



the balmain association

SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING TO CONSIDER AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

PLACE: THE WATCH HOUSE
179 Darling St.,
Balmain

TIME: 8.00 p.m. DATE: TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1979

THE CONSTITUTION MUST BE CHANGED IF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE IS TO OPERATE EFFECTIVELY, BUT WE NEED A QUORUM OF 20 MEMBERS TO DO SO.

AND WE NEED NEW BLOOD ON MANAGEMENT. OUT OF THE TWELVE ELECTED AT THE FEBRUARY '79 MEETING, ONLY FIVE ARE CURRENTLY AVAILABLE (NOT ENOUGH EVEN FOR A QUORUM OF MANAGEMENT).

DO COME

AND GIVE SOME THOUGHT TO JOINING MANAGEMENT

SENSE OF HUMOUR ?

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

Paragraph 8, first sentence:

MANAGEMENT. The administration of the Association shall be vested in the Management, comprising the following positions all of which are honorary:- President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, plus two other members, elected at the Annual General Meeting.

Paragraph 12, second sentence:

METHOD OF ELECTION......There shall be separate elections for each of the following positions and in the following order : President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, two other members.

Paragraph 13:

QUORUM. At a General Meeting (including an Annual General Meeting or a Special General Meeting) a quorum shall be ten members or 10% of the current membership, whichever may be the lower figure, and at a meeting of the Management a Quorum shall be four members of Management.

Readers (?) of the 'Guardian' may have noted a certain falling out between that local rag and The Balmain Association over an article in the Guardian concerning the Mayor of Leichhardt, Ald. Les Rodwell. The facts are:-

- (i) The 'Guardian' printed an article (supposedly humorous) about the Mayor and wrongly attributed some of the remarks therein to The Balmain Association;
- (ii) The Balmain Association denied making the remarks and asked the 'Guardian' for an explanation as to the source of their information; and
- (iii) The 'Guardian', without apology or explanation, accused members of the Association of lacking "a sense of humour".

However, the real point at issue is not whether the article constituted fun or humour in the "eyes of the beholder", but rather whether the article could be construed as libelous or malicious in the eyes of a court of law, and whether the Association (or anyone else for that matter) should be required to defend itself in a possible court action for statements which it did not make - statements made by a journalist "having a bit of fun".

The Association has its official spokesmen who are freely available to speak to the media on behalf of the Association, and to have their names quoted. -

BALMAIN THEATRE GROUP

Final Production For 1979

Three One Act Plays comprising "I Spy" - a comedy/drama by John Mortimer; "The Bespoke Overcoat" a drama by Wolf Mankowitz and an Australian comedy "Bananas" by Richard Bradshaw, make up an interesting theatrical offering.

The plays are directed by Judy Coxon, Dan O'Sullivan and a newcomer to our group, drama teacher, Erica Van Aalst. A strong cast has been assembled for the plays and includes David Martin, Joan Rodd, Stephen Jones, Peter Psaltis, Lydia Hardy and Golda Baker plus some newcomers to the group - Alan Docker, Charles Turner and Maggie Deahim.

The plays open on Friday 30th November and run for a season of three weekends. Fridays and Saturdays - closing Saturday the 15th December.

Opening Night will be followed by a Supper Party. Tickets for this will be \$2.00 per head. Bookings for the Opening Night Supper and for all performances may be made at "Bray's Books", 268 Darling Street, Balmain. Phone 82 5613.

The plays start at 8.00 p.m. at the Campbell Street, Presbyterian Church Hall and tickets are \$3.20 per adults, \$1.50 for pensioners and children.

Please be sure to come and see this End-of-Year Special by Balmain's own theatre group.

restaurant night



FINNYS RESTAURANT

263 Darling Street
BALMAIN

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 7, 1979 AT 8.00 P.M.

10% DISCOUNT FOR ASSOCIATION MEMBERS AND FRIENDS.

If you would like to come along for this social get together, or would like further details, ring Diana Hale 82 4946

BALMAIN AFLOAT

The 'Balmain Afloat' Jazz Ferry Night on Sunday October 21, 1979 was a very successful night according to reports floating back from the 110 nautical participants. The lights of Sydney at night, from the harbour, never fail to impress and that certainly was the general consensus on this balmy, almost summer-like night. The ferry was the 'ROYAL', a familiar sight on Sydney Harbour. The Captain was very obliging making many stops on the way to pick-up and set down passengers. Good jazz music was provided by the Bill Haesler Sextet. All that sea air on a 3½ hour cruise certainly developed the appetite, which was satisfied by an excellent Lebanese supper which was included in the price of the tickets.

