

1959 April 23

£2,467 p.a. to Run Ambulance

Several months ago a request was sent to the Lismore Ambulance to submit the cost of maintaining an ambulance within the shire.

The Lismore Ambulance superintendent estimates that the expenditure would be £2,467 p.a., made up of wages £1,107/18/6, overtime £214/11/6, wages relieving officer £192, meals £42, first aid supplies £15/15/-, petrol and oil £100, tyres and tubes £20, repairs and renewals to vehicle £75, insurance and registration £43, telephone £20, stationery £15/15/-, uniforms £36, petty cash £5, superannuation £25, rates £5/10/-, general expenses £15, rent £234, depreciation on vehicle £300.

A proposed income would be £987, made up from subscriptions £527, estimated transport fees £220, allocation £240.

This would leave a debit balance of £1,480, without taking into consideration the cost of building a station at about £6,000.

Cr. Kempnich said no stone should be left unturned to have the ambulance boundaries changed. He moved that the ambulance board be approached through Mr. Robinson to allocate a sub-station for Woodburn Shire.

1959 June 11

The question of the establishment of an ambulance station within the shire of Woodburn was discussed and it was resolved to communicate with the Ambulance Board, Sydney, on the matter.

1963 June 20

Profit Down On Ambulance Ball

The profit was down on the third annual ball organised by the Mid-Richmond Ambulance Development Committee but the ball was a great social success.

The ball was held in Evans Head and opened by Mr. Ian Robinson, M.L.A.

Mr Robinson said that all present were lending a hand to support the ambulance service in the district. He said the ambulance service deserved everything the people of the district could do for it.

Mrs. Ian Robinson judged Miss Yvonne Everingham of Woodburn the belle of the ball. A presentation of an inscribed tray was made to Yvonne by Mr. Robinson.

The vice-president of the Mid-Richmond Ambulance Development Committee, Mrs. W. Reynolds, thanked all for supporting the ball. She said everyone appreciated Mr. and Mrs. Robinson attending.

Mr. Geo. Wagner represented the Casino Ambulance Board.

Mr. and Mrs. Miller were thanked for donating the hall.

The excellent music was by All Stars Orchestra.

1965 March 10

Schemes for fund raising

The Evans Head Ambulance Auxiliary made plans for fund raising schemes at the monthly meeting held on Monday.

Mrs. Kay Hancock presided at the meeting which was well attended.

It was decided to hold a bazaar at the end of May. A committee consisting of Mesdames Hancock, Gollan, Donaldson, Leitch, and Mr. K. Kennedy, was announced to organise the function.

The bazaar will be a new venture for the auxiliary. It will be held in the ambulance grounds and will incorporate novelties and a white elephant table.

The committee will welcome any new ideas which may be forthcoming from the public and also assistance by way of donations or labour. Phone Mr. Kennedy at the ambulance station if you wish to help.

It was decided to hold a street stall on April 10.

The ambulance ball will be held this year in August or September, the date to be arranged at the next meeting of the auxiliary on April 12.

The meetings will be held in the afternoon for a trial period.

1965 May 5

Great success of auxiliary bazaar

The bazaar staged by the Evans Head Ambulance Auxiliary on Saturday was an outstanding success.

President of the Evans Head Ambulance auxiliary, Mrs. George Hancock, said the bazaar was a wonderful success and the crowd much bigger than anticipated.

Mrs. Hancock said the final balance sheet is not yet available, but that the profit from the function would help to swell the funds for the operation of the Casino Ambulance, of which Evans Head is a sub-station.

1965 June 30

Phone service

Mr. McDonald said the club had purchased and installed an aliby phone. This was a device attached to the phone at the Ambulance Station.

In the absence of the station officer, a tape message will answer and advise the caller where to contact for service.

Mr. McDonald said this gave a valuable service to both local people and visitors.

The chairman of the Casino and District Ambulance Board, Mr. Hanckel, accepted a cheque which enabled the installation of an aliby phone at the Evans Head branch station.

Mr. Hackel said the phone was a wonderful idea and saved an extra man at the station. He congratulated the R.S.L. Club on the fine support it gave to the Evans Head Ambulance. "With the heavy toll on the roads, an ambulance service is a necessity and your support is appreciated."

The Evans Head station officer, Mr. K. Kennedy, demonstrated the message people now received when they dial the ambulance.

1965 July 28

Subscriptions to ambulance

The annual collection for subscribers to the ambulance in the Mid-Richmond district has now been completed by the officer-in-charge of the Mid-Richmond branch, Mr. Keith Kennedy.

In Evans Head there are four who have not renewed their subscriptions, in Woodburn 18, in North Woodburn 26, a total of 48.

Mr. Kennedy said it was felt the majority of these would be renewed in the near future.

A count of the district shows that 476 people in the district are not covered by the ambulance. These people, in many cases, could not afford to be out of the service, Mr. Kennedy said.

