

the balmain association

THE WATCH HOUSE

The Australian Heritage Commission has advised The Balmain Association that the Watch House, including the stone privy at the rear and the front picket fence, has been registered in the Commission's Register as part of the National Estate as from 21st March 1978. The Australian Heritage Commission is a statutory authority established under the Australian Heritage Commission Act 1975, as the Federal Governments' policy advisory and administrative body responsible for the "National Estate" which is defined in the legislation as "those places, being components of the natural environment of Australia, or the cultural environment of Australia, that have aesthetic, scientific or social significance or other special value for future generations, as well as for the present community."

However, in a recent report on the Watch House, by an Architect from the National Trust of Australia (N.S.W.), a number of essential repairs were recommended, including restoration of fretting stone walls, replacement of roof gutters and possible replacement of termite affected flooring.

To raise additional money for repairs to the Watch House, a number of new fund raising ventures are planned, which it is hoped that all members will support. (see WINE OFFER this Issue.)

COAL LOADER...RECONSTITUTION OF COUNCIL

The Balmain Association has received two letters from the Premier of New South Wales concerning the Coal Loader and reconstitution of Balmain Council:-

THE COAL LOADER

"I refer to your recent letter concerning the Balmain Coal Loader and certain other matters of concern to your Association.

I have discussed your representations with my colleague, the Deputy Premier and Minister for Public Works and Ports and the Minister for Transport and Highways, whose administrations are involved in regard to the aspects raised.

As to the coal loader, it is the Government's intention to phase out the Balmain Coal Loader when the proposed new Port Kembla Loader becomes operative to full capacity. In the meantime certain works are to be undertaken at Balmain to upgrade the present structure.

Mr. Ferguson informed me that these works include a new rail unloading facility which will eliminate loose shunting of rail trucks, a new stockpile watering system for the whole of the new stockpile area and modifications to the conveyor system which will reduce spillage of coal. The upgrading should significantly reduce present problems existing at the loader.

While the area available does not permit the use of a loop rail track the present uncoupling of wagons will be eliminated. On completion of the redevelopment, it will be possible to release the contents of a full line of waggons without the need for uncoupling, thereby significantly diminishing the noise factor. Additionally, electric locomotives will be used to perform most of the movements within the complex, and so further reduce the noise level.

The new container terminals now under construction at Port Botany will, when operative, greatly reduce container road traffic in the Balmain/Rozelle area. It is the Government's desire to ensure that railways are used to the maximum extent practicable for the transport of containers. In the meantime while the majority of containers are conveyed to and from White Bay by rail, there is no rail link to Mort Bay and consequently any containers shipped through Mort Dock will have to be transported there by road.

On the question of the completion of Sandy Hollow rail link. I would mention that this has been the subject of re-appraisal on numerous occasions over a long period of successive Governments but completion of the line was decided against on each of these occasions as being non-viable.

Nonetheless, a proposal was advanced recently by White Industries Limited related to the construction of a

rail link from Gulgong to the Newcastle Coal Loader, utilising the old Maryvale/Sandy Hollow line, for the haulage of coal from that Company's Ulan mine. This proposal is being actively studied by Government officials and talks are continuing at officer level with the proponent company.

As regards the Harbour foreshores, I would stress that the Government's Environmental Impact policy ensures that any future significant development proposals by the Maritime Services Board will be subject to scrutiny and comment not only by other bodies such as the State Pollution Control Commission and the Planning and Environment Commission but also by the public.

In closing I would like to assure your Association of the Government's earnest desire to ensure that the disturbance to local residents as a result of the operation of the Balmain Coal Loader will be minimal."

RECONSTITUTION OF BALMAIN COUNCIL

"I refer to your recent letter on behalf of the Balmain Association proposing the reconstitution of Balmain Council.

I have sought the advice of my colleague, the Minister for Local Government, and am advised that the question of local government boundaries in the County of Cumberland is being considered by the Local Government Boundaries Commission. The Commission has been asked to report on whether the present areas are suitable for efficient administration and, if necessary, to recommend alterations.

