MUSEUM STAFFING:

A strong plea is made to members to assist with staffing duty on Saturday and Sunday afternoons as we are short of help. Please advise the secretary when you can be rostered.

PERSONAL:

Sincere sympathy to life member Bill Mintorn on the sad passing of his brother.

The Museum will not be the same for the next few months with the absence of tireless worker, Mrs. Evans. She left on Saturday, 16th, for "foreign parts", but hopes to be back for the Christmas tourist "battle".

CONGRATULATIONS:

To Miss Beverley Whitfield of Shellharbour for her exploits at Munich. A "Gold" in the 200 metres breaststroke and a "Bronze" in the 100 metres. And to other local competitors who tried and failed — better luck next time!

F. P.(?) MacCABE OF RUSSELL VALE:

The query was raised at the September meeting, what did the initial "P." signify, it being intimated that the name was "Peter", but "Patrick" had also been nominated. In contemporary documents he was invariably referred to as "F. P. MacCabe", apparently on the assumption everyone knew what the initials presaged.

It has now been confirmed as Peter. A correspondent advises St. Luke’s, Dapto, marriage register has an entry date 28th November, 1855 — Francis Peter MacCabe of Sydney, bachelor, to Jane Osborne of this Parish, spinster.

CAPTAIN WALDRON DECEASED:

This, the latest publication of the Society by our Past President W. G. McDonald, briefly mentioned last month, is now available. Again a most valuable contribution to the written history of the district. ("One word of printed history is better than a thousand made with plurry digging stick" — old Aboriginal proverb c. September, 1972). Dealing with the year 1834, it portrays the local scene when the white population so sparse and scattered was practically nil and development negligible.

It is illustrated with portraits of the legal personnel involved in the trial of the convict women servants for the alleged murder of the gallant captain (curiously, diligent search by the author failed to produce any pictures of the Waldrons concerned).

Particularly relevant is an extract from the 1907 Parish map of Wollongong, which, in addition to marking the theatre of operations (the A.I.S. site of No. 3 Steelworks at the corner of Springhill and Masters Roads) 138 years ago, compares the development over the past 65.

Thirty-two 5½” x 8½” pages plus intriguing cover in legal blue (the same as that instrument which should be served on any one interested in our history who does not acquire a copy!), priced at 75 cents plus postage?

"MAC THE KNIFE."