



OUR HISTORY

MAGAZINE of the ST GEORGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.

July – September 2018

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An Immortal
Dragon

Local Gold
behind the
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Vanikoro Island

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Front Cover Image – See “Welcome” on page 4 for details.

Front Cover Background – 1939 street map of Rockdale, NSW, showing administrative boundaries and physical features, scale [ca. 1:18,000].³⁵

Back Cover Image – See “Welcome” on page 4 for details.

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St George Historical Society Inc.

The St George Historical Society Inc. was formed in 1961 with former Rockdale mayor, councillor and historian Ron Rathbone, OAM, as the inaugural secretary. First known as the Rockdale Historical Society, it was renamed in 1962 to serve the wider region.

The aim of the not-for profit Society is to conserve and encourage the recording of local history, raising awareness of the heritage of the St George District of New South Wales, Australia. The area includes the suburbs in the local government area of Georges River Council and part of Bayside Council, bounded in the east by Lady Robinson Beach in Botany Bay.

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Welcome

“ In July, Laurice Bondfield, our society's secretary, led a history walk through Arncliffe, following the trail of Christina Stead's childhood on a “milk run”. St George is changing so rapidly, particularly in the areas surrounding our train stations. On these walks, it is inspiring to meet homeowners proud of their heritage and stroll on quiet suburban streets unchanged through the decades.

As part of the 2017 centenary of Brighton-Le-Sands Public School, Alan Powditch documented the history of the school. The book was highly commended in the annual Ron Rathbone History Prize. While the required reading list in the school curriculum is debated, his book was popular with all students, former and current. He gave a follow-up talk on the school's place in St George during our meeting in June. In his article, he suggests ideas for each reader to continue the discussion. Please take a few moments to consider his queries, sending your suggestions.

During an interview with Michelle Ford-Eriksson, I learnt how this local progressed to reach the pinnacle of her sport. Her remarkable story recalls first-hand experiences in the Soviet Union during the Cold War. Her passion for swimming is still strong, as she encourages the next generation. She remains active in her local community, rallying for the preservation of Carss Park Pool. When the lease expired in July, locals feared the historic site would be demolished. The pool was home for generations of recreational and competitive swimmers, and these local facilities remain a foundation for youth to develop in grassroots sport. It's also an important resource for water safety, reducing drowning risk for our children and grandchildren. Please contact Georges River Council, joining Michelle to share what this pool means to you.

In our anniversaries article, two locals are celebrated. The first was devoted to public service, through administration to the parliament, and the air force during WWII. He contributed to education for much of his life, before becoming governor of our largest state. The second individual led a peaceful island life until war in the Pacific. She resisted threats, becoming a radio operator and transmitting surveillance intelligence to Allied forces.

In July the National Rugby League honoured 5

players with the game's highest recognition, the title of Immortal. There are now 5 St George players in this esteemed group. It's tempting to picture the spectacle if these St George greats could play in a *Field of Dreams* fantasy match. The article in this edition recalls the pre-WWII accomplishments of our latest Immortal.

Thank you to our returning committee members for 2018-19. The new committee is listed on page 3. I'm very happy to welcome Tina Workman to the role of treasurer and Alan Powditch to our general committee.

As a member of the St George Historical Society, you've taken a positive step to further your passion for local history. Joining the committee is an excellent way to develop this interest, as you help guide our aims of conserving, recording and raising awareness of St George's deep history. We value the knowledge of our members and I encourage you to share your ideas and concerns during our meetings or through email, our [website](#) or [Facebook](#) page.

The AGM finished with fun, as Tina presented a photographic guessing game. Competition was strong as we heard engaging anecdotes amongst the answers. To share the game with our readers, Tina has provided photos for our front and back cover. Do you know where these were taken? Send your guess via our [website contact form](#). Winners will be announced in the next edition.

On behalf of the Society, I extend a warm welcome to our newest member, **Reg Hydman** of Bexley.

As well as the print version of this magazine, we also publish a digital version in PDF format. The digital edition is easily searched and includes additional video, webpage and email resources. It is accessible on most computers, tablets and smartphones and it's an environmentally friendly alternative. To “go digital”, email me at barry.johnson@live.com.au

Do you have any local stories, newspaper clippings, objects or photographs about which you've always wondered? Please email me or let me know at our next meeting. We can help you reveal the answers from the past.

Barry Johnson
Editor

Calendar

Our meetings are held on the third Saturday of each month (except December and January) at 2pm at Rockdale Library, Level 3, 444-446 Princes Highway, Rockdale.

Visitors are very welcome to enjoy presentations by guest speakers and discuss local history with members during our afternoon tea. Please visit our [website](#) or [Facebook](#) page, check the Events pages of the *St George Leader* published on the Wednesday preceding the meeting, or contact our Secretary, Laurice Bondfield on 02 9599 4274, to confirm the details.

Please update your calendars with our upcoming meetings in 2018:

- **8th September** Guest speaker: Bob and Laurel Horton – Botany Exhumed. Bob and Laurel are the creators of [Voices From The Graveyard](#), an audio record of the lives and deaths of those resting in the St Peters Cooks River church graveyard. In this presentation, they will exhume the characters of 19th century Botany since the arrival of the First Fleet.
- **20th October** Guest speaker: Jenny MacRitchie, Bayside Heritage Librarian – Stories of Mascot Airport.
- **17th November** Guest speaker: Craig Werner, Nepean District Historical Society – the Arms of Australia Inn. Built in 1826, the inn was a staging post for travellers journeying from Sydney over the Blue Mountains to Bathurst and the goldfields. The [Arms of Australia Inn](#), one of the oldest buildings in Penrith, is now a museum and home to the NSW Corps of Marines.

Special events:

- **Tempe House Open Day** – Saturday 3rd November 2018 10am – 4pm. Free Entry. 8 Brodie Spark Dr, Wolli Creek.

History Week: Life and Death

The annual, state-wide celebration of history organised by the History Council of New South Wales. The theme of History Week 2018 is 'Life and Death', which will explore life's defining moments and the impact of death on communities across time. The 92 events range from exhibitions and walking tours, to performances and workshops. View the program on the [History Week website](#).

Free highlights include:

- **[Photographic Exhibition – Triple Zero](#)** – Saturday 1 September – Sunday, 9th September at Hurstville Museum & Gallery. This exhibition reveals stories of local tragedy and community spirit during the development of emergency services within the Georges River area.
- **[Talk – Living Beyond The Grave](#)** – 10am, Tuesday 4 September at History House, 133 Macquarie Street, Sydney. Presentation looking at how the NSW State Archives collection provides an insight into the lives of the departed and the role the State has played in managing death.
- **[Workshop – Using Oral History to Inform Family History Research](#)** – 6pm, Monday 3 September at WEA Sydney, 72 Bathurst Street, Sydney. Oral history – recording the memories and stories of people who experienced past events – can significantly enhance family histories. This workshop will explore some of the issues that need to be considered before you start recording oral histories such as family loyalties, ethics, copyright, on-going storage of the audio recording, transcription and the fallibility of memory. It will also include some practical tips on conducting oral histories, such as self-care, the recording space, what equipment to use and managing the interview.
- **[Talk - The Last of the La Perouse Snake Men](#)** – 1pm, Saturday 8 September at Lionel Bowen Library, 673 Anzac Parade, Maroubra. John Cann is the last of the Cann family snake men of the legendary La Perouse snake pit. Hear his life affirming exploits and scrapes with danger.

Highlights at the George Hanna Memorial Museum



Mascot Aerodrome, c.1930s (State Library of Victoria (2394324)).

History Week Talk: Death in the air & life on the ground at Mascot Aerodrome

Aircraft accidents are extraordinary events, especially in our world of routine air travel. However, from its first flights in 1919 to the big jets of the early 1970s, Mascot Aerodrome was the site of numerous fatal crashes and some terrifying near-misses.

