

the balmain association

THE LEICHHARDT PLAN

The fact that the Council's 1976 draft plan has been thrown out by the Planning and Environment Commission should be public knowledge by the time you receive this newsletter. I was in a position to only hint at this in my February report, but in response to my telegram requesting urgent clarification of the position we have now received a letter from the Acting Minister for Planning and Environment, stating that subsequent to our submissions, the Plan to be exhibited will be based on the 1974 Plan of the previous (non-Labor) Council, in which there was full public participation.

The highest residential density under the new plan in Rozelle and Balmain is 250 per hectare, (or 70 per acre) which is HALF the density proposed by the Rodwell-Casey push in their 1976 draft.

At the time of writing (20th May) it appears that the new Plan may be out by the time of our next General Meeting on 14th June; if it is not, then come along and find out what you want to know then.

Leichhardt Council has an "open go" until the Interim Development Order (based on the proposed Plan), is issued at the same time as the Plan is exhibited. The effect of the I.D.O. will be to stop the Council approving more squash courts, flat developments, etc. until after full public discussion of the new Plan.

Our lobbying has been very effective, as the only significant input in opposition to the current Council's Plan has been by your association: this is not meant to reflect on Ald. Origlass and Wyner, who have been treated like mushrooms by Rodwell, Casey & Co. ("kept in the dark and fed bull").

Leichhardt Council got away with "blue murder" under the inept and disinterested Lewis and Willis governments, but since the Glasshouse fiasco, Planning and Environment Minister Paul Landa (in particular) has been alerted to the aspirations of the people of the Balmain peninsula, as has Premier Neville Wran.

A Big Victory, but an Important Loose End:-

Below is a copy of our letter to Mr Paul Landa relating to low-rental areas which we are concerned may still be attractive to exploitation by low-rise flat developers to the detriment of both present residents and the single-dwelling character of Balmain-Rozelle.

The Hon. Paul Landa, M.L.C.
Minister for Planning and Environment
139 Macquarie Street,
SYDNEY.

Dear Mr Landa,

LEICHHARDT TOWN PLAN

We were heartened by the assurance from Mr Frank Walker - in your absence - that the forthcoming Plan is based on the 1974 Draft Plan instead of the 1976 "High-Rise" plan.

There remains one important point not mentioned in Mr Walker's letter, and on this we seek clarification.

Protection of Low-Rental Areas and Residents

There are areas of low-rental single dwellings to be zoned 250 people per hectare which will offer attractive long-term investments for medium-rise flat exploitation, especially with interest rates falling.

On humanitarian grounds it is important that low-income earners in service jobs in the City should be able to find low-rental accommodation close to their places of employment.

Redevelopment would see family dwellings replaced by low-rise flat complexes which may not be too expensive, but would be unsuitable for family life.

These residents would be forced to move to the outskirts of the metropolis, and travelling time would seriously undermine their quality of family life - something society would pay for in the next generation.

The single-dwelling character of Balmain-Rozelle has already been marred by uncaring Councils, and we residents are anxious that the rot be permanently halted.

Sociological Investigation

We understand that the 1974 Plan contained a safeguard which provided that no redevelopment could take place until after

an in-depth sociological study of the consequences had been carried out.

We believe that a similar provision must be included in the new Plan for it to be effective.

We would appreciate your early consideration of this matter, and await your reply with some anxiety.

Yours sincerely,
(Son) B. Brady
President.

ROZELLE PUBLIC SCHOOL CENTENARY

One of our few opportunities to further the Aims of the Association (under its constitution) by fostering local community occurred in our donating \$250 towards the cost of the Centenary booklet, prepared by Peter Reynolds.

MEMBERSHIP QUESTIONNAIRE

A membership Questionnaire is enclosed with this Newsletter, and we would ask all members to complete the form now and return it to the Hon. Secretary. The Management Committee believes that more members must become involved with Association activities if it is to function as a viable and worthwhile organization. Interest in, and attendance at, recent General Meetings and Association functions can only be described as dismal.

With some major restoration work on the Watch House imminent, it seems likely that the Annual General Meeting (in August) will have to consider raising membership fees unless there is a substantial increase in income from fund raising and/or new membership.

New members, and Members who are renewing membership, are requested to fill in both sides of the enclosed form. In future, all members will be asked to fill-in a new questionnaire when renewing membership in order that we can keep our records up to date.

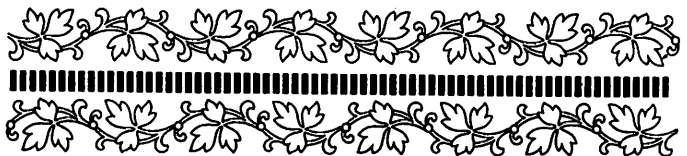
The answers to questions on the questionnaire will provide us with much needed information as to your views on Association Activities and the content of our Newsletter (our only contact with about 90% of our members).

Perhaps more importantly, the questionnaire will let us know who is prepared to play a more active roll in the Association. Right now we have plans to convene or re-convene a number of sub-committees, responsible to the elected Management Committee.

