MARRICKVILLE HERITAGE SOCIETY_{INC.}

CAMPERDOWN DULWICH HILL ENMORE NEWTOWN PETERSHAM STANMORE

LEWISHAM MARRICKVILLE ST PETERS SYDENHAM & TEMPE

Celebrating 40 years

1984-2024

Our May Meeting

Talk, tour and morning tea at Lydham Hall 18 Lydham Avenue, Rockdale

When: Thursday 23 May 10.15 for 10.30 am

Host: St George Historical Society Cost: \$15 (all inclusive, payable on day) Bookings: Richard 0413 335 897 OR care of marrickvilleheritagesociety@outlook.com Please advise if you need to cancel



Photo: Courtesy Bayside Council

As a departure from our usual practice this outing is on the Thursday prior to the fourth Saturday. You need to get there under your own steam. There is ample street parking around the museum, or you may catch the 492 bus from Rockdale Station which drops you around the corner at Frederick Street. It's a 5 minute level walk from there. You may also walk from Rockdale Station, but part of it is uphill.

The recently renovated heritage listed Lydham Hall (1860s) is a grand Victorian villa on the highest ridge of the St George district. Childhood home of author Christina Stead, it is now a museum open to the public. Filled with fine antiques and period objects, each room is presented to show what life was like in the Victorian era.

Visit the Local History Room to see an exhibition on the suburbs of the St George district. Then sit on the back verandah to enjoy the view overlooking the landscaped gardens.

For further information see St George Historical Society website: <stgeorgehistsoc.org.au>.

Our Annual General Meeting Saturday 22 June 10.15 for 10.30 am Herb Greedy Hall 79 Petersham Road Marrickville

It's that time of year again. At the AGM, the committee delivers its reports on the Society's activities for the past year, and its financial statement of income and expenditure, assets and liabilities. All committee positions are then declared vacant and election of office bearers and a new committee takes place.

Nominations for all positions are invited, in advance and on the day. If you are interested in joining the committee and want to find out more, please get in touch — email addresses for MHS and four committee members, with phone numbers, are on the back page.

Time to Renew Membership

Membership renewal date is 1 June each year. If you received your newsletter by post, and your renewal is due, a notice will be enclosed; if by email, a renewal notice is attached. Where fees for 2023-24 remain unpaid, we will request two years payment.

Fees unchanged: \$12 Concession; \$20 Joint Concession & Individual; \$28 Household & Organisation

MHS Bank Account details:

Commonwealth Bank of Australia (CBA) Account name: Marrickville Heritage Society BSB 062-199 Account No. 1081 8000

Important: add reference: last name & initials

You can also pay by cheque or money order, in favour of Marrickville Heritage Society, by post to PO Box 415 Marrickville 1475; or by cash at the AGM or a general meeting.

If you need assistance with renewal, or to check if your fees are due, contact Stuart: 0414 620 519 or email stuartgrigg2@gmail.com .

Stuart Grigg - Treasurer

Founded 1984 PO Box 415 Marrickville NSW 1475 Volume 40 Number 6 May-June 2024 Affiliated with Royal Australian Historical Society & National Trust of Australia (NSW)

Our March Meeting Cooks River (Tempe Reserve) walking tour with Ian Tyrrell (Saturday 23 March)

From its inauspicious beginnings to its current multi-purpose public space, Tempe Reserve has a chequered story in Australian colonial history. Throughout the colony, it took many decades for successive governments to understand the true ecological importance of the term 'swampland', in both regional and urban areas. Hence the repeated efforts to change the nature of the Reserve area through canalising the waterways and making 'better' use of the area for recreational and

commercial purposes. But local government did not always have the final say and significant projects such as Mascot Airport, extensions to the rail servicing the airport, as well as the desalination pipelines for the water filtration plant, have all taken precedence over local users and uses, and all contributed at various times to the disruption of the ecology of the area. We heard all this from our tour leader Ian Tyrrell. Today,

the area is pleasant

open space and

Tour leader Ian Tyrrell stands tall amongst the hardy walkers on the Cooks River walk (Photo: Megan Hicks)

includes walking and cycleways, ovals and sporting facilities.