Come and hear Dr Peter Hobbins talk about a number of these accidents including a light aircraft spinning into the ground and an airliner breaking up mid-air over Botany Bay. In telling these stories of death in the air, this talk explores how they also help us understand everyday life on the ground at Mascot from the earliest days of Sydney Airport.

Peter's research of two tragic accidents in Australian aviation are documented through the Dictionary of Sydney and the University of Sydney. The first involves a [Douglas DC-2 airliner](#)

[at Mount Dandenong in 1938](#). The second incident involves a [Bell 47 helicopter](#) on a sunny Saturday afternoon in Sydney in 1966.

This is one of several events we will be holding in the lead up to Sydney Airport's upcoming centenary in 2019/2020. #Mascot100

Date and time

Saturday 8 September 2018
2pm – 4pm (doors open 1.45pm)

Location

Mascot Library & George Hanna Memorial Museum
2 Hatfield Street, Mascot

Register for your free ticket at [Eventbrite](#).



A Walk in Arncliffe's History

Laurice Bondfield

After anxiously watching the weather forecasts all week, Sunday 22 July turned out fine and sunny – perfect weather for the “Milk Run”, a walk from Dappeto to Lydham Hall.

About 20 people joined us at Macquarie Lodge, where we were able to inspect the ground floor of the heritage-listed residence, originally known as “Dappeto”. Thanks to Salvation Army Major Del Higgins, who kindly prepared notes on the history of the house. These included its beginning as a fine mansion for the Frederick Gibbins's family, its sale during WWI, becoming a children's home, and its use since the 1970s as a retirement village and aged care facility.

We followed Wollongong Road, as the little boy in Christina Stead's short story, “The Milk Run”, would have done, past the houses like “Fairview” and “Belmont” which still remain, and stories of the Arncliffe to Bexley steam tram which ran along Forest Road a century ago.

A detour along Forest Road took us past some of the fine houses, still standing, including “Coburra” with its kookaburra motifs, “Newstead” in Carlton Road, and “Myee”, back on Forest Road. We continued through Villiers Street to Lydham Avenue, passing small homes that still retain the period charm of “the red tiled roofs growing ever closer to Lydham Hill”, as

Christina wrote in one of her letters.

All the walkers were happy to reach Lydham Hall and discuss the highlights during afternoon tea.

Thanks to Tina Workman for publicising the walk, including the creation of a poster for local libraries, Facebook updates, and the lovely gift bags for each attendee. Thanks also to Kirsten Broderick, Community Historian Librarian at Bayside Council, for printing and distribution of the posters.

More thanks to Tina, and Joan and Geoff

Rankin for organising a delightful afternoon tea at Lydham Hall. A very enjoyable afternoon!



Two weeks later, the Tempe House Open Day, on Saturday 4th August, began at 10am to the sounds of a drumming class in Magdalen Chapel!



The concert program in the chapel ensured a constant stream of visitors to the house and to our display table. In between talking to people fascinated about the history of Tempe

House and interested in our society, approximately \$100 worth of books were sold and we have a new family as members!

Thanks to Robert McGarn for assisting during the Open Day.

Photographs: Tina Workman 

The Centenary of Brighton-Le-Sands Public School 1917-2017

Alan Sinclair Powditch

This brief outline about Brighton-Le-Sands was distributed for my presentation at our June meeting. The full history was prepared for the students and teachers of this wonderful public school in its 100th year. 500 copies of this 93-page research were sold on the celebration day. Copies are still available from Brighton-Le-Sands Public School. My special thanks go to Mr John Sutton, deputy principal of the school, who conducted a well-run celebration. 4,000 people came.

The research was submitted as an entry in The Ron Rathbone History Prize in 2017, on the urging of Kirsten Broderick, community history librarian at Rockdale Library, and I wish to thank her for her encouragement and help during its preparation. I am honoured that Bayside Council awarded the entry a 'Highly Recommended' commendation.

into Brighton in 1917. The Kingsgrove centenary was held at the Caroline Street Campus on 12 May 2018, and Carlton's at the school grounds on 60 Cameron St on 23 June.

Location of Brighton-Le-Sands

The dominant feature of the St George district is Botany Bay. Bayside Council, which includes Botany and Mascot, was established in September 2017, and has a population of 150,000 people. The council acknowledges the dominance of this enormous bay, both by its name and in using a sailing boat in its logo (see cover page). Brighton-Le-Sands, on the western side of the bay, between the airport and Rocky Point, is used in many publicity photographs.

George Alfred Lloyd purchased a government



Brighton-Le-Sands Public School, 1917.

The mature pines, over 30 metres tall, in 1917, had been planted by the original owner and tenant from 1870, George Hermann Hook.

The first lessons began on 16 April 1917, with 288 pupils. The official opening was 12 May 1917. It was one of 2,000 public schools in NSW.

Public schools opened in Kingsgrove and Carlton the following year. Most of these students, aged 7 - 11, had been attending the overcrowded Kogarah and Rockdale Public Schools, and then transferred

grant of 61 acres, portion 47, dated 23 February 1854, which was the southern half of Brighton-Le-Sands, between Bay Street and President Avenue. Lloyd, a wealthy businessman and member of parliament, purchased a total of 5 large parcels along the bayside peninsula, including 2 parcels immediately north of Dolls Point, and also Kogarah Bay, hoping to make a substantial profit from an Sydney's expansion.

Originally the western foreshore was called Seven Mile Beach. The beach runs from Kyeemagh to

Dolls Point. The origin of the name “Doll’s Point” is unclear, but passed through the hands of George Pashley, to John Betts, a free settler in 1840. It was described in a real estate advertisement by Purkis and Lambert in *The Sydney Morning Herald* on 19 January 1854. The Geographical Names Board advises “the name Dolls Point is shown on survey plan no 110.690, dated 27 May 1833.”

The beach was renamed Lady Robinsons Beach by West Botany Council in 1870, following a visit by the NSW Governor, Sir Hercules and Lady Nea Robinson. Thomas Holt, a wealthy local landowner, urged the local government to name the beach in her honour, after she suggested the beach would be an ideal riding venue. They had been on their way to Holt’s Sans Souci home.

The same year, a young businessman from Hamburg, **George Hermann Hook**, purchased 18 acres of this barren and sandy coastal strip within the Lloyd grant and built a home which he later called ‘Carrington Park’, after a visit by the popular Governor Carrington. The home was planted with magnificent large-specie trees, including Norfolk Island Pines, Stone Pines, Magnolias, Moreton Bay Figs and palm trees. George Hook and his brother-in-law owned Sydney’s largest butchery chain, with over 15 stores. Photos of Brighton School, taken in 1919, show mature trees in the school grounds, with many still growing there in 2018.

In January 1871 the West Botany Municipality was formed, in the Parish of St George. In 1877 West Botany Council constructed a bridge across Muddy Creek, in Bay Street. Muddy Creek runs from the rear of Kogarah Railway Station to Cooks River. Because there were no streams along the beach front, there were no market gardens, but there were some 60 gardens farmed along Muddy Creek, by English, Chinese and German migrants from the 1850s. Some of these gardens are heritage-listed. A developer, Cook Cove Inlet Pty Ltd, was reported to be involved with a heritage-listed garden, “taken over for a private golf course” according *The Leader*, dated 24 January 2017. **What do members of SGHS know of this application?**

In 1884, **Thomas Saywell**, a wealthy merchant and land owner, purchased a 30-year lease for a private steam tramway from the NSW government, running from Rockdale Railway Station to Botany Bay. At this location, Saywell built a 60-room multi-storey Italianate hotel, sea baths and wharf, a large botanical garden called ‘Shady Nook’, a large entertainment ‘palace’ or concert hall and a

racecourse.

He levelled the large sand dunes which ran the length of Lady Robinsons Beach, to allow the sale of beachfront land.



