

A74 Richard Sadleir Naval Commander, school master, first Mayor of Liverpool, Member Legislative Assembly, pamphleteer

Title/rank: First a Lieutenant then Commander of the Royal Navy and years later was Member of Legislative Assembly for the Lower Hunter from 1861 to 1864.

Born: 6 May 1794 - He was educated privately and at Bandon Classical School.

Place of origin: Cork, Ireland. Migrated to Sydney in 1826

Marital status: Married Anne Cartwright, daughter of St Luke's first Minister.

Place where lived: Initially in the Hunter region, where having £1000 of capital, he was granted 2650 acres in 1826. He moved to Liverpool in 1829.



Original is in the Mitchell Library MSS

Role/job: On the recommendation of Archdeacon Thomas, he conducted a survey into the Aborigines of the coastal region, and their relations with the settlers. (Long afterwards (1883) he published his book *Aborigines of Australia*.) After completing his survey he came to in 1829 as Master of the Male Orphan School, succeeding the Rev. Cartwright's tenure, and was its longest serving master until it closed in 1850-51. He was also a Catechist at St Lukes, 'having a life-long devotion to the Protestant cause'.

Liverpool

He was also interested in a wide range of current issues such as education and local government, and wrote many pamphlets and letters to the papers. He was a member of the Legislative Assembly for the Lower Hunter from 1861-64.

Contribution to Liverpool: As Master of the Male Orphan School, he was also one of the senior public officials in the district, and had public roles such as secretary of the Roads Trust at Liverpool. This meant he authorised money for road repairs and managed contracts and employment that benefited the community in a broad sense. He was first Mayor of Liverpool in 1872 at the age of 78, a JP, and also a member of denominational school boards. Church administration took much of his time and so did charitable and philanthropic work. He was also on the committees of the Sydney Sailors' Home and Sydney Bethel Union.

Died/age: 6 March 1889 - aged 95

Religion Church of England Grave number A 74.

Source of info. K. J. Cable in *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, Vol 2, 1967, and also from Beverley Donald's paper on the LPMP, held in the Liverpool Council Library and a newspaper article by William Freame.