

MARRICKVILLE HERITAGE SOCIETY

Covering Dulwich Hill, Enmore, Lewisham,
Sydenham, Tempe and parts of Newtown,

Marrickville, Petersham, St Peters, Stanmore,
Camperdown and Hurlstone Park.



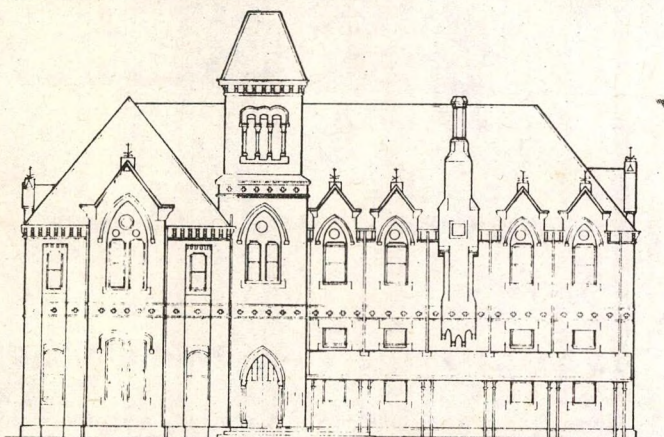
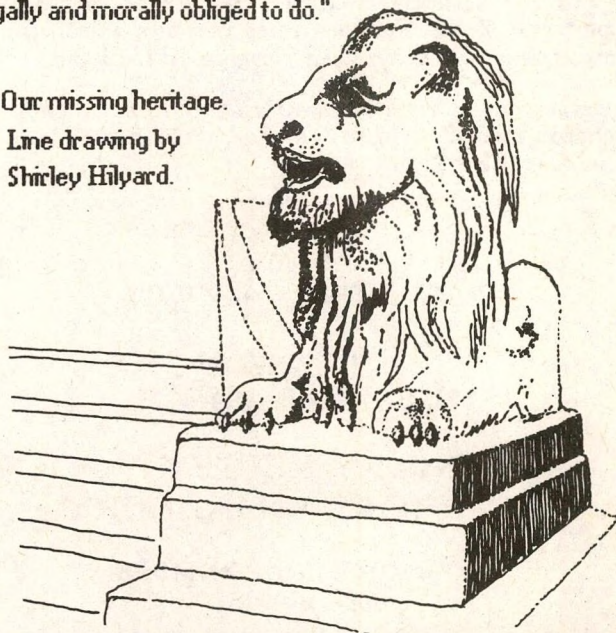
Society Has Its Say on Third Runway EIS

The Federal Government has received approximately 2000 formal submissions on the draft Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed third runway at Sydney airport. The Government advises that the submissions canvass a broad range of technical, economic and environmental issues discussed in the draft EIS. "Issues raised in these submissions will be taken into account by the proponent of the third runway proposal, the Federal Airports Corporation, in the preparation of a Supplement to the draft EIS," it says. Among the submissions was one on behalf of the members of the Marrickville Heritage Society. Here is an excerpt from the submission:

"We, as members of the Marrickville Heritage Society, feel that the proposed 3rd runway will be detrimental to the amenity and heritage of our suburbs by: significantly increasing aircraft noise and traffic, significantly increasing congestion on roads servicing the airport, causing unconsidered detriment to the natural environment of Botany Bay, and promoting the decline and ultimate loss of items of environmental heritage significance.

"The Draft EIS has left many questions unanswered. It has not adequately addressed the issue of "quality-of-life" and the detrimental effects the 3rd runway is likely to have on the Marrickville Municipality. It may be difficult to quantify the longterm effects of noise and air pollution, traffic congestion and the degradation of our heritage, but these issues are no less important or significant than the economic factors. The 370 members of the Marrickville Heritage Society urge the Department to properly address these concerns as it is both legally and morally obliged to do."

Our missing heritage.
Line drawing by
Shirley Hilyard.



Newtown High School of the Performing Arts.

OUR NEXT MEETING Visit to Historic Newtown School

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 23, 10.30AM
MEET AT THE NEWTOWN HIGH SCHOOL OF THE
PERFORMING ARTS, KING STREET, NEWTOWN

Newtown High School of the Performing Arts, the first such school of its kind in NSW, is a local comprehensive co-educational high school with emphasis on the performing arts, music, drama and rhythmic gymnastics. The school opened last year in the historic buildings of Newtown Public School and St Georges Hall which date back to 1892.

The school's principal Robyn Amm will give us a guided tour of the school and its buildings and explain how the school operates, the special subjects and facilities it provides to students. Morning tea will be provided by the school. A donation would be appreciated. The meeting will finish at approximately 12.30PM after which you may wish to explore the historic retail precinct of King Street.

Please book with Shirley 569 1768
or Paula 569 9928.

Genealogy Index Available

The Society of Australian Genealogists has published an index to its microform collection. This is an essential research tool for all family and local historians. The 420 page book lists all microfiche and microfilm records held by the society as at January 1990. This includes a listing of all church and parish registers in NSW filmed by the Society under the Joint Copy Project (1200 entries) plus listings of records such as BDMs, cemeteries, shipping and directories available from other states. There are also extensive overseas listings. Price: \$17.95 plus \$3.00 postage. Available from: Society of Australian Genealogists, Richmond Villa, 120 Kent Street, Sydney 2000.

