



The Peninsula OBSERVER

the Newssheet of the Balmain Association PO Box 57•Balmain•NSW•2041
www.balmainassociation.org.au

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President's Report to AGM 2014 - Carolyn Allen

Looking back on all the activities of the Balmain Association during my year as President has reinforced my view that we have a very active group of dedicated people who give their time and skills to all aspects of running the Association from the care of the Watch House and our historical records, the raising of funds to do this and the promotion & protection of heritage and living, working & recreational amenities of our area. It is a pleasure to be part of this team. The National Trust Heritage Festival in April - May was around the theme of Journeys. Duncan MacAuslan, archivist for Bus and Tram Museum assisted with some photographs for our exhibition. We also held a very successful Journey up the Parramatta River Cruise with interesting speakers relating stories of Cockatoo, Spectacle, Rodd & Snapper Islands, the Abbotsford Quarantine Station & Gladesville Hospital as well as memories from the Nicholson sisters of their family waterfront business. Our inaugural Life Members Awards ceremony was held during the exhibition when we recognised John Morris, Robert Irving, Deborah Nicholls & Val Hamey.

Fergus Fricke, one of our keen members has continued to be very active in leading the campaign to demolish an unused part of the Balmain Telephone Exchange & make this a public space as it was prior to 1957. Fergus convinced Telstra to celebrate The centenary of the first automatic telephone exchange in Balmain was celebrated with an open day and exhibition in July. The event allowed all to see how little of the building is currently in use.

We have also published The Peninsula Observer during the year. A pleasing number of members have written stories & I frequently get compliments from recipients who clearly look forward to receiving their copy. Christina Ritchie keeps all up to date with a regular page relating to planning issues. We need to continually be alert to developments which threaten our heritage and in some cases even Heritage Listed properties, which on paper are protected by Leichhardt's LEP, are threatened & compromised.

On planning matters, we have recently joined with The Glebe Society, Pyrmont Action Group & White Bay Joint Steering Committee to protest the lack of community recognition in NSW Government's announcement that an International summit of experts to be held in November would inform a plan The Bays Precinct Urban Renewal. Community members have now been invited to this 'summit'. Although the announcement recognised that the Heritage of White Bay Power Station must be respected we are very concerned that the government's plans will generally be for maximum development that will reap the highest revenue and not be in the public interest of good planning and keeping public ownership of waterfront land.

We have continued the refurbishment of the meeting and archives room upstairs at the Watch House and our Archivists team has met most Tuesdays during the year to organise our collection. I thank all who have contributed to these many projects as well as opening the History room on Saturdays and answering history enquiries.

The Association would not be able to do all these activities without some doing the regular and mundane work. June Lunsmann carries the burden of doing the Watch House bookings & liaising with exhibitors without which we would have no income stream & John Symonds, our treasurer does all our money managing as well as producing our regular email bulletins.

In conclusion I thank all, and particularly our committee members for their contribution to the Balmain Association during the year. I would also like to thank Ann Bastock, who retired during the year and also Rita & Bob Ellis who are retiring this year, for their contribution to our community over many years.

Committee for coming year

President Carolyn Allen

Vice President Helen Carter

Treasurer John Symonds

Secretary Di Garder

Committee Christina Ritchie, Kathleen

Hamey, Ross McKenzie, Leo White, Helen

Carter, Penny Alexander, June Lunsmann

We welcome new members

Duncan McAuslan, Andrew West and

Margaret Bailey.



Andrew West, Carolyn Allen, June Lunsmann and Kathleen Hamey at BA stall.

21st Annual Back to Balmain

On Sunday 26th October, friends, acquaintances and local residents assembled in Elkington Park for the 21st Annual Back to Balmain Day picnic. They caught up with each other's latest gossip and reminisced about the joys of growing up or still living on the Balmain Peninsula. They were entertained by local bands, the Birchgrove School band and Leichhardt Council Celebrity Brass Band, the Honeybrook dancers followed by Pam's Jazz Group.

