

WATCH HOUSE SUB-COMMITTEE - The Lease is now signed and The Balmain Association is the official tenant of the Watch House at a "pepper-corn rental", with the approval of the Minister for Lands and in conjunction with the National Trust, for a 5-year period and the option of a further 5 years, and we now have the All Clear to go ahead and re-store.

Within the next month, a new roof will have been provided for the cell block at the rear, the front verandah and the old kitchen. As funds are available, further work will be undertaken. In the meantime, there is plenty to be done and it is intended that, from now on, there will be a working bee every second Saturday, when members' services will be most welcome. The next such working bee after you receive this NewsSheet will take place on 15th June. Anyone willing and able, please get in touch with Alan Harding Ph. 221-1388 Day. 82-4775 Night.

Already the grills made at Long Bay Jail have been installed, some of the windows have been repaired, and other preliminary work has been carried out.

The Association hopes to complete all the restoration work within a period of three years and in the meantime we will gradually make use of the premises more and more. The first interior room to be restored will be the old "Charge Room", which should eventually resemble its earlier Victorian appearance. Two gallons of white gloss paint have been very generously donated by B.A.L.M. and this should make an initial onslaught on the gloom.

CIVIC TRUSTS GROUP FOR N.S.W.

Since the initial meeting which Management Committee members attended on 4th April at Beecroft-Cheltenham, the Steering Committee has met twice, first at Hunter's Hill and then at Balmain, and the third is to be held at Parramatta in the near future, after which the proposed Constitution will be analysed and, it is hoped, accepted without undue delay. Members will be kept advised of progress.

3RD COMMONWEALTH STUDY CONFERENCE

On the afternoon of 23rd May, your Management Committee was asked to meet a discussion group from H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh's Study Conference, when the subject matter was "Human Problems of Industrial Development and Re-development in Commonwealth Countries". This culminated in an early barbecue supper before the Group rushed off at 7 p.m. to view another project at the Chatswood Evening School for Adult Education.

The President has received a letter from the Group Chairman, which reads, in part:

"The part you and your fellow Association members played in this result (profitable experience) was of great importance: the opportunity to talk with you on the human problems and change in the area of Balmain was greatly appreciated."

NOMINATION FORM - ELECTION OF OFFICERS - 1968/69

We hereby nominate the following member for the position of:

- President
- Vice-President
- Treasurer
- Hon. Secretary
- Management Committee

Please indicate the office intended AND USE A SEPARATE FORM FOR EACH NOMINATION.

Signature of Candidate: _____ Date: _____

Proposed by: _____

Seconded by: _____

FORM TO BE COMPLETED AND RETURNED TO HON. SEC. BY
25TH JULY.

cut out

cut out

**NEXT GENERAL MEETING
Balmain Town Hall**

13 th. JUNE 8pm sharp

QUESTIONNAIRE: With this issue, you will find a set of questions compiled by members of the Dept. of Government at Sydney University doing research into local organizations. Association members agreed at the last meeting that they would be willing to cooperate.

Stamped envelopes are provided for replies, which should be returned by Monday, 17th June. Or else bring them with you to the General Meeting on 13th June.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Anyone interested in the Association and/or intending New Members may obtain details from the Secretary, by filling in and mailing the form herebelow.

The Hon. Secretary,
The Balmain Association,
Box 57, Post Office, BALMAIN. 2041

- # I wish to join The Balmain Association, for which I enclose Membership Fee of \$1.
- # I would like to receive details about the Association.
(Cross out whichever not applicable)

