

Margaret Frankish

The Northern Beaches

Having walked, swum and photographed the northern beaches over many years, I felt the time was right to create a book about this area.

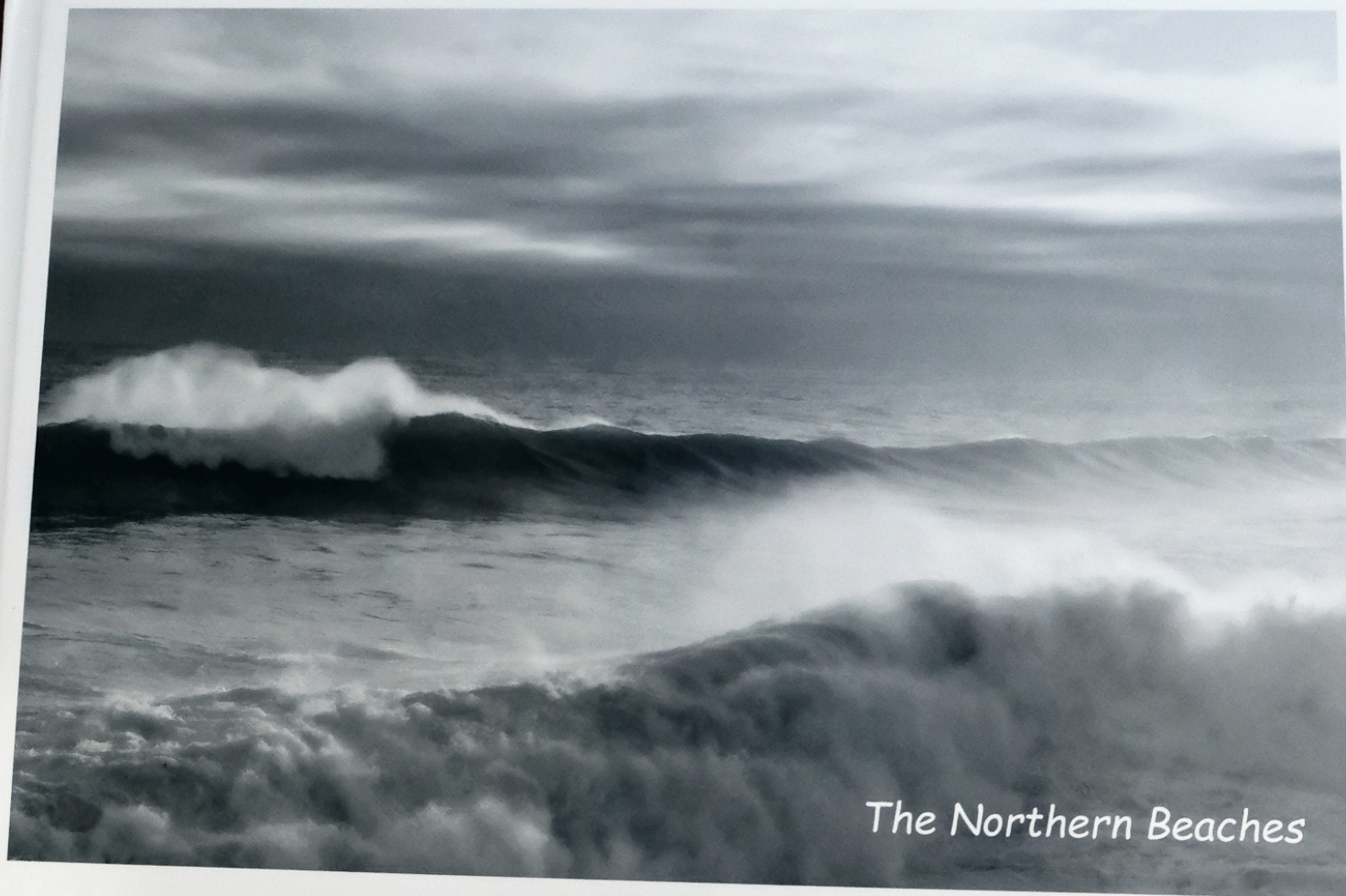
Over a number of months I walked along the beaches from Manly to Palm Beach. I walked slowly, reading the plaques and signs, taking photos and just sitting and observing what was happening around me.

In doing so I've gained a new appreciation of the history of the area, the people of the area and the great beauty of the beaches.

A quote from Russell :

'an outstanding area of natural beauty, where the bush meets the beach and the calm waters of the lagoon offer a brief respite from the wild southern ocean.

It's not God's country. It's better than that.'



The Northern Beaches



*... you land on the wharf, walk up the street until you come out on a promenade
at the end, and there is the wide Pacific rolling on the yellow sand ...*

D.H. Lawrence

From Dee Why to Long Reef

The original inhabitants of the area now known as Long Reef were the Kuringgai People. William Cossar was granted 500 acres of land at Long Reef in 1815. The headland was used for light farming during the 19th century. The Salvation Army obtained the land in 1900. In 1912 it became crown land and was a popular camping ground. The golf Club was established as a nine hole course in 1921. In the 1970's and 1980's many vessels were scuttled off Long Reef for the formation of an artificial reef. Prominent amongst these were two Manly ferries, the Dee Why and the Bellubera.



Avalon Beach



Birthplace of the IRB

The world's first successful trial of an inflatable rescue boat (IRB) took place at Avalon Beach, 2nd November 1969 by Warren and Don Mitchell.

One month later eight children caught in a rip were rescued using the IRB.

Rock Pools of the Northern Beaches



*...there is a pool by the cliffs that the waves
wash over,
A clean-cut pool where a child may dive and play,
Low on the rocks it lies, like a sky-dropped
mirror...*

Ethel Turner

