



MARRICKVILLE HERITAGE SOCIETY INC.

CAMPERDOWN DULWICH HILL ENMORE
NEWTOWN PETERSHAM STANMORE

LEWISHAM MARRICKVILLE ST PETERS
SYDENHAM & TEMPE



Our November Meeting

Saturday 25 November 10 for 10.30 am

The Pavilion, Marrickville Library

Corner Marrickville & Livingstone Roads

The future of heritage – managing change at

Sydney Opera House: a talk by Alan Croker

Founder and director of Design 5 Architects and award-winning Conservation Management Plan author, **Alan Croker** has over 40 years experience working on large-scale conservation projects. Alan was the author of the CMP, 4th edition, for the Sydney Opera House.

Alan has been engaged by the Opera House since 1998 when he assisted in developing the CMP 2nd edition with **James Semple Kerr** and has a deep understanding of the building, its site and function. Following Kerr's retirement in 2004, Alan was appointed as the Opera House's Heritage Architect and has since been instrumental in several projects including the Opera House's Renewal plans.



Completed Concert Hall upgrade (ph: Alan Croker)

2023 is the 50th anniversary of the opening of the Opera House. Alan will reflect on this and other heritage related initiatives including how far we have come, and the challenges ahead.

Alan will provide some insight into how the major upgrades for the Concert Hall, completed in July 2022, were achieved within this World Heritage listed project. This project has been recognised with the 2023 Greenway Award for Heritage and Architecture Medal at state level, and most recently, the 2023 Lachlan Macquarie Award for Heritage and Emil Sodersten Award for Interior Architecture at the national level.

Christmas Pot Luck

Saturday 2 December 6 pm

Members are warmly invited to attend the annual Pot Luck Dinner – our traditional year's end occasion when a member invites us to his or her home for a celebratory gathering. We all bring along a favourite starter, main course, side dish, salad or dessert for sharing, and a beverage of choice. It's a casual event, never a late night, an evening to socialise and chat with no agenda or business to conduct.

The venue is just metres from bus stops on Marrickville Road. Contact Lorraine 0416 224 472 or email lbeach@iprimus.com.au to book in, discuss what you'd like to bring (so we get a balanced mix!) and be given the address.



Welcome to new members

Judith Matheson (rejoined), Camperdown; Matthew Guy, Enmore; Peter & Christine Dadak, Tim & Marjorie McMullen, all of Marrickville; Michael Bracher, Glenda Gartrell, both of Newtown; John Ingram, Eileen Moran, both of Petersham; Susie Bailey, Hurlstone Park; Ian Rumsey (rejoined), Killara; Cheryl Pattison, Peakhurst; Robyn & Leslie Wright, Rockhampton, Qld.

Joining Marrickville Heritage Society is easy ...

... Send a cheque made out to Marrickville Heritage Society (postal address below) + your name/s, address, phone and email; pay by direct debit; or by cash at one of our meetings. Join now and membership goes till May 2025. Ring Stuart for enquiries or direct debit details; or email MHS (contacts bottom back page). Download membership form from the website. Fees: Concession \$12, Individual/Joint Concession \$20, Household/Organisation \$28.

Note: For many years a 4-page publication, the November-December 2022 newsletter was touted as a one-off, but an 8-page newsletter has become the new norm. No complaints have been received as yet.

Still to pay your annual fees for 2023-24? If so, expect a reminder notice with this newsletter. Bank details there for direct transfer. If you have a query, contact Stuart on 0414 620 519 or <stuartgrigg2@gmail.com>.

A walk along Illawarra Road with Rod Aanensen (Saturday 23 September)

Rod (author of *Old school: a history of Marrickville Public School 1864 to 2014*) demonstrated his encyclopaedic knowledge of Marrickville's local history in this two-hour exploration of the area around Chapel Street and Illawarra Road where Marrickville was born. He explained that the focus of most of our exploration would be on the lives of the working classes of this area. With a booklet of early maps and pictures, we could visualise the beginnings and early development of the area.

Despite the intentions of the owner of Marrick Estate, Thomas Chalder, to set up a village in this area, the first building in c. 1865 was William Dean's Marrick Hotel. It's now *The Henson*, and it was the starting point for our walk. Behind the original hotel had been an orchard leading down to the Gumbramorra Swamp. Chapel Street gained its name from an early Primitive Methodist church here, built to meet the needs of the local workers.

