



MARRICKVILLE HERITAGE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

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Our Next Meeting

Saturday May 23 at 10.30am the Annual General Meeting of the Society will be held in the Amenities Room, Petersham Town Hall. Nominations are called for the following positions on the executive of the Society:- President, Two Vice-Presidents, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer and three additional members.

Nominations may be in writing and directed to the Secretary before the AGM or made in person at the AGM.

In addition, if the meeting so decides, nominations will be called for Chairpersons and members of the following committees:- Classifications, Heritage Watch, Heritage Week, Publications and the Social Committee.

All written nominations must be accompanied by a written acceptance of nomination and must be made and seconded by financial members. Membership may be renewed at the AGM.

Cooks River Festival - Sunday May 17 from 10am to 4pm

This annual festival is a community-based initiative supported by local councils. This year the festival will be held at Gough Whitlam Park, Undercliffe, which is close to Tempe Railway Station and opposite Canterbury Velodrome. There will be displays and stalls, dance and choral groups, bus tours to points of historic interest along Cooks River and bush walks through Wolli Creek.

In 1770, Captain Cook described the river which now bears his name as 'a very fine stream of fresh water' but severe pollution problems over the last century and a half have turned it into a degraded, urban waterway. In November, 1986, the State Pollution Control Commission launched a 'Clean Up Cooks River' campaign.

Members of Marrickville Heritage Society are encouraged to help Cooks River in its fight back by attending the 1987 Cooks River Festival.



NEWINGTON COLLEGE, STANMORE.

Newington College, Stanmore (after the original design, one wing yet remaining to be completed).

Our Last Meeting...

One of the Society's most successful excursions was one to Newington College on March 28. We were given a guided tour of the buildings, old and new, by the Chaplain and Archivist, Dr Peter Swain. Of special interest were the original stone colonnaded wing and bell tower, designed by Thomas Rowe and erected in the 1870s, the garden war memorial designed by Hardy Wilson, and the new chapel,

with its unique stained glass and its splendid pipe organ. With 1600 students from 57 ethnic backgrounds and a number of faiths, the College was committed, said Dr Swain, to a multicultural education; and the chapel furnishings expressed an ecumenical approach, with a Jewish menorah, 2 Greek Orthodox icons, an Aboriginal carved wooden barramundi and an altar lamp among the more usual accoutrements of a Protestant chapel. The number and variety of buildings erected in the 124 years of the College's history were evidence of a very vigorous programme of development which is still going on.

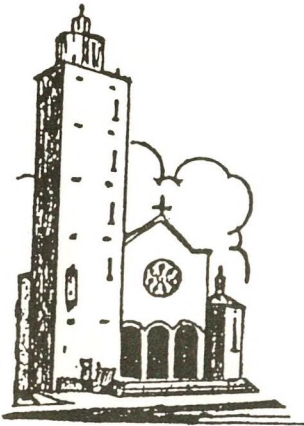
Instead of staying on to watch the cricketers on the College's incredibly green playing field, we then adjourned to the Newington Inn, where we were guests of the owners at a light lunch. During this good eating and drinking (which always seem to figure prominently in the society's activities), we met the Architect, Mr Renato Uis, who is directing the restoration and renovation of this "goldrush" period hostelry.

With much of the 1858 "skeleton" still intact, it was possible, said Mr Uis, to visualize the original structure, and all new development on the site would be in keeping with this. He believed that the proposed extensions would blend well with and add to the pleasing nineteenth-century facade.

From our chairs on the balcony, with a cool breeze and cool beer, we were inclined to think that everything in sight was really very pleasing indeed . . .

- Laurel Thomas

Heritage Week Concert



Were you there? Wasn't it wonderful?

The Heritage Week Concert is a new tradition in Marrickville, and this year's event was well up to expectations. St Brigid's Catholic Church, Marrickville, was a stunning venue, with its white marble and gold decor, and the musical programme was extremely fine.

Choirs from St Brigid's and St Paul's Anglican Church, Wahroonga, performed music by Elgar, Byrd and Palestrina (among others); and the String Ensemble from St Joseph's College, Hunters Hill, performed music by Mozart and Bach. Gary Sikora played the trumpet voluntaries of Purcell and Clark, and Simon Salter played part of Mozart's Flute Concerto and "Allegretto", by Haydn.

Organist Ken Martin performed Bach's Fugue in G Minor and "Epilogue", by Howell; and Glenn Murray performed part of Tchaikowsky's Violin Concerto and "Allemande", by Bach.

