

THE LATE JOHN THOMPSON

As a gesture of goodwill and appreciation for the memory of John Thompson, who died on 19th July, The Balmain Association will make a donation to the Foundation for Aboriginal Affairs, in which he was actively interested.

John Thompson was not only a man of letters and an Australian poet of note, but he was, of course, also the President of the Paddington Society, who will surely miss his guiding hand and to whom we send our sympathy.

CUTTING TREES IN BIRCHGROVE PARK

Many months ago, the Association noted with concern the fact that branches of a large Moreton Bay Fig tree growing in the Park had been lopped by contractors engaged on the Birchgrove House home unit development. The matter was also taken up by the L. M. C. and they have now advised that the trunk of the tree was within 2 ft. of the boundary between 67 Louisa Road and Birchgrove Park and that action taken in lopping the branches was, therefore, legal.

Some distance from this tree and in a position such as not to effect the views from the home unit development, another tree in the Park has been found to have died and has been removed. The Park's Supervisor does not know whether the tree died prior to the removal of the trunk.

Any member noting destruction of this nature near any of the demolition or building sites in the area should lose no time in contacting the Council and requesting immediate investigation.

THAT SHED AND THAT CRANE ...

In a letter to the Minister for Local Government, the Association's President requested independent investigation into this new evidence of piecemeal planning, in view of the fact that - at the time of writing - the State Planning Authority had not approved the Maritime Services Board's plans for the erection of the towering shed at the old Pilcher's Paddock end of the new container wharves for the purpose of housing the huge crane necessary for the operation. The Minister has since given his sanction - as usual - and the shed will now be 960 ft. long instead of 300 ft. as originally stated, but its height will be lower by some FIVE ft. Some compromise!

OUR TREASURER HAS HIS SAY

All of you who heard Association Treasurer, John Mackenzie, on radio recently (20 minutes in John Pearce's NEWSMAKERS, and 5 minutes in David Patterson's SYDNEY BEAT, both on 2GB) will agree that he covered the case for Balmain in its present sad and battered plight in a thorough and sympathetic manner.

45 WHARF ROAD

Members will be heartened to learn that at least one old residence on the Snail's Bay waterfront has been saved from the demolisher and possible subsequent erection of home units. We understand that two doctors have purchased 45 Wharf Road and intend restoring the property in a suitable manner.

3RD ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - 8TH AUGUST

With the distribution of this NEWS SHEET, we remind all members that this is the occasion on which you make your choice of Executive and Management Committee for the next 12 months, and it is most desirable that you make an effort to attend and record your votes.

NOMINATIONS FOR THE YEAR 1968/69

PRESIDENT	Mr. Robert Irving	)	
VICE-PRESIDENT	Dr. John Power	)	Unopposed.
TREASURER	Mr. John Mackenzie	)	
SECRETARY	No nominations received.		

Seven to be elected from the following for Management Committee:

		<u>Already active on the following sub-committees -</u>
	Mr. Robert Beverley	Architecture
#	Mr. Keith Campbell	
	Mrs. Tonia Godhard	Fundraising
#	Mr. Bill Haesler	Library/Publicity
#	Mr. Alan Harding	Arch./Hist./Watch House
#	Mrs. Jocelyne MacLeod	
	Mr. Lin McKeon	Architecture/Library
	Mrs. Sibyl Masterman	Fundraising/Hist./Watch H.
	Mr. David Porter	
#	Mrs. Rose Pickard	Fundraising/Library/History
	Mr. Richard Wright	

