

MARRICKVILLE HERITAGE SOCIETY INC.

DULWICH HILL ENMORE LEWISHAM
ST PETERS SYDENHAM TEMPE & PARTS OF

MARRICKVILLE PETERSHAM STANMORE
CAMPERDOWN HURLSTONE PARK NEWTOWN



OUR NEXT MEETING

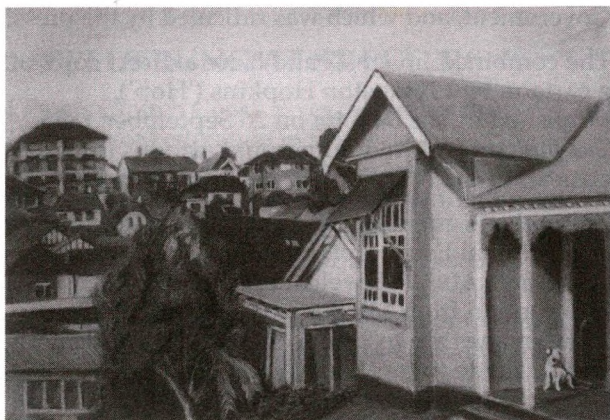
Deborah Edward *Amy and Arthur Dacre: A bloody dramatic tragedy*
Petersham Town Hall
Saturday 24 February 10.30 am



In early 1895 English actors Amy Dacre and her husband Arthur boarded the steamship *Oruba* bound for a professional tour of Australia. Things did not go as planned, however. On a Sunday in November, the day before they were due to open in a new melodrama, alarmed residents broke into their room in a fashionable Macquarie Street boarding house. Their horrific discovery and its aftermath made 'front page' news in Sydney and Melbourne papers for the next two weeks.

Deborah Edward PhD (History) has worked as a freelance researcher, heritage consultant and project manager, and is researching Amy and Arthur Dacre's Australian tour for a novel she is writing.

Marrickville Vistas: Urban landscapes of Marrickville and surrounds:



One of MHS member Nancy MacAlpine's colourful pastel paintings on exhibit at The Post Café (formerly Marrickville Post Office) 274A Marrickville Road Marrickville. Open every day; Thursday to Saturday till 10 pm. Exhibition till 25 February.

Details of **Mudgee trip (4-6 May)** will be finalised during February and advised in the March newsletter. It is not too late to book with Lorraine on 9590 3309. Priority to MHS members.

Thanks to those who contributed to the success of our stall at the **Dulwich Hill Fair on 9 December** – Peter, Diane, Lorraine, Robert, Pat, Shirley, Richard, Pamela, Gwenda, Harold, Pip plus any other contributors.

POT LUCK XMAS DINNER

Not only was this the first Pot Luck Dinner held in the south of the district, it was the first time we had gathered at the home of a Marrickville Medal winner (1999). Bob Hayes' beautifully restored Victorian home in Tempe was an admirable venue on 2 December with a spacious back garden complete with old (yet to be excavated) well. We marvelled at Bob's attention to detail during our house inspection.



Susan Hicks & Lorraine Beach highly amused by Ian Phillip's wine glass antics (photo: Diane McCarthy)

President Peter Cousens drew the MHS raffle (which he had organised): new member Rosalind Torrent won the large hamper; the smaller hamper was won by Bronwyn Hutchinson, who had bought the ticket only minutes before; and membership secretary Pamela Stewart won a book on tropical plants. Once again Angela Phippen and David Cass coordinated the kitchen with unstinting efficiency and members provided a sumptuous feast. Thank you Bob and Kyle for your splendid hospitality.

INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF VOLUNTEERS (IYV) 2001

Not only is 2001 the Centenary of Federation in Australia and the official first year of the third millennium, it is also the International Year of Volunteers. IYV 2001 "celebrates, supports and recognises volunteers in our communities". Whilst the efforts of the Olympic and Paralympic volunteers were superb, the substantial contributions of volunteers ranging from one hour a month to umpteen hours a week have long enabled countless organizations to survive and thrive.

MHS is no exception to this which is why we, from time to time, and in various ways, seek the voluntary assistance of members. If you would like to be more involved with MHS, come to our monthly meetings or ring our President Peter Cousens on 9550 3809. For more information on the IYV, visit the IYV website www.iyv2001.gov.au or ring 1300 654 643.

