

Kogarah Historical Society Inc

Carss Cottage Museum – Carss Park
Postal Address PO Box 367, Kogarah 1485

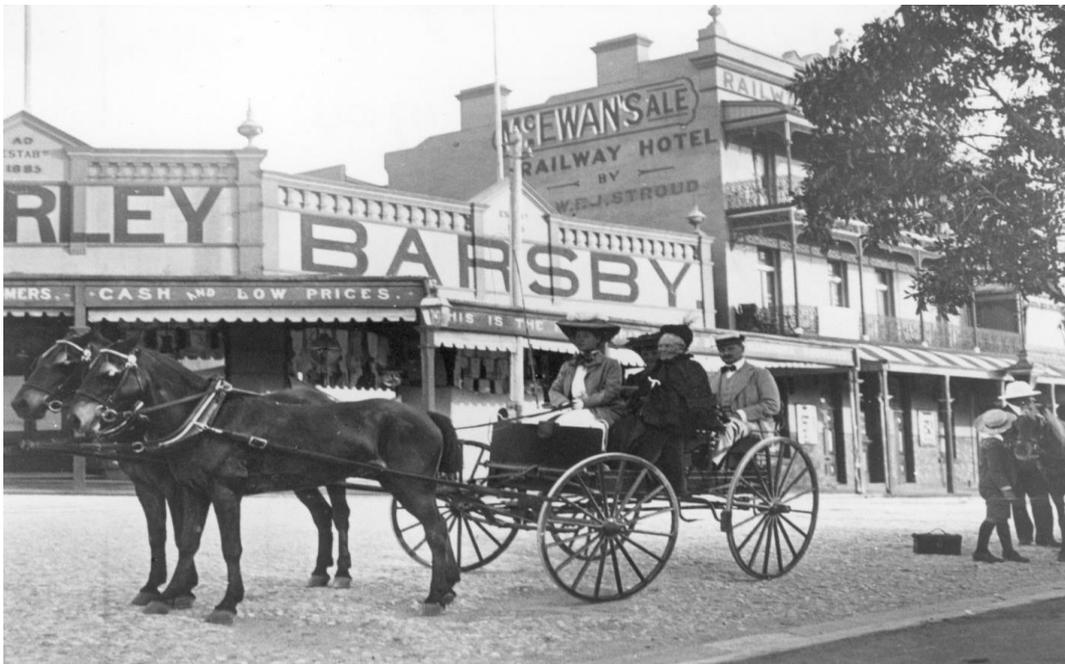
Patron: The Mayor of Kogarah

President: Beverley Earnshaw (9546 1091)

Newsletter

May – June 2009

Volume 1 No 2



Railway Parade Kogarah in 1904 showing Barsby's Store and Stroud's RailwayParade Hotel
(see story page 8)

Meetings and Speakers

Thursday 14 May

Speaker: Chrys Meader, Librarian
Marrickville Council Library, on The History
of Marrickville Road - Marrickville as a
Shopping Centre.

Thursday 11 June

Speaker: Ron Ringer, Historian & Author of
The Brickmasters 1788-2008, on the
Brickmakers of Sydney.

Meetings are held at the School of Arts, Bowns Road Kogarah, at 2pm. Enjoy the speaker, then the opportunity to chat over afternoon tea. A short business meeting follows. For assistance with transport to meetings please contact Carole Tier (9527 2403)

Mondays at the Museum

Kevin Skelsey, Proprietor of Skelseys Hollywood Antiques, Beverly Hills is the speaker in May. Kevin will be 'Investigating Antiques' – using indicators to prove the age, history and worth of an 'antique' item. It's on May 25 commencing at 10 am. Your entrance fee of \$5.00 includes an excellent morning tea and the chance to win a door prize. Space is limited so book early through Coralie on 9546 1580.

Welcome

A very warm welcome to new members:

Patricia and Trevor Campbell of Gynea

We hope you have a long and happy association with the Society

Museum Roster

May		June	
3 rd	Carole Tier & Ken Grieve	7 th	Gilda Tilia & Evelyn Buckingham
10 th	Mavis Ward & Mary Williams	14 th	Coralie & Albert Lewin
17 th	Trudy Johns & Elizabeth Emerson	21 st	Trudy Johns & Elizabeth Emerson
24 th	Betty Goodger & Janette Hollebone	28 th	Betty Goodger & Janette Hollebone
31 st	Cath & Leo Sullivan		

Hours are 1 pm – 5 pm. Any problems, please contact Elizabeth Emerson on 9546 4149

Any members who are willing to volunteer for a regular spot at the Museum or to be on the emergency list, please contact Elizabeth or a committee member.

