

MOSMAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY – AUGUST 2013 NEWSLETTER

Recently.....

At the 10th July meeting, Bob McKillop talked about the old Willoughby Incinerator, which was designed by Walter Burley Griffin and was originally the recipient of Mosman's rubbish. After a chequered existence, it has now been extensively repaired and restored by Willoughby Council and later this year will house a new café. Bob is the curator of the Willoughby Museum and author of the 2012 book *Managing our Waste: An environmental history of Flat Rock Creek and the Willoughby Incinerator 1900-2011*.

September speaker meeting

The next meeting will be at 7pm Wednesday **18th September**, downstairs at the library. Elaine Lye and Jacquie Tuck, the President and Vice President of the Mosman Home Gardeners Society, will be talking to us about the history of their society, which is celebrating its 70th anniversary this year. *See attached flyer.....*

Note that this date differs from the norm in that it is the 3rd Wednesday of the month, not the 2nd.

AGM of Mosman Historical Society

This will be held 15 minutes before the next speaker meeting – 6.45pm on Wednesday 18th September 2013. Everyone is welcome, in particular, those who would be interested in becoming committee members. *Attached is the agenda with a section in which you can nominate for the committee. Also attached is a proxy form.*

New members

We welcome 2 new members to Mosman Historical Society:-

Deirdre Friend

Dr Louise Pryke

Local Studies at Mosman Library

A word from Donna Braye, Local Studies Librarian, about the following three exhibitions at the library:

Happy Snaps 12 -25 August. This is an exhibition of some fantastic - never seen before - family photos from our Local Studies Collection. This is our celebration of National Family History month and rather than rave on about all our genealogy resources we thought some family pics would be more interesting.

They date from 1905 until 1962 and include parties and picnics in Mosman backyards.

Picturing Military Road 7 – 20 September. For this exhibition we have chosen old photographs of Military Road and compared with them with later photographs of the same stretch of road. There are changes in the look of the road but sometimes you feel like you are looking for Wally as the difference is so small and that 1890s photographs could in fact be 1950s.

It's in the Bag 1 – 14 October. This exhibition celebrates the launch of the latest interview on Mosman Faces and commemorates the history of the Mosman Festival. The interview with Kenneth Dryland and [Diane Wachman](#) recalls the early days of the festival and the push from local business. The exhibition provides an opportunity to show, not only posters, photos and ephemera of the day but also contemporary shopping bags from Mosman shops.

Doing Our Bit WWI project now has a facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/mosman1418>

Daylight savings excursion Clifton Gardens

Wednesday 19th March 2014 is a long way off, so this is just a preliminary notice that we are planning an excursion similar to the old forts inspection at Middle Head, which proved very popular. David Carment will be our guide to the history rich area of Clifton Gardens and John Dansie will be cooking up another of his magnificent sausage sizzles afterwards.

RAHS memo

Fairfax Media have announced that images from the company's historical glass-plate photographic collection have been digitised and made available online. The images capture significant events, news and everyday life in Australia during the early 1900s. Many of the images have never before been published. Fairfax donated more than 18,000 glass-plate photographic negatives to The National Library of Australia in December 2012. Since then, The National Library has been undertaking an extensive project to restore, digitise and catalogue the Fairfax collection which can now be accessed via Fairfax Syndication www.fairfaxsyndication.com as well as the National Library's online catalogue service, Trove www.trove.nla.gov.au.

Stanton Library excursions

Stanton Library is offering 2 walks during History Week 7-15 September.
Bookings essential - 02 9936 8400.

Following in the footsteps of photographers from the past beginning at Lavender Bay at the site of Holtermann's Tower now owned by Shore School where some of the most significant panoramas of Sydney Harbour were taken between 1870s and 1900. A stop at Christ Church to talk about the work of Harbour Bridge photographer Frank Cash and then continue on across the

Harbour Bridge to Observatory Hill and Sydney Observatory. Here, as well as morning tea, hear about the work of photographer HC Russell and see the historic transit telescope and the Signal Station, which predates the 1858 Observatory. *Friday 13 September 9.30am-12.30pm. Meeting place: Corner Blue and William Streets, North Sydney. Cost \$10.*

Discovering the Holtermann Estate. Bernard Otto Holtermann previously resided in the spacious grounds at St Leonards Lodge, now Crows Nest, which was subsided when he moved to Lavender Bay. The walk takes in the site of his original home exploring the Victorian and Federation era houses built on the site. Ending at St Thomas Park where Holtermann is buried, there will be an exhibition of North Sydney panoramas at Sexton Cottage and light morning tea available. *Sunday 15 September 9-11.30am. Meeting place; Stanton Library. 234 Miller Street, North Sydney. Cost: Free.*

'Mimie and Wag': Their Adventures in Australia

May Gibbs is famous for Snugglepoot and Cuddlepie but when she created this book, she was 32 and could not find a publisher in Perth. This is thought to be May's first attempt at a children's book. The English publishers thought it was too wild and wanted an English setting, so May transported Mimie from the Australian Bush to London's Chimney Pot Land.

An exhibition at Nutcote, 5 Wallaringa Avenue, Neutral Bay includes beautiful images of Mimie riding a kangaroo, Mimie addressing two koalas and photographs of May with her dog Wag who is identical to the dog in the book. It can be seen until 31 December and is included with entry to the Museum (\$9 adults \$5.50 concession). *Contact Stephanie Lake, 02-9953-4453.*

K.H.