



**The Federal Redistribution 2006
NEW SOUTH WALES**

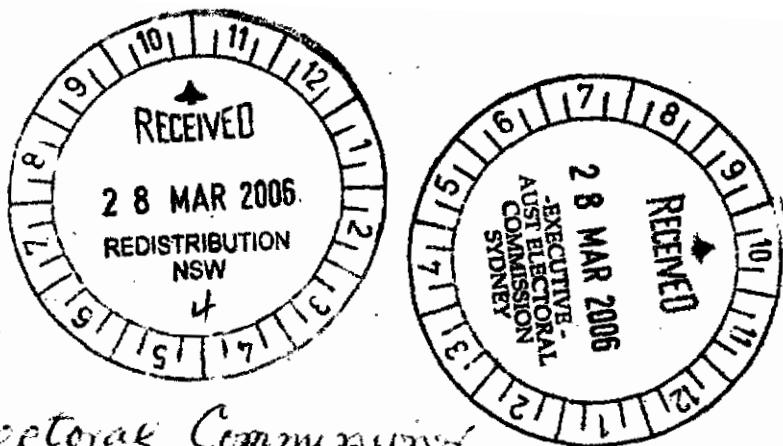


Public Comment Number: 4

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Page(s): 11

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AUSTRALIA



22ND March 2006,

The Electorale Commissioner,
Sydney.

"OLYMPIC PARK" — A NEW ELLCTORATE
CHANGES OF NAME FOR "LOWE" AND "REID"

Dear Sir :

This is a recommendation that a new electorate be created to incorporate the Olympic Park sports area, and the residential and industrial areas around it, into a new electorate to be known as "OLYMPIC PARK".

There are numerous reasons why this is desirable, and I mention a few which come to mind. Possibly there are other good reasons which others may suggest.

① Olympic Park Sports Facility is known world-wide, after the tremendous success of the Games. It has international prestige which should be

recognised and enhanced by having its own M.P. in Canberra. He would be an advocate for the more frequent and diverse use of the arenas, and large buildings, as well as seeking Federal funding for its maintenance. The facility certainly needs much better management, and an M.P. in Canberra could strive towards this.

(2) The area shown in the attached sketch is rapidly growing in residential density. Housing estates have sprung up to the north and west of the sports arenas. These estates are served by buses from Strathfield and Lidcombe. The residents are very poorly served by M.P.s whose electoral offices are many miles away. The M.P. for Lowe has his office at Burwood, while the M.P. for Reid lives somewhere near Guildford.

(3) The electorates of "Lowe" and "Reid" are, in my opinion, much too large for their M.P.s to properly attend to the needs of their electors. For example, every time I have visited the office of my M.P., Mr Murphy ("Lowe"), I have managed to see only one of his clerks. He is always "away". Only

once did I catch a glimpse of him, before he quickly ducked back into his inner office. This is not good from any point of view.

④ Federal funding for "Olympic Park" would certainly be welcomed by the N.S.W. Government. According to the newspaper it is heavily in debt, so any relief from the costs of maintaining the Park should be very acceptable.

⑤ Having our own M.P.O. in Canberra would give a sense of community to all residents and business-owners within the boundary of the new electorate. This includes myself, as my house is at North Strathfield. Such a community sense is totally lacking at the present time.

People living within the area shown on the enclosed sketch, have little in common with the residents of Burwood or Drummoyne. We have our own excellent shopping centres at Rhodes and at George Street, North Strathfield. It is ridiculous for us to travel to Burwood or Strathfield where there are traffic jams and difficulties in finding space to park.

⑥ A new electorate, "OLYMPIC PARK" would give all of us a feeling of having a "fresh start". We certainly need it in a neighbourhood which has suffered years of neglect from both the government and the local council.

Living as we do many miles away from the Council Headquarters at Drummoyne, we are regarded by the councillors as a "backwater" which they can safely ignore, while they spend our ratepayers money to beautify their own streets and parks.

Transferring our neighbourhood as shown in the sketch, to a new electorate of "Olympic Park" will give us a lift in our spirits, which we certainly need. It will also give us a new M.P. in Canberra with time to meet us, and look after our interests.

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CHANGES OF NAME FOR "LOWE" AND "REID"

The need for these names to be changed is so obvious as to be hardly worth discussion.

As to "LOWE", this name means nothing to scarcely anybody, as it has no known association with anyone or anything in the region. Whoever Mr Lowe may have been, he has long since vanished into history.

I suggest the electorate be re-named "BURWOOD". This is common sense, because Burwood is a main railway-station, and the main business centre of the region. Everybody knows where it is.