Committee 2009, as elected at AGM (* denotes Executive)

President:*	Beverley Earnshaw	Ph: 9546 1091
Vice President (1):*	Janette Hollebone	Ph: 9529 7117
Vice President(2):*	Betty Goodger	Ph: 9570 1101
Secretary:*	Gill Whan	Ph: 9546 4623
Treasurer:*	Cath Sullivan	Ph: 9579 6149
Museum Custodian	Coralie Lewin	Ph: 9546 1580
Committee Members:	Beryl Butters, Mavis Ward, Trudy Johns, Judy Reynolds, Carole Tier, Lawrie Corry	

Committee meetings

4 May 09, 7.00 pm	Beryl Butters, 36 Louisa Street, Oatley
1 June 09, 7.00pm	Betty Goodger, Unit 3/2 Nelson St., Penshurst
6 July 09, 7.00pm	Gill Whan, 11 Dewrang St., Carss Park

President's Report

(as given at the 2009 Annual General Meeting of Kogarah Historical Society)

This has been another very successful year for the Society. We have 82 current members, three of these are life members, and the attendance at our General Meetings has topped at 34 but is usually 20 to 30. Our monthly meetings are held in the Kogarah School of Arts, Bowns Road, Kogarah on the second Thursday of each month at 2 pm. The hall was unexpectedly unavailable for our April 2008 meeting and we were fortunate to be given the Community Centre in the St George Bank in Premier Street by Kogarah Council. Our Guest Speaker starts the afternoon and this is followed by afternoon tea. Our Committee Meetings are held on the first Monday of the month at 7pm.

The Guest Speakers for this year have been:

March	Beverley Earnshaw spoke on Princess Charlotte, daughter of King George IV
April	Pam Liell spoke on Dressed in Their Best
May	Sam Everingham on the history of Cobb & Co Coaches
June	Jim Smyth on the history of the Ambulance Service
July	Patricia Skehan on Charles Kingsford Smith, Southern Cross, America to Australia 1927
August	Bob and Laurel Horton - Stained Glass Windows in St Peters Anglican Church, Cooks River
September	Bill Allen gave his presentation, Vol 3 on Rivers and Wharves, Yesterday and Today
October	Dr Peter Orlovich on Land Development and Early Land Grants in Colonial NSW
November	Heather Bentley spoke on the history of Banquets and Feasts
February	Lesley Muir on WWI Battlefields and Cemeteries—Gallipoli and the Western Front

Judy Reynolds as Speaker Co-ordinator has excelled herself again this year with the quality of speakers and Carole Tier has carried out Judy's instructions to the letter.

When I arrive at the Kogarah School of Arts it is always a pleasure to find the chairs set out, often secretly arranged the evening before by Betty Reynolds. I thank those members who arrive early to help with the chairs, prepare afternoon tea things and set up the room ready for the speaker.

The Carss Cottage Museum continues to be our most visited venue. The Museum is open every Sunday from 1pm to 5pm staffed by volunteers, and although visitor numbers are small on Sundays, the Museum is open by appointment for school and group tours. During the year a record total of 825 people visited the Museum. Coralie Lewin, the Museum Custodian, puts in many voluntary hours attending and cataloguing the collection and changing the displays. Five times a year she organizes *Mondays at the Museum*. This begins with morning tea followed by a talk in the Museum by a guest speaker and a closer look at a selection of items from the collection. Space is limited so bookings are restricted to 30 persons and the sessions are always booked out. On 30 March, Coralie received the Salvation Army Award for ongoing service and commitment to the residents of the St George community presented by Bronwyn Bishop MP—a well deserved award.

This year's Speakers at the Museum were:

March	Bill Kerameas spoke on the History of Bottles and Containers, Type and Uses
May	Douglas Minty talked about the History of Time
July	Daphne Kingston on the Work and Life of Rita Bloomfield (1907-1997)
September	Christine McKenna on What Lies Beneath? Women's Underthings
November	Neil Keast read from his Father's Diaries on School and Rural Life 1937 to 1959

Our thanks go to the catering team, Trudy Johns, Gilda Tilia and Elizabeth Emerson, who provide a delicious morning tea for Mondays at the Museum. Trudy also organizes the afternoon tea at our General Meeting.