Thomas Saywell was an Englishman, who migrated to Maitland at age 11 aboard the *Agincourt* in 1848. His family were lacemakers and Thomas and his family lived in Calais, southern France until 1848. He became Sydney’s largest

tobacco seller, purchasing large tracts of land in Alexandria, Redfern and Rockdale. He invested in coal mining, mostly in the Illawarra region. Saywell converted the trams from steam to electricity in the early 1900s and used his coal-fired generator to light up the streets of both Rockdale and Brighton-Le-Sands. More can be read in Mary Saywell’s book, [*Land South of Cook’s River*](#).

Ron Rathbone’s book, *Brighton le Sands: the suburb that grew from the sand hills*, also covers the suburb, but very little of the school. Despite Mr Rathbone’s extensive and competent research, he left only general sources.

In 1888 The Municipality of Rockdale was formed. In February 1995, it became the City of Rockdale.

In 1892, the Brighton Hotel lost its licence because of the poor behaviour of its patrons during the Depression. The hotel was then leased by Saywell to the Presbyterian Church as the original home of Scots School.

In 1903, the village was renamed Brighton-le-Sands, after Thomas Saywell’s development, New Brighton Estate. In 1970 for reasons not known, the suburb name was changed to Brighton-Le-Sands.

Saywell was passionate about the name, using it for his youngest child, Vera Brighton Saywell.

It is unfortunate that there is just one tribute to this imaginative, energetic and caring man, a small foolscap-sized marker on the eastern side of Rockdale Station, which is located underneath a

table of the footpath coffee shop. There is a small lane, Saywell Street, which leads to the rear of Brighton Hotel, and Brighton Library is named after him. **What do members of SGHS think of this situation?**

There are some 6 terraces of the original 12 or so, still standing on The Grand Parade on the northern side of The Novotel Hotel. Believed to be privately owned, the exteriors are in only fair condition.

It was Saywell who strongly promoted the idea of a public school in Brighton-Le-Sands.

Brighton School was resumed from the next owner Francis Foy, a wealthy retailer who started Mark Foy's Department store, constructed on the site of George Hook's home. This land included Teralba Road, which was sold from 1922 as part of Brighton Beach Estate.

The name was derived from the hard blue metal used and promoted by the developer in his publicity material and quarried from the Teralba Gravel Pits near Newcastle.

Present at the official opening in 1917 were Gus James, NSW Minister for Education, Peter Board, NSW Director of Education, and Bill Monaghan, Mayor of Rockdale.

The first headmasters were Percy Cox B.A., from 1917 to 1925, and John Curry, from 1926 until 1930.

Peter Board, the director for 17 years, personally provided most of the design elements, and introduced a unique syllabus. It was called the "Model School".

The key to the selection of Brighton as the Model School was the wonderful garden, with many large mature trees and play areas.


Steve Mead is the 18th and current headmaster of the school. He transferred from Bexley Primary.

The school population grew to more than 1,000 students by 1930. Kyeemagh Infants School opened in 1939.

The main school building was a U-shaped design, with a 30-foot-high ceiling and tan bark floor in the gymnasium. A second rectangular building with 4 classrooms appeals with carpentry, tinsmithing and other manual tradecraft. The water bubblers are believed to be the first provided in any public school in Sydney.

The twin tunnels of the F6 motorway are scheduled for completion by 2024. These will funnel traffic from Arncliffe to President Avenue, with an off-ramp at the Memorial Playing Fields adjacent to the school.

St George Historical Society members might consider the following items worthy of future activity:

1. The online availability of Rockdale and Bexley Council minutes.
2. Access to online articles still attributed to Rockdale Council.
3. A list of Rockdale and Botany's Heritage locations online. The Heritage Tour, which has been listed online, was apparently written more than 20 years ago.
4. **Visual History Education.** Installing street and building markers to raise awareness and knowledge of sites of historical importance. There is no finer example than Lydham Hall, now reopened. Why is Carrington Park not signposted?
5. A list of suburban champions who helped develop their community more than 100 years ago. This would **not** be a listing of famous people, but only those who helped build their communities, e.g. Thomas Saywell. There are many in our area, including the Napper family and other market gardeners.
6. The quest to find the details of the naming of Dolls Point. 

Interview with a Local - Michelle Ford-Eriksson, MBE

Barry Johnson

Michelle Ford-Eriksson, MBE, is one of Australia's most successful Olympic swimmers. Growing up in Sans Souci, she was coached by Dick Caine at Carss Park Pool while studying at St George Girls High School.

At age 12, she made national headlines after breaking the Australian and World Record for her age in the 100m freestyle. Claiming state and national records in all strokes – bar the breaststroke – she became known as the “Carss Park Cannonball”.

She won Australia's only individual gold medal in the 800-metre freestyle and bronze in the 200-metre butterfly at the 1980 Games in Moscow. In doing so, was the only non-Eastern Bloc competitor to break East Germany's dominance during the Games.

She continues to contribute to the Olympic Movement in leadership and tertiary roles, and in this recent interview, she reflects on her experiences.

What were your first impressions of swimming – did you instantly seek competition or did you enjoy other sports before focusing on freestyle and butterfly events?

Growing up in St George was paradise and offered me the opportunity to take part in many sports and activities including tennis, squash, ballet, netball, sailing and swimming. Women were not yet allowed in the surf clubs, or on the football fields, nor cricket pitches, so these sports became backyard games with my family and friends.

Living around the water, swimming was just part of growing up. My first lesson was in a neighbour's backyard pool. I then joined the squad at Sans Souci pool to get ready for the school swimming competition. I swam all strokes, but the butterfly was my favourite.

Do you have favourite places within the St George district that you enjoy visiting whenever you're in the area?

I love the casual atmosphere of the area. I still

swim at Carss Park and Sans Souci pools. I love the waterways and the natural beauty – nothing compares.

Your family helped support your swimming, but were there other influences that also inspired and guided your success?

All athletic careers need people to guide them. My supporters ranged from my family and friends to federal ministers. They were all part of my success. I also had the tremendous support from Carss Park Club, the local newspapers, and the St George community, including local businesses like Stewart Toyota, Mr Juicy (*Ed: local orange juice company founded in the 1960s by John Parker*), and Dominelli Ford.

The biggest influence in my career was my first coach, Dick Caine, who taught me to think like an elite athlete. It was his holistic approach to training that has helped me and others in the area to world recognition.

Can you outline the training regime with Dick Caine, e.g. a typical day/week in the lead-up to an event? Was Carss Park Pool your primary training pool?

I was 7 years old when I began swimming at Sans Souci Pool. It was also Dick Caine's first coaching job. Within a year we moved to Carss Park Pool. Known as the “Carss Park Cannonball” – “Superfish”, I made my first Olympic team in 1976 at 13 years old.

Dick had a magic with all the kids. He was a fantastic motivator who knew how to get the best out of you. Workouts focused on quality rather than quantity and a lot of cross-training, something that worked for me. Dick was also the toughest coach I had. His greatest gift was his pep talk before the race.

How did the competition with another Australian teenage champion, Tracey Wickham, drive your performances?

Sport thrives on rivalry. The real intensity occurs when you get two swimmers from the same country in the same event – we are both so different, not just physically but also in stature and attitude. We shared the successes of the freestyle races. I also had the 200 metres butterfly – my pet event.

How did you prepare for the 1980 Summer Olympics in Moscow?

The 1979 [Spartakiad Games](#) in Moscow was the dress rehearsal one year out from the games. The Soviet Union was a closed state and this was the first time non-Eastern Bloc athletes were invited to see inside the Iron Curtain. As the 1980 Olympics approached, I needed to know what I'd be up against. It was a great success, as I won three gold medals.

When Don Talbot began coaching the United States, he invited me to train with the swim team in Nashville, Tennessee. It was perfect timing. Don had a great reputation in Australia, and I would be training with the world's best swimmers and racing in invitational events. I knew I needed this experience to build the momentum to represent Australia at my best.

Did your success at Moscow feel even more special after the East Germans eventually admitted to systemic cheating?

It took a lot of courage to compete beside them. My gold at the 800m freestyle, beating the East

Germans by over 4 seconds to set an Olympic record, proves that clean athletes can win. I was the only non-Eastern Bloc female to win gold in swimming.