PETERSHAM BOASTS AUSTRALIA'S ONLY KNOWN SUDAN WAR MURAL

The Australian Heritage Commission has placed 36 Terminus Street, Petersham on the Interim List of the Register of the National Estate. The two storey bald-faced Victorian era terrace, described as a 'renovator's delight', is significant for a mural on at least two walls of the lower floor front room. The mural was uncovered during renovations to water-damaged walls in 1999.

The Australian War Memorial, the State Library of NSW, and an authority on the Sudan War, Professor Ken Inglis (ANU) have identified the mural as relating to the Sudan War of 1885. Considerable credit for placement of the mural on the Register of the National Estate goes to Marrickville Council's Archivist, Vivienne Larking and to Council's Heritage Architect, Catherine Macarthur for their meticulous efforts in researching the house history and supporting the Register application.

Marrickville Council records indicate that the house, bought by Society member Keith Sutton in 1997, was built in 1885-86, mainly used as a shop/residence, and converted from a shop in 1961. Underneath three layers of paint and two layers of wallpaper, a mural has emerged. Parts of the images were uncovered when the picture rails were removed. The quality of the work strongly suggests that a professional artist did the mural.

About 750 troops were sent to the Sudan in March 1885, the first Australian contingent involved in a foreign war. There was opposition in NSW to the campaign, and a goat was captured and brought back to NSW, as if to demonstrate the folly of the commitment. (The regimental mascot of the NSW contingent was a donkey, which also featured in numerous cartoons.) The following images have been revealed.

1. **The 'soldier'** is wearing a uniform with epaulettes. He has a large, luxuriant moustache and mutton-chop whiskers. Surrounding the image is a large, oval garland of leaves.
2. **General Charles Gordon of Khartoum** is wearing a fez. Behind the general is a tree with a prominent branch. Gordon's death in Khartoum at the hands of a rebel led to the British, and later, Australian commitment of troops.
3. **Black slave** (next to General Gordon) is carrying a sack and smoking a pipe.
4. **NSW Governor Lord Augustus Loftus**
A profile of a balding man, with thick lips, a prominent hook-nose and wearing a wing collar shirt. On his extended right hand is a chicken, significant as Loftus apparently used to sell eggs from his Government House hens to supplement his income.
5. **The 'prelate'** is wearing a type of beret, with a sort of rope-type coil right around the top section. On the beret directly over his eyebrows are numerous half treble clefs around the frame. As he seems connected with a church, I have dubbed him the 'prelate'.

6. The **'businessman'** is wearing a suit, reading a newspaper and smoking a cigar, on top of which are three figures – possibly indicating the artist's sense of humour. He has a small moustache and is wearing what is similar to pince-nez spectacles.



7. The **'little boy from Manly'** Ernest Laurence is an indistinct image who appears to be wearing pantaloons. Laurence's father was an intimate of William Bede Dalley, then NSW Premier.

8. The **Sudan 'Gote'** Next to the 'little boy' is a boxed picture of a goat with a sign (with 'Sudan' on it) hanging around its neck. A caption underneath the goat reads (using the actual spelling and upper and lower case):

This Gote OnLY CosT 113.000£

Professor Ken Inglis in *The Rehearsal: Australians at war in the Sudan 1885* (Rigby 1985) p109 notes: "... [The Australians] ... did capture a young goat, which a bugle-major resolved to take back to Sydney. ..." The 113 000 pounds refers to the cost of the campaign to NSW, as stated by the Government, and which was ridiculed by the press.

The combined images 7 and 8 are a direct copy of a cartoon by Livingston Hopkins ('Hop'), published in *The Bulletin* on 26 September 1885. *The Bulletin* featured numerous cartoons (mostly critical) of the NSW involvement in the war.

The website entry is www.ahc.gov.au (Register of the National Estate, ref. number 101873: *Terrace House with Mural*). I welcome relevant information from MHS members (9564 6948). More images are to be uncovered. An application will be made to the Australian Heritage Commission for restoration funds.

Keith Sutton

Note: Longer article planned for journal *Heritage*.