Elizabeth Emerson looks after the Museum Roster and is always happy for Members to offer their services. Please contact Elizabeth if you can help on one Sunday afternoon a month or every two months, and/or be placed on the Emergency List for last-minute contact.

During the year the Society had two bus trips. The first was guided by me around Sydney Olympic Park and Bicentennial Park on Thursday, 15 May. It was a beautiful sunny day and thanks to Cath Sullivan for organizing the minibus and driver from the St George Transport. Highlights were the MacIntosh marble fountain, visiting the Sports Museum to see Foley's championship boxing belt and the boardwalk. The second tour was on Thursday, 20 November when Beverley Earnshaw thrilled us with her commentary on some of the houses written up in *Houses & Heritage*. There were many highlights but the invitation by the owner of Sunnyside to go inside to view the work that had been done and to see the enormity of what still needs to be done, was much appreciated. Cath Sullivan had organized the minibus and driver from Mortdale RSL. Mavis Ward booked 20 seats for us to see *Habeus Corpus* at the Guild Theatre on 16 August which was enjoyed by all.

Our Newsletter has been edited by Coralie Lewin and dispatched by Mavis Ward. Articles are regularly contributed by Betty Goodger with a few by Beverley Earnshaw and me, and Mavis Ward records the speakers and reports on them from the General Meeting and Mondays at the Museum. Coralie resigned as Newsletter Editor in February 2009 and we thank her for being editor since November 2003. The March edition was edited by Gill Whan with help from Beverley Earnshaw and me. We are trying to cut down on the hours of work in copying, collating and stapling so we have given the job of printing our Newsletter to Cliff Lewis Printing Pty Ltd.

Historic enquiries which come by mail are answered by Betty Goodger. Phone enquiries are usually answered by Betty Goodger, Janette Hollebhone and Beverley Earnshaw.

Albert Lewin, despite health problems, has partnered Coralie on roster at the Museum and is still assisting at Mondays at the Museum. The black silhouettes he has made to display children's clothing show his flair for design. Thank you Albert for all the jobs we do not see you do.

I wish to thank those volunteers who give up their time to help the Society. Gill Whan is doing a great job as Hon Secretary. Cath Sullivan has been Hon Treasurer for some years now and seems to be unflappable. Thank you Cath and voluntary auditor, David Shaw. Betty Goodger has looked after the Library and files at the Museum and does the cataloguing. Beverley Earnshaw has always been there to answer my queries. Because she has lived in the district all her life, Beverley is a mine of information. We are so lucky that she is willing to be the author of our books. Beverley is working hard on the Carss Park book now which we hope to publish this year. We received the RAHS Grant for \$1,000 towards this publication.

I thank all the Members of the Committee for their support. Lastly I thank all the members for their attendance and support during the year and look forward to Kogarah Historical Society having an even better year for 2009/2010

Janette Hollebhone
President 2008-09

New members are always welcome – application forms at the meetings or ring our Secretary on 95464623. Members are invited to monthly meetings with a speaker, receive a newsletter every second month and have free entry to Carss Park Cottage Museum. Membership Fees - \$8.00 per annum (single), \$12.00 for couple



Cecil Wesley Poulton

By Betty Goodger

Cecil Poulton is wearing the gold medallion engraved "From the Citizens of the Grove 1911". Copy R.C.Kentwell 2008

Cecil Wesley Poulton was an alderman of Kogarah Council from 1909 to 1911. He lived at Sunnyside, 9 Cecil Street, Hurstville Grove, from 1900 to 1911. He was a Justice of the Peace.

Hurstville Grove was a relatively new suburb which was subdivided to take advantage of the railway which opened up the Illawarra district in 1884. The first land sales were held in 1886. I had always assumed Cecil Street was named for him. Now I wonder if he could have been connected with the subdivision of the land and so the choosing of street names, as I first found Cecil Street in Sands Directory in 1893, before he came to live there.

It is interesting to note that names had not yet become established for I found Cecil's address was given in 1911 as Peakhurst, not Hurstville Grove. The locals had already settled on The Grove in typical Aussie style of abbreviation.

In 1911 he left the district and lived in the northern suburbs of Epping, Thornleigh and Beecroft for the rest of his life. His family still have a medallion for a watch chain, engraved "Presented to Ald. C.W. Poulton by the residents of The Grove 1911", and on the obverse, the initials, C.W.P.