Of note was the Tongan Choir, of 30 members, whose major work was a modern piece, in Tongan, entitled "Credo". Interspersed with the musical items were readings from William Blake.

After the concert we were invited to inspect more closely the beautiful interior of the church, and to share supper in the adjoining hall. It was a spectacular event, excellently organized by Connie Cloran and David Molloy. Our thanks go to them, to Father Terence at St Brigid's and to all the artists who performed so beautifully for us.

- Laurel Thomas

Marrickville Municipality Bicentennial Activities

State Funded

Archival Reference Centre	\$15000
Bicentennial Information Co-ordinator	\$58000
Historical Plaques and Tree Planting	\$3500
Childrens and Youth Activities	\$6000
Theatre Organ Society of Aust.	
Bicentennial Commissioning and Concert	\$2500
Addison Road Bicentennial Festival	\$4350

Commonwealth Funded

Ethnic/Disabled Integration Program	\$1500
Ethnic Community Video	\$8700
Recreation Activities in Municipal Parks	\$2500

Marrickville History Resource Kit	\$10000
Photographic History of Marrickville	\$5000
Videos - (1) Oral History Multicultural	
(1) 1988 Local Events	\$4000
Paintings: Artists Views of Marrickville	\$10000
Community Multilingual Newsletter	\$2500
Aboriginal Bicentennial Projects Events	\$2500
Multicultural Art Exhibition	\$2000
Social History of Marrickville	\$10000
Sculpture Restoration - Winged Victory	\$10000
Restoration of plaques and monuments	\$1500
Multicultural Concerts and Picnic	\$3700
Oral Religious History	\$2500
To be advised	\$10000

TOTAL (State) \$89350 (Commonwealth) \$86400

Old Photos Wanted

The old shade house at the Royal Botanic Gardens is to be restored and a pond built so the giant waterlilies *victoria regia* and *victoria amazonica* can be grown. The shade house was built in 1923 from reclaimed sand-stone blocks still bearing convict tool marks and until the 1970s was a popular spot, especially on hot summer days, for visitors to the Gardens. Anyone who has photographs taken inside or outside the old shade house in years gone by is asked to lend them so the restoration of the building can be as authentic as possible, before it is reopened to the public. Contact Eve Sharpe 5162685.

Heritage Awards

Certificates on Commendation for restoration and maintenance of local buildings were presented by the Member for Marrickville, Andrew Refshauge, on behalf of the Minister for Heritage, the Hon. Bob Carr, before the commencement of our Heritage Week Concert at St Brigid's Church. Awards were presented for the Egyptian Room, Scottish Royal Arch Temple, 23-25 New Canterbury Road, Petersham; The Salvation Army Lodge, 97 Cambridge St, Stanmore; 48 Cary St, Marrickville (owners Judy and Tony Deguara); and 13 Middleton St, Petersham (owners Marshall and Virginia Kennedy).

Book Notes

The Cottager, a quarterly magazine published by Wild Woodbine Studio, Lot 35 Bowen Mountain Road, Bowen Mountain via Grose Vale. \$12 annual subscription, published in March, June, September and December. Now in its second year, this periodical is devoted to old-fashioned gardens; the current (March 1987) issue has articles on old-fashioned perennials, the virtues of weeds, tea roses, gypsy herbs, pot-pourri and food in the early days of the colony. We found our copy at Honeysuckle Cottage, a nursery at Bowen Mountain which specializes in plants for the cottage garden, and whose catalogue of "Roses of History and Romance" merits a place on every gardener's bookshelf. The nursery itself should be compulsory visiting.

Garden Notes

Healthy agapanthus plants, suitable for historic gardens, are for sale from one of the members of the Society at the very reasonable price of seven plants for \$10. Ring Tony at 558.4726.

New Members

Mrs Lieutenant Walters; Mrs Finlayson; Mrs May Hook; Patricia, John and Christopher Mumford; the Management and Staff of the Newington Inn Hotel. We also welcome back as members, Tania and Alan Patterson.

How to Subscribe to the Newsletter

It's only \$7 for individuals, \$10 for households and institutions, \$2 for pensioners and students. You will become a member of the Society and receive copies of our Newsletter (either posted or delivered to your door) and our journal Heritage. Your subscription is good for twelve months from the date of joining. Contact Chrys Meader at Marrickville Library (560.9333 ext 282) or write to PO Box 415, Marrickville, 2204. The editor would also like to hear from members with contributions to the Newsletter. Contact Geoff Ostling at 568.3029.