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Old Fashioned Climbers and Roses, Cottage Garden Plants, Camellias, Azaleas, All Herbs, Terracotta Pots, Lattice. Everything to keep your garden healthy

CENTENARY OF FEDERATION 01/01/01:

1. SIR WILLIAM DEANE'S ADDRESS

At the Centennial Ceremony in Centennial Park, Sydney the address by our model of a modern Governor-General Sir William Deane was inspiring stuff, tempered with a cautionary note. His stirring speech ended thus:

"So let us rejoice and be grateful for all the achievements of our past and for this day. At the same time, let us be honest and courageous about the failures and flaws which mar those achievements and which together, we can address and overcome. The damage we have done to the land, its rivers and coasts, notwithstanding our love of its beauty. The unacceptable gap between the haves and the have-nots, in this land of the "fair go" for all. How far we still have to travel on our journey towards genuine reconciliation between Australia's indigenous peoples and the nation of which they form such a vital part.

Conscious of all these things, let us re-dedicate Australia to the ideal of unity, under freedom, democracy and the rule of law, which brought our Commonwealth into being 100 years ago. And, in this Centennial Park, on the ancestral land and meeting place of the Eora, Cadigal and Tharawal peoples, let us look to the future and dream of what it might hold for our nation. Let us walk together into the future with honesty, vision and determination, with Australian generosity of spirit, and with Australian goodwill and fair play. Thereby we will truly, in the best and fullest sense, Advance Australia Fair."

2. BELLS RUNG AT ST PETERS

St Peters Church Cooks River celebrated the Centenary of Federation in fine style on Monday 1 January 2001 when the music, songs, prayer and proclamation used in the original 1901 Centennial Park ceremony were used. Many of the congregation dressed in costumes of the period. A gazebo was decorated with red, white and blue streamers with rosettes containing the original Commonwealth Coat of Arms. A magnificent portrait of Queen Victoria completed the effect.

Bob Horton was MC. Laurel Horton, splendidly dressed as the governor-general in a heavily gold-braided uniform and plumed hat, read the proclamation, the Rev. Tom Halls read the 1901 prayer and Joanna Warren read the "Prize Ode" by George Essex Evans, who in 1901 was awarded 60 guineas by the NSW Government. The oldest member of the congregation, 95 year old Mrs Kath Brooks, and the youngest member, one year old Jonathan Porcu planted a native buttonwood tree.

The signed guest list, church publications, current newspapers, photographs, and advertising material are to be placed in a time capsule and not opened until 2101. Finally at the appointed time of 3.55 pm, three historic bells (from St Peters Church, the

former St Marks Church Tempe and the "hanging bell" from Millers Point) mounted on steel frameworks, were rung, and the young and old had the simple joy of ringing them.

Laurel Horton

SUMMER TRIVIA ANSWERS

a) **Dr Robert Wardell** was riding his white stallion *Raphael* on 7 September 1834 when murdered on his property near Cooks River (refs: Cashman & Meader *Marrickville Rural outpost to inner city* and Tom Kenny *Who Murdered Doctor Wardell of Petersham?*). Member Mick Timmings of Ulladulla gave first correct answer.

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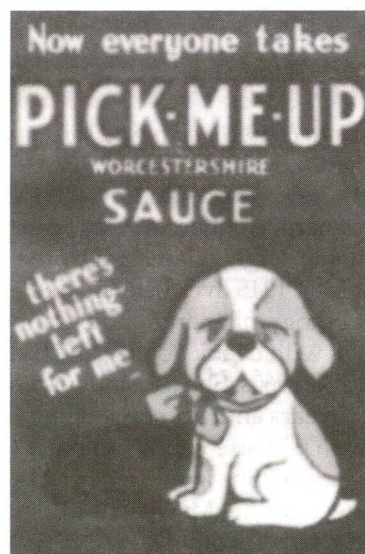
b) Franz Konig was a condiment manufacturer from the 1890s and by the time of this ad (24 August 1907 *The Chronicle and Weekly Review*) his company was at 60 Alice Street Newtown. **Pick-me-up sauce** was one of their many products.

F. KONIG AND CO., ALICE STREET, NEWTOWN.

Ask for the King Sweet Pickles, The King Worcestershire Sauce,
Delicious High Grade Pickles, Sweet Indian Chutney,
Our Pick-me-up Sauce, Our Celebrated Pickles, also Pure Garden Honey
and Salad and Castor Oil, Malt Vinegar, Tomato Sauce, Essence of Anchovy
Soup and Gravy Colouring. ABSOLUTELY PURE,

Three Firsts, One Special and One Second at R.A.S. Show, 1907.

