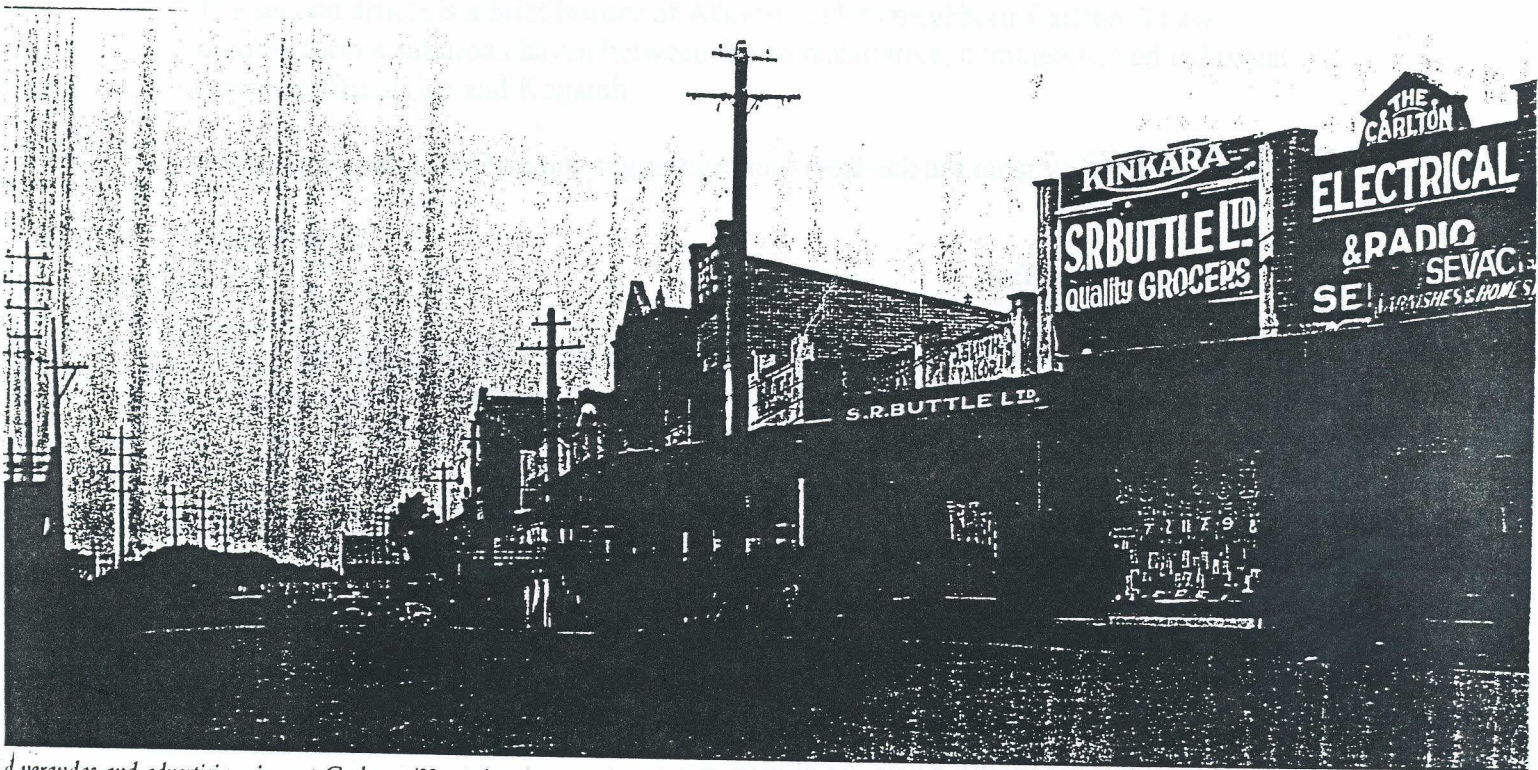


St George Historical Society *Inc.*

Bulletin

SPONSORED BY ROCKDALE CITY COUNCIL

MAY - JUNE 1998 Edition



d verandas and advertising signs at Carlton. (Kogarah Library)

(12)

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PUBLIC OFFICER	Mr. Wesley Fairhall	9546 5555
HERITAGE ADVISORY	Mr. Bernard Sharah	9567 8989
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REPRESENTATIVE		
AUDITOR	Mrs. L. Thompson	

NEXT MEETING

MAY 12 A Cornish Affair.

