



the balmain
association
incorporated
news sheet

The Peninsula OBSERVER

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September 2005

40th ANNIVERSARY EDITION

A TIME TO CELEBRATE, REMEMBER & REFLECT

Any anniversary is a time for celebration and generally the greater the number of years involved the more reason there is to celebrate. It is a good time for reflecting and reminiscing as well as for partying. It is a time for thanking those who had the foresight, will-power and energy to form the Association and fight for many issues we now take for granted. It is also perhaps a time to think about the future.

As you will read in the contributions by past presidents of the Balmain Association, in this 40th Anniversary issue of the Peninsular Observer, there have been successes. These successes include the restoration of the Watch House, the scotching of the plans for a second harbour crossing through Balmain, the establishment of an archive, the undertaking of important historical studies and publications, and the persuading of Leichhardt Council to set up libraries in the municipality. There have been many skirmishes over developments such as the Mort Bay and White Bay container terminals where the battles were lost but the war was won. It was only with a strong community group, such as the Balmain Association, that there could

have been victory in the rezoning of the five industrial sites cases. While there might be concern about some of the outcomes in four of those sites – and we are yet to see the result of one (Ballast Point Park) – the outcomes would have inevitably been much worse if those community actions and court battles had not been fought or had been lost.

What is clear from the articles by Balmain Association's "elders", and also from past issues of the Observer is the vibrancy of the first few years of the Association. There was a wonderful mix of work and play. Besides the many actions taken there were children's activities, social events, working bees, sporting contests and other activities in the early years of the Association. The first newsletter of the Balmain Association (April 1966) reports on a, "Wine, Cheese and Aerogard Evening", attended by 140 members and invitees.

Now most inaugural members of the Association appear to be of an age where reminiscing is more to their liking than confrontation: where lying in bed is more appealing than lying in front of bulldozers. Yet there are still development issues to be addressed and some are the same as those faced 40 years ago and still need action. If the 40th anniversary passes without a thought about the future of the Balmain Association it would be a great pity. Does the Balmain Association have a future? Are there issues to be addressed and is the Balmain Association the group to do it? Why is it that there are few new members in their 20s and 30s and how might this be changed? With the advent of open Councils and precinct committees should the aims of the Association change? How many residents of Balmain know of the existence of the Association? Why should residents join the Association?

Organizations, like organisms, are born and grow, age and pass away. Sometimes

they produce progeny or mutate, and sometimes they don't. Local organizations, such as the Balmain Theatre Group and Music 2041, grew and thrived for a while and disappeared. The Balmain Association has outlasted most, which is an indication of its need and of its strength. That the Association reached its 40th anniversary is a tribute to its members and their achievements are something to be proud of. It is an occasion well worth celebrating. It is a time to thank past and present members and presidents for what they did and for providing copy for this newsletter.

Fergus Fricke
Ruth MacLeod

THE BALMAIN ASSOCIATION



NEWS SHEET

FIRST ISSUE - APRIL 1966

• THE WATCH HOUSE •

THE NATIONAL TRUST HAS DECLARED THIS BUILDING ONE OF HISTORICAL INTEREST AND THE NEWLY FORMED BALMAIN ASSOCIATION HOPE TO RESTORE IT FOR USE AS THEIR HEADQUARTERS. THE ASSOCIATION'S AIMS AND ACTIVITIES HAVE BEEN BRIEFLY OUTLINED ON THE NEXT PAGE OF THIS ANNUNTY.

Front page of the first Balmain
Association Newsletter

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE BALMAIN ASSOCIATION

WILL BE HELD AT 5:00 PM
ON
WEDNESDAY 5TH OCT. 2005
IN
THE WATCH HOUSE,
179 DARLING STREET

PRESIDENTIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

As many Presidents of the Balmain Association as could be contacted were asked to write about their memories of the Association, especially during the time they presided, the issues that were important at the time, and anything else they felt would be of interest. Below are the contributions of those who responded.

THE FOUNDING OF THE ASSOCIATION

John Power
President 1965-1967

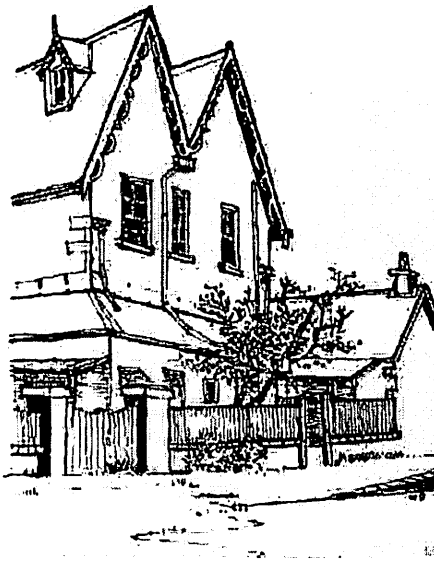
The informal meetings that marked the effective start of the Association were held in the middle of 1965 at Sybil Masterman's home on Long Nose Point. They followed discussions that Sybil had been having with other Birchgrove women like Toni Furness (soon to become Mackenzie, and the Association's first Secretary) and Loraine Power. Central to these discussions had been the threats posed by rapidly growing redevelopment pressures. While the women's original concerns had been about developers pushing for higher densities in residential accommodation, these were soon swamped by the proposals of the Maritime Services Board to introduce container wharves across the peninsula.

