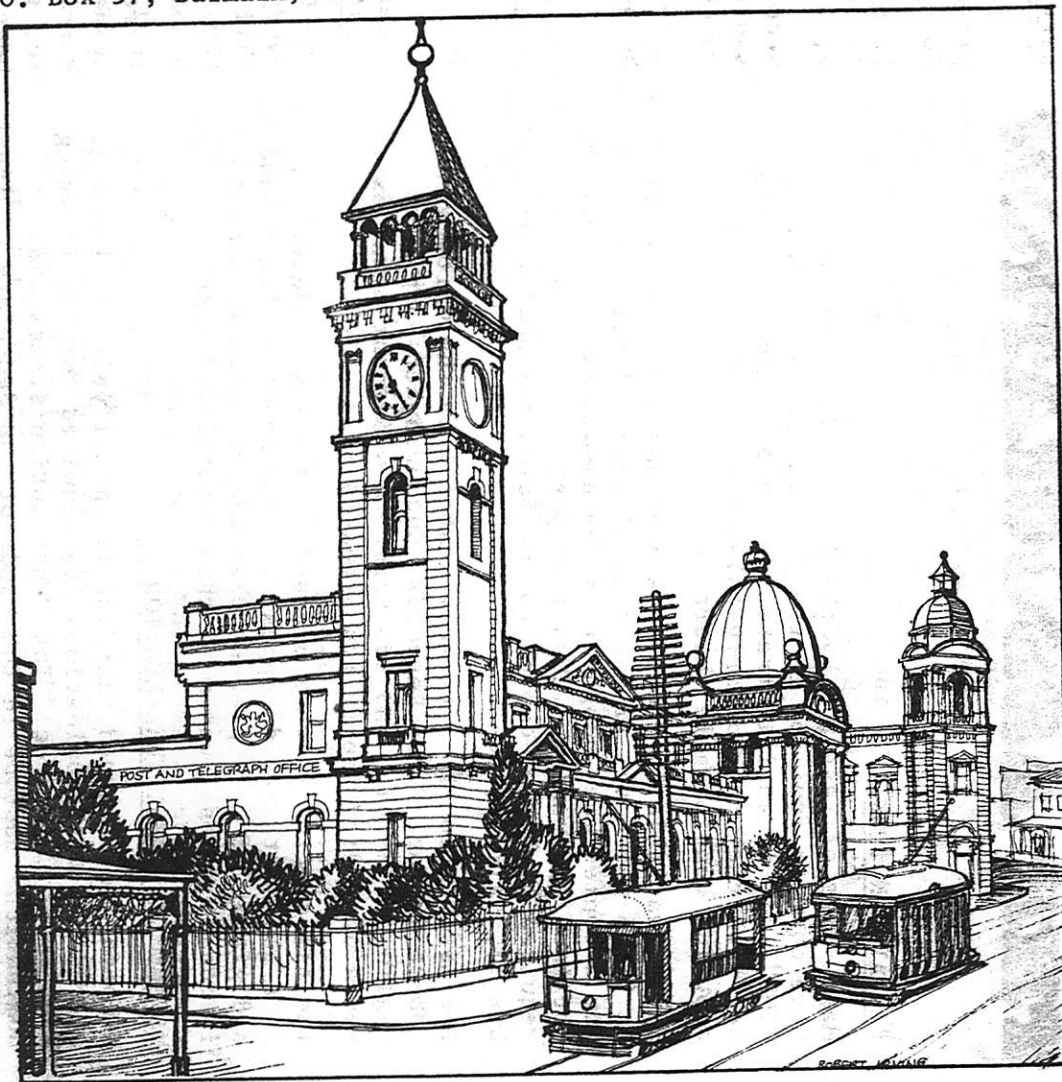


THE BALMAIN ASSOCIATION

Henry Michael Mackenzie 35 Wharf

P.O. Box 57, Balmain, 2041.

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THE ASSOCIATION

BALMAIN IN TIME.

Many years of research by the Association's historians have come to fruition in the publication of "BALMAIN IN TIME". It is an illustrated survey of Balmain's history and architecture and early sales have shown that it is arousing considerable interest.

It is available in local bookshops and from the Association at \$1.75 per copy, with a special members' price of \$6.00 for 4 copies when bought from the Association. It can be obtained by sending a cheque or postal order for the required number of copies to The Balmain Association, P.O. Box 57, Balmain, 2041.

The Association is extremely grateful to the writers Robert Irving, Peter Reynolds, photographer Douglass Baglin and Bettina and Bob Chambers who spent countless hours of their time in its preparation.

The Association is very pleased with sales to date. It is a book with a wide appeal ... How about buying a handful and giving it as a present when the occasion warrants? It does not cost much more than a bottle of wine!

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE ELECTION.

Members are reminded that our financial year is almost at an end and that nominations are required for the incoming Management Committee. The constitution states that nominations must be in the hands of the Secretary at least 14 days before the Annual General Meeting (i.e. by 29th July). Nomination forms must be signed by the nominee and the proposer and seconder.