The Commission's work is in the nature of a preliminary investigation and a full public inquiry would be held should the Commission recommend changes or should proposals be submitted by councils or electors as provided under section 19 of the Local Government Act, 1919.

Mr. Jensen has informed me that a proposal by electors to reconstitute Balmain Municipality was received some time ago. It was felt that the proposal could not be considered in isolation from the general review and the matter was therefore referred to the Commission. I have been advised further by Mr. Jensen that until the Commission has made an appropriate report and it has been possible to examine your Association's proposal in the light of such report, he is unable to indicate what action might be appropriate.

Mr. Jensen has, however, assured me that your Association's proposal has been carefully noted and will be borne well in mind."

NEW TOWN PLAN TO BE INTRODUCED BY INTERIM DEVELOPMENT ORDER.

The Balmain Association has written to the N.S.W. Planning and Environment Commission to protest at the possible introduction of a new Town Plan, by means of an Interim Development Order, without prior exhibition of the Plan. The following motion was passed unanimously at the April General Meeting of the Association:-

"We, members of the Balmain Association, would like to register a strong protest to the N.S.W. Planning and Environment Commission against its proposal to introduce a Town Plan or Planning Scheme on the Leichhardt Municipality by means of an Interim Development Order (I.D.O.).

"This action deprives us of the privilege of registering objections to the Plan before it becomes a legal document.

"Whilst we understand that objections can be heard for the duration of the I.D.O., our fear is that, whilst objections regarding some areas are being heard, development undesirable to the residents will go ahead in other areas of the Municipality. As an area of substantial historical significance, damage so done could well be irreversible."

NEW CONSTITUTION

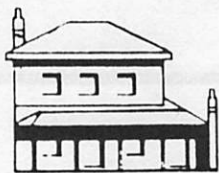
The draft Constitution printed in the March Newsletter was adopted as the new Constitution of the Association at a special general meeting on 29 March. The new Constitution has been forwarded to the Department of Services for approval by the Minister.

ROZELLE FESTIVAL

A Rozelle Festival will be held on 1 July this year in the grounds of Rozelle Public School. The Festival coincides with the June celebrations for the School's centenary. If you have any ideas about the Festival or want to participate in any way see the people manning the information desk on Saturday mornings in Rozelle Shopping Centre (opposite School).

