

The years of 1833 to 1850 were years of growth - of class meetings, love feasts, cottage prayer meetings, week evening services and society meetings. The sacramental services were far more solemn, impressive and important services than they appear in modern days. These were also days of church discipline. Men and women were tried, censured, suspended and expelled for their faults.

About 1842 or '43, 3 local preachers named Garrett, Kingsbury and Jno.Walker, with a few others (as they could not have their own way), seceded, and called themselves Australian Methodists, meeting in a small building in Pitt Street. Some of these returned to Church membership, others were refused, except as members on trial, and eventually they called themselves Primitive Methodists.

About the year 1839, a brick school hall was erected alongside the Macquarie Street chapel for Sunday School and other purposes. In this building was carried on a Wesleyan Grammar School, of which the late Mr Henry Lane, was headmaster.

Among the church officers, trustees and leaders from 1833 to 1840, whose names are perhaps worthy of mention were:

- . Messrs L. Iredale, T.W.Bowden, Thos Hyndes  
Beveridge, Blanch, Piper, Nightingale, Vickery,  
Soole, Bond, Kirkham, O'Neill, Jones, Cox,  
Matthews, Peacock, Neale, Hunt, Williams,  
Crofton, Foster, Hughes, Bourne and Terry.

During the same period arrived in the colony -

- . the Revs. S Rabone, Jno.McKenny, Jas Watkin,  
F. Lewis, S Wilkinson, ad D.J. Draper -

and from 1840 to 1850, the Revs. Sweetman, B. Hurst,  
W.B.Boyce, B. Chapman, Jno Egglestone,  
T.B.Harris, M.Turner, J.Oram. F Tuckfield  
and J. Fillingham;

also local preachers - Messrs Bowes, Pickering, Jones,  
Curry, Butcher, Pigeon, and Roseby;

as officers and workers - Messrs. Alex.McArthur,  
J. Caldwell, Wm.Little, Wm. Speer, Wm. Austin,  
M. Kingsborough, J. Kellett, S. Callaghan,  
S. Hebblewhite, with Messrs Smithers, Redgate,  
Armstrong, Saxby, Smedly and Harper.

In 1844, a Sunday School was started in Chippendale in a rented room, with Mr J Roseby, Supt., and at Newtown with Mr Saxby, Supt..



In 1847, the following appointments were made by Mr T Cowlshaw, as Supt. of Bourke Street: -  
• Mr Thrum of Pyrmont, Wm. Little of Hay St.,  
Mr Hutchinson of Ashfield, and Mr Davis of Canterbury.

In 1854 the Rev. T.F.N. Hull came to Sydney, and by his earnestness and eloquence crowded the Centenary Chapel, and among the ministers who arrived from England that year were - the Revs. Wm. Kelynack, Wm. Curnow, Hans Mack, T. Angwin and R.W. Vanderkiste.

In 1855, the first Australian Conference was initiated, and the General Superintendent, Rev. W.B. Boyce, returned to England and became one of the Foreign Missionary Secretaries, and Rev. John Egglestone became the President in Sydney.

Within a short time afterwards, the Revs. Wm. Hassell and George Hurst, joined the Conference and in 1858 Mr John Corbett was received as a local preacher.

The space allotted me is, I fear, more than occupied, and as regards more modern times, many workers are still alive, and Conference records are available for reference.

I close by the reflection that "the night cometh when no man can work" - for all the many names named in this paper, only 6 still survive in 1899.

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