

## ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE & OFFICE BEARERS

1966 - 1967

The following nominations have been received unopposed:

President: Dr. John Power  
Vice President: Mr. Alan Harding  
Honorary Secretary: Mrs. Toni Furness  
Honorary Treasurer: Mr. John Mackenzie

COMMITTEE (seven to be voted in)

Miss Thea Banks Mr. Robert Irving  
Mrs. Joan Chapman Mrs. Edna Hackett  
Mr. Jim Cunningham Mrs. Sibyl Masterman  
Mrs. Leigh Roussos Mr. Graham Stevenson  
Mr. Richard Waterfield.

### WATCH HOUSE PROGRESS

The National Trust and the Balmain Association have agreed to mutually suitable terms for the occupation of the Watch House. A lease has been prepared and is awaiting final inspection by the respective solicitors. Tenders have been received for the repair of the roof. The Association was obliged under the Trust's legal requirements to appoint trustees to look after the affairs of the Watch House. A ballot was conducted at June 23 meeting, when Mr. A. Harding, R. Irving and W. Ottley were elected to this responsible post.

### EARLY WATER SUPPLY

Association Member Mr. Arthur Maybee gives us this interesting item...that his grandparents Mr. & Mrs. Griffith in the 1840's lived in a large wooden two storey house at the rear of the present 19 Campbell St. The only water supply for the nearby residents had to be obtained from a beautiful clear spring on this property. When water was first laid on, the Griffiths had moved into No.19 and theirs was the only tap in the area - the neighbors still coming to them for their water.

## REMINDER!

ONLY MEMBERS who have renewed their membership (paid in since 15th May counts for this)-- are eligible to vote at the Annual Meeting, so arrive early to renew your subscriptions. We need your continued support, and ofcourse as many new members as possible. With our first year drawing to a close a new and vigorous programme is planned - one in which each and every Member may participate.

### MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Retiring management committee felt they would like to leave a suitable memento of the first years activities. This is a hand tinted print, circa 1830, published by T. McLean, Haymarket London. It will hang in the Watch House.

### HISTORICAL COMMITTEE

More than 50 people attended a "Slide Evening" on historical Balmain at the Town Hall on Thursday June 30. Bob Irving, Recorder of the Association's Historical Committee was projectionist & narrator in the absence of Mr. Bill Ottley. Many of the pictures were taken from the files of Elliott Napier, well known Sydney Historian, on loan to us from the Royal Australian Historical Society. The "Now & Then" of Balmain was later shown, by pictures contributed from association members. It was a most enthusiastic audience, and similar evenings are forecast.

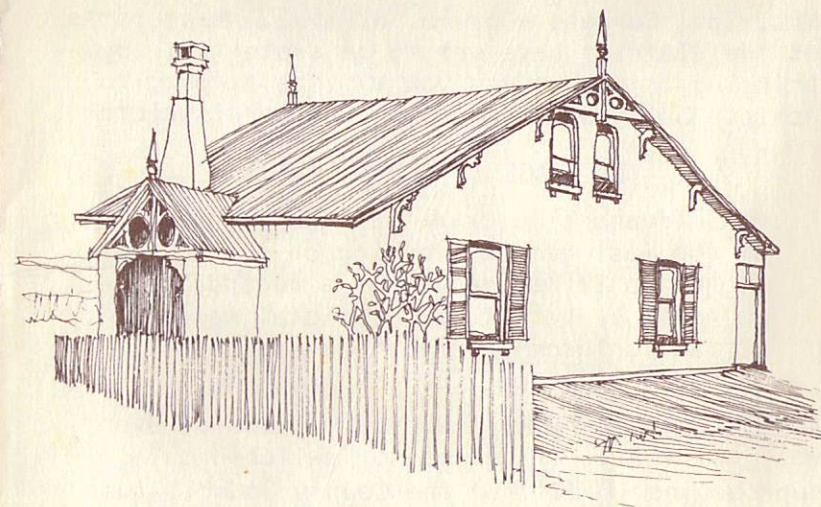
### BALMAIN ASSOCIATION CONGRATULATES

Brian MacDonald & John Zaat

for recent successes in their architectural studies. They will shortly be leaving for overseas to take up their Byera Hadley Travelling Scholarships.

COUNCIL MEETS LEICHHARDT TOWN HALL EACH SECOND TUESDAY. NEXT MEETING 23rd August, 1966.

