

Kogarah Historical Society Inc

Carss Cottage Museum, Carss Park

Postal Address PO Box 367, Kogarah 1485

www.kogarah.historicalsociety.com.au

Patron: Kevin Greene, Mayor

President: Gill Whan

Newsletter

May/June, 2020

Volume 12 No.2



History repeats itself!

*The daughters of Mary Jane Jude of Kogarah Bay wearing flu masks during the flu epidemic of 1919
(See story p.4)*

Meetings and Speakers

Thursday May 14th, 2020

Meeting postponed

Thursday June 11th, 2020

To be advised

Our normal meetings start at 2 pm in the School of Arts, Bowns Road/Queens Avenue Kogarah with the speaker. This is followed by afternoon tea and a chance to mingle with other members. A short business meeting follows. Apologies for non-attendance at meetings should go to Gill Whan (9546 4623). Visitors will always be welcome once the meetings resume.

Find us on Facebook



A World Crisis in our Jubilee Year

As you all know, the onslaught of the Corona Virus has called a halt to all social and recreational activities in the immediate future. Meetings, sports, religious services and crowd gatherings are prohibited. Georges River Council has closed all its meeting venues and the activities of Kogarah Historical Society are in abeyance. But the Committee continues to meet on a telephone hook-up and we will resume our program as soon as legally possible and safety permits. We will keep you informed. Meanwhile, let us all look forward to celebrating the Society's Jubilee Year, 2020, next November. We wish you all good health during this current crisis.

Sunday Museum Roster

Opening Hours 1 pm-4 pm (Winter), 1 pm-5 pm (Summer)

The permanent roster for the remainder of 2020 is as follows:

May, July, Sept, Nov

1st Sunday Anne Williams & Rob.McGarn
2nd Pat Young & Heather Campbell
3rd Gill Whan & Betty Goodger
4th Adele Ryan & Harvey Langford
If there is a 5th Sunday, Cath & Leo Sullivan

June, Aug, Oct, Dec

1st Sunday Wendy Agzarian & Elaine Filewood
2nd Adele Ryan & Joe Spinelli
3rd Gill Whan & Betty Goodger
4th Miryam and Niver Rodriguez

Problems: If you need to exchange days on the regular roster, please try to do so amongst yourselves, otherwise contact Wendy Agzarian (0402 136 147).

Emergency volunteers – Barbara Davids (9389 6742), Fiona Johnstone (0401976130), Margaret James (0411252887), Cath & Leo Sullivan (9579 6149)

Committee 2020 (* denotes Executive)

President*	Gill Whan	Ph.9546 4623
Vice President*	Adele Ryan	Ph.9593 1898
Secretary*	Gill Whan	Ph.9546 4623
Treasurer*	Cath Sullivan	Ph. 9570 6149
Public Officer*	Robert McGarn	Ph. 0425 706 579

Committee Members: Wendy Agzarian , Barbara Davids, Glynn Pulling, Robert McGarn, Pat Young, Beverley Earnshaw, Elaine Filewood, Anne Williams.

Committee Meeting Dates:

May 11th, June 8th, July 13th. Venues to be advised.

WANTED

While our local community is in lockdown with our members practicing 'social distancing', this is a good chance to write some historic items for our newsletter. Pieces long or short are always welcome. Do you know of a colourful local character, a sporting event, a local disaster, a demolished building or simply an interesting story you could write about? If so, do share it with our readers.

KOGARAH HISTORICAL SOCIETY AGM 2020 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

I am happy to report that Kogarah Historical Society has had another very successful year. Regular monthly meetings at 2 pm on the second Thursday of each month have been well attended. Attendance at the meetings is usually between 30 and 35. Meetings commence with a speaker followed by afternoon tea and a short business meeting.

It takes a large team of people to make these meetings a success. We miss the expertise of Garry Darby in setting up the equipment and for those now doing it, it has been a steep learning curve. Others arrive early to put out the chairs and set up things on the welcoming table at the door. The work of the catering team led by Elaine Filewood is much appreciated. In all a team of 22 people comes together to make the meetings a success.

Speakers are engaged by our secretary, Gill Whan. This year we have heard from Garry Darby, Lieut.Col.Peter Sweeney, Dr Peter Hobbins, Gary Cooke, Dr Michael Sheret, Ian Tyrell, Patrick Dodd, Wendy Cornish and Paul Brunton.

