

# MARRICKVILLE HERITAGE SOCIETY INC.



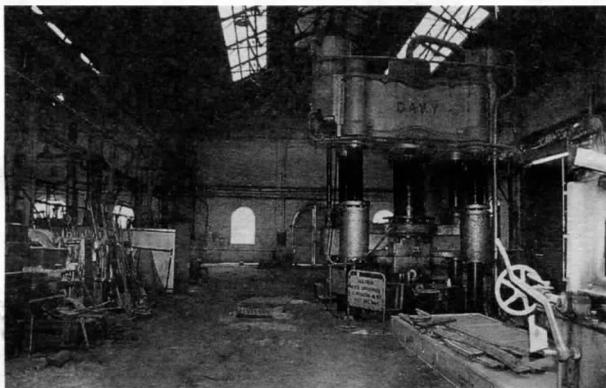
DULWICH HILL ENMORE LEWISHAM  
ST PETERS SYDENHAM TEMPE & PARTS OF

MARRICKVILLE PETERSHAM STANMORE  
CAMPERDOWN HURLSTONE PARK NEWTOWN

## OUR NEXT MEETING EVELEIGH LOCOMOTIVE WORKSHOP TOUR WITH DAVID McBEATH Saturday 20 March 10.30 am Petersham Town Hall

(Note Meeting a week earlier than usual due to state election on 27 March. Meet at Bay 1 entrance to the Locomotive Workshop, south of railway line. By train enter from Platform 10 Redfern Station; by car from Boundary Street. Please wear closed footwear.)

Conservator David McBeath's two hour walking tour of Eveleigh will discover the unique qualities of the industrial and cultural landscape used between 1880 and 1989 by the NSW Railways and now used by Australian Technology Park.



The tour includes the working blacksmith's shop and a short video of the historic Eveleigh Railway Workshops. It will look at the old technology (state of the art when installed) that gave the community a rail network that opened up for economic use the interior of Australia and urban expansion. The same technology was partly responsible for producing the greenhouse effect. If possible the tour will include a visit to the Large Erecting Shop where 3801 is stabled.

### GOOD TIME TO JOIN THE SOCIETY

as your fees won't be due again till July 2000. Just send a cheque or money order with name/s, address & phone number to Marrickville Heritage Society PO Box 415 Marrickville 1475. Membership is only \$8 concession \$14 individuals or joint concession & \$20 households or organisations.

We meet on the fourth Saturday of each month. Apart from trying to help save your heritage we have a monthly newsletter and an occasional journal *Heritage*. For more information ring treasurer Diane on 9588 4930.

## 1999 Heritage Week 17-25 April

**Sunday 18 April 10.30 am**  
**Newtown's Old Wares**

A two hour walking tour of King Street Newtown from the Trocadero (#69) led by Bruce Baskerville. Free.

**Sunday 18 April 4-6 pm**  
**Chrissie Cotter Gallery Pidcock St Camperdown**  
Opening of *The Century in Review* photographic exhibition from the Marrickville Library Local Studies Collection. Guest speaker: Robert Hutchinson. **Marrickville Medal** for Conservation to be awarded.

**Monday to Wednesday 19-21 April 10-4 pm**  
*The Century in Review* Chrissie Cotter Gallery, Camperdown. Free.

**Thursday to Saturday 22-24 April**  
*The Century in Review* the Marrickville Metro, 34 Victoria Road, Marrickville during trading hours.

**Saturday 24 April 10.30 am**  
**Petersham Town Hall**  
**Marrickville Heritage Society Places of Memory:**  
*Sydney Home Movies* a co-production of National Film & Sound Archive and MOS directed by Virginia Hilyard.

**Saturday 24 April 2-3.30 pm**  
**Double Decker Bus Tour** of the old local transport routes with historian Chrys Meader departs Tempe Bus & Truck Museum, 745 Princes Highway. (Bookings essential for bus tour: Libby 9335 2114)

**Saturday 24 April 3.30 pm**  
**An appreciation of 20th century housing**  
Heritage architect Peter McLaren will lead a walk from the corner of David Street and Marrickville Road Marrickville. Return on double decker bus to Tempe if you've booked.

### DINNER AT CAMO'S ON THE PARK

Many members dined here in November after the journal launch. We're going back to this delightful venue which has become so popular, you now have to book. It's \$25 a head, BYO and as it happens to be St Patrick's Day make sure you wear something green.

