



KOGARAH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER, 1970



OFFICE-BEARERS

1970

Patron

His Worship The Mayor Alderman K.R. Cavanough

President

Mrs. D.A. Hatton

Deputy President

Mr. W. Wright

Hon. Secretary

Miss C. McEwen

Hon. Treasurer

Mrs. P. Briancourt

Hon. Research Officers

Mr. K.R. Bolton

Mr. H. Mortel

Ass. Publicity Officer

Mrs. S. Kelly

Hon. Auditor

Mr. V. Smith

COMMITTEES

Committee of Management

Alderman H. Acklin

Mr. K.R. Bolton

Alderman D. Briancourt

Mrs. V. Burghart

Mrs. V. Butters

Mrs. M. Cavanough

Mr. K. Hambly

Mr. T. Kelly

Mrs. S. Kelly

Mrs. I. Lovatt

Mr. H. Mortel

Miss L. Petrie

Publicity Committee

Mrs. S. Kelly

Mr. P. Orlovich

Mr. J. Veness

Mr. W. Wright

FORMATION

To form an Historical Society in the Kogarah district was among the recommendations of the Captain Cook Bi-Centenary Committee. It was suggested that the Society be established in the bi-centenary year of Captain Cook's discovery of Australia.

Accordingly on the 9th February, the Mayor of Kogarah, Alderman K.R. Cavanough opened a public meeting called by Council for the purpose of forming an Historical Society to serve the Municipality of Kogarah.

As a result of this meeting The Kogarah Historical Society was formed. Mrs. D.A. Hatton was elected President and Mr. W. Wright Deputy President, other office bearers were duly elected. It was resolved that His Worship the Mayor, Alderman K.R. Cavanough be Patron of the Society. The Society is under the sponsorship of the Kogarah Municipal Council.

A Constitution was drafted by the Committee of Management and adopted at the April General Meeting. The first General Meeting of the Society was held on the 12th March, 1970.

To this date there have been eight General Meetings of the Society. At the September meeting a Publicity Committee was established and shortly it is intended that a Museum Committee be formed.

OBJECTIVES

The objects of the Society are:-

1. To encourage the study of Australian History and particularly that of the Municipality of Kogarah.
2. To undertake the collection of books, records, manuscripts and relics considered to have bearing on the history of the Municipality of Kogarah and adjoining districts.
3. To foster the interchange of information among members of the Society by lectures, readings, discussions and exhibitions of items of historical interest.
4. To conduct excursions to places of historical interest and to promote other social functions conducive to the successful operation of the Society.
5. To use its influence to secure the preservation of places of historic interest.

LIST OF MEMBERS

Listed below are the names of the current members of the Society:-

Ald. & Mrs. H. Acklin	Mrs. I. Luke
Ald. J. Baker	Mrs. B. McEwen
Mr. K.R. Bolton	Miss C. McEwen
Ald. & Mrs. D. Briancourt	Mr. R. Mitchell
Mrs. M. Buchanan	Mr. H. Mortel
Ald. & Mrs. D. Burghart	Mr. A. Napier
Mrs. B. Butters	Mrs. N. Nethercote
Mr. & Mrs. J. Byrne	Mr. P. Orlovich
Ald. & Mrs. K.R. Cavanough	Mr. L. Peryman
Mrs. E. Corry	Miss L. Petrie
Mrs. C. Drake	Mrs. B. Phelan
Mrs. D. Evans	Mrs. P. Reed
Mr. E. Fitzpatrick	Mr. D. Rienits
Mr. W. Foster	Mrs. K. Slater
Mr. J. Frater	Mr. V. Smith
Mr. K. Hambly	Miss K. Tame
Mrs. S. Hanlon	Mrs. L. Taylor
Mrs. D.A. Hatton	Miss S. Thomas
Mrs. J. Holmes	Mr. N.J. Thorpe
Mr. & Mrs. T. Kelly	Mr. J.E. Veness
Mr. & Mrs. J. Lean	Mr. W. Wright
Ald. & Mrs. J. Lovatt	Mr. S.L. Zimeris

HISTORICAL ITEMS DONATED TO THE SOCIETY

A number of historical items have been donated to the Society. These include a drinking vessel of a type issued to convicts. This was presented to the Society by Mrs. N. Nethercote.

