

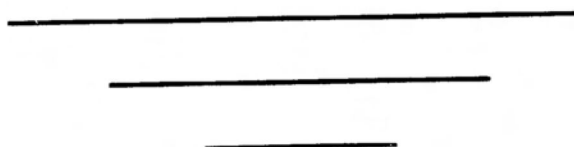


THE KOGARAH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER

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.,
15 Annette Avenue,
KOGARAH, 2217.
Phone 587 9970

Hon. Treasurer
Mrs. P. Briancourt,
9 The Mall,
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Phone 54 2156

Hon. Secretary
Miss C. McEwen, J.P.,
84 Carlton Parade,
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Phone 587 2090

Management Committee
Chairwoman
Mrs. D.A. Hatton

Publicity Committee
Convener
Mr. P. Orlovich,
54 Culver Street,
KOGARAH, 2217.
Phone 587 0377

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 Council Chambers, Belgrave Street, Kogarah.

DONATIONS

Donations of items of historical interest suitable for inclusion in the Society's 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.

SEPTEMBER MEETING

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

Date: Thursday 9th September, 1971, at 8 p.m.

Film Evening: A selection of films from the National Trust will be shown.

Supper Roster: Mrs. B. Drake and Mrs. M. Buchanan

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dear Members,

This month my contribution to the Newsletter will be excerpts from my speech at the opening of the Museum on Saturday, 28th August, 1971, as all members may not have been able to attend this function.

I quote "We are very privileged today to have had an address by Mr. Justice Else-Mitchell and Mr. Reeves and I am sure we have benefited greatly from their expert knowledge, however, it gives me very great pleasure to welcome you all to this function.

The formation of an Historical Society in this municipality has created an immense amount of interest, as only after 18 months we have a membership of over 100 and some remarkable talent has been brought to light. It seems that looking back at our heritage brings not only interest, but dedication.

I feel my main duty today is to pay tribute to all those who have made the opening of this Museum possible. Firstly, I must sincerely thank the Mayor for his unswerving loyalty to the Society and to the Mayoress who has found time, in spite of all her exacting duties, to be a member of our Management Committee. It should give the Mayor very great pleasure to be here today as it was in this area that he commenced his community work about 40 years ago.

We have found Mr. Forbes, Town Clerk, always available to offer guidance, together with Alderman, many of whom are our members together with their wives. A special thanks to Mr. Pogson and Mr. Landon, who have been responsible for the exterior of the cottage and you can see what a fine job each have done.

It is not possible to mention the names of all members who have helped establish the Society and Museum, but I feel I must mention some of the excellent duties performed, especially those of the Secretary, Treasurer, and all Committee members. The whole of the interior of this Museum has been repainted by members and exhibits arranged in the limited time of one weekend and a few days and nights, and when you are inside you will realise just how enthusiastic our members must be to have achieved this in such a short space of time, which has been under the direction of Mr. Veness.

Our members have raised \$400 this year in various ways and we received a substantial donation from the Captain Cook Bi-Centenary Celebrations Committee, for which we are very grateful, as it would not have been possible to attain this Museum without money.

It is fitting that the Kogarah Municipal Band should be here this afternoon as they also have an historical background of 50 years service and this function would not have been complete without music.

We hope all citizens will take a pride in the Museum and help to make it something of which the Kogarah Municipality will be proud.

Thank you all once again.

Mrs. D.A. Hatton,
President.

MEMBERSHIP

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

Mr. K.J. Grieve; Mrs. G. Johns; Mrs. M. Lloyd;
Mrs. D. Self; Mrs. K. Stenton; Mr. I. Taylor;
Miss M. Tresidder; Mr. & Mrs. R. West.

OUTING TO VAUCLUSE HOUSE AND SURROUNDING LANDMARKS

Meeting Place: Kogarah Council Chambers

Time: 1 p.m. sharp, Sunday 24th October.

Cost: Bus Fare \$1.25 Adults; 50¢ Children
Entrance 25¢ Adults; 5¢ Children

Time will be allocated at Vacluse House to have afternoon tea in the grounds. If anyone so desires tea can be purchased at the refreshment rooms near the house.

FRIENDS ARE WELCOME

NOTICE OF MOTION

"That the following two clauses be added as (d) and (e) to section 7 - Finance, of the Society's Constitution:-

(d) Society's Assets

The assets and income of the Society shall be applied solely in furtherance of its objects and no portion shall be distributed directly or indirectly to its members except as bona fide compensation for services rendered or expenses incurred on behalf of the organisation.

(e) Winding up of Society

Upon winding up or dissolution of the Society the net assets of the Society shall be given or transferred to some other institution or institutions having objects similar to the objects of the Society and which shall also prohibit the distribution of its or their property amongst its or their members.

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OFFICIAL OPENING
OF
CARSS COTTAGE

On Saturday 28th August, His Worship The Mayor of Kogarah Alderman K.R. Cavanough officially opened Carss' Cottage, the Historical Museum and Art Centre of The Kogarah Historical Society.

