# **Kogarah Historical Society Inc**

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

www.kogarah.historicalsociety.com.au

Patron: The Mayor of Kogarah President: Beverley Earnshaw (9546 1091)

# Newsletter

## May/June 2014

Volume 6 No 2



Original Sea Scout Building with Dredge in Kogarah Bay, see story, p.6

## **Meetings and Speakers**

Thursday 8 May 2014
Ian Hoskins, Historian and Author
The History of the NSW Coast (see p.11)

Thursday 12 June Judith Godden, Historian and Author *The History of Crown Street Hospital* 

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. Apologies for non-attendance at meetings should go to the Secretary, Gill Whan (9546 4623). Visitors welcome.

## **Mondays at the Museum**

#### 26 May 2014 – John Johnson

Another familiar figure to speak to us in May - John Johnson, Local Studies Librarian at Kogarah Library will be giving us 'A personal perspective on the National Trust'. 10 am for a delicious morning tea in the courtyard and either listen to the talk there if the weather is suitable or move into the Kogarah Room in the Museum for the presentation. Cost \$5 which also gives you the chance to win a door prize. **Please book** as space is limited and it helps with catering. To reserve your place, ring Adele Ryan on 9529 6730 or leave a message on the answering machine if she is not there.

#### **Sunday Museum Roster**

May 2014		<b>June 2014</b>	
$4^{th}$	Carole Tier & Ken Grieve	$1^{st}$	Gill Whan & Deirdre Schroeder
$11^{th}$	Mavis Ward & Mary Williams	$8^{th}$	Adele Ryan & Lawrie Corry
$18^{th}$	Trudy Johns & tbc	$15^{th}$	Trudy Johns & tbc
$25^{th}$	Betty Goodger & Janette Hollebone	$22^{nd}$	Betty Goodger & Janette Hollebone
		$29^{th}$	Cath and Leo Sullivan

Hours 1 pm – 5 pm. Problems, contact Gill Whan, 9546 4623

NB: This list is of regular roster days and volunteers and does not reflect any changes or swaps made privately. We need more members to volunteer for either a regular spot at the Museum or to go on the emergency list. Training given. Contact one of the Committee if you can help.

#### **Committee 2014** (\* denotes Executive)

President:*	Beverley Earnshaw	Ph: 9546 1091
Vice President:*	Mavis Ward	Ph: 9546 5704
Vice President:*	David Martin	Ph: 9599 1867
Secretary:*	Gill Whan	Ph: 9546 4623
Treasurer:*	Cath Sullivan	Ph: 9579 6149

Committee Members: Beryl Butters, Lawrie Corry, Garry Darby, Janette

Hollebone Trudy Johns, Adele Ryan, Carole Tier, Pat Young

#### **Committee meeting venues**

5 May 7.00pm Janette Hollebone, 1 Meriel St., Sans Souci (9529 7117)

2 June 7.00pm Beverley Earnshaw, 15 Hamer St., Kogarah Bay (9546 1091)

7 July 7.00 pm Pat Young, 25 Culver St., Monterey (9588 5835)

## Welcome to new member

#### Rhonda McKinnon

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

#### Show and Tell

What a popular session this is. Once again all the objects brought along were fascinating, some with historical and some with personal significance. We enjoyed them all.



Harvey Langford had a copy of the London Gazette dated 26 August 1768.

The significance of this date was that it was when Lieutenant James Cook set sail to follow the Transit of Venus.

The headline in the Gazette was "Adventure in the Pacific"

Garry Darby showed us a beautiful pencil drawing of the Virgin and Child with John the Baptist, drawn by a convict artist, W B Gould in 1833 in Van Diemen's land. The original painting was by Italian artist, Caracci and an engraving had been made from this and taken or sent to Van Diemen's land.

Jan Magrath had a tiny model of a Leprechaun which she had bought in Connemara, Ireland. She discovered that she was identified as a descendant of the McNamara's when she asked for a Leprechaun with brown eyes.

Joan Fairhall described the local area in 1936 and how there was a trail through the Chinese Gardens from Kogarah Oval almost through to Rocky Point Road. While walking on this trail she had picked up a dark brown ceramic drink bottle, made in Hong Kong with Chinese writing on the base. It was not an uncommon find in those days, but was now quite rare. Joan donated it to the Museum.



