

MARRICKVILLE

HERITAGE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

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OUR NEXT MEETING Back to Childhood

SATURDAY JULY 22, 9.30 AM AT PETERSHAM TOWN HALL
OR 10.30 AM AT JUNIPER HALL, PADDINGTON.

The Society is going back to childhood with a visit to the Museum of Childhood at Juniper Hall, 248-250 Oxford Street, Paddington (diagonally opposite Paddington Town Hall). Built in 1824 from the profits of a gin distillery, Juniper Hall was a family home originally but became important in the 19th century as a child welfare institution. Now restored by the National Trust, Juniper Hall features the Australian Museum of Childhood - a collection of 19th and 20th century children's books, toys and illustrations, including a special Ginger Meggs Exhibition.

Entry fee is \$3; pensioners and students \$1.50; National Trust members and children under 5, free. If you require transport to Paddington please ring Geoff Ostling on 568 3029 and meet at the earlier time of 9.30 AM at Petersham Town Hall. Those making their own way to Paddington should meet at the Juniper Hall National Trust Shop at 10.30 AM. Buses run from Liverpool St, City (near Museum Station) along Oxford Street. Morning tea or coffee with homemade biscuits available at the Juniper Hall Cafe at a further cost of \$4. Then join us for a visit to Paddington Markets. Return about 1.30 PM.

The Late Mrs Hazel Godfrey

We are sad to announce that Society member Mrs Hazel Godfrey died suddenly at her home at 17 Middle Street, Marrickville, on June 16 1989. Hazel was a smiling, charming lady whose regular presence since 1985 at meetings and other Society functions will be very greatly missed by us all. A widow, Hazel shared her time between her church, her friends and our Society. She felt very deeply about this area and its heritage, for she was born in St Peters, married at St Clement's and lived in Marrickville all her life. Thankfully, Hazel agreed to talk to me a few months ago about her family, the Adams, and together we put together an "oral history", thus ensuring some memories are preserved.

Hazel travelled a lot. She had been as far as Adelaide recently and during our ferry trip on Georges River in May told us of the previous week's four day holiday on a vessel sailing about Sydney Harbour. She also enlivened that day pointing out spots where she had played as a child.

Hazel would have turned 82 years of age on August 3 1989. The Society was well represented at a ceremony held at the Wemyss Street Salvation Army Citadel after which Hazel was buried at Woronora.
- Anne Carolan.



Ginger Meggs on show at the Museum of Childhood

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING A Period of Changeover

Around 40 members attended the Society's Annual General Meeting at Petersham Town Hall on Saturday June 24. Outgoing President Richard Cashman said in his report that the Society has now operated for five years and continues to flourish and grow. A number of people who have been prominent in the Society since its inception have indicated that they will no longer serve on the Executive, Richard said.

"I would like to thank them all for their work for the Society. They include: Barbara Le Maistre, inaugural President; Eve Sharpe Vice-President for five years; Chrys Meader, Secretary for five years; Anne Cherry, Treasurer for most of the five years; and Verona Rothwell, organiser of five Heritage concerts."

Our thanks also to Richard, who announced that after three years as Vice-President and two as President he would have a year "on the back bench" due to work commitments but also - "because I believe it is important that the Society should from time to time have an infusion of fresh leadership and new ideas."

The Society's new Executive is: Geoff Ostling, President; Shirley Hilyard, Senior Vice-President; Judith Matheson, Junior Vice-President; Secretary not yet appointed; Mark Matheson, Assistant Secretary; Andrea Loder, Treasurer; Paula Gard, Peter Swain and Evelyn Watkins, Executive Members.

Sub-committees were reduced to two. They are Classifications, chaired by Terry Hicks; and Heritage Week and Concert, chaired by Paula Gard. It was agreed that the Executive members would co-ordinate social activities. Also elected were Anne Carolan, Heritage Journal Editor; Judith Matheson, Newsletter Editor; and John Watkins, Auditor.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Major Heritage Events

"The most important two events of the year took place in November of the Bicentennial Year with the reerection of the Winged Victory Statue and the opening of the Archival Reference Centre.

"The Society can take great pride in both ventures. The major events of 1988 in Marrickville focused on heritage. Public money was spent on projects of lasting benefit. We played an active role in promoting both projects.

"The Society, from its early days, adopted the Winged Victory as its logo and Greg Robertson's article in Heritage 2 focused attention on the statue. But without the enthusiasm and energy of our secretary, Chrys Meader, the statue would not have been reerected. All members of the Society should congratulate Chrys on her sterling work during 1988. Anne Carolan has also contributed with her continuing research on the sculptor, Gilbert Doble, and I do hope we can all encourage her to publish a small booklet on him.