# THE BALMAIN ASSOCIATION



## NEWS SHEET

THIRD ISSUE • AUGUST 1966

*Designed by the architect Edmund Blacket and commissioned by Capt. T.S. Rowntree as a gift to his son T.S. Rowntree jnr. on the occasion of his marriage, this house in Stack St. was erected in 1878. It's massive sandstone block foundations were part of the stock which the same architect also used for St. Mary's Church nearby.*

MORT'S DOCK PETITION

Collection of signatures against handling of steel shipments and container cargo at Mort's Dock is still under way. Our objections briefly are that this type of industry will create traffic chaos, inevitable noise of operation, and loss of residential amenities. Results so far have been encouraging - acceptance rate of about 90 per cent. Many more signatures are needed - anyone can take a sheet around. See Mrs. Toni Furness - or Ph. 82-1552. Many parts of the district have yet to be exploited. By bringing in signatures you will be helping to achieve balanced development in the district.

INCREASE IN MEMBERSHIP

Hon. Treasurer Dick Waterfield reports that at the last general meeting on Jun 23 he signed up 23 new members - a record that is going to be hard to beat. Total membership at the forthcoming annual general meeting should easily top 200.

**A NIGHT ON THE TILES:** Our July 2 social event was just that. It became so "switched on" approaching 10.30 that the County Council fuse blew up and the party proceeded for the next hour or so in total darkness. That was the only "blackout" recorded this time. The Association's thanks go to Bob & Mavis Johnston for lending us their fine old stone home for the evening. Also to the helpers including the Johnstons, who battled on with the hot supper despite the power interruption. Total attendance was 100-odd, receipts including raffle proceeds, \$96.60, which will go towards the new roof fund for the Watch House.

**NEWS SHEET ON RECORD:** The first issue of the Balmain Association News Sheet was submitted to the Mitchell Library, Sydney, for inclusion in its collection of first editions. Arrangements also have been made to accept all subsequent issues.

A FINE PIECE OF RESEARCH

At the meeting of the Historical Committee, held on July 28th at the home of Mrs. Downie, Mr. Bob Chambers outlined the results of a fine piece of historical research which he and Mrs. Chambers had carried out, an interview with a grand-daughter of Captain Rowntree. From her they obtained a comprehensive sketch map of Balmain East some 50 years ago, with the names of various residents shown and something of their family histories. They are still analysing and recording the wealth of information this lady kindly supplied and incidentally enjoyed an excellent meal served on Captain Rowntree's original china.

Now in her seventies and still keenly interested in Balmain, Mrs. Olive Williamson capped their visit by joining the Association and making a generous donation to our funds.

THE VISIT TO COCKATOO ISLAND

On June 23rd., a party of twenty-five members of the Association visited Cockatoo Island.

Mr. Payne of the administrative staff led a most interesting tour of inspection, which included the guard-room, chapel, condemned cell, homes and the famous bottle-shaped silos, which were excavated out of solid rock.

Neither cameras nor sketch-books were permitted on this tour. The restriction served to whet appetites for a longer tour on which these restrictions might possibly be lifted.

Negotiations are proceeding at present for a visit by a working party of eight or nine members of the Historical Committee, complete with cameras, with the possibility of a tour for the whole Association at a later date.

We have to thank Ald. Wyner for making this initial tour possible.

RENEW YOUR ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION EARLY  
BRING AS MANY NEW MEMBERS AS YOU CAN.

BALMAIN INSPECTION DAY

The Women's Committee of the National Trust held an organised tour of the Balmain Peninsular on June 14, visiting St. Mary's Church of England - (first church in the area), the Watch House, and homes of Messrs. Flower (currently leased by Mr. and Mrs. Wright), Miller, Rogers, Waterfield & Miss Banks. Trust Committee members served coffee at Mr. & Mrs. Masterman's Long Nose Point home. More than 500 braved a wet, bleak day to make the inspection. The Trust made a pleasing profit of \$800, and graciously donated \$25 to the Association in appreciation. The Association will hold a similar inspection day on Oct. 9 for members and friends and Trust members who could not make the first date. Details to be announced later.

LIBRARY REPORT

There are 38 municipalities and shires in the County of Cumberland. Thirty-one of them provide Library services. Seven of them do not. But four of the seven are planning libraries. Three are not. Leichhardt Municipality numbers itself among these three. A number of members of the Balmain Association have taken a close interest in a special committee formed in the municipality to press for this much needed community service. More support is needed. Details of the committee's activities are available from Mr. Terry Chapman, Publicity Officer, and Mrs. Rose Pickard Ph.82-1068.

COMING EVENTS

- Balmain Inspection Day - Oct. 9
- Vintage Cricket: Details to come
- Hallowe'en Night - Oct.31

AND THAT STRING AROUND YOUR FINGER is to remind you that the Annual General Meeting is to be held in Balmain Town Hall on August 18 - 8 p.m.

BALMAIN'S EARLY YEARS

A date has been set for the display of old photographs, news cuttings and relics of Balmain's past in Mr. Jack Zuber's window in Darling Street. This showing will be held between August 7 and 21.

