



the balmain
association
incorporated
news sheet

The Peninsula OBSERVER

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BALLAST POINT PARK OPENING

The opening of Ballast point Park is both intoxicating and sobering and as not to rain on the parade I shall briefly be sober and then get into celebrating in the Australian tradition.



The crowd gathers

The most sobering issue is that, "never was so much owed by so many for so little", to sort of paraphrase Churchill speech during WW II, "never ... was so much owed by so many to so few." The reclamation and rejuvenation of Ballast Point took over 20 years, 15 years of campaigning for it to be open space and 7.5 years for the demolition, planning, remediation, construction and planting: a long time. In that time huge amounts of money changed hands, thousands of hours of person/time was expended on fundraising, campaigning, marching, demonstrating, planning, lobbying, leafleting

The first attempt to save Ballast Point was in 1928 when Menevia (otherwise known as Minevia) was up for sale and Balmain Council wanted to purchase it but couldn't due to a lack of money and more pressing issues. Texaco (Caltex) bought the site and established an oil terminal there.

Today has been a long time in coming for the Ballast Point Campaign Committee, but it has been worth the wait. The BPCC was established in the late 1980's after the first proposal to develop the site for housing was made public. The committee grew out of a more general movement that wanted to see appropriate planning for the five

large industrial sites, on the Balmain peninsula, being considered for redevelopment at that time; Balmain Power Station, Chemplex, Unilever, Ampol and Caltex. Three planning power takeovers by the State Govt., six court cases, numerous protest meetings and fund-raising functions and a lot of angst later, four of those sites were rezoned for residential development and one, Caltex at Ballast Point, Leichhardt Council decided should remain zoned waterfront industrial until such time as it could be acquired for a park.



BA members at Tank 101

That is when the Ballast Point Campaign Committee came into its own. In the 15 years leading up to the announcement by Bob Carr that the land would be acquired by the State Government the BPCC carried on an epic campaign to keep the concept in the public's view. This was thanks to many people, far too many to name, who contributed their time, money, enthusiasm, talents and ideas to achieving a park at Ballast Point. These people included Helen Styles, Susan Frisoli, Roger Parkes, Issy Wyner, Phil Jenkyn, Leichhardt Councillors, June Lunsmann, members of the Ballast Point Trust and many others. The Ballast Point Trust, by the way, with notable members such as David Williamson, Colin Sullivan, Robyn Williams, Paddy McGuinness, Bruce Petty, Kate Grenville, Sandra Nori, Larry Hand, Peter Baldwin, Kep Enderby, Tom Uren, Margaret Throsby,

Henry Szeps and Jack Mundy was formed to help the campaign. We didn't get all of what we wanted (a mosaic lined free-form neo-Hunderwasser dunny and a Petty sculpture for instance) and if we had we may not have been any more appreciative.



The official opening

As it is we can bask in the glory of what has been achieved and SHFA can take any flack. If you don't like the result, remember that vegetation will cure all in a few years and if it doesn't, time, forgetfulness and familiarity will. Besides we did get two toilet blocks rather than one, we already have a Petty plaque outside the main entrance to the park, thanks to Leichhardt Council, and frankly, the public sculpture at the point does have some similarities to a dunny: a little house with vents and a hole in the bottom to drop things through!

Contd. Pg 2

In 1909 - 100 years ago

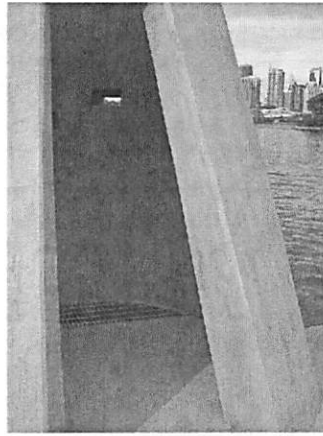
Painless extraction 1/6, with gas 2/6 a tooth.
Invalid port and sherry 5/- bottle. Whiskies
from 3/6 bottle. Tooths Reschs 6d bottle.