Beryl Butters gave us the history of

Teddy Bears and had a basket full of assorted bears for display. She told us how they originated simultaneously in Germany and America in 1902. In America they were named after US President Theodore Roosevelt, commonly known as Teddy, following an incident during bear hunting when he had refused to shoot a bear. In Germany they were made by a firm Steiff started by Margarette Steiff, who was in a wheelchair due to polio and made stuffed toys from left over felt from her Uncles factory. We

needed longer than the five minutes allowed to hear all that Beryl could tell us.

Rodger Robertson showed passports issued to his grandparents, New Zealanders, in the UK in 1919. They had cost 5 shillings and were issued within 24 hours. It was unusual, not only for cost and speed but also because wives did not usually have their own passport. He also realised that his grandmother, who was older than his grandfather, had not put her true age on the passport.

Beverley Earnshaw struck a chord with many members when she talked about being a member of the Argonaut's Club for many years. This was an ABC radio program devised by Ida Jenkins. Each member was given a Greek name and 50 members made up a 'boat'. Beverley was Sidon 28. Members wrote in to the program and if their contribution was read out they scored points and eventually got a Dragons Tooth award. Many famous people got a start through the program including A D Hope the poet who went under the name of Anthony Inkwell and did the critiques.

Bev Scott had an example of Carnival glass which had come into production as a cheaper version of the iridescent glass of 1907.



Pat Young had brought a pair of red shoes made for bound feet, (Lotus feet) a common practice in China from the year 960 until it was banned in 1912. It had originated with a concubine who had feet shaped like a new moon and it was used particularly in the upper classes and seen as essential for those girls who wished to marry well. Toes were broken at an early age and 10 foot long bandages used to confine the feet and stop growth. Pat commented on how difficult it had been for women who suddenly had to work under Communist rule.

Fred Scott had a souvenir that had cost his mother 6 pence when she bought it in Hyde Park in 1942. It was a small piece of metal from the Japanese submarine that had been sunk in Sydney Harbour.

Sheree Veron showed a large ornate inkwell that had been owned by her Great Uncle Hercule Christian McIntyre. He and his two brothers were pioneers of the movie industry in Australia and the tradition of involvement in motion pictures has been continued by 4 nephews.

Gill Whan

## Trivia Quiz - World War 1

We know that WW1 was mainly fought in Europe, and of course in the Middle East. But little do we know of this war away from this theatre. At the time it was called the Great War or the World War – not until WW2 was it called WW1. I want to ask some questions about this war away from its European theatre that may give us an idea why it was called "World" War.

- 1. Name of Japanese war ship that accompanied the WW1 fleet from Albany to Middle east?
- 2. Where were the first Australian soldiers killed in WW1? What was its German name?
- 3. New Britain is part of an archipelago named after?
- 4. HMAS Sydney at Cocos Island sank the Emden in 1915. From where did the Emden begin its voyage to the Indian Ocean?
- 5. The Austrian Hungarian Navy (unlikely but Austria did have a seaport on the Adriatic Sea in 1914) lost a ship to the Japanese? Sounds unlikely?
- 6. Germany had colonies in West Africa, South West Africa, and East Africa. Namibia was attacked by the force of South Africans mainly led by the Boers- who had just finished a war with England 12 years before. Who were two Boer leaders that sided with the British?
- 7. In German East Africa (modern-day Tanzania, Burundi, and Rwanda) the British chased the German garrison for the whole war and never beat them. What famous movie depicts an event in this part of the war?

Answers:

Railways & Harbours.