I do not now remember how blokes came to be the early presidents of an organisation that had been called into being by women. No doubt there was a measure of unrecognised sexism at work here. The presidential job was one that was assumed to require a man, and this assumption was shared by similar communities around us. The Paddington president was John Thompson; Glebe, Bernard Smith; Hunter's Hill, Alan Bradfield, and so on.

The early years of the Association were dominated by the containerisation issue, and the politics that surrounded it. Some of the public meetings we organised in the Town Hall were said to be the biggest held there since the Depression. And the pressures generated ultimately led to the ejection of the old-style machine that had for decades controlled the Council. This in turn led to an improvement on the planning front, although we did suffer some sad losses, such as the demolition of historic Birchgrove House in Louisa Road.

While all this was going on, another less glamorous project was under way – one that was to have the greatest impact of all on the future life of the Association. This of course was the (1966) decision of Tom Lewis – then the new State Minister for Lands – to hand over to the Association effective control of the Edmund Blackett- designed Darling Street Watch House.

The lesson from these early years seems clear, if a rather conservative one. The sound and fury of political disputes come and go, but are less important in the long term than the preservation of our heritage.



EARLY BALMAIN ASSOCIATION

Robert Irving
President 1968

In 1965, when I was lecturing in Architecture at the University of New South Wales, I was invited by Errol Pickard and Brian McDonald, two of the senior students in the course, to attend a meeting to discuss the formation of a group with the aim of keep the traditional character of Balmain.

We met at the home of Toni Furness, in Wharf Road. If my memory is correct, among those present as well as Errol and Brian, were John Power, senior lecturer in Government at the University of Sydney; Sibyl Masterman, whose Numa Street house was to become the venue for many early functions; Alan Harding, whose government connections later made possible the authentic furnishing of the Watch House; Bettina Chambers, who soon produced the first News Sheet; Joan Chapman; Tom Flower, who made, I think, Balmain's earliest house conservation; Richard Waterfield, a later treasurer; and Thea Banks.

The first Management Committee included John Power (President) Toni Furness (Secretary) and (I think) Thea Banks (Treasurer). The sub-committee chairmen included Errol Pickard (architecture) and Bob Irving (history). (There were other committees such as social and finance, about which my memory is hazy). Toni married John MacKenzie, who not only became treasurer but also supplied Angove wines for the Association's functions.

Other early members I remember with pleasure (not all of them still around today) were Bill Ottley, Arthur Ellis, Jim Cunningham, Graham Bennett, Geraldine McGillicuddy, Joan Champion, Terry Chapman, Norman McLeod, Jack Zuber, Reg Window, John Rogers, Richard White and his wife, Hal and Rita Wise, David and Jenny Porter, Leigh Roussos, Mrs Rudlow, Graham and Janette Stephenson, Roy Watterson, Rick Gruin, Alicia Lee, and Nick Winter. Most of these were newcomers like me.

At first we campaigned about simple things like opposing the Council's painting of street seats with slats of different bright colours. We wanted Balmain to stay pretty much the same as it was then: quirky, mixed-up. But soon the government's decision to establish container facilities at a greatly altered White Bay provided much larger issues for us to resist and, in the process, gained a great deal of local support for the Association.

My diary records that the first AGM, presumably to resolve to form the Association, was held on 18 November 1965 and the first record I have of a Management Committee meeting is on 2 December, at Toni Furness's home. The first Christmas barbecue was at Sibyl's place on 11 December. The first general members' meeting, according to my diary, was on 20 January 1966, and the second on 3 February.

The Association's activities began in earnest after that. Errol designed the Association logo showing the Watch House. The first 'tour' of the Watch House was conducted by Errol on 31 January, and the first 'clean-up weekend' was on Saturday 19 and Sunday 20 February. We began actual work on the building (the roof specification) early in May. Discussions about what was then called the 'lease' (which was of course not resolved then and didn't happen that way) started about the same time. The official record will show when the National Trust became involved — it was largely due to Alan Harding's endeavours. There was a 'roof raising' party called 'A Night on the Tiles' (celebrating the completion of repairs to the slate roof) on 2 July 1966.

