



Issue 71
October, 1976

the balmain association



Working Men's Institute Darling Street, Balmain

**at about
the turn of
the century**

council report

Town Plan.

We will soon know what is in the 1976 Proposed Town Plan. The Planning & Environment Commission has found all in order (and so it should, since it was party to the behind-the-door negotiations) and is sending it off to the printing press.

The Degen Deal.

Leichhardt Council almost succeeded in giving the Degen family a virtual gift of 1,000 sq. ft. of Leichhardt Park. Council ignored both a current valuation of \$6,000 and the advice of the Town Clerk to get a valuation from the Valuer-General. Instead, they set a price of \$1,000. The added land increases the property size to be eligible for residential flat development.

Mr. Jensen, the Minister for Local Government, stepped in, but only as far as to say that the land cannot be sold for less than the value set by the Valuer-General.

It would appear that neither the Council nor the State Government is concerned about the further reduction of open parkland in our municipality.

Fun Parlours.

The great number of fun parlours in our municipality are under scrutiny--they will have to be licenced. Fair enough on some counts, but watch out for the following, all you prospective fun parlour owners :

- If Council wants it, you have to submit a character reference from a local police officer.
- You can be refused a licence if you have been convicted of an offence, of which Council does not like.
- Stan Hoy added another rule to the effect that a licence can be refused if the fun parlour is deemed "not in the public interest"!

Traffic Authority of N.S.W.

Council received a letter from Marrickville Council concerning the Traffic Authority of N.S.W. It seeks to have Councils directly represented on the Authority so that they can discuss any problems of proposals put forward by the Authority which affect our area. Alderman Origlass agreed with Marrickville Council and sought immediate action. Alderman Hoy, however, moved for a deferment, which of course was carried.

To show the great value of this Traffic Authority, these letters were on the Council business paper for 7th September :

1. Extending "Doctors' Reserve" parking in Booth St., opposite Balmain Hospital.
2. Proposing additional ½-hour parking restrictions along parts of Darling St.
3. Adding "No Standing Police Vehicles Excepted" near Glebe Town Hall.

4. Advising there is insufficient justification for the provision of a marked footcrossing near Annandale North primary school.

Election of Mayor.

At a special meeting of Council on the 28th September, Alderman Rodwell was again elected Mayor. A cosy supper of tea and cakes was had by all who cared to stay.

DON'T FORGET THIS YEAR'S VILLAGE FAIR



VILLAGE FAIR - SATURDAY, 20TH NOVEMBER, 1976.
2.00 - 10.00 p.m.

Once again the Association's Village Fair will be held in the grounds of the Watch House, 179 Darling Street, Balmain. Come along and do your Christmas shopping; join in the fun.

If you want to sell your handcrafts, etc., there are vacancies for stall-holders. Here is an opportunity to display your wares to the public. Get in touch with the organisers and book your position. Either write to P.O. Box 57, Balmain, 2041 or 'phone and leave a message. Telephone contact - 82 0576 or after hours

827 3185

PORT NOISE COMPLAINT.

Following the publication of my letter, in the Balmain Association's Newsletter, about the M.S.B.'s handling of my complaint about noise from Mort Bay, I received the following reply which may be of interest to members :-

23rd July, 1976.

Dear Sir,

I refer to your letter of 5th December, 1975, in which you raise the matter of noise emission from vessels at the Australian National Line's Terminal at Mort Bay.

Under the Noise Control Act, 1975, the Board's powers will be limited to the control of noise from vessels operating in navigable waters within its jurisdiction. As yet, however, no criteria for vessels have been prescribed by Regulations under the Act or appointments of Board officers made by the State Pollution Control Commission to enable the Board to take legal action in respect of noise from ships such as those berthed at the Australian National Line Terminal at Mort Bay. In addition, the State Pollution Control Commission is also empowered to give directions generally under the Act which would include instances where noise from vessels is involved.

The powers of the Board will include the issue of warnings in limited circumstances which may assist in abatement of noise from these sources. In the meantime, however, the Board has taken up the matter of complaints with the Australian National Line on a number of occasions with a view to the noise level being kept to a minimum. Such contact was made following receipt of your letter with its accompanying report, in December last.

The Board's officers are continuing discussions with officers of the State Pollution Control Commission in order to determine the Board's role in dealing with noise emissions from vessels with a view to enabling Regulations to be promulgated pursuant to the Noise Control Act as soon as this is practicable.

The Board, whilst appreciating that noise associated with the normal operations of ships may at times be objectionable, considers that the level generally emanating from the Mort Bay Terminal is not unreasonable, and on the occasions when the Board has had cause to approach the Australian National Line following complaints, the Company has effected remedial action. It has stated, furthermore, that its policy is to confine as far as possible its shipping arrivals and departures to the period between 7.00 a.m. and 10.00 p.m.

