

LOCAL TABLES

To get a "square" meal

OUR West Woollahra area has gained another full scale restaurant with the curiously named Flat White in Jersey Road opening in the evenings from Thursday to Saturday for dinner as well as for daytime meals, snacks and coffee.

Flat White is on the ground floor of the recently completed art gallery at the corner of Holdsworth Street and the newness of the building is reflected in the style of the bijou restaurant.

One of its delights is that some of the seating is bench style, enabling you to look out on the passing parade in Jersey Road. And on a fine day you can even eat at a bench outside on the pavement.

Also I like the way the kitchen is open so that you can watch chef/owner Damien and his crew at work. And the tableware is slickly modern, some of the dishes being square.

The fare changes so much from day to day that it is proclaimed only on three blackboard menus – one for dinner, one for lunch and one for desserts. The choices of both main courses and entrees are fairly limited (four or five) but sufficiently varied to cater for most tastes – including vegetarian.

Prices are \$26 or less for mains and \$16-14 for entrees which in our experience are substantial enough for the main event. Side dishes such as the appealing baby spinach, pine nuts and grated egg salad are \$7.

Warm and friendly

We have dined at Flat White several times, most recently on the shortest day of the year when we served by Natasha whose warmth and friendliness compensated for the arctic weather.

My beloved and I both had two entrees. She had the cannelloni cream soup with king prawns, and the shredded duck comfit with apple and speck papadooms. My choice was the blue swimmer crab omelette, which comes with a salad, and the three-cheese spinach and caramelised onion tart, all excellent.

Among the mains, I would have been tempted to go for the John Dee scotch fillet with mushrooms, spinach and red wine butter, or roast field mushrooms with heidi gruyere rocket and salsa verde (presumably the vegetarian dish). Maybe next time!

Also next time I hope to have left room for the strawberry tart with cinnamon cream (\$10).

Flat White is unlicensed (corkage \$5 a bottle) but it is immediately opposite the Lord Dudley Hotel. So if you forget to bring a bottle or two, help is at hand.

In summary Flat White is a small haven of friendly efficiency and excellent and original food. Phone 9328 9922. R.J.B

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The Original Village Voice

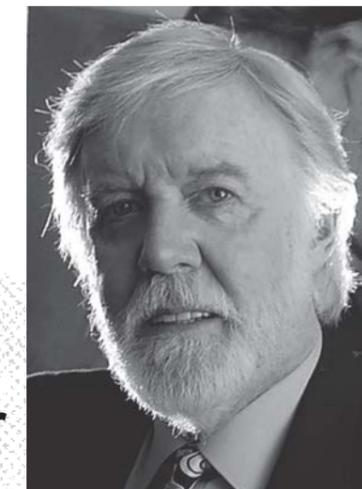


Official Journal of the Queen Street and West Woollahra Association No.89 July 2007

Banjo of Queen Street

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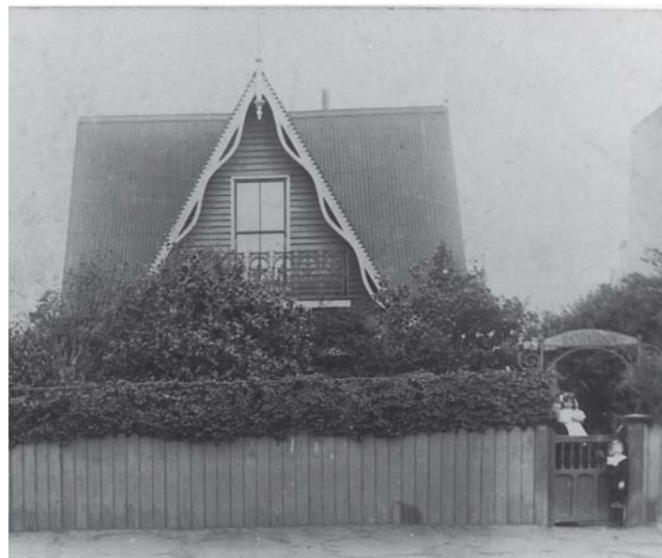
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In the 19th century, the area of Queen Street carpark was the building yard of German immigrant Heinrich Dorhauer. Our picture shows the house, named Lorelei, which he built on the Queen Street frontage for his second wife, Margaretha. Two of their children,

Facelift for Queen Street Carpark

QUEEN Street carpark, at the corner of Moncur Street, is about to be given an upgrading at a cost of approximately \$150,000.