1. Ibulai-of course Ispan supported the UK side in WWI and sent their warship to protect the convoy of many ships taking. Australian and New Zealand soldiers and equipment to Europe. The convoy assembled at Albany in WA. 2, New Britain Rabaul then owned by Germany. Its Germany assembled at Albany in WA. 2, New Britain Rabaul then owned by Germany. Its Germany owned the port of Tsingtao. 5. It was sank in Tsingtao harbour in 1914 by the Ispanese aircraft-this was first ever loss of battleship to an aircraft -was the battle cruiser. "Kaiserin Elisabeth", 6. Isn Smuts and Louis Botha. Smuts was later PM and a General for the British in WW2. Botha died in 1919 but Churchill wrote of three famous generals-Booth, Baden-Powell and Botha. 7. The African Queen with Bogart and Hepburn. The German gunboat in the film, the Konigin Luise, was inspired by the former World War I vessel MV Liemba (known until 1924 as the Grafvon Gotzen), which was scuttled in 1916 during the Battle for Lake Tanganyika, but was subsequently refloated by the British and continues to operate as a passenger ferry to this day. The actual vessel used in the film to portray the Louisa was the steam tog Buganda, owned and operated on Lake Victoria by African

#### NIALL JOSEPH MULLARKEY

#### By Margaret Brown

The poignant story of Niall Joseph Mullarkey, fourth son of this prominent Kogarah family.



Niall was the fourth surviving son of Frederick and Elizabeth Mullarkey. He was born on 28<sup>th</sup> March 1895 at his parents' home, 'Glendalough' in Herbert Street, Rockdale. The family moved to 'Avoca', Station Street, Kogarah (Jubilee Avenue) in 1907.

Niall, like his younger brothers, Kevin and Des attended Marist Brothers Kogarah. In fact, they were among the pupils on its first day in 1909. In 1911, the year in which his father died, Niall was granted a bursary to study at St. Joseph's College, Hunters Hill Sydney, where he stayed until 1913 when he gained his Leaving Certificate. His academic record was excellent and in 1914 he commenced Veterinary Science Studies at Sydney University.

Niall was an extremely talented cricket player, representing St. Joseph's in the GPS competitions. He achieved a top score

of 199 not out against Newington College in 1913 and his batting average in this season was 412! He also played rugby and rowed. Like the rest of his family, he was religious attending mass at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Kogarah.

Although he had only just started at university (and was doing very well in his exams), Niall enlisted in the First AIF on 19<sup>th</sup> August 1914. He was 19 years old, 5 ft 10 inches with light brown eyes and dark hair. No. 900 Private Niall Joseph Mullarkey departed Australia with the first Australian and New Zealand troop convoy on 18<sup>th</sup> October 1914 on the 'Afric' as part of the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion. His brother Clarrie was also in this first troop convoy on the 'Suffolk'. It was on this voyage that one of the escort ships 'Sydney' engaged and destroyed the German raider 'Emden'.

Niall arrived in Egypt in December 1914 and was with his unit at Mena Camp (near Cairo) when he was selected for a temporary commission in the Imperial Army in April 1915. He obviously had the qualities and abilities required for officer training and finished second in his class of 63, after completing No.4 Officers Course, Zeitoun, Egypt. He became a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant on the 19<sup>th</sup> September 1915 accepting a commission in the 7<sup>th</sup> Royal Munster Fusiliers, 10<sup>th</sup> (Irish) Division.

The 7<sup>th</sup> Royal Munster Fusiliers were sent to Salonika (Thessaloniki, Greece) in October 1915, as part of a combined Anglo-French force, to assist Serbia. Serbia was threatened with invasion by Bulgaria and its allies. This area became the Allied Macedonian Front and was characterised by appalling weather, defeat and final retreat. Niall had been appointed machine gun officer. He fought with distinction, being mentioned in despatches for his role in covering the retreat of the British forces from Serbia back to Salonika.

On 24<sup>th</sup> August 1916, Niall left Salonika for Alexandria in Egypt, where he resigned his commission in the Imperial Army and requested a transfer back to his original unit. On 3<sup>rd</sup> September, he embarked for France on the 'Royal George' to rejoin the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion as a Second Lieutenant. He reported for duty on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 1916 when the Battalion was training in Belgium.

The 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion moved on to the Somme in late October and on the 5<sup>th</sup> November, near Gueudecourt was ordered to attack German trenches. This offensive described as 'minor' took place at night in rain through sticky mud, illuminated by flares and under constant fire.