As to "REID", I assume this commemorates Sir George Reid who was a premier of N.S.W. about a century ago. Who cares about him now?

I suggest the electorate be re-named "GRANVILLE". This is common sense, as it is a well-known railway station in the centre of the electorate.

Holding-on to the names of long-dead politicians such as Reid and Lowe, does nothing

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to encourage public respect for the Parliament or the democratic process of voting, electing, and subsequently making use of the politicians who are supposed to represent us.

I urge you to get up to date, get modern. If your aim is to get people to take an interest in politics and to encourage them to vote, then you must de-mystify the elections.

That is, first of all, people must know which electorate they live in. This applies in particular to new immigrants. Where is the common sense in telling an immigrant from (say) India or Africa that "You belong in Lane electorate" when he lives in Burwood?

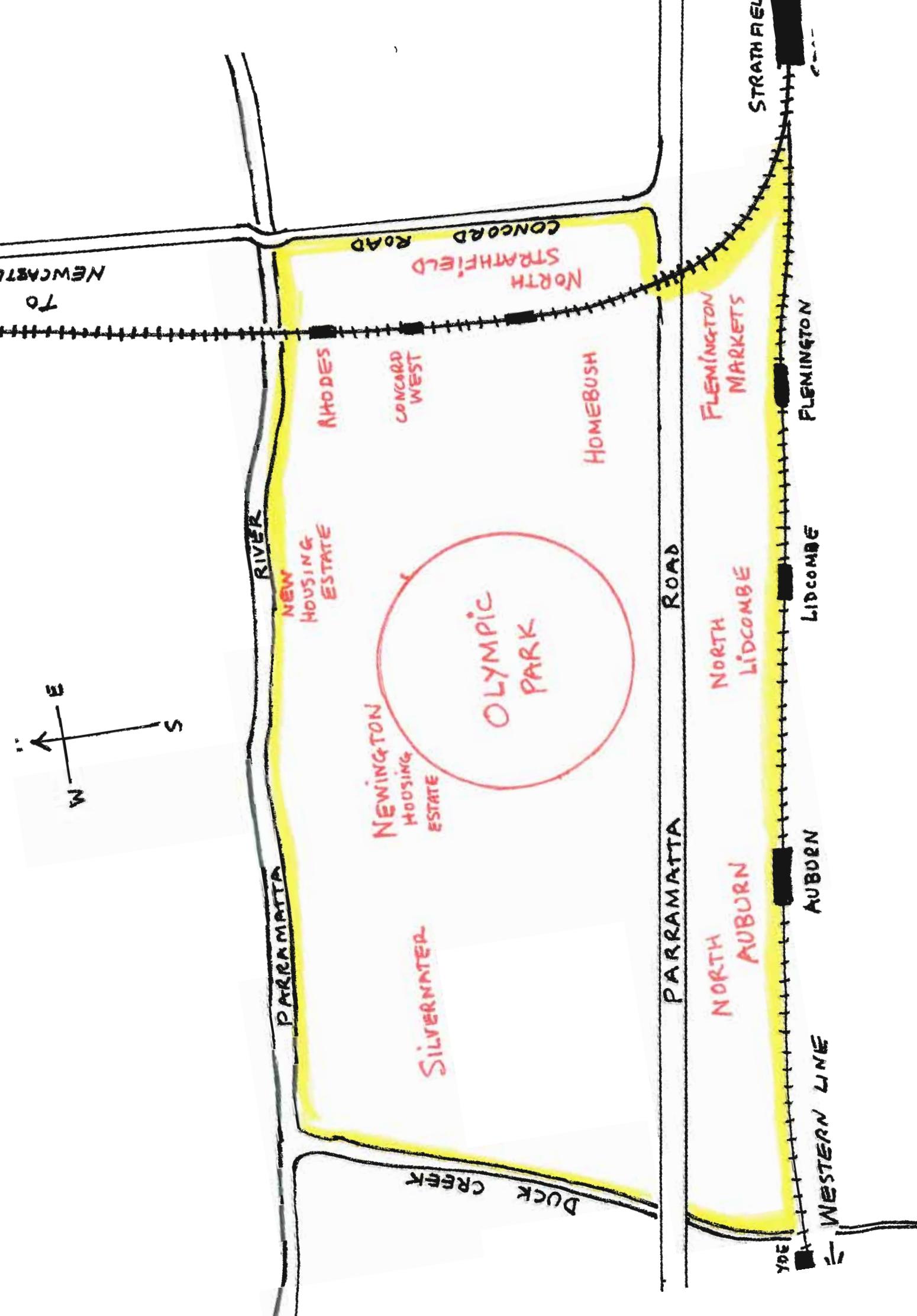
This is an excellent opportunity for you to clear-away the old obscure names of electorates referring to long-dead politicians whose names no longer mean anything to anybody. It is an opportunity too good to miss, and I urge you to take it because it may not occur again for

many years.