Woollahra Council anticipated that the work would commence in July and be completed in four to six weeks.

Unfortunately the upgrading will not allow for any more vehicles to be parked but three bicycle storage racks will be added.

One of the main features of the is a widening of the footpath area between Zigolinis Restaurant and Dorhauer Lane which will enable the restaurant's outdoor tables to be set back from the walking area of the footpath.

At the same time, a new community notice board, continuously updated by the Queen Street and West Woollahra Association, will be provided on the Queen Street frontage.

Not obstructed

The notice board will not be obstructed by restaurant tables like the present notice board and will be lighted.

Other features of the upgrading will include:

- Enhanced landscaping features including plantings on screen structures behind the widened footpath in Queen Street and at the carpark entrances in Queen Street and Moncur Street
- Reconstruction of the carpark entrance driveways, using an interlocking paver.
- Resurfacing of the carpark surface in asphalt.
- Provision of car space linemarking, including a disabled parking space and an additional loading zone space.
- Provision of lighting with three 4m high light posts.

Consultants have devised a plan to provide the best lighting for the carpark.

Woollahra Council has consulted the Queen Street and West Woollahra Association and the owners of Zigolinis Restaurant in developing the carpark plan.



Pictured at the annual meeting of the Queen Street and West Woollahra Association: ABOVE From left, retiring president Ian Angus, new president Elizabeth Gervay, treasurer Ian Smith, and new committee member Jennifer Rose-Nettis. BELOW Woollahra Mayor Keri Huxley (centre) with association members Susan and Bill Anderson



YOUR PLACE IN LOCAL HISTORY

THE Queen Street and West Woollahra Association is encouraging local people to nominate their homes or local buildings with historical or other significance for commemorative plaques.

The association has already carried out some research on this matter. In Queen Street, for instance, are homes which have been occupied by Banjo Paterson, Dame Joan Sutherland and various local personalities.

Applications should be sent to the association at Box 16, PO Woollahra, NSW 1350, or email admin@qswwa.com.au

Thank You Keri

We would like to thank Keri Huxley for the interest she has taken in the Queen Street and West Woollahra Association, in her mayoral year.

- Elizabeth Gervay, President

QUEEN STREET AND DISTRICT A History and Guide

The Queen Street Association would like to obtain a copy/ copies of this book, published in 1987 and distributed round the area. Contact Robin Brampton ph: 9326 1257

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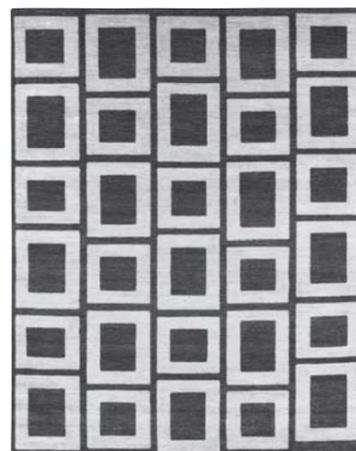
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Tim Olsen's new art gallery

Great Vision for small park

NEXT door to Tim Olsen's spectacular new art gallery, at the corner of Jersey Road and Rush Street, is a small triangular park, Halls Reserve, in Halls Lane. It was so named and preserved as a park because the owner Thomas Hall was keeping the land for the time when Jersey Road was to be widened. Fortunately this never happened.

Tim wants to upgrade this neglected little park at his own expense by employing the services of the famous landscape artist, Michel Blanc, who has designed walled gardens in Paris and Barcelona. He envisages benches for the enjoyment of the public, and artist David Bromley has generously offered to donate one of his sculptures to be put in the park.

Tim has discovered that behind his gallery is an old sump, left over from the omnibus days. If all goes well and Council agrees he plans to use reticulated water from this old sump to keep the little park pristine and ecologically friendly.

✂

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ANNUAL MEETING

Community service groups important in society

"COMMUNITY organisations are pivotal to the achievement of better outcomes and policy at all levels of civil society and government," the Mayor of Woollahra, Keri Huxley, said at the annual meeting of the Queen Street and West Woollahra Association.