next general meeting

WEDNESDAY JUNE 14, 8.00 p.m.
WATCH HOUSE, 179 DARLING STREET, BALMAIN



the balmain association

WINE OFFER

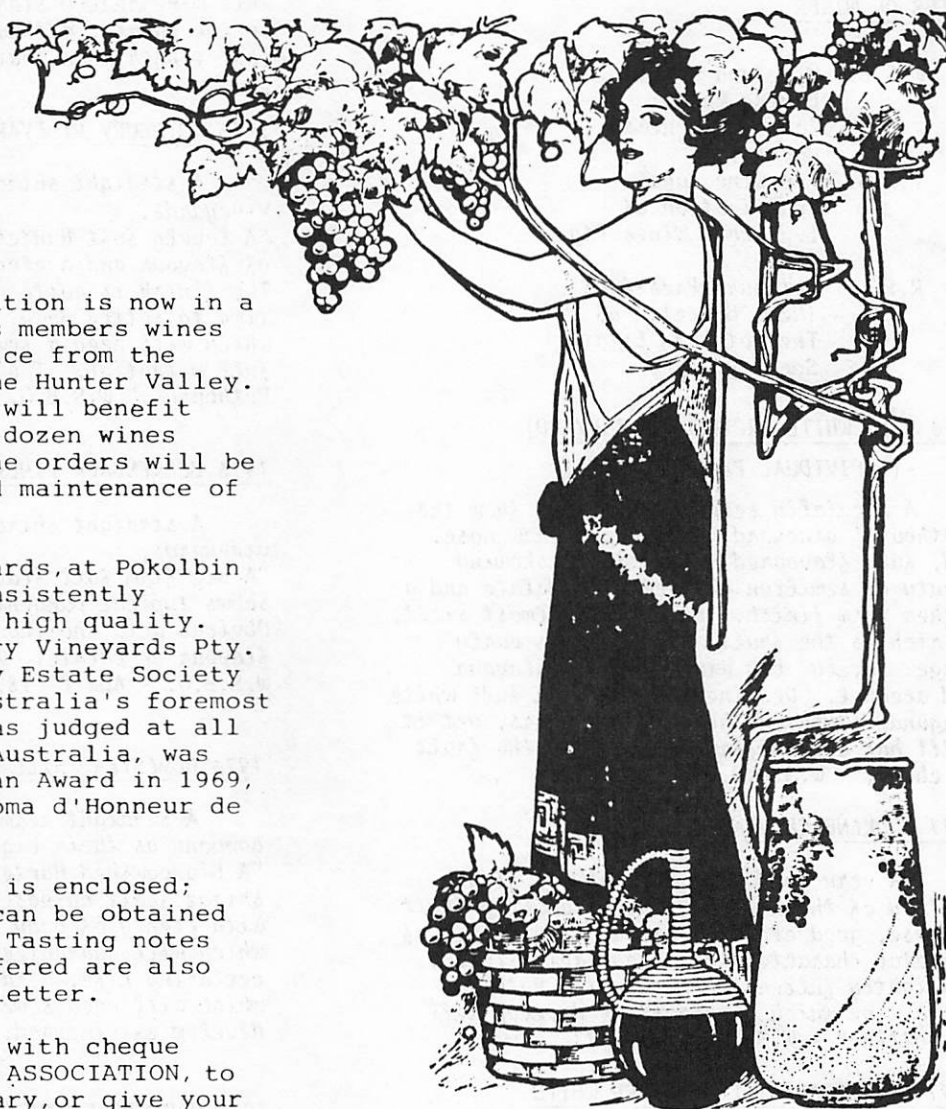
The Balmain Association is now in a position to offer to its members wines at a very reasonable price from the Rothbury Vineyards in the Hunter Valley. The Balmain Association will benefit financially from every dozen wines ordered. Income from wine orders will be used for restoration and maintenance of the Watch House.

The Rothbury Vineyards, at Pokolbin in the Hunter Valley, consistently produce wines of a very high quality. Chairman of both Rothbury Vineyards Pty. Limited and The Rothbury Estate Society is Len Evans, one of Australia's foremost wine authorities. He has judged at all major shows throughout Australia, was given the first Epicurean Award in 1969, and holds the rare Diploma d'Honneur de Vignerons Champagne.

A wine order form is enclosed; Additional order forms can be obtained from the Hon. Secretary. Tasting notes on the various wines offered are also included with this Newsletter.

Forward your order, with cheque made out to THE BALMAIN ASSOCIATION, to the the Honorary Secretary, or give your order to any member of the Management Committee. Minimum order is 1 dozen bottles (mixed dozens are allowable) or 6 flagons. There is a freight charge for delivery from the Hunter Valley to your door.

REMEMBER, your order for wine will benefit the Balmain Association and will provide funds for restoration and maintenance of the Watch House.



AND TASTING

Come and taste the Rothbury wines and then place your order for the wines that appeal to you. A wine tasting has been arranged at The Watch House on Sunday 21st May, 1978, from 2.00 pm. to 5.00 pm.

ALL WELCOME. ADMISSION \$2.00 AT DOOR

WINE DIRECTORY

NOTES ON WINES

W.S.B.G.=Wine and Spirit
Buying Guide
(available news-
agents)

T.W.B. =The Wine Buyer
(publication of
Len Evans Wines Pty
Ltd.)

