



ST. GEORGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

SPONSORED BY ROCKDALE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

Registered by Australia Post
NBH 0335 KOGARAH 2217

6/9 Austral Street,

February, 1988

Dear Friend and Member,

The February Meeting will be held as follows:

Date Friday, 19th February, 1988 at 8.00 p.m.

Place Council Chamber, Town Hall, Princes Highway, Rockdale

Business General

Syllabus Item

Mrs Betty Goodyer, a good friend of the Society, will tell us the story of 'Daisy Bates'. This topical subject should prove interesting to all of us.

Supper Roster Mrs Samuelson and Mrs Longhurst

LADIES PLEASE BRING A PLATE

Mr. A. Ellis,
President and Research
Officer

587 1159

Mrs E. Wright,
Treasurer

599 4884

Mrs J. Price,
Minute Secretary

587 7407

Miss D. Row,
Asst. Treasurer

Mrs B. Perkins,
Secretary and
Publicity Officer

587 9164

Mrs E. Eardley,
Bulletin Editor

59 8078

I never, with important air, in conversation overbear;
My tongue within my lips I rein,
For who talks too much must talk in vain.

John Gay

It's the past which 'made' the present, if you want to understand life today, you've got to know about life yesterday.

J.B.

HERITAGE WEEK, 1988 - 17TH APRIL TO 24TH APRIL, 1988

St. George Historical Society Activities

1. WEDNESDAY - 20TH APRIL 10.00 A.M. TO 2.00 P.M.

Guided bus tour - St. George area in part - Viewing a wide range of historic homes and sites. Bring own lunch and flask.

Meet at Rockdale Station, Walz Street, Bexley side

Cost \$3.40 per head. Bookings necessary

Telephone: Mr. A. Ellis - 587 1159
Mrs J. Price - 587 7407

2. SATURDAY 23RD AND SUNDAY, 24TH APRIL 12 NOON TO 4 P.M.

Take a guided tour of the furnished home (c.1860) - Lydham Hall, once the home of Christina Stead - authoress. It is the second oldest home in the Rockdale Municipality. Well worth a visit. Provides panoramic view of Botany Bay.

Location: Lydham Hall - Lydham Avenue, Bexley

Entry Fee: 0.50c Afternoon tea - Adults 0.50c
Child 0.50c

Telephone: Miss B. Otton - 59 4259

2NBC-FM 90.1 - ST. GEORGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
1988 - MONDAYS - In the time Period - 4.30-5.30p.m.

NOTE: Time of broadcast has been changed from Tuesday
 to Monday as from 1st February 1988.
 Still 1/4 hour presentation - in the time
 period 4.30 - 5.30p.m.

- TAPE No. 237 - 1st February - Questionnaire from - A.Ellis
 '87 tapes.
- TAPE No. 238 - 8th February - Questionnaire from - A.Ellis
 '87 tapes.
- TAPE No. 239 - 15th February - Queen Victoria Bldg - J.Price
- TAPE No. 240 - 22nd February - Story behind Anne of - J.Price
 Green Gables -
 Lucy Osburn and
 Sydney Hospital.
- TAPE No. 241 - 29th February - 1st Wheel to turn - A.Ellis
 by Steam.
 1st Mail Steamer &
 1st Train out of Sydney.
- TAPE No. 242 - 7th March - 1st Postage Stamp, - A.Ellis
 Newspaper in Australia
 & 1st Customs House.
- TAPE No. 243 - 14th March - 1st Navigation of the - M.Callister
 Murray River -
 1st Mint & The
 Overland Telegraph.
- TAPE No. 244 - 21st March - 1st Zoo - - M.Callister
 Whaling Industry &
 1st Million Bales of
 Wool.
- TAPE No. 245 - 28th March - Leichhardt - Burke & - A.Ellis
 Wills & E.J.Eyre.

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

SPECIAL NOTICE

ALL BOOKS NOW AVAILABLE

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. Book Nos. 8, 9 and 10 have been compiled by Mrs Bronwyn Perkins.

| | | |
|-------|---|---------------|
| No.1 | "The Wolli Creek Valley" | Book Nos. 1-8 |
| No.2 | "Kogarah to Sans Souci Tramway" | \$2.50 each |
| | | plus postage |
| No.3 | "Saywells Tramway - Rockdale to Lady Robinsons 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" | |
| No.8 | "Early Churches of the St.George District" | |
| No.9 | "Early Settlers of the St.George District Volume 1" | Book Nos.9-10 |
| | | \$4.00 each |
| | | plus postage |
| No.10 | "Early Settlers of the St.George District Volume 2" | |

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 | 59 4259 (after 8 p.m.) |
| Mrs E. Eardley | 59 8078 |
| Mr. A. Ellis | 587 1159 |

NEW MEMBERS AND VISITORS ARE WELCOME

Have you volunteered for the Supper Roster? More help is needed!!!

