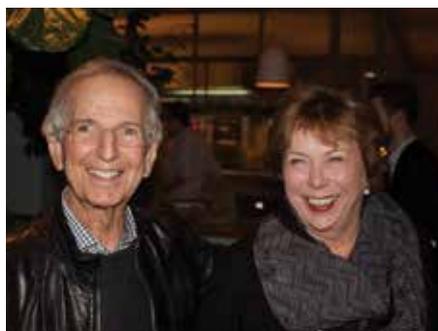


The Original VILLAGE VOICE



Official journal of the Queen Street and West Woollahra Association Ltd No.122 August 2018 www.qswwa.com.au



QSWWA Annual Dinner

Another fabulous QSWWA Annual Dinner was held at the *Hotel Centennial* on Monday 16 July. With wonderful food, fine wine and convivial company everyone had an enjoyable and memorable evening. See full report on page 2.

Top row: Peter and Rosalind Winfield; Alan Smith and Susie Wilmott; Liz Cartwright and Giles Edmonds

Second Row: Ken Gresham in MC mode; Peter and Stella Laycock; Helen and David Lennie

Third Row: Jeanette Knox, Nicole Newsome, Heather Edmonds; Serena Sanderson, Eric Scott, Edwina Sanderson; Jeanette Knox, Rosemary McDonald, Hanna Angus

Bottom row: Sara Gresham, Ken Gresham, Katherine O'Regan, Tim McCormick; Ana and Paul Bondin, Georgia Cleary, Serena Sanderson and Kirsten Jenkins; Mary-Anne Buhagiar, Bain Kelly, Susie Falk, Geoffrey Willmott, Peter Falk, Margie Kelly, Michael Buhagiar, Susie Willmott



President's Report

The continuing of the upgrade of Queen Street, for which the Queen Street and West Woollahra Association has been negotiating with council for some time, seems to have slowed to a standstill once again.

The installation of the new seating, which has been so successful after several attempts over the years, was finalised in the past year.

The flowerbeds were also installed around most of the trees and council has a maintenance program contracted out. Some of these flowerbeds have been a success and are flourishing but the majority seem to be suffering. A number have had plants stolen and replaced and stolen again. Others are looking awfully poor with sparse plantings and not appearing to be maintained. Unfortunately, there are also some dog owners who consider the flower boxes to be dog toilets. The good news is that some boxes have been adopted by homes and businesses that look after them outside their premises and for that they are to be commended.

We await further advice about the continuation of the paving and other upgrades promised by council but not yet delivered. We are also asking for the street lighting in the area to be upgraded to a more appropriate style and with better coverage, especially in the side streets running off Queen Street

The new arrangements at Woollahra Council for the determination of Development Applications started on the 1st March. We are monitoring the results in our West Woollahra zone. The new arrangement replaces the Development Control Committee with the Woollahra Local Planning Panel, thus replacing your elected representative Councillors with experts plus one non-councillor community representative.

To quote council: "The function of Council as a consent authority for DAs is no longer exercisable by the Councillors. Many of the DAs previously determined by Council's Development Control Committee (DCC) will be determined by the WLPP instead." Whether this group, required by the NSW state government, can reflect community standards and desires remains to be seen.

Ken Gresham
President

The Queen Street and West Woollahra Association Ltd
ABN 98002872433
P.O. Box 16 Woollahra 1350
email: admin@qswwa.com.au

The QSWWA is a residents and traders group in 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.
President: Ken Gresham Treasurer: Alan Smith
Committee Members: Ian Mansell, Richard Banks, Rosemary McDonald, Phillip Mitchelhill, Giles Edmonds, Susie Willmott
Village Voice: Editor Giles Edmonds, Layout: Eric Scott.

Annual Dinner a winter warming success

The Association's Annual Dinner was held on 16 July at the Hotel Centennial, Woollahra. This was the sixth year that the dinner has been held at Hotel Centennial, and the first with the new owners, the Hemmes family owned Merivale. Despite the cold weather, over 60 members and guests attended the dinner. As can be seen from the cover photographs, the evening was a great success, and everyone had a most enjoyable time meeting old friends and making new ones.

A glass of local bubbles in the front bar started the evening, accompanied by a selection of canapes including duck liver skewers, parmesan panisse and crudites. Everyone then moved into the dining room for a delicious meal. Entrees were pate de campagne and green bean and goats cheese salad, accompanied by a very tasty William Fevre Petit Chablis from Burgundy. Main course was a choice of winter warming braised beef cheeks or perfectly cooked barramundi, washed down with a John Duval 'Entity' Shiraz from the Barossa Valley. For those who still had room left, desserts were a choice of a very tasty prune tart with Armagnac anglaise, or an equally delicious pistachio cake with milk sorbet, matched with a De Bortoli 'Noble One' Botrytis Semillion from the Riverina.

The President, Ken Gresham, spoke on the Association's activities over the last year. He thanked Merivale for hosting the event and Susie Willmott and Alan Smith, the committee members who organised the dinner.

