

MUNICIPALITY OF WAVERLEY.

PROCLAMATION.

By His Excellency SIR WILLIAM THOMAS DENISON, Knight Commander of the Most Honorable Order of the Bath, Governor General in and over all Her Majesty's Colonies of New South Wales, Tasmania, Victoria, South Australia, Western Australia, and Captain General and Governor-in-Chief of the Territory of New South Wales and its Dependencies, and Vice Admiral of the same, &c., &c., &c.

WAVERLEY COUNCIL

WAVERLEY: SEAL AND EMBLEM

A Waverley Library Local History Fact Sheet



Images from top:

The proclamation of Waverley Municipality, New South Wales Government Gazette, 14 June 1859, Issue No. 115, p. 1343. Image courtesy of NLA.

Official Seal of Waverley Municipal Council, adopted on August 30, 1859.

On 13th June, 1859, Sir William Thomas Denison, Governor-General and Governor-in-chief of the Colony of New South Wales, proclaimed the establishment of "The Municipality of Waverley". The New South Wales Government Gazette of Tuesday, 14th June, 1859, published the Proclamation with a description of the municipal boundaries and of a:

"Petition signed by seventy householders resident within the Rural Districts of Waverley, Bondi, and Little Coogee..., praying that the same might be declared a Municipality".

SEAL OF THE WAVERLEY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

Various designs for a municipal seal were submitted to the Council on their meeting on July 28, 1859. A group of four councillors were appointed to

select the winning design, with Councillor Charles Simmons acting as Chairman of the committee. Waverley Municipal Council accepted the official seal on August 30, 1859 via Councillor Simmons who had received it from the NSW Colonial Secretary.

The dominant element of the Seal is the ornamental shield bearing the cross of St. George and its five stars which are symbolic of the state of New South Wales. The different devices in three of the four quarters of the shield are:

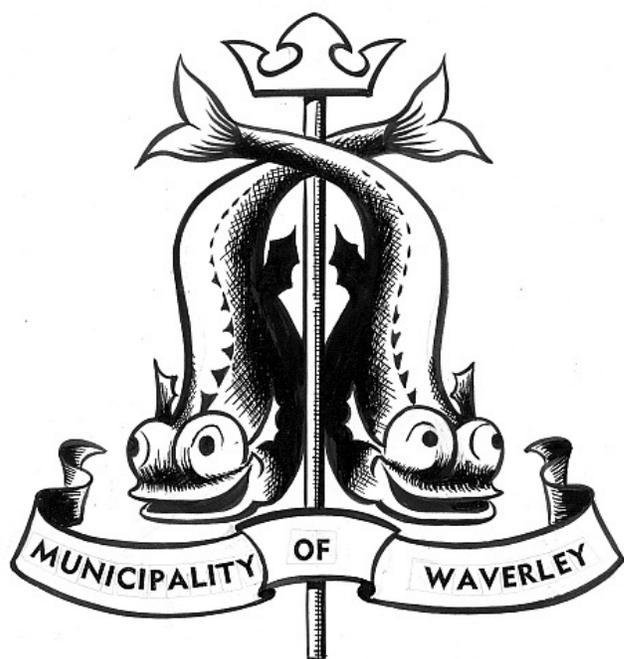
- a sheep's fleece (denoting productiveness)
- a sailing ship (denoting communication)
- an anchor (representative of a seaboard district or coastal town)

The fourth device is not clear, but the most likely theory is of a bale of wool or other



WAVERLEY COUNCIL

WAVERLEY: SEAL AND EMBLEM



Images from top:

Tapestry of Municipality of Waverley Seal, Council Chambers meeting room, 1986.

Waverley Municipal Council's emblem. Adopted in 1915, showing two dolphins and Neptune's Trident.

merchandise.

The rising sun above the shield is likely intended to glorify Waverley as part of sunny New South Wales. The cornucopia, with its spilled contents of fruits and vegetables, placed against the right side of the shield, is a standard emblem sometimes called the 'horn of plenty' representing wealth and peace. The pick and spade, on the opposite side, usually signify industry and possibly pioneering.

The scene on the right with its foreshore, old-fashioned cottages, and ship at sea, seems to emphasise Waverley's coastal heritage and location.

In the left background is a simple representation of the old Macquarie lighthouse on the south head of Port Jackson. Due to boundary changes over the year, Macquarie Lighthouse now sits just outside the northern boundary of the Waverley LGA.

EMBLEM OF THE WAVERLEY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

The emblem shows two dolphins and Neptune's trident or spear, with an ornamental scroll at the bottom bearing the name of the Municipality. It was adopted by Council in 1915, although the reasons for such an emblem are not entirely clear.

It is, however, reasonable to assume that as the whole of the eastern boundary of the Municipality borders the ocean, symbols of the sea are stylistically appropriate.

Today the seal and emblem have heritage significance and are used by the Mayor and Councillors, but are not used by Council for any corporate communication.

Waverley Council's logo is now the identifying image of the municipality, which represents our coastal boundary, the beaches and suburbs behind it.