



# THE KOGARAH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## NEWSLETTER

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**PRICE:** 10c.

Registered for posting as a Periodical, Category C

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Our Annual General Meeting will be held in the Exhibition Lounge on the second floor of the Civic Centre, Belgrave Street, Kogarah, at 8 p.m. on Thursday, 13th March 1975. Reports and Financial Statements will be presented and the Office Bearers and Committees for 1975 elected.

Then you will see a colour-film called "Enchanted Isles". It depicts the beauty of the Hebridean Islands which is outstanding even among the scenic splendour of the rest of Scotland. Starting at Oban, we'll cross to Iona, St. Columba's Isle and to Staffa where Fingals Cave is found among unique -- but what am I saying? Come and see it for yourself!

The ladies on Supper Roster are Mrs. Buchanan and Mrs. Holmes.

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#### SUBSCRIPTIONS.

The rate of postage on each Newsletter is now \$1.08 per annum. Experience has shown that each year a few members fail to pay their subscriptions and although we have continued to post their Newsletter for some months, this has only resulted in a loss. This is a reminder to any who have not paid their 1975 subscription to please do so now.

Ordinary Members           \$1.50

Students & Pensioners       \$1.00

The subscriptions of members who join in October, November and December are current until 31st December in the following year.

#### MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE.

Members elected to the Management Committee are kindly asked to note that meetings are held at Carss Cottage Museum at 7.30 p.m. on the last Tuesday in each month.

#### THANKS!

Once again we say a sincere "thank you" to our three Hon. Consultants - Mr. Peter Orlovich, Mr. A. H. Brewer and Mr. W. Foster. The fact that they are available, should the need arise, gives me a feeling of confidence. Mr. Orlovich will also be one of our Speakers later in the year and Mr. Brewer has promised us an article for the Newsletter.

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#### THE HUNTER VALLEY TOUR.

Leaving the Civic Centre we started off in drizzling rain and arrived at The Oakes in good time for morning tea.

Here we learned that in 1844 George Peat inaugurated a communicating bridle track from Pearce's Corner (near Hornsby) to Brooklyn and from Mooney to Calga. The first overland route from Sydney and the Hunter River Area was constructed in 1830 by more than 3000 convicts.

George Peat was the son of Charles and Ann Peat who were aboard the first fleet. He was born in 1792 and died in 1870 aged 78 years. He is buried in Rookwood Cemetery.

The country side after the heavy rain was so beautiful and green, showing little sign of the fierce bush fires that occurred there a short while ago. Nothing says "Thank you" quicker than the earth for the rain that falls when it is so badly needed. To the Hunter Valley people it must have seemed like gold dropping from the skies.

After coffee, milk shakes, Ice Creams etc. we were off again to sample the wines at Happy Valley and to partake of an excellent luncheon. More wine tasting in the Cellar, then the decision of what wines to buy, and finally all back in the Coach again, well set for the Coffee Break at the Gosford Leagues Club.

Here the art of how to pull the handle on a poker machine was well demonstrated -- then time to start off for home. It was an enjoyable day, weather ideal for travelling, a courteous driver, comfortable air conditioned coach, and pleasant companions. Our thanks to all who helped to make the day such a success.

As a result of this pleasant outing your Society benefited to the extent of \$98.00.

Sylvia Kelly  
Social Secretary.

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#### PRESIDENT'S REPORT.

For our Society another year draws to a close, with our Annual Meeting being held next week. I would hope as many of our members as possible are able to attend, so that a wide representation may be obtained in the selection of our officers for the next year.

The Society has continued to grow in strength with additional members and a greater participation in activities throughout the year.

To be alive and active the Society must function in many areas. Without the enthusiasm and support of our members and friends our functions throughout the year would not have been the great success they have been. Our Meetings would be lacking without the wide variety of speakers we have been fortunate in obtaining. Without our contributors, our Newsletter would not have had the same interest. Without the donations of articles and the support of our visitors our Museum would not have the popularity it now receives.

All these facets of our activities contribute to the effectiveness of the whole.

In no less a degree the various positions within our Society contribute to the effectiveness of the Society as a whole. Our office bearers, our conveners our Committee members all are essential to the effectiveness of the Society as a whole.