The event was opened by Mayor Rochelle Porteus and a special tribute was paid to George Stone who was in attendance and the instigator of this event which grew out of just a few friends getting together for dinner. Many of these early associates travelled by bus from the Central Coast, numerous other country areas including Newcastle and even some from interstate. There was large table with Tiger's Memorabilia and photos from the local schools were perused with much delight by those trying to find themselves and put names to their past school mates.

The Balmain Association had a stall and their selection of books and pamphlets on local history attracted a large number of people most of whom had a story to tell.

Many thanks to the organising committee.

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Planning Matters – Christina Ritchie

Bays Precinct planning by Urban

Growth – The State Government's Bays Precinct Summit is scheduled for 19th, 20th November 2014, organised and run by Urban Growth. Balmain association committee members Carolyn Allen and Christina Ritchie are participating in the consultations. Unfortunately recent consultation with Government organisations, particularly regarding the future of the Bays Precinct, has not resulted in the public's voice being heard. We are hopeful that with concerted community and Council effort, the inglorious development plans supported by the Urban Taskforce for this public area, will not proceed. Planning of this unique public asset must result in substantial public recreation area, enhancement of our foreshore and continuous public access to the waterfront, preservation of our iconic public viewlines - not curtailed to restrict enjoyment to that of the chosen few - together with sensitive adaptation of our Heritage items – the Glebe Island Bridge and White Bay Power Station. Our area is already subject to massive urban growth. The public foreshore and other under-utilised public areas provide an opportunity to ease the pressures on our communities while enhancing Sydney's greatest public asset – the harbour foreshore. Further public meetings and community discussions on the future of the Bays Precinct will take place to attempt to achieve a beneficial long-term outcome for the public, and for Sydney.

White Bay Power Station – This heritage site will be included in the Bays Precinct Urban renewal Project discussions. Now is the time for the local community and other organisations interested in preservation and appropriate adaptation of the site to consider desirable future use. Any adaptation needs to be workable in the local area and the whole Heritage site should remain in public hands. Your ideas would be welcomed.

Glebe Island Bridge – This Heritage item has not yet been officially included in the proposed discussions on the future of the Bays Precinct. It can provide a useful, attractive and interesting link between the CBD, Darling Harbour, the Heritage White Bay Power station and the historical areas of the Balmain peninsula. The Balmain Association supports its retention, refurbishment and re-use by pedestrians and cyclists

and will continue to work toward this outcome.

In a State of Growth – Local residents opposing the proposed large-scale redevelopment of the former Kolotex site were relieved when it was rejected. Now the proposed WestConnex has a further extension added to its plans that might see it extend into Rozelle. The former Nutrimetics site is about to be redeveloped and the first tranche of apartments were sold off the plan in mid-November. Urban growth continues at pace. We wonder where the amenity, infrastructure and breathing space are for current and future residents in the growth plans for our residential areas.

LPP and DAs – Leichhardt Council has proceeded with the introduction of an independent hearing and assessment panel called the Leichhardt Planning Panel (LPP) to determine DA's. Elected councillors will no longer be involved in the decision-making. The B&D meetings are to be scrapped and the panel of 'experts' will hold their meetings on a weekday afternoon immediately following any site inspections. The membership of the panel is currently being determined.

Heritage Committee – Balmain Association committee members attend the Heritage Committee meetings. After considerable lobbying by committee members and some councillors, the proposal to combine the Heritage Committee with other committees and make other changes to its operations, did not proceed. The committee will remain stand-alone although other committees might be merged or scrapped. It is hoped the Heritage Committee will in future report directly to Council and that there will be no restriction on attendance by interested residents and no decrease in necessary staffing at the meetings. At its November meeting Heritage Committee members expressed concern about Council's apparent failure to respect the Heritage aspects of Callan Park when assessing uses of the park and signage.

Floor Space Ratio increase – Council is yet to decide on the future of the FSR's for the various areas of the municipality.