Carss Cottage Museum continues to be the Society's showpiece. The museum is staffed by volunteers and open on Sunday afternoons from 1-5 pm in summer and 1-4 pm in winter. This year it received over 770 visitors and is open by appointment for school groups and tour parties. The school groups are particularly labour intensive and we appreciate the extra help given by our volunteers. Bookings for museum visits are taken by Wendy Agzarian. Wendy has also taken up a curatorial role and several new cabinets have been bought which enabled more artefacts to go on display.

Mondays at the Museum is held five times a year. It begins with morning tea in the courtyard after which patrons can browse the museum or sit outside, weather permitting, to hear a speaker. Adele Ryan is the convenor of this event. This year's speakers at *Mondays at the Museum* have been The State Emergency Services, Mary Small, Sarah Goldman, Wendy Agzarian and Leonie Bell. The St.George Concert Band has been playing outside the museum on the second Sunday of each month in summer (weather permitting). The Museum does not open on Public Holidays or Mothers' Day.

The bi-monthly newsletters are edited by Gill Whan. We have a diversity of contributors and would like to receive more articles from members. This year's contributors have been, Rodger Robertson, Gill Whan, Alan Powditch, Adele Ryan, Betty Goodger, Beverley Earnshaw, Monica O'Brien, Olivia Ayling, Garry Darby, Joe Spinelli, Yvonne Hawkins, and John MacRitchie,

A Documentary Film entitled 'The Wedding Dress that was never worn' was produced by professional film maker, Bebi Zekirovski, and set in Carss Cottage using a professional cast. It tells the story of the romance between Gwen Coxhead and her fiancé, Jack Buckham, who died in a Japanese prisoner-of-war camp. The documentary has been entered in several overseas short film festivals. The dress is on display in our museum and the film had its premiere on April 26th, 2019 at the Marana Auditorium, Hurstville.

Wordfest, initiated by Georges River Council, took place in October around Carss Cottage. At this event we launched a new competition for school children focusing on Lieutenant James Cook who visited Botany Bay on April 29th 1770, exactly 250 years ago.

Members undertook two excursions during the year, in March an Excursion around *The Icons of Sydney Harbour* and in October a visit to *Garden Island*.

I wish to thank those volunteers who contribute so much towards the running of the society: Gill Whan our secretary, treasurer Cath Sullivan, Robert McGarn our Public Officer and presenter of Society News, Betty Goodger our honorary librarian, Adele Ryan our publicity and advertising officer, Fred Scott who looks after our Website, Wendy Agzarian who organizes bookings for the museum. David Shaw has once again been our honorary **auditor** and his help is appreciated. We greatly appreciate the volunteer service of all those people who open the museum on Sundays, those who organize and serve refreshments at the meetings and at Mondays at the Museum. We invite and encourage more members to come forward to assist us and new ideas and suggestions are always welcome.

I thank all the members for their support during the year and especially for their loyalty in 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 2019/2020

Mayor Hanigan and the Influenza Epidemic

(This is Part 4 of the winning entry by John MacRitchie in the 2019 History Awards. This epidemic happened 100 years ago yet it bears a striking resemblance to the current situation with the Corona Virus. Readers might like to refer back to our previous Newsletters Vol. 11 Nos 4 & 5 and Vol. 12 No.1)

Members of the St. George Hospital Committee attended 235 patients in their own homes in the month of April. Hurstville's Health Inspector reported that there had been ten fatalities so far in that municipality, "only one of whom had been inoculated." Rather dramatically, an inhalator installed by Kogarah's Health Inspector at Oatley School of Arts exploded, smashing the ceiling of the room; although there had been six people in the room at the time, no-one was injured. A man had been found slumped over at Hurstville Railway Station, but on being shaken, proved to have been not dead, but dead drunk. Parents were cautioned not to let their children roam the streets, or to peer into ambulances.⁴³ The Easter Monday Surf Carnival at Cronulla was postponed due to the restrictions on public gatherings.

