

December 1982

NEWS SHEET

126

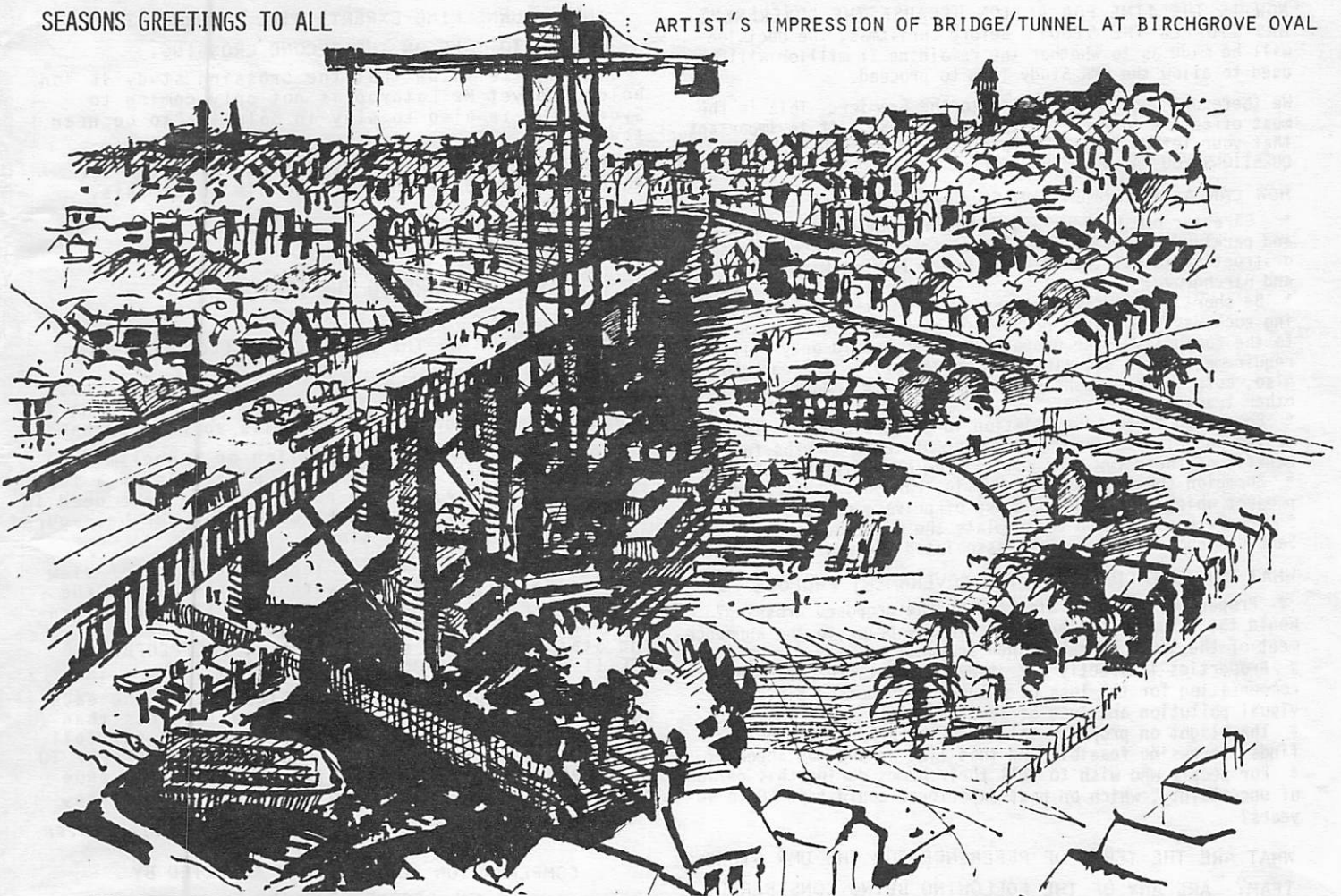
PO BOX 57 BALMAIN 2041

the balmain association

FOUNDED 1965

SEASONS GREETINGS TO ALL

ARTIST'S IMPRESSION OF BRIDGE/TUNNEL AT BIRCHGROVE OVAL



DEATH TUNNEL COMES TO BALMAIN

AND NOW FROM THE NSW GOVERNMENT WHICH GAVE YOU THE DEMOLITION OF THE STATE BANK, HANDED OVER PARRAMATTA PARK TO THE FOOTBALLERS, APPROVED CONSTRUCTION OF AN INTERNATIONAL HOTEL ON THE TREASURY SITE, CLOSED CROWN STREET HOSPITAL, CRUSHED THE MATER HOSPITAL, WE NOW HAVE THE DEATH TUNNEL FOR BALMAIN.