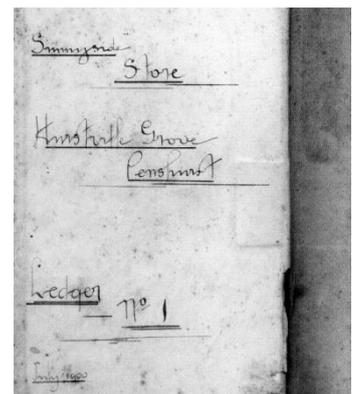
I looked in vain in the local newspaper, the St George Call, for some comment about his civic work, but did not find him singled out. All I found was a report by the Mayor, dated 5th February 1910, listing the number of meetings each alderman had attended. Cecil W. Poulton had only attended 11 – a small total compared to most of the aldermen. Perhaps the responsible nature of his work was keeping him too busy.

His obituary appeared in the local paper of November 1935 and tells us that he was secretary of Hoskins Iron & Steel Co Ltd, later Australian Iron & Steel. He had joined the firm in 1889, when it was located on the site of the Sydney Municipal Markets and retired in 1924, after 35 years of service. Sadly he did not live long to enjoy his retirement as he died in 1935, aged 64 years, at Beecroft. He had not been forgotten in Kogarah.

Cecil Wesley Poulton was born in 1871, the eldest child of Sydney Poulton and Lydia (nee Lane). His younger brother, Harry Leonard Poulton, born 1881, lived nearby in Hillcrest Avenue and also served as an alderman, from 1921 to 1926 and 1932 to 1941.

He married Catherine Leah Coote in 1897 and they lived in Woollahra, then moved to Cecil Street in 1900. Three of their four children were born there, Thelma in 1899, Malcolm in 1901, Clarice in 1904 and Kingsley in 1914 at Epping.

Cecil and Katie, as she was always known, may have opened a general store in Cecil Street, for among the family papers is a ledger, for Sunnyside Store, Hurstville Grove, Penshurst. The last entry is for 1901 and is in Mrs Poulton's handwriting.



Cecil was a keen amateur photographer and not only took photographs of his home in Cecil Street, his family, and picnics in the bush, but also the idyllic bushland that surrounded Hurstville Grove and Oatley before houses covered the suburb. In a letter, written to her family in 1897, not long after her marriage, Katie describes a picnic to Ku-ring-gai Chase. She and Cecil *hiked down a terrible steep gully – all the sides covered in flowers and ferns. Cecil had his camera on this back. When they started back, they got up the gully after several rests and started at a brisk walk for the station.*

Remember there were no pocket-sized, hand-held cameras then. Cecil used glass plates as his negatives. We are fortunate that his grandson has presented to our Society, copies of some of these photographs. We also received a book inscribed with Cecil Wesley's signature on 15th April 1908.

References:

1. With grateful acknowledgement of help and photographs from Mr R Kentwell, grandson of Cecil Wesley Poulton
2. Hurstville Grove. The unknown suburb, by Beverley and Brian Warton, 1999
3. BDM Registers - indexes
4. Hurstville Propeller 28 November 1935, obituary of Cecil Wesley Poulton
5. Sands Directory of Sydney
6. St George Call
7. The Poet at the Breakfast Table, by Oliver Wendell Holmes. Association Copy

Diggers Remembered as French Town Gives Back

During the recent commemoration of ANZAC Day, we would all have heard stories about the northern French town of Villers-Bretonneux which was reduced to rubble and where twelve hundred Australian soldiers were killed in bitter hand-to-hand combat during WW1. Saying that they *will never forget the Australian diggers*, the residents of the town have tended the graves of the fallen for all these years.



After the War, Victorian children collected money to re-build the school at Villers-Bretonneux which is called L'Ecole (Victoria School).

Now the position is reversed. When the children of Villers-Bretonneux heard about the Victorian bushfires, they began to raise money to re-build a Victorian school. To further strengthen the link, a group of children from the town is coming to Australia to join in the ANZAC Day ceremonies this year.

The Town Mayor and the Local Council have also committed one euro per resident and the town will choose a school to re-build.

This way Australia will forever stay in the hearts of the people from Villers-Bretonneux - a quote from the French-Australian President.

What a wonderful bond of friendship that has survived all these years.