Telstra Exchange, Post Office Park – Negotiations are continuing between Council and Telstra. Council's preferred option is to acquire an easement over the site and that Telstra provide this at no cost, with Council bearing the cost to create the easement, demolish and

reinstate the front of the building and create the public open space. The cost of the project appears to have increased.

East Balmain Ferry wharf – As a result of concerns raised by local residents, Council and the Balmain Precinct, including some BA members, changes have been made to the positioning of the new ferry wharf. It will now be set at an angle to reduce viewline impacts on Thornton Park and the Heritage Bell's store. Balmain Association members attended a public meeting in October to discuss the latest plans with the RMS and Government transport representatives. Concerns remain about the lack of shelter on the approaches, poor replacement transport options during the 5-6 month construction period and a lack of discussion on how to integrate the wharf plan with public access from a proposed revamped vehicle turning circle, and new or upgraded toilet facilities

Cruise Ship Terminal Impacts –

Residents are continuing to suffer from toxic emissions and noise from the increased number of Ships berthing at the Cruise Ship Terminal at White bay. Discussions are continuing between residents, the Health department, Sydney Ports and various Ministers to attempt to mitigate the impacts. Community members spoke with the Members of the Parliamentary Inquiry into the EPA with regard to its responsibilities and actions in respect of approval and operations of the cruise terminal. Provision of on-shore power, the mandatory use of cleaner fuel, and noise mitigation measures are needed to resolve the issues. Possible relocation of offending ships might be needed to reduce impacts in the short term.

Rozelle Village development – The developer Rozelle Village P/L (RV) has announced it intends to sell the former Tigers Club site in Rozelle. It is believed that RV has entered into an agreement with the Tigers club that the club will lobby for a large-scale development of the site in return for not being bankrupted by Rozelle Village P/L. Council, local residents and businesses will need to remain vigilant regarding any new development proposal or zoning changes.

Vale

Jean Lennane and Kay Trippe

Sadly two very active members of our community died recently. Their lives were celebrated at well attended memorial services. Our condolences to family and friends.

World War I Postcards - Andrew West

“Just a few lines...”

So often the postcards from those serving overseas began with this self deprecating phrase, as if to excuse the fact that it was rather less in length than an extended letter, not quite so formal and perhaps not as detailed as the recipient might have hoped.

The postcards in this article are from the recent exhibition at the Watch House marking the centenary of the Great War. These were from Bert Williams of Ipswich who wrote a series of postcards detailing his experiences and observations on the war. He entered the war as a private and was selected to undertake further training that led to his commission as a lieutenant.

Photo: Bert Williams

Postcards have long held a fascination for collectors. Introduced in the latter part of the nineteenth century, they became enormously popular in the decades leading up to the Great War. Described as ephemera, they were once seen as transitory items, not worthy of serious study. This view is changing as historians have come to recognize that postcards can provide an additional perspective of events, holding a mirror to the lives and experiences of ordinary people. They offer an opportunity to explore past events and social paradigms through a different prism, freed of the hubris of memoirs or the detachment of official records. They have become, in effect, the *vox populi*, a voice of the people who once had none.

Although cards in various forms had been circulated since 1840, the first patent for a postcard was granted in 1861 to John Charlton of Philadelphia. In 1870 French artist Leon Besnardeau created the first picture postcard. It was a lithograph dedicated to the “Army of Brittany” and embellished with images of armaments that suggested the preparedness of the French military for the Franco-Prussian War. Ironically the conflict resulted in a humiliating defeat

for France and the loss of Alsace-Lorraine.

The popularity of postcards increased greatly in the 1880s and 1890s. Improvements in printing and photography made postcards more affordable and attractive; while the spread of railways and the development of steam ships made them a quick and reliable means of communication. The popularity of postcards further increased with the introduction of free public education and the emergence of self-help organisations such as the Workingmen’s Institute. For historians this was hugely significant, since it was now possible to gauge popular opinion and interpret events from the perspective of the common man. The development of the modern industrial state in Europe in the latter part of the nineteenth century meant that the war that broke out in 1914 was fought on an unprecedented scale. Millions of men enlisted or were conscripted into the armed forces of both sides. Away from their families and loved ones the men wrote letters, kept diaries and sent messages back home on postcards. These provide a unique glimpse of the soldier or sailor’s experience of war. Importantly, they also tell us a great

deal about what was not said as well as what the correspondent chooses to write about. Often the soldiers’ messages to their loved ones were intended to reassure their families, to avoid giving them cause for further worry, as well as maintaining morale at home. Despite the