**Date** Wednesday 17 March 7 for 7.30pm  
**Venue** corner West & Station Streets Petersham  
**Bookings** Robert or John 9568 3079 (number limited, so please advise if you have to cancel)

## OUR LAST MEETING PAM'S POSTCARDS

Our first meeting for 1999 on Saturday 27 February was well attended to hear Pam Liell talk on 100 years of postcard messages. Unlike most postcard collectors, Pam is more interested in the message than the stamp, postmark or picture. Before the telephone became a more convenient and more popular form of communication, postal services were such that you could send a card in the morning which would reach its destination that afternoon, and there were two deliveries a day.

In hindsight the messages are charming, often succinct and so revealing. Pam collected numerous cards sent to Miss Lyla Norris, "Whitmore", 115 Denison Rd, Lewisham, some from Bill Brodie: *Dear Miss Lyla, Regarding Bows. I do not like that green hobble bow. Besides I do not drink or smoke. I chew a little. With kind regards, I am W Brodie.*

Pam is an author and oral historian who has written family, school and local histories. Her postcard hobby has resulted in one self-published book\* and a second on messages sent by World War I soldiers is in preparation. Not only does Pam give an entertaining talk, but she is also recording for posterity what for over a century has been an important means of communication, for after all (as she says) "life is largely about trivia".

Richard Blair

\* *Before the Phone – 100 years of postcard messages* is \$20 plus postage. Ring Pam 9743 1348 for a copy.

## MARRICKVILLE LIBRARY LOCAL STUDIES COLLECTION

Recent additions to the book collection include:

- *The vision of Edna Walling* by Trisha Dixon & Jennie Churchill
- *Sacred places: war memorials in the Australian landscape* by K.S. Inglis
- *Conservation and care of collections* by David Gilroy & Ian Godfrey
- *Pates Post-War Australian Pottery* by John Davenport.

The Library now has a series of booklists on:

- Cemetery Records: a comprehensive list of all the cemetery records held in the collection including the local cemeteries, Balmain, Field of Mars, Rookwood, Botany, Waverley etc.
- Architectural restoration, conservation identification etc.
- Cooks River
- Materials Conservation.

If you have any queries contact Local Studies Librarian Donna Braye on 9335 2170.

Donna Braye

## DIVE DIVAS

*Dive Divas* is a short play exploring the lives of Australia's first female 'superfish', Fanny Durack and Annette Kellermann, both residents of the Marrickville area, who dramatically altered women's swimming, women's sport and swimming costumes forever.

**Fanny Durack** (subject of a *Heritage 4* article) fought for the right of women to swim competitively. She was Australia's first female Olympic gold medallist, the world's first female Olympic swimming champion and the first woman to compete internationally in a one-piece bathing suit. She remained actively involved in swimming and spent the last thirty years of her life with her husband in Stanmore.

**Annette Kellermann** was born in Marrickville. She learned to swim to strengthen her polio-weakened limbs and went on to become an endurance swimmer. She pioneered water ballet (synchronised swimming), became a film actor in Hollywood, was credited with inventing the one-piece bathing suit and wrote books on health and beauty.



Fanny Durack



Annette Kellermann

Kris McQuade as Fanny and Helen Scott as Annette will star in Mary Haire's play *Dive Divas* at the Annette Kellermann Aquatic Centre in Enmore Park on 12, 13 and 14 March and at Petersham Pool on 19, 20 and 21 March. Performances start at 7pm and run for one hour. Seats \$10, \$7.50 concession, or if in a group of ten or more. Ring 9335 2000 for bookings.

## AUTUMN LITERARY TRIVIA

Name the suburb in Marrickville local government area in which a) Dame Mary Gilmore as a young woman taught, b) JC Bancks, creator of *Ginger Meggs* was born, and Sir Arthur Conan Doyle lectured at a Spiritualist service, c) poet Christopher Brennan died, d) mention was made in the biographical sketch of the fictitious poet Ern Malley, e) author and historian Tom Kenny lived. Write to MHS or ring Richard 9557 3823.

## POTTERY & OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Recently I attended the launch of *Pottery, A Willoughby Pioneer Industry – The Mashman Story* by Jean Miller. This book gives a brief history of the Mashman and Day families and Mashman pottery, a branch of which still operates at Kingsgrove. The book is well illustrated, sadly not in colour, and is a valuable addition to any pottery collector's library. Available from Jean Miller, 12 Second Avenue, Willoughby. \$25, \$28 posted.