RAHS events: 22 May, 10 am, *Morning Tea: A Royal tea party: History with a cuppa.* Gold coin donation to Cancer Council. Venue History House, 133 Macquarie Street. Bookings 9247 8001

Barton

The Electorate - Part V

By Betty Goodger

The ninth politician to serve Barton was JAMES MARK BRADFIELD. He was a Liberal and held the seat from 1975 to 1983. Born at Kyeemah on 3 July 1933, he was a local man, making his home at Oatley.

He had an accounting background and first worked for his father, Mark B. Bradfield, a bookmaker. He went into the retail tyre business and had his own company, Straight Talk Tyre Service at Taren Point with branches throughout the State. He also had a grain and beef property at Quirindi.

His hobbies were cricket and water sports and he was a member of the St George Motor Boat Club. He was interested in Meals on Wheels and the Life Education program.

He died at Calvary Hospital on the 19th November 1989 after a long illness, leaving a wife and four children. It was an untimely death at the young age of 56.

The tenth politician to serve Barton was GARY FRANCIS PUNCH who held the seat from 1983 to 1996 for the Australian Labor Party. He, too, was a local boy, born on 21 August 1957 and educated at Carlton South Primary School and Hurstville. He earned the degree of Bachelor of Commerce from the University of NSW.

He must have decided to enter politics early in life, as he became an alderman on Hurstville Council in 1977 and remained in local government until 1983. At the age of 21 he was elected Mayor of Hurstville, one of the youngest to hold such office. He was reelected mayor each following year until 1983, when he contested and won the seat for Barton.

He was the Minister for Arts and Territories in 1988, Minister for Telecommunication and Aviation 1988-89, Parliamentary Secretary for Defence 1993-94, then became Minister for Defence, Science and Personnel 1994-96. .

He is active as partner in a firm of solicitors and a director of the NRMA. His hobbies are sports, especially surfing, reading and music.

Museum News

The displays on the photo-boards in the hallway of the Museum have now been renewed. Most of us travel regularly on the Princes Highway between Tom Uglys Bridge and Kogarah and have witnessed some of the changes that have taken place over the years. That particular stretch of the Highway was once know as Kogarah Road and the photo display titled “*Up and down the Kogarah Road*” reminds us of how this area looked in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. What a contrast! As a teenager my girlfriend and I often walked from the junction at Rocky Point Road to Tom Uglys Bridge and back on a Saturday or Sunday afternoon. I doubt most of the teenagers of today would be willing to walk that distance and we would probably be reluctant to let them do it unaccompanied. How things have changed.

Coralie Lewin

“Perfection not Profit”

Railway Parade Hotel, Kogarah, and the Stroud family

Speaker: Janette Hollebone

Janette shared with us the result of her considerable research on the history of one of the local buildings, the Railway Parade Hotel, Kogarah. Janette supported her talk with photographs which gave us a greater appreciation of the story as it unfolded.

The hotel was built by John Parker in 1886 at a time when there were very few houses in the area. He held the first licence until 1887 when the hotel was purchased by William Stroud who had recently arrived from England with his wife, Elizabeth, and their family. William became Licensee and held the licence until 1895 when it was taken over by George John Hendy who remained Licensee until 1905 when the lease “expired by effluxion of time”.

By this time William Stroud’s son, Frank, had grown up and spent some time in England gaining experience in the hotel trade. He became the next Licensee in 1905 in which year his daughter Phyllis was born at the hotel. The motto of Stroud’s Hotel was *Perfection not Profit*.

Phyllis, who is still living, was a local beauty. She had been crowned *Miss Surf Queen* at Cronulla in 1925 in a contest between surf clubs from Dee Why to Cronulla.



Frank & Violet Stroud & their four girls in the sitting room of the hotel

Frank Stroud became very interested in local sporting activities and community affairs. He promoted a Cribbage Tournament with prizes of £1.1s and 10/6d, followed by a Progressive Euchre Tournament with first and ‘booby’ prizes. The Kogarah Federal Football Club held its meetings at the hotel and, in 1906 a meeting was held there to form an old boys union in connection with the Kogarah Superior Public School. Frank was appointed to the Committee and remained a member during his years in Kogarah. He often contributed to the entertainment of members with his rendition of *Old Boy* and his soliloquy *Tub-be or not to be*. His sister Florence, who was a singer and pianist, was an active Committee Member of the Old Girls Union.