The work done by these members in the past 12 months has been the reason why our society has achieved so much. Things just don't happen. A great deal of thought, preparation and effort are involved in the successful results that have been achieved. The Society has been very lucky to have had the services of such an active and enthusiastic team of officers. I would like to take this opportunity of thanking these officers and members of the Society for their assistance and support through the past year. It has made my duties so very much easier.

The next year presents new challenges. There is still a great deal to be done in our efforts to record the district's history.

Carss' Cottage is emerging as a really worthwhile part of the community as more and more people become aware of its existence and value. We need to bring a greater awareness of our history to the community, particularly to the school children, for through them we reach each family. With this in mind we hope that the intention to have the Museum open for a week in April will encourage many people to take advantage of the opportunity to visit the cottage, see the results of our work and hopefully, gain a greater appreciation of the life, efforts and activities of our pioneers.

Again may I thank all members for their support, for this has made my task very pleasant. I feel sure that the best years of the society are yet to come.

J. Veness.

MUSEUM ROSTER. (If date is inconvenient, please ring 57-5940).

March	16th	--	Mrs. C. Mc nie and Miss M. Foley
"	23rd	--	Mrs. J. James and Miss D. McLean
"	30th	--	Mrs. G. Johns and Mrs. G. Taylor
April	6th	--	Mrs. S. Kelly and Mrs. E. McIlroy
"	13th	--	Mr. and Mrs. E. Schweikert
"	20th	--	Mr. and Mrs. R. Holmes

Easter Monday - 28th March - Volunteers please ring 57-5940.

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NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICE.

We had hoped to have had a number of nominations for the 1975 Committees to present in this Newsletter but apparently the idea didn't "catch on" and not sufficient were received to warrant the issue of a list. Our object was to give members nominated more time to consider whether or not they can attend meetings and to dissuade any who can not from accepting a nomination. But perhaps this note will be accepted as a gentle hint!

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LIBRARY REPORT.

The following publications were received during the last month:-

- \* November 1974 issue of Kalori (Journal of the Museums Association of Australia). This publication covers a comprehensive range of topics, from investigating technical problems faced by Museums of all kinds, to reports on displays and work being carried out by the Museum Movement in Australia.
- \* February 1975 issue of the Royal Australian Historical Society's Newsletter. In this issue is a report on the New South Wales Government's plan for protecting and preserving the historical heritage of the State. This major initiative was announced by the Minister for Planning and Environment, the Hon. Sir John Fuller, M.L.C., on 22nd January, 1975. He reported that it had been decided to establish an Historic Building and sites Advisory Committee (on which the R.A.H.S. is to be represented) to identify and prepare a list of buildings, structures and sites of historic and architectural merit, and to advise the Government on methods of preservation and maintenance. The President of the R.A.H.S., the Hon. Mr. Justice R. Else-Mitchell, commended the plans. He stated that the Society had always recognized that it may not be possible to preserve all buildings and it would not be reasonable to expect that public funds should be allocated to acquire every building having claims to historic recognition when there are so many other demands on available finance. Hence the preparation of a selective list of buildings most meriting preservation is a necessary step to a sound policy of historic preservation. Other articles in this Newsletter includes "The Stars as our Early Colonists Saw Them" by W. A. McIlair and "Bush Pressure Cookers" by W.E. Frost.
- \* Tumut and District Sesqui-Centenary Souvenir programme. This publication has been presented to our Society's Library by Mr. and Mrs. J. Lean. This is a very well-presented and well-illustrated book on the story of Tumut. Every facet of the town, and surrounding areas social, political and economic history has been researched and co-ordinated into a very readable book.

Colleen McEwen.



#### MUSEUM COMMITTEE REPORT.

Reviewing the past year, many events and activities relating to "Carss Cottage" come to mind. There have been some achievements, and a number of projects are well in hand at the present time.

The Museum collection has grown considerably in content and variety, and the scope for display and research has widened accordingly.

An additional area for display and storage, was provided by our "General Store", constructed and set-up early in 1974.

The large wall cabinet, designed to accommodate library, reference books, documents and photographs, etc., has greatly facilitated the systematic and safe housing of these valuable assets. Much effort has gone into this work in recent months.

The Stamp Display, provided by the St. George Philatelic Society on the theme "Captain Cook's Voyages" has held the interest of young and old visitors, and the publicity given to this exhibit in several widely circulated philatelic magazines, indirectly provided a little advertising for "Carss Cottage".