R.P. = Rothbury Pressings
(News Bulletin of
The Rothbury Estate
Society)

1976 I.P. WHITE (ROTHBURY VINEYARD)

-(INDIVIDUAL PADDOCK WHITE)

A specially selected semillon from the "Rothbury" vineyard, "Big ripe, straw nose. Old, full flavoured Hunter style showing plenty of semillon character on palate and a rather firm finish. Flavour is almost sweet, so rich is the fruit, even at this early stage. Lovely, big wine, full of flavour and alcohol. Destined to become a full white burgundy style in the next few years, yet it still has enough firmness to keep the fruit in check." W.S.B.G. April '78.

1977 BROKENBACK VINEYARD WHITE

"A very good wine without the final quality of the Rothbury. Nice semillon fruit on nose, good clean palate showing plenty of varietal character and a good acid finish. A slightly fuller style than the Rothbury but a wine which should still develop well in bottle." - W.S.B.G. Dec. '77.

1977 HOMESTEAD HILL VINEYARD WHITE

"Good colour - huge, voluminous nose, broad and soft, with tonnes of fruit showing. Big, rich palate, again big white burgundy style. Needs bottle age, though should develop fairly quickly. (3-6 years)." - Winemaker's comments, R.P. Nov./Dec. '77.

1977 HERLSTONE VINEYARD WHITE

"Some argument over the wine. It lacks the intense fruit of the Rothbury or the lifted character of the Brokenback and at first taste seems a little dumb. However the palate is soft and full and there is a good deal of fruit in the wine. It has a soft deep flavour rather than an obvious one. It should develop perhaps earlier than the previous two wines but shows signs of following the traditional Hunter 'white burgundy' mould. Another year should see

this wine really starting to fill out well on the palate, although it will certainly last longer than that." -W.S.B.G. Dec. '77.

1976 ROTHBURY VINEYARD RED

A straight shiraz from the Estate's own vineyards.
"A lovely soft Hunter style showing nice depth of flavour and a clean well balanced palate. The finish is quite assertive and will need time to settle down. A good Hunter style which will need a few years to realise its full potential. The best of the '76 Rothburys." W.S.B.G. - April '78.

1976 BORKENBACK VINEYARD RED

A straight shiraz from the Estate's own vineyards.
"A big firm full flavoured Hunter style. Nose shows typical 'pungent earth' character. Obvious acid showing through which shortens flavour on palate. Will take some bottle age." W.S.B.G. - April '78.

1976 HOMESTEAD HILL VINEYARD RED

A straight hermitage regarded by the company as their biggest dry red of 1976.
"A big coushed Hunter style showing good shiraz fruit on nose and palate. A wine with plenty of body, and an astrigent finish which will guarantee the wine a good cellaring life. A rather gutsy earthy Hunter which will need some time in bottle to develop ex vineyard." - W.S.B.G. April '78.

1976 HERLSTONE VINEYARD RED

A straight shiraz from the Estate's own vineyards.
"A soft round pleasant Hunter red showing some wood. The fruit is a little light in comparison to the Homestead wine. Should develop quickly in bottle. A soft light well balanced wine suitable for short term cellaring." W.S.B.G. - April '78.

1977 ROTHBURY ESTATE SEMILLON

"Good semillon fruit nose. A clean soft palate showing pleasant delicate fruit character. Finish shows a touch of firmness but fruit should come up on palate to help balance this character. Quite an attractive young drinking Hunter." - W.S.B.G. Sept. '77.

1975 ROTHBURY ESTATE CABERNET

"Deep, soft nose. Balanced, light palate, clean finish. Wine shows soft flavour and some development. Well-balanced wine of the lighter style which will continue to improve in bottle." - W.S.B.G. Jan. '77.

1975 ROTHBURY ESTATE HERMITAGE

"Made entirely from hermitage grapes grown at The Rothbury Estate, in the Hunter Valley. Good character, good fruit, good oak which is light and pleasant. Well integrated lighter style, clean wine showing completeness. Will benefit from more bottle age. Appealing drinking now." - Len Evans. T.W.B. Jan./Feb. '77.

1977 BRICKMAN WHITE

Made from a blend of semillon and other dry white grape varieties. "A full flavoured white ready for drinking now and of the bigger style." - Winemaker's comments, R.P. May./June. '77.