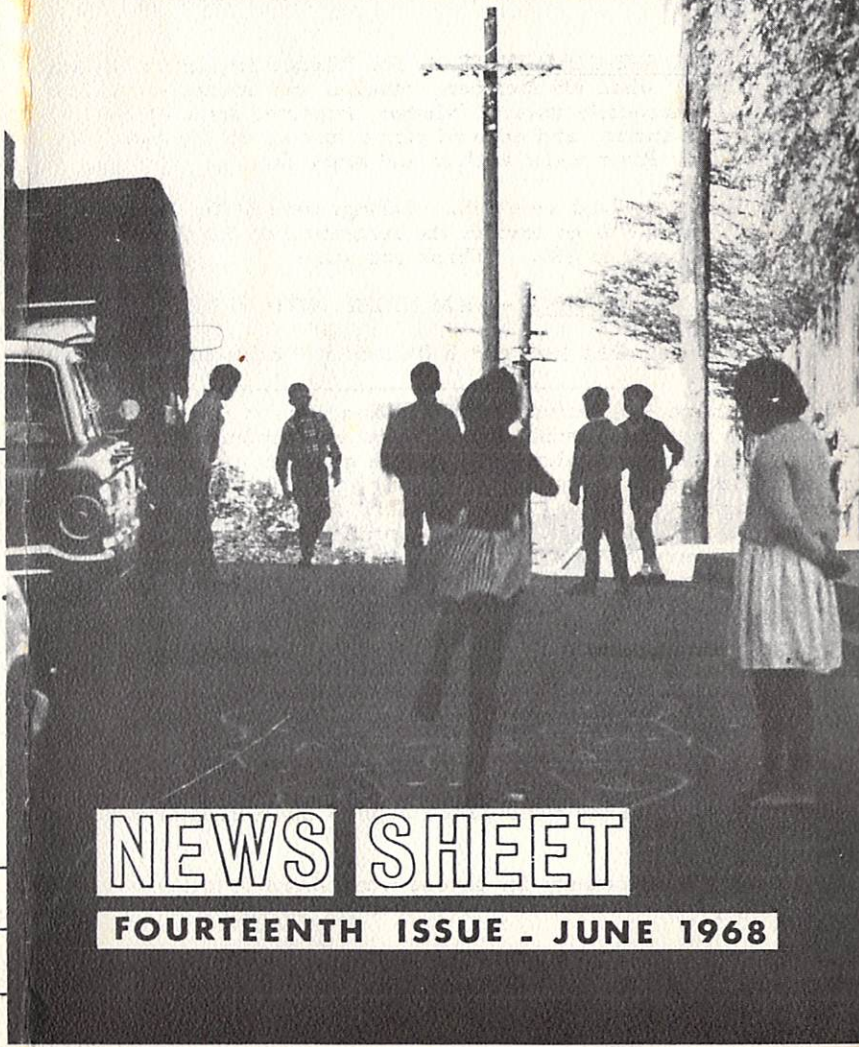
Name: _____

Address: _____

Ph. No. _____

170 Short

**THE
BALMAIN
ASSOCIATION**



NEWS SHEET

FOURTEENTH ISSUE - JUNE 1968

CALLING NEW MEMBERS!

We know that we have acquired quite a few new members lately and when they come to a Meeting for the first time, we should very much like to extend a friendly welcome. So when any new members do arrive, please be brave and accost the first person you see inside the door and ask him or her to take you along to the nearest Committee member. We do want you to get to know us and we to know you, with the least possible delay.

ARCHITECTURAL SUB-COMMITTEE - Various members of this committee completed team-reports made of the area in consideration of the Leichhardt Council's Town Planning Scheme, against which objections had to be lodged with the Council by 6th June, 1968.

The completed information was then compiled into booklet form, in conjunction with the Publicity sub-committee who handled the production side, and copies were formally lodged with the relevant authorities. (For further details, see under TOWN PLANNING SCHEME.)

FUND RAISING SUB-COMMITTEE - The Windsor Inspection Day was a good success, when 105 members, families and friends visited the historic, old Macquarie town of Windsor, inspected some of the noteworthy landmarks, and enjoyed picnic lunches on the banks of the Hawkesbury River under a clear and sunny sky.

Total expenses involved were \$15. Takings were \$105, therefore the profit, which will go towards the restoration of the Watch House as usual, amounted to \$90. Thank you all!

**** COMING EVENT - FILM NIGHT WITH A DIFFERENCE

Friday, 21st June *** 8 O'Clock *** Balmain Town Hall

The programme will include an "Exposition of Film Making" by Association member, Dennis Grafton, who is a professional filmmaker, and there will also be films with glimpses of Balmain personalities, taken at various protest meetings. (Maybe you have been "caught" on film? Come and see!) And some films on interesting historic buildings, both in Australia and overseas, as well as a special preview of a film shortly to be exported to America. Subject? We honestly don't know, so come along and find out.

BRING 50¢ for ADMISSION. Coffee served.

HISTORICAL SUB-COMMITTEE - This group will be holding its next meeting at the MacGillicuddys', No. 1 Ballast Pt. Road (Point end), Wednesday, 19th June, 8 p.m.

Main item of interest to ALL Association members will be the re-display of the Historical section of the recent Photographic display which was shown in the Head Office of the Commonwealth Bank around Easter time.

This is another opportunity for anyone who missed it to see this interesting panel of material. Any member interested very welcome.

NOTICE OF FORTHCOMING ELECTIONS - Office Bearers, 1968/69

These elections will take place at our ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING which will be held on Thursday, 8th August next.

Immediately on the back of this section of your News Sheet, you will find a Nomination Form. ACT NOW and select your candidate for election. Complete the Form, cut it out and see that it is in the hands of the Hon. Sec. by 25th July.