During the year, Kogarah Council made available to the Society, an area for storage at the Kogarah Civic Centre and also donated a bookcase for use in the Museum.

A highlight for the Society was Channel Ten's television programme on Sunday 2nd June. "Eye Witness News" reporter, Warwick Ranken presented a short documentary, filmed at Carss Cottage and including an interview with our Present, Mr. J. Veness. Many visitors in following weeks mentioned the film as the reason they had come to see the Museum and its pleasant surroundings. In addition to the regular openings on Sundays and Public Holidays, in 1974 we have had many special arrangements, for inspections by appointment. Groups of school children, accompanied by their teachers, have come from many local schools, and neighbouring districts. A number of outings organised by various associations have included a visit to "Carss Cottage".

Among these were groups from the Bankstown Historical Society, The International Ikebanas Conference, held in Sydney, and the Junior Group of the National Trust of Australia (N.S.W.) These were the largest groups, with one hundred and twenty people on the National Trust's tour. Other organisations have held picnics at Carss Park and arranged for the cottage to be opened for a short time.

Very complimentary comments have been made by visitors, with reference to both the Museum exhibits and Art Centre displays.

Sales figures for the Museum and Art Centre, will be seen in the Treasurer's Financial Statement for the year ending 31st January 1975.

"Involvement with the Museum adds much interest to membership of the Society" is a remark made by many of our attendants, and the number of people who have expressed a wish to give voluntary service to the maintenance, and running of the Museum, has been most gratifying.

The Museum Committee would like to thank everyone who has contributed in any way to the successful functioning of "Carss Cottage" during the past year, as a Museum and Art Centre, a place where people can find quiet enjoyment, relaxation in pleasant surroundings; and learn, or recall, something about the early days of our district.

Gwen Lean  
Convenor.

## THE JOLLY ROVERS SOCIAL CLUB - 1922-1947.

by V. S. Smith.

Could you, in this year of 1975, imagine yourself regularly attending a social club each fortnight and being eagerly accompanied by your children and their grandparents? Perhaps not. Yet, fifty years ago, you might have been doing just that if you had been fortunate enough to have been one of the ninety members of The Jolly Rovers Social Club - many of whom had waited up to three years for the privilege of membership. Or you might have been one of the twenty whose names were on the Waiting List and thus entitled to attend socials. But, not so good, you may only have been enrolled on the "List of people waiting to get on the Waiting List" - and be one who was hopefully waiting for an unlikely vacancy!

And, in those far-away days, if YOU were waiting, your family would have been waiting with you. Teenagers had not yet become aware that they had absolutely nothing to do - and did not clearly understand that they should have been provided with a motor-bike just like the other kids. Nobody had yet told them they were bored, and in their ignorance they had not even heard of the "generation gap". Consequently, not knowing any better, they thoroughly enjoyed themselves in the company of their parents, and oft-times, their grandparents.

Dancing was a really popular form of recreation fifty years ago - in the years before we had learnt of the pleasures of "wireless", talkies and T-V. There were many social clubs in the Kogarah district and also a number of suitable halls in the township in which dances were held. There were two Masonic Halls in Montgomery Street, Brett's Hall opposite present-day Flemings in Derby Street, the Rechabites Hall in Ocean Street and the Kogarah School of Arts Hall in Queen's Avenue.

At that time my home was in Barton Street (then called Villa Street) and many of my neighbours enjoyed dancing but were prevented from attending because their young children were not welcome at socials.. So we called a meeting of residents and decided to form a social club "for the residents of Villa Street and their friends". Children, of course, would be very welcome. We did not take the question of a name very seriously and when someone suggested The Jolly Rovers Social Club, that was adopted - with a laugh! I was elected the Honorary Secretary and retained that position throughout the long life of the Club.

The subscription, which remained unaltered for the whole twenty-six years, was fixed at two shillings for lady and gentleman and the lady was asked to bring a plate of light refreshments. There was no charge for children.

For the first few years we held socials in the Rechabites Hall but as our numbers increased we moved to the Kogarah School of Arts Hall which was larger and engaged it for sixteen socials each year.

The pleasant music supplied by our orchestra did not comprise the crash-bang-wallop of so many present-day dance bands, nor was it magnified by a 30-watt amplifier turned up to maximum volume. The unamplified sound was sufficient for those who were dancing and did not drown the conversation

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of others in the hall. You could easily describe the finer points of your operation without raising your voice. Many who were elderly were quite content to sit and listen to the music and to be entertained by the numerous novelty items included in the programme.