Ms. Maxine Gray will talk about the "Cornish Society" to which she belongs. The Cornish were characteristically industrious and hard working people who added greatly to pre and post Colonial life and national prosperity.

As will be evidenced on the night, our Cornish heritage warrants rather greater recognition than that traditionally afforded by Australian historians and popular folklore.

JUNE 9 A River Somewhere.

Mr. Peter Sage, one of the Society's more widely travelled members, will present a slide show on the Hawkesbury River. As always, we are guaranteed to enjoy an informative and beautifully compiled presentation. Come early or you will most definitely not get front row seats!

JULY 14 Annual General Meeting.

Yes, it is that time of the year again. **P-L-E-A-S-E** consider how you might be able to play a more active role in your Society's operation. Remember many hands make lighter work!

A film will be played after the election of Office Bearers if time permits.

Meetings are held 8 PM every second Tuesday of the month (except January) in the Meeting Room 1st Floor, Rockdale Town Hall, Princes Highway, Rockdale. Members, please bring a plate. Visitors are welcome.

FROM THE EDITOR...

Once again, I thank all members who have contributed articles or items of interest for our Bulletin of late, particularly, one of the Society's most long-standing members Mrs Eardley.

This month features another interesting instalment of Mr. John Blackshaw's voyage to the colony of New South Wales.

The second article is a brief history of Allawah and its neighbour Carlton. These suburbs form a suburban haven between the administrative, commercial and industrial centres of Hurstville and Kogarah.

As always, your contributions, suggestions and feedback are most welcome.

Kind regards,

Wesley Fairhall

LYDHAM HALL VOLUNTEERS' ROSTER

Would all members kindly consider volunteering in the capacity of Lydham Hall guides. Guide work is not onerous, requiring two hours on a Saturday or Sunday from 2.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. Bring a friend/s and enjoy the period charm of **your** historic house. The following table indicates the days requiring volunteers. Direct enquiries to Mrs. Bettye Ross on 9589 0229.

MAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	SPECIAL DAYS
	9th B. Sharah	10th W. Fairhall	Tuesday 12 :- 15 - 20 ladies from the Revesby Congregational Church arriving 10.00 B. Ross & V. Beehag
	16th B. Ross - 20 ladies from the Penshurst Presbyterian Church. A further volunteer requested	17th	
	23rd	24th	
	30th	31st	
JUNE	6th	7th	
	13th	14th W. Fairhall	
	20th	21st	
	27th	28th	
JULY	4th	5th	
	11th	12th W. Fairhall	
	18th	19th	
	25th	26th	

Some proverbs to ponder:-

"A good wife and health are a man's best ~~we~~alth";

"A man who is wise and learned, but without virtue, shall be despised";

"A boy's love is water in the sieve";

"A beggar's wallet empty is heavier than a full one"; and

"A cat may look at a King"

The JOURNAL - A MEMORABLE VOYAGE continued

Tuesday Sep 1st Bealmed as near as possible saw two ships did not speak with them also saw several Cape Hens a species of Sea Gull

Wednesday Sept 2nd 1874 Still very calm & glorious weather sited a ship

Thursday Sept 3rd 1874 Fished morning & evening for Cape Hens about 1/2 past six am one (of) these birds got entangled in my line while flying & I quietly hauled him in on deck showed it to nearly all on board this one being the first one caught, when they get on deck they vomit pure oil, Dypson skinned it for me

Friday 4th 1874 Commenced dressing the skin of the Cape Hen with (Allow) and water & partly stuffed it with (Oakinc silled) sited three ships

Saturday Sept 5th Wished my Mother many happy returns of the day this is the 8th week that the Peterborough has been at Sea at least (left) the Docks and now we are about 2000 miles north of the Cape of Good Hope we cannot possibly do the Voyage under 100 days. This is likely to be one of the longest passages ever been made. Was called about 6 pm to see a ship right close off port bow which turned out to be the *Naturalist* bound for Canterbury N.Z with Emigrants sailed 3 weeks before us did not speak

Sunday Sept 6th 1874 According to calculation we are 8145 miles from Melbourne, no service, saw thousands of Ice or Snow Birds also dozens of Cape Hens. Glorious weather with a full wind about 10 Knots an hour during the day. Getting colder every day

Monday Sept 7th 1874 Very rough weather (reaching) 9 or 10 Knots during the day 14 or 15 at night -

