



MARRICKVILLE HERITAGE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

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OUR NEXT MEETING

Saturday October 25 A visit to St Stephen's Church, Newtown; Camperdown Park and environs. Meet at Petersham Town Hall at 10.30am or at St Stephen's at 11.30.

Saturday November 22. Local costumier and milliner, Mrs Betty Viazim will speak in the Amenities Room, Ground Floor, Petersham Town Hall at 10.30am.

At 12.30, join us at the bandstand in Petersham Park for our Christmas Picnic.



Marrickville West Public School is celebrating its centenary, October 13 to 18. Fair and Open Day Saturday, October 18, 12-6pm. A full program of events for the week is available from the school.

MAYORAL BALL

A Mayoral Ball will be held at Marrickville Town Hall on Saturday 15th November at 8pm.

Tickets are \$30 each, with proceeds going to local charities. Bookings may be made with Annette Prestwidge at Marrickville Council, or Chrys Meader will pass them on for you.

BUS TRIP TO LEURA ARRANGED BY SOCIAL SUBCOMMITTEE

Miraculously, Saturday, September 20, was a glorious warm day with hardly a breath of that famous mountain wind. Only weeks before, Leura had been suffering a severe winter of record frost, snow and rain. So our little party, which ranged in age from Maisie Cox ("nearly 82") to Lesley and Simon Thompson (8 and 9) enjoyed some very special hours of beautiful country air. Maisie says she still treasures every second.

Wentworth Falls Lake was once the steam trains' water supply and is now a playground for birds and humans. We drove past it and then through the delightfully restored turn-of-the-century Leura Village. Then came a quick look over Gordon Falls Lookout and an inspection of the huge white 1914 mansion, "Leuralla", which is furnished and decorated in Art Deco style and houses the H.V. Evatt Memorial Museum. This house has links with Marrickville. Andreas Street, Petersham, was named after 19th century aldermen of that name, and Clive Evatt's wife, Marjorie, was a member of the Andreas family who built "Leuralla". We had tea and scones in a charming room looking out to the garden with Eastern Rosellas and King Parrots feeding by the windows.

A short stroll took us to one of the Leura Festival Gardens, that of Mr Geoff Curtis, sparkling with an early spring array of azaleas, rhododendrons, weeping cherries, tulips and other bulbs, pansies and ground covers, massed to give breathtaking colour. Let us hope members were inspired to do even better with their own gardening efforts in Marrickville! We drove along Cliff Drive to Echo Point - the mountains and valleys glowed very blue that day - up Katoomba Street, resisting the temptation to call in to the Paragon Restaurant or the Carrington Hotel, which are both National Trust listed properties. We then had a leisurely picnic lunch in the garden of a 1939 holiday cottage before heading down the mountain and home.

Thanks must go to our driver, Bob Erwin, and to Marrickville Council for the use of the Community bus. Are there any other members holding a licence for driving an 18-seater bus who would volunteer for future day tours???

- Anne Carolan

§ "Leuralla" is open to the public 10am-5pm Fri, Sat, Sun, Public and School Holidays. - Ed §

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BEWARE

Following the destruction of Rose's Emporium described in the September Newsletter, it has come to our notice that 47-51 Warren Road, Marrickville, also subject to a Section 130 Order, are under threat. Marrickville Council has received a development application to demolish these houses.

Australian Housing Styles

"QUEEN ANNE" OR "FEDERATION" ARCHITECTURE

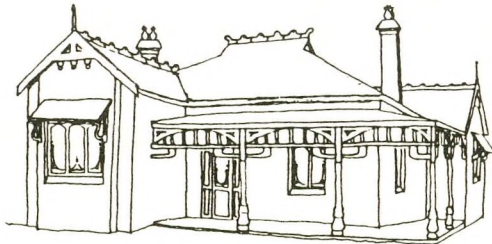
The speaker at the September meeting was Richard Apperly of the School of Architecture at the University of New South Wales. He began his talk by describing the reasons for the introduction of the "new" style of architecture after the Depression of the 1890s. It was then called "Queen Anne", but thanks to the pioneering work of Professor Bernard Smith, this style is much more accurately called "Federation".

It seems that after a war or a depression, people want to build in a totally different style. By the early 1890s, the age of the Paddington terrace with its iron lace was over. The age of the red or liver-coloured brick, turned wooden verandah posts and the Marseilles-tiled roof had begun.

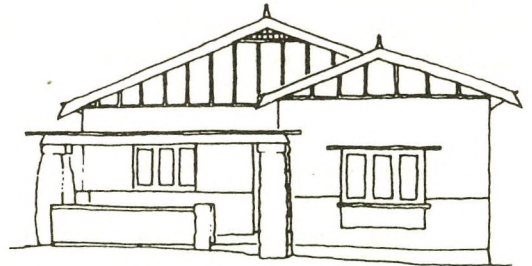
Also, by the 1890s the popularity of the pneumatic-tyred bicycle, the extension of the suburban railway through Marrickville to Bankstown and through Tempe to Sutherland, and the tramways all meant it was no longer necessary to "live above the shop" or within walking distance of the factory.

The outbreak of bubonic plague at the Rocks in Sydney in 1900 caused people to move to "healthy" suburbs such as Marrickville and Haberfield.

In these suburbs, the typical house of the period was the asymmetrical single-storey bungalow on its own block of land, often with expensive face bricks and leadlight windows on the front, but with common bricks at the sides and back. Sometimes these houses were adorned with designs of Australian flora and fauna in the coloured glass windows or plaster ceilings, but just as often the decoration was of English roses or exotic fruits.



Federation (1901-1920)



Californian Bungalow (1920s and 30s)

Mr Apperly also showed slides of the Californian bungalows designed by Green and Green in Pasadena, California. Certain features of these designs were copied or adapted here immediately after the Great War as speculative builders took up the Californian bungalow style.

- Geoff Ostling



BRAESIDE HOSPITAL MERGER

The merging of Braeside Hospital and Eversleigh Home of Peace on October 1, 1986, closes a chapter in the history of this well known landmark.

The house, at 129 Cambridge Street, Stanmore, was built around 1907 for Thomas H Nesbitt, Town Clerk of the City of Sydney. From 1914 it has been in use as a hospital.

In 1946 it was purchased from Dr Gordon Craig by local doctors and residents. Rev. Charles Adams, Rector of All Saints', Petersham, was Chairman of the Community Committee.

For a short period it operated as a hostel for university students before reverting to a fifty bed private hospital, providing nursing, medical and obstetric care, as well as a four year nurses' training course.

In 1949, owing to financial difficulties, it was changed to a 3rd Schedule Maternity Hospital and Braemont House (opposite) was purchased for use as a nurses' home.

A further change in 1964 saw Braeside become a 58 bed geriatric hospital. With the sale of Braemont House in 1968 and the purchase of "Horaceville" in Trafalgar St, the fence was removed and this allowed the new nurses' quarters to be incorporated into the hospital property.

- Eve Sharpe

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## NEW MEMBERS

Organisations = J.M. Thompson, solicitor and Mrs Jessop, Marrickville Florist.

Individuals - Joan Curtis, Vicki Bousgas, Chris Kokontis.

We have just learnt of the birth on 18 July of Anwyn Ashleigh Jane to members John and Carolyn Watkins. Congratulations!

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HOW TO JOIN THE SOCIETY

It's only \$7 for individuals, \$10 for households and institutions, \$2 for pensioners and students. You will receive copies of our Newsletter and our journal "Heritage". Your membership is good for twelve months from date of joining. Contact Chrystine c/- Marrickville Library (5609333 ext. 282).

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