St. Peter's Church of England

Parish of Cooks River. 187 Princes Highway St. Peters 2044.
Telephone 51 2332.

SESQUICENTENARY

THIS 1988

Next year St Peter's Anglican Church, Princes Highway, St Peters will be celebrating its sesquicentenary. This church is the "mother church" to all the parishes south of Sydney. The first service, in a slab building one hundred feet north of the present church, was held on May 13th, 1838, exactly fifty one years to the day when the First Fleet sailed from Portsmouth - a remarkable coincidence indeed! The foundation stone was laid by Governor Gipps on the 9th July in the same year.

During 1988 special celebrations are to be held to commemorate these events:

15th MAY - launching of a book on the history of the church, an updated version with many photographs and a complete burial list. There will be a special service at 10.00 a.m. at which Archbishop Donald Robinson will preach.

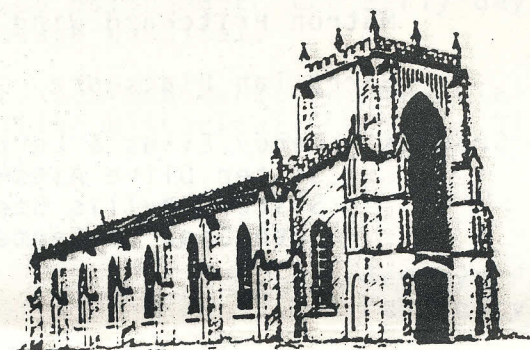
10th JULY - we are hoping to have the Governor present at a special service at 10.00 a.m. where all the atmosphere which prevailed at the laying of the foundation stone will be recreated.

29th OCTOBER - an historic walk will be held. This will commence at the church and finish at Cooks River. Along the route places of historic interest will be viewed and visited.

PLAN A FAMILY REUNION - at any time during the year families associated with the church, now or in the past, are invited to join us for morning service at 10.00 a.m. and then reminisce over morning tea and visit our museum. Let us know that you are coming - you are assured of a warm welcome.

For further details write to -
THE HISTORY COMMITTEE
ST PETERS ANGLICAN CHURCH
187 PRINCES HIGHWAY,
ST PETERS 2044

OR CONTACT the Rev. Tom Halls tel 512 2332



St. Peters Cooks River Parish—the first south of Sydney—was formed in 1835. St. Peters church—designed by Thomas Bird with later additions by Edmund Blacket—is the first church in Australia built by free men. The unique church building is after the style of Christopher Wren and other early English architecture. St Peters has a classified listing from the National Trust.

LIST OF MEMORIALS SUBMITTED TO THE
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY
for the N.S.W. Monuments & Memorials Questionnaire

November 1987

1. The H.V.EVATT - Memorial Reserve - Kogarah.
2. The BILL WHALEY Reserve - Bexley.
3. JAMES COOK HIGH SCHOOL -
 - . Robert Baker Memorial Garden
 - . Bi-Centenary of Cook's death - 14.2.1779
 - . Loss of original bust of Cook & new bust provided - plaques says "also missing".
 - . Gardens to commemorate Royal Visit - 1970
 - . Commemoration of Royal Visit at entrance - 1970
 - . Monolith - from St George County Council commemorating Royal Visit 29th April 1970
4. CANNON - outside Council Buildings - Rockdale
5. Memorial stone from original Council Chambers at Arncliffe - in present Council Chambers - Rockdale
6. Commemoration of Saywell's Steam Tram - Rockdale
7. Rockdale's In Memoriam Garden - Rockdale
8. Plaque mentioning Fitzgerald Family at Calvary Hospital - Kogarah
9. Lieut. James Cook R.N. 1770-1970 Bicentenary plinth at Cook Park - Brighton-le-Sands
10. William Carss Grave - Carss Bush Park
11. Miles Franklin Memorial - Stell Reserve - Carlton
12. Jubilee Bridge Stone - Bexley Road - Bardwell Creek
13. The St. George Hospital - Kogarah
 - . Nurses Home - James H Laws House
Matron Pritchard Wing
 - . Chapel - Garry Ian Blackmore
 - . Hospital Grounds - Wendy Evans & Lorraine Wilson
- Sister Olive Ainsworth
- Sister Phyllis Stephenson
- Cptn Cook Bi-Centenary Pool

The St. George Hospital (contd.)

