

Ripples from the Round

Following our "Ripple" last week about the naming of Robbins Road, Mr. R. W. Cooper assures us that the correct spelling is "Robbins", spelt with two "b's". The road was named after Lieut. Robbins, of the British Navy, who came to King Island in 1802, in the sloop Cumberland, to take formal possession of the Island for the British Crown on 14th December, 1902. Oddly enough it is the only commemoration, apart from a memorial erected at Naracoopa, of Lieut. Robbins name. The road was formerly known as Swamp Road and it was not until fairly recent years that its name was changed to Robbins Road.



The formal possession of the Island was taken at the time when the famous Frenchman Commander Baudin, with his two ships, Le Geographe and

two ships, Le Géographe and Le Naturaliste were anchored in Sea Elephant Bay on the Island's east coast. Commander Baudin at the time claimed to have placed proofs of French occupation at four points on the Island, but no such evidence was ever found.



Rainfall recorded at Currie Post Office for the month of July was 535 points, which took the total for the year to 2456 points, which is well above

the average of 2124 points for the first seven months of the year. Rain fell on 24 days in the month. To date 176 points have been recorded for August with rain being recorded on each of the first six days. In case anyone is suffering any illusions that this has not been a wet winter, since the 'drought' broke on 28th March, rain has fallen on 104 out of 128 days.



Recordings from Marshall's Road area tell a slightly different story. The recording for July at 599 points was slightly below the average for the month (613 points). The total for the year (2733) is still above the average for the first seven months of 2508 points, despite a rather slow start.



Among other mail of its kind received last week was the Australian U.F.O. Bulletin, a publication of the Victorian U.F.O. Research Society which has its headquarters in Moorabbin. Has there ever been any sightings of Unidentified Flying Objects (or "flying saucers") on King Island? The bulletin is available to any interested person.



"Alan Keating's return to Wilston Grange for today's Australian Rules match at the Brisbane Cricket Ground against Mayne will help his side considerably" states a re-

side considerably," states a recent issue of the Brisbane Telegraph. "Keating is a grand utility player who can lift his game and set a great example to his team." The same issue carries a full colour picture of Alan and the Wilston-Grange first eighteen (better known as the "Gorilla's") of which he is captain and coach. Alan, of course, is well known to many King Islanders as the son of Mr. and Mrs. Bob Keating, of Currie.



The persistent westerly gale which has blown the last week or more at last seems to be abating. Commencing as it did just as the King Islander was coming out of survey, it could not have been worse timed, preventing the sailing of the ship. On Monday morning the King Islander was sheltering in Port Phillip Bay, waiting for the wind to slacken. Although the air services have prevented the Island from being really cut off, there has been a dearth

cut off, there has been a dearth of fresh fruit and vegetables in Currie shops, while other stocks must be getting low. One thing the storm has done is to again stress the limitations of Currie Harbour as the Island's only port. Shipping company representatives have said that if there was a deep water port on the Island's east coast with a safe entrance, the King Islander could have come and gone long ago.