

MARRICKVILLE HERITAGE SOCIETY INC.

DULWICH HILL ENMORE LEWISHAM
ST PETERS SYDENHAM TEMPE

MARRICKVILLE PETERSHAM STANMORE
& PARTS OF CAMPERDOWN & NEWTOWN



OUR NEXT MEETING

Annual General Meeting

Saturday 25 June 10.15 for 10.30 am

Herb Greedy Hall 79 Petersham Rd Marrickville

The president invites all members to our 27th Annual General Meeting. Reports on the progress of the Society over the past year will be presented and all executive committee positions will be declared vacant. Nominations for president, two vice presidents, treasurer, secretary, assistant secretary and up to six committee positions may be made in advance in writing or on the day. Committee meetings are held on the first Monday evening of each month (except January). For more information about the committee or meeting requirements ring Sonia on 9519 3137.

Members are reminded that they must have paid their 2011-12 membership fees to stand for office, to nominate or second a candidate, or to vote at the AGM. Fees can be paid on the day. Stay and mingle with fellow members and the new committee over a light lunch.

MHS ANNUAL FEES NOW DUE

MHS membership renewal fell due on 1 June so included with your June newsletter there should be a pink renewal slip to return intact with a cheque or money order made out to Marrickville Heritage Society, PO Box 415 Marrickville NSW 1475, unless you are: a) paying by cash at the AGM; b) paying by direct deposit; or c) fully paid up, in which case no slip will have been issued.

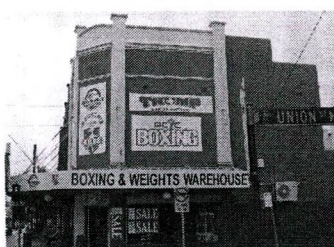
For renewal by direct deposit to MHS bank account:

Account name : Sydney Credit Union (BSB 802 084)

Account No: 85663

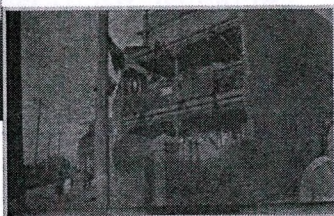
Reference: [insert your name/s]

Fees are unchanged: concession \$12, individual or joint concession \$20, household or organisation \$28; but a small donation from postal members would be appreciated to offset postal charge increases. Ring treasurer Diane on 9588 4930 if you have any queries.



Early photo of J Milne house,
Newtown: inside →

Zutton's Shops cnr Princes
H'wy & Union St Tempe:
update on 'DI-VISC' inside



2011 is Marrickville Council's 150th anniversary

Message from the President

It has been a long established and welcome practice for Council to notify the Society of buildings and properties which are either heritage-listed or in a heritage conservation area where a Development Application (DA) has been lodged. In relation to this, we need someone to join the committee, who has a commitment to preserving the built environment but is also skilled in assessing the merits and demerits of such DAs and assisting with writing letters to council where appropriate.

Perhaps members may know someone, who is either already a MHS member or not currently a member, who may be interested in filling this role. I would be interested to hear from anyone with such an interest to further discuss what is involved. I can be reached on <sonialaverty@optusnet.com.au> or on 9519 3137.

Sonia Laverty, President

Draft Marrickville LEP & draft DCP

Council recently adopted the draft Marrickville Local Environment Plan (LEP) 2010, which will guide future developments across the Marrickville LGA. The plan makes provision for new dwellings, protection of heritage buildings and encourages sustainable developments. The draft LEP is to be submitted to the NSW Minister for Planning and Infrastructure for approval.

The Development Control Plan (DCP) will be considered by Council in July. In legislative terms the LEP is the primary planning document. It specifies/ maps the zones across the LGA and details what is allowable or not within the zones as providing broad objectives and high level planning controls. The DCP supplements the LEP and provides more detailed controls and guidelines on how development should proceed. The DCP provides specific and detailed guidelines and rules for how what's allowable should proceed, eg, tree species, accessibility and specifically in terms of each suburb eg, fences, set-backs, driveways etc.

The DA to remove pews at St Clements Church, Marrickville was withdrawn prior to the Council meeting on 3 May. The Council heritage advisor's report had recommended the DA be refused.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Ron Ringer, Grahame Stevenson, both of Dulwich Hill; Deirdre Whitford, Marrickville; Robynne Hayward, Sydenham; Sandra Teasel, Bardwell Valley; Shirley Maguire, Earlwood; Ross & Michelle Phillips (rejoined), Hurlstone Park.

