



THE KOGARAH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NOVEMBER 1977

NEWSLETTER

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KOGARAH HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Next meeting: ; 0th November, 1977 Time: 8.00 p.m.
Place: Exhibition Lounge, 2nd. Fl., Civic Centre, Kogarah.
Guest Speaker: Mr. J. Bastock, Mem. Naval Historical Society and
Nautical Association of Australia. (Mr. Bastock
served at sea in the R.A.N. on the first training
ship, H.M.A.S. TINGARA.)
Topic: History - The Genesis of the R.A.N. (slides and talk
telling the history of the Australian Navy from 185))
Note: This month marks the 64th year since the entry of the
Australian Fleet into Sydney Harbour.

LADIES ON SUPPER ROSTER: Mrs. Holmes and Mrs. Buchanan.

REPORT ON OCTOBER MEETING

As a variation of the usual pattern of meetings the Open Night has established its place in the Society's annual calendar.

Members responded in sufficient number to provide a full programme for the night. The highlight was the excellently prepared illustrated talk on the history of the Kogarah Municipality given by President Jeff Veness. Its quality left little doubt in members' minds that its reception by other groups would be enthusiastic, as the first run-through at St. Cuthbert's Church has proved. Jack Lean will put it to another test when he presents it to a Toastmistress Club.

The romance of Cobb and Co. told in the graphic verse of Henry Lawson was one member's contribution. There was a short reading on flags. Several tables had been set out with articles brought to the meeting by members. There were some exquisite carefully preserved samples of fine needlework and embroidery which drew much admiration from the ladies. Mr. Lean had produced a number of copies made of old precious photographs; there were oldtime postcards, documents of some importance historically and books that were valuable and/or reminiscent of past years. Smaller articles, no less interesting, were varied and worth inspecting.

Supper was more of a feast than simply refreshments. The array of eatables tempted the dieters to break their self-imposed rules.

It was a happy night, allowing members to mingle and talk freely.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

Meeting at Carss' Cottage on Tuesday, 25th October, with J. Veness presiding. Present: 13. Apologies: Miss G. Coxhead, Miss C. McEwen, Mrs. D. A. Hatton (guest speaker for another society).

(Continued at foot of p.14)

SOCIAL COMMITTEE REPORT

CARCOAR WEEK-END - A great success. See separate report. (December)

ELIZABETH FARM VISIT, 27th November - Names are still being accepted.

ILLAWARRA THEATRE GUILD - "Two Dozen Red Roses". Due to lack of response there will be no party arranged for this performance.

CHRISTMAS NIGHT, December. Make sure you have listed your name.
No name, no catering for you!

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE. I have books of 10 raffle tickets at 10c per ticket for members to sell; please do your best to sell all tickets. Donations of grocery items may be handed to me, Sylvia Kelly.

OCTOBER RAFFLE was won by Mr. FitzHardinge. November raffle donated by Mr. and Mrs. FitzHardinge.

PERSONAL PAR - Colleen McEwen has been much missed from our meetings this year. Healthwise it has not been a good year for her and we hope 1978 will be a better year when we shall see more of her.

I wish you all a blessed and happy Christmas.

SYLVIA KELLY

MUSEUM ROSTER FOR NOVEMBER

<u>DATE</u>	<u>ATTENDANTS</u>	<u>TO OPEN</u>
6th	Mrs. D. Hatton, Mrs. M. Grieve	Mrs. D. Hatton
13th	Mrs. L. Beaven, Miss D. Maclean	Mr. J. Lean
20th	Mr. J. Wright, Mr. K. Grieve	Mr. J. Veness
27th	Mrs. A. McOnie, Miss M. Foley	*

* A volunteer to open the Museum is sought as this is the date set for the Parramatta bus outing to Elizabeth Farm)

MUSEUM ROSTER FOR DECEMBER

<u>DATE</u>	<u>ATTENDANTS</u>	<u>TO OPEN</u>
4th	Mrs. G. Johns, Mrs. G. Taylor	Mrs. G. Johns
11th	Miss J. Nicholson, Mrs. S. Hanlon	Mr. J. Veness
18th	Mrs. B. Dodd, Miss P. Harry	Mr. J. Lean
*26th (Monday)	Miss G. Coxhead and Friend	*
*27th (Tuesday)	do.	