"In general terms, Australian citizens are fortunate," she added. "In today's political world, whether local, state or federal, our sense of what a democracy is, involves civil society as much as possible."

The meeting, in April, drew what was probably a record attendance. In addition to the Mayor the meeting was attended by two other Woollahra Council members, Andrew Petrie and David Shoebridge.

Elizabeth Gervay, a Queen Street hotelier, was elected president. She had been acting president for some months owing to the illness of the elected president, Ian Angus.

Tribute to Elizabeth Gervay

Ian Angus did not stand for election to the committee and paid tribute to Elizabeth Gervay for taking over as president, saying she had done "a sterling job".

Ken Gresham was elected vice president and newcomers to the committee are Jennifer Rose-Nettis of Zigolinis and Richard Banks, the Queen Street optometrist.

Taking the chair, Elizabeth Gervay stressed the unique character of the West Woollahra area which everybody was anxious to preserve.

She promised that the association would "keep on the tail" of Woollahra Council on matters of local concern and asked local people to email their concerns to the association so that it could act on them.

A paper from the office of the Mayor was issued to all present. It outlined infrastructure work completed in the previous six months and planned for the next six months.

The paper detailed work in parks and streets, and on the Davies Reserve. It also covered the council's graffiti removal service and plans to relocate the association's community notice board.

"Tombstone" benches

Points raised in subsequent discussion included:

- A claim that the food retailing area of Queen Street had become "a circus" with garbage containers and crowds of people at coffee dispensers taking up too much space on the footpath. Diana Fisher asked for Victorian style benches to replace the present "tombstone" benches

- A complaint that residents on the south side of Queen Street could not park as the spaces were taken up by cars from further afield and left while their owners went to work in the city.

People at the meeting complained that the proposed reduction in garbage collection to once a week was impractical for many small residences and also was unhygienic. The Mayor and Councillor Shoebridge agreed, saying they would advocate two collections a week.

However the Council subsequently voted for once a week pick up, making things difficult for some residents.

Gala Day of celebrations to mark improvements

THE Queen Street and West Woollahra Association will hold a gala day of celebrations in October to mark the completion of the \$150,000 improvements to the Queen Street carpark (see opposite page).

Hopefully also on the day, improvements to Pat Thompson Park in Holdsworth Street will be complete and the park can be officially "named".

It is also hoped that the fountain in Davies Reserve, at the Oxford Street end of Queen Street, will again be flowing and the association can rededicate it.

Other features of the day are expected to include:

- A sausage sizzle in the Dorhauer Lane area.
- A shop window dressing competition for all Queen Street traders, judged by Leslie Walford. The winner will receive a certificate and a dining voucher for a local

restaurant.

- A Woollahra Walk, pointing out some of the notable buildings and homes in the area.

A leaflet giving the date and full details of the event will be distributed throughout the area shortly before the big day.

Gateway Fountain Working

According to Woollahra Council, the pipes leading to the Davies Reserve fountain needed to be re-located to eliminate any future leaking into the pump housing.

The new pipes have been painted to match the inside colour of the pond. The lighting is also being improved.

The association's committee plans to hold a meeting with local council members for an hour before the "Banjo of Queen Street" evening on 24 July.

One of the matters to be discussed is



The Association intends to discuss with Woollahra Council representatives, the deteriorating condition of footpath seats in Queen Street

the poor condition of the footpath seats in Queen Street, near Spicer Street, illustrated above.

In answer to the association's concerns about youths congregating in the Moncur Street Reserve, causing litter, Mr. Bruce Rann, the Council's manager of parks and street trees, says:

"I have recently had several park lights replaced in this area and I believe that misuse of the park has significantly decreased.

"I am also working on a schedule of inspections and replacements to park lights throughout the municipality which could minimise faulty park lighting in future.

The Queen Street and West Woollahra

Association Ltd

ABN 98 002 872 433



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Pensioner	\$10
Individual	\$25
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CHAT STREET

by Annette Robinson and John Northfield

Big changes at Solomons

SOLOMONS Pharmacy has been an institution in Queen Street since the 1930s. The owners for the past 20 years, Joe Runds and Elizabeth Zyl, have retired after two decades of great service to the community.

