MARRICKVILLE HERITAGE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Vol 3 No 3

August 1986

OUR NEXT MEETING

Saturday August 23, 10.30 a.m. A visit to the South Pylon of the Sydney Harbour Bridge. Meet the bus outside Petersham Town Hall; seats are limited so please ring Chrys at Marrickville Library (560-9333 Ext. 282) to reserve a place. Admission to the Pylon is 50c for adults, 30c for children and pensioners. Members who wish to take their own cars should still meet the group at Petersham Town Hall.

FUTURE PROGRAMME (to be confirmed)

Friday September 19 Quarterly Evening Meeting, 7.30 p.m. in the Amenities Room (note the new venue), Petersham Town Hall. A panel discussion on restoring and sympathetically renovating houses.

Saturday September 27 A talk on Federation Architecture by Richard Apperley of the School of Architecture, University of N.S.W.

Saturday October 25 A visit to St Stephens Church, New-town and other locations to be announced.

Saturday November 22 Local costumier and milliner, Mrs Betty Viazim will talk about her long and interesting career. Christmas Picnic.



OUR LAST MEETING

The Town Clerk-General Manager of Marrickville, Mr Bruce Gardner gave us an interesting talk on the history of administration in the Marrickville Municipality at the July meeting. He quoted from the Council's first Municipal Yearbook, for 1907, which records the mayoral salary as £50 per annum and the maximum rates payable by property owners as twopence in the pound!

Bruce Gardner is Marrickville's tenth Town Clerk and has held the position for thirteen years. During that time he has witnessed dramatic changes in the municipality and has seen the council's responsibilities develop from merely "rates, roads and rubbish" to the provision of a wide range of "people" services.

The council is directing its attention to a number of Bi-Centennial projects at present. One which will delight all those interested in local history is the establishment of an archival referral service to operate from Petersham Town Hall. The Archives will give researchers access to old rate books, property valuation records, minutes from early council meetings and much more presently not generally available.

Bruce related a tale which shows that municipal mayhem is not a modern phenomenon. Last century a heated conflict between the Mayor and the Town Clerk of Burwood resulted in the Town Clerk fatally shooting the Mayor and ceremonially burning the rate books in Petersham Park before he was apprehended by police!

Our thanks to Bruce Gardner for a most informative talk and to Chrys Meader who provided us with a slide show of civic works and occasions from the 1800s on which made a most appropriate introduction.

CONTRACTOR CONTRACTOR

ST CLEMENTS CELEBRATES CENTENARY

St Clements Church, Marrickville celebrated its centenary last month. An informative illustrated history has been produced to mark the occasion. Enquiries, Reverend David Eastway, St Clements Rectory 558-0315.

SOCIAL SUB-COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENT:

Outing to Leura

A day trip to Leura is planned for Saturday September 20, 1986. The trip will be by bus departing from Petersham Town Hall and will include visits to gardens and houses in the Leura region. Anne Carolan invites members to call in at her "mountain retreat" where an open fire will blaze. Details of the Leura outing are yet to be finalised, if you are interested contact Anne (406-4862).

"ON THE WALLABY"

Over thirty Society members attended a performance of Nicholas Enright's "On The Wallaby" at the New Theatre, Newtown on Sunday July 27. The play cleverly interweaves documentary and vaudeville elements with the story of an Adelaide family's struggle for survival during the Great Depression. The audience found it moving and highly entertaining. Those who joined the theatre party look forward to similar outings in the future.

MARRICKVILLE PEACE FAIR

The Heritage Society was among stall holders at the recent Marrickville Peace Fair at Marrickville Town Hall. Our stall featured information about the Society's activities and a display of photographs from our outings. The stall was co-ordinated by Chrys Meader and Gregory Robertson who were on hand to discuss local history and answer questions about the Society.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE NEWSLETTER

Short items of news and interest for inclusion in the monthly Newsletter are most welcome. Give your contributions to the Editor, Jan Pittard at the monthly meeting, drop them into Chrys at Marrickville Library or phone Jan (home: 516-3332, work: 227-8920).

ARTICLES FOR HERITAGE

The deadline for articles for our annual journal HERITAGE is drawing close, it's September 1, 1986. If you want to write something for HERITAGE and have not already contacted the Editor, Gregory Robertson, ring him to discuss your article (560-9528). Style guidelines for articles are available from Chrys at Marrickville Library. Articles in preparation include "Fowlers Pottery - Part II", "A Victorianna Walking Tour of Marrickville" and "St Clements Church".

NEW MEMBERS

Laurel Thomas, Jan Nary, Durn Dart. The Society welcomes our youngest new member, little Rosina, a baby daughter born to Paula and Bruce on July 30. Our warmest congratulations!

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HOW TO JOIN OUR SOCIETY: It's only \$7 for individuals, \$10 for households and institutions, \$2 for students and pensioners, You will receive copies of the monthly Newsletter and HERITAGE, the Society's annual journal. You don't have to wait for our Annual General Meeting or for the beginning of the financial year. The Society's "rolling membership" means that you are a financial member for a full twelve months from whenever you join. Post subscriptions and subscription renewals to Chrys Meader at Marrickville Library, Marrickville Town Hall, 2204. Phone enquiries: 560-9333 Ext. 282.

The Society meets on the fourth Saturday morning of each month at Petersham Town Hall, we also hold quarterly evening meetings at the same location. Details of our meetings and outings appear in the monthly Newsletter.