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Ballast Point Park Opening Contd. from Pg 1

It is easy to concentrate on the downsides of the campaign and how things might have been better. The grey hair (if the hair exists at all) and wrinkles, while not directly attributable to the campaign, were not helped by it, and are clearly evident in those present today. The lack of participation by young people and well, it needs to be said, the cost, are also of concern. We were not self-centred and self-serving people. We realised that there were many other calls on the State government's funds. In jest I can say that in the end we increased the property values which resulted in higher rates and increased sales tax revenues and so we will eventually more than compensate for the multi-million dollar outlay to acquire Ballast Point and create a park.



The sculpture on the foreshore

More seriously, the cost was a consideration but we felt that the long-term investment of headlands for the people of NSW, as proposed by Bob

Carr, in 1997, was a wise investment.

Besides the park there have been a number of good things to come out of the campaign: the sense of community, the new friends and acquaintances, the realization that there were other things to accomplish and now the sense of achievement and good fortune. Had Ballast Point not been acquired by the State Government in 2002 we would not be celebrating the transformation of an ugly private industrial site to a beautiful public park today. Given the present financial situation we should consider ourselves fortunate in more ways than one.

Fergus Fricke

Update on Developments:

- **Iron Cove Bridge duplication:** It seems to be full steam ahead by the NSW Government with earmuffs and hotel vouchers for desperate residents if noise levels become intolerable during construction for more than 2 nights. But what happens after construction is complete? Will the loss of parkland, the increased traffic through Rozelle and restricted access to and from Victoria Road provide any benefit?
- **CBD Metro:** The recent feasibility study confirms suspicions that the proposed Metro, even if it does eventually reach the West, will save only a few minutes on travel times. The financial cost? - \$8.3Bn! The cost to our Heritage and village atmosphere that we cherish and that brings visitors and business to our area could be lost forever. The developers rub their claws in glee as the Tigers' site is destined for a remake bigger and more awful than we feared.
- **Multiplex site:** With no buyer currently signed up for the site, discussions continue between Council and locals to determine what rezoning and under what strict conditions development would be acceptable on this site. The preferred option so far seems to be a mix of uses that is predominantly residential, with no buildings higher than 4 or 5 storeys.
- **White Bay:** The State Government has excelled itself this time in its disregard for constituents and proper planning principles by approving the Baileys industrial development for wharf 6 before the planning process and consultation has even begun. The Wharf 6 site is the most prized public foreshore site in White Bay and is the closest to people's homes. This development proposal fails to satisfy noise, and other safety and compliance regulations in its original and revised version. One may ask why the government saw fit to approve it at all. The Planning Minister must be required to justify her decision. Local community representatives and Council continue the fight but fear the worst.
- **Bays Precinct and Consultation:** The first two meetings have taken place at last as part of the State Government's Consultation process for the Bays Precinct. But no sooner were these underway than more ad-hoc development approvals were made. Now delegates to the Community Reference Group are wondering what purpose there is to the consultation and even the Taskforce itself. Discussion and determination on the Cruise Passenger Terminal relocation seems to have been passed into the hands of a new Govt Steering Committee, protected from any influence or input by the community. The Bays Precinct consultation appears dead and buried. From 80 hectares to 40 hectares and falling, what is there left to plan?
- **White Bay Power Station:** The Conservation Plan of management has expired so what now for this Heritage item? This is one site for which the State government is asking the Community to express its ideas. After many years of neglect it's time to plan and lock in its future before it too falls into such disrepair that the Planning Minister, with her new powers to delist Heritage items, may assign its future to the bay dust.
- **Callan Park:** There is not yet a lease to sign. Negotiations continue between Council and State Government re the buildings that SHFA now wish to keep and a grant to help pay for expensive ongoing maintenance and upgrade of what is a special and much-needed regional park for the inner-west.