The programme was so arranged "that you may bring your grandparents and your grandchildren, and there'll be something for everyone". The ages of those present ranged from a few weeks to over eighty years. My own two daughters, in turn, were carried along in a clothes-basket and slept soundly, with other babies, in the supper room.

For children who were not old enough to participate in the adult programme, there were always two dances and a game. There were also games such as snakes-and-ladders, ludo, draughts and a supply of comic papers.

The management of the Club was vested in a Committee of about fifteen members who met (mostly in my home) on a night ten days prior to each social. The main outline for the next social would have long since been decided and much of the material to be used as decorations would already have been prepared. But final plans would be made and the dance programme completed. Ideas and suggestions for future socials would be considered and attractive names for socials noted in our "ideas book" for use in the following year. These, and suggestions for decorations, short stage items etc. would be carefully noted and when the date of a particular social arrived, all but the last-minute details would already have been decided. Gradually we found that the Committee comprised those members who liked to entertain while the "ordinary" members were those who liked to be entertained. This, of course, proved to be an ideal situation!

While each social had a more or less standard dance programme, the dances were interspersed with items, stunts and short stage presentations. Often the nature of these was suggested by the title of the social. One handy source of material was the radio shows of Jack Davey, long remembered for his quickness of mind and humour. Particularly funny incidents in his programmes were noted in our book and incorporated, with variations, in our socials in future years.

We noticed that in Jack Davey shows, sometimes a very clever act would fall flat because the person selected from his audience to take part was either too slow-thinking or one who thought of himself as being very smart, and spoilt the show. We very successfully avoided this problem. At some socials we asked each member to wear a ticket bearing a number "so that all would have a chance of winning a prize". Then, unbeknown to members, only the numbers worn by the persons we had selected to take part in an act would be placed in a hat (in those days every man wore one!) and "to ensure that all was quite fair" a small child was asked to draw them out. For many years this harmless deception was adopted in order to secure the people we thought would be the most suitable and entertaining.

In like manner, sometimes the numbers of well-rehearsed committee members would be similarly drawn. For example, in one programme Jack Davey had an item in which a competitor gave his name and, while Davey was making up a limerick containing such name, shillings fell at a fairly fast rate and be given as a prize. The longer it took for Davey to compose the limerick, the greater the amount of the prize. Over a period we made a note of some very funny limericks which rhymed with the names of people on our committee. A couple of years later, when the radio show was forgotten, the item was included in a social and the numbers worn by rehearsed committee members

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were "fairly" drawn from a hat. Everyone then heard our blindfolded M.C. "cleverly" make up funny limericks, without even seeing the competitors, with just the right amount of hesitation to make it sound genuine. In a couple of instances, where we found that a particularly funny limerick did not rhyme with the name of a committeeman, a lady on the committee pretended to give her maiden name "just to trick the M.C.", who, of course, promptly "made up" the limerick which had actually been saved for couple of years for this occasion and amidst roars of laughter he "earned" a wonderful reputation among the ordinary members.

The ordinary members never suspected the trouble that was taken with the planning and rehearsals so that some particular quiz or stunt - seemingly thought out on the spot - would be carried out, apparently spontaneously, by our "clever" M.C. He WAS clever, too - as a good actor! The members never suspected this and we enjoyed hearing their expressions of amazement concerning his "skills".

We found that one of our members, unbeknown to others, was a juggler. Some years before he had appeared in a circus. At a social, during some carefully rehearsed patter, the M.C., in an apparently boastful manner, claimed that he could hypnotize any person in the audience. Committeemen encouraged the members to insist that he demonstrate his ability and in due course a small child drew from a hat the only number it contained - one identical with that worn by the juggler. Despite the fact that the M.C. had now apparently gone cold on the idea and appeared very unwilling to continue, the juggler was led to the stage and members gathered around obviously ready to see the M.C. have a failure. But he quickly made mysterious passes with his hands and the juggler assumed a far-away look. A committeeman now produced three plates and suggested that the M.C. give the order to juggle. This he did. Up to this point members had been laughing and joking but suddenly there was complete silence as the plates were twirled through the air in a truly brilliant performance. Members were astounded! One was heard to say "I would never have believed it if I hadn't seen it with my own eyes". And that is how members found that our M.C., in addition to his other skills, was a hypnotist.

