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BRO. WILLIAM BEACH (1850 - 1935)

William Beach was born on 6 September 1850 at Chertsey, Surrey, England. He came to Australia with his parents at the age of three and grew up on a dairy farm at Dapto on the south coast of New South Wales.

He learnt the trade of blacksmithing which, no doubt, strengthened his muscles for his future sporting career as a world champion sculler. He also spent some time as a fisherman.

He began competing in rowing regattas as a member of the Balmain Rowing Club in 1875 and started winning races by defeating Bro. Edward Trickett on the Parramatta River course on 27 August 1883. He won 150 pounds with which he built his home at Dapto. 1

An advertisement for a professional sculling race appeared in *The N.S.W. Freemason* issued on 30 November 1883 -

PROFESSIONAL SCULLING RACE

A professional Sculling Race between
Messrs. EDWARD TRICKETT
MICHAEL RUSH
DONALD MACDONALD, and
WILLIAM BEACH

Will take place over the
CHAMPIONSHIP COURSE, PARRAMATTA RIVER,
on DECEMBER 8.

First Prize, £150 (presented by Mr J. Hunt, Oxford Hotel);
second prize, £60; third prize, £20.

The winner to row Edward Hanlan on his arriving from America,
in the event of Elias Laycock not being ready. It is to be rowed on
Thursday, December 6, as follows:-

First Heat - Edward Trickett, Donald Macdonald. The latter to have the choice of
position.

Second Heat - Michael Rush, William Beach, the former to have the choice of
position.

The Race will be rowed on December 8, by the winning man in each heat.

Umpire: Mr Garvan M.L.A.
Starter: Mr Myers
Judge: Mr Richards

Ample Steamer Accomodation will be provided.