Editor

Note of apology:

The content of the article, *Heritage Rozelle Neighbourhood*, written by John Williams, which was published in the previous edition of the 'Observer', and attributed to him, was inadvertently published without his permission. The Association regrets any embarrassment the publishing of the material may have caused Mr Williams. Ed.

Sergeant Ira Gray - last Police Officer at Balmain Watch House

After 70 years of police service the Balmain Watch House closed in 1925 as a local lock-up and became a residence for policemen and their families. Sergeant Ira Gray and his wife Eliza and twelve of their fourteen children, two children died young, lived there from May 1930 to May 1947.

Mrs. Gray confined five children, single births, while living at the Watch House. Of course the older children were living away mostly but referred to the Watch House as home. A couple of the girls trained to become nurses at the Balmain Hospital and the boys who joined the forces all survived their war service.



Sgt Ira Gray

The following is from Memories by Jessie McMahon nee Gray, second daughter and fourth born: "The picket fence is still the same. A hedge grew the full length of the fence and was kept well trimmed by Dad. The front verandah was closed in with timber and glass louvers for privacy and this kept the weather out. The front yard was all garden and looked wonderful when the plants were in bloom. The entry held four chairs standing against the left wall and four at the opposite wall with a large table on wheels that was pushed over to the wall when not in use and a chair at each end of the table.



The Gray children

"When we moved in, there were gas lights on the walls and a fuel stove. Later a gas stove was installed to the right of the fuel stove and at the back door of the extended kitchen, stood the ice chest. Outside the kitchen was a table where the children would eat when we had visitors as there was insufficient room inside. The washing up was done here in a tin tub and placed on a large tin tray to drain. A covered area led to the bathroom that held a bath-tub and heater and a chair in the corner. On the other side to the bathroom, a large fuel copper worked overtime with a pair of concrete wash tubs that had a wringer attached. How my arms ached from turning the handle of the wringer for Mum. At Christmas time Mum used to make three large puddings in calico and boil them in the copper. The copper was also used for heating bath water before the gas was installed. There were three toilets, one either side in the exercise yard and one in the original 'dunny' in the back yard.

"Vegetables were grown in the back yard and dad had built a bird aviary where he kept whistling canaries and with the three fish ponds, there was just enough room to walk to hang the clothes on the lines, fastened on posts and held up with props. Sometimes the fork-shaped end would break and the washing would fall down onto the dirt.



Mrs. Eliza Gray

"The first large cell at the back was kept for drying clothes on wet day as there were always nappies to be dried. The other large cell was used for playing or to do our homework. The charge room at the front was the lounge room that held a three piece lounge, piano, wind-up gramophone and sideboard and a wireless. Underneath the stairs was closed in to use as a pantry and store, a cupboard for the linen and a table where we ironed. The two smaller cells and upstairs rooms were all bedrooms with a partition in the large meeting room for the parent's bedroom where the five children were born. "My mother was a hard worker, sewed all our clothes and loved to crochet. Dad was a wonderful man. Sgt Grey was born at Grafton on 17th June 1889 and when he joined the Police Force on 17th May 1911 his occupation was given as farmer. He reached Sgt 1st class in 1940 and served at Cowra, Lithgow, Canowindra, Regent Street from 1916 to 1944 including duty at the Children's Court with some time at Balmain in 1937. At the time of his death on 13th November, 1944, he was working at Regent Street Police Station where he collapsed and died in Balmain Hospital, he was only 55 years. My mother was killed in a car accident at the age of 59, on 30th August 1956.

Kathleen Hamey

Steps to the Foreshore

Part 1: Rozelle/Iron Cove to Birchgrove

Iron Cove, King George Park

These concrete steps are a very recent addition to the area on the Western side of Victoria Rd at King George Park and are apparently temporary. They allow pedestrian access to and from the foreshore walk and Victoria Rd while major construction work for the bridge is taking place.



