

# THE BALMAIN ASSOCIATION

Issue No. 31.

April, 1971.

## *Wine and Cheese Party*



TICKET \$1.50

AT THE HOME OF TOM AND BARBRA  
FLOWER, 10, EWENTON STREET, EAST  
BALMAIN AT 8.30 PM ON SATURDAY,  
17TH APRIL, 1971.

DRINKS AND FOOD PROVIDED.

CONTACT

MRS VICTORIA JOANNOU

14 PASHLEY ST.

BALMAIN 82 5172

MRS JOSLYN MORRIS

26 LLEWELLYN ST.

BALMAIN 82 2565

HERE WE ARE AT  
THE WINE AND CHEESE  
PARTY AND DONT  
KNOW ANYBODY.



WAITER



# THE ASSOCIATION

The Balmain Association has been described as combining the best qualities of a local Historical Society and a Progress Association. It has a central Management Committee and a number of Sub-committees which cater for a wide variety of interests. All welcome new members. It is a particularly good way to get to know other Balmainites as well as enlarging an interest and having fun.

Committee convenors are :-

|                |                                                                           |         |
|----------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| Architectural: | Bob Beverley                                                              | 82 5279 |
| Drama Group:   | Diana Rogers                                                              | 82 3819 |
| Library:       | Larry Lake                                                                |         |
| Publicity:     | Jocelyn Morris                                                            | 82 2565 |
| Historical:    | Peter Reynolds                                                            | 82 3752 |
| Watch House:   | Margaret Dobson                                                           | 82 2774 |
| Fund Raising:  | We are at present looking for a convenor and will welcome any volunteers. |         |

## MEMBERSHIP.

We now have 352 financial members but have still lost 140 through non-renewal. A new Membership Secretary, Mrs. Judy Bradshaw, will be making a drive to round up these missing subscriptions and to keep members aware of their financial position--as far as the Association is concerned!

## WATCH HOUSE ANNIVERSARY. Saturday, 24th April.

The first anniversary of the opening of the Watch House will be celebrated in a practical if unusual way, with a giant working bee.

A number of jobs need to be done, including clearing out the "Museum" cell and work in the grounds. Old Watch-house workers, new and prospective ones, rally to the call--we are hoping to provide a good brew when the work is over to drink to our anniversary.

Please bring your shovel, spade, chisel and anything else that might be useful. Anyone who has a truck would be very welcome, as we contemplate a few trips to the tip.

For further information, please contact the organizer, Bill Haesler, 5 Lookes Avenue, Balmain East. Telephone: 82 3956.

## DRAMA.

The Drama Group is at present rehearsing for its play "Out of the Crocodile" by Giles Cooper, which will be presented late in May at the Presbyterian Church Hall, Campbell Street, Balmain.

It promises to be very good, so look out for more publicity in May. Anyone interested in helping should contact Mrs. Diana Rogers - 82 3819.

## GLEBE DEMO.

On Saturday, 6th March, some of our members joined a demonstration held by the Glebe Society to protest against a proposal to build a block of flats in Ferry Street, Glebe. Approximately 300 Glebe residents, with contingents from the Paddington Society, Annandale Association and our Association, marched, carrying placards, through crowds of Saturday shoppers in Glebe's shopping centre to Ferry Street where a meeting was held.

The happy ending is that Leichhardt Council have now refused to allow the development application.

All those who doubt the value of such demonstrations, please note.

Another Balmain building has been saved from demolition and is being sympathetically renovated. "The Golden Cob" (the old post office) in Queen's Place will be opening in a few months' time as a wine bar serving reasonably priced meals and snacks. It has already been sand-blasted and steam-cleaned to reveal the original sandstone inside and out and the atmosphere will be heightened with the use of exposed beams and cedar panelling.

#### WESTFIELD.

The following is an extract from a reply to a letter written by the President, Bill Haesler :-

"We are pleased to advise that our Company is constructing a supermarket of about 20,000 square feet with adjacent parking facilities for Woolworths."

#### SIBYL MASTERMAN.

At the last General Meeting a collection was held for the Balmain Hospital in memory of Sibyl Masterman and raised \$45.60. Anyone who wishes to contribute to this fund can give their donation at the next General Meeting (15th April) or post it to the Hon. Secretary, Balmain Association, P.O. Box 57, Balmain, 2041.

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## *Garden Competition*

The Garden Competition will be held in Spring, so keep up your gardening efforts and don't be discouraged by all the weeds and caterpillars this moist summer seems to have caused. Last year's garden judges looked for such qualities as atmosphere, practicality, planning and inventiveness, so why not begin thinking about what you want from your garden or courtyard and planning its general shape and character.

Tentative judging dates are 18th-19th September, with inspection of the winning gardens on 26th September.

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#### TREE PLANTING.

Following the success of last year's tree planting in Curtis Road, the Architectural Sub-committee is hoping to plant trees again this year. It hopes to be able to plant some of the Association's plane trees in the park at the corner of Elliott and Beattie Streets and then continue with other trees approved by the Council along Beattie St., Rosebery St., across Mullens St. and down Ennis St. to Punch Park, thus creating a line of green linking two parks in an area of Balmain sadly lacking trees. The Committee hopes again to receive the same excellent co-operation from the Council that made the work a success last year.

The Association has many plane trees that require planting in Spring and they must be planted in parks where they have room to spread. Would people who live near parks, particularly parks at the end of streets, and who are prepared to assist the Committee in planting trees, please contact Bob Beverley, 'phone 82 5279.