By 1917 the business was renamed Pick-me-up Condiment Co. probably due to the owner's German name. Later known as PMU, it was long associated with Newtown. (Konig lived at 41 Herbert Street Dulwich Hill for some time.) The **Woody Allen** connection is tenuous – Woody's birth name was Allan Stewart Konigsberg (German for 'king's mountain').



c) **9994** is the ABC's post office box number in each state. **Sir Donald Bradman's** Test Cricket batting average from 52 Tests was 99.94. A 'four' instead of a second ball 'duck' in Bradman's final Test innings would have given him the perfect batting average, proving that even Bradman was not quite perfect! (Thanks to Angela Phippen for this poser.)

Richard Blair

CALENDAR OF MHS EVENTS

SATURDAY 24 FEBRUARY

Deborah Edward Amy & Arthur Dacre:

A bloody dramatic tragedy

Details on front page

SATURDAY 24 MARCH

Coach trip to Glenleigh & other Mulgoa Valley gems

SATURDAY 28 APRIL

Robert Hutchinson *From Federation to Great War*
from Robert's postcard archive

OBITUARIES

TOM PAVLAKIS An MHS member since 1988, Anastasi (Tom) Pavlakis died in June 2000 at home in Petersham. We were further saddened that we were unaware of his death until January. Members who did not know Tom certainly knew his raucous laugh that in turn had the audience at meetings in gales of laughter. During my time as MHS President, I was grateful when Tom did a stint of delivering the newsletter to the runners. For a time he was a member of the Art Deco Society and a keen collector of this period especially Shelley china which was his passion. It is with regret we mark his passing and the Society offers condolences to his family and friends.

Shirley Hilyard



Pearl Lowe in 1994 holding a Diana tankard

PEARL LOWE died on 27 January aged 75, having spent most of her life at her Railway Street Petersham home, largely damaged by the plane explosion in May 1945 over Petersham. Pearl worked as a lithographer and photographer, and as chief paintress with Diana Pottery and Studio Anna in the 1950s and 1960s. She assisted with Meals-on-Wheels for 17 years and, acknowledging her roots, was active with Chinese youth and other Chinese community groups. She joined MHS in 1991 and was interviewed for the Marrickville Remembers project having served with the WANS (Women's Australian National Service) from 1942 in whose band she played drum. Our condolences to Pearl's family and friends.

Geoff Ostling

South Sydney Heritage Society to visit Victoria Barracks & Museum, Paddington Sunday 18 February. Meet 1.30pm at Oxford Street gates.

HERITAGE WATCH

The **Marrickville Heritage Study Review** was delivered to Council almost a year ago, and has still not been released for public comment. The Society is concerned that the delay by Council in adopting the changes recommended in the Review is putting at risk buildings in the area that are not currently protected, but are identified as heritage items by the Study Review. We urge Council to expedite their deliberations on the Review and to release it for public comment immediately.

John While Factory Petersham The 15 January fierce windstorm caused a wall of the former factory at the corner of Crystal and Westbourne Streets to collapse, raising questions about who is responsible for residents' safety. In 1885 John While established the first spring manufacturing plant in Australia, in a shed in nearby Albany Lane, before relocating to the now redundant building being converted to a residential development.



While the developer should be commended for retaining the facade of the factory, Council must satisfy itself that there are sufficient mechanisms to guarantee the safety of facade retention as part of adaptive reuse of old buildings. The Society is also concerned that the collapse of the wall will not be used to justify the destruction of the remaining factory building.

Tempe House The developer has submitted DAs to Rockdale Council and the Heritage Office for the Conservation of Tempe House and the Interciti residential/commercial development surrounding it. The Society has provided a submission to Rockdale Council that notes that the benefit derived from the restoration of Tempe House and part of AB Spark's estate was not sufficient to offset the adverse impact on the historic precinct and the surrounding areas of the intensive new developments. The Society particularly objected to the height and density of the development close to Tempe House, and the removal of rare remnant trees of Turpentine-Ironbark forest from Mount Olympus to allow excavation for a carpark. The Heritage Council will also consider the applications and may impose more stringent conditions than Rockdale Council and the developer may be happy with.

PRESIDENT Peter 9550 3809
MEMBERSHIP Diane 9588 4930
HERITAGE WATCH Scott 9559 5736
NEWSLETTER Richard 9557 3823