



the balmain association



balmain village fair
saturday Nov 5th
balmain watch house 179 darling street
9-30 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.

president's report

LEIGHHARDT COUNCIL ELECTIONS - POST MORTEM

Despite the enormous amount spent by the incumbent machine on advertising, the turn out was poor - only 55.4% in Balmain and 57.9% in Rozelle. I have included people left off the role who successfully claimed voting rights, but there must have been many newcomers who haven't yet notified the Commonwealth Electoral Office of their change of address.

Independents gained 53.1% of the primary votes in Balmain, resulting in the election of Origlass and Wyner, and 40.2% in Rozelle.

One of the past features in compulsory voting elections on the Peninsula was the ability of the "Old-Guard machine" to get a very high percentage (80% has been suggested) of voters to the Poll who voted the straight ALP ticket.

Hoy's preferences weren't counted, so we don't know whether or not they held, but assuming they all did (which is unlikely) the percentage of those eligible to vote who voted "the ticket" was only 30.9% in Rozelle and 23.9% in Balmain!

GLASS HOUSE AND CIVIC PRECINCT SAVED

Thanks to the alertness of Marina Garlick in spotting the defoliation of the Glass House, it was possible to set wheels in motion and abort this attempt by Mayor Rodwell to replace the precinct between Balmain Town Hall and the old Court House with an asphalt tarmac for car parking.

Marina's telegram was followed up by a phone call to Landa by the Association and an all-day visit to Rodwell and the Glass House by two people from the Department of Planning and Environment which caused the Mayor to stay his hand.

At the same time Nick Origlass had prepared a Petition on which Marina and the Association circulated, getting immediate response. Comment from a signatory was "serves me right for voting B-----Labor!"; an old dear wanted to know if it was Mr. Fraser's doing and was shocked to have the wool lifted from her eyes.

We contacted the local Labor Party branch, who passed a motion strongly condemning Rodwell's action, and we hand delivered our own submission to Paul Landa's office.

The upshot of this was a cap-in-hand deputation from the Leichhardt Council "old guard" to see the Minister. The way Rodwell put it at the Council meeting on 18th October was that he had acceded to Landa's personal requests for the retention of the Glass House and abandonment of the car-parking idea. As Ald. Origlass pointed out, residents would have been more impressed had he given weight to the hundreds of people

who signed the petition.

Rodwell claimed responsibility for suggesting to Landa a beautification scheme for the precinct - that is cods wallop, as I was given permission seven days before by Landa's Department of Planning and Environment to reveal (I had it on a confidential basis before that) that the Department had submitted a compromise plan involving a beautification program to the Leichhardt Council.

One of the best things to come out of the Council meeting was Rodwell's assurance (in answer to a question from Marina) that interested parties would be given at least seven days notice of an opportunity to see and discuss the proposed and amended plan which is being prepared.

WHITE BAY COAL LOADER

It was heartening to hear from the Mayor what a strong line the Council Deputation had taken over the Coal Loader expansion, and that the Department of Planning and Environment is to do the Environmental Impact Study - despite a letter from the Deputy Premier to Roger Degen stating that Maritime Services Board would conduct it.

Ald. Rodwell also reported with satisfaction of the assurances his deputation had received regarding consultations with Council, no work on the Coal Loader to be done before the public study etc.

The Balmain Association is using one of its stockpile of large grains of salt on that score, and we will be making our own enquiries and representations on behalf of the residents of the Peninsula. Space permitting, I would like to publish some of our correspondence in the next Newsletter.

DUKE STREET DEVELOPMENT

This proposed subdivision came before the Council and Mr. Stephen Malone obtained an assurance that he (and other nearby residents?) would be notified when Council inspected the site. One wonders whether approval would not have been "steam-rollered" through had Mr. Malone not attended the Council meeting?

Vigilant folk like Marina Garlick and Stephen Malone keep the Council on its toes, and the Association is ever ready to throw its weight behind residents in things like these - but do tip us off early - sometimes time can be too short!

Yours truly,

Brian Brady
Brian Brady.

treasurer's report

Membership this year has been the highest in the Association's history. We had a peak of 524 members in February and a low of 451 in July, 1976 (due to many members whose subscriptions were due in June not renewing until August.)

During the year we saw our book "Half a Thousand Acres, Balmain, a History of the Land Grant" by Dr. P. Reynolds (convenor of our history group) and P. Flottman finally published. A special resolution was passed by committee so that we could borrow \$3000 from the Commonwealth Trading Bank which was repaid in six months. The book sold well and at one stage was in the best seller lists, but now sales have fallen off. We shall be launching a Christmas Sales drive aimed mainly at the book shops and at our members. We still need \$3000 worth of sales to cover cost of publishing. Many thanks to all those who worked so hard in all stages of producing and selling the book.

Financially the Association is fairly strong, our overheads are not heavy, and the the major overhead, the Newsletter, still continues in its

high standard. We do have a big problem in getting it out on time and hope that this will be overcome this year. Also we always need distributors and this year we may add two new areas, one of which may be in Rozelle on the other side of Victoria Road.

A very disappointing trend has been the fall off of attendance at various fund raising functions that we hold. We haven't come to any conclusions why this is, and would appreciate it if members let us know what they would like to attend or why they don't come. It gives our fund raising group something to work on.