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Merivale

Fabulous facelift for former fabric factory

After a number of years of dereliction and desertion, and unsuccessful attempts to re-let it, including proposals to turn it into a liquor store, One Dorhauer Lane (formerly 109 Queen Street), now has a new owner who has invested love and energy into a very high-quality renovation, to the benefit of all locals. As residents can't fail to have seen, the scaffolding was removed a few weeks ago to reveal a very impressive, eye-catching building, greatly enhancing Queen Street and the Dorhauer Lane car park area in particular. As shown in the accompanying photographs, the style is modern industrial, respecting the history of the building while updating it to fit the needs of a 21st century workplace. This building really does set a benchmark for commercial renovation, and the QSWWA would encourage any other commercial owner contemplating a restoration to follow this lead and not only upgrade their facilities, but the whole neighbourhood as well.



One Dorhauer Lane has an interesting history. After emigrating from Germany in 1854, and a successful timber yard venture in the Hill End Goldfields, Heinrich Dorhauer returned to Sydney and became a successful property developer. He built the original two storey building in brick as a factory, with bays for horse drawn carts and bottling and storing wine on the ground floor, and a factory for making windows, doors, furniture and other custom cabinets on the first floor. In front of the factory, on the site of the current car park, he built a two storey timber house in 1878, known as "Lorelei", in the Victorian Gothic style. The house became known as 109 Queen St, whilst the factory was known as 1 Dorhauer Lane. Heinrich's second son, Oswald (1880-1960) continued the building and joinery business after his death in 1890.

In 1951, approval was given to Stetins & Werner to use the building as a knitting mill factory. This was expanded in 1963 with a three storey concrete framed and brick addition standing next to the original building. These are the two buildings comprising the property today. Sadly,



the original "Lorelei" had been neglected and deteriorated over time, to the extent that, in 1965, Woollahra Council resumed the land on which it sat to use as a car park. In 1978 the building was sold to Finlandia, who used it for a retail and wholesale fabric business, showroom, workshop and offices. Over time, portions of the office space were sublet, with tenants including Classic Safaris, Goodyer Donnelly, and, in 2004, the ground floor was let to Whole Foods, a food retailer. Since 2013, the building had been empty, after Whole Foods relocated to Queen Street and the then office tenants moved out, and it had become an eyesore for local residents due to lack of care.

The new owners are Shark Island Institute, an award-winning independent documentary production company, who aim to educate, entertain and make a significant social impact with their films. The Executive Chair and Founder of Shark Island Institute is Ian Darling, a former investment banker, who, in 2018, was appointed an Officer (AO) of the Order of Australia for distinguished service to documentary film production, to the performing arts, education and community engagement, and to social welfare organisations through philanthropic endeavours. He was Chair of the Sydney Theatre Company and the STC Foundation, from 2006-2010, has been a Director of the National Institute of Dramatic Art (NIDA), Chair of The Oasis Youth Support Network, and Member of The Salvation Army Advisory Board, and was named Australia's Leading Philanthropist by Philanthropy Australia in 2017. Woollahra could do with more business men like Ian Darling.



Emanuel Temple redevelopment complete

It has been a remarkable month for the congregation of Emanuel Synagogue, which has occupied a space in the welcoming midst of the Woollahra community for over eighty years. The newly completed sanctuary is a key element of the Millie Phillip's building complex comprising a new sanctuary and gallery, and a new home for Emanuel Woollahra Preschool.



Opening of the new Sanctuary

The building is purpose-built to cater for the needs of a faith-based society dedicated to the core concepts of Judaism. In this difficult and distracting contemporary world the Emanuel community draws on its ancient teachings and traditions. However, it is a pluralistic community that provides instruction and ritual for three important strands of contemporary Judaism. These are known as *Progressive*, *Masorti* and *Renewal*.

Progressive services encourage individuals to select the type of prayer that is most meaningful for them. This may be in English, Hebrew or a combination of both. On Friday nights the service offers a moving and spiritual experience which incorporates musical instruments, wonderful harmonies and creative stories to enhance traditional modes of prayer.

Masorti services are run almost entirely in Hebrew, honouring the ancient tradition with contemporary insights. Unlike the more conservative traditions of orthodox Judaism, men and women at Emanuel participate fully in the Service.

Finally, the *Renewal* movement is devoted to personal and spiritual development reinvigorating modern Judaism with the ancient practices of Kabbalah.

It should be noted that Emanuel Synagogue has pursued a strong interfaith dialogue with the local religious institutions that service the spiritual needs of the wider Woollahra community. In keeping with the spirit of our times (the *Zeitgeist*) it has an active forum with the LGBT community, both in Australia and internationally.

For those trying to grasp the complexities of this most ancient of the monotheistic religions, it is perhaps relevant to reflect on some of the core values that underpin modern Jewish practice. To paraphrase Rabbi Abraham Heschel,

as recently quoted by Rabbi Jacqueline Ninio, "*Judaism has always been a religion of action: The great prophets of this tradition exhort us to act*".

They argue that the spiritual means nothing, unless it inspires us to "*correct the injustices of the world and to heal the broken places.*" It is this ethic that finds its expression in the alleviation of hunger and homelessness and connections with organisations like the Exodus Foundation, helping asylum seekers, youth and literary programs.

