



the balmain association



*Loyalty Square
around the turn of the century*

Our thanks to Wal Gourdie of Balmain Police Boys' Club for making available this picture, and three others which will be reproduced in later issues.

WHAT HAPPENED ON AUGUST 11?

It would be difficult to say whether it was the promise of wine and cheese--or a desire to meet other members while sampling them--or the intention to find out just what is going on in our area which brought a good crowd of about 50 people to the Annual General Meeting in August. Probably the latter two reasons were the important ones and there was an opportunity for both on the night.

The first piece of information regarded the future of the ferry services. Despite incorrect rumours to which the local press had given unjustifiable credence, a letter was read from one of the ferry operators that they were planning to maintain the increased services for the time being. (See elsewhere in this issue.) For their own sakes, residents should support the ferries.

As the President's report appeared in the last edition of the News Sheet, it was taken as read and approved. David Porter drew attention to the excellent result of \$2,100 gained from fund-raising activities through the year. Our thanks to Diana McDonald, Narelle Hooper and Janine Oates for organising some much enjoyed events.

Richard Norman had prepared his Treasurer's report before his overseas visit. In his absence David Porter informed members that the accounts had been audited by Mr. W.H. McCarthy, who has kindly agreed to take on the job next year. On a previous occasion Mr. McCarthy commented that the job was not a difficult one as Richard had prepared for the audit so thoroughly. Our thanks to both. Margaret Dobson reported that the membership was now approaching 500, which is attributed largely to the activities of our maverick Council. David Porter reported that the latter had taken a heavy beating over their mind-boggling town plan and had been forced to reduce residential densities considerably to comply with SPEC requirements. Unfortunately expressway routes still have to be shown.

"Half a Thousand Acres". Peter Reynolds reported that his book would soon be ready to go to press. A review of the book by Prof. Freeland was read in which he commented on the mysterious activities of Dr. Balmain and other shadowy figures which suggest the area was connected with rum smuggling! The book is good reading and should be on sale some time in October. It was reported that the Balmain Association had taken out a loan to finance the book and that the authors had agreed to donate their royalties to the Association. Evelyn Walker expressed the appreciation of the Association for this offer. A letter had been received from the Royal Australian Historical Society announcing a grant of \$50 towards the cost of illustrations for the book. This is very timely, as the dust cover is in course of preparation.

Social Activities. Diana McDonald reported that the dinner at Pawan's had been popular and booked out. It was hoped to organise another at the Jacaranda fairly soon. Other activities under consideration were a wine-tasting and a tennis day.

"Clontarf". David Porter told members that this historic building had recently been broken into and fires deliberately lit inside. Peter Reynolds said that the Professor of Building at the University of New South Wales had approached Council with an offer of a working party of 15 students and was still awaiting a reply. Evelyn Walker mentioned that the Association considered publication of research on the area as one of its most important functions, as this was the only way of discovering what was worth preserving.

Election of Officers. David Porter announced that Richard Norman had nominated for the position of Treasurer and Evelyn Walker for the position of Secretary. As no other nominations for these positions had been received, he declared them elected. In addition, Richard Kent, Margaret Dobson and David McCann had also agreed to stand for positions on Management. These he also declared elected. There remained therefore six Management positions to be filled. David continued that he was standing down from the presidency and this post and that of the Vice President remained vacant. He explained that a problem arose from the fact that no one known to the Association was willing to stand for President. If a nomination were taken from the floor from a complete stranger it might be found that such a person was not ideally suited to represent the Association. He suggested that the most appropriate course would be for the two positions to be filled at the first meeting of the Management Committee from their own number. R. Hooper therefore proposed a motion that, having received no nominations for President or Vice President, these two executive positions not be filled at the Annual General Meeting and that two additional Management positions be filled in their place. The positions of President and Vice President are to be filled by the incoming Management Committee at their first meeting from their own number. The motion was seconded by Rosemary Smith, put to the meeting and carried.

Nominations were then called for from the floor for the six vacant positions on Management. The following agreed to stand: Mary Cullen, Kerry Feldman, Helen Engle, Veronica Hagarty, Peter Colquhoun and Alastair Wilson. As the number of nominees equalled the number of vacant positions, no vote was required and they were declared elected. We would like to give them a warm welcome.

Evelyn Walker then called for a vote of thanks for all the work put in by David Porter, Diana McDonald and Ken Oates and other outgoing members. This was passed.

The final piece of business was of a social nature: Ralph Catts is hoping to start up a cricket team shortly. Anyone for cricket? Soon after this the meeting was adjourned and people had a chance to start new friendships and renew old ones while enjoying the cheese and wine.

E. Walker.

ferries

HERE TO STAY!

