

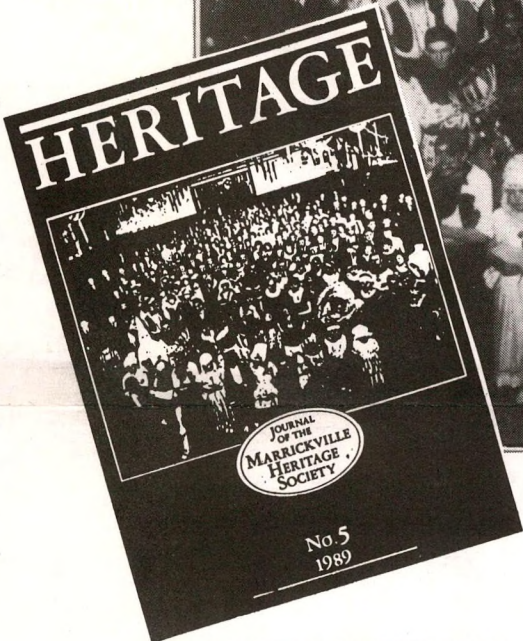
MARRICKVILLE

HERITAGE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

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Heritage 5 cover illustration: Fancy dress party Marrickville Town Hall, 1924. (Local Studies Collection, Marrickville Municipal Council).



OUR NEXT MEETING

Visit to Choice Magazine

SATURDAY FEBRUARY, 24 10.30AM
MEET AT CHOICE MAGAZINE
57 CARRINGTON ROAD, MARRICKVILLE

Choice magazine, the consumers' advocate and best known publication of the Australian Consumers' Association, celebrates its 30th anniversary this year. From humble beginnings Choice now has 170,000 subscribers and a readership approaching one million people. It's advice is totally independent and it has its own laboratories for testing everything from electrical appliances to detergent. We will meet key staff at Choice and get a rundown on the ACA's activities which cover information programmes and government lobbying and a wide range of publications. We'll also tour the unique laboratories, have the opportunity to observe any testing in progress. Morning tea will be provided. Choice is five minutes walk from Tempe Station. If you need transport contact Paula on 569 9928.

HERITAGE 5 is out now. It contains a marvellous collection of articles by Society members and others on a wide range of local topics and a fascinating collection of historical photographs. The articles include: The Appa Teeza Hamburger Shop, Enmore, 1939-1946; Ball-room Dancing 1920-1950; Marrickville Town Hall; The Good Samaritan Order at Marrickville; Lesslie and Ann Duguid of the Poffle, St Peters; Bonnie Doon Golf Club: Its Origins in Tempe 1897-1907; Horse Racing in Mid-19th Century Marrickville; Tempe Wesleyanism; The Restoration of Merrydale, Petersham; 1988 in Marrickville: The Artists; The Winged Victory's Two Sculptors: Gilbert Doble and Alex Kolozsy; Marrickville Municipal Council Archival Reference Centre: The First Archivist.

Additional copies of Heritage 5 are available at all Society meetings and at Marrickville Library. Cost \$8.

Raffle Winners

The winners in our Christmas raffle, drawn at the Christmas Picnic were: Sam Kakaivalu; Laurel Thomas; Chris and Carol Moran; Verona Rothwell; J Hatton. The winner in our "Demon" Spofforth book raffle, drawn at the Australia Day dinner was Marie McLeod. Consolation books went to Barry Enkelmann, Mark Roberts, David Hilyard and Lindsay Smyth.

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

Miss Joy Lewis. Epping.



Enjoying an evening on the harbour.

OUR LAST MEETINGS

The Festive Season

The Society has enjoyed a number of social events over the Christmas/New Year period. Our Christmas Party was celebrated at the 'presidential palace' in Petersham when members and their families gathered for a 'pot luck' dinner. Thanks to Geoff and Pekka for their hospitality. Sydney produced yet another glorious night for our annual harbour cruise on December 30. Members and friends relaxed and enjoyed a perfect evening as the Silver Spray with Boy Messenger at the helm unfurled its sails and cruised at a leisurely pace around the harbour. Thanks to Anne Carolan for another successful evening. We celebrated Australia Day with an Italian flavour when members and friends dined at the Scuse restaurant at the Newington Inn in Petersham. Recently renovated, the Newington Inn is the oldest surviving hotel in the old Marrickville Municipality and now has a new lease of life. Thanks to Shirley Hilyard for the native flower bouquets.

Old Town Hall History

As plans for the redevelopment of the old Marrickville Town Hall site in Illawarra Road progress, here is something of the building's history. The former Marrickville Town hall is the oldest civic building in the Marrickville Municipality and one of the earliest town halls built in Sydney. Of a list of surviving 19th century municipal buildings in Sydney, classified by the National Trust, only three are older: Randwick Borough Council Chambers (1862); Hunters Hill Town Hall (1866) and Sydney Town Hall (1875). Here are some significant dates:

1799: Original Crown Grant of 470 acres to Thomas Moore. 1861: Marrickville incorporated as a Municipality. 1878: Marrickville Council paid deposit of £50 on "Land Illa' RD". 1878: £100 paid to Sanbrook "on A/c Contract" (indicating that building had begun). 1879: £54-17-0 paid to "Despointes-commission", suggesting that Despointes Bros were the architects for the building. 1881: Final payment under New Chambers A/c with total cost for land and building of £1,606-19-5. 1881: Blacket & Son Architects prepared plans for a second storey extension. 1883: Balance of accounts paid to P. Hill (contractor) and Blacket Bros, indicating completion of alterations at a total cost of £1,932-7-1.

More dates next issue.

Romance Blossomed

in Illawarra Road

Our article on the old town hall jogged the memory of member Howard Perry who now lives with his wife Hylda in Gosford NSW. Howard and Hylda met in Marrickville nearly 60 years ago but were married only in 1987. He writes:

"My wife Hylda was a local girl and as Hylda Pockran she went to Chapel Street school to 1927. She had a beautiful singing voice and in the 1930s sang with the Joe Gleeson Band at the Marrickville Town Hall for the Marrickville Strollers. During the 1940s she was lead singer at the Sydney Trocadero with Frank Coghlan's Band singing under the name of Bobby La Monte. As a lyric soprano she was in a musical company headed by Ronald Dowd and sang under the name of Roberta La Monte.

"HYlda's father and my mother went to school together in Bourke and met again at the old town hall in Illawarra Road about 1927 when it was the Marrickville Technical School and where I was a student. Our parents were members of the Parents & Citizens Association.

"I proposed to Hylda in 1934 - when I was 19 and she was 21 - but she turned me down as she was just about to start a theatrical career. However, 53 years later on October 17 1987 we eventually did get married!"



New members

Lindsay and Mabelle Smyth, St Peters; David Nicholas, Petersham; John and Luisa Cunningham, Marrickville; Brian Harris and family, Marrickville; Rosemary Wood, Leichhardt; Dorothy Cahill, Guildford; Maureen Claxton, Petersham; David Hilyard, Neutral Bay; Frances Muller, Earlwood; Jean Hartman, Marrickville; Frederik Alan-Smith and Peter Davies, Dulwich Hill; Roslyn Yeomans and Steven Cremer, Newtown.

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. The Heritage Society holds regular meetings on the fourth Saturday of every month.