THE BLACK HOLE AT THE END OF THE BRIDGE IN THE PICTURE IS WHAT THE LITTLE SHOPPING CENTRE AT ROWNTREE AND CAMERON STREETS WILL LOOK LIKE WHEN THE STATE GOVERNMENT TUNNELS UNDER BALMAIN.

As a sop to environmental protest, the Government's philosophy is "bridge over water, tunnel under land".

Let us look at some recent road tunnel facts. In October 1982, 2700 human beings were incinerated in the tunnel between Afghanistan and Russia. When a

tanker overturned and exploded, the 2.6 kilometre tunnel became a holocaust.

The NSW Government's death tunnel, running 1.3 kilometres from Birchgrove Oval to the Sydney College of the Arts in Rozelle, could be just as disastrous.

Tunnels for cars are dangerous in the extreme. The argument that tunnels are better for the environment is pure rubbish. Huge ventilation shafts are needed to exhaust fumes 24 hours a day.

Vent shafts are noisy, dirty and full of death gases.

UNDERNEATH AND TO THE RIGHT OF THE BRIDGE IN THE PICTURE IS BIRCHGROVE OVAL BEING USED AS A CONSTRUCTION SITE. When the work is over, we will be given the park back, complete with bridge, tunnel, traffic and all.

ALL THIS FROM THE GOVERNMENT THAT GAVE YOU THE DEMOLITION OF THE STATE BANK...we could go on.

We know that the Federal Government supports the despoliation of the Franklin River - a World Heritage site. WE NOW KNOW THAT THE STATE GOVERNMENT IS TO DESTROY BALMAIN, BIRCHGROVE, ROZELLE, GREENWICH AND WOLLSTONECRAFT and what for - just the peak hour single motorist.

COMBINED BRIDGE ACTION GROUP

GPO Box 3470 Sydney 2001

WHAT IS HAPPENING ABOUT THE BRIDGE?

CBAG action has been low-key in the past few months but the DMR has now published its Progress Report - available from 142 Day Street (near the F5 Freeway) and from 309 Castlereagh Street.

NOW IS THE TIME FOR ACTION BECAUSE THE GOVERNMENT HAS STOPPED THE STUDY! Before Christmas, the decision will be made as to whether the remaining \$1 million will be used to allow the DMR Study Team to proceed.

We therefore urge you to write to the Premier. This is the most effective form of INDIVIDUAL PROTEST. It is important that your letter require a specific reply. HERE ARE SOME QUESTIONS YOU MAY WISH TO RAISE.

HOW CAN A GOVERNMENT WHICH CLAIMS TO:

- * Care for our Harbour and foreshores and for open spaces and parklands, contemplate a development which would be so destructive to all these? - e.g. Berry Island, Mann's Point and Birchgrove?
- * Be short of funds for necessary works, contemplate spending such vast sums on a project of such questionable worth to the community? The proposed crossing would only fill the requirements of 4 000 single occupant cars in the peak hour. Also, cuts in Government spending in health, education and other transport areas?
- * Encourage Urban Consolidation in suburbs close to the City centre and plan to destroy a number of these suburbs for the benefit of these few cars coming from more distant suburbs?
- * Champion the upgrading of Public Transport and consider a project which so favours the use of private cars?
- * Oppose Freeways and contemplate the construction of a Second Harbour Crossing with associated Freeway systems?

WHAT COMPENSATION DOES THE GOVERNMENT PROPOSE FOR:

- # Properties directly affected by the proposed crossing? Would the value of the area immediately prior to the announcement of the Study be taken into account?
- # Properties indirectly affected? Would there be adequate compensation for the loss of value due to noise, air, and visual pollution and loss of local amenity?
- # The blight on property values in these areas if the DMR finds a crossing feasible and that line on the map appears?
- # For people who wish to sell their homes during this period of uncertainty, which on past experience could last 20 to 40 years?

WHAT ARE THE TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE DMR STUDY TEAM? ARE ANY OF THE FOLLOWING BEING CONSIDERED?

- ¢ Upgrading Public Transport
- ¢ Stopping cars going into the Central Business District
- ¢ Completing Ring Roads with adequate overpasses.
- ¢ Changing present toll structures to penalise one occupant cars.