OUR LAST MEETING

Every window tells a story with Laurel and Bob Horton (St Peters Cooks River History Group)

After morning tea in the Leslie Wilkinson-designed parish hall on Saturday 28 May, MHS members were welcomed to St Peters Church by newly appointed (and 29th parish) rector Rev Andrew Bruce.

Laurel & Bob Horton gave a joint presentation of the history of the 1839 church (architect Thomas Bird) and graveyard but most importantly the designs of the stained glass windows and to whom they were dedicated. It was good to see the windows in situ and to hear the stories of the people in whose memory they were erected. All (except the large eastern window and one side window) are in memory of a particular person or family: familiar names such as Breillat, Bull, Chalder, Metcalfe and Reilly, and in some cases also having surrounding streets named after them – Barden, Harber, Talbot and Way.

The present church windows replaced plainer lead-lights in the 1870s and 1880s. A window of geometric design has as its dedication 'In memoriam Stanley Howard, Erected by parishioners 1883'. Rev Howard came to Australia in 1872 and served as curate at St Peters for three and a half years. During his time in Australia he wrote many letters of parish life, presented in *Stanley: a young man's colonial experience* edited by Laurel Horton (2005).

One window was dedicated to Clara Amelia Smith, third daughter of William Kempton Smith, grazier owner of many country properties. Their home whilst in Sydney was *Claraville* in Silver Street St Peters which still has the air of a gentleman's residence. This window also features the Waratah, Native Rose, Sarsaparilla, Sturt's Desert Pea, Yellow Pea, Native Fuschia & Flannel Flower.

The restoration of the church and windows is an ongoing project. We thank Laurel and Bob for their engaging presentation and congratulate the St Peters Cooks River History Group for their tireless work in keeping this wonderful old church alive.

Diane McCarthy

Dr Ian Jack steps down as RAHS president

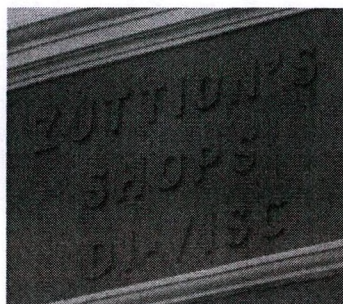
At the RAHS AGM on 27 April, Dr Ian Jack resigned after eight years as President, though will remain a Councillor. His term has been the longest of any RAHS president and he has served with distinction, scholarship and good humour. The incoming president is David Carment, with Dr Lesley Muir, Senior Vice President and Hector Abrahams, Vice President. In his farewell presidential address, Dr Jack indicated that, after two decades, Manager of RAHS, Mari Metzke 'has decided to hang up her Outreach hat and to stow away her managerial responsibilities at the close of business on 31 August 2011'. More anon.

WINTER TRIVIA QUESTION

Inspired by Megan Hicks, we want streets in Marrickville LGA whose name is different to the name set into the footpath: ie, where there has been a change to the street name. We need to know the former name and on which corner/s. Richard 9557 3823 or email <heritagesociety@optusnet.com.au>.

DI-VISC & Peter Zuttion, Tempe

This 1922 shop on the corner of Princes Highway and Union Street Tempe carries on its recessed panel the words 'Zuttion's Shops DI-VISC'. The mystery as to



the meaning of this phrase (raised in April 2002 MHS newsletter) has been solved. From *The Sydney Morning Herald* (17 March 1930, p. 2): 'I, Peter Zuttion, of Austrian nationality, born at Visco, and resident 6 years in Australia, now residing

at 60 Smith Street Tempe, intend to apply for Naturalisation under the Commonwealth Nationality Act 1920-25.' Visco is a municipality in the province of Udine, Italy, about 45 km northwest of Trieste. 'Di-Visc' is Italian for 'of Visco'.

So who was this Peter Zuttion applying for naturalisation? A Peter Zuttion ran a refreshment shop in Redfern 1906-09, and between 1908 and c. 1941 ran a business at 695-697 King Street (later Princes Highway) Tempe and Zuttion Lane Tempe, where he also lived for a time. Sands lists him as a 'cone and wafer manufacturer' (making snow-drop cones) though The claim that he was the first to manufacture ice cream cones in Australia can't be verified.