Mr. J.F. Symons donated a gold medal he received to commemorate his appointment as the first elected Captain of the Kogarah Superior School in 1910. The medal was presented to Mr. Symons by Mr. W. Taylor the then District Member of the Legislative Assembly.

A medal commemorating peace in 1919 was given by Miss E. Lowe. She received this as a pupil attending Kogarah Public School.

A copy of an address entitled "To My People beyond the Seas" dated 4th February, 1901, given by King Edward VII following the death of his Mother Queen Victoria was donated by Inspector Davis of Kogarah Police Station.

The Society has acquired a number of old newspaper clippings including a page from The Hurstville Propeller dated 16th October, 1925. Among the articles is an account of Mr. T.J. Ley's (formerly Minister for Justice) campaign for the seat of Barton.

Old photographs donated include the Kogarah to Sans Souci Steam Tram and an early view of Kogarah Railway Station which was given by Mr. A.L. Blackshaw. A photo of the Sydney Harbour Bridge under construction was donated by Mrs. B. Phelan.

Mrs. S. Kelly gave a copy of the Jubilee Supplement to The St. George Call printed in 1954.

At the first General Meeting the Mayor presented to the Society certain documentary items which had been handed to him, these included an official souvenir programme of Coronation celebrations held in New South Wales in May 1937. Also an official invitation to the opening of the Sydney Harbour Bridge on the 19th March, 1932.

MEMBERSHIP

Any inquiries regarding membership should be directed to:-

Miss C. McEwen,
Hon. Secretary,
The Kogarah Historical Society,
84 Carlton Parade,
CARLTON, 2218.
Phone 587 2090

The annual subscription of the Society is \$1.00. A special rate of 25¢ is available for Pensioners and Students.

AIDS TO LOCAL HISTORICAL RESEARCH BY PETER ORLOVICH

Members of The Kogarah Historical Society who are anxious to undertake research into aspects of local history would be well advised to acquire a copy of Mr. Philip Geeves booklet Local History in Australia published by the Royal Australian Historical Society in 1967. The booklet sets out to explain the fundamentals of local historical research and to point out methods and sources.

Those who may be interested in participating in the creation of and acquisition of objects and items of historical interest for an historical museum could gain invaluable assistance by purchasing a copy of E.W. Dunlop's Local Historical Museums in Australia published by the Royal Australian Historical Society in 1968.

All members should be constantly aware of the need to preserve local records and archives, however important they may appear to be, and no better guide can be recommended than the series of papers delivered at

the University of New England Seminar on Local History in January, 1967 and published under the title Preservation in Local History (\$2.00 post free). Copies may be obtained from the Department of University Extension, University of New England, Armidale, N.S.W. The subjects range through the preservation of museum exhibits, family and genealogical records, archives and natural resources.

An excellent aid to members who desire to trace their own family history or undertake genealogical research generally is a booklet by Nancy Gray entitled How to Trace Your Family History, published by the Society of Australian Genealogists, and copies may be obtained from that Society.

The series of papers delivered at the Conferences With Affiliated Societies held by the Royal Australian Historical Society from 1964 to 1969 have been published in booklet form and these are an excellent source on information on a wide range of subjects of importance to local historical societies. Particularly commended are the Proceedings of the 1969 Conference which include papers on "The Written Constitution of a District Society", "Inspiration and Perspiration - the organization of a local historical Society", "Research and Archives in Country Towns" and "Some Problems of Organization and Arrangement of Historical Museums", each by acknowledged and competent authorities in their respective fields.

Some excellent articles have already been published in the Bulletin of the St. George Historical Society relating to the district of Kogarah and a set of these if procurable should be obtained by The Kogarah Historical Society for the use of its own members.

Finally, for those who are able to visit the Mitchell Library a number of aids are available which will enable ready access to sources of information concerning local history, some of which are referred to by D.I. McDonald in a short article entitled "Aids to Research" in the November, 1969, issue of the Newsletter of the Royal Australian Historical Society.

Contributions of articles of local historical interest would be welcome.

Any such articles should be forwarded to:-

Mr. P. Orlovich,
54 Culver Street,
KOGARAH, 2217.