This 'minor' offensive cost over 200 lives and was not a success. Sadly, Niall was one of the casualties. The official Red Cross report states that Niall was 'killed by a rifle bullet...about 1 am on the 5<sup>th</sup> November 1916...he fell back on the wire'. His body was left in No Man's Land, as it was impossible to retrieve. In fact, it wasn't until February 1917 that his body was discovered and buried near Flers.

Sadly, this grave was lost in further fighting and Niall is therefore remembered on the Villers-Bretonneux Memorial in France, as having no known grave. There is a plaque on his parent's grave in Woronora Cemetery with his name and he is also remembered on the beautiful glass window in St. Patrick's Catholic Church, Kogarah.

Most poignantly of all, there is a statue of St. Joan of Arc, dedicated to Niall, in the chapel of his old school, St. Joseph's Hunter Hill, Sydney. The statue was presented by his fellow students in recognition of his memory.

## **Kogarah Bay Scout Hall - With Dredge**

Recently the museum acquired a number of items saved from the Kogarah Bay Sea Scout Hall prior to its demolition. They came by courtesy of Bob Harrington. These included a lifebuoy, the Queens Scout Honour Board, trophies, flags and a charming painting of the hall in 1947 by J.H.Coves, shown on the cover of this newsletter.

The hall was opened in 1939. It had a small balcony on the eastern side overlooking Kogarah Bay, the waters of which lapped against its boat ramp. This is the only picture yet to be found showing the dredge which operated in the bay during the 1940s and early 50s.

In the 1930s, Kogarah Bay was silting up and at low tide became a smelly mud flat. Dredging began in 1937, the year the foundation of the hall was laid. In the following years dredging allowed the garden suburb of Beverley Park to be created and the tidal mangrove swamps on the north and south sides of Carss Park to be reclaimed. These areas are now picnic grounds and sporting fields.

When dredging raised the level of the land it created a wide strip of ground between the boat ramp and the shoreline. This necessitated the laying of rails to get the boats from the building to the water.

Kogarah Bay Sea Scout Troop has now closed down and the hall has been demolished. But this painting of the hall and the dredge adds further to the history of Carss Park and of the Scouting Movement.

#### Beverley Earnshaw

For more information on Kogarah Bay Sea Scouts see KHS Newsletter Vol.4 No.3 July/August 2012

Last chance to renew your subscription if you have not already done so. We do hope you will stay as a member thereby supporting the work we do to try and preserve our local history. The cost is \$15 for an individual for a year and \$20 for a couple.

## The Saints in Kogarah Part 2

St Paul's life is well known. We read in the New Testament in the Acts of the Apostles that he was born in Tarsus, named Saul and was an orthodox Jew until he had his epiphany on the way to Damascus and became a Christian, changing his name to Paul. His travels and missionary work and the letters he wrote to Christian communities are documented in the Acts and the Epistles. How many brides ask for his words at their wedding service – *Love suffereth long and is kind*... <sup>1</sup>

He was arrested and sent to Rome for trial about 58 or 60A.D. and executed about 67A.D. during the reign of Nero. His feast day is celebrated on 29 June. He was a tent maker and so is the patron saint for tent makers as well as a martyr of the Christian faith. His emblems are a sword and a book.

One of the memories of my travels is of standing on the stone in the old Roman market place in Corinth where our guide assured us that Paul had addressed the people.



The foundation stone for St Paul's Church of England in Kogarah was laid on January 26, 1869 and the church dedicated on September 21 1869. It was not consecrated until 1949.

When the new church was reported in the press, it was described as being in the district of Rocky Point. The name Kogarah had not yet been used. The article presumed the sandstone had come

from the quarries in Rockdale and the shingles for the roof, from the local casuarina trees in the nearby swamp areas.

Before the church was built, Kogarah was in the parish of St Peters, Cooks River, and the Rev George King or his curate would come to hold a service in the home of William Berghofer. Berghofer and a group of residents decided to build a church in Kogarah. The land for the Church, and subsequently for a graveyard and rectory, fronting Kogarah Road, now the Princes Highway, was given by its owner William Alexander Wolfen. He had migrated from Prussia in 1852 and was a merchant in Sydney. He served as the Swedish Consul in Sydney.