The East German authorities have since documented their state-sponsored doping program, revealing the names, details, and the drugs administered. If approved by the IOC, I would win 3 gold medals. No action has yet been taken to correct the record books.



*Michelle Ford, gold medallist at the 1980 Olympic Games.*²⁴

During the Olympics, swimming events are the highlight for Australians. Apart from your own incredible achievement in 1980, is there an era that you feel represents our greatest moment in swimming?

Swimming is part of Australia's DNA and our history as Australia's most successful sport reflects this. Australian swimmers won the most medals in 1956 at the Olympics on home soil in Melbourne. Nonetheless I am incredibly proud and respectful of

every swimmer that stands on the victory dais. The greatest moments for me are all the personal victories that tell the story.

Were you in Sydney during the 2000 Olympics? How did the atmosphere as a spectator in Australia compare with the experience as a competitor in Moscow?

I was asked to work with the Organising Committee for the Games and was responsible for

the Australian team and all the Oceania teams.

Sydney was extremely well-organised, however it was the Australian people, their enthusiasm and passion for sport, that made it even more special.

Moscow was another story. There were many unknowns, the food, the athlete village and living conditions were far from what they have today. Athletes did it tougher.

But the crowds in Moscow were enthusiastic and the atmosphere in the pool arena similar. I remember the Russians guards and the Russian TV crew celebrating when I won. It was a different time in history. Still, the moment you receive your medal, it does matter where you are.

As an inaugural member of the International Olympic Committee Athletes' Commission, what are your reflections on the positive transformation of the Olympic movement?

The change to article 26 of the Eligibility Rules was our proudest achievement. It allowed the next generations of Olympians to receive sponsorship dollars and funding to support their sporting careers.

The athletes also made the IOC more responsive to the issues of political influence through sport, performance-enhancing drugs, and providing a pathway for women to compete in every Olympic sport.

In the 1980 Games, less than one-quarter of athletes were women. In 2016 at Rio, almost 47% were women, competing in three times the number of events.

We must create a culture of integrity at the elite level where every stakeholder – administrators, coaching staff and athletes – become responsible. In this way, grassroots athletes are less likely to risk their integrity and their long-term health with performance-enhancing drugs.

The transition to life after competitive sport can be difficult for elite athletes. Did you have certain interests you knew you'd pursue after swimming?

A retiring athlete is similar to retiring from a lifelong job, only it happens at a much younger age. Athletes push themselves to achieve at the highest level and there can be enormous pressure and expectations. It is common to find an 'emptiness' at the end of your sporting career, with fewer of those intense highs and lows.

I always advocated that my education was just as important as my swimming career. It was extremely difficult to maintain as we travelled extensively and therefore missed much schooling. I nonetheless continued my studies, earning a university degree in Business and Communication and a master's degree in Sports Psychology.


My transition was made easier, serving as Australia's first Athletic Commission representative to the International Olympic Committee. It allowed me to gain an insight to the administration of sport at the highest level. Thereafter, I pursued a career in sports administration.

I worked on Australia's bids and on the Organising Committee for the Sydney 2000 Games. I was a director of the Australian Sports Commission and Swimming Australia. Prior to this, I was nominated as Director of Sports for the University of Lausanne, Switzerland. Since then, I have been developing programs such as the Athlete Career Programme for the IOC.

As a gold medallist and world record holder, do you have an advice for swimmers?

Begin with breathing. Mastering rhythm is vital to give you the stamina and improve your endurance and speed.

Pat yourself often on the back and don't give up. Being good at anything requires persistence and repetition.

Enjoy and challenge your own personal best. You don't have to chase a gold medal to be successful - Just to know you've done your best, is the ultimate satisfaction. 

Anniversaries – July - September

Barry Johnson

26 September 1923

Gordon Stanley Reid was born in Hurstville. Gordon studied at Hurstville Central Technical School for 3 years in the 1930s, leaving at age 14 to sit for the Public Service Entrance Exam. He passed the test of the *three Rs* of reading, writing and arithmetic, beginning as a telegram messenger in Cronulla Post Office.

With the outbreak of WWII, the focus of government work shifted to preparing for Australia's role in the war. New departments were established, including the Ministry of Munitions, an advisory and regulatory agency opening in 1940 in Melbourne.

Transferring to the ministry, Gordon gained knowledge in mathematics, maps and armaments before joining the Royal Australian Air Force at 19. With further training, he served as navigator with both the RAAF and British Royal Air Force aboard Lancaster bombers in raids over Nazi targets in Europe. When VE Day approached, he married Ruth Fish in the Earlsfield Congregational Church in Wandsworth, London.

After his discharge, the couple moved to Australia, where Gordon worked as a clerk in the Federal Parliament's House of Representatives. After a decade in the role, while also completing a degree in commerce, he was appointed serjeant-at-arms, the senior role for both ceremonial, security and administration. As custodian of the Mace, the symbol of authority of the House, he was tasked with providing an efficient environment for the business of government, through advice and service to both the Speaker and the Members of Parliament.

Although he left school in his mid-teens, the return to study appealed to Gordon. In London, he continued with postgraduate research, receiving a PhD in Economics and Political Science. Both fields were explored in his thesis, which contrasted the financial processes within the Australian House of Representatives with its template, the House of Commons. While he had working experience of the former, he could observe the latter after a 30-minute walk from his campus, along the Thames to the Palace of Westminster.



Gordon Stanley Reid. ²

He was awarded the Hutchison medal for research excellence, and his enthusiasm for research continued for the next two decades. In Australia, he began a career in academia, first as a lecturer in Adelaide University, then a professor in Western Australia. He was appointed deputy vice chancellor of the University of Western Australia in the early 1980s, remaining in the education sector until his late 50s.

He was a strong supporter of the separation of powers in government, a perspective developed while in Canberra but also through study of *The Spirit of the Laws* by Montesquieu, an 18th century French political philosopher. Montesquieu's writings led to the enacting of the separation of powers in French politics in 1789, and influenced John Maynard Keynes's theories and the thinking of the American founding fathers:

In every government there are three sorts of power: the legislative; the executive in respect to things dependent on the law of nations; and the executive in regard to matters that depend on the civil law.

By virtue of the first, the prince or magistrate enacts temporary or perpetual laws, and amends or abrogates those that have been already enacted. By the second,

he makes peace or war, sends or receives embassies, establishes the public security, and provides against invasions. By the third, he punishes criminals, or determines the disputes that arise between individuals. The latter we shall call the judiciary power, and the other, simply, the executive power of the state.

Gordon taught these principles but also advocated for change through his writing. He understood the separation was dynamic, and that the powers had shifted toward executive expediency, enforced with judicial rulings.

Although his parliamentary service centred on the House of Representatives, his proposals showed respect for the function of the Senate, a house of parliament where a majority balance of power for the serving government was rare. He viewed the senate as a 'means for settling differences by words', a term Australian prime ministers have recently coined the contest of ideas.

In 1984, he became governor of Western Australia, re-entering the balance of powers through the executive branch of government. In the role, he would "encourage and warn" in a less animated way, offering a guiding voice based on the principles he understood as a professor.

In 1989, *Australia's Commonwealth Parliament 1901-1988: Ten Perspectives*, his co-written history of the Australian Parliament, was published. The project was commissioned for the Bicentennial celebrations. In the same year, illness forced Gordon Stanley Reid to retire as governor. He passed away from cancer on 26 October 1989 in Nedlands, WA. ¹

29 July 1891

Ruby Olive Boye-Jones is born in St. Peters. Ruby's childhood was busy with the activities of seven siblings vying for attention and the noise of industry in her suburb. During the day, exhaust coughed from four chimneys at the nearby brickwork kilns. While the kilns went cold in the 1940s, the 54-metre-tall chimneys still serve as landmarks in the site now known as Sydney Park. There were more idyllic scenes in the neighbourhood, at Alexander Brodie's Tempe House and Barwon Park House. Although Barwon Park House was later demolished, the grand buildings inspired Ruby's love for the piano,

becoming proficient in her youth.

