



# ST. GEORGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

SPONSORED BY ROCKDALE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

Registered by Australia Post  
NBH 0335

6/9 Austral Street,  
KOGARAH 2217

July, 1988

Dear Friend and Member,

The July Meeting will be held as follows:

Date Friday, 15th July, 1988 at 8 p.m.

Place Council Chamber, Town Hall, Princes Highway, Rockdale

Business ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS FOR 1988/89

Your attendance will be appreciated

## Syllabus Item

Mr. Bob Lee will give a short talk at the conclusion of the elections.

## Supper Roster

Mrs Freddy and Miss Callister

## LADIES PLEASE BRING A PLATE

Mr. A. Ellis,  
President and Research  
Officer

Mrs J. Price,  
Minute Secretary

Mrs B. Perkins,  
Secretary and  
Publicity Officer

587 1159

587 7407

587 9164

Mrs E. Wright,  
Treasurer

Miss D. Row,  
Asst. Treasurer

Mrs E. Eardley,  
Bulletin Editor

599 4884

59 8078

Life is a gift. Cherish it always, and learn to master its challenges. The mastery of life is the key to full living, when every path will show itself and no gate shall ever be barred.

(Excerpt from 'Snow on the Wind' Hugh Miller)

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.

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|-------|---|----------------|
| 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!!!

THE COMMEMORATION AT ST.JAMES' CHURCH - King Street - Sydney  
OF TWO HUNDRED YEARS CHRISTIAN PRESENCE IN  
AUSTRALIA & OF THE YEAR WHICH MARKS THE BICENTENARY  
OF EUROPEAN SETTLEMENT IN AUSTRALIA...

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-24th January 1988  
Order of Service.

Supplied by: Miss Connie Wilding.

We welcome today Pastor Ben Cruse and the Elders and members of the People's Church of Historic La Perouse, Botany Bay.

We also welcome representatives of the Government, Members of Parliament, the City Administration, together with the Chairman of the N.S.W. Bicentennial Council and others from the community.

His Excellency, the Governor and lady Rowland send their very best wishes at this time of commemoration.

It is also a very great pleasure to have joining us to-day, members of the First Fleet Re-enactment Voyage due to sail in to Sydney Harbour from Botany Bay, next Tuesday (26th).

We welcome Mr Neville Jarvis, the Manager of the Swedenborg Centre in Sydney and his colleagues. The Swedenborg Society is a Trust which has been involved in the publication and distribution of books for over 200 years.

Twelve such books were brought to Australia by Mr Lowe, the ship's Surgeon of the First Fleet, and on landing he distributed them amongst the crew and convicts. Twelve theological books have been brought out on the First Fleet Re-enactment Voyage under the auspices of the Swedenborg Society of London.

They have been brought to St. James' this morning and they will be kept in the Library at the Swedenborg Centre in Roseville, and available for public inspection.

Our presence together today at this significant time and in this significant place is a symbol of hope for the future and an expression of good faith in our efforts to achieve a common dedication to shared goals for our land.

To-day, the La Perouse community brings to St. James' the spirit of their 8 day Vigil for Peace, which concludes on Tuesday (26th). Our society and our world cries out for reconciliation and peace, with the land and the environment, and with each other.

Our commemoration today reminds us that such peace comes about as a result of an act of the human will. The human will is motivated by vision.

The gifts brought to the church - of Bible, of books, of seeds in the Coolamon bowl, of Aboriginal culture and spirituality - express a future vision and possibility which, if we grasp it, will become the source of creative change in our society.

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Representative of the People's Church in La Perouse, Botany Bay, including children, Aboriginal leaders and Pastor Ben Cruse, other guests, and representatives of the Swedenborg Centre with Theological Books brought out on the First Fleet Re-enactment Voyage, will be met at the Church by children and young people of the Parish with the Rector and Parish Council.

A procession will enter the West Door of the Church in the following order:

Crucifer  
Taperers  
Choir

-Children and young people of St. James' Parish  
who will wait at the Cross Aisle to receive

The gifts :  
Servers  
Lay Assistants  
Clergy

Pastor Ben Cruse and the Rector  
The Aboriginal children and their  
Community at La Perouse  
Representatives of the Swedenborg Centre  
with  
The Theological Books.

As the procession enters, the congregation stands.

At the Cross Aisle the children and young people of the Parish will receive the presentation of the Bible and the seeds in a Coolamon bowl as a signal of hope for a new and promising future.

The Gifts are placed on a table in the Cross Aisle, together with the Bread and Wine. The Theological Books brought on the Re-enactment Voyage are then received by the Rector and placed on a table.

The Rector then welcomes the congregation.

We come together today acknowledging the sovereignty of God; that the earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, and that what we have and are is by gift and grace alone.

We give thanks for the presence here of members of the Aboriginal community, joining us at this significant point in our history as an expression of a shared vision for the future of our land.

We are aware that the recognition of 200 years of European settlement in Australia is an occasion not so much for self-congratulation as a nation, but for self-appraisal.

Last year in its Social Justice Statement, the Anglican Church of Australia said that our rejoicing will be based on much of which we should be proud. But this pride in achievement needs to be accompanied by such questions as:

- .What kind of society are we?
- .What in our history has made us what we are?
- .What should we be in the future?

Our Church points out that over 200 years we have built a

a society that is comfortable and easy-going for the majority. It has allowed a few to become very rich. But, in spite of its pride in egalitarianism, it tolerates increasing numbers of people in poverty.

In "A Just and Proper Settlement", other Christian churches last year (1987) emphasised that over the past 200 years many other people have come to this land, Australia, from all over the world. They have brought their own experiences and cultures through which they express their faiths. New understandings of the land have been introduced, and this cultural diversity has permanently changed our society.

Aboriginal people have lived in this country for at least 40,000 years, perhaps as long as 80,000 to 120,000 years. Aboriginal people have been in continuous occupation of this land for a longer period than any other people, past or present, have occupied any other land on earth.

The clock cannot be turned back to restore Aboriginal society to the situation before 1788. Yet, as the Heads of Australian Churches said in their statement on 7 January 1988, the place of the Aboriginal people in the wider society and their prior claim to land cannot be ignored. The Heads of our Churches call upon us to seek justice, so that we might shape a new future and become a nation in which all belong.

They call upon the Christian Churches to be more open to receiving joyfully the blessings and insights offered through Aboriginal culture and spirituality.

They urge us to seek reconciliation, beginning by seeking forgiveness from each other, a change of heart and new hope, and by acknowledging our history of conflict and division which has sapped out nation's commitment to Aborigines.

Let us then recollect that we now stand in the presence of God, and acknowledging our imperfection, failure and lack of will, recall what our God requires of us.

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#### FACTS TO RECALL:

St. James' Church King Street Sydney -

. Foundation stone was laid by Governor Macquarie on 7th October 1819, on a site originally chosen for the Law Courts.

. Designed by Francis Greenway, it was completed in 1822 and opened on 6th July that year. The preacher for the occasion was Rev. Samuel Marsden.

. On 5th June 1836, the first and at that time, only, Anglican Bishop of Australia, the Rt. Rev. William Grant Broughton, was installed at St. James.

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