



# the balmain association

## PLANNING

### TOWN PLAN OBJECTIONS

The Leichhardt Council is in the process of sending out invitations to persons who lodged objections to the Town Plan to appear before the Council in support of their objection.

The letters being forwarded by the Council limit the time period for lodging an objection to 28 days.

Persons who have lodged objections, and have received the letters, should know that the 28 day time period does not bind them - and that if the period has expired since receipt of the letter, but they still wish to object, then they are entitled to do so.

It was recently advertised that Council had received 6,000 objections. This is not correct. In all some 3,800 objections were received, of which approximately 2,500 came from one source and was of the same type. This leaves approximately 1,400 independent objections and it is hoped that most members of the Association will be included in that number.

The usual problem experienced with filling out the formal notice of objection was that there was insufficient space to recite all the items residents found obnoxious in the new plan. Accordingly this opportunity to present submissions, live, before the Council, should be taken advantage of by as many residents as possible.

It is not necessary for an individual objector to make the representations in person. He or she may be represented "by counsel, solicitor or agent".

Any objectors who wish either to make their own representations but would like to discuss the matter, or who wish to arrange representation, should contact a member of management or myself.

PETER McEWEN 827 1461.

### The P.E.C. Moves

The introduction of a new Leichhardt Town Plan in mid 1979 brought immediate hostile reaction from residents. Huge meetings and petitions brought the mood of the residents forcefully to the notice of Council, the Planning and Environment Commission (P.E.C.) and the Minister (Mr Landa).

As a result Mr Landa proposed that a committee of residents, Council, P.E.C. and the Minister himself be set up to look at the issue. And there the matter lay.

But now action!

A meeting has been held. Leichhardt Council sent Arthur Kenna (Town Planning Consultant) as an observer. Not as a representative because it appears no-one told Council about the idea and they have not, therefore, had a chance to agree, or disagree, to participate.

The P.E.C. was represented by Commissioner Peter Standon and Ms Helen Green.

There were five resident representatives present.

At the meeting the Committee agreed to look at (a) The "Residents Report" which was prepared by Stephen Harris for the Leichhardt Planning Forum last year.

(b) The objections which have been received by Council against the Town Plan.

Meanwhile, the P.E.C., acting in its Leichhardt Watch Dog capacity has refused several applications for flat development.

On the Planning front there seems to be room for a little optimism!

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### DEADLINE FOR NEXT NEWSLETTER

If you have any news (social or serious), comments (profound or profane), or letters (short or shorter) please get them to Philip Bray or Peter Pearson by 27th March.

Legible handwriting is fine, typing to a column width of 4 inches (10 cm) is wonderful!

# A LOOK BACK

Items culled from the first 100 issues of our newsletter.

In Issue 1 (April, 1968) we found an extract from the S.M.H. of 1st March 1844.

"The Balmain Ferry Company beg to apprise the public that their steamer, the "Waterman", is now running between The Gas Company's Wharf and Balmain every 10 minutes from 8 a.m. till dark, and trust, from punctuality, civility, and accommodation of this boat to receive a moderate share of patronage; and feel assured that when the scenery of Balmain is fully appreciated by a liberal and enlightened public, that the reward of honest industry and perseverance will not be withheld."  
What price progress?

In Issue 16 (October, 1968)

"While excavating in Donnelly Street, workmen unearthed what appeared to be ancient human remains. The appropriate people at the University of Sydney were notified and the company agreed to suspend work for up to a month.

Archaeologists spent the weekend excavating and collecting the numerous skull fragments, teeth and bones only to find that they belonged to a sheep! In some past day the local butcher had apparently used the land to dump rubbish!

Which shows that "honest industry and perseverance are not always rewarded!"

