

MOSMAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY – APRIL 2012 NEWSLETTER

May speaker meeting

The next meeting will be at 7pm Wednesday 14th May, downstairs at the library. The presentation is called *MEMORIES OF MOSMAN Nothing Ever Stays the Same*. Jo Thompson and Di McKrummel will recall some of their memories as women growing up in Mosman from the 1940s onwards *See attached poster....*

New members

We welcome 3 new members to Mosman Historical Society:

Robert and Susan Gowing

Alison Hunt

Mosman Art Gallery

Don't miss the current exhibition entitled *SAFE FROM THE CITY'S HASTE Mosman Vistas from 1838-1955*. It finishes on 13th May 2012.

Royal Australian Historical Society events

A walking tour from Taronga Zoo Wharf to Balmoral Beach will take place on Saturday 12th May, beginning at 10am and concluding around 3pm. The tour leader will be David Carment who will provide very professional commentary as well as the sort of insight which only comes from someone who has grown up in the area. RAHS is charging \$30 members, \$50 non-members. Book on 9247 8001 or admin@rahs.org.au

The RAHS welcomes the public to their lectures and other functions, most of which are held at History House in Macquarie Street. Information at rahs.org.au/news-and-events/program-of-activities and bookings on 9247 8001 or admin@rahs.org.au . Examples of upcoming lectures are:-

Living and Lodging in the City (lodgers in Redfern etc) by Dr Lisa Murray on Wednesday 6th June at 1pm

Gone but not Forgotten (the penal system) on Tuesday 12th June 10am

Injured Innocents or Incurable Rogues (stories about convicts) on Tuesday 19th June 10am

Damned Whores and God's Police? (women convicts) on Tuesday 26th June 10am

.....and with the WEA lecture series, bookable on 9264 2781.....

Lord Sydney by Andrew Tink on Tuesday 12th June at 2pm

William Charles Wentworth by Andrew Tink on Tuesday 19th June at 2pm

Convict Transportation to Australia by Babette Smith

Historic Houses Trust

The current special exhibition at the Museum of Sydney is entitled *HOME FRONT Wartime Sydney 1939-45*. It explores the 'years of fear, excitement, opportunity, love and grief that shaped, challenged and changed the lives of generations of Australians'. On the first Sunday of every month there is a talk and a

screening of period films which expand on the theme. The museum is open daily 9.30am-5pm, admission \$10 or conc/member \$5.

At the Justice and Police Museum, an interesting exhibition about espionage in Australia will be finishing on 29th April. It is entitled *PERSONS OF INTEREST The ASIO Files*. ASIO holds files on an estimated half million Australians and there are many personal stories of unsuspecting citizens whose idealism and beliefs were construed as something sinister. The museum is open daily 9.30am-5pm, admission \$10 or conc/member \$5.

New South Wales Heritage Volunteer Awards

Do you know of someone in the community who, as a volunteer, has had an impact on the conservation of Mosman's heritage? The awards are offered every year and the Society is considering nominations for later in 2012. Please contact our secretary, Noela on 9960 1444 or noela.mhs@gmail.com

Mosman Rowing Club at the Spit – Centenary publication

To celebrate their centenary, an impressive 352-page book with almost 1000 images has been published in a small print run. It begins with a history of the club with sections on women rowers, elite Olympians and many more. A personal recollection by Bruce Evans is included in full.

Further information about purchasing copies at \$75 each can be obtained from the Vice Captain, Charlie Marriott on 0425 325 256 or vicecaptain@mosmanrowing.com

Other HS newsletters

For members interested in other North Shore historical societies, a copy of the April newsletter from Ku-Ring-Gai Historical Society Inc. is attached (*2012 April Newsletter*).

Quiz question

The FEBRUARY 2012 quiz question was:-

Boronia House in Military Road was one of an identical pair of grand houses built in 1885 for brothers John and James Keary. What was the name of the other house and for how long did the brothers occupy them?

The other house was called *Telopea* and it remains today as *The White House* but is almost totally unrecognizable under a number of unsympathetic extensions. Originally the houses had orchards, vegetable and flower gardens, shrubberies, fern house, tennis court and a pottery kiln. John and James Keary were Redfern carriage builders whose business suffered like many others during the great recession in the 1890s and when they could not keep up with repayments on their 3000 pound mortgage to John Thomas Neale, they were forced to sell their mansions in 1896. Boronia went to a Mr Godwin and Telopea to Mrs Rabone. Incidentally, *Mandolong House* was build in the same year, 1885, and is still in use as a private home. Gavin Souter writes of these residences in *Mosman A History*, p.97. Phillipa Morris located details in *BORONIA*

AND SURROUNDS, MOSMAN Conservation Management Plan, prepared for Mosman Council in 2008 by Otto Cserline & Partners, Architects.

The APRIL 2012 quiz question is:-

Mosman Council has for many years taken responsibility for the maintenance of Archibald Mosman's grave. Where is it located?

K.H.