. Lecture Theatres & Medical Library -

- .A.C.Thomas Lecture Theatre (Nurses) * 1956
- . J.C.English Lecture Theatre (Medical students)*
- . J.V.Latham Library (Medical)*

.Operating Theatre Block -

- . The Charles Kolling Memorial Theatre 1935

.Wards -

- . Old Childrens Ward -
- .Jubilee Memorial Rockdale Municipality 1921
- . Hospital Part-Time School 1943

.Transit Lounge - Bust of N.P.Nielsen.

- .Dr James McLeod Memorial Ward **
- .G.F.Elliott Ward
- .H.V.Gibbons Ward
- .John H Burt Wing
- .Nielsen Wing
- .Sister Janet Kerr- killed Banka Island
as P.O.W 16th February 1942

.Griffith House - 30 Gray Street Kogarah - 1987

.Clinical Sciences Building - 1967 - houses the following"

- . Hastings Memorial Lecture
- . Brenda Jackson Memorial Lectures

.Remembered but actual plaque not available in 1987 -

- . Memorial to "Bluey" the Cattle Dog - 1931
"Bluey" waited outside D Ward for 14 years following the accident that brought his master to hospital. His master died two days after admission. Bluey lived on and waited at St.George for 14 years, till he was found dead in the grounds one day.

* These three memorials instituted during the lifetime of thos so honoured.

** Dr James McLeod belonged to the early days of the St.George Cottage Hospital.

The recording of such monuments and memorials is part of the Royal Australian Historical Society's Bicentennial Project for 1988.

Arthur Ellis
President

Bronwyn Perkins
Publicity Officer

The St.George Historical Society.

WALTER BARRETT ... He Cranked a Camera back in 1896 ...
and pioneered Australia's film industry.

- Impact
Wesley Central Mission
Sydney. August 1987.

New Hospital Wing honours Australian Pioneer...

Among the most prized possessions of Walter Franklyn Brown Barrett was a small metal disc which, if dropped, had a sound not unlike that of a dud penny.

But to Franklyn Barrett that piece of tin was real gold.

Inscribed on it are the words - "Alley Sloper's Half Holiday" - and the date - 1901.

It was, in fact, the then Australian film industry's "Oscar" and he received it for the best comedy of the year.

Throughout the crankhandle days of Australia's early cinema he reeled off no less than 25 feature films - films like "The Mutiny of the Bounty" - "The Pioneer" - "The Girls of the Bush", - "Monk and the Woman".

English-born Mr Barrett started out in the movie-making business as a Pathe-Frere newsreel cameraman back in 1896 shutter-bugging between Australia and New Zealand.

In between all this he was churning out his "Alley Sloper" series, the hero being the comic book hero of the day.

Then he began globe-trotting, and his adventures would fill a Hollywood marathon screened on the widest of wide screens. He travelled to every country in the world except Russia, lugging his camera through jungles and across deserts and upstream in dug-out canoes. He nearly died in a hurricane in the Samoan Islands, and on the same film-making mission was only a few feet ahead of some white-hot lava when a volcano erupted. Armed only with his camera he faced a lion in Africa and once stepped inside a cage with a tiger to get his pictures.

Back home he nearly smothered in the Penrith tunnel when a train he was riding broke down.

In London during World War I he took his camera out into the streets and filmed the Zeppelin raids, and he crossed the Rockies 3 times.

There was a time when he was in New York and preparing to take-off to Paris when he received a cable changing his mind for him. He was to go back to Australia. When he protested about this the boss told him, "Barrett, you have a reputation for travelling to the end of the world at an hour's notice. Now don't let us down." He caught the next ship back to Australia and the next assignment.

In 1904, he made a complete film of the Melbourne Cup - won by Acrasia - the first man to film the race from start to finish. "The told me I would never do it, so I just went out and did it", he said. He said, "Our slogan in those days

was: "We don't have much money but we see stacks of country and have plenty of fun."