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## Leichhardt Historical Journal

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### EDITOR'S REPORT

The LHJ was founded in 1971 with donations from the Balmain Association, the Glebe Society and the Annandale Association, the joint publishers. Six issues appeared between 1971-1975. The LHJ was redesigned and enlarged in 1978 and now appears annually. Donations from the three Associations, the Royal Australian Historical Society, the Balmain Rugby League Football Club and Mr. H.N. Cavill have helped us keep the sale price down to TWO DOLLARS. The Leichhardt Association gave financial support in 1979 and became a joint publisher. The first new format LHJ, No. 7, sold its print-run of 300 within three months. We are considering a second printing to satisfy the demand. In 1978, the Australian Standard Book Numbering Agency, National Library of Australia, assigned the LHJ the International Standard Series Number ISSN 0155-4840. This number identifies the LHJ in any language in any part of the world. LHJ, No. 8, 1979, is selling extremely well and LHJ, No. 9, 1980, will appear in mid-year. On behalf of my fellow editors, Alan Roberts (Annandale Association) and Max Solling (Glebe Society), I would like to thank all who lent financial, technical and voluntary aid to the publication of this outlet for local historical research and reminiscence.

PETER REYNOLDS

BALMAIN EDITOR

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LHJ, No. 8, 1979 is available at \$2.00 from Peter Reynolds: 827 3560.

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## TOOLS FOR SELF RELIANCE.

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Many people have old saws, hammers, pliers...lying around cupboards, in the garden shed - never used, growing rusty... destined eventually to be thrown out.

One of the best ways to help the poorest people of the world is to help them with tools. With tools they can start to produce more and live better.

### COULD YOU GIVE ANY OF THE FOLLOWING?

Saws :	planes	vices
files	pincers	hacksaws
chisels	pliers	drills
clamps	oil stones	hand sewing
brace and bits	grindstones	machines

IF YOU HAVE ANY OF THESE - our volunteers will  
\* collect them  
\* clean, mend, sharpen and oil them, and  
\* send them to help young workmen in the South Pacific region who have no tools of their own to work with.

If you can help with tools or perhaps even some knowledge of tool maintenance, feel free to call us and we will arrange a suitable time for you. If you think you can help, please call -

Yvonne and David Taylor  
on 82 5643

OR John Hughes  
on 235 7663 (Community Aid Abroad)

THIS IS A NON COMMERCIAL VOLUNTARY ACTION,  
ORGANISED BY THE TOOLS FOR SELF RELIANCE, AND  
SPONSORED BY COMMUNITY AID ABROAD.

## THE TREASURY

Our innovative and hard-working Treasurer, Toni Mayo, is resigning due to a forthcoming confinement (twins!) and overseas tour (not necessarily in that order). Through Toni's efforts the job is now much simpler than it used to be. The membership is on computer and renews for all on the same day.

Volunteer replacement Treasurers will be interviewed in order of application (there must be ONE member who would like to assist).

## BALMAIN GARDEN CLUB



In recent years there has been tremendous interest in growing herbs and people seem to buy without much thought of price or how to use them - and often seem more interested in collecting many different varieties.

Recently seen for sale in Balmain, were several single dandelion plants with about 4 leaves each and one yellow flower - and priced at \$1 per plant! Exactly the same plant that grows freely in lawns and cracks in the pavements, and in all neglected spots!

If one privately wondered whether some of the herbs are only weeds to which uses have been ascribed, it would be indiscreet to say so in the face of such enthusiasm.

**POSITION:** For culinary herbs, a general rule is, that the ones with grey foliage like full sun and the green ones prefer shade several hours daily in our climate.

**PARSLEY:** Probably the most useful. Has many virtues and could be used more than it is. Add to food just before serving to keep colour bright. If having trouble germinating seed, keep seed bed covered with damp newspaper until the plant shows through the ground. Needs moisture and no lime. Grows well near roses.