Along the walkway, interesting remnants of former built structures are visible. We first encountered the decaying sandstone edges of the Tempe Basin, dredged and lined in the 1890s, and the remnants of the approach to the 1897 bridge over Cooks River. We then moved round past the 2002-3 constructed wetland opposite the St George Rowing Club on the southern bank. Reaching the present-day juncture of the river with the Alexandra Canal, we were told that the river had been rerouted at this point to flow down a newly created channel to its present-day Kyeemagh entrance, instead of its original route, which went north and east across the current airport site.

We then walked north beside the reconstructed Alexandra Canal to the vicinity of the twin Gateway bridges. This project is the latest in a series of construction disruptions to the Tempe Reserve.

The Gateway bridge approaches impinge upon the forested hill and pond area created to remediate the Tempe rubbish tip site in the early 2000s. Previously, a rifle range in the late 19th century, a shale quarry in the 1920s, a greyhound racing track in the 1930s (the site is visible in the aerial photographs of 1943), and finally the notorious Tempe Tip of the 1950s and 1960s. Marrickville Council's 2004 remediation aimed high. An award winning effort in environmental management, it included the afforested hill area.

To the immediate left, three ponds now serve as adjuncts to the river, filtering stormwater from the suburbs to the north, and feeding into the river via

the 2002-3 wetland. The ponds provide an excellent site for bird watching and the Tempe Birdos go there for their observations.

The tour ended with crossing the Princes Highway to view the tiny memorial plaque in Kendrick Park for Captain James Cook, who with his men, was the first European visitor to the Cooks River in 1770. Tyrrell said there is no

evidence that Cook proceeded further along the river, as his map goes only to this point.

Another historical aspect close by was the Princes Highway bridge dam. The Cooks River sandstone dam was built in 1839-40 using convict labour. Originally intended to augment Sydney's water supply during a time of drought, the porous dam wall meant the upstream remained too salty to drink. It never functioned as intended and caused floods to bank up. Successive alterations through sluice gates to alleviate flooding upstream did not overcome the dam's deficiencies. Until 1897, the top of the sandstone dam functioned as a causeway bridge.

Though the plaque signage asserts that the dam was removed around 1896-7, Ian Tyrrell pointed out that only the very top was removed and was replaced with more extensive sluice gates to moderate the floods which the dam had exacerbated.

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The two-lane wooden bridge over the top of the dam was the new feature introduced in 1897. Not until the 1960s was the rest of the dam structure brought down, and the current six lane bridge built.

Close by, Fatima Island is one of several islands which existed in the river, but dredging, rerouting and shortening of the river estuary by 1953 meant that only Fatima Island, reinforced with recycled convict made bricks in 1901, remained. The island was the site of Our Lady of Fatima processions and enactments of the Feast of the Epiphany by members of the local Catholic church. The island, now terminally compromised by increased erosion, derives its name from this religious use by the Tempe Catholic parish between 1947 and 1953.

The walk concluded at the site of the jetty used by 'Willie the Boatman' (William Kerr), ferrying passengers to and from the site of Tempe House, Arncliffe before completion of the dam in 1840.

Thanks to Ian Tyrrell for sharing his knowledge of the river's history on this edifying excursion.

Glenda Gartrell

Our April Meeting Kathleen Muriel Butler, Confidential Secretary to John Bradfield during the building of the Sydney Harbour Bridge Talk by Bill Phippen (Saturday 27 April)

Members were entertained by our speaker **Bill Phippen**. Bill spoke to MHS on 25 February 2023, with regard to building the railway under Sydney, when he made mention of Kathleen Muriel Butler, secretary to John JC Bradfield.

Kathleen was much more than either that or a footnote to the 250 pages in Bradfield's thesis (which Kathleen obviously typed) as she was invaluable to Bradfield's work.

When the Sydney Harbour Bridge was planned Kathleen was an important part of John's team. She featured in the many photos taken at every stage of the bridge's construction.

Kathleen travelled to England as part of the team (the rest all men) to deal with Dorman Long & Co, British contractors for the work. Kathleen prepared plans and mathematical costings and was first contact with all tenderers for the bridge.

She grew up in the Blue Mountains but had links to our local area living in two houses in Hurlstone Park, the second being 3 Mill Street, Hurlstone Park.



Bill Phippen with a recent portrait of his subject (Photo: Mary Barthelemy)

While in England she was feted by various women's groups. Kathleen married Maurice Hagarty when she was 36; they had one child, Anne Josephine. Kathleen can be seen in photographs to be a well dressed woman; when outdoors she was always wearing a stylish hat. I trust this remark does not denigrate the invaluable work this woman did.