The Emanuel Synagogue's social justice group is another exemplar of the often much misunderstood concept of Tikkun Olam, a biblical injunction that does not simply mean 'fixing the world' but as Rabbi Rafi Kaiserblueth puts it, "*With the evolution of the Kabbalist movement, it came to be realised as the notion of establishing a Divine perfection in the world, where the original state of the universe would be restored through our human performance of good deeds, both ritual and ethical. Whether one is engaged in providing for the homeless or refugees, political activism, environmental causes or simply aiming to rid the world of evil, creating a sustainable world, protecting the marginalised, or positively affecting the world around us to bring the divine presence among us – that is truly a repair of our world and our endeavour to create a world free of evil that is sustainable and accessible to everyone.*"

The new sanctuary, with its soaring ceilings imbued with ancient symbolism, seeks to elevate our thoughts towards a loftier manifestation of humanity. It presents an inspiring physical presence that draws us away from the mundanities of a world infused with the electronic clatter that permeates so much of daily being.

Rabbi Jeffrey Kamins and his dedicated team are ably supported on the temporal side of congregational life by Synagogue CEO, Suzanna Helia. As may be imagined, the issues of caring for the spiritual needs of one of the largest Jewish groups in Sydney, are incredibly demanding. The new Synagogue, which has risen phoenix-like from the ashes of Jewish societal trauma in World War II, is a potent symbol of the ancient aspirations of a people who can trace their spiritual linkage for over four thousand years. May its metaphorical flight participate in uplifting the spiritual needs of a wider Woollahra.

Ian Mansell



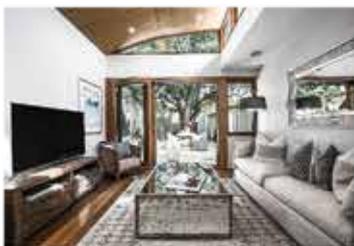
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Price Undisclosed



158 Fletcher Street, Woollahra
Price Undisclosed



1/18 Kendall Street, Woollahra
Price Undisclosed



39 Beach Road, Bondi Beach
Price Undisclosed



13 Pickering Lane, Woollahra
Price Undisclosed



10 Goodhope Street, Paddington
\$2,200,000



13 McGarvie Street, Paddington
Price Undisclosed

True Blue hits right notes

The June concert presented by the Woollahra Philharmonic Orchestra at St Columba Church, *True Blue*, provided an entertaining and lively program of Australian music old and new, conducted by rising talent, Brad Lucas, in his first appearance with the baton for the WPO. The works included pieces by two of Australia's most well-regarded composers, who have both been great supporters of the WPO, Peter Sculthorpe and local resident Elena Katz-Chernin, as well as Percy Grainger and a modern work by Steven Kreamer, COGS. This last piece was a high energy performance by *Translucent Duo*, featuring saxophone and percussion, particularly the marimba, a central American instrument, somewhat similar to a xylophone, but twice the size and with a deeper tone.

The WPO's next concert is on September 8 & 9 at St Columba, entitled *Grandeur* and featuring pieces from Mozart, Danzi and Brahms, and will highlight the talents of the internationally renowned clarinetist, Dimitri Ashkenazy and acclaimed Australian flutist, Bridget Bolliger. Not to be missed by lovers of classical music!



Translucent Duo in action with the WPO

Vale Di Jones



It was with great sadness that Woollahra residents and QSWWA members learned of the death of real estate pioneer, Di Jones, in June.

Di and her husband, Bill, were institutions in the Eastern Suburbs property market (your editor bought his first house in Paddington through them in 1982), and long-term Woollahra residents. After establishing her own agency in 1992, based in Woollahra where it still is today, Di was always a great supporter of the local community and the QSWWA. Our deepest condolences go to Bill, Kim and family. Di will be sorely missed.

Village Voice Page 6

WOOLLAHRA PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

GRANDEUR

Mozart

Danzi

Brahms

Soloists



Bridget Bolliger

Dimitri Ashkenazy



Photo: Jean Myerat

Sat 8 Sept

5:30pm

St Columba Church
cnr Forth & Ocean
Sts Woollahra

Sun 9 Sept

2:30pm

St Columba Church
cnr Forth & Ocean Sts
Woollahra

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Calling for contributions to *Village Voice*

Are you an aspiring journalist, writer or photographer with a passion for communicating?

We are always looking for new ideas and articles in *Village Voice*. If you'd like to contribute an individual article, a series of articles, a comment on a previous article or an opinion on a topic relevant to the area, please contact us on admin@qswwa.com.au.

There's no shortage of local topics of interest to *Village Voice* readers, from local history to modern design, from children's articles to advice for senior citizens.

The *Village Voice* is delivered to 5,000 homes and businesses in the Queen Street, West Woollahra and East Paddington areas, so it's your chance to communicate with your neighbours. Please, don't be shy, get in touch!



