



THE KOGARAH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

JUNE, 1971

THE KOGARAH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Sponsored by Kogarah Municipal Council

Patron

The Mayor of Kogarah
Alderman K.R. Cavanough J.P.

President

Mrs. D.A. Hatton, J.P.,
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KOGARAH, 2217.
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Hon. Treasurer

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Hon. Secretary

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Management Committee

Chairwoman

Mrs. D.A. Hatton

Publicity Committee

Convener

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

Convener

Miss C. McEwen

Museum Committee

Convener

Mr. J.E. Veness,
6 Lance Avenue,
BLAKEHURST, 2221.
Phone 54 3932

OBJECTIVES

To promote interest in the history of the Kogarah Municipality and Australia in general.

To give support to the preservation of historic buildings and other objects considered to be of historic value.

MEMBERSHIP

Any inquiries regarding membership should be directed to the Honorary Secretary. Visitors are especially welcome.

Subscription:	\$1.00 per annum
Senior Citizens:	.25¢ per annum
Students:	.25¢ per annum

MEETINGS

Meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month, commencing at 8 p.m. in the Kogarah Municipal Council Chambers, Belgrave Street, Kogarah.

DONATIONS

Donations of items of historical interest suitable for inclusion in the Society's proposed Museum will be gratefully accepted by the Convener of the Museum Committee.

CONTRIBUTIONS

Contributions of articles and information of local historical interest for publication in this Newsletter would be welcomed by the Editor Mr. P. Orlovich.

JUNE MEETING

The next meeting of the Society will be held as follows:-

Date: Thursday 10th June, 1971, at 8 p.m.

Film Evening: Following the business meeting the film "Preserving our National Heritage" will be shown. This film outlines the work of the National Trust in Australia and is presented by the courtesy of this organization.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dear Members,

This month I wish to report on the subject of finance. In the last four months since our Social Committee was formed, and up to our next meeting, we will have raised in the vicinity of \$80. This will include the Cookery Demonstration and raffle at our June meeting.

Plans have been made for further historical outings and also to some places of entertainment in which we hope we will continue to have the support of all members.

The next big event will be the stall on Friday 23rd July at Kogarah, and goods for sale at this will be welcome at our June and July meetings from both ladies and gentlemen. Of course, cakes, jams and pickles can be brought to the stall on the day, and we can only hope the weather will be fine.

Sincerely;

D.A. Hatton,
President.

MEMBERSHIP

The following new members have joined the Society since May:-

Mrs. M. Fordham; Mr. R.J. Cough; Mr. & Mrs. D. MacFarlane;
Mrs. H. McSweeney; Mr. & Mrs. H. Hayfield; Mr. D. Sinclair;
Miss M. Thomas; Miss H. Walker.

LAST GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 13TH MAY, 1971.

Museum at Carss Park

The Mayor, Alderman K.R. Cavenough, reported that a tender had been accepted by Council for the crection of a new residence for the Ranger on top of the First Aid Station and work had started. This will leave William Carss' old stone cottage vacant for a Museum to be established.

Commemorative Booklet

Those members present approved the Publicity Committee's recommendation to produce a booklet relating the history of the Municipality of Kogarah and containing a special feature on the history of Carss Park to commemorate the opening of the Museum. The co-operation of business firms, organizations and individuals in the district interested in furthering the objects of the Society will be sought to sponsor the booklet. There will be a personal complimentary list in the booklet and if anyone is interested in having their name included the cost is \$1.00.

STALL - FRIDAY 23RD JULY, 1971.

As you will have realized when reading Mrs. Hatton's report the day set down for our stall is fast approaching.

We will have two stalls one in front of the Commercial Bank and the other in Belgrave Street in front of the Chemist shop. Mrs. Hatton will supervise one and Mrs. Lovatt the other.

Can YOU help with any of the following:-

1. We need ladies to serve during the day. If you can spare one hour this would help.
2. Have you any fruit growing that could be sold?
3. Can you make jams or pickles?
4. We need cakes -- they are always popular and a constant supply during the day will draw the customers.
5. Have you any books you no longer want?

If you can help with any of the above or have any other suggestions please tell Mrs. Hatton.

Please mark your own prices on any items you are donating.

If you have goods but no means of transporting them please contact the Secretary and arrangements will be made.

HAVE YOU ANY ITEMS FOR THE MUSEUM?

The Museum Committee, in the next few months, will be looking for items to be displayed in Carss' Cottage. The co-operation of all members is sought to gather such material. We know many people have treasured possessions but do not want to give them to the Museum, perhaps these items could be lent for a short period. The utmost care will be taken with all articles entrusted to the Museum.

Part of the Mobile Photographic Exhibition will start to be displayed within the next few weeks throughout the district. This will culminate an extensive campaign in gathering old photos depicting various phases of the history of the area.

If you have any items you would like to donate or lend to the Museum, or old photos of the district they would be gratefully accepted by Mr. Jeff Veness the Convener of the Museum Committee.