The epidemic seemed to lose force in May, and there were fewer fatalities reported. Among them, however, were two children, William Lay, 2 and his brother Thomas Lay, 5, of Harrow Road, Kogarah; Miss Ada Wilson of Rockdale, at the Coast Hospital; and a Mr Brenton of Newman Street, Penshurst, who left a widow and small children. Mr J Hook, the former overseer of Kogarah Council, had died at Lithgow. Saddest of all was the case of ex-Sergeant William Keable, 24, of Plant Street, Kogarah. At the Battle of Pozieres he had been wounded in the face and shoulder, losing an eye, and had been invalided back to Australia. Undaunted, he had volunteered to man the Mascot Influenza Depot, and as a result contracted the disease and died on 17th May.⁴⁴

The second half of June saw the epidemic at its height in the St George district. The local dispensaries worked round the clock filling prescriptions, although how efficacious the medicines were is another matter. The Hurstville Dispensary filled 1,800 prescriptions in the week to 19 June.⁴⁵ However the dispenser, Mr Gilson, himself contracted the ailment, leaving the work to be carried on by his sole assistant. In the following week to 26 June, 1,475 prescriptions were filled by the relief dispense, a huge effort. Community helpers contributed in many practical ways. Kogarah Cooking School distributed up to twelve gallons of soups, gruel and custards each day, for example.

All the same, more local men died. Mr E Seymour of Beach Street, Brighton-le-Sands, collapsed in the street. Michael Hegerty, son of the former Rockdale Mayor J F Hegerty, died at Cronulla. Bob Lake, 32, of Hastings Street, Kogarah; A H 'Denny' Denman, a soccer referee; and Bert Haydon of Hurstville, a batsman with St George Cricket Club, were three local sportsmen to die in June. Mr Haydon's wife died the day before him.

But perhaps most shocking of all to the local community was the death of Mayor Hanigan on 20 June 1919. He had entered the month as active as ever. As Mayor, there were continual demands upon him to preside at civic functions and public meetings, many at the weekends or in the evenings. As recently as 4 June he had chaired a meeting at the Council Chambers in connection with the erection of a Soldiers Memorial for Kogarah. There had been only a small attendance, at which he expressed his disappointment, although it was understandable given the circumstances, but with his usual optimism, he expected to see more enthusiasm now that the matter had begun. He was elected President of the Committee to erect the memorial, yet another committee for him to attend. Perhaps he thought that having had influenza the previous year was of some prophylactic value in the present epidemic. However on 19 June he was admitted to St George Hospital with influenza, in a low and serious condition. George died, aged 43, to the great shock of the community.⁴⁶ He was buried in the Methodist section of Sutherland Cemetery, with Masonic rites. There were numerous wreaths. He was survived by his wife and five young children.

³⁷ *St George Call* 4 April 1919. ³⁸ *St George Call* 8 February 1919. ³⁹ *St George Call* 27 June 1919.

⁴⁰ *Propeller* 4 April 1919, p3. ⁴¹ *St George Call* 14 June 1919, p3. ⁴² *St George Call* 11 April 1919 p2

⁴³ *St George Call* 18 April 1919, p3. ⁴⁴ *St George Call* 31 May 1919, p3. ⁴⁵ *Propeller* 20 June 1919, p2. ⁴⁶ *St George Call* 28 June 1919, p3; 27 June 1919 has obituary ⁴⁷ *St George Call* 21 June 1919, p6.



Photo Garry Darby

The Carlton Roll of Honor was originally displayed on Carlton Railway Station but it now hangs in the vestibule of Carss Cottage Museum. Mayor George Hanigan died the night before the unveiling ceremony took place.

During this peak period of infection, some public gatherings continued to be held. Unveiling of the Carlton District Honor Roll could not have been more badly timed. It was held on Saturday 21 June, dignitaries attending included Aldermen from Bexley and Rockdale, as well as Mr Lamond, MHR⁴⁸. A Welcome Home arranged for returned soldiers at Sandringham was postponed.

