

MARRICKVILLE

HERITAGE SOCIETY

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

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



OUR NEXT MEETING

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Saturday June 26 1993 10.30am
Amenities Room, Petersham Town Hall

The Executive Committee of the Society invites all members to attend the **Annual General Meeting** of the Marrickville Heritage Society. Please make every effort to come and hear what has been achieved over the past year and have a say on the direction of your society. Guest speaker at the meeting will be **Mandy Jean**, Heritage Adviser to Marrickville Municipal Council.

Executive elections will be held for the positions of President, Senior Vice-President, Junior Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, Assistant Secretary and three executive committee members. Other positions to be filled are Heritage Watch, Classifications and Publications Chairpersons and committee members. Nominations may be sent to the Secretary prior to the AGM or made in person on the day.

After the meeting at approximately 12.30 we will adjourn to nearby Maundrell Park, weather permitting, for a lunch of sandwiches and champagne. All members are welcome - bring a few sandwiches to contribute to the picnic - it's always a pleasant gathering. Shirley Hilyard, President.

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FUTURE EVENTS

O SUSANNAH ! A DAY ON THE ROCKS
Saturday 24 July

Come with us on a visit to Susannah Place, a small terrace of four brick houses and a corner grocer's shop, built in 1844 in the heart of The Rocks. The terrace has been continuously lived in by working-class families from the mid-1840s to the late 20th century. Susannah Place is now a joint project of the Historic Houses Trust and the Sydney Cove Authority. After the tour, we may sample some of the local hostelries that abound in The Rocks or just go on a pub crawl. Details in the July Newsletter.

Saturday August 28: The Fifties. A talk by Judith O'Callaghan from the Powerhouse Museum.

Saturday September 25: Spring Gardens Tour.

Saturday October 23: Collecting Porcelain with Phillip Davis.



BOUQUET

To see what can be accomplished by careful restoration, look at the fine work carried out at 576-580 Parramatta Road, Petersham. The Society congratulates Mr Joe Cernigoi on his project.

OBITUARY

It is with regret that we note the death of two of our members. Tom Simpson of Wyongah and formerly of Marrickville died in May. His cousin Verona Rothwell, our well-known member, said he so enjoyed reading the Newsletter that kept him in touch with Marrickville. Rita Glass of Petersham was a foundation member of MHS and while Rita died some time ago, we note her death as well. The Society offer condolences to both families.

OUR LAST MEETINGS

MARRICKVILLE CONNECTIONS IN THE HUNTER

On Saturday 22nd May, 22 members and friends gathered at Petersham Town Hall for our Heritage and Hermitage coach trip to the Hunter valley.

First stop was Grossmann House, a National Trust museum in the main street of Maitland, once the second largest town in NSW. We were served a delicious morning tea by the members of the local National Trust auxiliary and taken on a guided tour of this most interesting 1870s house.

Marrickville connections include the Victorian chiffonier which once graced the family home of Society member Dorothy Gaston, in Pile Street, Marrickville. Donated by Dorothy's aunt to the National Trust, it is now held in trust for the nation in the hallway of Grossmann House.

Other Victorian furniture in both the sitting room and dining room belonged to theatrical director May Hollingworth of Cambridge Street, Stanmore. After the death of her parents, May donated her families treasures to the National Trust including the unique lace panels of the Holland blinds, a features of the sitting room.

Many society members felt some disappointment that because there is no local museum one has to travel to Maitland to view such interesting pieces of furniture which once belonged in our Municipality.

After the tour of the house we crossed the street to view the beautiful St Mary's Church designed by Edmund Blacket. Blacket completed the building of the church and tower, but died before the spire was completed. The spire of St Mary's which now dominates the city was added by Blacket's sons and was originally designed for the Hunter Bailley Memorial Church in Johnstone Street, Annandale.

For reasons never fully explained, Arthur Blacket designed a different spire for Annandale, and then, contrary to his father's plans, added the 'Annandale' spire to the tower at St Mary's. We have been reliably informed that there is no way that the spire will ever come back to Sydney.

Our next stop was tiny St John's Church at Branxton designed by architect John Horbury Hunt and described by Peter Reynolds when he spoke about Hunt's life and work at the Society meeting in April. The most remarkable feature of this exquisite building is the extraordinary roof timbering which gives the impression of an up-turned boat. In spite of the plastering and painting of the interior, the unsympathetic addition of a large porch, southern transept, columbarium and a heavy tile roof in place of Hunt's elegant slates, this tiny building illustrates why Hunt is regarded as one of Australia's greatest 19th century architects.



From here it was on to wine country around Polkolbin, first to Gateway Vineyard, one of the newer wineries of the region, for a picnic lunch, and then on to one of the oldest, Tyrrell's. Here we saw the original one-room timber and iron family home, and the tasting room with its earth floor where any undrunk wine could be conveniently tossed in the corner.