Look after your pet in Spring

Woollahra has beautiful tree lined streets which add to the character of Woollahra. However, in Spring, they also produce an abundance of allergens which can play havoc with animal allergies producing a range of symptoms ranging from asthma to itchy eyes to skin conditions!

Atopy is a skin condition in pets caused by inhaled allergens, a little like hay fever in people. Dogs will lick their paws and shake their ears as a result of their allergies, and, once the normal barrier of the skin has been damaged, secondary infections with yeast and bacteria can occur requiring treatment with medication. Some animals suffer so severely that they need to take antihistamines or other stronger immunosuppressant drugs, sometimes permanently.

Food allergies also occur in animals but generally manifest all year round, with symptoms ranging from frequent itchiness and scratching to vomiting and diarrhea. To tackle this, animals need to start a food trial with a novel protein and carbohydrate source to see if there is any improvement.

The warmer weather is also accompanied by increased flea burdens as the flea lifecycle speeds up if there is more rain. People are out and about in the parks more, so their pets are more likely to pick up fleas from other animals. Cats can roam and infect their dog friends as well! Over the counter oral flea treatments will work quickly, but see your vet if you have concerns or fleas persist. Remember to treat all the animals in the household, as, if one pet is infected, almost certainly the others will be too.

Ticks can be a serious problem for pets, especially for people going up and down the coast for weekends away. Ticks can cause paralysis if left unattended, but are generally preceded by coughing, retching, regurgitation and wobbly back legs. Pets should receive veterinary attention immediately a tick is found. Pets should be protected with monthly tick control tablets, particularly as the weather warms up into spring and summer.

Dr Nicole Newsome
(BVSc)
Jersey Road Vet



Sophia is on year round allergy meds



Eye itchiness caused by pollen allergies

High Spirits at Moncur Cellars



Mark @ Moncur Cellars talking with Rick Manietta about Four Pillars Gin, wine and Woollahra.

Mark Blake with Michel and Rick Manietta

Hi Rick., I delivered some wine to you awhile back and you had Four Pillars Gin in nearly every room. Tell us about Four Pillars? The founding partners were my clients and I was honoured to be involved with Four Pillars from their beginning. I referred a number of my other clients, including my wife, to invest in the business. The founders of Four Pillars have always loved gin and cocktails, and Cam and Stu have worked in wine for more years than they'd care to remember. Their drive to create Four Pillars can be summed up as follows: We just love great drinks, we love cocktails, and we love craft. Then followed years of research, test-distilling, importing and commissioning a bespoke copper pot still, filing forms with the government, sourcing the best botanicals from across Australia and around the world, and custom-making an amazing bottle. to finally bring you Four Pillars Rare Dry Gin in December 2013.

Living in Woollahra is very special to you. What do you love about it?

Put simply, the village! We find there is a sense of community since we moved our business here 5 years ago. We are close to the city, however most of our day to day needs are provided for in the local area.

At Moncur cellars you seem to buy anything from Craft Beer to French Chablis. What are you enjoying at the moment? At the moment, Michel & I like bold Aussie reds, oaky chardonnay & just love a good Sancerre. The craft beers are actually for my son & son in law, who visits frequently, and they love trying out my purchases. I personally like a good whisky.

I have seen you having the odd Martini @ Bar Moncur. How do you like your Martini made?

That's probably the fault of Stuart Gregor. I usually stick to wine or the odd whisky, however, since Four Pillars, I love a good dry martini and became addicted to espresso martinis.

What would be your last drink if you had a choice? The MacAllan Fine Whisky 30 year old.

Thanks for being a great customer and friend at Moncur Cellars and we hope to see you at the two tastings we have in September.

My pleasure, Mark, and I'll be there!

Moncur Cellars Tastings in September:

Chablis Tasting, over 20 to try! 8th September 5pm-7.30pm Cost \$30 Four Pillars Gin Tasting, 26th September 5pm-7.30pm, hosted by James Irvine. Cost \$30. Contact Mark on 9327 9715 or cellars@woollahrahotel.com.au

A Ring for Eternity – Designing the Perfect Engagement Ring

Selecting an engagement ring is one of the most important decisions you will ever make, with key design considerations helping to create a dream ring to express you or your partner's individual style and personality.

Luxury Award winning jeweller and gemmologist, Matthew Ely, shares with us his expert insight into the process of designing the perfect engagement ring.

There are key considerations to keep in mind that will help you easily select the ideal engagement ring that will last an eternity. When seeking a bespoke engagement piece, an excellent place to start is looking at your partner's personal style and whether they would suit something timeless and classic or a more bold design.

Based on their style, we look at the gemstones, settings, gem shape and also metal type to create something really unique and special. There is an array of timelessly elegant engagement ring designs, with experimentation and trying on these different shapes, colours and sizes is often the best way to decide which is preferred.

If you're looking for a diamond ring, it's always important to consider the 4 Cs: Cut, Colour, Clarity, and Carat. The 4 Cs are a universal language for talking about diamonds, so if you know what you're talking about you can make an educated purchase wherever you go.