Overall, an enjoyable night, and most certainly worth doing again next year. Watch out for it and book early.

Congratulations must go to Diana Hale and her Committee for the amount of work which went into the organization for the night, and which ensured its success.

THAI FOOD RESTAURANT Balmain, 300 Darling Street,

It's three years since we last visited this Restaurant and our memories of the food were good. But having recently revisited the place, it would take at least another three years to entice us back.

The décor of the place is - well ! We thought that the "Christmas decorations" must be the originals - very dusty and tarnished. We also think that with the prices they charge they could provide something better than vinyl table coverings (with cigarette burns) and cheap cutlery and crockery, which was none too clean.

But onto the food. We started off with soup, thick crab soup with pork and corn (\$1.80) and thin soup with pork, prawns and vegetables (\$1.20). Both were very tasty but we feel that they should have been served hot, not luke warm ! Entrées range in price from \$1.40 - 6.00. Our selection was melon in coconut cream and honey (\$1.40). Main courses range in price from \$4.90-\$9.20. We each chose the special Thai Dinner Combination which consisted of five rather uninteresting dishes of chicken, pork, beef, fish and an equally uninteresting Thai salad. At \$ 6.50 we thought this somewhat overpriced for the size of the portions served. For dessert we had banana with sago and coconut milk (\$1.00) and sago with pumpkin and coconut cream(\$1.00) which were both enjoyable.

There is an adequate list of Australian wines, plus a "special" list of grossly overpriced PIEROTH German wines (\$22.50-\$44.30).

In all, a very disappointing meal.

BON APPÉTIT !

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

An application has been received by Leichhardt Council to erect 30 two-bedroom terraced apartments on the property known as Nos. 1-13 Grafton Street, Balmain. However, this site is also the subject of a proposed trade-off against 'CLONTARF'. (See Note Below).

"CLONTARF" UNDER THREAT

'CLONTARF', 4 Wallace Street, Balmain, is again under threat of demolition. Leichhardt Council's Town Clerk Ragen has made a report to Council on a petition to Council from 48 residents (mainly from Grafton Street) to sell the 'Clontarf' site (owned by the Council) for residential development. The motive for the proposal is to secure a trade-off for foreshore land in Grafton Street for an alternative public park. Council is to consider the costs involved and to reconsider the application.

However, other residents in the area are opposed to the abovementioned proposal in that there is no park or publicly owned playground near 'Clontarf', which is bounded by Adolphus and Wallace Streets.

The Balmain Association considers that the building 'CLONTARF' is of architectural and historical significance to the area and that the building should be maintained. The Association has written to Leichhardt Council, suggesting that in any consideration of the future development of the site that Council should include provision for the restoration and maintenance of the building 'CLONTARF' itself.

Members will recall that in 1976 there was a combined move by The Balmain Association, The National Trust of Australia (N.S.W.), The School of Architecture of the University of New South Wales and local residents, with the help of local industries - including Unilever Australia Pty. Limited - for the restoration of 'CLONTARF', which included an offer to restore the building to a weatherproof state for eventual use as a kindergarten, at no cost whatever to the Council. However, at the time (June 1976), Council decided to defer any decision on the proposal.

The offer to restore 'CLONTARF' still stands.

NEWSLETTER EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

Contact: Philip Bray - 823982
Peter Pearson - 824723

The Editors welcome comment and/or items from members for inclusion in the Newsletter. Forward items to P.O. Box 57, Balmain, 2041 or hand deliver to Bray's Books, 268 Darling Street, Balmain.

The views expressed herein are not necessarily those of the Editors.

VALE PETER PEARSON

WELCOME FRANCES STONE

Peter Pearson, our Vice-President, and one of our hardest working members, has stood down from Management. Although he continues on as co-editor of the Newsletter his talents and efforts as part of the Management Committee team shall be sadly missed. After stepping down as Secretary, he still looked after our correspondence and kept a fatherly eye on the maintenance of our records.

