

Historical Officer Report

From the pages of the Camden Advertiser

Thursday 3rd August 1939

WALTER LINDRUM World's Champion Billiardist Visits Camden

Amazing displays at billiards, snooker and trick shots were given by Walter Lindrum, world's champion billiardist, at the Camden Recreation Club rooms on Thursday evening last. Club superintendent J, D, Morrissey arranged the visit.

In an exhibition billiards match against S. G. Strancy, Lindrum scored successive breaks of 144, 154, 195, 221 and 354. The latter score, by the way, is the best ever recorded in this district.

The champion then proceeded to cleat a table of snooker balls. The red-black combination was popular and easy to the left-hand wizard of the cue. The crowded house of members and visitors enthusiastically applauded the champion at the conclusion of his 21/2 hours of delightful entertainment.

NEWSPAPER INTERVIEW

"Your Camden is a very pretty district; it reminds me of the English countryside," Walter Lindrum told the "Camden Advertiser."

The sleeve-links he was wearing bore the crowned Royal monogram in blue and gold—a present from the late King George V, when the young Australian played an exhibition match at Buckingham Palace. Queen Mary, too, was an interested spectator. Lindrum has thrice visited England and America. He has also played matches in Canada, Africa, New Zealand, India, and the East.

His three highest breaks are 4137, 3905 and 3262. On 23 occasions he has passed the 2000 mark, and 700 times has exceeded 1000.

"In America," he said, "there are a number of billiard parlours with more than 200 tables." The largest contained 336 tables.

He was much impressed with the modern appointments at the Camden Recreation Club. "It is very comfortable more like a home than a club," he added.

Like most sportsman, Walter Lindrum has the press-clippings' scrap-book I hobby. This report, from the columns of Camden's free newspaper, is to find a place in that book.

During the evening club member Eric Kelloway won a billiards competition, and was presented with an autographed cue by Walter Lindrum.

TRAVELLED 43,703 MILES IN YEAR

Ambulance wagons at the Liverpool District Ambulance Service travelled 43,703 miles during the past 12 months. This is revealed in figures compiled by the ambulance up to the end of June.

The mileage exceeded that of the previous year by 5,148. During the period, 1,993 cases were transported, as against 1,894 in 1938. Casualties increased from 445 to 459.

The service covers an area from Fairfield to Yerranderie (Burraborang Valley), 53 miles from Liverpool. The longest single trip was 140 miles.

FOXES IN DISTRICT —ONE BLACK AND WHITE

A fox in the rough country beyond Werombi has a unique colour scheme—black and white. Mr. Eric Clissold of Elderslie, saw the animal when he was bush-hiking in that district.

We have received several reports concerning the activities of foxes in local centres. They are causing some concern to farmers, particularly at Bringelly, Werombi and Burraborang.

With a succession of dry, unfavourable seasons, the fox's are finding a scarcity in rabbits—their principal food supply and are concentrating on poultry, sucker-pigs, and lambs.

STONE GRAVE FOUND IN COBBITTY CEMETERY.

The stone grave of an unknown child was inadvertently opened at Cobbitty Cemetery recently. It contained only tree roots. The grave is believed to be more than 100 years old.

Blocks of stone, forming an enclosure for a small coffin, were found at a depth of three feet when a new grave was being dug. Coffin rests had been chiselled in the stone. During a century, the bones and coffin must have decayed.

Thursday 10th August 1939

"CITY INVASION" Troops Challenge "Enemy" At Narellan

An imaginary enemy army marched through Camden on Sunday morning with the idea of invading Sydney. The enemy's progress was blocked at Oran Park, Narellan, by two infantry battalions—the 30th New South Wales Scottish and the 19th City of Sydney—who were rushed from Sydney to Narellan in 300 motor cars, and the heavy equipment followed in 50 trucks. It was a demonstration of the efficiency and rapidity with which troops can be transported, and was carried out by the Transport Auxiliary of the National Roads and Motorists' Association. The trip from the city occupied one hour and 25 minutes.

For the purpose of the exercise it was assumed that an invader advancing from the south must be repulsed. When the troops arrived at Narellan they spread over surrounding country, with machine-gun and trench mortars, to take up defensive positions.

Quite a crowd of local district residents and visitors motored to Narellan on Sunday afternoon to watch the troops in action.

THURSDAY'S RAIN WAS WELCOME

For the twenty-four hours ended at 9 a.m. on Thursday last, 138 points of rain were registered at Camden Post Office. It was the best day's fall this year.

TAXI DRIVER WAS DAIRYMAN.

There were many bright interludes during the Taxi Cab Inquiry at Sydney. One witness, a taxi driver, told Mr. Ashburner who is assisting the Commission, that he was not tired after working until five in the morning, as he had been a dairy farmer.

Mr. Ashburner: In your opinion, driving a taxi is not as arduous as dairy-farming?