St George Hospital reported that it had treated 87 influenza patients in the month of June, of whom 23 had died. Other fatalities occurred at the Croydon Park Emergency Hospital, which had been established to handle some of the extra cases. Among them was Sergeant Charles Pratt of Hurstville Police, “one of the most popular officers ever stationed at Hurstville”, aged 56, who left a widow and three children; his eldest son had been killed in France in 1918.⁴⁹ No doubt his work had taken him into many infected homes. Another poignant death was that of Miss Annie Collins, a volunteer nurse attached to the Bexley Emergency Depot. An obituary in the *Propeller* stated: “Her close and self-sacrificing attention has been the means of saving many lives...she as nobly laid down her life for her country as any soldier who ever died on the battlefield.”⁵⁰ On 23 June, no fewer than seventeen burials took place at Woronora Cemetery, a record number for that place.⁵¹ This appears to have been the very height of the epidemic.

Doctors, nurses and volunteers were horribly over-worked. The two nurses attached to the Kogarah Emergency Depot carried out over 700 visits, and, remarkably, not a single death occurred among the patients they cared for.⁵²

Community gratitude to Dr J Eli Webb of Hurstville was expressed at a public meeting held at Mortdale. In due course, a presentation was made to Dr Webb and four of his nurses, Nurses Palmer, Grattin, Bantin and Bastin. Returning thanks, Dr Webb stated that “he prayed to God he would never again witness such suffering.”⁵³

Around 4,000 people, including a large number of returned soldiers, attended Kogarah Park on 20 July to participate in a Thanksgiving Service for the signing of Peace. There must have been relief in many hearts to have come through not just the war but its aftermath. Two more of the Kogarah Aldermen were bereaved: Alderman William Grant lost a child, and Alderman Reuben Steenbohm lost his mother, though whether the cause was influenza in either case was not stated.

A by-election was held to elect a replacement for Alderman Hanigan. There was very little enthusiasm mustered. Albert Biddles, a collar-maker of Greenacre Road, who had lost out to George Hanigan on two previous occasions, finally achieved his desire to sit on Kogarah Council, with the very modest total of 84 votes.⁵⁵

⁴⁸ *Propeller* 4 July 1919, p3. ⁴⁹ *Propeller* 27 June 1919 p3. ⁵⁰ *St George Call* 5 July 1919, p4. ⁵¹ *St George Call* 27 June 1919, p2. ⁵² *St George Call* 12 July 1919, p5. ⁵³ *Propeller* 24 October 1919, p6. ⁵⁴ *Propeller* 18 July 1919, p2. ⁵⁵ *St George Call* 12 July 1919, p3

But as July came in, the epidemic had run its course. There was one death at St George Hospital in the week to 11 July, and none thereafter. The following week, Hurstville Red Cross disbanded, after four years of hard work. There was a macabre incident at Mortdale, when a dog was seen running about the place with a dead man's hand in its mouth.⁵⁴ It was imagined that some dreadful tragedy had occurred. Police enquiries revealed that a carter had picked up the hand in the city and had dropped it in the gutter on reaching Mortdale; it was later discovered to have been an anatomical specimen missing from the collection of Sydney University.

Possibly the last patient from the St George district to succumb was cab proprietor Percy Staples of Hurstville, who died at the Croydon Park Emergency Hospital on 26 July; although there were still fifteen patients under observation at St George Hospital. The hospital finances were very precarious, despite having had a timely subvention from the Government, and it was suggested that a Hospital Auxiliary might be formed, to raise funds for the Hospital on an ongoing basis.

Acting Mayor Matthews arranged for a meeting to be held to form such a group, observing "The many still must labour for the one".⁵⁶ The meeting was held in the Masonic Hall, Hurstville, to hear addresses from the Minister for Housing, Mr Hall, and the Attorney-General, John Garland on the work of the National Government during the war. These remarks were intended as a retort to Thomas Ley MLA, who had been making inflammatory speeches aimed at destabilising the Premier, Mr Holman. In the course of his remarks, Mr Garland stated "If it had not been for the Nationalist NSW Government, the epidemic would have been ten times worse...no country that had received a visitation from the epidemic had come out of it so well as NSW had done."⁵⁷ The speaker, however, was good enough to pay tribute to the voluntary workers who went into homes and tended the sick. A succession of benefit concerts and picture shows followed in the wake of the epidemic. A picture show was held at the Queen's Theatre to assist Mrs Attree of Hudson Street, who had lost her husband, and £42 was raised.⁵⁸ A concert at the Masonic Hall, Hurstville aided Mrs N J Glass of Inverness Street, Penshurst, whose husband had died.⁵⁹ On 14 November, a belated benefit show was held at the Queen's Theatre to help the widow and child of Sid Welch of West Kogarah.⁶⁰

The Annual Report of St George District Hospital, presented in January 1920, painted a sombre picture⁶¹. It had been "a very trying year". Annual contributions to the hospital totalled only £900, amounting to not even ½d a week per house. The honorary Treasurer stated that £600 a month was required to keep the hospital functioning. The nursing staff and Voluntary Aid Detachment had performed heroically during the influenza epidemic. As the hospital had outgrown the 'cottage' stage it was agreed that henceforward it should be called St George District Hospital.