In 2019 a 130-metre boring machine was named in Kathleen's honour. On 20 November 2023 it was announced that a 'Blue Plaque' would be erected to mark the contribution of Kathleen Butler to New South Wales. On letters and documents she always signed herself Kathleen M. Butler. Thank you, Bill, for sharing the contributions of this little known and unheralded woman in our history.

Diane McCarthy

Note: Bill offered, on behalf of the Australian National Maritime Museum, a free family pass to the museum which was accepted by member **Alex Oonagh Redmond** to gift her neighbours.

Addendum re pot luck dinner

Further to the report in the January-February 2024 newsletter about the lucky door prize at the Pot Luck Dinner in December, it was pointed out that the winning number belonged to **Lyndal Gowland** but she was unable to find her ticket. On returning home she found it, but thought no more about it. When redrawn, the winners were **Peter** and **Christine Dadak**. On learning that Lyndal had later found her ticket, the Dadaks generously gave half their prize to Lyndal. A gracious gesture by them!

Corrigendum for March-April 2024 newsletter

In our report on **Joy Lewis** turning 105, we described **Brett Johnson** as Joy's grand nephew. Brett is actually Joy's nephew; third son of Joy's sister Yvonne.

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Vale: Christopher Hugh Pratten OAM (1934-2024)

Chris Pratten's links with Ashfield go back to when one of his great-grandfathers, John Plant Wright, moved to live in the Ashfield Municipality in 1882. The connections continued for several decades, returning in 1986 when Chris moved from the country to live in Summer Hill.

Born on 23 September 1934 in Darlinghurst, Chris was the son of Herbert (Bert) and Doris Pratten (nee Clarke) who lived at Kurraba Point. His primary schooling was at Neutral Bay Public School, and he attended Shore at North Sydney completing his Leaving Certificate in 1951. After gaining a Bachelor of Science in 1956 he began work at the family property, Amaroo Station, west of Orange and he later sectioned off the farm Koolewong on part of the Amaroo Station. Chris developed successful sheep and cattle herds and grew a variety of crops on Koolewong which is now in the hands of his son, Michael and his family. During the 1960s Chris fenced off a large tract of the property where he regenerated native trees and plants, produced environments for birds and wildlife and developed his knowledge and skills in soil conservation.

While working at *Koolewong* Chris also lectured at Orange Agricultural College and Orange TAFE. He was the foundation president of the Orange Field Naturalist and Conservation Society (1974-84), was the chairman of the Nature Conservation Council of NSW in 1978 and held positions on several other heritage and conservation councils during the 1980s. In 1984 he was appointed as the first Environment Director of the National Trust of Australia (NSW) which he retained until he resigned in 1989.

When attending school at Shore, Chris gained a love of singing in church choirs, which continued into his adult life. In the 1950s he formed a choir at St John's Church, Molong, near Orange. He managed and conducted the choir, and it grew in numbers and ability, singing at church services, weddings and other events including at community Christmas carol events. In 1958 the choir travelled to Sydney to sing at St Augustine's, Neutral Bay for Chris's wedding to Elaine Massey. He later moved on to the choir at St Barnabas, East Orange and brought the singers to great heights. Church choirs continued to draw Chris's interest throughout his later life.

In 1986 Chris returned to live in Sydney, and bought *Hillcrest*, a run-down two storey house on Prospect Road, Summer Hill which he set about restoring to its former glory. He gained great pleasure working in his garden and was generous in advice and giving cuttings of his plants to his many friends and neighbours.

Chris Pratten joined the Ashfield & District Historical Society (ADHS) in 1986 and remained an active member. During the early years he held the position of Secretary of the Society, produced the newsletter, edited publications, researched, wrote, and lobbied Council to save the heritage buildings of the area from demolition or destruction. He took on work as a heritage consultant and formed a working relationship with architectural historian Robert Irving in and around the former Ashfield Municipality.

The Ashfield Heritage Study produced by Godden Mackay was published in 1993. Well over one year of intensive work led by Chris Pratten and Robert Irving with the assistance of historian, Nora Peek, went into the detailed evaluation of each property listed in the Study. It remains today an extremely valuable reference to significant sites of the Ashfield district.



Chris Pratten (Photo: Ann O'Connell)

Chris was the editor of the ADHS's publications from 1992 to 2003 and during those years his output in historical research and writing as well as editing others' work was prolific. He raised the 'bar' in Sydney local history publications and Ashfield's journals and books were considered 'professional' and significantly raised the profile of the Society.