LETTERS SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO:

The Hon Neville Wran, QC, MP
Premier of New South Wales
Parliament House
Macquarie Street, Sydney, 2000

The Hon P Whelan, MP
Minister of Consumer Affairs and Minister for Roads
Parliament House
Macquarie Street, Sydney, 2000

OUR THANKS TO LEICHHARDT COUNCIL

THE PEOPLE OF BALMAIN, BIRCHGROVE AND ROZELLE WISH TO THANK THE LEICHHARDT COUNCIL FOR ITS SUPPORT FOR OUR CAMPAIGN TO STOP THE BRIDGE STUDY.

stop press

AMAZING NEWS FROM NEW YORK!

BALMAIN RESIDENT HEARS IT FIRST

PARSONS BRINKERHOFF, THE INTERNATIONALLY RE-OWNED MAJOR CONSTRUCTION FIRM, HAVE ORDERED THEIR TUNNELLING EXPERT, BILL LATHROP, TO SYDNEY TO TAKE ON THE SECOND CROSSING.

The DMR tells us that the crossing study is "on hold" and yet Mr Lathrop is not only coming to Sydney but is also to stay in Balmain "to be near the job".

You should telephone Mr Whelan, Minister for Roads, on 266 8111 and talk to him about this.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

HOW TO DETERMINE THE NEED FOR A SECOND CROSSING

It surprises me that there can be so much fuss about finding out whether a new harbour crossing is needed or not when the solution is so near to hand

Instead of spending \$2 million on a preliminary feasibility study then another \$20 million on a full feasibility study, we can establish the true need in a much shorter time and make money for our beleaguered government at the same time.

We all know that from a technical point of view the crossing can be built without difficulty, the real problem is - who is to pay for it. The government has said that the money will not come out of the State purse and so, correctly, THE PEOPLE WHO USE IT MUST BE THE ONES TO PAY!

Under the most optimistic calculations the each way toll, in today's money, will not be less than \$2. So, why not replace the present 20 cents toll with a \$4 toll RIGHT NOW (or a SLIDING SCALE UP TO \$8 IN PEAK HOURS) and in this way collect revenue AND DETERMINE the real need for another crossing.

DAVID PORTER

COMPENSATION FOR PROPERTY AFFECTED BY THE SECOND CROSSING

Sir,

When the Commonwealth Government plans projects involving the compulsory acquisition of land, it pays the owners of the land promptly and justly.

When the New South Wales Government plans a project such as the second harbour crossing, it will not pay the owners of the property required for the project until it requires the land for construction. During the many years that may elapse between gazetting the plan and commencing construction, owners of property wishing to sell are faced with not only a reduced price but also an almost complete absence of buyers - often a cruel imposition.

It is sufficiently widely understood that the New South Wales Government's compensation for such plans as the second harbour crossing is so grossly unjust that already a shadow has been cast over the Balmain peninsula and the lower North Shore.

The New South Wales Government should pay owners of gazetted land a fair price when the owner wishes to sell.

ROD LINKLATER

Uncovering Our Past



FRANCIS HAYES, BOATBUILDER

Peter Reynolds

Land-title searching along the waterfront from Johnston Street around to Darling Street Wharf has turned up many small boatbuilding yards.

There were the well known ones such as Gardiner's and Beattie's but some are not as well known now.

Next to Fenwick's tugs was the small boatyard opened by Francis Hayes in 1859 in Weston Street, Balmain East.

Hayes was born in Waterford, Ireland in 1825, the son of William and Jane Hayes (nee Mathias). William Hayes was the secretary of the Marquis of Waterford.

Francis arrived in Sydney in 1839, just fourteen years old. Ten years later he married Elizabeth McAlpine who was born in Prince Street, Sydney, in 1829.

The couple moved to Balmain where eleven children were born: Elizabeth (b 10 April 1849); Francis junior (b 10 April 1851); James (b 4 December 1852); Henry (b 30 June 1854); Thomas (b 6 January 1856); Mary Ann (b 29 July 1857); Richard (b 7 October 1859); Eliza (b 24 May 1861); Charles (b 1867) and Jane (b 1869).

Another son was born but his name and birth details are not known. All the children were baptised at St Mary's, Balmain.

Francis Hayes expanded his yard in 1877 when he bought the small adjoining lots from George Smith, gentleman, and George Cooper, a Balmain waterman.

Hayes mortgaged the property heavily to pay for this expansion. A succession of mortgages to repay previous mortgages ensued and, inevitably, he defaulted in 1893.

The strain of his financial difficulties and years of toil on the boats combined to bring Francis Hayes' life to an end in 1897.

His son, James, carried on the business but he was unable to settle his father's debts. The rest of the Weston Street boatyard passed out of the family in 1900.

James Hayes had married Margaret McKenzie and by 1880 had his own boatbuilding yard at the foot of Datchett Street. James and Margaret had eight children all born in Balmain.

