

The Original VILLAGE VOICE



Official journal of the Queen Street and West Woollahra Association Ltd No.107 July 2013 www.qswwa.com.au

QSWWA Annual Dinner 2013

The QSWWA held its Annual Dinner on 4 June at the Centennial Hotel. It was a great night with everyone enjoying excellent food, fabulous prizes and the opportunity to get together and connect with their neighbours. Below are some photos taken by local photographer, Naomi Hamilton.



Top Row: Bill and Di Jones; Sara Gresham and Mayor Andrew Petrie; Rina Huber, Cooper Ward Councillor Luise Elsing and Annita Keating. **Second Row:** Mary Read; Sally Beresford, John Knott and Isabelle Salmon; Di Jones.

Third Row: Karen Shead; Mr & Mrs Malinowski; Alan Smith and Alan Nicholas.

Bottom Row: Octavia and Jeanette Knox; Emily and Anthony (Harries) Carroll; Eric Scott.

Rina Huber



Local resident, Rina Huber has loved writing especially letters, since early childhood. In her university career she wrote a number of articles and chapters in anthropology books including *“From Pasta to Pavlova: a comparative study of Italian settlers in Sydney and Griffith”*. Rina travelled the world sailing with her husband and they always intended to write about their Mediterranean years together.

After he died Rina wrote *“Nine Summers”* which proved to be very healing in dealing with the loss of her life partner as well as keeping her occupied and busy. The publishers of *“Nine Summers”* put it on EBooks after 10,000 copies of the printed version sold out. The first draft of *“Letters to my Father”* was written during quiet times in the Mediterranean. The book is about Rina’s childhood in Palestine and Italy. When Rina was seven her mother died and she was sent to live with relatives in Italy. She recounts the experience of an innocent, loving child grappling with her religion and new family life. She comforted herself - clutching a tiny ceramic mouse given to her before she left Palestine and writing letters to her father. The book is a joy to read and would be of interest to people who recall or are interested in the 1930s.

Rina’s books are available from Lesley McKay’s Bookshop, Queens Court

Elwyn Lynn

Elwyn Augustus Lynn (1917 - 1997) resided at 89 Moncur Street from 1964 to when he died. He was a painter, art critic, writer, person of influence and member of the QSWWA. Elwyn Lynn was a remarkable figure in the Sydney art world from the 1950s. He held an astonishing number of influential executive positions in the art community and was also of central importance as an art critic. As a painter Lynn was influenced by the destruction of buildings in Europe which bore the scars of the Second World War. He felt that following the war it was impossible to continue to create paintings that calmly tinkered with formal arrangements, or which confined themselves to beguiling but innocuous subject matter. He turned to unconventional painting media and expressive surfaces to construct metaphors for human suffering and endurance. Most of his work was essentially abstract, although a sense of the landscape is often evoked.

Lynn was a tremendously successful artist participating in over 150 group exhibitions and over 50 solo exhibitions in Australia and overseas and his collections were shown in a number of galleries including the National Gallery of Australia and the Museum of Contemporary Art. His awards include the Wynne Prize for landscape painting, Blake Prize for religious art and an Australia Council Emeritus Award in 1994. He received a Membership of the Order of Australia in 1975.

“The later work of Lynn maintained his interest in damaged and shredding surfaces, and his frequent and adventurous use of assemblage elements. These late works were also marked by an expressionist vehemence and a daring informality”

Elwyn Lynn: Metaphor + Texture by Peter Pinson

The views expressed in this publication are those of the writers and not necessarily those of the Queen Street and West Woollahra Association or its members.

Interested in local history?

The QSWWA is updating the Queen Street and West Woollahra History Book and is seeking input from locals with photographs and stories. Anyone who would like to get involved please contact the editor@qswwa.com.au

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Katie Swift Cordials

Village Voice does not usually partake in product placement. An exception was made when we came across this cordial. We simply could not keep it from our readers. Katie Swift Cordial is ridiculously delicious! It comes in three flavours, blood orange, lemon and pink grapefruit. Each 750ml bottle yields 14 to 15 servings. It's hard to get in Sydney, but is available at our very own Bay Tree at 40 Queen Street.



Whilst the flavours are sweet there is a tang, a bite, a tingle that is irresistible! Finally there is something to look forward to at breakfast or as a treat in the afternoon. It is the ideal gift for an afternoon tea visit or to share at a children's party. It may also be lovely as a cocktail mixer! Every one who tries it loves it and wants more!

www.thebaytree.com.au
www.katieswiftcordials.com.au

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W i e c z o r k o w s k i (pronounced 'Vie-chore-kov-ski') is opening at 78 Queen Street, on the corner of Halls Lane. FINALLY we have a coffee shop in upper Queen Street. Wieczorkowski is owned and managed by a Polish family from Krakow with Australian born son, Adam, at the helm.