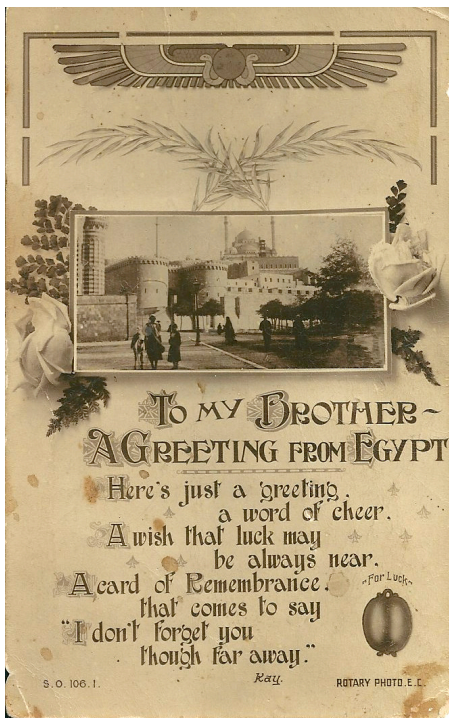


undoubtedly appalling conditions in the trenches or aboard ships, there are seldom complaints voiced in the postcards. Rather there was a determined effort to maintain a hopeful, if not cheerful tone throughout. Messages often contained platitudes and euphemisms that disguised the true nature of what was going on.

One consistent plea of soldiers was for news from home, however, trivial. They speak of wanting to catch up with family and friends and ask about how they are getting on. In some ways this was to maintain a sense of connectedness to those they left behind and preserve the hope that they might one day return to normality. What this also highlights (which is not recorded in official histories) is the overwhelming boredom experienced by the troops who had little else to do between engagements, but wait for further orders. The debilitating effect this had on morale meant that soldiers were often given meaningless tasks to occupy their time or more ominously were given to inventing their own activities.

Despite the efforts that would have been made to deliver the mail to the men and their families, there are constant references to inexplicable delays in receiving letters or postcards. There is a sense of frustration that permeates the messages and it is clear that the men are acutely aware of who has or has not received mail from home.





The postcards often refer to what they did on leave – going to a dance or a concert. They mention going to well known sites in London or Paris, much as a tourist might comment on their travels. Few Australians would have visited England or France before the war so their stories would have excited some interest back home and perhaps assuaged concerns about their well being.

In 1914 the impact of modern warfare those who fought it was not properly understood, either by those sent to fight in it or those back in Australia. What today is known as Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (or what was then described as “shell shock”) was not, at first, recognised as a war-related injury. Even when it was, there was little by way of effective treatment. Men were encouraged to emulate the heroes of Gallipoli and were afraid of being thought cowards. They could not complain about the hardships they endured, nor the fears they harboured. So while the soldiers undoubtedly felt this way, it was not referred to in their letters home, nor was it spoken of when they returned. Many men internalized their demons, keeping these hidden until some isolated incident caused them to surface again.

Postcards provide other insights into the soldier's everyday experience such as when they refer to “chatting”. This was the necessary, but tedious task of picking lice eggs (nits) out of the seams of their clothing. “Nit picking” thus takes on a more nuanced meaning. Similarly, soldiers referred to a “Furphy”, meaning an unfounded rumour that was passed on. It derived from the name on the water cart made by Furphy and Sons



of Shepparton. The sanitation unit that emptied latrines and delivered water to the soldiers on the front line used this cart. The men returning from the latrines would hear tales of troops further down the line that were making preparations to advance or withdraw. Sometimes there would be a “demonstration” (feigned attack) or they would “put on a bit of a stunt” (any eccentric activity). A lexicon of words used by men in the AIF made its way into the Australian idiom even before the main body of troops returned in 1919. Some of this at least is attributable to the postcards that were sent from the front.¹