The nearest cemetery was the graveyard at St Peters Church until in 1874 Wolfen gave the 2 acres for a graveyard. The first burial took place in 1872 – by 1902, Kogarah Council had decided it should close although one more burial took place in 1924.

In 1923 a portion of the graveyard was resumed by the Dept of Education as a playground for the pupils of Kogarah Superior Public School. The headstones were placed against the fence at the northern side of the church ground. In 1943 the remaining portion was incorporated into the school playground and stories abound of boys jumping on depressions in the soil – with the obvious results.

No burial register has survived but I can recommend the book produced by the Hurstville Family History Society, *Pioneers Down Under*<sup>2</sup> telling the story of those early Kogarah residents who were buried there.

#### Betty Goodger

#### References

- 1. Corinthians 13: 4+
- 2. Pioneers Down Under. Hurstville City Council on behalf of the Hurstville Family History Society 2002
  There are several good histories of St Paul's Church (1) St Paul's Church of England, 1869-1969 Kogarah Centenary
  Booklet and (2) St Paul's Church of England Kogarah, by Gifford and Eileen Eardley In Early Churches of the St George
  District Book No 8 of the St George Historical Society 1979.

## Kogarah Historical Society AGM 2014 President's Report

I am happy to report that Kogarah Historical Society is growing, with a membership now at 119. Regular monthly meetings are held at Kogarah School of Arts, Bowns Road, Kogarah on the second Thursday of the month at 2 pm. Attendance is usually between 30 and 35. Meetings commence with a speaker followed by afternoon tea and a short business meeting. We are grateful to our secretary, Gill Whan, for arranging our program of speakers and also to Adele Ryan for publicity.

Our **Speakers** for the year were Andrew Tink, Kirsten Broderick, Colin Beacroft, Carol Baxter, Paul Brunton, Beverley Earnshaw, Elizabeth Ellis, and Bill Young.

More details can be seen on the program put out by our secretary, Gill Whan.

*Carss Cottage Museum* continues to be the society's showpiece. This year the museum received 661 visitors which included 15 tour groups. The museum is open on Sunday afternoons from 1-5 pm in summer and 1-4 pm in winter and is open by appointment for school groups and tour parties.

Our latest exhibition, *Kogarah Past and Present*, has aroused considerable interest. In conjunction with local libraries we are committed in the coming year to provide display space for the World War I centenary commemoration. Valuable research has already been done by Rosemary Maugham on the soldiers' names on the Carlton Honour Board which hangs in the museum foyer.

We have another expert in war history in committee member, David Martin, who this year received the Ron Rathbone Award for his essay on personnel who served in World War I

*Mondays at the Museum* is held five times a year. It begins with morning tea in the courtyard, after which patrons go into the museum to hear a speaker and later browse the collection. Adele Ryan is the convenor of this event. Thank you, Adele. Once again our efficient catering team led by Trudy Johns makes the event a great success. We have a champion scone baker in Gilda Tilia, but Elizabeth Emerson has not been able to continue due to ill health. Therefore, we do need volunteers to back up Trudy in her leadership role. We must not forget that Trudy is now 94 years old.

This year's **speakers at** *Mondays at the Museum* have been Wendy Cornish, Jim Counsel, Bruce Shying, Dr Lisa Murray and Cassie Mercer.

At present we only have 13 volunteers filling the museum roster on Sunday afternoons. Most come bi-monthly, three attend once a month and we have vacancies both on the permanent roster and as back up when somebody is ill or away. The work is not onerous. We do not open on Public Holidays or Mothers' Day. We are happy to say we have several "Volunteers in Training" and they are a very welcome addition to the team conducting the tour groups and school groups. School groups in particular are labour intensive.

The bi-monthly newsletters have been prepared by Gill Whan and sometimes by Beverley Earnshaw. The printer, Cliff Lewis Print, delivers them to Mavis Ward who folds and despatches them. We would like to see many more people contributing items to the newsletter. Local history, family history, reminiscences of old Kogarah identities, Kogarah's sporting champions, war heroes &c can all make good reading and contribute to the social history of Kogarah. This year the contributors to our newsletter have been, Gill Whan, Betty Goodger, Janette Hollebone, Beverley Earnshaw, David Martin, Paul Brunton, Joe Spinelli, Margaret Brown, Irene Selmon, Jan Magrath, Kerry Choy, Beryl Butters and Joan Fairhall. The Historical Trivia page has been taken over by Roger Robertson. Roger has also scanned past copies of the newsletter to DVD, a task involving many hours' work.