**Robert Hutchinson**

Collector John Davenport has written *Pates Post-War Australian Pottery*, a history of one of the most popular and affordable ceramic wares in post war Australia. Davenport visited the Belmore factory before its demolition in 1992, and saved many moulds and pieces from going to the scrapyards. The book has numerous photographs of selected wares, and should inspire the amateur to seek out these ceramic treasures at fetes, garage sales and cupboards under the sink in your local church or school hall (\$19.95 at bookshops).

\* \* \* \* \*

Readers of the *Inner Western Suburbs Courier* will be familiar with the excellent weekly historical feature by Geoff Howe. Geoff has published (with the help of a RAHS grant) a collection of these in *Heart of the City* obtainable from the author at 2F Stiles Street Croydon Park 2133 (\$20, \$24.50 posted) or directly from Shop Drop, 2 Cromwell Street Croydon (Norton Street end).

\* \* \* \* \*

Gregory J Smith has written a comprehensive illustrated study of 763 trade union badges in *Emblems of Unity – Badges of Australia's Trade Unions*. \$20 from John Wright's bric-a-brac shop at 529 King Street Newtown daily after 11am.

**Richard Blair**

## CALLING ORAL HISTORIANS

I've lost count of the number of times it's been suggested that the Society should be recording the memories of our senior citizens. We did, of course, recently complete the very successful oral history project which resulted in our publication *Marrickville Remembers* recording life in the Marrickville area during World War II (I am also aware of two other local ongoing oral history projects, one focusing on the Aboriginal community and the other on aspects of certain ethnic groups).

We want to hear **both** from prospective interviewees and from anyone who would like to be interviewed. You may even fit into both categories. Only one interview would be allocated at a time. A publication may result, depending on how the project shapes. There will be a meeting at 7.30pm on Tuesday 30 March to work out some themes, guidelines and other logistics. Please contact Marilyn 9569 0959 after hours.

**Editor**

## HERITAGE WATCH

- Plans by Marrickville Council and Waste Service of NSW to transform the old **Tempe Tip** into a **Waste Recycling Park** have been scrapped following the defeat of the motion at the last council meeting on 15 February. Local residents had strongly opposed the proposal on several grounds. The site nevertheless remains a contaminated one. Further community consultation is called for.
- The application to demolish a single storey brick factory at **50 Cary Street Marrickville** and erect four two-storey town houses has been refused. MHS had lodged a submission recommending refusal. The town houses impacted upon the adjoining late 1880s *Beauchamp Villa*, an item of environmental heritage. However two separate dwellings are likely to be approved.
- Council is seeking expressions of interest from organisations on the **velodrome** and associated buildings at **O'Dea Reserve Camperdown**. Whilst there is overwhelming community support for retaining the complex, it is unlikely any group will be able to meet the rigid guidelines set by Council, in the wake of the Risk Assessments obtained. Demolition may be the only alternative, but that too would be costly, especially if soil contamination is found. Deadline 2pm 23 March.

## MILLENNIUM

How did you go? Prior to the February newsletter the editor asked about 30 people how to spell "millennium" and received not one correct answer. Of course, the editor has no doubt the spelling ability of MHS members is superior to that of the general population!

## 1999 MARRICKVILLE MEDAL

Marrickville Council's Heritage Promotions Committee awards the Marrickville Medal each year during Heritage Week to buildings and conservation works that contribute to the cultural heritage of the Marrickville Local Government Area. Eligible works include buildings that have been restored, conserved or renovated during the last three years. They may have undergone either minor or substantial alterations or may be new building projects. Anyone may nominate a project, but the owner must give written permission. **Nominations close Monday 29 March.** For further information call Libby Maher 9335 2114.