We walked down Chapel Street to what was the first school in the district, now the Goodstart preschool. Next door is a larger building which was the first council building to accommodate the early Marrickville Council. By 1878, however, as more students were enrolled, it became the main school building, with Marrickville Council moving to the more ornate building in Illawarra Road.

Back at Illawarra Road Rod showed us a number of original buildings, some quite stately, like the Tunneyfall Terrace built in the booming 1880s.

As we walked south, Rod related details of the original brick pit at Henson Park which later filled with water and was the site of the many tragic drownings of local children. What most of us did not know about, however, was its role as a venue for part of the 1938 Empire Games, notably, some of the cycling events and the Closing Ceremony (see Shirley Doolan's article in *Marrickville: a past worth preserving*, 2011).

One of the old buildings in Illawarra Road was formerly the Protestant Hall, built in 1884, and a reminder of the bitter sectarian divisions between the Protestants and the Catholics at this time.

We also looked at the Italianate town hall in which Marrickville Council functioned between 1879 and 1922. Rod showed us a picture of the building in 1921 where a Union Jack flew rather than the Australian flag. This probably demonstrates how, even after 20 years of Federation, residents identified primarily with the British Empire.

Near the end of the walk we met 85-year-old Peggy Lane, a lifelong Marrickville resident who told us stories of tragedy and of the generosity of the local residents. Our final stop was the Marrickville Day Care Nursery which opened in 1944, the first such centre in Marrickville Municipality. The walk was a fascinating experience, made all the more interesting by the wealth of detail and stories told by Rod.

Tim McMullen

Note Special thanks to **Mark Matheson** who provided the audio equipment for this walk. **Lorraine Beach's** photo below is the walking group on a corner opposite *The Henson*.



Our October Meeting – 28 October

The Shipwreck: the true story of the Dunbar: a talk by Larry Writer

Larry Writer gave an engrossing talk to members at The Pavilion on his book *The Shipwreck*. The *Dunbar*, sharing its name with its owner, was a 62-metre long clipper, built at Sunderland in North England in 1853. Intended to be indestructible and faster than any other ocean-going vessel, it started serving the colony by carrying merchandise, livestock and people between the United Kingdom and Sydney. It cut the travel time to Sydney from 10 months to 80-90 days. The political and commercial elite travelled first class, with second class said to be as luxurious as first class of other ships.

The first round trip was without a hitch, under the experienced Captain James Green. The first 81 days of the second voyage brought them within reach of Sydney Cove on the evening of 20 August 1857. Travelling north from Wollongong to Botany Bay an extraordinary storm erupted, progressively raising the wind to 90 km/hour with torrential rain and almost zero visibility.

With only one lighthouse, the Macquarie Light, available to assist him, and believing they were nearer the entrance to Sydney Harbour than they really were, Captain Green decided to make the approach, but a side wind carried them onto the rocks 1.7 kms south of their target, near the Gap. People, livestock and merchandise ended up in the water, with sharks consuming their prey.

The sole survivor, Able Seaman James Johnson, was thrown up on the rocks, where he was found delirious by a local 36 hours later. A precarious rescue ensued. In the absence of a telegraph line news about the shipwreck travelled slowly to Sydney. The search that followed recovered corpses, many of which were buried at Camperdown Cemetery after a state funeral procession with Johnson at its head.

Controversy followed as to whether the captain erred in trying to enter the harbour in such a storm with near zero visibility. Some mariners wrote letters supporting his choice. Maybe the choice was right, thinking the ship might not survive the storm all night outside the safety of Sydney Harbour. The coronial inquest ruled in the captain's favour that the tragedy was unavoidable due to the extreme weather conditions.

The incident was a reminder to the colony of the perils of long distance seafaring. The colonial government got to work to repair Sydney's reputation, installing the telegraph to Sydney, upgrading the pilot service and building a second lighthouse at South Head, Hornby Lighthouse, ideally located to mark the entrance to Port Jackson.

The sole survivor, Johnson, had a long life – prospecting in Queensland, working at Nobbys Head Lighthouse at the entrance to Newcastle

Harbour – during which time he saved a life in another shipwreck – and building adjoining family houses at 83 and 85 The Boulevarde, Dulwich Hill. Both houses still stand.*

The Shipwreck (2022) is extraordinary in the depth of research and clarity of presentation. Larry's talk was entertaining and captivated the audience. No one wanted to leave. Larry's generosity extended for another 30 minutes engaging with no fewer than 17 questions from the floor and associated chatter. *The Shipwreck* is available at all good bookstores and online suppliers.