The St George District Regatta was held in 1906 and, from 1910, the St George Sailing and Motor Boat Club meetings were held at the “Sailing Club Rooms at Stroud’s Hotel, Kogarah”. Frank also generously donated to local causes such as the Cottage Hospital and the Kogarah Park Fund.

Another interest of Frank’s was boxing. He set up a gym at the hotel to assist the training of amateur athletes and he sponsored walking races in conjunction with the Amateur Athletic Association.

In 1913 the hotel advertised in the St George Call, “*Under new Proprietorship, JT Rainbow presents compliments to all old and new friends*” and later that year about one hundred friends assembled to farewell the Strouds. Frank was presented with a gold watch and, in response, said that he “*felt that the family reputation, established by his parents, had to be maintained by him.*”

James Rainbow bought the hotel and leased it to Tooth & Co in 1920. He sold it in 1923 to Jules Eisen and, in 1926, John Francis McGrath was Licensee. By 1930 the building had undergone major changes and, when Jules Eisen died in 1936, the hotel was run by John H Eisen as Manager of Jules Eisen's Estate. In 1950 it was sold for £150,000 to Arlington Investments and the name changed to Railway Parade Hotel Pty Ltd. In 1954 the name was changed to Kogarah-Rex Hotel Pty Ltd and again, in 1968, to Kogarah Hotel. Finally, it became Kogarah Inn in 1974.

This grand old hotel has certainly had a colourful history and still occupies a prominent position in the centre of Kogarah.

We were very pleased to have several members of the Stroud family attending our meeting who showed us some old family photographs as well as adding to Janette's presentation with personal stories and anecdotes.

Mavis Ward

DO YOU REMEMBER WHEN... THE BULLOCK DRAY STOOD ON THE GRASS NEAR THE ENTRANCE TO CARSS COTTAGE?

In April 1972 the KHS Newsletter reported that a bullock wagon was the latest acquisition. Thereafter, the early leaflets about Carss Cottage contained information about the background.

The wagon outside the Museum came from Bigga near Crookwell. It was used until about 1940 to transport wool and wheat to the rail-head. Originally drawn by twenty bullocks, the wagon was named "Bluebird" and was owned by Messrs D. & A. Cameron. At present the wagon is fitted with horse-shafts. For use with bullocks, a centre shaft and chains were used.

Eventually, wear and tear, and the fear that children might injure themselves in climbing on the wagon, forced the Society to remove the wagon.

In November (1991) the dilapidated wagon was taken away from Carss Cottage. "It will be missed but its poor condition rendered it unsafe as it was something on which children (and some bigger ones too!) liked to climb."

May Grieve's son had a property at Jamberoo and the wagon was removed there, with a plaque attached giving its history. After Mr Grieve's death, the new owners were not interested in the wagon and it was again moved. Unfortunately I could not find where it now rests. Do you know? I would like to complete the history of the old bullock wagon that delighted so many visitors to Carss Cottage.

REFERENCE - KHS Newsletter January-February 1992 p.1

Did you know... That Cardinal Gilroy worked in the Post office as a boy? All right, I expect you have heard that remarkable story. But did you know he worked in Carlton Post Office? His supervisor was Miss Lilla Solomons who was the officer-in-charge in the early 1900s. She was later Mrs Maynink.

I found this in notes typed about postal services in the Kogarah area, covering Blakehurst, Oatley and Sans Souci as well. They are in our Vertical File. The typist did not note the reference but I assume the detailed information came from the archives of the PMG. The last date mentioned is 1981.

Betty Goodger

CRICKET AND TIGER O'REILLY

By B. Goodger

Kipling wrote of “the flannelled fools at the wicket and the muddied oafs at the goals” and we Aussies certainly make heroes of our cricketers and our footballers. The exploits of the Dragons are legendary!

During the 1930s, Don Bradman’s name was on everyone’s lips. Each new century brought more fame and we are rightly proud of his associations with the St George district.

But he was not the only outstanding cricketer of his day. He shone as a batsman, but there was a bowler who also shone – Bill O’Reilly. Nicknamed “Tiger”, O’Reilly was a medium paced bowler with remarkable swing. Bradman was three years older than O’Reilly and rated him as the finest bowler that he had ever witnessed.

William Joseph O’Reilly, when not representing Australia in the Tests against England, taught history, English, geography and business principles at Kogarah Boys Intermediate High School from 1931 to 1934. He made his home in the St George district, living in Hurstville when he married in 1933, then in Bexley and South Hurstville, before building his final home in Sutherland.