In *The Sydney Morning Herald* (21/2/1916) to rebut claims that he was 'an enemy subject' Peter Zuttion stated his parents were Italian and that 'I am a naturalised British subject in the Commonwealth of Australia'. So was he Italian or Austrian? There is no Sands record of a Zuttion living at 60 Smith Street Tempe and by 1930 Peter Zuttion had lived in Sydney for over 25 years. Though a British subject, the next logical step would be naturalisation. It seems likely that the 17/3/30 declaration of '6 years' residency was a typo for '26', given that he seems to have arrived in Australia around 1904-06.

Peter and his second wife Alma had a son named Peter John and moved to 245 Canarys Road Beverly Hills. Alma and Peter senior both died in 1944. It seems likely that Zuttion Avenue and Eileen Avenue Beverly Hills were named after Peter John and his wife, Eileen, respectively. Eileen, like Peter John, had lived around there for many years. Peter John died in 1996 aged about 66-68.

One other possible candidate for the 17/3/30 declaration is another Peter Zuttion who married Doris Louisa Kirwin in 1938, but otherwise nothing is known about him. Wanted: a Zuttion family history!

Richard Blair and Rod Cox

Zuttions Ice Cream Cones
Improv the Flavour of Ice Cream.
Supplies Ice Cream Cones, Cups &
Wafers sent anywhere. P. Zuttion, St
Pet., N.S.W.*

Two of many ads from 1924-25 in the 'NZ Truth' (launched in Wellington, New Zealand by Australian newspaper publisher John Norton, who also founded 'The Truth' in Sydney and elsewhere). 'Improv' and 'St Pet.' were as those words appeared: 'St Pet.' is short for St Peters, the municipality of which Tempe was part.

Street names in concrete: update

Apropos **Megan Hicks's** *Street names in concrete* (in May newsletter), consultant heritage planner and fellow MHS member, **Sue Jackson-Stepowski** advises that in about 2002 she prepared a document for Marrickville Council engineers titled *Marrickville Council Kerb and Footpath Survey*. With assistance from the then Council archivist and the Marrickville Historian the report 'includes an extensive street-by-street inventory plus a history search of Council resolutions to do works, and dates when works were undertaken. Many were prior to and immediately post World War One employment projects. Some others were also Depression era employment schemes.'

Being something of a footpath fanatic, Megan is looking forward to reading this report.

Footnote (so to speak) to Robert's April talk

Some of the photographs in Robert Hutchinson's 23 April presentation were of the Farmer & Company store* in the city. Built in 1874 the building featured a colonnaded gallery along its Pitt Street frontage, which was replaced around 1910 by an awning.

But I am interested in footpaths and several years ago I found, in the City of Sydney Archives, a letter from architect J Horbury Hunt written in 1873 to the Mayor and Aldermen of Sydney regarding Farmers store. The firm, said Mr Horbury Hunt, was going to very great expense to make their new premises an ornament to that end of Pitt Street by building an arcade which would form a footpath some 21 feet wide and 138 feet long, laid with flagging of the very best of 'Blue stone' from Melbourne. To make the design complete Mr Horbury Hunt requested that the Council put down kerb and gutters of the same material, 'making a first class and durable work'.

Megan Hicks

* in *Victoria House* department store; Farmers later became Grace Brothers and is now Myers.

The Federation of Australian Historical Societies reports that in the 10 May Federal budget, cuts will curtail heritage activities within the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water Population and Communities.

However \$4 million has been allocated for Community Heritage Grants in each of the next two years and it seems part of the money will be for small grants available on application by the 1000 or so community history and heritage societies and museums that the FAHS represents. There will also be funding to protect and conserve Australia's significant national historic built heritage through continuation of the National Historic Sites program (\$4.4m/year) plus the expected continuation of the Grants for Voluntary Environment and Heritage Organisations program.' (Source: FAHS)

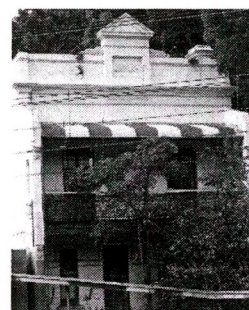
Members will recall **Silas Clifford-Smith's** talk to MHS last November on artist Percy Lindsay, the first born in this illustrious artistic family. **Percy Lindsay: Artist & Bohemian** (Australian Scholarly Publishing, \$59.95) was recently launched (by art critic John McDonald): 'in this first book on the life of Percy Lindsay, Silas sheds new light on an artist who was admired by his contemporaries – artists and critics alike – as well as being loved by all who met him for his warmth, humour and sense of mischief.'