Tuesday Sept 8th 1874 Caught 6 Cape Pigeons in the morning & two in the evening. Gladstone also caught two had them skinned & dressed

Wednesday Sept 9th 1874 Cabin all day & night ship rolling heavily in fact no sleeping at night for the motion of the ship rolling from one side to the other played Banker? won

Thursday Sept 10th 1874 Still cabin no wind, get cold, the sky puts the ? sky quite into shade they caught a Skunkpot on the roof this peculiar bird when caught gave forth a most odious smell to protect itself. consequently was ? ? & let loose again. Made a rice pudding saw several albatross, in fact we are quite surrounded by a native of their feathery tribe skunkfoot mostly hawks Albatross Cape Hens & Cape Pigeons, White Birds Sea Birds & snow Birds

Friday Sept 11th 1874 The weather seems to have taken to a decided change, extremely cold

Saturday 12th 1874 Passed the Island of St (Gough) this piece of land is uninhabited being nothing but rocks where birds build their nests we were around time only 3 miles off. This island is invariably covered with snow Extremely cold in fact bitter, made a (Johnny) Cake in the afternoon. Thus, crushed White Biscuits, Sugar, Suet, Milk & water & molasses which we ever dashing came down on, this was Hadleys & my own work

Sunday Sept 13th 1874 Weather very cold had a fall of snow during the day

Monday Sept 14th 1874 Dreadfully cold & rough weather could not sleep all night or the noise of the sea washing along the deck & dashing against the sides of the house, talk about a bad night at sea the men on deck floating about like corks the sea was dashing them against the Bulwarks our cabin was flooded with water everything floating about.

Tuesday Sept 15th 1874 Still blowing a gale no passengers dare venture along the Deck, those who do are bound to get knocked down with the waves & soaked to the skin Mr Lane was washed from the Cooks Galley to the aft cabin Hadley was soaked to the skin had to run in was sea sick in the evening turned in about seven Bells 1/2 past 7.

Wednesday Sept 16th A regular court marshall concerning the second mate it appears that he was libeled out of the first cabin passengers Mr W, - Mr - is mixed up in it

Thursday Sept 17th Got into conversation with Joseph one of the 1st Cabin Pass, in the course of time found that he knew several persons I know

Friday Quite a sudden change in weather in fact quite back to the tropic several sea birds caught

Saturday Sept 19th Passed the Cape of Hope some 100s of miles off land this is the 70 day from the dock

Sunday 20th Sept ??????? 37.25S 20.57E of the Cape worked out the distance we had travelled since Saturday 12 am with Mr J which was 40 miles

Monday 21st Sept. Nothing of any note.

Tuesday 22nd Still Becalmed several sea birds caught

Wednesday Caught 2 Cape Pigeons still becalmed Foggy quite a thick mist

Thursday 24th Sited a "vessel" in the morning overtook her about 1 o'clock in the afternoon we sailed quite close to her & the skipper spoke with theirs she turned out to be a Dutch Barque ("Aukonette") from Amsterdam bound to Batavia, quite a ceremony in speaking with their Capt Gardiner first ordering the Union Jack to be hoisted then they hoisted the German Confederation Flag then the Skipper asked them "Where do you come from - Amsterdam" Where are you bound to - Batavia - How many days out - 81. Then they repeated the same questions & we answered accordingly Capt then asked if they had any sickness on board answer No, & then asked their ? ? ? Great cheering & waving of capes, we completely gave them our good-bye, we were out of sight of them before 5 o'clock

Friday Sept 25th Misty cold weather with a drizzling rain or mist bitterly cold

Saturday 26th Very rough & cold with a head wind

Sunday 27th Sept Sighted a Barque hoisted the Union Jack & they hoisted the Red Ensign, they could not read our name we were too far off best day we have had for a week

Monday Sept 28th A sudden change in weather very cold with snow nothing of note.

Tuesday Sept 29th Weather very squally & cold

Wednesday Sept 30th Started to make a model ship great fall of rain & hail

TO BE CONTINUED...

FRIENDLY NEIGHBOURS

The following article is based on information adapted from the Book of Sydney Suburbs compiled by Frances Pollon, published by Angus & Robertson and printed in 1988.

ALLAWAH

Key facts:- Located 16 kilometres from the GPO in the Municipality of Kogarah.