Under Victoria Rd, King George Park

Work has commenced on the contentious second Iron Cove Bridge and a large chunk of King George Park has been ripped up and replaced by sheds, machinery and construction materials. Residents facing the park are already suffering noise and dust from the construction preparation taking place there. A few residents have been offered vouchers for alternative accommodation while night time works are in progress on Victoria Rd. Some of the park will be lost forever if the second bridge crossing is completed.

Steps to Bridgewater Park

Bridgewater Park is a public foreshore park area surrounded by the large Balmain Shores apartment complex. The park area was designated as an area for playing fields when the DA for the development was approved. The complex is on the site of the former Balmain Power Station, of which the 1934 Pump House on the waterfront is all that remains. The power station was established by the private Electric Light and Power Supply Corporation in 1909 and burnt garbage as well as coal to generate electricity. Doubled in size in the 1940s it was taken over by the Electricity Commission in 1957. New coal fields stations replaced it and it was decommissioned in 1976 and finally demolished in 1998 to make

way for the apartment development. The old pump house is currently unused.



Balmain Shores

Since the establishment of Bridgewater Park this foreshore grassed area has provided a green respite for residents of the development and those who walk through or next to it along the foreshore. Leichhardt Council is now seeking to introduce playing fields into this park area. There is likely to be objection from residents to this proposal on the basis of noise disturbance and the inevitable restriction on casual recreation should some or all of the area be designated for sporting activities. The steps to the foreshore offer lovely views of Iron cove and beyond to Birkenhead Point.

Longview St steps and Dawn Fraser Baths

Just next to Sydney Secondary College wooden steps lead to the foreshore from the corner of Longview and Bayville Streets. There is a sign on the corner indicating that the steps connect with a foreshore walk towards King George Park.



Longview St steps

Further along towards Birchgrove, through Elkington Park, are steps leading down to the Dawn Fraser

swimming pool, renamed after Olympian and local resident Dawn Fraser who trained in this pool. Built in the 1880's, it is a tidal flow salt water pool and is the oldest pool and swimming club in Australia. It is protected by its Heritage listing.

Punch St steps

These steps at the lower, foreshore end, of Punch St were officially opened earlier this year on completion of the restoration work on the foreshore and cliff area. Punch St led to a public wharf in the 19th century. The foreshore site was once used by the National Box Company which operated here from post WWI until the 1970s. The quarried cliff face shows signs of once attached buildings.



Punch St steps

There is a special surprise in store for those who stand on the foreshore and look up to the cliff face or stop on the steps and look across. A sculpture of King Neptune can be seen in the rock face.



King Neptune carving

It was carved into the stone in 1977 by artist Michael Clifton and until recently was overgrown by weeds and other vegetation.

Rozelle/Iron Cove to Birchgrove - Foreshore Steps, contd.

The foreshore park area was home to a Mr Hicks for 13 years until Council moved him on when the restoration work was completed.

According to local historian Kathleen Hamey, the sculpture reflects the period when Balmain was particularly noted for its artists and other creative people.

Gow St and Hopetoun Quays

There is a long straight flight of steps from Gow St down to the waterfront close to the Gow St entrance to the modern upmarket Hopetoun Quays housing and marina development.



Gow St steps

The development comprises a large number of townhouses built on the site of the old coal mine, and slipway and the 1970s-80s Howard Smith coal wharf. There are steps through the development down to the waterfront near the old entrance to the mine.

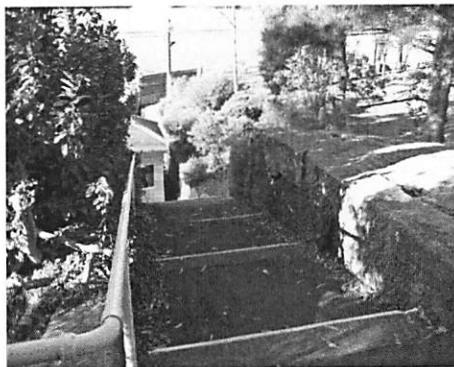


Hopetoun Quays

Balmain Sailing Club, at the end of the foreshore boardwalk, and below Water Street, was established in 1885, sailing the small boats which developed into the famous 18 footers in the 1890s.