With the success of Alley Sloper, Mr Barrett saw the writing on the wall and set about the business of putting the Australian film industry on the map. There was not much money around and there was plenty of opposition from Hollywood. But he went on cranking out six-reelers on a budget that never exceeded £1,000. "We never knew where the money was coming from but it always seemed to turn up" he said.

Filming would take a week or two and the background was usually "the good old Australian bush".

He made "Mutiny on the Bounty" in 1916 on the old training ship Tingara. George Cross played Bligh and Wilton Power played Christian. The stars he made would fill a good-sized billboard. There was Maie Baird, Maggie Moore, Lillian Teece, Maude Fane, Vera James and Marie Lavarre to name just a few.

And there were such handsome and dashing leading men as Snowy Baker, Monty Luke and Roy Redgrave.

Mr Barrett did not do things in half-measures. As well as photograph the films, he used to produce and write the stories. "We were for Australia, first, last and always", he said. "We decided if it was not possible to make interesting pictures about our own country then we would give up the ghost." He never gave up the ghost, and was well-rewarded.

One of his best films was the "Girl of the Bush" which one paper reviewed in 1921 as "She might not be a classical beauty, but she is still good to look at..." The story was about "a young girl who becomes mistress of an outback station. There she falls in love with an unscrupulous two-up fiend while her real love is a young engineer."

Mr Barrett brought out Red Indians of the Navaho and Hopi tribes to make "The Vanishing American." They thought so much of him, they made him a blood-brother at a peace-pipe smoking ceremony.

Apart from all his movie-making Mr Barrett could play every string instrument and could speak, besides Australian, French and Italian.

Franklyn turned to theatre management, his first appointment was as manager of the Capitol Theatre, Canberra. Joining Hoyts Theatres in 1927, he was appointed manager of the Southern Cross Theatre, Neutral Bay, followed by Mosman, Arncliffe, Clovelly and Woollahra, which he managed until his retirement....

On Saturday 18th August 1987 - the Premier of N.S.W. the Hon. Barrie Unsworth was guest of honour at the re-opening of Waddell House and the dedication of the Mabel and Franklyn Barrett Wing.

That day saw the culmination of 3 years of planning and building and the expenditure of more than \$2.5 million an expression of Wesley Central Mission's commitment to quality of care and excellence in service to the needs of the community.....

A spacious entrance foyer which offers a warm and friendly welcome to patients and visitors is the generous gift of Dr & Mrs Bruce Stephen, long serving member and Chairman of the Medical Board.

A Chapel has been provided through the generosity of Dr and Mrs Bruce Peterson, who served as one of the principal Medical Officers of the hospital for more than 20 years.

The extended facilities acknowledge the growing needs of the community for programmes and services to cope with the pressures and demands of a fragmented hurting society....

Todds Barrett - daughter of Mabel and Franklyn Barrett - after whom the Mabel and Franklyn Barrett wing at Waddell Private Hospital is named, kindly consented to the publication of this tribute to a remarkable Australian.

We gratefully acknowledge Todds Barrett's most generous financial support and bequest for Waddell Private Hospital and her enthusiastic assistance with archival retrieval, making this feature possible.

Our sincere thanks are also extended to The Sun Herald and reporter Peter Spooner who first publicised Franklyn Barrett's story on Sunday 21st May 1961, and to the Directors of "The Showman", with reporter Robert A Cleland, for their background research into the life of a dedicated pioneer.

-Colin Wood.

JOADJA

MITTAGONG

BERRIMA

BOWRAL

WOLLONGONG

GOULBURN

MOSS VALE

MARCH 26 SAT.

MRS. B. EARNLEY
24 DUFF STREET,
ARNcliffe. 2205

- ★ GUIDED TOURS OF TOWNSHIP AND WORKS
- ★ DISPLAYS — VISIT THE LARGE MARQUEE FULL OF PHOTOGRAPHS OF YESTERYEAR
- ★ BOOK RELEASE OF "HISTORIC JOADJA CREEK"
- ★ PICNIC FACILITIES AVAILABLE

27 SUN.

- ★ SPECIAL STEAM TRAIN FROM SYDNEY/ MITTAGONG COACH TRANSFER INCL. TO JOADJA (CONTACT STATE RAIL)
- ★ GUIDED TOURS OF TOWNSHIP AND WORKS
- ★ SCOTTISH DANCERS — PIPE BAND — LONE PIPER
- ★ WAGGON RIDES AROUND RUINS
- ★ HORSE DRAWN VEHICLES
- ★ VINTAGE CARS
- ★ VARIETY OF RIDES FOR CHILDREN
- ★ BUSH BANDS
- ★ FRESH CAKES AND DAMPERS
- ★ PICNIC FACILITIES AVAILABLE
- ★ CANTEN WILL BE OPEN
- ★ DISPLAYS — AND MUCH MORE
- ★ LOTS OF FOOD