#Management Committee 1967/68

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
at Balmain Town Hall

8th AUGUST 8pm sharp

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

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

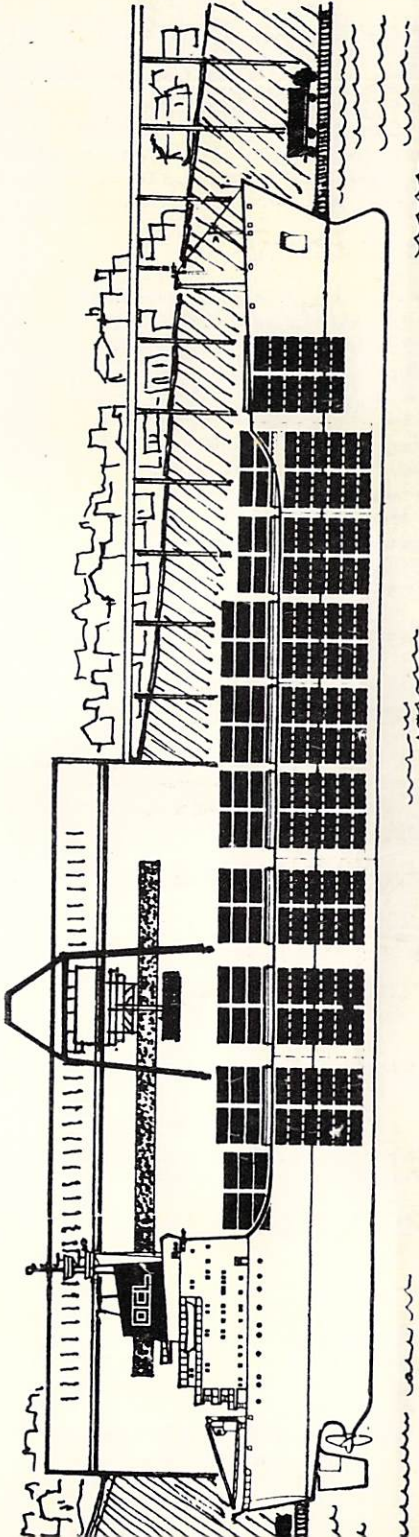
The Hon. Secretary, The Balmain Association,
Box 57, Post Office, BALMAIN. 2041

- + I wish to join The Balmain Association, for which I enclose Membership Fee of \$1.00
- + 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
FIFTEENTH ISSUE - AUGUST 1968

LEFT: Diagrams of a container ship which will use the new terminal at White Bay.



IDENTIFICATION AT GENERAL MEETINGS

As from the Meeting on 8th August next, Management Committee members will wear a Black & Yellow bow at all General Meetings as a means of identification for those relatively new and/or brand new members. These committee people will be very happy to give any information they can about the Association and its activities and to steer prospective sub-committee members into the desired groups.

SUB-COMMITTEES

For the benefit of members recently joined, members of sub-committees do not need to be elected. It is sufficient to be interested in a certain sphere of the Association's activities and to link up with that particular group.

So that these sub-committees will coordinate their efforts beneficially, the Management Committee recently requested that each such committee should see to it that at least two of its members would stand as candidates for Management. In this way, each group would obtain representation on the Management Committee and be in a position to maintain effective liaison. Where applicable, the sub-committees involved are noted against the names of candidates listed elsewhere on this Sheet for the forthcoming elections.

ARCHITECTURAL SUB-COMMITTEE

Plans are continuing to follow up research on historical buildings in the area for recommendation to the National Trust as worthy of preservation.

Further investigation will be undertaken into the classifications of "Town House" as against "Terrace House", so as to be ready for any future decisions made by the Leichhardt Town Planner, who is known also to be investigating this question.

FUNDRAISING SUB-COMMITTEE

SATURDAY, 31ST AUGUST - We haven't had a Party for a long time. But since Spring is just around the corner, we will be having an

"EVE OF SPRING" PARTY on 31st August at
No. 1 BALLAST POINT ROAD. 8 P.M.

Wear a flower (be one of the Beautiful People), bring your own drinks and

\$1.00 ADMISSION - and we provide supper.

We promise our usual swinging time, and we do want all new members to come along and meet their fellow members. See you!

SUNDAY, 13th OCTOBER - Keep this date free for another
HOUSE INSPECTION DAY IN BALMAIN.

Five individual houses, sharply contrasting in architecture and period, will be open, as well as two houses in the same terrace, both newly renovated in distinctively different styles ... and, of course, our Watch House will again be open. Full details will be circulated at a very early date. In the meantime, let all your out-of-Balmain friends know, and make up a party. Remember how popular the Inspection Day was which we had two years ago? Help to make this another such profitable occasion.

ALL FUNDS RAISED GO TO THE WATCH HOUSE
RESTORATION WORK.

HISTORICAL SUB-COMMITTEE

Information has been sought by The Illawarra Historical Society for an Inspection Day they intend to hold in Balmain early in September. As a point of interest for the tour, Mr. L. Barton has agreed to allow the visitors a quick look over his newly restored old house in Vincent Street.