Nick Yetzotis

* Johnson's daughters lived in these houses for decades and 85 The Boulevarde was bought by the parents of siblings **John and Anne McGrath** (MHS members) in 1953. John was born there. The house remained in the McGrath family until 2012. Anne was present at the meeting.

New Acquisition from Reilly family

St Peters Cooks River History group recently acquired this cruet set which belonged to the Reilly family who lived at *Tivoli* which was located in George Street, Sydenham. It complements the Reilly garden bench in their museum in St Peters Church Cooks River. Both items were donated by Reilly descendant Jan Gaynor

(see article in *Heritage* 16, 2022). Words and photos provided by Laurel Horton.



Enmore highly ranked in *Time Out*

Enmore has made the *Time Out* Top 20 Coolest Neighbourhoods in the World coming in at 17th. Enmore's nightlife and dining outranked areas in Barcelona, San Francisco, London and Paris. Central to Enmore's high ranking is the 1912 Art Deco Enmore Theatre. Such an irony when Enmore Road by day, minus the traffic, seems largely deserted.

However, Melbourne's Brunswick East did even better, coming in 6th. Leading the rankings were: 1) Laureles in Medellín, Columbia, 2) Smithfield in Dublin, and 3) Carabanchel in Madrid.

2023 Marrickville Medal for Conservation and ICOMOS assembly and symposium

The Inner West Council's 2023 Marrickville Medal for Conservation nominees demonstrate how well thought-through design and keen attention to details, no matter how seemingly invisible, are fundamental.

The 2023 Medal: 59a Reynolds Street Balmain

A sensitive and well-designed residential alteration and 2-pavilion addition, which conserved a dilapidated house without overwhelming it. Located on the corner with Rumsay Lane and its historic stone wall, a noted element in the conservation area, the additions sit on a formerly unlovely concrete car park. The new pavilion to the street is painted timber which is contemporary yet understated.



59a Reynolds Street, Balmain (photo: Gavin Green, Lucas Perez and Henri Fanti, IWC website)



55 Livingstone Road, Petersham
(photo: AJ Bristow & Sons Pty Ltd, IWC website)

Commendations

• 55 Livingstone Road Petersham

for maintenance, restoration and reconstruction praised for the careful protective care works, so fundamental to conservation, carried out to the landmark former Salvation Army College.

• 26 Silver Street St Peters

achieved 2023 code for sustainability, praised as an exemplar of how a series of well-considered, gentle and sensitive works to a historic house can improve amenity while retaining its historic layout and details.

• 16 River Street Birchgrove

for interpretive approach that retained the timber 1890s fisherman's cottage external fabric and internal floor plan evidence, and to its rear a pavilion over 3 levels abutting the sandstone cliff.

The medal is a round bronze disk that is attached to the street frontage of the property. The Marrickville Medal is the longest running such event in NSW, initiated in 1995 by the late Libby Maher, then the Marrickville Council Heritage Officer. A goal is to encourage heritage best practice regardless of the scale or financial aspects.

2023 nominations were extremely diverse from the 'not obvious' to the grand. Nominations reflect the changing dynamics of the Inner West and how its housing stock is adapting to current codes while retaining our histories and 'sense of place'.

The number of 2023 nominations surpassed previous years. The process involved multiple steps by the judging panel. A 'blind' review of the information submitted resulted in each panel member independently submitting a shortlist, then a Zoom session to agree on site inspections. Visits occupied a full Saturday, accompanied by council staff involved in heritage management as observers. At each site the nominator led the panel and identified details they considered demonstrated specific aspects, and engaged with questions and discussions. Then, each panel member independently summarised their conclusions. Yet another Zoom meeting followed. The 2023 panel comprised Niall Macken, Team Leader of Heritage at Council, Matt Devine from the National Trust of Australia (NSW) and Sue Jackson-Stepowski, a heritage practitioner from the Inner West. All 2023 panel members are members of Australia ICOMOS.