There were frequent Management Committee meetings, at different members' homes; there were regular general meetings and several larger public meetings. Our biggest public meeting, as I recall, was a general complaint about increased rates; it was at the town hall on, I think, the 28th of February 1967.

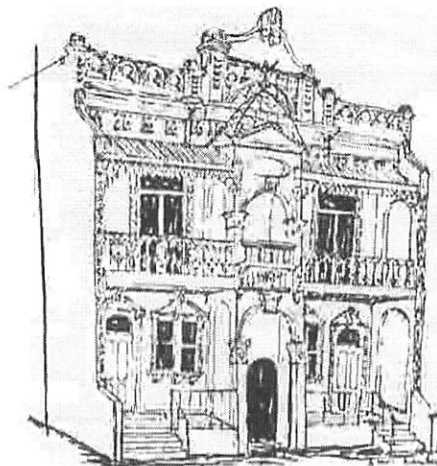
We started attending Council meetings before the concept of 'open council' was the vogue. One early meeting, chaired by Annie Cashman when she was mayor, was particularly noisy. At one point the mayor called out 'If youse can't be quiet, youse'll have to get out!' Of course we didn't. We later supported the Council's decision to establish Leichhardt's first libraries (successful) and the appeal to prevent the use of Mort Bay for roll-on-roll-off container use (unsuccessful).

Jack Zuber and Bettina Chambers arranged a display on Balmain and the objectives of the Association in Jack's real estate window at 409 Darling Street in August 1966. The Association arranged a public meeting, 'The Future of Balmain' at the Town Hall on 27 September.

Not long after the Association was formed, I was allowed access to the top of St Augustine's church tower, from where I took photographic transparencies of the 360-degree panorama of Balmain and beyond, to compare with the similar views taken when the church was built in 1907. These were given to the Association.

Jim Chanter and Bill Haesler joined the Association in, I think, 1967. Jim and his wife Gladys hosted a meeting of the Architectural sub-committee at their house in Nicholson Street on 1 August in that year.

There was a birthday party on 4 November 1967 at Richard Waterfield's home in William Street. My diary doesn't say, but I presume it was the second birthday. At that time the last desperate attempts were being made to preserve Birchgrove House: Professor Bernard Smith expressed interest, but did not go further. Our efforts were unsuccessful, despite the National Trust's support, and the house was demolished.



THE BALMAIN ASSOCIATION: A PRESIDENTIAL HIGHLIGHT

**Bill Haesler OAM.
President 1969/71**

When I joined the fledgling Balmain Association on our arrival in Sydney in mid 1966 its tasks were to restore of the newly acquired Watch House, save Pilchers Paddock at White Bay from a Container Terminal and prevent proposed steel handling at historic Mort's Dock. I

did not know then that in August 1969 I would become the Association's third president.

Other eager young families had also discovered Balmain's unique charm and were renovating old houses, which were all we could afford. Friendly long-time locals joined our attempts to oppose Balmain's destruction by indiscriminate over-development.

My three-year presidency included the official opening of the Balmain Watch House on Sunday 12th April 1970. We had worked for this since rescuing the building from demolition in late 1965 and acquiring its lease through John Morris and the National Trust from the Hon. Tom L Lewis MLA, NSW Minister for Lands. Volunteer teams, under the watchful coordination of prime mover Alan Harding, had spent many long hours restoring the building.

Invitations went to the Minister, the National Trust, the mayor, Leichhardt Council aldermen, the Royal Historical Society, sister associations in Paddington, Annandale and Glebe, progress groups, members and local residents. The NSW Police Band was booked. We even contemplated inviting HM Queen Elizabeth, on tour here at the time.

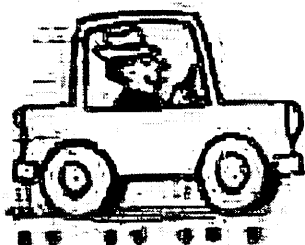
It was, in fact, the Queen who stymied use of the Police Band that, at the last minute, had to attend her Newcastle functions. With no substitute we decided to do without. Viv Carter, a jazz friend, promised to organise a replacement but I thought he was joking.

Precisely at 2.45 pm on opening day, with official guests on the veranda and the crowd spilling onto Darling Street, I started to welcome Mr Lewis and three hundred guests, when from up the hill came the sound of jazz; a band playing "High Society". And what a band! Major Muddle and His Mud Marchers led by Viv Carter. This motley crew of mainly local jazzmen dressed in quasi-military uniforms marched, in formation, down the centre of Darling Street (temporarily closed by police for the occasion) wheeled in front of the Watch House and continued performing.