*Telephone and postal enquiries* were answered by Betty Goodger and Janette Hollebone.

On May 2, members visited the Maritime Museum, using public transport and on September 19, members had a ferry excursion from Cronulla up Port Hacking River aboard the ferry *Tom Thumb*.

At the Royal Australian Historical Society Conference on November 2/3 2014 the society was represented by Gill Whan and Betty Goodger. As a result of our society's nomination Betty Goodger received a Certificate of Achievement. We received a Ministry for the Arts Grant of \$3000 towards the publication of a series of small historical books for children.

I am happy to report that all the books we previously published have fully recouped the costs of production and printing. This year we have introduced other merchandise to be sold at the museum, post cards, letter cards, place mats and pens.

We are currently bringing the society into the 21<sup>st</sup> century with improvements to our Website. We have new sound equipment for the monthly meetings. We thank Garry Darby for his valuable advice and the provision of a new PowerPoint Projector and screen. We are putting in place the means of selling our books over the internet.

I wish to thank those volunteers who contribute so much towards the running of the society: Gill Whan our secretary, treasurer Cath Sullivan, Betty Goodger who looks after the museum library and files and answers enquiries. We are grateful to Mavis Ward for organizing a very successful Christmas Party at Kogarah RSL. Janette Hollebone shows great leadership, always first to arrive at the monthly meetings, and very enthusiastic about doing research. Adele Ryan looks after Mondays at the Museum and also our advertising. Carol Tier, Lawrie Corry and David Martin are valued committee members. Marjorie Pritchard keeps the museum beautifully clean and neat. We invite and encourage more members to come forward to assist in running the society and new ideas and suggestions are always welcome.

David Shaw has once again been our honorary *auditor* and his help is appreciated.

I thank all the members of the committee for their support during the year and especially I thank the members for their loyalty and attendance, for without the members there could not be a society.

I look forward to Kogarah Historical Society growing in strength and reputation during the coming years. The text of this report will be published in our next newsletter.

Beverley Earnshaw

President 2013/2014

## Society Trip - Thursday 22 May 2014



We have 18 tickets for our trip, departing from Mortdale RSL by bus. Be there at 8.45 am for prompt 9 am departure.

Cost \$25 per person for entry and bus. Lunch at own expense – we have booked a private room for lunch at 12 md, Cost \$18.90 for main course (choice of two) plus juice, tea or coffee.

Bookings through Mavis Ward Ph: 9546 5704

#### GEORGETOWN

#### A One-time Locality in Kogarah

#### By Betty Goodger

Gwen Coxhead, May Grieve and Eileen Howard collected material and wrote The History of Blakehurst in 1982. They noted that:

Blakehurst was not *the* given name of the small community that sprang up around the Georges River. Its first name was Georgetown. Although the name has dropped out of use, I still found the name in old street directories in 1913 and as late as 1937.<sup>2</sup>

I had previously researched an area named George Town when I lived in the Municipality of Bankstown.<sup>3</sup> I found that between 1843 and 1848 there had been an attempt to subdivide land in the present day suburb of Revesby Heights. However, the developers had no success. It was evidently a popular name for subdivisions, perhaps because of Georges River. In a directory of 1848, I found this entry:

GEORGE TOWN A village of New South Wales in the parish of St George, hundred of Sydney and County of Cumberland; it is the point of land stretching out into Botany Bay at the mouth of Cooks River.<sup>4</sup>

The description is slightly inaccurate, as there was no village of people and houses and it was on the Georges River, not Cooks River. It was an area of 120 acres fronting onto Georges River, granted to Father Therry by Governor Bourke on 8<sup>th</sup> August 1837.

