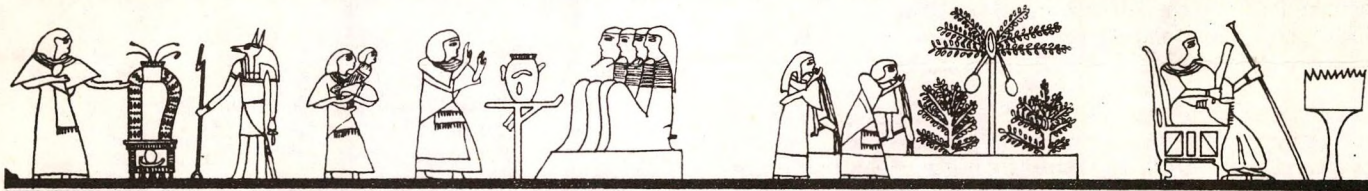


MARRICKVILLE

HERITAGE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

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OUR NEXT MEETING

Visit to The Egyptian Room

SATURDAY JULY 28, 10.30AM
Meet at PETERSHAM TOWN HALL

Behind the ordinary facade of the Royal Arch Masonic Temple in New Canterbury Road, Petersham, is a room of remarkable beauty and interest. The Egyptian Room is decorated in the style of Ancient Egypt, with a magnificent frieze reproducing illustrations from the Papyrus of Ani, an Egyptian funerary text of about 1450 BC. The decorations are sculpted in low relief plaster and painted in rich colours.

The Egyptian Room was originally built within the Scottish Royal Arch Temple at 22-24 College Street, Sydney (now replaced by Anzac House) in 1927. The Room was re-erected in Petersham in 1977 by craftsman from G.R. Lumb & Sons, the firm which had originally constructed it. - Gregory Tillett, from Heritage 2.

This is our second visit to the remarkable Egyptian Room. Meet at Petersham Town Hall and it is only a short walk to the temple.

Reibey Exhibition

Members are invited to view the exhibition of Pamela Griffith's etchings The Greenway Suite and The Macquarie Toile at the newly opened Mary Reibey Interiors and Gallery at 224 Enmore Road, Enmore. Gallery manager Judith Asimus says, "Pamela was the artist chosen to research and draw The Macquarie Toile for our Bicentennial. This toile (drawings printed on cloth) was a tribute to the great Governor Macquarie and the progress that people like Mary Reibey made under his leadership. The toile consists of 11 drawings, some of Greenway buildings." Gallery hours are Wed, Sat, Sun 10am-4pm, Thurs, Fri 10am-7pm, Mon, Tues by appt. Phone 516 4902

AGM and New Executive

A year of growth and consolidation is how outgoing president Geoff Ostling described the Society's past year at our Annual General Meeting on June 23. See full report back page. About 50 members attended the meeting, an excellent turn out. The Society's executive committee for the coming year is:

President, Geoff Ostling; Senior Vice-President, Shirley Hilyard; Junior Vice-President, Judith Matheson; Treasurer, Paula Gard; Secretary, Marilyn Kelly; Assistant Secretary, Ian Rouse; Executive Members, Richard Hughes, Jeannette Hope, Mabelle Smyth.

Newsletter Editor, Judith Matheson; Journal Editor, Anne Carolan; Heritage Concert Committee Chair, Paula Gard; Classifications and Heritage Watch Committee Chair, Richard Hughes. Welcome to our new committee members and thanks to outgoing members Andrea Loder, Mark Matheson, Terry Hicks and Evelyn Watkins.

Increase in Subscriptions

The Society has voted to abolish its system of rolling membership. From now on membership will be confined to the Society's year of July 1 to June 30. A scheme of payment for the first year has been worked out that will bring all members up to date fairly. Members will be advised shortly.