The Nicholson Street School has asked if the historical/pictorial display as incorporated in the recent Photographic Competition could be shown at the school during Education Week in August, and preparation for this is now afoot.

Incidentally, in answer to the many enquiries, this pictorial record of early Balmain history will be permanently located at the Watch House as soon as conveniently practical, where it will be mounted and available for viewing.

LIBRARY SUB-COMMITTEE

To date, 200 new books and 100 good, usable secondhand books have been received for the Children's Library, and the committee is busy cataloging and classifying.

This is a good start ... BUT ... 300 books don't make a lending library. Please keep up your efforts and continue to scout around for further volumes. Mrs. (Jeannette) Stevenson is still willing to arrange for collection if necessary .. ring her at 82-4255 .. if you can't bring them with you to the Meetings. Cash donations would be most welcome, also.

As a matter of interest, this committee has written to the Commissioners for the S.C.C. in an endeavour to learn what will happen to the Library which has been located for many years at Glebe, now that Glebe forms part of the L.M.C. Unfortunately, no reply has so far been received.

PUBLICITY SUB-COMMITTEE

With so many contentious problems in the Balmain area at present, it has been found impossible to keep up with the great variety of coverage in both Australian and overseas press and journals, as well as local radio and T.V., dealing with container berth and kindred matters. As a means towards keeping the Association fully informed on such items of interest, this committee invites all members to assist in monitoring the news and asks you to let us have any details you may have sighted or heard, WITHOUT DELAY. Please ring Graham Stevenson and give him the name of the paper, journal, radio or TV station, dates and times, etc. Business - 2-0272. Home - 82-4255.

New member drive ... On the premise that the more members the Association has, the stronger it will be in its endeavours to have an effective say in the affairs of the community, the Publicity committee would like to urge all members to try and get at least one new member to join our ranks within the next few months ... not forgetting at the same time that PROMPT RENEWAL of your current memberships are most desirable!

It is also suggested that members could write INDIVIDUALLY and directly to the Minister for Local Government about matters in the Municipality over which they feel strong concern. If a number of such letters reach the Ministerial desk, THIS COULD BE ANOTHER MEANS OF FOCUSING ATTENTION ON OUR PROBLEMS.

WATCH HOUSE SUB-COMMITTEE

Now that the grills are in and the windows well on the way to being re-paned, many local people are beginning to take more notice of our Watch House and, as a means of fostering some pride in our historic past, it has been decided that a notice will be erected at the site announcing that this is a National Trust property and that it is being restored by The Balmain Association.

Already the building has been inspected by a number of groups and bodies, the last being the Royal Australian Historical Society on 20th July, and it is felt that, as restoration progresses, the Watch House will become increasingly popular for this type of activity.

Working bees will continue to be held on every second Saturday and there is always a job for someone to do. Please check at the Meeting on 8th August with MR. ALAN HARDING and find out how you can help.

Approaches are being made to many of the business and industrial firms in the district for donations towards the restoration work, and if you know a likely donor, please check with the committee to see what steps should be taken.

SAVED FROM THE AXE!

Recently, two Committee members were able to purchase for a lolly-pop a very nice small cedar staircase and a quantity of good cedar timber which will be put to good use in the Watch House. This was achieved with the aid of a sympathetic wrecker on the site of demolition work in Johnson Street, Balmain East.

OBJECTIONS BOOK

Copies of the Association's Objections to the Leichhardt Town Plan are still available at 50¢ each to members - \$1.00 to others. This booklet is still worth purchasing, because the Town Plan has not been finalised yet and the outcome could affect quite a number of our members. These will be again on sale at the Annual General Meeting.

CHRISTMAS CARDS 1968

The Association hopes to have another issue of Xmas cards depicting the local scene ready in time for overseas postings. Make a note of this for later in the year.

GLEBE ALDERMEN - 1ST NIGHT APPEARANCE AT THE L.M.C.

Members are reminded that on Tuesday, 6th August, at the next meeting of the Leichhardt Council, the three newly appointed aldermen for the Glebe Ward will be making their debut with the L.M.C. These gentlemen are:

Dr. H. J. Foley	A.L.P.
Mr. J. L. McMahon	A.L.P.
Mr. R. G. Walker	IND.

We feel that as many members as possible should be present. The inclusion of this Ward in the Leichhardt Municipality will, in all probability, have some interesting effects, and 6th August may foreshadow a few fireworks.