About 250 people attended the opening and heard the President of the Royal Australian Historical Society, The Hon. Mr. Justice R. Else-Mitchell commend Kogarah Council for making the Cottage available to the Society. He stated that the "establishment of a Museum by a local historical Society is the greatest achievement a Society can attain". Mr. J.L. Reeves, the President of the N.S.W. Branch of the Museums Association of Australia congratulated the Society on the establishment of the Museum. He said "Australians tend far too often to destroy their history and heritage and it is good to see some of that history preserved in a place like Carss' Cottage".

Mr. J.E. Veness, the Vice-President of the Society, acted as Chairman. He explained the theme of combining an Art Centre and Historical Museum. He went on to say that he hoped the Society could co-operate with the Schools in the district and explained the idea of having changing exhibits to create a constant interest with the public. Mrs. Hatton spoke on behalf of the Society and extracts of her speech have been printed in the President's Report. The Mayoress, Mrs. Cavanough, presented Mrs. Hatton with a cheque for \$300 from the Lady Mayoress' Fund.

In the address given by the Mayor he complimented the members for their efforts in setting up the Museum and spoke on the history of the area and the life of William Carss. At the conclusion of his speech he unveiled the plaque and unlocked the door of the Cottage.

The Society owes a deep debt of thanks to many people who without their help and co-operation the opening would not have been such a success. In addition to those mentioned by Mrs. Hatton the following groups and individuals must be remembered - St. George Art Society; the St. George Studio Potters Group; Mr. Kirkby and Mrs. Whitby for the Lapidary display; Mr. Doug Grant for the Vintage Cars; Mr. Ron Newton for the display of carts; Mr. Terry Lang for the swords; Mr. Stan Zimeris for the display of medals, pipes and monetary notes; the Sydney Water Board for setting up and manning their display on the history of Sydney's Water Supply; the Kogarah Bay Sea Scouts for making the hall and facilities available; Kogarah Band; Mr. O. Kean from Scientific Electric Alarm Co. Pty. Ltd., for his generous reduction on the cost of installing the Alarm System and Mr. K. Hibberd for the grills and the Caringbah Presbyterian Ladies Catering Service for providing such a wonderful afternoon tea. To the people who lent and donated items our sincere thanks must be extended.

The efforts of the members who gave up their evenings and weekends to have the Museum ready for the opening should not go unnoticed and the following people are to be congratulated on their wonderful achievement in transforming the building in the short space of 12 days - Mr. & Mrs. Lean, Mr. & Mrs. Kelly, Mr. & Mrs. Holmes, Mrs. Hanlon, Mrs. Phelan, Mr. Smith, Mrs. Fordham, Mr. Grieve, Mrs. Hatton and Dr. Hatton, Mr. Wright, Mr. & Mrs. Gaskin, Mr. & Mrs. McEwen, Mr. Fletcher, Mr. Zimeris, Mrs. Burghart, Mrs. Lovatt and Mr. Rienits. A special

mention must be made of the wonderful work carried out by Mr. Veness without whose direction and efforts the Museum would not have attained such a high standard.

A total of \$188.56 made over the first weekend in the sale of Commemorative Booklets, Jams and Folders and admission fees. This is indeed a good omen for the future of the Museum.

COMMEMORATIVE BOOKLET

The Commemorative Booklet is now available at 50¢ per copy. The St. George Call must be complimented on the publication of this fine booklet.

MUSEUM ROSTER

All members are asked to share in the overseeing of the Museum during the weekends and a roster will be drawn up for this purpose. Please see the Secretary if you would be prepared to give your services to the Society in this way.

CHANGE IN MUSEUM HOURS

Due to the lack of patronage during the morning it has been decided to change the hours from 10 a.m. to Noon and 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. to NOON TO 5 P.M.

WILLIAM CARSS THE PUBLICAN

by Peter Orlovich

William Carss, whose residence at Carss Park now forms the Kogarah Historical Museum and Art Centre, is generally thought of as the artisan cabinet-maker who emigrated with a number of other Scotch mechanics to New South Wales in 1831 under a plan devised by Dr. John Dunmore Lang.

Carss no doubt subsequently discharged the bond imposed as one of the conditions of his passage to New South Wales by regular weekly instalments from his wages while employed in the erection of Dr. Lang's Australian College, for within a little more than six years after his arrival, he had established himself as the licensee of the St. Andrew's Tavern, on the corner of Castlereagh and Liverpool Streets, Sydney.

This, apparently his first publican's licence, was issued to Carss at the quarterly transfers of publicans licences granted by the Justices of the Petty Sessions at the Police Office, Sydney, on the 3rd April, 1838, and the licence was current from the 27th June, 1838. It was renewed on the 27th April, 1839.

He appears next to have been granted a licence on the 6th May, 1844 to "retail wines and malt and spirituous liquors" in the Hunter River Inn in

Sydney, of which he remained the licensee until 1849.

Finally, at the Annual Licensing Meeting held on the 29th April, 1853 Carss was issued with a publican's licence for the Clarence River Inn, in Sussex Street, Sydney and this licence was renewed on the 5th May, 1854.

It was while he was the licensee of the last mentioned Inn that William Carss' wife died, on the 26th June, 1853 at the age of 47 years.