Then we moved on to Brokenwood, a boutique winery, where "Cricket Pitch" and other unusual labels caught the eye of some of our members. The last stop of the day was at Drayton's Family Winery where we were served a wide range of wines with a description of the particular qualities of each vintage and type of grape used in the production of the wine.

Everything considered, it was not as bad day. Two very different churches, a house museum filled with furniture of Marrickville interest ... and four wineries. Educational it was, too! Our thanks to president Shirley Hilyard who took the bookings and encouraged us all to attend and to our coach captain who helped make the day so enjoyable.

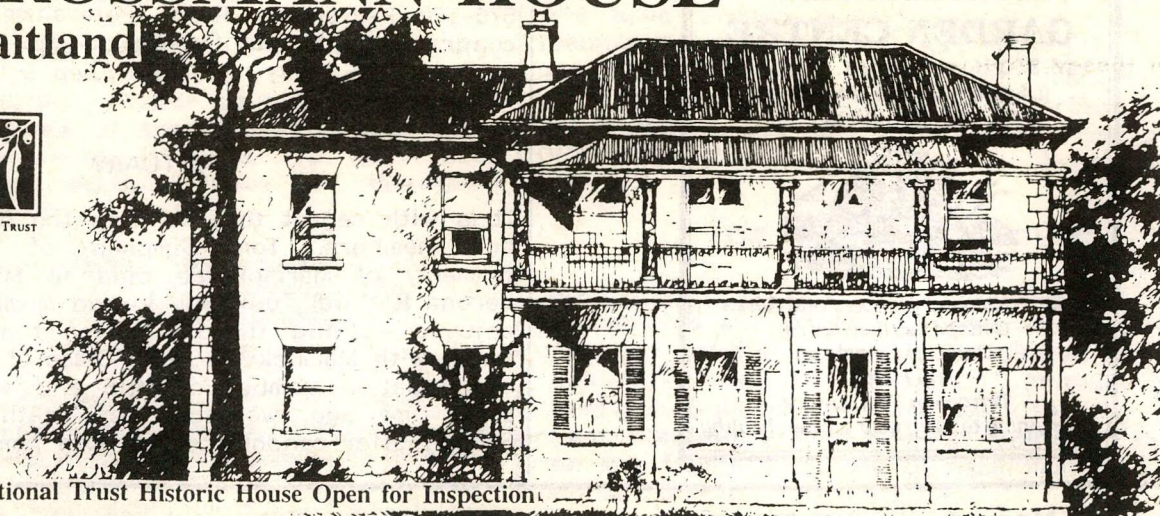
Geoff Ostling.

GROSSMANN HOUSE

Maitland



— A National Trust Historic House Open for Inspection —





Outside the old family home at Tyrrell's Vineyard.
Left to right: Front: Dorothy Blythe, Gwen Eyre, Susan Nugent, Brian Nugent, Pamela Stewart, Betty Langshaw, Mabelle Smyth, Lindsay Smyth, Katie Rivas, Gabriel Liser. Back: Shirley Hilyard, Geoff Ostling, Diane McCarthy, Mary Tait, Joyce Ellis, Fred Ellis, Joyce Kitson, Sid Kitson, Paula Gard, Imelda Stewart, Catherine Coorey, Sue Miller.

MUSICAL MAGIC AT NEWINGTON

On Sunday 30 May, nearly 150 members of the Society, friends and parents, were entranced by the magical music produced by the talented staff and students of Newington College. The concert raised \$400 for the SpineCare Foundation.

Music for (nearly) every taste was on offer: instrumental pieces included a Pachelbel organ solo, Vivaldi flute concerto, Boismortier bassoon sonata, Telemann quartet. The brilliant chamber choir serenaded us with Mozart, John Rutter, Vaughan Williams and Sherwin. Soprano Cheryl Priest sang Gershwin and Borodin, and Narelle Tapping and Michael Hissey entertained us with Mendelssohn.

Cheryl Priest and Michael Hissey teach at Newington, and Narelle Tapping both performs and teaches singing. The student musicians included organist Peter Denney, flautist Scott Faragher, violinist Christopher Emerson, bassoonist Lyndon Watts, cellist Ross Warner and pianist Paul Wang, who accompanied the singers and played in the three instrumental pieces. With such a wealth of talent on show, it is unfair to single out any one person, but my personal favourite was bassoonist Lyndon Watts, as well as the brilliant choir. If you missed out on this concert, you have another chance to enjoy music at Newington, at the forthcoming Prescott Series of Sunday afternoon concerts. Jeannette Hope.

NEW MEMBERS

It's been a long time since we have run a list of new members. If your name's not here, do not despair, you'll appear in a future issue.