The current Committee have done their best over the year to represent the wishes of the membership. If members feel that they or another are better suited to carry out the ever-changing role of the Association, the Committee sincerely hopes that they will come forward at this time. Too often responsibility has been carried on the shoulders of too few.

MEMBERSHIP - COME AND JOIN US.

Membership at present stands at 450 and all subscriptions will be renewable on 1st July.

It will cost you only \$1.00 to join the Balmain Association, so do not postpone it any longer. A subscription paid now will cover you for the whole of the next financial year. If you are unable to join at our General Meeting on 17th June, cut out this coupon and post it to the Secretary, Balmain Association, P.O. Box 57, Balmain, 2041.

Full membership fee	...	...	...	\$1.00
Pensioner membership fee	...	...	...	20c
Junior membership fee	...	...	...	20c

I/We wish to join the Balmain Association. I/We
enclose cheque/postal order for \$
in payment of subscription for 1971-72.

Name:
(block letters please)

Address:

... .. Tel No

BALMAIN NOTES.

It is doubly pleasing to note the setting up of the privately-run School of Visual Arts at 57 Nelson Street, Rozelle.

Firstly, an old factory building (once the Del Shoe Co.) is being converted to a new use which should enhance the richness and variety of life in our area.

Secondly, the school is already running classes for adults and children in expressive ballet and will commence art classes in June.

Enquiries should be made to Barbara Cuckson ('phone: 82 4853) to whom we wish every success.

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The Balmain Jaycees intend to hold a public forum on "Housing in Balmain" in July or early August. This should be very interesting as speakers will cover topics including "The History of Balmain" and "Home Renovation" and will deal with such other aspects as finance, law and investment opportunities.

LIBRARY.

The Children's Library, in the Watch House, continues to open every Saturday morning from 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon. All children in the Balmain area are welcome to use it and, if they wish to borrow books, they may register upon payment of a nominal fee of 40c.

There are now 62 registered borrowers and since the Library opened last December, an average of 22 books have been borrowed each session. The numbers are not large but even so, there have been times when the little library cell has been crowded.

For the most part, the book stock is made up of books that have been given to the library. We are most grateful to the donors, but without the purchase of new books, it is impossible to develop a well-balanced collection which can respond to the needs and demands of the users.

The Association has made funds available for the purchase of new books, but this has of necessity been limited. The principal need of the Library at present is for "easy reader" books for the pre-school children who make up the bulk of borrowers.

If any members of the Association or friends of the Library would like to help by a donation or the purchase of books, their gifts would be most welcome. They could be left at the Watch House any Saturday when the Library is open, or left with the Convenor of the Library Sub-committee, Mr. Larry Lake, at 5 James Lane, Balmain East.

PROPOSED MARINA.

Leichhardt Council has once again deferred a decision on the application by Mr. H.J. Stride to build a commercial marina on his waterfront property in Tilba Avenue, Balmain. The proposal would result in a wharf 300 ft. long and two substantial boat repair slipways and was strongly opposed by the Council's Town Planner, Mr. A. Kenna, on the ground that it would overload narrow, already crowded residential access lanes and would contravene the Council's Draft Planning Scheme.

Residents in the area have voiced strong opposition as they feel the proposal would destroy the one remaining unspoilt bay on the peninsula and would seriously affect the environment and amenity of the area.

Balmain's Mayor has recently stated that the waterfronts of the Balmain peninsula should be preserved as much as possible. Surely this is a case where it should be done.

THE BALMAIN THEATRE GROUP.

The Association's Drama Group has now come of age as the newly independent Balmain Theatre Group.

Its first production under its new name was "Out of the Crocodile" by Giles Cooper, which was extremely well acted and produced. Balmain is very fortunate to have such a talented and hardworking group of players, who deserve our support and encouragement.

The Association wishes the Group every success for the future and hopes it will continue to go from strength to strength.

HOME UNIT DEVELOPMENT.

The recent judgment handed down by Justice Hardie in the Land and Valuation Court permitting the development of an 8-storey flat building in Nicholson Street is another nail in the coffin-lid of Balmain.

For some time now residents have been alarmed at the increase in high rise flat development proposed for the Peninsula. Already dismayed residents have discovered that flats of this nature are proposed for Union Street, in Gow Street, Fitzroy Avenue, Wharf Road, Punch Street and Ballast Point Road.

The Association feels very strongly that indiscriminate development of this nature is harmful to the area, involving as it does high density buildings in areas whose roads can ill-afford to take the present traffic and parking. The Association has embarked on a campaign for a realistic approach to this new high-rise threat and requires the assistance of more residents whether Association members or not. Bill Haesler (82 3956) would be grateful to receive any information regarding proposed development known by residents and some indication of what action they have already taken to combat this.

A DIRTY WORD.

Pollution is a much overworked word these days, but as inner city dwellers we can see it all about us. Seeing a tall chimney belching out smoke is a depressing experience, but we must not be faint hearted as public and government opinion is at last aware of this threat to the quality of our lives.