*Public Holidays - a volunteer or volunteers sought to open Museum.

MUSEUM ROSTER FOR JANUARY

<u>DATE</u>	<u>ATTENDANTS</u>	<u>TO OPEN</u>
*1st (New Year's Day)	Mr. and Mrs. J. Howard	Mrs. E. Howard
*2nd	(Volunteers sought)	*

MUSEUM REPORT

October has been a very active and interesting month for those visiting the Museum and for members in attendance.

Visitors numbered well over 400 people; we have had 20 members on duty, some on more than one occasion.

In addition to the Sunday openings there was a midweek inspection by a group of 40 people from St. Martin's Church of England, at Blakehurst. They were all friendly folk and appeared to enjoy their afternoon visit, as did the members on duty, who were Mrs. Hanlon, Mrs. Armstrong and myself.

On three consecutive Friday mornings the Museum was opened for inspections by third form pupils of Moorefield Girls' High School, each group being accompanied by a teacher, making a total of 85 girls and 3 teachers.

Members in attendance were respectively, Mrs. Butters and Mrs. Buchanan, Mrs. Burghart and Mrs. Kelly, Mrs. Grieve and Miss Coxhead. All reported well organised visits and keen interest shown by students and teachers.

Many compliments have been received in regard to the Society's manner of presenting exhibits, and the general management of the Museum.

Miss Coxhead has been providing the LEADER and the St. GEORGE CALL with publicity articles regarding the Museum and quite a number of visitors have mentioned these when visiting Carss' Cottage.

I should like to thank Mrs. Jean McCann, of Kyle Bay who has, on a number of occasions, provided lovely flowers for the Museum, especially the marguerite daisies which have been much admired in the last few weeks.

Another member who assists from time to time with flowers from her garden is Miss Gwen Coxhead. She often surprises me with a lovely mixed bouquet waiting on the Museum doorstep on Saturday afternoons. Mrs. Sylvia Hanlon has also offered flowers whenever needed and a number of other ladies have helped out on many occasions. Although not an essential item in a museum, flowers do give an added touch to some displays and, we hope, pleasure to our many visitors.

Donations to the Museum collection in recent months have been numerous and varied as you will observe in the following acknowledgements.

Museum Report (continued)

The Society's thanks and appreciation go to Mr. and Mrs. PHILIP GEEVES for their continuing interest in Carss' Cottage and for the various items we have received from them in the last few years.

More recently Mr. Geeves has provided us with a number of articles relating to the Kenwood family, of Bexley. Mr. Thomas Leyton Kenwood (11.2.1897-16.6.1970) son of William and Adelaide Kenwood of "Wadhurst", Harrow Road, Bexley, was the architect of the St. George League's Club, Kogarah. Among the items received are family photographs, books and prizes, and a beautifully presented thesis, "The Orders of Architecture" a study by T. L. Kenwood.

Mr. E. G. UPTON has donated several books, one entitled "Over A Century of Brewing Tradition", interesting reading about Tooth and Company who established the Kent Brewery in 1835. A copy of "Tooth's Topics" (1976) is included with the other publications, viz - "The Story of Cadbury's, Tasmania", "A Guide to Entally National House" at Hadspen, Tasmania; "The History of Ebenezer" by Rev. G. S. Reid, former Moderator of the General Presbyterian Church of Australia; Form of Service booklet (21.9.1969) provided for the centenary of St. Paul's Church, Kogarah plus related material, St. Paul's Centenary Booklet (1869-1969) and the Kogarah Parish Messenger detailing the Centenary. Additionally Mr. Upton has donated a photograph of the St. George Brass Band (early 1900's) and a small round camp oven, Metters 7", standing on 3 legs and provided with a handle.