I was stunned. What had my friends done? But the smiles and applause reassured me and set the tone for the afternoon. Mr Lewis said it was one of his better official openings. In the relaxed atmosphere I queried the Minister about

acquiring the triangular corner block adjoining the Watch House that we had long coveted for a public park. He suggested that Council resume the land for the Association but Mayor Les Rodwell explained that resumption was a dirty word' in Leichhardt. The minister persisted. "Ask Council officially" he advised me. "If they knock you back, let me know." We did, they did and I later did. Mr Lewis' response was "leave it with me." We then heard that a DA had been approved for a residence on the site. Then, unexpectedly, in early 1971 the Minister officially advised the Association that his Government had resumed the land for the National Trust as an addition to the Watch House and our use.

Achievements like these made it all worthwhile. Forty years on the Balmain Association can be proud of its successes. Battles were lost in the short term, but proved that peoplepower works. Contentious industrial sites thought lost to development have been returned to public ownership. Balmain, once wrongly considered a slum by Sydney outsiders, is a desirable address. And the Balmain Association is an important part of it all.



ACTION ON ALL FRONTS

**Bob Beverley
President 1972**

Anne and I moved into 70 Elliott Street Balmain in 1967. We had just returned from several years overseas, and agonised over whether we could afford to pay \$12,000 for a rather dilapidated Victorian terrace house.

We joined the Balmain Association through contacts with other architects concerned, as I was, about development proposals (units, container terminals and associated traffic), and the probable

destruction of the historic built environment, and great character of the place. This was a significant and exciting time with change from an area of familiar modest housing mixed with maritime and other industry, to a place properly valued by a much broader community.

The most powerful memories are around the formation of the action group to contest the local elections and defeat the Leichhardt Council. Defeating the Labor Party on its own turf was an amazing effort by a powerful and committed combination of concerned new and old residents, local newspaper and union leaders. As the election drew closer the incumbent Labor Council members began to realise that we were a serious threat, but by then it was too late. Groups of us would walk the streets late at night putting leaflets and how to vote cards in letter boxes (and removing those of the opposition).

Another major effort was tree planting, and many hundreds of generally inappropriate eucalypts, melaleucas were planted in narrow footpaths. When we've driven around Balmain in recent times there are mixed emotions – pleasure that the trees are there, and embarrassment at how many should probably be out in the bush.

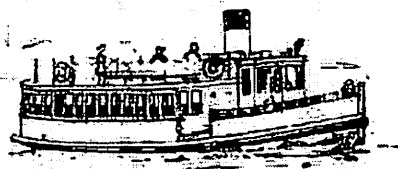
Working bees in the Watch House were hard work but good fun, and so were the social activities there, that were organised as the work progressed.

At that time the Playgroup Association was formed and our children were part of Australia's first playgroup that met in a church hall off Darling Street. We also remember an 'adventure playground' that looked like a junk yard – a Rudolph Steiner inspired concept that would be uninsurable today, and provided many dangerous challenges for young kids. In the early 70's a restlessness prevailed, some heading off for a new life in Nimbin, some marriages succumbed to the pressures of the womens' lib movement, and we moved to Canberra in 1974 with our own marriage barely intact.

Since moving to Canberra our lives have taken a completely unexpected turn. We were 'left wing intellectuals', greenies, hostile to Christianity, but dabbling in eastern religions. Soon after settling in Canberra a series of circumstances led to us an experience that turned our lives

around and set us on a different path. Anne started attending a church called the Revival Fellowship – she'd heard about some amazing healings that had taken place there, and was curious. After a few weeks she came home and told me she'd been filled with the Holy Spirit, and spoke in tongues. This didn't excite me at all, in fact a month or two later I decided to go along myself and have an argument about the whole thing. However as things turned out, I found myself persuaded and soon had the same life changing experience – amazed at what we'd found - and have continued on this way ever since, eventually giving up architecture and becoming a full time pastor. (If anyone wants to know more about this, they are welcome to contact us on bobbev@netspeed.com.au.)

I'm disappointed that we'll be overseas in September and can't attend the reunion but we're pleased to hear that the Association is still going strong and wish you all the best for the future.



LATER IN THE FIRST DECADE

**David Porter
President 1973/75**

Not all of the Association's battles were fought on land.

In 1974 the State government announced that the ferry service to Mort Bay would cease and, further, there would be no nighttime service to Balmain at all. This was rock bottom for Balmain ferries. After 150 years the service had been reduced to a part-time service from just two wharves, Darling Street and Long Nose Point.