Wieczorkowski's dream is being realised in Queen Street for our benefit, to take customers back to another era of the famous pre-war Krakowian cafes from the 1920s, which were filled with artists and academics indulged by traditional Polish hospitality.

Prepare yourselves for Pierogi (pronounced 'peer-row-gee'), homemade by Aunt Halina, which are fried or boiled dumplings made with beef and cabbage or cheese and potato. Then there is Sernik (pronounced 'sirr-nick') – the classic Polish baked vanilla cheesecake made by Grandma Jadwiga using farm cheese. These delights can be enjoyed with a cup of Wieczorkowski's own organic coffee blend.

www.wieczorkowski.com.au

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Vale: Robin John Brampton (1931 – 2013)

Robin John Brampton was a well respected and prominent member of the Woollahra community. He was notorious as an insightful Queen Street commentator, restaurant reviewer, heritage campaigner and historian.

Born in England in 1931 Robin migrated to Australia in the 1950s and took up a position as a journalist for Australian Consolidated Press. He and his wife, Dorothy then set up a publishing business.

In 1972, Robin was one of the original founders of the Queen Street and West Woollahra Association, a group which was instrumental in bringing Queen Street to life and transforming it into a thriving and vibrant village. Over the years he served as President, Vice President and Secretary. He was also chairman of the Queen Street Fair Committee and the founder and for many years editor of the Village Voice. His commitment to the area was further reflected in his extraordinary effort as co-author (with Alison Halliday) and editor of the first edition of the "Queen Street and district: a history and guide to Woollahra". In 1999 he was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia for service to the public, particularly through the Queen Street and West Woollahra Association.

Robin moved with Dorothy to Lulworth in 2011 primarily so he could continue his close support of her. He passed away on 4 May 2013 at 82 years of age. He is sadly missed by Dorothy, his two daughters, Julia and Samantha and two grandchildren, Elodie and Fletcher.

St Joseph's: the local Franciscan connection

St Joseph's Church in Albert Street was built by the Franciscans in 1874. The current Pope recently explained why he chose the name of the Franciscan's patron saint.



"Some people wanted to know why the Bishop of Rome wished to be called Francis. Some thought of Francis Xavier, Francis De Sales, and also Francis of Assisi. I will tell you the story. During the election, I was seated next to the Archbishop Emeritus of São Paulo and Prefect Emeritus of the Congregation for the Clergy, Cardinal Claudio Hummes: a good friend, a good friend! [Joe: and a Franciscan!] When things were looking dangerous, he encouraged me. And when the votes reached two thirds, there was the usual applause, because the Pope had been elected. And he gave me a hug and a kiss, and said: "Don't forget the poor!" And those words came to me: the poor, the poor. Then, right away, thinking of the poor, I thought of Francis of Assisi. Then I thought of all the wars, as the votes were still being counted, till the end. Francis is also the man of peace. That is how the name came into my heart: Francis of Assisi. For me, he is the man of poverty, the man of peace, the man who loves and protects creation; these days we do not have a very good relationship with creation, do we? He is the man who gives us this spirit of peace, the poor man ... How I would like a Church which is poor and for the poor!"

THE WOOLLAHRA HOTEL WEEKLY SPECIALS

MONDAY	\$12	ANY MAIN MEAL Excludes the eye fillet
TUESDAY	\$12	CHICKEN SCHNITZEL with your choice of, Mushroom sauce or Parmigiana
WEDNESDAY	\$12	STEAK Chips & Salad with Mushroom, Peppercorn or Béarnaise Sauce
THURSDAY	\$12	FISH Chips & Salad Your choice of pan fried Salmon or beer battered fish of the day
	\$10	COCKTAILS Choose any of our house specialties, available in The Terrace from 6pm.
FRIDAY	\$12	PIZZA Choose ANY Pizza from our menu
SATURDAY	\$5	KIDS MEALS Available with any Main Meal
SUNDAY	\$12	BURGERS Your choice of Wagyu Beef, Grilled Chicken, Pork or Vegetarian

Specials not available on public holidays
www.woollahrahotel.com.au
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Love Letters

Woollahra Council supports and encourages the development of public art opportunities that preserve, emphasise and enhance distinctive local identity, through programmes and commissions. Council's Public Art Advisory Committee assists in the implementation of this policy and in partnership with the Roads and Maritime Services has implemented the Traffic Signal Box Project aiming to provide unique opportunities for artists to engage with the community by creating vibrant art works on traffic signal boxes.