1977 BRICKMAN ROSE

This rose made from the Hermitage variety is best when served chilled. This wine retains "its fresh, fruity character and is ready for drinking now as I believe that dry Roses of this type are best consumed young, fresh and without oxidation or too much bottle age." - Winemaker's comments, R.P. May./June '77.

1976 BRICKMAN RED

"Hermitage with a small proportion of cabernet sauvignon. Ready for drinking now, but can be cellared and will improve with age." - Winemaker's comments.

HOME TASTING PACK with HOME TASTING GUIDE and CASSETTE

Save money and join Len Evans and The Rothbury Estate in a unique wine experience - in your own home. The Home Tasting Dozen is a fine selection of top Hunter Valley whites and reds offered to you at a special price - well below retail. The wines are all from the same Estate but differing in variety, vineyard and year. Wines include:- Brokenback Vineyard White 1977; Herlstone Vineyard White 1977; Individual Paddock White 1976; Rothbury Estate Semillon 1977; T.R.E. Cabernet Sauvignon 1975; T.R.E. Hermitage 1975; The Rothbury Vineyard Red 1976; Brokenback Vineyard Red 1975; Individual Paddock Red 1975 (Shareholder's Release); Brickman White 1977; Brickman Red 1976; Brickman Rose 1977. The Rothbury Home Tasting Guide is comprehensive and easy to follow. All you need to know about wineand its yours, FREE.

BOX HILL DRY RED FLAGONS

An excellent quaffing dry red which is offered at a price that is less than you would expect to pay for a flagon wine of this quality.

"A soft clean fruity style showing pleasant fruit character on the palate together with some oak, which is evident on the finish. A wine with some regional character, of the lighter style..... ABOVE AVERAGE" - W.S.B.G. April '76.



YOUR NOTES ON THE WINES

...SEE OVER FOR WINE ORDER FORM



the balmain association

179 darling street balmain

postal po box 57 balmain 2041

Members' Order Form

April, 1978

MINIMUM ORDER - 12 BOTTLES

Qty. Doz.	Qty. Btts		Office Only	Price Dozen
☐	☐	1976 I.P. White (Rothbury Vineyard)	11.600	\$37.50 \$
☐	☐	1977 Brokenback Vineyard White	12.721	\$30.00 \$
☐	☐	1977 Homestead Hill Vineyard White	12.722	\$30.00 \$
☐	☐	1977 Herlstone Vineyard White	12.723	\$30.00 \$
☐	☐	1976 Rothbury Vineyard Red	22.630	\$30.00 \$
☐	☐	1976 Brokenback Vineyard Red	22.631	\$30.00 \$
☐	☐	1976 Homestead Hill Vineyard Red	22.632	\$30.00 \$
☐	☐	1976 Herlstone Vineyard Red	22.633	\$30.00 \$
☐	☐	1977 Rothbury Estate Semillon	12.740	\$24.00 \$
☐	☐	1975 Rothbury Estate Cabernet	22.557	\$24.00 \$
☐	☐	1975 Rothbury Estate Hermitage	22.556	\$24.00 \$
☐	☐	1977 Brickman White	13.780	\$18.00 \$
☐	☐	1977 Brickman Rose	23.783	\$18.00 \$
☐	☐	1976 Brickman Red	23.685	\$18.00 \$
☐	☐	Boxhill Dry Red (6 flagons)	77.690	\$15.00 \$

SPECIAL PACKS

☐	HOME TASTING PACK	87.006	
☐	with "FREE" Home Tasting Guide	\$27.00 \$	
☐	with Cassette and Guide	\$29.50 \$	

Total price of wine ordered	\$
Plus Freight (per carton of 12 bottles: \$1.75)	\$
Cheque enclosed for TOTAL	\$

DELIVER TO:

Name

Address

ORDERS including payment should be forwarded to:-

THE HON. SECRETARY
THE BALMAIN ASSOCIATION
P.O. Box 57
BALMAIN, N.S.W. 2041