While many people think Cut refers to shape of the diamond, it actually refers to how well the diamond's facets interact with light. Colour measures the degree of colourlessness in the stone – when referring to diamonds, less colour is better. Clarity refers to the number, size, relief, nature, and position of inclusions and blemishes. Carat refers to the weight of the diamond.



Once you've established the 4 Cs of your ring, it's important to consider the shape of your partner's finger. Knowing how different stone shapes and band widths work with different finger sizes can make a drastic difference in how the ring looks on your partner's hand. When considering what design to choose for your partner's finger shape, it's all about balance. For example, elongate short fingers with thin bands and long shaped stones, such as an oval, pear, or marquise shape.

Different metals will also affect the look and feel of the engagement ring. You can see your partner's preferences for metals often based on the jewellery they wear on a daily basis. If your partner typically wears cooler, silver-toned jewellery, select a ring with Platinum or White Gold. If they tend to gravitate towards warmer tones, then Yellow Gold and Rose Gold are better options.

Ultimately, the most important consideration is that your partner is going to love their engagement ring for the rest of their life. At Matthew Ely, we strive to design forever pieces that are perfect for the individual.

M

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Sir Philip Baxter Childcare Centre to close

Parents (past, present and future) staff, grandparents, not to mention the children themselves, are devastated at the news that The Benevolent Society's Sir Philip Baxter childcare centre in Nelson Street Woollahra will be closing in December this year, after decades of providing the highest standard of care for 0-5 children, always with a strong emphasis on assisting working families and families with children with special needs.

It will be a great loss to the community. How sad that our streets might become empty of the sounds of small children in their day to day activities and empty of the young working parents who must rely on childcare to enable them to get back to work to afford Sydney's high living costs.

Most of the SPB centre children go on to local schools and many have laid the foundations of lifelong friendships from their time at SPB. It is already sad to think of these young friendships and the children's stability being disrupted by the sudden closure.

We understand that the property was acquired in the 1970s by The Benevolent Society from the previous owner Mr W.C. ("Bill") Allen, who assisted in its purchase to enable the Society to establish a long day care child care centre. We are interested in any further details that anyone might know about his support. The building was renovated and equipped with a capital grant from the Federal Government, with the Centre opening in 1980. As recently as 2015 local MP Gabrielle Upton supported a State Government upgrade for the playground.

The Benevolent Society has confirmed to parents that it will be selling the property.

The staff have always been wonderful. How many of us remember Elizabeth Warren and her staff member 'Carrots', a vivacious woman with striking red hair who captivated children and inspired parents alike. The current staff under the equally irrepressible Denielle, are highly trained, engaged and warm, with a wonderfully caring approach to the children's development. Bulletins are emailed daily with news, photographs and child-by-child accounts of the children's activities and progress.

It is a daunting and worrying prospect for all of the affected families to find alternative childcare when their children have been so happy at the Centre. The task has been

made all the more difficult, given that many other affordable and good quality child care centres have waiting lists of up to two years.

While the parents and their extended families in the area appreciate and respect the mission of The Benevolent Society, they are at a loss to understand the necessity to close such an excellent centre which has become part of the local community and which sits on a site made possible by the generous deeds of the former owner. It would be to the community's detriment to see just another expensive residential complex, and the loss of one of the very few long day care centres in the Woollahra Local Government Area.

Certainly, unlike in Waverley, there are no Council owned or operated long day care centres in this area that cater for children under 3. Yet working parents desperately need affordable child care for this age group.

This is an opportunity for local, state and federal governments to show they are serious about supporting working families. All we can hope is that government – or indeed another altruistic donor and/or potential operator – will see the value of providing high quality childcare to the working families in our local area, and step in and save the day and a valuable service to our community.

Parents have started a petition at change.org – Stop the Closure of Sir Philip Baxter Childcare. Everyone is encouraged to sign it.

Barbara Burnett, local resident whose children and grandchildren have attended the centre



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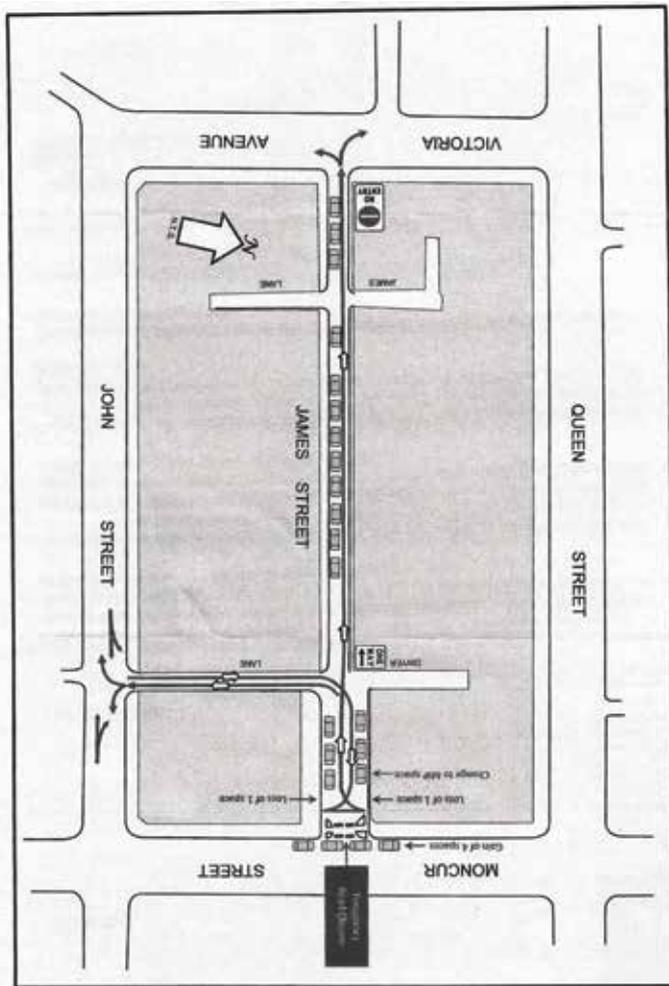
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Sense prevails in recent planning decisions