Everyone can take a hand in improving our environment. If there is an offending chimney near you, complain about it to the Pollution Control Centre, Division of Analytical Laboratories, Lidcombe ('phone 649 2222) on every possible occasion.

The ideal situation would be for each person to appoint himself "watchdog" for a certain area, factory or piece of waterfront. Many people will be too apathetic to use their energy in this way, but how much longer can we afford to be apathetic?

People with access to the waterfront should watch factories, etc., for discharge of industrial wastes and report these to the Maritime Services Board ('phone 2 0545) or the Pollution Control Centre.

The rest of us can at least use bio-degradable detergents (or soap) and plant a few trees--but please not the sort that have to be sprayed with insecticides!

FUND-RAISING.

The Wine and Cheese Party at the home of Tom and Barbara Flower was a great success, both socially and financially. Approximately 150 members and friends enjoyed a mild evening in the Flowers' delightful garden and the Association profited by \$130.00.

HOUSE INSPECTION.

Our next major happening is the House Inspection on Sunday, 20th June, 1971, at 10.30 a.m. It already promises to be a great success and tickets are selling apace. We have arranged to inspect eight buildings, including six houses.

Rev. Andrew Soos of the Campbell Street Presbyterian Church has arranged to serve morning and afternoon tea in the Church Hall, Campbell Street, where his kindly and courageous helpers will also provide a child-minding centre, at a charge of 50c. per child per session (10.15 a.m. to 1.15 p.m. and 1.45 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.). Toys, etc., will be provided, but parents should bring any baskets or bedding the child will need.

Tickets for the inspection are bargain-basement value at \$1.00 each and are obtainable by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to the Association at P.O. Box 57, Balmain, together with a cheque or postal order for the number of tickets required. They are obtainable from :-

Mrs. Jess Haesler,
5 Lookes Avenue,
Balmain East.

and

Mrs. Sylvia Robertson,
30 Thames Street,
Balmain.

'Phone: 82 3956

'Phone: 82 5650

and will be on sale at our General Meeting on 17th June.

We have had requests for tickets from all over Sydney and even Newcastle, so don't miss out. It is a great way to convert your sceptical friends and relations to Balmainia.

GARDEN COMPETITION.

The Garden Competition will be held in September with tentative judging dates on 18th-19th September. Last year we discovered a number of lovely gardens tucked away in unexpected places. Many unpromising-looking clothes-hoisted concrete areas have been made into little oases where the owners can enjoy nature and the changes that come with the seasons.

Why not you?

COMING EVENTS - WATCH THESE DATES.

Thursday, 17th June, 1971 - General Meeting, Lower Town Hall, Balmain, 8.00 p.m. Refreshments served.

Sunday, 20th June - at 10.30 a.m. - An all-day inspection of 8 Balmain buildings, including 6 houses. Refreshments and child-minding centre at the Campbell Street Presbyterian Church Hall.

Saturday, 3rd July - Riverboat Shuffle - a jazz night on the Harbour. Ferry leaves Darling Street Wharf at 8.30 p.m. and Cove St. at 8.45 p.m. Tickets are \$1.50 each and are available from:

Bill Haesler, 5 Lookes Ave., Balmain East.
'Phone: 82 3956.

Please do not delay as it will be "first come, first served". A jazz band will be on board. Bring your own drinks and glasses.

Thursday, 12th August - Annual General Meeting, Lower Town Hall, Balmain, 8.00 p.m. Election of Office Bearers and Management Committee.

Saturday, 21st August - Courtyard party.

Saturday/Sunday, 18-19th September - Judging of Association Garden Competition.

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

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

HANDCRAFTS SALE.

The Association's annual handcrafts sale at the Balmain Watch House will take place on 26th and 27th November.

In the past there has been an extremely varied and interesting collection of articles on sale and shoppers have come from far and wide. The Association takes 10% commission on all sales. For further information, telephone Jeanette Stevenson - 82 4255 after 12 noon.

Riverboat Shuffle.

The Association's next social event will be a jazz night on the Harbour on Saturday, 3rd July.

The ferry will leave Darling St. Wharf at 8.30 p.m. sharp, and will call at Cove St. Wharf at 8.45 p.m.

A band will be on board and it will be a really swinging evening. Bring your friends and your own drinks and glasses. Tickets will be \$1.50 each and will, unfortunately, have to be limited, so hurry and obtain yours from :

Bill Haesler, 5 Lookes Ave., Balmain East.
'Phone; 82 3956.

LANE COVE PICNIC.

The sun could not have shone more kindly on our picnic at Lane Cove National Park on Saturday, 29th May. About 100 people turned up and, although at least one child was fished out of the river, everyone enjoyed themselves immensely. So much so that we are planning to make this an annual event.



ANNANDALE ASSOCIATION.

The Committee of the Annandale Association invites all members of the Balmain Association to their General Meeting on Tuesday, 22nd June, at the Annandale Council Chambers, 79 Johnston Street, Annandale. Following a short preliminary meeting, there will be an illustrated talk on "The History of Annandale from the Beginning to World War I" by Alan Roberts.