In this total there were 390 who were not pensioners. These include several single men and women as well as married couples. This did not include children.

Mr. Kennedy said there were more than 500 people, if children were taken into account, not in the scheme.

There were 86 pensioners who did not have cover for transport outside the district.

[A pensioner is not charged by Casino ambulance if transported within his district. However if transported outside his district a charge of quarter the normal rate is made.

To offset such an expense for the sum of 12/- per year a pensioner may be covered for free transport throughout N.S.W. and South-East Queensland.]

During the financial year the Casino ambulance is concentrating on getting new subscribers. Financial worry did not help a sick person, Mr. Kennedy said in advising non-members to join the Ambulance service.

A number of people in the area had joined the 400 club art union, but there were still a few tickets left.

The ambulance auxiliary meeting which was to have been held in July will be held on Wednesday, August 4 at 2.30 p.m.

This will be the last meeting prior to the annual meeting in September.

“Remember it is your service and come along and help raise some money for much needed motor running repairs,” Mr. Kennedy said.

1965 September 15

Shirley Ann will compere show

TV personality Shirley Ann of RTN-8 will compere a fashion show for the Evans Head Ambulance Auxiliary.

President of the auxiliary, Mrs. Amy Gollan, said yesterday that the fashion parade was arranged for September 20, at 7.30 p.m. at the Orana Restaurant.

The models will be showing this summer fashions from “The Orana”.

Mrs. Gollan said it cost more than £2,000 to keep the ambulance functioning for the district. “It is the people’s ambulance so we hope they will come along and help us toward our goal,” Mrs. Gollan said.

Mrs. Gollan would like all committee members to contact her regarding supper arrangements.

1968 October 2

Ambulance auxiliary had record year; no president appointed

Evans Head Ambulance Auxiliary failed to appoint a president at the annual meeting despite a record year last year.

The meeting elected other office bearers. It is hoped to elect a president at the next meeting. The retiring president, Mrs. Amy Gollan, completed three years in office.

Mrs. Gollan said it was the policy of the auxiliary that members serve two years as president but, owing to sickness and changes in staff the auxiliary went into the doldrums for a time and she served an extra year.

She thanked members and the public for support during her term of office.

Mrs. Gollan reported an “excellent year” for the auxiliary.

She said that during the year the branch held four hoy parties, a dinner dance, Christmas doll raffle and an annual bazaar.

Purchases

Out of the funds raised, the auxiliary purchased stretchers, mattresses, blankets and sheets for the new ambulance. It also bought casualty room instruments, an electric urn for the station and a typewriter.

It gave Casino district \$200 towards the overdraft for the new ambulance.

Mrs. Gollan said the branch still had a healthy bank balance, which it was keeping aside to purchase new doors for the station, also to have the floors in the ambulance bay painted.

This would be done as soon as board approval was given.

Mrs. Gollan thanked Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Thornton, past licensees of the Illawong Hotel, for their generous support which made the dinner-dance a financial and social success.

She thanked the women's auxiliary of the R.S.L. and the fishermen's co-op. for their continued support; Mr. Sivyer, of Casino, for two donations, also many friends who had given donations. She thanked Casino Cordials for donating the prizes for the art section of this year's bazaar.

The treasurer, Mrs. Quinn, reported an income of \$1,364. The branch has a credit balance of \$526.27.

The station officer at Evans Head, Mr. B. Quinn, presided for the election of officers. He thanked the retiring president, Mrs. Gollan, for her work for the auxiliary. He made special reference to the honorary ambulance bearers at the station, Messrs. Paul Adams and Keith Pursey.

Mr. Quinn also thanked the police, Dr. D. Ryan, Dr. J. Glavina and Mr. O. R. McCullough for support during the year.

Office bearers elected were: Senior vice-president, Mrs. Carrall; vice-president, Mrs. W. Donaldson; secretary-treasurer, Mrs. B. Quinn.

Mrs. Carrall took the chair for the monthly meeting in the absence of a president.

It was decided to hold a hoy party at the Ambulance Station on Monday, October 21.

Funds raised at the party will go toward cementing at the back of the ambulance residence.

All members were asked to bring a pack of cards and a plate.

1969 July 9

Auxiliary Farewell

The secretary of Evans Head Ambulance Auxiliary, Mrs. B. Quinn, was farewelled at the meeting on Monday.

President of the auxiliary, Mrs. Langan, said Mr. and Mrs. Quinn were leaving earlier than anticipated. She apologised to any resident who did not know of the function of Monday. Mrs. Quinn has been secretary of the auxiliary for the past three years since her husband was appointed officer-in-charge of the Evans Head Ambulance Station.

Auxiliary members presented Mrs. Quinn with a gold mirror in recognition of her service to the Evans Head Branch.

Mr. Quin has taken an appointment at Muswellbrook.