As a residents' and traders' action group, from time to time, the Queen Street and West Woollahra Association has had to fight against local government planning proposals, so it's good to see sense prevailing in a couple of recent planning decisions.

Firstly, in June, residents of James and John Streets received a letter from Council informing them that, for a 6 month trial, the Council was proposing to close the entry into James Street from Moncur Street, routing all cars via Dwyer Lane from John Street, starting in mid-July. It appears that the Council had received complaints from a small number of residents that James Street was being used as a "rat run" to avoid the traffic lights at Queen Street, and claiming to result in significant traffic and a safety hazard for pedestrians.



This came as a surprise to many of those receiving the notice, including your editor, who lives opposite the intersection, and other QSWWA committee members, as the collective experience was that the traffic turning into James Street was fairly infrequent and the idea that it had become a "rat run" was greatly exaggerated. In addition to the (likely not insignificant) cost to rate payers to change the traffic flow, the increased traffic in the narrow Dwyer Lane, and tight corner for large vehicles such as garbage trucks turning from Dwyer Lane into James Street, would likely increase overall safety problems rather than reduce them.

Fortunately, the Council seems to have taken on board the feedback from the broader community contacted and common sense has prevailed, as the QSWWA has been informed that the proposal is very unlikely to proceed. *The Village Voice* will keep you updated on any developments.

Secondly, in the first decision that the Village Voice has been aware of relevant to Queen Street and West Woollahra, the recently formed Woollahra Local Planning Panel ("WLPP") has agreed with the Council planning staff recommendation and comprehensively rejected an application to build a two bedroom flat on top of the rear of Woollahra Post Office.

The WLPP was formed in March under state government directive to take local planning decisions above \$5 million, and any with 10 or more objectors, out of the hands of local councillors and into those of approved independent experts. It consists of a Chair appointed by the state government, two experts selected by the Council from an approved list, and one local Community Representative.



Woollahra Post Office is heritage listed, having been built in 1905, and is a key part of the local landscape and history. The proposed addition was totally out of character with the history, architecture and context of the Post Office.

One of the concerns regarding the new Planning Panels was that they could ignore local development controls if they wanted to, so it was good to see the WLPP reject the application so robustly, citing no less than fifteen different areas in which the proposal did not meet the Woollahra Development Control plan.

Hopefully the WPLL will continue with this stance the next time a greedy developer tries to ruin the neighbourhood!

Become a QSWWA Member

Ensure the Queen Street West Woollahra Association continues to be an effective resident and local business community group by joining the Association, and helping foster a sense of identity with the QSWWA area and a pride in its individual character. The Membership form is on page 15 or download it from www.qswwa.com.au

Luxury Fashion in Woollahra

Showcasing collections from some of the world's most coveted fashion labels, Woollahra retail institution, Riada Concept, has occupied an exclusive position within Australia's dynamic luxury fashion retailing scene for more than 10 years. Riada Concept's multi-brand boutique, features luxury fashion labels from leading European designers in Italy, France, Belgium, and London and is located in Woollahra Village at 118 Queen St, near the corner of Queen and Moncur Streets, Woollahra.

Working to the northern hemisphere seasons, the boutique currently has both winter and summer collections. These feature dresses, jackets and pants in luxurious fabrics from Alberta Ferretti of Milan, in rich colours for winter, plus leather, denim, knitwear, Tee shirts and sweaters.

For summer, Rixo of London has beautiful silk printed dresses, ideal for the Spring Racing season. Additionally there is a wide range of handmade shoes, boots and hand bags from Henry Beguelin in Milan. Silk scarves from Faliero Sarti in Florence. Avant Toi from Italy specialise in a range of knitwear in cashmere and silk with special fabric treatments unique to them. Plus, exquisite Thierry Lasry sunglasses from Paris.

For men there are superb classic, jumpers, jackets, shirts and pants from Aspesi and Massimo Alba of Italy. Riada Concept imports beautiful pieces in small quantities and when they are sold there are no repeats.