The Annual Report, if anything, understates the picture. Lindsay Ritchie, in his history of St George Hospital, *The Healing Saint*, notes: "Records show that nursing staff were the hardest hit of hospital personnel. More than half of the nursing staff succumbed to the virus at some stage of the year and had to be nursed themselves by their colleagues when they came off duty. Of six fourth-year nurses, only two went on to graduate. The others died in the very institution they had hoped would be the Alma Mater of their professional careers."⁶²

Hurstville Council's Health Inspector stated that in 1919, 55 cases of pneumonic influenza had been reported to the Council; many other cases were reported verbally by doctors and nurses. This indicates the difficulty of assessing how many cases there were, since there were clearly many more than 55 cases in Hurstville.⁶³ Bexley Council had 62 cases of notifiable disease, an increase from 41 in 1918; 51 of the 62 cases were of influenza, and it was noted that this concealed a considerable drop in other types of notifiable disease – diphtheria cases, for example, fell from 29 to 7.⁶⁴

⁵⁶ *Propeller* 24 October 1919, p7. ⁵⁷ *Propeller* 22 August 1919, p3. ⁵⁸ *Propeller* 12 September 1919, p3. ⁵⁹ *Propeller* 26 September 1919, p3. ⁶⁰ *St George Call* 14 November 1919, p4. ⁶¹ *St George Call* 31 January 1920, p7.

⁶² Ritchie, Lindsay, *The Healing Saint*, p36. ⁶³ *Propeller* 12 March 1920 p4. ⁶⁴ *St George Call* 24 January 1920, p7.

Later research has indicated that in the pandemic, around a third of the global population was infected, and 10% to 20% of those infected died. Australia did not fare quite so badly. It is thought that around 40% of the population of Australia fell ill during the 1919 epidemic. Around 15,000 died in Australia and around 6,300 in New South Wales, indicating a death rate of 2.7 per 1,000 of population. Extrapolated to the St George area, in 1920 Kogarah had a population of just over 14,600⁶⁵ and Hurstville around 13,700, suggesting that there would have been a total of around 75 fatalities from St George, with between 30 and 40 of those from Kogarah. Some of these individuals would have died at St George Hospital or Croydon Park, a few at the Coast Hospital, and others at home. This was much better than some areas.

Several reasons might be advanced as to why St George came out of the epidemic relatively well. The organised response by local councils in setting up Relief Depots, and the co-ordination of volunteers, ensured that cases in need were identified and tended to. The proximity of St George Hospital, which had (just) sufficient bed-spaces was a great benefit. Dedicated doctors such as Dr Webb, and selfless nurses such as Annie Collins were of enormous value. On the counter side, too many public functions were allowed to proceed at a time when the epidemic could have been contained, and much of the official advice was ineffective or even counter-productive.

Individuals could make a difference. Kogarah was fortunate to have had George Hanigan as Mayor during the epidemic, whose organisational talents and foresight helped to ensure that the district came through its greatest public health challenge relatively well. At a function on 12 January, 1920 in the Kogarah Council Chambers, an oil painting of Mr Hanigan was unveiled, to hang in the Council room thereafter.⁶⁶ The painting was the work of his friend and ally, Alderman William Coleborne, who was a talented painter and a member of the Royal Art Society. Mayor Matthews made a moving speech referring to Mr Hanigan's smiling and congenial countenance; he had avoided many stormy outbreaks by a cheery word and a smile, and he had done many kind deeds.

In the 1920s, Hanigan Street, Penshurst, was named to commemorate him.