### GLENDENNING.

Glendenning is the former name of the old West Side Centre at 395 Darling Street, Balmain. This charming house was designed, and lived in for several years, by the distinguished architect Edmund Blackett.

Glendenning was sold recently by the Methodist Church to Balmain Properties Pty. Ltd. This company wish to use it as a restaurant but the proposed use conflicts with the Leichhardt Draft Planning Scheme. The land is zoned for home units. If Leichhardt Council refuse its application, Balmain Properties will have a right of appeal to the State Planning Authority.

It is obvious that quite often the only way to preserve buildings of historic and architectural interest is to allow them to be used for a purpose contravening a planning scheme. This was recently recognised by the Sydney City Council to preserve historic buildings in the Rocks area. It is to be hoped that Leichhardt Council and the State Planning Authority will recognise this situation and, subject to adequate safeguards, permit Glendenning to be used as a restaurant.

What would you prefer? A texture-brick 3-storey treeless concrete-paved block of "units" or the preservation of this splendid example of Edmund Blackett's domestic architecture with the added cachet of being the architect's own house?

### COME TO THE COW PASTURES.

The Historical Sub-committee has arranged an all-day excursion and picnic to the Cow Pastures on Sunday, 4th April. It will include visits to such towns as Camden and Campbelltown with their lovely churches and historic buildings. Historical excursions are always extremely interesting and great fun, so why not come along this time.

The Cow Pastures area was opened up accidentally when some of the Governor's cattle strayed and were found a decade later flourishing in the bush. The area was called "the cow pastures" and settlers such as John Macarthur and Charles Throsby took up land there in the early 1800's. It became the richest grazing land in the Colony until the Blue Mountains were crossed and towns such as Camden, Campbelltown, Cobbitty, Narellan and Menangle sprang up as settlement spread.

Bring a picnic lunch and meet at St. John's Church, Camden, at 10.00 a.m. For further information, ring Peter Reynolds, 'phone 82 3752.

### BALMAIN IN TIME.

It is hoped that the booklet "Balmain in Time" will be received from the printers before Easter and will be on view at the Association's General Meeting on 15th April.

P.

# Crafts Sale

Artists and craftsmen set to work. The annual hand-crafts sale at the Balmain Watch House will take place on 26th and 27th November.

Exhibitors note:

- The more handcrafts on sale the better.
- Exhibitors must be members of the Balmain Association.
- The Balmain Association gets 10% commission on sales.
- For further information, 'phone Jeanette Stevenson - 82 4255 after 12 noon.



## WATCH THESE DATES

The Fund Raising Sub-committee has arranged a programme for 1971.

Saturday, 17th April, 1971. A wine and cheese party at the home of Tom and Barbara Flower, 10 Ewenton Street, Balmain East, at 8.30 p.m. Food and drink will be provided. Tickets at \$1.50 are available from :-

|                        |                      |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| Mrs. Victoria Joannou, | Mrs. Jocelyn Morris, |
| 14 Pashley St.,        | 26 Llewellyn St.,    |
| Balmain.               | Balmain.             |
| Tel. 82 5172.          | Tel. 82 2565.        |

Come along and bring your friends.

Saturday, 29th May. A family picnic at Lane Cove National Park from 11.00 a.m. Bring a picnic lunch, a barbecue, the kids, your egg, spoon and sack--you'll need them. Extravagant prizes. Enter from Lady Game Drive and follow the signs. The picnic spot will probably be over the bridge and to the right.

Sunday, 20th June. All-day inspection of Balmain buildings commencing at 10.30 a.m. Six buildings will be inspected including the Watch House. Bring a picnic lunch if you wish. Inspections are always very popular. It is a good chance to introduce friends from other necks of the woods to the charms of Balmain as well as being a marvellous fund-raiser for the Watch House restoration. Tickets are \$1.00 each and are available from :

|                    |                        |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| Mrs. Jess Haesler, | Mrs. Sylvia Robertson, |
| 5 Lookes Ave.,     | 30 Thames St.,         |
| Balmain East.      | Balmain.               |
| Tel. 82 3956       | Tel. 82 5650.          |

# COMING EVENTS

Sunday, 4th April. Picnic to Cow Pastures. 10.00 a.m.

Thursday, 15th April. General Meeting, Lower Town Hall,  
Balmain. 8.00 p.m.

Saturday, 17th April. Wine and Cheese Party at the home  
of Tom and Barbara Flower, 10 Ewinton Street, Balmain  
East. 8.30 p.m.

Saturday, 24th April. Grand Watch House Anniversary Work-  
ing Bee. 10.00 a.m.

Late May. Drama Group play "Out of the Crocodile" by  
Giles Cooper. Presbyterian Church Hall, Campbell  
Street, Balmain. 8.00 p.m.

Saturday, 29th May. Picnic to Lane Cove National Park.  
11.00 a.m.

Thursday, 17th June. General Meeting, Lower Town Hall,  
Balmain. 8.00 p.m.

Sunday, 20th June. Inspection of Balmain buildings.  
10.30 a.m.

Saturday, 3rd July. Riverboat Shuffle. A jazz night on  
the Harbour.

Saturday, 21st August. Courtyard Party.

Saturday, 30th October. Colonial Night at the Watch House.

Friday and Saturday, 26/27th November. Handcrafts sale at  
the Watch House.

Saturday, 11th December. Christmas Barbecue.

Sunday, 19th December. Children's Christmas Picnic.

Saturday, 19th February, 1972. First social function  
of 1972.