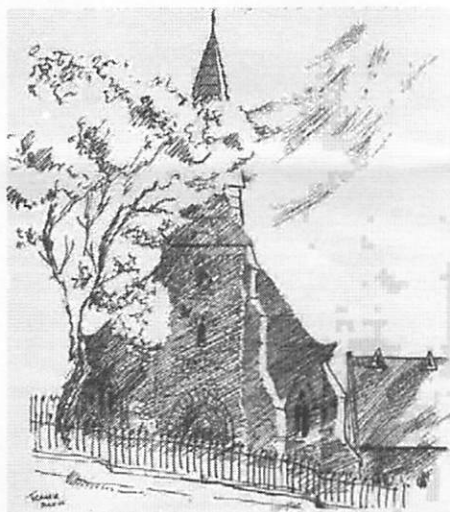
The Association's campaign started with an extensive survey of potential passengers then on bended knees at the

desk of the manager of Hegarty's Ferries, Bill Needham. Bill was clearly underwhelmed by our figures but he did agree to a trial. The new service would call into Mort Bay and, for the first time ever, would also link Balmain and North Sydney by calling into Lavender Bay and McMahon's Point.

The next six months were rough travelling indeed as Association members counted virtually every passenger using the service. (One interesting anomaly was the evening we counted 105 passengers on a ferry licensed for 90 - it was the day of a bus strike!)

Bill Needham's caution was well founded, the trial was very shaky and we needed the State government to be more co-operative. So we were again on bended knees, this time at the desk of the Minister for Transport, actually five ministers for transport - Morris, Fife, Ruddock, Bruxner and Cox. It was a long campaign over three years, but slowly, slowly the numbers grew.

The government eventually took over the service and thirty years on the Association can be proud of its contribution to Balmain's good ferry service - perhaps even approaching the service of 100 years ago!



PARKS, THREATS & OTHER ISSUES

Frances Heathfield
President 1983/84 and 1992/94

Looking back, I have presided at many meetings in my capacity as "vice" (president). The ongoing issues were concerned with the fate of Clontarf "Park" and Mort's Dock (Park).

Clontarf involved the restoration of the cottage, and the sale of land to the Housing Commission of what had been previously blast furnace and foundry building last used by Wards Stoves Pty Ltd. By 1976, Clontarf had been destined for demolition to become a truck parking area.

In the case of Mort's Dock, a park was achieved with a partial loss to the Housing Commission - an expensive political stunt, as the buildings were costly, and some have now been sold.

The threat of a second harbour crossing (to Birchgrove) had just subsided and our "umbrella organization" now provided peaceful shelter and time to produce "Balmain in Time" and other pamphlets and books for sale at the Watch House.

My "apprenticeship" in the Balmain Association began in September 1980 with the decision to open the Watch House weekly, at first on Sunday afternoons - later on Saturdays. The weekly openings have continued for 25 years.

Maggie Paterson and I spent two years before we rallied volunteers on a roster. During our early period we organized a fete which lasted a whole weekend. Talented locals set up stalls inside and outside the Watch House while our treasurer collected a percentage from their sales: patters, hatters, t-shirt designers, gardeners were amongst the many groups. We also had such demonstrations of arts such as paper-making. The Balmain Theatre Group also assisted.

On another weekend the Police History Group brought wonderful artefacts to display (some were very old guns and manacles). No touching!! They were guarding these like the crown jewels. Although the Watch House was once a

police lockup, they stayed overnight as well, sleeping in the cells - a nice twist!

When Leichhardt Council cleared out a room containing old portraits which were un-named, these were brought to the Watch House to exhibit. We invited the public to try to recognise and identify people and re-label the portraits.

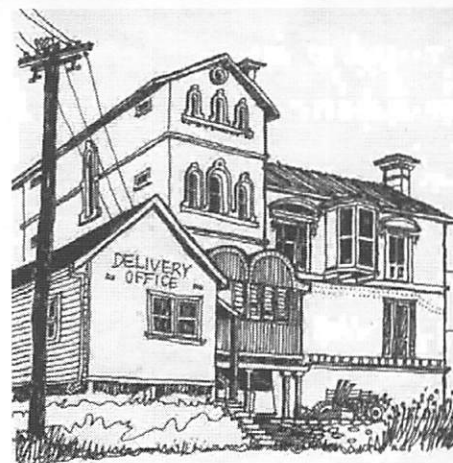
By chance a daughter of the last policeman to reside at the Watch House found us open. She infused life into it when she made a tape describing how her large family slept in cells, packed into double beds; they papered the walls with newspaper; there was ironing at the foot of the stairs, above which their mother gave birth ...

When Music 2041 joined us, the public were enticed off Darling Street by the music played by the recorder consort and they came in, often to contribute parts of the history of Balmain. As a result an active research group began developing charts, collecting pictures and adding more to earlier research.

We hired buses to tour Balmain, and they were packed. Now, in keeping with better health, people walk on guided tours and can read the plaques which the Balmain Association organised.

As for the meetings? They were committees or talk-fests, sometimes huddled at the fire-place (More fun was had by the flickering fire on a "ghost busters" evening.).

Lets conclude by saying I have drunk more wine at Balmain Association events than anywhere else!



10,000 LEAFLETS

During evening peak-hour traffic on Thursday 16th and Friday 17th February, Association members handed out 10,000 leaflets, containing a petition on traffic congestion, to motorists at the Victoria Rd. traffic lights near White Bay Power House.