We are very fortunate to have "Love Letters" by Adam Long on Moncur Street outside the post office building. This work is significant because it relates to the post office and reminds residents of the power of the written word received by mail. The only regret is that Woollahra no longer has a Post Office.

For more information see: www.woollahra.nsw.gov.au/

History Matters: Euroka Reserve



Photo courtesy of Woollahra Council Local History Library

The Euroka Reserve is located in the triangle at the point of Jersey Road and Ocean Street and formed the grounds of the then Council chambers (now the Goethe Institut). During the 1920s, the front garden was dominated by the presence of a six inch German naval gun on a field mounting, captured by Australian forces in France during World War I and presented to Council as a 'war trophy'. At a ceremony in 1921, the gun was unveiled watched by a large audience of approving residents. The naval gun was eventually removed to the South Head Military Reserve in 1930 and its loss was considered a great improvement: *"Only three years ago the plantation harboured a huge and ugly cannon which was moved to a more suitable area; and, thanks to the efforts of the council's engineer and gardener, this insignificant section of land was transformed into an oasis of beauty."*

The curved ornamental metal fence that today encloses the garden dates from the 1930s. Supplied by the Benoak Gate and Fence Company, its design was chosen to discourage children from *'climbing over and destroying the flower beds'*.

In 1972 the reserve was named 'Euroka', meaning 'sunlit corner' to emphasise its availability to the public.

Interested in local history?

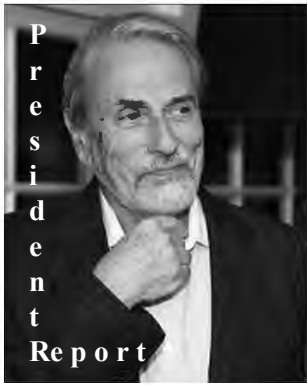
The QSWWA is updating the Queen Street and West Woollahra History Book and is seeking input from locals with photographs and stories. Anyone who would like to get involved please contact the editor@qswwa.com.au

Councillors visit Queen Street



On a recent wet day in Woollahra, Bellevue Hill Ward Councillor Greg Levenston (Liberal) and Paddington Ward Councillor Matthew Robertson (Greens) visited Queen Street for an on-site inspection of a property which was the subject of an application before the Development Control Committee. Councillors heard and considered the views of residents before voting on the matter.

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In the period since my last report the two defining issues confronting the future vision of our community have both moved forward. The continuing battle of 119-121 Queen Street redevelopment now moves to the courtroom. An updated plan for this site has been lodged by the developer and rejected by Woollahra Council and our Association's view is unchanged.

The proposal is, in our view, an overdevelopment of the site in both bulk and especially height. If it were to be approved in its proposed form it would be the only four storey building in the neighbourhood with the resultant loss of privacy for neighbours and an eyesore for locals.

Other objections include traffic and the use of Morton Lane and many other technical issues. The Council has done its part by rejecting the application and many locals have also voiced their objections. We all know that a bad decision on this

prominent site will be something we will have live with into the future. The matter is to heard by the Land and Environment Court commencing 19th August. We trust that justice will serve the community aspirations not the developers.

The other issue we will have to live with will be the Queen Street Masterplan. The Association is supportive of much in the presentations that the consultants have thus far released. The infrastructure plan for completion of paving and the tree rationalisation plan are long overdue. We have met twice with the Mayor Andrew Petrie, local Councillors and Council staff to continue the conversation. The Association's criticism lies in the fact that we were hoping for a more holistic approach to the issues facing us such as parking and having a unique vision and design concept in areas like street furniture rather than an "off the shelf " solution.

West Woollahra is a unique heritage zone where we insist that development should be complimentary to the environment whether that development is on private property or public land. A big thank you to Mary Read and her team organising the QSWWA annual dinner at the Centennial Hotel - a wonderful success.

Ken Gresham, President

The Queen Street and West Woollahra Association Ltd

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The QSWWA is a residents and traders group covering the area bounded by Jersey Road, Ocean Street between Jersey Road and Edgecliff Road, Edgecliff Road between Ocean Street and Leswell Street, Leswell Street and Oxford Street between Leswell Street and Jersey Road

Patron: Neville Wran AC, QC President: Ken Gresham

Vice President: Mary Read (Traders) Vice President: Ian Mansell (Residents)

Committee: Phillip Mitchelhill, Rosemary McDonald, Alan Smith, Aurelio Marano and Jeanette Knox

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Street Talk

Moving In

- ✘ Edit (fabrics) at 92 Queen Street (www.edit-group.com.au)
- ✘ Wieczorkowski (deli) at 78 Queen Street, corner of Hall's Lane (www.wieczorkowski.com.au)