The images on the postcards sent home by the diggers bear testament to the extraordinary variety of cards available. They also suggest themes that appealed to the young men who bought them. Some are images of areas in which they fought, shown as they were prior to hostilities. Others depict rural idylls of snow covered villages and distant castles. There were series such as “American Girl” which showed attractive young ladies dressed in fashionable attire as well as cards with an overtly patriotic motif. The postcards were often hand tinted, embossed or appliqued with silk or other material. Some, known as “night cards” were incised so that when held up to the light they appeared to be lit.

In an era before mass tourism, few of those who enlisted in the 1st A.I.F. had been overseas. For many the opportunity to see parts of Europe and the Middle East was an encouragement to enlist. They were, in effect, tourists and like tourists everywhere wanted to share some of this adventure with their family and friends. The idealized images of rural villages and snow conformed to a popular conception of an England that many Australians called “Home” even though they may never have been there.

¹The introduction of new words into the Australian idiom as a result of the experiences of the diggers is now the subject of academic studies including: Australian National Dictionary (ANU) “Glossary of slang and peculiar terms in use by the AIF” Annotated Ed. 1921-1924 edited by Amanda Laugesen and “Battlefield Colloquialisms of the Great War” Paul Hinckley (Griffith Univ.)



All postcards are courtesy of Julie West.

They were British subjects, fighting for the British Empire. The American Girl series suggested a saucy sophistication whose appeal was obvious both to the sender and the receiver, while the “silks” which were embroidered or even personalized with the name of the intended recipient stitched into the fabric, made ideal gifts for mothers and sweethearts back in Australia.

A feature of many postcards is that the soldiers often wrote on them in pencil. The explanation is simple. The men in the front lines did not have pen and ink. It would be difficult to use in the conditions and was considered unnecessary. Officers on the other hand, had writing cabinets (escritoirs) because they wrote reports, signed papers and needed to make permanent records. They may even have used a fountain pen, an expensive item in those times. The postcards sent from the front did not have stamps – they were delivered by the military free of charge.

Postcards from the Great War are an invaluable historical source. They are personal, in the sense that they are an individual's private correspondence, yet at the same time they speak for all those engaged in the conflict. This was the first time that so many people from all classes wrote, about an event of universal consequence. The study of such postcards helps us to realize that war is about more than casualties, conquest of territory or strategic objectives. It's about people and the impact that war had on them and the society to which they returned.

Can we fireproof the fire-prone? John Williams

I'm not given to superstition but I could be convinced that the row of commercial premises in Darling Street, Rozelle, which was affected by the tragic fire of last September, is jinxed.

On a Saturday afternoon around March, 1957, a sudden cyclonic-like gale tore across the Rozelle ridge. It lopped power-poles, cut power-lines, flattened paling fences, toppled chimneys, crumpled chimneypots, and ripped off corrugated iron sheeting. The roofs of verandas, garden sheds, and backyard dunnies flew over thoroughfares.

As the Balmain peninsula was almost treeless in those days, there were no fallen blue-gums. The gale destroyed most of the shop facades and frontages in the row where the September fire erupted, cantilevered awnings having crashed onto the footpath. As repairs entailed tacking new construction in modern style onto old, it was not surprising to me that the September explosion instantaneously reduced some of these buildings to rubble.

Fast forward to late 1982 and an arsonist destroyed a hairdressing salon that operated on the ground floor of 637 Darling Street, together with the dental practice above it. Though by then largely of new construction, these premises probably dated from the late nineteenth century. The same block had a later association with child kidnap and, more recently, with drug-deals and money laundering. The land involved once formed part of Rozelle's Merton Estate subdivision, the chief investors being Alfred Hancock, the so-called 'Father' of the suburb, and his

collaborator, William Henry Paling, renowned musician, merchant, and philanthropist.