Those tunes reached Sydney Skov Boye, who she married at age 27 in St Stephen's Church of England in Newtown.

Sydney started a small laundry business, with Ruby serving customers. She gave birth to two children in the first years of their marriage.

After a decade, and with two children, Sydney looked abroad, convincing the family to cross the ocean. They sailed north to Vanikoro Island, one of over 900 islands in the Solomon Islands. If Ruby had read *Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea*, she may have reconsidered. The story was inspired by the last days of Jean-François de Galaup La Pérouse, the French explorer in Oceania, who was thwarted from entering Botany Bay by strong winds, allowing Arthur Phillip to land in Australia only days before him. La Pérouse's expedition was later stranded on Vanikoro. His crew were attacked with some fleeing but all perished before a rescue party could assist.



Third Officer Ruby Boye. ⁴

In their new home, Ruby learnt Teanu, the local language, as Sydney managed a local timber company. At the start of WWII, Europeans evacuated but the Boyes remained and Ruby became the island's radio operator. Self-taught in Morse code, she relayed weather and intelligence information of Japanese naval movements onward from neighbouring islands and from Vanikoro to


Australian radio towers. She was warned of Japanese invasion but refused to leave, prompting the Australian government to recruit her in the Coastwatch system. As the Japanese sailed closer, she was threatened in a radio message and read of reports of civilian executions for spying. When Australian authorities learned of these dangers, they enlisted Ruby in the Women's Royal Australian Naval Service. It was late in the war and the honorary rank of third officer offered no payment but it was aimed to protect a deterrent to capital punishment if she was captured.

Her devotion was noted in senior ranks of the Australian and US navies, with Fleet Admiral William Frederick Halsey Jr. personally thanking her during a visit to the island. Halsey would later command Allied forces in the decisive victory in the Battle for Leyte Gulf. It is still considered the

largest naval battle in history in terms of ship tonnage, carrying over 200,000 sailors, pilots and soldiers.

As the Allies gained momentum in the Pacific, Ruby was awarded the British Empire Medal for her service. The Boyes planned to remain on Vanikoro but Sydney became ill, forcing a return to Sydney in 1947. He passed away within the year.

In 1950, Ruby married Frank Jones, also a widower, and they lived together in Penshurst until his death in 1961.

Ruby Boye-Jones lived to 99, passing away in Narwee. She was commemorated with the naming of a barracks at the Australian Defence Force Academy, Canberra. ³ 



Ruby, operating the radio on Vanikoro. ⁵

Our War, Our Words – Winter 1918

Barry Johnson

Private William Alfred Clarke, a 31-year-old bricklayer living with his wife in Alice Street, Sans Souci, enlisted in 1916. He served with the 3rd Pioneer Battalion on the Western Front. Although trained as an infantryman, William used his construction skills for engineering duties, including anti-aircraft defence, and trench, tramway and communication line maintenance. ⁶

Almost half the men in his 2,000-strong battalion were either killed, gassed or wounded. His battalion was one of the most active in B Company, with their final encounter, the Battle of St Quentin Canal, commanded by Sir John Monash. Part of the October 1918 offensive, it allowed the Allies to breach the Hindenburg Line, with an armistice signed soon after.

In this letter to his parents, Alfred and Rebecca Clarke of St. Helier's, on Farr and Bryant Street, Rockdale in June 1918, he describes the treats from home sent by concerned Australians:

There are only three of us in my platoon - out of the original platoon of 53 - that have not been in hospital, sick or wounded, since we came to France. Though I have been crook a few times, I was not bad enough to go into hospital. The stronger a chap is the worse he breaks up when he does go down to it. We all got a nice Xmas box from the women of South Australia.

Mine was from a Miss Stone, and it contained a note book, envelopes, and pencil, one pipe, one tin of tobacco, one tin of cigarettes, one tin of milk, a big cake of chocolate, acid drops, peanuts and almonds, a nice letter, and last but not least, a copy of the Book of St. John.

My mate's box was sent, by the savings of two little school girls, and by their handwriting, were very young. One of them even sent her set of 'Bone Jacks'. Rather a unique present for a soldier, but they will be cherished, and I shall send them home for 'Bess'. She will have a set of 'Jacks' with a history. They would sell well in the Red Cross Sale, but would be nice to keep.

We are up to our necks in mud. It rains about every second day here, so you can guess the trenches are in a pretty state. We are expecting an 'Aussie' mail during the next few days, and I hope I get a good share of it, especially my 'Calls.'

I have only eighteen more days now to wait for my blighty. ⁷

Private Edwin James Peake, of the 19th Battalion's Motor Transport Section, was a 43-year-old plumber, living with his wife in Kensington Street, Kogarah when he enlisted in 1915. ⁸

In May 1918, after three years of combat, he wrote to Women's Working League for Soldiers, expressing his gratitude for a package of comforts.

The League was one of the state bodies established by women in August 1916 via the Australian Comforts Fund. Supported by donations, the packages contained cakes, sugar, condensed milk, tobacco, newspapers, and hand-knitted socks. The popular fund was active again during WWII. These volunteers also served tea in Longueval, a village beside the Somme battlefield in France:



Australian Comforts Fund poster. ⁹

It gives me the greatest pleasure to thank the League for so kind and useful a parcel, also for the kind words which I received quite safely. They came in most useful. at a time when I most needed them. Your work is indeed one of love and any soldier will bless you for such kind remembrances.

Again I thank you, and may God bless your efforts, and that this war will soon cease, and all the boys that are left once more be

with you all again. All I can say to your League is 'Keep on keeping on,' that's the spirit, just the same as the soldiers, braving all dangers, weathers and hardships, for the love of you all, God, King, and Country, of which I can assure you we are all so proud, and as we are at present:

*Far from home on the dreary plains
In the land of the Union Jack,
Wishing and hoping that war would cease,
And that we shall soon be back.*

Good luck, prosperity and best wishes. ¹⁰

Albert Edward Offord, after a medical discharge in 1917, recovered from his physical injuries but the stress of combat prevented a return to the Front. At home, he saw the effects of the sacrifices to the local community, responding with mild appeals to support the volunteers still fighting overseas. After four years of warfare, he wrote a more determined call to action:

Men of Australia, have you proven your title, have you earned the right to be called a man? Thank God, many of you have proven your right to the utmost! The little badge that you wear in your coat proves that. Many others are at the present moment, proving their title on the reddened fields of France, and in other war areas. Not a casualty list is published, but you will find at least one name from your own locality. Many of our chums have paid the supreme sacrifice, in the service of King, Country, and our women folk. Do not mourn with them, but rejoice. They have gone home, with the greatest honor [sic] that man can earn on this earth. They have proven their title to manhood!

What think you, — the man who stayed at home, — when you realize [sic] that you risked the honor [sic] of mother, wife and sister, to the gentle culture of the Huns, and you shut your ears to the oft repeated cry from the trenches "Come and help us". You left your chums to die one by one, when your relief would have helped to turn the battle, and have given them a chance. Do you realize [sic] what Empire and honor [sic] to Country means?

Will you let our boys (who have proven

themselves to be one of the finest fighting body of men in the world) be taken from the battle front, and sent home as a finished army, just in England's darkest hour, when the women of England are trembling with an unknown dread. Don't forget that England's downfall is our downfall too!

Is it nothing to you, that England has stood by us all these years, and given us the chance to become one of the richest and freest countries of the world! Are you going to desert her when she sends a stricken cry, across the seas for help? No, I won't believe it! Something has kept you back, perhaps family ties, and a host of other reasons, but the time has now come when all things must be overlooked, and we must go and throw our strong right arm into the fray. We do not fully realize [sic] yet what this war means! It is only those who have been there, that know what it means, and how serious is the position.