Mrs. G. TAYLOR has donated a photograph, blue print type, of Kogarah Bay (c. 1900).

Mr. W. HUNGERFORD (Kogarah Municipal Council) has donated a Fonadel Telephone Amplifier (office equipment).

Mrs. BARBARA HODGKINSON, of Oatley, has given an album of cigarette cards, including Australian wildflower designs, flags and Regimental crests, in bright colours on white silk.

From Mr. R. SMITH, of Oatley we have received a small kitchen scale

From Mr. A. TEASEL several books by Ethel Turner have been received

Mrs. S. KELLY has donated a set of 15 postcards, country views and early buildings, and Mrs. M. PERDRIAU, Balgowlah North, has given a little girl's dress and cape of white embroidered cotton, a monogrammed hand towel and six small lace items (doyleys, etc.).

Some items donated by Mrs. Hanlon, Miss G. Coxhead and Mrs. A. Newlyn will be listed in my next report; also a further donation by Mrs. Little of many varied articles which are still being sorted into appropriate categories for reference and future displays.

(continued at foot of p.6)

REPORT by ELAINE HOWARD after her attendance with Daryl Butters at the Conference of the Royal Australian Historical Society in Sydney last month.

THE WRITING OF LOCAL HISTORY

"Kentucky? The fool who gave such a name should be buried knee-deep in the earth, and bowled to death with turnips."

We all laughed at the picture conjured up of the exasperated Sir Thomas Mitchell scrawling these words irritably across the official report he was reading.

More than a hundred years later the notation was discovered and commented on by Dr. Lionel Gilbert, indefatigable local historian. We, the delegates at the 1977 Royal Australian Historical Society Conference with Affiliated Societies, were Dr. Gilbert's rapt audience as he proclaimed that "History is the supreme human study, and also the supreme environmental study. Our history is reflected in the landscape - the natural and the historical landscape."

The speakers at the conference included writers and educators who happily admitted to their love affairs with local history (otherwise would it all be worthwhile?). Dr. Gilbert assured us that being a dedicated amateur was nothing to be ashamed of as long as the research was checked for authenticity and the writing was carefully compiled. Poor writing, inconsistencies, personal or parish trumpet blowing, generalisations and trite cliches could be a disservice to local history.

I think all the speakers enjoyed having the opportunity to talk about the writing of local history, from their own experiences, and varied points of view, even though Professor John Griffith, who is writing a history of Kangaroo Valley, described himself as devoted - and demented. So devoted that he often travels widely to check sources and demented enough to think a free cell at Darlinghurst gaol might solve the problem of scarce, cheap accommodation for country historians!

Mr. D. I. McDonald, a past President of Canberra and District Historical Society, and Mr. Philip Geeves emphasized the importance and uniqueness of any area you may wish to write about. It all begins with geography - the *raison d'être* for the settlement (said Mr. Geeves); what Dr. Gilbert called the natural and historical landscape; the area's distance from localities connected with national issues (McDonald) and the study of explorers' journals, maps and land settlement and legislation (Prof. Griffith). All these aspects of your area's geography are important when you come to study and write about its history.

All the speakers deplored generalisations and snippets of unconnected information. If you have lived in an area for a long while you should be able to write down some of your memories - or

The Making of Local History (continued)

stories told to you from earlier days. Such information may be a treasure for local historians who call such memories a primary source. Other people may choose to research and write about a certain theme or issue - anything which will be informative, interesting and worthwhile for the reader. People who set out to write "The" history of the area can never really have the last word obviously. "A" history, on the other hand, will add to the community's collection and may stimulate someone else to research the subject further.

Throughout the Conference it became evident that there is some resentment that women's historical importance has been ignored so far by many historians, although women were usually the writers of diaries, letters and other family records. There is also a considerable amount of resentment about the "interminable questions of school children". Surely this is why we need more research and more detailed history written as a record for their studies. Teachers should be invited to visit (and join) the society to discuss the syllabus and research problems, especially as Australian history will soon be extended to High School Certificate level.

