



the balmain association



balmain village fair

Looking for that little something out of the ordinary - handmade jewellery, pottery, bonsai, herbs - fancy some homemade jams, sweets, pickles or cakes - are you still searching for that Queen Ann Cruet, silver snuff box or antique clock - you may find just what you want at the Village Fair to be held Friday evening, November 28 and Saturday, November 29 at the Watch House. We open at about 6 pm on Friday evening so come along and have a sizzle stick and glass of wine while you browse through the bric-a-brac, children's clothing, toys and arts and crafts.

council report

LEIGHHARDT COUNCIL REPORT - November 4, 1975

Sale of Council Land

Council is negotiating to sell a block of land in Glebe to a private business. The land came to Leichhardt Council in 1968 when Glebe ward was transferred from the City Council to Leichhardt. Presumably, the City Council acquired the land with some sort of public use in mind.

Given the lack of adequate open space in the Leichhardt Municipality it is sad to see Council selling off land instead of retaining it. Councils are not, or should not be, in the real estate business.

Clubb Street, Rozelle

It has been extremely difficult for residents objecting to noise from a "backyard factory" in Clubb Street Rozelle to have the matter discussed in open Council. There have been numerous petitions and letters, but consideration of all these has been deferred for 28 days to enable the Consultant Town Planner to prepare a report.

The petitioners were refused permission to speak and when Alderman Nick Origlass (Balmain) attempted to speak on their behalf the Mayor, Ald. Rodwell said to the gallery "Every time Ald. Origlass opens his mouth he spoils your case".

The Rozelle Ward aldermen (Casey and Heffernan) were not at the meeting and unfortunately have shown in the past that they are not sympathetic toward resident's complaints. The residents themselves are not allowed to speak and the one alderman who is prepared to present their case would never get a hearing no matter what he had to say.

Alderman Doug Spedding (Leichhardt) proposed a works inspection but this was refused after Ald. Stan Hoy (Balmain) spoke against it saying that the Rozelle Ward Aldermen were aware of the situation. How can they be if there has never been a works inspection and they refuse to listen to the residents?

Use of Council Halls

A petition was presented, signed by 569 people, advising that the petition reflected strong discontent with the undemocratic and McCarthyist action of Council in refusing the Communist Party, its agents and like bodies, the use of halls, asking Council to review its trespass on democratic rights and to explain its views to the people. The accompanying letter requested that Mr. Dennis Freney be allowed to address Council.

Mayor Rodwell - "What is the position, does Council wish to hear this person?"

The answer was "No".

Council then received and noted the petition and reaffirmed its previous decision.

Local Newspapers

A letter was received from the "Leichhardt Local", advertising that four editions of the newspaper have now been produced and circulated to the 25,000 homes in the municipality and therefore is an appropriate medium for Council notices and positions vacant advertisements.

The letter was received and noted and no action taken.

Alderman Origlass pointed out that all Council advertising was going to another local newspaper "The Glebe" and Council should consider that residents might come to the conclusion that this was favouritism and draw some unfortunate inference

Each week "The Glebe" carries an article written by Mayor Rodwell.

Simmons Street Wharf

The Balmain Association sent a letter expressing concern at Council's intention to demolish the existing wharf at Simmons Street and to rebuild another smaller one, pointing out that repair of the wharf is far cheaper than demolition and reconstruction.

It was moved that the letter be received and noted. Ald. Origlass moved an amendment that the matter be deferred until there had been an investigation into the possibility of funding for the retention of the wharf.

The amendment lapsed through lack of a seconder.

projects and activities — reports

HISTORY GROUP ACTIVITY

Several years ago, Bill Ottley, a foundation member of the Association, gave us two bound volumes of "The Balmain Observer" covering the period 1884 to 1889. After the History Group members had examined the papers, they were donated to the Mitchell Library for safekeeping.

The Library now has local papers from 1899 onwards but there is a gap of 10 years which the Group would like to fill. If any readers can help to bridge this gap, Margaret Dobson (82 2774) would like to hear from you.

The Royal Australian Historical Society has been very generous to the History Group. Over the past year they have donated towards research on the Balmain Land Grants book. We are very grateful for this contribution towards payment of fees incurred in research at the Scottish Genealogical Society on the Balmain family records.

The book on the Balmain Land Grant by P. Reynolds and P.V. Flottman has been completed and has been forwarded to the Literature Board to investigate the possibility of grants for publication. Should sufficient money be available, it is expected publication will start after July, 1976.

Remember, the History Group meets on the first Monday of each month at the Watch House, 179 Darling Street, at 8 pm. All interested people are welcome. The next meeting will be on Monday December 1.

RAFFLE - MICHAEL LODGE ORIGINAL

Wendy Stapleton and Vicki Sutton of the Balmain Gallery (165 Rownstree Street) have very kindly donated an original Michael Lodge painting to the Association. Those of you who saw Michael's recent one-man exhibition at the Balmain Gallery will no doubt have been impressed by his colourful caricatures of Balmain life in a style reminiscent of his best "Bulletin" and "The Australian" cartoon

Michael has been commissioned to do a painting of the Watch House and the result will be on view at the Village Fair. Tickets are 50¢ each or 5 for \$2.00, available at the Fair or from any Management Committee member. The draw will be carried out at the Christmas Barbecue on December 14th.