Site visits were on the last Saturday of the 21st International Council on Monuments and Sites [ICOMOS] triennial Assembly and Scientific Symposium. This was held in the International Convention Centre in Darling Harbour where 1,600 delegates gathered from around the world, representing 106 nations. The opening ceremony in the Joan Sutherland Hall of the Sydney Opera House was attended by both the Federal Minister of Heritage, The Hon. Tanya Plibersek MP, and NSW State Minister responsible for heritage, The Hon. Penny Sharpe MLC. The keynote address was by her HRH Dana Firas of Jordan.

Across 10 exhilarating days, more than 1,500 participants enjoyed 158 different events, including moving Welcomes to Country, the

Youth Forum on Cockatoo Island, a Lord Mayoral reception, workshops and symposia on the Murujuga Cultural Landscape, Climate Change and Caring for Country, Urban Sustainability, in excess of 50 engaging side events, 81 Scientific Symposium sessions covering four themes and five programs, not to mention multiple meetings and content delivered in three languages and online. There was also the Opening Ceremony at Sydney Opera House, Heritage Lecture at Sydney Town Hall, Heritage Exposition, Luna Park Party, Greater Blue Mountains visit, Heritage Trades Fair, closing Gala Dinner – and fireworks!

Sue Jackson-Stepowski

Editor's note The 2023 Built Environment awards and winners of the Urban Photography Competition were presented at a function at Camperdown Commons on Saturday 7 October. In the annual Urban Photography Competition entries of all finalists in the three categories were on display. Winners were:

Andre Antunes: Primary School, 'Trinity'

Winston Parry: Secondary School, 'The Egyptian Room'

Matthew Venables: Open, 'On Livingstone Road'

The Society congratulates all winners as well as MHS member **Andrew Burns** who won a Commendation in the Open category of the Urban Photography Competition.



Above: 'On Livingstone Road', winning entry by Matthew Venables in Open category;
below: Andre Antunes' 'Trinity' (courtesy IWC)



Vale Nicolas Fotiou, owner Olympia Milk Bar

We mourn the recent death of **Nicolas Fotiou**, 86, Greek immigrant and owner of the Olympia Milk Bar at 190 Parramatta Road, Stanmore from 1959 until its closure in 2017. He was known to **Dr Leonard Janiszewski** and **Effy Alexakis** and included in their book, *Greek cafes & milk bars of Australia* (2016). **Lorraine Beach** wrote about the closure of the Olympia in the MHS newsletter of May-June 2021.



Nicolas Fotiou making a milkshake in the Olympia, 2014 (Facebook: Scander Ando)

Born in 1936 on the Greek island of Lemnos, Nicolas migrated to Australia in 1955. Sponsored, he initially worked at the Greek-run Wagga café, the Silver Key, but was later joined by older brother John when, in 1959, they bought the Olympia Milk Bar which had been established in 1939. John died in 1981 aged 49. Nicolas lived on the premises, never married and apparently never had a life beyond the milk bar.

Janiszewski said:

The shop had a confectionery counter, which was quite small, at the front-side of a service counter that faced the entrance as well as a concertina door that permitted the activity inside to spill out onto the pavement – a feature typical of very early milk bars.

Stylistically, it echoed what 1930s milk bars originally looked like and what their service emphasis was – there are no such original milk bars (not to be confused with Greek cafes) left like it in Australia.

The building is on the NSW Heritage Register and was sold earlier this year, with Nicolas having continued to live above the shop, until 2021, when he was moved to a nursing home.

Richard Blair

Nicolas was wary of being photographed and was possibly unaware that this was taken (online source)



Annual RAHS Conference at Wagga

My visit to Wagga Wagga for the annual conference of the Royal Australian Historical Society (22-24 October) was entertaining and instructive. The sessions were all, except for the visit to the Wagga Museum, held at the RSL, as was the Saturday night dinner. The proceedings were skilfully conducted by RAHS and the hosts from Wagga and District Historical Society were welcoming and helpful. They did their job very well.

The theme of 'The Way Ahead: Local and Community Histories for our Future' focused on the practicalities of doing and producing local history and ways to help local societies cope with changes in technology. There was a very interesting session on the use of digital history, and the pros and cons of adopting it. A business session dealt with the setting up and running of societies, raising questions about membership, the different status of membership and volunteering, and the legal responsibilities within historical societies for each as well the conducting and recording meetings and other business. It seemed to me that the present and past leadership of Marrickville Heritage Society was already appraised of many of these matters, but the questions from the audience showed that the delegates were learning a lot about running a local history society.