The Reverend Father John Joseph Therry was a Roman Catholic priest, born in Cork in 1790 and dying in New South Wales in 1864. He came from Ireland to the colony in 1820 with the aim of bringing comfort to the Irish convicts. He had several land grants and wanted to set up communities where his flock could live and worship in peaceful surroundings. He had 1200 acres at Bilgola, where he planned Joseph Town and 47 acres in the parish of Concord, where he did achieve his village with St Anne's Church, Enfield at the centre and nearby Therry and Anselm Streets. But nothing appears to have happened to his land in Kogarah until after the railway came through the district.

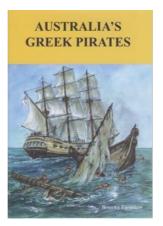
Eris O'Brien says in his book on Father Therry<sup>5</sup> that his big ideas for future development prompted him to subdivide his larger tracts of land, mapping out streets and parks, and giving ambitious names to places which at his death were no more than unredeemed bush.

On the wall in the Local Studies room at Kogarah Library, is a framed subdivision map of a part of the estate. It is old and tattered and undated, as so many are, but is probably in the 1880s. One subdivision was for sale on 3<sup>rd</sup> April 1886 and a later one advertised *choice sites of the Township of Georgeton, Georges River*. <sup>6</sup>

Once the railway opened in 1884, land sales boomed. Therry died in 1864 but I feel he probably chose the names for the streets as many have a religious association - Mary, John, Peter, James and Vaughan. Other street names were more utilitarian - East, West and South. Kogarah Council changed West Street to Read Street in 1906 <sup>7</sup>. The name Mary Street was changed to Orana Crescent in the 1950s. Other street names were changed as subdivisions were offered for sale. **George Town has merged seamlessly into Blakehurst.** 

#### **REFERENCES**

- 1. The history of Blakehurst, by Gwen Coxhead et al Kogarah Historical Society Feb. 1982
- 2. Wilson's Street Directory 1913 and 1937
- 3. George Town, by B. Goodger in Bankstown Historical Society Journal Vol. 13 no 1 March 1979 pp 5-8
- 4. Wells, W.H. A Geographical Dictionary or Gazetteer of the Australian Colonies 1848 (reprinted 1970)
- 5. O'Brien, Eris Life and Letters of Arch-priest John Joseph Therry. 1922
- 6. Subdivision plans in Kogarah Library K8/112, K8/147, 158/112
- 7. St George Call 1 December 1906



The first of six books being written for primary school children by Beverley Earnshaw for the Society, has just been published.

The project under the general title of History Alive has been partially funded by a Cultural Grant from the NSW Government, administered by the Royal Australian Historical Society.

Book 1 tells the true story of the first Greeks to come to Australia, transported as convicts in 1829 after being arrested for piracy by the British in the Mediterranean.

It is available from the Society either at meetings, at the Museum or by mailing in your order. Cost \$7.50 plus \$1.50 for postage. It is also

stocked by the Carss Park Newsagency.

#### What's on

#### Thursday 8 May 2014. Kogarah Historical Society General Meeting at the School of Arts

Our speaker is Ian Hoskins. He is the Council Historian at North Sydney. He writes about local history, helps manage two small museums, a heritage centre, archives and a historic cemetery. He has written a history of the NSW coast and *Coast* will be his topic. Did you know it has 130 estuaries and 100 coastal lakes? The book covers an array of topics from indigenous people to convicts and takes in explorers, naturalists, whalers and holiday makers. Look forward to seeing you there.

# 22 May 2014 – Kogarah Historical Society trip to Old Government House for the Miss Fisher costume exhibition and a short tour of Parramatta (see separate ad)

24 May 2014 – A Walking tour of Clive James' Kogarah conducted by John Johnson.

The first tour advertised for 17 May is booked out so John has put on a second tour. Don't miss out, book through 9330 9573. Departs 10 am from Kogarah Library, finishing at 1.00 pm.

16 May – 27 July (for all you 'cats' out there) Hurstville Museum and Gallery

There is an exhibition of Rolling Stone Magazine Covers, showcasing a selection of covers from over four decades of Rolling Stone Australia.