Contrary to reports in local papers--our information is that all ferry services to North Sydney are to continue.

The Balmain Association recently received this letter from the Managing Director of Stannard Bros. indicating his Company's intention to continue ferry services to North Sydney from Balmain.



Stannard Bros. GROUP
SHIPPING SERVICE
NO. 7 JETTY, WEST CIRCULAR QUAY.
C/- P.O. BOX 119,
GROSVENOR ST. SYDNEY 2000
TELEX: 25042 - PHONE: 21 4155

ATTENDANCE ON SHIPS
DURING CONTRACTS
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICES
GENERAL TOWING

3rd August, 1976

AGS:JN

The President,
The Balmain Association,
P.O. Box 57,
BALMAIN, N.S.W. 2041.

Dear Sir,

We apologise for being so late in answering your letter of 10th June but we now have pleasure in enclosing our cheque for \$100, being our agreed share in costs of the campaign.

We have noted all the points you have made concerning the partial success of the new ferry service to North Sydney and we understand that Mr. Macdonald of M.D. Macarty & Sons is prepared, like us are, to continue to operate the service, even though the numbers we are carrying are below expectations.

We sincerely hope you can assist in co-ordinating the bus to meet the ferry at McPherson Point and advise that we are prepared to call at Veand Street for a trial period when the wharf is repaired.

Thank you for your efforts on behalf of the citizens of Balmain and, indirectly, for ferry companies. We trust that we can continue to be associated.

Yours faithfully,
STANNARD BROS. PTY. LIMITED.

A.G. Stannard
A.G. STANNARD
Managing Director

Encl.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR ON LEICHHARDT COUNCIL MEETING, 17TH AUGUST, 1976.

Dear Sir,

This was the first Council meeting I had attended in about 20 years and, although I had no illusions about politics (at any level), I was "disillusioned" by this experience.

Firstly, it became quickly apparent that the meeting was merely rubber-stamping decisions made previously either "in committee" or in "caucus". The only independent was given most of the speaking time. (I had the feeling he was "se" up" and given "enough rope to hang himself"--which he did!)

Secondly, few Labor aldermen bothered to speak substantively in support of motions which they moved, knowing that their motions would be carried.

Thirdly, I think the time may be opportune for a petition to be organised in Leichhardt Municipality requesting the new Labor Government to implement Labor platform and making voting in municipal elections compulsory.

Finally, the advanced age of our aldermen appalled me as did their complacent attitude. A infusion of new generation type blood is most urgently needed.

Yours sincerely,
Brian Brady.

restaurant night

ASSOCIATION DINNER AT THE JACARANDA RESTAURANT.

Following the success of our night at Pawan's recently, a dinner has been arranged at The Jacaranda Restaurant, 393 Darling St., Balmain, for Wednesday, 13th October, at 8.00 p.m.--reasonably priced at \$7.00 per head for dinner (wines extra).

The Jacaranda is earning a reputation for superb roast sucking pig served in a colonial atmosphere. The menu for October 13 will be : Entree - Roast Sucking Pig - Dessert. Wines are available by the glass, carafe or bottle at restaurant prices. Pre-dinner drinks are available at the Cocktail Bar.

This promises to be a really great night and you are advised to book early as only 50 tickets can be issued. Fill in the coupon below, cut it out and mail today to -

Mrs. Diana McDonald,
2 Tilba Avenue, Balmain. 2041.
(Phone 82 4882).

DON'T FORGET TO ENCLOSE YOUR CHEQUE!

BALMAIN ASSOCIATION DINNER - OCTOBER 13.

I wish to book seats at The Jacaranda Restaurant, 393 Darling St., Balmain, and enclose \$ in payment. (\$7.00 per head.)

Name

Address

. Telephone

miscellaneous

HELP PLEASE!!

TELEPHONE CO-ORDINATOR.

To assist in co-ordinating arrangements for this year's Village Fair, would anyone who has a telephone and is prepared to take and relay messages please contact Diana McDonald on 82 4882 (preferably after 5.00 p.m.).

ANYONE FOR CRICKET?

The Association is considering forming a cricket team to play in a suitable local competition. Any member interested in transferring from another club or taking up the game again on a semi-regular basis is asked to contact Ralph Catts (2 0982, Ext. 9254 or at home on 82 4350)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to the "Leichhardt Local". One year old on August 19 and continuing to grow with every issue.

WHAT'S GOING ON.

Save the Public Transport Committee has a Discussion Meeting at 5.30 p.m. every Tuesday at Great Southern Hotel, George St., opposite Eddy Ave. (in lounge, back of hotel, right hand side).