This suburb's name is derived from a former tribe of Aborigines who lived locally and literally means "*make your abode here.*" The comfortable houses in garden settings would suggest that the residents have done just that! In recent years home units have begun to become more common, particularly in response to the thriving Chinese community within the area.

Allawah was once part of a land grant made to Captain John Townson (1760 - 1835) in 1808. Although slow to develop, the opening of the Allawah station in 1925 facilitated a house-building boom. This hive of activity was encouraged by the Estate agents via subdivisions with enticing names, people associating their future well being with the sentiments of the names chosen.

This suburb benefits as does its neighbour Carlton, from their proximity to the shopping facilities of Hurstville and Kogarah.

CARLTON

Key facts:- Located 15 kilometres from the GPO in the Municipalities of Rockdale, Hurstville and Kogarah

The suburb's namesake can be found in Nottingham in England and means "*a village of free men.*" As with Allawah, it came into being following an 1808 subdivision of the wealthy Captain John Townson's holdings.

The Illawarra Railway connection likewise stimulated much development, large estates were subdivided with significant population growth. Carlton received a railway "platform" in 1889 financed ingeniously through land-holders being given a free block of land subject to their contributing four hundred pounds towards the cost of constructing the platform and associated station buildings. An added incentive was the guarantee of a first class ticket to Sydney for one year!

Similarly to Allawah, the suburb developed with attractive homes amid pretty gardens. Pioneers are remembered in street names such as Townson, Gannon and Lord.

Perhaps one of the more unusual yet highly successful enterprises is *The Shopfront Theatre for Kids* in Carlton Parade. The facilities comprised of a large federation house, former shop and a theatre commenced in 1976 by Errol Bray. This co-operative largely owned by the children, deserves its international reputation.

WHAT'S ON.....

Friends' of the First Government House Site's Foundation Day Lecture

DATE: Friday 15/05/98

TIME: 6.30 P.M. for 7.00 P.M.

The Friends' welcome all people to their Annual Foundation Day Lecture to be held in the Metcalf Gallery of the State Library. The lecturer, Anne Bickford B.A. is the main archaeologist from the site and will speak on treasures from the site and early Australian pottery.

COST: Entry \$10.00 inclusive of a light supper.

CONTACT: Joan Fairhall on telephone number 9546 5555 to advise of your attendance.

A Varied Ramble

DATE: Wednesday 20/05/98

MEETING PLACE: Ormonde Parade Hurstville at 9.00 a.m.

This bus trip organised by the St. George Historical Society will include a visit to the Camellia Gardens at Carringbah, the underground St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Church at Sutherland, Kurnell Museum. Lunch at Kurnell can be bought for \$3.50 or brought with you and eaten in a local club. The homeward journey will be via Bangor (time permitting).

COST: \$10.00

CONTACT: Joan Fairhall on telephone number 9546 5555

Fish & Ship Tour

DATE: Tuesday 02/06/98

MEETING PLACE: Ormonde Parade Hurstville at 9.00 a.m.

The day arranged by the Hurstville Family Research Society will involve a bus trip to the Maritime Museum at Darling Harbour. Afterwards, a launch will be taken to the Rozelle Workshops. Lunch can be brought or purchased at the Fish Markets at your expense. A relaxing bus trip home will be a happy conclusion to the day.

Book early, as the first such tour was sold out!

COST: \$20.00

CONTACT: Jean Jehan on 9579 3262

Oranges and Lemons the bells of St. Clements

DATE: Thursday 18/06/98

MEETING PLACE: St. Clement's Church Marrickville at 10.30 a.m.

This day facilitated by the Church of England Historical Society centres on a visit to the lovely Anglican Church of St. Clements, noteworthy for its recently restored soaring steeple. This church is located opposite the Marrickville Town Hall. It will also be possible to visit the imposing Roman Catholic Church of St. Brigid located nearby.

COST: \$5.00 donation inclusive of Morning Tea

CONTACT: Joan Fairhall on telephone number 9546 5555

A Pretty House of Worship

DATE: Saturday 04/07/98

MEETING PLACE: St. Thomas' Anglican Church Enfield

A fete to celebrate the 150th anniversary of this quaint sandstone church has been enthusiastically organised by the parishioners of this delightful church. The fete will be held from 9.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. and **EVERYBODY** is welcome.

COST: Free entry - donations of items for sale would be gratefully received.

CONTACT: Joan Fairhall on telephone number 9546 5555 or the parish on 9642 3171