In the substantive historical sessions, there was a special emphasis on local history and indigenous history, starting with **Bruce Pennay's** Lesley Muir Address honouring that much admired practitioner of local history. New technologies were discussed and the need, in the light of the recent referendum failure, for continued revaluation of white and indigenous histories and people. The need to persist with reconciliation at the local level came through to me as a highly sensible emphasis, as stressed in the Pennay address.

Several papers were most interesting and combined erudite knowledge of local history and research with a sense of humour. The story of 'Tom Castro: The Man who Never Was' by **Michelle Maddison** was not only informative but also very funny on the case of the fraudulent claim to the Tichborne family's Hampshire estate by Wagga butcher Tom Castro. No written account can give or do justice to the humour in this wonderful story.

Stephen Gapps convincingly spoke on the frontier wars, showing how the Wiradjuri people practiced guerrilla warfare along the pastoral frontier of New South Wales in the late 1830s in striking and partially effective ways through stock destruction, and the effect of Aboriginal resistance on government policing strategy in establishing military posts along the frontier. **Bill Spier's** 'Marie (Molly) Narelle: "The Australian Queen of Irish Song"' showed the operation of an Irish diaspora in Australia supporting Narelle's career which took her to success in Britain and the United States as a singer in the early part of the 20th century, before Nellie Melba and at the time of famed Irish tenor John McCormack. Narelle's invitation to the White House to sing for President Theodore Roosevelt's family especially appealed to me as an American historian, as did the recording of her performances by Thomas Edison.

The afternoon sessions dealt with digitization, giving participants models of successful digital projects, and explaining the strengths and pitfalls of digitization. The message was – be careful not to overuse digital approaches and to realise the expensiveness of the operation, but to also recognise its usefulness for preserving deteriorating textual information. The tour of the recently redeveloped Museum of the Riverina followed, but I did not have a ticket to this session.

On the Sunday morning there occurred the business session and Certificate of Achievement presentations to society members, including one to **Sue Castrique**. Hearty congratulations to Sue (see separate report).

Then followed excellent presentations on the benefits and techniques of collecting oral histories, the use of oral history for local and family history work, and the use of oral history in television documentaries and a podcast. **Graham Shirley** spoke with great authority as a practitioner of such work over five decades. The footage capturing the ordeal of prisoners of war aboard a Japanese ship taking Allied (Australian and British) prisoners back to Japan was stunning. The vessel had been torpedoed by an American submarine which then took a lead role in the rescue. The participants' accounts of their time in captivity and in the water during the abandonment of their vessel and their harrowing experiences prior to rescue left the audience silent in contemplation of the horrors of war. The recording of this life and death experience was ironically enhanced by the American submariners on the *USS Pampanito* who both torpedoed the Japanese ship and documented the rescue of Australian servicemen with colour footage.

I missed the final session as I had to head back to Bundanoon to pick up my dog. These papers were **Penny Stannard** discussing Museums of History NSW; **Matt Henderson** on 'Discovering Tocumwal's SECRET Past'; and **Samantha Leah** on the Museum of the Riverina, which rounded out the proceedings.

I had never been to Wagga before, and I found eye-opening the generous grid layout of the city streets, the abundant and well-established trees planted along the avenues, the turn of the 20th century red brick bungalow housing and, above all, the Murrumbidgee River resplendent in its strong flow and its relatively 'natural' condition. All this was absolutely wonderful, and walking around the city gave an excellent introduction to its local history and the shaping of the city, particularly through the immense flood levy work. I recommend a visit, though I would like to have seen a focus on the river in the historical presentations, as the river itself is a wonderful asset – indeed, in my opinion, the chief asset of the city, and integral to its historical evolution.

Marrickville was ably represented by **Sue Castrique** and **Lyndal Gowland**.

Ian Tyrrell

Certificate of Achievement for Sue Castrique

Historian and MHS member **Sue Castrique** was presented with a Certificate of Achievement at the recent RAHS annual conference in Wagga by RAHS President Iain Stuart. The citation reads:

For her commitment and service to Marrickville Heritage Society since 2013. Sue is a researcher, script editor, historian and speaker. She has volunteered for the Addison Road Community Organisation and has worked with Addison Road Army Depot veterans. Sue's published work has contributed to the history of Sydney and the Marrickville area. An ardent supporter of local and state libraries and archives, she has been vocal and proactive in lobbying for improved and accessible local study resources. The Society acknowledges Sue's work as a promoter of local history.