Come along, all you devoted amateur historians, all you members of Kogarah Historical Society. Sharpen your pencils, sort out your reference notes, dust off the typewriter and send in your literary and photographic contributions to our Editor.

The Conference was rounded off on Sunday with visits to historic buildings in Randwick. We attended Morning Service at the historic Anglican Church, St. Jude's, and afterwards wandered around the fascinating old graveyard. Among other places visited was the beautiful and unique Presbyterian Church in Alison Road.

MUSEUM REPORT - continued from P.4

Our thanks are once again expressed to all these persons I have mentioned for their contributions to Carss' Cottage Museum.

Will members who are on the roster for museum duty, please check the dates as some alterations have been made. Please let me know if your date is inconvenient. My telephone number is 57 5940.

GWEN LEAN

QUIZ CORNER

Q. Who was KING BILLY?

A. He was chief of the Illawarra tribe. After a walkabout from Fig Tree, Wollongong, he settled at La Perouse (now Malabar), building the first aboriginal humpy there. Later the materials from his humpy were re-used to build a shack, demolished in 1974. His daughter-in-law, Queen Emma, occupied it and last of all, King Billy's great-grandson, John Timbery and his wife, Marjorie. Their exit ended an Aboriginal era.

MRS. H. GRIEVE has furnished this report on the CANTERBURY BUS TOUR which took place on 13th September.

It is hard to know where to commence or where to finish when it comes to writing an account of our guided tour of the Canterbury district.

Situated so close to the city and to the region known as Australia's birthplace, quite understandably it is teeming with history.

Our guide, Mrs. Roberts, a member of the Canterbury Historical Society, had mapped out a very comprehensive tour for us. With appropriate and accurate commentaries it proved to be a very profitable lesson in history and general knowledge.

CANTSBIE. Number one item was the fire station which, in the early days, had only a hand reel hose, replaced by a horse-drawn vehicle in 1818.

Law and order were maintained from the Police Station built in 1923. Prior to this the district was policed from a house in Deanish Street.

The site of the old Town Hall (1888) is now occupied by the Amoco petrol station on Canterbury Road. The present Council administrative building is in the main street.

An interesting area where a number of streets converge is known as Poets' Corner as each street is named after a famous poet. Shelley, Byron, Tennyson, Browning, Dryden, Burns and Cowper Moore are the names perpetuated.

Cook's River flows throughout the municipality; there are no water frontage houses along the foreshores. One can walk along the entire length on either side from Point A to Point Z without hindrance.

An adjoining recreation ground, Tasker Park, was reserved for women and girls only when it was initially opened.

As the population increased it was necessary to build more roads and bridges to facilitate travel to Sydney. One enterprising gentleman, Cornelius Prout, built a bridge over the river and was given permission to charge toll money until he had recouped the cost. Later, it was discovered that he was still demanding the toll, years after the bridge's cost had been defrayed. Rather than help his fellow citizens any further he barricaded the bridge and eventually it was demolished. Cornelius was not exactly a "love thy neighbour" type. So much for Prout's Bridge.

Due to the efforts of Varney Parkes, son of Henry Parkes, a Post Office was opened in 1909.

In Minter Street we saw three terraced houses, solid and still attractive, said to be the only ones of this type in the district.

CANTERBURY. The well known racecourse was the venue of picnic races from early times. The first race meeting was held in November, 1871.

Canterbury Bus Tour in September (continued)

We proceeded from the racecourse to St. Paul's Church - an Arthur Jeffries donated the land on which it was built. Edmund Blackett of early architectural fame was the architect. Work was completed in 1659 and the church was officially opened in 1666.

Whilst looking at the building I tried to conjure up the appropriate words to describe this stately edifice. The words of the poet, John Keats, came to my mind - "A thing of beauty is a joy forever".

Since it has been declared an historic site, registered with the National Trust, we are assured that St. Paul's will be saved for posterity.