It is possible that Margaret was related to Henry McKenzie, the waterman after whom the Waterman's Cottage (12 Darling Street) is named.

As well as being an early boat-builder, James is accredited with being the first person to build a scull and then row it to victory in a race on the Harbour. (Dates for this accreditation are not available from the Hayes' family).

James took his two sons, Charles and Francis, into partnership and they built boats as James Hayes and Sons, Balmain.

In about 1920, the business was moved to Careening Cove, Neutral Bay, where it operated until after

World War II. A number of fine craft were built there..

Among the 21-footers were *EOJ*, *The Wattle*, and *The Nettle*.

A famous 18-footer was the *Arrawatta* which won several Australian sailing championships with Charles Hayes as skipper.

The yard also produced the *Laurianna* for the Arnott family, the *Vanessa* which won the Sayonara Cup and, for the Nossiters, the *Uteka* which sailed around the world.

James Hayes was killed in a road accident in 1934 but the firm continued under Charles and Francis. The yard contributed to the War Effort by building collapsible boats for the Army.

After World War II, the changing technologies and new demands brought about the closure of the yard - a waterfront business that began in Balmain in 1859.

I am indebted to Mr and Mrs G Downey of Cheltenham whose letter of 26 September 1982 provided the family history which rounds out the bare legalistic details of the land-title search.

James Hayes was Mr Downey's grandfather.

NOTE: The area bounded by Darling Street, Johnston Street and the waterfront is the subject of an article entitled "Peacock, Weston, Pearson and Paul: How 'Suburbanisation' Began in Balmain" to appear in the *Leichhardt Historical Journal* No 11 1982 which is now being printed.

The article will trace the history of the subdivisions, origin of street names and dates of buildings. The changes in land-use will be studied and details of the history of some of the families who lived there will be given.

MEMORIES OF BALMAIN

Mrs T G Milner, Cheltenham, has given us her memories of Balmain at the turn of the century.

Her great-grandfather Pattinson lived at Hexham Northumberland where the family had a machine foundry works. Her grandfather died young at 30 and her father worked at the foundry in his turn.

His name was Lewy Miall Pattinson, named after a Hungarian friend of the family.

Not being enamoured of foundry life, Pattinson set out for New Zealand where he worked on the wharves in order to open business as a chemist. He decided to try Australia and came to Sydney and set up business in 1885

He first lived at Mrs Dodds boarding house in Balmain. Before leaving Hexham, Pattinson had married Mary Jane Parker and he went back to collect his bride.

Pattinson had no pharmaceutical training but he was allowed to practice and he later invited his brother, who had been trained in Scotland, to come out and join him.

Mrs Millner was born above her father's shop in 1890. In 1902 they moved to their new house "Hexham" which still stands at 447 Darling Street.

She had two brothers, Norman and Lewy, and a sister called "Daisy" (Jennie Annie).

Her father helped found the famous firm of Washington R Soul Pattinson Pty Ltd. Soul had

come out from America and because he had no son of his own, he took Pattinson into partnership.

Mrs Millner attended Miss Davis' school in Darling Street. Miss Davis was helped by her sister, Annie Davis. There was a horse-drawn omnibus serving Balmain and the driver had orders to cut at the hangers-on with his whip. There were many Chinese market gardeners in Balmain. Her father grazed his horse in the paddock beside 447 Darling Street.

Dr Sherlow bought the house and it was a doctor's house for many years.

The Pattinsons moved to Abbotsford Point and lived on land resumed for the Quarantine Station. They moved because, Balmain was becoming overcrowded and industrialised.

Her father used to ride his horse to Ryde in his hunting kit. They didn't use a fox for the chase but trailed an "aniseed drag" for the hounds to follow.

Most of her family are on the land in the Orange district. After her brother was wounded in World War I, her father set him up on a farm.

Mr and Mrs Millner had three sons, one son still in the family business, and five great-grandchildren.

Mr Millner is now 98 and Mrs Millner is a hearty 92.

The above notes were collected by Management Committee members T Begbie, G Chanter and F Heathfield in November 1982.

Leichhardt Historical Journal

No 10
1981

The Leichhardt Historical Journal is on sale now at the Watch House, 179 Darling St Balmain - \$3.50 per copy - on Sundays between 2 and 4 pm.

TOTAL ENVIRONMENT CENTRE BOOK FAIR

FRIDAY 26 NOVEMBER 1982 TO FRIDAY 23 JANUARY 1983

WEEKDAYS 10 am to 5 30 pm

WEEKENDS (November and December only) 12 noon-5pm
3rd Floor, Argyle Arts Centre, 18 Argyle St Sydney

Visit the Watch House

Admission to the Watch House on Sunday afternoons now costs 30 cents. This sum includes a printed 4-fold leaflet PICTURES AT THE WATCH HOUSE which describes the framed photographs and objects on display.