Yurulbin Pt

The steps at the end of Louisa Rd in Birchgrove lead down to a foreshore park and the ferry terminal at Yurulbin Pt. The steps begin next to the last house in Louisa Road, Yurulbin, a fine Federation / Queen Anne style home built in 1897 for Charles Niccol. The house was restored in the mid 1980s after a brief period as the headquarters of the Bandido Bikie Gang. The bikies were evicted after being involved in the infamous Milperra Massacre - a gun battle with the rival Comancheros Gang at the Viking Tavern - in which 7 died. Yurulbin Point (formerly Long Nose Point) is the tip of a narrow spit of land at the start of the Parramatta River. The Wangal Aboriginal people were the first occupants.



Yurulbin Pt steps

The first industry to be established here was a galvanised iron works built by Alexander Cormack. The site was further developed by Wallace Powerboat Building Co in 1917-20 and then Morrison and Sinclairs moved their shipbuilding yard here from Johnstons Bay in 1923. After the shipyard closed, the site was purchased by the State Planning Authority in 197. It was turned into a park by 1979 designed by award-winning landscape architect Bruce McKenzie.

Ballast Point Park

The most recent sets of steps to the foreshore to be completed in the area are those at the new Ballast Point Park, at the end of Wharf Road, opened on 11 July 2009.

The 2.6 hectare park was designed and completed by the Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority (SHFA), with input from local residents, after many years of lobbying.

The land was bought from John Gilchrist in 1840 by George Cooper but was soon lost due to mortgage payment shortages. Part of the Point was quarried for sailing ships' ballast, giving it its name.



Ballast Point Park steps

Clothing merchant Thomas Perkins acquired the site in 1852 and built a large house, Menevia, on the site. From 1893 onwards Menevia was leased as a boarding house and steadily fell into disrepair. In 1928, Texaco Oil bought the site, demolished Menevia, and established an oil terminal and grease plant with a number of storage tanks from 1929 onwards. This was operated continuously, until eventually being taken over by Caltex in 1984, until it closed in 1999. Walker Corporation proposed to develop apartments on the site but met strong, determined local opposition. In 2002 the State Government compulsorily acquired the site. An ongoing legal challenge ensued regarding compensation for the proposed developers.

The park incorporates interesting industrial interpretation and sculptures, but mostly it is open space on a number of levels, with foreshore access.

(See article on the opening of the area's newest park, in this edition.)

Christina Ritchie

Refs: 'Walking Coastal Sydney' website

Local Professor's Achievements Recognised

Earlier this year Professor Colin Sullivan, well-known local resident, was awarded the AO for services to medicine as an innovator in the field of sleep disorders and the development of equipment and treatment practices.

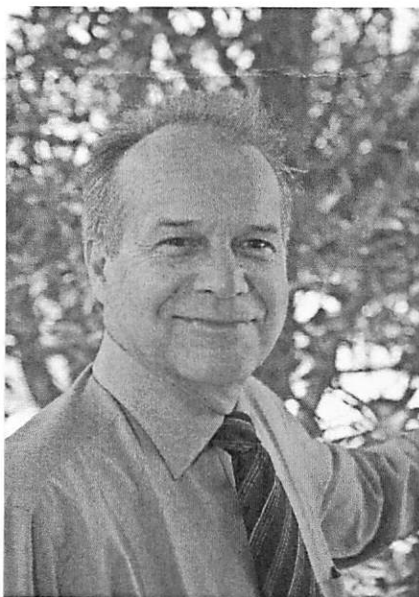
Professor Colin Sullivan was a young medical researcher and clinician at the University of Sydney and Royal Prince Alfred Hospital in 1980 when he invented a revolutionary method for the study and treatment of Obstructive Sleep Apnoea (OSA). The method consisted of a nasal mask attached to an air pump by means of an open respiratory circuit. When used during sleep, this maintained a slightly positive air pressure in the patient's airway, yet allowed the patient to continue to breathe normally. Professor Sullivan called it Nasal Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (Nasal CPAP) because the low level of positive air pressure applied continuously to the upper airway acted like an internal splint preventing the airway from collapsing (Lancet, 1981).