Moving Out

- ✘ Lisa Ho (fashion) from 43 Queen Street to Stand Arcade (www.lisaho.com)

Moving Around

- ✘ Di Jones (real estate) to Queens Court (www.dijones.com.au)

Moving Up

- ✘ Charcoal Chickens – renovations
- ✘ Pasta Pantry – renovations

For Sale and Sold

- ✘ Sold - 174 Queen Street price not disclosed
- ✘ Sold - 172 Queen Street for \$5m (www.ballardproperty.com.au)
- ✘ Sold - 86 Queen Street for \$2.4m (www.raywhitewoollahra.com.au)
- ✘ Sold - 67 Queen Street price not disclosed (www.bradfieldcleary.com.au)
- ✘ For Sale - 30 Queen Street (www.ballardproperty.com.au)
- ✘ For Sale - 43 Queen Street (www.gdrealestate.com.au)

Street Watch

Late in June there was a spate of break and enter incidents in Queen Street near Halls Lane. Fortunately local residents, responding to the sounds of glass shattering, were able to contact Police who were very prompt in their attendance at the crime scene.

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Centennial Parklands

Centennial Park was established in 1888 and since then has been an integral feature of life in West Woollahra. Local resident Giles Edmonds is on the Board of the Trust and is the Chairman of the Community Consultative Committee. The Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust has just released *Land Use Vision for Centennial Parklands*. It lays out a vision for the park based on two years of planning, reorganisation and consultation.

A ten minute video is available outlining what is currently delivered and plans for preserving and enhancing the Parklands over the next 25 years. There is also an opportunity to provide feedback.

Other ways you can stay connected and support Centennial Parklands include: signing up for eNewsletters, liking Centennial Parklands on Facebook, following Centennial Parklands on Twitter, bookmarking Centennial Parklands blog and downloading "myParklands" iPhone app.



This photo of the Paddington Gates was taken during Federation Celebrations in 1901 and is provided courtesy of Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust

www.centennialparklands.com.au

To renew your membership or become a member please complete the form on the website www.qswwa.com.au and return to: QSWWA PO Box 16, Woollahra 1350

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The Queen Street And West Woollahra Association Ltd

Your community voice!

Local Profile: Di Jones



When did you start in real estate?

In 1980, initially in Glebe then in Queen Street in 1981. We opened Di Jones Real Estate in June 1992.

What has the real estate market been like in Queen Street and West Woollahra?

In the 1970s shops in Queen Street were renovated as the antique stores moved in from

Double Bay where the rent was becoming too high. The Queen Street Fair also began about 1970 which was also very special and brought exposure to our beloved Queen Street.

In the early 1980s the market was very depressed; Australia was in a very serious recession. Some of the Woollahra agents had faded photos and dead flies in their windows, and I remember one agent telling me he had not made a sale in 6 months.

In the 1990s Queen Street became known as a mecca for antiques, but as rents escalated, slowly the antique shops have moved on and smart upmarket retailers have moved in. The area has been a sought after destination for more than 20 years.

What does a village mean to you? Is it valuable in real estate terms?

A village means local community, knowing the shopkeepers, cafe and restaurant owners as well as neighbours. Just

walking down the street saying hello is good for ones soul. I think the village is a huge selling point and a close easy walk from your home to the shops makes a property more valuable. The highest price achieved in the Woollahra Village was \$16,000,000 on Rush Street in February 2008. The median sale price over the last 12 months in Woollahra is \$1,800,000.

Are you enthusiastic about the future of property in the area?

We are absolutely enthusiastic about the future of property in Woollahra. It has a unique European village atmosphere and is a real stand out with Centennial Park on its doorstep. we are so fortunate to have beautiful architecture everywhere, wonderful and interesting retailers, fabulous art galleries, an abundance of cafes, restaurants and great hotels plus the best butcher in Australia.

In early 2014 Di Jones Real Estate will be moving our offices to the top floor of Queens Court in the heart of the Woollahra village, which is a very exciting move for us.

What is your favourite shop in Queen Street?

It is hard to say which is my favourite shop but I spend a lot of time in Lesley McKay's Bookshop, Reads, Kidstuff, Seed, Victor Churchill and the Fruit Shop. These, plus the cafes and restaurants, are where I spend most of my money.

Tell me about the Matthew Jones Award?

The Matthew Jones Foundation was set up in memory of our much loved son who sadly passed away 5 years ago. The Matthew Jones Award involves the participation of local primary schools creating wonderful artworks. Prizes are awarded by Dr Gene Sherman to local school children and their schools. Over \$40,000 has been raised and donated to both local schools and schools specialising in education for children with disabilities.

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