In the 1933/34 season he transferred to the St George District Cricket Club. His debut was celebrated with a “hat-trick” and although he only bowled in six matches, he won the club bowling aggregate as well as the NSW Cricket Association’s bowling average. He remained a Life Member.

Born on 20th December 1905, at White Cliffs where his father was teaching, it is no surprise that he also became a teacher, while playing cricket at any opportunity. He was selected to play for NSW in the 1927/28 season and for Australia in the Tests in 1931/32. It was the beginning of a long career of Test cricket which ended when he retired in 1946 as the result of an injury.

He was famous for his partnership with Clarrie Grimmett and the English cricketer, Denis Compton, described his style as:-

Hostile, accurate, determined, ... relentless, unorthodox, fiercely intent. He was a master of every ball, his specialities were the rolling leg break and the sharply spun googly.

In his 18-season first-class career, O’Reilly took 774 wickets at an average of 16.6. In his 27 Test matches, he took 144 wickets at 22.6.

O’Reilly married Molly Herbert on 6 May 1933 and they had a daughter, Patricia, born in 1934 and a son, Peter, born in 1937.

But he was faced with the problem that his public service teaching career would suffer if he took time off to play cricket. His seniority and promotion would be retarded, so he took the grave step of resigning from the Education Department.

Fortunately, Sydney Grammar School offered him a position, allowing him leave to play cricket on half pay. He began a very happy association in the first term of 1935, which lasted until 1940. He then left teaching and joined the Lion Tile Company. Many, like me, will remember the lion facing the Hume Highway at Enfield, painted each football season in a team’s colours. (cont’d next page)

In 1946 O'Reilly went to New Zealand with the Australian team and after the last match, his biographer, Jack McHarg tells us:

Bill removed his boots and tossed them out of the window. It was a gesture symbolizing his retirement from Test Match cricket and, as it happened, all first class cricket.

However it was not the end of his involvement with cricket. For the rest of his life he wrote and commented on cricket for the Sydney Morning Herald and Australian newspapers. In 1988 his health began to decline, but he was still taking part in radio and TV broadcasts up to the time of his death on 6 October 1992. He was 87.

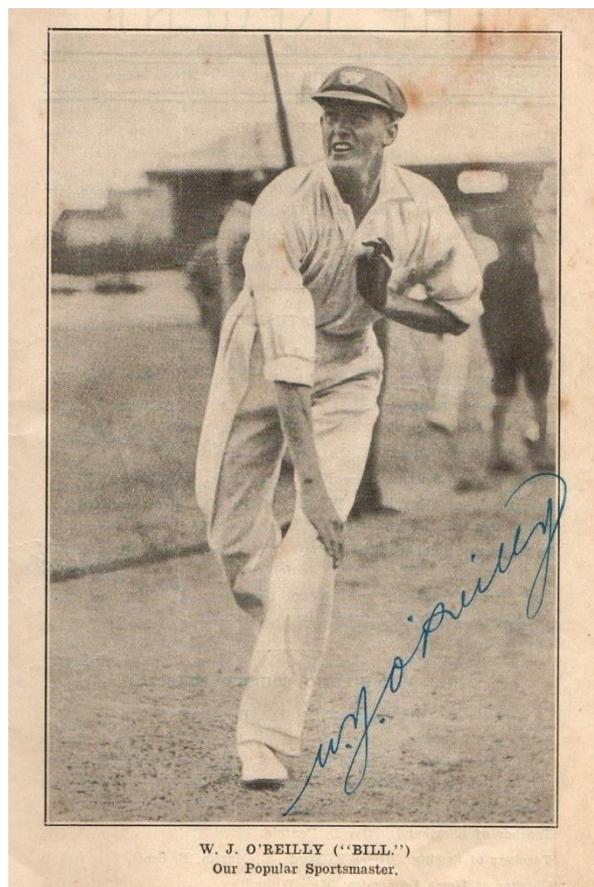
In 1996 he was posthumously inducted into the Australian Cricket Hall of Fame as one of the ten inaugural members.

His daughter, Pat, became a schoolteacher and his son, Peter, had a pharmacy in Kogarah, and lives in the area, so Kogarah has many associations with Bill O'Reilly, an outstanding Australian cricketer.

