

MARRICKVILLE

HERITAGE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



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OUR NEXT MEETING Annual General Meeting

NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS
SATURDAY JUNE 24, 10.30 am
AMENITIES ROOM, PETERSHAM TOWN HALL

All members are encouraged to attend the Society's Annual General Meeting to hear what has been achieved over the past year and to comment on future directions of the Society. Reports will be given by the President, who will summarise the activities of the sub-committees, the Secretary and the Treasurer.

Nominations are called for the following nine positions on the Society's Executive: President, two Vice-Presidents, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer, and three Additional Executive Members. Nominations should be made in writing to The Returning Officer, PO Box 415, Marrickville 2204 or made in person at the meeting. All written nominations must be accompanied by a written acceptance of nomination and must be made and seconded by financial members.

The AGM is also the occasion to review our committee structure and to discuss whether our present sub-committees should continue as is. At present we have four sub-committees: Classifications; Heritage Week; Heritage Watch and Community Liaison. We also elect the Editor of the Heritage Journal and the Editor of the Heritage Newsletter.

The Executive would welcome suggestions on the structure of these sub-committees. We look forward to seeing a good attendance at the meeting.



COMING EVENTS Museum of Childhood

SATURDAY JULY 22
MEET AT PETERSHAM TOWN HALL

For our July excursion we will visit the beautifully restored Juniper Hall and explore the Museum of Childhood which currently has a Ginger Meggs exhibition. Members may buy morning tea afterwards and then walk up Oxford Street to browse Paddington Markets. Details of time, cost and transport in the next issue.

Permanent Conservation Order for Stanmore House

Stanmore House, possibly the oldest residence in the Marrickville Municipality, has been placed under a Permanent Conservation Order (under Section 26 of the Heritage Act 1977). The order appeared in Government Gazette No 55 on May 5 1989. Situated at 88 Enmore Road, Enmore, Stanmore House was probably built in 1847 for the daughter of Mary Reiby, one of Australia's most outstanding early businesswomen. Explaining the heritage significance of Stanmore the order states that Reiby's own house was demolished some 20 years ago and "Stanmore House is thus the only evidence on the site of Reiby's occupation and demonstrates the prosperity of her commercial career". Although it is obscured by later additions and commercial buildings, Stanmore House remains largely intact.

Stanmore House
from a photograph
in the Mitchell Library



Covering Dulwich Hill, Enmore, Lewisham, Marrickville, Petersham, St Peters, Stanmore, Sydenham, Tempe
and parts of Camperdown, Hurlstone Park and Newtown



Alan Lewis and Gwen Ostling on board the Mirabel.

OUR LAST MEETING Historic Waterway

"It was an area of Sydney we just hadn't seen before and it was fascinating." That was the verdict of many members and friends who attended our last outing on May 27, a cruise along the Georges River from East Hills to San Souci. Despite the occasional downpour, we were able to admire the natural and man-made scenery of this historic waterway from our vantage points aboard the ferry M.V. Mirabel.

We passed Stockade Reach where convicts once cut stone; Parkesville, the site of an early "pleasure ground"; and Salt Pan Creek, which took its name from the salt boiling industry of the early 1800s. We saw the Hotel Como, built in the 1880s and now being restored, and the remains of Cranbrook, a castle-like residence built for Robert Fowler of Fowler Potteries from sandstone quarried on the site.

The imposing modern houses of such suburbs as Lugarno and Sylvania were in stark contrast to the Depression-built shanties perched precariously on the water's edge. After a pleasant lunch at the St George Motor Boat Club we retraced our route. Thanks to the Georges River Ferry Co and to Anne Carolan for a most enjoyable day.



Paula Gard, Alex McGuirk, Michael McGuirk and Commander Les Brooks. Photos: Geoff Ostling.

Request on former Mayor

We have a request from Mrs N. Bosler of Collaroy Plateau for information about her great great grandfather Charles St. Julian who was Mayor of Marrickville from 1868 to 1872. "I seek more information about him and would also like to locate someone who can help identify members of the St. Julian family from an old family album," writes Mrs Bosler. Write to her c/- Marrickville Heritage Society, P.O. Box 415, Marrickville, 2204.

Council's Heritage Position

The following is an excerpt from the Annual Report of Marrickville Council for 1989 commenting on heritage issues: "The municipality has a rich social history that can be 'read' in its buildings and heritage sites, some of which date back to the early 19th century. Following a special Heritage Study of buildings, streetscapes and items of significance, an environmental plan was drawn up to define areas needing preservation control. The plan has been submitted to the State Department of Planning and will be placed on exhibition. Once approved it will be gazetted under the Heritage Act and any person who wishes to alter or re-develop such properties will be required to submit a special Development Application for approval.

Unlawful building additions and alterations, both internally and externally, continued to be a problem in 1988. Alterations in Petersham must now be in keeping with the style of this heritage area. Persons convicted of unlawful building are liable to fines of up to \$2000 plus legal costs. There is the added cost to the owner of having to pull down or modify the illegal work."

School of Industry Sequel

Members will remember the launch of A Place Like Home at Thethaway in October 1987. The book was the story of Laura Tood who as a young girl had spent seven years at the Dickensian School of Industry in Petersham. At the close of the book we left Laura (Belle) and her two sisters thrilled at the prospect of going home to live with their father, just returned from service in World War I. Laura has now written a sequel to A Place Like Home called Freshwater, which chronicles her coming of age in the 1920s. It is published by local publisher Hale & Iremonger. Inquiries 560 4977.

Photographic Fair

On Saturday 24 and Sunday 25 June the Historic Houses Trust of NSW is holding a Photographic Fair at Elizabeth Farm which includes an exhibition of 19th and 20th century photographs, conservation advice, and sale of albums, mounts and frames. Put yourself in a historic picture and have your photograph taken in period costume. Elizabeth Farm, 70 Alice Street, Parramatta. Inquiries 635 9488.

How to Subscribe

It's only \$8 for individuals, \$10 for households and institutions and \$2 for students and pensioners. You will 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. Write to P.O. Box 415, Marrickville, 2204, or phone 560.9333 Ext. 282. Marrickville Heritage Society holds regular meetings on the fourth Saturday of every month.