Chris not only wrote for the Society's journals, but also produced various other publications.

- He co-authored with the late Nora Peek
 Working the Clays: the Brickmakers of the
 Ashfield District which was launched by
 NSW Premier Bob Carr in July 1996. This
 book is still recognised as a valuable
 resource on the history of brickmaking
 in Sydney.
- In 2002 he wrote *Amaroo, Squatters, Sheepwalks, Yeomen and More,* the story of

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Amaroo, the Pratten family farm. The book was written for his family and those from the area and tells the history of the farm and the district, the environment, the farming and industry, characters, hardships and good times.

- Herbert Edward Pratten 1865-1928,
 Manufacturer, Miner, Minister was
 published in 2016. The book was a labour
 of love for Chris, who considered his
 grandfather worthy of a biography due to
 the breadth of his endeavours, including
 being Mayor of Ashfield 1909 to 1911
 before his political career in the
 Australian federal government.
- Milleewa and the Milleewa Boys' Home was published in 2017, hot on the heels of his previous book on his grandfather.
 Milleewa was a Pratten family home.
- In 2023 he co-authored with Ann O'Connell, Frederick Clissold, Esquire of Glentworth, Ashfield. This book covers the life of Clissold from his birth in 1831 in England through an early life of hardship and struggle as a fellmonger. It tells of his many enterprises including property speculation, pastoral and mining interests, local politics and horse racing and the establishment of the Canterbury Racecourse. The book provides detailed information of Clissold's homes, notably Glentworth and its history. Glentworth remains as the grandest home in Ashfield and is now the centrepiece of the Cardinal Freeman Village in Victoria Street, Ashfield.

In the year 2000, Chris Pratten was named Ashfield Citizen of the Year for his tireless efforts promoting and protecting the area's heritage. He was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia in 2005 for his work in the conservation of natural and built heritage as a grazier, educator and administrator. In 2014 he was granted life membership of ADHS.

His last major 'award' which gave him enormous pleasure, was the honour of being invited to speak at the launch the book, *Orchids of Central Western NSW* by Dr Colin Bower and Dr Richard Medd at Orange City Library on 17 October 2023. According to his daughter Jenny, her father's speech at the launch was his best ever.

Chris was an active member of St Paul's Anglican Church, Burwood. In 2022 he began writing his reminiscences about his involvement in country choirs: *A Chronicle of a Country Choirmaster*, but this remained unpublished at the time of his death. Friends will see to it that it reaches the press.

Chris died at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, Camperdown on 12 March 2024 at age 89. His ex-wife, Elaine, who he continued to love, and their three children, Stephen, Michael and Jenny, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and his remaining brother Ted mourned his loss. He had been planning and looking forward to his 90th birthday party, surrounded by family and friends.

Ann O'Connell

Note by Richard Blair: Ann O'Connell's eulogy was put to the Inner West Council meeting by Councillor Mark Drury on 9 April 2024. Robert Borsak MLC paid a lengthy tribute to Chris Pratten in the NSW Legislative Council on 21 March 2024.

Chris Pratten joined Marrickville Heritage Society in 1996, occasionally attending meetings, most recently **Alan Croker's** talk on the Opera House last November. Chris's article on his great grandfather 'John Plant Wright: a formidable figure in Victorian Sydney' appeared in the MHS journal *Heritage* 15 (2018). An oral history interview with Chris conducted by **Mark Sabolch** on the ADHS website is recommended.

Vale: Kathleen Fisher

A member of the MHS who had strong ties to the local area, Kathleen Fisher (88 years), died on 15 November 2023. A cousin to the late **Keith Smith** of Dulwich Hill and Lewisham, who was a member for many years, she was a friend of Diane McCarthy.

Kathleen's mother was a member of the Ryan family – well known in the Tempe district in the late 19th/early 20th century. The family had a dairy in what is now Carrington Street Marrickville. Their best known customer was Louisa Lawson (mother of Henry). A picture of the dairy can be found in *Pictorial History of Marrickville* by Anne-Maree Whitaker. Our condolences to her family.