For further information contact:

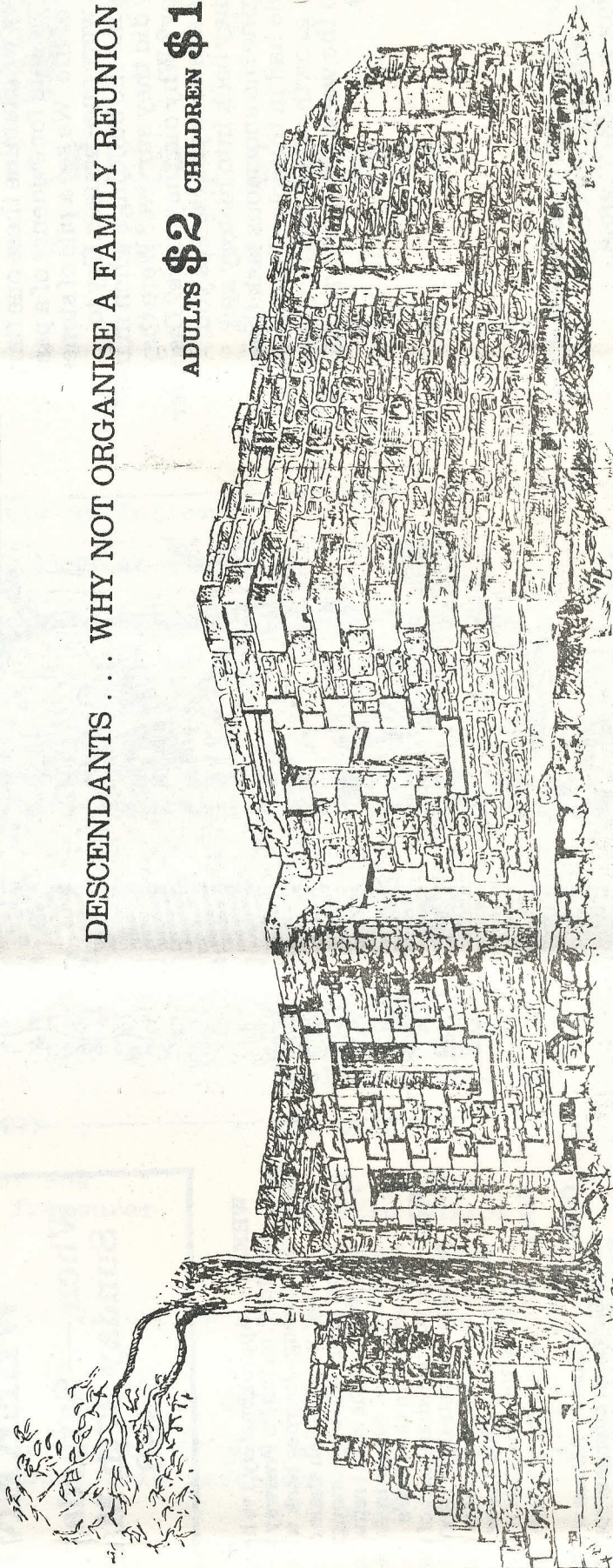
**SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS
TOURIST & TRAVEL ASSOC.**

In the park, Hume Hwy, Mittagong.
P.O. Box 305, Mittagong. 2575.
Ph (048) 712888.

*If, owing to weather conditions
it should be cancelled, the day
will be held the next Sunday.*

DESCENDANTS . . . WHY NOT ORGANISE A FAMILY REUNION

ADULTS \$2 CHILDREN \$1



34/291/6

MRS. E. EARDLEY

HISTORIC JOADJA

24 DUFF STREET,
MITTAGONG, N.S.W. 2205

is situated near Mittagong in the Southern Highlands of New South Wales. This unique ghost town will give you a chance to experience a feeling of the past.

Over one hundred years ago this isolated village of Scottish miners flourished on the coal and shale products it exported to local and overseas markets.