At its entrance we noted two quaint features. On either side of the doorway a strong iron bar had been inserted in a stone niche to make a sturdy footscraper. Both stones and bars showed wear from constant use.

We spent some time reading the epitaphs engraved on the headstones in the church grounds. One name inscribed as George Kenyon Holden, born 1806 died 1874. Chief examiner of Land Titles suggested interesting research.

A beautiful home (in a good state of repair) was "Beulah Vista", built by George Tonkin, a stonemason. The house was a replica of that in Weymouth England, where he was born. The stone was quarried at Earlwood and the bricks were hand-made.

Cup and Saucer Creek flows into Cocks River. It derived the name from the way it meandered through the land: when viewed on a map it resembled a cup and saucer. Once this watercourse flowed strongly but now it is reduced in size and volume to a mere drain.

Continuing our tour, we crossed Wardell Road Bridge, named after Dr. Wardell who practised in the district. We paused to admire "Gladstone Hall" once the residence of the proprietor of Starkey's Ginger Beer. The premises are now used by the Civilian Maimed and Limbless Association. From the area now known as Murlstone Park, a lovely view of the river could be seen.

After a steep ascent to the top of Nanny Goat Hill we were rewarded with a wide, extensive panorama spread before our gaze. Kurnell with the oil refinery, Mascot Airport, Botany Bay, Bunnerong and Centrepont were the main landmarks. Another landmark was nearer. It was the 2-storey residence of a Mr. Jones from Bathurst. In 1920 it was sold to the War Service Homes. Now the property is owned by a Mr. Fletcher, a descendant of the original owner.

The last call was at Girrawheen Park, an area of seventeen acres, much of which is in its natural state. I almost forgot to mention an old home via Moorefields Road which was a depot for Cobb and Co. Also the Methodist Church in the same road. The first was erected in 1881. Known as the Wesleyan Chapel, the Foundation Stone was unveiled by Rev. Conibear. Among the graves in the small cemetery close by, we found the tombstone with the following inscription: "Sacred to the memory of John Robert Peake, died August 12th, 1886, aged 71 years." I wonder if the residents of Peakhurst

REPORT on the SEMINAR FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF SMALL MUSEUMS
held at WOLLONGONG, 15th-16th September, 1977

Contributed by Kerrie Duggan

On the morning of 15th September (Thursday) I was on the 6.18 a.m. train travelling to Wollongong for a special Seminar entitled "The Management of Small Museums", organised by the Division of Cultural Activities, Premier's Department, Sydney. I stayed at the Piccadilly Motel West End, Crown Street, and the Historical Conference was held at the Barclay Function Centre, 28 Atchison Street.

The Registration was held at 8.45 a.m. and guests were from various museums - from the Mitchell Library, Sydney (Archives Department), the Railway Transport Museum, the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences, Sydney, and the Illawarra Museum, Wollongong. Every delegate was given a printed folder containing coloured maps and glossy pamphlets on Wollongong with information about and colour plates of the Illawarra District. There were two blue-covered typed printed books. One dealt with the N.S.W. Film Council (Frances Street, Sydney), the Sydney Opera House Trust (Bennelong Pt.), The Art Gallery of N.S.W. (Art Gallery Road), Division of Cultural Activities (18 Pitt Street, Sydney), the State Library of N.S.W. (Macquarie Street), The Archives Authority of N.S.W. (Macquarie Street), The Australian Museum (6-8 College Street) and the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences (659-695 Harris Street, Sydney).

The other blue-bound book dealt with the detailed and informative lectures of the most accomplished seminar speakers. There were other pamphlets on "What Is A Museum?", "Question Booklet Wool", "The Museum of the Illawarra Historical Society" (11 Market Street, Wollongong). There was a list of Seminar delegates in alphabetical order, giving their address and Society represented. Everybody was also given an identity card with delegate's name and society represented thereon. Some publications recommended for small museums were also included. Lastly there were booklets, a Newsletter, and application form for anyone interested in joining the organisation called The Museum of Australia (c/o Macleay Museum, Uni. of Sydney). I have just joined.