In the 29 years since 1980, the treatment has been successfully used by millions of people worldwide. It is estimated that in the US alone, three million patients use Professor Sullivan's device each night. The invention has led to a huge global medical device industry and was the single most important trigger in the establishment of thousands of sleep clinics and diagnostic laboratories. As a readily accessible and highly effective medical treatment, it has played a central role in the opening of a new branch of clinical medicine, Sleep Medicine. As a result of the extensive number of sleep clinics and sleep laboratories, many new sleep disorders have been identified.

Another of Professor Sullivan's important contributions was his pioneering use of his masks with the open circuit method to provide assisted ventilation in sleep. Nasal ventilation is now the front-line therapy for patients with chronic respiratory failure in both hospital respiratory and emergency departments. A serial inventor, Professor Sullivan's second major invention, in 1990, was the "self-sealing" or "bubble" mask. Previously the seal of a mask was achieved by applying external pressure to the mask itself. However, in his new

inventive design using a membrane, the seal was achieved by the same pressure being applied within the mask to splint the airway. This increased the patient's comfort and therefore their willingness to use the Nasal CPAP. His next invention was a fully flexible mask to treat babies and infants.

Currently, Professor Sullivan's innovative focus is on a device to diagnose and monitor a patient's vital signs in any location including their own home.



Besides his remarkable achievements in Medicine, Professor Sullivan has brought his pioneering approach and determination to local issues.

In 1989 he began, with David Ell, the fight to prevent the demolition of Wyoming, a derelict historic house in Wharf Road, Balmain. Eventually he persuaded its then owners, the Stannards to sell it to him so he could undertake the monumental task of its restoration. Today he is a member of the Historic Houses Trust Foundation.

Professor Sullivan was the first President of what was eventually to be called the Ballast Point Park Committee. He helped call, and chaired, the first public meeting held in the street outside the Caltex site in 1990. He made a key speech from the floor of the Balmain Town Hall which helped influence a wavering Councillor Kate Butler to go against the Labor caucus and vote

against the rezoning of the Five sites. This led to her immediate expulsion from the Labor party but was one of the four or five critical points leading to the eventual establishment of the Ballast Point Park. He continued his rallying speeches and supported Helen Styles who formulated the strategy which was the way the committee kept to their goal through the 13 year long struggle. This campaign was led to its final successful conclusion by Roger Parkes, Fergus Fricke, June Lunsmann and other important committee members.

Christina Ritchie

Thanks to Janette Sullivan for the provision of information for this article

Post Modern Art Nouveau in Balmain



Fergus Fricke

A Preview - See next edition

The AGM of the Balmain Association

The AGM will be held at 6pm
Wednesday 7 October

at the Watch House

Members are encouraged to attend. Refreshments will be provided.

Any members of the Association wishing to nominate for the committee or not able to attend and wish to give their apologies or wish to appoint a proxy, please contact June (98106885) or Kathleen (98184954)

Vale Richard Mathew O'Connor - Balmain Boy from Rozelle

8/9/1915 – 23/10/2008

I first met Ricky in January 1988 when I became the owner of Hylands Shoes, York buildings, corner of Victoria and Darling Streets built in 1911. I was sweeping the footpath, a practice sadly lost in this modern world. It was here you got to say G'day to the passing parade. I finished and went to step inside the store but a voice cheerily said "Hullo". I turned to find a one legged smiling man on crutches who promptly stuck out his hand and said "I'm Richard O'Connor and I hear you're the new owner of the Shoe Shop and I just wanted to say Hullo and wish you all the best". Here was a colourful local bloke - a bit of a battler I thought - but a gentleman in his own way. I liked him immediately. I learnt he was born in and still lived in his family's house in 150 Evans Street, 3 blocks away - a decent distance if you were on crutches - it didn't seem to bother him.