What prompted my interest in O'Reilly? It was a recent donation which contains an autographed photo, collected by a schoolgirl at the Kogarah Girls Domestic Science School.

That schoolgirl, Lillian Johns, grew up to become our former member, Lillian Gilmour. Her sister-in-law, Trudy Johns, found three copies of *The Regent* for 1929, 1930 and 1933 among her effects and presented them to KHS. What I find so interesting about these magazines is that they represent all the schools on the Regent Street site, Infants, Primary, Kogarah Boys Intermediate High and Kogarah Girls Domestic Science.

There are plentiful photographs of staff and student sports teams and one of Bill O'Reilly, sending down a ball that the poor batsman must have dreaded! Lillian collected lots of autographs of teachers but I'm sure Bill O'Reilly's autograph was the one that she most treasured.



REFERENCES

St George District Cricket Club Golden Jubilee Report 1960/61

Bill O'Reilly. A Sporting Life, by Jack McHarg 1990

The People who made Australia great. 1988

1000 Famous Australians. 1997

The Regent Vol. 9 No 1 September 1929; Vol. 10 No 1 October 1930; Vol. 11. No 2 1933

We had such a good meeting in April - 12 members participating & lots of time to chat over afternoon tea. But, wouldn't it be good if you didn't have to rack your brains to remember someone's name! A reminder - we were all asked to wear a name badge. If you have one, please wear it, if you don't, we will have sticky labels ready for you to write your name on (large letters please to assist those of us who need glasses).

Member Profile

Daphne Kingston, artist and photographer, was born in Earlwood. She is married to Jeff, lives in Penshurst and has one daughter in New Zealand. The successful artist/photographer of today began her career as a secretary working for the Snowy Mountain Scheme and acknowledges that the administrative skills acquired were useful when she later started to build up her background in art and architecture. She was always fascinated by history but the interest in photography was aroused by her Mother's travels overseas, and postcards brought and sent home. Daphne has travelled quite extensively over the years carrying two important pieces of luggage, her camera and sketchbook. Her published work is focused on Australia and particularly the Sydney region. The intrepid photographer admits to 'trespassing' at times, to get the perfect picture, which might be a slab hut or the inside of a disused building. "The camera must be light and portable", she says, "in case I have to climb over a fence"! She is particularly fond of 19th century vernacular building where she observes change.

Formal studies were undertaken at the Julian Ashton Art School (1968-74), the Watercolour Institute and the Royal Art Society as well as privately. She has exhibited extensively, illustrated many publications, some for Kogarah Council, and written the text for and illustrated a number of books.

She joined Kogarah Historical Society in the 1970s and still attends regularly despite her very busy schedule.

Her latest exhibition of *Drawings & Paintings St George Area & Sydney Basin*, opens at the Hurstville City Museum & Gallery (MacMahon St) 2-23 May 2009. The formal opening by Mayor Vince Badalati is on Saturday 2nd at 1 pm (everyone invited) and opening hours are Tuesday – Thursday 10am to 4 pm and the 1st & 4th Saturday of the month, 10 am – 3pm.

Gill Whan

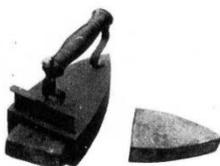
Museum News



Tailor's iron



Box iron



Billet iron—a block of iron was heated and slipped inside the iron



Petrol iron

The Museum has a new display near the back door. Wash day many years ago was hard work. No powered machines, dryers or steam irons in those days. The irons on display reflect a wash day far removed from our push button laundry of today. Every home had several *flat irons* which were heated on the stove. Cloth iron holders protected the hands. The *box irons* were filled with hot coals and had to be constantly wiped with a rag to prevent smudges on clothing. It had a chimney and when the coals cooled the housewife would step outside and swing it in the wind to re-ignite the coals. The *tailor's iron* is extremely heavy and longer than other irons. The *petrol iron* has a small container for the fuel attached to the iron with a small jet to supply the fuel to the iron itself.

In a C19th wealthy household where a laundress was employed, more specialized irons would be used. The *glossing iron* for polishing shirt fronts and collars, the *goffering iron* with five cylindrical blades for ironing ruffles and flounces, Mrs. Potts, Kendrick, long slender irons for sleeves – crimping irons and many types of fuel irons, - believe it or not, they are collectable!

Don't forget to book for the next Monday at the Museum on 25 May with Kevin Skelsey as speaker, details on page 2.

Coralie Lewin, Museum Custodian.