CHILDREN'S PAINT-IN

The Children's Paint-In held on Saturday November 8 was a great success - perhaps our best paint-in ever! Notwithstanding the threat of rain, some 250 children had a great time painting a variety of subjects, including themselves. An added attraction this year was "Pipsey Storm" (of 3 West Head Rd. Terry Hills) a group of clowns who taught the children various folk dances and staged a "circus" after the paint-in. We would also like to thank the following groups for their contributions to the paint-in -

Bowater Paper Co. for donation of all the paper used.

Fielders Starches Ltd. for the donation of 12.5 kg of "Instant Map" starch.

Balmain Primary School for the loan of brushes and easels and the sale of drinks to the Assoc. at cost price.

MEMBERSHIP

At last our membership has broken the 400 mark for the first time in several years. There has been a resurgence of interest in the Association in recent months resulting in a steady upward increase in membership. We urge you to maintain this interest by persuading your neighbours, friends and acquaintances to join the Association. Our next goal is 500 by mid '76.

cricket day

The Association's annual cricket match will be held again on Sunday, January 25, 1976 (Australia Day weekend), hitting off at 10.00 a.m.

Bring the family, friends and refreshments (liquid and otherwise) for lunch and tea.

For automatic selection phone Malcolm Garder on 82 1686 - a nominal fee of \$1.00 will be charged for players.

christmas barbecue

The Association extends an invitation to all members and their friends to our Annual Christmas Barbecue to be held on Sunday December 14, at 2 Numa Street, Birchgrove, from 4.00 pm onwards.

Bring your own food and drinks - fireplaces and wood will be provided.

leichhardt planning forum

The Leichhardt Planning Forum meets regularly on the second Monday of each month at 8 pm at the Balmain Watch House, 179 Darling Street. Everyone interested in planning matters affecting Leichhardt Municipality is welcome to attend. The group includes people from all Wards and discussion covers both current issues and long-term planning.

Copies of papers presented at a Conference organised by the Forum and held at Balmain Town Hall earlier this year are available from Maureen Townsing, 232 Johnston Street, Annandale for \$2.00 each plus 40¢ postage.

miscellaneous

BALMAIN THEATRE GROUP - Auditions

Auditions for our next production "A Balmain Revue", will be held on Sunday December 7 at 1 pm at the Presbyterian Church Hall, Campbell Street, Balmain. The Revue will be staged in February next year and rehearsals will begin shortly. We need actors, singers and dancers, as well as lots of help behind the scenes and with publicity. Membership of the Group is \$2.00 per year. Enquiries: Judy Coxon 82 4577.

watch these dates !!!

November 28, 29: Friday, Saturday
Balmain Village Fair (see this issue)
December 3, Wednesday, 8.00 pm
Association General Meeting
December 14, Sunday, 4.00 pm
The Association's Christmas Barbecue
(see note this issue)
December 20, Saturday
Balmain Theatre Group's Christmas Party
December 25, Christmas Day
A MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL!
January 25, 1976, Sunday
The Association's Annual Cricket Match
(see note this issue).
February, 1976
Balmain Theatre Group's next production
"A Balmain Revue".

new members

The Association would like to welcome the following new members:

Ms. P.D. Elliott
20/9 Nicholson St., Balmain East
Mr. & Mrs. V. Duncombe
33 Glassop Street, Balmain

membership form

I wish to open/renew my membership with the Balmain Association and enclose \$.....* subscription.

Name.....

Address.....

.....Telephone.....

Send to:

The Hon. Secretary, The Balmain Association, P.O. Box 57, Balmain, 2041.

*Subscription rates: Single membership \$2.00
 Family \$4.00
 Pensioner / Junior \$0.20

Mr. & Mrs. A. Blaxland
53 College Street, Balmain
Mr. M. McNamara
71 College Street, Balmain
Mr. & Mrs. P. Williams
68 Evans Street, Balmain
Mrs. Sue Bradley
4 Waite Avenue, Balmain
Ms. J. Bacon
22/2 Pearson St., Balmain
Mr. & Mrs. Bartlett
22 College Street, Balmain
Mr. & Mrs. J.P. de Monchaux
27 Nicholson St., Balmain East.
Mr. & Mrs. C. Buchanan & Sons
61 Mort St., Balmain
Ms S. Hilton & Dr. G.J. Stevens
64 Palmer Street, Balmain
Victor Pleshivtseff
17 Theodore Street, Balmain
Mr. A.J. Schofield,
18 William Street, Balmain East.
Ms. Shirley Ryan
25 Spring Street, Birchgrove.
Dr. V.J. Cornwell,
11 Cove Street, Birchgrove
Miss L.B. Walter
15/13 Campbell Street, Balmain
Mr. & Mrs. S. Baker
121 Stephen Street, Balmain
Ms P. Holdsworth
10/327 Balmain Rd. Leichhardt.
Mr. & Mrs. S. Lay,
8 Wise Street, Rozelle
Ms. B. Kernick,
9 Albert Street, Glebe.
Roy Harrington
39 Short Street, Balmain
Mr. & Mrs. A.W. Oakey,
14 Waterview Street, Balmain
N. Devonshire,
8 North Street, Balmain

And we wish to welcome back to our ranks:

Nick Masterman,
21 Reynolds Ave., Rozelle
John & Toni MacKenzie,
Blaxland Ridge Rd., Kurrajong.

next general meeting

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3 at 8.00 p.m.

WATCH HOUSE, 179 DARLING ST., BALMAIN

ALL MEMBERS PLEASE ATTEND

FRIENDS ALSO WELCOME

TEA and COFFEE PROVIDED