John Milne & Duncraggan in Crescent Street

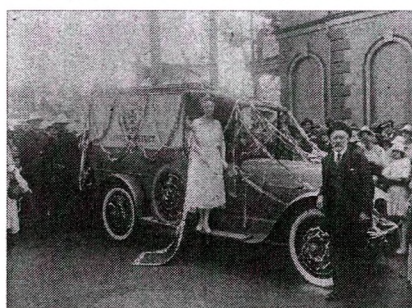
(The April 2011 newsletter carried an article about the J Milne house in Newtown, currently at risk of demolition. The 'J' no doubt stood for John or James: perhaps both, as the two brothers were in the building trade and resided in *Duncraggan* for many years. This 2003 article by **Lynette Walker** is reproduced from the online *Newtown Project*. Efforts to contact the author for permission via the City of Sydney Council Archives have been unsuccessful. The editor would love to hear from Lynette, who is probably oblivious to the grave threat to her ancestral home. Editor)

* * *

My great grandfather, John Milne, was born at Tonburn, Parish of Rhynie, Aberdeenshire, Scotland on 5/10/1856. He arrived in Australia on 17/6/1884 on the ship *Bann* with his brother James and James' family. His occupation was a stonemason. He married Robina Christina Anderson on 3 May 1888 at the Presbyterian Church, Newtown. They had three children: John (1889-90), Frank (1891-1926) and Bob (1893-1964).



John Milne was elected to Newtown Council at a by-election in June or July 1910 and served until the next election. John was involved in the inauguration of the Newtown District Ambulance and Transport Brigade in 1908 and stayed involved until about 1927, serving as President from 1920 to 1927. In 1920 he was presented with an illuminated address and life membership of Newtown District Ambulance by the NSW Ambulance Transport Board. I have that original illuminated parchment praising his efforts in



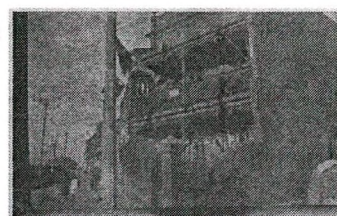
fund raising etc which included running street fairs in King Street. I have a c. 1922 photograph of him with a new ambulance outside Newtown Town Hall (at left).

He lived at *Tonburn*, 11 Trafalgar Street

Enmore from 1903 to 1916, then *Duncraggan* (photos above and below) Crescent Street, Newtown from 1916 to 1922, then *Tonburn* again from 1922 to 1926. Both these houses have 'J. Milne' in the pediment. The family home *Duncraggan* is still standing in Newtown. It was in Crescent Street near the Crago Flour Mills until Crescent Street was resumed in 1927 to widen the railway fence. It is the only house left from Crescent Street and now the front fence is on the railway line boundary.

I have small faded photographs of *Duncraggan* showing Crescent Street, the brick wall on the edge of the railway and the station buildings on Newtown Bridge at the end of the street. John Milne died at his Marrickville home on 3/3/1933 and is buried in the Old Presbyterian Section of Rookwood Cemetery.

Lynette Walker (nee Milne)



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Saturday 25 June
Annual General Meeting
Details on front page

Saturday 23 July
Coach tour of the Hills district

Saturday 27 August
Ian Hoskins — Sydney Harbour: a history

St Luke's Anglican Church
11 Stanmore Road Enmore
Sunday 19 June 3.30 pm

Celebration opening recital of the newly restored Wordsworth and Maskell 1883 pipe organ to be played by organ restorer Peter Jewkes, organist from Christ Church St Laurence. \$25, \$15 concession (pay at door) includes light refreshments; children no charge. Parking in church carpark or nearby Edgeware Road. Close to several bus routes.