Elizabeth worked in the shop when she was still a pharmacy student. Solomons Pharmacy was then located on the corner of Queen and Moncur Street, but later moved to 138 Queen.

The new owners, Chrisie Berdoukas, her daughter Kathryn Stevenson and a friend, Margaret Raptis, are all qualified pharmacists. Chrisie was a pharmacist in Rose Bay for many years. They will continue to look after our pharmacy needs with the help of Fona Lee, also a qualified pharmacist.

With the new ownership, the store will change its name to **Queen Street Pharmacy** but it will have one old touch. Chrisie tells us that they have old apothecary jars which they intend to put in the window.

Ursula King departs

WE are sorry to have to note that **Ursula King Travel** is moving on 23 July from the corner of Jersey Road and Hargrave Street to Westfield Shoppingtown at Bondi Junction.

Ursula started her travel agency in 1986 and during the 17 years in Jersey Road she has taken a great interest in the West Woollahra community.

The agency has had some notable achievements including being voted the Australian Travel Agency of the year in 1994. The same year Ursula was on the QSWWA committee.

With the move to Tower 1 of Westfield Bondi Junction, the travel agency will pay for valet parking for any clients who have an existing booking or make a new international booking for the first six months.

The new address of Ursula King Travel is Suite 2504, Level 25, Tower 1, Westfield Shoppingtown, 520 Oxford Street, Bondi Junction NSW 2022. Ph 9362 4622. Fax 9362 4519. Email travel@ukt.com.au. Web www.ukt.com.au.

Also departed from our area is **LA Design** which has moved from 26 Queen Street to Shop 9, Sydney Antique Centre, 531 South Dowling St, Surry Hills.

And **Lisa Gowing** has moved her design room and showroom from Queen Street back to New South Head Road, Edgecliff.

Loving care for bonsai

BOEWULF Galleries at 23 Queen Street has literally blossomed out by sharing its premises with a sister company, **Bonsai Exotique**.

Melissa Boewulf points out that cultivating bonsai, rather than flora in other forms, is a responsible choice to water conservation.

In addition to selling bonsai, the gallery stocks antique Japanese bonsai ceramics and exclusive bonsai pots by Pat Kennedy. Also for do-it-yourself bonsai enthusiasts are bonsai tools, watering cans and accessories.

Bonsai Exotique's full maintenance, re-potting and styling services even provide tender loving care for bonsai and potted trees while owners are away from home.

The gallery is open from Wednesday to Sunday 10am to 5pm. Ph:9362 5503

Niu among the new

A NEW wholesale/ retail showroom, **Niu** has opened at 66 Queen. It is part of an Italian chain, C and C operating out of Milan and Sydney, Niu stocks luxurious Italian bed linen and cashmere

blankets, luxury fabrics as well as amazing Italian shoes, bags and scarves. Ph:9362 5017

The well known sheet and linen company, **Moss River**, has also opened in Queen Street. Besides their signature white damask sheets and pillowcases, stock includes nightshirts in damask and Marcella bedspreads.

The bed linen is also available in subtle earthy or wonderful bright colours. They also have cushions in pure wool, made and dyed in India, and Moulton Brown creams and candles.

Chantal Tosolini has opened a **Brunello Cucinelli** store at 64 Queen Street. This very successful label in Milan, Paris and New York will be welcomed in Sydney by the fashionistas. The new boutique oozes a subtle charm quite in keeping with the elegant labels it stocks.

Sally Beresford Antiques

A BEAUTIFULLY appointed antique shop has opened at 170 Queen Street, just around the corner from Ocean Street. It's great to see that the clothes and food shops haven't totally taken over our village high street!

Sally Beresford specialises in 17th -19th Century French Provincial and English Georgian country antiques, architectural and decorative items.

She makes regular trips to France and England seeking out oak, cherrywood, elm, chestnut and Baltic pine furniture.

Tables are manufactured in the traditional manner from the aged wood she sources abroad. Sally's exquisite taste is most sympathetic to contemporary interiors and will appeal to younger buyers. Sally Beresford also has showrooms in the Sydney Antique Centre and a warehouse in the Southern Highlands. Ph:02 9362 1733

A warm welcome to Tim Olsen Gallery

LAST year the landmark old omnibus building on the corner of Rush Street and Jersey Road was sold to art dealer Tim Olsen and his wife Dominique Ogilvie. Some years ago the discovery by Marcel Piat, a past owner of the building, of old bus destination boards confirmed the fact that the building had housed the horse-drawn buses in years gone by.