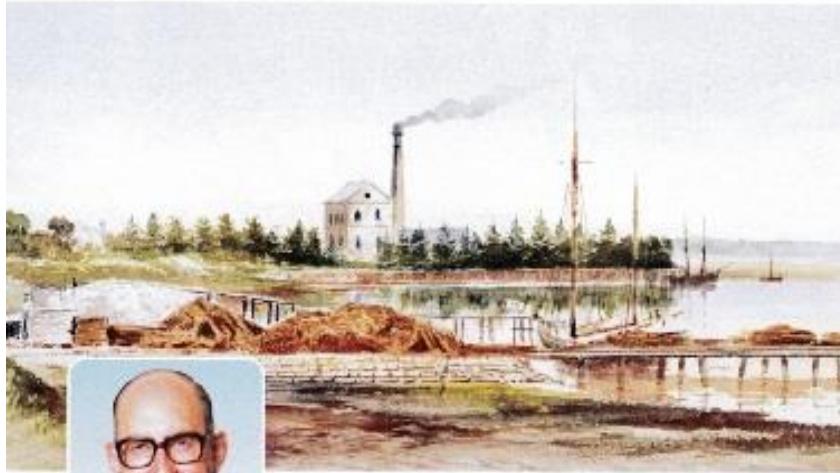
George's children continued his example of selfless public service. All three of his sons, Jack, Victor and James enlisted in WWII. James Neate Hanigan served in World War II as a Sergeant in the RAAF 452 Squadron, and died in an accidental collision over Carlisle, England, in 1941, aged 24.



Dr Eli Webb and the Illuminated Address presented by grateful citizens for his work during the flu epidemic



2020 Ron Rathbone **Local History Prize**



Waterworks, Botany, by William Andrew (D'Urville Library, State Library NSW)



A prize of **\$5000** will be awarded to the author of the best piece of original historical research on the Bayside area.

Entrants in the prize may research any aspect of Bayside Council's history including its heritage buildings, residents, geographical features, local organisations, or events.

Entry forms and guidelines are available at:
www.bayside.nsw.gov.au

Entries must be received by Friday 24 July.

2020 RON RATHBONE JUNIOR LOCAL HISTORY PRIZE

Students are invited to submit a work on any topic related to the Bayside Council area.

A prize of \$500 will be awarded to both the winning high school student and the winning primary school student.

Entry forms and guidelines are available at:
www.bayside.nsw.gov.au

Entries must be received by Friday 24th July

For more information please contact Kirsten Broderick T 9562 1821

E: kirsten.broderick@bayside.nsw.gov.au

Australian Geography

A Quiz by Rodger Robertson

1. The State and Territory Capitals are named after prominent figures of their day. Who were they?
2. What are the furthestmost points in East, West, North and South directions of the Australian mainland?
3. Australian territory has northern, southern, eastern and western boundaries. What are they? (Exclude Antarctic Territories)
4. In what State is the town of Southern Cross?
5. The Alice in Alice Springs is named after whom? (think of a river)
6. Name the highway that passes through Eden NSW?
7. The main city on Norfolk Island and Kangaroo Island have similar names- they are?
8. There are two points in Australia where three State borders meet - they are between which States?
9. Postcode 6000 is in what State?
10. Which is the northern most city, Sydney, Adelaide or Perth?

Answers:

1.	Sydney-Lord Sydney, Lord Melbourne UK PM, NSW Governor Brisbane, Charles Darwin, Queen Adelaide consort to William IV, Perth in Scotland, Lord Hobart, Canberra, an Aboriginal word for "meeting Place"
2.	Byron Bay, Wilsons Promontory, Cape York, Sleep Point WA
3.	Torres Strait Islands, Norfolk Island, Islands off Tasmanian Coast, McDonald islands including Heard Island
4.	WA
5.	Alice Todd wife of Founder
6.	Princes
7.	Kingston and Kingscote
8.	NT SA NSW and SA, Vic and NSW
9.	Perth WA
10.	Perth

A Reflection from the Past

During the current Corona Virus emergency we have seen the shops closing down until the crisis is over. During World War II our ancestors were confronted with a similar restriction, although for a different reason. On May 9th, 1942 the Sydney Morning Herald made an official announcement :-

'A coupon system of clothes rationing will soon be introduced in Australia. Until the necessary organization is completed and coupons printed, sales of clothing and materials will be restricted in all shops.