The leaflet contained the following points:

THIS ALREADY IS ONE OF SYDNEY'S WORST TRAFFIC BOTTLENECKS
 WORSE IS COMING!
 WHEN CONTAINERS COME TO BALMAIN, THIS WILL MEAN ...

- MORE THAN 3,000 TRUCKS A WEEK
- 40 ft. LONG
- ALL HOURS OF THE DAY
- NO ALTERNATIVE ROUTE

WE, the residents of Balmain, don't want this industry with its heavy traffic and noise!

YOU, who pass through here every day, don't want more traffic, a worse bottleneck!

PLEASE SEND THIS PROTEST TO

The Rt. Hon. R. W. Askin, Premier of N.S.W.,
 119 Macquarie Street, Sydney.

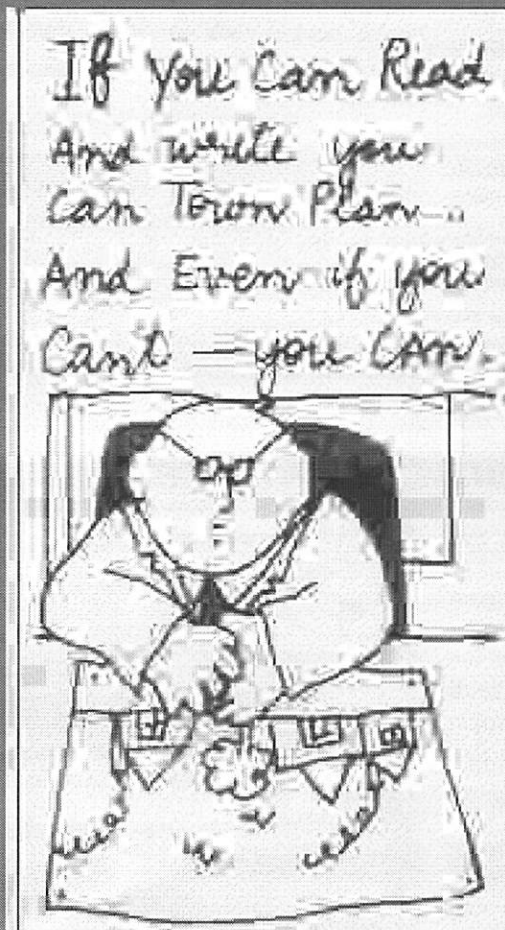
I protect against the major traffic chaos which will immediately follow the introduction of the container industry into Balmain.

Name:
 Address:

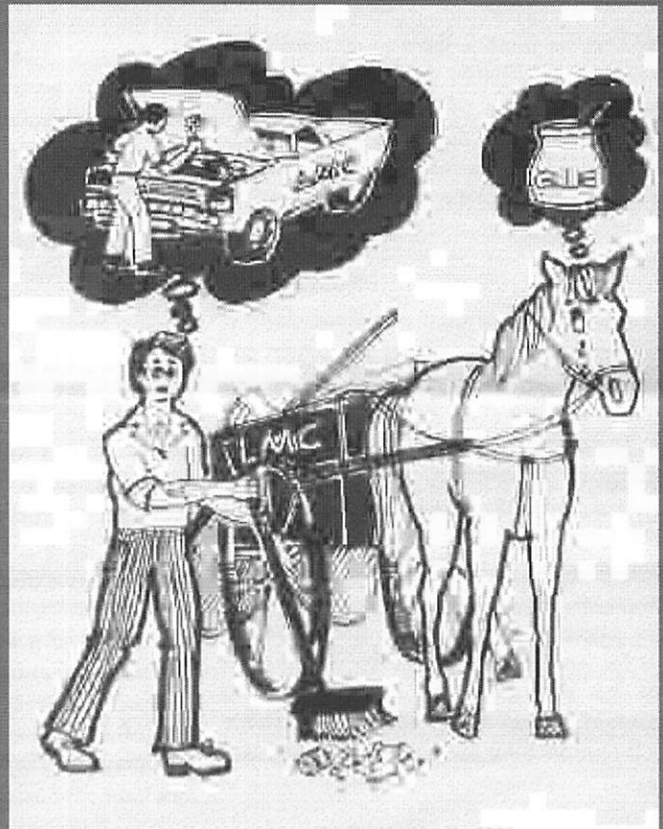
Handing out the leaflets was extremely easy, because traffic was backed up for about a mile and this made our leaflet very topical for the "captive audience". In fact, a number of motorists on the second day said they had already sent their petitions to the Premier, and wished us luck.

THE PREMIER has not made any public comment on the petitions he has received.

