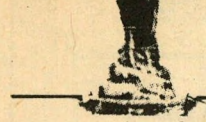


MARRICKVILLE

HERITAGE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



Postal Address PO Box 415 Marrickville 2204
ISSN 0818-0695 Vol 6 No 11 June 1990



A postcard from Silver Street

OUR NEXT MEETING Annual General Meeting

SATURDAY JUNE 23, 10.30 AM
AMENITIES ROOM, PETERSHAM TOWN HALL

All members are encouraged to attend the society's Annual General Meeting. This is an important event and an opportunity to hear what has been achieved over the past year and to discuss future directions. Outgoing president Geoff Ostling will present a report of the year's activities.

Executive elections will be held at this meeting and nominations are called for the positions of: President; Senior Vice-President, Junior Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, three additional Executive Members; Newsletter Editor and Journal Editor. Nominations will be accepted at the meeting.

A recommendation will also be put to the meeting that subscription rates be increased due to increasing costs.

After the formalities please join us for a light lunch of sandwiches and champagne either at the Town Hall or in nearby Maundrell Park, weather permitting.

Cars or People? The Silver Street Problem

"Not long ago the residents of Silver Street, Marrickville were surprised to hear that homes on the western side of the street were being purchased to make way for a multi-storey car park. They weren't impressed as they had not been consulted so they started to fight for their homes and asked the Marrickville Heritage Society for support.

"The members of the Classification Committee visited the street and recorded all of the affected houses on film. Should they be demolished we will at least have a visual record of the site. At a later meeting it was decided that the houses were more important than the car park and that the Society would assist the residents. To that end we have written to the Council, the Department of Planning and the National Trust.

"We believe that Silver Street is a grand, wide street framed with an interesting variety of houses which when restored would present as a pleasing element in the Marrickville environment. The Council has indicated that the car park will be 'beautiful' but we are awaiting full details. It would have to be a lot better than those in existence, which aren't used to full capacity. Time will tell. Cars or people?"

- Terry Hicks, Classification Committee

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

OUR LAST MEETING A New View of The Rocks

About 35 members and friends enjoyed an 'alternative' walking tour of The Rocks at our last meeting on May 26. We visited Richmond Villa, home of the Society of Australian Genealogists. As we toured the interior of the beautiful building built by Colonial Architect Mortimer Lewis, the temptation to dip into the society's coffers was irresistible. Executive Officer Heather Garnsey gave us a rundown of the building and the Society's collection. It was a surprise to discover St Brigid's Church and School tucked away in Kent St. Most of us were previously unaware of its existence and yet it is the oldest Catholic Building and mass centre in Australia still in use. Father Walsh outlined plans to restore this modest but significant little church.

We moved on to the house of Michael Gannon, an ancestor of the morning's organiser Anne Carolan, which is now a wine tasting establishment. Here we heard of Gannon's fortunes and misfortunes before enjoying morning tea. Our thanks to Anne for a different perspective on The Rocks.

Trash and Treasure

About 20 members and friends attended our Trash or Treasure night at the Newington Inn on June 1. Our experts Tony and Sue Miller disappointed some and delighted others with their pronouncements. As might have been expected some of our treasures turned out to be trash while some of our 'trash' including a French inkwell and a statue of Chopin were more like treasures. Thanks to Sue and Tony and to Anne Carolan and Shirley Hilyard for organising the evening.

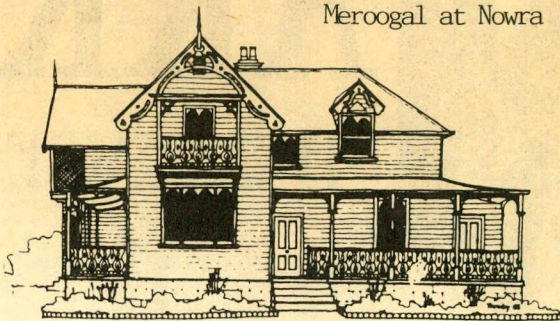
Sponsors for Heritage Wanted

Our annual Heritage Journal is due to be published in the third quarter of 1990. Heritage 6 will contain a lively mix of articles on aspects of local history. We are currently looking for sponsors for the Journal. If anyone knows of any local business that may be interested in sponsoring the Journal please contact Anne on 406 4862 or Judith on 560 1751. Individual members may also be sponsors. All donations will be gratefully accepted and all sponsors will be listed in the Journal.

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 12 months from the date of joining. Write to P.O. Box 415, Marrickville 2204. For inquiries phone Geoff on 568 3029. The Heritage Society holds regular meetings on the fourth Saturday of every month.

Meroogal at Nowra



The Shoalhaven Weekend Three Superb Museums

Three superb museums were the highlights of the Society's weekend in the Shoalhaven. The Lady Denman maritime Museum at Huskisson contains a fascinating collection of things nautical, including the Lady Denman ferry which once travelled Sydney Harbour. Meroogal, the beautiful 1880s house maintained by the Historic Houses Trust at Nowra makes the ordinary seem remarkable. It is a 'living' museum of household practices over the past century. The local Shoalhaven Historical Society has opened its own museum at Nowra in the old Police Station. It's an excellent introduction to local history and it's kept in pristine condition. It should stand as an example to all local history societies on how to establish a local museum.

There were, of course, many other fond memories of the weekend. Thanks to Shirley Hilyard and Judith Matheson for their organisation and to our bus driver Bruce Welch for a great weekend.

Heritage 2 Revisited

Copies of our annual Journal Heritage Nos 1,3,4,5, are available at all Society meetings. No 2 is currently out of print but copies of individual articles can be obtained at a small cost. The contents of Heritage 2 (1985) are: A Trip to Marrick, North Yorkshire (Richard Cashman); Petersham, Stanmore, Dulwich Hill, Marrickville: What's in a Name? (Barbara Little); Pubs (Chrys Meader); Jean Moncur of Moncur Street (Richard Cashman and Chrys Meader); The Early History of Stanmore (Tony Prescott); 'By Tranquil Waters' and Cooks River (Joanna Mendelssohn); The Petersham Estate and its Subdivisions (Chrys Meader); Bayview House, Tempe (Robert Thompson); 'Mourning Victory': The History of the 'Winged Victory' (Gregory Robertson); St Peters Church; Cooks River (Laurel Richardson); The Gannons of Tempe 2. Michael Gannon: His Family and their Skeletons (Anne Carolan); Memories of Fort Street, Petersham (Eleanor Nixon). Heritage 3 contents next issue.

New Members

Kristina Czaban, Marrickville; Judith Donaldson, Marrickville; Florence Duke, Hurstville; Anne Hunt, Enmore; M. Lavender, Fivedock; Marie June Law, Marrickville; Robin Lawson, Jamberoo; Michael McDermott; Petersham; Joy McVicker, Tempe; Pam Sheldon, Blakehurst; Neil Skinner & Annabelle Sheehan, Marrickville; Olive Stevens, Belmore.