Before then, ownership may have vested in solicitor and amateur artist, George Penkiville Slade.

Hancock's birthplace was Merton in

England's Surrey where naval hero of the Napoleonic wars, Horatio, Viscount Nelson, had his seat.

The street on the subdivision's western boundary was named after Arthur, Duke of Wellington, who had directed Napoleon's defeat on land.

Until the TAB opened around 1975, 643-645 Darling Street were previously the sole remaining modest single-storeyed workers' cottages left on Rozelle's commercial strip.

I remember from childhood that the mobile phone shop which was destroyed previously served as 'Mrs Johnson's Dolls Hospital'. This was a Dickensian paradise of old world retail. In her tiny store Mrs Johnson sold wool and needles for knitting, dolls, and clothes for dolls, as well as meccano sets and plastic model cars. She could also access a workshop that repaired broken dolls.

With the late nineteenth century building at the corner of Nelson Street now demolished, the quaint Federation era building at No. 649 where IGA operates its supermarket is the only authentic built heritage that has survived on the western



The view before the September fire, showing modern repairs to storm damaged heritage buildings.

side of Darling Street, between Merton and Nelson Streets. This particular building has had a chequered history, its uses having included a warehouse for local removalists, Mackay & Stock, as well as a 'hot-type' letterpress printery, and car repairs.

The September fire is the fourth conflagration to have erupted in Rozelle's main-street during my own lifetime. The 1878 John Horbury Hunt wing of Rozelle Public School was deliberately set ablaze early in 1961. Around 1966 carelessness on the part of a dry cleaner led to a blaze on the north-east corner of Merton and Darling Streets. I have already mentioned the arson of 1982.

Though none of these earlier fires claimed a life, their ferocity matched the age of the buildings that were set alight, as these abounded with flooring, rafters, and staircases of timber, as well as the ubiquitous lath and plaster ceilings.

If we value the heritage character of our village shopping strips, together the safety of people who live and work there, a review of fire-safety in these buildings might well be timely.

A centenary of scouting in Balmain

This year, our local Scout troop celebrates its centenary. It's an impressive achievement for a voluntary organisation, which has seen enormous changes since its beginnings in 1908. The Scouting movement has survived two World Wars, the Great Depression, 25 Prime Ministers, sweeping social events and emerging technologies that place less emphasis on outdoors activities for young people than ever before. Yet throughout everything, scouting has stayed true to its core value - placing the needs of young people first - in a program that adapts to change. 1st Balmain Scout Troop was formally registered on 17 October, 1914, although its foundations began much earlier. There are references to scouting in Balmain

from the Sunday Times on 1 November 1908, including a Porcupines patrol at Birchgrove Superior Public School.

The earliest record of a Balmain Leader was of Ruby Rose in September 1937, though it wasn't until 1988 that girls were admitted.

Today, some fifty Scouts and Cub Scouts aged between 6 and 15, participate in adventurous camps and hikes in the bush, learn to fly a Cessna, abseil and rock-climb, ski, cave or geocache, while supporting local events such as ANZAC Day, Remembrance Day and Clean Up Australia Day.



On 18 October, 2014, Balmain Scouts celebrated its centenary with an Open Day. Locals could browse memorabilia in the Scout Hall and enjoy some family fun in Mort Park.

For each generation of Scouts, the heart of the movement has remained the same: to make a better world and have some fun along the way.

Anthea Cudworth, Scout Leader.

<https://sites.google.com/site/balmainscouts/about-us>



What's on at the Watch House

www.balmainassociation.org.au

FEBRUARY

Saturday 7 and Sunday 8, 10am-4pm
sharpART

A debut solo exhibition by Robyn Sharp. Previously a local resident, but now a Melbourne based artist, Robyn's work has been acquired by an increasing number of private collectors in Australia, and many parts of the world, such as the UK, United States of America, Ukraine and China. She works predominately in acrylic and mixed media, using industrial offcuts as a primary source of inspiration. Self taught, her works are varied but often explode with color and reflect her joy in her new vocation. The exhibition includes paintings, mixed media, including "the reef", as seen on the home page of the Fight for Reef Organisation, up-cycled sculptures and other crafts – all on sale!