Taxi Driver: That is right.

Commissioner: You say, then, that every taxi driver should have a dairy farming training first?

Taxi Driver: I don't know, your Honour. A lot of them couldn't stand up to it.

"**THE MOTOR TAX** should be sufficient to maintain all main roads," declared Alderman Davies when supporting a motion moved by the Deputy Mayor (Alderman Larnach) that Camden Council co-operate with Granville Council in a move to abolish the Main Roads rate within the County of Cumberland. Camden's contribution is £70 per year.

Thursday 17th August 1939

MODERN SALEYARDS AT CAMDEN

The firm of William Inglis and Son Pty. Ltd. advised Camden Council on Monday night that plans for a modern saleyards would be submitted at early date.

The auctioneers recently purchased additional land in Edward Street, Camden adjacent to the pig and calf pens in order to carry out the new building scheme.

At the same council meeting a petition signed by some 30 residents, requested the aldermen to have the present saleyards closed.

In view of the firm's contemplated removal to Edward Street, council decided to defer consideration of the petition.

CAMDEN CYCLE CHAMPIONS

T. English and C. Guyer - Win Road Titles

Eighteen-year-old Tom English, of Elderslie, won Camden Cycling Club's senior road championship on Saturday last. He covered the 20 miles under time-trial conditions in 53 minutes 52 3-5 seconds.

Arthur Biddle was the runner up

Saturday's success gave English his third championship in three years' riding. He had previously won the junior road title in 1937 and the junior track title in January last.

Charles Guyer, who only commenced his cycling career this year, won the junior championship on Saturday. He recorded the fast time of 24 minutes 48 seconds for the ten miles.

The minor places were filled by Neville Crane and Laurence Fitzpatrick.

A freak happening caused considerable damage to an electricity transformer in Park Street Camden on Friday and interrupted a portion of the township supply. A twist developed in a green timber pole and caused the wires to cross. Repairs will cost in the vicinity of £100.

Thursday 21st August 1939

CAMDEN PREPARATIONS National Emergency Scheme

WARDEN NOT YET APPOINTED

WANTED; a Chief Warden for Camden Municipality!

Here is an honorary position for a patriotic local man, over 45 years of age, who possesses outstanding organising ability and holds the confidence of all sections of the community. A keen knowledge of human understanding would be a very necessary qualification in order for him to deal with the problems of residents, and families sent from city and coastal areas in the time of emergency. In fact, it's a big job for a big-hearted citizen.

At last week's Camden Council meeting, the Mayor, Alderman H. S. Kelloway reported that he had interviewed a number of "possible and probable's," but had reached no finality in regard to the position.

The council decided to inform headquarters that it is unable to make a recommendation at the present time,

WOMEN'S SERVICES.

The Camden Centre of the Women's Voluntary Services has made excellent progress. Members of the air-raid precautions class will be examined by Drs. J. T. and R. E. Jefferies at their Camden surgery on Wednesday evening next at 6 o'clock.

The subject matter for this examination will be the summaries prepared by Dr. R. M. Crookston for each of his five lectures.

Those successful in the examination will receive a certificate from the National Emergency Service; all members who attended the lecture are urged to take this opportunity of securing a certificate to prove their qualifications for the purpose of assisting the Chief Warden.

Thursday 31st August 1939

NATIONAL EMERGENCY Bridges and Water-Race Guarded

Precautionary measures for guarding key points were introduced in this district and throughout Australia at the height of the crisis on Friday last. These measures were the Commonwealth's greatest internal preparations for national emergency since the Great War of 1914-1918.

Armed with pick-handles, shire employees and Main Roads men guarded the bridges over the Nepean River at Camden and Menangle. Some 150 patrol-men were engaged on the banks of the Kenny Hill water-race Sydney's main supply canal—to guard against the possibility of sabotage.

SERIOUS TRUCK ACCIDENT

The first local casualties in connection with the National Emergency defence scheme occurred late on Friday night last, when a utility-truck, carrying stores to the men engaged on the Kenny Hill canal, collided with another vehicle, Michael Boyd, of Mulgoa-road, Wallacia, the truck driver, was conveyed by Liverpool District Ambulance to Camden District Hospital and admitted in a critical condition, suffering from a fractured skull.

Albert Ernest Coughlin of Villers Avenue, Mortdale who was travelling with Boyd received scalp wounds and concussion. He was also admitted to the local hospital.

CAMDEN'S POLICE RESERVE

Air -raid precautionary measures and the defence of the civilian population are being taught to twelve Camden residents. Lectures are given every Wednesday evening here by Sergeant Stackpool and Constable Brookfield, two specially-trained officers, from Parramatta.

Members of the Camden police reserve include a number of returned soldiers. Similar lectures are given at Campbelltown on Thursday evening

Ray Herbert
Historical Officer