Sue Castrique is flanked by (from left) Ian Tyrrell, Lyndal Gowland and Iain Stuart (courtesy RAHS)

Proposed heritage listing of 'Dully icons'

Inner West Council sought public feedback on a proposed heritage listing of four 1920s Californian bungalows at **7-13 Macarthur Parade** and the **Baptist Church at 3 Macarthur Parade, Dulwich Hill**.



The houses and church were listed as 'Dully icons' by Save Dully in 2016, and residents have been campaigning for the listing of these properties since 2018. Council suggested listing when the houses came under imminent threat of demolition. The closing date for consultation was 1 October 2023. A post-exhibition report is in preparation (photos: courtesy of Save Dully).



Spring Trivia Answer

Below is the complete photo of a sports carnival at Marrickville Oval looking north with Frazer Street in the background. Probably 1920s. The now privately owned house on the top left was the caretaker's cottage. No other details or the source are known. Well done **Kay Abrahams** who was the sole identifier of the location!



Calendar of MHS Events

2023

Saturday 25 November

The future of heritage - managing change at the Opera House: A talk by Alan Croker
Details on front page

Saturday 2 December

Pot Luck Dinner
Details on front page

2024

Saturday 24 February

Reds tread the boards: the early years of Sydney's New Theatre

Saturday 23 March

A celebration — the Society's 40th anniversary

Summer Trivia Question

Where and when was this photo taken? Richard 0413 335 897 or email address bottom of page.



Palace Street Petersham project

Noted local author **Gerard Windsor**, assisted by author and publisher **Richard Cashman**, is compiling a book on the 'unique Palace Street community' scheduled for publication in March 2024. It is based on numerous interviews undertaken with past and present residents. A strong sense of community was largely fostered by there being a cluster of shops at the bottom of the street near Petersham station.

They are seeking subscribers to support and help fund the book. In return subscribers will get a signed copy of the book and have their name recorded in the book as a subscriber. Cost \$80.

Photos would be appreciated. To provide these, subscribe or for further information email them - Gerard <gerardwindsor@hotmail.com> or Richard <ricashman77@gmail.com> . Ring Richard Blair 0413 335 897 if without email.

Consultation on draft Environmental Impact Statement for Western Sydney International Airport airspace and flight path design

Details online at <wsiflightpaths.gov.au> or call 1800 038 160. Community information and feedback sessions to answer questions about the draft EIS and submission process at many centres including **St Peters Town Hall** on **22 November**, 4-7 pm. Feedback can be given until 31 January 2024.

President & Heritage Watch

Scott 0416 152 501 | sbtarmac@gmail.com

Treasurer

Stuart 0414 620 519 | stuartgrigg2@gmail.com

Newsletter

Lorraine 0416 224 472 | lbeach@iprimus.com.au

Webmaster

Rod 0431 487 375 | mhsweb@exemail.com.au

Webwise <www.marrickvilleheritage.org.au>

It has been a quieter year for postings to the website but, nonetheless, we have maintained our audience. We are averaging over 950 visitors per month for 2023 and people's interests have been quite diverse. The general stories concerning Marrickville and Dulwich Hill remain the most popular along with articles featured on the front page. Attracting a lot of attention have been brickmaking, Marrickville floods and baby farming.

Our front page included the story of 'The Queen of Marrickville', Miss Alice Cashin, a hero of WWI, and the sorry saga of the house *Brockleigh*. The illegal 1987 destruction of *Brockleigh* galvanised the Society and Marrickville, leading to a ministerial visit from Bob Carr, and the subsequent listing of many heritage properties. Different times!

With over 40 stories on aspects of local history and heritage, the website is worth a visit and a little of your time.

Rod Aanensen

Mary Oakenfull stepped down from the committee in June after 11 years during which time she was secretary, organised a range of outings and guest speakers, and was an active presence at meetings, festivals and other events. Mary is now the proud owner of a set of wine glasses. Good work, Mary! And yes, she knitted this jumper herself, but is not taking orders.

Mary receiving her gift at the October meeting (photo: Rod Aanensen)