Richard O'Connor

In 1994 on Council polling day, when I stood as an Independent, I arrived at St Joseph's booth to see Ricky propped against the gate and cheerily engaging everyone who walked past. It didn't matter - you had to take an ALP how to vote or he wouldn't let you past! And he had stepped in to hand out my how-to-votes when my booth person didn't show. This was the essence of the man - always happy to help and always willing to serve his community fairly and pleasantly. He was a Rozelle Boy and proud of his Labor roots. I had learnt over the years of his dedication to his beloved ALP and seen his earnest contributions to Council where all the staff knew him. Ricky and his late Brother Bill [who was a Federal member] had secured O'Connor Reserve when the trams ceased to run in the inner west. It was a tram corridor [and former steam tram

filling station] behind the family home at 150 Evans Street. Ricky was the last Mayor of Balmain [1948] before it amalgamated with Glebe and Leichhardt. He came up with the idea of a public reserve. Ricky said that Balmain was a grimy place where your washing got dirty hanging on the line and kids played in the street as there wasn't enough green space. He fought for this.



Plaque dedication July 2009

O'Connor Reserve was thus acquired along with other initiatives. Indeed, when we interred his ashes under a new tree and plaque in O'Connor Reserve last month, I said Ricky was probably the first Green in this area. Mayor Jamie Parker agreed, as did those in attendance.

Born in the family home, Ricky attended Christian Bros [behind St Joseph's]. After leaving School he obtained a job as a bread loader at Palms Bakery, Rozelle. This later became Sunshine Bakery. Later he became a bread carter. He also worked at the Rose Shamrock and Thistle [aka The 3 Weeds] as a cellarman and Waiter. He was a Tigers' man and worked at the club for many years. He also worked at the APIA club as a drinks waiter.

Politics was always in his family. His Mother and Sister were in the Labor League. He became an Alderman on Balmain Council where his bread and waiting background was invaluable - he knew and talked to many so was well connected with the residents and what they thought and needed. Later on he was elected Mayor, 1945-48. His Sister Joyce was the Lady Mayoress as he never married. Brother Bill was also an Alderman, 1945-1947. His sister Joyce tells the story of how Ricky and a mate bought a horse. They paid 3p as a deposit. Whilst bringing the horse home on Parramatta Road it collapsed and died. Always tight for

funds, Richard wasn't too happy! Joyce also recounts the story of when Richard ran away from home. When he returned his Mother rang the Police to get them to talk to him. The Police took him to Balmain Police Station and put him in cell with a drunk to scare him. After an hour they rang his Mother and asked her to collect him as he and the drunk were singing together and making too much noise!

Richard had an accident when he was a young boy with kerosene on a fire. In later years the leg was removed due to complications. He once told me that he never wanted a prosthetic leg, he was fine as he was and others were needier. This was Ricky, always very mindful of others less fortunate!

He always found friendships readily. Ricky had another neighbour Sue who had moved away but still kept in touch. In his later years she would take him out for drives after "the yellow peril" - Ricky's yellow Ford - was sold. In later years he wasn't a great driver and thus the nickname.

In 2003, his leg had failing strength. As a wheelchair was not practical in the house he [finally] agreed to move into Aldersgate Nursing Home near Orange Grove School - as it was local.



Presentation

Richard was made an "Honorary Ranger" in 1994 in appreciation of all the maintenance he did in O'Connor Reserve over the years. This clever appointment also gave Council Staff a means to 'engage' him in managing the reserve. On his 90th birthday he was honoured with a presentation at Leichhardt Town Hall. Please take the time to visit O'Connor Reserve and this most fitting reminder of our past 'true blue' citizenry. Whilst the Plaque on his tree says he was a "Balmain Boy", he would probably have said no, I'm just a Rozelle local. I'm sure you'll agree it is a fitting tribute to Ricky, and is exactly where he wants to be.