More than 50 people representing different organisations in Evans Head attended the function.

Mrs. Langan, paid a tribute to her husband. It was through his co-operation that so many people were notified of the farewell, she said.

Superintendent of Casino and District Ambulance, Mr. Bradford, attended. He praised the work done by Mrs. Quinn during her stay in Evans Head.

1969 August 6

Ambulance officer appointed

A new ambulance officer for Evans Head is expected to commence duty on August 15. He is Mr. Kevin Carey, who comes from Bowral. Mr. Carey is married with two children. He has been active in local organisations in the Bowral district. The transfer to the Casino and District Ambulance is a promotion for Mr. Carey. The ambulance station at Evans Head has been manned by Mr. L. Allen since relieving officer of Casino Ambulance, Mr. B. Quinn, was transferred.

1969 September 10

Ambulance officer welcomed

Evans Head Ambulance Ladies' Auxiliary welcomed the new ambulance officer, Mr. Carey, and his wife at a hoy afternoon at the Ambulance Station. The president, Mrs. Langan, said the branch was happy to welcome Mr. And Mrs. Carey to the district. The interest in the ambulance service was shown by the good attendance at the function, she said. About 30 members attended. Hoy was followed by afternoon tea.

1969 September 24

Appeal For Air Ambulance Seeks \$220,000

The Air Ambulance is making an appeal for \$220,000 for a second aircraft for the service. The Premier, Mr. Askin, said the first aerial ambulance service in this State, operated with one aircraft which was introduced in March, 1967.

"It has proved to be a tremendous boon to country people but its blessings have been diminished by the inherent deficiencies of a one-aircraft service.

An air ambulance is not just a sophisticated vehicle for transporting the sick. It permits continuity of treatment for the patient. The concept behind the inauguration of air ambulance service was the provision of a competent emergency and routine high-speed transport system.

It services, 365 days a year, the length and breadth of New South Wales. This entire area is divided into four regions with the aircraft providing a twice weekly service to each, in addition to being on 24-hour standby for all emergency cases.

3,741 Cases

In the first two years, the aerial ambulance carried 721 special emergency patients - 128 of these involving the newly born; 3,020 routine cases whilst operating a twice weekly State-wide service. The total patients was 3,741.

A total of 1,267 flights were made. Over 600,000 nautical miles were covered.

The one aircraft saved patients a total of 21,053 hours on the road and a total of 1,143,032 road miles of conventional ambulance transport.

The one aircraft could not handle the huge number of routine and emergency cases, nor provide transport for 500 cases, many of them serious.

As one of the hardest worked aircraft in Australia today, rigid maintenance and safety checks absorb valuable flying time.

Second plane

The second aircraft will:

- Satisfy the urgent need for some high-speed ambulance patient transports.
- Increase the reliability and continuity of the air ambulance by making additional aircraft available for routine flights and 24-hour emergency standby.

“The second aircraft will cost \$220,000. The savings in human life are worth it... and only your gift, with others, will achieve this, says an appeal spokesman.

The Queen Air B80 was selected by the N.S.W. Ambulance Transport Service Board as its first aerial ambulance after evaluation of all possible types. Powered by 380 h.p. engines, the Queen Air is fully instrument equipped and capable of operating under all weather conditions. With a cruising speed of 235 m.p.h. and a range of 1,300 miles, the Queen Air can travel to even the most remote parts of N.S.W. on emergency calls within a few hours.

History

Highlights in ambulance history are:

1895 Civil Ambulance and Transport Brigade of N.S.W. formed in Sydney with two officers and hand-wheeled stretchers.

1899: First horse-drawn ambulance

1901: Suburban stations established at St. Peters, Woollahra, Balmain, Rockdale, Circular Quay and the P. & O. Wharf.

1912: First motor ambulance

1919: The Ambulance Transport Service Act establishing the N.S.W. Ambulance Transport Service Board.

1961: Establishment of the Ambulance Transport Service Board's Training School

1967: First aerial ambulance.

1969: Public appeal launched for second air ambulance.

1969 September 24

First surplus in five years

Casino and District Ambulance superintendent, Mr. Bradford said \$7,732.72 had been spent at Evans Head station during the past year.

Income from Evans Head from subscriptions, grants and donations was \$4,389. The expenses exceeded income by \$3,400.

However, with the income from carnival proceeds (3,809.89) and a donation of \$556 from the ambulance auxiliary, the branch showed a surplus for the first time in five years.

Mr. Bradford said current thinking was that subscriptions should meet wages, which at Evans Head, amount to \$4,191.03. Income from subscriptions is \$1,863.

He said the building loan on the Evans Head Ambulance residence was being reduced, but it still had 22 years before it was completed.

Mr. Bradford said the bank loan for the car was also being reduced. It was hoped to put money aside for a new vehicle. The Evans Head branch was on a solid footing.