Have you ever realized [sic] what the women of England are suffering? Shortage of food! And worst of all, constant air raids, when women and children are slaughtered like so many cattle. I was in several air raids in London, and saw women and little children, huddled together in dark tunnels and subways, many hours before the raiders could possibly reach London. Remember, these women had given their men folk, and now, probably their own lives, or worse, the lives of their children would be sacrificed to German culture.

Such scenes as these make me shake with impotent rage, at the injury that made it impossible for me to return to the firing line. I would gladly have gone back, and paid the supreme sacrifice for the chance of avenging some of the innocent ones.

To you women, who have done so nobly and suffered so much, you are called upon to make further sacrifice! This is a time when sacrifice must outshine sacrifice! To you men, who want to go, and circumstances forbid, you have my sympathy, because I can realize [sic] the bitterness of your disappointment. To you men, who can go, and will not, you have my sympathy too, because, you will need it in the years to come! ¹¹



For King and Country – Winter 1918

Barry Johnson

During World War I, the local newspaper, *The St George Call*, published photographs and brief biographies of local volunteers to the Australian Infantry Force (AIF) when they departed for foreign battlefields. The portraits^{12, 13} published in the winter of 1918 were:

A – Private Warwick Holdsworth Hickson

Alexander enlisted in Oct 1916 at age 18. Born in Melbourne, he lived with his parents, Henry and Marcella Alexander, in Sans Souci.

He was a clerk for S. Hoffnung & Co. in the Thomas Rowe-designed warehouse on Pitt Street. The wholesale business sold a varied product range in London and Oceania, from locally-made saddlery to American canned goods and iron safes.

A keen sportsman, he swam in the Sans Souci Baths and was a member of the Doll's Point Amateur Athletic Club and Bellevue Baseball Club. He was also a member of the NSW Senior Cadet Corps, leaving to join the AIF.

After training on Sydney Showground, his parents consented to him sailing aboard the transport ship *Euripides* to Dover before his 19th birthday.

After 18 months of combat on the Western Front, Warwick was killed during a shelling attack on 24 June 1918. He died from injuries to his arm and abdomen in France and was buried in the Longuenesse (St Omer) Souvenir Cemetery, 45 kilometres south-east of Calais.

He named his mother the beneficiary in his Last Will and Testament and she received his personal effects, including a broken watch, gold ring, photos, letters and his copy of the New Testament.¹⁴

B, C – Robert and Arthur Kerr, two of a trio of brown-eyed sons to William and Charlotte Kerr in 21 Tanners Avenue, Kogarah each serving during WWI.

The eldest was **Sergeant Robert Wallace Kerr**, born in Bulli. He was a 21-year-old certified gas engineer, living with his parents, when he enlisted in 1916. He had already served three years in the local militia before joining the AIF. Shortly after joining the infantry in France, he was shot in the right thigh. Ongoing muscle pain prevented a return to active combat and Robert was reassigned to the Australian Flying Corp. He used his engineering skills as an aircraft mechanic in France, returning to Australia in May 1919.¹⁵

His younger brother, **Private Arthur Desmond Kerr**, enlisted in the same year, aged 18. He was a packer born in Leederville Western Australia and also living with his parents.

Over a third of applicants were rejected as under-age in 1914, prompting the lowering of the minimum enlistment age from 19 to 18, six months before Arthur enlisted. However, to ensure his successful entry, his parents wrote a letter confirming their consent. He joined his brother's battalion in France, suffering bronchitis in 1917, then venereal disease in 1918, both common diseases for WWI soldiers living in unhygienic trenches.

After a wounding in 1918, he returned to combat until the war's end. In 1919 he was discharged as medically unfit due to scabies. He returned home one month before Robert.¹⁶

Their third and youngest brother, **Private William Douglas Kerr**, was the last to enlist in 1918, aged 19. He was a storeman born in Scaderville, WA. He had already served four years with the local militia.

William fought in France in the final months of the war. After the armistice was signed on 11 November 1918, he contracted influenza, forcing his return home with a medical discharge, arriving the same month as Robert.¹⁷





A



B



C

Rugby League – Frank Burge

On 1 August 2018, membership of rugby league's group of the greatest players increased to 13. There are now 5 St George Dragons players named as NRL Immortals: John Raper (Lock), Reg Gasnier (Centre), Graeme Langlands (Fullback, Centre), Norm Provan (Second Row), and Frank Burge (Lock, Second Row).

The achievements of Norm Provan were described in our last edition, supporting his selection after inclusion in the shortlist of candidates. The factors resulting in Frank Burge's selection also resulted in his induction in the Sport Australia Hall of Fame in 1988, recorded in this [profile by Sport Australia](#):

Frank Burge is without a doubt, the greatest try scoring forward the game has ever produced.

A dashing attacking lock forward, he was equally at home in the second row or at prop. He scored 146 tries for Glebe at a rate of nearly one per match in 154 games before retiring in 1927. It was to become one of rugby league's most enduring records. He was one of the fastest men of his era.

In all, Frank 'Chunky' Burge played 149 first grade games for Glebe and 16 games for St George. He represented New South Wales in 1912, 1915, 1919, and 1920 and was recalled in 1926. He played 13 Tests for Australia between 1914 and 1923.

Frank played for the South Sydney Rugby Union Club and started his career in first grade union as a 14 year old front rower, an extraordinary

achievement. Playing wing in his debut match in second grade, he was called off the field 20 minutes from the end because the first grade winger had not turned up. After a hot bath and a massage, he took the field for this first grade debut.

Following the emergence of rugby league, Burge joined Glebe in 1911 at the tender age of 16. He was immediately placed on the Kangaroos short list and was unlucky not to tour that year. Many judges asserting he missed that tour only because he was only 16. In terms of physique and skill, though, he was already a match for forwards with far more experience.

He eventually toured with the Kangaroos in 1921,

scoring a record 33 tries. However Australia was unlucky to lose this series as Burge always claimed he scored a legitimate try which was disallowed. On a wet ground he slid over the line in the mud as he was tackled and although he was emphatic the try was fairly scored, the referee ruled that no sliding tries were allowed in England. Australia lost that Test 6-5 so the referee's decision swung the game and as it turned out later, the Ashes. His all round skills won great admiration from British crowds and led to an offer from soccer club Everton of £3000 to convert to soccer. The offer was rejected. He also featured in Tests against the touring Great Britain side in 1914 and in 1920.

In a match against Auckland Province in 1919, Australia won 93-5,

with Burge kicking 13 goals. Burge's distinctive long-striding running style saw him score six tries for Sydney against a touring Maori side in 1922.



Frank Burge, 1915. (State Library of New South Wales, a513011.)

On the club scene he was a prolific, if controversial, figure for Glebe. A strong supporter of trade unions, Burge was instrumental in Glebe's strike of 1917 when the players from that club did not believe they were getting a fair go from the NSWRL. He received the longest suspension of any of the players but was reinstated at the start of the 1918 season. In 1920 he scored the most tries ever in a first grade match, crossing for Glebe eight times.

Following an offer of £200 from club secretary Reg Fusedale, Burge went on to captain-coach St George. By then, Frank was already a household name and could have linked up with any one of a number of clubs. But he took up the St George offer knowing full well that they were a club in need.


The critics however were proven wrong when under the guidance of Burge, St George made a remarkable turnaround. Burge instilled a sense of dedication in the St George Club, moving from last in 1926 to runners up in 1927. In 18 rounds, the Saints lost just three matches, one to Wests and two to the minor premiers and 1927 champions, South Sydney. At the age of 33, Burge played only the one season with Saints as player-coach but he still scored nine tries in 16 games.

His philosophy was simple; positive football and pride in yourself and your club. This attitude sank deep into St George and became a foundation stone, which would carry the club for many years to come.

Club official Alex Mackie recalls Frank Burge as, "the first of the pros." "He didn't drink - and in the things like diet and lifestyle, he was ahead of the rest." Frank would start training months before a season began and was always the fittest man in any team in which he played.