From Monday shops must reduce sales to a weekly quota equal to 75 percent of their average weekly sales for 1941.

The Prime Minister, Mr Curtin, in a national broadcast tonight said: "I say to you quite flatly that regard will be given only to the minimum requirements of the civilian population. We must clearly understand that it's not what we want, it's what we can have from now on. The darning needle is a weapon of war these days. Use it on your old clothes."

Ed: The school children who visit our museum have never heard of a darning needle or the purpose it was used for.

Response to our Children's Essay Competition

Because of the impact the Corona Virus crisis has placed upon our education system, the response to our 'Sailing with Captain Cook' essay competition has been less than expected. The committee has decided to proceed with the competition in order to keep faith with the students and schools that have participated. Below, we have published two of the entries which came from children in Lower Primary, ages 7 to 9.

---oo0oo---

Sailing with Captain Cook

26th August, 1768

It was a cool beautiful morning when I signed up to go with Captain Cook. I was surprised when I saw the ship. It was only about 30 metres long!

I also saw that there were 93 other men signing up to go with Captain Cook. When Captain Cook called us up, I was getting a bit nervous. He told us that it will take approximately two years and eleven months to get there. That will be until 1770.

We sailed on the Pacific Ocean. During our journey a lightning storm occurred! The Endeavour was tossing and turning, people were getting sea sick and lightning struck us! There was one thing that Captain Cook had that protected us from the lightning. It was a massive chain that took the lightning into the water!

29th April, 1770

When we finally found the Great Southern Land, we saw a school of stingrays that just appeared out of nowhere! Captain Cook counted how many stingrays there were. He told us there were several stingrays. He told us he was going to call this place Stingray Bay because of how many stingrays there were. Joseph Banks later told Captain Cook that it should be called Botany Bay because of the number of new plants they discovered there.

During this journey to the Great South Land, I learnt that I should be more courageous like Captain Cook and not be nervous and afraid.

By Hayden Dai

---oo0oo---

Sailing with Captain Cook

As the crew and I slowly approached this new land we all got scared. Captain Cook noticed a bay so we approached it and there were so many stingrays. After seeing all the stingrays, Captain Cook called it Stingray Bay.

Later we heard a strange sound. Then I saw a bird laughing. It was a kookaburra. My crew and I saw some campfires and people watching us with spears on the beach. We anchored the Endeavour and got the row boat out. We rowed to the beach and all of the aboriginal people started gathering around us.

Joseph Banks was busy looking at the plants and studying them.

Eventually we left the bay and mapped the east coast of New Holland which was later to be known as Australia.

After returning back to England we gave the Government information about this Great Southern Land.

By Adam B

---oo0oo---

RATIONING IN WORLD WAR II

During this current Corona Virus crisis, many commodities have been difficult to acquire through local shops. During World War II rationing was introduced in Australia and each citizen was issued with a ration book with numbered coupons. The numbers for the coupons which could be used in any given week were printed in the newspapers. The books were printed in black type for adults, green for children and red for infants.

For obvious reasons, petrol was the first commodity to be rationed. Petrol rationing began on October 1st 1940 and continued until February 8th, 1950.

The first domestic item rationed was tea. Rationing began on March 30th, 1942 when adults were restricted to one ounce of tea per week and it was not lifted until June 1950, the longest restriction of all rationed items.

Clothing and textile rationing began on June 15th, 1942 with exceptions such as footwear, hats and knitting wool. As a result women's fashions altered. Skirts went up. Pleats, frills and gathers were out as women did their best to create styles from a limited amount of dress material. In 1945 there was a special allocation of ration coupons to certain children to cover the purchase of school uniforms. To qualify, each child was measured and weighed by the school.

On September 14th, 1942 sugar rationing began with every man, woman and child to receive one pound per week. This continued until July 7th, 1947.

From June 7th, 1943 butter was rationed with adults only allowed half a pound (227 grams) per week.