Opening Friday 6, 6 - 9pm all welcome
Gold coin donation on entry, which will be given to the Rozelle Fire Appeal
www.sharpART.com.au

Saturday 21 and Sunday 22, 10am-6pm

Realms of the Mind

Recent paintings by Sholto Morton, all created with no plan, using triple zero brushes, acrylic and metallic paint.

Opening Friday 20, 6-8 pm, All welcome
Website: <http://sholtomorton.com>

MARCH

Saturday 7 and Sunday 8, 10am - 4pm

"Our Land and Beyond"

The Balmain Peninsula Park Painters are holding their 11th annual exhibition. The theme for 2015 is "Our Land and Beyond", which will feature many of the local community's favourite scenes and subjects, as well as a variety of other works, including overseas, still life and animals.

This group of artists has been very successful in their long history of annual public exhibitions at the Watch House and have regularly exhibited and sold their works at local community art shows in Sydney.

Opening Friday 6, 5:30 to 8pm. Please come and join us for nibbles and drinks on the opening night or anytime over the weekend.

Join us for Christmas Cheer 2pm Saturday 13 December

It will be the opening of the Unilever exhibition covering the history of Unilever est. 1892 in White Bay as Lever Bros & Kitchen. The business produced a wide range of soaps, Sunlight the first, detergents, toiletries and food.

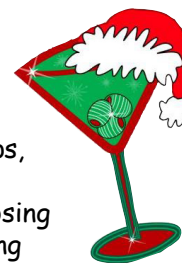
It became one of Balmain's largest employers prior to closing in 1988. The Australian Society for History of Engineering and Technology received a grant from Leichhardt Council to create this great multi media exhibition.

Also on display will be Unilever memorabilia from our archives.
RSVP for catering Kathleen 9818 4954 or June 9810 6885.

The exhibition continues each Saturday until 31 January, 11am to 3pm.

Shopping for Christmas?

Peruse our publications for Christmas gifts, choose from more than 15 on local history. Enquire about local house history research.



CONFLICT AND COMPASSION

the theme for the **2015 National Trust Heritage Festival 11 April- 26 May**

From our Indigenous history to the centenary of World War I, Conflict & Compassion will explore the human side of war, rebellion, sacrifice and endurance, and the extraordinary stories of courage and compassion that come from the horror of conflict and strife. www.nationaltrustfestival.org.au

The Association will be exhibiting 25 April - 17 May dates tba. If you have something such as letters, photos, other items **OR IDEAS** to contribute please contact email contact@balmainassociation.org.au or phone June 9810 6885 or Kathleen 9818 4954.

Preserving their memory

Balmain Association

Help us preserve the memory of the men and women from the Balmain-Rozelle district who served during the Great War. Any original photos will be scanned and returned to you or you may prefer to donate a copy of these.

Images may also be forwarded in digital format. All will be recorded in archives of the BA. Donations will be acknowledged. email: contact@balmainassociation.org.au
Leichhardt 5000

Leichhardt Library has started a World War 1 Blog, Leichhardt 5000, named after the number of soldiers from the Leichhardt area who enlisted in the Great War and is inviting contributions from the public. It is a four year project aiming to bring alive the stories, letters, photos, newspaper articles and war records of former residents in the Leichhardt area. It can be found at: www.leichhardt5000.com.au.

The National Archives of Australia has assisted in establishing the Blog, which will remain open until the end of 2018 after which it will be closed and kept as a permanent historical database. If you have a relative who enlisted in WW1 from the Leichhardt area and would like to contribute to the Leichhardt 5000 Blog, please email Marilyn Taylor at marilynt@lmc.nsw.gov.au or go to: www.leichhardt5000.com.au

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 6:00pm in the Watch House, 179 Darling Street Balmain. **MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND.** The History Room at the Watch House is open every Saturday from 11:30-3
Postal: PO Box 57 Balmain 2041
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