It was also voted to increase the annual subscription rates as the existing rates were no longer realistic. The new rates are: family membership \$18; individual membership \$12; pensioner membership \$6. The new rates took effect from July 1. We think you will agree that with a monthly newsletter, a quality annual journal and regular speakers and outings, Society membership is excellent value.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

More Activities Than Ever

This past year has been one of growth and consolidation for the Society, thanks most of all to the support of our patron, Eve Sharpe, our two vice-presidents, Shirley Hilyard and Judith Matheson, and to a most willing and co-operative executive made up of Andrea Loder (treasurer), Anne Carolan (journal editor) Mark Matheson (assistant secretary) Paula Gard (concert and social committee), Terry Hicks (classifications and heritage watch) and Evelyn Watkins and Peter Swain (committee members). When Peter Swain left for an exchange teaching position at Cambridge, Ian Rouse took his place.

This year the average attendance at Society activities was 50, and some excursions such as the Spring Garden Tour and the Magical Mystery Tour, and the Talk on the proposals for the restoration of Tempe House by Clive Lucas attracted many more. There have also been a number of other very successful innovations which I hope will continue. First there were the two weekend bus trips to the Mudgee and Nowra districts, the two 'pot lucks' dinners when members got together for a social evening, and the two tours of the municipality, in buses provided by the Historic Bus and Truck Museum. In 1989/90 the Society has had more activities than ever before.... 22 Society activities in just 12 months. Each activity was arranged in turn by one or two members of the executive. Our thanks to all the organisers.

Society members have also been actively involved in the anti-third runway movement, the proposals to redevelop the site of the now sadly neglected old Marrickville Town Hall, a petition to Council about the condition of the Coronation Rotunda in Petersham Park which resulted in its repair and repainting, and the fight to save the houses of Silver Street residents from resumption for a car park.

NEWSLETTER

Throughout the year Judith Matheson has produced 11 high quality and varied newsletters which are eagerly read by members throughout Australia, and for many members, especially those living interstate or in country districts, the newsletter is almost the only contact they have with the Society.

We must also thank the 'runners' who deliver the newsletter each month: Edna Andrews, Lou Bell, Anne Cherry, Tony Deguara, Geoff Francis, Shirley Hilyard, Jacqui Isles, Mark Matheson, Brian Nugent, Meg Sherwood, Mary Tait, Evelyn Watkins and Bruce Welch. Evelyn Watkins and Mark Matheson have delivered the newsletters to each of the runners. Also our thanks to Mary Tait, Shirley Hilyard and Anne Cherry for their administrative work.

CLASSIFICATIONS AND HERITAGE WATCH

This year the committee prepared classification material on 'Valencia' in Fort Street, Petersham, on two Federation houses in Silver Street, Marrickville, on terrace houses on the corner of Church and Victoria Streets and on workers cottages on the corner of Church and Campbell Streets, St Peters. Some of these may not pass classification but at least we have them recorded.

This year also saw the proposal to resume the houses on the west side of Silver Street, Marrickville, to make way for a car park. In conjunction with members of the local community, the street has been photographed and the National Trust and the Department of Environment notified. The Society has also written to Marrickville Council to voice our objection to the proposal. As many Society members will be aware, Terry Hicks, the chairperson of the Classifications Committee for the past five years, has now moved to Oatley and The Society would like to place on record our thanks to Terry for all the work that he has achieved over the past five years.

OUR JOURNAL, HERITAGE

Journal Editor Anne Carolan assisted by Judith Matheson and Mark Matheson, took over the production of Heritage 5 after the last AGM and produced a quality journal. Many hours of toil were involved in the proofing of the articles, the collection of photographs and the preparation of the final manuscript. Anne is also wellunder way to producing Heritage 6. The project is running to schedule and the journal should be completed in the third quarter of 1990.



Some of our activities over the past year. Top: our weekend trip to Mudgee, the group sets off from Petersham. Centre: Ken and Wyn Williams at the Heritage Society stall at the Marrickville Rotary Fair. Above: Richard Hughes and Chrys Meader at the Magical Mystery Tour.