

ONE PENNY.

# THE ST. GEORGE GALL

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ST. GEORGE & WORONORA  
ELECTORATES.

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No. 1

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**MEN WE KNOW** The Mayor of ROCKDALE

Since the incorporation of the Rockdale Council on Monday, February 13, 1871, many good men and true have presided over its conclave of fathers. The first to occupy this position was Ald. Wm. Yates—his conferees being Aldermen Beechag, Godfrey, Napper, McInnes and Woolacot—of which coterie Mr. C. Napper is the only survivor. En passant it might be mentioned that the revenue for the initial year was under £200, as compared with a possible £5,000 in the present year.

Necessarily, with the progress of the district, the importance of the office has advanced, but relatively the occupant of the Mayoral Chair of 1871 felt his responsibility fully as keenly as our present "chief magistrate" Alderman J. H. Trevarthen, of whom a few particulars.

The eldest son of the late Captain James Trevarthen, first saw the light of day on May 13, '55, at the Cornish Settlement near Bathurst—that fine country described in 1814, by its discoverer, George Evans, as "equal to every demand which this country may have for extension of tillage and pasture lands for a century to come." Schooldays were spent at the National School, Bathurst, and the following nine years saw our future Mayor in pursuit of wealth on adjacent gold fields—prosperous at times, reversed at others, yet hopeful withal. Leaving a life of hazardous existence, attention was turned to various business pursuits in country districts, culminating in the establishment of the present Hopetoun Ward.



Ald. J. H. TREVARTHEN

Oddfellowship has always had a strong supporter in Ald. Trevarthen. Joining the G.U.O.F. at the age of 17, he took the G.M.'s degree four years later, and in his 29th year was elected G.M. of Goulburn district. Municipal honours were sought and gained in 1896, and for the past two years the presidency has been entrusted to him. The difficulties surrounding the mayoral chair have been successfully overcome, and the "reform" flag kept well to the front.

Extensive schemes are often undertaken by Suburban Councils and evidences of big things generally present themselves in bricks and mortar. In this connexion

Rockdale cannot boast of a surfeit. The erection of the Town Hall in 1888 marks the most forward step in the Council's transactions. This enterprise, costing about £4,000, was looked at askance by many a "knowing one." Certainly, during times of depression, the weight of the burden was severely felt, but the most pessimistic of its adversaries has since found the building one of the Borough's best assets. Pending the accumulation by the Government of sufficient funds to carry out the already-approved sewerage scheme, the district progress must be considerably hampered. Notwithstanding such hindrances steady progress has been made during the present Mayor's regime. Seven years ago, the Council's liabilities amounted to £18,500 (caused mainly by the Railway extension, necessitating the forming and opening of streets, &c.); to-day the liability stands at £14,900—a reduction of £3,600. Further reduction is assured by a half-yearly payment (in addition to interest) of £175 off principal. It will be information for many to know that the area of triangular shape from the Pinch at Arncliffe, along Rocky Point road to Harrow road, and thence to Forest road, was absorbed by Rockdale in 1884, and included with Arncliffe Ward, without Government assistance towards the formation of roads. During the present Mayor's term this Ward has been subdivided, resulting in the creation of the present Hopetoun Ward.

At the end of the present term Ald. Trevarthen intends retiring from Municipal affairs, with the object of travelling, for health's sake.

In political matters Ald. Trevarthen has always been a staunch freetrader and has worked for the party's candidate until the recent Lang contest, when his support went to Mr. Cullam. On two or three previous occasions he has been requested to contest the Hawkesbury seat in the freetrade interest and will probably do so at the forthcoming State election, in which *The Call* wishes him every success.

NEXT WEEK:  
THE MAYOR OF HURSTVILLE

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