The Watch House is open to visitors on Sundays between 2 00 - 4 00 pm. All welcome.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING 6 DECEMBER

T Begbie, G Chanter, F Heathfield, R Linklater, S Lynch, L McDermott, R Norman and P Reynolds met at the Watch House at 7 30 pm.

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED:

- 1 A Slattery, Forster, requesting info re Balmain history.
- 2 McGraw-Hill Book Co Aust Pty Ltd re Balmain in Time.
- 3 Australian National University re history of sawmilling.
- 4 Valuer General's Dept in reply to ours of 30 Sept re method of assessing rates in our area.
- 5 Leichhardt Council in reply to ours of 30 Sept re our resolution on levying rates.
- 6 Leichhardt Council with thanks for our donation of a copy of the Handbook of the Balmain Amateur Swimming Club: 1933-1934 to Library.
- 7 Leichhardt Council re Open Space Contribution meeting.
- 8 National Trust re campaign to increase Commonwealth funding for National Estate Programme.
- 9 Birchgrove Public School Fund Raising Committee re hire of Coffee Urn.
- 10 Annandale Ward Residents Traffic Committee re Sydney Short Term Hierarchy Plan.

CORRESPONDENCE SENT:

- 11 Replies to 1 to 3 above.
- 12 Hon L McMahon, MP for Sydney re campaign to increase Commonwealth funding for National Estate Programme.
- 13 National Trust encl copy of letter in 12 above.
- 14 Newcastle and Dist Hist Soc with thanks for donation.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

- 15 Volunteer wanted to deliver News Sheet 126 in Area 6 in December.
 - 16 Miss A Heath, Homebush, has painting to identify.
 - 17 S Cameron, change of address for News Sheet delivery.
 - 18 Donation from Newcastle and Dist Hist Soc and report on visit, 6 December.
 - 19 Information re Hampton Villa new owner's name and address
 - 20 CBAG Report
 - 21 BBAG Report.
 - 22 Conservation Management Plan for Watch House/stone paving.
 - 23 Men working on corner park next to Watch House.
 - 24 Donation made for printing Leichhardt Historical Journal.
 - 25 Documents, including audited balance sheet 1981-82, sent to Department of Services.
 - 26 Discussion of noise problem at Dry Dock Hotel and noted that this will be discussed at Leichhardt Council meeting 7 December.
 - 27 Hon Auditor accepts Associations accounts.
- MEETING CLOSED AT 9 00 pm.



WATCH THESE DATES

126



1983 MEETINGS DIARY*****
To simplify arrangements for Management Meetings, General Meetings and History Meetings, one meeting combining all these functions will be held on the first Monday of each month - except public holidays.

Monday	7 February	Monday	1 August
Monday	7 March	Monday	5 September
Monday	4 April	Tuesday	4 October
Monday	2 May	Monday	7 November
Monday	6 June	Monday	5 December
Monday	4 July		

Remember - first Monday in each month at the Watch House at 7 30 pm. ALL WELCOME*****

NEXT MEETING: MONDAY 7 FEBRUARY 1983
7 30 PM WATCH HOUSE

The BALMAIN GARDEN CLUB meets every third Saturday in the month at the Watch House 179 Darling Street at 1 00 pm.

WELCOME

We welcome new member, Kevin Ringham, to the Association.

JOIN the balmain association

meaning BALMAIN BIRCHGROVE ROZELLE

OUR AIMS ARE TO:

- * improve the living working and recreational amenity of our area
- * maintain all features having natural architectural and/or historical value
- * compile and record the history of the area/keep a permanent collection of items of historical interest
- * seek the co-operation of everyone concerned in the realization of the above

For further information please contact:

PETER REYNOLDS

827 3560



the balmain association

AMENDED SUBSCRIPTION RATES

MEMBERSHIP FORM

(OPEN/RENEW)

PO BOX 57 BALMAIN 2041

NAME:

ADDRESS:

TELEPHONE: (HOME) (WORK)

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION (including News Sheet delivery in Balmain Birchgrove Rozelle)

Single	\$ 4.00
Family or Household	\$ 6.00
Pensioner or Student	\$ 1.00
Organization	\$12.00

DELIVERED FREE IN OUR AREA

Add \$3.00 to above rates to have News Sheet posted.

Cheques made payable to "The Balmain Association" 14-12-82.