It has been suggested that the following sub-committees be formed:-

- 1.) Town Planning To study the new Town Plan and I.D.O., to make submissions thereon; to consider the merits or otherwise of all development applications submitted to Leichhardt Council which affect the Balmain-Rozelle area.
- 2.) Watch House Maintenance To report and co-ordinate all repairs to and maintenance of the Watch House. To organize working parties from within the Association and to organize outside assistance when required.
- 3.) Council Watchdog To organise accurate and reliable reports on meetings of Leichhardt Council, for publication in the Newsletter.
- 4.) Newsletter and Publicity To organize printing and distribution of the monthly Newsletter and various leaflets, etc.,
- 5.) Fund Raising To organize and coordinate fund raising and social functions.
- 6.) Book Sales To organize distribution and sales of the Association's various publications. We are literally sitting on thousands of dollars of unsold books, cards, etc.
- 7.) Membership One of our most important yet onerous tasks is to keep track of our 500 or so members, to make sure that they are financial, that they receive renewal notices on time, that they receive their monthly newsletter.

Please complete and return your questionnaire now. We need your active support; we need your help, NOW!



WINE OFFER

Association members who attended the Wine Tasting at the Watch House on 21st May had an enjoyable time and tasted some excellent wines. To those members who didn't come along then all we can say is what rotten luck, you missed the wine event of the year! One consolation though, is that you can still order wines on the order form below. Opinions varied, but we have it straight from the Wine buff's mouth (palate?) that the most promising stayers are: the '76 I.P. White; the '77 Brokenback and Herlstone Whites; and the '76 Homestead and Rothbury Vineyard Reds.

The Association's income from this wine offer will go towards financing urgently needed repairs to the Watch House.

ORDERS INCLUDING PAYMENT should be forwarded to: The Hon. Secretary, The Balmain Association, P.O. Box 57, Balmain. Minimum order is 12 bottles (any combination) or 6 flagons.

Members' Order Form

May/June 1978

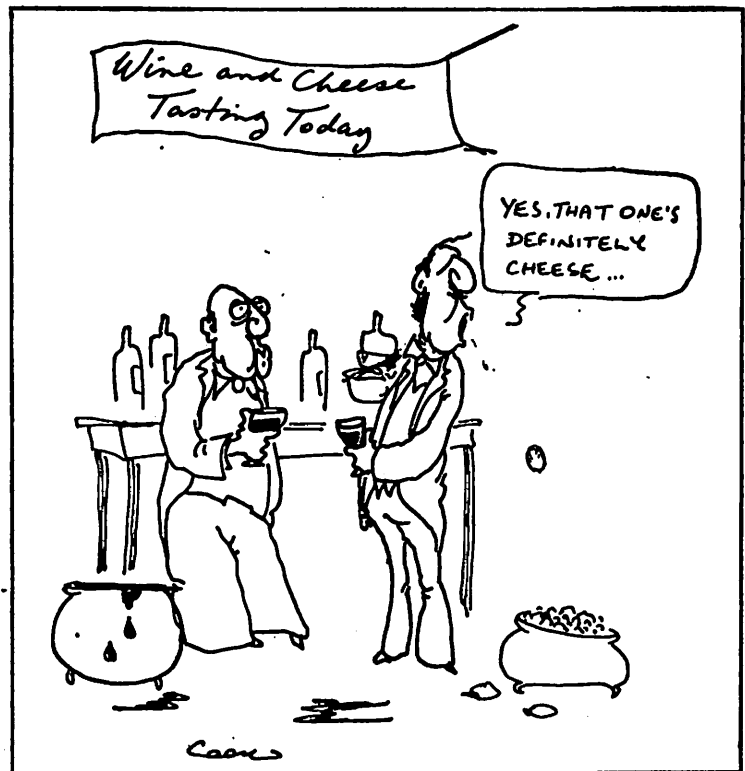
MINIMUM ORDER - 12 BOTTLES

Qty. Btles		Price Bottle.	Price Dozen	
☐	1976 I.P. White (Rothbury Vineyard)	\$3-13	\$37.50	\$_____
☐	1977 Brokenback Vineyard White	\$2-50	\$30.00	\$_____
☐	1977 Homestead Hill Vineyard White	\$2-50	\$30.00	\$_____
☐	1977 Herlstone Vineyard White	\$2-50	\$30.00	\$_____
☐	1976 Rothbury Vineyard Red	\$2-50	\$30.00	\$_____
☐	1976 Brokenback Vineyard Red	\$2-50	\$30.00	\$_____
☐	1976 Homestead Hill Vineyard Red	\$2-50	\$30.00	\$_____
☐	1976 Herlstone Vineyard Red	\$2-50	\$30.00	\$_____
☐	1977 Rothbury Estate Semillon	\$2-00	\$24.00	\$_____
☐	1975 Rothbury Estate Cabernet	\$2-00	\$24.00	\$_____
☐	1975 Rothbury Estate Hermitage	\$2-00	\$24.00	\$_____
☐	1977 Brickman White	\$1-50	\$18.00	\$_____
☐	1977 Brickman Rose	\$1-50	\$18.00	\$_____
☐	1976 Brickman Red	\$1-50	\$18.00	\$_____
☐	Boxhill Dry Red (6 flagons)	\$2-50	\$15.00	\$_____
Total price of wine ordered			\$	_____
Plus Freight (per carton of 12 bottles: \$1.75)			\$	_____
Cheque enclosed for TOTAL			\$	=====