Among the booklets was one very important little one: "Museums and Historic Buildings of N.S.W.". Our Carss' Cottage is listed on p.3 after Lydham Hall, Bexley, and before Concord Historical Museum. The bullock dray in the grounds is mentioned.

The Seminar was opened at 10.00 a.m. by the Lord Mayor of Wollongong and commenced with "An Introduction to the Seminar" by Mr. J. L. Willis, Chairman, Committee on N.S.W. Museums and Galleries, and Director, Museums of Applied Arts and Sciences. Mr. John Hodge, B.Sc., B. Ed., Th.A., Lecturer at the University of Sydney, gave "A Keynote Address" (1.45 a.m.) Mr. Hodge holds degrees/

Small Museums Report (continued)

diplomas from the Institute of Fine Arts and a Post Graduate Diploma in Museum Studies, University of Sydney. He was the first education officer at the Queensland Museum and was awarded a Churchill Fellowship to study museums in North America, Great Britain and Europe.

At 11.15 a.m. we had the lecture "The Educational Role of the Museum" by Miss Patricia M. McDonald, Education Officer, Australian Museum, B.Sc., M. Ed., and current President of the Museums Association of Australia.

In the afternoon, at 1.00 p.m. we listened to "Display in the Museum", a lecture by Mr. Brian P. Bertram, Chief of Exhibitions, The Australian Museum. Mr. Bertram helped with Expo '74 and visited museums in the U.S. and Mexico.

At 4.30 p.m. "Museum Records Systems" by Mr. N. Harwood was the lecture programmed. Mr. Harwood is attached to the Transport and Engineering Department, Museum of Australia, Art and Sciences. He is a member of A.M.A.A.

Refreshment breaks occurred at 10.15 a.m. (morning tea); 1.00 p.m. (lunch); 2.30 p.m. (afternoon tea); and the day's activities closed at 5.00 p.m. Delegates had time to change and freshen up for the Conference Dinner at the Illawarra Leagues Club, Church Street. Drinks were served first at 6.30 p.m. and then at 7.00 p.m. a 4-course dinner followed during which there was one short speech. At 9.00 p.m. a visit had been arranged to the Wollongong Museum. Here supper was served and after this interesting visit the group dispersed to retire for the evening.

Next day (Friday, 16th September) the first session began at 9.00 a.m. with a lecture entitled "Museum Records Systems", delivered by Mrs. Betty Goodger, Manuscripts Section, Mitchell Library, State Library of N.S.W. Mrs. Goodger holds B.A. and A.L.A.A. qualifications. She was followed by Mr. David Newell, Restorer of Libraries, Maps and Pictures, who in 1973 gained a Churchill Fellowship to study Paper Conservation and Restoration in the U.S.

Morning tea intervened then at 11.00 a.m. the topic "Conservation in the Museum" was dealt with by lecturer Miss Sue Watson, Head of Materials Lab., President of the Institute for the Conservation of Cultural Material. A lunch break was taken between 12.30 p.m. and 1.30 p.m. and afternoon tea was had at 3.00 p.m. with a session between. At 3.30 p.m. a lecture, "Museums and the Law", was given by Mr. Ian Ramsey, L.Lb., Legal Officer, DDivision of Cultural Activities, Premier's Department, followed at 4.00 p.m. by "Cultural Grants", a lecture by Mr. M. L. Challenger, B.E.M., Executive Member of the Cultural Grants Advisory Council, Division of Cultural Activities, Premier's Department; one of the Opera House Trust since 1966; expert photographer for historic records. (He was a helper and Seminar organiser along with Mr. Robert Tait).

The Seminar was formally closed at 4.30 p.m. to enable discussion to take place on the Conference topics and Mr. Challenger's address.

Small Museums Report (continued)

The Conference consisted of 6 seminars and 10 lectures, all very informative on museum management. I enjoyed this Wollongong Conference as much as the Melbourne one.