Please let me know the eventual outcome of the enquiry into boundary changes and name changes.

I hope I have not wasted my time and efforts in writing to you.

Sincerely,
John Hague
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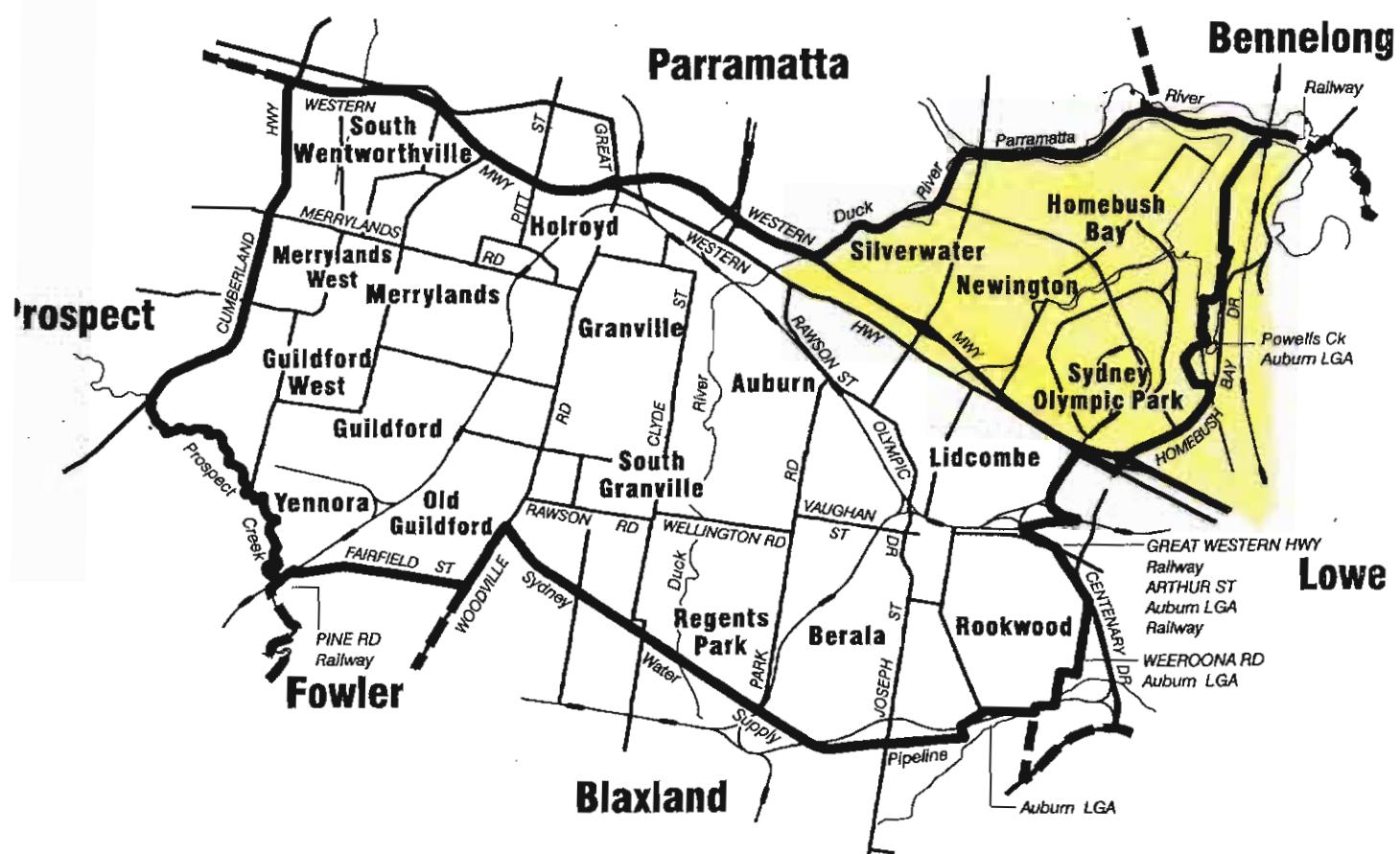
COMMONWEALTH ELECTORAL DIVISION OF

