

# MARRICKVILLE

## HERITAGE SOCIETY

### NEWSLETTER

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Mark down in your calendar the 4th Saturday of each month which will be our regular meeting date: 10.30 a.m. (finishing by 12.30 p.m.) in the Aldermen's Room, Petersham Town Hall. Our meetings are never formal: there is always plenty of discussion and a break in the middle for people to get to know each other.

#### **OUR NEXT FUNCTION**

Saturday, November 24    Learning about our locality through Council Archives

Outside the City of Sydney, Marrickville has one of the best sets of records in the state, dating from the 1870s . Council records include rate books, listing house owners, letters from residents, maps, information about development, local government policies and personnel and much other valuable material. An officer from Council will attend our meeting to tell us about proposals to set up the Archives. There will also be discussion about what we can learn about our houses, streets and locality through the Archives.

#### **FUTURE PROGRAMME**

December-January

There will be no meetings. Our first meeting for 1985 will be on Saturday, February 23



## OUR LAST MEETING . . .

Nick Vine Hall, Director of the Society of Australian Genealogists, gave a fascinating address on researching family history. Included in his talk were many practical hints such as 'grilling granny', how to draw your family chart, how to locate photos of your forbears, and how to discover what the voyage out to Australia was like. There's an index of ships' logs which tell of the trials and tribulations of travelling to Australia in the 19th century.

In the last 15 years there has been a 'family history revolution' which Nick Vine Hall believes is part of an Australian quest for identity. Because many people now want to 'feel more Australian', to establish more links with the country, they are more than pleased if they can discover a bushranger or a convict amongst their ancestors. In fact some people now go out looking for them, whereas it was common previously to try and hide them and even destroy the relevant records.

During the discussion we found that one of our members, Anne Carolan, could boast of at least 8 convict forbears. Can anyone in Marrickville beat that?

Did you know that surnames were introduced around 1400? With the increase in population about this time it became necessary to distinguish between members of the population who had the same (Christian) name, so if there were 5 Nicks in a village, one now became Nick of the Hall (Nick Hall) and another became Nick the Butcher.

Surnames fall into 4 main categories:

- (1) Surnames of relationship: McDonald (son of Donald); Allison (son of Alice) and Fitzpatrick (illegitimate son of Patrick)
- (2) Surnames of place: Hall; Weatherspoon (Scottish surname for a person in charge of sheep in a pound; wethers in the pound or poond).
- (3) Surnames of occupation: Baker, Butcher, Thatcher
- (4) Nicknames (sometimes derogatory); Goodchild; Goodfellow; Badman; Catchpole (poultry thief); Breakspear (clumsy knight); Drinkdregs; and even Cockroach.



The headquarters of the Society of Australian Genealogists is at Richmond Villa, 120 Kent Street, Sydney (27-3953) and they have accumulated huge amounts of reference material on family history. The material includes an index to ships' logs and ships' passengers who arrived at Sydney; microfilm of the burial records (1866-1886) of the Petersham Cemetery; records of the 1851 census of Scotland which listed each person and their age; and even an index of photos taken at one of the more popular Sydney studios, Freeman's (est. 1848).

In addition to publishing a quarterly journal, 'Descent', the Society stocks suitable publications for people starting family research, e.g. Roots & Branches-Ancestry for Australians by E.J. Lea-Scarlett; Handbook on Irish Genealogy by Heraldic Artists Ltd., Dublin and Compiling Your Family History by Nancy Gray.

## FEATURE . . .

### STREETS . . .

#### ANDREAS STREET, PETERSHAM

Readers of the ~~Good Weekend~~ of October 27 may have noticed an article on the Evatt family which included some intriguing references to the Andreas family ( a Marjorie Andreas married Clive Evatt). The historic mansion, Leuralla (at Leura) was built during World War 1 by Eindrigh Philip Andreas who was, the Herald notes, 'a man of mysterious wealth who pursued a life of yachting, big game hunting and fishing'. The house was adorned with spreadeagled leopard skins brought back from overseas trips. Among other things, Andreas liked to invent useful items such as 'toasting-forks and wooden needles for camouflage nets'. A relation of the same name, Philip Eindrigh Andreas (probably his grandfather) was an Alderman on Marrickville's first Council, 1861-64. Andreas owned two butcher shops, one at Balmain, and the other off Parramatta Road at Petersham. He ran the shops from 1858-82. A Philip Andreas Senior (his father?) was an Alderman on the Petersham Council from 1876-77. The Andreas family disappeared from the Marrickville area in 1882. Maybe one day someone may unravel some of the mystery surrounding the butcher who became a wealthy globe-trotter.



Don't forget to attend the important meeting on Sunday, November 11 at 2 p.m. (Petersham Town Hall) to set up a Bicentennial Committee for Marrickville. The meeting, which will be chaired by Mayor Barry Jones, will also work out local priorities in terms of setting up projects, public functions and celebrations for 1988 in our area. Please come and express your views.

Marrickville Council has already applied for funds to set up Council Archives; to publish a pictorial history; and for local and oral history projects.

Our Society's 20 page magazine is due to be published in late November. We hope to include an article on the early land grants in Marrickville (with a map); a feature on the Newtown and Petersham cemeteries; some of the early history of St Peter's; Fowlers pottery; retailing in the Marrickville area; notes on the pioneer Gannon family. Members will receive a copy free; non-members will be able to buy the magazine from the Central Library.

### **New Members**

Denise Burton, Cheryl Flynn, Mr & Mrs T.C. Halls, Jean Moncur and Dorothy Ryan which makes a total of 70 paid-up members. All our new members are welcome but especially Jean Moncur of Moncur Street. We look forward to finding out some of the background of the Moncur family from Jean and publish it in a future issue.

### **NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE**

Anne Carolan, Richard Cashman (Editor), Chrys Meader, Gregory Robertson (Layout). Contact us through Chrys (569-1816) at Marrickville Library, Marrickville Town Hall.

### **HOW TO JOIN OUR SOCIETY**

It's only \$7 for individuals, \$10 for households and institutions, \$2 for students and pensioners. By joining the Society you are assisting Heritage in this area. In addition, you'll receive copies of our monthly 'Newsletter' and a copy of our occasional Magazine (the first issue is planned for next November). Post your subscription to Chrys at the above address.

