



the balmain association

SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING - NEW CONSTITUTION

The Management Committee of the Association recently completed the final draft of the proposed New Constitution for consideration by all members of the Association, and a copy of the final draft is enclosed with this Newsletter as a separate insert. Members of the Management Committee would like to express their gratitude to a former President, David Porter, and the immediate past Vice-President, Peter Colquhoun, for the assistance given to the Management Committee in the drafting of the proposed New Constitution.

A written request has been received from fourteen members of the Association to convene a Special General Meeting of the Association, to consider the proposed New Constitution of The Balmain Association.

Accordingly, Notice is hereby given to all members of a Special General Meeting of The Balmain Association, to consider the proposed New Constitution of the Association, to be held in the Balmain Town Hall at 8.00pm on Wednesday 29th March, 1978.

Additional copies of the proposed New Constitution, and/or copies of the present constitution, can be obtained on request from The Hon. Secretary, The Balmain Association, P.O. Box 57, Balmain. 2041.

PETER PEARSON
HON. SECRETARY.

NEW CONSTITUTION - WHAT ARE THE DIFFERENCES ?

The main work has been in tidying up anomalies omissions and redundancies in the original; the only significant changes being these:-

Clause 2: The old constitution defined "Balmain" as having Victoria Road as its boundary; the new draft extends this boundary to include the portion of Rozelle on the other side of Victoria Road. The reasons for this are twofold:

- (a) the new definition is close to the area of the original grant to William Balmain (plus Birchgrove)
- (b) Most people in the "new" area involved identify strongly with "Balmain".

Clause 7: The old constitution gave the Management Committee the right to expel a member; under the proposed constitution, this right is transferred to the Members, at a Special General Meeting.

Clause 19: The old constitution provides, in the event of dissolution, for the assets of the Association to be handed over to a charity chosen by the remaining members. The new draft stipulates the National Trust as the beneficiary.

Politics (Clause 4): It is proposed that the new Constitution provide that the Association shall "not form its own party or endorse candidates... etc"; this is an elaboration of the existing constitution which simply says the Association shall be non-political.

Brian Brady
PRESIDENT

COAL LOADER ALTERNATIVE- A DUBBO-NEWCASTLE RAIL LINK

The Balmain Association has received a letter in reply from Mr. John Mason M.L.A., Member for Dubbo, and Deputy Leader of the New South Wales Parliamentary Liberal Party, regarding proposals for completing a Dubbo-Newcastle rail link as a viable alternative to the proposed plans to upgrade the Balmain (White Bay) Coal Loader and to establish new coal loading facilities at Port Kembla to handle coal from the western coalfields. We quote part of Mr. Mason's letter:-

"What became obvious through the arguments over Botany Bay, Balmain and Port Kembla, was that no thought had been given to the very real alternative of creating the link with the western coalfield to Newcastle, where there are two coal loaders operating very much under capacity."

"I have contacted every Local Government body and other organizations between Dubbo and Newcastle, and the Dubbo City Council and Newcastle City Council have agreed to call for submissions from all interested parties, and it is their proposal to convene a public meeting to present the representations, to focus attention on the necessity to complete this rail link and the advantages that could be gained thereby."

"I am very delighted to have your letter and will ask the Town Clerk of the Dubbo City Council to keep you informed regarding this meeting, and I do trust your Association will support it, and that we will see some results flow."

PROPOSED NEW
CONSTITUTION AND RULES OF
THE BALMAIN ASSOCIATION

(An association not for profit)

1. NAME. The name of the organisation shall be THE BALMAIN ASSOCIATION (hereinafter referred to as "the Association").
2. DEFINITIONS. In this Constitution, unless the context otherwise requires, "Balmain" means the Balmain and Rozelle Wards as defined for Local Government purposes;
"Management" means the Management Committee of the Association;
"Member" means financial member of the Association.
3. OFFICE. The registered address of the Association shall be The Watch House, 179 Darling Street, Balmain, and the postal address shall be Box 57, Balmain Post Office, New South Wales, 2041.
4. DECLARATION. The Association shall be non-Sectarian and shall not be affiliated with any political party, nor shall it form its own party or endorse candidates for any Local Government or Parliamentary election.
5. AIMS. The aims of the Association are to:-
 - (a) Improve the living, working and recreational amenity of Balmain;
 - (b) Maintain all features of Balmain having natural, architectural and/or historical value;
 - (c) Compile and record the history of the area and to establish a permanent collection of items of historical interest;
 - (d) Seek the co-operation of the residents, existing industries and others concerned in the realisation of the abovementioned aims.
6. AFFILIATION. The Association may seek affiliation with kindred organisations.
7. MEMBERSHIP.
 - (a) All persons or organisations who endorse the aims of the Association shall be eligible for membership of the Association on payment of an annual membership fee, which fee shall be as determined from time to time by Special General Meeting called for that purpose. Annual membership fees are payable on the anniversary of the initial payment.
 - (b) Membership may be cancelled only by a Special General Meeting, at which the member whose expulsion is under consideration shall be allowed to offer an explanation of his conduct.
 - (c) A register of members shall be kept showing in respect of each member his name, address and date of commencement of membership.
8. MANAGEMENT. The administration of the Association shall be vested in the Management, comprising the following positions all of which are honorary:-
President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, plus seven other members, elected at the Annual General Meeting.
The Management:-
 - (a) Shall conduct the day to day business of the Association, and shall exercise all such powers as are not by the Constitution required to be exercised by the Association in general meeting.
 - (b) Shall have power to appoint such sub-committees as it may consider desirable.
 - (c) Shall have power to declare a vacancy on Management where a Management member either:-
 - (i) Dies;
 - (ii) Resigns his membership of Management by notice in writing sent to the President;
 - (iii) Fails to attend three consecutive meetings of Management of which due notice has been given him, unless he has been excused from attendance by resolution of Management;
 - (iv) Ceases to be eligible;
 - (v) Is removed from office at a Special General Meeting of the Association.
 - (d) May fill any vacant Management position.