REID



N
2 km

N
W E S



Divisional boundary



Adjoining divisional boundary



Division area

62 sq km

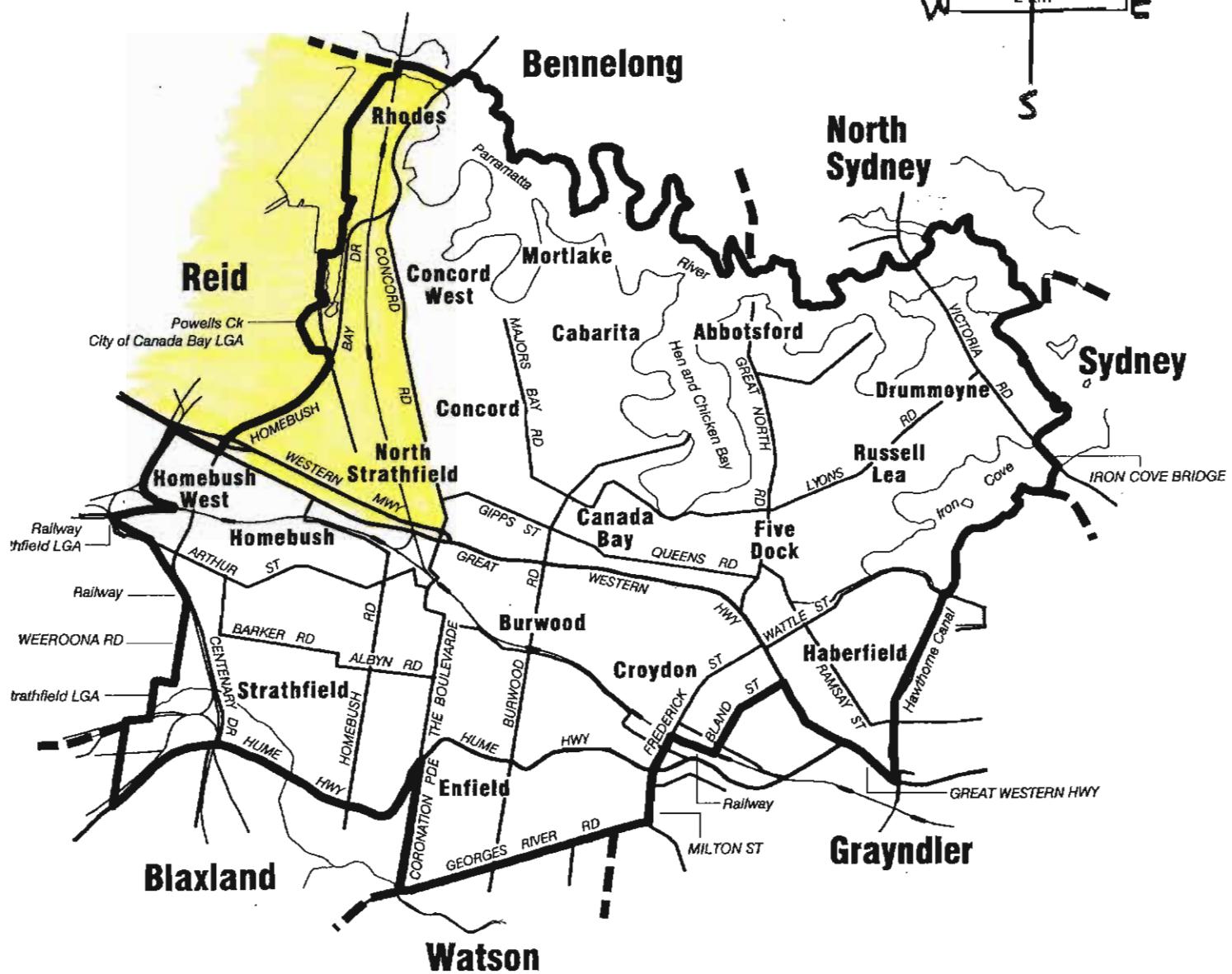
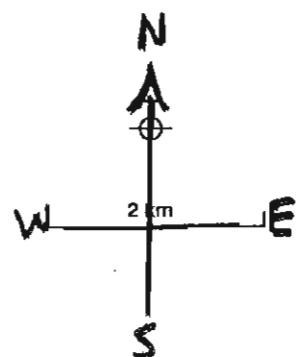
Railway line



2000



COMMONWEALTH ELECTORAL DIVISION OF **LOWE**



/isional boundary
joining divisional boundary
ision area
ilway line

41 sq km

2000

Electorate ideas

THE Australian Electoral Commission has invited the public for suggestions on the redistribution of federal electoral boundaries. As a result of population changes, the 50 federal seats in NSW will be reduced to only 49 seats. Submissions on possible changes to the names and boundaries for these seats must be lodged by 6pm on Friday, March 24. Inquiries: www.aec.gov.au or phone 132 326.

John R