



# THE KOGARAH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## NEWSLETTER

J A N U A R Y

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THE KOGARAH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Sponsored by Kogarah Municipal Council.

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

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

Hon. Secretary  
Mrs. D.A. Hatton,  
15, Annette Avenue,  
KOGARAH. 2217  
'Phone 587 9970

OBJECTIVES:

To promote interest in the history of 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 enquiries regarding membership should be directed to the Hon. Secretary. Visitors are especially welcome.

Subscription:	\$1.00 per annum (plus 50¢ joining fee)
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 Soldiers' Memorial Presbyterian Church Hall, Kensington Street, Kogarah. (Opposite The St. George Hospital).

CARSS' COTTAGE MUSEUM:

Open Sundays and Public Holidays from Noon to 6 p.m.  
Admission 20¢ Adults, 10¢ Children. (Maximum 60¢ for one family).

DONATIONS FOR MUSEUM:

Donations of items of historical interest suitable for inclusion in the Society's Museum will be gratefully received by -

Mr. J.E. Veness,  
6, Lance Avenue,  
BLAKEHURST. 2221

'Phone: 54 3932

CONTRIBUTIONS TO NEWSLETTER:

Contributions of articles and information of local interest for publication in this Newsletter will be welcomed by the Editor -

Mr. P. Orlovich, 'Phone 587 0377  
54, Culver Street,  
KOGARAH. 2217

### JANUARY MEETING

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

Date: Thursday 11th January, 1973, at 8 p.m.

Meeting Place: Kogarah Soldiers' Memorial Presbyterian Church Hall, Kensington Street, Kogarah.

Films and slides: Two films will be shown -

"Shades of Puffing Billy" - The Puffing Billy miniature railway running between Emerald and Belgrave in the Dandenong Mountains near Melbourne.

"Stately Homes, Places and Castles of Britain" - This film shows a selection of the magnificent and historic homes that have been open to the public in Britain.

Mr. K.R. Cavanough will show a selection of slides of historic points of interest taken on his recent trip overseas.

Competition Prize: Donated by Miss Gould

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### MUSEUM ROSTER

Jan. 7th	Mr. & Mrs. Lean
14th	Mr. & Mrs. Cavanough
21st	Mr. & Mrs. Kelly
28th	Mr. Grieve & Mrs. James
Feb. 4th	Mr. & Mrs. Lean
11th	Mrs. Greenaway & Mrs. Slater

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### SOCIAL REPORT

Our Christmas night on December 14, at Carss Cottage was a thoroughly relaxed and pleasant night. Our President, along with the Social Committee worked hard to ensure the success of the evening, and many thanks are due to Mrs. McEwen who arrived at 5 p.m. and never stopped working until nearly midnight, Iris Lovatt who made not one Christmas cake but five, to Bill Wright and Ken Grieve, and to Mr. Jim Ward who taped all the lovely music we had in the background. David Briancourt led the singing in the carols and helped to lend the happy atmosphere to the night.

We had many pleasant social functions in 1972 and I would like to thank all those who attended, and look forward to another successful year in 1973.

The Social Committee join with me in extending their best wishes to all for a happy and successful new year.

SYLVIA KELLY

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### CHRISTMAS HAMPER

Winner of the Christmas Hamper was Mrs. Diment  
Alderman MacKenzie's raffle was won by Mr. Tom Kelly

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The following item on the English Houses of Kogarah was prepared by Dr. Joan Hatton. In gathering her information Dr. Hatton contacted surviving members of the Beavers and English families, and our sincere thanks must go to these relatives for their co-operation. As well as giving valuable information on the early history of the families, they lent a number of photographs, old letters, documents and personal mementos. With the material gathered from the two families Dr. Hatton has arranged a display which is now on show at the Museum.

### THE ENGLISH HOUSES OF KOGARAH

BY  
DR. JOAN HATTON

Edmund English in 1853 purchased 87 acres for £337 in the area bounded by Bowns Road, Princes Highway, O'Meara Street and nearly to Hampton Court Road. On this estate he conducted his market gardens, set aside 10 acres for Kogarah Park (now Jubilee Oval) and raised his eight children. All except one settled on the estate and most of their properties, built in the 1880 - 1890's are still standing.