What's on in Centennial Park

Centennial Park is a favourite for local residents, so here's some of the many things going on in the Parklands in the next few weeks. For further details, visit www.centennialparklands.com.au

Wonderful Wild Weeds - Foraging Tours in Centennial Park. Saturday, 25 August. Renowned forager Diego Bonetto will introduce you to the wonders and possibilities of edible weeds on a three-hour walking workshop in Centennial Park.

Walking in Ancestors Footprints – Sunday, 2 September and 7 October. Your experienced interpretive Indigenous guide will demonstrate traditional plant use, identify bush food sources and provide an enchanting narrative of the wetlands and their special relationship with this unique environment.

Father's Day Festival – Sunday, 2 September. Bring your dad, grandad, uncles and brothers along for the IMF Warrior Run at 9:00 am or spend the day enjoying the Blak Markets in the Parklands, open from 8:00 am - 2:00 pm, or, do both! Try bushfood fresh from the BBQ, join an Aboriginal art class to learn traditional arts, watch a warrior dance and so much more.

Spotlight Prowl – Friday, 7 September and 5 October. Join our experienced Rangers for a fascinating and surprising spotlight walk to see how the Park transforms when the sun goes down.

Park After Dark – Friday, 14 September and 12 October. This authentic camping experience just 10 minutes away from the CBD, is a special way to bond with family. Centennial Parklands shows you all the delights of camping so that you can enjoy a twilight tour, campfire stories, sleeping under the stars and much more!

Spring Labyrinth Festival – 1am - 4pm, Sunday, 23 September. Celebrating the labyrinth as a path of peace, there will be several different labyrinths painted onto the field beside the sandstone one and facilitated walks accompanied by acoustic music: frame drum, didgeridoo, djembe drum, crystal bowl and harp. Picnic with your friends.

The Urban Beehive – Sunday, 9 & 23 September, 7 & 21 October. The Urban Beehive is offering a one-day beginners' beekeeping course covering the principles of backyard, urban and rooftop beekeeping. The aim is for participants to gain a basic knowledge of European honeybees and the methods of keeping them in an urban environment.



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Councillors Corner



I have had the pleasure of serving as a Councillor on Woollahra Council now for over six years and I love being involved with the community in helping to shape the look and feel of the local area for now and into the future.

The improvements to Queen Street continue after the successful installation of the garden beds and seats that wrap around the trees which most residents tell me they love.

The next round of work involves re paving sections of footpath that are uneven along with upgrading of street lighting and additional street furniture as per the Queen Street Master Plan.

My fellow Cooper Ward Councillors and I continue to work with residents, staff and Police to reach a satisfactory solution to the excessive noise and antisocial behaviour currently associated with the Phoenix Hotel. We want the new owners to have a successful business, but they must understand that they are in a residential area and there has to be a balance between the needs of their patrons and the ability of nearby residents to have a good night's sleep.

Another thing keeping us busy is the public consultation for the proposed youth recreation facility that Council is planning to build in Rushcutters Bay Park. The facility will have small skating ramps, a half basketball court and a shaded pavillion for sitting. As you can see in the photos, it will be painted green to blend in with its surroundings and additional trees will be planted and not one existing tree will be removed for its construction.

We are currently into week three of a six week public consultation period so please visit the Council website www.woollahra.nsw.gov.au and have your say.

Feedback so far is positive and as well as drawings of the new design there is a great simulated video fly through which shows how the design blends into its surroundings.

We have listened to feedback from last year's consultation and have relocated the facility from the grassed area beside the creek to a little used area at the end of the football field next to New South Head Road.

The main concern from residents was the noise of skateboards on concrete so by placing the facility next to the road, the traffic noise will eliminate this problem.

The youth recreation facility is something that our residents with young families have been lobbying us to build for the last six years as there are no facilities for children aged five years and over once they outgrow the children's playgrounds located in every park. Recent census figures confirm that the number of families with children aged four years and over moving into the Woollahra Local

Government area has increased by twenty five per cent so this need is only going to increase.

As a daily user of the park, I believe I have a good understanding of what the locals want and what we are proposing will blend in nicely with existing facilities and will not interfere with the heritage feel of the park.

Clr Anthony Marano
anthony.marano@woollahra.nsw.gov.au



Concept Plan for Rushcutters Bay Park Youth Recreation Area 1



Concept Plan for Rushcutters Bay Park Youth Recreation Area 2

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Harbin – our local councillor visits the north of China

Harbin is located in the north eastern part of China, between Mongolia and Russia on the Songhua River. I've just been there (on an indirect route from Shanghai to Vladivostok) with my bridesmaid, who now lives in New York. Harbin is amazing: it's steely concrete modern, it's clean, it's safe, it's pretty - in a high rise sort of way. It has 10m people, is one of the 6 or so megacity cities in China – products of the Chinese economic miracle. There is heaps to do and see. Everyone is super friendly, the food is amazing (think hot pots), no western tourists, one place on earth where there are no Australians (except us).

Harbin gets seriously freezing in winter when they celebrate their world famous Ice Festival – the whole city transforms into an icy castle town. I was there in June and the weather was accommodating and the pollution was mild for China.