REPORT ON THE OUTING TO THE ROCKS

The Society's excursion to the Rocks on the 23rd May proved an outstanding success with over 100 people taking advantage of the beautiful weather and the opportunity to inspect this fascinating area.

The highlight of the day was the inspection of the Argyle Bond Stores and Art Centre. It was here that the members were met by Mr. R.W. Paton, a Director of the Bond Stores, who gave a most informative narration on the history of the area. This was followed by an inspection of an old cellar which has now been converted into a tavern.

The inspection of the 'Our Yesterdays Museum' in the Argyle Art Centre proved most interesting. The Museum set up by Mr. & Mrs. E. Wright displays items covering the period from 1733 to 1900 and gives an insight into many sides of Australia's history.

The Garrison Church and Cadman's Cottage were also inspected. The buses travelled down many of the old streets where history seems to lie in every house. At the end of the day afternoon tea was enjoyed by all at Observatory Hill Park.

SOCIAL CALENDAR

SUNDAY 6TH AUGUST - Full day to Winsor - bring a picnic lunch.
The bus will leave Kogarah Council Chambers at 10 a.m.

Cost - Adults \$2.00
Children \$1.00

SUNDAY 24TH OCTOBER - Half day to Vaucluse House. Details will be announced at a later date.

The following article on ST. PAUL'S CHURCH KOGARAH is reprinted by kind permission of the St. George Call. The item appeared in the February 17th, 1906 issue.

The Anniversary Day of our Colony is marked on the calendar as January 26, and in a seemingly fitting manner the church edifice, from which grounds can be seen the landing place of this country's founders claims its anniversary day on the same date. Not in the same year, of course; but in 1868 the foundation stone of St. Paul's Church of England was laid by the late Bishop Barker.

Prior to this date, however, the local residents subscribing to the Anglican form of worship, held service at the home of the late Mr. Berghoffer Snr., of Carroll's Hill, to which place Rev. G. King rode every Sunday from St. Peters to minister to the spiritual wants of his people. Feeling the necessity for a place of public worship, a number of residents (among whom were Messrs. J. Twiss Snr., J. & S. Schofield, and W. Berghoffer Snr.) determined on an effort to build a church. This effort was materially assisted by Mr. Woofven the Swedish Consul at the time, who made a gift of the land which comprises the present church grounds and the cemetery. (The parsonage grounds were subsequently purchased).

These preliminary steps were taken in 1867, and so successful was the work that on January 26, 1868, the foundation-stone was laid and the structure proceeded with. Out of stone quarried in the locality the Church was built by Mr. W. Bush, the work being superintended by Mr. J. Twiss. The roof was of shingle and nine months after the laying of the foundation-stone (September 21st, 1868) the church was opened. The first clerical appointment was that of Mr. McMahon as Catechist-in-charge. A wooden framework was erected by the residents in the grounds adjoining. This was enclosed with cane matting with a thick roof of ti-tree and in this building, concerts, tea meetings and other entertainments were held in aid of the Church.

A few staunch workers soon managed to buy the land for a parsonage, and in 1874 Mrs. Barker, (wife of Bishop Barker) laid the foundation-stone and a building was erected, which 7 years ago was demolished to make room for a more modern dwelling.

Mr. J. Done had been appointed in the place of Mr. McMahon and he (Mr. Done) was the first occupier of the parsonage. A short time afterwards Mr. Done was ordained and became the first incumbent of St. Paul's the Parish at that time consisting of Kogarah, Hurstville, Arncliffe and Belmore. People from far and near attended the services. Those who had at first held aloof rallied together, and the progress was firm and sure. Children attended Sunday School from miles around, the late Mr. Skelton being Superintendent for some years. Attending church in those days meant some sacrifice, as there was no Railway, and other than the mail coach (which ran twice a day) no regular mode of conveyance from river to river. (It may here be mentioned that the bus fare from Cook's River to Sydney then was 1/6).

On the death of Rev. J. Done, Rev. Kelly was appointed, and in order Revs. Saunders, Clarke, Killworth, Corlette officiated bringing us to the present incumbent Rev. H.R.A. Wilson.

The main portion of the present church is the original stone building, which was erected in 1868, the shingle roof being removed and a slate one, with louvres at each side, substituted. Of late years a chancel with a beautifully stained glass window has been added to the east end of the church - a legacy from the late Charles Down enabling the church authorities to thus beautify the pioneer Anglican Church of this community.

The Sunday School at first a mere handful of children has grown with the church and now numbers hundreds on its books, with a fair number of teachers.

Both the Church and Sunday School have passed through many experiences both pleasing and distressing, but they have 'weathered' all, and, like well-built ships, are now going along peacefully.

The Parish Hall, to the right of the Church building erected during the incumbency of Rev. A. Killworth and principally through the efforts of Mr. C.H. Barsby and others, accommodates the Sunday School.