The same committee require newsletter distributors in your own area. Ring Kevin Eadie (290-4687) or Don Morison (95-5731).

WEA of NSW is holding a public seminar at WEA House, 72 Bathurst St., Sydney, on Saturday, 25th September, on "Industrial Pollution - Whose Responsibility?". Full Seminar \$5.00; single session \$2.00

The Australian Labor Party's National Urban and Regional Development & Environment Committee has launched "Operation Feedback" to evaluate Labor's gigantic involvement in improving urban life-styles and its policy of "catching-up" in community facilities.

1. feel free, at any time, to write to the National Secretary (P.O. Box 1, Canberra, A.C.T. 2600) expressing your views on any area of activity (present or potential) of governments; and
2. in particular, let them have your views as to what needs to be done (long and short terms) to enhance the quality of life in both urban and rural Australia.

Recently a group of enthusiastic musicians got together and formed the Balmain Chamber Orchestra with 14 initial players, at the Campbell St. Presbyterian Church, Balmain, and ever since they meet at the church for their regular practice evenings. The Orchestra aims at presenting mainly Baroque and early Classical works.

The first public performance of the Balmain Chamber Orchestra will be on Sunday, 26th September, 2.30 p.m. at the Campbell St. Presbyterian Church, Balmain.

The first programme will consist of :

1. Concerto Grosso, Op. 3, No. 2 in G minor by Geminiani.
2. Suite from Fairy Queen by Purcell.
3. Recorder Concerto in F major by Telemann.
4. Contredanse by Salieri.

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

"THE CRUCIBLE" AT THE CHURCH.

On 7th, 8th and 9th October, Chiron College will present "The Crucible" by Arthur Miller, in the Campbell St. Presbyterian Church, Balmain, at 7.30 p.m. Tickets \$2.00, available from the Secretary, Chiron College (Tel.: 827 1854) or at Bray's Book Shop, or at the door, or ring Andrew Soos (82 1170).

new members

Mr. Harry W. Ross, 88b Darling St., Balmain E.
Ms. L. Walter, 1 Ann St., Balmain.
Mr. & Mrs. P. Colquhoun, 12 Ewinton St., Balmain.
Mr. R. Hawkins, 9 Reynolds St., Rozelle.
Mr. Tom Devitt, 17 Perrett St., Rozelle.
Messrs. R. Walmsley & H. Crompton, 47 Nelson St., Rozelle.
Mr. P. Simmons, 43 Wellington St., Rozelle.
Ms. Fiona Dawson, 2/67 Louisa Rd., Birchgrove
Mrs. C.S. Custance, 249 Darling St., Balmain
Mrs. M. Apps, 10 Caroline St., Balmain
Mr. A. Stephens, 3 Curtis Rd., Balmain
Mr. & Mrs. P. Kanas, 10 King St., Balmain
Mr. J. Young & Ms. S. Hall, 18 Thomas St. Balmain
Mr. R. Page, 12 Llewellyn St., Balmain
Mrs. M. Whyte, 25 Arthur St., Balmain
Mr. & Mrs. R. Harrison, 14 Rosebery St., Balmain.
Mrs. E. Page, 21 Dock Rd., Balmain
Mrs. C. McLoughlin, 92 Short St., Balmain
Mr. D.L. Weiner, 56 Gipps St., Balmain
Mr. J. Halloran, 7 Spring St., Balmain.

watch these dates!!!

Sept. 11, Saturday. Balmain Garden Club.
Visit to Stoney Range Wildflower Reserve,
Pittwater Rd., Dee Why. Please assemble at the
Watch House, 179 Darling St., Balmain.
Enquiries: 827 1727.

Sept. 13, Monday. Balmain Association Management Meeting. Watch House, 179 Darling Street, Balmain. 8.00 p.m. All members welcome.

Sept. 19, Sunday. Glebe Garden Walk.
Will commence at 2.30 p.m., at 12 Alexandra Rd., Glebe. Enquiries: 660 1083.

Sept. 25, Saturday morning. Balmain Garden Club.
Sale of plants, outside ANZ Bank, Darling St.
Moderate prices.

Sept. 21, Tuesday, 8.00 p.m.
Leichhardt Council Meetings, Town Hall,
Norton St. Leichhardt.

Sept. 26, Sunday, Balmain Chamber Orchestra
Concert, 2.30 p.m. Campbell St. Presbyterian
Church.

October 7, 8, 9. "The Crucible" presented by
Chiron College, 7.30 p.m., Campbell St. Presbyterian Church.

October 13, Wednesday. Balmain Association
Dinner at The Jacaranda Restaurant, 8.00 p.m.
(Full details this issue.)

November 20, Saturday. Balmain Village Fair.