"We are also fortunate that another Society member, Rhona Clement, has established and now administers the Archival Reference Centre so ably. Marrickville Council should also be congratulated for their continuing commitment to the centre.

Society Assets/Growing Pains

The Society has built up a substantial range of assets and we have become more aware of the need to shift some of this growing stock. Current assets include: Heritage 1, 63 copies; Heritage 2, 20; Heritage 3, 111; Heritage 4, 178; and 186 commemorative teaspoons. Total value \$2766. It is important to find some local stores, such as a newsagent, who will take a few of our journals and possibly spoons. If any member knows of a sympathetic business, please notify the Executive.

"We have grown since 1984 from a small voluntary group to one of the larger suburban heritage societies, with some 250-plus members. We only see a small proportion of our membership at any one function but they are all valuable members because by paying their fees they are supporting heritage in Marrickville.

"With the greater number of members, events, diversification of income, we have had some growing pains in that producing professional publications costs money, getting out 250 copies of a newsletter on time requires greater organisation, and keeping our expanding records tidy is becoming a major undertaking. What we need to do is to work out ways of becoming more professional and efficient without losing our personal touch."

-Richard Cashman.

Society Needs a Secretary

New President Geoff Ostling would like to hear from any Society member who would be interested in taking on the position of Society Secretary as this position was not filled at the recent AGM. Please call Geoff on 568 3029.

How to Subscribe

It's only \$8 for individuals, \$10 for households and institutions and \$2 for pensioners. You will receive copies of our Newsletter (either posted or delivered to your door) and our Journal Heritage. Your subscription is good for 12 months from the date of joining. Write to P.O. Box 415 Marrickville 2204. Marrickville Heritage Society holds regular meetings on the fourth Saturday of every month.

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

CLASSIFICATIONS

During the past year 21 sites have been recorded for the Local History Collection and 19 of these have been submitted to the National Trust for consideration. Another six sites have been inspected. The current unrest within the National Trust may affect the work of this committee in the future, reports chair Terry Hicks. Thanks to Terry and his hard working committee of Shirley Hilyard, Bruce Welch, Tony Deguara, Evelyn Watkins and Chrys Meader. A list of properties considered will appear in the next newsletter.

HERITAGE WATCH

This committee was active up to December when chair Tony Deguara was unable to continue due to other commitments. The committee prepared an advertisement to educate the public on heritage, which was published in The Glebe. Thanks to Tony, who also organised a very successful jumble sale.

HERITAGE WEEK

The fifth annual concert was extremely well supported with a crowd of more than 300 at St Brigid's Church. Credit for the success of the evening must go to chair Verona Rothwell and her committee of Barbara Le Maistre, Anne Carolan, Paula Gard, Mary Tait and Dawn Thompson. The high standard continues to be maintained thanks to Connie Cloran, St Brigid's musical director, who attracted such outstanding musicians as John Brosnan and Paul Goodchild.

COMMUNITY LIAISON

Thanks to Anne Carolan who undertook the social aspects of this committee untiringly and commendably, including two cruises, the Christmas picnic and Lydham Hall excursion. Chrys Meader attended meetings of many local community groups thereby bringing to their notice the work of the Society, establishing a network and, in many cases, new members. Chrys has also promoted the Society through the Local Studies Collection where she receives many requests for historical information. Thanks to Chrys for her efforts in this and previous years.

HERITAGE JOURNAL

Editor Barbara Le Maistre reports that the contents of Heritage 5 have been prepared and are almost ready to go to the printer. Thanks to Barbara for assembling an interesting range of articles. The spread of interest is broad and will appeal widely. The Journal's likely publication date is August/September. Thanks also to the production team of Richard Cashman, Anne Carolan, Mark Matheson and Judith Matheson.

NEWSLETTER

Over the past year 11 newsletters were produced in a more flexible format. The newsletter of 1988/89 has been of a very high standard; lively, informative and with interesting illustrations. Thanks to Editor Judith Matheson and Joan Swain for typing, Bruce Welch for production and Geoff Ostling for photographs. Thanks also to Bruce Welch and a team of runners for newsletter distribution: Mary Tait, Lu Bell, Shirley Hilyard, Evelyn Watkins, Mark Matheson, Jacqui Isles, Meg Sherwood, Anne Cherry, Edna Andrews, Tony and Judy Deguara, Geoff and Joan Francis.