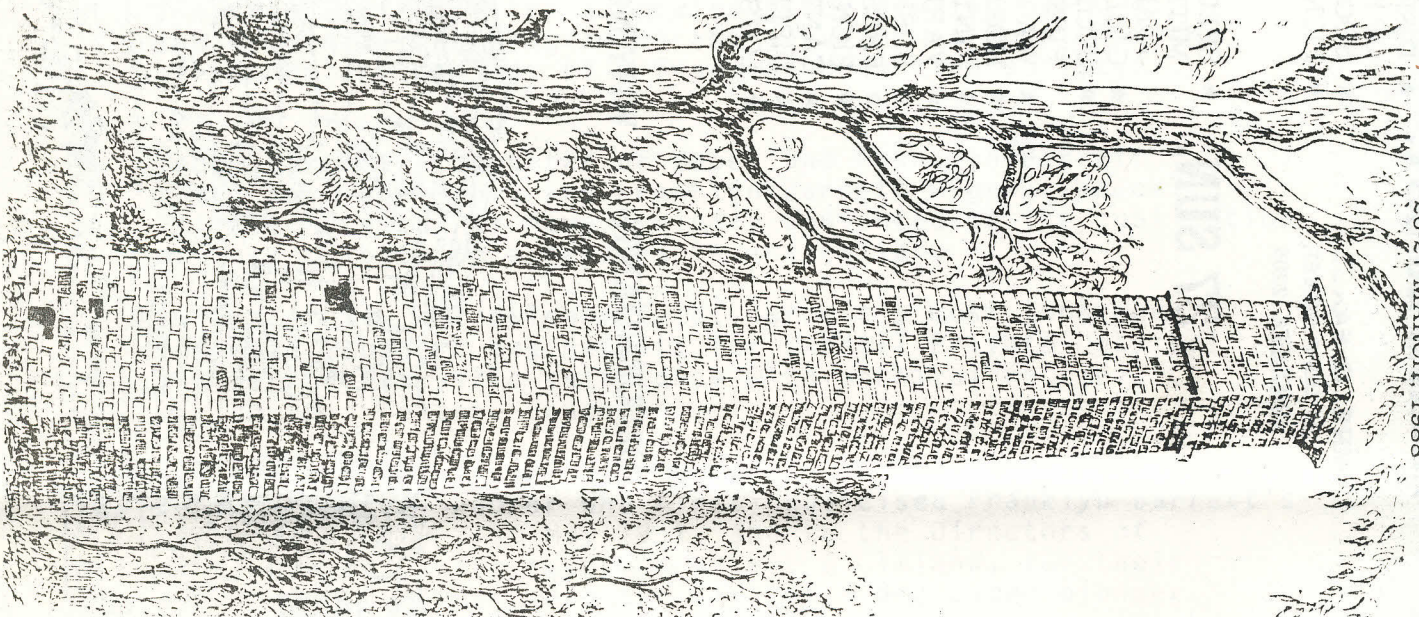
It evolved at a time when the Australian colonies had grown past the struggles of the first few decades, to a time when Joadja and other industries were creating the financial resources needed to help sustain the growing economy.

Today we examine these one time settlements for evidence of a past way of life. We see a pile of stones that were once houses. Try to imagine the buildings when in use? How did they survive? Were they happy? Why did they leave? Discover these answers yourself as you journey back into history and imagine the enormous task these people had in the role of Australia's early growth of the 1800's. Do join us on the weekend of 26-27th March, 1988.

Further enquiries please contact the Tourist Information Centre, Mittagong. (048) 712888.

VISIT JOADJA

26-27 MARCH, 1988



OWING TO PUBLIC DEMAND

Southern Highlands Tourist & Travel Association are proud to

present **MRS. E. EARDLEY**

24 DUFF STREET
ANNULFE 2205

ONCE MORE
A

BACK TO

HISTORIC

JOADJA

WEEKEND

When — Saturday 26th
Sunday 27th March,
1988

WHERE — Approximately 1½ hours from Sydney, on the F5 Freeway to Mittagong. Journey back with us to this historic Scottish shale oil mining ghost town. Wander amongst the ruins and discover the silent remains of this once important village in Australia's early growth in the 1800's.

WHY — So you can share part of this unique heritage of Australia's 1800's. Joadja has been generously donated for this weekend by Miss Lee as part of Australia's Bicentennial Celebrations.

COST — \$2.00 adults/pensioners, \$1.00 children.

COACHES — Welcome. Access will be available via an alternate road. Please contact the Tourist Centre (048) 712888 for further details.