**MARJORAM** (2 types) and **OREGANO:** Closely related, with oregano the stronger flavour.

**SAGE:** Keep clipped to make a tidy bush, otherwise it gets very straggly. Will grow for years.

**THYME:** Many types. Grows in dry places, needs little attention.

**BASIL:** A summer annual. Pinch out tips to make bushy. Use with tomatoes, in soups and omelettes.

**MINT:** Many kinds. An invasive grower, but I have not found it to flourish in pots, so I put it in the ground and reckon with at least two tremendous pullings-up a year, leaving only 3 or 4 small pieces to grow again. Must have moisture so near a garden tap is a good place to plant.

**COMFREY:** Another strong grower with any little bit of root growing. Horrid stuff to eat. Raw is coarse and furry and cooked is slimy. There has been a suggestion lately of its containing a carcinogen, but its supporters are as vociferous as ever, always saying how good it is for broken legs - but really how many of those do you have in a lifetime?

**FENNEL:** Another ferocious grower, often seen as an escapee growing near railway lines near Sydney. Its devotees state "It is lovely with fish." Is also said to aid slimming, deter fleas and in an emergency, banish witches!

**CARDAMON:** Big grower sideways (obviously related to ginger lilies). I have potted up many offshoots for garden stalls, and they sold readily but I have never had a chat with anyone who has used it. It is a carminative, and is added to coffee in countries where after dinner belching is acceptable.

**ANGELICA:** Large plant for a shady spot. Has beautiful leaves. Keep seed pods picked off early to make plant last several years. Stalks may be crystallised for cakes, or just used plain to flavour rhubarb or other stewed fruit.

**LEMON GRASS:** This is for the woman who likes exotic teas or has a Vietnamese husband. Grows best in semi-shade.

**CORIANDER:** Needs partial shade in this climate. Leaves in salad, and dried seeds for pea soup, or apple pie or other uses.

**HORSERADISH:** Another nasty that doesn't know when to stop. Probably better to just buy a jar of the prepared condiment to eat with beef.

**HOREHOUND:** Also a take-over type. Treat like a nosy neighbour. Just don't let it in the place! Horehound beer is an acquired taste anyway.

Most herbs can be grown in pots, especially the smaller ones which seem the best and most useful. Most of the bought dried herbs are nothing like the fresh ones in flavour, thinking of parsley, chives and basil in particular.

J. Murray.  
Balmain Garden Club.

# AN INVITATION....

## TO JOIN THE BALMAIN ASSOCIATION

The Balmain-Rozelle peninsular is a very special place. Anyone who has lived here, whether all their life or just for a few months, knows that!

The Balmain Association was formed in 1965 because the Balmain we like so much was being threatened by almost uncontrolled flat development and obnoxious industrial development.

The Association has seven aims listed in its constitution. All of them are summed up in the first, "To improve the living, working and recreational amenity of Balmain."

### WHY NOT JOIN?

You can help the Association, and the Balmain Peninsular, simply by joining. The more members we have, the more that Councils and Governments have to listen - and the more we can achieve.

Of course, should you wish to be not just a silent member, but to be an active member, that is even more welcome. You can be active by attending our social functions - the more people know each other the stronger our community becomes! Or, you could join one of our committees, deliver newsletters and generally be involved in the nitty gritty of running the Association. The choice is almost entirely yours.

### WHY NOT JOIN NOW?

Simply fill in the form below and drop it in to  
Brays Books at 268 Darling Street, Balmain or  
post to: The Hon. Secretary,  
The Balmain Association,  
P.O. Box 57,  
Balmain. 2041.

### membership form

I/WE wish to open/renew my/our membership  
with The Balmain Association and enclose  
\$ \* subscription.

Name:.....

Address:.....

.....

Telephone:.....

#### \*Current Annual Subscription Rates Are:

Single	\$ 3.00
Family or Household:	\$ 5.00
Pensioner (per household):	\$ 1.00
Student:	\$ 1.00
Organisation:	\$10.00

(The above rates include the newsletter,  
hand-delivered in Balmain and Rozelle.  
For delivery by post, please add \$2.00 to  
the annual rate).