## SHRUBS AND TUBS GARDEN CENTRE

130-136 New Canterbury Road Petersham • Tel 9560 3884



Old Fashioned Climbers and Roses, Cottage Garden Plants, Camellias, Azaleas, All Herbs, Terracotta Pots, Lattice. Everything to keep your garden healthy

## CALENDAR OF MHS EVENTS

### SATURDAY 20 MARCH

**David McBeath: Australian Technology Park**  
(meeting a week earlier than usual)  
Details on front page

### SATURDAY 24 APRIL

**Places of Memory: Sydney Home Movies**  
with Virginia Hilyard

### SATURDAY 22 MAY

**Maitland by coach**

### SATURDAY 26 JUNE

**Annual General Meeting**

- The Society congratulates 20 year old **Jeremy Blanchard** 1999 Marrickville Young Citizen of the Year. Jeremy manages to pursue his Bachelor of Applied Science and Leisure Health degree at Sydney University, when he is not working with the Marrickville State Emergency Services, or as a volunteer at the New Children's Hospital play therapy program. His proud parents are MHS members Maree and Terry Blanchard of Marrickville.
- The state government has made **heritage grants** of \$50,000 towards the \$405,000 restoration of the 1859 Gothic Revival **Newtown Mission Uniting Church**; and \$10,000 to **St Peters Anglican Church Cooks River** towards restoration of the 1880 Brindley & Foster pipe organ.
- So you thought Wodonga was in Victoria. Well, of course, it is. However if you're ringing Wodonga, you have to use the NSW prefix, namely "02", not "03" (as stated in February newsletter). Hence the correct phone number for the **National Pottery Museum in Wodonga** is 02 6056 3152. Conversely Albury gets Victorian TV channels. Such is border life!
- **That protruding boat** (summer trivia) is at the rear of Defiance, a gallery on the corner of Enmore Road and Station Street Newtown. However, the elements are causing steady deterioration to this nautical curiosity.
- The Society notes the recent deaths of **Harold (Bill) Lincoln**, 82, originally of Marrickville and inspiration for the *Fatty Finn* comic strip by Syd Nicholls, who had boarded in Bill's family home; and **Gerald Terry**, 95, ending a 181 year association by one family with Rouse Hill House. His paternal grandfather was Samuel Henry Terry. Former member and Rouse descendant, the late Ian Rouse organised a Society visit there in July 1991 and we made a second pilgrimage last July. The house is now a Historic Houses Trust property.
- Was it Connie Francis who sang *Where the Boys Are*? Judging from our latest list of new members, they are not joining our ranks: only one guy out of eleven new recruits. Around 60% of current members are female!

## OLD PETERSHAM LOGO – THE LONG COVE VIADUCT

The seal used by Petersham Council from 1871 until its amalgamation with Marrickville Council in 1949 was the eight arch stone viaduct which spanned Long Cove Creek, now Hawthorne Canal. This was originally in Petersham, now called Lewisham. Built in 1854-55 the arches were over nine metres wide and some were over 18 metres high. For many years it was the oldest and largest arch structure in NSW. It was replaced in 1886 by the wrought iron Whipple Truss rail bridge (itself replaced in 1993, though one span was left on display).



MHS member and legendary Scouter Stan Bales advises the arched bridge logo was adopted by 1st Petersham Scout Group after it ceased to be Council's logo. Ken Haylings' story of 1st Petersham Scouts, one of the oldest in Australia, is in *Heritage 9*.

The Council seal was maroon and white – colours which "featured on the entry pergolas and Doric columns in every council park. Another unique feature was the marking of street names in the cement in contrasting pink lettering. There are many good examples still to be found on street corners and at park entrances" (*Marrickville: Rural outpost to inner city*, 1990 p187). Sadly these street name markings are gradually being obliterated by wear and tear and footpath repairs unsympathetic towards the pink/maroon lettering.

**Richard Blair**

## WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Christine Robinson, Dulwich Hill; Joy Marshall, Enmore; Gwen Elliott, Wendy Frew, Rachel Jackson, Beverley Payne, Ann Petersen, all of Marrickville; Jennifer Law, Newtown; Dorothy Sullivan, Stanmore; Keith & Joan Smith, Wentworth Falls.

## NEWINGTON DOES OLIVER

Members are invited to the popular Lionel Bart musical *Oliver* presented by Newington College and PLC Sydney at Newington's Centenary Hall on 12, 13, 19, 20 March at 7.30pm. Tickets \$18, \$10 concession, \$50 family. Bookings Mrs Plater 9560 5355.

No, we have not changed printers. Rather Harlow Printing has changed its name (see below).

PRESIDENT/NEWSLETTER Richard 9557 3823  
WAR MEMORIALS Angela 9564 6370  
TREASURER Diane 9588 4930