"The Homestead", a large residence with attic bedrooms was unfortunately demolished in 1923 to make way for the construction of Carlton South Public School. It was built about 1854 from stone obtained locally from Blakes quarry and Edmund himself worked on the building. A photo shows it has a red painted galvanised iron roof but it is so closely surrounded by trees that only glimpses of this house can be seen.

Next to it in Station Street, and still standing is "Avoca", built for youngest daughter Kathleen, who, however, did not marry and did not live in it. It was lived in for many years by the Mullarky family.

Patrick's residence was "Lynwood", on the south eastern part of the estate where he cultivated his market gardens, now on the corner of Princes Highway and O'Meara Street. "Lynwood" was demolished only a few years ago and the phoenix of a service station and car wash has arisen on the site.

Over the other side of the park, in Webbers Road, now English Street "The Laurels" was built for daughter Elizabeth in about 1888. It is a large two storey residence in extensive grounds. She lived in it only till about 1895, and since then it has had a succession of occupiers including Rev. A. Killworth,

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Herman Primrose, the Chelmsford School for girls and kindergarten, a private hospital and now as a childrens home run by the United Protestant Association of N.S.W.

Diagonally opposite in English Street, on the corner of Park Street is "Karuah", a mirror image of "The Laurels". It is well kept with Sydney lace wrought iron and ornamentation on the chimneys and has extensive grounds and shrubbery. It was built in the early 1880's for James English but his wife died in child birth and in fact his second wife also died in child birth. His third wife, Sarah Ann Beavers fared better with seven children. However, "Karuah" did have some notable occupants including John Sale and Percy Tanner who both were Mayors of Kogarah and the house is locally known as Mr. Tanner's house.

Next door, with red tiled roof is "Terera", extensively remodelled in the last few years. It was named from the town on the Shoalhaven River where the Beavers family farmed before they came to Kogarah and bought the Gardeners Arms Hotel.

On the two corners of English Street and Princes Highway are on the south side the Kogarah Hotel, and on the north side behind a wicker ware facade the produce store of James English. The Kogarah Hotel was built by Edmund about 1879 and James was the licensee for many years, alternating with Edwin Potts, John J. Murphy and Harry Crichton, until its closure in 1916 as a hotel with the loss of the licence under the Local Option Act. Afterwards it was used as a residence until eventually sold at a great loss as no compensation was given for the cancellation of the licence.

The produce store was conducted by James and had the usual bay for carts to back into, now replaced by the display windows. The first floor residence was added subsequent to English ownership. Mr. Hannaford conducted the produce store for sometime.