9. AN ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING shall be held every calendar year within eight weeks after the end of the financial year, which shall conclude on 30th June. At this meeting the Annual Report and balance sheet shall be presented, and members of the Management shall be elected.
10. MEMBERSHIP OF MANAGEMENT. A member shall be eligible to be a member of Management provided that he is not an elected member of a Local Government body or of the State or Commonwealth Parliaments, and subject to the President being ineligible to be the President of the Association for a fourth consecutive year.
11. NOMINATIONS. Nominations for any position of Management may be received at any time prior to the election at the Annual General Meeting and must be accompanied by the consent of the nominee.
12. METHOD OF ELECTION. Each member present at an Annual General Meeting shall be entitled to vote in the election of Management. There shall be separate elections for each of the following positions and in the following order:- President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, seven other members. Two scrutineers shall be appointed by the Annual General Meeting and the votes shall be counted by the Secretary under the supervision of the scrutineers. The candidates with the highest number of votes shall be declared elected. In the event of two or more persons receiving the same number of votes, those persons who tie shall be the only nominations for a further ballot for this position.
13. QUORUM. At a General Meeting (including an Annual General Meeting or a Special General Meeting) a quorum shall be twenty members or 20% of the current membership, whichever may be the lower figure, and at a meeting of the Management a quorum shall be six members of Management.
14. NOTICE OF MEETINGS. At least twenty one days clear notice shall be given to members of either an Annual General Meeting or a Special General Meeting, specifying the place, the day and the hour of the meeting. Notice of a Special General Meeting shall also include the general nature of the business to be dealt with at the meeting.
15. SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING. A Special General Meeting shall be convened by the Secretary within two months after the receipt of a request in writing signed by at least twelve members. A Special General Meeting may only deal with those matters specified in the request and the resolution(s) for which the Special General Meeting was called shall not be adopted without a 75% majority of those members present at the meeting.
16. FUNDS. The funds of the Association shall be banked in the name of the Association and any two of the President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer shall be authorised to operate thereon.
17. ACCOUNTS. Shall be presented to and passed for payment at the Meeting of the Management and minutes of such approvals shall be placed in the Minute Book.
18. AUDITOR. An Auditor shall be appointed at the Annual General Meeting. The Auditor shall examine all accounts, vouchers, receipt books etc. and shall furnish a report thereon at the Annual General Meeting.
19. DISSOLUTION. The Association shall be dissolved upon the vote of the required majority at a Special General Meeting called for that purpose, or if the membership falls below twelve persons. Upon dissolution, the assets and funds on hand shall after payment of all expenses and liabilities be handed over to The National Trust of Australia (New South Wales) or such charity or charities as a majority of the remaining members shall decide.
20. AMENDMENT OF CONSTITUTION. This Constitution may be amended at a Special General Meeting convened for that purpose.

"The latest information we have, by the way, is that one of the coal companies is very interested in putting funds into completing the link as far as Uarbry, where the existing rail line through Mudgee to Lithgow would be joined as the first step — which would be the major one as far as coal facilities are concerned."

In a recent letter to the Premier, Mr.Wran, the Balmain Association has requested that the State Government carry out a study into the feasibility of completing the Dubbo-Sandy Hollow-Port Waratah (Newcastle) rail link as a matter of some priority.

THE BALMAIN ASSOCIATION MENTIONED IN PARLIAMENT

The following extract is taken from the speech by our local State Member, Mr Roger Degen, M.L.A., during the Second Reading of the Heritage Bill on 22 November, 1977, as recorded in the Legislative Assembly Hansard, page 9984:-

"I have the privilege of representing one of the earliest developed suburbs of Sydney. Within my electorate are to be found some of the finest examples of homes that should be preserved. I trust that they will be preserved following the action of the Government in introducing this bill. I place on record my appreciation of the advice given and work done within my constituency by two non-political groups, the Balmain Association and the Annandale Association Those groups worked for the preservation of homes which should be able to be enjoyed by future generations. They have done a splendid job in promoting community awareness."



next general meeting

WEDNESDAY APRIL 12, 8.00p.m.
WATCH HOUSE, 179 DARLING ST., BALMAIN

NEW MEMBERS

R.M. Burrows and family
Mr. and Mrs. R.A. Hamilton
Mr. and Mrs. S.F. O'Regan
Mrs. C. Norman
M/s F. Stone
M/s J. Davenport
Mr. B. Allen
M/s H. Styles
M/s S. Baker
Mr. and Mrs. H.J. Warren
Mr P. Weate
M/s J. Woodhouse
M/s A. Evans
Mr. and Mrs. R.G. Muir
M/s N. Leach-Jones
M/s R. Gardner

We welcome back:
Mr. and Mrs. G. Stevens

NEW TREASURER?

Our present Honorary Treasurer, Richard Norman, has announced his intention to retire from active service with the Association, and to return to England at the end of the year. Richard has been our Treasurer now for a number of years, on "loan" from the Balmain Theatre Group, and we are deeply indebted to Richard for the work he has done for the Association during this period. Consequently, the Association is in need of the services of a person prepared to take on the responsibilities of Honorary Treasurer and to be Custodian of the Association's Coffers. If you are interested, please contact Richard Norman on 33-5251 (work) or Brian Brady on 82-5492 (home), or write to either the Hon. Treasurer or the Hon. Secretary, the Balmain Association, P.O. Box 57, Balmain. 2041.

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