What's In A Name

OLD SOUTH HEAD ROAD which divides the Waverley and Woollahra Municipalities, "is nearly as old as the Colony itself, a trafficable track being cut from Farm Cove to South Head in 1803".

Early Mayors of Waverley have their legacy in streets named after them: John BIRRELL, Joseph DICKSON, David FLETCHER, John MACPHERSON, William SIMPSON, Alfred HEWLETT, R.G. WATKINS, John CAMPBELL, Dr Leslie LAMROCK and Joseph BARRACLUFF. to name a few.

Colonial Governors are also well remembered: CARRINGTON ROAD (Baron Charles Wynn-Carrington 1885-1890), BRISBANE STREET (Major-General Sir Thomas Brisbane 1821-1825), YOUNG STREET (Lord Lisgar, Sir John Young 1861-1867), BOURKE STREET (Major-General Sir Richard Bourke 1831-1837), DARLING STREET (Lieut-General Ralph Darling 1825-1831), DENISON STREET (Sir William Denison 1847-1861), and GIPPS STREET (Sir George Gipps 1838-1846).

Barnett Levey is remembered, but not with a street named after him. Rather, his home, WAVERLEY HOUSE, gave its name not only to the Municipality but also to the Suburb, Street, Crescent and Lane.

Early owners of the Bondi Estate are recalled: Francis O'Brien in both FRANCIS and O'BRIEN STREETS, and his father-in-law, "Monitor" Hall, in EDWARD and HALL STREETS. CURLEWIS STREET commemorates yet another owner of the Bondi Estate: Judge Frederick Charles Curlewis, grandfather of another well-known Bondi resident, Judge Adrian Curlewis.

NEWLAND STREET is named for the licensee of the Charing Cross Hotel, William Newland. The first Waverley Council meetings were held in his hotel, from 1859, until the first Council Chambers were built.

Henry Hough's windmill, erected in the early 1840's for grinding corn and other cereals, was a well-known landmark, hence, MILL HILL ROAD and HOUGH STREET.
Many early residential homes, some now gone, can be recalled: Chesterfield Parade named after Robert C. Massie’s home “Chesterfield”, now the site of Clovelly Public School. Palmerston Avenue William Spain’s house fronted Dickson Street opposite Belgrave Street. He was one-time Private Secretary to Lord Palmerston. Yanko Avenue takes its name from “Yanko House”, where once an open-air cafe operated as ‘Tivoli Gardens’. Llandaff Street “Llandaff House” in Botany Street later changed its name to “Kioto” and became a private hospital about 1927. Forest Knoll Avenue Francis O’Brien built “Forest Knoll” in 1888 at the corner of Edward and Denham Streets, Bondi. It became residential flats before being demolished. Castlefield Street is named for Edward Merewether’s “Castlefield Mansion”. He was A.D.C. to Governor Sir George Gipps and later Private Secretary to both Governor Sir Charles Fitzroy and Governor Sir William Denison.

Simeon Henry Pearce, first Chairman of Randwick Council, is remembered by Waverley, too. His Randwick home, “Blenheim House”, gave its name to Blenheim Street, and Isabella Street is named for his wife, Alice Isabella Thompson.

From Wonderland City, the amusement park which occupied Tamarama Beach from 1906, comes Wonderland Avenue, and St. James Road from the St. James Glebe Lands beside Waverley Bus Depot.

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"What's in a Name?" is a mystery short story by American writer Isaac Asimov. It first appeared in the June 1956 issue of The Saint Detective Magazine under the title Death of a Honey-Blonde and was reprinted in the 1968 collection Asimov's Mysteries under its original title. An unnamed detective arrives to investigate a mysterious death at Carmody University. Louella-Marie Busch and Susan Morey were known as the "library twins" due to their similar appearance and work at the science reference library. 

"What's in a Name? that which we call a rose By any other name would smell as sweet."
—William Shakespeare, Romeo and Juliet.

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What's in a name? that which we call a rose By any other name would smell as sweet; So Romeo would, were he not Romeo call'd, Retain that dear perfection which he owes Without that title:—Romeo, doff thy name; And for that name, which is no part of thee, Take all myself.

Romeo. I take thee at thy word: Call me but love, and I'll be new baptiz'd; Henceforth I never will be Romeo. Juliet. What man art thou that, thus bescreen'd in night, So stumblest on my counsel? Romeo. By a name I know not how to tell thee who I am: My name, dear saint, is hateful to myself, Because Whatâ€™s in a name? Well quite a lot if you're the Washington Redskins football team. In 2013, former US President Barack Obama suggested the historic team should change theirs. He said it was offensive to the Native American community. The team defended the name as honoring Native Americans. Others called it a "sad reminder" of a more bigoted and racist past. In 2014, the US Trademark Office ruled the team’s trademark should be cancelled. The team’s owner, Dan Snyder, has vowed that he will never change the name. The team claims the name honors and doesn’t disparage Native Americans. The Washington What is in a name? I have a play entitled "Chuck and Dolores. It’s about how these two young hot blooded teenagers - one is only 14 - are hot to trot. Its going direct to video and cable release since no legitimate agent who wants to keep the authorities off his back could put his name to it.Â You could just take another name! Whatâ€™s so special about a name? The thing we call a rose would be just as sweet-smelling if it were called something else. Likewise Romeo, if he werenâ€™t called Romeo, would still be perfect even if he were called something else. Romeo, lose the surname and without it Iâ€™m yours. [Shakespeareâ€™s version is so beautifully phrased, you can see why we like to keep the original rather than use a clunky modern â€œtranslationâ€️ like mine!]