On January 17th, 1944 meat rationing began throughout Australia with each adult only allowed 2¼ pounds (about 1 kg) of meat per week. Increased meat deliveries to the Australian and American Forces and exports to Britain reduced the quantities available for civil consumption. Then in February, 1945 the ration was reduced by 8½ percent because of drought conditions and the need to maintain supplies to Great Britain and a further reduction of 12½ per cent took place in May, 1945. By 1946 the quantity available to each adult was 1.84 pounds per week. There were exemptions however, with sausages, edible offals, canned meats, poultry, rabbits, fish, bacon, ham and restaurant meals being available without coupons.

On June 22nd, 1948 came the welcome announcement that the rationing of meat and clothing had ended but it was the continuation of butter rationing which caused public discontent and protest. By the end of 1946 every state was campaigning against it but the Government refused to lift the restriction because of its commitment to Britain. By 1949 Australia was exporting 25,000 tons of butter per year to Britain. In Australia, black market sales of butter were flourishing. Forged butter coupons were in circulation. On June 19th, 1950 came the surprise announcement that the hated butter rationing had ended and there was a national sigh of relief.

The unlimited supply of fabric now available sent some women into a frenzy. A fashion called 'The New Look' emerged with billowing skirts almost down to the ankles.

But gradually the nation returned to normality.

Vale Joan Fairhall

We are sorry to mark the passing of Joan Fairhall, a long standing member of our Society on April 9th, 2020. Those of you who have joined in recent years may not remember Joan, but she was a willing and helpful member in the past. We send our condolences to her son, Wesley.

KOGARAH HISTORICAL SOCIETY COMMITTEE and VOLUNTEERS 2020

Name & Position	Responsibilities	Contact details
Gill Whan President & Hon Secretary*	Chairs meetings, deals with correspondence, finds & books speakers, Museum tours & roster.	9546 4623 (0439 667 843) gillwhan@bigpond.net.au 11 Dewrang St., Carss Park 2221
Adele Ryan Vice President* Publicity Officer	Organises and chairs MAM. Publicity to Leader, Council etc. Museum tours and roster.	9529 6730, (0444 566 329) adele.robert.ryan@gmail.com 5 Endeavour St, Sans Souci 2219
Cath Sullivan Treasurer*	Payments in and out. Treasurer's reports, Museum roster & tours.	9579 6149 (0488 191 175) 10/35 Letitia St, Oatley 2223
Robert McGarn Committee Public Officer*	Minutes of meetings, sets up School of Arts for meetings. Museum tours, Museum roster.	0425 706 579 mcgarnr@bigpond.net.au PO Box 135 Kogarah 1485
Wendy Agzarian Committee Museum Custodian	Takes prime responsibility for Carss Cottage Museum. Does Museum tours and takes bookings. Museum roster	0402 136 147 wendywa@optusnet.com.au 8/52 Menai Road, Bangor 2234
Barbara Davids Committee	Museum tours and roster. Helps with MAM	9389 6742 (0418 459 604) bdavids@hotmail.com
Beverley Earnshaw Committee	Research, Museum tours, speaker, author, Edits bi-monthly newsletter. Publications Coordinator.	9546 1091, earnshawb@bigpond.com 15 Hamer St., Kogarah Bay 2217
Elaine Filewood Committee	A/teas at gen mtg. Lucky door prize. Museum roster	9580 5584 elainefilewood@gmail.com PO Box 141, Peakhurst 2210
Glyn Pulling Committee	Kogarah Council issues for Society. Assists set up for meetings.	9587 4869 84 Harslett Cres, Kogarah Bay 2217
Anne Williams Committee	Museum roster. Organises Society outings	0425 215 589 annepw2207@hotmail.com 1/44 Fontainebleau St Sans Souci 2219
Pat Young Committee	Collects and distributes newsletters. Museum tours and roster. Helps with teas at general mtg.	9593 1898 (0431 210 588) 25 Culver St., Monterey 2217
Beryl Butters	Founding/life member	Leigh Place, 12 Leigh Ave, Roselands 2196
Trudy Johns	Life member.	Mary Andrews, 857-861 King Georges Rd, Sth Hurstville 2221 (9547 2059)
	<i>Non Committee helpers</i>	
Betty Goodger	Research, newsletter articles. Museum Library/filing, Museum roster.	9570 1101 Unit 3/2 Nelson St., Penshurst 2222
Gilda Tilia	Caters for MAM	9546 2516
Fred Scott	KHS Website	9597 3243, mail@fredscott.net