DELIVER TO:

Name _____

Address _____



gardens

CHRYSANTHEMUMS IN POTS

Recently, a member of the Chrysanthemum Society, Mr. R. Gibson, gave a talk to the Balmain Garden Club, on these plants; and in view of the fact that many thousands are sold in pots for Mothers' Day, every year, information is needed on how to manage them.

Firstly, they are not indoor plants, but can grow well in pots, either outdoors or on a sunny verandah.

Mr. Gibson stated that after flowering is finished about June, cut back all long stems to the base, and there will be new growth coming up. When two or three inches in length, use these for cuttings, and now comes the bit that will hurt, but harden your heart! THROW AWAY ALL OLD ROOTS!

Place the new cuttings around the edge of the pot and as they grow, pot on, separately in larger pots as required, and keep nipping out the centres of each shoot, until the end of the year.

This is the secret of obtaining a profusely flowering plant, as at each nipping out, there should grow three shoots instead of one. The exhibitors for shows keep nipping out centres until February, and of course, keep their plants in pots to take around.

However, if you have the ground, you can plant them out in the garden.

While Chrysanthemums are not everybody's cup of tea, a plant or two, comes in handy, as they are the last flowers of Autumn. They come in many types and colours, and the singles and semidoubles stand up to rain better than the highly double ones. If the weather is good, all types hold for weeks.

The well-known daisy bushes (sometimes called marguerites) are also Chrysanthemums, and are wonderful fill-ins for the garden, and for cutting for the house. Also with these, the young plants are best. Do not let them become lanky and woody, but grow new cuttings every year.

Another good old-timer is the perennial type: the Shasta daisy which comes in several varieties. With these, plant out the new pieces from the edges, every winter, and throw away the centre roots.

There are modern small bedding types of Chrysanthemums, that only grow 8 inches high and make good borders. There are even annual ones that can be grown quickly from seed each year.

Chrysanthemums have few pests or diseases. If aphids come around, they can be dealt with, quite easily, with an aerosol or puffer pack plant spray of something harmless to humans, such as Derris, and a sulphur puffer pack for occasional mildew.

J. Murray
Balmain Garden Club

CURRENT HISTORY GROUP ACTIVITIES

Apart from producing Balmain's contribution to the two forthcoming issues of the Leichhardt Historical Journal, the History Group is actively engaged upon very absorbing research projects.

For example, did you know that Clayton Street was once called "German Row"? How did the name come about and when?

Jennifer Bates, in compiling the BALMAIN STREET NAME INDEX, has unearthed this interesting fact. Her research will enable us to know how, when and why some of our streets got their names.

Gladys Chanter and Rita Wise are researching two very significant local volunteer groups. Because the Russians were coming in the late 1850's, the peninsula's leading citizens formed the BALMAIN RIFLES to repel any such attack.

Shortly after, property owners and householders began to fear the enemy within.

One danger of close-settling was fire and the Township of Balmain formed its own VOLUNTEER FIRE BRIGADE.

Detailed research into the formation and exploits of these two local volunteer associations should provide some interesting reading.

The History Group would appreciate any information, particularly photographs, on the above topics.

P.S. Mr. N. Boxall, collects N.S.W. Tramway cap badges and other memorabilia of our late lamented trams. Anyone able to help in this should contact him at 46 Henson Street, Parrickville West, 2204.

restaurant night

"DINE-OUT" NIGHT AT "CHARITY'S"

7.30 P.M.
SUNDAY JUNE 25th

\$10.00 per head D.V.C.G. (or order it from Peter Pearson)

"Charity's" will need no introduction to most, so book early with Sue Douglas (825406) as we are limited to 30 people (first 30 people in with their money)

For those who haven't tried "Charity's" exotic cooking and relaxed atmosphere, it is in Beattie Street, almost next to the Unity Hall Hotel.

new members

Welcome to the following new members-

Miss S.M. Carey	Mr. D. Stewart
Rozelle Primary School	Mr. & Mrs. J.C. Brown
Mr. J. Campbell	M/s D.L. Wane
Mr. & Mrs. R.A. Channon	Mr. Mrs. R. Greer
Mrs. M.A. Fenton	Mr. & Mrs W. Hibble
Mr. M.R. Grounds	Miss A. Harris
M/s H.K. Lawrence	Mr. R. Hough
M/s E.M. Bomford	M/s J. Halford
M/s H. Cooke	M/s J Bates

Welcome back to -
Sandy Halley

next general meeting

NOTE: NEXT GENERAL MEETING 21ST JUNE

i.e. THIRD WEDNESDAY this month.