His toughness was legendary, and the story goes that in his early years he broke his arm while playing for Glebe. With part of the bone protruding through the flesh, his brother Peter asked him "You're not going off are you?" Frank retorted, "I hope you bloody well don't think I am". He stayed on the field until he collapsed and had to be carried off.

Frank then went on to coach Glebe, Newtown, Canterbury, Wests, Easts, and North Sydney before returning to St George in 1937 where once again, he lifted the listless club - this time from second last place to equal second place. A dominant influence, Burge continued to have a positive impact on the game's development well into the 1930s.

Frank 'Chunky' Burge had a profound influence on the game - this is still evident today in the running style of the modern forward and the professionalism of the modern coach. In the 1920s, Arthur Hennessy, arguably the code's first great coach, said of Burge: "I have no doubt that Frank Burge is the greatest player-coach today. He knows the value of possession and he knows everything worth knowing." 



Test match in Sydney, 29 June 1914, which featured Frank Burge. It was Australia's first test victory over England on home soil. (Australian Town and Country Journal)

In the Courts

Barry Johnson

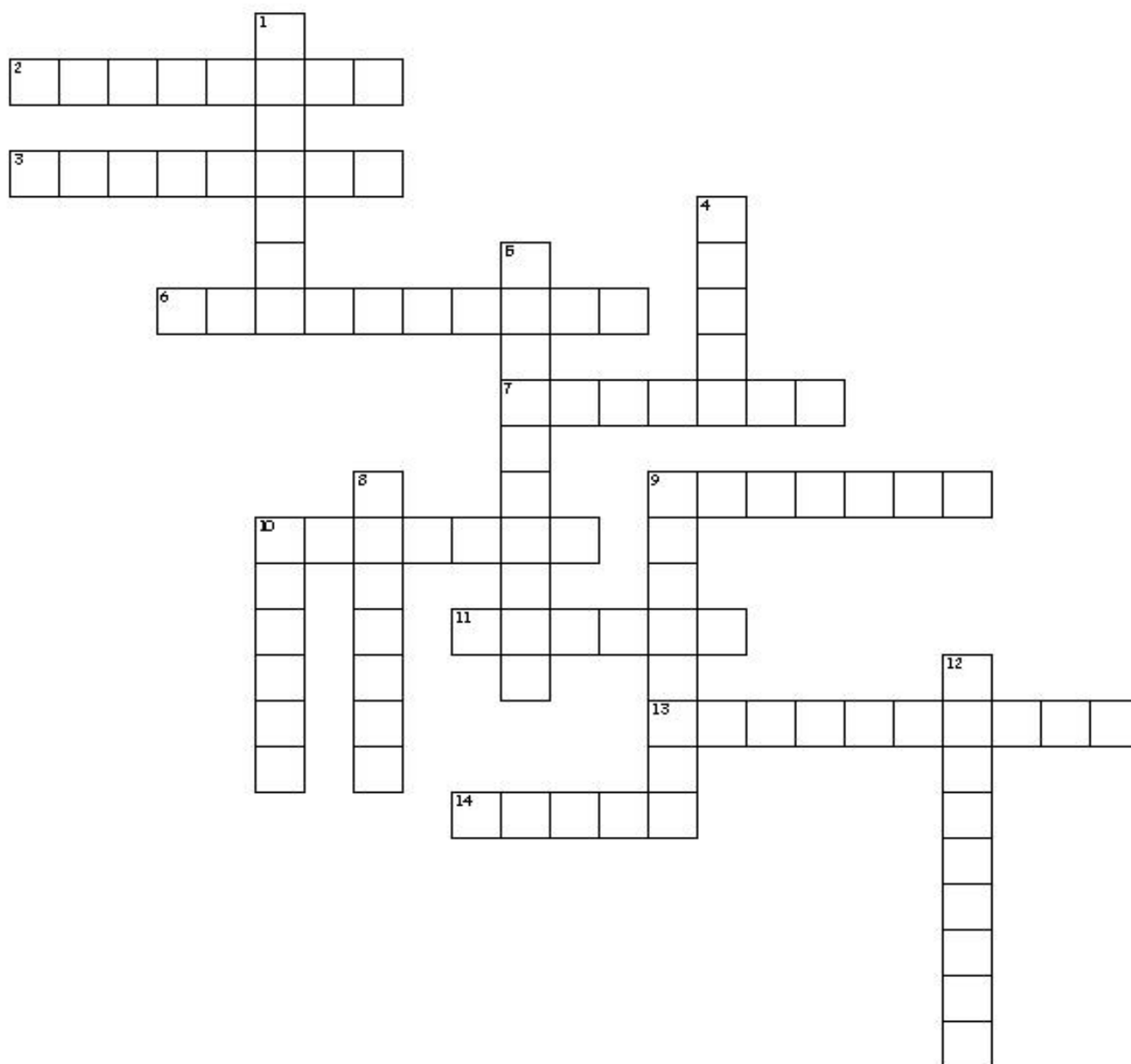
The official opening of the new Court House, in Montgomery Street, Kogarah, took place on Wednesday 28 August 1918. Before proceedings commenced, Mr. Clarke, S.M., stated that it was a matter for congratulation for the residents to have such a handsome building for the dispensing of justice. He also expressed the wish that now that we had the court it would not lead to a rush of business.¹⁸

“Business” during the winter and spring of 1918 included:¹⁸⁻²³

- Ernest A. Russell, was remanded until Wednesday, 4th September, on a charge of embezzling, the sum of £75/13/8, while in the employ of the Trustees of the School of Arts, Arncliffe.
- Thomas Augustus Turnbull was fined £10 with 6/- costs, in default two months gaol, on information by John Fraser McEachram, on behalf of the Metropolitan Meat Industry Board, for exposing for sale at Cronulla the carcass of a calf which had been slaughtered within the Metropolitan Abattoirs Area, otherwise than in accordance with the "Meat Industry Act, 1915." Defendant said there was a scarcity of meat. He could not get any beef, and a customer let him have a calf. Owing to the fixed prices there was no beef available.
- Edgar Parry, of Park Street, Arncliffe, for a breach of the Motor Traffic Regulations, in not carrying a light at 9 p.m., on a motorcycle, when travelling along Rocky Point Road, Rockdale, was fined 15/-.
- Elsie O'Reilly, of Curranulla Street, Cronulla, charged with using insulting words to John Joseph Walsh, a Sergeant of the NSW Police Force, was ordered to pay 30/- with 6/- costs for the privilege of doing so, or go to gaol for seven days.
- Edward Cornish, Alfred Street, Sans Souci, was charged with stealing a sapling from Scarborough Park, Ramsgate, the property of Scarborough Park Trustees. He was fined 10/- and ordered to pay the value of the tree £1/1/0 together with 6/- costs. In default 14 days.
- Kwong On, of Kogarah Road, fell asleep while driving along Rocky Point Road, Rockdale, thus preventing him having full control over his horse. A fine of 10/- was imposed, by way of a reminder to keep awake in future.
- Hugh McDowell (46) pleaded guilty to driving in Frederick Street, Rockdale whilst under the influence of liquor. A fine of £2, with the option of fourteen days, was imposed.
- Leslie William Hodgson, Warialda Street, West Kogarah, pleaded guilty to driving a horse with sores, calculated to cause pain to the animal. A previous conviction having been recorded, the magistrate imposed a fine of £3, with 6/- costs. In default 21 days.
- Charles Gairn, Glenmore Road, Edgecliffe, pleaded guilty to driving a motor vehicle along Rocky Point Road, Rockdale, on the evening of 21st July, without having a light. Defendant said he drove from Bulli, and rain got on the dynamo, and the electric light short-circuited. A fine of 15/- was imposed.
- Charles Wesley Goodsell (61) against whom there are a number of previous convictions recorded, pleaded guilty to driving a cab on Railway Parade, Kogarah, whilst under the influence of intoxicating liquor. Fined 40/-, in default 14 days.
- William John Bakewell was charged with stealing one copper boiler, valued at £2/10/0, the property of May Neitch, who owns a weekend cottage at Tareel Bay. A fine of £2 was imposed, in default twenty-one days gaol with hard labor [sic].
- Edward Douglas was charged with using indecent language in Rocky Point Road, Sans Souci, at about 9.30 p.m. He was with two other young men, fighting. There were a number of people about, and complaints made about the language. Fined £4, in default, one month hard labour.