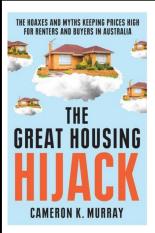
Diane McCarthy with Mary Barthelemy

Book review: The Great Housing Hijack

The cover page of *The Great Housing Hijack* by **Dr Cameron K Murray**, Allen & Unwin Australia, 2024, includes the attentional message: *The hoaxes and myths keeping prices high for renters and buyers in Australia*. The book discusses how property insiders and vested interests influence the property market and policy in Australia, with a plethora of comparative examples from other countries.

It explains the language used by property developers, landlords, the real estate industry and government, and develops some of its own

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terminology to describe the aspects of social phenomena that affect the housing market.

The sections of the community from where resistance arguably stems against substantive changes in property and taxation policy, housing supply and rent levels are spotlighted. The notion that single bullet

solutions can make owned or rented housing more accessible (or affordable) is challenged.

In his first visit to Sydney in 1836 on HMS Beagle, biologist and father of evolutionary theory Charles Darwin immediately adopted the national pastime of commenting on the housing market. In his diary on his first day in Sydney, he wrote:

the number of large houses just finished & others building is truly surprising; nevertheless every one complains of the high rents & difficulty in procuring a house . . . Sydney has a population of twenty-three thousand, & is as I have said rapidly increasing.

For those who like a challenging, detailed look at this timely subject.

Nick Yetzotis

Easy listening

An accessible, straightforward, discussion of the housing topic, this brief ABC radio interview of 27 March 2024 by **Philip Clark** with **Michael Pascoe** is recommended. It explains clearly why the TOD (Transport Oriented Development) won't solve the housing 'crisis'. For those interested in learning more, go to: https://www.abc.net.au/listen/programs/nightlife/nightlife-news-breakdown---michael-pascoe---the-new-daily/103642692

Ian Tyrrell

Webwise www.marrickvilleheritage.org.au

A new story was posted in time for Anzac Day: the Marrickville Anzac Memorial Club, WWI and some of the people associated with both. The members of this club had major parts to play in the history of Anzac both during the war and our commemoration of it afterwards.

You can also visit our **Facebook** page. Some posts relate to Ian Tyrrell's walking tour of Cooks River; others to the talk on the New Theatre at Newtown. Question. Do you know where the Rex Theatre was located? The answer is on Facebook.

Rod Aanensen

Open House at the Palace

On Saturday 13 April I attended Petersham Bowlo for the launch of the book, *Open house at the Palace:* an Australian street (Walla Walla Press, 2024) by **Gerard Windsor**. Well over 100 people were there and we heard speeches by club president **George Catsi**, publisher **Richard Cashman** and the author. All live in or near Palace Street, Petersham. The book has been promoted in this newsletter since late last year and Gerard Windsor again spoke about the project at Marrickville Library on 30 April. Purchase of the book was by subscription, one of which was taken out by MHS.

Gerard Windsor is a multi-published author and there is no doubt this was a true labour of love. Whilst the project only became publicly known a few months ago, the concept has been many years in the making. Gerard has lived in Palace Street since the early 1980s and states that 'Early on in my time in Palace I found myself setting down memories of several of the street's identities.'

Elsewhere he writes: 'In Palace Street there are a few residents who have a public profile and something of their lives will be recorded. But for the vast majority of us, within a couple of generations, there will be no memorial. Yet their lives will have been unique, absorbing stories.'



Zanobi, 21 Palace Street, Petersham was the grand house of the Hordern family, prominent in retail business. The side of the nursing home Armon is visible. Croydon Street joins Palace Street on the left. (Courtesy Inner West Libraries; photo from Gerard Windsor's book on Palace Street)

Some members are among those mentioned and includes Flo (aka Lu) Bell who is described as 'the living authority on middle period Palace retailing'

Open house at the Palace is handsomely produced in a limited print run. It has a hardcover, 176 pp, several photographs, an appealing cover illustration of the street and an index.

Richard Blair

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Heritage façade preserved

Recently, member **Monica Oppen** advised us of progress on the new building on the corner of Warren Road and Illawarra Road, The Warren.

In our July-August 2021 newsletter, the Winter Trivia question related to images on the façade of a building on the corner of Illawarra and Warren Roads, Marrickville, for which a DA had been approved for a composite site including that building.

The question was suggested by member Monica Oppen, who also supplied information for the answer given in the September-October 2021 newsletter.

