

# The Crookwell Gazette

Circulating throughout Laggan, Fullerton, Hadley, Deep Creek, Peelwood, Tuena, Golsie, Blanket Flat, Binda, Zigga, Reid's Flat, Wheeo, Narrawa, Jerrara, Grabben Gullen, Gullen, Taralga, Kialla, Bannister, Gurrundah, Gunning, Pejar, McAlister, Koslyn, Middle Arm, Woodhouselee, Redground, Redbank, Cotta Walls, and Third Creeks.

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## COMMISSION HOUSES

### Three Now Near Completion

An inspection of the Housing Commission cottages under construction in Crookwell, made last week by a representative of the "Gazette" revealed that three of the homes are nearing completion and should be ready for occupation in the near future.

Two other units are well advanced also, but some delay may be experienced in securing plaster sheeting necessary for interior linings and ceilings, due to the disruption of industry as a result of the recent coal strike. It is unlikely that these cottages will be ready for occupation before the end of the year at the earliest.

Lack of skilled labour is another factor which is delaying the contractor (Mr. Walter McDonald) in effecting a speedy completion of all cottages and is also delaying the commencement of additional units which, it is understood, the Commission is prepared to erect immediately the contractor is in a position to proceed.

The cottages which are nearing completion are the two three-bedroom units and one of the smaller cottages. The painting of two is finished and all that remains to be done are minor interior fittings and electrical installations. Mr. McDonald expects that a commencement will be made with the painting of the third home in the very near future.

The interiors of the cottages have been well planned and thought has been given to the provision of ample cupboard space in nicely appointed built-in receptacles. The kitchens, particularly, have been sensibly planned and the workmanship throughout is good.

The discerning eye might detect different adjustments that would improve the lay-out of rooms, installations, etc., but this can be said for practically every house that has been built.

Mr. McDonald complained that he has experienced numerous annoying instances of damage to walls and cupboards after painting has been completed. The unfortunate example of vandalism, unfortunately all too prevalent in Crookwell, is attributed to irresponsible children, who amuse themselves by climbing in through the windows and interfering with the fittings. Parents could possibly assist the contractor by warning children of the dangers attendant in playing around cottages where electrical installation work is under way.

No indication has yet been given by the Commission as to when the ballot for the cottages may be held, but it is assumed that it will not be delayed much longer.

It is understood that applications can be lodged with the Commission up to the day prior to the holding of the ballot.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

**NEW CHAIRMAN OF DIRS.:** At a special meeting of the Hospital Board held last night Dir. H. P. Banfield was elevated Chairman of the Hospital Board for the ensuing twelve months. Dir. C. Marshall and Dir. C. B. McGuinness were elected Vice-chairmen and Dir. H. A. Peters was re-elected Hon. Treasurer.

**RUNNERS-UP:** Regarding the notice which appeared in last week's issue of the "Gazette" giving the results of the Taralga A. P. and H. committee ballot and stating that Messrs. D. R. Grimwood and A. R. Pirie were the defeated candidates, we wish to point out that there were thirteen defeated candidates in all and Messrs. Grimwood and Pirie were the chief runners-up in the ballot.

**ABERCROMBIE CROSSING:** The Crookwell Chamber of Commerce and Progress Association will throw its weight behind the Shire Council's representations to have the bridging of the Abercrombie River and the linking of the Burruga-Hadley areas undertaken by the Main Roads Board as a developmental work of high priority. This was decided at the meeting of the Chamber last night.

**SPRING RAINS:** Soaking rain which commenced to fall early on Thursday morning last resumed again on Monday morning and up till 9 a.m. today 194 points had been recorded at the Crookwell Post Office. The rain appears to be very general and will be worth thousands of pounds to farmers and pastoralists throughout the wheat belt. August rainfall was the lowest for that month for several years, but the timely advent of the current falls will repair any damage caused by the dry weeks which preceded them. Isolated storms in various parts of the Crookwell district caused local floodings early last week, particularly in the Peelwood area, where the biggest flood on record occurred in Middle Creek, washing fencing away and causing erosion to the hillsides which were burnt up by last February's bush fires.

Plans were put well in hand for this year's Blue and Gold ball to be held on Friday evening next.

A request is to be made to members who have not yet paid their membership fees for 1949 to do so before the end of September, as the branch's financial year ends on that date.

## UNTIMELY DEATH OF GEORGE PSALTIS

All sections of the town and district community experienced the pangs of deep personal sorrow on Thursday morning last, when the news of the passing of Mr. George Psaltis (which occurred in St. John of God Hospital, Goulburn) quickly filtered through to every home.

Although not entirely unexpected, his untimely death at the early age of 39 years came as a disturbing shock to every resident of the district, in which he had made his home and had lived for the past twenty years.

The steadfast courage with which he endured for almost ten months the gradual progression of a malignant illness was characteristic of the man's admirable personality which over the years had endeared him to all with whom he came in contact.