Extra Nomination Forms will be available at the next General Meeting on 13th June.

To ensure that each sub-committee has direct liaison with Management, it is suggested that every committee sees to it that at least two of its members are nominated.

Please give this election serious thought. It is your obligation to record a vote.

LEICHHARDT TOWN PLANNING SCHEME

As members will know, the production of a booklet to contain town planning suggestions for submission to the Leichhardt Council at the time the Council's Town Planning Scheme was ready for consideration has long been the intention of the Association.

Such a brochure has now been produced. It is basically the work of members of the Architectural committee and various other co-opted members who have gone over the Zoning map for the Balmain/Rozelle area, in conjunction with the Council Ordinances, and produced, area by area, their relevant condemnations, alternatives and proposals for improvement and regeneration of the Balmain peninsula, having due regard for old established industries, residential requirements, open space requirements and the likely degenerative effects of recently introduced (and future similar usages) port and heavy industry developments in this predominantly residential area.

The book is well set out and generously illustrated with maps, diagrams and photographs and the final production and presentation was achieved with the cooperation of the Publicity committee.

You will realise that this has cost us money, but only a fraction of its real cost because of the many hours of work put into it by members. Roughly, it has cost us \$1.00 per copy. We want to recoup as much as we can. Members may purchase a copy for 50¢, non-members for \$1. We honestly believe that every member living in contentiously zoned area SHOULD get a copy, since there is the possibility that Council may consider some of our recommendations and suggestions.

Copies were delivered immediately to the Town Clerk, the Town Planner and all aldermen of the L.M.C., to the Minister for Local Government, the S.P.A. and our local and Federal Parliamentary members. We know already that the Leichhardt Town Clerk has commented appreciatively on the presentation and certain of the contents of the book, and we now await the Council's re-action.

COPIES WILL BE ON SALE AT THE GENERAL MEETING. When you buy your copy you will notice that it has been pungently illustrated with a number of excellent photos taken by Mr. R. S. Beverley, one of the Judges in our recent photographic competition. This surely must bethe first tangible impact our competition has had on the public! Mr. Beverley must have been so impressed with its potential that he rushed to the aid of Battling Balmain. Mr. Beverley, Sir Galahad, sir, we thank you!

LIBRARY SUB-COMMITTEE - The response to the call for copies of suitable books for the WATCH HOUSE CHILDREN'S LIBRARY has been only MEDIOCRE. We need lots and lots of books. Maybe you haven't got any spares yourself, but what about checking with your friends and relations? Donations towards the purchase of new books will be gratefully accepted also

If you have managed to unearth a few copies, please bring them to the meeting on 13th June, or ring

Mrs. (Jeannette) Stevenson - 82-4255
and she will be happy to arrange collection.

Sincere thanks must be extended to publishers, Thomas Nelson, Heinemanns and Collins, who have all very kindly responded to the Association's request for help and made a number of books available to us free of charge.

PUBLICITY SUB-COMMITTEE - Immediately after the closing of the display of the Photographic Competition prints in the City bank, this sub-committee presented the coloured transparencies for public viewing in the Balmain Town Hall for 3 consecutive nights, on April 30 and June 1 and 2.

April 30 was the Gala Night, when prize winning prints were hur successful exhibitors invited to attend, speeches were made and prizes handed out. About 180 people packed into the small hall and we think they all enjoyed the evening's proceedings.

As guests, we had with us the new local State Member of Parliament, Mr. Degen, and his wife, and Mr. R. S. Beverley, who was, unfortunately, the only member of the Competition judging panel who was free to accept our invitation on that evening. Mr. O'Connor, the Federal Member, who was also invited, regretted that he had to be present "in another place."

Mr. Beverley very kindly gave a short impromptu address on the points the judges looked for when appraising competition entries, after which the 60-odd accepted slides were shown to the assembly.

During the evening, the President read the following letter received from Mr. R. N. Walker, Director of The National Trust.

"I had the pleasure today of viewing the 'Balmain in Focus' exhibition at the Commonwealth Bank and the Association's historical record of Balmain. I found both of these most interesting, and to one who does not know Balmain as intimately as those who live there, it gave an excellent and easily assimilated impression of the character and fascinating history of the suburb

This message was quite unsolicited, therefore the more gratifying.

During the two subsequent evenings when the slides were shown, the audiences were smaller, but nonetheless enthusiastic, and the Committee members were kept busy answering many questions.

There is no doubt that this was a well-organized, attractively presented publicity vehicle, both for the Association and the suburb; we know that it has been seen, literally by thousands of people; we can only hope that in some tangible way the immense amount of hard work put into it will pay sympathetic dividends in the not-too-distant future.