It later became an antique shop, **Au Lion de Neige**.

Tim, son of the artist John Olsen, has converted the building into a wonderful two-storey art gallery, exuding light and with a great feeling of space which complements the large and eclectic paintings adorning the stark white walls.

Tim relocated his Tim Olsen Gallery there a month ago from his Paddington gallery which has now closed, but he has retained the Annexe at 72 Windsor Street for works on paper. (See page 6)

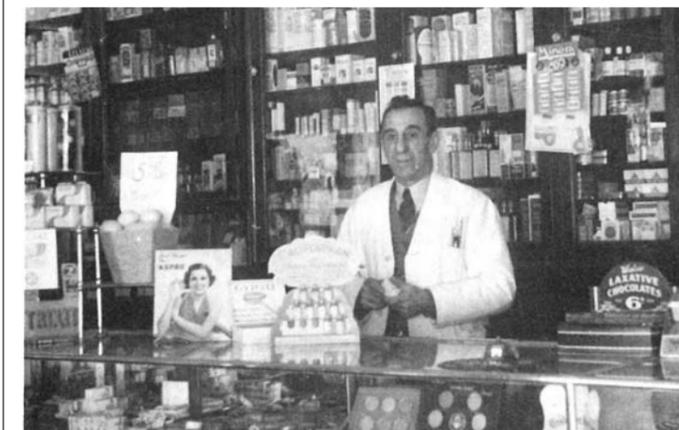


NO COMMENT!
Our recent picture of an overflowing garbage bin was taken in the Holdsworth Street park about to be dedicated to the memory of Pat Thompson, the noted environmentalist.



The four qualified pharmacists who supply professional service at Queen Street Pharmacy, from left Chrisie Berdoukas, Margaret Raptis, Fona Lee, and Chrisie's daughter, Kathryn Stevenson.

ROUND ROBIN Robin Brampton's Queen Street Commentary



Famous name in Queen Street

YOU could buy laxative chocolate for sixpence (5c) when Mr L.V Solomon was behind the counter of his pharmacy at the corner of Queen Street and Moncur Street in this picture taken in the early 1930s.

Although the pharmacy was to move further down Queen Street, it retained the name Solomons until this year when it became Queen Street Pharmacy (see story in Chat Street, opposite).

After Solomon died in 1942, the business was run by Ted Robinson who had been Solomon's apprentice. He ran it until the 1970s. Our picture was supplied by L.V Solomon's daughter, Connie Schofield, and appeared in *Queen Street, a History and Guide*, published in 1987.

Sadly, probably Sydney's best known interior decorator, Leslie Walford, is closing down the Walford and Horgan business in Jersey Road and going into retirement - well perhaps not quite.

"In future I will be working from home," he told me. Though he may still take a few interior decorating projects if they especially appeal to him, his main occupation will be writing.

He wants to do family and personal history which will cover his early days in England where he attended the famous Winchester public school and Oxford University

Now aged 80, Leslie has been in the interior decorating business in Australia for 50 years, having first established it in Knox Street, Double Bay in 1957.

He moved to Jersey Road in 1992, buying and spectacularly restoring a run down corner shop. He expects to move out in August when the building will be sold through Christie's Great Estate.

My colleague Annette Robinson writes; "These parking fines have gone too far!"

As a local resident and a member of the Queen Street and West Woollahra Association I applaud the fact that drivers are fined for illegal parking. Stop zones, double parking, obstructing traffic and restricting sight on corners should all be penalized, but lately I have been booked for two offences which I find quite unreasonable.

One was parking outside my own garage, thus giving an additional parking space to someone else and the latest was "parallel park close to front/back of vehicle".

I only noticed that the tiny ticket for this offence was left on my windscreen when I arrived home. Had the car parked in front of mine been booked too? I have no way of knowing.

If the powers that be need money so desperately all they need to do is book every driver in Queen Street for talking on a mobile phone. They'd make a motza.



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