The Board has taken noise level measurements in the area, during both day and night, before and since your complaint and will continue to do so. All telephone complaints as to noise emission from commercial ships are recorded and passed on immediately to the shipping company concerned. If the location involved is one to which prompt access can be gained, an officer is despatched to investigate the matter. Duty officers who are qualified master mariners, are authorised to take whatever action they can, where necessary, but this will depend on circumstances at that time.

Regret is expressed for the delay in replying to your communication.

Yours faithfully,

J.E. BRADSTREET
Secretary.

Or in other words "Now radioff".

Yours sincerely,
Fergus Fricke.

MUNICIPALITY OF LEICHHARDT

CONGRATULATIONS TO MARKETOWN

On behalf of the Council of the Municipality of Leichhardt, I extend to the Management and Shopkeepers of the Leichhardt Marketown Shopping Centre Council's congratulations on the first Anniversary of the opening of the Centre.

**Les Rodwell,
(MAYOR).**

14 — THE GLEBE, SEPTEMBER 8, 1976

Congratulations to Marketown INDEED, for gaining the support of the Leichhardt Council. Marketown has succeeded where local residents have failed.

What was the cost of this advertisement to the ratepayers of the Municipality? What is the relationship between Leichhardt aldermen and the operators of Marketown that Council should find it necessary to insert such an ad?



THE IRIS : AN EASY CARE PLANT.

While there are many kinds of irises suited to different climates and conditions, the type that is readily available here, and does well, is the bearded iris. There are many sizes from minis of six inches to those of four feet, and a wonderful range of colours, from the original white, to different sorts of yellows, pink, reds, brown, many blues, orange, apricot and purple. Many are of several colours; thinking particularly of a pastel in four tints known as Jacob's Coat. Among the lovely varieties there is a golden brown called Gingerbread Castle, a black-violet Saracen Warrior and an orange and white one named Murmuring Morn and a tall cream one, Southern Comfort. My own favourite is a glorious copper-red with the unromantic name of Bang.

Bearded irises of named varieties are obtainable, in packets, from the chain stores, late in the year. If anything really special is required, it is usually necessary to send to specialist iris nurseries in Victoria.

Louisiana irises have been recently found to do well in Sydney, as they like a heavy rainfall, but they are not readily available here as yet. The bearded irises really like a colder winter than here, but still do pretty well. They are a fleshy rhizome and should be planted in a sunny well drained position, with no animal manures or rich compost. Plant almost on the surface of the soil, so that the fleshy part gets well sunbaked during the summer. This is essential for the following season's flowering to be good, also lessens risk of fungus invasion. Pin down roots with small bits of bent wire or hairpins and firm

soil around. About June scratch in some lime; and in September put around some superphosphate. No liquid fertilisers, as this will result in excessive leaf growth.

They are handsome plants in the garden border, with their bold grey-green pointed leaves and the flowering stems well above. Have few pests; sometimes grey aphids are seen near the base of the leaves. In this case, give a dusting of an insecticide powder and, of course, it is necessary to keep down snails.

After about two years, they will become overcrowded and need thinning out. Lift the whole clump with a garden fork and separate the outer pieces and discard the old centre bit. Trim the roots to about four inches, and the tops of the leaves the same length in a fan shape and replant about one foot apart. They do not need mulching in the summer.

They are long-lived plants and are often to be seen surviving on the sites of old houses. I remember them around the old abandoned pisé houses of the pioneers in South Australia. In company with other kids, I remember crawling through the wheat field on hands and knees so as not to be seen and going to play in an old red clay house. Though we mainly had our eyes on a tall pear tree covered in golden pears (no fruit fly there!) but also to be seen were clumps of white, yellow and purple "flags", as we called them; still living on, though the pioneer inhabitants had probably been gone fifty years.

There is a devoted Iris Society in Sydney and one of its members, Mr. Graham Grosvenor, of 44 Wesson Road, West Pennant Hills, (ph. 84 4405) has an Open Day once yearly, usually the last Sunday in October, so if interested in seeing his plants, chick first to see if date is correct for this year and go and pay a visit.

J. Murray.
Balmain Garden Club.

watch these dates !!!

October 11, Monday. Balmain Association General Meeting. All members welcome. Watch House, 179 Darling St. - 8.00 p.m.

October 13, Wednesday. Balmain Association Dinner at The Jacaranda Restaurant at 8.00 p.m.

October 19, Tuesday. Leichhardt Council Meeting, 8.00 p.m. Town Hall, Norton St., Leichhardt.

October 30, Saturday. Balmain Garden Club. Visit to a private Rose and Iris Garden. Please assemble 1.15 p.m., Watch House, 179 Darling St., Balmain. Enquiries - Tel. 82 2812.

November 2, Tuesday. Leichhardt Council Meeting. 8.00 p.m. Town Hall, Leichhardt.

November 10, Wednesday. Balmain Association Management Committee Meeting. 8.00 p.m., Watch House, Balmain.

November 20, Saturday. Balmain Association Village Fair. 2.00 - 10.00 p.m.

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