Although the position of Vice-President still remains vacant, we have at least managed to fill the long-vacant position of Hon. Secretary. Frances Stone took over in this thankless office on 9th October 1979.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY !

On the occasion of its 10th Anniversary, we extend our congratulations to one of our younger sister organizations, The Annandale Association.

And it's a Happy Birthday to us too. The Balmain Association is 14 years old this month (the inaugural meeting was held 4th November, 1965).

YOUR HOSPITAL

As a result of cuts in Federal/State funding the Health Commission of N.S.W. and the State Minister for Health, Mr. Stewart, have announced the curtailment of a number of hospital services.

Balmain Hospital will be seriously affected, with the closure of the Maternity Ward and the scaling down of Out-Patients and Casualty facilities and services. It is expected that, in all, 4 wards will be closed, with the loss of 77 beds and up to 193 jobs.

The decision to close the Maternity Ward is indeed regrettable, as it has established a good reputation for the services it provides and it is a much needed facility in an area which is now experiencing a baby boom.

Members are requested to send personal protests to the Minister (Mr. Stewart) and the local State Member (Roger Degen), both care of Parliament House, Sydney, and to the local Federal Member (John McMahon), care of Parliament House, Canberra.

BALMAIN - ROZELLE REGISTER

The Balmain - Rozelle peninsula is an area having a strong community and historical sense of identification, and a certain homogeneity deriving from its evolution as a blend of single-unit dwellings and small labour-intensive industry.

The Balmain Association has long been concerned with the preservation of key elements of Balmain's historic fabric and believes that the original character of Balmain should be maintained, while not precluding the intelligent and sympathetic rehabilitation and restoration of buildings in the area.

It has been proposed that the Association undertake a detailed study or survey of Balmain - Rozelle with a view to having parts of the area, or at least buildings of architectural and/or historical interest in the area, included in the Register of the National Estate or classified for preservation by the Heritage Council.

However, such a detailed survey will involve the need for considerable assistance from within the Association's membership. We need Architects and Historians to consider buildings or places of architectural or historical merit, Town Planners to consider townscape or streetscape value, Photographers and people with graphic talents to prepare photographs and illustrations, Report Writers or Journalists to collate information and to write reports, and Typists to type same.

If you have any comments and/or would like to volunteer your services for this cause, then contact Peter McEwen (827.1461) or come along to the next General Meeting (13/11/79) and make yourself known..

watch these dates!!!

Tuesday, Nov. 6: Leichhardt Council Meeting 8.00 p.m.

Wednesday Nov. 7: Restaurant Night, FINNYS Restaurant 8.00 p.m.

Tuesday Nov. 13: Special General Meeting 8.00 p.m. followed by General Meeting 8.15 p.m.

Monday Nov. 19: Editorial closing date for December Newsletter

Tuesday Nov. 20: Leichhardt Council Meeting 8.00 p.m.

INQUIRIES - WHO TO CONTACT ?

PRESIDENT: Peter McEwen 827 14 61 (General)

TREASURER: Toni Mayo 827 1701 (Membership, Newsletter Distribution)

HISTORY GROUP: Rita Wise 82 1702 (Historical)

SOCIAL COMMITTEE: Diana Hale 82 4946 (Social Activities)

BALMAIN CLUBS/GROUPS/ORGANIZATIONS

One of our members has suggested that we include a regular column to provide information about local clubs, groups and organizations. It seemed like a good idea, and as the member concerned provided information on one such club, how could we refuse.

If anyone out there has information on any local organization (i.e. who can join, how do you join, activities, meeting times, etc.), and you would like it to be included in the Newsletter, then drop us a line.

BALMAIN BRIDGE CLUB

The BBC meets on Wednesday nights at 7.45 p.m. in the Campbell Street Hall. Members play duplicate bridge. Visitors are welcome. People who want to learn at home are welcome as long as there are groups of 6-10 people. Yearly membership costs \$ 3.00 (unrestricted) and it costs \$1 to play.

The Director of the BBC is Denise Soos (82-1170) who also organizes bridge weekends in Blackheath 4 times a year and also for a week during January.

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 Age:

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).

Send to: The Hon. Secretary,
The Balmain Association,
P.O. Box 57,
BALMAIN N.S.W. 2041

Alternatively, leave your membership form and subscription payment, in an envelope, at Bray's Books 268 Darling Street, Balmain, and it will be passed on to the Association.