This will be my last year as Treasurer as I shall be going overseas at the end of next year. If anyone would like to take over the position and would like to know what it involves please contact me. My thanks to all of those with whom I have worked and I look forward to this year with many new faces on committee and two major issues to work on, the Coal Loader and a Council for Balmain.

Richard Norman
18 Gladstone Street
BALMAIN.

<u>INCOME</u>		
Membership		1034
Bank Int.		271
<u>Donation</u>		
Royal Australian Historical Soc.	50	
Misc.	<u>35</u>	85
<u>Watch House Hire</u>		
Balmain Theatre Group	60	
Wedding	150	
21st Party	<u>150</u>	360
<u>Fund Raising</u>		
Pawans Restaurant	340	
Childrens Books	19	
Jacaranda Restaurant	357	
Village Fair	743	
Masquarade Party	<u>338</u>	1797
<u>Publications</u>		
Half A Thousand Acres	3916	
Balmain in Time	528	
Houses of Balmain	39	
Cards 74	7	
Cards 76	80	
Ferry Report	2	
Maps	<u>76</u>	4648
<u>Miscellaneous</u>		
Cricket Match	16	
Refund 2/3 Adv. Ferry Timetable	200	
Misc.	<u>17</u>	233
		<u>8428</u>

<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		
Petty Cash		138
Hire P.O. Box		15
<u>Donation</u>		
Rozelle Drop in Centre	260	
St. Andrews Congregational Church	60	
Campaign for Balmain Council	<u>100</u>	420
<u>Newsheet</u>		
Printing	522	
Post	<u>120</u>	642
<u>Watch House</u>		
Electricity	20	
Pest Control	30	
Insurance	25	
Misc.	<u>10</u>	85
<u>Fund Raising</u>		
Pawans Restaurant	298	
Jacaranda Restaurant	306	
Village Fair	367	
Masquarade Party	<u>334</u>	1305
<u>Publications</u>		
Half A Thousand Acres		
Wilke & Co. Ltd. Printing	6625	
Bank Charges	88	
Launching Party	192	
Advertising	<u>75</u>	
	6980	
Cards 76	<u>291</u>	7271
<u>Subscriptions</u>		
Ecology Action	16	
A.C.F.	26	
S.P.T.C.	15	
Civic Design Society	16	
Royal Aust. Hist. Soc.	17	
National Trust	<u>10</u>	100
<u>Miscellaneous</u>		
Ferry Time Table	17	
Night Safe Hire	20	
Annual General Meeting 1976	63	
Electric Typewriter	192	
Cricket Match	20	
R.A.H.S. Conference	30	
Misc.	<u>60</u>	402

Excess Expenditure over income	1950
	<u>10378</u>

ACCUMULATION ACCOUNT

Accumulation A/c as at 1/7/66	6207
Less excess of expenditure over income	1950
Bond - Balmain Theatre Group	100
	\$4157
General A/c C.S.B.	1206
Book Pub A/c C.S.B.	399
S.I.A. C.S.B.	1318
S.I.A. B.N.S.W.	380
N.S.W. Saving A/c	527
Electricity Deposit	10
100 x \$2 shares - Leichhardt Local (Note 1)	200
Petty Cash	17
IBD CTB B.T.G. Bond	100
	\$4157
Membership as at 30.6.77	
Adults	489
Junior	<u>2</u>
	491

Note 1. The leichhardt Local went out of business during the year and we understand that we shall be advised within the next month what will become of our share holdings.

watch these dates !!!

Sat. 5/11/77. Balmain Village Fair. Watch House, 179 Darling St. from 9.30 a.m. Helpers and participants wanted.

Sun. 4/12/77. Association Christmas Barbecue.

next general meeting

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 9, 8.00p.m.

WATCH HOUSE, 179 DARLING STREET, BALMAIN

christmas barbecue

Come along to the Association Christmas barbecue this year. Bring your own food and grog. Wood and fireplace available. Members, friends and kids welcome.

DATE: 4 DECEMBER

PLACE: 7 NUMA STREET, BALMAIN

TIME: 8 PM.

IMPENDING LEICHHARDT TOWN PLAN

It is likely that a new town plan for the Leichhardt Municipality will be forthcoming in the next few weeks (this does include the Coal Loader). The Balmain Association welcomes architects, civil engineers and town planners to contact Brian Brady (home:825492 work:313142) with a view to holding an ad hoc seminar on a weekend to present a professional submission to the Council and the NSW Government. This is an attempt to co-ordinate the Association's effort in relation to the Municipality.

VILLAGE FAIR : NOVEMBER 5

honky tonky piano* wine and cheese tasting*
leather work* pottery* macrame* jewellery*
weaving* jams* herbs* cosmetic demonstration*
home preserves * antiques* sewing* plants*

refreshments available: hot dogs, b.b.q.
sausages, tea, coffee, cordials, tacos

Join us at the Village Fair on November 5
Balmain Watch House, from 9.30 am to 10pm

CHRISTMAS HAMPER

The Association is raffling a Christmas hamper at the Village Fair. Donations for the hamper gratefully received. Please contact Hugh Crompton (home: 827 3185, work: 231 4699).

membership form

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

Name

Address

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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