Born at Kythra (Greece) in 1910, he came to this country in 1922 and first took up residence in Crookwell in 1929. Some twelve months later he acquired the flourishing business known as the Nigara Cafe from fellow countryman, the late Theo Poulos, who established the business some seven or eight years previously.

Immediately he established himself in the hearts of the Crookwell people and earned the respect and esteem of the business community, for George Psaltis had a very keen appreciation of business ethics and we feel sure was not capable of a mean thought.

Throughout his lengthy association with the town he played his part as a citizen in the truest sense of the word.

In 1936 he married Miss L. Comino, daughter of one of Goulburn's best esteemed business men. His widow, who was always a wonderful helpmate, will have the heartfelt sympathy of the community in her great loss, for George Psaltis was, too, a most affectionate husband.

During his residence in Crookwell the late George Psaltis was admitted to the Masonic Lodge, being initiated in Lodge Taralga, where a number of his countrymen

were already members. Later he affiliated with Lodge Crookwell and became an esteemed and respected member.

The funeral on Friday afternoon last was one of the largest ever seen in Crookwell. The interment was made in the Church of England section of the Crookwell Cemetery in the presence of a gathering representative of all sections and all parts of the district.

The graveside service was preceded by a service in St. Bartholomew's Church, where the Rev. Canon Neil was assisted by Rev. T. E. Whiting (Binda) and Rev. John Evangelides (of the Greek Orthodox Church).

All three clergymen officiated at the graveside and in addition, according to the expressed wish of the deceased, the Masonic burial service was also recited by the W.M. of Lodge Crookwell, Wor. Bro. J. R. Keith.

If further evidence were needed of the respect and esteem in which the late George Psaltis was held it was provided in the wealth of beautiful floral tributes in evidence.

**TENDER ACCEPTED:** A communication from Mr. Tully, M.L.A., informs us that the Hospitals Commission has authorised the Department of Public Works to accept the tender of Messrs. A. C. Eden Pty. Ltd. at £159,572, with an extra £2,600 for items to be supplied by the Department and £2,500 for the services and supervision of the clerk of works. As yet, tenders are not available in respect of the various mechanical engineering services and the elevator. The Colonial Treasurer last week made available the additional £5,000 necessary to bring the total allocation to £165,000—the amount necessary to complete construction of the new Crookwell Hospital. Actual construction should commence as soon as the contractor can assemble his plant and complete preliminary arrangements for supply of materials and labour.

## PERSONAL PARS

**Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. J. Broderick, of Laggan, on the birth of a son at Harley Maternity Unit. The happy event occurred on August 25, and we are pleased to report that both mother and infant are doing nicely.**

**We regret to report that Mr. George Anderson, of "Stoney Creek," Narrawa, is a patient in the District Hospital suffering from an attack of pneumonia. He was conveyed to Crookwell by ambulance on Saturday last and admitted immediately to hospital.**

**Mr. Frank Willis, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Willis, of "Clowraigh," Crookwell, is undergoing treatment in Sydney for an injury sustained while playing football recently. Frank's many friends in this district will wish him a speedy recovery.**

**Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Maguire, of Denison Street, are receiving congratulations on the birth of a daughter, Carmel May, on Saturday evening last at Harley Maternity Unit.**

**The death occurred with tragic suddenness on Saturday morning last of Mr. Frederick Plumb, of Brooklands. A full obituary notice will appear in a later issue of the "Gazette."**

**Sister Nancy Winning, of Ryde District Hospital, paid a brief visit to Crookwell this week to see her sister, Janet, who is at present convalescing following an appendix operation. Another sister, Jacqueline, spent a couple of days in Crookwell last week.**

**GOLF ASSOCIATES:** A meeting of Crookwell Golf Club Associates will be held at the home of Mrs. J. R. Winning on Tuesday next, 20th September, commencing at 8 p.m. All members of the committee are cordially invited to attend.

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**CROOKWELL:** School of Arts, Thursday, Sept. 29th, 9.30 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
**CROOKWELL:** School of Arts, Friday, Sept. 30th, 9 a.m. to 12 noon.  
**TARALGA:** Argyle Hotel, Thursday, October 13th, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
**DALTON:** Dalton Hotel, Thursday, October 6th, 10 a.m. to 12 noon.  
**GUNNING:** Telegraph Hotel, Thursday, Sept. 22nd, 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

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## Presentation to Mrs. H. Eldridge

The occasion of the last monthly meeting of the Binda Branch of the C.W.A. was chosen to extend to Mrs. Harold Eldridge a farewell presentation, accompanied by the best wishes of members for her future happiness in her new home at Orange.

The presentation was in the form of a delightful English cup, saucer and plate and the recipient feelingly expressed her gratitude to members for the lovely gift, adding that she was sad at the thought of leaving such fine friends.

A presentation was also made to Mrs. H. R. Carey, a foundation member of the Branch, who has now transferred to one of the Sydney suburban branches. Before the meeting closed