OUR LAST MEETINGS

More than 50 members and friends invaded *Merrydale*, the home of David and Robyn Pitt-Owen, for our Christmas Pot Luck dinner, on one of December's hottest evenings. After a delicious meal we were shown through the house, which the couple are restoring to its 19th century grandeur. Thanks to Robyn and David for their hospitality and a great night.

The fine weather continued for the annual harbour cruise at New Year. Around 35 members shipped with Anne Carolan, Boy Messenger and crew on the *Silver Spray*, departing from the Opera House. After a brief picnic on Clark Island we turned off the engines, set sail and made our way back up the harbour, taking in the glorious night views of Sydney. Thanks to Anne for once again organising this superb event.

To finish the holiday season the Society ate out, with our Australia Day dinner at the Darley Street Thai restaurant in the Botany View Hotel, Newtown. A delightful meal of curries and other Thai treats was prepared by the chef David Thompson and staff and enjoyed by 18 members and friends. We found out that not all Thai food is chilli-laden, especially at this innovative eatery. Thanks to Judith Matheson and David Hilyard for organising the evening.

The Beginnings of Suburbs: Newtown

Newtown derived its name from a store opened by John Webster, which stood between Australia and Eliza Street, fronting King Street on the site of the Oxford Hotel. Webster named his store the New Town Store to distinguish it from the established settlements of Camperdown, Cooks River and O'Connell Town (situated at the top of Missenden Road and along King Street towards Church Street). The name Newtown was recorded as early as 1832.

In its early years Newtown was an elite suburb. Enmore Road and King Street south of Newtown Bridge were bordered by large estates and fashionable homes, but by the 1870s Newtown had become a mixed suburb with a diverse population of the well-to-do and tradesmen. Newtown became known by the 1880s as one of the main retail centres outside the city and King Street, Newtown, was justly famous. The significance of King Street retail precinct and the importance of the Victorian retail premises which line a curving streetscape have been recognised in the 1980s.

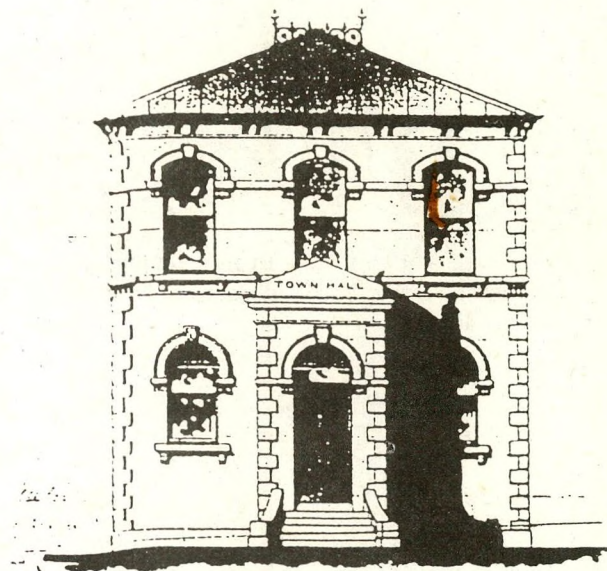
Excerpt from *Marrickville Rural Outpost to Inner City* by Richard Cashman and Chrys Meader. Published by Hale & Iremonger. RRP \$29.95.

ARTIST
MATTHEW HAGGITH

EXHIBITION
FEBRUARY 6 - MARCH 3

MARY REIBEY
INTERIORS & GALLERY

224 ENMORE ROAD ENMORE
(02) 516 4902



— FRONT —

Old Marrickville Town Hall Update

Following lobbying and publicity by the Society and others the Department of Housing has erected a new barbed wire fence around the old Marrickville Town Hall in Illawarra Road in an attempt to secure the building from further attacks by vandals. This is a step in the right direction but there is a long way to go. No trace has been found of the two magnificent lion statues since their disappearance last October (Nov, Dec 1990 newsletters). And the town hall itself remains in a dilapidated state.

The Mayor of Marrickville Alderman Barry Jones has pledged that Council will "vigorously prosecute those concerned" if the stolen lions are recovered, and further that all efforts will be made to restore and reinstate the statues. If the lions are not recovered "then Council will liaise with the Department of Housing to seek the production of replicas of the two lion statues to be placed in the position of the originals."

Mayor Jones expressed his concern at the deterioration of the building but pointed out the difficulty in finding a suitable tenant for the premises and funds for its restoration. More next newsletter.

Bargains for Book Buffs

The Royal Australian Historical Society is holding a book fair on Sunday March 3 from 10AM to 4PM at History House, 133 Macquarie Street, Sydney. Novels, history, travel, biography, romance, mystery, thrillers, reference and more will make a day of "bonza bargains for book buffs".

How to Subscribe

It's only \$12 for individuals, \$18 for households and institutions and \$6 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 valid for the Society year from July 1 each year. The Heritage Society holds regular meetings on the fourth Saturday of every month. Write to P.O. Box 415 Marrickville. Enquiries to Geoff on 568 3029.