Ian Scandrett

What's on at the Watch House

For further information see <http://balmainassociation.org.au>

OCTOBER

Saturday 10 and Sunday 11

10am to 5pm

BROAD MARKS.....an exhibition by the OKAPI group

Following their success in March this year the OKAPI group will present a second exhibition in October which will allow the artists to pursue their own themes and styles to create an interesting and diverse range of artworks for viewing. Artworks will be for sale. Opening Friday 9th October 6pm-8.30pm with refreshments Everyone welcome.

Thursday 15 and Friday 16

10am to 7pm

Saturday 17 and Sunday 18

10am to 6pm

India - From Rajasthan to the South

A collection of photographs by Rosemary Williams, Marjorie Hystek, Erica Wallace and Peter Wallace

All photographs for sale and Jewellery for sale

For information please phone

Enquiries: 9876 4596 glanworth@bigpond.com

Saturday 24 and Sunday 25

10am to 5pm

Exhibition by 6+

One of the wonderful outcomes of attending art school is the lasting friendships formed. 6+ is no exception.

Cornelia Cronje, Diane O'Dwyer, Roma Devjak, Heather Kepski, Harriet Loneragan, Carlie Lopez, Wendy Lowe, Michael O'Keeffe and Lynne Sung called themselves 6+ after exhibiting together for more than 4 years at the Balmain Watch House.

Many of us are recent prize winners in major art competitions. While it is rare for all nine of us to be exhibiting together, we are committed to each other as friends and as artists. Behind the scenes there is always six plus!

Opening on Friday October 23 from 6pm to 9pm All welcome.

Saturday 31 October and Sunday 1 November

10am to 5pm

Opening Friday 30 6-8pm

Sydney Gallery School – mixed exhibition

NOVEMBER

Saturday 7 and Sunday 8

10am to 5pm

The Students of Balmain Art School (SBAS) Christmas Exhibition.

After the success of the SBAS inaugural Art exhibition held in March 2009, the students are excited to announce this exhibition. The exhibition will showcase the great variety and talent of the many students who attend Balmain's oldest art school.

Opening Friday 6th November from 6.00 – 8.30pm, you are welcome to come along and meet the artists.

All works will be for sale

Saturday 14 and Sunday 15

10am to 5pm

They're at it again

Open Saturday 14th and Sunday 15th 10am – 5pm

Nicholas Beckett will be exhibiting oil paintings about his disappointment in humanity

Abby Wang, will display paintings and works on paper, about her joy of humanity

Jan Blake will make beautiful assemblages from the waste on humanity.

Opening Friday 13 6-8pm All welcome

Saturday 21 and Sunday 23

10am to 4pm

"Back to Balmain" - Original Fine Art Group

Various works from 10 artists including paintings, photography, sculpture and printmaking.

Opening Friday 20 from 6 to 8pm - all welcome.

Saturday 28 and Sunday 29

10am to 4pm

Beverley Filmer and Elke Wolhfarth recent works - oil paintings, sculpture, drawings and etchings.

Opening Friday 27 from 6 to 8pm - all welcome.

History Week 2009 5-13 September

The official theme for this year is **Scandals, Crime and Corruption**. History Week 2009 will be a wild journey through the dark shadows of our past.

Discover the scandals, crime and corruption that have shocked us over time and shaped our history, sometimes in unexpected ways.

Balmain boys DO Cri..me and other misdemeanors.

The Balmain Association will present an exhibition of Crime, Scandals and Corruption on Saturdays 5, 12, 19 and 26 11.30 – 4pm.

There will be a guided tour of the Balmain

Courthouse on Thursday 10th September at 2pm.

Free - numbers limited contact 9818 4954, 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.

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Our Web site:

<http://balmainassociation.org.au>

Annual subscriptions: Household \$20, Concession \$10, Organizations \$30

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