Information on a leaflet from the April 1967 Newsletter



Campaigns and comments from early editions of the Balmain Association Newsletter



Campaign to save the Leichhardt Council street sweeping service that used horses and carts. September 1975

SENNACHERIB - AND BALMAIN

The Assyrian came down like the wolf on the fold,
 And his cohorts were gleaming in purple and gold,
 But the Maritime crept with the gait of a crab,
 In trappings of grey, and of dun, and of drab.
 Where little streets wandered, where people could pause
 On corners to gaze at green waters, the claws
 Of the crab grabbed its prey, then let it be known
 That century memories, and century stone,
 And time dropping slow, and everything kind,
 And everything Yesterday, now was behind.
 Forward, containers, perish the rest,
 Pull down the houses, and hurry it, lest
 The ghosts of old manners, old graces, old ways
 Write Stop to the trespass of paddocks and bays.

Anonymous poem published in the February 1967 issue of the Newsletter

RECENT YEARS

Ann Bastock President 1996 -2005

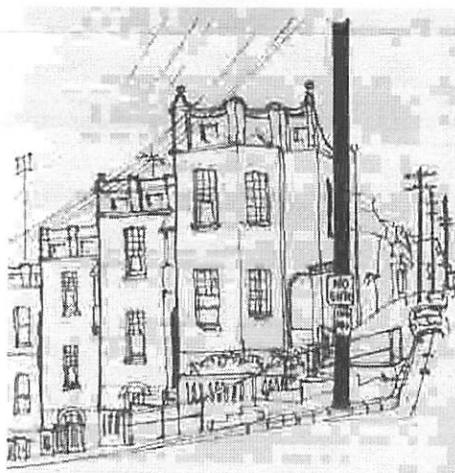
I moved down to Balmain from an outer suburb, where I had reared my family, in 1985. I bought a small unit in a block beside the park at White Bay. I took a job locally and proceeded to renovate the flat which needed it! When that was finished I began walking about this remarkable suburb and was fascinated by the Watch House. I saw the sign outside which said Balmain Association meetings were held monthly but thought "I'm sure they wouldn't really need me, I know nothing about the place". One evening I got up the courage to go in and was welcomed and have been involved ever since.

I did have a lot to learn and the first book I read was "Around Balmain" published by the Association in 1986. Then I asked our gifted historians Kathleen Hamey and Bonnie Davidson could I come in on a Saturday afternoon when the Watch House was open for visitors and learn from them how to welcome visitors and answer their questions. They thought that was a good idea and I did learn a lot. Nowadays I look forward to the Saturdays when I am "on duty" there. I meet so many interesting and interested people. Some have moved in and want to know about their house; others have begun to do the family history and discover that here is where so many of their ancestors lived. Others are just walking around Balmain on a Saturday – heading up the hill from the wharf to the famous Balmain markets and passing the Watch House come in and enjoy the experience.

I have been President of the Balmain Association for nine years! And have gone on learning and loving the fact that we were asked some years ago would we let the building out for art exhibitions and this was agreed to. Of course this helps make the money needed to maintain the building and it brings many people in who become interested and buy the books written by gifted members as well as Leichhardt Journals in which historian Peter Reynolds covers so much local history. Our walk brochures are popular too as people decide that they want to come back and see more

of Balmain. Of course that book that tells the history of the local pubs, "Called to the Bar", is very popular!

Recently I have been attending the meetings where an enthusiastic group of members of the Balmain Association, some of whom were involved in saving the Watch House from being demolished back in 1965, who are now organizing the 40th anniversary celebrations to mark this event. In the same year the the Association was formed the Secretary, Toni Furness, applied to the National Trust for the right to lease the building knowing that if the Association ceased to exist the building would be looked after by the Trust. So far, so good...the Trust doesn't have a worry!



Watch House Exhibitions 2005

August

Sat 6 & Sun 7, 10am - 4pm
Opening 7pm Friday 5 August
"Journeys"

A new exhibition of art works from "Circle of Clay Artists" Joy Bye, Sally Hill, Jitka Kopriva, Clarissa Regan, Ljubov Seidl and Jean Whitworth

Sat 12 and Sun 14
Opening 6pm Friday 12 August
"Journeys"

Works by Sue Finlayson, Anke De Reuver, Nichola Bryan and Kyrsten Winkley

Sat 20 to Sun 28, 11am to 4pm
Opening 2pm Saturday 20 August
"Birds of a feather Paint together"

Ruth Aldrich, Judy Brownlie, Judith Denning, Colleen Giudice, Jan Maljers, Lynette Mitchell

September

Exhibition of historical photographs and memorabilia from the Balmain Association - 11am to 3pm Saturday 3, 10 and 24.