Return to Sydney was by car in company with some others, including a lady I know from the National Parks and Wild Life Society, who is also a member of Randwick Historical Society. I arrived home at 6.00 p.m. in time for the meeting of the St. George Historical Society.

I was glad and honoured to be chosen as a delegate representing Kogarah Historical Society at the Wollongong Conference and am only sorry that I shall be unable to attend the Museum Conference in Adelaide in October (due to a prior engagement). However the organisation will be meeting in Canberra next year and I hope to represent Kogarah on that occasion.

My trip south was not only enjoyable for me but beneficial in other directions. I was able to obtain links to complete some of my family history. Information on members of the family who resided in Wollongong many years ago was augmented.

For the Society I took detailed notes from the lectures, particularly on many points of museum management too numerous to mention here. However they will be on hand if anyone wishes to refer to them.

May I once again express my thanks to those members who suggested that I should be chosen for a delegate of Kogarah Historical Society for the Wollongong Conference-Seminar. I hope I may have further opportunities to perform a similar function and that this account of the trip has been of interest to members.

SOMETHING ABOUT CHINA

Chinese cartography is at least 2,000 years old but Chinese geography goes back to the origins of Chinese civilization.

Until 1974 when an exciting archeological find was made near Changsha in Hunan province it was believed that the earliest extant maps were two carved into stone in 1137. The new discovery includes a pair of maps going back as far as 127 B.C. drawn on raw silk and preserved in a lacquered box in a tomb. These are the earliest surviving maps in the world. Both sets of maps are products of considerable sophistication and reveal connections both with the two most archaic and two most "modern" strands in Chinese cartography.

In the 15th century a Chinese admiral made a number of lengthy sea voyages and charted many coasts. The Chinese knew the general shape of the African continent well before anyone in Europe.

Flat maps were later followed by globes.

From strictly Chinese confines the maps, particularly after the coming of the Jesuit priests into China, were expanded to cover the whole world.

Extracted from HEMISPHERE, May, 1977

BLAKEHURST HISTORICAL SERIES

Article No. 12 - Letter with enclosure addressed to J. H. Coxhead,
Hon. Secretary, Blakehurst Progress Association.

MUNICIPALITY OF KOGARAH

Council Chambers,
Kogarah.

24th November, 1921

Mr. J. H. Coxhead,
Secretary, Blakehurst Progress Association,
Woniara Road, BLAKEHURST.

Dear Sir,

I beg to enclose herewith copy of the report of the proceedings at the meeting of the Committee appointed to consider the proposed acquisition of Carss' Bush, held at the Council Chambers on Thursday, the 17th instant.

Yours faithfully,

(signed) R. C. ROSE

TOWN CLERK

P.S. Mr. Sulman has been written to. R.C.R.
Enclosure

REPORT of proceedings at a MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE APPOINTED to consider the proposed acquisition of Carss' Bush, held AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, KOGARAH on THURSDAY, the 17th November, 1921.

PRESENT:- His Worship the Mayor (Alderman F. J. Wheeler),
ALDERMEN JONES, STEENBOM, WALSH and POULTON
representing the Council.

Messrs. WILLIS, DUNLOP, LARGE and COXHEAD representing
The Blakehurst Progress Association.

Mr. Murray Bocking, Secretary, Mortdale Traders'
Association was also present and was added to
the Committee.

The Mayor occupied the chair. He reported having interviewed Mr. Ley and the Lands Department with the object of ascertaining the terms and conditions under which Carss' Bush can be secured.

A letter was received from the Lands Department intimating that there have not been any definite negotiations by the Department with the owners for the purchase of the land, but the Metropolitan District

Surveyor reported on 14th September, 1921 that the Executors of the Estate had informed him that they were then considering an offer to purchase the property at £11,000.