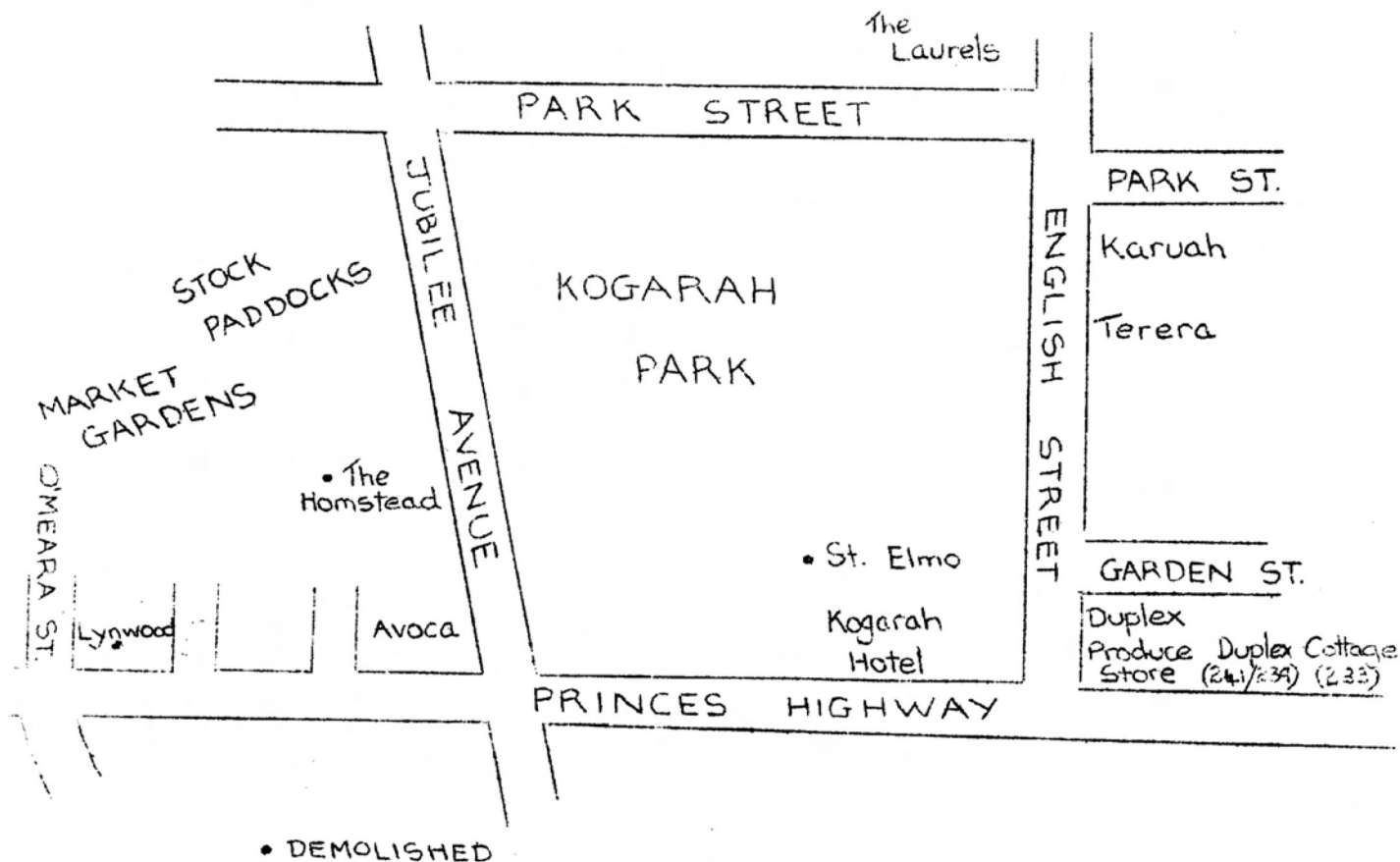
Next to the Kogarah Hotel was the stone house "St. Elmo" built for Mary. It has now been demolished, but the brick house next door built for Mary's daughter is still standing.

James also owned a duplex in English Street next to the produce store, and on the princes Highway another duplex and a cottage. The latter (No. 233) had a prominent resident in Elioth Gruner, seven times winner of the Wynne Prize for landscape. His first Wynne Prize was for "Morning Light" which was painted in 1905 on the English Estate, when the sliprails and stiles divided the stock paddocks and vegetable gardens. Although his paintings are scenes from many places in Australia some others were painted of the Kogarah scene in the early 1900's including "Summer Noon" at Scarborough Park and "Frosty Morn".

These buildings are all within the vicinity of Jubilee Oval and all in a good state and well worth a visit as examples

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of colonial architecture of the late Victorian period.



#### MUSEUM AND PRESIDENT'S REPORT

We have had some success in obtaining a number of articles which we have been seeking for the Museum; these include a sofa, a washtable, and kitchen dresser. They are at present in the process of being cleaned up and will require some restoration. Any member who may be able to assist would be very welcome.

Holiday crowds to the Carss Park area have been quite large but as one of our attendants noted in the Day Book people seemed to be more concerned with swimming than spending any time in a museum. Perhaps they don't realize that its cool inside and not at all wet.

Any member who has visited the museum recently will have seen the display on the history of the Beavers and English families. The research and preparation of this display has been done by Dr. Joan Hatton who was assisted by Mrs. D.A. Hatton. The display is a credit to them both.

Those members present at our Christmas night had a very pleasant evening. We were again fortunate in having beautiful weather so none of our activities had to be moved indoors. We were very grateful to the ladies for the catering arrangements, to Dave Briancourt for his assistance, at such short notice, and to Bill Wright whose lighting contributed so much to the atmosphere.

J.E. VENESS