In those days, many people attending dances were looking for a change. They would join a particular social club because they were seeking something different from that to which they had been accustomed. After a short time they tired of the lack of variety and again moved on. Our Committee was aware of this discontentment and realized that something more than a mere dance programme was required. Consequently, we took pains to select attractive, bright titles for our socials and were constantly on the look-out for novelties and ideas which would make them different - and better.

Geisha silk was then only sixpence (5c) per yard and was excellent to use in the making of fancy dress costumes which, in conjunction with elaborate schemes for decoration of the hall, allowed us to have some very attractive socials.

On "A Night in a Haunted House", in addition to other weird effects, there were periods of intense darkness, during which two luminous skeletons danced. One had false feet fixed about twelve inches above the floor and he appeared to float through the air. He also had a detachable head which he would remove and toss to his partner.

At "A Night in Japan" (with fancy dress) the hall was extensively decorated with peach blossom and was lit with Japanese lanterns. There was fancy dress and a very funny "bull-fight" at "A Night in Spain". At "A Night on the

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"Ocean Wave" members entered the hall by means of a very wobbly gangplank and were welcomed by the M.C., dressed as Commander of the s.s. Flytox. The hall was decorated with signal flags and members wore costumes of the 'ports of call', for which prizes were awarded by Father Neptune.

Very attractive decorations were used at "A Night on a Tropic Isle" at which 'pirates', with the aid of a large map, stepped out distances and found buried treasure. A previously un-noticed trapdoor in the dance floor was wrenched open and two pirates descended into the depths, returning with a large iron chest. Removing white bones of a skeleton from its lid, it was opened and, with shouts of "treasure!", brightly silvered halfpennies were scattered and eagerly rushed by members. Then, with cries of "more treasure" a 'pirate' opened a wooden box he had concealed in his clothing and threw about forty more halfpennies which had been heated on the gas-stove. These coins were far too hot to be picked up and the antics of the puzzled members, who found difficulty in associating heat with the thrown coins, was extremely funny to behold. Eventually, the real treasure (prizes) in the chest was distributed among those the fancy costumes.

At our "Hayback Night" the hall was decorated with many saplings and was lit by hurricane lamps. There were bales of hay, crates of fowls, a scarecrow, sheaves of wheat and a live kookaburra which laughed and laughed (a deafening sound in a hall). In the centre of the dance-floor there was a patch of imitation grass and dead leaves over which, above a camp fire, a billy boiled and in a dead tree, slithering around restlessly, there was a very-much-alive carpet snake whose name was said to be 'Alice'. "She" had been hired for 3/6d from a pet shop. Prizes for fancy costumes included butter, eggs, fruit, vegetables and live fowls. A small elderly lady was lucky enough to have her name drawn from a hat and she won "Alice". She was kindly allowed to donate her back to the Club.

On another occasion we found that an orchardist friend was about to dig out forty orange trees. We persuaded him to wait until the trees were bearing in the following year and then included "A Night in an Orange Grove" and collected the fully laden trees. From our decorations around the hall, our members were able to take home all the oranges they could pick.

At "Our 300th Birthday Party", when we celebrated our 300th Social, we had an enormous three-decker birthday cake, on wheels, which, in a blaze of lights from 300 candles, was drawn into the darkened hall by three little girls dressed as fairies. The two lower decks were realistically "iced" with plaster of paris, but the top deck was genuine and at the Party each member received a piece.

Among the novelties at another 'party' on "April Fools' Night", held when the date of a social happened to fall on 1st April, after similar genuine articles were served, members were induced to try lamingtons made of sponge-rubber, liquorice all-sorts realistically made of hard rubber, and cream horns with cotton-wool immersed in the cream. They were successfully caught with each of these and then were actually induced to struggle for soap-centred chocolates! The M.C. was seemingly giving away boxes of chocolates to winners whose numbers were drawn from a hat. In the hat, unbeknown to members, were only four tickets with numbers identical with those prominently worn by the M.C. He 'won' three large boxes (which were dummies) amidst cries of "unfair", "cheat", etc from the Committee. Then he 'won' a fourth box which he opened and put the only square (genuine) chocolate in his mouth. The committee

members shouted "rush him" and ran forward. As the ordinary members joined in the fun, the committee held back, with the result that, although the M.C. appeared to struggle, members got all the round, soap-centred chocolates.