Special events

Saturday 17

* Exhibition

* Garden Walks from the Watch House from 10 am to 3pm

* Devonshire tea

Sunday 18

* Exhibition

* Devonshire Tea

10am to 12.30pm

(see enclosed brochure)

Photographs and other memorabilia about the Balmain Association are still being sought for the exhibition. Please contact Diana Garder 9810 3639 or June Lunsman 9810 6885 email speal@zip.com.au if you have any relevant items you are prepared to exhibit

October

Sat 2 and Sun 3

Alex Revel

Inner West Photographic Group

Sat 8 and Sun 9

Doris Rainsford and Marian Marcatili Seachange

An exhibition of sculptures, mainly ceramic

Sat 15 and Sun 16

Meadowbank Artists

Third Year Printmaking Students from the The Sydney Gallery School, Meadowbank TAFE

Sat 22 and Sun 23

Local artist Peter Handran-Smith

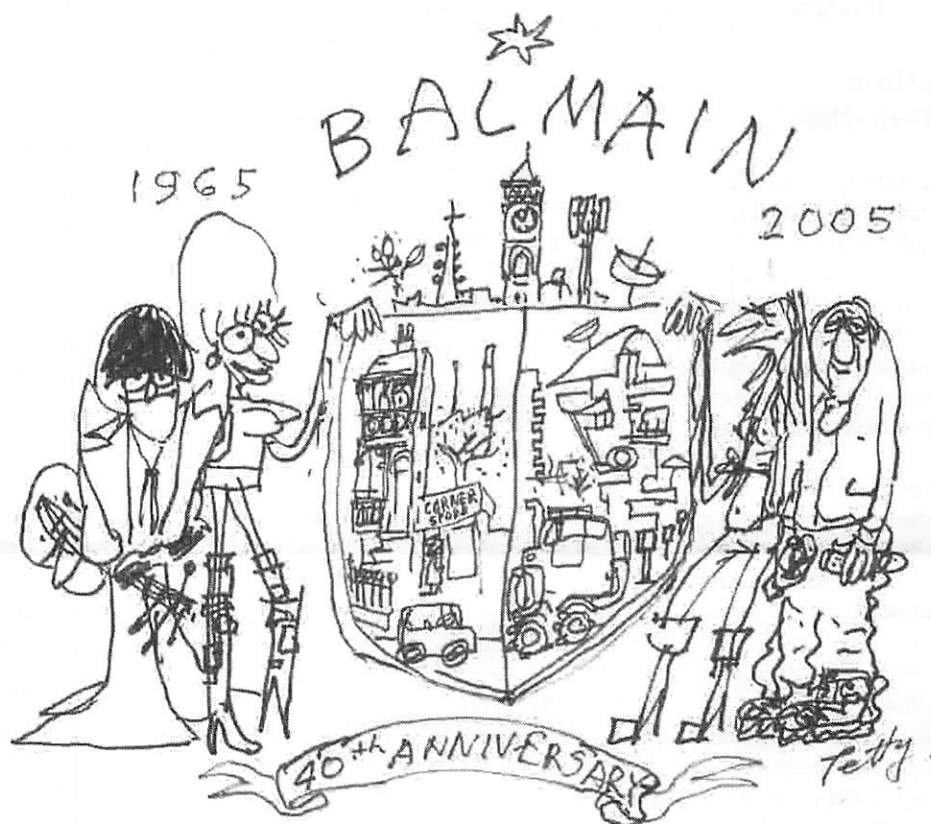
Exhibition of paintings

Balmain on the Harbour

Sat 29 and Sun 30

Majella and Jillyann Hill

An exhibition of artwork, jewellery and knitting



Bruce Petty has the final comment on the Balmain Association anniversary

YOUR ASSISTANCE IS NEEDED

The assistance of members is needed for 40th Anniversary celebrations on the weekend of 16, 17 and 18 September (particularly on Saturday the 17th September) for the Garden Walks. We need to have people present at the gardens that are open for inspection as well as at the Watch House.

It is anticipated that there will be 8 or 9 gardens open from 10am to 4pm. It would be good to have 2 people at each, depending on the size of garden and its accessibility, for approximately 3 hours: that is up to 36 volunteers!!

We also hope to provide Devonshire teas at The Watch House throughout Saturday and on Sunday morning, before the concert, while people view the displays.

If you can help, please contact Diana Garder 9810 3639 or June Lunsman 9810 6885.

The Balmain Association Inc Representing Balmain, Birchgrove and Rozelle

Our aims are to:

Improve the living, working and recreational amenities of our area; maintain all features having natural, architectural and or historical value of the area and keep a permanent collection of historical interest; seek the cooperation of everyone concerned in the realization of the above.

The Balmain Association meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 5:00pm in the Watch House, 179 Darling Street Balmain. The Watch House is open every Saturday from 12:00 - 3:00pm.

Our editorial contacts:

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Our Web site:

<http://balmainassociation.aussiehosts.com>

Annual subscriptions:

Household \$20
Concession \$10
Organizations \$30