SGHS

Crossword



Across

2. an island buzzing with dots and dashes (8)
3. selling saddles and safes (8)
6. a contest worthy of Spartacus (10)
7. Arncliffe's Mullet Creek home (7)
9. he sailed to Australia on a ship commemorating a Saint Crispin's Day victory (7)
10. road in Brighton-Le-Sands dug from a gravel pit near Newcastle (7)
11. he stood tall on "Sticks" (6)
13. the third R (10)
14. he started in maroon but ended in a red V (5)

Down

1. home of the kookaburras (7)
4. one of the fathers of science fiction (5)
5. ending WWI through this crossed line (10)
8. he had orange juice in his veins (7)
9. Montesquieu sought to ... the powers (8)
10. The Don of swimming coaches (6)
12. a dam buster (9)

Answers on page 27

SGHS Publications

The St George Historical Society has many books and pamphlets for sale, documenting the history of suburbs, people and events in the St George district, including well-researched books by Ron Rathbone.

Items can be purchased at Lydham Hall, 18 Lydham Avenue, Bexley on Sundays from 2pm to 4pm.

For postal orders, postage is \$8.50 per package (up to 3 books). Send a note of your requested titles and quantities, and your contact details (name, delivery address, phone number and email address) to:

Book Sales, St George Historical Society Inc., 18 Lydham Avenue, Rockdale, NSW, 2216.

Include a cheque or money order, payable to: St George Historical Society Inc.

• The Kogarah to Sans Souci Tramway	\$2.50
• Saywell's Tramway 1887-1914 – Rockdale to Lady Robinson's Beach	\$2.50
• The Arncliffe to Bexley Steam Tramway	\$4.00
• Our Heritage in Stone	\$4.00
• All Stations to Como	\$4.00
• Tempe and the Black Creek Valley	\$4.00
• Early Churches of the St George District	\$4.00
• Early Settlers of the St George District – Volume 1	\$4.00
• Early Settlers of the St George District – Volume 2	\$4.00
• The Illawarra Railway – Hurstville	\$4.00
• Rockdale: its Beginning and Development – <i>Out of stock</i>	
• Christina Stead by Jennifer Gribble	\$10.00
• History of the Rockdale Uniting Church – 150 Years Anniversary (1855-2005)	\$15.00
• Kingsgrove The First 200 Years by Brian Madden	\$20.00

Books by R. W. Rathbone:

• A Village Called Arncliffe	\$25.00
• Brighton-Le-Sands	\$25.00
• Cameos of Bexley	\$25.00
• The Bexley Book	\$15.00
• The Glen Village – its first 25 years	\$7.00
• The Sans Souci Peninsula	\$26.00
• The Lydham Hall Booklet	\$6.00

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12. For King and Country! (1918, July 13). *The St George Call*, p. 1.
13. For the Empire's Cause. (1918, August 3). *The St George Call*, p. 1.
14. National Archives of Australia, *Australian Imperial Force, Base Records Office; B2455, First Australian Imperial Force Personnel Dossiers, 1914-1920; Alexander Warwick Holdsworth Hickson : SERN DEPOT 7437 : POB Melbourne VIC : POE Sydney NSW : NOK F Alexander Henry*, Canberra, 2005.
15. National Archives of Australia, *Australian Imperial Force, Base Records Office; B2455, First Australian Imperial Force Personnel Dossiers, 1914-1920; KERR Robert Wallace : Service Number - 3121 : Place of Birth - Bulli NSW : Place of Enlistment - Holdsworthy (Holsworthy) NSW : Next of Kin - (Mother) KERR Charlotte*, Canberra, 2005.
16. National Archives of Australia, *Australian Imperial Force, Base Records Office; B2455, First Australian Imperial Force Personnel Dossiers, 1914-1920; KERR Arthur Desmond : Service Number - 1928 : Place of Birth - Leederville WA : Place of Enlistment - Casula NSW : Next of Kin - (Father) KERR William*, Canberra, 2005.
17. National Archives of Australia, *Australian Imperial Force, Base Records Office; B2455, First Australian Imperial Force Personnel Dossiers, 1914-1920; KERR William Douglas : Service Number - 60108 : Place of Birth - Scaderville WA : Place of Enlistment - Sydney NSW : Next of Kin - (Father) KERR William*, Canberra, 2005.

18. Kogarah Police Court (1918, August 31). *The St George Call*, p. 7.
19. Kogarah Police Court (1918, July 20). *The St George Call*, p. 3.
20. Kogarah Police Court (1918, July 27). *The St George Call*, p. 3.
21. Kogarah Police Court (1918, August 3). *The St George Call*, p. 6.
22. Kogarah Police Court (1918, September 7). *The St George Call*, p. 7.
23. Kogarah Police Court (1918, September 21). *The St George Call*, p. 6.
24. Photograph courtesy of the Australian Olympic Committee.

Dan McAloon's feature article, "The Precursors and Origins of Pemberton's Ramsgate Baths (1924 – 1970)", was a highlight of our last edition. The references supporting Dan's extensive research are listed below. Each entry is prefixed by the corresponding paragraph in the article.

1. (paragraph 1): Author interviews with AA Pemberton's son, Albert Pemberton, 2004 – 2007.
2. (paragraph 3): Rathbone, R.W., *The Sans Souci Peninsula : a history of the suburbs of Dolls Point, Monterey, Ramsgate, Sans Souci and Sandringham* (Glebe, NSW: Book House 2002), p. 109.
3. (paragraph 5): (1907, June 31). *The Sydney Morning Herald*, p. 2.
4. (paragraph 6): Clarkson, Alan, *Lanes of Gold – 100 years of the NSW Amateur Swimming Association* (Paddington, NSW: Lister-Townsend Publishing, 1980), p. 37.
5. (paragraph 7): *Ibid.*, pp. 35 – 36.
6. (paragraph 8): *Ibid.*, pp. 14 – 15.
7. (paragraph 9): (1921, February 15). *The Sydney Morning Herald*, p. 6.
8. (paragraph 13): Rathbone, R.W., *The Sans Souci Peninsula : a history of the suburbs of Dolls Point, Monterey, Ramsgate, Sans Souci and Sandringham* (Glebe, NSW: Book House 2002), pp. 30 – 32.
9. (paragraph 17): Scarborough Land Sale (1877, March 12). *The Sydney Morning Herald*, p. 14.
10. (paragraph 19): Rockdale Council Records note the sewer system reached Ramsgate in 1960.
11. (paragraph 21): The name Ramsgate "was used to describe the tram stop at Ramsgate Road and as late as 1920 the Post Office Directory of the Municipality of Rockdale described the area at the beachfront as 'Scarborough'. (Rathbone, R.W., *The Sans Souci Peninsula : a history of the suburbs of Dolls Point, Monterey, Ramsgate, Sans Souci and Sandringham* (Glebe, NSW: Book House 2002), p. 82.
12. (paragraph 24): Author interview with Albert Pemberton, 2004.
13. (paragraph 28): Author interview with Bill Batley, 2004.

Crossword answers

Across – 2. VANIKORO; 3. HOFFNUNG; 6. SPARTAKIAD; 7. DAPPETO; 9. SAYWELL; 10. TERALBA; 11. PROVAN; 13. ARITHMETIC; 14. BURGE;

Down – 1. COBURRA; 4. VERNE; 5. HINDENBURG; 8. MRJUICY; 9. SEPARATE; 10. TALBOT; 12. LANCASTER;

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HOPKINS
OLD TIME THEATRE

OLD TIME THEATRE
OPENING OF THE
WITHOUT RESERVATIONS

Castro