The several proposals submitted by the deputation from the Blakehurst Progress Association at the last meeting of the Council were discussed at length and finally the following decisions were arrived at, viz -

- (1) That the Trustees be approached with a view to ascertaining
 - (a) What sum and terms they will accept for the whole area
 - (b) Whether they will sell a portion of the area as may be recommended by the Town Planning Association.
- (2) That the Town Planning Association be requested to express an opinion on the two proposals indicated in the preceding paragraph.
- (3) That the Lands Department be approached with a view to ascertaining whether Dover Park can be sold and the proceeds applied towards the purchase of Carss' Bush.
- (4) That Mr. John Sulman be invited to inspect the area and advise the Committee regarding the proposals.

The Committee decided to meet again when the information desired comes to hand.

JOTTINGS

Curator of the Natural History Museum at Mt. Victoria in N.S.W. is Dr. Rex Gillroy. He has long held a theory that ancient Egyptians once landed in Australia. About two years ago the finding of giant rock carvings lent credence to his theory. In December, 1975 while on a week-end outing in the Dryander Ranges in Queensland, Mr. Ron Muller, a Proserpine grazier, stumbled upon a rare discovery. Upon a boulder measuring 9m. x 12m. he saw carvings characterised by straight chiselled strokes. They closely resemble those of ancient Egypt.

Elsewhere in Queensland unusual carvings depicting strangely garbed non-Aboriginal figures suggest that there were unrecorded visitors to our land well before the British flag was hoisted at Botany Bay. Obviously we still have much to learn about this great big country of ours.

Not only was Florence Nightingale the first English nurse but so far as anyone knows, she was the first English girl named Florence (after her birthplace in Italy).

Canterbury Bus Tour in September (continued)

are aware of the last resting place of the pioneer who gave their suburb its name?

Our sincere thanks go to Mrs. Roberts who organised the tour.

Management Committee Report (continued)

Among correspondence dealt with was advice from the Chief Librarian, Kogarah Library, indicating preparedness to accept for safekeeping literary items of local historical interest that the Kogarah Historical Society wishes to have housed there. It was later agreed to donate to the Kogarah Library five books having historical interest.

Reference to organised school visits to the Museum led Mr. J. Lean to suggest that the schedule of current admission charges should be revised and \$2.00 be the amount for a school group with teacher/s.

To further advertise Carss' Cottage Museum it was proposed that the Society should arrange to have photographs, cards and posters more freely available. Mr. Burghart advised that the Kogarah Tourist Information Centre was to be updated and there would be the latest information there on Carss' Cottage and Park. Therefore our own data should be gone through very carefully.

Discussion turned to abuses by the public of certain facilities at Carss' Cottage (or misuses) and ways were examined of overcoming what is a growing problem. At this point the meeting ended.

OFFICEBEARERS OF THE KOGARAH HISTORICAL SOCIETY AND OTHER INFORMATION

PRESIDENT: Mr. J. Veness, 6 Lance Avenue, Blakehurst. 2221 PH. 546 3932
HON. SECRETARY: Mrs. B. Butters, 36 Louisa Street, Catley. Ph. 57 6954
HON. TREASURER: Mrs. G. Johns, 38 Princes H/way, Kogarah. Ph. 587 4646
VICE PRESIDENTS: Mr. N. Kelly and Mr. V. S. Smith

MEETINGS - 2nd Thursday of a month, at 8.00 p.m. in Exhibition Lounge,
Kogarah Civic Centre, Belgrave Street, Kogarah. (Lift to 2nd Fl.)

REGISTERED ADDRESS: Carss' Cottage, Carss' Park, Blakehurst. N.S.W. 2221

CARSS' COTTAGE MUSEUM, Carss' Park, Blakehurst. Open for inspection on
Sundays and Public Holidays from 1.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m.

Admission Charges - Adults: 30c.; Children: 10c.; Family (4+) 80c.

Contributions to NEWSLETTER should be sent to the Publications Officer,
61 Carwar Avenue, Carss' Park, Blakehurst. 2221

MEMBERSHIP: New members are always welcome; also visitors.

Subscriptions - Ordinary Members \$2.00 pa; Pensioners/Students \$1.50 pa.