Development on the former butcher's shop site is well under way. It's a somewhat quirky outcome but the façade and images have been retained and the kerb also appears intact, two requirements of the DA conditions. The scaffolding has come down in recent months, exposing the preservation. Work on the rest of the multi-storey building continues.



Corner Illawarra & Warren Roads in 2021 (Photo: Courtesy Raine & Horne)



Same corner early 2024 (Photo: Monica Oppen)

The 'Tempe Cup'

From Laurel Horton: The Tempe Cup was awarded for the sport of pigeon shooting which was popular in the 19th and early 20th centuries. The cup is inscribed: "'Tempe Cup' won by F.P. Smidmore 4th March 1889." The cup was donated by Geoff Croft, former owner of Nelson Lodge, Tempe, to the museum at St Peters Anglican Church Cooks River.



Locally, there were two locations where pigeon shooting took place. Regular shooting contests were held at 'Frankfort Park' (Enmore), the Smidmore property (not to be confused with Frankfort Villa, later known as Stead House in Leicester Street Marrickville), and 'Hurlingham', owned by Frederick Gannon in Tempe. At Lydham Hall, Rockdale, there are two trophies which were awarded to F. Gannon for pigeon shooting.

Pigeon shooting was an event at the 1900 London Olympic Games. This was the only time it was held at the Olympics.

Live pigeon shooting was banned in England in 1921. Opposition to shooting live pigeons in Australia commenced in the 1920s. Clay birds were introduced during that decade but live shooting continued. There were various attempts to pass legislation, but it wasn't until the 1950s that the practice was made illegal in NSW, ACT and Victoria.

Built Environment Awards

The 2024 Inner West Built Environment Awards (including the Marrickville Medal) are open to all building works within the Inner West LGA completed in the past three years and having positive conservation outcomes. Closing date for entries is 30 June 2024. Award ceremony will be in October 2024.

Further information on the awards webpage: via www.innerwest.nsw.gov.au . Page 7

Autumn Trivia Answer

Several members correctly identified the location of this 1920s photo as just south of Marrickville Railway Station; in order of response: Elda Ribeiro, Sue Castrique, Gabby Richards, Peter Chessell, Iain Carolin, Rod Aanensen, Diane McCarthy, Ross Phillips, Kay Abrahams and Keith Anderson. the island platform closed to make way for the Metropolitan goods line.

Entry to platform 2 was from Station Street, which ran parallel to the platform. The railway line was electrified in 1926. The platform 2 booking office underwent alterations in 1944. New stairs down from Illawarra Road were built in 1985.



This photo, taken around the same time as when the photo displayed in the March-April 2024 newsletter appeared, shows on the right the bridge along Illawarra Road, Schwebel Street entering Illawarra Road on the top right and Marrickville station on the left.

Ross Phillips pointed out this was the second Marrickville railway station, the first having been opened in 1884 until being renamed Sydenham station in 1895.

The current Marrickville station opened on 1 February 1895 when the Bankstown line opened between Sydenham and Belmore. The clearing to the south of the station became the 'Riverdale Estate'. Schwebel Street can be seen on the right, Riverdale Avenue can be imagined at the rear of the clearing and Leofrene Street was to be created to join Riverdale Avenue. To the centre right you can see the sign advertising the upcoming auction sale of the estate.



Ross's research also revealed that when the station opened, it consisted only of an island platform, which had stairs off the New Illawarra Road bridge. In 1916 the station's platforms were reconstructed with a new platform, now platform 2, built to the south of the island platform and the northern side of In June 2016 an upgrade was completed with lifts and a new concourse built. During this work, the stairs to platform 1 were closed and replaced with a temporary footbridge from platform 2. With the new concourse, both platforms can be accessed from Illawarra Road. Even though a concourse was built, the station remains ungated.

Thanks to Gabby Richards who sent the photo (below left) of the station looking south taken not long after the opening of the new Marrickville station in 1895. In the background is the grand house Riverdale, after which the Riverdale Estate is named. Iain Carolin pointed out that this photo is on the front cover of Pictorial History of Marrickville by Ray Sowden (1970, Marrickville and District Historical Society).

Richard Blair

Calendar of MHS Events 2024

Thursday 23 May Tour, Talk and Tea at Lydham Hall, Rockdale Details on page 1

Saturday 22 June Annual General Meeting Details on page 1

Saturday 27 July Garden Island tour Details in July-August newsletter

Sunday 27 October 40th Anniversary Celebrations St Peters Cooks River Church hall

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