#### Open until 11 May. Hurstville Gallery. If These Walls Could Talk.

Stories from 14 Macmahon Street, the current gallery which has been a residence, doctor's practice, rugby club, theatre restaurant and function centre.

## Royal Australian Historical Society (RAHS) tour to Norfolk Island 23 September – Friday 3 October 2014.

If you have always wanted to go to Norfolk Island and explore its beauty and its history, here is an opportunity. A group tour is being organized led by Judith Dunn. To register your interest, contact her on 9686 6861. For information and brochure Ph:1800 140 066 or email <a href="mailto:Jacqui@travelcentre.nf">Jacqui@travelcentre.nf</a>

#### Vale

#### **Muriel Lloyd**

We were saddened to hear of the death of Muriel Lloyd at age 100 years. She had been a resident in the Mary Andrews Retirement Village for many years but kept up her membership of Kogarah Historical Society and was always interested in the newsletter. We send our sincere sympathy to her family - children, grandchildren and eight great grandchildren.

## Your Committee 2014 - \* indicates Executive

Name & Position	Responsibilities	Contact details			
President *	Research, speaker at events, author, Publications Coordinator, newsletter editing.	9546 1091 <u>earnshawb@bigpond.com</u> 15 Hamer St., Kogarah Bay			
7.President*	Keeps list of members, sends out newsletters. Member reports. Lucky door prizes. Museum roster.	9546 5704 mavisward@tpg.com.au 2/14 Resthaven Rd Sth Hurstv 2221			
V.President*	Museum tours, contributes articles to newsletters, assists at MAM and gen mtgs	9599 1867 <u>djm.bp@hotmail.com</u> 10 Royal Place, Bardwell Park 2207			
Hon Secretary*	Collects mail, correspondence, minutes, finds speakers, Museum tours & roster. Newsletter editing.	9546 4623 (0439 667 843) <u>gillwhan@bigpond.net.au</u> 11 Dewrang St., Carss Park 2221			
Treasurer*	Receives income. Pays accounts, Treasurer's reports, Museum roster & tours.	9579 6149 10/35 Letitia St, Oatley 2223			
Public Officer	Research, registration of photos, Museum roster & tours. Security for School of Arts.	9529 7117 hjanette@optusnet.com.au 1 Meriel St., Sans Souci 2219			
	Organises and chairs MAM. Publicity. Museum roster.	9529 6730 <a href="mailto:adelepenta@hotmail.com">adelepenta@hotmail.com</a> 5 Endeavour St, Sans Souci 2219			
•	Committee, Founding/life member Welcomes visitors to gen mtgs	9580 6954 36 Louisa St., Oatley 2223			
•	Committee, assists at MAM Museum roster	9772 3805 90 Thomas St., Picnic Point 2213			
•	Committee, technical and research assistance.	9583 9916 garry@garrydarby.com PO Box 327, Ramsgate 2217			
	Committee, Life member. Organises catering for MAM & Mtgs. Museum roster	9534 7737 2/900 Forest Rd., Peakhurst 2210			
	Committee, Organises speaker's costs & gift. Museum roster	9527 2403 17/68 Kingsway, Cronulla 2230			
•	Committee, Museum tours, research assistance	9588 5835 25 Culver St., Monterey 2217			
Non Committee helpers & Museum Roster					
, .	Research. Articles for newsletter. Museum library, tours and roster	9570 1101 Unit 3/2 Nelson St., Penshurst 2222			
eo Sullivan	Asst Treasurer, Museum Roster	9579 6149			
Gilda Tilia	Caters for MAM	9546 2516			
Gilda Tilia Caters for MAM 9546 2516  Betty Reynolds(9587 1574), Rosemary Maughan (9588 3946), Ken Grieve (9558 7172), Mar Williams (9547 2812), Dairdre Schreeder (9546 2131), Irone & Warren Schreeder (9521 1670)					

Betty Reynolds (9587 1574), Rosemary Maughan (9588 3946), Ken Grieve (9558 7172), Mary Williams (9547 2812), Deirdre Schroeder (9546 2131), Irene & Warren Selmon (9521 1670) Rodger Robertson (9570 7471), Harvey & Velda Langford (9531 2770) Jan Magrath (9587 6589)