Carved trees: Aboriginal cultures of western NSW exhibition at State Library of NSW

Ornate and expressive, carved trees have been used by Aboriginal people in NSW as a form of visual communication for thousands of years. These elaborate cultural expressions — carved into the sapwood and heartwood of trees once a section of external bark was removed — were meant to last. Sadly, after European colonisation, the practice was abandoned and the original meanings lost. The exhibition closes 26 June.

A facsimile reproduction of the 1918 publication *The Dendroglyphs or 'Carved Trees' of New South Wales* is on sale for \$40 at the State Library bookshop or from member Bruce Preston <brucep@acn.com.au> who handled the reproduction.

There must be a book waiting to be written about **Bob Gould** who died suddenly in his Newtown bookshop on 22 May aged 74. A committed Trotskyist he held strong political views, spearheading anti-Vietnam war protests and writing many essays for a left wing web-site. From when he opened the Third World Bookshop in Goulburn Street in 1967, he had several bookshops which opened and closed, but Gould's Book Arcade had prospered since 1988. He visited MHS stalls at Newtown Festivals, always buying something. Many seem to have a story about Bob and whiled away hours at Gould's. He'll be missed in the Sydney scene.

The Society has lodged a submission to Council about a DA in respect of 174 Denison Road (*Brook Lodge*) and 34 and 36 Pigott Street Dulwich Hill. The Society is concerned at the bulk and scale of the proposal, and the detrimental impacts that will undoubtedly result upon the immediate locality, Hoskins Park and the draft heritage item *Brook Lodge*. There is the additional concern that the proposal appears to be using *Brook Lodge* as something of an excuse for much of the development. Eighteen objections were raised conveying how the proposal and Statement of Environmental Effects fall short in many respects.

Newtown Then: 1929-1939

Newtown Then: 1929-1939 by **Jim Conway** is a self-published social history novella set in Newtown during and after the Depression: 'The narrator links action, dialogue and comments on cultural, political and economic issues of the times and creates a contrasting voice to that displayed by the characters.' Among many themes are unemployment, its impact on families, strikes, boxing, pub culture, sex, narrow-minded attitudes, camaraderie, to name a few.

Jim, now living on the Central Coast, spent his 'early impressionable years' in Newtown, has since 'lived and worked there many times' and has worked in a wide range of jobs. Jim was a colleague of the late Bob Gould in their 'leftie' younger days.

The book was launched on 1 June in the Spike Milligan Room, Woy Woy library. It is \$20 (plus \$3 post & handling) and is available from the author at 253 Empire Bay Drive, Empire Bay 2257, telephone 4369 0066, email <jimconway61@gmail.com>.

The counter lunch

In his novella, *Newtown Then 1929-1939* **Jim Conway** writes (p 63): 'originally counter lunches were free to help the pubs gain patrons, however as the hard times deepened, the masses cashed in on these free meals.'

Nina Rousseau in *The Age* (16/10/2007) confirms this view: 'Australia's first pub meal hit the counter in the 1860s. It was a free feed of bread and cheese — a response to the sly-grogging on the goldfields.' She cites historian Clare Wright's claim that a counter lunch was a 'uniquely Australian phenomenon and it was national'.

However, it became problematical as seen in this report in *The Adelaide Advertiser* (24/2/1911, p. 7):

'The Counter Lunch: Some Serious Statements

'Some candid remarks regarding the hygiene of the counter lunch were made by members of the United Hotelkeepers Association at the general meeting of that body [in Melbourne] to-night. Mr. Opitz declared that the counter lunch, no matter how careful a publican might be, was insanitary. Edibles were mauled by undesirables, men who did not enter the bar to drink, and whom, a self-respecting hotel keeper would refuse to serve. Opium smokers would splutter over food, consumptives would contaminate it, and even a leper might handle it. The counter lunch had a bad moral effect. It was conducive to making thieves of the boys of the city. One could see boys sneaking nightly into bars in the direction of the food counter. After thieving sausages and sandwiches they sometimes collared the cutlery. A committee was appointed to consider the question, and to wait as a deputation upon Dr. Burnett Ham with a view to obtaining an expert opinion.'

After World War I, the free counter lunch was abolished, only to be resurrected during the Depression, though at a cost. It remains a national institution.

Richard Blair

All contemporary photos in newsletter by R Blair)

PRESIDENT Sonia 9519 3137
TREASURER Diane 9588 4930
HERITAGE WATCH Rosemary 9560 4023
NEWSLETTER Richard 9557 3823