After only a few chews, soap bubbles appeared around their lips and "helpful" committee members called "There's water in the kitchen". Those victims who rushed in, found twelve innocent-looking cut-glass tumblers on the sink. These were special 'dribble glasses' in which three cuts went extra deep and right through the glass so that, however they were held, water mysteriously poured down the drinker's chin. It seems almost incredible that members could be so caught, especially on 'April Fools' Night' but in this, and in many other ways, the innocent-looking teamwork of the committee trapped them again and again.

There was usually a crowd of onlookers peering in the door of the School of Arts' Hall when Jolly Rover socials were held because some of the decorative schemes were quite spectacular. It sometimes happened that the three previous nights were occupied with the erection of decorations or in rehearsing items to be performed on the stage.

One pleasing form of decoration I can remember was at a social which we called "Blossom Time". The hall was extensively adorned with branches of fruit trees with paper flowers and a most effective decoration was arranged in the centre of the dance floor. We hired an eight-foot diameter circular pond with bird-bath and fountain rising from its centre. It was set in the middle of the dance floor at about a foot above the floor in which there was a small hole which was usually hidden by a dowel-stick pushed up from underneath. Through this secret hole electric flex came, on occasions, to help create various effects. On this occasion it was to drive an electric motor which caused a pump to send water through the fountain high into the air. It fell back into the bird-bath and overflowed into the pond. Swimming in the pond were large goldfish while flowering water-lilies added to its attractiveness. In an area around the pond we placed boxes of damp sawdust which were covered with lengths of wire-netting over which we spread mats of imitation grass. Lengths of stiff florists' wire were pushed through the mats and were kept upright by the sawdust. The hollow stems of dozens of real daffodils were placed over the wires and leaves of maiden-hair fern were placed around the edge of the pond. This was novel and very beautiful.

Among dozens of other occasions, there was "A Night under the Sea". For a couple of years we had saved illustrated jokes dealing with divers, mermaids and underwater wrecks. These we enlarged to about half life-size and painted them in colours. At that time the National Geographic Magazine contained many coloured pictures of underwater scenes of seaweed, coral and fish and these we carefully copied and, with the aid of lill-pins, used as tacks, we fixed them to the walls. Then, interspersed among the coloured coral and rising seaweed we fixed the cutout figures of mermaids and divers and placed the wording of the jokes below in cutout paper letters.

In each electric-light fitting was placed crushed pale-green cellophane and this caused a streaky, green, under-water effect on the walls. In the centre of the hall we had a 3-ton pile of sand on which reclined a full-size mermaid. "She" was a wax display model with a tail made from wire-netting, covered



with silver paper. Using a large shell for a mirror, she was combing her long hair, while around her, in the sand, were live obsters.

Suspended from the roof of the hall hung large brilliantly coloured fish and the whole effect was viewed, as one entered the hall, through the mesh of a fishing net, suspended across an arch, complete with glass-ball floats and plaster fish.

The reader will have noticed that there was no need to leave the Jolly Rovers in order to secure a change of programme, for each social was different from the last. Consequently, with many new members wishing to join, and hardly anyone wanting to resign, early in the life of the Club it became necessary to limit the membership to ninety and to have a Waiting List which was limited to twenty. It usually took about three years to become a member, so in order to establish some order of priority, we also had a "list of people waiting to get on the waiting list".

Unless a social was limited to members only, those whose names were on the waiting list were entitled to attend.

The Club continued to flourish right throughout the war years and also survived petrol-rationing and black-outs. Then disaster fell! After the war ended Brett's Hall (in Derby Street) and the Royal Hall (in Andover Street Carlton) became factories and the two Masonic Halls (in Montgomery Street) were taken over by the Technical College. A Tenant in the Masonic Halls was the Manpower Department which moved to the Kogarah School of Arts Hall where partitions were erected and the hall was turned into offices. So we found ourselves homeless.

No suitable hall then existed and, although we continued for a while in the Carlton School of Arts, that hall was booked practically every night during the week and we were unable to gain access for the purpose of arranging decorations or rehearsals. So we regretfully went into recess after twenty-six happy and successful years.

During those twenty-six years, some members had children who grew up in the Club, met and married other young people therein and themselves had children whom they brought to the Club!

And that is part of the long story of The Jolly Rovers Social Club - a Club which I believe to have been unique.

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