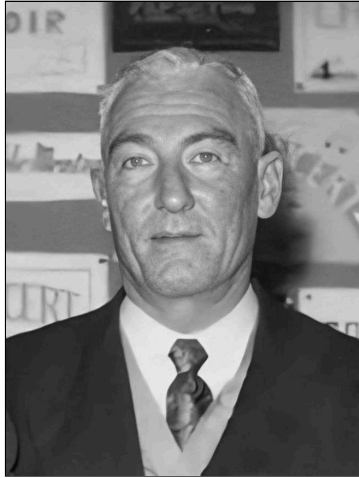


GEORGE ROY CRICK: LOCAL MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT, 1956-1966



George Roy 'Roy' Crick was born in 1904 in Narcoung (Gymbowen), Victoria, to George Arnold Crick and Mary Cousen Keeping. The Crick ancestry goes back to 1787 in Poplar, Tower Hamlets, Middlesex, England; James Crick emigrated to Victoria in 1853 and settled in Portland. The Keeping ancestry goes back to 1835 in Eastbourne, Essex, England; John Keeping emigrated by the mid 1870s and settled in Horsham, where his daughter Mary Cousen was born in 1877.

Roy Crick moved with his family to Sunshine about 1915 and attended the Sunshine State and Technical schools; he became a carpenter. In 1925 he was reported in the local paper as playing for the Sunshine Football Club and complimented for playing 'his usual cool and useful game'. He sometimes was a star in the forward line and as a follower was a 'wise man' who on occasion 'dominated the packs the whole time'.

He became a bit of a hero in 1925 when he 'quelled' a school fire: "About 11.25 p.m. on Saturday Roy Crick was walking along Derby-street, when he noticed flames spurting from portion of Sunshine State school. At the gate he met a fireman who was returning home. With two buckets they commenced to fight the flames, and succeeded in extinguishing them before the arrival of the Footscray brigade."

George Roy Crick married Gladys Sophia Day in 1927 and they settled in McKay Street, Sunshine. They had two children, a son and a daughter. Sophia's ancestry goes back to 1808 in Cheshire, England; George Day emigrated probably in the 1860s, married Catharine 'Kate' Matthews and they settled in Ballarat.

Crick became involved in several community groups, including the Presbyterian Church and the Freemasons. He had been Secretary of the Sunshine Anglers Club, and in the late 1930s was awarded a life member certificate and an inscribed medal at a 'smoke night' attended by over 70 people.

Crick enlisted in the Citizens Military Forces in 1942 for part time duty and was posted to the First Battalion Volunteer Defence Corps; by 1945 he was promoted to rank of sergeant. His enlistment papers indicate that he was a carpenter and joiner by trade but was an official with the Sheetmetal Workers Union from 1942, and assistant secretary 1948-1955, based at Trades Hall, Melbourne.

Crick might have joined another union, as in November 1943 he 'romped home' for the position of assistant secretary with the Federated Agricultural Implement and Stovemakers and Porcelain Enamellers' Association of Victoria. In 1945 he nominated for the office of Councillor with the Braybrook Shire council in the southern riding.

Crick had been President of the Sunshine State Electorate Council in the 1940s but in early 1947 he indicated that he would not be seeking re-election owing to his Union business requiring his services on the same nights as the Council. He was still the secretary of the Sunshine branch of the Australian Labor Party.

BRAYBROOK COUNCIL ELECTIONS
SOUTHERN RIDING
FOR SINCERE ADMINISTRATION OF YOUR MUNICIPAL REQUIREMENTS

Vote **1** for
CRICK, G. R. (JP.)
ENDORSED LABOR CANDIDATE
RESIDENT OF SUNSHINE FOR 35 YEARS AND ACTIVELY ASSOCIATED WITH ALL PUBLIC MOVEMENTS.

All ratepayers and residents are cordially invited to attend a public meeting at the Masonic Hall, Sunshine, Friday, 23rd August, at 8 p.m., when the candidate will outline his policy. Cr. A. E. Shepherd, M.L.A., and Cr. G. E. Dobson, J.P., and other speakers will support the candidate.

Vote and Work for **G. (Roy) CRICK, J.P.**
—Authorised by John Downing and E. M. Flynn, Campaign Secretaries.

POLLING DAY, SHIRE HALL, SATURDAY, AUGUST 24th
8 a.m. till 8 p.m.

GRANT
ELECTORAL DISTRICT.

The following persons have been Nominated as Candidates for Election:

CRICK, GEORGE ROY, 10 McKay St., Sunshine, W.30, Union Official.
D'ARCY, LESLIE FRANCIS CHRISTOPHER, Greendale, via Bacchus Marsh, Parliamentarian.
GILLET, ROBERT MAX, Jaina, Geelong, Farmer and Grazier.

The POLL will be TAKEN on **SATURDAY, the 28th DAY of MAY, 1955**, commencing at 8 a.m. and terminating at 8 p.m., at the undermentioned polling places.

In 1955 Crick nominated for the Grant Electoral District in the Legislative Assembly of Victoria, and polled 14,000 votes compared to his nearest rival with 8,000.

Roy Crick was a supporter of schools

in his electorate. He had been president of the Tottenham Technical School Council and vice-president of Sunshine High School Council. He also supported the establishment of St Albans High School (which started in Sunshine) and when he presented the awards for team sports in the inaugural year, 1956, the recipients were led by Switlana Bohudski and Dennis Thornton (Kurrajong House Captains) and Alan Fleming and Nina Diakonow (Jacaranda House Captains). He also presented prizes won by pupils in the Electra Dramatic Group's poster competition, the winners being Rita Hrynyszyn, Basil Listopad, Jennifer Grey and Victor Pliaskin.

George Roy Crick died in August 1966 at age 62 years, and was cremated at Altona Memorial Park. John Joseph 'Jack' Ginifer was elected as his replacement for the seat of Grant. Ginifer was from Altona, but he was also a local, as he and his spouse Audrey were teaching in St Albans in the primary school system during the 1950s and 1960s.

Gladys Sophia Crick nee Day died at Sunshine in 1994 at age 87 years and was also cremated at Altona Memorial Park.



Mr Barker & Mr Crick M.L.A. presenting awards St Albans High School 1956.

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