We visited the Unit 731 museum which has displays, photographs and relics from when it was the world's largest biological warfare research centre run by the Japanese during their occupation of China in the 1930s up to 1945. At the exit of the exhibition the names and positions in American universities and businesses of the Japanese doctors and scientists who worked at Unit 731 are listed. After that gruelling experience we calmed ourselves down with a visit to the very fun ice dome in which there were crazy kitch slides and rides and dodgem cars all in ice. It was freezing and you had to wear a supplied full body ski suit to go inside.



A real Harbin highlight was the Zhongyang pedestrian street where about one million, Chinese (probably tourists) promenade silently up and down a wide a boulevard lined with Russian imperial architecture. Harbin was the junction for the construction of the “trans Manchurian Route – The Chinese Eastern Railway” which was created as a short cut to the Moscow to Vladivostok route. Construction began in 1898 and the railway was completed in 1902. The Russians left the tradition of smoky salty pork sausage in Harbin which is served bbq'ed on a stick and is a delicious walking snack as was the ice cream.

We went to a Russian country house (outside of Harbin) which was complete with Russian dancers in full costume. Harbin is also the capital of classical music in China (so

the Russians left the sausage, the music and the beautiful buildings).

Another highlight was a visit to the Jewish museum which was full of photos of the city when it was populated by Europeans. You got the feeling they were living the high life. Lots of pictures of social events. The museum was jammed packed with interesting facts and figures including that Albert Einstein made a home in Harbin. The relocated Chinese cemetery and the neighbouring Russian Orthodox cemetery were fascinating.



But now, I come to the food. Who knew so many fruits, vegetables and meat dishes were available in Harbin. You could just go there to eat! Hot pots, broad beans, bowls of chopped cucumber and wheat noodles. I will remember for ever the duck pancakes opposite the stunning Saint Sophia Russian Church and its monolithic square. Healthy chicken noodle soup with lightly blanched vegetables: greens, red cabbage. Stunning. Accommodation of all types is available, but we stayed in a sort of 4 star hotel which was very comfortable, with a Chinese breakfast to die for.

Getting around was easy by taxi, except for the very odd feature that the cabs had all the passenger seat, seat belts disabled. Why? No one spoke English (I mean NO-ONE), any one western was Russian. Everyone, including us in the end, had the language speaking conversion app on the phone, which made life easy. It was fake news that internet and Whatsapp was not available. They both operated perfectly. We both loved our visit and hope that we get another chance to explore this very new city and its haunting history.

Luise Elsing



No end in sight for Closing Down sale

A perpetual feature of the Queen Street retail landscape for a number of years has been the Moss River Closing Down Sale.

In case you're concerned they'll be another empty shop on the street, don't lose too much sleep, as they're still recruiting staff!



What is New and Different in Dentistry?

Perhaps more than any other medical field, Dentistry is constantly improving and evolving. With each passing year, new techniques are improving treatment results and making treatment more comfortable for patients. New materials have lead to improved aesthetic results and beautiful smiles.

Dental Implants are an excellent option for replacing missing teeth. They can be used to replace single missing teeth, without the need to touch adjacent teeth. They can be used to replace dentures giving strong, long lasting teeth which don't need to be removed. They can also be used to retain dentures. This reduces discomfort associated with moving dentures.

Digital implant planning is an exciting development in dentistry. This allows for a three-dimensional bone scan to be merged with a three-dimensional scan of the patient's teeth. Implants can then be planned virtually and checked prior to treatment. Once the dentist is happy with the plan it can be converted into a 3D printed guide which is used in treatment.

This allows for safer, more precise implant placement, and fantastic results. *The Dental Rooms* uses premium implants and utilise dental technicians who provide high quality results.

The Dental Rooms offers several options for tooth whitening, including quick, ready to use solutions which provide amazing results. Dental Sedation allows for more comfortable treatment for anxious patients or patients requiring more complex treatment. We work closely with a team of medical doctors who specialise in sedation to offer patients the most comfortable experience possible.

The Dental Rooms renovation in 2017 has created a welcoming environment, with modern equipment to improve patient treatment and comfort. Dr Kavanagh and Dr Bahra are experienced general dentists, committed to providing high quality dental treatment for patients of all ages. We are accepting new patients. We offer on the spot claiming for health funds.

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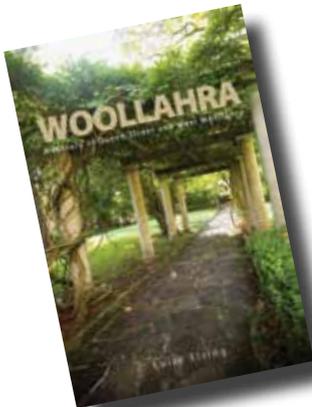
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Woollahra: A History of Queen Street and West Woollahra

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In this publication the intriguing tales of the people who lived and worked in some of our most iconic landmark buildings are revealed. You will learn about our architecture, our artists, our residences and residents. You will discover the narrative of our hotels and pubs, our schools and places of worship and how public health and war made a significant impact on the streets of our villages. A must-read for anyone who has ever lived in or loved Woollahra.

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