Coogee: John Sumner.
Croydon: John Spry.
Dulwich Hill: Christine King.
Enmore: Norma Dixon.
Frenchs Forest: Deirdre & L. Shaw.
Greenacre: Joyce & Sid Kitson.
Hurlstone Park: Ross Phillips.
Hurstville: R. Croisica.
Marrickville: Sam Allen, Rev. C.J. Clerke, Ann Fenton, Caroline and Ross Hilton, Mandy Jean (Marrickville Municipal Council), Donna Midwinter, Julie Olston, Linda Owen, Doug Pereira.
Marrickville West: Angela Phippen & David Cass.
Newtown: Dell Callinan, Shirley Doolan,
Mortdale: Jean Jehan.
Narwee: Bill Kerameas.
Petersham: John & Christine Beasley, June Crowley, Ed & Lesley Jones, Jan Pittard & Bob Erwin, Christine & Christos Rizos, Brad & Carmen Robinson, Gary Rodgers, Dennis Rowe.
Stanmore: Heather Bowmaker & Don Hodgson, Mary Harte, Rose Mathlin & Julian Van Leer.
Tempe: Valerie McLeish.
West Wyalong: Mrs S. Kirkman.

Welcome to you all, and especially to Mrs Kirkham from historic West Wyalong, gold capital of western NSW and world record-holder for a horse-drawn load of wheat (1923: 407 bags drawn by 15 horses).

MORE MUSIC AT NEWINGTON THE PRESCOTT CONCERT SERIES

During 1993 the Newington College Association of the Arts will be presenting its third season of concerts and recitals: The Prescott Series. These concerts are held in the historic Prescott Hall (1880) and the magnificent College Chapel (1886). Most concerts are held at the popular time of 3.00 pm Sunday afternoons.

This year will see such exciting artists as the early music consort *Florilegium* of London in concert with the Sydney Singers and John Grundy - a concert first. The very popular Jones & Co will present a programme of favourites, including vocal arrangements of Broadway tunes. Featured recital artists will be Amanda Hollins (flute) and David Saffir (violin).



NEWINGTON COLLEGE
ASSOCIATION OF THE
ARTS

THE PRESCOTT SERIES
1993

Recital 1: Amanda Hollins & Julie Adam Flute and Piano Recital, Prescott Hall, Sunday June 13th, 3pm.

Recital 2: Jones & Co, Vocal Sextet, Newington College Chapel, Sunday June 4th, 3pm.

Recital 3: Florilegium of London and friends. Florilegium with Sydney Singers and John Grundy. Newington College Chapel, Sunday August 8th, 3.00pm.

Recital 4: David Saffir and Friends Present, Prescott Hall, Sunday September 10th, 3.00pm.

SPECIAL OFFER

As a member of the Marrickville Heritage Society, Newington College Association of the Arts extends to you a personal invitation to subscribe to the 1993 Prescott Series at the concession rate listed below for any series bookings. To make your booking, contact Michael Hissey at Newington College on 560 5355.

Series Ticket (4 concerts): \$50 Concession \$34
Concerts 1,2 & 4: \$15 Concession \$8
Concert 3: \$20 Concession \$12
School-age children admitted free.

STOP PRESS: This Newsletter will not reach you until after Concert 1, so series ticket does not apply, but individual concert concession tickets are excellent value.

PETERSHAM STATION FOOTBRIDGE REFURBISHMENT

The Heritage Watch/Classifications Committee of this Society has written regularly to City Rail during the work on the footbridge expressing our concern that the heritage value should not be diminished during the current refurbishment. Recently an inspection was organised with representatives of City Rail, the National Trust and Marrickville Council. Specific concerns about past work and suggestions for future works, prepared by society member and heritage architect Peter McLaren were put to City Rail and some important concessions gained.

The historic footbridge together with Petersham Railway Station is listed as an item of heritage significance in Marrickville Council's LEP 50, has a Section 130 heritage order under the state Heritage Act, is classified by the National Trust and is on the Register of the National Estate. Because of this recognised high significance, the society is particularly concerned that City Rail does the right thing. An account of the history and heritage significance of the footbridge and of the current saga of conservation works, written by Peter McLaren, will appear in the next issue of the Society's journal, *Heritage* 8. Shirley Hilyard.



FAREWELL

Due to pressure of work, this is my last Newsletter. Thank you to everyone who contributed articles over the last two years and especially to all those who have written to say how much they enjoy reading the Newsletter. It has been a pleasure to put it together each month (apart from having to work to a deadline). Some recent contributions have yet to appear, but keep those stories coming in for future issues!

Jeannette Hope.

HOW TO JOIN THE SOCIETY

Membership is \$12 for individuals, \$18 for households and \$6 for students and pensioners. You will receive a monthly Newsletter (except in January) and the Society's annual journal *Heritage*. Subscriptions are valid for the Society year starting 1 July. Regular meetings are held on the fourth Saturday of each month. Write to PO Box 415 Marrickville 2204.